

Club History

The HSV Anglers Club is one of the oldest organized clubs in the Village. It all started back in 1973 when some village men fished with the Jessieville Bass Club. This small group decided to start a fishing organization in the Village.

The new club met at the Village Fire House and since Lake DeSoto was just being formed, all of the tournaments were held on Lake Ouachita at the Three Sisters Landing. Those tournaments lasted a full eight hours. Many of the fish caught in those Lake Ouachita tournaments were transported to Lake DeSoto to get the new lake off to a good start.

During 1977, when Wyman Hammon was President, it was decided that the club needed a charter. In 1979, with John Stewart as President, the State of Arkansas awarded the Anglers Club Articles of Incorporation. The meeting place was changed to the Coronado Center and meetings were held on the first Tuesday of each month.

Bass tournament rules were established. Bass 12 inches or longer were weighed in and there was a limit of ten bass per man. A contestant would get a point for each pound of fish and the weight was used to determine the winners in each tournament. Records were kept to determine the most successful fisherman of the year.

A traveling trophy was awarded to the Fisherman of the Year and anyone winning three years in a row could keep the trophy. Records tell us that angler Rex Crane won the award in three consecutive years in the mid-70's and was allowed to retain the trophy. Records also tell us that in 1978 member Orin Swingle weighed in the heaviest tournament bass with a catch of a nine pound, 12 ounce beauty.

During the mid 90's, bass tournament rules were changed to minimize the impact of tournament fishing on the village bass population. The 12-inch minimum size limit is still in affect, but the maximum number of fish to be "weighed-in" is now three. And there is now no actual "weighing" of the fish. Each fish is measured in the boat and club policy states that it should be immediately released. This is especially important during the spawning season.

The length of each qualifying bass is then converted to a weight by use of a "bump board". One point is assigned to each ounce of bass caught and tournament winners are determined in this way. Individual bass tournament records are accumulated for the entire season to determine the winner of the Fisherman of the Year Award.

The club currently holds 16 bass tournaments a year. Tournaments usually last five hours. Most tournaments are held on Village Lakes with the balance usually being held on Lakes Ouachita and Hamilton. Members not owning boats are matched by a drawing with boat owners for tourneys.

Important changes were made to tournament rules for 2001. Rules allow each angler to "weigh in" five bass and the minimum length was changed to 11 inches. Also, there have been two angler categories established, both with the same prizes. They are Angler (boat owner) and Co-Angler (rider). Of note is that two women were elected as officers--a "first" for the club--in the year 2001.

Prizes for a tournament are awarded for first, second, and third place in each category. A big bass prize is awarded in each category and the team prize goes to the two anglers in the boat with the heaviest catch of bass. All prizes have minimal monetary value but provide high personal satisfaction.

In 1996, member Dallas Middlekauff won his third consecutive Fisherman of the Year Award. Dallas won again in '97 and '98 for a record five years in a row. Dallas chose to not keep the trophy and donated it to the club. The trophy is now on display in the Coronado Center with all Fishermen of the Year Award winners acknowledged. During a 1997 tournament on Lake DeSoto, member Dick Paulsen landed a 25-1/2 inch, 10 pound, 1 ounce bass, which now is the current club record for a tournament bass.

There have been other changes. The club has grown significantly since 1973 when the original membership numbered 31. In 1991, the membership totaled 60 members and currently totals 85 members. It is important to note that

membership includes female anglers. The club has become more civic minded and more involved in lake management. Primarily due to club efforts, the POA agreed in 1995 to finance the addition of nutrients into Lake Balboa and the club successfully lobbied for the hiring of a professional lake consultant that year and a full time POA Lakes Manager in 1996.

Anglers Club members spend many hours on Village lakes building and placing fish-friendly brush piles and assisting the Lakes Manager in adding nutrients. The club has placed benches and picnic tables on the shores of village lakes. In 2000 club built a fishing pier on Angler Island on Lake Coronado. The pier was dedicated and presented to the Property Owners Association for the 30th Anniversary of HSV. A second fishing pier was purchased and donated to the POA in 2001. This floating fishing pier was placed at the West end of Lake DeSoto.

1999 activities resulted in a Fishing Expo and a Boating Safety Course, both for the benefit of all Villagers. Another Fishing Expo was held in 2000. During 2002 the club held an all-day fishing class open to the general public. It was well attended and was a great success is now a semiannual event. The club also organizes various informal fishing trips for those who wish to “get away” for a night or two and fish more distant lakes. Many members and their spouses consider the club's Annual Fish Fry and the Awards Dinner the two highlights of the year.

From the above history, it is clear that the Anglers Club is steadfast in meeting the goals established by its Constitution, which reads, “The purpose of the club is to promote fellowship through fishing. The club will provide members a means to learn more about fishing and improve their fishing skills. The club will also actively support the improvement of village lakes and the quality of fishing in Hot Springs Village.”

HSV ANGLERS CLUB OFFICERS 1974-2020

<i>Year</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
1974	Floyd Paris	Lloyd Stephens	Harry Seifert	Charles Rovert
1975	Lloyd Stephens	Charles Welborn	Harry Seifert	Don Stiles
1976	Wyman Hammon	Earl Haught	Charles Mann	Don Stiles
1977	Wyman Hammon	Fred Aiken	Joe Trupiano	Don Stiles
1978	John Stewart	Orin Swingle	B. Cleaver	Don Stiles
1979	John Stewart	Dick Jones	George Axmann	Don Stiles
1980	John Stewart	Pat McGreer	George Axmann	Don Stiles
1981	Howard Heggman	Wayne French	George Axmann	Pat McGreer
1982	Russ Longley	Wayne French	Lloyd Collins	Don Stiles
1983	Al Scharpou	Ralph Wilcoxon	Lloyd Collins	Don Stiles
1984	Ralph Wilcoxon	Ancel DeVries	Lloyd Collins	Don Stiles
1985	Tom Bolson	Jack Shepard	Ray Steidel	Don Stiles
1986	John Stewart	Walt McClelland	Ray Steidel	Bob Meyer

1987	John Stewart	Walt McClelland	Ray Steidel	Bob Meyer
1988	Ed Horn	Dan Paskey	John Gulick	Bob Meyer
1989	Les Welch	C. J. Stewart	John Gulick	Bob Meyer
1990	C. J. Stewart	Al Haas	John Gulick	Bob Meyer
1991	Walt McClelland	Mac McCoun	John Gulick	Bob Meyer
1992	Mac McCoun	Elmer Roth	John Gulick	Bob Meyer
1993	Verb Stanley	Dick Grasser	John Gulick	Bob Meyer
1994	Verb Stanley	Dallas Midlekauff	John Gulick	Bob Meyer
1995	Dallas Midlekauff	Pat Lyons	Gtant Ludder	Bob Meyer
1996	Dallas Midlekauff	Dick Paulsen	Gtant Ludder	Bob Meyer
1997	Dick Woodworth	Al Hershey	Dick Paulsen	Bob Meyer
1998	Dick Woodworth	Ken Ritter	Dick Paulsen	Bob Meyer
1999	Dick Paulsen	Al Behm	Winston Wolfe	Tom Ament
2000	Dick Paulsen	Al Behm	Winston Wolfe	Ken Ritter
2001	Al Behm	Madeline Smith	Wayne Beach	Sandy Newby
2002	Dave Keith	Madeline Smith	George Meyer	Dick Paulsen
2003	Dave Keith	Ed Russell	Bob Brown	P. J. Kowalski
2004	Tom Gibbons	Spenser Jordon	Wayne Beach	Bob Anderson
2005	Gary Slumpff	Spenser Jordon	Don Langston	Bob Anderson
2006	Gary Slumpff	Don Langston	Kurtis Sutley	Bob Anderson
2007	Don Langston	Dan Dilieto	Emery Harmon	Charles Cooley
2008	Don Langston	Dan Dilieto	Emery Harmon	Charles Cooley
2009	Ralph Scantlin	Dan Dilieto	Emery Harmon	Peg Sampson
2010	Ralph Scantlin	Wayne Beach	Allen Thompson	Peg Sampson
2011	Dave Keith	Mike Crews	Bob Calicott	James Tulke
2012	Dave Keith	Mike Crews	Bob Calicott	James Tulke
2013	Mike Crews	Craig Schilling	Don Langston	James Tulke
2014	Mike Crews	Craig Schilling	Don Langston	James Tulke

2015	Bob Baker	Tom Impellizzeri	Don Langston	Al Lipson
2016	Kurtis Sutley	Tom Impellizzeri	Don Langston	Dick Paulsen
2017	Kurtis Sutley	Bob Baker	Don Langston	Darrell Graham
2018	Ernie Infusino	Dave Keith	Bob Brannan	Darrell Graham
2019	Ernie Infusino	John Matherne	Charles Jamison	Darrell Graham
2020	Craig Schilling	John Matherne	Charles Jamison	Frank Elliot
2021	Craig Schilling		Don Langston	Frank Elliot
2022	Jerry Swaim	Cliff James	Don Langston	Frank Elliot
2023	Jerry Swaim	Greg Osterhout	Kirk Bixler	Frank Elliot