

# Ohio Fly Line



## Federation of Fly Fisher's Ohio Council Newsletter

Volume 1 / Issue 1

[www.ohiofff.org](http://www.ohiofff.org)

Fall 2007

**Welcome** to the “Ohio Fly Line” the inaugural issue of our Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) Ohio Council (OHC) newsletter. This newsletter will be available via our OHC web site: [www.ohiofff.org/newsletter/newsletter.htm](http://www.ohiofff.org/newsletter/newsletter.htm) in PDF format. The OHC made the decision to go to an all-electronic newsletter for budgetary reasons and ease of information dissemination. The newsletter will be an important communication tool for our OHC as well as all FFF members in Ohio.

Please check out our web site and feel free to contribute articles, for our newsletter, about your club, fishing experiences, etc. We welcome articles from all FFF clubs in Ohio and surrounding states.

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### A History of the Ohio Council (OHC)

The OHC genesis began with the inaugural meeting of the Ohio Council Initiative (OCI) that was held on July 19, 2003 at Friendly House, 380 Mulberry St., Mansfield, Ohio. This initiative was sponsored and supported by the (FFF) Great Lakes Council (GLC). The OHC genesis began with the inaugural meeting of the Ohio Council Initiative (OCI) that was held on July 19, 2003 at Friendly House, 380 North Mulberry St., Mansfield, Ohio.

The criteria, benefits & liabilities of forming a full FFF Council in Ohio, and those to form a Sub-Council under GLC were explained. It was agreed that a Sub-Council made the most sense, since we lacked sufficient clubs required to form a full Council. It was also stated that any FFF club could petition the FFF to transfer to another Council if they desired. If clubs bordering Ohio wanted to join the Ohio Council, they would help fulfill the requirements to achieve full Council status later. A vote was taken as to whether or not the OCI should move forward, and it was *unanimously* decided to do so.

At the second meeting of the OCI on September 7, 2003, we voted to petition for the creation the Ohio Sub Council (OSC) by the GLC at its next regularly scheduled meeting on October 18, 2003.

Bylaws to govern the OSC, a Mission Statement and a proposed first year OSC operations budget were submitted for GLC approval.

The OSC would be introduced to the State of Ohio at the Northern Ohio Fly Tying Expo on January 17, 2003 for the northern half of the state, and at the Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show on February 14, 2004. Both events featured participation by representatives of the GLC and the Ohio FFF clubs, with each club having a table representing its organization at both events. The presidents of North Coast Fly Fishers and Buckeye United Fly Fishers have committed their shows for this introduction, and a media campaign throughout the state would promote the events and the new Sub Council.

The OSC was approved at the GLC October 18, 2003 Board of Directors meeting.

From October of 2003 through December of 2006, the OSC developed their Mission Statement, By Laws, Guidelines, Operating Manual and Budgets.

The OSC held a special Board of Director's Meeting June 25, 2006 and determined the following.

- Move up our request for full FFF Council Status to facilitate GLC and FFF.
- The effective date to be January 01, 2007.
- The name of the new FFF Council will be "The Ohio Council" (OHC).
- Approval of the revised Ohio Council Mission Statement.
- Approval of the Ohio Council Business Plan.

July 28, 2006 the FFF Board of Directors approved forming the Ohio Council effective January 01, 2007.

We began the task of transitioning from the OSC to the OHC immediately. This process continues today. Many OHC operational documents from our Budget to an Operating Manual are in place and being maintained.

Plans are being developed to establish several Educational programs and Fly Fishing events.

Ahead of us lie many new tasks and increased responsibility with FFF.

We also have the opportunity to generate an all Ohio Agenda addressing Ohio's Fly Fishing Educational and Conservation needs. Please join us, help us further the FFF agenda.

**Donald R. Van Buren**  
**President of the FFF Ohio Council**

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### **Mohican Fly Fishers of Ohio** **By Nick Contini**

The Mohican Fly Fishers club is located in Mansfield, Ohio and is a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers, Ohio Council. The members of this club are actively involved in all

aspects of fly-fishing and conservation in the area. We work closely with the ODNR and other clubs and conservation organization to preserve the streams in our area.

The club's home waters are the Upper and Lower Clear Fork River. The Upper being the river above Pleasant Hill Lake and the Lower is the area below the Pleasant Hill Dam, which

encompasses a very large area of the Mohican Forest and then some. This club has been in existence since 1994 and meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Gorman Nature Center in Mansfield, Ohio.

The club has many members who are bamboo enthusiasts, and one who builds and repairs bamboo rods professionally. We have a few honorary members accepted by the club for the part they play in the sport of fly-fishing. Two of the most recent honorary members are Sean Logan, the current Director of the ODNR, and Eric Austin of Delaware, Ohio, who is a tier of wet flies and has a column on FAOL (Fly Anglers on Line).



The club also boasts that many of the members are casting instructors; tying instructors; several who are guides; two members manufacture furred leaders; one that owns a fly shop; one who works with leather; and we also have one that has two catch and release world records registered with the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame in Hayward, Wisconsin.

We have many members who are volunteers and work with Women in the Outdoors and the Boy Scouts. Our members appear at several shows in the region. Such as the Cleveland Fly Fishing Expo hosted by the North Coast Fly Fishers of Cleveland Ohio. The Annual Fly Fishing Expo held in Mason, Michigan and hosted by the Great Lakes Council of the FFF. The Kentucky Fly Fishing Show in Louisville, Kentucky, that is put on by the Derby Towne Fly Fishers. The Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show put on by the Buckeye United Fly Fishers. The Midwest Fly Fishing Expo in Warren, Michigan put on by the Michigan Fly Fishing Club.



The club also participates in several trips each year to fish such rivers as the Ausable River in Michigan, the Cumberland River in Kentucky, and Eighteen Mile Creek in New York. Not to leave out the trips to Pennsylvania on Spruce

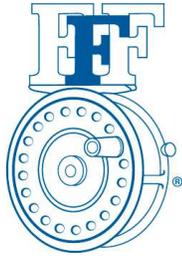
Creek, and to the Little Juniata River area; plus many trips to fish steelhead on Elk Creek and Walnut Creek. There is also a spring trip Presque Isle State Park to fish the Lake Erie Flats. We also fish the several northern Ohio Rivers in the spring & fall for steelhead from the Vermilion River eastward to Conneaut Creek. As you can see, we fish a good variety of the eastern U.S. areas.

The club has also released a DVD on flies of the Clear Fork River and is soon to release a second DVD. The DVD's are excellent and are professionally done. The cost is only \$10.00; (*I just thought I would give them a plug.*)



Now if you live in the Mansfield, Ohio area and want to join a club of this kind, just look up "Mohican Fly Fishers of Ohio". On the Internet and click on the "Contact Us" button. Then click on any of the titles of our officers to send them an e-mail, or look at the club Calendar to see when our next event takes place and join us. We always have room for one more member.

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## Join the Federation

The [Federation of Fly Fishers](#) has announced several new membership programs.

**First:** Persons who are members of an affiliated club, but not members of FFF. May join the Federation for \$15.00 for a regular one-year membership. Offer is good to Dec.31<sup>st</sup>, 2007

**Second:** A new member may purchase a lifetime membership for \$750.00, and receive their choice of a Sage 590-4 Z-AXIS Series Rod or a Sage 890-4 XI2 Rod. Offer Good until December 31, 2007

**Apply online at;**  
<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/abJoin.php>



Our club, Firelands Fly Fishers was started in January 2004 with the help and encouragement of Don Van Buren and Joe Valencic. From an original group of about 20 dedicated fly fishers we have grown to 70 members.

Firelands Fly Fishers meets at the French Creek Nature Center, Sheffield Village on the second Wednesday of the month from September through June. We have a very comprehensive educational program that includes fly tying, fly-casting, entomology and rod building. Our fly tying program is headed by Tom Zmina and meets weekly from September through May at

Sandy Ridge Reservation and The Lodge at Gander Mountain in Sheffield Village. The fly tying program has up to 20 students per session.

Yearly the club participates in the Boy Scouts of America Fly Fishing Merit Badge program at the Lorain County Joint Vocational School.

The monthly meetings include an educational session, business meeting and speaker. Our speaker program is somewhat slanted to Steelhead fly-fishing since we are only minutes from some of the best Steelhead fishing in the country. Non-members are welcome at the monthly meeting as well as any of the educational sessions. Our May meeting is the annual Fly Casting Session hosted by club member Dick Fujita, a member of the Hall of Fame of the American Fly Casting Association. In addition to local Steelhead fishing trips, club members have been enjoying an annual trip to Penn's Creek near State College, Pa. the first week of June. We seem to find more time to have educational functions than strictly fly fishing trips. Next year a trip to Presque Isle at Erie, Pa. for Small and Large Mouth Bass fishing is planned. We not only "work hard but we also play hard."

In order to live our motto, "work hard play hard" we need food. To obtain food we have many food functions in the club: October is the Clam Bake, December is the Potluck Dinner and June is the annual picnic. In between, we snack a lot.

Firelands Fly Fishers invites all to any of our club functions. There is more information in this newsletter about our October Clambake and on the club website at [WWW.FIRELANDSFLYFISHERS.ORG](http://WWW.FIRELANDSFLYFISHERS.ORG).

**Bill Grake**  
**President Firelands Fly Fishers**



## Schedule of Events



**November 4th, 2007:** OHC Annual Board & Membership Meeting, (elections), Mansfield, OH

This meeting will be our annual OHC Board meeting and membership meeting held congruently.

The meetings will take place at

The Friendly House  
380 North Mulberry Street  
Mansfield, OH 44902

The meeting will be starting at 11:00 AM and is open to all FFF members wishing to attend.

**December 1st, 2007:** Great Lakes Council / Eighth Annual Fly Tying Expo, Mason, MI  
<http://www.fffglc.org>

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### *Websites of Interest*

Help protect our waters  
[www.protectyourwaters.net](http://www.protectyourwaters.net)

The Citizens Agenda for Rivers  
[www.healthyrivers.org](http://www.healthyrivers.org)

## Leadership

### 2007 OHC Officers

**Van Buren, Don**  
*President OHC*  
Phone: (440) 635-1165

**Bryant, Mike**  
*Vice President OHC*  
*Vice President of Conservation*  
Phone: (513) 697-9576

**Rose, Steve**  
*Treasurer OHC*  
Phone: (419) 589-9502

**Stone, Jim**  
*Secretary OHC*  
Phone: (419) 347-1826

### 2007 OHC Directors

**Bewley, Vernon**  
*Director at Large*  
Phone: (419) 224-4002

**Findley Sr., Timothy B.**  
*Vice President of Membership OHC*  
Phone: (513) 673-8673

**Blanch, Paul S.**  
Phone #1: (440) 546-0023

**Grake, Bill**  
Phone: (440) 937-5258

**Polen, Jerry**  
Phone: (330) 966-1078

**Sloboda, Joe**  
Phone: (440) 245-4282

**Snyder, David**  
*Director at Large*  
Phone: (440) 243-0112

## What the FFF Does For You

### [Trout of the Desert Southwest Initiative](#)

This regional campaign engages members and the public and supports recovery efforts for the rare native trout of the desert southwest.

### [Mangrove Recovery Initiative](#)

The FFF is leading a collaborative effort to help Florida's mangrove forests recover following the hurricanes of 2004.

### [Invasive Species Program](#)

Find out how angling can spread invasive species and what you can do to help prevent the spread. Learn about nuisance alga, [Didymo](#), invasive [Mud Snails](#) and the [Clean Angling Pledge](#).

### [Monofilament Line Recycling](#)

Participate in monofilament line recycling at your favorite fishing access sites for proper disposal and prevent damage to fish, wildlife and boats.

### [Whitlock Vibert Boxes](#)

Available through the FFF, Whitlock Vibert Boxes have long been used as conservation tools for planting fish eggs.

### [The Osprey](#)

The FFF Steelhead Committee's publication on steelhead and Pacific salmon science and news.

### [FFF Opposes "Open Loop" Liquefied Natural Gas Development](#)

Open loop technology for LNG terminals threaten fisheries by sterilizing and chilling massive amounts of seawater...

### [Catch and Release](#)

The FFF carries on its longstanding advocacy of catch and release fishing as a philosophy and tool for conservation.

### [Bass catch](#)

Another premier award for anglers, designed to celebrate the diversity of black bass species, recognizes FFF members who catch four subspecies...

*Information for this article provided by  
Federation of Fly Fishers*

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Clip Art courtesy of Dave Whitlock  
[www.davewhitlock.com](http://www.davewhitlock.com)



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*"Rivers and the inhabitants of the watery elements are made for wise men to contemplate and for fools to pass by without consideration." - Izaak Walton*

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### ***Fly patterns wanted !!!***

We will pick one for each issue

Please include instructions and materials list and photos.

If possible, send in word or pdf.

Send submissions via E-Mail attachment to  
OHC Communication Director.

P.O.Box 442

Shelby, Ohio 44875

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## OHC Fall 2007 Fly Pattern

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### Partridge and Orange

**Fly Type** - Wet Flies

**Source** - Originated in the UK for Trout and Grayling.

**Hackle** - Brown Partridge.

**Hook** - #12-16

**Wing/Body** - 6/0 - 8/0 Orange

#### Tying Instructions

1. Tie the thread in just behind the eye.
2. Take the thread down the shank to just opposite the point in neat touching turns. Hold the hackle by the tip and gently stroke the fibers back.
3. Catch in the hackle by the tip and make no more than 2 to 2 1/2 turns.
4. Tie off and whip finish.

#### Fishing method

Fished upstream or across, the hackle pulsates in the current and probably is taken as a hatching Blue Winged Olive.

*This issue's fly is from Tom Zmina  
(Firelands Fly Fishers)*

The Ohio Fly Line Newsletter is a publication Of the Ohio Council of the FFF (OHC). Who is solely responsible for its content.

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