



The Salty Tippet

Volume 3, Issue 3

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FALL 2026



TCFF President
Bobby Lachtara

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President's Message

The Year Ahead

Over the summer, many of our TCFF members traveled near and far. And we've had two **Flyfisher Breakfasts** and one **Flyfisher Lunch** (see [pages 4-7](#)). Up ahead, we're looking forward to our **Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner** at Linda Pedersen Park in November and the **Christmas Party and Auction** in December. We're planning some fishing trips, fly tying sessions, and looking for continued coordination with St. Pete's **Suncoast Fly Fishers**.

Travel

Sande and I traveled to Europe, sight-seeing across the **Baltic States** but we were unable to schedule any fishing trips. Still, the magnificence of the northern skies, the impossibly deep **Fjords**, the **Northern Lights** ...all worth the trip.

Alaska

Several TCFF members traveled to Alaska for extended stays at Bob's new log cabin in **Sterling, Alaska**. This year the Salmon fishing was slower

than usual due to a lower volume of **Sockeye Salmon** in the rivers. **Halibut** fishing was good but no 30 pounders were caught. **Silver Salmon** fishing was also slow due to low water levels. On the positive side, there were plenty of **Moose** and **Bear** sightings.

Kayak Fishing

TCFF members Ray Cannata and Terry Dunne fly fish from kayaks at least once a month. For anyone interested in kayak fly fishing but lack a kayak, they will provide a kayak rigged for fishing. See [Kayak Fly Fishing Our Local Waters, page 3](#).

Good fishing ahead

As we move into the fall and water temperatures become lower to reasonable, the fishing should be great. Best of luck on the water and we'll see everyone soon.

— Bobby Lachtara



Working the edge of the mangroves north of Bayport. See [Kayak Fly Fishing Our Local Waters, page 3](#).



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TCFF's Flyfishing Calendar

Many of our TCFF events are not announced until close to the actual event date. But, once an event is scheduled, you can find out about it by accessing TCFF's **Calendar** from the TCFF website at tarponcoastflyfishers.com.

Once on the TCFF website, if you click **Calendar** on the **Menu Bar**, then click a specific month, the Calendar will appear. .



Once the Calendar is open, you can click each "Month" tab on

Standing up?

Kayak Fly Fishing Our Local Waters

We all know fly fishing can get complicated. Add a kayak to the mix and it's even more so. But, with a little experience...

Tangling UP

It's easy to get tangled up on a kayak. You have to manage a long, loose fly line in a small space while keeping your balance. The kayaks are stable but, if you hook your fly on the carrying handle at the tip of the kayak, there is no way you can crawl out to unhook it. You have to have another kayaker do it for you or beach the kayak, get out, and unhook it yourself.

Standing

It's hard to cast accurately sitting in a kayak. Also, sitting low to the water means your backcast can easily slap the surface and spook fish. Standing offers better leverage, but it's not easy.



TCFF member **Ray Cannata** at the Mud River Spring:
"When you find a likely spot, you want to make your one good cast"

It requires good balance and a stable, wide, sit-on-top kayak. We never stand. It's too risky, especially when the Gulf gets choppy.

nearby, are all fresh water habitats where Alligators live. Paddling up a narrow channel to an unnamed spring (like those near the Mud River), with tall sawgrass on each side, leaves you vulnerable to an Alligator sneak attack.

Landing Fish

Landing a fish can be tough because a fish flopping around in a kayak can tear up your gear. A big fish, like a Tarpon, can tip the kayak over.

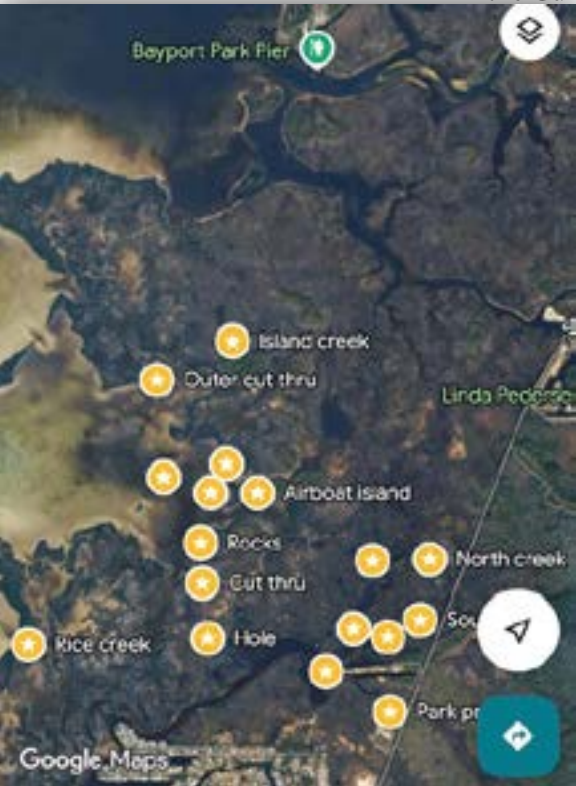
Big Critters Close By

It's not unusual to run into Manatees and Dolphins in the Gulf, as well as up the fresh water creeks and rivers feeding the Gulf. A Manatee surfacing under your kayak will tip you right over. And Sharks, big ones, show up every now and then. In a kayak you're near the water and when a big shark gets close, it can be terrifying. Alligators show up the closer you get to fresh water. For example, the Mud River Spring and the associated springs

PFDs

It's essential to wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD). However, it's a good idea to put the PFD on manual inflation vs. automatic because, if you fall out of a kayak and the PFD inflates automatically, it can pin you under the kayak. Also, watch out for shoelaces. If you tip over and catch your shoelaces in the kayak's footpegs, to avoid drowning you'll need a good sharp knife to cut your way out..

— Terry Dunne



TCFF member **Demetri Hazivasilis** plotted and mapped these good fishing spots adjacent to his property north of Hernando Beach, south of the Bayport Pier, and west of Shoal Line Blvd.



Breakfast at the IHOP





Tarpon Coast Fly Fishers

Join us at the:

Fisherman's Breakfast #2

IHOP



To give IHOP a good head tally, if you are coming text
TCFF President Bobby Lochlara at (407) 267-4658.

Tuesday, July 28th, 2026

Meet Up 9:00 AM

International House of Pancakes

3660 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, FL 34606

A group of people are seated at a table, eating breakfast. The table is filled with food and drinks. The background shows a window looking out onto a parking lot.

A woman in a red shirt is seated at a table, looking at her phone. A man in a blue shirt is seated next to her, also looking at his phone.

Three people are seated at a table. A woman in a white shirt is looking at her phone, while two men are looking towards the camera.

Two men are seated at a table. One man in a tan shirt is looking at the camera, while the other man in a green shirt is looking down at something on the table.

A group of people are seated at a table in a restaurant. They are eating and talking. The room has large windows and a warm, wood-paneled interior.

A group of people are seated at a table. A man in a purple shirt is looking at the camera, while others are looking down at something on the table.

A group of people are seated at a table. A man in a white shirt is looking at the camera, while others are looking down at something on the table.

A group of people are seated at a table in a restaurant. They are eating and talking. The room has large windows and a warm, wood-paneled interior.

A group of people are seated at a table. A man in a white shirt is looking at the camera, while others are looking down at something on the table.

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Bayport Inn Lunch

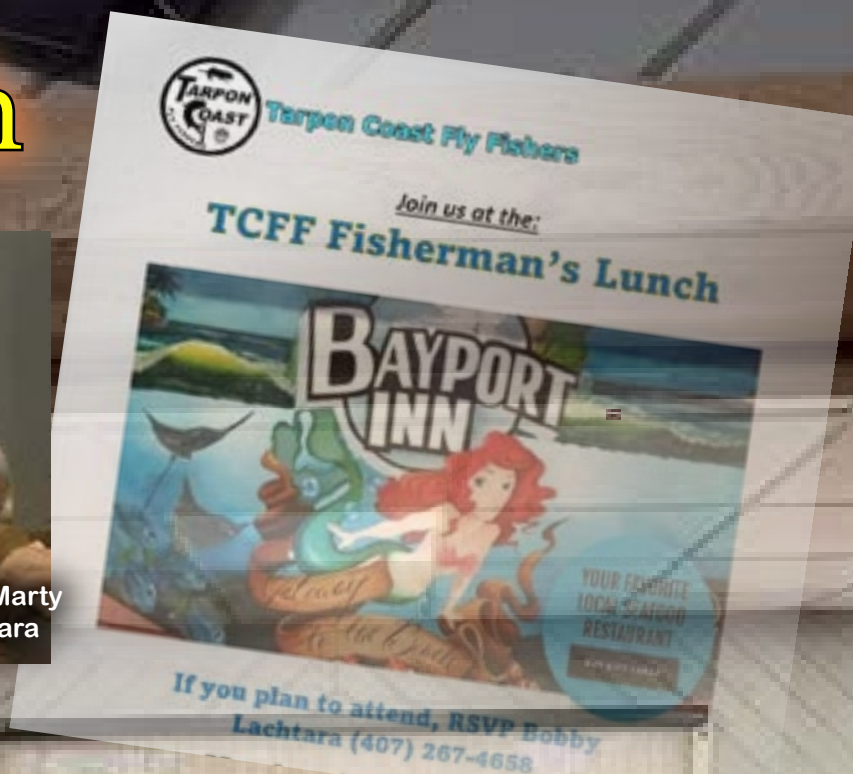
August 31st, 2026



(L-R) Barbara Dunne, Warren Parker, Christine Parker, Marty Marasco, Bobby Lachtara, Ray Cannata, Sande Lachtara



Ken Forsythe & Bobby Lachtara



Marcia & Gene Andre



Ray Cannata & Sande Lachtara



Barbara Dunne, Christine & Warren Parker



Frank & Theresa Cuttone



Michelle & Jim Humphrey



Marty Marasco



BeBout Fishin' Time
Capt. Lowell Bebout

Fishing Charters
USCG License & Insured

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Fly Fish the Nature Coast

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