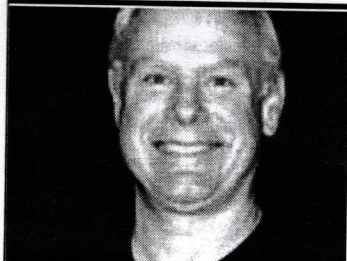




CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'

short casts

December 2006



The Presidents Line

By
Roger Bevers

Wow! Here we are already getting into the Christmas holidays and that time of year

when many of us put up the rods, reels and related gear. But this is a time of hope also, because we always have support from our families. There are always those great items we see that we want to add to our Christmas wishes. Isn't it grand that we have as much gear as we do and can still find joy in those new technological wonders we find on the market each year? If you enjoy the quest for the fish as much as I do, then any new aid to improve your enjoyment on the water is welcome. If you missed the November general meeting, that's exactly what you would have seen. Many of the items presented by Fish First, Sierra Stream and Mountain and the Chico Fly shop were fabulous to see and hear about. The one service that I found out about from Sierra Stream and Mountain was their registration system for customers. You can go into the shop and fill out a card with your personal info and make your own wish list for family and friends. What a great way to help avoid communication problems with everyone! Have you ever thought about the fly fishermen in Chico? Here we are essentially a small town, but with enough fishermen to support three fly shops. Sacramento only has three shops. The really great thing is that our club has a very good relationship with all three shops and their support to the club has been fabulous! On behalf of the entire club, I would like to say that we really appreciate the support of all three shops.

The winter months don't have to be down times for fishing. Yes, a lot depends on weather, but you don't have to fish the mountains. We are close enough to fish the Valley Rivers, (Continued on Page 4)

General Meeting: The December General Meeting will be at the Round Table Pizza Parlor in the Almond Orchard Shopping Center, December 13th: 6:00 pm

Open to all CAF Members, their families and anyone interested in fly fishing. Free Pizza, beer and sodas.

Come on out, swap fish stories, enjoy the pizza, salads, beer, sodas and the company of friends.

Travel Line by Roger Bevers

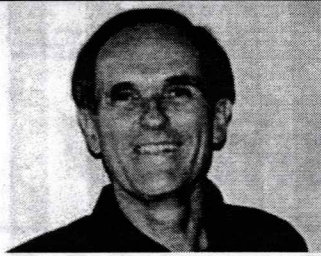
Travel to Oregon with me this month to the Lonesome Duck Ranch and Resort. It's off highway 97 just north of Klamath Lake and south of the Chiloquin. The Lonesome Duck boasts an ideal location for the fly-fishing angler, naturalist, bird watcher, and photographer. It lies on the Williamson River, which has some of the largest wild trout in the country and is less than an hour from Crater Lake National Park. The resort has 2.5 miles of Williamson River to fish and has two hand-hewn log homes, plus an original ranch house for guests. All houses are fully equipped including a gas BBQ, and complete kitchen... except your grub. The houses range from \$225-275/day. The number of bedrooms varies, so go on-line to:

www.lonesomeduck.com. to check out the details you need for your family or group.

From the Lonesome Duck Ranch you will have the Williamson River. of course, as well as Wood River, Klamath Lake, Agency Lake, and the Sprague River to fish. The ranch will arrange guides for two people at \$275/ half day and two people for \$350/ full day. The full day includes lunch and all equipment. If you want to email them, the address is on the web site, but here it is also: steve@lonesomeduck.com. The ranch address is: 32955 Hwy 97 N. Chiloquin, Oregon. 97624. Phone: 1-800-367-2540.

Volunteers are still needed for the annual dinner/fund raiser.

If your interested in helping out for the dinner, or would like to donate a prize call Dana at 570-1184 and leave message.



Secretaries Secrets
By
Lionel Valley

On November 1st, 2006, the Board met and covered a number

of items including the following:

REMINDER: THE MOST EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE WAY TO GET OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER IS TO LET US SEND IT TO YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. IT WILL BE SENT BY THE 5TH OF EACH MONTH SO PLEASE MAKE A NOTE TO CHECK FOR IT SO YOU CAN READ IT WELL BEFORE OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING. IF NOT RECEIVED, PLEASE CONTACT PERCY LEDBETTER @ Silvermagi@hotmail.com or 530-877-4848 IF WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. IF NOT, PLEASE CONTACT OUR TREASURER, DENNIS BOYD, @nomopilz@aol.com or 530-891-5760 TO GET YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS INCORPORATED INTO OUR MEMBER INFORMATION FOR YOU.

-Lincoln Gray submitted his advertising proposal for the Clubs Newsletter.

The Board voted to accept Lincoln's proposal after the prices for the half page and the full page were increased to \$30 and \$50 respectively. It also stated that the Special Announcement Advertisement would be 2 X the established prices for the regular ads based on the size of the ad.

-Lincoln Gray confirmed that Hal Jensen has been secured as our 2007-dinner speaker. His Stillwater fly-fishing presentation was selected with the request that he make every effort to keep the program to a maximum of one hour or less.

-Dennis gave the Board a Treasurers Report as of 10-31-06, the fiscal year end, in addition to the proposed budget for our 2006-2007 fiscal year to be reviewed before our next Board meeting so it can be acted upon at the Board meeting in December.

-Eric See reported that the Fish & Game Commission Meeting in Redding should be attended by some of our members. Roger agreed to attend and Eric will attend later in the morning due to some necessary time constraints due to meetings that he must attend.

-Roger agreed to develop an appropriate Ballot format for

(continued on page 6)

Pasts Casts
By
Roger Bevers

Memory is a wonderful thing, yet sometimes confusing. Especially as you get older! This month our trip down memory lane takes us back to a time when Redge Hawkley was president. Redge tells about his grandfathers' fly-fishing adventures on the South fork of the Snake River where the cutthroat averaged 14-15 inches. The equipment they used was a fly rod with an automatic reel. You know, the kind with a wind up spring on a twist load reel cover and a lever action retrieve. They used a level fly line and 6-7 feet of 4-pound test mono as the leader. The only fly used was a grasshopper pattern. Wow! Don't you wish fly-fishing was that easy now? Many of you might remember this newsletter issue. It was April of 2000.

We were having the Spring Tune-Up on April 15th at the Chico Rod and Gun Club. The Tune-Up included stream reading, fly tying, demonstrations, knot tying, and hands on casting instruction. The Tune-Up fee was \$10/person and included coffee, snacks and fish stories. The April general meeting speaker was Craig Bentley. Craig is a local guide who talked to us about: Feather River Steelhead and Salmon Fly-fishing: A Guides Perspective. The monthly Fly Tying Session was being lead by Bob Smith and Redge Hawkley reviewing basic tying techniques.

The session was held on the third Thursday of each month. (April 20th)

Hat Creek was still the clubs traditional Opener and was slated for April 29th and 30th. Hat Creek was not the exclusive water fished for the opener. *(Continued on page 3)*

General Meeting Times:
6:30 Fly tying demonstrations
7:30 Meeting and Program

Mark your calendar:

December 13th Anchovy Feed (a pizza party at Round Table Pizza) 6:30pm

January 10th General Meeting @ Seventh Day Adventist Church on Hooker Oak Ave. (watch the newsletter for map and directions) Show and Tell night for members. Bring pictures and stories of your fly fishing adventures from 2006. Any format is welcome.

February CAF Dinner and Auction night

CAF NEEDS YOU!

We still need more volunteers. to fill the positions listed below. The success of the club depends on member involvement. Please volunteer your time. In the absence of volunteers the board will have to drop these positions. Dropping them means that the club loses out and so do the members. You can volunteer by calling Roger 343-6442.

Conservation Chairperson
Fundraising Chairperson
Projects Chairperson.
Youth Chairperson

Big Chico Fishout

by Eric See

About 15 CAF members participated in the annual fishout to Big Chico Creek on November 19th. The fishing was excellent! The Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve hosted our fishout, and in 3 hours of fishing, I caught 10 rainbow trout, including three fish measuring 12, 14, and 15 inches long. And I was in the middle of the pack, some people catching more than 15 fish, and at least one 20-incher was reported. Dry flies dominated, with a #16 Parachute Adams being the most popular. What an amazing treasure we have right in our own backyard! It looks very promising that the fishing regulations proposal that CAF submitted, where the fishing season on Big Chico Creek would be extended until the end of April, will be approved by the California Fish and Game Commission. The Commission will make its final decision at its December 7, 2006 meeting in Santa Monica, and the new regulation would take effect on March 1, 2007. The CAF Board of Directors has been working on this issue since the season was cut in 2002, and is very pleased this may be finally coming to fruition. *FYI - Since the existing regulation would still be in effect until March 1, 2007, this means the stream will be closed from February 16 - 28, 2007.*

Announcements:

The **December 13th** general meeting will be at **Almond Orchard Round Table Pizza at 6:30 p.m.** This is our yearly social and is free to all members and family. We will be taking **Reservations for our Annual Dinner** at the "Anchovy Feed" with reservations for dinner at **\$25/person/ \$15/child.** You can also get in on the **Early Bird Drawing at the Annual Dinner on February 23rd, 2007** by paying your **Annual Dues (\$25)** at the Pizza Feed.

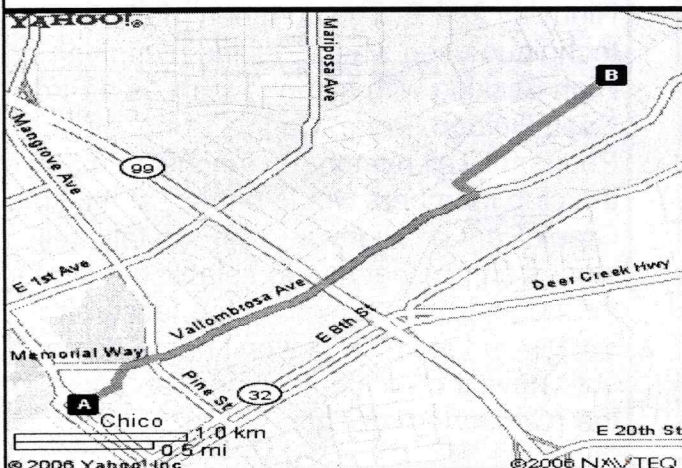
(Past Casts: Continued from page 2) The waters of the Pit River, Fall River and Burney Creek, were also a standard visit for the opener. Local lakes included Baum, McCumber, and Manzanita. The Hat Creek Opener also had the advantage of having the usual evening social hours at BJ's Restaurant in Burney where everyone got together on Saturday night to have dinner and tell the fish stories of the day. Attending one of the Saturday night socials also had the advantage for newcomers of finding out about catch techniques, places to fish and of course the biggie for beginners, what flies were being used. I sure do miss those Opener dinners! They were very well attended, just to protect oneself from erroneous and false reports back to the club. You can be sure that everyone also attended to find out who had made the biggest mistake for the day, hence, the Golden Zipper candidate for next years dinner. If you're new to the club and don't have access to this newsletter, here's what you want to know. Generally, the fishing on hat creek started about 8-9 am. The fishermen stretched out all along the fly-fishing only section from the barrier dam above Lake Britton to PG&E Powerhouse #2 off of Highway 299 E. The common method or technique used was short line nymphing or High Sticking with nymphs such as a Birds Nest, Golden Stone, Caddis Pupa, or Pheasant Tail nymph. By lunchtime many of the club members would gather, at the Hat Creek Park on Highway 299E, to talk, tell stories and gather info to establish a strategy for the afternoon based on the "accurate stories told at lunch". I won't name names, but I have it on good account that "some" of the *(Continued on Page 5)*

(Presidents Line: Continued from Page 1)
 lakes and the delta in the winter. The striper fishing in the delta is at its best in December and early January. The trout are still in both the Sac and Feather. Parts of the low altitude rivers like the Feather River canyon are still fishable. Even parts of Big Chico Creek in Butte County are accessible, sometimes. So! You should start thinking about scheduling at least one trip every month. Pick your days carefully so that you have something to look forward to over the winter. Scheduling at least one trip per month will help get you through those winter doldrums and will remind you that care of your gear is a year round job. Who knows, it may just prevent you from getting to the trout season opener unprepared. Wouldn't that make for a really exciting year?

If you decide to go after striper, the second to third week of December is prime time in the Delta. If you wait until the last of January the striper will already be further up the rivers. This is especially true of the San Luis Reservoir system. Striper fishing is a real kick when you yearn for that heavy rod feeling that makes your wrist ache and arms feel like spaghetti after only a ten-minute battle. If I have you wanting to know more by this time, that's good! As I have said many times, that's what club members are for, call up a fellow member and schedule a trip.

WARNING!

Don't go out by yourself in the winter. Safety is a major factor in a successful winter trip for obvious reasons. Do make a backup plan for when you're on the water in case of sudden weather changes. Also, carry with you all the necessary boating safety gear required by the coast guard. If you're not up on the boating safety gear, you can visit the coast guards web site, or obtain them from any boat sales shop.

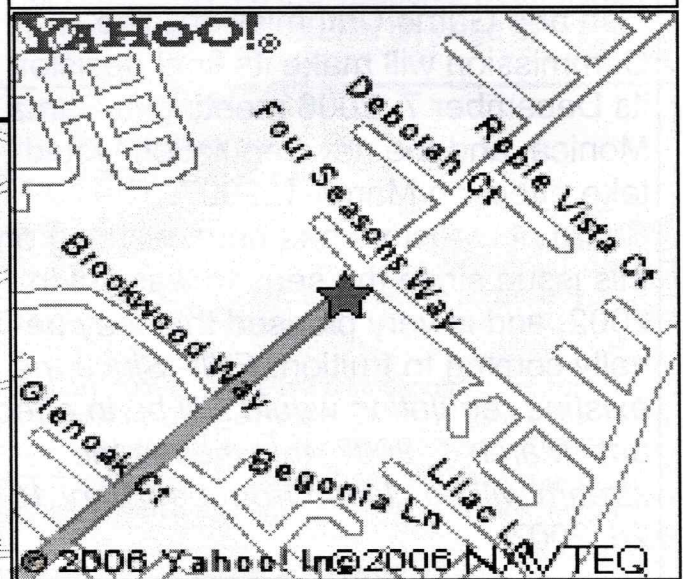


**Combined Fishout with Shasta Mayflies
 November 19 & 20**

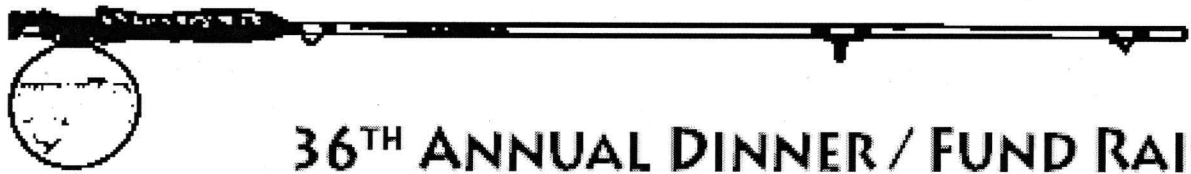
The Chico Area Fly Fishers enjoyed a wonderful invite from the Shasta Mayflies on their annual Trinity River Steelhead Outing. These gals really know how to fish. Half the gals caught Steelhead over 5 pounds and one gal's fish was a trophy at 12 pounds. Our Vice President, Val Bowlby out fished most of the guys with a beautiful 5 lb beauty. The Lewiston Bridge RV resort hosted the event. We had seven from the CAF and 22 members of the Mayflies attended the outing. The weather held and it was fantastic fishing for some; I caught four smaller steelies on an egg pattern. But most of the bigger Steelhead were hooked on nymphs and weighted golden stoneflies. CAF member Terry Mich landed a very nice 8 pounder, (see picture below). We will be combining some of our fishouts between the two clubs next year. Hope to see you all participate.



Maps to the Seven Day Adventist Church at 1877 Hooker Oak Ave. We will begin meeting there in January 2007.



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



36TH ANNUAL DINNER / FUND RAISER
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2007 - 6:00PM
MASONIC FAMILY CENTER

Guest Speaker - Hal Janssen

Raffle prizes, rods, reels
fly tying items, guided trips,
outdoor prints, mountain bike
& other outdoor
prizes / equipment.



One Dinner & Family Membership \$50.00
Each additional dinner \$25.00
Youth dinners are \$15.00

DINNER RESERVATION FORM

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
STATE/ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____
E-MAIL: _____

ADDITIONAL NAMES

Family Membership & One Dinner \$ _____
Each Additional Dinner \$ _____
Youth Dinner(s) \$ _____

of tickets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Visa # _____

M/C # _____

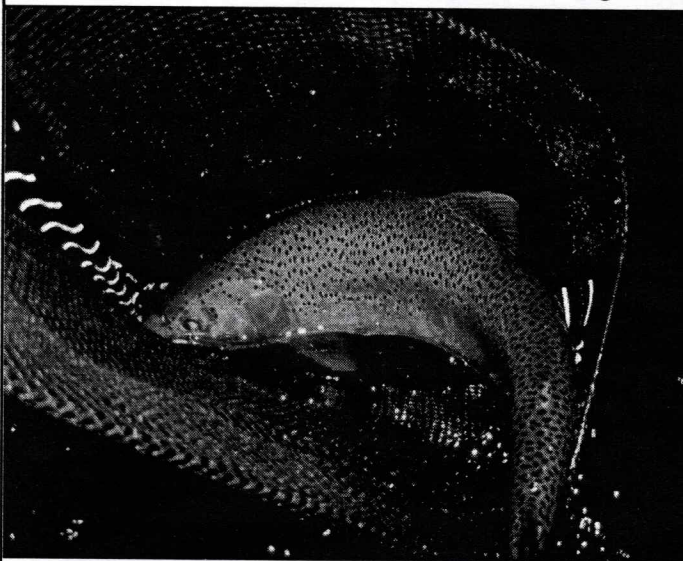
Signature: _____

Exp. Date: _____

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS BEFORE DEC. 15TH
TO BE ENTERED IN THE EARLY BIRD RAFFLE

Mail Reservation Forms to:
CAF: 5 Walnut Circle, Chico, CA 95973

The Chico Area Fly Fishers enjoyed a wonderful invite from the Shasta Mayflies on their annual Trinity River Steelhead Outing.



Val Bowlby out fished most of the Chico Area Flyfisher guys. Above is one of her catches!



Kris Mehan working on her line control.

Don Sleeper working the Bucktail Hole on the Trinity River Steelhead Outing.



Volunteers are still needed for the annual dinner/fund raiser. If your interested in helping out for the dinner, or would like to donate a prize call Dana at 570-1184 and leave message.

(Secretaries Secrets:Continued from page 2) our upcoming election on 11-8-06.

-The first Annual Dinner Committee meeting has been scheduled for 11-15-06 at 5:30 p.m. at Miller Buick. Every member of our Club is encouraged to seriously consider attending these meetings to assist the Club with our only fundraiser each year.

-Candidates for various positions were discussed in detail. Some of the Board members agreed to personally contact some possible candidates in an effort to get a complete ballot.

(Past Casts: Continued from page 3)

club members took great pride and humor from, 'how shall I say,' "distorted facts of the morning." This good-natured camaraderie leads to many very interesting openers in their day.

The conservation buzz for the month was the sell off of PG&E watershed lands and hydroelectric facilities. This included the Hat Creek Powerhouse #1 & #2, as well as all 7 Pit River powerhouses. The deadline for the sale was a short 10 months, so Paul Hendricks, our conservation chairman at the time, organized a write-in campaign of club members to state officials to provide funding for AB1956 and urge then Governor Davis to support protection of PG&E lands environmental study for re-licensing and access to the river. With the support of our club and other clubs such as Trout Unlimited, NCFFF (Northern California Federation of Fly Fishers), and United Anglers of California, PG &E got the re-licensing and Hat Creek is still open to the public.

**Travel Line:
By
Roger Bevers**

Travel to Oregon with me this month to the Lonesome Duck Ranch and Resort. It's off highway 97 just north of Klamath Lake and south of the Chiloquin. The Lonesome Duck boasts an ideal location for the fly-fishing angler, naturalist, bird watcher, and photographer. It lies on the Williamson River, which has some of the largest wild trout in the country and is less than an hour from Crater Lake National Park. The resort has 2.5 miles of Williamson River to fish and has two hand-hewn log homes, plus an original ranch house for guests. All houses are all equipped including a gas BBQ, and complete kitchen, except your grub. The houses range from \$225-275/day. The number of bedrooms varies, so go on-line to: www.lonesomeduck.com. to check out the details you need for your family or group.

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Attention All Members:

If you do not have an email address on file with the club, please send us your email address to:

*Percy Ledbetter.....877-4848
Email: <silvermagi@hotmail.com>
<ledbetterpe@butte.edu> or
Dennis Boyd.....891-5760
Email: <Nomopilz@aol.com>*

By doing so you will receive your newsletter up to a week sooner than by the USPS. You will also be able to view the pictures that we publish in color. By the way send Percy your pictures and stories about your fishing trips and we will publish them for the enjoyment of all our members. If you have an article or story that you want to tell, we have the place to tell it.

**Annual Anchovy Feed
Round Table Pizza**

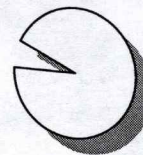
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**Almond Orchard Shopping Center
December 13th: 6:00 pm**

Open to all CAF Members, their families and anyone interested in fly fishing.

Free Pizza, beer and sodas.

Come on out, swap fish, enjoy the refreshments and the company of



LOCAL GUIDES

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

Fish First
Chico, CA
(530) 343-8300

Merganser Outfitters
Chico, CA
(530) 345-4071

Sierra Stream &
Mountain
Chico, CA
(530) 345-4261

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

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



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The December Board meeting will be **Wednesday December 6th at 5:30 p.m.** at Barrett Financial Services (Lionel's Office) on the corner of Talbert and Forest Avenue.

December 13th at 6:00pm Anchovy Feed (a pizza party at Round Table Pizza) in the Almond Orchard Shopping Center.

January 9th General Meeting at:

Change of General Meeting Location:

January 9th, 2007 will be our first general meeting at our new location. We will meet at the **Seventh Day Adventist Church, 1877 Hooker Oak Ave.** Please look for the map in this newsletter and in the future newsletters.

The times will not change. Fly Tying will be at **6:30 p.m.** and the general meeting will start at **7:30 p.m.**

The **January 3rd Board meeting** will be at 5:30 p.m. **tentative location** – Seventh Day Adventist Church.

BOARD MEMBERS 2006

President :

Roger Bevers.....343-6442

Vice President

Lincoln Gray.....345-4261

Secretary:

Pat Sleeper.....345-1197

Treasurer:

Dennis Boyd.....891-5760

Board Members:

Eric See.....899-1918

Don Sleeper.....345-1197

Larry Willis.....895-0156

Past President:

Dana Miller.....345-3266

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Fishmaster——Don Sleeper

Youth——

Outreach ——

Conservation——

Newsletter Editor

Percy Ledbetter.....877-4848

<silvermagi@hotmail.com>

CAF WEBPAGE

Http://chicoareaflyfishers.org

FISHING REPORTS

www.fishfirst.com

Change of address?

Not receiving newsletter?

Call Percy Ledbetter.....877-4848

Email: <silvermagi@hotmail.com>

<ledbetterpe@butte.edu>

or

Dennis Boyd.....891-5760

Email: <Nomopilz@aol.com>

December General Meeting

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You can also get in on the Early Bird Drawing at the Annual Dinner on February 23rd, 2007 by paying your Annual Dues (\$25) at the Pizza Feed or by paying them by December 15th, 2006.

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

