



the BUFFer

Volume 50, Issue 11

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

November 2026

President's Letter

We had a great October meeting! The turnout was excellent, the potato bar was very popular, and we had a chance to see a wonderful presentation by our old friend Jerry Darkes. Jerry's presentation on "Coasters", Brook Trout that roam the shores of Lake Superior and it's tributary rivers, was well received. Several of our members are now planning a trip to Lake Superior to fish for these unique fish!

As mentioned last month ... over the next several months, several important board roles will be opening. As these are also very key communication roles, it's extremely important that we find a way to fill these roles!

Early next year, David Fraley will be retiring as our "Webmaster" and IT guru. David has done wonderful work over the past several years, creating a new website for us to replace our old website that was based on old IT technology that could no longer be supported. While this new website is MUCH simpler and easier to update and maintain, we badly need someone that could take over responsibility for learning the system and managing updates. David assures us that a high level of IT expertise is NOT a prerequisite for this role!

John McGinnis will also be leaving his role managing our Facebook page and being responsible for email E-blasts. David and John have provided wonderful support for the club; however we will need to fill these roles in early 2027, or risk cutting off our ability to communicate effectively with members and the community.

PLEASE volunteer! Communication is the lifeblood of our organization. Please feel free to contact me or any of the other BUFF board members if you have an interest in exploring these Boards of Directors roles!

Our next general meeting will be held on November 11 at the Oasis. Our speaker will be Katie Johnstone. Katie is a long-term friend of BUFF, has worked at area fly shops, and is now co-owner of her own guide service named Warm Water Anglers in Central Ohio. Katie's presentation will be on Cicada hatches and how to plan fly fishing trip trips to take advantage of those hatches!

Bob Miller, President



"... over the next several months, several important board roles will be opening. As these are also very key communication roles, it's extremely important that we find a way to fill these roles!"

Editor's Notebook

Welcome to the November issue of the BUFFer.

For the past week or so, we have been blessed with some incredible weather. Is there anyway that we can keep this going? Who can we call? Does anyone have a connection that might keep it going? Well, I suppose we can pray, but the autumn leaves are a sign. It's just that time of the year.



For as long as we have it, I hope you've been able to get out and enjoy this incredible weather. As for me, I've been out on the motorcycle checking out fishing spots. Paying attention to where, if any, fish stockings are taking place. All of this has made it difficult for me to finish this newsletter. It's just too darn nice to be sitting behind a computer, assembling stories and photos on a screen that will be a page.

But, I've also been thinking about this newsletter and how I can make it grow and more inclusive for our community. One of the things that I would like to do is create a section called "*Member Briefs*." The purpose of this new section is to recognize the awards and accomplishments of our members ... more than fishing awards, but accomplishments achieved in their professional and volunteer lives.

Get an award at work? Let me know. Professional association recognize your work with a plaque or award? Let me know. Write an article for a magazine? Let me know. Newly retired and gone fishin'? Yes, I want to know about that too.

We've always encouraged members to get to know the new members. Introduce yourself and learn a bit about them. Make them feel welcome and part of the community. *Member Briefs* is for all of our membership. It's a way for us to give recognition to our members for something not necessarily about fishing. Earn a professional designation? Recognized for community service? We want to share that in *Member Briefs*.

What award or achievement have you been recognized for recently? Send me an e-mail.

See you at the next meeting, which is Veterans Day. I will be wearing the appropriate hat.

D. Brent Miller, Editor



Board of Directors

Bob Miller, President
Bryan Tudor, Vice President
Barry Gummow, Treasurer
Tim Cassini, Secretary

Tom Bachey
Tom Britton
Cari Vota
Dave Smith
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David Fraley
Jim Hunt
Jim Neckers
Harry Pass
Jim Vota
Lane Stocker
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Bill Krimmer
D. Brent Miller

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The BUFFer Editor

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November BUFF Dinner Meeting

Join us at our next BUFF Dinner Meeting, Wednesday, November 11, 2026, for a time of camaraderie, good food and a special presentation by Katie Johnstone.

Meeting Schedule:

- 6:00 Social Hour & Cash Bar
- 6:10 Ten-Minute Tech Talk (TBD)
- 6:30 Dinner
- 7:15 Announcements
- 7:45 Program

November Thanksgiving Dinner

- Salad: Spinach salad w/assorted dressings
- Entree: Sliced Turkey with stuffing and gravy
- Side: Cheddar bacon mashed potatoes
- Side: Brown sugar glazed baby carrots
- Bread: Rolls and butter

13 Years in the Making.

How to Plan a Cicada Fly Fishing Trip & Fishing Tips

by Katie Johnstone

Description: Every 13 or 17 years, millions of black-and-orange insects emerge from the depths of the ground. These insects are called periodical cicadas. To most people, they are a nuisance. To an angler, their emergence is the start of an epic month of dry fly fishing for a variety of species.

The next brood, XXII, will emerge during the summer of 2027 in southern Ohio, and now is the time to plan! During this presentation,

Katie will provide a background on cicadas and Brood XXII. She will discuss how to plan a trip to fish this brood, which species to target, fish behavior, and fishing tips. She will also share data from her experiences fishing other broods.

Bio: Katie Johnstone discovered fly fishing in 2018 while on a trip to Alaska. That trip sparked a lifelong passion. Katie quickly built her knowledge on Ohio's Smallmouth and Carp rivers and became very involved with the local community. She is the Co-Founder and President of Ohio Women on the Fly, a non-profit dedicated to getting more women involved in fly fishing. She is also the co-owner of Warmwater Anglers, a guide service



based in central Ohio specializing in Bass, Musky, Pike and Carp. She loves nothing more than sharing her passion of fly fishing with others.

BoD Committee Reports

. Membership (Harry Pass) Two new members since last board meeting. 368 total members. November 1 dues go to 2027.

. BUFFER (Brent Miller) Brent has next BUFFER ready to go. Need Buffer contributions by the 25th.

. Communications & Website (David Fraley & John McGinnis) Nothing

. Membership Engagement (Bill Krimmer) After Work event at Sycamore Park on the 24th turned to an exploration of the site due to weather and only 2 in attendance. Now looking at doing a rod building session(s).

. Meetings and Speakers (Jim Vota, Sam Hannah) Katie Johnstone is speaking in November on Cicadas (carp fishing); Dolph Greenberg is presenting information on the Au Sable River in December. January, 27 Dustin Harley of Ripple Guide Services will present.

. Public Education (Tom Bachey) Seven Hills situation the teacher who was Tom's contact at Seven Hills is no longer there and he is not sure this will continue,

. Club Education (Jim Vota) planning something on spey casting and fishing.

. Fly Tying (Lane Stocker) Lane has provided a list of dates to Harry to submit to Springdale for tying events. Starting January 19 – March 30th every Tuesday. Separating beginners from more experienced She planning on something a little different like tying flies for a specific use like dry flies, articulated flies or outings. Planning for tying classes at fly show.

. Assets and Library (Dave Smith) Nothing and no one has requested a book for six months.

. Conservation (Tom Britton & Tim Cassani) All SQM work done.

. Women's Fly Fishing Programs (Cari Vota) Four women participated in the NC trip and fish were caught. A special program for women by Jerry Darkis at the October meeting. Gendaly H. hosted an informal meeting.

. Raffles & Door Prizes (Dave Smith) Still has stuff left and hasn't spent much of his budget. Lane has some stuff from Paul's materials. Lane will sell other stuff for the Feldmans.

. FFI (Cari Vota) The Ohio Council annual meeting is November 10. Wants meeting info published in BUFFER. Positions are open. FFI Fly Fest July '27 Livingston MT.

. Veterans Fly Fishing Had the last outing last Tuesday. Eleven or twelve vets were involved.

Volunteers Needed

Webmaster

The webmaster position is one of our most important tools for communication. It is a WordPress-based site, easy to use. All you need to do is learn the basics, and David Fraley is willing to guide you through that. If you are interested, contact Bob Miller (513-378-6904; bob.miller@alta-gila.com)

Facebook & E-mail Communications

As important as the Webmaster, this position updates our Facebook page and sends out those e-mails that you all get from BUFF. The process is simple to learn, it just needs you. If you are interested, contact Bob Miller (513-378-6904; bob.miller@alta-gila.com)

2027 Fly Fishing Expo Planning Team

While the 2027 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show seems far off – it will be Saturday, February 6th, 2027. 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).

2027 Banquet Committee

We are seeking a member (or members) to take on the Banquet Chair position, along with volunteers to serve on the planning committee. Planning the banquet is very much a team effort.

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).

BUFF 50th Anniversary

Yes! BUFF was founded in 1977, so 2027 will mark our 50th. 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).

Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show – Saturday, February 6, 2027

Ken Mandel, co-chair, Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show Planning Team

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 6th and plan to attend the Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show.

Beginning at the upcoming November meeting we start selling raffle ticket for items to be awarded at the close of the show. Ticket sales are limited to club members through the January meeting, and any remaining tickets are sold at the show. We have two great prizes. The main raffle item is a week of fishing at the Michigan Base Camp, which includes lodging and all meals for 2 anglers. The camp is in north-central Michigan and offers easy access to several excellent streams, including the Au Sable, Pere Marquette and Manistee Rivers. Tickets are \$20 each, with 120 to be sold. The second raffle item is an Orvis 4-wt, 7'6" glass rod with Battenkill Reel and an SA fly line. Tickets are \$10 each with 120 to be sold.

We will be offering online purchase prior to the show. Cost will be the same as at the door, but we will offer a "buy 3, get 1 free" opportunity for online purchase. On-line admission ticket sales will begin on November 1st.

Finally, we will be seeking volunteers from our membership to help on the day of the show. Volunteers help with several activities – admissions, booth sitting to allow our vendors to get a break, helping vendors with load-in before the show and load-out at the close of the show, helping at our membership booth, helping at the fly tying, raffles, and kids activities tables. We seek about 60 – 70 volunteers to make all this possible. Please consider helping with the show!

We have a great schedule of presentations. Kalyn Hoggard is the 2027 Headliner. Kalyn is a FFI Certified Casting Instructor, member of the competitive US Fly Fishing Team, guide and teacher. His presentations will be on Midwest fishing and improving our casting techniques. He will also be doing a casting demonstration on 'trick casts' one can learn and use.

Other presenters include Matt Parker, Ian & Charity Rutter, and Bill Carman. Matt is from Dayton, he has incredible knowledge of our local, southwest Ohio, waters where he fishes and guides. I am sure many of our members know Matt from when he was the manager at ReelFlyRod.com. Ian and Charity operate R&R Fly Fishing in Townsend, TN, and primarily g guide on the rivers and streams in Smokey Mountains National Park. They also lead trips to fish the rivers in and near Yellowstone National Park and Patagonia. Bill Carman is a fishing and hunting guide from Kentucky. His presentation is about fishing the streams in Red River Gorge.

We'll have a full slate of tying demonstrations as well, led by Lance Kekel, Kevin Feenstra, Glenn Weisner, and Chad Robinson. You can find more information on our website.

We will also have Friday Programs. This will include 2 'Masters Classes' lead by Kalyn Hoggard on casting and angling techniques. These classes, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, will be limited to about 10 participants each. Friday tying workshops are also on the agenda. Gary Begley will lead the morning workshop, and Matt Redmond the two afternoon sessions. These programs can accommodate up to 24 participants. We will open registration to club members following the November meeting. Specifics for the programs will be on the website. We encourage our club members to register early, as we open registration to the public in mid December.

Our exhibit area is almost sold out! We have upwards of 50 vendors and exhibitors, including fly shops, guides, and others with materials and products for angling. Several of our regional clubs are attending, and expert tyers will be demonstrating and discussing their skills.

Reach out to Ken Mandel (kengmandel@gmail.com) or Tom Bachey (h2oquy@fuse.net) if you have any questions or thoughts for the show.

BUFF Logo Wear Ordering, Nov. 2-15

Next open period for BUFF Logo Apparel Ordering Site is November 2 through November 15.

An easy way to reach the site is to go to the BUFF website homepage and click on the link. It will automatically take you to the site.

Alternatively, you can type in <https://buckeyeflyfish.itemorder.com/shop/home/>.

Once you reach the site, you can browse the catalogue and place an order.

This will be your chance to order holiday gifts as well as get a new logo-wear before the 2027 BUFF Fly Fishing Show, where you can proudly wear it. It will be your only opportunity to purchase logo wear prior to the show.

Please allow 3 weeks from the closing date of a 2-week period for the finished product to become available.

Haruko Mizoguchi, Logo-site Coordinator

Fall North Carolina Trip, by Harry Pass

Oct. 7th some of us went to Bryson City for our traditional Trout Quest. That area has had some environmental problems the past couple of years. The hurricane that hit North Carolina has continued to have an affect on the trout stocking. Also the heat this past summer.



The hatchery that would stock trout had lost a lot of the trees that would shade the hatchery and as a result the sun heated the water. The hatchery lost 70% of their trout. Stocking has been delayed till November.

There were streams to fish at besides the Nantahalla and the Tuck. John McGinnis and I still went on a half day float trip and we fished for warm water species. We had a lot of fun catching and attempting to catch blue gill with poppers.

Saturday the weather was bad and some left for home. The Smokey Mountain National Park had to shut down the parkway due to fallen trees. There

was a detour that took some out of the way to get to Hwy40.

Those of us that stayed did fish anyway or found other places to site see. We also had plenty of food to eat and part of that was provided by the ladies in cabin 5. The Cherokee Reservation was the place to go to catch fish according to Steve South and Jim Hampton.

We will have another trip to NC April 7-11, 2027. We will be looking forward to better fishing results like we had in 2026.



Six Feet Above Vibram Soles

by Tim Cassani

Last month I (Capt Jonah Whalen) wrote about the frivolous topic of 'style' in fly fishing. This month we need to address a much more substantial arena of discourse. No, I'm not talking about where to, how to, tying, reading water or even my favorite topic of casting. Let's talk about 'mindset' in fly fishing. For those of us losing our minds, you may need to read this article twice.

Mindset (positive thinking if you wish) is critical in many areas of modern life. Reckon back to your youth and imagine asking a young lady out on a date. The feeble minded were resolutely turned down and ended up attending prom with their cousin. (Of course in KY this would be totally natural.) Or imagine a job interview scenario without a positive mindset. See you on the unemployment line. You think Evan McPherson doesn't have a solid mindset when he's lining up a field goal attempt? You gotta get your head right man!

Now you may be thinking, "Jonah, I don't want to jinx myself on this fishing trip with over expectations"! Wrong...I recommend you fish less and golf more. It's ok to say this statement, but don't

actually fuel it as a legitimate eventuality. As a club, our spend on flyfishing is roughly equivalent to the GDP of Luxembourg. Don't waste your money with a lousy mindset.

Last month we discussed that fly fishing was not the easiest path to follow. There are simpler, less challenging methods to bring fish to hand. But we chose this path. What does that say about our collective mindset? We're willing to accept challenges. I would like to advance the theory that all of us who have chosen this path have a productive mindset, or maybe we're just all collectively nuts.

When I'm casting, my mindset is that the fly will land right where I'm looking. I'm also confident that the line will load and unload without having to overpower the cast. Easy does it. Then I badly mistime the hookset. Oh well, fooled one fish, I can entice another. Positive mindset!

If you can't seem to get your mindset right, well, I hope you had a good time with your cousin at prom.

Capt Jonah Whalen

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Tim Cassani and brother, John Cassani, on the Whitewater River.

A Season of Buckeye Veterans Fly Fishing

D. Brent Miller

This year, a rejuvenated Buckeye Veterans Fly Fishing produced plenty of opportunities for our Veterans, BUFF members and non-members. And, the fishing was pretty good thanks to two location hosts new to our program, YMCA Camp Kern and the Historic White Oak Farm.

Another aspect to our growth was a cooperative effort with the Countryside YMCA program, Veterans Connect. VC is free to Veterans in the area, and starts with a fitness program, and includes social activities like coffee times and BBQ outings. Several Veterans from Veterans Connect participated in our program, while Veterans Connect also promotes BUFF. Expect to meet Veterans Connect at the Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show in February where they will occupy a booth.

Camp Kern was a surprise. The camp administration graciously arranged two Saturdays for fishing as campers usually leave Friday afternoon and Saturdays are relatively quiet. The first outing was cancelled due to the forecast. At the second event, Bob Askin and I were the only two to give it a try with a forecast of storms. We fished for about an hour and landed some very big blue gills. At the very end, Bob snagged a huge bass that gave us a good laugh. It also delayed our departure, and we encountered a little rain walking back to the cars.

Historic White Oak Farm is like a gift from heaven. This farm is a wedding venue. Manicured and a beautiful setting with a very large lake. They do not let anyone come to the farm to fish, but they just happen to care about Veterans. That's how our program was invited to fish on their property. Our first outing was unbelievable. We stopped counting catches. All big blue

gills and feisty bass. We had four outings at the White Oak Farm .

We also fished some of the usual places available to BUFF members. For 2027, we will fish some of those and we have been invited back to Camp Kern and Historic White Oak Farm.

I knew the program was going to succeed when one of the Vets said, "I like the idea of fishing with other Veterans." It's about the camaraderie and shared experience that only a Veteran knows.

Here is the list of Veterans who participated in 2026 (Alphabetically).

Mark Agricola, Army
Steve Anderson, Army
Bob Askin, Navy
Allen Berg, Air Force
Steve Collins, Army
Joe Graves, Army
Pat Grey, Air Force
Tony Kalbi, Army
Brent Miller, Army
Cecil Osborn, Army
Jerry Schatzman, Army
Ken Speicher, Ohio Army National Guard
Skeeter Williams, Air Force

Thank you for your service, and welcome home.



FFI Ohio Council Annual Meeting, November 10, 2026

By Dick Erickson & Cari Vota

The FFI Ohio Council annual meeting will take place at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, **November 10** by Zoom. The primary agenda item will be election of officers along with brief reports on Council activities. All are encouraged to attend. A reminder with the Zoom link will be sent to all Ohio FFI members about a week before the meeting.

This is an exciting time to get involved with the Ohio Council. FFI provides many services for our clubs and us as individuals. There are unseen services such as access to low-cost insurance protection for club activities and tax reporting for our clubs. Our priorities are education, conservation, and community. Club participation is a key part of the community activity. Women Connect has many activities serving women, the fastest growing segment of the fly fishing community. Conservation is getting more visibility. FFI has a long tradition of fly casting and fly tying education. Both are being improved to be more useful to clubs and individuals. Just a few years ago it was recognized that we need

a program to teach the general skills of fly fishing. A Fly Fishing Fundamentals course is in the final stages of preparation to launch. A new Learn-To-Fly Fish video has just been completed to introduce the sport to new people and is now on the FFI website.

The FFI website is the primary access point for information about FFI and its services and benefits. FFI is redesigning the website to make it easier to navigate and find the information you are looking for. You will find direct access to the communities of interest to you. Fly Fishing, Fly Casting, and Fly Tying education programs, tailored to the individual online learner, will be available. Resources will be there to help our clubs grow, including Fly Fishing, Fly Casting, and Fly Tying Fundamentals presentation materials and a variety of club how-to manuals. The plan is to move quickly to get the major improvements completed for a major launch, followed by more updates. It will take a little time, but it is coming soon.

Ties, Lies & Pints

The second season of Ties, Lies & Pints is underway, and it's off to a good start. Eight participants attended the October 20th event at Covalt Station in Forest Park. About 20 attended one of the sessions last year at The Monkey Bar.

Pat Winkler with Bill Krimmer, Membership Engagement, got the ball rolling last year conducting three events. Due to last year's success, six events are planned for this year.

Pat says the whole concept for Ties, Lies & Pints is a "social event." Some will tie, while a few others join in for the conversation, camaraderie, the food and beverages, and of course fish tales. There is no one

specific fly to tie. Each ties their own design. The idea is to keep it casual.

Events are planned around moving to neighborhoods near where the membership lives, and to move around on the calendar so that it is not like "the second Tuesday of each month."

If you're looking for a social event with other fly fishers and might want to tie some flies, consider gathering at the next Ties, Lies & Pints

event at Third Eye Brewing, 11276 Chester Rd, Sharonville, OH 45246, Nov. 3, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Or, just come for the social. --Editor



Your Photos



Women's North Carolina Trip

Jerry Schatzman and
Dave Kirkpatrick, Sunnybrook



Your Photos (continued)



David French and friends on the Pere Marquette River, Baldwin, MI.



Four Mile Creek SQM Team



A replacement rod for Pat Grey from Tenkara USA.

Calendar

<u>Trip/Activity & Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Trip /Activity Coordinator</u>
Ties, Lies & Pints Third Eye Brewing, Sharonville	Tuesday, November 3 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.	Pat Winkler
BUFF Dinner Meeting Oasis Conference Center	Wednesday, November 11 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Bob Miller
Mad River Day Trip	Tuesday, November 17	Bryan Tudor
BUFF Board Meeting Springdale Community Center	Wednesday, November 18 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Bob Miller
Ohio Fly Tying Guild Online Zoom Meeting	Friday, November 20 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Gary Begley
Ties, Lies & Pints Depot Brewing Company, Morrow	Wednesday, December 2 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.	Pat Winkler
BUFF Dinner Meeting Oasis Conference Center	Wednesday, December 9 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Bob Miller
Cincinnati Fly Fishing Expo Oasis Conference Center	February 5 & 6, 2027	BUFF Fly Show Committee
BUFF Annual Banquet Oasis Conference Center	March 10, 2027	BUFF Banquet Committee

Directions to BUFF Dinner Meeting at the Oasis Conference Center

Click on [link to Google Maps](#). 902 Loveland-Miamiville Rd, Loveland, OH 45140

