

The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

April 2018

Volume 4, Issue 4



North Louisiana Fly Fishers
Established in 1984

Inside this Issue:

NLFF Board Members	2
Kayak Raffle Moved Up	2
2018 Masters Series Flyer	3
2018 Flies & Fleas Outing	4
Article - "Don't Be a One Trick Pony"	6
Help Wanted	10
2018 Kayak Raffle	11
NLFF Calendar	12
Upcoming Events	13
About the NLFF	13

April Thoughts

Wow! This has been a crazy year so far! Snow, not once, but twice. More rain than we need or can handle. The stock market soaring. Easter falling on April Fool's Day. I mean, everywhere I looked for an Easter egg, all I got was a note saying April Fool!

Speaking of rain. I am ready to dry out. My yard is squishy. My fishing spots runneth over. Farm ponds have provided the only fishing that I have been able to do. This weekend, I'm going to a power plant lake that has a relatively small watershed so maybe it won't be blown out. I will report at our meeting. If anyone is able to fish somewhere, and are willing to share, please let me know.

Speaking of farm pond fishing, I took my nephew, Peyton, for his first fly fishing tryout after some casting practice. Peyton is the younger brother of Nick, who is featured on the About Us page of

our website holding his first trout on the fly. Peyton's first cast, using a chartreuse and yellow popper, had a large bass (3 pounds?) explode the surface of the water after his popper. With rod tip bent, the bass had the popper firmly in his mouth but it startled Peyton. He didn't set the hook and missed the giant fish. He was so excited! You would have thought he landed an 8-pounder, not missed his first fish on the fly. After regaining his composure, he shot another cast out of the rod and nothing. On his third cast, he strip-set and landed a 1 1/2 pound largemouth! He was hooked on fly fishing. Like uncle, like nephew. Two of them now!

Even though the weather has been terrible for fishing, when it cooperates, get out and take advantage. You never know how it may turn out. You may just be passing the torch of our sport to another generation.



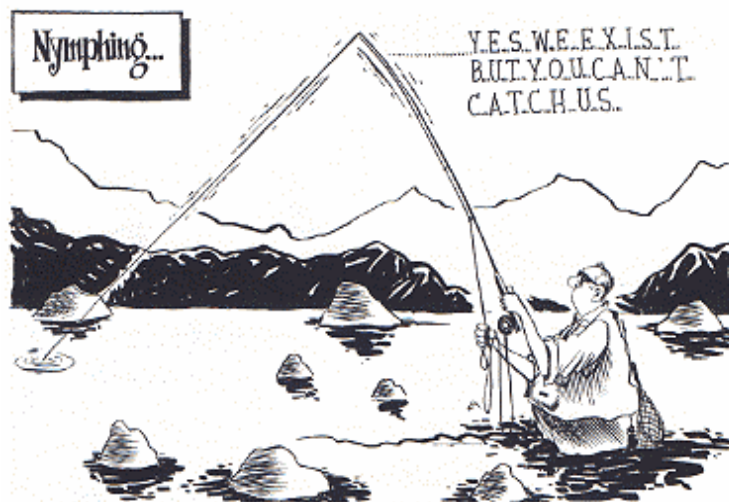
"Calling Fly-Fishing a hobby is like calling Brain Surgery a job."

~ Paul Schullery



Kayak Raffle Moved Up

There was an incorrect drawing date on the 2018 Ascend 10T Kayak Raffle flyer. The drawing date was listed to be held during the June 2018 regular club meeting. After that flyer was published, it was decided to be held during the April 2018 regular club meeting. We wanted to make the kayak available to the winner for the April outing, "Flies & Fleas". The date on the tickets is correct. This outing (see page 4) will be an ideal place for someone to break in a new kayak. Make your plans to be at this meeting for details of the outing and to witness the drawing for the kayak. There are still tickets available. \$15 each or 3 for \$30 .



2018 NLFF Executive Board

President	Chris Pierce	318-347-0494	cpierce213@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Tom Bullock	318-393-7729	twbullock@aol.com
Secretary	TBD		
A/V & Technical	Steve Oliver	318-349-6411	sdoliver012@gmail.com
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Safety Director	Judy Thomas	318-560-4888	jw1216@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
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Member at Large	Steve Oliver	318-349-6411	sdoliver012@gmail.com
Member at Large	Joe Linder	318-245-9385	toothpick1936@gmail.com
Member at Large	David Gilbert	318-458-9450	hdgilbert850@gmail.com

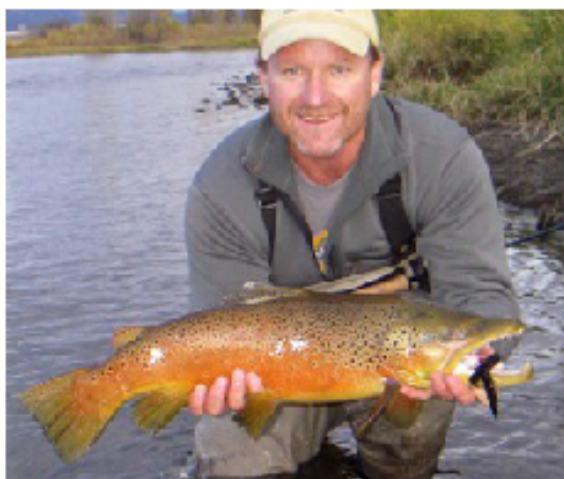


**North Louisiana Fly Fishers
6th Annual Masters Series
Proudly Presents:**

Kelly Galloup

Kelly Galloup started his fly fishing career at the age of 13, tying flies for the local tackle shop and has over forty nationally recognized fly patterns. He started guiding at the age of 16 and is still guiding to this day some 30 years later. Kelly owned and operated the Troutsman fly shop in Northern Michigan from 1981 to 2002. In the spring of 2002 he sold the Troutsman and moved to Montana where he and his wife Penny bought the Slide Inn lodge on the Madison River.

Kelly has written two books *Modern Streamers for Trophy Trout* and *Cripples and Spinners*. Kelly has been published in nearly every major fly fishing periodical in the country and is now one of the Editors-at-Large for *Fly Fisherman* magazine. Kelly was also one of the hosts of *Fly Fish TV* on the *Outdoor Life Network*. In 2004 Kelly was nominated and received the Living Legend award by the Federation of Flyfishers, now Fly Fishers International.



Tickets: \$40 each

***Early Bird Special: \$35 each
(if purchased before June 1st)***

Where and When:

***Red River NWR
150 Eagle Bend Point
Bossier City, LA 71112***

***July 28, 2018
9:00am - 4:00pm***

For More Information:

**Contact Scott Irwin
318-469-0854**

New for 2018: Flies & Fleas Outing

Announcing a new outing for 2018! To be held the weekend of May 5th at Purvis Creek State Park in Eustace, TX.



This Texas State Park has nice campsites for RVs, very shaded with natural barriers giving some privacy. Lake is very accessible by



9.5" Redear

kayak and fishing is great. The lake is completely encompassed by the park so with paid admission, no TX fishing license is required. Great news for our club members. Fishing and taking catfish and panfish is good fun and great eating. However, bass fishing is catch and release only at this lake. There are some monsters to be caught. A ranger told me that at the last creel count, there were two large-mouth bass specimens that would have taken the current Texas state

record!

Steve and Virginia Oliver stayed at this park last summer and said the fishing was very good. Hiking trails are well marked and there is a abundance of wildlife. Park is pretty well quiet in the camping area as the day use area is on the other side of the lake. The park is also well-patrolled by Park Rangers.

Similar to the Frozen Chosen, we will have a club cookout at the park pavilion. This will be dinner instead of lunch, however. The idea is to fish in the morning and shop Canton in the afternoon. Hence the name Flies & Fleas. Get It!

This outing coincides with the First Monday Trade Days



A Nice Bunch of Large Bluegill

the weekend of May 5th and is only about 20 minutes away. After a day of shopping, we will gather for a hot dog and hamburger cookout provided by the club. Club will provide drinks, just bring a side and/or a dessert.

Whether you bring your camper or stay at a nearby hotel, or just come in for the day, you are sure to have a wonderful time with the whole family! Make your reservations soon. Don't worry about a particular site as there are a limited number of them with good wa-



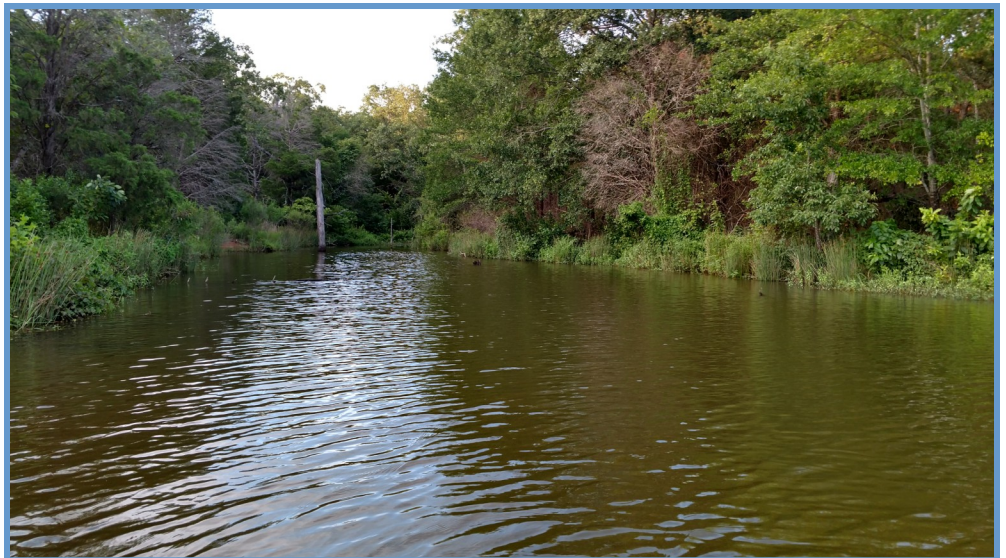
New for 2018: Flies & Fleas Outing - Cont.



(Continued from page 4)

ter access. Steve and Virginia are going over early in the week to get a good water spot that can act as a base for your boats/kayaks so it won't be necessary to launch and take out every time.

Mark your calendar today, make your reservation, and plan to have a great time!



Don't Be a One Trick Pony

by Marty Shaffner

Are You a 'One Trick Pony' Fly Angler? Here's Why You May Not Be Catching as Many Fish as You Could. Varying your technique and presentation to match the fishing conditions at hand is key to consistently catching fish.

The dictionary defines the phrase, "One trick pony" as "a person or thing with only one special feature, talent, or area of expertise." I see fly anglers all the time who are one trick ponies - for



Anglers should utilize all the flies in their box from terrestrials and streamers to midges and dry flies.

example, only fishing with dry flies or dry and dropper rigs no matter what the stream conditions are. Even guys who nymph fish can get caught up in only euro nymphing or only indicator nymphing.

"The Tellico Nymph Syn-

drome"

This is a story I commonly tell during my fly fishing presentations.

I was working at a fly shop and a gentleman came in and asked the age-old question, "What are they biting on?" I told him they were taking small pheasant tail nymphs size 20 or 22 fished behind an attractor nymph. He said, "Let me see one of those."

He studied the fly and said, "I don't really like the looks of those, what else are they taking?" I told him there was a decent little yellow stonefly bite in the late evening when they came back to lay their

(Continued on page 7)

Don't Be a One Trick Pony - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

eggs and fish were taking #16 or #18 yellow sally dry flies.

After looking at one of those he said he didn't care much for those either. He informed me that he probably caught 90% of his fish on a Tellico nymph. I looked at him and said, "I bet you fish it almost 100% of the time, don't you?" He pondered a few seconds and said, "I guess I do." And you know what he did? He bought 6 more Tellico nymphs and went on his way.

Anglers like to fish what they have confidence in and I understand this, but if you never try anything different it's impossible to gain confidence in different techniques.

Base your fly presentation on

water conditions

Low clear water usually requires smaller realistic flies, lighter tippet, and fishing techniques that allow delicate presentations, whereas higher and possibly stained water usually calls for larger darker or brighter flies, more weight, and anglers can get by

That being said, there have been plenty of times when I've seen anglers fishing large nymph rigs with big indicators that plop down on the surface when the water is low and clear, and fishing dry and dropper rigs when the water is high and murky. These anglers are certainly limiting their success by not matching their presentation to wa-



Low clear water calls for different techniques than normal or high water conditions.

with heavier tippet at most time. Notice I used the word "usually" when describing both scenarios. There are no rules in fishing that are chiseled in stone.

ter conditions.

Case in point, Euro nymphing is all the rage nowadays and is ex-

(Continued on page 8)

Don't Be a One Trick Pony - Cont.

(Continued from page 7)

tremely effective under certain water conditions, but just like anything else there are times when another technique would be more productive. Lately I've seen a lot of anglers on the stream who only use the Euro nymphing technique even in low clear slow-moving water or who skip water that is not suitable to this technique. They

an unconventional fishing approach

I know a guy who was fishing a large hole on the Davidson River in North Carolina without success. The hole was full of fish that are subjected to an extreme amount of fishing pressure and have PhDs on how to avoid being caught. His son asked if he could try a pink woolly bugger about a size 4. The guy responded, "Sure, what the heck,

ceeded to catch three trout in as many casts before the trout caught on. His father while fishing like he was "supposed" to with small midge pupae and light tippet caught zero.

The point of this story is sometimes fish become conditioned to the same presentations with the same flies even when it seems like it is the "correct" way to fish in the given situation. Sometimes all it



are confining their possibilities of success to only a portion of the stream or river.

Don't be afraid of taking

nothing to lose."

Now this fly broke all the rules. A big bright attractor pattern fished under low clear water conditions to highly pressured fish. His son pro-

takes is something out of the ordinary to produce.

One time a client of mine invited me on a fishing trip with him to fish

(Continued on page 9)

Don't Be a One Trick Pony - Cont.

(Continued from page 8)

the overcast skies and rising water we encountered was euro a streamer could be the ticket. I nymphing, doing what they were



Nice rainbow trout caught on a streamer when most folks were nymph fishing

a popular trout stream. The first morning we were met with rainy overcast conditions. This stream lends itself to euro nymphing with a lot of fast moving choppy runs. We were both rigged with euro rigs as we stepped into the stream as the rain came down.

After half an hour of unproductive fishing I begin to think that with

tied on a streamer and swung it across the stream and as it restarted end of the swing I stripped it once and was met with a hard hit but missed the trout. Two casts later I was hard into a nice trout. We proceeded to catch trout on streamers all day.

The rain kept most anglers off the stream that day but everybody

supposed to be, but without much success.

Putting it all together

To be successful under all conditions, fly anglers should become proficient with numerous techniques without being married to any of them. Different types of water and

(Continued on page 10)

Don't Be a One Trick Pony - Cont.

(Continued from page 9)

different water conditions require different techniques and tactics to be consistently successful. Euro nymphing, indicator nymphing, dry and dropper rig, swinging streamers, stripping streamers, and even drifting streamers are all techniques anglers should have in their

quiver to pull out when conditions call for them.

We've all been guilty, myself included, of sticking to a favorite technique or fly for too long when it's not producing. Usually because we like fishing that way or have had success in the past with a particular fly or lure. There is an old saying that, "the definition

of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results."

So if how you are fishing on a particular day is not producing, try a different fly or technique until you become successful. Don't be a one trick pony, that would be insanity!



About Marty Shaffner:

Marty Shaffner is a guide with Tri-State Angler Guide Service, fly tyer, freelance outdoor writer, and avid outdoorsman. He has been guiding for 15 years in northwestern North Carolina and southwestern Virginia for smallmouth bass and trout. on the New and James rivers for smallies, the Watauga and South Holston rivers in TN, the Tuckaseegee and Nantahala rivers in NC, and numerous small streams in NC, VA, and TN for trout. He is a lifelong angler who has been fishing for almost 50 years.



Help Wanted

I am in my fourth year of publishing *The Fly Line*. Wait! Keep reading. I'm not looking for a replacement editor. (Not yet anyhow!) Over those three plus years, I have received only a handful of submissions from club members. It takes a lot of work to contact authors of interesting article that I find to get permission to re-publish them. Much of my work can be cut down by submissions from club members. I know that ya'll have interesting stories to tell. Heck, I hear them all the time. Send me your thoughts on paper and I will do the hard work. I will add pictures if necessary, edit for space requirements, spelling, punctuation, grammar and anything else. No shame here! Just send me your tales. I know the most interesting stories for our members come from our area and our members. Send submissions to nlffclub@gmail.com or hand them to me at any club function.

**Submissions
Wanted!**

Steve Oliver, Editor

2018 Kayak Raffle**North Louisiana Fly Fishers****PRESENTS:****2018 KAYAK RAFFLE
ASCEND 10T****Drawing Will be at the
April 2018 NLFF Meeting****Need Not be Present to Win****Tickets****\$15 Each****Or****3 For \$30**

Ascend® welcomes you to the all-new 10T sit-on-top fishing kayak. Its unique tunnel hull design creates impressive maneuverability and a stable platform for standing or fishing. On-deck, the Ascend 10T Sit-On-Top Kayak sports an open design optimized for accessory customization and unique storage opportunities. The suspended seating system presents the ultimate in all-day comfort, thanks to a removable design that lets you use it on the water or onshore. Integrated weather-tight storage provides reliable gear containment, while quick-connect D-ring bow and stern attachments and 3 rails accept virtually all aftermarket rail-mounted accessories. Adjustable foot braces, dual flush-mounted rod holder with rod leash eyelets (leash sold separately), 6 scupper drains with plugs, and bow and stern carrying handles complete this kayak as the best option for adventurers and anglers seeking performance and versatility. Size: 10' X 31" X 12" (L x W x H). Approximate weight: 67 lbs. Max. Weight Capacity: 325 lbs. Made in USA.

\$549.99 Value

NLFF Calendar

Apr 10th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Casting lessons during our social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm. A ranger from the RRNWR will be giving a presentation.

Apr 19th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Brett Rowell will be tying a grasshopper pattern.

Apr 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.

May 5th: "Flies and Fleas". This is a new outing for our club. Hopefully it will turn into an annual event like the "Frozen Chozen". Details in April's newsletter and at the April meeting.

May 8th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Casting lessons during our social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm and presentation will begin at 7:00pm. Art Seale will give a presentation on fishing the Red River.

May 17th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Steve Oliver will be tying Todd's Wiggle Minnow but this time with a new twist.

May 22th: 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 12th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Casting lessons during our social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm. A ranger from the RRNWR will be giving a presentation.

Jun 21st: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Brett Rowell will be tying a grasshopper pattern.

Jun 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

Apr 14th: "KFF Fly Fish 101". Held at the LDWF Booker-Fowler Hatchery in Woodworth, LA. from 8:30am - 12:30pm on Saturday April 14th. Admission is free, however seating is limited so pre-registration is required. This is a hands-on event covering the basics of fly fishing and includes an overview of fly fishing, tackle and terminology, knots and leaders, and fly casting. Go to www.kisatchiefly.org for more details.

May 4th - 6th: NLFF "Flies & Fleas" Weekend. Purvis Creek State Park near Canton, TX. Great kayak fishing lake. Camp at the park or stay at the hotels around the area. A weekend of fishing (flies) at the state park and shopping at Canton's First Monday Trade Days (fleas) on your own schedule. The NLFF is hosting a hamburger and hotdog cookout at the park pavilion, Saturday the 5th at 7pm. Drinks provided. Bring a side dish and/or dessert and tales of your fishing or shopping conquests. Details on page 4 of this issue.

May 3rd - 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. 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). For more info, go to <http://www.bassonthefly.org>

May 18th - 19th: "Red Stick Fly Fishers - Spring Catch & Eat". Annual marsh fishing trip Friday-Saturday, May 18-19, 2018 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 FFI (formerly 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!