



Western Bass Club

Since 1938



WBC NEWS July 2005

President's Line	1
2-Month Calendar	2
Board, Meeting Info. Entertainment News	3
Tournament Report	4
AmBASsador News Fish-in Information	5
Greenslips Report	6
Special Events Member Article - Dick Streater	7
WBC Photo Page	8
"A look into the Business side of Bass Fishing" - by Jeremiah T. Bagwell	9
July Birthdays	10



CHUCK "THE REV"
BAILEY
2005 CLUB PRESIDENT

President's Line

I think of myself as belonging to that rare group of "**practical yet balanced**" vehicle owners who *love* their trucks while treating them like the pile of metal and bolts they are!

Sure, I observe the fanatical neighbor across the street that *washes* and *polishes* their ride every weekend until it shines and blinds, but... ***I'd rather be fishing.*** I tend to wash my Chevy once *every other year*, (problem is I've forgotten if it is the odd or even years). *My boat?* It's ***never*** been washed – and it's 10 years old!

Funny thing is; my dirty boat and I *still* manage to keep catching fish! Those bass don't seem too offended that I would pursue them in less-than-polished aluminum! Fact is, I tend to think that a **scum line** and the **faded bottom** of my Lund is *less alarming* – putting the little critters at ease! I've a suspicion that a shiny exterior (reflecting the sun's rays) **scares** the fish! While I have no *scientific proof*, of course, I leave the burden of disproving this theory to those of you with dishpan hands, wrinkled from scrubbing your trucks and boats!

There are other reasons for intentionally treating my boat with less than a **sense of idolatry**; the first has to do with *fishing partners!* There is nothing more *intimidating* than back-seating in a ultra-clean fishing machine! Heaven forbid that one's lunch, sunflower seeds, or lure scent should land on spotless carpet! And if the *blood* or *slime* off a slippery fish that came unbuttoned were to smear itself all over the fine leather seats – well ***friendships have ended for less!***

No, it is with a *compassionate heart* that I allow my boat to gather a little dirt, some leaves, discarded plastics, and rusted hooks in every corner. The *fear* and constant *tension* of offending a neat-freak boat owner is just too unfair an affliction to burden a beginning angler with, yet alone an experienced partner. Yes, ***a dirty boat puts others at ease!***

And another thing; clean boats create a certain **paranoia** in an angler's psyche! They may sense the big fish are in the *algae-filled* corner of the bay, but they won't risk it! Some mysterious voice may be luring them through the *brush* and *overhanging tree limbs* to get to the home of the big boys – but the image of branches, leaves, sap, and bugs crawling all over the clean carpet gives them **the willies**, and leads them to open water instead! Imagine how many tournaments have been *lost*, or state record catches *unfulfilled*, because a **Martha Stewart consciousness** possessed an angler! Sad! Truly sad!

Of course, those of us who are more dedicated to our **fishing** than to our *boats*, will – occasionally – have to **spruce up** our floating office. I am now faced with such a dilemma. I have promised to let Stu and his lovely bride use my water craft for the upcoming Jack and Jill tournament on Lake Roosevelt. Whereas I feel Stu would not have felt comfortable borrowing a shiny new ultra-clean vessel whose owner had treated it as a **deity**; he didn't hesitate to borrow mine. And I was thrilled to offer it! Still, I don't want his bride to **trip** over anything while fishing and hurt herself – so I have resigned myself to reluctantly **clean up** the old aluminum hulk – *at least a little*. Now, if I can just find my **chisel** and **rake**...

- **Stuart & Samantha Karpenko, WBC Editors:** stu@westernbassclub.com
- Views Expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the entire membership.
- Western Bass Club News is published monthly for the membership of Western Bass Club. If you have any ideas for articles or are interested in advertising here, please contact the editors.

July 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
17	18	19	20	21 7 pm General Meeting	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Jack N Jill Tourney - Lake Roosevelt
31 Jack N Jill Tourney - Lake Roosevelt						

Upcoming Events

- General Meeting -
Thursday,
July 21 - 7:00 pm
- Jack N Jill Tournament -
July 30 - 31



August 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Fish-In - Lake Washington
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 7 pm General Meeting	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Lake Chelan Tournament
28 Lake Chelan Tournament	29	30	31			

Upcoming Events

- Fish-In - Lake Washington—
August 6
- General Meeting -
Thursday,
August 18 - 7:00 pm
- Chelan Tournament -
August 27 - 28

DIRECTOR INFO.**PRESIDENT**

CHUCK BAILEY (253) 941-8413

VICE PRESIDENT

LARRY SULLIVAN (253) 630-3988

SECRETARY

STUART KARPENKO (253) 841-2183

TREASURER

DOUG BOOTH (253) 630-6033

AMBASSADOR

ROB MAGLIO (253) 631-0604

ENTERTAINMENT

BOB PAYSENO (425) 277-3461

GREETER/GREEN SLIPS

RICHARD LOTH (253) 761-2324

SPECIAL EVENTS

PHIL AND SUE HUDGENS (253) 639-9428

GENERAL MEETING INFO.

Date:	Third Thursday of each month
Time:	7:00 pm
Location:	Kennydale Community Center
	2424 NE 27th St.
	Renton, WA

Please feel free to visit the club website or contact a board member if you need directions or have any questions.

Club Homepage:

www.westernbassclub.com

Membership dues are \$40 after March 1st for renewing members.

Dues for new members only \$35 (year round).

Entertainment News

BOB "PAYS2NO"
PAYSENO
2005 ENTERTAINMENT
DIRECTOR



Our speakers this month are Steve Jackson and Bruce Bolding from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Warmwater Enhancement Program.

Steve Jackson is the WDFW Warmwater Fish Program Manager. He will speak about a warmwater species survey that WDFW has just completed on Lake Washington, and will be sharing results that are very newly released. Steve will also speak about the fish management activities at Banks Lake and proposed fishing rules and regulations changes for 2006.

Bruce Bolding is the WDFW Warmwater Enhancement Coordinator. He will speak about the Potholes Reservoir Enhancement Project, as well as the status of the walleye population and access projects at Potholes.

This is a great opportunity to learn from and ask questions of two of the top warmwater officials in the State of Washington. We are going to have access to information that we couldn't get from anywhere else. This also an opportunity for WBC to find out how to get involved with some of the warmwater enhancement programs that are working to keep our fishery growing and healthy.

See you all there!

Tournament Report

LARRY SULLIVAN
2005 TOURNAMENT
DIRECTOR



Lyle Logston -
1st Place



Andrea Logston -
2nd Place

Insurance Forms are needed **before the Jack & Jill Tourney** and are a good thing year round, so get me your copies soon!

Hey Western! Great turnout at Riffe Lake as the Logstons stole the show, taking first (Lyle: 25-14) and second (Andrea:18-2) place and the rest of us had to fight for third and Big Fish only to have one person get both of those, as Rob Maglio took third with 15-2 and Big Fish of a 5-8 Smallie!

29 anglers fished and had a great time, as the folks at Taidnepam Campground -Tacoma Power - helped greatly with a Potluck area and great facilities.

RIFFE LAKE TOURNEY RESULTS

- 1st. Lyle Logston.....10 fish.....25lbs 14 oz.
 - 2nd. Andrea Logston.....9 fish.....18lbs 2oz.
 - 3rd. Rob Maglio.....8 fish..15lbs 2oz....5-8 BF
 - 4th. Bob Payseno.....10 fish.....14 lbs 3oz.
 - 5th. Danny Garrett.....10 fish.....13lbs 6oz.
 - 6th. Daryl Snodgrass.....8 fish.....12lbs 2oz.
 - 7th. Brian Walker.....10 fish.....11lbs 8oz.
 - 8th. Larry Albert.....10 fish.....11lbs 5oz.
 - 9th. Ron Hankinson.....8 fish.....11 lbs 1oz.
 - 10th. Jim Smith.....10 fish.....10lbs 1oz.
 - 11th. Larry Sullivan.....9 fish.....9lbs 8oz.
 - 12th. Dave Jarrell.....10 fish...9lbs 5oz..B-F 2.11
 - 13th. Mike Wolsky.....9 fish...9lbs 5oz..B-F 2.3
 - 14th. Phil Hudgens.....10 fish.....8lbs 11oz.
 - 15th. Rocky Beeman Sr.....10 fish.....8lbs 10 oz.
 - 16th. Matt Hudgens.....7 fish.....8lbs 8oz.
 - 17th. Carlos Trujillo.....9 fish...8lbs 2oz. B-F 2.9
 - 18th. Bob Brownlee.....9 fish...8lbs 2oz. B-F 1.13
 - 19th. Troy Kelly.....9 fish.....7 lbs 15oz.
 - 20th. Mark Maderos.....9 fish.....7 lbs 9oz.
 - 21st. Mark Wells.....6 fish.....6 lbs 7oz.
 - 22nd. Rich Fazakerley.....6 fish.....5 lbs 0oz
 - 23rd. Nick Culver.....4 fish.....3 lbs 12oz.
 - 24th. Shannon Wolsky.....2 fish.....3lbs 9oz.
 - 25th. Shanne Noble.....4 fish..... 3lbs 6oz.
 - 26th. Todd Ainardi.....5 fish....3lbs 3oz. Smallest limit
 - 27th. Marc Fields.....1 fish.....1lbs 0oz.
- Tie for 28th Rich and Ray Loth.

Next up is the Jack-N-Jill at Roosevelt, and we are shooting for a 6:00 AM drivers meeting at the Spring Canyon Boat launch. Camping will be at Coulee Playland, but some will be "motel camping," including myself, but I will be at the campground from 5:00 pm till 9:00 pm or so just hangin' out.

There was some confusion as to having to have restroom facilities on board the boats, but this is only required if shore camping, so it is not an issue.

As for the future... As I have stated in the past, it has been a pleasure and an honor for me to serve as your Tournament Director and Vice President for these two years, but I will not be seeking another term, so I am putting out the word again for those who would like to take over the reigns this September. It is time to start the process and to let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks, and hope to see you all at Roosevelt.

P.S. If you are not fishing the J-&J, you can still come over and fish Banks and hang out! The campground can use the biz' and we can always hang out with more clubbers!

2005 WBC Tournament Schedule

July 30th -31st	Lake Roosevelt	Jack-n-Jill
Aug. 27th-28th	Lake Chelan	Points #3
Sept. 24th-25th	Tri Cities-Wallula	Points #4
Oct. 1st-2nd	Lake Sammamish	Team Tourney

AmBASSador News



ROB MAGLIO
2005 AMBASSADOR
DIRECTOR

Thanks to all that showed for the fish-in.

Not as big of a crowd as I expected being summertime, but that's alright. We had 5 boats at launch with another showing later in the day. The weather was partly cloudy and warm, but the fishing was a little slower than predicted. I believe everyone caught at least one fish, however.

Mike Wolsky had a 4.2, caught on a centipede under a dock (not in big fish pot). Chris B. landed a 3-10, also from a dock on a Senko (in pot). Larry and I landed several fish on spinnerbaits early and worked the docks in the afternoon with a few more. Larry actually broke off a nice fish estimated in the 5-6 pound range. Dave Hendrickson said he had another one that size blow up on his buzz bait through the weeds, but miss the lure. The Mays reported several fish also in the 3 pound range.

As always, the lunch was great. We switched it up bit and had some cheeseburgers. Rich brought some deviled-eggs, which are always a treat on the drive home.

The next fish-in will be August on Lake Washington. We stay central and this will give us a chance to spread out a bit. Get your dropshot rigs out for the deep smallies. I also have something up my sleeve, but you'll have to show up to find out.

See y'all there,

Rob Maglio



Larry Sullivan
at the Big Lake Fish-In

Fish-In - Lake Washington

Where: Lake Washington - East Mercer Launch

When: Saturday, August 6, 2005 - 6:00 am for breakfast OR... meet at the launch at 7:00 am.

Directions to Lil' Jons:

Lil' Jon Restaurant & Lounge

3080 148th SE

Bellevue, WA 98007

(425) 746-4653

From Hwy 405 take I-90 towards Spokane

At exit 11A, turn RIGHT onto Ramp towards 150th Ave. S.E. / 156th Ave. S.E.

Keep RIGHT to stay on Ramp towards 150th Ave. S.E. / S.E. 35th St.

Turn LEFT (North) onto 150th Ave SE

Turn right onto SE Eastgate Way

Turn Left into Sunset Village parking lot Lil' Jons is dead ahead.

Directions to the Launch:

From Hwy 405 take the I-90 towards Seattle

Take exit 8 (East Mercer Way)

At the intersection, turn left (south) onto E Mercer Way

Go back across I-90 and take the first left after the freeway on-ramp

This will go down the hill to the launch

Launch fee is \$7.00

When: Saturday, August 6,
2005

Where: Lake Washington

Remember, no one stays on the dock at a Fish-In. Everyone floats! You don't have to pre-arrange a back seat for Fish-Ins. If you pre-arrange something with your AmBASSador, that's OK, but just because your AmBASSador can't make it doesn't mean you can't go. THE MORE THE MERRIER!



RICHARD LOTH
2005 GREETER
/GREENSLIPS

ALSO, don't forget to get your scales verified. I will have the equipment at each meeting so bring in your scale and get weighed. This must be done prior to turning in a greenslip!

June GREENSLIPS

Name	Weight	Bait	Lake
Bryan Hudgens	5# 9oz. LM	Brush Hawg	Pot Holes
Virgil Wilbur	5# 4oz. SM	Brush Hawg	Wash.
Phil Hudgens	5# 0oz. SM	Brush Hawg	Wash.
Mark Fields	5# 0oz. LM	French Fry	Lawrence
Carlos Trujillo	4#12oz. LM	Brush Hawg	Pot Holes
Rich Loth	4# 9oz. SM	Senko	Wash.
Rob Maglio	4# 8oz. LM	Brush Hawg	Pot Holes
Brian Walker	4# 8oz. LM	French Fry	Banks
Larry Sullivan	4# 2oz. LM	Brush Hawg	Pot Holes
Nick Culver	4# 0oz. LM	Sweet Beaver	Lawrence
Bree Walker	3#14oz. SM	Sniper Craw	Vantage
Rocky Beeman, Sr.	3# 8oz. SM	176 Grub	Wash.

Well, even though we had a pretty decent turnout at the Pot Holes tournament last month there weren't very many "big" fish caught. Most of the fish caught during the tourney were smallmouth as the water was "weigh" up and the Dunes were almost non-existent. But there were still some nice ones bagged. And, as usual, there were several this month from the "usual" spots around here.

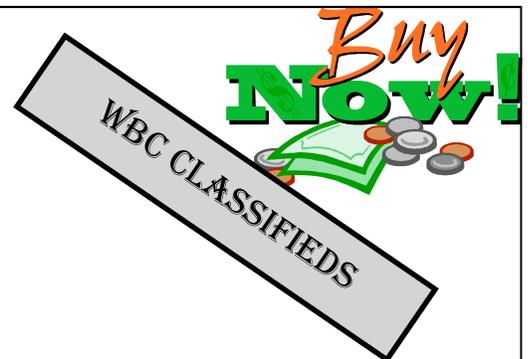
BUT, just wait till you see the "Monsters" that are brought in next month from the Riffe experience.

Rob Maglio took both the club "Big Fish" money (\$5) and the "Big Fish Kitty" money (\$10) this month. Each month the club gives \$5 to the member for the biggest bass turned in on a greenslip. This was the third month for the "Big Fish Kitty." There are 5 months left. You must be entered the prior month to be eligible for the money. If you are interested in joining this "pool" please see Rich Loth at the next meeting. The amount of the prize depends on the number of people signed up. This is in addition to the Big Fish of the Month prize. So get signed up now.

Keep your rods up and Rip some lips!
Rich

When the fish are not biting....things to think or talk about.

- 1-Is it true cannibals won't eat clowns because they taste funny?
- 2-Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- 3-If a man stands in the middle of the woods, speaking, and there are no women around...is he still wrong?
- 4-Is a shellless turtle homeless or naked?
- 5-Don't you think it is a bit scary...doctors calling what they do... "PRACTICE."?
- 6-Is it true bills travel through the mail twice as fast as checks?
- 7-Why do they call them apartments when they are so close together?
- 8-Why do people drive in parkways and park in driveways?
- 9-Why is there a permanent press setting on an iron?
- 10-Why if you send something by car it's called a shipment but if you send it by ship its cargo?
- 11-Why is it a "speed bump" when you have to slow down? Why is it "rush hour" when you're not going anywhere?
- 12-Why do your windshield wipers always breakdown when it's raining?
- 13-What do you call the little rascals after they grow up?
- 14-If a mime is arrested; does the cop tell him he has the right to remain silent?
- 15-What do you do if you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
- 16-If vegetable oil is made from vegetables and peanut oil is made from peanuts, then where does baby oil come from?



If you have anything you would like to sell or want to buy, write up your ad and email it to Stu@westernbassclub.com. Don't forget to include your contact information.

Special Events

PHIL AND SUE
HUDGENS
2005 SPECIAL EVENTS

Hello Everyone!

It's time to think about C.A.S.T. for Kids. (Catch A Special Thrill.) This event is designed for kids from Shriners, Special Populations, Ronald McDonald House, Starlight Foundation, and others. Every year we meet at Gene Coulon Park in Renton and take these kids out for a little fishing then back to the park for a bar-b-cue. It's a chance for these kids to feel free for just a little while and forget about all their cares and worries. This event is a "Gift from your Heart"!

We need people to bring their boats, people that can launch boats, and people to help on the beach. We will supply life jackets and the fishing gear for these children.

Most of these children will also have an adult with them or there are extra adults and older kids from the club who will be glad to help you out. If you can help at this event please let

me know, especially if you can bring your boat. We need to know how many kids we can invite.

You are all special people and without you these great events cannot take place, so I will say Thank You ahead of time to everyone who steps up for this event.

C.A.S.T. for Kids, Saturday, September 10th, Gene Coulon Park, Renton, 7:30am - 2:00pm

If you have any questions or need any more information please feel free to contact us.

Thanks, Phil and Sue Hudgens 253-639-9428,
Philandsue@aol.com

Member Article

By Dick Streater

I was watching one of the sports channels and noted they were promoting their special offer to be able to watch World Class Soccer on Pay For View. My warped mind process immediately transposed that to they would have to: PAY ME to Watch World Class

Soccer! Oh well, the salmon fishing guys always kid me about watching the bass tournaments on TV where they hook a one pounder and drag it on the surface and lift it into the boat in about 8 seconds... and into the live well it goes, and then the staged weigh in with mounting excitement in the assembled crowd.

Let's take a look at really good, big bass fishing. For this we will have to head south to sunny California, and more specifically... Southern California. The state Department of Fish and Game keeps a record which they call: Top 25 Largemouth Bass Caught in California.

The smallest fish to make it to the 25 rung ladder was a 18.7 caught back on 3/22/2002. The biggest was 22.01 which dated back to 3/12/91. How'd all this happen? Well, first of all there came the recognition that the Florida Strain of Largemouth was a distinct subspecies that just flat grew faster and bigger than its Northern Cousin. It all started with the San Diego County Fish & Game Commission asking and receiving an OK from the state to import the Florida Strain to their lakes. In early 1959, they chemically treated Upper Otay Lake to remove all fish and in May of that year brought in a shipment of 20,400 fingerlings from the Holt State Fish Hatchery in Florida.

Upper Otay is closed to public fishing and became the brood source for Florida LMB introduction into many other impoundments... is that another name for a fish hatchery? And one that can operate at a low cost also. Other facts that were studied - the northern strain grows a little faster for the first year and then after that the FLMB grow much faster. If they hybridize, the two sub species, the FLMB characteristics seem to become dominant. Also, the Florida strain was more resistant to harvest pressure (I guess that means they were harder to catch) so the establishment of good populations was easier.

There was some concern that the FLMB would not do as well in Northern California waters, and a moratorium was established on these introductions until they could be studied. Turns out that they did OK and where there were existing populations of the Northern strain that the average size of the bass would increase.

My memory, which isn't what it used to be, recalls that the WA DF&G tried a small test by planting a few FLMB to see what would happen up here... they chose a small pond in Eastern Washington (bad choice) and the pond froze out because of a bad winter and that ended that noble experiment.

I had a chance to chat with my old friend Tom Rippey, an early owner & builder of what is now OLYMPIC BOAT CENTERS (Will make a boat nut out of you). He got out of the Army Air Force in 1962 as a Captain and was discharged at Fort Lewis, WA. His wife's uncle lived in Richmond Beach and talked them into staying for awhile instead of going back to the homestead in Spooner, WISC. to be a railroad engineer. He got into Real Estate with a firm called: "Picture Floor Plans Realty" and that was a flop. In 1963 he saw an ad in the paper:

Wanted, Boat salesman... 100 applicants applied and he got the job. The store was doing about \$400,000/year then, and when Tom retired in 1993 they had grown to 50 Million!

One of their main sales boosters was back in 1984 when they introduced the first fully rigged boat, a package deal at a great price... A Capri Runabout, A Force Motor, and a Bunks Trailer. Nowadays that is the main way boats are sold - fully rigged - bass boats have all the toys down to stainless props and GPS installed and ready to go fishing.

What's Tom Rippey doing today? Well, if you'd like to buy some traditional jazz records (dixieland) he's your man, doing business as Triangle Jazz.

Thought for the day: Give a person a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a person how to use the internet and he won't bother you again.



Chris Blandi with a nice fish from the Big Lake Fish-In.



FLASHBACK

Hey, remember when Shannon Wolsky won the Lake Roosevelt Tourney in 2003?

WBC Photo Page



Katie Karpenko caught her first bass on her little Zebco kiddie rod and reel. She wouldn't touch the fish....



Samantha Karpenko shows her **FIRST BASS EVER.**



Stu Karpenko, Katie and Ryan show Daddy trying to keep up with Mommy.

One time exclusive!
KARPENKO's CORNER
- Due to a shortage of new pics from other members and an awesome day of pictures from our day of fishing at Lake Nahwatzel. The editors have included these pics from our first day ever of fishing for bass as a family. Please send lots of pics for August!



Ryan Karpenko and his first keeper bass.

The Million Dollar Question

“A look into the Business side of Bass Fishing”

by Jeremiah T. Bagwell <http://www.bagwellsbasstactics.com/>



A well rounded individual making a mark in the fishing industry, Jeremiah has a number of irons in the fire. "I have the opportunity to be on a number of Pro Staff's for some of the best companies in the business," Bagwell stated. "Things are all starting to fall into place. I am writing for a number of websites and I even have other writers doing articles about me on a fairly regular basis. Bagwell is also a Tournament District Director for the American Bass Anglers Tournament Trail in North Western Illinois. Jeremiah has won multiple tournaments, had several top 10 finishes and has a few big bass awards under his belt. You could say the rest is history, because now Jeremiah is developing a great network of friends and contacts in the fishing industry. Not to mention



If I were given a dollar for every time I have been asked “how do I get sponsors?” I would probably make the Forbes top 500 list. Unlike many other things in the life, this question has no clear cut, single sentence answer. When you start wanting to get paid by a company to fish, the sport takes on a whole new perspective.

From an angler's perspective, sponsors are there to help with the never-ending expenses involved with competitive fishing. Whether it is in the form of free product, discounts on boats or the ever-popular monthly stipend, sponsorship contracts will ideally help reduce stress. Companies however, look at sponsorships from a whole different angle. Their main objectives are to increase market share and generate additional revenue. They are always looking for new and productive ways to get more people to buy their products.

Before you take the dive off of the cliff into the wonderful world of sponsorships, there are certain things that you need to do. First and foremost, you need to ask yourself why a company would even want to sponsor you. If your answer is because you win a lot of local or regional tournaments, you might want to reconsider your approach. Industry leading companies do not care that you won the 2nd annual Mayberry Open Buddy Bass Tournament. Frankly why would they care? Will this make them any money? More likely than not, the answer is No.

You need to establish what value, if any, you can bring to the table. One simple method I use for determining such value is a little trick I learned from a lady named Gwen Johnson who was one of my instructors in college. I doubt that Mrs. Johnson knew she was helping me with sponsorship contracts, but she really was. Whenever I have an idea or something that I think may be important, I ask myself the question “So what?” Then I try to answer the question to determine the actual value that the contents of my statement has. Here are a couple of examples:

I always win our company bass tournament. “So what?” Because of this, all of the people at work think I am a great bass angler.

As you can see this really has no corporate value. However, the following statement will at least draw a second look.

I host my own regional fishing radio show and I write fishing columns for three local newspapers. “So what?” This means that I have the opportunity to introduce product lines to a much larger portion of the target market. Through both verbal and written communication, I can spread the word about the products that I believe in. I also possess a high level of name and face recognition in my region.

Now these were just very rough examples, but a company might view the second scenario as a cost effective way to get their goods introduced to more consumers in this particular region.

Once you can prove that you have some form of value to a company, it is then that you have to determine what your services are worth. As a newcomer, companies are not going to pay you much, (if any) actual money. In most cases, they will offer you a very limited amount of free or reduce priced product. This is fine to an extent, but as Bassmaster Classic qualifier Ish Monroe once told me, “I can't eat a box of crankbaits and I can't pay my bills with them either.” When you actually think about his statement, it really puts it all into perspective. The return received for your work has to be of some benefit to you. You should not just agree to a sponsor's terms because it will get you a couple spools of line and a cool patch on your shirt. If you apply for a “regular” job and you request \$15 per hour, but the company only wants to pay minimum wage, chances are you will not take the job. Dealing with sponsors should be no different. Applying for a sponsorship is no different from applying for a job. You will have certain duties to perform and expectations that you must live up to. If you can not meet these requirements, you will ultimately be let go. The bottom line is, attempt to get a level of compensation that you feel is fair and beneficial to both parties. Do not sell yourself short or jeopardize your integrity, over a few hundred dollars worth of fishing tackle. Also, do not get extremely cocky and demanding towards your sponsors. Unless you can back up the trash talk spewing from your mouth. Even if you can back it up, there is a good chance that you will get shown to the door.

I am certain that most sponsorship seekers do not fully understand what will be expected from them by sponsors. You are not going to get paid simply to fish with all sorts of free tackle. There are a lot of responsibilities that go along with being a Pro Staff member. First and foremost, you always have to display a neat and professional appearance any time you have contact with the general public. Secondly, you must be a product expert. Your job is to help boost sales and you can not do that, if you have no clue what you are talking about. Your sponsors will request that you work outdoors shows, in-store seminars and a wide assortment of promotional activities. One show I worked was four days in length. During this time period, I talked to so many people that I nearly lost my voice. At times, these activities are a lot of fun, but they are also a great deal of work.

Probably the best bit of advice that I can give you is “Get an Education.” Even if you are one of the blessed few that are able to fish for a living, a degree in Business Management, Marketing, Public Relations or Advertising will be extremely beneficial when dealing with sponsors. If your hopes and dreams happen to come up short, the degree will provide you with a well paying career to fall back on.

Copyright© 2005, Jeremiah T. Bagwell, All Rights Reserved.

Reprinted with permission from the author.



P.O. Box 58151
 Renton, WA 98058



July Birthdays

Bill Hill	2		
Marcus Fields	5		
Ron Knott	5		
Nicole Hudgens	6		
Justin Singson	7		
Gillian Harris	9		
C.J. Kopf	11		
Daylin Davidson	12		
Kirk Holmes	12		
Ted Watts	13		
Jim Owens	14		
Pamela Sanger	14		
Tristin Snodgrass	14		
		Rocky, Sr. Beemen	25
		Greg Macpherson	25
		Debbie Lease	27
		Dottie Loth	28
		Margorie Holland	30



SMOKERCRAFT

(253) 833-1440

810 Auburn Way N.
 Auburn, Wa 98002

auburnsportsmarineinc.com

YAMAHA EVINRUDE JOHNSON MERCURY



- RV and Tent Sites
- RV/Camping supplies
- Exclusive T-Shirts
- Fishing Licenses
- Party Barge
- Fish Boat Rentals
- Maps, Bait, and Tackle for Banks Lake and Lake Roosevelt
- Two miles to Golfing

Highway 155 #1
 Electric City, WA
 (509) 633-2671

We're on the Web
www.westernbassclub.com