



The *BUFFER*

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

Volume 48, Issue 3

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

March 1, 2024

The President's Fly Box

This month, BUFF is holding their annual Banquet that is filled with auction items, grand prizes, awards, and social interaction. It is a great time to celebrate fly fishing with friends and get a start on this year's fishing trips. Please give serious consideration to registering to attend by the March 12th deadline.

As you may have seen at our last monthly meeting or at the Fly Show, we now have an active military and veteran fly fishing group. Brent Miller, one of our new directors, just launched this program. It is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and socialize with other veterans from all walks of life.

Looking forward to fishing this spring? Well signup or waitlist for the North Carolina Trout Fishing trip. This is always a sought-after trip and even a novice can catch a fish or two. My experience is that it is a great way to meet other fly fishers, learn where to fish, and figure out how to fish. I do remember my original challenge was tying knots on small flies. If you are like me, you will quickly learn that you need magnifying glasses. Best of luck.

Are you interested in keeping water clean for local fishing? BUFF performs stream quality monitoring and river clean up with local counties. This year nine events are planned. Jim Cassani, another of our new directors, is joining with Tom Britton, Conservation Director, to enrich and expand our conservation offering. Please see the website for more information and signups.

Are you curious about fly tying? Tying flies can lead to better understanding of aquatic bugs and enjoyment of catching fish on your own flies. For those who are curious or interested, sign up for Jim Neckers' introductory 2-hour class. It will be short and sweet. More experienced? Sign up for the Intermediate Tying Classes which start in March.

Finally, for those who like outdoor cinema, the Costa/Simms/Yeti Fly Fishing Film Tour is coming to Cincinnati. It is the first time in years that this event will be held locally. Mark your calendars for April 21st, 11 am, at the Little Miami Brewing Company's event center. The films share experiences of fly fishing around the world. It is a sure way to get you excited about fishing this year.

Hope to see you on-stream or at an event soon,

Hugh O'Donnell
BUFF President

BUFF Banquet – Wednesday, March 20th

The Buckeye United Fly Fishers Banquet, which is the club's main fundraiser, is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20th from 6 PM – 9 PM, at the Oasis Conference Center. The Banquet replaces our regular March meeting. Besides a nice dinner and an evening of socializing, there are many raffles and auctions of fly fishing and non-angling items. In addition, club awards and recognitions, including 2023 volunteers, Fly Fisher of the Year, President's Awards, and Directors' Awards are presented at the banquet.



Please note, this year's Banquet is on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, rather than the 2nd Wednesday, when we'd have had our regular meeting. The change in date was needed because the main reception room at the Oasis Center was not available on the earlier date.

If you have not already done so, please register on the BUFF website. You can also print and mail a reservation form with your registration fee. The print-form is also found on the website. Space is

limited, and registration will close on Tuesday, March 12th. Dinner and banquet tickets are \$45/person, grand raffle tickets are \$10, and general raffle tickets, \$5. You can purchase raffle tickets in advance, or at the banquet event. Registration and payment for the dinner is required to attend.

Menu –Our dinner entrée is a choice of capicola-stuffed chicken or baked salmon. Sides include salad, rolls and butter, roasted potatoes and southern-style green beans. Appetizers will be served before the meal, and dessert and coffee after. There is a cash bar, of course, as well. *If you have a dietary need, please let the planning team know, so the Oasis caterer can provide another meal option for you.*

Funds raised at the Banquet support many of the club's outside and charitable activities. Funds are raised through silent auctions and raffles at the event. While silent auction items are generally fishing-related, they can also have items of more general interest, such as works of art and even a cord of wood delivered and stacked. General raffle items are often diverse, and are generally donations from local vendors and club members.



Our two Grand Raffle items for 2024 are –

- Jeff Ruby's Gift Card + a Mitchel Spa Gift Card + a wine basket
- Winston 10-ft, 4-wt rod & Bauer Reel

We currently have over 50 silent auction and general raffle items. These include –

- Lodging and fishing at Sunny Brook Trout Club
- Guided Trip with Cumberland Bottom Ticklers
- Guided Trip with Tuckaseegee Outfitters
- Cord of wood, delivered & stacked
- Great Lakes fly fishing trip
- Hand-crafted turned wood bowl
- Lodging at Gates Au Sable Lodge
- Hand-made ceramic plates, silk table runner & towel
- Guided Trip with Stream Team Anglers
- Golf 4-some at Oasis Golf Course

If you have any questions, reach out to Bob Cregge at bcregg13@gmail.com or at 908- 672-8483.

Another Successful Fly Fishing Show!

From Bob Gustafson, Bob Miller, Ken Mandel & Tom Bachey –

On behalf of the Fly Fishing Show Team, we are very happy to report that the 2024 Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show was very successful. The efforts of the planning team, and all of our incredible volunteers are the key to our success. The show netted a profit of almost \$3,900, which was achieved while also having a significant increase in the cost of staging the event. Show attendance was very strong, with over 850 paying attendees, and over 950 total attendance.

Our presenters expressed having very positive experiences. We greatly enjoyed having Susan Thrasher as this year's headliner. She was fantastic to work with! Her presentations on the day of the show were very well attended, and her Friday Casting Workshop was fully sold out. Gary Begley's tying workshops on Friday were very well attended as well. This year we were able to welcome several new vendors to the show, and most were very pleased and highly interested in returning for the 2025 show. We've already had vendors who would be new to the show, contact us regarding participating in 2025.



The 2024 show planning represented an additional milestone for the Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show. Bob Gustafson and Bob Miller, both announced early in our planning that the 2024 show would be their last as 'Co-Chairs'. They have now passed this responsibility to Tom Bachey and Ken Mandel, for planning the 2025 show. We extend our thanks and appreciation to all that 'the Bobs' have done over the past

decade to make the Cincinnati show the premier mid-west fly fishing show. They are to be congratulated.

Of course, a major thank you needs to also go out to the entire team. The team works throughout the year to plan the show. Our 2024 show team members included – Tom Agin, Scott Biser, Ken Dixon, Ken Foltz, David Fraley, Debbie, Hampton, Sam Hanna, Kathy LaDow, Don Kail, Jeff McElravy, Haruko Mizoguchi, Jim Neckers, Kathy Newsom, Jim & Cari Vota, & Tim Williamson. Finally, the show could not succeed without the help of the 70+ club members who volunteer to support the activities associated with the show. Our success is the result of the dedication and enthusiasm of everyone's support and participation. Thank you, everyone.

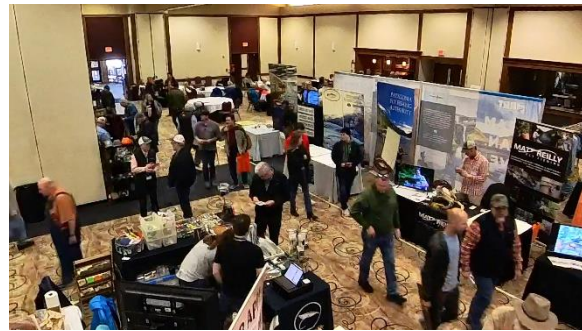
A few photos from the show and more will be posted on the website.



Susan Thrasher's Casting Workshop



Gary Begley's Tying Workshops



Thank You Card From Susan Thrasher

Susan was extremely impressed with our show as well. She sent us a very nice thank you note which is below –



BUFF FRIENDS -
I JUST WANTED TO SEND A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME AS
YOUR SPECIAL GUEST AT THE SHOW THIS YEAR. I APPRECIATE THE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE
THAT YOU HAD IN ME MORE THAN YOU KNOW.
YOU MADE IT SO EASY FOR ME IN ALL THE EARLY PREPARATIONS. I NEVER
HAD TO WAIT FOR AN ANSWER. YOU WERE SO THROUGH WITH YOUR INSTRUCTIONS AND
REARRANGES. I SO APPRECIATED THE LOVELY ACCOMMODATIONS, THE CANTING CLINIC
AND ADVANCE QUESTIONS, THE BEST BOOTH LOCATION, PRESENTATION TIMES, THE
FLATTERING INTRODUCTIONS, THE AMAZING ATTENDANCE AND THE GENEROUS
GOSPEL DINNER SATURDAY NIGHT & GIFT.
YOU ALL WERE THE PERFECT HOSTS AND I COULDN'T GO ANY LONGER
WITHOUT A PROPER HEART FELT NOTE OF GRATITUDE. I FEEL SO
BLESSED TO BE SO CLOSELY ACQUAINTED WITH ALL OF YOU.
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!
SUSAN M. THRASHER 2/15/2024

2025 Fly Fishing Show Planning Team Volunteer Need –

By Ken Mandel

Hard to believe, but planning is already getting started for the 2025 Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show!

This year represents major changes for our team. Bob Gustafson & Bob Miller, who have co-chaired the team for over a decade, stepped down following the 2024 show. Ken Mandel and Tom Bachey are the new co-chairs. We both worked closely with 'the Bobs' on the 2024 show, so we are very confident going forward. There are other changes as well. Don Kail, who handled AV at the show and the show website also 'retired' this past year. He has moved to Tennessee to be close to family and kids. David Fraley & Scott Biser are now handling these responsibilities. There are other changes as well.

One change still needs support. Ken Dixon has been a critical team member for many years. He has managed our booth layout and assignment function for the show. What you see when you come to the show, is Ken's creation. He also wished to step down after the 2024 show. Unfortunately, we did not find a person to take on that role during 2024 and need to fill that now. This activity requires a person with some skill using the CAD program, as that is what we use for our floor layout and planning. Experience with a similar type of programming may also work. Ken will be an expert to train whoever comes on board to take on his role and activities. If you are familiar with using CAD, and I am sure we have club members who are, please give this serious consideration. The Show Planning Team is a great cooperative team and fun to work with. Our effort and dedication is evident in the year-to-year quality of the Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show. Getting on board as we start planning the 2025 show will be a plus for you and a win for the team.

If you have any interest, or just questions about what is involved, please reach out to me – Ken Mandel, 2025 Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show Team Co-Chair –

E-mail: kengmandel@gmail.com

Phone: 513-675-8488.

Thank you!

New Members in February 2024

By Harry Pass, BUFF Membership Director

This past month saw us gain 31 new members (including family memberships), with 20 joining at the Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show! Here's the list –

- **Shaun Armstrong**, Dayton, KY
- **Tom Baker**, Loveland, OH
- **Allen Berg**, Springboro, OH
- **Brad Boyd**, Liberty Township, OH
- **Luke Brake**, Morrow, OH
- **Michael Browne**, Cincinnati, OH
- **Stephen Collins**, Milford, OH
- **John Czarnecki**, Sunman, IN
- **Cole Decamp**, Camp Dennison, OH
- **Mark Delaney**, Loveland, OH
- **Craig Deppert**, Lawrenceburg, IN
- **Mark Faulhaber**, Loveland, OH
- **Michael Jaspers**, Cincinnati, OH
- **Philip Motz**, Loveland, OH
- **David Powell**, Maineville, OH
- **Dan Reilly**, Cincinnati, OH
- **Wes Reynolds**, Cleves, OH
- **Eric Rice**, Mechanicsburg, OH
- **Dennis & Kathy Robb**, Cincinnati, OH
- **Scott Sandlin**, Middletown, OH
- **Carmen Schatzman**, Cincinnati, OH
- **Brent Sheppard**, Mason, OH
- **Dan Talbott**, Loveland, OH
- **Rich Trzbinski**, Loveland, OH
- **David Williams**, Kettering, OH

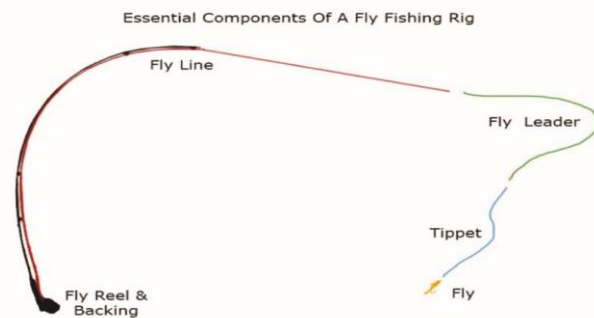
Welcome to the club, and we hope to see you at a meeting soon! Check out our activities and programs listed on the BUFF Website and sign up for some!

*As a reminder, for those new to fly fishing, the **Fly Fishing 101** course, a great introduction to the sport, is being offered starting this month. It is Monday evenings, 6 PM – 8 PM, March 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th at the Springdale Recreation Center. The program is free to club members. Sign up/registration is on the club website. Jim Vota is a great instructor and will lead enjoyable sessions.*

Fly Fishing 101 Course

By Jim Vota

The 2024 Fly Fishing 101 course will be held March 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th at the Springdale Recreation Center. Location is 11999 Lawnview Ave., Springdale, OH 45246. Sessions begin at 6:00 PM and are 2 hours long. Whether you are a raw beginner, or someone who could use a little refresher this is the class for you. **The course is free, but please register on the BUFF website on the "Trips & Activities" page.**



- Sessions 1, 2, & 3 will provide an introduction to fly fishing, discuss equipment, knots, line system, fly selection, where the fish are, catching fish and being on the water.
- Session 4 will be a practical hands-on basic casting lesson. Weather depending, it will be in the gym or outside.

Feel free to ask questions any time during the class. If something is not covered don't be afraid to ask. The class is designed to provide you with a head start so when you get to the stream or lake you won't be totally lost. As a follow on to this class, BUFF will have its annual casting class in May. One of the best ways to help enjoy your fishing is to be able to cast. Consider signing up when sign up opens on the BUFF web site.

If you have questions e-mail Jim Vota (vota@zoomtown.com).

New Club Co-ed After Work Fishing for 2024 –

By Cari Vota

Starting this year, ALL our after-work fishing outings will be co-ed. **Anyone can join any of the outings!** Our plan is to offer wade-fishing opportunities twice a month, each at a different site, mostly on the Little Miami River. We try to include at least one pond early in the year just to get people back out with a rod in their hand.

Women are welcome at all the outings, as the name co-ed implies. Cari Vota, our Women's Program Director, is planning to lead all the 2nd Thursday of the month outings to help any of them wishing some TLC and mentoring with her.



Tim Cassani and Brent Miller will be co-leading the 3rd Thursday outings. Both are great casters, teachers, and mentors for anyone new to the sport.

As 'after work' implies, these are evening outings. We meet at about 6:00 PM and fish until dark or about 8:00 PM. They are a good opportunity to get to know and fish new locations, learn to read some local water, and gain confidence. All outings require online registration and signing our waiver through the BUFF website. We typically limit sign up to 8 people. ***So..... if you sign up, please attend.*** If for some reason you cannot, please cancel your

reservation on the website, &/or let the trip leader know, to prevent blocking out someone else that would like to participate.

FFI-Hosted Fly Casting Skills Workshop – April 20th –

By Cari Vota

Please plan to join us for the FFI Casting Skills Development Program on Saturday, April 20th, 2024. The workshop is FREE and is based on practical fishing applications. Everyone from beginners to experienced casters is welcome to come to learn or improve your fly casting. Bring your favorite fly rod or use one of ours.

Workshop demonstrations and instruction will be provided by FFI Certified Casting Instructors & local Buckeye Fly Fisher Club instructors. Show up any time between 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM at Cottell Park, Deerfield Twp., 5847 Irwin Simpson Rd, Mason, OH.

RSVP and pre-registration are required for all attendees. Email info@ffiohc.org, with your contact information and any questions.

Spring Fly Tying Classes –

By Jim Neckers

BUFF will conduct two fly tying classes this Spring. All classes are held at the Springdale Community Center, 11999 Lawnview Ave., Springdale, OH. Register on the BUFF Website on the “Trips & Activities” page.

Introduction to Fly Tying –

This is a one-evening class providing a hands-on overview of fly tying. NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED! All tying tools and materials are provided. A great way to get introduced to the art and fun of tying.

Date: Tuesday, April 16th

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Intermediate Fly Tying –

This course is presented as 5 weekly evening classes. The single registration covers the full 5-week course. Attendees should bring tools, threads, and their tying vise. All tying materials are provided.

Dates: Tuesdays, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, & April 2nd & 9th

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Any questions contact Jim Neckers – jimneckers@gmail.com or 513-254-



Veterans Corner –

By Brent Miller, *BUFF Director of Veterans Affairs*

Just a quick update for this new monthly column in the BUFFER.

First, we had a very successful launch of the new Buckeye Veterans Fly Fishing program at the Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show. By the end of the show, we added 15 individuals to the Veterans e-letter list, bringing the roster to a total of 65 Veterans and Friends. There is room for more.

If you are a Veteran and BUFF member, we would like to know who you are. You will be added to the Buckeye Veterans Fly Fishing e-mail list which is used for the Veteran outings and occasional Veteran information. Send an e-mail to me, DBrent@dbrent.com, and let me know you are a Veteran and want to be added to the roster. The plan is to recognize all of our Veterans throughout the year. Thank you for your service.

March will be a great time to prepare for the warm-weather fishing season. Many of our new BUFF members and Veterans are new to fly fishing. Take advantage of the free classes offered through BUFF - Fly Fishing 101 and Intro to Fly Tying. It will make a difference in your quest to be a better fly fisher. Details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter and on the BUFF website. Also, don't forget to get your fishing license.

And now, a piece of humble pie. After years of struggling with fly fishing techniques, I became a fly fisher when I joined Buckeye United Fly Fishers in 2006. The education and mentoring brought me to that conclusion. I started working with Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing serving our Veterans. After 10 years of that service, the BUFF Board of Directors asked me to be a Director-at-large, and after some hesitancy, I accepted. Then we designed this new Buckeye Veterans Fly Fishing program for the club. And what did the Board of Directors do? They changed my status to Director of Veteran Affairs for the club. I am honored and humbled. I won't let you all down.

See you on the water.

Stream Quality Monitoring & River Cleanup

From Tom Britton

As spring approaches our club gets back to our stream monitoring activities and involvement in river cleanup events. Here is what is approaching on calendars. If you have questions contact Tom Britton (starwoodtb@gmail.com or 513-520-7862)

East Fork Whitewater River Cleanup

A cleanup event along the banks of the Whitewater River outside of Liberty, Indiana is scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd from 9:00 AM to Noon. The cleanup will be along the area where we annually fish for White Bass in late April/early May. This is being organized along with Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers and Indiana Department of Natural Resources. This will be on land and we will not be in the water.

Meeting point is the river access just west of the State Road 44 bridge that crosses the Whitewater River. To participate you need to register on the BUFF website in the “Trips & Activities” page.

Upcoming Stream Quality Monitoring Workshops

Join staff from the Ohio Scenic Rivers Program to learn about macroinvertebrates and what they tell us about river health. These are hands-on, in-river demonstrations, so wear clothing and closed-toe shoes that can get wet. This program is free and open to all ages. Connect with your river for the day or continue the experience by becoming a regular volunteer with ODNR’s Stream Quality Monitoring Project.

Little Miami National & State Scenic River

- May 15th, 6 – 8PM The Narrows Reserve Access. Meet in the parking lot near the river.
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/k2iFkRwYuPmZ1ARF9>
- June 20th, Noon -2PM Nesbit Park in Loveland. Find parking nearby and meet at the Little Miami Conservancy Building adjacent to the park.
<https://goo.gl/maps/JdCHR6YggzbUa9fF9>
- July 24th, 6-8PM Fort Ancient River Access. Meet in the parking lot next to Morgan’s Canoe.
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/7kBHFTAtjsFAuw4e6>

Stillwater State Scenic River

- May 11th, Noon-2pm Aullwood Garden Metro Park. Meet in the parking lot off Aullwood Rd. near the river access at the base of the Englewood dam.
<https://goo.gl/maps/iH1syPFXdefToKA18>

Greenville Creek State Scenic River

- June 8th, Noon-2pm Bears Mill. Meet in the main parking lot across from the historic mill at 6450 Arcanum-Bears Mill Rd.
<https://goo.gl/maps/P7mR1L294mV865zU8>
- July 13th, Noon-2pm Tecumseh Point – Greenville. Meet in the parking lot on the west side of Broadway, north of the bridge.
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/dxKV7FF6dwx4SFMQ6>

Please RSVP for up-to-date information on river levels which may impact workshop availability. For more information or to RSVP, contact – bela.clutter@dnr.ohio.gov or (937) 728-1469

Saturday Stream Snapshot

Saturday Stream Snapshot (SSS) is a citizen science, volunteer water monitoring program designed to identify nutrient issues polluting the Little Miami River. It is a project associated with the Izaak Walton League of Cincinnati. SSS collects monthly stream samples to provide water quality information as part of Ohio EPA’s Credible Data Program. SSS data are used to inform regional municipalities and educate residents about water quality issues and what they can do to preserve, protect and improve water quality in the Lower Little Miami Watershed. For more information email:

Volunteer@SaturdayStreamSnapshot.org. The flyer below promoted a training activity that was held in late February



Little Miami
Saturday Stream Snapshot
Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program

Are you looking for opportunities to:

- have fun
- help preserve the health of the Little Miami River

When:
Second Saturdays
March - November

Where: Polk Run
Treatment Plant
9744 East Kemper Rd.
Loveland, OH 45140

We need you.

Volunteers are needed to restart the award winning Saturday Stream Snapshot Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program so we can preserve and protect the Little Miami River. We provide free training.

For more Info, please email us:
Volunteer@SaturdayStreamSnapshot.org

Stream Sampling Training
Feb 27th at 6:30-7:30pm
Izaak Walton League Lodge
544 Branch Hill-Loveland Rd
Loveland, OH

Want to get your feet wet? Collect water samples from the streams in your community.

Learn first-hand about water quality in the Lower Little Miami Watershed. Process samples in our high end citizen science lab.

Coldwater Streams

By Ashlee Widener, Water Resource Specialist, Butler County Soid & Water Conservation District

Tim Cassani saw this article, contacted Ashlee and got her permission for us to re-issue this in the BUFFER. Thank you to Tim and Ashlee.

During the winter months, water temperatures drop compared to their temperatures in the summer months. But what about streams that are cold year-round, and not just in the winter?

Coldwater streams are typically fed by groundwater or are high in elevation and remain cold all year, even during the summer. Coldwater streams typically hold a temperature of 20°C (68° F) or below in summer months. They support an assemblage of organisms not typically found in warmwater streams. In the summer months, high temperatures prohibit cold water species from inhabiting warmer streams. Coldwater streams also typically have more dissolved oxygen than warmwater streams, which can help support sensitive species. Healthy cold water streams will most likely also have a forested or vegetated riparian area, sequences of riffles, pools, and runs, and may be steeper in gradient than other streams. They typically also have excellent water quality.

In Ohio, cold water habitat is designated as either streams that support native cold water species or inland trout streams that support trout stocking and are managed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The majority of streams you encounter in Ohio and in Butler County are warm water habitat streams. However, the Mad River, Ohio's longest cold water stream is relatively close by, where it flows into the Great Miami River in Montgomery County.



Stream in Fairfield Township during winter.

Coldwater Habitat Fauna

Coldwater streams have different assemblages of species and support communities that you typically wouldn't see in warmwater habitat streams. Some cold water species can inhabit both warmwater and cold water habitat streams but may be more common in cold water streams. Coldwater species are better adapted to colder temperatures than they are to warmer temperatures and might not survive well in warmwater streams, particularly during the summer months. Some cold water fish species include redbreast dace, mottled sculpin, native brook trout, and brook stickleback. Streams, as previously mentioned, can also be managed and stocked with trout, such as the non-native brook trout, and be classified as cold water habitat.



Mottled sculpin found in Butler County.

Coldwater adapted macroinvertebrates include taxa within the mayfly, stonefly, caddisfly, dragonfly, beetle, aquatic fly family, and more. To be identified as a cold water taxon, most macroinvertebrates will have to be identified down to at least the genus level and sometimes the species level. This is a difficult task and is mostly tackled by Level 3 Qualified Data Collectors for macroinvertebrates in Ohio. You may also find cold water adapted vertebrates, like salamanders, in cold water habitat streams. These species are also adapted to perennial flow and are lungless, like the endangered cave salamander, long-tailed salamander, and northern and southern two-lined salamander.

Primary Headwater Habitat

Primary headwater (PHW) streams are streams that are characterized as having a watershed of less than 1 square mile and pool depths of below 40 cm (Ohio EPA) and may have varying flow patterns compared to larger streams. These characteristics make these streams habitable to biological communities not typical of larger streams.

Primary headwater streams can be broken down into three different classes; Class I, II, and III, all with different characteristics of flow patterns, temperature, and fauna. Class III PHW streams are influenced by groundwater and typically exhibit perennial flow, or flow year-round. Class III PHW streams can also be classified further based on the aquatic organism community. Class III PHW exhibit diverse communities of cold-water macroinvertebrate taxa and reproducing populations of specific cold water adapted salamanders. In contrast to Class I and II PHW streams, Class III streams support cold water adapted organisms like fish, macroinvertebrates, and salamanders.

Keeping these streams vegetated and undisturbed helps protect cold water and primary headwater habitat. Protecting these streams and headwater streams is extremely important for overall watershed health and to protect cold water adapted species.

Sources: Ohio EPA Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's Primary Headwater Habitat Streams.

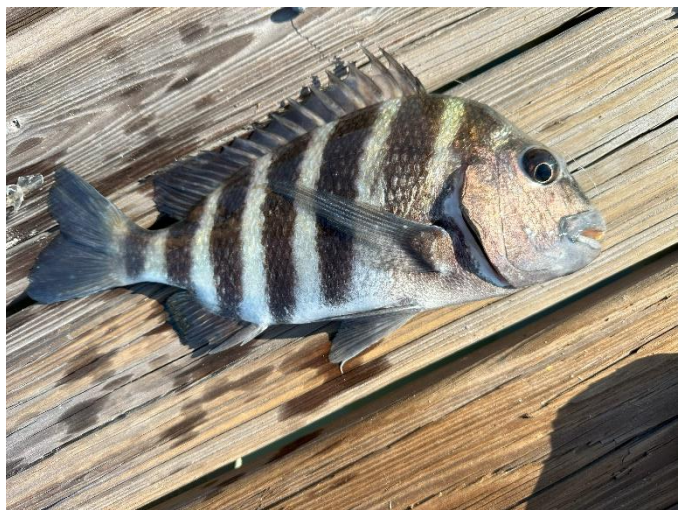
BUFF Members Getting Out to Fish

Florida Challenge

From Tom Britton

For the last 3 years, my wife and I have spent the month of January in Florida. We stay on Anna Maria Island, about an hour south of St. Petersburg. I'm not a saltwater expert by any stretch of the imagination, but I have managed to get a few snook on the fly in years past. It has been fun to read about techniques and time some flies to try while down there. Most of my information has come from a book by Norm Zeigler, "Snook On The Fly". Norm owned a fly shop on Sanibel Island. The book is in the BUFF library.

This year was particularly challenging. They had rain and cold (by Florida standards) since November which lowered water temperature and stained the water in many areas. I fished all the areas I've been successful in the past without so much as a nibble. There was rain, wind and cold for the first 2 weeks plus I was sick for several days. There was nobody fishing the piers which is something I had never seen.



Going into our 3rd week, the weather finally stabilized, and I fished in several canals that come off of Tampa Bay. The fishing was still extremely slow but I was able to fool a few small fish and a Sheepshead on a shrimp imitation. I also made several feathered friends on the canals. Once I caught a few fish I had Herons and Pelicans right next to me. Once in a while I threw a few fish their way.

I had caught very few fish going into the last week so out of frustration I committed the sin of using a hook and frozen shrimp on my fly rod and fishing one of the piers a couple days before leaving. I caught 15-20 Pinfish, fed some of my feathered friends and enjoyed a warm sunny day. I never did get a snook. I think it was just too cold.

Saltwater is certainly a different game from what we play here but the challenge of trying to figure it out is what makes the sport of fly fishing so great.

I used an 8-wt. rod with floating line and a large arbor reel. I have used 9' 20-lb leaders with 20-lb. tippet. In past years I've used up to 30-lb tippet because snook have snapped the 20-lb. I tied an assortment of flies in sizes 1 - 4 – Clousers, Lefty's Deceiver, EP fiber baitfish, shrimp imitations, and Norm's Crystal Schminnow.



Tom's well-fed friends

Fly Fishing Film Tour Coming to Cincinnati

Mark your calendars to hold the date – Sunday, April 21st.

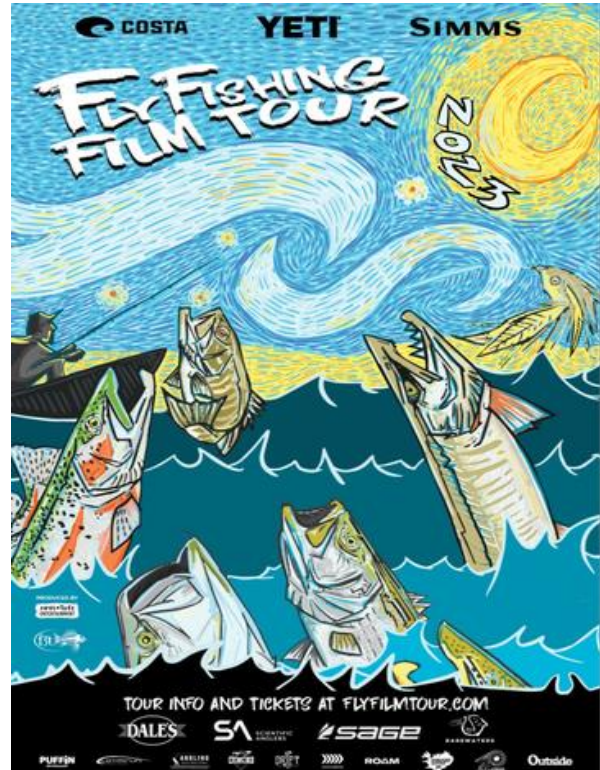
On that day, the 17th Fly Fishing Film Tour, (F3T) presented by Yeti, Cost, and Simms, will be in Cincinnati. The F3T is the original and largest fly fishing film event. The event is being hosted by Little Miami River Outfitters and will take place at the event center at the Little Miami Brewing Co., 208 Mill Street, Loveland, OH. Tickets are \$25.

The films include a series of short films from locations such as Cuba, Pantagonia, Mexico, Australia, Wyoming, Alaska and other great fishing locations in the US and elsewhere.

Tickets can be purchased on line at -

<https://flyfilmtour.myeventscenter.com/event/Milford-Oh-Little-Miami-River-Outfitters-89723>

Drake Perry, the owner of Little Miami River Outfitters, can be contacted for questions or more information - littlemiamiriveroutfitters@gmail.com



Upcoming BUFF Activities

In-person activities require registration (online on club Website)

<u>Trip/Activity & Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Fly Fishing 101 Springdale Community Ctr Springdale, OH	Mondays March 4 th , 11 th , 18 th , & 25 th 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Register on Website	Jim Vota
Intermediate Fly Tying Springdale Community Ctr Springdale, OH	Tuesdays March 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th , April 2 nd , & 9 th 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Sign up on Website	Jim Neckers

<u>Trip/Activity & Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Board of Directors Meeting Springdale Community Ctr Springdale, OH	Wednesday, March 13 th 6:30 – 8:00 PM	Hugh O'Donnell
Monthly Tie & Lie Virtual – Zoom Mtg	Friday, March 15 th 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM <i>See Website for Link</i>	Gary Begley
BUFF Banquet Oasis Conference Center Loveland, OH	Wednesday, March 20th 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM Register on Website	Bob Cregge
East Fork Whitewater River Cleanup Liberty, IN	Saturday, March 23 rd	Tom Britton

Directions to Oasis -

Take I-275 and exit at Wards Corner Road (Exit 54). Make the first right onto Loveland-Miamiville Road and follow this. The Oasis golf course will be on your left. At the Paxton Guinea Road crossing, turn left. The clubhouse/conference center and parking lot for the Oasis facility are on the left.

