

The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

August 2018

Volume 4, Issue 8



North Louisiana Fly Fishers
Established in 1984

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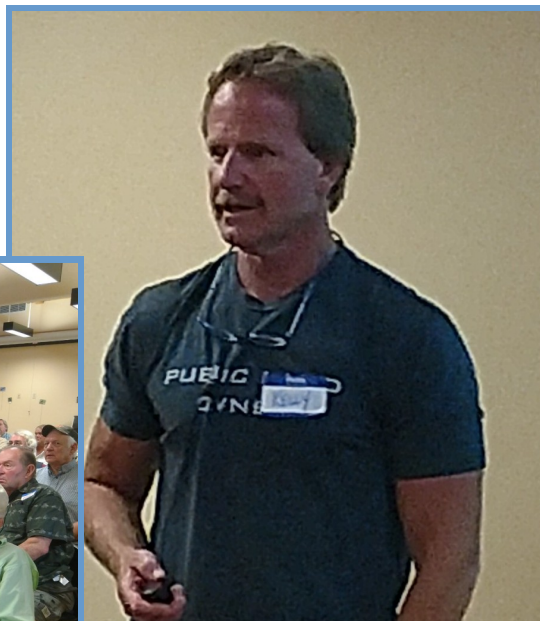
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A Busy Past Two Weeks

The past two weeks have been busy for some of our members. First, we had another very successful Masters Series and second, a Popper Class for the ten lucky folks that signed up.



The Masters Series this year featured fly fishing Living Legend Kelly Galloup and was said by many to be on of the best presenters that the Masters Series has had. Attendance was great with some new faces this year.

Ron Braud drove up from Baton Rouge to put on a popper class that

showcased the stipple painting method. These panfish flies look very impressive



and after some practice were surprisingly easy to craft. Of course, it will take much practice to rise to Ron's level!



6th Annual NLFF Masters Series



The 6th Annual Masters Series was a tremendous success! In fact, I had several attendees say that Kelly Galloup was one of the best speakers that the Masters Series has had. He was informative and entertaining, showing why he has earned the Living Legend award in the sport of fly fishing.

If you missed the Masters Series this year, you really missed a great time. And here is your chance to have some input on next year's speaker. Send your suggestions for a speaker to nlffclub@gmail.com. We have already received some great responses. Thank you to all who have sent in requests. These will be given to the Masters Series committee and added to our discussion for next year's speaker. As soon as we get a confirmation, we will make a public announcement.



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How to Setup the Ultimate Fly Tying Den

by Bart Lombardo



Having a dedicated fly tying space is critical for taking your tying skills to the next level. If you always have to set up and break down your fly tying area you are apt to tie less often. Setting up and breaking down will soon become an unpleasant chore. If there is any negativity associated with your tying sessions you will tie flies less often, guaranteed. Also, time setting up and cleaning up is time taken away from tying flies.

Tie more flies and become a better fly tyer

The key to getting better at anything is repetition. It's simple, the more you tie flies, the better fly tyer you will become. Having a dedicated tying space with your

tools and materials at the ready will allow you to tie flies more often.

Your tying space should permit you to store your tools and materials so you can access them quickly and easily. You will no longer have to dig out that shoe box containing your vise and fly tying tools. Tool holders let you store your fly tying tools safely yet keep

them accessible. Your vise, sitting there at the ready, will beckon you to sit down and tie every time you pass it.

Being able to store and organize your fly tying materials will make life easier as well. Time spent digging through boxes, bags and bins can now be spent at the vise when all of your stuff is organized and accessible.

Good lighting is key

Once you have somewhere to tie, it is critical to have a well-lit workspace. Give careful consideration to lighting; access to natural sunlight is a bonus, but failing that an artificial light source will do the trick. Daylight spectrum lightbulbs



Tying up some *Double Barrel* poppers. (Continued on page 4)

How to Setup the Ultimate Fly Tying Den - Cont.

will show colors as they would appear outdoors.

Before I set up a permanent space I was tying flies at the kitchen table and proper lighting was always an issue. I used a portable desk lamp, but it didn't quite provide enough light for fly tying. I have noticed as the years pass the need for well-lit workspace has become more and more critical for my aging eyes. I now have several light sources on my tying bench.

In addition to excellent lighting, a clean background to tie against is helpful. A profile plate attached to you vise works well but a piece of light-colored cardboard propped up behind your vise works as well.

Give yourself room for expansion

A small, sturdy table will work, a desk with some storage is even better. Give yourself more room than you think you need, you will fill it up quick. When I moved into my first desk, the drawers of the desk swallowed up my meager supplies with plenty of room to share. Unfortunately, that did not last long. The problem with having a dedicated tying space meant I did more fly tying. Tie flies more often, and you will need more materials. Buy more materials, and you will need somewhere to store them. Do you see where this is going?

As the years passed all of the desk's drawers were overflowing and plastic bins of materials started showing up in the corners of the room. Something had to be done to clean up the clutter. My

search for a solution resulted in my buying a massive roll-top desk, with plenty of drawers, nooks, and crannies to put my stuff. This solution worked for a while. In time, the tie more/buy more/store more dilemma caught up with me. The desk drawers were overflowing, the nooks and crannies became filled, and the roll top stopped rolling because there was too much on top of the desk. A new desk needed to be purchased. This time it was a beautiful, custom, purpose-built fly tying desk with cedar-lined drawers, hidden compartments, it's own power and lighting systems and a ton of storage room.

This new desk swallowed up all of my materials and all was right with the world, for a while. Fast forward nine years later and you guessed it. The tie more/buy more/store more syndrome has once again reared its ugly head. The plastic bins and boxes have reappeared. I don't know if I will ever have enough room for this hobby of mine.

Happy spouse, happy house

Having a dedicated tying space will also keep peace in the household if you share it with someone else. This could be the single most important benefit of having a dedicated tying space!



(Continued on page 5)

How to Setup the Ultimate Fly Tying Den - Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

When I first started fly tying, my material collection was small and fit into a few boxes. I would set up on the kitchen or dining room table and have at it. When I was done it often looked like a small bird or mammal blew up on the table. Try as I might, I could not contain my mess to the table. Inevitably debris, including hooks, would end up on the floor only to be tracked elsewhere into the house. The quickest way to find a hook on the floor is to walk around barefoot!

Living alone it was not a big deal, I could always eat standing at the kitchen counter, and a little rabbit fur in your dinner never hurt anyone. Once I found true love, married, and starting sharing a home, it was a different story. It was not long before the boss put



her foot down and demanded I remove my “dead animals” from anywhere food is consumed. The kitchen and dining room table were strictly off limits. Fortunately, there

was an extra bedroom in the house for me and my “dead animals.”

Find a place to set up a fly tying area of your own. You will become a better fly tyer if you do!



About Bart Lombardo:

Bart, the creator of Panfish On The Fly, has been fly fishing and fly tying for over thirty years and writing about it for almost as long. Although he is known to fish for trout and salmon all over the country, his true passion is chasing bluegill and other panfish with a fly rod. He is a member of the Flymen Fly Tyer program as well as a featured fly fishing and fly tying instructor for Orvis and LL Bean. Follow him on Instagram [@panfish_on_the_fly](https://www.instagram.com/panfish_on_the_fly).



NLFF 2018 Banquet is Right Around the Corner

By Vicki Thibodeaux
Banquet Chairperson

Please plan on supporting our club by attending and inviting as many guests as you can to our annual banquet. Every member's help is needed in contributing new or slightly used items for raffle prizes as well as collecting donations from businesses (who will be acknowledged at the banquet).

Raffle items can be brought to the August chapter meeting and given to Gene or Vicki Thibodeaux and/or to the banquet beginning at 5:00 p.m. The committee has some fun interactive activities and other surprises planned with opportunities to win special prizes but . . . **you have to be there!** Additionally, this year's silent auction items will be available for everyone to have fun bidding against each

other. We also want you to attend to recognize and thank our leaders for their service. We can make this a great event - TOGETHER!

Editor's Note - Below is some pictures of one of the fantastic items available at this year's banquet, a 7 foot, 4/5 weight TFO Bug Launcher Kit complete with rod, reel, backing, line, tippet, matching candy apple red sleeve and a hard case.



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 articles 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 Banquet

SAVE THE DATE!

NLFF ANNUAL BANQUET
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018
6:00 PM

SHANE'S SEAFOOD & BARBECUE
9176 MANSFIELD ROAD
SHREVEPORT, LA

INVITE FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR A FUN-FILLED EVENING!

ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL!



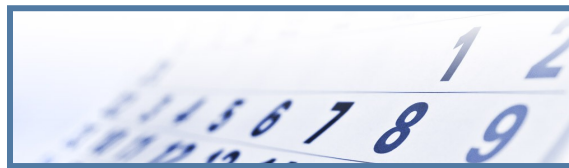
GET LUCKY WITH RAFFLE PRIZES!



AND TAKE HOME SOME REALLY COOL STUFF!



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE, CONTACT
GENE THIBODEAUX, BANQUET CHAIR
337-254-8195

NLFF Calendar

Aug 14th: 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. Vicki and Gene Thibodeaux will give a presentation on their visit to Mountain View, AR including fly fishing and other things to do when in the area.

Aug 16th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm. Tom Bullock will be tying.

Aug 21st: 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 11th: NLFF 2018 Banquet. Shane's Seafood and BBQ on Mansfield Rd in Shreveport. Dinner at 6:00pm, fundraising raffles to start at 6:45pm. Bring the family and friends.

Sep 20th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm.

Sep 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.

Oct 9th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Rush Clay will conduct a presentation on Lake Tenkiller in Oklahoma. Casting lessons during our social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm and presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

Oct 18th: Fly Tying Workshop. White River Fly Shop in Bass Pro Shop in Bossier City, LA., 6:00-7:30pm.

Oct 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.

Nov 13th: NLFF Monthly Meeting. Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Rush Clay will conduct a presentation on Lake Tenkiller in Oklahoma. Casting lessons during our social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm and presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

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



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

Upcoming Events

Aug 24th - 25th: Ride the Bull 9. Extreme Kayak Fishing Challenge. World's largest kayak fishing tournament! Friday - Saturday, August 24-25, 2018. Bridgeside Marina, Grand Isle, LA. Presented by Calmwater Charters and CCA. Friday - Captains Dinner and Calmwater Film Festival, starts 7pm. Saturday - Tournament and Awards. For rules and info, go to www.calmwatercharters.net/ridethebull/index

Sep 22nd: 10th annual Rio Grande Fly Fishing Rodeo sponsored by the New Orleans Fly Fishers Club. Saturday, September 22, 2018. New Orleans City Park 7:30am - 12:00 noon. \$10 entry fee, proceeds go to a local charity. For any questions or to register please call or e-mail A.J. Rosenbohm, NOFF Events Coordinator, 504-952-1340 or nolafllyguy@att.net

Oct 5th - 6th: 2018 FFI Southern Fly Fishing Fair. Sponsored by the Southern Council, Fly Fishers International (FFI) Friday-Saturday, October 5-6, 2018, Vada Sheid Convention Center, Arkansas State University campus, Mountain Home, AR. Registration available online or by mail. For details, go to www.ifffsoc.org.

Nov 2nd - 4th: North Toledo Bend Rendezvous. North Toledo Bend State Park, Zwolle, LA. Friday - Sunday, November 2-4, 2018. Sponsored by the Gulf Coast and Texas Councils of Fly Fishers International (FFI). An annual gathering of members of fly fishing clubs from Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi and beyond. No planned activities but plenty of fly tying, food, fly casting, fishing. Fee includes lodging and meals. Check out the Rendezvous webpage for more details: <http://pages.suddenlink.net/w/Rendez/indexR.html>



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

First FFI (formerly IFFF) Affiliated Club in Louisiana

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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!