

# The Fly Line

Monthly Newsletter of the North Louisiana Fly Fishers

November 2018 Volume 4, Issue 11



North Louisiana Fly Fishers

Established in 1984

## Inside this Issue:

NLFF Board Members	2
NLFF Board Elections	2
Article - Fish Finder Install on Big Rig Kayak	3
Fly Fishing the Norfolk River in Late October	7
NLFF Calendar	12
Upcoming Events	13
About the NLFF	13

## November Thoughts

Events of the past several months have brought something to the fore-front for me. The NLFF is a fantastic club!

We have a great group of people with one goal in mind - to share our fly fishing experiences and have fun while doing so. One cannot ask any more of a volunteer organization. We know not everyone can step up to volunteer their time, and that is ok. The fact that you participate within your club is greatly appreciated.

However, if you have a little time to spare, I can't think of too many more worthwhile endeavors to promote than the sport of fly fishing. Not sure who said it or the exact wording, but there is a quote that goes something like this:

"Get someone into fly fishing and you just made a conservationist."



Fly fishermen, more than any other type of fishermen, are deeply invested in keeping their lakes, rivers, and streams free of damage and pollution. And that is a worthy case for all.

Other ways to donate your time to help our club is when we have a community project of some sort. One or two

days per year can make a huge difference. Examples of this are helping out at the Red River Refuge when our club is asked to participate in their summer camp for kids or when we partnered with the city of Shreveport and other organizations to clean up C. Bickham Dickson Park and part of it opened to fishermen and kayakers. This park had been closed for a number of years.

And just recently, the North Toledo Bend



Rendezvous was held right in our backyard. We had a good showing from our club with even a few brand new members showing up to their first event. As usual, there was way too much food. I probably gained at least 5 pounds! While it is a fly tying event, you didn't have to tie. Just watching the raw materials morph into their magical creations is reason enough to attend. I also enjoyed talking with many friends and acquaintances that I don't see often enough because of the distance apart. These events are great ways to catch up with old friends and make some new ones.

Bottom line? Be active in your club and have fun. That's what it is all about!



## NLFF Board Elections

Tuesday, November 13th, 2018 is election day. And you thought the election season was finally over a week ago!

The board has assembled a fine slate of candidates and even voted to increase the size of the board from 7 to 9 members. The list of nominees is as follows:

### Officers:

Brett Rowell	President
Tom Bullock	Treasurer

### Members-at-Large:

Bud Bethea	Scott Irwin
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Steve Oliver  
David Whatley

Joe Linder  
Mark Trombetta

The Board would like to thank Chris Pierce for his service and dedication to our club. He has served our club well as President. Chris' situation at work has changed and does not afford him the time to continue to serve as President. However, he assures us that he will remain an active member in the club. That will be good for our club.

Please attend to cast your vote and hear Rush Clay talk about fishing Lake Tenkiller.



## 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
Fly Tying Director			
Membership Director	Steve Oliver	318-470-2646	nlffclub@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Steve Oliver	318-349-6411	nlffclub@gmail.com
Programs Director	Scott Irwin	318-469-0854	scottpeggy2004@gmail.com
Social Media Director	Frank Harmon	318-470-2646	qualey99@mac.com
Safety Director	Judy Thomas	318-560-4888	jw1216@bellsouth.net
Webmaster	Steve Oliver	318-349-6411	nlffclub@gmail.com
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

## GPS/Fish Finder Installation on Jackson Kayak Big Rig

by Steve Oliver

I had been wanting a GPS/Fish Finder for almost as long as I've had my kayak. But wading through

In designing the *Big Rig*, Jackson Kayak designed the scupper holes to fit the transponder of the Drag-

match the casing of the rest of their lineup. These new transponders are electrically different inside, but they changed the design to be able to use the same casing as the rest of its lineup as a cost savings measure.

When Jackson found this out, they contacted Raymarine to explain that they had committed the design of the *Big Rig*'s scupper holes to accommodate the Dragonfly's transponder. In an acknowledgement of Jackson's commitment to the Dragonfly line-up, Raymarine agreed to offer a free original-style transponder to anyone that purchases a Dragonfly model Fish Finder at no charge!

all of the available units, various install options, and price ranges was daunting. I finally decided on a Raymarine Dragonfly 7 Pro.

While there are many reasons that I chose this model, we will only be talking about the install here. You will find many excellent reviews of Raymarine's various models online. And it is the install option for the Raymarine units that I will address as to why (among other reasons) that I chose the Dragonfly 7 Pro.

onfly Series of GPS/Fish Finder. Jackson saw the popularity of these units among kayakers and wanted to make it very easy to install those units. However, almost simultaneously, Raymarine changed the design of the included transponder to

After calling Raymarine, my replacement transponder was on the way and in my hands two days later. Other needed items are the *Big Rig* Transducer Kit, Thru Bulkhead Wire Caps, Elephant Cases battery case, Ram Mount for center rail and a sealed lead acid bat-



(Continued on page 4)



## GPS/Fish Finder Installation - Cont.

tery. Now I am ready to proceed with the install.



I wanted the unit to be visible from the seat or when standing, so I mounted the unit on the Ram Mount to the center rail of the Big Rig.

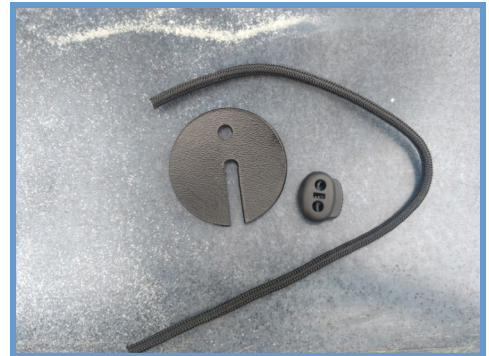


Right behind the mounting location is a large accessible opening to the inside of the kayak. From there, I could "see" the layout to best determine the rest of the install locations.

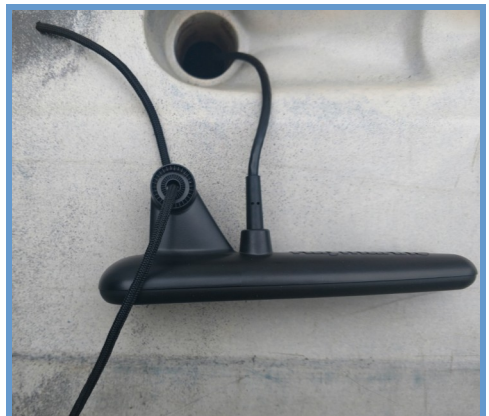


There are two scuppers that were designed for the Dragonfly transducer, one on the left and one on the right and both the most forward holes in the bottom of the kayak. I chose the left side but it doesn't matter as the rest of the install would just be on the opposite side of where it will be for this installation.

Run the transducer cable through the scupper hole from the bottom then remove the swivel mounting



foot from the transducer and insert the cord from the transducer kit through the holes in the transducer.



See above picture and enlargement below. Bring both ends of the



(Continued on page 5)



## GPS/Fish Finder Installation - Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

cord through the scupper hole. While holding one end of the cord, thread the other through the hole (not the slot) in the scupper cover. Next, slide the transducer cable into the slot on the cover then slide the other end of the cord into the slot. Now, feed both ends of the cord through the cord tension clip.



Now pull tight and position the cover into the hole. Make sure the



transducer pulls up flush with the bottom of the scupper hole. Instead



of cutting the cords, I tucked the excess through the slot down into the scupper hole. That way I have enough cord to work with if the transducer ever needs to be readjusted.



As you can see, the scupper used for mounting is just forward of the foot rest and an ideal place to drill a 1" hole to route the transducer cable into the cavity of the kayak. This will keep the cable out from under foot. (Note the unevenness of the drilled hole. I only had a 7/8" drill bit and had to file the rest out!) Now rout the cable through the drilled hole, install the Thru



Bulkhead Wire Cap with the three provided screws and the transducer and cable are done.



The transducer cable and the cable that powers the display is wired into one connector. We need to get that connector from the inside of the kayak to the display unit. I drilled another hole on the side of the console in the center of the *Big Rig* below where the dis-

(Continued on page 6)



## GPS/Fish Finder Installation - Cont.



play mounts. Make sure that your mounting location is toward the back and down enough to avoid the curvature of the kayak enabling your bulkhead cap to mount flat. After pulling the connector through, leave just enough slack to be able to plug into the units con-



nector. After verifying this by plugging the cable in, install the bulkhead cap. This completes installation and the only task that remains is to power everything up.

I chose this particular Elephant Cases battery case based on it's dimensions, it's toughness, it's resistance to water and it's connector features. Two 12 volt 7mAh sealed lead acid batteries fit this case laying on their sides with enough room left for wiring and the included PVC spacer. It all makes for a very snug installation with no room for move-

ment for wires connectors to come loose. It comes with foam inserts that allow you to tailor the case to your battery setup. The setup that I chase - wiring these two batteries in series - allows for around 14-16 hours of continuous use before a charge is needed.

The battery box's connector has four hookups, two sets having their own fused wires. One set, I used to power the unit - the other, can be used for many other circuits.





## GPS/Fish Finder Installation - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)



Cigarette lighter plug, recharge port, marker light, etc. are just a few examples. I'm probably going to wire those up as a charging port so as to not have to remove the battery pack from the kayak well each time. When I wire the plug for my Battery Tender charger, I will bring the wire out of the bulkhead

cap where the transducer cable goes in and leave it hanging just a couple of inches with an SAE connector with a cap on it. The charger will plug directly in and I could use a solar charger if desired.

The battery box resides in the front well and is easily accessible when necessary. The four-pin connector is o-ring sealed and the lid to the battery box has a rubber seal and two strong clamps to keep water out so access to the box should be very minimal, especially with the charging port wired up.

The lower right picture shows the completed install. If you have any questions, Please let me know.

Steve



Oliver





## Fly Fishing the Norfolk River in Late October

By Vicki Thibodeaux

The Norfolk River in late October is unbelievable! Sixty-nine degrees, sunny bright blue skies, a cool breeze, 28 percent humidity, brilliant fall foliage, eagles soaring overhead, and trout galore – it doesn't get any better!

My husband Gene and I decided to explore the Bill Ackerman/River Ridge walk-in area of the Norfolk River off Highway 5, just north of Norfolk, Arkansas. This is very near the confluence of the Norfolk Tailwater and the White River. It's a

beautiful public place with picnic tables and a large nice handicapped accessible pier. I donned my newest pair of waders (after Gene promised they did not make me look fat) and waded into the river with fairly low water,



deeper pools in spots, and a somewhat strong current as one generator was running at the Norfolk Dam that day. We discovered a bar-bless catch-and-release area about 100 yards upstream from the walk-in area that's well marked and it

seemed the most popular place to fish.

We found fishing was pretty good with a scud fly. I caught rainbow trout and Gene caught a cut-throat. We were wading in water from about one foot deep to chest deep in places. There were several other men and women fishing that day but we still had plenty of room to find adequate space. Every once in a while a kayak or canoe would

*(Continued on page 9)*



(Continued from page 8)

pass carrying those lucky enough to get to the places that we couldn't wade.

Relatively new to fly fishing, we discovered an amazing trick by accident. As we slowly shuffled our feet to move around, we instantly attracted about 50 trout around us, surrounding our feet and even bumping into our legs on a feeding frenzy as we churned up the river bed with apparently all kinds of juicy fish snacks. We could catch them easily by dropping our line straight down at our feet. However, since it seemed like cheating, so we went back to the better challenge of the traditional way.

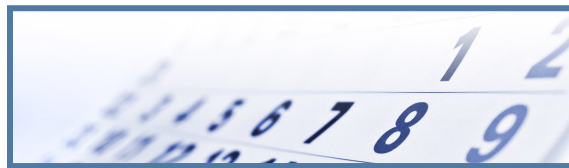


We ended the day with those good kind of tired wading legs, had a picnic, and watched others continue to test their skills. Without a doubt, we'll go back many times and hope you get the chance to enjoy this special place soon too!



#### *Editor's Note:*

*If you enjoy Vicki's articles, please tell her! We want her to continue to submit articles. I would much rather read about the adventures of our members than articles about strangers.*

**NLFF Calendar**

**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 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)

### **Dec**

**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!