

# On The Fly

*Newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg*

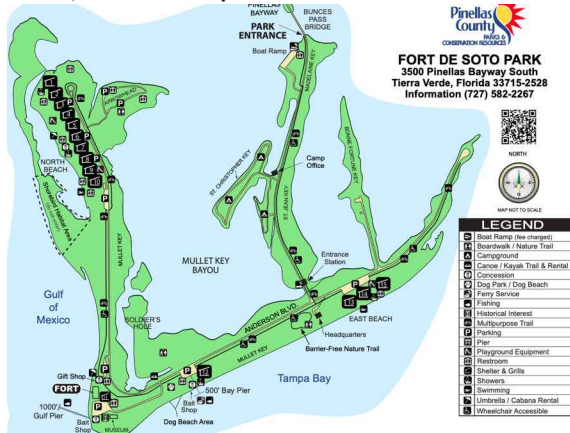
*Remembering our friend  
Dave Barson P10*



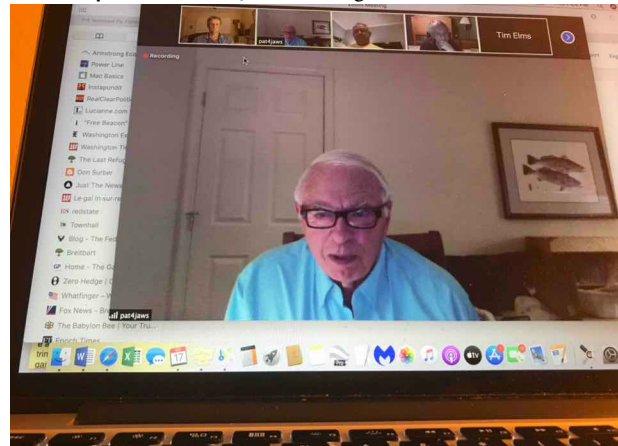
*September Outing P7*



*October Carl Hanson Outing  
Yay - a real picnic lunch P6*



*Capt. Pat's fly fishing secrets P8*



*Cruella de Vil P16*



*Crustacean Fly P17*



*First Mate P12*





## *President's Letter, October 2020*

Suncoast Fly Fishers,

I enjoy magazines. For years my favorite magazine was *Fly Fishing in Saltwater*. It wasn't necessarily the slickest publication, but it was all about my favorite past time. Sadly, the magazine went the way of many in this category and its last edition was NOV/DEC 2013. When the magazine ended, the publisher filled the balance of my subscription with *Saltwater Sportsman* which I still receive but rarely read. It just hasn't captured my imagination. I subscribe to several other magazines that are like that. Some of them actually do more harm than good. You should see my golf game after 40 years of monthly written instruction.

After *Fly Fishing in Saltwater* the two magazines that I really enjoy are *Wooden Boat* and *Fine Woodworking*. These are both magnificent publications on high quality paper with terrific articles that are thoughtfully written, informative and entertaining.

A couple of years ago I discovered another magazine that has these same characteristics. That book is *TAIL* Fly Fishing Magazine and it is all about my greatest passion, fly fishing in saltwater. It is my new favorite magazine.

This month we are going to continue with our online member meeting and online fly tying classes on ZOOM but we are going to try and host the Carl Hanson Memorial in person with some carefully planned protocols to keep us as safe as possible with regard to Covid-19. The outing is a collaboration between our club and Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club.

This year SFF will be providing lunch. Fishing normally takes place on the Hillsborough River, but everyone has agreed that it would be better to hold it at one of the more popular outing locations, so we have decided to move it to Ft. De Soto Park. I hope to see all of you there.

We are steadily improving participation in our virtual meetings. I know that ZOOM is not the same as meeting in-person, but it really is fun and easy to do. If for some reason you are not comfortable with video conferencing, please let me know and I will set up a one-on-one session to get you up to speed. This month our guest speaker is Dr. Joseph Ballarini, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of *TAIL* Fly Fishing Magazine. You won't want to miss it.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

*Rick*

Rick Warfel, SFF President

## Meetings, Outings, and More

### **ZOOM in for the October 15 Meeting**

**Thursday, October 15, 7 pm**

- Be in front of your computer at 6:45 pm and sign in for the October meeting on ZOOM. Members will get an email with sign-in instructions. Our October meeting speaker will be Dr. Joseph Ballarini, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief, Tail Fly Fishing Magazine.
- If you're attending the Zoom meeting you could win a one-year subscription to TAIL MAGAZINE. Be sure to sign on to the meeting so you'll have a chance to win. Phil Mazur won a year's subscription to TAIL MAGAZINE at the September Zoom meeting. Phil has been in very poor health but he's attending our Zoom meetings and Bruce Evensen's Zoom fly tying sessions.

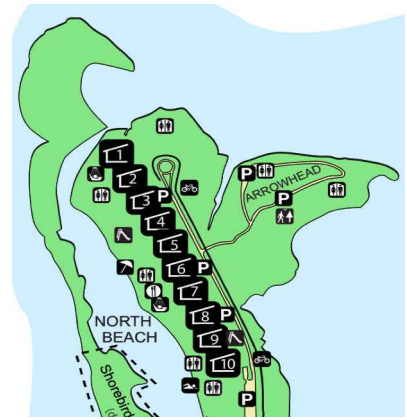
### **October 17 Outing - Carl Hanson Outing -- Fort DeSoto Park**

**Yay - Lunch**

**Meet at Pavilion 3 at 11:30 am**

**Saturday, October 17 Outing**

- **MEMBERS: If you're coming for lunch email outing's chairman Bob Burkard so he knows how many sandwiches to bring [robertburkard9@gmail.com](mailto:robertburkard9@gmail.com)**
- Fish anywhere around Fort DeSoto Park and meet up at 11:30 at Pavilion Three in the North Beach area for a social distancing lunch. Our club is providing cold drinks and sandwiches. Or if you prefer bring your own lunch. Also, bring a lawn chair.
- Wear your mask. Use hand sanitizer. Maintain 9-foot distances.
- This is the Carl Hanson Outing. We compete with the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. Carl Hanson, Lord of the Flies, died in 1998. Carl belonged to both clubs, was quite well known, made his mark creating some special flies and taught hundreds how to fly fish and how to tie flies.
- In recent years we've competed on the Hillsborough river for the



*Pavilion #3 is third from the top in the North Beach area.*



most bluegill and the longest bass. But this year we'll compete in the saltwater for the longest fish of any species and the largest number of total fish caught.

- The fly fisher who catches the longest fish of any species gets to keep the framed artwork of Carl for one year.
- The angler that catches the largest total number of fish will get their name engraved on the Hanson cup.
- The SFF outing prizes (\$10 gift certificates to Bill Jackson's Shop for Adventure) will go to the member catching the longest fish. Measure. Take a picture of it then email your picture to our outing chair, Bob Burkard, at [robertburkard9@gmail.com](mailto:robertburkard9@gmail.com)
- If you like to wade fish then you can join Bill AuCoin and other waders. They're meeting up at 7 am at the very north end of the North Beach parking lot.

## P2/Meetings, Outings, and More

### **Welcome new members**

- Welcome Richard Bimeal of Largo and Mars, PA.
- Welcome Jeff Butler of Cheney, WA
- Suncoast Fly Fishers now has 131 individual members, 16 family members, and 6 honorary members.

### **Two more 2020 Outings**

- November 21 -- War Veterans Memorial Park near Bay Pines VA hospital. It's looking like we'll be meeting up for lunch at the big pavilion, too.
- December 5 -- Fort De Soto Park. Socially distanced luncheon TBD

### **Time to Renew your SFF and Fly Fishers International Memberships**

- Watch your inbox. Each member will be getting be getting instructions on the amount
- You'll be writing a check to Suncoast Fly Fishers and mailing it to  
*Suncoast Fly Fishers, Post Office Box 40821, St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0821*



*Bob Burkard distance casting*

### **Big Gun Shootout: Sunday, November 15, Picnic Island Park-Tampa**

Quin Berry is leading the charge for the Suncoast Fly Fishers to win the Big Gun fly casting competition. Big Gun Shootout practice is on the second Thursday of each month at Walter Fuller Park. Quin sets up the markers for all the different accuracy and distance competitions. Want to be on a team? Phone or text Quin at [870-656-9677](tel:870-656-9677).

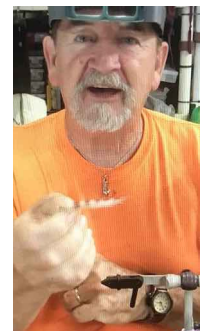
### **Bruce Evensen teaches fly tying on ZOOM**

On the second Monday of every month Bruce Evensen ties his SFF fly of the month on ZOOM. This way members can tie it in real time following the steps. Here's the Zoom sign-in [link](#).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88117766760>

On Monday October 12 (second Monday of the month, of course) Bruce will teach the SFF fly of the month, Bruce's crustacean fly, aka Spider Shrimp. You can also watch him tie flies on Facebook. Go to [facebook.com/scff2020](https://facebook.com/scff2020) and scroll down.

November's fly of the month: Hannukah Fly. He'll tie it on Zoom at 7 pm on November 9.



### **One year ago**

Robert Morrison, a longtime member and the affable, uplifting friend of many Suncoast Fly Fishers, died October 28, 2019. Bob wrote the popular *How-To and Fishy Factoids* page for *On The Fly*.

# We are Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

## Aims and Purposes

The Suncoast Fly Fishers, Inc. (SFF) is an organization of fishing enthusiasts who love fishing with the fly rod. We welcome all people of all ages with similar interests, regardless of their fly fishing skill level. We enthusiastically teach those that wish to learn or improve their fly casting, fly tying and related fly fishing skills. SFF meets monthly where we talk fly fishing, tie flies and most months feature a speaker with a program highlighting local fly fishing opportunities.

Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization. SFF is a charter member of the Fly Fishers International (FFI). SFF is a member of the Florida Council of FFI. SFF supports the conservation of natural resources, boating safety and fishing regulations.

## Monthly Meetings. Guests welcome.

Third Thursday of every month (except December) at St. Pete's Walter Fuller Park Rec Center, 7891 26th Ave. N. 6 to 8:30 pm.

**Directions to our meeting at Walter Fuller Park.** From 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue N turn North on 72<sup>nd</sup> St. N. Turn left (West) on 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue N. Then turn right into the rec center parking lot.

## Monthly Outings

Club members meet up every month for a fly fishing outing and lunch. Usually it is scheduled on the Saturday after the monthly meeting on the third Thursday of every month.

**Contact us by mail:** Suncoast Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 40821, St Petersburg, FL 33743-0821

## Visit our website and Facebook pages, too

[SuncoastFlyFishers.com](http://SuncoastFlyFishers.com)

[Facebook.com/scff2020S](https://Facebook.com/scff2020S)

## Membership update

Suncoast Fly Fishers now has 130 members including 16 family members and 6 honorary members. Annual dues are payable in September. This also includes benefits and annual membership in **Fly Fishers International** and the **Florida Council** of Fly Fishers International

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## Suncoast Fly Fishers

P. O. Box 40821  
St Petersburg, FL 33743  
[www.suncoastflyfishers.org](http://www.suncoastflyfishers.org)

## Club Officers

Pres: Rick Warfel  
Vice Pres: Quin Berry  
Secretary: David Redd  
Treasurer: Tom Gadacz

## Board of Directors

Bill Scarola, Bob Burkard, Bruce Evensen, Ryan Sollars, Cliff Nigh, Karen Warfel, George Haseltine, James Davis

**Committees**--Members are encouraged to serve on one or two committees. Do you? If not, speak to one of the officers at the next meeting.

Casting: Pat Damico, Dayle Mazzarella

FFI Liaison: Pat Damico

Conservation: Cliff Nigh

Fly Tying: Myron Hansen

Membership: Tom Gadacz

New Members: Rick Warfel

Webmaster: Dennis Marquis

Facebook: Cliff Nigh

Hog Roast: Open

Outings: Bob Burkard, David Redd, Bill AuCoin

Outreach, shows: David Redd, Bob Burkard, Bill Scarola, Tom Gadacz

Succession Plan: Rick Warfel

Programs: Board of Directors

Publicity: Bill AuCoin

Social media: Anne Hays

## On The Fly

Bill AuCoin, editor; Duane Mertz, Anne Hays, Bob Hood, Tim Elms, Marshall Craig.

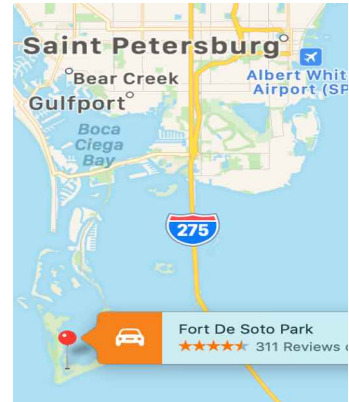
# Bob Burkard: October Outing, Fort DeSoto Park



*Bob Burkard, Outings Committee chairman*

This is the Carl Hanson Outing in memory of the Lord of the Flies who died in 1998. Carl was a valued member of Suncoast Fly Fishers AND Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club so, of course, this annual outing is a competition.

Usually we fish the Hillsborough River for the longest bass and the most bluegill. But this year we're fishing the salt. So...the fly fisher who catches the longest fish of any species will get to keep the framed artwork of Carl Hanson for one year. The angler that catches the most total number of fish will have their name engraved on the Hanson Cup.



*The park opens at 7 am. \$5 per car fee.*

Fish anywhere around Fort DeSoto Park—bay, gulf, or backcountry -- and meet up at 11:30 at Pavilion Three for a social distancing lunch. SFF will set out sandwiches and cold drinks on the table. Or, bring your own lunch.

Use the hand-sanitizer. If you're not eating, then wear your mask. And, observe social distancing. Your 9-foot fly rod is a good social distancing measure. Take pictures and post them on our club's Facebook. site....[facebook.com/scff2020](https://www.facebook.com/scff2020)

The club awards \$10 gift certificates to Bill Jackson's Shop for Adventure to the member with the longest fish. Measure your longest fish and email photo to [robertburkard9@gmail.com](mailto:robertburkard9@gmail.com)



*You can park and wade in almost anywhere. Meet up at 11:30 Pavilion 3 in the North Beach area for a social distancing lunch. Wear a mask. No coughing allowed.*

*Bob*

### 2020 Outing Tournament Leaders

Species	Length	Winner	Outing (Month)
Longest bream	9.5"	Tim Elms	Virtual outing (May)
Longest black bass	17"	Tim Elms	Virtual outing (May)
Longest snook	34"	Jack Collins	Virtual outing (May)
Longest redfish	22"	Mark Hays	Docklight Outing (June)
Longest ladyfish	25"	Mandy McGarry	Weedon Island Preserve (January)
Longest seatrout	19"	Mandy McGarry	Docklight Outing (June)
Longest seatrout	19"	Robert Fischer	North Tampa Bay Outing (Sept.)

## Bob Burkard: September Outing Review

For his first SFF outing new member Jack Diballa met up with other wade fishers in the Weedon Island Preserve parking lot. You could tell by his gear and set up that this guy knew what he was doing. Our confidence was confirmed later when Jack emailed a picture of his snook. That was the only snook caught that day so far as we know. So, hey, Jack, you are the outing winner for a \$10 gift certificate to Bill Jackson's Shop for Adventure. Robert Fischer is our longest seatrout winner. He caught a 19-incher which also puts him in a tie with Mandy McGarry for the longest seatrout outing award for 2020.



*New member Jack Diballa works Weedon's mangrove shoreline for snook and he scored!!*

*Photo by Wayne Shriver*

A bunch of us waded in at the Sweetwater Kayaks area into Riviera Bay. Bob Hood quickly broke the ice by catching a catfish on the sandy drop off at Riviera Bay. And, a bit later, your outings chair caught a nice jack crevalle. Unfortunately, jacks are never the designated species.

But the weather was great and, you know, there is satisfaction in just making a nice fly cast now and then. Other wade fishers included Rick and Karen Warfel, James Davis, Bill AuCoin, and Chuck Hall.

A special thanks to new member Wayne Shriver who couldn't fish because of shoulder surgery but he was able to take some beautiful pictures for us. Wayne, you have been appointed the Official Photographer of the Suncoast Fly Fishers. Keep up the great work.



*Bob Hood and his break-the-ice catfish.*

*Photo by Wayne Shriver*



*This is Diballa's winning snook fly.*

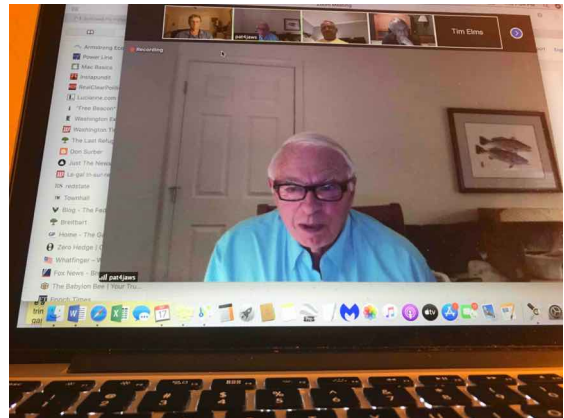


*Bob Burkard cast to a crab trap and caught a nice jack crevalle.*

## September Membership Meeting with Capt. Pat Damico



*President Rick Warfel brought members up to date on board decisions and other issues, like how do we get more membership participation in the Covid-19 era.*



*Capt. Pat Damico Zoomed into our September meeting from his summer home in Pennsylvania and took questions from fellow members.*

Even though the September meeting was on Zoom, attendance was darn good. It looked like 26 or 27 signed in for the online meeting. That's pretty good for a "virtual" meeting.

After a brief discussion on how to maximize our online participation on Zoom, Facebook, our website, and our club's YouTube channel, the meeting got down to real business – how to catch more fish. Our guru was Capt. Pat Damico, an FFI Master Casting Instructor, and a pro in the salt, the fresh, and the brackish.

Pat took questions from members, like the first two from James Davis.

- What is the best fly color? ANSWER: Lefty nailed that one. Chartreuse over white.
- What about the size of the fly? ANSWER: Going bigger is never better. Presentation is all important.
- Are flies more effective if tied with circle hooks. ANSWER: Not necessarily. Bruce Evensen added that when fishing with circle hooks it's important not set the hook. Rather let the fish swim away then take up the slack. That way the hook sets itself in the lips of the fish.
- Should we use mono filament or fluorocarbon for the leader? ANSWER: There's a major difference of opinion on this in the fly fishing world. But, remember, fluorocarbon sinks and monofilament floats. So use mono when casting a floating fly. You can switch (or not) to fluoro when fishing a subsurface fly.
- What are your favorite knots to the fly? ANSWER: Pat recommends the Davy knot when you want a small, tidy connection to the fly. Pat likes the Homer Rhode loop knot to promote fly action. Also, as an aside, Pat volunteered that if you get a wind knot in your leader you can expect that it's strength is reduced by 50%.
- Got any secrets about reviving and releasing gamefish? ANSWER. It's important that you unhook the fish quickly. A rule of thumb is don't take longer to release the fish than you can hold your own breath.
- Is the double-haul fly cast good to know? Yes, it's good for extra distance, but make sure you do it correctly. Otherwise you'll be doing what Lefty said --throwing your mistakes farther.

*Thank you, Capt. Pat*

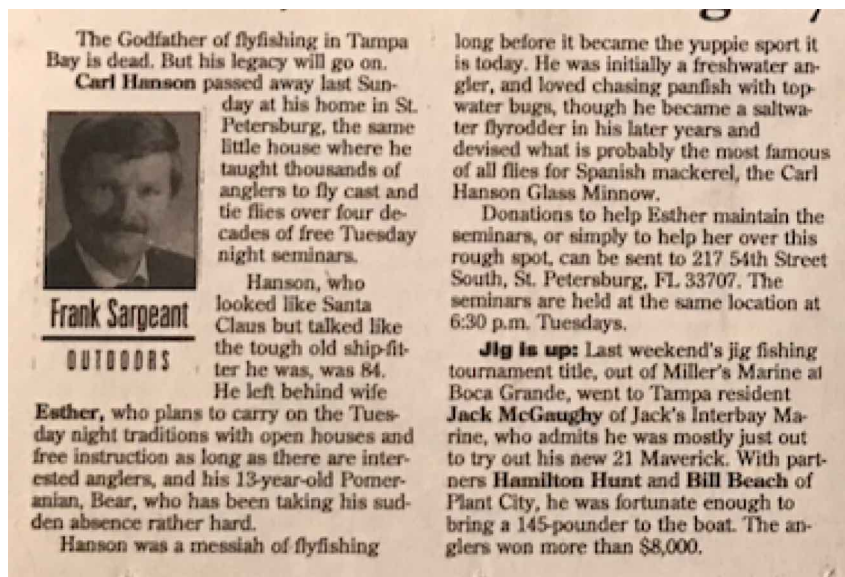


# Carl Hanson: Lord of the Flies. Godfather of Fly Fishing.

Our October outing is always the Carl Hanson outing. So, who was Carl Hanson?

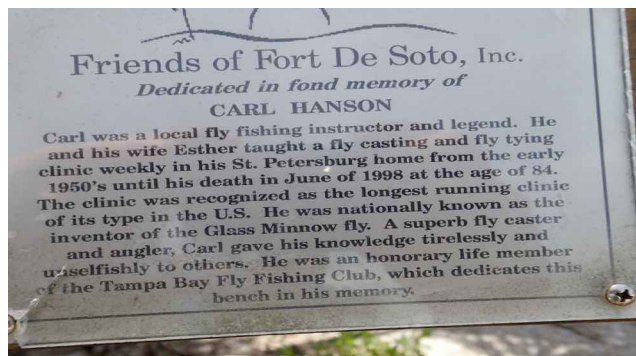
Carl was a fly fisher and fly tier and, importantly, a fly fishing teacher. On Tuesday nights he taught fly casting in his backyard. Come one, come all. Then inside, with everybody sitting at Esther's kitchen table, he taught fly tying including two flies that made Carl Hanson famous, the Glass Minnow fly and the Bendback fly. He also taught his casting and tying skills from the fly shop and adjoining lake at Bill Jackson's Shop for Adventure in Pinellas Park.

Somebody gave him the nickname *Lord of the Flies* and it stuck. Carl died in 1998 and he will long be remembered, especially by old timers at his two fly clubs, Suncoast Fly Fishers and Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club.



*Carl Hanson Glass Minnow*

*Frank Sargeant, then outdoors editor of the Tampa Tribune, wrote this terrific obituary, nailing how over the years Carl brought thousands into the sport of fly fishing*



*There's a bench at Fort DeSoto Park honoring Carl Hanson by the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club.*



*The "Bendback" is a Carl Hanson fly design*

# Remembering Suncoast Fly Fisher Dave Barson

*Dave died September 12. Celebration of life December 5*



*Lunch with a veteran. Dave, left, was an active member of our club's Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing committee.*



*Dave managed and emceed our clubs popular fly gear raffle table at the end of each meeting.*

*NOTE: Memorial Service at David Gross Funeral Home in St. Petersburg at 11 am on December 5.*

### **President Rick Warfel sent this message to Dave's daughter, Jill:**

*I am so sad to hear that Dave has passed away. I spoke to him a few weeks before he died and I had no idea it would be the last time I would hear his voice. We did not socialize outside of the club but I considered him to be a personal friend. At our club meetings I always sat next to him at the raffle table that he was in charge of. When we had our monthly give away for a subscription to a saltwater fly fishing magazine, he often joked about not ever winning and hoping I could somehow skew the raffle in his favor. He never did win but a few months ago I gave him a subscription to that magazine. He had a wonderful sense of humor and I know that he cared deeply about fly fishing and about his many friends in the club. All of us will miss him greatly. Rick Warfel*

## **Dave's Obituary**

David Barson, 80, of St. Petersburg, formerly of New Haven and Hamden, CT and Kissimmee, FL passed away Saturday, September 12, 2020. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Ellen Goldberg Barson, and his sister, Sheila Barson Gitlitz. Dave is survived by his two daughters, Jill Garcia (John Young) of Pittsburgh, PA and her children Cassidy, Jared and Karli and Betsy Purtell (Thomas) of Cheshire, CT and her children Hannah, Emma and Thomas Jr. Dave is also survived by his brother, Jerry Barson, of Hastings, FL. Dave was born in 1940 in New Haven, CT to Helen Krall and Sam Barson. He graduated from Hillhouse High School in New Haven, CT. Dave spent the first years of his working life with the Yale University print shop before serving 26 years with the United States Postal Service, retiring in 2002. Dave valued time spent with family and friends above all, but also enjoyed fly fishing and sharing that interest with others. He also lovingly cared for his wife through her many years of health struggles, assuring she maintained a rich, full life of dignity and joy. Late in life Dave contracted pemphigus, a rare autoimmune disease affecting the skin. He fought through many painful bouts with this illness, including at the time of his passing. Donations in Dave's memory can be made to the International Pemphigus & Pemphigoid Foundation online at [www.pemphigus.org/ways-to-give/](http://www.pemphigus.org/ways-to-give/) or by mail at IPPF, 1331 Garden Highway #100, Sacramento, CA 95833. (*New Haven Register*)



*From 1991, here's a photo of Dave and wife Ellen at a sport show with Lefty Kreh.*

*New member, new water*

**Tim Elms: Are you fly CON-fident?**



*Tim Elms' baby 'poon on the fly*

Howdy! Ok, I'm going to brag on myself for something that most of us do..... the old, bring too many flies with us, buy way too many flies, and keep way too many flies. Trout guys usually love 10 flies. I mean ten patterns in 4 different sizes! This is salt and warm water. Throw it all out!!! (Not literally). Throw it out of your mind.



*Speckled Love*

I fish three flies for each type of fish. By type, I mean salt or fresh and brackish, a combo of both. My flies that I love and know how to fish. They make me confident when I fish. My confidence flies. My con flies work well with my floating line and I can manipulate them while stripping.

When it comes to salt, I prefer a white bait or a top water. White bait patterns work during the high sun and into the evening. In fresh water I prefer top water over most things. I will mix in a white bait or even a glass minnow pattern. Basically, if I see fish eating in my casting range, they are going to eat bait on the top. Are they gonna miss it? Heck yes, they do. But nothing is more fun than top water hookups. Period.



*Happy snook? Happy snooker*

Why would we carry a pack full of flies we won't fish? I always have 20 maybe 30 Clousers with me. I rarely fish with Clousers. Sure, I've caught big and small fish on Clousers. But I rarely fish them when I am serious about my target.



*Bass eat anything*

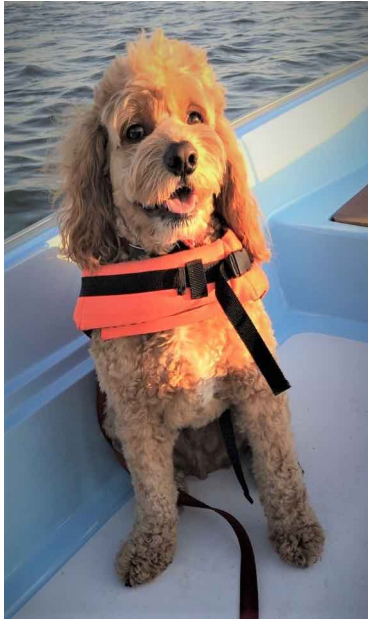
Crab flies???? Bwaahahah. What are they doin' here? I have yet to catch a fish on one. Shrimp patterns? Yeah sure. I like a fiber shrimp with barely anything on it. No need for fancy hard shrimps.

If you spin fish and have success on plugs, swimbaits or whatever, try flies that imitate those same things. There are quite a few flies out there that do the same thing for us bug whippers. Remember, most in shore guides in the bay area usually prefer white bait or a shrimp.

Your con flies may rotate for a season or target and change sizes. But, when you start to fish them day in and day out, you will be rewarded. Let's give our shoulders a break. All of the fish on this page were caught on the same fly.

*Strip Strip Strip!!!!—Tim*

Myron Hansen and Harry, his First Mate in Training



With covid 19 and social distancing, my cockapoo pup Harry, has become my new "1st mate in training."

If I hook a fish, get it to the boat, and bring it in, it is in spite of Harry rather than with his help. He fights me to get to the fish and usually wraps me in his leash and my line. Never mind getting a good photo. We caught and landed this red on our latest outing. The battle between us during the hookup and catch was quickly forgotten. It wouldn't have been nearly as much fun without him.



As the expedition ended, we quietly sat side by side on the late night ride home across Boca Ciega Bay, both satisfied with the experience and enjoying each other's company.

Myron

Woody Miller: Whopper Red at Weedon Island Preserve

September 30

Here's a photo from today. 35-inch, 14-pound redfish caught on a Bass Assassin paddletail jig, clear with red flake. Tampa Bay at Weedon Island. Very windy, huge school.

Woody



## Dennis Marquis: Family, Fishing, Friends in Covidtime



Cindy and I went up north to visit her mom in NJ. We had not seen her in over a year. Her health is not the best at 88. We felt that Covid risk aside they needed to see each other. So we made the journey north and spent a good amount of time with her. We also got to visit with Cindy's three older sisters and our brothers in law. We tried to social distance as best as we could, but when you see your mom and siblings whom you have not seen in a long time it is hard not to get emotional and want to hug each other – so we did. On the day we left Cindy and her mom had a very hard time saying good-bye.

Fall is striper season in NJ – for most of the east coast for that matter. My fly fishing mentor, Captain Ray Szulczewski (retired) would have taken me out, but Covid risk is too great for a person with one functioning kidney coupled with heart disease. Ray and I talked on the phone, but we did not visit. As the person who introduced me to and ignited my passion for fly-fishing, I look forward to and enjoy his company as if he were a brother. It was tough to be up in NJ and not be with Ray on the TideRunner chasing stripers on the fly. We both openly hoped for a vaccine sooner than later, so that we can fish the 2021 spring migration.

A childhood friend, Jerome DiPentino, lives in Longport just south of Atlantic City. Jerome is an avid, crazed backwater striper fisher. That's all he does. The problem is that Jerome slings plugs – all the time! If it isn't on top water, he doesn't waste his time. Jerome and I did fish together, twice. We didn't shake hands, hug or high five. We tried to stay away from each other. It was tough, especially when you're having fun fishing. While he tries to facilitate my crazy passion for the fly, he doesn't understand it and as such operates his custom-made Kevlar lined Yellowfin flats boat (which can slide across the water at 60+mph) as if he is plugging. He trolls way too fast and sits the boat a 100'+ away from the sod banks. I don't have the heart to ask him to change his process; he enjoys it way too much. So when in Rome!

I put down the fly rod and picked up a spin rod with a Smack It Jr popper – color doesn't matter, hungry stripers hit anything that moves. Over the course of two days we landed stripers no smaller than 28", I landed one at 35" 16 lbs. Jerome was beside himself, telling me it was the biggest backwater striper ever landed on his boat. It took a good 5 minutes to convince the big migrator to come to the boat for the pic.

While up north, I learned that Dave Barson had passed away. I don't mind telling you I cried. As Covid hit, I was not able to see Dave. I did manage to call and talk to him. Dave was a genuinely good person. When I joined the club back in 2016, he was the first person to say hello to me at my first club meeting, and then immediately asked me for \$5 to buy into the raffle – haha! Thanks to Dave, Alan and Ted I got to enjoy volunteering at the VA with the veterans. Despite his own health challenges, Dave made it to the VA most weeks, taking part in the fly tying sessions, telling stories, laughing and above all making sure our veterans knew we cared about them. Here is a guy who was suffering, but he put that aside to show other people they were more important. I admired Dave for the manner in which he persevered through his illness and for how well he represented Suncoast Fly Fishers.

I miss our meetings, our fly tying, and our outings; simply I miss all of you. I look forward to a time when we can easily meet together and have fun again; I pray that you all stay healthy and safe. In the meantime, and as you can fish-it!

*Dennis*

## Team Mazzarella: Update from Hams Fork River, Wyoming

Here are a few recent photos of clients and their catches. The fish haven't been that cooperative of late, but every client has caught some nice ones.

Take care and stay safe,

*Barbara and Dayle*



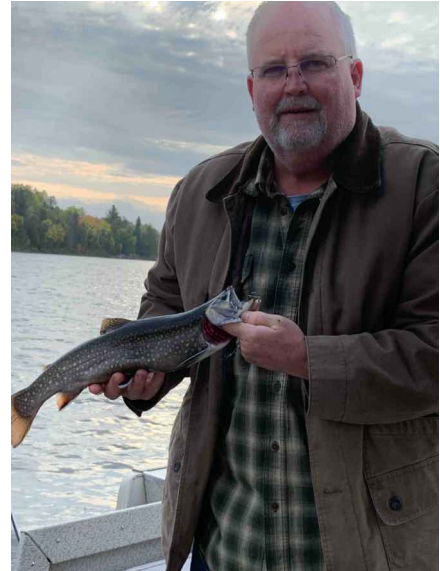
## David Redd: Native Brook Trout in Maine

I spent 10 days visiting a friend of mine and his family in northern Maine. Although I only had a couple of days to fish before all lake, stream and pond fishing was shut down until Spring, I did manage to catch one beautiful native brook trout about 19" long.



*David enjoyed some cool weather and beautiful Autumn colors in Maine.*

*David*



*David Redd, native brook trout in Maine*



*After fishing was over with I turned my focus to Ruffed Grouse hunting, or Partridge as they are called by the locals. I ended up shooting six partridge.*

# Smitty's Fly Box: Cruella De Vil



Layne (Smitty) Smith

As I was tying flies one day with one eye on the vise and the other eye on my daughter (she was watching her favorite Disney movie "101 Dalmatians") I noticed the colors I was using in my fly matched the colors of the main villain in the movie ... hence the name Cruella de Vil. as I tied the same fly in different colors, I used other "sinister" names for my assassin flies --The Green



Cruella de Vil

Meanie, Purple Peril! Dead -drift this fly as you would any nymph (free-line or under an indicator). If you want to be more proactive you can also fish it like an emerger, rising it to the surface with finger rolls or small twitches. Either way, hungry fish will take notice!

*Smitty*

## Materials (Listed in the order they are attached to the hook.)

Hook: Mustad Model R50-94840 Size 10

Thread: 70 Denier UNI-Nylon or your preference (Black)

Under-body: Woolly Nylon (White)

Abdomen: Micro Tubing (Red) (i.e. larva lace, v-rib or the like)

Thorax: Two Strands of Ostrich Herl (Black) reinforced in a thread dubbing loop

Hackle: Hungarian Partridge (Natural w/ prominent brown markings toward tip) \*

Cement: SHHAN or Solarez UV Resin

## Tying Sequence:

1. Put down a base wrap of thread stopping just above the point of hook.
2. Attach the woolly nylon or substitute white floss then attach the Micro Tubing (larva lace, v-rib or the like). Advance thread to two eye widths behind the hook eye. Wrap nylon (or floss) forward to standing thread creating a tapered body as you go. Over-wrap body with tubing, tying off tubing and body thread with black thread Cut off excess tubing and white thread.
3. Create a dubbing loop with black thread and insert the two strands of ostrich herl. Spin dubbing loop to reinforce herl collar. Wrap dubbed ostrich as a collar (about 2 or 3 turns should do if the loop is full. If it is sparse, use as many wraps as you need to get desired effect).
4. Tie in a hackle feather and wrap in a sparse collar, again about 2 or 3 turns. Tie off, cut and discard the remaining hackle.
5. Create a nice head, tie off and cut thread. Cement with SHHAN or UV Resin

\*NOTE: You may substitute Natural (black with white spots) guinea fowl for the partridge. You may also substitute green or purple Micro Tubing to create "The Green Meanie" or "The Purple Peril" !!!



**Bruce Evensen: Crustacean Fly**



*Bruce Evensen*

This is the October fly of the month. It's a spider-like shrimp fly/crab fly for all inshore species, but especially snook and redfish. Fish it slowly just under the surface.

*Bruce*



**Materials**

Hook: #4 or #2 3407

Thread: Red flat waxed nylon

Body: Brown bucktail

Eyes: Crab/shrimp eyes "V"

Legs: Barred orange Silly Legs. Orange round feelers.

**Tying Sequence**

Step one. Wrap the hook from the hook eye to the hook point with red thread.

Step two. Take brown bucktail about half pencil thickness - lay the cut ends facing the hook point. - wrap them on back to the Hook eye.

Step three. Fold brown bucktail back over the hook and tie down in front of hook point on the shaft.

Step four. Tie on a pair of shrimp eye.

Step five. Two 2 1/2 inch pieces of silly legs, one on each side, to form the legs. Add two orange feelers. Tie them on the same place you tie the eyes.

Step six. Epoxy over wraps, the body part and the eye wraps.

## Capt. Pat Damico: Captain's Corner



*Long, accurate casts required for spooky redfish.*

"We used to practice on Tampa Bay redfish to catch bonefish in the Keys, now we practice on bonefish in the Keys to catch Tampa Bay redfish." That's a quote by Lefty Kreh, now deceased, a well-respected fly fisherman.

Fishing and boating pressure has changed our local fish behavior. Schools of reds are starting to feed heavily in the shallow water of our bay and surrounding areas in preparation for an upcoming spawn.

Guides who fish with bait are reporting many successful outings. Are those of us who prefer fly fishing at a disadvantage? Fly fishing for reds in shallow water is more like hunting. Be very stealthy, cautious, wear clothes that blend in with the environment, and be able to make long accurate casts with a minimum of false casting. If in a boat or kayak, leave the watercraft and wade slowly enough not to cause a ripple.

Carefully place a good imitation of a baitfish, shrimp or crab close to the nose of a wary red. If fish are moving, lead them as you would when wing shooting. The cast will be where the fish will be soon after it lands. When pursuing tailing or slow-moving sighted fish, drop the offering close to the fish's nose without pulling it into his face. Smaller flies, size 2-4, and long fine leaders are necessary.

Everyone wants to know what fly pattern will work. Presentation is always more important than a specific pattern. When using a baitfish, shrimp or crab fly, work it like what you are trying to imitate.

Fly fisherman Pat Damico charts Fly Guy in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at [captpatdamico.com](http://captpatdamico.com) and (727) 504-8649.

## Then and Now. Once a fisher always a fisher.



*Who is this 15-year-old admiring his first northern pike?*



*Yeah, it's Andy Constantinou. Here he is all grown up with a big trout that he caught on the fly in England.*

## Fly Gear for Sale or Swap

**SOLD TO RICK WARFEL FOR \$600**

**9-foot Sea Eagle Frameless Inflatable with Honda 2.3 hp outboard. Used 4 times**

Former member Bob Bargamin died in May. His widow, LeAnne, is offering it for sale for the best offer. It weighs 42 pounds and packs into a small bag. It comes with a swivel seat, wooden floorboard, and a foot pump. Call 904-315-2771



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**Price lowered from \$1,500 to \$900 -- Ocean kayak and extras from Frank Moss. Call 727-421-5354**  
Ocean Kayak, sit on top Prowler 15'. Extras include a paddle with tether, roof top car carrier, 6 plugs, sea anchor and lead anchor, two fly rod holders, one spinning rod holder, stick-it anchor pole, ceiling hoist, beach launch wheels, several nylon lines, a fly fishing vest. \$900

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**Lynn Skipper has two fly rods and an Orvis Battenkill reel. 813-542-3195.**

**[hurricaneskipper@gmail.com](mailto:hurricaneskipper@gmail.com)**

- ROSS FLY STIK HEAVY 10 wt 7'11" 4 piece with tube. Ideal rod for those night trips after snook under the docks where you need to horse them away from the dock quickly. Originally \$200, now \$100. Barely used with no nicks, blemishes etc.
  - ORVIS TLS Power Matrix 4 piece 3 wt 8'4" Midflex with case. Originally \$175, now \$100.
  - Orvis Battenkill ¾ wt reel with backing and 3 wt WFF line. Used one trip to Montana last year. Originally \$125, now \$75 OBO.
- 

**Want to sell or trade? Need some fly gear? Email [Bill AuCoin, wmaucoin@verizon.net](mailto:wmaucoin@verizon.net)**

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## Punster Bill Scarola is back

*Do you think we should SCALE back on fish puns?*

*Or maybe you feel, for COD'S HAKE, not another fish pun.*

*You don't have to be a brain STURGEON to come up with a PIN FISH.*

*Oops, FISH PUN.*

*Don't worry, I won't give this job to SALMON else!*

*Bill*

## Bill AuCoin : Flyfisher Flyover



**Is this a good idea?** – A fish farm in the Gulf off the coast of Sarasota is almost a go. The fish farm company plans to raise 20,000 Almaco Jack, an amberjack-like fish native to the Gulf of Mexico. (WFLA)

**Fish kill in Biscayne Bay** – It's an emergency and it could get much worse according to environmental specialists. They suspect the fish were killed when the water got so warm it couldn't retain enough dissolved oxygen to support marine life. (FIU)

**Okay, who's asking?** - NOAA Fisheries wants to know if you're catching any fish. You can fill out a survey. Please don't tell them *exactly* where you're catching them. (The Fishing Wire)

**What if you accidentally hook a seabird?** Good advice from NOAA. I watched Dennis Marquis unhook a seagull. The secret is to whack the gull on the head to stun it then you can remove the hook without getting bit. (Just teasing) Dennis removed the hook in a very kind-to-the-wildlife way. (The Fishing Wire)

**Weird catches on the fly** -- Including a soft-shelled turtle? Yeah! (On The Fly South)

**Follow your bliss.** That was philosopher Joseph Campbell's advice to his students. You'll like this video. (Angler's Journal)

## St. Pete Fly Fisher/Poet

*I see you there waiting at your table for charcuterie.  
The line delivers your appetizer with a mask on.  
Swim to it, you lazy fish. It's super yummy.  
Eat! I'm ecstatic you love my presentation.  
Set.  
Which leader did I tie on?  
Pop!  
I hate snook.*

— niner

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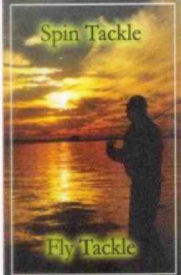
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