



MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



MARCH 2019 EDITION
14 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes

I can't remember the last time in Arizona that I have witnessed so many sacks of impressive fish at the scales. Two 6-pounders and six 5-pounders were caught by eight different teams. The lake was almost 30 feet higher than when we fished it this past October. This new water created miles of new fishable shoreline, with grass, brush and trees in shallow water all over the lake. It was absolutely a blast. Congratulations to Jerry Askam and Tom Savage on their win with an impressive 22 pound sack of fish.

This is the first March since 2010 that we have not been at Lake Havasu. As long as the lake level at Alamo remains I have to think that we will likely visit twice a year. I can't wait until our return in November, good weather and great fishing should make the tournament a fantastic event. It was good seeing all the club members at the barbeque on Tuesday night; thanks to Gary Asmus for cooking up some great food. Thanks also to Gary Martlage, Sean Ballard, Tom Alauria, and Tom Savage for the efficient manner with which you guys handled the weigh-in.

Next month we visit Roosevelt Lake, whose water level has also risen 30 feet since last fall.

All the ramps are under water with the exception of the high water ramp, Bobcat, at the Windy Hill campground. Schoolhouse ramp has 12 feet of water, and Indian Point has 16 feet, so once again there should be a lot of new brush that we can fish. We will be headquartered and launching from Windy Hill, but there will not be a club barbeque on Tuesday night. Lodging options are abundant. Camping is always great, but I would like to recommend the newly remodeled Roosevelt Resort Hotel. They have clean rooms, boat charging, a restaurant, and is located minutes away from the ramp. Less than \$75 per night.

I want to thank all you guys for lending a hand when needed, whether it's filling-in at the weigh-in station, shuttling guys and their fish to the water, loaning tools, or helping at the barbeque. You guys are the best. See you at Rosy!

**Happy
April Fools Day!**



Monthly Breakfast Meeting
Deer Valley Airport Restaurant
702 W. Deer Valley Rd
Phoenix, AZ
1st Wednesday of Each
Month 8:00 A.M.

“We Practice Catch and Release”



Tournament Report Lake Alamo March 20, 2019

Some of this and a little of that might best describe the lures that caught fish at this tournament. Dropshot, jigs, cranks, Senko's, etc, were all put to good use to make this event a fun, fish catching experience.

The tournament started off at 6:15 AM with boats heading up river, down river and all points in between! The tournament weather was great with water temps averaging around 62 and 72 degrees in most of the lake and the fish were caught from the dam to where the river enters the lake.

All teams weighed fish at this tournament, and all but ten fish were released back into the lake to live and fight again another day.

Now let's hear from our winners.

Team Jerry Askam & Tom Savage Nail The Big Ones And Take Home 1st Place

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Jerry Askam & Tom Savage** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 22.89 lbs. Thanks to Tom's 6.52 lb bass the team also won **2nd Place Big Fish** honors.

Jerry Askam: First, thanks to the weigh team who do such an efficient and professional job every tournament. Thanks also to Jeff Bradley for shuttling the fish from the weigh-in back to the lake and to Mark Durben for helping

Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club meeting for 2019 is scheduled for **Wednesday, 3 April** 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 points tournament is scheduled for **Lake Roosevelt** on **17 April 2019**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.



1st Place & 2nd BF Jerry Askam & Tom Savage

me get our fish to the weigh area as Tom was working with the weigh team.

Tom and I pre-fished Monday and only caught 4 fish but covered the lake pretty well and were able to eliminate a large portion of the lake for tournament day. On Tuesday we got on the bite as others also did and we were able to set our tournament start spot, the area we wanted to fish, and how to fish it. The warmer weather and full moon appeared to move the fish up.

Our plan came together pretty well when Tom nailed a 5 pounder on a spinnerbait at our start area within the first 5 or 10 minutes. We fished the dock side of the lake from ramp to ramp. We used spinnerbaits, pegged Texas rigged brush hogs (mainly Tom) and Senkos (mainly me) both tipped with chartreuse. We caught a lot of fish on spinnerbaits but other than Tom's first fish all of our quality fish came on plastics. Tom caught our big fish (6.52 lbs) on a Brush hog off a little brushy point near the upper ramp where I recalled a past tournament

big fish was caught I believe by Jamie Shaw. That point still holds big fish. Tom let out a pretty good yell when we safely got the fish in the boat. We saw Otto Gal and Warren Brackey who had been quite a good distance away and not in close sight who said "You guys must have got a good one" because they heard Tom's yell. We were a little surprised when it didn't hold up as big fish but congrats to Mark Durben and Tom Alauria for the tournament big fish. I'm sure you guys were as thrilled and excited as we were.

We did a lot of culling and about wore out the balance beam as it seemed a lot of our fish were clones. Although we didn't weigh them the last couple of our culled fish that went back in the lake were 3 or 3 plus pounders.

To sum up, every day on the water is a good day, but Tom and I had a fantastic day.

Senko's Propel Clinton Bell & Ingo Moura To 2nd Place Overall Finish

In **2nd Place** Team **Clinton Bell & Ingo Moura** weighed five bass for a total weight of 18.96 lbs.

Clinton Bell: Congratulations to Jerry and Tom that's the way to sack them up! Thanks to the cooking team and weigh team for another great job. Once more I was lucky enough to draw Ingo as my partner for Alamo Our pre-fish Tuesday gave us some good info on how most of the fish were positioned; catching fish was not the problem, catching good ones was another story. We used crank baits, spinner baits and Senkos which is my least favorite way to fish, but the fish were so shallow it wasn't a slow bite like Senko fishing usually is. It was a good feeling to finally have a tournament that you cull quality fish that you would be happy to have at all the other lakes we fish. We did have a few exciting moments like Ingo getting a 5 pound fish wrapped up in a bush, and losing all power for my live well, but other wise it was a great day on the water.

Membership

As of March 22, 2019 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of **101** dues paid active members.



2nd Place Clinton Bell & Ingo Moura

Ingo Moura: You know what people say about 2nd Place, but Clinton and I would take it any time.

Congrats to my partner for placing in the money back-to-back in the last two tournaments. This is our second time being paired-up at Alamo, and last year we also celebrated a win. We have had some exciting times, fish exploding out of the water, serious hook sets that stick a fish and or a big miss, fish wrapped in trees "multiple times" - it was all fun and I hope we draw each other again next year. Thanks Clinton for the great times, and all the knowledge you share.

Congrats to the winners Tom Savage and Jerry Askam and on that big fish – she's a beauty. Thanks to the weigh-in crew and everybody that participated in the barbecue. Good times! I love these tournaments when everyone's catching fish, next month at Roosevelt should be more of the same.

Clinton Bell and I pre fished and we pretty much threw everything in the tackle box. Fish

seem to be biting on everything; the only problem was they were all “rats”. We knew we wouldn't have a problem getting our limit on tournament day; we just needed to find the big girls.

Tournament morning we started out throwing white/chartreuse spinnerbaits. We both caught a couple of bass, but the action wasn't like the day before while we pre-fished. So we decided to throw Senko's before the wind came up and it was 'on' from there; we both caught a 5 pounder and a few 3 pounders. We were throwing back some nice fish, because they would not cull. We caught easily 30 plus fish and had a blast while doing it.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at Roosevelt in April.

Team Amos Davis & Phil Brewer Use Robo Worms To Finish In 3rd Place

Team **Amos Davis & Phil Brewer** weighed five bass for 17.84 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

Phil Brewer: Amos Davis and I pre-fished on Tuesday and caught 25 plus fish. We used topwater, spinnerbaits, Ned rigs, and Texas rigged Chigger Craws, in the main body of the lake. Most fish were small with a few nice keepers. On tournament day, we pretty much did the same thing, in the same areas, but caught bigger fish. Amos did crank two nice keepers late in the day Wednesday. I had a great time fishing with Amos and I hope to draw him again.

Amos Davis: Congratulations to Jerry and Tom on their fantastic bag of fish. I had a great day fishing with Phil Brewer, swapping medical and fishing stories. Phil is a great angler and shared many of his past experiences at Alamo.

Tournament Statistics

Sixty men fished 8.5 hours each, bringing 150 bass to the scales for a total weight of 364.74 pounds with a 6.07 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 2.43 lbs. All but ten fish were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.



3rd Place Phil Brewer & Amos Davis

We caught our fish on ox blood light red flake Robo worms, XPS square bill crank baits, and Ricos.

Back Of Coves Pays Off For Team Tom Alauria & Mark Durben With 4th Place Overall Finish

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Tom Alauria & Mark Durben** weighed five fish for a total weight of 17.51 pounds. Tom's 6.59 bass took 1st Place Big Bass honors and the 5 lb Pot.

Tom Alauria: Congratulations Tom and Jerry, this has to be one for the record book. Everyone caught tons of fish. Mark Durben and I had a great time together and had two days to practice. We caught lots of small fish but the bigger fish all came from the back of the coves and they all came off beds. The big fish came on my second cast of the day. After jumping around the deck of my boat I knew this was



4th Place Mark Durben & Tom Alauria

going to be a good day. Lastly I want to thank the tournament committee for a great meal on Tuesday evening.

Mark Durben: I had the opportunity to spend 3 days fishing and camping with Tom Alauria. It was a blast and I learned a lot from Tom. On Tuesday we established a pattern which held-up for us on Wednesday fishing the insides and backs of coves with heavy brush. We flipped or pitched craws, baby brush hogs and Senkos into the brush. On Tom's second cast on Wednesday Tom landed the big fish. I'll let him tell the story but it is fun to watch him when he catches a big fish. We then caught a bunch of small ones and then I hooked roughly a 5 pounder on a Senko. We probably caught 30 plus fish and Tom landed another one that went about 4 pounds. With about an hour to go in the tournament I hooked another 4 pounder behind the boat but he wrapped around a tree and broke off. We ended up with 3 nice fish and 2 dinks. We had some motor problems but Tom's mechanical expertise got it fixed and we

carried on. Thanks again to Tom for a great trip and tourney.

**Team Tony Medina & Ron Rudzinski
Jig Way To Win 5th Place**

A five fish bag weighing 17.05 lbs was enough to earn Team **Medina & Rudzinski** the **5th Place** money.

Tony Medina: I arrived at Alamo on Monday morning and started my pre-fishing. The water was pretty stained all over the lake and there was a lot of sawdust on the water. I had to clean out the water outlet on my motor four times. I didn't catch very many fish on Monday, but on Tuesday my partner, Ron Rudzinski, joined me and we had a better day of fishing. The water was starting to clear up in certain areas and we were able to catch some fish.

On tournament day we had found a spot on Tuesday we wanted to fish and it turned out to be a good spot. We caught a few fish including one over five pounds. The bad thing was we



5th Place Tony Medina & Ron Rudzinski

lost a big one at the boat. All our fish came on jigs and drop shots.

I'd like to thank the dinner crew for a great dinner. Everyone enjoyed it. Also, congratulations to all the winners. Looking forward to going to Rosie in April!

Ron Rudzinski: Tony and I decided our best chance for quality fish would be at the dirtier river end of the lake, which seemed to clear up some on Wednesday. Tony had our first fish right off the bat in 2 casts and that fish weighed about 4 pounds; so we had a good start. We went through about 6 or 7 different jigs, but brownish trailers seemed to be best. We probably caught 12 - 15 fish in 2 to 6 feet of water and my only regret was my lost 5 pounder at the net. It happens! Tony was great to fish with and I really enjoyed hearing his stories. It was fun to fish a lake with so much cover and quality fish. Kudos again to the weigh-in crew, much appreciated.

Team Southard & Milkint Fish Senko's To 6th Place Finish

Team **Lew Southard & John Milkint** weighed five bass for 16.36 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

Lew Southard: We caught all our fish on Senko's of various colors. We fished from the launch ramp toward the dam on the left side or ramp side. John Milkint and I had a limit in 30 minutes, then we started to up grade.

John Milkint: Congratulations to Askam & Savage for a weight of 22.89 pounds. At least 8 teams had a 5 lb plus bass to weigh in and I don't remember that happening at any of our tournaments. It seems that the water clarity was clearing up at just the right time for our tournament. All the rain this winter has really helped to fill our lakes with water and it was really apparent at Alamo with all the green vegetation under water.

Lew and I prefished on Monday and Tuesday and including Wednesday I don't remember the last time we caught as many quality fish as we did those 3 days. To weigh in over 16 pounds and only get a 6th Place shows what a great fishery Alamo can be. Congrats to the Board for replacing Havasu in March with Alamo.



6th Place John Milkint & Lew Southard

As Lew noted, most of our bass came on Senkos and color didn't seem to matter much. I threw mostly watermelon and green pumpkin. We lost count of how many fish we caught and released on Wednesday. Many of the fish were near the green vegetation under the water in 3 to 10 feet. Lew was a great partner and we had a great time fishing. Any co-angler drawing Lew will be rewarded with a great fishing experience.

Luke Spreitzer & Gary Grimes Find Fish In Up River End Of Lake And Finish 7th Overall

In **7th Place** Team **Luke Spreitzer & Gary Grimes** weighed five bass for a total weight of 16.05 lbs.

Gary Grimes: I had an absolute blast fishing with Luke Spreitzer at Alamo. We used his boat, as I had just returned from a tournament in Mexico on Monday night. I got to witness him catch his first quality spinnerbait fish, I think he might now be hooked on



7th Place Luke Spreitzer & Gary Grimes

spinnerbaits as well as jigs. Normally 16 pounds will win a tournament, but not at this tournament. We caught most of our fish in the area between the launch ramp and the river, on either a spinnerbait or Texas-rig. It was amazing seeing all the big fish at the weigh in. I can't wait for Roosevelt next month.

Team Ray Riley & Butch Dangelo Work Dam Area for 8th Place Finish

Bringing five fish to the scales weighing 15.21 lbs was enough to earn Team **Ray Riley & Butch Dangelo** the 8th Place money.

Ray Riley & Butch Dangelo: Congrats to Jerry Askam and Tom Savage for First Place Overall and 2nd Place Big Bass. Congrats also go to Tom Alauria for the 1st Place Big Bass and 4th Place Overall. Good job guys. After pre-fishing Monday and Tuesday I would have never guessed all of the heavy bags that would be weighed-in on tournament day and the number of big fish. Thank goodness for Butch

who got us started early and often. During the tournament, we experienced periods of nothing, then a few fish taking our lures, then nothing again. Thank you Butch, anyone will be lucky to have you as their co-angler.

We only fished the dam end of the lake during the tournament. After venturing to the river end for a few hours during pre fish and seeing all the trash we decided to stay in the cleaner water even knowing most of the bigger fish would come from the river end. Our live well kept getting lots of fine trash and I was worried about dead fish and motor problems. We had our best luck while fishing in shallow water very close to shore, with green jigs and lizards while moving the lure very slowly. Butch carried us through but I handled the net never losing a fish. I am really looking forward to Roosevelt Lake next month.



8th Place Butch Dangelo & Ray Riley



Weighing-In By Gary Martlage Tournament Director

Another club tournament is in the books. From the look of the numbers on the scales, I think we weighed more pounds of fish in the history of the club. The weights were consistent with good times had by all (except for one blown motor).

In November, the club has reserved the Group Use area at Alamo for the tournament. This will give guys an option to camp together, and use the Ramada for a barbecue, and weigh-in site. Poker will also be on the menu, for you gamblers, under a nice lighted Ramada.

Thanks, again to the weigh staff, and all the volunteers that help keep this club the best organization in the state. Without all the support, it could not happen as smoothly as it does.

Greg Prather's wife Pam had a stroke as he was preparing to leave for Alamo. I have heard she is responding well. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Greg and Pam. We hope for a positive recovery for Pam and a speedy return for Greg to the tournament scene.

Hope to see all of you (and more) at Roosevelt next month. Let's see if we can set a new weight record at Roosevelt.

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Alamo - March 20, 2019



Who Won?



Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2019 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Gary Grimes 623-203-7436

SECRETARY

Terry Tassin 623-931-1546

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Gary Martlage 602-616-1001

Committee / Chairmen

PROGRAMS

Tom Savage

GOVERNMENT LIASION

Jack Hughes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Terry Tassin

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE Gary Martlage - Chairman

Gary Grimes, Terry Tassin, Tom Savage, John Reichard

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Tom Savage

RAFFLE COMMITTEE -- George Cobasky

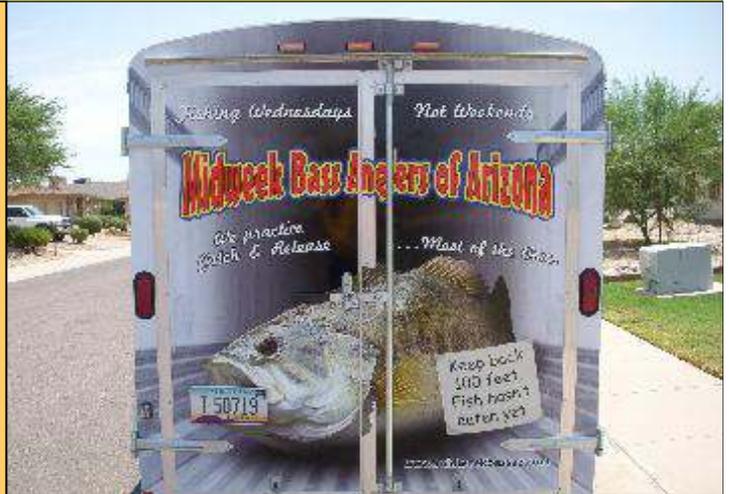
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE - Vacant

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

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

**Dale Bayless (B)
Tanner Cormier (B)
Christian McKay (CO)
Kenny Myers (B)
Joe Zimmerman (B)**

Please meet and greet our new members



Club Apparel

Individuals wishing to purchase a club shirt, jersey, or cap can order directly from our president.

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

- Gary Asmus
- David Baca
- Gary Blaustein Jr.
- Spencer Hand
- Hal Hensey
- Lou Hirlemann
- Pat Johnstonbaugh
- Christian McKay
- Joe Zimmerman



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2019
Tournament Schedule**

- 16 January Pleasant
- 20 February Martinez
- 20 March Alamo
- 17 April Roosevelt
- 15 May Bartlett
- 19 June Canyon
- 17 July Saguario
- 21 August Bartlett
- 18 September Saguario
- 16 October Roosevelt
- 20 November Alamo