



NEWS

MARCH 2018

47th Year of Fishing, Friends and Fun

BUD BRANT TAKES 1ST AT OTAY (SECOND TIME IN TWO MONTHS) by Frank Neugebauer



The green flag has waved and the San Diego Bassmasters are off to the races for the 2018 points year. To use the NASCAR model, we are in a 10-stage race and stage one started at Otay Lake on a very cold Saturday, 2/24/18. You know it is cold when you are driving to the lake and the temperature display on your truck is ICE. Holy cow it was cold. While the weather conditions might have made it tougher on the fishermen, the largemouth bass of Otay Lake did not seem to mind that much.

We had 31 hearty souls show up to do battle with the bass that call Lake Otay home. And it looks like the fish were ready to dance. There were 18 five fish limits weighed. The average number of fish per angler was 3.90, and that includes three people that blanked. We weighed in 121 fish and there is no accounting for how many fish were caught and culled or otherwise not weighed

in. Not bad for a cold, windy day in February. **Also, every fish was weighed in alive and released back into the lake. No dead fish. Nice job everybody!!!**

As in every competitive event, there is a winner and then there is everybody else that wants to be that person. In this case Bud Brant, a name commonly associated with winning, rose to the occasion and took top honors with a five-fish limit weighing 13.21 pounds. Bud's limit was anchored by a big-fish weighing 3.72 pounds. You may remember Bud was half the team that took all the money in our January fun tournament, so it sounds like he used some of the knowledge he gathered in January to close this deal. Bringing testimonial to the phrase "even a blind squirrel finds a nut every once in a while", second place was taken by yours truly, with 12.23 pounds. I have to admit, catching the 5.26 pound, big fish of the tournament, within the first five casts of the day was a big motivator. The weight helped as well. And rounding out the top three, another name associated with success on a regular basis was Greg Gardner. Greg had a five-bass limit weighing 11.73 pounds with a big fish weighing 4.11 pounds. Congratulations to all.



I would like to say thank you to the weigh-in team at Lake Otay: Larry "The Fish Handler" Ward, Joe "Weigh Em' In" De Salvo, and Cheryl "The Accountant" Byrd. These people are the ones that make the weigh-in go smoothly and my job a whole lot easier. Thanks again.

(Editor's Note: Complete results at end of newsletter.)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Terry Chenoweth



We have our first tournament under our belts. It sure was cold for the morning run and until the sun came over the hills. Fishing was pretty good, but I just couldn't get the size bass I needed. My backseater, Brian Goodell, just missed the Big Bass of the tournament with a 5.08 fish off my *secret rockpile*. He caught it on a bait he said he never catches anything on.

Now we're on to Havasu. Love fishing that lake. Everyone drive safely on the trip over and be careful on the water. If you are looking for a boater or a backseater, contact Frank Neugebauer. I'm sure he can help you out.

The next event on the Bassmaster calendar is the San Diego Council of Bass Clubs' Tournament of Champions at El Capitan Reservoir. It will be held **March 10th & 11th**. Representing the Bassmasters will be Brent Kearney. **The lake will be off limits to all Bassmasters from close of the lake Sunday March 4th until after the tournament on March 11th**. If any of us are on the lake during that time our angler will be disqualified. Everyone is encouraged to attend the weigh-ins and support Brent. We are running the tournament, so some of you will be asked to lend a hand to help with either the morning boat check and/or afternoon weigh-ins. If you would like to volunteer, please contact me.

Good luck at Havasu!

Historical Information about Lake Havasu

The word "Havasu" is from the Mohave Indian's native language Yuman, meaning "Blue Water". Before the 1930s, the banks of the river were populated by Indian villages, trapping & fishing camps and small settlements. In the water off the area presently known as "Site Six", divers have found a flooded town with a number of structures still standing. That being the narrowest point of the river, there was also a rope-pulled ferry crossing to the California side, which was used by trappers and Indians alike. The current in the river still flows in that area at 22 knots, making it difficult to dive.

The 1930s saw the construction of the Parker Dam, completed in 1938, which dammed the Colorado River to create Lake Havasu. The lake is 45 miles long and stores 647,000 acre foot of water (210 billion U.S. gallons) and has a surface area of 19,300 acres. The lake has a full pool elevation of 450 feet. The average water elevation since the dam's completion has been 446.4 feet. Currently the elevation is 446.3 feet. Parker Dam is unique in its own right, at 320 feet high, with 235 feet below the riverbed, making it the **deepest** dam in the world. It stretches 856 feet across and 39 feet thick at its top and 100 feet thick at the base. The dam is a concrete gravity arch and is the eastern most point in California.

The community first started as an Army Air Corps camp, called "Site Six," during World War II. The area was used for R&R for servicemen flown in from Los Angeles. In 1958, [Robert P. McCulloch](#) purchased 3,353 acres of property along Pittsburgh Point, which would eventually become "the Island". *McCulloch Properties* acquired another 13,000 acres (26 square miles of barren desert) of federal land in the surrounding area in 1962 for \$75/acre, and the city was established on September 30, 1963. McCulloch brought his *McCulloch Motors Corporation* to Havasu, where he manufactured small gasoline engines for boats. His biggest competitor was *Evinrude*. Eventually, McCulloch branched out into lawnmowers and chainsaws and in 1964 employed over 400 locals. (continued on page 5)

TOURNAMENT TRAIL

Frank Neugebauer



Our next tournament is at Lake Havasu on March 19-20. This is a pick your partner tournament. I believe the fishing conditions should be very good while we are there. Everyone needs to sign up at the general meeting. We have a pre-tournament meeting at a location to be determined on the afternoon before the tournament. I will be asking for suggestions for the location at the general meeting 3/6/18. We have reserved the cabana area, the area right above the docks at the south ramp at Windsor for the weigh in. Our tournament is on a Monday/Tuesday so we should not have a hassle of other clubs dropping in on us.

I have one final housekeeping request. If you are signed up for a tournament and cannot make it or you do make it and do not catch any fish, please notify me or someone else that is going to be at the weigh-in so we know your status. I get it, if you do not catch any fish, no one likes to do the walk of shame. However, if you leave and do not tell anyone, it causes a bit of a concern with those of us performing the weigh-in. I know who was supposed to be there so I will know who is not there at the end of the day. If I do not know why you are not there, that leaves my imagination to run wild. I have a wild imagination. While running around Otay to try and find someone might be inconvenient and not take too much time, trying to find someone at Lake Havasu would be a different story. And my main concern is that if something really did happen, I do not want to leave someone in a bad situation because we assumed they just did not feel like telling someone they were leaving. So please, through the method of your choosing, with notifying someone in person being the highly preferred method, but text messaging, e-mail, cell phone or carrier pigeon as alternatives, please let someone know if you are leaving early. Besides, we miss you when you are not there.

Approved Schedule for 2018

January 27	Otay (Fun)
February 24	Otay
March 19-20	Havasu (Mon-Tue)
April 21	Hodges
May 11-12	Lower River (Fri-Sat)
June 9	El Capitan
July 27	Otay Night
August 24	San Vicente Night*
September 22	San Vicente
October 19-20	Lower River (Fri-Sat)
November 3	Otay
November 17	TOC

CHILI COOK-OFF IS A SUCCESS...ONCE AGAIN

by Cheryl Byrd



Our 15th annual Chili Cook-off was held Saturday, February 3rd. The crowd was on the small side with only 24 people, but we had a great time! There were 6 delicious pots of chili that made the judges (Ron Overman, Jim Putney & Skip Whitworth) work

hard for a consensus of opinion. There was only one of the pots that had a little more heat (spice) than the others, but even so, there was an abundance of sniffs and runny noses in the room.

This year there was a tie for the best pot and the winners were Greg Gardner and Jenn Becker (Vicki's daughter-in-law). Each won a \$25 prize for their effort. As always, the dessert raffle was a huge success and most people went home with a treat. Thank you to Ronnie for running the raffle for us and seeing that *everyone* bought tickets. Also, thank you to Lynn & Gail Brown for reserving the room for us once again and to everyone who pitched in with set-up and clean-up. This event generated \$111 to turn over to the club treasurer. I would say it was a success!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Greg Gardner



Hello San Diego Bassmasters. At our last meeting we voted back into our club Skip Whitworth and Matt Barksdale. Skip is coming back after a one year of "inactive status" and Matt is coming back after a tour in the Navy. We are lucky to have them both back.

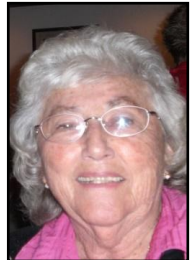
This brings our membership up to 46 active, 1 inactive, 3 family, 7 lifetime, 8 honorary and 10 at large. At this time we have no prospective members.

That's all for me this time. See you at the meeting.



Fish Tales

Doris Cook



Sunday evening, February 18th I fell in the bathroom, hit my head on the bath tub, and my side on a metal stand holding my three bath products. I injured my right side in the rib cage area. Monday was a holiday, so I called my doctor on Tuesday and Wednesday and he thought I had a muscular/skeletal injury. Thursday, I made an appointment and went in to get it checked out. I had a silver dollar size bruise on my side and upon examination, my doctor was surprised that I had fractured two and possibly three ribs. It has been very painful and hurts to take a deep breath or to move. I was told the first week is the worst for pain, about 20% less the second week and it should be gone in five to six weeks. Needless to say, I have been told not to do anything and rest a lot. It is uncomfortable to sit for very long therefore; this is going to be short for this month.

GUESS WHO



Can you guess who this fellow Bassmaster is? The first person to answer correctly at the March meeting will earn \$5 in raffle tickets. (Note: this individual, their significant other or any family member is excluded from this months contest.)

TOP 3 AT OTAY

Greg Gardner(3rd) - Frank Neugebauer(2nd) - Bud Brant(1st)



HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

Members celebrating another birthday this month are: 3/12 – Randy Kreiser; 3/14 – Brent Benish; 3/19 – Steve Swaggerty; 3/22 – Dave Mack; 3/24 – Ed Marr & Harold Stephen and 3/29 - Joe DeSalvo. Enjoy your special days! There are no anniversaries this month.

Should have any "Fish Tales you would like to share, please send to mscooker@cox.net or call (619) 462-4708. I'll be looking for news to share for the April issue.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Note from the Editor: To club members...if you have something fishing related to sell, you can list it in the monthly newsletter. Contact Cheryl Byrd.

VICE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Ernie Guillen



The first tournament is in the books and we're off and running into the year. Thank you, Frank Neugebauer, for running a flawless tournament and weigh in, considering the obstacle of working around another tournament. Great job! Thank you, Joe and Larry, as well. Is this a great club or what? I for one am glad to be a part of it and associated with a great group of people I can honestly call friends. Now it's off to Havasu.

Congratulations to Bud Brant, Frank Neugebauer and Greg Gardner coming in 1st, 2nd and 3rd, respectively. And to all who weathered the morning cold as well. I know, for I couldn't feel my fingers first thing in the morning. But it's what we have to overcome to do what we love, Right? I'm just glad to know I'm not the only crazy one with this obsession. A lot of good fish were caught, and I think we all did a fine job of showing what this club is capable of. Good sticking, my friends! And of course, congrats go to Frank Neugebauer as well for catching the big fish of the tournament.

The only other thing I have this month for you, is that the Family Picnic as been changed to the 30th of June. So please make a note on the calendar. The family tournament at Lake Murray is the next event on the 14th of April.

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER:

Joe DeSalvo



I am writing this before our first exciting tournament of 2018 at Otay Lakes and then we are all off to Havasu. Wish you all the best and stay safe on the water.

At last club meeting it was voted on and decided that our dues will increase \$5/month starting March, so see table below for some guidance on dues payment schedule. If you paid in advance see the difference column in table to see what additional dues you owe for the year and if you are not sure just contact me.

	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>
Entire Year	\$335	\$385	\$50
Jan-Sept	\$260	\$295	\$35
Jan-Jun	\$185	\$200	\$15
Jan-Mar	\$110	\$115	\$5



If you cannot make the meeting please text me at [951-235-5205](tel:951-235-5205) and send your check to 1958 Alderbrook Pl, Chula Vista, CA 91913.



Remember the checks are written to "SDBM" or "San Diego Bassmasters" and if you need to mail your first month's fee of \$60 dollars, you can send it to:

[Joseph DeSalvo, 1958 Alderbrook Pl., Chula Vista CA 91913](mailto:Joseph.DeSalvo@sdbs.org)

Historical Information about Lake Havasu (cont.)

Also in 1964, McCulloch started offering free flights to people from all over the country to come and see (and hopefully buy land in) Havasu. The one thing that really put Havasu on the map, however, was when McCulloch purchased the London Bridge in 1968. He purchased the bridge from the city of London for \$2.5 million, and then spent another \$7 million to disassemble, ship and reassemble the bridge. The total cost of \$9.5 million in 1968 would be nearly \$700 million in 2018 dollars! The granite blocks were all numbered and shipped from London, through the Panama Canal to Long Beach, CA., then transported 300 miles to Havasu City. The bridge was rebuilt over dry land and then dredged out to make the present-day channel. Inaugurated October 5, 1971, it has become Arizona's second most visited tourist spot, second to the Grand Canyon. (continued on page 7)

**San Diego Bassmasters General Meeting
February 6, 2018**



The San Diego Bassmasters General Meeting was called to order by President Terry Chenoweth on February 6, 2018, at 7:05 PM. Bassmasters offered greetings to members and guests.

Greg Gardner - Membership Chair: Tonight's guest are Gerie Morrin, Victoria and Hunter, and Tyler Beyrouthey. Skip Whitworth will be voted on this evening by a simple majority to return within the one year limit, along with Matt Barksdale who will be voted by secret ballot since he's been out longer, 1 ½ years. Skip was voted on and will return to active membership. Stu pre-fished and Inder tournament pre-fished Matt. Both gave great reviews. Matt was voted in and will return as a member.

Cheryl moved and Buck seconded that we approve last month's minutes. Motion passed.

Joe DeSalvo – Treasurer: We had \$730.00 carryover from last year, with \$6076.00 taken in so far. Rent for our meeting place is paid for the year, permits, TOC, BASS membership, Insurance, and Bass Council membership.

Terry: The idea of raising the dues was brought up, Terry gave reasons why, and discussion was had. Our 50th anniversary is coming up soon and we could possibly put a little aside towards that. We usually spend about \$4000 from fundraisers plus donations by members over what we bring in in dues, and with the raise we will have about \$3000 more in dues to ease that pressure. Cheryl: We had 24 people and 6 pots of chili. We made \$124 from the event. Fund raisers and events are part of what makes us a family club. Basing budget on the dues was discussed, leaving out the fundraisers.

Cesar moved and Jim Putney seconded that we raise the dues by \$5.00 per month starting in March. Motion passed. Dues will be \$30 a month starting in March.

Terry: Fishers had a small problem with the rock pile and are taking it out and have extended the ramp.

Ernie Guillen – Vice President: Ernie urged all to be involved in the family activities, and volunteer to help. Ernie brought up a suggestion someone made for a \$50 side pool for the winner of tournaments. Frank let us know we would have to have an event tournament at each event if we did that at \$100 each. This person also would like to make plaques and buckles for us if we want to consider it. Family Tournament is April 14th. Bring family/friends. It will be at Lake Murray. Fish to 1:00PM and barbeque to follow.

Jeff Carpenter: Jeff can get more sleeves for casting and spinning rods. He needs to order in 100 unit lots. A poll will be taken before the meeting ends.

Bass Council report: Terry says the meeting is tomorrow night. Our angler of the year will not be fishing the TOC, and Brent Kearny will be taking his place. It is the 10th/11th of March at El Capitan.

Frank Neugebauer – Tournament Director: Otay fun tournament was the 29th. 13 teams fished and 12 caught fish. Bud Brant and Larry Ward had the heavy bag and big fish.

Next tournament is February 24th at Otay. It is launch and go. Have lights in so that if we get to launch early there will be no delays/issues.

Ron thanked Bill van Woven for half price goods for the raffle tonight.

Break at 8:00PM. Meeting resumed at 8:16PM.

Terry thanked Doris and Cesar for snacks and drinks. Skip and Mike Lupo will bring snacks next month. We have interest in about 100 rod sleeves, so we will order them.

Greg has rosters available.

Frank announced that if we are fishing bed fish, they have to be hooked inside the mouth, not snagged. He announced the pairings for the Otay Tournament.

Ron thanked Skip, Jessie, and Frank Moran for their generosity tonight donating towards the raffle.

Lakeside bait and tackle is selling everything at 40%.

Having no further Old or New Business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM, with the raffle following.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Eisner Secretary

Historical Information about Lake Havasu (cont.)

The same year the bridge was completed, McCulloch built his first plane in Havasu, the McCulloch J-2 Gyroplane. The plane was eventually tested by NASA but was never mass produced. His vision of "a plane in every garage", never came to fruition.

The airstrip built on the island by the Army remained there until 1995. Those free flights that McCulloch started in 1963 continued until 1978, when the city was incorporated. In those 15 years, 137,000 prospective buyers visited Lake Havasu City. Robert McCulloch died February 25, 1977. The chainsaw operation, which started in 1964, continued until 1999, when the Sterilite Corporation purchased the facility and continues to operate it today.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH

CLUB MEETING 7pm***MARCH 6TH**

**Nan Coutts Cottage
5045 Memorial Drive, La Mesa, 91942**

San Diego Council of Bass Clubs' Tournament of Champions

**MARCH 10 & 11 @ El Capitan
(Off-limits to ALL club fishermen 3/5 – 3/11)**

BOARD MEETING***MARCH 23RD**

at Greg Gardner's - 6pm

HAVASU TOURNAMENT***MARCH 19 & 20**

OTAY

February 24, 2018

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Number of Fish</u>	<u>Big Fish</u>	<u>Total Weight</u>	<u>Net Weight</u>	<u>Tournament Points</u>	<u>Participation Points</u>	<u>Year- end Points</u>
1	Bud Brant	5	3.72	13.21	13.21	30	2	32
2	Frank Neugebauer	5	5.26	12.23	12.23	29	2	31
3	Greg Gardner	5	4.11	11.73	11.73	28	2	30
4	Brian Goodell	5	5.08	11.46	11.46	27	2	29
5	Nick Meyer	5	3.73	11.38	11.38	26	2	28
6	Larry Ward	5	3.62	11.37	11.37	25	2	27
7	Brent Kearney	5	2.99	11.27	11.27	24	2	26
8	Jesse Mc Nett	5	3.81	11.01	11.01	23	2	25
9	Skip Whitworth	5	3.23	10.69	10.69	22	2	24
10	Ernie Guillen	5	3.63	10.68	10.68	21	2	23
11	Frank Morrin	5	2.66	10.64	10.64	20	2	22
12	Ed Byrd	5	3.14	10.10	10.10	19	2	21
13	Ken Louis	5	3.65	10.03	10.03	18	2	20
14	Cole Wright	5	2.62	9.52	9.52	17	2	19
15	Zoé Gardner	5	2.18	8.63	8.63	16	2	18
16	Brent Benish	4	3.56	8.54	8.54	15	2	17
17	Terry Chenoweth	5	2.44	8.28	8.28	14	2	16
18	Jim Sleight	5	2.40	8.19	8.19	13	2	15
19	Vicki Becker	4	2.15	7.43	7.43	12	2	14
20	Regina Seaberg	5	-	7.40	7.40	11	0	11
21	Mike Lupo	3	2.97	6.98	6.98	10	2	12
22	Inder Lopez	3	3.38	6.61	6.61	9	2	11
23	Terry Foreman	4	2.60	6.58	6.58	8	2	10
24	Dave Waller	3	1.94	5.31	6.58	7	2	9
25	Jeff Carpenter	3	1.74	4.90	5.31	6	2	8
26	John Williamson	3	1.82	4.51	4.90	5	2	7
27	Joe DeSalvo	2	-	2.88	4.51	4	2	6
28	David Patrick	2	1.42	2.35	2.88	3	2	5
29	Stu Kenson	0			0.00	0	2	2
30	Dave Seaberg	0			0.00	0	0	0
30	Steve Swaggerty	0			0.00	0	0	0

Number of Participants:	31
Total Number of Fish Caught:	121
Total Weight of Fish Caught:	243.91
Average Fish Weight:	2.02
Average Number of Fish per Person:	3.90



February 24, 2018

