

BUFF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 15th, 2012

(Prepared by J.R. Jackson)

Administrative Items / Proposals:

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff McElravy at 6:30 p.m. at the Springdale Community Center.

- Membership Health Concerns – None
- July BOD minutes were approved pending correction of the spelling of Jerry Snider's name.
- Banquet Committee Report (Bob Gustafson): BUFF has signed a contract with Oscars for March 2nd, 2013. This venue offers soundproof rooms for presentations, improved vending area, and a generally good atmosphere for our banquet. The committee is planning to seek out fewer, but more valuable (\$75-\$100) items via cash donations for the raffles, and is also considering offering an early bird raffle ticket which would include one grand raffle ticket.
- Batavia Dam Removal (Jon Kennard): Plans are being made to remove a low head dam on the East Fork of the Little Miami River in Batavia. The next step in the project will be a meeting with local land owners in order to present them with the facts concerning removal of the dam. Jon Kennard has drafted a letter of support for the project on BUFF's behalf, and submitted it for board approval (see below). The board agreed that this is a cause worth supporting, and that a letter of support did not violate the club's stated abstinence from political activity. Ed Jones moved to approve the letter, Bob Gustafson seconded; motion voted on and approved by the board.

Chair Reports

- Treasurer (Bob Gustafson): Financial report has been sent out.
- BUFFER (Jon Kennard): Articles for the July Buffer are due by August 20th.
- Website (Ken Foltz): A link to our 2013 Fly Show website should be posted to the club website by the beginning of September.
- Trips: No report.
- Education (Ed Jones):
 - Ken Dixon reported that attendance at the fly tying tables and casting area, as well as general attendance, at the Cardboard Boat Regatta on July 14th were hampered by rain, but still respectably attended.
 - Board members had also heard from Gary Begley that the Sporting Women event at Eastern Hills Rod and Gun Club went well also.

- On September 22nd, the Green Umbrella Great Outdoors Event will be held, and BUFF will be hosting casting and tying areas at Ike's Cabin. Two casters and 5-6 tyers will be needed for the event.
- BUFF has agreed to put on an Introductory Fly Fishing class at VOA for a retiree education program, which still needs to be put together. Ed also asked whether the club had interest in re-instituting the Fly Fishing 101 class for our membership.

- Fly Tying (Ken Dixon): A salmon fly tying class has just been concluded, which received rave reviews from all who attended. The Beginner's Fly Tying class will also begin soon, and Ken thinks it will run over-budget.

- Meeting Speakers (Pete Moore): The club is set for meeting speakers through November. Pete has also been working with MVFF and NKFF on new leads. Pete is also putting a survey together on club member's opinions of meeting speaker programming, to be submitted to the general membership.

- Library (Bob Mackey): The library will be available again for the September general meeting.

- Memberships (Steve Horgan): The club now totals 255 total members.

- 2013 Fly Fishing Show(Steve Horgan): The Fly Show committee has been contacting vendors with a fly show contract, and also to show them the new layout for the 2013 show. Over 50 vendors are expected, up from 36 last year. The committee has also started to pursue a Fly Fishing Merit Badge for the Boy Scouts, at least part of which could be earned at our show.

- VA Outreach(Dave Jones): The next VA outreach event will be held at 7 p.m. on September 17th at the VA. Dave has also agreed to do a morning tying session on August 28th and to begin a regular daytime tying session as the VA has agreed to block off a designated parking space for the event leader.

- Project Healing Waters :Have been meeting twice per month, once for a fishing meeting at Parky's Farm, and once for a fly tying class at the VA. The Vets have been having great success with bass and bluegill at Parky's Farm.

- Conservation (McElravy): The BUFF cleanup of the Little Miami was well-attended and removed a significant amount of trash from the LMR.

- Good of the club:

- Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Attendees:

Board(18):Phil Pursley, Steve Walker, Pete Moore, Randy Clark, Jeff McElravy, Bruce James, Ed Jones, Jon Kennard, Bob Miller, Tim Williamson, Dave Jones, Ken Foltz, Steve Alexander, Steve Horgan, Ken Dixon, Bob Gustafson, Steve Bailey, J.R. Jackson

Submitted by J.R. Jackson, August 28th, 2012

BUFF letter in support of lowhead dam removal:

Buckeye United Fly Fishers (BUFF) supports the project to remove the lowhead dam on the East Fork of the Little Miami River in Batavia. Dams of this type disrupt the naturally flowing river system that normally fluctuates according to the seasons. These naturally occurring fluctuations in flow enable a wide diversity of species to thrive in the river ecosystem. Removal of this dam can enable the return of native aquatic species by restoring a more natural habitat.

For example, in 2008 a dam in Delaware, Ohio was removed. In 2005, Ohio EPA sampled the dam pool and found 53 types of aquatic bugs and 21 species of fish. After the dam was removed, Ohio EPA sampled again and found 81 types of aquatic bugs and 27 types of fish, including several pollution-intolerant species. (Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, October 2010)

In addition to the impacts on fish ecosystems and aquatic diversity, dams such as this also create a safety hazard for humans, to both boating and fishing pursuits, thus limiting the recreational potential for this area of the East Fork. Removal can improve the recreational opportunities and increase safety.

(Signed)