



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

## Short Casts June 2014

**Location: CARD Center - 545 Vallombrosa Avenue - Chico Meeting, cookies and beverage free to all.**

### **Michael Kossow our speaker, Wed, June 11th.**

**At 6:30 Ray Narbaitz tying; and, at 7:30 Michael Kossow speaking.**



Ray Narbaitz will be starting things off with his wonderful tying abilities at 6:30. He will demonstrate the Hackle Stack method of tying in wings to tie the Hackle Stack series of flies.

Michael Kossow at 7:30 will be our featured speaker: a fisheries and biological technician with twenty-eight years of experience in water quality monitoring, sediment sampling and transport, hydrography, and biological assessment of aquatic communities.

#### **Occupation: Cold Water Fisheries Specialist.**

I served as the monitoring coordinator for the East Branch North Fork Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group, and have worked with the California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Forest Service, P.G. & E., and the Natural Resource Conservation Service both as an employee and as an independent contractor. As such, I have designed and implemented water quality sampling and database management for an alternative dredging method and sediment disposal project. I have been an instructor at Feather River College teaching sediment monitoring, stream habitat analysis, stream survey techniques, and stream restoration. I have been the Director of the Salmonid Restoration Federation's "Watershed Assessment and Stream Channel Restoration School", 1994-2002. I have designed and supervised construction of fish ladders for the Pine Creek CRM and Feather River CRM; and erosion control and fish habitat structures for Battle Creek Ranch, Crane Valley Properties, U. S. Forest Service, Dye Creek Ranch, Collins Pine and P. G. & E. I have served as a Wildlands Research Instructor for San Francisco State University teaching a three-week field course on the relationship between salmon habitat and watershed conditions.

Michael Kossow will be answering your questions! Please come and join in for a wonderful question and answer program that's bound to be fun and informative!

### **CAF Secretary Minutes May 7th, 2014**

By Pat Sleeper for Lincoln Gray

Those present: Terry, Larry, Don, Dana and Pat.

Minutes – Pat - M/S/P Terry/Dana.

Treasurer – Don - M/S/P Terry/Larry  
Budget passed.

Invited Wade to next fishout at Pingatori's.

Wade has received the rod, rod case, reel and line...he also liked the free fishout with Lincoln Gray for a half day on the water.

Not paying Chico Creek money this year until research has been done. Fishout July 20th for Bailey Creek \$235.00 for overnight per fisherman. Pay Cindy M/S/P Terry/Dana "Trout Unlimited" - trout in the classroom. Discussion – web page updated by Richard Wilkerson.

Discussion - Youth group chairmen: Jessica Wilkerson invited to the next BOD meeting.

Our last meeting is June 11th, 2014 for our two months off. our next meeting will be "Thursday" Sep 11, 2014. Please note the Thursday date...thanks.

Discussion - Eric needs help for Friday and Sat for HOFNOD.

Crater lake - fishout - thank you for calling in for head counts.

Speakers: Pat Sleeper, V. President - Craig Nielson was our speaker May and Kossow will be our speaker for Adopt a Stream, Wed, June 11, 2014. Program starts at 6:30. Meeting adjourned:



### **President's Line**

Busy, busy, busy. That sort of defines the month of May for the club. Not only did we have several fish outs and a great general meeting, but the attendance was amazing. We had 47 for the fishout at Pingatori's, 17 for Crater Lake and a big turn out for the meeting also. We must be doing something right but we can always do better and we welcome any input in how to do that.

The most important thing, to me anyway, is the breadth of participation. At both Pingatori's and Crater Lake, we had some "new members". It was great to see experienced members step up and show them the ropes. This is all part of the outreach that was one of my goals. We also have some new women members who have expressed an interest in the club. They will need mentors too if they are going to enjoy the experience. We used to have sort of a sub grouping in the club of women who got together, without the guys, to fish and support each other. Anyone interested in heading up something like that, let me or Pat know. Of course, the guys may have to take a step back to make that happen, but we can suck it up and do that.

Another potentially interesting development is that we seem to have a volunteer to re-start our youth program. If she is confirmed at the board meeting Tuesday night (think election in a third world dictatorship), she will be introduced at the next general meeting. We have lots of equipment and probably lots of people to help we just need the coordinator and, again, mentors/coaches.

There are still a couple other service issues that are potentially out there. I mentioned at the April Meeting that the San Francisco Boy Scout Council is looking for people to teach fly fishing and possibly dark side fishing at their summer camp outside Willits. They provide all the gear and will provide room and board for the week, all you have to do is spend 20 minutes or so going through the interactive online training and get yourself to the camp. Sessions run June through August. You would also have a chance to fish their lake and the Eel River. Anyone interested please let me know.

June 11, at 6:30 will be our last meeting of the summer. We won't have another meeting until September, although Don has some fishouts still on the calendar. Til then, keep fishing.

## Hooked on Fishing

My daughter caught the biggest fish of her life on Saturday. The 6-pound channel catfish just about pulled her into the lake, but thanks to her trusty Zebco fishing outfit, she prevailed and dragged that big, fat, whiskered fish onto the bank. She was thrilled! I helped her remove the hook and then it was on to the fish cleaning station where a bunch of fun volunteers cleaned the fish and packed it on ice. Then it was over to the open air transport train for a pleasant ride out of Upper Park, another happy customer. This story was repeated a thousand times throughout the day, as kids from all over Chico enjoyed the Chico "Hooked on Fishing" event at Horseshoe Lake.

This Event doesn't happen without volunteers, lots of volunteers, and once again the Chico Area Flyfishers came through with a great team of people that worked hard to put smiles on the kids' faces. CAF volunteers show up the day before the Event to set up tents and tables, and then setup a group of fish tanks. Another crew used a seine net to catch a bunch of fish in the lake that were put into the tanks, so the next day the kids could see the different species of fish that live there. Many people are surprised to find out that Horseshoe Lake has so many different fish species living in it. Pat Sleeper brought her fly tying kit and showed the kids how flies are tied. Not only did she enthrall a lot of new prospective fly fishers, she proceeded to get a couple dozen flies tied. The only problem was that she gave most of them away! Special thanks go to Polly Bisaga, Steve Bohnemeyer, John Logan, Don and Pat Sleeper, Larry Willis, Mark Adams, Brooks Taylor, and his sons, Shane and Wyatt, for all of their help in putting on the CAF Fish Tank Display. At the end of the day on Saturday, all of the fish were released back into the lake including the twin 3 pound bass that were caught (only the net crew knows where they were caught...)

The majority of the funds that support this event are donated from members of the Chico Community, and the 8,000 pounds of catfish that were stocked will provide good catfishing for the next several weeks because many of the fish are not caught the first day. So take your kids fishing!

Placed on the grill, wrapped in foil, a little olive oil, chopped onion, garlic, and seasonings, that 6 pounder cooked perfectly and dinner was superb. And it was so big there was plenty leftover for fish tacos the next day!



## Big Fish

Steve Pereira at  
Klamath 1/23/14



# Fishout at Crater Lake - May 24, 2014

By Don Sleeper

The Carter Lake fishout was great, we all caught fish. Some of us caught a few and some of us caught over 50 or more. The fish were not selecting just one fly. We caught them on Wiggle Tails, Seal Buggers, beetles, Copper Johns and Parachute Adams. I'd hoped for bigger fish. When I last fished Crater Lake in late October with ice 2 feet out, all around the edges of the lake: we caught bigger fish; and, there were plenty of them. This last Saturday we didn't find the bigger fish and I know they were still there. Our largest fish was 13 inches and I tried every trick in the fly box.

There was no snow on the west side of the lake and the lake was down 6 feet, the aspen trees were just starting to pop out there fresh green leaves and it was beautiful. The water was its usual crystal clear, clear enough one could see 20 ft or more and see the fish swimming around under you... even chasing your fly...fun! The temperature was around 65 with a little wind chill. The wind was a problem at times, but we all had pontoon boats which made going the length of the lake much easier. We had 17 members and guests show up for the fish out. We had a great lunch hosted by the club. Hope you all can make the next fishout at Lake Almanor on June 27th with Lance Gray.



Everyone used float tubes, kayaks, and pontoon boats.



Andre Duran with a nice fish.



Lunch break at Crater Lake

## On the Road Again,

Bailey Creek and Stripper Fishing in the Delta

By Don Sleeper

We had the most enjoyable couple of days at Bailey Creek Lodge, Peter and Cindy Mitchell (530-474-4600) were our hosts and they deserve a big thank you to the wonderful time we had. The fishing was great in their pond, rainbows up to 6 pounds on dry flies. Really incredible fly fishing when the hatch is on. We used pontoons and float tubes and small callibaetis nymphs (Mayflies) on long leaders.

One of the highlights of booking a trip with Bailey Creek is the meals, their chief is an Executive Chef that puts on a cooking lesson with each meal. By far the best Five Course meals we have ever had.

Then the following week we headed to the Delta, booking a trip with Toby Uppinghouse (916-505-4773) The striper fishing was best I had ever encountered, Pat and I boated over 30 stripers from 12 inches to over 10 pounds using Teeny 350 gr sinking lines and chartreuse clousers The weather was clear and the wind wasn't that bad. Toby's boat is a 24 ft Triton which makes things very comfortable for two people fly fishing. We'll do this trip again..



## CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2014

CAF meets monthly and presents a variety of exciting flyfishing-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 Flyfishing. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month. Fly tying begins at 6:30pm - general meeting begins at 7:30pm.

Location: CARD Center - 545 Vallombrosa Avenue - Chico, California, 95926. We look forward to see you at our next meeting!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
June 11, (wed)	Michael Kossow	USFS Adopt-A-Stream Program – Fisheries Biologist
Sep 11, (Thur)	Jon Baiocchi	Davis Lake
Oct 8, (Wed)	TBA	TBA
Nov 12 (wed)	Dave McKinney	Special movie (TBA)

## Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2014

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>
June 27	Almanor Hex hatch	Fishout Leader
<small>Lance - We will meet at the beach @ 4:00 P.M. off the corner of the Plumas Pines Road. I will BBQ - please email me so I can have a count - that would be great. You need to bring "your own" equipment. thanks. questions: Lance Gray 530-517-2204 lancegrayandcompany@yahoo.com <a href="http://www.lancegrayandcompany.com/">http://www.lancegrayandcompany.com/</a></small>		
July	Philbrook Reservoir	Open
August	Open	Open
Sept 20	Lewiston or Davis	Don Sleeper
Oct 1st	Pyramid Lake	Open
Oct	Almanor	Open
Nov 8	Eagle Lake	Don Sleeper
Nov	Big Chico Creek	Eric See

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

# Fishing Report-- Little Grass Valley Creek Reservoir

## Friday, June 1, 2014 – Walk-in Fishout

Little Grass Valley Creek Reservoir is a 'fantastic' fishery. Joe Kelly, Tom Rosenow and I walked 2 miles into the lake. It takes about 50 minutes to do the walk. We all had excellent fishing experience; the three of us caught trout from 12 to 18 inches. The fish were larger than years past. This lake is real gem because it's a moderate walk-in and that excludes most of the normal folks from fishing this beautiful lake. We all used intermediate lines and fished olive wiggly tails. I used a black chironomid and did very well under an indicator. It's a very clear water lake, about a 1/4 mile west of Buckhorn Summit on Highway 299. Drive a 1/4 mile west of the summit, and you'll find a wide shoulder on the eastbound road side. You can park there and walk to the lake. You have to start on a steep down trail then turning right onto an almost freeway like gravel road into the lake. It could be worth the walk...

If you don't know where Grass Valley Creek Reservoir is, have someone who's been there before take you. Three years ago, my friends and I wandered around on logging roads to nowhere, thinking we could locate it on our own. Mercifully, sometimes a car or two will be parked there. There was no one but the three of us on the lake and we had a wonderful time. If you are planning to go up there give me a call and I will give additional directions.



The lake contains Donaldson Steelhead trout.



Joe Kelly and myself walking out.



Joe Kelly and Tom Rosenow walking in.



It's a beautiful lake.

# Fish Out Report - Pingatore Pond

May 10, 2014

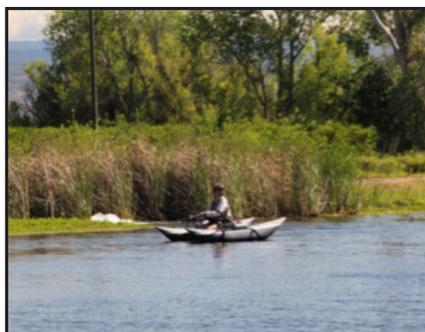
The spring tune up at the Pingatore pond was a great success. Everyone caught bass and sunfish. We had 39 members and guests for the event. Mike Kossow barbecued tri-tip sandwiches for the event. The onions and mushrooms toppings really went over well. Thank You Mike.



Getting ready, unloading pontoons



Wayne was the winner of the big bass on the measuring tape.



Wayne fishing the shore for bass.



Steve out on the pond.

# Fly of the Month for June 2014

## Callibaetis Cripple

By: Ray Narbaitz

In the past few weeks, I have made a couple of trips up to fish Manzanita Lake. It is spring, so you go there with the hopes of seeing one of two bugs on the water, if not both. The first, Flying Ants is, like the Hex Hatch on Almanor, a hit or miss proposition where you have to be lucky enough to be there when they are. The second is a Callibaetis hatch. This one is a much more certain thing. They are among the most prolific of Mayflies on most high country lakes, particularly those with good weed growth. Manzanita and Lake McCumber can, at times, produce almost blizzard hatches of them. They are easy to spot as they bounce around in the air like they are attached to a bungee cord. My experience has been that at this point there are not a lot of fish rising for them as they are a fast moving target that is seldom on the water. Later, when the Spinners come down to the water to lay their eggs, fishing a dry has a much better chance of success.

In December of 09, the fly of the month was Denny's Callibaetis Nymph, which is still a great fly, and was responsible for the taking of several fish during the hatch when I was there in May. The vast majority of the hatches take place in the spring, but the nymphs are in the water pretty much all spring and summer. So, I often fish the nymph just below the surface, even during the hatch. If I don't do that, my next choice is to fish a Cripple Pattern. I find them to be a good choice in a lot of situations, even when there are duns on the water. Trout have a built in sense that says the least amount of effort expended for the most protein is a good thing. A cripple is not likely to be flying off just as the fish makes a move to eat it. June's Fly of the Month took several fish while I fished it.

Hook: TMC 2312, 12 & 14 (this is a 2xl, slightly curved hook with a straight eye, I'm not sure it is critical, probably any dry fly hook would work.

Thread: Black or Gray 8/0

Tail: Wood Duck

Ribbing: White, Gray or Silver Uni Wire, size small

Wing: Dun or Gray Zlon, posted

Abdomen: 1 Gray and 1 White Ostrich Herl

Hackle: Grizzly

Thorax, Callibaetis Super Fine, or Ice Dub, or a light olive Hairtron, or anything else that looks good to you.

1. Debarb the hook and place it in your vise.
2. Start your thread toward the back of the hook.
3. Tie in a small clump of Wood Duck so the tips stick out about a hook gap from the back of the hook. Tie them down the bend just a bit so they point down.
4. Tie in your ribbing wire. Tie it in up to about the 2/3 point of the shank to give the rear of the fly a touch more weight so it will be more prone to sink.
5. Advance your thread up to the middle of the last 1/3 of the shank and tie in the Zlon. I usually use a doubled strand of it for my posted wing. Tie it in, and post it up, as this is going to be a



Parachute style fly. If you want, reinforce the post with a touch of Zap a Gap or Head Cement.

6. Tie in your hackle, and post it up the wing as well. Post it high enough that you will have room to wrap a healthy amount of hackle around it after you tie in the Thorax.
7. Bring your thread back down to the tail, and tie in the Gray and White Ostrich together by the tips. It will be bushy when you wrap it, but it will lay down when it gets wet. I have tied it with Gray only, but the Herl gets dark when it is wet, and using the two colors lightens it up a bit.
8. Wrap them up together and take them to just short of the wing. Tie them off and trim the excess.
9. Reverse wrap the Ribbing Wire in a fairly tight spiral up to the wing. Tie it off and break off the excess.
10. Dub a thin noodle of the your Thorax material, and make a ball like Thorax, wrapping both behind and in front of the posted wing. Finish with your thread up against the post.
11. Wrap your hackle down the post to the top of the Thorax. Use a good six or seven wraps of hackle.
12. Tie off the Hackle. I tie it off on the Post, not the Hook, by wrapping under the splayed hackle for five or so turns.
13. Now you can pull the Hackle out of the way, and move your thread to the head of the fly, and wrap a small head. Whip finish and trim your thread.
14. Carefully cut the excess Hackle using a down pointing angle on your scissors so as to cut as little of the wrapped Hackle as possible.
15. Trim the Post to your desired length, put a bit of Head Cement on the fly, and it is finished.

Notes: If you use floatant, use it only on the wing, hackle and thorax...I usually wet the abdomen before I cast the fly, so it has a better chance of breaking the surface of the water...I don't move the fly much. If I see fish working, I cast the fly out and let it sit there.

## LOCAL GUIDES

Chico Fly Shop  
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(530) 345-9983

Fish First  
Chico, CA  
(530) 343-8300

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