



CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

Short Casts May 2017

Next meeting May 10th, 2017 @ 6:30 tying and meeting @ 7:30 location: California Park Pavilion



President Line by Pat Sleeper

Our next speaker is Wayne Syn! He will be speaking this Wed. May 10th at 7:30 at the usual place: California Park Pavilion on California Park Dr. Fly tying will be at 6:30 by Wayne Syn tying a shad fly.

Wayne is a full time dentist; and, a part time fishing guide with Orland Outfitters which he started in 1993, although he guided before that when he was living in the bay area. He specializes in shad; but, also guides for salmon and some for trout.

Fishing is starting to pick up! I'm hearing of stripers being caught on the Sacramento River! Yeah! And, I understand Baum Lake is getting better again! Congratulations to those trying it out.

We have our fish out at Almanor coming up. Please contact Tom Rosenow if you would like to attend the Scott Joyce hosted fish out, before hand, luncheon. PLEASE...let us know if you're coming. We "all" look forward to seeing you again this year.

Be advised: the state campgrounds are closed; and, maybe the PG&E ones too. PLEASE check ahead of time before traveling to Almanor expecting to camp at one of the campgrounds. Thanks.

We also have the fishing clinic at Crawley Lake ran by Elden Hinkle for July. Please see the news letter fish out schedule or contact Tom or Elden for more information on these fish outs and others. We have one more meeting before we're off for two months. Lincoln Gray is scheduled for June, next month.

Thanks,

Pat Sleeper CAF, President

VOLUNTEER FISHING COACHES NEEDED!

Volunteer fishing coaches are needed for the CHICO "Hooked on Fishing" kid's fishing day, taking place on May 20, 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 18, 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!

Contacts:

Steve Carson
530-893-5735 scarson@sunset.net

Tammy Becka
530-891-4757 tammy@epickhomes.com

Trout Season Opener

The Trout Season Opener Fishout started on Baum Lake this year, as several of us went up Friday before the regular stream trout season opened on Saturday. [Normally we fish the Pit River on Friday as there is a section open in the off-season, but the water was too high this year]. The Baum Lake fishing was fair, with a few rainbows caught. After a conversation with an experienced Baum Lake fisherman in the parking lot, and after taking one look at his fully decked-out fishing kayak, I decided to follow him. He was a nice guy, liked good cigars, and he had a fish finder on his kayak. We found that much of the lake was low on fish and that they were podded-up in the lower section toward the dam, and sure enough, found success on small nymphs fished under an indicator. My best was a 17 inch rainbow that jumped 3 times and reminded my why I love fishing so much - my first trip this season! Lesson learned: I need a fish finder for my pontoon boat...

The next morning, Opening Day, started with an early morning breakfast of bacon, eggs, and strong coffee at Burney Falls Campground, prior to heading over to Hat Creek. Our target was the lower section of Hat Creek just upstream of where it flows over a fish barrier dam and empties into Lake Britton. It was a 10 minute walk to the stream and we weren't sure where to start, so while I was putting on my waders, Kevin Jelich sent off his drone with a camera on it to fly that section of stream and check out whether anyone was already down there. It links to his cell phone screen - very cool! The day was spectacular, the stream was perhaps slightly higher than normal but very fishable. The fishing was fair at best - we caught a few but had to work at it. During the afternoon we fished the Powerhouse Riffle area and saw a fair number of bugs in the air, mostly caddis and some small stoneflies, but there were only sporadic rises from the fish. Nonetheless, we did manage to catch fish here and there on dries. But the great day, great company, and serenity of Hat Creek captured all of us. By mid-evening, hunger took over and several of us went back to camp to eat dinner and get the fire going - big mistake. Kevin and Tom Rosenow decided to stay and got into a nice dark caddis hatch, right at dark, and nailed several fish on dry flies. We fished the Powerhouse Riffle area on Sunday and caught fish, but it never got red hot. Since we had our pontoon boats, we decided to drift from the Powerhouse Riffle down to the Hwy 299 Bridge, and that was very enjoyable. We got to see the much less fished, mid-section of Hat Creek where a lot of habitat restoration work is occurring. That was nice to see, as were all the mallards, Canada geese, Bald Eagle, and other wildlife that we saw.



Pit River Rainbow Trout (Hat Creek - Powerhouse Riffle)



Tom Rosenow showing how it's done on Hat Creek (Kevin Jelich and Matt Schimmel in background)

CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2016-17

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 being held on the second Wednesday of the month at The California Park Pavilion. We look forward to see you at our next meeting and hearing "your" fishing stories! Fly tying begins at 6:30 p.m.; general meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. **Location: California Park Pavilion: 2565 California Park Drive Chico.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
April 12th	John Squires	Wilderness fishing trips in Alaska
		Floating the Kuktuli River in the Bristol Bay watershed that I think your club would enjoy. This special river is about a 40-mile float. We usually spend 8 or 9 nights on the river, camping as we float and fish. We fish for grayling, dolly varden, rainbows, and different species of salmon, depending on the time of year. The Kuktuli River is also ground zero in the proposed Pebble Mine controversy. Jpscscr2001@aol.com
May 10th	Wayne Syn	Shad
June 14	Lincoln Gray	hex - Almanor
July/Aug	no meetings.....	
Sep 13		Trout Unlimited
Oct 11		John Baiocchi
Nov 8		TBD
Dec 13		Round Table

Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2017-18

Future outings that Chico Area Flyfisher's provide to its Membership: These Club Fish-outs 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 **fish-out leader with Elden Hinkle**. 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** trosenow.chico@gmail.com or **Elden Hinkle** ehinkle@aol.com.

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
Jan 11th - 16th, 2018	Lake Picachos, Mexico - Pat Sleeper - psleeper@sbcglobal.net	
March 3rd, 2018	Annual Crab Feed Dinner	
March 10th & 11th 2018	Pyramid Lake Clinic w/Rob Anderson & Chris RSVP Elden Hinkle ehinkle@aaproducton.com Breakfast/lunch/ladders \$190. pp + \$30. box of 12 flies. April 26th-	
May 20th	Hooked on Fishing @ Hooker Oak helpers contact Eric See	
June 24th	Lake Almanor - Hex hatch- @ Scott Joyce's "thank you!"	
July 13th	Crowley Lake TBD ehinkle@alo.com	
Sep. 5 - 12, 2017 (FULL)	Dorado fishing La Ventana, Mexico. 6 days boat fishing/7 lodging w/food. Cost for everything under \$2000. Questions: psleeper@sbcglobal.net	Pat Sleeper - host
Sep. 12-20th, 2017 (FULL)	Dorado fishing La Ventana, Mexico. 7 days boat fishing/8 lodging w/food. Cost for everything under \$2000. Questions: psleeper@sbcglobal.net 345-1197	Pat Sleeper - host
Oct 1, 2017	Pyramid opener	trosenow.chico@gmail.com Tom Rosenow

Fishout July 13th

We have reserved July 13 for a fish out at Crowley Lake with Chris Wharton (last nights speaker at the meeting). His Fee will be \$500.00 for a maximum of 6 people. He will meet us the evening before at the camp ground to get us all rigged up and ready for a 6:00 am departure to the lake with either your pontoon or float tube loaded in your vehicle or a friends vehicular The departure time could change based on weather.(earlier)

He also mention it's a somewhat long kick or row to the fishing location from the put in so be advised/prepared.

The cost will be the number of fisher persons divided by 6. If we get more than the 6 we possibly could get an additional date of the 14th or the 12 will just see what the interest level is. Chris thinks the middle of July should be very good.

As Chris mention the drive is about 3 hrs from Reno, so about 6-7 hours from Chico. I have driven this with a glider in tow years ago. Beautiful drive, mostly two lanes Carson City south.

You can "EMAIL ME" or call to secure a spot. Do not reply to this email! thanks, Elden Hinkle ehinkle@aaproducton.com

On the Road Again,

By, Don and Pat Sleeper

April 26, 2017 we (Elden Hinkle, Greg, Pat, Pam Hallin, Lionel, Larry, Pete Wiik, Don and Pat) all went to La Ventana, Mexico, which is located two hours north of Cabo on the sea of Cortez; Fly fishing for Roosters, Dorado, tuna and such. The nine of us had "the best time fly fishing"... We caught Bonita (tuna), Skip Jack, yellow tail tuna, snappers, groupers, jack crevalle, pompano, dorado, and roosters.

We landed over 300 Bonita, tuna in seven days of fly fishing. We managed to bust 2 rods, 4 reels and 3 fly lines, great fun. Luckily, the sardines were in the Sea of Cortez which made all that great fly fishing. Our guides chummed at times and used teasers to bring rooster and tuna in. We had schools of 100 or more bonita around us at times, and at one time six of us in four boats had fish on.

Most of the Bonita were caught on a sardinia fly patterns. Even though we had a few gear problems it was still a very successful fishing trip.

It was an extremely fun time full of new daily experiences; and, a lot of fun new memories, as well; as, a Great learning experience! People new to fly fishing the ocean even caught these breathtakingly beautiful, fighting, fish.



Lionel with nice jack crevalle fish



Pat with a nice dorado fish that was our second day's dinner. Guide Lalo and Pete Wiik in the background.



Pat Sleeper's rooster.



Lionel with a pompano



Pete Wiik with a yellow tail snapper; it fed us all.



Going out in the morning 50 feet from our lodging



Our fly fishing friends at breakfast



Pat Hallin's rooster

CHICO'S Hooked On Fishing, Not On Drugs Kids Fishing Event: MAY 20, 2017

This program originated in America's big cities and is designed to expose kids to fishing and the outdoors, as an alternative to unwholesome activities, such as drugs. Chico is a fishing town and this Event has become huge here at home - in fact, Chico's event is one of the largest in the United States.

Here's how it works: Kids 14 and under are invited to come to Horseshoe Lake in Upper Bidwell Park from 7:00 AM to noon on Saturday, May 20th, for a chance at the thousands 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. Please spread the word!

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 and tackle 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.

Last year we had over 3,000 children show up to catch their first fish, many with a non-fishing parent or no parent at all. This is no problem with the help of the many fishing coaches available to assist the new anglers.

This Event is put on by local volunteers, including the The Chico Area Flyfishers (CAF). The event is primarily funded by donations from local area businesses and service organization (including the Chico Area Flyfishers) and 100% of all donations go into the event.

Volunteers Needed!

Hooked on Fishing needs your help, and it is easy to participate via the Chico Area Flyfishers. You can assist in one of two ways:

- 1) CAF needs your help to assist with setting up the Hooked on Fishing Fish Aquaria Display on Friday, May 19 from 11:00 - 2. This is something CAF does each year, where CAF members use a seine net and collect fish from the lake, which are then placed in a group of fish tanks at the entrance to the Event so the kids can view the many fish species living in the lake. It's a lot of fun!
- 2) Additional CAF volunteers are needed on Saturday (5/20) to tend to the tanks and chat with the public about fish and fishing Tying some flies is highly encouraged. At noon, we break things down and release the fish back to the lake.
- 3) To volunteer For the CAF Fish Aquaria Display, please contact Eric See at eseec@comcast.net (899-1918), and specify which shift you are interested in attending: Friday 11:00 - 2, Saturday 0630 - 1000, Saturday 1000 - 1, or Saturday all day.



Fly of the Month for May 2017

Glossy Back Tungsten Baetis

Fly of the Month, May 2017

By: Ray Narbaitz

Last Month's F.O.T.M. was the Cate's Turkey. This was yet another variation on flies meant to imitate a Callibaetis Nymph. This month's fly is a Baetis imitation. They are two, very different bugs. The Callibaetis prefers lakes or very slow moving water over mostly weedy bottoms. The Baetis is a stream loving Mayfly known to us by the much more familiar name of Blue Wing Olive or BWO. One thing they do have in common is they are both among the very first Mayflies to come out and play in the spring.

BWO's prefer cloudy days to hatch. It is even better if there is a little rain to go with it. However, a strong wind seems to dampen their desire to come out. While you can't always get to the water when they are hatching, the nymphs are always present, particularly early in the year. While they are a small bug, they are bigger than the Midges the trout have been living on all winter, so they are most happy to get a little more protein for their efforts.

Before we get into the tying of the fly, here are a couple of tips on the hooks. It calls for either a TMC 2488H or a TMC 2499SPBL. The H stands for Heavy, and the SPBL stands for Super Point, Barbless. A note of warning on the 2488H is that sometimes it is a little too heavy for a small bead to get around, so you may have to use the standard 2488. Both hooks have a straight eye and both hooks are 2X short. That means that while a 16 has a size 16 bite, the shank of the hook is much closer to a 20 than a 16. So, it is a 2X short shank with a 2X wide gap. The 2499 is one of my favorite hooks. The Super Point is the same design as the Owner, triangle shaped hook. They are needle sharp, penetrate quickly, and the triangle shape helps them hold a lot better. Also, they are 2X short but 3X wide, so a 16 is close to a 20 in shank length, but actually has the bite of a 14. They are a little more expensive than a lot of hook styles, but considering how much we already have invested in all of our gear and travel, I'm not sure saving 15 or 20 cents on a hook should be much of a deterrent.

Hook: TMC 2488H or 2499SPBL, 14 to 20

Bead: Gold Tungsten, sized to match bead

Thread: UTC or Danville 70 denier, color to match

Tail: Mottled Hen Back

Rib: Small or Extra Small wire, Black

Abdomen: Tying thread

Wing case: Opal Mirage Tinsel

Thorax: Dubbing to match color of the fly

Legs: Speckled Hen Back

Flash back: Epoxy or UV cured material



1. Flatten the barb on the hook, thread on the bead and place the hook in the vise.
2. Start your thread, and tie in a few barbs of the Hen Back for the tail. Make the tail about the same length as the shank of the hook.
3. Flatten your thread and tie in the ribbing. With UTC, Ultra or Danville thread, when you spin your bobbin counter clock wise, it will untwist the thread, allowing it to flatten out when you wrap it and give you a nice smooth Abdomen. Tie in the ribbing with touching wraps of thread from the bead to the bend of the hook and then wrap back to the bead.
4. Spiral wrap your wire up to the bead; tie it off and helicopter it until it breaks off cleanly.
5. Tie in your tinsel right at the back of the bead. Make sure it is on the top of the hook. Wrap it back about a third of the way down the shank.
6. Dub in your Thorax, making it about the same thickness or slightly larger than the bead. Don't dub it too tightly at the back of the bead, since you want a little room to tie in the legs.
7. Tie in the legs on each side of the Thorax. You want the legs to stop at the bend of the hook.
8. Pull the Tinsel over the top of the Thorax to make your "Glossy" back. Tie it off at the back of the bead and trim off the excess.
9. Whip finish behind the bead and trim off your thread. You will only need a few wraps since it will be covered in the final step.
10. Put a bubble of the Epoxy or UV cured material over the Tinsel. Make sure it touches the Abdomen in the back, and the Bead in the front. I use either Loon UV clear finish, or Bondic.

Notes: As usual, this fly should not be the only color you consider. It looks great in black with a black bead, and for contrast, a silver rib. I've also seen it tied in blue as well as red. The variations are up to you.



LOCAL GUIDES

Fish First
Chico, CA
(530) 343-8300

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

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820 Wall Street Chico, CA 95928
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