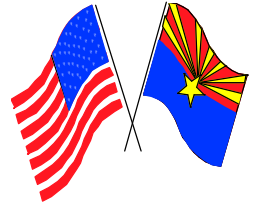


MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



AUGUST 2015

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TAS-

President's Perspective *By Gary Grimes*



Record heat for the past week could not stop the Midweek Bass Anglers from fishing Saguaro Lake for their regular monthly tournament. Thirty teams gathered in the very crowded parking lot at 4:30 AM for pre tournament instructions before they launched from the south end of the lake and spent the next 6 warm hours trying to catch the five biggest bass in the lake. The boats were scattered across the lake, from the deep waters at the dam to the narrow canyons of the river. The heaviest sack of fish of the day was caught by the team of Jack Hughes and John Reichard, with a total weight of 17.86 lbs, nice bag of fish boys. The big fish of the tournament was caught by Lou Hirlemann, which topped the

scales at 8.24 lbs. The bite was tough for many anglers, but as always, someone seems to find them. Kudos to the weigh-in team for their hard work and effort in the midday heat; you guys did a great job of accurately getting the teams weighed as quickly as possible.

Three more club tournaments left for 2015; Roosevelt in September, Apache (two day) in October, and our last tournament of the year is at Bartlett Lake in November. What a year so far! We are now at 104 members, with 20 new members in the last 4 months. If you are one of the new members, I hope you are enjoying your time with the guys and gals of Midweek and I also encourage you to review our club operating documents so that you are familiar with all aspects of the club; there's nothing worse than learning the rules after the fact.

Our next club tournament will be at Roosevelt Lake, one of the largest fisheries in the state, on September 16. Once again the great folks at Hwy 188 Tackle, Dwayne and Bev Steel, will be hosting a barbeque for all club participants the night before the tournament at their store.

Hwy 188, the area's premier tackle store, has everything you need to find success at Roosevelt Lake, so if you are seeking the right bait, talk to Dwayne. There is plenty of lodging available nearby if you want to go up for a couple of days, or you can camp at the lake if you don't mind the heat. See you there.



**Lake Saguaro
Report
August 19, 2015
By Terry Tassin**

Team Hughes & Reichard Save Gas And Take 1st Place

Taking home 1st Place, Team

Patriot Day 11 September



**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"

Jack Hughes & John Reichard brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 17.86 lbs. **Jack's** 5.90 lb bass also won them **2nd Place Big Bass** prize.



1st Place
John Reichard & Jack Hughes

Jack Hughes: Having pre-fished Saguaro four times without my partner due to schedules, my results were

dismal. My expectations were not very high going into the tournament. I came home from pre-fishing thinking I have fished Saguaro a 100 times why are other people catching fish and not me. What can I do differently? I decided to research bass fishing videos for a clue. I put more time in preparing for this tournament than normal and most of it was not on the lake but on the computer. I looked at maps of the lake, videos on-line of summer time fishing, ledge fishing, fishing reservoirs and fishing a drop shot on ledges to mention a few.

One of the BASS videos showed fishing a reservoir and it said to fish the outside edges from the main channel flow and if there is heavy grass position yourself to fish up the ledge leading up to the grass. It was like a bell ringing when I watched the video because I thought I knew a spot on Saguaro they were describing. The spot was on a direct line between Skunk Wash and The Snags about a half mile past Ship rock that matched it perfectly with the bottom of the ledge 30-35 feet and topping out at 10-12 feet before entering the grass. The other key we were concentrating on was water temperature. We felt water temp would determine how active the fish would be. We wanted the water to be below 85 degrees if possible and the spot we selected varied throughout the day from 83.2 to 85.7. John and I decided we didn't have a better plan so we went right to that spot and stayed there all day

except for about 30 minutes. We were there less than 5 minutes when John caught a bass and when he went to lift it in the boat naturally it got away. We both thought, I hope this is not an indication of how the day will go.

After 30 minutes of no activity I asked John if he had any objection to checking out another spot about 100 yards away and both of us were still "down" because of losing John's fish. I had caught fish there during pre-fishing. It was close to shore with a series of small boulders in about 2 feet of water so we headed for it.

I was throwing a 3/8 ounce white chatter bait lure that I had removed the white skirt and replaced it with another white skirt with silver specks then trimmed it heavily to reduce the profile. On my forth cast to the same rocks a 5.90 pound bass hit it. After it was in the boat I told John the video's I had been watching said to make at least six casts if you thought a spot held bass. I was going to cast at least two more times to the spot following their suggestion because after two times I normally move on. We kept

Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 2 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 point tournament will be at **Lake Roosevelt on 16 September 2015**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 2 PM**.

Tournament Statistics

Fifty-seven men fished 5.5 hours each, bringing 118 keeper bass to the scales for a total weight of 253.60 pounds with a 4.45 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 2.15 lbs. All but five fish were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.

working that area for another 10 minutes with no other bites and returned to our original spot for the rest of the day. We were fishing drop shot rigs using a 6 inch, Robo, oxblood worm, a 1/16 ounce drop shot weight to stay on top of the grass. On the second cast I caught another fish right at 5 pounds. Then a third fish was caught close to 4 pounds. We had three fish in the boat with an estimated weight of close to 15 pounds and the time was 7:17 AM. I commented to John we may not win but I doubt if we will be in last place. All was well with the world and the doom and gloom had disappeared from our boat.

About 30 minutes later I lost the largest fish of the day on the drop shot because of my stupidity. That fish when he hit started taking drag immediately and I finally got him close to the boat after a long fight when the line snapped. I looked at the line and it broke at the knot. It was my fault because I did not retie after catching the other two big fish and a few others. Oh well, lesson learned.

We spent the rest of the day on that spot and both of us continued to catch fish every 15-20 minutes all day long. It is

an understatement to say after the third fish the mood in our boat was very joyous and remained so for the rest of the day. I had fished with John a few times before so we knew what to expect from each other. We fish well together and get along great. It also gave us plenty of time to discuss the new fee structure for Forest Service lakes and the effect on the club.

I spent more time preparing

for this tournament on the computer than I did on the lake. I recall in one of the video's Scott Martin, FLW AOY, saying he spends more time on the computer getting ready for a tournament than actual pre-fishing. In this case it worked well for John and I also.

Goettl & Golden Sloow Fish To 2nd Place Finish

In **Second Place** the team of



**The Rules
By Gary Grimes**

Most of the guys in our club are pretty easy going; nothing seems to bother them...most of the time. If I do get an occasional complaint, it is almost always fishing related, and is either about (1) someone else fishing too closely or (2) someone's inconsiderate driving. Our tournament rules cover more issues than most think are necessary, but the issue we do not address is courtesy, or what many refer to as common sense. So mind you, what you are about to read merely represents my opinion on the matter, and not official Midweek rules.

Webster's defines courtesy as polite behavior that shows respect for other people. The practice of courtesy is very much related to our awareness of others around us, and our consideration of them. Courtesy comes in to play when deciding how close to fish next to another angler: one boat length? 50 feet? 100 feet? 100 yards? Not sure how close, then discuss your intentions with the other boat to see if they mind, or at the very least allow them a reasonable casting distance. Courtesy also comes into play when driving your boat on plane and the consideration you extend to other fishermen likewise driving on plane or fishermen stopped and fishing a particular spot on the water. Do they have to retie because your prop cut their line? Are the waves from your wake bouncing them into the cliff walls? Are they soaking wet from your prop wash? Do they have to slow down because you cut them off? If yes, then you were probably too close. I think Midweek has some of the most courteous anglers around, but as with any competition involving over 50 men, sometimes either due to our competitive natures or maybe we are simply unaware because of being dog tired, we suffer from a momentary lapse of behavioral perspective regarding courtesy. I think most would agree that it is better to have gained the respect and friendship of your peers than to acquire a bad reputation as an inconsiderate fisherman.

**Membership
As of August 20,
2015 the Midweek
Bass Anglers of
Arizona consists of
104 active members.**

Andy Goettl & Chuck Golden weighed five bass for a total weight of 13.30 lbs.



2nd Place
Chuck Golden & Andy Goettl

Andrew Goettl & Chuck Golden: During a pre-fish outing, I tried to find ANYTHING other than dropshot to do for this tournament. Therefore, on tournament day, we went up the river past the beach and drop-shotted. We had one of the latest starts so we knew that space was going to be at a premium, but we didn't have anything else so we committed to the long idle. As we suspected, the best known areas proved to be the most popular. As we idled by, I brought up the Navionics and began a frantic search for similar bottom contours. About one quarter of a mile upstream there was a fairly prominent underwater point on a slight river bend and since no one else was there, we decided to start there.

At first light we tried a little topwater and reaction baits with no success. But we stuck around and began circling over the point with graphs and

learning the point. I picked up a dropshot rod with a Salt River Craw Roboworm and Chuck wisely opted for a Carolina-Rigged craw. I was fishing at a moderate pace and Chuck was S-L-O-W-L-Y dragging his craw through the sparse grass. After 20 minutes of fishing on the point, Chuck swings and sticks a small 1 pounder. It was a start. He sticks with the C-rig and I picked up a jig and 5 minutes later I set the hook on a good 2.5 pounder. I thought we had something figured out, but the jig bite never materialized. I went back to dropshot, and about then Chuck swings on a cast he made out towards the center of the channel. That bass was the largest of the day for us, a great 4.5-5 pounder. We didn't weigh her in the boat. We stuck on that point for several hours and fished hard, but Saguaro was being stingy that day. We stuck on our spot until the boats just downstream of us began to move off.

We made only one move all day, and idled down to what had only a few minutes ago been "Grand Central Station". As soon as we got to the area, I stuck a good 2 pounder on a dropshot. That was our 5th fish. We fished around the point, flipped a little grass and cattails, and nearly a half hour into it I managed another bass on a C-rig. That culled out the little 1 pounder. We stuck with it for the rest of the day; I broke off another good fish and we caught one or two that didn't help us.

That's my tale and I am

sticking to it.

Krumsiek & Savage Drop Shot Rocky Point For 3rd Place Finish

Team **Fred Krumsiek & Tom Savage** weighed five bass for 13.18 pounds and finished in **3rd Place**.



3rd Place
Fred Krumsiek & Tom Savage

Tom Savage: Congratulations to Jack Hughes and John Reichard for their first place win which was far ahead of the rest of the field.

I had a great time fishing with Fred Krumsiek and look forward to fishing with him again. Fred is a great fisherman.

During pre-fishing we found good size fish while fishing off of Rocky Point near deep water. We decided to make that our game plan for tournament day and we stuck with it. All of our fish were caught on drop shot rigs in the Rocky Point area.

Thank you to everyone for their hard work to make it another great day of fishing.

Drop Shot Key to 4th Place Finish for Team Martlage & Jolley

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Gary Martlage & Bob Jolley** weighed five bass for a total weight of 13.15 lbs.



4th Place
Bob Jolley & Gary Martlage

Gary Martlage: I had the privilege to fish with Bob Jolly for the first time since joining the club. Our plan was to hit a few main lake points early to try and score a big fish on crankbaits. After putting only one 2.5 pounder in the box during the first hour, we decided to head up river and see how the rest of the club was doing. Since the current was not active, we backed off and drop-shotted our next 3 fish in 35 to 45 feet of water. I knew the fish were there, but figured they backed off the walls, since the current was non-existent. Bob and I struggled trying to score our 5th fish, since I felt we were one more big fish away from having a nice sack. Bob is great to fish with, and I hope I get the chance soon to have another shot of competing with him.

Bob Jolley: Team Gary Martlage & Bob Jolley weighed four bass for 13.15 pounds for 4th place honors. Gary and I started out in the main lake for the first hour of the tournament where Gary caught our first fish on a crank bait. We also tried a jig, top water and a lipless crank bait without a bite. We then decided to move to the river which was also slow fishing for about two hours until we changed fishing spots and finally caught the three clunkers that put us in fourth place. The largest was 5.63 pounds which Gary caught on a Morning Dawn dropshot rig. I also caught two nice bass on a dropshot using a brush hog.

With two hours remaining all we needed was one more fish, as it turned out even a one pounder would have put us into second place, but we couldn't get a bite - that's fishing. Overall the fishing was very slow but catching four nice Saguaro bass made the day.

In the many years I have been a member of Midweek Bass Anglers I had never been paired with Gary. He is a very accomplished fisherman, very accommodating and he knows where the big fish hangout. We had a great time and I hope it won't be another seven years before we get paired up again.

Thanks to the weigh team who really moved things along in record time!

Team Archer & Adamson Take 5th Place

A five fish limit weighing 12.98 lbs was enough to earn **Team Paul Archer & Mike Adamson 5th Place** money.



5th Place
Mike Adamson & Paul Archer

Paul Archer: Mike Adamson and I had a ball fishing together. We worked together very well. We blasted off fourth and got to our first spot in the river before anyone else did. We had given up on top water on the previous practices because it was nonexistent. We went right to drop-shotting. The second cast I put a good fish in the boat on a bold bluegill Robo Worm. Mike's third cast, on a red crawler, put another good one in the boat. We worked our area hard for two and a half hours with no success. We finally went down river to a spot that had been good to us in prefish and worked it over real good. It produced three more fish on drop shot rigs. The last bass came with five minutes left in the tournament. We had one small fish that we couldn't cull. I had a ball fishing with Mike and I hope to do it again soon.

Mike Adamson: I really enjoyed fishing with Paul

Archer during pre-fishing last week and the tourney on Wednesday. We ran up just past the Sand Bar in the river to where we knew some big bass might be sitting. In the first 5 casts using a drop shot with red crawlers, we had 2 nice fish and then the door shut closed. For the next couple of hours we couldn't buy a bite until we moved towards the main lake, fishing the right side bank. Over the last couple of hours we landed 3 more, again on drop shot rigs. It was a tough day but a great day.

Hirlemann & Wampach Pick Right Rock for 6th Place and Tournament Big Bass

Lou Hirlemann: I wish I could tell you of a great pattern we had and the huge numbers of fish we caught, however, if I did that I would not be telling the truth, so I can only tell you that I threw a dropshot at the right rock at the right time. The rest of the day was a grind. I did have a great time with Nick Wampach throwing big swimbaits and look forward to doing it again.



**6th Place & 1st Place Big Bass
Lou Hirlemann & Nick Wampach**



Money Matters *By John Reichard* *Treasurer*

Greetings from your treasurer:

Wow! What a day on the lake Wednesday. I fished with Jack Hughes and if you read his article we had a great day.

Jack caught the three big fish and I put on a clinic netting them. I had a three pound fish hit my worm like a freight train almost taking my rod with it. I thought he was bigger until I saw the fish going into the net. Thanks for the fun day Jack!

The big fish of the day was Lou Hirlemann's 8.24 so there will be a new 5 lb Pot starting next month. All club members are eligible to join so bring your \$5 to the meeting on September 2nd.

See you at the meeting or on the lake.



Weighing-In *By Jack Hughes* *Tournament Director*

The first thing I want to say is thank you to all who fished the Saguaro tournament especially the weigh-in team for an outstanding job of accurately completing the weigh-in for 28 boats in 38 minutes. The cooperation from all the members using our new weigh-in procedures was excellent. The morning launch and recovery was superior. A non-member came up to John Reichard and said he showed

up to fish just as we were starting to launch and he wanted us to know he was very impressed. He said his initial reaction on seeing the tournament was he would not get on the water for an hour. So he started playing with his gear on the boat and looked up 15 minutes later and everyone was launched and on the water and away from the ramp. He said he wanted us to know how impressed he was and to say "thanks".

For some months now the board members have been telling members AZG&F and the Forest Service have been meeting on new rules for tournament fishing for 2016. The MBA Board has been anticipating the changes and in some case actually had inputs for some of the changes. The changes will not affect all clubs the same. Fees for permits have been increased significantly and smaller clubs it looks like will take a hit (this is not just here but nationally by congress, and the higher fees for 2016 all must be paid in advance), only one tournament permit a day will be issued for each lake, the number of boats allowed at some lakes has been reduced, requests for 2016 permits will be issued on a first come basis starting September 1, 2015 (this is a month earlier than before) and closure for 2016 permits will be October 1, 2015 and of course the administrative actions for obtaining permits has increased. The good news is **none of the changes will have much effect on**

Midweek Bass Anglers tournaments. Anticipation of changes by the board members will result in the average member noticing very few changes and we will not have to increase fees for members to join or fish tournaments.

For all you new members September 15, the evening before our Roosevelt Tournament, the club will be holding a BBQ steak dinner for all members at Hwy 188 Tackle in Tonto Basin. It will be hosted by club member Dwayne and wife Bev Steel owners of Hwy 188 Tackle. Menu will include Rib Eye Steaks, potatoes, salad, veggies and various deserts. The cost is free to all members but you have to bring two items: 1. an appetite and 2. your own drinks. Also remember, if you need any tackle, rods or reels etc. Dwayne guarantees his prices to club members will beat all others. So save some money and show your appreciation to Dwayne and Bev for hosting us again. This year's guest speaker will be Kelley Jardin, US Forest Service Manager of Roosevelt District, Tonto National Forest.

One thing I want all members to know, when Gary Grimes was elected President of MBA at the first board meeting he said "I want Midweek to be the best bass club in the state". He expressed his desire for all board members to interact with the various agencies. Under his

leadership MBA has achieved greater influence with the Forest Service and AZG&F than ever before. We are routinely contacted on proposed changes as a sounding board. I can say unequivocally Midweek Bass Anglers club is looked at by AZG&F, Mesa District Forest Service and Tonto National Forest as an excellent place to go for quality inputs for tournament fishing potential changes. The excellent reputation of MBA is due to each one of you and the pride you demonstrate in your club shows up every day from the man who said "thank you" on the Saguaro ramp this morning to a phone call from the Forest Service asking what we thought of a potential change to Tournament Rules. For me I have held a lot of positions and titles in my career, however, because of all of you my current position as the Midweek Bass Anglers Tournament Director has been the most entertaining, challenging, and satisfying! Keep up the good work.

Guest Columns

Ingo Moura: Here is a picture of Scott Oliver, buttoning up the boat after the Saguaro tournament. I'm sorry we didn't get more photos, but it was my first tournament ever and I felt I should just keep my eye on my rod...LOL.

I couldn't have been paired up with a nicer guy than Scott for my first time fishing a tournament. I was nervous up

until we met, then fishing turned into fishing again, and I managed to pull my first fish in before 5:45 AM and the pressure was really off knowing I wasn't going to get skunked.



Scott followed my first fish 5 minutes later with a bigger, fatter fish. After what seemed to be a great start for the day, the two fish to follow was a grind, and ultimately we weighed in with 4 fish for 6.81 lbs and came in 17th. In my book the tournament was a success. I knew I would be happy if we landed in the middle of the pack some where. I really had the time of my life and I am already getting ready to do it again in September.

I wanted to say Thank You to all the club members for making me feel welcome; this is a great club and it is made up of really good people. Fish On!

Gary Grimes: Being prepared. The US Boy Scouts motto used to be "Always be prepared," not sure if they have kept it with all the social changes they are going through nowadays, but "Always be prepared" should be the motto of any boater who spends a lot of time on the

water. While on the way home from Saguaro on Wednesday, travelling south on AZ87, I heard a loud thump followed by a rhythmic “thump-thump-thump.” I pulled over to the side of the road and exactly as I had expected, one of my trailer tires had separated its tread. A very common occurrence for any boater, and if you doubt me, just ask Jack Hughes, who seems to lose at least two tires every year. I was about as prepared as I could be. I had recently purchased a trailer ramp, see picture, which I was thankful I had it with me since the pavement was scorching hot (it only works if you have a tandem axle). I had a good spare, which I had recently checked the air pressure. I had all my tools. Took a couple of sips of water before I decided to go for it, and it was then I discovered that fricken Godzilla must have tightened down the lug nuts on my trailer. It was a major pain in the butt but I managed to get four loose, but could not get the 5th and final lug nut to break free; the lug wrench kept slipping off. Out of fear of stripping the remaining lug, I limped down to the convenience store at the intersection of AZ87 and the 202, where I called my roadside assistance provider. It took 15 minutes for her just to figure out where I was, and then another



10 minutes of vehicle and policy confirmations, only to discover that she had to transfer me to another department, as boat trailers fell under the “medium duty” category, which she was not authorized to process. My patience was waning at this point, but I managed to maintain control over my tongue as I waited another 10 minutes for another operator, who of course had to get all the same information over again. When finished, she said it would be 30 – 90 minutes for services to arrive, but that I should receive a text from the service provider shortly. Ugh! I sat in my truck for another 15 minutes with no text, and then Googled my location on my smart phone to see what options I might have nearby. It occurred to me that I was only a couple of miles from Bass Pro Shops, and again limped my way to the store and was met by an old familiar face from Cabela’s in their repair department, Jim. He graciously helped me change the flat, and yes, my trailer ramp worked great. I guess the moral of the story is that it is important to be prepared, especially with regard to boats and trailers, but even the best preparation can still come up short once in awhile. I think the next time I have tires put on my trailer, I will ask them to hand-tighten the nuts, so I can remove them when the need arises in the future.

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Saguaro - August 19, 2015





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

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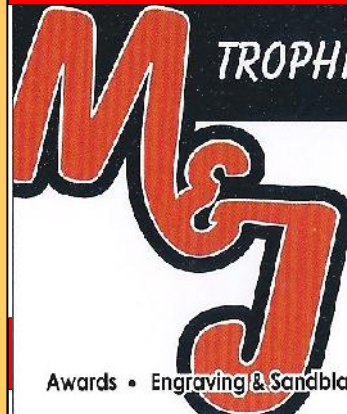
CONSERVATION/LEGISLATIVE - John Reichard

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

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

David Brakefield (CO)
Lannes Brock (CO)
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Best Wishes and Happy Birthday
Born in September

- Mike Adamson
- Mike Halleck
- Bob Jolley
- Jim Keating
- Bernie Kowalski
- Jeff Mason
- Bill McGonigle, Jr
- Bruce Nelson
- Ed Scheide
- Howard Thomas
- Gene Turner
- Scott Vrooman



**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