

# TIGHTLINES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers



## December Meeting

Our next meeting is December 9th

Kohler 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.**

Please make your reservation at  
<https://mvff.us/reservation/>  
by 9:00 p.m. on December 5th

## 2025 Dues

We are now accepting payments for 2025 dues. 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).

This is also the easiest way for us as it eliminates the burdens of dealing with check and cash deposits.

<https://mvff.us>

Dues paid by new members on or after October 1, 2024 will be considered paid through 2025.



## President's Thoughts

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. May you have an even greater Christmas and Happy New Year. As we come to closing out the 2024 season, I want to thank all of you for letting me serve as President this year. It

was my second term, and I enjoyed serving. We were blessed with a large growth in membership. I hope this continues so we can share the love of fly fishing and conserve our rivers and streams for future generations. As our motto states, "Passing it on...sharing our knowledge of, and passion for, the sport of fly fishing." Thank you all who shared the passion of our club that others may participate in the sport.

Congratulations goes your new President for 2025, Ken Davy, and Vice President, Karen Via. Secretary, Jeff Davis, and Treasurer, Walt Konek, are in their fourth year. Please consider running for these positions in 2025.

I hope all members plan to attend our Christmas Dinner, December 9th at the Kohler Center, 4572 Presidential Way, Kettering. (directions on website). Fun starts at 5:30. Join us for the double raffle and awards. The awards are given to show appreciation to the members that gave extras, our casting competition winners, volunteers, and mentors.

The BUFF show will be held February 1, 2025, at the Oasis Conference Center, 902 Loveland-Miamiville Road Loveland, Ohio. Volunteers are needed - please contact Ken Davy if you are interested. They have limited the amount of table space for tying so let him know before all the slots are filled.

*(Continued next page)*



## President's Thoughts (cont'd)

The 2025 tying classes are on the way, it's a great way to socialize with fellow fly fishers and learn more about fly tying. They will be held every Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. starting January 9<sup>th</sup>. The beginner class runs five weeks beginning January 9<sup>th</sup>. The western style tying class begins February 13<sup>th</sup> and runs for three weeks. J. D. Dukes, Kelly Kingery, and Emily Reeves will be the instructors. The classes will be held at Rona Hills Community Church, 600 Roehner Dr, Fairborn, OH 45324-5779. Sign-up sheets will be available at the December meeting, and you can also contact the instructors for more information.

Fish on!  
Paula Hill  
President MVFF

## November Raffle Winners

- Echo Carbon XL 8'4" 4wt rod, Echo Bravo LT Fly Reel, Scientific Anglers Frequency Fly Line – Joe Garland
- Loon Core Fly Tying Tool Kit - Allen Berg
- Simms Wool Gloves and Mittens - John McGinnis
- Two Trout Glasses + Octoberfest Beer - Heather Williams
- Mad River Outfitters Gift Certificate (\$100) - John Young

Healing Waters MAGA Bug Clock by Jim Calvert (Veteran's Day Special Raffle with proceeds going to MVFF's No One Left Behind program) - Bob Zitney



## Secretary's Notes for November 2024

Miami Valley Fly Fisher's, Inc. met at the Kohler Banquet Center on November 11th with fifty-two members in attendance. The meeting was broadcast through Zoom to those members unable to attend. (The December meeting will also be on Zoom. An invitation will be emailed separately.) Karen Via was elected Vice-President for 2025. Ken Davy will assume the president's role in January. Guest Charlie Uhl, a senior at Bishop Alter High School, was recognized along with new member, Heather Williams, and past MVFF president Larry Edwards. John Warner will manage the monthly raffles starting in January.

John Warner reported on the latest Mad River monitoring event sponsored by Trout Unlimited Mad River Chapter 477. Randy Evans and John Young participated. Dave Williams spoke about the Golden Trout artwork he had created as a thank you to October's speaker, Devin Olsen. Shawn Johnson noted that a benevolence card had been sent to member, Denny Davy, during a recent illness. He also shared what was currently happening in the mentoring program. Joe Garland introduced a new fishing opportunity coming next May in Michigan. This is through the Michigan scouting council and you may register at <https://michiganscouting.org/anglers-basecamp/> (see full article later in this issue of *Tightlines*).

President, Paula Hill, recognized all veterans and active duty military personnel by having them stand. Jim Calvert created a memorial mantle clock which was raffled off to raise funds for MVFF's veterans outreach programs. Bob Zitney won the raffle.

John Young introduced the evening's speaker, Gary Dubiel, who guides and offers specialized charters in the estuaries along the North Carolina Atlantic coast. Respectfully, J. W. Davis

# Fly Tying Classes

Introductory and beginning fly tying classes will be Thursday nights from 6-8:00 p.m. at the Rona Hills Community Church on January 9, 16, 23, 30 and February 6 hosted by J.D. Dukes with possible guest instructors.

We also have an extraordinary opportunity to present a western fly tying course taught by member Emily Reeves who grew up in Colorado and began fly fishing and tying with her father at age 4. She will be hosting



classes at the same venue on February 13, 20, and 27. This course is for those tiers who are more experienced. She will be leaving us late next spring for a new Air Force assignment.



All materials will be provided. If you need a vise and/or tools they also are available.

Sign-up sheets for each class will be available at the December MVFF meeting. You may also sign up by contacting Jeff Davis at [davis4994@icloud.com](mailto:davis4994@icloud.com).

## Winter Practice

For many folks, winter means less time on the water and more time at home. You may find some solace in thinking about adventures to come – what you want to do, where you want to go, and how you can prepare for the future on the water now.

Start with the basics. If you can get outside, work on your short game: casts of 20 to 30 feet.

Break the cast down by dividing your casting motion into a very distinct forward cast and back cast, which lets you focus on each piece of the puzzle more directly. The easiest way to make this happen is to cast at a side-arm angle also known as the triangle method.

1. Make a forward cast, let it lie on the ground.
2. Check to see if it's landing straight.
3. Gather yourself and then make a backcast at that same side-arm angle, watching the loop unroll all the way back.

4. Check to see if the line lands straight.
5. Make the next forward cast and repeat the process.
6. Only after these two pieces feel pretty good and are landing nicely, link them together. Instead of letting your backcast hit the ground, start your forward cast after the line straightens out in the air. Let the forward cast land on the ground and see your results.

You're looking to keep the loops less than 4 feet.

One of the best video classes I have seen is from Sunray Fly Casting Master Class.

[Sunray | Fly Casting Masterclass | Overhead Fly Casting](#)

Let me know how I may be of assistance.

Allen Berg  
937 503 6884  
[arberg@ameritech.net](mailto:arberg@ameritech.net)

## SAVE THE DATE: TU Mad River Chapter GALA at Simon Kenton Inn on April 5th

Be sure to check out our Facebook page . . . <https://www.facebook.com/TUmadriver> to learn more.

*Tom Allen*

## December Fly of the Month

## Lee Wulff Surface Stone Variant

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward  
Photography by Bob Cain



Side view



Top view

### Recipe

Hook ..... Salmon, size 6  
Thread ..... Chartreuse, 6/0  
Post ..... Poly yarn, white or color of your choice  
Hackle ..... Saddle hackle, badger or cream  
Body ..... Chartreuse foam, 2mm  
Wing ..... Badger hair or Grey Squirrel tail  
Thorax ..... Chartreuse Diamond Brite or Prism dubbing  
blended with badger hair underfur

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie in the thread behind the hook eye at the point where the folded end of the hook eye touches the hook shank and wrap a tight thread base back over the front half of the hook shank, then reverse direction and wrap the thread back to the tie-in point. Let the thread hang.

2. Cut a 2" piece of poly yarn and tie it in by its middle on top of the hook shank at the thread tie-in point with several tight thread wraps. Lift up both ends of the yarn and wrap thread around them up their length for about 1/4" forming a tight thread post, then wrap the thread back down to the base of the post.

3. Select a hackle feather and measure the barb fibers to find the point where the barbs are the length of the hook shank. Strip off the longer fibers below that point exposing the bare quill. Tie the feather in by its bare quill upright against the side of the thread post with tight thread wraps. (The barbs should start at the top of the post.) Return the thread to the base of the post, trim off any excess quill butt, and wrap the thread back to the hook bend.

4. Cut a strip of foam about 1/4" wide and 4" long. Cut a taper in one end and tie it in by this tapered end on top of the hook shank (Be sure the straight side of the tapered end is on top.). The length of the strip should project out over the hook bend. Bind down the butt end of the strip with tight thread wraps. Wrap the thread back to behind the post.

5. If desired for durability, coat the hook shank with super glue, then wrap the foam strip up the hook shank in overlapping turns to slightly behind the post and tie it off. Be sure to keep tension on the foam strip as you wrap it to form a thin body. Remove any excess foam and tie down the butt with tight thread wraps.

6. Snip a small clump of badger hair or squirrel tail hair from the skin. (Pull the hair upright to even the tips before you cut it off as close to the skin as possible.) Remove all the underfur but don't throw it away as we will use it later. Measure the hair to be the length of the hook shank and tie it in tightly by the butts as a wing on top of the hook shank slightly behind the post and tightly against the front of the foam abdomen. Wrap tight thread wraps over the hair butts to the back of the post, then pull the remaining hair butts around the side of the post toward the hook eye and cover them with thread wraps. Wrap the thread back to behind the post to the wing tie-in point.

7. Take a clump of dubbing and blend it with the underfur from step 6, then dub the thread and wrap it from the front of the wing to the back of the post. Be sure to cover any thread wraps. Remove any excess dubbing and wrap the thread to the front of the post.

8. Now grasp the hackle feather and wrap it down the post in tight touching turns to the hook shank and tie it off in front of the post. Remove any excess hackle. Dub the thread again and x-wrap it behind the post to cover any thread wraps, then bend back the post and wrap the dubbed thread against the front of the post forming a dubbed tapered head.

9. Remove any excess dubbing, form a small thread head, whip finish, and cut the thread. Apply head cement if desired.

10. Trim the top of the post level just above the hackle.



# Preparing Your Gear for Winter

Many of us seldom fish in the winter months and for some the focus shifts to fly tying. If you are among the majority here, you might consider how to care for and store all that precious gear so that it's in tip-top shape come next season.

Storing fly fishing gear properly over the winter ensures it remains in excellent condition and is ready for use when the fishing season resumes. Here are some best practices:

## 1. Rods

- Clean Thoroughly: Use warm water and mild soap to remove dirt, grime, and any salt residue.
- Dry Completely: Ensure the rod is completely dry to prevent moisture-related damage.
- Disassemble: If the rod is multi-piece, separate the sections and store them in their protective case or sock.
- Avoid Stress: Store rods horizontally or vertically in a cool, dry place. Avoid leaning them at angles or placing heavy items on them.

## 2. Reels

- Clean and Lubricate: Rinse reels with fresh water, especially if used in saltwater, and dry thoroughly. Apply a light reel grease to moving parts.
- Loosen Drag: Reduce tension on the drag system to avoid compressing internal components during storage.
- Store Safely: Place the reel in a protective pouch or case to prevent dust and physical damage.

## 3. Lines

- Inspect for Damage: Check fly lines for cracks or wear.
- Clean and Condition: Use a fly line cleaner to remove dirt and improve performance.
- Loosely Coil: Store fly lines loosely in a cool, dry place to prevent kinking or memory.

## 4. Flies

- Dry Completely: Ensure all flies are dry before storage to avoid rust on hooks.
- Sort and Organize: Arrange flies by type or size in a fly box.
- Inspect Hooks: Replace or sharpen damaged hooks.

## 5. Waders and Boots

- Clean Thoroughly: Wash waders and boots with warm water and a mild detergent to remove mud, algae, or invasive species.
- Dry Completely: Hang waders and boots to air dry, ensuring no moisture is trapped inside.
- Store Properly: Hang waders by the suspenders or fold them loosely. Store boots in a cool, dry place.

## 6. Accessories

- Clean Tools: Inspect and clean nippers, forceps, and other tools to remove rust or dirt.
- Organize Gear: Store small items in tackle boxes or zip-lock bags to keep them organized.

## 7. Storage Conditions

- Avoid Extremes: Store gear in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and temperature extremes.
- Protect from Pests: Use cedar blocks or moth repellents to deter insects that might damage natural materials like feathers or furs.

By taking the time to properly store your fly fishing gear, you'll extend its lifespan and ensure it's ready to perform when the season begins again.



## MICHIGAN ANGLERS' BASE CAMP ANNOUNCED

Greetings Fellow Fly Anglers,

I am very happy to announce the opening of Michigan Anglers' Base Camp in partnership with Mitten Outdoor Adventures and Events in May of 2025. We chose the month of May because this is the month when all the great hatches are happening on Michigan trout waters.

The camp is in Clare, Michigan at Camp Rotary, one of Scouting America's camps owned and administered by the Michigan Crossroads Council.

You will be very pleased to know that Clare is located right in the center of the lower peninsula of Michigan within an hour of every great trout river in this geographic region. Additionally, there are literally hundreds of lakes available for fly fishing including Beebe Lake, right on the property of Anglers' Base Camp. Canoes and kayaks are available for your use on Beebe Lake.

You can view an interactive map of fly fishing destinations within easy reach of the camp [HERE](#).

There will be 3 full weeks and one short week available in May 2025. You can look at the available weeks and the cost [HERE](#).

The camp is all-inclusive including lodging, meals, snacks, and lots of other amenities. The facilities are modern, heated and include showers, bathrooms and changing facilities as a part of each of the lodges.

Look at all the details on our website [HERE](#), and please do not hesitate to reach out with questions or for additional information. We encourage you to register early to reserve your spot.

I hope to see you at Michigan Anglers' Base Camp in 2025.

Sincerely,

Tim Guilfoile  
tim@riverjournal.org  
(859) 652-0088

[michiganscouting.org/anglers-basecamp/](http://michiganscouting.org/anglers-basecamp/)



*Michigan Anglers' Base Camp  
Mitten Outdoor Adventure & Events  
14258 Michigan Street | Eagle, Michigan 48822*



Buckeye United Fly Fishers will host the annual Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show  
Saturday February 1, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Oasis Conference Center  
902 Loveland-Miamiville Road  
Loveland, Ohio

[Register for Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Workshops](#)

Registration for Non-BUFF members will open on December 15th.

This is a great show that a good number of our members attend each year. We will, as always, have a table at the event. If you are interested in helping and/or tying flies contact Ken Davy at [tigr75@gmail.com](mailto:tigr75@gmail.com).

## Ohio Fly Tying Guild Fly Tying Demos

Join us each month at the Ohio Fly Tying Guild Zoom meeting for live online fly tying and techniques demonstrations. These events will be held the 3rd Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Eastern time. So mark your calendars to plan ahead. If you missed the first sessions, you can view the recordings at the following YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@OhioFlyTyingGuild>

Subscribe and you should get notices when new videos are available.

Fly Fishers International member Gary Begley from the Buckeye United Fly Fishers club near Cincinnati, Ohio will be leading the sessions. Topics of discussions and demonstrations will cover tying tools, materials, hooks, and the techniques to put it all together to create a fly that will catch fish. These are interactive events, so don't be afraid to make comments, or to ask questions. We hope to see you at the meetings.

If you are an FFI member you can subscribe to the Ohio Council of FFI at the link below and you will get notification of the next session with the Zoom invitation.

<https://mailchi.mp/bb30fc8451a5/ffi-ohio-council-newsletter-10328552?e=e08d356fda>

### 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

There's much to be found on our website so be sure to check in regularly for updates on activities and opportunities to support us in volunteering.

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



## 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.

## MVFF Board

### President

Paula Hill

### 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](https://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 2024 Michigan Trip Photos?

A great trip. See the story in the November 2024 issue of Tightlines

and check out the photos from this trip - [https://](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1066474248684380&type=3)

[www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1066474248684380&type=3](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1066474248684380&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!

Pay Now



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](https://fishermanshq.net)

ReelFlyRod.com  
1908 N. Lakeman Dr.  
Bellbrook, OH 45305  
855.434.8472  
[ReelFlyRod.com](https://ReelFlyRod.com)

Mad River Outfitters  
813 Bethel Rd.  
Columbus, Ohio 43214  
614.451.0363  
[madriveroutfitters.com](https://madriveroutfitters.com)

SmithFly  
124 N. Main St.  
Piqua, Ohio 45356  
937.335.7400  
[smithfly.net](https://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