

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'



JULY 1997

short casts

WHAT MAKES US FISHERMEN

Paul Hendricks, CAF President

It's true. Great fishermen are born, not made. Apparently, certain people have a gland in their head which makes them be fishermen. They just can't help it. I read it in a well-known sports magazine just the other day, so it has to be true.

Actually, the article was a humorous one, but it still got me to thinking: Just why do we like to fly fish? Just what makes guys like us get up in the wee hours of the morning to go out in the worst weather and fish for steelhead before the sun even thinks about making an appearance?

What makes us decide to jump in our car, make the two hour drive to Lake Almanor just to see the hex hatch (which only lasts 30 minutes) and then jump right back in our car for the two hour drive home?

There are those of us who think nothing of spending thousands of dollars to travel thousands of miles to maybe - just maybe - catch some large salmon, steelhead or rainbows. What sort of reasonable person

(Cont. on back page)



**Chico Creek
Cleanup -
Member BBQ
August 23rd**

NEW MEMBER BBQ / CHICO CREEK CLEANUP

The annual event has been set. Come one - come all on August 23, for the Chico Creek clean up and members BBQ. We will meet at 5 mile parking lot (north side) at 8:00 AM. We will then divide up into equal groups and start the cleaning process. Last year we accumulated a number bags with junk and I will not elaborate on the items . . . nothing left to the imagination. It was a worthy effort and Chico Area Flyfishers would appreciate your volunteer efforts this year again. Remember, we can make a difference. Any questions, call Jeff at 893-1600.

The Q - 6:00 PM

The hot item for the day will be our annual members BBQ, at 6:00 PM. We will have the BBQ at the picnic area (south side). This is a chance once again to weed out the good fisherman/golfers by their tales of merits. Please attend and bring a new or prospective member. Again, the club will



(Cont. on back page)



CAF JULY FISHOUT - THIS WEEKEND 26/27

Mark (The Nymph) Adams, CAF

The July fishout is another excellent opportunity for club members to get familiar with a North State gem. I'm talking about the Pit River below Lake Britton near Burney. Your ever devoted fishout cochairman have personally visited and fished this river and it is in excellent condition and should provide some great times. The fishout is scheduled for the weekend of 26th and 27th of July. We will be staying at Burney Falls Campground which is only about fifteen minutes from the river. Access to the river is very good for several miles that run along a paved road. There is a lot more river that takes a little gravel road and hiking to get too. The river bottom is covered with large slippery rocks and requires a wading staff, good felt soles, and aggressive wading abilities to reach the good holding water. Don't forget the wading staff. You need to bring an assortment of nymphs (golden stone, wooly bugger, birds nest, prince, pheasant tail, etc), especially ones with beadheads. Also, bring along caddis dries and maybe some stonefly dries. I believe most to the action will be with the nymphs, however. Stop in at Powells and get an update on the necessary flies before you head out to the river. Also, with Hat Creek, Fall River, McCloud River, and Burney Creek close by, you won't want to spend all of your time on the Pit. If you have only seen Hat Creek on opening weekend you might be surprised by how well it can fish during the summer and by how few people are around. This is the chance to learn about the Pit so don't miss it. Call Jeff or I at 893-1600 if you have any questions.

Mark

CAF MODOC FISHOUT - June

Mark (The Nymph) Adams, CAF

The June fishout to the wilds of Modoc Country was the usual success, due in large part to the leadership of your ever diligent fishout cochairman. Yes, Jeff and I, at great personal sacrifice and no small amount of danger, attempted to fish all of the available waters in the area. We left early, we stayed late, we traveled great distances, and we ate canned chile beans. All because of our devotion to the flyfishers of Chico, our fishing brothers, our flycasting soulmates. While we weren't totally successful in reaching all of the waters in the County we were successful in catching

(Cont. on back page)

LOCAL GUIDES

Powell Fly Shop
Chico, CA
(916) 345-9983

Dick Murrell
Oroville, CA
(916) 532-4223

Merganzer's Outfitters
Chico, CA
(916) 343-4071

Trinity Fly Shop
Lewiston, CA
(916) 623-6757

Gerry Gray Guide
Trinity Center, CA
(916) 266-3297

Big Bluff Ranch
Red Bluff, CA
(916) 529-2291

Calendar of Events

JULY

JULY NO GENERAL MEETING
/ AUG YOUTH MEETING OR
FLY TYING

JUL CAF FISHOUT
26-27 PIT RIVER
Mark Adams, 893-1600

AUG NEW MEMBER BBQ /
23 CHICO CREEK CLEAN UP
Jeff Richelieu, 893-1600

AUG NO CAF FISHOUT



*Help clean up
Chico Creek!*

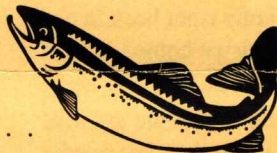
Fishermen *(Continued)*

would go to the grocery store and spend \$100 a pound on salmon steaks? Believe me, that would be pretty cheap next to some fishing trips.

What makes otherwise normally sane men - men who are very calm and experienced drivers - turn into raving maniacs when they are towing a fishing boat full of fishing gear to their favorite fishing hole?

And what about the real-die hards among us? I have met fishermen who kept on fishing even though they had a medical condition which was creating a pounding pain in their head; or men who have actually learned to cast left handed after they have worn out their right shoulder from a lifetime of repeated fly casting.

I am not sure what this drive is that makes me a fisherman. It has affected me since the age of five, and it gets stronger every year. Even if I had a gland in my head making me act this way, I would not have it removed because fly fishing is one of the greatest sports of all. At least it's a heck of a lot better than those crazy guys who are obsessed with duck hunting . . .



CAF BBQ *(Continued)*

furnish the meat (chicken) and drinks. Members will be requested to bring a dish

A - F Chips / dip / salsa
G - O Salad / bread
P - Z Desserts

Any questions about this day of adventure, wading and tales, give Jeff a call at 893-1600.



Chico Area Flyfishers

P. O. Box 3583
Chico, California 95927

CAF Fishouts *(Continued)*

fish every where we went (Baily, Nelson Corral, Annie, Swerringer, Lost Lake, Briles, and the Pit River), and some pretty nice ones at that. Oh yeah, Jeff and I weren't the only ones on the trip. There were a few other club members along, about thirty in all, that also caught a few fish. In fact, I think everyone, including several new members and a whole group of teenagers caught fish. Everyone that is except poor Val. Rumor has it that she is zero for the North American Continent during the last month or so and that she was last sighted casting for rising squawfish on Chico Creek. It is truly a sad story.

Speaking of rumors, there is an as yet unsubstantiated report of some very unusual happenings in one of the campsites during the trip. We are gathering eyewitness accounts of heroic parenting skills, extreme numbers of miles driven for no reason at all, poor stovetop cooking skills, and extremely erratic behavior, not to mention unusual "flyfishing?" tackle, all from the same individual. We will keep you posted as this story unfolds and we expose the TRUTH.

Oh yeah, thanks again to Ed Bruno for his excellent hospitality in his homeland. I heard many comments, especially from some of the people new to the Modoc fishout expressing their appreciation for his guiding skills.

FOR SALE

SUPER PACKAGE! Minn-Kota 65B trolling motor with (battery) Maximizer and Humminbird LCR 4000 portable fish finder. Asking \$200. Call Mike at (916) 342-8754.

NEWSLETTER / MAILING LIST

If you have not received your newsletter and have paid your dues . . . please contact Denny 342-1103 (wk), or drop us a line, we have had problems with our membership list

