



# Ohio Fly Line



## Federation of Fly Fisher's Ohio Council Newsletter

Volume 2/ Issue1

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

Spring 2008

### *From President's the Desk*

2008 will be an exciting year for the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) Ohio Council (OHC).

We are anticipating scheduling visits to each of our OHC member clubs, by an OHC Officer, during 2008. The objective is to learn first-hand what they expect of us and identify what we expect from the individual clubs. I have mentioned a number of times an "Ohio Agenda"; we need to get more input from our individual clubs to help us develop an OHC agenda that will benefit the State of Ohio, Ohio Sportsmen and our Ohio Fly Fishing Clubs. Ultimately, the Ohio Agenda should benefit FFF and adjacent states to Ohio.

2008 will see our first ever "Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs" (HOFNOD) training session specifically for the OHC Board of Directors and invitees from our member clubs as well as some past FFF clubs. Check out our website [www.ohiofff.org](http://www.ohiofff.org) for details.

Plans are being developed for several OHC Educational events and fundraisers.

We have established a target time frame for holding a major Fly Fishing School during 2009; details will follow as we move further along with the planning.

Conservation is high on our priority list particularly as it applies to situations here in Ohio.

We have targeted establishing communications and working relationships with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the League of Ohio Sportsmen (LOS).

We will continue to grow our Council by improving our business and operational activities as well as strengthening our ties with FFF. We have several OHC Directors serving on FFF national committees, which will help us to better understand the working relationship we need to develop with FFF. This closer working relationship with FFF will help us explain/promote what FFF does for your club and you as an individual FFF member.

Start a FFF Club, OHC has extensive documentation that we can share with any club that is interested in joining FFF as either a Charter or Affiliated Club. We have well established and proven plans in place to assist the start up of any new FFF Club. If you are not sure about the availability of FFF membership in your area, communicate with us as we can assist with you via our "Cluster Study" which identifies the number of FFF members in a given Zip Code. Now is the time to join FFF as there are incentives in place making it very attractive to join.

Our OHC Board of Directors (BOD) meetings are open to the public; a schedule is available via our website. We encourage your participation to learn what we are about and what our objectives are. If you cannot attend one of our BOD meetings, you can communicate with us via our website, which has all of our OHC Officers, and Directors listed.

The OHC invites you to join us in furthering FFF programs and in developing an "Ohio Agenda"

*Don Van Buren*  
President OHC

## From my Tying Bench Notes from the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice president

Ok! Our first year as a Working Council is over and I would like to thank all those that made it happen.

Now for this year, we are in the process of setting up a Communications tree. I still need information from several clubs, please forward this to me as soon as possible.

Our Education V.P. has been busy setting up programs for the Council and Clubs. The Clubs Board of Directors should have received an Announcement, about our April Class if not please contact me at [vpcommunications@ohiofff.org](mailto:vpcommunications@ohiofff.org) with your Information to correct this error.

Looking for a Club to join? Better yet, want to start a Club? We can help! The Ohio Council has all the things you need. Just contact us and we will help you, from beginning thru completion. However, the journey does not stop there; the Council, which you will be a part of, will remain as a part of your Clubs extended family.

If anyone is interested, I have several members in the Strongsville, Berea, North-Royalton area, that are thinking of starting a club. Please contact me at [vpcommunications@ohiofff.org](mailto:vpcommunications@ohiofff.org) or our President at [president@ohiofff.org](mailto:president@ohiofff.org) if interested.

The Council will be starting to visit Clubs, I am truly looking forward to this project as I will be able to finally meet all of you that I have talked with. This project will help us, the Ohio Council (OHC) to see what your Club expects and needs form your Ohio Council (OHC) and the Federation of Fly Fishers.

*David Snyder*

1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President &  
V.P. Communications



### Stream Flow Data for Ohio

Look at this site from USGS. A very useful site, one that several Ohio Clubs helped make possible. They made donations for equipment to help monitor the stream.

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/oh/nwis/current/?type=flow>

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## From the OHC Educational Division

At the State level, we have started discussions with the Ohio Aquatic Education Coordinator of the Ohio Division of Natural Resources. The Federation of Fly Fishers is receiving State support in our work with the [Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs](#) programs as well on the Family Tyes program that North Coast Fly Fishers is developing.

In addition to these two nationally recognized youth programs, the State of Ohio is actively offering the Passport to Fishing program that was developed by the State to introduce young people to Fishing. In its current format the Passport to Fishing program is offered in a one-day presentation by various local groups and organizations..

The State Aquatic Educational Coordinator has expressed an interest in working with the FFF here in Ohio to co develop a fishing program that would combine some of the long term mentorship qualities of the Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs program with the current Passport to Fishing program. The State will support these programs or a combination of these programs through the American Sportsfishing Organization, with Fishing equipment to give to the participants. In addition to the fishing equipment, teaching aids, printed brochures and informational guides for the State owned and managed parks and lakes are available to anyone sponsoring these classes.

A second step in this relationship will be made at an Ohio Council special meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> in Mansfield, Ohio at the Friendly House. Marc Sommer from the ODNR will host a certification class for both the Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs program as well as the certification program for the Passport to Fishing program. All of the Directors of the Ohio Council will become fully certified in both programs. We are also inviting members of each of the Ohio Council Clubs to attend this session.

In addition to our current Club members, we are also inviting various non-

affiliated Club members to attend this session.

During the last quarter of 2007,I have attempted to obtain feedback from the member Clubs regarding the resources and programs that each club has currently in place.

It is obvious that all of our member Clubs have a variety of programs in their current schedules, and all are willing to share their expertise.

The OHC would like to establish a better more effective line of communications with our entire member Clubs. This communication link is a real attempt to make sure we are pursuing common goals for the Ohio Council.

In addition to the youth related educational programs, and the member Club resource Project, we have obtained some site information for the Ohio Education/Fundraiser. Paul Blanch has investigated various locations, and we are tentatively looking at 2009 as a target date for this initial event.

Agenda and scope of this event will be developed with input from each of the member Clubs to assure best possible attendance and impact.

Jerry Polen  
VP Education, Ohio Council  
Federation of Fly Fishers

Jerry Polen, is the current President of the "Western Reserve Fly Anglers" club, which is a member club of the FFF Ohio Council (OHC), and a Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) member. He is also VP of Education for the OHC and is a member of the FFF Education Committee representing the OHC. This is a wonderful opportunity to represent Ohio FFF membership at both a national and local level. Jerry can be reached via the OHC website: <http://www.ohiofff.org/>

## **Kids Fly Fishing Counts with the Federation of Fly Fishers**

Anglers are a lower and lower percentage of the population, because fewer kids are joining our ranks.

Efforts that build support for fish in the next generation of voters are every bit as important as projects that build fish habitat.

Who will be voting on water resource issues in 10 years? Kids who are 8-10 years old now!

High profile programs like kids' fishing days and one-time outings do not begin to replace the grandfather, father, uncle kind of mentoring that caused most of today's anglers to take up fly fishing.

### **FFF NEWS and ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**- Throw Out Those Old FFF Membership Applications** – Please check your stock of FFF membership applications. If you have old applications that have the offer for Freshwater or Saltwater grab bags ..... please throw them out! This promotion has been over for quite some time and we no longer have the grab bags in stock to send out. Call us to get the latest applications at 406-222-9369

### **FFF Clubs .... Sign Up New FFF Members at Discounted Rate**

FFF Affiliate Clubs ... special rate extended until April 15, 2008

FFF Charter - 100% Clubs ... special rate runs from January 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008

Join forms have been created for the special rate promotion. All information is now posted to the web site and can be found on the following page <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4676>

## **Fly Fishing Only Bass Tournament**

Come be a part of one of the country's first ever-major fly-fishing for bass only tournament. The dates are April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at Lake Pleasant, which is northwest of Phoenix, AZ. See listing on our Calendar of Events for more information <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4513>

### **Discounted Fly Tying Kits Offered to FFF Clubs**

Griffin Enterprises, Inc of Kalispell, MT has offered the following tying kit to FFF Clubs for educational purposes. The kit is called the "Scout Kit" which includes 1 A Vise with c-clamp, regular hackle pliers, flared bobbin, and standard scissors. The cost is \$33.00 plus shipping & handling. Contact Holly at 1-800-344-3150 to take advantage of this great offer.

### **Help Protect Bristol Bay**

The fish of Bristol Bay Alaska are threatened by what would be the largest gold and copper mine the world.

Write a letter and stand with us in protecting the greatest salmon fishery in the world.

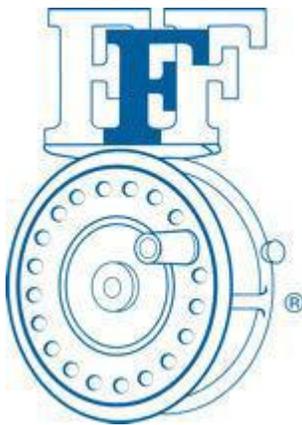
[Learn more and how you can help.](#)



## 43rd Annual FFF International Fly Fishing Show / Conclave

Mark your calendar for the 43rd Annual FFF International Fly Fishing Show / Conclave. The dates are set for July 22 – 26, 2008 and the location is Whitefish, Montana. Whitefish is a small town located on the Shore of Whitefish Lake. Just a few miles from Glacier National Park and International airport.

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4451>



## Join the Federation of Fly Fishers

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4498>

*"Fly fishing twists fate like a dream and together with wildness, makes anything possible."*

Ailm Traveler, 1991



## Buckeye Bamboo Bash 10 May 2008

*The 2008 BBB will be at the Mohican State Park picnic pavilion, Loudonville, Ohio, Saturday, 10 May, 9 – 4:30.*

*The BBB is a low-key event offering an opportunity for bamboo rod makers of all skill levels, collectors, and enthusiasts to meet. You can talk about rod making, look at and cast new and vintage cane rods. The relaxed agenda allows you to mingle, look at and try out the rods; and STS at your own speed in an informal and friendly venue.*

*There will be a lunch for donations and a drawing if we can round up enough stuff.*

*Come early or stay over and spend a few days in the area. There are cabins, campgrounds and a lodge at Mohican State Park. Many private lodging opportunities are available in the area as well.*

*The state park cabins and campgrounds are on the Clear Fork River, and fishing is usually good in May.*

See: [www.dnr.state.oh.us/](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/) for info and directions to Mohican State Park.

See [www.mohicancountry.org](http://www.mohicancountry.org) for Loudonville area information

For more BBB info see:

[www.mohicanflyfishersofohio.com](http://www.mohicanflyfishersofohio.com)

Richard Perry at

[richard.perry@mohicanflyfishersofohio.com](mailto:richard.perry@mohicanflyfishersofohio.com)

or [www.rkpcanerods.com](http://www.rkpcanerods.com)

Ron Thompson at

[ron.thompson@mohicanflyfishersofohio.com](mailto:ron.thompson@mohicanflyfishersofohio.com)



## Mohican Fly Fishers of Ohio will participate in the Mohican Wildlife Weekend 2008

*Written by Jim Stone*

Once again, the Mohican Fly Fishers of Ohio (MFFO) will be participating in the [Mohican Wildlife Weekend \(MWW\)](#), which occurs this year on May 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>. The club will set up close to the Covered Bridge in Mohican State Park on Saturday & Sunday where they will be educating, instructing and promoting the many aspects of fly-fishing. The MFFO club has been participating in the MWW for several years in this capacity and they invite everyone to stop by and visit for a while. They will be able to answer fly-fishing questions, or provide fly tying and fly casting instructions. Ever wondered what lived under the rocks in the Clear Fork River? That question can be answered as some of the activities and demonstrations will occur in the water. If the brown trout are cooperating visitors may witness the capture and release of this beautiful species of fish in a picturesque setting.



In the past, the MWW occurred in the month of April, but a decision was made to move the festivities to May. This later date will allow the Mohican area to show more of its spring colors. As everyone knows, "April showers bring May flowers!"

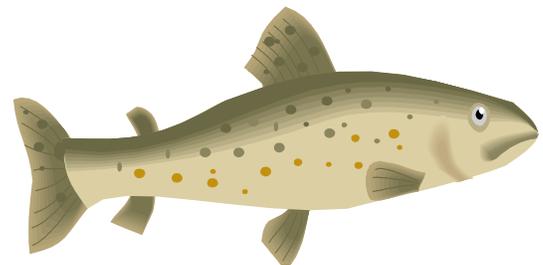
Fly-fishing is only a small part of the activities slated for the MWW around the Mohican region. There are many locations mapped out with scheduled activities for the drive-about tour, which are intended to celebrate and educate enthusiasts for a better

enjoyment of the outdoors. Some of the scheduled activities are workshops, hikes, crafts, & demonstrations. A couple of the activities will happen after dark. For a complete listing of all of the scheduled Mohican Wildlife Weekend, activities please visit the following website:



<http://www.mohicanwildlifeweekend.com/index.php>

If you have never visited the area, you are in for a visual treat. The [Mohican State Park](#) had its beginning around 12,000 years ago when massive glaciers stopped their southerly advance north of the park leaving behind many traces of their presence, and most notably the Clear Fork River Gorge, which was mostly carved by the glacial meltwaters. The gorge is roughly 1,000 feet wide at the top, and about 300 feet deep with the river meandering through the gorge and park for more than 4 miles. So put on your hiking shoes, grab your camera, arrive early, stay late, and enjoy the great outdoors!



## Firelands Fly Fishers

Firelands Fly Fishers membership continues to grow with 12 new members since September. We have been averaging 2 new members per monthly meeting. Most of the new members have been recruited by current members.

Firelands has a very aggressive educational program consisting of weekly fly tying classes held at the Sheffield Village Gander Mountain store and the second rod building class of the year. Attendance at the weekly fly tying class has been outstanding; a few of the sessions have been SRO with all 16 chairs in use and a few standing.

The club is proud to announce that Tim Rajeff will conduct a fly-casting class on June 23, 2008. Steve is not only an outstanding fly caster but also an outstanding teacher of fly-casting. Current plans are to have a Fundamental casting class from 8 am to noon and then a Performance class from 1 to 5 pm. Cost of the class is 125.00/person with a 5-person limit in each class. There are a few spots open in the Fundamentals class and the Performance is full. Contact Joe Sloboda if you wish to take the Fundamentals class. The class will be held at the Sunnybrook Trout Club in Sandusky.

All the club members are anxiously awaiting the arrival of weather that is conducive to Steelhead Fishing. The tributary streams of Lake Erie are full of Steelhead but, as usual, the weather is the limiting factor in catching Steelhead.

Bill Grake  
President Firelands Fly Fishers

*"Fishermen wind red wool around their hooks and fasten to the wool two feathers that grow under a cock's wattles."*

*Claudius Aelianus, c. 100 A.D.*

## Fly of the Month Bead Head Midge



### Materials

**Hook:** R30 #12-14

**Bead:** Brass, 3/32-inch

**Thread:** 8/0 Red

**Gills:** CDC puff, white

**Rib:** Tinsel, very fine silver or Crystal Flash, pearlescent

**Body:** Superfloss, red

**Collar:** Peacock herl

CDC, Cul de Canard, feathers come from around the preen gland on a duck. A duck uses oil from the gland to dress and waterproof all of its feathers. Such waterproofing makes CDC a natural choice for floating patterns. However, the fibers have a translucency and lifelike movement in water that makes CDC a good choice for wet flies also. Incidentally, never use a floatant on CDC dry flies just dry them with a cloth. Not all fly shops carry the CDC puffs, so look around or have the shop folks order them for you.

### Tying Steps

1. If you want to remove the barb, do it before you start tying the fly.
2. Put hook in vise point up. Pick up bead, and slide it onto hook with the larger opening toward the eye.
3. Turn the hook over, but keep the bead near the back of the hook.
4. Attach thread at the eye. Loosely tie a CDC puff on top of hook with tips sticking out over eye. Pull the puff back until less than 1/8-inch of the feather is exposed. Tighten thread, whip finish, cut thread and trim back of CDC as closely as possible. Apply a little head cement to let the bead slid. Move bead forward over the thread and puff. Reattach thread behind the bead.

Continued on page 8

5. First, attach rib on top of hook behind bead. Then tie Superfloss on top of rib. Hold both materials as thread is wrapped rearward. Try to keep tinsel on the bottom, and both materials on top of hook. Continue wrapping around the bend a little. Wrap thread forward in close wraps.

6. Stretch the Superfloss at start of wrapping forward, ease tension as you move forward and really ease up on tension behind bead. Tie Superfloss tightly.

7. Spiral rib forward and secure tightly behind bead. The Crystal flash can be twisted to prevent it from going flat.

8. Attach a peacock herl behind bead, take three wraps of peacock herl, secure and trim excess.

9. Place two whip finishes between peacock herl collar and bead. Cut thread.

Thank you to the FFF Website for use of this Fly. Any questions or comments to FOM at [flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org)



2008 Retreat Dates Announced the 2008 retreat dates for Reeling and Healing, Inc. are all set. We are excited to announce that we will be adding a fourth and fifth retreat in 2008. Both are spring retreats. The first will be held at Rockwell Springs Trout Club near Castalia, Ohio on May 4-5 and the second will be held at Mohican State Park on May 18-20. Then two retreats will be at Schmidt Outfitters in Wellston, Michigan from July 6-8 and July 20-22. Our July 20-22 retreat is an alumni/new participant retreat. The alumni will be fishing more and will do some fly tying. Get your reservations in early since there is limited space available. Our fall retreat will again be held at Rockwell Springs Trout Club in Castalia, OH on September 22-23. If you would like to sign up for one of the 2008 retreats, please call Judy or Dick Walle at 419-536-2469 or visit the website at [www.reelandheal.com](http://www.reelandheal.com).

## The Federation of Fly Fishers' Code of Angling Ethics:

*The following is a shortened version suitable to be carried by the angler:* Fly anglers understand and obey laws and regulations associated with the fishery. Fly anglers believe fly-fishing is a privilege and a responsibility. Fly anglers conserve fisheries by limiting their catch. Fly anglers do not judge fellow anglers and treat them as they would expect to be treated. Fly anglers respect the waters occupied by other anglers so that fish are not disturbed when fishing from a watercraft, fly anglers do not crowd other anglers or craft or unnecessarily disturb the water. Fly anglers respect other angling methods and promote this Code of Angling Ethics to all anglers.

Thank You  
Just a personal thank you to "The Friendly House" for helping the Ohio Council

David Snyder - 1<sup>st</sup> V.P



## Ohio Council schedule of Board Meetings

February 17<sup>th</sup> at 11am to 2pm at the Friendly House

May 4<sup>th</sup> at 11am to 2pm at the Friendly House

August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11am to 2pm at the Friendly House

**November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am to 2pm at the Friendly House.  
This is our Annual Meeting and Elections.**

The Friendly House  
380 North Mulberry St.  
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

### **A more traditional look at Conservation:**

*Salmon River in New York a tributary of  
Lake Ontario*

The Department of Environmental Conservation is ready to post the fly-fishing zones of the Salmon River to get rid of the chuck and duck way of fishing. The chuck and duck system usually requires large amounts of lead, which converts the fly rod into a sort of casting rod. What the DEC is trying to achieve is a true fly-fishing section of the Salmon River. For years, Steel headers and Salmon angler alike have considered heavy sinkers necessary to fish with in order to get the flies to the bottom of the deep holes. That is where they assume the fish to be laying. This alternate way of casting enables you to gather in your slack, raise the rod tip over your head, flipping or lobbying your sinkers and fly upstream in a short distance to enable the fly to sink very fast. This is a good system to use in the crowded conditions, which is common in New York. The question is can this be called fly-fishing? The Department of Environmental Conservation

suggested not. What the D.E.C is calling fly-fishing is picking the line up off the water the line goes back and the fly follows along for the ride. This is the basic definition of fly-fishing. On Oct. 1st 2008, you should start seeing posted signs in the fly-fishing designated only zones of the Salmon River. Although the trend in the Salmon River's fly-fishing only zones has been with traditional fly-fishing, the roll casting or the back cast. There has been some question of the use of the chuck and duck method. It has been determined that more snagging occurs with this method of fishing than with traditional fly-fishing. Since the new regulations does not say specifically how much weight can be used. The law-enforcement officers do know the difference between chuck and duck and the traditional fly-casting. Therefore, it should not be too hard to enforce this law. The difference in the casting is obvious. This does not mean that chuck and duck angler will not be able to fish this section of the river. It is just that they will have to change their method. They will have to switch to the more traditional ways of fly-fishing. You will need to use sinking lines and small split shot to get your fly where the fish are. This means you will need more room and time for the line to sink to the correct depth. All of this has come about because the hatchery had 20 Atlantic salmon show up this season. The hatchery has never had any at all before.

Our club takes an annual trip to New York once a year, while fishing Oak Orchard, one of members caught an Atlantic Salmon and released it successfully.

Steve Rose  
V.P. Conservation

## Ohio Council (OHC) Leadership

**Van Buren, Don** (North Coast Fly Fishers)

President  
Life Member FFF

**Snyder, David** (At Large)

1st Vice President  
Vice President of Communications  
Newsletter Editor  
Life Member FFF

**Blanch, Paul S.** (North Coast Fly Fishers)

Treasurer

**Stone, Jim** (Mohican Fly Fishers of Ohio)

Secretary  
Webmaster

**Polen, Jerry** (Western Reserve Fly Anglers)

Vice President of Education

**Rose, Steve** (Mohican Fly Fishers of Ohio)

Vice President of Conservation

**Findley Sr., Timothy B.** (Buckeye United Fly Fishers)

Vice President of Membership

**Bryant, Mike** (Buckeye United Fly Fishers)

Director

**Grake, Bill** (Firelands Fly Fishers)

Director

**Sudomir, Joe A.** (Western Reserve Fly Anglers) & (North Coast Fly Fishers)

Director



## Ohio Council Mission Statement

The purpose of the Ohio Council (OHC) is to support the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), representing the FFF associated Clubs of Ohio and adjacent states. We will strive to meet this objective by:

- Creating an atmosphere that encourages education, conservation and the enjoyment of fly-fishing, fly tying and related activities.
  - Developing practical goals supporting education, conservation and the enjoyment of fly-fishing and fly tying.
  - Freely sharing information and knowledge as it involves fly-fishing and fly tying.
  - Encouraging and promoting communications with Fly Fishers and Fly Fishing Clubs.
  - Cultivating, encouraging and teaching sound conservation practices that preserve and improve our environment and water resources.
  - Educating as many people as we can to the joys, delights of fly-fishing, and fly tying.
  - Maintaining a current informational base on issues, concerns and practices as they pertain to fly-fishing and fly tying for the OHC area.
- Supporting the goals and objectives of FFF.

The Ohio Fly Line is an official publication of the Ohio Council (OHC) of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), and is solely responsible for its content. The OHC FLY LINE is published four times yearly we are interested in articles regarding your local club activities, conservation project, educational event, etc. Articles should be sent to the Editor via E-mail, or sent on diskettes through the mail. Send all articles in MS Word, Word Perfect or Text formats, and all pictures in JPEG format only. Do not send BMP files, photographs or typed Sheets. All items submitted be the property of "The Ohio Council (OHC) and will not be returned.