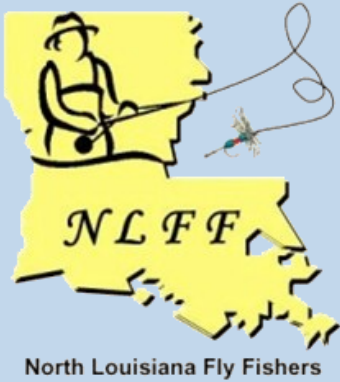


The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

April 2017

Volume 3, Issue 4



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Masters Series
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April Meeting

At our April meeting John Williams will be talking about fishing out of a kayak or other "puddle" craft. John and his wife, Becky, and Joan and Doc Williams before them, has owned Pack & Paddle in Lafayette, LA for over 40 years. Even with internet shopping becoming more and more prolific, Pack & Paddle continues to flourish. Why? Because the store's staff doesn't just sell the items that they stock, they personally use them. They have a unique perspective when it comes to the usefulness of their stock. In addition, Pack & Paddle is a resource for the local forests, swamps, marshes, and streams that make Louisiana a special place for the outdoor enthusiast. So when you're ready to venture into the great outdoors, take a

straight shot down I-49 to check out what Pack & Paddle has to offer.



Also, the NLFF Executive Board passed a resolution to sponsor a participant in Reel Recovery this year. We have donated in the past to this exceptional organization and would like send a deserving person to fish the Lower Mountain Fork

River in October of this year. The cost is \$700 and we will hold a vote of members present at this month's meeting for club approval. For more information on Reel Recovery, see page 6 of this issue.

And don't forget... have a great April!



"Nothing makes a fish bigger than almost being caught."

~ Author Unknown



March Meeting Recap

At our March meeting, our member, A.L. Higgins, arranged for the Bayou Chapter of the Ozark Society to visit with us. They talked about their club and what they do in and around the Shreveport-Bossier area.

If you have ever wondered what the Ozark Society is all about, this was the perfect opportunity to learn. Many were surprised by the com-



mon interest that our two clubs

share. In fact, we voted a while back to change our meeting date so that our meeting did not conflict with theirs.

If you missed seeing what the Ozark Society, especially the Bayou Chapter, is all about, they meet at Centenary College each 3rd Tuesday of the month. As a guest, you are more than welcome to attend!



2016 NLFF Executive Board

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| President | Steve Oliver | 318-349-6411 | sdoliver012@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Tom Bullock | 318-393-7729 | twbullock@aol.com |
| Secretary | TBD | | |
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| Fly Tying Director | Jamie Franklin | 318-707-5959 | tjfranklin301@yahoo.com |
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| Safety Director | Judy Thomas | 318-560-4888 | jwt1216@bellsouth.net |
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| Member at Large | Thomas (Bud) Bethea | 318-464-5104 | thomasbethea@hotmail.com |
| Member at Large | Scott Irwin | 318-469-0854 | scottpeggy2004@gmail.com |
| Member at Large | Brett Rowell | 318-207-6097 | brett@brownbuilders.com |
| Member at Large | Chris Pierce | 318-347-0494 | cpierce213@hotmail.com |
| Member at Large | Rex White | 318-294-7027 | rexflyfish@reagan.com |

NLFF Sponsors



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Fly of the Month - "Bloodworm"

Rex White will be tying a version of the "Bloodworm" fly at this month's fly tying session at Bass Pro in Bossier City. The bloodworm imitates midge larvae that lives near the bottom of lakes and rivers. It is often fished as a bottom fly under other midge or midge pupa patterns.

Materials needed:

Hook: Tiemco 200R size #14-18

Bead: Black tungsten

Weight: Lead wire

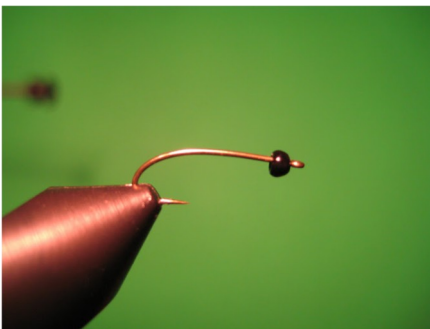
Thread: Red thread that lays flat.

Rib: Red wire and black 6/0 thread

Other: Super Glue or UV resin.

Recipe:

Step 1: Put the bead on your hook.



Step 2: Wrap lead wire to about

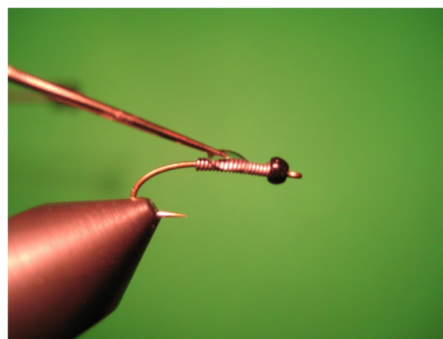


where the bend starts on the shank.

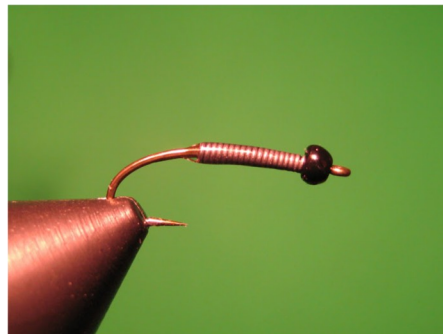
Step 3: Use Super Glue to lock the lead wraps together. This is done instead of wrapping with thread so to keep the body size to a minimum.



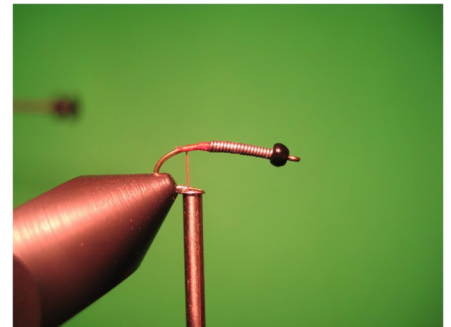
Step 4: You can use a bodkin or toothpick to evenly spread the Super Glue over the lead wraps.



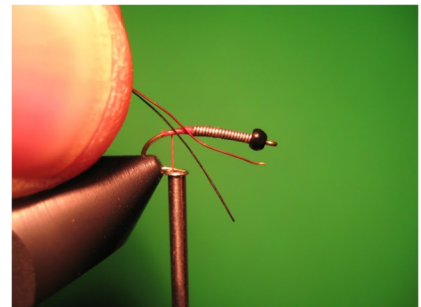
Step 5: Let dry fully.



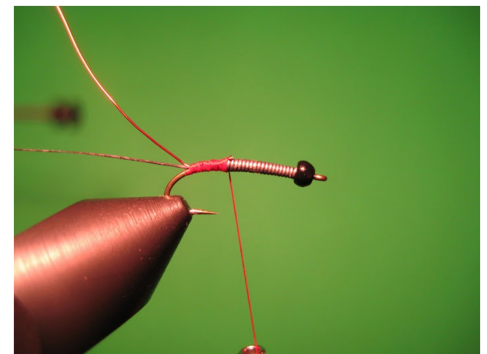
Step 6: Start thread just behind the lead wraps.



Step 7: Tie in both ribs, the wire and the black thread at the same time to cut down on bulk.



Step 8: Wrap the thread flat, and as thinly as possible over the lead wire wraps. If properly done, the



(Continued on page 5)

Fly of the Month - "Bloodworm" - Cont.

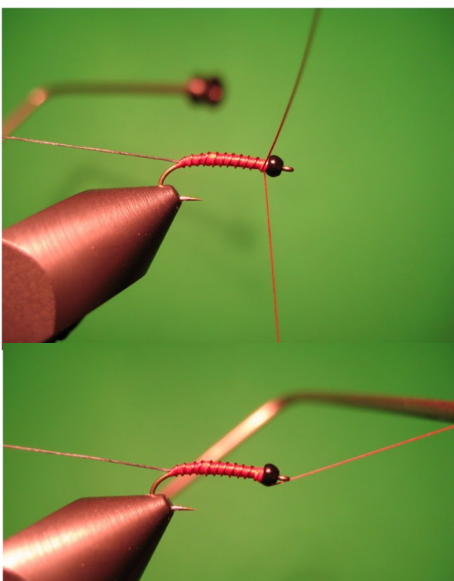
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segmentation from the lead wire will still be seen if you look close enough.



Step 9: Wrap the wire rib evenly to the bead and tie off. The black



thread rib is wrapped separately.

Step 10: Then wrap the black thread rib forward keeping it right next to the red wire rib. The black thread rib can be wrapped in front of or behind the red wire rib. In this example, It is wrapped in front.



Step 11: Whip finish.

Step 12: Coat the entire fly in UV resin or a clear drying Super Glue could also be used. Spread the

resin evenly over the entire fly, and put it under a black light, or in di-



rect sunlight to cure.

Note: Too much UV resin may have been used. The segmentation of the rib wire should really show. Using a thinner alternative like the aforementioned Super Glue may be a better option. Regardless, I bet it doesn't make much difference to the fish!



A Look at “Reel Recovery”



Reel Recovery is a national non-profit organization that conducts free fly-fishing retreats for men living with all forms of cancer. Reel Recovery was founded in 2003 by a group of avid fly-fishers, inspired by their fishing buddy's ongoing battle with brain cancer. Witnessing first-hand the beneficial impact fly-fishing provided their friend, they created Reel Recovery to provide the same opportunity for other men battling the disease. Combining expert fly-fishing instruction with directed “courageous conversations”, the organization provides men with all forms of cancer a unique opportunity to share their stories, learn a new skill, form lasting friendships and gain renewed hope as they confront the challenges of cancer.

“Your greatest gift is what you give of yourself.” Stewart Brown made this comment to a group of men gathered at the first ever Reel

Recovery Retreat in Loveland, CO, just three days before he was to go into surgery on his brain tumor. That was Stu, always thinking of others, even as he faced his own greatest challenge.

It was Stu's determination to give to others that formed the cornerstone of Reel Recovery. An avid fly-fisher, Stu spent many hours during the three years after his cancer diagnosis in the peaceful beauty of Colorado waters. He dedicated his final months to the creation of Reel Recovery, so other men facing similar battles could experience the healing serenity that fly-fishing had offered him.

Inspired by his vision, passion

and courage, a group of men joined with Stu to establish Reel Recovery in May, 2003. Though his health was beginning to deteriorate, Stu was able to attend the first Retreat in June, along with his son Tyson, who served as volunteer staff. The two were able to share moments of joy, pain, fear and love as they fished together and shared their stories with the rest of the group.



In Stu's last weeks, in failing health, he summoned his strength to meet with world-champion cyclist and cancer survivor Lance Arm-

“Your greatest gift is what you give of yourself.”

A Look at “Reel Recovery” - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

strong. Stu was determined to share with Lance his vision of Reel Recovery and the importance of this program to future cancer survivors. Stu's inspiring courage was met with a generous hand in return; the Lance Armstrong Foundation provided Reel Recovery with a generous three-year grant, ensuring that Stu's legacy would live on through Reel Recovery for many years to come.

Mission & Purpose

The mission of Reel Recovery is to help men in the cancer recovery process by introducing them to the healing powers of the sport of fly-fishing, while providing a safe, supportive environment to explore their personal experiences of cancer with others who share their stories.

Our purpose is to address the growing demand for and limited supply of support services specifically tailored for men with cancer. Our overarching goal is to improve the lives of the men we serve. We seek to give these courageous men a respite from their day-to-day concerns so that they might gain a fresh outlook on their fight with

cancer; we facilitate discussions that give them strength, encouragement and a new network of friends and support; we provide cancer information and resources to enable better management of their disease; and we provide them new skills to bring joy, enthusiasm and renewed hope as they confront the challenges of their cancer survivorship.

Program Goals

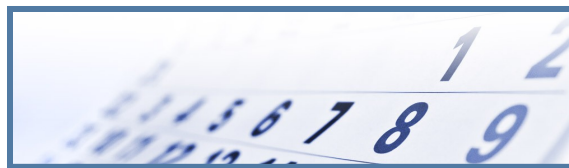
- To provide a safe, reflective environment for the participants to discuss their disease and recovery with other men with

shared experiences, thereby providing support and information to help them in their recovery.

- To provide expert fly-fishing instruction that enables the participants to learn a new skill, form a healing connection with nature, and participate in a sport they can continue throughout their recovery and lifetime.
- To provide participants information about cancer-related resources, both in the local community and nationally, to facilitate networking and enhanced management of their recovery.



Reel Recovery is dedicated to Stewart Brown

NLFF Calendar

Apr 11th: 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. John Williams from Pack & Paddle in Lafayette, LA will be discussing fishing from a kayak.

Apr 20th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Rex White will be tying a blood worm.

Apr 25th: NLFF Executive Board meeting. 6:00pm at Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA upstairs in the conference room directly across from the elevator.

Apr 29th: NLFF's "Spring Thaw". This event has had a last minute location change. More details will be available at this month's regular meeting on April 11th.

May 9th: 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. "Catch" Cormier will be speaking on crappie fishing with a fly rod.

May 18th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Jerald Lewis will be tying a slow sinking spider.

May 23rd: NLFF Executive Board meeting. 6:00pm at Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA upstairs in the conference room directly across from the elevator.

Jun 13th: 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.

Jun 15th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm.

Jun 27th: NLFF Executive Board meeting. 6:00pm at Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA upstairs in the conference room directly across from the elevator.



Artwork by Dave Whitlock

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

Upcoming Events

Apr 7th - 8th: "3rd Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival". Come out to beautiful Lake Athens on April 7 and 8 and enjoy the 3rd Annual Lake Athens Fly Fish Festival! There will be activities for the whole family, including a Bluegill Contest, Big Bass Contest, Casting and tying instruction and demonstrations, Casting activities of all kinds and much, much more. On Friday, the hours will be 3 pm - 9 pm and on Saturday, 7 am to 5 pm.

Apr 21st - 23rd: "RSFF Annual Lake Concordia Spring Weekend". Spring fly fishing weekend on Lake Concordia culminating with a fish fry on Saturday evening. See www.rsff.org for more details.

Apr 28th - 29th: "14th Annual Paddlepalooza Kayak Fishing Tournament". One of the first and largest kayak fishing tournaments on the Gulf Coast. \$50 entry fee includes 2 meals, tournament participation, t-shirt, captains bag, and shot a numerous raffle prizes. Partial payout with remainder going to charitable organizations. Sponsored by the Bayou Coast Kayak Fishing Club.

Apr 29th: NLFF's "Spring Thaw". This event has been moved from Judy and Johnny Thomas' place. Details at this month's regular meeting on April 11th.

May 5th - 6th: "Bass on the Fly Tournament". Lake Fork Marina, Lake Fork, Texas. Friday 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Optional Big Sunfish Tournament. Cost is \$10. Saturday 6:00 am to 2:00 pm. Main Event. Cost is \$60 per person, includes \$5 to big bass pot. Optional \$5 entry in big sunfish contest. This is a fly fishing only catch/photo/release (CPR) tournament. Proceeds support Reel Recovery and the FFF-Texas Council. Categories: Club, Boat, Non-Boat (kayak, canoe, bank, float tube, etc), Registration is by mail or onsite Friday 12 noon - 9:00 pm, or Saturday 5:00 am - 6:00 am. Online registration available. For more info, go to <http://www.bassonthefly.org>

May 19th - 21st: "Red Stick Fly Fishers - Spring Catch & Eat". Annual marsh fishing trip. Friday-Saturday. Highway 1 Corridor - Galliano to Grand Isle. 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

North Louisiana Fly Fishers

First IFFF Affiliated Club in Louisiana

P.O. Box 29531

Shreveport, LA 71149

email: nlffclub@gmail.com

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!