

# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'



APRIL 1999

short casts

## THE CAST

Redge Hawley,  
CAF President



Saturday, March 20, 1999, started off with rain and the fishout chairmen, Jeff and Mark, being home sick with the flu. But, Jeff gave us directions to Little Grass Valley reservoir, and John Demel, his son Shawn, Brent MacKay, and I headed off. We finally arrived at the area to walk in, but managed to pick the wrong turnout. This added about 40 minutes to our 2-mile hike into the lake with float tubes attached to our backpacks. The rain and snow

stopped about the time we got out of the car.

We started fishing at 11:30 a.m. We caught rainbow trout on the north side of the lake about 30-40 feet from the shore. Brent MacKay, who had never float-tubed before, managed to catch 7 trout after John and I gave him some simple pointers. These pointers were to keep the rod tip in the water or

*(Cont. on back page)*

## MAY YOUTH FISHOUT

MAY 1, 1999

Baldwin Ponds will be the hosted location for our May Youth Fishout program. Jim Gaumer has graciously offered this exciting bass location for our junior fly fishers.

Why do we get more participation from parents at this location? (NOTICE: Forms may be available for the "foster parent-for-a-day program").



## MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Our March meeting was hosted by the great and legendary Denton Hill. Denton's fishing accomplishments and exploits encompasses the world with many fly fishing world records.

Of course, all fishermen know that his slides and presentations can only bring awe and envy from the lower fly fishing chain. The exotic fish and scenery was as always great. A perfect touch for one of our own local legends. Thanks Denton!

## APRIL GENERAL MEETING

April 14, 1999 - Butte County Library - 7:30 PM

Lionel Valley, CAF Vice-President

Our program for the general meeting will be present by Rick Piscitello who operates Rick's Lodge on the Fall River.

He will present a new video of the Fall River area that was presented at the San Mateo Sportsman Show other shows.

He presentation will also include the inner tactics of catching Fall River trout and locations. This is a great fishery and also very close for the occasional tripper to local waters.

*We will always provide stories.*

## APRIL FISHOUT

### HAT CREEK AREAS

Mark "The Nymph" Adams



There are actually two fishouts in April. The first was this past weekend at Pyramid Lake. Since this article is being written before the Pyramid fishout but you won't be reading it until after the fishout I'll have to predict the past. I predict that very few club members showed up other than Jeff and myself. I'll go further out on the limb and predict that the weather was cold, wet and windy, but we prevailed and caught several large fish. Overall, my fish were slightly larger than Jeff's and took more skill to land. We'll give a first hand account at the club meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

The second fishout in April is the annual trek to Hat Creek

for the opener. This annual ritual is one of the best attended trips of the year and is especially good for those people that are new to the sport. You can always find club members that are willing to share their fishing knowledge. If you don't know what to do, don't be afraid to ask one of the other club members. This is a great area to spend a weekend of fishing with many streams and lakes within easy driving distance. Streams include Hat Creek, Pit River, Fall River, and Burney Creek. Lakes include Baum, McCumber, and Manzanita. A great weekend starts at Manzanita or McCumber on Friday, then heads to Hat Creek for

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## 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 WEB

<http://www.stormnet.com/caf>

## NEWSLETTER

[tod2flyfish@aol.com](mailto:tod2flyfish@aol.com)

## FISHING RPTS

*Fish First of Berkeley*

[www.fishfirst.com](http://www.fishfirst.com)

## APRIL

### Calendar of Events

apr 14 **GENERAL MEETING**  
7:30 PM  
Butte Co. Library

apr 15 **FLY TYING**  
7:30 PM  
CHICO FLY SHOP

apr 24 **CAF FISHOUT**  
Hat Creek Areas  
Mark Adams

apr 29 **YOUTH MEETING**  
Speaker: Jim Gaumer  
Bert Robinson

may 1 **YOUTH FISHOUT**  
Baldwin Ponds

may 12 **GENERAL MEETING**  
7:30 PM  
Butte Co. Library

## The Cast *(Continued)*

close to it, and occasionally twitch the fly. John and I also caught 7 rainbows apiece. Shawn was skunked, but he had a good nap. The fish ranged from 10 to about 15 inches and were strong fighters and were chunky. Not a single fly was lost. John and Brent used orange woolly buggers to catch all their fish. I used a peacock no hackle woolly bugger and a bead head bird nest nymph to catch my fish.

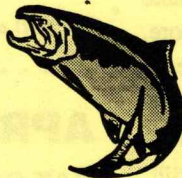
Three of the seven I hooked were in the vent and tail area, you figure. I hope you can have a fun experience like ours when you attend the club's upcoming fishouts.

## Fishout *(Continued)*

Saturday and ends on Burney Creek or the Pit on Sunday. If you want to wander a little, then head over to the upper Sac near Dunsmuir before heading home.

Most people arrive in the Burney area and camp at Burney Falls State Park. On Saturday morning there is usually a good sized group in Burney for breakfast at BJ's Restaurant before hitting the water on Hat Creek along the fly fishing only stretch. You don't have to be on the water at the crack of dawn, 8:00 or 9:00 is just fine. Fisherman will be scattered from the fish barrier at the lower end of the powerhouse at the upper end. Of course, the power house area is always one of the most popular. Don't be afraid to wade on out and start "high sticking". Lunchtime finds many club members at the rest area where the highway crosses Hat Creek. This is a time for a little socializing and strategizing for the afternoon which finds many club members prowling the slick waters of the Carbon Bridge area, hoping for a hatch to come off. Most club members gather at one of the restaurants in Burney for dinner and more socializing. Sunday finds club members a little more scattered as they explore other waters

Right now there is no fishout scheduled for May, partly because there has been two in April and there will be two in June. May is a great month to fish but our home calendar is a little too full to squeeze in another fishout. But look out for the month of June, one of the two best months of the year. The first fishout in June is the weekend of June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and will be to Modoc County. This is one of the best trips we take and this year should be no exception with the excellent rainfall 'his past winter. Two years ago over thirty club members showed up to explore this great area. The very next weekend finds us heading over to Fall River for the second fishout of the month. If a guy were thinking straight he'd just stay up in this area for a whole week, starting at Modoc on the 5<sup>th</sup> and ending at Fall River on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Now that's a good idea! There will be more on these fishouts in the next newsletter.



## FLY TYING

Fly tying will be April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at Chico Fly Shop. Jim Gaumer will be providing a few of his special patterns.



**Chico Area Flyfishers**  
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