

The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fish-

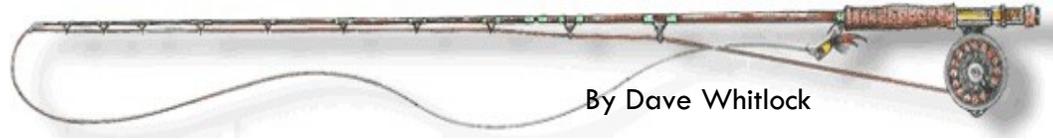
February 2025

First FFI Affiliated Club in Louisiana



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Established in 1984



By Dave Whitlock

Frozen Chosen



A five star fly fishing event!



The North Louisiana Fly Fishers is a comprehensive flyfishing club:

Established in 1984, The NLFF is affiliated with Fly Fishers International and is composed of a core group of very experienced fly fishers. In addition to this group of experienced fly fishers is a large population of intermediate fishermen. Most importantly, the NLFF club has a healthy contingent of people just learning how to fly fish who are members of the club. No matter what your skill level, you are welcome to join. The goal is to help each other in the sport. The goal is also to enjoy the magnificent fly fishing journey. The sport can refresh the soul, mind and spirit. Come join us on the journey.

6 Main components of the NLFF:

- 1) **Education:** We teach all aspects of skills and techniques associated with fly fishing. Casting, rod assembly, knots, fly ID courses, line management, gear reviews, and safe wading are just a few of the topics addressed.
- 2) **Destination Programs:** We provide programs and lectures on ideal locations to fly fish. Secret locations, easy wading river bottoms, rivers, ponds, lakes and streams are all presented. Some close, some more distant. We also share current fishing reports.
- 3) **Fishing Trips:** We organize trips to rivers, streams, ponds and lakes. We fish cold water and warm. We even offer salt water trips.
- 4) **Fly Tying:** We offer complete fly tying instruction. We provide you all the tools you need to tie you own fly, plus a one on one instructor.
- 5) **Social Activity and Community involvement:** The NLFF has given back to the community with involvement in Veterans Projects, Reel Recovery, Refuge summer camps, and more.
- 6) **Travel:** We support, participate, and travel to regional fly fishing conventions, and gatherings.

Cover Photo: A large portion of the active membership of the NLFF attended the annual Frozen Chosen outing January 25, 2025. It was a high quality fly fishing event.

New Monthly Event.....

1st Tuesday of the Month!

Brews and Bugs

A social time and fly tying practice time at Great Raft Brewery



What could be better than tying a few flies, hearing a few nuggets of fishing wisdom, and sipping a local brew (nonalcoholic beverages also available) in a classy atmosphere. Come out for this relaxing and enjoyable monthly break from the normal routine. Bring you spouse or significant other. If they do not tie flies, they are welcome to take along any craft they enjoy. It could be sewing, crocheting, painting... Anything. The point is just to get together and enjoy each other's company.

A food truck is on site with sandwiches and chicken dishes. Beat the rush hour and arrive at 5 PM.

When: Tues. Feb 4th 5—8 PM

Where: Great Raft Brewery

1st Tuesday of each month at 5 PM

1251 Dalzell St, Shreveport 71104

New Feature in Newsletter:

FOR SALE...

2019 Flagstaff Camper T12 with off-road package



The family is growing and the camper must go. Lightly used.

It sleeps 2 comfortably, 3 in a pinch.

This camper can be towed with almost anything.

It has massive storage up front. Super easy set-up. Takes 5 minutes to open.

\$7,000

Contact Jeff at (337) 344-7100

Pontoon Boat



This is a really fun boat for rivers and lakes.

Light and easy to haul.

\$625

Contact Dennis North (903) 930-5460

If you would like to list an item for sale related to fishing text me a photo with a short description. Scott Irwin 318-469-0854

February Monthly Meeting....

Chili



2024 Winners

Cook-off

and mystery fly tying contest!

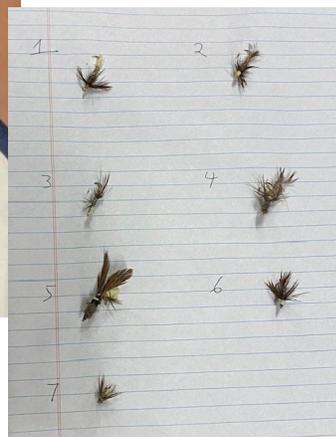
Fire up that crock pot with your favorite Chili recipe! It's time for the NLFF annual Chili Cook-Off. We encourage everyone to bring their favorite chili and enter the contest for delightful prizes.

In addition, if you tie flies, bring your tying equipment. Ed Cates will bring some mystery materials from which all contestants will construct a fly.

It all adds up to a fun evening.

When: Tuesday Feb 11th at 6 PM

Where: Red River Refuge (150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier)



All are welcome! Bring your spouse and or friends!

Recurring Events:

Monthly Meetings

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Red River Refuge in the Conservation Conference Center at 6 PM. Bring your fly tying equipment to meetings and come tie flies.

Red River Refuge

150 Eagle Bend Point

Bossier City LA 71112

Officers: Steve Oliver: President 318-349-6411 Mark Chrisman: Treasurer 318-797-8790

Board: John Reisz 318-560-5831, Dickie Turner 318-469-9600, Brett Rowell 318-207-6097
Scott Irwin 318-469-0854

1st Tuesday of the month at 5 PM: Brews and Bugs at Great Raft Brewery

1251 Dalzell St, Shreveport LA 71104

Come out for a relaxing start to the month tying flies with your friends in a classy environment. This is the perfect time to practice tying what is taught at the 3rd Thursday formal fly tying lesson. But you can tie whatever you like. This is also a good time to ask for help with any techniques you wish to master. Alcoholic and nonalcoholic drinks are available. A food truck is on site with sandwiches and chicken offerings.

3rd Thursday Monthly Fly Tying:

Come join us for a enjoyable evening of fly tying at Bass Pro on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 PM. . If you are new to fly tying this is a great place to start. We provide you with a vise, tools and materials to tie your first few flies. If you are an experienced fly tyer, come and demonstrate your skill. We always enjoy sharing new and different techniques.

The fly tying session is organized in a lesson format. An instructor chooses a fly that is a guaranteed fish catcher in the Ark-La-Tex. The lesson follows the process of constructing the fly step by step. An experienced floater tyer is available for those that desire a little extra assistance.

It is the charge of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers to afford the general public and our members in particular, a better understanding of Fly Fishing, Fly Tying, and Rod Building. We wish to perpetuate the sport as a most pleasurable and exciting fishing method and provide education, instruction and the opportunities for relaxation to the membership.

The North Louisiana Fly Fishers (NLFF) Club serves the Ark-La-Tex area surrounding Shreveport. As the closest cold water fishery, we consider the Little Missouri (Little' Mo) River near Murfreesboro, AR our home waters. We also fish the local rivers and lakes. We even have a growing group of kayak fishermen that, as well as the local rivers and lakes, will fish the gulf coast marshes for some saltwater action!

We meet the second Tuesday of every month at the Red River Wildlife Refuge (150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA). Meeting starts at 6 pm, tie flies and practice casting when the weather permits. See you there!

February

Fly Tying Lesson: by Tim Powel

Beaver's Bend Special

New date and time for fly
tying!

3rd Thursday at 6 PM

At Bass Pro!

Blue Winged Olive



December trip to Lower Mountain Fork at Beavers Bend: Fish in a feeding frenzy. Fish would not bite any of the traditional flies thrown at them. Finally the Blue Winged Olive, size 22, was lightly cast into the feeding fish. GULP! The fish took the fly. This ended up being the best day ever on the Lower Mountain Fork. You need this fly if you fish at Beavers Bend. Come and tie a handful in different sizes.

When: Thursday Feb. 20th at 6 PM

Where: Bass Pro in the Fly Shop

Lesson Format

Come join the all new Fly Tying Lessons at Bass Pro. We know people have busy weekends. We are going to try tying lessons on the 3rd Thursday at 6 PM. Each month we will feature a specific fly or flies. The instructor will walk participants step by step through the tying process. **Beginners are welcome.** If you do not have equipment, the NLFF will provide everything you need. Experienced "floater" tyers will be available for those desiring extra assistance. Experienced tyers are encouraged to demonstrate their skills. This kind of tying instruction is very rare. Come and learn the art and leave with a handful of flies!

NLFF Outings....

(Must be a member to attend)

February Joint Outing!

North Louisiana Fly Fishers +

Contraband Fly Fishers (a Lake Charles Club)



One of the many benefits of participating in a fly fishing club is the chance to meet incredible people in other clubs. Some of these clubs are close to salt water, some cold water, some warm water. But the fellowship is always warm. Join the NIFF and the Contraband Fly Fishers for a trip to The Lower Mountain Fork at Beavers Bend Oklahoma. (Three hours from Shreveport). Get a cabin, stay in the park lodge, or camp at Beavers Bend State Park. Make reservations early. The park sometimes fills up.

When: Arrive Friday February 21st. Depart Monday February 24th

Where: Accommodations at Beavers Bend State Park. Fishing: Lower Mountain Fork River

More info: Scott Irwin: 318-469-0854

New March outing...



Sowbug Roundup

In beautiful Mountain Home Arkansas



The premier Fly Fishing Festival in the United States!

Attend the Sowbug Roundup (sponsored by the North Arkansas Fly Fishers) with your fellow NLFF members. The festival features fly tying workshops with Tim Flagler, fascinating seminars, casting instruction, vendors, and endless demonstration tyers. Plus, the White River is just a few miles away and offers world class fishing.

Many members are staying at the Super 8. Prices start at \$60 a night. Admission to the festival is Just \$10. It is an amazing value. Some members will arrive Wednesday March 26th and leave Sunday March 30th. Come and stay for the whole festival of just for a few days. This is a 5 star fly fishing experience. For more information go to: northarkansasflyfishersl.org. Click on "Sowbug Roundup homepage".

When: March 26-29th 2025

Where: Mountain Home AR

April 5 NLFF outing..

Farm Pond Bliss.....



A place where anyone and everyone will catch fish!

Carve a little time out of your calendar and make the trek to one of the most beautiful farm ponds you will ever lay your eyes on. If you are relatively new to fly fishing, you just gotta go on this trip. It's just a half day outing. The beauty of this trip is you can practice your cast in a VERY friendly environment. The other nice thing about this pond is it is loaded with fish. You will learn to detect a strike, which is critical with fly fishing. For experienced fly fishers walk round to the north end where the big boys lay. It's challenging. It requires a strong tippet. Get ready for a wild ride.

Here's the deal. We meet at 7:30 AM at Louisiana Downs. We condense autos and drive to Calhoun La. It's about a 75 minute drive. Pack a lunch. We will fish from 9 to 11. Picnic at the pond. Then leave by 11:30 AM. We will be back at La Downs by 1 PM

When: April 5th from 7:30 AM to 1 PM **Where:** Meet at La Downs at 7:30 AM drive to Calhoun La

Questions: Call Steve Oliver at 318-349-6411 or Rick Fontenot at 318-455-9893

May NLFF outing...

Bring your spouse!

Flies & Fleas

Located at Purtis Creek State Park in Texas (southeast of Canton)



This is a truly unique outing. It takes place on one of the most well managed warm water lakes in America. The fishing is phenomenal.

We combine this with the option to attend the largest flea market in the world, the First Monday Trade Days in Canton TX. (Thursday May 29th).

Most members will arrive on Tuesday May 27th and stay 3 nights. They will depart Friday May 30th. Camping is available at the state park. Hotels are nearby for those without campers.

This is a mid-week trip due to the fact the an outdoor organization has booked the campground many weekends.

But the lake is fantastic for mid-week fishing. It will not be crowded.

Contact Steve Oliver with questions: 318-349-6411

When: May 27 –30

**Where: Purtis Creek
State Park** near Canton Texas



Exciting 2025 event:

Caddo Flyfishing Expo

Sponsored by the North Louisiana Fly Fishers



When: July 18th and 19th
2025

Where: Historic Downtown
Jefferson Texas at the con-
vention Center.

(305 E. Austin St)

Plan now to attend the first Caddo Flyfishing Expo.

Fly tyers and experts of the fly rod will gather in one room to further the sport of fly fishing. The event will include:

- Seminars
- Incredible fishing just steps from the convention center
- Demonstration fly tyers and fly tying lessons
- Food, prizes and more



***Register now to be a
demonstration fly tyer
at the event. Spots are
limited. Apply now:***

Name _____

Number attending _____

Address _____

Email (print clearly) _____

Cell Phone _____

Day you will arrive (Friday, Saturday or both? (We hope both) _____

Fly or fly fishing skill you would like to demonstrate (if known at this time)

Optional: I would like to be a teacher at the event to teach fly tying

Circle one: YES NO

{Complementary dinner Friday night and all day Saturday for demonstration tyers!}

Spots are limited. The first 30 spots are for tyers traveling from out of town. Remaining spots to locals.

Mail this form to NLFF, P.O. Box 29531 Shreveport LA 71149 or email to nlffclub@gmail.com

NLFF

Roster:

Patrick Leahy	12/31/2024
Allen Rowe	12/31/2025
Joe Linder	12/31/2026
Steve Oliver	12/31/2026
Brett Rowell	12/31/2024
Rex White	12/31/2026
Rush Clay	12/31/2025
Al Higgins	12/31/2024
Jack Lamb	12/31/2025
Howard Malpass	12/31/2024
Ardis Peace	12/31/2024
Jim Roat	12/31/2026
Artur Sele	12/31/2024
Dick Seal	12/31/2026
Chuck Tiller	12/31/2024
Chris Horsley	12/31/2024
Dickie Turner	12/31/2026
Ed Cates	12/31/2024
Mark Chrisman	12/31/2024
CL Bourn	12/31/2024
Russ Rogers	12/31/2027
Tom Hopkins	12/31/2026
John Reisz	12/31/2024
Jay Sikes	12/31/2025
Rick Fotenot	12/31/2025
Tom Mee	12/31/2025
Colin Fontenot	12/31/2026
John Scarborough	12/31/2025
Matt Kendall	12/31/2024
Tad Britt	12/31/2024
Scott Irwin	12/31/2024
Antoinette Sheppelman	12/31/2025
Tim Powell	12/31/2024
Dennis North	12/31/2024
David Lanzillotti	12/31/2024
Alan Carter	12/31/2026
Larry Cooper	12/31/2024
Richard Kennedy	12/31/2024
David Frey	12/31/2026
Terry Williams	12/31/2027
Chad Garland	12/31/2027
Keith Burton	12/31/2027
Bill Meaney	12/31/2025
Larry McCarver	12/31/2025
Scott King	12/31/2027
Jack Weiner	12/31/2025
Wendy Kelly	12/31/2025

Don't see your name on our membership roster? Join today. We would love you as a member of the NLFF. The club is diverse. It revolves around fly fishing but also includes travel, regional fly fishing conventions, interaction with other fly fishing clubs, and plenty of "eating meetings" You can find a membership form on our website "Northlaflyfishers.org" or use the form below.



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

North Louisiana Fly Fishers

P.O. Box 29531 · Shreveport, LA 71149
www.northlaflyfishers.org

Club Membership Form

Member Information*

Primary Member's Name: _____ DOB: _____

Other Active Member or Spouse: _____ DOB: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

FFI Member?: Yes or No (Circle One) Home Phone: _____

Fly Tyer? Yes or No (Circle One) Cell Phone: _____

Kayaker? Yes or No (Circle One) Other Cell Phone: _____

Primary Email: _____

Wireless Carrier (Need to send texts): _____

*NOTE: All information is confidential and for the private use of the NLFF.

Membership Type (Check One)

<input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$35) <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Yr Family (\$90)	A parent or parents along with their children under 18 years of age. Limited to a two vote maximum.
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$30) <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Yr Individual (\$75)	All individual members are allowed one vote.
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$20)	Any student under the age of 18, but not included in a Family Membership. Student members are considered to be full members and have one vote.
<input type="checkbox"/> Active Military (\$20)	Any active member of the U.S. Armed Forces. Active military members are considered to be full members and have one vote.

Payment Method: Cash
 Credit Card Check

NOTE: Dues are payable by the end of January of each calendar year. Make checks payable to North Louisiana Fly Fishers (NLFF). Dues for new members joining on or after September 1st shall be valid through the end of the following year (excludes Military and Student). For example, if you join on Sept. 1 2016, your membership would be valid through the end of 2017.

NLFF January Photos

The fish were biting at the Frozen Chosen!

We love to fish!



Brett, Russ, John, Colin, And Randy's fish





Mark Chrisman's fish,. Tree Trout, Wendy Kelly fishing



Matt Kendall's nice fish

More Frozen Chosen Photos, (The NLFF outing to the Little Missouri)



Scott and Colin's golden trout and Steve's whopper fish and Rick Fontenot's nice stringer!



We like to eat....

More photos from Frozen Chosen outing to Little Missouri



Come join us next year. The Frozen Chosen is always the last weekend in January. The more the merrier!



It's a delightful and beautiful trip.....