

MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



DECEMBER 2014

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



**President's
Perspective**
By Gary Grimes

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

Another year has quickly passed us by, almost as fast as Paul Archer's boat on his first run of the day. I thought this year's tournament schedule provided some good variety and challenges while at the same time being considerate of the extremes of our Arizona climate. The Midweek Bass Angler's averaged 24 boats per tournament this year, up from 2013's 19-boat average. We made some welcome changes to the payout structure, which allowed us to pay more money deeper into the field, and without increasing fees or dues. We had 4 great barbeques this year: thanks go to the Steel's for hosting us while at Roosevelt Lake, and Gary Asmus for cooking at all 4 barbeques. The highlight for me is always the tournament at Apache Lake. This year we enjoyed nearly ideal weather for the two tournaments held at Apache. I always look

forward to the fishing bivouac (camp for you non military types), and the time spent with all the guys.

We welcomed about 20 new people to the club this year, and ended the year with 99 members, an increase of 15 members from 2013. It usually takes me a couple of months to remember all the new names, so if I look at you with a blank stare when you ask me something it is because my mind is searching for the name that goes with your face. Be thankful your name isn't Gary, which when called

can get up to four people responding. The new people seem to fit right in with the rest of us. One of the great things about our club is everyone is usually so easy going, which makes life much easier.

We couldn't have had 11 tournaments without lots of help either. I am most appreciative of this year's board: Terry Tassin, Jack Hughes, Lou Hirlemann and John Reichard. These guys approach their positions with committed professionalism and a heart that wants the

Continued on page 3

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

2014 Tournament Season Winners!

Angler of the Year - Lou Hirlemann

1st Place Boater of the Year - - - Gary Martlage
2nd Place Boater of the Year - - - Gary Grimes
3rd Place Boater of the Year - - - Richie Rojas

1st Place Co-Angler of the Year - - Sean Ballard
2nd Place Co-Angler of the Year - - Mark Royal
3rd Place Co-Angler of the Year - - Tom Savage

Lunker of the Year - Jim Buchanan (7.82 lbs)
June 2014 - Lake Saguaro

"We Practice Catch and Release"

Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Hall of Fame Class of 2014



Angler of the Year 2014
Lou Hirlemann



Gary Martlage
1st Place
Boater of the Year



Sean Ballard
1st Place
Co-Angler of the Year

Merry Christmas



Gary Grimes
2nd Place
Boater of the Year



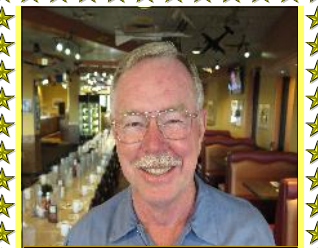
Mark Royal
2nd Place
Co-Angler of the Year



Richie Rojas
3rd Place
Boater of the Year



Lunker of the Year
Jim Buchanan 7.82 lbs



Tom Savage
3rd Place
Co-Angler of the Year

absolute best for Midweek. They are the motor that drives the club, without their help we would be dead in the water. When its tournament time, we can always count on the members to step up and get the job done. Gary Martlage has been a mainstay on the scales and others have stepped in when needed, I think of Tom Savage and Nick Wampach who regularly help, but there are countless others who have helped when the need arises. Thanks to all who help out at the barbeques, there is no better thanks to a cook than smiling faces with a mouthful of food. What would our meetings be like without Lionel Frailey's colorful personality during the morning raffle? Thanks also to Sean Ballard for running the computer at each meeting, which helps speed things along. A final thanks to all the names I missed, who contribute in both big and little

ways to help make things run smooth.

As we look to 2015, some revised tournament rules will become effective so be sure to review the updated tournament rules and bylaws. The most significant change to come is that we will now allow ties at all of the tournaments, hopefully this change will help speed up the weigh-in, since everyone will no longer have to weigh a big fish, especially if it is not a very big - big fish. Most of the other bylaw changes are minor. Our 2015 schedule will be quite similar to the 2014 schedule with the main difference being that the March tournament at Lake Havasu will be a two-day event.

Such a great year and thanks to each and every one of you guys for making the Midweek Bass Anglers the best club in the state. See you in 2015.

2014 Fishing License
Tell Mom/Wife/Significant Other a nice Christmas gift for you would be a 2015 fishing license. Whether she gives you one or not, please remember to renew your license before our January tournament.

members. When I sat down and did an analysis of the year there was not one major problem - which was a change from past years.

Making the year start off right and making my job a whole lot easier was two employees of the Forest Service I cannot thank enough. The Forestry Service assignment of Kelly Richards for permits in the Mesa District was one of the best things that happened in obtaining permits in Mesa district in the past 10 years. The best description of Kelly is she is a "true professional". Kelly performs like her job is to make sure all of us tournament anglers have a great time. She is always quick to respond and kept us informed on issues happening with tournament

**Next Meeting
Next Tournament**

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 7 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 **21 January 2015**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.

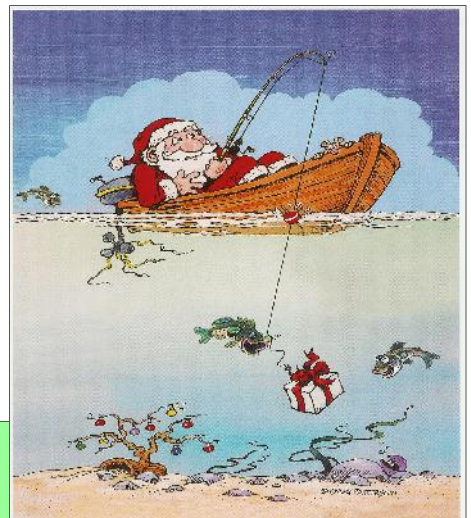


Weighing-In
By Jack Hughes, Tmx Director

Here are a few of my thoughts on Midweek Bass Anglers and what happend in 2014.

Over all 2014 was an excellent year for the MBA. It started out excellent with one of our best end-of-year banquets ever. My main complaint about 2014 was it went by entirely too fast, especially when you consider the age of about half our

Membership
As of December 7, 2014 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 99 active members.



"Good little fish get rewarded!"

fishing. Sharon Colyott at Roosevelt District, doing the same job, was Johnny on the spot for every change we needed in 2014. These two ladies made my job as Tournament Director very easy and removed a lot of the stress of obtaining permits.

Another positive action for Arizona bass fishing was Chris Cantrell's hiring of Andy Clark to work with the clubs and Forest Service to improve bass fishing in Arizona. Even though Andy has only been on the job 10 months the improvements in relationships between AZG&F, USFS and fishing clubs is already showing positive results. Andy's straight forward management style and his always asking what our club thinks about potential changes and actually listening make him a pleasure to work with. Also his standing up to politicians and doing the right thing instead of the easy thing they may want makes him an excellent representative of tournament fishermen and for promoting bass fishing in AZ.

The loss of Alamo Lake on our tournament schedule due to low water and members not wanting to travel as far as Yuma meant we are fishing Bartlett and Saguaro a total of six times next year. For me this is a disappointment because I love to fish different lakes for tournaments so once again I am asking Santa Claus to reconsider any objections to Lake Martinez for the 2016 tournament schedule. On the positive side adding a half day to Havasu and Apache made

my heart jump with joy and I can already feel the excitement for these tournaments building.

Other positives for 2014 when I reflect back is how our club warmly welcomed every new member especially those that have never fished bass tournaments before but have that deep desire to do it. Most new members have commented they really knew they had done the right thing when joining MBA.

A few memories from 2014 tournaments for me are: seeing Nick Wampach's face at the weigh in when he caught his 7 pound plus bass at Roosevelt and winning with Gary Askam, Bernie Kowalski winning the first tournament he ever fished with Gary Grimes then followed it up by writing one of the best and definitely the most hilarious articles ever written in Bass Bites, and Jim Buchanan winning Lunker of the Year. Then there was Gary Martlage and Sean Ballard getting their own boats and all the boaters losing a chance for an excellent co-angler draw. However, Howard Thomas will tell anyone who wants to listen he loved Martlage getting his own boat which he drew for the last tournament of the year.....they won. Then it went right down to the last two hours of the last tournament of the year for Lou Hirlemann to edge out Grimes for AOY.

This year was a banner year in meeting and fishing with new members who quickly became friends. To name a few fairly new friends who I have really

enjoyed spending time with: Tom Savage, Nick Wampach, George Cobasky, and John Hawkins. With meeting new friends it reminded me of old friends who we missed not having at our tournaments during 2014 - Steve Cook, Ken Buvala, and Rick Brown all who had to sacrifice fishing with the club for excellent reasons. Hopefully they will be able to rejoin us in 2015. Then there was a very special moment when Rickie Rojas returned to fish with the club after his battle with cancer.

My pre-fishing the Apache tournament with Dick Kirberg was exceptionally enjoyable, Dick is not only a quality fisherman but I think he knew every detail about our club from the time the first guys talked about putting a club together until the present.

MBA led the way on the Roosevelt stocking program and set the example that other organizations are now following in support AZG&F. Our support was sincerely appreciated by AZG&F.

If you were not aware, I would like to point out that our average tournament we conduct takes at least 11 different people to make it happen. Our weigh-in team, led by Gary Martlage, did not have one complaint or challenge on any of their decisions and not one request for a re-weigh. Well done guys!

Finally, I want to say to all of you it has been an excellent gift of total satisfaction to know

you and enjoy your camaraderie at each meeting and tournament. In my opinion there has never been a better group of fishermen than those in our club. Every member has the ability and skills to win on any given day, but even better, each member is a quality individual who will quickly tell you how to win the next tournament...well maybe they may forget one critical item occasionally!



Happy to be Here

By John Reichard
Treasurer

An end of year note from your Treasurer: I enjoyed fishing with all of you this year. Remember there's a new 5 lb Pot starting in January!

I thought you might like the poem below in celebration of the season.

Fish Fever

"This week end I went fishing
A fish in mind to catch
I went wishing, wishing, wishing
To catch a perfect catch.

I wanted to catch the big one
The one that always gets away
I waited under the hot, hot sun
I waited for that fish all day.

Then there was a pull on my line
The pull so full of magic
It made me think mine, mine, mine
Me, the fisherman classic.

This fish was big I could feel
Big and strong, a winners tale
All I had to do was reel, reel, reel
In order not to fail.

Me and this fish fought a moment
Tugging and yanking, pulling and reeling
Until I screamed net! Net! NET!
Is this a winners feeling?

In that moment I knew that it was this
The moment I caught the one that got away
I caught it, I caught it, I caught it
Fishing fever is what I caught that day."

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

See you on the Lake or at the next meeting

Seasons Greetings From Some Club Members

Ray Riley - My "first year" impressions, as a new member of Midweek Bass Anglers.

I was introduced to Midweek Bass by Tom Alauria while attending a party at a mutual friend's house. Tom bragged about the friendliness and camaraderie of the members and his statements were found to be very true and accurate. I joined Midweek Bass and was quickly impressed by the well run meetings and the smoothness of the management of the



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
A Happy New Year!**

HAPPY NEW YEAR From Your Board of Directors



tournaments. The Draw Team – Combined Weight – Single Day format gives new members a chance to learn the rules, get the lay of the land, and meet several different members during the year, which in turn allows you to see, learn, and use different techniques, lures and electronic devices (who knew 360 Graphs, Power Poles, morning dawn and pink worms).

A few more things I learned this year; one is to always keep your truck doors shut at the Apache Lake camp site due to the very aggressive Raccoons and other wild critters. This also goes for no food in your boat at night, no food in an easy to open ice chest left out on a table or anywhere else they can get to it. Another lesson I learned, was to make sure you and your boater know exactly where to meet and make sure to verify each others name etc. Also, according to John Hawkins, always have “Tiger Balm” for mosquito repellent (it works) plus it smells real good. Beautiful sunrises are an added free benefit and will get each day started off right.

Early in the year, while fishing with Richie Rojas, I found out that we both went to the same grade school - Balsz, same high school - Phoenix Union, lived in the same neighborhood, and we also had several mutual friends. It's a small world.

There are other benefits acquired from our Midweek Bass membership. Both Sportsmen's Warehouse and Cabela's have employees who are also club members and when you go to visit the stores and they are there, you will get personal attention. Also, at the Lake Roosevelt tournaments along with a great BBQ dinner, the club usually has a local bass professional as a guest speaker and he shares several helpful hints, tips and ideas with us on fishing Lake Roosevelt.

Oh well, the club accepted my dues for next year, so I guess they didn't black ball me yet for my less than stellar fishing skills and I am looking forward to a fun 2015.

Tom Savage reminded me, that any day fishing is always better than any day working.

*And on the last day of
2014 I am going fishing to
try-out my new rod and
reel but for now I am*



*Wishing you and
your family a very
Merry Christmas
From Your Editor*

Bryan Steele:

My gift to you all: Using the new Bow 360 unit.

Bow 360 Unit - Example

I generally use the bow 360 unit to show me where to cast and to help maintain good boat position while fishing offshore. I find that I need fewer waypoints, and I can't remember the last time I needed a marker buoy.

The picture on the left is a bow 360 screenshot while sitting on top of a roadbed at Lake Pleasant. The picture on the right is a Google Earth satellite view of the same location, but without water. After studying both pictures, it may give you an idea of how the bow 360 view represents what is around the boat. The better you are at interpreting side imaging--the easier it will be to interpret the 360 view.

Picture Annotations:

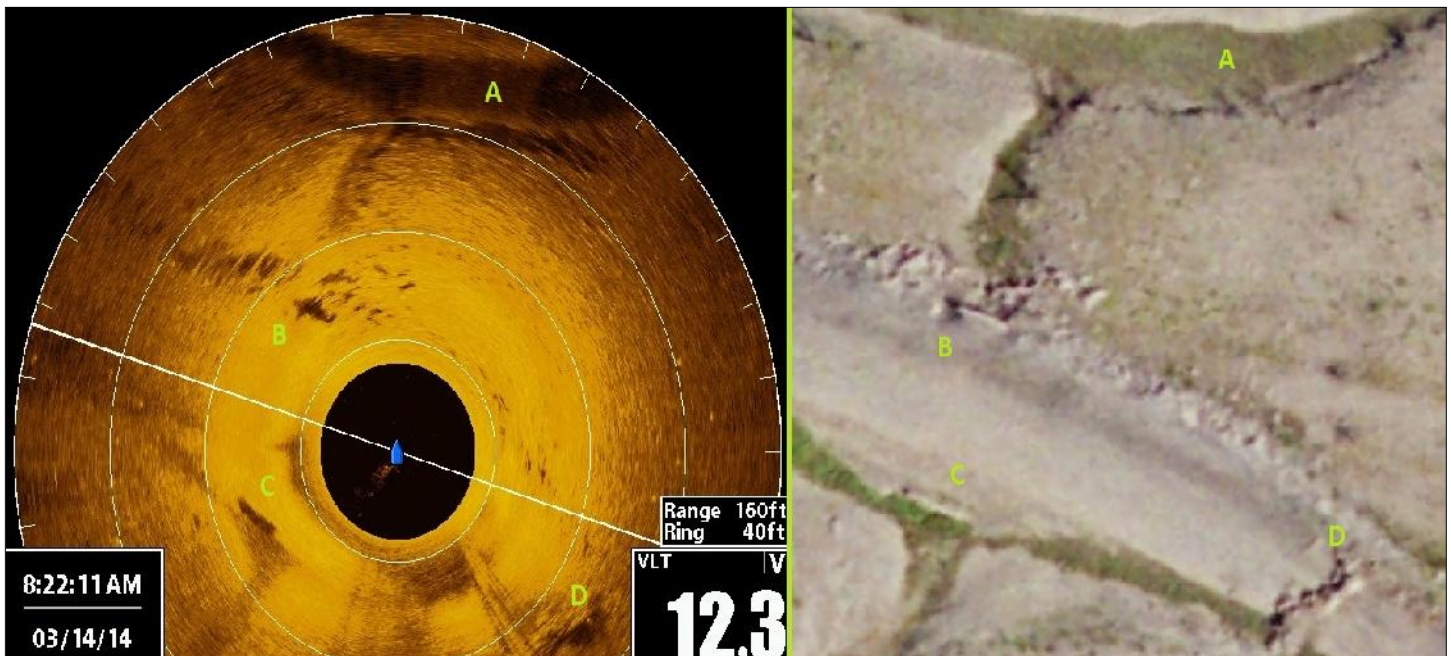
A: This is the main creek channel that flows back into the cove, and shows up as a dark area on the 360 view, because it consists of mud/silt. You can also see the minor creek bed that flows between A and B and connects into the main channel. Notice the shadow area on the 360 view beneath the letter A – it shows a drop-off into the channel.

B: This is a part of the culvert that goes underneath the old roadbed. Notice the rock pile below this culvert, which shows up pretty well in the 360 view.

C: This is the other end of the culvert. You will notice the darkened area below this culvert, which just means it is a soft, mud/silt area.

D: This is a rock pile that was placed across the roadbed.

***Now Don't You Wish You Were Out Fishing!
May You Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season***



What: 9th Annual Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Recognition Dinner

Who: Members of Midweek Bass Anglers and their Guests
When: Wednesday, January 14, 2014; Social Hour at 6:00PM with dinner at 7:00 PM
Where: Elks Club Phoenix Lodge #335 B.P.O.E
14424 North 32nd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85032
Phone: 602-482-2339

Cost: \$35.00 per Guest - - Club Members \$5. (Club pays tax and gratuity)

Menu: Catered Buffet
* Traditional Caesar Salad.*
* Carved Prime Rib of Beef, Au Jus *
* Breast of Chicken Marsala*
* Fettuccini Alfredo *
* Parsley Red Skin Potatoes *
* Chef's Choice Vegetable Medley *

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

Cash Bar for Alcoholic Beverages

(Domestic Beer \$3, Imported Beer \$4, Varietal House Wine \$4, Well Alcohol \$4, Premium Alcohol \$5 - \$6)

-- 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 7, 2015

9th ANNUAL MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS RECOGNITION DINNER RESERVATION

Please reserve _____ meals for:

Name(s) of Attendees:

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ (\$35.00 each for Guests – Club Members \$5) made out to Midweek Bass Anglers. New 2015 members are considered guests.

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



Many Thanks to a Great Team

By Terry Tassin
Editor, *Bass Bites*

As the year draws to a close, I'd like to express my appreciation to the regular contributors to *Bass Bites* who provide the content that makes this publication so informative and useful to our members. They make my job so much easier. So here's a hearty salute to Gary Grimes, Jack Hughes, and John Reichard, and a special thanks to my wife, Fran, who proofreads every page before I send it out. Also, let's not forget all of the club members who provide write-ups after each tournament telling everyone where and how they caught their fish. Without the input from each and every one of them, readers of our monthly newsletter would have to put up with just my "wordsmithing" and after nine years of putting together the *Bass Bites* each month I have about run out of original copy ideas. Hint, hint, I am open to suggestions.

Some of you are probably saying to yourself (and others) "Why does Terry bother putting out a holiday edition of the *Bass Bites* each year? There are no fishing & catching reports to put out, so why?"

I guess it just comes down to being a glutton-for-punishment and to wanting to have a way to provide a platform for those members wishing to express their thoughts about the fishing this year and a way for them to wish all club members best wishes for the holidays. Some years members provide many articles for this end of year edition; other years not so much – we just have to take what we get and pass the information on to everyone.

As you can see from reading this edition, I also use this *Bass Bites* to recognize the top fishermen for the year by listing them with their photos on a page I call the "*Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Hall of Fame Class of 2014.*" It's not much and the big acknowledgement comes at the Annual Awards Banquet the second Wednesday of January.

Speaking of the awards banquet, below is just a reminder to make your reservations soon and no later than 7 January 2015. After 7 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*.

Don't forget – the 9th Annual Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Recognition Dinner will be held Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at the Elks Club Phoenix Lodge, 14424 North 32nd Street, Phoenix, AZ 85032. Social Hour begins at 6 PM with dinner at 7 PM. Cost is \$35 per non member and \$5 per club member. Advance reservations are required so do not wait – get your reservation form with your check to the club Secretary no later than 7 January 2015.

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; Lionel Frailey (Raffle Master) 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 \$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 Lionel says, "Let's all have a GREAT time."

Just in case I don't see you before Christmas, I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2015 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

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Jack Hughes 480-510-7779

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Gary Grimes, Terry Tassin, Lou Hirlemann, John Reichard

RAFFLE COMMITTEE -- Lionel Frailey

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Terry Tassin

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Lou Hirlemann

CONSERVATION/LEGISLATIVE - John Reichard

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



"All those rods and reels I delivered and not one for myself"

**Official Supplier of
Midweek Bass Anglers Club Apparel**

John Balzic
Owner
10802 N. 43RD AVE #2
GLENDALE, AZ 85304
P 602-548-4200
F 602-548-4204
john@mandjtrophies.com
www.mandjtrophies.com

Awards • Engraving & Sandblasting • Screenprinting • Embroidery

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 2015
Tournament Schedule**

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

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in January

- John Balzic
- Clinton Bell
- Jim Furimsky
- John Milkint
- Dave Rice
- Jason Riddle
- Tom Savage
- Gary Senft
- Allen Wacker
- Larry White

