

NEWSLETTER

Hawg Hawlers Bass Club of St. Louis

(May 1997)

Mark Twain Lake Results

Those newspaper articles were right! There are NO FISH in Mark Twain Lake. At least there weren't for us. Without Steve Chiaurro, the other 28 Hawg Hawlers only pulled 2 keepers out of the lake. Our 28 anglers fishing 12 hours each equals 336 angler/hours of fishing. That means it took an average of 168 hours of fishing per keeper. Translation: you go to "Lake Catch-a-Big-One" and fish 8 hours a day, for 21 straight days, and catch one keeper. There are many ways to describe "slow" fishing, but this is one of the worst performances this club has had in years. Other anglers (non-Hawg Hawlers) were having the same luck. So, it wasn't just us, NOBODY was catching anything. Oh yeah, except Mr. Chiaurro. He had the ticket. He knew something no one else knew. And apparently, he didn't even tell Gary. But, he didn't have to, because they took first place with his 3 fish. Here are the results, read them and weep (if you are not listed).

Comparison by day:

Saturday	4 bass	13.22 lbs	4.41 (big bass)
Sunday	1 bass	2.00 lbs	2.00 (big bass)

Mark Twain Totals (breakdown on attached sheet)

Year	# of fish	TOTAL weight	# of boats	1 st place	BIG Bass SAT	BIG Bass SUN
1997	5	15.22	15	11.02	4.41	2.00

1st Place Steve Chiaurro/Gary McFetridge
3 fish - 11.02 lbs
prize: \$ 168.00 (5 points each)
pattern: Spinnerbait, shallow, windy banks, Indian creek.

2nd Place Tim Jett/Stan Price
1 fish - 2.20 lbs.
prize: \$ 120.00 (4 points each)
pattern: Jig/Pig, shallow, Buck creek.

3rd Place Ron Martin/Mike Sperla
1 fish - 2.00 lbs.
prize: \$ 80.00 (3 points each)
pattern: Spinnerbait, shallow.

4th Place (none) Prize money (\$52) goes toward the Classic Dinner.

5th Place (none) Prize money (\$30) goes toward the Classic Dinner.



BIG BASS (Sat) 4.41 lbs-Steve Chiaurro
prize: \$ 75.00 and 2 points.
pattern: Spinnerbait.

BIG BASS(Sun) 2.00 lbs-Mike Sperla
prize: \$ 75.00 and 2 points.
pattern: Spinnerbait.

Other "BIGGINS" worth noting.

N-O-N-E



Smallest BASS Award

2.00 lbs - Mike Sperla
Spinnerbait

This was the "smallest" bass. But it was also the BIG BASS for Sunday, and good for third place overall. So the "smallest" bass was actually worth the most. A total of \$155.00 in prize money..

☺ ☺ Coat-tails Award ☺ ☺

Also referred to as the "Netter of the Month". No question this month. We proudly present this award tooooo . . . drum roll . . . Gary McFetridge, for his outstanding accomplishment of riding Steve's coattails into the winners circle. Oh yeah, and being the best net man of the tournament.



Next Tournament - Kentucky Lake . . .

IMPORTANT STUFF HERE

- - PLEASE READ - -

FREE FISHING WEEKEND: This means you do not need a fishing license for Saturday or Sunday. If you fish Friday, you must buy an out of state (Kentucky) fishing license.

KENTUCKY/BARKLEY: Fishing will be allowed on either lake.

SIZE LIMIT: Largemouth/Smallmouth = 15" minimum. As far as we can tell, there is NO minimum size limit for Kentucky or Spotted bass. So you may bring in any size Spot. But if the officers determined it is a Large or Smallmouth the "short" fish penalty will be applied. Further announcements will be made at the lake.

DRY COUNTY: Big Bear Resort is in a dry county in Kentucky. You can have it, but you can't buy it there.

Defending Champs: (your name here)

Lake Record: (your name here)

Directions: (from St. Louis) Interstate 64 E, to 57 S, to 24 SE, to 68 to 58 to Big Bear Resort (1-800-922-2327).

It's the Intent that counts.

You know: God covered $\frac{3}{4}$ of the earth's surface with water and only $\frac{1}{4}$ with dry land. It seems obvious, that He intended people to FISH $\frac{3}{4}$ of the time, and work $\frac{1}{4}$ of the time

Bar-B-Que at Stockton...

In an effort to continually improve your fishing enjoyment, we are trying something different this year. At Stockton Lake in June, we will be having the very first Hawg Hawlers Bass Club Bar-B-Que. This will be held at Noon prior to the 2pm Saturday takeoff. This should give us plenty of time to have some lunch, and mingle, prior to the heavy intense competition to follow. The Bar-B-Que will consist of burgers, hot dogs, condiments, buns and chips. You must provide your own drinks. This will be funded with the attendance prize money. That means that "THERE WILL BE NO ATTENDANCE PRIZES AWARDED AT STOCKTON". Tournament prize money will NOT BE AFFECTED in any way. So when you make your plans for Stockton, consider Saturday lunch taken care of.

Correction: Please note the corrected "Top 10's" (or so) Lists included. Sorry to those I omitted. Further updates may follow.

Bad Luck - Good Luck

Last year it was trolling motor steering cables that plagued one of our members. This year it was an engine wiring harness. The bad news is that the wiring harness burned up. The good news is that NO ONE WAS HURT, there was a working fire extinguisher onboard, it happened at the END of the tournament, the anglers were within swimming distance to shore, and (most importantly) the motor was still under warrantee. To get serious for a moment, safety is the most important element in a successful fishing trip or tournament. Without it, there may not be any future trips or tournaments. We all complain about the water patrol inspections, but remember, they are only checking what WE should have already checked. Fred had a working fire extinguisher on board Do you?

Want Add's (or more appropriately **DON'T** want add's)
ROD - Lew's crankin' stick. Call Terry 928-2286

Stretch D. Truth says . . . "I was shore fishing Kentucky

Lake last summer. The fish were not biting at all, so I took a little snooze. All of a sudden I felt something crawl over my legs. I looked down, and there was a snake with a frog in it's mouth. Well, fishing had been bad with worms, so I thought, Hey...maybe a frog will produce better results. So, I grabbed the frog, but the snake wouldn't let go. Then I remembered I brought along some good ol' Kentucky Sour Mash. Popped the cork and poured a little of Kentucky's finest into the corner of the snakes mouth. The snake let the frog go. I grabbed the frog, put it on my hook and proceeded to fish. Caught a nice 6-pound bass. Well - no more frog - no more bites. I decided to catch some more sleep when all of a sudden, I felt a nudge on my arm. It was the snake, with another frog."



Truth may be stranger than fiction,
but sometimes it needs to be 'Stretched'

Why do you fish?

This question was recently posted on the internet. We all have our humorous answers. But I was amazed at the some of the serious answers. I will list some of them over the next few newsletters.

Q. "So, why do you fish?"

A. "Some people marvel at the masterpiece of the Mona Lisa, created by man. I marvel at the masterpiece of Nature, created by God. Nature is God's perfect tapestry, in unbelievable color, depth and dimension. God gave us this masterpiece to enjoy, protect, and preserve. And there is no better way to achieve this, than to become one with nature. When I am out on a lake, I am one with Nature. Consequently, I am one with God."