



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

Short Casts

April 2011

MEETING LOCATION: Our General meeting is: April 14th @ 6:30 for fly tying and 7:30 General meeting; Located at the CARD center, 545 Vallombrosa Avenue, Chico.



The Presidents Line

We have made it to April and well while the fishing has not been so good due

to the high water right now, this storage of water will mean excellent fishing throughout the hot summer months.

Our annual dinner was a huge success. Thank you all for your help and your commitment to the club. You the club members, are what make this event such a huge success!

I would like to congratulate the following winners of our awards this year:

- Tim Fox – Press Powell Memorial Award
- Pat Sleeper – Chico Fly Fishing Hall Of Fame Award
- Terry Mich – Sabortooth Award
- Scott Hood – Golden Zipper Award

I look forward to seeing all of you, the members at our next general meeting. We have great speakers coming up so do not miss it. Including your own president.

Lincoln Gray



Secretary's Secrets By Pat Sleeper

We, the board, would like to thank our following major supporters...And we would appreciate your additional help by thanking these people and businesses for their help:

Chico Fly Shop
 Christian Michaels
 Fish First
 Sierra Stream and Mountain
 Heel & Sole Shoes
 Raptor Rod Works
 Lance Gray
 Spiteri's Deli
 Excel Floor Service
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 Wayne Syn
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 North Valley Ag Svc
 In motion Fitness
 Brad Henman
 Masonic Family Center
 Cal Trout
 Joyce Family Chiropractic
 Digger Creek Ranch
 Trout Unlimited
 Movies Ten
 Scott Hood DDS
 Terry Mich
 Dave Mckinney
 Steve Pereira
 Ron Leger

Again, thank you all!!!
 Pat Sleeper

New Members

Chico Area Flyfishers would like to welcome our 35 new members from our annual dinner to our membership! We look forward to having you at our monthly meetings at the CARD center on the second Thursday of each month. At our meetings we have speakers who come share fishing locations, techniques, rods, flies and so forth. The program starts at 6:30 P.M. With fly tying; and then the meeting starts at 7:30...We also have raffle prizes and refreshments at the meetings. Again, thank you for joining! Watch for our monthly news letter as well...Sincerely, Pat Sleeper

Kid's Corner

by Kim Lewis

Hello All Chico Area Jr. Fly fishing Club Members,

On April 9th and 10th we will be attending the North State Sportsman Expo with a booth. This is a new outdoor sports show at the Silver Dollar fairgrounds. We will be having a youth club sign up drive. We will be handing out flyers and signing up new kids and families to join our club. Any club member who would like to help work the booth, please call Ron @ 345-4261. We will have Jay Fair and Glen Fair tying in the booth on Saturday from 10:00 to 3:00.

Our next youth meeting will be on Thursday April 14th. We will meet at Sierra Stream & Mountain Fly Shop at 847 W. 5th St. You can come by the shop or you can drop the kids off starting at about 4:00 p.m. and pick them up anytime until 6:00 p.m. We will have light snacks for all. We know that the kids have homework and sport practices and some of you may have to come late or stay for only a short time before being picked up – that's o.k. Our goal is to keep it fun and flexible for the kids. Please send me an e-mail or call me the day before so that I can plan accordingly.

If you have any questions please call me at 570-8526.

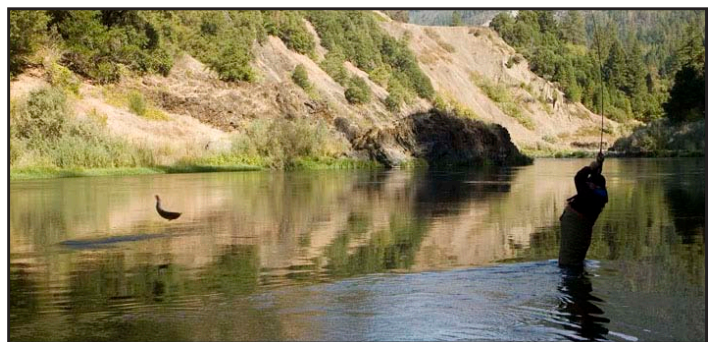
Tight lines,
Kim Lewis
kimlew@sbcglobal.net



Conservation Corner. David McKinney Conservation Chair.

Some Good News For the Klamath.

California State Water Resources has approved a loan to a partnership between the Western River Conservancy and the Yurok Tribe for the purchase 22,000 plus acres on the Lower Klamath River. The purchase will be completed by April and transferred to the stewardship of the Yurok Tribe. The tribe's sustainable forestry management approach meets the States Board objectives and will enhance the protection of salmon, improve aquatic habitat, and restore meadows that once supported subsistence hunting. The will be a limit road building, widen stream buffers and enforce a no-herbicide-use policy. This is a co-operative program between Western River Conservancy and the Yurok with future purchases along the Klamath planned. Unfortunately, this river stays embattled. As I reported last month, HR 1 (House Resolution # 1) would strip much of the funding that the Federal Government set aside for sedimentation studies required as part of the process to remove the many dams on the river. It is hard for me to imagine why you need a study to remove a dam. The river worked well enough the way God built for many millions of years. It is important that we all stay aware of these proposal and know who the players if this river will ever again run free.



Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2011

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 Lincoln Gray or Don Sleeper.

This schedule may change depending on the fish bite or weather conditions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
April 13 thru 17	Pyramid Lake	Don Sleeper
April 30	Trout Opener	Open
May 28	Crater Lake	Don Sleeper
June 11, 12	Eagle Lake	Open
June 25	Lake Almanor Hex Hatch	Lincoln Gray
July	Philbrook Reservoir	Open
August	Open	
Sept 24, 25	Lewiston or Davis	Don Sleeper
Oct 1st	Pyramid Lake	Open
Oct	Almanor	Open
Nov 5, 6	Eagle Lake	Don Sleeper
Nov	Big Chico Creek	Eric See
Nov. 10-19th	Amazon River Basin – Peacock Bass	<i>See Don or Pat Sleeper for details</i>

Other ideas: Floating Indicator Clinic, Float Tube Clinic, Fly Casting Clinic, Yuba River, Fort Bragg area Surf Fly fishing---

Chico Area Flyfishers Pyramid Lake Fishout

April 15, 16, 17 & 18 Call me if you plan to attend.

Don Sleeper

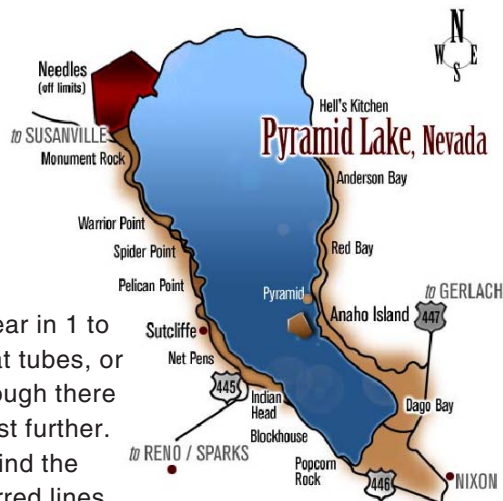
530-345-1197 Cell 228-6197

We plan be at Pelican Point camping on the beach.

Accommodations can be arranged at Crosby's

(775) 476-0400 (Reservation, license and Information)

Fish should be coming in close to spawn this time of the year in 1 to 10 feet of water. Pyramid Lake fishing is done by wading, float tubes, or using a common household ladder. The wind can be a little rough there for the ladder keeps you out of the water and allows you to cast further. We use black and green wooly buggers and foam beetles behind the wooly buggers. Sinking and intermediate lines are the preferred lines. But floating lines with a nymph and indicators work well.



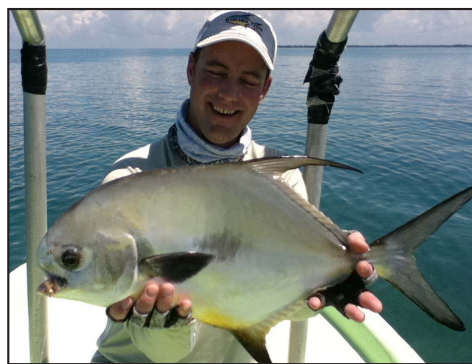
On the Road Again

Don and Pat Sleeper

We had a very unique get-way last week. We went to Belize City, Belize and boarded a live-aboard. Our Belize trip was seven days of fly fishing for bonefish, tarpon, snook and permit.

The fishing was really slow; we just didn't land that many fish. Pat and I both had large tarpon (60lbs) on but just couldn't land them. Once hooked they go aerial and jump for the sky, which makes them tough to bring to the boat...A beautiful thing to see! Only one 80 pounder was landed by our group (Frank Jackson) and that was on a 9wt rod. As usual, Pat did land a trophy: a nice, beautiful, large permit with a 12wt fly rod.

Our boat, a (58ft) live-aboard, was the best part of the adventure. It was "beautiful", roomy, clean and wonderful to utilize. Mac Noble from Fish First set up the trip. The boat had a crew of five, cook and four guides. There were six of us fishermen, Larry Willis, Elden Hinkle, Frank Jackson, Mac Noble, and Pat & I.



Though seeing and catching fish was very tough, Larry landed five bone fish on his best day and we were all very excited for him. Mac went out and caught three permits on day one...beautiful fish!

The boat had three bedrooms with three showers & bathrooms. Our bedroom was fantastic; it had a large double bed, walk-in closet and shower. The food was outstanding. The "mother ship" covered

a lot of water with, called the Rising Tide, that towed "four" prams from which we daily fished from. Some windy conditions made fishing tough; but still, we enjoyed the trip.



CAFF April Program. Oregon Steelhead Fishing Presenter: Charles Gehr, FlyWater Travel

Charles is a great young guy, whom I had the privilege of hearing speak in the past on steelhead, his passion. His resume includes guiding such legendary rivers as the Deschutes and Rogue Rivers in addition to fishing this region extensively, and as it turns out, we are both Alums of the University of Wyoming (knew I liked this guy). He recently joined Ken Morrish and Brian Gies at FlyWater Travel Staff in Ashland Oregon, the premier flyfishing travel service here on the west coast, so he comes packing a lot of great information and it should be an entertaining meeting. Because is from that magical land of the Rocky Mountains, he is also quite the expert of flyfishing that region as well.



We have hit stride for our programs and these next three are all fantastic. Next month, Craig Nielsen will be talking about the great fishing on the Klamath besides steelhead. I know some of you have guided with him and know what a knowledgeable fisherman he is. Then in June, our own Lincoln Gray will have a new presentation on fishing the Lower Sacramento River, if there is anything left of it after this winter, just joking. It Should be great.

Fly of the Month for April

By: Ray Narbaitz

The Baum Lake Midge

If you are a regular follower of this column in the newsletter, you will notice something a little different from what I usually post. I'm not sure about the name of the fly. It's not something you will find in any pattern book, although I'm sure you will find flies that are much like it. The name is just something I made up, because the fly is just something I made up.

I'm sure that those of us who have fished still waters much have seen the dreaded Midge Emerger take. You can see each take by the fish, but whatever they are taking is not really on the surface, but just below it. It's also almost always very, very small. Some weeks ago, I was in my pontoon boat on Baum and was watching just such a feeding rise by the fish. I have an emerger pattern that is often useful in such a situation, but it wasn't this day. I finally noticed that my waders had a lot of very small bugs crawling around on them. They were black, with a white wing. I had a few, small Trico Spinners with me, so I cut off the tails and snipped the wings down to a couple of stubs, and took some fish on them. Still, I wanted something that I thought looked a little more like what they were eating, and this is what I came up with.

Hook...TMC 2488 or Daiichi 1130 16 to 20 (More on this later)

Thread...UTC 8/0 or TMC 16/0

Body...Black Marabou

Wing...Calf Body Hair.

1. Debarb the hook and place it in the vice.
2. Start your thread and wrap it back to the bend.
3. Tie in two or three barbs of Marabou. Tie it in by the tips, and then spin it around your thread. Wrap it forward by holding onto the Marabou, not the bobbin. Leave enough room at the head to tie in the wing.
4. Cut a sparse bit of Calf Body Hair (or Calf Tail, or anything else that is white that you want to use), and tie it in perpendicular to the hook.
5. Whip finish the thread and trim it off.
6. Cut the wings down to where they are just stubs on either side of the hook.
7. Break off the tips of the Marabou at the back of the fly. Midges don't have tails.

When I went back up to Baum, my little fly was a big hit. I fished it about a foot off of a #18 Parachute BWO. The Midge sank a couple of inches below the surface, which is just where I wanted it. I got a number of takes as it dead drifted along in the current which is always present in Baum. I got more strikes after I let it drift until I was about to lose sight of the BWO, and then stopped the line, and let it swing. I'm sure that it caused the Midge to start rising to the surface, and that's when the fish hit it, because they thought it was emerging.

Notes...The hook...I tied this fly in sizes 20, 22 and 24. In fact, I got noticeably more strikes on a 24 than I did a 20. So why then, am I calling for you to tie it on size 16 to 20 hooks? This style of hook is two extra short, and has a straight eye. The straight eye opens up the hook gap more than a down eye, something that helps on small hooks. The two extra short means that a size 16 is actually a size 20 in length with a size 16 bite. The 20 has size 24 length with a size 20 bite. There is a significant difference in a size 20 and 24 hook gap that results in a significant increase of the number of fish you will land.



LOCAL GUIDES

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

Fish First
Chico, CA
(530) 343-8300

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



RAPTOR ROD WORKS
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