

Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers

August 2019 - Volume 27, Issue 8

www.tbsk.club

www.facebook.com/TampaBaySeaKayakers

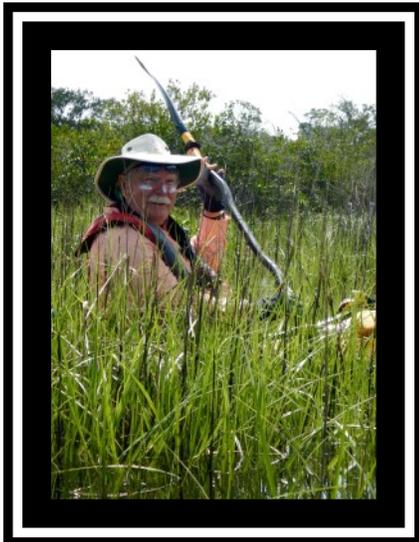


Photo by Barb Uzenoff

Photo Contest Winners For the month of August 2019



Photo By Steven Loeven



Photo By Janet Neff

Monthly Speaker for the August Meeting

LT Todd Stephens MH60T Pilot Coast guard Station Clearwater will give us a discussion on what they do. Then have a question & answer for the audience. So please come and join us for a interesting meeting

Winners for June's Photo Contest are

People - *Barb Uzenoff*

Wildlife - *Janet Neff*

Landscape - *Steven Loeven*

CONGRATULATIONS!



TAMPABAY SEA KAYAKERS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	Aug 1	2	3 8:30 AM Pinellas Trail Cleanup - Keep Pinellas Beautiful (KPB) - No Boats Needed
4	5	6	7 9:00 AM Weeki Wachee River - Level I+	8	9	10 8:30 AM TBSK Picnic - E.G. Simmons Conservation Park
11	12 7:00 PM TBSK Monthly Meeting - Non- Members Invited	13	14	15	16	17 9:00 AM Withlatchoochee River - Level II
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sep 1	2	3	4	5	6	7

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

[Click here to go to Event Page on tbsk.club](https://tbsk.club)



TBSK Trip Leader Day (2 pages)

July 13, 2019

Jean Tutz

Training and Safety Director



Getting warmed up with a 'catch that paddle game'

The TBSK Trip Leaders Day is an event in which Trip Leaders get together and review and practice rescues and safety protocols. Keeping our membership safe on the water is TBSK's top priority. Trip Leaders who attended were: Phil Sheesley, John Marek, Al Tillson, Terry Proeger, and Bob

Morris



Steve getting Jackie back in her kayak with an 'T' rescue technique. This rescue is the most often used for a capsized situation.

The event was led by Steve Henkind, Jean Tutz, Jackie Whitaker and Tom Joseph. The Trip Leaders practiced a variety of rescues. They were challenged to do an assisted rescue in one minute.

They not only finished the rescue in close to a minute but were also pleased that it was not that difficult. All agreed that good technique and practice is key to successful and timely rescues.



Kayaker assisting a SUP paddler on to their board. Kayaker often encounter all types of situation involving recreational crafts on the water. It nice to be able to lend a

A highlight of the day was rescuing recreational watercrafts. The most challenging one was a completely swamped recreational tandem. "Easy does it," is the secret to this rescue (see photos).

On land activities were warming up with a game that involved standing paddles in a circle (see photo). Coordination is key here. When you heard "To the right!" or "To the left!", you were to let go of your paddle and step to the right or left and grab the paddle in front of you. This was good for our muscles and our brains (lol).

Before we launched Steve reviewed the Risk Assessment check list and Group Briefing check list.

Continued next page

Risk Assessment check list is used for pre trip planning. It is a tool to help determine if the trip needs to be cancelled or just a change of location. This depends on the skill and comfort level of the group.

We provided TL's laminated Risk Assessment Group Briefing cards:

Risk Assessment Check List:

SKY:

Wind, Temperature, Rain, T-Storms, Fog, Sunrise/Sunset, Moon, ect

WATER:

Swell, Waves, Tides, Current, Temperature, Reefs, Headlands, Boats, Marine Life, ect



Phil emptying a swamped tandem kayak. Slowly spilling the water out and pulling the kayak as it empties on to

LAND:

Launching & Landing sea walls/docks/shore line, Fire ant, bees/Wasps, Sharp Objects

GROUP:

Plan for the day, group goals, kayak skills (wet exit & rescues), medical history, equipment. What to do if there is a capsized. Communication signals

Phil continues to pull the kayak across his deck till he is able to rock it. This remove the remainder of the water.

Pre Trip Group Briefing Check list

Trip leader shares the information of the risk assessment list along with obtaining information about the group.

A AREA: Launch, Route, Takeout, Hazards, Bailouts, Weather Water, ect.

B BOATS: Ask yourself as the leader: Will I be able to rescue this boat (flotation, deck lines)? Will this kayak/paddler be able to keep up with the group?

C COMMUNICATION: Hand/Paddle signal, VHF Radio (working channel) Cell Phone

D DOCTOR: Skills, First Aid, Medical Conditions (allergies asthma, diabetes) Injuries ect.

E EMERGENCY: Capsized, Emergency Equipment (tow belt, spare paddle, repair/First Aid Kit



Mission accomplished. Good job Phil!

Your comments and questions regarding this article are most welcomed. Interested in becoming a Trip Leader? Contact jean.totz@yahoo.com

Hog Island In the Withlachochee River

By Hank Brooks

Pictures By Hank and Steven Loeven



I'm not sure where "Hog Heaven" is, but we did find Hog Island in the Withlachochee River. There is it, about a half mile long and fairly thin, located about 4 miles north of Silver Lake in the middle of the Withlachochee. This river is one of the few rivers which flows north as it emanates from the Green Swamp



just north of the Tampa Bay area. It continues north thru the Croom Wildlife Management Area until it gets to Dunnellon, where it is joined by the Rainbow River, before heading west. It dumps into the Gulf at



Yankeetown, which is about 10 miles north of Crystal River on the west coast.

It had been over ten years since I had explored this part of the Withlachochee, so was pleased to have fellow TBSKers Steven Loven, Mayra Rodriguez, David George and Al Gammon join me. We arrived at Silver Lake Campground (near the I-75 and U.S. 98 junction) and launched from a boat ramp which is right next to I-75.

The plan was to paddle downriver about four miles, have lunch and paddle back up-stream to our take-out. The



river was as beautiful as I remember it. With the recent rains the vegetation was a lush green and the river

flowed at about 1.5 mph, somewhat faster than normal. At some points the river narrowed and a canopy of



trees covered the water, offering some respite from the summer sun. Along the way we did spot a few birds – a Heron and a Limkin, but not the quantity that you usually see on the Hillsborough River.

Al Gammons brought his GPS, so we were keeping a close eye on our mileage when Al spotted a sign on an island in the middle of the river with an arrow on it which said, "Hog Island boat ramp this way". Can't get

much simpler than that. The boat ramp area was equipped with picnic tables under some beautiful old oak trees

with moss hanging in the true southern style. After lunch, the paddle back upriver was uneventful, but required some concentration to stay out of the current

and some effort paddling back against the current. Another Florida adventure!





Attacked On The Spoil Islands

By Hank Brooks with Photos by Hank and Bill Biles



Our motivation was excellent – go out and clean up two spoil islands in the Intercoastal Waterway, about a mile west of the Dunedin Marina. Before I left home I went thru my cleanup checklist to make sure I was prepared: garbage bags (check), grabber (check). I was pleased that seven other TBSKers signed up for this expedition. To keep the distance to the spoil islands as short as possible, we launched from the kayak launch at the Dunedin Marina. This was

the first time that this group had used this launch site. The launch is a small beach about 50 feet wide and is right on the Intercoastal Waterway. The only drawback is that there is limited parking.



The paddle over to the island was quick, being less than a mile. The island itself was oval in shape and about 200 feet in diameter – if an oval has a diameter. We disembarked and the first thing I noticed was the grass was extremely tall, almost waist level because of all the rain. Then it happened! First one mosquito bite, then another, then we all realized that there were swarms of them attacking us – too many to be repelled by mosquito repellent. Now I know how Captain Cook must have felt when he sent a party to a small Pacific Island and they were met by a shower of arrows. In our case,



the arrows were tiny, but quite effective in driving us off. Several of our crew, especially those with long pants, were successful in picking up a small amount of trash. The rest of us stood at water's edge, where the mosquitoes were present, but somewhat tolerable. One of our crew, put his hand up to shield his eyes from the sun, and look away from the island out to open water, and said, "I don't see any trash!" And so it was, while under attack, we moved on to the second spoil island about half a mile south of the first island. It was a much

smaller island, mainly covered in mangroves. As we approached the island we were greeted by more mosquitoes. I gathered the group together and asked, "Does anyone have the desire to land and look for trash?" I was met with silence. I then declared the cleanup part of our mission was over for the day. While we did not get a lot of trash, the islands were not that dirty. And we did learn a lot – primarily not to attempt a cleanup of the spoil islands after a period of heavy rains.



At this point we had only been on the water for about 45 minutes. Because we often launch from the Dunedin Causeway (about three miles north of these islands), we decided to paddle south, toward the Clearwater Beach bridge. We put in at a low lying spoil island, without tall grass and mosquitoes, for rest and a lunch break. On the way back you could feel the heat increasing along with the ever present humidity. We were off the water before Noon. We will go back and visit these islands during a drier season.



Philippe Park in Summer

By Hank Brooks



The best way to enjoy a summer paddle in Florida is to get on and off the water as early as possible. That was our plan for our Level 0 paddle from Philippe Park, in Safety Harbor. There were six of us on this paddle: Mayra Rodriguez, Al Tillson, Elana Peters, Adrian Geary, Michele Pedro and myself.



We wanted to paddle from the Philippe Park beach southward toward the relatively new Safety Harbor Marine Park. About five years ago the City of Safety Harbor bought the waterfront property of the Safety Harbor Spa and turned it into a community park where events such as band festivals are held. There are also many walking trails, bridges and wooden walkways over the bay. When we reached the north part of the park, we headed up Mullet Creek. Very scenic!

We continued paddling, going under the Safety Harbor Marina pier and then visited the marina itself. Besides admiring the many boats docked there, we enjoyed a visit from a local manatee. It was then back to the marina beach, where we took out and had a bite to eat before heading back. A nice short paddle and we were off the water before 12 Noon.



Humor On The Water

I would like to encourage you to tell us one of your humorous stories on the water by either writing them yourself or telling me about them and I'll write it up. I'll start with my marine radio story.

Lately I have been considering buying a marine radio. So on a recent paddle I noticed that Phil Sheesley had one, as did Bill Biles, Bob Morris and Tom Sobocinski. I asked the usual questions - how much do the radios cost, what features are needed, what are the best brands. Then I asked Phil, what is the range of a typical radio. He said about two or three miles. He then volunteered to do a radio check to see if someone could hear him and how far away they might be. Phil started with, "Radio check, radio check, this is Kayak 1 doing a radio check. Can you hear me." No response. So he tried it again. Finally, in frustration he ended his radio check with, "Can anyone hear me, please?" Noting his frustration, Tom Komar, who was floating in his kayak sitting beside Phil replied, "I can hear you."

Hank at hank@tbsk.club

"Steven Henkind, ACA Instructor Trainer, may be offering an Instructor Certification Workshop for club members, over the Labor Day weekend. Dates would be August 31 - Sep 1, for L1, and August 31 - Sep 2, for L2. Please contact Steve, ASAP, if you are potentially interested in this event. His phone number is 914-420-1615, and his email address is steven.henkind@gmail.com. NOTE: As per ACA guidelines, we can only run this event if there are, at least, four candidates."





ALL PHOTO SUBMISSIONS
FOR THE MONTHLY PHOTO CONTEST
MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE
LAST DAY OF THE MONTH
SEND SUBMISSIONS TO
tbskphoto@gmail.com





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 Andy Bartley email: sailonbear@hotmail.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/>



Member Requested Trips

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.

1. Put-in and take-out locations
2. Destination and total distance
3. Preferred Date(s) and time
4. Skill level required (see Trip Planning/Paddling guide on TBSK.club)
5. 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.

New Places To Paddle

Comments from our member survey observed we always paddle the "same old places". We need to get out of our rut! With that in mind, we are encouraging our trip leaders to expand their paddling horizons. All members should note that we have a "Paddle Places" section on our web site which lists places to paddle in the greater Tampa Bay area (see menu on bottom of the home page).

In "Paddle Places" one of the things you will find is the Pinellas County Paddling Guide, which lists about 100 different places to paddle in Pinellas County - where most of our members live. The link to the guide, which TBSK helped create, is found below:

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/blueways/pdf/BluewaysGuide.pdf>

If you have a favorite place to paddle, and it is not listed in "Paddle Places", please contact Hank Brooks at jbrook5@tampabay.rr.com



News & Events Around the State

(updated info in red)

Click on items logo to go to there general website



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:
 - 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.
- Visit caladesidiscoverycenter.com to learn about the forthcoming interpretive facility.



CALADESI DISCOVERY CENTER

For an update on this year's Sea Turtle Baby Boom, see this article: <http://www.tampabay.com/news/environment/wildlife/baby-boom-sea-turtles-set-new-record-for-nesting-on-pinellas-beaches/2307517>

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. Jill Lingard is the FPTA President, and Hank Brooks is this Region's Director for FPTA. (Our region is Hillsborough, Pinellas, & Manatee)

<http://www.floridapaddlingtrails.com>



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



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



Paddle Florida Paddle Florida is a non-profit corporation that promotes water conservation, wildlife preservation, prings restoration, and waterways protection via fun and educational multi-day paddling trips in Florida's most spectacular river and coastal environments. For trip details and registration, visit <http://www.paddleflorida.org/> To register for trips: <http://www.paddleflorida.org/services/preview-and-register-for-trips-5165.html>

- **Suwannee River Wilderness Trail: October 18-23, 2019** [more info click here](#)
- **Flagler Coastal Wildlife Experience: November 1 - 3, 2019** [more info click here](#)



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



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/>



Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful: <http://keeptampabaybeautiful.org>

- **Hillsborough River & Coastal Cleanup Saturday, September 15, 2018** [more info click here](#)

Our mission is to promote a culture of environmental stewardship through volunteer and educational opportunities.



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

- **Regular Workday August 17, 2019 10 am to 3 pm** [more info click here](#)
- **Regular Workday Sept. 21, 2019 10 am to 3 pm** [more info click here](#)



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>



Visit our Sponsors for the Best Kayaking Equipment and Advice!

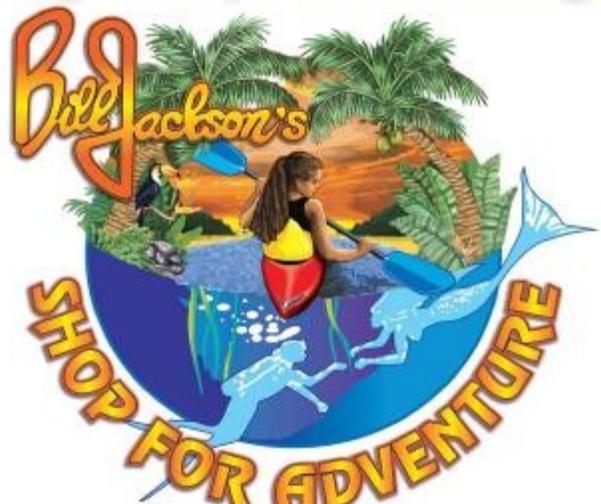
How did new participants find out about the club?

Since early April we have been tracking how new members found out about TBSK. The results so far are:

- Outfitters 3
- Internet Search 3
- A Friend 3
- Other 3
- Facebook 3
- Brochures 3

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www.BillJacksons.com



Photo by Bill Biles

Info for TBSK.club

Board Members

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Secretary/ Treasurer

Barb Uzenoff 813-447-1750
barbaraku@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor & Social Media

Bill Biles 727 204 5511
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TBSK MEMBER CLASSIFIED ADS

.No classifieds submitted this month. 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.

Welcome New Members!

- [Luciana Calascione](#)
- [Elana Peters](#)

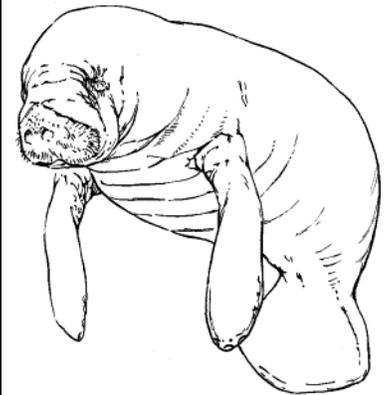
Members that renewed this month

- [Marilyn Ward](#)
- [Earl Morrogh](#)
- [Pamella Settlegoode](#)
- [Beverly Hand](#)

Treasurer's Report

2018

Beginning BALANCE	5608
INCOME	
Dues	50
EXPENSES	
picnic	\$145
Postage	\$20
TBSK Stickers	369
Ending Balance	\$5124



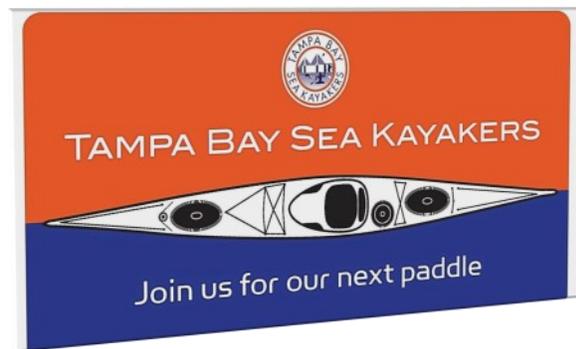


Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers Become A Member

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**

