

# The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

October 2015 Volume 1, Issue 10



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## November Meeting Topic

It's that time of year again! Our November 10th meeting is the NLFF's annual fundraising banquet.

Food, friends, family and fellowship is the recipe at Mandina's Grill for a fantastic evening of fun and fundraising. The festivities (ok, I'll quit with the f's) start at 6:00pm.

We have worked hard to find a location that is comfortable and roomy, has great food, serves alcohol (for those so inclined) and is affordable enough with a friendly atmosphere to bring the whole family. We have also tried to keep the

meal cost as low as possible without sacrificing quality.

Mandina's is giving us a great person price that allows you to have a delightful dinner and leave you plenty of money for you to support our once a year fundraising banquet. So come



share a wonderful evening with friends, buy some raffle tickets, and participate in the live auction and/or the royal draw.

Who knows? You could be going home with

some fantastic prizes. One thing is for

(Continued on page 9)

*"Scholars have long known that fishing eventually turns men into philosophers. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to buy decent tackle on a philosopher's salary."*

~ Patrick F. McManus



## October Meeting Recap

Adam Harbuck from Harbuck Outdoor Sports was our guest speaker for October. His presentation, Kayak Fishing 101, gave us

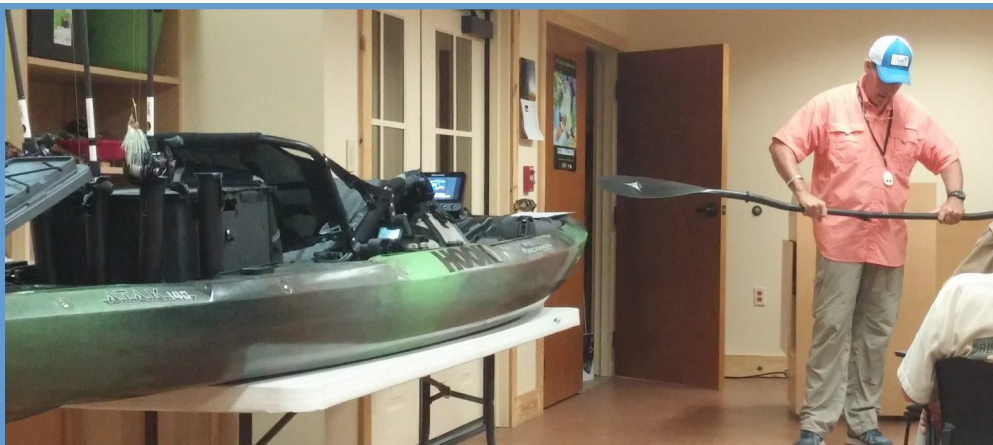


some insights into what equipment is necessary for kayaking.

Adam and his helpers from Bayou Pirates, a local kayak fishing club, brought several yaks for us to try out on Lake Caroline at

the refuge boat dock. Sit On Top (SOTS), Sit Inside (SInKs), and hybrid kayaks are the three main types of kayaks available. SOTS, identified by scupper holes for drainage, set you up higher and above the water line. SInKS set you lower as your seat is below the water line. Hybrids are roomy and can carry high payloads - think plastic pirogue. See picture at left.

Several members tried out the various yaks available. A couple were even



### 2015 NLFF Executive Board

President	Thomas (Bud) Bethea
Treasurer	Tom Bullock
Secretary	Steve Oliver
A/V Specialist	Steve Oliver
Banquet Director	Judy Thomas
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Membership	Frank Harmon
Newsletter Editor	Steve Oliver
Social Media	Frank Harmon
Programs Director	Scott Irwin
Webmaster	Frank Harmon
Member at Large	Rush Clay
Member at Large	Joe Dollarschell



brave enough to check out the stability by standing and no one ended up in the water!

If you missed this information packed meeting, stop by Harbuck Outdoor Sports on E. 70th St. Adam would be happy to answer all of your questions.





## Fly of the Month - "Wiggle Minnow"

*Editor's Note: With the bass bulk-ing up for the winter this time of year, I thought this fly would be an excellent choice for our area lakes when you can't get up to the trout waters.)*

November's Fly of the Month is Todd Boyer's Wiggle Minnow. It's "walk the dog" motion and how it mimics a fleeing shad coming out of the water just drives the bass crazy!

### Materials List -

Hook: TMC 8089np Size 2

Thread: Danville Flat Wax

Mono Loop: 20 lbs Mason

Tail: Crystal Flash and Polar Flash

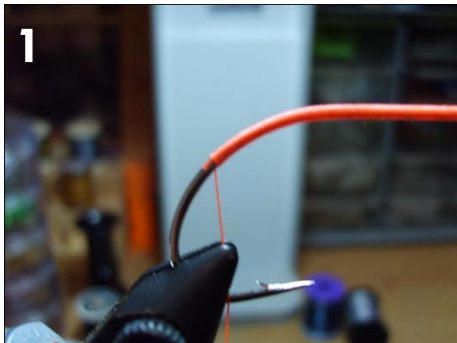
Body: Wapsi Foam Cylinder 3/8" Diameter

Eyes: Plastic Eyes with "Stem"

Markers: Chartpak

### Recipe -

1. Start at the hook eye and wrap back to cover the entire hook



shank stopping just beyond the barb. It's very important that's where you stop your thread.

2. Tie in mono loop, make sure the tag ends are on top of the hook shank and not on the sides. Don't make the loop too big-about the size of a pea.



3. Tie in your flash, about 5 or 6 pieces. Make sure flash is about the length of the hook shank.



4. Take about three cuts of polar fiber in each color, pinch the polar fiber right in the center and tease out the under fur with a comb. It's important not to build up too much of the tail with bulk as it will knock down the wiggle.

5. Tie in your tail. Make sure the length of the tail is just a little longer than the hook shank. If you get it too long, it will also knock down the wiggle.



6. Take your cylinder and make a 45° cut at the very end of the cylinder making sure that you cut towards the top of the cylinder and not the back. Use a SHARP razor blade, very important that your blade is very sharp.



7. Take your cylinder and turn it upside down and dive your razor blade in about 1/4 of an inch behind the lip.

(Continued on page 8)

**Date: November 10, 2015**



# **NLFF Annual Fly Fishing Banquet**

**Food    Drinks    Raffles  
Door Prizes    Live Auction**

**Bring the Whole Family!**

**Mandina's Grill**

**830 Fannin St  
Shreveport, LA**

**2 Blocks North of First Methodist Church**

**Downtown**

**Time: 6:00pm**



# NLFF Fly Fishing Banquet

**Where?  
And  
When?**

**Mandina's Grill  
830 Fannin St Shreveport LA**

**November 10th, 2015**

**Food  
And  
Drinks**

Adults - \$12.00  
Children - \$6.00  
(10 yrs and under)

Includes Catfish and Chicken Buffet  
Fries, Hush Puppies, Salad, Dessert, and Iced Tea  
Open Bar with \$2 Draft Beer Specials

**Admission  
And  
Raffle  
Tickets**

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.

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

10 tickets - \$20.00

50 tickets - \$60.00

25 tickets - \$40.00

80 tickets - \$80.00

Best Value -----> 115 tickets - \$100.00

We have worked hard to find a location that is comfortable and roomy, has great food, serves alcohol (for those so inclined) and is affordable enough with a friendly atmosphere to bring the whole family. We have also tried to keep the meal cost as low as possible without sacrificing quality. Mandina's Grill is THE place! Mandina's is giving us a great per person price that allows you to have a delightful dinner and leave plenty of money left for you to support the NLFF during our once a year fundraising banquet. So 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**

## European (Euro) Nymphing Method

by Tom Bullock

In average fly fishing circles, Euro nymph fishing is probably the least understood method of fly fishing in America today. It is, however, the standard in Europe and within the international competitive fishing

lot of fish. Bill was Euro nymph fishing and also catching a lot of fish. We were camped in the Quarry Dam Campground with one RV spot between us. I was with Davy Wotton a couple of days later and mentioned Bill Welz. Davy re-

not consider myself advanced in the Euro method, but I do catch my share of fish using it.

I just returned to Shreveport after spending a month in Broken Bow, OK fishing the Lower Mountain Fork River (LMF). The river has changed



community by all serious competitors, including the USA Team.

I was introduced to this method about four years ago by a stranger, Bill Welz, who has become a close friend, while fishing on the Norfork River in Arkansas. I was wet fly fishing and catching a

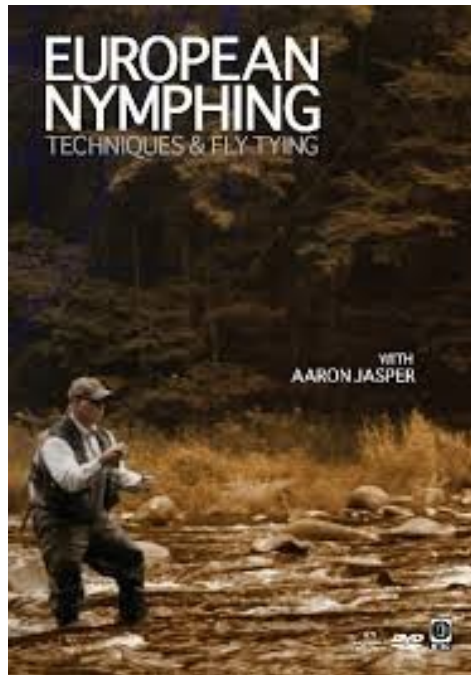
sponded, "Bill Welz is one of the most advanced Euro nymph fishermen in the United States." I started listening to him more intently after that and Bill started learning the more advanced wet fly method I was using. In my opinion he is now one of the most advanced fishermen I know in both disciplines. I do

drastically since the floods earlier this year. The old river is just washed away with deep pocket water and bed rock everywhere and it has a completely changed course with large deposits of rocks washed downstream from Spillway

*(Continued on page 10)*



## **Special Event - November 14th**



You are invited to a very special event:

## **European Nymphing 101**

Our very own Tom Bullock has been learning the techniques of European Nymph Fishing. There are certain situations that conventional fly fishing techniques will not work that are precisely suited for Euro Nymphing. Tom will tell us about his first-hand experiences under these situations and show an instructional video on Euro Nymphing. The video is scheduled to start at 6:00pm. There will be a short break in the middle of the video and we are scheduled to be through around 8:00pm.

Preceding Tom's presentation will be a Pot Luck Dinner at 5:00pm. Come eat, mingle, and examine Tom's nymphing setup before the show. Please bring your favorite dish and/or a side dish. Water and soft drinks will be provided by the club.

Cost: Free

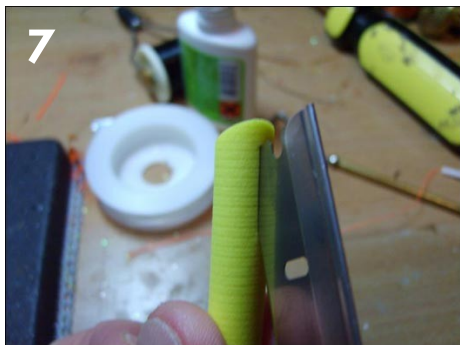
When: Saturday, November 14th, 5:00-8:00pm

What: Pot-Luck Dinner at 5:00pm, Video Starts at 6:00pm

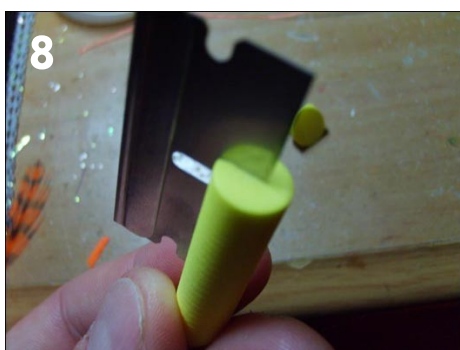
Where: Red River National Wildlife Refuge

What to Bring: A Covered Dish and/or Side Dish

More Info: Contact Scott Irwin at 318-469-0854

**Fly of the Month - Cont.***(Continued from page 3)*

8. Make a cut down the entire length of the cylinder. Make the cut about 3/4 of body depth leaving.

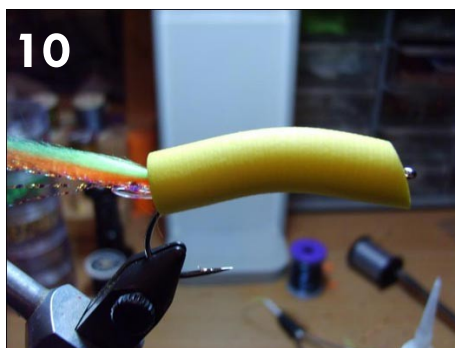


9. Bring the razor blade back to the front of the cylinder. Place the corner of the razor blade back into the cut and push the corner of the blade towards the face and make a little cut in the center of the face.

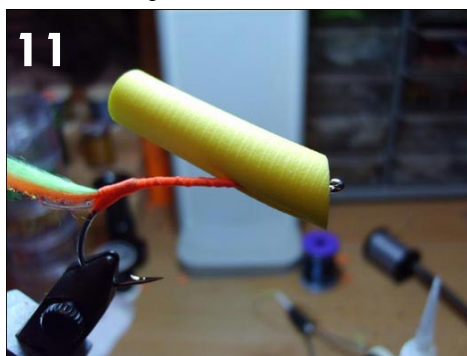
10. Place the cylinder on the hook shank sideways and push the eye of the hook through the cut at the face of the cylinder.

11. Turn the cylinder on the hook and push the cylinder down on the hook shank. The back of the cylinder should end up right in

front of the tail. If you have to bend the cylinder to get it to go in front of the tail you didn't go back far enough on the hook shank.



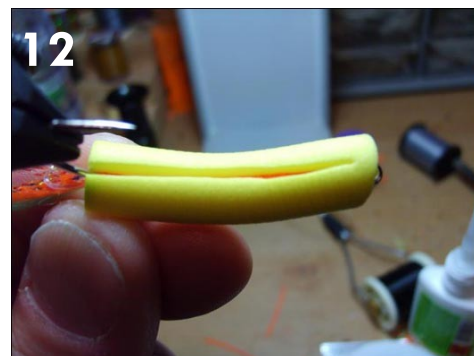
12. Turn the fly over and then push the back and the front of the cylinder up making sure the cut is lined up with the hook point. Place a bead of Zap-a-Gap the entire length of the cylinder starting at the back.



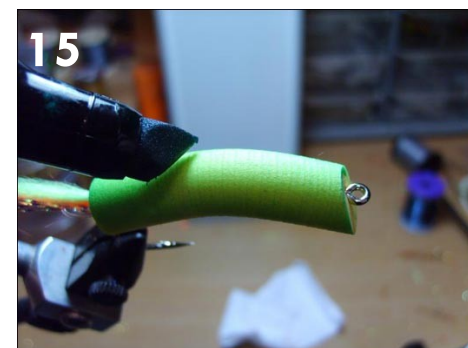
13. Squeeze the entire cylinder and hold for 15 seconds. Wipe off excess. Be sure and use Zap-a-Gap. It works best.

14. Go to the front of the fly and push the cylinder down making sure the hook eye is in the center of the face, then shoot some

Zap-a-Gap in the slit above the hook eye. If you use the zap attachments you should be able to do this easily. Squeeze and hold for 10 seconds.



15. Color back with marker, then pull the edges down with a gun cleaning cloth blending the color in. Do this fast so the ink doesn't dry. If it does, just go over it again. Turn fly over and do the same for the bottom.



16. Take your plastic eyes, these are the ones with the stem on them. The best way to take off the stem is to cut it off flush with toe nail clippers.

17. Place a bead of Zap-a-Gap on the body (not too much) and

*(Continued on page 9)*



## Fly of the Month - Cont.

(Continued from page 8)



glue the eye on. Push and hold for 10 seconds. Do the same with other eye.

18. Make a sideways 'V' from back to front to add stripes.

19. Fire Tiger pattern - polar fiber colors are chartreuse/fire or-

ange, eyes are red, marker colors are chartreuse/cadmium orange, cylinder color is yellow, and stripes are black.

20. You can make these any color you want. Patterns that I tie are brown trout, rainbow trout, fire tiger, shad, white, white/red head, chartreuse/white and black.

21. I use tan cylinders for brown trout, yellow cylinders for fire tiger, and white for the rest.

### Presentation Tips -

Using a no-slip loop knot adds much more action. For a top-water

bite, use floating line, strip and pause until you see the fly again at the surface. The fly has a slow wobble back to the surface that drives fish nuts. Tied right, this is the only true riding wiggle minnow there is- strip it as fast as you want and it won't roll over. That's why it is so effective on sink tips. Use about 4 feet straight fluorocarbon to get deep on sink tip. This is one of the most productive flies that there is. I know- bold and biased, but true. My Wiggle Minnow has out-fished many of the famous flies out there. It has caught just about every thing that swims- salt or fresh. Give it a try. I know you won't be disappointed! 🐟

Todd Boyer

## November Meeting - Cont.

(Continued from page 1)

sure- everyone will take away a good time with family and friends!



Also, we will be voting on our By-Laws changes and the 2016 Executive Board. The candidates are:

President - Steve Oliver.

Treasurer - Tom Bullock.

Members-at-Large - Thomas 'Bud' Bethea, Joe Dollarschell, Frank

Harmon, Brett Rowell and Scott Irwin. So in addition to a fun eve-

ning, come cast your vote for the future of our club. Remember, the people that YOU elect will help shape the way our club operates going into 2016! 🐟



"Sorry. Casting when it's windy isn't one of my strong points."

## European (Euro) Nymphing Method - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

Creek. The water appears to be just waiting for Euro nymph methods.

I wanted to speed my learning of the "New River", so I hired a guide to show me the changes. The guide, Kevin, who guides in the Lake City, CO area in the summers and LMF in the winter, was returning to Colorado the next day. He did have a half day available and was extremely excited when he learned that I would be using the Euro nymph method. He had heard and read about it but had never seen it fished.

There was an area below the bluffs with swift pocket water about 8 feet deep, with a direct drop-off and undercuts.

There was no conventional way to get the flies to the bottom and to the fish quickly except the Euro nymph method; very heavy flies with long thin leaders. Many of the fish in the area were washed down river during the flood.

I caught several fish in the deep

pockets. One fish in particular was a brown trout which measured a little over 18 inches. This is not a huge fish, but it was reported by the Beaver Bend Fly Shop to be one of the two known brown trout caught in this part of the river since the flood and by far the larger of the two. Also, this fish was caught on a Monday when over 30 cars were counted on the road the pre-

current plan is to show an introduction DVD, *European Nymphing 101*, at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge, November 14, 2015 starting at 5:00pm with discussion and a covered dish dinner. Showing of the DVD will start at 6:00pm. I will have rods rigged for this type of fishing to demonstrate. I also have more advanced DVD's we can show later if there is an in-



vious afternoon. In other words, a lot of people were fishing the river but not catching this nice fish. The Euro nymph methods work. The guide did say he thought he hooked the fish a couple weeks earlier, but was not able to land it.

It is my opinion that this method should be shared with our club. The

terest.

(Editor's Note: Come expand your knowledge of the sport we love so much. Nov 14th, pot-luck dinner at 5pm, DVD showing at 6pm. It all happens at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge in South Bossier City.) 🐟

## From Our Members

(Editor's Note: Judy Thomas submitted this story about her fishing trip to the Lower Mountain Fork in OK. The pictures are some of her catches in the days preceding this story.)

Let me begin this tale with this statement - Everything you are about to hear is true, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help me God!! (This statement is included because my friend Bill Welz says that only 30% of what a fisherperson tells you is true.)

Johnny & I started our morning on the LMF at the red area at Mt. Fork Park. We were not able to fish there

*"... the whole truth and nothing but the truth. So help me God!!"*

because the water was too fast and too deep so we decided to move to Evening Hole.

We arrived at Evening Hole and started making our way down stream toward the gravel mounds. I was using my 11' rod rigged with a

olive white-water wooly and a black copper john dropper. Nothing was rising but after a few minutes I got a hit and pulled in a bright orange with blue stripes large bream. I kept working upstream with no success and several fly changes and a complete re-rigging after a battle with a cypress tree. (I always lose that one.)

I had been watching another fisherman up river at the area where the river narrows right before the gravel wash begins and he seemed to be the only person catching anything. I worked my way up there and went to the opposite side of the river from him and watched him a little while before deciding how I wanted to fish the area. I first thought I might fish the shallow water around the area because I could see some fish in it but that was unfruitful so I decided to go deep in the heavier water and see what happened. By this time I was using a large wet fly with some weight for my anchor and hanging a soft hackle green wet fly. Two casts and I hooked a nice rainbow. Thought I had it figured out.

I was standing in the shallow water casting into the deeper water



A Cutbow - Rainbow and Cutthroat Cross

when something to my left caught my eye. At first I thought it was part of a broken off log sitting in the bottom of the river but the longer I looked at it the more I thought I saw it move. I took a few steps closer and sure enough it was the biggest rainbow trout I had ever seen in my life just laying there taking it easy in the shallow water. It was at least 30" but could have been more. It did not seem to be at all intimidated by me as I moved closer to it and at one point

(Continued on page 12)



## From Our Members - Cont.

(Continued from page 11)

it even came toward me as if it was checking me out.

As I watched this monster I began to see his pattern. He would lay in the shallow water for a few minutes and then sort of drift off into the deep water. In about five minutes



A nice Rainbow

he would be back in the same place in the shallow water. This went on for about 30 minutes. It was driving me crazy because I had no idea what to do to try and get him on my line. Then I decided the thing to do was find the heaviest thing I had in my fly box and tie it on my dropper and put a fluorescent worm Tom Bullock had given me on the end. I tied on a large black cone head wooly as

the dropper and the worm on the end so that it would float up from the wooly.

I made about three or four casts with that set up when I thought I was hung up on a rock. I didn't give the rod much pull, just enough to be sure I was hung when it moved and I knew it was a fish - a large fish. I

was trying to be so careful not to play rodeo and let the fish have some room. I was walking up and down in the shallow water yelling for Johnny to come and help me and letting the fish do as it pleased. Then all of a sudden it came toward me in the shallow water and I realized it was the

big fish!!!

I knew I was in trouble because I had #4 tippet and there was no way it would be able to handle a fish that size. I took a deep breath and tried to relax and not overwork the fish, just let him go where he wanted. Johnny was making his way toward me when the fish came back up in the shallow water again so that I could see him clearly and then it turned and took off like a

streak of lightning and that was the end of that. Before I could give him enough line to run he snapped the tippet and was gone.

My attempt at relaxing had been a total failure and my heart was still pounding in my chest five minutes after I had lost the fish. I was sick but I do not think there was anyway for me to land that size fish with #4 tippet but it was fun trying. (One of you expert anglers would have known exactly what to do.)

It was a once in a lifetime fish and I am glad I was able to hold on to it as long as I did!!

*Judy Thomas*

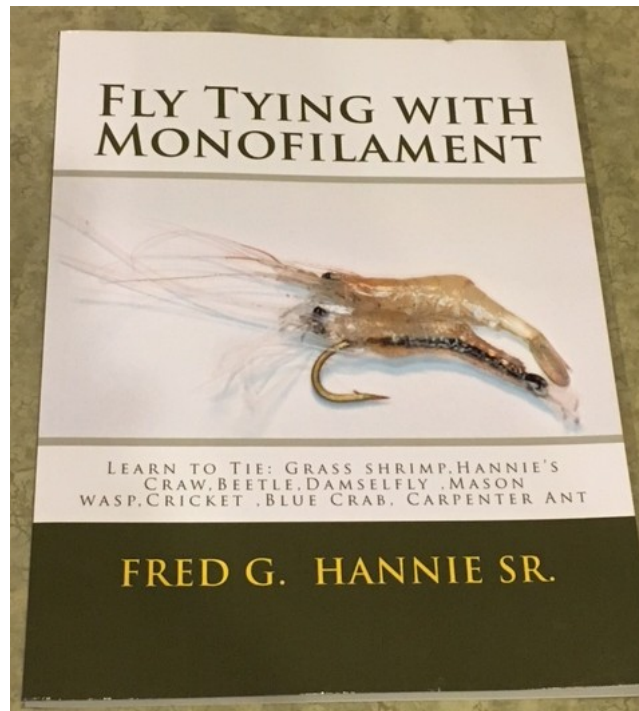


Bait or Catch?!

My Grandpa used to say in his Coastal Carolina 'Gullah' accent, "If 'e bigga than e bait, e profit". Now for the question of the day: Was that the bait or the catch?



## Special Event - January 16th



You are invited to a very special event:

## A Day with Fred Hannie

Fred Hannie, of Lake Charles La, is one of the State's premier fly tyers. Fred has been featured in numerous national fly tying publications and recently published his own book, "Fly Tying with Monofilament". Fred's flies are ultra realistic. Some of his flies are works of art. Others are fish catching magnets. The NLFF is proud to host a fly tying workshop with Fred Hannie. Come and learn to tie from one of the best. Fred will first teach us by tying a crawfish pattern fly. He will then lead us in a classroom group session for each person to tie their own fishable crawfish fly. If time allows he will present an additional monofilament fly for us to tie.

Cost: Free

When: Saturday, January 16th, 9:00am to 3:00pm

Where: Red River National Wildlife Refuge

What to Bring: Your own vise, tools and thread. Also, bring a lunch.

Water, coffee and soft drinks will be provided.

More Info: Contact Scott Irwin 469-0854

**NLFF Calendar**

**Nov 10th: NLFF's 2015 Banquet.** Mandina's Grill, 830 Fannin St, Shreveport, LA. Festivities begin at 6:00pm.

**Nov 14th: "European (Euro) Nymphing 101".** Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Pot-luck Dinner at 5:00pm and video starts at 6:00pm. Tom Bullock will be demonstrating this exciting and revolutionary method of fly fishing.

**Nov 19th: Fly Tying Workshop.** White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. We will be tying a "Pink Weenie" which is the go to fly on the Lil' Mo' when nothing else works.

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

**Dec 8th: NLFF Monthly Meeting.** Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Social hour at 6pm, meeting starts at 7pm. Steve Hollenshead

**Dec 17th: Tying Techniques Workshop.** White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm.

**Dec 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.

**Jan 12th: NLFF Monthly Meeting.** Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Social hour at 6pm, meeting starts at 7pm. Steve Hollenshead

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

**Jan 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.

**Jan 29th - Jan31st: NLFF's Annual "Frozen Chosen".** Riverside Pavilion on the Little Missouri River Tailwaters at Narrows Dam north of Murfreesboro, AR. This is a weekend of trout fishing and story-telling with friends. Camping is available on Dynamite Hill and lunch on Saturday will be served at the pavilion. Bring a side dish and drinks.

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



## Upcoming Events

**Nov 13th - 15th:** "Red Stick Fly Fishers Fall Catch-n-Eat". Highway 1 corridor. Friday evening gathering at local restaurant (optional). Saturday evening gathering and fish/shrimp/veggie fry - 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).

**Nov 13th - 15th:** "Fall'n Tide X". Kayak Fishing Tournament in Empire, La. Cypress Cove Marina, Venice, LA. Sponsored by Bayou Coast Kayak Fishing Club. This open tournament is one of the 3 major annual kayak fishing events in Louisiana, and one of the largest in the nation. Registration fee covers tournament entry, Friday night Captains dinner, Saturday night fish fry, Captains bag, t-shirt, chance at nearly 200 raffle and door prizes. Categories include Adult Slam, Ladies Slam, Youth Slam (free entry for youth), and individual species for slot red, speckled trout, flounder. A great time even if you don't catch a winning stringer! For rules and registration, go to [www.bckfc.org](http://www.bckfc.org) and click on the EVENTS forum.

**Dec 4th - 5th:** "Renzetti Fly Fishing Fair and Rod Building". 8800 Grissom Pkwy, Titusville, FL. Friday: 12:00pm to 4:00pm, \$10 admission. Friday evening: "An Evening With The Legends" reception benefitting Casting for Recovery and Project Healing Waters. Saturday: 9:00am to 3:30pm, \$15 admission. The Fair is to promote the art of fly fishing and rod building, and to raise awareness and funds for Florida programs of Casting For Recovery and Project Healing Waters. There's something for every level of the sport. Attendees will also learn about new products, new techniques and fishing destinations. You are invited to join other fly fishing enthusiasts as they welcome Lefty Kreh, Jon Cave, Bob Popovics, Bob Clouser, Flip Pallot, Nick Curcione, Pat Ehler, Jay Murakoshi, John Stumpe, Oscar Felio and Curt Baker to another great event. For more info, contact Lily Renzetti at



Artwork by Dave Whitlock

### North Louisiana Fly Fishers

First IFFF Affiliated Club in Louisiana

P.O. Box 8542

Shreveport, LA 71108-8542

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!