# On The Fly

Newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

Member Alert - Fly tying and August Meeting are on ZOOM

Trash'n' Treasures P7



Invest in Silver P10



Smitty's Seminole Lake bluegill fly P14



August Outing: Lake Seminole P6-



A very special schminnow P9



Sistine Chapel Tarpon P17





## President's Letter, August 2021

Suncoast Fly Fishers,

Here we go again. In July we were marching forward, confident that the pandemic would soon be behind us. Our biggest local issue was the outbreak of Red Tide with shoals of dead fish floating in the bay and washing up on our beaches. A month has past, and the Red Tide had diminished but the Corona virus has come roaring back like never before.

It has become clear to me that the one thing that we need to learn how to do is to be flexible. Our member meeting in July was a great

success. Infection rates had come down, everyone in the club had probably had the opportunity to get themselves vaccinated and all was right with the world. Today it is a different story. We are reverting to ZOOM for the fly-tying class this week, because of a breakthrough infection. The board has also made the difficult decision to use ZOOM for this month's member meeting.

We are moving forward with our scheduled outing at Lake Seminole. We have reserved a pavilion and lunch will be provided. I urge you to exercise caution at the event and to refrain from exposing yourself to the members if you have not been vaccinated or if you are not feeling well.

No one is more disappointed about this setback than I am. I hope this is a temporary situation and that we will be able to resume our in-person club activities very soon. Until then we will assess the situation and make the necessary decisions in the best interest of the club and above all, remain flexible.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel, SFF President

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### Meetings, Outings, and More

Thursday, August 19 meeting on Zoom
Zoom meeting opens at 6:45 pm
Meeting called to order at 7: 00 pm
Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82761499392

### Speaker: Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Estuary Program Subject. *Red Tide*

Our August speaker will be Maya Burke, Assistant Director of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program. TBEP's mission is to build partnerships to restore and protect Tampa Bay through implementation of a scientifically sound, community-based management plan. Collaborating with other scientists, TBEP monitors progress in achieving the goals of the community's plan for a healthy Tampa Bay. Burke will discuss this year's red tide event and what made it unusually bad for Tampa Bay. She will also summarize the state of nutrient pollution and water quality (including the latest effects from the Piney Point discharges), other harmful algal blooms (like Pyrodinium bahamense in Old Tampa Bay), and recent declines in seagrass.

• 6:45 pm: President Rick Warfel calls the meeting to order

# August 21 Outing & Grab -n-Go Picnic at Shelter #8

Lake Seminole Park in Seminole

- Fish early then meet up by noon at Shelter #8 which is on a fishy-looking pond and it's not far from a restroom, too.
- There's a boat ramp and many kayak put-in spots on the big lake. Shoreline fly casters will find that the ponds have some areas clear for back-casts and minimal shoreline vegetation. Kayakers can put in and fish the ponds, too.
- The outing prize goes to the club member catching the longest fish of any kind, including a bowfin (mudfish) or a Florida gar. Measure it. Take a picture.



Fish the big lake or any of the ponds. Ponds have a few areas clear enough for shoreline fly casters. Meet for lunch by noon at Pavilion #8.

### Monday, August 16: Tie Bill Scarola's Fly of the Month on Zoom



Bill Scarola's Bait Buster Fly

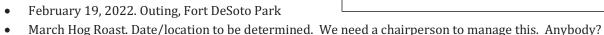
- Bruce Evensen is recovering from a bout with Covid so club members will meet on Zoom instead of Bruce's fly tying studio. Your leader is Bill Scarola.
- This will be a good fly for the Lake Seminole outing. Bill said he has caught bass, cichlids, oscars, gars, and bowfin with this fly.
- Sign in at 7 pm. The Zoom number is 88117766760. Type the numbers into the zoom meeting ID if you have the APP or click on this link new link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81352112772">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81352112772</a>

### Meetings, Outings, and More

# The Florida Council Fly Fishing Expo at Mission Inn Resort has been canceled due to the recent spike in Corona virus infections.

### Plan ahead: More 2021-2022 outings, expos, parties, and picnics to come

- August 21: Lake Seminole Park. Fish the big lake or the ponds. Meet for lunch at Shelter #8
- September 18: Safety Harbor freshwater lakes/ponds
- October 23: Carl Hanson Memorial on the Hillsborough River
- November 20: Boca Ciega Bay at Bay Pines War Veterans Memorial Park
- December 4 (probably): Christmas Party
- November 5-7 Fly Fishers Int'l *Virtual Expo*
- December 18: Don Coleman Invitational, Fort De Soto
- January 8: Free casting clinic with Master Casting Instructors Dayle Mazzarella and Capt. Pat Damico
- January 20, 2022. Trash 'n' Treasures
- January 22, 2022: Outing, Weedon Island Preserve





Free Casting Clinic January 8

#### Mayfly Project: Mentors needed for five fly fishing outings for high schoolers in foster care

Members Scott Russell and Cliff Nigh are planning five fly- fishing outings for foster youth this fall, but they need five to seven mentors, one for each of the high schoolers who will be casting the fly rods. A couple of the outings might be on Friday evenings; the others would be on Saturday mornings. Can you help? Email Cliff at a cliff.nigh@gmail.com. Email Scott at russellti@me.com.

### Job Opening at St. Pete Fishing Outfitters

St. Pete Fishing Outfitters is looking to add to its Sales Associate staff in response to rapidly growing sales volumes. Qualified candidates should be familiar with all types of sports fishing including spin, offshore, fly, live bait and artificials. Candidates should enjoy working with customers in a collaborative manner. This position offers training, personal and professional growth opportunities and a very friendly work environment. Benefits are available. Openings are primarily full time but they will consider a minimum of 3 days per week. Applicants can apply online at <a href="https://www.stpetefishingoutfitters.com">www.stpetefishingoutfitters.com</a> or by stopping at the store and completing an application. Questions? Call the store at 727-317 4949.

# 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 50I (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  $22^{nd}$  Avenue N turn North on  $72^{nd}$  St. N. Turn left (West) on  $26^{th}$  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

Online Pay Portal: Pay dues, donate, purchase

https://suncoastflyfishers.com/eshop/

#### Membership update

Suncoast Fly Fishers now has 138 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.

#### **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

**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

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

Bill AuCoin, editor; Anne Mitchell, Bob Hood, Tim Elms, Marshall Craig.

### Bob Burkard: August Outing at Lake Seminole Park



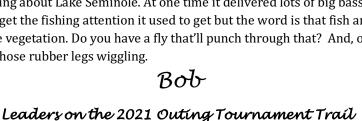
We were going to finally meet up in person at the July outing at Fort De Soto Park but nature had another idea. Red Tide vetoed that outing. And Red Tide is, for now, telling us to avoid fishing saltwater in the Tampa Bay area.

So the August outing is going to be at Lake Seminole Park in Largo. There are fly fishing options for boaters, kayakers, and shoreline fishers, too. And, we'll finally meet up in person for a picnic. Be there before noon or else all the food will have been eaten. Shelter #8.

Lake Seminole Park is an outing FOUR-FER. (Yeah, I did the math.)

- 1. It's a big lake with a boat ramp and places to launch yaks. And, it has multiple ponds with clear areas for fly fishers to make back-casts. Minimal summer shoreline vegetation won't keep you from landing your fly in clear water. (Knock on Kevlar)
- 2. It has pavilions so we can have a picnic.
- 3. It has nearby restrooms.
- 4. AND ...we might catch some fish. The outing prize goes to the club member catching the longest fish of any kind. I'm going for a Bowfin (mudfish) or a Florida gar.

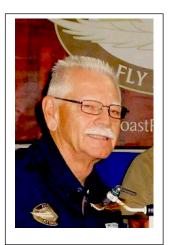
Actually, I've been reading about Lake Seminole. At one time it delivered lots of big bass, bluegill, crappie, and more. Today, it doesn't get the fishing attention it used to get but the word is that fish are hunkered down under that thick surface vegetation. Do you have a fly that'll punch through that? And, of course, bluegill get excited when they see those rubber legs wiggling.



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	28	Mark Hays	Docklights/beaches (June)
Longest redfish	25	Bob Burkard	Docklights/beaches (June)
Longest ladyfish	19.5	Mark Hays	Fort De Soto Park (Feb)
Longest seatrout	20	Tim Elms	Fort De Soto Park (Feb)

Fly fish the big lake or the ponds. Meet up at Pavilion #8 before noon.

### Rick Warfel: Trash 'n' Treasures



I am pleased to announce that our first in-person meeting since the beginning of the pandemic and our mid-year Trash and Treasure auction were a huge success. There were around 38 members and guests at the meeting, and we raised \$1,342 from the auction. All of us enjoyed the spirited bidding and the expert and always entertaining work of auctioneer Alan Sewell. Many thanks to all who participated and the hard work of Tom, Karen and the volunteers that kept track of the items auctioned and the winning bids. Thanks to the committee for the food and beverages. Thanks to all for their generous donations. It was great to see everyone. A good time was had by all!



Auctioneer Alan Sewell



Robert Fischer went for the big stuff.



Bob Burkard got quite a good deal on this Orion scope and tripod. Just \$45.



And Bob B scored this framed redfish artwork for his home office.



Robert Fischer got this portable air tank. \$5, and free shipping.



Guest Steve Seufert scored a box of Bruce Evensen flies.



Used wading boots. Can I have a bid? Anybody? Anybody?

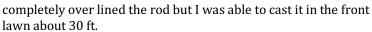
### Tim Elms: Got me a new fly pole



Howdy! Well, that Trash n Treasures was a super duper blast. I picked up the lightest rod I've ever cast. (And, possibly paid too

much). It's a 7'5" 2-wt from Echo. Boy is it spongy. But I challenged myself to catch a snook on a 2wt.

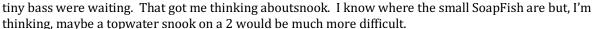
I didn't have any 2-wt line or a 2-wt reel so I just threw on an old 5wt line and that



I have a lot of spools of light

tippets and leaders so I went as light as I thought I could go. 5x was my first choice for day one. I fished with a little nymph around my neighborhood and instantly hooked up some bait size bluegills. That progressed to my favorite bug that I catch Mayans on but ,alas, 5x was too light to turn it over with any confidence so 6-lb fluoro turned out to be my perfect combo. Now, I love catching Mayans. As I've said many times, they fight so hard. But a Mayan on a 2-wt was pretty darn fun and I may keep the rod just for them.

My next thought and fish in the food chain was a largemouth. Since they eat just about anything, I went for some topwaters on a 2-wt for my bass. The tiny black popper was snatched up by more and more Bluegills but finally wore them out and the





Waiting for the perfect storm (literally) and a good outgoing tide, found my perfect hour for baby snook. Tossing a gurgler in the creek, I knew sooner or later they would strike...

Between the Mayans tearing the tail to shreds and the rod completely flexing during the retrieve, snook started to come one after another. The secret was pointing my rod at the fish and just hand line setting the hook. The give of the 2-wt is nearly impossible to hook with any bend in the rod. It was a fun challenge and I'd like to hook a 20-incher on it. Maybe the quest continues.

Last month I also sat down with a famous fly angler and got to ask all my questions I've ever wondered. I'm still typing it up between work and tarpon ...Next month will be a must read!

Strip Strip Strip!!!!—**T**íw



## Mike and Marley: Beach snook on a very special schminnow



Mike Larkin and his 29-inch snook



Marley Larkin tied the schminnow fly her dad used to catch two nice beach snook.

I fished Pass-a-Grille beach before red tide destroyed the area. I fished for a couple hours after sunrise and caught two snook. One snook was 29 inches and the other was 21 inches.

I used a white schminnow fly that my daughter Marley tied at the St. Pete Fishing Outfitters fly tying class.

## Míke

### Note from Cliff Nigh at St. Pete Fishing Outfitters



Love it! It was her first fly! My favorite part of the free classes (we supply everything...no charge) is when people who have never tied before come into learn. Parents bringing their kids in happens more frequently than you might guess. It's one of the ways we try to give back to the community that supports us.

Cliff

# Tim Elms: Invest in Silver



Last month I mentioned the juvenile tarpon have been all over town and this month I have gotten into quite a few.

Watch for rollers and bustin' bait in the smallest and sometimes scariest places around town. I won't draw you a map but put the time in and you will be rewarded.

Be ready to lose plenty of flies on trees and snags but it's worth every second. Flies with hooks work well, and you must cast them into water if you want to hook up.....heheheh

-Tím





# Lynn Skipper: Looping the Western States

Here are pics from our loop vacation thru Wyoming, Montana, and other western states over the past three weeks.

One was my first CutBow caught on the Teton River in Idaho. The other two were a 16-inch rainbow trout caught on the Beaverhead and a 14-inch brown caught the next day also on the Beaverhead out of Dillon, Montana.

Many rivers in Montana and Idaho are on the brink of being closed due to low water and high temps (97+ degree days).

# Lynn



Lynn caught this hefty brown trout on Montana's Beaverhead River.



Lynn and his guide with a rainbow trout Lynn caught on the Beaverhead River in Southwest Montana.



This is the CutBow trout Lynn caught on the Teton River in Southeastern Idaho. A CutBow is a cross between the cutthroat and rainbow trout.

### Bill AuCoin: ICAST 2021 fly gear winners

ICAST, the world's largest sportfishing trade show, is a big deal every July. It's usually in Orlando and put on by the American Sportfishing Association. ICAST is short for *International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades*. ICAST doesn't have the number of fly gear exhibitors it used to because a few years ago AFFTA, the association of fly fishing firms, decided to put on its own show, IFTD. This year IFTD is in Salt Lake City October 20-22.

Every year ICAST has a special area for its *New Product Showcase*. Buyers and Media vote for the Best of Category and Best of Show awards. Here are some of this year's winners.

- Fly Fishing Rod: G. Loomis NRX-T2S-8810-2
- Fly fishing Reel: Grey's Tidal Fly Reel
- Boats and watercraft: BOTE's LONO Aero and APEX pedal drive
- Eyewear: Costa Del Mar's "Untangled Collection" frames made from old nets.
- Electronics: Humminbird MEGA Live Imaging
- Tools: Bubba Pro Series Cordless Electric Fillet Knife
- Fly fishing accessory: EDGE Micro Magnetic Fly Box



# Gear for Sale or Swap

### 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.



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

I have a Lowrance iFinder H2O 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.

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



### Bill Scarola: Bill's Bait Buster



This month we will be tying the fly of the month on ZOOM starting at 7:00 p.m.

To join us use the link highlighted below.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81352112772



Bill Scarola's Bait Buster, fly of the month for the August freshwater outing at Lake Seminole in Seminole.

#### **Materials**

Hook: Fresh water hooks sizes 6-8-10, or saltwater

Gamagatzu stingers 4, 6

Eyes: Stick on eyes, 3 or 4 mm, silver/black

Thread: Olive or white

Belly: Extra select Craft Fur in white

Body: Olive, or Congo olive blend, or olive EP fibers.

Flash: - Pearl Flashabou

Mid line: Pink, orange, or red Craft Fur or micro fibers

#### **Tying Sequence:**

*Note: This fly can also be tied by tying all fibers straight back or as described below.* 

- 1: Wrap hook-shank from eye to bend.
- 2: Add a small clump of White Craft Fur, 2x hook length. Tie in just behind eye. Bring it forward over hook eye. Rotate it under shank. Use only a few wraps. Leave material forward.
- 3: Add several strands of Flashabou and the mid-line color, but tie these straight back 2-times the hook length. Be sure to allow equal amounts on both sides.
- 4. Add a match stick thickness of top Body Fibers tied forward with a few securing wraps over all fibers. Add a drop of Super Glue here to the thread.
- 5: Push top and bottom fibers back over hook shank. Bring your thread up between top and bottom fibers and Build up a dam of thread behind the hook eye. Do not wrap over the material!

NOTE: Use a small clothes pin to hold fibers back until you finish the dam of thread.

- 6: Attach your eyes with glue, either E-6000, Fletching, or similar.
- 7: Gently brush or comb all fibers to even out the fibers. Lightly wetting the material will reduce the static effect .
- 8: Trim the tail area to shape the fly into a fishy taper. Trim from the rear forward.

###

- Why did the skeleton not go to the party? ..He had NO-BODY to go with!
- Why did the book join the police? *He wanted to work UNDERCOVER!*
- Why was the broom late for work? . *He SWEPT-LATE*!
- A termite walks into a bar and asks... *Is the BAR-TENDER here?*

# Smitty's Fly Box: Captain, The Bluegill Killer



Tie up some of these for the freshwater outings -- Seminole Lake and ponds in August, Safety Harbor ponds in September, and the Hillsborough River in October. Bluegill love the rubber legs. (Until they don't.)



# Smitty

#### **Materials:**

Hook: TMC 3671 Size 10.

Thread: Orange 6/0.

Body: Black Chenille - Medium or Small.

Weight: Gold or Tungsten Bead and 3 or 4 turns of .020 lead wire

Tail: Orange Round Rubber Legs.

Hackle: Black Saddle

### **Tying Instructions:**

- 1. Mount the bead on the hook.
- 2. Place the hook in the vise and start the thread behind the bead. (Sliding lead wire under the bead will keep it from wobbling.)
- 3. Tie on two strands of the rubber tail material behind the bead. Stretch the rubber material as you wrap over it toward the bend. Stop at a point on the shank directly above the barb of the hook. Clip the tail slightly longer than the shank of the hook.
- 4. Return the thread to a point behind the bead. Tie on the chenille and wrap over it towards the bend stopping at the point on the shank directly above the barb.
- 5. Bring the thread forward to behind the bead. Wrap the chenille forward and tie it off one eye length behind the bead. Clip the excess chenille.
- 6. Prepare and tie in a black hackle behind the bead. Make two or three wraps of hackle and tie it off. Clip the excess.
- 7. Whip-finish and apply a dab of head cement.

###.

## Capt. Pat Damico: Captain's Corner



### Are you casting the right line for the weather?

How do I strip my fly? Next to, "What fly should I use?" this is a very frequent question. On a recent saltwater charter, two clients told me about trips made during their last couple of days when they caught nothing after 6 hours of wade fishing. Stopping the boat in a windprotected area, I asked each one to cast for me. Both were very poor casters, with layouts of their line full of slack. Holding the rod tip about 5 feet above the water, when they did strip, the fly never moved. Each did a couple of casts and "worked" the fly, and their Clouser minnow did not move in any of their presentations. No fish would show interest in a baitfish imitation that didn't move. Their stripping to give the fly appropriate action varied considerably. I told them to watch the end of their floating fly line where it joined the butt section of the leader. This gives you a very good indication of what your fly is doing. Saltwater fish usually like to have the fly on their level. If they are on the bottom in 5 feet of water, a fly on the surface is rarely taken. Sometimes with the tide coming toward you, it is necessary to exaggerate the long frequent strips to give the fly the desired action. Keeping the rod tip close to the

water during the retrieve and at the beginning of the cast also helps reduce slack.

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### Time to fly fish the fresh?

[Editor's note: Florida Fish and Wildlife has made snook, redfish and spotted seatrout Catch-and-Release only in the Tampa Bay area until September 16. It applies to all waters of Hillsborough County and all waters of Pinellas County except the Anclote River and its tributaries.]

One way to avoid Red Tide is to fish freshwater ponds and rivers. The condition of a number of our freshwater rivers is controlled by dams that presently may have more water than they can usually hold. United States Geological Survey sites can be checked to select one where favorable water temperature and flow conditions exist. This quick check with your computer or smartphone will save you a lot of time and prevent surprises. With rivers and larger ponds, a watercraft is required. Kayaks and canoes fit the bill. Launch and exit in a safe area, always taking wind direction and tide into consideration. Having a second vehicle at a destination on a river will prevent a back-breaking paddle back to your starting point. Talking to your fishing friends and guides will save you a lot of time. It is usually a good idea to fish like this with others not only for your safety but for some great fellowship and fun. If fly fishing, a 5- or 6-weight rod with floating weight forward line and a 7- or 8-foot tapered 10-pound leader is a good start. Adjust tippet size for larger fish. Small poppers and baitfish imitations will provide nonstop action. Snook and baby tarpon adjust to fresh water and may provide you with pleasant surprises.

# Captain Pat

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

### Bill Scarola: Puns of the Month



Dad did you get a hair cut today? No son, I had ALL of them cut.

Dad, I got hit in the head with a cola today. Well at least it was a soft drink.

A grenade fell on a kitchen floor in France and resulted in *Linoleum blownapart*.

Dad, do you pick your nose. *No, you're just born with it!* 

What do you call a disguised noodle? *An impasta* 

Bill Scarola

What rhymes with orange! No it doesn't!

Dad, I stepped on some grapes! *Did they let out a little "wine"?* 

Did you hear the rumor about butter? Never mind, I shouldn't spread' it!

Dad, I've broken my leg in several places! Well, don't go to those places!

Four fonts walked into a bar and the bartender yelled, *Get out of here. We don't like your TYPE!* 

## Bill AuCoin: Flyfisher Flyover



**Red Tide Begone**: Maya Burke at Tampa Bay Estuary Program will speak at our August meeting on Zoom. Subject: Red Tide. TBEP's mission is to restore and protect Tampa Bay. It was formed in 1971 after the U.S. Congress declared Tampa Bay an estuary of national significance. Members are looking forward to learning more about red tide. How did it get here? When will it leave? What can we do to help? (TBEP)

**How to fish Seminole Lake** – I searched and searched but couldn't find much on how to catch fish on Seminole Lake in Largo. But I did hit on some back-and-

forth ideas on this forum. One comment stuck out for me: He said in warm weather to look for deeper water leading to three-foot depths under the mats. I'll be fishing a pond from the shoreline. Or, maybe I could get a mudfish to bite. I'll spray my fly with Gulp. (Bass Resource)

**Catch big bass on surface flies.** Don't tell anybody, but my strategy for the August outing on Seminole Lake is to drop a surface fly in those clear spots along the shoreline vegetation. Phil Monahan has more how-to in this article. Until this red tide goes away, we all have to start thinking like freshwater fly fishers.

(Orvis News)

**Ever experience** *Fly Line Kick?* Of course, you have. It's when you make a cast and when the line reaches out the tip of the line snaps like a whip. Here's a solution on the blog of Jonas Magnusson, Certified Casting Instructor and book author who I just discovered belongs to the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. (everyjonahhasawhale)

**Do flies "hatch" in Florida?** This site has a very informative section that let's fly fishers select the river they'll be fishing to find the flies that'll be hatching there, and when, and what flies you'll need to match the hatch. So, for example, this summer Pennsylvania's Big Bushkill Creek will have beetle, caterpillar, ant, and caddis hatches. H/T Pat Damico. (Fly Shack)

**Hey, Tim, you're not alone**. At our July Trash 'n' Treasures meeting Tim Elms had the winning bid for a TFO 2-weight fly rod. Wuuuuut? Yeah a 2-weight. Curious, I browsed and discovered there's a website for that. And it has a bonus, an article about how to identify freshwater fish. I'll need to click on this link if and when I catch anything unusual in our upcoming freshwater outings. (Ultralight fly fishing)

**Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.** Member Marshall Craig has reported that he had a fall from grace and had to go to confession. Well, sort of. He confessed to Cliff Nigh at St. Pete Fishing Outfitters. It's okay. He's feeling better now. So am I. (CraigLit)



**The Sistine Chapel Tarpon.** Yeah, Michelangelo painted a tarpon on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. It caught the eye of Norman Duncan. 'Tis a mystery. Here's the rest of the story. (Midcurrent)

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# Special Friends of Suncoast Fly Fishers















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