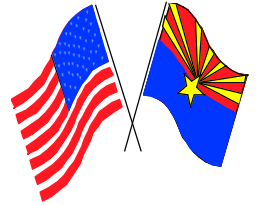


# MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

## Bass Bites

### FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



JUNE 2014

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

## President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes



June and July in Arizona bring the highest average temperatures of the year, as well as the lowest expected rainfall, not news, I know. But did you know that heat is the number one weather-related killer? Heat kills by pushing the human body beyond its limits. Older adults, young children and those who are sick or overweight are more likely to succumb to extreme heat. Be careful, drink plenty of water before you go to the lake, even if you do not feel thirsty, and avoid drinks with caffeine. Limit your intake of alcoholic beverages. Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing. If you find yourself feeling too hot, do not wait until your body starts to break down, start taking action immediately. If you can, a

quick dip in the water will provide almost immediate relief, if that is not possible, get your head wet with either a towel or by dipping your hat in the water.

Heat is also a big killer for fish in the livewell. Keeping bass alive during and after a tournament can be extremely challenging during the summer heat, and often many bass die after release or when placed in live wells. The problem is that dissolved oxygen levels drop during the summer when water temperatures soar, and that stresses fish. However, there are steps that can be taken to increase the chances of survival.

To minimize stress on the fish, anglers should land fish quickly and handle them as little as possible. Limited handling helps reduce the loss of slime coat, which is the fish's main defense against infection and disease. Tournament anglers can also minimize fish mortality by maintaining healthy oxygen and water quality in their live wells. A few ways to do this are:

- \* Running a recirculating pump continuously.
- \* Using aerators or oxygen-injection systems to keep the water's oxygen level at a

healthy level.

\* Add block ice to help lower livewell temperature.

\* Use chemical additives for your livewell like Rejuvenate or Sure-Life-Please Release Me.

Probably the most important single thing you can do to help your fish is to limit the amount of time fish are held in bags. Keeping your fish in the weigh-in bag for longer than two minutes will significantly increase post-release mortality. Midweek Bass tries to limit the time fish are in the weigh-in bags by controlling the number of bags that are available to bring fish to the scales. I know its hot, and we all want to get out of the heat, but you have worked hard to put together your limit of fish so why risk

## JULY 4 Happy Independence Day!



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

## "We Practice Catch and Release"

losing them by keeping them in your bag too long. They are much happier in your livewell. If a fish should die, or look like he is not going to make it, do not leave it in the water, it is against the law to waste game fish. Stay cool and see you at the next meeting.



**Tournament Report  
Lake Saguaro  
June 18, 2014  
By Terry Tassin**

A great draw, nice weather (for June), a knowledgeable partner that did our home work – thanks Jerry Askam - equals a fun day and a decent bag of fish. A little of this and a little of that might best describe the lures that caught fish at this tournament. Dropshot, jigs, topwater, etc, were all put to

**Next Meeting  
Next Tournament**

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 2 July** 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 Bartlett** on **16 July 2014**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 11 AM**. Summer hour changes are now in effect.

good use to make this event a fun, fish catching experience. But, how did the money winners find their fish? Read on to find out.

**Team Mike Shaw & Jim Buchanan Win 1st Place with Senkos and Trick Worms**

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Mike Shaw & Jim Buchanan** weighed the winning creel of five bass weighing 15.76 lbs. Thanks to Jim's 7.82 lb bass the team also won **1st Place Big Fish** honors. That bass, also won the **5 lb Pot** for Jim which he shared with Mike.



**1st Place  
Mike Shaw & Jim Buchanan**

**Mike Shaw:** Saguaro Lake can sometimes be a mystery this time of the year. The bass have come off their spawn, they haven't decided where they will spend their summer and they don't know if they want to bite day or night.

To prepare for today's tournament, I decided I needed several days of pre-fishing to find fish, determine a pattern, and decide what would be best to do on tournament day. I

started with all my main-lake usual spots and went from reaction baits to the always dependable dropshot. The reaction bite just wasn't doing it for me on a consistent basis and the dropshot changed from day-to-day in depth, location and color. My last pre-fish day was last Thursday when I decided to hit one of my old places in the river. After several stops before getting there, I decided to pull out the trusty weighted, wacky trick worm bait on light line and started flipping the deep banks. Within an hour I boated an 11.22, a 5.53 and a 5.15 pounder. My pre-fish was done, my Monday trip cancelled, and the wait for Wednesday began. You can't imagine how hard that five day wait was.

I told my partner Jim Buchanan to be prepared to fish with a Senko first and maybe the whole day. Launching as boat #17 was hard enough and the fear grew that my primary spot would be taken. Fortunately, most competitors had other ideas as to where to fish. We started with Senkos and trick worms and stayed with Senkos and trick worms and kept working my river spot over and over. I pulled a solid 3-pounder early and we began wondering when the big girls would show up. Jim found what we were looking for, a 7.82 pound toad that fell to his red/brown Senko. Jim calmly told me that he thought he might have a big one and I noticed his rod was bent almost double and line was zipping out. I began my coaching job; don't force it, let the rod do the work, keep your

rod bent and don't point it at the fish; let the fish do all the work. At this time we were looking down on the co-angler side of the boat when the bass came out of the water on the driver side and banged hard into the side of the boat. Panic was beginning to set in and it was going to be up to Jim to land this girl. After following my coaching to a tee, I saw the fish coming up, I lowered the net and Jim glided the fish straight in on the first pass. After getting the fish clipped and into the livewell, Jim sat there and told me his hands were shaking and that this was his personal best. "That's what I'm talking about" as Johnny Johnson would say. From this point on, I went to work to fill our limit and cull a couple to seal the win.

All our fish were caught on a weighted trick worm in watermelon seed in the river and on the main lake near Ship Rock and Jim's was caught on a red/brown Senko in the river.

**Tom Alauria:** First I would like to congratulate the team of Mike Shaw and Jim Buchanan on their first place win. Good job.

Neither Mike Adamson nor I were able to pre-fish so we were just fishing cold (cold is a great word for this time of the year in Arizona). I suggested to Mike that we fish a couple of areas not far from the boat ramp where I was confident that we could catch a limit of fish quickly. By 8 AM we had a limit of fish in the boat and we were planning on moving to

### Tom Alauria & Mike Adamson 2nd Overall

In **2nd Place** the team of **Alauria & Adamson** weighed five bass for a total weight of 15.71 lbs. Thanks to Mike's 7.37 lb bass the team also won **2nd Place Big Fish** honors



**1st Place Big Fish - 7.82 lbs  
Jim Buchanan**

### Membership

As of June 19, 2014 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 92 active members.



**"I think he's getting ready to hammer that plug"**

another spot when Mike said that he had a big fish on. When the fish came to the surface we both said "ohh my gosh" (or words to that effect). We fished the entire morning on two different points all within sight of the launch ramp. I don't think we burned more than a half a gallon of gas the entire day. All of our fish came on drop shot rigs using everything from morning dawn Roboworms to 4 inch salt lizards of various colors. I enjoyed fishing with Mike and I hope we have a chance to fish again in the future.



**2nd Place**  
**Tom Alauria & Mike Adamson**

**Mike Adamson:** Not much to add to Tom's input about how we caught the fish. Main lake points and drop shot rigs caught all the fish. We used Aaron's Magic worms to start.

### **Member Information Update**

Please keep the Secretary informed of any changes in your vital statistics: home address, phone numbers, email address, number or expiration date of your auto or boat insurance policy or anything else.

We had our limit within the first 1 1/2 hours and culled up the rest of the morning. Very few of the bites were hard and mostly just pressure on the line. Thought the big fish (7.37 lbs) was a log until it jumped out of the water.

### **Team Jeff Mason & Ernie Modzelewski Go Old School To Finish In 3rd Place**

Team **Jeff Mason & Ernie Modzelewski** weighed five bass for 15.26 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

**Jeff Mason:** When I learned that my partner for the Saguaro tournament was Ernie Modzelewski I was really excited. The last time Ernie and I were paired up was last November at Apache where we came in 3rd place, and had a great day fishing.

This tournament, the day did not start out on a good note, I missed a big fish on a frog, and Ernie had a 3 pounder hit his frog but came off half way back to the boat in a cove up the lake that was full of grass. A pattern started as on all the rest of the spots we stopped at and fished we either caught a nice fish, or missed a nice fish.

Our second spot I caught our 3rd biggest fish off a steep wall on a drop shot. We moved to our third spot and caught a couple of smaller fish when all of a sudden I heard this loud surface explosion, and turned around to see Ernie fighting

this big bass. Ernie did a great job of getting the big fish to the boat, our biggest fish of the day, a beautiful 5.75 pound Saguaro bass. Ernie had lost a top water popper earlier on a tree, and had dug into his tackle box and came up with a long time favorite - a Lucky 13, which it certainly was for us! We moved across the lake from Ship Rock to the flat where we caught a couple of fish and I missed a nice one on a drop shot. Moved to the channel where we missed another nice fish on a drop shot, made two more stops where we caught fish and culled, and then to the boat ramp for the last 45 minutes. I was surprised to see that nobody else was fishing by the ramp when I pulled up to a spot off a buoy in about 12 to 20 feet of water. We culled three fish from this spot, all on drop shots, including our second biggest fish of the day caught by Ernie. Ernie and I had another great day fishing together, and is there someone I need to talk to that would hook us up for every tournament?

**Ernie Modzelewski:** Thanks to Jeff Mason we were on fish at every stop. In the early morning we tossed "Frogs" and on the first stop (a shallow cove east of Ship Rock) both Jeff and I hooked and 'early' released (an euphemism for the fish getting off the hook) 2 nice fish. Jeff changed to a red crawler drop shot Roboworm and started to pick up a few smaller fish and a nice one around 3 lbs. I lost my favorite surface popper and changed to

a "Heddon Baby Lucky 13". Off a rock out-cropping across from Ship Rock I enticed a 5.75 pounder to inhale my lure. It was a good show. The bass acted like a tarpon; jumping, skidding, diving, and finally into the net. Great Fun! That was the last of the top water bite.



**3rd Place**  
**Jeff Mason & Ernie Modzelewski**

For the remainder of the morning we both fished drop shots. Jeff stayed with Robo red crawlers and I used both Robo Morning Dawn and Red Crawler. Working our way back to the boat ramp we hit both rocky shore-line and grassy flats and caught bigger fish as we moved closer to the boat ramp. Our last stop at around 10:30 was right outside the buoy markers west of the launch ramp. Jeff caught a nice fish and I add another to the 5 keepers. What a good catching day!

### **Team Richie Rojas & Ron Chambers Cut the Grass for 4th Place Overall Finish**

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Richie Rojas & Ron Chambers** weighed five fish

for a total weight of 14.88 lbs.

**Ron Chambers:** Today was one of those fun filled adventures that you look forward to before a tournament. I fished with Richie Rojas for the first time in a long time; most of the time we are competitors, not partners. We started out the day at a point on the main lake with Froggy of "twang your magic twanger" fame. He did just that for Richie and landed us our first fish of the day. Once we could tell that magic was to be short lived, we moved on around the lake.



**4th Place**  
**Richie Rojas & Ron Chambers**

It was great to fish with a well prepared angler who had done his homework. As Richie pre-fished, he located some active spots and tested a few methods to determine what would be best for the tournament. Drop shot, Texas rigged worms, and Senkos worked best at our other stops. It seems that you had to be in the grass to catch fish and we did our share of cleaning the hooks between casts, but when we got a bite it was a keeper. Not only did both of us get to practice our netting skills, but I learned something

new. Richie Rojas is the Fish Talker. Every time he had a good fish on his line he talked it all the way into the boat. That man is good. I'm afraid that I became the Giver of Names and gave the grass many interesting names throughout the day.

Despite some minor problems with the live well, my experienced partner knew just what to do and had us on our way again in no time. We were fortunate to be able to cull all day, but we never got that one fish that would really make the difference. It is truly amazing how much difference one fish can make in the outcome of a tournament.

It is always fun to be around a good bunch of anglers. See you next month at Bartlett.

### **Team Bell & Hirlemann Win Final Prize Spot with 5th Place Finish**

With a five fish limit weighing 14.05 lbs **Team Clinton Bell & Lou Hirlemann** worked the lake with plastics for their **5th Place** finish.



**5th Place**  
**Clinton Bell & Lou Hirlemann**

**Clinton Bell:** Our morning started out a little slower than I was hoping for. In practice we caught a good fish on a top water lure and that was our game plan for tournament day. All we had by 9 AM was a small limit of bass. We moved to an area that we had worked during practice and switched to plastics. We culled out all but one fish in about an hour.

I really liked fishing with Lou; he keeps his head in the game and has a good attitude even when things aren't so good.

### **Steve Baker & Logan McCleve Spoon a Cat For Goon Fish Prize**

**Steve Baker** provided the following on the fine art of Goon Fishing: Great time on the water with new to tournament fishing Co-Angler, Logan McCleve. Even though he is new to tournament fishing it seemed like every time I turned around he had another fish on the hook.



**Goon Fish Pot Winners  
Steve Baker & Logan McCleve**

With the fishing pressure that has been put on this lake lately I decided to look for fish in deeper

water than I fished during my pre-fishing experience. Well that's when I thought I caught the big fish of the tournament. I was using braided line with a flutter spoon and the rod was bent in half as drag kept pulling out. I kept reeling in and that's when I realized that I had a catfish on (5.14 lb). This would be my first goon fish since I joined Midweek Bass.



### **Treasure Chest By John Reichard, Treasurer**

Greetings from your treasurer. As those of you who fished Saguro know there were several fish caught over 5 lbs. This means the 5 lb pot starts over next tournament. Don't forget to get into the new pot no later than the July 2 general meeting.

Remember, you can donate to the AZG&F for their bass stocking program each month by marking your entry form and including the amount donated.



### **Weighing-In By Jack Hughes, Tmx Director**

As most of you know Gary Grimes and I are in Canada fishing for walleye and pike. We'll remember the club tournament day and hold a mini tournament between him and me to see who caught the biggest pike with a grand prize of one big libation.

I have received many calls as to why our club had to submit our request for 2015 tournament permits so early when other clubs didn't. The simple truth is permits are issued in the order they are received. Tonto National Forest (TNF) advised us they would be accepting permits June 25, 2014 for the 2015 season. We could have waited and submitted later or we could follow their advice and be guaranteed our dates. Tonto National Forest permits took longer this year - 2014, (we fished January and February without final permits on a one day permit issued locally even though we submitted our request for permits October 1, 2013). The reason for the long wait is all permits for California and Arizona are sent to one desk in the California headquarters which becomes a huge bottle neck because the desk has only one employee.

The board decided it is better to have our dates guaranteed than take a chance. Some asked "what's the risk", because we fish on Wednesdays and seldom have competition for a date to fish. That was true in the past but the future is unknown. AZG&F and the Forest service are holding joint meetings to determine how to protect future tournament fishing and that includes the number of permits that will be issued. Both have serious concerns over the number of tournaments scheduled, and then when you add tournament boats mixing with

the ever growing number of recreational boaters on weekends this could be a recipe for big problems. To help control this situation, AZG&F has appointed for the first time an employee to be responsible for tournament coordination - Andy Clark.

Here is a little background on Andy. He is a bass fisherman and loves to fish. His job title is now Assistant Fisheries Chief-Sportfish Management. One of the tasks of his new job is to coordinate tournament fishing. He has 23 years with AZG&F and came from Kingman district to this job. In his younger years he worked in the Lake Meade district and did not have the power to overcome his supervisor's management of the lake and watched it go from one of America's top fisheries to its poor status today, and that I think still upsets him. Later in his career he was responsible for Saguaro fish management working closely with the TNF and it was under his leadership that Saguaro became a first class lake to fish before the big fish die off. I have talked to Andy at length and his main concern is to improve the fishing in all of our lakes. I believe from talking to him he also wants a closer relationship with TNF and making sure there is harmony between all that use the lakes and tournament fishermen. Under his watch I am positive he does not want to see another lake go from being a top fishing location to a dead lake.

He has a very tough job and I can say he is not doing it in a bubble; he is talking to a lot of people and plans on contacting the Tournament Directors of fishing clubs for inputs on potential changes to increase bass fishing in the state lakes. There will be changes but what they are is unknown at this time. Andy will be the club's guest speaker in August at our general meeting. Make sure to be there and welcome him.

Finally, I "may" miss the July club meeting due to having to be out of state on business, but I will be at the tournament for sure. We are asking all members for July only to send their applications for the July tournament to Terry Tassin. If you send it to me there will not be anyone home at my house to process the permits.

## This and That

**Jeff Mason** and team partner Lyle Dalby have qualified through AllStar Bass Team Tournaments for the inaugural Bassmaster Team Championship on Lake DeGray, AK, December 9-13, 2014. One team will be declared National Team Champion, and one angler will qualify from the top 3 teams for the 2015 Bassmaster Classic at Lake Hartwell, SC. Dalby and Mason have fished as partners in AllStar for 30 years and qualified for this Championship by finishing in second place for the year in standings. "We are very excited and proud to represent AllStar Bass and the State of Arizona in this National Team Tournament," said Mason. Dalby and Mason also finished 2nd place in the JackAz Championship two day event held in early May at Apache and Roosevelt Lakes.

## Photo Scrapbook - Lake Saguaro - June 18, 2014



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

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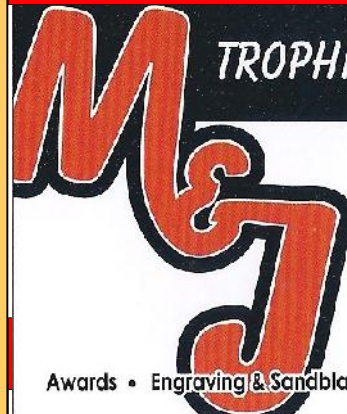
**CONSERVATION/LEGISLATIVE** - Vacant

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

**Welcome to New Members  
Since the Last Newsletter**

- Jerry Ford (CO)**
- Bernie Kowalski (CO)**
- Logan McCleve (CO)**
- Charles Murdock (CO)**
- Dennis Thiel (CO)**
- George Zaglifa (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 July**

- Devin Anderson**
- Tom Berry**
- Ricky Boehm**
- Jerry Ford**
- Dick Kirberg**
- Gary Martlage**
- Scott Olivier**
- Chad Schimmel**
- Bryan Steele**
- Nick Wampach**
- Keith Zimmerman**



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2014  
Tournament Schedule**

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