

MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

B a s s B i t e s

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



FEBRUARY 2011

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective *by Dave Rice*

Well another tournament under our belts without a 5 pounder being caught. It was a good tournament with everyone weighing fish. I am glad to see more participation in the tournaments even though some had to drop out for personal reasons. It was cold in the morning but turned out to be a pretty nice day. The weigh-in went smoothly and fast and Clay and his crew did an excellent job. Lew Southard needed a bar of soap by the time he was through because he was soaking wet from measuring fish in the Bump Tank.

I again want to thank everyone for the help at the barbeque on Tuesday. I hope we can get the same turnout with as many participants at Alamo; especially since we are having a steak barbeque for the guys on Tuesday night,

thanks to Gary and his new partner in cooking - Jack Hughes. I think it will be a good time for all.

I want to remind everyone to make their reservations at Lake Havasu as soon as they can, because the rooms will fill up fast. Also remember the March general meeting is next Wednesday, the 2nd of March and I hope to see you all there. Our speakers will be Clay and Lew talking on bed fishing techniques which should be interesting.

Also I want to ask everyone to call Clay or if you can't get him then call Lew Southard if you can't make a tournament after registering. Terry is our secretary and makes up the spread sheets for the events, but the Tournament Director has the last say in revising the pairings after the meeting when people have to drop out for any reason.

Lew Southard is the vice president and fills in if Clay is not available. Remember Lew is our immediate past tournament director and is well versed in the position and can make decisions about rules and tournament line ups - that is if Clay is not available.

Last but not least, and most of you have done it already, but I again want to congratulate Clay Lippincott for his second place finish in the FLW tournament at Roosevelt. It is good to see a member recognized so well. I'm sure if you ask him he will tell you his experiences at the tournament and how he caught the winning second place weight. Just overlook the grin when he is telling his story. Way to go Clay!!

See you all at the next meeting and hopefully at the Lake Havasu tournament.

Stay safe! Your President

Lake Roosevelt

February 23, 2011

by Terry Tassin

A really great weather day for Roosevelt in February. We did not even freeze at the kick off in the morning.

BJ Martin & Dave Nelson Top Field of 27 Boats

The **First Place** team of **BJ**

Monthly Breakfast Meeting
Bill Johnson's Big Apple
Restaurant
16810 N. 19th Ave, Phoenix, AZ
1st Wednesday of each
month 8:00A.M.



"We Practice Catch and Release"

Martin & Dave Nelson weighed the winning creel of five bass weighing 16.45 lbs. The team also won the **Super Pot** option and **1st Place Big Bass** with a 4.72 lb fish.

DJ called in his report and said, "Dave Nelson and I had a tough prefish on Monday and Tuesday where we fished the main lake in the Salt end of the lake and only caught two fish each day.

On tournament day we totally changed what we were doing and ran up the Salt into the river. There we fished spinner baits, Senkos, and Shad colored chatterbaits in a small 50 yard long area of bushes. In our first pass through the area we caught 12 lbs of bass; every 1 - 2 hours this same area would give-up more fish which we caught. By 2 PM we had 14 lbs in the boat and at

2:05 PM I caught our 4.72 lb bass on a spinner bait which turned out to be the 1st Place Big Bass of the day.

If you get the chance to fish with Dave Nelson you will enjoy it. We laughed and joked through out the day while we caught fish - of course it's easy to be happy when you are catching rather than just fishing!"



*1st Place
Dave Nelson & DJ Martin*

In **Second Place** the team of **Jamie Shaw & Doug Cunningham** finished with 14.75 lbs for their five bass.

Doug Cunningham provided this insight as to their fishing day. "I had the good fortune to fish with Jamie Shaw this tournament. I had an absolute Blast! We had our limit of 5 fish by 8:15. We pretty much just fished main lake points in 20 feet of water. We did shoot back in the river to try and flip and find 'Walter' (the 5 pounder) but no such luck. Jamie and I were pretty spoiled from the morning bite so we bolted back to the spots that had worked earlier. Jamie caught most of the fish in the morning and I was able to step up to the plate in the afternoon.

The pattern we stuck with that worked pretty much all day for us was the reliable dropshot. We fished with four different colors that all worked, (peoples, red crawl, green auya, and prizm crawl)

I also want to add that every time I fish, there is always something positive I get out of it. There is always something different to be learned. Whether it is a new fishing technique or even more inspiring, just feeling like a kid again. I think that I can speak for most of us that we all grew up fishing. It's like all the hectic things that go on in our lives are put aside for a few hours and you just get to go play. Jamie was cracking me up when he would keep looking in the live well, smile, and give me a big high five. I must say it was without a doubt the most high fives that I had ever done in a day. I also loved the quote of the day; "Wrap it so you can scratch it!" That should be on a shirt. Thanks again Jamie and all the members in this awesome club for giving me the opportunity to go play and be a kid again! "



*2nd Place
Jamie Shaw & Doug Cunningham*

Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 2 March** starting at 8:00 AM, at Bill Johnson's Big Apple Restaurant, 16810 N. 19th Ave (just south of Bell Road on 19th Ave on the west side of the avenue). We hope you will come early and have breakfast together.

The next club point tournament will be a day event at **Lake Havasu** on **16 March 2011**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.

Team Lou Hirlemann & Mark Durben weighed five bass for 13.12 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

Lou said, "I always have fun fishing and driving to the lake with Mark; a great way to start a trip. Once on the water we took a wrong turn and went left. Being boat 23 and watching everyone else go to the Salt I knew I had my 3 spots to myself. We only saw 4 or 5 boats all day. I caught all my fish on a jig, Mark got his on crank bait, jig, and drop shot. We fished transition areas."



Mark Durben & Lou Hirlemann with some bass buddies

Mark Durben added; "Lou had a great plan for fishing the lake. We caught all but one of our fish on jigs fished exceptionally slow around brush in 3-15 feet of water. We used Paca Craws and Crazy Legs Chigger Craws in watermelon color. The key was going slow. Fishing with Lou is always a great experience."

Membership
As of February 25, 2011 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of 74 active members.

The **4th Place Team** of Daniel Elias & Butch Nessline weighed 11.92 lbs with a five bass limit.



Butch Nessline & Daniel Elias

Daniel remarked, "Prior to the tournament Butch and I came up with a game plan to spend our day looking for a 5 lb + fish. We really didn't care about catching a limit as long as we could get that one big bite.

We spent the entire day throwing 10 inch worms and HUGE spinnerbaits and although we didn't catch that five pounder we were looking for, we were able to tempt

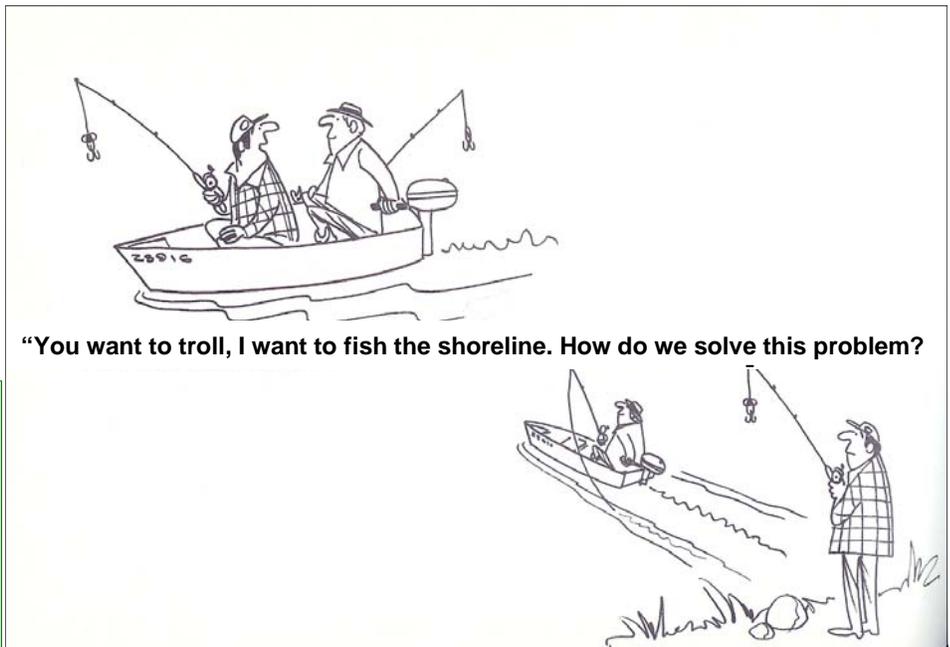
about 15 fish into hitting our giant offerings.

Fishing with Butch was sure a lot of fun like always and I'm looking forward to fishing with him again in the future."

The **5th Place Team** of **John Majersky & Charlie Ferrell** weighed 11.91 lbs with a four bass limit. They also weighed the 4.41 lb **2nd Place Big Bass**

John Majersky said, "Well, we had only one day to pre-fish so we "junk fished" for two days. We caught fish from 1 foot down to 20 feet of water. The lures used were flukes, spinner baits, chatter baits, Texas rigs and crank baits, to catch the fish. The fish were on corners, in trees and on breaks.

Unfortunately, we did not need to pre-fish, because we went to the spots where we had caught fish the day before, and got NOTHING the day of the tournament. All our fish came on spots I have NEVER fished



before on that lake. That made it fun and interesting. The big fish came on a chatter bait. The interesting part was I saw the whole bite. The water was clear. I was throwing in 15 feet of water. As I brought the bait close to the boat the fish appeared out of the depths and swallowed the bait before my eyes. In the time I turned and told Charlie, it's a 4 or 5 pounder, I set the hook and it dove to the bottom. No problem, no panic, I just eased it up to boat and into the net it went.

I want to thank my fishing partner Charlie Ferrell, Gary Grimes and the weigh-in crew. This was a fun camp out and tournament."



Charlie Ferrell & John Majersky with some of their 'better' bass

The **6th Place Team** of **Joe Auksel & Tony Medina** weighed 11.27 lbs with a five bass limit.

Joe Auksel stated; "We prefished Monday in the Tonto end of the lake and did very well. We tried the Salt end on Tuesday and did not do well there so we decided to concentrate on the Tonto on tournament day. Tony Medina

caught all of our fish during the tournament. He had a total of 7 that were culled down to the final bag of 5. Five were caught on Texas Rigged full size Brush Hogs fishing the main lake points and wooded flats and two were caught on small Brush Hogs on a drop shot rig in the main lake just outside wooded flats in 10 - 15 feet of water. The drop shot fish were our two largest that were brought to the weigh in. The color we used was watermelon with black spots. The fish catching extended throughout the morning and early afternoon hours."



Joe Auksel & Tony Medina

And finally we get to the **Goon Fish pot** which was won by no one! Therefore, as is the club practice when no Goon Fish is brought to the scales, a raffle for those entered in the Goon Fish option will be held at the 2 March general meeting.

Statistics for the tournament: 53 men fished 8 hours each, bringing 126 keeper bass to the scales for a total weight of 253.93 pounds with a 2.03 pound average. All but three fish were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.



Option Pots

By Jerry Askam

5 lb Pot: Most people thought the pot would fall this month at Roosevelt but it didn't happen. DJ Martin was just short with a 4.72 lb largemouth. So the club record pot of \$2,535 continues to grow as we move to Havasu in March for some bed fishing.

Goon Fish Pot: Somewhat surprisingly no goon fish were weighed this month. The Salt end of Roosevelt has lots of crappie but there were no takers on our bass lures. There will be a drawing for the \$245 pot at our next club meeting March 2 for those who entered the pot at Roosevelt.

Super Pot: Tournament winners DJ Martin and Dave Nelson won the Super Pot worth \$240 with an excellent bag of 16.45 lbs. They also had the tournament's big bass and take home total winnings of \$968. Congrats on a great tournament guys.



Bits & Pieces

By Daniel Elias

The Unwritten Rules of Bass Fishing

Call it what you wish: The Fisherman's Code of Ethics, Man Code, or Fishing Guidelines, they are all referring to what I call the Unwritten Rules of Bass Fishing.

You won't find these in official tournament rules but they are

well known amongst avid fisherman and weekenders alike.

The following are some of the unwritten rules of bass fishing that should be strictly adhered to at all times.

1. Never take your partner to another angler's spot without first getting that anglers direct permission. Regardless of whether you are a boater or a non-boater if your partner takes you to a particular area in the lake to fish and you have success there it is not polite to take a partner you draw in another tournament to the location he suggested. Likewise, if you see someone fishing a particular spot don't tell anyone, keep it to yourself.

2. Never ask an angler to tell you the locations his partner took him to while fishing. If you really want to know ask the person directly instead of being sneaky about it; he will just get upset when he finds out. Chances are that person worked hard and put in his homework on the water in order to find productive areas. You should do the same and find your own locations.

3. Keep information your partner has shared with you in confidence to yourself. If your partner, regardless of whether he's a boater or non boater catches fish at a particular location or on a certain lure or color don't tell your buddies; it's just not considerate, and it's poor sportsmanship. If your partner wants to share that information with people let him

do so himself.

4. Keep your distance. Don't move in on another angler just because he caught a fish or you feel like he's a good fisherman and he might be fishing a great spot. Many anglers tend to "drift" in on another fisherman when they see him catch a fish. The truth is he probably doesn't want you getting very close to him so be polite and keep your distance.

5. Never, ever pull in front of another boat, and don't assume that just because he's moving down the bank he won't turn around and come back through the same area again. If there is any doubt in your mind of what the other angler's intentions are - ask. A little communication goes a long way and he will tell you if he minds you being there or not. Ask the anglers in a nearby boat if they mind you fishing a particular area and if they tell you they don't mind you being there go ahead and fish. If they seem hesitant or don't feel comfortable with you fishing near them or going around them you should leave. As always the boat that was in the location first has the final say.

6. If someone wins a tournament at a particular lake and you know where he fished don't infringe on his water the next time you fish a tournament at that lake. That angler may very well fish in that location again and chances are if he sees you there he won't be very happy

with you. He probably worked very hard to find the area he wants to fish and you should find your own water instead of trying to take his.

7. Proper protocol says that if you are fishing down a bank and you meet another boat head on you move to the right to pass. If the other boat is fishing stationary in one spot you must move out to deep water and go around him regardless of which side of you he is on. There are always extenuating circumstances but again communication is key.

These rules obviously will not cover every situation but when in doubt use common sense and practice common courtesy. Put yourself in the other guy's shoes before you violate one of these rules. You want to earn the respect of your peers not lose it. Following the unwritten rules of bass fishing will make you a better fisherman in the long run. It will teach you how to locate and pattern fish instead of following or trying to duplicate someone else's pattern.

Until next month...Be safe on the water and practice good sportsmanship.

TRUISMS HOW FIGHTS START

One year, I decided to buy my mother-in-law a cemetery plot as a Christmas gift.

The next year, I didn't buy her a gift.

When she asked me why, I replied,

"Well, you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year!"

And that's how the fight started....

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt - February 23, 2011



THE OLD HOMESTEAD AT ROOSEVELT



YAK-KITI-YAK, DON'T TALK BACK

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt - February 23, 2011



COME CLOSER WITH THE CAMERA!



OOPS!



COOK OUT HEAVEN!



LONG ARMS HELP!



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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:

Bill Fabok (NB)
Richard Lam (NB)
Dwayne Steel (B)

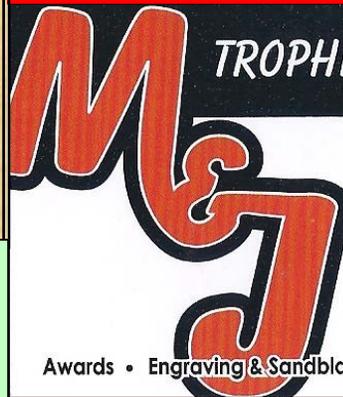
Tackle Box Sales!

Here is a spot in our newsletter for those members who have "fishing related items" that they would like to sell, trade, or give away.

<u>Seller</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>
Tony Medina	Adjustable Power Pro Pedestal seat poles (2) - brand NEW. 24 - 30 Inch.	List price \$92 asking \$70 each.

Something to sell? Contact the Editor

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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 2011
Tournament Schedule**

19 January	Bartlett
23 February	Roosevelt
16 March	Havasu
20 April	Alamo
18 May	Apache
15 June	Pleasant
20 July	Bartlett (N)
17 August	Saguaro
21 September	Roosevelt
19 October	Alamo
16 November	Bartlett

Best **Wishes** and **Happy Birthday**

Born in March

Sean Ballard
Brian Jacobson
Jeff Martineau
Bill Penrod
Bill Roscher
Lew Southard
Bill Tyger

