



NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2009

38 PROUD YEARS OF FISHING TRADITION

PRESIDENT ~ ZOÉ GARDNER

There is no way to make this article a happy one, so I write with a heavy heart. We all lost a dear friend last month: Bob Eberly. Newer members may not have known him, but many of us did. I know Doris has more written elsewhere in this newsletter, so I will try not to duplicate those efforts by sticking with my own personal recollections. He was a kind and gentle man, and embraced the true spirit of what being a Bassmaster is all about – dignity, honor, good sportsmanship and class. He had the best smile and was always so happy to see us anytime he could fish an out-of-town tournament with us (due to his “at large” status); and was always very gracious when we didn’t have a back seat for him. Donna (Mrs. Eberly), please let me extend our deepest sympathy to you and your family. I want you to know how much Bob meant to our club and how much he was loved. For many of us he made a big difference, and helped “set the bar” for what a real Bassmaster should be. Not by what he told us, but by what he showed us. Thank you for sharing such a special person.



More sad news, Aaron Meleen tendered his resignation as Newsletter Director, and has also resigned from the club. His work schedule has changed so drastically that he has to work on Tuesdays – making it impossible to attend meetings (general and Board). Let me tell you a little bit about how terrific a member Aaron has been. He stepped up at the end of last year and was elected Newsletter Director. He did not start out with a great comfort level, but he did his best and always strived to improve – which he did, every month. He fished the first tournament of the year, then work ruined that for him, with Saturdays scheduled. He did not quit, he kept paying his dues, and he kept serving his club – with virtually nothing in it for him. He graciously volunteered to write October’s article since there is very little turn-around time between our Alamo tournament and our “other” September general membership meeting. I’m always impressed by certain Bassmasters over others, and the common denominator always seems to be a selfless dedication to our club. The “givers” vs. the “takers.” Aaron’s departure creates a vacancy in our Board, and we will have to elect a new Newsletter Director at our next meeting. Please be inspired by Aaron’s efforts and step up. Aaron, thank you for being such a solid Board member and all your hard work. I was always able to count on you for anything, and you served the club well. Inactive or active, you will always be a Bassmaster! Semper Fi, my friend.

More business – September 5th we are running the Bass Council Night Tournament at El Cap. Bud Brant and Ed Byrd passed around a sign-up sheet for those who would help. These guys know what they are doing and will teach you what to do if you volunteer to help. It’s actually very easy. Along those lines, the Bass Council’s finances are not good; mainly because their night tournaments have come across competition with other circuits. Just a little history lesson on this – they were never intended to be big money-makers. The true goal of those tournaments was a fund-raising function for the Hall of Champions in Balboa Park. If you have not seen the Bass Fishing exhibit of that attraction, I encourage you to do so. One of our founding fathers, Bob Cook, was an inductee, as was former member, Kevin Mineo. There is a lot of Bassmaster history there, and we should be proud. But those exhibits are not cheap, everything has become more and more expensive, and the night tournaments have not generated the same interest of yesteryear. Therein lies the financial struggle for the Bass Council – which by the way is not a separate entity from our club – it is an extension of our club; of all the clubs in San Diego. I encourage Bassmasters to not only help with the event, but sign up and fish the event as well. You can get on the lake for \$110 – which all goes to the Council (after lake rental, permits, insurance, food, etc. is taken out of the entry fee); and you can get into various options for an additional \$150 (only if you chose to do so). Let’s get out there and do this right – in “Bassmaster style.” For you new guys – and don’t think I’m bragging, I’m just stating fact: The San Diego Bassmasters typically sets the “gold-standard” for just about anything in our Bass Council community. What’s that saying? With great power, comes great responsibility. Please help.

One last thing. We will have TWO general membership meetings this month. One on September 1st, and the other on September 29th. Please mark your calendars, as both meetings have been strategically scheduled to give Ed and Bud the opportunity to fine-tune any last minute details before we run the two night tournaments we have volunteered to run.

MEMBERSHIP ~ LEE CHAPMAN

As of this date, we have 48 members and 3 prospective members, working their way towards membership.

At our August board meeting I received a letter from Aaron Meleen, notifying us of his resignation from the San Diego Bassmasters. We will miss Aaron for his contributions to the Club and his friendship. His employment will preclude him from participating in most of our club functions due to his new work schedule. Hopefully, he will return to our family down the road.

Chris Bocinec has lost his membership for non-payment of dues.

Sorry to hear of Bob Eberly's passing, and I, personally, will miss him as the guy who pre-fished me 27 years ago when I joined the Club. We all will remember you dearly, Bob, and especially that friendly grin that you possessed.

MINUTES FROM AUGUST MEETING:

President Zoé Gardner called the August 4th meeting of the San Diego Bassmasters to order at 7:05 P.M. at Anglers' Marine.

Guests introduced were: Jennifer Brown, Josh Rhodes, Brandi Manning, Ben Massey, Regina Seaberg and Frank and Gerie Morrin.

Zoé welcomed Marshall Bubel back after his absence due to illness. Bud Brant stated Marshall was supposed to fish the Top 6, but was unable to participate as he was ill. Bud presented Marshall with his Top 6 shirt and hat.

Adam East moved and Jim Putney seconded minutes of the July 7th meeting be approved as printed in the newsletter. Motion carried.

Zoé urged everyone who had orders for Bassmaster wear to pay for them tonight and place any new orders with Dave Patrick.

Members who participated in the Lake Murray Kids Fishing Camp were Ron Overman and Jim Putney with Ed Byrd, Greg and Zoé attending last Friday. The camp consists of instructions on Wednesdays, some boats on Thursday and more boats on Friday to take the kids out on the water. Saturdays are to show off skills for their parents. The next dates are 8/19-21 and 8/26-28 from 8:00 until 11:00 A.M.

Our club will host the San Diego Council of Bass Clubs Night Tournament on September 5/6 at El Capitan. Bud Brant will head the committee of volunteers and Ed Byrd will chair the October 3/4 event. Sign up sheets were passed around for both dates for early and late evening shifts. Bud stated 10-12 people would be needed early to assist with the barbecue and boat inspections with 4 needed for the end of the tournament. Help will be needed running fish back to lake, measuring fish and supplying two patrol boats.

Jim Putney announced the 2010 tournament schedule for the San Diego Council of Bass Clubs was approved at the Jamboree and no holidays are involved. The Top 6 is scheduled for June 12 at Lake Hodges and Harold Stephens wants the club to host it and let him run it. Jim asked members to think about it, as support is needed by the entire club. Bud Brant suggested the draw for the start not be by club name and it was suggested that the draw be by the finish in the past year's tournament.

Frank Morrin told the group about the auto accident involving his boat and trailer on it's way up to Angler's Marine in Anaheim for repairs. A friend was towing it for him when the trailer jackknifed and a lady ran into it. Fortunately everyone survived. Photos were shown of the boat, trailer and motor, which were totaled.

Membership Chairman Lee Chapman stated we would be voting on a new member Chris Warner tonight. He was tournament prefished by Ron Overman and prefished by Larry Ward. He was approved for membership, making our total membership at 49. One member is in arrears in his dues and has until the end of the meeting to pay \$100 or he is out of the club. Note: Chris Bocinec did not show up; therefore is dropped from the membership. Lee thanked Josh Buller and Ryan Test for their help with the roster and Irene Chapman for the computer work. Our two prospective members are not present tonight. Patrick Tryon is on vacation. He will be tournament prefished at Alamo.

Note: Jim Beyrouthey arrived late.

Treasurer Marshall Bubel thanked everyone for all the cards, etc. during his recent illness. He urged everyone to purchase Bassmaster wear to lower the inventory.

Buck Billock turned the meeting over to Bud Brant who talked about Bunco night on August 15 at 6:00 P.M. hosted by him and Donalea at their house. Everyone is to bring an appetizer and pay \$10.00. They need to know how many are coming by August 12th.

Keith Cloward reported our beach party would be on the Silver Strand by Lifeguard Station #3 on September 12th starting at 4:00 P.M. Bring your own drinks, chairs, etc. The cost is \$5.00 per person and \$8.00 to park. Keith will go early to reserve a spot. No alcohol.

Doris Cook presented Lee Chapman with \$5.00 in raffle tickets for guessing the mystery fisherperson as Vicki Becker. Doris asked for more photos for the contest and items for Fish Tales.

Aaron Meleen was absent as he had to work, but Zoé stated he did a good job on the Newsletter.

Tournament Chairman Greg Gardner reported 40 members are signed up for the night tournament at El Capitan on August 7th. He has a variance for both El Capitan tournaments. He has made up weigh slips with the required information for each member to keep in the boat. Pay \$5.00 big fish money tonight and \$23.00 for two permits and launch. Stage in the upper lot and lake personnel will come up when everyone is off the lake. No fishing within 100' of both docks. Three fish limit, 12 inches, mouth closed, swing tail.

Lake Otay night tournament results were: Buck Billock 4th with (3) at 10.62 pounds good for a spool of line. Plaques were presented to Jason Wilson, third with (3) at 10.94; Juan Collins second (3) at 11.54 and first to Larry Ward for (3) going 12.67 with the big fish of 7 pounds.

Gerie Morrin announced there would be a Fishing Information Night School featuring Randy McAbee, at Anglers Marine on Monday, August 10th. Dinner at 6:00 P.M. with the speaker at 7:00 P.M.

The August 18th board meeting will be at the Gardners'.

Zoé thanked Gerie Morrin for dinner, Larry Ward for sodas, Ronnie for the raffle, Ed Marr and Bill Shoemaker for treats.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.



FISH TALES: ~ DORIS COOK

PROUD EVENTS FOR THE STEPHENS!

Harold and Kathy Stephens have two special events to celebrate this month. First, they became Great Grandparents for the first time, when Tiana, their oldest son Mike's daughter gave birth to a 7.14 pound boy on July 16. (Almost a lunker!). Their grandson Mark left on Tuesday, August 18th for Air Force boot camp at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Harold says Mark joined the Air Force because that was the branch of service Grandpa served in, making Harold very proud. They are very proud of both these grandchildren and rightly so.

MORE WINNERS!

Ron Overman and Scott Ashley finished second in the El Cajon Ford Night Tournament on Saturday, August 15th at El Capitan. Their winning stringer weighed 7.38, just under the winning first place weight of 7.55. They received \$1200.00 for their efforts. Ron gave most of the credit to Scott as he caught 12 bass that evening. Good job, guys! Speaking of Ron Overman, I'd like some of his vitamins that keep him going like the Eveready Bunny. Not only did he fish the San Diego Bassmasters' night tournament at Otay, but participated in the San Diego Council of Bass Clubs' Kevin Mineo Night Tournament Series the following night also at El Cap. That wasn't enough so he fished the El Cajon Ford Two Day Event on Monday and Tuesday at Lakes Otay and El Capitan. Way to go, Ronnie!

AN AWARD FOR VICKI!

Vicki Becker was recently featured in a photo in the El Cajon Gazette as one of several people at an awards ceremony for the El Cajon Police Department's Crime Free Multi-Housing Program. Vicki received her certificate for the training in 2000. She got the award for the Villa Patrica Apartments, one of the properties she manages, for the year 2008 for keeping crime and drugs off the property. You go girl!

BRANDON OFF TO FLAGSTAFF!

Brandon Hoffman left Thursday, August 20th to go back to NAU in Flagstaff to begin his sophomore year. He will be sharing an on campus apartment with two roommates this year, which should prove to be lots of fun and work. It was great having him home for the summer and we will miss that smiling face! Have a good year and get good grades!

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS & CONGRATULATIONS!

San Diego Bassmasters getting older this month include: Jim Putney, the big '75' on September 5th; Mike Baird on the 12th; Marshall Bubel, the 20th and Marshall Martin, on the 25th. Larry and Leslie have an anniversary on September 2nd followed by Ed and Cheryl Byrd celebrating 36 years of wedded bliss on September 8th.



MYSTERY FISHERMAN!

Congratulations to Lee Chapman for correctly guessing our young lady fisherperson as Vicki Becker in last month's newsletter. Lee received \$5.00 in raffle tickets as his reward. Should we have more than one correct guess a name will be drawn at the general meeting to determine the winner, who must be present to win. Who is this month's young fisherman? Send your guesses to mscooker@cox.net or bring it to the meeting. Thanks for playing!

Should you have information to share in Fish Tales, contact Doris Cook at (619) 462-4708 or mscooker@cox.net.

FARWELL TO OUR INACTIVE MEMBER BOB EBERLY!

By: Doris Cook

Bob Eberly, 77 was born on May 11, 1932 and passed away on August 8th at his home in Fort Worth, Texas. He had been on oxygen for the past four years due to his COPD, and had recently developed congestive heart failure. After being in the hospital five or six times in June and July, he was able to remain home under the care of Donna and Hospice.

Bob joined the San Diego Bassmasters in the late 70's or early 80's. He remained an active member until 1983 when he and Donna moved to Prescott, Arizona at which time he went inactive. Bob still enjoyed fishing with the club and joined the group several times on out-of-town tournaments at the Lower Colorado River, Lake Havasu and his favorite Lake Alamo. Bob and Donna moved from Prescott, Arizona to Forth Worth, Texas when the elevation became a factor in his breathing problems.



Many of you may remember when he caught the lake record largemouth bass at Lake Otay on March 9, 1980. It weighed 18.75 pounds and still stands as the record largemouth bass for Otay. According to Biologist Larry Bottroff there was an 18.25 pound bass caught the same weekend, but Bob's was heavier due to the fact it had a two pound bullhead catfish in it.

Bob's last wishes were to be cremated and his ashes spread over Lake Alamo, the lake he enjoyed fishing the most. He now joins our other past San Diego Bassmasters, Ed Steiner, John Meyers, Bill Wade, Roy Conklin, Troy House, Pete Mack, Jim Watkins, Ray Morrow, Bob Cook, Larry Giles, John Torbett, Jack Gary, John Johnson, Walt Mays, Charlie Ray, Kevin Mineo and Don Lawrance. I'm sure they are all enjoying fishing that big lake in the sky. You are all missed!



SAN DIEGO BASSMASTER WEAR

SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRTS:

Large and XL: \$20
XXL: \$22

LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRTS:

Large and XL: \$25
XXL: \$27
XXXL: \$28

JACKETS:

XL: \$62
XXL: \$65