



# NEWS

*April 2024*

53rd Year of Fishing, Friends and Fun

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Bruce Smith**



Good afternoon Bassmaster's!

The spawn is upon us, fishing here in San Diego is great!

Congrats to the winners at this past tournament that took place at the infamous lake Havasu. I'm looking forward to getting all the deets at the April meeting on Tuesday the 2nd.

On March 9th we held our annual Bunko party and I'll have to say it was a fun event. Thank you Jennifer and Kenny Louis for running the game and thank you Dave and Regina for such great prizes!

At the April meeting we are planning on having two speakers. FE trailers will swing by to tell us about the boat trailer business. Personally I like FE trailers and get almost all of my parts there and if I need a bigger job taken care of I have them do it. Good pricing and they haven't tried to gouge me or upsell. The next guest speaker is local professional bass angler/entrepreneur Matt Luna. It sounds like Matt will be doing a question and answer type seminar on Do-it molds, MLF tournament series and general bass knowledge. It should be a great meeting, hope to see you all there.

Next month's tournament is at San Vicente. There is a huge potential for some huge bags if you can find them and land them. We could be seeing some topwater action, but i think the giant bags will come from out in deeper water. The lake level is as high as we have seen since the construction of the Dam so there is lots of brush in the water.

Big Fish Happen,  
Bruce Smith  
President

### VICE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Regina Seaberg



The Bunco fund raiser was a big success! Thank you, Kenny & Jennifer Louis for putting on a very successful and fun event. We enjoyed great food, friends, and the crazy fun of the Bunco game. Between the Mulligans and the desert raffle we were able to raise \$300 for our club. Your support means a lot to our clubs’ success! Our club has a strong footprint within the fishing community, supporting the So Cal Jr Bass fishing series, we see the future of

our Bass fishing community with these young and upcoming fisher men and women. They are our future club members, they see our faces, hear of our club, and see the support we give to make them successful in this sport. Our club has also been organizing letters to be sent to the city to keep our lakes open, fixing the roads and the docks at our lakes. And let’s not forget we support the SD Teams series by promoting this series, helping out where ever we can and by fishing this series. Victorria Meyer has been extremely supportive in both the So Cal Jr series but she also works closely with Jim Sleight in the SD Teams series. She is very proud of her husband Nick and her son Hunter, they have been fishing the SD Teams Day series and have a strong showing in the points.



The Havasu tournament produced some nice big bass, congratulations to Bruce Smith for the win, Cole Wright placing second, and Nick Meyer taking third place. Two days of spectacular weights. A very big thank you to Victorria Meyer and Mercedes Kuehl, this weigh-in went so smoothly with these two ladies running it.



Mike Breto experienced a nightmare while driving home Sunday. Just imagine a flaming wheel and tire coming directly

at your truck while you are driving through some of the most remote areas of the desert. Mike was very lucky the wheel didn’t come through his windshield or cause his truck to go off road and roll. It took 5 hours to get a tow truck out to his truck, both the truck and his boat had to be towed to El Centro. Mike is safe with no injuries but big issues to deal with on getting his boat and truck back from the Valley.

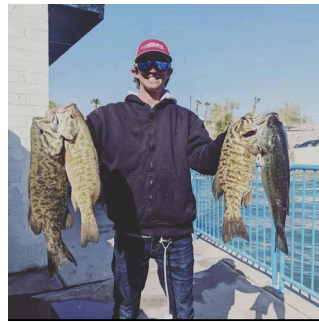


Thank you for your support. Sincerely, Regina Seaberg

### TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Cole Wright

Hello San Diego Bassmasters.



Second tournament of the year is all done, Bruce Smith takes then win with a total weight of 38.75, 2nd 37.46, 3rd Nick Meyer 31.46 congratulations to the top three. Lake Havasu was a fun tournament lots 5 fish limits for both days. I would like to say a big thank you to Victoria and Mercedes they

killed it setting up the weigh - in and helping out for both days. Are next tournament is coming up fast April 13th at lake San Vicente. If you can't make the next meeting and you want to fish please let me know before the meeting starts and i will get you signed up for lake San Vicente.

### NOTES FROM THE TREASURER:

Larry Ward

I can’t believe it’s already almost April. Most of you are just back from Lake Havasu. I hope everyone had a great time out there and caught a bunch of fish.

As for our finances, money this year is not looking very good with a substantial deficit at this point. Last month we had two members go inactive, which reduces our money coming in for the year. But our expenses remain the same. It is a little early in the year to worry about it too much. Getting a



couple of our prospective members through the process and in the club will help and our fund-raising events and the raffle will help as well. Then if needed we can also charge for the night tournaments and possibly collect some money somewhere else.

If you want to pay your dues before the meeting you can Venmo me anytime, @Larry-Ward-95

Thanks, and good fishing, see you at San Vicente.

Please stay on top of paying your monthly dues. Don't forget that if you're 3 months behind you cannot sign up for the next tournament and if you are 4 months behind you will be dropped from the club in bad standing.

### San Diego Bassmasters General Membership Meeting Minutes 03/05/24



#### President- Bruce Smith

- Meeting called to order at 6:34pm. Welcomed all Bassmasters and guests.
- Called for a motion to accept the minutes from the February 6, 2024 General Meeting: Motion made by Greg Gardner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Edwards. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- Snacks provided by: Greg & Zoe Gardner, Drinks by Glenn Peters & Jim Sleight.
- Congratulations to Hunter Meyer for his finish at the SoCal Juniors Tournament March 3<sup>rd</sup> at El Capitan.
- Congratulations to Larry Ward for his Third Place finish at the SD Bass Council Tournament of Champions.
- Last Week Tom Lowery and I met with Brian Norris about Lakes Recreation funding. Will meet with Hooman Parto tomorrow. We are instituting an email campaign to ensure they don't cut more of our days or months.

- All our money from Permits goes into a Lakes General Fund. The City sees fisherman as a burden on the city and the budget.
- Barrett Lake fishing Lottery fishing in a lake boat and having a DFW survey of all fish caught. This is before lake opening.
- Bass Council has new leadership and things are looking better.
- Matt Luna will be our guest speaker next month.

#### Ken Louis – Membership Chair

- Guests for tonight are Janice Eisner, Josh Quocio and daughter, Prospective members Ernie Marugg and Josh.

#### Regina Seaberg – Vice President

- Sunday 8, December.
- The Bunco Party will be here at the General Meeting Room March 9<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 8pm. Bring a side dish and a dessert to be raffled off. Bring family and friends for an engaging, fun evening.
- Possibly doing a Family Fun Tournament in April at Lake Murray
- The Annual Picnic will be at Santee Lakes on Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup> at the same spot as last year.

#### Larry Ward – Treasurer

- We still have small deficit is typical and usually resolves itself by the end of Year.
- We will have to make a decision soon on how much to charge for the night tournaments.
- Remember to stay current on your dues.

#### Ken Louis – Membership Chair

- Distributed fliers for the upcoming Bunco Night.
- Currently we have 34 active members, 4 Inactive.
- Ernie Marugg is ready for TPF. Josh Quocio will be voted on for Membership. Josh Q & A.



Josh Quiocio is our newest BassMaster!

**Cole Wright – Tournament Director**



Our first tournament of the year was at Lake Otay.

Nick Meyer is our Lake Otay Champion with 5 fish at 13.58 lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Cole Wright with 12.81lbs plus Big Fish of 5.02, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Juan Collins with 11.63 lbs.

Please sign up for Havasu and we will have the draw at the break.

**President- Bruce Smith**



Break for the Draw.



Reviewed life jacket vs. inflatable life jacket, right hand traffic pattern, throw cushion, 2 hook A-rig limit.



Snacks for next meeting, Snacks Evan Alioto, Drinks-Jim Trosper.



With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.





## KEN LOUIS, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Spring is right around the corner and soon the spawn begins! Currently our membership is at 34 active and 4 in-active with Roy Andrews and Dina Graham joining the inactive list. We have 2 prospective members, Josh Quioco who will be voted on and Ernie Marrug who is ready to be tournament pre-fished. Please continue to send any interested parties my way via 619-417-3004 and I'll get right back to them. Also, **BUNCO! Our annual fundraiser is scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup> with 19 players signed up; let me know if we can add you to our YES list.**

## April 2024 Member Spotlight on **Evan Alioto**

**Where were you born and raised?**

**In beautiful San Diego and I currently reside in El Cajon.**

**How did you start bass fishing?**

**As a youngster, my grandfather took me bass fishing to Santee Lakes and I've been hooked ever since.**

**What is the biggest bass you ever caught and where?**

**A beautiful 6-and-a-half-pound largemouth from El Capitan on a green pumpkin chatter bait.**

**What's your favorite bait?**

**I've always enjoyed Texas rig worms, but recently crank baits are becoming one of my favorite baits.**

**Besides fishing, what do you love to do?**

**Over the last many years, I've enjoyed many Hobbies; RC cars, music, custom cars and most recently – cooking!**

**Why did you join the SDBM?**

**I am looking to improve my bass fishing skills and techniques while making new friends and memories on the water.**

**What techniques would you like to improve on?**

**Looking forward to improving drop shot skills and learning all about fishing jerk baits.**



**IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH**

April 2nd, 2024 06:30 PM  
GENERAL MEETING

BOARD MEETING – April TBD

**Urgent Call to Action - All BassMaster Members & Friends**

Your President Bruce Smith and I have been communicating with several City Council Members and County Supervisors about potential upcoming Budget Cuts.

The SD City Mayor’s Budget will be released April 13, 2024. According to our contacts within the city, the greatest number of emails/letters they receive is how they determine what issues are of highest priority to the community and therefore to the Mayor and Council members.

Right now, those numbers have the most affect with the Mayor. We need to flood his Inbox with THOUSANDS of emails EVERYDAY!

Below you will find the Mayors email address and some letters and topics to impress upon him the importance of our issues. If you can’t send one every day, how about every other day? Twice a week?

Some say that “we can’t make a difference if we aren’t SD city residents.” WRONG!! The bicycle coalition got together cyclists from all over the county last year and had an email campaign. They got \$18 million because of their efforts. The City Lakes budget for fishing/recreation is below \$2 million. If we can get HALF of the amount the cyclists got, that means we can get our One day a month back and prevent a potential winter closing of several of our lakes.

Do this now or don’t complain when you lose lake days and cost goes up.

[MayorToddGloria@sandiego.gov](mailto:MayorToddGloria@sandiego.gov)

Will you please secure 2024-2025 Budget funding for the San Diego City Lakes Recreation program to prevent further cuts and support expansion?

Thousands of San Diego residents are concerned the 2024-2025 City Budget will continue to lack funding for Days Open, Recreation and Infrastructure improvements at Lake El Capitan, San Vicente, Lake Otay, Southerland and Hodges. Most of these Reservoirs are in the County but they are part of the City Budget controlled under the PUD. We encourage the city to invest more in these reservoirs for the tremendous economic impact recreation brings to the city/county. We also encourage the County to provide funding.

Specifically, more “betterment” funding allocated to the San Diego City Lakes Operation. More days open, marina, road, docks, facilities improvements and expanding recreation is what thousands of San Diegans that use these Lakes want. The current budget includes millions in capital improvement program funding for parks and enhancements to recreation for San Diegans and visitors. What about the Lakes?

OUR FIRST PRIORITY

- NO MORE LAKE CLOSURES.
- MORE DAYS OPEN. Reversal of "one day a week closures" ..this was done in 2019 and never corrected.....REVERSE THIS ON ALL RESERVOIRS

- Complete Resurfacing the PUD ACCESS road at El Capitan

#### GENERAL ACTION ITEMS

- More operating days
- Infrastructure projects
- Improved docks
- Concession services and rental boats so families can enjoy.
- Youth free fishing days and events

The city increased the fishing permit and boating fees to access the lakes....where does that money go?

Lack of funding, lack of “betterment” projects, lack of staff, limited days open, closures and cuts economically affect many community businesses and commerce supporting the region. The San Diego City Lakes are an important part of San Diego County local communities and businesses. The additional investment can actually result in more revenue for the City and local Businesses.

Budget funding for the San Diego City Lakes Program <https://www.sandiego.gov/reservoirs-lakes> is LONG OVERDUE. Will you make a commitment to help? Please vote to secure more City Lakes funding in the 2024-2025 BUDGET and no more cuts.

Additional Short topics for emails after the initial email above provided by Jeff Carpenter.

#### 1. Focus on Economic Impact:

Dear Mayor Gloria,

San Diego City Lakes are vital economic drivers for our county. Yet, budget cuts threaten their potential. I urge you to advocate for increased funding for recreation and infrastructure improvements at Lake El Capitan, San Vicente, Lake Otay, and Southerland. More funding translates to more open days, improved facilities, and expanded recreation, attracting visitors and boosting local businesses. Let's invest in these reservoirs and unlock their economic potential.

Thank you,

#### 2. Appeal to Recreation Enthusiasts:

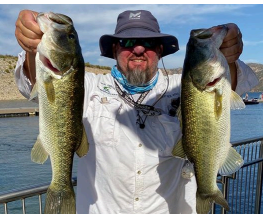
Dear Mayor Gloria,

As a passionate outdoor enthusiast, I'm deeply concerned about the limited access to San Diego City Lakes. The current budget restricts recreation opportunities at these beautiful reservoirs. I urge you to support increased funding for the San Diego City Lakes Operation. Imagine more open days, improved boat launches, and expanded fishing programs! This investment can transform these lakes into vibrant community hubs.

Thank you,

Make it happen!

Sincerely, Dave Seaberg



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

Be sure to check out [www.sandiegobassmasters.com](http://www.sandiegobassmasters.com)