

MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



SEPTEMBER 2022 EDITION
17 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



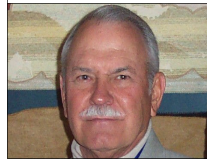
President's Perspective *By Gary Grimes*

The Midweek Bass Anglers fished their 9th tournament of 2022 at Lake Roosevelt this past Wednesday. Once again, we fielded over 30 boats, with anglers from all over the state gathering to battle it out to find the 5 biggest bass. The weather was great, with cloud cover and breezes throughout the day. The anglers on the Salt end of the lake received rain and some hail, while the Tonto end remained dry. Unfortunately for many, the rain caused a change in the pattern they had discovered during pre-fish, forcing them to adapt and change. The winning team of Andrew Goettl and Bob Jolley made all the right moves, catching 5 fish for a total of 17.9 lbs. Their bag was anchored by an 8.22 lb. behemoth bass, which also became the big fish of the year to date. All teams easily filled their 5 fish limits, with many teams catching over 30 fish throughout the day.

September marks the last of our early stop tournaments; all remaining tournaments will end at 3:00PM, with 5 fish limits. September also marks the end of brutal summer heat, so get your camping gear ready for great weather for the final two events. October takes us to Alamo Lake for our tenth event. The points race is tight, so every fish will count for those in

contention. We have reserved the group use area from Sunday through Wednesday. We have been given permission to camp on Saturday night if needed, but we must vacate on Wednesday morning. A \$15 fee is still required at the group use area, and must be paid at the ranger station. We will be having a barbeque on Tuesday night at the group use, burgers and brats are on the menu. It should be a great event.

Thanks to all who helped with the launch and the weigh-in at Roosevelt; you guys are awesome. See you at Alamo.



Tournament Reports Lake Roosevelt September 21, 2022

Team Andrew Goettl & Bob Jolley Clean House At Lake Roosevelt on Jig

Taking home **1st Place Overall**, Team Goettl & Jolley brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 17.90 lbs. Thanks to Andy's 8.22 lb. bass the team also took home the **5lb Plus Big Bass** honors.

Continued on page 2

Monthly Breakfast Meeting

Denny's Restaurant

2525 W. Deer Valley Road

Phoenix, AZ

1st Wednesday of Each Month

Meeting Starts at 8:00 A.M.

Happy Pumpkin Day October 26th



"We Practice Catch and Release"

Andy Goettl and Bob Jolley: Let me first say that it was a real treat to finally get back to fishing with all of you. I have been looking forward to it since the first day the entry opened up. I love fishing full day events, and I love fishing Roosevelt, but it had been months since I competitively went fishing and longer still since I had been at Rosey.

I was contacted by Bob Jolly shortly after the team draw and we made plans to get at least one day of pre-fishing in on the Monday prior to the tournament. We met up and drove to the lake for a day of fishing. Needless to say, the conditions on Monday were vastly different than we found them on Wednesday, but we thought at least we will locate some fish and we can figure out how to catch them on tournament day.

Tournament day rolled in with clouds, cooler morning temps, and threats of rain. We were boat 31 and hoping that at least one of our spots we found pre-fishing would be open. We were lucky that the point we wanted to start at was open, and we immediately dipped in and started fishing.

I started with a little topwater hoping for at least one blow up but after 20 minutes or so, I had to lay that rod down for the rest of the day. I picked up a dropshot and Bob was throwing his favorite Neko rig for a bite. I managed a good 2 lber first thing but it was clear that we were not on that right pattern for the morning. So, I set down that dropshot and picked up a Green



1st Place Bob Jolley & Andrew Goettl

Pumpkin Jig and pretty quickly put two more fish in the boat. We moved in circles over a pretty pronounced main lake point and I tried to parallel the creek channel as much as possible. I was dragging the jig across some very pronounced river rock and got a bite. When I set the hook, I knew it was a better fish. It came at the boat pretty quickly so I had no idea how much "better" it was until it got close. I pulled it shallow initially but in the low light and stained water I thought 4lb, maybe 5lb, and then the fish realized it was hooked and didn't want to go for a boat ride. It took my rod down almost to the reel before I could depress the release and we danced back and forth on the front deck, over the trolling motor, trying not to step on rods with Bob trying to get into the proper position to scoop her up. I finally got her head up and really didn't appreciate her size until Bob laid the net on the floor and we got a good look at her. My 4th fish of the day was 8.22 lbs. on my scale!

We moved back and forth over main lake points that were adjacent to deep water all day. We culled through a ton of 1.5 - 2 lbs slowly upgrading. I knew we were in contention but still a little worried about our overall weight until Bob nailed a solid 3 lber on his trusty Neko. After that I started to believe we likely had it wrapped up. At 2PM our smallest fish was still only 1.6 lbs. or so and I hit another solid near 3 lber just

Next Meeting - Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 5 October** starting at 8:00 AM, at **Denny's Restaurant, 2525 W. Deer Valley Road, Phoenix, AZ**. We hope you will come early (6:30 to 8 AM) and have breakfast together and turn-in entry forms.

The next club points tournament will be at **Lake Alamo** on **19 October 2022**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 1 PM**.

before we needed to run for the ramp. Our smallest fish at the end of the day was 1.9 lbs. and we had plenty of weight to back up the big girl.

Unfortunately, I was unable to keep her healthy and at noon she was struggling. By the weigh in we had lost her. It was really frustrating but we tried everything we could to keep her going. Other than that, it was a great day. Beautiful weather, a little rain and lots of fish.

Bob Jolley: Andy and I pre-fished on Monday and started out throwing top water baits hoping for a dragonfly bite that was said to be working. Not a bite. We finally went with finesse baits, mostly with a drop shot, and didn't catch our first fish until around 9:00 am. The bite was very slow until late morning when it picked up on drop shots and jigs. I think we ended up with 20 plus bass on Monday. We decided to go in early and about ten minutes before we quit Andy hooked a 5.9 largemouth on a drop shot. And, of course, we said why didn't that happen on tournament day. Well, it did and much more!

The topwater bite was still off on tournament day so we stuck with drop shot, jigs and a Carolina rig. Andy caught a two pounder soon after we started fishing which was a sign that the bite was going to be better than what we experienced on Monday. A cast or two later Andy hooked up again and he wasn't sure it was a big fish until it got closer to the boat and then put up a hell of a fight. It was a big, big fish, weighing 8.22 pounds and after landing it we knew we would have a great day and be in the money. It was caught very early in the morning so we knew it would be in the live well for several hours and we needed to watch it closely. Andy did everything he could to keep it alive but unfortunately it didn't make it to the scales alive and it was a real downer for us to lose that fish!

We caught a lot of fish the rest of the day and culled many times still using the same rigs. We fished both North and South of Windy Hill catching our fish out of trees and off the rocks. Andy caught most of the bigger fish, but I did the 'heavy lifting' (netting his fish).

This was the first time I have been paired with Andy and I was lucky to draw such an accomplished fisherman. Andy was very

accommodating and helpful especially when he supplied me with drop shot hooks and weights since I had left most of mine at home. I learned a lot from Andy including a new rigging technique and I hope to be paired with him again.

It was a fun day of fishing, great company, super weather and I offer my thanks to the weigh-in team for another great job.

Team Ridgway & Robertson Fish Topwater Lures For 2nd Place Overall

In **2nd Place**, Team **Vern Ridgway & Terry Robertson** weighed five bass for a total weight of 15.23 lbs. Thanks to Vern's 7.55 lb. bass the team also took home the **1st Place Big Bass** honors.

Terry Robertson: First I would like to thank the weigh-in crew for a great job as



2nd Place Terry Robertson & Vern Ridgway

Tournament Statistics

(Five fish limit) Sixty-eight contestants fished 8 hours each, bringing 165 bass to the scales for a total weight of 312.69 pounds with a 4.60 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.90 lbs. All but nine fish were released alive back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.

always. Congratulations to Andy Goettl for his large 8.22 lb bass.

Now for our excitement. Vern Ridgway and I were throwing top water lures along the shoreline in the main part of the lake. In about a half hour into the tournament I heard what sounded like a loud thump on a bass drum. I turned to see Vern with his rod bent in half. I asked him if he needed the net. His response was "I don't know yet". It didn't take long for that beast to go by the boat. I said to myself OMG! Seeing that 7.55 lber go by, I said to myself, I guess we need the net. The net was out of the storage locker but the handle was not extended and it was not ready for use. I pulled the handle completely out of its socket while trying to extend it holding two separate pieces. I was not panicking but I knew Vern was but he didn't show it. She made two passes by the net. The second pass she was in the net and boy did she entirely fill up the net. What an absolute thrill to start out a wonderful day. Who would have thought this beauty was going to be the 2nd largest bass of the day.

Vern Ridgway: A great day on the frog pond! I was paired with my old friend TMan (Terry Robertson). We enjoyed a couple of days of successful pre-fishing, but the weather threw a wrench into the scheme of things, which left us scrambling to adjust. Most of our fish came on mid lake points, cuts and flats, varying in depth from 1 foot to 25 feet. We threw cranks, top water, jigs and Texas rigged plastics of all shapes and sizes with no consistent luck. About 20-30 minutes into the game, while throwing a walking bait, I was blasted by this tank of a bass that sent us into "high gear" and leaving us in a wake like a cargo ship. Luckily, TMan was on the ball and was able to put our unexpected guest into the net after a couple of tries, as she was so big we had a problem getting her on board. Nice start for fish #1. We had to scratch them out from then on, but we did manage to cull about 4 times. We got a little wet, but well worth the fun on "Golden Pond".

Special thanks to our club staff and weight crew, B.A.S.S. has nothing on you guys. Hats off to our champions Andy and Bob; you guys may take a bow for your Tournament Big Bass and total weight.

Alamo is next team, so sharpen your hooks and wipe-down the boats.

Don Blume & Rodney Scates Win 3rd Place Drop Shotting Deep Water

Team **Blume & Scates** weighed five bass for 12.32 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors and **2nd Place Big Bass** money.

Don Blume & Rodney Scates: Congratulations to team Goettl and Jolley and team Ridgeway and Robertson; you guys set the bar pretty high. Thanks to the Board and the weight-in crew you guys do a great job and run a great club.

I had the pleasure to fish with and get to know Rodney Scates. I pre-fished last Friday and had about 12.50 lbs. fishing the Tonto end of the lake. Jerk baits and square bills in the morning then drop shotting points in about 23 feet. I fished a Lawman's Bass Club tourney on Saturday and went to the areas we pre-fished but could not get them to bite. We ended up with 6.50 lbs.

Due to the failed attempt on Saturday, I was gun shy to go back to the Tonto end of the lake. We drew 29th for the start and after watching most of the field go to the Salt end of the lake, we decided to fish the Tonto end.

Rodney and I started off by fishing a point by the Indian Point ramp. Within 30



3rd Place Rodney Scates & Don Blume

minutes we had two small fish on square bills and two small fish on jerk baits. We then moved to main lake points on the north shore across from the Cholla ramp and picked up a couple of fish drop shotting morning dawn Robo worms.

We then moved to main lake points on the south side of the lake close to the dam. Drop shot continued to get us more fish. About noon Don threw the jerk bait again and landed our biggest fish the 4.11 lber.

We then picked up a couple by the dam and finished the day on the west side of Windy Hill where drop shotting in 15-20 feet helped us cull four of our small fish. Throughout the day we caught around 25 fish. Our 12.32 lbs. were good for 3rd Place and the 4.11 lber was good for 2nd Big Fish.

Team Bryan Colby & Carlos Giunta Work Mix Of Lures Take 4th Place

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Bryan Colby & Carlos Giunta** weighed five fish for a total weight of 11.96 pounds.

Carlo Giunta: Congratulations to the winners and great job on that big fish Andy Goettl. I was fortunate enough to have Bryan Colby as my boater this tournament. We started almost immediately catching right along the

shore with top water and swim baits. The bite slowed down a bit but then we had a burst of 5 fish in like 10 minutes of which I believe at least three fish culled. Most of those were on drop shots but others were on a mix of drop shots, top water, swim baits, deep cranks and some worms.

Gary Senft & David Sapyta Take Home 5th Place

Taking home **5th Place**, Team **Senft & Sapyta** weighed five fish for a total weight of 11.77 pounds.

Gary Senft: It was a great day fishing with David Sapyta on a cloudy day. We got to spend Tuesday pre-fishing together. We spent most of our time from Windy Hill to School House ramp Tuesday and on tournament day. We looked for shallow fish and deep fish down to 30 feet. Most of our fish were caught in 10 to 30 feet of water. We caught our fish on Senko's, jigs, and Robo worms. My jigs were Yamamoto Hula Grubs Texas rigged in 301 color. We went through a lot of fish; 57 on the counter. David dropped shot all day with mainly oxblood worms. A big thanks to David for "wearing" a hook in his finger all day while we pre-fished. Thanks weigh-in team for doing another great



4th Place Carlos Giunta & Bryan Colby



5th Place - Sapyta & Senft

job.

David Sapyta: Thanks for the morning help putting the boats in the water. Also, thanks weigh-in crew. I had a great day fishing with Gary Senft and the two of us caught 57 fish after Gary put us on the fish. I used Ox blood drop shot and Gary caught something on almost any lure he threw. We were glad the weather went through fast and left a beautiful day for us.

Team Gary Grimes & Ray Riley Work Hard Take 6th Place

Team **Grimes & Riley** weighed five bass for 11.74 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

Gary Grimes: Ray Riley and I teamed up for Rosy, the first time together since we have both been in the club. We pre-fished Sunday and Monday, caught fish, but nothing to get too excited about. I decided to scrap our plans early Wednesday and employ the burn and turn method until we could locate fish. No sense wasting time. We caught an early limit, but kept moving until big-fish-Ray caught a 3-pounder. We settled down in that spot and Ray caught another 3-pounder, both on drop shot. I lost a 4 pounder that hit my topwater right next to the boat as I was reeling in; I didn't have a chance. It was a great day overall, and I was thrilled to help Ray in his points chase.

Ray Riley: WOW, two giants in the same tournament. Congratulations go out to First place winners, Goettl and Jolley with an 8.22 lb. bass and 17.90 total weight, and to Second place Ridgway and Robertson with a 7.55 lb. bass and 15.23 total weight. Thanks to all the volunteers for their excellent work.

I was very worried after pre-fishing that it was going to be a very slow tournament. Two days of slow, painful, and pitiful fishing instead of catching; who could have guessed that it would turn around so fast, it must have been the rain during the night.

Gary Grimes had a plan and we stuck to it all day and it worked out. We found a small area that started to produce and he made the decision to stay there until the end. Luckily, things started to click and several fish started to



6h Place Grimes & Riley

come to the net. Gary is the guru of spinner baits and they started working along with deep diving cranks, plus drop shots with 5150 worms started kicking in and both of us were feeling much better about the area.

A side note, on Tuesday, a couple of boats chose to go fish at Apache Lake, since we had not fished it for a few years. What an interesting day it turned into, catching lots of healthy Yellow Bass, big Bluegill, and largemouth Bass. Hopefully Apache will return to the schedule next year.

Floyd Vaughan & Jeff Stone Took 7th Place Fishing Deep Points

Taking home **7th Place**, Team **Vaughan & Stone** weighed five fish for a total weight of 11.45 pounds.

Jeff Stone: Another great tournament. Congrats go out to the top place teams, good job on landing a couple of big fish. Shout-out to the awesome job the weigh-in team does. Maybe next year we can vote for the weigh-in team to leave first out in the morning for every tournament.

Floyd and I had an awesome time fishing together. Nothing like a couple of crazy guys fishing together all day. We caught all of our fish



7th Place Stone & Vaughan

finesse fishing anywhere from the shore to 30 feet deep. We did a lot of culling which made it fun until I gave Floyd's boat a new paint job. SO SORRY BUDDY. Hope to see everyone at Alamo in October. Those top 5 places for the end of year standings are getting crazy.

Floyd Vaughan: Well, right after take-off, my partner Jeff wanted to fish an area near the start area. So, guess what, he had a fish on as the second flight was still leaving. Then he proceeded to put at least 8-10 fish in a row in the boat. I was trying different techniques but could not keep up in the catching of fish department.

We were fishing steep banks with chunk rocks near deep water. Later in the morning, we moved around a bit and found a similar shoreline. We started throwing a drop shot shallow and hooked up 4-5 times in a matter of minutes. We upgraded right up till we had to leave for the weigh-in.

Jeff was great to fish with and endured my bad jokes all day. Over all the crazy weather and strange fishing conditions turned out to be a fun day on the water.

Team Neil Burns & Doug Haney Took 8th Place Working Deep Points

Taking home **8th Place**, Team **Burns & Haney**

weighed five fish for a total weight of 11.41 pounds.



8th Place Haney & Burns



Weighing-In
By Gary Martlage
Tournament Director

Tournament number nine is in the record books. Two very nice fish were caught by Andrew Goettl and Bob Jolley, Vern Ridgway and Terry Robertson. Congrats on the respective finishes.

Again, hats off to the weigh-in crew, as we pulled off another great job. It got a little confusing at first, as we are introducing future crew members to the procedures at the weigh-in, but the machine got "oiled" and it was smooth sailing after that. We are going to need volunteers for next year, so if you are interested in becoming a weigh-in crew member, please see me.

A few critiques are that we need to be vigilant in passing the start boat **within 30 feet**, stay at an **idle speed**, until you pass the start boat, in **single file**. We need to do this, as it is a safety issue that we can control. If boats are taking off in different directions, from different areas, we are only looking for possible collisions.

Our weigh bag system we use at the conclusion of the tournament was put in place to control the wait line before weighing your fish. All anglers are responsible for presenting their fish, and returning them to the lake. Be sure not to forget your own weigh bag for fish transport back to the lake. From now on, we will **not accept** your fish at the bump tank without you showing your bag, so please don't get in line without your retrieval bag.

Hope to see you all at our cookout next month at Lake Alamo in the Group Use Area.



**Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt-
September 21, 2022**



Lunker of the Year To Date—Andy Goettl 8.22 lbs.

Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2022 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

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

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

**William Crane (B)
Mike Butler (CO)**

Please meet and greet our new members.



Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in October

Tom Atherton

Tony Castelluccio

Bill Crane

Mark Durben

Sebastian Fraczek

Doug Haney

Mike Hoffarth

Robin Jackson

James Malone

Mark Peiffer

Abraham Romero

Mark Royal

Mike Wall

Roger Williams



Midweek Bass Anglers 2022 Tournament Schedule

19 January	Pleasant
16 February	Bartlett
16 March	Alamo
13 April	Havasu
18 May	Roosevelt
15 June	Pleasant
20 July	Bartlett
17 August	Pleasant
21 September	Roosevelt
19 October	Alamo
15-16 November	Roosevelt