

Patriots on the Fly

APRIL 2026

MEETING INFO.

Our next meeting will be:

Thursday, April 16
@ VWF Post 1500
Willoughby, OH



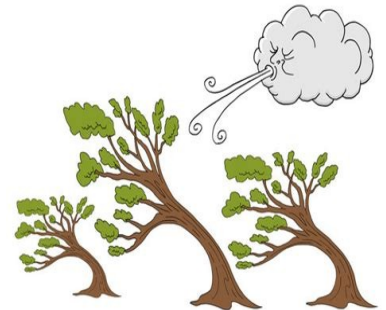
- A “wiggle” cast is used to create a zigzag motion in the fly, simulating the natural movement of insects and enticing fish to strike.
- The “roll” cast is used to lift the line off the water and cast it under low-hanging branches or other obstacles without the need for a back cast.
- The “Belgian” cast is a specialized technique that allows anglers to make long distance casts by utilizing a specific rod and body movement.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Mother Nature did it again. She ruined a perfectly planned Clearfork outing.

Ambassadors had camping sites reserved, the ODNR had the river stocked, the brown trout weren’t pressured, and a good time was planned by all. Right up until Wednesday when we cancelled thanks to the watchful eye of our Volunteers, Tony and Phil.

Joe and I had reserved a cabin to ‘glamp’ and, unfortunately, didn’t have the option of cancelling at the last minute, so we headed down and arrived just before the wind kicked up. We hunkered down in the cabin and watched as tall trees fell all around us. It was a bit harrowing quite honestly and we temporarily lost power for hours.



The next day was downright cold, but calm. Many area roads were closed due to down trees & wires, but we followed detours specifically to check out damage at the park. A HUGE pine tree had fallen right next to a bathhouse and many branches were strewn throughout the camp area. Cancelling the event was definitely the right choice. Hopefully we’ll have better luck next time!

Diane



**MOHICAN STATE PARK
CAMPGROUND**



All the News You Need to Catch !

What can FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL do for you?

Learn about our parent organization, Fly Fishers International, at the next North Coast Fly Fishers meeting on Wednesday, April 1 (no fooling'!). The meeting location is the Environmental Learning Center in Concord.

This month's guest speaker is Cari Vota, President of the FFI/Ohio Council. Her 2026 goal is to visit all the FFI/Ohio Council Chapters. Since Cari is driving up from Cincinnati, we want to make the best use of her time and combine the POTF and NCFE presentations.

Fly-tying starts at 6:30 pm. Cari's presentation starts after the business announcements at 7:30 pm.

This meeting will count for the Kinzua Fly-Fishing School initiative, so join us and get your name in the hopper one more time!



There's Still Time to Earn More Tickets!

There are still two more chances to enter the drawing for the Kinzua Memorial Weekend Fly-Fishing School:

- 1) The NCFE meeting on Wednesday, April 1st
- 2) The POTF meeting on Thursday, April 16th

The winning ticket, along with the 2nd, 3rd & 4th place backups, will be drawn at the end of our April 16th class. Currently, there are 72 entries in the running.



The winner should arrive in Bradford, PA, Thursday evening, May 21st, and depart Bradford on Saturday, May 23rd. **Winner MUST commit to attend the ENTIRE time.**

This opportunity, set up by Jim Talarico, includes all lodging and meals as well as two days of fishing and two days of instruction with Joe Humphreys. This package is valued at \$435 and is FREE to the winner. *IF THE POTF REPRESENTATIVE (the winner) LEAVES EARLY, HE/SHE WILL BE EXPECTED TO REIMBURSE THE ORGANIZATION THE FULL AMOUNT.* We cannot stress enough that we expect a 100% commitment from the winner. If there is a last-minute cancellation by the original winner, the 2nd place ticket will become the winner and so on, and so on. The winner will need wader, boots, and a fly rod outfit. Feel free to use your own or borrow items from POTF.

Happy Birthday America!

What can we do to celebrate our 250th year? *Cake? Ice cream? Toot tooters?* We can do better.

LET'S GET OUT THERE AND FISH!!!

As a group, let's catch 250 fish. It will be easy, peasy!
We have from now until our December Christmas Party.



This is open to EVERYONE affiliated with Patriots On The Fly.

That includes Patriots, Ambassadors, Volunteers, Donors, Private Water Partners, Out-of-State Patriots and Supporters. You get the drift. All you have to do is get out there, catch fish on a fly rod and send us a picture!

This is NOT a competition. There will be no prizes other than the priceless feeling of helping the team reach its' goal! Remember, if you catch something worthy for the 2026 Ambassador Cup, that same fish will work for this tally as well.



Thanks to saltwater excursions by some of our Volunteers, and some steelhead outings by Patriots and Ambassadors we already have 93 fish on the board!

Send your count and your fish pics to diane.wantz@outlook.com

Friends, LET'S DO THIS!



SECOND ANNUAL 2026 AMBASSADOR CUP

This POTF initiative was started in 2025 by Ambassador Brad Kuhmer to encourage Patriots to get on the water and fish on their own!

The rules are the same as the Fish Ohio Recognition Program, except for these stipulations:



- The fish must be taken with a fly rod.
- Email a pic of your fish to vojitsujunkie2@gmail.com to get on the board.
- Measure the fish.

As always, we encourage catch and release fly fishing. Let the fish get bigger so another lucky angler can experience the joy of catching a trophy! Be a good steward and practice safe fish handling.

The categories for this contest are:

- 1) Biggest fish caught
 - 2) Most species of fish caught
- * Fish caught on "paid water" (trout clubs) do not count.*

Winners will be announced at the December 2026 Christmas Party. Last year's winner received a fly rod. Who knows what this year will bring!

ATTENTION PATRIOTS:

Did you know you can become an Ambassador in one year or less? It's true! If you'd like more information on how to become an Ambassador, Kelly Gillmore is the point of contact.

We currently have one Ambassador trip on the books for February 2027 and we'd love for you to go!

**WE WANT YOU
TO BE AN
AMBASSADOR**

