



The **BUFFER**

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

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

March 1, 2022

The President's Fly Box

The weather is cold but warming. BUFF members are looking to go fishing. If you check the BUFF calendar (see website), you will see a long list of activities, including Intermediate Fly Tying, Fly Fishing 101, Take Your Kids Fishing, and the White Bass Fishing local trip. These are just some items through that are happening now and ongoing through April.

The March meeting is the club's annual Banquet. BUFF's Banquet is a great time to see friends, meet new ones, and bid on great trips, equipment, and activities. The Oasis will open more space for us to stretch out and enjoy a safe event. Please sign up.

We are fortunate that BUFF activities are once again in-person to provide for these training and fishing activities. COVID levels have dropped, and we are unaware of anyone in the club having recently contracted COVID. Now is the time to reengage. I encourage everyone to get ready for fishing. Clean your fly line. Change your tippet. Check your other equipment. I expect most people will be out fishing in the middle of March. I know that I'm ready to go.

Casting is just as important as equipment. Start casting to ensure a good backcast with a two-foot loop on the back and forward cast. Yes, look behind you to see your backcast. The hardest step in fly casting is often transitioning from slowly picking up the line to accelerating into the backcast once the rod tip is high. BUFF offers *i*) Fly Fishing 101 in March, *ii*) Fly Casting Skills Development in good weather, and *iii*) Fly Casting Class in June. Your fishing will greatly improve if you can keep flies out of the trees and present the fly gently in front of the fish. Take advantage of this great series of learning opportunities.

BUFF is here to help you learn, get you fishing with others, assist conservation efforts, and enable people to learn about the benefits of fly fishing. Please take advantage of the opportunities. Moreover, volunteer to help with an activity. BUFF is an all-volunteer activity. We depend upon your help.

Stay safe and be ready, fishing weather is around the corner.

Hugh O'Donnell.

BUFF Banquet on March 9th – Last Chance to Register

The 2022 BUFF Banquet is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2022. **The final day to register and select your dinner option is March 3rd.**

There are two Grand Raffle Prizes. One is a gift certificate to Jeff Ruby's together with an assortment of fine wines. The other Grand Raffle prize will be a donated item from ReeFlyRod. In addition, there are other General Raffle prizes. Registration is on the BUFF website. You can also purchase raffle tickets on the website, and they will be sold at the event as well.

The Banquet is also the occasion when we recognize those, who in the past year, volunteered to support various club activities. We also announce winners of other club awards, including Fly Fisher of the Year, Board of Directors Awards, President's Awards, and other awards.

If you have not yet done so, and wish to attend, please register by the 3rd

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New Club Members!

By Harry Pass, BUFF Membership Director

During the past month we've added 3 new members –

Kyle Gray, Cincinnati, OH

Bruce Lane, Cincinnati, OH

Debbie Bernloehr, Cincinnati, OH

Sheevah Feizkhah, Sandusky, OH

James Bingham, Cincinnati, OH

Welcome to the club, and we hope to see you at a meeting soon! Also, check out activities and programs listed on the BUFF Website and sign up for some! Finally, you can use the Forum page in the BUFF website to reach out to club members for information, or even if you are just looking for someone to get out with and go fishing!

March Fly Tying and Fly Fishing Classes –

Fly Fishing 101

Jim Vota, the BUFF Education Director, is offering the "Fly Fishing 101" class. This will also be at the Springdale Community Center. The 4 sessions are scheduled for Mondays, March 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th, and run from 6 PM – 8 PM. Whether you are new to fly fishing, or looking for a refresher, this will be an excellent class.

Session topics are as follows:

- Session number 1 covers what fly fishing is all about including the basic rig, rods, reels and lines.
- Session number 2 will cover leaders and tippets, fly patterns to get started, how to select your system to meet your needs and your gear maintenance.
- Session 3 will handle catch and release, leader design, knots, hooks additional equipment and knot tying practice.
- This year, session 4, which in the past helped novice fly anglers get started casting, will be an open discussion of topics the class would like to learn about, with suggestions being taken during the first classes. Topics such as where to find fish, fly selection, locations to fish, guides, or other could be presented.

Hopefully, what you learn in the class can help you avoid the fate of the angler in the photo below!



Added sessions on fly casting – In addition to the classroom instruction, there will be 3 separate times scheduled to help class participants learn some fundamentals of fly casting, so you can get started fishing. These are scheduled for March 31st, and April 4th & 7th, and will be outside at Cottell Park starting at 6:00 PM. **Class participants can sign up for a date during the first class.**

Sign up on BUFF website. Jim's contact is: phone: 513-702-2553; e-mail: vota@zoomtown.com

Intermediate Fly Tying

Jim Neckers is offering the Intermediate Fly Tying Class. Classes will be at the Springdale Community Center. They start on Tuesday, March 1st, and continue for 6 weeks – 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, and 4/5. Time is 6:30 – 9 PM.

This class builds on skills learned in the introductory tying course and introduces more advanced techniques and fly patterns. You need to bring your tying tools and vice. There are power hook-ups if you want to bring a light. All tying materials are provided. Sign up on the BUFF website or contact Jim for more information (e-mail: jimneckers@gmail.com; phone: 513-254-7901).



Fly Casting Skills Development – April 6th

By Tom Scheer

The next casting skills development gathering is scheduled for Wednesday April 6th at Cottell Park at 6 PM. Sign up is on the BUFF website. This program is designed to be a fun way to comfortably and methodically increase your fishing fun. We use the FFI casting skills program as a guideline, not as a requirement. The program helps you to learn casts and skills at your own pace, and as your schedule allows. These are all practical skills to use when fishing, with each level adding or further developing a skill set. Examples of skills covered are roll casting, shooting line, accuracy, mending, and casting from both dominant and non-dominant side.

See the sign-up on the website for more information and a map of the park location. You can also contact Tom Scheer (phone: 513-317-4996; e-mail: rtscheerdds@aol.com)

Let's Take a Kid Fishing – Sunday March 27th at Miami Meadows Park, 1 – 4 PM.

By Cari Vota

Taking your child/grandchild fishing for the first time can result in great memories for both kids and parents or grandparents alike. The excitement of getting out on the water and catching fish along with spending time outdoors with your loved ones can be an extremely enjoyable experience.

Tips for the day:

- **Make It About Them.** It's not a daylight-to-dark marathon session (unless that's what the child wants). The entirety of your focus has to be on their enjoyment. A big part of your day is going to be small achievements. Praise them when they make a good cast or catch a fish.
- **Keep your cool.** Expect to re-bait hooks and take out line tangles and knots all day. This is their day, not yours. The quickest way to turn children off to fishing is to get frustrated with them.
- **Keep it easy.** Choose simple tackle, bait and techniques. Fish for a species that is plentiful and easy to catch. The bluegills in the lake certainly fit that criteria! The inclination for any newcomer who may not take a long-term liking to fishing is to give them lower-end gear. That can defeat the purpose as it may limit their ability to catch fish. At the very least, make sure that your child has size-appropriate tackle and fresh line. Not only will that make casting more efficient, but it will help them bring in more fish in. On the flip side, don't go too far to the other extreme. If they're not ready for a fly rod, don't put one in their hand, no matter how much you want them to. They're going to fight it all day and it will limit their effectiveness and enjoyment.
- **Keep it short.** Plan only a couple hours. Be prepared to do other things.
- **Keep them covered.** Think about the Three Little Bears – if they're too hot or too cold they won't be having fun, and while "just right" might be a moving target think layers to ensure that they can quickly adjust. Use plenty of sunscreen and protective clothing as needed.

- **Keep them happy.** Think Snacks. And it's not necessarily a time to eat healthy. This is about bonding between a parent or grandparent and child, and you want them to want to go again.
- **Teach them what you know**—tell them about birds, plants, or fish. Kids remember these things and find it interesting. Teach them about conservation, and respect for the environment. Try to pick up a little bit of trash that others left behind each time out.

Bring your child or grandchild out Sunday March 27th, 1:00 to 4:00, at Miami Meadows Park in Milford. You may remember this is where we had our BUFF picnic last summer. **Every child should have at least one adult with them. Waivers are required for you and the child, as we are around water. This is a BUFF-sponsored event, so you do need to register on the BUFF website.**

BUFF Bylaw Update – April Membership Meeting Vote –

By Hugh O'Donnell

Many members may not be aware that BUFF is a non-profit corporation. We are required to maintain Bylaws, a procedural set of rules that are consistent with law. Occasionally, these Bylaws need to be updated.

With the advent of COVID, the Board resorted to new means for communications and old means of communications were called into question. Once delving into the Bylaws, many changes were deemed necessary resulting in a major organizational change and a moderate content change. A critical change is the recognition that we are an Ohio corporation and as such must meet Ohio Revised Code 1702. This was not stated in any prior BUFF documents. It is an important recognition and more importantly makes us aware of state laws on acceptable corporate behavior.

Our committee worked for months to update this document. The Board reviewed and provided additional updates. The Board has endorsed the updated Bylaws. The next step is for membership to ratify the changes. We will ask for your approval at the April membership meeting. The new Bylaws and a document with a list of changes will be made available on the website 30 days prior to the vote.

Sincerely,

BUFF Bylaw Committee (Tom Bachey, Ken Mandel, Cari Vota, Bryan Tudor, and Hugh O'Donnell)

2022 BUFF Speakers Series

The monthly membership meetings are a great place to connect with others, hear about club events, and learn from top speakers in their fields. Stepping back and focusing on the speaker lineup, we recognized that this list is much more like a speaker series at a university or professional society. Our program directors, Dolph Greenberg and Jack Gormley, have done an outstanding job.

Below are the remaining presentations for 2022 -

April 13	Jeff Liskay, Owner and Guide, Great Lakes Flyfishing, LLC. “Fly Fishing for Great Lakes Warmwater Species”
May 11	Karin Miller, Owner and Founder, Zen Tenkara, LLC. “Tenkara: How it Improves Your Regular Fly Fishing”
June 8	Kevin Feenstra, Owner, Feenstra Guide Service. “Four Seasons of Fishing and Wildlife on the Muskegon River”
July 13	Dr. Donna McCollum, Miami University Stream Ecologist. “Macroinvertebrates and Water Quality”
August 10	Phil Pursley, BUFF Member. “Fly Fishing for Bluegills”
September 14	Steve Madewell, Director Emeritus, Lake Metroparks “Thirty Years in Steelhead Alley”
October 12	Ann Miller, Aquatic Biologist, Author and Founder, Flygirls of Michigan. “Hatches of the Upper Midwest”
November 9	Jack Loudin & Rich Staley, Go Fish Media West Virginia. “Kayak Fly Fishing to Smallmouths in West Virginia”
December 14	Brad Petzke, Rivers North Guide Service. “Fly Fishing in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula”

Of course, when planning presentations several months ahead, there is always a chance of cancellation or need to change a presenter. If you can’t join us in-person, please plan on using ZOOM to join in and learn from our great set of speakers.

Ohio Scenic River Association – NEW!

New Organization Seeks River Enthusiasts. The Ohio Scenic Rivers Association (OSRA) is reaching out to individuals who may have an interest in Ohio’s State Scenic Rivers and other waterways. OSRA is a relatively new organization, incorporated as a 501c3 non-profit on November 7, 2019, with the goal of *protecting and improving our state’s water resources*. OSRA plans to accomplish this goal by working to support Ohio’s State Scenic River system; promoting Scenic River stewardship projects, facilitating public-private partnerships in support of Scenic Rivers; and developing non-partisan support of Ohio’s Scenic Rivers.

Currently the OSRA Board of Directors is made up of fourteen conservation professionals and water quality advocates from across Ohio. Recently OSRA has been active in providing testimony at the Statehouse on important water quality related legislation as well as co-sponsoring the second annual River Symposium, hosted by the Department of Natural Resources, State Scenic River Program. In addition to supporting the existing system of state scenic rivers, OSRA also promotes the designation of additional, high-quality rivers.

Whether you are a conservation professional or simply an individual who enjoys water recreation, OSRA invites you to visit their website today and join them in this important work. All those who join (or

renew their membership) in 2022 will be entered in a chance to win a high-quality inflatable kayak kit from *Smithfly Designs*. For more information visit www.ohioscenicriversassociation.com

Below is an announcement for the upcoming Ohio Rivers Symposium. This one-day event will be in Columbus, OH on March 25th. OSRA is a co-sponsor. Registration is required, and there is a fee for this program. It is \$45 for in-person attendance, and \$25 to attend virtually.



Welcome New Board Members & Open Board Positions Remain

By Ken Mandel

We have added two new members to the Board of Directors. Dave Smith joined as an 'at large' director, and Blain Smith as the program co-Chair, replacing Jack Gormley. Blaine will work with Dolph Greenberg on arranging speakers and programs at our monthly meetings. Welcome to both of them.

We are however still seeking individuals to take on overseeing the club's fixed assets and library, and to work with Don Kail on club communications. Both are board positions in the club.

Please contact Hugh O'Donnell, or any board member if you have possible interest.

Thank You to the Exhibitors Who Signed Up for the 2022 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show -

As we are all aware, based on recommendation of the show planning team, and with concurrence of the BUFF BOD, the 2022 Fly Fishing Show, scheduled for early February was cancelled due to the prevalence of the Omicron Covid variant at that time. Happily, prevalence has since dramatically declined.

In planning the show, we had a fantastic response from our commercial exhibitors, and had sold all available exhibition space. In addition, we anticipated good attendance from other area fly fishing clubs, volunteer organizations, and fly tyers. In this month's BUFFER, we've decided to thank those commercial exhibitors who help make this show the success that it is. We'll recognize tyers and other participants in our exhibits area in an upcoming BUFFER. If you are looking for equipment or supplies, or thinking of doing a trip or outing with a guide, please give these folks consideration. They support our club, and we should support their businesses.

Local Fly Fishing Shops

BUFF's fly fishing show is always generously support by our local fly fishing shops. These include Delamere & Hopkins and Orvis, here in Cincinnati, ReelFlyRod, in the Dayton area, Mad River Outfitters, in Columbus, OH, and FlyMasters of Indianapolis, in Indianapolis. These shops are great sources of gear and supplies for fishing and tying as well.

For the 2022 show, the folks at **ReelFlyRod** generously donated an Orvis 3-wt rod, reel and line, designed for Euro-Nymph fishing. This was to have been one of our raffle items, and we will hold it over as such for the 2023 show.

Orvis has been manufacturing and selling fly fishing gear since the mid-1850's and is a leading name in the sport. We are lucky in having a local Orvis store here in Cincinnati which is a strong generous supporter of our club and its activities.

Brian Flechsig and Katie Johnstone from **Mad River Outfitters** were both invited presenters for the 2022 show. Brian was to do a casting demonstration, and Katie's presentation was to be on how to get started as a fly fisher.

Staff from **Delamere & Hopkins** have been past presenters at club meetings talking about our local waters and angling opportunities. They also offer both local and distant (Belize, Bahamas, Montana, etc.) guided outings and fishing and tying instruction.

Other local outdoors shops which support our show as exhibitors include Bass Pro, Field & Stream, and Loveland Canoe & Kayak Adventures

Area Fly Fishing Shops

Spring Creek Fly Fishing is a virtual shop operated by David Fraley of Middletown, OH. This is a new fly fishing business from our area that was to be at the 2022 show. The website indicates that they sell a range of tying supplies, Peak vises, Walton Rods, Range reels and Ballistic Pro fly lines.

FlyMasters of Indianapolis is another area shop. They first opened their doors in 1990, and have been a leading regional shop for over 30 years. They carry a range of products, have very knowledgeable staff, and stock one of the best selections of fly tying supplies in the Midwest. A number of our members regularly drive to Indy to shop here.

If you are looking for gear, tying supplies, other angling needs, or just advice, please consider working with our local shops! Here are their websites for information, directions, etc. –

Delamere & Hopkins	https://www.dhoutfitters.com/
Orvis, Cincinnati Store	https://stores.orvis.com/us/ohio/cincinnati
ReelFly Rod	https://www.reelflyrod.com/
Mad River Outfitters	https://www.madriveroutfitters.com/default.aspx?
Spring Creek Fly Fishing	https://springcreekfly.com/ .
FlyMasters of Indianapolis	https://flymasters.com/

Regional Shops & Suppliers

Great Lakes Fly Fishing Company – Glen Blackwood, who owns this shop, is a long-time exhibitor at our show. He brings lots of new and used fly fishing books as well as fishing and tying materials. The shop is in Rockford, MI, sells a range of equipment in addition to books. One of their niches is the sale of preowned modern and vintage equipment. The website is: <https://troutmoor.net/>.

Canoe Kentucky – Located in Frankfort, KY, Canoe Kentucky offers canoe and kayak sales, rentals on Elkhorn Creek and Kentucky River, and guided outings for angling and scenic adventure. They are one of the leading paddle-sport businesses in the state. Canoe Kentucky was one of our invited presenters for the 2022 show, and are regular exhibitors as well. Today the business is owned and operated by Nathan and Allison Depenbrock. Allison is the daughter of Ed & Bess Council, who started the business in the early 1980's. Their website is: <https://www.canoeky.com/>.



The Hook & Hackle Company, out of Homestead PA, is owned and operated by Ron Weiss. As described on their website, they are a “company of folks who love to fly fish, build rods, and tie flies”. The website has a ton of instructional information on equipment, techniques and tying tools and materials, rod building, tying patterns and more. It is well worth checking out. There is a link to the shop for on-line ordering and purchasing as well. The website is - <https://store.hookhack.com/>

Hog Creek Furled Leaders is owned and operated by Brad Sherrick. Brad is a long-time regular at our show. These are tapered leaders of different strengths and lengths that can be uniquely designed for different types of angling. For example, you can have furled leaders designed for dry fly fishing, Tenkara fishing, etc.

Brad sells his leaders at shows, and they are also available at fly shops. Locally, Mad River Outfitters, stocks his products. Hook & Hackle Company, another of our exhibitors also stocks these products.



There is a YouTube video, which appears to have been recorded at a fly fishing show, in which Brad demonstrates how he constructs his leaders - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZxi3SilpuQ>

River Traditions, owned by Dave Humphries, is another of our regular exhibitors, and usually has the booth next to the main entrance to the exhibit hall. River Traditions, which is located in Michigan, sells at shows and online only, and is best known for their personalized wood, aluminum, and plastic fly boxes which are available in a several sizes and designs. They also sell leaders and tippet materials. Their website for product information and sales is: <https://rivertraditions.com/>.



Pristine Products is a small, veteran owned flyfishing supplier located in Akron, OH. Pristine products is the only manufacturer of 'double furled leaders worldwide. They make leaders from several materials which give them different fishing properties. Pristine Products furled leaders are designed so that the butt end has a diameter similar to the fly line to which it is paired and then tapers to a standard end diameter based on leader size. This results in greater transfer of energy from the line through the leader on the cast. The company also makes furled Tenkara lines, and sells tippet rings, swivels and a floatant to use with their leaders. The website has information which describes the science behind the leaders, and how to choose leaders and the leader-material that would be best for a given anglers fishing. They sell at fly shows and through their website - <https://www.pristineprod.com/home>



Brian Kozminski is the owner of **True North Trout**, and a regional representative for TFO rods. True North Trout is a guide service which fishes the rivers of northern Michigan – the Ausable, Manistee, Boyne, Pigeon, Black, Jordan, etc. Brian can arrange guided fishing through his website. At fly fishing shows, Brian brings TFO rods to check out and can advise on which rod would be a best choice for one's angling desires. At our show, rods can be tried out at the casting pond as well. The website for True North Trout is: <https://truenorthtrout.com/>.

In addition, two other regional reps, Ben Hunting from **Emergence Angling Services** and Phil Cook from **Angling Consulting Services**, were signed up as exhibitors. They are our regional reps for brands including Sage, Redington, Echo, and Scott Rods, Abel Reels, Fishpond, and several other well recognized brands. They bring rods to demonstrate along with other items to check out.

The Fly Guy Shop is an online business out of Whitehall, Michigan, operated by Scott and Tammy Bowerman. They are long-time participants and supporters of our fly fishing show, and the two of them tie all of the flies they sell. They will also tie custom flies. The Fly Guy Shop does not have a physical store, nor a website. They sell at regional fly fishing shows, and directly from their Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/theflyguyflyshop/photos/?ref=page_internal



Smith Fly Designs is owned by Ethan Smith and located in Troy, OH. This small, niche company designs and builds fishing rafts. These are ultralight, inflatable rafts. Most of their products are built in-house. Smith Fly was founded in 2011. Initially Ethan was designing and sewing packs bags and modular fly fishing gear. The business grew and evolved, and now is fully focused on design and manufacture of fishing rafts. Their main product is 'Big Shoals Raft'. There is a showroom/shop in Piqua Ohio, which is off of I-75 just north of Dayton. More information, including phone contact and location of the showroom, is on their website - <https://www.smithfly.com/>

Eggman Flies is a virtual fly fishing shop operated by Dan Walker. Dan sells flies, fly tying materials and fly fishing gear on line and at regional fly fishing shows in Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. He ties and sells flies for steelhead, lake salmon, trout, bass, pike and saltwater fishing, including lots of egg patterns – hence the name of the shop! Dan also sells a range of tying supplies, including hooks (mostly KoreaSun brand), beads (metal and tungsten), threads, chenille, flash, synthetic dubbing materials, and

more. Finally, the website has some tying tools and a fly lines that are available. Dan's prices seem very reasonable! Check out the website - <https://eggmanflies.com/>

Guides

Cumberland Valley Fly Fishing is owned and operated by Jim Sauerheber. Jim guides boat trips on the Cumberland and Barren Rivers in KY. The Cumberland is one of the top trout tailwater fisheries in our region and also offers excellent bass fishing as well. The website for contact information is: <https://cumberlandvalleyflyfishing.com/gallery/>



Mountain Troutfitters is located in Linville, NC and operated by Cade Buchanan. They guide on waters in Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee, mostly for brook, rainbow and brown trout. Rivers include the South Holston, Watauga, Nolichucky, French Broad, and Catawba. They also have fishing access to private waters on the Linville and North Toe Rivers, which get a lot less angling pressure than public access waters. Their website for more information and contact information is: <http://mountaintroutfitters.com/about-us/>



Tuckaseegee Fly Shop has three locations on the North Carolina side of Smokey Mountains National Park, in Bryson City, Waynesville, and Silva, NC. Dale Collins and his staff are regulars at our fly show, and have presented at past BUFF meetings. Shannon Messer, is an excellent tyer of Appalachian fly patterns, and did a tying demonstration at a past show.

Besides running well stocked shops, Tuckaseegee offers excellent float and wading trips on waters of Western NC and Eastern TN. Float trips on the Little Tennessee and Tuckaseegee Rivers go for trout and bass. Wade trips take anglers to prime streams of the Western North Carolina Fishing Trail and Eastern Smokey Mountains National Park, including Ravens Fork, the Oconoluftee River, the Nantahala River and other streams and creeks. They also arrange and guide more distant trips for fresh and saltwater angling as well. Their website includes a nice blog, and tutorial videos that are well worth checking out. Several BUFF members have fished with these guides and had superb experiences. The website is: <https://www.tuckflyshop.com/>

Stream Team Anglers was started by Jerry Yates. Many of us know Jerry as the inventor of the Frogs Fanny floatant product. I think every club member has at least one container of this stuff! Jerry recently retired after 27 years as a law enforcement officer, moved to the Smokey Mountains of Western NC, and has now established a business as a full time fly fishing guide. He offers guided wading/hiking trips on the Pigeon River and Jonathan Creek, and float trips on the Tuckasegee, Pigeon, and Little Tennessee Rivers. Fishing is for trout and bass. You can check out his website at:

<https://streamteamanglers.com/>

You can purchase the Frogs Fanny products through the website as well;



North Branch Outing Club – The North Branch Outing Club is a historic fly fishing and hunting lodge located on the North Branch of the Au Sable River near Grayling, MI. The historic lodge, which dates to 1916, had been closed for many years. In the 1920's and 30's guests included Henry Ford, John D. Rockefeller, Thomas Edison and Ernest Hemingway. Judy Fuller refurbished and reopened the lodge years ago. It offers 12 rooms and 2 suites as guest accommodations. Breakfast is included with lodging. There are several guides affiliated with the lodge, so guided trips on the Au Sable or other area rivers can be booked. In addition, there is a fly shop on site. The website for the lodge is:

<https://northbranchoutingclub.com/>. Bookings can be made online or by phone, and there is additional contact information for arranging guides.



Dustan Harley, who started **Ripple Guide Service** in 1999, is no stranger to our club. He has presented at meetings, prior shows, and was again an invited speaker for the 2022 show. Dustan guides on waters of northern Indiana and southern Michigan. Rivers that he and his group guides include the St. Joseph in Indiana and Michigan, the Dowagiac, a tributary of the St. Joseph, the Yellow and the Tippecanoe in Indiana, as well as smaller streams



and ponds. Fish sought include steelhead, salmon, bass, pike, trout and gar. The St. Joseph is one of the best steelhead streams in our area, and also an excellent fishery for brown trout, salmon and bass. The Yellow and Tippicanoe Rivers are excellent fisheries for pike. Here is a photo of Jim Vota with a pike he landed while fishing with Dustan on the Yellow River in late summer of last year. That is a nice fish! Dustan's website is: <http://rippleguides.com/>.

Southeastern Anglers, operated by Dane Law, offers fly fishing in the southern Appalachian area. They are located in Reliance, Tennessee, and offer wade and float-guide trips on the rivers of Tennessee, Kentucky, and northern Georgia, primarily the Hiwassee, Tellico, Cumberland, and Toccoa. Angling is primarily for rainbow and brown trout. Some smaller streams have brookies, and there is also opportunities for small mouth and striped bass. Their website for more information about where they fish, rates, and booking is: <https://southeasternanglers.com/>.



CF River Products is owned and operated by Chad Faith. Chad offers guide trips on the Au Sable and Manistee and other rivers in north Michigan, which he has fished since he was a child. For those seeking lodging as well as angling, they have a few cabins available for rental. One is on the North Branch of the Au Sable near Lovells and has easy wade-in access. Another is in Grayling. CF River Products also makes fishing nets, which can be purchased on the website, or at several fly shops in northern Michigan which carry them. Finally, Chad designs and builds custom canoes and lighting fixtures. Anyone who has stayed at Gates Lodge and dined at their restaurant has seen some of these fixtures. The website with more information on guide trips, canoes, lodging, and lighting fixtures is: <http://www.cfriverproducts.com/home>.

Cumberland Bottom Ticklers was started in 2013 by Greg Williams. He offers drift boat fly fishing trips on the Cumberland River tailwater. The website with more information about Greg, guide rates, and phone and e-mail contact is: <https://www.cumberlandbottomticklers.com/>.

Rocky Top Anglers is an outfitter and guide service located near Knoxville, Tennessee. It is owned and operated by Captain Michael "Rocky" Cox, who has been guiding anglers for almost 25 years. Michael and his fellow guides provide drift boat trips year round primarily on the Clinch, Cumberland, Holston and Caney Fork Rivers. These are all excellent cold tailwater fisheries and prime habitats for trophy trout. They also offer wade trips in the nearby Appalachian Mountains and Smokey Mountains National Park for native rainbow, brown and brook trout. All of their guided fishing is catch and release only. Rates for full- and half-day float and wade trips is on their website along with lots of information on locations and lots of photos. Check it out - <https://rockytopanglers.com/>



Black Jaw Tackle offers custom design fly fishing trips. They fish the Great Lakes region, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, Montana and other locations. The area covers angling for a large number of species. Essentially, Black Jaw will design a trip for individual or groups of anglers based on the dates and types of fish you want to go after. They can do multi-day trips, group trips, family trips and team building activities. Trips can be wading or float trips, or combinations of both, and they can provide rods, flies and equipment. They also offer fly fishing instruction and rod repair services. More information on services and guide rates are on their website: <https://blackjawtackle.com/index.html>.

Broadening Fly Fishing

By Ken Mandel

On Tuesday, February 23rd, the New York Times published an interesting article about Erica Nelson, a female native American (Navajo) fly fishing guide. Erica is relatively new to fly fishing, she started angling in 2016, but has worked and studied with other guides and is now an Orvis endorsed fly fishing guide in Colorado. The article discusses how fly fishing, for many decades, has been a sport associated with white males, but its demographics are changing, and a person such as Ms. Nelson, emphasize that. In her own words, Ms. Nelson says that she 'is awkward', and hosts a podcast named "Awkward Angler" (<https://www.awkwardangler.com/>) There are some interesting blogs and posts on the site.



In our own area, we have people like Katie Johnstone, who guides on the Mad River, and in our club, Cari Vota who is very involved with encouragein and promoting women and fly fishing in club and the Ohio area. We are an evolving sport. Over the past few years, our club has also hosted several women as presenters at club meetings, and these presentation have often been associated with casting workshops. Two of these presentations and workshops were by Wanda Taylor and Susan Thrasher in 2018 and 2019 respectively.

If interested, here is a link the article, but I do not know if you need a subscription to the paper to read it: <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/19/travel/female-indigenous-fly-fishing-guide.html>

Spring Is Coming!

If you don't believe that spring is near, take heart from an announcement issued by the Michigan DNR on February 16th. The announcement required all ice fishing shanties on Lake Saint Clair be removed by Sunday, February 20th. It also set other deadlines for removing ice-shacks from lakes and waters across the rest of Michigan's lower peninsula between March 1st and 15th.

Of course, if you really like the UP, you can leave your fishing shanty on the ice until March 31st (that's March, not May!).



Seven Hills High School Program

Tom Bachey shared a few photos from BUFF's casting and tying program at Seven Hills HS on February 22nd. There were 40 students and 9 BUFF volunteers for a 2 hour program – each student had an hour of casting instruction and an hour for fly tying. BUFF did this program at the school last October and were invited to do it again, as the students and teachers greatly enjoyed it. Thanks to our volunteers – Dave Smith, Jim Neckers, Tim Cassani, Dave Brounley, Hugh O'Donnell, Jim Vota, Tom Britton, Ken Speicher, and Tom Bachey.



Some Upcoming Trips – Smokey Mountains Trout Quest

Registration is open for this popular trip to Bryson City, NC. Cabins are reserved at the Smokey Mountain Retreat for the nights of May 11th – 15th. Mike Redmond is the trip coordinator, and registration is on the BUFF Website.



Camp Buffalo Bill Trip – August 2022

Camp Buffalo Bill is a Boy Scout Camp in Wyoming, near Yellowstone National Park. The camp is again hosting their week-long Anglers Base Camp program during the month of August. **The week of July 31 to August 6 is reserved for members of BUFF and MVFF.** 30 spots are available on a first come basis. We currently have openings for 15 BUFF members and 15 members from MVFF. More slots will become available, if MVFF does not use all 15 allocated to them. **Cost for lodging for the week is \$800 per angler.**

Trip Includes:

- 3 full, hot meals/day, prepared by onsite chef. Plus, all the snacks and fruit you can eat.
- Lodging in cabins or rooms located on the grounds of Camp Buffalo Bill.
- Central bathhouse for showers and facilities, Some private rooms are available for couples and these have private bathrooms and showers.
- There are 4 campsites for RVs with electric and water hookups. Waste disposal is available at the camp.
- Guided shuttle service to and from fishing destinations in the region.
- Laundry facilities
- Shuttle to and from Yellowstone Regional Airport in Cody, WY. Cost is \$20 round trip.

Anglers must purchase their own Wyoming and/or Yellowstone Fishing Licenses as well as understand and abide by local fishing regulations. A separate license is required if you want to fish in Yellowstone National Park. *Within the Park, felt soled wading boots are not permitted and only barbless hooks can be used.*

- Wyoming license & regulations: <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/fishing-and-boating>
- Yellowstone license & regulations: <https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/fishing.htm>

This trip is not a BUFF-sponsored trip. It is organized and run by Camp Buffalo Bill Anglers Base Camp. Jack Gormley will act as coordinator for the BUFF registrants. Register by going to the Greater Wyoming Boy Scout Council site at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/062-55571>.

Be sure you register for the correct week – July 31st – August 6th.

If you have questions or need more information contact Jack -

E-mail: jgormley@fuse.net

Mobile # 513-678-4518.



Also, once you register, please contact Jack to let him know you have registered. Jack will provide a list of participants, so people can coordinate travel and fishing plans.



A detailed packing guide will be provided to registrants, but participants need to bring:

- Sleeping bag or sheets and blankets for bedding
- Personal toiletries and towel
- Fishing tackle

Some Things of Interest –

Jim Neckers shared a YouTube video he found this past month by Kelly Galloup. The video focuses on thread control and setting materials on the hook. Thread control, material placement, and material prep are some of the key factors in being a more consistent and overall better fly tier. The link to the video is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkhEyFvdbEU>

Tom Bachey shared an article that Rob Fightmaster posted on his website on how, when, and where to place split shot along your leader/tippet. The article can be accessed at: <https://fightmasterflyfishing.com/index.php/2019/01/31/adjusting-weight-when-nymphing/>.

Tom shared an additional article from the Guide Recommended site (www.guiderecommended.com) on different types of floatants and dessicants we use to keep a dry fly, 'dry'. Floatants tend to be a gel material, and dessicants are powders, like Frogs Fanny we all know about. The article can be found at: <https://guiderecommended.com/how-to-keep-a-dry-fly-from-sinking/> The article also includes a recipe for homemade floatant – mixture of white gas (the stuff you use in camp stoves!) and paraffin wax. Think I'll stick to the commercial stuff!

Here are a couple of photos from Don Schrantz. He got out last month for his first experience ice fishing. He was with a couple of friends, and they fished on farm pond they had access to near Sunman, IN.



Upcoming BUFF Activities

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

In-person activities are limited to BUFF Members, and require Registration (online on club Website) and signing the Club's Liability Waiver

<u>Trip/Activity & Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Intermediate Fly Tying Springdale Community Ctr	Tuesday, March 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th , & April 6 th 6:30 PM – 9 PM	Jim Neckers 513-254-7901 jimneckers@gmail.com
Fly Fishing 101 Springdale Community Ctr	Mondays, March 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , & 28 th 6 PM – 8 PM	Jim Vota 513-702-2553 vota@zoomtown.com
2022 BUFF Banquet Oasis Conference Ctr	Wednesday, March 9th 6 PM – 9 PM	
Board of Directors Meeting Springdale Community Ctr	Wednesday, March 16 th 6:30 – 8:30 PM	Hugh O'Donnell 513-200-7869 odonnellhj@gmail.com
Tie & Lie Zoom Virtual Session	Friday, March 18 th 6:30 PM <i>Zoom link on Website</i>	Gary Begley 513-932-4205 loopdude1@hotmail.com
Take Your Kids Fishing Miami Meadows Park Pond	Sunday, March 27 th 1 PM – 4 PM	Cari Vota 513-476-7112 vota@zoomtown.com
Fly Casting Skills Development Cottell Park Mason, OH	Wednesday, April 6 th meet at park at 6 PM	Tom Scheer 513-317-4996 rtscheerdds@aol.com
Clermont County Spring Little Miami River Cleanup Batavia, OH	Saturday, April 23 rd 9 AM – 12 PM <i>Meet 8:30 AM in Batavia, OH (details on sign up page)</i>	Tom Britton 513-520-7862 starwoodtb@gmail.com
Whitewater River Bass Trips Whitewater River Liberty IN	Tuesday, 4/26 Wednesday, Apr 27 th Thursday, Apr 28 th Monday, May 2 nd (<i>New Members Trip</i>)	Jeff Georgin (4/26 & 4/28) 513-616-4388 Bob Gustafson (4/27 & 5/2) 513-289-5250