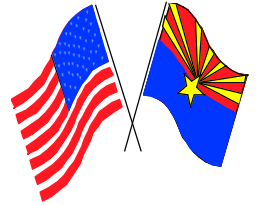


MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



SEPTEMBER 2015

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes



Several of us gathered on the patio at the Hwy 188 Tackle store on Monday evening to watch football, and also had the bonus of watching the brilliant nighttime lightning display on the backside of the Four Peaks Mountains as the storm made its way from Phoenix into the Tonto Basin. The storm's foreplay of wind and lightning turned out to be much grander than the rain when it finally hit, which only lasted for about 30 minutes, but it was refreshing nonetheless.

Many tournament anglers were on the water on Tuesday before the tournament, trying to determine their best game plan for the Wednesday tournament. I decided not to

fish on Tuesday, in part to get ready for the barbeque, and partly because I wanted to take a break. Rather than fish, I did some sightseeing. I visited the Tonto National Forest's Visitor Center by the dam and spent about an hour learning about the local history of the Tonto Basin and Roosevelt Dam. Did you know that the Tonto National Forest was created to protect the Salt River watershed and its lakes in order to ensure the safe delivery of water to those living downstream? I then ventured over to the Tonto National Monument and trekked up the hill to see the cliff dwellings located high above the lake. The sky was cloudy and raining which made for an exceptionally beautiful walk. The view of the lake from the cave dwellings was spectacular; also seeing how primitively those people lived 600 years ago gave me a greater appreciation for just how well off I am, even on my worst days. It was also just the thing I needed to clear my mind for the tournament. At 5 o'clock Tuesday evening Dwayne and Bev (Vern as Dwayne calls her) of the Hwy 188 tackle store hosted an outstanding steak barbeque for 50 hungry anglers. Thanks for an outstanding job done by the

food crew; Gary Asmus (G1), Gary Martlage (G3), Sean Ballard, Jack Hughes and all the others who pitched in. In case you are wondering, I am G-Squared (Gary Grimes).

As usual, the tournament execution was smooth. I am sure many anglers wished their fishing went as smooth. Fall is definitely in the air, and I think we can finally say goodbye to the dog days of summer. Congratulations to the team of Edgar-Cunningham on a great victory on a lake that can challenge the best fisherman. Thanks also to the weigh-in crew for a seamless weigh-in; you guys do such a great job. Next month is my favorite tournament of the year, at Apache Lake. The weather should be just right, which will make for some great camping. We will be launching out of the Burnt Corral Campground and will be hosting a burger barbeque on Monday night before day one of the two-day tournament. Hope to see you there.

**Autumn Begins
23 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"



**Lake Roosevelt
Report
September 16,
2015**

**Team Edgar &
Cunningham Buzz To
1st Place**

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Mike Edgar & Deb Cunningham** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 12.47 lbs.

Mike Edgar: WOW! After 8 outings I had a great day catching not just fishing. As always there are many thank you notes to pass out. When I left early Tuesday morning my son Shane told me to throw a buzz bait all day. Yup, pre fished Tuesday with a buzz bait with the hook cut off and had

fish hit it all morning. May I add the weather on Tuesday was absolutely Tonto Basin beautiful! Fortunately I did not get caught in the downpours. I did not find out until Tuesday afternoon that Deb Cunningham was my partner. We made a plan at supper on Tuesday.



**1st Place
Mike Edgar & Deb Cunningham**

Wednesday morning we headed up the Salt to throw buzz baits. It was crazy! No fish in the first 10 minutes or so, then wham! Nice fish, hit the bait so hard I could not make it run good after that. Deb was catching keepers on a smaller buzz bait that Dwayne Steele put together for me. (Well kinda, he chose the color I put it on) Deb and I continued to catch fish all day. It did not seem to make a difference where if there was grass we caught fish. I must say thank you to Deb, she was a great guide. She was the difference between an 8 pound bag and the 12.47 pound bag we weighed. Thank you Dwayne for a great place to hang out, sleep, charge batteries, and of course the best baits to use on Roosevelt

and Apache Lake! Saving the best for last - FOOD! to all that prepared it. THANK YOU!!! Beverly, your deserts are the greatest! Thank you.

Deb Cunningham: I first want to say I am really enjoying fishing with the club; everyone has been very nice and welcoming. I drew Mike Edgar this month and had a great day. We fished mostly the Salt end of the lake. Mike caught our biggest fish in 6 inches of water and after that we both caught the rest of our limit. Pretty boring story - we used buzz baits all day. We caught a lot of fish so that made the day go by very quickly. Mike has great boat control that makes fishing so much easier.

**Wells & Wampach Find
Big One for 2nd Place**

In **Second Place** the team of **Steve Wells & Nick Wampach** weighed five bass for a total weight of 12.33 lbs. Thanks to **Nick's** 4.30 lb bass the team also wins the **1st Place Big Fish** prize

Nick Wampach & Steve Wells: First off I want to extend my thanks to Dwayne Steel

Tournament Statistics

Forty-nine men fished 8 hours each, bringing 106 keeper bass to the scales for a total weight of 163.27 pounds with a 3.33 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.54 lbs. All but six 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, 7 October** 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 Apache** on **20-21 October 2015**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 2 PM**.

owner of Hwy 188 tackle shop for his kindness and hospitality for hosting our dinner. I would also like to thank our Board of Directors for putting on this event and arranging the guest speakers and my compliments to the chef's - Sean Ballard and Gary Asmus – who always cook-up great food.

Tournament day was a grind. I can't say enough good things about my partner Steve Wells. This guy really knows Lake Roosevelt, has a lot of good local knowledge, and he knew where the fish were on tournament day. Steve and I both had a blast fishing together in this event. All of our fish came on reaction baits. We started our day throwing spooks with some ferocious top water explosions on the lures. The 4.30 lb big fish came on a spook.

The rest of the morning was a mixture of crank baits and top water action. We had a lot of fish come on crank baits – 20 plus fish. We just had to cycle through all the fish for those better keepers. Our bite only lasted till about 11 o'clock. All said and done it was one of my best days of fishing on Lake Roosevelt.

**Hawkins & Campbell
Drop Shot Shallow For
3rd Place Finish**

Membership

As of September 18, 2015 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 106 active members.

Team John Hawkins & Kyle Campbell weighed five bass for 11.81 pounds and finished in **3rd Place**. **John's** 4.04 lb bass also won them **2nd Place Big Bass** prize.

John Hawkins: I got to the lake on Sunday morning and fished all day, Kyle Campbell came up Monday morning, Fished Monday and Tuesday with Kyle; caught one fish in 3 days. Tom Alauria was doing well pre-fishing and told us how his bite was working. Kyle and I fished the Salt end, just before the Salt Flats. We went back and forth in a 20 yard stretch of shore all day Wednesday.

We caught our fish on 1/2 ounce jig heads, orange Garland skirt with Yamamoto 3 inch craw trailers dipped in orange. Kyle is a great drop shot fisherman and he used Ox

Blood worms 6-7 inches long. Our bite was 1 to 4 feet deep but off the bank on rip rap shore lines.

Many thanks to Dwayne Steele for his hospitality at Hwy 188 tackle. Thanks to the club for a great steak and all the trimmings dinner.



**3rd Place
John Hawkins & Kyle Campbell**

Kyle Campbell: I first wanted to thank John Hawkins and



**"It's the newest thing out in
a measuring stick"**

Tom Alauria for being great camp hosts. I had a lucky draw getting John this tournament and they welcomed me with open arms, cold beer, great ribs, and a place to sleep.

John and I went out Monday and Tuesday pre-fishing where we searched on the Salt River end of the lake up to the dam area and overall we could not find much in the way of a bite. We eliminated reaction baits as nothing was hitting top water, crankbaits, jerkbaits you name it, we tried it. We could not find a pattern except on one small point on the north side of the lake past Windy Hill. After talking amongst ourselves and hearing chatter at the BBQ we planned on throwing pumpkin jigs with orange highlights and oxblood Robo worms all day. Our boat number was 16 in the 2nd flight so we did not know what to expect when we got to "our only spot" and as luck would have it there were boats all around...one on the point and a few other boats further down. We stopped short of the area and started beating the banks throwing shallow and drawing very slowly back. The bite we witnessed and spoke to others about was a very subtle bite. Our first fish came quickly and was about 0.75 lbs on a jig and the 2nd was shortly after which was the 4.04 pounder off the same jig; John caught that bass.

By the time we made our way up the bank closer to the point, where another boat had been working, we had 4 bass in the boat. The boat on the point packed up and left and we felt

we could take advantage and get a few off the point. By 7:30 AM we were culling fish. We stayed on the same bank going back and forth missing fish, losing fish, and bringing in keepers until noon. We then left and hit another few locations with no luck culling our smallest bass which was around 1.25 lbs. Overall half of our fish came off the brown/green/orange jigs and the other half off 6 inch Robo FAT straight worms oxblood red flake in 2-10 feet of water off the bank in areas where there would be a steep drop to 25 plus feet of water.

Team Gary Senft & Rusty Murdock Cull-A-Lot For 4th Place Finish

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Gary Senft & Rusty Murdock** weighed five bass for a total weight of 10.85 lbs.



**4th Place
Rusty Murdock & Gary Senft**

Gary Senft: With going out at boat number 24 we just took our time. Rusty Murdock and I were able to blend in between boats. We didn't run very far, we stayed within a couple of miles of Windy Hill. We started

with top water lures but the fish didn't want it so I switched to a crank bait and started catching them. We also used spinner baits and sweet beavers. We had to go through a lot of fish to get our weight in the boat. It kept us very busy culling. We did have a good time fishing together. Thanks to the guys that cooked the good dinner on Tuesday night and a big well done to the weigh-in team for weighing the fish fast at the end of the day.

Team Martlage & Thomas Junk Fish To 5th Place Finish

A five fish limit weighing 9.61 lbs was enough to earn **Team Gary Martlage & Howard Thomas 5th Place** money.

Gary Martlage: I had the privilege to fish with Howard Thomas at Roosevelt. Anticipating a "weak" bite at the lake, I pre-fished shallow, as "you can always find fish shallow", a quote I remember from the old days. Our pattern was to find the coves that had live grass, with pockets of open space. Again, the RED EYE spinner bait produced as expected (thanks Dwayne Steel).

By 10 AM we had culled 3 limits of fish, starting in Methodist cove, and working our way back to the main lake. Howard was getting tired of picking out the smaller fish to cull, then going to the balance beam to gain an ounce or two! My knees hurt just watching him bend over to cull another

clone! Finally, I said "We need a kicker fish!" What was I thinking, fishing with BIG FISH THOMAS?

We went to some deep water points. BIGFISH stuck a nice 3.5 pounder on a drop shot, then commented that the next one was going to be twice that size! Well, he didn't get that one, but still big fished me! All things considered, I had a great time with Howard, and look forward to fishing with him soon.

PS: Great barbecue guys! Already looking forward to a great time at Apache next month!



5th Place
Howard Thomas & Gary Martlage

Howard Thomas: There is not much to say about 5th place but I'll try. Gary Martlage and I caught our share of fish but nothing too big. Like the baseball player in "Casey at the Bat" the mighty big fish 'Howie' has struck out. We caught enough fish to have fun but not enough to win the event. We caught our fish on spinner baits, jerk baits, crankbaits, and Jeff Mason's famous red crawler Robo

worm. It's always a fun day when you fish with Martlage. Thanks to all the guys that had their hands in making the Tuesday dinner a big success. The steaks were great and thank you Dwayne Steel for giving the club a place to have the cook-out along with being able to purchase tackle at a reduced price. My biggest thanks go to Dwayne's wife Bev for those fabulous home made deserts. For the people that had a tough time on the water, remember "A bad day fishing is better than a good day at work".



Weighing-In By Jack Hughes Tournament Director

Here is a short update on tournament permits for 2016. All permits with the National Forest Service for the dates and times we requested have been approved at the local regional offices and have been recommended for approval to the Regional Office. I have registered our club for Havasu and all that remains for all of next year's tournaments is the final paper work and insurance certificates to be filed.

We all know the Postal Service is not what it used to be. I am now receiving an average of two Tournament Applications after I get home from the club drawing and two calls the morning of the meeting. If you mailed your tournament entries late and think your application may not have arrived or you have not received conformation the evening before our meeting from me, please let me know

before the club meeting. Please don't make a habit of it since I have to put the money up for you before the drawing. Just for the record Gary Grimes and I routinely have a few hundred dollars out of our pocket covering club late registrations for the tournament for people who did not do it sooner. Most of the time we do not get our money back until the day of the tournament. Please try to enter on time and not wait till the last moment; it makes our "other halves" happier for them to spend the money instead of you.

Finally, I want to congratulate Deb Cunningham and Mike Edgar on their win at Roosevelt. For the record Mike told me after the weigh in the smartest thing he did was listen to Deb and follow her advice on where the bass were. There is a very strong rumor, supported by pictures, that Mike even turned his boat over to her while fishing Roosevelt, and they say men are not smart bass fishermen! It appears that Deb stepping up to join our club is getting other women interested in fishing with the best bass club in Arizona. I have had three inquiries recently by other women inquiring to join our club. All three have extensive experience in other states fishing bass tournaments. One man called me after I talked to his wife and asked if I was serious she could fish with our club. I told him "Yes" and also invited him to join us. Before he hung up he commented "she may join but don't look for me because she always whips

me". Deb it is looking like you may soon have female companionship during our tournaments; thanks for leading the way and adding to the skill of our angler base and class to our membership.

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt - September 16, 2015

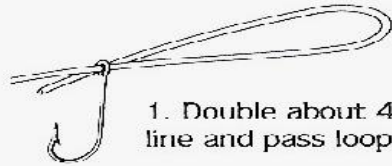


Knots

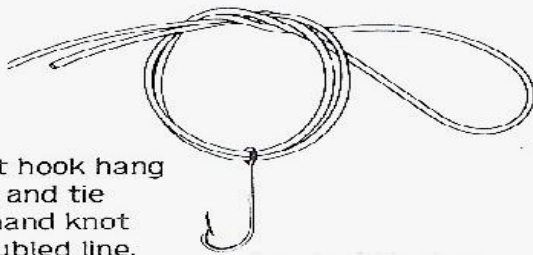
There are lots of ways to secure your line to your lures. These knots are probably the best known and most useful for a bass fisherman.

Just a reminder - Be Courteous! When backing a boat trailer down the ramp in the dark, turn off your headlights to keep from blinding others trying to back their boats down the ramp to the water.

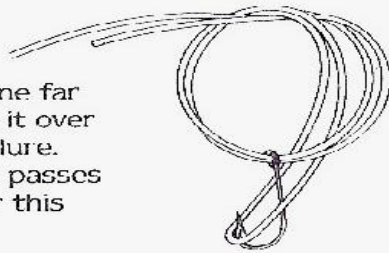
Palomar Knot



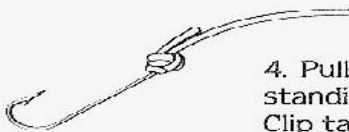
1. Double about 4 inches of line and pass loop through eye.



2. Let hook hang loose and tie overhand knot in doubled line. Avoid twisting the lines and don't tighten.

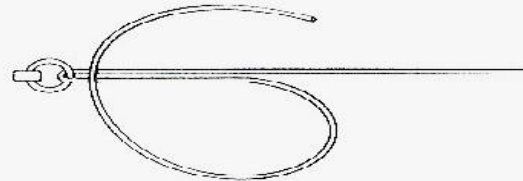


3. Pull loop of line far enough to pass it over hook, swivel or lure. Make sure loop passes completely over this attachment.

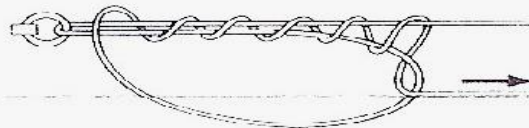


4. Pull both tag end and standing line to tighten. Clip tag end.

Uni-Knot System Tying to Terminal Tackle



1. Run line through eye of hook, swivel or lure at least 6 inches and fold to make two parallel lines. Bring end of line back in a circle toward hook or lure.



2. Make six turns with tag end around the double line and through the circle. Hold double line at point where it passes through eye and pull tag end to snug up turns.

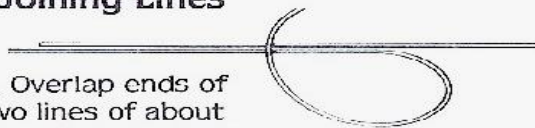


3. Now pull standing line to slide knot up against eye.



4. Continue pulling until knot is tight. Trim tag end flush with closest coil or knot. Uni-Knot will not slip.

Uni-Knot System Joining Lines



1. Overlap ends of two lines of about the same diameter for about 6 inches. With one end, form Uni Knot circle, crossing the two lines about midway of overlapped distance.



2. Tie Uni-Knot around leader with doubled line. Use six turns and snug up.



3. Pull tag end to snug knot tight around line.



4. Pull knots together as tightly as possible and trim ends.



5. Pull the two standing lines in opposite directions to slide knots together. Pull as tight as possible and snip ends close to nearest coil.

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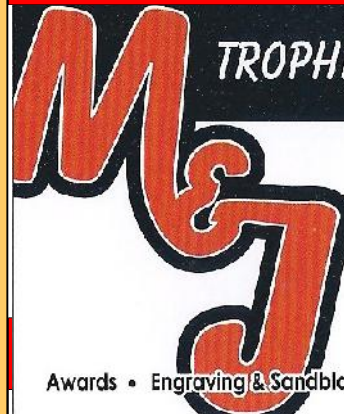
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Access Midweek Bass Anglers Internet Web Site at: <http://www.midweekbassaz.com/>

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Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in October

Ron Gaudreau
Kyle Campbell
Ed Boll
Ernie Arvizu
Fred Krumsiek
Mark Durben
Mark Royal



**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