



MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



SEPTEMBER 2019 EDITION
14 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective *By Gary Grimes*

August and September have certainly been difficult fishing at both Bartlett Lake and Roosevelt Lake tournaments. I certainly do not have the answers. Could it be moon phase? Our tournaments have been just after full moons the last couple of months. Is it just the heat of summer? Your guess is as good as mine. Let's hope October brings better fishing. The weather should certainly be cooler.

Congratulations to John Hilland and Rick Brown on the win at Roosevelt. Their 11.61 lb. sack was huge compared to most of the other bags. It seemed most bags included at least one six-inch bass. I personally saw these bass all over the lake. While changing spots during the tournament, I saw a boil just off of Goose Flats in about 30 feet of water. I stopped and spooned about 6 bass in just a few minutes, all 6-inch bass. Go figure! In spite of all the small fish, there are still big fish. I heard of several guys catching really nice fish the day before the tournament. The big fish of the tournament was just shy of 5 lbs., so the five-pound pot rolls over once more to October.

Several of us stayed at the Roosevelt Lake Resort during the tournament. The staff was super friendly and extended a 10% discount to our club, making the cost per room \$65 a night. The room I stayed in was clean and spacious, had good beds and a decent bathroom. Each room also had a flat screen TV with basic cable, a coffee maker and microwave. It was easy to back your boat right up to your room, and exterior outlets made it easy to charge the batteries at night. The hotel restaurant is spacious and clean, with a beautiful pond directly behind the restaurant which is completely visible through the wall of glass windows in the back. They are open until 8 PM,

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

and feature daily food and drink specials, cold beer and cocktails. After dinner many of us would sit around the shaded areas in front of our rooms and enjoy the cool evenings. It was almost as fun as camping, without all the work. I highly recommend this place.

Two more tournaments left in the year. Next month brings us back to Roosevelt, so all the experience gained from this tournament should make it easier to find fish next month - hopefully. The final tournament of the year will be at Alamo Lake, complete with a club barbeque on the Tuesday night before the tournament. Hope to see you all there.



Tournament Report Lake Roosevelt September 18, 2019

A little 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 tough but fun, fish catching experience.

All teams weighed fish at this tournament, and all but seven fish were released back into the lake to live and fight again another day. Now let's hear from our winners.

Midweek Bass Anglers 2020 Tournament Schedule

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

"We Practice Catch and Release"

John Hilland & Rick Brown Take 1st Place Overall and 1st Place Big Fish

Taking home **1st Place**, Team **John Hilland & Rick Brown** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 11.61 lbs. Rick's 4.90 lb bass took **1st Place Big Bass** honors for the tournament.

John Hilland: Thank you to Midweek Bass and the guys who work so hard behind the scenes to make this such a great group. Once again the odds were in my favor with the #1 boat draw and Rick Brown as a partner for this tournament. I had a few opportunities to get out and prefish before the tournament. Rick was busy helping his son and good friend on an elk hunt so I hit the lake solo.

Tuesday I ran from river to river, shallow to deep trying to find something that might be a pattern. I ended up in the Tonto end of the lake where I found more than one fish that I put in the boat on the same bait. I made a plan to make that the first stop on tournament day; I filled Rick in on what I had found and he agreed. We made the run tournament morning and started fishing topwater and small reaction baits with no luck. We switched over to flipping the brush and trees which had produced for me the day before. It wasn't long and Rick had one on and in the boat, a few casts later and Rick had another one. At this point my net skills were on point. Rick's next fish wasn't so lucky. Once Rick had it in the boat I put the cull tag on and Rick let go, the fish hit the deck bounced once and went back in the lake with the cull tag in my hand. A few hours later Rick yelled for the net and I scooped up what would be our best fish and big fish of the tournament.

All of our fish came from the Tonto flipping with white jigs and Chigger Craws along with a few hitting small swimbaits. Rick was able to fine tune what I found and really put on a clinic on how to put them in the boat. Hope to see you all next month.

Rick Brown: I had the good fortune of going fishing with John Hilland. In talking with John before the tournament, he told me we were heading for the trees to go fishing. I said "Hell Yeah". Tournament morning, we tried top water and reaction baits for awhile with no



1st Place Rick Brown & John Hilland

takers. I switched to a Watermelon Candy Chigger Craw and caught 2 fish that were right on the bank. After working that over with no other takers we went back to working the trees and brush. We were seeing a lot of shad around us so I switched to a white Hula Grub and soon we had another one in the boat, at least for a minute. I was holding the fish, when John went to clip the culling strap and I thought he had it, I was wrong. I let go of the fish, it bounced once off the deck and into the water. Totally my mistake; I obviously should have never let it go until he said he had it. We laughed and joked about it most of the day, of course all the time we were hoping it didn't hurt us in the end. The bites were few and far between. Around 10 AM, as I worked that white Hula Grub thru the brush, I caught a nice one at 4.9 lbs. Soon after that we managed a couple more fish and completed our limit. Thanks to Hilland for the great pre-fishing work and finding us fish to go after; I was just the lucky guy that got to fish with him. Thanks to the Tournament Crew for the perfect job as always.

Steve Grier & Lowell Tucker Stick To Plan And Win 2nd Place Overall

In **2nd Place** Team **Steve Grier & Lowell Tucker** weighed five bass for a total weight of 9.69 lbs.

Steve Grier: I enjoyed fishing with Lowell Tucker; we had a good day on the water and learned a few things together. Prior to the tournament I located one spot that didn't have a lot of fish bites but did seem to have bigger fish biting.

We decided to start there and work to get a limit. It proved to be a good decision. We caught 2 fish early on small white swimbaits around shallow brush and 3 more fish in 15 to 25 feet of water on Carolina Rigs, Texas Rigs and Drop Shots. We had a limit by 8:30. The better fish, 2-1/2, 2-1/2 and 2 pounders, were caught on structure. Baits were watermelon candy baby brush hog, watermelon candy Zoom trick worm, and green craw 5150 worm.

We decided to stay rather than run to other areas thinking there might be one more good bite to put us over

Next Meeting - Next Tournament

Our next club meeting for 2019 is scheduled for **Wednesday, 2 October** starting at 8:00 AM, at **Deer Valley Airport Restaurant** (one mile north off 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 16 October 2019**. Club headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours: **Safe Light to 3:00 PM**.



2nd Place Steve Grier & Lowell Tucker

the top. We worked different sections, baits and depths for the rest of the day and caught 2 more small keepers but didn't get that one more good bite. All in all, we had a successful day and a lot of fun.

**Tony Medina & Howard Thomas
Fish Windy Hill For 3rd Place**

Team **Tony Medina & Howard Thomas** weighed five bass for 7.89 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

Tony Medina: I went to Roosevelt a week before the tournament with my old friend Tommy and we got a taste of how tough it was going to be to get a limit. We ran the lake and only had three small fish to show for our efforts.

On tournament day I had drawn Howard Thomas. I told him how difficult it was going to be, so we brought plenty of rods and lots of baits. On our day before the tournament we found how hard it was going to be to get a five fish limit. We only caught two fish pre-fishing.

We pretty well threw every rod trying to find something that would work, and as it always happens, you finally settle on the old faithful, dropshot.

On tournament day we pretty much stayed around the



3rd Place Howard Thomas & Tony Medina

Windy Hill area and down around the dam where we were able to catch a limit. Our Morning Dawn worm did most of our catching in about twenty feet of water.

We ended up with 8.14 lbs when we weighed our fish. At the weigh-in when they first looked at our catch they said we only had four fish. They couldn't see the 'rat' we couldn't cull. I had a nice one on and lost him at the boat. But we were both surprised that we finished in third place despite our one 'rat'.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to the weigh-in crew for another fine job. I am looking forward for the rematch next month back at Rosie.

**Team Paul Ojala & Tom Atherton Fish
On Top For 4th Place**

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Paul Ojala & Tom Atherton** weighed five fish for a total weight of 7.62 pounds. Tom's 2.79 lb bass took **2nd Place Big Bass** honors.

Tom Atherton: First, I would like to thank Gary Martlage, and Terry Tassin, for finding me a boater, after my original boater had to back out with boat problems. Second, I would like to thank Paul Ojala for stepping up to fill the boater spot. Congratulations to John and Rick on the 1st Place win and Big Fish of the tournament.

Paul, nor I, had time to pre-fish and didn't know where to begin. Paul decided to go to the Tonto Creek end of the lake, where we caught fish early, on chartreuse/white Buzz-Baits, and red, and green Texas rigged worms. We also caught one bass on a white spinner bait, culling out a smaller one. I caught the Second Place Big Fish on a Buzz Bait, up in the Tonto Creek end of the lake, in about 8 feet of water.



4th Place Paul Ojala & Tom Atherton

**Vern Ridgway & David Sapyta
Mix It Up For 5th Place**

A five fish bag weighing 7.58 lbs was enough to earn Team **Ridgway & Sapyta** the **5th Place** money.

Vern Ridgway: Congrats go out to John and Rick for



5th Place David Sapyta & Vern Ridgway

placing first and as usual the weigh-in crew did another outstanding job of moving the fish and guys through the scales. I had the pleasure of drawing Dave Sapyta as my boat partner; he worked very hard as our fishing plan fell into place. What was our plan; of course it was to cover as much water as possible throwing reaction baits.

We started in the Salt end of the lake and worked our way to the dam; then returned to our starting point from the morning and did it again. We lost not one but 3 big fish that would have helped the cause, but that's why it's called fishing and not catching.

In addition to reaction baits, the Shaky Head played a key roll as well as the Senko and top water popper baits. Time went very fast and next thing we knew, we had only 12 minutes to get to the scales. It was a good day on the water.

Team Gary Senft & Kevin Russell Go Big For 6th Place

Team **Tom Gary Senft & Kevin Russell** weighed five bass for 7.53 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

Gary Senft: First off congratulations to John and Rick for the 1st Place overall win and 1st Place Big Fish. You did your home work. Prefish on Tuesday was good for us on the main lake, so we started there and stayed there. We started out real slow at the dam throwing big top water baits, but no takers. I went to a Whopper Plopper and caught two of our best fish on that. That bite died pretty fast for us. We then went to plastic drop shot and Texas rigs and Senkos till we finished the day. I can tell you the bite changed a lot from prefish Tuesday to tournament day on Wednesday. A high area pressure came in Wednesday mid-morning which caused the fish

Tournament Statistics

Sixty men fished 7 hours each, bringing 135 bass to the scales for a total weight of 176.87 pounds with a 2.94 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.31 lbs. All but seven fish were released back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.

not to bite very well; we really had to work for them.

Kevin Russell: I was paired with Gary Senft in Boat #7. We caught all of our fish on the main lake between Windy Hill and Cholla launch ramp. We were fishing shallow where bass were eating dragon-flies. We maximized on opportunities when bass were busting shad by throwing dropshots into the melee while probing deep structures along the route of shallow coves. We also threw drop shots into any missed top water boils which proved effective.

Lannes Brock & Greg Utton Work Various Baits For 7th Place Overall Finish

Team Lannes Brock & Greg Utton weighed five bass for a total weight of 7.28 lbs.

Greg Utton: Congratulations to John Hilland and Rick Brown. Over 11 pounds on a tough day is impressive. Can't wait to hear how they did it. Special thanks to the weigh-in team. Midweek Bass tournaments are the best run tournaments of any of the other local clubs that I know of.

This was my first time to fish with Lannes Brock in his new 2019 Nitro. It was a real treat to fish with Lannes. He is a Senko specialist and he really knows his craft and how to put them to work.

We started out the day on a point on the Salt end with lots of bushes in 2 to 4 feet of water. We first tried some top-water baits and had some strikes. I lost one at the boat using a Whopper Plopper. I decided to try some 2.8 Keitech swim baits using small crappie head hooks as something I could get through all the trees with fewer snags. I immediately got three fish in the boat and Lannes got really hot. We were off to the races. By 8:30 we were culling to get rid of our "taco size bass". Even a drop shot using small Shad style baits was working.

Lannes kept pulling more Senko bass into the boat the rest of the morning and we culled out almost all of our small bass. I decided I had to try the Senkos some more so I put a 5" tan colored Senko on a 1/8 oz. wacky hook. I cast it beside a bush in 2 feet of water and immediately



7th Place Greg Utton & Lannes Brock

got hammered by our biggest fish for the tournament.

It was a great day. Beautiful weather, great partner, and enough quality fish to make it fun. What more can you ask for. I can't wait for the next Roosevelt tournament next month.

Team Jeff Mason & Gene Turner Take 8th Place

Five fish weighing 7.15 lbs was enough to earn Team **Jeff Mason & Gene Turner** the **8th Place** money.

Jeff Mason: Congrats to John and Rick on a very tough day at Roosevelt. They both are definitely on a roll. I enjoyed fishing with my partner Gene Turner both pre-fishing on Tuesday and the tournament on Wednesday. We had our limit at 8:30 with Gene catching four of those fish doing most of the damage on a Whopper Plopper. We fished from the dam to the Salt end and we were able to cull three of those fish with a drop shot after 8:30. Looking forward to fishing with Gene again.



8th Place Jeff Mason & Gene Turner

0.64 Pound Crappie Wins Goon Fish Prize for Team Todd Gentner & Jeff Mabry



**Goon Fish Pot - Todd Gentner & Jeff Mabry (NS)
0.64 Crappie = \$100 Prize**

A Little Humor

* All eyes were on the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle. They reached the altar and the waiting groom. The bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand. The guests in the front pews responded with ripples of laughter. Even the priest smiled broadly. As her father gave her away in marriage, the bride gave him back his credit card.

* Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.

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* Three friends from the local congregation were asked, "When you're in your casket, and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?" Artie said, "I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man." Eugene said, "I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people's lives." Al said, "I'd like them to say, 'Look, he's moving!'"

* Mr. Smith climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God. Looking up, he asks the Lord. "God, what does a million years mean to you?" The Lord says, "A minute." Smith asks, "And what does a million dollars mean to you?" The Lord says, "A penny." Smith asks, "Can I have a penny?" The Lord says, "In a minute."

* John was on his deathbed and gasped pitifully, "Give me one last request, dear," he said. "Of course, John," his wife said softly. "Six months after I die," John said, "I want you to marry Bob." "But I thought you hated Bob," she said. With his last breath John said, "I do!"

* A man goes to see the Rabbi. "Rabbi, something terrible is happening and I have to talk to you about it." The Rabbi asked, "What's wrong?" The man says, "My wife is going to poison me." The Rabbi, very surprised by this, asks, "How can that be?" The man then says, "I'm telling you, I'm certain she's going to poison me. What should I do?" The Rabbi then says, "Tell you what. Let me talk to her, I'll see what I can find out and I'll let you know." A week later the Rabbi calls the man. He says, "I spoke to your wife on the phone for three hours. You want my advice?" The man said, "Yes" and the Rabbi said, "Take the poison."

I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one.



Weighing-In

By Gary Martlage
Tournament Director

Another tournament in the books, as 60 of Midweek's finest braved the heat for (hopefully) one last time. I thought fishing was great, but the catching was non-existent. I do believe this tournament has to be one of the worst weights in years on Roosevelt. However, I think the bags will vastly improve next month.

I think our weigh-in crew did an excellent job, especially after the batteries were replaced in the scale. One thing I would ask of you guys, since we are going to fish Roosevelt again, is try to drive your fish down to the lake, as I didn't see anyone doing that. I will try to get some co-angler volunteers to help out also with their trucks, since they are not hooked up to boats.

As always, the club is the best bass club in the state. Any volunteers or any suggestion for improvement is always appreciated. It's YOUR club, let's keep it that way!



Money Matters

By John Reichard
Treasurer

Greetings from your treasurer: Congratulations to all who competed in this month's tournament at Roosevelt. Hope you all had a great time. Since no one won the 5 lb pot, next month's pot should be worth around \$2200.

I remember the last big pot that included back pay from the first of the year which is now a possibility for this pot if not won next month. Good luck to all of you!

Paraprosdokians

Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently humorous. Winston Churchill loved them.

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, 'In

case of emergency, Notify: 'I put 'DOCTOR'.

11. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.

12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

13. I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

14. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

15. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

16. You're never too old to learn something stupid.

17. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

How to start a fight with your wife

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.

My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 165 in about 2 seconds." I bought her a bathroom scale.

And then the fight started.

My wife was standing nude, looking in the bedroom mirror. She was not happy with what she saw and said to me, "I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment." I replied, "Your eyesight's damn near perfect."

And then the fight started.

I rear-ended a car this morning - the start of a REALLY bad day! The driver got out of the other car, and he was a Dwarf! He looked up at me and said "I am not happy!" So I said, "Well, which one are you then?" That's how the fight started.

My wife and I were watching Who Wants To Be A Millionaire while we were in bed. I turned to her and said, "Do you want to have sex?" "No", she answered. I then said, "Is that your final answer?" She didn't even look at me this time, simply saying, "Yes". So I said, "Then I'd like to phone a friend."

And that's when the real fight started.

FISHERMAN'S HOROSCOPE

Libra (Sep 23-Oct 23) - The Fish Scales

Both in your daily life and in fishing, your life has served as a beacon to others - much like a lighthouse warning people off the rocks.

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Roosevelt - September 18, 2019



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**

**Rick Knight (B/CO)
Ronnie Jimenez (CO)**



Please meet and greet our new members.

Club Apparel

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

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday
Born in October

- Tom Atherton
- Dale Byrum
- Tanner Cormier
- Mark Durben
- Fred Krumsiek
- Mark Royal



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2019
Tournament Schedule**

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