



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

## CAF November 2021 News Letter

### Next General Meeting Wed, Nov 10th, 2021



President's Line: November 2021

General Meeting Date: Nov 10th, 2021:

Time: 6:30, Fly tying, with Ed Bruno

Time: 7:30 General Meeting with John Crotty, Almanor Fishing Association and Quail Lodge owner in Canyon Dam.

General Meeting Location: California Park Pavilion on California Park Dr, Chico.

Always such a beautiful location on the California Park Lake. I'm hopeful, I will see you there!!!

Our first General Meeting in over a year, was in October, with Lance Gray both tying and speaking was done very well...He presented a wonderful up to date report on the fires; boat launching accessibility; fishing reports; and, reported on how to fish lakes and waters with different habitat, structures, currents, and water

depths to focus on!!! Thank you, Lance!!! It was very well done and informative! Sometimes we hear repetitive things, which keeps us refreshed about things we may have forgotten; but, sometimes it's "all" new ideas. Though, it's always that reconnecting and seeing our old and new friends, that will continually put that smile on "all" our faces!

I'm always so excited about seeing all of you; and, hearing about your fishing experiences! Though COVID is still alive and well, wearing masks are "your" decision. Our BOD has met and we're working on fish outs; our pizza feed for next month; our speakers for the General meetings, please let us know if you have a request; and, our annual fundraiser dinner for Sat, March 5, 2022.

Our annual dinner has a menu change: due to the inability to acquire crab; and, depend on a price that hasn't doubled or tripled. We have chosen to go with Italian cuisine by Sons of Italy and Italian Cottage: Authentic, handmade, meatballs and spaghetti or choose lasagna. Vegetarian meals will be available as well.

The lakes are still very low; but, rising due to our rains; I'm hearing there are some incredible fishing opportunities. But, be aware of the quickly rising rivers due to the rains, please!! Hope you can share one of your great stories at our next meeting.

Please enjoy our fish outs listed on our fish out page. I would enjoy seeing "you" at the next one.

In case you missed this message, it's worth reporting again about Jim Clarkson:

I want to say: Good bye to Jim Clarkson..... A man we will "all" miss! He made and fixed more beautiful rods than I could count; and, did it wonderfully!!! I "never" knew him without his infectious, warming smile; his visor on his head; glasses on the tip-top of his nose; and, his flip flop sandals. He "always" fixed your rod and then some...I personally will miss him!!! I went to his "Celebration of Life" at Scotties and listened to the many stories from his friends; and, I was blessed to acquire "now" some of his friends. Rest in Peace, my friend!!! BIGGEST HUGS, ALWAYS!!!

It's time to go fishing...Lets have fun while we can!!

See you Wed, night: Nov 10th, 2021 @ California Park Pavilion @ 6:30 fly tying w/Ed Bruno; 7:30 meeting with John Crotty, Almanor Fishing Association and Quail Lodge.

Pat Sleeper

President, CAF

## Speaker John Crotty

Wed, Nov 10th, 2021, John will talk to the group about our fish pen program, just received our 50,000 Eagle Lake Rainbows and we are having four pens constructed to replace four of our 35 year old pens.

Veterans Fishing Day 2021 & 22

Youth fishing events including AFA gifting every Plumas County fourth grader with a youth fishing rod.

The Dixie Fire and the impacts on Almanor and our community.

Whatever else you might like to hear from AFA and Lake Almanor?

John Crotty

Thanks, Deb & John Quail

Lodge Lake Almanor Lodging & Guide Service

707-845-2493 Deb, 707-362-1988 John



## Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing-Chico Has First Fishout Since Covid Shut Down.

On Wednesday October 27th, we were finally able to get 6 of our disabled veterans on the water at Digger Creek Ranch. In attendance on a beautiful calm and cloudy day were Ernie Flud, Fred Sherman, Lee Markos, Percy Ledbetter and Jerome Camp. Most everyone hooked and landed fish using small black midges, bird's nests and balanced leeches. A special thanks to CAF members, and PHWFF volunteers, Stan Thomas, Steve Pereira and Keith Kelly for working hard to improve the guys casting and putting them on fish.

Calling all rod builders! Every winter we supply our Vets with everything needed to build their own rods. Two years ago, before Covid, Ed Migale led this activity over the course of 8 to 10 weeks. This year Ed is not sure he can help us out so we are looking for someone who can help about 10 of our nation's true heroes assemble their fly rod of choice. If you are able to assist, please contact Pete Wiik at 530-520-9495.



## On The Road Again with Don and Pat Sleeper

In these crazy times Pat and I have become very good at Social Distancing: we spent 3 weeks in Mexico fishing for dorado and roosters. After over an hour fighting, Pat landed her fish of a life time, a 70 to 80lb rooster Fish, fly fishing on a fly she created and tied. It's getting really hard for me to out fish her any more.

Stayed home one week and then we were off to Idaho to Pat's cousin's ranch for 3 weeks of fly fishing and Elk hunting. We caught some beautiful rainbows at a high mountain reservoir. I'm still called the bobber guy in some circles; and, I still use an indicator and small black blood sucking leach, that did extremely well.

I put in for an Idaho, cow Elk, tag again this year; and, after 4 days of tough Elk hunting, I finally took a cow Elk. I even had a 6-point "monster" bull elk 10 yards from me and my (cow tag). Most magnificent animal encounter I have ever had! Next day: I saw a wolf at 20 yards; could take it out; he slipped away. Finally, after four days, I saw my first cow elk; jumped a small herd of 15, all cow elk, they busted out and I did the best 100-yard running shot or the luckiest shot I've ever done.

Then the work began, it took a 4-wheel quad and tractor to get my elk out of all the brush. Chris, Krystal, Pat and I cut up and wrapped about 200lbs of elk. We even made 30lbs of smoked summer sausage and 15 jars of canned elk. First time canning elk, it was awesome.

You all Play Safe.



## PHWFF class reminder

This is a reminder that PHWFF class is the 1st and 3rd Wed. of each month and our next class will be this coming Wednesday 11/17, same place: Rod and Gun Club, same time: 9:00AM.

On Wed. 10/27, 6 vets and 4 volunteers spent a beautiful day at Digger Creek Ranch. Although, not everyone caught fish, from what I saw everyone significantly improved their casting; and, I hope had an enjoyable day. Thanks to Stan, Steve and Keith for volunteering.

Fish On,  
Pete

## **Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2021-22**

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 times, to helping those members new to the sport, we try to make these trips fun, exciting and successful. But...It's up to "you" to ask for help, if you desired to learn.

If you have one of those favorite spots that you don't mind sharing with others and would like to lead our fellow CAF members for a day of fishing, and fellowship contact Elden Hinkle ehinkle@aaproduct.com, Don Sleeper dnsleeper@gmail.com, Pat Sleeper psleeper@sbcglobal.net, Eric See eric.see@water.ca.gov and Tom Rosenow troseow.chico@gmail.com who are our fish-out leaders.

**This schedule may change depending on the fish bite or weather conditions and COVID 19 VIRUS status!!!.**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Fishout Leader</u></b>
Jan 12-17, 2022	Picachos bass Lake, Mexico:	Pat Sleeper 345-1197, psleeper@sbcglobal.net
March 2022	Pyramid fish out	Elden Hinkle-ehinkle@aaproduct.com
April 16th	Luk Lake ½ day morning fish out:	Elden Hinkle-ehinkle@aaproduct.com Rosenow troseow.chico@gmail.com
May 23-27, 2022	Rooster and Dorado fishing, Mexico,	Pat Sleeper 345-1197
June	CAF Hex Hatch fish out	BBQ
Sep 3-10	Dorado fishing, Mexico -	Pat Sleeper 345-1197-psleeper@sbcglobal.net
Sep 10-17	Dorado fishing, Mexico -	Pat Sleeper 345-1197-psleeper@sbcglobal.net
Sep 17-24	Dorado fishing, Mexico -	Pat Sleeper 345-1197-psleeper@sbcglobal.net

## **CAF General Meeting "Speakers" 2021**

We truly look forward to seeing you at our next meeting; and, hearing "your" fly fishing stories! Your excitement is ours! CAF meets 9 months out of the year; and, presents a variety of exciting fly fishing-related programs throughout each year. Each meeting includes: monthly fly-tying demonstrations; variety of raffle prizes; refreshments; and, the very best stories about Northern California Fly fishing from our members. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month; location: **"The California Park Pavilion" on California Park Dr, Chico, CA.** Live Fly-tying presentations: 6:30 p.m. @ General Meeting 7:30 p.m.

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Speaker</u></b>	<b><u>Program</u></b>
Nov 10	John Crotty	Almanor Fishing Association
Dec 8	Pizza feed	
Jan 12	Members Share their fishing trips with pictures and stories	

# Fly of the Month, November, 2021

## Walt's and Sexy Walt's

By: Ray Narbaitz

In May's FOTM I featured a version of Walt's Worm called Fur on a Hook. It was an even further scaled down version of a fly that is already quite basic. The two things it eliminated from the original was a bead and lead wire wrapped under the dubbing.

Walt Young, a tier from Altoona, PA tied the original Walt's Worm in the late 80's or early 90's. Sometime later, Loren Williams, a member of Flyfishing Team USA, came up with the Sexy Walt's. Even here, there is some controversy. Anywhere you look Walt's Worm is tied with a bead and almost always on a Jig Hook. However, the Pennsylvania folks claim the original had lead wrapped on the hook, but no bead, and was tied on a standard hook, not on a jig hook. I'm pretty sure if you ask the Trout, they will tell you they don't care one way or the other. Suffice it to say that almost all WW's and their variations are tied on Jig hooks with a bead these days. As stated above, if you tied them on a standard hook, I doubt the Trout will frown upon you.

I'm going to list the recipe for both flies. The step by step instructions will be for the Sexy Walt's. The standard Walt's is very straightforward as you will see in the recipe and picture. A note on the Sexy Walt's. This version, by Williams, is a little flashier than the original, but not really garish. If you look them up, you will find some other ties that look like they were inspired by the Strip in Las Vegas.

Standard Walt's:

Hook: Nymph Jig Hook, 10 to 16.

Bead: 2.5 to 3.5mm silver slotted tungsten

Weight: 6 to 8 wraps of lead or lead free wire to match hook.

Try to make the wire as close to the diameter of the hook as you can

Thread: 8/0 tan or brown

Body: Thinly dubbed, standard Hare's Ear

Sexy Walt's:

Hook, bead, and weight the same as the standard Walt's

Thread: Fluorescent red, orange or chartreuse, 8/0

Rib: Pearl Opal Tinsel, small. I have started using Sulky for some ribbings. It is a little more narrow and much more durable than other tinsels. For reasons unknown to me, the Pearl color is called Sliver.

Body: Hare's Ear Plus, which is merely standard Hare's Ear with a little clear or white Antron blended in.

1. Debarb the hook if needed. I used an Umpqua C400 which is already barbless. Slide on the bead and put the hook in the vise.
2. Wrap on the lead or lead free wire and slide it up tight to the bead. Make sure the bead is flush with the eye of the hook.



3. Start your thread right behind the wire and build up a dam so the wire cannot slide back, then wrap over the wire a few times to lock it down. Build a thread taper from the hook to the wire so you can easily dub over it.
4. Tie in your ribbing at the back of the wire and wrap it back to the bend of the hook.
5. Advance your thread up to the bead. Dub a very thin noodle on the thread. Some people like to use a touch dub method here. If you don't know that that is, contact me and I'll walk you through it.
6. Wrap your dubbing back to the bend of the hook, and then (adding more dubbing if you have to) wrap it back up to the bead. You want a carrot shaped body from the bend to the bead. Make it as thin as you can.
7. Counter spiral wrap your ribbing up to the bead. Tie it off and cut off the excess.
8. Take a few extra wraps of thread right behind the bead. You want to make a nice little Hot Spot collar. Whip finish the thread and cut it off.
9. Apply a little Head Cement on the thread wraps, trying not to get any on the Hare's Ear.

Notes: Walt's Worm is a classic example of an attractor type, sub surface fly. It doesn't really look like any specific bug, but it sort of looks a little like a bunch of different bugs.

Like most flies, you can change a number of things in tying the Sexy Walt's. You could use Chartreuse or Pink Thread. You could add a tail. You could tie it in Olive or Black, etc. Sometimes a small change like this can make a difference. Other times it won't. The Trout will let you know whether or not it does.

# LOCAL GUIDES

Fish First  
Chico, CA  
(530) 343-8300

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

**QUAIL LODGE  
LAKE ALMANOR**  
530.284.0861  
29615 Hwy 89/ P.O. Box 87  
Canyon Dam, CA 95923  
**Lodging & Fishing  
Guide Service**

# BOARD MEMBERS

**President:**  
Pat Sleeper.....345-1197

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

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

**Treasurer:**  
Don Sleeper .....345-1197

**Board Members:**  
Eric See .....899-1918  
Scott Joyce .....899-8500  
Dana Miller .....570-1184  
Dave Mckinney .....570-1342  
Jerry Stevenson.....345-7389  
Lionel Valley.....321-2481  
Mike Pickering.....521-0710

**Past President:**  
David McKinney .....570-1342

**Committee Chairpersons:**  
Membership Director Jerry Stevenson  
Fish Master Tom Rosenow .....520-3053  
Fish Master Elden Hinkle .....518-4680  
Conservation Pat Hallin .....518-5031  
Web Master:.....Don Sleeper

David W. McKinney, California.530-534-5135

**Project Healing Waters**  
Pete Wiik.....530-520-9495

**Newsletter Editor**  
Scott Sleeper.....899-9856

**Proofreader**  
Ray Narbaitz .....894-5220  
tytline@sbcglobal.net

**CAF WEBPAGE**  
<http://chicoareaflyfishers.org>

**FISHING REPORTS**  
[www.fishfirst.com](http://www.fishfirst.com)

Change of address?  
Not receiving newsletter?  
Contact  
Don Sleeper .....345-1197



**Ron Leger**  
**Custom Fish Carvings**  
**530-343-5191**  
rlegerfishcarvings@gmail.com



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

Pre-Employment Physicals  
Expanded Drug Screening  
Workman's Compensation  
FAA/DOT Physicals  
Spirometry/Respiratory Testing



**Chico Miller  
Home Team**

Dana Miller  
530-570-1184

Frankie Miller  
530-717-3884

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE**  
**B R O K E R S**

Past president of Chico Area Flyfishers