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HSV Anglers News

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, if you don't have fishing/cabin fever by now you need to check your pulse. This time of year can be the most exciting and it can be most frustrating. Just about everything bass do, they do now. The buck bass are up shallow making beds for the females that are feeding up for the spawn. The shad have spawned so there is feeding on them on the surface and the bream are starting to prepare for their spawn. It doesn't get much better than this. It can be frustrating because Spring bass are single minded in their lives too. The bucks are protective but not nearly as aggressive as the feeding bass. The females want easy big bites because they are full of eggs and a bit sluggish. But most of all it means you need to be prepared for just about anything. One rod for top-water, one for soft plastics and one for big baits (i.e. jigs) are a minimum. A spinning rod for finesse baits wouldn't hurt either.

This is also the time of year when the weather can be down right dangerous. Thunderstorms and the associated lightening can pop up unexpectedly. Winds can be most bothersome. Along with the warm air and water that is relatively cold, falling in can create dangerous and uncomfortable situations. Be safe and be prepared. Wear your life vests and connect that kill switch when the big motor is running. The life you save might be your own.

We are well into the planning stages for our military fishing day. We still need boats and help with the ramp duties. Please consider volunteering to make this a very special day for our men and women in uniform. We don't get many opportunities to show and tell them what their sacrifice means to us. Contact Dave Keith or Bob Brannan to volunteer. The food will be fantastic too. Can't beat the price. It's FREE.

Hope to see many of you out on the lake and definitely at our next meeting. Keep your line fresh and your feet dry.

2017 MILITARY FISHING DAY

We've got the go ahead for the 2017 Military Fishing Day on Balboa. The date has been finalized as Friday the 19th of May. We will need 25-30 boaters and additional help. Dave Keith will present more detail at the upcoming club meeting.

Inside News

- The next Anglers club meeting is 7 pm Tuesday April 4th at the Coronado Center room 5. We'll have Manual Blocker a local fishing guide as guest speaker.
- Remember if you haven't already paid your club dues of \$25 they were due the end of February. Pay Darrell Graham at the club meeting 4/4 or send your check made to HSV Anglers to—Darrell Graham, 15 Mujeres Lane, Hot Springs Village, Ar 71909
- We will have club hats and decals on sale at our club meetings. Hats are \$6.50 each and decals \$2 each. Exact change would be appreciated.
- Don't forget to bring your aluminum cans to the meeting. Steve Wastel will collect the cans.
- Sign-up for tournaments will be prior to the Club meeting. Tournaments are scheduled for Thursday 4/6 and Monday 4/17.
- The club's mentor program matches an angler familiar with local fishing techniques with anglers new to the area or unsure about how to use new techniques. Anyone that is interested in participating contact Gary Slumpff (phone - 922-6203 or email - FunDuo@outlook.com).

MARCH TOURNAMENTS

The first tournament of the year was Monday March 20th on Lake Balboa. We had 31 members fish catching 47 bass weighing 80 pounds and 2 ounces. Bruce Zorn caught the big bass in the angler division of 4 pounds 10 ounces and Bill Womack had a 2 pound 10 ounce bass to



take big bass in the co-angler division. Bruce won first place in the angler division and caught his bass on a Texas rigged watermelon/red flake Zoom baby brush hog (second from right lower row), shaky tail worm (not shown) and Mag II worm (lower left). Bob Brannan won first place co-angler and caught his fish on 1/4 or 3/8 ounce black/blue (upper right) or green pumpkin (not shown) finesse jigs with a green pumpkin trailer. Bill Womack caught his big bass on a Texas rigged black lizard (lower right). Other baits that produced were wacky rigged finesse worms (upper left) and Texas rigged green

pumpkin magic or green pumpkin U-tail worms (lower second from left).

The second March tournament was Thursday March 30th on Lake Ouachita and it was windy but lots of bass were caught. Twenty-four member fished bringing in 68 bass weighing 124 pounds 5 ounces. Five bass limits were caught by 9 of the 24 members. Bruce Zorn won first place in the angler division with a bag weighing 15 pounds 12 ounces that included big bass of 5 pounds 13 ounces. Bruce

caught most of his fish on a watermelon red flake fluke (lower left). Bob Anderson caught the big bass in the co-angler division of 4 pounds 1 ounce on a baby brush hog (lower right). Bob Brannan won first place in the co-angler division using a finesse worm rigged wacky (upper left). Other successful baits were spinner baits (upper center), drop shot (upper left) green pumpkin finesse worms and Texas rigged Zoom trick worms (lower middle).



April tournaments are scheduled for Thursday April 6th on Lake Hamilton and Monday April 17th on Lake Degray.