



The *BUFFER*

The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc., Cincinnati, OH

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Web site: <http://www.buckeyeflyfishers.com>

August, 2014

Notes from the President

Ken Dixon (krjdix@outlook.com)

Well, July has been a busy and interesting Month. In late June and early July, my daughter and the grandkids visited us from Seattle. Needless to say with the distance involved we do not get to spend much time together. When they are here in Cincinnati, my grandson and I always try to visit the local BassPro Shop.



As you can see above, one of his favorite places is the bubble in the big aquarium. By coincidence, we also got to watch them feed the fish. When we got home, everyone wanted to know how he talked me into getting him a new fishing rod, a BB gun and a bow and arrow set. He told them "Grandpa just went all soft". I guess I did.



Of course, we had to schedule a fishing trip to try out his new rod, and his mother and sister decided to join us at Lake Isabella. It was nearly noon before we could leave the house so fishing was sparse but as you see above, he and his sister had fun catching the fingerlings around the dock area. I look forward to being able to get the "grands" on a fly rod when they get a little older. For those that can, spend time with the kids in your life to expose them to our wonderful sport.

July also saw our annual joint meeting with our sister club, Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers, at Pioneer Park in Northern Kentucky. The weather was wonderful, and the company and food even better. BUFF turnout was great with over 30 of our members attending. Thanks to our friends at NKFF for hosting us. We look forward to having you join us next year at Voice of America Park. As I was packing up and getting ready to head home, a gentleman came up to me and, noticing my Fly Tying Group Pin from the IFFF, asked if I was into fly tying. It turned out I was talking with Joel Stansbury, one of the founding members of Buckeye United fly Fishers. Joel now lives in Lexington, Kentucky and is a member of NKFF. Joel is well known for his fly tying, particularly so for his beautiful big streamers. We talked for 30 or 40 minutes and probably would have talked longer but had to leave as they were preparing to shut down the Park. This was a fitting cap to a great evening.



Sue Jones

In July, Sue Jones agreed to join the BUFF Board of Directors as a Director at Large. Thank you for joining us and bringing your insight and experience to help lead the Club. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Bob Mackey, after 11 years as our Club Librarian, has decided he will be retiring from that position. If you are interested in this position, please contact Steve Walker. Bob thanks for all your hard work in developing and maintaining the Club Library.

I am looking forward to August when my brother and I get together for our annual Charter Trip on Lake Michigan for Salmon, Lake Trout and Steelhead. Yeah, it's not on the fly but it is great getting to spend time with my brother. I'll let you know how we do.

At the August BUFF Meeting, in addition to the planned program, we will be having a second auction of equipment from the late Bill Fisher's estate, donated to BUFF by his family in Bill's memory. There will be a selection of rods, reels and fly boxes, presented in both live and silent auctions.

Good Fishing and Tight Lines,

Ken Dixon

American Eels

Steve Lilly (sjlilly@fuse.net)

American eels are champion long distance swimmers; after hatching in the Sargasso Sea one of them swam more than 2,000 miles to reach the Salt Lick Creek near Chillicothe.

Ohio Stream Guide



The Sargasso Sea where the American Eels begin their life is a two million square-mile warm-water lens in the North Atlantic between the West Indies and the Azores. There the buoyant eggs hatch into small, transparent larvae that drift with the Gulf Stream for about a year until they reach the Atlantic coast. By then though sexually immature, the juveniles will have taken the shape of the adults and can absorb oxygen through their skin as well as their gills, making it possible for them to travel over land, particularly in wet grass or mud, which may help them move around a barrier or into another drainage. The males usually remain near the estuaries while the females swim up the freshwater streams all along the East Coast from the Chesapeake Bay north to the St Lawrence River, and with the completion of the Welland Canal in 1829 they were able to inhabit the Great Lakes drainage. The females remain inland for as long as 40 years before reaching maturity as bronze-black eels with silver undersides and are ready to mate. Meanwhile back in the estuaries the males reach maturity in about three years. Eventually both sexes migrate back to the ocean and the Sargasso Sea where females release 20 to 30 million eggs for the males to fertilize before both parents die. Commercial fishing plus man-made barriers have led to the decline in the American Eel population; in Ohio they are listed as a threatened species.

Trip Report Muskegon River Lodge / Riverquest Charters

Bob Gustafson (j.r.gustafson@att.net)

I had the good fortune to win one of the Grand Prize Raffles at this year's BUFF Banquet and selected the trip to Newaygo, Michigan, for a day's lodging at the Muskegon River Lodge and a day float trip for two on the Muskegon River, hosted by Riverquest Charters. The trip had been donated by long-time BUFF supporter Steven Kueick, owner of the lodge and Riverquest Charters. The lodge is an easy 6 hour drive North, mostly on interstate highways. Wendy and I opted to stay a second night and fish two days.



Riverquest Charters river boat



Muskegon River Lodge

We visited the lodge in late June and had a great time! The hospitality and fishing was excellent (rainbow and brown trout) and the lodge is first class. The lodge has 6-7 double beds and can accommodate a good size group. Muskegon River Lodge rents the facility to only one party at a time, so we had the place all to ourselves--and what a place! Our accommodations consisted of three levels, the riverside setting, a fully equipped kitchen, with lots of reading materials, were very comfortable accommodations. Besides the main lodge, there is an adjacent "Man Cave" with satellite TV, pool table, card table, and bar. The whole setup is first class and has been recognized as an Orvis endorsed fly fishing lodge.

Steven, our host and guide, really knows the river and does a great job putting you on fish. He also whips up amazingly wonderful shoreline meals. He is a very good, patient, and unobtrusive instructor. Wendy enjoyed the coaching on making reach casts and getting good drifts and I enjoyed learning about the river's bug population. Highly recommend you try this destination!

<http://www.muskegonriverlodge.com/>

http://riverquestcharters.com/fishing_report/



Ohio Fly Fishing Waters

Pete Moore (sharonandpetem@outlook.com)

Here is an opportunity for you BUFF fly fishers to share some of your knowledge about the many excellent fly fishing opportunities in Ohio waters and particularly waters in the south-western part of Ohio.

At our February meeting Wes Krupiczewicz (president of Derby City Fly Fishers) was our program speaker. His subject was where and how to fly fish in Kentucky waters. His program was at no cost to BUFF, and we appreciate his effort and willingness to share his knowledge. Wes has asked that we put together a similar

program that we can present to the Derby City Fly Fishers at one of their monthly meetings this coming winter.

The BUFF board of directors would like to ask you members if there anyone who is willing volunteer to make this type of presentation. If we cannot find one person, perhaps two or more folks who have knowledge about different waters in Ohio could work together to prepare a presentation that would demonstrate the excellent fishing knowledge of our membership.

If you are willing to work on this project, please contact:

- Phil Pursley phil.pursley@hotmail.com or 513-717-4056
- Pete Moore sharonandpetem@outlook.com or 513-382-9632

BUFF September 10, 2014 Program

Pete Moore (sharonandpetem@outlook.com)

As a response to some BUFF members interest in the use of kayaks to reach fishing areas that are not accessible by wading, we are planning for the September 10 BUFF meeting to be focused on understanding the selection and use of kayaks for fly fishing.

Our September program will consist of two parts:

1. Starting at 5:30 on September 10 in the lake south and east of the Ronald Regan Lodge Roads Rivers and Trails (outfitters in Milford, Ohio <http://www.roadsriversandtrails.com/>) will make available several fishing type kayaks for BUFF members to inspect, discuss and take a trial rides. You will have an opportunity to try several kayaks if you wish. If you plan to take a test ride in a kayak, come prepared to wade in shallow water to enter and exit the kayak. Also realize that you could get other cloths wet if you have an accident. So bring something to store you valuables in (i.e. wallet, watch, cell phone, etc.), and dry cloths in event of an accident. Both BUFF and Roads Rivers and Trails will ask all folks that wish to paddle a kayak to sign a waiver of liability form. Although there will be life jackets available, you may wish to bring your own. This first part of the program will end about 6:45 pm so we can ready ourselves for dinner, the business meeting and the second part of the program.
2. The second part of the program will start at the normal time of approximately 8:pm. Delamere and Hopkins (Cincinnati outfitters for Field and Stream - <http://dh.bestgear.com/>) will make a presentation to our membership about the use of a kayak for fly fishing.

This program will hopefully help us understand the pros and cons of kayak fishing and dispel and myths or misunderstandings we may have about kayaks. Please come prepared to learn and enjoy.

Remember!!!! The first part of the program starts at 5:45pm at the lake. We will launch the kayaks in the pond area south of the Ronald Regan Lodge.

Mind the Rocks

James (JR) Jackson (jacks2jr@mail.uc.edu)

On the morning of July 4, I snuck out to the Brookville Reservoir Tailwaters for a few hours before the afternoon family gatherings and cookouts fired up, and I ran across something that our new members (as well as some of the older ones) can benefit from hearing about. I was fishing downstream of the Rt. 252 bridge, in a section of the river known

as the “deck pool”, so-named because of the large wooden deck that sits on the hillside overlooking the stream at that particular pool. When I hit the water at 7 a.m., the USGS stream gage was reading 3.75...a little on the high side for that particular stream, but not totally un-fishable given the right approach. Since the water was running high and the sun hadn't yet risen over the horizon high enough for direct sunlight to be hitting the water, I decided to start out with my streamer rod, throwing some of the big, ugly streamer patterns developed by Kelly Galloup. After ten minutes of casting and retrieving, I felt a strong tug on the end of my sinking line. I set the hook and saw a large brown trout come up from the depths just long enough to widen my eyes before the fish spit the hook and headed for the Gulf of Mexico. I got a few more strikes over the next half hour, but then all interest in my streamers ceased and I started seeing fish rising with more and more regularity.

I continued to fish streamers for another ten minutes before giving up and heading back to the car to pick up my dry fly and nymphing rod. On the way back, I happened to look at the base of the 252 bridge, and only then did I realize what brought on the abrupt change in feeding patterns...there was a clear water line on the concrete showing that the stream level had dropped about 6 inches, completely changing the nature of the stream. When water levels are high and clarity is low, streamer fishing is king. Lower levels and clear water, however, usually indicate that smaller flies will be more productive.

Aside from the perspective of fishing approach, there's another important lesson to be learned from this story. Water levels rise and fall quickly, especially in tailwaters where flow rates are largely controlled by outflow from a reservoir. When you're out in the water, focused on the fish, it's easy to miss the change in stream flow, and when levels are on the rise, this can lead to trouble. Any time you're out wading in the water, it is good practice to find a “marker rock”, which you can use as a reference to indicate changes in the stream flow. A marker rock is really any easily distinguishable feature which lies right at the water line and will allow you to monitor a rise or fall in water level. This is especially important on big waters, like the Tuckaseegee River in North Carolina, where it can take several minutes to exit the water from mid-stream. As soon as I enter the Tuck, I pick out a rock, tree, or sometimes even a unique looking plant which I can use to monitor stream levels, and then check it regularly as I work the stream. If I start noticing my marker rock being covered by water, or worse yet, can't even see my rock underneath the water (it has happened), I know to get out of the stream as quickly as possible. On more than one occasion, using the marker rock has made the difference between a quick, dry exit from the stream and a wet, and possibly deadly swim in my waders.



August Meeting Program

Pete Moore (sharonandpetem@outlook.com)

The August program speaker will be Butler County MetroParks Deputy Director Jason Shamblin. Jason will discuss the growth and development of the Butler County MetroParks system.

Jason joined the MetroParks team in September of 2012 as the Deputy Director. Prior to his arrival in Butler County he was the Director of Parks and Recreation for Reynoldsburg, Ohio a Columbus suburb. Jason also worked for the following central Ohio communities: Grove City and Gahanna. Jason started his career working for the YMCA in Akron.

A proud alumnus of Ohio University and Hocking College Jason has been married to his wife Allison for 10 years, has three children, ages 6, 4 and 3. In Jason's free time he enjoys spending time with friends and family. Some of his favorite hobbies include: visiting neighboring parks while Geocaching, gardening, and reading.

2015 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show

Bob Gustafson (j.r.gustafson@att.net)

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 7, 2015, for the 2015 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show!

The fly show committee is hard at work planning for our best show ever. The show will once again be held at the Oasis Conference Center in Loveland. Watch the **BUFF** and the **BUFF** website for announcements on the show headliners, exhibits, speakers, and other show news in the months ahead.

Each year, after the show, we conduct surveys of our vendors, exhibitors, and visitors. The feedback is solidly positive—many vendors go out of their way to compliment **BUFF** for the organization and running of the show and the venue. Specially noted is the work and enthusiasm of our teams of volunteers (thank you all!). Our show is noteworthy for the extra touches, help with load in/out, and helpfulness of our volunteers. To be a part of the 2015 Show team, please contact Bob Gustafson or Bob Miller, show coordinators.





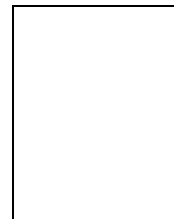
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P. O. Box 42614

Cincinnati, OH 45242

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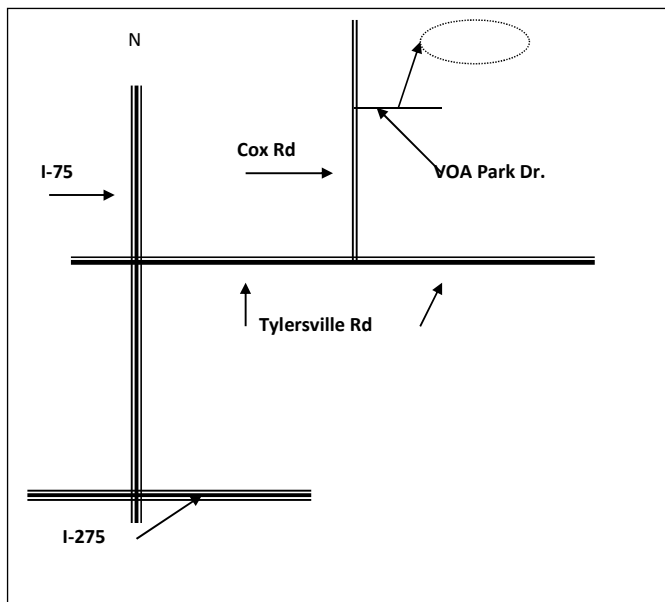
NOTICE: Dues are \$25 (Individual), \$30 (Family), with a onetime \$5 Initiation Fee for new members. New members will pay a prorated membership amount according to month of initial membership for the first year. Annual dues are due January 1. Refer to BUFF website for further information. B.U.F.F., P.O. Box 42614, Cincinnati, OH 45242

Mailing Address

Next Monthly Meeting – Aug 13, 2014

Call (513) 683-0286 or sign up on line at WWW.BUCKEYEFLYFISHERS.COM for reservations no later than midnight on the Sunday before the meeting. Dinners are \$15/person.

Sign up from the 20th of the month through the Sunday evening before the monthly meeting!



Directions:

From I-75 -- Follow I-75 north to the Tylersville Road exit. Turn right off of the exit ramp onto Tylersville Road and follow to Cox Road. Turn left onto Cox Road and follow Cox Road north to VOA Park Drive. Turn right onto VOA Park Drive. Turn left onto first drive and follow roadway to Lodge.

From the Warren County area...

Follow Tylersville Road west to Cox Road. Turn right onto Cox Road and follow Cox Road north to VOA Park Drive. Turn right onto VOA Park Drive. Turn left onto first drive and follow roadway to Lodge.