The 2015 Ohio campfire was held again on Memorial Day weekend at Canters Cave, and was another wonderful weekend. I could not have wished for a better weekend for fishing and teaching the great group of kids we had at camp this year. We loaded the pond with over 250 Trout as we always do, but strangely enough some of the biggest fish were the Catfish from last year. Thank you to all the leaders that help clean all those trophy fish!

Our members did another great job this year of recruiting more great kids to come to our camp. We had 9 first years, 1 tag-a-long, and in total we had 49 kids at camp. Thank you to all the supporters and those believing in what we are trying to do, teaching these kids to love the outdoors will help our stewardship live on through the next generation.

I am very grateful to have had this opportunity to help our club. This year at camp I spent most my weekend working but did manage to squeeze in some fun. All the great leaders at camp kept everything running smoothly. I really can't say thank you enough to my wife and kids, and all the other great friends that helped me out.

Our spring was very busy - again we were in a position to help out the club, and Canters Cave by acquiring a used dock from our friends at the "Buckeye Boat Club". It was a steel boat dock that we turned into a square island for the kids to fish from. It took us awhile to finish the plans but we got everything down to camp and built in one day. Everything was great except the weather, Mother Nature decided to fill the pond that day. Thank you all that were involved for helping us bring these great opportunities to life down at Canters Cave...it was awesome to see everyone working together in building the docks (or our new bridges) for the next generation. As always the best part of all this was when all the kids went out onto the new dock and started catching fish!

Our New President Tim Gifford (on the left) once again came through with a fantastic meal to celebrate the camps success. We had smoked pork shoulder, and brisket for dinner, and this time I had the opportunity to partake in the feast!

With that please remember we are always looking for new members to help make this all possible, and to support our goal of getting more kids to camp and passing on our love for angling and the outdoors to the next generation. I ask you to please share your experience with your friends, and remember we have a great Website and Facebook page if anyone would like to know more about our club. If you get a chance, check it out and pass it along!

Facebook: Youth Anglers of Ohio
www.youthanglersofohio.com

I am looking forward to help the New President out next year, please remember to check with one of the officers, or one of our communication teams to get the next years dates. It will be one of the weekends around Memorial Day. I hope to see you at the next campfire; God bless America - we are truly blessed to have these great opportunities, thanks again!

Todd Stryker - Past President, 2014-2015
Spincasters — 1st Year Program

This year we had a good class of 9 new young anglers. The first year Spincasters spent time learning to tie knots, rig bobbers, attach sinkers, rig rubber worms, and use live bait. Basic first-aid is also covered, just in case. Over at the pool we use the clear water to visualize the action in the water. This helps the kids test there new learnings with surface lures, crank baits, spinners baits, and jig baits. We also teach them about conducting stream samples. The real fun starts when we let them get out on the pond to fish for trout. After we have caught a few they learn techniques on cleaning fish, and finally how to cook them—most of the kids know how to eat them, fresh fish always comes out great!

Spinners — 2nd Year Program

Our class of five second year anglers continue to build upon the knowledge they gained in their first year, including the use of rubber worms and live bait, honing their spinning skills. We gave them more free time to go back and build more lures this year because it was such a hit. The highlight of this year is really studying the stream bed entomology with members of ODNR lead this year by Roderick King. Nothing beats traipsing around a creek looking for cool bugs and other live critters! They learned how counting insects helps you know the health of the stream.

Flycasters—3rd Year Program

Our class of ten third year anglers had a great year. On Friday night they spend time learning to tie flies, under the expert eye of past president Tony Dabo, and I got an opportunity to help out. Each student was able to tie several flies and then take them out the next day.

On Saturday, after breakfast they headed to Camp Logan just down the road to learn fly casting. Tony and other leaders did a great job teaching the young anglers, and even the adults spending the day with their kids learned a few new tricks. They used targets to create a fly fishing competition among all the young anglers. It was again a day to remember at Camp Logan.
Junior Anglers — 4th/5th Yr Rods, Net, & Fishing Lanyard

This year we had ten fourth year and five fifth year campers. Many kids like to come back and do all 3 projects before they move on to fishing with the masters. We had 4 campers building rods with Scott Furst. They all built their own beautify rods.

The second project is net making, where we had five young anglers learning the existing skill of weaving your own fishing net. This is a challenging project so it is great to have one of our club champions Roy Naeder there to help the kids when they get a little tangled up, he can always make it come out perfect!

The third project this year was a fishing lanyard which I taught Friday evening. I had six young anglers ready to go, we helped each of them build their own lanyard which is a great way to carry some of your needed tools, line, and lures when you go out fishing.

Fishing with the Masters — 6th Yr Graduates

This year we had nine youth anglers fishing with the Masters lead by past president Mike Hall with the help of other key leaders. This great group of young men had fine tuned their fishing skills over the years and finally got the opportunity to test out their fly fishing and bait casting skills on a private pond. It was a beautify day, and Month Nature provided a scenery to remember. They where in canoes and fishing off the banks, catching Fish Ohio size Sun fish and other native species. They “told” me they all caught record fish—all catch and release. Over-all this was a great day to be out fishing and there where lots of opportunities to make this a special day for all these youth.

Thank you all that helped support this group in making this day one to remember!

Casting Competition

This is one of critical skill classes, we run each year. This competition develops our youth into good line casters, being able to put the bait on the fish is a must have skill. Past president Ken Adkins ran this class for the kids that are in their first and second year at our camp. This picture is of this our 2015 award recipients for winning the competition….great job!

2015 Junior Leaders

Sometimes our passion and desire to help teach conservation, sportsmanship is passed along to our kids and other young individuals. All our junior leaders are past anglers from our camp, and remember how important these times were in build who they are today. Thank you all for coming back and help this year!
Our club is Youth Anglers of Ohio, we are the Ohio Chapter of The Brotherhood of the Jungle Cock. We are a club organized from the State of Maryland in 1940 with the purpose of passing on awareness and an appreciation of nature's bounty. We teach the ideas of conservation, sportsmanship, and angling.

The Ohio chapter was formed in 1947, with our first campfire weekend in 1973.

The Memorial Day Campfire Weekend is the annual event where youths are mentored through a six-year program that teaches specific angling skills and the appreciation of our natural world.

We encourage others to join our ranks as sponsors, instructors, and leaders promoting conservation of our most precious resources.

Presidents Pics….enjoy!

Such a beautiful day, just right to sit out around the pond, and watch memories being created.

The kids caught some nice trout to take home.

I was amazed the kids caught so many different species of fish this year.

With the extra docks the kids could really spread out and fish the entire pond, really getting to some of the hard to reach fishing spots.