

Volume 27, Issue 4

The BUTFER

The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc., Cincinnati, OH Web site: http://www.buckeyeflyfishers.com

April 2003

President's Corner

Mike Bryant (mjbryant@email.com)

In planning for the upcoming year, I took the opportunity to stop and think about B.U.F.F. in terms of who we are collectively and what is our purpose / value in life. B.U.F.F. is an organization of volunteers. Our reasons for joining differ from individual to individual, but I believe the reasons most of us belong to B.U.F.F. can be summarized into three primary points:

<u>Education</u> – One of the great aspects about fly fishing is that you never stop learning, no matter if you have just started or have been fly fishing all your life. Second only to actually fishing a stream, lake or flats, nothing excites me like learning a new technique, how to cast better, or tie a new fly. I believe that education, formal or informal, is the very essence of who we are and what we are about. Most folks join our club to learn how and where to fly fish. So a part of our mission is to promote the sport of fly fishing through education of our members as well as the general public.

<u>Fun</u> – We all have enough worries and stresses in our lives from work, families and overall life experiences. Fly fishing and being a member of B.U.F.F. should be fun. Our experiences in B.U.F.F. should be enjoyable and leave us wanting for more. That enjoyment can be made available in a variety of ways – going on trips, building rods, tying flies, listening to presentations, teaching others, and making new friends. B.U.F.F. will continue to focus on social events, fly fishing activities, and educational forums aimed at allowing our membership to have fun.

Helping Others / Conservation — As a collective group of individuals we care about the health of our natural resources and the health of others. Over the years, the sport of fly fishing has developed a long tradition of leadership in the preservation of our natural resources and fishing ethics. The ability to go fly fishing and to enjoy nature is a blessing - one we should not take lightly or for granted. It is important that we strive to give back some of what we have been given. One way to show how we care is to leave our fisheries in better shape than we found them. Another option is to use fly fishing as a way to enrich the lives of others, including those who are ill, handicapped, or those less fortunate than we are. And we should continue to educate the public as well on the need for preservation.

President's Corner continued on page 3

March Meeting Program

Gerald McDaniel, a guide on the Cumberland River, will be our guest speaker. As a special bonus, he will conduct a fly tying class prior to the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Adventures From the Reel World

Kiser Lake

Joe Panfalone

If you want a nice quiet lake to do a little fishing with your pontoon boat or canoe, you would do well to check out Kiser Lake located on State Route 235 halfway between Piqua and Urbana, Ohio. Being spring fed, the water quality of this 385-acre lake is excellent and supports good numbers of largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie and saugeye. Boats with motors are not permitted on the lake, which make it ideal for fishing, canoeing and sailing. There are several boat ramps to launch your own, or boats can be rented at the two rental facilities.

The lake was constructed in 1939 when the Kiser family offered several hundred acres of Mosquito Valley to the state. This was a low, swampy area dotted with numerous springs. A dam was constructed and the newly formed lake and surrounding area became what we know today as Kiser Lake State Park. Fish structures have been sunk to provide habitat and are marked with buoys. Five fishing piers and reefs have been constructed to make it easy for the youngsters or fishermen without boats.

This lake provides great fishing opportunities as well as activities for the family. The park has: Four picnic areas with tables and grills.

Shelters are available on first-come first-serve basis

Four hiking trails ranging from easy to moderate.

600 feet of swim beach with a concession stand.

115 non-electric campsite sites open year-round

Arts & Crafts activities for the kids.

Outdoor theater

Area attractions:

The Air Force Museum, located in Dayton
The Simon Kenton Historic Corridor, located between Piqua and Mechanicsburg
Piqua Historical Area
Simon Kenton gravesite
Cedar Bog
Ohio Caverns

Resources for more information:

Park Offices Kiser Lake State Park P.O. Box 55 Rosewood, Ohio 43070

Office: (937) 362-3822 Marina: (937) 362-3565

Websites:

http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/parks/kisrlake.htm

http://people.main-net.com/~kiser

President's Corner Continued.....

I'm convinced that if we continue to learn, have some fun, and find ways to help nature and others, our club and the sport of fly fishing will continue to prosper in the future. As President, I am committed to supporting efforts to improve these objectives. There will be more details about new ideas in the coming months. One immediate item I want to address is strengthening our level of communications, within the membership, between the Board and the members, and with other fly fishing organizations. Communications within the club is the glue that holds us together. In an effort to strengthen communications between the Board and the membership, the email addresses of most of the Board members are now listed in the Buffer each month and continuously on the website. If you have a question or comment you would like to address with me, simply go the website, click on the "Contact Us" Button, click on "President" and an email inquiry will automatically The same is true with the other Board popup. members who have access to email. Also, I have a proposal for a membership listing aimed at helping members reach other members. Please read the proposal on page 6.

On A Different Note.....

I had the opportunity to be a part of the Mad River Survey Outing on March 8. Over fifteen Buffer's teamed up with some of TU-Madmen's finest to fish the river and record our catch, which will be forwarded to the ODNR. By all accounts, it was a great trip. After a long winter, I was itching to get out on a stream for a little fishing. The weather was great and the fishing was tough, but everyone had a great time. It has been several years since I have fished the Mad, so I was anxious to see and discuss the improvements that had been made. While no big fish were raised that day, many of us caught fish. And I had the added bonus of seeing a beaver and a family of minks playing on the riverbank. This is what it's all about – being out in nature, testing your skills, learning something new and having fun! The Mad is our closest trout stream, and if you take the time to educate yourself, you can catch fish. Joining activities such as the Survey Outing and one of the many habitat improvement activities is the best way to meet great fly fishers who know the river and who are more than happy to help you. I'm looking forward to the next trip!

Be safe and go fishing!

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2004 BUFF Banquet

Patti Howell

Jim LeBlond and I are the co-chairs for the 2004 BUFF Banquet. This will be our largest fund raising event of the year. With the success of the 2003 banquet, we want to keep the momentum going and start forming the banquet committee earlier this year. The biggest effort needed is always in the area of prize recruitment/donations. We want to break down the donation recruitment efforts into "miniresponsibilities" so we can keep it fun and not over burden anyone.

At this time we simply need some happy members to just help us throughout the year with donation recruitment pertaining to:

- 1) Local Fly Shops Group Leader/Patti Howell
- 2) Fly Fishing Vendors (Scientific Anglers, Simms, Mustad, Whiting Farms, etc.) **Group Leader/Joe Guenther**
- 3) Fly Fishing Guides
- 4) Trips lodging, accommodations, etc.
- 5) Local Trips with members (big money-maker this year!)
- 6) Non-fishing vendors (Kodak/Fujifilm, Lodge Cookware, Jungle Jim's!)
- 7) Local Corporations
- 8) Local Stores WalMart, Meijers, Costco, Sams Club, etc.

If you can help us this year, please call Patti or Jim within the next couple of weeks so we can get your name on our committee list. Again, we promise not to over-work anyone....and we guarantee delicious snacks & beverages at our meetings!!!

Patti Howell 513-683-7138 or phowell@fuse.net Jim LeBlond 513-561-8957 or jimleb@fuse.net

A Fisherman's Prayer Roy Matthews

I pray that I might live to fish until my dying day, and when it comes to my last cast, I then most humbly pray, "When in the Lord's great landing net I fall fully asleep, that in his mercy I be judged big enough to Keep".

Editor's Note: BUFF does not advocate any particular religion, and this article is provided for information only.

BUFF Volunteering – Getting that great feeling!

Ken West

What a great feeling it is to be involved with a group of people, and know that you will get a positive response when you ask for volunteers. Buff members have always come to the needs of their club and community whenever the need arises.

When you volunteer:

- 1. You support the future of our sport as well as the future of our club. When we share what we know about fly fishing, we are being a good steward of what we know by sharing it with others.
- 2. Giving of ourselves makes us feel good inside. Nothing beats the pure act of sharing.
- 3. Giving of ourselves can relieve stress and make us feel like a better person.

If you haven't made your New Year's resolution - then make it this: Volunteer for one BUFF project this year. You will be glad that you did!! It's easy, and all you have to do is put up your hand.

P.S. I didn't get finished with the article before the deadline of the last Buffer, so thanks to all who volunteered to go to Mercy Health Plex on Feb 8th, with such short notice: Lou Haynes, Bob Goldsberry, Jon Kennard, Hank Gilliam, Tom Baker, The Hamptons - Jim, Debbie, and Ashley, David French, George Fraley, and Chris Osborne.

For Your Information

Dave & Emily Whitlock
will be appearing at
Mad River Outfitters
July 5, 2003

Fly tying classes,
"Women Only" Fly Fishing School
Slide Presentation on
Fly Fishing in New Zealand

www.madriveroutfitters.com

Circle Hooks

Joe Panfalone

There has been a lot of recent interest in the circle hook. Circle hooks are not new. They have been around for centuries as evidenced by ancient artifacts of bones and other primitive materials shaped into a circle hook. Commercial fishermen have used them for decades due to their ability to efficiently catch fish.

The principle behind the hook is simple. The fish swallows the baited hook and starts to swim away. The line tightens slowly and pulls the hook out of the stomach. Since the fish is swimming away, the angle of the line is against the jaw. Due to the recurve of the hook point, as the hook comes forward, it does not catch on anything until it nears the mouth where it rotates and pierces the jaw hinge or cheek. Once the fish is hooked, it cannot escape.

The circle hook is particularly effective for trotlines where there is no fisherman to set the hook. It is not particularly suited for lures and fly-fishing where there is a "strike".

There are mixed reviews among sport fishermen. Those that favor the circle hook have learned to change their technique of fishing. Success depends on NOT setting the hook like we do with the traditional "J" hook. You must fish with a slack line allowing the fish to swim away with the bait.

Conservationists are urging the use of circle hooks for bait fishing because the design usually results in a hook through the jaws or lips. This increases the fish's chance of survival after release. The American Fisheries Society has published a scientific study comparing hook-ups and billfish mortality. The study concluded circle hook were as effective in hook-ups as the "J" hooks and resulted in lower rates of deep hooking, foul hooking, and bleeding providing better survival for catch and release. You can read the entire summary at this website:

http://www.billfishnetwork.com/article/A059_CircleHookSummary.asp

In summary, circle hooks may have little use for us fly fishermen but it certainly would benefit to the trout if the bait fishermen would use circle hooks with their corn and cheese balls.

The Relationship Between Watershed Protection and the Health of the Trout Fishery (PART 2)

Tom Allen

When Simon Kenton arrived with his family, in the early 1800's, to the Mad River valley between Springfield and Urbana, he found a very unique environment, in perfect balance. The many free flowing springs from the hillside fed the wetlands and bog area of the valley floor where the main stem of the Mad River meandered unrestricted. The wildlife, plant life and aquatic life were in ecological harmony. He had all the essentials of life but the most important one to Simon Kenton was the abundance of high quality, easily accessible, WATER.

Mad River's environment has been altered greatly since then with deforestation, dewatering of springs and destruction of wetlands. The biggest change came following the floods at the turn of the century and the major flood of 1913.In order to control the flooding the river and many of its tributaries were levied and channeled. The overall dynamics of the stream were altered along with the environmental balance of the watershed.

Though it is no longer in its pristine natural state, to one who wades its crystal clear waters in search of the elusive trout, there is no doubt the value of Mad River. For that period of time you become one with the natural beauty and rhythm of the river and forget the problems of the outside world.

In order to protect this valuable resource, members of the Madmen Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the area fly fishing clubs have become partners with the Mad River Steering Committee. The following issues being addressed by the watershed committee are the same issues that threaten the health of the fishery:

- channelization/limited in stream habitat;
- stream corridor encroachment/riparian area destruction;
- surface and ground water quality impacts; and
- water use/disruption of the water cycle and water balance.

The Madmen Chapter of Trout Unlimited has mainly been involved in riparian and in stream habitat improvement and litter control but also supports other watershed protection activities. The creation of in stream habitat involves planned placement of boulders and logs in a manner that is not disruptive to drainage, especially during periods of high water flow. Litter control has involved stream cleanups twice a year and now has evolved into the ADOPT A BRIDGE/STREAMWATCH Program, where volunteers are assigned to keep specific areas clean and a watchful eye on the potential abuse to the river, fishery or the rights of landowners.

The trout fishery is defined as the area that extends from Zanesfield to St Rt. 41 near Springfield, where cold ground water discharge dominates the makeup of stream flow. From Springfield to its confluence with the Great Miami River in Dayton it is an excellent smallmouth fishery. At Springfield there is more warm water surface drainage that creates a habitat more conducive to smallmouth and other warm water species. Much of the Mad River flows through private property, so it is recommended that you receive landowner permission to fish. Even with the permission you should stay in the stream or on a designated path at all times, adhere to any rules and leave the area as you found it, litter free. Never take the privilege for granted and provide ALL landowners with utmost respect. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife stocks Mad River with fingerling brown trout in the fall and current regulations allow 2 trout per day 12 inches or greater. But, in order to improve the quality of the fishery it is recommended that ALL trout be carefully handled and released. Also, by using single thin wire barb less hooks damage to the trout will be minimized.

Protection and stewardship of Mad River has been going on for more than 40 years by people such as the late Jack Ellis one of the original members of the Madmen Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Miami Valley Flyfishers. Also, Red Lose a supporter of Trout Unlimited and long standing member of the Buckeye United Flyfishers, who recently

Continued on page 6

Bronze Backs of the Elkhorn

Don Hogue

The 03' Elkhorn Small Mouth Bass Trip should be a lot better than last year, because the North Fork and Main Stream were flooded. The South Fork was beautiful. We scurried around and found some new access points on the South Fork and had a great time.

The bigger bronze backs tend to be in the Main Stream. We will have another Breakfast on Saturday Morning and dinner Saturday evening at the campground. We hold it down to about 20 meals. I think we stretched to 23 last year. Again, Randy Clark has agreed to make his wonderful upside down cake in the coals. If you are interested in joining us on the trip, you may pick up a registration form at the April meeting. You must contact the campground to make your own reservation by May 15, 03. They are holding 4 campers slots and 5 tent slots - two tents on a tent site - so you may have to share your site and make a new friend!

If you will not attend the April meeting...e-mail me Thesputzer@aol.com or call me 513-231-4852, or snail mail me at 5301 Aspenknoll Court, Cincinnati OH 45230. If I am not at home, talk slowly and enunciate your address. Be sure to return me one of your registration forms and your trip waiver form. I will make your badge and send you the packet.

If you don't camp, there is a motel about 3 miles from the campground. These trips are the way to meet fellow members and become comfortable as a new member. We will team you up with a mentor, if you are new to the area. This is very similar to trout fishing. So tie up those brown wooly buggers or bumble bee poppers with a flash back nymph dropper.

OR.... The river is close enough for a day trip. See the poster at the April meeting.

The main thing is to make your reservation with the campground before May 15, or you may find yourself far removed from the Buff group. June is a busy month and you may not get a site. And don't be SO NOISY!!

Membership Listing Proposal

Mike Bryant

In this month's President's Corner, I stated that I believe communications within our organization is the glue to holds us together. To help members communicate effectively with other members, I have a proposal for a membership listing. The benefits of this membership listing would:

- Enable stronger communications between members. This will support the development of new and stronger friendships/relationships between our members.
- Enable a more inclusive feeling in our organization. This is one small, but powerful way to help our membership stay in touch and help each other.
- Provide a means to help our members learn more (education) about fly fishing the listing will provide a way for new and old members to reach others in the club with questions and/or answers.
- Help secure our club's future (help new members feel more included, know there's a way to ask for help, hence want to stay and ultimately participate in the club)

The listing would include the names and phone numbers of members (excluding members who have requested their names/phone number not be included). The listing would be available on B.U.F.F.'s website and would be updated monthly. The proposed plan would allow those who do not have access to the Internet to purchase a listing at a nominal charge to cover our costs of printing. Anyone who does not want his / her name on this list could request that their name be removed 1) at the monthly meeting, 2) when renewing their membership, 3) through the US Mail or 4) through the B.U.F.F. website.

To provide ample opportunity to communicate this proposal to our membership, it will be included in the April and May Buffers, on the website and announced in the April and May monthly meetings. The proposal will put to a membership vote in the May meeting.

Watershed protection Cont. from page 5......

has passed away. Their love for this unique and valuable resource and spirit to protect it will live on through watershed activities, so that future generations will be able to enjoy the thrill of a trout jumping on the end of a fishing line.

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ON TO:

www.tumadmen.org

ALSO, THE MADMEN CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED IS OFFERING WATERPROOF FISHING MAPS OF MAD RIVER FOR \$10. and FLY BOXES WITH 13 HAND TIED FAVORITE FLIES FOR MAD RIVER FOR \$20.Check the web site and Mark Blauvelt Chapter President for details.

APRIL

- April 3 Lie and Tie West. General fly tying And story telling. Springdale Community Center 7pm-9pm,
- April 5 **East Fork River clean up**. Sycamore Park Batavia 8am-4pm - Bob Goldsberry
- April 9. **BUFF Monthly Meeting** 7pm-9pm Raffel's on Reading Road Social hour 6pm-7pm
- April 16 **BUFF Board Meeting** 7 pm-9pm Outdoor World Members welcome
- April 23 Lie and Tie East Batavia Presbyterian Ch.
 7pm-9pm General fly tying and
 Story telling
 Bob Goldsberry
- April 26 Day Trip Brookville Tail Waters
- April 26 Earth Day at Eastgate Mall Bob Goldsberry
- April 26, 27 **Rockwell Springs/Glen River Trip**Fly Tying at Chris Helms' Fly Shop
- April 27 Casting Class for BUFF Instructors
 Tony Kalbli Cottell Twp. Park 1pm-4pm
- TBD GLC Steelhead Trip

MAY

- May 2-4, **Nantahaha Trout Trip** Randy Clark/Jeff McElravy
- May 1 Lie and Tie West General fly tying and story telling. Springdale Community Center. 7pm-9pm
- May 10 Casting Class For BUFF Instructors Cottell Park 1pm - 4pm - Tony Kalbli
- May 14 **BUFF monthly meeting** 7pm-9pm Raffel's on Reading Road
- May 16,17,18 **Penn State University Trout Trip**Central Penn. Greg Hover and Joe Humphries
- May 18 Casting Class For BUFF Instructors
 Cottell Park 1pm 4pm Tony Kalbli
 TDD Casting Class For PUEF Mambars
- TBD Casting Class For BUFF Members
 Deerfield Park
- May 21 **BUFF Board Meeting** 7pm-9pm Outdoor World Members welcome
- May 24 Ladies Only Introduction To Fly Fishing
 9am-3pm Sycamore Park, Batavia
 Dave Uckotter, Drinks furnished.
 Bring your Lunch.
- May 25 Casting Class For BUFF Instructors Cottell Park 1pm-4pm Tony Kalbli
- May 28 **Lie and Tie East** at Batavia Presbyterian Ch. General fly tying and story telling Bob Goldsberry
- May 31 Darby Creek Col. Oh. Day Trip JUNE
- June 1 Casting Class For BUFF Instructors Cottell Park 1pm-4pm Tony Kalbli
- June 5 Tie and Lie West 7pm-9pm
 General fly tying and story telling
 Springdale Community Center
- June 8 Fly Tying Demo ad Cinti Museum Center 1pm 5pm Lou Haynes
- June 11 BUFF Monthly Meeting Location TBD
- June 14 **Local Day Trip** Destination TBD June 18 **BUFF Board Meeting** 7pm-9pm
- Outdoor World Members Welcome

2003 Calendar of Events

The BUTTER 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 BUTTER editor.

June Continued.....

- June 19-21 Forks Of The Elkhorn Trip
- June 25 **Lie and** Tie East Batavia Presbyterian Ch. General fly tying and story telling 7pm-9pm
- June 28 Clermont County Parks Fly Fishing Seminar Sycamore Park 9am-4pm Bob Goldsberry
- TBD East Fork Stream Monitoring

04/2003 B.U.F.F. Financial Report (rounded to dollar amount) **Beginning Balance** \$ 13384 Income Monthly Dinner \$692 Membership \$960 Raffle \$415 Donation \$100 \$90 Feathers Interest \$9 Income Total \$2265 **Expenses** Mad Men Conservation \$200 Newsletter \$129 Fly Tying Kits \$150 \$29 Badge Material Administrative \$35 Raffle Prize \$278 **Show Expenses** \$202 Raffel's Dinner \$710 Bank charges \$5 **Expenses Total** \$1738 **Ending Balance** \$13911

April

Spaghetti with Homemade Meatballs

Meatloaf with Brown Gravy

Parsley Buttered Potatoes

Vegetable Vinaigrette

Rolls and Butter

Apple Dumplings with Cinnamon Rum Raisin Sauce

Year 2003 Officers and Directors

Mike Bryant	President	
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The BUFFER

The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc. P. O. Box 42614 Cincinnati, OH 45242

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

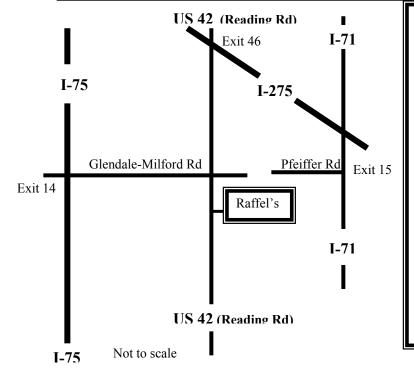
NOTICE: Please check dues expiration date on lower right corner of mailing label. If dues have expired, please remit \$25.00 for an Individual Membership or \$30.00 for a Family Membership to B. U.F.F., P.O. Box 42614, Cincinnati, OH 45242

Mailing Address

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Next Monthly Meeting – Wednesday -- April 9

CALL 732-0735 FOR <u>DINNER RESERVATIONS</u> NO LATER THAN 10 PM OF THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING. DINNERS ARE \$10.00 / PERSON FOR A CATERED MEAL. DOORS OPEN FOR SOCIAL HOUR AT 6 PM – DINNER SERVED AT 7 PM. <u>RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED</u> - DON'T WAIT - CALL NOW! (SEE THE MENU ON PAGE 7)



Directions:

From I-275 – Take Exit 46, (US 42), south for three miles to Glendale-Milford Rd. -- Continue south and RAFFEL'S will be on the left approximately 3/10 mile.

From I-75 -- Take Exit 14, east, on Glendale-Milford Rd. until the intersection of US 42, (Reading Rd). Turn right (south) on US 42, and RAFFEL'S will be on the left approximately 3/10 mile.

From I-71 -- Take Exit 15, west, Pfeiffer Rd. & this becomes Glendale-Milford Rd.. At the intersection of US 42, (Reading Rd), turn left, (south) on US 42, and RAFFEL'S will be on the left approximately 3/10 mile.

The businesses on these pages have supported BUFF by making significant donations to the Cabin Relief Banquet. Lets support them!!



www.basspro-shops.com

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www.glennriver.com

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