

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



short casts

december 2000



THE LINE

Mark Adams, CAF President



Just when you were getting really used to Redge Hawkley as the President along comes somebody else. For those of you that weren't paying attention Redge has been the President of the club for the last two years. My hat is off to him for sticking it out and doing a great job. Remember to acknowledge his efforts the next time you see him. I'm sure it will be appreciated.

I hope everyone has been finding the time to hit the waters. If not the weather is starting to limit the options and its probably time to turn your attention to restocking the old fly boxes, cleaning the reels and organizing the vest. Don't forget to make a list of the items you might need and leave it laying around for the spouse to find. After all, Christmas is just a few days away and those stocking stuffers are always hard to figure out.

Just a reminder that the club's annual fund raising dinner is scheduled for February 23rd, 2000. Make sure you

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2001 DINNER UPDATE

We are all excited to announce for this year's annual dinner, CAF will feature, Lani Waller. Lani, well known fly fishing expert will present his program, "Steelheading"

CAF FISHOUTS

Jeff Richilieu, CAF

Due to short days, cold foggy nights, and thin blood among the membership, there will be no December fish out. Mark and I can be found fishing and thawing out the eyelets on our rods on various December favorites like McCumber, the lower Sac. and the Trinity. In return for our services over the past few years we only ask that you put in a good word for us when you write those letters to Santa.



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EAGLE LAKE FISHOUT

Ed Bruno, CAF

There is no other place to fly fish like Eagle Lake at 5:30 AM in November. Sunrises on the 5th and 6th, and 7th were typical: cold, beautiful, and productive.

Mark, Wade and I did the quick cold cereal and coffee thing and got into the waders in the warmth of the cabin each morning with John DeMill joining us on the first day. This put us on the water about the time the

clouds in the east got the first hint of pink. Fishing was never furious but was steady enough from first light until about 9 AM to keep you expecting a grab. Successful flies included the usual suspects for Eagle Lake including burnt orange or olive buggers and scud patterns. We each landed between a half dozen and a dozen fish averaging 20 inches for the three days.

At this early point in November, the fishing around the airport went entirely dead by 10 AM and seemed to stay that way for the rest of the day. We

did give it a try on Monday evening but couldn't manage a grab between us. Neither we nor anyone else we encountered around the airport could claim much success once the sun was full on the water. The dawn fishing saw a slight ripple on the water each day but was a stiff breeze by mid-morning. On Tuesday morning we had to give the rods a dip now and again to get the ice out of the guides. I enjoyed using my new Cortland Camouflage intermediate sinking line on this trip. The problem I ran into was that the 7wt line seemed light on my 6-7wt rod when casting in the wind. After I returned home, I checked a little closer. Gee, these weight forward lines sure cast better when you don't tie the weight forward end to your backing.

After fishing Eagle Lake on Tuesday morning, we headed home by way of the McCumber Lake detour. After burying myself from fins to knees in muck while trying to get to the

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inlet and spending a half hour extricating myself and my float tube, I managed to luck into some trout. They liked a #14 peacock backswimmer retrieved just under the surface about as fast as you can make a

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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

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

*You can qualify for
the "Early-Bird"
raffle if you purchase
dinner tickets by the
12/31/00.*

THE LINE - con't

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mark this down on your calendar. Tickets are now available and you can qualify for the "Early-Bird" raffle if you purchase dinner tickets by the 12/31/00. Contact a Board member or call Bob Smith at 342-5908.

Also, make sure you remember to attend the general meeting on January 10th. The first meeting of the year is reserved for club members to show off photos and slides from past fishing excursions. Even if you don't have visual proof you can still dazzle the rest of the club with stories of your fishing accomplishments and exploits. This is usually a great time to learn about new and exotic locations to try out in the coming year. And sometimes

it renews your interest in old locations that you may have forgotten about.

As I sit here in my office working instead of fishing I find myself "worrying" about missed fishing opportunities. I worry about these places because I know they are probably fishing pretty darn well right now. This month my "worry list" includes the Trinity River, the Feather River, the Sacramento River (Anderson to Redding), Pyramid Lake, and Eagle Lake. And I'm still worrying about Davis Lake. Oh yeah, and Lake Almanor. It makes me cold just thinking about them though. Get out and give one of them a try while the weather is still decent.

FISHOUTS - con't

I am sad to say that we are retiring for 2001, but like NBA retirements we will probably be back at a later date to lead future fishouts. We are very excited to announce that Jim Gaumer has agreed to be the new fish master for 2001. I can see the schedule already. Hat Creek, Fall River, Baldwin Ponds, British Columbia, Alaska, Mexico . . . sounds like fun to me! We have had fun during our stint as fish masters, and hope that you will let us at least keep the title of "Fish Master" even though we have retired.

EAGLE LAKE - con't

hand twist retrieve. Between us we probably caught a couple dozen nice browns and occasional rainbows up to 18 inches.

If you haven't taken the time to get to Eagle Lake in the fall and fish for these fantastic rainbows in the first light of a brittle morning, your missing one of the real treats of the season. Sitting with your feet on the coffee table, watching Monday Night Football while sipping a cold one and munching some of Wade's Chocolate Chip Pumpkin Bread wasn't too hard to take either.

— Ed

FLY TYING

Randy McKean (872-2015) is the new fly tying chairman.

There will be a meeting

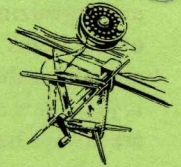
December

16th at the

Chico Fly

Shop at 7:30 p.m. There will also be raffle.

Hope to see you there.



DECEMBER Calendar of Events

dec 13 ANCHOVY FEED /
GENERAL MEETING
ROUND TABLE PIZZA ON
PHILLSBURY RD - CHICO
6:00 PM

dec 21 FLY TYING
CHICO FLY SHOP - INFO
345-9983

jan 10 GENERAL MEETING
7:30 pm
Butte Co. Library

2001 DINNER — FEBRUARY 23rd



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS
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