



# The *BUFFER*

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The Newsletter of Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Inc., Cincinnati, OH  
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## Notes from the President

Jim Vota – [vota@zoomtown.com](mailto:vota@zoomtown.com)

It's only one month since the last Buffer. The local water scene seems to have calmed down over the last couple of weeks. Friday I was thinking that the headwaters at Caesar Creek would be down to a really wadable level for musky. The dam suddenly switched into low gear on Friday and dropped the discharge rate. Sure enough when I looked at the Ohio River level it was heading back up to 50 feet. Coincidentally, East Fork and Caesar Creek decreased discharge at the same time. Is it a conspiracy? No, it's just how the system works.

The point here is even though things are looking up a bit, keep an eye on the discharge and flows for the local water before you head out to fish. Use the USGS site and learn how to interpret it (<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/rt>). Learn about the acceptable flows for the Little Miami. Some people might venture into the water when it gets below 1000 CFS at Milford. Personally, I feel safe around 600 CFS. Learn what's comfortable for you to feel safe. Be safe. It's still early and there's a lot of time left in the year to fish.

I'd like to make sure that we welcome the new club members this year. Some of them are new to fly fishing, and could use help getting started. Equipment setup, flies to use, where to fish, even personal instruction will go a long way to help the new member feel welcome and comfortable. Please extend a hand to new fly fishers. Likewise, new members should not be bashful to ask for help. Every member no matter how long they've been tackling this sport know what it feels like when you start. I wish I'd had a club like this to get help from when I tried it 38 years ago. I might have been fly fishing all of that time. So, newbies, ask for help. No question is too silly.

One more item that just came up. Debbie Hampton runs the Ohio Casting for Recovery camp which is held in September. I believe that the next Tie & Lie (Friday, May 18) will be tying flies for this program. If you would like to help out come on out and tie some flies with Gary Begley and the crew. It's always a fun time and a way to get to know other club members.

Until next time,

Jim Vota

# May Meeting

## Speaker: Ted Nicholson, Shop Manager and Head Guide at Delamere & Hopkins. The title of Ted's presentation is, "Targeting Trophy Smallmouth Locally"

Mike Rubush – [tenkaraguy1@yahoo.com](mailto:tenkaraguy1@yahoo.com)

### Ted's Bio –

I was born and raised here in Cincinnati, and grew up spin fishing the Little Miami with my Dad. It wasn't till I went to college in Grand Rapids Michigan that my obsession with fly fishing began. Since that day I have not touched a spinning rod. I moved back to Cincinnati in 2014. Shortly after returning to Cincinnati I got a job at D&H in order to further my pursuit of my passion. I am the Store Manager and Guide/Instructor for the shop. Locally, my favorite fish to target is Smallmouth Bass. They fight like heck and their aggressive nature make them a very fun species to target with a fly rod. Getting into numbers and not size is a fairly easy task with these fish. But, what keeps me coming back to the river is the pursuit of trophy smallmouth (20inch). I love guiding for the shop because I feel like our local waters are severely underrated. I love showing off our awesome smallmouth fishing locally! When I am not fishing locally I have saltwater on the mind, hosting trips down to The Bahamas and Belize and other saltwater destinations is another aspect of the sport I have a strong interest in. The challenge and skill required for saltwater fly fishing will always keep pushing me as an angler.

### Ted's Presentation –

Ted's talk will focus on local tactics for chasing and catching some of our local Bronzebacks. He will discuss fly rod selection, different fly line options and when to use them. He will be sharing and discussing leader construction and some of his favorite flies. He will talk about good presentation techniques to trigger a strike. Other highlight areas will be on proper fish handling techniques, reading the water "What to look for on the river" and the seasons of the river.



Spring is here, you won't want to miss this one, whether you are new to warm water fishing or not.

## Dinner Menu for the May Meeting:

Loaded Potato Salad  
Italian Pasta Salad  
Grilled Hamburgers  
Grilled Chicken  
Cheddar Macaroni and Cheese  
Baked Beans  
Chips

## Dessert

Cookies

## Early Look at the June Meeting

Phil Pursley – [phil.pursley@hotmail.com](mailto:phil.pursley@hotmail.com)

Before your summer calendar fills, save the evening of June 13 for our BUFF meeting. Our monthly meeting will feature Derrick Filkins from the **Fly Masters** shop out of Indianapolis, Indiana. He will cover topics like “Using Soft Plastics on a Fly Rod” and “Using Spinner Baits on a Fly Rod”. Derrick will be addressing topics that we can use with our fishing in the tristate area where we live. The title of his talk is “No Boundaries Fishing”.

Derrick regularly reserves a spot at our annual fly show. Please set aside time to show him that we appreciate his support for our club by attending the June 13 meeting. Look for a more detailed write up in Next month’s **BUFFER**.

## Warm Water Fishing Clinic – A New and Exciting Learning Opportunity

Tim Williamson, our Education Director, has organized a new class for BUFF members, a Warm Water (Pond) Clinic. The clinic will be taught by Matt Parker from Sugar Creek Outfitters ([www.ReelFlyRod.com](http://www.ReelFlyRod.com)). Parker is a superb local fly fisherman, guide and an excellent teacher. Matt will likely be assisted by at least one his professional staff from the fly shop, and there will



be BUFF volunteers to help also. Tim's arrangement is to have at least 1 professional guide/teacher for every 10 students.

Current discussions between Tim and Parker on techniques to be covered include:

- How to use a waking fly
- How to use a popper
- How to make your fly swim smoothly (not the use of our typical strip/pause technique)
- How to hop you fly on the bottom
- Traditional streamer stripping techniques

Tim has arranged for two sessions. *Registration is on the BUFF website.* The first date is Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup>, and the class will be repeated on Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup>. Time for either class is 10 AM – 2 PM. Enrollment is limited to 20 students per class. Cost is \$25 (check made payable to BUFF) for a given 4-hr class; all flies used in the class will be provided. Tim asks that students who enroll have the ability to cast a popper fly in the range of 25 – 30 feet, and he will work with any individual who feels they may need prior instruction regarding casting techniques to achieve this. Personally, I can vouch for this last point, as I am setting up a separate time with Tim to work on this prior to taking Parker's class.

The class location is Triple Creek Park, which is conveniently located near the Hamilton Avenue exit from I-275. The park is just west of Hamilton Avenue (off of Pippin Road) and north of I-275. The park has a very nice pond, with excellent shore access to allow casting without major concern of interfering trees and shrubs. There is ample parking adjacent to the pond. Triple Creek is a Hamilton County park, so a parking permit is required. The parking permit allows annual use at all Hamilton County parks; cost is \$10 for Hamilton County residents and \$14 for non-residents. If you do not have a permit, you can purchase one at the park's snack bar which is adjacent to the parking area. Check out the Hamilton County Parks website for more information and a map showing the park location ([www.greatparks.org](http://www.greatparks.org)).

Go to the BUFF website to register for this exciting learning opportunity, or contact Tim for more information ([willitk@yahoo.com](mailto:willitk@yahoo.com)). At time of writing this, there were still a few openings for the May session and more for the June class.

You should also check out Parker's shop a [www.relflyrod.com](http://www.relflyrod.com). It is an excellent shop.

## **Women's Spring Trip to Clear Fork/Mohican State Park, March 2018**

Cari Vota – [vota@zoomtown.com](mailto:vota@zoomtown.com)

According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, since 1992, about 10,000 fingerling brown trout are stocked in the Clear Fork River every year. The river is stocked in October and averages 6 to 8



inches of brown trout fingerlings. Hiking trails lead up and down the north side of the stream, making most pools available to fishers willing to hike.

This was our 1<sup>st</sup> women's trip to the Clear Fork. Mohican State Park is nestled half way between Cleveland and Columbus. It is a 3 hour drive from Cincinnati or about 1 to 1.5 hours from Columbus or Cleveland. It was an easy drive after work. Attending were BUFF members Haruko Mizoguchi, Kathy Newsom, Lane Stocker, and Cari Vota from Cincinnati, and Annie Potter from Cleveland. Also staying with us was COFF-member Elisa Nicolas from Columbus. Joining us for the day on Friday were April Tang from Cleveland, and TU Madmen-members Theresa Fauver and Pam Allen, both from the Columbus area. They had both fished here before. April enjoyed it so much, she drove back down on Saturday too. Our beautiful, fully furnished cabin slept 6, had Sat-TV, gas fireplace and very little cell service, and was located right on the river.

*Heaven seems a little closer in a house beside the water. -- Unknown*

It rained most of the week leading up to our trip. Even with the rain, the water below the dam was surprisingly clear. On Friday, before the water came up 6" during the day, several of us caught trout. The high, quick water led to mostly streamer fishing. One of the trout was caught on a traditional streamer – a Mickey Finn. We met at the park at the Covered Bridge for lunch each day so we could see how the others had done, and decide where to fish next.



On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, the water was still high and very fast. We tried to stick to the 3 foot rule – wading no more than 3 feet out from bank or only 3 feet deep. Most of us fished from the bank. All the trout survived our hooks by not getting caught. The local hatch chart mentioned the Black Caddis should be hatching starting March 31<sup>st</sup>. Right on queue, several were seen on Saturday.



This feels like the start of a new annual women's event – next year pencil in the last weekend of April. I'm hoping we can fill 2 cabins with fly fishers from all over the state



## Kids Fishing at Parky's Farm - 2018

Ed Jones – [jonesee@miamioh.edu](mailto:jonesee@miamioh.edu)

BUFF activities at Parky's Farm will resume each Friday in May and continue for seven Fridays in June, July, and August. Reports suggest the bass have grown significantly and the bluegill fishing is always fun. If you have never participated, the main Friday activity is helping kids catch what is usually their first fish. Sometimes family groups or adults learning to fish join in on the fun. We use specially rigged crappie rods and barbless hooks baited with little pieces of treated hot dog or night crawlers. After each successful netting, we quickly release the critters to live and be caught again. It's a lot of fun to witness the excitement most of the kids and their parents experience.

Starting times will be 10 AM in May and 9 AM in June, July, and August. May activities typically end around 1 or 2 PM. Later months end about noon. We are allowed to come early for some quiet catch and release fly action and continue that after the kids leave. The schedule with specific times for each date may be found on the BUFF website calendar, so mark your calendar and plan to be there. Let me know if you would like regular Parky's updates and scheduling reminders ([jonesee@miamioh.edu](mailto:jonesee@miamioh.edu), 513-523-6523). Getting it on your calendar now might save you the agony of cleaning the basement or attending your 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin's 3<sup>rd</sup> wedding ("Sorry, Honey, but I already have an important commitment that day!"). Directions may be found on the BUFF website under Community/Parky's Farm.



## Use the BUFF Forum!

We encourage use of the BUFF Forum on our website. It allows one to post messages and ask questions related to fly fishing, and for others with answers to reply in an open access venue. It can be a great means to ask questions and learn about many activities related to fly fishing. Posting to this site is not limited to members only, so others, and hopefully prospective future club members, can use this as well.

In using this site however, it is important that we abide by a few rules. Importantly, the Buckeye United Fly Fishers Forum is maintained for the benefit of current and prospective members. Uses, as stated on the site page include seeking fishing advice, selling or trading equipment, arranging day trips, asking other questions, and sharing fly fishing information.

The link to the Forum is on the right side of the menu bar on the BUFF home page.

## Wear Your Life Jacket

Cari Vota – [vota@zoomtown.com](mailto:vota@zoomtown.com)

You've thought about getting a fishing kayak, or maybe using that canoe that's been behind the garage for years, to do a little fly fishing. Like in all types of fishing and fishing gear, think Safety First. Knowing the facts about the different types of life jackets or PFDs (Personal Flotation Device) can help you decide which are appropriate for you and most comfortable to wear. ODNR strongly encourages all boaters to wear life jackets.

In Ohio, like all other states, no person shall operate any watercraft less than 16 feet in length and **canoes or kayaks of any length** without one Type I, II or III wearable PFD per person. A Type V PFD may be carried in place of a Type I, II, or III wearable PFD provided the approval label indicates that the device is approved for the activity or that it can be a substitute for the other types of PFDs. The inshore Coastal Series inflatables (Type V) are only legal when worn. If an inflatable is that light and comfortable, why would you not wear it? More information on the specifics of the different types of PFDs can be easily found on the ONDR website (<http://watercraft.ohiodnr.gov/lifejackets>).

If you are taking others out fishing with you, each PFD must be the appropriate size for the person who wears it. Therefore, if your fishing buddies vary in size, you may need a couple sizes on hand to choose from for the trip. Size and weight ranges are listed on the labels.

The law says your life jacket must be readily accessible. That means having it where you can reach out and grab it in an emergency. Don't store life jackets in the plastic bag they came in; don't put them in a closed compartment; and don't pile fishing or other gear on top of them when fishing or boating. Keep your life jacket handy at all times.

An even better idea is to wear a life jacket whenever you are on the water. In an accident, you might not have the time to put on your PFD. If you end up in the water, putting on a life jacket can be a real struggle.

## Upcoming BUFF Activities

Please check the [BUFF Website](#) for availability and details, or contact the trip or activity coordinator

<u>Trip/Activity &amp; Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
White Bass Fishing for New Members Whitewater River, IN	May 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Rain Date)	Bob Gustafson 513-683-0286 <a href="mailto:j.r.gustafson@att.net">j.r.gustafson@att.net</a>
Sunnybrook Trout Club Sandusky, OH	May 4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup>	Ken Dixon 513-787-2408 <a href="mailto:krjdix@fuse.net">krjdix@fuse.net</a>
Fishing With Kids Parky's Farm	May 4 <sup>th</sup> 10 AM – 2 PM	Ed Jones 513-523-6523 <a href="mailto:jonesee@miamioh.edu">jonesee@miamioh.edu</a>
Indian Hill HS Casting & Tying	May 9 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Bachey 513-543-4056 <a href="mailto:h2oguy@fuse.net">h2oguy@fuse.net</a>
Fishing With Kids Parky's Farm	May 11 <sup>th</sup> 10 AM – 2 PM	Ed Jones 513-523-6523 <a href="mailto:jonesee@miamioh.edu">jonesee@miamioh.edu</a>
Women's Daytrip to Brookville Tailwaters Brookville, IN	May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Cari Vota 513-476-7112 <a href="mailto:vota@zoomtown.com">vota@zoomtown.com</a>
Stream Quality Monitoring LMR, Bass Island	May 12 <sup>th</sup> (Rain Date: May 19 <sup>th</sup> )	Bryan Tudor 513-827-5437 <a href="mailto:bryan.tudor@yahoo.com">bryan.tudor@yahoo.com</a>
Stream Quality Monitoring Caesar's Creek	May 12 <sup>th</sup> (Rain Date: May 19 <sup>th</sup> )	Bryan Tudor 513-827-5437 <a href="mailto:bryan.tudor@yahoo.com">bryan.tudor@yahoo.com</a>

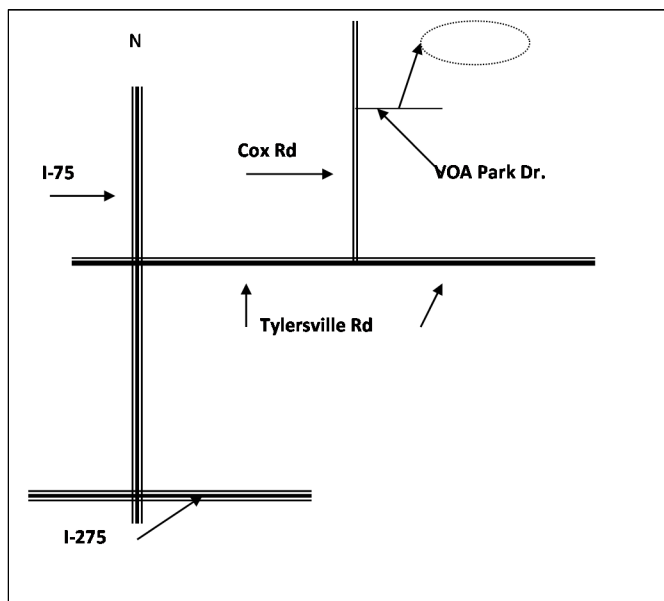


<u>Trip/Activity &amp; Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Spring NC Trout Quest, Bryson City, NC	May 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Redmond & Jim Neckers <a href="mailto:redmond.michael.l@gmail.com">redmond.michael.l@gmail.com</a> 937-554-2371 <a href="mailto:jimneckers@gmail.com">jimneckers@gmail.com</a> 513-254-7901
Women's After-Work Outing Heritage Park, GMR	May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Cari Vota 513-476-7112 <a href="mailto:vota@zoomtown.com">vota@zoomtown.com</a>
Fishing With Kids Parky's Farm	May 18 <sup>th</sup> 10 AM – 2 PM	Ed Jones 513-523-6523 <a href="mailto:jonesee@miamioh.edu">jonesee@miamioh.edu</a>
Tie & Lie Springdale Community Ctr, Springdale, OH	May 18 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM	Gary Begley 513-932-4205 <a href="mailto:loopdude1@hotmail.com">loopdude1@hotmail.com</a>
May Twin Creek Day Trips, Germantown, OH	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , or May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Alexander 513-422-6906 <a href="mailto:spa5455@sbcglobal.net">spa5455@sbcglobal.net</a>
Fishing With Kids Parky's Farm	May 25 <sup>th</sup> 10 AM – 2 PM	Ed Jones 513-523-6523 <a href="mailto:jonesee@miamioh.edu">jonesee@miamioh.edu</a>
Warm Water (Pond) Clinic Triple Creek Park, Cincinnati, OH	May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Williamson 513-255-6986 <a href="mailto:willitk@yahoo.com">willitk@yahoo.com</a>
Fishing With Families Parky's Farm	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 9 AM – 12 PM	Ed Jones 513-523-6523 <a href="mailto:jonesee@miamioh.edu">jonesee@miamioh.edu</a>
Tie & Lie Springdale Community Ctr, Springdale, OH	June 15 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM	Gary Begley 513-932-4205 <a href="mailto:loopdude1@hotmail.com">loopdude1@hotmail.com</a>
Warm Water (Pond) Clinic Triple Creek Park, Cincinnati, OH	June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Williamson 513-255-6986 <a href="mailto:willitk@yahoo.com">willitk@yahoo.com</a>
June Twin Creek Day Trips Germantown, OH	June 19 <sup>th</sup> , or June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Alexander 513-422-6906 <a href="mailto:spa5455@sbcglobal.net">spa5455@sbcglobal.net</a>

<u>Trip/Activity &amp; Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Women's After Work Outing Carl Rahe Park	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Cari Vota 513-476-7112 <a href="mailto:vota@zoomtown.com">vota@zoomtown.com</a>
Women's Daytrip – Caesar Creek Tailwaters Waynesville, OH	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Cari Vota 513-476-7112 <a href="mailto:vota@zoomtown.com">vota@zoomtown.com</a>
Sunnybrook Trout Club Sandusky, OH	June 26 <sup>th</sup> – June 28 <sup>th</sup>	Ken Dixon 513-787-2408 <a href="mailto:krjdix@fuse.net">krjdix@fuse.net</a>

## Next Monthly Meeting – Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Register on line at [WWW.BUCKEYEFLYFISHERS.COM](http://WWW.BUCKEYEFLYFISHERS.COM). Registration ends on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Please register whether you plan to eat dinner with us (\$15/person) or not.



### Directions:

**From I-75 --** Follow 1-75 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.