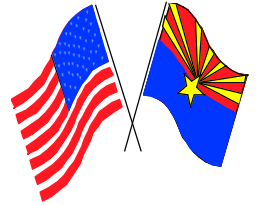


MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



AUGUST 2013

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes



I thought you might enjoy looking at some number crunching I did from this years tournaments. The numbers on the left of the graph represent weight in pounds while the names of the lakes on the bottom correspond to this year's tournament schedule, in order, with the omission of February's Bartlett tournament. The blue bars represent the combined, average weight of the top five teams, while the red bars represent the combined, average weight of all the boats that fished.

It should be clear that the top five weights from our recent Saguaro tournament are approaching that of the top five weights from the Havasu tournament. What does that mean? It means Saguaro Lake is turning into a great fishery. We had some awesome sacks brought to the scales; with two fish over 7 lbs, WOW! We couldn't have asked for a better day for fishing in August; light cloud cover and even some rain.

Next month's tournament is at Roosevelt Lake, and I fully expect to see our averages much higher than those of January's event. Hope to see you there.

Lake Saguaro

August 21 2013

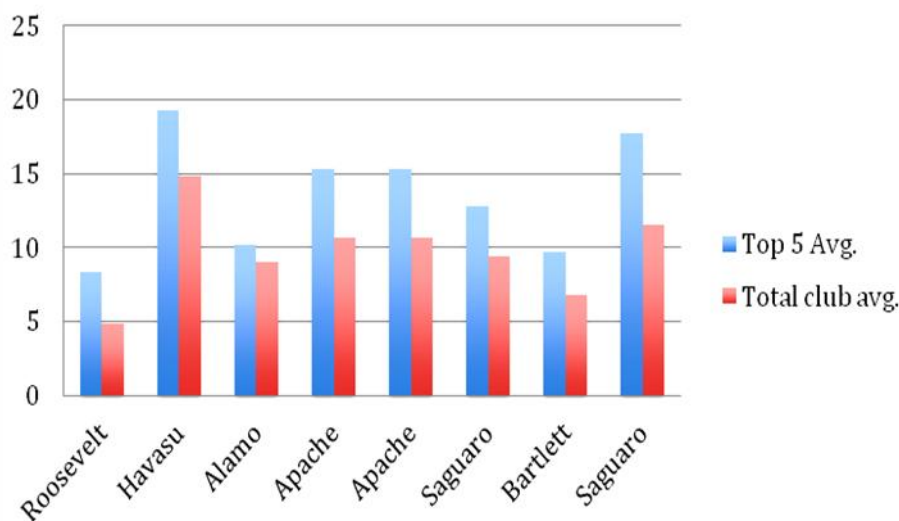
By Terry Tassin

What a great fishing day! After two weeks of record breaking heat we lucked out and had a mostly cloudy day with cooler temperatures to help us survive on the water. These same fishing conditions happened one year ago this month.

While Mike Edgar and I had a fun day catching a few fish there was no way we were any competition over-all for the top teams. Oh well, there is always next month.

Many thanks to Larry White for keeping his boat on the water and netting floating fish after they were returned to the lake after weigh-in. Well done also to Clay Lippincott and Paul Cormany who provided "fizz" service to the six bass in order to release the excess air in their swim bladder so the fish could swim off to their fish homes.

Bag weight per team



"We Practice Catch and Release"

So, how did the winners catch their fish this month?"

Team Lippincott & Martlage Lands 'em At Saguaro

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Clay Lippincott & Gary Martlage** weighed the winning creel of five bass weighing 22.60 lbs.



1st Place
Clay Lippincott & Gary Martlage

Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 4 September** 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 points tournament will be at **Lake Roosevelt** on **18 September 2013**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 2 PM**.

Gary Martlage: Receiving a call from Gary Grimes at 4:30 AM on the way to the lake can never be good - or can it? Gary explained my day's fishing partner, Jack Hughes, with sidekick John Milkint in the truck, had broken down and I would have to fish with Clay Lippincott. Clay and I worked through a game plan; Clay throwing cranks, and I following up with a jig and drop-shot. Hitting main lake points, I told Clay my netting skills needed improvement and did he deliver to help me improve my skills! Our fish were caught almost all day this way. Thanks to the beautiful unexpected weather, Clay and I had a stellar day. I look forward to fishing with him in future tournaments.

Clay Lippincott: It was nice to be fishing with the club again. It's been a while since I was able to get the time to fish with you guys and this tournament I definitely had a lot of fun. It was nice to see everyone again and I hope to be able to fish a few more events this season.

I really like fishing Saguaro and have been fishing there all summer in the night tournaments with Paul Cormany, so I did have a little insight on what the fishing was going to possibly be like on

derby day.

The plan was to fish deep points with crank baits and that is exactly what we did. Honestly, it didn't matter what part of the lake we were fishing, it just had to have deep points with little or no grass on them and you had to hit them a bunch of times with the crank bait before getting a bite. On some spots it would take 30 or more casts to get the crank bait in the right spot or for a fish to get excited enough to hit it. Sometimes it was just one cast.

Gary Martlage was following up the crank bait bite with a drop shot and a jig. It was kind of a double whammy deal. I would sit and cast the crank bait and he would clean up behind me, hitting the areas that I missed, and "no" I did not catch all the fish, Gary and I both caught fish and put them in the live well.

There were no secret colors or secret spot's, it was just a deep crank bait bite followed up with plastics. Any crank bait that would run deep would work.

We knew that it was a swing for the fence type of deal and that it would be hard to put down the crank bait rod. Most



The Rules By Gary Grimes

In order to minimize the loss of fish during the weigh in, we are trying to limit the number of people standing in line at any one time. To this end, we ask you to only use one of the eight white club weigh-in bags when bringing your fish to the scales.

of the winning anglers on Saguaro this summer were catching fish on crank baits and following up with plastics or at least that is what they said, so that was the plan and we stuck to it.

Gary Martlage was so much fun to fish with; if you ever get the pleasure of fishing with him "congrats" he is a great guy and I look forward to drawing him again in the future. I don't think that I had to touch one fish all day. He was Johnny on the spot with the net, took the fish off the hook for me, culled our fish and took great care of our fish all day. This was the first time that someone has ever done that on my boat. Gary is a first class angler in my opinion. I just hope he had fun, because that is what this game is about - "having fun".

**Shaw & Boehm Share
2nd Place Win**

In **Second Place** the team of **Jamie Shaw & Ricky Boehm** weighed five bass for a total weight of 21.20 lbs. Thanks to Jamie's 7.55 lb bass the team also won **1st Place Big Fish** honors.

Ricky Boehm: Jamie and I went to our first stop which was south of Richards Rock. We were there about one hour throwing cranks, top water and drop shot. To our surprise we never had a bite. We then

moved towards the tulles waiting for the fish to move in on the drop off - again nothing. Now we have no bites no fish two hours in to the tournament. Seeing that we were by Skunk wash we headed there. Spoons, drop shot, cranks nothing. I was hopping Jamie would go over to Ship Rock and he did.

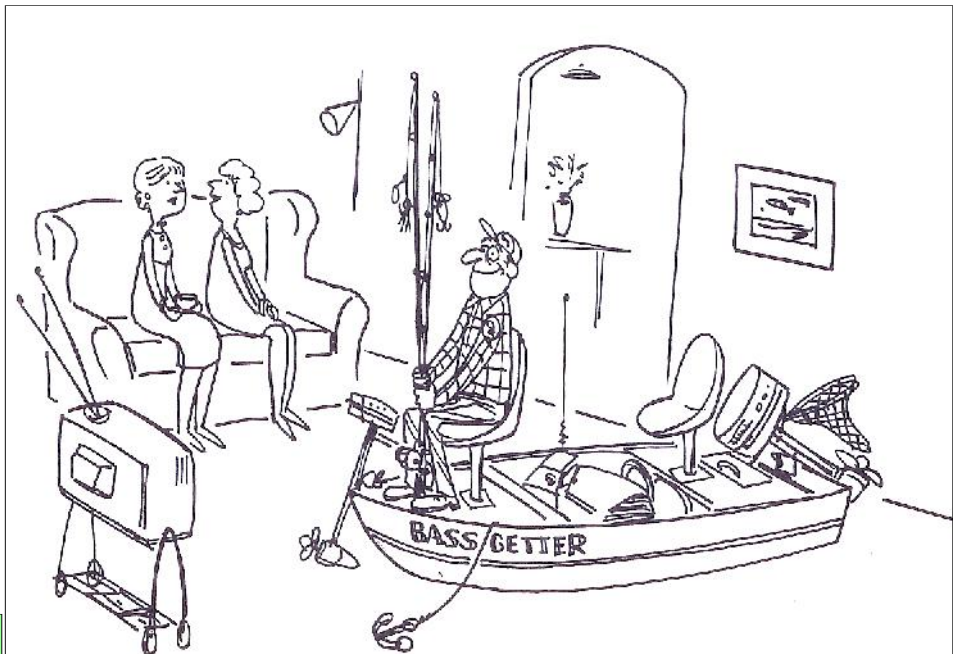


**2nd Place
Jamie Shaw & Ricky Boehm**

last year, only we were using drop shot instead of jigs. The fish we caught bit on 4.5 inch Morning Dawn worms with a long leader. At this same spot, we used spoons thrown into the fish boils. Jamie caught his big fish with a drop shot over the grass flats - 4.5 Morning Dawn worm again. Who says that big fish can't be caught on drop shots! After we landed the big fish we were all high fives and took a deep breath. The morning was coming to an end and with many of our fellow anglers coming to this spot it was time to head back to the ramp. It was a great time fishing with Jamie and I hope to be paired with him again soon. By the way his HDS12 really helped find the fish.

**Team Jeff Mason & Keith
Zimmerman
Nail 3rd Place**

We ended up at the same spot that Gary Grimes and I fished



"George lives and breathes bass fishing."

Membership

As of August 23, 2013 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 80 active members.

Team **Jeff Mason & Keith Zimmerman** weighed five bass for 15.03 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

Jeff Mason: Keith and I enjoyed the beautiful overcast - with a little rain - weather and between us caught about 20 fish. I am amazed at the quality and numbers of good fish being caught at Saguaro. All of our fish had great color, fought hard, and were fat! From pre-fishing I had about 5 spots I wanted to fish where I had done well in the past and in practice.



3rd Place
Keith Zimmerman & Jeff Mason

We started out along a steep bank past Ship Rock and Keith got broke off on our first hook up on a big crankbait. Stayed on the bank and put our first keeper in the boat on a drop shot. Went across to the flat and Keith caught our first 4 pounder on a drop shot, and I picked up our 3rd fish also on a drop shot. Went back across to where we started and caught 3 nice fish, one of them was our other 4 pounder on a drop shot. Ran down lake to try two of my other areas but boats

were already on both spots. We bounced around for the rest of the morning and were able to cull 2 of our fish - all on drop shots. I enjoyed fishing with Keith and sharing good memories of ASU Baseball in the late 1960's.

Team Medina & Buchanan Drop Shot to 4th Place

Team **Tony Medina & Jim Buchanan** weighed five bass for 14.92 pounds and took home **4th Place** honors.

Tony Medina: We started our tournament like most people dream about, including myself. We started on a point up from the marina where I caught our first fish, a 5.11 pounder on a jig. Then we moved up into the main lake and threw jigs all the way up to the no wake buoys. The first three fish gave us over ten pounds, then we scratched out two more keepers with our last one coming on a Senko. I had the pleasure of fishing with Jim Buchanan for the first time. He's a good fisherman and fun to fish with.

We had a good day; we lost a four pounder half way back to the boat that would have moved us up in the standings, but there was no catching up with those 20 pound plus bags brought in by the top teams.

Congratulations to the top three winning teams.

Clinton Bell & George Fuzfa Make It Happen With 2nd Place Big Bass



2nd Place Big Fish
George Fuzfa & Clinton Bell

Clinton Bell: By 8:30 AM we did not have a fish in the boat. We had fished several main lake points with drop shot and Carolina Rigs and not a bite. George had talked to me about fishing frogs over the grass and I said lets go give it a try. I threw a buzz bait and George used his frog and on the first stop a huge fish blew up on the frog too bad we didn't get that one. A few casts later I caught the big fish over the grass in about three feet of water. That kept us going but we only landed one more fish the rest of the day. Thanks George for being a great fishing partner. George also makes and paints some really cool bait's Check it out

Mike Edgar Jigs Up 5 lb Pot Winner for Team Edgar & Tassin

Terry Tassin commented; "Good fishing but tough catching for Team Edgar & Tassin. We experienced the same problem other teams had

in the first hour and a half of getting bit by only Yellow Bass and no largemouths. All bass caught came on drop shot Robo worms and a jig. The bass that earned our team money for this event came on the last cast of the day with only seven minutes before we had to check-in back at the ramp. My gear had been secured in the boat for the run home and Mike said, "One more cast". He tossed his jig out and the next thing I hear is "Get the net!" Well that was the one. Knowing we did not want to be late to the check-in Mike did not play with the fish but brought him straight to the boat where he was netted and put in the livewell – after much fist bumping by the team mates.



**5 lb Pot
6.45 lb Bass
Mike Edgar & Terry Tassin**

The fish bit a crawfish type plastic jig and needless to say – but I will say it anyway – this bass made our day. A fun day fishing with Mike and I would be glad to fish with him any day.

I would like to say to all members, you really should stay entered in the 5 lb Pot.

You never know when you might hit the mother-lode. It definitely makes up for a slow catching day.

Team Cormany & Ballard Crank Cat For Goon Fish Prize

Paul Cormany said, "I had a great time fishing with Sean Ballard, as usual. Not much to say except the Catfish goon fish came on a crankbait on Bagley Flat around 9 AM.



**Goon Fish
3.06 lb Catfish
Sean Ballard & Paul Cormany**

As a side note, we all need to make sure we follow the tournament and weigh-in procedures. We have 7 or 8 heavy weight white "official" weigh bags that are the only bags to be used to bring your fish to the scales. This procedure limits the number of bags with fish in them and limits the time the fish are in the bags. This is critical for a good survival rate in summer tournaments. If everyone follows this procedure, we will not have more than 8 limits of fish in the bags at any point in time and usually less. It doesn't take any longer to weigh the

fish following this procedure. Your fish will just be waiting in your livewell with the recirculating pump running instead of waiting in a bag where the oxygen gets depleted quickly. You will still need to have a personal weigh-in bag for the staff to transfer the fish into after they are weighed to return them to the lake.

We also need to check our fish to see if they need to be "fizzed". Larry White and Clay Lippincott collected 6 floating fish after the weigh-in and fizzed them. Four of the six survived. Letting your fish stay in the livewell floating upside down stresses them too much. I had one fish we needed to fizz that came on a crankbait in 12 feet of water. This is the responsibility of both anglers in the boat. Sean checked our fish throughout the day and noted when the one needed to be fizzed. If you don't know how to fizz a fish, check out the video and learn how. Gary Grimes sent the link to everyone in an e-mail. If you missed it, here it is again:

<http://www.bassresource.com/bass-fishing-videos/how-to-fizz-a-bass.html>

Rant is off now. I am looking forward to seeing everyone competing at Roosevelt."

Tournament Statistics

Thirty-Eight men fished 6 hours each, bringing 81 keeper bass to the scales for a total weight of 219.03 pounds with a 5.76 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight

2014 Officer Nominations: Recommendations for members willing to run for club office for 2014 should be to the Secretary by email or phone call no later than 1 September 2013. Be sure nominees will serve before nominating

2014 Bylaw & Tournament Rule Changes: All proposed changes should be submitted to the Secretary no later than 1 September 2013 on the club rules change form.

of each fish was 2.70 lbs. All fish were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.



Treasure Chest
By John Milkint. Treasurer

Very interesting payouts for the August Lake Saguario Tournament.

First Place went to Clay Lippincott and Gary Martlage. They weighed in a total of 22.60 pounds for a prize of \$364. Even though they had a 6.45 lb bass in the total weight it was only tied for the 3rd heaviest fish weighed in at the scales.

Jamie Shaw and Ricky Boehm share \$502 for 2nd place and 1st big fish. Their monster bass weighed 7.55 pounds. Unfortunately, Jamie Shaw - who caught the fish, was not entered in the 5 lb pot for Saguario. Their weight totaled 21.20 pounds.

Third place earnings of \$182 went to the team of Jeff Mason and Keith Zimmerman with a weight of 15.03 pounds.

Tony Medina and Jim Buchanan weighed in 14.92 pounds for 4th place honors and a total prize of

\$92.

The second heaviest bass weighed in was 7.44 pounds and was worth \$152 to the team of Clinton Bell and George Fuzfa. They also were not in the 5 pound pot.

The Goon Fish was worth \$190 to Paul Cormany and Sean Ballard. They brought a 3.06 lb catfish to the scales.

And finally, a team that WAS in the 5 pound pot - Mike Edgar and Terry Tassin. The winning weight for their biggest bass was 6.45 pounds and was caught by Mike on the last cast of the day. This pot, which included Bartlett and Saguario, was worth \$375.

This opens the optional 5 lb Pot for all members going into the September tournament at Lake Roosevelt. If you can't fish Roosevelt you can pay \$5 fee at the September meeting to remain in the pot if it carries over until October. Remember, this is a closed pot after September until a 5 lb bass is caught by a member in that optional pot. Several members have opted to pre-pay their \$5 per month

through November. That option is open to everyone.



Weighing-In
By Jack Hughes
Tmx Director

THANK YOU LARRY WHITE! I want to acknowledge Larry White for protecting the club's good name and doing the right thing when returning to the weigh-in ramp. Larry saw recently released fish floating in the water at our fish release point and immediately recognized the potential for giving the club a bad name. Larry forgot about getting his boat out of the water and his fished weighed and started getting the floating fish out of the water and fizzaing those that could be saved and returning them to the water. Paul Cormany also did not hesitate to jump in and help Larry along with Howard Thomas and Clay Lippincott. I would like to remind everyone it was at this time last year at the same ramp when AZ Game and Fish gave us a surprise inspection due to complaints of dead fish returned to the lake by tournament fishermen in general. I want to thank each of you for going the extra distance to keep fish alive, helping to protect the club and all tournament bass fishermen from a bad name.

On August 22 we filed for permits with the National Forest Service for 2014. With the low water, increase in clubs wanting to fish and limitations on number of boats per day on the lakes some clubs will NOT get their first choices for tournaments.

Since we do fish on Wednesday it appears we will not have a problem with our permits at this time.

The Saguaro tournament for me was an event for mixed emotions. Having my fairly new truck stop running on the way to the tournament was a big downer. However, being there for the weigh-in was a real plus. I cannot remember a tournament when we weighed in so many big fish. For me it was a real pleasure watching the bags being emptied into the weigh-in tank and seeing what almost appeared as larger fish being put in the tank by each following contestant. I will tell you it also added to another downer seeing so many quality fish and knowing I just missed one of the better tournaments of the year.

Now is the time to start planning for our last three tournaments of the year since all of them require travel and additional time and funds. Our last three tournaments will be Roosevelt, Martinez and Apache. We will be having a club cook out at Apache. At Roosevelt Dwayne Steel may have a limited number of beds at his store for members on a first come first stay basis. I also would like to mention his Highway 188 Tackle store provides the lowest prices for tackle thanks to Dwayne's very generous discount to club members only. Dwayne and I are continuing to negotiate for discounts for hotels and meals with several businesses in Tonto Basin and we hope to have something in place before the Roosevelt Tournament.

This question came up twice at the Saguaro weigh-in: "Is the five pound pot award based upon who caught the fish or is it a team award if one member in the boat is in the pot and the other member caught the fish but is not in the pot?" Answer: To collect any five pound pot money you must be current in the five pound pot. This is not automatically a team or boat award unless both members are in the pot and agree to share the pot before the tournament starts. We had several cases of large fish being caught this time with only one member in the pot and that member did not catch the fish, therefore - no money.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members who I contacted and agreed to fill-in for members who had to drop out of the Saguaro tournament. The policy approved by club members allowing the tournament director to - after the meeting day - seek out members not scheduled to fish an event to fill-in as substitute boaters or non-boaters, allowed us to schedule 20 boats on the water with 20 full teams. If we had not been allowed to make changes it appears we would have ended up with 17 boats and even less non-boaters. This new 2013 club approved policy has enabled us to keep more people fishing and leave no one at the dock who wanted to fish.

Note: Because of your tournament director's truck breakdown there were only 19 boats that actually ended-up competing in the tournament. Shucks!



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**Welcome to New
Midweek Bass Anglers
Since the Last Newsletter
(No New Members)**

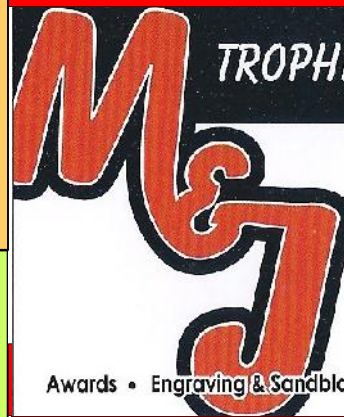
Sound Off

Let us hear from you. The newsletter is your vehicle for communicating and sharing with other members.

Many of you have things to say, opinions to share.

Contact the Editor who would be delighted to hear from you.

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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.

**Midweek Bass Anglers 2013
Tournament Schedule**

16 January	Roosevelt
20 February	Bartlett [Cnxl]
20 March	Havasu
17 April	Alamo
14 May	Apache [Feb resked]
15 May	Apache
19 June	Saguaro
17 July	Bartlett
21 August	Saguaro
18 September	Roosevelt
16 October	Martinez
20 November	Apache

**Best Wishes and Happy Birthday
Born in September**

Brad Baker

Bob Jolley

Rich Lapointe

Jeff Mason

Howard Thomas

