

# On The Fly

Newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

December Fort DeSoto Park Outing



January 18 Trash 'n' Treasures Meeting



Weedon Island: January Outing



Golden Tail Redfish Fly



## Congratulations: winners on the 2023 Outing Tournament Trail

Species	Winner	Length	Outing (Month)
Longest bream	Anne Mitchell	7"	Hillsborough River (April)
Longest black bass	Mark Hays	14.5"	Hillsborough River (April)
Longest exotic	David Redd	12"	Everglades Outing (April)
Longest redfish	Wes Sobczak	21"	Fort DeSoto Park (August)
Longest snook	James Davis	21.5"	Docklight/beach outing (June)
Longest seatrout	Rick Warfel	22"	Fort DeSoto Park (January)
Longest ladyfish	David Redd	15.5"	Docklight/beach outing (June)



## President's Message: January 2024

It is January and there are three things that you can do to support our club. You can come to our annual Trash and Treasure auction. You can buy tickets for the Hog Roast and, if you haven't already done so, you can renew your membership.

### Trash & Treasures

January is the time for Trash & Treasures! All of us have collected more rods, reels, and gear than we can use. T&T is a great way to find a new home for your excess and help

clean up your storage problem. Donate your hidden gems to the club and let auctioneer Alan Sewell sell them to the highest bidder. This is always one of the most entertaining events of the year and you never know what treasures you might find. I am donating an inflatable boat and outboard motor to the event. See what you can find to benefit the club.



### 9-foot Sea Eagle Frameless Inflatable with Honda 2.3 hp outboard.

It weighs 42 pounds and is packed into a small bag. It comes with a swivel seat, oars, wooden floorboard, and a foot pump. Lightly used. \$1,800 new.

### Hog Roast

The Hog Roast is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> and we will again be having a joint banquet with the Tamp Bay Fly Fishing Club. Tickets are \$25 for adults, children twelve and under are free. They will be available at the January meeting. This is not only our biggest and best social event of the year, but also our main fundraiser. Look for an outstanding array of items in our raffles and silent auctions.

### Membership Renewal

This is also the time for all of us to renew our SFF membership and it has never been easier. You can pay by cash, check or with credit card and you can renew on our website [SuncoastFlyFishers.com](http://SuncoastFlyFishers.com) . If you have any questions about your membership, please contact Karen Warfel, ph. 813-505-3162, email [kmwarfel@yahoo.com](mailto:kmwarfel@yahoo.com) .

*Thanks. Stay safe and keep fishing!*

*Rick*

Rick Warfel

## Meetings, Outings, and More

### Thursday, January 18 meeting: Trash 'n' Treasures Auction, Walter Fuller Park. 6:00 - 9:00

- This is always one of the most popular meetings of the year. Alan Sewell is our auctioneer. Thank you, Alan
- Bring gear you no longer use and also bring a credit card, check, or cash to buy some used gear at great prices and to help the club's cause.
- Members of the Nominating Committee will be introduced at the January meeting. Recommendations for new officers and board members will be announced at the February meeting. Voting is at the Marcj meeting.
- Buy tickets for the April 6 Hog Roast
- Buy one of the new fishing hats with the SFF logo. Baseball caps are \$25. Bucket style hats are \$30.
- Want to put the SFF logo embroidered on one of your shirts? Bring it to the January meeting. It costs \$15 per embroidered logo.



Auctioneer Alan Sewell

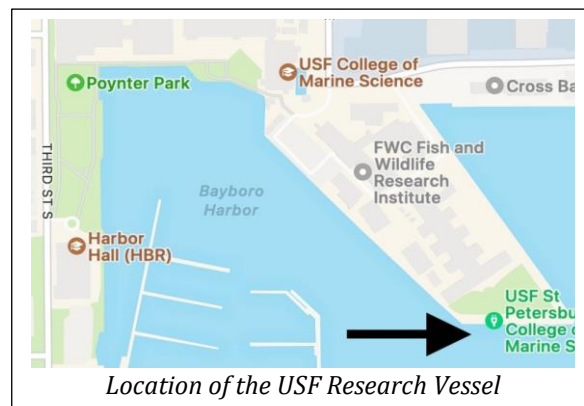
### Saturday, January 20 outing, Weedon Island Preserve

- The member catching the longest ladyfish will win a \$10 gift certificate and take the lead in the annual outing tournament competition.
- Fish anywhere around Weedon Island Preserve in open water, bayous, or mangrove canals.
- If you want to wade fish with other members meet up with Bill AuCoin in the main parking lot at 8 am.
- This is also a popular kayak-fishing location and there's a kayak launch site, too.
- For lunch, we'll be meeting up at noon at the Crab Shack Restaurant, 11400 Gandy Blvd.



### Saturday, January 27, USF Vessel Tour, 10 am to Noon

- Suncoast Fly Fishers have been invited to get a private tour of the USF Research Vessel. The tour is a USF thank you for SFF's annual scholarship grant to a marine PhD candidate.
- The tour will be hosted by Chris Sharp, communications manager for the Florida Institute of Oceanography.
- Attendance is limited to 20 members so we need to sign up at the January meeting or email Cliff Nigh, our club's scholarship chairman. Email Cliff at Cliff.Nigh@gmail.com
- Touring members will need to gather at the vessel before 10 am at USF St. Pete downtown campus. The vessel will be tied up at the seawall in Bayboro Harbor.



Location of the USF Research Vessel

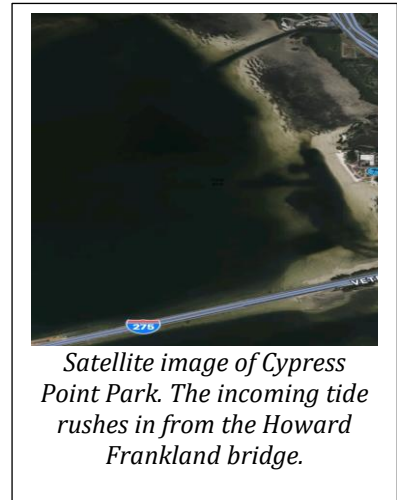
## Meetings, Outings, and More

### Monday, February 12, Tying flat wing flies with Joe Cordeiro

- Are flat wing flies the next big thing in saltwater fly fishing? St. Pete Fishing Outfitters will host flat wing fly innovator Joe Cordeiro for a seminar and demonstration.
- SFF member Cliff Nigh arranged the event with Cordeiro, a well-known fly tier and author. And Cordeiro will bring some of his books and materials for sale at reduced prices.
- The fee is \$25. You can reserve a spot by going to [ffishingoutfitters.com](http://ffishingoutfitters.com) and clicking on Fly-Fishing.
- If you're unfamiliar with Cordeiro visit his website, [flat-wing.com](http://flat-wing.com)

### Saturday, February 17 Outing, Cypress Point Park, Tampa

- This is a great place to wade or kayak fish and gives us good opportunities to catch redfish which is the gift certificate fish of the day.
- We'll have a smooth incoming tide that starts out as a negative low. That's a plus for sight casting in the super-clear, winter water. North to Northeast winds make it even better.
- This is popular spot for our friends from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. President Walt Durkin and other TBFFC members will be invited to join us.
- And, as usual, we'll meet up at noon for a picnic lunch at one of the park pavilions



### Saturday, March 16, Special Casting Clinic. Topic: Presentations on a Trout Stream

- Dayle Mazzarella is coming to town to give us another free fly casting clinic on how to present your fly on trout streams in different situations.
- Save the date and watch for the location and starting time. It may (or may not) be at Egan Field in St. Pete Beach.

### April 6, 2024: Hog Roast. Save the date

- This is our big, fun, fund raiser for the year. We'll co-host with the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club.
- We'll return to St. Jerome's Church in Largo.
- Tickets go on sale at the January meeting.

### April 13, FFI Florida Council Cast and Tie event, Orlando Bass Pro Shops

- FFI members are invited to meet up for a meeting, fly tying, fly casting, raffle, and auction.
- FFI Board Chairman Dave Peterson is expected to update members on FFI and new conservation initiatives.
- Dave Olsen, Florida Council president, said this will be the first of several regional Council meetings for the year.
- The board is also considering a statewide convention.



# We are Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

## Aims and Purposes

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

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

## Monthly Meetings. Guests welcome.

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

## Directions to our meeting at Walter Fuller Park.

From 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue N turn North on 72<sup>nd</sup> St. N. Turn left (West) on 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue N. Then turn right into the rec center parking lot.

## Monthly Outings

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

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

## Visit our website and Facebook pages, too

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

[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 **133 members including 21 family members and 6 honorary members**. Dues are \$50 (for individuals, \$40 for seniors, and \$60 for families. That includes benefits and annual membership in [Fly Fishers International](#) and the [Florida Council](#) of Fly Fishers International.

Please welcome new member Chris Schultz from Clearwater

## Suncoast Fly Fishers

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

## Club Officers

Pres: Rick Warfel  
Vice Pres: Quin Berry  
Secretary: David Redd  
Treasurer: Karen Warfel

## Board of Directors

Bill Scarola, Bob Burkard, Bruce Evensen, Ryan Sollars, Cliff Nigh, James Davis, Bill AuCoin

**Casting:** Pat Damico, Dayle Mazzarella

**FFI Liaison:** Pat Damico

**Conservation:** Cliff Nigh

**Fly Tying:** Myron Hansen

**Hog Roast:** Open

**Membership:** Karen Warfel

**New Members:** Rick Warfel

**Webmaster:** Tim Elms

**Facebook:** Cliff Nigh, Anne Mitchell

**Outings:** Bob Burkard, David Redd, Bill AuCoin, Quin Berry

**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.

## Bob Burkard: Don Coleman Invitational Outing, December 30

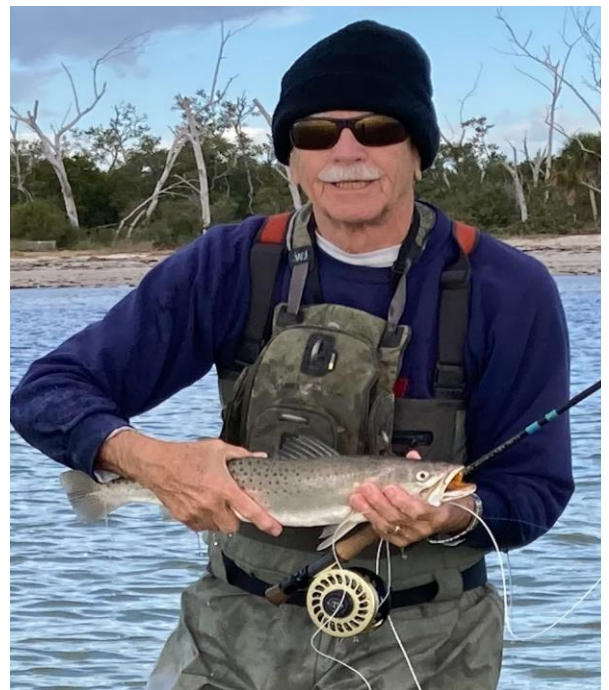


*Bob Burkard, outings committee chair*

The December outing may have been the most attended (and fished) outing of the year. Bill AuCoin estimated that we had about 17 fly fishers who wet their lines. About 35 gobbled up chili at Pavilion 4 on North Beach.

Tips of the SFF fedora go to chili-makers Alan Sewell, Anne Mitchell, Chris Sprowl, Karen Warfel, and me myself and I. We didn't take a chili cookoff vote this year because, well, everybody wanted to go back for seconds.

And fish were caught. At Fort DeSoto Park Rick Warfel caught a 22-inch spotted seatrout to win the outing award for the longest fish of any species. Also, it made him the winner of the annual tournament outing competition. And he lost a seatrout that was even longer. He hooked up on his first cast at East Beach Picnic Area and fought it for several minutes. The fish caused quite a surface commotion. It was big. Wayne Shriver waded toward the action to take some pictures. Then Rick's line went slack. "Awwwww," said Rick. "I lost it."



*Rick Warfel's 22-inch seatrout won the outing prize for the longest fish and the year-end tournament prize for the longest seatrout.  
(Steve Heinrich photo)*



*All five member-made chilis were delicious.*

Most wade fishers waded in at the East Beach Picnic Area which gave them some protection from the stiff winds.

Tim Elms has a favorite spot. He crashes through mangrove thickets to get there and keeps a watchful eye out for rattlesnakes. He caught "six dink trout" then evacuated to go after his favorite target, juvenile tarpon. Greg Clark caught a seatrout and one was pretty big judging by the size of the fish-head on his selfie.

Robert Fischer launched his flats boat and gave Capt. Pat Damico the forward casting deck. They both caught quite a few fish, Pat said.

*Bob*

## Bob Burkard: January 20 Outing at Weedon Island Preserve



*Bob Burkard*

It's January so of course we'll start off the new year of outings at Weedon Island Preserve on Tampa Bay. But there is one big change. We are officially designating ladyfish as the outing gamefish. That's right. Not redfish or, for that matter, seatrout and snook.

Well, it's the best time of the year to catch those schooling ladyfish. When you find them it's one right after another. Last year several SFF members waded into Riviera Bay and fished the dropoff not far from the kayak put-in spot. And they all caught some big ladyfish.

Dolphin were feeding there, too. And several would race in to the waders' zone to eat the ladyfish when it was released.

The member catching the longest ladyfish will win a \$10 gift certificate and take the lead in the annual tournament contest. Measure it. Get a picture. Do the same with your other gamefish catches -- seatrout, redfish, and (if you're lucky) snook. You could take the lead in any one or more of those categories.



*Kevin Kelly grilling burgers and hot dogs. But that was in 2023. Grilling is no longer allowed at Weedon Island Preserve. So this year we'll meet up for lunch at the Crab Shack Restaurant on Gandy Boulevard.*

### **Lunch**

There's another big difference. We're not having a pavilion picnic. We're all meeting up at noon at the Crab Shack Restaurant at 11400 Gandy Boulevard. It's just a few minutes north of Weedon Island.

*Bob*



*At last year's Weedon outing several members opted to wade fish Riviera Bay instead of the open waters of Tampa Bay. They all caught ladyfish, one right after another. A school of dolphin got into the action, too, even to the point of rushing in and eating the ladyfish that the fly fishers had just released. It was an exciting scene.*



## Playing Hooky at the Apollo Beach Hatchery

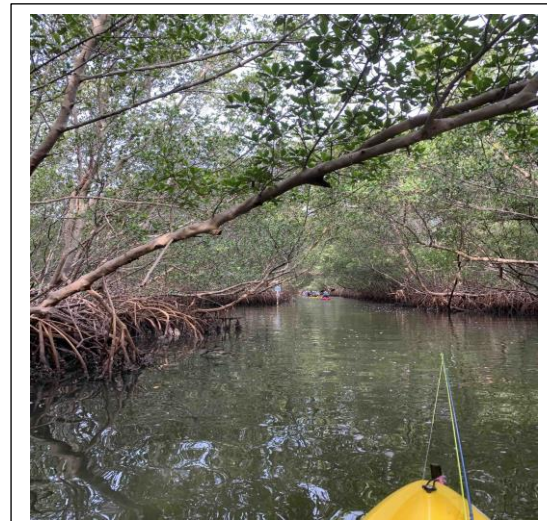
Thanks to FWC's Gina Russo who arranged kayaks for the on-the-water paddle (including fishing time), a facilities tour, and a delicious holiday lunch. This article was pinched from the newsletter of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. It was written by TBFFC club member Patty Anderson. Participating Suncoast Fly Fishers included David Redd, Jack Collins, and Quin Berry, and Robert Fischer.

We had a good turnout as members of TBFFC gathered in Apollo Beach for the annual Play Hooky at the Hatchery outing. Several members from the Suncoast Fly Club joined our group as well.

This outing consisted of kayak fishing, tidal salt pond fishing, lunch and a guided tour of the facilities. Our host, Gina Russo, from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation (FWC) met us at the Florida Conservation and Technology Center in Apollo Beach.

This is the location where our new impressive indoor climate controlled fish hatchery is under construction. We started the morning loading our fishing gear into individual kayaks. All boating gear was supplied by the center. The staff guided us along the property's kayak trail as we paddled thru mangrove tunnels that led out into Tampa Bay waters just south of the manatee viewing center.

Both snook and redfish were sighted in the shallow waters along the shoreline and a few fish were caught. After a morning of fishing, we paddled back to the center for a holiday lunch. We then were given a guided tour of the campus, which includes the Suncoast Youth Conservation Center, the Stock Enhancement Research Facility, Florida Aquarium's Coral Conservation Center, and their Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Center.



*Kayaking out to the bay. Fly rods are ready.  
(Photo by David Redd, Suncoast Fly Fishers.)*



*Kayakers saw snook and redfish in the hatchery mangrove canals.  
(Photo by Denise Bruner, TBFFC)*

The tour was very interactive and informative about the conservation work that is being done for sea turtle rescue, growing coral and sea urchins to restore our endangered reefs, and the future restocking of sport fish.

We were able to watch the scientists at work on rehabbing cold shocked sea turtles and the sea urchin nurseries for future stocking. Overall, very hopeful and incredible work being done at the research center!

Below are links to learn more about the center and the amazing work they are doing to preserve our waters and ecosystems.

<https://myfwc.com/research/saltwater/stock-enhancement/mfec/>

<https://www.flaquarium.org/conservation/conservation-campus/>

<https://www.tampaelectric.com/company/fctc/>

<https://fyccn.org/sycc-partners-at-the-florida-conservation-and-technology-center>

###



## Golden Tail Redfish Fly Bruce Evensen & Bill Scarola



*Bruce*

*Bruce and Bill led fly tyers through the steps for this fly at Bruce's fly tying studio on Monday, January 8. The pic shows several ways to tie this pattern.*

### **Materials**

Hook: #4, 2 stingers or #2-3407  
Eyes: bead chain, copper or black  
Legs: brown barred silly legs  
Body: small, Estaz rootbeer, small - medium size  
Flash: gold Flashabou  
Tail: bucktail in tan or brown  
Thread: flat waxed - brown or tan  
Glue: Super Glue aka head cement



*Bill*

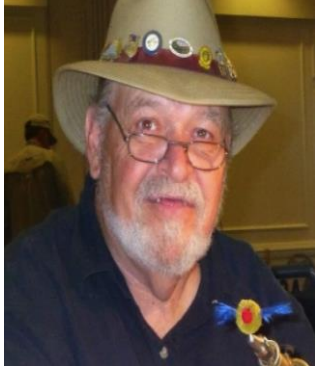
### **Tying Steps**

- 1- Wrap hook shank w/thread, eye to bend.
- 2- Add a bit of bucktail in front of the bend. 2x hook length.
- 3- Add several silly legs to both sides of the bucktail/Flashabou.
- 4- Add a bunch of Flashabou on top of bucktail, same length as bucktail.
- 5- Add bead chain eyes almost in the center of the shank. attach to top of shank like a Clouser.
- 6- Add the Estaz, wrap from on top of the flash/bucktail over and past the eyes to the hook eye and then whip finish.
- 7- If desired add your hook guard. Tie in a piece of 20-lb mono. Be sure it reaches past the hook point.
- 8- Add a drop of glue to all thread wraps as you go along.
- 9- Option: Add a weed guard.



*The top fly is with flash tail only. Hook guard, too.  
The middle fly is tied with just Sili legs.  
The bottom fly is tied with both flash material and Sili legs.*

## Jointed Pencil Popper



Layne "Smitty" Smith

*Ladyfish is the go-to fish for the January outing at Weedon Island Preserve. I know lots of fly fishers like to throw a sinking fly to catch ladyfish but to double your pleasure I recommend you get 'em to blast your topwater fly. Seeing is believing. The Jointed Pencil Popper has an advantage: a jointed tail. I think you'll see that it has a better hook-up ratio than gurglers and other topwaters.*

*Smitty*



### Materials

Hook: Daiichi saltwater 2546 #2

Thread: Danville Flatwaxed Nylon White

Tail: Krystal Flash Pearl

Rear body: Frizzle Chenille (Hairline Dubbing) UV Pearl (large 5/8")

Articulated Shank: Fish Skull Shank 13/8" (35 mm)

Front body: Soft Body Perfect Popper

Eyes: 1/4" molded eyes silver w/ black pupil

Coating: Solarez UV Resin \*

Cement: Fletch-Tite Platinum, CA Cement or SHHAN

Misc: Scotch or Blue painters tape, Red Sharpie, pearl glitter (optional)

**\*NOTE:** If using UV Resin add optional pearl glitter and mix in disposable mixing cup.

### Tying Sequence:

1. Place hook in vise and lay down a base wrap from hook eye to just above the hook barb. Take 6 strands of Krystal Flash and fold in half and cut, repeat and then wrap the flash around thread at halfway point of flash and tie on hook shank just above the barb for the tail. Trim to hook shank length if needed.
2. Attach Frizzle Chenille in front of tail and palmer forward to hook eye, stroking material backwards after each wrap as you go. Whip finish, coat and cure with UV Resin.
3. Use curved scissors to taper rear body all around to tail.
4. Attach articulated shank down through hook eye. Remove hook from vise and then insert the back loop of the articulated shank in vise. (Note: Use a twist-tie to tie hook bend to vise shaft to keep it from flopping around as you finish the rest of the fly.)

*-continued on next page-*

## P2/Smitty's Jointed Pencil Popper

5. Attach thread to rear of articulated shank and use several wraps to close gap of the shank and then continue to lay down a good base wrap to within an eyes width of the shank eye using "touching wraps" as you go. Whip finish and trim thread. Apply a drop of head cement to thread wraps at both the front and rear of shank.

6. Coat base wrap with CA cement and then open the slit in popper body and slide onto shank making sure to cover thread at rear of shank with the popper body. Rotate the vise 180 degrees to expose the slit in body. Fill gap with CA cement, pinch closed and hold until cement sets.

7. Use "blue painters tape" or Scotch tape to create a template for coloring the head of the fly. Start the tape at the slit on the bottom of the popper body and tilt the angle of the tape to mimic the angle of the fly face until you get to the top then angle it back to match the other side going down the other side. Cut off remaining tape leaving a tab for easy removal after coloring head. Color head and/or face with red Sharpie. Remove tape.

8. Attach eyes with Fletch-Tite making sure to even them out vertically and horizontally. 9. Starting from the rear of the popper, apply coating (Solarez UV Resin) with smooth strokes to coat body being careful to not allow the Sharpie colored portion to run. \*\*

**\*\*NOTE:** This step can be made a little easier by re-aligning popper body in vise to hang vertically as you apply the coating. Let dry in rotating dryer or, if using resin, cure with a UV light.



*Smitty finishing up his pencil popper at a club meeting.*

###



## John Connolly: Tying flies like this takes time but it's worth it.

John is into tying very complicated but beautiful flies. Some replicate real flies. Some are just artistic inventions. It's a satisfying hobby that takes a lot of skills and time. You've got to search for the exotic materials and maybe dye them too.



*John tied the regalia fly at the November meeting. He spent more than an hour on it and it still wasn't finished. He took it home and spent a lot more finishing it up. It's a take-off on a fly called Regalia*

So, how and why did he get into tying these intricately detailed flies? Here's John...

"I started tying flies in the Catskill Mountains of New York (12 miles from the capital fly fishing area-Roscoe, NY) back in 1980. I was at a friend of mine's house, who was an avid fly fisherman from the time he was a young boy, and he was sitting there tying a fly and showed me all the steps. He then dared me to sit down and try to tie a fly. So of course, I took on the challenge while he instructed me. Well, I was hooked! We became better friends and for three years we competed against each other tying trout flies to salmon flies.

"The journey for over 40 years has been very rewarding in that I get to use my creativity to create something useful and beautiful. And because I have also met some pretty nice people throughout the years with the

same interest and goals.

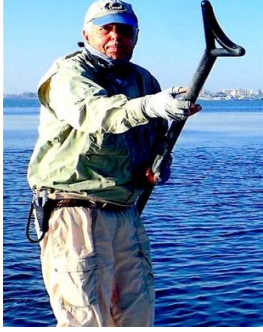
"I now try to tie Salmon flies for my own enjoyment by never knowing where or how it will turn out. Let's say it's a labor of love...and time. Sometime I spend 4-6 hours on one fly.

"In the box (pictured) my wife was away for the holidays, and I vowed to tie one fly a day 'til she returned.

"And so, the journey continues..."



*"Yes, it's an addiction," said John*



## Capt. Pat Damico: Captain's Corner

### Super low tides can be fantastic

Shallow water fly fishing conditions can be more challenging this time of year because of cold fronts, colder water, significant wind from different directions, and fish that don't seem interested in our offerings. Starting early on a low-tide, cold morning is an exciting invitation for some fly fishers; for others, it's a good reason to stay home. Check tide charts, then find a well-protected, familiar area that has been productive at other times of the year. If sunny, have the sun behind you to improve visibility, being careful of your shadow. Disturbances in the shallows will indicate the presence of your quarry, usually redfish, trout, and occasionally sheepshead.

Nervous water, wakes, scattering small baitfish, slow-waving exposed tails and schools of mullet deserve your attention. Canoes and kayaks get you shallower and keep your profile and shadow low, making wading often your best option. It is also a great way to transport your many accessories. A line tied to your waist can bring your paddle craft with you. The same line can anchor the boat, allowing you to get closer to the fish. Use a good floating saltwater tapered 7-weight fly line to match your rod. A tapered 9-foot leader to 20-pound test should be attached to your favorite size 4 crab or shrimp imitation that is your confidence fly. A fly color that matches the bottom will narrow your choices. Casts must be quick and careful, the first one always being the best. A slow, natural presentation is most productive.

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

### *Captain Pat*

*Fly guide/casting instructor Pat Damico charters "Fly Guy" in lower Tampa Bay. [captpatdamico.com](http://captpatdamico.com) and 727-504-8649*

## Jonas Magnusson: Your leader doesn't turn over



*Jonas Magnusson, Fly Fishers International Certified fly-Casting Instructor*

One of my students a beginner (casting rather well) recently had an outing casting from a boat. There was the eternal wind blowing and the boat moving and all that. But the main issue was that the leader was misbehaving and didn't turn over. So, breaking it down...

**Leader:** Long leaders (10' or more) are frequently advocated by guides and experienced anglers. Yet, as the leader lengthens it gets to be much more difficult to cast.

**Butt:** the longer the leader the more important it becomes that the butt is heavy enough.

**Weight:** We all know that heavy flies can kick when we cast them. Heavy flies are usually on the big side too and will have more drag. So, using a smaller lighter fly will help.

**Casting Ability:** The idiot savants of casting can fling out just about anything. However, beginners can't do that. We must always curtail our advice to the ability of the caster

being advised.

Read more about this on my blog:

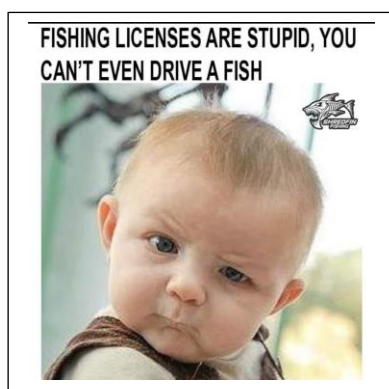
<https://everyjonahhasawhale.com/fly-casting/casting-technique/the-leader-isnt-turning-over/>

### *Jonas*

## Bill Scarola: LOL

No man ever caught a fish as big as the one that got away.  
You can always tell a fisherman, but you can't tell him much.  
The best thing about fishing is that it gives you something to do while you're doing nothing!  
Fishing is an idle sport that makes men and truth strangers!  
Fishing is sometimes an excuse to drink beer in the day time.  
If you accidentally rub ketchup into your eye, you will have *Heinzsight*.  
Once upon a time there was a king who was only 12 inches tall. He was a terrible king, but he made a great ruler.  
*There was the time that fruit of the Loom took Hanes to court. It was a brief case.*  
My friend said she wouldn't eat a cow's tongue because it came out of the cow's mouth.. So I gave her an EGG.  
My friend Jack says he can communicate with vegetables. That's right... Jack and the *beans talk*.

*Now, go fishing. Bill*



## Fishy Funnies

*Two tips of the SFF  
fedora to Bob Hood*



## Used Gear for Sale

### David Redd is selling two Sage fly rods

One is a Sage RPLXi 7weight.. The other is a Sage RPLXi 9-weight. Both are used but in good condition. I'm asking \$250 ea. or \$450 for both. Email David at [Reddfish68@yahoo.com](mailto:Reddfish68@yahoo.com). Call or text him at 727-458-8334

### Bill Scarola is selling his 12-foot Nucanoe Kayak, \$800

It is 41-inches wide. It has two seats with bases. One double-bladed paddle. not shown, but both seats are very comfortable. and in good condition! The deck is lined with Sea Decking. There are rod holders.  
contact: BILL SCAROLA @ 732-740-7538. He will deliver the kayak to you if necessary.

### Bill Scarola also is selling a metal rifle and pistol storage cabinet. \$75

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## Bill AuCoin: Flyfisher Flyover



**Hey, let's have an outing on Lake Fellsmere** -- Florida Fish and Wildlife has declared North Florida's Lake Fellsmere the winner in the "Battle of the Lakes" for the heaviest total weight of bass caught. Lake Fellsmere, also known as Headwaters Lake, beat out Orange Lake. The bass weight total was based on bass caught and reported to FWC's TrophyCatch program. ([Florida Fish & Wildlife](#))

**Reminder** -- The fourth annual Waterman Fly Fishing Tournament is Friday, February 16, and Saturday, February 17. It's a catch-and-release redfish contest with an optional snook Calcutta. ([Tampa Bay Waterkeepers](#))

**Best fly rods for 2024** -- The editors evaluated a bunch of new fly rods on a trout fishing expedition in the Catskills. And the winner is? ([Field & Stream](#))

**New technique to find Tampa Bay pollution locations** -- It's called nutrient fingerprinting. Now they can pinpoint where the pollution is coming from right down to the neighborhood. ([WTSP](#))

**How to conquer nature. Not!** --Back in 1904 Florida Governor Broward pledged to convert the marshy Everglades into the "Empire of the Everglades." That led to a century of growth and development. Good...until it wasn't. Now Florida has embarked on a mission to restore the Everglades. One of the points of conflict is subsidies for sugarcane growers. ([Reason](#))

**Now we need to fix the Kissimmee** -- The Kissimmee River empties into Lake Okeechobee. Years ago, back when we thought we could conquer nature, they removed the curves in the river. They're "fixing" that. But it's not enough. The new initiative is a 3,400 stormwater treatment area that will be about three miles upstream from the lake. It'll hold and clean about 1.2 billion gallons of water before it is allowed to drain into Lake O. ([VoteWater](#))

**The tug is the drug** --The permit is a drug different from all the other gamefish, writes the author. "When I glimpsed the ink-edged tail of my first Bahamian permit scything over the flat, I had to remove my hat to see if my hair had been set on fire." Yeah, worth the read. ([Angler's Journal](#))

**A whale of a conversation** -- Researchers recently held a 20-minute conversation with a humpback whale. (Is this really a big deal? Fly fishers have been talking to fish for years and years.) Anyway, they say the whale interaction may be showing us how to communicate with aliens. Call me skeptical. Fly fishers have been conversing with gamefish for centuries. ([Daily Mail](#))

**That time a 17-foot python crossed the road.** -- Mike Elfenein and his son Cole, 17, came across this behemoth as it crossed the road. Another guy stopped to help but the python started dragging him toward a canal. Then three hikers joined the fray. So? For the rest of the story. ([Men's Journal](#))

**Florida wants to get rid of them** -- Here's an update on what Florida is doing to eradicate pythons. Citizens are involved in the effort, too. ([FWC](#))

*Bill*

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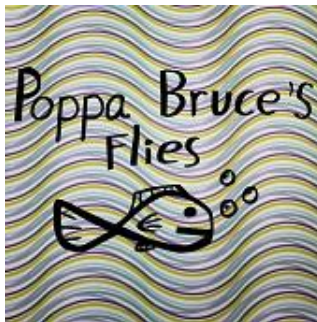


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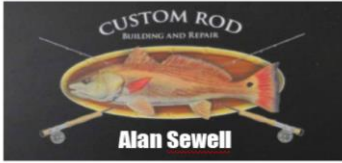


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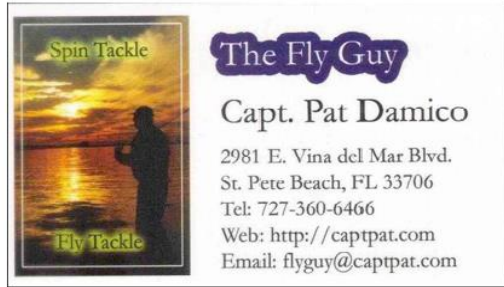
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Email Jim Swann at  
[jalswann@aol.com](mailto:jalswann@aol.com)



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