The BUFFER

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

June 2010

The President's Notes Roger Corrado (corradohome@yahoo.com)

Every time I do something with our Club I am quietly reminded how good it is and how blessed we are. Our Club is so good because members volunteer their time and energy to do all sorts of things for the rest of us. I will discuss this more as we go on but I want to thank all of you who step forward and help in any way to make the Club better. As President, you get to see more and more of the effort a lot of the members put forth often unnoticed by the majority – if I don't always recognize your efforts I just now want to say, THANKS!!

That sounds like it should be the last part of my message, but I think it belongs where it is. I recently went on the West Virginia trip led by Rodney and Lee and, even though it rained and the Elk River was flooded for most of the time we were there, it turned out to be a great trip. Why, because of the work the leaders put into planning the trip helping us find alternative streams to fish (especially great because we got to catch some gorgeous wild brook trout), getting us great accommodations, ensuring we had the right flies and equipment, providing good directions, and taking the extra time to make sure the rest of us were having the best time possible.

In addition to the above, other things that happened during that trip showed me why our Club was sooo good. If you want to be a better fisherman and meet some great people one of our trips is a great place to start. A recommendation that I try to follow is to at some time during each trip help someone learn something new and to learn something new myself. The best way I found for me to learn something new is to always try to fish with someone I can learn from or help. While I have seen many videos and fished different streams I found there is a lot to learn – which I learn best by doing. I tagged along with Jeff McElravy one day and asked his *Continued on page 2*

BUFF June 2010 Program

Mad River and Trout Unlimited

Tom Allen, President of the Mad River Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be our speaker. Find out what is happening at the Mad and learn techniques to successfully fly fish this truly great fishery.

President's Notes.....continued from page 1

advice about fishing one of the mountain streams. A simple half hour instruction surely improved my small stream fishing – thanks Jeff! I also watched throughout the weekend as other members put down their rods to help new members learn to fish or to land other's fish rather than ignore them and keep fishing on their own. One morning a group of us sat in the lodge and just compared and shared different knots, for a short time, and I think all of us learned some new and/or better ways to tie on flies and droppers. I guess part of the point is we help each other and share our energies and knowledge freely.

Another example - Before I started to write this, I checked my email and found an email from Gary Cummins who had spent a lot of time developing a spreadsheet to track his fly tying equipment and supplies along with his rods and reels. He is openly offering this spreadsheet to the rest of us to use. It reminded me that not only is it important to inventory my equipment to keep track of what I have (and maybe see something that I need to get) but also for insurance purposes. As we continue fishing it is amazing how much equipment we have, and looking back, how much money that can be tied up in it. Without records it might be hard, if everything was lost in a fire or disaster, to reconstruct records of what I had. So, I will quit here with this – if you want Gary's spreadsheet contact him at: garyjcummins@fuse.net

So far this year we have had some excellent trips, classes, and just plain fun - with a lot more to come. Rather than repeat some of the activities that are happening, check the calendar at the end of the BUFFER to see what is going on.

PS. Find some way to help make our Club continue to be one of the best clubs around! Thanks again,

Roger



BUFF Picnic/Swap Meet July 17 at Central Turners Lake

This year the board has decided to combine the Club picnic and the Swap meet. The picnic will be held on July 17, at The Cincinnati Central Turners Club. There is 3.5 acre lake with club house and picnic area. This facility is also the home of the Cincinnati Casting Club with casting targets to test your skills and the lake is stocked with bluegill and bass (catch and release). The picnic starts at 1:00 PM and will run till dark. A picnic meal will be served between 4:30 and 5:00 PM. Cost will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. More details to follow later.

The park is located on 2200 Pinney Lane, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231.

Direction: I-275 (Cincinnati North side of loop) Exit Mt. Healthy – Fairfield. South on Hamilton Avenue, approx. 2 miles, right on Pinney Lane. Pinney Lane runes dead into our park.

Parky's Farm Update Lou Haynes

The Spring session at Parky's Farm is now over. Fishing was not as good as usual this Spring. Pond weeds consumed the lake in late April making fishing almost impossible. Fortunately, the park district treated the pond for weeds mid-May and most of the weeds are now gone. Even with the weeds chocking the pond, the number of bass and bluegills I saw on nests was unbelievably high, so I expect fishing to be super this fall.

Dates have been set for the fall program. They include all Fridays starting September 10th through October 29th, eight Fridays in all. Fishing times for the kids will continue to be from 10 AM to 2 PM. Club members are still invited to come early or stay late to fish on their own. Why not put some of these dates on your calendar now and come help the kids catch a fish.

I'm looking for a couple of members who would be willing to help manage the fishing equipment on some of the Fridays this fall, i.e., getting the equipment to the pond before 10 AM and taking it home after 2 PM. We have two sets of equipment so the job can easily be split between two members. Please let me know if you can help.

I want to thank all the members who gave their time this spring to help at Parky's. Without you we couldn't do this wonderful kids outreach program. A special thanks to Chester Scheid who built and installed a great fishing-rod holder on the dock. His device has greatly reduced the number for tangled lines we were getting. Good job Chester. In the believe-it-or-not category, I actually saw Chester catch a 20-plus inch bass off the dock on his fly rod; but, what ever you do, don't ask him what fly pattern he used.

April in Caddisville..... continued from page 5

I was having trouble keeping fish on after the hook-up. Randy says my hook set is too gentle, and that most of his clients have the same habit. Fritz was listening, and on his next fish, brought back a fly empty of all but a section of lower jaw of trout. Randy commented immediately that Fritz had the idea!

At one point he pumped one of Fritz's nice fish, and found little black caddis (size 18) in the throat or stomach. Go figure, with a significant number of tan caddis (size 14-16) predominant in the air. The rest of the day was magic. Trout were coming up all over the place, obtaining their dinner. Of note, though, is that their rise tempo was frustratingly infrequent. You couldn't hope to time it at 30-?? Seconds, and wait them out. Curious, when an especially luscious, big riser was noted. (Remember the 31 ¹/₂ inch brown from above?)

Randy LOVES to bring fish to his clients. We working stiffs are not hot shots at catching fish. He fished us 10 hours. We were exhausted, but he simply would not pass through an area he knew to contain fish to hurry us to the take out point. The average fish on the Wautaga is 10-12 inches. I'll fish for that size fish <u>all</u> <u>day</u>, with delight.

Lessons learned? I encountered 2 fish on my own the windy day, on waters famous for catching. With Randy, I lost count of the number. Having a professional, who spends many if not most days on the water, that knows the local waters intimately, can help meet expectations in getting fish on. Randy knew the Wautaga was fishing better than the South Holston, that the generation schedule was better, and where the bugs would be, and how to time the float to be where we needed to be. Fishing days are precious. Life is short.

BUFF 2010 Calendar



June 2010

- Jun 3 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Jun 9 **BUFF Monthly Meeting** 6:45 9 pm Raffel's on Reading Road
- Jun 10-13 Elkhorn River Trip, Frankfort, KY,M. Foltz & C. Montgomery
- Jun 16 BUFF Board Meeting Atonement Lutheran
- Church, 305 Cameron Rd. Springdale, OH 7 pm
- Jun 18 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm

July 2010

- Jul 1 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Jul 11 BUFF Casting Class Cottell Park, 1-4 pm Gary Begley
- Jul 12 VA Fly Tying Dave Jones 6:30-8:30 pm
- Jul 14 Little Miami Clean-Up Float Trip, Izaak Walton, L. Haynes
- Jul 16 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Jul 17 **BUFF Picnic and Swap Meet,** 2200 Pinney Lane, Mt. Healthy 45231
- Jul 18 BUFF Casting Class Cottell Park, 1-4 pm Gary Begley
- Jul 21 **BUFF Board Meeting** Atonement Lutheran Church, 305 Cameron Rd. Springdale, OH 7 pm
- Jul 25 **BUFF Casting Class** Cottell Park, 1-4 pm Gary Begley

August 2010

- Aug 5 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Aug 10 VA Fly Tying Dave Jones 930 am
- Aug 11 Fishing Outing No Monthly Meeting or dinner
- Aug 18 BUFF Board Meeting Atonement Lutheran
- Church, 305 Cameron Rd. Springdale, OH 7 pm
- Aug 19-22 Cumberland River Trip, Jamestown, KY, B. Mackey & D. Jones
- Aug 20 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Aug TBD Fishing Outing in lieu of Monthly Meeting TBD

September 2010

- Sep 1-4 Au Sable River Trip, Grayling, MI, S. Bailey
- Sep 2 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Sep 8 **BUFF Monthly Meeting** 6:45 9 pm
- Raffel's on Reading Road
- Sep 10 **Parky's Farm**, 10-2 pm
- Sep 12-17 Pere Marquette River Fall Salmon Trip J. Guenther
- Sep 15 Little Miami Clean-Up Float Trip, Izaak Walton, S. Lilly
- Sep 15 **BUFF Board Meeting** Atonement Lutheran Church, 305 Cameron Rd. Springdale, OH 7 pm
- Sep 17 Parky's Farm, 10-2 pm
- Sep 17 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Sep 23 VA Fly Tying Dave Jones 6:30-8:30 pm
- Sep 24 **Parky's Farm**, 10-2 pm

October 2010

- Oct 1 Parky's Farm, 10-2 pm
- Oct 7-10 Ladies Trout Trip, Sharon Bailey
- Oct 7 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Oct 8 Parky's Farm, 10-2 pm
- Oct 8-12 Smoky Mts. Trout Trip, Jerry Schatzman
- Oct 13 **BUFF Monthly Meeting** 6:45 9 pm
- Raffel's on Reading Road
- Oct 15 Parky's Farm, 10-2 pm
- Oct 15 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Oct 20 **BUFF Board Meeting** Atonement Lutheran Church, 305 Cameron Rd. Springdale, OH 7 pm
- Oct 22 Parky's Farm, 10-2 pm
- Oct 29 **Parky's Farm**, 10-2 pm

November 2010

- Nov 4 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Nov 10 **BUFF Monthly Meeting** 6:45 9 pm
- Raffel's on Reading Road

 Nov 17
 BUFF Board Meeting Atonement Lutheran
- Church, 305 Cameron Rd. Springdale, OH 7 pm Nov 18-21 Fall Steelhead Trip, Chagrin Falls, OH Tom Herr
- Nov 19 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Nov 23 VA Fly Tying Dave Jones 6:30-8:30 pm

December 2010

- Dec 2 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm
- Dec 8 **BUFF Monthly Meeting** 6:45 9 pm
- Raffel's on Reading Road Dec 15 **BUFF Board Meeting** Atonement Lutheran Church, 305 Cameron Rd. Springdale, OH 7 pm
- Dec 17 Tie & Lie, Bass Pro Outdoors, 7-9 pm

June Menu Price \$12

Scheduled to be! Pan Fried Tilapia Marinated Char Grilled Chicken Breast Red Skinned Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Broccoli with Cheese Tossed Salad with Dressings Rolls and Butter Chef's Choice of Dessert

April in Caddisville Tom Scheer

Fritz Backscheider and I journeyed to Eastern Tennessee and Mid North Carolina to collect on trip donations to BUFF's banquet auctions from Randy Ratliff and Roger Lowe. Their support for our club, our efforts to promote the preservation of our waters, and education of others is truly appreciated. Randy has noticed, and reported to us that on April 9th each year for the last few, tan caddis (and some little black caddis as well) can be depended on, migrating from their hidey-holes on the stream bottom, to the surface. They didn't disappoint.

We arrived in the E Tennessee area of the town of Elizabethton, through which the Wautaga river runs, in a driving rain/snow storm heavy enough to make vision very limited, but not accumulating enough at 34 degrees F to make it very worrisome.

A <u>very</u> chilly Randy Ratliff called to finalize our plans and reported another blizzard-hatching caddis. Randy reported the caddis weren't able to get much further than 2 inches above the water's surface, and the trout were rising hungrily, to pick off the emergers as they attempted to propagate and ensure the future of their species.

Randy had procured the forecast for the next days weather, and with winds blowing twenty-five plus with gusts to forty, asked if we would consider postponing our float on the Watauga a day, to when he could control his state of the art raft with some degree of confidence, and us not seeing the caddis disappear from view the moment they attempted emergence. Given the trust several BUFFers have expressed in his skills, we concurred. When I questioned him of any opportunity to wade the stream, he directed us to the River ridge camp ground <u>www.riverridgecampground.com</u>, where he said we would be better off wading, than floating in the undesirable winds predicted.

Our attempts to touch trout the next day were unrewarded, on flat water, riffles, bends or runs. We suffered a certain amount of disappointment when we encountered a native who camps and fishes the state's streams with a spinning rod, and who invited us to see the "big brown" he caught with his techniques. It was on a bed of ice in the bottom of his cooler. I taped it at 31 ¹/₂ inches. He supported killing it by "explaining" that it was too old to spawn successfully, and its place would be taken by a younger, more robust male who would do more for the procreation of the brown trout population.

We met Randy at 10 am the day after the high winds("lets let the water warm a bit") and worked the waters manfully with emergers, and when that failed to produce, streamers. By two pm, when we broke for lunch, I was pretty much worn out from attempting long (45-60 ft) casts 8-12 inches from shoreline structure with a streamer(black wooly bugger, size 12). Randy promised, that as the river cleared, and the water temps rose, we would see more success.

And we did. The tan caddis started to appear, in ever increasing numbers. And the trout began to notice and respond. Surface offerings were not preferred. The trout, as is often the case with caddis, know that once the caddis breaks the surface film, they were out of reach.....Gone. Interestingly, Randy had us swinging and drifting a soft hackle emerger tied with a fairly robust body of black dubbing (rabbit) with a wet hackle collar of starling, ribbed with small green or red copper wire for these tan caddis

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April in Caddisville, Part 2

We had scheduled a day off to travel to Roger Lowe's In Waynesville, NC, with the idea that we could either fish East Tennessee if the conditions were good, or go on to Waynesville NC to the Tuckaseegee or Nantahala if we fell on hard times in E TN. Waynesville is a small town near Ashville NC. Roger Lowe steered us to a clean inexpensive motel, and they steered us to food.

The next morning we met Roger at his fly shop, (*now closed, ed.*) near the motel, grabbed some food from the supermarket nearby (after he learned our preferences), and drove 45 minutes or so to the Tuckaseegee River. Again, Roger had sorted through the data, taking us to the shallower Tuck instead of the Nantahala, which was still too cold to provide good hatches, and wading instead of floating since no generation was scheduled. Roger outlined an approach to the day which pleased me greatly. I have not proven to be very successful at locating and hooking trout even where there are good populations of them. He offered to break the day up into sections, demonstrating the techniques he has found to be successful. We started with dry/dropper setups, using a fairly large dry to support a #16 red copper john on about a foot of tippit. He had us keep our casts short, less than 20 feet of line out. We would wade toward the deeper run along the shore, with overhanging bushes, making short drifts downstream as we went, then wade back to midstream, move down and repeat. This proved to be quite effective, with several spunky 10-13 fish brought to hand. I had mentioned to Roger that I was having a lot of fish get loose early, and he asked me to do this-cast, put in an appropriate mend, and then move the rod tip downstream of the drifting fly. When the take comes, you can get a downstream, better hook set by lifting your rod as if picking line up to recast. This tip plus Randy's helped me improve my fish brought to hand a good bit.

Roger shared more tips, one that was very impressive. After drifting over a working trout several times and getting no response, before he just leaves the fish, Roger will drift the fly over it one more time, and when the fly gets to where the he thinks the fish is, he wiggles the fly with the rod tip, pretty heartily. I saw him hook two with this trick, in three tries.

On the Tuckaseegee without generation, the water is not much over ankle depth, except below obstructions. The fish were holding in these deeper areas. Roger had us cast an olive bodied cone head woolybugger with rubber legs downstream into the holding areas, strip the fly back and when the fly was nearly ready to pick up to cast again, move the fly up and down vertically with the rod tip. This seemed to produce more strikes as well.

Roger also showed his preferred method of indicator fishing, again with a short and very controllable amount of line out. He puts a good size yarn indicator near the leader/fly line junction, and a heavy nymph plus a quite small nymph on a 12 inch dropper. This setup resulted in a fish that was significantly larger than most we had hooked, which I allowed to get into the next fast water up stream, and break off.

Roger likes to move. If he doesn't have success in an area, he moves on. This too was a good lesson for a "stay in one place and keep changing flies" guy.

All in all a great learning and catching experience for both Fritz and me.

2010 B.U.F.F Officers/Board of Directors/Key Positions

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Treasurer	Dob Gustanson	515-005-0200	j.i.gustaison@att.net
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Mad River Conservation	Vacant		
East Fork Conservation	Jon Kennard	513-732-1799	jonkennard@fuse.net
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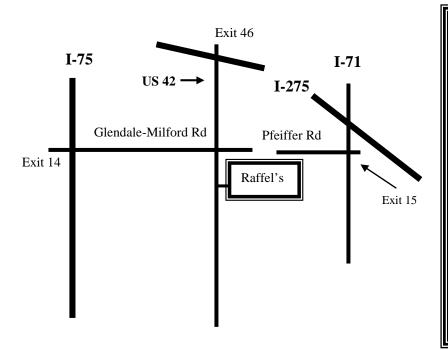
NOTICE: Dues are \$25 (Individual), \$30 (Family), with a one time \$5 Initiation Fee for new members. New members will pay a prorated membership amount according to month of initial membership for the first year. Annual dues are due January 1. Refer to BUFF website for further information. B.U.F.F., P.O. Box 42614, Cincinnati, OH 45242

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mailing Address

Next Monthly Meeting – Wednesday June 9

CALL 513 683 0286 OR SIGN UP ON LINE AT <u>WWW.BUCKEYEFLYFISHERS.COM</u> FOR DINNER RESERVATIONS NO LATER THAN MIDNIGHT ON THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE MEETING. DINNERS ARE <u>\$12.00/PERSON</u> FOR A MEAL. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED – DON'T WAIT – CALL NOW! (SEE THE MENU ON PAGE 4)



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.