

Mending Lines

Jan
2020



CLUB MEETING
BRAD SHERRICK
January 16

3RFF FLY SHOW
February 15

CLUB MEETING
KEVIN FEENSTRA
February 20

Upcoming Events

- CLUB MEETING - JANUARY 16
BRAD SHERRICK
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- 3RFF FLY SHOW - FEBRUARY 15
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
- CLUB MEETING - FEBRUARY 20
KEVIN FEENSTRA
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- CLUB MEETING - MARCH 19
AUCTION
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
- CLUB MEETING - APRIL 16
MEMBER'S FAVORITE FLIES
7:00 PM - 9:00 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

Where has the year gone? The winter solstice is near as I write this. That means the daylight hours will be getting longer and the days warmer.

The past year found us being very busy. We had a booth at the Fort Wayne Outdoor Expo that included fly tying demonstrations and a casting pond. Dan Brothy deserves a special thank you for coordinating this three day event. We participated in a number of Fly Shows in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. I want to personally thank Curly Hodson for coordinating all the shows we attended. My most memorable show included the four hour drive home, in a severe ice storm, from the Heartland Show. This is normally about a two hour drive. We conducted our annual Big Brother-Big Sisters event, got drowned out (again) Pigeon River Outing and had one heck of a thunder storm at the White River Outing. We taught a Beginning Fly Tying and Fly Fishing class for the National Wild Turkey Federation's, "Becoming an Outdoor Woman" program. Additional events included assisting the IDNR with some of their local events such as "Beginning Fly Casting," "How To Fish For Trout" and assisted at the "Family Fishing Event," held at Huntington's Memorial Park. I again want to thank every 3RFF Member that assisted in making these events a big success.

This year promises to be just as exciting. So it's not too early to start thinking about Spring Steelhead. Another good indicator of things to come is the start of the annual Sports and Vacations Shows in Fort Wayne and Indy and the good number of Fly Shows throughout the mid-west. These events are always good opportunities to see all the new equipment we think we need or do actually need.

We will again be at the Fort Wayne All-American Outdoor Expo at the Memorial Coliseum from January 10th to the 12th. Stop by and buy a chance on our annual Jerry Drake Custom Bamboo Fly Rod. You can pay your 2020 3RFF Membership or buy a 25th Anniversary Banquet Ticket. Is your casting a little rusty? This will be a good time to work out the kinks on our casting pond. We will also have members tying flies. It is also just a great time to talk fishing.

Don't forget the big Three Rivers Fly Fishers Show on Saturday, February 16, at the Classic Café on Hilegas Road. Vendor and tier booth requests continue to come in. Speaking of Hilegas Road, it has finally re-opened to traffic after its long closure to replace the I-69 Bridge. So we no longer need to go twice around the barn to get to the house or in this case the Classic Café.

We continue our planning of the big celebration banquet for our 25th Anniversary. This event will take place at the Classic Café on Saturday, March 21, 2010. The doors will open at 5:00 PM with dinner served at 6:00 PM. We will have door prizes and a "Special Edition 25th Anniversary Fly Rod" built by Jerry Drake to be given to one lucky 3RFF Member. Tickets go on sale on January 1, 2020 for the Banquet. Complete details of the Banquet are in an article inside this newsletter.

So that about does it for now. I need to get back to my tying desk and finish up the 100 flies I promised for this year's Tie-A-Thon.

Until I see you again, "May the inside of your waders (or boats) always be dry!"

Lynn

UPCOMING 3RFF EVENTS

This first quarter of the New Year promises to be busy. Here are some important dates to mark on your calendars.

January 10-12 is the annual Fort Wayne Outdoors Expo at the Memorial Coliseum. We will have our booth there again along with the casting pond.

January 16th is our first Club Meeting of the year. The guest Speaker is Brad Sherrick. He will be talking about furred leaders.

February 15th is our Three Rivers Fly Fishers Annual Fly Show at the Classic Café. I know we can still use some workers for the show. If you would like to help, contact Steve Harris at 260-627-2829 or you can sign up at either the Fort Wayne Outdoors Expo or the January 16th Club Meeting

February 20th, features Kevin Feenstra as our guest speaker. He will be talking about Smallmouth Bass. We will also be opening nominations for our Annual Elections held at the April meeting.

March 16th marks the end of ticket sales for our 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet. Details of that Banquet are in this Newsletter and on our web page and Face Book.

March 19th marks our Annual Club Auction. This is a good time to pick-up special needed items. You can also donate gently used or no longer needed items for the auction. All proceeds from this auction are used to procure guest speakers and other Club activities throughout the year.

March 21st is our 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet starting at 5:00 PM at the Classic Café. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM. Be sure to get your tickets early.

Thank you for your continued and generous support of 3RFF. We look forward to seeing you then.

25th ANNIVERSERY BANQUET PLANS ANNOUNCED

The year 2020 is the 25th anniversary of your Three Rivers Fly Fishers club. So to show our appreciation for your continued dedication to our organization, we would ask that you mark your calendars for Saturday, March 21, 2020. We are planning a very special Banquet and program to celebrate this notable event. It is being held at the Classic Café on Hillegas Road. This is the same place we have our monthly meetings. The doors will open at 5:00 PM with dinner starting at 6:00 PM.

The dinner will be buffet style and the program will feature highlights, photos and stories (and all of them true we might add) from the Club's 25 years of history. There will be some really nice door prizes and (drum roll please) some lucky 3RFF member, in good standing, will win a "Special Edition Jerry Drake 25th Anniversary Bamboo Fly Rod." While it is not necessary for the lucky member to be at the Banquet to win this very special 25th Anniversary Rod, we want to encourage every member to attend. Bring the whole family and have a great time.

Tickets are only \$10.00 for you the member and \$10.00 for each guest or family member. Non-member tickets are \$20.00 each.

Tickets are currently available at Lure Craft in Orland or from any Board Member. Tickets will be available at both the January and February General Membership meeting and at our booth at the Fort Wayne Outdoors Expo held at the Memorial Coliseum on January 10th through the 12th. Additionally, you can purchase tickets through the mail by writing to us via our post office box. Deadline for ticket sales is March 16th. You must purchase your ticket(s) in advance to attend. Sorry, but we will be unable to have ticket sales at the door. So get your tickets early.

I hope I covered everything here, but if not you can email me at lsburry@comcast.net and I will do my best to answer your question. See you at the Banquet.

MAKING YOUR TYING DESK MORE FRIENDLY

By: Lynn Burry

After I retired from being a Journeyman Tool and Die Maker and Journeyman Mill Right, I needed a way to keep busy. I always had my fly fishing and tying, but that wasn't quite enough. From my younger days I was always intrigued with the art of wood working. Through the years I dabbled it in to some extent but never had the space or tools needed to set up a nice shop.

One day I was talking to an old friend that owns a construction company. As the conversation continued, I asked him if he was looking for a shop person since his old one had retired. To make a long story short, I was hired part time. Part of the deal was that I could use the shop on my own time as long as I used my own materials. Off to the races I went. I made some small items such as a couple of special lamps, my drift boat and various items to make my tying desk less cluttered and friendlier to the user.

The desk I was using was a re-purposed kit desk I had bought from an unfinished furniture store. It was used by the kids when they were still at home. When they grew up and left the house to be on their own I was left with the desk. The first thing I did was make a bigger top for the desk so I had more space to work on. I found the right size piece of Red Oak plywood at the local lumber yard and trimmed it out with some Oak strips I had collected. A little stain and poly finish and I was set.

I quickly realized I needed a better storage system for all the tying tools and threads and other spooled items I had collected. So I was off to the races again. Some of the items I made were from my own design. Others were inspired by things I saw in the fly shops or on the internet. While it is always a work in progress as the years pass, this is what my desk looks like today.

The desk top is from $\frac{3}{4}$ inch Red Oak Plywood as is the back splash. The drawers are made from $\frac{1}{4}$ sawed White Oak and stained to match. I like lumber with unique markings or traits and have made it a practice to collect them over the years. All of the thread and tool holders were made from such legacy boards. Those of you that attended our Casting Clinic and Mini Fly Show last May probably saw some of the items I have made.



Custom, one of a kind thread and tool holders, bead and hook blocks and even a lap top tying table have been made over the years. Here are a couple pictures of some of those items.

This is made from a slab of Walnut that came from a tree on my Grand-mothers farm.



Here is a butcher block style tool holder. It will be on the bucket raffle table at the 3RFF Fly Show in February.

These bead and hook holders were made from scrap pieces of legacy wood.

These are just a few of the items I have made for my desk over the years. A few friends have some similar on their desk also. If you enjoy wood working and use a little imagination, you too can make these. Have fun and remember safety first when working around machinery



3RFF 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.

Steve Harris will be glad to take your order at any of our Club's meetings. The items will be ready for pick-up at the next regular meeting.

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

Member's Favorite Flies

Red Fox Squirrel Hair Nymph (Variant)

- HOOK: MUSTAD 9671, TIEMCO 5262, #6-#20
- THREAD: UNI-THREAD, CAMEL, RUSTY BROWN OR ORANGE, 6/0 OR 8/0 (HOOK SIZE)
- RIB: COPPER WIRE, SMALL
- TAIL: NATURAL RED FOX SQUIRREL BACK HAIR OR NATURAL RED FOX SQUIRREL TAIL HAIR, OR WAPSI NATURAL RED FOX SQUIRREL BODY PIECES (6-8 FIBERS)
- ABDOMEN: NATURAL RED FOX SQUIRREL BELLY HAIR OR WAPSI NATURAL FUR RED FOX SQUIRREL BELLY DUBBING
- THORAX: NATURAL RED FOX SQUIRREL BODY HAIR OR WAPSI NATURAL FUR RED FOX SQUIRREL BODY DUBBING
- HEAD: UNI-THREAD, CAMEL, RUSTY BROWN OR ORANGE, 6/0 OR 8/0 (HOOK SIZE)



Super Jelly Stone (Variant)

- HOOK: DAIICHI 1120, TIEMCO 2457, #8
- BEAD: TUNGSTEN, 5/32, SILVER
- WEIGHT: .020 LEAD (10-12 WRAPS)
- THREAD: MONO CHORD, 3/0 (COLOR TO MATCH ABDOMEN, THORAX & TAIL)
- ABDOMEN: VINYL RIB, NYMPH, (10-11 WRAPS) (COLOR TO MATCH THORAX, & TAIL)
- SHELLBACK: THIN SKIN, NATURAL MOTTLED OAK, 1/8-5/32 WIDE
- THORAX: CACTUS CHENILLE, ESTAZ, PEARL CHENILLE, MED (COLOR TO MATCH ABDOMEN, THORAX, & TAIL)
- LEGS: ROUND RUBBER, MEDIUM, WHITE, 1 3/4



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)



For Sale

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



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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