



The BUFFER

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

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

March 1, 2015

Notes from the President

Ken Dixon ((krigidix@outlook.com))

By all reports, the 2015 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show was another roaring success. We had a record attendance, great presentations and the vendors reported they were well pleased with the event. Tom Rosenbauer was a great pick as our featured presenter and he really enjoyed his time with us. We received numerous comments about how organized our show was, what a great venue we have and how much vendors appreciate our helping them unload and load their materials. Thanks to the Fly Show Committee and all the many, many volunteers that made this show the success it was.

March is here at last with the promise of warmer temperatures, the breakout of spring, and the chance to once again hit the steams. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to check out your gear and get it ready for your first fishing trip of the year. Also remember it is time to renew your Ohio Fishing License as your old one expired on February 28. If you fish Kentucky, theirs too expired at the end of February. Michigan and Indiana are still in force until April 1. All these states offer the possibility of getting your license on-line as well as at the various in-state agencies.

Last month was the first time we asked everyone to register for the meeting, whether you were eating or not. It really helped us get a better count for the total number of people planning on attending and have enough tables set up to accommodate everyone. Please remember to do so for this month's meeting as well.

Also, if you are going to need space at the entry tables for displays, signup sheets, ticket sells or similar activities, please contact Bob Gustafson so we can have enough tables set up. Thank you for your help.

Remember that if you have not paid your 2015 dues by the end of the March Meeting, your membership will be dropped. To be reinstated after that date will require you to pay the additional \$5 initiation fee.

I am continually impressed with all that our Club does. We have great trips, we enjoy wonderful speakers every month at our meetings, we have classes for casting, tying and fly fishing, we sponsor the Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show, we support programs like Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery, we work with local schools and the Scouts to help educate the next generation about fly fishing, we work with area parks' fishing programs (Parky's Farm), and we work to protect and improve our natural resources.

These programs are possible due to the efforts of our dedicated volunteers. However, it takes monetary funds to support what we do as well. These funds come from various sources: our dues (which have remained constant for decades), profits (if any) from the Fly Show which is predominately an educational event, and other miscellaneous sources such as auctions we may hold during various BUFF meetings. However, the main source of our income is and has been generated by proceeds from our Annual Banquet. Over the last several years, participation at the annual Banquet has been decreasing and, consequently, we have seen reduced income. To try to build up attendance, the various Banquet Committees have tried to provide increasingly improved and enticing events. This year's event promises to be one of the best ever. For our newer members that may not have attended one of our Banquets, the evening is informal with dress being an eclectic mix from blue jeans to suits and everything in between. The overall atmosphere of the event is casual, being similar to that of our monthly meetings. We encourage you to bring your spouse, family or friends with you. We are not having a meal to help reduce your cost although plenty of appetizers will be available. The raffle prizes are a mix of items that will appeal to both you and your non-fishing family and friends. If you have not already registered for this year's Banquet, **please** do so. Check out our web page for registration forms. For more information on this year's event see the article later in this issue of the Buffer.

Our sister Club in Fort Wayne, Indiana, will be hosting its first Fly Fishing Show on Saturday, March 28. A few of us will be participating as Club Tiers. Check out the link on our webpage for more information. Also, the Ohio Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers, of which B.U.F.F. is a member, will again be hosting its Warm Water Conclave on June 27, in Bellville, Ohio. In July, we will be hosting the annual joint meeting of B.U.F.F., Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers and Miami Valley Fly Fishers. Planning is underway and it promises to be a great evening. Please plan to attend.

Finally, check out all the B.U.F.F. sponsored trips we have lined up for this year. So far, we have 13 trips planned. A couple of the trips are already full and others are nearly so. Ensure your slot by signing up early using our on-line registration system. Thanks to all the trip leaders who plan and organize these events.

Bass's senses and how they view the world

Steve Coomer (stevecoomer@mail.com)

(Editor's note, Club members probably recall Steve Coomer's participation as the featured speaker at a recent club meeting. Steve is active with the Little Miami River Conservatory and has lived on and fished the Little Miami River his entire life. He is very knowledgeable about fishing in general and the Little Miami River. I feel very fortunate the Steve has agreed to support our newsletter with his contributions. I hope you enjoy his submittals. If you like this kind of addition to our newsletter please let me know.)

Let's talk a bit about a bass's senses and how they view the world. All of a bass's senses are radically different from our own. For example take a bass's ability to see motion. It may be that motion may be the biggest driving force behind a bass's predatory instincts. The average motion picture plays at 24 frames per second. To us this fuses together into one continuous moving picture. But a bass can see motion so well that to a bass a movie would still be a series of one successive image after another even if the movie was playing

twice as fast! A bass is the ultimate motion detector, to a bass something has to move to be alive. A bass it is thought can detect motion at a hundredth of the light level needed for a human to do so and can find food using even faint starlight.

In contrast most small prey fish are wired more like humans, that is, with lots of cones for seeing lots of color which means, in the middle of the day minnows have an advantage and probably see the bass better than the bass see them. But in low light the pendulum swings to the bass's advantage. A bass has an eye loaded with rods for low light acuity, which is why bass become more active and feed early and late in the day. It's also thought that bass see reds and greens very well; possibly better than we do, but not so much things in the blue end of the spectrum. In experiments bass often confused blues and purples with various shades of grey and intense blues with black. It could be that a grey plastic worm might be just as effective as a purple one! In other experiments it seems bigger older bass actually see better than younger bass. Bass can recognize smaller objects and see them farther away as they age. A bass has large round eyes set on the sides of its head and can see everywhere but directly behind and below it. The ability to see prey or potential danger from almost any direction is a tremendous advantage, but to really focus on something it must turn and face the object so the two eyes can work together in binocular vision.

The sense of a bass that most amazes me and that I find almost magical is the use of the incredible lateral line. Water is full of waves, not just on the surface where we see them, but everywhere, these waves are caused by anything that moves in the water. The lateral line is the fish's way of detecting these waves. Lateral lines are what enable schools of fish to move together so effortlessly. Lateral lines also enable fish to sense and not run into things they cannot even see such as the glass in an aquarium. And in the case of predators like bass they help the bass detect prey. The lateral line seems very adept at detecting the subtle movements of small prey fish located some distance away. Every description, I've read, of how a lateral line works I've read gets really complicated and hard to understand so here is my simplified version. It seems that hair like bundles rooted in liquid filled follicles sense minute changes in water pressure. Plus more of these hairs are located in the liquid filled canal of the lateral line itself. I've heard it described as a "distant touch". The bass feels out distant objects by interpreting how they disrupt the intervening water then uses its vision to decide whether or not to strike in most cases. A bass can even tell how big something is by how much water it displaces! And in concert with the lateral line a bass also has an inner ear which it uses along with its swim bladder to hear sound. Sound travels extremely well under water, something like five times the rate it does in air. So not only can a fish feel a lure coming in muddy water it can also hear it. Bass combine signals from the inner ear, the swim bladder and the lateral line to form an overall summary of an object in the water. Though a bass relies most on its vision, even blind bass are able to forage and feed because of the almost magical powers of their lateral line and hearing working together.

A smallmouth bass has two pair of nostrils called nares on each side of its head. Some researchers believe that a bass's sense of smell is a thousand times stronger than a dog's! While the smell of injured prey does induce an instinctual response to feed, the smallmouth's sense of smell often serves more important functions outside of catching dinner. It's thought a bass's sense of smell is the primary way that this fish avoids conditions in the environment that may be harmful. Things like high or low pH, low dissolved oxygen content, or even the gasoline from the boat motor you got on your fly when tying it on. Some theories suggest that intra-species communication, or the way by which smallmouth "talk" to each other, takes place by each individual giving off distinct odors called pheromones. In other words, bass know each other by smell rather than name, and communicate with each other by these smells. Male and female

smallmouth probably use smell to cue each other to make whoopee at spawning time. Like its eyesight a smallmouth's sense of smell gets better with age also. A membrane called the olfactory epithelium, consists of complex folds that line the nostrils. A 6 inch bass have 5 or 6 folds in its olfactory passages. A 12 inch bass may have 10 folds. While that trophy 20 inch smallie may have as many as 20 folds.

Older bass it seems smell and see better and even swim faster than smaller bass. Deer hunters are fond of saying a trophy old buck acts like a completely different animal than your average deer. It seems that this is just as true or possibly even more so in the case of a big trophy sized bass.

Fishing with watermelon and Jack Daniels

Steve Lilly (sjlilly@fuse.net)



Instead of looking for a public access it is much more productive to knock on doors, surprisingly most owners will give you permission to fish. Show your appreciation with a watermelon or a pint of Jack Daniels. That should seal the deal for the next time. If you get caught fishing on someone's land without their permission, be contrite, apologize, and show a little humility, let the owner sound off and berate you or whatever. When they quiet down, try to convince them that you are on their side and you care as much for the land as they do. It works, especially if you have a pint of Jack Daniels or a watermelon handy.

I don't think any of us litter, but how many times have we waded by someone else's mess and acted like we didn't notice anything. In the hierarchy of sins, the one who made the mess may be at the top, but those who don't pick it up are only a notch below. After all, when an owner finds litter on his land he doesn't care who put it there. His response is to go to Tractor Supply and buy a handful of posting signs. If you really want to be able to continue fishing in our streams, then give some thought to fishing with watermelon or Mister Jack and carry a litter bag.

2015 Banquet Guide Donations

Mike Rubush (rubush1me@hotmail.com)

I hope that you are planning to attend the BUFF Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 11, 2015. This is not just a great time to mix and mingle with fellow fly fishers, but a fantastic time to buddy up with a friend and bid on some great Guided fly fishing trips. There will be a lot of guided trips to bid on this year. Several trips have lodging included. If you want to get an idea of the type of guides and the trips we will have, check out "Support our sponsors" page (<http://www.buckeyeflyfishers.com/links/sponsors.htm>). I will highlight just a few of the trips that will be up for bid this year. Be sure to bring your check book or Credit Card.

Sunnybrook Trout Club - \$ 800.00 Value of Fishing and Lodging!

This is a 3 Day Fishing trip for Two anglers at the beautiful Sunnybrook Trout Club!
(<http://sunnybrooktroutclub.com/>)

This package includes Trout Club fishing fees for 3 days (day of arrival / day between / day of departure) and shared accommodations (one room with 2 beds, private bath) for 2 nights at Farrell House Lodge.

I won this trip a few years ago and I can say that it was a fantastic trip, with a wide range of trout to fish for. They have some very easy trout to catch and some of the largest, pickiest trout. I now know why Ken Dixon ties some of the best size 20 Zebra Midges!

Davidson River Outfitters - \$ 500.00 Value for this Exclusive Trip!

This is a full day guided trip for two people on "D.R.O. Private Trophy Waters" of the Lower Davidson River! Owner Kevin Howell is willing to all so do a float trip if you prefer.

This 3 mile section of Private water is limited to maximum of 8-10 anglers per day, so be sure to make your reservations well in advance. This is BIG FISH WATER! The average size of fish is 16" – 19" with a lot well over the 20" mark and many measured in pounds. (<https://www.davidsonflyfishing.com/>)

Delamere & Hopkins - \$ 300.00 Value of this Trip!

Local Smallmouth Bass Guided Trip for 1 Angler for a full day and includes Transportation, Canoe & Lunch.
(<http://www.bestgear.com/>)

Enjoy a day floating and fishing on one of our local beautiful rivers or streams for smallmouth bass. This could be the Elkhorn River in KY or the Little Miami river here in Ohio.

If you have always wanted to learn about Smallmouth bass fishing, this is the trip for you!

Elk Springs Resort - \$ 520.00 value for Fishing and Lodging!

This is a FULL day guided trip for two people fishing on the Elk River as well as one night of lodging (1 room).
(<https://www.sites.google.com/site/elkspringsresortwv/>)

Elk Springs Resort is the perfect place to kick back and enjoy Mother Nature's breathtaking beauty at her best! Bubbling springs, prolific fly hatches, bald eagles, red-tail hawks, wildlife, and the towering mountains makes the perfect place for a relaxing get away and did we mention the great fishing too.

Membership

Tom Agin (agin6@fuse.net)

Did you forget to renew your BUFF Membership for 2015? Dues were due on January 1, 2015. Member dues cover from January 1st of each year to December 31st

An extension has been granted to active 2014 BUFF members who have not yet paid their 2015 dues. We would like to have you continue your active membership with Buckeye United Fly Fishers. Single memberships are still \$25.00/year and Family memberships are still \$30.00/year. There are a couple of ways you can pay your dues: Pay at the monthly dinner meeting or send your payment in the mail. If you are sending it in the mail the address is P.O. Box 42614, Cincinnati, Ohio 45242. Please make checks payable to BUFF.

Unfortunately those who have not paid their dues by the March monthly meeting will be dropped from the BUFF membership. We really don't want to drop anyone, so please get you 2015 dues in before the March monthly meeting.

March Meeting Program – Ontario Fly Fishing

Pete Moore (petem@outlook.com)

Meeting Date March 11, 2015

Speaker – Bill Spicer

Bill is the Host of [The New Fly Fisher Television Show](#) and is a regular writing contributor to The New Fly Fisher E-Zine with his casting articles. Bill is a passionate angler and a fixture on most area streams and symposiums, lecturing and at tying tables. Bill has a great love for casting and would sometimes rather teach than fish. Bill's easy going nature and his ways of making his students understand has given him a reputation as a teacher's teacher. His love is stalking trout in cold water streams of southern Ontario and eastern United States, but his specialty is migratory steelhead and salmon.



Bill was born the fifth of six in 1952 in Hamilton Ontario Canada. He has been fishing for more than 45 years. He discovered fly-fishing 30 years ago and has never looked back. Bill is now an accomplished fly tier, author, guide, lecturer, and teacher and is an FFF Certified Master Fly Casting Instructor.

Dinner Menu: "A Little Luck of the Irish"

- Sliced Corned Beef Brisket
- Shepard Pie
- Boiled Parsley and Butter Potatoes
- Sautéed/Seasoned Squash, Zucchini and Vegetable Medley
- Assorted Rye Breads and Butter

Dessert

- Bailey Irish Cream Brownies
- Irish Cream Bundt Cake

Heart Healthy (Lo-Cal) Dinner Menu Option:

>>> Select when registering <<<

- Chicken and Vegetable Stir Fry Over Rice
- Spinach Salad

Vegetarian Dinner Menu Option:

>>> Select when registering <<<

- Vegetarian Lasagna
- Spinach Salad

Annual Banquet

Tom Smith (tsmithconsluting@cinci.rr.com)

Reservations have tapered off considerably since the February meeting. To date we have reservations for 70, but we were hoping to attract 110 to 120 members and guests. The committee has worked hard to minimize cost while still presenting a fun and entertaining evening. A previous article presents a summary of some of the exciting fishing trips that will be raffled that evening. Other prizes to be raffled include:

50" Flat Screen TV

Deluxe Weather Station

Fishcat Float tub and fins

Passes to the Cincinnati zoo

Earth wind chimes and humming bird feeder

Salt Life Wide Brim Hat and sun buff

White River Wader and Gear bag

The income from the banquet supports the club's activities throughout the year, so anything you spend goes right back into the club's treasury to fund club activities. Please come out and support your club.

The date for the annual banquet is April 11, 2015. In order to lower the club's cost point the format is being changed to a social hour with Hors D'Oeuvres and dessert. There will be a cash bar with no charges for soft drinks and coffee. The event will be held at the Mill Race Golf Club at Winton Woods. A reservation is available on line, at the BUFF website, where you can download it and fill in the information. We do not anticipate taking reservations on line.



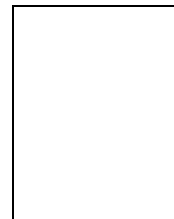
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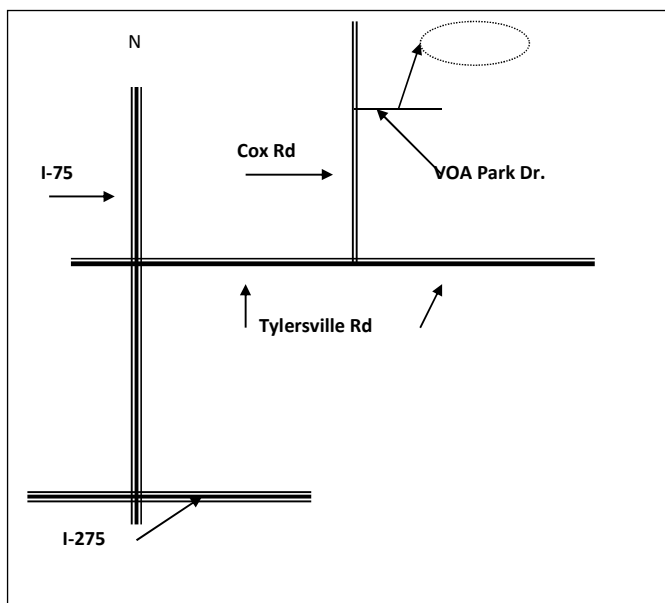
NOTICE: Dues are \$25 (Individual), \$30 (Family), with a onetime \$5 Initiation Fee for new members. New members will pay a prorated membership amount according to month of initial membership for the first year. Annual dues are due January 1. Refer to BUFF website for further information. B.U.F.F.,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

Mailing Address

Next Monthly Meeting – March 11, 2015

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 November through the Sunday evening (12/14) 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.