



The BUFFER

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

Volume 25, Issue 6

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

June 2001

President's Corner

Jim LeBlond

We had another great speaker at last month's meeting. If you missed it, here's a brief summary of what you missed. We had Bill Fraser come and lecture on Gortex, rods, reels and sunglasses. He told us about the processes necessary to achieve the Gortex fabric and seal of approval. Garments must sustain 60 hours of 4" per hour rain and hold up without a failure. Gortex has a Durable Water Repellency (DWR) treatment that helps repel water. Once the DWR is gone the Gortex will feel cold and clammy, and give you the impression it's leaking, although it is not. Dirt, oils, grit, grime and even campfire smoke can ruin your DWR. Bill mentioned that you can often restore the DWR with a commercially available product. You gently launder the item in a low sudsing soap, spray with DWR and follow the directions, which may include putting the item in the dryer in high for 50 minutes to seal it. Believe it or not you

Continued on page 4, column 2

THE NANTAHALA... WHAT A TRIP!

Bob Ireton

It is unfortunate, indeed, if you missed the Spring Nantahala Trout Trip! Everything seemed to come together for this trip. The weather was perfect! The river was perfect! And there were lots of trout in the entire delayed harvest section! I took along some new flies I wanted to try out, like the 'Red Fox Squirrel Hair Nymph', the 'Chicago', and the 'Usual'. I used other flies, but these were my favorites. And did they work! I had my best single day, 144 trout, and my best trip, 230 trout! If I never do better, you won't hear me complain! I believe I finally reached my personal fish catching saturation point! As usual, my wife Linda beat me to the good fishing spots. Seems like everytime I saw her, she was landing another trout! I had to almost drag her away from the river several times. If you see her, ask her to tell you about catching a trout in mid-stream, while her fly rod was in two pieces.

Continued on page 3, column 1

June Meeting Program

The June meeting will be held at the East Fork Tail Waters on Wednesday, June 13th. Come early and bring a rod if you want to fish! And as a bonus, Tom Jones will be doing an important and informative program on Stream Safety after the business meeting.

Adventures From The Reel World

Rethinking the Mad

Steve Bleh

The wind whistled through the barren trees, raced across the river and stung my face with the cold reality of March in Ohio. Below me, the Mad River ran clear through a gravel-bottom run, over boulders and fallen trees, the later two compliments of Trout Unlimited's habitat work. I approached the run cautiously, not wanting to scare the Mad's hyper-finicky trout. Keeping my hands buried in my waders, I hoped to make them warm enough to function properly.

In the hole above me, my partner was casting his home-tied nymphs. We were both volunteering as a part of TU's "River Survey" workday, but the brutally cold weather seemed to be keeping most reasonable folks off the river.

Of course less people to survey meant more time for us to fish. Though I must admit I wasn't pleased with the day's forecast high of 35, I was eager to float the river and explore some new water. It was taking advantage of exploring opportunities like these that had helped disabuse me of some common misconceptions about the Mad. That is, many

people assume that the Mad lacks cover and consistent hatches -- necessary ingredients for good trout water -- and therefore overlook it or don't see a need for protection and continuous improvement. But the Mad has come a long way since its early days as a "put-and-take" Rainbow fishery. For those fisherman spoiled by the boulder-filled streams of the West, or by Michigan's sinuous, black water rivers full of timber and undercuts, the Mad looks devoid of cover. But trout are opportunist and will take advantage anything that resembles habitat. On the Mad, this could be a tiny branch in the water, or some overhanging brush. Also, there is the habitat that has been added to the river, and this is the more obvious type: large boulders and fallen trees. But as revealed to my partner and I on our survey run, much work remains. Large stretches of the Mad are slow, shallow and coverless. In other stretches, eroding stream banks and liter left by careless anglers threaten the long term stability of the water quality and the ability to access the river on private lands. As far as the misconception about Mad River hatches, the last couple of years have shown me otherwise. While nothing was coming off on the bitter day of our survey, I have seen cold weather midge hatches that had fish rising

Continued on page 4, column 1

CUMBERLAND RIVER GUIDE TRIP! WOW!

Steve Groome

I don't know for sure what the hottest trout stream in the East is right now, but the Cumberland tailwater has to rank among the best! This cold water fishery is only 3 1/2 hours from Cincinnati and holds large numbers of big fish!

Three weeks ago my friend Bob Bell from KY and I took a guide trip that I won at the BUFF banquet this year with John Stewart of Stewart's Guide Service in Frankfort, KY. We caught a large number of fish (trout) but the most impressive thing was the average size. I would say 13 to 14 inches! And we boated several fish between 18 and 20 inches! Also, a lot were in the 15 to 17 inch range. I won't mention "how many" we released in total because it will look like BS to most and I don't want to boast!

All fish we caught (mostly on nymphs) were released! We also caught some on attractor dry flies and I got one 19 inch Brown on a big yellow and brown deerhair conehead Sculpin pattern. Most of the fish we caught were Rainbows. But we got a few nice Browns as well!

Continued on page 5, column 1

Nantahala...continued from page 1

I'm sure there were nice fish caught that I didn't hear about, but some of the fish I did hear about were as follows. Don Hogue, 16" Brook, Doug Mowell, 15.5" Rainbow, Jeff McElravy, 17" Brown, John Hammond, 24" Brown (Nice catch, John!), Bob Ireton, 16" Brook, Linda Ireton, 14" Rainbow, and Dean Frazier missed a 17" Brown. Every one caught trout, even the newer fly fishermen! And some caught a lot of trout! All the feedback I received indicated everyone had a great time, and a successful trip!

Participants on the trip were Don Hogue, Jon Kennard, Bill Schobel, Doug Mowell, Randy Clark, Jeff McElravy, John Hammond, and son Ben, Wayne Fischer, Ted Keegan, John Doscher, Bob Ireton, Linda Ireton, Jim Beecher, Michael Buncher, Alex Vorobok, Norv Webb, Dean Frazier, Craig Wilson, and brother, Mark, and Ed Stoffregen. What a great group of people! My condolences to those who missed the trip!

After fishing Friday, almost everyone met at Relia's Garden, at the NOC, for dinner. Relia's Garden is a very nice restaurant. The atmosphere was nice, and the food was excellent! Everyone enjoyed the meal, and telling, and listening, to everyone's stories for the day. I feel certain that 'untrue fish stories' were kept to a minimum!

I have been coordinating the Nantahala Trout Trip for some time now, and it did feel a little

strange knowing that this was the last trip I would be coordinating. I have had many good times, and many, many, great memories! However, the time has come for me to pass the 'Landing Net' on to someone new. In the future, John Doscher, and Wayne Fischer, will be coordinating the fall trout trip, and Randy Clark, and Jeff McElravy, will be coordinating the spring trout trip. All four of these guys were on this past Nantahala trip, as well as previous Nantahala trips. They all are able fishermen, and I am sure they will do a great job in the future.

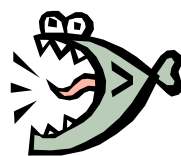
Thanks to all the many people who have gone to the Nantahala with me over the years! I hope that you, too, have many good memories. •

Smallmouth Bass and Camping Trip to the Elkhorn

(near Frankfort, Kentucky)

July 12, 13 & 14.
Friday, Saturday & Sunday.
Mark it on your calendars
now.

Don Hogue 231-4852
New EMAIL!
Thesputzer@aol.com



Scouting the Elkhorn

Don Hogue

On April 16 & 17, Bob Ireton and I, took a trip to inventory that area of Kentucky known as the Elkhorn. The first place we visited was the Sporting Tradition, an Orvis shop in the Rupp Arena building in Lexington, at 410 W. Vine Street. We procured maps of access areas to fish for small mouth. We then visited the largest spring in the state of Kentucky, which is the Georgetown water supply. We then followed a map given to us by Fred Pfister, and

Continued on page page 6, column 1

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in the middle of winter. Also, last May, I witnessed a Blue Winged Olive hatch that matched the hatches I've seen on the big daddies -- Slough Creek in Yellowstone, and Henry's Fork in Idaho. Imagine my giddy surprise to be standing in the Mad as an army of dark-blue duns drifted by with erect wings, and trout rising for them everywhere.

The purposes of the survey workday were to talk to anglers about their observations and catches, and to determine areas of the river with good cover and those without. While the weather didn't allow us to speak to many anglers, other survey dates are upcoming so that this important work can be finished. As for that beautiful run that I was approaching on survey day, I did everything right. I kept a low profile, moved slowly, and had a long, thin leader with a small nymph. As I stripped the line from my reel and prepared to cast, I envisioned myself arcing tight loops and pulling a nice Brown from behind a boulder. But as I started my casting motion, I felt a grating sensation from my line. My tight loops were going nowhere. Puzzled, I lowered my rod to find each eye filled with ice. Some portrait of fly fishing I was. March in Ohio has a way of making Spring seem far. Frustrated, and now feeling colder than ever, I abandoned the hole waded to find my partner, putting this run hold until a warmer day. •

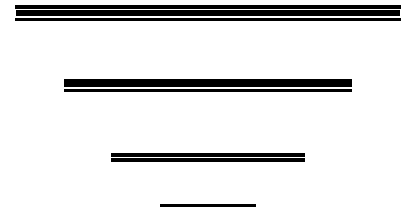
could use a similar process with waders but should take care not to put them in the dryer, as they will separate the heat-treated seals connecting the footies. To produce heat to seal in the DWR on waders, use an ordinary hair dryer.

When asked about reels, Bill felt the drag system didn't make much of a difference up to a six weight. Above six weight, drag systems become very important. When asked which was the best type of drag, Bill responded unequivocally that cork properly lubricated is still the best system. It dissipates heat better and returns back to the original diameter. These are things that even Teflon won't do. To lubricate the reel, first clean it and then use a pure silicone grease. When asked about sunglasses, Bill recommended "optically correct" lenses and felt that copper is the best all around color. For prescriptions, he recommended copper photocromic glasses.

Like anything else with this sport, everyone you ask will likely give you a different opinion on some of the items listed here. So, please don't take it out on me. I just found this information useful and would invite anyone to give a counter point on these statements if they wish, conduct book and/or equipment reviews on the website or in our next Buffer.

I also want to tell you what a first class job your board is doing for you. We've had some really good debates on various topics. We've worked through most of our budget planning, we've reviewed possible new locations for our general

meetings, we've committed more funds towards speakers, and we've even contracted to move next year's Sportshow into a bigger facility. We've committed to give you the best possible year. And, I hope you will be pleased. I also wanted to let you know that Dean Frazier has stepped up and agreed to run our conservation raffles. I hope you will show him your support. Likewise, please show your support for all of the fellow Buffers with stream monitoring, education, fund raising and trips. It's a great year and it's only going to get better! In closing, please make a note of the change in location for the next meeting. It will be held at the Eastfork Tail waters. I hope to see you there. •



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Deerfield Park Fly Fishing Clinic – Small but Successful!

Don Prince

Heavy rain, all day the day prior, and steady rain the morning of the clinic put a damper on the event, but only temporarily. After noon the sky cleared and the day turned out to be just beautiful. The turnout was much lower than expected, but those who showed up received a great introduction to our sport. Our volunteer staff did a terrific job, putting on a very informative clinic covering the basics of fly fishing. Topics covered included:

1. Basic tying and tying tools
2. Lines, leaders & tippets
3. Rods & Reels
4. Casting techniques

Each student tied 2 flies, practiced several basic knots, observed and discussed the insects and crustaceans gathered from the pond, practiced casting, and fished.

The students were very interested and enthusiastic, which made it easy and fun for the staff. We all came away feeling that it was clearly worth the effort we invested. My only regret is that more new members did not take advantage of the opportunity to participate and learn.

Been on a good fishing trip?
Learned any new techniques?
Picked up any new tips lately?
Consider sharing your experiences and knowledge with your fellow fly fishers by writing an article for The Buffer and website.

Thanks For Helping!

The following members volunteered their time as instructors or helpers the Fly Fishing Clinic:

Dean Frazier, Bob Gray, Hank Gilliam, Bob Goldsberry, Joe Guenther, Lou Haynes, Jon Kennard, Jim LeBlond, Roy Matthews, Doug Mowell, Joe Panfalone, Don Prince, Dave Ukotter.

New Members!!

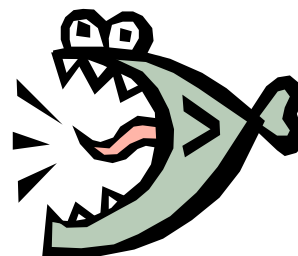
The following individuals are recent additions to the B.U.F.F. family. Please make them welcome at our club activities!

Johnny Brown, Jeff & Cindy Guenther Family, Larry Hake, Patti Howell, Bob Kimsey, Tom & Linda Kreutzer, Bob & Terri Mackey Family, Steve Ripley, Ed Stoffergren, Tom & Cynthia Betcher Family, Jeff & Diane Kunzelman Family, Greg Olson, Dave Smart, Linda Roederer, Dave Ulmer.

Cumberland... continued from page 2

Our guide John Stewart did an excellent job and was a pleasure to fish with. He is laid back but very knowledgeable and will let you fish anyway you want to. We enjoyed his company and I hope to get to fish with him again later in the summer! If you are interested in fishing with John on the Cumberland you can reach him at 502-695-8913. Or E-Mail him at stewartgs@aol.com.

Hope you all get a chance to fish this wonderful trout stream at some time or another. It's close to home and you won't be disappointed!






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Elkhorn...continued from page 3

checked out eleven access sights, ten of which are on the North Elkhorn with the camp ground being on the South Elkhorn. We made tentative reservations at the campground.

From talking to locals, the dams are very dangerous. A person in a canoe or belly boat should avoid the dams which have hydraulic effects, no matter how unpretentious they appear. We found restaurants, Krogers, Walmart, fast food, gas and a motel very near the campground. Most of the fishing spots are five to nine miles away from the camp ground which is on the confluence of the North and South forks. Having accomplished our legwork on a beautiful Monday, we awoke to go fishing in 31 degree temperatures and snow on the ground. We had breakfast and then drove to the fish hatchery, because that was the closest place we could drive to the creek. On Monday we had seen many smallmouth. Cold temperature drove them deep on Tuesday. We fished for 3 hours. As usual, I caught zero and Bob caught two bronze sides and allowed a 12-14" to get away. We had stopped at a Ky. Welcome center and got numerous sight information areas of interest around Frankfort. There is a lot to do for non-fishing folks, including the children. We took an hour and a half and visited the Salato Wildlife Education Center concentrating on Game and Fish. It was really a "Must See" on the west side of Frankfort on Route 60. Bob and I really enjoyed the

venture and are looking forward to the trip July 12, 13 & 14, 2001. If you do not have an opportunity to sign up for the trip at the BUFF meeting in June, call Don Hogue at 513-231-4852 or Thesputzer@aol.com. Leave your name, address, zip code and phone number, at your earliest convenience.●

FORGOTTEN ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL FISHING TRIP

Greg Voss (VP of Membership for the GLC and President of the North Coast Fly Fishers in Northeastern Ohio)

- * Exercise to get into shape because you will need the stamina to get up the banks of most streams.
- * Pack extra clothing, rain gear, food and water.
- * Buy your fishing license before heading to the stream; never fish without it.

Continued on next column

- * Tie or buy an assortment of leaders and flies and get organized before heading out to the stream.
- * Clean your fly line before an outing; it will help eliminate false casting in critical situations
- * Put batteries in your flashlight and buglight, and remember to carry them to get out safely.
- * Pack an extra rod in your duffel, preferably one that can cut windy conditions.
- * Tighten the screws on prescription sunglasses because the lenses always pop out on the streams in the most unlikely situations.
- * Always wear polarized glasses and with a strap.
- * Never go on the stream without bottled drinking water.
- * Eat and drink throughout the day.
- * Use the buddy system on the stream and when crossing rivers.
- * Use a wading staff to help stay in contact with the stream bed.
- * Don't wade across fast streams above your knees.
- * Wear felt studded wading boots

Continued on page 7, column 1

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JUNE

8-10 Fri-Sun - **Penns Creek, Pa Fishing Trip**
13 Wed/6pm - **BUFF Monthly Meeting @ Tailwaters of Eastfork Lake**
17 Sat - **East Fork Stream Monitoring** (Goldsberry)
20 Wed/7pm - **BUFF Director's Meeting @ Deerfield Township Park**. Members encouraged to attend.
21 Thurs/6:30pm - **Tie & Lie**. General fly tying and story telling session. Hardee's Restaurant, Batavia (Bob Goldsberry)

JULY

11 Wed/6pm - **BUFF Monthly Meeting @ Pattison Park**.
13-15 Fri-Sun - **B.U.F.F. Elkhorn Fishing Trip (Joe Guenther)**
18 Wed/7pm - **BUFF Director's Meeting @ Deerfield Township Park**. Members encouraged to attend.
19 Thurs/6:30pm - **Tie & Lie**. General fly tying and story telling session. Hardee's Restaurant, Batavia (Bob Goldsberry).

AUGUST

4 Sat - **BUFF Monthly Meeting - Family Picnic @ Deerfield Township Park**

Successful fishing Tips...continued from page 6

and have a second pair available with only felt soles for the guided float trips.

- * Always carry a shallow net to land trout, but only carry a special wool hand glove or hand net when fishing for steelhead.
- * Take a camera and don't forget to load the film before heading out.
- * Move quietly on the stream; clumsy and noisy wading will always ruin your chance to land the larger and smarter trout.
- * Always practice catch and release; a good game fish is too valuable to be caught only once.
- * Handle fish with extreme care; they are always traumatized by rough handling and can die even

2001 Calendar of Events

The BUFFER 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 BUFFER editor. Additional contact names will be added following announcement of the Year 2001.

AUGUST (cont.)

10-12 - Fri-Sat - **B.U.F.F. Cumberland Tailwaters Fishing Trip (Joe Guenther)**
15 Wed/7pm - **BUFF Director's Meeting @ Deerfield Township Park**. Members encouraged to attend.
16 Thurs/6:30pm - **Tie & Lie**. General fly tying and story telling session. Hardee's Restaurant, Batavia (Bob Goldsberry).

SEPTEMBER

9 Sun - **East Fork Stream Monitoring**
10 Mon - **Cabin Fever & Sport show Planning Meeting**
12 Wed/6pm - **BUFF Monthly Meeting @ Sycamore Park, Submit**

SEPTEMBER (cont.)

Your Conservation Nominations
19 Wed/7pm - **BUFF Director's Meeting @ Deerfield Township Park**. Members encouraged to attend.
20 Thurs/6:30pm - **Tie & Lie**. General fly tying and story telling session. Hardee's Restaurant, Batavia (Bob Goldsberry)
26-26 Mon-Thurs - **Fall Salmon Trip** (Joe Guenther).

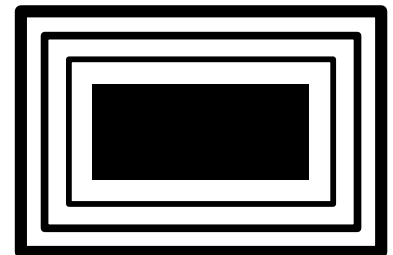
Year 2001 Officers and Directors

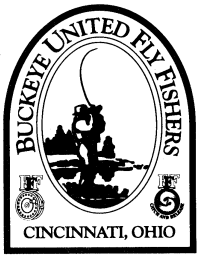
Jim LeBlond	President	561-8957
Dave Uckotter	Vice Pres.	831-4815
Jane Uckotter & Lora Kalbli	Secretary	831-4815
Laura Kalbli	Secretary	451-1367
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Mike Bryant	The Buffer	793-6189
	Sportshow	
	mjbryant@email.com	
Tom Jones	TBD	528-3984
Bill Fischer	TBD	899-4541
Jon Kennard	TBD	732-1799
Joe Guenther	Trips	724-6343

after they swim away.

- * Shorten your leaders when encountering stiff winds and if you are continually foul-hooking fish.
- * Build a leader with a stiffer butt if you are false casting when using heavy split shot.
- * Always be on your guard against dangerous situations; never challenge the elements against your better judgment.
- * Always keep your cool; becoming unglued will only ruin your fishing endeavors.
- * Take time to listen to the wind, stream and outdoors, and breath a prayer of thanks; you may never get a chance to fish again tomorrow! •

The B.U.F.F. financial statement will be included in next month's Buffer.



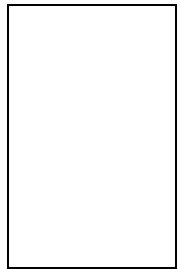


The *BUFFER*

The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc.

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Mailing Address

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Next Monthly Meeting – June 13

CALL 732-0735 FOR DINNER RESERVATIONS NO LATER THAN 10 PM OF THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING. DINNER IS \$1.00 EXTRA WITHOUT A RESERVATION - IF THERE'S ANY LEFT! WE'VE BEEN KNOWN TO RUN OUT - DON'T WAIT - CALL NOW!

PROGRAM: Stream Safety by Tom Jones

WHERE: Shelter House at the base of the dam of the East Fork Tail Waters.

DIRECTIONS:

From the North: Take I-275 to Rt. 32 (Batavia Exit). Follow Rt. 32 east to the 1st Batavia Exit. Follow Main St. to the river, go over the bridge and turn right (south) onto SR222 Alternately SR 32 222 also intersects Rt. 32 at the next exit. Follow the winding SR 222 to Slade Rd. the distance from Main St. in Batavia to Slade Rd. is approximately 4.9 miles. Turn left (east) on Slade Rd., then left off Slade onto the first blacktop road (just before the dam). Follow the road to its end at the tailwaters to the dam, the picnic area and shelter house.

From the South – You can also get to Slade Rd. by exiting I-275 at Rt. 125 (Exit 65), go east on Rt. 125 for approx. 8 miles to SR 222, then right onto Slade Rd. and follow directions above.

