

On The Fly

Newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

How healthy is Tampa Bay? P5-6



June Docklights and Beach Outing P8



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The President's Message: June 2022

June is a great month for saltwater fly fishing in Tampa Bay.

Tarpon are migrating into the area and can be found along the beaches and well up into the bay. Snook and trout are looking for love. They have moved out of their winter retreats and are working their way to the beaches. Along the way they will often stop at one of the many lighted docks for a snack that could include your favorite fly.

Our speaker this month is Matt Foster. Matt is part of the Gulf Coast Fly team of fly fishing guides, which also includes Brad and Lisa Lowman. Get ready to learn all you need to know to catch fish on the beach and around the docks lining Tampa Bay.

The June night fishing outing will give you a chance to target fish on the beach and around the docks. The outing is a fish on your own event but that doesn't mean you can't fish with friends. If you have a boat and can take on a guest, call another member and offer to take them fishing. If you don't have access to a boat, hook up with another member and hit the beaches.

Come to our meeting on the third Thursday this June, listen to our speaker, and ask questions about anything you ever wanted to know about beach fishing or dock light fishing. Matt and our collection of experienced fly fishing members will have all the answers.

Looking forward, I want you to start getting ready for our Suncoast Fly Fishers Summer BBQ. This event will take place at our August outing at Ft. DeSoto Park. Think of it as a main serving of beach party with fishing on the side. The meal will include smoked brisket with all the sides and a variety of desserts. Plan on bringing your family and friends for food, fun and games. You won't have to fish to have a good time! This event will be RSVP only so make your plans now and let us know who will join us on the 20th of August.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel
SFF President

Meetings, Outings, and More

Meeting, Thursday, June 16, Walter Fuller Park, 6:30-8:30

- The meeting starts at 7 but come early for snacks, coffee, raffle tickets, and chatting up friends.
- Capt. Matt Foster tells his secrets for catching snook on the lights and beaches on outing days.

Outing Friday and Saturday, June 17-18, Docklight and beach snook outing

- Fish docklights or the beach between 8 pm and 8 am on Friday night and/or Saturday night.
- \$10 gift certificate will be awarded for the longest snook. Measure. Take pictures.

Meeting Thursday, July 21, Walter Fuller Park

- The meeting starts at 7 but come early for snacks, coffee, raffle tickets, and chatting up friends.
- Tentatively, our speaker is marine biologist Gina Russo with Florida Fish and Wildlife.

Outing Saturday, July 23, South Skyway (I-275) Rest Area

- This is a terrific place for wade fishing on either side of I-275.
- \$10 gift certificates are rewarded for the longest snook, redfish, and longest speckled trout.
- Free picnic lunch at noon.

Volunteers still needed for summer youth casting clinics

- The dates are June 15 and June 29 at Riverview Civic Center, 11020 Park Drive, 9 to 11 am
- The July dates are July 9 and July 21 at Carrollwood Village Park, 4680 W Village Drive, 9 am-noon.
- If you can help, contact David Redd at reddfish68@yahoo.com . Call or text him at 727-458-8334.

2022 outings at a glance

- June 17-18: Docklight and beach outing (Longest snook)
- July 23: South Sunshine Skyway (I-275) Rest Area (Longest snook, redfish, and speckled trout)
- August 20: Fort DeSoto Park. Big Brisket Face-off. (Longest snook, redfish, and speckled trout)
- September 17: Urban Outing, Bay Vista Park, St. Petersburg. (Longest fish)of any species)
- October 22: Carl Hanson Memorial, Hillsborough River. (Longest fish and the most bluegills)
- November 19: Weedon Island Preserve (Longest ladyfish)
- December 17: Don Coleman Invitational, Fort De Soto Park (Longest fish of any species)



Bruce Evensen (l) and Claude Neidlinger at the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs, Fla.

- The SFF board authorized \$100 for Bruce Evensen for fly tying materials for his fly tying sessions.
- Bruce Evensen and Claude Neidlinger and their spouses represented our club at the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs, Florida. S
- Something odd happened to Bruce on his way back. An alligator was crossing I-75. Bruce swerved to miss it but still ran over the gator's tail. In the rear view mirror he saw other vehicles hitting it, too. Oh well, just another day in Florida.

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

[Monthly Calendar](#)

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

Online Pay Portal: Pay dues, donate, purchase

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

Membership

Suncoast Fly Fishers now has 112 members including 13 family members and 6 honorary members. Dues are \$50 (for individuals, \$40 for seniors, and \$60 for families. It includes benefits and annual membership in [Fly Fishers International](#) and the [Florida Council](#) of Fly Fishers International.

New member: Welcome Tyler Hammond, St. Petersburg

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, James Davis

Casting: Pat Damico, Dayle Mazzarella

FFI Liaison: Pat Damico

Conservation: Cliff Nigh

Fly Tying: Myron Hansen

Hog Roast: Open

Membership: Tom Gadacz

New Members: Rick Warfel

Webmaster: Tim Elms

Facebook: Cliff Nigh, Anne Mitchell

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 Mitchell

On The Fly

Editor Bill AuCoin, Anne Mitchell, Bob Hood, Tim Elms, Marshall Craig, Kevin Kelly

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.

Anne Mitchell: May 19 Meeting, Health of Tampa Bay

Our guest speaker for the evening was Maya Burke, the Assistant Director for the [Tampa Bay Estuary Program](#). Maya gave us an update from last year about the state of Tampa Bay's water quality and what challenges we are facing in 2022.



Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Estuary Program

The Tampa Bay Estuary Program is an inter-governmental organization that is funded with taxes and matched with private donations. Tampa Bay was recognized as an "Estuary of National Significance" in 1991.

Where does the Tampa Bay estuary start?

Our estuary starts all the way in Green Swamp in the center of the state. Our water is filtered as it moves from the swamp toward the bay through various rivers, lakes, wetlands, etc. Because Florida has become so urbanized, many of these filtration systems have been damaged or destroyed.

The goal of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program is to find ways to ensure that, despite these disruptions to the waterways, we can find ways to lower the nitrogen and other pollutants in the water to keep our bay clean and algae free.

The challenge is Old Tampa Bay

Currently most of the bay is doing well. From Hillsborough Bay to lower Tampa Bay the water quality is good overall. By the end of last summer, the damage from Piney Point was largely washed out, and overall, we have done a lot to reduce the nitrogen in Lower Tampa Bay. However, our challenge is Old Tampa Bay.

While it hasn't been hit by Red Tide, it has been plagued with bioluminescent plankton that prevent light from reaching the seagrass. The nitrogen content in Old Tampa Bay is getting higher, which means more algae blooms. The biggest challenge for this area is its geography.

Old Tampa Bay is more enclosed than the rest of the bay. There is a lot of development around it, the land naturally bottlenecks the water, and the three bridges across the bay (Howard Franklin, Gandy, and Courtney Campbell) make water circulation difficult. This part of the bay is fed with flood control structures instead of natural wetlands so the water isn't as filtered as it should be.



We have to lower the nitrogen to grow more grass to help prevent algae blooms

The only way to keep fish in our bay is seagrass, and in order to keep the seagrass alive we have to lower the nitrogen to reduce the algae and prevent blooms.

Continued on next page

P2: Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Estuary Program

Maya said that the goal is to have forty thousand acres of seagrass in Tampa Bay. Currently we have thirty-five thousand, and nearly all of the seagrass we have lost recently (about four thousand acres) has been in the Feather Sound area.

Our fish are relatively healthy at the moment except in Hillsborough Bay. This is because of increased toxins in the water and runoff.

It's estimated that about twenty billion dollars of economic activity in our area depends upon clean water, so it's very important that we all do our part.



- Make sure you do not fertilize your yard during the rainy season.
- Also, you can directly support clean water efforts by purchasing the tarpon license plate for your Florida vehicle.



Tampa Bay's thriving habitats

We would like to thank Maya again for taking the time to update us on the State of the Bay.

Annie

Rick Warfel: Volunteer to fill bags with oyster shells

Here is some info that TBEP's Maya Burke sent regarding the schedule for the shoreline improvement program around Philippe Park. Volunteers are needed to fill bags with oyster shells.

Rick

We have just set some dates for oyster bag filling to finish up our TBERF-funded Philippe Park Living Shoreline project. Info and sign-up is on Eventbrite, links below. Please share with friends and coworkers.

- Every Wed and Sat morning in June, we will be filling oyster bags for a couple of hours:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/oyster-bag-filling-tickets-347090927307>
- The installation for the oyster bar will be done at two evening events (best tides and less heat), July 9 and 23:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/philippe-park-living-shoreline-phase-iii-tickets-347409239387>

Stacey Day, PhD

Monitoring and Assessment Program Coordinator
Pinellas County Environmental Management

Anne Mitchell: May 21 Outing, Cypress Point Park



Anne Mitchell, Outings Committee

We had a small turnout at Cypress Point Park. Rick Warfel was the only person who caught fish. His largest was 15-inch speckled trout which he caught on an olive/yellow Clouser. Wayne Shriver said he saw a couple of tailing fish but didn't get a hit.

Robert and I grilled burgers and dogs for the six intrepid fishermen who waded the flats.

The sky was overcast and the tide was moving, so it's a bit of a mystery why more fish weren't caught.

We still had a great time and enjoyed each other's company at the picnic area.

Anne



Burgers and Hot Dog Happy: from left, Anne Mitchell, Bruce Evensen, Quin Berry, Chris O'Byrne, David Redd, and President Rick Warfel.

Rick Warfel is our longest fish winner!

I caught four trout at the outing last Saturday. The biggest was 15". A second one was a little smaller and the last two were dinks.

Chris O'Byrne and I walked out from the beach at the north end of the park and fished the grass flat in about three and a half feet of water.

I fished an olive over yellow Clouser and was lucky enough to find a few hungry fish.

Rick

PS: The burgers were fantastic. Thanks Anne and Robert.

PPS: Here's the picture of my 15-inch seatrout.



Bob Burkard: June 17-18 Docklight and/or Beach Outing

Fly fish the lights or the beaches at dusk, dark, and dawn



*Bob Burkard,
Chairman of the
Outings Committee*

**Friday June 18
Saturday June 19
8 pm to 8 am
Longest snook wins**

Did you notice? We changed the times for this year's docklight/beach outing. Last year it was 9 p to 6 am. This year it's 8 pm to 8 am. And why is that a big deal?

Well, it means we'll be able to take advantage of the so-called "magic hours." One is around sunset. The other is around the sunrise. Gamefish are known to feed more actively then.



That's me casting to some lights in middle Tampa Bay fishing with newsletter editor Bill AuCoin.



James Davis with a big beach snook he caught at Fort DeSoto Park in 2020.

Where can you fish? You can fish anywhere in the Tampa Bay area including Pinellas, Hillsborough, or Manatee County. Check the tides for your area but it looks like Tampa Bay area will have steep outgoing tides both nights.

Measure your longest fish, take pictures, and email them to me. My email address is... Robertburkard9@gmail.com The outing prize goes to the longest snook. (Well, actually, it goes to the club member catching the longest snook.)

Annual tournament prizes are awarded at the end of the year.

Bob

Leaders on the 2022 Outing Tournament Trail

Species	Winner	Length (inches)	Outing (Month)
Longest bream	Anne Mitchell	9	Walsingham Park (March)
Longest black bass	Mark Hays	12	Walsingham Park (March)
Longest snook			
Longest redfish			
Longest ladyfish	Rick Warfel	20-1/4	Weedon Island Preserve (January)
Longest seatrout	Rick Warfel	15	Cypress Point Park (May)

Marshall Craig: Mobile Bay on the Fly



In May I took a day off from a visit to Mobile to see my grandson graduate from high school. I wanted to look into fly fishing possibilities in and around Mobile Bay so had looked for a guide. I hooked up with Peter Jordan of Lost Angler fly shop in Daphne, just across the bay from Mobile.

An estuary like Tampa Bay, Mobile Bay is fed by five river systems coming down through the state. It provides a range of fishing targets, including striped bass up certain rivers, trout and redfish inshore, and Spanish mackerel, jacks and bonito just offshore. Peter will get you to these fish in a bay skiff, a flats boat, or a kayak.

His preference is sight fishing for reds from a kayak.

On the day we went out, inshore waters were tinged by rain the evening before, so we fished the bay's entrance a distance out from Dauphin Island on the west and Fort Morgan peninsula on the east. We rode out to where the oil rigs started, bounced by chop from strong currents and wind and the occasional wave swell from ocean-going vessels, harbor pilot boats, and provisioning boats that served the rigs.

Peter brought three 8-weight TFO rods, two with sinking tip lines and one with floating. His hand-tied flies were small bait fish patterns. Starting around mid-morning macks, bonito, and jacks began to crash bait balls at the surface. I caught a few jacks to get the skunk out of the boat, using my standard long strip retrieve.

Peter said I'd need to use a two-handed retrieve to keep the fly constantly moving. He showed me the method: cast, tuck rod and reel under my armpit and madly strip hand-over-hand. This is where the wheels fell off my wagon. I simply couldn't do it right and my frustration was only mitigated by some great sandwiches Peter had made. He is a pulled pork king.



Marshall with a lookdown he caught on a Clouser under a Mobile Bay oil rig.



Fly guide Peter Jordan is based in Daphne on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay. Contact info for Peter Jordan: (251) 510-6804; www.lostangler.net. }

As it turns out, Peter himself was having a problem "matching the hatch." The afternoon was pretty skinny. I did manage to score a lookdown fish by casting a Clouser under an oil rig. To provide proof that it can be done, I have provided some "glam" shots of Peter with fish.

Marshall

Ray Smith: Connecticut and Rhode Island

Here are pictures of a brook trout and a striper recently caught here in Rhode Island and in Connecticut.



Ray caught this striped bass on Connecticut's Narrow River at dusk.

The 2-pound Brookie is my biggest ever. I caught it on a sparsely tied chartreuse over white Clouser.

Hope to be back in Florida in December. I really miss being there and the fishing, especially the Everglades.

Ray



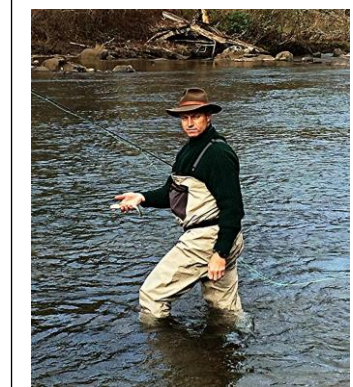
That's Ray with his 2-lb brook trout.

Chris O'Byrne : Polk County Bass and Bluegill

The bass and bluegill are in midpoint holding places. They have left their post-spawn hangouts. But the rains have not filled in the summer holding spots around the edges, and the water is not so hot that they have to stay in the shade.

Look for them on the drop offs, perhaps with grass. Try topwater flies, but be ready with a dropper if they don't respond.

Chris



James Davis : FDP 19 1/2-inch spotted seatrout



I wanted to share this picture of a 19-and-one-half inch seatrout.

I caught it on a schminnow fly fishing Fort DeSoto Park on a windy day in late May.

James

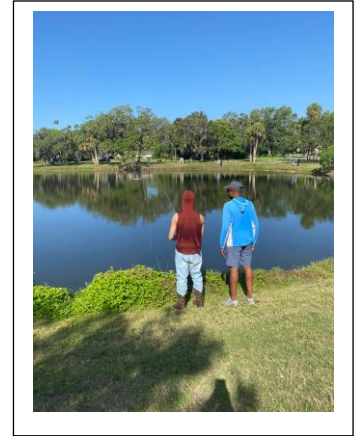
Scott Russell: Mayfly Project #2 is in the books



Scott Russell

Our team just wrapped up another successful Mayfly Project! We had six foster children from two local foster homes join us for our five-outing project.

The first two outings focused on fly tying and the fundamentals of casting. The next three continued the work on casting and gave the kiddos an opportunity to fish! Throughout our project, we also taught knot tying, protecting the environment, and what fly fishing can teach us.



As always, at the end of the project the kids received everything they'll need to continue the sport of fly fishing throughout their life. This time, thanks to team member Tim Elms, they were hooked up with equipment supplied by Andy Mill, Greys Fishing Co., Cortland Line Co., and the IGFA! St. Pete Fishing Outfitters also helped us out by spooling our reels!

Before starting our projects, I didn't realize just how impactful it would be for the foster kids we host. One of the boys this time asked why we would all do this for them. He just couldn't understand why people would volunteer to help them. A foster home staff member that attended one of our outings relayed the same sentiment. That is what our projects are about, less about the actual fly fishing and more about showing these kids that people care about them and they deserve the same opportunities as everyone else. Turns out, we as mentors get just as much out of it as the kids do. One of our team members recently relayed; "Mayfly is probably the best thing I've ever done. What a fun thing as a human loving humans."

We are learning along our way what works best for the kids, given our limited time with them. Our plan is to add periodic fishing outings for the kids to keep them interested in fly fishing and to give them an opportunity to work on their skills.



Mayfly Project volunteers. From the left, Dennis Marquis, Jack Collins, Tim Elms, James Davis, Brian Clark, Scott, and Jim Williams. Not shown is Christie Russell.

Although I couldn't think of a better group of folks to work with, we could use one or two more mentors. If you are interested in joining our team, please reach out to me.

Scott

Contact: Scott Russell
727-403-8165
russellti@me.com

Bruce Evensen: White Docklight Shrimp



The Docklight Shrimp Bruce's Fly of the Month for June 2020. This is a great fly to catch the longest snook on docklights or on the beaches for our June outing.

Bruce has suspended fly tying at his studio for a time while he's on vacation and traveling.

Bruce is not sure at this time when he will reopen his studio for Monday night tying sessions. Stay tuned for an update on that. Meanwhile, though, Bruce and his compatriot fly tyer/instructor Bill Scarola will continue to email instructions for different flies once a week.

I



Materials:

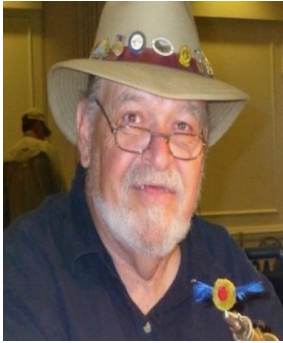
- Hook: 3407 size 2
- Thread: Danville Flat Waxed Nylon (white)
- Front: White bucktail and white marabou
- Body: White Supreme Hair
- Eyes: Red shrimp eyes
- Legs: White round Sili Legs
- Legs: White Estaz
- Glue: Thick UV Loon

Tying Sequence:

1. Use a 3407 size 2 hook. Wrap from hook eye back to the hook point.
2. Above the hook point wrap a small amount of white bucktail.
3. Add a half inch long piece of white marabou.
4. At the same point wrap two or three white Sili Legs on each side.
5. Tie in shrimp eyes, either white or red.
6. Tie in white Estaz and wrap back to the hook eye. Trim Estaz off the back.
7. Take match stick thickness of white Supreme Hair. Tie in 1/4 inch of it over the hook eye with two more inches going back over the hook bend and out.
8. Take Loon thick UV and put a bead where you tied at the hook point and take it all the way forward.
9. Take two strands of pearl Krystal Flash and put 1/4 inch bead of Loon UV from the front tip back for 1/4 inch. Lay the pearl Krystal Flash into the Loon UV pointing forward.
10. Set with UV light

Bruce

Smitty's Fly Box: EP's Foxy Brush Mullet



EP is Enrico Puglisi, of course. His materials make this fly come alive and it also gives you a controlled sink rate. (Like, for instance, when you're waiting for a pod of tarpon to arrive.)



Materials:

Hook: Gamakatsu B10s #4/#2

Thread: Your choice of color

Tail: Craft fur (tan)

Head: EP Foxy Brush (sand)

Eyes: 6mm silver dome eyes

Tying Sequence:

Step 1: Start thread wraps at hook bend

Step 2: Attach a moderate clump of craft fur (3" long) at hook point, secure to bend of the hook. Clip ends of craft fur at hook point. Bring thread back to the hook point.

Step 3: Attach E.P. foxy brush at the hook point, comb the brush back towards the hook bend and secure. Bring thread to the hook eye.

Step 4: Tightly palmer E.P. Foxy Brush towards the hook eye (space your palmering if tying on size #2 B10s or larger) Secure brush just behind the hook eye. Cut the wire inside the brush as close as possible to the hook shank, secure, whip finish and cut thread.

Step 5: Use a bodkin or scissors to pluck any matted material from the brush out. Comb back all of the brush. Look down the center of the fly and ensure all material is evenly spread around the hook shank.

Step 6. Apply eyes with zap-a-gap ca+, zap goo or better yet~~~ Solarez UV Resin.

Voilà.

Smitty

Layne Smith : Crawfish Étouffée



I was looking through some of my archived emails and found this from one of my tying buddies from Baton Rouge.. Enjoy! ...

If you're looking for crawfish...

Queens Seafood Market on 49th Street N. usually has it. So does Ozzie's Seafood Market on Park Blvd. Also, some Publix groceries have frozen crawfish.



Smitty

Étouffée is really a very simple dish. Meaning “smothered” or “suffocated” from the French translation, it is essentially a gravy with any kind of seafood or chicken served over rice. So turn on the zydeco music and pop open a beer—I understand it takes a can of beer to cook a decent roux...you drink and stir, and when the beer's gone, the roux is ready. The recipe I got was titled “Crawfish Étouffée.” That ingredient is not easily available so with this basic recipe you can substitute shrimp, crab or shredded chicken. Serve with rice and a simple vegetable on the side. It's quick and delicious.

Ingredients:

2 tbsp flour
2 tbsp oil
½ cup chopped onion
½ cup chopped green bell pepper
½ cup chopped celery
3 cloves garlic, minced, or garlic scapes , thinly sliced
1 tsp Cajun seasoning
1 cup chicken stock
1 lb cooked crawfish meat (or alternate)
1 tbsp snipped chives

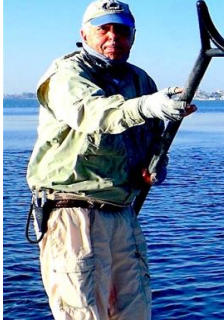
Cajun Seasoning (prepare ahead of time and store in an airtight jar)

1 tsp paprika
1 tsp salt
½ tsp black pepper
¼ tsp dried oregano
¼ tsp dried thyme
¼ tsp cayenne pepper

Directions:

Heat the oil and flour in a skillet on medium to medium low heat, stirring occasionally until caramel brown color. Add the onion, pepper, celery and garlic. Sauté for 5-6 minutes until starting to soften. Add the seasoning and chicken stock. Cook, stirring frequently for about 5 minutes until thickened. Add the crawfish and heat through. Serve over cooked rice and garnish with chopped chives (edible flowers , optional.)

###



Capt. Pat Damico: Captain's Corner

Snook are cruising the beaches

Our beaches are enjoying an explosive return of snook. The season is closed to protect spawning snook, but careful catch-and-release action is available. An east wind will ensure that beaches have clear, undisturbed water close to shore. Large female snook can be seen frequently surrounded by smaller courting males.

Get out early and walk the sand close to areas of good tidal flow. Passes are a magnet, especially if structure is nearby. Good Polaroid glasses and a hat with a dark underside brim make spotting fish easy. Look in the wash close to shore. Cast parallel to the shore, not into deeper water. Enter the water only to gently handle and release fish.

White flies in sizes 1 to 1/0 that duplicate available baitfish will work. Lines with clear sinking tips are preferred over floating lines and should be equipped with a 30-pound fluorocarbon leader about 5 feet long.

Cast only when fish are sighted; then place the fly close enough to get their attention. Never pull the fly into the fish's face. Baitfish don't attack large predators. A fish angling toward you is the best opportunity. Crimp or file all hook barbs to minimize handling and simplify release.

Captain Pat

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

Gear for Sale or Swap

Robert Fischer is selling his trolling motor

Motor Guide W75 Remote Control Trolling Motor; 24 volt, 48" shaft; very good condition. \$350. Call Robert at 813-495-5685.

Bill Scarola: Puns of the Day



What does a frog say when he washes windows?
RUB IT, RUB IT, RUB IT!

Who made the fish's wishes come true?
The fairy COD-MOTHER!!

Where do pigs go for a rest?
To their HAM-MOCK

Bill AuCoin: Flyfisher Flyover



More ways to help our estuary: Yes, buy a tarpon tag. Volunteer to fill and place oyster shells along the Phillippe Park shoreline. And there's much more. Check out the volunteer opportunities for the Tampa Bay estuary on the TBEP website. ([TBEP](#))

Adopt a rain drain. Remember everything that goes into the rain drains go into our waters. Check it out. ([Pinellas County](#))

It's tarpon time: Schools of tarpon are migrating north to south along the Pinellas Coast. Nothing beats sight casting to a pod moving down the beaches. They're usually about 100-200 yards off the shoreline. SFF member Ray Markham told me he saw them in mid-June in about four to eight feet of crystal clear water. Go when there's an east wind. If the wind is from the west, he said, you can probably forget it. ([Capt. Ray Markham](#))

Good idea! Saltwater and freshwater fly fishers owe a lot to Lefty Kreh and now there's an opportunity to contribute to the creating of a statue to be placed on one of his favorite lakes in his hometown of Frederick, Maryland. ([Friends of Lefty Kreh](#))

Aaarrrrgggghhhh. That's the sound a fly fisher makes when he realizes one of his knots failed. Here's a roundup of the knots fishers need to tie, and know how to tie. No excuses. ([Angler's Journal](#))

Oh Shhhhhhh_____t. That's the sound a fly fisher makes when he realizes he lost a trophy tarpon because the big fish just wore him down and out. Andy Mill explains we need to understand how maximizing the pulling power of the fly rod works and, very importantly, we need to know human anatomy so we can maximize the fighting power of our body. ([Tail Fly Fishing](#))

Oldies but goodies. So, the writer asks, is old and slow the way to go? Hmmm, maybe so. I have two old IM6 graphite fly rods and both of them load up easily and feel quite good when I cast them. Good read. ([Midcurrent](#))

Lots and lots of winning. I like these tips and the one that really caught my eye was the one showing things you can do with Velcro straps. I've discovered one more thing. I tightly wrap the tops of my neoprene wading boots with Velcro so sand and little seashells don't slip inside. ([Fly Fisherman](#))

Celebrate June 25. I didn't know this but June 25 is World Fly Fishing Day and we are encouraged to celebrate. Yeah, let's go fly fishing. ([On The Fly South](#))

It's not about the fishing. We had pulled up at the 7-Eleven on Route 78 out of Tupelo to gas up, pee, and snag some munchies on our way to the banks of the Big Piney River of Missouri. Object: catch smallmouth bass. But we were caught in a rural feud between a one-legged man, his brother, and an unknown assailant. Keep reading this blog post by SFF member Marshall Craig. ([CraigLitLife](#))

Bill

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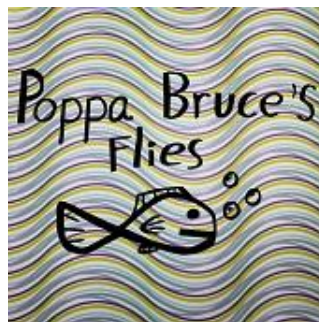
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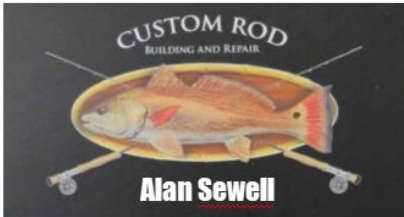


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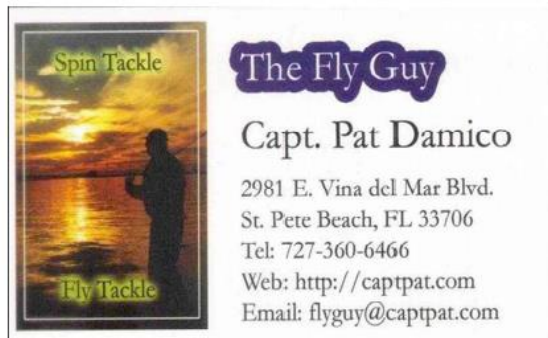
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