



The **BUFFER**

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

Volume 26, Issue 5

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

May 2002

President's Corner

Dave Uckotter

Sometime in June or early July the club will be offering casting clinics to our members. The Backwater Fly Fishers in Naples Florida has a casting program in place that we are going to adopt. Out of 125 members they have 21 that have been FFF certified with the help of this course. Tony Kalbli, who is a member of BFF, has taken this course and has become FFF certified. Tony has recruited several of our members to take the course (including yours truly) to be qualified to teach the course to Buffers. Casting seems to be a very popular class that all the members are interested in. This will be a great opportunity to learn casting or to hone your skills. I will have more details later to pass on to you.

Topics from the Board of Directors meeting:

Lou Haynes and helpers presented a fly-fishing program to a class at Indian Hill High School. About 16 students attended the class. Lou also has a fly tying program scheduled at East Fork Lake on

continued on page 3, column 1

Ladies!! Ladies!! Ladies!!

Please read the announcement on Ladies Only Introduction to Fly Fishing on page 2. This is a great opportunity to learn more about fly fishing in a low risk, easy to learn environment. But it's imperative you let us know you plan on attending.

INTRO CLASS A SUCCESS

Dave Uckotter

The morning started off on the dreary side at Sycamore Park. Those who arrived early sat around with their Krispy Kreams and coffee looking at the drizzle. However the shelter was dry and comfortable. At 9:00 am the class started off with a brief introduction followed by Jon Kennard who addressed the options on the equipment that we use in our everyday fly fishing. I did the next sessions on rods and reels, line, leader and tippet. After a short break, both from the class and weather, the rain had stopped and it started clearing up. Jon followed up

continued on page 4, column 2

Meeting Program

May's meeting will focus on fly fishing equipment and stream safety. We will learn from some of the best about the proper ways to cross streams safely. We will also learn the proper way to remove hooks and much more! We would like to have everyone bring one piece of equipment to talk about and a story about how this equipment has helped you fish better or stay safer. This is your chance to talk to different members and find out a few tips and techniques. This is the kind of proven advice that you just will not find in the textbooks. This will be a lot of fun and a meeting you just cannot afford to miss.

Adventures From the Reel World

The Little River

Steven Bleh

Often, the simplest advice is the hardest to follow. Take the case of the Smoky Mountains National Park's Little River, the knowledgeable locals, and a zealous fly fisherman. I would be the zealous one. Like many who fish the Little, I am drawn to the area by its profound and rugged beauty. Clear mountain waters, fed from summits of 6,000 feet, cascade over and around large, sometimes immense, boulders. Thick forests of poplar, hemlock, and rhododendron fill the tight valley. Deer are common, and occasionally black bear are seen. The Little River Trail, my favorite point of access, shadows the stream from Elkmont to the headwaters, a distance of around six miles. In some areas, trail walkers can look down on trout feeding in the deep green holes. It is these areas, though, that often lead to my Little River struggles. The locals, you see, had always told me to hit the Little River Trail, keep my head down and walk for a half an hour before even thinking about wetting a line. But I could never keep my head down. The sound of the water called for a look, and everywhere I looked I saw beautiful trout water. The farthest I ever made it, then, was about 10 minutes. But since there are many like me-- those who can't resist a run that looks fishy-- the trout on this section of the Little

are well educated and stubborn. So while the scenery was outstanding, the fishing was often less than. I decided last June that my only hope was to walk the trail into the backcountry and stay awhile. I would force myself to get further than most. The national park offers two backcountry camping areas on the river-- site #24, about 4.5 miles up the trail, and site #30 at the headwaters. Those who choose #30 should check park regulations carefully, many streams, including the Little are closed at their headwaters to protect the native brook trout.

I reserved site #24 for two nights, Friday and Saturday, and while there is no fee for backcountry camping, you must register with the park service to avoid overcrowding. The process is easy; simply call ahead to the backcountry office (865-436-1231) and make a reservation, then fill out a registration form at the Elkmont backcountry office when you arrive. Drop the form in the box and hit the trail. The hike into the backcountry is relatively easy. The trail was once a logging rail line, so the ascent is gradual, and the path wide and well maintained. Walking at a moderate pace, I arrived at the campsite in a little over two hours. Site #24 is a wilderness fly fisherman's dream. The fire ring and cooking area are right on the banks of the stream. A short path leads to the sleeping area, about 40 yards from the water-- far enough to be in accordance with the rules of backcountry camping, yet close

Continued on page 6 , column 3

Lady's Only Introduction To Fly Fishing

Dave Uckotter

The last introduction to fly fishing class was a huge success with 13 in attendance. Read the article in this issue of the BUFFER and sign up as soon as you can. The club will supply rods and reels, so you won't need to bring a thing. The class will be on Saturday, May 18th at Sycamore Park in Batavia. The class will begin at 9:00am and end around 4:00pm To sign up send a refundable deposit of \$25.00 to: B.U.F.F. PO Box 42614 Cinti., Oh 45242 . Mark your check "class". Do not wait until the last minute, we have to line up instructors, make handouts and order lunch.



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Wednesday, April 24th for grade school kids in the area. There was some discussion about B.U.F.F. joining Little Miami Inc. This issue was tabled until the May meeting. This would become part of our conservation program. Bob Goldsberry is presenting fly-fishing and a fly tying demonstration at the East Gate Mall on April 27th. Lou Haynes is putting together a fly fishing program for Little Miami Inc. on July 13th or 20th at Nisbett Park in Loveland. Watch your calendar for this event.

Our topic for the May meeting will be a video presentation produced by The Simms Co. This is a timely program because we will want to get on the streams when the weather gives us a break. You might never need to get yourself or a buddy out of a jam, but if you do, you will be better prepared, and you could save a life, maybe your own.

Jim LeBlond and I have had

meetings with the catering staff at the Clarion Hotel to iron out some of the problems we have had in the past especially with the meals. I just want you to know we are working on it.

If any of you Buffers have any expertise in video equipment let me know. We want to purchase a camera and monitor for our tying classes and to show demonstrations.

Upcoming programs and events are a good way for you to become acquainted with other members of the club and become more active member. You do not have to be an expert to join in. If you only hand out brochures that is a big help. The more you join in the activities, the better you get, the more members you will meet.

Jorge Villares is moving to Davenport, Iowa. He has found employment at The John Deere Company. Jorge has been an active member in B.U.F.F. for many years

and took over the Mad River Conservation project. He did a fine job of organizing work parties to restore habitat in the river. Jorge also did the web site for the TU Madmen. Thanks Jorge for jobs well done!! ♥

"I have enough trouble remembering common English, much less learning Latin names for bugs. My hero in trout fishing still is John Voelker, alias Robert Traver, the famed author and trout fisherman who, when asked the name of his favorite fly, replied that it was 'some damn little brown thing.' "

- Joel M. Vance, Field & Stream, July

Please note that in addition to our ad's from our favorite local fly shops, we now have new advertisements from some new supporters. These companies, including our fly shops, have been generous supporters of B.U.F.F. Please remember and support all of these fine companies.

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The Value of Club Trips

Joe Panfalone

At our banquet this year, I was given a recognition award for having gone on the most club trips. It came as a surprise to me and with some consternation. Of all times for my wife to decide to accompany me to the banquet! I had her convinced that I was away on business. My deceitfulness having been exposed, I am sure that my activities this coming season will be under much greater scrutiny!

In my 12 years of having traveled with the club, I have never experienced a bad trip. I learned more by interacting with my traveling companions than I have in books. I have made acquaintances that have matured into sincere friendships, and have traveled to places that ordinarily, I would not have ventured on my own.


This year our trips chairman Joe Guenther has planned a phenomenal line up exciting places for us to explore. We are greatly indebted to Joe and his various trip coordinators for volunteering their time to make it all happen.

The rest is up to you. I cannot recommend strongly enough that everyone take the opportunity to further his or her fly-fishing experience by participating in at least one of these trips this year. The economies of a large group help keep the costs down so they remain affordable. As I said earlier, I have never had a bad trip. ♥

Intro Class...continued from page 1

on stream safety, then we began our hands-on knot tying segment. The hands-on was really a “good time had by all” type class. We took another short break and then on to lunch. Louise Goldsberry and Jayne Uckotter prepared lunch. Lunch was the usual picnic fare of brats, metts, chips, potato salad and cookies for dessert. After lunch we had another hands-on tying session, tying the famous Wooly Bugger. All of the assistants took part in helping the class. Some had tied before and for some it was their first attempt. Those who had tied before pitched right in to help the new guys. Bob Goldsberry took over the program providing a class on conservation and stream etiquette. We had planned on doing some stream monitoring, but the river wasn't in the best of shape so that portion of Bob's talk was dropped. Bob Fountain took over the class and every one went to a large grassy area in the park where he gave casting lessons. The first time results


looked very promising and with a little practice everyone will do okay. Our next segment of our program was to get on the Eastfork and learn a few basics on fishing moving water. But again the river wouldn't allow it. For those who are interested we will have a class on fishing the river in July. Check your calendar. Those that attended the class were: Phil Pursley, Janice Osterfeld, Elijah Rion, Bill Schobel, Tom Warren, Jerry Schatzman, Nick Rizzo, Paul Hamilton, Peggy and Lee Hodgson, Don Balsly, John Schmidt and Tom Murrell. The class has learned enough to get on the stream or on a pond and have fun this season catching fish and improving their newly learned skills. Keep up the good work. If you get “stuck” feel free to ask us for a hand. Special thanks to those instructors who made the class a fun time and a big success, Jerry Brothers, Bob Fountain, Bob and Louise Goldsberry, Lou Haynes, Jon Kennard and Jayne Uckotter. ♥



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The Education Corner

Lou Haynes

Fly-Fishing 101 Class at Indian Hills High School

The Indian Hills High School PE Department offers a unique, elective class on outdoor activities, which includes segments on camping, canoeing, trail biking, fishing, etc. Our club was asked for the third year to teach fly-fishing 101 as part of the fishing segment. Five of us ventured to the school on April 17 to teach basic fly tying and casting.

Bob Goldsberry and Dave Uckotter braved the hot sun (with much complaint I might add) to teach fly-casting while Steve Lilly and I assisted Hank Gilliam in the air-conditioned environment inside the gym. Hank showed the group how to tie a wooly worm. Mrs. Ellen Hughes, the class instructor, has 18 students in this popular class this year and expects about 60 next year. This will be a significant challenge for our club assuming we are asked to participate again. I want to thank Hank, Steve, Bob and Dave for their time and effort.

Bluegill Patterns

Lou Haynes

At the April club meeting bluegill fly-fishers were asked to provide their most productive fly patterns. The purpose for this exercise was to develop a list of good patterns for our inexperienced bluegill fishers to try. I want to thank the twenty-seven fishers who responded. The responses are provided below:

- Brown wooly bugger
- Purple wooly bugger
- Black ant with red marking
- Bead head pheasant tail
- Adams
- Red ants
- Sneaky Pete
- Dave Uckotters' bully spider
- Poppers
- Poppers
- Rubber spider
- Sneaky Petes
- Black and yellow popper
- Uckotters' bully spider
- Brown rubber spider
- White popper
- Sinking spider
- Pearl popper
- Bead head Prince nymph
- Green rubber spider with white legs
- Pheasant tail nymph
- Rubber spider
- Popper
- Yellow rubber spider
- Micro cable(?) nymph
- Yellow rubber spider
- Moss green wooly bugger
- Brown wooly bugger
- Brown rubber spider
- Black or tan rubber spider
- Black foam ant on long shank hook with hackle in center
- Popper
- Rubber spider
- Deer hair frog
- Popper with rubber legs
- Brown wooly bugger
- Rubber spider

Continued on page 7, column 2



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Fly Fishing Books By Women And About Women

Lou Haynes

The following list of books was provided with some educational materials I recently received from the Federation of Fly Fishers. I thought these books might be of interest to some of our women fly-fishers.

General Fishing Information:

“Cathy Beck’s Fly Fishing Handbook” by Cathy Beck; “Treatise of Fishing with an Angle” by Dame Juliana Berners; “Reading the Water” by Mallory Burton.

Stories and Essays of Fly Fishing and Life:

“Reel Women” by Lyla Foggia; “Fishing Diary” by Muriel Foster; “A Women’s No Nonsense Guide to Fly Fishing Favorite Waters” by Yvonne Graham; “Northern Waters” by Jan Grover; “Walk The Water” by Lorain Hemingway;

“I Don’t Know Why I Swallowed The Fly” by Jessica Maxwell; “Famous Flies And Their History” by Mary Orvis Maybury; “Mid Atlantic Budget Angler” by Ann McIntosh; “River Walking” by Kathleen Dean Moore; “A Different Angle” by Holly Morris; “Uncommon Waters” by Holly Waters; “Cast Again, Tales of a Fly Fishing Guide” by Jennifer Olsson; “Little Rivers” by Margot Page; “Fly Fishing, Woman’s Guide” by Dana Rikimaru; “Joan Wulff’s Fly-Casting Accuracy” by Joan Wulff; “Joan Wulff’s Fly Casting Techniques” by Joan Wulff; “Joan Wulff’s Fly Fishing: Expert Advice from a Women’s Perspective” by Joan Wulff.

Women’s Fly Fishing Website

The following website was also mentioned along with these comments: WWW.FLYGIRLS.WS. - get acquainted with other women interested in fly fishing. Read stories about women fly fishers and learn more about fly-fishing. ♥

Little River...from page 2

enough to be lulled to sleep by the sounds of the river.

I quickly set up camp, gathered firewood and rigged my rod. By 4:30 I was on the water. There were already some sulphurs and large yellow mayflies coming off. Little golden stones could be seen in the vegetation on the shore. A stream alive with the hatches of spring, makes me act, quite frankly, as giddy as a schoolboy. I trembled with enthusiasm and could barely cast. After some super-charged attempts at casting that ended in snarls of line and leader, I finally, in the hole right above my campsite, hooked and landed a beautiful 8” wild rainbow (the National Park Service abandoned stocking in 1974). Before dinner I added three more, all about the same size, maybe a bit smaller. Rainbows from 8-12” are average for this part of the Little. Further downstream, the deep holes hold larger rainbows, and browns bigger than 20” but they are wise and finicky. The next day, Saturday, produced more of the same, including a rainbow that I patiently stalked and enticed with a sulphur parachute. He had been holding tight to a rhododendron branch that dipped into the small pool of a side channel. Nearly crawling, I worked myself into casting position and let the fly settle just upstream from the branch. A perfect cast. My admiration, though, was brought to a sudden end by the splashy rise of an eager trout. I recovered my senses in time to set the hook, and was rewarded with the frantic magic of a tight line and tugging rod. After three strong

Continued on page 7, column 1

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MAY

2 Thurs/7pm - **Tie and Lie West**. General fly tying and story telling. Springdale Community Center.

3-5 Fri-Sun - **Nantahala Trout Trip** (Randy Clark & Jeff McElravy)

4 Sat 9am-4pm - **Introduction To Fly Fishing**. Sycamore Park, Batavia (Dave Uckotter)

8 Wed / 6pm - **BUFF Monthly Meeting @ Clarion Hotel (Pfeiffer Rd. and I-71)**.

Organizational meeting for fly casters instructors school (Tony Kalbli).

11,19,26 Sat / 1pm - **Fly Casters Instructors School**. Deerfield Park time TBD (Tony Kalbli)

15 Wed / 7pm - **BUFF Director's Meeting @ Clarion Hotel (Pfeiffer Rd. and I-71)**. Members encouraged.

Little River...Cont. from page 6

runs to the head of the pool, in which I feared losing him each time, I pulled the trout onto a small gravel bar on the shore. He was a fine rainbow, covered with speckles and a deep red band. Though I caught many like him during my stay in the backcountry, this was the most satisfying. If there is a lesson to be learned, it's that the Little is not necessarily a match the hatch stream. This is particularly hard to figure in light of the heavy and consistent hatches. But in many cases, a size 14 or 16 elk hair caddis produced better than the smaller mayfly and stonefly patterns. The best explanation is that the caddis was more visible in the tumbling water. In quieter water where smaller match the hatch patterns will have success, be prepared with a variety of styles of sulphurs size 16-18 and little golden stones size 14-18. Other minor hatches include little green stones (16-18) and yellow mayflies (12). While my visit was in early June, numerous websites offer more specific hatch information for the various seasons. Oh yes, there is another lesson. Take it from the locals and an zealous fly fisherman who thought he knew better-- on the Little River Trail, put your head down and walk for thirty minutes before you even think about wetting a line. ♥

2002 Calendar of Events

*The **BUFFER** attempts to provide up-to-date information on club events. Check the calendar each month & call the contact person for the event for potential changes. If you notice errors, please contact **The BUFFER** editor.*

MAY (cont.)

16 Thurs / 7-9pm - **Lie and Tie East** at Hardee's in Batavia. General fly tying and story telling.

17-19 Fri-Sat - **Central Pa. Trout Trip**. Joe Humphries will be available to tie flies and to show some local waters (Joe Guenther).

18 Sat - **Ladies Only Introduction To Fly Fishing**. Sycamore Park, Batavia (Dave Uckotter)

JUNE

1,2 Sat-Sun - **National Free Fishing Day**. No license required to fish on these days.

1 Sat / 9am-3pm - **Clermont County Fly Fishing Seminar**. Sycamore Park, Batavia (Bob Goldsberry)

2 Sat / 1pm - **Fly Casters Instructors**

Bluegill Flies...Cont. from page 5

Foam spiders and poppers in various colors seem to be the most popular patterns. For those who might wonder what a "Uckotter bully spider" is, Dave (the inventor) tells me it has a black ice chenille body and round, white rubber legs. Dave ties this pattern on a #8 4x long steamer hook. Sneaky Petes are poppers tied with the narrow end of the body near the hook eye. We hope this list helps increase your bluegill fishing success. (Note to the experienced smallmouth fly-fishers. Be prepared to provide your magic patterns at the next meeting. I promise to publish these results as well.) ♥

JUNE (cont.)

School. Deerfield Park time TBD (Tony Kalbli)
5-7 Wed-Fri - **New River Smallmouth Trip** (Bob Goldsberry)

6 Thurs/7pm - **Tie and Lie West**. General fly tying and story telling. Springdale Community Center.

12 Wed / 6pm - **BUFF Monthly Meeting @ Clarion Hotel (Pfeiffer Rd. and I-71)**.

19 Wed / 7pm - **BUFF Director's Meeting @ Clarion Hotel (Pfeiffer Rd. and I-71)**. Members encouraged.

20 Thurs / 7-9pm - **Lie and Tie East** at Hardee's in Batavia. General fly tying and story telling.

27-30 Thurs-Sun - **Elkhorn Creek Smallmouth Trip**. Frankfort, Ky. (Don Hogue)

TBA - **East Fork Stream Monitoring**

TBA - **GLC Ross Commons Trip**

JULY

10 Wed / 7-9pm - **BUFF Outdoors Monthly Meeting**. Sycamore Park, Batavia.

13-14 Sat-Sun - **Cumberland Tail Waters Trout Trip** (Joe Guenther)

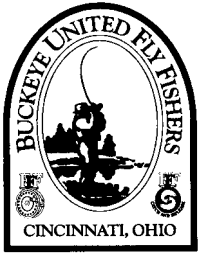
17 Wed / 7pm - **BUFF Director's Meeting @ Clarion Hotel (Pfeiffer Rd. and I-71)**. Members encouraged.

18 Thurs / 7-9pm - **Lie and Tie East** at Hardee's in Batavia. General fly tying and story telling.

27 Sat / 8am-4pm - **How To Read The River**. Private water on the East Fork (Jon Kennard).

Year 2002 Officers and Directors

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Jim LeBlond	Vice Pres.	561-8957
Roy Matthews	Secretary	661-3296
Louise Goldsberry	Treasurer	732-0735
Don Prince	Membership	398-0921
Bob Goldsberry	Conservation	732-0735
Lou Haynes	Education	777-4854
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Mike Bryant	The Buffer Fly Fishing Show mj Bryant@email.com	793-6189
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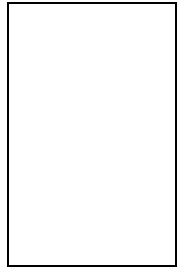


The *BUFFER*

The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc.

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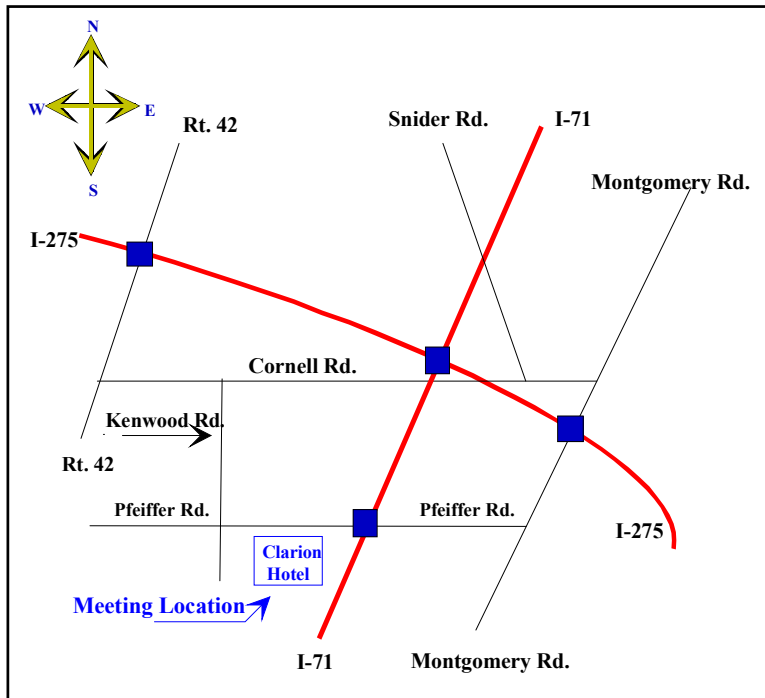
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Next Monthly Meeting – WEDNESDAY May 8

CALL 732-0735 FOR DINNER RESERVATIONS NO LATER THAN 10 PM OF THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING. DINNERS ARE \$8.00 / PERSON FOR A CATERED MEAL. RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED - DON'T WAIT - CALL NOW!



Program: Fly Fishing Safety and Equipment

Directions: The May B.U.F.F. Meeting will be held at the Clarion Hotel located on Pfeiffer Road. From I-71, take Exit 15. The Clarion Hotel is located just west of the interstate highway.