

The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

July 2017

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North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Established in 1984

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July Meeting

Our old friend, Eddie Brister, will be with us at the July meeting. Eddie is the owner of the Beavers Bend Fly Shop on the banks of the Lower Mountain Fork river in Broken Bow, Oklahoma. His fly shop was completely destroyed by flood waters last year.

The Lower Mountain Fork river endured the same flooding and Mother Nature has re-worked that river. Eddie will give us a progress report on the fly shop and the state of the river as the ecosystem recovers from the floods. The river is not the same



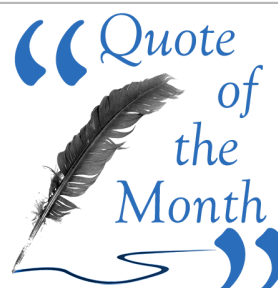
as you once knew it so come hear Eddie Brister give us a lesson on finding fish in the new Lower Mountain Fork.

The designated trout stream is 12 miles long and holds thousands of rainbow and brown trout. The Lower Mountain Fork River is a year round fishery located only 2 1/2 hours from Shreveport/Bossier.



"I am not against golf, since I cannot but suspect it keeps armies of the unworthy from discovering trout."

~ Paul O'Neil



Remembering Pete Cooper, Jr

It is with a great sadness that we report our loss of one of the NLFF's greatest friends, Mr. Pete Cooper, Jr. Pete is recognized as one of the true icons of the fly fishing community around the world. As an author, his books and published articles have inspired generations of new fly fishers. Mr. Cooper's blog (La Fly Guy) entertained many of us with his unique wit and humor. The NLFF was blessed to have had Mr. Cooper as guest speaker on numerous occasions

over the years, where he educated us "northerners" about fly fishing the Louisiana Gulf Coast and the small creeks and bayous throughout the state. He has held several state fly fishing records over the years and was elected to the Louisiana Sportsman's Hall of Fame in 2003. Mr. Pete Cooper, Jr. will be greatly missed.



(Editor's Note: Thanks to Rex White for this submission.)

2016 NLFF Executive Board

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Fly of the Month - "Jitterbee"

Randy Leonpacher from the Red Stick Fly Fishers (RSFF) in Baton Rouge, LA invented the Jitterbee. He reports that the Jitterbee is an

Materials:

Hook: Eagle Claw Baitholder #080 in size 8 or 10. The Eagle

Tail: Black silicon rubber skirt material (used for spinner baits).



"My buddy who came up with this pattern, he said he ties them one size bigger to catch bigger fish. I tell him I tie them one size smaller and I catch more," says Larry Offner, while tying a "jitter bee".

(Photo by Benjamin Leger)

excellent bead head nymph that looks like a bee with a cricket-like tail. The best colors are black/chartreuse and black/yellow for greenish water while black/red or black/orange works best for brownish water. Other colors will also catch fish.

The fly is Randy's first choice for bream. It can be fished deep or under a strike indicator. Best of all, it's easy to tie!

Claw 181 baitholder hook found at K-Mart can be used as a substitute. Both are 2X heavy and have large eyes suitable for the large metal bead.

Head: 4mm 10K gold plated metal beads.

Body: Medium chenille or fine chenille (vernille) in black, red, burnt orange, or chartreuse. The medium is right for the size 8 hook, the fine is perfect for the size 10 hook.

Note:

The materials above are what Randy uses. You could easily use a nymph style hook instead of the baitholder hook. Normal rubber legs would work for the tail. It would be the same as skirt material. I just wanted to make a note of this, especially for beginners.

Instructions:

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Fly of the Month - "Jitterbee" - Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

1) Smash the hook shank barbs on the Baitholder hook and straighten the slight bend/offset.

2) Bend the hook point enough to slide the bead on, then bend back to normal.

3) Wrap hook shank with thread and tie short piece of silicon rubber leg - about 1/3 of a single strand. Double over short piece to make a forked tail. Secure with thread.

4) Pair up and tie in one color

chenille with another color. Secure them with thread back to the v- tail. Contrasting colors always work best, such as black/chartreuse or black/orange.

5) Wrap paired chenille forward around hook to form banded colors.

6) Secure chenille by tying in just behind bead head.

TIP: Add a small amount of head cement on thread before putting final wraps to give it extra resiliency. You'll need it if your jitterbee is to have any chance of survival after it's been viciously assaulted by a few dozen sunfish!



NLFF Annual Fly Fishing Series - George Daniel

The North Louisiana Fly Fishers is pleased to host and organize the annual Fly Fishing Masters Series. In the past this event has had Bob Clouser, Davy Wotton and Dave Whitlock as featured speakers. This year we are bringing George Daniel to the Masters Series.



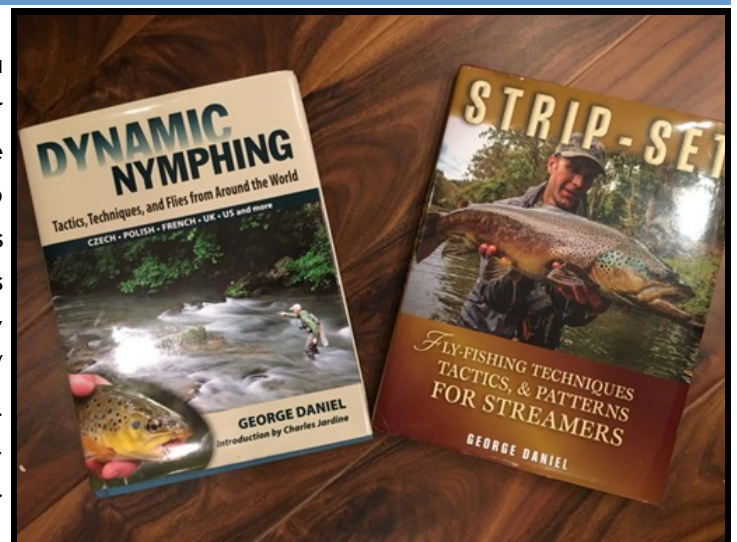
State College, PA. George still remains involved with the US Youth Fly Fishing Team, as well as writing and conducting fly-fishing clinics/presentations across the country.

He has published two best selling books, *Strip-Set* and *Dynamic Nymphing* and is a contributing



George Daniel began fly fishing at the age of 6 in Potter County, PA, a remote region filled with wilderness and beautiful brook trout. George held a spot on Fly Fishing Team USA for 7 seasons, and in that brief period had success by winning back-to-back US National Championships and placed in the top 5 in the 2006 World Fly Fishing Championships.

George is a former manager of the TCO State College Fly Shop and now owns and operates Livin On The Fly LLC., a guide/educational service company located near



NLFF Annual Fly Fishing Series - George Daniel

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page 6)

editor to Fly Fisherman Magazine. George lives along the banks of his favorite trout stream with his wife, Amidea and their two children.

This is sure to be a fantastically educational

event as evident by this testimonial:

George is a patient teacher, deep thinker and lover of systematic approaches to the complex multi-variate problems of angling. Few people in any discipline can make both theory and technique so accessible in such an entertaining and intuitive way while being able to answer any question so thoughtfully and thoroughly. Quite simply, I learned more from two days with George than my previous years of books, videos and on-stream lessons combined. I'll go back at every opportunity I have.



-Michael Lloyd, New York

The really amazing thing about the above review is that we booked that master of theory and technique for our show! This event is one not to miss.

The 2017 NLFF Fly Fishing Masters Series will be held on Saturday, July 22, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door if any seats remain. (We have completely sold out every year so get your advance tickets today. See June Meeting story on page 1.)

Schedule of events includes:

- 1) On the water casting clinic with George Daniel
- 2) Presentation by George Daniel. Topics will include various way to improve your fishing.
- 3) Fly tying demonstration by George Daniel

Optional: Dinner with George Daniel at Ralph and Kacoo's Saturday July 22, 5:30 p.m. (dutch treat). If you wish to dine with George Daniel, we must make reservations. Call Scott Irwin: 318-469-0854.



3 Things You Must Know to Chase Carp on the Fly

by Jakob Barlow

Carp have been rising up on the list of desired freshwater fish to experience on the fly. Some will even go so far as to compare this freshwater monster to the notorious bonefish, earning the carp the nickname of the golden bone.

Many factors will greatly determine your success rate when fly fishing for carp. To name a few: location, mood, posture of the fish, and time of year.

For example, if it's winter you're not going to throw a 3" crawfish pattern at huddled carp. Why you ask? Crawfish are dormant in the winter due to being cold blooded. If you throw that rusty orange pattern at a carp in the winter he's



going to know something's up because it's not normal for him to see that in the winter months. He will be gone just as fast as he appeared.

If you've been wanting to try

your hand at chasing these golden ghosts of the shallows, here are 3 tips you must know to get in the action with these easily spooked creatures.

1. Being able to read the carp and know how to act accordingly.

The number one mistake that beginning carp anglers make is casting to non-receptive carp. Here's how to read carp in some common fishing situations.

Carp splashing on topwater.

If you happen to spot this, you might as well put down your fly rod and head on your way. These carp won't pay attention to even the

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Dane Schmucker caught the big fish at the 2016 Midwest Golden Bones Fly Tournament near Chicago, IL. The 2017 event is coming up August 4-5 and is sponsored in part by Flymen Fishing Co.

3 Things You Must Know to Chase Carp on the Fly - Cont.

(Continued from page 8)

tastiest-looking pattern in the world; they have one thing on their mind, and that's reproduction. However, the upside to this process is the awesome post-spawn bite!

Fast-moving pods.

Once again, don't waste your time – these carp are either spooked or heading on a mission, not even a bag of pellet carp food will stop these beasts. Keep searching for more fish to cast to.

Slow-cruising pods/singles.

Get a fly right in front of their faces and below them. Why? Carp like to cruise while searching the bottom for a quick and easy snack. This means their eyes will be focused below them right where your fly should be!

Heads down and tails to the sky with a mud cloud around them.

This is the most important one of all! Slow down, take your time, and cast to this feeding mud monkey,



A Face Only a Mother Could Love!

then hang on because you're about to have a gnarly fight on your hands!

Sunning carp.

These carp are the ones kicked back enjoying the warmth of the sun. Toss a small un-weighted fly to them and hope for the best.

2. Choosing the right fly weight and pattern (I can't stress this one enough!).

Fly patterns and weight are often overlooked when carp fishing. Most

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3 Things You Must Know to Chase Carp on the Fly - Cont.

(Continued from page 9)

people think any old pattern that looks appetizing will work.

Wrong!

Carp have feeding patterns and certain food sources they like better than others. Carp are very boring when it comes to fly patterns. They like rusty, orange, olive, brown, and black. These color patterns are usually the go-to for carp fishing, but it depends on what location you're fishing in. I've heard a great tale of western carp actually chasing streamers, but I haven't seen this firsthand.

I fish and guide in the waters of North Carolina where we have the more calm and gentle carp that have very subtle takes. Do your research on the body of water you're fishing and stop and

watch the carp. If you stop and watch you can usually figure out what they're feeding on.

People overlook weight because they think it isn't important in carp fishing, but weight is crucial in carp fishing.

weight bombs.

These are used for slow-cruising carp and those mud-sifting bulldozers who are bottom feeding. You want to send your fly straight to them and get it down on the bottom right in front of their faces.



Un-weighted flies.

These un-weighted flies are those you throw at the sunning carp. You don't want it sinking too fast because these carp are closer to the surface, but you also don't want it to float. You want a slow gentle descent to get the carp's attention.

Medium-weight flies / Heavy-

3. Presenting your fly.

Fly presentation is important when carp fishing – if you throw the fly too hard and smack the water, the fish is going to spook. Pursuing carp on the fly takes a skilled and accurate cast, so before heading out on the water, take a few

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3 Things You Must Know to Chase Carp on the Fly - Cont.

(Continued from page 10)

practice casts to get ready.

You may only get three chances on a carp in a whole day of fishing, so you don't want to blow these chances by not being ready. It pays off to take the extra time to

prepare for the main event.

The most known and productive action method for carp fly fishing is called the drag and drop. To do this, drag your fly away from the carp and let it sink, mimicking a fleeing crawfish or nymph. This is usually used for slow-cruising carp

and sometimes for the feeding carp.

Follow these tips to increase your number of hookups and catches when fishing for this elusive fish. As always, best fishing to you all!



About Jakob Barlow:

Jakob Barlow is the head guide/owner of High Grass Guides in Western North Carolina. He has been fly fishing since he was 6 years old. From the pumpkin seed sunfish to the big bull trout to the tarpon of the salt flats, he has experience in it all. He's been guiding locally for 10 years and then decided to take it to the next level so



he opened High Grass Guides with two of his buddies, hoping to make it into a living. "I've experienced nothing that consumes my mind like fly fishing. It's all I think of all day every day." Jakob is well seasoned with most freshwater species around his area with some saltwater species as well. Jakob has a passion for getting new anglers involved with his obsession of fly fishing. "I live to see that big smile on my client's face when hooking the fish of a lifetime." You can follow Jakob on Instagram @the_jakob_barlow or check out his website at www.highgrassguides.com.



NLFF Calendar



Jul 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.

Jul 18th: NLFF Executive Board meeting. 6:00pm at Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA upstairs in the conference room directly across from the elevator. This meeting has been moved up one week to finalize details of the Masters Series on August 22nd. Board meetings will resume on the 3rd Tuesday again starting in August.

Jul 20th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Jerald Lewis is tying a slow-sinking spider. This is a bream killer!

Jul 22nd: NLFF's 5th Annual Masters Series. "A Day with George Daniel". 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch, coffee, and drinks. Seating is limited to 75 so buy your tickets early to meet this legend in the sport of fly fishing.

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.

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.



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

Upcoming Events

Jul 22nd: NLFF's 5th Annual Masters Series. "A Day with George Daniel". 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch, coffee, and drinks. Seating is limited to 75 so buy your tickets early to meet this legend in the sport of fly fishing.

Jul 22nd: LKFC Hwy 1 Slamboree. Hosted by the Lafayette Kayak Fishing Club. Admission fee to this kayak fishing tournament is \$35. Launch points are anywhere from Golden Meadow to Elmers, Fourchon and Grand Isle along Hwy 1. Weigh-in at Leeville public boat launch at 3pm. For more info, or to register, go to www.lafayettekayakfishing.com

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



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

First FFI (formerly IFFF) Affiliated Club in Louisiana

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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!