

TIGHTLINES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers



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Clipart provided free.
Courtesy of the artist,
Dave Whitlock.

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**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR
NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:**

**Friday,
March 30, 2012**

**Have you Renewed
Your Membership for 2012?**

Next Meeting

March 12, 2012

**Presidential Banquet Center
4572 Presidential Way,
Kettering, Ohio**

Note - This is the larger bldg. in the Kohler Complex.

Dinner will be served early as well:
Doors open at **4:00 P.M.** ,
Dinner at **5:30 P.M.**
(RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.)

Directions on Website

RSVP to Mike Wolford at 937-667-9392 or
E-Mail him at: toflyfsh@woh.rr.com
by **Thursday, March 8, 2012.**
(**Note** - Dinner Price is now **\$13.00**)

This month:

The Great MVFF Annual Auction!

The 2012 MVFF annual auction will be held at the Presidential Banquet Center (this is the building north of where we normally hold our meetings). There will be a cash bar for this month's meeting.

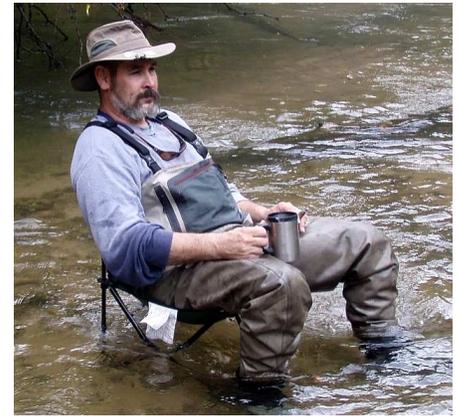
Doors will be open at 4:00 pm for early delivery of auction items.

Once again we are privileged to have Steve Rader as auctioneer. Steve has been auctioneer for every auction we have held since I have been chairman. This will be our sixth attempt at this spectacle together (I hope we get it right).

As I have mentioned many times in the past, the importance of this meeting cannot be overstated. Along with our annual dues, this is our only fund-raising event sponsored by the club. Historically, this one event represents half of our annual budget, so it is important for you to be there. This is also an excellent meeting to bring a fishing buddy (guest) to help spread the load.

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President's Thoughts



Well, is it winter, or spring, or something? With this crazy weather it is anybody's guess. One day is in the 60s, the next in the 30s with the chance of snow, so who knows?

But one thing I do know, March is coming up and that means **AUCTION!!!!!!** That's right - The Great MVFF Annual Auction. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year.

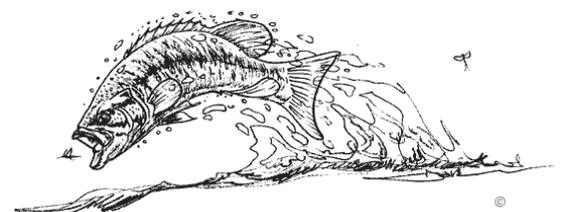
We will be meeting in the Presidential building; this is the larger building to the left of our normal meeting location. **We will be starting at 5:30 pm!** Take note: this is **earlier** than normal. We need to start dinner soon as possible so we can get going. The earlier we start, the better your odds of getting to bid on what you want and get home at a decent hour.

We also have the Spring Fling coming up in April. Jeff Warden has been working on some great items for it.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that were at the BUFF show and at that the Adventure Summit show. We also have the Outdoor Skills program coming up with WPAFB on March 17 between 1:00 and -3:00 pm, if anybody can help please give me a call.

See you at the auction!

- Ken Hudak, President



The 2012 MVFF Auction Continued from page 1

"So Marty, what do we bring to the auction?" Be sure to bring an item to put in the auction. Time is short, so if you are going to make an item you are running out of time. Some members bring a bottle of their favorite wine or spirits while others donate a round of golf at the club. Others donate a guided trip to their favorite fishing holes. These have become very popular and are a big hit with the winning bidders. Many unique and interesting items will be there waiting for the winning bid. Lots of fishing items along with camping and hunting gear. I will bet money Jim Calvert will have some deer hair mice and some deer hair bass bugs too. Tom Perry is likely to bring a selection of his favorite soft hackle flies and if past years are any indication, the tying classes will be well represented by their efforts as well. All the gear you no longer use would be welcomed by another fisherman in the club, so go through all your stuff and bring what you no longer want or use.

All that being said, the rule of thumb is - **NO JUNK**. If you wouldn't pay money for it, why would you expect anyone else to?

So here's the deal; bring an item to auction off, bring cash or check for your winning bid, and bring a fishing buddy to share in the bidding and camaraderie of the club. Last year we broke the \$5,000.00 mark for the first time in five years. We are looking to better that on March 12. We'll be looking for you there.

- Marty Vandenbrock, MVFF 2012 Auction Chair

MVFF At February Events

The club was well-represented at the Buff Show and the Adventure Summit events in February. A big "Thank you!" to all who participated!



Several club members made the trek south to represent the club at the Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show on Saturday, February 4.



The Adventure Summit took place on Friday, February 10 and Saturday, February 11. (We were fortunate enough to have a prime booth location - right outside of the beer-tasting room!)

This Month's Fly – March 2012 Edition

ZOO COUGAR

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward
Photograph by Bob Cain



Side View



Top View

Recipe

Hook.....TMC 300, size 2-8
Thread.....Tan 6/0
Tail.....Marabou, yellow
Body.....Sparkle Braid, pearl
Underwing.....Calf Tail, white
Wing.....Two matched Mallard Flank Feathers, dyed Wood Duck
Head.....Yellow or Olive deer hair

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie the thread in about 1/4 of the hook shank behind the hook eye and wrap a tight thread base back to the hook bend. Then wrap the thread back to the tie-in point and then back to the hook bend again creating a crosshatched thread base.
2. Take a marabou feather and stroke the fibers upward, measure it to about 1/2 a hook shank length, and tie-it in at the hook bend as a tail. Lift the marabou butts and wrap the thread forward to the thread tie-in point.
3. Now lay the marabou butts flat on top of the hook shank and wrap thread over them back to tail, then reverse direction and wrap the thread forward again to the original thread tie-in point. *(The idea here is to create an even under base for the body.)* Trim off any excess marabou. The thread should be at its original tie-in point.
4. Tie-in a 4"-6" piece of Sparkle Braid by one end where you left the thread and, with the length of it going toward the hook bend and laying on top of the hook shank, wrap the thread over it back to tail, then return the thread to the original thread tie-in point. Let the thread hang.
5. Grasp the Sparkle Braid and wrap it forward in tight touching turns to the original thread tie-in point and tie it off. Remove any excess braid.
6. Cut and clean a clump of long calf tail. Measure the clump so that it reaches from its tie-in point at the front of the body back to the middle of the tail, then tie it in at the front of the body with several tight thread wraps. Trim off the butt ends of the hair as squarely as possible in front of the body.
7. Select 2 large matched mallard flank feathers and strip the fluff off their bases. Stack them on top of each other with their tips touching and both curving down (concave sides down) so that they make one unit. Measure them so that their tips reach to the middle of the tail and tie them in with several tight thread wraps on top of the underwing at the same point where the underwing was tied-in. Do a whip finish on top of the feather tie-in wraps. Trim off the feather butts squarely with the underwing butts. *(At this point it is suggested that you add head cement or superglue to the tie down wraps to keep everything secure.)* The thread should be at the front of the wing.
8. Cut, clean, and stack a large clump of deer hair. Lay it on top of the hook shank at the front of the wing with the tips extending back to the middle of the wing and make 3 soft turns of thread around it on top of one another. Hold on to the hair butts as you do this to keep the hair in place. Now pull straight down firmly on the thread and loosen your hold on the hair, allowing it to spin around the hook shank. Once the hair quits turning, make several thread wraps through the butts to the front of the hair butts. Draw the hair butts back and take several thread turns in front of them. Let the thread hang.
9. Cut, clean, and stack another clump of hair and, placing it tight against the front of the first bunch of hair, make three wraps of thread around it and spin it in front of the first bunch of hair. Work the thread through the hair butts as you did in step 6, pulling the hair butts back and making several tight thread wraps in front of the hair. Do a whip finish behind the hook eye and cut the thread. (If necessary to fill the hook shank, spin another smaller bunch of hair in front of the second bunch, before you do a whip finish.)
10. Take the hook out of the vise, and, using a double edged razor blade or scissors, trim the bottom of the fly flat except for the tips. **DO NOT TRIM OFF THE TIPS OF THE HAIR ON THE BOTTOM OR TOP OF THE FLY**, but leave them as a collar.
11. Turn the fly over and bend the razor blade into an arc. Push the blade from the hook eye upward to the hair tips (collar), cutting a rounded head shape into the hair.
12. Now use scissors to finish creating a neat rounded head (see picture).

Note: Use great care when using the razor blade as blood does nothing to enhance the fly!!!

Also Note: We purposely did not pack the spun deer hair as the fly's creator, Kelly Galloup, believes that leaving the hair unpacked allows the head to move more water on the retrieve and also allows it to dry more quickly.

February Meeting Re-Cap

Our speaker for the February meeting was Jerry Darkes. Jerry gave a wonderful presentation about fishing for carp in the Great Lakes; reviewing places, flies and techniques to use in pursuit of fish up to 40 pounds or more.

A lot of what Jerry covered can be applied to fishing for carp right here in Dayton. Get out this spring and give it a try!



Some of Jerry's Great Lakes carp flies



Jerry Darkes (left) at the February meeting.

Spring Fling Line-Up Teaser

Here is just a sample of what you can expect to see this year at the Spring Fling in April:

Gander Mountain continues to support MVFF in grand fashion by again giving us an outright **DONATION!** They have often donated items to the club for the Spring Fling. Gander has done quite a bit to support MVFF with donations and allowing us to use their facility for the fly tying classes free of charge.

Fisherman's Headquarters has graciously **DONATED** a \$100.00 gift certificate. Fisherman's Headquarters continues to support the club and is one of the few places around to stock fly tying materials and equipment. If they don't have it on the shelf, they can usually order it in.

Once again, Jim Corbin has agreed to custom build a fly rod for the cause. Jim's custom rods have become part of the tradition of Spring Fling. His fine craftsmanship is truly one of a kind.

We will also have more items from vendors such as Reel Fly Rod, whom have allowed us to purchase items at a large discount. Please help support these people, especially those that are going out of their way to support our club.

HEADLINER:

- **Yeti Tundra 65 Cooler**, 65 Qt. Capacity
- **DONATED by Gander Mountain.**
- **Retail value: \$359.99**

\$100.00 Gift Certificate to Fisherman's Headquarters

- **DONATED by Fisherman's Headquarters**
- **Retail value: \$100.00**

Custom built rod by Jim Corbin:

- A **Sage TXC 590-4 (9' 5WT 4-pc)**, built with *custom weave* (weaves are tedious moving of thread as you wrap the rod), burl insert, super guides, and includes case.
- **Retail value: \$795.00.** This is an Ultra-Fast Action rod. (source – 2010 catalog)
- Here's what Sage has to say in one of their catalogs: "Rocket launcher. Wind Cheater.... TCX rods provide powerful, ultra-fast, long-distance performance without sacrificing fishability.... [has] become the clear choice for competitive casting. ...a lighter, stronger, more powerful fly rod. More importantly, rod designer Jerry Siem, focused on creating an enhanced level of 'line feel,' which allows anglers to intuitively know how much power to apply and when.... A max distance rod that's easier to cast and more fun to fish. Expand your range. Raise some eyebrows. Surprise a few fish."

Green-Stix Matrix Fly rod

- **6'6" , 2 WT, 2-piece** (includes Rod case, hat) **Retail value: \$230.00**
- <http://www.green-stix.com/index.html> Made in the USA (Holland, MI)
- The Green-Stix Matrix Fly Rod... a 44 modulus carbon fiber rod blank. Extremely light, 20% lighter than a comparable graphite rod. Moderate to moderate fast action. Flat casting and extremely accurate with a sensitive feel. The Matrix rod comes standard with single foot, hard chrome guides, and strippers. Grade "A" cork handle, hard anodized aluminum reel seat in gun smoke to match the guides and strippers.
- Lifetime warranty.
- This is a great little rod for the small streams in the area!

More fly fishing goodies to come. The full line-up will be posted in the next Tightlines. Be sure to get yours to see what's next! Get there early to buy your tickets before they are gone!

MVFF CALENDAR For March, 2012

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** **Intermediate Fly Tying Classes**, Gander Mountain, 8001 Old Troy Pike, Huber Heights, OH 45424, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- 3** **Final 2012 Fly Rod Building Class**, Jim Corbin's Shop (Pre-registration required.)
- 6, 13, 20, 27** **Beginners Fly Tying Classes**, Gander Mountain, 8001 Old Troy Pike, Huber Heights, OH 45424, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- 12 -** **MVFF Indoor Meeting** (Note: Reservations **Are** Required - See Page 1 for Details)
- 30 -** Deadline for Articles for Next Month's Issue of **Tightlines**

MVFF Message Board

The MVFF Message Board now has over **450** registered members!

Also, you can now read messages without registering or logging in. Just go to the club's web site at <http://www.mvff.us> and you will find a link to the board in the upper left-hand corner.



MVFF is now on Facebook! Follow us at:
<http://www.facebook.com/MiamiValleyFlyFishers>

MVFF Email

Miami Valley Fly Fishers is trying to improve communication with members by making greater use of email. To be sure our messages reach you, please put the following address in your email address book:

mvffemail@gmail.com

Then send us an email subject "Email Address Check" to be sure we have your correct email address. Don't forget to include your name.

REMINDER FOR CLUB PURCHASES

ALL CLUB PURCHASES MUST RECEIVE PRE-APPROVAL IN ORDER TO BE REIMBURSED. AMOUNTS OVER \$50 REQUIRE BOARD PRE-APPROVAL. AMOUNTS UNDER \$50 CONTACT TREASURER, CARL MARKSTROM, FOR PRE-APPROVAL. PLEASE BE SURE TO USE THE EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT FORM, WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THE CLUB'S WEBSITE AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS:

http://mvff.tripod.com/Resources/AP_Form.pdf OR http://mvff.tripod.com/Resources/AP_Form.xls

Dick Higgins (1935 – 2012)



Colonel Dick Higgins, a long time MVFF member, passed away on Tuesday, February 21st, at Springfield Regional Hospital. Dick was an avid fly fisherman and a great gentleman and will be sadly missed by his friends and family.

I once read that finding a great fishing partner is harder than finding a good business partner, or even a good wife, and that may very well be true. You find out very quickly when you fish with someone if the time spent enriches your life, and I always looked forward to my fishing trips with Dick.

Dick especially looked forward to our fall Salmon trips to Michigan each year and would entertain everyone at the Lodge with his great story telling ability. I had the special pleasure of Bass fishing with Dick every week when weather permitted for the past 15 years.

This spring season won't be quite the same this year with the absence of my friend, Colonel Dick Higgins.

- Jim Calvert

MVFF FYI

2012 Membership Fees Are Due Now!

Payment for 2012 membership fees were due December 31, 2011. Many members still have not yet submitted payment for their 2012 membership.

If you have not yet paid your dues please do so as soon as possible to remain in good standing with the club, and to continue to enjoy all of the benefits membership has to offer. The club is depending upon you!

April Meeting Date Change

Reminder - The date of the April meeting has been changed from **April 9** to **April 16**. **Be sure to mark your calendars!**



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ReelFlyRod.com

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This Month's Meeting:

The Great MVFF
 Auction!

March 12, 2012
 Kohler Banquet Center



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

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