



# The *BUFFER*

---

---

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

Volume 45, Issue 11

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

November 1, 2021

---

---

## The President's Fly Box

Membership has steadily increased this year after our Covid membership drop. This is a great trend for fly fishing and the health of BUFF. We find that some 'new' members are old members that have rejoined. In other cases, the newly retired have joined and they are looking forward to the challenge and relaxation of fly fishing. Then there are those younger fishers who see fly fishing as a fun and a socially distant sport. In any case, we are happy to have a healthy membership that renews itself.

For me, fly fishing encompasses many things: challenges, relaxation, education, the great outdoors, and social (sharing time with other like-minded people). Nine years ago, I was casting tailing loops, replacing tangled tippet, and retying the tiniest of flies with no magnifying glasses (ugh). Friends who introduced me to the sport and eventually BUFF enabled me to advance and enjoy the sport. I encourage everyone to get involved to get the most out of the sport and to develop new friendships.

A larger fly fishing organization is Fly Fishers International (FFI). FFI is an organization that promotes fly fishing of all fish in all waters. This organization typically has a yearly in-person expo. This year, they are hosting a virtual expo that will have many educational opportunities for fly casting, tying, and fishing. There is a nominal cost for these activities, but it is a good opportunity to learn from the comfort of your home.

Trips with BUFF are always a great time. A BUFF group recently returned from the annual North Carolina Trout Trip. This trip to the Smoky Mountains is an opportunity to develop skills, share experiences, and enjoy the time together. I encourage all to get involved with our many activities to grow all aspects of your sport and to meet new people in the club. Check the "BUFF Calendar" on the main page of our website for our remaining 2021 activities and watch for upcoming 2022 activities.

Our Wednesday night membership programs are moving to in-person presentations at the Oasis. We will continue to host dual venue meetings: in-person and virtual via Zoom. I encourage people to come out and meet out in-person speakers, but for those who can't make it please join in via Zoom.

In our last membership meeting, we were very fortunate to hear from George Daniel, George is a former Team USA competitive fly fisherman and currently the Lead Fly Fishing Instructor at Penn State University. He follows a long list of fly fishing greats. We are also fortunate that George will be the keynote speaker at our February Fly Fishing Show. George's approach to fly fishing is captured in his quote:

*“The hallmark of a successful fly fisher is the ability to adjust to a dynamic environment - just as with success in one's personal and professional life,”*

George's involvement in the show will be a great opportunity for us to learn techniques, approaches, and philosophy of fly fishing.

Hugh O'Donnell.

*P.S. A piece of trivia is that [PENN STATE](#) was the first university to create a fly fishing program.*

## **BUFF November Meeting – Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**

The November meeting will be both an in-person meeting at the Oasis Conference center and also available through Zoom. The in-person meeting will start at 6 PM with a social hour and cash bar. Dinner will be served at 6:45, the meeting called to order at about 7:30 and the program presentation will start at 8 PM.

**Registration deadline for the in-person meeting is Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Dinner cost is \$20.**

***Check out the menu below – a preview for the Thanksgiving Holiday!***

## **November Speaker – Randy Evans, Executive Director, Three Valley Conservation Trust - “Conserving Private Land for Public Resources Protection”**

### **In-Person Presentation!**

Randy Evans is a retired U. S. Coast Guard Master Chief with 26 years of experience enforcing international and domestic commercial fisheries regulations, and marine environmental protection/pollution response. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Michigan State University. In addition, he had a Bachelor of Integrative Studies with concentrations in Environmental Studies and Geographic Information Science and a MA in Conservation Biology, both from Miami University of Ohio. His graduate degree research focused on habitat restoration, endangered species reintroduction, and community driven conservation, and took him to Belize, Mongolia, and Hawaii.



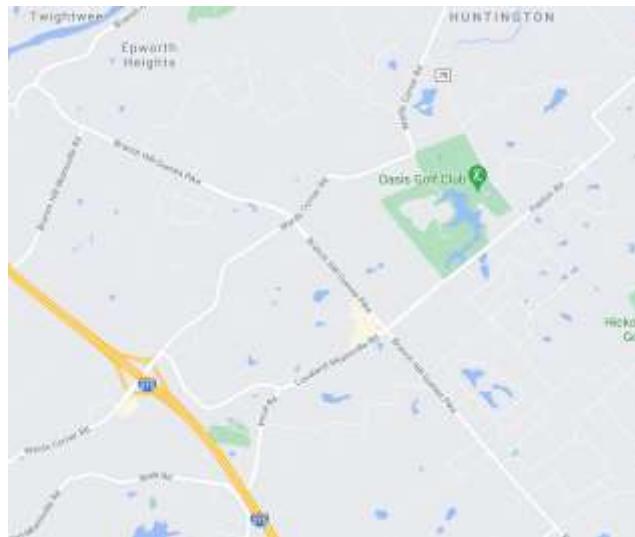
Randy is the Executive Director of Three Valley Conservation Trust. The focus of this organization is to conserve natural habitats, waterways, and agricultural lands in southwest Ohio for future generations. He leads a staff of 4 professional conservationists who conduct ecological monitoring and habitat restoration projects on 226 conserved properties covering over 24,000 acres. At present, the Three Valley staff are working on several projects to eradicate invasive species, improve stream water quality, restore wetlands, and increase soil carbon sequestration on working agricultural lands in SW Ohio. Three Valley collaborates with many local, state, and federal conservation entities to leverage funding and technical guidance. These partnerships strengthen their efforts and ensure the durability of the

projects. Three Valley also owns two properties in Butler County, which often host scientific research projects and student or community volunteer projects.

In his free time, Randy enjoys traveling with family and friends to explore new cultures, visit historical sites or natural wonders, and experience new cuisine.

### **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.



- **Registration is required for the in-person meeting, with sign-up for the meetings and dinner on the BUFF Website. Registration deadline for the in-person meeting at Oasis is Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.**
- **No registration required to attend the meeting via Zoom. The Zoom link will be posted on the on the BUFF website on the calendar and 'monthly meeting registration' pages.**

### **November Dinner Menu –**

- House Salad with dressings
- Roast Turkey with Stuffing
- Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
- Green Bean Casserole
- Dinner Rolls
- Chef's Choice Dessert
- Coffee and Tea

## New Club Members!

By Harry Pass, BUFF Membership Director

During the past month we've added 1 new member – **Dave Kessler**, Loveland, 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!

## Congratulations to Jim & Cari Vota

*Extending congratulations to the Votas is becoming a routine, so c'mon, someone else in the club do something!!!!*

In September we congratulated Jim for attaining his FFI Certification as a casting instructor. This month, we congratulate both Jim and Cari for being selected as the October "Anglers of the Month" on the ReelFlyRod.com blog site. The blog site is named 'The Drift' and it is on the ReelFlyRod.com website. For any who are not aware, ReelFlyRod is a local area fly shop located in the Dayton area.

The article on Jim and Cari includes an interview with them and is a nice summary of their background and interests in fly fishing. The article also gives a very nice plug for our club as well! There are several nice photos of Jim and Cari as well, including several from their recent muskie trip with Dustin Harley – we put those in last month's BUFFER! The one below is from their fishing trip a few years back in Scotland.



You can check out the full article on the ReelFlyRod.com website – [www.reelflyrod.com](http://www.reelflyrod.com) When you open the website, click on 'The Drift' icon (black bar on the top of the home page). It will take you to the blog page and you can see their article there.

*Also of interest* – ReelFlyRod.com is currently building out their website to include tying materials. The shop carries a wide range of materials, but these are not currently on the website. They encourage contacting them for needed tying supplies – phone or e-mail – which they can provide. For those of us in the area, it is a short drive to visit the new showroom, and it is worth the drive!

## Update for the 2022 Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show

The Cincinnati Fly Show team continues working on the 2022 show. The date is Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Presenters and presentation topics are being confirmed so we can publish show announcements and brochures by mid-November. George Daniel, who was our presenter at the October BUFF meeting is confirmed as our headliner. He will give two presentations at the show, and conduct fly-tying workshops on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, the day prior to the show. More information on the workshops will be coming soon.

In addition to George, we will have presentations by other world-class anglers, including Dustin Harley, Katie Johnstone, Canoe Kentucky, and others. There will be casting and fly-tying demonstrations, with one of the tying demonstrations led by Son Tao. For those who have not heard of him, he is one of the best tyers around! The show team has started booking exhibitors, and many of our regular participants are eager to come back for the 2022 show.



As in past years, Jerry Snider has generously contributed another of his hand-crafted bamboo rods as the main raffle item for the show. We have the rod in hand, and, as we have done in the past, started to sell raffle tickets at the October BUFF meeting. Sale of raffle tickets will continue at club meetings through January, and remaining tickets will be sold on the day of the show. Tickets are \$20 each, and only 120 will be sold. The second raffle item will be a Euro nymphing rod set (rod, reel & line). We hope to have this on-hand for the November meeting. If we do, we will initiate sales of tickets for this

raffle item as well; \$10 a ticket with only 100 to be sold.

Remember to mark your calendars for the show date – February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and watch for announcements on the website and in the BUFFER for the fly tying workshops to be offered by George Daniel.

## Ohio DNR Recognizes BUFF for Conservation Efforts

The fall edition of the Ohio DNR's magazine, Wild Ohio, lists our club as recognition for our activities related to conservation. Tom Britton is the BUFF Director for conservation, and this is a nice notice of the activities that he has been leading.



**ADAMS & BROWN COUNTY**  
**Adams-Brown Quail Forever**  
 facebook: Adams Brown Chapter of Quail Forever

**ATHENS COUNTY**  
**Athens Fish & Game Club**  
 website: athensfishandgame.org

**BUTLER COUNTY**  
**Butler County Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever**  
 facebook: Butler County Pheasants Forever

**Butler County Sportsmen Rifle and Pistol Club**  
 website: butlercountysportsmen.com

**Izaak Walton League of America, Hamilton Chapter**  
 website: sites.google.com/site/hamiltonchapter

**Middletown Sportsmen's Club**  
 website: middletownsportsmensclub.com

**CLERMONT COUNTY**  
**River Valley Longbeards**  
 website: rivervalleylongbeards.com

**COSHOCTON COUNTY**  
**Coshocton County Sportsman's Association**  
 facebook: CoshoctonSportsmans

**GALLIA COUNTY**  
**Gallia County Conservation Club**  
 facebook: GalliaConClub

**DEERSSIC COUNTY**  
**Deerassic Park Education Center**  
 website: deerassicclassic.com

**Guernsey County Sportsmen for Conservation**  
 website: sportsmenforconservationguernseycountyohio.com

**HAMILTON COUNTY**  
**Buckeye United Fly Fishers**  
 website: buckeyeflyfishers.com

**Ruffed Grouse Society, Robert R. Symons Chapter**  
 website: ruffedgrousesociety.org

**HOCKING COUNTY**  
**Hocking County Fish and Game Association**  
 website: hcfishandgame.com

**LAWRENCE COUNTY**  
**NWTF South Hills Longbeards Chapter**  
 website: southhillslongbeards.org

**MEigs COUNTY**  
**Active Conservationists Teamed Together**  
 facebook: Meigs County ACTT

**MORRIS COUNTY**  
**Broken Timber Outdoor Education Center**  
 website: brokentimberoecdc.com

**ROSS COUNTY**  
**Ross County Conservation League**  
 website: rosscdl.com

**TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**  
**Tusco Rifle Club**  
 website: tuscorifle.org



Access **your account**, manage licenses, view interactive maps, review your harvest information, and so much more with our free app, **HUNT FISH OH**. Go online to the **Apple Store** or **Google Play** to download the free app on your smart phone or tablet device.

## FFI Virtual Fly Fishing Expo – November 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

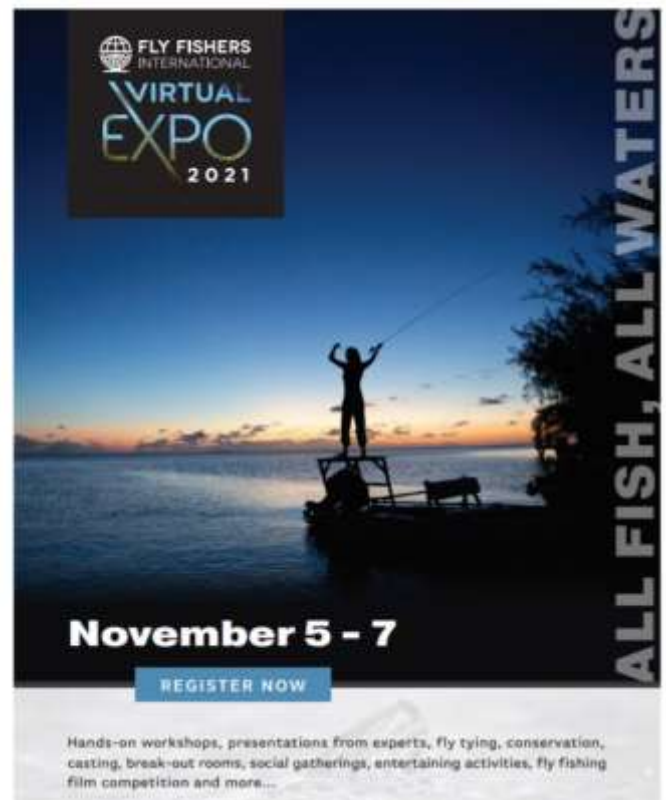
Fly Fishers International's virtual flyfishing expo will kick off in less than a week, and there are still many opportunities to enroll and attend presentation and sessions. Participation requires registration. Registration is limited to 1500 participants, and at present there are still slots available. Cost is \$25 for FFI members, and \$60 for non-members, which includes a 1-year FFI membership (\$35 cost). While some presentations require additional charges to attend, over 100 sessions, including a range of workshops, demonstrations, and presentations, are available at no extra charge beyond the registration fee.

### Highlights of the Expo:

- Classes and workshops presented by renowned anglers, tyers, and casters
- Compelling and important conservation workshops
- Fly tying demonstrations by some of the world's best tyers
- An online auction culminating in a virtual live auction on November 6<sup>th</sup>

Information on the Expo, availability of sessions and registration instructions are on the FFI Expo Website at: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Virtual-Expo>

If you have not registered, please check out the FFI website and if interested, register and participate.



## Fall Trip to Linville North Carolina with Troutfitters Guides

By Ken Foltz

The fall morning was cool and crisp in the highlands of North Carolina as we pulled away from our cabin in Banner Elk and headed for Linville to meet up with our guides at Mountain Troutfitters. "Foltz Boys Fly Fishing" was finally getting some time in the water after a year layoff due to the pandemic. Our annual outing usually consists of me, my adult (?) son and 2 to 6 adult (?) nephews from Virginia, Missouri, Arkansas, and northern Ohio. This year we had 6 anglers and 2 stragglers.

We arrived at the outfitters and met Cade Buchanan, the owner, and our 3 guides – Hayden, Jeff, and Maverick. With various combinations of our gear and theirs, we loaded up and headed for their private stretch of the Linville River. This is narrow section of water with many deep pools and riffles filled with stockers and hold-over rainbows and browns. We split into groups of 2 anglers per guide each group fishing different sections of the water. It didn't take long for the hungry trout to hit our nymphs, midges, and "pellet flies". At one point I had both a huge brown on the dropper and a nice rainbow on the top nymph – quite a fight trying to get them into the net. The brown made an "early release", so I only netted the rainbow, which was 16" long! Later I landed a nice 20" rainbow and many other rainbows and browns on our half-day outing.

Everyone caught fish with 1 nephew netting a 27" brown. The following day we waded some local waters, but we were a couple weeks ahead of the stocking trucks and didn't have much success. My only regret is that we only booked a half day on the Linville with the guide service. Our next trip will be a full day! From our experience, I highly recommend Mountain Troutfitters when you're looking for a guide in this area of North Carolina. They are BUFF supporters and attend our fly show each year. Thanks again to Cade and his guides.



Ken, grand-nephew Joel, and nephew Doug on the Linville River

Note – the website for Mountain Troutfitters is: <http://mountaintroutfitters.com>. There is information on their guide services, guide trip rates, lodging accommodations, and how to contact them (phone # and e-mail) on the site.

## Ohio Muskie Fishing Flourishing with ODNR Stocking Efforts

From Tom Bachev & Ken Mandel

The muskellunge, or muskie, is a large top aquatic predatory game fish, native to Ohio. Muskies can grow to very large size in Ohio's inland lakes, reaching 50 inches in length and weighing 40 pounds.



Adult muskies are long and slender with a large duck-bill shaped mouth and large sharp teeth. The Ohio state record muskie, caught at Piedmont Lake in 1972, weighed 55.13 pounds and was 50 ½ inches long. Muskies were once plentiful in the bays and tributaries off Lake Erie and in many streams in the Ohio River drainage. Even in the early 1900's, they remained an economically important commercial fish. However, after 1930 their populations declined dramatically due to the impact of urbanization, draining marsh lands along Lake Erie, damming streams and rivers which prevents migration to spawning areas and other factors. Today the muskie population in Ohio is maintained through Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) fish hatchery efforts and stocking. Stocking occurs in the fall when 8 - 12" immature fish are released. Stocking larger fish has increased their survivability and hence, greatly improved muskie fishing in the state. Over 20,000 muskies are stocked annually and reach mature sizes in about 3 years.

Currently, the ODNR stocks muskie into 9 lakes in Ohio –

- Alum Creek Lake (Delaware County)
- Caesar Creek Lake (Clinton, Greene & Warren counties)
- Clear Fork Reservoir (Morrow & Richmond counties)
- C.J. Brown Reservoir (Clark County)
- Lake Milton (Mahoning County)
- Leesville Lake (Carroll County)
- Piedmont Lake (Belmont & Harrison counties)
- Salt Fork Reservoir (Guernsey County)
- West Branch Reservoir (Portage County)

In addition, Pymatuning Lake (Ashtabula County and on the Pennsylvania border) has muskie stocked by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

More information on Ohio muskie fishing, including tips on angling techniques can be found at the ONDR link below. Also, Jim & Cari Vota from our club are avid muskie anglers and would be a good resource for information as well.

[https://apps.ohiodnr.gov/wildlife/dow/regulations/PDF/Muskellunge%20Fishing%20in%20Ohio\\_07.pdf](https://apps.ohiodnr.gov/wildlife/dow/regulations/PDF/Muskellunge%20Fishing%20in%20Ohio_07.pdf)

## Angling Videos and Info to Check Out

This month we've had input on some interesting and hopefully useful videos and blog pages.

### Indicator Dropper Fishing

A new video on the Orvis Learning Center website, features Tom Rosenbauer discussing and providing pointers on how to fish an indicator-dropper rigs. While a long video – over 50 minutes – it has lots of information that I well presented, as Tom always does. Tom starts out discussing different types of commercial indicators and ones he personally likes and dislikes, and reasons why. He moves on to a dry-

fly dropper setup, where the dry fly acts as an indicator. The presentation discusses positioning the indicator to the dropper depending on water conditions, and how to know when the dropper is correctly positioned to be on or near the bottom. For example, in faster water one should position the indicator about 1 ½ - 2 times the depth. This is because the dropper will generally drag behind the indicator in the current, so you need the additional leader/tippet length to get it down toward the bottom. In slower water, where the dropper will position more-or-less below the indicator, setting it at the water depth is probably appropriate. In either case having a dropper that you can move up or



down on the leader is highly recommended. Size of the dropper fly is also a discussed. Water depth and current speed are factors here as well. However, what the fish are 'eating' is the key. If they are taking tiny midges, even in deep water with a fast current, that is what you'll need. One of Tom's best comments is that 'there are no hard and fast rules when fly fishing'. How true! The last several minutes of the video is done with Paul Kutzer, an Orvis casting instructor and he talks about techniques for casting with indicators and dropper set ups. Overall, though a long session, it is very instructional and as usual with Tom's videos, very well done and presented. The link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydqNoZCasT0>

## Putting Your Rod Tip in the Water Can Be a Game Changer

Hugh O'Donnell found this interesting blog on the Gink & Gasoline site ([www.ginkandgasoline.com](http://www.ginkandgasoline.com)) by Louis Cahill. The key to this discussion is *that 'everyone wants to catch big fish but learning to outsmart them takes some doing'*. It is one thing to get a large fish to take a fly but getting it into the net is not easy. Most anglers do not land the first- or even the first several really big fish they hook. Two problems with landing large fish can be solved by the simple tactic of putting your rod tip in the water when playing the fish.

One example is after hooking a strong fish, it runs hard downstream in conditions where the angler cannot follow it to reposition the line angle. In this situation it is easy for the hook to dislodge. Clearly, the need here is to bring the fish back toward the angler, but how? The trick, once the fish has stopped its run, and has turned to face upstream, is to drop your rod tip into the water, ease off the pressure slightly, and let out a bit of line. This will cause the line to belly out a bit and drift below the fish. The force of the water on the fly line will keep the tension on the fish, and as the line moves below the fish, the angle shifts hook pressure so the fish now feels the hook pull from downstream. It's behavior will be to move back upstream to get away from the hook pull. Take the line up just enough to keep a small belly in the line and when the fish reaches a place where you can restore direct pressure while keeping a good angle, take up the slack and lift the rod tip out of the water.

Of course, there are risks to this technique. One is that the bend in the line increases chances of snagging it on obstacles in the water. Also, if you let the line get too far below the fish, the pressure of

the line can become great enough to break off the tippet or straighten the hook. However, when done well, it can save the day.

A second example is for saltwater angling for bonefish. Bonefish are notorious for making a blistering run, putting you well into your backing, and then turning and running straight at you at thirty miles per hour. In this situation, the angler simply cannot reel in line fast enough. Again, dropping the rod tip into the water, allows us to use the resistance on the line in the water to keep pressure on the fish. As the line bellies behind the fish, it keeps the hook engaged until you can rapidly reel in the slack and have the fish back on the reel before lifting the rod tip out of the water. Again, there are still plenty of things that can go wrong, but it's the best chance of landing the fish.

The full article is at: <https://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-tips-technique/putting-your-rod-tip-in-the-water-can-be-a-game-changer-2/>

## Great Lake Carp Fishing

*“Why Travel for Great Lakes Carp?”* is another Gink & Gasoline blog from last month, though it appears to be an older blog that is being reissued. This one talks about fishing for Carp in Lake Michigan. Carp fishing is on the flats of Lake Michigan. It is primarily sight fishing to large numbers of large fish. Typical carp average 15 lbs but much larger are fish often caught. Large smallmouth bass are also abundant. The blog recommends doing this with a guide and suggests The Northern Angler Outfitters in Traverse City and Indigo Guide Service which does carp fishing from Beaver Island. Both guide services are familiar and are supporters of BUFF. The blog also recommends Boyne Outfitters in Boyne Mountain, MI (south of Petosky). The full article is at: <https://www.ginkandgasoline.com/travel/why-travel-for-great-lakes-carp/>



## Kreelex Jig Streamer – George Daniel

*During his presentation at the October BUFF meeting George Daniel talked about the Kreelex Streamer fly.* He version is usually tied on a jig hook with a bead (either use a beaded jig hook or add a slotted bead to a jig hook). It is an excellent streamer for a wide range of fish. George uses it for trout, but a number of BUFF members are tying these and they are great for bass in streams or ponds, and almost any other fish in our area. Just tie a size appropriate to what you are fishing for.

The Kreelex Streamer is an exceeding simple fly to tie. Aside from a hook, bead, and thread, it is only two materials – two colors of Kreinik Flash. George Daniel's video from his "Livin on the Fly" website, provides detailed tying instructions, and discusses how to fish this fly as well. The video ties the fly in silver and gold, but other color combinations can be done as well. Check out the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8mFShsVQDQ>

Kreinik Flash is not carried by all fly shops. Dakota Anglers Fly Shop (<https://shop.flyfishsd.com/>) and Mossy Creek Fly Fishing (<https://mossycreekyflyfishing.com/>) are two shops that carry the material. It is not expensive.

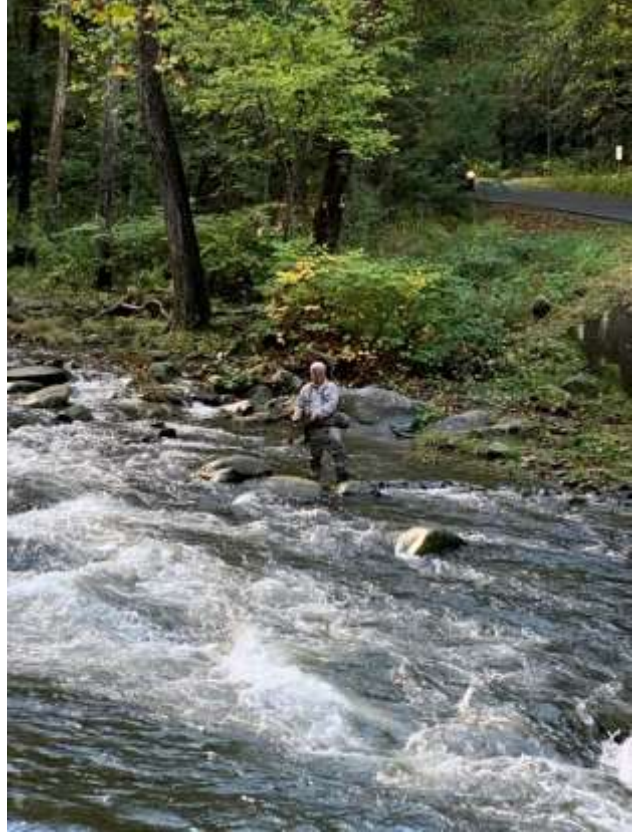


## **BUFF Members Getting Out to Fish**



Cecil Osborn got out recently for some pike fishing in NE Ohio. He did a float trip with Josh McQueen from Mad River Outfitters. He landed 3 nice sized pike, including the one in the photo. He was using a 10-wt rod with a sinking line and throwing large (8 – 14” flies). They fished on the Tuscarawas River near Bolivar, Ohio.

Last several month BUFF members participated in the club’s annual fall trip to the Smokey Mountains, fishing rivers and streams near Bryson, NC. Here are some photos, and there are more in the Photo Gallery on the BUFF Website





## 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 &amp; Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Fly Casting Skills Development Cottell Park< Mason, OH	Wednesday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 – 6 PM  Sign up on the Website or call Tom is interested in attending	Tom Scheer 513-317-4996 <a href="mailto:rtscheerdds@aol.com">rtscheerdds@aol.com</a>
BUFF Monthly Meeting Oasis Golf Club, Loveland, OH	Wednesday, November 10 <sup>th</sup> 6 PM – 9 PM  Also on Zoom	
Board of Directors Meeting Springdale Community Ctr	Wednesday, September 15 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 PM	
Tie & Lie Zoom Virtual Session	Friday, November 19 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM  <i>Zoom link on Website</i>	Gary Begley 513-932-4205 <a href="mailto:loopdude1@hotmail.com">loopdude1@hotmail.com</a>

*Happy Thanksgiving to All!*