



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Some of our members who fled north to escape the summer heat are beginning to migrate back to our bit of paradise. Welcome back! You're just in time for some of the best fishing of the year, or so they tell me. Capt. Rick Grasset's forecast will explain it all. And if you like to fish Charlotte Harbor, Capt. Pete Greenan will share some of his secrets at this month's meeting. As most of you know Pete was one of the founders of MCFE and has been fly fishing

the salt since just after water was created. I hope to see you there and be sure to say, "Hi".

Thanks to Capt. Rick Di Paeva (SP?) for a very informative and interesting presentation at the September meeting. We now know how to determine in which direction red fish will feed along with a lot of other good stuff. I should have taken notes. If you want to learn the intricacies of fishing Pine Island Sound while catching a bunch of fish call and book a trip with Capt. Rick.

As I write this I am in Orleans on Cape Cod where the big news was the sighting of a manatee in Sesuit Harbor where water temperatures are only in the 60's. The harbor was closed to all traffic to protect the manatee. As you can imagine, curious crowds gathered to view this stranger to these shores. Sea World of Orlando came to transport it to kinder temperatures but we learned, sadly, from this morning's newspaper that it has expired.

But our weather here is cooling a bit so call a friend, join an outing or whatever but get out there and wade a flat, launch your boat, straddle your kayak 'cause the big ones are waiting just for you.

NEXT MEETING

Next Monthly Club Meeting: Tuesday, October 28th - Capt. Pete Greenan, will speak on fishing in Charlotte Harbor.

Pete is a former president of this club, President of the Florida Council of FFF and owner of the Gypsy Guide Service. Don't miss this exciting program full of useful fishing tips and techniques from one of the Mangrove Coast's best guides!



Florida Council Federation of Fly Fishers Official Ballot

You are voting for the officers of the Florida Council of the FFF for 2009/2010 term. You must return the ballot by email or post no later than 5:00 pm December 15, 2008.

Who is eligible to vote?

All current paid members of the Federation of Fly Fishers residing in Florida or associated with a Florida member club are eligible. Your member number is required.

The Nominating Committee recommends the candidates whose names are listed. You may write in anyone you wish to vote for in the space provided. Vote for one only.

***Your**

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Your Signature (electronic okay) _____

Mail to: pgreenan@fff-florida.org or

Pete Greenan

2416 Parson Ln.

Sarasota, Fl. 34239

MEMBERS PHOTOS

Capt. Rick Grasset with a 10-pound bonefish caught and released on a crab fly pattern while fishing Florida Bay near Islamorada with Capt. Duane Baker.



A very nice Trout caught and released by Tony Saviano while fishing in Georgia.



Brent Wilson left and buddy Justin Hamblet below on a very good day.



FLY OF THE MONTH

WOOL HEADED MULLET by Craig Smothers

Popovics' creations are truly innovative. One such creation, although built for the north-eastern stripers would work well for the entire gambit of local fishes. Built on a smaller sized chassis, this wool and silicone mullet will catch baby tarpon, snook, redfish and trout.

There are vast differences between spinning deer hair bodies and building wool bodies. There are also vast differences in which the two are fished. Wool is remarkably easy to work with, and ends up looking much as their spun deer hair cousins. The trimming of both is similar.

Working with wool requires a few very important tools you might not already have. First, go to your local pet stores and get a wire "poodle" brush. This is one of those brushes which has a bunch of short wire bristles. Combing out the fuzz is very important in working with wool. A comb won't cut it. Second, you will need a pair of scissors which have 4"-6" blades. Trimming with standard fly tying scissors is nearly impossible. Some of you might have these for trimming synthetics.

To me, this best represents a small finger mullet.

Materials:

Hooks: Mustad 7766 or Gamakatsu SC 15 or stinger size #1-#2/0

Thread: white Flymaster+

Tail: 4-6 matched neck hackles (white or grizzly), or bucktail for those who fear feathers

Flash: Opal Flashabou Mirage

Head: white or light dun wool, plus some red for the collar

Eyes: 4mm 3-D in opal

Misc: Fleximent and Flech-Tite glues, goop, a popsicle stick, and Photoflo (optional), three wraps of .20 lead wire (optional)

Steps:

Place the hook in the vice point down. Thread from the eye back to where the hook begins to bend. Tye in the feathers either deceiver style or splayed (your choice). Tye in the flash on both sides of the feathers.

Add three wraps of lead wire in the middle of the hook shank (optional)

BOAT SHARING

One of the objectives of MCFF is to encourage our membership to fly fish as often as possible. The club recognizes that every member does not own a boat or have access to one. With that in mind, we have initiated a program that will help resolve this problem. Listed below are members that are willing to share their boats with other members for fishing trips. If you are a member that wishes to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact one of those listed. It's very informal; guys call and tell a bit about themselves, then meet for a beer, coffee, or at a club meeting. If it works, then go fishing.

Also, we feel that if you do share a boat, it would be appropriate to share expenses.

If you would like to put your name on the list, send your info to patbeckw@comcast.net for inclusion. If you want to go fishing, call a member on the list.

The suggestion for this column was made by club member, Rick Schwartz. Thanks Rick.

Rick Schwartz

941-966-6434. 18' Sea Pro Bay. Prefer to fish weekdays from S. Sarasota to Charlotte Harbor. Fly and spin.

Ron Whiteley

941-697-548-1453 17' Maverick HPX tunnel. Times and places you like to fish. Yes, Fly.

Roger Williams

941-748-5477. 16 foot Scout boat. Manatee River and Terra Ceia Bay. Weekdays only. Spin or Fly.

Phillip Waguespack

941-474-5209. 18' Shoal Cat. Fish weekends mostly. Charlotte Harbor, Lemon Bay. Fly.

Dick Phinney

941 697-8421, gphinney@comcast.com.

Dick has a 22ft. Scout.

Preston Jones

941-729-3306: jonesp018@yahoo.com: Lower Tampa Bay, Terra Ceia Bay, Northern Sarasota Bay including Anna Maria Sound or anywhere else. Fly only.



RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE TYING BENCH

By Don Coleman

JIGGIES –Being a firm believer in the logic of the ‘Occam’s Razor’ principle, I was convinced that Bob Popovics’ new fly, the Jiggy, would be successful. Bob and Ed Jaworowski claim that they now tie and fish these simple flies more than any other fly in their fly boxes. Capt. Gene Quigley reports that more than 70 percent of the saltwater fish landed by his clients are now caught on Bob’s simple Jiggy. But I was still unprepared for the success of fellow club members when fishing around the grass beds in Tampa Bay, where Clousers are prone to collect grass and debris. I tie the fly on a #2 Mustad 34011 hook with the barb mashed down and with a slight bend in the hook shank for a bendback fly. I use 1/4 inch (Large) Cone Heads. I find the tungsten cones too heavy. Usually I wrap a few turns of chenille around the shank and jam it into the cavity to stabilize the cone. I then tie a simple bucktail wing—Chartreuse over White separated by pearl mylar flash material for example—directly behind the cone head and epoxy the wraps to form a taper up to the back edge of the cone. All material must be tied on the point side of the hook to make the fly swim point up. I make the overall length of the fly approximately 3 inches long. Depending on the color of the wing, I use either red or black Flat Waxed Nylon thread. I do not use stick-on eyes as recommended by Popovics. But where are the beautiful names of yesteryear—like Parmachene Belle, Royal Coachman, Wickman’s Fancy and Greenwell’s Glory?

ONCE AGAIN –Weights, such as bar-bell eyes, or bend-back hooks do not cause the fly to turn over so the fly can swim with the hook point up. It’s the placement of the wing on the point side of the hook, which acts like a parachute in the water that achieves that.

SHOCK TIPPETS –Many inshore fly fishers use heavy shock tippets to prevent being cut off by toothy fish. Another solution is to tie a foot long loop in the end of your 15 or 20 pound monofilament leader and attach the fly with the doubled line. Double the line with either a Bimini Twist or a Surgeon’s Loop Knot. A fish might cut one leg of the doubled line but seldom both legs.

ARTIFICIAL MATERIALS –Except for 6/0 Uni-Thread and mylar flash materials, I prefer to tie flies using natural materials. Feathers, bucktail, deer belly hair, peacock hen, and beeswax are just all right with me.

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Fly of the Month - Wool Headed Mullett



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www.summertime.qpg.com

Capt. Rick Depaiva
PH 1-239-246-8726

EMAIL: flynutt@aol.com
www.saltwaterflyfishing.org

CALENDAR

October 25 - Club Outing - Sarasota Bay

October 28 - Monthly Meeting, Twin Lakes Park

November 15 - Club Outing - Braden River

November 25 - Monthly Meeting, Twin Lakes Park

Capt. Rick Grasset's Fly Fishing Forecast for November 2008

This is one of my favorite months to fish the flats and coastal gulf waters. The coastal gulf will be alive with action as Spanish mackerel, king mackerel, little tunny, cobia, sharks and more feed on baitfish schooling along our beaches. Flats fishing will be hot too as snook stage along sand bars, reds scatter along mangrove shorelines and trout spend more time feeding in skinny water.

Snook will move from the surf and passes and head towards their winter areas of creeks, canals and rivers. During November you'll find them staging along sand bars in Sarasota Bay and around docks and bridges in the ICW. On the flats, fly poppers, Sliders and Gurglers will be effective early in the day and Clouser, Deceiver or Enrico Puglisi flies later in the day. Target potholes on the edge of bars and the seam where grass meets sand on the edge of bars. Around lighted areas of docks and bridges, snook usually feed on smaller baits. Cast small white flies like my Snook Minnow (a.k.a. Grass Minnow) where light meets dark for the best action. You might find bigger snook by drifting bridge channels and fishing a larger fly on a fast sinking fly line closer to the bottom. North Sarasota Bay and the ICW between Sarasota and Venice are a couple of my favorite snook areas.

Reds will also be active this month on shallow flats. The schools of reds that we find from August through October have broken up by now and reds will spread out on the flats. Look for them along mangrove shorelines when the tide is high and along sand bars, in potholes and the edges of flats when the tide is low. I prefer to cast Clouser or my Flats Minnow flies when blind casting for reds. It is the "up and down" action of the flies that trigger strikes and it is an effective way to cover water to find fish. I designed my Flats Minnow fly, which is a bendback, to target reds, snook and trout in skinny water. You may find reds tailing on the negative low tides from Nov. 11-18 and 24-30. We don't find a lot of tailing reds in Sarasota Bay due to the type of bottom but Gasparilla Sound near Boca Grande has lots of them.

Trout season will close in my area (south of the Pasco-Pinellas county line) during November and December, so handle them gently. It is inevitable that you will catch trout when fishing for reds and snook on the flats, so be sure your barbs are bent down to minimize chances of harming them. It's fun to throw fly poppers and Gurglers early in the day for trout and as it gets

brighter they will move to deeper water where Clousers will work well. I've also been successful with a popper/dropper combination. Add a small fly about 24"-30" behind your popper to increase its effectiveness. This combination of a floating fly with a smaller sinking fly behind it has been popular with western trout anglers for years. Adding sound increases the productivity dramatically. You might also catch **blues, Spanish mackerel and pompano** with this rig when fishing deep grass. Jigs with plastic tails fished closer to the bottom should also be effective for. Fly anglers should do well on **pompano and flounder** with a heavy Clouser fished close to the bottom on an intermediate or intermediate sink tip line. A few of my favorite areas for trout and reds are in north Sarasota Bay, lower Tampa Bay and Gasparilla Sound.

Along the beaches, look for **Spanish mackerel, king mackerel, little tunny, cobia, tarpon, sharks and more**. Baitfish will exit bays and school along the beaches with each passing front and predator fish are there feeding on them. Look for diving birds (terns are the best indicators), baitfish showering out of the water or predators skyrocketing on baits. Fly anglers should score with synthetic baitfish patterns fished on intermediate or faster sinking lines and Crease flies fished on floating lines. You may need to use wire ahead of your fly or if they are being leader shy, 60-pound fluorocarbon may be heavy enough to get the job done.

Usually these schools of fish, particularly the mackerel and little tunny, are moving very fast. Watch the birds to know which way the fish are moving and set up well ahead of them. They may be motor shy and running your boat too close to them will put them down before you have a chance to cast to them. The longer fish are feeding on the surface, the more likely that other species are to join in the fray. If fish aren't feeding on the surface try drifting over natural hard bottom or one of the many artificial reefs in the area and cast fast sinking fly lines to locate fish.

I'll often fish the coastal gulf this time of the year when conditions allow it since there are so many different species that you can catch there. If it's too rough in the gulf, there are plenty of options on the flats. Throw fly poppers or Gurglers early for trout, reds and snook and fish deep grass and edges of bars later in the day with my Flats Minnow or a Clouser fly for the same species. If you're looking for a good time you might consider fishing the Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers/Coastal Conservation Association "Fall Fly Fishing Challenge" on Nov. 1st. The fly fishing only event is a low stakes,

BEAD CHAIN – Small clousers and bonefish style flies usually use small bead chain eyes. The electrical department of Home Depot—among other stores—sells #6 (small) Stainless Steel bead chain, which is normally used for extending bead chain pulls on electrical fixtures.

Maxims: Fly fishing in the surf is practiced in the current created by the breaking waves, not the tide. Fish as nearly parallel to the waves as possible and allow the fly to be carried into the wash.

The art of fly tying is in your choice of materials and tying methods so that your fly will appear alive, whether at rest or being retrieved.

Flies that do not have that essential spark of life are usually effective only with a strip retrieve, which is seldom productive when fish are feeding on the “drift”.

Don't waste your money on expensive hooks with presharpended points that you will have to resharpen in a short time.

Learn to take pride in your fly casting and your fly tying. If you can't, practice until you can.

FIRST FLY TYING CLASS

MCFF's first fly tying session was conducted by professor Capt. Bobby Hilbrunner on Saturday, Sept. 27 at the Bank of America building. Bobby has spent many, many years tying flies professionally and shared his techniques



with the group of enthusiastic participants. Les Fulcher also joined in adding his finesse touches helping Jay and Tony. Bobby explained his methods in selecting the best materials and how to manipulate them. Tom, no newbie to fly tying, shared his knowledge with Bob and Susan. Pat wrestled with feathers while Jeff showed us how to

twirl buck tail around the hook shank of a beautiful "Lefty's Deceiver". Everyone seemed pleased with their results although the flies might not make the Orvis catalog they'll catch fish. And isn't that the whole point?

Watch for the announcement of the next session, come on out and join the fun. Catching a fish with your own creation adds tons of satisfaction to the sport of fly fishing

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OUTINGS NEWS

Tony Saviano has graciously volunteered to help with the Club Outings going forward. Tony will welcome other folks to jump in to help him.

Here is the planned calendar of MCFF Outings for 2008...

Oct. 25 - Sarasota Bay - 8 AM

November 15 - Lake Manatee - 8 AM to 2 PM, Freshwater species - refreshments

For more details, or to sign up for these outings, talk to Tony Saviano at our Monthly Meetings, or contact Tony by email: tsaviano@verizon.net, or phone: 941-727-0501



MCFF/CCA Fall Fly Fishing Challenge

The Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers and Sarasota Chapter of the Coastal Conservation will hold the fourth annual Fall Fly Fishing Challenge on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008 out of the Ken Thompson Park boat ramp on City Island in Sarasota. The catch, photo and release event will feature an Open Division and a Fly Angler Division. In the Open Division, eligible species include snook, redfish and spotted seatrout. Those in the Fly Angler Division will fish for a variety of species, including snook, redfish, spotted seatrout, bluefish, ladyfish, flounder, snapper, jack crevalle, pompano and permit. Each species in the Fly Angler Division will have a designated point value. The tournament is one of the largest fly-fishing events outside of the Florida Keys. Entry fee is \$50 and includes an awards barbeque. Applications are available at area tackle shops or on line at the following links, <http://mangrovecoastflyfishers.com/tournaments.php> and <http://ccaflorida.org/chapters/2008-Sarasota-Fly-Reg.pdf>. Call Rick Grasset at 923-7799 or e-mail snookfin@aol.com for more info.

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Cont'd from page 6

low stress, catch, photo and release tournament with a fun awards BBQ. Contact me for more info. Whatever you choose to do, **remember to always limit your kill, don't kill your limit!**

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LEFTY'S TIPS

Lefty Kreh has allowed us to print tips from his book “Lefty’s 101 FlyFishing Tips”.



49 BOGA GRIP



Bill Schoutta demonstrates the use of a Boga Grip. This is a commercial tool that gently lip holds any fish, so it can be safely lifted from the water, weighed, and the hook removed. It is available from many fishing shops and catalogs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Capt. John Hand has donated another trip for 8 hrs. of light tackle or fly fishing on the backwater of South Tampa Bay valued at \$500.00. The trip is to be redeemed before June 15, 2009. Tickets will sell for \$ 5.00 each at this meeting in Oct. and the drawing to be held at our Nov. meeting. Thank you Captain Hand for your continued support of MCFF.

The winner of the first trip was Cynthia Dunayer, who is a relatively new member. Congratulations Cynthia.

MCFF has a very extensive library which includes books as well as instructional DVD’s of fly tying and fly fishing. There will be a hard copy of the Library Inventory available at the meeting . One only has to sign up for which article they want to use and Tony Saviano will bring the document to the following meeting. The library is for all, so please take advantage of this membership benefit

CASTING TIP

by Dusty Sprague

The feeding patterns of very shallow-water tailing fish provide insights to the most effective presentations. Fish tailing in shallow water with their entire tails vigorously protruding from the surface - hard-tailing fish -- have their head buried in the bottom so aggressively that your cast needs to be very close so they detect its presence. After the close cast just twitch the fly with very subtle movements. If they don't see it, make a short strip of the fly. Other fish, moving slowly with their tails only partially exposed will spook from a close cast. Cast ahead of these very shallow fish 4 to 6 feet allowing them to swim to the fly. In most cases the fly should be exactly in line with the fish's path. Watch the fly land and mark the spot. Track the fish and compare the fish's track to your spot. If the fly is off-line on the far side, retrieve the fly in to position before the fish gets too close. If your are short, cast again. When the fish is about a foot away from the fly make your first very short strip and keep tension on the fly to detect the take.



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Starting with a small gob of red wool, push the gob right down the middle of the hook towards the back. The red will be tied in right over the top of the feather tie-in point. Wrap the thread three wraps over the middle of the wool. Now stroke the entire gob toward the back of the hook (fairing it back). Wrap the thread slightly forwards on the hook. Glue. Repeat the process with small gobs of white wool until you reach the hook eye. Whip finish.

Trimming is the critical step. Start by attempting to straighten the hair outward away from the hook. Trim away the wild hair down to a basic cigar shaped body. Starting on the bottom (hook-point side), trim the wool down nearly to the hook shank (flat on the bottom).

Trimming the rest of the shape is personal preference. Stay away from flat-faced like a (spun deer hair) bass bug. I'd say, muddler style, dalberg style (minus the back collar), or cone shaped as in the photo.

Adding the eyes can be done several ways. If you have a burning tool (the best way), burn a small hole in each side. Pick away the charcoal. Put a dab of Fletch-Tite in the hole, and then push in a 3-D eye. You can also cut a small hole in each side. However, this method is much easier with spun deer hair.

Take you tube of goop and smear the fly head with a thin coat (two thin applications are best). This builds durability and makes the fly neutrally buoyant. Photoflo is a Kodak product with which to wet your fingers and keep the silicone from sticking to you. The popsicle stick will help you spread the under (hook point side) of the fly.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



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- **Raffles**
- **Boat Sharing**
- **Fly Casting Instruction**
- **Fly Tying Instruction**
- **Fishing Reports**
- **Newsletter**
- **Web Page**
- **Club Outings and trips**
- **Membership in Federation of Fly Fishers**
- **Full Library of books and DVD's for Fly Fishing**





October 2008
Officers and Board of Directors

Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers
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 Sarasota, FL 34230-3792

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MCFF Club Website: <http://www.mangrovecoastflyfishers.com>

MCFF Email List & Chat: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MCFF/>

MCFF Mission: To promote saltwater fly fishing and conserve, protect and restore Florida's coastal fisheries and habitats.

Meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of the month 7:00 p.m. at Twin Lakes Park in Sarasota, FL. The Board of Directors meet on the second Wednesday of each month.

The deadline for submission of material for the newsletter is the second Friday of the month that you want the article published

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name/s _____ Date _____

Address _____

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Telephones (_____) _____

E-Mail (club use only) _____

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P.O. Box 3792
Sarasota FL, 34230

Includes 1 membership in the
Federation of Fly Fishers

Individual	\$65	_____
Family	\$80	_____
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MCFF only	\$30	_____



MANGROVE COAST FLY FISHERS
 P. O. BOX 3792 SARASOTA, FL. 34230-3792

**Meeting location:
 Twin Lakes Park
 Green Building - Right door**



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Coconut Shrimp with Curried Tomato, Lime and Roasted Garlic Coulis

Ingredients

For the coconut shrimp:

- 1 large egg
- 2/3 cup beer
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 3/4 cup all purpose flour, divided
- 2 cups flaked coconut
- 24 large shrimp, peeled and deveined, tails on
- 2 to 3 tablespoons vegetable oil, preferably canola

For the coconut shrimp:

Directions

In a medium bowl, whisk together egg, beer, baking powder and 1/2 cup of the flour. Place remaining 1/4 cup flour in a shallow dish. Place coconut in a separate shallow dish. Dredge shrimp in flour and shake off excess. Dunk shrimp in beer mixture and turn to coat. Roll shrimp in coconut until all sides are coated.

Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add shrimp and cook 2 minutes per side, until cooked through or opaque.

Serve shrimp with the coulis on the side. Reserve second 1/2 of garlic (about 1/3 cup) for another recipe.

Ingredients

For the garlic coulis:

- 1/3 cup roasted garlic, divided
- 2 beefsteak tomatoes, chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the garlic coulis:

Directions

In a food processor, combine 1/2 of the roasted garlic cloves (about 1/3 cup), tomatoes, lime juice, and curry powder. Season, to taste, with salt and pepper.