



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

Short Casts March 2016

Our next meeting is our March 5th, 4:30 Crab/Shrimp dinner @ Masonic lodge.



President Line by Pat Sleeper

Fishing is improving and more storms are lined up coming in this coming weekend according to News and the weather maps! Yeah! VERY FUN!!

And, our Crab/shrimp or tortellini dinner is coming up then as well! And it too is going to be electrical!!! With over 30 rods, gifts for

ladies and youth; 600 lbs of crab; and shrimp; no host bar; also salad and deserts; and then to have a room filled with fly fishermen; people who talk the same talk you do...how fun is that? Then to help our children, fisheries both here and Northern CA. It's a win! win! win! night! We look forward to seeing "you" at our dinner. We're proud of what we do "together" to support these causes! thank you for your support! We have "always" sold out these past few years; therefore, get your reservations in early: Fish First, Mac, can help with the forms as well as Sportsmans Warehouse and also Sierra Stream on 5th Av. About 16 thousand dollars worth of raffle prizes will be given out. See you at the dinner this Sat, March 5th, 4:30 doors open: at the Masonic lodge, east Av, Chico. I'll be there, i hope you are too! Questions or just want to sign up: 345-1197 - Pat or Don.

See you soon!

Pat Sleeper

president, CAF

www.chicoareaflyfishers.org

CAF Board Meeting

by Dave McKinney 02/02/2016

Meeting called to order by Pat Sleeper president 6:16 PM. Those in attendance were Eldon, Terry, Don, Tom, Frank, Dana, John, Steve, Eric, David, Larry and Pat.

Approval of secretaries minutes by David McKinney. Moved to accept as published by Terry seconded by Tom passed.

Treasurer's report: Don Sleeper. Moved and passed. So far there had been 130 dinner reservations submitted, all the club's expenditures for the dinner with regards to trips and raffle items reviewed.

Programs: Larry Willis. Remembering that there is a clinic on Pyramid Lake for March 14th @ \$100.00 pp by Doug. For every 6 that sign up there will be one guide working with them; for the 7th a new guide until that group reaches 6 and so forth.

Fishouts; Tom. Pyramid Lake will be in March over the 13th and 14th. This is where the clinic on how to fish pyramid Lake will be presented. Please contact Tom or Pat for availability to this event. We need at least 6 participants for the clinic to happen.

Elden Hinkle was nominated to the board to assistant fish master Tom Rosenow in organization of fishouts. Motioned by M/S/P Larry and Terry.

Dinner Report

Dinner is upcoming soon, topics were then reviewed in sequence and discussed;

- Frank has arranged the food it will be crab, shrimp and tortellini as is tradition. There will be cake for dessert.
- The credit card machine is up and running for the dinner
- Fish pictures should be forwarded to Eric See (esee@comcast.net) and should be sent by February 15; Please limits them to 3 best pictures.
- Awards committee has met; and the awards all have been voted on and accepted and will be presented at the meeting.
- Youth Program; there will be fly boxes for youth members. We still need flies for the fly boxes.
- Stars is set up for dinner security.
- We are still obtaining a larger raffle bin for the general raffle.
- Runners are still needed.
- Meeting for the pre-program organization of prizes will be slightly delayed this year and will occur on Monday, February 29th at 6 PM at Franks.
- J.B.'s for the bar.

Adjourned: 7:21 PM

Submitted by: David McKinney
Secretary, CAF

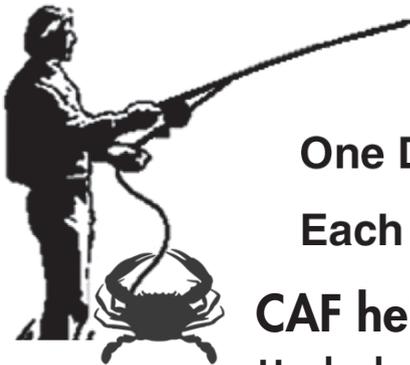
CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



45TH ANNUAL DINNER/FUND RAISER
 SATURDAY - MARCH 5TH, 2016 @ 4:30
 MASONIC CENTER - W. EAST AVE

“CRAB FEED DINNER & SHRIMP DINNER”

Raffle prizes - rods, reels, guided trips, fly tying supplies, ladies prizes, lodging/fishing trips and other prizes and surprizes...



One Dinner & a Family membership....\$80.00

*early bird discount by Jan 31.....\$75.00

Each additional crab/shrimp Dinner....\$45.00

*early bird discount by Jan 31.....\$40.00

CAF helps Sponsor:

Hooked on fishing
 Salmon in the classroom
 RAD - Recreation & Dreams
 CAL TIP

Almanor – Fisheries
 Trinity – Fisheries
 McCloud – Fisheries
 Trout Unlimited N. CA

DINNER RESERVATION FORM

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 PHONE: _____
 ZIP: _____
 E-MAIL: _____
 ADDITIONAL NAMES:

	NUMBER	COST	TOTAL
Family Membership & One Dinner		\$80.00	\$ _____
Each Additional Dinner		\$45.00	\$ _____
Raffle ticket packets ___\$500. ___\$200.			\$ _____
Raffle ticket packets ___\$100. ___\$50.			\$ _____
Table reservations for 8 people		\$600.	\$ _____
	TOTAL.....		\$ _____
Visa # _____			
M/C# _____			
Signature: _____			
Exp. Date & back # _____			

PURCHASE YOUR RESERVATIONS BEFORE Jan 31ST
 TO BE ENTERED INTO THE EARLY BIRD RAFFLE.....

MAIL RESERVATION FORMS AND PAYMENT TO:
 CAF – 1010 Lori Dr., CA 95973

Questions: 530-345-1197

*Early bird dinner discount before Jan 31st

*Early bird raffle drawing: \$250 ticket packet: value \$540.00

Almanor Fishing Association

AN UPDATE FROM YOUR AFA PRESIDENT

I would like to personally thank everyone who took the time to renew their membership and/or sponsorship this year. Every member and sponsor strengthens our cause and supports our purpose which is to ensure a strong and viable fishing environment here at Lake Almanor. If you haven't yet renewed, well, it's not too late! If you have misplaced the renewal form mailed to you in January, one can be obtained from our website at:

<http://almanorfishingassociation.com>.

HAMILTON BRANCH CAGE PROGRAM

Sadly it has not been a good year for our cage program. First off, we had some major storm damage to three of our cages from the 2014/2015 winter. The board elected to not

fix the damaged cages last year as a result of being told by DFW that we would not be receiving any fish last year due to the Whirling disease at the Darrah Springs and Shasta Hatcheries. We were then told in late September that we would be getting fish but only 30,000 from the Shasta Hatchery which had its quarantine lifted. The fish were delivered on October 12 and 13; they were much bigger fish than we have received in the past, some as big as eight inches. The count was higher than the 30,000 fish that we were told we would receive so we are not sure about the real numbers. These, unfortunately, are all triploid (sterile) Shasta trout not Eagle Lake trout.

We have a total of ten cages with four covers on each cage that have been in the water for more than 20 years. Four of our cages are in need of repair and at least 25 of the 40 cage covers also need repair. If they are not fixed, we will continue to lose fish that escape or are eaten by predators like otters and birds. AFA is seeking grant money to get the cages back in good order which will be a very costly undertaking.

Water conditions continue to be muddy. When it rains the branch flows with muddy water. PG&E is releasing water from Walker Reservoir, which is now full, through their power plant. This water is chocolate brown and very muddy. All of this impacts the health of our fish and makes it difficult to count them.

2016 STATE TROUT PLANTS NOT LOOKING GOOD

After last year's huge 50 percent cutbacks in statewide trout production and plants due to budget shortages, Whirling disease and warm water levels, you would expect the DFW would begin to play catch-up with their programs. Not so says the DFW, they are still struggling with money problems. Who knows what will happen this year with the fish plants in Lake Almanor and the state. The Darrah Springs hatchery is now cleared for normal operation with a 40 percent reduction in pond space after the Whirling disease quarantine. I have been told that our allotment this year will only be 25,000 trout in the fall. We will see if this holds true. This would be a 50 percent reduction from our normal delivery.

NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAILS

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has confirmed the presence of New Zealand mudsnails in the low-flow sections of the Feather River and Yuba River in Butte County, and is asking recreational users of the river to "clean, drain and dry" fishing and recreational gear and watercraft in order to help prevent the spread of these invasive snails.

Boaters, anglers and others who may visit the Feather River are asked to decontaminate equipment and follow the "clean, drain and dry" directive with all equipment used in the river:



Photo taken when cages were new



One of our damaged cage covers

- If you wade, freeze waders and other gear overnight (at least six hours).
- After leaving the water, inspect waders, boots, float tubes, boats and trailers or any gear used in the water. Remove any visible snails with a stiff brush and follow with rinsing. If possible, freeze or completely dry out any wet gear.
- Never transport live fish or other aquatic plants or animals from one water source to another.

CALIFORNIA FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION IN "UPHEAVAL"

The San Francisco Chronicle writes that the "sudden resignation of a adamant defender of hunting and fishing" could lead to a "sweeping philosophical shift in the way the state views wildlife, sets rules for fishing... (and much more)." Hunters and anglers may no longer have a voice on a commission that regulates their right to enjoy the great outdoors.

The five-member commission that regulates your right to fish has two vacancies. If you think anglers and hunters interests are underrepresented on the commission (and they are), please urge Governor Jerry Brown to appoint an angler to the commission.

Another note on how bad the commission is getting, just recently the commission changed the deer tag numbers which is an indicator of the hunting future in the state. Tags for all zones except B Zone have been reduced, the A Zone by as much as a 50+ percent decrease from 65,000 to only 30,000 tags. ARE WE SEEING THE HAND WRITING ON THE WALL - YOU BET! The current commission is in full support of the non-consumptive use of our states wildlife resources including hunting and fishing rights.

FISHING TACKLE BAN

Assembly Member James Gallagher and twenty-three other state legislators are urging the State to abandon its effort to regulate and potentially ban common fishing tackle. There is no science or analysis conducted that could possibly justify an action that could increase the cost of some fishing tackle 20-fold. This is an on-going issue and I will keep you posted.

LAKE LEVELS

The current lake level is below what it was at the same time last year. With the warm weather in the past week, I would assume it will overtake last years level soon, if not already. Most of the snow has melted that was on the ground at lake level. The highest level for 2015 was 4484.59 in late June then started to decline to the lowest point of 4475.67 in the later part of October 2015.

2/11/2016 4480.75 foot elevation (current)

2/19/2015 4482.43 foot elevation (a year ago)

Thank you for your support,

Rich Dengler, President, Almanor Fishing Association

Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2016

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.

Tom Rosenow will be our new fishout leader. 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 Tom Rosenow.

This schedule may change depending on the fish bite or weather conditions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
March 14	Pyramid Lake (6 people minimum over that he'll bring in another guide at still \$100.pp on Pyramid lake)	Doug Ovellette (Clinic @ \$100.pp)
April	Hat Creek Opener	Eric See
April 22 & 23	Pyramid lake Clinic	Rob Anderson
(2 - days \$180. pp w/breakfast & lunches included. fly box @ \$30.00 w/12 flies. includes ladders, and additional flies if fly box purchased only 6 people per guide. Chris, Rob's assistant helping. maximum 12 people.) call Pat - 345-1197 to be added to the list.....		
June	Terry's Cabin	Terry Mich

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



Dr Scott Hood and Dr Scott Joyce



Andra

Salmon is the class room hatching!
Thank you members!

CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2016

CAF meets 10 months out of the year and presents a variety of exciting fly fishing-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 Fly fishing. Meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday of the month at CARD. Fly tying begins at 6:30 p.m.; general meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

Location: CARD Center - 545 Vallombrosa Avenue - Chico. We look forward to see you at our next meeting and hearing "your" fishing stories!

Date	Speaker	Program
March 5th		Annual Dinner
April 13th	Trent R. Pridemore	Bass fishing
May 11th	Max	"Fish First"
June 8th	Blake Merwin	Alaska: flyfishingblake@gmail.com

Fly of the Month for March 2016

Flash Tail Whistler

By: Ray Narbaitz

Dan Blanton has been a major voice in fishing the Delta, California Coast and Salt Water everywhere for a long time. To his credit, flies that he developed some five decades ago remain popular and catch fish to this day. Among others, his Punch, Whistler and Sar-Mul-Mac series of flies are classics. Some time after he came out with these flies he added something that changed the game completely. By adding various colors of Flashabou for an extended tail, these already effective flies became real killers.

Not too long after I started tying (shortly after the Pleistocene Era), I saw the original Whistler in a magazine article. I thought it looked interesting, so I tied a couple up, even though I had no idea where I might use it. My fly fishing at that time was pretty much exclusively in the Trout world. I never did fish with them, and eventually lost track of them. After the Flashtail series came out, I thought those looked even more interesting, so I tied a couple of them. I had them for a long time before I put them to use. I was fishing out of a tiny village on the very southern tip of Mexico, just short of the border with Belize. We were after Bonefish, but there were some Barracuda around and I had some wire leader material with me, but needed a fly to use. Buried in my stuff, I found the Flash Tail Whistlers. On my very first cast, something over three feet of Barracuda ate it and the fight was on. Few things can destroy a fly as quickly as a Cuda, and my two flies only lasted for four fish. However, I was convinced the Whistler was as advertised.

Since the Whistler was first developed in the 60's, the basics have stayed the same. Needless to say, in that amount of time, there have been a wide variety of variations. This is one of them.

Hook: Tiemco 811S or 600SP, or equivalent 1/0 to 4/0. Blanton says to use short shanked hooks only.

Thread: Red 6/0 or heavier

Eyes: Large or extra-large silver Bead Chain. The fly gets its name because on occasion, while casting, the wind will whistle through the holes in the bead chain.

Weight: 10 wraps of .20 or .30 Lead.

Bottom Wing: White Buck Tail

Middle Wing: Pearl or Silver, or Pearl and Silver mixed, Flashabou.

Top Wing: Bucktail of your choice in color. Chartreuse, Red and Gray are favorite colors.

Body: Red Chenille, or if a little more flash is wanted, something like Estaz.

Side Wings: Grizzly Saddle Hackle.

Collar: Large Red or Orange Saddle Hackle or Schlappen.

1. Place hook in vice and clinch it down firmly.
2. Start your thread and lay down a thread base on about half the hook shank.



3. Tie in your eyes about an eye length behind the hook eye. Make a couple of crossing wraps, and then coat the thread and hook shank with something like Zap-a-Gap. Continue making crossing wraps to make the sure the eyes are firmly seated on the top of the hook.
4. Cut off a clump of White Buck Tail a little less than a pencil in width. Clean the short hairs and fluff off the base of the hair, and measure it on the fly to get the length you want. Cut off the butt ends straight and pinch them tightly. Lay the butt ends on the top of the hook back a little from the eyes. Hold the hair so it is angled up towards the tail of the fly. Take a couple of loose wraps around the hair and then pull the thread straight up. Continuing to hold the hair at an angle, clinch it down with several tight wraps of thread. Then tie it down tightly to about the half way point down the hook shank, making sure it stays on the top of the hook.
5. Take 20 to 40 strands of the Flashabou and tie them on top of the bottom wing. Leave them trailing quite a way past the bottom wing.
6. Take a clump of whatever color you are going to use for the top wing about the same size as the bottom wing. Measure it to the bottom wing so it is the same length or slightly shorter. Using the same technique, tie it down.
7. Tie in what you are going to use for the body and make it a little plump. Stop it just short of the bead eyes.
8. Take one Grizzly Saddle feather and tie it on the side of the fly. Tie it so it is the same length as the Buck Tail.
9. Do the same with a feather on the other side.
10. Tie in your Schlappen or Hackle and make four or five wraps, trying to make the feather barbs lay back with each wrap. Tie it off and clip off the excess. Take a few more wraps of thread to make sure the collar lies back a little.
11. Advance your thread over the eyes and whip finish at the eye of the hook. Trim off the thread.
12. Trim the Flashabou so it is about an inch to an inch and a half longer than the Buck Tail.
13. Cover the thread over the eyes and at the whip finish point with either UV Clear Resin, Zap-a-Gap, or a couple of coats of Sally Hansen's.

Notes: The fly can be tied in a wide variety of sizes. Big for Salt Water or Stripers in the Delta or River, or tie it smaller for both Large and Small Mouth Bass.



The Fly Shop @ 4140 Churn Creek Rd, Redding, CA

TROUT SEASON OPENING DAY CELEBRATION! There is such a thing as a free lunch!

The fly shop's annual Opening Day Celebration will be on Friday, April 29th, 10:30 am - 4:30 PM.

Celebrating 38 yrs. in business! Guests will be treated by The Fly Shop to a wonderful lunch with all the trimmings. Meet the staff and see their local author Steven T. Callan "The Game Warden's Son".

LOCAL GUIDES

Fish First
Chico, CA
(530) 343-8300

Sierra Stream & Mountain
Chico, CA
(530-345-4261



RAPTOR ROD WORKS
Production* Custom* Repair
(530) 894-2062

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Custom Crystal Gifts

www.andysembroidery.com andyse@sbcglobal.net

Andy's Embroidery will add the CAF logo and trout to shirts, jackets, pockets...enlarge it if needed for only \$12.

BOARD MEMBERS

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Pat Sleeper.....345-1197

Vice President
Larry Willis.....520-8556

Secretary:
Dave McKinney.....570-1342

Treasurer:
Don Sleeper345-1197

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Scott Joyce899-8500
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Lance Gray517-2204
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Jessica Wilkerson.....

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David McKinney.....570-1342

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Web Master:
Don Sleeper and Richard Wilkerson

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CAF WEBPAGE

<http://chicoareaflyfishers.org>

FISHING REPORTS

www.fishfirst.com

Change of address?

Not receiving newsletter?

Contact

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Ron Leger
Custom Fish Carvings
530-343-5191

rlegerfishcarvings@gmail.com



David W. McKinney,
M.D., M.P.H.

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