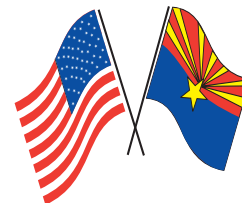


MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



NOVEMBER 2021 EDITION
16 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective *By Gary Grimes*

Our final tournament of the year was held at Roosevelt Lake on November 17th. Twenty-seven teams put their boats in the water at a chilly 6 AM and fished what turned out to be a beautiful Arizona fall day until 3 PM. Tough fishing for most, but as always someone seems to figure them out. This month the team of Roger Root and Mike Adamson took first place with 16.43 lbs, anchored by a 4.90 lb kicker. Well done boys. As always, our thanks to the weigh-in crew for manning the scales and records at the end of a long day, you guys are so appreciated. Thanks also to our cheery and colorful tournament director, Gary Martlage, for making sure everything runs smoothly and keeping up with all the last minute pairing changes.

The 2021 tournament season has officially closed, but unofficially, the annual grudge match will be held at Bartlett Lake on the third Wednesday in December. This is a great time to bring a friend to fish, but one member has to be from Midweek Bass. More information will come in a later email. Greg Prather has agreed to fire up his smoker and smoke some pork butt so we can enjoy some pulled pork sandwiches after the tournament. Since we will not be having a banquet in

January due to Covid concerns, we will use this opportunity to present the annual angler awards. Hope to see you all there



Tournament Report Lake Roosevelt November 17, 2021

Steve Grier Wins First Time Angler Of The Year Title.

Another great fishing season is over and the last event of the year was one tough nut to crack when it came to putting decent size fish in the livewell. The final club point's tournament of the year 2021 turned out to be a great Fall day—warm but not too warm. So, how did the guys find their fish?

Roger Root & Mike Adamson Wrap-up The Year With 1st Place Overall Win

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Roger Root & Mike Adamson** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 16.43 lbs. Thanks to Roger's 4.90 Big

Continued on page 2

MIDWEEK BASS HALL OF FAME 2021 Tournament Season Winners!

Angler of the Year - Steve Grier

- 1st Place Boater of the Year - - - - - Joe Denson
- 2nd Place Boater of the Year - - - - - Greg Prather
- 3rd Place Boater of the Year - - - - - Bill Briggs
- 1st Place Co-Angler of the Year - - - - Douglas Moore
- 2nd Place Co-Angler of the Year - - - - Andrew Bell
- 3rd Place Co-Angler of the Year - - - - David Sapyta

Lunker of the Year - Neil Burns (6.22 lbs)
March 2021- Lake Martinez

Happy Thanksgiving!



“We Practice Catch and Release”



1st Place Overall - Roger Root & Mike Adamson

Bass the team also took home 1st Place Big Bass honors.

Mike Adamson: Getting drawn with Roger Root was definitely an advantage for this tournament. We stayed in one area all day fishing a flat that came out from a wash. Keeping the boat in 20 feet and using spot lock, we used XD10 crankbaits and fan cast the area. It was fast and furious catching for about 90 minutes and then it stopped. At this time, we did a weight check and figured we were around 15 lbs already. The rest of the day we would drop shot, jig and Carolina rig to cull our smaller fish. It was that kind of day we dreamed would happen.

Dragging Up-Hill Is Magic For Team Bill Briggs & Tony Medina 2nd Place Overall

In **2nd Place** Team **Bill Briggs & Tony Medina** weighed five bass for a total weight of 12.15 lbs.

Bill Briggs: Once again I thank the Lord for another good day on the water. Dropshot is not my favorite way to fish but once again it paid off. I still don't

Next Meeting - Next Tournament

Our next club meeting for 2021 scheduled for **Wednesday, 1 December** 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 last chance to fish together in 2021 will be the annual Grudge Match on **15 December 2021** at **Bartlett Lake**. This is not a club points event. EOY awards will be presented.

The first club points tournament for **2022** is scheduled for **Lake Pleasant** on **19 January 2022**. Club headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours: **Safe Light to 3:00 PM**.



2nd Place Medina & Briggs

think color makes as much difference as just putting it in front of feeding fish. I started out with a Senko on shallow points because I had been catching a few bigger fish with that pattern, but it didn't work. Tony caught one on top water while I wore out my arm trying to catch one.

So on to our secondary area. We started on a point at Vineyard and caught a couple of small ones then went to the bridge columns where we found them in practice. We caught our limit and culled the small ones there. When that bite died, we ran back to the Windy Hill area where Tony caught our two biggest fish dragging his drop shot up slope from shallower water.

Tony Medina: Bill Briggs and I teamed up to produce a 12.15 lb. bag to secure second place on Roosevelt. We started out with a top water popper that produced one of our better fish; after that bite ended, we ran the lake relying on our trusty drop shots. Tony caught our 4.42 lber and a 3.50 lb. plus second biggest fish in our bag. We fished in the main lake most of the day. Our biggest fish came on the drop shot. Bill was able to pre-fish before the tournament and found a few spots we tried during the tournament. Tony couldn't pre-fish due to cataract surgery a week before the tournament. Bill caught fish throughout the tournament to upgrade our total weight. Bill was a great boater to work with.

Congratulations to the 1st place team, Roger Root and Mike Adamson and a good job done by the weigh team. It was a great day for fishing and we all enjoyed the outing.

Steve Grier & Otto Gal Work Shad Schools For 3rd Place

Team **Steve Grier & Otto Gal** weighed five bass for 11.26 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

Steve Grier: Congrats to Roger and Mike, what a great bag. Thanks to the weigh-in crew for another job well done as always. Appreciate you guys. Otto Gal was my partner but he was unable to pre-fish on Tuesday, so Mike Adamson joined me and we covered the lake from one end to the other and back. We found 2 areas with fish in 18-22 feet and got a couple of good bites, so that was



3rd Place Otto Gal & Steve Grier

the plan for game day.

On tournament day Otto and I started in the first area and threw reaction baits and got 1 small fish on a buzz bait. We moved to the deeper water where we had the bites on Tuesday and had a limit in 30 minutes. We fished the area until 9:00 and had about 6 1/2 lbs with one fish over 2 lbs. We went to the second area and spent the rest of the day there. The fish were in 18 feet and we caught them steadily all day with 3 more fish over 2 lbs for our final limit. We caught over 30 fish for the day. Most of the fish were caught on dropshot and color didn't seem to matter. Otto was fishing a black/purple worm and I used 5150 morning dawn, bloodline and purple and they all caught fish. The key to the area was large schools of shad. The fish weren't chasing shad but I believe that's what kept them in the area. In the last 2 hours I put a small white fluke on a Carolina rig since I thought the fish might be focusing on shad. I caught 10 fish on the fluke including 2 over 2 lbs. We had a fun day. I enjoyed fishing with Otto, he's a great guy and a good fisherman.

**Team Joe Denson & Keith Weidert
Crank First Limit For 4th Place**

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Denson & Weidert** weighed five fish for a total weight of 10.36 pounds. Joe's 4.60 bass won 2nd Place Big Bass for the team.

Joe Denson: The morning started out kind of tough. We caught a bunch of one pounders but my partner Keith Weidert managed to catch one over two pounds and we had a small limit by mid-morning. We spent the rest of the day trying to upgrade. At two thirty I was throwing a green pumpkin swim Senko and hooked into one that was about five pounds, but I lost it at the

Tournament Statistics

Fifty-four men fished 8.5 hours each, bringing 128 bass to the scales for a total weight of 172.76 pounds with a 3.20 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.35 lbs. All but three fish were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.



4th Place Weidert & Denson

boat. I got lucky ten minutes later and managed to catch one that was 4.60 pounds. We ended up having a decent day.

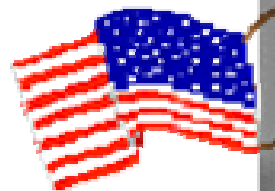
**Don Blume & Gary Grimes
"Never Give Up" For 5th Place**

A five fish bag weighing 10.05 lbs was enough to earn Team **Don Blume & Gary Grimes** the **5th Place** money.

Don Blume & Gary Grimes: I had the pleasure to fish with and get to know Gary Grimes. We started off with no plan. I prefished last Friday but it was a tough day only catching 15 fish or so with nothing coming together except drop shot fish in 18 to 20 feet of water on points between Grapevine and School House.

So, we started off the tournament day on a point just past the Grapevine ramp. We marked a ton of shad

**Pearl Harbor Day
December 7th**



America United

but could only catch one dink fish on a dropshot after wasting two and a half hours.

We decided to move and Gary suggested a run over to Conner's Ledge where we quickly graphed fish in 20-30 feet. Gary went to work with a Carolina Rigged Chigger craw and quickly started catching fish holding to rocks. I dropshoted and before I could catch a fish, Gary had four mostly in the 1.5 to 2.0 lb range. I marked a ton of shad so I went to a 3/8 ounce Kastmaster spoon and also started catching fish. We spend three or so hours culling fish and got to 8 plus lbs but nothing over 2 lbs. We made another move to a cove on the back side of Windy Hill and I got two small fish on a Jerkbait. With 20 minutes to go to the end of the day we moved over to the bank on the back side of Windy Hill and decided to fish our way into the no wake zone and to the ramp. Within sight of the ramp, Gary asked if we could go in 5 minutes early so he could help with the weight-in. I saw a couple of bushes ahead sticking out further from the rest and said "OK Gary last cast and I want to hit those bushes with my Jerkbait." So, on the last cast bam, fish on. This turned out to be our biggest fish a 2.77 and moved us up to 10.05 lbs. So, like Mike Iaconelli says "Never give up!" A pretty dismal day turned to be a good day after all.

Team Gary Martlage & Doug Moore Jig And Worm To 6th Place

Team **Gary Martlage & Doug Moore** weighed five bass for 8.30 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

Gary Martlage: I had the pleasure to fish with Doug Moore. We had a great day fishing, but not too much luck as a boat 400 yards from us was using their net like it was on fire. We watched Roger Root, and Mike Adamson put 16 lbs. of fish in their boat in less than an hour! Great job guys, couldn't have happened to a nicer bunch of anglers. We caught our fish on A-rigs and jigs; then finished out our day drop shotting in 35 plus feet of water. A great time was had by us and hopefully by everyone fishing. Looking forward to a great 2022 with Midweek Bass!



6th Place Gary Martlage & Douglas Moore

Doug Moore: I had the pleasure of being paired with our illustrious tournament director Gary Martlage. As many of you know Gary is a fine fisherman and an even better gentleman. We prefished Tuesday and never found much of a pattern, so Wednesday we headed up just past the Schoolhouse ramp and went to work. Well, Gary went to work. He caught a couple of keepers right away with his A-rig while I caught a handful of "puppies" with a drop shot. Gary switched to a jig and caught our 3 pounder which I deftly netted by the way. I know they say don't leave fish to find fish but we moved anyway. We headed to the bank past the dam and Gary showed me how to drop shot. We managed a couple of small upgrades and that was it. Congratulations to Roger and Mike - 16.43 lbs - great bag! They were fishing not too far from us in the morning and every time we looked up, they were netting another fish. As always, thanks to all who make these tournaments run so smoothly. Another great day on the water!

Dennis Thiel & Kevin Finn Dropshot For 7th Place

Team **Thiel & Finn** weighed five bass for 7.06 pounds and took home **7th Place** honors.

Dennis Thiel: First off, congratulations to Roger Root and Mike Adamson on a great bag! I had the pleasure to fish with a fairly new member Kevin Finn. We were unable to connect before tournament day, so Wednesday was the first day we met. Super nice guy and a pleasure to fish with. I however was able to sneak out for a while Saturday morning where I located some areas with fish in them.

So, tournament day we started on a spot up on the Salt end where I caught a 4 lber Saturday throwing topwater and reaction to no avail. As we were moving along the bank we got to a point where I marked a lot of baitfish. So, we stopped and threw dropshot just to see if there were some bass around. We picked up 4 small fish that we ended up culling, but it told us that this might be a dropshot kind of day. Since the fish were on the small side we picked up and headed to a spot in Sally Mae where I had located some above average fish earlier in the week. This is where we did most of our damage. On my first cast with a Zoom Trick Worm I caught our big fish of the day. Kevin and I continued to dropshot the area catching a lot of fish and continuing to upgrade our bag. Once that bite died, we moved around the lake picking up one small fish here and there but no real help. Lo and behold that that turned out to be good enough for 7th place overall. Thanks to everyone at Midweek for another great tournament.



Weighing-In
By Gary Martlage
Tournament Director

Well, another tournament season with MBA has come to an end. I sure did enjoy the events during the

year, and hope to start the next year as we finished off. Special thanks to all the volunteers at the weigh-in that made this year a success! I will be looking for volunteers for next year so give it some thought because I will be asking for help; I'm sure the main crew will be back, but would like to take on any additional volunteers for the 2022 season. Please let me know if you would like to be involved. It helps makes Midweek Bass the BEST club in the state!

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt- October 16, 2019



FISHERMAN'S HOROSCOPE
Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) - The Hook
Born under the influence of this sign, your delusions of fishing are doomed to failure. You couldn't catch a fish if it were coated in batter and swimming in tartar sauce.

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**

**Randy Howell (B)
Richard Brookins (B)**

Please meet and greet our new members.



**Best Wishes and Happy Birthday
Born in December**

David Brakefield
Rick Harang
Rick Knight
Ernie Melcher
Joe Michels
Richie Rojas
David Sapyta
Ed Smith
Steven Wells



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	Saguaro
21 September	Roosevelt
19 October	Alamo
16-17 November	Apache