

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'



APRIL 1998

short casts



SUCCESS is the best word to describe the results of our Annual Dinner/Fund-raiser!

As of our last general meeting, March 11th, Steve reported that we had gathered in about \$15000 versus expenses to that point of about \$7,700 - which would result in a net of about \$7000. That is looking like a fantastic amount compared to our previous experience when we generally netted about \$4000.

Well deserved THANK YOU to all of you for helping to make this such a successful event. The committees were well organized and with the obvious profit for the club, all the efforts are appreciated by the members and by those involved.

And these are all in addition to the great assistance provided by many of our more talented members that were noted in the program for the evening.

At our last Board Meeting, we spent a fair amount of time discussing and critiquing the Annual Dinner. It was decided

THE LINE

Lionel Valley, CAF President

to develop a team to chair the annual dinner in the future to attempt to lighten the load and provide some continuity. Starting next year, the immediate past - president will cochair the event with the former past president and our present chairman. In addition, it was agreed that person who handled the different responsibilities would provide an outline/checklist for future reference to be placed in an Annual Dinner binder. We're hoping to have that completed before our next Board Meeting.

The speaker at our last general meeting was Joe Kinsey, former owner of the Ted Fay Fly Shop in Dunsmuir. He had some great information and suggestions on nymph fishing, particularly in the Upper Sacramento River.

Don't miss the next general meeting when we will have the residents of the McCloud River Preserve - one of the most phenomenal sections of river many of us have ever seen. They will be providing a very interesting program on the area, the fisher, and the wildlife in the preserve.

APRIL 25 FISHOUT - Hat Creek

Ron 'Tip' Leger, CAF Fishout

At last April is here. Its been a wet winter and prospects are good that we will be having a wet spring also. Hail El Nino!!! This could mean really good fishing later in the year and high water for the opener. But since when has high water kept Chico Area Flyfishers off of the Hat on opening day? Al Coulon can tell you a story about high water on opening weekend - or was that flooding, Al? For those of you new to the club, this is the one fishout you should not miss - fish or no fish. I don't think we have ever had a bad opener on the Hat. Just watching Jim and Ray put on their annual fish catching exhibition is worth the price of admission. It's a great time to visit old friends you haven't see for a while, to learn the tricks of fishing the Hat and to cuss yourself out for not buying

new leaders or fixing the leak in your waders. Of course it also gives us the opportunity to select the recipient of the Walt Koebler Memorial trophy or the "Golden Zipper". It was the opening weekend around 1980 that Walt Koebler's new Levis caught fire leaving only the zipper.

You can usually find club members at Power House #2 fishing the riffles or the "toilet bowl" (Bert's favorite), fishing the fast water near the "foundation" (between the park and the barrier), across the barrier, at the Park or at Carbon Bridge which can be reached by walking from the Park or from the Power House or by the dirt road off of 299 (see Map on back). Other areas worth trying are the Pitt below Lake Britton and the Cassel Forebay.

(Cont. on back page)



SPRING WARM UP - \$10.00 / person

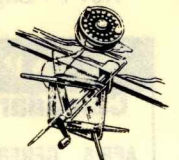
"Spring Warmup" on Saturday, April 18, from 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM at Horseshoe Lake.

Bring your rods, questions and of course stories. Get rid of the winter cobwebs..

Toby will also be on hand with some special deals from the Chico Fly Shop.

Clinics will be held on

- Area Waters
- Casting
- Fly Tying
- Lines / knots



RSVP by our April General Meeting or call Bob Smith, 342-5908.

GENERAL MEETING

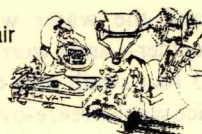
Wednesday, April 8
7:30 PM

Redge Hawkey, CAF Vice President

Stop by the Butte County Library off 1st Ave., for an

FLY TYING

Pat Corbett,
Fly Tying Chair



Apr 16th - 7:30 PM
Milt Jensen's Top '8'

We will re-tying some of

LAKE MCCUMBER - True Grit

Ray Hansen, CAF Member

The morning of the Fly Club's fish out at Lake

was only very foggy that morning.

I arrived at our rendezvous



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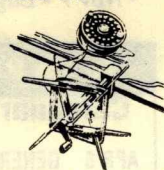
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Wednesday, April 8
7:30 PM

Redge Hawkley, CAF Vice President

Stop by the Butte County Library off 1st Ave., for an evening of fun and tales.

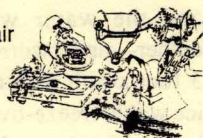
The following list is of our upcoming programs:

April 8 - The McCloud River Nature Conservancy will be our featured host.

May 13 - Steve Beck will present his program on 'Backpacking and fishing in Yosemite Park.'

FLY TYING

Pat Corbett,
Fly Tying Chair



Apr 16th - 7:30 PM
Milt Jensen's Top '8'

We will re-tying some of Milt's stillwater flies and go over some beginner and more advanced tying techniques. So bring your tying kits or if you are short on materials, we will have extra.

Tyers are provided recipe handouts for the evening plus step-by-step, one-on-one guidance to complete the flies.

See you at the Music Express Inn, 1091 El Monte Ave., Chico.

LAKE MCCUMBER - True Grit

Ray Hansen, CAF Member

The morning of the Fly Club's fish out at Lake McCumber, my wife was reading the club's newsletter and noticed the "requirements of a fish out". She hinted that our fish out that day met 8 out of 10 of the requirements and "why would any sane person go out in this weather?" I proceeded to tell her that the worst weather it is, the better the fishing. She looked skeptical, at best. I assured her that only "true fishermen" venture out in this kind of weather on purpose. Besides, it

was only very foggy that morning.

I arrived at our rendezvous point and much to my disappointment, the only ones to show-up were Mark, Jeff and myself. Jeff pointed out that we must be the only "real" fishermen in the club; or something to that effect. Our battle cry began... "Bring on the bad weather, Dudes!"

When we arrived at Lake McCumber, three snow-removal trucks were stuck in a snowbank. "Wow, this is going

(Cont. on back page)

LOCAL GUIDES

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

Dick Murrell
Oroville, CA
(530) 532-4223

Merganzer's Outfitters
Chico, CA
(530) 343-4071

Orland Outfitters
Orland, CA
(530) 865-8545

Oasis Springs Lodge
Paynes Creek, CA
(800) 642-4150

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

CAF HISTORY

Roger Bevers is collecting old newsletters, pictures, videos and any information about the club history. He needs your help, 343-6442.

Upcoming Fishouts

- May 16 - Feather River
- Jun 13 - Fall River
- Jul 11 - Lake Almanor
- Aug 8 - Gold Lakes
- Sep 26 - East Walker River
- Nov 7 - Eagle Lake

APRIL Calendar of Events

APR 8 GENERAL MEETING

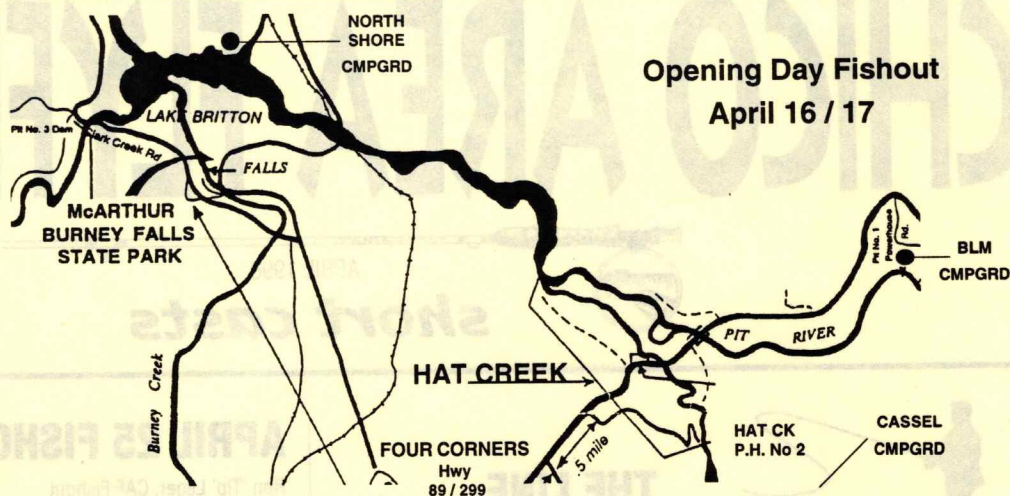
7:30 PM
Butte Co. Library

APR 16 FLY TYING

7:30 PM
Music Express Bed
& Breakfast
1091 El Monte Ave
Pat Corbett, 877-5448

APR 18 SPRING WARM UP

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Horseshoe Lake



Opening Day Fishout April 16 / 17

April Fishout

(Continued)

For fishing the Power House riffles bring lots of birds nests, size 14 and 16. Cinnamon seems to be a good color to use. They're usually fished with a split shot about six inches from the fly. Bead-heads and P.T.'s also work well in this water. Use of indicators is a personal choice, but can be very effective. For fishing the flat water from the park to just below the power house number 16 or 18 PMD's and Baetis have worked well in the past. Long leaders, 6-7x tippet with drag free drifts are mandatory for taking these

spooky, selective, wild fish. From the Park to Lake Britton bird's nests up to size 10 and Golden Stones sometimes work well. Smaller Birds Nests, PT's, etc. also work well here. High sticking is the method of choice for nymphing these waters. A visit to Trout Country in Johnson Park, Vaughn's in Burney or in any other fly shop in the area is worth stopping by to restock your fly box or to get recommendations from the experts.

Saturday evening at dark, we all plan to meet at B.J.'s in Burney. If they are closed, we will meet at the other restaurant

(Jerry's??), look for club members cars in the parking lot. Most of the club will be camped at McArthur/Burney Falls State Park. Look for the club banner and we will try to get spots as close to each other as possible. For those of you who get there early, Baum Lake can also be productive. Ask Bob Smith for directions on fishing this lake and locating the hatchery truck.

The Youth Group will be joining us so bring your kids. Roger and his young anglers would appreciate any help you might give. Have a great opening weekend and an even better season. **CATCH AND RE-LEASE.**

Lake McCumber

(Continued)

to be great", I thought.

While searching for a place to launch our belly-boats, I noticed that some kind hearted person had chiseled a two-foot wide path in the ice to the non-iced-up lake's center. While gingerly paddling my tube through this icy path, the sound of the jagged ice scraping the sides of my float-tube made a sound eerily similar to a sound recently heard while watching the "Titanic".

Once out on the lake, the snow really started coming down, almost on cue. A few blurred figures in frozen float tubes were barely visible in the center of the lake.

The next few hours were periods of driving snow, then a

1" diameter hailstorm followed by frozen sleet. Although my memory of specific events during this time are vague, at best, I do remember the water being so cold that a thin sheet of ice would form around my float-tube if I didn't keep moving.

After four hours of this exercise in masochism, something told me I should start paddling to shore NOW, as I had to go pee, pronto! Imagine my delight when I learned I could still command my legs to move. Delight turned to horror as I realized the sun was setting, and the water was getting colder—and I worried that our 3 foot swath path through the ice would freeze-over. (Might I become famous as the first lake-locked float-tuber?) I was able to get back to land, if you call ice-covered-jagged rocks-and-

snow, "land".

Once on the bank, I spotted Mark and Jeff. They were still fishing! I was in the company of angling giants! I began the slow process of getting out of my frozen waders and semi-frozen clothes, using the only part of my body that could move, my elbows. Houdini would be proud. As I was removing my socks using the only part of my body I caught a look of horror in Mark's eyes as he looked at my bare feet on the snow. I assured him that it was perfectly normal for my toes to be the same color as the snow.

All-in-all it was a memorable fishing trip. Someone caught a few fish but the details were sketchy. If one positive thing comes from this experience, it's that I can now type with my elbows.

Oasis Springs Lodge
Paynes Creek, CA
(800) 642-4150

Big Bluff Ranch
Red Bluff, CA
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Butte Co. Library
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Music Express Bed & Breakfast
1091 El Monte Ave
Pat Corbett, 877-5448
- APR 18 SPRING WARM UP**
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Horseshoe Lake
- APR 25 CAF FISHOUT**
Hat Creek,
Mark Adams, 893-1600
- APR 30 YOUTH MEETING**
6:30 PM
1053 E. 7th St.
Roger Bevers, 343-6442
- MAY 2 CAF YOUTH FISHOUT**
Baldwin Ponds,
Roger Bevers, 343-6442
- MAY 13 GENERAL MEETING**
7:30 PM
Butte Co. Library

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Chico, California 95927



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