



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

Short Casts October 2016

Our next meeting is @ Wed, Oct 12th @ 6:30 fly tying & 7:30 Meeting @ California Park Pavilion, California Park Dr. Chico



President Line by Pat Sleeper

President's message Oct 2016

We have a wonderful speaker coming in to speak Wed, Oct 12th at 7:30. And, his name is Henry Lomeli. You don't want to miss this one!

Ray Narbaitz will be tying something special at 6:30 so you don't want to miss him either; all, at the California Park Pavilion, California Park Dr, Chico.

I hear Almanor, Davis, Baum Lakes are doing very well. And, many other lakes and streams can be found fishing even better! It's time to start that fall fishing if you haven't been doing so yet.

Please note our new fishing locations for next year. We hope you can join us.

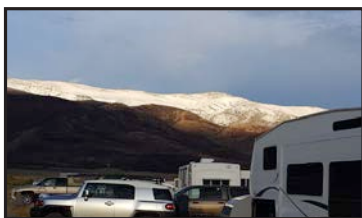
On a very sad note: Wayne Edwards will be truly missed by us all at the Chico Area Flyfishers club! I will miss his "wonderful" smile and always pleasant words and helpfulness! I "know" he has found that perfect place to catch some truly trophy trout or bass up there. Until we meet again Wayne. Respectfully, Pat Sleeper

Pyramid Lake is still that irresistible magical mystical body of water we can't resist!

by Pat Sleeper



Can you see the Wind storm coming from across the lake Sunday afternoon?



The storm is coming closer.....



This is what it looked like the next morning, Monday.....

Chico Area Flyfishers took up a majority of the Warner point bay "as usual" for the opener on Oct 1st 2016 at Pyramid Lake. We "all" had a line in the water Sat, Oct 1st for the opener somewhere: Standing on a ladder; kicking and rowing a pontoon boat; and then others had their own gas driven boats; and, all to experience the catch of their first lahontan cutthroat of the season! These lahontan cutthroat trout are born to be a true fighting machines gaining in weight and size yearly; and, every year it isn't uncommon to find they are taking a different fly from the year before. Still we all show up like a flock of geese making our yearly migration.

Our yearly migration of trailers and tents completely lined the bay and in places double and triple lines. As the beautiful sun rose opening morning you could see 6 or 8 boats out in the bay that had gotten out 1 hr before sun rise. The rest of us came out after we could see. :) The catching wasn't as plentiful as usual and my thermometer gagged the water at 65 degrees. Maybe that was the reason; but, even the jiggers were "not" catching anywhere near their usual. I spoke to some and their counts were about 8 compared to last year at 100+. But as the water started cooling down, the catching got better. The last temp I read on leaving was 61; and, the bay was full for birds. Birds of all kinds had come to this bay and so were the chui chubs and lahontans.

Weather was definitely a factor in this year's opener! The water was rougher with the wind come up Sat night. And as we got up Sunday morning fewer fishermen were partaking in the rough seas. As the wind continued to pick up, we had a fisherman that "almost" didn't get back due to the incredible intensity of the wind pushing him out to sea! Estimates later were wind gusts from 40-60mph. People were running into larger trailers if they had a tent or small trailer; and, even these were rocking and swaying. Then it turned into rain and then later snow covered the mountain were running into larger trailers if they had a tent or small trailer; and, even these were rocking and swaying. Then it turned into rain and then later snow covered the mountain tops. Fishing did continue for some at different protected coves where the wind wasn't hitting and catching wasn't a problem. The Lahontans caught, ranged in size from 20 - 28 inches and Dan Reese caught an 8 lb lahontan which was the largest that I know of during our trip (no picture). Please enjoy some of our documentation.



The Lahontan cutthroat trout



The birds.....so many birds.....

See "Henry Lomeli" our speaker Wed, Oct 12, 2016, @ 7:30; location: California Park Pavilion, California Park Dr, Chico.

Henry Lomeli will host a river tour as you relax and enjoy the scenic beauty of the Sacramento River. As your wildlife guide and boat captain, he brings with him over 30 years of experience and knowledge as a professional wildlife biologist and recreational specialist.

Safety is always his highest priority. He currently holds the following credentials: U.S. Coast Guard- Merchant Marine Officer, California Department of Boating and Waterways- Boat Safety Certified, California Department of Fish and Game Guide License, American Red Cross Certified First Aid/ CPR, insured and bonded, and certified by the National Restaurant Association accredited food safety program-ServSafe.

Henry believes that an important way to protect the Sacramento River for future generations is to share its unique character with others. He hopes that every guest experiences something on their tour that enables them to feel a greater responsibility towards the stewardship of the Sacramento River, its wildlife, and the habitats they depend on for their survival.

Whether you're a naturalist who enjoys observing river otters, turtles, beavers, deer, dragonflies, butterflies, or flowers, while gently drifting on the water, or an experienced birder seeking to view a rare species like a Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Willow Flycatcher, or Solitary Sandpiper, or simply a group of close friends seeking a unique venue to celebrate your special occasion, Henry can help make it all possible and will work at tailoring a trip that is right for you.

Henry has been a wildlife biologist for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the past 23 years, and currently resides in Chico, California. He handles wildlife management responsibilities over a large area of northern California, responding to animal control calls ranging from bears and mountain lions to raccoons and skunks. He is a friendly and kind individual whose work ethic and morals were formed by his loving family, Catholic faith and the Boy Scout way of life. Nine years ago, Henry decided to share his passion for the outdoors with others by starting an ecotourism company along the Sacramento River, where he provides boat cruises down the river while he educates people about the variety of wildlife along California's largest river.

Henry will talk about an invasive plant on the Sacramento River called Wed evening at the California Park Pavilion on California Park Dr. at 7:30.....Come early...Henry "always" has a wonderful talk as well as a question and answer segment at the end.



On the Road Again,

Don and Pat Sleeper

Sept 6th, 2016 we all headed for La Ventana, Mexico which is located two hours north of Cabo on the sea of Cortez for Dorado fly fishing. Eight of us had "the best Dorado fishing in the world"... We landed 308 Dorado in six days of fly fishing. Our guides chummed at times and used teasers to bring them in. We had schools of 50 or more around us at times, and at one time six of us in three boats had fish on. Most of the Dorado was caught on surface poppers. They ate and destroyed my poppers so I went back to sardine patterns. With only one broken fly rod, it was a very successful fishing trip. Though we came in on the tail of a hurricane that presented a few minor problems for a couple days; such as no electricity or running water; it was still on our list as one of the most enjoyable trip of our lives!

We also caught Jack Trevell and other species from the beach. We're headed back down next year.

It was an extremely fun time full of new experiences and a lot of fun memories as well as a Great learning experience! People new to fly fishing even caught these breathtakingly beautiful fighting fish.



Elton with nice fish



Pat with a nice fish.



Going out in the morning 50 feet from our lodging



All the group

CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2016

CAF meets 10 months out of the year and presents a variety of exciting fly fishing-related programs throughout the year. The meetings also include monthly fly tying demonstrations, raffle prizes, refreshments, and the very best info and lies about Northern California Fly fishing. Meetings are being held on the second Wednesday of the month at The California Park Pavilion. We look forward to see you at our next meeting and hearing "your" fishing stories! Fly tying begins at 6:30 p.m.; general meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. **Location: California Park Pavilion: 2565 California Park Drive Chico.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
Oct	Henry Lomeli	Rattlebox
Nov	Almanor fishing Association	
Dec	Round Table	
Jan	Share "Your" pictures and stroies	
Feb	Chris - Pyramid Lake and Crawley Lake	

Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2016

Future outings that Chico Area Flyfisher's provide to its Membership: These Club Fish-outs 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.

Tom Rosenow will be our new fish-out leader with Elden Hinkle. 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 Tom Rosenow at trosenow.chico@gmail.com.

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
Oct 23rd	Bailey Creek lodge fishout for the day @ \$100. per rod and a 10 rod/person max. RSVP Elden* 10 person max. RSVP *Elden; ehinkle@aol.com	
Nov	Little Grass Valley Lake - TBD- Elden	
Dec 14, 2016	Pizza feed @ 6:00 P.M. - Round Table on Pillsbury Rd.	
Jan 2017	Baum Lake - date depends on weather - TBD	
Jan 30th - 4th, 2017	Picachos, Mexico... - Pat Sleeper - full - thank you.	
March 4th	Annual Crab Feed Dinner	
March 11 & 12th	Pyramid Lake Clinic w/Rob Anderson & Chris RSVP Elden Hinkle ehinkle@alo.com Breakfast/lunch/ladders \$190. pp + \$30. box of 12 flies.	
April 26th-May 4th	Rooster Fishing "Sea of Cortez" La Ventana. Questions: psleeper@sbcglobal.net (12 fishermen max) Cost: Under \$2000.pp A few spots left.	Pat Sleeper
May	Opener	Eric See
June	Lake Almanor - Hex hatch- @ Scott Joyce's "thank you!"	TBD
July	Crawley Lake	TBD
Sep. 5 - 12, 2017	Dorado fishing La Ventana, Mexico. 6 days boat fishing/7 lodging w/food. Cost for everything under \$2000. Questions: psleeper@sbcglobal.net	Pat Sleeper
Sep. 12-19, 2017	Dorado fishing La Ventana, Mexico.	Pat Sleeper

Host: Pat Sleeper 6 days boat fishing/7 lodging w/food.

Cost for everything under \$2000. Questions: psleeper@sbcglobal.net Oct 1, 2017 Pyramid opener Tom Rosenow

Fly of the Month for September 2016

Picket Pin

Fly of the Month, October, 2016

By: Ray Narbaitz

For this month's F.O.T.M. we are going into the way back machine. The Picket Pin is a fly I had read about in several old books on fly fishing, but really had no idea what kind of fly it was. It turns out it can be either a Wet Fly or a Streamer, depending on what kind of hooks one uses. After reading about it, I decided it could also be called the Road Kill Fly. As you can imagine, as an old fly, it has gone through a lot of changes and materials. However, the original was tied with the hair and tails of Ground Squirrels or Prairie Dogs. As near as I can tell, the originals were tied with a lot of different materials like Ground Squirrels, Prairie Dogs, Tree (Gray) Squirrels, Pheasant Feathers, Hen Hackle, Rooster Hackle and the only, consistent, material, Peacock Herl.

The Picket Pin was originated somewhere around 1915 by a Mr. Jack Boehme in Missoula, Montana. He developed it to fish in Western Waters, and for a long time it was a favorite of fishermen in the Northwest. It was given its name by the Cowboys of Montana. They called Prairie Dogs Picket Pins, because as they sat upright watching for danger, they were reminded of Picket Pins. That's the name they used for a device they screwed into the ground to tether their horses at night.

With a couple of minor changes, the pattern as I will list it here was stolen...er, borrowed from a video by Tim Flagler. This version of the Picket Pin would be fished as a wet fly. That means it would be fished pretty much the same way you would fish a Soft Hackle. Tied as a Streamer, I have seen it listed using a 4X to 6X long shank hook. I've also seen it tied with Pheasant Body Feathers or Brown Hackle for a tail...either Hen Hackle or Dry Fly Hackle, and several different types of material for the wing. The Gray Squirrel Tail I am used for the wing I gleaned from a road kill in Bidwell Park many years ago.

Hook: TMC 5262, 10 to 14

Thread: Black 6 or 8/0

Tail: Red Fox Squirrel Tail

Rib: Gold Wire, Brassie size

Hackle: Brown, sized to fly

Body: Peacock Herl

Wing: Gray Squirrel Tail

Head: Peacock Herl.

1. Debarb hook and place it in the vise.
2. Start thread and cut off excess.
3. Cut off a clump of the tail material, and pull out the fuzzies from the base. Tie in the tail to the bend of the hook. Tie it a little shorter than the shank of the hook. Tie the material in all the way to about the $\frac{3}{4}$ point of the shank. Cut off the excess.



4. Tie in the ribbing wire, letting the thread torque carry it to the opposite side of the hook shank from you. Tie it in to the bend of the hook.
5. Tie in the hackle, by the tip. You want the palmered hackle to taper upward toward the eye of the hook when you wrap it. Tie it in at the same place as the wire and tail.
6. Tie in three or four strands of Peacock Herl at the same point as the other materials. Tie them in by the tip, after you have trimmed a little of the tip section off with your scissors.
7. Wrap the Herl in tight wraps up to the $\frac{3}{4}$ point of the hook, and tie it off. Trim off the excess.
8. Palmer the hackle up to the end of the body. Counter wrap the hackle, and take one extra turn at the tie off point. Cut off the excess.
9. Spiral wrap the Ribbing Wire up through Hackle. Wobble the wire back and forth when you do to avoid tying down too many of the Hackle Fibers. Counter wrapping the Hackle helped reinforce the Peacock Herl, and regular wrapping of the wire reinforced the Hackle.
10. Cut off a clump of the Wing Material, and pull out the fluff from the base. You can stack the hair if you want, but just getting the tips sort of even is good enough. Tie it down well, and cut off the excess. Make a smooth wrap with your thread from the tie in point of the wing to the head of the fly.
11. Tie in a couple of strands of Peacock Herl at the base of the wing, and wrap them forward to the eye as a head. Tie them off and clip the excess.
12. Whip finish your thread at the eye, give it a dab of Head Cement, and the fly is done.

Notes: While I didn't here, there is nothing that says you couldn't weight this fly if you wanted to. I also think it would look pretty good with a Black Bead...The fly can be fished as both a Nymph and Wet Fly, and is a good candidate to be fished both ways on the same cast...It also could be stripped back with short bursts before picking it up to cast again...As with many flies in the F.O.T.M. column, I list several variations that could be used to tie the same fly. This is not a new concept: "The number of ways in which flies can be tied is incredible. There are hardly two books which lay down identical methods." G.E.M. Skues, *The Way of the Trout With a Fly*, 1921.



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