



# The BUFFER

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

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November, 2013

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## Riffles and Runs

Ed Jones ([jonesee@miamiohio.edu](mailto:jonesee@miamiohio.edu))

My favorite way to fish is by wading in a mountain trout stream. You know the old saying, "Trout don't live in ugly places." Even if the fishing is mediocre or poor, I always have a great time negotiating waters that wind through some of the most scenic spots in the world. Of the many fishable mountain stream features, my favorites are slick runs just below rapids or riffles. Fish are usually there, and wading is generally more manageable. The water is a little deeper, and the surface is mildly choppy - but smooth enough to readily observe a bobbing dry fly or strike indicator.

Many runs have narrow "channels," which cut a little deeper through the runs. They may traverse most of the length of the run or may only be a few feet in length. Channels may be a few feet deeper than the run, but just as likely less than a foot. Frequently more trout are there than most other places in a stream, but fish are not necessarily readily visible – even with polarized lenses. For some reason, trout are attracted to such structure. Maybe it offers them a place to rest from the surrounding current. Maybe it's where the stream funnels tasty fishy food. Maybe the upstream riffles have freshly oxygenated the water. Maybe the fish are simply safer there. Whatever it is, these are potential honey holes that shouldn't be neglected.

Sometimes channels are right in the midst of substantial riffles. I came across some of those while on an autumn Montana expedition. Wife, Sue, and I were staying in a cabin about 50' from the Gallatin River. We had long wanted to experience this stream because of its historical significance. It's one of the three forks that form the headwaters of the Missouri River discovered by Lewis and Clark in 1805 and is home to populations of beautiful cutthroat trout. Fly shops in West Yellowstone told us that recent rains and a sudden cold snap had put the fish down, "but it will improve soon." Would a fly shop ever say "You're screwed for the next two weeks?" Anyway, we scouted out the access points for about 10 miles of Gallatin water, made note of those that looked promising, and planned to avail ourselves of them during the ensuing week. Sounds like a plan, but that night it rained ... and rained ... and rained! We awoke next to a stream that bore little resemblance to the, relatively docile, crystal clear trout stream we had seen the day before. Instead, it was rapid moving milky-brown slurry that had been washed down from the bentonite-laden water of swollen tributaries higher in the mountains. We searched for alternative places to fish that day without success.

I awoke two mornings later to find the waters still high but considerably more clear but still not clear enough to build much confidence. I thought that Sue and I should get up and get going upstream where the water should be more inviting. I awakened my other half suggesting we should embark before other fishers hogged our chosen spots. However, someone was in a sour mood - something about being awake half the night because of (alleged) snoring and addled sleep talk. So I decided to let "Grumpy" sleep and try the stained water outside our door alone.

I picked my way downstream through boulder-strewn riffles and pocket water, eventually making it to my destination – the downstream end of a small brushy island that split the stream into two equal portions. Water on the near side of the island appeared difficult, but the far side was an inviting lengthy slick – my favorite! Wading to the promising water looked manageable, so I decided it was worth the effort and forged ahead.

On the way, a nice trout shot out and downstream from under my unsteady left boot. I was reminded of an old Lefty Kreh axiom - something about trout fishermen spending too much time standing where they should be fishing and fishing where they should be standing. My polarized lenses revealed that, right in the midst of formidable riffles, I was guilty – standing in a modest channel only about 8' long and maybe 8" deep. A few feet ahead was a similar cut, sliced out by decades of rushing waters. A short lob of my weighted fly ahead of the channel yielded a beautiful 12" Gallatin cutthroat that had succumbed to a #16 hare's ear. Minutes later, another cast to an additional short channel slicing through the riffles yielded a smaller but equally beautiful cutthroat. I finally reached the "promising" long, wide run on the other side of the island, spent an hour offering up a variety of nymphs and a parachute Adams, but failed to secure a single strike. Wading back to the cabin meant additional rushing riffles on the upstream side of the island where I hooked and lost a larger trout that had been hanging out in another short, shallow channel. (The speed with which some of these fish get hooked and then dart across a swift rock strewn river is amazing!)

Long slick runs below rapids and riffles remain a favorite target, but I'll try to slow down, analyze the stream bottom, and remember that productive little channels may sometimes be found right in the water that surrounds the more inviting runs.

## Brook Trout

Steve Lilly ([sjlilly@fuse.net](mailto:sjlilly@fuse.net))

*Brook trout are arguably America's most beautiful freshwater fish.*

*Trout Unlimited*



Brook trout have resided in the Lake Erie tributaries ever since the melting of the Wisconsin Glacier some 10,000 years ago and over time they had evolved into a genetically distinct species. With Ohio's growth, the Brook Trout population went into a decline until it was believed they were extinct. But in 1972 two self-sustaining populations were identified in the headwaters of the Chagrin River in Geauga County. Twenty years later one of the two remaining Brook Trout populations fell to residential development, leaving the Spring Brook in the Chagrin River system as the only stream in the State with a population of native Brook Trout. Fortunately a refuge for this last remnant of the threatened species was formed when the Geauga Park District purchased the Spring Brook and most of the surrounding acreage. A few

years later the Ohio Division of Wildlife began to plant a few of them into other streams in the Chagrin River system where there was suitable habitat. Presently there are nine self-sustaining native Brook Trout populations in the Chagrin River drainage and one in the Rocky River drainage. Because of the fragile nature of the Brook Trout and the streams they inhabit, protective measures are necessary to allow them to thrive and propagate. The focus is not intended for them to become a sports fishery, but to return a legacy to some of their former range.

## November 13, 2013 BUFF program "Trout Hunting with Meat"

Tom Smith ([tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com](mailto:tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com))

Speaker: Mike Schmidt, Angler's Choice Flies, Dublin Ohio

Starting with a brief history of where streamers came from moving up through modern day, Mike will progress through each phase of the process from gear, to flies and materials, to reading water and fishing the flies

## Club's Project Healing Waters supports American Vets

Tom Smith ([tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com](mailto:tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com))

Project healing Waters is a club sponsored program where Buff members provide regularly scheduled fishing trips and fly tying instruction to American veterans. During the past year regular fishing sessions were held at Parky's Farm, but due to the park's recent fish kill problems the fishing activities have been moved to Lake Isabella. On Thursday 10/24, I brought my camera and spent a few hours with the group to take a few pictures, participate in their activities and investigate the possibility of providing more regular exposure of the great work these club members are doing to help veterans get enjoyment out of fishing. Four veterans and club members, Tom Scheer and Brent Miller were present for that afternoon. Tom is the club's recognized leader for PHW and Brent provides assistance for Tom whose capacity is a little limited. I spent a good part of the afternoon in the delightful company of Cowboy John, who is 83 years old and is a Korean War veteran with over 30,000 hours volunteer work with the veterans association.

The group spent the morning fishing, with some of the group venturing, via boat, into the Little Miami River to fish moving water.



Tom Scheer

Cowboy John



# Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show Preview

Bob Gustafson ([j.r.gustafson@att.net](mailto:j.r.gustafson@att.net))

Buckeye United Fly Fishers will host the annual Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show on Saturday, February 1, 2014, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Oasis Conference Center, 902 Loveland-Miamiville Road, Loveland, OH. Check the BUFF website for directions and the latest show information.

Headlining the show will be **A. K. Best**, from Boulder, Colorado, one of the most respected names in fly fishing and fly tying. His many magazine articles over the years have provided helpful knowledge for both beginner and accomplished fly tiers and anglers. He's also known for his excellent fly fishing and tying books and DVDs. A. K. has a superior tying talent which verifies him as a master-class tier. Be sure to check out A. K.'s presentations and fly tying demonstrations at the show and visit with him at his show booth.



A. K. Best – Show Headliner

Additional top-flight speakers scheduled for the show

- Mike Schmidt – Anglers Choice Flies
- Frank Willetts – Pere Marguette River Lodge
- Jerry Darkes – Midwest Fly Fishing Magazine
- Dane Law – Southeastern Anglers
- Glenn Weisner – Glenn River Fly Co.
- Jon Ray – Hawkins Outfitters
- Kevin Compton – Performance Flies
- Dave Leonhard – Orvis Streamside
- Kevin Howell – Davidson River Outfitters
- and more to come!

If you've never been to The Oasis Conference Center, you will be in for a treat and this year's show is shaping up to be our best ever:

- Over 21,000 sq. ft. of exhibition, demonstration, and presentation space
- Something for all fly fishers - from beginner to advanced
- Over 50 exhibitors – vendors, fly tiers, lodges, outfitters, kayaks, and others
- Educational fly fishing speakers
- Casting Pond - casting instructions and/or try out a new rod from one of the vendors
- Fly tying demonstrations with a special kids tying area
- Kids area with free activities with a fly fishing connection
- Fishing guides and fishing lodge representatives
- Canoes, kayaks, pontoons, and other watercraft
- Raffles and door prizes
- Expanded Snack bar - sandwiches and drinks

So mark your calendars now for the 2014 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show, Saturday, Feb 1, 2014

# Joy of fishing

Jeff McElravy ([jmcelravysr@cinci.rr.com](mailto:jmcelravysr@cinci.rr.com))



Lenny at Parky's PHW



### October 2013

- Oct 3 **Tie & Lie**, 7:00 – 9:00, Bass Pro, Dave Jones
- Oct 8 **Project Healing Waters** – Parky’s, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
- Oct 9 **Buff monthly meeting**, 6:45 – 9:00 pm
- Oct 9-13 **Smokey MT Trip**, Jerry Schatzman
- Oct 16 **Buff board meeting**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Oct 17-20 **Hazel Creek Brown Trout Trip**
- Oct 18 **Tie & Lie**, 7:00 – 9:00, Bass Pro, Gary Begley
- Oct 24 **Project Healing Waters**, Lake Isabella, Tom Scheer

### November 2013

- Nov 5 **Project Healing Waters**, 9:00-4:00 pm Parky’s Farm Tom Scheer
- Nov 7 **Tie and Lie**, 7:00-9:00, Bass Pro Dave Jones
- Nov 13 **Buff Monthly meeting**, 6:45-9:00 pm VOA Park
- Nov 15 **Tie and Lie**, 7:00-9:00, Bass Pro Gary Begley
- Nov 19 **Project Healing Waters**, Lake Isabella, Tom Scheer
- Nov 20 **Buff board meeting**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

### December 2013

- Dec 5 **Tie and Lie**, 7:00-9:00, Bass Pro Dave Jones
- Dec 9 **Project Healing Waters**, 3:00-5:00 pm, VAMC auditorium Tom Sheer
- Dec 11 **Buff Monthly meeting**, 6:45-9:00 pm VOA Park
- Dec 18 **Buff board meeting**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Dec 20 **Tie and Lie**, 7:00-9:00, Bass Pro Gary Begley
- Dec 23 **VA Tying**, 3:00-5:00, VAMC auditorium Dave Jones

Buckeye United Fly Fishers  
Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, November 13,  
2013

Voice of America  
6:00 pm  
65-100 Guests

Oven Roasted Turkey  
Accompanied by Giblet Gravy

Homemade Dressing

Creamy Mashed Potatoes  
(You might even find some lumps)

Buttery Sweet Potatoes

Green Bean Casserole

Fresh Rolls and Butter

Dessert  
Pumpkin Pies

## 2013 B.U.F.F Officers/Board of Directors/Key Positions

<u>OFFICERS:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
President	Jeff McElravy	513-652-1894	jmcelravysr@cinci.rr.com
Vice President	Randy Clark	513-741-8273	rclark3056@msn.com
Secretary	Duane Bentley	513-777-5491	dbentley@fuse.net
Treasurer	Bob Gustafson	513-683-0286	j.r.gustafson@att.net

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Communications Chair (Buffer)	Tom Smith	513-771-3118	tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com
Communications Chair (Website)	Ken Foltz	513-398-1856	kfoltz41@gmail.com
Trips Chair	Steve Bailey	513-829-1823	chiefrsb@fuse.net
Membership Chair	Tom Agin	513-851-5718	te.agin@gmail.com
Education Chair	Ed Jones	513-523-6523	jonesec@miamiOH.edu
Education Chair (Fly Tying)	Ken Dixon	513-683-3785	krjgdix@outlook.com
Program Co- Chair	Walter Leap	513-422-7092	walter@leaprealtors.com
Program Co-Chair	Pete Moore	513-868-3382	sharonandpetem@gmail.com
Conservation Chair	Jon Kennard	513-732-1799	jonkennard@fuse.net
Director At Large (Library)	Bob Mackey	513-582-6756	bobmackey6@gmail.com
Director At Large (Raffles)	Jim Hampton	513-779-4349	flyfisher@zoomtown.com
Director At Large (Library Asst.)	Bruce James	513-683-0429	bdjames@fuse.net
Director At Large (Historian)	Bob Miller	513-271-2129	bob.miller@alta-gila.com
Director At Large (Fixed Assets)	Steve Walker	513-829-6369	swalker@roadrunner.com
Communications Chair Asst. (Website)	Don Kail	513-218-1233	drkail@yahoo.com
Director At Large	Jim Neckers	513-863-3844	jneckers@cinci.rr.com
Director At Large	Phil Pursley	513-738-1668	phil.pursley@hotmail.com
Director At Large	Lane Stocker	513-542-7597	lstocker@cinci.rr.com

### KEY CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES:

Future Leaders Owner	Jeff McElravy	513-652-1894	jmcelravysr@cinci.rr.com
Day Trips	Steve Bailey	513-829-1823	chiefrsb@fuse.net
East Fork Conservation	Jon Kennard	513-732-1799	jonkennard@fuse.net
Dinner Reservations	Bob Gustafson	513-683-0286	j.r.gustafson@att.net
Fly Fishing Show	Bob Miller	513-271-2129	bob.miller@alta-gila.com
Fly Fishing Show	Bob Gustafson	513-683-0286	j.r.gustafson@att.net
Banquet Co- Chair	Brian Tudor	513-469-6713	bryan.tudor@opco.com
Banquet Co-Chair	Cecil Osborne	513-340-4837	cosborn@cinci.rr.com
Casting Co-Instructor	Tom Scheer	513-321-5317	rtscheerdds@aol.com
Casting Co-Instructor	Gary Begley	513-932-4205	loopdude1@hotmail.com
Club Mail	Tom Agin	513-851-5718	te.agin@gmail.com
Membership Health Owner	Tom Agin	513-851-5718	te.agin@gmail.com
Little Miami River	Bill Schroeder	513-607-8071	wshroeder@cinci.rr.com
Brookville Tailwater Coordinator	David French	513-829-1226	info@davidfrenchphotography.com
BUFF Merchandise	Carol Barton	513-677-1255	nutmegblush@yahoo.com
Ohio FFF Council Rep.	Ed Jones	513-523-6523	jonesec@muohio.edu
Ohio FFF Council Rep	Jeff McElravy	513-652-1894	jmcelravysr@cinci.rr.com
Casting For Recovery	Debbie Hampton	513-779-4349	flyfisher@zoomtown.com
Casting For Recovery	Mary Mays	513-779-3854	remod25@zoomtown.com
Casting For Recovery	Gloria Begley	513-932-4205	gloria4cfr@hotmail.com
Treasurer's Assistant	Cathy LaDow	513-481-2311	dlmedic1@yahoo.com
Parkys Farm			
New Member Recognition	Dave LaDow	513-481-2311	dlmedic1@yahoo.com
Project Healing Waters	Tom Scheer	513-317-4996	rtscheerdds@aol.com
Outreach (VA Hospital & Tie & Lie)	Dave Jones	513-825-7174	jones.adov@zoomtown.com



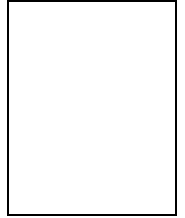
## The *BUFFER*

The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc.

P. O. Box 42614

Cincinnati, OH 45242

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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

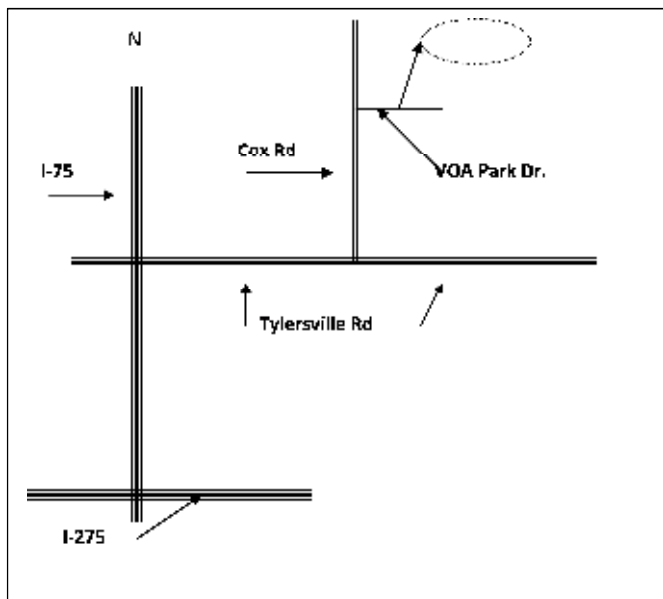
**NOTICE:** Dues are \$25 (Individual), \$30 (Family), with a onetime \$5 Initiation Fee for new members. New members will pay a prorated membership amount according to month of initial membership for the first year. Annual dues are due January 1. Refer to BUFF website for further information. B.U.F.F.,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

Mailing Address

## Next Monthly Meeting – November 13, 2013

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

Sign up from the 20<sup>th</sup> 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.