

The following are the Backcountry Fly Fishers club announcements for January 2016.

**The January meeting will begin with Opening Remarks and the Demonstration at 6:30 PM. The meeting will end promptly at 8:30 PM, so you will only miss the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the NCAA National Championship Game.**

## **January**

- 1/11 General Club Meeting: Presenter – Captain Kevin Mihailoff, “Fly Fishing The Everglades”
- 1/11 General Club Meeting: “Fly Fishing Garage Sale”- Host Mike Haines
- 1/12 BFF Board Meeting
- 1/14 Club Outing: Johnson & Addison Bays – Host Charlie Korzen
- 1/15 CASTING DAY 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM: **Curve Casts Class** – Host Mike Carpenter; and **Level I Novice Casting Instruction** – Hosts BFF CIs
- 1/15 CASTING DAY 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM: **“Tarpon Done Right” Clinic** – Host Steve Bell
- 1/22 CASTING DAY 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM: **Open Instruction Casting Class** as pre-requested by BFF members – Hosts BFF CIs
- 1/23 IFFF Introduction to Fly Fishing Class: Host Dayle Mazzarella, MCI
- 1/25 Dinner/Film Night: Host Craig Winter

**NEXT MEETING: – Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 6:30 P.M.**

**Place: Conservancy of Southwest Florida Eaton Convention Center**

## **PROGRAM**

**Speaker: Captain Kevin Mihailoff**

**Topic: Fly Fishing the Everglades**

Captain Kevin Mihailoff specializes in backcountry fly fishing and light tackle fishing for snook, tarpon, and redfish in pristine Everglades National Park. Captain Mihailoff has had the privilege to fish the area for over 20 years allowing him to understand the complicated landscape, giving anglers the opportunities to catch world class game fish in shallow water. There are two places Capt. Kevin Mihailoff uses as departure sites -- Goodland, Florida and Chokoloskee, Florida. His website is [www.snookin.com](http://www.snookin.com). His email is [Kevin@snookin.com](mailto:Kevin@snookin.com) or call him at 239-860-2570.

## **DEMONSTRATION**

Captain Kevin Mihailoff will tie a couple of his favorite patterns.

## **OUTINGS**

**Johnson Bay and Addison Bay – January 14**

**When: Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 7:00 AM**

**Where: Johnson Bay** Launch at Paddle Park, or Isles of Capri  
**Addison Bay** Launch at 951 Boat Ramp

**What:** Sunrise at 7:15 AM: High tide (2’6”) at 3:17 AM, Low tide (-0’2”) at 10:04 AM

There is good territory in almost every direction from all the launch points. Johnson Bay, The Woods, Tarpon Bay & the mouth of the Marco River lie to the west. Bear Point Cove, McIlvane Bay, The Muddies, Unknown Bay, Addison Bay, East Marco Bay & Sanctuary Sound are to the east of the bridge. All areas hold plenty of Mangrove shoreline.

**LUNCH:** Capri Fish House

There will be a signup sheet and additional info at the January 12th BFF Membership Meeting. Contact Charlie Korzen at (239) 513-02438 for any questions. Hope to see you there!

For any concerns or questions regarding outings, please contact Alan Kuhre, Outings Director, at 239 777-2497. Thanks for your participation.

All outings are intended for **members only** and are one of the benefits of membership.

## **BFF CASTING CLASSES**

- 1/15 CASTING DAY 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM: **Curve Casts Class** – Host Mike Carpenter; and  
**Level I Novice Casting Instruction** – Hosts BFF CIs
- 1/15 CASTING DAY 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM: **“Tarpon Done Right” Clinic** – Host Steve Bell
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requested by BFF members – Hosts BFF CIs

## **Want to catch more tarpon? Want to catch a tarpon?**

Learn how on January 15 by attending the “Tarpon Done Right” clinic.

The clinic will be held at Pelican Bay Community Park (where the casting classes are held), located on the south side of Vanderbilt Beach Road several blocks west of Tamiami Trail, parking is just past the tennis courts. Clinic will start at 1:00 PM on January 15. Sign up at the January meeting or contact Mike Franz (mikefranz@embarqmail.com) or phone 239-269-5016.

Sign up for the morning casting class on “Curve Casts” and make a day of it. Next best thing to fishing!

Now for the details:

BFF member Steve Bell will present “Tarpon Done Right”. This will be approximately a 2 hour session on how to prepare to fish for Tarpon, actual mechanics once on the boat with a guide and then on fish followed by the opportunity to cast some 12 wt. fly rods with Jim Patchett, Ed Tamson and other BFF CIs.

## **IFFF INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING CLASS**

Are you or someone you know new to fly fishing? Or have you been fly fishing for a long time but new to fly fishing in saltwater? Then this is the class you won't want to miss. Bring your friends, spouse, kids, grandkids.

**When:** Saturday, January 23, from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM

**Where:** Conservancy of Southwest Florida Eaton Convention Center

**What:** The first hour and half of the course will cover the basics (history, equipment, fish and their environment, essentials of catching fish, fly selection, basic knots). Then after a break there will

be an hour and half of casting instruction/practice. The final 45 minutes will cover the mechanics of catching a fish once they hit the fly, general safety, and ethics.

**Instructor:** Dayle Mazzarella, MCI

**Lunch:** At the Conservancy included

**Cost:** Free to members and guests, sign up at the January 11 meeting

## **DINNER/FILM NIGHT**

Join fellow BFF members, their significant others and guests for socializing, dinner, and a screening of the classic Tarpon fly fishing film "Chasing Silver"

**When:** Monday, January 25, at 6:00 PM

**Where:** Buca di Beppa Italian Restaurant, 8860 Tamiami Trail North, Naples

**Host:** Craig Winter

**Cost:** To secure your place, pay \$36 per person. Pay by check or cash at the January 11 BFF meeting or send a check to:

Craig Winter  
1115 Gayer Way #202  
Marco Island, FL 34145

**Details:** Space is limited to first 28 people with paid reservations. Payment is non-refundable after January 19 as we have to pay the restaurant for the number of reservations made.

## **BFF ANNUAL BANQUET FEBRUARY 19, 2016**

We have an entertaining, educational and fun filled evening planned from 6:00 – 9:30 PM Friday 2-19-16 including inspiring presentations by the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, valuable silent auction items; raffles, guided fly fishing trips, outstanding door prizes, and great BBQ from Texas Tony's. Most importantly, get to meet your fellow club members and their wives and significant others for a fun filled evening.

Your support and contributions for this banquet will help us to raise the funds necessary to continue to provide all of our members with the club sponsored classes, events and presentations in the coming year.

This is an invitation-only evening with limited seating. Please confirm a reservation at your earliest convenience. A ticket for this unique event is \$95 per couple or \$50 per person. We encourage you to bring your wife and significant other. This will be an evening for couples and individuals alike to enjoy.

Sign up today by reserving your tickets by email at: [bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com](mailto:bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com).  
Call me direct at (913) 486-5449 for more information.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could sign up before our monthly club meeting on February 8, 2016 so that we can finalize our banquet menu and planning.

## FLY TYING

### Basic Fly Tying Class

The second basic fly tying class of the season begins in February. The teachers will instruct on patterns that are popular for fishing around the Naples area, utilizing a wide variety of techniques.

Sessions will be held at Mangrove Outfitter, 4111 E. Tamiami Trail. Each class starts at 4:00 PM and ends about 5:45 PM with a break after the first fly. This gives class members a chance to purchase materials if they choose and also allows our host[s] to close the shop on time.

Schedule: Session 2	Patterns	Tier
2/10/16	DT/ SCHMINNOW	Ray Sliter
2/17/16	Henderson Cr. Spec/Light Bulb	John Dearborn
2/24/16	Clouser/Gurgler	Joe Pugach
3/2/16	Boca Shrimp/ A.A. Crab	Alan Kuhre
3/9/16	Deer Hair	Mike Franz
3/16/16	Black Death/ Maribou Spec.	Charlie Korzen

For further information call Ray Sliter 239-417-3484.

## FISHING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY

Winter and cold weather are here, cold by southwest Florida standards that is. The key in January will be water temperature. As the water temperature drops snook, tarpon, and redfish will disappear or stop feeding. Other fish such as seatrout, pompano, and sheepshead will become more active. The colder temperatures should cause the water to clear up and that will make for great sight fishing. An early start will not be necessary, in fact working dark bottom areas on a sunny afternoon may be quite rewarding.

The bait fish will disappear as the water temperature drops. This will cause the fish to switch to feeding on shrimp and crabs. Therefore fly patterns imitating crustaceans will out produce baitfish patterns. Try small clousers or one of the many shrimp or crab patterns.

Besides the water temperature tides will also have a significant influence on the fishing. Fishing should be better during the spring tides at mid month and at month end.

For the latest information on license requirements, open seasons, sizes and possession limits check the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission website for at [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com).

### SNOOK

In our area (Everglades National Park, Gulf of Mexico, and Monroe County) the snook season is closed until March 1. Catch and release of snook is permitted so minimize the handling of any snook caught and return them to the water as quickly as possible.

If the water temperature drops into the 60s the snook will be hard to find. Those snook that are encountered will be smaller on average and difficult to catch. In the colder water accurate placement of the fly will be critical as the snook will not move far to grab a bite to eat.

### REDFISH

The reds are somewhat more tolerant of the cold than the snook and may be found in the holes around the oyster bars. In the afternoon if the sun warms the water enough the reds will move into the shallow grassy areas.

#### TROUT

With colder water temperatures trout will become more active and should be a primary target fish for the month. The trout will be over the grass or around islands in 4 to 6 feet of water.

#### TARPON

With the onset of the cold weather the tarpon will be gone from our area.

#### POMPANO

Look for pompano in the passes. Try working a shrimp or small crab pattern right on the bottom.

#### OTHERS

Sheepshead will be encountered more as the water temperature drops. Look for them in the holes and around the docks. As the fishing slows down because of the cooler water temperature jacks and ladyfish may save the day. They may not be glamorous but they are a lot of fun to catch.

## DVD LIBRARY

The following four excellent DVDs are available for use by the members.

1. Successful Fly Fishing ---- Tom White (3 parts)
2. School of Fly Casting ---- Joan and Lee Wulff (50 minutes)
3. Basic Fly Casting ---- Doug Swisher
4. Saltwater Fly Casting (10 steps to Distance and Power) ---- George Roberts

Contact Joe Beauchamp (239-262-2826) to borrow a DVD. A \$20 deposit is required that will be returned when you return the DVD. Please return the DVD at the next meeting so it is available to other members.

## FOR SALE BY MEMBERS

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**Honda 10 hp long shaft outboard motor** – Excellent condition, runs great, moving and need to sell

Price: \$295

Guy Beaudine  
541 408 2726  
glbeaudine@gmail.com

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**KAYAK – Moken 10 Lite kayak** in Desert Camo

For more details go to <http://feelfreeus.com/kayaks/fishing-kayaks/moken-10-lite/> or call Mike Franz at 239-269-5016.

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**2013 Hobie Mirage ProAngler 14** Excellent Condition, Like New:

Comes with Torqueedo Electric Motor Kit, Lithium Battery, Mirage Drive, ST Turbo Kit,

Hatch Liner.

Extras included: H-Bar, Rod Holder Extension, Anchor, Life Vest, Plug In Heavy Duty Cart, Paddles

Price Reduced to \$3,600 from \$4,200.00

Contact Harriet at 405-226-9722 or [hcrockwood@gmail.com](mailto:hcrockwood@gmail.com)

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The following items are offered for sale by David Westphal. If you are interested in any of these items contact him at 239-992-0700 (home) or 863-884-1473 (cell).

G. D. Roberts Fly Tying Desk in Cherry wood  
HMH Premium Vise with case  
Fly tying tools  
Fly tying materials  
Fly tying books  
Buck knife  
Survival knife

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If you have some fishing equipment you would like to sell send the necessary information to [bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com](mailto:bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com) and it will be posted on the website and added to future monthly announcements.

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Go to the club website <http://www.flyfishingnaples.com> for:

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** found on the **Events & Program Page** under the Programs tab.

**GALLERY PAGE** can always use new photos. If you have any pictures you would like to share send them to me at the email address below. I am sensitive to the FWC current position about taking pictures of tarpon and proper handling of fish. Therefore, pictures of tarpon in the boat or pictures of fish held vertically will not be posted on the website.

**GUIDE/OUTFITTER PAGE** provides information about local and not so local guides. Do you know a guide that gives great service? Send me their contact information, preferably email, website, and phone number, and I will add them.

If you have any suggestions regarding the email announcements or the website please let me know.

Tight Lines,

Ralph Pike  
BFF Communications Director  
Naples, FL  
913-486-5449 cell  
[bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com](mailto:bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com)