

TIGHTLINES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers



March Meeting

Our next meeting is March 11th

Presidential Banquet Center
4572 Presidential Way
(Directions on Website)

Meal Price - **\$15.00**

Fun begins at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner reservations are required. There are no standing reservations. You need to make a reservation each month. You can also cancel your upcoming reservation by going to the same page listed below.

Please make your reservation at
<https://mvff.us/reservation/>
by 9:00 p.m. on March 7th

MVFF Annual Auction

Get ready for another great event!



The time is quickly approaching for the MVFF Annual Auction on March 11th. The festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Presidential Banquet Center, which is the larger building to the north (left) of our regular meeting location. Please note: there will be a cash bar - no \$1.00 beer! MVFF member Ken Hudak will be our auctioneer.

For the new members and those not familiar, there are a few guidelines. As you begin to gather items for donation it is important to remember - NO JUNK. If you would not pay money for it no one else will either. Also, you may request a donation voucher for tax purposes as we are a non-profit 501(c)(3).

Items that sell well are fishing items of course, as well as camping and hunting gear. A sample of your favorite wine or spirits and your favorite patterns of flies are also perennial favorites (so start tying some collections for inclusion in this year's event). This is also a wonderful time to go through all of your gear, pull out the stuff you no longer need or use, and bring it to the auction. One man's junk (but no junk here) is another man's treasure.

(Continued next page)

President's Thoughts

The February meeting was outstanding with over 82 plus in attendance. We were fortunate to have Dan and Doug Daufel who shared a fly-tying event as well as presented at our meeting. It brought back a lot of memories for them and our members who knew

them when they were coming to the club as children. It was great to have them back for a visit, sharing their love and experiences of fly fishing and look forward to seeing them again soon we hope. MVFF would like to thank Doug and Dan of Montana Brothers Rodworks for donating a fly rod for our Spring Fling Raffle in April. I know whoever wins this rod will be truly excited to fish with such a beautiful rod.

The April Spring Fling is open to members only. This is to benefit our members who give their time and support our club. If you would like to be a part of this benefit, please don't hesitate to join us. We are an awesome club and would love to have you be a part of the MVFF family. It can be now or the night of the Spring Fling - if you join you are eligible to buy raffle tickets. To join go to <http://mvff.us> scroll down on the right side of the page. Select your Membership, Adult \$35.00 or Independent Youth \$10, enter your name and you can hit the Pay Now button. It's just that easy.

The MVFF Annual Auction is March 11th, 5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Presidential Banquet Center, 4572 Presidential Way, Dayton, OH 45429. It is open to the public. Please come out and have some fun. We also are taking donations of good condition fishing gear or other items to raise money for the club. You can email us or leave a message on FB messenger if you have questions or need to drop off items early. We have some awesome flies, rods and other items already donated.



(Continued next page)

MVFF Auction (cont'd)

If you have a skill or a membership to various clubs, these make excellent items for bid. Examples are members who have offered guided trips to their favorite body of water, or a half day of fishing or golfing at a private club. Whatever it is you can donate to the auction truly helps support the club.

This event generates essential funds for the club every year. Everyone has done a great job of supporting this event in the past and we are asking for you to do the same this year. Donate and bring your cash or checkbook along.

Time is getting short, but if you have donations that need to be picked up ahead of time please contact us at mvffemail@gmail.com. If you have any large items (like a boat!) please make sure we know in advance so we can plan our set-up accordingly.

The doors will be open by 3:00 p.m. for drop-off of items.

Dear MVFFers,

It was a real honor to do a tying class and presentation last month. It was great to meet new folks and see some that we have not seen in 25 years!!!! As Dan stated in the presentation, MVFF is the finest club we have been a part of. It changed our lives. That is a testament to all the hard work and involvement from its members. Kudos to you all! Please keep in touch and if you are ever out our way please let us know, maybe we can wet a line.

Take Care,

Dan & Doug Daufel

mbrflyrods@yahoo.com

President's Thoughts (cont'd)

Dinner reservations are required – make yours now at <https://mvff.us/reservation/>.

Reservation deadline is March 7th at 9:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!!

Fish on!

Paula Smith
MVFF President



Just a little History of MVFF. Dorothy Daufel was the first woman to join the club. Kelly Kingery (left) was the first woman president (2017). Paula Smith was the second woman president (2018) and is now (2024) the first to be president twice. It was great to get a picture of them all.

(Click on photo to enlarge)

MVFF Gaining 23 New Members

Average age of members to see a precipitous drop!

The board agreed to accept 22 students as Independent Youth members. These are seniors in the Centerville High School Environmental Sciences class. CHS is paying \$220 to MVFF for their one-year memberships. Also joining will be Robert Erwin, the teacher of the class. This whole effort was initiated by Mr. Erwin and interest from the students themselves. We have had several class members visit our club meetings in the past.

For the last four years Bill DeShurko and other MVFF volunteers have been conducting an Introduction to Fly Fishing Class, including classroom casting instruction, followed by a fishing outing. This is followed by a Fly Tying Class that concludes with another fishing outing. The interest has been extremely high. See December's issue of Tightlines . . . <https://mvff.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/MVFF1223.pdf>

The MVFF Board felt it was a great way to include the next generation into the club and help grow this wonderful sport. Our hope is that some will want to continue as adult members after their introduction.

Secretary's Notes For February 2024

We were excited to have Lifetime club members Dan and Doug Daufel from Montana speak at our February club meeting at which over sixty members attended as well as over twenty guests. Among the honored guests was Mrs. Dottie Daufel of Oakwood, Ohio, who was the first female member of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers. As her sons tell it, she did not have a choice as they were too young in the beginning to drive themselves to club meetings! Thank you, Mrs. Daufel. The Daufels also held an advanced tying class on Sunday in which 14 members participated. Their generous gift of a handmade 9 ft., 4 wt. rod from Montana Brothers Rodworks will be part of the Spring Fling Raffle to be held in April for all current dues paid members.

Bill DeShurko requested the purchase of 25 fly tying kits to be gifted to the Centerville High School Environmental Sciences class. For four years Bill, Shawn Johnson, Steve Rosengarten and others in the club, along with the teacher, Robert Erwin, have used fly fishing as a tool of environmental care and sustainability. The club overwhelmingly approved the gift with an amendment from J. D. Dukes to add \$100 of tying materials. This outreach is growing to include other schools.

Nathan Via announced changes to the veterans outreach program. (See article below for details).

President Paula Smith shared progress of the Facebook cover photo contest.

Several special items will be donated to the March auction by members including a bamboo rod which had been owned by Howard Abel and is being donated by member Phil Clay. Flies tied by Dick Matson have been organized by Mike Wolford and will be put up to auction.

Upcoming club outings were updated by Jim Calvert (Canada) and Eric Rice (Wyoming).

Club member Bill Bennett will begin fly casting clinics at each outdoor club meeting.

Several members were thanked for their participation in recent expos: Randy and Joanne Evans, Frank Cox, Eric Rice, Cynthia Davis, Greg Kiddon, Tom Perry, Jim August, Todd and Diane Alexander, Ken Davy, Allen Berg, Joe Garland, and John McGinnis. We continue to find opportunities to reach out to the community even in local libraries. Thank you to everyone who has given of their time and talents to promote the club.

Respectfully, Jeff Davis, Secretary, MVFF

Miami Valley Fly Fishers Veterans Project *No One Left Behind*

With significant challenges facing national operations of Project Healing Waters, MVFF has chosen to take a different direction with veteran services like many other clubs have done, including BUFF. We have a vision for expanding our program to include anyone who is a veteran, and are pleased to share details with you that will remove a number of restrictions and ensure No One Is Left Behind.

Our new project will include two primary components: fly tying and boots on the ground fishing because all of us know that the tug is the drug that keeps us coming back to this amazing sport. To support this new initiative, we will continue to carry a line item within our budget for veterans services, and facilitate fund raising as necessary.

We will also maintain our excellent relationship with Karla Riste and the VA, and expect referrals to continue to generate from the VA and club members. We anticipate our social media outreach will also engage veterans who could benefit from a community that truly embraces fishing and each other.

Along with overseeing the program and coordinating relationships with the VA and other potential partners, Karen and I will be looking for individuals to fill specific positions. Frank Cox will conduct fly tying (thanks Frank), and we also need a quartermaster to secure drinks and food, an event coordinator to identify locations to fish, and a fly-casting instructor. We also need many of you to help introduce veterans to the healing power of fly fishing. Club members who are veterans will also be invited to join as both participants and volunteers.

Karen and I will continue to provide updates at meetings and through *Tightlines*. You can also reach out if you have questions or suggestions for us. If you have tying materials, rods or other items to donate, please let us know.

Thank you for what you do to support all of the projects for MVFF, and for helping make No One Left Behind a joyful and healing program.

Nathan & Karen Via

A Very Special Auction Item from Phil Clay

ORVIS BAMBOO ROD

- Orvis Limestone Special bamboo rod, serial #71522
- Built in 1973
- #6, 8'6", 2pc (2 tips)
- impregnated bamboo (I think it fishes more like a #5 weight)
- Pristine condition, looks virtually brand new
- It had belonged to Howard Abel, a founding member of MVFF

\$400 RESERVE PRICE

PayPal Payments Will Be Accepted for March Auction Purchases

At the upcoming MVFF auction in March, you will be able to pay with cash and check as in the past.

In addition, this year we will be accepting payments through the PayPal app on your mobile device. We will have an MVFF QR code at the check-out area for you to scan. If you have already installed the PayPal app, you can scan the QR code from within the app and easily make your payment.

February Raffle Winners

Here are the February meeting winners . . .

- Redington Wrangler Trout XL Fly Rod 9ft., 6 wt. Complete Outfit – Qian Liu
- Prolite Dual Head Bench Light – Sue Boice
- Simms Wool Gloves – Walt Konek
- Six Pack Peroni Beer Plus Two Glasses – Eric Rice
- Knot Tying Cards – Phil Ritter

~ *Lew Hofmann*

Lew Hofmann is looking for an assistant to run the raffle when work takes him away on the second Monday of the month. This is uncommon, but without help the raffle can't happen. He will take care of preparing tickets, procuring the raffle items, and getting everything to you. You'll need to take the raffle items to the site, run the raffle, and hold on to the leftovers until Lew can gather them back from you.

He also needs someone to take over the raffle in 2025.

If you are able to assist in providing backup and/or taking over the raffle next year, please contact him at lewhof@mac.com or 301-503-2398.

2024 Dues Deadline

The 2024 dues deadline (end of February) has passed and we have 52 members who have not renewed. Please do so today - we really do not want to lose you.

The best way to pay is online through our PayPal portal either with your PayPal account or as a guest with a credit or debit card (you do not need a PayPal account).

New members - if you joined between October 1 and December 31, 2023 that dues payment is good for 2024!

The payment link is here and at the bottom of the Home page of our website . . . <https://mvff.us>

Last Chance: 2024 Canada Fishing Trip Openings

We will be going back to Waterfalls Lodge this spring on June 1st – June 8th. At this time, we have 5 openings for the trip. If you haven't fished in Canada in the springtime, you are missing a great time.

This trip is a great bargain for what you get, and the price includes a bass boat for every 2 fishermen. The chain of 7 lakes are full of bass, pike and assorted other fish to keep things interesting. And the fish love topwater flies at this time of year. We caught about 1,000 fish there last year and plan to exceed that this spring if the fishing gods allow it.

If you are interested, let me know and check out the Lodge on the net at www.waterfallslodge.com in Ontario, Canada. If you

have a fishing partner, bring them along as well. They do not have to be a club member for this trip. This is a great way to start off your spring fishing.

I have 4 cabins reserved for the group and would like to fill them if we can, but there is no set number we must have for the trip. I will be at the March meeting and would be glad to answer any questions you might have then. See you at the March meeting.

Jim Calvert
937-925-1211



Facebook Cover Page Photo Contest

Runs through March 24, 2024

The purpose of this contest is to replace our Facebook cover photo. We also see this as an opportunity to bring increased exposure to the club through sharing with their family and friends, asking them to vote and share with their friends. We wanted to make it fun for our members. The deadline for submission of photos has passed but there is still plenty of time to vote. The winner's picture will be featured as the cover photo for the MVFF's FB page. Prizes will be awarded at the club meeting in April for the winner and runner-up.

The Rules:

1. Photos may only be submitted by Miami Valley Fly Fishers members who are currently active members or any new members who joined the club before close of business (5:00 p.m.) February 1, 2024.

2. Each photo must clearly show the entire fish and the member's face.

3. Voting will be open through March 24th.

4. To vote go to [MVFF Photo Contest](#)

facebook.com/MiamiValleyFlyFishers/posts/pfbid027WQY971gFbWPGXcQhywaFWqUGSuPfuzYziq5v8wBoPguppFGf5PLTkSqL9w4PtcZl

5. Voting will be accomplished by Liking the photo you choose. One vote per voter. Members can place one vote for themselves. Multiple votes per voter will be removed.

6. Also, we encourage you to share it on your FB PAGE, encourage any of your FB friends/family to vote, share it on their page, and encourage their friends and family to vote as well to help you get even more votes. Yes, non-members can vote, follow and like our page!! Voters must come to the MVFF FB PAGE to Like, Follow, Comment on the member's picture they are voting for. Example: "I vote for Joe Jones' bass picture." Or you can use an emoji.

7. Winners are determined by the most votes.

Good Luck everyone!! Share, vote and win!!! This should be fun and it's free.

~ Paula Smith

Fly Casting Skills Workshop, Presented by FFI Ohio Council

Join us for the FFI Casting Skills Development Program. The Saturday, April 20th 2024, workshop is FREE and based on practical fishing applications. Everyone from beginners to experienced casters is welcome to come learn or improve your fly casting. Bring your favorite fly-fishing outfit or use one of ours.

Workshop demonstrations & instructors will be provided by FFI Certified Casters & local Buckeye United Fly Fishers club instructors. Show up any time between 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM at Cottell Park, Deerfield Twp., 5847 Irwin Simpson Rd, Mason, Ohio.

For more information on the FFI Casting Skills Development program, go to <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Learn/Learning-Center-Resources/Fly-Casting/Skills-Drills>.

RSVP and pre-registration are required. Email Info@ffiohc.org, with your contact information and questions.

Cari Vota

Fly-Fishing Pioneer Cathy Beck Passes at 71

Cathy and Barry Beck have been an influential force in fly fishing since they first opened the fly shop Fishing Creek Outfitters in Benton, Pennsylvania together in 1988.

https://www.flyfisherman.com/editorial/cathy-beck-passes/491102?utm_source=WhatCounts-Email&utm_medium=FFN%20NL12%20Months%20Engaged%20Use%20this%20one&utm_campaign=FFN

BUFF Banquet

I want to invite Miami Valley Fly Fishers members to Buckeye United Fly Fishers Annual Banquet which will be on Wednesday, March 20th. There will be a raffle of fishing and non-fishing prizes and guided trips, too. Below is link to our website where you can register online or print the form and mail it in. If you have any questions please call me at 513-827-5437. Hope to see you there.

Bryan Tudor

V.P. of Buckeye United Fly Fishers

<http://www.buckeyeflyfishers.com/buffsql/banquet/register.asp>

New Links to Explore - from Jeff Warden

From Trout Unlimited . . . https://www.tu.org/magazine/fishing/tip-reading-water/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=none&zs=tATGb&zl=U42w3

Tons of information and free online classes/schools . . .

<https://guiderecommended.com/about-guide-recommended/>

https://www.tu.org/magazine/fishing/true-cast-how-to-choose-a-fly-rod-for-trout/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=none&zs=tATGb&zl=msKv3

Subject: Fishing Realities . . .

If you're having a bad day, it can't possibly be as bad as this guy's <https://notthebee.com/article/if-youre-having-a-bad-day-it-cant-possibly-be-as-bad-as-this-guys>

*The first Mid-Week Fly Fishing event is on March 20th at Possum Creek Ponds.
Kick off the season by taking part . . . [See page 9](#)*

Promise for the Future

I like to fish. Perhaps it's more appropriate to say that I like catching fish. This past year was a good one for doing so. I can confidently espouse that position after compiling data from my fishing logs. I'm probably not the typical angler, but as I shared in a recent conversation, I keep such records solely for myself.

The season started in February. Yes, February in Ohio. On a day marked with record warmth, the combination of a Lightning Bug and a Zug Bug, brought a total of 6 fish to hand. It felt good to feel the line tighten and the rod quiver after long, cold weeks of winter. It surprised me to see another angler on the other side of the pond. He too, was taking advantage of the pleasurable temperature of the day.

My first tenkara outing happened a month later. The day was a bit on the windy side and casting, admittedly, was a challenge. I nymphed (Is "nymphed" a verb?), my way around this particular location, and the cloudy water yielded less than a handful of fish in the two hours I spent there. Records show I fished a week earlier during another 70° day that included a 16" largemouth. I was almost dismayed with the thought that I may have captured "the fish of the year" so early in the season.

I revised the Black Ant pattern and switched dubbing for foam. The "new" Black Ant proved to be just as successful, and the increased buoyancy of the foam suggests I'll be tying ants in this manner from this day forward. The fish didn't seem to mind and I described a couple I caught that day as "bruisers."

Mid-May brought forth the sweet smell of honeysuckle to the air. I remembered a recent speaker at our Club meeting advising us to take notice of the surroundings both in and out of the water. He may have even mentioned that blooming honeysuckle would mean the advent of Dry Fly Season. I have to say the speaker was so right as I fished with a combination of the ant and nymphs for the remainder of the month.

I returned to a most welcome location in June, taking a long-

distance trip that landed me in Tennessee. I last fished there 6 years before and the allure of the river evoked memories of past successful ventures. This trip was also fruitful as it included the first time I ever fished with a Woolly Bugger. I don't mean to "put water on anyone's fire," but I didn't find the Bugger any more successful than the other flies we used. It caught fish, rainbow trout; and that was good enough for me.

Doing something I can only describe as "stupid," I broke the tip of one of my favorite rods while fishing from the kayak. Maybe "careless" is a more socially acceptable word to use, but when you're retired, you just can't afford to break fly rods every year. Luckily, I wasn't using my absolute favorite, a TFO Professional II, that the Temple Fork folks have now discontinued. I can't complain. Kayak fishing provided me with a fantastic 100 fish afternoon!

Speaking of discontinuing things, thanks to some stellar advice I stopped using 2 knots and found 2 others that work so much better. Gone are the Clinch and Blood Knots, replaced by the Uni, the Hessê (not its actual name), and Double Uni Knots. The Double Uni then replaced the Hessê Knot, allowing for a more efficient connection between leader and tippet.

I fished in remembrance of a late member of the Club. His wife placed some of his flies on display at his memorial service and welcomed the fishers who attended to take and use them. I chose what looked to me like a Pale Morning Dun, and bluegill found them rather "yummy."

When temperatures struggled to get out of the mid-50's, I decided to remove the rods from the car and call it a "season." I caught a total of 1,756 fish from February to mid-December. How good of a year was it? The great Maya Angelou once said, "Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it." I like how I fished 2023. Here's hoping last year's success sets the stage for a promising 2024.

Shawn Michael Johnson
MVFF Member

Save the Dates

Midwest Fly Fishing Expo

Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Center,
14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren, MI

Saturday, March 9th: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 10th: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

<https://midwestflyfishingexpo.com/>

<https://etix.com/ticket/v/16048/midwest-fly-fishing-expo>

2024 Ohio Rivers Symposium

Friday, March 22 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Villa Milano Conference Center in Columbus. REGISTRATION NOW OPEN.

<https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-odnr/nature-preserves/ohio-rivers-symposium>

TU Mad River Chapter Annual Meeting

April 20th Van Dyke Club - 9:00 a.m.

11044 Old Columbus Rd

South Vienna, OH 45369

Stream Monitoring

April 20, 2024 - 1:00 p.m.

US 36 Bridge over the Mad River

Urbana, OH

The Unabashed Angler's Dictionary (Part 8)

S

Salmon – North America's most plentiful, largest, and most sought-after type of anadromous fish. They run up rivers from the sea in the northern portions of both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Stocking programs have spread their range to include the Great Lakes region of the United States and Canada. All species of salmon readily take flies but take your strongest gear. A 60-pound king salmon will make a hash of an 8-weight in a hot minute.

Seam – Term for an area within a stream or river where portions of the current meet while running at different speeds, or in different directions. Current seams are tremendous fish magnets, providing slow water for large predators to wait in while fast water delivers a smorgasbord to their hiding place. Seams often provide fish with cover from predators looking down from above. Just as in sewing, seams in rivers often make mending necessary.

Smallmouth Bass – Micropterus Dolomieu is, pound-for-pound, one of the most pugnacious breeds of fish that swim anywhere. They are also voracious, and this tendency makes them a prime target for anglers. Smallmouths have been known to come up twenty feet to inhale a surface plug.

Streamer – an elongated wet fly that simulates a minnow, crayfish, or leech. Streamers work equally as well in still water and running water. In still water, the angler must impart all the action to make the streamer appear alive. In running water, the angler may choose to impart action, or to allow action to be imparted by the current.

Striped Bass – Morone Saxatilis grows to great sizes, depending on the amount of food that is available. They are highly unusual in that they thrive equally well in fresh or saltwater. Striped bass have been stocked in waters all over the continental United States. In saltwater, they are pushovers for eels. In freshwater, they seem to favor shad or freshly stocked rainbow trout. In Lake Mohave, they make such a habit

of following the stocking trucks that the boats offshore resemble the start of a major bass tournament. Whether they are in fresh or salt water, there are numerous flies that can put these hard-fighting fish in your boat. But if you get a nice limit of stripers, make sure to turn off autocorrect before you text your spouse that you are bringing them home!

T

Tenkara – a traditional Japanese form of fly fishing that involves a long, limber rod, a short line, and no reel. The rod resembles a buggy whip; however, the buggy whip is far shorter. The main difficulty with tenkara seems to be in keeping one's line and fly out of any nearby trees.

Tippet – a light section of line tied onto the terminal end of the leader in order to facilitate attachment of a fly. The tippet needs to be selected according to the size of fly the angler must match.

U

Ultralight – the art of fishing with extremely light line. Spin fishermen somehow got the idea that they invented this practice. Of course, while they were explaining how it is done, there was often a fly fisherman using a 7 or 8 X tippet standing well within earshot with a sly grin, casting to, and catching, rising fish.

V

Variant – In some circles, just the fact that a person is a fly angler made him or her a variant. However, the most common use of the term variant within fly fishing communities is a dry fly tied with oversized hackles. They are very popular with anglers who often fish patches of broken water, or those who need a somewhat bigger fly to enable tracking it through the drift.

Vise – the main tool used to enable tying flies. The vise holds the bedrock section, whether a hook or an articulation shank, while the tyer, ties on the thread, floss, tinsel, chenille, hair, fur, feathers, or any one of many other materials to approximate the size, shape, and color of whatever insect, minnow, or other fish food lives in the waters he or she fishes.

~ Ken Davy

Mad River Drift

Here is a link to the archive of the Trout Unlimited Mad River Chapter newsletter. When you open the link it gives you access to the current and previous newsletters. You can also subscribe here.

<https://us20.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=8049cc4f0cf9c67bcac699302&id=e41b50e209>

Mid-Week Fly Fishing 2024

Ken Davy has once again put together a list of fishing spots and a schedule from March - October. Ken has also included info on the fishing potential of these waters and suggested flies. There are links to a map for each location.

These events are on the club Calendar page of our website and Facebook page as well (Events).

Lots of fishing spots and links to maps here. Go on the scheduled date and you can meet up with fellow members. Or just check out some of these places when you choose. We're hoping to get even better turnout this year.

They start at 4:30 p.m. If you have specific questions about events contact Ken at tiggr75@gmail.com.

Location	Date	Special Considerations	Map	Fishing Info
Possum Creek Ponds	3/20/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/dBKMawZhb3aHFwDR6	Fishing for stocked trout and early season crappies.
Eastwood Lagoon	4/11/2024	Kayaks	https://goo.gl/maps/7LSKUazx8fYWboSu5	Bass, crappies and bluegills. Olive Woolly Buggers, Zoo Cougars, and Marsh Hares for the bass. Many SMB in this water.
Deer Meadow Park	4/23/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/CquLJXGsKM7Ug1766	Fishing for early season bass, and big bluegills.
Oak Grove Park	5/8/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/iBV9FWjR2wJTtXsR6	Fish quartering out from shore with poppers or foam bugs for big bluegills, or with Clousers, Buggers, or Zoo Cougars for bass. Some big bass in here. What to do for crappies is anybody's guess.
Arthur Fisher Park	5/21/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/X45ziDf6FYLZvb36	Fishing for early season bass, and bluegills. Olive Woolly Buggers, or Muddlers for the bass, poppers or foam beetles for the bluegills. Cast about 5 feet from shore for gills, up to 10 feet for the bass.
Possum Creek - Argonne Lake	6/6/2024	Kayaks	https://goo.gl/maps/dBKMawZhb3aHFwDR6	Kayak opportunity! Bass tanking up for spawning and bluegills on their beds. Topwater heaven! You will definitely need a kayak or canoe for large bass.
Delco Park	6/11/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/pgK7CeQVD5wclJ2Mo6	Tiny streamers or mayfly nymphs for the crappies. Foam beetles or beadhead nymphs for bluegills. Bushy marabou streamers or crawdad imitations for the bass.
North Park	6/19/2024	Boats, Kayaks	https://goo.gl/maps/JDUzia3Z85zSAmxy7	This one is primarily for the kayak and boat crowd. The bank fishing here is very tough. Boats are allowed but these ponds are very narrow and shallow, so you'll want to stay with the trolling motor. I have fished here a little, but I have not been able to discern any patterns as of yet. UPDATE: in 2023, the smaller of the two ponds was stocked with trout by the ODNR.
Lofino Park	6/27/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/nfzb6JGFax84Nejs6	Fishing for early season bass, crappies and bluegills. Olive Woolly Buggers, Zoo Cougars, and Muddlers for the bass, both LMB and SMB. Green Wienies or tiny streamers for the Crappies. Popper and dropper for the bluegills. (Or, if you're Shawn, a sponge spider and a Higgs's SOS.)
Rip Rap Road Park	7/10/2024	Wading, Kayaks (long portage)	https://goo.gl/maps/79oLpdMUDLkNyGWQA	Bring you waders and/or your kayaks! This one is on the Great Miami River in July. Kayakers, bring your portage wheels because it's about 300 yards from the parking lot to the river.
Rosewood Park	7/23/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/D8UQYWmoxhcDGMRA	Bluegills, some are large, reports of bass
Centennial Park	8/7/2024		https://maps.app.goo.gl/3dwGErQAeDytK1tb7	At least bluegills and carp, possibly bass and catfish
Miami View Park	8/20/2024		https://goo.gl/maps/to6qZip9aqVDi3uM8	Bluegills, catfish and bass
Fuggin Pond	9/5/2024		https://maps.app.goo.gl/ha93VqBtqDNXqJh49	Bluegills and largemouth bass
Huffman Metropark	9/17/2024	Kayaks, canoes	https://maps.app.goo.gl/mCu8cqTxV3cSR93n6	Bluegills, crappies, Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass. Kayaks, canoes.
Carriage Hill - Cedar Lake	10/17/2024	Kayaks, canoes	https://goo.gl/maps/Syz7GDDjR9uSaGiu5	Fishing for early season bass, crappies and bluegills.

March Fly of the Month



Flashtail Whistler

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward
Photography by Bob Cain

Recipe

Hook Bass Stinger, size 1 - 2/0
Eyes Bead Chain or Dumbbell, Large, Color of choice
Thread 6/0, Color of choice
Undertail Bucktail, White
Flash Flashabou, Silver or Pearl
Overtail Bucktail, Color of choice
Body Diamond Braid, Color of choice
Wing Grizzly Hackle
Collar Schlappen Hackle, Color of choice

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie in the thread behind the hook eye. Remove any thread tag. Wrap the thread back behind the hook eye about 2 hook eye lengths and let it hang.
2. Cut a segment of bead chain and tie it in using cross wraps where you left the thread hanging (2 hook eye lengths behind the hook eye). Insure that the bead chain is securely fastened. (If necessary, apply a drop of super glue between the bead chain on top of the thread wraps.)
3. Cut a bunch of white bucktail about the thickness of a pencil, clean out any loose fibers, and cut the butts even. Tie this bunch in tightly by the butt end on top of the hook shank over the hook barb. (Be sure to keep the bucktail on top of the hook shank.) Be sure to leave about 1/4th inch of open space behind the bead chain eyes. Cover any remaining butts with thread wraps. The tail should extend somewhere between 2" to 3" past the hook bend.
4. Select a batch of flashabou (30-40 strands) and tie them in on top of the hook shank by their middle at the same point you tied in the undertail, then fold the front half of flashabou back over the back half and tie it down, creating a thick bunch of flash on top of the undertail. Trim the flash so that their tips extend about 1" past the tips of the undertail.
5. Now cut second bunch of bucktail in your choice of color and measure it so that its tips reach from behind the bead chain eyes back to the tips of the undertail. Trim the butt ends even and tie this bunch in on top of the hook shank right behind the bead chain eyes and on top of the undertail and flash. Cover the butts with tight thread wraps back to the same point you tied in the undertail and the flash, creating a thread body between the front of the tails and the back of the bead chain eyes. This body should slope downward from the front of the tails to the back of the bead chain eyes.

6. Cut a 4"-5" piece of diamond braid and tie it in by one end tight against the front of the tails, then wrap it forward over the thread body (covering the thread wraps) to slightly behind the bead chain eyes and tie it off. Remove any excess braid and return the thread to the front of the braid body. There should still be a small open area behind the bead chain eyes.
7. Select 2 grizzly hackles of roughly the same size (they should reach from behind the bead chain eyes back to the end of the tails). Remove the fluff from the base of the hackles and tie one in on each side of the fly at the front of the body. Trim off any excess butts. (You should still have a small open space behind the bead chain eyes.)
8. Select a schlappen feather to use as a collar and remove any fluff from its base. Tie it in by the tip tight against the front of wing hackles, then wrap it forward in touching turns to behind the bead chain eyes (see why you need the open space) and tie it off. Remove any excess schlappen. (It is recommended that you stroke back the schlappen fibers with each wrap to avoid binding down too many fibers.) Wrap the thread a few times over the front of the schlappen fibers to make the fibers lay back over the body, then wrap the thread forward to the front of the bead chain eyes and do a whip finish. Cut the thread. You may wish to apply head cement or super glue to the thread wraps.

This fly is great for pike and bass. Its profile is big enough to push a lot of water and attract a lot of attention. It works well with a rapid retrieve. Its name comes from the fact that the bead chain eyes "whistle" when the fly is cast. Enjoy!



Little Miami Watershed Network

Below is the link to Little Miami Watershed Network newsletter (current and past issue) and where you can subscribe. Learn how you can join our network in caring for the well-being of this beautiful river.

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=d0849e781ada00f84ee13de0b&id=cdf41a0888>



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Ohio DNR Education Registration

The Department of Natural Resources regularly has educational opportunities on a variety of outdoor, wildlife and sporting topics. Check out the link below and click on Register to read more about particular events you might be interested in attending . . . <https://apps.ohiodnr.gov/wildlife/educationregistration/>

Find All Fishing Reports

Fishing reports are broken down by region – Lake Erie, central, northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest – all of which can be found online.

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/hunting-fishing-boating/fishing-resources/fishing-reports-forecasts>

Backyard Wildlife Documents

Some nice resources to check out . . .

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/wildlife/documents-publications/backyard-wildlife-documents>



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

FFI has made strides to grow the fly fishing community through the launch of a dynamic new Fly Fishers International website, including the revamped FFI Learning Center, accessible to anyone with a passion for the sport. This modern new website is easier to navigate and highlights FFI's strength in fly fishing education with an incredible repository of videos, articles, and manuals on casting, fly tying, conservation, and fly fishing skills.

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Learn/Learning-Center-Resources>

The Connection is the official quarterly newsletter of FFI Women Connect. FFI Women Connect encourages female leadership in FFI Clubs and the fly fishing industry by creating a platform where women can develop fly fishing skills, network with other women fly fishers, and come together for fly fishing experiences.

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Get-Involved/FFI-Women-Connect>

Looking for another way to dive into the world of fly fishing? Try *Fly Fish Forever*, the official podcast of Fly Fishers International. Find *Fly Fish Forever* on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), and [Amazon](#), or your favorite podcast source.

DOW eNewsletter

Subscribe to the Ohio DNR Division of Wildlife eNewsletter by filling out the form below. Once submitted, check your email to confirm your subscription.

<https://go.ohiodnr.gov/downnewsletter>

Mobile App

HuntFish OH is a mobile path for Ohio's hunters, anglers and shooters to licensing, game check, regulations, and communication with the Ohio Division of Wildlife.



<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/hunting-fishing-boating/hunting-resources/huntfishoh-mobile-app>

MVFF

Miami Valley Fly Fishers Inc., established in 1975 and re-organized in 2016 as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the improvement and preservation of fly fishing in Ohio. Our goal is cleaner water and brighter streams.

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CALENDAR

Check the [MVFF Calendar](#) page or our Facebook Events page for updates & details

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

Remember, you can find many photos of MVFF happenings on our [Facebook](#) page.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/MiamiValleyFlyFishers/photos/>



Did You See the 2023 Michigan Trip Photos?

A great trip. See the story in the November 2023 issue of Tightlines

and check out the photos from this trip - <https://facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.814985170499957&type=3>

There are lots of other photos and albums on the FB page.

Help!

I always need and appreciate member-submitted material for this newsletter. So if you have been on a fishing trip and want to write an article and share pictures, please send info my way. Maybe you have tactics, equipment tips, a new fly pattern or some other knowledge you would like to share. We would welcome the contributions. If you have ideas on what you would like to see in Tightlines let me know. My contact information is on this page.

~ Tom Arnold, Editor

Dues!

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FLY FISHERS
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The Miami Valley Fly Fishers, Inc. is an active Affiliate Club of Fly Fishers International, an international club promoting the benefits of fly fishing and conservation