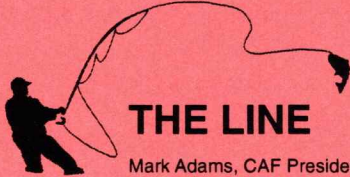


CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



short casts
april 2001



THE LINE

Mark Adams, CAF President

This weather is driving me absolutely nuts. It is simply too darn nice out for this time of year. It should be raining more to fill up the reservoirs and

keep me inside tying flies to replenish my boxes. Instead the sun keeps shining every single day and when I'm not working I'm finding all sorts of ways to stay outside. Sometimes I even go fishing. I've driven past some different steams in the last couple of weeks and they are all in absolutely great condition. Actually they look too good for this time of year. Most of them are in June-like condition. We'll be able to fish anywhere we want come opening day. The hard part will be making up my mind where I want to fish besides Hat Creek. Actually, that's not true, I already know where I'll be and it won't be at work.

Take note that the regular April meeting will return to the Library at the normal time (7:30) and day (Wednesday the 11th). We've had a little trouble nailing down a speaker but will have a local guide to talk about fishing opportunities. Plan to show up and be surprised.

Besides the regular meeting there are a few other dates to mark on the calendar. The monthly fly tying session will be hosted by Randy McKean at Chico Fly Shop on Thursday the 19th. This will be followed by the Spring Tune-up on Saturday, April 21st and then by the opening day fish out at Hat Creek on the 28th. These events are discussed in detail elsewhere in the newsletter.

(Cont. on back page)

THE PYRAMID LAKE SAGA

The March Fishout for Pyramid Lake was attended by eight hearty souls in search of the infamous Lahonton Cutthroat.

As the group gathered, tales of last year were abounding. We arrive to fish at about noon on Friday. It isn't long before someone shouts, look at all those people on ladders. Then another comments, and this is only Friday, wait until tomorrow.

You see Pyramid is famous for its ladder fishermen. The lake is shallow so the ladders allow the waders to stand in the deeper water to get to the fish. Well those of us from CAF new better, we brought floatation devices! We were going to beat the ladder challenge!

We knew that to "get in line" and make casts, was like

(Cont. on back page)

CAF FISHOUTS - Season Opener

Paul Hendricks, CAF

Well, the days are getting longer. I have my reels and lines cleaned and ready for "Opening Weekend" which falls on April 28th this year. For many years I skipped *Opening Weekend*, too many folks crowding too many places. Hwy 32 along Deer Creek looked more like a parking garage than a highway. Then one year about 10 years ago, ok might have been more then ten. I decided to join the CAF members at Hat Creek for the opener. That was one of my first fishouts with th eclub and I learned more about Hat Creek in that one weekend then most folks would learn in several trips there. That night there were at least 15 members of the club at BJ's for dinner and everyone had at least one story to tell.

Lately the turnout to this annual event has been pretty pitiful. Last year maybe 5 members showed up and only a couple stayed for dinner. The Year before found 3 of us sittin in the coffee shop munchin on cheese burgers. And we call Hat Creek our "Home waters"?

Here's the schedule for this year. I will me at McAruther Park on Fri. I will be at Baum Lake

Fri afternoon, Sat morning ther is a Pancake Breakfast in Cassel that I plan on attending around 8 am. 9 am will find me at the "Foundation Area". Around noon I will head up to the Hat Creek picnic area for lunch and hopefully a nice hatch of mayflies. Around 2 pm or so I will head over to PH#2 to watch the zoo for a bit before heading back to the park and then fishing the flat

(Cont. on back page)

SPRING TUNE-UP

The Chico Area Flyfishers will be offering its Spring Tune-up on Saturday, April 21, 2001 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Chico Rod and Gun Club (next to Horseshoe Lake). Activities will include instruction in flycasting, flytying, knot tying, and stream reading. Participants are encouraged to bring their own fly rods, however rods will be provided as well. These activities are free for members of the Chico Area Flyfishers, and \$10 for non-members. The \$10 can be used toward a Chico Area Flyfishers membership, which costs \$25. Come on out, trout season is right around the corner!

LOCAL GUIDES

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

Fish First
Chico, CA
(530) 343-8300

Merganser Outfitters
Chico, CA
(530) 343-4071

Orland Outfitters
Orland, CA
(530) 865-8545

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



CAF WEB

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

FISHING RPTS

Fish First of Chico
www.fishfirst.com

The Line - con't

Here's a little tip for everyone. Check out this website: HYPERLINK "<http://www.flyfishnorcal.net/>" www.flyfishnorcal.net/ and go to "Carpy's Corner". This column is written by one of our very own club members; actually he is a board member. The most recent issue is an especially good one for all of us to pay attention to. If we all follow his advice it will have a substantial impact on our sport.

While I have managed to fish a number of places (Pyramid, McCumber, Davis, and the Sac) in the last couple of weeks there are still plenty more that are causing me to worry. I can't help it, all I have to do is look out the window and I start worrying about places like Baum (What's happening with the hatch today? Probably a feeding frenzy!), the Feather River (Are those steelhead still hitting dry flies? Oh, you betcha!), the Yuba River (Is that hatch finally starting to tail off? Probably not.), or any water holding bass (Are the big boys getting that spawning urge? You know they are!), etc., etc., etc. I can hardly stand it! Don't wait another day, get out there and start fishing.

Pyramid Lake - con't

pulling the slots back in Reno, you just could not win!

Well to make a long weekend shorter, the Lahonton won the majority of these battles. Unlike last year, the fish were very selective and what they were selecting remains a mystery. Every time someone was on a fish the question was asked, "what color?"

Every color under the sun was described. No respectable insect or aquatic species could exist in some of the colors we heard about. So the Pyramid Lahonton Cutthroat remained mostly a mystery.

Our group caught a few each day, but nothing like last year. We had a few large fish 20"-25" but most fish were in the 16"-19" range.

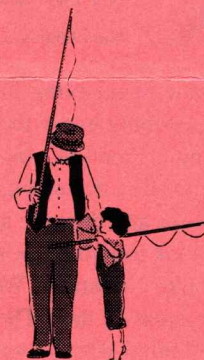
We will be back again next year to solve the mystery. Maybe the weather was too nice, or the wind was not blowing? Who knows? The one thing we do know is that Pyramid has some pretty nice Lahonton Cutthroat and we want another shot at them.

Opener - con't

water above the 299 bridge till around dark. Just after dark it's back to Burney for Dinner. If BJ's is closed then I will be at the Rex Club. Sunday morning I am open and may hit Hat again or even try Burney Creek.

If you want me to reserve you a campsite, give me a call at 895-0882

See ya all there.



— WANTED —

MEMBER(S) WHO

WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST

THE STAFF IN THE

DESIGN/PUBLISHING OF

THE MONTHLY CAF

NEWSLETTER. CALL

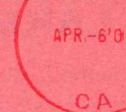
MARK ADAMS 893-1600.

april Calendar of Events

- apr 11 GENERAL MEETING
7:30 pm
Butte Co. Library
- apr 19 FLY TYING
CHICO FLY SHOP - INFO
345-9983
- apr 28 FISHOUT
Hat Creek - Opener
Paul Hendricks
- may 9 GENERAL MEETING
7:30 pm
Butte Co. Library



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS
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