



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'

short casts - Apr 2004



## THE LINE

Dana Miller, CAF President

The fly fishing community has lost a true friend. After a courageous 4 year battle with cancer, Press Powell passed away on March 11<sup>th</sup>. I will always remember the casting demonstration Press gave to CAF just a few years back. Now I've been fly casting since I was a kid, and I figured I could compete with the best of them, boy was I wrong! Press effortlessly put out 30' of line while talking to us about the fundamentals, rods and lines, and it didn't even look like he was moving!

Although I never fished or hunted with Press, we always talked about where the fish were and how the ducks were flying. Each conversation ended by talking about our businesses, how the small guy can survive, how it seemed that government was out to get us, and we both had stories that would leave us laughing. Those conversations will be missed, but not forgotten!

I went fishing! I know it's hard to believe, but I did it. It was my annual Birthday fishing trip to McCumber reservoir. We went on March 17<sup>th</sup> and what a beautiful day it was! Warm and clear with a little snow in the really shaded areas. CAF member Steve Vanella was my guide, as he always is, since it's "my" birthday. We were the only ones there for a long time, but it didn't matter because we weren't catching anything anyway. Poor Steve got a strike within 5 minutes of getting out on the water, and that can be good or it can be really bad, hence the word "Poor".

We fished the entire day. I ended up with 4 fish, 15 to 16" and really fat (Footballs).

I had 5 or 6 strikes, and lost 5 fish that I had on for a second or two. Steve ended up with 2; both about 10" and he lost a nice one when it broke his line. (Lunch fish-bet) and that was it for him. I used Prince Nymphs, Jay Fair pattern Wiggle-tails, Teeny nymphs and numerous midge imitations. The Prince and Wiggle-tails worked the best. There wasn't much of any sort of hatch coming off and the water was crystal clear. The wind would blow and then stop and it would be dead calm, which makes flyfishing really tough! A few other boats showed up but only one flyfisherman and he caught 2 that we saw. Fishing wasn't very good,

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## March General Meeting:

A Presentation by:  
**Mike Costello**

Tom is a delta fly fishing guide and his presentation will be on Striper fishing in the Delta. For those of use that chase steelhead until December, the Delta is a great place to fish in Jan and Feb. Don't miss this one.

The General Meeting is at the Butte County Library in Chico on Wed April 14 at 7:30 pm.

A short story for the folks who enjoy great fly fishing-

By Don Sleeper

My daughter was married in Hawaii on December 5<sup>th</sup> and I decided to take my fly rods. I wouldn't have believed it, but I had a good fly-fishing adventure on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. I contacted a guide on the Web that specialized in "shore" fishing off the flats, for bonefish and barred trevally. I used a nine-weight rod with plenty of backing. We walked the flats (over a mile) in water up to my chest at times, stocking and spotting bonefish. I hooked three bonefish (5 to 6lbs fish), landed one, using a brown octopus pattern. These bones would literally strip off 80 to 100 yards of my backing heading for the open reef. It was strange for me to realize there is no riverbank to stop these running fish and "do I have enough backing"? My biggest problem was fishing without a large arbor reel and trying to take-up line once these fish headed back my way. Santa came through for Christmas and I received a large fly reel for my next salt-water fly-fishing trip. See the enclosed pics, my camera failed, fortunately the guide had an underwater disposal that worked great. The guide's name is Oliver and any he can be reached at the following e-mail address. [info@bonefish808.com](mailto:info@bonefish808.com)

## LOCAL GUIDES

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

**Fish First**  
Chico, CA  
(530) 343-8300

**Merganser Outfitters**  
Chico, CA  
(530) 345-4071

**Orland Outfitters**  
Orland, CA  
(530) 865-8545

**Oasis Springs Lodge**  
Paynes Creek, CA  
(530) 642-4150

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



**RAPTOR ROD WORKS**  
Production \* Custom \* Repair  
(530) 894-2062

## CAF BOARD

**President: Dana Miller.....345-3266**

**Vice President: John Bryan -345-9983**

**Secretary: Mark Adams - 345-5042**

**Treasurer: Dennis Boyd-891-5760**

## Board Members:

**Ron Leger.....343-5191**

**Steve Bohmeyer.....345-1721**

**Val Bowlby.....891-0706**

**Lionel Valley.....343-7364**

## Past President

**Eric See.....343-1398**

but it was a fun first trip of the year!

This time of year I start thinking of Davis Lake, lakes up in Modoc County and Pyramid Lake in Nevada. I wonder how big the Pike are in Davis and will I land one this year? Hopefully Modoc County has gotten lots of rain to fill all their lakes. The fishing can be real good up there, especially after a couple years of good water. Every year I take warmer clothes but it's never enough! If your interested in going to Pyramid, call or e-mail me, because there's a group that's been planning to go but we haven't settled on a date as of yet, but it should be soon.

CAF was planning a fish rescue at Lindo Channel, but we were too late. Eric See seined some pools and only came up with Pike and Suckers, so it looks like the salmonoids went all the way up to Big Chico Creek or back down to the Sacramento River. I'm sure some were on the dinner menu for the local Heron population.

From time to time special fishing opportunities come up. We need your e-Mail addresses so we can notify you of the upcoming event. E-Mail me and I'll put you on the list. danamallard@excite.com. Remember when fishing a Wooly Bugger and you feel a tap.....Don't just "Cross his eyes" but "BREAK HIS NECK"!

## Calendar of Events

**Gen Mtg. Butte County Library - 7:30 pm Apr 14**  
**Spring Tune up - April 10th**

**NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS :** Please use the following e-mail address for all correspondence for the Club  
**chicoflyfishers@sbcglobal.net**

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'  
P.O. BOX 3583  
CHICO, CA 95927

