



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

CAF March 2023 NewsLetter

Next General Meeting, Wed. April 12th 6:30pm Fly Tying The Lakeside Pavilion 7:30 meeting



President's Line March, 2023

Thank you "all" for joining our 51st CAF Fundraiser dinner!!! We had a BLAST!! Yes, the BIG salami was back!!!

We had it all: from wonderful friendships; great fly rods, a total of 24 rods of almost any factory weight you could want. We had guide trips from 14 different guides located in Oregon, Montana and California. We had dinner certificates from our local restaurants. Thank you all for donating!

I want to thank Sportsman's Warehouse for being our top donor for our 2023 dinner!! Thank you!! Please enjoy these pictures, as we always say, "a picture is worth a thousand words." Right?

Please read our dinner donors on the next page. As you go into these businesses, thank them for donating to this CAF Flyfishing fundraiser dinner. Let them know "you" appreciate their donations to our cause!!

Thank you goes out to: The Italian Cottage for the delicious lasagna and meatballs with pasta, salads, bread and fixings dinner! Yum!!

Join me in thanking the Sons and Daughters of Italy: Tony, president, for their wonderful, warm catering of our fundraising event: Michael, our auctioneer, who is always so fun and entertaining behind the microphone; their bartender, Kenny, who gave that personal touch; and all the servers and cleanup crew! Bless you all! A Great job by all!!

Awards were given to: Pat Hallin, who received the Saber Tooth Award for his contributions and continued support to the club. Stan Thomas, received the Hall of Fame Award for being Lead for PHWFF and continuing to do such a wonderful job. Redge Hawkley, for the Golden Zipper Award for getting stuck on a sandbar in the middle of the Sacramento River and spending the night there.

Our next General meeting April 12th will be honored to have Denny Rickards as our speaker...please see his information enclosed on the next pages. He will be tying, selling flies and speaking about why we use different fly lines and their purposes. Very educational and a must see for the new lines out there! Location: Lakeside Park, California Park Dr, Chico, CA. on Wed, April 12th. Time will be 6:30pm with Denny demonstrating who he is tying his flies; then, 7:30 speaking about fly lines. See you there!

Sincerely,
Pat Sleeper,
President, CAF



CAF Dinner Awards: 2023

The Chico Area Flyfishers Club presents awards to members who have distinguished themselves during the year, at the annual dinner. The five awards presented are:

The Hall of Fame Award: This award is presented to the member who has distinguished him or herself through significant accomplishments in promoting the sport of fly fishing. Past winners: 1990 Walton Powell & Gene Mercer; 1991 Denton Hill; 1992 Earline Powell; 1993 Tom Peppas; 1994 Chuck DeJournette; 1995 Dr. Charles Beach; 1996 Ray Narbaitz; 1997 Press Powell; 1998 Jim Gaumer; 1999 Herm Sterner; 2000 Milt Jensen; 2001 Wayne Syn; 2002 Mark Adams; 2003 Ed Bruno; 2004 Randy McKean. 2005-06 no/award 2007 Dick Murrell; 2008 Ed Bruno; 2009 Eric See; Lincoln Gray 2010; Pat Sleeper 2011; Larry Willis 2012; Redge Hawkley 2013; 2014 Lance Gray; 2015 Don Sleeper; 2016 Lionel Valley; 2017 Steve Bohne Meyer; 2018 Terry Mich; 2019: Dave McKinney; 2020: Pat Hallin; 2022: Pete Wiik; 2023: Stan Thomas.

The Saber Tooth Award: This award is presented to the member who has worked over the years to promote our sport through participation in club activities. Past winners: 1993 Rex Thompson; 1995 Lee Dickey; 1995 Randy McKean; 1995 Jan Lang; 1996 Bob Smith; 1997 Bert Robinson; 1998 Ron Leger; 1999 Roger Bevers; 2000 Denny Toddhunter; 2001 Marv Turner; 2002 Lionel Valley; 2003 Paul Hendricks; 2004 Mark Adams; 2005 none; 2006 Dana Miller; 2007 Val Bowlby; 2008 Don Sleeper; 2009 Dennis Boyd; 2010 Pat Sleeper; 2011 Terry Mich; 2012 Eric See; 2013 Larry Willis 2014; Frank Spiteri; 2015 NONE; 2016 Tom Rosenow; 2017 Elden Hinkle; 2018 Lincoln Gray; 2019 Keith Kelly; 2020: Pete Wiik. 2022: Steve Pereira; 2023: Pat Hallin.

The Youth Hall of Fame Award: The Youth Hall of Fame was a direct response to the many hours of dedication and interest that Denton Hill gave to the Youth Group, which was stated in 1986. Denton donated time, fly tying experience and rod building skills to the classes at the meetings for the children. Recipients of the award can be club members, for support of the youth group, or youth group members themselves who have contributed to their fellow youth member's. Past winners: 1998 Denton Hill; 1999 Roger Bevers; 2000 Tom Peppas; 2009 Joe Garza; Christopher Hubbard 2010; 2017 Kayla Kellogg; 2020: Chris Giampaoli

The Press Powell Lifetime Achievement Award: The newest award to be given out by Chico Area Flyfishers beginning in 2006. This award is a local community award given out based on the person having a major effect and contribution to fly fishing industry; as example Press is the ideal standard for this award, since he has given so much of himself in the form of education, technology, development of equipment distribution and promotion of his love for the sport. Past winners: 2006 Ray Narbaitz; 2007 Ron Lewis; 2008 Randy McKean; 2009 Jim Clarkson; 2010 Lance Gray; 2011 Tim Fox; 2012 Allen Clemons; 2013 Lincoln Gray; 2014 Larry Bould; 2015 Mac Noyal; 2016 Eric See; 2017 Bob Baiocchi; 2018 Toby Uppinghouse; 2019 Wayne Syn; 2020 Pat Sleeper. 2022: John Baiocchi.

Walt Kobler Memorial Award aka The Golden Zipper Award: This is the oldest award! Traditionally it was given to the person who "screwed up" the most on the opening day fish-out. As the story goes...Walt Kobler fell in Hat Creek on opening day. That night while sitting around the campfire having some liquid refreshments, he laid his wet Levi's near the fire to dry out. The next morning all that was left of the Levi's was the "zipper". Hence, the name! The award is presented to the lucky member by the previous year's recipient. He/she forms a team of three to search out the deserving individual. Past winners: 1985 Charlie Beach; 1986 Ron Leger; 1987 Bert Robinson; 1988 Dick Murrill; 1989 Rex Thompson; 1990 Mike & Scott McEnepsey; 1991 Ray Narbaitz; 1992 Jere Lang; 1993 Al Coulon; 1994 Dave Raven; 1995 Bob Smith; 1996 Pat Corbett; 1999 Mark Adams; 2000 Paul Hendricks; 2001 Redge Hawkley; 2002 Ed Bruno; 2003 Steve Bohne Meyer; 2004 Dick Murrill; 2005 -07 none; 2008 Joe Garza; 2009 Frank Spiteri; 2010 Don Sleeper; 2011 Scott Hood; 2012 Scott Joyce; 2013 Joe Kelley; Remembrance award to Walt's son 2014; Mac Noyal 2015; 2016 Terry Mich; 2017 Frank Spiteri; 2018 Dan Reese; 2020 Larry Willis. 2022: Elden Hinkle; 2023: Redge Hawkley.

Standing Award Committee: Chairman, Larry Willis.
Pat Hallin, Dave McKinney, Pete Wiik, Pat Sleeper, Tom Rosenow

The committee reviews all nominations entered by the members of the Chico Area Fly Fishers Club; and, selects the recipients for the awards and reveals the winners at the Annual Dinner.

THANK YOU SPONSORS:

And thanks to the CAF Dinner Committee...if we missed someone we apologize, your contributions are appreciated!
Adamsbuilt Fishing Andre Duran Basque Norte Beatniks Coffee House Big Daddy Guide Service Bock Fly Fishing Butte Creek Country Club California Trout CARD Carl Selkirk Chico Masonic Family Center Chico Miller Real Estate Chris Giampaoli Chris Heringer of JB Cusick Co. Chris Hinkle Creative Composition, Inc. CSU, Chico Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve Dave Raven Denny Rickards "Dirty Mike" Elliot, Montana Don Sleeper Dr. Dave McKinney Dr. Scott Joyce Eco Living Resources, Gary Chang Elden Hinkle Ely Goodsell, BCCER Eric See Golden Beaver Distillery In Memory of Dawit Zeleke Italian Cottage JAG Fly Fishing Jim & Paula Sands Johansson's Trucking Company John Cowan Kirk's Jeweler's Kris Koenig Lance Gray Larry Willis Lincoln Gray Lincoln Gray Lionel Valley Llano Seco Lundberg Farms Mac Noble, Fish First! Mark Antaramian Guide Service Mike Mullen Mike Pickering Mike Smith, Sons/Daughters of Italy Montana Fly Co. Mooney Farms Pat Hallin Pat Sleeper Pete Wiik Pour House Rich/Karen Pingatori Ray Narbaitz Red Tavern Ron Leger Round Table Pizza Royal Aire Save Mart Grocery Sierra Nevada Brewing Company Sierra Stream Outdoors Sons & Daughters of Italy Spiteri's Deli Sportsman's Warehouse Stan Thomas Staten Island Preserve The Fly Shop The Home Depot The Nature Conservancy Tim Fox of Mr. Fox's Outfitters Toby Uppinghouse Tom Rosenow Tony George Tres Hombres Wayne Syn, Orland Outfitters

Crystal Creek Anglers-Denny Rickards: Fly lines and casting. April 12th: location - Lakeside pavilion @ 6:30 fly tying & speaking at 7:30.



When anglers commit to unravelling the mysteries of fly fishing lakes, rooted at the bottom of their efforts is the fly line. Keep in mind there is no one universal line for lake fishing. Because conditions keep changing, the effective range of any line is limited.

When probing different depths, if your presentation allows the line to sink too deep or is below the zone trout are holding, it's time to change lines to another type with a slower density. On the other hand, if trout are not showing on the surface, you probably need to use a fast sinker until you locate the depth trout are holding. The key is to match the lines sink rate to the depth where trout are feeding or holding. You only need to worry about two angles, parallel or up through the water column which dictates a sink-tip line.

— GET READY FOR SPRING! —

Spring fishing is right around the corner so let's go over a couple of items that get anglers in trouble with springtime fishing. First, and most important, remember the water is going to be cold and that means the bite is not what you want. Fish will feed, but will do it when the water is at its warmest point. That is usually somewhere between 11am to 2 pm.

Before and after that, they have little interest in feeding, PERIOD! Before you folks go off the deep end, I know you can still catch that elusive fish before and after, but what I'm saying is they are not on the hunt, but will still react to motion from the fly which causes them to react involuntarily. Most trout will settle down for the remainder of the day and not move.

Remember, a feeding fish is always on the move to find food and when they are inactive, they hold either a depth where oxygen and temperatures are to their liking or settle on or near the bottom in depths of 10-12 feet or less. Flies are not that critical this time of year but anything with moving tails, wings or hackle usually draws the most interest. If there is any hint of an incoming front, stay home, wash your socks, paint your nails or something other than chasing a non-feeding fish around a lake.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Rod Building Class

By Pat Sleeper

Beginning in January, Ed Migale has been teaching our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF) fly rod building group how to build their own fly rods. Last Monday, Ed taught the group how to affix the rod guides to the rod. Several vets started the guide wrapping process. What a great learning experience. "I'm really enjoying the rod building class we're doing!! Very therapeutic..." was said by our Vet Cecily Kishbaugh.

Thanks to all who participate and donate their time and products for this program!!

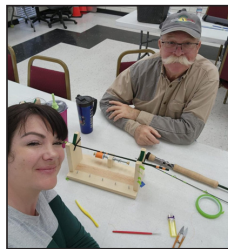


Figure 1 Cecily Kishbaugh and Stan Thomas



Figure 2 Keith Kelly (left) and Fred Sherman (right)

During this class, the (PHWFF) group of vets are working on a high end 10wt fly rod to be live auctioned at our Saturday, March 4th Annual Fundraising Dinner located at the Masonic lodge on East Av, Chico. The money from this rod will help fund our PHWFF program.

I'm constantly asked: What is PHWFF? Project Healing Waters Fly-Fishing is one of Chico Area Flyfishers branches where we are working hand in hand with disabled American Veterans through fly-fishing workshops.



Figure 3 Cecily Kishbaugh (foreground), Ed Migale (sitting), Keith Kelley (standing left), Fred Sherman (standing middle), Ernie Flud (standing right)

Chico Area FlyFishers Minutes

03/06/2023 Post Dinner meeting

Called to Order 6:13 PM by Pat Sleeper, President

In attendance. Pat Sleeper, Don Sleeper, Larry Willis, David McKinney, Stan Thomas, Tom Rosenow, Eric See, John Cowan, Elden Hinkle, Pat Hallin, Peter Wiik

Treasures Report Dinner. John Cowan

Report submitted. Door total was \$36,101.00

Discussed Dinner and Bar, Mike Pickering series of comments; Need more help: additional runners, Diet Drinks, Free water. Guide Trips. We should develop a bio for the guided trips so that people know who they are. Various options suggested.

A project we will work on. Pete in charge of developing a questionnaire for the guides to get to know them.

Need to Keep track of the number of drinks. Next year, register the first ticket number as a basis for the count.

Need help for runners with prizes.

Payment to Sons and Daughters of Italy. MSP: Mike/Larry. Continue with Sons and Daughters of Italy.

Discussion of next years entree. Maybe continue to have pasta/lasagna, as it was well re-ceived, will consider crab, but financially we did well this year.

Consider surf and turf as another possibility. We will for now keep the pasta/lasagna but will work on a plan B.

Need new and better credit card terminals for paying, possibility a new bank.

Cost of Dinner.

New Business:

Budget;

Need a new computer for CAF. M/S/Passed Mike/Larry, pay up to 1200\$ for computer and Microsoft office;

Adjourned 7:50 PM

David McKinney

Sec. CAF

It's March, and that means spring is either here or visible on the horizon. With the warmer weather, bugs will start to hatch and PMD's and BWO's make their appearance. While the dries are great, many times an emerger will be even better. This John Barr pattern, from the archives in 2010, is still as good as anything else around.

Fly of the Month, March 2023

By: Ray Narbaitz

Barr's PMD Emerger

For the general Trout Season Opener on April 24th, several of the club members converged on Hat Creek. Actually, so did a lot of other people. With the late spring rains, a lot of streams were just too high to be fishable. Hat Creek was in good shape, and several publications suggested people should go there. Despite the fact that the crowds were a little bigger than normal, the fishing was quite good. I had very good success with a Red Fox Squirrel Nymph in the morning (September of 09's Fly of the Month), fishing it in the riffles. Mid-afternoon, Eric See provided the club with a nice meal (the chili was great), and after the usual bull session it was time to go back to the water for the evening fish.

As the sun started to sink, a PMD hatch started to come off. While the fish weren't jumping around in a feeding frenzy, it was a good enough hatch that the fish were keying on them. As the evening progressed, the hatch got better and better. The PMD's were much larger than normal, and you probably could have gotten away with fishing a size 14. However, I was fishing a size 16, PMD Hackle Stacker, with a size 18 Barr's PMD Emerger behind it, and they both worked fine. When fishing the Emerger, you have to have a fly with a wing that you can see to spot where the Emerger is. It is impossible to see it on the water. It floats right in the surface of the water, and if it sinks a bit, that's OK too. The front fly will show you that something has bubbled the water behind it, or act as an indicator if the fly has sunk a bit. Only tie the Emerger about 8 or 9 inches behind the winged fly. Any more than that and your eye will have trouble seeing the Emerger take, because your focus on the front fly will not allow you to see much beyond the 8 or 9 inches.

John Barr, the inventor of the Copper John, developed his Emerger clear back in the mid 1970's. He's done very little to change it since then. In researching the fly, I ran across statements from several guides who said the thing that amazed them about the fly is that the fish don't ever seem to get wary of it. In his book, Barr says he NEVER goes fishing without having this and his BWO Emerger with him. I'll comment on the BWO after we look at the fly. I'll list the fly exactly as Barr does in his book. After, I'll talk about some things I think you can do if you don't have all of the materials available.

Hook...TMC101 16 to 22

Thread...8/0 Light Cahill Uni Thread (on flies smaller than 18, I am using a yellow, 14/0 thread)

Tail...Brown Spade Hackle Barbs



Abdomen...Blended Olive Brown Dubbing (I use Superfine, Brown Olive)

Wing Case...Pale Olive or Cream Hackle Barbs

Legs...Wing Case Hackle Barbs

Thorax...Superfine PMD

1. Debarb the hook and place it in the vise.
2. Start your thread at the back of the hook and wrap it evenly up to about the 75% point of the shank.
3. Tie in the barbs for the tail and wrap evenly back to the hook bend. Make loose wraps on your last two or three wraps, so the hackle will not flare. Make the tail about half the length of the hook shank.
4. Dub on your body. Try to use as little dubbing as you possibly can. It should not be any more than enough to just barely cover the thread. Ultra Thread makes a Brown/Olive thread in 8/0 that I would recommend for flies smaller than an 18. Make as thin a body as possible, with a slight taper as you move up the hook.
5. Tie in your Hackle Barbs by the butt, with the points back over the fly. Tie it back to the dubbing.
6. Dub in the Thorax, again using as little dubbing as possible. Wrap your Thorax so that it forms a ball. Try to leave a little bare hook at the eye,
7. Pull the Hackle Barbs over the Thorax to form your wing case. Tie it off at the eye.
8. Take one half of the Barbs and tie them back on the far side of the hook, just like P.T. legs. Tie the other half on the near side the same way. Cut the legs off just a little longer than the Thorax.
9. Whip finish, apply head cement, and go fishing.

Notes...Try to make the body as thin as possible. The fly in the picture, (which I stole...er, borrowed from the internet) in my opinion, is a little too fat. Don't worry if you don't have Spade Hackle. Brown Dry Fly Hackle Barbs will work just fine. You can either measure out the tail when you tie it in, or tie it long, and cut it off. That's much easier on the smaller flies. Again, I think the tail in the picture is too long, according to Barr's specifications...Instead of Hackle Barbs for the Wing Case and Legs I have been using Cream Zlon. I find it a little easier to work with, and the fish don't seem to mind.

For the BWO Emerger, tie it the same way in sizes 18 to 22, and use Gray Thread. If you use the Brown/Olive Thread for the Abdomen, tie it off and use Gray Thread for the Thorax. Tie the Tail and Abdomen the same. Use Dun Hackle or Zlon for the Wing Case and Legs, and Gray Superfine for the Thorax.

Kyle Mchenry And Project Partners Gather At The Edge Of Iron Canyon.

During a fish survey of the creek in 2021 and a streamside conversation with Dr. Paul Maslin, emeritus professor at Chico State University, it occurred to Cal Trout Regional Director Damon Goodman that the waterway did not have to stay impassable. With a little help, anadromous fish could access the upper reaches of the watershed and the important cold-water habitat that awaits. This spurred him, along with his team at California Trout, to start talking about a fish passage project on Big Chico Creek.

Goodman brought CalTrout together with the Mechoopda Tribe, Chico State's Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the City of Chico, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and interested community members to hatch the idea. Continuing to move the project forward, CalTrout set out to hire a full-time staff member, based in Chico. In 2021, Chico resident Holly Swan joined CalTrout as Project Manager of the organization's new Mt. Lassen Region. Swan's local expertise provides CalTrout with a solid foundation to engage in this project and to deepen CalTrout's involvement in the area. The project team expanded to bring in contractors and consulting firms crucial to the project's success including: Syblon Reid, Mike Love and Associates, Gallaway Enterprises, FISHBIO, Western Fishes, Maxim Crane Works, Gayland Taylor, and NV5. Hear more about this as Gayland Taylor and Holly Swan talk about this at our May 10, 2023, General meeting @ "The Lakeside Pavilion" on 2565 California Park Dr, Chico, CA. time: 6:30pm.

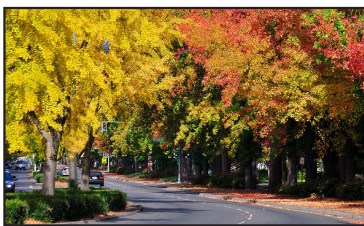


CAF General Meeting "Speakers" 2022/2023

We truly look forward to seeing you at our next meeting; and, hearing "your" fly fishing stories! **Your excitement is ours!** CAF meets 8 months out of the year; and, presents a variety of exciting fly fishing-related programs throughout each year. Each meeting includes: monthly fly-tying demonstrations; variety of raffle prizes; refreshments; and, the very best stories about Northern California Fly fishing from our members. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month; location: "The Lakeside Pavilion" on California Park Dr, Chico, CA. Live Fly-tying presentations: 6:30 p.m. @ General Meeting 7:30 p.m.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
April 12, 2023	Denny Rickards:	Casting and Line Selection for Stillwater Fishing
May 10, 2023	Gayland Taylor and Holly Swan, Cal Trout Mgr. on Iron Gate	

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Chico Area Flyfisher's Fish-out Schedule 2022-23

Future outings that Chico Area Flyfisher's provide to its Membership: These Club Fish-outs 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 times, to helping those members new to the sport, we try to make these trips fun, exciting and successful. But...It's up to "you" to ask for help, if you desired to learn.

If you have one of those favorite spots that you don't mind sharing with others and would like to lead our fellow CAF members for a day of fishing, and fellowship contact Elden Hinkle ehinkle@aaproduct.com, Don Sleeper dnsleeper@gmail.com, Pat Sleeper psleeper@sbcglobal.net, Eric See eric.see@water.ca.gov and Tom Rosenow trosehow.chico@gmail.com who are our fish-out leaders.

This schedule may change depending on the fish bite or weather conditions and COVID 19 VIRUS status!!!

Date	Location	Fishout Leader
March 18, 2023	Luk Lake, Tom Rosenow	trosehow.chico@gmail.com (fee: \$50.) # limited
April 29th,	Opener	
June 17, 2023	CAF Hex Hatch BBQ 4: @ 307 Maidu, Almanor, no fee @	Please RSVP Pat & Pam Hallin's psleeper@sbcglobal.net or phallin@jbcusick.com RSVP: Pat Sleeper 530-228-9197 or Pat Hallin 530-518-5031
July 16th, 2023	Sunday, Pingatore's - Bass/BBQ, no fee: Please RSVP:	psleeper@sbcglobal.net
Sep 2 - 9, 2023	Dorado fishing, Mexico - Pat Sleeper	345-1197 - FULL
Sep 9 - 16, 2023	Dorado fishing, Mexico - Pat Sleeper	345-1197 FULL
Sep 16 - 23, 2023	Dorado fishing, Mexico - Pat Sleeper	345-1197 - FULL
Sep 23 - 30, 2023	Dorado fishing, Mexico - www.patsflyfishing.com;	- FULL
Jan 12 - 17, 2024	Trophy bass fishing Lake Picachos, Mexico - Pat Sleeper	530-345-1197

LOCAL GUIDES

Mark Antaramian	Mark Antaramian Guide Services	916.705.1207
PJ Bock	Bock Fly Fishing	530.598.4087
"Dirty Mike" Elliott	Discover Montana Outfitting	406.890.8735
Tim Fox	Mr. Fox Outfitters	530.949.0239
Lance Gray	Lance Gray & Company Lance Gray Online Store	530.517.2204
Lincoln Gray	Lincoln Gray Fly Fishing Adventures Sierra Stream Outdoors	530.520.6895
Joe Garza	J.A.G. Flyfishing	530.570.0978
Bryan Rocucci	Big Daddy's Guide Service	530.370.1001
Wayne Syn	Orland Outfitters	530.624.4156
Toby Uppinghouse	Edgewater Outfitters	916.505.4773

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