

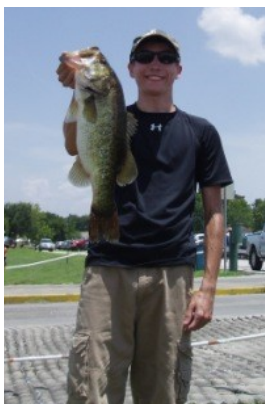
August 2015

**BAY AREA**

# Jeff and Justin Richards Take The Mystery Out Of The Clermont Chain



This years mystery lake was presented by The Car Shop. Brian Stillwell, owner, got to pick the envelope that held our lake choice for Saturday. The Clermont chain was chosen and the lake was off limits until Saturday morning. Jeff and Justin Richards did their homework and put together a game plan that would earn themselves the title. They caught a limit that would go 11.68 pounds, almost 2 full pounds better than second place. They also boated a 3.45 pound kicker that would take big fish honors for this event. Jeff Crandon and Dan Richardson would take second with 9.74. Alex Udvari and Kyle Anderson earned a nice third place check with 8.43 and Rodney Yavorsky and Chuck Gomez took fourth with 7.18. Fifth place belonged to Jim Stillwell and Mathew Bender with 6.88. They would have had a bigger check if they hadn't lost four fish to live well issues. Tom Craighead and Tim Hibbs had motor problems and earned a check without ever losing site of the ramp. Brian Stillwell, Mr. Car Shop, and Fred Haus finished seventh. Overall nine limits came to the scales with a total of 86 fish. Not bad for a mystery lake with no permits. We did loose 14 fish this month. That is over 16% of our catch. That is way to many. Lets do a better job in Rodman this month.



## Gut Hook – What Should You Do?

Occasionally you will gut hook a fish when using shiners or any live bait for that matter. All of the fish you see on this site were released alive. Some were hooked deep and the line had to be cut as not to injure the fish while trying to remove the hook. The theory is that the hook over time will decay from stomach acids and the fish will eventually pass it. I remember having a conversation with Doug Hannon “The Bass Professor” about the subject of a gut hooked fish and what happens to the hook and how long it takes to dissolve in his system. His comment was that fish have a slower metabolism than humans since fish are cold blooded. He believes it’s a theory that is not supported by enough studies and it just keeps getting past on as fact. I also remember watching a documentary where these divers were trying to catch this large grouper that had a hook in its lip. All around the hook was a red infected area. Their goal was to catch the grouper and remove the hook. Well, you guessed it, it never happened. After hearing Doug’s opinion and watching these guys on T.V., who thought it was important enough to attempt bulldogging a grouper, I set my goals to try and remove every hook I possibly could, especially when it’s a gut hook. I came up with a procedure I call the “*Carterectomy*”. No I’m not a doctor, far from it, just a little humor from a “red neck” fishing guide.

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My theory is, “if you can see any part of the hook it can be removed 90% of the time and the fish released alive”. After all the point is, if you gut hook a fish, it’s not about saving the \$.50 hook or the aggravation of retying but to release the fish back with a better chance of survival than if you leave the hook in.

To perform this procedure, you almost have to have three hands. I don’t so I have someone else hold the line taught, to expose the hook, while I hold the fish by the jaw and operate the pliers with the other. Pull the fish’s jaw back like you would if you were holding him up for a photo. With the line pulled taught exposing the hook’s eye and shank, reach in behind the gill plate with a pair of needlenose pliers.

It’s important that you **do not** go between any of the gills. Make sure you go behind the last gill furthest from the mouth opening or in front of the first one. You do this while looking in through the mouth of the fish. Tell your nurse to get out of the way. His or her only job is to keep the line taught (and maybe mop your brow) until you can get a grip on the hook.

Now with the needlenose pliers, grip the hook as far down the hook as you can. Ideally, you want to get to the bend of the hook if possible. Now with a firm grip on the hook, roll it over until the point of the hook is aiming towards the fish’s stomach. Now, with a quick short snap of the wrist, jerk the hook up towards the fish’s mouth. I say short because a long follow through motion will damage the gill which is almost certain death. The hook should pop free with this short wrist snap. Have your nurse remove the hook, now dangling free on the end of the line, so no one including the fish gets stuck with it.

**Tip:** You can do the “*Carterectomy*” with two hands. Just pull the line taught and place it under the thumb that’s pulling the fish’s jaw back.

**Important Note** Use good strong needlenose pliers. If the jaws of the pliers have any flex to them, you’ll have a hard time holding onto the hook when you try to roll it over. I’ve tried forceps for this method but they’re too flimsy and they’ll twist when you roll the hook over, losing their grip.



## Sponsor News & Notes

Each month we will be bringing you information on a few of our sponsors as well as keeping you updated on member feedback of sponsor items whether won through the monthly raffles or purchased directly through our sponsors. To help with this section we'd like to ask that you provide feedback regarding our sponsor's products. Please let us know your stories and thoughts so that we may include it in the newsletter and also let our sponsors know as they really appreciate the feedback and are always pleased to hear from us.

Sponsorship News & Notes:

- **We'd like to THANK all of our amazing sponsors for their support of our club!**

**PLATINUM SPONSORS: 13 Fishing, Allstate Insurance (Paul Phaneuf), Armor Guard, Bay Area Pool Service, Cartwright Realty, Dick's Sporting Goods, Frogg Toggs, Lucky Dog Daycare & Resort of South Tampa, Richard's Quality Automotive, T.A. Mahoney Co., Inc., The Car Shop, Walpole**

- **GOLD SPONSORS: Bass Boat Saver, Blue Water LED, Culprit, Doby's Rods, Florida Lift Systems, New Pro Products, The Original Grill**

- **SILVER SPONSORS: Bass King Outdoor Clothing, Buddy's Home Furnishings, Chums, Dr. Dan's, KeelGuard, Lake Fork Trophy Lures, LIVETARGET, Rod Sox, Warrior Baits**

- **BRONZE SPONSORS: Advantage Bait Company, Eco-Pro Tungsten, Gambler, Keitech USA, Lungerhunt, Rage Fish Attractants (Liquid Mayhem), Valley Fashions (Jerseys), Vicious Fishing**

- **Feedback – submit pictures or video to [bayareabassmasters@gmail.com](mailto:bayareabassmasters@gmail.com)**

- **LIVETARGET** – Congratulations on another award winning bait at ICAST as they took home the award for the best of show in the soft bait category for their hollow body sunfish. We can't wait for this lure to hit the market as it will be a sure success in our waters..

- **Keelguard** – We have heard from a couple of people who have turned in their Keelguard certificates for a SkegGuard and SkegPro and they are very happy with the products and the ease with which they can be applied to protect their boats!

- **Allstate** – With all the rains we've had please make sure to contact Paul for your insurance needs so he can help you make sure you are protected should the need arise.

- **Bluewater LED** – We've had a couple of our members have the pleasure of winning some Bluewater kits and as they get them installed we're getting to see some really cool boats at launch time. They have a great array of products with easy installation and lifetime warranties.

- **Culprit** – Make sure to check out the recently released products from Culprit, the Incredi-Frog, Incredi-Slim, and 6" Fat Max. These are more products in an already great line-up from one of the most trusted brands on the market.

- **Ballyhoo The Original Grill** – If you're in the Tarpon Springs area make sure to stop by and try some of their great food items and stay up on their specials through their facebook and web pages.

**Social Media Pages and Information – please like & follow us and our sponsors!**

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/BayAreaBassmasters>

- Twitter - [https://twitter.com/Bay\\_Area\\_Bass](https://twitter.com/Bay_Area_Bass)

- Instagram - <http://instagram.com/bayareabassmasters/>

Additional Items:- **Please make sure to support all of our sponsors and let them know that you are with the club! If you are interested in getting product, many of our sponsors are available at T.A. Mahoney's. You can also go direct to many of our sponsors websites, make sure to mention that you are with the club as well.**

**August's meeting will be Tuesday, the 4th at R J Wings N Things in Temple Terrace, located at 51st and Fowler at 7:00pm.**



Month	Meeting/Tour.	Sponsor	Location	Ramp
January	6 10	Richards Quality Auto	Lake Harris	Hickory Point
February	10 14	Allstate Insurance	Lake Toho	Southport
March	10 14	T. A. Mahoney Co. Inc.	Lake Rousseau	Public Ramp West
April	7 11	Armor Guard	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
May	5 9	Cartwright Realty	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
June	9 13	Florida Lift Systems	Lake Tarpon	Anderson
July	7 11	Car Shop	Mystery Lake	TBD
August	4 8	Lucky Dog Resort	Rodman Reservoir	Kenwood
September	8 12	Walpole Inc.	Lake Reedy	Public Ramp
October	6 10	Bay Area Pool Service	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
November	10/17 14-15	(Club Classic)	Lake Okeechobee	Roland Martins Resort

**2015 Florida B.A.S.S. Nation Central Division Schedule**

**Aug 16 Pro/ Am Qualifier Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Camp Mack**

**Florida B.A.S.S. Nation Team Championship**

**September 19-20 Lake Okeechobee Scott Driver Park / Okeechobee**

**Florida B.A.S.S. Nation State Championship**

**November 7-8 TBA Central Division**



**Presents the  
Rodman Rumble**

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**June, July, August, and September's  
Tournaments Will End At 2:00 PM**

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