

MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



APRIL 2015

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EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes



I'm on vacation and gone fishing. I will be back next week.

Lake Apache Report

April 15, 2015
By Terry Tassin



energy and enthusiasm for the sport of bass fishing and he can also catch fish. We practiced Tuesday mostly looking for bed fish and we found a lot of fish but after we caught the first five they all looked like they were headed for a balance beam. We did see several good fish early in the morning just swimming around in the back of a cove so that is where we started Wednesday.

Kyle Campbell: I first want to thank Clinton Bell for a great few days out on Apache. He is a great host and even better fishermen. We started the day out by running down to a cove towards the Canyon Lake dam. We started with spinners and jerkbaits in the early morning and grabbed a quick first bass around 4 lbs. Clinton hooked a 5 pound plus bass but lost it due to throwing the hook mid jump. We continued this till the sun came into the cove where we started hitting bedding fish. We had a 5 fish limit quickly by 8:00 AM. From there we started to look and cruise around the bedding bass we scouted the day prior in order to upgrade our fish. By 1:00 we had upgraded a few with a weight around 11 to 12 lbs. We ended the day on the

Dropshot Wins 1st Place For Team Clinton Bell & Kyle Campbell

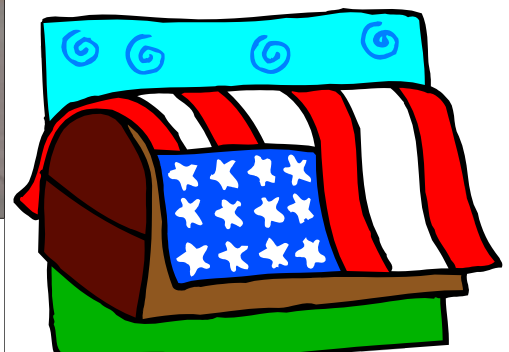
Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Bell & Campbell** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 15.86 lbs. Thanks to **Kyle's** 5.99 lb bass the team also wins the **1st Place Big Fish** prize.

Clinton Bell: First off let me say that Kyle is a good draw - a young man with lots of

On tournament day our first fish came on a jerk bait, next on plastic, and then we lost one in the 5 lb class (that hurt) so we then finished our limit on bed fish. At 2:00 we went to the flats and fished in the wind and that's where Kyle caught the 6 pounder. A very good way to finish the day Kyle, thanks again

Memorial Day

2015



Monthly Breakfast Meeting

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



1st Place
Clinton Bell & Kyle Campbell

"We Practice Catch and Release"

flats near Turtle Island throwing jerkbaits, Carolina Rigs, and dropshots. Around 2:30 we caught the 5.99 lb largemouth on a dropshot.

Neil Burns & Ernie Arvizu Finish 2nd Overall

In **Second Place** the team of **Neil Burns & Ernie Arvizu** weighed five bass for a total weight of 14.70 lbs.

Ernie Arvizu: Pre-fishing was not much to talk about. We just could not find a consistent pattern to attract bass. Sometime late Tuesday, we finally decided to try the river. There I hooked a four pounder on a drop-shot, finally - a bass much larger than main lake bass we had hooked. There was no plan to fish the river on Wednesday until we caught that four pounder on Tuesday.

Early morning on game day Neil Burns and I decided where we wanted to fish, and basically stayed with the plan. That's a first!



2nd Place
Ernie Arvizu & Neil Burns

Our first fish of the day was a five pounder that Neil caught on a Zara spook. Great catch Neil. Next plan of attack was to head toward the area between the resort hotels and launch area on the south side of the lake. There we were using Sexy Shad lures and jerk baits that worked some in pre-fishing. Not this time though. Now to the last part of our plan; the River. There is where we stayed the rest of the day. We were jigging with crawdad colors and Robo worms. Our drop-shot worms were called Desert Craws and one other crawdad Robo worm the color of which I cannot remember.

As always, Neil was a great host and we both had another fun time at the lake. Also, I want to thank all who volunteer as board members for keeping the show running smoothly.

Vern Ridgway & Chuck Golden Work Mid Lake Points To Finish 3rd Place Overall

Team **Ridgway & Golden** weighed five bass for 13.15 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

Vern Ridgway: Our two biggest fish were caught off points at mid lake. One was on a modified crankbait in bluegill colors and Chuck added to the catch with a 4 pound beauty on a Carolina rig that he had seen Johnny Johnson use on TV. The remainder of our catch came on plastics and one on a jerk bait. All the fish were in 5 to 15 feet of water.



3rd Place
Chuck Golden & Vern Ridgway

Tournament Statistics

Fifty men fished 9 hours each, bringing 109 keeper bass to the scales for a total weight of 230 pounds with a 4.60 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 2.11 lbs. All but three fish were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.

Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 6 May** 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 Roosevelt** on **20 May 2015**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 2 PM**.

Chuck Golden: First of all I thank Vern for a very pleasant day on the water. We had a good time, although the fish were not biting all that well. Vern caught all his fish on a crank bait or a jerk bait. He lost his monster smallmouth early that probably would have put us over the top, but that's the way goes. I caught my fish on a Chigger Craw rigged mini Carolina style. We were mainly fishing points on the main lake.

Team Nelson & Buchanan Fish Beds Near Dam For 4th Place Overall Finish

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Hobby Nelson & Jim Buchanan** weighed five fish for a total weight of 13.13 lbs.



4th Place
Jim Buchanan & Hobby Nelson

Hobby Nelson & Jim Buchanan: Hobby pre-fished and caught fish on reaction baits along the shore line.

On tournament day we went through everything in the tackle box and caught no fish. Then Hobby went down by the dam where the fish were on the beds. Thanks to Hobby we took 4th place with a total bag weight of 13.13 lbs.

Team Gary Martlage & Nick Wampach Use Big Swim Bait For 5th Place Win

A five fish limit weighing 13.02 lbs was enough to earn **Team Martlage & Wampach 5th Place** money. **Nick's** 5.85 lb bass also won them **2nd Place**

Big Bass prize and the **5 lb Pot.**

Gary Martlage: Nick Wampach & I pre-fished on Tuesday and found that catching fish was as tough as everyone else was saying. Tournament day, we went "junk fishing". We mainly fished mid, to upper lake with reaction, and drop shots. We did find a few bed fish and Nick got to hone his skills on the small fish we found. Nick did pick up a large swim bait, and toss it by my head on occasion. It would hit the water like a pancake, and scare the heck out of me! Most of us "old farts" don't know about these big baits because we are too old and couldn't throw them for over 5 minutes. But Nick, being the youthful person that we all

Membership
As of April 17, 2015 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 86 active members.



remember (most of us), kept at it. At 2:00 PM, he threw out the bait in 40 plus feet of water, and called up a 5.85 pound beauty! We high-fived and increased our small 8 lb bag to 13 lbs! I told Nicky Sixx (his new nickname since this is his second big fish caught in the tournaments) "It only takes one cast to catch the big one", and HE DID! Had a wonderful time with Nicky, and made some more unforgettable memories with MBA; as it should be!



5th Place
Nick Wampach & Gary Martlage

Nick Wampach: First off I just want to say it was an absolute pleasure fishing with Gary Martlage. Early in the morning we started off with reaction baits when the wind was blowing on steep bluff walls. As we fished down the walls we saw balls of shad being busted against the bank. Gary and I casted a few spinnerbaits in there and picked up a couple fish first thing in the morning.

After a little while I checked the time and was getting a little nervous cause we didn't have a limit. So I looked at Gary and said what should we do. The

day before in practice we found a few small fish on beds so we made a small milk run to grab a small limit very quickly.

Later in the day the wind started to blow hard so we thought we could get back on that reaction bite. So we made a move back into the original water that we started in the morning looking for a few better bites. We fished for a while with no luck. The bite just shut down for a few hours but Gary and I just kept at it hard hoping to upgrade the size of our fish. We had about one hour left before the end of the tournament and I decided to put all my rods away except my swim bait rod. I told Gary all we need is one good bite. Gary told me to get up on the front of the boat for fear of hitting him with that big 8" trout swim bait I was throwing. So about 2:20 PM it happened - a big gray shadow appears under my bait. Bam, next thing I know I'm hooked up. Gary was quick with the net and the rest was history. The 5.85 largemouth was a great way to end the tournament considering we only had about 7 lbs in the live well. Overall a great day with a great fisherman from whom I learned a lot about the lake.

Team Edgar & Morrison Fish Jigs On Way To 6th Place Overall Finish

Taking home **6th Place**, Team **Mike Edgar & Jake Morrison** weighed five fish for a total weight of 12.60 lbs.

Mike Edgar: Wow! Sixth place, no big story to tell. I had not

fished Apache for 18 months, and did not get to pre fish. Jake Morrison and I started the morning with crank baits across from the launch area. Jake got one on a lipless crank. Jake then picked up a couple of small ones on a dropshot next to some reeds. Around 9:00 AM or so I had no fish. I told Jake it was time for me to get out the jig and go fishing. We started on points working shallow to deep and picked up the 4 pounder in about 15 feet. We kept doing the same thing all day working points from Burnt Corral to the marina. I had a great day fishing with Jake. He is new to the tournament thing but you would never know it. He fishes well and is great on the net. Jake is going to be a great addition to the club membership and I look forward to fishing with him again.



6th Place
Jake Morrison & Mike Edgar

Jake Morrison: First off thanks for getting me signed up with the club. What a fun and knowledgeable group; I'm excited to be here.

Mike and I managed to get a quick two dinks in the boat

early drop shotting 4" Morning Dawn Robo Worms. We caught a couple more slightly larger fish on a white Rattling Rap and green pumpkin jigs off rocky wind blown banks.

We saw tons of shad in the morning slapping at my spinnerbait I was throwing. Shad spawn is on. We just couldn't get the bass to take interest regardless of what we threw at them. Then the wind picked up and we struggled for a bit. Around noon we started fishing points off the main lake. We (Mike) hooked up with our largest three fish of the day off the same point slow dragging a green pumpkin football jig.

Thanks again and I look forward to next month!

Team Bell & Campbell Net 1st Place Big Fish Prize



**1st Place Big Fish
Kyle Campbell**

Kyle Campbell: The 5.99 pound largemouth was a great fish to catch. I caught this guy with Clinton Bell on the flats near Turtle Island. It was around 2:30 when the wind

was at its peak before the tournament ended. I was fishing a 7 inch Robo Worm on a dropshot with a 6 lb leader on a spinning reel. I'd already caught a few 2 pounders on the dropshot in this location in the wind so I was use to what the bite felt like in these conditions. I felt a bite and set the hook but my line instantly took the drag out through my back swing. Because we were drifting away from the spot my drag was continuing to let out for a few seconds but I did not feel anything on the end of my rod so I thought I was snagged on a rock. I continued to reel in trying to feel any movement but nothing.

As I was telling Clinton I was possibly snagged I felt my line bounce and start fighting. Then it was on! I could tell it was a fish larger then the clones from before. Trying not to break the line I reeled in the fish and he jumped clear of the water about 50 ft away from the boat than swam towards us. Once I got him close enough to possibly net he took off into the deeps for another quick fight to come right back to us for Clinton to net. It was a great fight and awesome rush. These moments are why we fish.



Weighing-In

By Jack Hughes
Tmx Director

The Apache tournament for me signifies why we fish with a club. The friendship and camaraderie shown for the complete time I was there is

something money cannot buy on a vacation or weekend out at a resort.

Monday evening there was an impromptu cookout with about 20 people participating. Every member there threw in something and the end result was a buffet fit for a king. The main topic of discussion was why the fish were not biting. There were 7 members there who fished all day on Monday and all went without even a bite. The amazing thing was they were all happy just to be there.

Monday night was topped by Tuesday evening in what I think was one of our better BBQ's ever. I was amazed at the amount, variety and quality of the food. Some of the food on the serving table was three different salads, two types of meat, scalloped potatoes, and six different deserts just off the top of my head. Tuesday night's BBQ would have made any resort in the valley proud to serve. The club owes a big thanks to Christine and Rusty Murdock for their very generous contributions of food and time Christine put in making all the salads and deserts. The Murdock's are just an example of the quality people in the club who chip in so we can all have a better time.

Speaking of fishing, Tom Savage and I had a first on a Largemouth while pre-fishing. We were working two fish on a bed, Tom was using a brown drop shot worm and I was using a jig. Evidently the bass

picked up the worm and Tom did not notice it but when it picked up my jig and I set the hook I said "I got her" and Tom immediately said "fish on" and both fish came off the bed. As we brought the fish in we realized we both had caught the same bass and the other was just following. The bass had both lures well back in its mouth. End result - one bass, on two lines, for two fishermen.

In June we will start the process of where the member's want to fish in 2016. For the new members the board does a survey of the members to see where and what month they want to fish in 2016. In the last two years while our membership has grown slightly we also have a membership turnover of about 30% of the club members. I have been receiving calls already from members wanting to fish different lakes, for example Mohave Lake, they want to make sure we keep Havasu a 1 ½ day tournament etc. Start thinking where and when you would like to fish in 2016. We may be facing some restrictions on the number of permits issued on certain lakes next year. For example the last I heard there were over 90 requests for Saguaro alone for this year. Even with catch and release that is pounding Saguaro way too hard to keep up the quality of fishing. AZG&F and USDA are looking at ways to keep the quality of fishing high while improving other lakes. Limiting permits is just one idea of many. So put some time thinking about it

and talk to other members to see what they would like to do. I will be putting a paragraph in future Bass Bites and by email about what members have shared with me for the 2016 schedule.

Our next tournament is at Roosevelt and Bev and Dwayne Steel will be hosting the clubs BBQ at their Hwy 188 Tackle Store. This is always a fun event and the fishing at Roosevelt has been picking up. If you had fun at Apache, or missed it, here is your chance to do a replay and have some great fun at the same time.

QUOTES

"No animal should ever jump up on the dining room furniture unless absolutely certain that he can hold his own in the conversation." -- Fran Lebowitz

"I wonder if other dogs think poodles are members of a weird religious cult." -- Rita Rudner

"Cat's motto: No matter what you've done wrong, always try to make it look like the dog did it." -- Unknown

"No one appreciates the very special genius of your conversation as the dog does." -- Christopher Morley

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself." -- Josh Billings

"Man is a dog's idea of what God should be." -- Holbrook Jackson

TRUISMS

Birds of a feather flock together and poop on your car.

A penny saved is a government oversight.

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

HOW FIGHTS START

My wife sat down on the sofa next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked, "What's on the TV?"

I said, "Dust."

And then the fight started.

My wife and I were watching "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" while we were in bed. I turned to her and said, "Do you want to have sex?"

"No," she answered.

I then said, "Is that your final answer?"

She didn't even look at me this time, simply saying, "Yes."

So I said, "Then I'd like to phone a friend."

And then the fight started.

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Apache - April 15, 2015



Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2015 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

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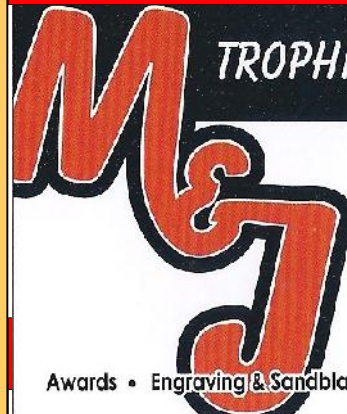
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Access Midweek Bass Anglers Internet Web Site at: <http://www.midweekbassaz.com/>

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

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Jake Morrison (CO)**

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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 May

**Jim Buchanan
John Hawkins
Rusty Murdock
Ray Riley
Terry Tassin**



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2015
Tournament Schedule**

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