



The *BUFFER*

The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc., Cincinnati, OH
Volume 43, Issue 8 Web site: <http://www.buckeyeflyfishers.com> August 1, 2019

Notes from the President

By Jim Vota – (vota@zoomtown.com)

OK, the rain is gone, and the rivers are down to summer levels. **Now go fish!** Don't complain, just get out there and do it. I'll have to take my own advice. After fishing in Scotland last month, I'm going to drag my two-hand gear out and do it. It's just too easy. Give it a try, you might like it.

I'm looking at setting up a couple local fishing events / trips. If you are interested in this let me know if you have a preference for where to go. We're running out of time so I'll have to do this soon. Wading, floating, canoeing? See me at the August meeting with your suggestions.

One item I'd like to get cleared up soon is a candidate for a new membership chairman. Jim Boude has served in this capacity for several years and feels he should not continue. Thank you, Jim, for serving BUFF in this and many other positions over the years. Please let me know if you would consider taking on this important position for the club.

That's all for now. Remember to keep your lines in the water and may all your fishing be wonderful.

Till next month,

El Prez.

Jim Vota

August Meeting

The August meeting is Wednesday, August 14th. Registration deadline is the 11th. Our speaker this month is Jen Ripple. Jen is the publisher and editor-in-chief of DUN Magazine, an international fly fishing lifestyle magazine. She will be talking about fishing for and catching small mouth bass, one of our favorites to catch. Come on out and learn about Jen's tactics for fishing small mouth in different seasons.

Jen Ripple, "*Micropterus dolomieu*" – Smallmouth Bass on the Fly

By Mike Rubush (tenkaraguy1@yahoo.com)

Jen Ripple, from Dover, Tennessee, is the publisher and editor-in-chief of the international fly fishing lifestyle magazine, DUN Magazine. DUN started in 2013 as an on-line magazine published by and for women fly fishers. DUN has grown and started publishing print editions in 2017. Jen has been seen on NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt, featured in many media outlets including Outside Magazine, Outside Online, The New York Times, Trout Magazine, and Blue Ridge Outdoors which named her one of six women who are revolutionizing the fly fishing industry. In 2018, Southern Living Magazine named Jen a "Southerner of the Year". Jen can also be seen and heard on podcasts produced from Orvis, The Woman Angler and Adventurer, The Kayak Fishing Show, The 12th Story, The Itinerant Angler, Fish on the Brain, and many others.



She is a member of the Board of Directors for Fly Fishers International and a member of the Board of Directors for American Fly Fishing Trade Association (AFFTA). When not on the water, she spends her time empowering women in the sport, teaching fly tying and fly casting clinics, speaking nationwide, and devoting her time to conservation efforts through nonprofits. A sounding board for women in this male-dominated sport, Jen has created a home base for women worldwide through DUN to connect and engage in the art of fly fishing.

Jen's presentation is about one of our favorite fish to catch, the feisty SMALLMOUTH. Come hear about different tactics to use with the changing seasons. You won't want to miss this



talk. You can also check out DUN Magazine at: <https://dunmagazine.com/>. You can sign up for the digital magazine, and it is absolutely free!

P.S. – Looking Ahead to the April 2020 Meeting....

BUFFERS – get your 2020 your calendars out and mark down our April 2020 Meeting, to be on Wednesday, April 8th, as **“DON’T MISS”**. Jen will have a return visit then. She’ll again be our featured speaker and will also conduct a casting workshop (registration will first open for our women BUFFERS) prior to the meeting.

Finally !!! – August Meeting is Also “Hawaiian Shirt Night!”



To go along with the heat and humidity of August in Cincinnati, and to add a bit of fun and variety, our esteemed president has declared the August meeting to be BUFF’s first official, “Hawaiian Shirt Night”. In lieu of your favorite fishing shirt, members and attendees are encouraged to wear their favorite Hawaiian shirt. Leis are optional!! **We’ll award a prize for the most “interesting” shirt** – awarded by a non-biased panel of judges (well, maybe 1 judge!). However, don’t let the lack of a Hawaiian shirt prevent you from attending.

If you don’t have a Hawaiian shirt, and want to find a really interesting selection of Hawaiian wear, check out Aloha Outlet (www.alohaoutlet.com).

August Meeting Dinner Menu

Tossed Salad
Grilled Chicken in Chardonnay Sauce
Thick Cut Pork Chops
Vegetable Medley
Baked Potato with Butter & Sour Cream
Dessert – Mini Deserts

Project Healing Waters

By Ken Mandel

The presenter at the July BUFF meeting was Todd Desgrosseilliers. Todd, a retired Marine Corps Colonel, is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Inc. (PHWFF). He is also a wounded veteran and spoke to us about how PHWFF helped him in his own recovery, and how that experience led him to become involved as a volunteer with PHWFF, and eventually to go on to now lead this national program.

Personally, I found Todd's presentation one of the best I have heard in my several years of membership in BUFF, and frequent participation in our monthly meetings, so I thought it would be worthwhile to recapture some of the information that was shared with us.

PHWFF began in 2005 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, as a program to help wounded veterans returning from the combat in Afghanistan and Iraq. In the 14 years since its beginning, PHWFF has expanded from that single site, to become a national organization, including veterans from all prior conflicts. Today there are over 200 PHWFF programs in 48 states, involving over 8,000 veterans and 4,000 volunteers. BUFF became involved with PHWFF in 2009, so Todd's visit to our club coincides with our 10th Anniversary of participation.

PHWFF is truly a volunteer organization. There are only about 16 paid staff, and almost 90% of the organization's budget goes directly to support veterans' activities. It is funded primarily through charitable donation. The focus of PHWFF remains to use the sport of fly fishing as a rehabilitation tool for veterans. As Todd informed us, many of our volunteers first came into the program as veteran participants.

Todd's presentation was eloquent and from the heart. He brought together his personal experience as a wounded veteran who found a path to recovery through PHWFF, and what the program can offer to all. The activities offered by PHWFF provide a lifetime for learning. The program is not just fishing, but includes other aspects of the sport, such as fly tying and even rod building. Many of the veterans involved in the BUFF program fish with rods they have constructed. Other benefits of the program is helping to restore the emotion of joy to its participants, and offering camaraderie, friendship, and strong support groups. Todd expressed how participants often tell him how this program has saved their lives or allowed them to once again experience love and enjoyment in life.

We had four of our participating veterans in attendance at the BUFF meeting. Three have been participants from the beginnings of BUFF's involvement with the program, remain involved today, and were recognized by Todd and our club. Each was presented with a certificate honoring their participation, and they also received a new rod! We also recognized the club's PHWFF volunteers and held out a special recognition for 5 volunteers who have been involved in the BUFF program since its inception.

It was a very special evening for all who attended.



BUFF 10-Year Participating Veterans



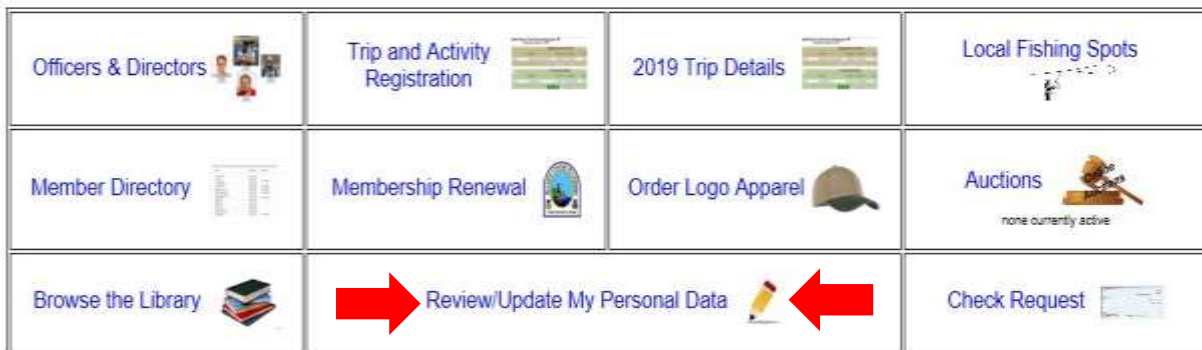
BUFF 10-Year Participating Volunteers

New Website Feature on Member Services!

By Don Kail (drkail@yahoo.com)

From the “Member Services” icon on the BUFF website home page, you are now able to view your membership details and update your contact information stored in the BUFF database. When you click on Member Services, the following menu opens. An additional option (**shown below with red arrow highlight**) has been added to the Member Services menu to gain access.

To verify your identity and protect your data, you will be required to enter a personal code that we will send to your email address on request.



Membership Director

In his monthly note, Jim Vota indicates that the club is seeking an individual to take over as the Club’s Chairperson for Membership. Jim Boude has served as the Membership Chairperson for several years and wishes to step down. We extend our sincere thanks to Jim for his service in this capacity.

If you are interested, please contact Jim Vota, or seek him out at the August meeting. This is an important activity for the club, and we’d like to fill the position as soon as possible. You can contact Jim by email at vota@zoomtown.com, or phone at 513-702-2553 (mobile).

BUFF Stream Quality Monitoring Work

By Cari Vota (vota@zoomtown.com)

The Buckeye United Fly Fishers monitor the Little Miami River (LMR) three times a year, once each in spring, summer, and fall, at two locations:

- At Bass Island, near the Newtown Bridge, River Mile 8.1
- At the Caesar Creek Access on the LMR, just north of the LMR & Caesar Creek confluence. River Mile 51.3

Our sections of the Little Miami River always score in the "Excellent" to "Good" ranges by the criteria for aquatic macroinvertebrates. Macroinvertebrates, such as Mayflies larva and Stonefly larva, are good indicators of stream health.

Public access to the LMR is widely available. As a result, many stream quality monitoring sites are located on public property and present little difficulty for volunteers to access and regularly monitor. Each of our sites has a BUFF Team Captain(s) to help organize and lead the data gathering and collection. They are happy to help you learn more about the LMR and the "bugs" that live in it.

Last year we had some rain & high-water issues on our monitoring dates, but monitoring was still possible. This year has been a different story, with rain and very high water making it extremely tough to get out. While we recently did get out for our Summer monitoring at both Bass Island and Caesar Creek, we were not able to monitor the Bass Island site in the Spring. Also, for the last two years, the bug count at Bass Island has been lower. We believe this is due to high, fast water washing away many of the macroinvertebrates we look for. The photos show the recent SQM activity at Bass Island.



Women's Monthly After-Work Fishing & Socializing – August & September Outings Coming Up –

By Cari Vota (vota@zoomtown.com)

No one should have an excuse they don't know where to FISH LOCAL.

The next Women's After-Work outing will be Thursday, August 15th at Heritage Park on the Great Miami River. Meet up at 6 PM at the park and fish until dusk. Sign-up and more details about fishing and location are on the website.

The LAST Women's After-Work outing of 2019 will be the 19th of September. We will be fishing several locations on the Little Miami River along downtown Milford. This stretch of the LRM offers pools, riffles, island/gravel bars, reed beds, and tails of pools. Good areas for wading, and there is also canoe/kayak access. We'll meet up at 6:00 pm in downtown Milford (directions with sign-up). We will be checking each location in downtown Milford. When we are done, we will meet at the new Little Miami Brewing Company (<http://www.littlemiamibrewing.com>) around 8:00 pm, to "socialize." The Brewery is located overlooking the LRM at the SR 50 bridge on Waters St. They have lots of locally brewed beers, brick oven pizzas, and salads.

Don't feel like fishing? Come anyways! I'll show you each spot for a later trip. Or just meet us at the Brewery for some good food with friends. You might even meet your next fishing buddy!

Sign-up on the BUFF website. If not fishing, just say so in the comment section when you sign-up so I have an idea how many to expect at the Brewery. Consider joining us. Questions always welcome.

Visions of Scotland –

By Jim Vota

Many of you attended a meeting last fall where Ethan Smith of Smith Fly presented his trip to Scotland. This past July, he put together a return trip, and several members of BUFF, Miami Valley, and Trout Unlimited in Columbus signed up and went, including Cari and I.

Here's an account of our trip. I'll keep it brief, and only hit the high points about our time at the lodge fishing. However, photos from other areas are presented. I hope this entices some of you to take an adventure to a very beautiful country. You won't regret it.

Our location was at the Kinloch Lodge in the very northern edge of the Scottish mainland at the Kyle of Tongue in the Southerland state. It was bordered to the east by Ben Loyal, the west by Ben Hope, the south by Loch Medie and the north by the Kyle. Suffice it to say, the estate is 'really



big'. From the breakfast sunroom we had a view of Ben Royal. Gourmet meals were served at every meal. Enough of that, on to the fishing.

Fishing opportunities included sea run brown trout, brown trout, Atlantic Salmon and sea bass. Most of the fishing was done on the River Hope. Some of it two handed rods but more individuals chose single hand. Flies were local salmon flies in the order of size 14 to 12's early in the week and then adding some size 10 tube flies later. We even did some hitching of the flies. Several sea run trout, 3 salmon and a sea bass came from here.



View of Ben Loyal from the Lodge

Loch Hope presented some different opportunities. Dapping the fly and casting or dabling the bob was the style. Due to high winds the success rate at this was limited to a handful of browns. The wind was very present during our entire stay making it above 30 - 40 mph often. It was high enough that the sea was too rough for a try at sea fishing.

There were a couple fishing opportunities closer to the lodge on the estate. The River Kinloch runs from the highlands south of Loch an Dherue to the Kyle of Tongue. It is a beautiful little mountain stream that salmon do occasionally run up. The portion we fished was a 4+ mile hike from the lodge. It contains a natural stock of brown trout. They were mostly on the small side, but an occasional larger trout was caught. There was one salmon hooked but not landed in the upper region of the river.

The truly memorable portion of the trip came on Friday. We started with hill loch fishing south of Ben Loyal. These lochs have a natural supply of brown trout that dine almost exclusively on bugs. The views were stunning, and the wind was high. With our guide and Ethan's family we had 9 fishermen. There were enough lakes, so none were overcrowded. The flies of choice were Muddlers, sizes 10 and 12. We weren't expecting anything significant here, but this was where our largest catch of the week occurred. Several browns were caught, and Cari landed a 28" 7+ lb bug eating brown. She's still smiling.

Now for the rest of the story. We went down the hills to Loch an Dherue where we had a gourmet lunch in the bathey. For those of you who are not familiar with batheys: they are buildings that are located around Scotland for use by trekkers, free of charge.

There is a law that allows you to hike anywhere you choose in Scotland, even if it's private property. However, you can't fish just anywhere!. To fish, you need to purchase permits for the day, and it can be expensive. Following that, some of us headed for the River Hope, hoping for salmon, while we dropped off the more intrepid hikers at the top of the fishing section of the River Kinloch (better known as Pam's last stand). Things evolved quickly. By the time we got back from the Hope, Tom Allen and Barry had made it back to the



Gourmet lunch at the bathey

lodge to get help for Pam Allen. She broke her ankle entering the river. These guys are no spring chickens and made the 4+ mile hike in record time. Getting help from the lodge and Bertha the Land Rover they headed back to recover Pam. The call went out to Thurso for an ambulance. It's 20 something miles away and at least 45 minutes. Pam meanwhile drug herself up to the road where she was eventually picked up in Bertha. They arrived back at the lodge before medical help arrived in the form of a med-evac helicopter from Inverness. The ambulance was hot on their heels and a good thing too as the helicopter landed a way downhill. She was trundled from the lodge to the helicopter by ambulance. They took her back to Inverness which by car is over 2 ½ hours away and only 45 minutes by air, (total cost to the Allen's -\$0 –UK National Health Care).

Not wanting to take up more time, this is a trip I would do again. It is a beautiful country and there's so much to see. We all took time at either end of the fishing portion of the trip to sightsee. Cari and I did the North Coast 500 trip and Islay. We visited 5 distilleries for Scotch, saw beautiful mountain scenery, lots of sheep, a couple of castles, an ancient cairn, a sea voyage, ate too many wonderful meals, and much more. Oh, I almost forgot SHEEP! We ended by flying back to the states. Our first stop was JFK in NY City. All good things eventually come to an end.



Hi ho, hi ho, off to the lodge we go...



Barry being stealthy on the Kinloch



The River Spey



River Kinloch Brown





Loch Hope

Fly of the Month –

By Ken Mandel

We've had several weeks of fishing with Project Healing Waters on area lakes and ponds. So far we have had excellent luck with worm-like flies which have legs (wooly buggers with rubber legs, bluegill candy, etc.). Bass and bluegills have been taking them eagerly, and it has been fun. That was until our last outing, when the 'tried and true' did not work any more. What was working were small midge patterns and floating beetle patterns. The beetle patterns make sense, as they are often of use in mid-to-late summer, and with the recent weather we've been having, it certainly feels like late summer. Probably an ant pattern would also have worked, but I do not recall if anyone tried that.

I thought that putting a simple beetle pattern in this month's BUFFER could be worthwhile, and it's super easy to tie. The pattern I looked up is on a short Orvis video. They did it in black, but other color foam works – we were using a tan foam beetle pattern last week. I tied a couple in light brown to try on the next outing.

Foam Beetle –

- Materials:**
- 2X-long dry-fly hook with down-eye, size 10 – 14 (Dai-Riki #730)
 - 6/0 thread in appropriate color
 - ¼" strip of 2 mm craft foam
 - peacock herl
 - black (or other color) saddle hackle
 - bright color foam for visibility marker (optional)



1. Start thread on hook shank leaving some space behind the hook eye. Take a few wraps toward the bend, and cut off the tag end. The video used a Dai-Riki #730 (2X Long, 1X heavy) hook.
2. Lay the foam strip on top of the hook shank starting behind the eye, so it extends out over the bend. Tie in on top of the shank with tight thread wraps to compress the foam. Wrap to the hook bend. Wrap the thread forward and back to trap and compress the foam on top of the hook shank. End with the thread back at the hook bend.



Trimming a small angle at the end of the foam where it is to be first tied in can help starting the thread wraps and getting the foam secured on the hook shank

3. Rooster saddle hackle is used to form the legs which will be beneath the fly. The video used black hackle from a feather that provided good stiff fibers. Larger hackle is OK, as it will be trimmed later. Trim off the stem where the fluffy webby stuff begins, Then strip about 1/2" of fibers from both sides of the stem. Position the stem along the near side of the hook shank at the bend, and tie in with several turns of thread.



4. The underbody of the fly is formed with peacock herl. Take about 3 strands, clip off about 1" of the brittle tips. Tie in at on the near side of the hook shank, starting at the thread position shown above, taking thread wraps *back to the hook bend*.



5. Make adjacent wraps of the peacock herl toward the eye, keeping the wraps behind the hanging thread. The thread will move forward and help hold the herl wraps together. Once the herl is at the starting position tie it off and trim off excess herl.



6. Now wrap the hackle feather forward toward the hook eye over the peacock herl, making open spiral wraps. 3-4 wraps is sufficient. Secure with thread wraps and trim excess. To avoid clogging the eye, sweep the fibers back toward the bend and take some thread wraps to hold them back.

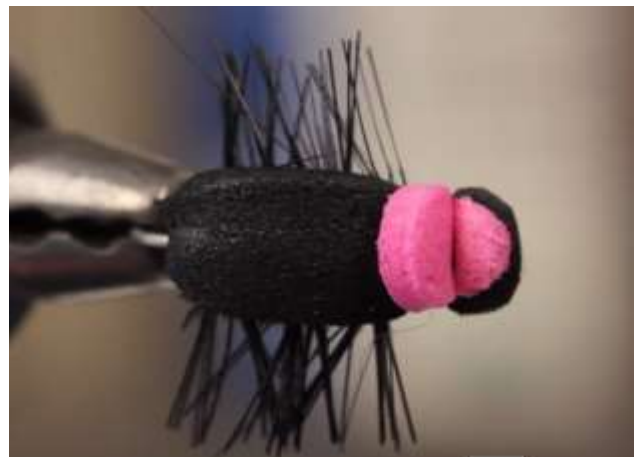


7. Now we will bring the foam body over the hackle fibers to form the beetle's body. First, preen the hackle fibers that are sticking up by pushing them down and back and then pull and bend the foam over the top of the hook to form the body. Tie down at the front tie-in point with a several tight thread wraps which will segment the foam to form a body over the shank of the hook and leave a head segment that will stick out over the eye. The foam needs to be tightly bound to the hook shank. Snip off the foam leaving about 1/8" extending over the hook eye.



8. Now the fly is ready to finish –

- If using black foam, it can be helpful to tie in a small bit of bright colored foam to act as an indicator. The fly floats low in the water, so a black foam beetle is harder to see. This can be an option if the body is made of a lighter colored foam.
- Finish with a whip finish either over the indicator spot or beneath the head and cut off the tying thread. A bit of head cement can be applied.
- Turn the fly over and trim off all the hackle feathers that stick straight down. Trim them off flush to the peacock herl so the herl will be visible from below.
- While the remaining hackle can be left long, the demonstration suggested trimming them short as well leaving short stubby leg-like structures protruding outwards.



The Orvis video for this pattern is about 5 min long. It is at: <https://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/fly-tying-videos/dry-flies/733-foam-beetle>. Orvis also has a modification of this fly. The modification is to replace the hackle with flexible rubber legs. The rear legs are tied in prior to the foam. The front legs are simply wedged between the foam body and the indicator spot after the fly has been finished. The tension holds them, or you can use a drop of head cement as an additional binder. This version can be found at <https://news.orvis.com/fly-fishing/video-how-to-tie-the-foam-beetle-2>.

Upcoming BUFF Activities –

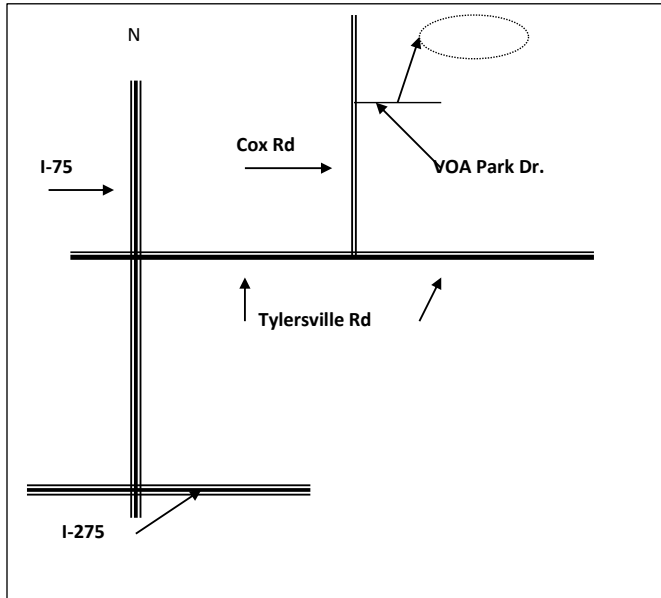
Please check the [BUFF Website](#) for availability and details, or
contact the trip or activity coordinator

<u>Trip/Activity & Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Last Kid's Fishing for Summer 2019 Parky's Farm Winton Woods Park	Friday, Aug, 9 th 9 AM – Noon <i>Come on out!</i>	Ed Jones 513-523-6523 jonesee@miamioh.edu
Women's After Work Outing Heritage Park Great Miami River	Thursday, Aug 15 th 6 PM – Dusk <i>register on website</i>	Cari Vota 513-476-7112 vota@zoomtown.com
Tie & Lie Springdale Community Ctr Springdale, OH	Friday, Aug 16 th 6:30 PM – 9 PM (bring vise, tools & thread)	Gary Begley 513-932-4205 loopdude1@hotmail.com
Stream Quality Monitoring Bass Island	Saturday, Sept 14 th Arrive at site by 9 AM See Website for details & map	Tom Britton 513-520-7862 starwoodb@gmail.com
Stream Quality Monitoring Caesar's Creek	Saturday, Sept 14 th Arrive at site by 9 AM See Website for details & map	Tom Britton 513-520-7862 starwoodb@gmail.com
New York Catskill's Trip Roscoe, NY	Monday, Sept 16 th – Sunday Sept 22 nd Fully Booked, see Website for details & information	J.R. Jackson 518-227-2136 bearcatjr@gmail.com
Women's After Work Outing Little Miami River Milford, OH	Thursday, Sept 19 th 6 PM – Dusk <i>register on website</i>	Cari Vota 513-476-7112 vota@zoomtown.com
Sunnybrook Fall Trip Sandusky, OH	Friday, Sept 27 th – Sunday, Sept 29 th Fully Booked, see Website for details & information	Ken Dixon 513-787-2408 krjdix@outlook.com
Smokey Mountains Trout Trip Bryson City, NC	Wednesday, Oct 16 th – Sunday, Oct 20 th Fully Booked, see Website for details & information	Cecil Osborn 513-335-9295 cosborn1898@gmail.com

August Meeting – Wednesday, August 14th, 2019

6:00 – 9:00 PM at VOA Park – watch website for sign-up

Register on line at WWW.BUCKEYEFLYFISHERS.COM. Please register whether you plan to eat dinner with us (\$15/person) or not.



Directions:

From I-75 -- Follow 1-75 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.