

Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers

June, 2016 - Volume 24, Issue 6

www.clubkayak.com/tbsk

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Calendar for June, 2016

Sun	Monday	Tues.	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				Trip Leader Assessment Levels II, III  Fort DeSoto, 9am		Honeymoon Island, Dunedin Level II  9am
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Fort DeSoto Cleanup 7am						Club Picnic, War Memorial Park St. Pete 8:30 & 9am  Levels I, II, & III
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Club Meeting Bill Jackson's Pinellas Park 7pm 					Dunedin Causeway Level II  9am
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
						Hillsborough River, Thonotosassa 8:30am, Level I 
26	27	28	29	30		
			Weeki Wachee Spring Hill 9am, Level II 			

 Trips & events indicated by this symbol are led by TBSK members.

**Training in Edging/Leaning your Kayak at the June 11th Paddle Picnic!
Details next page**

Join us to learn about Hurricanes at our club meeting on June 13th!

Busting Myths about Hurricanes & Becoming Storm Savvy. Presented by Debbie Dutcher Wilson, PMP, air quality meteorologist and Volunteer Ambassador for Pinellas County Emergency Management. June is the start of the Atlantic hurricane season, and this year may be an active one. A "Climate Pulse Hurricane Enhancement Cycle" is now in place, according to Global Weather Oscillations, Inc. They predict 2016 will have 17 named storms, 9 hurricanes, and 4 major hurricanes. So come to our meeting for a reminder of how to prepare for the storms to make sure we survive to kayak another day.

⇒ July 11: Florida Coastal Island Bird Sanctuaries

We're always looking for speakers for our meetings. Send suggestions to Therese Eby (thereseby@gmail.com.)





Trip & Event Schedule

Club Trips



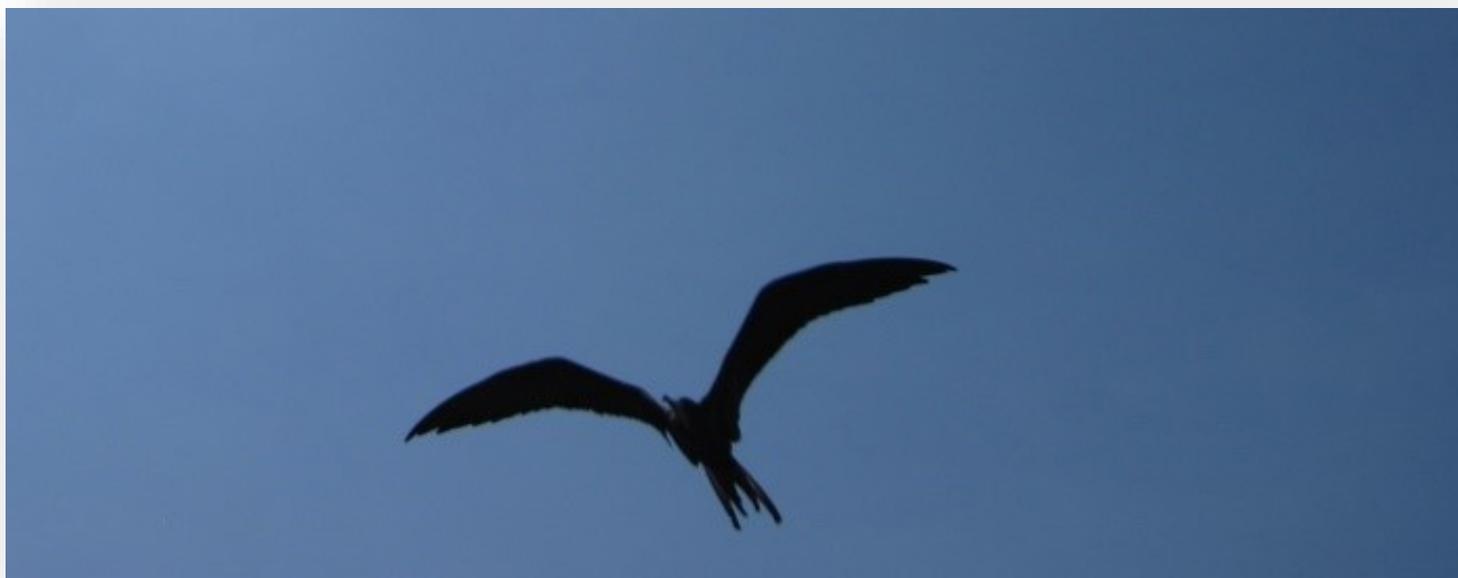
Date	Paddle Difficulty	Description
Thu June 2 9am	Level II, III	Trip Leader Assessment - Fort DeSoto Any club member with Skill Level II/III who is interested in becoming a TBSK Trip Leader is invited to participate in this day-long assessment and orientation. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. at shelter #9 at Ft DeSoto in order to begin the session promptly at 9:30. Expect to complete the day around 4pm. If interested, please review the "Trip Planning" section on the TBSK website to become familiar with what will be expected of a trip leader. RSVP Required. Contact: Phil Sheesley - philsheesley@hotmail.com 813-695-7395
Sat June 4 9am	Level II Distance >9 Miles	Honeymoon Island Circumnavigation - Dunedin Meet at 9 a.m. at Dunedin Causeway west of the kayak rental place. Stop for lunch and time to play. Require 16 foot boat or greater with spray skirt. Bring plenty of water, hat, and sunscreen. Make sure you RSVP low tide 6am 1 ft, high 11:43 am 3.1' Contact: Therese Eby thereseby@gmail.com
Sat June 11 8:30 & 9am	All Levels Distance: L1: ~5 mi LII/III: ~11 mi	Club Picnic— War Memorial Park, St. Pete The main courses will be provided by the club, and members should bring a side dish to share. All paddlers bring water, hat, sunscreen, and wear pdf at all times. If the weather looks iffy, check our web site (www.tbsk.club) to see whether the picnic will be cancelled. (We'll send an email too, but we know sometimes emails can get delayed.) Activities coordinators: Keith & Paula Fowler red68tr250@gmail.com . Contact Trip Leader in advance to let them know you're coming. Please RSVP: Skills Training. Meet at 9:30am. We will be training in edging and leaning our kayaks. This training will also include: forward and reverse sweep strokes, pivot turn, emergency stop, reverse stroke, and sculling draw. These are basic strokes that all sea kayakers should master. Tom Sobocinski, tomsobocinski@msn.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level I Paddle: Meet at 9am. • Level II - Intermediate Paddle - tbd. Meet at 8:30am • Level III - Advanced Paddle - tbd. Meet at 8:30am. Phil Sheesley, philsheesley@hotmail.com
Monday June 13 7pm Jackson's Shop for Adventure Pinellas Park		Busting Myths about Hurricanes & Becoming Storm Savvy. Presented by Debbie Dutcher Wilson, PMP, air quality meteorologist and Volunteer Ambassador for Pinellas County Emergency Management. June is the start of the Atlantic hurricane season, and this year may be an active one. A "Climate Pulse Hurricane Enhancement Cycle" is now in place, according to Global Weather Oscillations, Inc. They predict 2016 will have 17 named storms, 9 hurricanes, and 4 major hurricanes. So come to our meeting for a reminder of how to prepare for the storms to make sure we survive to kayak another day.
Sat June 18 9am	Level II Distance 8-10 Miles	Dunedin Causeway Meet at 9 a.m. at Dunedin Causeway west of the kayak rental place. Go south along the west side of Caladesi Island for aprox 4-5 miles (total 8 to 10 miles). Stop for lunch and time to play. Require 16 foot boat or greater with spray skirt. Bring plenty of water, hat, and sunscreen. Make sure you RSVP Contact: Tom Sobocinski, tomsobocinski@msn.com



Trip & Event Schedule Club Trips



Date	Paddle Difficulty	Description
Sat June 25 8:30am	Level I Distance 8 miles, downriver	Hillsborough River - Thonotosassa Meet at Trout Creek Park at 8:30 a.m. to set up our shuttle to Sargeant Park, where we will launch. Bring your lunch and plenty of water and \$2 for park fee. Contact: Hank Brooks jbrook5@tampabay.rr.com 727-724-8983
Wed June 29 9am	Level II Distance: 11 Miles, half against 2mph current	Weeki Wachee River - Spring Hill Meet at 9:00 AM at Rogers Park at 7244 Shoal Line Blvd, Spring Hill, FL for a 9:30 a.m. launch. This is a round-trip paddle of 11 miles that begins upstream against a 2 mph current. We will paddle upstream for 5.5 miles to the head of the spring, then float and paddle downstream, stopping for lunch along a sandbar. The Weeki Wachee River is spring-fed with 72 degree water, a steady current and lots of twists and turns. Expect it to be crowded with rented sit-on-tops moving downstream. PFDs must be worn (no inflatable PFDs please). Bring water and lunch. Please RSVP. There is a parking fee of \$5.00 per car at Rogers Park. Contact me if you need directions. Contact: Eileen Burns 727-565-1037 (H) ebbtide.171.337@gmail.com



**Frigatebird — May 11th trip to Pinellas National Wildlife Refuge.
See article, Page 9**



Events

Kayak Camping for TBSK Members

Many of our TBSK members are interested in camping, especially from a kayak. If you are interested in camping, please make sure to let Gary Bernier gwbernier@gmail.com know. Contact him you need to get in touch with all of the TBSK members interested in camping .



Also, Andy Bartley launched a Facebook Page for TBSK Camping: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1780031405551417/>



Training from Outfitters

Bill Jackson's Pinellas Park	727-576-4169 adventure@billjacksons.com	http://www.billjacksons.com/classes/ • Introduction to Kayaking,—\$78— (6/25, 10:30am)
Economy Tackle & Dolphin Paddlesports Sarasota	941-922-9671 kayaktoday@gmail.com	http://www.floridakayak.com/kayaks/kayak-classes/ • Intro to Kayaking: \$60 (Saturdays, Turtle Beach—Siesta Key) • Intermediate Kayaking—\$75 (Call for date)
Sweetwater Kayaks St Petersburg	727-570-4844 TheShop@SweetwaterKayaks.com	http://sweetwaterkayaks.wordpress.com/skills/ • Foundation Skills Kayak Class—\$75 (Each Saturday) • Directional Control—\$75 (Call) • Rolling Clinic (\$50) (Call) • Greenland Kayaking—\$50 to \$85 depending on skills covered (3rd & 4th Saturdays).

Member Requested Trips

Trip Requests

To add a little “jazz” to TBSK, we thought we would try something new – we call them Trip Requests.

How Will It Work: Anyone can request a paddle to a location they want to go and we will see if we can find a trip leader to lead the trip for you. Just submit a Trip Request by the 10th of the month prior to your trip so the next newsletter can advertise it with the trip leaders' name.

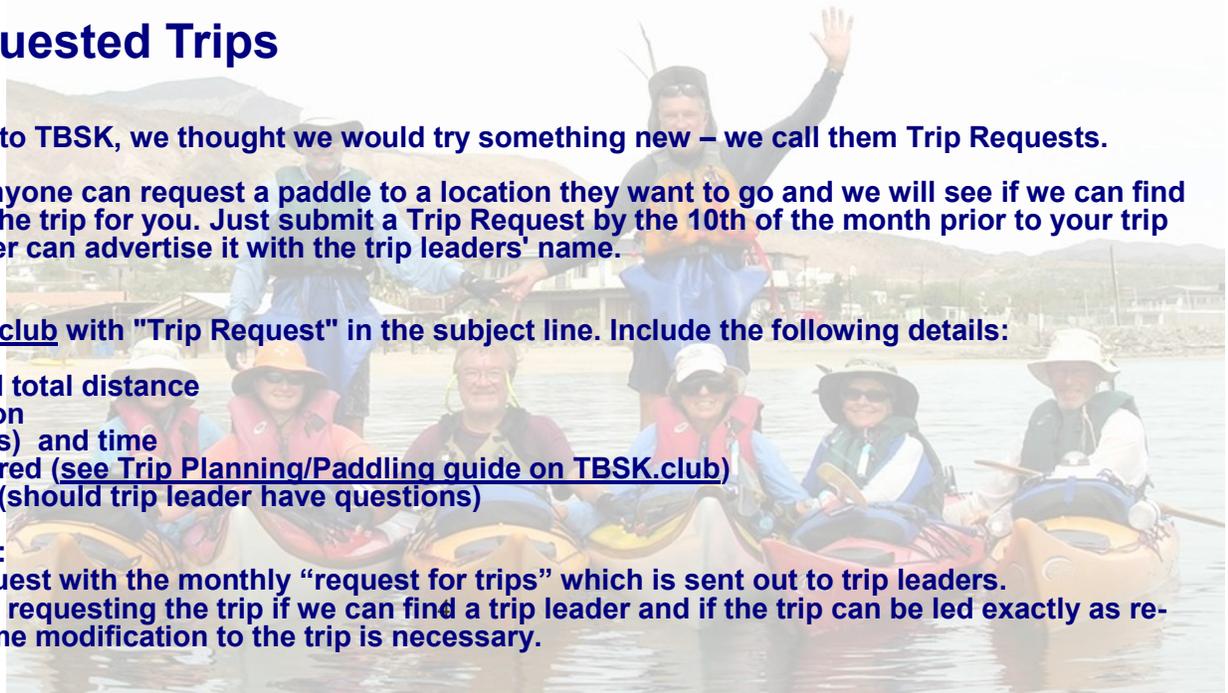
You Can Do This By:

Emailing tbsk@tbsk.club with "Trip Request" in the subject line. Include the following details:

1. Put in location
2. Destination and total distance
3. Take out location
4. Preferred Date(s) and time
5. Skill level required ([see Trip Planning/Paddling guide on TBSK.club](#))
6. Phone number (should trip leader have questions)

Trip Coordinator will:

- Post this trip request with the monthly “request for trips” which is sent out to trip leaders.
- Notify the person requesting the trip if we can find a trip leader and if the trip can be led exactly as requested, or if some modification to the trip is necessary.



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Florida Paddling Trails Association

Training for State Park Instructors & Tour Guides

Seasoned paddlers who have been trained through the Florida State Park's Volunteer Paddlesport Program are now leading Kayak 101 clinics and nature tours in parks across the state. Grateful participants are treated to free instruction and an interpretive tour on a variety of scenic waterways. The goal of the program is to connect youth and families with nature by sharing basic paddling skills and leading short trips within our award-winning state park system. In the bigger picture, we hope to inspire the conservation stewards of the future by igniting a passion for paddling and creating connections to our diverse waterways.

In an effort to train more volunteers and expand the program's reach, we'll hold our next ACA training session **November 17-21** at Lake Louisa State Park in Clermont. Please contact Liz Sparks at (850) 245-2079 if you would like to be placed on the list for the next training session.

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News & Events Around the State



Friends of the Island Parks (<http://www.islandparks.org>) supports Caladesi Island State Park and Honeymoon Island

- Osprey Trail Walks every Wed, Sat, Sun at 11
- Beach Walks every Friday at 11
- Monthly Shell Show. 3rd Saturday each month at Nature Center, 1pm
- Wildlife Status: http://www.islandparks.org/weather/wildlife_updates.htm
 - Osprey: 15 Active Nests in March, and first chicks spotted March 28th
 - Eagles: 2 Eaglets fully grown and ready to Fledge in March
 - Great horned owls: Owls are not anticipated to nest in the parks this season
 - Sea Turtle: Season runs from May through October. 43 nests were spotted last season.



Florida Paddling Trails Association (FPTA). We are the steward of all of Florida's water trails. Our mission is to develop water trails, protect the environment along the trails, and be a resource and voice for paddlers. Hank Brooks is this Region's Director for FPTA. (Our region is primarily Hillsborough, Pinellas, & Manatee)



Society for Ethical Ecotourism: Florida SEE is looking for volunteers to help vendors become certified. See info about SEE on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FloridaSEE.org>. Info on the volunteer position can be seen here: http://www.floridasee.org/docs/Florida_SEE_Assessor_Position_Description_2015.pdf



The Adventurous Woman. Fishing, Camping, Kayaking, Hikes for women of all skill levels. Meets the 3rd Wednesday at Bill Jackson's. 6:30pm.

Paddle Florida <http://www.paddleflorida.org/>:

2015-16 Season just wrapped up. Look for next season's paddle trips in a future newsletter.



Tampa Bay Watch: <http://www.tampabaywatch.org>

- Oyster Dome Construction often. Check website. Tampa Bay Watch builds oyster domes onsite at the Marine Center in Tierra Verde from September through April. Ten to 20 volunteers are recruited on weekday mornings.



Keep Pinellas Beautiful strives to keep our community clean and beautiful. We have many volunteers and adoption programs available in which you can participate. <http://www.mykpb.com/>



Egmont Key Alliance (<http://www.egmontkey.info/>)

- **Workdays on the Island are the 3rd Saturday:** 6/18, 7/16, 8/20, 9/17, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17
- **Discover the Island 2016:** 11/12 & 13



Florida Water Environmental Association: Over 70 years after its creation, FWEA continues to make historic differences in the advancement of the water environment, science and technology, making it a leading professional water organization in Florida. Our history says a lot about the leadership, dedication and hard work. <http://www.fwea.org>

Florida Paddlers Roundsvous: December 2-4 2016, Flamingo Campground, Everglades National Park: <http://www.bushpaddlers.org/Rendezvous.html>

Florida Natonal Parks Challenge: Can you Paddle 100 miles in a Florida Natonal Park during 2016?
Click here for Info: <http://www.nps.gov/bisc/paddlechallenge.htm>

The Florida Caverns Paddle in Marianna Florida is set for the first weekend in November 3,4,5 & 6, 2016. This event has lots of different trips and a variety of challenges so book your site and join us. Make your rervations here: <https://www.reserveamerica.com/>

Fort DeSoto Cleanup - June 5th: Participants will meet at the Gulf Pier (the other one near the fort, not the Bay Pier) at 7AM to get organized. [Fort DeSoto Cleanup \(click here\).](#)



Caladesi Island Mangrove Paddle - Saturday, April 30th

Story and photos by Hank Brooks

There were 10 TBSKers who showed up for the Saturday morning paddle thru the mangrove tunnels on Caladesi Island. The weather conditions were good, except that the wind was blowing at about 8 to 10 mph, mainly from the south. This caused small waves, less than 1 foot, which made the ride a little bumpy. Because of the wind and waves, our trip leader, Harry Tobin, suggested that we paddle directly into the wind, making it much easier to control our boats.



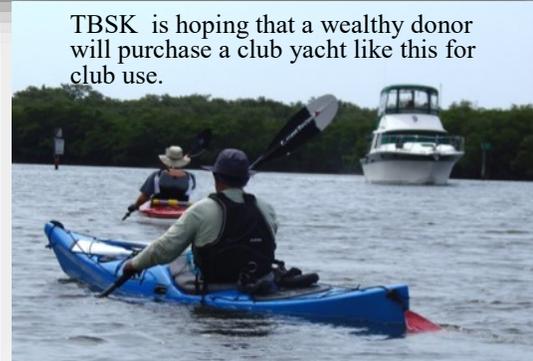
Harry relaying the paddle plan

We gathered at the mouth of the mangrove tunnel for a rest stop and to take pictures. After a brief tour thru the mangroves we headed out to a spoil island to stretch our legs.



There were many large yachts coming into the Caladesi Island marina as we exited the area. We are still waiting for a wealthy TBSKER to purchase one of these yachts to be the TBSK support boat – to aid tired and/ or injured kayakers and to keep essential supplies for hungry and thirsty paddlers..

The spoil island offered us protection from the wind, a chance to rest and grab a snack/ lunch. Oh yes, and the much needed bathroom break.



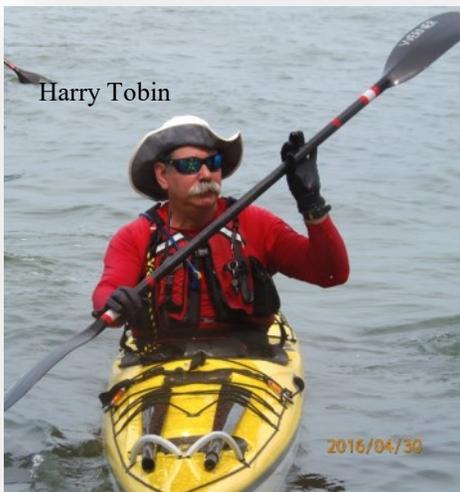
TBSK is hoping that a wealthy donor will purchase a club yacht like this for club use.

On the way back to the beach, the water was a bit lumpy as the wind continued to produce waves and all the power boats and wave runners contributed to very confusing waters. It was a bit of a challenge for the “Easy” paddlers, but we all stayed upright until a large wave from a big boat caught a paddler from the side, causing a capsize. The paddler quickly recovered and was back on his sit-on-top before anyone could assist him.

As usual, it was fun to get out in the wind and waves to add a little spice to life.



Heading to a spoil island.



Harry Tobin

2016/04/30



Chris & Carmen

2016/04/30



TBSK Outreach to University of Tampa Students Weedon Island (St. Pete) - May 1st

Story by John Marek, Photos by Tom Komar

Phil Sheesly started a program working with University of Tampa students on an introductory Kayak trip. In Phil's absence this year, John Marek coordinated our support. He was helped by Trip Leaders Jean Totz, Carl Boettger, Terry Proeger, Tom Sobnocinski, Al Tilson, and Eileen Burns also with support from Beverly Hand. This year there were 25 students and staff at the Weedon Island trip where everyone rented boats from Sweetwater, and TBSK had six Trip Leaders in support.

The students were formed up into groups of 5 with each Trip Leader. They paddled out to the Pier and then a little way into the bay, and we spotted dolphins as well as sting rays.

Jean led them in a game. The students formed up in a chorus line, and she had every other student stand up., supported by the students on either side of them. Many were able to get up, and one even did a handstand and summersaulted off of his boat.

Carl Boettger demonstrated different kinds of rolls, including one where he used a ping pong paddle instead of a kayak paddle.





In Search of Frigatebirds - Sat May 7th

Story by Eileen Burns. Photos by Tom Komar

On Saturday, May 7 thirteen TBSK paddlers launched from the north Sunshine Skyway rest area to explore one of St. Petersburg's under-appreciated assets: the Pinellas National Wildlife Refuge. Joining me were Rich Arenella, Carl Boettger, Hank Brooks, Bev Hand, Roy Hogrebe, Mike Lawson, Steve Loeven, Phil Sheesley, Tom Sobocinski, Chris Tobbe, Gary Zavada and Tom Komar. We followed a counter-clockwise circle from the rest area, going north to Tarpon Key, west to Jackass Key, south to Ft. Desoto and finally back to the rest area. The total trip covered 8 miles.

The refuge occupies two big mangrove islands in Boca Ciega Bay, Indian Key and Tarpon Key, which are clearly visible from I-275, and several smaller keys near the Pinellas Bayway north of Ft. DeSoto, including Little Bird Key, Jackass Key, Mule Key, and Listen Key. They are managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the group that includes Egmont Key and Passage Key. Unlike Egmont Key, these islands are closed to visitors.

The green keys are surrounded by grass beds and shallow water (and frequently oyster beds – composite boats beware!) They offer protected resting areas for colonial sea birds including herons, egrets, cormorants, roseate spoonbills and brown pelicans, which we see all year round. But the keys also get exotic winter and summer visitors like big white pelicans and magnificent frigatebirds. Today we were in search of the frigatebirds.

Our first stop on the way to Tarpon Key was an old wooden boat wreck that sits in shallow water just west of the boat channel. Its wide ribs and heavy metal anchor chain identified it as a commercial boat. The local marina said the wreck had been there at least 30 years, probably grounded during a storm.



Investigating a commercial boat wreck.

Tarpon Key and adjacent Whale Key once had the 3rd largest pelican rookery in the nation and were used by 1,000 birds annually. I've always found it very quiet when I visit. There's an intriguing lake in the center of the island that can be glimpsed through the trees but not entered. Maybe that's where the birds hang out.

We circled Tarpon Key to the west and set our compasses for 270 degrees for our voyage across the wide shallow bay. We pointed toward Jackass Key and well before we arrived, I could see frigatebirds hovering over the island. They are long, thin black birds with forked tails and gull-shaped wings. They are based on the Caribbean Sea islands and in Central and South America. In the summer and fall, they migrate north to our local refuge.

Jackass Key and its sister keys lie just south of Tierra Verde. They are hidden from view behind thick mangroves as you drive to Ft. DeSoto. It's well worth your time to investigate them because they are alive with nesting and roosting birds. As we circled around Jackass Key we just let our boats float as the birds soared over us.

We paused for lunch at the north end of Ft. DeSoto and then grouped up for the final leg of our journey back to the Skyway rest area— a long passage of open water with a rear quartering breeze. Several paddlers said that despite years of paddling in the Tampa Bay area, they had never ventured out to these keys. It's always satisfying to find a new area to explore.





Fort DeSoto Training - May 11th

Article by Terry Proeger. Photos by Tom Komar

Trip Leaders Carl Boettger & Terry Proeger.

Ten paddlers participated in this Wednesday trip which included a short paddle out Bunces Pass and south along the beach for approximately 2 1/2 miles to the inlet at the end of North Beach. It was a calm day with moderate winds and few power boats which made for a very relaxed, pleasant paddle. A couple of dolphins were viewed close up just before entering the inlet and a couple of manatees and dolphins were seen in the inlet.

While in the inlet, the participants were challenged to paddle backwards in a figure 8 pattern, which all succeeded in doing. The group then paddled back north along the beach in search of a practice area which would provide some protection from the wind.



While some participants opted to practice rolling, two new club members, Gary Zavada and Bob Morris, opted to practice assisted rescues. The trip leaders demonstrated several versions of the assisted rescue with an emphasis on different ways to get back in the kayak, as well as the scoop rescue for incapacitated paddlers. John Marek, Therese Eby, and Keith Fowler provided suggestions and coaching tips. The two new club members were successful in getting back in their kayaks using one or more of the various boat reentry options. They also were successful in performing an assisted rescue.



During the assisted rescue practice, Carl had a large area of skin scraped off his hand which necessitated emergency first aid. While several club members had first aid kits, Phil Sheesley had just restocked his and had everything needed to treat the injured paddler. Fortunately, one of the participants, Beverly Hand, is a nurse and expertly bandaged Carl's hand. Tom Komar graciously took photos, while other club members provided expert supervision. After lunch on the beach, the group briefly paddled along the newly formed island just off the entrance to Bunces Pass and then returned to the put in. While the paddle only covered 5 1/2 miles, the combination of paddling and skills practice made for an enjoyable outing and may become a popular format during the hot summer months.





May Paddle Picnic - May 14th Tarpon Springs

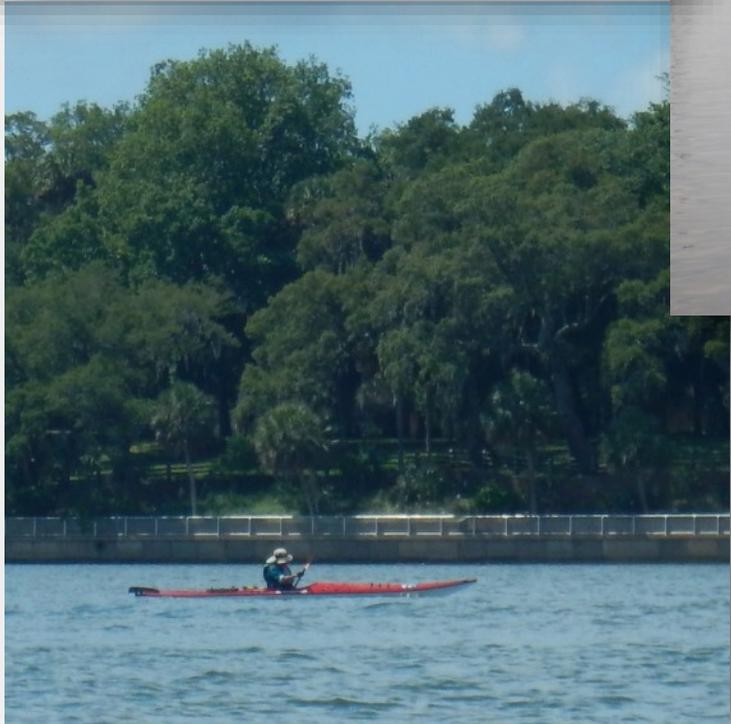
Photos by Bill Biles





Philippe Park - Safety Harbor - Sat May 21

Trip Leader, Hank Brooks. Photos by Bill Biles



TBSK Club Info

Board Members

President

John Marek 813 951 5650
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Training/Safety Coordinator

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bkatz@alum.rpi.edu

TBSK MEMBER CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: 17' 2", Valley Pintail kayak, fiberglass, turquoise top white bottom. Skeg works. \$950 negotiable, contact Marilyn at gordo48@yahoo.com or 727-612-1713, (exp 6/30)

For Sale: Medium Camaro dry top. In good condition. Bought new for \$260. Yours for \$40. Firm. Outgrew it. May fit small frame depending on what you wear under it. Jennis4@tampabay.rr.com. (exp 7/31)

For Sale: Kelty Screenhouse, 12'x12' floorless freestanding screened shelter with drop-down privacy panels, 2 doors, 2 aluminum poles. Lightly used. \$65. Eileen 813-260-9463.

For Sale: 17 ft. Current Design Kayak. Great condition. \$500. Cris Payne, 813 943 8006 CPayne51@tampabay.rr.com (exp 12/31)



Classified Ads Policy: Any TBSK member may place a classified ad. The ad is free for the first six months. After six months ad expires. May be maintained for \$5 per month. Please notify the editor when item is sold.

Treasurer's Report

3/31 BALANCE	\$5069
INCOME	
Memberships Dues	\$246
EXPENSES	
Marketing	\$193
Dues	\$50
Office Supplies	\$6
Picnic Expenses	\$200
Ending Balance	\$4866



www.facebook.com/TampaBaySeaKayakers

Or on our website
tbsk.club

New Members This Month

Deb and Ian Brown
JoAn Cline
Peggy Ellis
Lois Farrell
Joe Griffin and Family
Jay Gundy and Family
Cynthia McGregor
Kenneth Spiegel and Family
Candace Stanlake and Family
Debbie Wolf

Renewals This Month

Carol Behnken
Joseph Mikucki
Tod and Lyn Rodger
Thomas Russo
Pamella Settlegoode
Robert Teare
Harry Tobin

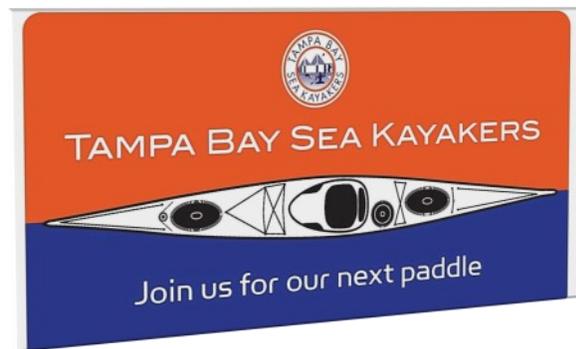


Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers Become A Member

You may join TBSK online using your web browser. Just go to the link <http://www.tbsk.club> and click "Join Us" at the top of the page. You can pay club dues at the end of the process.

To join the Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers by mail, click on "Join Us" at the top of the TBSK web site. Click on the Liability / Waiver Form. Print the form and send it to the address listed at the bottom of this page. The application and waiver form are also available at TBSK meetings held at Bill Jacksons Store on the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

We hope to see you at our next TBSK event!



**Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers
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Seminole FL 33775-8682**