



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'

short casts

April 2005



THE LINE

Dana Miller, CAF President

I finally went fishing. With all the nice weather we've had, I picked a cloudy, cold day to fish Lake McCumber, just my luck! We got to the lake at 8:30 am and of course no one was there. The lake was about 3 feet low and the weeds covered a lot of the surface water. We had to pick our spots between all the weeds. Steve caught a 16" Rainbow right away, and that proved to be the largest fish of the day. We ended up catching 7 Trout and two Chubs. Most fish were caught using an indicator with a two fly set up. A Copper John two and a half feet below the indicator, then a #18 to 20 Chironomid pupa as a dropper a foot below. Most fish took the Copper John.

I did catch two fish using a wooly bugger. The sun came out once for about 10 minutes, and a few fish started rising, but then the clouds came back and that was it! Our first fishing trip was not real successful, but it was fun to be out fishing again!

Steve made an indicator, using two types of indicators. One was a solid, tooth pick type, combined with some bright green yarn. By the time he was done he had an indicator that was named "Wilson", after the movie Castaway... It looked just like Wilson floating on the water! Fishing was pretty slow!!

When lake fishing and using an indicator, they're times when your mind is mesmerized by the ripples of the water and by your indicator bobbing up and down. You become hypnotized. Your mind finally

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GETTING STARTED IN TRAVEL

by Roger Bevers

Traveling with your family can be an ideal time to expand your experiences in fly fishing. Each year I plan three or four trips to places with my wife that also serve as a time for me to learn new waters and experience some great fishing moments. It certainly helps though if your spouse supports you getting some early morning and late evening hour experiences into your day.

My wife and I do a lot of traveling in Europe and she loves to get me out of her hair early and late in the day. That individual time to unwind is important for you both, especially when you have been out touring and enjoying the sights all day. The real key to harmony though is the preplanning and communication before you leave on the trip. If you make sure you both know the plan or schedule prior to leaving the rest just seems to work out fine. Also, I usually try to plan a couple of days or at least

April 13th General Meeting

As has been done in the past, just show up, wear knee high boots and be entertained by the stories from the membership.

Important Announcements

If you didn't attend our annual dinner and haven't paid your membership dues, **this will be your last newsletter**. I have a list of all paid up members, so call me or e-mail me and I can tell you if you're paid up or not. If you went to the annual dinner and weren't a guest, you paid your annual dues. Annual dues are \$25.00.

Our annual Spring Tune-up will be April 16th at Clear Creek Sports Club. Fishing for Largemouth Bass with top water poppers can be exciting and we should be good action! Attend our monthly meeting on April 13th and get all the details.

CAF WEBSITE : chicoareaflyfishers.org

Trout Season starts April 30th. Our annual opener is planned for the North Fork of the Feather River.

Secretary's Notes

By Lionel Valley

Your Clubs Board met on March 2, 3005 and covered a number of items including the following;

A review of our 33rd Annual Dinner took place with general recognition that it went very well - the caterer served 235 plates.

We spent some time discussing ways to further improve the event, which we will incorporate into the Clubs Annual Dinner Operating Guide so we can implement those suggestions at our next annual dinner.

It was agreed that the STARS officers were a prudent addition to the event - motion passed to send them a donation of \$200 for the two officers who spent about 4 hours at the event.

Dana's suggestion to have a special raffle just before we started giving the raffle items away turned out great - the Club raised some \$610 with no additional cost involved - GREAT IDEA DANA!!!

Our speaker at our March General Meeting was Mike Kauai, who spoke about Learning the Art of Fly Fishing and provided some great slides on the fishing adventures available in the Pinedale, Wyoming area.

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My wife and I do a lot of traveling in Europe and she loves to get me out of her hair early and late in the day. That individual time to unwind is important for you both, especially when you have been out touring and enjoying the sights all day. The real key to harmony though is the preplanning and communication before you leave on the trip. If you make sure you both know the plan or schedule prior to leaving the rest just seems to work out fine. Also, I usually try to plan a couple of days or at least half days when I can fish my heart out. Don't get me wrong. You do have to be flexible and negotiate unforeseen circumstances. They always rear their ugly heads on trips. Knowing you as I do, that doesn't seem likely to be a problem. Fly fishermen and women seem to always be the easiest people to live with. Isn't it funny how that works?

If you have children you are taking on the trip, make sure that your spouse has time for his/her self and that the children are taken care of before you engage those new experiences. If your children fish make time with them to fish along with you and make time for you to fish alone. If you don't plan the alone time it won't happen and you'll end up with good memories of your children enjoying the fishing, which is great, but those special memories of just you and the waters you've chosen will be the ones that make you want to keep coming back.

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He covered a number of interesting items, including the following:

He can offer adventures on the Green River, the New Fork River, and the Upper Groevant River, among others.

His Fly Fishing School concentrates on some key components of good fly casting, including (1) starting with a good, balanced body platform, (2) followed by a good grip, and then (3) good wrist management which is very important.

He encouraged our Club to work with a certified fly caster to assist various members in improving their fly casting abilities.

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

Calendar of Events

April 13th — Gen. Mtg.
Butte County Library

April 16th — Spring Tune up

April 30th — Opening Weekend

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The fourth hint for you on travel is to get away from the normal lodging traps. Be inventive and talk to your spouse about trying different experiences each time you go. My wife and I have done the train lodging, motels, lodges, resorts, airport resorts, camping, RVing, cabins and private house rentals. Each experience is unique and different. We seem to like the private house rentals, especially in Europe. For example we have a place rented on 25 acres in Ireland this August when we return from our Russian and Scandinavian cruise. My wife and I have gotten the cruise fever and enjoy that kind of travel also. We talked it over and decided to include a side trip to Ireland on the end of the trip since we were already going to be in England. Consider piggybacking side trips when you travel, since the largest expense that you will have is your flight. I know what your thinking at this point. The flight for us to Europe is free on our frequent flyers mileage. Remember I'm not rich, I'm a retired teacher on a fixed income. Therefore it made sense to the two of us to really take advantage of location and add a new country to our scrapbook.

I'll continue a detailed discussion about Ireland in the Mays' newsletter.

BOARD MEMBERS

President:

Dana Miller.....345-3266

Vice President & Historian:

Roger Bevers343-6442

Secretary:

Lionel Valley.....343-7364

Treasurer:

Dennis Boyd.....891-5760

Fish Master:

Don Sellers.....345-1197

Board Members:

Ron Leger.....343-5191

Don Sleeper.....345-1197

Val Bowlby.....891-0706

Larry Willis.....895-0156

Past President

Dana Miller

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says "Where's the indicator?" You frantically scour the surface of the water searching for...there it is, right where you last remembered it. How can you not see that fluffy bright green ball of yarn? This phenomenon is called "Bobberitis" Now, there is worse case called "Acute Bobberitis" and this usually happens after many hours of fishing, with no luck. The same symptoms occur. As you are frantically searching for the indicator, adrenalin shoots threw your body, your eyes start to bulge, veins in your neck and head begin to pound, your body realizes that you stopped breathing and in an instance your muscles contract, your arm wildly yanks your rod 180 degrees. Line, indicator, and a size 20 fly, are hurling back at you and hit you in the face. The only cure for "Acute Bobberitis" is to take off the indicator and the size 20 fly and tie on a #8 Wooly Buzzer and start casting and stripping.

Since our annual dinner I've had a few people ask me where the money goes. So here's a list of donations I will recommend to the BOD of CAF. - Butte Co Library, McCloud River reserve, Big Chico Creek reserve, Hooked on Fishing, not on Drugs, Chico Creek Nature Center, North Cal. Federation of Fly-fishers, Trout Unlimited, Cal Trout, and Friends of the Trinity River. The Board of Directors are always open to any other Conservation organizations, and will evaluate all potential recipients as they come along.

CAF Trout Season Opener Fishout - The Annual Chico Area Flyfishers Trout Season Opener fishout will be to the North Fork of the Feather River. Come enjoy this wonderful local water, recent flow and temperature enhancements, along with special regulations has noticeably improved this fishery and the springtime stonefly and caddis hatches can be remarkable. CAF will secure several campsites at one of the campgrounds upstream of Belden, and provide a BBQ on Saturday afternoon. Camping will be the most fun, but this stream is close enough for a day trip. Come by for the BBQ! As with most streams in April, the only hitch will be the river flows. If the stream looks to be blown out for the opener, we may have switch to another location. A signup sheet will be circulated at the April Meeting, along with additional details. If questions, call Eric See (530-899-1918).

Outcast Pac 1200— 2 man pontoon boat—For Sale. Complete with 12 pound anchor. Only used once! \$1700 OBO. If interested contact Joe Megna 345-9400 days or 332-9100 evenings/weekends. If I am unavailable, please leave a message at either number.





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