



The *BUFFER*

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

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

August 1, 2025

President's Letter

I hope everyone in the club is having a great summer! After a spring and early summer, where all of our rivers were badly blown out, things are looking a lot better and it's getting much easier to find fishable water!

A big thank you to those who organized the club picnic a couple of weeks ago! We had a great turnout. We saw a bunch of folks, particularly senior members, we haven't seen in a while. Lane Stocker tied flies and some of our group even caught fish on her creations! Net, it was a great event with lots of great food, great people, and good weather!

Several members of the club, including myself, Ken Mandel, Haruko Mizoguchi, and others, enjoy the fabulous fishing available in New Mexico. While I only have the opportunity to fish there every 5 years or so, I've been fortunate in the past, to have had a favorite Aunt who lived in Santa Fe for 30 years. She also remained one of my favorite fly-fishing buddies into her mid 90s! A wonderful event that I discovered long ago, is the "Indian Market" held in Santa Fe. It is the world's largest show of Indian American jewelry and art, and is held annually in August. This year's show is August 16th and 17th. If you haven't had the chance to visit Santa Fe, I highly recommend it. It's a vacation that doesn't have to be excessively expensive, and Santa Fe is truly one of our country's most unique cultural towns.

Now, let's talk about fishing. There's great fishing within a relatively easy drive of Santa Fe! At the top of the traditional list is the famous San Juan River, one of the best trout streams in America. In addition, there are numerous amazing, smaller waters spread throughout the region near Santa Fe. These include, but aren't limited to, the Chama, the Vallecitos, the Brazos, and the Rio Grande. Some of these smaller waters are favorites of mine as it's a wonderful experience being up in the mountains fishing a stream, while your other family members, who may not experience our passion for fishing the fly, are able to enjoy a great cultural experience in Santa Fe!

I know I'm somewhat late providing this information, as the Indian Market is less than a month away however, if you decide to fish New Mexico at the other times the year, the trout will still be there, and... there's always next year!

Have a great month!

Bob Miller

BUFF August Meeting – Wednesday August June 14th

Our monthly meeting at the Oasis Center starts at 6:00 PM with a social hour and cash bar. Dinner will be served at about 6:30 PM, the business meeting and announcements start at about 7:15 PM, and our speaker's presentation at about 7:30 PM. ***Please register on the website whether you are having dinner with us or not, so Oasis can set up adequate tables and seating. On-line registration will close on Sunday, August 10th.***

August Speaker – Noah Studebaker, Wildlife Specialist Brookville Lake and Whitewater State Park – “Fisheries Management for Brookville Lake & Tailwaters”

Noah Studebaker is a biologist with the Brookville Lake and Whitewater State Park in Brookville, Indiana. He is primarily responsible for the Brookville Lake fishery and will talk about various projects to improve habitat.

August Dinner Menu –

- House Salad w/dressings
- Dinner Rolls
- Grilled Pork w/Pears
- Oven Roasted Rosemary Potatoes
- Summer Squash Medley
- Coffee & Tea

August Tech Talk –

Cari Vota will present the August Tech Talk. The topic is Fly Fishers International (FFI). As many of us know, Cari is the President of the Ohio Chapter of FFI and has strong involvement with this organization. We encourage members to stop by the table during our social hour to learn and join in on the conversation with fellow Buffers.

Also, if you have an idea for a fly fishing topic and are interested in presenting it at an upcoming general meeting, please contact Bryan Tudor at 513-827-5437.

New Members in July 2025

From: Harry Pass, BUFF Membership Director

This past month saw us gain 2 members.

Seth Holton, Loveland, OH

Keistofor Treaker, Fairfield, OH

Bob Buckley, Cincinnati, OH

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

BUFF Library Reminder –

From: Dave Smith

BUFFERS – While we are not regularly bringing the library boxes to our meetings, ***the library remains AVAILABLE***. Finding and checking out a book or video is easy and is done through the BUFF website.

On the BUFF website home page, click “Member Services” and login with your e-mail address. Once logged in, choose the “Browse the Library” icon to bring up the list of library books and holdings. Click to reserve what you want, and I’ll bring it to the next meeting.

Returning books is also easy – just bring them to the next meeting. This is an easy-to-use resource to obtain library materials and to grow and enhance your fly fishing skills and knowledge.

Get Involved with the Club – Facebook Co-Administrator

From: Ken Mandel

Here is an opportunity for our members to get involved and support our club. This is an important activity for the club, and we urgently need a member who would be willing to take this on. **Please give this consideration!**

Bob Gustafson has long been the Administrator of our Facebook account. He routinely posts upcoming events, activities and club news to the page. Bob is seeking a person to work with him to co-administer this activity. The goal is to eventually take this one when Bob needs to step down. Anyone who uses Facebook could do this, and the activity only requires a couple of hours a month.

If you are interested, please reach out directly to either Bob Gustafson (j.r.gustafson@att.net), or Bill Krimmer, the club director for membership engagement (bill.krimmer@gmail.com). Either would be happy to discuss the role and responsibility with you.

BUFF Activities in August

August After Work Fishing. This month we'll be on the Little Miami River accessing from downtown Milford. Day is Thursday, August 14th. Plan is to meet up around 6PM and fish from a few access points in the town. Around 8 PM participants are welcome of meet at the brewery for camaraderie and refreshments.

Women's Day Trip to Mad River. This is scheduled for Sunday, August 24th. Location is near Urbana, OH. Watch for registration announcement and details on the website.

October North Carolina Trout Trip

The fall trip to Bryson City area is scheduled for October 1st – 5th (Wednesday – Sunday). It is a 4-night / 3-day trip. We have reserved 3 cabins – 2 for the guys and one for women. Harry Pass and Cari Vota are trip leaders. Registration and information should be available soon on the website.

July Picnic

Our annual picnic was a good occasion for all. Over 50 club members participated, and enjoyed a great picnic dinner – fried chicken, cole slaw, potato salad, watermelon, cold drinks, snacks and desserts. Weather was predicted to have showers, and we actually did have a good thunderstorm a little before the 5:00 PM start. It cleared out and we remained dry for the rest of the evening, so several of our members were able to in some fishing as well.

Thank you to the team who worked on the picnic – Tom Bachey, Jim Hunt, Haruko Mizoguchi, Dan Schock, Donna Somers, Lane Stocker, Bryan Tudor, & Jim & Cari Vota





FFI “FlyFest 2025” in Grand Rapids, Michigan

From Cari Vota

Mark your calendars for Friday & Saturday, September 26th – 27th, 2025 as Fly Fishers International brings together members of the global fly fishing community for an unforgettable in-person gathering.



After hearing the call for connection and community, FFI is thrilled to return to an in-person experience filled with hands-on learning, shared stories, and the spirit of fly fishing.

What to Expect:

- Indoor & outdoor workshops
- Fly casting & Tying demos
- Conservation presentations
- Education for all skill levels
- Connection with anglers from around the world

FlyFest presenters include Bruce Richards, Molly Semenik, Jerry Darkes, Ray Schmidt, Keven Feenstra, Ann Miller and many others, as they share great information on how to improve your skills for a better experience out on the water.

Centrally located with easy travel access from Cincinnati of just 6 hours, Grand Rapids offers more than just great fishing — it's a vibrant city full of cultural experiences, entertainment, and outdoor opportunities.

This is more than an event. It's a celebration of the craft, the community, and the waters we love. Registration is open now for all workshops and sessions. See the FFI website for more information and links to registration and hotel reservations - <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>

- Registration fee for the 2-day event is \$75 for FFI members, and \$110 for non-members. In addition, there are daily presentations on casting, tying and techniques. These require pre-registration, and many also have an additional fee for the specific session.

It's Coming !!! – (think of the theme music from Jaws)

The New B.U.F.F. Website!

By the time this newsletter hits the streets, club members may have already received an eblast on how to sign in and register to use our new website. Most will have also seen an earlier e-blast note from David Fraley as well. David has been the lead, and done much of the work involved in reinventing and migrating information from the existing to the new website structures.

Why make a new website? The answer is simple. After years of faithful service, our current website is running on technology that has reached its end of life. It needs to be replaced.

What will our new website feature ?

- Modern, Responsive Design – The site will look great and work seamlessly whether you're browsing on your phone, tablet or computer.
- Enhanced Forum Page – An improved platform where you can connect with fellow members directly, share information, ask questions, and participate in discussions.
- Essential Resources – Many of the valuable resources we enjoy and have come to rely on from the current site will be preserved and will be easily accessible.

There will be changes – While we're excited about the improvements, we want to be transparent that the new website will not replicate every feature from the old one. We've focused on the tools and resources that are most important to our members. Some features from the old website are not currently included in the initial launch. We will monitor feedback to determine what, we can add in the future.

What this means for you –

- The new website will require both the email sign in and now a password (added security for access). A generic password will be provided, which you will be asked to reset when you first access the site. This is a common practice today when logging on to many password-protected sites.
- Member information, such as event registrations, will be migrated over the first week or so of the site going live, so please allow time for updates to be made and processed.

We appreciate everyone's patience as we make this important upgrade and transition. We believe the new website will serve our club and fly fishing community well for years to come, and provide an enjoyable experience for all users.

Fishing at Sunnybrook Trout Club

From: Bryan Tudor

Last month Steve Alexander and I spent a couple of days fishing at Sunnybrook Trout Club, near Sandusky, Ohio. While Steve has been here several times over the years, this was my first visit. Sunnybrook Trout Club donated a 2-night/3-day trip to this year's banquet (as they have done in previous years), and Steve won it!

Sunnybrook has 70 acres of land and access to over 2-miles of Cold Creek which flows through the property.

This creek on the property is stocked with brown, rainbow, brook, and tiger trout. There is also a lake on the

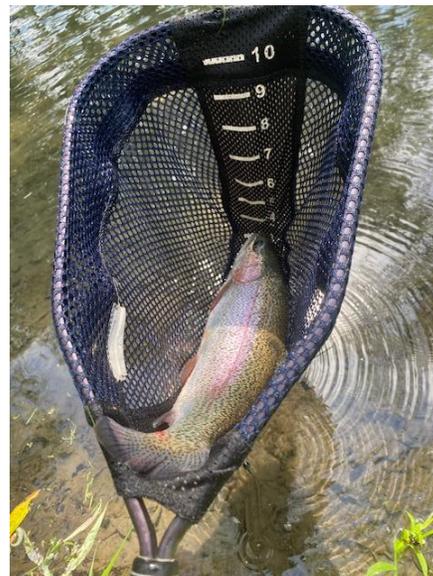
property that is full of bass and panfish and you can fish that as well, and you can canoe/kayak out on the lake.

The three days we were there, the weather was in the mid 90's with heat indices into 100's which made fishing during the day challenging. With it being so hot, we started our days off at sunrise looking for fish feeding on the surface. As the day warmed up, we began looking for shady areas. I carried two rods



with me and was Euro nymphing the deeper faster sections of stream and then changing to the other rod with a dry/dropper rig for shallow and slower moving water sections. By changing and being versatile with my methods, I was able to catch fish each day throughout the whole day. Mornings and evenings the action was better, however I was still able to catch fish in the heat of the day by looking for deep water or sections of the creek that were shady.

Sunnybrook Trout Club is a gorgeous place to relax, fish, and just enjoy being outdoors. I would encourage you to give them a call and book a room at their B&B and take in everything they have to offer. Earlier this year, Sunnybrook Trout Club was acquired by owners, Ron & Eunice Hackenberger, who purchased the club from long-time former owner Doug Lamb. They, along with their three daughters, now manage and run the club. In speaking with Jewel who helps runs the place, they are keeping membership to 250 members (as it was previously), and there is a current wait list. However, non-members, can book rooms at their B&B lodge, and fish Clear Creek on the property for a per-diem charge. The family is committed to enhancing the property and continue to make stream improvements and regular stocking of trout. If you would like to learn more, visit their website - sunnybrooktroutclub.com or you can call them at 419-625-8353.



Note From Ken Mandel – For many years, BUFF ran 2, and sometimes 3, annual trips (Spring, Summer & Fall) to at Sunnybrook. These were primarily organized by Ken Dixon and Jeff McElravy, who were members. They were 3-day/2-night trips, and sometimes an additional day could be reserved. The last of these occurred in spring of 2019, and following the Covid pandemic, they were not reinitiated for a number of reasons. I participated in several of these and always enjoyed them. It was always a great fishing and learning experience, as well as great fun and camaraderie. With new ownership making opportunity for non-members to book rooms and fish, it may time to look at reestablishing these outings.

A Few Things of Interest

From: Ken Mandel

I found two YouTube videos from Brian Flechsig. One is a tutorial on how to tie a 'non-slip loop knot'. It is a simple knot that is very useful when fishing streamers, or any fly where you want the fly to have a little more movement in the water than when the eye of the hook is held in place with a standard type of clinch knot. The technique is to make an overhand loop knot in your tippet, leaving a large enough loop to pass the line through. Take the tag end, and pass it through the eye of the hook and then back through the overhand loop that was first formed. With that done, you can adjust the size of the second loop formed between the overhand loop and the hook eye, as this will be the size of the loop once the knot is finished. Finishing the knot is simply tying a clinch knot wrapping the standing line above the overhand loop. Here's the video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Us0wL8KS4ww>

The second YouTube from Brian builds on the first it is a simple technique, that he was shown by Tim Flagler on using the non-slip loop knot to make a simple dropper rig. It is the same as the non-slip loop knot described for tying on a hook, except that you leave about 2-feet of tag end tippet off of the overhand loop. You then put a short length (6") of the tag through the loop and tie the clinch knot. There is no hook attached here. At the end you have a large loop off of the knot. To tie on the dropper, you cut one leg of the loop at a length that you want the dropper off of the main line, giving some extra to tie on that fly. Here's the video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mtxe4zFSQ6g>

The final bit of info I found this month was from the Midcurrent blog site and is a short You Tube discussing using tippet rings versus tying on additional tippet using a double surgeon's knot. It's short – a little over 3-minutes, but is a good discussion. One comment relates to a tippet ring adding 'weight' to tippet that could alter the floating of a dry fly. The person in the video is using a 3 mm ring, which is large. I use 2-mm or even 1-mm rings. I've used these with dry fly rigs on 5x – 7x tippet on the Au Sable River (this is what the guides use!) and have not experienced any problems with the ring pulling sinking tippet. I think the smaller rings can simply sit in the surface film as they are very light (not different from a small fly). Here's the link - https://midcurrent.com/videos/tippet-rings-or-knots/?utm_source=MidCurrent+Fly+Fishing+Email+Newsletter&utm_campaign=bb24096726-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_02_18_06_57_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-82510f3f45-42992413&goal=0_8efbf3b958-bb24096726-42992413&mc_cid=bb24096726&mc_eid=e2b8fc2655

Members Getting Out to Fish

Ric Devore was out west and got to fish on the Snake River –



David Fraley was far south – in the Bahamas, on Adnros Island. He had mentioned to me that the trip was a reunion of a group he did field work with when he was in college! He got a day to get out for some fishing and got some bonefish –



Thank you to everyone who sent in photos and some info on where you were fishing. We all look forward to seeing what our members are doing!

Upcoming BUFF Activities

In-person activities require registration (online on club Website). Activities on water require signing our liability waiver

| <u>Trip/Activity & Location</u> | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u> |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| BUFF Monthly Meeting Oasis Conference Center Loveland, OH | Wednesday, August 13 th 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM <i>Register on Website by Sunday, August 10th</i> | Bob Miller |
| After Work Fishing Downtown Milford access | Thursday, August 14 th 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM <i>Join afterwards for refreshments at local pub Register on Website</i> | Cari Vota |
| BUFF Board Meeting Springdale Community Center Springdale, OH | Wednesday, August 20 th 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM | Bob Miller |
| Ohio Fly Tying Guild Virtual – Zoom Mtg | Friday, August 22 nd 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM <i>See Website for Link</i> | Gary Begley |
| Women’s Mad River Day Trip Urbana, Ohio | <i>Sunday, August 24th Watch for Registration announcement & details</i> | Cari Vota |

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.

