

MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



DECEMBER 2013

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective *By Gary Grimes*

Merry Christmas Happy New Year!

As 2013 winds down and I think about this past year of tournament fishing in Midweek Bass, I want to share a few things that are on my mind. Fishing is a challenge. You have days of success, where you seem to be dialed in, and have no problem catching quality fish. Then there are the days when you can't find a bite even if your life depends on it. As always in tournament fishing, someone always finds a bite, and is able to catch 5 nice fish. The winners usually share what they did at the meetings, which helps all of us become a little better, so the knowledge gained through their victory is shared by each of us. There are so many guys in our club with decades of experience, these guys are very smart on the water; I don't mind one bit getting beat by them. That being said, I have my eye on them, watching what they do differently from me, making adjustments with

my tackle and targets, and hopefully improving from what I have learned so I can catch more fish the next time, and maybe even win!

It seems the older I get the harder it is to make new friends, especially friends that share common interests. I have made so many friends through the club, great guys that also like to fish. With our club's random pairing format, each month we all get to spend at least a day fishing with someone new, a great opportunity to get to know another club member, share techniques and favorite spots. As with many of you,

the monthly tournament is definitely a highlight for me, and I look forward to it with eager anticipation.

It is a pleasure to serve as your president, thank you for your friendship and support, and I look forward to fishing with you in 2014. Merry Christmas!

2014 Fishing License

Tell Mom a nice Christmas gift for you would be a 2014 fishing license. Whether she gives you one or not, please remember to renew your permit before our January tournament.

Monthly Breakfast Meeting

Deer Valley Airport
Restaurant
702 W. Deer Valley Rd
Phoenix, AZ
1st Wednesday of each
month 8:00A.M.

HALL OF FAME

2013 Tournament Season Winners!

Angler of the Year - Paul Cormany

1st Place Boater of the Year - - - - - Jerry Askam

2nd Place Boater of the Year - - - - - Mike Edgar

3rd Place Boater of the Year - - - - - Jeff Mason

1st Place Co-Angler of the Year - - Gary Martlage

2nd Place Co-Angler of the Year - - - Mark Royal

3rd Place Co-Angler of the Year - - - John Milkint

Lunker of the Year - Jeff Mabry (8.75 lbs)

May - Lake Apache

"We Practice Catch and Release"

Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Hall of Fame Class of 2013



Angler of the Year 2013
Paul Cormany



Jerry Askam
1st Place
Boater of the Year



Gary Martlage
1st Place
Co-Angler of the Year

Merry Christmas



Mike Edgar
2nd Place
Boater of the Year



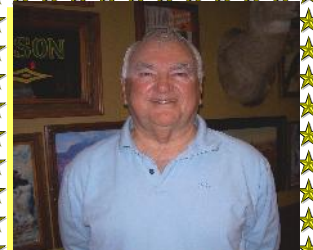
Mark Royal
2nd Place
Co-Angler of the Year



Jeff Mason
3rd Place
Boater of the Year



Lunker of the Year
Jeff Mabry 8.75 lbs



John Milkint
3rd Place
Co-Angler of the Year



Treasure Chest

By John Milkint. Treasurer

As outgoing Treasurer I would like to comment on the tournament payouts. Over the past two years the board has simplified the option pots for payouts. All entries are automatically entered into the goon fish pot, which was a separate entry in past years. What this means is that all payouts are shared equally between team members, with the exception of the one remaining 5 lb or over option pot.

Regardless who catches the most weight, largest bass, second largest bass or goon fish, both team members in the boat automatically share equally in that prize money.

While I have been Treasurer these past two years, both boaters and co-anglers, if both

are entered in the 5 lb pot, have generally agreed to split that pot regardless of who caught the 5 lb plus fish. However, this is an individual pot and is not automatically shared and must be agreed to prior to fishing. Do not assume this pot is shared. As Treasurer I have always checked with the person who caught the 5 lb plus fish before writing the payout check for this pot. Never during my tenure has the eligible team winning the pot not agreed to share this pot, but it may happen.

Money is one thing that can cause problems and the 5 lb pot can grow very large as it may accumulate over a few months. If you are inclined not to share this pot you should make it very clear to your fishing partner that is your wish prior to fishing. You have every right not to share; it is a separate option pot. My biggest concern and it has not happened during my tenure, is one team member catches a 5 lb bass and expects not to share without first discussing with his team member. Do not allow this to happen in your boat. Please remember, to win the pot the person catching the fish must be a paid-up participant in the 5 lb pot.

Serving as your Treasurer these past two years has allowed me to get to know the great majority of members by

name, not an easy task with 90 plus members. Writing checks does make one put the name with the faces. I want to thank all the members for trusting the club money with yours truly. It has been a privilege to represent all of you as a board member. As Santa would say: Merry Christmas to all!



Happy to be Here

*By John Reichard
Treasurer Elect*

As the new incoming treasurer I will do my best to live up to the clubs expectations in 2014. I know we will have a great year of fishing, comradely, and financial success.

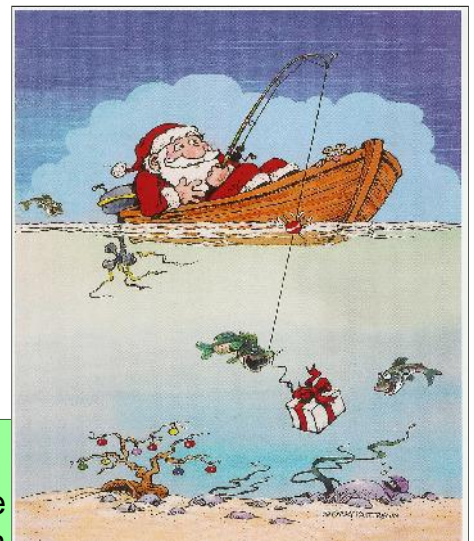
I wish all of you and your families a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Weighing-In

By Jack Hughes, Tmx Director

In every organization there are basically three groups of people: the joiners, supporters



"I love Ice Jigs!"

**Next Meeting
Next Tournament**

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, 2 January** 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 a day event at **Lake Bartlett on 15 January 2014**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.

Membership

As of December 7, 2013 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 88 active members.

and doers. MBA is in my opinion set-up basically the same way. We are a club with 90-100 members on average year after year. Yet we are lucky to get 40 members once a month to fish a tournament, why? There are many reasons; work, weather, location were we are fishing, etc. Let me talk about the make-up of the club.

The joiners become members and fish one tournament a year and some of them never fish. They support the club for various personal reasons. They are also the smallest number of members less than 3%.

The supporters are the largest body of members consisting of about 85% of the members and the heart of the club. They as a general rule want an excellent club, love bass fishing, and participate about 50% of the time in events on average. When asked to do something for the club they will willingly do whatever it takes to support the club but rarely volunteer when not asked directly. At times I think of them as the silent majority but they are what make our club so good and unique.

Finally, there are the doer's who are the ready volunteers and make up about 12% of the members. They are members that volunteer to help at tournaments, run for club office, help at cookouts and readily do whatever they see needs to be done and do it without being asked. When making my list of members to thank for the clubs success in

2013 for the MBA Banquet I realized I could use the same list from last year's banquet because it was the same people. Not one new member added to the doer's list (Actually the number of doer's for 2013 was reduced by Ralph's passing away).

As I said earlier the heart of the club is the supporters and one of the board's problems is how do we get more participation from all the supporters to aid in decision making, club activities, and increase the number of members at each tournament? This past year we sent out a number of issues to every member where we wanted club members to either vote or provide input so the board could do what the majority of members wanted. On all of these issues we were lucky if we got 25% of the members to respond. Or to put it another way 75% of the members let 25% of the members decide on most issues. This is wrong and does not lead to a strong positive club where all members are heard from.

In summary this is "**your**" club, not only the boards or the 25% of the members we hear from constantly. I think an excellent New Year's resolution would be to become more active in the club this year and to make your voice heard and when you see something that needs to be done to help out. My resolution for 2014 is to have a tournament where I can report to the membership "We busted the 30 boat mark for a tournament". It can only be

done with your help!

A new subject and update; as most of you know the board for a number of reasons has removed Martinez from the 2014 schedule. As our President said at the last club meeting we are looking at all options but obtaining a permit is becoming more difficult all the time. Here is another chance for all members to participate. Let me know your preference for next Novembers tournament and why. I will be making a recommendation to the board in January based upon availability of permits, member's preference, and a host of other factors.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the club banquet, if you have not signed up it is not too late. Also, bring your wife or significant other for a great evening with the best people in the valley. Happy Holidays to all of you and your families!

A Christmas Gift to You

Fisherman's Night Before Christmas

By Terry Tassin

"Twas the night before
Christmas and all over the lake
Not a creature was stirring,
expect for me - I was awake;
The livewell was humming and
prepared with great care,
In hopes that a Hawg Bass
soon would be there;

The bass were nestled along a
deep rocky bed,
While hundreds of shad
danced above their heads;
With my lure in the water, and

a tug of my cap,
I settled back waiting for that
winter bass tap,

When all of a sudden I felt
such a tug,
I sprang from the chair kicking
over my mug.
Away to the front deck I flew
like a flash,
Kicked on the trolling motor
and set the hook with a smash.

The moon on the breast of the
water aglow;
Gave the luster of mid-day to
the objects below.
When, what to my wondering
eyes should appear,
But a 20 pound Hawg spitting
out eight tiny red-ear.

With a jump here and there, so
lively and quick,
I just hoped my line didn't have
a nick.

More rapid than feeding
stripers her jumps came,
And I whistled, and shouted,
and called her by name;

"Oh, HAWG! Oh, SOW! Oh,
BABY and BIGG'N!
Come On GIRL! Come On
BABE! Come on and give me a
KISS'N!

To the top of the water! To the
top of the rock!
Come In! Come In! Baby don't
Get OFF!"

As dry leaves before the wild
hurricane fly,
When they meet with an
obstacle, she mounts to the
sky,
She courses to the top and out
of the water she flies,
Flipping and flopping, as she
drives high into the sky.

And then, in a twinkling, she
landed on the deck,
As I was frantically pawing as I
searched for my net.
I threw open the livewell, and
as I turned around,
Down the livewell she went with
a resounding bound.
When I turned a man dressed
all in khaki,
Who to tell you the truth looked
slightly tacky;
A net full of gear he'd slung
over one shoulder,
He reminded me of me - only
much "older".

His eyes -- how they twinkled!
His dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his
nose slightly hairy.
His wry little mouth was drawn

up in a grin,
And a bushy gray beard juttied
out from his chin.

The stump of a pipe he held
tight in his teeth,
And the smoke encircled his
head like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little
round belly,
That shook just like mine, like a
bowl full of jelly.

The odd little hat that was
perched on his head,
Was stuck full of lures that
were yellow and red.
The cheerful old guy with hip
waders and gear,
Soon gave me to know I had
nothing to fear.

He spoke not a word, but I
knew what this meant,
I had just received a gift, from
Old St. Nick.
Then he turned with a jerk, and
laying his finger aside of his
nose,
Giving a nod, up into the sky
he rose;

He sailed to his sleigh, to his
team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew with the
speed of a missile.
But I heard him exclaim, as he
flew out of sight,



Editor's Log

By Terry Tassin

This year, it has again been an honor and privilege to serve you as editor and publisher of *Bass Bites*. I am most pleased to count you among our readers. On behalf of the club's Board of Directors and staff, thank you and we wish you all a

Very Merry Christmas and
Happy Holidays!

HAPPY NEW YEAR
From Your Board of Directors



"Merry Christmas to All,
and Tight Lines Tonight!"

A Holiday Tip

Basic Reel Maintenance. This time of year is a good time to inspect, clean and lubricate your fishing equipment. I am not an expert, but here are a few things I do.

Rods: start with a good wipe down of your rod and cork handle; I use a mild solution of kitchen soap, warm water on a soft rag. The cork can get pretty dirty, but a few wipes can remove most of the dirt. While wiping down the rod, inspect your guides to make sure you don't have any broken eyes.

Reels: clean the outside of the reels with the same soap solution you used on the rods, inspecting for any obvious damage. Some guys will send away their reels for maintenance, there are several guys in town who perform this service, usually about \$20-\$25 per reel. I choose to clean mine personally.

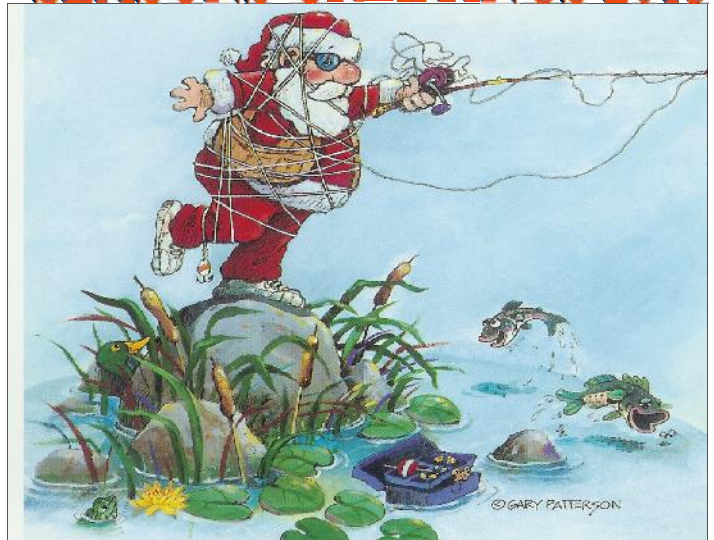
Spinning reels: remove the spool, clean any dirt with a q-tip, and also remove the dirty grease. Re-grease the shaft, and any other areas where it looks like grease is needed. Leave the gear housing alone, it's pretty complicated inside.

Baitcasters: many reels have an easily removable side-plate on the braking side which allows quick access to the spool. I usually oil (two drops) each of the two primary spool bearings several times a year. An easy way to do this is on the rod, with line intact, remove the side plate, which will allow you to slide the spool out enough so you can get a couple of drops of oil on each of the bearings. The bearings will be very happy. In addition, most baitcasters have a self leveling line winder, located on the outside where the line comes out, which is often overlooked, and is easily cleaned and re-greased. Clean out the old grease, using a q-tip.

If you have experienced a problem with your line not being level on the spool, carefully

inspect the grooves in the line winding shaft to see if something is lodged inside the grooves preventing the winder to cycle all the way to both sides. After cleaning, re-grease. You will need good quality reel grease and reel oil. I use Shimano brand, but there are others available at any tackle store. There is nothing worse than mechanical problems when you have the biggest fish of your life on the other end of the line. Happy Fishing!

SEASONS GREETINGS 2013



And on the last day of 2013 your Editor went fishing to try-out his new electronics and wishes You a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



What: **8th Annual Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Recognition Dinner**

Who: Members of Midweek Bass Anglers and their Guests
When: Wednesday, January 8, 2014; Social Hour at 6:00PM with dinner at 7:00PM.

Where: **Iron Works Restaurant at Bellair Golf Course**
17233 N. 45th Ave
Glendale, AZ 85308 (One block north of Bell Road)
Phone: 602-843-0909

Cost: \$35.00 per non member - club members \$5. (Club pays tax and gratuity)

Menu: Appetizer Tray at 6:15 PM during social period

MENU ENTREES

* Prime Rib with Baked Potato, Vegetable *

* Boneless Lemon Chicken Breast with Rice Pilaf, Vegetable *

* Boneless Stuffed Pork with Baked Potato, Vegetable *

Above Entrees Include Relish Tray, Soup, Tossed Garden Salad, Rolls & Butter, Coffee & Iced Tea Service and Dessert

Cash Bar for Alcoholic Beverages

ADVANCE FOOD ORDERS ARE REQUIRED - MARK MEAL DESIRED ON RESERVATION SLIP

-- ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED --

NO MEAL REFUNDS AFTER MEAL ORDERS ARE PLACED WITH RESTAURANT

Cut on dotted line and return Reservation Slip with Payment

Please Respond No Later Than January 2, 2014

8th ANNUAL MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS RECOGNITION DINNER RESERVATION

Please reserve _____ meals for:

Name _____ Meal Desired (select one: Prime Rib, Chicken, Pork)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$35.00 each for non-members - members \$5)
made out to **Midweek Bass Anglers.**

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

Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2014 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

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Terry Tassin

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CONSERVATION/LEGISLATIVE - Vacant

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

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

**Chuck Walder (CO)
John Nidosik (CO)
George Sisemore (CO)
Joel Perkins (CO)**



Joy to the World..

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Midweek Bass Anglers Club Apparel**



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Individuals wishing to purchase a club shirt or cap can **order directly** from our provider - **M & J Trophies & Apparel**, 10802 N. 43rd Ave, Glendale, Arizona. See their ad above.

**Midweek Bass Anglers 2014
Tournament Schedule**

15 January	Bartlett
19 February	Pleasant
19 March	Havasu
15-16 April	Apache (1.5 Days)
21 May	Roosevelt
18 June	Saguaro
16 July	Bartlett
20 August	Saguaro
17 September	Roosevelt
15 October	Apache
19 November	To Be Determined

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in January

- Jerry Askam
- John Balzic
- Clinton Bell
- John Milkint
- Dave Rice
- Jason Riddle
- Tom Savage
- Gary Senft
- Larry White

