

CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS



MAY 1999

short casts

THE CAST

Redge Hawkey,
CAF President

I love summer fishing and the longer days that sometimes allow a little fishing after work. The first fish I caught on a fly was during the summer on Chico Creek by the Soda Springs camping area. I was about 14 years old and the small rainbow trout took a Rio Grande King fly. I was so surprised that a trout would take my fly that I backed up the bank until the fish was landed.

At the age of 15, I was catching cutthroat trout on the south fork of the Snake River with my grandfather. The terminal



tackle was made of a grasshopper pattern and 6-8 feet of 4-pound test for a leader. Most of the trout were around 14-15 inches, but some were as big as 17 inches.

This summer I will back pack into the Sierras again, hopefully to find a golden trout in the 17-18 inch range. I hope that the local weekend trips will be much better for all of us than last year. The water should be much lower. Enjoy.

APRIL MEETING REVIEW

Rick Piscitello of Rick's Lodge on the Fall River provided a great program. He has fished worldwide since the mid 70's, including Belize, Argentina, Chile, Alaska, Labrador, and Costa Rica to name a few exotic locations.

His lodge is located in the

upper section of Fall River which has experienced a great comeback recently. CDFG biologists have recorded more than 6,000 native trout per square mile, making this the

(Cont. on back page)



MAY GENERAL MEETING

May 12, 1999 - Butte County Library - 7:30 PM

Lionel Valley, CAF Vice-President

Mr. Ralph Wood, C&R Guide Service will be presenting his expertise on fishing the upper section of the North Fork of the Yuba River. A very unique and interesting area which is not far from our doorstep. He is also the Immediate past President of the local fly fishing club.

APRIL FISHOUT

HAT CREEK - TRINITY RIVER

Mark "The Nymph" Adams



There are NO fishouts scheduled for the month of May! This is not a mistake! You are reading correctly. Again, there are NO fishouts in the month May. I know, you're thinking, what happened to these guys scheduling the fishouts? Are they crazy? Nope! They're taking their wives to Hawaii. Pretty smart when you think about it. Now we have all sorts of points built up just in time for the month of June, one of the best fishing months of the

year. As a result, there are two fishouts in June. The first is to Modoc County and is one of our most popular. You may want to schedule a whole week for this one because the fishing is going to be great this year. The fishout is the weekend of June 5th and 6th and is prime time for this area. Bring your float tube and 8# tippet material and get ready for "the grab". We'll be camping at Mill

Creek Falls Campground outside Likely and traveling to best fishing reports we hear about. Some of the usual places are Bayley, Nelson Corral, Lost, Sweringer, Annie, Briles, South Fork of the Pit, etc. We should get into lots of fish, from 10" Brookies and 20" + Eagle Lake Rainbows. There are too many places for one weekend or even one week for that matter.

The second fishout in June is the very next weekend, June 12th and 13th at Fall River. Fishing access is at the Cal-Trout launch area and small boats are a must. Again, this is prime time and it shouldn't be missed. This river is loaded with fish and is beautiful to boot. Give us a call for details.

The opening weekend fishout to Hat Creek was poorly attended compared to past years. I only saw about 7 club members and not many fish being caught. Jeff and I gave up on Hat around noon and headed over to the Trinity River

(Cont. on back page)

JUNE YOUTH FISHOUT

June 5, 1999

The June fishout will coincide with the general club program in Modoc County. This has over the last few years provided a unique opportunity for parents and kids to coexist or should we say cofish an area that is varied and exciting for all types of fishing conditions.

Please read the fishout report for this month's newsletter and contact Bert Robinson or Mark Adams about the June fishout.

LOCAL GUIDES

Powell Fly Shop
Chico, CA
(530) 345-9983

Dick Murrell
Oroville, CA
(530) 532-4223

Merganzer's Outfitters
Chico, CA
(530) 343-4071

Orland Outfitters
Orland, CA
(530) 865-8545

Oasis Springs Lodge
Paynes Creek, CA
(800) 642-4150

Big Bluff Ranch
Red Bluff, CA
(530) 529-2291

CAF WEB

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

NEWSLETTER

tod2fly1sh@aol.com

FISHING RPTS

Fish First of Berkeley
www.fishfirst.com

MAY

Calendar of Events

may 12 GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM
Butte Co. Library

may 20 FLY TYING

7:30 PM
CHICO FLY SHOP

may 27 YOUTH MEETING

Speaker: Ed Bruno
Bert Robinson

jun 5 YOUTH FISHOUT

Modoc Lakes / Streams

jun 5 CAF FISHOUT

Modoc / Fall River
Mark Adams

jun 9 GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM
Butte Co. Library

Fishout (Continued)

at Lewiston where we got into a number of fish in the 8" to 12" range with a couple towards 17". Several nice Steelhead were landed in the morning according to reports and I think This is where we'll be next year on opening day. Sunday after opener found us on the Sacramento River near Anderson where a bunch of Rainbows up to 16" were caught and released. So much for Hat Creek.

April Mtg (Continued)

highest fish count in recorded history.

Rick and Linda have created a comfortable restaurant and lounge in part of the motel that was left standing after a devastating fire in 1995. They have about eight miles of spring fed river with large trout available from May to November. They offer a great fishing experience. Give them a call at 530-336-5300 for rates. Don't forget the June fishout at Fall River.



PYRAMID LAKE FISHOUT

Jeff "Cutthroat" Richelieu

Mark and I arrived to fish the Lake at 7 am on Sunday and it was the same old story heard for decades. We observed 30 or so guys fishing from ladders off shore, and not one had a fish on. Could this be another Knot Creek Reservoir debacle? All the guys told us we should have been there on Saturday, of course. The good news was that we were the guys on Saturday observed catching a large number of huge Lahontan Cutthroats. The bad news is you were not there.

Pyramid Lake is at its highest level since the 40s and it is expected to rise another 5 feet with this year's runoff. This was our first time to fish the lake, and we can certainly account for the size and strength of these huge fish. We broke the five pound barrier many times, and our smallest fish (Mark's) was 20". Had Mark not fallen asleep in the truck for 2 hours during the prime bite, we would have had a 30 fish day.

The fish were active and aggressive, often hitting our files numerous times on the retrieve until they were hooked (Mark

was slow). Once you were hooked up, all you had to do was hang on as the fish towed you around the Lake. We had to go ashore many times to land fish that were too big for our nets. They fought as hard as Eagle Lake fish and were much more photogenic. The fish were in their full spawning colors with numerous spots, green backs, and crimson sides.

Our success was contributed to the overcast skies and breezy conditions that were optimal for lake fishing. We used the tried and true method of stripping dark colored wooly buggers with sinking lines. The grabs were not subtle. One fisherman actually had his rod stripped from his hands. (He was not from Reno, so the story had merit).

This was one of the most successful fishouts Mark (snoozey) and I have had. As your fishmasters for 1999, Mark and I will continue to sacrifice our time exploring new waters and continuing the research on old favorites. Like we tell our wives, "It is our duty to the club to be informed fishmasters." We hope to return to Pyramid real soon.



Chico Area Flyfishers
P. O. Box 3583
Chico, California 95927



CAF Web Page hosted by Stormnet Communications as a public service

