



# MENDING LINES

Three Rivers Fly Fishers - October 2021 Newsletter

## Upcoming Events

### Club Meetings

Club Meeting – Tim Scott  
Tie-A-Thon & Warm Water Flies  
October 21 @ 7:00 - 9:00pm  
at the Classic Café

Club Meeting – Jack Harford  
Soft Hackle Flies  
November 18 @ 7:00-9:00pm  
At the Classic Café

No Club Meeting in December  
Board has their planning meeting

Club Meeting – Jon Ray  
Muskie Flies and Fishing  
January 20 @ 7:00 - 9:00pm  
at the Classic Cafe

### Club Outings

September Outing was mentioned  
Nothing is scheduled at this time  
The Board is reviewing

#### POP-UP EVENTS

Nothing is scheduled at this time

I will keep you posted on the  
White Bass and Crappie in the  
Mississinewa River.

## Curly's Creel

The Club has had some successful Club Meetings and Club Outings with good numbers of Members attending. I hope to see more members start attending our Club Events. If you feel you need to wear a mask and practice social distancing to attend the gatherings we respect that. We have some good programs lined up for this Fall and we would love to have you attend as we strive to get back to normal.

The days and nights are starting to get cooler. You can tell Autumn is just around the corner. The fish are beginning to become more active. The bluegills are still fairly deep in the ponds where I have been fishing. Steelhead and Salmon have already moved in to the rivers up North. The Board is still busy working on several projects. We have formed Committees to revise the Club By-Laws, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, and the 2022 Annual Fly Fishing/Fly Tying Show. If you would like to serve on the Fly Show Committee Contact Ron Dixon or me. If you would like to serve on the Anniversary Committee contact a Brent Walchuk. We are always open to suggestions for outings and guest speakers.

Most or all of our affiliated Clubs are getting back to normal finally after Covid. They are back to having actual meetings instead of zoom meetings. They are having outings in state and out of state. Project Healing Waters was one of the last groups to get back to normal do to the fact they are controlled heavily by the government and were limited to attendance. We still have some Club Members who are battling health issues. Please keep them in your prayers, send them a card, give them a call, or stop in and visit them. We hope for a speedy recovery for them all. We are thankful for the several that are already on the mend. If you are not around you are missed.

Get out and Wet a Line,  
President,  
Curly Hodson

## Club Outings

### August: White River

Our August Club Outing was at Canoe Country on the White River August 20-22. We had some people there Wed to Sun. Some camped, others stayed in local Hotels, and others drove back and forth two or three days.

Dan Brophy and Dennis Plank have volunteered to set up The Double D Rusty Hook Cafe again this year. They served three meals a day on Fri and Sat. They grilled all the food on their two big flat grills, 4-6 course meals, and the food was excellent, amazing, and plentiful.



## Club ITEMS FOR SALE

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fly Boxes

The Board has decided to sell 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fly Boxes.

There will be two different models of fly boxes, Standard and Personalized.

Standard Fly Boxes in stock for \$20.00 and Personalized Fly Boxes will be pre-ordered for \$22.00.

You must pay for the fly box when you place your order.

The fly box will be available at the next Club meeting

See Ron or Curly to purchase or order either of the Fly Boxes. \*At this time cash or check will be accepted.



### THREE RIVERS FLY FISHERS Stickers

We have stickers for \$5.00 each. See Ron Dixon to purchase a sticker (3.5 x 5.75).



## Club PROGRAMS

### October Club Meeting: Tim Scott (Co-Founder of the Tie-A-Thon)

Tim has been a member of Saint Joe River Valley Fly Fishers for many years and held many positions in SJRVFF Club. He has fly fished the Saint Joe River, the Elkhart River, and a lot of Michigan waters extensively his whole life. He is an avid Fly Tyer as well. Tim created several fly tying videos of flies you could tie for the Tie-A-Thon. Tim will be tying some of his favorite flies for our program.

Tim Scott along with Terry Wittorp, are the co-founders of the Tie-A-Thon. They started the Tie-a-thon to supply donated flies to other non-profit organizations that need them for therapeutic and recreational camps to teach fly fishing.

In the fall of 2006 they came up with the idea of gathering fly tyers from the FFF club, St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers and Kalamazoo Valley Chapter to tie as many flies as possible to donate to KVCTU youth camp. There were 2500 flies tied and distributed the first year. This year was the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Tie-A-Thon and a 34, 400 flies were tied and donated to the Trout Unlimited Youth Camps.



### November Club Meeting: Jack Harford

Jack Harford is an avid fly fisherman, fly tyer, and fly designer. He has tied flies at fly shows in several states as well as our annual TRFF Fly Fishing/Fly Tying Show. He has been involved with the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing program in Indianapolis since it started. I would be amiss if I didn't mention he was also and foremost a Pastor and stresses being a Fisher of Men.

Jack and his wife live in the Indianapolis, Indiana area. He has three daughters and a son. I remember one year he was tying at one of our shows and had to leave. He told me apologetically that he had to leave because he was about to have a grandchild. I believe it was a grandson. One of his daughters designed the Jack's Flies logo. He loves his family.

Jack has won several awards for his soft hackle flies over the years and he has won the Everett Drake Fly of the Year award several times. Jack posts a lot of his beautiful soft hackle flies that he ties as well as many other flies he has designed on Facebook. He does not have a website at this time.



Silver Partridge



Soft Hackle



Green Tail Caddis



Soft Hackle

## Club Spot Light

I didn't want to say anything until it was a done deal, but I caught a new Indiana State Record! I wanted to catch a Short Nose Gar, so I did some research to find out where I could go to catch one. During that time I also figured out that the state record for this species was relatively small, under represented, that even an average sized Gar would beat the current record. Wouldn't you know it, but during my first trip attempting to catch one, I hooked and lost one and then caught this beauty that weighed 2.35lbs, beating the current record by over 3/4 of a pound. It will be pretty cool to be a record holder even though I think this is a species that doesn't get much love. Gar are a great sport fish and I am excited to have this record. I am looking forward to trying to get another one. I'm looking at you Spotted Gar!

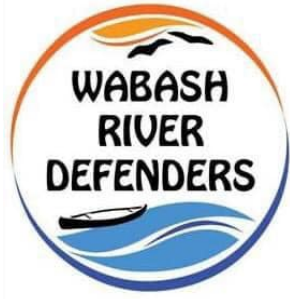


Kyle gave me a phone call that morning and asked me if I lived close to the Wabash River. I told him yes, and I replied why? He told me he thought he caught a new state record. I ask him where he was and he said he and his Dad put in at the boat ramp by the Sewage Plant and they were just west past the bridge. He wanted to get the fish officially weighed and measured. I told Kyle I lived five blocks away and I would be to the boat ramp before he could get back there. I made some phone calls and by the way of Fish on Tackle and Poole's Meat Market he got it weighed and measured. Record or not; at that that time, I thought the neatest thing was Kyle fishing with his Dad in a canoe, in the Wabash River.

I went home and immediately posted the following on Facebook: Hats off to the Wabash River Defenders for their efforts of cleaning up the Wabash River and to the Wabash County Solid Waste Management District for receiving the Tall Sycamore of the Wabash reward.

It is amazing what these efforts have done for the river and its habitat. A friend of mine and a fellow member of Three Rivers Fly Fishers, along with his father fished the Wabash River for the first time this week. They didn't fish very far down stream in a canoe past the Carroll Street Bridge and they caught eight species of fish. One of which may be the new State Record for the Short Nose Gar. Kyle called me and I met him at the boat ramp and they took it to Fish On and then onto Poole's Meat Market to have it officially weighed and measured. It was considerably larger than the existing state record by weight and length. Thank you, Mike Beauchamp for your vision for the "River of White Rocks".





## FINE-TUNING

### CALENDAR



#### OCTOBER

15—Gen. Meeting, Hilgers Restaurant, 7 p.m.  
Program: **Bill Fraser**, guest speaker

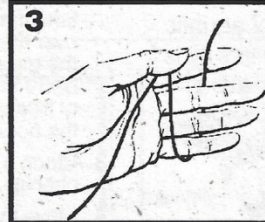
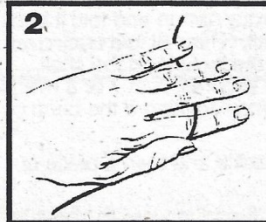
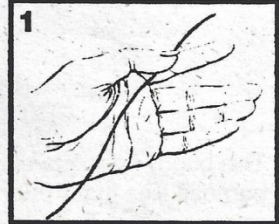
#### NOVEMBER

3—Board Meeting, Venice Restaurant, 7 p.m.  
5-8—GLC Fall Steelhead Outing, Barothy Lodge, Walhalla, MI  
19—Gen. Meeting, Hilgers Restaurant, 7 p.m.  
Program: fly tying

The October general meeting welcomes Bill Fraser of W.J. Fraser & Associates, Petosky, MI. Bill will answer your questions regarding rod construction, fly lines, fly tying materials, Gortex Products, Metz hackle, Tiemco hooks and more.

*The deadline for submitting materials for publication in Mending Lines is 15-days prior to the month of publication.*

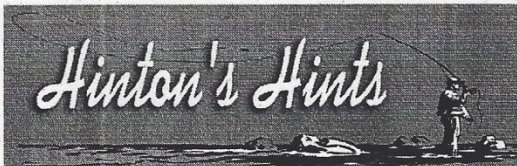
## Hand-Twist Retrieve



Ray Bergman, named this popular wet fly and streamer retrieve the "hand-twist retrieve." This method is a very effective retrieve. If you are right-handed, after making the cast grasp the line between thumb and forefinger of the left hand and pull the line in as far as possible without drawing the hand backward. Then raise the other three fingers and pull in the line with them as far as you can, again without drawing the hand backward. You will find that your thumb and forefinger are now in position to grab the line above that which has been brought in by the three fingers. Repeat this until you have stripped in enough line to make another forward cast.

Try a slow and steady retrieve at first. If after fishing various depths with no luck, vary the speed of the retrieve. No Luck, change the fly pattern. Still no luck, move and try a new stretch of water.

### Hinton's Hints



**Ten Minutes A Day...** Learning fly casting is like learning any other sport. It requires practice. Good fly casters usually practice every day, some for no more than ten minutes. While ten minutes may seem hardly enough, experiences with such a regimen have proven very positive. Each day concentrate on only one of your casting problems. The next day build on the

previous day's lesson then start on a new problem. After seven days or so I'll bet you'll notice a big difference. Many of the movements required for good fly casting will be unfamiliar and therefore must be taught to the muscles. Quality practice is needed to accomplish this goal.

Use the following to help you get the most from practice:

1. Select a time when you are least likely to be distracted.
2. Short ten minute sessions are better than marathon sessions.
3. Practice to achieve specific goals (correct faults, practice accuracy, acquire new skills, and build muscle memory through repetitions).
4. Practice with someone who knows what you are trying to accomplish.
5. Direct each cast to a target.
6. Have someone video tape your casting and compare your casts to videos of known casting instructors.
7. If your practice continues to reinforce your errors and improvement is not seen or felt, stop and seek advice.

SUGGESTED READING... *Fly Casting With Lefty Kreh*—Krieger, Mel; *The Essence of Flycasting*—Wulff, Joan; *FlyCasting Techniques*.



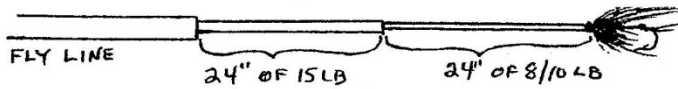
# Steelhead Techniques for Success!

www.schmidtoutfitters.com

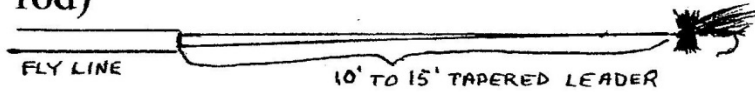
1.888.221.9056

## Rigs:

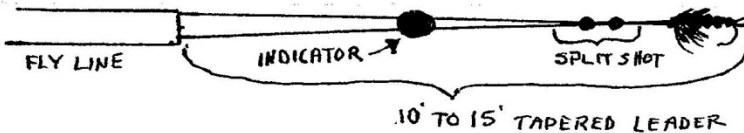
1. Across & Down Swing (sink tip or head) (single or two handed rod)



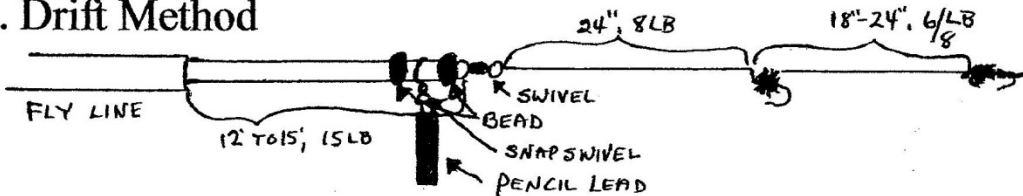
2. Greased Line (floating line...single or two handed rod)



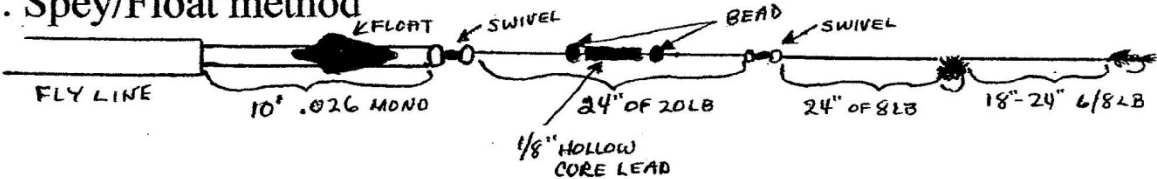
3. Strike Indicator (floating line single or two handed rod)



4. Drift Method



5. Spey/Float method





# Members favorite flies



## Mel's Bug- Soft Hackle .....By Jamie Thompson

Hook: Mustad 94840, #12-#16

Thread: Brown, 8/0

Thorax: Bead, Gold or Bronze (hook size)

Tail: Antron Fibers, White (Sparse)

Body: Peacock Herl (3)

Rib: Tippet, 4X, clear mono

Hackle: Partridge (2-3 turns)



## Crawfish Fly.....By Steve Hutsell

Hook: #2

Thread: Ultra Thread, Orange, 6/0

Eyes: Dumbbell, Nickel, Red Iris

Claws: Zonker Strips, Rabbit, Rust, (2)

Body: Ice Chenille, Orange, Medium

Legs: Silicone, Orange Barred, (6)

Collar: Hen Saddle Hackle, Rust (3-4 turns)



## Officers

President: Curly Hodson  
Email: curly@curlslyflyshop.com

Vice President: Brent Walchuk  
Email: walchukb@yahoo.com

Secretary: Curly Hodson (acting)  
Email: curly@curlslyflyshop.com

Treasurer: Ron Dixon  
Email: grizznhi@frontier.com

## Board of Directors

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Larry Wilson, Chairman

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Curly Hodson, Administrator  
Lynn Burry, Administrator  
Jameson Olson, Editor  
Monica McBride, Editor

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Co-Chairman, \*\*\*\* (Needed)

Club Fly Show:

Curly Hodson, Chairman  
Ron Dixon, Chairman

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Chairman, \*\*\*\* (Needed)

Co-Chairman, \*\*\*\* (Needed)

Tie-A-Thon

Curly Hodson, Chairman  
Brent Walchuk, Co-Chairman

Members Favorite Flies

Curly Hodson, Chairman  
Co-Chairman, \*\*\*\* (Needed)

Tying Events (Parkview, Boy Scouts)

Curly Hodson, Chairman  
Co-Chairman, \*\*\*\* (Needed)

## Corporate Sponsors

Craig Ludwig  
Indiana Policy Review  
260-417-4094

Curly Hodson  
CURLYS FLY SHOP  
Email: curly@curlslyflyshop.com  
260-571-1951

## Member Content

Mending Lines is looking for members content.

Some suggestions are:

- \*Pictures of fish caught by members, family, or friends.
- \*Members Favorite Flies & Recipes
- \*Pictures and clips from trips.
- \*Items for sale.
- \*Fishing related charts.
- \*Favorite websites or facebook pages.
- \*Short stories, fact or fiction.
- \*Other Fly Club info

## Member Suggestions

The Board of Directors is always looking for suggestions for:

Guest speakers for Club programs

Locations for Club outings  
Flash Events

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If you have any items for sale or need some items you can list them here. Send info and picture to Curly. Email Curly Hodson

## Items for Sale

Curlys Fly Shop  
Pro-Lite FTL203  
\$115.00 tax included



## Items Members Need

Contact Curly Hodson to list an item.

Kevin Estep (260-330-9742)  
Used Regal or Renzetti Vise, 360

