

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'

short casts

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

The general club meeting will be on Wednesday June 12th at the Chico Library starting at 7:30pm. Roger Bevers will be our guest speaker.

May Meeting Report by Eric See

The program for the May CAF meeting featured Roger Lederer, retired Chico State Professor and manager of the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve, which was the topic of his presentation.

The Reserve is owned and managed by the Chico State University Foundation, which is a private entity that is affiliated with the University. The University Foundation also manages an 80 acre research area at Eagle Lake, as well as a 300 acre Ecological Reserve on Butte Creek. The Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve is the Foundation's largest property at over 4000 acres.

The reserve was purchased with a combination of private (i.e. Packard Foundation) funds, and public funds from the California Wildlife Conservation Board and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The primary purposes of the Reserve are, 1) preservation of habitat; 2) scientific research; 3) education. Recreation is also a stated purpose of the Reserve, as long as it is compatible with these primary purposes. Compatible forms of recreation are fishing, hunting, hiking, bird watching, etc. Roger pointed out that although recreation will occur at the Reserve, it is not being managed like Bidwell Park, whose primary purpose is recreation. This is the reason why the Reserve is so restrictive. While it is open to the public, a free permit is needed to legally access the Reserve, and an additional permit (that is not free) is needed for hunting. All of these rules are explained at the Reserve website: <http://www.csuchico.edu/bei/BCCER/bccer.htm>. The free permit takes about a week to obtain. No overnight camping is allowed, and all access is hike-in, unless you are part of an organized group with a group permit. In that case, use of an access road is allowed. Roger explained that their biggest problem is a lack of funding, they were have a huge property

DON BOWLBY

Our long time respected member and friend, Don Bowlby, passed away on May 10, 2002.

Don and his wife Val, have been members of CAF for many years, and more importantly, they have always been very helpful. I can personally attest to Don's helpfulness because of his willingness to help me out with raffle ticket sales a few years ago at our annual dinner when an assigned member hadn't arrive when needed - Don just stepped right in and spent his leisure time helping out - it was greatly appreciated and will always be remembered. In past years, they have helped out with the annual dinner decorations and have hosted the pre-annual dinner gathering where all of the raffle prizes are organized - Don did a great job of barbecuing.

After careful consideration, the Board of Directors made the decision to donate \$100 to the Butte Glenn Heart Association in memory of Don as had been suggested in his obituary.

It has also been decided to revise our annual Modoc County fishout in June, 2003 and to identify it as the Don Bowlby Memorial Fishout as Don & Val had joined the CAF Club in past years when we have held those fishouts and they were some of Don's favorites.

And, let's not forget that Val likes to flyfish a lot, so keep her in mind whenever possible and invite her back on the streams, etc. as soon as possible.

JUNE FISHOUT - HEX HATCH

The June fish out will be held at Lake Almanor on the evening of Saturday June 29th to catch the Hex Hatch. The Hex is actually a VERY large, VERY yellow mayfly that hatches right at dusk. We will be meeting at the boat ramp just north of the dam along Highway 89 between 5 and 6 in the afternoon. We'll talk about locations to fish and then head out. Plan on staying on the water until at least 9 or 9:30pm. You'll want to bring a float tube or pontoon

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Following his presentation, a discussion ensued regarding fishing on the Reserve. The Reserve does not restrict fishing beyond the DFG regulations, which used to be October 1 through February 28, barbless

(Continued on page 2)

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SUPPORTERS

Chico Fly Shop

Chico, CA
(530) 345-9983

Fish First

Chico, CA
(530) 343-8300

Merganser Outfitters

Chico, CA
(530) 345-4071

Oasis Springs Lodge

Paynes Creek, CA
(530) 642-4150

Big Bluff Ranch

Red Bluff, CA
(530) 529-2291



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NEWSLETTER

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CAF WEBPAGE

www.stormnet.com/caf

FISHING REPORTS

www.fishfirst.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June12 GENERAL MTG.
7:30 PM Butte Co. Library

June 20 FLY TYING
CHICO FLY SHOP

June29 FISHOUT
Lake Almanor

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hooks, catch and release. As you were informed earlier this year, DFG has reduced the season by 40%, so the new regulations read: November 15 through February 15, barbless hooks, catch and release. Several CAF members expressed their displeasure with this unnecessary and unreasonable regulation change, and explained that CAF will be petitioning DFG to re-open the stream to at least the previous season length, this will not occur until the next regulation change cycle in 2003. Roger said that they currently do not have any studies or data collection currently planned for the Reserve, and CAF offered several suggestions, such as an angler survey station like the Nature Conservancy operates at the McCloud River Preserve. Roger explained that they do not have funds for that type of project right now, but CAF offered its resources to implement such a project. CAF requested that it be allowed to have a fishout in November when the stream reopens, and use of the access road since it would be a group activity. Roger agreed, the preliminary date will be November 16th, so mark your calendar! I also passed around some fish pictures of me and a friend who fished Big Chico during that warm spell in late February of this year. In 2.5 hours of fishing, we caught 14 trout, most were from 11-15 inches long with one steelhead weighing about 4 pounds. Mark your calendars!

BOARD MEMBERS

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John Decker342-2972

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Cori Ong.....865-2578

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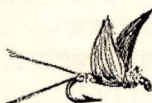
Mark Adams345-5042

FOR SALE: Like-new 8' fiberglass Spring Creek Hopper II pram with oars and padded pedestal seat. \$800 firm. Accessories available. Call Mike, (530) 342-8754.

Chico Fly Shop - Tying

June 20th - 7:00 pm
This month Joe Slusark, aquatic entomologist and fly tier, will discuss the biology of the Hexagenia Limbata. He will also demonstrate how to tie and properly fish the different stages of the Hex hatch. So remember to bring you vise and tools. If you don't tie flies then bring a notebook, there is still lots of information that will help you catch more fish.

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



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