



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

Short Casts May 2015

Our next meeting will be Wed., May 13th, 2015 at 7:00 - @ CARD



Vice President Pat Sleeper

Henry Loneli.....will be our speaker for May 13, wed., program 7:30 with fly tying @ 6:30 at CARD.

Henry has 10 years running his Sacramento River Ecotours. 24 years wildlife biologist with CDFW. Tethered cast member Kodiak

Island episode. Professional Outdoor Adventure Guide, Wild Mushroom Foray Leader, Primitive Survival Instructor, Hunting & Fishing Guide.

Henry will be talking about CDFW... how close do you think the bears, mountain lions, etc., are coming to Chico are just a few of his topics.



President's Line

Hallelujah. Trout season is open for the most part. Now all we need to do

is figure out how to find water we can fish. Going into Burney Falls, I noticed that the Burney Creek is dry already and that is probably on the beginning of things to come. I understand that opening day was tough. Hat Creek was slow and so was Baum. Thanks are in order for Eric See for putting together the opening day fishout again. He did an excellent meal. There were some new people there who hopefully will become more active in the club. The more we grow, the more we can do. So get active. The streams are as fishable as they are going to be all year. The lakes are low but accessible. The shad are in the river. In short, get out and fish and then come to the meeting and brag about it.

Secretary minutes by Dave McKinney

CAF Board Meeting 04/02/2015

Called to order 6:15 PM by Larry Willis, Pres.

Attendance: David McKinney, Sec: John Hamiter, Steve Bohmeyer, Eric See, Pat Sleeper, Don Sleeper, Dana Miller, Terry Mich, Lionel Valley and Lance Grey

Minutes: Approved

Treasures Report; Don Sleeper. Excellent Results, best in terms of revenue. Review of our Budget and donations.

Donations This Year:

Cal Trout 400\$

Lake Almanor Fishing Association: 1000\$

Hooked on Fishing Event: 1500\$

McCloud River Reserve: 500\$

Tout Unlimited: 100\$

Tout Unlimited; Trout in the Classroom (Quincey) 200\$

Stars: (Sheriff's Vol) 300\$

C.A.S.T 250\$

These donations were all voted on an approved.

Dinner report. Pat Sleeper. Dinner Chair; Very successful dinner this year. Review of the various functions.

Next Year again will review the Live Auction, may wish to change that format.

Additional Topics for next year include, Dinner price, Silent auction, and size of Raffle. The Grand Raffle this year was a lot of fun, and sort of successful. The question for next year will be whether or not to do a big trip again or move away back to the prizes we had had in the past.

New Board Member: Out Reach Chairperson: Steve Bohmeyer. Approved by acclamation.

Youth Committee: Jessica Wilkerson. Youth Fishout on June 7th
More to come

Upcoming Fishouts;

Opening Day. Hat Creek Area. Eric See. This info went out last newsletter for notification so that anyone want to go could.

Meeting ajourned 8:15PM

David McKinney CAFF Secretary.

On the Road Again, 04-26-15

Bailey Creek Lodge

By Don Sleeper

We had the most enjoyable couple of days at Bailey Creek Lodge; Peter and Cindy Mitchell (530-474-4600) were our hosts and they deserve a BIG thank you for the wonderful time we had! Fishing was the best we'd ever had there in their ponds: rainbows up to 6 pounds (measured) 26 inches were caught on dry flies. There were many times we'd catch two or more in a row. We also had one take us into the backing with the power of those big ones. GREAT FUN!

We used pontoons and float tubes. The flies that worked were dry blue damsels, Griffith's gnats and bunny leaches.

Another highlight of booking a trip with Bailey Creek are the meals, Cindy and Peter really put on a cooking show. By far the best Five Course meals we've ever had.

Bailey Creek has two ponds, and a creek full of trout, up to 21 plus inches in the creek. Some fishermen caught at least a dozen...that's landed. We don't count those others. The upper pond has very big bass. We caught a few over 6 pounds there as well.

It was an incredible fishing experience! <http://www.baileycreeklodge.com/reservations>



Pat with a nice rainbow.



One of my nice bass I caught at the upper pond, also caught two nice trout there.



Another nice rainbow, all big fish in the pond.



A great picture of the pond in the evening.

Fishing Report-- Little Grass Valley Creek Reservoir

April 11, 2015 – Walk-in Fishout

Little Grass Valley Creek Reservoir is a 'fantastic' fishery. Ten club members and I walked 2 miles into the lake. It takes about 50 minutes to do the walk. We all had an excellent fishing experience; the ten of us caught over 100 rainbows up to 17 inches. This lake is a real gem because it's a moderate walk-in and that excludes most of the normal folks from fishing this beautiful lake. We used intermediate lines and fished olive wiggle tails and monroe leaches. I also used chironomids under an indicator and did very well.

It's a very clear water lake, about a 1/2 mile west of Buckhorn Summit on Highway 299. Drive a half-mile west of the summit, and you'll find a wide shoulder on the eastbound road side. You can park there and walk to the lake. You have to start on a steep down trail then turning right onto an almost freeway like gravel road onto the lake. It could be worth the walk...

If you don't know where Grass Valley Creek Reservoir is, have someone who's been there before take you. Three years ago, my friends and I wandered around on logging roads to nowhere, thinking we could locate it on our own. Mercifully, sometimes a car or two will be parked there. There was no one but us on the lake and we had a wonderful time. If you are planning to go up there give me a call and I will give additional directions.



The walk in..



Part of the crew that walked in..



Steve Bohnemeyer with a nice fish on..



My fish on a ice cream cone chironomid..

HOOKED ON FISHING, NOT ON DRUGS

PRESS RELEASE; For Immediate Publication

CHICO'S "HOOKED ON FISHING" EVENT May 30, 2015

To kick off National Fishing Week, the city of Chico will be welcoming kids to an outstanding free "Hooked on Fishing, not on Drugs"*** event. It is one of the largest single-day children's fishing events in the entire United States!

Kids 15 and under are invited to come to Horseshoe Lake in Upper Bidwell Park from 7:00 AM to Noon on Saturday, May 30, for a chance at the 8,000 pounds of channel catfish that will be planted for the event. Admission is **FREE**, along with all tackle, bait, and instruction [limit 1 fish per child]. Kids can even have their catfish cleaned for free.

Since this is a "kids only" lake, no fishing license is required for anglers under 16. Expert local anglers will be on hand as coaches. There will be a separate area for the littlest anglers, age 1 to 5. There will be plenty of rods and reels available to use free, but all are encouraged to bring their own. Bring your favorite "secret" catfish bait, but please, no lead sinkers at Horseshoe Lake.

With all that help and all those fish, it will be the closest thing to a guaranteed "first fish" for the little ones. To donate, volunteer, or for more information, call **530-891-4757**. A great time is sure to be had by all.

Post questions on, and "Like" our **FACEBOOK PAGE**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hooked-on-Fishing/368678556513424>

*****"Hooked on Fishing, not on Drugs" is a program of the American Sportfishing Association**

To all Butte County Media:

This is the largest youth sporting event of any kind in Butte County. Previous years events have drawn well over 4,000 kids, plus thousands of adults. It definitely merits coverage on the "stocking" day [Friday, May 29] and the event day [Saturday, May 30]. Stocking will take place between noon and 1:00 PM on Friday, and the peak crowds are usually between 9:00 and 10:00 on Saturday.

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2015 HOFNOD Media Relations Director
530-893-5735 scarson@sunset.net

Pete Giampaoli
2015 HOFNOD Chairman
530-891-4757 tammy@epickhomes.com

VOLUNTEER FISHING COACHES NEEDED!

Volunteer fishing coaches are needed for the CHICO "Hooked on Fishing" kid's fishing day, taking place on May 30, at Horseshoe Lake in Upper Bidwell Park [across from the golf course].

We need folks who can show the kids how to put a worm on hook, cast out, and hook a big one!

This is the largest kid's fishing day in the entire United States, and as many as 3,000 kids or more will show up to catch their first fish; we can use all the help we can get!

The event takes place from 7 AM to NOON, but the crowds ebb and flow all morning long, if you can only come for a few hours, the kids will still love it.

All you need to bring is a good hat, a pair of pliers to take the hooks out of the catfish, and a smile for the kids!

Post questions on and "Like" our **FACEBOOK PAGE!**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hooked-on-Fishing/368678556513424>

**For Chico and Paradise-area locals, we can also use your help on Thursday night, May 28, from 5 PM to 9 PM at the Rod & Gun Clubhouse at Horseshoe Lake, as we re-rig the 600 "loaner rods". All you need to bring are a pair of line clippers and your "Up Close" glasses!

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Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2015

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.

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 Don Sleeper or Eric See.

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
May	Sloat – M.F. Feather	Terry Mich
June	Hex Hatch@ Almanor	Scott Joyce
July 25th (Sat)	Pingatore Pond	Don Sleeper
Sept	Open	
Oct 1st	Pyramid Lake	Don Sleeper
Nov	Open	

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

CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2015

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!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
May 13th	Henry Lomeli	Dep of Fish & Game
June 10th	Jon Baiocchi	Davis Lake and beyond
Sep 9th	Tom Maumoynier	Almanor Fishing
Oct 14th	Dennis P Lee	Half-Pounder-A Steelhead

Hat Creek

My best fish on the Pit was a 17 inch brown on Sunday, I almost broke my rod getting everything set up for photos, I took the fish to a nice tuft of grass, laid it down, and took several photos. But when the fish was flapping around, it splashed water on the lens so all of the photos are bad. Grrrr! Eric



Montana

Ray Narbaitz

On April 20th, Jim Gaumer and I flew out of Sacramento headed for Bozeman, Mt. We had booked a four day fishing trip through Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone, Mt. Blue Ribbon Flies is owned by Craig Mathews, who has brought fly fishing a great number of highly effective flies over the years, including the Bonefish Bitters for salt water and the great Sparkle Dun for trout.

The trip we were taking is called a Spring Tour. The object is to try to hit it after the winter storms and before run off. When we arrived in Bozeman, we were met by Patrick Daigle who was our guide as well as our transportation, meal and lodging provider for the trip. When you get there, you have no real idea where you are going to fish. That is up to the guide based on his latest information on water flows and conditions. Our odyssey had us overnighing in West Yellowstone, Sheridan, Ennis and Bozeman. We fished the Madison between Hebgon and



Quake Lakes, The Ruby, the Beaverhead and the Lower Madison. Almost all of our fishing was the walk and wade type. The only time we used a drift boat was the last day on the Lower Madison and even then it was used primarily as a taxi to get us from one spot to the next to get out and wade.



We caught Rainbows and Browns, with a few White Fish thrown in. White Fish are usually derided by most fishermen, but I'm not sure why. While they are not what you are after, they pull hard and do not give up easily. The fish we caught ran consistently from 12 to 18 inches with a few bigger and very few smaller. With just a couple of exceptions, the majority of fish we caught were on Baetis Nymph variations. We also took a few on Rubber Legs and San Juan Worms. As usual, Jim managed to entice a few to come up for a dry. They were all wild fish in great condition. On our first day above Quake Lake, we had one of the greatest single days of fishing either of us has ever experienced. Quake Lake is an interesting story. In 1995 a 7.3 earthquake hit the area and cause a massive landslide. Almost half of an

adjoining mountain slid across the Madison, completely shutting it off. The Army Corp of Engineers surveyed the dam and decided it met all requirements for an engineered earth fill dam. They put in an outlet so the river could continue below it, and Quake Lake became permanent. The picture of me with the Rainbow shows a fairly typical fish for the day. Both of us caught between 20 and 30 fish each like this BEFORE LUNCH.

One of the many things that struck me about the fish is the sheer beauty of the Browns in the upper Madison and Ruby rivers. As you can see in the picture, their markings are very distinctive, and they have that beautiful, golden belly. It is no wonder the locals call them Butter Bellies.

During the trip, we saw Antelope, both Mule and White Tail Deer, Bison, a Moose and Rocky Mountain Sheep. The fishing ranged from hard but good to fantasy land and we were often joined by the local fishermen...Ospreys. Our guide, Patrick Daigle was very hard working, extremely knowledgeable with a pleasant personality and a good sense of humor. On our final day on the Lower Madison Patrick pointed out a big Bald Eagle nest high up in a tree. Mama Eagle was sitting in the nest. She kept a wary eye on me as I took her picture. I thanked her for her indulgence, and we finished up a great trip.

We managed to have four good weather days while fishing, and never did need to use the rain gear we had brought. When we got up early to catch our flight back home on the 25th, it was snowing.



CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Our Dinner winner for 4 nights 3 days fishing in Mexico's, Lake Picachos with Anglers Inn International by Billy Chapman, Jr. Is SCOTT JOYCE!!! Thank you to Billy Chapman for this donation!!



Fly of the Month for May 2015

Spring Soft Hackle

By: Ray Narbaitz

The Fly of the Month for March, April and now May are variations to imitate a Baetis. Baetis is the nerdy name for Blue Wing Olive. I have spent three months with a Baetis imitation for this column because this is the time of year for the bug to be prevalent. It is the first Mayfly to come off in late winter and early spring. A quick search on the internet will show you that there are untold numbers of Baetis patterns, all of which, I am sure, work... Sometimes. Last month, Jim Gaumer and I spent four days fishing several different rivers in Montana. Between us, we caught a staggering number of fish and the vast majority of them were caught on Baetis Nymphs. Between the guide's and our fly boxes, we had a large number of variations on the theme. To my surprise, we often had to change flies to recapture the fish's interest. That's what I mean when I say they all work... Sometimes.

The thorax on this month's fly may surprise you a bit. For reasons known mostly to the fish, purple is a good color to get their attention, and will often be a good strike trigger. Also, most of us tend to use the same flies in the same situation, so it is sometimes good to show them something a little bit different. It's interesting to note that while the thorax is different, the abdomen is pretty much the same as last month's S.O.S. and the Skinny Nelson of last year.

Hook: TMC2488 14 - 18 or TMC3769 16 - 20

Thread: Black, 8/0 will do, but I prefer Tiemco 16/0 on flies this small

Tail: Pattern calls for light Coq DeLeon, but I'm sure speckled feather barbs of any kind would work.

Abdomen: Tying thread

Rib: Small or X Small Silver Wire

Thorax: Purple Ice Dub

Hackle: Calls for Starling, but use whatever black soft hackle you like. I used a Grizzly Hen Neck which I dyed black with a Sharpie.

1. Debarb the hook and place it in the vise.
2. Start your thread at the midpoint of the hook, and wrap it towards the end of the shank.
3. Tie in your tail with just two or three wraps at the bend of the hook.
4. Tie in your ribbing at the same spot, but have the front end of it lay up to the front of the hook.
5. With tight wraps, try to wrap your thread up to the two thirds point covering the butt ends of the tail and the ribbing with one layer of thread. These are tiny bugs, and you don't want them to be any fatter than you have to.
6. Cut off the butt ends of the tail material.
7. Spiral wrap your ribbing up to the front of the hook, tie it down, and break off the excess.
8. Dub in your Thorax. You want this to be fairly robust. Leave enough room at the eye of the hook to tie in your hackle.
9. Tie in the hackle by the tip, laying it curved side down on the top of the hook.



10. Take no more than two wraps of hackle, pulling the barbs back with moistened fingers with each wrap.
11. Tie down the hackle and cut off the excess. Take a few wraps up the head to hold the hackle fibers back if you wish.
12. Whip finish and cut off your thread.
13. Add a touch of head cement to the finished fly.

Note: This fly can be fished in a variety of ways. You can fish it as a Soft Hackle in the film. You can put it as a trailer behind a small Dry, or you can fish it deep by itself or behind a weighted Nymph. Whichever way your fish it, at the end of your drift, let it hang for a bit so it will swing a little. If you are fishing it deep, it will both swing and rise. If you get a strike at that point of your drift, be careful, the take will probably not be gentle.

LOCAL GUIDES

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

Fish First
Chico, CA
(530) 343-8300

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



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