

Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers

February 2020 - Volume 28, Issue 2

www.tbsk.club

www.facebook.com/TampaBaySeaKayakers



Wildlife - Bob Morris

Winners of the Photo Contest For the Month of February 2020



Landscape - Nick Von Poser



People - Hank Brooks

Our February speaker will be Nick Von Poser, TBSK member and resident of British Columbia. He will discuss and show video of paddling in the waters surrounding Vancouver Island. The island's west (ocean-side) coast offers great surfing conditions and remote coastline kayaking. Between the island and the mainland there are many smaller islands that constrict the incoming tide, increase the water flow, and in some places create surfable standing waves for sea kayaks.





Welcoming In 2020

By Hank Brooks
Photos by Barb Uzenoff



Can it really be the year 2020? When I stared at the calendar in disbelief, in my heart I realized that time has marched on, causing the calendar to slowly turn. It seems that it has become a TBSK tradition that we welcome in the new year with a paddle. Historically we have chosen to paddle from Weedon Island to Crisp Park (in St. Pete) because there is an "inside passage"- thru canals among the houses - which protects our paddlers from possible winter winds. The paddle twists and turns thru canals which are lined by houses. We are usually greeted by barking dogs and a few neighbors who wish us "Happy New Year" as we glide past in our kayaks.

The first day of the year 2020 was a great day for paddling and a great day to be alive! There was little wind and the temperature started in the 60's and warmed up to the mid 70's. I believe we live in paddling paradise.

Carl Boettger led the advanced group, which took the longer route. Al Tillson led the intermediate group, while Hank Brooks & Bob Morris, led the easy group, which launched and recovered from Crisp Park. Everyone brought food to share and Marge Boettger was there to help arrange the food and keep the critters away. Darlene Brooks made a giant bowl of chili, which our members seemed to inhale. We had a toast of non-alcoholic bubbly to welcome in the new year with everyone enjoying each other's company.



It seems like it was only a blink of the eye and we were packing up so that most paddlers could return to Weedon Island. And we all got home in time to watch the early afternoon football games. What could be better than that?!!!

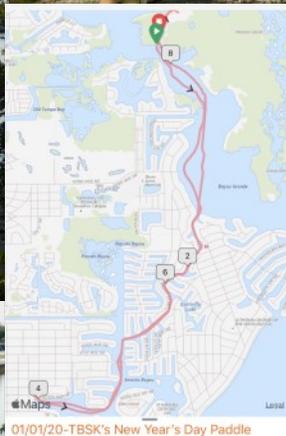




More Photos From New Years Paddle



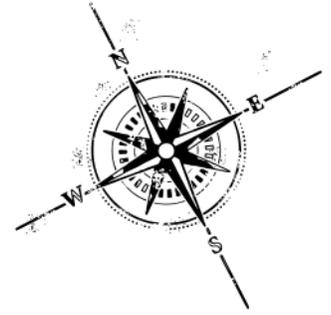
Photos By
Barb Uzenoff





Hillsborough River in January

By Hank Brooks



Whenever you plan a trip in the winter about four weeks in advance, your best bet is to plan for a river – that’s how we ended up on the Hillsborough River



in January. There were eight of us on this trip, setting up a shuttle so we could paddle only downriver from Trout Creek to Rotary Park – almost six miles. The weather cooperated with mild temperatures, although the wind was blowing at about 15 mph.

With the wind blowing, most of the birds were hiding, but a few came out. As we glided down the river, I spied a beautiful roseate spoonbill – one of my favorite birds. I quickly got my camera ready, but then the boat was moving and the bird started moving, I was lucky I got a fairly decent shot.

After paddling about half way, we stopped at Lettuce Lake Park for lunch and rest break before proceeding downstream to Rotary



Park. The paddling pace was fairly easy, with a lot of chatting going on. Everyone seemed to enjoy both the paddle and our conversation with our paddling companions.





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





TAMPABAY SEAKAYAKERS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1
2	3	4	9:30 AM  Dunedin Spoil Islands - Level 2	6	7	10:00 AM  Weedon Island - Level 1
9	7:00 PM TBSK Monthly Meeting - Non- Members Invited	11	12	13	14	9:00 AM  Urban Paddle from Tampa's Davis Island - Level 2
16	17	18	19	20	21	10:00 AM  TBSK Picnic - Robinson Preserve
23	24	25	26	27	28	9:30 AM  Chassahowitzka River - Level 1

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

[Click here to go to Event Page on tbsk.club](#)



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.



• **Friends Of the Island Night at the Theatre 3/25 6:30 pm "The Man Who Came To Dinner"** [Click here for tickets](#)
 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>



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>

- **After Gasarilla Clean up Sunday Jan. 26, 2020 (Walkers only)** [more info click here](#)
- **Great American Cleanup April 2020 for 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/>)

- **Board Meeting Feb 03**
- **Board Meeting Mar. 02**



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!

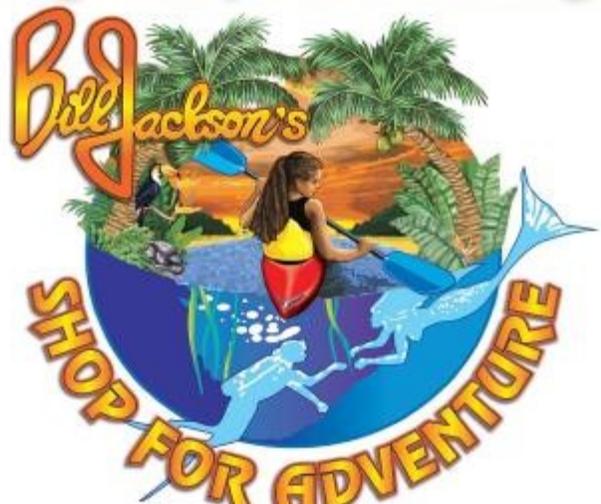
How did new participants find out about the club?

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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Demo Day at Bill Jackson's"

9501 US 19 North, Pinellas Park, FL 33782 (727) 576-4169
www.BillJacksons.com



Photo by Bill Biles

Info for TBSK.club

Board Members

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President

Hank Brooks 727 724 8983
jbrook1776@gmail.com

Vice President

Al Tillson 813-832-3961
altillson@yahoo.com

Trip Coordinator

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pyadon2000@gmail.com

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Janet Neff 516 401-474-4970
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Training/Safety Coordinator

Jean Totz
jean.totz@yahoo.com

Activities Coordinators

VACANCY

Webmaster

Dave Schmidt 608-842-0135
Dave2Kayak@yahoo.com

Secretary/ Treasurer

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

Newsletter Editor & Social Media

Bill Biles 727 204 5511
wcbiles@gmail.com

Welcome New Members! (Dec)

- Carl Selles
- Joshua Smith
- Lynda Von Poser
- Nick Von Poser
- Gil Williams

Members that renewed this month:

- Carl Boettger
- Hank Brooks
- Eileen Burns
- Therese Eby
- Steve Henkind
- Kenneth Hillier
- Terry Hobbs
- Tom Joseph
- Clay Kent
- Steven Loeven
- Chad Maynard
- Bob Morris
- Charlene Proeger
- Terry Proeger
- David Reilly
- Thomas Russo
- Phil Sheesley
- Dave Schmidt
- Tom Sobocinski
- Al Tillson

Treasurer's Report

Dec 2019

Beginning BALANCE	\$5,153
INCOME	
Dues	\$285
EXPENSES	
AffiniPay Trans. Picnic, Holiday Party. Photo Contest awards etc	\$1,226
Ending Balance	\$4211

January 2020 New Members

- [Mac Anderson](#)
- [Melissa Paulk](#)
- [Michael Willcoxon](#)

Renewals

- Glen Almcratz
- Robert Chierico
- Darrell Folsom
- Keith Fowler
- Ted Jordon
- Mary Mangiaioia
- John Marek
- Cynthia McGregor
- Leslie Taylor
- Jackie Whitaker

Links to Info on Website

Determining your Skills Level
[Skill Assessment chart](#)

Paddle Signals To Use on a Trip
[Paddle Signals](#)

[Safety Tips](#)

[Hypothermia and Heat Stress](#)

Water Quality Information

Find out if it is safe to paddle

Florida Healthy Beaches Program ~ Florida Department of Health; [Website Here](#)

City of St. Petersburg; [Water Quality website](#)

Tampa Bay Waterkeeper – [Swim Guide](#);

FWC Red Tide Current Status [Red Tide Guide](#)

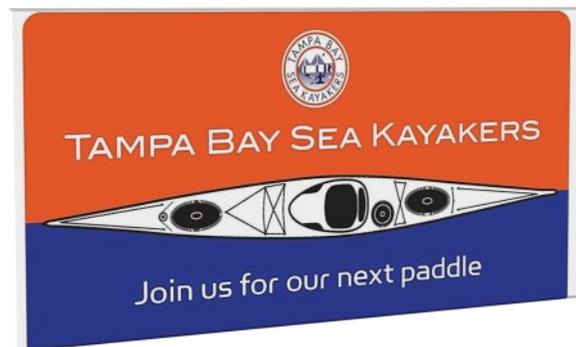


Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers Become A Member

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
P.O. Box 8682
Seminole FL 33775-8682**



Photo by Cynthia McGreg-