

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'



MARCH 1997

short casts

ANNUAL DINNER

Paul Hendricks, CAF President

The Annual Dinner is over, and those of us who served on the dinner committee can sit back and pat ourselves on the back for a job well done. More importantly, however, is to recognize that it is our fellow members and their friends that really make the Annual Dinner a success. As most people are aware, the proceeds from our main club fund raiser provides funding for all of our activities for the upcoming year, and also for the donations we make to many conservation organizations.

While the event was a success, I know that not everything went perfectly, and I am certain that some of you have ideas on things that can be changed. At this time, while it is still fresh in everyone's mind, I would very much appreciate it if anyone who has any ideas or suggestions that we should incorporate into next year's Annual Dinner contact either myself or one of the Board Members.

I would also like to take this opportunity, now that we are in the month of March, to remind everyone of our annual fish out at Hat Creek on the last weekend in April (April 26th). Mark your calendars now and plan on being there!

FISHING ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

In upcoming months, I will be providing you with some of the interesting fly fishing-related web sites that I have visited. The first Internet stop for anyone in the North Valley is at:

(Cont. on back page)



HALL-OF-FAME INDUCTEE

PRESS POWELL

Press continued a family tradition in the local fly fishing history by being inducted into the CAF Hall-of-Fame.

Powell Rod Company & Powell Fly Shop were also gracious supporters of this year's annual event. Congratulations Press and thanks for your generous support.

Thank you!

Our dinner / fundraiser is the foundation of our success and ability to contribute to local programs and develop our friendship/ skills with other fly fishers.

Thank you for your contributions and support.



MARCH 12

General Meeting

7:30 PM

Butte County Library

Tom Wood, CAF Vice President

The CAF is looking forward to hosting Herb and Pat Burton from the Trinity Fly Shop. The Trinity Fly Shop is located in Lewiston, CA., in the heart of the Trinity watershed, one of the most diverse watersheds in the west. Their presentation is a comprehensive program that focuses upon the entire Trinity system.

The slide and discussion program will start in the Trinity Alps with high mountain lakes, and continuing with freestone steam fishing. You will discuss Lewiston tailwater trout and their hatches, and the infamous Trinity River Browns and Steelhead.

This program will pacify all fly fishers of all levels with scenic slides and effective local fly patterns. Plan to attend Wednesday, March 12.

THE TROUT FISHING EXPERIENCE

Thanks to the advent of the 1970s and psychobabble, you will find yourself telling yourself all sorts of things in order to justify what seems, at times, like an obscene expense and the seeming insanity of standing out in a stream while all else hibernates. You will need a rationalization, a *raison d'être* for your lack of trout-catching skills. Hence "The Trout Fishing Experience."

"Gee, even though I'm not catching fish, and indeed have not caught a fish in the last

(Cont. on page 2)

FLY TYING

March 20th
- 7:30 PM

Pat Corbett,
Fly Tying Chair

Frankenstein wiggle flies

At last month's session, the "wiggle bug" was revealed and highly acclaimed. This inspirational pattern sparked an electrified jolt from our tyers brains to their bobbins, then onto the new fly body. Tyers marveled as they watched their creations come to life and wiggle down the experimental fly vat (watertank).

This month we will continue tying two more "wiggle" creations from my fly tying laboratory. Don't miss the "wiggle minnow" and "hex wiggle nymph." I would compare them to Elvis Presley and Dolly Parton.

Materials

Hook: TMC 300 size 6-8

Overbody: Foam will be provided

Tail: Marabou & saddle hackles

Body: Med mylar tubing

Eyes: Doll, decal or fabric paint.

If you would like to learn to tie productive flies and also fish them on nearby waters, come join us and get to know our great fly tying group. The Blue Barn at Music Express Bed & Breakfast Inn, 1091 El Monte Ave., Chico. Three blocks east

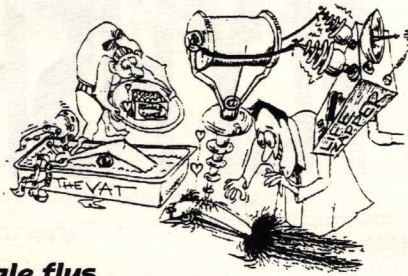
Trout Fishing Experience

(Continued)

72 hours, I'm enjoying this pastoral interlude. It's a time for me to get in touch with nature and all things living, to contemplate my oneness with the biosphere and the cosmos, to muse rhapsodically about my place in the universe whilst I stand in the center of this rushing, raging torrent holding a \$400 stick in my hand.

Note the warbling thrushes, the circling carrion, and the friendly fish and game officer as he grills me relentlessly about my license. It's only a piece of paper, and what is one scrap of parchment in the scheme of it all? I'm out here in the trees, the flowers, the flora and the fauna, the buzzing bees and the kamikaze-esque mosquitoes gnawing gently on my earlobes, communing with God and all his Creation."

— At this point you should go home and watch the radio.



LOCAL WATERS

Local information provided by
Fish First of Berkeley.

Remember — contact your local fly shops before you fish for the latest information.

Baum Lake - cold, clear and weedy. Fishing is fair to good. Indicator nymph with small midge pupa or BWO nymphs on 7x tippet between the weed beds. Trout are rising from 1:00 to 5:00 PM to a variety of BWO and midges. Streamers fished on both floating and full sinking lines are enticing a few rainbows and browns in the 16-20" range. Crowded on weekends.

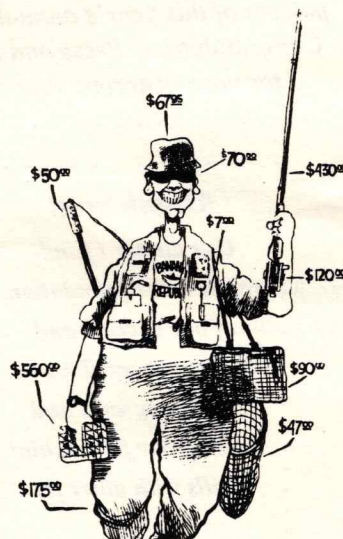
Eel River - south fork, clearing, moderate flow. Steelies are in the system, but are tough to find. The more areas you hit, the better your chances. Use 24" 225-325 grain sink tips with steelhead patterns. Tailouts and heads of pools late in the day. Longer, lighter leaders are needed with the clear water.

Mad River - Fishing is very good. Lots of fresh steelies showing. Use 24" 225-325 grain sink tips with dark steelhead patterns. Early and late in the day best time to fish. Areas to fish are at the hatchery, Blue Lakes road, and hiking upstream of the hatcher.

Russian River - Fishing condition are very good. Fresh steelies continue to enter the system. Fish Johnson's Beach and Cassini's Ranch. Try the Dry Creek mouth. Type II or III shooting heads, or 225 grain 24' sink tips in the faster water.

Smith River - Steelies are in the system, and clear/low water conditions are making fish spooky. Use 10' sink tips, or even floating lines with long, light (3 or 4x) leaders and smaller flies. Best action is occurring away from boat traffic.

Sacramento / Trinity Rivers - It is time. Trinity closes March 14.



CLUB FISHOUTS

APRIL 26

Annual Hat Creek

Opening Weekend - Pres Paul

JUNE

MODOC - Ed Bruno

Mark your calendars for club fishouts.

Any suggestions? Bring them up at our monthly meetings.

25TH DINNER / FUND-RAISER

Raffle Tickets

This year's raffle / auction lists contained 10 rods, float tubes, trips and a lot of donations from local merchants and CAF members.



Youth Raffle

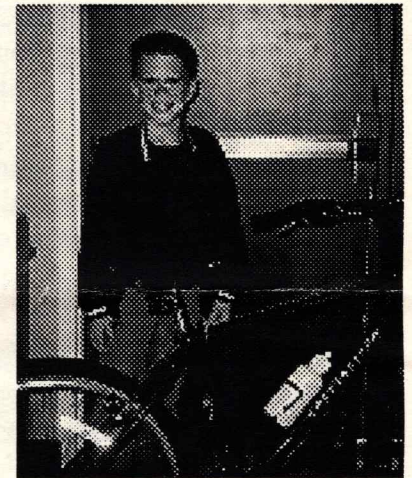
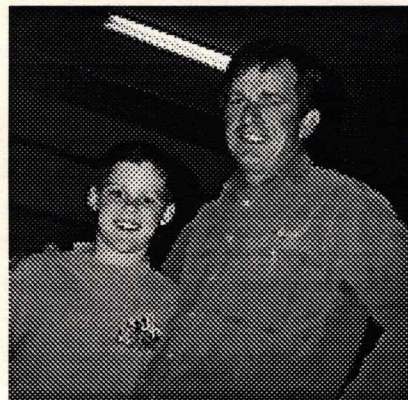
The youth raffle was another family affair this year with the Hawkley group winning the youth bike and Powell youth rod/reel combination.

The Powell name continues with Frank Powell (left) winning two-plus-dozen hand tied steelhead flies/ case and a float tube.

The other rod on the youth table went to Ryan Linton (not pictured).

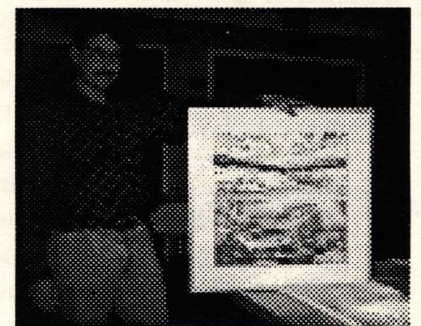
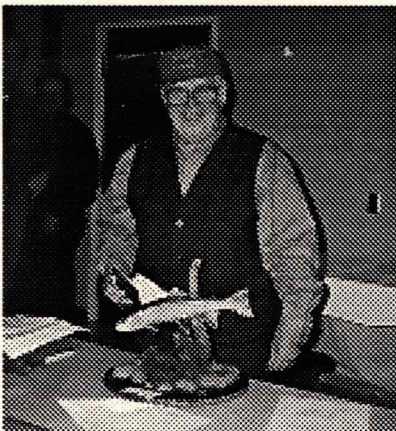
Steelhead Fishing in British Columbia

Our guest speaker Tom Peppas (below right with a CAF youth member) presented a wonderful program despite his inadequate introduction by our MC for a night (Ray Narbaitz call home). Of course the true fly fishers needed no introduction for Tom. Again my apologies.



Next Year's Event February 27, 1998

Don't miss it!



Auction

Our auction again was generously supported by Doc Mazen along with the special Powell CAF Dinner Rod recipient (I do not have the ladies name at this time) and the Lynn Goldmann original going to Rick Linton. Thanks to all!

CONSERVATION NOTES

John Ost, CAF Chair Conservation

The legacy of the 1997 floods is that channelization and close set levees invite flooding . . . activities have destroyed the quilt of life in so many watersheds that the coho must be listed as endangered.

Bay Area Congressman, George Miller, was the keynote speaker at the Salmonid Restoration Federation's annual conference in Redding on February 22nd. He characterized the restoration movement as effecting a sea change against greed. The repairs of restorationists provide opportunities for business, for families and for the future. An enduring economy exists only in a healthy environment.

The legacy of the 1997 floods is that channelization and close set levees invite flooding. Clear-cut logging and heavily roading the landscape cause floods. These activities have destroyed the quilt of life in so many watersheds that the coho must be listed as endangered.

The Endangered Species Act implements the best understanding we have. Environmental protection should not be held to any higher standard than other human activities.

We cannot just turn the earth over to the D9. We cannot go back. We must continue to support scientific research in the natural environment and to implement the knowledge we have.

The CVPIA put fish at the table with farmers and urban water developers. Only with a place at the table is biology respected. This is my summary of George Miller's address.

FYI - Other conservation information . . .

Federation of Fly Fishers, Northern California Council, Chuck Bucaria, VP Conservation, (916) 392-4583 or e-mail Lbuca@aol.com.



President's Message

(Continued)

www.2.ecst.csuchico.edu/aiding/~jschilch/Flyfish/flyfish.html, the Norcal Flyfishing Page. This web site contains information on streams in the Sierras and Central Valley District, North Coast District, and Eastern Sierra District. It has fishing reports for the same areas, information on lodging, campgrounds, maps, waterflows and other useful information. This web page is put together right here in Chico, and is maintained by Jeff Schlicht.

Calendar of Events

MARCH

- MAR 12 GENERAL MEETING
7:30 PM
Butte Co. Library
- MAR 13 DINNER MEETING
7:00 PM
Hendricks' Office
Denny, 342-1104
- MAR 20 FLY TYING
7:30 PM
Music Express Bed
& Breakfast
1091 El Monte Ave
Pat Corbett, 877-5448
- APR 7 CAF YOUTH MTG
6:30 PM
1053 E. 7th St.
Roger Bevers,
343-6442



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