

Mending Lines

JULY
2020



CLUB OUTING
ST. JOE RIVER - BRISTOL
JULY 19

CLUB OUTING
WHITE RIVER
AUGUST 13 - 16

CLUB MEETING
MIKE SCHULTZ
SEPTEMBER 19

Upcoming Events

- CLUB OUTING - JULY 19
ST. JOE RIVER - BRISTOL
- CLUB OUTING - AUGUST 13-16
WHITE RIVER
- CLUB MEETING -
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19
MIKE SCHULTZ
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- CLUB MEETING - OCTOBER 15
RUSS MADDEN
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- 3RFF 25TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION BANQUET -
OCTOBER 17 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

All club meetings are held at the Classic Cafe from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. unless otherwise noted. See www.3rff.org for more details.

BACKCASTS

A few words from your President,

By: Lynn W. Burry

This COVID-19 has sure turned our world up-side-down. I trust you have all stayed safe and well. I also want to thank all our members for their patience and understanding as we have tried to muddle through a situation none of us have ever had to endure before.

The Three Rivers Fly Fishers activities (or lack thereof) have been interesting to say the least. Since the end of February we have had to cancel or postpone our Annual Auction, Club Elections, the Casting Clinic, our 25th Anniversary Banquet, the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program and our in person Board of Directors Meetings just to name a few.

But now, as things seem to be returning to some sense of normal, we are at least allowed to be outside and gather in limited groups. I know I sure enjoyed that first burger at my local pub even though I couldn't set at the bar. Lost jobs are slowly returning and the Stock Market continues to gain in strength. The buoyancy of the Great American Dream; and its inherent ability to overcome any crisis, continues to amaze me. Our combined diligence to completely get back to where we were will not be easy but it will happen. To that I have the greatest confidence.

On June 4th we were finally able to have an in-person Board of Directors Meeting. While we had to abide by the social distancing rules that were in place. We got a lot done and it was nice to be able to actually speak to someone face to face. If you have ever tried to conduct a meeting via the phone or by email you can understand how difficult it is to get any business done.

We just completed our first of three summer outings at Bixler Lake in Kendallville. Although a little cool and windy, it was a great day with a few fish caught, many "TRUE" fishing stories shared and a good amount of Brats and Dogs consumed. We posted pictures from the outing inside this issue of your newsletter.

The Next Outing will be on Sunday, July 19 at Congdon Park in Bristol, Indiana. This is on the St Joseph River a few miles downstream from Mottville, Michigan. There is a boat ramp just across the river in Hermance Park and plenty of easy-to-wade water in the area. The Little Elkhart River flows into the "Joe" across from Congdon Park. I have included additional details, contact information and a map inside this issue. Your Three Rivers Fly Fishers will be providing lunch at the Congdon Park Gazebo at 12:00 Noon. Just think Mottville but no Michigan license required.

Then on August 14-16 is our Annual White River Outing in Daleville, Indiana. Contact information and additional details on that Outing are also found in this edition.

September marks the return of our regular General Membership Meetings. This first of the fall season meeting and promises to be a special one. It will be held on Saturday, September 17, instead of Thursday because of the program we are presenting. Details on that are inside this newsletter. We will also hold our Annual Elections on that night.

So here we go. Please stay safe and enjoy your summer. Take the time and take a kid fishing. I look forward to seeing you at one of our outings and again at the September Meeting.

In the meantime, "May the inside of your waders (or boats) always be dry!"

Lynn

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

To all of those that have renewed their 2020 Three Rivers Fly Fishers Memberships, may we offer you a profound and heart-felled THANK YOU!

We know it has been a tough year for everyone. This COVID-19 thing has really set us all back a few notches. But thankfully, while we are not out of the woods yet so to speak, things continue to improve. Travel restrictions are being eased, businesses continue to re-open and jobs are coming back.

We also realize that this is probably one of the main reasons some of you have yet to renew your 3RFF Membership. We have been personally contacting you to see if maybe we did something wrong, or if there something we can do to improve your experience with us. It could also be just a simple, "I forgot" because of on-going issues related to the COVID-19 virus.

We greatly value your membership and look forward to your continued participation and support of 3RFF and its programs. We hope you will renew your membership if you haven't already.

So here is our challenge to all our Members. If there is something we are not doing to your satisfaction or you feel we can do better at, PLEASE let us know. Call your President, Lynn Burry at 260-525-1182 or 260-368-7590. You can email him at lsburry@comcast.com or write him a letter and mail it to him at 420 Washington Street, Geneva, Indiana 46740.

Help us get better and again THANK YOU for your support of 3RFF.

25th ANNIVERSARY THREE RIVERS BANQUET DETAILS FINALIZED (FINALLY)

Because of this COVID-19 issue, and after two previous attempts, our 25th Anniversary Banquet was put on hold.

That is until now. We are pleased to announce that on Saturday, October 17, 2020, we will finally be celebrating our long awaited 25th Anniversary Banquet at the Classic Café on Hillegas Road. This is the same location where we hold our regular Club Meetings. The doors will open at 5:00 PM with dinner being served at 6:00 PM.

You must have a pre-purchased ticket to attend. Sorry, we will not be able to support walk-ins due to the nature of the special menu. Tickets are just \$10.00 each for the 3RFF member and their guest(s). This is a family event so please bring the kids and grand kids. The menu will include salad and dinner rolls, both carved roast beef and savory chicken breast, mashed potatoes and gravy, California blend of mixed vegetables, coffee, lemonade, water and soft drinks and desert. This meal is quite the value for the price. Tickets are available by mailing your check for \$10.00 for each ticket to: Three Rivers Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 8548, Fort Wayne IN 46898. Non-members, i.e. not a guest of a 3RFF Member tickets will cost \$20.00 each. We will also be selling tickets at our September General Membership Meeting. Tickets must be purchased prior to October 1, 2020, so we can give an accurate count to the caterer.

As part of the program, there are some really great door prizes in store for those attending the Banquet. They include a \$200.00 Gift Certificate at any of the Indiana State Park Inns and Gift Certificates for Chop's, Red Lobster, Club Soda and Cork and Cleaver. In addition, a fly rod outfit and gift certificate from Sportsman Warehouse and a \$50.00 gas card are on the list of the prizes to be given away. More door prizes are being added as we progress to the Banquet.

In addition, a special tribute to all the 3RFF Members in good-standing, will win the special 25th Anniversary Tribute Custom Bamboo Fly Rod built by Master Rod Builder Jerry Drake. A "Member in good standing," is defined as having your 2020 3RFF Dues paid prior to the Banquet.

While you need not be present at the Banquet to win the 25th Anniversary Tribute Rod, we would really like to see you there anyway. We are looking forward to a great turn-out.

If you require additional information, please contact the Club's President, Lynn Burry at lsburry@comcast.net or by calling him at 260-525-1182.

See you at the Banquet

BRISTOL SUMMER OUTING DETAILS ANNOUNCED

Our second summer outing will be held in Bristol, Indiana on the St. Joseph River on Sunday, July 19, in Bristol's Congdon Park. We will be just a few miles downstream from Mottville, Michigan.

Congdon Park is located off North Division Street (County Road 23) just over the river on your right side as you are going out of town.

There is a free boat ramp just across the river in Hermance Park (off SR 15 North). There is plenty of easy-to-wade water in the area. The Little Elkhart River and the Pigeon River both flow into the "Joe" just a short distance upstream.

The Club will be providing lunch at the Congdon Park Gazebo at 12:00 Noon. We will have bottled water available but you may want to bring your own drinks.

This water fishes very similar to Mottville but no Michigan license is required.

Easy Driving Directions:

From Fort Wayne go north on US 33 to Ligonier. Go straight through the stop light on SR 5 and continue north through Shipshewana to SR 120. Turn left (west) on SR 120 and follow to Bristol. At the intersection of SR 120 (Vistula Street) and SR 15 South (Division Street) turn right and cross over the St Joseph River. Congdon Park will be on your right side. Lunch will be at 12:00 in the park's gazebo.

For additional information please contact Lynn Burry at 260-525-1182 or email him at lsburry@comcast.net

Here is an photo map to assist you.



AUGUST WHITE RIVER OUTING DETAILS

Our Annual White River Outing is scheduled for Thursday, August, 13 through Sunday, August, 16. Come down for a day or stay the entire weekend. A group of our members will be camping at the primitive camp grounds located on the Canoe Country property. Canoe Country is located on 6660 South County Road 900 West near Daleville, Indiana 47334.

Saturday evening will feature a great meal provide by the Club.

The White River provides many miles of easy access and wade-able water from Winchester to Anderson. There are access maps available on our web page at www.3rff.org. You can bring your canoe, kayak or float tube. You can also rent one from Canoe Country. Someone will be available to spot you if needed.

The White River has an abundant population of Small Mouth Bass as well as other warm water species. Poppers, streamers and Crayfish patterns are the most productive.

For additional information please contact event coordinator Steve Harris at 260-627-2829 or Curly Hodson at 260-571-1851. We look forward to seeing you then.

Here is a map of the Daleville area to get you to Canoe Country.



Bixler Lake Outing Fun

By: Lynn W. Burry

Despite a cool and breezy day, twenty-five Three Rivers Fly Fishers members and their guests enjoyed a pleasant day at Bixler Lake in Kendallville for our first summer outing of the year.

A few fish were caught and much fellowship was shared. The Club furnished a Brat and Dog lunch. Baked beans, potato salad, chips, cookies and a great tasting home-made cake were enjoyed by all. Thanks to the members that brought these extras.

So if you missed this Outing you missed a good one. Try to come to our next Outing on Sunday, July 14, at Congdon Park in Bristol, Indiana. Details, including a map, are in this edition of your Newsletter.

Here are some pictures from the day at Bixler Lake.
Bixler 6-14-2020 (1).JPG





3RFF CLUB GEAR AVAILABLE

The Three Rivers Fly Fishers has a number of great values on our Club Gear.

The year 2020 marks the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Three Rivers Fly Fishers. Unique 25th Anniversary Commemorative T-shirts are available for purchase. If you already have one, great! If not, you can order one anytime. You can never have too many T-shirts. Both short and long sleeve shirts in two different fabrics and a number of colors are available.

Your first 25th Anniversary shirt will cost you just \$10.00. The Club picks up the remaining cost. Additional shirts are available for only \$18.00 or \$20.00 depending on the fabric you choose.. These are very high quality shirts and come in either a short or long sleeve. So order often. Examples are on display at our Club Meetings.

We also have a special deal available for your favorite fishing shirt. Bring in your shirt along with \$10.00 and we will get the 3RFF logo embroidered on your shirt for you.

Need a new ball cap? \$20.00 and it is yours in a variety of colors. Or you can bring your own clean cap and \$10.00 and we will fix you up.

How about a DVD of a past program? Again, \$10.00 and it is yours. The DVD's are available to Club Members only. A full list of the DVD's can be found on our webpage.

To order Club Gear call Steve Harris at 260-627-2829 or you can order at any of our Club's meetings. The items will be ready for pick-up at the next regular meeting.

Hoping for a Great September...

By: Brent Walchuk

Well the Covid-19 mess sure did a number on our programs for the spring!

This September we will try to start things off with a splash, Mike Schultz, from Schultz Outfitters in Ypsilanti, Michigan will be our featured guest. Mike has become well known in the Fly Fishing industry not only for his guiding and Fly Shop but also as an accomplished fly tier with several of his own unique patterns. He specializes in everything small mouth related. Schultz Outfitters runs guide trips on seven different rivers around the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area year-round and also finds time for Great Lakes steelhead around the Ohio-Pennsylvania tributaries.

This fall Mike will be Presenting his "Small Mouth 365 – Extending Your Season" presentation. This will focus on Fall, Winter, and early Spring fishing patterns, holding locations, and tactics. He will also throw in a brief talk about summer small mouth. This program will be at the Classic Café on Saturday September 19th, 2020 at 6pm. This is not our normal meeting day because Mike has also offered to teach a Small Mouth tying class.

The class will be from 12 noon on Saturday until 4 pm. Mike is going to cover 6 of his fly patterns including 2 dredge flies, 2 swim flies, and 2 top water flies. Mike's patterns include the Gaggin Dragon, Red Eyed Leech, S3 and S4 Sculpins, Skitter Shad, Low Water Cray, Original SF Cray, Wu Tung Leech, The Woodsman, Chicken Changer, and the Swingin D series. Mike will be providing all the supplies for the flies, participants need to bring their vises and tools. This is usually a \$100 class at Schultz Outfitters, however, we are able to offer the class for \$50. The class is not a beginners level class, utilizing articulating shanks, dubbing loops and other techniques. The class size is limited to 15 people and will be filled on a first come first serve basis on people that call me (218-290-6327) or email me walchukb@yahoo.com. I will keep a list of those who contact me and that I receive payment from. I will email the club list every two weeks with updates on the class. We have had other great tiers do programs and classes for us in the past, I hope Mike's will be as helpful as the others. I am very excited to get this tying class for our club, there is a lot to learn from Mike's knowledge and experience and I look forward to seeing you there.

Brent Walchuk



Featured Tier and Presenter for September

Mike Schultz (known as “Schultzy” to most) is the Owner of Schultz Outfitters Fly Shop & Guide Service specializing in Southeastern Michigan angling, instruction, and destination travel.

Born and raised in the State of Michigan, Schultzy has been immersed in the outdoors. After graduating from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Business Administration, he started guiding and working in the fly-fishing industry full-time.

Logging countless hours on the water each year, Schultzy has developed a vast knowledge of Midwestern waters and beyond. The bulk of his guiding and angling takes place on his home waters of Southern Michigan; These Rivers offer world class warm-water fishing. His angling travels have taken him from Patagonia to Russia and many places in between.

Over the years with the help of the Huron River Watershed Council, he founded the Huron River Single Fly as well as the Huckin for the Huron. Both are annual fundraiser that takes place on his home waters of the Huron River; Michigan’s Blue Ribbon Smallmouth stream

Schultzy is a member of the Simms Fishing Products Pro Team. G Loomis, Scientific Anglers & YETI Elite Ambassador programs, Team Traeger and is a member of the Costa, Clackacraft, Hatch, and Regal Pro Staff. His signature fly patterns are available through Fulling Mill.

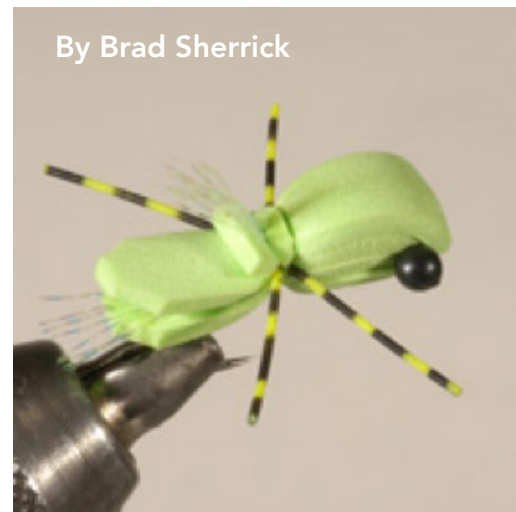
He currently resides in Dexter, Michigan on the banks of The Huron River with his wife, Allie and sons, Tanner and Dylan.

Each Newsletter, favorite fly patterns from our members are highlighted. Please submit your favorite fly for the next newsletter!

Members Favorite Flies

Byron's Knucklehead

- HOOK: MUSTAD 3366 SIZE 4
- THREAD: DANVILLE 210 DENIER THREAD OR EQUIVALENT, COLOR TO MATCH BODY
- EYES: MONO EYES, EXTRA LARGE, BLACK OR OLIVE (I USE BLACK PLASTIC BEAD CHAIN)
- TAIL: KRYSTAL FLASH OR BUCKTAIL IN COLORS TO MATCH THE BODY
- WING: KRYSTAL FLASH IN THE PEARL COLOR
- BODY: PEARL CHENILLE SMALL, COLOR TO MATCH THE BODY
- FOAM BODY: FLY FOAM, 2MM (VARIOUS COLORS)
- LEGS: MEDIUM ROUND RUBBER LEGS – SINGLE COLOR OR BARRED
- GLUE: ZAP-A-GAP CA OR EQUIVALENT WATERPROOF



This fly was originated by Byron Begley, owner of Little Rivers Outfitters in Townsend, Tennessee. Full instructions can be found here:

Each Newsletter, favorite fly patterns from our members are highlighted. Please submit your favorite fly for the next newsletter!

Members Favorite Flies

Curlys Crackleback (Variant)

- HOOK: IA-100, DAI-RIKI 300, MUSTAD 94840, #10-#14
- THREAD: UNI-THREAD, BLACK, COLOR TO MATCH MATERIAL, 6/0 OR 8/0 (HOOK SIZE)(ORIGINAL WAS OLIVE THREAD 8/0)
- BODY: TURKEY ROUNDS, COLOR VARIES (6-7 BARBULES-KEEP MARRIED)
(ORIGINAL WAS OLIVE OR PALE YELLOW)
- CRACKLEBACK: SPARKLE BRAID, PEACOCK, COLOR VARIES, MEDIUM, MIDGE (HOOK SIZE)
(ORIGINAL WAS 2 STRANDS OF PEACOCK HERL)
- SADDLE HACKLE: GRIZZLY, COLOR VARIES (5-7 WRAPS SPACED EVENLY, DULL SIDE FORWARD)
(ORIGINAL WAS FURNACE HACKLE)



Combinations: Body/ Crackleback/Hackle

- Body/ Crackleback/Hackle
- Black/Peacock/Grizzly
- Black/Peacock/Black
- Pale Yellow/Peacock/Furnace
- Pale Olive/Peacock/Furnace
- White/Peacock/Grizzly
- White/Peacock/Black
- White/Peacock/ Furnace
- White/Peacock/Grizzly
- White/Red/Grizzly (Red Thread)
- Mottled Brown/Peacock/Grizzly
- Mottled Brown/Peacock/Black

Please send your information to a board member to be listed in the next newsletter.

Member Content

Mending Lines is looking for 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. They can be turned in and reviewed for inclusion in Mending Lines.
- Items for sale.
- Fishing and casting lessons learned.
- Favorite websites or blogs.
- Short stories - fact or fiction!

For Sale

Curlys Fly Shop
White River Guide Book
\$24.50 tax included
(Qty 2 available)



Curlys Fly Shop
Pro-Lite FTL230
\$105.00 tax included
(Qty 3 available)



For Sale

Personal Pontoon. Comes with everything shown. \$100
Contact Larry Wilson - 260-417-8918



Officers

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Craig Ludwig - Indiana Policy Review
260-417-4094

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

Corporate Rate: \$50.00 per year