

Miami Valley Fly Fishers, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the improvement and preservation of fly fishing in Ohio. Our goal is cleaner water and brighter streams.

# TIGHTLINES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Miami Valley Fly Fishers



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Clipart courtesy of the artist,  
Dave Whitlock.

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ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR  
NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:

Saturday,  
November 26, 2016

### Next Meeting November 14, 2016

Kohler Banquet Hall  
4572 Presidential Way  
(Directions on website)

DINNER RESERVATIONS  
ARE REQUIRED

RSVP to Mike Wolford at (937)  
667-9392 or [toflyfish@woh.rr.com](mailto:toflyfish@woh.rr.com)  
by the Thursday prior to the upcoming  
Monday meeting (November 10th).

Meal Price - \$15.00  
The fun starts at 5:30 p.m.

### November Speaker

For the past 30 years, Blane Chocklett has lived his passion. He grew up fishing the small mountain streams in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, starting a guide service as a youngster. In the late 90's, Blane opened Blue Ridge Fly Fishers in Roanoke, Virginia – one of the most respected full service fly shops in the region. About a decade ago, he returned to his river roots as owner/operator of the New Angle Fishing Company, specializing in float trips targeting the region's predatory fish from Musky to stripers and smallmouth bass.

One the most enthusiastic and cutting-edge fly tiers in our sport, many of Blane's inventive fly patterns are produced through UMPQUA Feather Merchants. He has served on the board of the American Fly Tackle Trade Association (AFFTA) and has worked as a



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### President's Thoughts

Welcome to Fall 2016.

The Fall is hands down, my favorite time of the year! I love the cooler weather and all of the color changes in the trees and landscape. It is the best season for Michigan and Canadian salmon fishing. It is the start of the Ohio steelhead runs in the Erie area and a great time to chase the browns in the Mad River.

Speaking of salmon runs, this year's annual club trip to the Pere Marquette was one of the best in club history. There were a lot of big fish in the water this year. More than a few club members told me they caught more and bigger fish than ever before.

And if you haven't heard, (the ladies) Kelly Kingery, Paula Mann-Smith, Kathy Williams and Karen Via came this year and caught huge fish. I know the guys believe we had the biggest, but I have seen most of the photos and I believe some of the fish caught by the ladies are even bigger. One fish caught by Kathy Williams took two people to hold. I'm just saying.....Jim Calvert.

There should be some openings for next year's excursion and the ladies will have their own cabin as well. Yeah!!!! I would strongly suggest this trip to anyone. You will not be able to find a better monetary value coupled with great fishing and friends. Big thanks to Jim Calvert for his organization efforts and time spent to head this club trip each year.

I would like to thank those who stayed behind and

Continued on Page 2

### **President's Thoughts** (cont'd)

represented the club at the Five Rivers MetroParks Outdoor X. These fine folks represented the club through fly tying, casting instruction and basic equipment instruction. Thank you Frank Cox, Jerry Redford, Joe Nagel, Greg Ogdan, Steve Hamilton, Kathy Williams, Barry Schroeder and Dale Stephens. Thanks in part to you, the Outdoor X had its highest attendance thus far.

Finally, it is time for a club decision concerning our continued membership with the International Federation of Fly Fishers. For over the last two years, many have raised the question concerning further membership.

Prior to this point in time, many questioned where our dues were going, how the money was spent, what was of benefit to MVFF and what was being done to further the art and sport we love. To answer some of these questions, I contacted Jeff McElravy, the VP of education for the Ohio Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. He was nice enough to drive here from Cincinnati and answer questions at the last outdoor meeting.

The IFFF has been a part of MVFF since we first formed 41 years ago. The mission of the IFFF is to sponsor education, promote fly fishing, aid in the formation of fly fishing clubs and promote conservation.

The Federation has much to offer, but first and foremost, we, the Miami Valley Fly Fishers, will get from our club membership what we contribute to the IFFF through time and effort. Unfortunately our club at some point in the past, began to do less or (I dare say) anything with the Federation. There is no finger pointing to take place because it occurred a long time ago and no one seems to know why.

To remedy this situation, I again contacted Jeff and he provided the following information:

Currently, the IFFF has Board of Director seats available to us in which two club delegates can represent MVFF and suggest how the Ohio Council conducts business. The members will be part of the decision-making board. This board will then represent Ohio in the IFFF. The decisions will affect new fishing clubs in Ohio, Ohio conservation, fly fishing education and will be a voice speaking to ODNR when issues such as the Mad River come forth. MVFF has not been represented on the IFFF board for quite some time. Again, no one knows why.

The Ohio Chapter of the IFFF has an annual grant of \$1500.00 that is available to enrolled fishing clubs strictly for conservation. This grant is available each year, but goes unused most of the time. The annual IFFF dues for MVFF are \$500.00 for blanket coverage for each member of MVFF.

My two cents - I believe MVFF should continue with our membership in the IFFF. I used to have my doubts, but I believe we failed the Federation - they did not fail us. With two delegates representing MVFF, we will have the ability to steer the Ohio Council with the same sense of direction and confidence that has made MVFF (what I believe to be) the best fly fishing club in Ohio. In the last three years, we have grown our outreach projects, fly tying, rod building, education opportunities, guest presentations, club membership and monetary fund like no other in the state. We are infectious, thriving and vibrant.

The \$500.00 annual IFFF dues will be handed back to us three fold when we apply for and are granted the \$1500.00 conservation grant. This grant can be used for things like the Mad River clean-up just for starters. (Did I mention we have professional grant writers in this club?)

Now that we know what the IFFF has to offer, I vote we continue with the membership and make some things happen.

See you for the vote on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Nathan A. Via  
MVFF President

### **November Speaker** (cont'd)

consultant to several fly fishing companies.

Since 1998, Blane has served as a fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants. Through his Hybrid Series™ and other innovative designs, Blane crafts traditional and synthetic tying materials to achieve the subtleness of flies and the strike-generating action of conventional lures. Today, Blane operates a guide service that specializes in float trips on four of Virginia's premiere rivers: James, New, Roanoke and Jackson rivers.

"TFO welcomed Blane Chocklett to the team in the 2012-2013 season. He is one of the most innovative fly tiers and wonderfully creative fly fishermen I know. Blane will be an excellent member of the TFO family," says Lefty Kreh. Blane represents the best of young stars in fly fishing, and working with the likes of Lefty Kreh, Larry Dahlberg, Ed

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## **Free Tying Session**

In addition to speaking at our meeting Blane will conduct a fly tying instructional session prior to our meeting.



This session will start at 3:00 PM on November 14<sup>th</sup> in our regular meeting room at the Presidential Banquet Center.

The session is free and open to any MVFF member. Bring your vise, tying tools and white and black 140 denier thread.

## November Fly of the Month



## Iris Caddis

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward

Photograph by Bob Cain

Hook .....	Dry 1xl, size 12-18
Thread .....	Olive, 6/0 or 8/0
Tail .....	Z-Ion/Antron, Amber
Body .....	Dubbing, Tan/olive, rabbit or possum
Wing .....	Z-Ion/Antron, White or clear
Thorax .....	Dubbing, Hare's ear
Head .....	Thread

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie in the thread slightly behind the hook eye, then wrap a tight thread base back to between the hook point and the hook barb. Remove any thread tag. Let the thread hang.
2. Cut a 1"-2" piece of tail material and tie it in by one end on top of the hook shank where you left the thread. Continue wrapping over the material down the hook bend so that the tail takes on a slight downward angle, then reverse thread direction and wrap it back toward the hook eye over the material to create a smooth underbody. Return the thread to in front of the tail. Trim the tail to be about a hook gap in length.
3. Dub the thread and wrap a tapered body covering the rear two-thirds of the hook shank. Remove any excess dubbing.

4. Now cut a 4" piece of wing material and form a loop reaching from the front of the body to the base of the tail. Tie the loop in on top of the hook shank in front of the body. Trim any surplus loop butts off at an angle and wrap over the butts to form a base for the thorax. The thread should now be at the base of the loop.
5. Take a batch of dubbing and "card" it to align the fibers. Now apply a light coat of dubbing wax to the thread and "pinch dub" the thread. Wrap the dubbing forward to form a shaggy thorax, being sure to fold back the dubbing fibers with each wrap. Tie off the dubbing behind the hook eye and remove any excess. It will look like a mess, but that is how you want it to look.
6. Do a whip finish and cut the thread.

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## 2017 MVFF FLY TYING CLASSES

It's now time to sign up for the 2017 Beginner and Intermediate Fly-Tying Classes. These classes are free to members as one of the many benefits of MVFF membership.

The Beginners class will be on Tuesdays starting January 3, 2017. The Intermediate class will be on Thursdays starting January 5, 2017. Both classes will continue weekly for 12 weeks. Classes will be held at the Lodge at the Huber Heights Gander Mountain store at 6:00 pm to 8:30 p.m.

It is easy to sign up and registration for both classes is now underway. You may register by telephone or by email, by contacting either of the following persons or by signing up at the November or December MVFF meetings:

- "Woody" Woodward at 937-236-2102 (home) or at Fisherman's Headquarters, 937-222-2224 (work), or
- Dale Stephens at 937-233-5134 (home) or by email at [dalebea65@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dalebea65@sbcglobal.net)

Class sign-up information needed is as follows: Name, email and home address, phone number - home and either work or cell phone, and a request to rent a tool kit if you need one.

We normally have excellent attendance at both classes - so the earlier you register, the better your chance of being in the class. Knowing how many members will be participating helps us to plan for materials and our budget request to the MVFF Board for the classes.

You may attend either or both classes; however, if there is space needed in the Beginners Class (and you have previously taken that class), then you will be asked to take the Intermediate Class in order to make room for new students. For new students, it is best if you can make all classes, (but is not required) as you will learn new techniques each week that help to build your fly-tying skills. We will also be incorporating some new flies and techniques in both classes that all members should find helpful.

If you need to rent a tool kit for the class, the cost is \$70.00 for the newer kits or \$35.00 for the older kits. The rental fee is returned to you at the last session, provided all tools and storage devices are returned in good working order. If you desire to purchase a tool kit, one option for you would be to go to Fisherman's Headquarters on Keowee Street in Dayton, where you can receive a discount for being a MVFF member. You may also purchase kits on-line or from other fly shops.

Go to <http://mvff.tripod.com/flytying.html> for all your information.

# A Special Pere Marquette Experience

Picture if you will, four women, one camper, and Paula's luggage. After that mental image, fishing for feisty king salmon in the Pere Marquette River might look like a church cake walk. If it was, it was the most beautiful, hardest fighting, exhilarating, toothy cake I ever tangled with! The time spent with these ladies was so much fun. We had a wonderful time bonding over laughter, good food, stories of fishing trips gone by, families and navigating the backroads of the Mantisee National Forest.

We learned the nuances of rigging for salmon, and the many different preferences various seasoned fishermen used. Each of us experienced the rollercoaster highs of fighting the king of the river, and the plunging low of the weightless line as it 'tings' back through the air with nothing but a swivel left (if you're lucky) for the effort. But just as quickly the loss was forgotten as new line was tied on and we were off to engage in another battle.

Baldwin Bait and Tackle provided us the best guides for our trip on Wednesday. I dare say we ran them ragged, sometimes having two fish on at the same time, up and down the river chasing fish, coaching us on what to do, how to do it, when to do it, landing our fish, cooking a hot riverside meal at lunch, tying on lost flies and leaders, taking pictures. It was a busy day for sure. But we loved hollering, "Fish on!" and compensated them well for their memory-making efforts.

A total of 42 fish were caught by Karen Via, Paula Mann-Smith, Kathy Williams and myself, including 34 king salmon, 7 brown trout, and 1 little steelhead - nice job on the double hook-up, Paula.

All of us are looking forward to going again next year and have already reserved our lodging and our guide trips, not to mention started recruiting more ladies - no truer sign of a good time, I'd say.

~ Kelly Kingery



## Castalia Lottery Winner

Amy Aspenwall won the lottery that you can enter when you purchase your Ohio fishing license - here's the info on it: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/fishing/fishing-lotteries-and-events>

Amy and I both entered the Castalia lottery for the first time this year, and she was chosen. We went up and fished on October 6th, had the entire stretch of Cold Creek that runs through the hatchery to ourselves (her son Austin, her, and myself). The fish were in great condition, eager to bite, and hard fighting - and tasty. No catch and release, we HAD to take out 5 fish each, no exceptions. It was a great time and the hatchery grounds are beautiful, weather was great, and we highly recommend the opportunity to anyone that gets a chance to participate - it is a great chance to teach kids, and a good way to work on techniques for landing BIG trout!

~ Steve Hamilton



## November Speaker (cont'd)

Jaworowski, Bob Clouser, Nick Curcione, Flip Pallot and Gary Loomis, to lead the next generation of anglers to our sport.

Blane is creating a series of patterns that has all the subtlety of flies and the strike-generating action of conventional lures. We believe that his new patterns combined with our commitment to make the right "Affordable – High Performance" delivery tools will compel many conventional tackle anglers to try fly fishing.

Through the years, Blane has supported the sport of fly fishing by serving as a member of the American Fly Tackle Trade Association's (AFTA) Dealer Advisory Board and by consulting with several fly fishing pro staffs. Blane has been featured in many outdoor books and magazine articles over the years.



## Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Update



MVFF & Dayton VAMC

We began October with a highly successful outing to Spring Run Farms on October 1st. Fishing was pretty darn good and some beautiful trout (browns, rainbows and brook) were hooked. Thanks to Alan Donaldson and Spring Run Farms for having us as guests (twice this year). And thanks J.D. Dukes for cooking lunch. Healing Waters National Funds were used to cover the lunch costs.

Our last outing of the year was to Zanesfield Rod and Gun Club in Zanesfield, Ohio on October 17th. There we were once again the guests of MVFF member John Raisbeck who also provided lunch. Thank you very much John for another great experience for our veterans. Also, a big thanks to John Schoenauer, who tied some of his



A very nice brown at Spring Run Farms

“killer” flies for the vets. Everyone caught or hooked fish this super day.

Many thanks again to our club volunteers and the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center staff for making these and the other activities throughout 2016 so successful. And very special thanks to Bill Grimpe, MVFF's PHWFF Program Chair, for all his work in overseeing the program this year. The veterans certainly learned new skills, shared important and positive experiences and had lots of fun in the process.

Plans are already underway for 2017 activities which will include rod building and fly tying.

## MVFF Board Elections

The November meeting is the time when we hold the elections for our new Board Members. This year, in addition to a new Vice President, we will be electing a new Club Secretary.

Every member in good standing is eligible to vote; however, you must be present at the meeting to do so! So be sure to attend the November meeting.

Come vote, and let your voice be heard!

### Quote of the Month

That is winter steelheading: long hours of cold, interminable work, punctuated with breathless moments of excitement.

*Steve Raymond  
The Year of the Angler (1973)*

### DVD Library

The club has an extensive library of DVD's. There is a link to the list on the Home page of our website ([www.mvff.us](http://www.mvff.us)). Take a look and I bet you'll find something of interest . . . there have been some recent additions. If you have questions contact Richard Quigley at [quigleyfam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:quigleyfam@sbcglobal.net).

### CALENDAR

November 10, 22	Casual Fly Tying, Gander Mountain 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
November 14	MVFF Indoor Meeting, Kohler Banquet Hall, 4572 Presidential Way 5:30 p.m. (Directions on website) Free tying session with Blane Chocklett, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
November 25	Deadline for December Tightlines articles

## Time for 2017 Dues...

Yes it is that time already. The membership fee remains unchanged at \$35.00. Membership dues comprise 50% of our annual budget. Our club depends upon support such as yours in order to:

- Provide quality speakers at our indoor meetings
- Offer our outstanding Fly Tying Classes
- Participate in community projects (such as PHWFF)
- Continue to promote the sport we love so much

So please renew your membership now. The club is counting on you!

## Buy / Sell / Trade

Got gear you need or want to unload? Give us the info and we can post it here for you as well as on the Message Board.

Please let us know when to remove the listing.

Send your request to [tarnoldjr@me.com](mailto:tarnoldjr@me.com)

## Happy Thanksgiving



Have a very safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving!



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