



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

Short Casts May 2013

Our next meeting date will be May 8th, 2013 at the CARD center, 545 Vallombrosa Avenue Chico, CA 95926. The meeting will start with fly tying, provided by: Mack From Fish First, at 6:30 P.M. And the meeting with Lincoln Gray speaking about Digger Creek Ranch and Indicator Set Ups.



Secretary's Secrets By Pat Sleeper

CAF BOD meeting April 3, 2013
Meeting: 6:05
Those present: Dave, Larry, Terry, Dana, Eric, Pat and Don.
Pat Sleeper - Minutes: M/S/P
Larry/Terry

Don Sleeper - Budget: M/S/P Larry/Dana
Class Room "Fish tanks" payment.
adjourned 6:45

Pat Sleeper

Lincoln Gray May's Speaker

Lincoln Gray has been fly fishing for 34 years. The passion for the sport began early, with his father and brother learning the sport on the well-known Rogue River in Southern Oregon. Lincoln continues that passion; with his Stillwater Fly Fishing Adventures business that includes schools and guided trips.

Lincoln lives in Chico, Ca and has fished Lake Almanor for over 20 years. The Feather River and Lower Sacramento River for over 25 years. Lincoln will now be guiding the Lower Sacramento River along with many private water venues.

Lincoln is a well-known instructor, guide, writer and fly tier. Several of his Hex designs were featured in the summer 2008 issue of Fly Tyer Magazine and Cal Fly Fisher.

Lincoln also works as a manager for Sierra Stream & Mountain, a company that includes Sierra Stream Fly Shop, Tie-Fast Tools and Jay Fair Eagle Fly Fishing and is the West Coast Distributor for 3M products. (Scientific Anglers and Ross Reels)

Lincoln is a pro-staff member of Ross Reels, TFO Fly Rods, Rio, SA, Tie-Fast Tools, Jay Fair Eagle Fly Fishing and Peak Fly Fishing.



Hat Creek fish out report:

By Eric See

The Hat Creek trip was a lot of fun, Jim Gaumer and Dennis Robinson were there, along with me and my friend Matt. As far as the fishing goes, as usual we caught a couple trout fishing on Hat Creek and then a whole bunch on the Pit, including two 17 inchers. Matt broke his fly reel on a rock and says he almost broke his left knee, although all he had to show for that was some bloody scuff marks and minor swelling. Matt proved himself as a wader though - he crossed the channel down on Pit #4 which is no easy task. He did say that at one point he waded too far and nearly panicked as he wasn't sure he could make it back but couldn't proceed any further as it was getting too deep and fast. For my part, I only drew blood from a few blackberry scratches (they look worse than they feel, especially if the water is cold enough), and only fell in twice but fortunately both happened during the same morning of fishing so I only had to dry out my fly boxes once. As I was already wet I fished the rest of the day without my waders which was fine because the weather was so nice, the downside is that you have little protection against the blackberries (i.e. leg scratches) and poison oak that lines the banks. All in all it was a typical weekend on the Pit River, Matt and I both had a great time and can't wait to get back up there.



President's Line

May 2013

Fishing season starts! This is the beginning of official spring and so everyone should try to get out in the next couple of weeks to see if you still have the "Right Stuff" for these pesky creatures that we spend our life's fortune on. We are blessed with a lot of options and really just getting out to beat the water is fun. Our club opener is at Hat Creek, and that is still one of my favorite trips. Hat Creek was the opening day destination for CAFF for many years. It was the first club outing I went on in 1986.

It was cool, with some rain, some wind and some sun. I had just arrived back in California from living in another country (Wyoming), and was sure that these fish didn't stand a chance against my carefully crafted Rocky Mountain techniques. My fishing buddy, someone many of you know, Charlie Beach, informed me differently; and he was mostly right. All this leads to a very memorable Sunday afternoon below the Power House Riffle.

The place was packed, a fact that probably annoys everybody, but somehow you have to deal with it. I had fished with larger bushy dry flies on Saturday like I would have in Wyoming and caught plenty despite the crowds, holding to the line that you simply fish around other people and live and let live. Charlie did not share this philosophy and was always a bit more eloquent in explaining that too many people spoil the experience and make it difficult to fish; stirring up the stream bed, knocking loose water-plants etc, etc, etc, and so he carved out a section of the riffle to fish and defended it. Charlie's nymphing had produced less fish than me, but larger. Given our competitive personalities, by Sunday, we were both doing a slow burn with each other. Finally I gave in and admitted that maybe this riffle was better for nymphing, but I was more than capable and could produce the same numbers as I had on dries. So Charlie "invited" me to fish where he was and I rigged up. Immediately I snagged all sorts of trash, but caught a couple, however I could not keep his pace. Then I hooked a really large fish, which immediately took off downstream through about a dozen fishermen and so foiled any hope I had of running him down. Nevertheless, I managed to hold him awhile, but just could not get him back around a couple of guys at the base of the run and then snagged a bunch of floating weeds. Finally I lost the beast. I took this with all the character and strength of a 5-year old who just dropped his ice cream. Of course on the drive home I offered up a variety of excuses and complaints. Charlie listened and laughed. Welcome to California, Dave.

Great place, great trip, great friend.
Tight Lines

David McKinney

Pyramid Lake Fishout – April 17, 2013

By Don & Pat Sleeper

We fished Pyramid Lake April 17th through April 21st in beautiful weather; Pyramid was almost calm at times, dead calm.

We even got off our ladders and fished from pontoon boats at Pelican point and we all caught fish. There were 24 members and guests at our spaghetti feed Thursday night. The fish ranged between 2 and 6lbs, no trophies this time, but any fish is a great fish on the fly. We used Teeny Lines (shooting heads) with black and white streamers. But most of the fish were caught using nymphs and chironomids under an indicator. But, Craig Lares found the secret and did very well "one day" by using a black streamer and a green beetle behind the streamer. Pat Sleeper caught her fish on Chironomidae under indicators.

We all enjoyed a wonderful time camped on the beach at Pelican.



CAF Speaker List 2013

CAF General Meeting

CAF meets monthly and presents a variety of exciting flyfishing-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 Flyfishing. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month. Fly tying begins at 6:30pm and the general meeting begins at 7:30pm. Location: CARD Center - 545 Vallombrosa Avenue - Chico, California, 95926. We hope to see you at our next meeting!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
May 8th-	Lincoln Gray	Indicator Fishing
June 12th-	Tim Fox	Fly Tying Demonstration
July 10th-	NO MEETING	
August 14th-	NO MEETING	
September 11th-	Hogan Brown	Nor Cal Warm Water
October 9th-		
November 13th-	Lincoln Gray	Drifting The Lower Sac – V-II
December	PIZZA FEED	(Location TBD)

Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2013

This is where you can locate future outings that the Chico Area Flyfishers 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 your 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.

We are also looking for additional **fishout leaders**. 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 Lincoln Gray or Don Sleeper. 345-1197

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
May 11,	Crater Lake	Don Sleeper
Lake Almanor Area, we meet at the Copper Kettle in Chester at 8:00 a.m.		
June	Lake Almanor Hex Hatch	
July	Yuba River – Float with Pontoons	
August	Deer Creek	Lincoln Gray
Sept	Davis Lake	Open
Oct 2,3,4,5	Pyramid Lake at Warrior Point	Don Sleeper
Nov	Feather River	Lance Gray

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



The Chico Fly Shop would like to offer to all CAF members a free fly line tune-up. Weighing the grain weight of mystery lines; checking knots/re-tying; and, dressing lines will be services provided to members that are interested. Saturday, May 11th from 9:00am-5:00pm Larry will be happy to assist those in need.

1154 W. 8th Ave. Chico, CA 95926
(530) 345-9983

Fly of the Month for May, 2013

Gabriel's Trumpet

By: Ray Narbaitz

I have long been a fan of Skip Morris. I like the flies he comes up with, and I like his writing style. Almost everything I read by him is very informative without being dry. He knows Fly Fishing is supposed to be fun, and he always throws in a little wry humor in his articles. Google him and go to his web site, and you will see what I mean. It has a lot of the articles he has written, not to mention some how to tie articles for some other cool flies.

The first time I ever saw his Gabriel's Trumpet, I liked it. There is no science here; I just liked the way it looked. A decade of selling flies for a living has taught me that before the fish can see a fly, the fisherman has to like it. To me, it had the right shape and proportions, some good flash, and the general look that a Nymph should have. If you want to know what it takes to develop a fly from scratch, go to Skip's web site and read the history of how he came up with the pattern. It isn't something that he just threw together.

I must admit that I have not had a chance to fish this fly as of yet. However, Skip gives several examples of how and where it has been successful, and his word is good enough for me. Skip ties it in three colors, in order of his preference, Gold, Pink and Black. The version I am showing here is for the gold. After the how to, I give the recipes for the Pink and Black versions, along with a couple of tips on what I did to come up with the right colors and materials, even though I didn't have them available to me.

Hook...Heavy wire Scud type hook 10 to 16. For the 10's and 12's I use a TMC2457. For the 14 and 16's I use a TMC 2488. It has a straight eye instead of a down eye, and I feel that with a bead, it allows a little more room because the bead does not close as much of the gap.

Bead...Gold, 1/8 for the 10 and 12, 7/64 for the 14 and 3/32 for the 16

Weight...Lead or lead free wire size .015. I'll use .010 on the 16.

Thread...Gold or Yellow 8/0

Tails...Two gold, Amber or Yellow Goose Biots

Rib...Red Ultra Wire, size small

Abdomen...Gold Flashabou or Krystal Flash, or Tinsel or Holographic Tinsel

Wing Case...Turkey Tail or a substitute like Mottled Thin Skin

Thorax...Tan or Amber Ostrich Herl

Legs...Ginger or Tan Hen Neck Hackle

1. Debarb the hook, place the bead on it, and put it in the vice.
2. Put about 10 wraps of the weighting wire on the hook shank, and break it off smoothly. Push the wire up into the back of the bead to seat it.
3. Start you thread on the hook shank below the wire. Wrap back up and take some turns around the wire to lock it in. Using your thread, build up a smooth transition from the shank up to the wire.
4. Tie in the Goose Biots for the tail. Make them no longer than the hook shank, and a little shorter is OK. Tie the butt ends back to the wire, and trim them off there.
5. Tie in your Rib material starting at the end of the lead wraps, and wrap it down to the Biots. The object is keep the underbody as smooth as possible.



6. If you are using Tinsel or Flashabou for the Abdomen, take a strand of it and double it over the thread. Slide the loop so it is up against the end of the lead, and then tie it down back to the Biots. If using Krystal Flash, use several strands, and do the same thing.
7. Bring your thread back up to just a bit more than half way up the shank, and then start wrapping your Abdomen material back up the fly. Make sure that there is no underbody showing through the wraps. Tie it down and clip off the excess. I tie it off up on the lead, a little further up than I'm going to have for the length of the Abdomen.
8. Spiral wrap the ribbing in even wraps. I wrap it almost to the bead, tie it down, and helicopter it to break it off. I'll tie the Thorax back over that part of it.
9. Tie in your Wing Case, making sure it is on top of the fly. Skip calls for Turkey Tail, which is fine. I almost always use Mottled Thin Skin for my Wing Cases, as it is easier to use, and much more durable. Tie it back to just short of the half-way point of the shank.
10. Take a couple of strands of Ostrich Herl, and tie them in at the bead, wrapping back to the Wing Case tie in. Wrap them around your tying thread a few times, and then wrap the herl up to the bead. Tie it off there, and trim the excess.
11. Tie in your hackle behind the bead and take two, and no more than three wraps of hackle. Trim off the excess.
12. Stroke back the Hackle, and pinch it down hard. You want it slanting towards the back of the fly.
13. Pull your wing case over the top of the Ostrich, and tie it down behind the Bead. Trim off the excess as closely to the Bead as you can.
14. Whip finish, add a dab of Head Cement, and the fly is done.

Notes: Keep in mind that these are 2X short hooks. That means that if you tie it on a 14, the gap will be a 14, but the shank length will be much closer to an 18...When tying the gold version, I had neither Ostrich Herl nor Hackle in tan. I did however, have a tan, Pantone permanent pen (Sharpies work just as well), and White Herl and Hackle. Place a few Herls or your Hackle on a plastic sheet, and give both sides a few good strokes with the pen. Allow it to dry, and voila, Tan Hackle and Herl. The color won't last as long as a commercially dyed material will, but it will last a while, and works fine in a pinch...Pink has become more and more popular in fly tying. A few years ago, I attended a tying seminar and while there was discussing pink flies with Andy Burk. "Who knows," he said, "Pink may be the next Chartreuse."...Skip says that while he designed the flies to fish in streams, he has found that they also work in lakes, beneath an indicator.

For the Pink version, the hook, weight wing case and rib are all the same as the Gold. Tails and hackle are white or cream. The thread, abdomen and thorax are pink.

For the Black version, the hook, weight and wing case are the same. The bead, tails, abdomen, thorax, hackle and thread are all black. The ribbing wire is copper.

LOCAL GUIDES

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Sierra Stream & Mountain
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