

# The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

May 2025

First FFI Affiliated Club in Louisiana



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Established in 1984



By Dave Whitlock



# **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: Brian Landry ties his first fly at the Bass Pro Formal Fly Tying Lesson held the 3rd Thursday of each month. at 6:30 PM.***

# ***May NLFF***

## ***Events...***

- **May 6:** Brews and Bugs
- **May 13th:** Monthly Meeting
- **May 15th:** Formal Fly Tying at Bass Pro
- **May 27-30:** Flies and Fleas: Purdis Creek



*Laid-back Monthly Event (May 6).....*

*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. Discount beverages offered to all that tie flies. A food truck is on site with sandwiches and chicken dishes. Beat the rush hour and arrive at 5 PM.

**When: Tues. May 6 5-8 PM**

**Where: Great Raft Brewery**

1st Tuesday of each month at 5 PM

1251 Dalzell St, Shreveport 71104

**May 13th** *Monthly Meeting....*

Jay Sikes Presents

2 Part Bonus: How to protect  
your flyrod **Plus** The differ-  
ence between fresh and salt  
water fishing

Part 2 of our  
Springtime  
Saltwater se-  
ries.

# **Belize Bonefishing**



Fishing for Bonefish is one of life's most beautiful experiences. Come and hear Chris Horsely present the "ins and outs" of this bucket list experience.

**When: Tuesday May 13th at 6 PM**

**Where: Red River Refuge**

150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City

***May 15th***

Take Two: Steve had to cancel his lesson last month at the last minute. We will now tie the Fuzzy Bee this month.

## Formal fly tying lesson at Bass Pro...

3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM

# Fuzzy Bee



Few flies catch fish like the Fuzzy Bee. Steve Oliver continues to refine this incredible fly. I have witnessed this fly pulling in a fish every cast for hours on end. Come and tie our own at this well planned lesson. You will leave with a handful of free flies!

This fly is perfect for beginners. We will provide everything you need. Vise, tools, materials and an instructor. Advanced tyers, we encourage you to participate. We like to observe your skills.

**When: May 15th at 6:30 PM**

**Where: Bass Pro in the Fly Shop**

Questions: Call Brett Rowell: 318-207-6097

## 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, Ed Cates 318-560-8675, 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 tasty sandwiches and chicken offerings.

## 3rd Thursday Monthly Formal Fly Tying Lesson:

Come join us for an enjoyable evening of fly tying at Bass Pro on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 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!

# ***NLFF Outings and Events....***



May Events listed in beginning of this Newsletter

May NLFF outing...

Bring your spouse!

# ***Flies & Fleas***

Located at Purvis 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: Purvis Creek  
State Park** near Canton Texas





# June NLFF Outing...

Wet Wade

## Kisatchie Bayou



Kisatchie Bayou is an anomaly in Louisiana. It looks like it belongs in a far away state. Its only a 90 minute drive. Waterfalls, white sand, clear cool water. It's stunning. To top it off, it is breaming with fish. All you need are some old tennis shoes, a swimsuit, and your flyrod.

We will meet at the Home Depot in South Shreveport at 8 AM. We will caravan to the Bayou. Pack a picnic lunch. We will fish until about 2 or 3 pm. Then return to Home Depot by 5 PM. It's a day trip.

**When: June 21st at 8 AM      Where: Meet at Home Depot**

Call Scott Irwin with any questions: 318-469-0854

*July Blockbuster 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 Caddo Expo \_\_\_\_\_

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](mailto:nlffclub@gmail.com)

Make Reservations NOW! Campground filling up!

(Must be a member to attend)

## ***September NLFF Outings....***

### ***Joint Outing! (Rescheduled from February)***

## ***North Louisiana Fly Fishers +***

## ***Contraband Fly Fishers (a Lake Charles Club)***



**Make Reservations  
NOW! The campground  
and cabins are already  
70% occupied!**

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. You can always cancel a reservation. AGAIN, RESERVE NOW!

**When: Arrive Friday September 19th, Depart Monday September 22nd (3 nights)**

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

**More info: Scott Irwin: 318-469-0854**

# NLFF

## Roster:

### North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Member Number	Member Name	Membership Expiration
275	Behrend, Michelle	12/31/2025
267	Burton, Keith	12/31/2027
241	Carter, Alan	12/31/2026
248	Cates, Ed	12/31/2027
237	Chrisman, Mark	12/31/2027
140	Clay, Rush	12/31/2025
273	Degravelle, Grant	12/31/2025
250	Fontenot, Colin	12/31/2026
256	Fontenot, Rick	12/31/2025
264	Frey, David	12/31/2026
266	Garland, Chad	12/31/2027
152	Higgins, Archie	12/31/2025
249	Hopkins, Tom	12/31/2026
211	Horsley, Chris	12/31/2025
116	Irwin, Scott	12/31/2027
270	Kelly, Wendy	12/31/2025
247	Kendall, Matt	12/31/2025
238	Kennedy, Richard	12/31/2027
272	King, Scott	12/31/2027
158	Lamb, Jack	12/31/2025
251	Leahy, Patrick	12/31/2025
120	Linder, Joe	12/31/2026
263	Mccarver, Larry	12/31/2027
268	Meaney, Bill	12/31/2025
257	Mee, Tom	12/31/2025
261	North, Dennis	12/31/2025
269	O'bryant, Phil	12/31/2025
123	Oliver, Steve	12/31/2026
274	Perez, Rhonda	12/31/2025
260	Powell, Tim	12/31/2025
255	Reisz, John	12/31/2027
178	Roat, James	12/31/2026
253	Roat, Jim	12/31/2026
179	Rogers, Randy	12/31/2025
254	Rogers, Russ	12/31/2027
220	Rowe, Allen	12/31/2025
126	Rowell, Brett	12/31/2025
259	Scarborough, John	12/31/2025
244	Schroder, Mark	12/31/2026
197	Seale, Arthur	12/31/2026
191	Seale, Dick	12/31/2026
245	Sheppellman, Antionette	12/31/2027
258	Sikes, Jay	12/31/2025
201	Tiller, Chuck	12/31/2025
246	Turner, Dickie	12/31/2026
232	Turner, Thomas	12/31/2026
131	White, Rex	12/31/2026
271	Wiener III, Jacques	12/31/2025
265	Williams, Terry	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

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)	A parent or parents along with their children under 18 years of age. Limited to a two vote maximum.
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Yr Family (\$90)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$30)	All individual members are allowed one vote.
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Yr Individual (\$75)	
<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: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash	
<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> 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.



# April 2025 NLFF Photos..

We have been catching fish!

***Saltwater.....***



**Steve Oliver**



**Jeff Irwin**





## Fresh water photos



**Gordon  
Shaw**



**Dickie Turner**



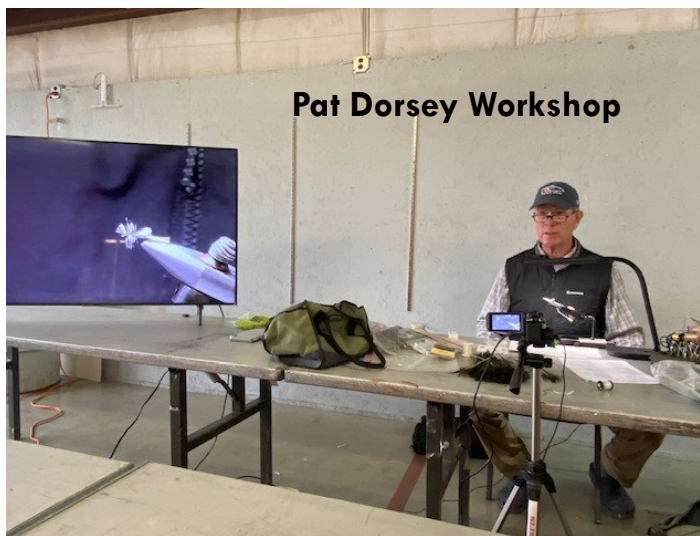
**Scott Irwin**



**Fish caught by Scott King**



# Sowbug Fest in Mountain Home AR....



**Pat Dorsey Workshop**



**Tim Flagler Workshop**



**Keith Burton enjoys a seminar**



## More Sowbug photos...



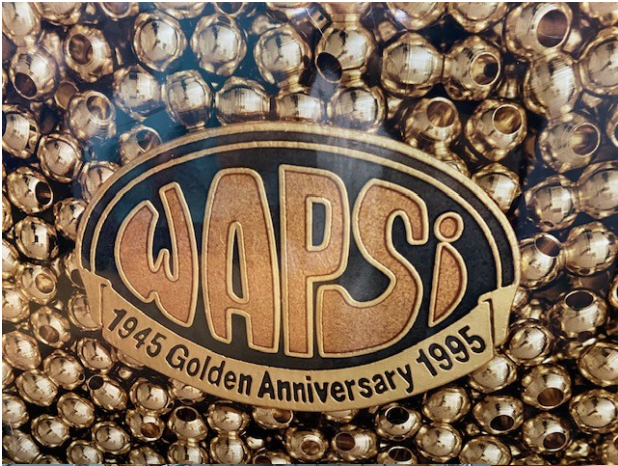
**Kids get in on fly tying action.....**



**Guests from Germany attend Sowbug**



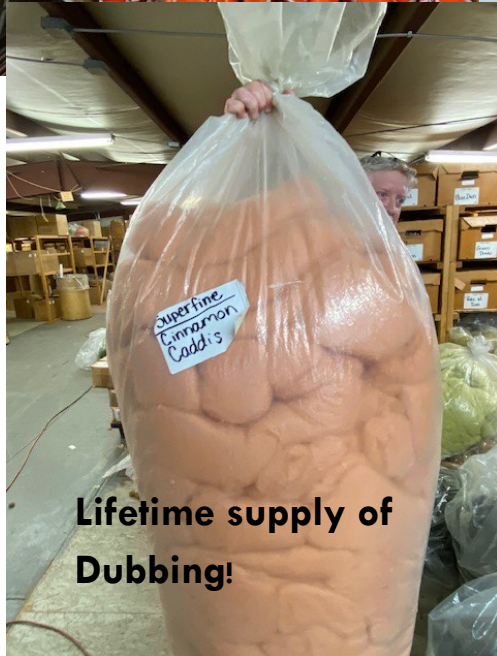
# Tour of Wapsi Fly Tying Supplies Factory...



**Marabu**



**Manufacturing Hair for fly tying**



**Lifetime supply of Dubbing!**



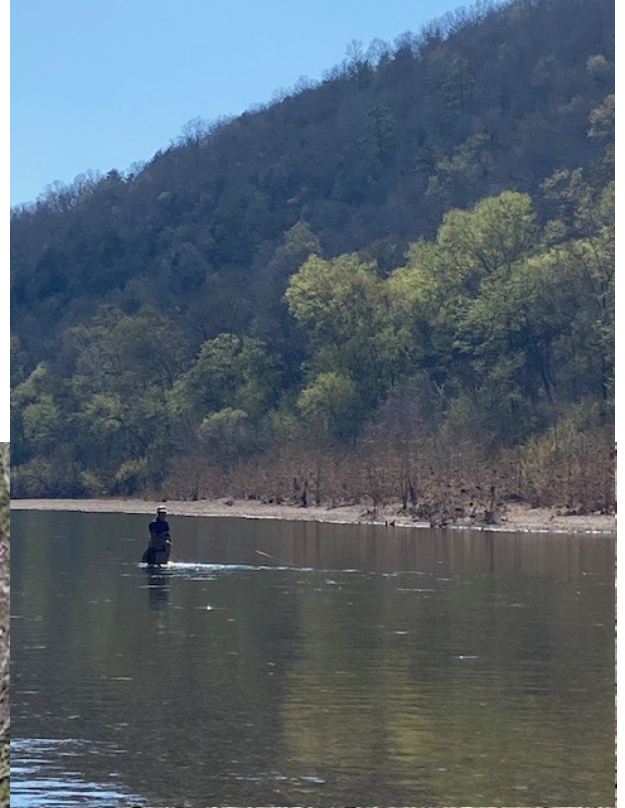
# April Fly Tying lesson at Bass Pro...Come Join Us!

More info at beginning of this newsletter.





# Flyfishing the Buffalo and Crooked Creek....



*Life is short...*

*Come join the adventure!*