



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

## Short Casts April 2015

Our next meeting will be Wed., April 8th, 2015 at 7:00 - @ CARD



### Vice President Pat Sleeper

THANK YOU MEMBERS!!! Your donations were the best ever!!! And, your participation in helping with reservations gave us our earliest "SELL-OUT" EVER!!! THANK YOU!! What a fun night!

I have listed below our incredible contributors

to our CAF Crab/shrimp dinner. Please go see them and tell them you appreciate their donations to CAF... thank you!

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### President's Line

The April President's line is always the easiest because there are really only

two things to talk about. The first and most important is to congratulate the club and thank everyone who helped to make the annual dinner such a success. We did really well this year and perhaps the most important thing was hearing people say that they had a good time and would plan to attend next year. I hope that the turnout that we had can translate into more participation in the ongoing activities of the club. A good start would be to come to the next meeting and start attending fishouts. They are really fun.

The second thing in April is fishing. Opening day is this month. Most of the high lakes, like Baum, Manzanita, McCumber and so forth are open and fishing well. We have all been tying flies, preparing gear, reading magazines, the newsletter and so forth and all should be having a lot of new ideas on tactics, flies and so forth to catch and release more fish this year. We also need to get out early this year as a lot of streams are already at midsummer levels and there is no snow so they are going to get low and warm. Be sure to make extra efforts to revive the fish that you catch because warm water stresses them and reduces the oxygen in the streams and lakes. Most importantly, have fun!

## Speaker Denis Peirce April 8th

Our next General meeting is Wed, April 8th @ 7:00 P.M. At the CARD center. With speaker Denis Peirce tying with an underwater presentation and he will also present lake fishing techniques as our speaker.

A New Look at an Old Technique, Trolling With Flies in LAKES FISHING WITH STREAMERS. Presented by Denis Peirce. The most numerous age group among fly fishers are the "Baby Boomers". With the frequency of hip and knee replacement surgery, the ability of many of these anglers to spend the day hiking and

Sincerely, CAF, V.P., Dinner Chairman Pat Sleeper

wading rivers such as the Pit or Klamath comes into question. For that matter, can many of your members still cast for an eight hour day any more?

The focus of this program is to show how we can use the rods, reels and lines which we already have to effectively troll fly patterns on the numerous lakes of California and beyond.

The program will cover topics including;

- Trolling Fly Design and Tying
- Underwater Video of trolled flies
- Adapting your current rod, reel and lines for trolling
- Boat rigging ideas
- Where on a lake to start
- Commentary on fishing many of the lakes of Northern California

Some of the largest and most numerous trout live in our lakes. The techniques presented allow anglers to cover extensive areas searching for fish. The goal of this presentation is to introduce a different way to effectively use the tackle we already own.

About Denis Peirce:

- Started "Denis Peirce Flies" in 1993, distributing flies throughout the western states.
- Hosted the weekly KNCO Radio "Fishing & Outdoor Report" since 1993.
- Has written the Outdoor Column for the "The Union" Newspaper, Grass Valley since 2003.
- Developed the line of "Arctic Fox Trolling Flies"
- Web site: [www.trollingflies.com](http://www.trollingflies.com)

### Denis Peirce

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## Pyramid Lake Fishout

April 17, 2013 By Don & Pat Sleeper

We fished Pyramid Lake March 18th through March 23th in beautiful weather; Pyramid was almost calm at times, dead calm. But the fishing was slow, almost everyone caught "a" fish. It was really different, but that's fishing.

We used pontoons most of the time, but Pat went so far as to use a ladder and caught more than anyone on this trip. Wait a minute...Eldon caught tied her! There was 14 members and guests at our spaghetti feed Saturday night. The fish ranged between 2 and over 10 lbs. Dan Heal caught a Pilot Peak fish that went 10.2 lbs and was 32 inches, a real trophy. We used Teeny Lines (shooting heads) with black and white streamers, foam beetles and midges. But most of the fish were caught using nymphs and chironomids under an indicator. Dan caught the big one on a foam beetle.

We all camped on the beach at Warrior and as you can see, it was fun.



Dan's Trophy



Terry's Trophy



Pat on her pontoon fishing very calm water.



Our camp on Warrior

# 2015 Trout Season Opener Fishout

April 25th is the last Saturday in April this year, and that can mean only one thing:

## **TROUT SEASON!!!**

**CAF will celebrate the Trout Season Opener with a fishout to the Hat Creek Area, near Burney, CA.**

The streams and lakes should be in great shape. Here are the details:

What:

- Fishout to Hat Creek on April 25th. Baum Lake for those who want to fish Stillwater. The Pit River, Burney Creek (great small stream!), Fall River, and Lake Britton, are all within a short drive.
- CAF will host a BBQ on Saturday at 5:30 pm at the campsite at Burney Falls.
- Bonus: CAF will provide a special Pit River nymph fishing clinic on Friday, April 24th. Reading water, high stick techniques, and wading tips will be featured. Bring a 5 wt. fly rod, basic trout nymphs, good wading shoes, and wading staff. Be sure to renew your life insurance policy before you go. Just kidding. But be advised, this is a very rocky stream. RSVP Eric See for more details.

**When: April 25, 2015 @ 0830 for fishing. April 25, 2015 @ 5:30 for BBQ.**

Where: On Saturday morning on the lower section of Hat Creek, in the proximity of the fish barrier dam located just above where Hat Creek empties into Lake Britton. There is a dirt road to this area located less than a mile west of the Hwy 299 crossing of Hat Creek. This road is on the north side of Hwy 299. The easiest way to find it is to drive to the park at the 299 bridge over Hat Creek, then turn around and drive back toward Burney and take the dirt road on the right.

Baum Lake is not far from Hat Creek and can be easily found on Google Maps.

The BBQ will be at Burney Falls State Park Campground. We won't know exactly which campsite until we get there but will try to post a note on the bulletin board as you enter the campground.

**PLEASE RSVP TO ERIC SEE** (esee@comcast.net). In your RSVP, please indicate if you intend to camp and/or attend the BBQ. More detailed information will be provided to the RSVP list once it is finalized.

## Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2015

This is where you can locate future outings that Chico Area Flyfisher's provide to its Membership. These Club Fishouts are designed to give fly fishers the best opportunity to catch fish and enjoy the outdoors. Our Club has many accomplished anglers who are willing to share their skills with others and you are only limited by willingness to become involved. From selecting promising locations and time, to helping those members new to the sport, we try to make these trips fun, exciting and successful.

We are also looking for additional fishout leaders. If you have one of those favorite spots that you don't mind sharing with others and would like to lead your fellow CAF members for a day of fishing fun, and fellowship please contact Don Sleeper or Eric See.

This schedule may change depending on the fish bite or weather conditions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
April 11	Little Grass Valley	Don Sleeper
April 25	Opener	Eris See
June	hex hatch@ Almanor	Scott Joyce
July 25th (Sat)	Pingatore Pond	Don Sleeper
Sept	Open	
Oct 1st	Pyramid Lake	Don Sleeper
Nov	Open	

Other ideas: Floating Indicator Clinic, Float Tube Clinic, Fly Casting Clinic, Yuba River, Fort Bragg area Surf Fly fishing---

## **CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2015**

CAF meets 10 months out of the year and presents a variety of exciting fly fishing-related programs throughout the year. The meetings also include monthly fly tying demonstrations, raffle prizes, refreshments, and the very best info and lies about Northern California Fly fishing. Meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday of the month at CARD. Fly tying begins at 6:30 p.m.; general meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

Location: CARD Center - 545 Vallombrosa Avenue - Chico. We look forward to see you at our next meeting and hearing "your" fishing stories!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
April 8th	Tom Maumoynier	Almanor fishing
May 13th	Henry Lomeli	Dep of fish & Game
June 10th	Jon Baiocchi	Davis lake and beyond
Sep 9th	Tom Maumoynier	Almanor Fishing

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Photo: Val Atkinson

# Join Us in Celebrating the Opening of Trout Season in Northern California at The Fly Shop®

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH, 2015  
10:30 AM TO 4:30 PM

## 2015 TROUT SEASON OPENING DAY PARTY

The Fly Shop's annual **Opening Day Celebration** will be on **Friday, April 24th, 10:30 am - 4:30 pm.** – we'll be celebrating 37 years in business! This is our way of saying thank you to the fly fishing community for their decades of support, and it's also a great opportunity for anglers to get up-to-the-moment fishing conditions and see all the new gear from our manufacturer representatives.

Guests will be treated to a wonderful lunch including: tri-tip sandwiches, sausage dogs, chili-beans, coleslaw, chips, waters, and soft drinks. Lunch is hosted by our local fly fishing club, Shasta-Trinity Fly Fishers.

Representatives of all the top fly fishing manufacturing brands will also be in attendance, displaying and demonstrating the newest rods, reels, flies, tackle and accessories for fly fishing.

Dylan Rothwell of Rising Fly Fishing Tools will be here again this year with his laser engraver, doing custom laser engravings on anything aluminum or steel (and some plastics) for a minimal fee of \$10. If you purchase a Rising Tool you can have The Fly Shop logo engraved at no additional charge.

Fly Fishing Federation Hall of Famer, **Hal Jannsen** will be on hand to autograph his book, *Stillwater Fly Fishing Secrets*.

Local author, **Bob Madgic** (*The Sacramento: A Transcendent River*), will also be on hand to promote his terrific book featuring what we consider to be the most important river in Northern California.

The Dept. of Fish & Wildlife will also be represented.

This year we will again have our staff of tiers on hand to answer questions or demonstrate techniques, in addition to teaching newcomers the basics of how to tie flies.

Be sure to sign up for door prizes when you get here! If you have any questions or need further information, please call **Sandy Watts** at **530-222-3555** or email: [sandy@theflyshop.com](mailto:sandy@theflyshop.com)



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# Fly of the Month for April 2015

## Higa's S.O.S.

By: Ray Narbaitz

The S.O.S. is the creation of Spencer Higa, who is the manager and lead guide at Falcon's Ledge (yes Ledge, not Lodge) in Altamont, Utah. Falcon's Ledge specializes in fly fishing and pheasant hunting. The S.O.S. stands for Save our Skins, and was so named by the guides because it has come to the rescue on so many days when the fishing was tough. Originally meant to be a Baetis Nymph, it has now become a general attractor nymph as well.

Spencer says he came up with the S.O.S. a few years back while fishing his home waters of the Provo River. He says the top three flies there are the P.T., the Zebra Midge and the Sow Bug. Unfortunately, at the time, Utah law allowed one to fish with no more than two flies at a time which meant that one of the big three was not being used. Spencer's solution was to combine his two favorites, the Zebra Midge and P.T., into one fly.

Spencer's pattern calls for a wing case of red floss. When I watched a video by MidCurrent's Tim Flagler, he used red Holographic Tinsel instead. When I asked Spencer about that, he said he had tried a number of materials, including orange, Dacron backing, but thought the floss worked best. He acknowledged that a lot of people (like Flagler), don't like to work with floss, and thought the Holo Tinsel was a great idea.

Hook: TMC 2488 or 2488H 16 to 18 (that's a 2X short hook, so it's a small fly)

Thread: UTC 8/0, but just about any 8/0 black thread that lays flat will do

Bead: Silver

Tail: Black Pheasant Tail

Rib: Silver wire, small

Abdomen: Tying thread

Wing Case: Red Floss or Red Holographic Tinsel

Thorax: Black, natural fur dubbing of your choice or Black Ice Dub

Legs: Two strands of Black Crystal Flash.

1. Debarb your hook, thread on the bead, and place the hook in your vise.
2. Start your thread and wrap back toward the bend. Tie in 3 or 4 of barbs of the black, P.T. Wrap them down the bend of the hook a good bit. Make them a little longer than the length of the hook. I didn't have black P.T. but running a black Sharpie over some natural P.T. on both sides did the trick.
3. Wrap back up the hook, tying down the P.T. all the way back up to just short of the bead. At that point it will be wrapped securely enough that you can just break off the remaining butt ends.
4. Tie in the silver wire up by the bead and wrap it back down to the base of the feather. Tie it in on the top of the hook, and let the thread torque pull it over to the side opposite to you.



5. Wrap your abdomen of thread, giving it a slight taper. Make it a little more than half the hook shank.
6. Spiral wrap the silver wire in open wraps up to the head of the fly. Tie it down and break off the excess.
7. Tie in your wing case material at the bead. Make sure it is on top of the hook. I didn't have any red Holo Tinsel, so I stayed with the original floss. Make sure you tie it back so you will have an obvious wing case. I often fail to do that, and wind up with a wing dot instead of a wing case.
8. Apply the dubbing to your thread, and wrap a Thorax a little fatter than your Abdomen. It should be wrapped back over the Abdomen a bit so it is almost half of the shank.
9. Tie in two stands of black Crystal Flash in back of the bead. Wrap them back just a bit so they don't stick straight out.
10. Pull your wing case straight over the top of the Thorax, and tie it down right behind the bead. Use two or three tight wraps, and cut off the excess. Whip finish behind the bead, and cut off your thread.
11. Trim the legs so they are just a little shorter than the shank of the hook.

Notes: While the fly is still primarily a Baetis Nymph, I kept reading that it has become a good attractor fly. I asked Preston what size he uses when it is an attractor, and he was good enough to send me this description: "When I use it as a general attractor, the size depends on where I'm fishing. If I'm on a tailwater then I'll use an 18-20. If I'm on a spring creek or fishing plunge pools then I like to use a 16. The size 16 has caught more fish for me than the other sizes. I have tied bigger flies when Czech nymphing and use it as my anchor fly. I've tied it as big as 10. The S.O.S. works great on lakes too. Hanging it under a dry or an indicator is very productive."

## LOCAL GUIDES

Chico Fly Shop  
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## CAF WEBPAGE

<http://chicoareaflyfishers.org>

## FISHING REPORTS

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

Change of address?  
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## Contact

Don Sleeper..... 345-1197



**Ron Leger**  
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