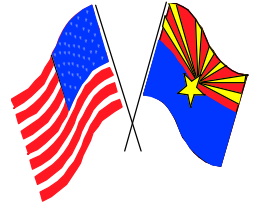


MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



JANUARY 2014

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

President's Perspective *By Gary Grimes*



What a great tournament to start 2014. It was good to see such a high turnout with 26 boats. We had several new members who joined for the start of the year; it was good to have you guys out on the water with the club and I hope to see you in February. I don't think we could have had better weather for our January tournament; temps were in the mid 70's for most of the day. I also like the fact that the sun doesn't come up until 7 AM, which means I don't have to get up at 2:30 AM to start the day, that extra couple of hours sleep sure helps.

The tournament started shortly after 7 AM, and the boats were scattered all over the lake, and remained so for

Monthly Breakfast Meeting
Deer Valley Airport Restaurant
702 W. Deer Valley Rd
Phoenix, AZ
1st Wednesday of Each Month 8:00 A.M.

most of the day. One of the reasons I like Bartlett is that the lake fishes much bigger than it appears. There are countless points, humps and rock piles, which seem to change on a weekly basis as the water falls, so there are more and different spots to fish each time you go out. Everyone caught fish, some caught more and bigger than others. I think Sean and I set the club record for the smallest 5 fish limit at 3.35 lbs, and we even culled once. Maybe there should be a prize for that? Congratulations to Gary Senft and Mark Royal on their winning 11 pound sack and they did it without winning a big bass prize.

Thanks to everyone who helped during the weigh in. Remember, our weigh in team are volunteers, who also fish during the day and are entitled to fish until 3 PM like everyone else. Your patience while they are waiting to get the team and equipment assembled is appreciated.

Our next tournament is February 19th at everyone's 'favorite lake', Pleasant; hope to see you all out there.

Lake Bartlett January 15, 2014 *By Terry Tassin*

You know, there was a time when I could catch fish and occasionally win one of our club tournaments. Guess as we age we lose the touch when it comes to feeling the fish. Ahhhh to be young again! But that's not the whole story; I spent too much time working with my new graphs and not enough time concentrating on finding and catching the fish. Sorry Lionel!

OK enough of that. Lets hear from our winners who provided after action reports from the tournament.

Team Gary Senft & Mark Royal Start Season With Win at Bartlett

Taking home 1st Place, Team Gary Senft & Mark Royal

Happy Valentines Day!



"We Practice Catch and Release"

weighed the winning creel of five bass weighing 11.44 lbs.



1st Place
Mark Royal & Gary Senft

Gary Senft: Just want to say thanks to the guys that did all the work to put this on. The last time I was at the lake I didn't do very well. So I feel lucky I did as well as I did. I told Mark that the fish I was catching had left the river. So I started at the dam and fished all the way to

the river. We caught fish on drop shot morning dawn, reapers, Texas rigged worms, and brush hogs, crankbaits, and spinner baits. I used a lot of jigs for a long time and never caught a fish. We did have a lot of fun, but we didn't catch a lot of fish; maybe 8. We have a lot of very good fisherman in this club which makes us all fish hard.

Mark Royal: First of all I want to say that although in a previous life I was a computer programmer, there is no truth to the rumor that I hacked the club computer for the "random" draw.

Drawing the guy that has won a couple of recent tournaments was some kind of great luck. Gary obviously knows how to fish Bartlett and I thoroughly enjoyed seeing him work.

I did my usual drop shot reaper thing and did manage to get one of the bigger fish in the bag, but spent a lot of my time watching the drop shot specialist work morning dawn, green pumpkin brush hogs, spinnerbaits and crankbaits. We caught more fish drop shooting than anything else and in 15 feet or less of water.

Gary Martlage & Jim Buchanan Finish 2nd Overall

In **Second Place** the team of **Gary Martlage & Jim Buchanan** weighed five bass for a total weight of 10.82 lbs. Thanks to Gary's 3.65 lb bass the team also won **1st Place Big Fish** honors.

Gary Martlage: I was fortunate to draw Jim Buchanan for the Bartlett tournament. Jim and I have fished together in the past, and I got Jim involved in the club at the end of last year.



2nd Place
Jim Buchanan & Gary Martlage

We pre-fished half a day on Tuesday, not finding anything worth talking about. Since we were the 2nd to last boat out in the morning, I discussed the possibility of fishing close to the launch area. Of course, that didn't work out at all. Burning up an hours worth of time in the wind with no action, I told Jim we might go to an area that

Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 5 February** starting at 8:00 AM, at **Deer Valley Airport Restaurant** (just one mile north of I-101 at the intersection of 7th Ave & Deer Valley Road). We hope you will come early and have breakfast together.

The next club point tournament will be at **Lake Pleasant** on **29 February 2014**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.



Conservation Update *By Gary Grimes*

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission has decided to spend \$356,000 to reverse an alarming decline in the bass populations at Roosevelt Lake by introducing fast-growing Florida strain bass, conducting ongoing research, and scattering artificial reefs to help the bass get enough to eat. The state will also investigate turning a warm-water fish hatchery into a breeding facility for Florida strain bass.

might be a little more protected, and he was in total agreement!

We motored to mid-lake in a pre-spawn area, throwing cranks across shallow rocky reefs. Finally, a fish in the boat! We caught 4 on cranks, one a 3.65 pounder, was our gift of the day! Four more on Yamamoto smoke jigs, than 4 more slow rolling a Sweetwater spinner bait. I love that bite! Couple more small ones in the afternoon on jigs filled out our day of 15 fish. We did not leave our area mid-lake all day, except the last hour. In the winter, my thought is to not leave an area that produces fish, as they moved up all day long, giving us a decent weight for Bartlett winter fishing.

Mr. Buchanan (Jim, Jimmy, Big Jim, James B., etc.), and I had a fun 2 days of fishing, and I look forward to another day on the water with him, either fun or tournament fishing!

Asmus & Adamson Win 3rd Place Overall & 2nd Place Big Fish

Team **Asmus & Adamson** weighed five bass for 10.40 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors. Gary Asmus' 2.95 lb bass took **2nd Place Big Fish** honors.

Mike Adamson: First I would

Membership

As of January 17, 2014 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 69 active members.

like to thank everyone for making me feel welcome to the Midweek Bass Anglers. I enjoyed the tournament and meeting the new faces in the club.



3rd Place
Mike Adamson & Gary Asmus

As boat Captain Asmus and I were heading home we realized what a great day it was to be named "Gary". It seemed that everyone with the name Gary cashed in. Well

almost everyone Mr. President (sorry, Asmus made me write that).

For me it was a day that didn't make sense. In the winter all I hear is the fish are deep, use jigs to get down where the fish are. Wrong! Gary caught 2 fish around 3 lbs on a spinner bait in 10 feet of water before the sun came up. Then another in 6 feet around 9 AM on the same spinner bait in the back of a cove. The last few were on drop shots along the main points throwing into the shallows. We also threw cranks, jigs and tubes with no luck.

I guess the moral of the story is to try it all as you never know what the bite is going to be.

Gary Asmus: I fished with Mike Adamson, a new member in our club. I had a spot that I



"Your rod's bone-jarring, hook-setting power impresses me no end. However....."

knew I wanted to start in but starting in 20th I figured we would be looking for my 2nd spot. However, there was an opening between two of our fellow anglers so I moved in to fish my 1st choice spot.

The first few casts produced three of our five fish at almost 8 lbs and we figured it was going to a great day, and then it got tough for us. We only caught about 7 or 8 fish for the day but enough for 3rd place and a nice 3 lber for 2nd big fish. We caught our fish on spinner baits and drop shot rigs. Mike was great to fish with and I am looking to fish with him again soon.

Team Johnson & Savage Jig Their Way to 4th Overall Finish

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Don Johnson & Tom Savage** weighed five fish for a total weight of 9.87 lbs.

Tom Savage: To begin, I would like to say I had a great time fishing with Don. He is a very good fisherman who taught this old dog some new tricks. I also enjoyed his great



4th Place
Tom Savage & Don Johnson

sense of humor.

During pre-fishing, we were getting spinner bait bites by the dam. We were also getting spinner bait bites up the river. For tournament Day, we decided to start at the dam with spinner baits.

Of course, the morning of the tournament, the bite was gone. So, we headed up the river but the spinner bait bite wasn't there either. Don ended up catching fish in shallow water up the river with a hula grub jig in green pumpkin. All the fish caught, were up the river in shallow water near rocks. Don caught all the fish we weighed so by the end of the day, I was really good at using the net!

Not only did I have a great time fishing with Don, I gained a new friend.

Alauria & Zimmerman Overcome Adversity in 5th Place Finish

A five fish limit weighing 9.19 lbs was enough to earn Tom & Keith the **5th Place** money.

Keith Zimmerman: Tom Alauria's computer is on the fritz, so he asked me to provide our input regarding our fishing prowess at Bartlett. The best bite we found was early in the AM; however, we caught fish all day. Unfortunately we had a problem putting fish in the boat. We had fish to the side of the boat only to have them spit the hook, break our lines, and in one case straighten out a Gamakatsu hook. We caught

fish drop shotting and on crank baits.



5th Place
Tom Alauria & Keith Zimmerman

The primary problem we had was we were unable to keep any fish alive even after we dropped C4 and primer cord in deep water. We'll have to work on our technique. I'm certain Tom didn't want me to divulge all this info. But you know me. Ok, Ok, you all know this last paragraph is a joke! No explosives were used during this tournament.

Team Jeff Mabry & Brian Jacobson Win Final Prize Spot with 6th Place Finish

With a five fish limit weighing 8.99 lbs Team Mabry & Jacobson worked the main lake for their **6th Place** finish.

Jeff Mabry: Brian Jacobson and I started fishing in the marina area throwing spinner baits and cranks baits. We got our first two in that area on crank baits, but it shut off pretty quickly. We then stayed in the main lake area and worked some rock piles that I had

marked in pre-fish. Brian managed two more dragging the drop shot while I looked for the rock piles and tried to hold the boat steady in the wind. I really can't remember who caught our fourth fish, but I would bet it was Brian! Our 5th fish came off of a main lake point on a Texas rig. Our first five all ranged between 1.25 and 2 pounds; not bad for Bartlett, but not good enough.



6th Place

We managed 4 more rats after that and later in the day went back to the marina area where I made a decent upgrade on a jig fairly shallow and shortly after Brian caught our biggest fish. Apparently you had to be named Gary to get a good check in this tournament, but what happened to Grimes?

Brian is a real good fisherman and understands how to fish from the back of a boat. He out fished me on this day and got our biggest fish. It was great to get to fish with him.



Treasure Chest
By John Reichard, Treasurer

WHAT A DAY

Jack and I started fishing at the rip rap by the dam. His trolling motor would not work so we spent time fixing the problem. The wind was so bad we decided to go across the lake to get a break from the wind. After a while Jack caught our first fish on a small crank bait.

Sometime later I caught a fish on a Baby Bass crank bait. Things just turned off until about 12:30 PM and then we had moved back to our starting point (trolling motor would not work Jack got it going again) when Jack picked up our third fish. We were moving towards the marina. Then we bumped into Steve Cook and Jack told him not to catch his fish and proceeded to boat our fourth fish.

I was taking the fish out of the net when the hook went into my finger. Jack cut the hook off the lure and then Steve came along side and Jack held his boat to ours and Steve tied some braided line on the hook. He held the hook down to my finger and popped the hook out. I got to tell you that hurt. Thanks Steve! We caught our last fish about fifteen minutes before going in to the weigh in. Thanks Jack I still had a great day with you on the lake!

The 5lb pot was not won so the pot of over \$1000 will carry over to next month. The pot should be worth about \$1150.

Everyone should have received the final tournament results sheet by now, so I won't bore

you with prize amounts. Lets just say that we paid out \$1950 to the winners.



Weighing-In
By Jack Hughes, Tmx Director

Well it is the beginning of another tournament season and we have all our permits for 2014. As with everything in life there are always changes. Now before I get a number of emails saying the Fish and Game pamphlet says a river stamp is not required the regulations and pamphlet were printed when AZ Fish and Game thought they had an agreement with California. We have some new rules for the Colorado River that at the time of this writing are still not clear because of conflict between Arizona and California on river stamps (I hope it will all be finalized before we fish Havasu). Agreements with Nevada and Utah have been reached and are in effect, they eliminate the river stamp with those states. Also, now when you purchase a fishing permit in Arizona it is good for 365 days not for the calendar year.

One other new rule is starting of tournaments. Due to complaints, mostly from California and Texas, the National Forest service has directed the Tournament Directors when there is a small launch area to start their tournament outside of the no wake zone. They did not specify which lakes have small launch areas due to a number of reasons including no wake

zone change size as water levels change. I was pleased to see they trusted the tournament directors enough that they did not over legislate. I was advised by TNF personal the only lake they are concerned with is Saguaro at certain times of the year. The reason for this rule is to stop complaints from non-tournament fishermen when they are launching their boats that they cannot do it safely with so many boats in a small area. This is a rule we can easily live with and should have no effect on our tournament fishing. There are also new rules on ages that require a license, boat driving and urban fishing, if you have young children or grandchildren check out the new rules.

With the first tournament of the year successfully completed it brought to my attention a vital piece of equipment most of us do not pay attention to; your First Aid kit. Having carried a kit on board for more than 10 years and never using it I paid little attention to it. This past December I took my twin grandchildren fishing and their mother insisted I check out my first aid kit and sure enough some items were way out of date and had to be replaced. Well we had a great time and no need of the kit. However, during the Bartlett tournament my co-angler, thanks to a largemouth that did not want to be in the boat, got a number six treble hook deeply imbedded in his hand and I mean deep. Between Steve Cook and me we were able to remove the hook and apply first aid to a hand that did not want to stop bleeding. Ironically several items I replaced last month were the item we needed most and used. My suggestion is check out your on board first aid kit and make sure the antiseptic for one thing is not out of date. It is really important when dealing with a fish hook injury.

Finally, I want to thank each of you for camaraderie, good conduct, and sportsmanship during the Bartlett tournament. During our weigh in we had several on lookers watching the weigh in and asking questions of members. I am positive they left the weigh in with a very positive attitude of bass tournament fishing, our members and club. This goes a long way in overcoming those who do not want us to fish at all!

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Bartlett January 15, 2014



Photo Scrapbook - Lake Bartlett - January 15, 2014



Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2014 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Gary Grimes 623-203-7436

SECRETARY

Terry Tassin 623-931-1546

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Jack Hughes 480-510-7779

VICE PRESIDENT

Lou Hirlemann 480-272-0050

TREASURER

John Reichard 623-512-0238

Committee / Chairmen

PROGRAMS

Lou Hirlemann

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE Jack Hughes-Chairman

Gary Grimes, Terry Tassin, Lou Hirlemann, John Reichard

RAFFLE COMMITTEE - - Lionel Frailey

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Terry Tassin

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Lou Hirlemann

CONSERVATION/LEGISLATIVE - Vacant

Access Midweek Bass Anglers Internet Web Site at: <http://www.midweekbassaz.com/>

**Welcome to New
Midweek Bass Anglers
Since the Last Newsletter**

**Mike Adamson (CO)
Devin Anderson (B)
Bryan Steele (CO/B)
Tim Todd (B)**

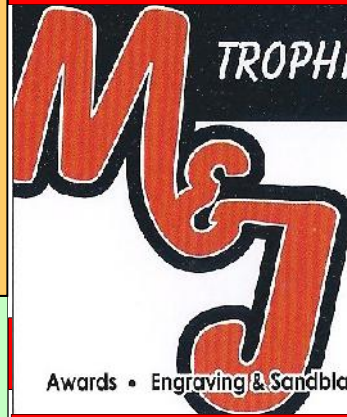
Tackle Box Sales!

For those members who have "fishing related items" that they would like to sell, trade, or give away.

<u>Seller</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>
Larry White	Yamaha 1000 Inverter	\$675

Something to list? Contact the Editor

**Official Supplier of
Midweek Bass Anglers Club Apparel**



TROPHIES & APPAREL

John Balzic
Owner

10802 N. 43RD AVE #2
GLENDALE, AZ 85304
P 602-548-4200
F 602-548-4204

john@mandjtrophies.com
www.mandjtrophies.com

Awards • Engraving & Sandblasting • Screenprinting • Embroidery

Individuals wishing to purchase a club shirt or cap can **order directly** from our provider - **M & J Trophies & Apparel**, 10802 N. 43rd Ave, Glendale, Arizona. See their ad above.

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in February

- Jerry Askam
- John Balzic
- Clinton Bell
- John Milkint
- Dave Rice
- Jason Riddle
- Tom Savage
- Gary Senft
- Larry White



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2014
Tournament Schedule**

15 January	Bartlett
19 February	Pleasant
19 March	Havasu
15-16 April	Apache (1.5 Days)
21 May	Roosevelt
18 June	Saguaro
16 July	Bartlett
20 August	Saguaro
17 September	Roosevelt
15 October	Apache
19 November	Saguaro