



**Western Bass Club**  
Since 1938

## WBC News May 2011

### President's Report



Rodney Huepel, President

Hello members and guests,

It is the merry month of May; it has been a very wet and colder spring than normal. Much of the country has experienced record setting weather. Mother Nature has surely broken her normal routine of what she throws at us. This is the month that we as a club will make tournament lake nominations. This is the year we must follow the lead that Mother Nature has set for us and make the changes needed to break out of the old standard rut of selections we have fallen into. As hard as it may be to think a full year beyond this one that hasn't even played out yet, we must. Our first tournament is already behind us, and those of us that were there don't want to go back for a draw tournament at that lake again, at least in April as Silver Lake has not been producing in the historical manner it used too. Is it time to change the "tradition" of our first tournament of the year, the draw tournament, to a new lake? Or move the date to just a bit later? Keep in mind the draw tournament is designed give our new members and non-boaters the chance to fish a tournament with different boaters each day which fosters both the learning experience and forms friendships to last a life time. When fished at a lake that will produce fish for all involved memories are created. Is it time to make the change required to create new and lasting memories?

The next tournament that needs to be rethought is the "Jack and Jill" as the last two years we have made changes to what was originally voted or the date to better serve those who do fish it. This is our "Family" tournament of the year that allows many of us to involve wives and daughters. There have been conflicts with other club(s) that also hold tournaments during the same time frame. Is it time to make a change? Why doesn't the club make the change of moving our "Jack

and Jill” to a different month at a lake here on the west side and have a “club sponsored” picnic for the entire Western Bass Club family to enjoy? While keeping a tournament on the east side of the state on a weekend that will support our members who wish to incorporate attending two tournaments in July for an extended vacation. What an outstanding chance to have a great family based potluck supper for all that attend.

This year our tournament applications will be sent in by registered mail to put us in the fight to have our tournaments the weekend(s) following our monthly club meeting. We have to compete with the money circuit tournaments that a few of our members are blessed to compete in also; we will try our best to avoid conflicts. Let us also consider what affect the economy has on attendance of tournaments. We have many good lakes locally that are on this, the west side, which will support good tournaments. The board of directors has discussed the possibility of holding two tournaments in the same month also.

This month Terry will be conducting the meeting as my vacation time conflicts with the monthly meeting. Remember to get your membership dues in ASAP! You must be a paid member to maintain access to the members section of the web site and most importantly to vote for next year’s lake selection. Online voting will be used in June.

As the fishing season heats up remember to fill out your Green Slips and get them turned in. As the warmer weather comes upon us and we shed those winter clothes remember to get your WBC T-shirts available from Mark Brown, our Greeter / Green Slip Chairman who will also certify your scale.

Tight Lines,  
Rodney Heupel  
President WBC

## Meeting Minutes

Dan Mowry, Secretary

General Meeting April 20,2011

Meeting called to order at 7:13 P.M. There were 23 members present. New member's hand-books were handed out. Inducted Harvey Musselman as a Honorary Life Member. He joined the club in March ,1975.

**V.P./Tournament Director:** Silver Lake was a disaster. Two fish caught, and the lake's P.H. is way out of balance. Next Month will be the nominations for next year's tournaments. Please contribute your ideas for Lakes to fish, including a replacement for Silver. Next month's tournament is at Potholes. Launch will be at Lind Coulee. Details are on the web-site. The State has asked that anyone catching a Walleye on Lake Washington, to please keep it, and call the Fish and Wildlife dept. so they can examine the fish.

**Secretary:** Meeting Minutes read and approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** We have \$727.97 in the bank. The web-site bill is the only pending expense.

**Ambassador Report:** The April fish-in was at American Lake. There were 7 boats and 12 people present. 5 fish were caught, 4 were from Rodney's boat (home lake advantage). Big fish was 5lb. 2 oz. LM by Rodney. Next Month will be at Long Lake in Kitsap County, details are on the web-site.

**Greeter/Greenslip:** Cristy caught a 1.14lb SM on a dropshot, Dan C had a 2.12lb on a spinner bait, Rodney had a 4.2 & 5.2lb LM from American Lake, John had a 5lb LM from Spring Lake, and big fish was Chris, 6lb 4oz. LM from Morton. Remember that shirts and hats are available. Special Events: The Fish'n Kids Event will be on June 4th. At Gene Coulon Park. More info will be posted on the web-site. Still have not gotten any update from Jim Owens on his Wounded Warrior event.

**Entertainment:** Next Month we will have Dan from Sniper Lures and Gary from N.W.Bass. June we will have Thane, talking about Riffe Lake. The club will be sponsoring the Kid's Casting Contest at the State Jamboree this year, see Angie if you would like to help. The club would also like to have a "Theme Tournament" at the August tournament at the Lower Columbia. It will be a "70's" theme. This month's entertainment is Henry Dover. He demonstrated how to pour and paint jigs. It was very informative and entertaining. He can get a discount on jig pouring supplies, so if you want to take the plunge and save some money, see him at the May meeting. He will work up an order and submit it. Thanks Henry.

**New Business:** Next Month we will have the Lake nominations for the year 2012. They will be submitted, discussed, and finalized this Month. The vote will be at the June meeting, as they have to be submitted to the State by July 1st.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

A thought from author William Humphrey:

“ I want a fish that is fastidious and finicky, wily and skitterish, hard to lure, game when hooked.... I am hard to please; but there is, among all the many kinds of fish that swim, one, just one, that fulfills all my many requirements.”

And from author Robert Traver:

“There is no substitute for fishing sense, and if a man doesn't have it, verily he may cast like an angel and still use his creel largely to transport sandwiches and beer.”

## Green Slip/Greeter



Mark Brown

Is it spring yet? If you haven't done so, get your personal scales certified at the next general membership meeting on May 18th. Remember, scales must be certified prior to turning in Green slips, participating in the Big Bass Kitty or qualifying for any annual awards. I will have the equipment at each general membership meetings, club tournaments and all of the fish-in's I attend.

Green slips from the April Meeting:

Name	Species	Date	Lake	County	Weight	Method
Rodney Heupel	SM	4/2/11	American Lake	King	5.2 lbs	Dropshot - Reaper
John Greer	LM	4/2/11	Spring	King	5.0 lbs	Jig
Dan Caf-frey	LM	4/16/11	5 mile Lake	King	2lb 12oz	Spinner Bait
Chris Blandi	LM	4/19/11	Lake Mor-ton	King	6lb 4oz	Jig & Craw
Mark Brown	SM	4/20/11	Lake Wash-ington	King	4lb 8oz	Shakey Head

### Big Bass Kitty

Our monthly Big Bass Kitty is open to all club members. Each month the member with the largest bass is awarded the cash in that month's kitty. The member with the largest amount of accumulated weight at the end of the year is awarded a special prize. This contest begins with the March meeting and ends at the October meeting. In order to qualify, you must prepay the entire eight month period or the entire remaining months at the time of your entry. The cost is \$1.00 per month. Each paid contestant may enter one bass per month.

The bass must be caught in Washington, on a public lake or stream (accessible to everyone), be caught on an artificial lure, be weighed on a certified scale and witnessed.

If you have any questions on how Green Slips or the Big Bass Kitty works, please let me know and I will go over both of them with you at the next meeting.

Western Bass Club t-shirts, hats....

Looking for a great Mother's Day gift? How about Western Bass Club apparel? It's what all the cool Moms are wearing this season. I will have t-shirts (\$10) and hats (\$13) at each general membership meeting for purchase. I am also taking orders for sweatshirts and Jackets. Orders for sweatshirts will be place when I have a minimum of 15 request to keep the cost below \$23 per. Jacket orders will be placed upon your request and paid for in advance. Jackets range from \$50 to \$60 depending on your embroidery choices.

Here's to a great spring and warming water temps!

## Special Events



Chris Blandi, Special Events Director

Hello WBC.

Hope you all just got back from catching some hawgs. Our next upcoming event is Fishing Kids on Saturday, June 4th. This is the kids' event down at Gene Coulon park where we teach them how to catch trout in the netted area. It is so fun I can't even describe it. We have always had a good volunteer turn out, but its always good to see some new faces. Shout out to Faz, hope to see you there this year :-)

The first thing that needs to be done is rigging the rods the kids will be using. Friday evening the 3rd, starting at 4pm, we will be rigging rods. Usually this takes 3 hours or so. If you can't show up on time, you'll still be OK. We need to show up at Coulon around 7:30 am. We can hang our club banners and hand out club info if wanted. Bring extra rags, some pliers, hook removers, and a long handled net if you want. Worms will be provided and someone had a good idea to use scissors to cut the worms to make things go a little faster. They are expecting 775-800 kids which is pretty much the norm. Show up early to get parking. It sounds like they are doing away with the parking passes for volunteers, but the Renton Police will be notified to not give tickets.

One other event you may have heard about is the Wounded Warriors fishing day that Jim Owens is planning. Well, we have a date set. It will be Sunday, August 14th. Jim is still working out details. We do not have a launch facility nailed down yet, so I will keep you updated through the newsletter and at the meetings.

To get the latest details, show up to the meeting and we'll get you all the info we can. Jim Owens will be at the next meeting, so you can ask him specific questions if you have any. Come to the meeting, submit that green slip, buy some raffle tickets, and conversate with some good bass folks. See you 'round.

## Fish-In Report



Dan Caffrey, Ambassador Director

Heres how the April fish in at American Lake went.

Me, Christy and her Dad got a perch. Larry and Jose caught some perch. Mark B got a goose egg, hopefully it will hatch one day. Terry looked like he was havin' some fun rallying around in his boat. Carl made it out and had to leave a little early, he lost a trout on a crankbait. John Warner caught a nice smally with his friend whose name I can't remember. I'm pretty sure it was somewhere around 3.5lbs.

And the star of the show: Rodney and his backseater Jim O. Jim caught a nice 4.2 smally , while the "Master of American Lake." Rodney caught three weighing at 4.2, an unweighed fish that was a little under 4 in Rodney's opinion, and a chunk 5.2 smally that looked like some type of farm animal with fins.

The winds were steady in the twenties and gusting at over thirty mph. The wind brewed up huge swells all day. It was a workout for the trolling motors and bilge pumps today. I could only inch forward in between gusts. It was definitely a little frustrating. Swells were breaking over my bow. I guess I could have had worse problems Water temp was 46-47 (down 1 degree from last week). The water level was as high as I've seen at American Lake.

The June fish-in will take place at Lake St Clair on Saturday, June 4th.

## Entertainment



Angie Dover, Entertainment Director

April's Entertainment was a big success. We had Henry Dover, Pro Staff for Do It molds show us how to pour and paint jig heads.



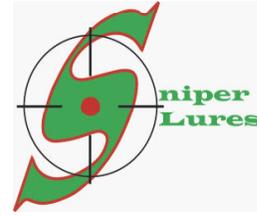
### Tips for pouring your own jigs

- Make sure you mold is hot.
- Be sure to pour with an even stream.
- Use gate cutters for a smooth surface.
- Try adding flake to your powder or sprinkling a different color on the jig head.



May's entertainment – this is a real treat!

Dan Johnson of Sniper Lures [www.sniperlures.com](http://www.sniperlures.com)



Gary Styles of Northwest Bass [www.nwbass.net](http://www.nwbass.net) ®

# Northwest Bass

June: Thayne Hatch is going to talking about Riffe Lake.



As always, if there is something you would like to see please feel free to let me know and I'll do my best!





## 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



810 Auburn Way N  
Auburn, WA 98002

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For All Your Fishing Needs

