

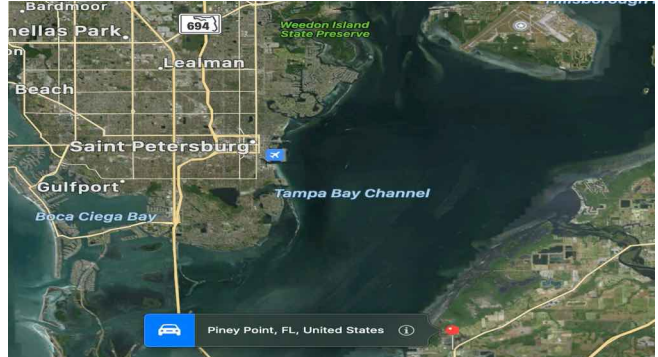
On The Fly

Newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

Florida Council Expo Oct. 1-2 P5



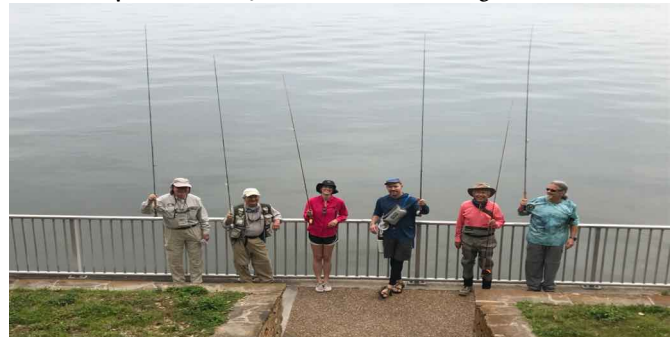
May 20 Meeting: Subject: Piney Point. P3



May 22, Cypress Point Park P8



April Safety Harbor outing. P7



Gary Sundberg & family in NC. P11



Marshall Craig - Bahama bonefish P13





President's Letter, May 2021

Suncoast Fly Fishers,

The snook are on the beaches, tarpon are migrating through our area, and SFF is making plans to start meeting in person for the first time in over a year.

Our outing this month is at Cypress Point Park. Let's have an informal get together after the outing. For those of you that have already been vaccinated, I think we can comfortably plan to meet outdoors. Bring your own lunch. SFF will have cold drinks. Share the day's experience and meet with some old friends that you haven't seen for a while.

June is traditionally a fish on your own event, so our official grand opening is going to be in July. Our July meeting will feature the return of our Trash and Treasures live auction with our own Alan Sewell at the gavel. The July outing will be at Ft. DeSoto and our lunch will be Brisket and BBQ plus a few other delicacies thrown in for good measure.

Please do not forget Monday night fly-tying every week at 7 PM on ZOOM until July 5th when in person fly tying classes will resume. Join Bruce Evensen and guest instructors as they help you learn to tie the flies that catch fish.

This month our member meeting is still going to be on ZOOM. Our guest speaker is Dr. Steve Murawski from the University of South Florida College of Marine Sciences. Dr. Murawski is going to talk about Piney Point and other pollution sources in the bay that might influence our local fisheries. Tampa Bay made an extraordinary turnaround from an estuary that was in a steady state of decline to one that has seen water quality improving year to year. Increases in population density and complacency over water quality issues could again put stress on our ecosystem. Steve will be ready to answer your questions and put some of the issues in perspective. Tune into the ZOOM meeting on Thursday, May 20th to get a firsthand look at what is going on. You can also tell us about the snook that you caught on the beach and the tarpon that you pulled from the schools that are now invading our waters!

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel, SFF President

Meetings, Outings, and More

Thursday, May 20 Zoom Meeting, 6:45 – 8:30 pm



Dr. Steve Murawski

**Presentation by Steve Murawski, PhD
USF College of Marine Science
Specialty: Population Dynamics of Marine Ecosystems**

What do Piney Point and other sources of pollution mean for Tampa Bay fishers?

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82761499392>

Meeting ID: 827 6149 9392

Our club is honored to be hosting **Dr. Steve Murawski** at our May 20 meeting. Murawski is one of the country's foremost specialists in marine ecosystems. For example, he and his team were awarded almost \$37 million to evaluate the long term impact of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill on Gulf ecosystems.

Now, one of his major concerns is our Tampa Bay pollution spill – Yes, Piney Point. What's it doing to the water quality, the Tampa Bay ecosystems and our gamefish populations?

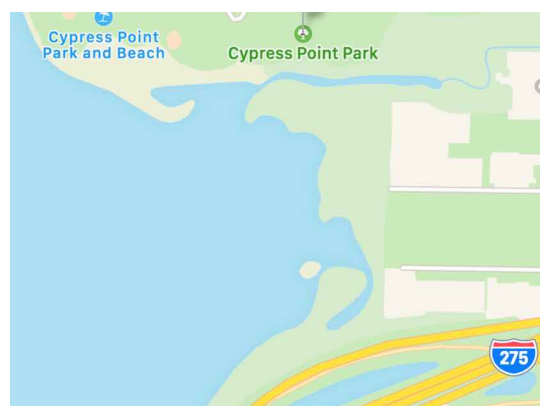
Steve will explain how the scientist from the USF College of Marine Sciences will study the discharge and assess the effects on the bay.

Suncoast Fly Fishers should sign in to the meeting at 6:45. Dr. Murawski's presentation will begin at 7:25 and he will take your questions, too.

Saturday, May 22

Club Outing, Cypress Point Park, Tampa

- You can fly fish middle or upper Tampa Bay but the center of attention is the fishy flat at Tampa's Cypress Point Park.
- Wade fishers like this flat. It's got a good mixture of different seagrasses circling "deeper" sandy potholes. The water is warm enough for wet wading. Is it healthy? The May 5 Healthy Beaches score was "Good."
- SFF outing prizes (\$10 gift certificates to Bill Jackson's Shop for Adventure) will go to the members catching the longest snook, redfish, seatrout, and/or ladyfish. Measure. Take pictures. Email your picture to outings committee chair Bob Burkard at robertburkard9@gmail.com.



Meetings, Outings, and More



Member Salute

Member Michael Larkin has a new article in the May/June 2021 issue of *Tail Fly Fishing* magazine. The title is "The Freeze – The science behind big bonefish in the Florida Keys". It discusses why the Keys are famous for big bonefish: Why they have declined and when the big bones might be back.

June 9 and June 22: Summer Camp Fly Casting

Tom Gadacz is asking for volunteers to help teach fly fishing to youth at two Hillsborough County summer camps. You'll need to be vaccinated, wear a mask, and wash your hands often. (Tom said he'll bring some hand washing solution and a few extra masks.)

- June 9 Wednesday at Riverview Civic Center @ 9:00 - 11:00
- June 22 Tuesday at Carrollwood Village Park @ 9:00 - 11:00

Email thomasgadacz@yahoo.com

Thursday, June 17, club meeting on Zoom

- Dock light panel
-

Friday, June 18 and Saturday, June 19, Dock Light Outing

July 15 meeting in person at Walter Fuller Park

- Trash 'n' Treasures meeting
 - Our meeting will run from 6:00 to 9:00 pm this month only to give us plenty of time to bid on items. Set-up is at 6:00 pm. Members arrive at 6:30.
 - Alan Sewell will auction Trash 'n' Treasures and all of the money goes to our club bank account. Donate used fishing gear, books, or whatever you don't use any more.
 - Bring a credit card, checkbook, or cash to get some great deals on used items that you will use.
-

July 17 outing and picnic, Fort DeSoto Park

- Saturday, July 17 outing and festive picnic at Fort De Soto Park. Outings chair Bob Burkard will reserve the shelter. It'll be one of our most special meals ever.
 - Casting clinic coming later this year. Master Casting Instructor and member Dayle Mazzarella is in touch with President Rick Warfel about it.
-

Plan ahead: More 2021 outings, parties, and picnics to come

- August 21: Urban Outing, Bay Vista Park, St. Petersburg
 - September 18: Fort De Soto Park
 - October 23: Carl Hanson Memorial on the Hillsborough River
 - November 20: Boca Ciega Bay at Bay Pines Veterans Park
 - December 11: Christmas Party
 - December 18: Don Coleman Invitational, Fort De Soto Park
-

Meetings, Outings, and More

October 1-2, Florida Council Fly Fishing Expo

We're all better together

- **Mission Inn Resort** in Howey in the Hills, northwest of Orlando on the Harris Chain of Lakes
- The theme is "We're all better together"
- How-to seminars on Friday and Saturday, indoors and outdoors
- Welcoming reception Friday evening
- Live auction Saturday
- Banquet with a featured speaker on Saturday evening



"We are inviting fly fishers of all skill levels to come, to join the fun, to make new friends, and to be better fly casters, better fly tyers, and better at catching gamefish on the fly," said Tom Gadacz, Florida Council President, also a member of Suncoast Fly Fishers.

David Olson, Vice President of the Florida Council, is in charge of planning the Expo. He said the theme of this year's Expo is *We're all better together*. He said seminars will be held Friday and Saturday, indoors and outdoors. There will be a welcoming reception Friday night. On Saturday evening there is a live auction and banquet with a featured speaker.

November 5, 6, 7 2021, Virtual Fishing Fair, Fly Fishers International

- FFI has had to cancel its major in-person expo, but in many ways this Expo, on Zoom, is going to be a much bigger deal, attracting fly fishers from all over the world.

Who is that perfect fly caster?

You probably have seen the picture of the fly caster on our club's website and Facebook pages. But did you ever wonder who it was making that perfect casting loop?



Well, you could look carefully through dozens and dozens of old issues of *On The Fly* and you might find the picture and the answer. But you don't need to. **Tim Elms** has already done the heavy lifting, so to speak.

Tim looked through 100 or more back issues and hit on it, answering the question at the March membership meeting. For his attention to detail and hard work Tim has won a year's subscription to *Tail Fly Fishing* magazine

Okay, to answer the question: Who is that perfect caster? It's Chris O'Byrne. It was in the April 2013 edition of the newsletter which included a photo of Chris throwing that perfect loop. Well done, Chris. And congratulations Tim.

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 22nd Avenue N turn North on 72nd St. N. Turn left (West) on 26th 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

[Facebook.com/scff2020](https://www.facebook.com/scff2020)

Online Pay Portal: Pay dues, donate, purchase

<https://suncoastflyfishers.com/eshop/>

Membership update

Suncoast Fly Fishers now has 134 members including 14 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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

LUKE FERRONE OF ST. PETERSBURG
BOB CIRULNICK OF SOUTH PASADENA

Suncoast Fly Fishers

P. O. Box 40821
St Petersburg, FL 33743
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: Tim Elms

Facebook: Cliff Nigh, Anne Hays Mitchell

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; Anne Hays Mitchell, Bob Hood, Tim Elms, Marshall Craig.

Bob Burkard: April's Safety Harbor Outing Report



Bob Burkard, Outings Committee chairman

Well, Tim Elms warned us on the April Zoom meeting that wade fishers shouldn't expect to catch many fish if they waded in at Phillippe Park. I have caught "nice" Redfish wading at Phillippe Park over the years, so I know that there are times that fishing is good there.

However, this time, Tim was right. Unfortunately, I had to miss the outing, but six members and one guest met up at 8 am near the #2 pavilion, posed for a picture, and waded in with their fly rods and ambitiously aimed for redfish and snook. Didn't happen. Bill AuCoin jumped a few ladyfish. Big thrill.



Phillippe Park waders. Bob Hood, Tom Gadacz, Mandy McGarry, Jeremy Haley, Tony Piazza, and Wayne Shriver.



Karen Warfel with the award-winning 13.5-inch bass.

Our guest and (hopefully) future member Jeremy Haley caught a seatrout. Yay. And a catfish. Bill Scarola and Jack Collins drift-fished in Bill's Alumacraft and caught a bunch of catfish. Bill said he was amazed at how hard they pulled. Alas, catfish was not the designated species.

Tim was right about another thing. He said we could catch fish at the pond at Cooper's Bayou Park. So that's what Rick and Karen Warfel did.



Bill Scarola and his hard head-fighting catfish. (Is that really Bill behind that catfish?)



Guest Jeremy Haley and his hardheaded cat. Jeremy also caught a seatrout.



Nice cast, Bob Hood.

Bob



Mandy McGarry made long fly casts toward the drop off. Alas, no takers.

Bob Burkard: May 22 Outing at Cypress Point Park

The Tampa Bay shoreline at Cypress Point Park in Tampa is a terrific place for wade fishers. Kayakers, too. There's lots of seagrass with interesting patterns and deeper sandy potholes. You don't have to wade too far to work the drop-offs. We'll have a nice incoming tide from 7 am until 1pm. The tidal current speeds up as it squeezes through the Howard Frankland Bridge which should bring bait onto the flat.

This is one of my favorite wading spots and I am looking forward to fishing with our members. Some club members are meeting up at the park about 7:30 am to wade in and catch the inshore slam. Join us. You'll see fly lines flying back and forth. Yeah. That's us.

Redfish like the flats around Cypress Point Park. Take a look at the 28-inch redfish that member Robert Fischer caught in January. He caught it wading the flats at Cypress Point Park. Maybe. We think. This is not confirmed. Still...



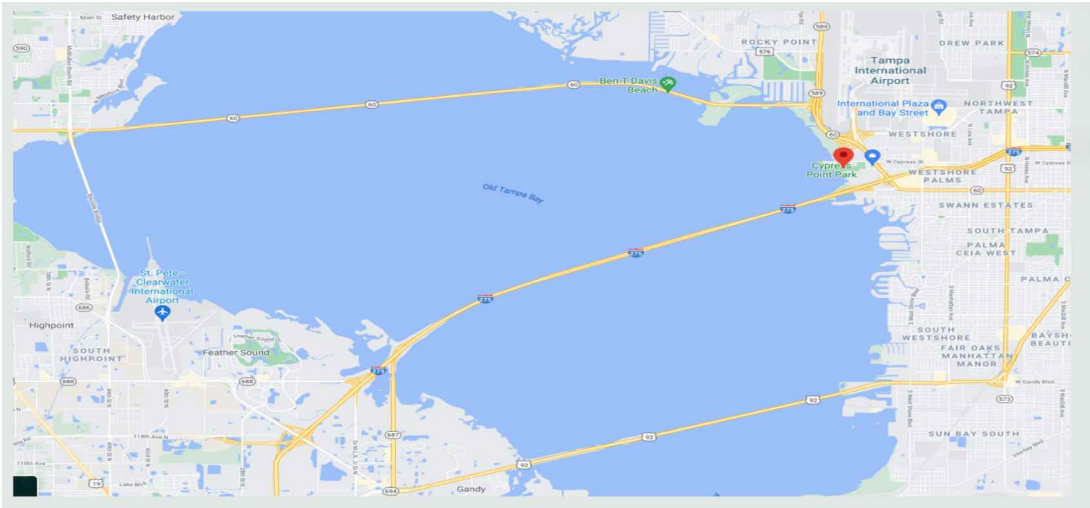
Robert Fischer's redfish

Some of us that have received our COVID vaccinations are planning to get together for some socializing at this outing. If you are interested, please bring your own brown-bag lunch and a chair. SFF will provide soft drinks and water. The available shelters are on a 1st come basis, so I don't have the exact location, but look for the fly rods and the great looking fishing outfits.

DIRECTIONS TO TAMPA'S CYPRESS POINT PARK VIA I-275
Take the Howard Frankland Bridge (I-275) toward Tampa.
Take exit 39 toward the airport.
Stay in the right lane. Exit onto W. Spruce Street.
Go ½ mile and turn right on N. O'Brien St.
Go ½ mile and turn right (W) onto W. Cypress Street
Go ½ mile and the destination is on your left.

- You can fish anywhere in middle or upper Tampa Bay.
- Outing Prizes will be awarded for the longest snook, redfish, snook, seatrout, and ladyfish. Measure 'em. Take pictures. Email them to Bob Burkard.

ROBERTBURKARD9@GMAIL.COM



Cypress Point Park is on Hillsborough County's Tampa Bay shoreline just to the north of I-275

Updated: 2021 Outings and Tournament Leaders

Leaders on the 2021 Outing Tournament Trail

Species	Length (inches)	Winner	Outing (Month)
Longest black bass	18	Tim Elms	Freshwater (March)
Longest bream	11	Tim Elms	Freshwater (March)
Longest Mayan cichlid	11.5	Tim Elms	Freshwater (March)
Longest snook			
Longest redfish			
Longest ladyfish	19.5	Mark Hays	Fort De Soto Park (Feb)
Longest seatrout	20	Tim Elms	Fort De Soto Park (Feb)

Outing Date	Outing	Target Fish
1/23/2021	Weedon Island	(1) Longest Snook & (2) Trout, & (3) Longest Redfish
2/20/2021	Ft. DeSoto	(1) Longest Snook & (2) Trout
3/20/2021	Freshwater: Anywhere in Pinellas, Hillsborough, or Manatee Counties	(1) Longest Bass & (2) Longest Bream & (3) Longest Cichlid
4/17/2021	Upper Tampa Bay and Alligator Lake (Safety Harbor): Philippe Park	(1) Longest Trout & (2) Longest Bass
5/22/2021	Cypress Point Park	(1) Longest Trout (2) Longest Redfish
6/18 & 6/19/2021	Night Snook: Friday and Saturday Nights Docklight and Beach (fishing in the dark) Anywhere in Tampa Bay	Longest Snook
7/17/2021	Fort DeSoto – 1 st Get together	Longest Fish on a Fly
8/21/2021	Urban Outing (Bay Vista Park) Weedon Island to Rt 275	(1) Longest Snook & (2) Trout, & (3) Longest Redfish
9/18/2021	Fort DeSoto	(1) Longest Snook & (2) Trout, & (3) Longest Redfish
10/23/2021	Hillsborough River - Carl Hanson	(1) longest Bass & (2) Most Blue Gills
11/18/2021	Boca Ciega Bay - Bay Pines War Veterans Memorial Park	(1) Longest Ladyfish & (2) Longest Trout
12/11/2021	Christmas Party - TBD	
12/18/2021	Ft DeSoto - Don Coleman	Longest Fish on a Fly

Tony Piazza: Whoa. What a snook can do on its first run



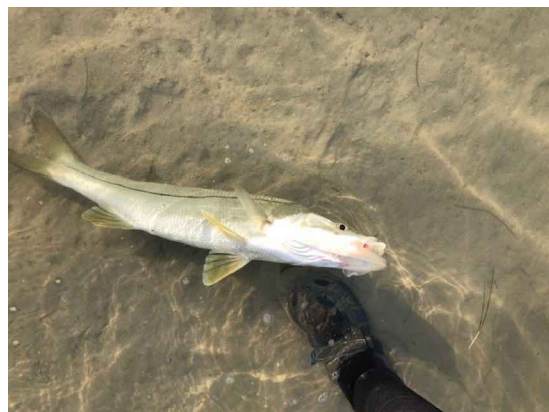
Monday, May 3 I wade fished in the flats behind Shell Key. It was my last opportunity before heading back to St. Louis for the summer. I had fished back there a few times with some success so decided to give it a try.

From 7am to 11 am I waded in water between 6 and 12" looking for moving shadows and blind casting up into grass

that was sticking up 12" above the water line. Four snook decided to give me a grand send off. On a 7wt rod, floating line, and a #2 bend back in white with some pearl crystal flash.

I learned what a snook can do on a first run.

Three of the four had me into the backing in a few seconds. I was lucky to not be near the mangroves and was able to land them eventually. They were in the 18 to 24" range. Two of the fish were on blind casts and two were on sight casts.



Multitasker Tony Piazza was able to hold the camera, snap the picture, while holding the rod. Amazingly, he didn't drop his smart phone into the water.



Look closely. This snook swallowed the fly and the leader, too. It's coming out of his gill.

The enclosed pictures aren't very good as I am still working on handling a rod, fish and camera simultaneously by myself. If you look closely you can see one of the fish has the fly securely in its jaw but the tippet and running leader is exiting a gill. That was the one fish that didn't take me into the backing and I can see why. Looks like I was calf roping.

For the life of me I can't figure out how the fly entered a gill and lodged in the jaw. If anyone knows the answer I would be interested in learning that trick. I won't be back until November but have 6 months to re-live the best day fishing the flats I have had.

Tony

Gary Sundberg: Trouting in North Carolina

Overall fun trip. If the water had been one-foot lower it would have been a different experience. Still, it's beautiful country. I'm glad we went.



Our son Andy and the family were driving down to Florida from Massachusetts and to break up the trip for them (and get me some trout time!) we decided to meet in North Carolina for a few days.

I looked at the fishing YouTube videos, blogs, local fly shop websites, and talked to Suncoast members (thanks, Dave Redd) for possibilities. I scanned the AirBNB and VBRO websites for housing. We decided on The Bryson City Area for good trout waters and available rentals. We booked a VBRO house April 3 through 7. I figured three days of trout fishing, two on our own and one with a guide.

As the date approached, storms were moving across the South and dumping rain across the area. Most of the rivers and streams we planned to fish were dam flow controlled so I wasn't worried. Wrong. By the time we got to North Carolina the weather had turned sunny and warm but the rivers and streams were at three times normal flow. At Bryson City the river was near flood stage.



After the rain, stream flow was 3X normal.



Andy ties on a new fly

First day

out we figured that if we got high enough into the mountains on a stream that levels would be fishable. We choose Scott Creek, a tributary of The Tuckaseegee. Just say, "The Tuck".

We found a few spots that looked promising and caught some 6"-7" brook trout. My son Andy is a "Dry Dropper" fisherman using a dry fly; in this case a size 14 Elk Hair Caddis with a size 16 stonefly nymph under the dry fly.

I had been bitten by the Euro Nymph bug and used two nymphs, a size 16 black stonefly, and a size 14 olive Woolly Bugger.

Continued on next page

P2/Gary Sundberg: Trouting in North Carolina



Smile, fishy. It's gonna be okay.

Day 2

We went with a guide from *Outfitter - Fly Fish the Smokies* - out of Bryson City. The guide suggested we fish "The Tuck." With the water so high there were only a few sections that were wadeable. And they were also quite crowded.

This part of North Carolina is really a hatchery-supported fishery. Few native fish survive the winter and the heavy fishing pressure. We managed to land a few nice fish, rainbows and brown trout, but footing in the river was sketchy and I was glad I had brought my wading staff.

Nymphs were the fly of the day, me dragging my euro setup using a size 14

black stone and a pink worm, Andy using an indicator with a pink worm and size 14 black caddis.

Day 3

Day 3 found us on the Upper Nantahala River. It's a beautiful place. Our guide from the previous day suggested we try this water. Again, the flows were high. Trout were hanging on for dear life trying not to be swept down the river. We found a quiet pool with a protected riffle and there was a trout.

The main road runs right alongside of the stream and there were plenty of turnoffs so access was not a problem.

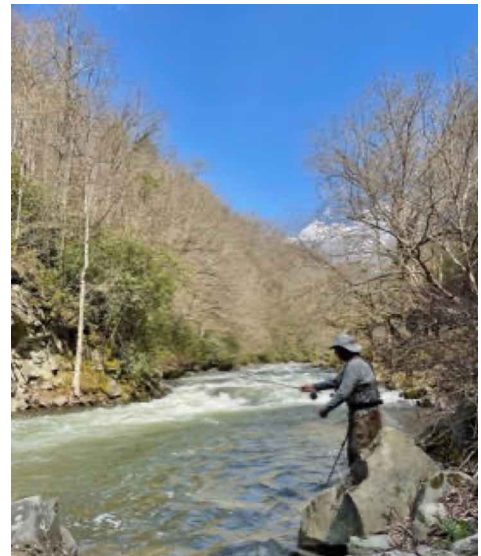
Andy caught a nice rainbow and tourists watching actually clapped. Fun part was the fish were hitting dry flies. Hard! We fished a size 14 Elk Hair Caddis and fish would leave the water to chase them.



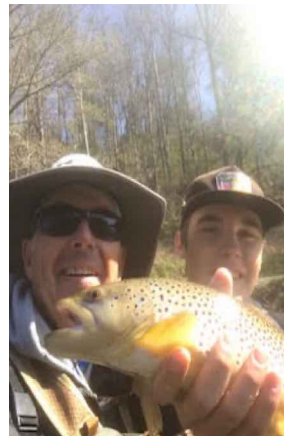
Before we changed to dries, fish were attacking Andy's indicator. HMMMMMMMM?

Yep, time to tie on dry flies!

Gary



Drift fishing the Nantahala



Andy and a fat brown trout posing with fly-guide Slade.

Marshall Craig: Wind, Bones, Bahamas



In late April, I travelled to Great Exuma, the Bahamas, with two local friends, both named Steve, and a new acquaintance from Colorado, Pete, to get up close and personal with bonefish.

COVID tests stateside, as well as COVID tests in the Bahamas, were prerequisites for entry and departure. We arrived to see a

horizontal windsock at the Georgetown Airport, hoped it was not a negative harbinger with four days of fishing ahead of us. It was.



The beautiful Bahama flats. Bonefish are there.



Guides Reno and Alston Rolle of Rolletown spotted the bonefish and got the boat into position for the best fly cast in spite of 15-mph winds.

Our engaging and friendly guides were Reno Rolle and Alston Rolle of Rolletown, a hop and a skip south of Georgetown. Reno's and Al's last names are an artifact of the abolition of slavery in the Brit colonies. In 1842, Great Exuma landowner Baron John Rolle gave his land to his former slaves with a codicil stipulating they all be named Rolle.

The Rolles poled us fighting 15 mph winds. Add a morning king tide and clouds that paraded over the flats, and we had a grim situation. Our equipment consisted of 8-wt rods and line, 12-

lb leader and tippet, hoodies, buffs, good Polaroid sunglasses, lots of sun block and fishing hats.

We used #4 "Gotchas" and shrimp patterns with rubber legs, buff-colored with a spot of red (flies courtesy of Cliff Nigh at St. Pete Outfitters.) On the casting deck, we wore socks or smooth-toed slip-ons. Given the firm bottom, we waded barefoot. On the casting deck, we used both floating and intermediate lines; when wading in 18-inch-deep water, floating lines.

Continued on next page...



Gotcha! Cliff Nigh at St. Pete Outfitters loaded up Craig and his team with a bunch of bonefish flies. Yep, Gotcha flies.

P2/Marshall Craig: Wind, Bones, Bahamas



Good to go

The Rolles were good guides, putting us on fish despite the conditions, finding pairs of fish cruising off the mangroves as the tide ran out, and finding medium-sized schools moving across shallow flats. Line management was a struggle, casting from the deck or wading.

Wading, we had to hustle and get ahead of a school of travelling bones, positioning ourselves for a straight-on

cast, sometimes dropping to our knees to reduce our profiles. A side-on cast at the school never produced. Lemon sharks and barracudas accompanied us, two of them nailing hooked bones.

On occasion, as I waded, a lemon shark would feel the vibrations of my movement and slowly idle up to within feet of me to see if I were edible.

Our two bonefishing rookies, Pete and Steve number 2 (only his second fly fishing experience), caught bones each day, enjoying the thrill of classic screaming runs deep into their backing. We all caught fish in the three-to five-pound range, each of us hooking bigger fish that were not inclined to stay on the line.



Steve caught bones each day.

Sight fishing for bonefish on beautiful Bahamian flats, teamed with an experienced guide, will always be for me the most sublime fishing experience I could ever want.



Crab patterns, too



Pete and one of his Bahamas bonefish.

Marshall

Watch Bruce teach this fly online... [facebook.com/scff2020](https://www.facebook.com/scff2020)

Bruce Evensen: Pinfish Fly



Bruce Evensen

This is the Fly of the month for our May outing at Cypress Point Park. Bruce taught this fly on Zoom May 10. In person classes will resume in his fly-tying studio on Monday, July 5. His address is 531 80th Avenue N in St. Petersburg. Meanwhile, Zoom on Mondays. Meet up at 7 pm.



Address:
531 80th Avenue N.
St. Petersburg

Materials

Hook, short shank # 2 to 1/0

Thread. flat waxed green

Belly- off white ep fibers

Back- light olive ep, or "everglades" ep is a blended color material, or similar

Eyes- silver/ black or white /black, stick on. 4.5 -5mm

Stripes- black marker

Glue- UV epoxy, Super Glue, or nail glue

Tying Steps

1-Wrap hook shank w/ thread

2-Add a clump of the off white ep fibers just behind hook eye. Don't over-do the amount of fiber. Pull it back and rotate it down toward the hook point

3. Add a clump of your top ep material over the bottom material and comb or brush all material flat. Whip finish the material. and add a drop or two of glue.

4. Use your scissors to cut and trim material to perfect the pinfish shape,

5. Attach the eyes. Glue them over the darker material. Use e-6000 or fletching glue to attach eyes.

6- Cover eyes with a little UV epoxy

Bruce

Smitty's Fly Box: The Speedy Fly



This small baitfish fly can be used for seatrout all year round and it's bound to be able to catch almost anything that swims and hunts small baitfish. Just combine the colors you like. The weight is important as it gives the fly its jiggy motion.

Smitty



Materials:

Hook: Daiichi Saltwater size 4. Size 6 for summer fishing
Thread: Danville's Flat Waxed Nylon White
Weight: Silver bead 3.5 mm
Tail: Two Whiting Hen Saddle feathers, ginger. 1½" of small Pearl Mylar tubing
Body: Ice Dubbing UV Cinnamon
Hackle: Deer Creek Gliss N Glint Pearl/White
Eyes: 3 mm 3D Eyes
Head: Flymen Fish Mask size 4
Coating: Solarez UV Flex



Tying instructions

Tail prep: Strip two hen saddle feathers leaving the tip and the stem. Put the feathers back to back and run the stems through the Mylar tubing. Add a drop of Solarez UV Flex on each side where the tube touched the stems and cure. Clip into the feathers forming a "V". Rather cut too little than too much. It can be adjusted later. I make several tails while watching TV. Typically, I tie up ten to be ready to attach to the fly.



Tail prep: Tie up several at a time

Step 1: Slip the bead onto the hook. Cover two thirds of the hook with a thread base.

Step 2. Tie your tail down firmly on the hook and add a drop of glue when you have centered it on the hook shank. That will secure the tail.

Step 3. Make a dubbing loop where the tie-in point of the tail ends. Dub the loop sparingly and wrap it to form a body. Don't brush the body yet.

Step 4. Slide the silver bead down against the body and wrap a little thread to secure it. Add some glue or varnish to reinforce it. The weight sits 3 to 4 mm behind the hook eye. Make a new dubbing loop with sparse Gliss N Glint in a hair hackle manner. Wrap it on pulling the fibers towards the tail. Form a small head.

Step 5. Now brush through the dubbing. Use a dubbing needle to loosen the fibers.

Step 6. Attach eyes to indentations in Fish Mask and slide mask onto fly. Tie a thread dam in front of mask whip finish and cut thread. Pull the fibers slightly back and apply Solarez Flex over the eyes and the gaps on the top and bottom of Fish Mask. Cure. Trim the fibers if they are too long.

Capt. Pat Damico: Captain's Corner



Make the wind your friend

Windy days are still with us. Should you leave your fly rod at home and take only spinning tackle? If you want to improve as a fly fisherman, the reverse is true. If wade fishing, there are many areas protected from the wind. When using a kayak or boat, go to a protected location, and if a firm bottom allows, leave the watercraft and approach fishable water slowly and cautiously on foot. One of my most frequent questions is, "How far must I cast to be productive in saltwater?" Making 50-foot casts under most conditions will catch you a lot of fish. Learn to cast tight loops to achieve wind penetration. Cast more horizontal than vertical. The closer your line is to the water, the less chance the wind has to affect it. Using a shorter, stiffer leader and smaller flies will give you a better layout of your line, improving your presentation. Slapping the water with a poor cast, hitting the fish on the head, lining them, having too much slack so that your following cast or hookset is ineffective are all things that should be avoided. Your most productive cast is always your first. Perfect practice will improve your fly fishing results.

Fly fisherman Pat Damico charts Fly Guy in lower Tampa Bay. captpatdamico.com and 727-504-8649.

Bill Scarola: Fishy Puns of the Month



Bill Scarola

Two guys walk into a bar; the third guy ducked!

*What do you call an overweight Psychic? A four-chin teller!

What did *Tennessee*?

Idaho. I'll Alaska. Maybe he saw the same thing as *Arkansas*.

What did *Delaware*? She had a brand *New Jersey*.

How do you row a canoe full of puppies? Answer: You get out the *doggie paddle!*

Why did the football coach go to the bank? Answer: he wanted his *quarterback*.

Singing in the shower is fun until you get soap in your mouth, then it becomes a *soap opera*.

How does an Eskimo build his house? Answer: *igloos* it together.

Ladies, if he can't appreciate your fruit jokes you need to let that *mango!*

Padump bum ching

Gear for Sale or Swap

Bill Scarola is selling his trolling motor. \$150. Call him at 732-740-7538

This is a MINN KOTA EDGE, bow mount trolling motor, 12 volt with tiller steering and 45-pounds of thrust. Excellent condition. \$150.00



Rick O'Hara is selling his handheld fish-finder/GPS. It's a deal.

I have a Lowrance iFinder H20 GPS for sale. It comes complete with a Navionics South Florida chip, numerous 10,000 Islands fishing spots accumulated over the years, and the manual. The price is \$50. I can be contacted by email (flyguy47@verizon.net) or phone 727-410-0459.

Robert Fischer casting platform. Phone 813-495-5685

Aluminum casting platform with removable backrest, 39" x 24" x 18". Built by Sanchez Bros. Very good condition. Ideal for flats or bay boat to raise you 18" above the deck. \$300.



Barry Salzman is selling his Simms waders. Email Salzman@tampabay.rr.com

These are Simms Freestone waders. \$125. Size Large. Original price \$279. Excellent condition. No leaks. No repairs. Used infrequently.

Tim Elms has lowered the price on a few SFF logo fishing shirts with the jumping snook design. Email trelms@yahoo.com

Machine wash and dryable. If you want one, he'll deliver it to you or meet you half-way. Non hooded (XXL only) is light grey. Priced at \$18. White hooded shirts are L and XL priced at \$35. One XXL has a small stain. That one goes for \$20.



Ocean Kayak and extras. \$900. Call Frank Moss.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

Want to sell or trade? Need some fly gear? Email Bill AuCoin, wmaucoin@verizon.net

Bill AuCoin : Flyfisher Flyover (Clickbait Edition)



Cast farther and strengthen your pelvic floor, too. — Actually, this T. Edward Nickens article is only about making super long fly casts. Not that other thing. Watch your back-casts. Don't make too many false casts. Aim high. More. ([Field & Stream](#))

Does wet wading kill toenail fungus? Probably not. But, on a different subject, when you're wet wading you can catch gamefish to remember. This Mike Conner article spells out the do's, the don'ts, and the huge rewards of fly fishing Florida's beaches. ([Salt Water Sportsman](#))

Do this one simple trick to get rid of belly fat. – All you have to do is fish 350 days a year. This article has a love story, too. Plus, the significant others were not happy when their guys didn't return with a fresh fish for ceviche. ([Anglers Journal](#))

Does your prostate talk to you? The good news is that fishing wader companies have an answer to our calls from nature when we're wader-wading in that cold water. *Warning:* This is only for men and for men who identify as women. ([Man Makes Fire](#))

Try not to laugh when you see this. Funny fishing videos. (And they make us glad we're in Florida.) *Warning:* the last few episodes run on too long, imho, but the ice fishing videos in the beginning are laughing out loud good. ([You Tube](#))

Do. Not. Click. On. This. – A grizzly bear, probably defending his food source – It had just killed a moose -- attacked and killed a fly fishing guide and later it tried to kill wildlife officers, too. ([USA Today](#))

Don't let your fly down. H/T Pat Damico. Our fellow member Pat must be up in Pennsylvania fly fishing those limestone spring creeks. I thought drag had to do with the drag knob setting on our fly reels. But, come to find out, it has to do with how to make your fly float naturally in the current. On a drag free drift, you won't see ripples (or dribbles?) around your fly. Your fly will look presentable. And the fish will be happy. Until they aren't. ([Keystone Angler](#))

Hunter Biden's laptop. Actually, this article has nothing whatsoever to do with Hunter Biden or his laptop. It's about how your dog can help you practice catching a tarpon on the fly. Yeah, hook your line to his collar. Throw the ball. OMG. ([Tail Fly Fishing](#))

Jeffrey Epstein didn't kill himself. Hey, made you look. This one is about a 240-pound, 100-year-old sturgeon in the Detroit River. Spoiler alert: it didn't commit suicide. Here's the rest of the story.

([Great Lakes Now](#))

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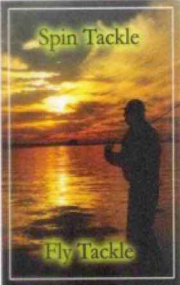
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