



The BUFFER

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

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

January 1, 2019

Notes from the President

Jim Vota – vota@zoomtown.com

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a fantastic Christmas / New Year and are recovered from it. Travels, family and even the New Year's parties can take their tolls on us.

Even though it's the middle of winter we are blessed to be in a zone where rivers do not necessarily freeze. For those who are brave, or who simply have a few screws loose, you can still head out and fish. Swinging flies at Brookville tail waters early or late can produce some nice browns & walleye. The Mad is definitely fishable. If you locate a smallmouth hole you can pick some up with SLOW presentations. I for one don't want to spend too much time wading in the cold but will do it (usually due to some glitch in the brain causing a psychotic episode). I'd rather be on a boat. Cari caught her first musky in early December on a day that didn't get even to 40 degrees. That was over on a river in southeast Ohio. Cast to a sunny shore, pull the fly over the drop off and hang on.

In order to fish at this time of year you need to dress appropriately. Nothing cotton! Nothing that will hold volumes of water if you go in. I use the layer method. Long underwear, pull over turtle neck shirt, nylon spandex pants, two fleece type jacket sweaters, waders / bibs depending on if wading or in a boat, if cold enough a jacket and then a wind breaker / rain coat. For my feet I use Smartwool socks (tall – one pair is enough). If using waders, I use my wading boots with rubber soles (if there is ice or snow, you don't want to use felt!) and if I'm using bib coveralls I use a pair of Simms boots (tall rubber Muck boots). You say wow, that's a lot. It actually isn't as each layer is thin and lite. As it warms up I remove layers.

One other item is to have a dry bag with dry clothes if you can. Almost forgot, bring a big towel. Also some of the hand warmer packets. If you get wet, you will need to be able to get changed quickly. Typically, it's not possible but make every effort. Even having these back at the car is better than not having them.

So, maybe this will encourage some of you to try cold weather fishing? I think most of us would rather be where it's warm and tie flies or something. Enjoying Scotch. Whatever your choice this winter, stay warm and enjoy this great sport we have come to love.

Warm regards

Jim Vota

El Presidente, BUFF

January Meeting – Program

The January meeting is Wednesday January 9th, 2019. Registration on the BUFF website is open through January 6th.

January Speaker – Dale Collins, Tuckaseegee Fly Shop

“Strategies and Evidence – A Guided Approach for Fishing Western North Carolina”

Dale Collins, and Co-Owner Bobby Bennett, set out five years ago to build Tuckaseegee Fly Shop and guide service as a customer-centric experience. Leaving the public sector as an educator and coach, Dale now uses his talents to share his passion of fly fishing with others. Still teaching, just a different classroom.



You can find out more about fishing opportunities in the Bryson City and Sylva NC area, guide services and the shop at their website: www.tuckflyshop.com.

January Dinner Menu??

Apologies, but due to our own holiday travel, I needed to put this BUFFER to bed prior to the January menu being available. Check the website after the 1st, or perhaps just make it 'pot luck'.

Hope everyone had a joyful Christmas and New Year

Ken Mandel

Where Has the Summer Gone?

By Tim Williamson (willitk@yahoo.com)

Wow! Where has the summer gone? This has been a strange year for fishing. Very wet spring. Cool and sometimes very wet summer. And in no time it was September. And for me, that's my favorite time of year to fish. But I really love July thru October and this year it was very problematic to find a good fishing time.

So, I'm here writing this article for my extended family of fellow Buffers because I'm really excited and hope to have that rub off on you. But what am I so excited about? (In a hushed silent whisper) We have great fishing opportunities here in Cincinnati! (Now in a loud exuberant tone) That was why I was so super hyped at getting the opportunity to talk to you all at the October meeting about fishing the Great Miami River Valley and I'm still stoked at trying to get you all to try it.

I've worked with our superb web master, Don Kail, and we've put a copy of that discussion on the BUFF Website. Here's the web link to it: <http://buckeyeflyfishers.com/education/timsoctobertalk.pdf>. For those that want to navigate there, Click on the "Education/Conservation" tab and then on the "Education Resources": tab the link for "Warm Water Fishes. Tim's October Talk" is under the "Fishing by Species" listing. Now, I'm being selfish and shouting about this topic because I've asked Don to actually add two links there. The second, "Fishing in South West Ohio" is a much longer deck that I cut and pasted for this presentation. This deck has more details than I could share at the club meeting. It's also the place I often go back to and relearn/expand what I know about warm water fishing. I use it to remind me of good topics and a starting point to go google again. I highly encourage you to come back to it and read it again and again. I'm amazed at how often I learn something new from this deck or it inspires me to go google again and I hope you will too! The BUFF website link to that presentation is: <http://buckeyeflyfishers.com/education/fishswohio.pdf>. If you would rather just navigate to it, it is in the same location under *Education and Conservation* and *Education Resources* tabs in the BUFF Website.



Next year, I plan to have more outdoor clinics on presentation methods that I use. Some may have Parker teaching them again so please stay tuned for feature email blasts on when those will be. They have been very well received. I hope more of you get a chance to attend them.

Lastly, I want to encourage you all to learn how to do "The Hop". This is a method that Tim Holschlag invented. It's a great technique and once you master it, you'll have a much better appreciation for what we call tight line fishing. In a nutshell, your fly line doesn't have any slack and it's done completely backwards of what most fly fishers think we do. You don't attempt to have slack during the

presentation because we DON'T want a drag free drift! Now I don't want you to think that it's easy. It's easier to learn than drag free drifts but it takes practice and commitment to do it well. I fished it exclusively for two whole summers before I fell in love with sinking lines and the swing. During that time I did nothing but fish "the Hop" or a flavor of it. I went out saying to myself, "I know this is probably not the right thing to do today, but I'm going to do it anyway because I know in order to be good that I got to keep doing it". And you know what? On days I would have sworn that was not the right thing to be doing, I caught fish. And on the days I didn't, I experimented with presentation. Was it a longer pause between the hop. Was it one little hop. Short pause. Big hop. Or was I having more luck catching fish on the fall from the initial cast. And you know what? I learned that mending (or not like JR likes to say) can make or break your fishing day. I also learned that experimenting with something regularly (say every 15 minutes) can make a bad day into a good one. It's not always the color or size that you need to change, but more weight is needed to get the fly down. Or too much weight and the fly doesn't flutter in the fish's face long enough.

And here's the part that I hate to say: there's no golden rule. You have to go out and fish the same places over and over again till you learn that body of water. And you know what? You can take what you learn on one river and it work on another. But, *and this is a big BUT (!)*, it may not work the same under the same conditions. But it might, and you should try it. But (here's that but again) be prepared to change something about it. Color for example. The crawfish on the Whitewater tend to mostly be green, so an olive pattern fly works well there. In contrast, Twin Creek, olive and a splash of rusty brown or all brown is better. Sometimes, it depends on the time of year too! Because in the spring, after the crawfish dig out from the mud or out from under the leaf piles in the slow pools after hibernating they are black, or blue/black. And this is when you can use BIG crawfish imitations.

One last thing about Tim Holschlag, his techniques and flies work! Read his books. Or view his DVD's. Browse his website. (I learned a lot there.) If you buy flies, buy his! If you tie them, imitate his. Another really creative smallmouth guy is Harry Murray. Google him too!

	
Small Mouth Bass	Trophy-Sized Fish!

In closing, I'm going to extend to all of you the invitation I offer to everyone that comes to my classes. Call me. I'll go fishing with you. I'll help you learn more. If you have trouble with computers or google, we can meet at your home or a coffee shop and I'll help you get better. The internet is your friend and I'd be happy to be your guide. You just have to ask.

Tim

P.S. My phone number and email are in the club directory. Give me a shout!

2019 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show Update

By Bob Gustafson – j.r.gustafson@att.net

Pre-Show Events

Fly Tying Workshops (**Reservations Required**)

Thursday, 1/31/19 Mike Schmidt Workshops –

2 PM - 4 PM & 4:30 - 6:30 PM - Streamers and Signature Flies

Friday, 2/1/19 Dave Hughes Workshops

10 AM - 12 PM - Imitative Nymphs

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM - Searching Nymphs

4 PM – 6 PM - Wet Flies

Register for 1, 2, 3 or all session on the BUFF Website

Show Details

Saturday, 2/2/19 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show – Oasis Conference Center, Loveland 9:00-4:00

The 2019 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show promises to be the best ever with an expanded offering of fly tying workshops and skill building presentations. If you want to learn more about fly tying and/or improve your fishing skills, this is the show for you!



Show headliner, Dave Hughes, is an acclaimed fly fisher, fly tier, and author of over 25 books on fly fishing, trout habitat, diet, and flies that take them. His books are treasure troves of practical and successful techniques and know-how. His book *Essential Trout Flies* is considered a must-have by any serious fly tier. Dave will have some of his most popular books for sale at the show and the tying workshops.

In addition there will be world-class presentations by Dave Hughes (“Matching the Hatch, Simplified” and “Wet Flies and Wet Fly Fishing”), Glen Blackwood (“Reading the Water from Small to Large”), Dustan Harley (“Effective Streamer Fishing for Any Water”), and Brian Flechsig (“Entomology 101”). Brian Flechsig, Glen Blackwood, and BUFF casting instructors will present casting demonstrations on the Casting Pond. The pond will also be available for public rod testing from the numerous rod offerings at the show. Mike Schmidt and Dave Schmidt will present fly tying demos during the show.

Whatever your fly fishing passion is, we’ve got it covered with over 60 exhibitors ranging from outfitters and guides, fly rods, fly tying supplies, kayaks, lodges, conservation groups



Dave Hughes



Mike Schmidt



Glen Blackwood



Dustan Harley



Brian Flechsig

See you at the show!

In addition, as summarized in at the top of the article, Mike Schmidt and Dave Hughes will lead a series of 2-hr fly tying workshops on Thursday 1/31 and Friday 2/1, respectively, at the times shown. The workshops will be held at the Oasis Conference Center (same location as the show). Cost is \$30, \$50, \$70, \$90, or \$110 for enrolling in 1, 2, 3, 4, or all 5 workshops. Further details of flies that will be tied, and instructions on enrolling and paying for workshops is on the BUFF website. Space is limited, so if interested, enroll early.

Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers!!!!

2019 Fly Fishing Show

A reminder that volunteer sign-up for the upcoming Fly Fishing Show is on the homepage of the BUFF Website. In addition, a paper sign-up sheet will also be at the front table at upcoming meetings. Please sign-up to support this event. It is not possible without your help. Also, this year we are trying something new.



A few of our volunteers from the 2018 show

Fly Fishing 101 at the 2019 Fly Fishing Show

This year the show will include a 2-hr (10 AM – Noon) “Fly Fishing 101” program to provide introductory information on fly fishing basics to those new to the activity, or perhaps folks who at this point, are just interested and want to understand a bit more. Jim Vota, el Presidente, is organizing this and will lead the program. It will consist of four 30 min sessions on basic topics – basic equipment, fly rod, reel, lines and leaders, and knots – being a combination of short presentation and demonstration. Jim is seeking a few volunteers who would be present to answer questions or help with demonstrations. Contact Jim if interested or indicate willingness to help on this when signing up as a show volunteer on line or using the sign-up sheet at the January club meeting.

Bass Pro Shop – January Weekends

On weekends during January we ask for volunteers at Bass Pro Shop to hand out brochures and do tying demonstration. Each Saturday and Sunday we will be tying flies and handing out brochures. Times are 10 AM – Noon, Noon – 2 PM, and 2 PM – 4 PM. We'd like to have at least one person tying and one person handing out brochures.

Volunteer on-line under the fly show volunteer sign up on the website, or a sign-up sheet will be available at the upcoming January meeting. You can contact Jeff Georgin for more specifics about dates and times when volunteers are needed, and what to bring if interested in tying (jsgeorgin@fuse.net).

Thursday, January 24th – Fly Tying Demo

On Thursday, January 24th, 2019, the club will participate in demonstrating fly tying at an event being held at Pattison Park, in Owensville, OH (about 20 min east of I-275 at the US 50 exit). The park is part of the Clermont County Park system. It is indoors, from 10 AM to noon. The contact person is Tom Bachey (h2oguy@fuse.net). **A sign-up will be posted on the BUFF Website after January 3rd.**

Winter Casting Clinic in January

Tim Williamson is setting up casting techniques clinic. It will be indoors (!!!) using the gym at the Springdale Community Center. Possible dates are the 2nd or 3rd Saturday in January from 1 – 3 PM. Tim promises that one of the techniques to be worked on is how to get your fly out of tree branches – he has not let anyone know how he plans to bring a tree into the gym! **Watch out for an e-mail blast with more details, and sign-up on the BUFF Website.**

A Preview of 2019 BUFF Programs and Trips

In addition to our monthly meetings, held the second Wednesday of every month, we already have a lot of education and conservation programs, as well as fishing trips on the agenda for the coming year. Of course, always check dates on the BUFF website, as these may be tentative. Regardless, a good sample of some of things we plan to do as a club in 2019.

Education

Intermediate Fly Tying – Tuesdays beginning February 12th thru March 26th at Springdale Community Center

Fly Fishing 101 – Mondays beginning March 4th thru March 25th at Springdale Community Center

Gear Maintenance Workshop – in March, date and location to be announced

Introduction to Fly Tying – April 2nd

Casting Tune-up – April 8th

Women’s Warm-up Casting Clinic – Wed May 8th, VOA Park prior to monthly meeting

Casting Class – Sundays, June 2nd, 9th, and 23rd. Learn from FFI-certified casting instructors

Trips & Conservation Activities

Twin Creek Day Trip in April – date to be determined

East Fork Little Miami River Clean-up – Saturday, April 13th

Muskie Day Trip to Caesar Creek Headwaters – Saturday, April 13th

White Bass Fishing Day Trips – Monday, April 22nd, Thursday, April 25th, and Saturday, April 27th (one of the days is usually reserved for new member participation)

Women’s Spring Trip to Clear Fork/Mohican State Park – Friday-Saturday, April 26th – 27th

Sunnybrook Trout Club Spring Trip – Friday, May 3rd thru Sunday, May 5th

Little Miami River Stream Quality Monitoring – Saturday, May 11th

Women’s Twin Creek Day Trip – Saturday, May 11th

Spring Trip to North Carolina – Wednesday, May 15th thru Saturday, May 18th

Twin Creek Day Trip – Wednesday, May 22nd

Women’s Day Trip to Caesar Creek Tail Waters – Saturday, June 15th

Sunnybrook Trout Club Trip – Tuesday, June 18th thru Thursday, June 20th

Twin Creek Day Trip – Wednesday, June 26th

Upcoming BUFF Activities

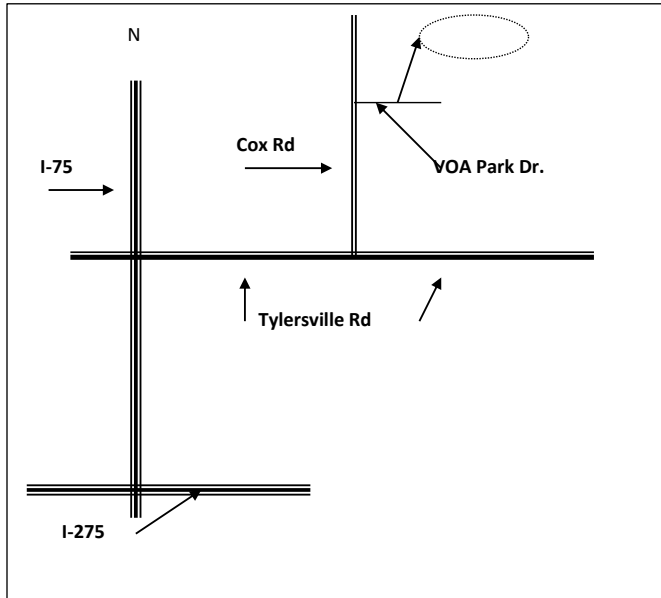
**Please check the BUFF Website for availability and details, or
contact the trip or activity coordinator**

<u>Trip/Activity & Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Pre-Fly Show Tying and Brochure Distribution at Bass Pro Shop Forest Park, OH	Saturdays and Sundays, 1/5 & 6, 1/12 & 13, 1/19 & 20, 1/26 & 27 10 AM – 4 PM each day	Jeff Georgin 513-616-4388 jsgeorgin@fuse.net
Fly Tying Workshop Pattison Park Lodge Owensville, OH	Thursday 1/24/19 10 AM – Noon	Tom Bachey 513-543-4056 h2oguy@fuse.net
2019 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show Oasis Conference Center	Saturday, Feb 2nd	

January Meeting – Wednesday, January 9th, 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.