

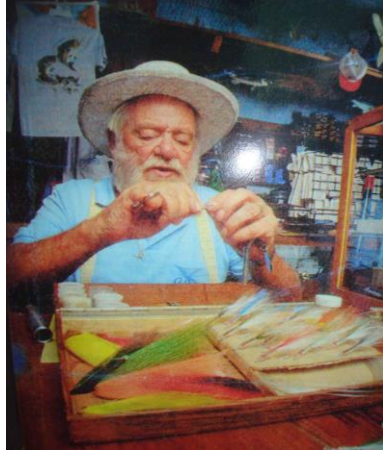
On The Fly

Newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

Gina Russo, October Meeting Speaker P3



Carl Hanson Memorial Hillsborough River P3, 9



Windy, wet. winner P7,8



Greg Clark So. Fork Boise River. P11



Central Florida bass are biting P10



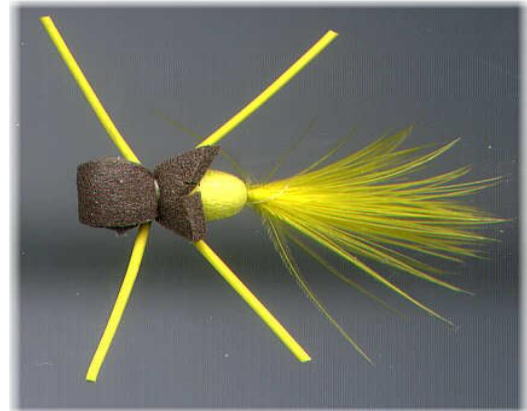
Some say little tunny. Some say bonito or false albacore. P4, 15



Join members to tie the mangrove crab P12



Tie some bluegill flies P13, 14





President's Message: October 2022

As members of Suncoast Fly Fishers, we are very fortunate to live in the Tampa Bay area. It is literally water, water everywhere. The water is here, it is easily accessible, and the fishing is great!

I grew up in a similar situation on the East Coast of Florida living in Ft. Pierce. Our house was on South Indian River Drive. The Indian River was outside the front door and the Savannah Recreation Area lay past the ridge behind the house. I would go fly fishing in the Savannah for panfish before school in the morning and wade the water in front of the house for trout when I got home in the afternoon. Today I can walk out the back door and fish my own dock where I have caught some remarkable fish on the fly rod.

Locally we have a tremendous variety of fishing opportunities in both fresh and salt water. The bay, the lakes and rivers, the beaches and the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico all hold a wide range of species willing to take a fly.

Not only do we have a wide variety of places to fish, but we also have a unique combination of seasonal opportunities. Here are just a few examples. Winter brings us low negative tide fishing for redfish, Spring starts the migratory run of tarpon, Summer is when snook move to the beaches for their annual spawning run and Fall brings large schools of false albacore eager to take a fly. Tripletail are here year-round but it is always easier to find them after the stone crab traps have been in the water for a while starting in October.

Take advantage of the great variety of fishing locations and seasonal opportunities that our area has to offer. I am going to do my best to hit all the high points this year. I hope each of you will do the same.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel

Meetings, Outings, and More



Gina Russo, our September meeting speaker.

Thursday, October 20 Meeting

Walter Fuller Park, St. Petersburg, 6:30-8:30

- Our speaker is Gina Russo, biological scientist and outreach coordinator for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. She will cover the new redfish zone and regulations, best fish handling practices, and update members on the new saltwater fish hatchery now under construction in Apollo Beach.
- Halloween Hat Contest. Wear your favorite fishing hat. The best fly fishing hat wins a 1-year subscription to Tail Magazine.
- Outings chair Bob Burkard will give us up to date info about Saturday's Carl Hanson outing on the Hillsborough River at Temple Terrace. Do you have an extra kayak or do you need to borrow one? Let Bob know at the meeting.
- And, Bob will present a gift certificate for September's longest fish winner. That would be Annie Mitchell who caught a seatrout on a very windy, wet day on Tampa Bay.

- Welcome our newest member: Gary Quirsfeld from Dunedin

October Carl Hanson Memorial

Game on: Suncoast Fly Fishers versus Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

Saturday, October 22, Hillsborough River at Temple Terrace Rotary Park

- Carl Hanson Memorial. To fly-fish from this spot you'll need a boat, kayak, or canoe although some have fly fished from the boat ramp.
- If you prefer you can fly fish other sections of the upper Hillsborough River.
- The fly fisher catching the most fish wins the trophy for his or her club. The fly fisher catching the longest fish gets to keep the Carl Hanson drawing for a year.
- Seating is limited at Temple Terrace Rotary Park so bring your own chair for the picnic lunch and for the Carl Hanson story telling.



Last year Karen Warfel caught the most bluegills and won the event for our club. The artwork was awarded for Robert Fischer for the longest fish

Future Saturday Outings

- November 19: Weedon Island Preserve. \$10 gift certificates will be awarded for the longest ladyfish and the longest seatrout. Take a picture of your bragging-size fishes. You know the thing.
- December 17: Don Coleman Invitational, Fort De Soto Park. Welcome fellow fly fishers from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishers Club and the Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers. Catch the longest fish of any species and you'll win a \$10 gift certificate.
- January 21: Weedon Island Preserve. Go for the longest ladyfish.
- February 18: Cypress Point Park in Tampa. The longest redfish is your target.

Fishing with the PREZ

- President Rick Warfel has generously started a new club benefit -- *Fishing with the PREZ*.
- At the September drawing Cliff Nigh won our first *Fishing with the PREZ* trip. They were going to pre-fish the Hillsborough River in advance of the outing but they had to postpone the trip. More later.
- For the next edition of *Fishing with the PREZ*, Rick will be captaining a trip on his new 28' center console to catch false albacore on the fly. Put your name in the hat at the October member meeting if you are interested in going.

Meetings, Outings, and More

Future meetings and meet-ups

- Monday fly tying: 6 pm, fly tying at Bruce Evensen's home fly tying studio, 531 80th Avenue N. St. Pete. Tie the Mangrove Gold Crab on Monday, October 17.
- November 4-5-6: Fly Fishers International is hosting a *Virtual Expo* with more than 100 workshops, presentations, social interaction, women in fly fishing, conservation discussions, and much more. [Looks like fun](#). You can sign up online now. And, spread the word. Here's the [toolkit](#).
- November 17: Our last meeting of the year will be an Open House meeting. Invite friends who want to learn more about our club. Our last meeting of the year topic is *Everything Albies*, (aka bonito, aka false albacore). And our speakers are Ken Babineau and Jay Tinsky from Sarasota's Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers. Oh, and free pizza! Also, read Pat Damico's Captain's Corner on catching albies, page 15.
- November 19: Nautical Flea Market at the Tampa Sailing Squadron Facility located at 1250 Apollo Beach Blvd in Apollo Beach. Next year, SFF will have a booth at this event. It's getting to be a big deal.
- Sunday, November 20: Big Gun Shoot Out at Picnic Island Park in Tampa, hosted by the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing club. All are welcome at this annual event which goes back to 1994. You should know that this event draws some of the best fly casters in Florida. Can you cast 130-feet?
- December 9: Holiday Party at St. Jerome's Church in Largo. Wear your ugliest sweater. Really.
- January 14, 2023: Casting clinic, Eaton Park, Pass-a-Grille. Learn from FFI Master Casting Instructors Pat Damico and Dayle Mazzarella and other certified casting instructors from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. It's free to Suncoast Fly Fishers because we are also FFI members. If you're not an FFI member we'll sign you up at the clinic. This one will be similar in format to the very successful event last January where we had around 30 fly casters at all skill levels.
- January 19, 2023: Trash 'n' Treasures with auctioneer Alan Sewell. Donate gear you don't use and bid a bargain price for the gear you want.



The hoop is one of five fly (or six?) casting competitions at TBFFC's Big Gun Shoot Out.

HELP! Support Hurricane Ian Relief

- Mangrove Coast Fly Fishing (MCFF) is asking fly fishers to donate time, money and materials to help those affected by Hurricane Ian. They need water, food, fuel, generators, tools, chainsaws, rope, propane, tarps, racks, tubs, air mattresses, extension cords, towels, cleaning supplies and more.
- This effort is being organized by the [Compound Board and Fly Fishing](#) shop. The shop is located at 3604 South Osprey Avenue but have teamed up with Capt. Eric White who has a 40' boat to take the supplies to the hurricane zone. Drop off items at the shop or, preferably, at the valet drive-through at the Venice Yacht Club, 1330 Tarpon Center Drive. That's where Captain's White boat is docked.

James Davis Family Go Fund Me Update:

- Lisa Davis, the wife of member James Davis, had a massive stroke recently. Lisa is home now but requires all-day care.
- Member Tim Elms and Christina Elms have set up a ["Go fund me"](#) site.

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 123 members including 16 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.

Welcome new member: Gary Quirsfeld from Dunedin

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, George Haseltine.

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

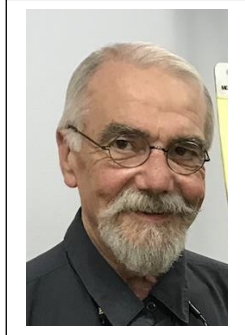
Social media: Anne Mitchell

On The Fly

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

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

Cliff Nigh: Jill Thompson-Grim is why we support USF



For members who have wondered why we established a scholarship fund for graduate students of USF's School of Marine Sciences, they only had to attend September's Meeting.

Jill Thompson-Grim, 2022's Suncoast Fly Fishers Scholar at USF, delivered a presentation that would have convinced even the greatest skeptic that our scholarship support may just have been

the best money we've ever spent!

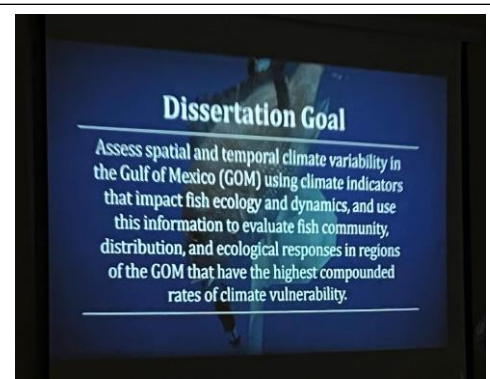
Jill is a current Ph.D. candidate at USF. She holds a BS and MS from Texas A&M University. Her academic resume is extensive and notes numerous scholarly awards as well as financial grants including the William and Elsie Knight Endowed Fellow for Marine Sciences and the Suncoast Fly Fishers Scholarship Grant. She has several research papers in publication and is currently studying under Dr. Murawski at USF. She is also a certified diver who has been involved in numerous research projects.



Jill Thompson-Grim, this year's Suncoast Fly Fishers scholar, spoke at our September meeting.



Thompson-Grim's research addressed the impact a hurricane, or other natural disaster, would have on Tampa Bay's fishery. Her research looks at how the fishery would respond to such a disaster and how quickly it could be expected to recover. Jill's research looks at the impact of increased nutrient flow into our Bay (run-off as well as damaged sewage systems) as well as the impact of anticipated reduced commercial and recreational fishing during disaster recovery. The research goes so far as to look at a species' recovery and how long it would take for our fishery to return to what we enjoy today.



Jill was engaging, kept her presentation in "layman's terms" so even I could understand her research. She fielded an unprecedented number of questions and comments about her research and our fishery. I believe that those members in attendance walked away with the thought that our monies have been well spent and have contributed, if even in some modest way, to ensuring that future generations would be able to enjoy the fishery we have come to love.

Cliff

Bob Burkard: Urban Outing at Bay Vista Park



*Bob Burkard,
Chairman of the
Outings
Committee*

Our September outing at St. Pete's Bay Vista Park was interesting.

To win this event you had to catch the longest seatrout. Chuck Hall, Bill AuCoin, Claude Neidlinger, and I all caught seatrout. Chuck Hall caught a number of other fish including a beefy redfish. But none of us bothered to measure our seatrout. And why is that?

That's because we were not fishing on the East side of the Sunshine Skyway. That was a no-no. But we did it anyway because on the Bay side the wind was ferocious. Yeah, not our friend.

But we did have a few members who braved the wind and caught seatrout. This month's \$10 outing certificate will be awarded to Annie Mitchell who fished with hubby Robert and her dad in her dad's flats boat.

Yeah, the wind and water were a splashy combo but Annie caught a variety of fish. She tells the story on the next page.

Everybody met up for sandwiches, cookies, and watermelon. A good time was had by all.



*That's Annie Mitchell and her award
winning seatrout.*

Bob

Chuck Hall's Four-Spot Between-the-Legs Redfish

September 17



Hello fellow club members. I fished with the SFF Waders this morning and had a blast. Because the area's kite-boarders were excited about the early morning wind on the East side of the Skyway, the club leaders changed plans and sent everyone to the West side.

The island blocked the wind and provided flat water. Our leaders then told us just where we could expect to catch fish. And, they were right. While everyone caught their share, I caught several trout, jacks, and an excited lady fish. Then as I made that "one last cast", I hooked something more substantial. After a few runs, including one between my legs, I released a nice redfish with four spots on its tail. I want to thank the club for setting up this outing and for our "guides" for teaching us a new spot.

Chuck

Annie Mitchell: Sometimes Participation is Winning



Dad, Robert, and I had a refreshing, wet boat ride out to the Pinellas Point flats. Normally, you use a boat to remain dry as opposed to wading or kayaking, but the surf was pretty darn rough that morning.

All of us were feeling hopeful because Dad and George Haseltine had been fishing at this spot earlier in the week and had caught enough for a baked fish dinner. However, the fish were about as happy to be buffeted by the wind and surf as we were, and there were very few bites all morning.

Robert and I decided to start with our favorite gold spoons -- yes, they make those for fly lines -- but we learned that they are designed for delicate fresh

water fish. My spoon lasted a bit longer than Robert's, and it was the winning fly for the day. I brought in a small speckled trout, and it turns out that humble fish was the largest trout of the outing.



That's Robert with a tiny jack crevalle he caught in the calm waters of Coquina Key.

Right after I brought the trout in, a mackerel sliced the spoon clean off. We didn't manage to bring in any of the mackerel, but we did land some ladyfish.

On the way back to the ramp, we threw our flies around the Coquina Key docks.

Robert caught a lone Jack in the calm water.

As we went farther we found a huge school of bait next to one of the bridges. The bait was causing coordinated wakes in the canal as they rushed to change formation a few times before they left the area. Unfortunately, there didn't seem to be any large fish chasing them.

Annie



Robert Mitchell with a little ladyfish. That's Captain Mark Hays up on the bow.

Bob Burkard: October Hillsborough River Outing



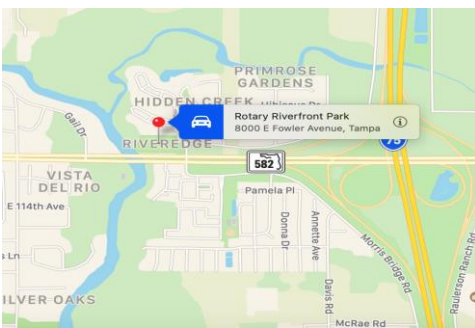
*Bob Burkard,
Chairman of the
Outings Committee*

The Carl Hanson Memorial outing on the Hillsborough River is on. It's the morning of Saturday, October 22.

This is the annual (When was the first? Anybody?) competition between the Suncoast Fly Fishers and the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club to see which club's member catches the most sunfish. Suncoast Fly Fisher Karen Warfel won it last year, catching 39 bluegills.



The fly fisher who catches the longest fish gets to keep the Carl Hanson drawing for a year



Rotary Riverfront Park, 8000 E. Fowler Avenue, Temple Terrace

Robert Fischer, who belongs to both clubs, caught the longest fish, a 25-inch bowfin, and he got to keep the drawing of Carl Hanson for a year.

Fishing begins anywhere you choose on the Hillsborough River at sunrise and ends at noon with lunch and a memorial/award presentation at the Temple Terrace Rotary Park on Fowler Avenue



That's the trophy for the most fish. Mark Hays won it in 2018 catching 35 bluegills. President George Haseltine presented it to Mark.

Hurricane Ian brought a lot of rain and there were concerns that the waters would be too high. We wondered if we should change the outing location. But our president Rick Warfel did some research and the best information suggests the river would be back to normal or almost normal depth. So, game on.

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	Tim Elms	20	Docklight/Beaches (June)
Longest redfish	Robert Mitchell	26	Docklight/Beaches (June)
Longest ladyfish	Rick Warfel	20-1/4	Weedon Island Preserve (January)
Longest seatrout	Rick Warfel	15	Cypress Point Park (May)

Chris OByrne: September Twists 'n' Turns plus a Hurricane



September had all kinds of twists. Hot weather, hot water to begin. A slow change towards the beginning of Autumn near the end. Then Hurricane Ian.

Bass were low and lethargic at the start of the month, but began to move into shallows towards the end. They

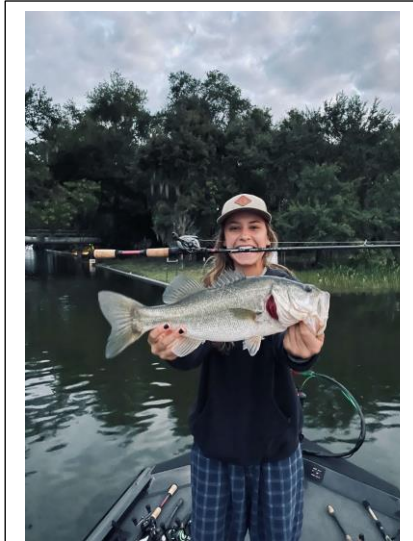
turned on immediately before the hurricane, but it was akin to fishing the spawn.

I was able to fish on Friday September 30th. The downwind side of the lake was reconstructed, and the water was as cold as it usually is in November. (I took a small kayak, not my boat. So I didn't have electronics to measure water temperature, just my rear end.)

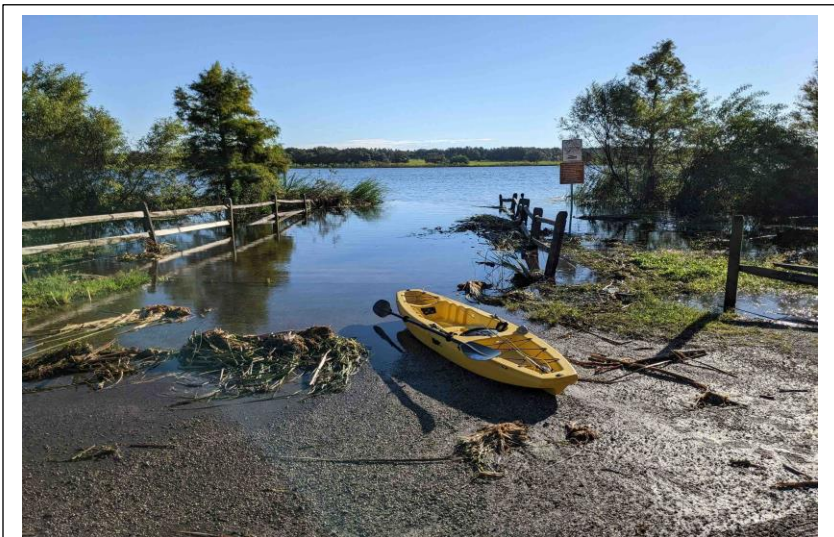
The fish were still hiding. On Saturday October 1, I was running a booth at a fair, but hardware anglers reported that bass turned out in big numbers.

All lakes will be affected differently. I wish I could have seen the changes at Lakeland's Lake Tenoroc.

Best wishes to those in the hard hit areas.



Anna D lost her fly rod or something. This lunker went for the hardware. Bass fishing in Central Florida lakes is hot this time of the year.



Chris O'Byrne's kayak patiently waits for him to park the truck.

Chris



That's Chris at his Featherwater.com booth.

Greg Clark: South Fork Boise River Rainbows, and...(keep reading)



Greg and a fat Idaho rainbow

Here are some freshwater fly-fishing pics from my annual trip to Boise where I always meet up with my buddy Doug from Boise, and we fish the South Fork Boise River at Anderson Ranch Dam.

We always have a great time camping there each year (in a nice trailer) and fishing for rainbow trout (with some mountain whitefish and even a sucker mixed in!)

My wife Lisa and I lived in Boise for about 5 years and we really loved that city, especially since it's close to so many fly-fishing opportunities.



That's Doug, Greg's fishing partner, with another big'un.



Greg and Doug arrive at Anderson Ranch Dam.



Picture perfect



Not a rainbow but, hey, the tug is the drug.

Luckily I was scheduled to fly back home late Monday night before the arrival of Hurricane Ian, which closed the TPA airport Tuesday evening.

I got home, finished hurricane prepping the house with my wife Lisa, and we packed up and evacuated to Tallahassee with our pets Tuesday afternoon. We were so fortunate AGAIN here in the Tampa area that it wasn't a direct hit.

Greg

Tie the Mangrove Crab with Bill Scarola and Bruce Evensen



Fly tying instructors Bill Scarola (l) and Bruce Evensen



Members will tie the Mangrove Gold Crab at Bruce's Studio starting at 6 pm on Monday, October 17.

Materials

Hook- 3407 # 2.

Thread--Flat waxed nylon or mono

Eyes- Large brass bead chain

Body-Small gold braid tubing,

Tail-Rope or EP fibers, various colors, green, purple, or brown.

Bands- Brown or black marker

Glue-Super Glue, aka head cement.

Steps

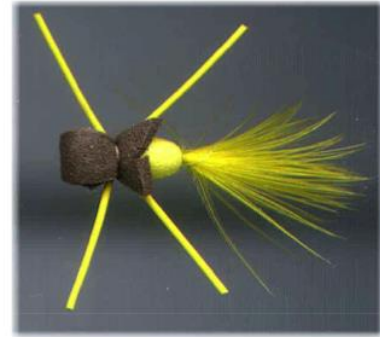
1. Wrap hook shank with thread.
2. Add a clump of tail material of your choosing. Tie in front of the bend about 1/3 way down shank. Make the tail fibers 2-3 times hook length.
3. Attach brass bead chain eyes just behind the hook eye.
4. Gold braid tubing: pull out the center cord and cut tubing into 4 or 5 one-inch pieces. Tie the 1st one from behind the bead chain eyes by cross wrapping the thread. Add the rest. Keep them as close together as possible. Then with your bodkin, pull the tubing apart, shredding it. Then trim them into the wedge shape as shown. Be sure to fill the space up to the tail material. Keep the gold braid flat.
5. Apply some Super Glue to the thread wraps.
6. Color in three wide bands on the tail material with your marker.
7. Get fly wet!!!

Smitty's Fly Box: Sink or Float Foam Panfish Fly



You can tie this foam fly to float or to sink. For the sinking version you tie a brass bead under the foam on the hook shank. Add the bead and the fly sinks slowly to be enticing to Mr. Picky Bluegill.

Smitty



Materials:

Hook: Mustad R50 size 8 or your favorite short-shanked hook

Weight: Small brass bead (optional)

Thread: Yellow flat waxed nylon

Tail: Yellow marabou (yellow Krystal Flash optional)

Body: Yellow foam strip

Legs: Yellow rubber legs

Thorax: Peacock herl

Head: Brown foam

Eyes: Clear glass beads

Tying instructions:

1. Press down the barb
2. Tie in a tuft of yellow marabou as a tail. Length approx. 1½ times hook shank and tie in the foam on top of the hook shank (covering optional brass bead). Leave space for eyes and head.
3. Wind the thread forwards over the foam.
4. Fold the rear half of the foam forwards and tie down and cut off surplus.
5. Tie in two rubber legs as an X. Length approx. as a tail.
6. Cut a narrow triangle of brown foam and tie in over hook eye pointing forwards.
7. Tie in the eyes on top of the hook shank
8. Cover the base of the eyes and underside of the head with peacock herl.
9. Fold the brown foam tightly backwards over the head tie down and cut off surplus.
10. Whip finish.

Smitty's Crystal Beetle: He'll tie this at the October meeting

This is from the June 2016 On The Fly

The Tying Bench

Smitty's Crystal Beetle

By Layne Smith
Contributing Writer

The Suncoast Fly Fishers have three freshwater outings in a row on the schedule. Get ready to fish Lake Maggorie, the Chassawitzka River, and the Hillsborough River.

I originally started this fly pattern tied with deer hair and peacock herl. When I got a job working for a printing company that had sheets of disposable closed cell foam that came to them as protective packing material for their printing plates, a lightbulb went on and I replaced the deer hair with strips of this foam and soon after replaced the peacock herl with Estaz to make a sturdier-built fly. And the rest, as they say, is history!

This floating "Bluegill Bug" is a highly effective terrestrial imitation. This fly is best used as a seeker pattern for surface feeding bluegill. Simply let it set for a few moments, then give it a slight motion to imitate life. The rubber legs wiggle seductively. It is best fished along the shoreline, over beds, under over-hanging branches or any transition area such as reeds going into rip rap, bushes going into lily pads or even sandy area going into cattails.

This fly has also caught bass, trout (maybe they thought it was a corn kernel) and many other species. A friend of mine told me he even caught a nice redfish on this fly. He was fishing it to imitate a ghost crab.

Materials:

Hook: Mustad 3366A #8
(Bend down barb and be sure hook point is sharp.)

Thread: White or Chartreuse Flat Waxed Nylon (Finer threads may cut foam.)

Shell: 1/8" Thick White, Closed Cell Foam, 5/16" wide by 1-1/4" long

Body: Chartreuse or Pearl Estaz

Legs: Medium, White Rubber Legs

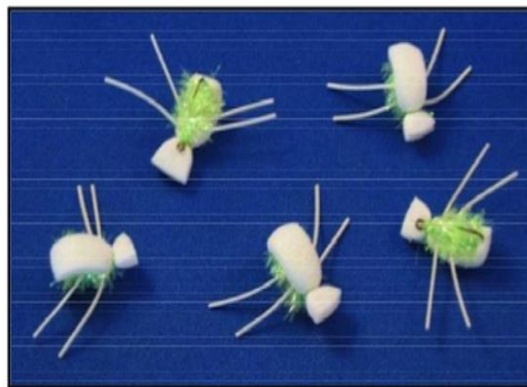
Tying Sequence:

Step 1: Attach tying thread behind hook eye and wind a thread base back to the hook bend.

Step 2: Cut a blunt point at one end of the foam strip and tie the point in at the hook bend, leaving the foam extending past the bend. Wrap the foam down a short distance around the bend.

Step 3: Tie in the Estaz body and wrap up the bend and along the hook shank to a little beyond the mid-point of the hook shank and tie off. Do not cut off the Estaz or tying thread.

Step 4: Fold a 3" length



Don't leave home for a freshwater fishing expedition without these flies.

of rubber leg material in half and tie in the doubled rubber leg on top of the hook shank at its mid-point where the Estaz body was left. Cut the loop in the doubled rubber leg, producing four legs. Pull legs into position – two on each side of the body. Pack the body and legs back with a thumb nail or Brassie hair packer.

Step 5: Continue wrapping the Estaz body by taking one turn over where the legs are tied in, then wrap forward to the hook eye ahead of the legs. Tie off the Estaz and pack the body back with a thumb nail or Brassie hair packer.

Step 6: Pull the Foam shell taut over the top of the body and legs and tie down behind the hook eye. Hold the end of the foam up and form a thread head and whip

finish immediately behind the hook eye and cut off the tying thread.

Step 7: While pulling the end of the foam taut, cut off the foam leaving a lip of approximately 3/16". By pulling the foam taut while cutting off, the lip will automatically be slightly rounded. Using head cement on the head is optional. Some bluegill fishers claim that the odor of head cement turns off the fish.

Step 8: Trim all legs to the same length.

Color options:

Alternative color combinations include Root Beer Estaz and black foam for dark days. Tie with green foam and with yellow or white chenille body and chartreuse legs to imitate baby frogs.



Capt. Pat Damico: Captain's Corner

Follow birds for bonito action

Bonito, baby tunny, or false albacore are perfect for fly-rod fun. Large schools of these speedy predators are presently along our beaches and are easiest to find in passes where there is strong tidal flow and tons of baitfish. Both an incoming and outgoing tide will trigger feeding action easily seen because terns and seagulls will feed heavily on baitfish pushed to the surface. A pair of binoculars allows you to scan a larger area. Once feeding fish are observed, position your boat ahead of the school and shut down your outboard. Leaving the motor on will put down the fish. The tide will bring the fish closer to you and a quick cast can be made. Nine-weight fly rods are needed with a good reel that has 150 yards of backing and an efficient drag. A 30-pound hard monofilament shock tippet is needed to prevent cutoffs from sharp teeth. Wire leaders spook fish and reduce takes. White or chartreuse over white flies that match baitfish size are used and must be stripped fast to replicate fleeing baitfish. A sink tip or full-sinking fly line, rather than a floating line, gets you deeper where the largest fish are often found.

Captain Pat

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

Fishing Gear for sale



Bill Scarola is selling fishing shirts and they're like new!

I have these 5 fishing style, gently used shirts for \$10 each or all 5 for \$40. They are all 4X size.

Bill Scarola's jokes and puns of the month



- A senior citizen decided to take an aerobics class. *"I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour but by the time I got my leotards on the class was over."*
- A reporter was interviewing a 103 year old man. *And what do you think is the best thing about being 103?"* He replied, "no peer pressure!"
- How do you keep a bagel from getting away? *Put LOX on it!*
- Sign on a plumber's truck... *We repair what your husband fixed!"*
- Sign on another plumber's truck: *Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber!*
- Sign on a shoe repair shop:
We will HEEL you We can save your SOLE. We will even DYE for you!!!
- + My grandpa always says, "When one door closes, another one opens." *He was a good man but a lousy cabinet maker!!!*

Bill

Bill AuCoin: Flyfisher Flyover



Fly Fishers, get ready to get: Online workshops, presentations, social gatherings, entertainment. It's Fly Fishers International *Virtual Expo*. Yeah, online. Log in Nov. 4, 5, and 6. Meanwhile, here's more info and be sure to pass the word to your fly fishing friends. ([Fly Fishers International](#))

Did you know this? Our club's website is getting more amazing every day, thanks to website guru and member Tim Elms. Take, for example, our archive of different flies you can tie. Materials and steps included. Most of these (hundreds, actually) were created by club members past and present. ([SFF Fly Archive](#))

Congratulations Chris: Member Chris O'Byrne is a good writer. I knew that. I just didn't know that fictional short stories were his thing, too. And now he has been recognized for a short story, *The Wedding Planner*. You might recognize the name of the first placer, too. That's Frank Sargeant, formerly outdoor editor for the Tampa Tribune. His short story—*A Dog Named Fish*—took first place in the 2022 Robert Traver Fly-fishing Writing Contest. ([American Museum of Fly Fishing](#))

And this just in...Chris O'Byrne writes that his short store –*Bonefish on a Barstool* –was selected as a finalist in the 2022 Sheridan Anderson-Memorial Short Story Contest. ([Flyfishing Journal](#))

Should this be on our bucket lists? Billfish on the fly in Guatemala. It's amazing like, you know, raising 30 fish a day? Well, these are Pacific billfish which, the writer acknowledges, are dumber than Atlantic billfish. ([Angler's Journal](#))

Hard to believe Lefty died four years ago. The Potomac Valley Fly Fishers will erect a life-sized bronze statue of Lefty Kreh in Baker Park in Lefty's hometown of Frederick, Maryland. H/T Layne Smith. ([Midcurrent](#))

Yeah but he wasn't using a fly rod (sarc). This kayaker landed a 250 pound black marlin in Hawaii with 40-pound test leader. It took four hours. ([Field and Stream](#))

Nervous Water and other Florida Stories: Member Chuck Hall highly recommends this book written by Wil LaBossier. It's on Amazon and eBay. Here's Chuck's take: *Mr. LaBossier has penned a series of short stories about a wide variety of interesting fishing-related stories. From creating the "perfect" permit fly, which forces the reader to ponder the meaning of perfection, to discussing why families can heal while on fishing trips, the author explores a number of thought provoking issues. Fishing is generally the glue that holds the thoughts together. Once I started, I could not stop.* ([eBay](#))

Little Egypt, is that you? She walks, she talks, she crawls on her belly like a reptile. Well, it is an Iquana. ([Cruising Odyssey](#))

How to win a fishing tournament. It's easy. Just put weights in the belly of your fish. Really? Well, it happened at one or more walleye tournaments. ([Al.com](#))

Bill

Special Friends of Suncoast Fly Fishers



<mailto:mtexfakner@ymail.com>

ORVIS®

www.orvis.com/



www.billjacksons.com/



www.plantationoncrystalriver.com/



www.flyfishersinternational.org/



www.carbonmarine.com/



www.stpetefishingoutfitters.com



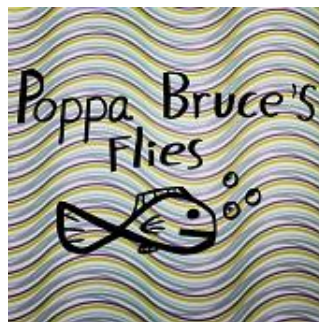
www.flyfishingwesternwyoming.com/



www.beehavenfl.com/



www.thomasbruce.com/

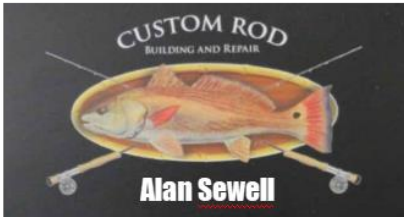


www.etsy.com/shop/PoppaBrucesFlies



www.mtlfab.com/

Special Friends of Suncoast Fly Fishers



<mailto:sewellalan@yahoo.com>



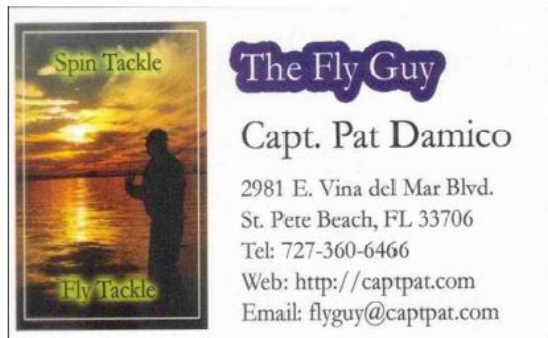
www.tampabayonthefly.com/



www.west-coast-kayaks.com/



www.nighflyrods.com/



www.captpatdamico.com/



www.bobleestire.com/



Jim Swann's Fly Fishing Outfitters

www.facebook.com/SwannFlyfishing/



www.andythornal.com/