

# TIGHTLINES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers



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Clipart provided free.  
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**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR  
NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:**

**Friday,  
August 24, 2012**

**More Outdoors Fun  
At Deeds!**

## Next Meeting

**August 13, 2012**

**Deeds Park Casting Pond**

(Directions on Website)

**NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

The fun begins at 5:30

**Join us outdoors again for  
a grilled meal,  
camaraderie, and casting competition!**

## Casting Competition News!

It's time for the outdoor meetings, which means it's time to dust off those casting skills. The outdoor casting event will be hosted this year by the team of Lash LaRue, Dan Matousch, and Jeff Warden. Come on over and cast a bit...regardless of your skill level. If we are back at Deeds Park this year, we will most likely be casting on our pseudo water again (aka the big blue tarp).

The only thing required to participate in the casting events is for you to show up. You don't even have to own a fly rod (although, if you do, you can cheat by practicing at home – just don't tell the judges; they might, no – they will – give you a hard time). There is no age requirement or limit, no height requirement, and no previous casting experience is needed. Everyone is welcome!

### CASTING COMPETITION CUT-OFF TIME

Casting will be held **ONLY** from 5:30 PM to 7:15 PM. No casting will be allowed after 7:15 PM. The cut-off time will help ensure we are not holding up the meeting with scoring, etc., so come on over and cast early.

**FYI** - September will be the **Distance Competition**.

### Here are the results for the July (Roll Cast):

Only the First Flight and Masters were able to hit all 5 targets in 15 casts or less. In looking at last year's results, the Seniors division was only able to make it to 4 targets then as well. They're now in a 2 year slump. Granted, that water is rough!

**First Flight Winner:** Paula Smith. (All 5 targets in 10 casts)

**Seniors, Winner:** Ken La Rue (4 targets in 6 casts; same winning number as last year's winner)

**Masters, Winner:** Jim Calvert (All 5 targets in 8 casts)

Continued on Page 2

## President's Thoughts



We had the great honor of being invited to BUFF's July meeting. Jeff Warden, Joe Nagel, and I attended this event. They had their meeting at Voice of America Metro Park in Butler County. What an impressive facility! It has a 35 acre lake to fish or work on your casting skills. There was a nice gazebo overlooking the lake, we sat back, some of us enjoyed a beer, all of us enjoyed some good fishing stories.

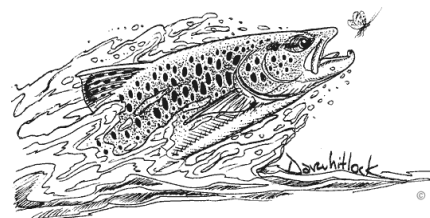
Afterwards, we retired to the patio of the banquet hall for dip and chips and some more fishing stories. The meeting and dinner took place in the banquet hall where they had a swap meet going on. The speaker was wildlife artist Christopher Walden, who demonstrated a pencil drawing of an eagle. It was absolutely amazing to watch him create the masterpiece. Joe Nagel has a link on facebook to this artist and his drawing. If you get a chance, check it out.

(Editor's Note: The link mentioned above is:  
<http://mvff.proboards.com/index.cgi?action=display&board=talk&thread=908>).

I would like to thank our host for the meeting, Jeff McElravy (President of BUFF), as well as Pete Moore (Program Co-Chair for BUFF). I had a great evening!

In the last two months I have received some calls from a couple of different people wanting to donate to the club. We have received some great items, boxes of fly tying material containing around 40 different hackles, a lot of chenille, deer hair and various other things. These items will be put in the auction scheduled for March 2013, so we will have that to look forward to.

Kenneth Hudak



# MVFF at the July BUFF Meeting

On July 11, Ken Hudak, Jeff Warden and Joe Nagel answered the invitation of the Buckeye United Fly Fishers to attend their July meeting. One of the outcomes of the gathering was a mutual desire for increased communication and cooperation between all of the fly fishing clubs in our general area. Look for more information about this in the near future!



**Ken Hudak (left) speaks with BUFF President Jeff McElravy (right) at the July 11 meeting.**



**Artist Christopher Walden created this pencil drawing during the meeting. Simply amazing!**

## Casting Competition Continued from page 1

**Casting Competition – this month is the Bass Bug.**

### **Bass Bug Rules:**

Start with bug in hand and allowed unlimited casts to target 1. Then only two (2) false casts to all remaining targets.

We might also have a 50/50 event to see who can hit the mouse trap. 2 attempts for \$1.00, with maximum of 5 false casts allowed per attempt. An attempt will be counted when the fly lands on the ground or mouse trap in 5 casts or less. (Rules subject to change.)

### **Casting Competition Divisions are as follows:**

**First Flight:** Those that have never won a casting event or 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.

Here's how we are scoring. All casters will start with 100 points. Those skillful enough to place the fly inside the gold ring will not lose any points. Any fly that lands inside the black ring will result in the deduction of 1 point. 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!). 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.

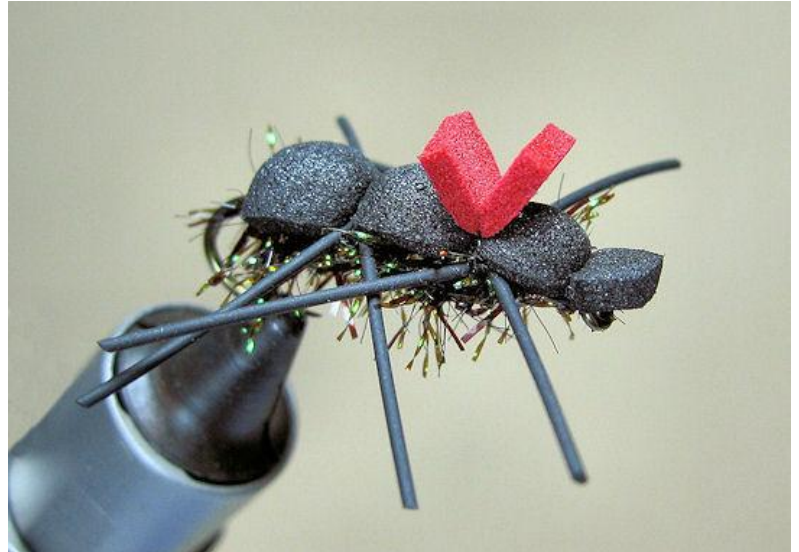
**Good luck!**

Jeff Warden

# This Month's Fly – August 2012 Edition

## CHERNOBYL ANT VARIANT

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward  
Photograph by Bob Cain



### Recipe

Hook.....Nymph or streamer, 3XL, size 6-10  
Thread.....Black, 6/0 or 3/0  
Underbody.....Pearl black or peacock tinsel/Estaz  
Overbody.....Closed cell black foam, 2mm, or medium cyclinder  
Legs.....Black round rubber  
Indicator.....Closed cell foam, 2mm, red

1. Place the hook in the vise. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a neat thread base back to the bend of the hook shank. Cut off the thread tag.
2. Cut a strip of foam about the width of the hook gap and about 2"-3" long. Cut a point in one end and tie it in on top of the hook shank at the hook bend by the middle of the point. Wrap tightly over the foam butt to compress it. The length of the foam should extend out over the hook bend. *(Be sure to tie the foam in by the middle of the point to avoid having the foam strip break off when the foam is pulled forward later.)*
3. Cut a 4" - 5" piece of estaz/tinsel and tie it in by one end on top of the hook shank at the same point where you tied in the foam, then wrap it forward in tight touching turns to slightly behind the hook eye and tie it off. Remove any excess tinsel/estaz and then make 2-3 wide turns of thread back toward the hook bend to return the thread to a point about 2/3ds of the hook shank behind the hook eye. Let the thread hang.
4. Fold the foam forward tautly on top of the hook shank and tie it down on top of the hook shank at the 2/3ds point where you left the thread, creating the first body segment.
5. Cut a couple of 2" rubber leg segments. Tie one by its middle on each side of fly body where you tied down the first body segment.
6. Now lift the foam and make a wide wrap of thread under it forward for another third of the hook shank. Lower the foam and tie it down as in step 4 creating a second body segment.
7. Again tie in legs on the second body segment as you did in step 5, then cut a small segment of red 2mm foam about 1/2 the width of the hook gap and tie it in on top of the hook shank over the wraps securing the second body segment.
8. Lift the foam and move the thread in a wide wrap to directly behind the hook eye. Pull the remaining foam segment of foam forward and tie it down directly behind the hook eye, do a whip finish, and cut the thread.
9. Pull the remaining foam forward over the hook eye, and with your scissors just in front of the hook eye, cut straight across the foam to form a head. At your option, you may round the edges of the foam head.
10. Trim each of the legs to about the length of the body and trim the colored indicator to suit your needs.

# Teach The Children Well....

By A. Kitson – Taken from the St. Joe River Valley Fly Fishers Newsletter (Via the 11/2011 FFF ClubWire Newsletter)

*(Editor's Note: A recent post on the message board about fishing with kids was the inspiration for printing this article. I hope you find this information helpful.)*

**Teaching Kids To Fish Is a Wonderful Experience That Will Make You a Better Fly Fisher.** Okay, I will admit that I was one of those dads who put a fly rod in my infant's hand and took a bunch of pictures for my office desk. That said, I have never pushed my kids to fish. Over the past few years they have floated in and out of —fishing fever, until this summer when my six year old became engrossed in all things fishing! And, has the summer moved on, the eight and ten year olds followed suit. I have learned a lot about all aspects of fishing through teaching them... And while I DO NOT pretend to be an expert on the subject of teaching kids to fish, I wanted to share a few things I've discovered along the way.

**Make it fun.** Obviously, it all starts with learning to cast. And the back yard is the perfect place. I was fortunate to teach elementary kids to cast with Jeff Stanifer the past few years picked up some really good techniques. The Hello?.....Goodbye! method is very effective. Have them pretend the cork handle is a phone. Pick it up quickly to your ear and say —Hello?... wait for the line to load, Say —Goodbye and move the rod down as if you are hanging up. You have just performed a cast! Most beginners perform this motion way to quickly and extend the rod tip too far back. Hold their wrist and still and use their arm to cast until their muscle memory kicks in. After they have the basics down, give them targets to aim at. Tie a piece of yarn six foot leader and place a hula hoop 15 – 20 feet away. After they can consistently get the fly in the circle, add a second hoop. Challenge them to put the fly in one hoop then the other with only one false cast...or better yet, none! Making up games like these keeps them interested and will probably make them a better caster than you before you know it!

**Kids love to fish.** That is... kids like to catch fish by nature. After a few back yard sessions, the child will definitely be ready to catch something. This will take some pre planning on your part. I recommend keeping it simple. A small pond full of bluegill may be your best bet. Stay close by and wear your sunglasses! Expect them to wrap the line around your head on the first several strikes. Fishing dry flies on still water will get them used to the strike. Bluegill are great because they keep coming back... no matter how many times you miss them. Don't be afraid to hook a few for them and let them fight the fish and strip it in. Nothing you can do in your backyard can prepare them for —the bite. Make sure they always —do the work as I call it... Hook the line with your finger and keep tension on the fish. Always praise them on their catch... even if it's a lowly chub.

**Be patient, and set them up for success.** Now, they are ready to get serious! It's time to hit the stream. Moving water. First things first... most kids have never felt a current in their short lives. EXPLAIN TO THEM THE DANGERS OF WADING IN A RIVER! Not to scare them, but to help them respect the river. Stay close to them and don't start out on a roaring river that's going to have you fighting for your life all day. Small to medium meandering streams are your best bet... at least until they get their sea legs. Use simple, sure fire techniques on short, even runs. I like to sweep soft hackles across broken water or fish hoppers (with a dropper sometimes) or beetles. Something that's easy for them to see, and that fish will just pounce on. Above all, keep your cool. The first time I took my oldest son trout fishing, I had scouted the perfect spot and knew it was full of fish. I tied on a size 10 Borcher's Special dry fly gave him specific instructions on where to cast and where to expect to get a strike. My heart was in my throat not once, not twice, but three times as I watched an 18 brown trout rise up and spit out his fly! Finally he stuck the pig and fought it for about 2 seconds before it shook it's head and spit out his fly, never to strike again. A few casts later, he stuck and landed a 12 brown... not bad for his first trout! He was thrilled... and so was I. Plan on losing lots of flies, untying lots of knots in their leader, and digging flies out of brush and snags. It's going to happen, so deal with it and DON'T LOOSE YOUR COOL!

**Don't sell the kid short.** You will be pleasantly surprised how quickly they will pick up techniques. I was shocked at how well my kids could mend after only a few simple tips. I am constantly talking to them throughout their d r i f t... — N i c e c a s t ! . . . mend , mend , mend...good!!! Now pick it up and put it back out there!... is my usual cadence. By the end of their first day on the stream, they could mend (and better yet understood why and when to mend) and even perform a pretty respectable roll cast. Show them how, and teach them why and when to perform a particular cast. When you change flies, let them know why you are choosing this one over another and get their input... They will think you are a genius!

**Know when to say when.** When you feel your patience start to slip, or see them start to disconnect, either take a break or call it a day. Especially if the bite is not on. I always carry plenty of water and a few snacks in my vest to ward off the fish diva. Nuts, beef jerky and snickers are my standbys. A break in the action is always a good time to teach them how to read the water and continue their education... It's also a great time to get them know them better and increase your bond. This is my favorite part of the trip more often than not.

**Teach them to give back.** Let's face it, we are teaching the future leaders and stewards of our precious waters and environment. Getting them involved in conservation and understanding how precious our natural resources are is key, and should be a big part of their continuing education. Get them involved with club functions and conservation projects.

So there it is. A few things my boys have taught me this summer. Teaching them has made me a much better fisherman... and has giving me fishing partners that I will share many adventures with for the rest of our lives! What more could I ask for?

## Urgent - TNT Volunteers Still Needed!

As you can see by the schedule on page 5, as of the time of this writing, **there are no more scheduled TNT events for 2012.**

However, we have 5 potential dates left this season. Please consider hosting a TNT event at one of your favorite fishing holes on one of these open dates.

For more information, contact Brian Funderer.



# MVFF CALENDAR For August, 2012

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**      **Openings for TNT Events** (See article on page 4 if interested in hosting a TNT event on one of these open dates.)
- 7 -**      **MetroParks "Try Fly Fishing"** Event at Cox Arboretum, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm.
- 13 -**      **MVFF Outdoor Meeting** (Reservations Not Required - See Page 1 for Details.)
- 14, 30 -**      **Casual Fly Tying**, Gander Mountain, 8001 Old Troy Pike, Huber Heights, OH 45424, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm.
- 19 -**      TU Madmen Water Monitoring Session, 9:00 am at Rt. 36 parking lot.
- 24-**      Article Deadline for Next Month's Issue of **Tightlines**.

## MVFF Message Board

The MVFF Message Board now has over **460** 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](mailto: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](http://mvff.tripod.com/Resources/AP_Form.pdf) OR [http://mvff.tripod.com/Resources/AP\\_Form.xls](http://mvff.tripod.com/Resources/AP_Form.xls)

## 2012 TNT Events

I will once again be heading up the TNT program for 2012, but I will not be able to host many events this summer due to a new addition to my family. **Because of this we are going to need more volunteers to host events this summer.**

Please get with me at one of our monthly meetings or contact me via email/phone if you have any questions or are interested in hosting a TNT outing. I will just need to know the date, location, and a little background information about area being fished (species, fly selection, etc.) I will ensure that this information along with directions gets updated on the MVFF message board and in Tightlines.

Open dates will run from the first Thursday in June to the last Thursday in August. Feel free to choose one of your favorite ponds, lakes, rivers, streams and ideally should be within a 20-40 minute drive of the Dayton metro area.

Thank You, Brian Furderer | **Phone:** 937 369-0359 | **E-Mail:** [bfurderer@gmail.com](mailto:bfurderer@gmail.com)

Date	Time	Location	Host	Fishing Information
June 7, 2012	Open Date	Little Miami River	Dave Brown	
June 14, 2012	Open Date	Mad River - Rt. 55	Dave Brown	
June 21, 2012	6:30 PM	<a href="#">Great Miami River Old Springfield Rd</a>	Tom Helbig	Wade/Float Tube/Canoe fishing for smallmouth, rock bass, & carp
June 28, 2012	Open Date	<a href="#">Pondview Park</a>	Brian Furderer	Bluegill / Bass / Crappie
July 5, 2012	Open Date			
July 12, 2012	6:30 PM	<a href="#">Great Miami River Rip Rap Rd Access</a>	Tom Helbig	(See Fishing info for June 21.)
July 19, 2012	Open Date			
July 26, 2012	Open Date	<a href="#">Cox Arboretum</a>	Tom Helbig	Bluegill / Bass / Crappie (See article on page 2.)
August 2, 2012	Open Date			
August 9, 2012	Open Date			
August 16, 2012	Open Date			
August 23, 2012	Open Date			
August 30, 2012	Open Date			



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This Month's Meeting:

**More Outdoor  
 Fun at Deeds Park!**

August 13, 2012  
 Deeds Park



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

## FISHERMAN'S HEADQUARTERS

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