

TIGHTLINES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers



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Clipart provided free.
Courtesy of the artist,
Dave Whitlock.

More information at:
www.davewhitlock.com

**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR
NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:**

**Friday,
February 24, 2012**

**Time to Renew
Your Membership for 2012!**

Next Meeting

February 13, 2012

**Kohler Banquet Center
4572 Presidential Way,
Kettering, Ohio**

Doors open at 5:30 P.M. ,
Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
(RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.)

Directions on Website

RSVP to Mike Wolford at 937-667-9392 or
E-Mail him at: toflyfsh@woh.rr.com
by **Thursday, Feb 9, 2012.**
(Note - Dinner Price is now **\$13.00**)

This month:

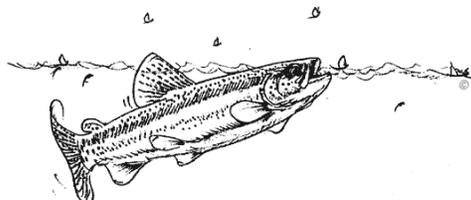
Jerry Darkes

See Page 2 For Details!

The Miami Valley Fly Fishers 2012 Annual Auction

Once again the MVFF annual auction is quickly approaching. If you are not ready you still have plenty of time to prepare for this most important monthly meeting. This meeting will bring in about half the funds necessary for the annual operating budget of the club.

The first rule is **NO JUNK**. I have been in charge of this event for the last five years and the quality of items donated to the auction has been very good. This assures the attendees a fine selection of items to bid on.



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President's Thoughts



I would like to welcome all of you to a new year with Miami Valley Fly Fishers (MVFF). I look forward to many new experiences with the club this year. This year, for the first time in history, MVFF will be on Facebook.

As a reminder, please do not forget to pay your club dues. They are now \$35.00 for the year and need to be paid as soon as possible. Your dues are an important part of the club's funding. As a paid member, you may attend any of our fly tying classes for FREE. We have some great people that volunteer their time to provide quality fly tying classes to our members. The classes run through March. This is a great opportunity to learn some new flies, maybe some new techniques, and start building your stock of flies for the spring, Ohio Power, and/or the Michigan Salmon trip. Maybe even tie up a few extra for the auction.

There are several events coming up this year, both within the club and outside the club. By the time you get the newsletter, the B.U.F.F. show in Cincinnati will probably have come and gone. Hopefully, many of you had the opportunity to attend. This is one of the biggest and closest fly fishing shows near us, and they always put on a good show. February 10-11 will be the Adventure Summit at the Student Union building at Wright State University. The club will have a booth, with volunteers tying flies and speaking to people about our club and fly fishing. In March we will have the annual Auction and no speaker. The Auction is our main fund raiser for the year. Marty will have more details on the auction. In April, we will have a speaker and the Spring Fling Raffle. The Spring Fling Raffle will replace the regular raffle that night. We hope to have some great prizes for you again this year. For those of you not familiar with the Spring Fling, there will be buckets set out with each item you would like to win. If you don't put any raffle tickets in the bucket, you won't have a chance to win that item. The funds from the auction, membership dues, and raffle, allow us to schedule quality speakers throughout the year for you. So get those dues paid, and bring your checkbook to the auction and be prepared to spend some money.

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President's Thoughts Continued from page 1

Fishing events this year include the annual Ohio Power trip to southeast Ohio. This event is always the first weekend after Memorial Day. The dates for this year are Friday – Sunday, June 1-3, 2012. However, I will be there starting Tuesday, May 29. More on this as we get closer. The annual Salmon trip to Baldwin, Michigan will be in September. There are usually two lodges reserved at Barothy Lodge, one for 3 nights and one for 5 nights. Jim Calvert spearheads this trip and will have more information as we get closer.

As you can see, we have quite a bit already planned for this year, and more to come. I hope to see you at one of the events.

Ken Hudak, President

February Speaker Continued from page 1

Jerry Darkes is a fly tackle sales rep, instructor/guide, and writer based in northern Ohio. He has over 4 decades of fly fishing experience in both fresh and saltwater and is recognized as an expert on Great Lakes steelhead and warm water fly fishing. Jerry was the first "fly fishing only" guide on Ohio's Lake Erie tributaries and helped to pioneer many of the fly patterns and techniques used today. Recently, he has been most active in promoting fly fishing on the waters of the Great Lakes and is currently working on a Great Lakes fly fishing guide to be published spring of 2013.

Darkes has been featured in several books and video/DVD productions about Great Lakes fly fishing. He is also a well-known fly tier and has created a series of **Guide Patterns** instructional fly tying DVDs focusing on Great Lakes steelhead and other gamefish. Jerry gives many presentations, programs, and demonstrations throughout the region to clubs and outdoor groups and has been featured on several television shows including **Trout Unlimited TV** and **Outdoors Ohio**.



The 2012 MVFF Auction Continued from page 1

The second rule is to **bring something that we can sell**. It doesn't have to be a Winston Quadrante bamboo rod, but something you yourself would be likely to purchase. Items that sell well are fishing, hunting and camping gear. Wine and spirits are popular, as are guided trips by many of our various members. Another suitable item that has really gained popularity, along with the success of the fly tying classes, is a selection of your favorite fly patterns. These are but a few suggestions. You can surprise us with your own unique donations.

The third rule is **bring some money to purchase some items**. There will be more than enough items that will strike your fancy, so be sure to bring enough cash so you can bring home more than one item.

The fourth rule is suggested but not mandatory. **Bring a guest**. This is an excellent meeting to bring a fishing buddy that will help spread the load. Your friend will have the opportunity to purchase some fine gear and also enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow members.

Last year we broke the \$5000.00 mark and I would love to see us better than that this year. WE can do it with your help. Plan to attend the March meeting with an item for bid, some cash and perhaps a fishing buddy with some extra cash. Hope to see you there.

Marty Vandenbrock, MVFF 2012 Auction Chair

MVFF FYI

2012 Membership Fees Are Due Now!

Payment for 2012 membership fees were due December 31, 2011. Many members still have not yet submitted payment for their 2012 membership.

If you have not yet paid your dues please do so as soon as possible to remain in good standing with the club, and to continue to enjoy all of the benefits membership has to offer. The club is depending upon you!

April Meeting Date Change

Reminder - The date of the April meeting has been changed from **April 9** to **April 16**. Be sure to mark your calendars!

This Month's Fly – February 2012 Edition

FLASHBACK WIGGLE STONE

Instructions and Photograph by Bob Cain



Recipe

Tail Section

Rear Hook....Nymph, size 8, 2X heavy
Thread.....Black, 6/0
Tail.....Black goose biots
Abdomen.....Black SLF dubbing
Rib.....Medium silver wire
Head.....Thread
Connection...6-8 lb. braided line

Thorax Section

Front Hook....Egg, size 6, 2X heavy
Thread.....Black, 6/0
Weight.....Lead wire .025
Wingcase.....Black Thin Skin
Wings.....Black goose biots
Thorax.....Black SLF dubbing
Flash.....Pearl Flashabou
Head.....Thread

Tail Section

1. Place the hook in the vise. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a thread base back to the hook barb. Let the thread hang.
2. With 3-4 thread wraps, create a small thread "bump" on the hook shank over the hook barb. This will cause the biots to flare outward when tied in. Let the thread hang.
3. Now select two black goose biots and tie them in, one on each side of the hook bend against the thread bump. (The length of the biot tail should equal 2/3 to 3/4 of the hook shank length.) Bind down the butt ends and trim off the excess biot butts and return the thread to the tie-in point. Let the thread hang.
4. Tie-in a 3 inch length of medium silver wire and wrap the thread back over the wire to the biot tie in point.
5. Apply dubbing to the thread and wrap it forward to slightly behind the hook eye to form a tapered abdomen. Let the thread hang.
6. Wrap the silver wire forward over the dubbing in 5-6 evenly spaced turns and tie it off at the front of the abdomen. Trim off the excess wire.
7. Form a neat thread head, whip finish, and cut the thread.

Thorax Section

8. Place the hook in the vise, tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a thread base back to the hook **point** (not to the barb). Let the thread hang.
9. Cut a 6-7" inch length of 6-8 lb braided line. Thread the line through the trailer hook eye and then firmly lash both ends of the braided line to the side of shank of the front hook. Note: Carefully position the tail section so the hook point is down and then adjust the forward position of the hook so the trailer hook eye is directly behind the main part of the front hook shank and the eye of the trailer hook is above the hook barb of the front hook with enough slack space to assure that the tail has room to wiggle when fishing the fly. After making sure the trailer hook is properly positioned, firmly wrap the thread forward over both ends of the braided line 1/4" toward the hook eye and then fold the braided line back and then wrap back over it for several wraps. Remove the excess braided line, return the thread back to the tie in point and let it hang.
10. In the middle of the hook shank apply 7-8 wraps of .025 lead (or non-lead) wire. Leave space equivalent to twice the length of the hook eye between the hook eye and the lead wraps and also on the hook shank behind the lead to above the hook barb. Tie in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a small thread dam in front of the lead and also behind the lead to secure it. Return the thread back to above the **hook barb**.
11. Tie-in a single strand of Flashabou centered directly on top of the hook shank with the length of the Flashabou extending back over the hook bend. Return the thread to above the hook barb and let it hang.
12. Cut a 1 1/2" long 3/16" wide strip of black Thin Skin. Remove the paper backing and tie the Thin Skin in shiny side up centered on top of the hook shank with the remaining length back over the hook bend. Return the thread to above the hook barb.
13. Apply dubbing to the thread and wrap it forward to just in front of the lead wraps to form a fat thorax (approximately twice the diameter of the abdomen). Leave enough room to tie in the remaining material) and then make a thread head when finishing the fly Let the thread hang.
14. Pull the Thin Skin forward over the top of the dubbed thorax, make sure it is centered and tie it off behind the hook eye.

January Meeting Re-Cap

Our speakers for the January meeting were Ian and Charity Rutter, owners of R&R Fly Fishing in Townsend Tennessee.

Ian and Charity's presentation was entitled "*Fish Like a Predator*", in which they described how fisherman can apply many of the tactics and principles of nature's predators to fly fishing for trout, and thereby increase the chance of success.

Thinking about fly fishing the Smoky Mountains? Be sure to check the Rutters' website at <http://www.randrflyfishing.com>.

Bernie Fritz (left), with Ian and Charity Rutter at the January meeting.



Casting Tips

By Pat Damico - Taken from Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter
(via the September - December 2011 editions of the FFF Clubwire Newsletter - <http://www.fedflyfishers.org>)

Tip #20

We described different grips while casting, but did not address how tight or loose it should be. The tendency to grip harder as more power is needed seems normal, but is detrimental. A tight grip will become tiresome and will send unnecessary shock waves thru the rod. When you practice, use only your thumb and two fingers to hold the rod as you go thru the casting stroke. You will be surprised how effective and relaxed your casting will become.

Tip #21

How many fish have you caught while false casting, moving the rod back and forth before delivering the fly to a target?

The more time a fly is in the water, where the fish are, certainly increases your opportunity for success. Have you ever noticed the best fly fishers/casters false cast very little? When fishing in situations where long casts are needed and a lot of water is covered, like drifting the flats, working a shoreline, sight casting to spooky fish, casting again when a fish is missed or the cast is off target do not strip line in almost to the leader. If most forward tapered lines have at least a 30 foot head, including a 10 foot leader means that the caster must carry sufficient line to load the rod properly. Retrieving less line before the next cast and starting the back cast without slack will allow you to shoot sufficient line to eliminate false casting and improve your catching success.

Tip #25

Should I cast vertically or move my rod to a more horizontal position? At a recent casting clinic I asked if anyone experienced pain or discomfort while casting? The participant closest to me stepped forward and I had him stand and hold his rod where he usually begins a forward cast, which was almost vertical. Holding the rod from behind I asked him to start his cast. Against my resistance he experienced some pain. As he moved the rod more horizontally, I repeated the resistance and the pain dissipated. Clearly his best casting position was away from vertical. If experiencing pain while casting avoid the same casting position. When casting with a friend, try this simple exercise.

This Month's Fly Continued from page 3

15. Repeat this procedure with the Flashabou, making sure the Flashabou is centered on top of the thin skin.
16. Take two black goose biots and tie a split wing on top of the fly just behind the hook eye. The wing tips should be angled out and extend back. Trim the biot butts.
17. Form a neat thread head, whip finish, cut the thread, and apply head cement.
18. Coat the Thin Skin wing case and Flashabou with epoxy (or with Knot Sense and cure it with a UV light or allow it to cure in sunlight).
19. To complete the fly before going fishing, being careful to not damage the tail, cut the barb off the rear hook at the bend.

MVFF CALENDAR For February, 2012

- 2, 9, 16, 23** **Intermediate Fly Tying Classes**, Gander Mountain, 8001 Old Troy Pike, Huber Heights, OH 45424, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- 4 -** **The Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show** (See <http://www.buckeyeflyfishers.com/FlyFishingShow/2012show.htm> for details.)
- 7, 14, 21, 28** **Beginners Fly Tying Classes**, Gander Mountain, 8001 Old Troy Pike, Huber Heights, OH 45424, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- 10, 11** **The Adventure Summit**, Wright State Student Union Bldg (See <http://www.metroparks.org/adventuresummit> for details.)
- 11, 18, 25** **2012 Fly Rod Building Classes**, Jim Corbin's Shop (Pre-registration required.)
- 13 -** **MVFF Indoor Meeting** (Note: Reservations **Are** Required - See Page 1 for Details)
- 24 -** Deadline for Articles for Next Month's Issue of **Tightlines**

MVFF Message Board

The MVFF Message Board now has over **450** registered members!

Also, you can now read messages without registering or logging in. Just go to the club's web site at <http://www.mvff.us> and you will find a link to the board in the upper left-hand corner.



MVFF is now on Facebook! Follow us at:
<http://www.facebook.com/MiamiValleyFlyFishers>

MVFF Email

Miami Valley Fly Fishers is trying to improve communication with members by making greater use of email. To be sure our messages reach you, please put the following address in your email address book:

mvffemail@gmail.com

Then send us an email subject "Email Address Check" to be sure we have your correct email address. Don't forget to include your name.

REMINDER FOR CLUB PURCHASES

ALL CLUB PURCHASES MUST RECEIVE PRE-APPROVAL IN ORDER TO BE REIMBURSED. AMOUNTS OVER \$50 REQUIRE BOARD PRE-APPROVAL. AMOUNTS UNDER \$50 CONTACT TREASURER, CARL MARKSTROM, FOR PRE-APPROVAL. PLEASE BE SURE TO USE THE EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT FORM, WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THE CLUB'S WEBSITE AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS:

http://mvff.tripod.com/Resources/AP_Form.pdf OR http://mvff.tripod.com/Resources/AP_Form.xls

MVFF at the North Coast Fly Tying Expo



On January 14, four members ventured north to represent the club at the 10th Annual Fly Tying Expo in Cleveland, Ohio. This event is put on by the North Coast Fly Fishing Club (<http://www.ncff.net>).

In attendance (pictured above, left-to-right): Kathy Courtney, Dale Stephens, Tom Courtney and Alan Ashley.

The North Coast Fly Tying Expo is one of the first fly fishing shows of the season. For more information about some of the other upcoming regional fly fishing shows, check out the following post on the club's message board:

<http://mvff.proboards.com/index.cgi?action=display&board=talk&thread=835>



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Jeryl Yantis
 Bernie Farley

Whitewater • Touring • Recreational



This Month's Meeting:

Jerry Darkes

February 13, 2012
 Kohler Banquet Center



Visit Us On The Web:

<http://www.mvff.us>



<http://www.facebook.com/MiamiValleyFlyFishers>

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