



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

## Short Casts

## March 2011

**The March 4th meeting is a Crab/shrimp feed at the Masonic Lodge, Dinner is \$35.00 each at 5:30P.M.**



## Secretary's Secrets By Pat Sleeper

Our meetings consisted of the Dinner committee meeting weekly organizing raffle prizes, foods, decorations, advertisements and looking forward to a fun dinner, fun members and getting

to meet all our wonderful members and contributors. Hope to see "you" at the Crab/Shrimp dinner Friday night March 4 @ 5:30 at the Masonic Lodge...We still have reservations available... Thank you for being a part of this wonderful organization! Remember this "is" a non profit Club supporting local Youth sports events as well as many other functions, fisheries and so forth... For reservations to the dinner...call: Pat Sleeper or Don sleeper @ 530-345-1197...Thanks.



## The Presidents Line

There is a lot of good fishing going on right now... Baum and Oroville Lakes are fishing well and so is the Feather and Yuba Rivers. March 4th, Friday, is our Crab/Shrimp feed and it's shaping up to be a good one...We have some GREAT raffle, auction, and silent auction prizes to be won. Does anyone have any pictures to add to our dinner pictures? Please send to Eric See or Pat and she will send them on.

Remember your participation in the club is crucial to it's success; so, come out and join in on the fun... see you there...thanks. Lincoln

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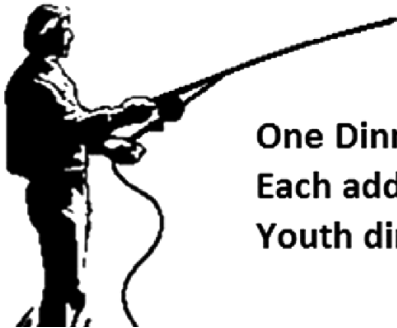
# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



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 surprizes...



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

## 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>
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
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---

## **Conservation Corner. David McKinney Conservation Chair.**

Dear Friends.

In all seriousness, if you haven't already done so please access Trout Unlimited web-site and look a **HR 1 Action Alert**. HR 1 is a House Bill that is very environmentally destructive and would, among other catastrophes, remove federal money for Klamath Dam removal. This is an ill conceived bill, the kind we often get during poor economic times. As you will read, there is almost no part of the country that is un-affected. Check out the complete read at [www.takeaction.tu.org](http://www.takeaction.tu.org), you can send a letter to our representative and make a donation if so inclined. I just hope we all just read it.

# Spring Time Fly Fishing for Bass

By Don Sleeper

Bass Fly fishing has exploded in popularity; the large-mouth bass is considered by many as the greatest of all game fish. Once limited to just the Eastern US, the large-mouth bass has been introduced all over the continent. We have some wonderful locations in our own backyard for bass on a fly rod. I've fished the following locations near us; Oroville Afterbay, Black Butte Reservoir, Stony George Reservoir, East Park Reservoir, Sacramento River soughs and the dredger ponds below Oroville. When most people think of bass fishing they think of stiff fiberglass rods, heavy lines and large lures. But more and more fisherman are finding the advantage of fly fishing for this game fish.

The advantage I see allows the angler a wider variety of food imitations. While large lures only imitate a small number of food sources, flies can imitate virtually all the sources of bass food, including small organisms like nymphs and even dry flies. Fly fisherman can also cast out mice, frogs, and a variety of other food sources for these opportunistic feeders. Many times I have found bass in shallow water, hiding under or near logs or snags or in weed beds. Fly casters have the advantage of more accurate placement, and being able to place their offering quietly with out spooking skittish fish; and also don't forget, we don't have to reel in after each cast.

Large mouths usually emerge in early spring and are a bit sluggish, but nevertheless with a speeding up metabolism, they are seeking food. Most largemouths will seek food in the shallows, being territorial the best hiding places will go to the biggest fish. Recognizing a good bass hiding spot is the first step in successful bass fishing. Fallen logs or weedy areas will provide cover for the wary lunker. Often times bass can be spotted by the careful observer, in clear water bass will appear green to pale olive across the back and white to pale yellow in the belly.

The different techniques I use are: early in the morning, I usually fish the banks with steamers, casting out woolly buggers, muddler minnows and even a leech pattern or two. In the spring time by afternoon I have switched to floating bass bugs. The very thing that makes bass fly



fishing fun. Casting one toward a nice looking bass hiding spot then I allow it to sit there for a few seconds. If you allow the fly to 'pop' upon landing and have a nice bass picked out, often times this is all that is needed for the bucketmouth to inhale your offering. Make sure your rod tip is at the proper angle to absorb the hit, or the game will be over before it begins. If after a few seconds the 'hit' doesn't occur, begin retrieving your fly at intermittent intervals like it would occur in nature. This 'popping' action is what attracts the bass to your offering. Watch for the wake as these bass are not shy, and remember especially trout fly fisherman, the bass's mouth is huge and these critters were built for eating. Hope to see you all out this spring for bass. time by afternoon I have switched to floating bass bugs. The very thing that makes bass fly fishing fun. Casting one toward a nice looking bass hiding spot then I allow it to sit there for a few seconds. If you allow the fly to 'pop' upon landing and have a nice bass picked out, often times this is all that is needed for the bucketmouth to inhale your offering. Make sure your rod tip is at the proper angle to absorb the hit, or the game will be over before it begins. If after a few seconds the 'hit' doesn't occur, begin retrieving your fly at intermittent intervals like it would occur in nature. This 'popping' action is what attracts the bass to your offering. Watch for the wake as these bass are not shy, and remember especially trout fly fisherman, the bass's mouth is huge and these critters were built for eating. Hope to see you all out this spring for bass.

Now hows that for a line up. I hope that all of our members attend these exceptional programs.

## Big Fish

Frank Sptiari fishing on the Clear Water River, Idaho  
This steelhead was caught Feb 25, 2011 and it was VERY cold according to Frank.



## On the Road Again Feb 21, 2011

By Don & Pat Sleeper

Have you ever thought: Wow, out of Chico, in between storms; and, some fun fishing? They had the idea of fishing for trout near the dam at Almanor. Don and Bill Robinson left Chico at about 7:00 A.M. using hwy 36 heading for Lake Almanor on a beautiful sunny morning. They hadn't gotten to Mineral and they noticed the snow drifts were about 4 ft high (not a surprise) then it started to snow (surprise). Well they wanted to see the damage a downed tree had done to Bill's cabin so turning around wasn't in their thoughts...

They arrived in Chester with 6 – 8 foot snow drifts, icy roads with snow crunching under the turning of the tires and PG&E trucks all over the place not to mention, as cold as... There was a downed line across Bills property with tree limbs still laying over them. The snow on the ground was a cross between icy snow for the bottom layer, with about 3 feet of



new powdered snow over the top of that... They had to crawl over the top of the snow drifts, and then, with snow shoes on, they still sunk down about 2 1/2 feet into the snow in working their way to the cabin.

With the snow still coming down; and, after talking to a neighbor that hadn't had a bite that morning they decided not to even attempt fishing the lake... Below are some pictures of Prattville Café and Lake Almanor.

## Kiwi Trout. David McKinney Vice President

I went to New Zealand to hike, actually they call it tramping, kayak, and drink wine. A chorus of my friends told me to find the time to fish. Now I know New Zealand is world famous for trout fishing so who wouldn't fish. I also received a through preparation from the Sleepers as to the sacred importance of such an undertaking. But my trip was tight already, so I finally settled on fishing a couple of days around Fjordland National Park, South Island. Well basically New Zealand is all you ever heard it was and much, much more. Fishing there is unique and unlike anything I have ever done before. It is simultaneously both unbelievably difficult and simple at the same time. Kiwi guides are there own breed and add a dimension

to the fishing. Lets just say, at times they are not the most sensitive of a fisherman's skills, or in my case, lack there of. When you combine the scenery with the fishing, a trip to this place is beyond a bucket list item. I definitely will do this again. On a serious note, I left Queenstown, which is about 200 miles southwest of Christchurch, 2 hours before the quake hit. I have a hiking friend who was in Christchurch when the quake hit. Actually she saw the cathedral collapse, she is fine. I would like to thank all my friends would sent various e-mails, texts, and facebook messages to my wife and I.



# Fly of the Month for March

By: Ray Narbaitz

## The Greenie

I spend way too much time surfing the internet and reading magazines about flies. I enjoy looking at them, and thinking about how I might use them. On my computer, I have a large folder full of descriptions, recipes and pictures. The vast majority of them I will never even tie, let alone fish. Some of them I have tied, and then, a year or two later, have found them in my box and wondered what the heck they were. Others I have tied and fished with varying degrees of success. Still, I enjoy going back to the folder and looking at them and pondering the what ifs. It is sort of my version of Fly Porn.

Not too long ago, I came across a fly called the Greenie in a magazine I was reading. It was tied by a gentleman in Oregon who said it was a favorite of his and a number of his friends. For some reason, it really appealed to me. I didn't get too intellectual about its attributes; I just liked the way it looked. So, I tied some up and gave them a try at Baum Lake. The fish really liked them as well. On a return trip, they still liked them. Plus, it has the added benefit of being really easy to tie.

The Greenie

Hook...TMC 5262 or 2302, or Daiichi 1710 size 6 – 10  
Thread...Olive 6/0, 140 denier

Beads...Gold Bead followed by Emerald Green Glass Bead

Tail...Olive Arizona Simi-Seal

Body...Olive Arizona Simi-Seal

1. De-barb the hook and place on the gold bead and then the glass bead.
2. Place the hook in the vise and start the thread. Build up a fairly good dam of thread behind the glass bead as it tends to slip back after the fly is wet if you don't lock it in place.
3. Make a small noodle of the Simi-Seal and double it over. Tie that in as the tail. Don't worry if it looks a little messy, this is a very shaggy fly.
4. Dub the Simi-Seal in a loop. You will find that this makes it a lot easier to put on the fly than trying to dub it on a single strand of thread.
5. Wrap the dubbing loop forward to the eye, tied it off and cut off the excess.
6. Whip finish and put a drop of head cement on the knot.
7. Pick or brush out some of the dubbing material so that it will flow back when the fly is being fished.

Note...At Baum, I fished this on a Stillwater line, using short medium speed strips with pauses after every strip or two. Most of the strikes came on the pause. My guess is that this fly should work in almost any stillwater. I also intend to see if the fish on Fall River like it a little later in the year.



## LOCAL GUIDES

Chico Fly Shop  
Chico, CA  
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Fish First  
Chico, CA  
(530) 343-8300

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



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