



MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS
OF ARIZONA INC

B a s s B i t e s

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



SEPTEMBER 2017 EDITION
12 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

President's
Perspective

By Gary Grimes



I am not sure how long it has been since we fished Saguaro in September, as we normally fish Roosevelt Lake. It can still be so hot in September that we decided to keep it close to home this time, therefore eliminating the need for camping or hotels. We also changed the stop time to 1PM from 2PM, in order to minimize potentially dangerous heat exposure. If the results of our latest tournament are any indication, this is definitely something we should schedule again.

After grinding out the summer at Bartlett Lake in both July and August, it was refreshing to fish a lake where you can catch fish larger than one

pound. It was pretty awesome watching all the nice bags of fish come to the scales during the weigh in. In order to cash a check at Saguaro, you needed at least 14.6 pounds. This means if you had 12.8 lbs, like Mike Adamson and I did, you were out of the money. It is noteworthy that 12.8 lbs would have won the last 3 September tournaments at Roosevelt, which of course is a testimony to the quality of fish in Saguaro Lake.

Even though Saguaro has great numbers of quality fish, you still have to find them, and catch them. They don't just jump in the boat. But if you can figure out where they are and what they want, you can

certainly put together a very nice bag of fish. This fact was demonstrated by our top three teams, whose weights were all around 20 lbs. Awesome job! The largest bag was caught by the jig-master himself, David Baca and partner Scott Olivier, whose 21.21 lbs was sufficient to secure the win. Second and 3rd place went to Asmus/Thomas and Prather/Meyer, respectively, whose 19 pound bags would be sufficient to win most tournaments on any given day. Great job guys.

Trying to run a 30 boat tournament at Saguaro Lake is not without its challenges. The lake is small, with lots of uneducated and inconsiderate

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”

recreational boaters. The parking lot is smaller than the Butcher Hook's gravel lot, and quite poorly designed on top of that. Our anglers did a great job staying safe on and off the water, with the single exception of Lew Southard, who hit a rock in the river. Other than that we had no injuries. One of our new anglers, Sam Schattenberg, did experience a dead battery on the water and was graciously towed back to the docks by Mark Royal/Sean Ballard. The weigh-in team of Martlage, Hand, Tassin, Savage and Alauria were again fast, efficient, accurate and professional. Thank you guys, you are awesome.

Next month, October, Midweek Bass will be at Roosevelt Lake, where the cooler fall temps should make for good fishing and great camping. Hope to see you there.

Next Meeting Next Tournament

Our next club general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 4 October** 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 planned for **Lake Roosevelt** on **18 October 2017**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.



**Lake Saguario
Report
September 20, 2017
By Terry Tassin**

Team David Baca & Scott Olivier Jig River For 1st Place Win

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **David Baca & Scott Olivier** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 21.21 lbs.

David Baca: Thanks again to Midweek Bass for putting together another quality tournament and to my co-angler Scott Olivier who is not

only a great guy to fish a tournament with but is also the best netter I have ever seen. I do not think we lost a single fish Wednesday and he even did a fantastic netting job when he scooped up a 4lb large mouth, my rod and reel, and a jar of Uncle Josh pork all in one scoop. Hats off to Scott who is also a great fisherman.

We started the day off in the river about a mile from the no-entry buoys and started to get bit right away using jig and pig and chigger craws. We had a small limit in about 30 minutes and the bite only got better and bigger. By about 11:30 we had culled our smallest fish



"I think they know the 12 hour insect repellent is about to expire"



**1st Place Overall
Scott Olivier & David Baca**

that weighed about 3 1/2 lbs and kept getting fish about 4 lbs that would not let us cull anymore. My guess is that we caught about 25 to 30 fish between 3 and 4 1/2 lbs which was about as fun as it gets. Most of the fish came in less than 10 feet of water. Thanks again to Scott and all the fishermen in Midweek Bass!

Scott Olivier: I often sign up as a co-angler to learn as much as I can from all the experienced anglers in the club. This month I had the pleasure of fishing with David Baca. From a co-angler perspective, I couldn't ask for more. Obviously we got on the right fish and it was a blast, but even if we hadn't caught a fish all day, the tournament would have been a success in my book. David really took the time to explain patterns, techniques, and why we were doing everything we were doing. My only complaint is he

wouldn't let me keep any of my fish in the livewell :)

David had prefished for a few days and had a good bite going so we started the day up the river and ended up staying there all day catching jig fish in pockets and cliff walls in shallow water. I spent most of the day netting David's fish and playing accountant with the live well. We probably caught around 20-25 fish with each one being bigger than the next one until we started culling 4 pound fish and then it was time to weigh in. One thing that really impressed me is how we would fish an area that someone else just went through and David would always manage to pull the big fish out. There is definitely a technique to catching toads and David has it figured out. Thanks to David for letting me ride along and thanks to all the guys who put everything together for us to fish every month.

Team Asmus & Thomas Fish Senko's In River For 2nd Place Overall

In **Second Place** the team of **Gary Asmus & Howard Thomas** weighed five bass for a total weight of 19.41 lbs.

Gary Asmus: It was a great day on the lake, especially when we caught 4 pounders most of the day! Howard Thomas is great to fish with and I am looking forward to fishing with him again. The bite was in the river. As most of the club was fishing up there, we

started at the no wake buoys at the river entrance waiting for all the guys to stake out their fishing areas.

We left our first spot after about 45 minutes and fished behind some of the other teams and started catching bass. The bite got better after a couple of hours and they were mostly stacked up shallow on the bank. A really fun day of fishing and catching.

Howard Thomas: "Up the river and over the lake a fishing we shall go; I'm getting better at netting big fish and it's really starting to show". So much for that song but it is getting closer to Christmas. Like the famous Yogi Berra might have said "It was a great day fishing but it sucked". You might ask "how's that". Well I will tell you. I would catch a 2 or 3 pounder and Gary would catch a 4 pounder and throw my fish back in the lake. I felt



**2nd Place
Gary Asmus & Howard Thomas**

like Rodney Dangerfield saying I got no respect, you know what I mean. No more Howie big fish. It's Howie big fish netter. Between Baca and Asmus I'm getting a lot of experience netting big ones, so if you plan on catching big fish in the tournament you might ask for "Howie Big Net" for your teammate.

All kidding aside I really had a great time. Beautiful weather but the best was Gary's country music with Brooks and Dunn. It felt like I was fishing off a wake board boat at Lake Havasu during spring break. Loved it! We fished up the river all day with the rest of the boats. I wasn't sure if it was a tournament or a club meeting. Gary missed the first fish on top water early then grabbed a Senko setup and never put it down. My first fish was on a spy bait off the middle of the river and then I also started fishing with a Senko. The fish seemed to be in shadows on the walls, around boulders, and next to patches of grass in the cuts and coves. So Gary thanks for catching the big ones and I will see you at Cabela's or Bass Pro or maybe at a nice restaurant with the money you helped me win. I'm not a drinker but Gary, "This new rod and dinner is for you." We also won without my big tackle bag because Gary said his boat already had enough weight to pull with him and me in it. He is kind of heavy so I left the bag at home. Gary thanks for a great time on the water and I hope to get to fish with you again.

Team Greg Prather & Jeff Meyer Fish Wacky Style And Finish In 3rd Place

Team **Prather & Meyer** weighed five bass for 19.07 pounds and took home **3rd Place** honors.

Jeff Meyer: First off I'd like to say congratulations to the first place team, way to go. Next I'd like to thank Greg Prather, my boater, for being such a great stick. I also would like to thank all the people that make this club the quality club it is.

I first met Greg on Friday prior to the tournament to pre-fish. On that day he introduced me to fishing wacky style in a way I haven't done before. He then proceeded to catch many fish to my one that day LOL along with losing a fish that was 10 plus pounds!

Come tournament day we started out with a game plan Greg felt we would have the best chance of catching fish; and boy was he right. Immediately we went to the river after takeoff. That's where we stayed the entire day basically beating the banks. Some shoreline stretches were better than others but for the most part every where we went Greg would catch fish. When I say Greg would catch fish I mean that literally. He must have caught at least 10 fish before I could get one in the boat. All our fish were caught shallow fishing wacky style worms. I look forward to fishing with Greg in the future both



**3rd Place
Greg Prather & Jeff Meyer**

with the club and outside. It was truly an awesome day and such a good time. Not many days can you sit there and cull three pound fish, as we were doing that day.

Team Martlage & Stone Limit Early For 4th Place Finish

Team **Gary Martlage & Jeff Stone** weighed five bass for 17.35 pounds and took home **4th Place** honors.

Gary Martlage: Our plan was to go to a reef where my partner Jeff Stone had caught some fish a few days earlier, then execute my plan of heading up river. Putting 11 fish in the boat and having our limit in the first 45 minutes sure helped our attitudes! We switched up and chased 5 plus pounders in the main lake for the rest of the day, but never got the opportunity to see one on the end of our line; best we



4th Place
Jeff Stone & Gary Martlage

could do was a 4.21 pounder. Our fish were caught on 3/8 ounce brown B&M Baits jigs on a 10 foot break line, dropping into 30 plus feet. Kind of a bittersweet finish, but this event made up for our last trip at Roosevelt last year. Jeff is a good stick and I hope to hook up with him again.

Jeff Stone: When they say it's a team event - it is a team event. I suggested a place to fish, Gary Martlage went there, and then it was lights out for the fish. Gary was bringing in the bass just like in the movies of the old days of Tuna fishing. I spent more time holding the net and netting his fish than I spent holding my fishing pole. We hit our limit within about an hour and a half. Luckily enough I got to add one to our live well. Great fishing!

Team Clinton Bell & George Cobasky Fish "Glory Hole" For 5th Place

Team **Bell & Cobasky** weighed five bass for 16.47 pounds and took home **5th Place** honors. Clinton's 5.74 lb bass took **1st Place Big Fish** honors and the **5 lb Pot** prize.

George Cobasky: While I was vacationing in Branson, Missouri, Clinton Bell was hard at work finding our fishing spot. Heck, it wasn't a spot - it was a 'glory hole'. I had the first and biggest fish in the live well in ten minutes after the start of the tournament, but after Clinton got his line in the water and started catching bigger fish out of the glory hole my minnow sized bass was gone. It was a pleasure fishing with one of the club's top fishermen. Clinton knew what bait to fish for this time of year and how to work the setup. Between 7:30 and 8:00 Clinton had bagged our catch. We lost two fish and Clinton used his live well skills all day long trying to save his catch. He had to put bigger fish back into



5th Place
George Cobasky & Clinton Bell

the lake because of the dying fish. The five fish I caught were minnows compared to Clinton's. I enjoyed fishing with Clinton and watching him work his magic. I now have outstanding fish netting skills.

Team Randy Bosket & Jason Stanton Fish Narrows For 6th Place

A five fish limit weighing 14.60 lbs was enough to earn **Randy Bosket & Jason Stanton** the **6th Place** honors.

Randy Bosket: I had a great time fishing with my partner Jason Stanton and we had a great day overall. First thing in the morning we headed over to a cove off of the main lake where it narrows and pretty much spent the whole day there. We caught many fish that were about 1.5 to 2.5 pounds and pulled our final bag from the biggest of them. We used drop shot in a purple color and white flukes to catch most of them but we were able to get one quality fish on a frog. The great weather we had made the day even more special.

Jason Stanton: I was excited to fish Saguaro Lake as I had recently figured out a very fun pattern. I was catching fish on a top water frog coming into the tournament; however I noticed the water temperature had dropped 10 degrees in 4 days. I tried the frog and caught one of our keepers on it. I decided to slow down my approach and use a little bit more of a finesse technique. I broke out a zoom fluke in white ice color.



6th Place
Randy Bosket & Jason Stanton



Rusty Murdock & Ron Pikul
5.25 lb 2nd PI Big Bass of the
Tournament

hour earlier Richie Rojas and Ray Riley came to me to weigh their catfish. Sorry Richie and Ray.



Tom Alauria & Ingo Moura
Winning Goon Fish - 8.58 lb
Catfish being weighed by Larry
White.

Normally, I would work it like a jerkbait, but I noticed the fish responding more to it on the fall. So we both tied them on and threw them out and let them fall through the water column. We caught about 20 to 25 fish in one single cove and had a blast watching the fish come get our baits.

Team Rusty Murdock & Ron Pikul Go Up River Find 2nd Place Big Bass

Ron Pikul: Our team caught all of our fish - including the 5.25 pound 2nd Place Big Bass in one 30 yard stretch of bank with a channel point in the river. We spent most of the morning fishless. At 9:30 we stopped on a river channel point where we got five bites including our 5.25 pounder; however, we lost two of those fish. Everything happened in about one hour of fishing. I ended up being the net man and our ticket was a drop shot.



Rusty Murdock with 5.25 lb
2nd Place Big Bass

Tom Alauria & Ingo Moura Drop Shot Goon Fish Prize

Tom Alauria: Not much to tell about the big catfish. It hit a drop shot with morning dawn Robo worm in 20 feet of water. The funny part was that an

Ingo Moura: Fishing in general was not very productive for Tom Alauria and I; we were not up the river where some of the boys were having the time of their lives.

Congrats to Scott Olivier & David Baca and thanks to all the staff and volunteers; you all give the time of your lives and it's much appreciated. While fishing over by Ship Wreck Rock we saw Richie Rojas fighting a fish and he was taking some time getting the fish into the boat. I said to myself I bet it's a catfish and sure enough he and his partner headed our way and I said to Tom, I bet they need us too verify their fish. It was a nice catfish which I believe was just over 6 pounds. We were teasing them that we will catch the same one and call it a ounce bigger. Tom did catch

his bigger catfish and we knew it wasn't even close. Then later in the day, in the general area Tom caught the 8.58 pounder we had Larry white confirm the cat's weight. All the guys we interact with on the lake are so cool; everyone is always willing to help. Really, this club has so much class I'm glad to be a part of it. See you boys at Rosie next month.

NOTE FROM RAY RILEY: What a fun ride. On tournament day my boater (and great fisherman) Richie Rojas caught a 6 plus pound catfish and we saw Tom Alauria and his co-angler Ingo Moura near by so we went over to them to have them verify the weight and take a photo for the goon fish prize. We jokingly said now you guys know what size you have to catch to win the goon prize. At weigh in there it was – Tom Alauria and Ingo Moura with a 8.58 pound catfish listed on the unofficial white board. I said you son of a gun you did it. Tom laughed and said it was easy since he knew how big he needed it to be. When Terry sent out the results, he had Richie and me with big goon fish. I thought that was a great joke that Tom played on us making us think he won, since he was the one keeping records on the white board. I texted Tom and told him what a great joke it was and how hard I had laughed. Soon after that Terry sent out a revised results showing Tom and Ingo with a 8.58 pound goon fish – the REAL winners. I had to laugh again so a well scripted joke could not have played out any better. Richie and I were joked three times HOOK, LINE, and SINKER. Congratulations Tom and Ingo.



Not to be out done Tom Savage offered this evidence of his catfish that just missed winning the Goon Fish pot. It was hooked on a C-rig.



New Member Jason Okamoto



New Member Brad Shoemaker



Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2017 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**

**Brad Shoemaker (B)
Jason Okamoto (CO)**

**Midweek Bass Anglers 2018
Tournament Schedule**

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

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in October

Ernie Arvizu

Tom Atherton

Ron Bailey

Kyle Campbell

Mark Durben

Mike Grisham

Fred Krumsiek

Mark Royal



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2017
Tournament Schedule**

18 January	Bartlett
15 February	Roosevelt
14-15 March	Havasu (1.5 Days)
19 April	Saguaro
17 May	Apache
21 June	Pleasant [Canx]
19 July	Bartlett (Night)
16 August	Bartlett
20 September	Saguaro
18-October	Roosevelt
14-15 November	Apache (1.5 Days)