



MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



SEPTEMBER 2020 EDITION
15 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes

The Midweek Bass Anglers were at Roosevelt Lake for our September tournament, event number 9 for the year. The lake is still quite full, so full in fact that Badger ramp on Windy Hill is still completely under water. A full lake also means there is submerged brush and trees out to 25 feet. This is great for the fish, but that makes it tougher on the fishermen if the fish aren't really active, which they weren't. Lester Rapp and Joe Matt managed to find the right presentation to catch over 14 lbs. of fish and secure a first-place victory. Great job guys.

It was still a bit warm at Roosevelt, as September usually is, but the mornings were awesome. A few of us camped at Windy Hill and enjoyed the nice evenings, and welcomed a herd of javelina into the camp during the night. Their barking and chopping will certainly wake you up. Jack Hughes joined us for dinner at the lake on Tuesday night, eager to return to the water but unfortunately has to rebuild his strength and stamina from 2 months in the hospital following surgery. Great to see him back.

Thanks to all the guys on the weigh-in team for enduring the heat and masks to run a smooth and efficient weigh-in. I sure missed Gary Martlage not being there. My boat looked like something from Sanford and Sons as I drove from the weigh-in to Tonto Basin with sink, table, cones, boxes piled atop my boat. Dropped off my camper for some work at Hwy 188 Tackle and put everything in the back of my truck. We are back at Roosevelt again in October. Due to Covid we will not be

having a barbeque. In addition, many of the services we are accustomed to are closed or limited at this time. No showers at the campgrounds, I heard until next year. Boston's is out of business. Most restaurants have restrictions and limited hours so make sure you check before you go next month. I will be camping again.

One of our newer members, David Convery, has made some wonderful Midweek Bass memorabilia that he is selling; shot glasses, club pin, money clip, keychain, etc. You have to order through his website and he is offering a discount to Midweek members. You can find more info on the back page of the Bass Bites. That's all for now, see you next month.



Tournament Reports Lake Roosevelt September 16, 2020

**Team Lester Rapp & Joe Matt
Catch 4.52 Iber Win 1st Place
Team and 1st Place Big Fish**

Gold Star Mothers Day 9-27-2020



**CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE - WATCH FOR EMAILS**

Monthly Breakfast Meeting
Deer Valley Airport Restaurant
702 W. Deer Valley Rd
Phoenix, AZ
1st Wednesday of Each

“We Practice Catch and Release”



1st Place Lester Rapp & Joe Matt

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Lester Rapp & Joe Matt** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 14.60 lbs. Thanks to Joe's 4.52 lb bass the team also won **1st Place Big Bass** honors.

Lester Rapp & Joe Matt: Congratulations to all the winners and all the guys who fished the tournament. Joe and I caught most of our fish in 10 to 15 feet of water up the river in the Tonto end of the lake. We used drop shots and crank baits. Joe caught all of his fish with a drop shot. I caught my fish on crank baits like a Little Fat John. We fished all day at the Tonto end and then Joe put on a black Senko and started catching bigger fish on drop shot and Texas rigs. Joe hooked up with our biggest bass of the day and had a heck of a fight keeping her from diving under the boat and breaking off. After a while Joe brought the fish to the surface where I waited for him with the net. I had a great day fishing with Joe.

**Pete Gesswein & Mike Adamson
Work "Color Of The Day"
Dropshotting To 2nd Overall**

Next Meeting - Next Tournament

Our next club meeting for 2020 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) has been cancelled due to the Corona Virus situation. Pairings will be announced by email when completed.

The next club points tournament is scheduled for **Lake Roosevelt** on **21 October 2020**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.



2nd Place Pete Gesswein & Mike Adamson

In **2nd Place** Team **Pete Gesswein & Mike Adamson** weighed five bass for a total weight of 12.03 lbs.

Pete Gesswein: I had a great time fishing with Mike Adamson. He is a very respectful co-angler, to both me and my boat. We made a plan after pre-fishing and stuck with it. We stayed in the Salt River end of the lake. We culled 5 fish in the last 2 hours while sitting in 20 – 30 feet of water most of the day.

Mike Adamson: On Tuesday Pete and I prefished. Pete fished drop shots and caught fish while I threw everything else I could think of to see if that would produce larger fish. My plan didn't produce fish so that pretty much made our decision easy to drop shot tournament day.

We had our limit early at the predetermined points on the south end of the lake. Around 10 AM we decided we were going to search for only main lake points around 25 feet deep and that had brush between us and shore. Bingo, that was the solution. Jumping from point to point we culled the live well with 2 and 3 lb fish. What was the color of the day - Morning Dawn of course. Thanks Pete for the great day.

Team Vern Ridgway & Doug Moore Grind The Brush To 3rd Place Finish

Team **Vern Ridgway & Doug Moore** weighed five bass for 9.99 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors. They also took **2nd Place Big Fish** honors with a 4.26 lb bass caught by Vern.



3rd Place Vern Ridgway & Doug Moore

Vern Ridgway: Great job to the weigh-in crew again, they are always on the ball. Hats off to the first place team of Lester and Joe for a well deserved win, as well as the runner-up team of Pete and Mike.

I was teamed up with the honorable Douglas Moore who is an achieved bass man and fun person to fish with. On kick-off we headed east towards School House Point and threw top water lures and flipped the brush along the river. There were several fish caught, but the "keepers" kept their gills tight to the brush. Our first action came on a top water plug; the fish had huge shoulders and had his way with us right out of the gate. We left the area with a "fin up our tail" and minus one \$15 plug!

Our next spot produced a nice 4 pounder and two small keepers for us. We continued to flip and throw top water along the brush and filled out our limit with a few minor culls. The day passed very fast but a beautiful day on the frog pond it was.

Doug Moore: I had the good fortune to be paired with Vern Ridgway for my third tournament with the club. I was not able to pre-fish but Vern had things dialed in for us. We went toward the river and fished in the brush all day. Vern got our first (and biggest) fish on a brush hog after losing one in the trees on a top water lure. After that it was a grind to fill the live well and we were able to upgrade a few times using Texas rig brush hogs, flick

Membership

As of September 18, 2020 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of **126** dues paid active members.

shake worms and top water lures. A great day on the lake and as always a great job by all those members who do the work to make these tournaments run so smoothly. Can't wait for next month back here at Roosevelt!

Team Davis & Ballard Fish Shallow In The Salt To Finish 4th Overall

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Amos Davis & Sean Ballard** weighed five fish for a total weight of 9.44 lbs.

Amos Davis: First time I've gotten to fish with Shawn Ballard. It was a great experience. Not much to tell, we caught our fish on the Salt end of the lake in shallow water. The majority of our fish were caught on plastic worms. Very few came on top water; lots of small fish.

Sean Ballard: I had the pleasure of fishing with Amos for the first time and I had a great outing. Amos was able to get out on Saturday and find some fish but I had to work. So we started on his spot which was a really good spot for numbers and we had a limit by 6:30 and were culling. We caught well over 30 fish for the day with our best fish coming off a Vixen. All the rest of the fish were caught on flick shake rigs and every fish was caught in 10 feet or less water. Amos forgot his culling straps and balance beam at home so I had to be good at catching them out of the live well and eyeballing them to keep the heaviest fish.

Steve Wells & Rick Harang Drop Shot And T-Rig To Finish 5th

A five fish bag weighing 9.33 lbs was enough to earn Team **Wells & Harang** the **5th Place** money.

Richard Harang: First off, congrats to Lester and

Club Officers Elected for 2021

The **Board of Directors** is pleased to announce the election of the following members as Officers of the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Inc for the year 2021:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| President: | Gary Grimes |
| Vice Pres: | Tom Savage |
| Secretary: | Terry Tassin |
| Treasurer: | Vern Ridgway |
| Tmt Director: | Gary Martlage |

Joe for a nice limit of fish. It's nice to be back to a five fish limit instead of three. I fished with Steve Wells for the first time. What a nice guy, and never at a loss for words. He had fish stories about Mexico lakes and two northern California lakes that I've never been to; yet that is.

We arrived at Roosevelt late Monday afternoon so we didn't fish until Tuesday. Pre-fish day left a bit to be desired to say the least. We fished the Salt end until 1:00 without much success. Only two keepers and a few dinks. At this point I was thinking I do better than this at Pleasant. We didn't really learn what to do as much as what not to do. We discussed our game plan for Wednesday and decided to just go to the Tonto end and start over.

Our first stop was just on the Tonto side of Windy hill where Steve caught our kicker in the first few minutes on a topwater lure. It was the nice 3.14 pound smallmouth. We caught about 25 fish and culled all morning after about 8:00. Drop Shotting was the most successful method for Steve. After way too many break-offs and reties I finally gave up on that technique and tried a Texas rigged Senko and it paid off. The Senko was much easier for me to work through the wood without getting stuck as much. I don't know if it was the Tonto end that was so much better, or that the fishing just picked way up on tournament day, but it was very welcome. We had been hearing that it only took about 10 pounds per day to win lately so 10 pounds was our goal. We lost only one fish that would have culled our smallest fish by probably at least 1/2 pound but it wouldn't have been enough to win so we were pretty happy with our limit. I had a great time with Steve and look forward to teaming up with him again. Really looking forward to next month at Roosevelt with cooler weather, I hope!

Team John Hilland & Donny Stevens Overcome And Finish In 6th Place

Team **Hilland & Stevens** weighed five bass for 9.16 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

John Hilland: Congratulations to Lester and Joe for the win with a great bag. I had the pleasure of fishing with Donny Stevens this month, on top of being a really good angler it was great to have someone in the boat who could run the front and step right in to do anything needed. We were not able to prefish together but I made

Tournament Statistics

Sixty-four contestants fished 7 hours each, bringing 153 bass to the scales for a total weight of 219.58 pounds with a 3.43 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.44 lbs. All fish but two were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.



6th Place Donny Stevens & John Hilland

it out on Tuesday and ran all over the lake trying to find a few fish with not much luck. A little later in the afternoon I did catch a few fish and decided that was our starting spot in the morning on tournament day.

Tournament morning we blasted to our spot and started throwing top water - buzz bait for me and a Whopper Plopper for Donny. After just a few casts Donny hooked up and we had one in the boat. He continued to catch a few more and things went dead on top. We moved into the cove and started pitching to trees with a small creature bait with some success and we were culling by 8:00. We did miss a few key fish. One was hung up on a tree that we could see would really help, but all we could do was give it slack and let it try to free itself only to see it swim off with the bait still stuck on the tree.

We decided to call it a day with about 20 minutes left and of course the boat would not start. I guess we ran the graphs and live wells to long. After a tantrum and a few choice words from me about the battery, Donny was the adult jumping down and doing some tinkering on the battery and Pow it started. Luckily we made it in just in time. Thanks to all the guys who work behind the scenes to make it such a great club. Until next time, stay safe and healthy.

Donny Stevens: First off I would like to thank everyone who keeps the well oiled machine called Midweek Bass running and I would like to thank my boater John Hilland, not only is he a great stick but a great person, thanks John. Ok so the day started off with top water and in less then a minute I had 2 keepers in the boat on a Whopper Plopper. Then we switched over to flipping and then John's instructional class started. So we grinded out the day flipping then later in the day I picked up a chatterbait and got a few more. All in all besides losing two toads over 5 lbs it was a good day.



7th Place Andrew Bell & Tom Alauria (NS)

**Team Tom Alauria & Andrew Bell
Work Reaction Baits
7th Overall**

In **7th Place** Team **Tom Alauria & Andrew Bell** - fishing his first club event - weighed five bass for a total weight of 8.77 lbs.

Tom Alauria: Congratulations to Lester and Joe; they had a great bag. I had the good fortune to fish with Clinton Bell's son Andrew. He is a very nice young man and like his dad a very good fisherman. I got to Roosevelt on Sunday and was able to spend three days pre-fishing. Andrew and I did manage to practice together on Tuesday. All the reports I heard were small fish being caught on drop shot. I did find one area that produced better fish but they were still small.

Andrew and I were Number 6 boat out the morning of tournament day and we had a limit and were culling in thirty minutes. At 11:30 we decided to go back where we started. We threw spinner baits, swim baits and Senkos. Next to a bush I stuck a 3.33 lb large mouth. The



8th Place Jeff Stone & Casey Brown

very next cast I stuck another one that was even bigger but it came off at the boat. By then we ran out of time.

**Jeff Stone & Casey Brown Finish
8th Overall**

In **8th Place** Team **Jeff Stone & Casey Brown** weighed five bass for a total weight of 8.62 lbs.

Jeff Stone: It was a beautiful day on the lake and my first time fishing with Casey Brown. We discussed the game plan I had in store for us and it seemed to have paid off. We started down the bank of Windy Hill and in no time we had our limit of 5 bass within an hour. Going back up the bank we started culling out fish. Then we hit the mouth of Sally May cove and that's where Casey hit a nice smallmouth. We spent most of the day finesse fishing and drop shotting. It was a pleasure meeting and fishing with Casey and we had a great time fishing together.



**Weighing-In
By Gary Martlage**

Guys, I just want to make sure all club members understand the cost sharing program, as there have been a few inquiries of concern lately. Following is my article from last month's newsletter, in case you missed it.

I have been receiving calls regarding our fishing events during the year. Concerning the co-angler fees to be paid to the boater; guys are wondering if the fee includes a pre-fish day. The answer is Yes and No. When Midweek set up the cost sharing program for teams, we gathered the cost of boat operation to and from the tournament sites. Vehicle and boat fuel were the main consideration for setting a fee for the co's to pay their boater partner. It is not perfect, but the club feels it is a fair system to compensate the boater for use of his equipment during an event. It has been said that the fee includes a "pre-fish" with the boater. This is NOT true! The fee you pay the boater is for the tournament day. Most boaters will try to include a pre-fish with their monthly partner, as the boater is usually fishing at the monthly lake, trying to put together a pattern for the upcoming event. Most boaters are willing to share information with their partner, and will try to offer a pre-fish time when the team can work together on the lake. Sometimes, this doesn't work out. By no means should you think that if you do not pre-fish, you can consider cutting your fees in half!

It is very expensive to operate a boat and if you do not believe it, purchase one and become a boater. Actually, should you choose to become one, we are in need of more boaters in the club. The bottom line is the co-angler share fee is the cost for fishing that day of the tournament. We do encourage all teams to contact each other before an event, and try to ride share, share lodging expenses, etc. Fishing can be an expensive sport, but it is well worth it. I hope to see you all next month at Lake Roosevelt.

You Know You Are Living In 2020 When

- 1... You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
- 2... You haven't played Solitaire with real cards in years.
- 3... You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
- 4... You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
- 5... Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
- 6... You pull up in your own driveway and use your mobile phone, to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
- 7... Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen.
- 8... Leaving the house without your mobile phone, which you didn't even have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic, and you turn around to go and get it.
- 10. You get up in the morning and go on line, before getting your coffee.
- 11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile.
- 12. You're reading this and nodding, and laughing.
- 13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
- 14. You are too busy to notice there was no 9 on this list.
- 15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a 9 on this list.

~~~~~**AND FINALLY**~~~~~

NOW U R LAUGHING at yourself.

Go on, forward this to your friends.  
You know you want to!  
And stop trying to lick your elbow!

**Remember these?**

For those who never saw the Burma Shave signs, here is a quick lesson in our history of the 1930s and '40s. Before the Interstates, when everyone drove the old two lane roads, *Burma Shave* signs would be posted all over the countryside in farmer's fields. They were small red signs with white letters. Five signs, about 100 feet apart, each containing 1 line of a 4 line couplet and the obligatory 5th sign advertising Burma Shave, a popular shaving cream. Here are some of the actual signs - read from the bottom up:

**Burma Shave**

**AND MORE  
STEER**

**LET'S HAVE  
LESS BULL**

**TO HER  
RECKLESS  
DEAR**

**CAUTIOUS  
RIDER**

**Sound Off**

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

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

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



# Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt - September 16, 2020





### Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2020 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

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Vern Ridgway 602-525-5493

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Tom Savage

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**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE** - Vacant

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

Welcome to New/Returning  
Midweek Bass Anglers  
Since the Last Newsletter

Luke Spreitzer (B)

Please meet and welcome our new members.

**Midweek Bass Anglers**  
Proudly Made In The USA

Wholesale pricing for members, friends & family.  
All products will ship U.S.P.S. Priority mail.

- Midweek Bass Anglers Bottle Stopper
- Midweek Bass Anglers Money Clip
- Midweek Bass Anglers Pin
- Midweek Bass Anglers Refrigerator Magnet
- Midweek Bass Anglers Shot Glass
- Midweek Bass Anglers Keychain

[www.NewSpinMetalCasting.com/mba](http://www.NewSpinMetalCasting.com/mba)  
Click on Special Editions, then select MBA to order your items

### Midweek Bass Anglers 2020 Tournament Schedule

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in October

- Tom Atherton
- Mark Durben
- Fred Krumsiek
- Mark Royal

- |               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| 15 January    | Bartlett  |
| 19 February   | Martinez  |
| 18 March      | Alamo     |
| 22 April Canx | Roosevelt |
| 20 May        | Bartlett  |
| 17 June       | Bartlett  |
| 15 July       | Pleasant  |
| 19 August     | Pleasant  |
| 16 September  | Roosevelt |
| 21 October    | Roosevelt |
| 18 November   | Alamo     |

