

Bay Area BassMasters



Date: 2-1-2006
The February Edition



January's results on Lake Walk in Water.

Coming in first was Karl Sundstrom and Joe Hobson weighing in a 12.70 pound limit.

Coming in second place was Clay Garrett and Don Hanchett with a total of 10.86 pounds and coming in third was James Adams and Jose Coca with a total of 10.04 pounds.

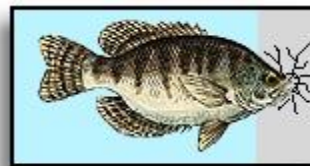
Sorry I don't have any photo's for this tournament - maybe someone will e-mail me some for February's tournament - PLEASE. E-mail me at inastom@aol.com.

The weather started getting rough, the tiny ship was tossed, if not for the courage of the fearless crew the Minnow..... You know the song. That is what Saturday was like. The morning started out with a little wind but got a lot worse by weigh in time. A couple of boats were swamped by the time it was over. The worst case was with Keith and Larry. They tried to get back to the west side at about 1:45. According to Larry, the waves were in the 6 to 7 foot range on the lake. They took on a lot of water and the motor died. They had a number of waves break into the boat as they became stranded. Larry called 911 and they responded with a rescue boat and a helicopter to locate them. Clay went out to find them but had no luck locating their vessel. The helicopter found them and the rescue boat was able to bring them back safely. Cold and wet but otherwise fine. They were able to retrieve the boat later that day and it is currently being repaired. A number of boats ended up stranded on the other side of the lake and wisely decided to stay put. Some of the residents of Indian Lakes Estates gave them rides back to the ramp to retrieve their vehicles. They also were quick to offer coffee and blankets to those that were wet and cold. Kenny's wife drafted a thank you note to all the residents that helped us out, I was glad to send it to them.

Thanks Maggie!!!

Q. What did the fish say when it hit a concrete wall?

A. "Dam!"



I think the only reason my husband likes to go fishing so much is that it's the only time he hears someone tell him, "Wow, that's a big one!"

Clay Garrett, our VP and Tournament Director, will be heading up our next meeting. Tom can not be there because of a business trip he has to go on, Clay will talk about a plan to try to avoid the problems of our last tournament. The FWC is also working on a plan to cancel our permits when small craft warnings are out. We have talked about the possibility of moving our tournaments to Sunday if small craft warnings are out. If warnings are out for Sunday too, than rescheduling to a later date. The Board has talked about this but it is up to us all to come up with a plan to stay safe on the water. We may not ever see conditions that bad again but we want to be prepared. Think about it and plan to attend the meeting. See you there.

February's Meeting to be held on February 7th at Beef O'Brady's in Temple Terrace. Located at 51st and Fowler at 7:30pm.

2006 Bay Area Bassmasters Tournament Schedule

Month	Meeting Date	Tournament Date	Lake	Ramp
February	7	11	East Lake Toho	Boggy Creek Ramp
March	7	11	Lake Tarpon	Anderson Park
April	4	8	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
May	9	13	Lake Istokpoga	Public Ramp
June	6	10	Lake Pierce	Jennings Park



Bay Area Bassmasters would like to take this opportunity to "Thank" their sponsors for all of their support they have given since the start of this club. We would also like to "Thank" our new sponsor Taylor Rental of Land O'Lakes and Dade City (Thanks Bill). With monies collected from sponsors this club is able to post a web page, conduct youth events, and help with end-of-year classic hotel accommodations. To continue the benefits that this club offers more sponsors are needed. If you would like to help sponsor our club please contact Tom Mahoney or any of your board members.

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B.A.S.S. or FLW

It looks like the B.A.S.S. Federation as we know it is gone. The TBF has been formed and has aligned itself with FLW. The Florida Bass Federation has voted to join the TBF. Myself, Brian Hofmann, and Jeff Fransden attended a meeting on January 8th in Orlando to hear what was going on with the Federation. We were told that nothing was in place for a change at this time but FLW was bringing an offer to the table. They told us that everything would stay the same for this year and B.A.S.S. would be given an opportunity to respond to the offer from FLW. I did not bring this to the Club on our first meeting because I thought we had plenty of time to work out the details. I went hunting in Alabama with my son. We had a great time. I took a small 7 pointer and my son harvested a doe. I came home to a number of e-mails from the President of the Florida Federation. The move had been made. They were now FLW. I had to choose. Was our club going to be a B.A.S.S. club or a FLW club. If we were going FLW we had to send \$40.00 per person to the federation immediately or no one from our club could fish a single Qualifier. I felt this was blackmail and was not happy about their decision to change so quickly. Our insurance was in place with B.A.S.S. and they are trying to keep us in place. I spent many hours going over all the details I could find. I talked to Jim Hooven, President of Lakeland Bassmasters and found out they decided to stay B.A.S.S. I talked to our Directors and the decision was made to also stay true to B.A.S.S. What this means to you is if you joined our club to fish the state qualifiers you will now not be able to. If you are not happy with that we will gladly return your club dues and wish you the best. If you decide to follow that route you will no longer be trying to go to the Classic but will be trying to get to the Forest Wood Cup. Who won that last year? No one knows. But we all know who won the Classic. B.A.S.S. is putting together a plan to get their 6 spots for the Classic filled from the Federation Nation, which we are now a part of. And it will be easier to qualify now than it has ever been. Thirty spots will be available to us to move on instead of the thirteen from the FBF. And with less people trying for those spots our chances this year will be better than ever.

The Florida Bass Federation has promised to send our money back to us for our membership. Everyone who paid for that membership will have a credit due them. When that is secured we will all get that credit towards the next tournament or we will refund it whichever you prefer.

I think most, if not all of us, are here to fish and have fun. And that is what our club is all about. I don't think many of us even planned to fish any of the Federation Qualifiers. With this new Federation Nation Plan coming up we might get a few more people interested. Again I am sorry I will not be at our next meeting but I have kept Brian up to date so he will be able to answer your questions. See everyone on the water Saturday.

Tom Mahoney
Pres

