



The *BUFFER*

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

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

June, 2014

Notes from the President

Ken Dixon (krjdix@outlook.com)

Hello springtime! As May comes to a close and June is ready to bust out, I think we have finally gotten into some great fishing weather. May saw three of our more popular Club trips occur; the Sunnybrook Trout Club Trip, the Carolina Trout Quest Trip and the Elk River Trip. A number of our members availed themselves of the opportunity to go on these trips (and some more than one).



Sunnybrook Trout Club BUFF May Trip

The only confirmed trip in June is the Sunnybrook Trip on June 24, 25 & 26. We normally have a trip to the Elkhorn River in Kentucky in June but we need a trip leader. If someone would take the trip leader's position, this trip could still occur this year. (An experienced person is willing to be an assistant.) Similarly, the September trip to the Pere Marquette is also in need of a trip leader. Contact Steve Bailey if you would like to lead either of these trips. I encourage our new members to check out the Club sponsored trips. This is a great way to try out some new waters with folks that have experience and are more than willing to help get you on the fish.

June will see other Club activities as well:

- Casting Classes are scheduled June 1, 8, & 15 from 1:00 to 4:00 at Cottrell Park in Deerfield Township near Mason. There are still openings available. If interested contact Gary Begley at loopdude1@hotmail.com or signup using the on-line registration.
- On June 7, you may want to take the family to "Bug-Fest" 2014 in the Rotunda and the Museum of Natural History at the Cincinnati Museum Center. A number of our members will be on-hand doing tying demonstrations, discussing stream entomology and providing casting demonstrations and discussions. "Bug-Fest" is open from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

- At the June meeting, our own Mike Rubush will be doing a presentation on fishing with a Tenkara rod and flies. Don't forget to register for the meeting. I am looking forward to this one!
- On June 14, the Ohio Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers is sponsoring its Warm Water Conclave from 9:00 to 4:00 at the American Legion Pavilion located along the banks of the Clear Fork River in Bellville, Ohio. At least 10 BUFF members will be participating in this event. If you aren't fishing, get a group together and run up for an enjoyable day. Appearing at the Conclave will be Chris Helm, Steve Waak, and Jerry Drake. There will also be on-going tying demonstrations during the day, live and recorded seminars as well as live casting demonstrations and games. Admission is \$5 per person, \$10 per family. Various raffles and door prizes will be on-going throughout the day. The main raffle is for a day of fishing for two people at Sunnybrook Trout Club near Sandusky. This prize, valued at more than \$300, includes access to the private Club waters of Cold Creek; fishing fees and lunch (no overnight accommodations are provided). Tickets for the Sunnybrook trip are \$10 each with a maximum of 100 to be sold. If interested in pre-buying a ticket, contact me at krjdix@outlook.com. You do not have to be present to win.
- On June 20, BUFF will be assisting Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers at Kids Fest at Old Coney Island where we will be helping kids bait hooks and land fish at Lake Como. At prior events, the kids fished large farm watering tanks but, with the event moved to the Lake, there is much more room and we will need many more volunteers. NKFF is providing all the equipment, we just need to show up and help. If you can volunteer, contact Ed Jones or sign up using our on-line registration system. As I am writing this article, we only have 2 of 14 positions filled. Please Help!
- We will once again be helping at Parky's Farm this summer. See Ed Jones' update on Parky's later in this edition.

In **July** we will be having our annual joint meeting with NKFF. It will be held on **Thursday, July 10**, at Pioneer Park located at 3951 Madison Pike, Covington, KY 41017, which is easily accessible from I-275. We will be using the main shelter house (turn right after entering the park). The official meeting will start with a social hour at 5:00 PM followed by dinner at 6:30 (fried chicken, two sides and coleslaw plus drinks). The program for the evening will be a presentation by NKFF members on warm water fishing techniques plus casting clinics. This will be a swap meet so bring anything fly fishing related you would like to pass along to someone else. Cost will be \$10 and you must register (using the BUFF on-line registration) prior to July 5 (attendance is limited). If you wish, come early and fish Banklick Creek which is adjacent to the Park. The Creek is small and wading is prohibited so be prepared to do roll casts from the bank (a Kentucky Fishing License is required).



Banklick Creek at Pioneer Park

In the April and May BUFF meetings, we implemented a new approach for the Business portion of the meeting where the majority of announcements were made using "Screen Shots" during the social and dinner portions of the meeting. This has significantly streamlined the business portion of the meeting allowing more time for the presentation. We will continue this experiment and hope to make it a permanent part of our meetings. If you missed the May meeting, you can still see the announcements. Our intrepid web Masters, Don and Ken, have placed a link for monthly announcements on our webpage. They will update the link monthly to include the current announcements. Our website is awesome and just keeps getting better! Thanks guys!

Tight Lines to all and be safe on the stream.

Round Goby

Steve Lilly (sjlilly@fuse.net)

Studies have shown that the invasive gobies have become the major dietary item for Lake Erie Smallmouth.

www.gameandfishmag.com



The Bass Island region of Lake Erie once supported a large population of mottled sculpins, a small bottom dwelling fish that were largely wiped out in the 1950's along with much of the aquatic life as a result of the pollution that took place in the Great Lakes. The Clean Water Act led to the improvement in the lake's water quality and the population of native fish such as the yellow perch, smallmouth & largemouth bass, and walleye returned. Unfortunately for the Sculpin an alien was introduced into the Great Lakes about this time as ships from the Black and Caspian Seas dumped their ballast that contained among other invaders the round goby. The goby is about the same size and has a similar appearance as the sculpin and both prefer the same lake environment. In the competition for food and spawning space, the sculpin lost out and the goby took over. The goby is native to the waters in Central Asia that is also the home of the zebra mussel, a major component in the goby's diet where they normally consume them at the rate of around 80 a day. In Ohio, while the goby are dining on the zebra mussels the water snakes in Lake Erie are dining on the goby. Perhaps there aren't any predatory snakes in the Black and Caspian Seas and the unaware goby is an easy prey. In any case the snake population rebounded and the Lake Erie Water Snake was removed from the Endangered Species List. In addition to feeding the snakes the gobies are an abundant food source for several fish besides the smallmouth bass. If only they would quit raiding the nests of other fish that are trying to spawn!!!

Major Changes at Parky's Farm for 2014

Ed Jones (joness@miamioh.edu)

Maybe you are a regular or occasional volunteer for BUFF education activities at the Parky's Farm program pond in Winton Woods. Maybe you are just thinking about helping with that this year. In either case, you need to know of major changes in Parky's schedule for 2014 made necessary after a disastrous fish kill late in the 2013 season.

The program pond is the larger of two ponds on the property and where we help Parky's teach young children, adult individuals, and family groups how to fish for largemouth, bluegill, and the occasional catfish. It's located behind the big Program Barn. This pond will have very limited fishing activity this year - if any. It was stocked with 75 hybrid bluegill last fall and with 625 2-4" bluegill and 130 4-6" largemouth bass April 8, 2014. There are also a few grass eating carp in the mix, which should help control some of the vegetation that has been plaguing the pond in recent years. The progress of the restocking will be closely monitored with an eye on the 2015 season. We normally have Friday fishing with young children during May, but all of those activities were suspended for this year.

Some regular events normally held at the Program Pond will be conducted on a more limited basis at the smaller pond on the property. We sometimes refer to it as the "front pond" or the "no fishing pond." It is located just south of the main entrance to Parky's Farm. Project Healing Waters will be allowed to hold some of their activities at this location, even though it has the disadvantage of no wheel chair access. The "Barnyard Bonanza" public fishing programs (for individuals and family groups) are scheduled for June 25, July 2, 11, 18, 25, & 30; and August 15. These activities usually begin at 9 AM and last for one or two hours each morning. BUFF volunteers have been invited to come early, to help, and stay late for some bonus catch and release fly rod action. Please go ahead and ink these dates in on your personal calendar. It may save you the agony of attending something you would rather avoid ("Sorry, Honey, but I already have a firm commitment that day!)." If there are to be other events that might include BUFF, they will be determined at a later date.

Parking permits will again be required this year. Most BUFF members purchase a \$10 annual permit that allows them access to all of the Great Parks of Hamilton County sites. If you do not wish to purchase an annual permit, please let me know that you need a daily permit and I'll make sure you get one for each date you need (513-523-6523).

"Kid Fest" at Old Coney

Ed Jones (jonese@miamioh.edu)

BUFF has been assisting NKFF with one of their major service projects for several years. One day of the annual Paddle Fest activities at Old Coney has traditionally been for the benefit of youth and young children. Hamilton County Great Parks calls it the Kids Outdoor Adventure Expo which includes activities and presentations from a large number of outdoor service providers. We typically refer to it by its original name, "Kid Fest."

This year's Kid Fest on Friday, June 20, 9:30 – 4:30, will be bigger than ever. If we get enough volunteers from BUFF and NKFF, the fishing part of it will be better than ever. We will help hundreds of kids learn to fish with spin gear at Lake Como on the park property. NKFF does nearly all of the preparation for this activity. All we have to do is show up and help bait hooks and release fish.

We will also be able to try out our fly rods before or after the events and during any slack times. This change of venue will be a big improvement over past years, but it will require about twice as many volunteers. We will be spread out over the southwest quadrant of Lake Como rather than scrunched around in a crowd around a few horse troughs.

There are three ways to sign up as a volunteer. You can do sign up on the BUFF website, sign up at the June 11 BUFF meeting, or contact Ed Jones (jonesee@miamioh.edu, 513-523-6523). You may also choose to be there all day, 9:30 – 12:30, or 1:30 – 4:30. Any and all help will be much appreciated!

June Meeting Program – Tenkara Fly Fishing

Pete Moore (phil.pursley@hotmail.com)

Mike Rubush will be speaking at the June BUFF monthly meeting about the Japanese traditional style of fly fishing. This kind of fishing is usually used on small streams with small flies. Mike will be showing us an example of a Tenkara rod and some Tenkara type of flies. He has learned that with a Tenkara rod you not only feel all the movements of the fish but can actually feel the fish's heart-beat.

Monthly Meeting Menu

Gourmet All Beef Burgers

Hot Dogs, Brats and Metts

Accompanied by Buns, Sauerkraut, Ketchup, Mustard,
Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions, pickles and cheese

BBQ Baked Beans

Sour Cream Potato Salad

Creamy Macaroni Salad

Dessert

2015 Banquet

Tom Smith (tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com)

Brian Tudor has accepted the chairmanship for the 2015 club banquet and Tom Smith has agreed to be the co-chair. Planning activity is being initiated with the search for a new venue and selection of a caterer. Our hope is to complete the selection on these items within the next month. We are expecting the banquet to be on April 11 in 2015 which is moving it out a month from the normal date of the first or second week in March. The idea of moving the banquet is to provide a bit more time between the Fly Show and the Banquet.

Fishing Equipment Auction

Tom Smith (tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com)

Long time Buff member Bill Fisher passed recently and his family donated all of his fishing and fly tying equipment to the club. The Board decided that due to the volume of this generous bequest, the materials would be auctioned over several meetings. In June, we will have a live auction featuring a nice rod and reel as well as a collection of flies tied by Ed Sherk. We will also have silent auctions for another pair of rods and reels plus a 7ft Fishcat pontoon boat. The balance of Bill's items will be offered at future meetings.

Request for article submittal for the Buffer

Tom Smith (tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com)

I need help with article submittals for the Buffer. If you'd like to read about what your club is doing, then I could use some help with article submittals. It doesn't take a whole lot of effort to jot down some notes about a recent fishing trip in which you've participated or an environmental event at which you've worked. Snap a picture or two and send your material to me at tsmithconsulting@cinci.rr.com. You don't have to provide a finished article unless you want to; I can edit the submittal and turn it into a story that can be published. (I'll share the Pulitzer Prize money with you.) Please take a minute to think about your normal fishing related activities and send me a note with your thoughts. Include your email address or phone number so I can contact you if I have questions. Then look for your article in the next edition.

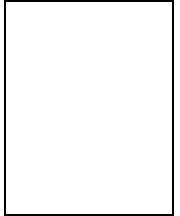


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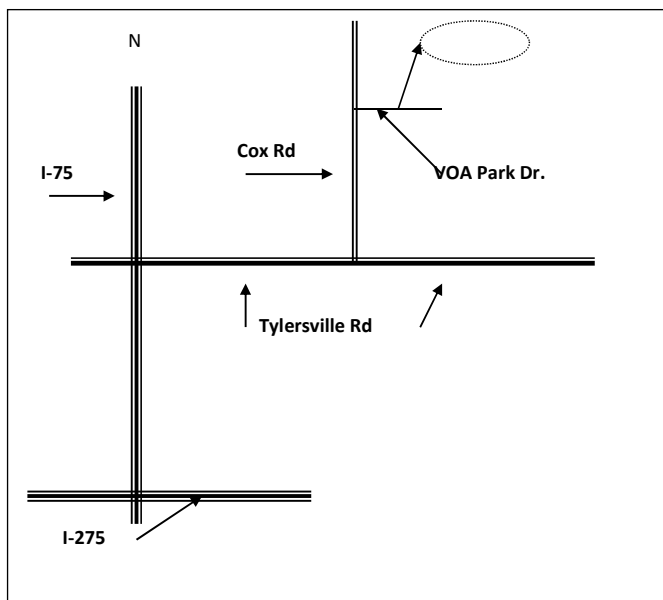
NOTICE: Dues are \$25 (Individual), \$30 (Family), with a onetime \$5 Initiation Fee for new members. New members will pay a prorated membership amount according to month of initial membership for the first year. Annual dues are due January 1. Refer to BUFF website for further information. B.U.F.F.,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

Mailing Address

Next Monthly Meeting – June 11, 2014

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

Sign up from the 20th 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.