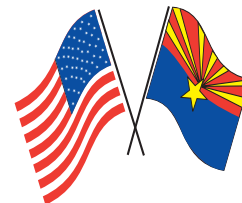


MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



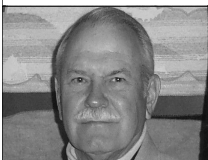
OCTOBER 2022 EDITION **CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005**
17 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN **EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN**



President's Perspective *By Gary Grimes*

The Midweek Bass Anglers gathered for their 10th tournament of the year this past week at Alamo Lake. Twenty-four boats competed for almost 9 hours, fishing from rock and rubble at the dam to the trees and sticks in the river. The fishing was challenging. Plenty of catchable fish, but just no big fish. The largest bass presented at weigh-in was 2.19 lbs. Manny Madrid and Robert Cooley had the winning bag at 9.01lbs. Congratulations guys! Thanks to all who pitched in to help out at the weigh-in. Tuesday night we gathered for a barbeque in the group use area. Greg Prather did a masterful job on the grill once again; thank you sir. A simple meal of burgers and brats, but delicious nonetheless.

Our next tournament will be a two-day event at Roosevelt Lake. A full day on Tuesday and a half day on Wednesday. Fish with the same partner both days. The largest combined weight for both days wins. The start will be in reverse order on Wednesday. This will be our final points tournament of the year. Good luck!



Tournament Reports Lake Alamo October 19, 2022

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.

All teams weighed fish at this tournament, and all but five fish were released back into the lake to live and fight again another day. So, how did the teams do it, read on to find out.

Team Manny Madrid & Bob Cooley 'Junk Fish' to 1st Place Win

Taking home **1st Place Overall**, **Team Madrid & Cooley** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 9.01 lbs. Thanks to Manny's 2.19 lb. bass the team also took home the **1st Place Big Bass** honors.

Bob Cooley & Manny Madrid: Manny is out on a hunting guide trip and asked me to write this for both of us.

Let me start out by saying, not only did I have a great time fishing with the owner of Arizona Custom Baits, but I felt we bonded when we both took off our shoes and jumped in the water to push the boat off of a shallow point we were stuck on.

Continued on page 2

Happy Thanksgiving!



"We Practice Catch and Release"



1st Place Bob Cooley & Manny Madrid

Manny let me know he would be there on Tuesday to pre-fish so I went up Monday afternoon and was glad I did. That evening Grimes and Martlage cooked up some grouper, slaw and dill Tartar sauce. If you have not had Grimes' "killer coleslaw" you are missing out! I also want to thank everyone for coming to the cookout on Tuesday evening, especially a big well done to our grill master, Greg Prather.

Now to the fishing report. While pre-fishing we found a good jig and worm bite first

Next Meeting - Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 2 November** 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 if necessary.

The next club points tournament will be at **Lake Roosevelt** on **15-16 November 2022**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Day1 Safe Light to 3 PM; Day2 Safe Light to Noon**.

thing and once the sun was high, we found a good frog and buzz bait bite with the fish all being around 2 plus pounds. On tournament day we started throwing jigs and Texas rig worms on rocky points with stick-ups. Manny hooked the first fish on a jig. This fish was over 2lbs and was the big fish for the tournament. We had a limit of about 7.6lbs in the first hour. We culled by ounces until about 8:30 when that bite shut off. Then we went looking for the grass and floating debris in the back of the coves getting ready for the buzz bait and frog bite, which never materialized like it did the day before. The rest of the day we just "junk fished" catching fish on A-rigs, spinner baits, and chatter baits. Manny culled out our smallest bass with a 1.87 to give us our 9.01lbs final weight.

Team Grier & Flores Fish Hard Midday For 2nd Place Overall

In **2nd Place**, Team **Steve Grier & Eliseo Flores** weighed five bass for a total weight of 8.87 lbs.

Steve Grier: Congrats to Manny and Robert - good job. Another great job by the weigh-in crew and everybody getting the fish released in a timely manner.



2nd Place Eliseo Flores & Steve Grier (abs)

We had some shallow water areas where we caught some good fish on Monday and we headed there to start. The bite wasn't there and after a couple hours we had 4 small fish. We went to a couple of structure spots that we caught good fish on in practice. We fished for a couple hours and caught more small fish. We decided to go back to the shallow water to look for better fish. We went to the back of a cove and noticed a lot of activity. There was bait in the area, fish were swirling on the surface and jumping after dragon flies. We threw buzz baits across the back of the cove and caught a lot of fish and culled all our fish giving us close to 9 lbs. We left there about 1:00 and fished some more shallow and deep areas. We caught a few small fish but none that helped our limit. We had an interesting learning experience. On Monday we caught good fish shallow all day. On tournament day there was very little activity in the shallow coves' early morning and in the afternoon. We caught all our good fish from 10:30 to 1:00 when there was activity in the shallow water. No change in weather, not sure why the bite changed but it sure did. I enjoyed fishing with Eliseo today. He is a good stick and enjoyable to be with on the water. We made a good team.



3rd Place Greg Prather & Bryan Colby

Team Bryan Colby & Greg Prather Imitate Dragonflies Win 3rd Place Overall

Team **Colby & Prather** weighed five bass for 8.67 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors

Bryan Colby & Greg Prather Another well run tournament and I'm glad to be part of Midweek Bass Anglers. I really enjoyed the dinner the night before and visiting with everyone. Thanks to everyone on the weigh team for doing such a great job again.

Wednesday morning started out good; Greg picked up a few spinner bait fish right away and I picked up a buzz bait fish. After fishing our first spot we made a short run picking up one more spinner bait fish then it slowed down. We made another short run and went to work. Greg and I both picked up a few more slow fishing which gave us our first cull. Around 10:30 when the bass started keying in on dragonflies, we started catching them at will on top water lures. Made a few good culls all the way up to 20 minutes before the end of the tournament. One more fish caught on a Texas-rig allowed us to replace a 1.4lber for a 1.15lber which was our best fish of the day. Really enjoyed fishing with Greg and seeing all of you again.

Team Andy Goettl & Scott Thelander Work Points Take 4th Place

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Goettl & Thelander** weighed five fish for a total weight of 8.09 pounds.

Scott Thelander: Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of another awesome tournament. I met my boater and partner

Tournament Statistics

(Five fish limit) Forty-eight contestants fished 8.5 hours each, bringing 120 bass to the scales for a total weight of 174.63 pounds with a 3.64 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.46 lbs. All but five fish were released alive back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.



4th Place Andy Goettl & Scott Thelander

Andrew Goettl tournament morning. I found out early on he is a Sergeant in the United States Army and he did not disappoint.

Throughout the day Andrew fished jigs, drop shot, top water, Carolina and Ned Rigs. I fished Texas Rig, drop shot, and Senkos. We caught fish on all these baits. Our different styles complimented each other throughout the day. We found fish on points, flats, in the back of coves and flipping in the river. Most of our fish came in 15 feet of water.

I want to thank the Gary 'brothers', Greg Prather, and the rest of the crew for a terrific dinner and an awesome tournament. I'd also like to thank my partner Andrew for an epic adventure on the Champion. I hope we can fish together again in the future. Drop and give me 20!

Andrew Goettl: I had been fishing Alamo for a few weekends prior and was unable to get away from work for any pre-fishing, so we ended up just winging it. I had an idea where the fish were, it was just going to be a matter of figuring out how to catch them. I suspected that after the 130-boat tournament the weekend before and the storm, things might be a little different.

I met up with Scott on tournament day at the morning meeting and we got loaded up. We

got to our first spot and I started with a top water Plopper but we only managed a couple of small ones. Our second area already had a couple boats on it, but this was to be expected at Alamo. Gary Grimes and Jeff Mabry were working similar areas and we (hopefully) slipped in where we could be out of the way and still fish. It was early and the wind was flat calm so I thought maybe a bit deeper was the answer. I picked up my favorite jig and Scott started switching between dropshot and Texas rigs. We got a pretty consistent bite of 1 - 1.5 lb fish; the same size fish as everybody else. I managed a "huge" 2.2lber pretty early and we culled ounces the rest of the day. We bounced around from point to point catching fish on plastics all day but never really found any more fish over 1.5 pounds.

Congratulations to the guys that managed to find more than one 2 pounder. We went through a lot of fish, just not the ones I am used to catching out of Alamo.

Philip Brewer & John Hayes Work Flat Points Win 5th Place

Taking home **5th Place**, Team **Brewer & Hayes** weighed five fish for a total weight of 7.68 pounds.



5th Place - Brewer & Hayes

John Hayes: First and foremost, it was a real pleasure to fish with Phil Brewer. It was an incredible day and we had lots of fun.

We drove to our starting spot and had the location to ourselves. The area had five narrow points on each side of the little cuts and coves. We started on the outside of the points fishing stick infested water. It was fairly shallow and murky, making the underwater trees impossible to see.

This is how I fished. I started with a spinner bait with a Zoom Blue Sapphire trailer and a Jackal Frog in white color. Nothing bit at all, so I switched to drop shot and a Ned Rig. For drop shots I started with ¼ oz weights in the "deeper" water off the points and with various plastics and colors on the business end. I used a ¼ oz Green Pumpkin Z Man Ned Rig head, experimenting with colors all day. I used the drop shot all day but shortened the distance between the weight and the hook to only 6 inches. I got way more bites using this set-up. Later I used a Senko worm with a screw-in Colorado blade because of the murky water and I caught several making short pitches to trees. Overall, I had a fantastic time.

Phil Brewer: Again, thanks to the weigh-in staff for another job well done. John Hayes and I caught around twenty fish throughout the day on wacky Senkos, drop shot, and skinny dippers. We fished all day across from the Cholla ramp on flat brushy points. We had a good day, just never got the big bite. I really enjoyed fishing with John. He owns a fishing resort in Alberta, Canada. If you are interested, give him a call.

Team Ron Pikul & David Convery Work Hard Take 6th Place

Team **Pikul & Convery** weighed five bass for 7.58 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

Ron Pikul: Thanks to all for Tuesday's BBQ. It was great fishing with David Convery again at Alamo. It sure was a fun day with a great Dragonfly bite once the sun got up high. David and I struggled all day to upgrade small bass - like most of the competitors. But it was still a fun day.



6th Place Ron Pikul & David Convery

Guest Column By Terry Johnson

Terry Johnson: Boat 23 (13) Fish Tales from Alamo.

I did not plan to fish Alamo; still too hot for me. In fact, I hadn't fished in AZ since October 2021 or Midweek since early 2021. Finally, this week my boat and I were back in fishing shape. But Gary Grimes and Terry Tassin advised that Boaters were needed. So, I decided to risk sunstroke. My late entry drew Keith Weidert. What a lucky draw, at least for me! Keith is a relatively new MBA member, but knows his way around Alamo and is a very congenial fishing partner.

After a Monday night amazingly free of burro noise, I pre-fished on Tuesday. Keith couldn't join me until tournament day. I spent most of Tuesday morning up the lake, in the brown soup toward the river and trees. My favorite spots were mostly out of water. I didn't find bass worth catching and ran back to main-lake coves and primary points. I found fish deeper than I like to fish (I am wary of fished fish mortality) but eventually opted to try shorelines back into coves. Using my favorite medium squarebill (Lucky Craft 3.5 RC, whitish body with black spatterback and a thin red

lateral line), I found a reaction bite along one shore and had a good Jackhammer bite on a primary point. About 1:00PM I bailed for shade and to recharge my boat batteries at my Cholla C-32 campsite and I called Keith to update him.

On Wednesday, Keith met me near the launch ramp. He was good with hitting my shore line first thing and adapting from there. At Robert Cooley's request, he and I had swapped boat numbers. He was leery of Number 13. So, Keith and I became the last boat in Flight One. We "shot" across the lake to my bank. On a secondary point with stickups, I yelled "fish on." A really nice bite on my squarebill. But the bass buried itself at the base of a stickup clump and pretty soon I had a limp line. No fish, no squarebill. Crap!

We fished that bank for most of the morning, from the shoreline out to 20-25 ft. Keith caught fish after fish on a dropshot and other finesse techniques. I kept thrashing water with bigger baits for bigger bass. Soon we (Keith) had 4 Alamo keepers. At 9:30, I finally threw a dropshot and almost immediately brought in Keeper #5.

We spent the rest of the day in coves, looking for kickers but catching bass from 2 to 10 inches. Eventually, Keith landed a better one and we upgraded at least 4 ounces. At 2:50 we returned to the ramp, weighed in and called it a great day on the water. My head was ready for an air-conditioned ride to Phoenix. Nice day with Keith, and kudos to the guys who caught bigger fish than we did.



Weighing-In
By Gary Martlage
Tournament Director

Tournament number 10 is in the record books for Midweek. It looks like we will have an exciting finish for Angler of the year, and top boaters and co-anglers for 2022. I wish all of you GOOD LUCK, and tighter lines next month at Roosevelt. Again, I cannot say enough about the weigh-in crew; you all did a superb job volunteering your time and making the tourney a premier event. Special thanks to the volunteers that taxied the anglers to and from the ramp to return the fish to the lake. We did our best, but we did have a larger number than

usual of fish killed, but those fish will make a few great meals for Mr. Cooley.

Just a thought concerning the care of your fish during the tournament. Make sure you wipe clean your livewells with a sponge and water, removing any piece of dead debris from the livewell. Running your aerator all day is also a must and fizzing of deep caught fish also helps keep fish alive. I have heard reports of anglers doing their best to preserve their catch. I know it was suggested to run the livewells on "recirc" with ice and hydrogen peroxide added, or a livewell treatment is also a good thing. I would suggest running the livewell on "auto", so fresh water is circulated in the livewell system. There is no better chance for a fish to survive, than by giving the fish fresh oxygenated water. When water temperatures start dropping, it is not necessary to recirculate water, as is done in the summer months. Taking care of our catch for release is one of the most important duties of our sport; I'm sure we all do our best!

Lake Roosevelt will be a 1.5 days event, giving the top anglers a chance for their best finish of the year. Let's all go out and have a fun, safe time next month.

Club Officers Elected for 2023

The **2022 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 2023:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| President: | Floyd Vaughan |
| Vice Pres: | Bob Cooley |
| Secretary: | Dale Bayless |
| Treasurer: | Don Worcester |
| Tmt Director | Steve Grier |

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Alamo- October 19, 2022



Finally found out why the fish weren't biting...



AWARDS BANQUET

Speaking of the awards banquet, below is just a reminder to make your reservations soon and no later than 9AM 4 January 2023. On 4 January I must tell the restaurant how many meals they need to prepare for the dinner. I am placing the information flyer concerning the dinner elsewhere in this issue of **Bass Bites** just in case you "misplaced" the previous flyer I sent out.

Don't forget – the **15th Annual Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Recognition Dinner** will be held Thursday, January 12, 2023 at the Iron Oaks at Sun Lakes, 24218 South Oakwood Boulevard, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. Social Hour begins at 6 PM with dinner at 7 PM. Cost is \$35 per non-member and \$20 per 2022 club member. Advance reservations are required so do not wait – get your reservation form with your check to the club Secretary no later than 9AM 4 January 2023.

As usual, at the dinner, the club will be holding a **HUGE** raffle of lots of fishing items plus some non-fishing related items. This is just a reminder for those of you planning on taking part in the club awards dinner raffle; Raffle Master **Jim Duel** won't have much in the way of small bills to make change. So please - no \$100 dollar bills for \$5 worth of tickets. The price of tickets this year is still \$5 per ticket. So, that being the case, \$20 gets 4 tickets, \$50 buys 10 tickets, and so on. A special raffle for the ladies will also take place using the one **free** ticket each lady will get with their name tag when checking in to the party. And as Jim says, "Let's all have a GREAT time."

Happy Birthday
US Navy - 13 Oct 1775!
US Marine Corps - 10 Nov 1775!



What: **15th Annual Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona
Recognition Dinner**

Who: Members of Midweek Bass Anglers and their Guests

When: Thursday, January 12, 2023; Social Hour at 6:00 PM with dinner at 7:00 PM

Where: ***Iron Oaks at Sun Lakes***
24218 South Oakwood Boulevard
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248
Phone: 480-895-7275 or 480-895-7275

Cost: \$35.00 per Guest - - Club Members \$20. (*Club pays tax and gratuity*)

Menu: **CATERED BUFFET**

- * Traditional Garden Salad *
- * Ranch & Champagne Vinaigrette *
- * Fire Roasted Rosemary Chicken *
- * Smoked Brisket *
- * White Cheddar Mac & Cheese *
- * Roasted Red Potatoes, Butter, Herbs *
- * Seasonal Vegetables *

Included Rolls & Butter, Coffee & Iced Tea Service and Chef's Choice Dessert

Cash Bar for Alcoholic Beverages

- - ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED - -

NO MEAL REFUNDS AFTER MEAL ORDERS ARE PLACED WITH RESTAURANT JANUARY 4th

Live music and dancing for all who wish to hang-out after dinner.

Cut on dotted line and return Reservation Slip with Payment

**** Reservations may be submitted online using club website ****

Please Respond No Later Than 9 AM January 4, 2023

15th ANNUAL MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS RECOGNITION DINNER RESERVATION

Please reserve # _____ meals for:
Name(s) of Attendees: (First & Last) _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$35.00 each for Guests – Club Members \$20)
made out to **Midweek Bass Anglers. After 20 Nov 2022 & New 2023 members are considered guests.**

Mail to: **Midweek Bass Anglers
C/O Terry Tassin
4333 W. Echo Lane
Glendale, AZ 85302-6630**

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

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Gary Grimes, Terry Tassin, Tom Savage, Don Worcester

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Tom Savage

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

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

None

Please meet and greet our new members.



Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in November

Randy Bosket

David Convery

Gene Crist

Joe Denson

Eliseo Flores

Charles Mackintosh

Ingo Moura

Kenny Myers

Donny Stevens

Dennis Thiel

Jeff Utton

Greg Utton

Floyd Vaughan



**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