

TIGHTLINES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers



May Meeting

Our next meeting is May 13th

Dayton FOP Lodge / Casting Pond
4275 Powell Road
(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.

Please make your reservation at

<https://mvff.us/reservation/>

by 9:00 p.m. on May 9th

Coffee, Casting, & Catching

On Saturday, April 6, 2024, the inaugural Coffee, Casting, & Catching event was held. The outing was sponsored by the Miami Valley Fly Fishers Mentoring Committee. Thirteen members of the Club met at the Centerville McDonald's on the brisk Saturday morning to participate in the outing. Eleven were undeterred by the 54° morning and made the short trip to Rosewood Park after some coffee, breakfast, and conversation.

Upon arrival at the park, lines were quickly dispatched into the waters of the pond. Mentor Ken Davy brought in the first aquatic resident with a splashy retrieve from the western shoreline. Before long the cry of "Fish On," could be heard from other anglers. J. D. Duker treated Club President Paula Smith, by allowing her to use his 7' 6," 3 - weight rod he built. Paula fought through a bit of muscle memory to gain a feel for the super bendy rod, and brought 3 bluegill to hand.

The northern corner, which actually is the outflow for the pond, appeared to hold a number of fish in a fairly deep pool. Nymphing proved to be the most successful tactic utilized by the anglers. A number of laughs and flies were shared and the event was deemed to be a success.

Members of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers should be on the lookout for future "Coffee, Casting, and Catching" events throughout this fishing season.

Shawn Michael Johnson

President's Thoughts

Welcome to May!
Finally, the weather seems to be changing to warm.

This brings us to our first outdoor meeting at the F.O.P. on Powell Rd. in Huber Heights.

For those of you who have not attended a meeting in the past here is what they consist of. Dinner on the grill with steak or chicken and sides. Be sure to place your order (reservation) so they have an idea on how many to order. You can pay for your meal at the meeting or before if you like through PayPal (enter mvffemail@gmail.com, the amount - \$15.00 per meal and indicate who you are paying for). There will be a raffle, meeting on updates and events and future outings. We will have several rods and reels available for anyone who would like to use them. If you are new to fly fishing and would like to learn more about it, maybe have a lesson or cast a few and wet a line, we got you covered. We have Mentors available to take you down to the pond as well as Bill Bennett who will be having a casting clinic after the meeting.

If you would like you can contact our Coffee, Casting and Catching Mentor Group (CCC) to join as a mentor or mentee (mvffmentor@gmail.com) They are also available to assist with scheduling an outing for you as well as the Board Members or myself. We will be having more things scheduled for the club very soon now that the weather is getting warmer. Keep an eye out in Tightlines and on Facebook.

Remember to send in your pictures to be posted or post them yourself on our Facebook page. Let's see what you have on the line. Share some fish tales.

Fish on!

Paula Smith
MVFF President



Secretary's Notes for April 2024

We enjoyed having sixty-one members, past members, and guests at the delayed April meeting. The sun was shining. Welcome to new/old member Chris Powell. Chris was part of MVFF some thirty years ago, moved to Colorado where he lived and fished until recently returning to the Miami Valley. Welcome also to Tamie Chapman, who has been part of the veterans' outreach program.

Paula Smith announced the winners of the club's Facebook photo competition. Alan Nandrasy received a \$25 gift card for his first place photo and Emily Reeves received a \$10 gift certificate for runner-up. Gift cards were donated by club member and fly shop owner Randy Arrowwood.

Allen Berg, who is heading up the fly casting competition at the outdoor meetings beginning in May, explained the guidelines for this year's challenges. All are welcome and encouraged to demonstrate and stretch their skills. Both right and left hand retrieve reels will be available. New lines are being installed.

Shawn Johnson announced the mentoring committee members. They are Paula Smith, Ken Davy, Angela Chavez, and Shawn. There will be a mentor/mentee outing at Tom & Sue Boice's farm on June 1st.

Ken Davy encouraged everyone to join him at the Mid-Week Fly Fishing outings. Though the weather so far has been uncooperative, there is hope that brighter days are ahead.

Member Kelly Kingery will be taking over the fly-fishing corner at Fishermen's Headquarters this fall and has asked for members' support. For years Bill "Woody" Woodward tied flies and brought his unique character to this same venue. We look forward to supporting Kelly.

The Veterans program recently enjoyed a day out at Boice's Ponds.

Jeremy Hunt from the White River Basin in Arkansas/Missouri was the guest speaker by Zoom. We are grateful for John Young's efforts to continually bring such high quality speakers to be heard. Respectfully, J. W. Davis

April Spring Fling Raffle Winners

Here are our Spring Fling winners . . .

- Montana Brothers Rodworks 9' 4wt rod and Lamson Remix S-Series 3+ Reel with 2 extra spools - Allen Berg
- Tibor Backcountry 5-7 wt Reel - Andy Goetz
- Tenkara Sato Outfit - Emily Reeves
- Renzetti Traveler Rotary Vice (limited edition blue) - Ken Hudak
- Oasis Pedestal Tying Bench, Eye and Bead Center, and Fly Dock - Chris Powell
- Go Pro Hero10 Black Camera and SD Memory Card - Ken Hudak
- Angel's Envy Bourbon with 2 Fly Glasses - Jason Turpin
- Yeti Cooler - Doc Balazs
- Quilt by Sue Dukes - Eric Rice

~ Lew Hofmann

Lew is still 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. If you are able to assist, please contact him at lewhof@mac.com or 301-503-2398.

2024 Dues

We have 34 members who have not yet renewed for 2024 and they are being removed from the roster and their access to logging in to the website will be expired.

Please renew now. If you are unsure as to your dues status email us at mvffemail@gmail.com.

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

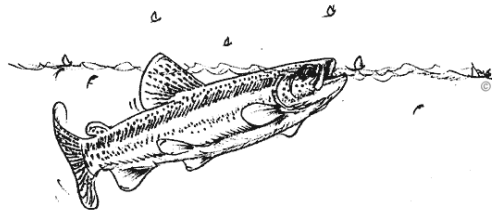
Sharpening Your Casting Skills

Exercises you can do at home to help you meet onstream casting challenges

Allen Berg, MVFF Casting Competition Coordinator, sent an article to us from the June 1987 issue of Fly Fisherman magazine. It is a featured article by Joan Wulff - Sharpening Your Casting Skills. We obtained permission from Fly Fisherman magazine to publish this article from their June 1987 issue. The article is long and would not display well in Tightlines; however, Fly Fisherman magazine also provided a link to the article. View it here: <https://www.flyfisherman.com/editorial/joan-wulff-sharpening-casting-skills/493656>

It is really quite informative.

Read about Joan and her history (and wonderful photos) at the American Museum of Fly Fishing - <https://www.amff.org/portfolio/graceful-rise-today/agr-joan-wulff/>



Website Updates

Adding Images to Forum

The most recent change is that you can add images to forum topics and replies to topics. You could always do so through entering a URL (link) to a photo but this did not allow you to view the image without opening the link. NOW you will be able to easily add an image by selecting your file or dragging and dropping the image into your post. To upload an image to a forum topic or reply, click the Insert/edit image button in the editor toolbar.

Forum Topics Preview on Home Page

Recent forum topics are displayed on the home page. You can view the topic but will have to login to post a reply. You are also welcome to post a new topic - you will have to login to do this however (more than 70% of members are registered). Give it a try.

Forum Topics Page

Here registered members can create and/or reply to topics.

Following a Conversation on the Forum

On the Forum Topics be sure to use the checkbox "Notify me of follow-up replies via email" so that you will be alerted to new responses to a particular topic. We hope to see increased use of the forum as we get more members registered.

~ Tom Arnold

Casting Competition News!

Come one, come all and join us in the MVFF fly casting competition. You can test your casting skills, it's fun and we supply the equipment.

May is the dry fly competition. This year we are starting with two 4 weight rods, both left and right hand retrieve. Both with a brand spanking new double taper line and a sparkling new 9 foot leader. How about bringing one your own bright flies for the club to use.

The only thing required to participate in the casting events is for you to show up. Regardless of skill level, EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

May Casting Competition – this month will be the Dry Fly competition.

- A maximum of 3 false casts per target will be allowed.
- We will have you start with the fly in target 1 or in your hand. (Judge's decision on meeting night.)

Casting Competition Cut-Off Time

Casting competition will only be from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. No casting will be allowed after 7:00 p.m. The cut-off time will help ensure we are not holding up the meeting with scoring, etc., and give us somewhat of a chance to grab some dinner. So come on over and cast early!

NOTE: If no one is casting, at the discretion of the judges, we might close as early as 6:30 p.m.

Casting Competition Divisions are as follows:

First Flight: Those that have never won a casting event and all new casters.

Seniors: Casters who have previously won a First Flight casting event or former winners of the First Flight casting division.

Masters: Former winners of the Seniors casting division.



Competition Guidelines:

Everyone will cast to the same five rings, using the club rod.

One person from each division will be determined the winner of that night's competition. Based on your cumulative scores of all the events, an overall winner will be determined for each division and presented a traveling trophy in December.

Scoring: (Judges will make the final ruling on all scores; there will be no ties for any event.)

All casters will start with 100 points.

- (-0) Those skillful enough to place the fly inside the gold ring will not lose any points.
- (-1) Any fly that lands inside the black ring will result in the deduction of 1 point.
- (-2) If the fly lands outside all the rings, 2 points will be deducted.

The person in each division with the highest score will win the event for their division.

At the end of the outdoor season, overall winners of each division will be determined by averaging scores of all events entered. Whoever has the highest score total in their division will be awarded a trophy at the December awards banquet. Even if you don't win an event, you could still be the overall winner of your division (it's happened before!). And the largest part of winning your division is consistency - that is the key. So come on over and cast.

Remember - although we do keep score and everyone would like to win, the real point of doing this (other than to just have a good time) is to improve our casting abilities.

Good Luck!

Allen Berg



Digital Fishing Tools

Not so many years ago, fishermen gathered at bait shops, in marinas, around cracker barrels in general stores and other, similar, meeting places. These gatherings had purposes other than passing on the latest gossip, or swapping lies. One of the best purposes of these sessions was the collection and passing down of useful information. New knots were discussed and demonstrated, the movement of fish onto the spawning grounds was reported, and new lures, rods or reels were reviewed.

The most important information was much harder to come by, that being tidbits concerning hotspots that were yielding large numbers of fish, or fish of great size. Such information has always been, and likely will always be, considered top secret information, necessary for the angler to protect at any cost, lest the spots become degraded through increased fishing pressure.

Fortunately, today there are numerous tools that can provide the angler-specific information about bodies of water, fish activity and even information about the fish you have already caught. There are geographic information systems that will help locate new places to fish or build custom maps, depth finders that can reveal the contours of a pond without the need to launch a boat, informational websites that attempt to replace the bait shops of old, and apps that pass along information on who is catching what using which baits in which bodies of water.

Over the next few months, I intend to provide my readers with reviews of some of the most popular websites and applications. When the series concludes, you should have a comprehensive view of current digital tools to aid your fishing, how to operate the tools to perform helpful functions, and pitfalls inherent to avoid in each of the tools.

COMING NEXT MONTH: Google Maps and other geographic information systems

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>

Little Miami Watershed Network

Also, mark your calendars for the River Festival on Saturday, June 29. We will have a Little Miami River Clean Up in the morning and the Festival starts around noon after the trash has been removed from the river. More details to come soon.

Keep in touch at . . . <https://lmwn.org>



*The next Mid-Week Fly Fishing events are May 8th at Oak Grove Park
and May 21st at Arthur Fisher Park.*

Come join us - for more info See [page 6](#)

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/iBV9FWiR2wJTtXsR6	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 Higga'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/to6qZjp9aqVDi3uM8	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.

May Fly of the Month

LITTLE BLACK STONEFLY - GUIDE STYLE

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward
Photography by Bob Cain



Recipe

Thread	6/0 or 8/0
Tail/Antenna	Black round rubber leg material or equivalent
Abdomen	Black stretch tubing or similar material
Wing Case	Pheasant tail fibers, natural or black
Thorax	Dark Hare's Ear dubbing (Natural fur is best)
Head	Thread

1. Attach the thread slightly behind the hook eye and wrap a tight thread base back to the bend of the hook, then wrap it forward again to slightly behind the hook eye. Remove any thread tag.
2. Cut a 4" to 5" piece of legging material and fold it half. Form a small loop (at least a hook shank in length) at the fold point and tie the legging material in behind the hook eye, on top of the hook shank, with the loop projecting in front of the hook eye. Keeping the butt ends of the legging material on top of the hook shank, wrap a tight thread base over them back to the hook bend, then wrap the thread forward again to about 1/3rd of the hook shank behind the hook eye. **DO NOT CUT OFF THE REMAINING LEG MATERIAL** as it will become the tail. Trim the remaining butts so that they are about the length of the hook. Insert your scissors into the material loop at the hook eye, stretch the loop forward, then cut it apart creating two antennae. Trim the antennae so that they are a little less than a hook shank in length.
3. Cut a 5" piece of tubing and tie it in by one end about 1/3rd of the hook shank behind the hook eye, then, keeping the tubing on top of the hook shank, make tight thread wraps over it back to the hook bend. Return the thread to the 1/3rd point, then grasp the tubing and, maintaining a little tension, wrap it in touching turns forward to the 1/3rd point and tie it off. Trim off any excess tubing.

4. Now cut about 8-12 fibers from a pheasant tail and tie them in on top of the hook shank by their butt ends at the front of the tube abdomen. Trim off any excess butts. Wrap the thread over the butts back to the 1/3rd point of the hook shank, then return the thread back to behind the hook eye. The pheasant tail fibers should now be on top of the hook shank stretching back toward the hook bend.
5. Dub the thread creating a thin dubbing noodle and wrap it back to the wingcase tie-in point (be sure to cover all the wing case thread wraps) and then back to behind the hook eye creating a small thorax. Remove any excess dubbing. The thread should now be behind the hook eye.
6. Grasp the pheasant tail fibers and pull them over the top of the thorax and tie them down tightly behind the hook eye. Trim off any excess fibers.
7. Form a small thread head, do a whip finish (be careful not to tie down the antennae) and cut the thread. Take a dubbing brush and brush down legs from the thorax. If desired, coat the wing case with a drop of head cement for added durability.





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>



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.

MVFF Board

President

Paula Smith

Vice President

Ken Davy

Secretary

Jeffrey Davis

Treasurer

Walt Konek

Tightlines Editor/
Webmaster

Tom Arnold

Clipart courtesy of the artist,
Dave Whitlock
davewhitlock.com



P.O. Box 151
Wright Brothers Station
Dayton, Ohio 45409

Website: mvff.us

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!



It could not be easier. Just pay using our PayPal portal. Either pay with your PayPal account or by credit or debit card as a guest. Click the Pay Now button on our Home page . . . <https://mvff.us>

Support Our Local Shops & Those Who Support MVFF

Fisherman's Headquarters
142 S. Keowee St.
Dayton, Ohio 45402
937.222.2224
fishermanshq.net

ReelFlyRod.com
1908 N. Lakeman Dr.
Bellbrook, OH 45305
855.434.8472
ReelFlyRod.com

Mad River Outfitters
813 Bethel Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43214
614.451.0363
madriveroutfitters.com

SmithFly
124 N. Main St.
Piqua, Ohio 45356
937.335.7400
smithfly.net



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
[Affiliate Club](#)

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