



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

## Short Casts

January 2011

**MEETING LOCATION:** Our General meeting is: Jan 13th @ 6:30 for fly tying and 7:30 General meeting; Located at the CARD center, 545 Vallombrosa Avenue, Chico.



## The Presidents Line

Filling in for the Prez, David McKinney, VP. Acting in accordance of the 22nd amendment, I think, since our President was incapacitated, I am supplying temporary service in writing this message. Lincoln will no doubt recover, once the fishing picks up.

Speaking of Fishing, the annual Fishout to Baum Lake has been postponed due to the threat of a storm. Hopefully this will happen at a later time. We are always looking for avid anglers to suggest and lead a fishout, and really no previous experience is necessary. If anyone is so inclined, contact the Fish Master (love that title) Don Sleeper.

Our Anchovy Feed at Roundtable was a success and all who did not attend, missed a good pizza feed. Make a note to attend next year.



## Secretary's Secrets By Pat Sleeper

Meeting called to order at Don & Pat's with Eric, Larry Lincoln, Terry, Scott Joyce, Dave and Don & Pat. President, Lincoln Gray called meeting together @ 6:05.

Secretary's report, Pat Sleeper M/S/P - Terry/Don.

Treasurer's report, Don Sleeper M/S/P - Larry/Terry.

Fishout, Jan 8 & 9th @ Baum Lake.

Youth Group, Ron reported a fishout possibly in March.

Dinner for March 4th, will have Steve Pierra M.C.

Eric, signs for the Feather River...Hwy 70 discussed...waiting for more info from Department of Fish & Game.

Fun time was had by "all" at the pizza feed! Pizza's came out on time and kept up with the demand...GREAT JOB to ROUND TABLE PIZZA!

Lincoln, reported HATS ARE IN!

Lincoln tying at Jan Meeting...Also at the Jan is our sharing meeting...Please contact Dave McKinney letting him know you'll be showing power point, slides, DVD, etc. so he can schedule accordingly...thanks. Again, this is your time to BRAG...share your trips, fish and experiences of the year! We'd love to see and hear about "your" trip!

Thanks, Pat Sleeper

## Raising the Gray Ghost:

### Vice Presidents Report

This month's meeting is very special as it contains the yearly "Show And Tell" presentation of CAFF members, Thursday January 13th. There will be great fish stories with excellent photoshopped pictures to prove it from around the globe. What better way to start the New Year? I think it sets the tone perfectly.

There will also be an impromptu meeting at 6:00 PM Thursday the 13th, the night of the program, on the upcoming annual CAFF Crabfeed Dinner in March at the Masonic Hall. Yes, it is that time again. Last year was a ripping success and this year we hope for a repeat performance. This will start about 30 minutes before the fly-tying activity that occurs before the general program. We need volunteers; if you are breathing and have a pulse you qualify. This is always a big activity and we never have enough help. It is also a great way to get to know other members of the club. This is just the first meeting and mostly organizational, so don't be shy. You won't immediately be assigned tons of work; that comes later.

David McKinney



# Kid's Corner

by Kim Lewis

Thank you for all those that attended the Annual Pizza Feed and supported our Youth Bake Sale.

There will be NO Youth Meeting Thursday, January 13th.

The International Sportsmen's Expo will be January 20th thru the 23rd. At this Expo, they will have a Youth Fair which will include a Casting Competition for kids 16 yrs. and younger.

Spring is around the corner and we would like to tie some flies with the youth for our spring fish out.

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

Tight lines,  
Kim Lewis



# On The Road Again:

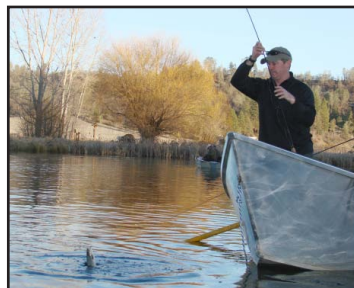
By Pat & Don Sleeper

On the road again took us to Baum Lake Yesterday, Friday Jan 7, 2011. It wasn't one of those usual "January" high lakes fishing venture where you're using hand warmers in the boots, gloves and back; Nor, wearing gloves and ear warmers. (The earlier weather reports predicted snow showers on Saturday and; thus, we made it a one day trip.) It was one of those days you dream about: the sun was shining so brightly, you wondered if you were wearing strong corrective glasses; the fish didn't start biting until about 11:00 A.M.; and, the fish were larger than I've ever seen at Baum! And, fat, fat like footballs!

Unlike the usual high lake fisheries we didn't have any wind all day and the lake was as clear as glass...interestingly as the water warmed up; the fish started feeding on the surface, rolling, jumping and or just nibbling and the water started losing its clarity. It was a fun transaction to watch occurring. We found the hot flies were size 14 green wiggle tails (bead headed) and flash back pheasant tails (no bead) or soft hackles size 18 hook. You could also do well with a seal bugger in the orange/green pattern, or black wiggle tails size 12 & 14.

We caught browns, brookies and rainbows with no true special place that "everyone" congregated at to catch fish. I personally caught a beautiful brookie that was full of color as was the rainbows I caught.

We had a good turnout with about ten members and guests fishing; and, as far as we know all catching fish. It was a fun day had by all... hope to see you at our next fishout. Enjoy some of the pictures.





## 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>
Feb	Open	Open
March	Open	Open
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

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

# Herger pushes to keep the gray wolf out of California

Redding Record Searchlight-12/8/10

By Ryan Sabalow

There may not be American gray wolves in California yet, but U.S. Rep. Wally Herger has joined a group of Republican lawmakers urging the animals' removal from the Endangered Species Act — just in case.

The Chico Republican says he co-sponsored a bill last week with seven other House Republicans pushing for the removal of the wolves' protected status because he's worried that environmental groups may someday try to introduce them in his district as they have in other states.

At least one environmentalist group says wolves should be brought back to the north state, though there are no immediate plans to do so.

"I think restoring wolves to a larger portion (of their original habitat) is a necessity before removing protection for them," said Noah Greenwald, the director of the Center for Biological Diversity's endangered species program in Portland, Ore.

The center's biologists believe that wolves could survive in some north state forests, including parts of Trinity, Siskiyou and Modoc counties.

Gray wolves were hunted to extinction in California around the turn of the last century.

The last wolf trapped in California was in Lassen County in 1924, according to the California Wolf Center.

The nearest wolf pack to the north state is a small group of around a dozen wolves in Eastern Oregon.

Across the country, wolves live in less than 5 percent of their former natural habitat, Greenwald said.

Dana Michaels, a California Department of Fish and Game spokeswoman, says state biologists are actively planning what would happen should wolves make their way down from Oregon.

But she said reintroduction of wolves to California "ain't gonna happen, at least not intentionally." "They were here once, but so were the grizzlies," Michaels said. "I don't know how many people would be too thrilled about grizzlies coming back."

Herger says that if the wolves remain under federal protection, their reintroduction to his state could be disastrous.

"This all-out effort to oppose the de-listing of the gray wolf represents a perfect example of how the ESA (Endangered Species Act) is used not to recover species so much as it is used as a tool for groups to drive an agenda of locking-up federal lands and restricting the use and development of private property," Herger wrote in an online newsletter to his constituents.

Herger said that his constituents know all too well what a federally protected endangered species can do to an area's livelihood.

He cited "the decimation of our once vibrant timber industry caused by the infamous listing of the spotted owl," and the death of three people in 1997 when the Arboga Levee in Yuba

County broke following yearslong delays in improvements due to habitat concerns over the protected Valley Longhorn Elderberry Beetle.

Last week Herger co-authored the State Sovereignty Wildlife Management Act with House members from Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Montana and Arizona.

The bill would allow individual states to develop their own wolf management plans, rather than allow the federal government to mandate how the states deal with packs inside state boundaries.

Gray wolves have become a major point of political contention in some states.

Packs were reintroduced in the mid-1990s to Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, including in Yellowstone National Park. A pack of Mexican gray wolves also was introduced in New Mexico and Arizona.

In recent years, the growing wolf populations in some of the areas have resulted in complaints from ranchers, big game hunters and their political allies that the packs are killing livestock and thinning herds of elk, deer and other popular big game animals targeted by hunters.

Herger said that recovery targets for wolf populations in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming were easily met by 2002, allowing their removal from the endangered species list and ending what he calls "costly property use restrictions that accompany any species listing."

"However, eight years of litigation from national environmental organizations have prevented the delisting and kept the gray wolf under federal control even as their population continued to rise," Herger said. "As a result, wolf populations have reached nearly seven times the recovery target and are causing major damage to domestic livestock and wildlife."

In August a U.S. district judge in Montana reinstated Endangered Species Act protections for wolves in Montana, Idaho and portions of Washington, Oregon and Utah, Greenwald said.

The petition to again classify the wolves as endangered was brought by the Center for Biological Diversity and its allies. The groups challenged the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's decision to lift federal protections from wolves and authorize wolf hunts in Montana and Idaho but keep them in place in Wyoming, Greenwald said.

In continuing the wolves' protected species status, the judge ruled such decisions need to be based on wolf biology, not state boundaries, Greenwald said.

Earlier in the summer, a similar petition forced federal wildlife officials to call off plans to shoot two of Eastern Oregon's 14 wolves after ranchers complained the pack was eating cattle.

Greenwald said that biologists, not Congress, should decide what's best for the wolves.

"It would be a shame to have Congress interfere in what's essentially a scientific decision," Greenwald said.

# January Fly of the Month

By Ray Narbaitz

## Steelhead Soft Hackle

It seems weird, as I type this in 2010, that it will be next year by the time this is printed. But, that's where we are. In January, of course, we will still be in the middle of Steelhead season. As in every other aspect of fly fishing, Steelheaders have their preferred methods, and some of them are pretty adamant about them. As with most types of fishing, I feel I should use the method I want, and what others want, as long as it's legal, is none of my business.

Here in the North State, most of our Steelhead streams also double as Trout streams. With a few exceptions, I tend to use the same techniques for both the Trout and Steelhead. One difference is that you will swing flies a bit more for the Steelhead than you will the Trout. The exception to that is when you are using Soft Hackles for Trout. My preferred method of Steelhead fishing in our local waters is high stick nymphing. However, I have also become a big fan of Soft Hackle fishing for trout. The fun thing about Steelhead is that you can use both of these methods...on the same cast. High stick it through the run, and then let it swing at the end. The strikes on the swing can sometimes be downright vicious.

January's Fly of the Month is one of those that can be used for both the drift and the swing. It is tied in the round, which means it looks the same no matter how the fish are seeing it, which is what you have in most attractor nymphs. It also has a soft hackle aspect that will let you do that. Since it is an attractor type, you can tinker with it all you want. The basic colors are hair's ear, olive and black, but don't let that hold you back.

Hook: TMC2302 6 & 8, or Daiichi 1270 6-10, or TMC5263 6-10 if you prefer a straight shank

Thread: 6/0 Black

Tag: Gold Holographic Tinsel

Abdomen: Hair's Ear Plus Dubbing, Olive, Natural or Black

Rib: Gold Holographic Tinsel

Hackle: Speckled Hen Back, color to match body

Thorax: Peacock Black Ice Dub

1. Debarb the hook and start your thread.
2. Tie in the Holo Tinsel and start your tag above the barb.
3. Tie off the tinsel, and get it out of the way, but don't cut it off.
4. Dub in a fairly robust body, and don't worry about it



5. being too neat.
5. Wrap the tinsel forward as the rib, tie it off, and trim it.
6. Tie in your hackle and give it two or three wraps. Tie the hackle so it slightly sweeps back. When you tie in the thorax, it will sweep it back more.
7. Make a dubbing loop for the Ice Dub. Ice Dub is a great material, but it tends to come off when you use it for awhile unless it is in a dubbing loop. Wrap your thorax, and then sweep all of it back from the eye so you can make a neat, small, thread head.
8. Whip finish and apply head cement.

Notes...I have tied a version using a red tag instead of the gold. It looks particularly good in the black fly... Instead of using the tinsel for a rib, I use heavy gold wire. I feel it is a lot more durable...I have a feeling that if you tied it in smaller sizes, it would work great for Trout as well. I haven't tried it yet, so I don't know for sure... Weighting the fly is optional. Either wrap the weight on the hook, or use a black regular or tungsten bead.

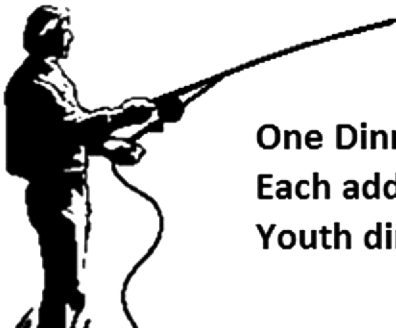
# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



40TH ANNUAL DINNER/FUND RAISER  
 FRIDAY - MARCH 4TH, 2011 @ 5:30  
 MASONIC CENTER - W. EAST AVE.

## "CRAB FEED DINNER & SHRIMP"

Raffle prizes - rods, reels, guided trips, fly tying supplies, Ladies prizes, pontoon boat and other prizes and surprises...



One Dinner & a Family Membership .....\$ 70.00  
 Each additional crab/shrimp Dinner.....\$ 35.00  
 Youth dinner.....\$ 35.00

-----DINNER RESERVATION FORM-----

NAME: _____	NUMBER	COST	TOTAL
ADDRESS: _____	Family Membership & One Dinner		\$70.00
CITY: _____ ZIP: _____	Each Additional Dinner	_____ \$35.00	\$ _____
PHONE: _____	Youth - Dinner	_____ \$35.00	\$ _____
E-MAIL: _____	Raffle ticket packets	_____ \$500. _____ \$200.	\$ _____
	Raffle ticket packets	_____ \$100. _____ \$50.	\$ _____
	Reserved a table for 8 people	\$450.	\$ _____
	(Five memberships 8 dinners)	TOTAL	\$ _____

ADDITIONAL NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ M/C# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ back # \_\_\_\_\_

PURCHASE TICKETS BY JAN 15TH FOR EARLY BIRD DRAWING  
 MAIL RESERVATION FORMS AND PAYMENT TO: CAF - 1010 Lori Dr, Chico, CA 95973  
 Questions: Don or Pat 530-345-1197

## LOCAL GUIDES

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

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Larry Willis ..... 895-0156  
Scott Joyce ..... 899-8500  
Scott Hood  
Darrin Deel  
Dana Miller

**Youth Group coordinators:**  
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**Past President:**  
Roger Bevers ..... 343-6442

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Don Sleeper ..... 345-1197



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