

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'

short casts

January 2008

The Presidents Line By Lincoln Gray

Well, we are now in 2008. There are a lot of items to think about and plan for, like upcoming fishing trips (fishouts), Fly Fishing Shows to be attended and of course our annual dinner is coming up on Feb. 29th.

There is great fishing going on all around Northern California during the winter months. The Trinity River, Lower Sacramento and Feather River are fishing quiet well for steelhead and trout, but don't forget about the American River in the Sacramento area. American River boasts some large steelhead. Also, do not forget about stillwater fisheries. Especially Baum Lake! Baum Lake is probably one of the best winter stillwater fisheries in Northern California. The club is having a Baum Lake fishout on January 19th and 20th; this is a must for all anglers and is truly a lot of fun.

There are many fly-fishing shows going on during January and February. ISE shows in both Sacramento and San Mateo and the Fly Fishing Show in Pleasanton.

Our annual dinner is coming up soon and Steve Korbay from Fly Tying Specialties will be our guest speaker this year. He will be speaking on one of the fastest growing techniques in the fly-fishing world, Czech Nymphing. These techniques have won the fly-fishing world championships in Europe for the past 4 or so years and the technique is growing here in the states. Steve is one of the best Czech nymph fishermen in the West. Please check out Steves' article in the winter issue of "Fly Fishing and Tying Journal" Magazine or you can go to his website – www.flytyingspecialties.com.

General Meeting: Wednesday, January 9th at the Seven Day Adventist Church 1877 Hooker Oaks. Fly tying will start at 6:30 p.m. and the general meeting at 7:30 pm

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(Presidents' Line, Continued from Left)

It should be a great dinner, with great prizes and great company. Mark your calendars now. Tickets and Reservations are at all local fly shops, as well as in this newsletter.

I hope that all of you had a great holiday



SECRETARIES SECRETS By Pat Sleeper

Meeting started @ 6:04 P.M. Dec 5th at Don and Pat Sleepers'. Present: Lincoln Gray, Duryl Van Alstyne, Michael Gonzalez, Tom Simmons, Eric See, Larry Willis, Percy Ledbetter, Don and Pat Sleeper and Joe Garza.

Minutes were approved M/S/P Eric & Don.

The V.P. Report from Duryl included a discussion on the pizza feed for Dec. Discussion on a Youth Group fundraiser; Kim and The Lightning Bugs (Youth group) will sell baked goods and tickets at Round Table during the pizza feed.

Fishouts – Don Sleeper – The next fishout will be at Baum Lake January 19th & 20th.

Outreach – Michael Gonzales – Discussion on nonprofit organizations supporting the dinner with volunteers.

Youth Group – Joe Garza – The Youth group is receiving donations of rods and reels... Thank you!

The club will purchase a Youth Fly Casting Handbook for the Youth group, Lightning Bugs.

The club will purchase Kids fly fishing books for "our" library to be checked out.

New Business: Discussion - Sale of books & old gear.

Happy New Year!

Winter Fishing
By
Roger Bevers

What do you do in the winter to find fish? We've all experienced the cold winter temperature drop suddenly on a lake or stream. The fish just seem to disappear and the bite ceases. The reason for this is the fish are cold too and in order for them to function; they need to find a better place to feed. So, they look for warmer water. Aggressively chasing food zaps their energy and even casual feeding can be uncomfortable for them. Slight differences in water temperature can make a big difference, even as little as 1/10th of a degree. So, how do you use this info to find the fish after they have moved? Just get a digital thermometer to take the surface water temp. A standard thermometer is too slow in adjusting for each location you move to, but digital units are near instantaneous. Keep moving on the lake to find that change in temp that will allow the fish to function. Yes, I know you can spend a lot of time looking and checking, but there are a few other factors that can narrow down your search.

Assuming you're on a lake, look for the shallow areas on a sunny day. They will warm faster and often a degree or two over the main body of the lake. Another factor to look for is a muddy bottom. Mud absorbs the sunlight faster and more efficiently than rocky bottoms. Another place to look are gravel or mud bars, especially those with grassy areas that will attract shrimp, snails, crayfish, leeches and other food sources for the fish. The best bars are those that are adjacent to deep water drop-offs.

When you find fish and they are hitting your fly but you're finding it hard to hook them, scale down the size of your offering. Often by going down a size or two you will get stronger more positive hook-ups. If you go lighter on the size of hook you will also need to go lighter on the leader size to avoid leader glare.

Concentrate on the Western banks in the mornings and Eastern banks in the evenings. The light will warm the water faster. If the banks are overhung with trees and bushes, the bottom won't get heated, so look
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(Winter Fishing: Continued from Left)

for other areas. Also, slow your presentations down. The fish will need more time to react to your presentation. Look for canals, lagoons and any man-made structure that could possibly increase water temp. Many of these structures have dark bottoms, which will absorb light heating the bottom material and consequently heating the water ever so slightly. REMEMBER! Heat is the driving force from the sun that will determine where the fish are in the winter.

If you're fishing rivers the same principles apply:

- Look for the areas that will be warmer for the fish so they can function in the moving water. These areas will be the shallow flats that hold their food sources and the ones near or next to the drop-offs are the best.

- REMEMBER! In a creek or river the fish need protection from their bird enemies so an escape route is always on their mind.

Do use that digital thermometer in the rivers also. Some sections of river heat faster than others, so move on down the river to find the area that has the comfortable water temps.

These same tips work any time of the year in both rivers and lakes. The temperature variance is just less dramatic in the winter and the smallest of changes will hold fish.

Website Review

by

Michael Gonzalez

Chico Area Flyfishers web site is off and running. Lincoln Gray and Michael "Gonzo" Gonzalez, the Webmasters have developed a functional web site with lots of up to date information, pictures, and news of our club. There are great links to fishing reports, our fish outs and even a youth page for the Lightning Bugs youth group. Check out our home page for a three month calendar and get involved at all our meetings and fish outs. You can even download the newsletters. On the links pages, all of our networked clubs are listed as well as local fly shop sites. The web site address is:

www.chicoareaflyfishers.org

Visit it often, we have been updating it often, we will be adding more pages like; Conservation, Membership, Outreach and will be listing our sponsors for our Annual Dinner.

Feedback is always welcome just drop us an e-mail by clicking on Lincolns' or Michaels' name on the links page.

Start Surfing or should I say fishing the Net!

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



37TH ANNUAL DINNER/FUND RAISER
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2008 - 6:00 PM
MASONIC FAMILY CENTER

Guest Speaker



Raffle prizes, rods, reels
fly tying items, guided trips,
outdoor prints, mountain bike and
Other prizes / equipment.

One Dinner & Family Membership \$50.00
Each additional dinner \$25.00
Youth dinners are \$15.00

DINNER RESERVATION FORM

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
STATE/ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

ADDITIONAL NAMES:

Family Membership & One Dinner \$ 50.00
Each Additional Dinner \$ _____
Youth Dinner(s) \$ _____

of tickets _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Visa # _____

M/C# _____

Signature: _____

Exp. Date: _____

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS BEFORE DEC. 31ST TO BE ENTERED
INTO THE EARLY BIRD RAFFLE.

MAIL RESERVATION FORMS TO:
CAF, 5 Walnut Circle, CA 95973

**CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS
P.O. BOX 3583
CHICO, CA
95927**

Baum Lake Fishout – January 19th and 20th

By
Don Sleeper

Baum Lake is located near the town of Burney, 50 miles east of Redding. Baum Lake is actually a spring creek, a section of Hat Creek. Last year's fishout was fantastic! We caught fish all day and some of us caught about 20 to 30. Since Baum Lake is a tail-water lake, it has a constant flow of water that makes it much like fishing a big spring creek.

Most fly fishermen do well, with quite a few fish being hooked. Look for good flows, as the fish seem to congregate there. Fly fishermen are using nymphs; however, don't hesitate to try blue wing olives, callibaetis or any midge pattern, as well as small emergers and bead-headed nymphs. Go with size 16 to 22 on most of your flies. Fish them under an indicator or on the end of an intermediate sink tip. My personal rig is a wiggle tail and then a size 18 flash back pheasant tail tied off to the bend of the wiggle tail, fished on an intermediate sink tip.

This lake has great Rainbow and Brown fishing year round. It's a well stocked lake due to its guaranteed allotment that is stocked during the fall (8,500 pounds of Rainbow trout and 1,000 pounds of Brown trout).

Float tubes, pontoons and prams are the first choices of the folks that fished last year. But there are plenty of shore-fishing opportunities. No gas motors are allowed on the lake.

The planters who have made it this far have so much aquatic insect life to choose from in this rich water that they soon develop a snobbery attitude that shows up later in the year. After fishing it three times last year we determined that January was the best month. As the season starts to warm up, the fish seem to get finicky.

If you'd like to take a nice trout for dinner, winter is the best time to catch a pink fleshed trout at Baum. Since it's a put-an-take lake I keep two every time we fish the lake. Baum has fantastic winter fly fishing. But, remember to dress for the weather; even in a float tube if you're dressed properly you can be comfortable in the cold weather. Last year when we first put the tubes in the lake at about 10 a.m. it was 22 degrees. It later warmed up to a very comfortable 45 degrees.

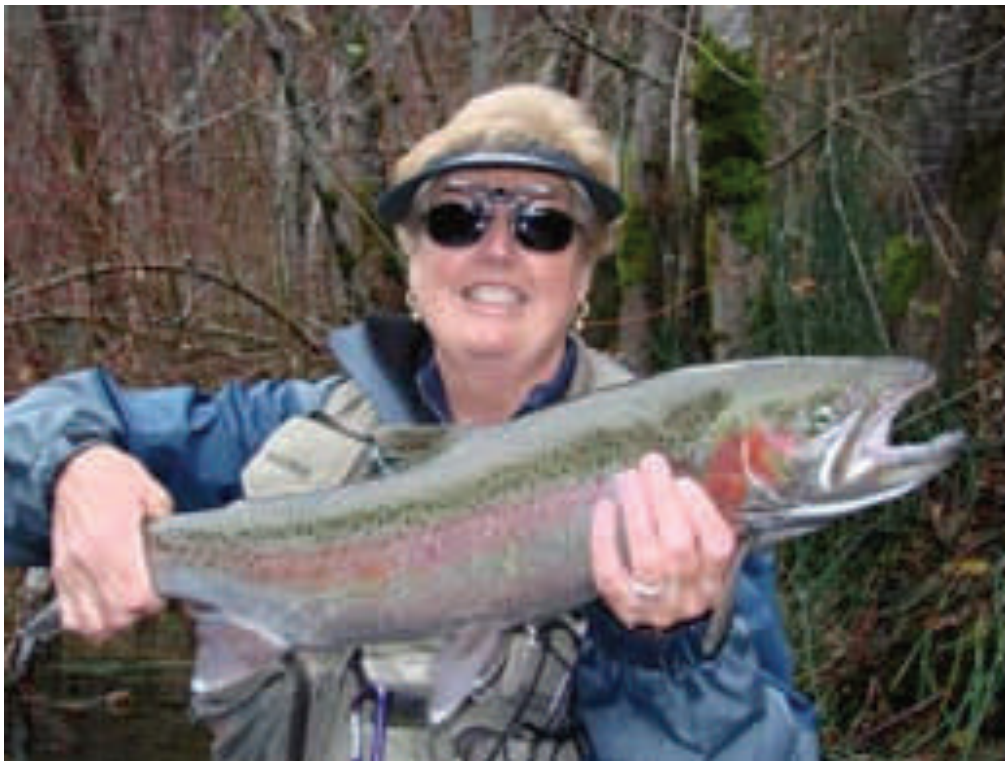
Hope to see you all up at Baum.

Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2007

This is where you can locate future outings that Chico Area Flyfisher's provide to its Membership. These Club Fishouts are designed to give fly fishers the best opportunity to catch fish and enjoy the outdoors. Our Club has many accomplished anglers who are willing to share their skills with others and you are only limited by willingness to become involved. From selecting promising locations and time, to helping those members new to the sport, we try to make these trips fun, exciting and successful.

We are also looking for additional **fishout leaders**. If you have one of those favorite spots that you don't mind sharing with others and would like to lead your fellow CAF members for a day of fishing fun, and fellowship please contact Roger Bevers or Don Sleeper.

Date	Location	Fishout Leader
Jan 19, 20	Baum Lake	Don Sleeper
Feb	Open	
Mar	Open	
April 26	Feather River	Eric See
May 17, 18	Crater Lake	Don Sleeper
June 28,	Lake Almanor Hex Hatch	Lincoln Gray
July 12,	Philbrook Reservoir , Above Paradise	Don Sleeper
August 18,	Klamath Lake, Rocky Point	Don Sleeper
Sept Open		
Oct 25, 26	Eagle Lake	Don Sleeper
Nov	Big Chico Creek	Eric See



Pat caught this Trinity steelhead last month. Note the green wire behind the dorsal fin. We didn't know we were supposed to clip it off and send it in...The fish and tag was released back into the water for someone else to catch. Nice 10 pounder she caught on a size 14 Lightning Bug she tied. She was using a 6lb tippet on a floating line with a small indicator. Would you believe it took her all

of 15 minutes to land it? It's final defiance was to wrap itself up into a large downed branch; but, we still managed to net him...It was a fun trip.

Chico Area Flyfishers 2007 Committee Chairpersons

- Past President – Dana Miller – 345-3266 danamallard@exicte.com
- Fish Master- Don Sleeper – 345-119 dnsleeper@yahoo.com
- Newsletter- Editor– Percy Ledbetter 877-4848 silvermagi@hotmail.com
- Newsletter Proof Reader – Ray Narbaitz 894-5220 tytline@sbcglobal.net
- Webmaster- Michael Gonzales 354-4181, Lincoln Gray 345-4261
- Historian- **OPEN**
- Librarian- Gary Kretz 343-7147 gdkretz@yahoo.com.
- Fundraiser – **OPEN**
- Outreach – Michael Gonzales 354-4181 gonzoisflyfishing@gmail.com
- Youth – Joe Garza 897-0978 jgarza@clearwire.net
Cell 570-0978
- Ryan Miller 343-8300
- Membership- **OPEN**
- Projects- **OPEN**
- Flytying—Joe Garza 897-0978 jgarza@clearwire.net
Cell 570-0978
- Conservation –**OPEN**
- Elections - **OPEN**



Dana W. Miller,
Past CAF president 2004 & 2005
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AND AGLANDS
REALTOR ASSOCIATE
JEFFRIES LYDON
DIR: 530-571-7738
CELL: 530-570-1184
1101 EL MONTE AVE. CHICO, CA. 95928



LOCAL GUIDES

Chico Fly Shop
Chico, CA
(530) 345-9983

Fish First
Chico, CA
530) 343-8300

Merganser Outfitters
Chico, CA
(530) 345-4071

Oasis Springs
Paynes Creek, CA
(530) 642-4150

Orland Outfitters
Orland, CA
(530) 865-8545

Big Bluff Ranch
Red Bluff, CA
(530) 529-2291

Sierra Stream &
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Chico, CA
(530-345-4261

Northern Waters Fly Fishing
Chico, CA 95927
530.913.8312



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Announcements

January 9th, General Meeting at the Seven Day Adventist Church 1877 Hooker Oaks. Fly tying will start at 6:30 p.m. and the general meeting at 7:30 pm

January 19-20 Baum Lake fishout Don Sleeper Fishmaster

February 6th Board of Directors meeting. 5:30 pm Location to be determined.

February 29th 6:00 pm Annual Dinner/Fundraiser, Masonic Family Center, Chico Steve Korbay from Fly Tying Specialties will be our guest speaker

Mar	Open	
April 26	Feather River Fishout	
May 17, 18	Crater Lake Fishout	
June 28,	Lake Almanor Hex Hatch	
July 12,	Philbrook Reservoir	Above
Paradise		
August 18,	Klamath Lake, Rocky Point	
Sept Open		
Oct 25, 26	Eagle Lake	
Nov	Big Chico Creek	

BOARD MEMBERS

President:
Lincoln Gray————— **345-4261**

Vice-President:
Durl Van Alstyne ———.894-1919

Secretary:
Pat Sleeper————— **345-1197**

Treasurer:
Dennis Boyd————— **891-5760**

Board Members:
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Don Sleeper————— **345-1197**
Larry Willis————— **895-0156**
Tom Simmons————— **342-2193**
Past President:
Roger Bevers————— **343-6442**

Committee Chairpersons:
Fish Master—Don Sleeper 345-1197

Youth—————**Ryan Miller 343-8300**
Joe Garza 897-0798

Outreach
Michael Gonzalez 354-4181

Conversation———

Librarian—————**Gary Kretz 343-7147**

Newsletter Editor
Percy Ledbetter 877-4848

CAF WEBPAGE
Http://chicoareaflyfishers.org

Webmaster:
Michael Gonzalez 354-4181
Lincoln Gray 345-4261

FISHING REPORTS
www.fishfirst.com

Change of address?

Not receiving newsletter?

Contact

Dennis Boyd.....891-5760

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'
P.O. BOX 3583
CHICO, CA 95927



January 2008 **General Meeting**

January 9th General Meeting at the Seven Day Adventist Church
1877 Hooker Oaks. 6:30 Fly tying demos . 7:30 P.M. general meeting.

Guests are always welcome, come on out and enjoy the camaraderie,
fish stories and information from the local fisheries. Refreshments will
we served.