



Western Bass Club

Since 1938

WBC News August 2012

President's Report



Rodney Heupel, President

Hello Western Bass Club members and guests,

Why do I fish?

Over the years since I was introduced to fishing by an uncle as a kid, the reasons I fish have changed. I have always wanted to catch the big one! That big one has such an effect on us that contests of all levels even have an award for catching the big fish. Fishing can be a diversion to the normal daily stresses, providing time to think and relax. For many it may be the next meal that is served up. Fishing is fun when with a loved one, your children, a friend, a special needs child or even with a member of our armed forces. Every one smiles when they catch a fish. There are many species of fish to go after and many techniques to outwit the fish you are after. Fishing can be a puzzle or challenge that brings a sense of well being or pride when we land that first catch of the day. Fishing may even get us close to nature where we can enjoy the scenery or wildlife such as an eagle in flight or a raccoon washing its food on the bank. Fishing may be a means of support; there are commercial fishermen and tournament anglers who make a living on the water.

The great thing about fishing is we can fish at any level we want to. We can move up the ladder or go back down. We can belong to a bass club or not. There are clubs that only fish a designated pay to fish circuit. There are clubs for electric motor only, belly boat clubs, fly fishing clubs, salt water, high school clubs; you name it there is a club for you. You might just want to learn more or even work your way up to compete in the pay to fish circuits.

Here at Western Bass Club we have chosen to remain an independent club free of any affiliations. We are known as a teaching/learning club. We are fully set up as a family club offering divisions for the young, the women and men. We have club members who participate at all levels from just the occasional monthly fish-in to tops of the pay to fish circuits. It's not what a club offers that make a great club, it's what its members offer to each other that makes a great club. As we approach our 75th Anniversary less than a year away with club officer nominations and elections very near, I know there are members who will step up to move the club forward. This is why I fish with the Western Bass Club.

Rodney Heupel
President, Western Bass Club

Meeting Minutes

Dan Mowry, Secretary

General Meeting Minutes 7/18/12

The meeting was called to order at 7:00P.M. There were 12 members present. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Entertainment: We had Thayne Hatch discuss Summer time weed line tactics. Thank You, Thayne. Next Month??????

V.P. Report: No report. Terry has submitted the Lake selections for next year to the State.

Treasurers Report: No report.

Special Events: The "Take a Warrior" fishing event had 100 soldiers and our club had 10 boats help out. The next event will be the "Cast for Kids" on Sept. 8th, at Lake Washington. Details will be on the web-site.

Ambassador Report: There was no fish-in for the month of June. The July fish-in will be on the 21st of July on Black Lake. Details will be in the newsletter and on line.

Greeter/ Green Slip Report: Carl got a 1.3lb SM From Lake Tapps on a Senko, Larry got a 3.6lb SM from Lake Washington on a drop shot, Bob got a 4.2lb SM from Lake Roosevelt on a Senko, Bonnie got a 4.3lb LM from Lake Washington on a Senko, and Dan C got a 6.13lb LM from Star Lake on a jig and craw.

Old Business: The next 75th anniversary committee meeting will be at Larry's House.

New Business: We will be taking nominations for next year's Board Members at the August meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

This Month's thought from author Seth Norman.

"Anticipation is such a pleasurable part of fishing that it sometimes seems a shame to go out someplace, cast, and try to catch something."

An old Irish Blessing to ponder.

"May the holes in your net be no larger than the fish in it."

Green Slip/Greeter



Larry Sullivan

Hey Western! Hope you all are having a wonderful summer as we enter the second half of the fishing season where we leave the shallows and start working our way off the ledges and begin that exciting time where we get to begin our top water assault!! As a matter of fact that very technique was evident as 6 couples/teams made the drive to Lake Roosevelt for the annual Jack-N-Jill Tournament and the weather was excellent with temperatures in the 80s and 90s light winds and a morning where for almost 3 hours the top water baits were out in force. The Kelly Boat had the best results at the end of the event.

Here are the totals for the tournament...

1st Place. The Kelly's with 26.21 lbs and Big Fish of 3.62 lbs.

2nd Place. Larry and Danica with 20.66 lbs.

3rd place. The Wards with 20.10 lbs.

4th Place. The Dover's with 17.46 lbs.

5th place. The O'Dea's with 16.75 lbs.

6th place. The Beemen Jr. Boat with 15.76 lbs.

A variety of techniques and baits were used but Drop Shot's and Football head jigs were the dominant producers but the wacky rigged Senko's were productive as fish were still shallow and several teams found fish still on beds!!!

Special thanks to the Club for providing the Dinner and to Angie and Henry for making the arrangements and picking up the same. A Hawaiian theme welcomed the participants as Angie made sure everyone got Lei'd!!! We always seem to make these events work out as a group and that is the reason I love to go to these events and I am proud to step up when needed to fill in for Terry. Let's try to double the participation next year on Banks!!!

Fish-In Report

Dan Caffrey, Ambassador Director



Black Lake, Thurston County
July, 21 2012

3 boats and 8 members were at the fish in. The water temperature started at 71 and by 2pm it had gone up to 74. The water clarity was stained to heavy stained depending on which side of the lake you were on. The weather was cloudy in the morning, and partly cloudy in the afternoon with some really nice sun breaks. Rodney and Todd fished together in Rodney's boat. Rodney caught 2 smallies at about a pound and a half each. Terry was also there with his wife and 2 daughters. They had to leave a little early. Finally there was Christy and I. I caught the only fish in my boat, it was a 3.2 large mouth for the "big fish."

Overall I would say the bite was pretty slow. The fry has grown to about an inch or so and the smallies seem to be feeding on it heavily. Both of Rodney's fish regurgitated a bunch of fry.

On another note, I saw no bluegill nests, which I have been seeing a lot of at other lakes, and really not much activity in the pads.

Thanks to everyone who showed up!

Dan Caffrey

Entertainment




Angie Dover, Entertainment Director

Thank you Thayne Hatch for sharing summer time weed line fishing techniques! We appreciate all the information you share with us.

This month we are doing our annual skills challenge; Trivia, skipping & weight guessing! The winner will get a \$25 gift card to Auburn Sports!

Hope to see you at the club meeting!

Angie Dover  skeeterdover@hotmail.com



What do you want?

As a kid we were asked this when we would hound our parents for something but I am asking this question as we... (The Club) are at a crossroads. As we have all noticed the economy has hit us pretty hard with layoffs, lowered wages and for some significant financial challenges.

What do you want from this club....Where do you want this club to be 2-5 years from now and also, what will be your legacy? These questions are being pondered every month at the board meeting and we continue to see numbers dwindling, participation waning and a basic malaise when it comes to the club and its activities. So again I ask..."What do you want?" A lot of us have been on the board for multiple years and have made great strides in the progression of Western to one of the elite clubs, not only in this state but, in the nation as we have been in existence longer than any other organization but, we have to bring back the fun of our sport by increasing our sharing of experiences in stories and pictures. When I joined years ago we had time during meetings where we could mingle...with name tags on!! And tell of our adventures in a no format group setting that encouraged sharing. While we have kept the learning part of the meetings we have littered the field with business clutter that strangles sharing so now is the time to get back to our past, a good past where folks can be open, friendly and looking forward to every meeting.

It is evident that folks are prioritizing their entertainment dollars and time spent so your board is asking.....how can we help. One way is restoring the entertainment and socialization that helps us forge the lifelong bonds that we might have lost. Another is to bring in fresh ideas and thinking to keep those ideas coming in the future. Either way it all depends on you. ONLY YOU can take this club where it goes next. We are approaching a great milestone as The Western Bass Club will be 75 years old next year, and many activities are in the works from a club weekend campout to commemorative items to celebrate the event but without any input or support by you the membership, these ideas will never come to fruition so....."WHAT DO YOU WANT?" be a part of the next 75 years and fulfill your destiny by getting involved, take a board position, join a committee just stop sitting on your hands and letting others dictate how YOUR CLUB will proceed.

Hope to see you all at the August general membership meeting and to hearing your stories, seeing your pictures and most importantly sharing your friendship.

Larry Sullivan. Proud member of the best bass club ever.

Meeting Information

Date: Third Wednesday of each month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Kennydale Community Center
2424 NE 27th
Renton, WA



Western Bass Club Membership Form

Spouse, children under 18, and grandchildren are also members with your paid annual dues.

NEW MEMBER AND MEMBER RENEWAL FORM

Name (please print) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Birthday _____ NEW MEMBER / RENEWAL
(please circle appropriate choice)

Website User Name _____

Home Phone () _____ E-Mail Address _____

Spouse's Name _____ Birthday _____

List Children:

Name _____ Birthday _____

Name _____ Birthday _____

Name _____ Birthday _____

PLEASE NOTE:

Dues are \$45 for new members and renewals.

Your signature on this application releases Western Bass Club from all claims for any injury and/or damage, personal or property that you, members of your family, or guests may cause or sustain.

Make checks payable to: Western Bass Club

Member Signature _____

Date _____ Check Number _____

Mail to: Western Bass Club
Attn: Secretary
PO Box 59027
Renton WA 98058