

Mending Lines

April—June, 2018

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UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4, 2018

Board Meeting
Kaysan's 5th Down
6:45 PM

April 19, 2018

Club Meeting
Classic Café
Members Favorite Flies

May 2, 2018

Board Meeting
Kaysan's 5th Down
6:45 PM

May 17, 2018

Club Meeting
Classic Café
Casting Clinic and Mini Fly
Show

June 6, 2018

Board Meeting
Kaysan's 5th Down
6:45 PM

June 24

Club Outing
Pigeon River
Mongo, IN

July 15

Club Outing
Bixler Lake
Kendallville, IN

August 1, 2018

Board Meeting
Kaysan's 5th Down
6:45 PM

August 16—19

Club Outing
White River
Daleville, IN

Curly's Creel

I would like to welcome all of the new members who have joined the Club this year. We try to present to our Club Members as many opportunities to expand their knowledge of Fly Fishing, Fly Tying, Fly Casting, and to fellowship with other Fly Fishers at our Club Programs, Club Outings and Club Events such as representing our Club at various Fly Shows, DNR Outings, our Big Brothers/Big Sisters event, and other events. If, you have any questions or suggestions, please contact a Board Member.

I would like to thank all those that helped with our Fly Show this year. The weather didn't cooperate like we hoped but it was good show and the Vendors and Fly Tyers are looking forward to next year's Show. I would also like to thank those that helped work the many Fly Shows in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana.

I would like to thank John Carlson for all the years and publications of our Club Newsletter. He has done a great job and has asked to step down from that position. He is going to remain on the Board of Directors. This will be his last production of the TRFF Newsletter. Fortunately, Trina Wilson has accepted the position of Newsletter Editor. Please help Trina with her new responsibility and make sure you send her plenty of articles, pictures, trip info, etc.

Hopefully, you got all of your rods, reels, and line ready for this Spring Fishing because I think the weather is finally going to turn.

The Coho and Steelhead are on the bite in the lakes and the rivers up North. The water is starting to warm up in the rivers, creeks, and small ponds. The Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass are on a feeding frenzy right now getting ready for their spawning season. The Northern Pike are feeding as well in the shallow water of the rivers and creeks. If you ask Kyle, the Carp are also on the bite. The Walleye have moved into the rivers to spawn. The Crappies were biting in the Mississenewa Reservoir until the recent rains came all week long raised and muddied the water. As soon as the Walleye spawn and move back to the lakes the White Bass will move into the rivers to spawn followed by the Crappie. It is like clock-work on my home waters of the Mississenewa Lake and River. Then we have the Bluegill going on the beds and of course it is time for Mushroom Season. Don't you just love Spring.....

The TRFF Board Members have planned some fantastic programs and outings for this year and next. I hope all of you come out and join us and have a great time at these programs and events. The Club can only be as good as the Members make it.

We also have plenty of opportunities to get together with other groups and their activities such as Saint Joe River Valley Fly Fishers, Little Elkhart Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Derby City Fly Fishers, Tie-A-Thon and others. I will keep you posted on their events.

Get out and Wet a Line,
Curly Hodson

THREE RIVERS FLY FISHERS
June Summer Outing
PIGEON RIVER FISH and WILDLIFE AREA
Sunday, June 24, 2018

With 17 miles of river and 529 acres of lakes this area is an ideal location for the June outing. The Pigeon River should have holdover trout from the late April stocking as well as smallmouth bass for the wading angler. There is also good smallmouth fishing west of the property near the town of Scott. There are access points for wade fishermen, as well as kayak fishermen, along the river. If you fish from a boat or pontoon kick boat there are several lakes and ponds on the property.

Don't have a kayak or canoe, no problem. You can rent one from the Trading post in Mongo. They have several trips available to suit your needs. They also have campsites, both electric and primitive with indoor showers and toilets so you can make a weekend out of it if you choose.

Whether you fish for trout, bluegill, crappie, northern pike, smallmouth or largemouth bass the Pigeon River Property offers a diverse fishery in a compact area. The club will have a meal at 12:30 P.M. in the Nasby Dam parking lot. This is the same location we met for lunch last year. If you haven't one of Lynn's beer hot tub brats or dogs, you don't know what you are missing.

Property maps with access points, along with other information about the Pigeon River Fish and Wildlife Area is available on the Indiana Fish and Wildlife's web site. Here is an easy link for you. <http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3086.htm>

THREE RIVERS FLY FISHERS

July Summer Outing
Bixler Lake, Kendallville, IN
Sunday, July 15, 2018

The club outing, scheduled for Sunday, July 15, will be held on Bixler Lake in Kendallville, Indiana. Bixler is a 117 acre warm water lake so we will have an opportunity to fish for bluegill, crappies, bass and pike. The lake does have a public access ramp so boats, kayaks, canoes, kick boats etc. can be used on the lake. There is a 10 MPH limit for motorized boats. There is also room for those who would like to fish from shore. There is an area to walk up to the water's edge with ample back cast room. An Indiana fishing license is required.

Directions from the Fort Wayne area are as follows: Take highway 3 north from Fort Wayne. When you get close to Kendallville you will see a sign for East Noble High School, Kendallville, with an arrow pointing to the right. There is a stop light at the intersection. You will make a soft "Y" turn to the right. You are now on South Main Street. Continue 1.3 miles north on S. Main to E. Diamond Street. Look for the Hite Funeral Home and a Marathon station on the right. Turn right (east) on Diamond and go .6 miles to Bixler Lake Park. You will see tennis courts on your left. Turn left into the parking area for the courts as well as for Rotary Pavilion. Rotary Pavilion is our lunch spot and meeting area. If you are trailering a boat do not use this lot as there is not enough space to turn around. If your craft is on a trailer continue past the tennis courts. The street dead ends onto Lake Street. Turn right (south) onto Lake and you will see the public access site on your left. If you are using highway 6 into Kendallville, turn south onto North Main Street and look for E. Diamond Street. The funeral home and Marathon station will be on your left. Turn left and go .6 miles to the park. There is no parking on grass areas around the park. Use the designated parking areas (lots/street) only.

The event is open to all club members. Brats and hot dogs will be provided by the club. If members would like to bring a side dish or dessert it would be appreciated.

I was President for the now inactive Northeastern Indiana Trout Association for a number of years and as such I created the column I called “**RIFFLES**”. It was fun to write and recalled some of wonderful times and memories my great creator has given me as I spent on the water. Here is an edition I wrote in 2012. I hope you enjoy it.

“RIFFLES”

The rambling thoughts and time tested techniques, along with some true fishing stories and other feats of magic, of Lynn W. Burry.

In this edition:

THE PERILS OF A STREAM ANGLER

Stream angling is an interesting and ever changing environment to say the least. We are at the mercy of the whims of the great master angler above that guides us in every conceivable way throughout our humble lives. Just when we think we have figured it out, we are thrown the proverbial bump in the road that puts a new slant on it all. This year (2012) is a prime example.

For the first time in a number of years the Pigeon River water levels temperatures were near normal for the traditional opening day of trout season. My grandson Jack was able to tag along for his inaugural “Opening Day” tradition and managed to limit out. A few days later NEITA conducted their annual release of Brown Trout in the Pigeon River. By mid May the Browns were taking a dry fly. I even managed to catch my first ever “Wild” Rainbow on the Pigeon. He was a fat, healthy looking little bugger that I considered a catch of a lifetime. Life was good.



My first ever “Wild” Rainbow caught on the Pigeon River.

The weather remained mild and the streams were a pleasure to wade. Then drought conditions began to rear its ugly head. Air temperatures soared and rain was virtually non-existent. Stream levels quickly went from normal to historic lows. The current flow east of Mongo is about 10 cubic feet per second (CFS). Normal flow for this time of year is about 40 CFS. For those of you that don't know, one cubic foot equals about seven and one-half gallons of water.

I visited the Pigeon River on July 15, 2012 just to see what was going on. Needless to say, it was interesting.

A little water was still flowing over the "V" at Nasby, and measured a balmy 79 degrees. You could walk the shore from the concrete wall to the fallen tree





The river east of Mongo on CR 175 at the Rock Dam didn't look any better. Canoes transiting the slot in the dam would bottom out as they passed through. All of the exposed gravel on the right was under water on Opening Day,

The big down side to these conditions is the stress it puts on the fish, especially the trout. Unless they can find a cool spot that provides adequate food and oxygen, their prospects for survival are greatly reduced. Cadis and Mayfly hatches are also depressed in these conditions. They are a one of the main food sources for trout and other species. I also noticed that the Black Raspberry and Mulberry fruit had long dried up. The only upside to the stream angler is the lack of any Mosquito and Deer Fly population.

May the inside of your waders always be dry!

Lym

2018 3RFF fly Show

The 2018 3RFF fly show is in the books! The 2019 fly show will be February 9, 2019. I would deeply like to thank the fly show committee for all your hard work, without you guys there wouldn't be a show. So thanks again for all your hard work. Dan Brophy, Ron Dixon, Jerry Drake, Curly Hodson, Chet Perkins, Dennis Reiter, Tom Kline, & Kerry Shipman. You guys are the reason that we have a show.

I would also like to thank everyone who stepped up and traveled to the other shows:

Grand Rapids Shows – Jerry Drake, Curly Hodson, and myself.

Cleveland: Jerry Drake, Dan Brophy, Kerry Shipman, and myself.

Heartland show: Ron Dixon, Curly Hodson, Lynn Burry. I'm sure that there were others.

Louisville show: Ron Dixon, Larry Wilson, Curly Hodson, and me.

Cincinnati show: Jerry Drake and Curly Hodson.

Lurecrafts open house: Jerry Drake, Jami Thompson, and myself.

These guys work hard at getting the word out about our show and selling tickets on the rod that Jerry makes each year (That rod pays for our expenses each year!).

A big thanks goes out to all the guys and gals that worked at our show and the Sports and Recreation show here in Fort Wayne.

Thanks to Larry Wilson (Trina!!) for designing our show fliers each year. Thanks to Kyle Hammond for sending out PDF files to over 50 fly shops and guides in the surrounding states. Thanks to Jerry Drake for all your hard work sending PDF files to all your friends in the fly fishing world and for your rods. Thanks to Tom Koeneman for the work you did with Orvis and the Grayling area. Thanks to George Izzo for covering the west coast of Michigan with fliers and finding tiers for the show.

The show attendance this year was down from previous years due to the bad weather to the north of us. We had one vendor and five tiers that didn't make it due to the weather. It didn't help that the TV and radio stations were telling people to stay home!

The club had less than 40 members the year of our 1st show. Now, four years later, we're up to 116. We have 10 new members since the show this year.

There's a lot of hard work in promoting our show. Once again, anybody that wants to join the show committee, or work at one of the other shows is welcome. Let Curly or me know, we'll be glad to put you to work!

Once again, thank you everyone for making our show a hit! Stay safe this summer and catch some fish.

Thanks,
Steve Harris

Members Favorite Fly's

Zebra Midge
Rex Lengacher



Hook: Tiemco 2487, #14-#20

Thread: Black, 6/0

Bead: Black or Silver, 3/32 (match hook size) (Tungsten Bead for faster or deeper water)

Rib: Ultra Wire, Silver, Small

Body: Thread, Black, 6/0

Club DVD's

DVD's of club presentations are available for \$10.00 each. Contact Steve Harris at club meetings.

3RFF Program DVD's					
No.	Topic	Presenter	No.	Topic	Presenter
1	2016 3RFF Fly Show	Lynn Burry & Jerry Drake	17	Members Favorite Flies #1	Various
2	Ausable River Flies	Jerry Regan	18	Members Favorite Flies #2	Various
3	Bass Flies	Lynn Burry	19	Members Favorite Flies #3	Various
4	Blue Gill & Crappie	The Wilson's	20	Members Favorite Flies #4	Various
5	Blue Gill Flies	Paul Beel	21	Members Favorite Flies #5	Various
6	Brook trout	Bear Andrews	22	Pike and Muskie	Derrick Filkins
7	Central Indiana Rivers	Ian Anderson	23	Pike Flies	Steve Harris
8	Deer Hair	Chris Helms	24	Smallmouth	Kevin Feenstra
9	DNR	Jed Pierson	25	Soft Hackles	Dick Walle
10	Fising Indiana Pits	Joe Smith	26	Streamers	John Gouker
11	Foam Flies	Ron Dilbone	27	Streamers	Don Privett
12	Forage Fish	Kevin Feenstra	28	Traverse City Fly Fishing	Brian Pitzer
13	Hackle and Thread	Chris Helms	29	Trout Flies	Jamie Thompson
14	How to Build a Drift Boat	Lynn Burry	30	Warm water Flies	Jerry Drake
15	Kayak Fishing	Kyle Hammond	31		Bob Clouser
16	Lake St Clair	Jerry Darkes			

Club Dues

Reminder that 2018 Membership dues can be paid at the Club meetings or they can be paid to Three Rivers Fly Fishers through the mail to the Club address, Three Rivers Fly Fishers, PO Box 8548, Fort Wayne, IN 46898 listed in the Club Website. The dues are still \$25.00 (Individual), \$35.00 (Family), \$5.00 (Junior), and \$50.00 (Corporate) per calendar year.

Community Outreach

The club will have a table at the DNR Kids Spring Fishing Event on Saturday April 28 at Mosher Park in Columbia City and will be hosting Big Brothers/Big Sisters on Saturday May 19 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Dupont YMCA. Contact a board member to volunteer for these events.

For Sale

Club Logo



Next Phase Graphics will print the club logo on your new shirt or hat for \$8.00. Give a new shirt or hat to Steve Harris along with \$8.00 at a club meeting or visit: **Next Phase Graphics**

Membership Rates:

Dues are for one year beginning January 1 through December 31.

Individual Rate: \$25.00 per year

Family Rate: \$35.00 per year

Junior Rate: \$ 5.00 per year 18 or younger and not part of a family membership

Corporate Rate: \$50.00 per year

Mending Lines is looking for additional member content!

Some suggestions are:

- Pictures of fish caught by members, families, friends...Look at the fishing pictures in the local papers for ideas.
- Pictures and notes from trips. Your notes do not need to be a final article. Your notes can be tuned and reviewed before inclusion in Mending Lines.
- Items for sale
- Fishing and casting lessons learned.
- Favorite Web sites
- Short Stories, Fact, or ????

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PUBLISHER

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