

JANUARY 2014

*north
Louisiana
fly
fishers*



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www.northlaflyfishers.org

It is the charge of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers to afford the general public and its 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.

NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS founded in 1984

The President's Line

Happy New Year Everyone! 2013 has come and gone but it was a big year for NLFF and 2014 looks to be bigger and better. We have increased the size of the Executive Committee and made a few other changes recently that should help a lot. Our club has never been stronger than it is now and I can't thank everyone enough for their contributions. If any of you have an idea for an activity or anything you want considered to give us a new outlook, direction, etc. please let us know. We need all the help we can get.

Please note also that it is time for membership renewals. You may download a membership form from the website, or link in from Face Book. We will also have forms available at the meeting.

See you the 14th.

Next Meeting:

January 14th at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. 7PM.

Speaker: John Williams of Pack and Paddle. Come early to cast, tie or visit.

What's Inside:

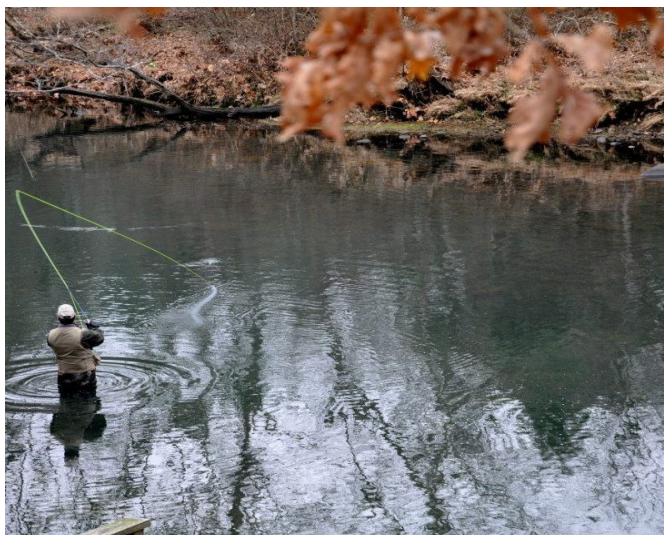
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Frozen Chozen

Gird your loins! The weekend of the Frozen Chozen, January 24-26, is almost upon us. Make plans to pack plenty of cold weather gear since the “Farmers Almanac” predicts frosty wet weather for the month of January. Those hearty enough to brave the icy river will earn the privilege of thawing themselves around the campfire and telling tall tales, unchallenged. If it is cold, you may want to bring along a little firewood and be prepared to dig into the hotdogs, hamburgers, and many great side dishes we have come to expect when die-hard Frozen Chozen Fans gather. If you don’t catch fish, you won’t starve. The club will furnish hamburgers and hot dogs, bring your favorite side dishes and drinks. It’s the most fun you can have and remain conscious.



Dec. 11, 2013

A service of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

New state record rainbow trout breaks 47-year-old record

A new state record rainbow trout was caught recently from Lake Watonga at Roman Nose State Park, reminding Oklahomans that this non-native, cold-water fish is in season and providing plenty of angling action across the state.

On Nov. 17, Mark Reed of Blanchard caught the 10-lb., 10.56-oz. rainbow, breaking the nearly half-century-old state record of Billy Payne, who caught his 10-lb., 4-oz. trout from the Illinois River in July of 1966.

Reed's fish was 27 3/4 inches in length and 17 1/2 inches in girth. He caught the fish from the west side of the lake using a copper-colored Super Duper 502 with a red head.

"Mr. Reed asked his sons to accompany him to Roman Nose State Park," said Keith Thomas, central region fisheries biologist for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation who certified the record. "They turned him down - too cold and wanted to sleep in. They're kicking themselves now."

At Thomas' encouragement, Reed is having the fish mounted.

Native to cold-water streams, trout can survive all year long in Oklahoma's two year-round trout areas (the Lower Mountain Fork River and Lower Illinois River), but generally cannot survive year-round in Oklahoma's warm waters. However, they can be stocked for fishing during the winter, providing a unique opportunity to anglers. There are six seasonal trout fisheries in Oklahoma that are stocked throughout most of the fall and winter, usually beginning Nov. 1 and continuing into March. According to fisheries biologists, however, it's possible Reed's record fish wasn't stocked this year. The fish's excellent body condition and the documentation of over-summering trout because of cold water from springs that flow into Lake Watonga could mean the fish had been in the lake for some time.

Thomas said the big fish was colorful, had healthy fins and showed no bodily abrasions that are typical of trout that have recently come from a hatchery, where the fish are more pale in color and raised in concrete raceways. Once the trout acclimate to their new environment and start eating natural foods, their bright color comes out and their body conditions improve.

"Due to cold water from springs that flow into Lake Watonga, it is possible that this fish survived and grew to become our new state record rainbow trout."

Though it cannot be confirmed whether the fish was stocked this year or in a previous year, it remains that Reed's fish is one for the record books.

Along with Lake Watonga, Oklahoma's seasonal state-designated trout areas include the Blue River, Robber's Cave, Medicine Creek and Lakes Pawhuska and Carl Etling. For trout season regulations and full details on each area, consult page 38 of the current "Oklahoma Fishing Guide," available free online at wildlifedepartment.com or in print anywhere fishing licenses are sold. Urban anglers also can catch trout during the winter at Dolese Youth Park Pond in Oklahoma City (NW 50th and Meridian) and Veterans Park Pond in Jenks (101st and South Elm).

Anglers who believe they may have hooked a record fish must weigh the fish on an Oklahoma State Department of Agriculture certified scale, and a Wildlife Department employee must verify the weight. For a complete list of record fish and the procedures for certifying a state record, consult the current "Oklahoma Fishing Guide" or log on to wildlifedepartment.com.



Mark Reed of Blanchard with his new Oklahoma state record rainbow trout that he caught from Lake Watonga in November. The fish weighed 10-lb., 10.56-oz., breaking the nearly half-century-old state record of 10 lbs., 4 oz.

DECEMBER WORKSHOP



This past month Frank instructed us tying Griffith's Gnat, including a deer hair variety . We had a really good group present, including some first timers. Be sure to be at the January workshop. Erik will be showing us the Shrimp Buster as part of our education for the upcoming April marsh trip.



Annual Membership Renewal time:

January is the month in which our annual memberships need to be renewed. Forms may be downloaded from our webpage (see the address at the top right on first page) , there is a link on Facebook and there will be forms available at the meeting. Don't forget. If you know of anyone who has an interest in joining our club now is as good a time as any to invite them to a meeting. Maybe they will join us in our sport. See you at the meeting.

JAN 14 - OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS AT THE RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. JOHN WILLIAMS OF LAFAYETTE PACK AND PADDLE WILL RETURN TO SHREVEPORT WITH A PRESENTATION ON KAYAK FISHING IN THE MARSH. THIS IS A GREAT PREP FOR OUR CLUB OUTING PLANNED FOR APRIL 5 TO FISH THE MARSH NEAR [LAKE CHARLES](#).

JAN 16 - BASS PRO/NLFF WORKSHOP FROM 6:00 TO 7:30 IN THE [WHITE RIVER](#) FLY SHOP IN BASS PRO. ERIK WILL TIE AND TEACH THE SRIMP BUSTER.

JAN 25 - THE ANNUAL CLUB OUTING , "FROZEN CHOSEN" ON THE LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER IN ARKANSAS. SHORE LUNCH WILL BE BURGERS AND DOGS PROVIDED BY THE CLUB WITH EVERYONE ASKED TO BRING A SIDE DISH AND YOUR OWN DRINKS.

JAN 28 - NLFF [EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING](#) 6:00 PM IN THE BASS PRO CONFERENCE ROOM BEHIND THE GUN SECTION IN BASS PRO. ANY MEMBER IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

FEB 11 - OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS AT THE RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. HARRY BOYD, ONE OF THE PREMIER BAMBOO ROD BUILDERS IN THE NATION WILL BE PRESENTING ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BAMBOO RODS, HOW TO MAKE AND FISH THEM.

FEB 20 - BASS PRO/NLFF WORKSHOP FROM 6:00 TO 7:30 IN THE WHITE RIVER FLY SHOP IN BASS PRO. BUD BETHEA WILL BE TYING LEFTY'S DECEIVER

FEB 25 - NLFF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 6:00 PM IN THE BASS PRO [CONFERENCE ROOM](#) BEHIND THE GUN SECTION IN BASS PRO. ANY MEMBER IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

MARCH 11 - OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS AT THE RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. THIS WILL BE OUR CHILI AND FLIES MEETING THIS YEAR. BRING YOUR CHILI ALREADY MADE, AND JOIN IN THE FUN OF SOME REALLY FUN FLY TYING WITH A TWIST. SCOTT IRWIN ALWAYS HAS A SURPRISE FOR US ON THE FLY TYING CONTEST.

MAR 20 - BASS PRO/NLFF WORKSHOP FROM 6:00 TO 7:30 IN THE WHITE RIVER FLY SHOP IN BASS PRO.

MAR 25 - NLFF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 6:00 PM IN THE BASS PRO CONFERENCE ROOM BEHIND THE GUN SECTION IN BASS PRO. ANY MEMBER IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

APRIL 5 - CLUB OUTING FOR MARSH FISHING IN SOUTH LOUISIANA. THIS WILL BE A SEMI-GUIDED TRIP IN KAYAKS, WITH 2 EXPERIENCED MARSH KAYAK FISHERMEN SHOWING EACH OF 2 GROUPS WHERE AND HOW TO FISH WITHOUT GETTING LOST. THERE WILL BE A FEE FOR THIS TRIP WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED AFTER WE FIND OUT THE FEES FOR THE GUIDES.

APRIL 8 - OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS AT THE RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING.

APRIL 11 & 12 - CADDO CONCLAVE AT CADDO STATE PARK. DETAILS TO FOLLOW

APRIL 17 - BASS PRO/NLFF WORKSHOP FROM 6:00 TO 7:30 IN THE WHITE RIVER FLY SHOP IN BASS PRO.

APR 22 - NLFF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 6:00 PM IN THE BASS PRO CONFERENCE ROOM BEHIND THE GUN SECTION IN BASS PRO. ANY MEMBER IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

MAY 5 - NATCHITOCHES FLY FISHING FAIR HOSTED BY CANE COUNTRY FLY CASTERS ON THE CAMPUS OF NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY IN NATCHITOCHES.

MAY 11 - OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE NORTH LOUISIANA FLY FISHERS AT THE RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING.

MAY 15 - BASS PRO/NLFF WORKSHOP FROM 6:00 TO 7:30 IN THE WHITE RIVER FLY SHOP IN BASS PRO.

MAY 27 - NLFF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 6:00 PM IN THE BASS PRO CONFERENCE ROOM BEHIND THE GUN SECTION IN BASS PRO. ANY MEMBER IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

JULY 26 - THE SECOND ANNUAL "MASTERS SERIES" WILL FEATURE A DAY WITH DAVE WHITLOCK. THIS WILL BE AN ALL DAY EVENT WITH ONE OF THE MOST RENOWNED FLY FISHERMEN IN THE WORLD. DETAILS ON COST WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE SPRING. ATTENDANCE WILL BE LIMITED TO 75.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

Jan. 18th: Red River Rendezvous at Recreation Hall, Eisenhower St. Park in Denison, TX. 9AM — 4PM. www.rrff.org for details.

Jan. 24th—26th: Frozen Chosen outing at Murfreesboro, AR.

Feb. 14th—16th: 10th Annual Little Mo Fly Fishing Festival, Community Center, Murfreesboro, AR. www.littlemissouriflyfishing.com/ff-festival.html for details.

March 8th: Fly Fish Texas at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, Athens TX. 9AM—4PM. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/tffc and click on Fly Fish Texas for details.

March 20th-22nd: 17th Annual Sowbug Roundup—Baxter County Fairgrounds in Mountain Home AR. www.northarkansasflyfisher.org for details.

April 5th: Marsh Outing. Details to follow.

April 11th-12th: Caddo Conclave V. Caddo Lake State Park, Karnack, TX.



NLFF

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