

# Mending Lines

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April 2011

## April Club Meeting

### Ian Anderson Small Mouth Fishing

On our April 21 meeting, our speaker will be Ian Anderson from Flymasters in Indianapolis. The presentation will be about smallmouth on the fly.

Ian teaches fly tying and is the webmaster for Flymasters.

He loves smallmouth bass fishing and has been doing it since he was 17. You won't want to miss this program!

## Don's Den By: Don Privett, Club President

The March auction was great success. I would like to thank everyone that pitched in to make it that way, especially Bill Sweet, Lynn Burry, Bob Lowden, Gary Sanders, and Dennis Reiter. Thanks to everyone that purchased items and donated the stuff to sell.

The ice is at long last gone and the fish are starting to move in to the shallow water. The blue gills are in the channels and are taking wet flies. I have seen a few crappie and bass landed. The state has stocked trout in the lakes and some were pretty nice. It is time to get that rod down and go fishing.

The April 21st meeting will be the election of club officers and board members, president: Don Privett, treasurer: Gary Sanders, secretary: Curly Hodson board members for one year Lynn Burry and Bob Lowden board members for two years Steve Harris, Rex Lengacher and Carla Gray. We are having one year terms this year to balance the board members election. This will prevent having everyone up for election the same year.

The speaker for the April meeting is Ian Anderson. His program will be about small mouth bass fishing in Indiana and fly's for small mouth. We all know how great a fish the small mouth is and this program will help us to find and catch them nearby.

The May 19th meeting is the casting clinic and this is a great time to bring your rod and sharpen your skills. There will be someone to help you if you are having some problems. We will also have some targets set up for you to cast too. The location is still being decided but we will let you know in the next newsletter.

I am looking forward to the June campout at the Henning camp ground on the Muskegon River in Michigan. The camp sites are \$25.00 per night with electric hookup at all sites. The park has a block of site they are holding for us. The site numbers are 25 through 36. Check your calendars for this outing on June 24-26<sup>th</sup>. Let them know you are with Three Rivers Fly fishers and pick a site the web address to book now is [www.countryofnewago.com/park](http://www.countryofnewago.com/park). I don't know how long they will keep these sites for us so book soon.

See you all soon.  
Don



## **Fashion Trend is Threatening Supply and Prices on Hackle Feathers**

You might have thought inflation was bad enough considering gasoline and food prices. Well you were wrong. A new fashion trend is starting to affect the price of premium hackle for fly tiers and the price of flies.

Women are starting to have feather hair extensions put in as fashion. That's right! Your fly tying hackles could be used to highlight someone's hair. Specifically the long narrow premium feathers on the neck or saddle of roosters are being sought out.

Providers of high quality hackle have found a new market and they are anxious to sell to those who want them as hair extensions. Supply and demand is causing a few fly shops to start catering to beauty salons. Beauty salons are having trouble keeping up with the growing requests for these extensions.

So far the salon effect has not made a huge markup in prices. But this is a growing trend and it's still early. There are talks of retail stores carrying these. If that happens the demand roof could be blown off. In an international market, hackles could become commodities in the stock market.

That seems a little extreme but it has happened with other fads before. An example is hair coloring. When it became more popular in the late 1930's it caused chemicals used in the manufacturing of the dye to be traded on the stock market. That continues to this day.

What can be done about it? There is a chance that this fad that will pass. How it affects prices for fly tiers (and flies from the store) remain to be seen. Once prices rise they rarely go back down.

## **Update on Kalamazoo River Oil Spill**

There are still visible reminders of the massive oil spill that fouled more than 30 miles of the Kalamazoo River, from Marshall to Comstock Township. Efforts are continuing to clean the sites, but no firm dates have been released when they might declare the clean-up completed.

819,000 gallons of oil was released into the Kalamazoo watershed by an Ontario based oil company Enbridge last summer. The spill occurred when a underground pipe burst on July 25th and was discovered the next day. The pipeline runs from Griffith, Indiana, to Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. The Kalamazoo River held a large amount Small-mouth Bass in it. State officials claimed that very few fish were killed. Early reports put the numbers under 200.

Officials have isolated sections of the river that have problems with submerged oil, and are looking for more problem areas. Dredging has begun because the contaminants have sunk and are on the bottom. The EPA will not let Enbridge declare it is clean until all contaminants are removed to their satisfaction.

The river is closed and several homes along the river were purchased by Enbridge. Officials hoped that Calhoun County parks such as Historic Bridge Park would open this spring. However with the dredging and continuing cleanup it is doubtful that these sections of river could be opened this year because of the weather slowing operations down.

## **Website Updates Invasive Species**

In the last few years we have been alerted to the fact that non-indigenous species of marine life have invaded the waters we fish. There is a website that has the information about invasive species. The site has a state specific searchable database which can be searched for specific species. It is updated by approved biologists working for USGS.

The site is <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/>

# TRFF Shorts

## Dues are Due

Club Treasurer Gary Sanders reports that we have 49 members currently. Some have not paid their dues yet. Please remember to pay your dues.

Your dues go to bringing in quality speakers and providing events to learn from. There is no club without them.

Please remember to bring \$25 for individuals, \$35 for the family rate and \$50 for the corporate rate.

Thanks!

## Ideas for Speakers

Does anyone have an interest in a particular topic that someone would like to hear a presentation? Perhaps there is a speaker you would like to see?

Please let one of your officers know about it and they will bring it up in the board meeting. They cannot plan it if you don't tell them.

## Did You Miss the Auction?

Check out a small sample of what you missed below:



## Fly Line Sink Rate Chart

You may want to save this handy little chart.

Type	Sink Rate
1	1.25 to 1.75 ips
2	2.5 to 3.0 ips
3	3.5 to 4.0 ips
4	4.25 to 5.0 ips
5	5.25 to 6.0 ips
6	6.25 to 7.0 ips

"Used" Minn-Kota Trolling Motor  
 in perfect running shape when remove  
 when remove from 16' Lowe Bassboat  
 Power Drive 40  
 Bow Mount  
 Maximum Thrust 40 lbs.  
 Shaft length 48"  
 Electric Steer w/ Foot Pedal  
 Digital Maximizer  
 Co-Pilot Compatible

Asking \$200 (nearly \$500 if New)  
 Call Gary Sanders 260-251-1637

[+ View](#)



## Three Rivers Fly Fishers

### Bill's Favorite Print

"Once Upon A Stream"

From Bill Fitzgerald's Estate

by Beth Ward-Donahue

Framed, Signed and Numbered 97/500

Originally purchased from Jorgensens

All proceeds will benefit the TRFF Educational Fund

Drawing: When all 100 tickets are sold

Contribution: \$5.00

Need not be present to

win

**Officers**

President: Don Privett  
dprivett@3rff.org

Treasurer: Gary Sanders  
gsanders@3rff.org

Secretary: Curly Hodson  
chodson@3rff.org

**Board of Directors**

Bob Lowden blowden@3rff.org

Rex Lengacher rlengacher@3rff.org

Lynn Burry lburry@3rff.org

Rick Hinton rhinton@3rff.org

Steve Harris sharris@3rff.org

Derek Frederickson dfrederickson@3rff.org

Carla Grey cgrey@3rff.org

**Calendar Of Events**

Apr 21 General Meeting  
Ian Anderson , Flymasters  
Smallmouth Fishing  
7:00 PM St. Joe Athletic Club  
817 Anderson Ave, Fort Wayne

May 19 Casting Clinic  
Location to be determined...

June 24-26 Muskegon River Club Outing  
Henning Camp Ground  
Sites 25-36  
Ed H. Henning County Park  
500 Croton Road, Newaygo MI  
(231) 652-1202

July 25 St. Joseph River Outing  
Mottville, MI

*Please visit [www.3rff.org](http://www.3rff.org) to review old Club newsletters, fly patterns, and the club calendar.*

**Join the FFF**

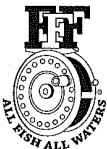
Did you know that the Three Fivers Fly Fishers is an affiliate Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers? The FFF is instrumental in promoting the sport of fly fishing and educating the public about conservation of our natural resources.

For new members, the Club is offering a one time \$5 discount for an FFF Membership. Complete the application form below and give to our Club Treasurer Gary Sanders at the next meeting. Gary will collect the membership fee and forward to the Federation.

**Membership Categories**

- Individual..... \$35
- Family..... \$45
- Youth under 18.....\$15
- Senior +65.....\$25
- Disabled Veterans are Free  
(Proof of 50% disability required)
- Life Individual.....\$500
- Life Couple.....\$750
- 3 Year Individual..... \$85
- 3 Year Family.....\$100
- Sustaining .....\$200  
(Commercial & Mfg. business)
- Retail shops/Outfitter....\$75

Canadian Membership — add \$5 year postage  
International Membership — add \$10 year postage



Federation of Fly Fishers  
215 E. Lewis, Livingston, MT 59047  
*Apply online [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org)  
Join by phone 406-222-9369*

**Yes, I want to invest in the future of all fish, all waters!**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP/COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

HM PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE (for identification) \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRED BY \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ENCLOSED (checks payable to Federation of Fly Fishers - US funds)

Healing Waters Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (write "Project Healing Waters" on check)

VISA       MASTERCARD     DISCOVER       AMEX

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

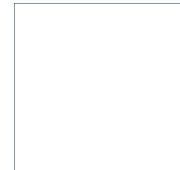
EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not share my information with organizations outside the FFF

# MENDING LINES

## **THREE RIVERS FLY FISHERS**

P.O. Box 8548  
Fort Wayne, IN  
46898-8548



## **PUBLISHER**

Three Rivers Fly Fishers

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## **MAILING ADDRESS**

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