

# The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

October 2017 Volume 3, Issue 10



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Established in 1984

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## October Meeting

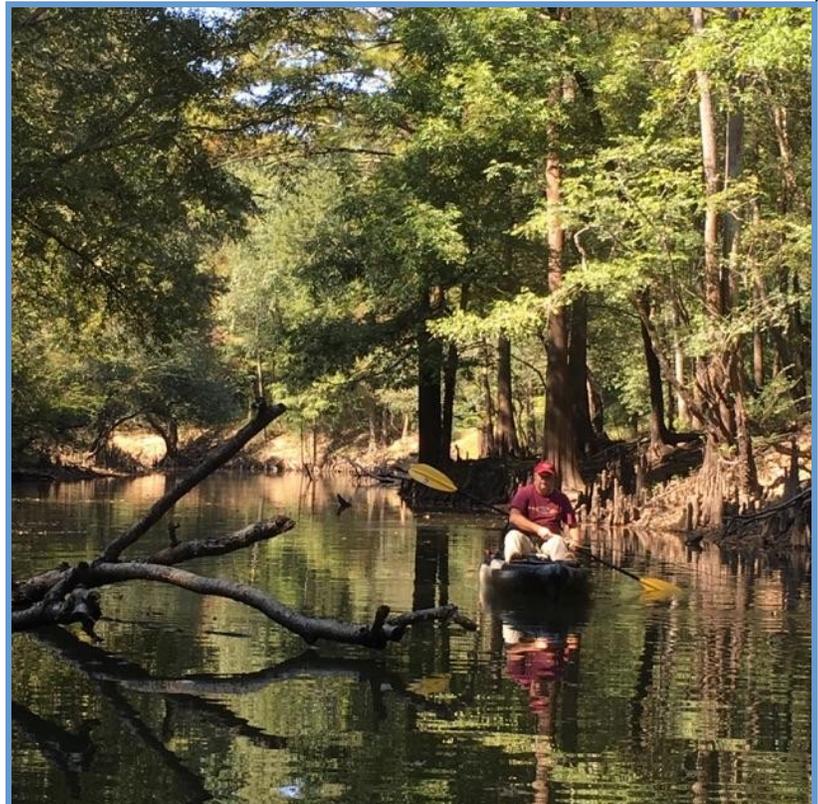
The weather is starting to change. Football season is well under way. And the fishing trips are being planned. Our fundraising banquet is this month along with Halloween. Thanksgiving is next month and Christmas the following can mean only one thing - fall is here!

Starting in October every year, change also comes to the NLFF. Board member and Executive Officer nominations are due. So think about who you would like to nominate to serve, get their approval to nominate them, and submit their name at the October meeting. The election will be held during our November meeting. Please get your nominees permission as we only want those willing to serve. This is your chance to determine the direction of our club so please do not take this process lightly.

Our featured speaker for October will be - wait for it - YOU! We would like to hear from you. A trip that you took; an outing that you went on; anything that you did that you think might be of inter-

est to others (and you'd be surprised about what we would like to hear); we want to hear about it!

October is YOUR month. From being one of many featured speakers to determining the future direction of our club, it is

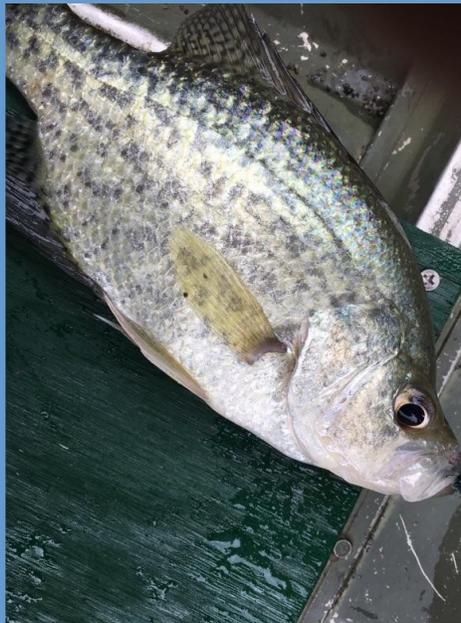


Picture taken by Scott Irwin

all about you this month.

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



**Pictures****2016 NLFF Executive Board**

President	Steve Oliver	318-349-6411	sdoliver012@gmail.com
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## How to Take Your Spouse on a Fly Fishing Vacation and Stay Happily Married

by Ryan Shea

### It's All About Balance

If you're like us, you fish all the time. When I say all the time, I mean literally every available moment of your free time is spent fishing or thinking about fishing in some way.

I have a tendency to be super focused on things that are of interest to me – the rest of the world disappears kind of focused. My wife contends that this leads to the detriment of our relationship from time to time. I can't argue with that.



Over the years, I've been trying to create balance here by getting my wife involved in fishing. The experience has been great. My wife and I have traveled to quite a few renowned fisheries around the U.S. and just recently, Canada. She's indifferent to whether or not she catches fish (somehow, she always does). She claims she's just happy

to experience some of nature's beauty and to see me happy. I'm happy to oblige her those opportunities.

Nate (my partner in our guide service, Brookdog Fishing Co.) has a similar relationship / dynamic with his wife, Jen. He too

tries to correct prolonged periods of imbalance in his relationship by going on outdoor-oriented / destination fishing trips with his spouse. This year, we decided to test the waters of a couple's vacation. It worked out incredibly well. Whatever the dy-

namics are between you and your significant other, destination fishing is a great way to spend a vacation together.

This isn't going to be a kiss-and-tell article. I'm not going to tell you exactly where we fished. In the end, that's not important. There's a lot of angling opportunities in this slice of fly fishing heaven. All you



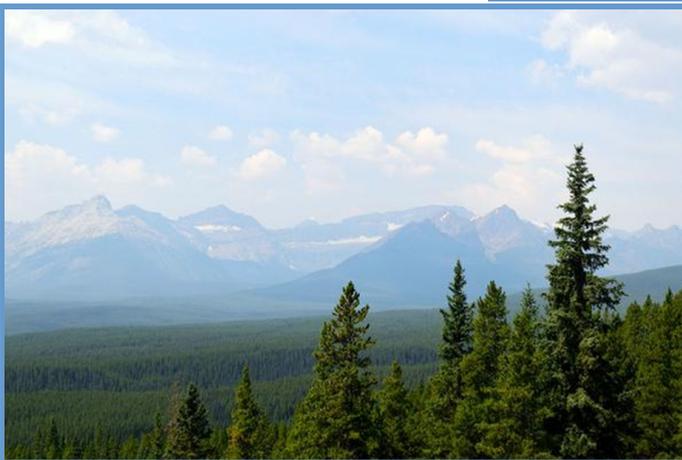
(Continued on page 4)

## How to Take Your Spouse on a Fly Fishing Vacation - Cont.

need to do is pick up a map and explore the blue lines. Better yet, Google the drainage and use Google Earth – there's a wealth of info out there.

What I WILL cover is how to execute a couple's vacation to this incredible angling destination on a budget. If you put aside a small sum of money and go on this trip, you'll come home closer to your significant other than when you left.

### Alberta, Canada – A Great Place for a Couple's Fly Fishing Vacation



Alberta, Canada – cutties, bullies, mountains, pines, pristine water, numerous ways to get on and off the grid.

Need I say more to attract you to the place? The pictures say it all.

Google the Crowsnest Region, buy maps for the area, and take your pick of the blue lines. They all produce. Finding fish is easy. The key to a couple's vacation is balance. Here's how we pulled it off.

### Getting There

In my limited experience, Canadian airports are a picture of efficiency compared to those in the United States. If you can depart from somewhere in Canada – do it. The exchange rate

drive for a couple hours, set up a tent in the dark, and pass out. That wouldn't be a fun endeavor, but would be worth the pain as it would set us up for a full day of angling the next day.

I'm sure many venturing anglers can relate to pushing hard to get on the water as soon as you hit the ground at your destination. However, that's not too favorable if you're traveling with your signifi-

is great, ticket prices are reasonable, and you'll get in and out of a Canadian airport quickly compared to what we're used to in the U.S.

If you want to fish this region, you want to fly to Calgary. Take your time getting there (remember balance). If it was just Nate and I, we'd land late, grab the rental car,



(Continued on page 5)

## How to Take Your Spouse on a Fly Fishing Vacation - Cont.

(Continued from page 4)



cant other.

*Chill out!*

If you're on a couple's vacation to this part of the world, stay the night in Calgary. It's a great city with a ton of stuff to do. Grab some food. Drink some drinks. Get some sleep. Grab a big breakfast in the morning and hit the road rested, full, and ready to have fun. Trust me, it'll pay off for all parties involved.

### Establish a Base Camp

As a former USMC logistician, I think I understand the value of sustainability better than most. Yes, living out of your trunk while moving all the time on a fishing trip has its charms/benefits but it has some serious drawbacks, the two biggest being:

1. You're going to burn a lot of

time breaking down and setting up camp every day.



2. You'll also burn a lot of time looking for a new spot.

Displacing is always a gamble. I can't tell you how many times we've moved to a new camping area only to find out it was full or in rough shape. Follow being shafted by a night spent crashing in a car in a Wal-Mart parking lot and you'll be a wreck the next day.

Those are huge considerations when you are trying to maximize time on the water. Put that idea aside for a second.

A couple's vacation isn't all about time on the water. Sure, that's an big element, but having an established place to come back to at the end of the day allows for:

1. Evening drinks and a well-cooked meal.
2. An easy transition to tent time.

(Continued on page 6)

## How to Take Your Spouse on a Fly Fishing Vacation - Cont.

3. Use your imagination of what can follow...

What's great about the Crowsnest Region is that there are numerous base camp options. From established campgrounds to provincial land, opportunities abound to set up a base camp that'll keep you close to fish while allowing you to spend quality time off the water.



### Hire a Guide

I'm not just saying this because I am a guide. Our profession exists for a reason – we put you on fish and eliminate the requirement/burden of planning. In all likelihood, someone who reads this will likely comment that guides only exploit a region. "Hiring a guide is a sign of weakness – you should be able to figure the area out yourself."

*Whatever!*

When on a couple's vacation, you want your significant other

to catch fish. I'm also assuming YOU will want to catch fish too. Guess what? The guide can help your significant other while pointing you in the right direction.

If you go to the Crowsnest Region – look up [Shane Olson](#). Both he and his wife will put you on fish and entertain. Check and check!

### Make a Transition to Something Different

Maybe I'm getting too personal with this article in thinking at least one partner in a relationship won't want to fish the entire time. I'm also thinking one won't want to camp the entire time.

This is anecdotal but every angler I know whose spouse "fishes," really does so as a means to spend quality time with the other. Remember balance – allow for some payback. After camping out and eating camp food for a few days, make a transition to something a little more civilized.



A hot shower, clean bed and clothes, and a robust meal cooked by someone else while sitting in a restaurant is a great change of pace, especially if you've been sleeping in the dirt, not showering, moving your bowels in outhouses (or worse), and dining at a picnic table or tree stump for a few days.

The area we visited in southwestern Alberta is ideal for this. Banff and Canmore, Alberta are a short drive from the Crowsnest region. Both towns are gorgeous. Surrounded by mountains and flowing rivers, there are numerous hotels and restaurants for every taste and budget.

In addition to dining and lodging options, there are cool things to do throughout the day. From hot springs to gondola rides to shop-

*(Continued on page 7)*

## How to Take Your Spouse on a Fly Fishing Vacation - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

ping, a couple can easily spend a few days in these towns and only scrape the surface.

### Plan Your Fly Fishing Getaway!



Hopefully this article helps. As I mentioned above, my wife Janice and I have done a few of these couple's vacations and all have been great.

If you plan it together and develop a balanced itinerary, it'll be a success.

Oh, by the way – if you think your spouse can't pull it off for some reason, think again. Jen was 6 months pregnant on this past one and had a blast. She'll be able to tell her child that she caught fish with it in the womb.

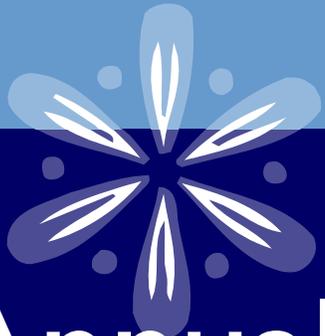
That kid's gonna be fishy fo sho!

### About Ryan Shea:

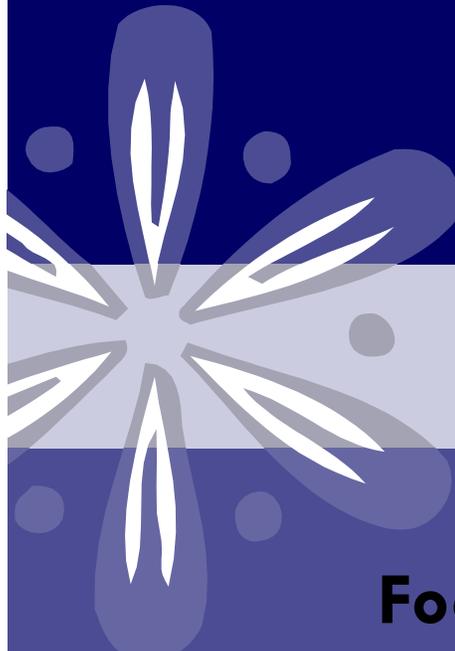
Ryan is a fly fishing guide and co-owner at [Brookdog Fishing Company](#) in Western New York. As a logistician and project manager in the US Marine Corps, he served his country on multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and executed nearly a dozen moves throughout the country – fishing where and when he could (but mostly working his ass off) along the way. During this time, he formed a life goal of catching a fish on a fly in all 50 states and 10 Canadian provinces (the bucket list keeps growing though), and he is nearly halfway there. After spending more than half his life on the move, the idea of “home waters” started to sound appealing. With a desire to grow roots, provide stability for his family, connect with community, and teach others the joys of fishing and importance of preserving our natural resources, Ryan got together with his friend Nate and started Brookdog Fishing Company back where it all began – Western New York. Follow them on Instagram ([@brookdogfly](#)) and [Facebook](#).



**Date: October 19, 2017**



# NLFF Annual Fly



## Fishing Banquet

**Food    Drinks    Raffles**  
**Door Prizes    Live Auction**

**Shane's Seafood  
& BBQ**

**9176 Mansfield Rd.**

**Shreveport, LA**

**Time: 6:00pm**



# NLFF Fly Fishing Banquet

**Where?**

**Shane's Seafood & BBQ**

**9176 Mansfield Rd**

**And**

**Shreveport, LA**

**Food &**

Order from Shane's Seafood  
and BBQ's full menu.

**Admission**

Bring a fly fishing item to the banquet to be raffled. If you have no fishing item, feel free to pick up a gift certificate at a fishing store or restaurant.

**And**

You have the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for some fabulous prizes. Cash is preferred but checks and credit cards are accepted as well. Bundle prices are:

**Raffle**

Raffle Ticket Pricing  
\$20 for 3 Royal Draw Cards  
\$40.00 for 40 Raffle Tickets  
\$100.00 for 120 Raffle Tickets, 2 Royal Draw Cards

Come share a wonderful evening with friends, buy some raffle tickets, and participate in the live auction and the royal draw. Who knows? It might be you going home with some fantastic prizes, but everyone will take away a good time with family and friends!

**Bring the Whole Family!**

**Support the NLFF's Fundraising Banquet**

## Fly of the Month - "Adams - America's Most Popular Fly"

In North America, the most popular dry fly is the Adams. Importantly, the Adams is an American original. In the early 1920's, fly fishermen on the Boardman River in northern lower Michigan were having problems. The fantastic Michigan grayling was gone. Rainbows had been stocked to provide fishing after the demise of the grayling but they were getting scarce and brook trout had been wiped out by overfishing and habitat destruction. There was a newly stocked European trout that produced some good fishing, but it was creating a few headaches among fly fishermen. They found it so finicky that it was a source of frustration. That new fish was the brown trout. Because anglers and fly tiers were trying to find a fly the brown would take more readily, a new pattern was born. It not only pleased the browns but shortly found wide acclaim across the country and worldwide. As a testimony to the popularity of this fly, a monument was erected in its honor by the Michigan Outdoor Writers Association. The plaque on that monument says it all: "HONORING THE CREATION OF THE ADAMS FLY. Here is what the plaque says: "In 1922, ardent fly fisherman Leonard Halladay created the first Adams dry fly near his home on the banks of Mayfield pond. He named it in honor of his good friend, Judge Charles F. Adams, another enthusiastic angler who loved to fish for brook and brown trout in the nearby Boardman River. The Adams combines brown and grizzly hackle; many trout anglers claim it is the best fly ever made. Some, in fact, declare that if they had to use only one fly for all of their trout fishing, it would be the Adams." Because of the Adams' success, there have been many, many variations on the original pattern, including a Golden Adams, Swedish Adams, Parachute Adams, Down Wing Adams, Poly Adams, Lady Adams, Teal Wing Adams, Blue-wing Adams, Western Adams, and more. While the instructions provided here are for the common pattern today, the 1922 original also was somewhat different, with a tail of golden pheasant neck feathers, body of grey yarn, dark grizzly and ginger hackle. The original also appears to have been tied spent-wing style.

*Editor's Note - This history of the Adams fly from the Fly Fishers International website was used with permission.*

### Materials:

Hook- Dry Fly, Size 10 - 20  
 Thread- Flat Waxed Nylon  
 (Black)  
 Hackle- Dry Fly Hackles  
 Tail- Hackle Fibers (Grizzly  
 & Brown)  
 Abdomen- Super Fine Dubbing  
 Wing- Grizzly Hackle Tips

### Recipe:

1. Place the hook in the vice and

tighten securely.



2. Attach the thread to the hook shank and wrap to the point above the barb.

3. Select and align the tips of 7-



10 brown spade hackle fibers (hackle with long, stiff fibers found at the edges of the rooster neck). Tie these fibers to the hook shank at the point

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Fly of the Month - "Adams - America's Most Popular Fly" - Cont.

(Continued from page 10)

above the barb. They should be about 1-and-a-half times the length of the hook gap.



4. Select and align the tips of 7-10 grizzly spade hackle fibers. This time tie the fibers onto the top of the brown fibers in the first step.



5. Select and align 2 grizzly hackle tips so that they flare away from one another when held back to back. The wings, when finished, should be approximately the length of the hook shank.

6. Select and align 2 grizzly hackle tips so that they flare away from one another when held back to back. The wings,



when finished, should be approximately the length of the hook shank.



7. Stand the wings upright and place several thread wraps in front of the base to keep them in place.



8. Advance the thread back to the rear end of the shank and pinch dub your thread very lightly with the super fine dubbing. Build a small tapered body up the hook shank, stopping just behind the wings.



9. Strip the bottom section from the brown dry-fly hackle, leaving the stalk exposed, and tie this just behind the wings.



10. Repeat Step 9 with the grizzly hackle.



11. Advance the brown hackle up the body of the fly, taking three turns of hackle behind the wings and two turns in front of the wings.

(Continued on page 12)

## Fly of the Month - "Adams - America's Most Popular Fly"



12. Advance the grizzly hackle up the body of the fly, this time taking two turns of hackle behind the wings and three turns

thread and cement.

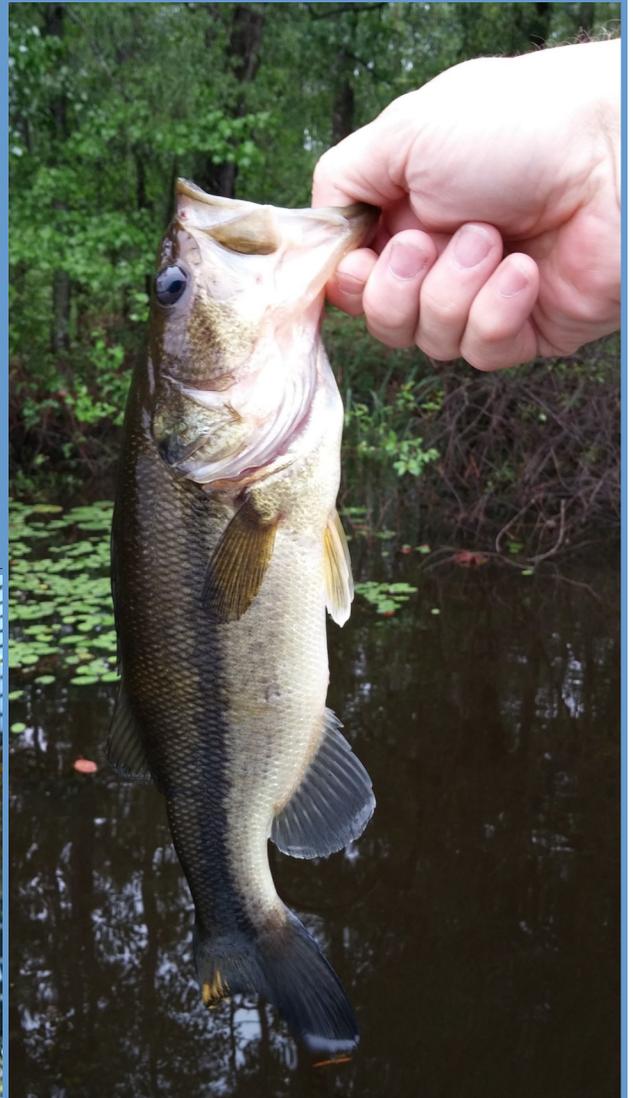
in front.

13. Build a small head for the fly, whip finish the

Your finished fly should resemble the one at the bottom of the page.



**More Pictures**



**NLFF Calendar**

**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: Fly Tying Workshop** will be the Tying Contest at the Banquet (See below).

**Oct 19th: NLFF Banquet.** Our annual fundraising banquet. See flyer on pages 8 and 9 of this issue.

**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>

**Nov 14th: 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.

**Nov 16th: Fly Tying Workshop.** White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm.

**Nov 28th: NLFF Executive Board meeting** will **NOT** be held due to proximity to the holiday.

**Dec 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.

**Dec 21th: Fly Tying Workshop.** White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm.

**Dec 26th: NLFF Executive Board meeting** will **NOT** be held due to proximity to the holiday.

**Jan 1st: HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



Artwork by Dave Whitlock

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

## Upcoming Events

**Oct 6th - 7th: "FFI Southern Fly Fishing Fair"**. Hosted by the Southern Council of the IFFF. Vada Shield Convention Center, Arkansas State University campus, Mountain Home, AR. See [www.iffsoc.org](http://www.iffsoc.org) for more details.

**Oct 7th: "9th Annual Rio Grande Rodeo"**. Hosted by the New Orleans Fly Fishers. New Orleans City Park, 7:30a - 12noon. For more info call or email AJ Rosenbohm at 504-952-1340 or [nolaflyguy@att.net](mailto:nolaflyguy@att.net).

**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>

**Nov 10th - 12th: "RSFF Fall Catch-n-Eat"**. Red Stick Fly Fishers annual fall marsh fishing trip Friday-Saturday, November 10-12, 2016. Friday evening gathering at local restaurant (optional). Saturday evening gathering and fish/shrimp/veggie fry at Golden Meadow. Must be member of RSFF or other fly fishing club to participate. For details, go to [www.rsff.org](http://www.rsff.org)

**Jan 20th: "Cenla Fly Fishing Fest"**. Kisatchie Fly Fishers will host this event at the Civic Center at Kees Park in Pineville, La from 9am - 4pm. Admission is free. Fly tying demonstrations, programs, and more. Lunch and refreshments available. For more info, go to [www.kisatchiefly.org](http://www.kisatchiefly.org).

**Jan 26th - 27th: "NLFF's Frozen Chozen"**. The North Louisiana Fly Fishers will host this event on the Little Missouri River in Murfreesboro, AR. A cookout will be held at Riverside park at 12:00 noon Saturday. Burgers and dogs provided. Bring your own drinks and a side dish or dessert. Camping and lodging are available near Murfreesboro or just come up for the day.



### North Louisiana Fly Fishers

First FFI (formerly IFFF) Affiliated Club in Louisiana

P.O. Box 29531

Shreveport, LA 71149

email: [nlffclub@gmail.com](mailto:nlffclub@gmail.com)

We're on the Web!

[www.northlaflyfishers.org](http://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!