

The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

August 2017

Volume 3, Issue 8



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Established in 1984

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August Meeting

Jeff Guerin is one of the original founding members of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers. He and four other fly fishermen started Louisiana's first fly fishing club in 1984. He now guides on the Little Missouri river (our club's home water) in southeastern Arkansas.

Jeff has been wading around the Little Missouri and other Ouachita Mountain streams since about 1970, where he says he began to learn some of what he knows about fly fishing. Much of his time early on was spent fishing for the sunfish, smallmouth and trout of the Little Missouri, the Caddo, Blaylock Creek and Long Creek.

Come listen to Jeff give us a state of the river. Find out how summer trout fishing is going, what's going on with the generation schedule at the dam,

and why there are not as many fish in the river. He may even tie a fly or two.

We look forward to seeing you at our August meeting. Remember, social hour begins at 6:00pm, meeting at 6:45pm.



"The solution to any problem -- work, love, money, whatever -- is to go fishing, and the worse the problem, the longer the trip should be." ~ John Gierach



Newsletter Format Change

This issue's fly of the month will not coincide with the fly that we are tying at Bass Pro Shops this month. It is a fly of my choosing, but one that is appropriate for this time of year.

Starting with the September issue of *The Fly Line*, the featured Fly of the Month will be the fly that we tied at the previous month's Bass Pro Shops workshop. For instance, this month Tom Bullock will be tying a soft hackle fly and showing us a

short-cut way to tie it. This fly and short-cut will be featured in next month's issue.

Why the change? I knew you'd ask. Sometimes the fly featured in *The Fly Line* doesn't match up with what is tied at the workshop. Several reason can cause this to happen. Maybe the tier has to cancel for some reason- not a complaint but sometimes things happen. Also, there can be different versions of a

fly and the one featured doesn't match the one tied.

Now for the main reason for the change. What ends up in the next newsletter is the exact version that was previously tied. So after seeing it tied and tying one yourself with necessary direction, you can get a recap for when you try to tie at home. Several times over the years this would have helped me. I hope you like the format change as I think it will be beneficial.



2016 NLFF Executive Board

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NLFF Masters Series Sponsors



**Many thanks to the sponsors of
the NLFF's 2017 Masters Series**

Fly of the Month - "Hum Bug"

The Hum Bug, developed by the Gaines Company years ago, is one of four panfish patterns in their



Grubby Bug series. The other three patterns are the Grubby Gert, the Marabou Miss, and the Nifty Nat. The Hum Bug is an easy chenille bodied fly to tie. The only materials required are two colors of chenille, a wet fly hook, black thread, and some rubber legs. Chartreuse/Black, Yellow/Black, Orange/Black, White/Black, Red/Black, and Yellow/Green make great color combinations.

Materials List:

Hook - Mustad 3906, Size 10 (Size 8 if the breem are fairly aggressive - keeps them from swallowing the hook)

Thread - Black, 6/0 or 140 Denier

Body - Chenille, Small or Medium, Lighter Color

Shellback - Chenille, Medium, Darker Color

Legs - White Rubber (Other colors could be used)

Head - Chenille color used for shellback

Tying Steps:

Step 1: Clamp the hook in the vice, crimp the barb, and start the thread at the hook's eye as shown. Cover the hook's shank with tight



wraps of thread from the hook's eye to the hook's bend.

Step 2: Attach a piece of the darker colored chenille for the



shellback directly on top of the hook's shank at the hook's bend.

Step 3: Attach a piece of the

lighter colored chenille for the body at the same place that you



attached the darker chenille.

Step 4: Wrap the lighter colored chenille forward to the two-thirds point on the hook's shank. Tie the



chenille down and remove any excess.



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Fly of the Month - "Hum Bug" - Cont.

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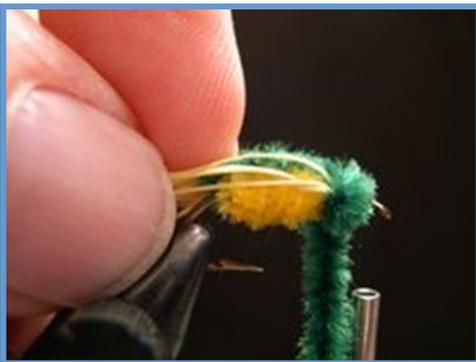
Step 5: Pull the darker colored chenille for the shellback forward and bind it down with a couple turns of thread.

Step 6: Prepare two sets of rubber legs with two rubber strands in each set. The rubber strands should



be about two-inches long. Attach one set of legs to the far side of the hook and one set to the near side.

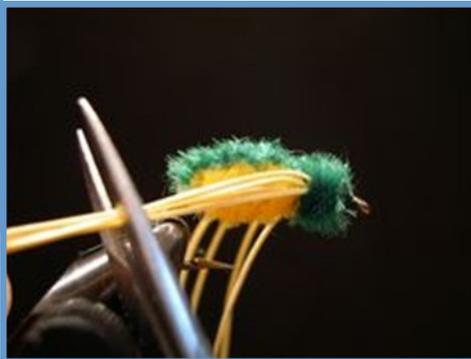
Step 7: Pull the legs back and out of the way with your left hand



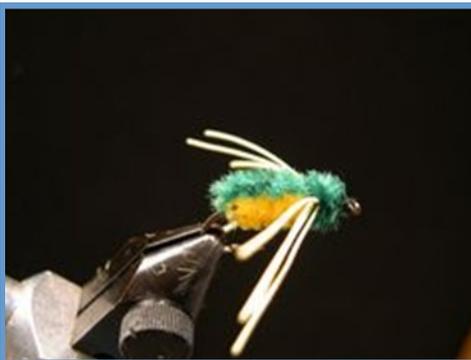
while you wrap a chenille head with your right hand. The first wrap

of chenille should be as tight as possible against the legs. The second wrap of chenille should be on top of the first wrap followed by one additional wrap in front of the first wraps and behind the hook's eye. Bind down the chenille with a couple of tight wraps of thread and remove any excess.

Step 8: Form a neat thread head, tie off with a couple of half-hitches or a whip finish, and clip the



thread. Trim the legs to suit you. I like them to extend about a quarter of an inch beyond the fly's butt.



Your Hum Bug is finished!

Angling Tips:

Fish the Hum Bug parallel to weed lines, fallen trees, and other structure.

But remember, the Hum Bug is a slow sinking fly. Cast it out and let it settle in the water slowly. Often times panfish will hit it on the fall.

You tie the Hum Bug on a smaller size hook, and use it as a dropper off of a popping bug. Often times fish will hit a dropper or trailing fly instead of the lead or point fly. If you do fish the Hum Bug as a dropper, attach it to a 12 to 16 inch piece of leader material that is attached to the bend of the popper.



Editor's Note: This material is courtesy of Ward Bean and taken from his website warmwaterflytyer.com

Check Out Your Local Waters

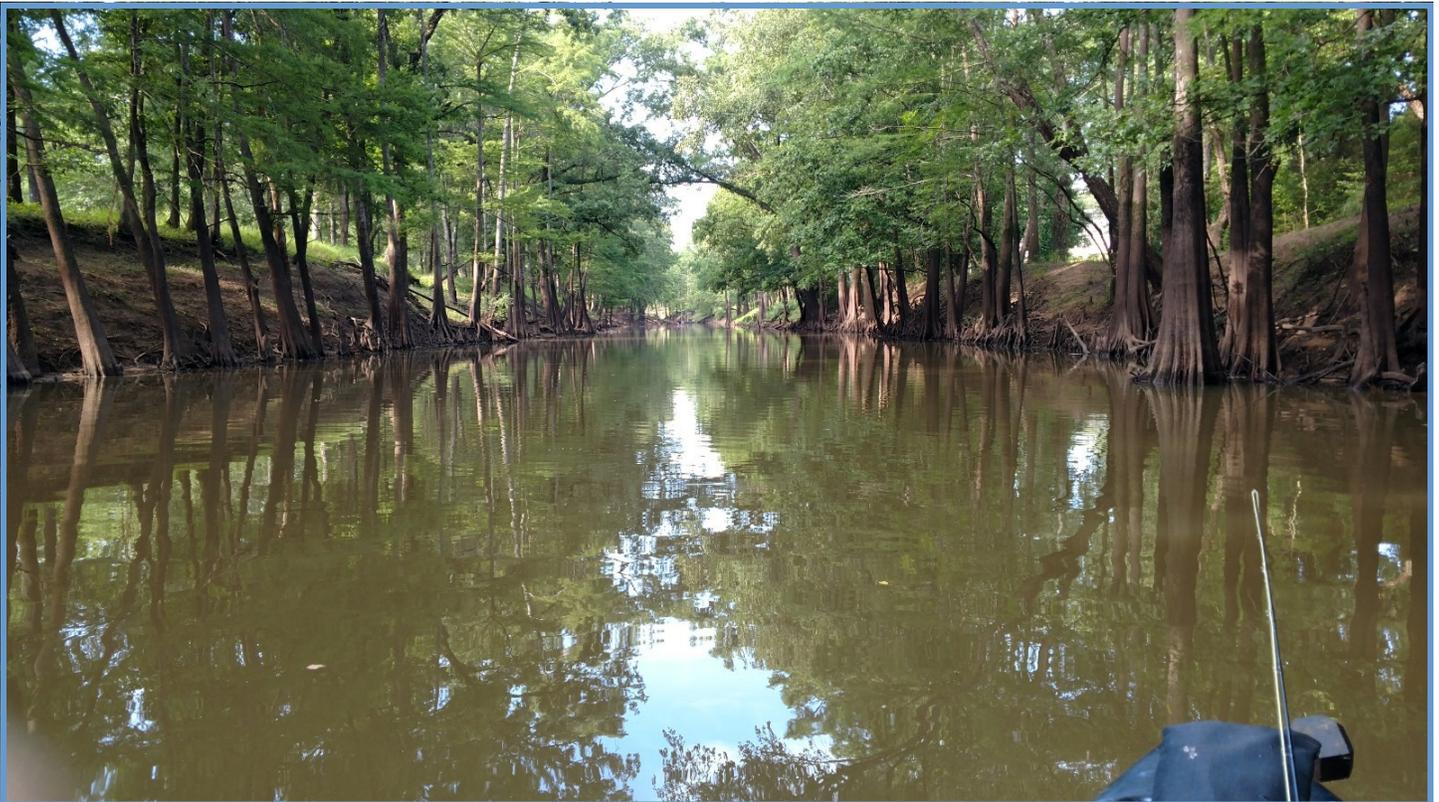
by Steve Oliver

Anyone associated with a fly club is familiar with the term "home waters". That is the name for the body of water that is nearest and dearest to that club's geographic area.

our home waters. While the Little Mo', as we affectionately call it, is close enough for a day trip at two hours away, it is not convenient when you have a few hours in the

creek or stream that you've driven by or over but never gave it much thought.

I have lived in the Ark-La-Tex area for over 30 years. Big Cy-



While most club's home waters are a cold water fishery, because trout fishing is synonymous with fly fishing, it could be warm water or salt-water also. Many clubs don't have access to a cold water fishery close enough to make a day trip.

Around the Shreveport-Bossier area, there is no local cold water fishery. That is why the North Louisiana Fly Fishers calls the Little Missouri river in southeastern Arkansas

morning or afternoon to go fishing.

Check out your local waters! Unless you live in the middle of the Mojave Desert, there is plenty of water around your local area to go fling a fly for a couple of hours when you get the chance. It doesn't have to be trophy river or a big name lake that hosts tournaments several times a year. Any small stream can be a gem. Get out of your comfort zone and try that

press Bayou is 20 minutes from my front doorstep. Yet I have never fished it. I don't know why. The bayou connects Lake O' the Pines up river to Caddo Lake down river. I have fished both of the lakes but never the water that joins them. Again, don't ask me why. I guess it just wasn't in my aforementioned comfort zone.

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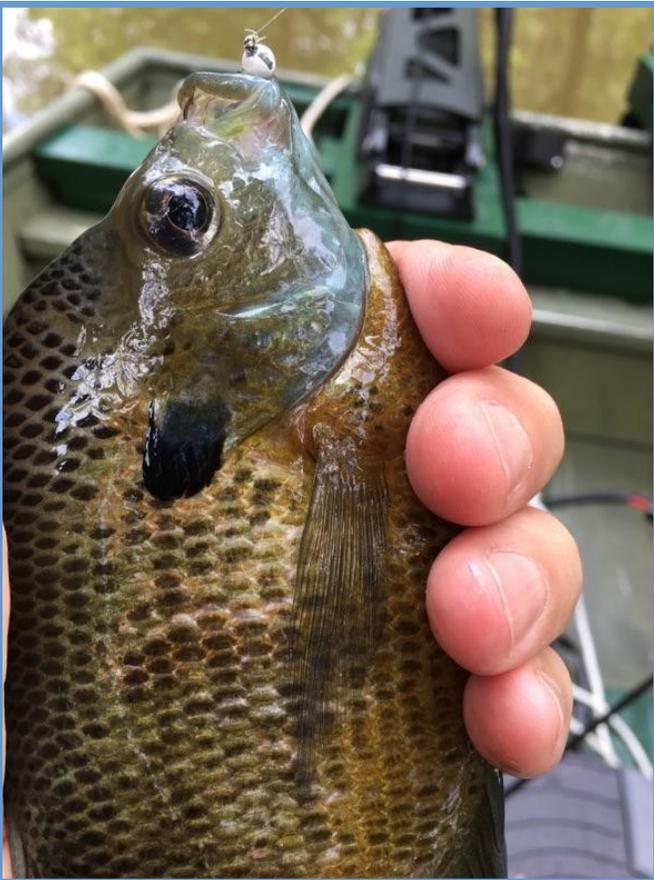
Check Out Your Local Waters - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

Recently, Chris Pierce, a fellow NLFF member, invited me on a trip with two of his friends to paddle the upper half of the Big Cypress Bayou. I gladly accepted. We were to put in at the Lake O' the Pines dam and paddle and fish our way to a public boat ramp in Jefferson, TX. This was to be a two day trip with pitching tents on the river bank overnight. Word found its way to us that there were numerous tree falls that blocked much of the river. Undeterred, we quickly changed plans to paddle the lower



half, put in at Jefferson and paddle to a take out on Hwy 43 just up river from Caddo Lake



State Park. But that is a story for another day.

The boat dock and ramp in Jefferson where newly built making

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Check Out Your Local Waters - Cont.

(Continued from page 7)

access to the river much easier. However, I can't use that as an ex-

cuse for not fishing this river before as there was always river access (although not as nice as it is now). I had so much fun and was so impressed with the ease of access that I have returned several times in the last month. Another fellow NLFF'er, Scott Irwin and I have talked many times over the past year or so

about fishing here, but we just never did. He had previously fished the river but high water over the past two summers hampered his efforts. Scott said that he had pretty much put this body of water out of his mind and just associated it with disappointment. He was glad that he tried fishing the bayou again. Another friend, Chris



Check Out Your Local Waters - Cont.

(Continued from page 8)

Horsley, from the East Texas Fly Fishers, also went with us. He lives closer to the river than I do and yet still had never fished Big Cypress Bayou before. We all had a great time and the bayou did not disappoint! We all caught many fish that

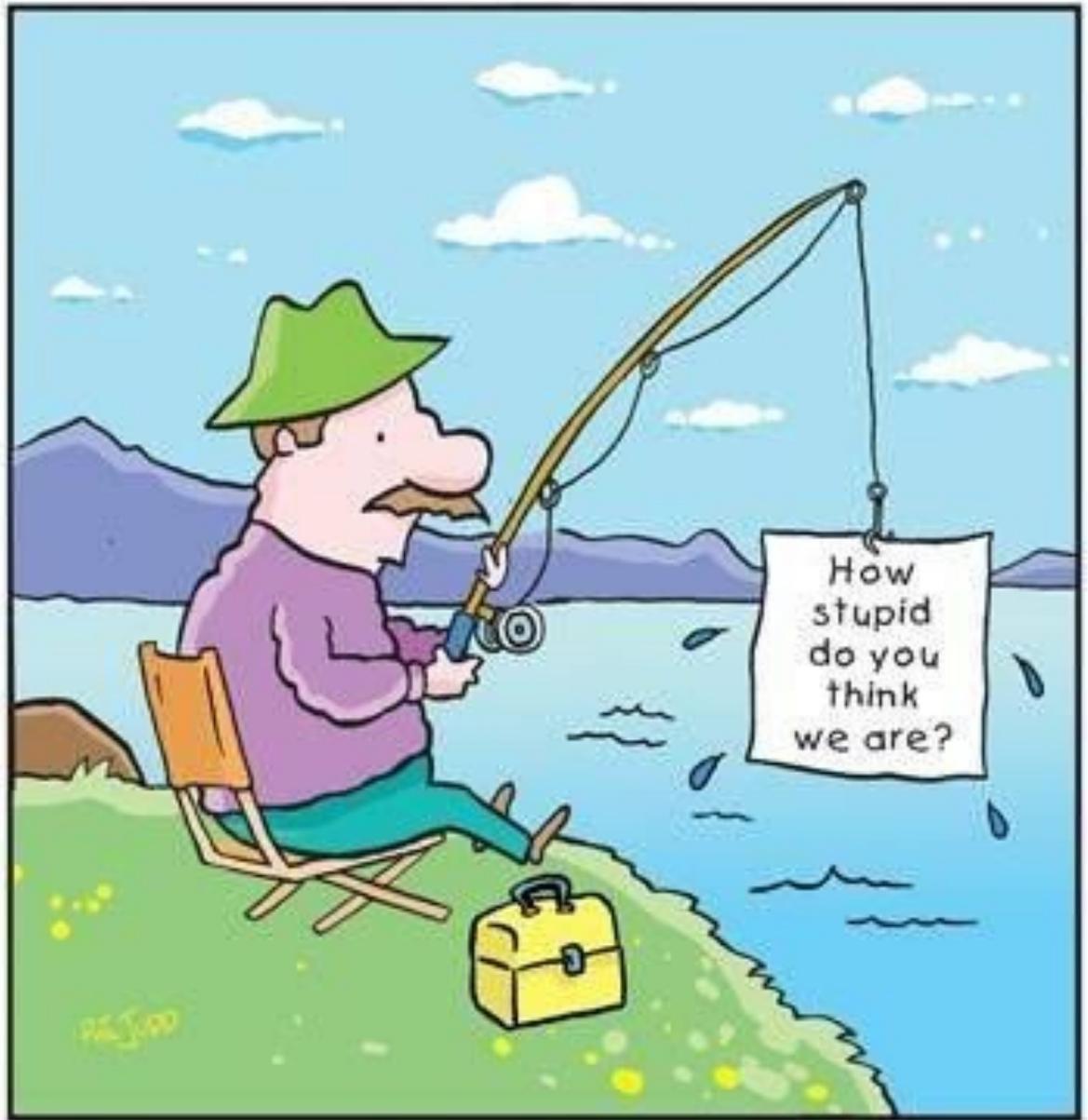
day.

Located 20 minutes from my house. Easy access. Ability to catch bream, bass, catfish and crappie. And lots of them - I've caught over 200 fish in just the few times that I've been. And all on a fly rod. Shade from the tree canopy over

the river makes it fishable during the morning hours of even the hottest days. I've found my home water for the dog days of summer. Now go check out your local waters. You might just find yours!



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NLFF Calendar

Aug 8th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm and presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

One of our founding members and Little Missouri river guide Jeff Guerin will be our featured speaker.

Aug 17th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Tom Bullock is showing a new way to tie the old favorite soft-hackle fly.

Aug 22nd: NLFF Executive Board meeting. 6:00pm at Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA upstairs in the conference room directly across from the elevator.

Sep 12th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm and presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

Sep 21st: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Bud Bethea is tying a parachute adams - a classic trout fly.

Sep 26th: NLFF Executive Board meeting. 6:00pm at Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA upstairs in the conference room directly across from the elevator.

Oct 10th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm and presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

Oct 19th: NLFF Banquet. Our annual fundraising banquet. More details to come.

Oct 24nd: NLFF Executive Board meeting. 6:00pm at Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA upstairs in the conference room directly across from the elevator.

Nov 3rd - 5th: Toledo Bend Rendezvous. North Toledo Bend State Park, Zwolle, LA. Sponsored by the FFI Gulf Coast and Texas Councils. An annual gathering of fly fishing club members from all over. Plenty of food, fishing, tying and casting. For fees and details, see <http://pages.suddenlink.net/w/Rendez/indexR.html>



Artwork by Dave Whitlock

NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE!
SEND ITEMS TO EDITOR:
STORIES, PHOTOS, ITEMS OF
INTEREST ARE ALL
WELCOME!

Upcoming Events

Aug 1st - 5th: FFI National Fly Fishing Fair. Park High School, Livingston, Montana. A week full of activities and new for this year is Fish Fest. See <http://www.flyfishersinternational.org/FlyFishingFair/tabid/298/Default.aspx> for complete information.

Aug 19th: Contraband Conclave. VFW Hall Post 7321. 2668 Hwy 171 North, Lake Charles, LA. Free Admission. Fly Tying, Casting Demos, Lure Exhibits, Auctions / Raffles, Food and Refreshments, Equipment Displays and more! Public invited. For more details, go to www.contrabandflycasters.net or contact Ron Foreman (337) 842-1439.

Aug 25th - 26th: Ride the Bull 8. Bridgeside Marina, Grand Isle, LA. Friday - Captain's Dinner and Calmwater Film Festival at 7pm. Saturday - Tournament and awards. The format is simple - land a Bull Red from your Kayak or other authorized paddle craft in Caminada Pass. Awards will be given for largest Bull Red landed and weighed (and released). Net proceeds from the tournament used for fishing and kayak access on Grand Isle. For rules and info, go to www.calmwatercharters.net/ridethebull/index.html

Sep 2nd: FFI LKFC Speck-n-Redfish Cup. Hosted by the Lafayette Kayak Fishing Club. Admission fee to this kayak fishing tournament is \$25. Launch points are anywhere along the LA gulf coast. Weigh-in at Pack and Paddle in Lafayette by 5pm. For more info, or to register, go to www.lafayettekayakfishing.com

Sep 15th - 16th: FFI-GCC Fly Fishing Fair. Civic Center, Ocean Springs, MS. Free Admission. Sponsored by Fly Fishers International - Gulf Coast Council. Plenty of activities including fly tying demonstrations, casting classes and workshops. Friday evening casual dinner at the beach. Saturday morning breakfast at the Gulf Coast Research Lab. In addition to free admission, most activities are free. See www.gulfcoastiff.org for more details and to register for some workshops.



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

First FFI (formerly IFFF) Affiliated Club in Louisiana

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Shreveport, LA 71149

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We're on the Web!

www.northlaflyfishers.org

Founded in 1984

Serving the Ark-La-Tex for over 30 years

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 7pm but come about 6pm to visit, tie flies and practice casting when the weather permits. See you there!