

# The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

October 2018 Volume 4, Issue 10



North Louisiana Fly Fishers  
Established in 1984

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## October Thoughts

Here we are in the last quarter of 2018 already! Pretty soon I'm going to be scratching out where I wrote 2018 and writing 2019. Happens every year.

Well this being the 4th quarter, the major holidays are just around the corner - Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Most of you will be more busy than at any other time of the year. It reflects in the calendar of events too. Not very much fly fishing activities this time of year. But there are a few. The North Toledo Bend Rendezvous being the most prevalent. See information inside this issue.

While family definitely comes first during the upcoming holidays, make sure

you make time to get in some rod time. This time of year starts the beginning of a new trout season so to speak. Trout will start being stocked soon in the Arkansas



ivers. And as soon as the weather turns chilly, some local public ponds in Texas will be stocked as well.

Don't forget the warm water species as well. Bass, Perch and Bream will become very active again when the summer "hot" water returns to temperatures more suitable to fish beginning to feed in preparation for the winter months ahead.

Get the children involved in fishing with you. What a marvelous way to spend family time! Not to mention that the kids are the future of our sport. Get them started early and they will most likely get hooked (pun intended) on a lifetime of fun instead of getting into trouble.

So as family time comes around this time of year, don't give up fishing. Combine the two! You will have loads of fun and the memories that you make will stay with you always!



## NLFF to Participate in Area Fall Event

By Vicki Thibodeaux

Mark your calendar! The North Louisiana Fly Fishers will participate in a local event this fall that will provide education and participation in a variety of outdoor activities. The Red River National Wildlife Refuge (where we have our club meetings) on Arthur Ray Teague Parkway in Bossier City, LA will host the Fall Wildlife Celebration. This event takes place on Saturday, October 20 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. We hope you'll attend and bring the family! If you're interested and have the time to volunteer to work our booth, please make arrangements with one of our board members. It's very fun and rewarding to teach others how to cast and tie flies as well as provide information about fly fishing and our club. Hope to see you there!



### 2018 NLFF Executive Board

President	Chris Pierce	318-347-0494	cpierce213@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Tom Bullock	318-393-7729	twbullock@aol.com
Secretary	TBD		
Conservation Director	Chris Pierce	318-469-0854	cpierce213@hotmail.com
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Membership Director	Steve Oliver	318-470-2646	nlffclub@gmail.com
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Programs Director	Scott Irwin	318-469-0854	scottpeggy2004@gmail.com
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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	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



## Rendezvous - A Brief History

The first recorded “rendezvous” was held in France during the 1590’s. It was defined as a gathering of the troops. This was reported to be a social event, not a military event. No specific plans, just a social gathering of the troops, hence the French influence in the name.

### Upper Green River Rendezvous

Fast forward two hundred years to the late 1700’s to 1824. In what is now the northwest part of Wyoming are the head waters of three great rivers of the west - the Snake, Green and Yellowstone Rivers. This was some of the prime beaver habitat in the world and was the home of the Mountain Men Trappers of the West. Some beaver trade with the Indians occurred in the late 1700’s and early 1800’s, but the knowledge of the vast number of beavers in the area



was not known until after the return of the Lewis & Clark expedition to the Pacific Northwest and back ending in 1806.

Stories of beaver flooding the rivers like mice caused trappers to flood to the area in search of the valuable pelts.

The Beaver fur produced the finest felt in the world for many items such as men’s hats. Pelts had to be delivered to fur traders in St. Louis where they were sold or traded for supplies for

the coming year. This was a very long and dangerous trip from and back to the trapping area. Robberies and murders were common occurrences along the trail. The routes used for trade were up the Big-horn, Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers following much of the route that Lewis & Clark took.

In early 1824, the fur traders, William Henry Ashley and Andrew Henry, were shown the South Pass in southern Wyoming by the Crow Indians. This pass gave direct access to the Mountain Men Trappers. In 1824, Ashley wagon trained supplies to the trapping area and agreed to “rendezvous” on Green

*(Continued on page 4)*



## Rendezvous - A Brief History - Cont.



River on or before July 1, 1825. The purpose of the Rendezvous was to deliver supplies, trade for pelts, and socialize. This was the first of 17 Green River Rendezvous, most east of Pinedale, WY from 1825 to 1840 although there was a private Rendezvous in 1843.

The tradition of the mountain "Rendezvous" was started by Ashley and the men in his company in 1825. This first rendezvous was simply a designated location to exchange pelts for supplies and reorganize trapping units following the disastrous attempts to get men and supplies upriver past the Arrikara villages in 1823-1824. To his surprise, Ashley discovered that the trappers greatly preferred this ar-

rangement to the previous practice of returning to St. Louis and "civilization" annually or biannually for re-supply. The idea of rendezvous was not entirely new, but Ashley's use of the concept to revolutionize the mountain fur trade was.

Ashley seized on this to become the only supplier of trade goods to the mountain rendezvous. The system was so profitable for Ashley that he was able to retire from the mountains in 1826 and from the fur trade entirely in 1830. He went on to become a Representative to the U.S. Congress from the State of Missouri.

Eventually, supply and demand took over and markups on mer-

chandise traded at rendezvous ranged from 600% to as high as 1500% over prices available in St. Louis. After a while, pricing became so intolerable that some Free Trappers (trappers not associated with a company) sent a delegation down to St. Louis to implore a rival outfit to come to the mountains. "Mountain prices" became synonymous with being cheated.

These gatherings were not limited to company trappers, but also attracted free trappers, Indians, French Canadians, trapper/traders out of Santa Fe and Taos, native wives and children of the trappers, travelers bound for Oregon, and in

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## Rendezvous - A Brief History - Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

the later years tourists and sightseers from as far away as Europe would journey out to the mountains just to observe the spectacle.

And what a spectacle it was! Alcohol was not one of the items included in the supplies at the first rendezvous. This oversight would be corrected and generous supplies of rum and/or whiskey were present at all subsequent rendezvous. After the first gathering - no doubt because of the alcohol - the tradition of the rendezvous swiftly evolved into a wilderness party lasting any where from a couple of weeks to eight weeks or more. Although the business of exchanging furs for supplies was generally concluded within a couple of days, the participants would start gathering several weeks prior to the arrival of the pack train, and festivities might continue for several weeks after the pack train loaded with furs and skins had departed for St. Louis.

### North Toledo Bend Rendezvous

Fast forward another two hundred years to 1988. A group of fly tiers from Texas and Louisiana agreed to "rendezvous" at North Toledo Bend State Park for three days of socializing, renewing old

friendships, eating food from the coast to the plains, tying flies, trading flies and exchanging information on how to tie specific favorite flies. Hence, the North Toledo Bend Rendezvous was born. This is very much in the tradition of the Rendez-

vous, November 4th, 2018.

There are no programs or events. Just set up and tie with your friends. Tie as much or as little as you like. You can help in the kitchen, practice casting with in-



vous of the Mountain Men Trappers of the old west. Many of the best fly tiers in the nation gather on the banks of Toledo Bend Reservoir for this annual event.

For 30 years fly tyers and their families from across Texas, Louisiana and the deep South have been gathering each fall on the shores of Toledo Bend to tie flies and talk fishing, while enjoying good cooking and marvelous company. This year's date is Friday afternoon, November 2nd thru Sunday

Monday, November 4th, 2018. Just set up and tie with your friends. Tie as much or as little as you like. You can help in the kitchen, practice casting with in-

An example of Rendezvous activities: A couple years ago a tier was demonstrating tying small flies. Fred Hannie, one of the best realistic fly tiers in the USA, asked to buy a size 18 dry fly hook. The owner told Fred he would sell the hook, but hooks are much more ex-

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## Rendezvous - A Brief History - Cont.



pensive on the river than at the fly shop - "River Prices" rather than "Mountain Prices." Fred said he understood, but the price would probably be reasonable to avoid driving to a fly shop in Shreveport or Lake Charles. The deal was made. Fred took the hook and returned to his vise. A group circled his vise, watching Fred work his magic. Later Fred came back to the owner of the small hooks and re-

ported that he wanted to return the hook. It was a perfectly tied Carpenter Ant. Those who know Fred Hannie can imagine the detail of the fly. This is the North Toledo Bend Rendezvous.

Many folks have been coming for years and years, while each year new attendees walk through the doors, many of whom are beginners. There is no better venue in the

country to learn to tie. from a host of excellent master tyers, nor is there an event that welcomes newcomers more.

Rendezvous has a capacity of 150 people in 5 heated log bunkhouses (30 beds each), a heated central shower and restroom building with nice night lighting on all the sidewalks and a large main log building with A/C, a commercial kitchen, dining hall, large fireplace, a long front porch, picnic tables and a large barbecue trailer out front.

The event starts at 3:00pm on Friday, Nov. 2nd and goes until 11:00am on Sunday, Nov. 4th. Cost is \$30 per individual/family for one day or \$55 per individual/family the entire weekend. More details may be found at <http://flycasting.bravesites.com>. This is the largest, pure fly tying event east of the Rockies. We hope to see everyone continue to come out and support this 30 year old event.



(Editor's Note: Tom Bullock wrote most of this article. Additional details were added by Steve Oliver)



## NLFF Bylaws Revision

At the last NLFF board meeting, we decided on some changes to the current NLFF Bylaws. We needed to make some housekeeping changes (changing International Federation of Fly Fishers and IFFF to Fly Fishers International and FFI to account for their name change) throughout the document. Since the Bylaws needed to be ratified for these changes, this is the right opportunity to make a few needed enhancements. The IFFF to FFI changes are not shown but are available for viewing in the entire document at our October meeting. Both the current and proposed NLFF Bylaws will be available for inspection/comparison at that time. We wish to hear from you in reference to the suggested changes. Your presence at the October meeting is your opportunity to contest or accept these changes and/or suggest new ones. The needed changes are in Article 3 - Board of Directors and are listed below:

- 1) Changed all Board of Director terms to two (2) years instead of one (1) year;
- 2) Expanded the number of Board members to a maximum of seven (7) instead of five (5);
- 3) Added the position of Vice President;
- 4) Removed the appropriate duties from the Treasurer and bestowed them to the new position of Vice President;
- 5) Outlined additional and specific money handling guidelines;
- 6) Changed the nomination/election process to account for the new office of Vice President;
- 7) Clarified the language that the President and Treasurer, as the only true officers, must be members in good standing of the NLFF and FFI. Members-at-large need only be members in good standing of the NLFF; and
- 8) In case of a Board position vacancy, outlined revised procedures to replace the vacated position to account for the new Vice President position.

### ARTICLE 3 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. **Board of Directors** – The Board of Directors shall be comprised of club members who devote themselves to foster and perpetuate the sport of fly fishing and preserve the heritage from which we derive the pleasure of such. The Board of Directors shall include the President, the Treasurer, and the Members-at-large.

a. **President** – The term consists of two (2) years and the individual may succeed him/herself if re-elected. This position requires that the member must have served at least one term on the Board of Directors.

b. **Treasurer** – The term consists of two (2) years, and the individual may succeed him/herself if re-elected.

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c. **Board** – The board is comprised of at least three (3) but no more than **seven (7)** Members-at-large and the term consists of **two (2)** years each. Any individual may succeed him/herself if re-elected.

i. **Vice President** – This position is elected by the incoming Board-elect of the NLFF from the members of the Board-elect. For all purposes, this position is considered to be a Member-at-large and not an officer of the club. The term consists of two (2) years, and the individual may succeed him/herself if re-elected. This position requires that the member must have served at least one term on the Board of Directors.

ii. **Secretary** – This position is elected by the incoming Board-elect of the NLFF from the members of the Board-elect. For all purposes, this position is considered to be a Member-at-large and not an officer of the club. The term consists of **two (2)** years, and the individual may succeed him/herself if re-elected.

B. **Responsibilities** – The Board of Directors should prepare an agenda for each Regular Club Meeting in order to ensure that said meetings begin and end in a timely fashion and that all club business has been discussed. Individual responsibilities of the Board of Directors are as follows:

a. **President** – This individual is requested to actively seek a progressive and positive direction for the Club and its members and provide opportunities for education through programs and activities. The President should:

i. Listen and respond to recommendations of fellow Officers, Board Members and Club Members regarding functions, programs, activities, etc.;

ii. Assist in recruiting new club members or others to conduct programs and/or assist with same;

iii. Prepare an agenda at least three (3) days prior to a committee meeting and e-mail the agenda to the committee members. The agenda should list the items of discussion and request any additional subject matter as suggested by the committee members for inclusion in an amended agenda.

iv. Attend at least nine (9) Regular Meetings and at least nine (9) Board of Directors Meetings; and

v. **Notify the Vice President at the earliest known date of an impending absence of the President and discuss the agenda for the upcoming committee meeting or club meeting.**

b. **Treasurer** – This individual will handle all Club funds. The Treasurer should:

i. Maintain a perpetual ledger containing all club financial transactions with receipts on file for all club expenditures until the next successful bank reconciliation;

ii. Give a brief accounting of money on hand and Club expenditures during the previous month at each Board of Directors meeting;

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- iii. Provide an end of year financial statement, which shall be provided at the end of each calendar year;
- iv. Attend at least nine (9) Regular Meetings and nine (9) Board of Directors Meetings;
- v. Notify the President at the earliest known date of an impending absence and relay financial information to the President for reporting at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting;
- vi. Handle ordering, receiving and disbursing of materials and supplies for the NLFF; and
- vii. Be responsible for the counting or overseeing the counting of all cash funds and the tabulation of any check funds received at any event in the presence of at least two (2) members of the Board of Directors. The tabulated records must be signed by the two (2) counting members. These funds will be delivered to the Treasurer for deposit as soon as possible into the NLFF's bank account after being recorded in the club's financial ledger. Credit card receipts will be reported to the Treasurer as soon as possible. However, the end of the month Bank Statement will be used to confirm credit card receipts and for the entry of credit card receipts into the club's financial ledger.

c. **Secretary** – This individual will assist the President in whatever capacity that the President and/or the Board of Directors deems necessary. The Secretary should:

- i. Take and record the minutes of each Regular and Board of Directors Meetings;
- ii. Present the minutes from the previous month's meetings to the club for ratification and entering into the permanent record of the club; and
- iii. Attend at least nine (9) Regular Meetings and nine (9) Board of Directors Meetings. For any meeting that the Secretary cannot attend, the President shall appoint an individual from the current slate of board members in attendance to take and record minutes for that meeting only.

d. **Board** – These members are requested to supply ideas and thoughts on the content of, along with the planning and execution of, Regular Meetings of the Club, programs and activities. Each Board Member should:

- i. Attend at least nine (9) Regular Meetings and nine (9) Board of Directors Meetings.
- ii. Conduct at least one (1) Regular Meeting to lend experience to the Board of Directors.

C. **Nomination of Board of Directors** – Nominations for President, Treasurer and the Members-at-large, with the exception of Secretary (see Article 3, Paragraph A, Sub-paragraph c, Section ii) and Vice President (see Article 3, Paragraph A, Sub-paragraph c,

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Section i), shall be made no later than the date of the Board of Directors Meeting before the November Regular Meeting. Nominations are to be made to the Nominating Committee, which shall be comprised of NLFF member(s). The responsibilities of the Nominating Committee shall be to accept Officer and Members-at-large nominations, and at close of nominations present those nominees to the membership through the Website and/or the Newsletter. The Nominating Committee will also prepare and distribute ballots at the November Regular Meeting and collect, count and present the official results.

**D. Eligibility of Nominees** – The Board of Directors is charged with determining the eligibility of each officer and board member nomination. Each nominee must:

- a. Subscribe to the NLFF Charge and Bylaws;
- b. Be a member in good standing of the NLFF. Additionally, the nominees for President and Treasurer must be a member in good standing of the FFI,
- c. Must have attended at least six (6) Regular Meetings during the current year.
- d. Not be an officer or board member of another fly fishing club (GCC and IFFF board members are exempt from this requirement);
- e. Not be engaged in any activity for monetary gain from any type of fly fishing activities or related activities; and
- f. Not be engaged in any activity that the Board of Directors would consider to be a conflict of interest and/or not in the best interest of the Club's reputation and/or public image.

**E. Election of Officers** – Elections shall be held during the November Regular Meeting. Installation of the officers will occur at the December Board of Directors Meeting.

**F. Resignation of Board of Directors Members** – Any member may resign their office at any time by giving written notice of resignation to the President or the Board of Directors. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified, or if no time is specified, at the time of receipt.

**G. Replacing a Resigned Member of The Board of Directors** – In the event that a Board of Directors Member is no longer able to serve or otherwise finish their full term, the Board will decide whether to nominate a replacement for that seat. If the vacancy causes the Board of Directors to fall below the minimum number of members, a nomination must be sought immediately by the Board of Directors. If a new nominee is selected, he/she shall be listed in the NLFF newsletter and/or the NLFF website. The membership present at the next Regular Monthly Meeting will ratify the nominated replacement member in good standing to fill the vacant position for the unexpired portion of the remaining term. If the resigned member was the Vice President or Secretary, the Board of Directors will appoint a replacement from the Members-at-large after the nominated replacement, if decided or necessary, has been ratified. The new Vice President or Secretary will then fill the vacant position for the unexpired portion of the remaining term. If the resigned member was the President, the Vice President will immediately fill the vacant position for the unexpired portion of the remaining term.

**H. Limit on Discretionary Spending** – With the exception of recurring, usual, and customary club expenditures, the discretionary spending limit of the Board of Directors shall be limited to \$250 for any single transaction. Discretionary expenditures and any donation in excess of that limit shall require authorization of the General Membership.

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- a. Discretionary expenditure proposals and any donation greater than \$250 shall be presented to the General Membership for their review by way of the best means possible (i.e., NLFF newsletter/NLFF website).
- b. After the review of the General Membership, the discretionary expenditure proposal shall be subjected to a vote at the following calendar General Membership Meeting.



**Coming in Next Months Issue:**

**DIY Installation  
of  
A Raymarine Dragonfly 7 Pro  
Fish Finder  
in  
Jackson Kayak Big Rig**

**NLFF Calendar**

**Oct 9th: NLFF Monthly Meeting.** Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Gordon Shaw will be talking about the differences in fiberglass fly rods. They are making a comeback! 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. Bud Bethea will be teaching a Muddler Minnow.

**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. Brett Rowell will be tying a Caddis Fly in its pupae form.

**Nov 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.

**Dec 11th: NLFF Monthly Meeting.** Red River Wildlife Refuge, 150 Eagle Bend Point, Bossier City, LA. Chris Pierce will be talking about Urban Fly Fishing. Casting lessons during our social gathering at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:45pm and presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

**Dec 20th: Fly Tying Workshop. C A N C E L L E D ! Christmas Holidays!**

**Dec 25th: NLFF Executive Board meeting. C A N C E L L E D ! Christmas Day!**

**Jan 1st: Happy New Year!**

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



Artwork by Dave Whitlock

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



## Upcoming Events

**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>

**Nov 9th - 11th: Red Stick Fall Catch-n-Eat.** Red Stick Fly Fishers annual Fall marsh fishing trip Friday-Saturday, November 9-11, 2018. Friday evening gathering at local restaurant (optional). Saturday evening gathering and fish/shrimp/veggie fry in Golden Meadow, LA. Must be member of RSFF or other fly fishing club to participate. For details, go to [www.rsff.org](http://www.rsff.org)

**Jan 26th - 27th: NLFF Frozen Chozen.** Little Missouri River, AR. Fishing all weekend and a hamburger and hot-dog cookout provided by the NLFF on Saturday. Bring a side and/or dessert. Plan to eat around 12:30pm. Camping and lodging near the dam or in Murfreesboro, AR are available.

**Feb 15th - 17th: "Little Mo' Fly Fishing Festival".** A celebration of trout and fly fishing on the Little Missouri River February 15-17, 2019 Community Center, Murfreesboro, AR. Friday evening gumbo and tying. Saturday: Programs, fly tying, exhibitors, retailers, casting, biologists "State of the River" program, and more. Sunday: on the river casting program. Admission is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. For details, check [www.littlemissouriflyfishing.com/ff-festival.html](http://www.littlemissouriflyfishing.com/ff-festival.html)



### North Louisiana Fly Fishers

First FFI (formerly IFFF) Affiliated Club in Louisiana

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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!