



# MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

## Bass Bites

### FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



OCTOBER 2018 EDITION  
13 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005  
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



### President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes

On January 5, 2019 Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona celebrates its 14<sup>th</sup> year in existence. What began in the tackle aisles of Waterdog Willy's West fishing store has grown into the largest independent bass club in the state of Arizona. We approach the end of the year with 116 members, averaging almost 50% participation in each tournament we host. I am very appreciative of what we have in Midweek.

I know every month we have a tournament our members will receive the proper information to be adequately prepared for the event. They will know where they are fishing, along with details of the facilities and accommodations. They will know who they are fishing with, and how to contact them. This is all thanks to the tremendous effort of Terry Tassin, our club secretary since the beginning of the club, whose endless emails ensure we are properly informed.

I am confident that our club monies are handled properly. Our guys can pay in person or online, and every cent is carefully accounted for. I know that all of our purchases are carefully planned, our bank account is balanced, our

books are clean, and that every prize winner can pick up his check at the next meeting or have it mailed to him. This is because of the watchful eyes of John Reichard, our club treasurer.

We all love to fish and even more to catch fish. Water is certainly not plentiful in Arizona, therefore limiting our options on where to fish. Combine that with severe weather problems, water quality issues, fishery conditions and dropping water levels, can make for somewhat of a challenge in crafting a workable tournament schedule each year; but it always seems to work. Team pairings are conducted at the meeting, but inevitably changes occur before tournament day. A boat breaks, an illness or injury occurs, or work schedules change.

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# Happy Halloween



**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"

However, I know that efforts will be made to insure a replacement partner or boat will happen so that every person who wishes to fish is able. This all happens because of the diligent and tireless efforts of our tournament director, Gary Martlage.

One of the highlights of our monthly meeting is the distribution of the previous tournament winnings. I just love to hear how guys found success at a lake, especially when I struggled. At the end of the year, I know that our awards banquet will be top notch. I also look forward to the banquet raffle, where I have a chance to win some great prizes. This is thanks in no small part to the efforts of Tom Savage, our club Vice President. Tom has a friendly, easy going attitude, which makes him easily approachable. In addition, his Mark Twain like common sense provides the board with sound reason as we consider the various matters before us.

These guys are the best. It is because of their dedicated efforts that our club runs as smoothly as it does. It is because of their work that we are able to fish tournaments every month. Thank you gentlemen for all that you do.

## Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 7 November** 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 is scheduled for **Lake Alamo on 27 & 28 November 2018**. Club launch headquarters, tournament hours, and weigh-in location will be announced.



## Tournament Report Lake Roosevelt October 17, 2018

### Crank Baits Work Best To Propel Team Gary Grimes & Rick Brown To 1st Place Finish

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **Gary Grimes & Rick Brown** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 14.96 lbs. Thanks to Gary's 4.53 lb bass the team also won **1st Place Big Fish** honors.

**Rick Brown:** Gary Grimes is in Mexico fishing, so I get the honor of telling fish stories on our behalf. Gary had done some pre-pre-fishing and had found a couple of different bites that were working. Pre-fishing Tuesday morning, after the rain finally stopped, we headed out into the cloudy and windy weather to see which bite was still holding up. The crankbait bite seemed to be working best. We caught several fish around the lake, and after catching a couple of bigger ones at the Salt end of the lake, we decided to start there on tournament day.

We started out tournament day both throwing crankbaits in 1 to 15 feet of water. We were catching mostly smaller fish with the occasional 2 plus pound fish. We were so confident in our bite that we were throwing small fish back before we had a limit in the boat. Around 9 AM we stopped at a point and worked a little slower

## Club Officers Elected for 2019

The **Board of Directors** is pleased to announce the election of the following members as Officers of the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona Inc for the year 2019:

<b>President:</b>	<b>Gary Grimes</b>
<b>Vice Pres:</b>	<b>Tom Savage</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Terry Tassin</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>John Reichard</b>
<b>Tmt Director:</b>	<b>Gary Martlage</b>



**1st Place Overall Rick Brown & Gary Grimes**

with some Carolina Rigs and within a few casts Gary put a nice fish just over 3 lbs in the boat. We made a move to the main lake with no luck then returned back where we started for another run. After about an hour we caught 2 upgrades including the 4.53 lb bass caught by Gary on a crankbait in about 10 feet of water. We felt like our bite was just getting better, then the wind pretty much pushed us out of there. Gary and I had a great time fishing together even though he practically drown us both while pre-fishing when we struck a wave and a wall of water came into the boat; thankfully we were wearing full raingear. Thanks to the weigh-in crew for a great job as usual.

## Jeff Mason & Tom Atherton Crank Their Way To 2nd Overall

In **2nd Place** the team of **Jeff Mason & Tom Atherton** weighed five bass for a total weight of 12.10lbs. Tom's 2.97 lb bass took **2nd Place Big Fish** honors for the team.

**Jeff Mason:** Another well run tournament by Midweek Bass Anglers, thanks guys! Congrats to Gary Grimes and Rick Brown for their great bag. I enjoyed fishing with my partner Tom Atherton; we pre-fished Tuesday and did pretty

### Membership

As of October 20, 2018 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of **116** dues paid active members.

well with Tom doing most of the damage on a variety of baits, mostly cranks and chatterbaits, in the clearer water. I had pre-fished last Thursday and pulled up to a rocky point in the Salt end of the lake and in six casts I missed a nice one and caught a 4 pounder on a crankbait. We stayed away from this point on Friday and decided to make it our starting point on Wednesday.

Tom got us started on a crankbait catching our big fish (2.97 lbs) for the day and 2nd Big Fish for the tournament. We stayed on the same point until 9:30 catching all of our keepers for the day except one. We had close to 12 pounds with all of the fish coming on a KVD 5XD crankbait. I caught our 5th keeper off the flat at Salome at around 2:30 PM on a KVD 6XD crankbait pushing us just over 12 lbs for the day. Thanks Tom for being a great partner.

**Tom Atherton:** First, congratulations to Gary & Rick on the win and the "big fish". Jeff Mason





**2nd Place Jeff Mason & Tom Atherton**

and I were able to get out and pre-fish the day before the tournament, and we caught fish in several different areas of the lake, on crankbaits, chatterbaits, dropshots, and jigs.

We started tournament day fishing in an area east of Windy Hill on a point Jeff was saving that we had not pre-fished; it turned out to be a good spot as we had our limits within the first hour and a half, and stayed there for quite a while culling out the smaller ones. We went looking for some bigger fish in some areas we had fished the day before, but we did not find any monsters. I caught our biggest fish on a citrus shad colored crank bait, fishing a rocky point in about 12 feet of water. Jeff is a great guy to fish with, and did an excellent job handling the boat in the windy (sloppy) conditions. I am looking forward to being paired with him again sometime.

### **Team Gary Senft & David Brakefield Scratch Lake Bottom For 3rd Place Finish**

#### **Tournament Statistics**

Fifty-six men fished 9 hours each, bringing 127 bass to the scales for a total weight of 210.31 pounds with a 3.75 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.65 lbs. All fish but one were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.

Team **Senft & Brakefield** weighed five bass for 10.47 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

**Gary Senft:** It was a good day until the wind started blowing. We decided to start across from Windy Hill hitting on the round rocks with crank baits. We caught three of our keeper fish there. We then moved on to points and used Texas rigged power worms, brush hogs, and jigs. When the wind increased we moved to the dam and got on a good jig bite. David Brakefield and I had a very good day catching over 40 fish. Congratulations to the big winners Gary Grimes and Rick Brown.

**David Brakefield:** I fished with "the man" Gary Senft; a wealth of fishing knowledge. We fished points across the lake from the Windy Hill ramp first thing in the morning, throwing crank baits. Gary caught one on the first cast. We culled before we even had five keepers in the live well. We then went to a couple of Gary's secret points further up the lake towards the river, only to find they were on the list of secret points for others too. We finally settled on a small island on the east side of the lake where we spent a lot of time and caught a lot of fish, mostly small ones. We caught the fish we weighed-in over a period of time off points and around that island, then the wind kicked in. We then went to a spot near the dam to try to get out of the wind and rough water and picked up some more small ones. We did catch a lot of fish on tournament day using white crank baits, morning dawn drop shots and 'sparkly' jigs. We were lucky to be



**3rd Place Gary Senft & David Brakefield**

able to hang the larger ones we brought to the scales. It was a great day on the lake for us.

## Team Lou Hirlemann & Richard Brookins Deep Crank To 4th Overall Finish

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Lou Hirlemann & Richard Brookins** weighed five fish for a total weight of 10.36 lbs.

**Lou Hirlemann:** Thanks again to all the guys putting in the hard work and extra time running the tournament. I had a good time fishing with my new friend Richard Brookins. We caught our fish in ten to twenty feet of water with chigger craws and a 10 inch worm. We are both looking forward to camping and fishing again at Lake Alamo in November.

### Guest Column

*By Ingo Moura*

I would like to start out by apologizing to the entire club for inadvertently leaving six bass in the livewell; and especially to my partner Amos Davis. I'd like to take sole and full responsibility, but unfortunately in this circumstance it's a team sport and we both were DQ'd, for my mistake. Amos is a great guy and goes home with his integrity intact. We fished our behinds off too. We both spoke about it and we're okay with it, rules are the rules, live and learn right? We in no way are discouraged in the possibility of coming back sometime and beating more than half the field again - LOL. We actually weighed the second biggest fish of the day which weighed 4.30 lbs - I caught it on a Sexy style Crank bait. We caught about 15-20 fish all day but they were all "rats". We ended the day with 8.86 lbs that would have put us in 10th place.

Conditions were rough with the high wind in the afternoon. As we all know half the fun is planning, meeting your new partner, camping out with the boys, shooting the bull, and as we all know - around the campfire the first liar never stands a chance! I am already planning for Alamo next month – can hardly wait. Fish On!



**4th Place Richard Brookins & Lou Hirlemann**

**Richard Brookins:** I had a great time fishing with Lou Hirlemann; what a master fisherman and a drop shot fanatic. Just kidding, however, he did start off with a drop shot near the dam and landed a small one. Lou then switched to a deep crank bait and boated 4 more fish. Notice you didn't see my name yet. Toward noon we switched to a Carolina rig with a soft plastic crawfish lure and we both caught fish and started to tag the fish for culling. Lou caught two really nice bass, 3 pounds each and we then moved down the lake in the wind and I managed to catch a 2 pounder to add to our limit. What a great time and a great teacher. I ended up learning a lot. Love Midweek Bass and the members.

## Richie Rojas & Allen Wacker Finish 5th

A five fish limit weighing 10.23 lbs was enough to earn **Team Richie Rojas & Allen Wacker** the **5th Place** money.



No catching report was turned in but above is a photo of the guys.

### Crank Baits Key To Team Lester Rapp Jr. & Ron Pikul 6th Place Win

Bringing five fish to the scales weighing 9.88 lbs was enough to earn **Lester Rapp Jr. & Ron Pikul** the **6th Place** honors

**Ron Pikul:** Congrats to all winners, Lester Rapp and I caught all our fish cranking windy banks with cobblestone rock, up shallow. We caught lots of fish all day. I even caught a double (two fish at once) on my crankbait, and they were a couple of size upgrades for us. All our fish came out of dirty water; mostly in Salome Cove.

### Team John Hawkins & Gary Martlage Fish Soft Plastics For 7th Place Finish

A five fish limit weighing 9.50 lbs was enough to earn **John Hawkins & Gary Martlage** the **7th Place** money. Gary's 3.02 lb catfish took the tournament **Goon Fish** honors for the team.

**Gary Martlage:** John Hawkins and I had the pleasure of fishing together for the first time in our club. John is one of the most pleasurable guys to fish with, and we surely enjoyed the day together. We fished main lake underwater reefs



**7th Place John Hawkins & Gary Martlage with Gary Grimes standing in for Martlage**

with jigs, drop-shots in MM III color, and Carolina- rigs to catch over 30 plus fish. The Goon Fish - a 3 pound flathead catfish - hit a jig in 40 feet of water as I was reeling in a Yamamoto jig. The way the catfish was pulling I thought the 5 lb Pot was going to be won at last, but "Tiny Dancer" Hawkins made the call "Catfish" after the fish would not surface. Congrats to the winners, and see you all at Lake Alamo in November.



### Weighing-In By Gary Martlage Tournament Director

This will be short as I am leaving to visit my 90 year old father in Indy. I can't say enough about you guys that volunteer to help during and after the tournament. My special thanks go to the weigh-in team; we, at times, were actually taking breaks between bags of fish being weighed. What a well oiled machine we are! Also, thanks to Floyd Vaughn for providing the shuttle service, and Lou Hirlemann for helping a guy with a bad back, to pack up after the weigh-in was completed.

Our final tournament of the year is next month at **Alamo**. Please note the date change, to after the Thanksgiving holiday – **27-28 November**. Everyone should plan on participating in this one, as this should be one of our premier tournaments of the year. Not to mention the results of the Alamo tournament may have a noticeable affect on the contenders for Angler of the Year, Boater, and Co-Angler of the year honors.

Again, thanks to all, especially Fred Krumsiek and Greg Prather for towing in our only boat casualty of the tournament day. This is what makes MBA the premier fishing club of Arizona.

# CAUTION

**FISHING AND HUNTING  
STORIES IN PROGRESS  
PROTECTIVE BOOTS  
MAY BE REQUIRED**

# Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt - October 17, 2018

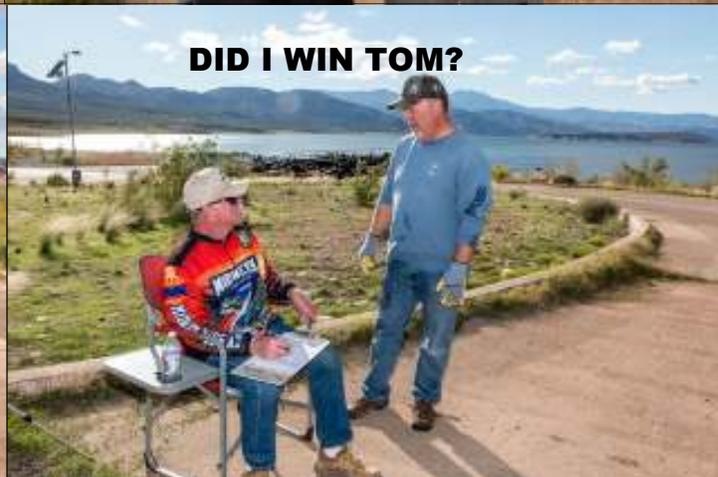


**TOURNAMENT START TIME!**

© Utton Photography.



**BUDS FOR LIFE**



**DID I WIN TOM?**



**THERE I WAS AT 10K FEET WITH NO PARACHUTE.**



**I TELL YOU IT WAS THIS BIG!**

**Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2019 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**

**Jeff Bradley (CO)  
Pat Johnstonbaugh (CO)  
Lester Rapp Jr. (B)**



**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 November**

- Kurt Bates
- George Cobasky
- Ernie Modzelewski
- Ingo Moura
- Terry Simpson
- Dennis Thiel
- Greg Utton
- Floyd Vaughan



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2018  
Tournament Schedule**

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 17 January     | Bartlett          |
| 21 February    | Roosevelt         |
| 20-21 March    | Havasu (1.5 Days) |
| 18 April       | Alamo             |
| 16 May         | Roosevelt         |
| 20 June        | Bartlett          |
| 18 July        | Pleasant          |
| 15 August      | Bartlett          |
| 19 September   | Pleasant          |
| 17 October     | Roosevelt         |
| 27-28 November | Alamo (1.5 Days)  |