



The BUFFER

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

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

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President's Letter

The favorite fishing season for many of us has arrived. We have warm weather, and the rivers and lakes are full of fish. There's just one problem... TOO MUCH water! Many of us have experienced this over the past several weeks, and it's likely to be a problem for the near future. I had a trip scheduled to Northern Pennsylvania for this week, and it was canceled by the host, as in his words, "It just wasn't worth it". I don't mind fishing somewhat discolored waters; however, the conditions were described as so bad that the only fish that we had a chance of catching were those that we would snag, and that's something I'm never eager to do.

As with other waters in the eastern United States, the rivers that we traditionally fish for white bass have been very challenging due to the excessive flows. A lot of our club members look forward to the opportunity to fish for white bass, either in Southeast Indiana or on some of the tributaries of the Ohio; however, it appears we will have to wait for next year!

We have a great lineup of speakers for our summer meetings, beginning with Lisa Morissette's program at our next meeting titled "Fish really do live in beautiful places"!

This will be the last Buffer produced by our amazing club member, Ken Mandel. Ken has done an incredible job of putting together the Buffer each month for more than the past eight years. He's taken this newsletter to a new level, and he will be greatly missed in this role. We're looking for another club member (or two!) to potentially pick up the responsibility for this newsletter. Anyone that's interested in helping with this role would be greatly appreciated. There are opportunities to create a new vision for this document, whether it be monthly or quarterly; any future Buffer editors can make this publication their own!

See you at our monthly meeting. Fish on!

Bob Miller

Passing the Torch – Is Someone Interested in Keeping the BUFFER Going?

From: Ken Mandel

All good things must come to an end, and for myself, this issue of the BUFFER will be just that. I have been the editor of the newsletter for close to 10 years. It has been a great run and a lot of fun but it is time to move on. So..... this will be my last one.

We announced this at the May meeting, and in an e-mail that went to all BUFF members. This short note is my request that if you read and enjoy the newsletter, please consider stepping forward to become our new editor. It is not a lot of work and not difficult – at most a few hours a month. Almost all the articles, especially those on recent fishing activities, come from our members, along with photos. For that, it is a matter of organizing and perhaps some editing. John McGinnis and David Fraley take care of getting the newsletter posted to our website, and providing access to photos from our Facebook page. The BUFFER Editor is also a member of the BUFF Board of Directors, so you have contacts for sources of information. Everyone on the board is receptive to requests and are very obliging.

When I took this on, the monthly BUFFER was only a couple of pages. Mostly it was a list of upcoming scheduled meetings and activities, a President's note, and maybe note or two from a club trip. In the early days of the club, the BUFFER was mailed to members, and when I assumed the reins, we still mailed it to a few members. I quickly moved to the current on-line format. Doing that was probably a major step which led to expanding content as well.

Whoever takes this on, is free to make changes and modifications as you see fit

- Make it shorter?
- Change what we put into it on a regular basis? Perhaps get one of our tyers to add a 'Fly of the Month' column for our tyers?
- Make it a quarterly, rather than monthly newsletter?
- Whatever the new editor or editors wish to do....

What is most important, is that we have someone from the club step forward and take this on. If not, we will not sustain the BUFFER going forward. I will help whoever wants to take over the BUFFER to get 'on board' and will share anything I can to help. If interested, please reach out to me directly by email (kengmandel@gmail.com) or phone/text (513-675-8488).

Thank you for your past appreciation of what I and our club members have done with the BUFFER.

Ken Mandel

BUFF June Meeting – Wednesday June 10th

This month's meeting is a bit earlier on the calendar, so remember to register early! – **Registration closes on the 7th!**

Our monthly meeting at the Oasis Center starts at 6:00 PM with a social hour and cash bar. Dinner starts at about 6:30 PM, a short business meeting and announcements 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. We appreciate having your registration by Friday, June 5th, so we can provide a 'head count' to Oasis for seating and meal preparation.***

June Speaker – Lisa Morrisette; “Fish Really Do Live in Beautiful Places ”

Have you ever sat on an open fly box full of flies? You won't want to miss June's BUFF general meeting speaker presentation this month. BUFF's own Lisa Morrisette presents a whale of a tale about her travels and fishing adventures during an 8-week caravan to Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and the return to Cincinnati through Minnesota.

Bringing back memories of George Perrot presents (you had to grow up in Detroit in the 50's and 60's) it's a travelogue that provides plenty of action and beautiful vistas of a lovely part of the US. Lisa ventured out with her dog pals towing a camper with the goal to fish along the way. Plenty of tales with the majestic moose and rabid fly boxes ensued.

Lisa's mother was the fly fisherman in the family. Not to be outdone later in life Lisa thought it would be fun and has given it a try. She has a PHD in art history and has curated and taught internationally, retiring from the Taft Museum in 2019. Her fishing prowess is legendary. Guides have been heard to say “you should have seen her before”. Lisa is very independent and regularly travels wherever her will takes her.

This will be an entertaining program with loads of scenic places and lots of fishing locations out west. It could very well be the inspiration for you to get out and go to someplace new.



June Dinner Menu –

- Garden Salad with dressings
- Corn Bread
- Grill-Out – Burgers & Hot Dogs w/assorted toppings
- Pasta Salad
- Baked Beans
- Coffee & Tea

Tech Talk –

We do not have a ‘tech talk’ this month.

While we encourage our members to share knowledge at these brief, informal discussions, it does not have to be limited to that. If people are interested in talking about organizing more trips or outings, other activities the club can be getting involved in, they can be topics as well. All we ask is that an individual volunteer to lead a discussion. They are well attended, and a great way to exchange thoughts and ideas. If you have an idea or a topic to present, please contact Bryan Tudor at 513-827-5437 or bryan.tudor@yahoo.com, and he’ll get you scheduled.

Recent New Members

From: Harry Pass

We’ve gained several new members since mid-March, when we last posted this.

- **Gary Basshammer**, Hamilton, OH
- **Dylan Brown**, Loveland, OH
- **Angela Crowell**
- **David Dennerll**, Milford, OH
- **Tracy Hall**, Cincinnati, OH
- **Emily Hartshorn**, Dayton, OH
- **Dylan Hogberg**, Loveland, OH
- **Steve Ling**, Lebanon, OH
- **Joe Smith**, Cincinnati, OH
- **Aaron Stiefel**, Mainville, 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 – Now on the Website!

From: Dave Smith

The listing of library holdings is now on the website. Thank you to David Fraley for getting this set up. You can search the list, but the new system does not allow us to 'check out' books on-line. **Once you identify the item, or items, you want, send an email to info@buckeyeflyfishers.com. The email needs to include your name, and the titles and 'serial numbers' for the items.**

Dave Smith will be notified, and he will bring the items to the next meeting. Returning items is simple. Just bring them to an upcoming meeting where Dave will collect them. If you have a question, reach out to Dave Smith (dksmith6973@yahoo.com).

Committee Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in getting involved with club events? We have great opportunities for club members to volunteer on teams that plan club events and activities. These include planning for BUFF's 50th Anniversary as a club, planning for the 2027 Fly Fishing Show next February, and planning for the 2027 BUFF Banquet held in March. Volunteering for these activities is an excellent way to contribute to BUFF and enhance your experience and enjoyment with the club.

2027 Fly Fishing Show Planning Team

While the 2027 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show seems far off – it will be Saturday, February 6th, 2027, planning the show is pretty much a year-long activity. The planning team has started working on the show. Our team is a small group, but we work together to make the show happen. We have several team activities that we need to fill as some of our past team members are stepping down. If interested, please reach out to our team co-chairs, Tom Bachey (513-543-4056; h2oguy@fuse.net), or Ken Mandel (513-675-8488; kengmandel@gmail.com). We would be very happy to have you as part of the group.

Banquet Committee – 2027 & Beyond

Looking ahead to the 2027 Buckeye United Fly Fishers Annual Banquet, needs to assemble a new planning team. The banquet remains the major fund raising activity for our club and supports needs for the club as well as our ability to support various other charitable organizations.

After 15 years of as Banquet Chairperson, Bryan Tudor has announced that he is stepping down from this leadership role. In addition, a couple of other team members are stepping down as well.

We are seeking a member (or members) to take on the Banquet Chair position, along with volunteers to serve on the planning committee. This is a great opportunity to get involved, bring new ideas to the

event, and help continue its success. Planning the banquet is very much a team effort, and there are many ways to contribute. Past committee members will be available to help ensure a smooth transition.

If you are interested in taking on a leadership role or joining the banquet team, please reach out to Bryan Tudor (513-827-5437; bryan.tudor@yahoo.com) who can provide more information. Your involvement will help carry this important activity forward.

50th Anniversary!

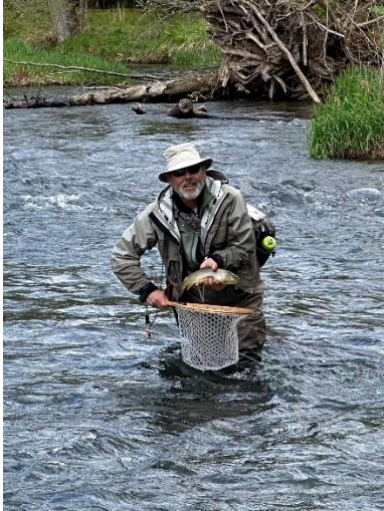
Yes! BUFF was founded in 1977, so 2027 will mark our 50th. A lot has changed over half a century. Cari Vota and Bob Miller have offered to organize a team to work on ideas and plans for a celebration. We are looking to form a small team for the project. Nothing has been set regarding type of event, location, program(s), etc. That will be what the team will work on. If interested, please contact Bob Miller (513-378-6904; bob.miller@alta-gila.com) or Cari Vota (413-476-7112; vota@zoomtown.com).

Most of the team leaders for these activities are regulars at meetings, so feel free to chat with us! Bottom line is that without volunteers, none of these programs can happen.

Potter County PA Fishing Trip

Here are a few photos from our early May club trip to Potter County,. Weather this year was much better and streams were perfect. Our group fished the Kettle, Pine & Sinnemahoning Creeks and tributaries, all near the lodge. Everyone caught fish!





More photos were provided to John McGinnis, and I assume they are going to be, or are posted on our Facebook page.

North Carolina – Davidson River

From: Duane Bentley

I've been a member of BUFF for over 16 years and have enjoyed a number of amazing fishing trips across the country. I often seek out our sponsors in the local area I'm visiting for supplies and information as well as acknowledging their support of the Club.

For the second year, my brother Phil and I met me in Brevard, NC for three days of fishing in mid-May. We visited Davidson River Outfitters early on the first day. The staff gave us a local river and stream map, marked locations of recent stocking, provided directions on how to get there, and then what flies

had been most successful recently. I had checked their stream report several days before and came with a selection of my own flies, but purchased a few with colors and sizes that were recommended, and which I didn't have.

On the first day, we fished the Davidson River upstream from DRO. We were both very successful (in my experience)! I caught 10 trout in the 8"-12" range, and my brother a few less. On our second day, we fished with Kelly Bandlaw, a guide we booked through. We had fished with him the previous year, and found him to be an excellent and experienced guide. With Kelly, we fished Davidson River private waters. The river was low but "gin clear" from the lack of rain. There were really big fish visible in the deep pools, but with unseasonably cold weather, they weren't feeding at first. Kelly did a great job of tying on numerous different nymphs and slowly moving us downstream. Strikes became numerous but very subtle, and quick for them to spit out. By late morning, we had each caught several nice size trout and I thought we were about done. Then Phil hit onto a large trout which he fought into the net. It was a beautiful rainbow that measured 20 inches. I figured we had stirred up the water too much and were done when Kelly told me to look at a school of big fish just a few yards in front of me. "You're not done yet Duane!"

I cast few times and a fish hit my bottom nymph. My 6 wt rod nearly bowed in two! Kelly switched from "guide" to "coach": "Let him run.....now reel back in....now let him run against the reel drag, loosen it a little...start reeling again!!!" That went on for over 5 minutes. When I finally got him in the net, the rainbow measured 23 inches. Amazing! I've never landed a trout this size in my life. The fish had another hook with 6" of tippet from his lip from some other fisherman who never got him to the net.

We went back to DRO, thanked Kelly, and the staff gave us information for the French Broad River for our final day. Once again I thanked DRO for sponsoring BUFF and their excellent support on the river. I highly recommend them if you decide to fish this area.



Phil Bentley – 20" Rainbow



Duane Bentley – 23" Rainbow

Veterans Fly Fishing – Next Event is Tuesday, June 9th

From: Brent Miller

Buckeye Veterans Fly Fishing are meeting at the Kingswood Park pond for a morning of fishing and camaraderie. Formerly a golf course, this pond holds sunfish, blue gills, largemouth, and if you're up for it, big carp. **All Veterans are welcome.**

Our last Veterans event was not only a good turnout, but a great day of fishing. The blue gills were big and the bass we're feisty. We're hoping for something similar at Kingswood Park.

The outing is also a good opportunity to work on your casting skills and learn some options for still water fishing. Want to try Tenkara? Tenkara is the art of Japanese fly fishing—a rod, a line, and a fly. I will have some rods, so, if interested, give it a try.

Location of the park is 4188 Irwin Simpson Rd, Mason OH. (Exit 19, I-71). We'll be there from 9AM – Noon. Please register on the club website, so we can have an idea of who to expect.

If you park at the shelter off Irwin Simpson Road, it's a longer walk across the park and Innovation Way to the pond. Park in the lot on Duke Blvd across from Montessori Academy of Cincinnati to shorten the walk. The Parking lot is a fairly recent addition for the park and does not show up on most maps, but the links below will take you directly to it.

Parking Lot: [Google Maps](#) and [What3Words](#): ///grower.pestle.twists

Stream Quality Monitoring

From Tim Cassani & Tom Britton

The best way to learn what fish are eating and what your flies should look like is to sample the stream bed for what's living there. BUFF conducts stream quality monitoring at three separate locations, two on the Little Miami River and one on 4 Mile Creek. You can sign up to participate in these SQM's on our website, or contact Tim Cassani or Tom Britton for more information.

Here is a quick update of what is happening at each of the three locations:

- 4 Mile Creek: the May 20th sampling was postponed until May 27 due to high water. We meet at Antenen Metropark just north of Hamilton. Future for this site are July 22nd and September 23rd.

Tim Cassani has been the lead for monitoring this location for several years, and will be stepping down after this season. We're looking for someone to lead this location in 2027, and going forward. Please let Tim know if you're interested. We will train & assist you. No prior experience needed.

- LMR at Caesars Creek: the initial sampling for this location was also rescheduled due to high water and is now set for May 30th. Other dates are July 18th and September 19th. We meet at County Rd 39 in Waynesville.

- LMR at Bass Island: this location is currently under construction, and no sampling will be conducted until construction is complete. You can still sign up however, and we will advise you on the status of the construction work. For this sampling we meet at 3949 Newton Rd.

All these SQM's begin at 10AM, and it usually takes an hour to 90 minutes to complete them. We wade into shallow water with our tools. The data we supply is critical for determining the health of the water. We send the LMR data to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the 4 Mile Creek data is utilized by Butler County Soil and Water. All three locations are good to fish, before or after our monitoring sessions.

We hope to see you on the water with us at one of these events.

Some Things of Interest

From: Ken Mandel

“What’s In Tom Rosenbauer’s Fly Box”

I will unselfishly admit that I enjoy many of the videos that Tom Rosenbauer puts out. He is generally concise and focused, and offers very useful advice. But, I recent saw on the the Gink and Gasoline blog that made me laugh! Tom being such a good angler and tyer, I would assume that his fly boxes would be pristine and incredibly well organized. Well to one point, they are well organized, at least as to type of flys and they are well labeled for their content. But that was about it. Take a look at the video in the link below – most of his fly box content looks more like something with feathers that a cat got done playing with ! Mixed up mounds to stuff! It is really enjoyable, and Tom laughs at himself.

https://midcurrent.com/v2/whats-in-tom-rosenbauers-fly-box/?utm_source=Klaviyo&utm_medium=email&kx=0BaUBI6WvxFdAKcXJlLtXwwRDXGvt-RQ6J96VaRlwEg.XGV5ju

Fishing the Driftless

Mother’s Day weekend saw several of our lady members, along with other regional women anglers at the Driftless area in Western Wisconsin, an excellent trout fishery. Here are a few photos that were shared for the BUFFER.



Another of Cari – didn't hook a trout
but still a good hook-up



A Call for BUFF Club Member Fishing Photos

From: Jim Vota

We are seeking photos of past BUFF events, members and activities for our 50th Anniversary which will be celebrated in 2027. In addition, we'd like to do one or two regular meeting presentations highlighting our members fishing experiences with photos of those.

Portage Lake Houghton, MI



It's never too early to start working on projects for next year. Related to that, I'm working on a couple projects that will require photos from our club members from their fishing trips. The first is a slide show for our club's 50th anniversary celebration, which will occur in 2027. The second is to showcase where our many club members have fished over the years.

For the 50th Anniversary celebration, I'm looking for photos from past club events - trips, past banquets, meetings, classes, picnics, member photos, civic projects, and anything else club or member related. The photo format is not critical. Negatives or slides, printed photos, and digital images are all welcome. I can digitize the old film formats. Any photos that I digitize will be returned together with digital files.

For club presentations, I'm looking for photos portraying our members' fishing experiences north, south, east, west, domestic or foreign. Where have you fished, and what experiences have you had? I am hoping to group these into a presentation or two for future club meetings. Of course we want fish pics, but that's only one piece. I'd also like interesting scenery, animals, sights, events, places, lakes, waterfalls, streams, sunsets, stories....whatever. Don't worry about the quality of the photos. The goal is to convey why we enjoy this sport, and share the fun and enjoyment with fellow club members. Please also provide comments, a brief story, and locations with the photos.

How to get photos to me? First, let me know that you have some photos through email, phone calls or texting. While some digital images are of sizes that can be emailed, I can also plan meet with you or come to your residence to collect photos or slides or negatives. I can digitize any of these at your home. We could even do this at a club meeting. We'll work out how to get them when you contact me.

Kinloch Estate Sutherland, Scotland



The images are a couple of Power Point slides I've made as examples of how this might look. It's still too early to say this is it. They're provided to give inspiration and make you think about the projects and how you look at your time out fishing.

Getting Out to Fish & Activities!

In late May JR Jackson journeyed to Northern Arizona! He fished the East Verde River which holds Gila Trout – a trout species native to Arizona and New Mexico. Here are a couple of photos of these guys and the river JR fished. He also landed a few rainbow trout which are descended from fish originally stocked in the river in the early 1900's.



Scott Biser and Dave Kirkpatrick fished in Western NC. Dave got his first brookie fishing Deep Creek near Bryson City, and Scott his first Walleye fishing on the Tuck!



Bobby Armstrong got out to Montana for some fishing! He fished on the Bitterroot and Clark Rivers out of Missoula, using Black River Outfitters.



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>
Veterans Fly Fishing Kingswood Park, Mason, OH	Tuesday, June 9 th 9:00 AM – Noon <i>Register on Website</i>	Brent Miller
Monthly Meeting Oasis Conference Center Loveland, OH	Wednesday, June 10 th 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM <i>Registration Closes on June 7th</i>	Bob Miller
BUFF Board Meeting Springdale Community Center Springdale, OH	Wednesday, June 17 th 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Bob Miller
Women’s Fishing Day Trip Mad River, Urbana OH	Thursday, June 18 th All Day <i>Register & Sign-Waiver on Website</i>	Cari Vota
Ohio Fly Tying Guild	Friday, June 19 th 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM <i>On-Line Zoom Meeting</i>	Gary Begley

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.

