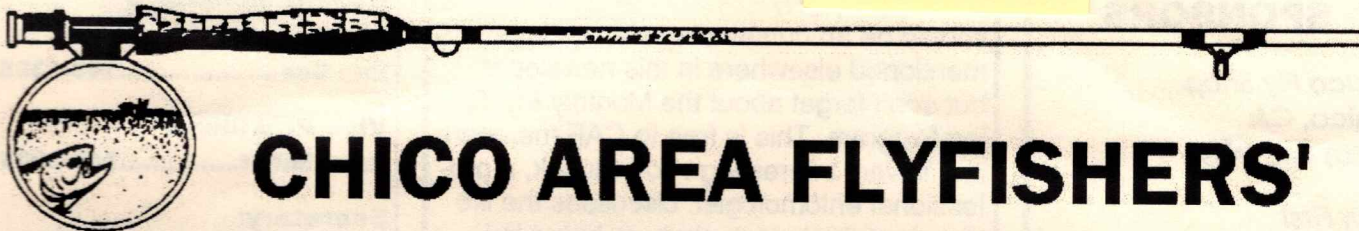


March 2003



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS'

short casts

mar



## THE LINE

Eric See, CAF President

By the time you read this it may be too late, but have you bought your Annual Dinner ticket yet??? As of this writing, we anticipate a complete sellout prior to the Dinner, so it's likely no tickets will be available at the door. Call Bob Smith (342-5908), the CAF Ticket Master, sometimes there are a few tickets still floating around. We will set some kind of record for fly rods this year, last time I counted we had 14 rods for the raffles and auction. From high-grade one-of-a-kind 3 piece rods, perfect for the traveler, to snappy 7' creek rods and a powerful 13' two-handed Spey rod, and designs from Performance Ply, Lamiglas, St. Croix, and rods built by local professional rod builders, a huge variety will all be offered. Some beautiful reels will be there as well, Lamson, Bauer, and several others. And don't forget about the trips, fish and wildlife art, and all the other great items that we always have. Best of all, buying raffle tickets and taking part in the auctions raises much needed money for the club that we use to support conservation, and promote and protect the sport of flyfishing. This is becoming increasingly important as our fisheries are under constant threats from artificial low flows, artificial high flows, DFG budget cuts, public access restrictions, and fishing closures.

Speaking of closures, did anyone get out on Big Chico and Butte Creeks before they closed on February 15<sup>th</sup>? I fished on the Big Chico Ecological Reserve about a week before it closed, and it was very slow. The water was 40 degrees with ice on some of the backwaters, not ideal conditions for the flyfisher. A friend of mine caught a couple with barbless lures that day, and his son caught a 4 pound steelhead and a 17inch brown trout. All caught right on the bottom of the deep pools. Not only did DFG take 45 days off the front end of the season by not opening the upper section until November 15<sup>th</sup>, but they took 2 weeks off the end of the season as well. It used to be open until the end of February, and last year it was spectacular during that last week of the month. The water had been slowly warming all month with the lengthening days, and the stream was on fire. Later this year, CAF will be approaching the Fish and Game Commission about revising the regulations on Big Chico Creek, to allow a reasonable fishing season on the stream while still providing for the protection of spring run Chinook salmon during the summer and early fall. Or at the very least, require that a biological explanation be provided as to why the old regulations needed to be changed, something that surprisingly was never offered when the change was made. We hope to generate support from the local community in this effort, and will look at the same issues on Butte Creek as well.

We will get back into our Monthly Meeting Programs starting in March (3/12/03), Mike Kaul will be giving a presentation on flyfishing in western Wyoming. He is an experienced guide in that area, and it

*(Continued on page 2)*

**March General Meeting**  
**Butte County Library**  
**7:30 pm Mar. 12th**

**FLY TYING –**  
**Mar 20 – 7:00 pm**

This month the folks at the Chico Fly shop will be tying the March Brown and the Green



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Butte County Library  
7:30 pm Mar. 12th**

The guest speaker will be Mike Kaul of JMK Enterprises, a Wyoming outfitter who Press highly recommends. His presentation will be on flyfishing in western Wyoming.

Mike has a website at:  
<http://www.flyfishingwyomingwinds.com/>

**FLY TYING –  
Mar 20 – 7:00 pm**

This month the folks at the Chico Fly shop will be tying the March Brown and the Green Drake. Don't miss this one!

**FISH-OUTS – Visit the CAF Website for the schedule for the entire year.**

<http://www.stormnet.com/caf>

**31ST ANNUAL DINNER / FUNDRAISER  
FEBRUARY 28TH 2003**



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### Calendar of Events

**Gem Mtg. - Mar 12th 7:30 pm**

**Fish-Out - Mar 1st & Mar 15th**

**Fly Tying - Mar 20th 7:00pm**  
Chico Fly Shop

### NEWSLETTER

[pmh@stormnet.com](mailto:pmh@stormnet.com)

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*(Continued from page 1)*

should be an outstanding show. I know it's mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, but don't forget about the Monthly Fly Tying Program. This is free to CAF members and is very interesting. Joe Slusak, a professional entomologist, discusses the life history of the insects that are being imitated each month, and then expert fly tying instruction is provided. This program is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (3/20/03) at the Chico Fly Shop, and is a tremendous resource for CAF members, whether you tie flies or just want learn more about bugs.

I went to the February Program and attendance was rather light, most likely a result of no February Monthly Meeting to remind everyone. The conversation drifted away from bugs and eventually all things merged into one, and river ran through it (i.e. we started talking about fishing spots). Press was there, who happened to mention a little-fished creek that his dad told him about years ago, big fish, lots of them, great camping, dirt roads, blah blah blah. I was like the guy in those old E.F Hutton commercials, particularly when the Gazetteer Map Book came out. Too bad you weren't there. Dustin Kovacvich, Fish Master of a Fishing Lodge British Columbia, had some interesting things to say about politics and the fishing life in BC, as did Joe Slusak about living and fishing in Pennsylvania. It was, to put it simply, Fun. Call Larry or John at the Chico Fly Shop (345-9983) for more details on the future Fly Tying Programs, and keep in mind that Joe may not be doing this forever!

Spring is right around the corner, so dust off that rod, clean that line, and get out on the water: It's the wet fly that fishes!

### BOARD MEMBERS

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**Eric See.....343-1398**

#### Vice President:

**Dana Miller.....345-3266**

#### Secretary:

**Mark Adams .....345-5042**

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**Jim Gray.....343-4132**

#### Board Members:

**Ron Leger.....343-5191**

**Dennis Boyd.....891-5760**

**Val Bowlby.....891-0706**

**Ed Bruno.....345-0737**

#### Past President

**Dawit Zeleke.....897-6373**

Pram/Jon boat for sale: 10 ft Klamath (welded) aluminum, (\$1100 new) asking \$800 or best offer, includes custom carpet kit & custom cover.

Other

accessories available, include seats, trolling motor, etc. If interested

call Joe Megna @ 345-9400 days or 332-9100 evenings.

### Getting The Word Out

Occasionally we receive information that would be of an interest to club members. I would very much like to have an e-mail list so that our membership could be contacted when necessary. Just so you know, I will not give the list to anyone other than a board member of the club. So, if you want to be included, e-mail me at: [pmh@stormnet.com](mailto:pmh@stormnet.com)  
thanks

**Paul Hendricks**

### FISHOUT SCHEDULE

March 1 – Frank's Tract – more stripers

March 15 – Davis Lake







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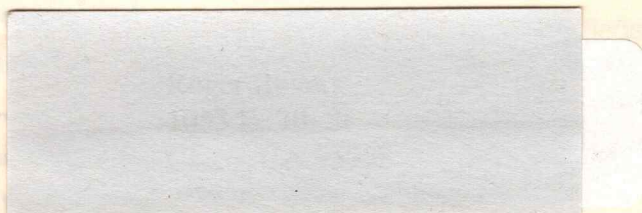
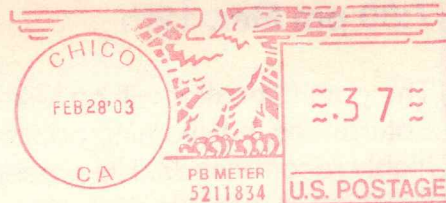
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 P.O. BOX 3583  
 CHICO, CA 95927



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