

The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

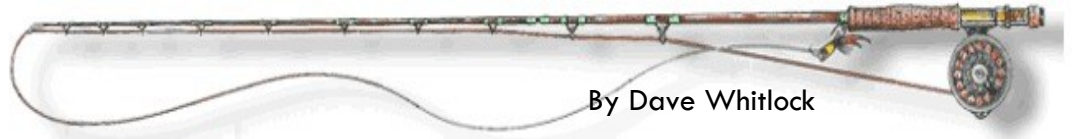
August 2025



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Established in 1984

First FFI Affiliated Club in Louisiana



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: Matt Kendall with his son Oliver enjoy the Caddo Fly Fishing Expo sponsored by the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Summary of:

August NLFF

Events...

- **Tues August 5st Brews and Bugs at Great Raft**
- **Tues August 12 : Monthly Meeting: The Buffalo!**
Plus: Show and tell: Bring your kayak, camper and or gear
- **Thur. Aug 21th : Fly Tying Lesson at Bass Pro**

(Who knows, we may have a impromptu Jefferson TX fishing trip scribbled in the August schedule if the water level reaches an ideal level. Stay tuned for more info....)

Laid-back Monthly Event (Tuesday August 5th)

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. August 5th 5-8 PM

1st Tuesday of each month at 5 PM

Where:

1251 Dalzell St, Shreveport 71104

August 12th

Monthly Meeting

Ed Cates

Presents the...

Buffalo

Bonus! Show and Tell at meeting:

Bring your kayak, camper, boat, and/or interesting gear to the meeting

If you have something for sale bring it.

Some folks may be interested in buying an item and would benefit from your real world experience. Plus some items are just plain cool!



The Buffalo River is one of the most beautiful rivers in the world. It is only about a 4 hour drive from Shreveport Bossier.

Come and hear about this natural treasure located in our backyard.

It will inspire you to travel to this breathtaking clearwater stream brimming with small-mouth bass.

When: Tuesday August 12th at 6 PM

Where: Red River Refuge

150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City

NLFF hats for sale at
meeting: \$10

August 21

New Date:

Fly tying lesson is the next to last Thursday of the month!

Formal fly tying lesson at Bass Pro...

*Rescheduled from
last month...*

The Golden Retriever!

By

John Reisz



This is a extremely effective fly for southern waters. It mimics Louisiana bait fish like no other fly. You can tie this fly in different sizes. This helps match the size if the minnows in the stream and increases your catch. You can change the size of the bead to customize the amount of time the fly hovers in the strike zone.

Beginners: This fly is a must for you to tie. You will learn so many techniques in a very forgiving pattern. We will provide you a vise, tools, materials, and teacher.

Advanced tyers: You will get a kick out of this fly. Advanced customs available!

When: Thursday August 21st at 6:30 PM

Where: Bass Pro in the Fly Shop

Recurring Events:

Monthly Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the Month

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.

Next to last Thursday: Monthly Formal Fly Tying Lesson at Bass Pro:

Come join us for a enjoyable evening of fly tying at Bass Pro on the next to last 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 Refugee (150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA). Meeting starts at 6 pm, tie flies and practice casting when the weather permits. See you there!

A little bit about NLFF fishing outings...

Variety:

At the NLFF we strive to have outings perfect for everyone, no matter what their skill level. Some trips are more challenging than others. Some require no special equipment, just a swim suit and tennis shoes. Some require waders and wading equipment, some are best enjoyed in a kayak. Some offer pier fishing and no special equipment at all is required.

Length of time:

Many of our club outings are day trips. Some are overnight trips during the weekend. Some are 2 or 3 night trips. From time to time we schedule trips mid-week if required due to conflicting events. Often mid-week trips avoid weekend crowds.

Distance:

Some trips are local, some are a easy drive appropriate for a day trip such as Jefferson TX or Kisatchie Bayou. Some trips are over night. Most trout trips are over-night. Some trips are 2 and 3 nights at more distant locations such as the Little Red at Heber Springs.

There is a trip for everyone. Some go to them all. Join the adventure!

Make Reservations NOW! Campground filling up!

September 19th: Beavers Bend

(Must be a member to attend)

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

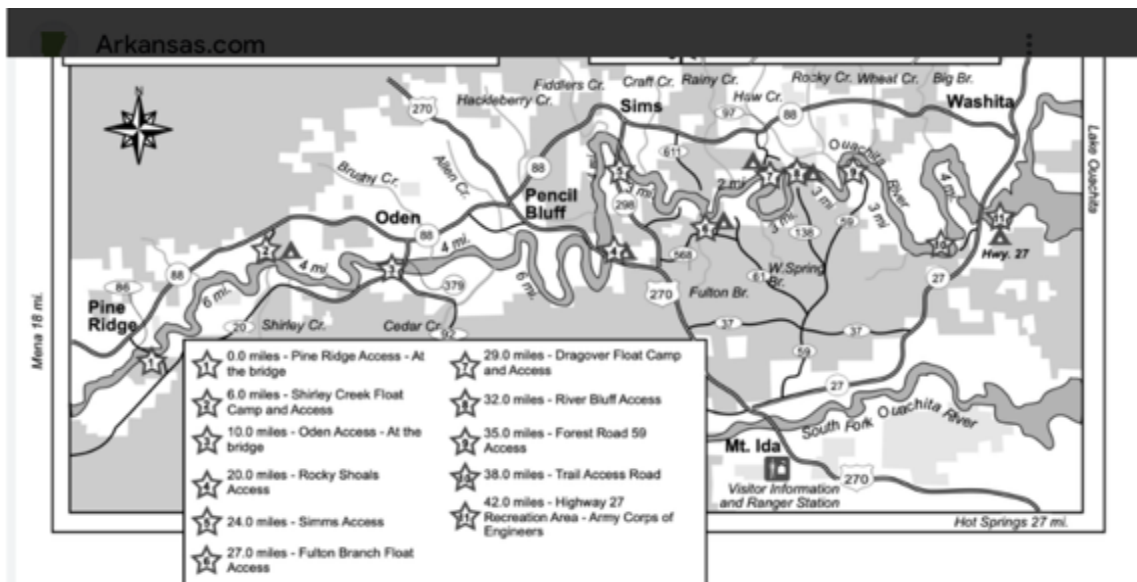
More info: Scott Irwin: 318-469-0854

Overnight trip. Kayak required.

October 4th:

Date subject to change due to water levels. If you make reservations, make sure you can cancel them.

Ouachita River Trip



The Ouachita River provides the backdrop for a epic fly fishing trip. Catch smallmouth, bass, bream, and catfish. The scenery is spectacular. The fishing is phenomenal.

This trip requires a kayak. It is best to plan to stay one or two nights. Denby Point Campground is in the area. There are plenty of B & B's in and around Mr. Ida.

Steve Oliver is the coordinator for this trip. Contact him with questions 318-349-6411

October 10th and 11th



This is a very well run fly fishing show in an incredible location. There is world class fishing on Taneycomo. The fly show is filled with high lever tyers. There are lots of prizes and food as well. Join your friends from the NLFF and attend this 5 star show.

When: October 10th and 11th, 2025 9 to 4 PM

Free Admission!

Where: Branson-Hollister Lions Community Center. 1015 E State Highway 76, Branson MO

October 31 & November 1

Toledo Bend Rendezvous

This event has it all. And its very close to Shreveport! Come for the day on Saturday November 1st or the whole weekend, Friday Oct 31 to Saturday Nov 1st. Depart on Sunday.

A group camp, cabins, and a campground are available. As low as \$20 a night.

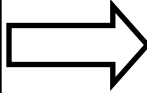
For details go to:

Flycasting.bravesites.com

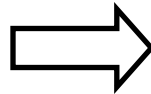
\$10 admission

Bring a pot-luck dish. This is a fly tying extravaganza and a food fest. Fishing is available on a pier behind the conference center.

Fly Tying

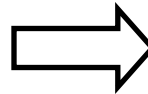


Fishing



3 meals
served Saturday!

Food



When: Friday Oct 31 to into the evening . All day Sat. Nov 1st

Where: North Toledo Bend State park

Admission: \$10 + bring a pot-luck dish

Many different fly fishing clubs participate in this event!

This can be a day trip or an overnight trip. No special equipment required if you just are a spectator. Bring fly tying gear if you want to tie flies. Fishing on Toledo bend is available on a pier (behind conference center) or in a kayak.

Nov 7-9

This is an overnight trip that requires wading gear. A kayak is optional.

Fishing the Legendary

Little Red River

At Heber Springs



This is a delightful trip to a record breaking fish catching river. We will fish the waters adjacent to JFK trout park. We will plan group meals and help each other figure out these intelligent fish. Stay in a camper at the campground or get a hotel room in Heber Springs just a few miles away.

When: Arrive Friday Nov 7th. Depart Monday November 10th

Where: JFK campground, Heber Springs Arkansas



Phenomenal Asian Salad

By

Wendy
Kelly

Wendy Kelly made the most wonderful Asian Salad and brought it to the Caddo Fly Fishing Expo.

Attendees raved about it and asked for the recipe. Here you have it:

- 1 Package coleslaw mix
- 1 bunch Green Onions
- 1 package salted peanuts
- 1 box frozen peas
- 3/4 cup oil
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon poppy seeds
- 1 teaspoon dried mustard
- Salt to taste
- 1 teaspoon grated onion
- 1/3 cup white vinegar

NLFF

Roster:

As of July
2025

Member Name	Membership Expiration		
Irwin, Scott	12/31/2027	Schroder, Mark	12/31/2026
Linder, Joe	12/31/2026	Sheppellman, Antionette	12/31/2027
Oliver, Steve	12/31/2026	Turner, Dickie	12/31/2026
Rowell, Brett	12/31/2025	Kendall, Matt	12/31/2025
White, Rex	12/31/2026	Cates, Ed	12/31/2027
Clay, Rush	12/31/2025	Hopkins, Tom	12/31/2026
Higgins, Archie	12/31/2025	Fontenot, Colin	12/31/2026
Lamb, Jack	12/31/2025	Leahy, Patrick	12/31/2025
Peace, Ardis	12/31/2025	Roat, Jim	12/31/2026
Roat, James	12/31/2026	Rogers, Russ	12/31/2027
Rogers, Randy	12/31/2025	Reisz, John	12/31/2027
Seale, Dick	12/31/2026	Fontenot, Rick	12/31/2025
Seale, Arthur	12/31/2026	Mee, Tom	12/31/2025
Tiller, Chuck	12/31/2025	Sikes, Jay	12/31/2025
Horsley, Chris	12/31/2025	Scarborough, John	12/31/2025
Rowe, Allen	12/31/2025	Powell, Tim	12/31/2025
Turner, Thomas	12/31/2026	North, Dennis	12/31/2025
Chrisman, Mark	12/31/2027	Mccarver, Larry	12/31/2027
Kennedy, Richard	12/31/2027	Frey, David	12/31/2026
Carter, Alan	12/31/2026	Williams, Terry	12/31/2025
		Garland, Chad	12/31/2027
		Burton, Keith	12/31/2027
		Meaney, Bill	12/31/2025
		O'bryant, Phil	12/31/2025
		Kelly, Wendy	12/31/2025
		Wiener Iii, Jacques	12/31/2025
		King, Scott	12/31/2027
		Degravelle, Grant	12/31/2025
		Perez, Rhonda	12/31/2025
		Behrend, Michelle	12/31/2025
		White, Teresa	12/31/2025
		Brian Landry	

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)

___ Family (\$35)

___ 3-Yr Family (\$90)

___ Individual (\$30)

___ 3-Yr Individual (\$75)

___ Student (\$20)

___ Active Military (\$20)

A parent or parents along with their children under 18 years of age. Limited to a two vote maximum.

All individual members are allowed one vote.

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.

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 Multi-Year, Military and Student Plans). For example, if you joined on Sept. 10, 2024, your membership would be valid through the end of 2025.

WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY EVERY PARTICIPANT

In consideration of my participation in activities arranged for me by NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS, I hereby release and covenant not to sue NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS, its owners, shareholders, directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents, and lessees from any and all present and future claims resulting from ordinary negligence and inherent risk of my participation in any activities or arrangements and use of the facilities and equipment of NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS including but not limited to any loss, injury, damage, or liability sustained by me while on or about the premises of the club.

I am fully aware and understand that NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS does not have on or about the premises, or employ or contract with any medical services, provisions for ordinary or emergency medical services including but not limited to emergency cardiovascular assistance.

I agree that immediately prior to participation in any activity arranged for me by NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS, I will inspect the facilities and equipment to be used and if any defect(s) is/are apparent, I will not use the facility or equipment and I will notify the management of NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS of the defect(s).

I further agree that if I am not knowledgeable in the proper use of any of NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS facilities or equipment, I will obtain proper instruction for the correct use of such facility of equipment from a qualified individual before I will use the facility or equipment.

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS, its owners, shareholders, directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents, and lessees from any and all claims arising from my involvement in or receiving instruction for activities incidental thereto wherever, whenever and however the claims may arise including but not limited to travel to and from the activity site and participation at remote sites.

I assume all the foregoing risks and accept personal responsibility for any damages and loss following any loss of property, injury, permanent disability or death resulting there from, for as long as I hold a valid membership in the NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Any person under the age of 18 years must have a parent or guardian co-sign this form.

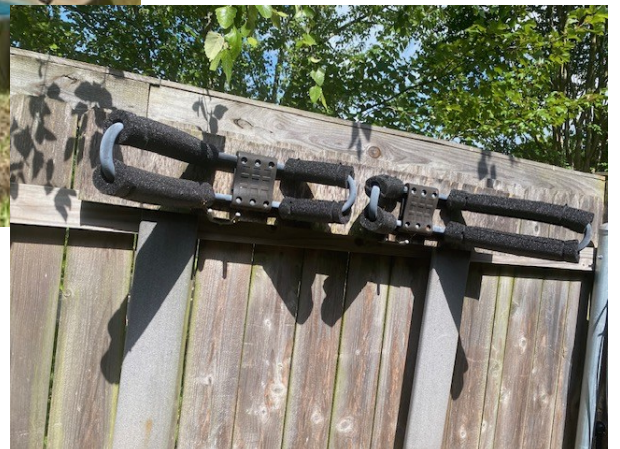
Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

(This form to be kept on file for as long as the above signee(s) is a/are member(s) of the NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS and then for a minimum of five years thereafter.)

For sale....

These items are for sale by Ken Wojcik. Call him for details. Ken lives in the Haven.
Phone: 318-230-9070



Kayaks, complete with paddles and carrying racks. \$500 for both. Call to negotiate for a single kayak.

More items for sale by Ken Wojcik (Phone 318-230-9070)

Most of these items have been used once.



Large Waders: \$50



Net: \$15



Korker boots: size 13: \$50

July 2025 NLFF Photos..

***Caddo Fly Fishing Expo: A first year
Home Run Success!***





All Demonstration booths were occupied with expert fly tyers. The most experienced and talented tyers in the region attended. We thank them all for participating!



More Caddo Fly Fishing Expo Photos...



The entire crowd enjoyed a bbq ribs, brisket, chopped beef and fried chicken buffet free to all attendees!



Top Regional Speakers present at Expo.....



Rush Clay conducts workshop on how to determine weight of a rod and analyze attendees rods



Grant DeGrainle speaks on fishing Crooked Creek

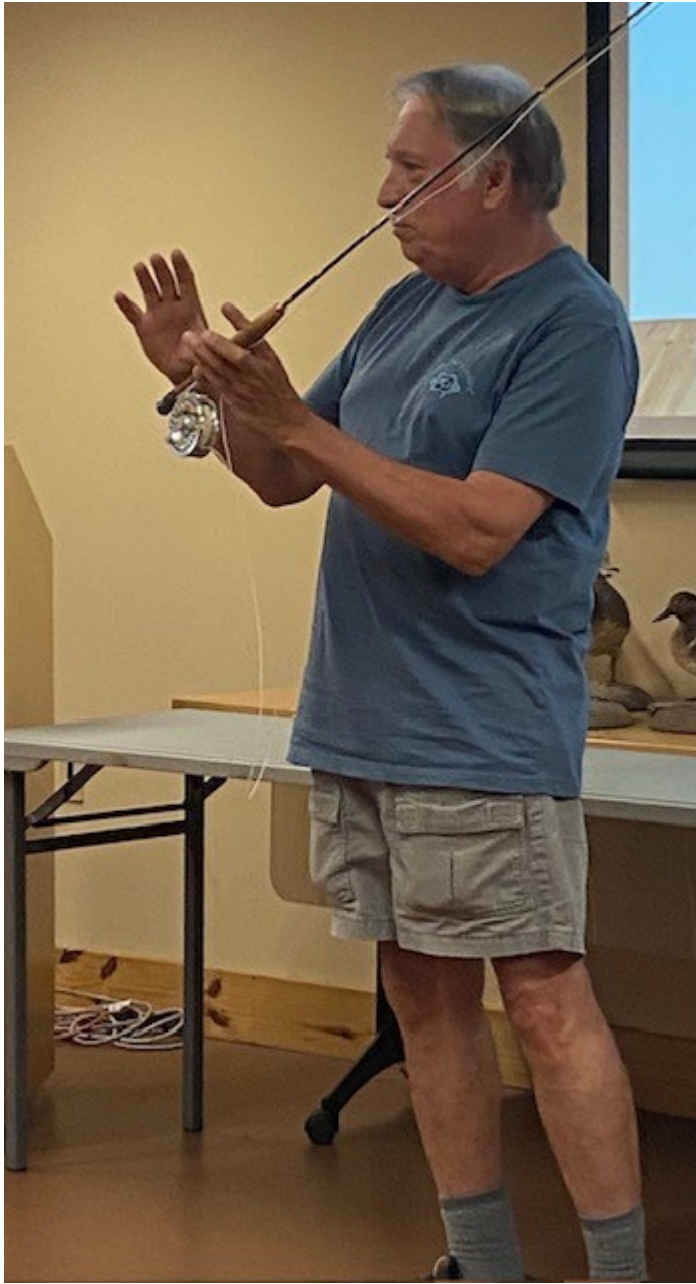


Scott King demonstrates measuring fish with Artificial Intelligence. Fascinating stuff!



Jay Sikes conducts presentation on Smallmouth Bass

More wisdom being disseminated....



Catch Cormier conducts casting workshop



Roy demonstrates specialty casts

Wisdom put in practice. Casting practice...



More photos of the first North Louisiana Fly fishers

Caddo Fly Fishing Expo...



Jim Kelly ties size thirty
tiny flies...

The next Caddo Fly Fishing Expo sponsored by the North Louisiana Fly Fishers will be the summer of 2027 (it is held every 2 years), July 30th & 31 2027. Make plans now to attend.....