



LAKE OF THE OZARKS

FREE

Fishing News

FEATURED ANGLER

Michael Harlin

IN THIS ISSUE

A look at Forward-Facing Sonar
Covid and the Fishing Industry
Featured Cove
Corking Crappie
Deep Summer Crappie
And More . . .



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FROM THE FOUNDER

Bob Bueltmann
Founder, BassingBob.com

This past year has been unlike any year I could remember due to the Covid-19 virus. Last year many fishing tournaments were cancelled some spring tournaments have been moved to the fall and tournaments have adjusted to stay with-in CDC guides with mask required for weigh-ins, social distancing at weigh-ins, wiping down bag handles and more.

However, the fishing business has been up overall with more anglers taking to the water as many workers are working virtual, thus an opportunity to work from the lake, social distancing is natural in a boat and being outside is better than being inside. Fishing bait, tackle and boat sales are way up this past year, however, there have been some supply chain issues depending on where components and products are manufactured and manufacturing companies have been forced to cut down on their work-forces while they re-think their manufacturing processes to follow guidelines of health experts. In this edition of the Fishing News, we share with you the challenges the supply chain issues have had on the retail fishing products business.

We have also seen changes of ownership

and/or management of some local fishing staples. Fitz Fishing Tackle and Supplies was

sold to new owners, Robins Resort property was sold for development of a rental community or weekend get-aways to individual owners, Public Beach 2 (PB2) and Public Beach 1 (PB1) is now under a new management company contracted by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Bass World Sport World Tournament Association has been sold to two local tournament anglers. In this edition we provide you additional details about each of these changes.

Another trend that we are seeing or perhaps better stated as a trend is younger anglers winning local and large regional tournaments, one of those anglers, 26-year-old Michael Harlin has been having great success, including the large regional pro tournament the FLW Toyota Series here on Lake of the Ozarks. Michael shares with us his keys to success leveraging electronics, internet-based content/videos, and map study. Perhaps the younger anglers are gaining an edge over veteran anglers due to being more technology savvy.

Forward facing sonar is a recent technology advancement that is enhancing our

capabilities to see the fish better as well as seeing our baits amongst the fish. We share with you the magic of forward-facing sonar.

In our featured cove article, you will learn about the multitude of fishing locations in the Little Niangua arm of the Lake. The Little Niangua is about 9 miles long and its mouth is at the 6 mile mark of the Big Niangua. From the mouth to the upper river area there is structure and depth changes that fishes like a lake of it's own.

Spring and summer are always a welcome time of the year on Lake of the Ozarks, as the fish follow annual patterns. Moving shallower to spawn, moving away from the spawn to cover, moving from cover to points to feed up on bait fish with the typical strong current in the early summer and then in the summer moving deeper into cove and shade. This edition presents some details for catching fish during these varying stages of transition.

As always, we thank all of you that read the Fishing News Magazine and the members of www.bassingbob.com. We encourage you all to patronize the advertisers in the Fishing News and on the website. You members and our advertisers are the foundation that we build need to bring you this fishing content.

Tight Lines.

- Bob Bueltmann

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From New Kid on the Block to Top of the Heap in Record Time



Less than a year after launch, BoatWRX rises to No. 1 Caymas dealer in the U.S. by Deborah Wolfe

Some entrepreneurs take the slow and steady path toward company growth; others come out of the gate chomping at the bit to roar past the competition. BoatWRX owner Drew Sanford is a poster child for the latter.

Well short of a year since launching the Springfield/Lake of the Ozarks-based marine dealership, Sanford and his partners have far surpassed expectations in nearly every aspect of sales, service and customer satisfaction. Their recent acquisition of Sport Boats USA shows they have no plans of slowing down.

"It is a fast-moving, aggressive ownership group," BoatWRX General Manager Jim Lovan said. "All the partners are passionate about fishing and the outdoors. Plus, they have an extensive track record of success in several different industries. They definitely see this as a business investment and not just a hobby."

Sanford noted that the Sports Boats USA purchase opens a huge opportunity for BoatWRX with Skeeter Boats.

"Skeeter makes a great competitive price point boat that allows us to compete with anybody," Sanford said. "Just months into our first year, we are the number one Caymas dealer in the country, we are at the very top at Bass Cat, and we plan to be one of Skeeter's top dealers as well."

Beyond Bass Boats

Intent on providing customers with ample boat buying choices, BoatWRX is making a concerted effort to acquire a massive amount of inventory in a wide variety of boat makes and models. In addition to offering bass boats from the leading manufacturers in the industry, customers will find center consoles and pontoons at both dealer locations.

"We are determined to be a large inventory stocking dealer," Sanford said. "If you want to look at a specific size, model or color, you will have multiple options to choose from right there on the lot."

While it is exciting to think about

massive amounts of boats in every size and color, Sanford emphasized that inventory alone isn't responsible for BoatWRX mercurial growth. He credits their crew of top-notch staff members for being the driving force behind their success.

"We're fortunate to have some of the best mechanics at the lake; our salespeople and managers are absolutely top-notch," Sanford said. "It's just a fun business with explosive growth and I think people really enjoy that and are attracted to that atmosphere."

Whether providing sales help or service, the BoatWRX team is well aware that you can't get to the top without making your customers the top priority. From the beginning, BoatWRX leadership knew the importance of staffing their dealerships with highly qualified, customer-oriented technicians and sales professionals who understand what it means to provide exceptional customer service. That mindset has garnered them a reputation as "the place to go to get things done."

"We want to do things right and do them for the right reason," Sanford said. "There are thousands of anglers who travel to the lake and live at the lake; to give them a home and a place to feel welcome is really important to us."

About BoatWRX Performance Specialists

Encouraged by the positive boat sales forecast, the founders of BoatWRX Performance Specialists saw 2020 as an opportune time to dive into the boating business. Driven by the partnership of Jim Morris and Drew Sanford, BoatWRX began renovations to their Springfield showroom in August and shortly thereafter, opened a second location at the Lake of the Ozarks in November 2020. The purchase of Sport

Boats USA in Osage Beach allows for a third location specializing in service and parts.

BoatWRX wide selection of new and pre-owned bass boats, center console and triton brands include:

- ▶ ATX
- ▶ Bass Cat
- ▶ Bentley Pontoons
- ▶ Caymas
- ▶ Lowe
- ▶ Misty Harbor
- ▶ Phoenix
- ▶ Ranger Boats
- ▶ Skeeter
- ▶ Tige
- ▶ Veranda
- ▶ Viaggio by Misty Harbor
- ▶ Xpress Boats
- ▶ Yar-Craft

BoatWRX friendly, knowledgeable sales, financing, service and parts departments, are prepared to make sure your experience is outstanding, from assisting while you are making your choice to ongoing maintenance and customization. The BoatWRX team values the opportunity to create a long-term relationship with customers by providing the best customer service available.

Learn more at boat-wrx.com or call (417) 708-2200. Visit BOATWRX Springfield location at 350 S Ingram Mill Rd and watch for their second location coming to the Lake of the Ozarks soon at 4363 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach, Missouri.





UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP!

OZARK DIVISION 1

March 28	PB2	7:00-3:00
April 11	Shawnee Bend	7:00-3:00
May 1	PB2 Saturday	7:00-3:00
June 5	PB2 Saturday	8:00-7:00
July 10	PB2 Saturday	8:00-7:00
Aug 7	PB2 Saturday	8:00-7:00

TRUMAN LAKE

May 2	Shawnee Bend	7:00-3:00
June 20	Shawnee Bend	7:00-3:00
July 25	Shawnee Bend	6:30-3:30
Aug 15	Shawnee Bend	6:30-3:30
Sept 12	Shawnee Bend	7:00-3:00

POMME DE TERRE LAKE

April 25	Lighthouse	7:00-3:00
May 8	Lighthouse	7:00-3:00
June 27	Lighthouse	6:30-3:00
July 18	Lighthouse	6:30-2:30
Aug 22	Lighthouse	6:30-2:30

MARK TWAIN LAKE

April 25	107 Ramp	7:00-3:00
May 9	107 Ramp	7:00-3:00
June 6	107 Ramp	7:00-3:00
July 18	107 Ramp	6:30-3:00
Aug 15	107 Ramp	6:30-3:00
Sept 12	107 Ramp	7:00-3:00

LOUISIANA POOL

April 24	Pool 24	7:00-3:00
May 8	Pool 24	7:00-3:00
June 5	Pool 24	7:00-3:00
July 17	Alton	6:30-3:00
Aug 14	Pool 24	6:30-3:00
Sept 11	Alton	7:00-3:00

SHELBYVILLE LAKE

May 16	Eagle Creek Ramp	7:00-3:00
June 6	Eagle Creek Ramp	7:00-3:00
June 20	Eagle Creek Ramp	7:00-3:00
July 18	Eagle Creek Ramp	6:30-3:00
Aug 15	Eagle Creek Ramp	6:30-3:00
Sept 26	Eagle Creek Ramp	7:00-3:00

COFFEEN LAKE

May 15	Main Ramp	7:00-3:00
June 12	Main Ramp	7:00-3:00
July 10	Main Ramp	6:30-2:30
July 24	Main Ramp	6:30-2:30
Aug 21	Main Ramp	6:30-2:30

Greg West 573-216-7131

PHOTO CREDIT FUNLAKE.COM

Randy Schanuel 573-480-4512

Corking For Crappie

Corking for crappie in the spring is a good way to catch giant slabs on Lake Of The Ozarks. After a long cold winter, the crappie are ready to seek the warmer water in the shallows. That is when we go to corking for the crappie.

The Lake of The Ozarks has a large population of both white and black crappie and both species will seek the shallows for warmth in the early spring. Most of these crappie will stay up there all the way through the spawn, which typically happens the 3rd or 4th week in April.

When setting up to cork you, want to make sure you have the right rod, reel, and line. It's not like vertical fishing off a boat dock, it is a casting situation. I personally use the same rod I use for dock shooting. It is a 6'6-foot medium fast St. Croix Avid-X. There are times I wish that rod length was a bit longer, usually due to good ole mother nature.

The crappie tend to spook easily. If you have no wind you need to stay further away from the herd of crappie, or they will spook easily when they are shallow,

therefore, you need to make a longer cast towards the bank, doing so having a longer rod sure helps with casting, and hook sets. In this case I prefer to use a 6'9 to 7' foot rod. I outfit the rod with a Pflueger President reel or the new Diawa Regal 1000s work well too. Line is up to the fisherman's preference. I personally like to use Vicious High Vis 6-pound line. If the water is clear and with a little wind, then I go to P-line Fluro Clear in 4-pound size. Finally, the cork size I like to use is a pear shaped Comel cork, this cork has a weight on the bottom which helps with casting and holding your cork upright. This also helps with being able to detect the light bites when crappie are finicky.

Then it is about finding the right depth to set your cork. In years past I have found that with direct wind hitting on the bank that you are fishing, the cork set at about 1 foot down is perfect. If it is not blowing, then moving your cork a bit deeper will be more effective.

Finally, your ready to find the right banks. I am usually looking for pea gravel

flatter banks. Small points mid to halfway back in the bigger creeks seem to be best, especially if they are flat and made up of mostly gravel. Keep in mind the shallow water will warm up a lot faster than the deeper water. In the spring seeking that shallower water is best for bigger fish.

Pea gravel banks that have small indents or what I like to call "smiles" in the bank work well. The pea gravel is my favorite but never overlook just windblown banks. You can cork shallow crappie off mixed rock banks too. I have caught them off big rock with the right conditions too. Corking on Lake of The Ozarks is a fun way to catch big crappie in the spring. It is very simple and easy to do with the kids and family. Enjoy why you can because every year that shallow bite comes and goes fast!!



Tournament Schedule *at The Lake*

APRIL

Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
04/01/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	35	Eldon Bassmasters	573-480-2640
04/02/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	15	Camdenton Castaways LLC	573-480-0068
04/03/2021	07:00 AM - 03:30 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	20	LOZ Spring Crappie Championship	573-317-6105
04/03/2021	08:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Gravois Mills Access	50	Solid Rock Family Church	573-298-1959
04/03/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Rick's Oar House	50	Rick's Oar House	660-221-9422
04/03/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Shawnee Bend Access	70	Missouri B.A.S.S Nation	314-941-6616
04/03/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	150	Anglers in Action	314-591-4578
04/08/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	35	Eldon Bassmasters Open	573-480-2640
04/09/2021	08:30 AM - 02:30 PM	Red Oak Resort	50	AGCMO Crappie Tournament	573-636-3188
04/10/2021	07:00 AM - 05:00 PM	Lone Oak Point Resort	15	Thousand Hills Bass Club	660-341-2192
04/10/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	25	Men of Honor Bass Club	660-723-4980
04/10/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Rock Harbor Resort	20	Spike Tournaments (Invite Only)	314-443-7023
04/10/2021	09:00 AM - 06:00 PM	Rock Harbor Resort	30	Hawg Hawlers Bass Club	573-718-4510
04/10/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	StartAnywhere/EndCaptRons	70	Crappie USA Tournament Trail	502-384-5924
04/10/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Alhonna Resort	20	St. Charles County Hawghunters	314-249-8385
04/10/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	Shawnee Bend Access	30	American Slab Crappie Trail	417-674-1025
04/10/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	Kapilana Resort	15	Perryville Basscasters	573-768-4184
04/10/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
04/10/2021	05:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Alhonna Resort	25	Mid States Bass Club	314-578-1989
04/10/2021	07:00 AM - 01:00 PM	PB #2	150	NYFA/Teen Anglers	417-689-4066
04/11/2021	07:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Lone Oak Point Resort	15	Thousand Hills Bass Club	660-341-2192
04/11/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Gravois Mills Access	20	Premier Anglers Bass Club	660-441-7726
04/11/2021	06:30 AM - 01:30 PM	Rock Harbor Resort	30	Hawg Hawlers Bass Club	573-718-4510
04/11/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	Gravois Mills Access	25	Eldon Bassmasters	573-480-2640
04/11/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	Shawnee Bend Access	35	Camden County Bass'rs Club Tourn	573-723-1020
04/11/2021	06:30 AM - 02:30 PM	Red Oak Resort	35	Reel in a Cure Open Buddy Bass	314-313-0595
04/11/2021	06:30 AM - 01:30 PM	Kapilana Resort	15	Perryville Basscasters	573-768-4184
04/11/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	50	USA Bassin	314-346-6963
04/11/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	McCubbins Point Access	15	Upper Meramec Bass Club	314-602-0895
04/11/2021	05:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Alhonna Resort	25	Mid States Bass Club	314-578-1989
04/11/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Shawnee Bend Access	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
04/11/2021	07:00 AM - 01:00 PM	PB #2	250	NYFA/Teen Anglers	417-689-4066
04/14/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	PB #2	50	Missouri Angler Wed. Night Tourn	573-434-9064
04/15/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	35	Eldon Bassmasters Open	573-480-2640
04/16/2021	01:00 PM - 07:00 PM	Dog Days Bar & Grill	70	Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers	573-216-9417
04/16/2021	07:00 AM - 04:00 PM	PB #2	50	Meek's The Builder's Choice	417-766-4997
04/17/2021	07:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Rick's Oar House	100	Ozark Snagmasters	573-578-2879
04/17/2021	10:00 AM - 07:00 PM	Dog Days Bar & Grill	70	Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers	573-216-9417
04/17/2021	07:00 AM - 03:30 PM	StartAnywhere/EndCaptRons	65	Crappie Masters Club Tournament	618-201-5280
04/17/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	PB#2RdOkAlhonnaPtRandIvyBnd	1400	Big Bass Bash	314-591-4578

* Monday Night Bass Brawl Tourneys every Monday out of Larry R. Gale - April 26 - September 13 (6:30 - 10:00)
 Missouri Angler Wednesday Night Tourneys every Wednesday out of PB2 - April 14 - September 8 (6:30 - 10:00)
 Eldon Bassmasters Open every Thursday out of Coffman Beach Access - April 15 - September 23 (6:30 - 10:00)
 Thursday Night Bass Busters every Thursday out of PB2 - April 22 - September 16 (6:30 - 10:00)

For a complete listing of tournaments visit BassingBob.com



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Tournament Schedule *at The Lake*

APRIL (continued)

Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
04/18/2021	10:00 AM - 05:00 PM	Dog Days Bar & Grill	70	Lake of the Ozarks Marine Dealers	573-216-9417
04/18/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	StartAnywhere/EndCaptRons	75	Kids Fishing & Education Trail	618-201-5280
04/18/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	PB#2RdOkAlhonnaPtRandIvyBnd	1400	Big Bass Bash	314-591-4578
04/21/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	PB #2	50	Missouri Angler Wed. Night Tourn	573-434-9064
04/22/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	PB #2	40	Thursday Night Bass Busters	417-664-3322
04/22/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	35	Eldon Bassmasters Open	573-480-2640
04/24/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	25	Randolph County Bass Club	660-414-0520
04/24/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Gravois Mills Access	20	Martin Metal Fishing Tournament	573-789-0410
04/24/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Red Fox Bar & Grill	30	Joe Bidnick Memorial Invitational	913-634-3969
04/24/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Rick's Oar House	35	Rick's Oar House	660-221-9422
04/24/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Rock Harbor Resort	50	IBEW Local 1	314-647-5900
04/24/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	25	Show Me Bass Club	636-262-7309
04/24/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Shawnee Bend Access	20	American Bass Anglers Division 49	417-718-2036
04/24/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	PB #2	100	Carpenters' Buddy Bass Tournament	314-269-5227
04/25/2021	07:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Purvis Beach Resort	15	Gasconade Bass Club	573-301-8173
04/25/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	30	Missouri TBF	660-723-4980
04/25/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	40	Just Fish Open Team Trail	573-619-3074
04/26/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	20	Monday Night Bass Brawl	417-664-3322
04/27/2021	06:00 AM - 05:00 PM	Alhonna Resort	40	Pro Firefighters of E MO Local 2665	314-630-4665
04/28/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Alhonna Resort	40	Pro Firefighters of E MO Local 2665	314-630-4665
04/28/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	PB #2	50	Missouri Angler Wed. Night Tourn	573-434-9064
04/29/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	PB #2	40	Thursday Night Bass Busters	417-664-3322
04/29/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	35	Eldon Bassmasters Open	573-480-2640

MAY

Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
05/01/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Red Oak Resort	50	Piney Point Bass'n Classic	314-497-4414
05/01/2021	06:30 AM - 02:30 PM	Pa He Tsi	50	Sapp and Bass Tournament	918-521-5171
05/01/2021	06:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Hawk Landing Resort	30	Missouri Chiropractors Bass Fishers	314-344-4438
05/01/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Gravois Mills Access	25	Men of Honor Bass Club	660-723-4980
05/01/2021	06:00 AM - 03:30 PM	Lakeview Resort	40	Fred Weber Inc. Employee Tournament	314-486-1995
05/01/2021	06:30 AM - 03:15 PM	Bass Point Resort	80	Bass Point Invitational	314-537-6407
05/01/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Point Randall Resort	60	MO State Council of Machinists	314-601-5912
05/01/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
05/01/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	20	Mexico Bassmasters	573-289-8571
05/02/2021	06:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Hawk Landing Resort	30	Missouri Chiropractors Bass Fishers	314-344-4438
05/02/2021	06:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Lakeview Resort	40	Fred Weber Inc. Employee Tournament	314-486-1995

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 Eldon Bassmasters Open every Thursday out of Coffman Beach Access – April 15 - September 23 (6:30 - 10:00)
 Thursday Night Bass Busters every Thursday out of PB2 – April 22 - September 16 (6:30 - 10:00)

For a complete listing of tournaments visit BassingBob.com

MAY (continued)					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
05/02/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	15	Upper Meramec Bass Club	314-602-0895
05/02/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	150	Anglers in Action	314-591-4578
05/08/2021	07:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry	20	Warsaw River Rats	660-723-5268
05/08/2021	06:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Start/End Anywhere	50	MOYak Fishing Tournament Series	417-499-1043
05/08/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	50	St. Louis Bass Busters Open Buddy	314-409-8314
05/08/2021	07:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Red Oak Resort	25	UPS Bass Tournament	636-485-8315
05/09/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	50	USA Bassin	314-346-6963
05/15/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Windermere	15	Heaven's Anglers Help a Child Tourn	314-740-5953
05/15/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	Red Oak Resort	15	Owensville Moose Lodge 878	573-578-5082
05/15/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	15	Ozark Mountain Anglers Bass Club	636-259-6448
05/15/2021	05:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry	30	Kansas Buddy Bass	785-393-2144
05/15/2021	05:30 AM - 03:30 PM	Point Randall Resort	15	Rodbenders Bass Club	314-378-2696
05/15/2021	05:30 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	40	Just Fish Open Team Trail	573-619-3074
05/15/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	25	Tri-County Bass Club	573-762-2668
05/15/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	20	Fishers of Men	870-307-3769
05/16/2021	06:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Red Oak Resort	15	Owensville Moose Lodge 878	573-578-5082
05/16/2021	05:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry	30	Kansas Buddy Bass	785-393-2144
05/16/2021	05:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	12	MO-KAN Bassmasters Club Tourn	816-536-1702
05/16/2021	05:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Point Randall Resort	15	Rodbenders Bass Club	314-378-2696
05/16/2021	05:30 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	35	Heaven's Anglers Catch a Vet Tourn	314-740-5953
05/16/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	45	Angler's Choice	573-619-3074
05/16/2021	06:00 AM - 01:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	25	Tri-County Bass Club Open Buddy	573-762-2668
05/22/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Rock Harbor Resort	20	Spike Tournaments (Invite Only)	314-443-7023
05/22/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
05/22/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry	20	Smithville Bassmasters	913-484-2369
05/22/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	20	Mexico Bassmasters	573-289-8571
JUNE					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
06/05/2021	05:30 AM - 01:30 PM	Rock Harbor Resort	20	Spike Tournaments (Invite Only)	314-443-7023
06/05/2021	05:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Drake Harbor	30	Central Missouri Catfish Tourn.	660-651-2408
06/05/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
06/05/2021	05:15 AM - 03:30 PM	Red Oak Resort	15	Rodbenders Bass Club	314-378-2696
06/05/2021	05:30 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	40	Just Fish Open Team Trail	573-619-3074
06/05/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	PB #2	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
06/05/2021	08:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry	12	Warsaw River Rats	660-723-5268
06/06/2021	12:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Drake Harbor	30	Central Missouri Catfish Tourn.	660-651-2408

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 Missouri Angler Wednesday Night Tourneys every Wednesday out of PB2 – April 14 - September 8 (6:30 - 10:00)
 Eldon Bassmasters Open every Thursday out of Coffman Beach Access – April 15 - September 23 (6:30 - 10:00)
 Thursday Night Bass Busters every Thursday out of PB2 – April 22 - September 16 (6:30 - 10:00)

For a complete listing of tournaments visit BassingBob.com

Tournament Schedule *at The Lake*

JUNE (continued)					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
06/06/2021	05:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Red Oak Resort	15	Rodbenders Bass Club	314-378-2696
06/06/2021	05:30 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	45	Angler's Choice	573-619-3074
06/06/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	PB #2	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
06/12/2021	05:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry	35	The Bass Federation Nebraska	402-499-5506
06/12/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	PB #2	50	Camden County Bass's Open Buddy	573-723-1020
06/13/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	PB #2	50	Camden County Bass's Open Buddy	573-723-1020
06/13/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	50	USA Bassin	314-346-6963
06/18/2021	06:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Pa He Tsi	75	Laker Athletic Booster Club	573-480-6339
06/18/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Coffman Beach Access	15	Ozark Mountain Anglers Bass Club	636-259-6448
06/19/2021	06:00 AM - 12:00 PM	PaHeTsi/LarryGale/ShawneeBend	75	Laker Athletic Booster Club	573-480-6339
06/19/2021	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry-Drake Harbor	25	Truman Lake Adventure Club	660-723-2595
06/19/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Linn Creek Campground Ramp	35	Camden County Bass's Club Tourn	573-723-1020
06/19/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	10	KC Area Bassmasters	816-213-4497
06/19/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	15	Ozark Mountain Anglers Bass Club	636-259-6448
06/20/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Linn Creek Campground Ramp	35	Camden County Bass's Club Tourn	573-723-1020
06/26/2021	07:00 PM - 02:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	20	Spike Tournaments (Invite Only)	314-443-7023
06/26/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
JULY					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
07/08/2021	06:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Coffman Beach Access	35	Eldon Bassmasters Open	573-480-2640
07/10/2021	08:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Bledsoe Ferry	30	MO Bowhunters Assoc. Youth Tourn.	816-863-8723
07/10/2021	07:00 PM - 02:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	20	Spike Tournaments (Invite Only)	314-443-7023
07/10/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	PB #2	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
07/11/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	PB #2	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
07/16/2021	07:00 PM - 03:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	20	Mexico Bassmasters	573-289-8571
07/17/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	PB #2	50	Camden County Bass's Open Buddy	573-723-1020
07/17/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Shawnee Bend Access	8	Central Missouri Bassmasters	573-885-1507
07/17/2021	07:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Coffman Beach Access	20	St. Charles County Hawghunters	314-249-8385
07/17/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
07/17/2021	05:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Drake Harbor	15	Olathe Bass Club	816-863-1425
07/18/2021	06:30 AM - 02:30 PM	Drake Harbor	15	Crooked River Bassmasters	816-724-1138
07/18/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Drake Harbor	20	Premier Anglers Bass Club	660-441-7726
07/18/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	PB #2	50	Camden County Bass's Open Buddy	573-723-1020
07/18/2021	12:00 AM - 08:00 AM	Shawnee Bend Access	8	Central Missouri Bassmasters	573-885-1507
07/18/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	20	St. Charles County Hawghunters	314-249-8385
07/23/2021	11:00 AM - 05:00 PM	Camden on the Lake-Coconuts	75	Big Thunder Marine	573-365-4001

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JULY (continued)					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
07/23/2021	07:00 PM - 03:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	15	Ozark Mountain Anglers Bass Club	636-259-6448
07/24/2021	07:00 PM - 03:00 AM	Larry R. Gale Access	15	Camdenton Castaways LLC	573-480-0068
07/24/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Linn Creek Campground Ramp	35	Camden County Bass'rs Club Tourn	573-723-1020
07/24/2021	07:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Coffman Beach Access	25	Show Me Bass Club	636-262-7309
07/24/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Coffman Beach Access	12	Sportsmans Edge Bass Club	636-388-2481
07/24/2021	09:00 AM - 01:00 PM	Drake Harbor- No Tournaments	0	The Dalton House	816-507-6451
07/25/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Linn Creek Campground Ramp	35	Camden County Bass'rs Club Tourn	573-723-1020
07/25/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	25	Show Me Bass Club	636-262-7309
07/25/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	12	Sportsmans Edge Bass Club	636-388-2481
07/25/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	50	USA Bassin	314-346-6963
07/30/2021	08:30 PM - 04:30 AM	Coffman Beach Access	20	Mexico Bassmasters	573-289-8571
07/31/2021	10:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Coffman Beach Access	25	Eldon Bassmasters	573-480-2640
AUGUST					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
08/01/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	25	Eldon Bassmasters	573-480-2640
08/06/2021	12:00 AM - 11:59 PM	No Tournaments-Drake Harbor	0	Benton Co. Tourism & Recreation	660-438-2090
08/07/2021	08:30 PM - 11:59 PM	Coffman Beach Access	8	Central Missouri Bassmasters	573-885-1507

2021 SEASON SCHEDULE

BIG BASS BASH - ANGLERS IN ACTION TOURNAMENT TRAIL



2021 BIG BASS BASH SCHEDULE

LAKE OZARKS/TRUMAN LAKE, MO: APRIL 17-18

GRAND LAKE, OK: MAY 22-23

LAKE OZARKS/TRUMAN LAKE, MO: OCTOBER 2-3

2021 ANGLERS IN ACTION SCHEDULE

LAKE OF THE OZARKS

February 28 | March 14 | April 3 | May 2

GRAND LAKE

March 6 | April 24 | May 15 | June 19

TABLE ROCK LAKE

February 27 | March 13 | April 10 | May 8



FOR MORE INFO VISIT WWW.BIGBASSBASH.COM

Tournament Schedule *at The Lake*

AUGUST (continued)

Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
08/07/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
08/07/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	PB #2	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
08/08/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	12	Sportsmans Edge Bass Club	636-388-2481
08/08/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	PB #2	60	Bass World Sports	573-480-4512
08/13/2021	07:00 PM - 03:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	15	Ozark Mountain Anglers Bass Club	636-259-6448
08/14/2021	05:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Alhonna Resort	20	St. Charles County Hawghunters	314-249-8385
08/14/2021	07:00 PM - 12:00 AM	Alhonna Resort	20	St. Charles County Hawghunters	314-249-8385
08/14/2021	07:00 PM - 03:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	25	Eldon Bassmasters	573-480-2640
08/14/2021	07:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	25	Show Me Bass Club	636-262-7309
08/14/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	40	Just Fish Open Team Trail	573-619-3074
08/15/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Wigwam School Access	20	Premier Anglers Bass Club	660-441-7726
08/15/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Larry R. Gale Access	25	Show Me Bass Club	636-262-7309
08/15/2021	06:00 AM - 02:00 PM	PB #2	45	Angler's Choice	573-619-3074
08/21/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Linn Creek Campground Ramp	35	Camden County Bass'rs Club Tourn	573-723-1020
08/21/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162

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Thursday Night Bass Busters every Thursday out of PB2 - April 22 - September 16 (6:30 - 10:00)

For a complete listing of tournaments visit BassingBob.com

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AUGUST (continued)					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
08/21/2021	06:30 AM - 2:30 PM	Alhonna Resort	75	BassingBob.com	314-575-5545
08/21/2021	08:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Coffman Beach Access	12	Sportsmans Edge Bass Club	636-388-2481
08/21/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Pa He Tsi	10	Evolution Bass Club	314-229-5263
08/21/2021	07:00 PM - 11:59 PM	Shawnee Bend Access	25	Tri-County Bass Club	573-762-2668
08/22/2021	06:30 AM - 2:30 PM	Alhonna Resort	75	BassingBob.com	314-575-5545
08/22/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Linn Creek Campground Ramp	35	Camden County Bass'rs Club Tourn	573-723-1020
08/22/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Coffman Beach Access	12	Sportsmans Edge Bass Club	636-388-2481
08/22/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Pa He Tsi	10	Evolution Bass Club	314-229-5263
08/22/2021	12:00 AM - 07:00 AM	Shawnee Bend Access	25	Tri-County Bass Club	573-762-2668
08/28/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Drake Harbor	20	American Bass Anglers Division 49	417-718-2036
SEPTEMBER					
Date	Time	Location	Boats	Club	Phone
09/11/2021	06:30 AM - 03:30 PM	Red Oak Resort	15	Owensville Moose Lodge 878	573-578-5082
09/11/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Red Oak Resort	100	LIUNA Local 110	314-892-0777
09/11/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
09/11/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Robin's Resort	40	Just Fish Open Team Trail	573-619-3074
09/11/2021	07:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Red Oak Resort	25	UPS Bass Tournament	636-485-8315
09/11/2021	06:30 AM - 04:00 PM	PB #2	130	IUOE Local 148 Charity Bass Tourn.	573-760-5669
09/12/2021	06:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Red Oak Resort	15	Owensville Moose Lodge 878	573-578-5082
09/12/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
09/12/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	45	Angler's Choice	573-619-3074
09/18/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Lakeview Resort	80	EM Outdoors Fishing Tournament	314-805-1474
09/18/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
09/18/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Robin's Resort	50	USA Bassin	314-346-6963
09/18/2021	07:00 AM - 04:00 PM	PB #2	100	Fish for Sight Buddy Bass Tourn	314-843-8822
09/19/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	PB #2	150	Anglers in Action	314-591-4578
09/19/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	20	Premier Anglers Bass Club	660-441-7726
09/19/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Larry R. Gale Access	15	Camdenton Castaways LLC	573-480-0068
09/19/2021	07:00 AM - 04:00 PM	Linn Creek Campground Ramp	35	Camden County Bass'rs Club Tourn	573-723-1020
09/19/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Lazy Dayz Resort	35	Mid-Lake Bass Club	573-480-6162
09/19/2021	07:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Robin's Resort	50	USA Bassin	314-346-6963
09/25/2021	06:30 AM - 03:00 PM	Robin's Resort	50	Missouri State Elks Association	573-712-0662
09/25/2021	06:00 AM - 03:00 PM	Kon Tiki Resort	15	Olathe Bass Club	816-863-1425
09/25/2021	06:00 AM - 05:00 PM	PB #2	150	MLF/FLW Phoenix Bass Fishing League	270-703-5441
09/26/2021	06:00 AM - 01:00 PM	Kon Tiki Resort	15	Olathe Bass Club	816-863-1425
09/26/2021	06:00 AM - 05:00 PM	PB #2	150	MLF/FLW Phoenix Bass Fishing League	270-703-5441

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FORWARD FACING SONAR

The Future of Fishing and How to Utilize It!

Over the years we have seen many technological advancements in the fishing industry, especially in the marine electronics department. Graphs keep getting bigger, brighter, and clearer every single year, but every decade or so, we see new breakthrough technology revolutionize the way we fish. It started with regular sonar, which allowed you to see what was directly underneath your boat, to side imaging, which allowed you to see off to the side the boat. Now we have forward facing sonar that allows you to see, in real time, whatever direction you want to see around the boat. It essentially gives us eyeballs under the water. With one pan of the trolling motor, you can see the bottom composition, structure, the fish swimming around, and also your bait moving through the water column.



In the past year, forward facing sonar has dominated the tournament bass and crappie scene, and while it may seem like a magic box that catches the fish for you,

it most certainly is not that easy. Like any other piece of equipment on your boat, forward facing sonar is a tool, that if used right, can work to your advantage. Here are a few tips to keep in mind when using forward facing sonar:

“The Wind is Not Your Friend”

The old adage “The wind is your friend”, is simply not the case if you plan on utilizing forward facing sonar to the fullest extent. Since the transducers to these units are often mounted on the shaft of the trolling motor, gusty winds can make it difficult to keep the boat in position for the entirety of your cast. The best way to combat this is to keep your boat and trolling motor faced directly into the wind on the down-wind side of your target. Your boat may still blow around a little bit, but this will make it a lot easier to adjust and get focused back on your target.



So the wind is not your friend and looking for alternatives to keep your live-scope on point. There are some 3rd party mounts which will let you run the live-scope independently from your trolling motor which allows you to stay on your target. It works with either a remote or a foot control switch and has a independent directional arrow and mounts to your existing trolling motor or the side of the boat if you wish.

Power is Key

New forward facing sonar units use up a ton of power, and need that power to run properly. One of the biggest mistakes you can make is going with too small of wire when installing these units. If you don't install big enough wire directly to your battery, you can end up with a weak signal that is bogged down with interference. 8AWG marine grade wire will work best for 20-21ft bass boats. You also want to make sure your cranking battery is big enough to handle your unit. If you run a small cranking battery, you might end up running out of juice by the end of the day.

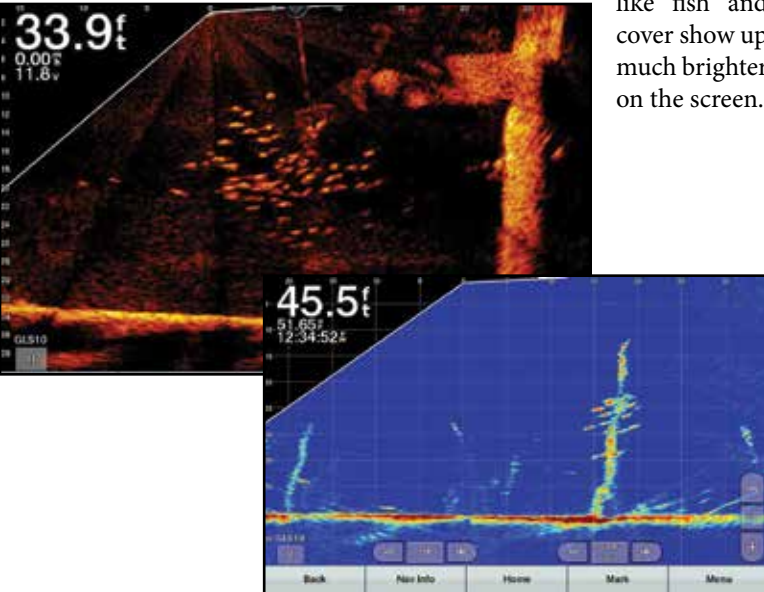


The Vacation You Deserve!

The Magic is in the Settings

When setting up your units, the best thing to do is mess around and get to know what each setting will do to your screen. Keep in mind that your screen clarity will change based on the conditions of the water you are fishing. Dingy water with a lot of sediment may call for dialing back some settings, while clear water may allow you to turn up the gain a little bit. One thing that helped me a lot on my Garmin Unit, regardless of the water conditions, was dialing up the color gain. Raising the color gain doesn't pick up much interference in the water, but it makes hard returns

like fish and cover show up much brighter on the screen.



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STATE PARK MARINA

LOTOspmarina.com

Located at the park's two public beaches, the marinas have everything you need for a memorable day on the water - whether you want to cast a line, kayak in a secluded cove or motor across the lake. Along with watercraft and slip rentals, each marina has a general store where you can find boating and fishing supplies. We also offer gift and keepsake items.

Boat ramps allow access to the park's aquatic trail. Campers and day-trippers alike can benefit from our newly-merchandised campground store!

Ortega National Parks is excited to announce our partnership with Missouri State Parks by bringing you a fresh experience when it comes to spending time with your family at Lake of the Ozarks!

Marina Amenities:

- Slip rental
- Boat rental
- Stand-up paddle boards
- Kayaks
- Snacks and hand-dipped ice cream

Grand Glaize Beach Marina (573) 348-1233

711 Public Beach Road, Osage Beach, MO

The Grand Glaize Marina has covered and open slips for rent. Boat rentals, a fuel dock and a pump-out station are also available. There is a paved four-lane boat ramp at the adjacent beach. The marina is located in the Grand Glaize area of the park, off Highway 54, west of the Grand Glaize Bridge.

Public Beach #1 Marina (573) 302-1044

257 Public Beach Drive, Brumley, MO

Stop by the Public Beach #1 Marina to rent a boat, stand-up paddleboard or kayak. Nightly open dock slips are available for rent and a paved two-lane boat ramp is available seasonally. There is also a fuel dock. The marina is located along Hwy 134.

Campground Store (573) 302-7940

53 Lakeview Bend Trail, Brumley, MO

Forgot essentials for your trip to the Lake? Not to worry! Visit our campstore for camping supplies, snacks, drinks and clothing.

The State of Missouri Selects Ortega National Parks to Manage and Operate Public Beach 1 and 2, Pa He Tsi and The Campground Campstore

Ortega National Parks, a hospitality and retail company operating in parks across the country, will manage marina and retail operations in Lake of the Ozarks State Park for Missouri State Parks.

Ortega National Parks was awarded a long-term contract to operate the two marinas (Grand Glaize Beach Marina and Public Beach #1 Marina) and campground store within Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Along with watercraft and slip rentals, each marina has a general store where visitors can find boating and fishing supplies, as well as clothing and snacks, including hand-dipped ice cream.

The **Grand Glaize Marina** has covered and open slips for rent. Boat rentals, a fuel dock, and a pump-out station are also available. There is a paved four-lane boat ramp at the adjacent beach. The marina is located in the Grand Glaize area of the park, off Highway 54, west of the Grand Glaize bridge.

Public Beach #1 Marina will have pontoons stand-up paddleboards, and kayaks for rent. Nightly open dock slips are available for rent and a paved two-lane boat ramp is available seasonally. There is also a fuel dock. The marina is located along Highway 134.

The newly-merchandised **campstore** (near the State Park campgrounds) is an excellent stop for camping supplies, snacks, drinks, and clothing.

"Guests who have visited the marina and campground stores in the past should expect to be in for a pleasant surprise," said Frank Pikus, CEO of Ortega National Parks. "Our onsite staff have been working diligently to improve the flow, aesthetic and product mix at all three stores. We are utilizing new technology to make the rental of watercrafts a more efficient process and taking extra steps to enhance the safety of our boat renters. Ultimately, we want to ensure that guests have everything they

need for a safe and memorable trip to Lake of the Ozarks State Park."

Ortega National Parks is dedicated to preserving and protecting the unique environments and precious resources where they operate, allowing guests and future generations to experience the beauty, serenity and splendor of local, state, and national parks. They operate at 17 locations nationwide. For more information about ONP and their other locations, please visit their website www.OrtegaParks.com.

"We are really looking forward to our partnership with Ortega National Parks," said Mike Sutherland, director of Missouri State Parks. "I know they will provide great service and provide great opportunities for an amazing Lake of the Ozarks State Park experience for our visitors."

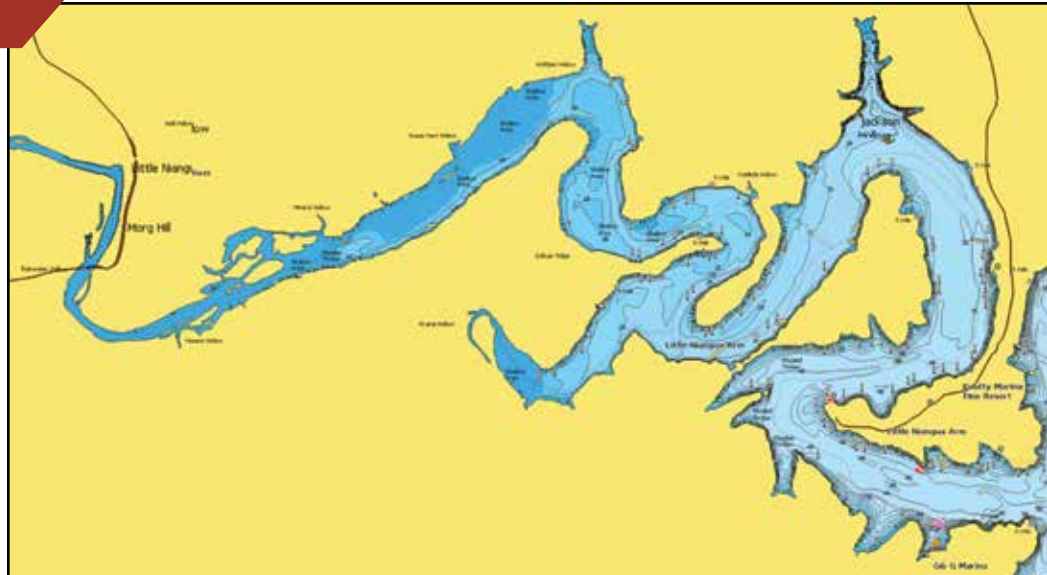
(continued on page 24)

The Little Niangua is a 64-mile-long tributary that feeds into the Lake of the Ozarks. While the river itself spans 64 miles, the “Lake” portion of the river takes up the last nine miles until it reaches the Big Niangua Arm. The Little Niangua is one of the smallest and shallowest arms of the lake, but is also one of the most diverse. Since it is fed by such a large tributary, the water color in this arm varies greatly depending on the weather. Here you can find gin-clear water during times of drought, and also muddy water after heavy rain events.

The Little Niangua features excellent deep structure fishing during clear water periods of the winter and summer months, but if shallow water fishing is your cup of tea, this is the place to be. The vast majority of the bass in this arm will live around shallow cover year-round.

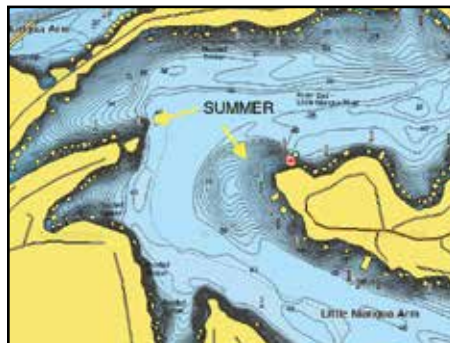
Spring

Spinnerbaits and shallow diving crankbaits are excellent choices for catching big fish in the springtime on this part of the lake. Look for shallow cover and wood laydowns in pea gravel pockets that have access to deep water nearby.



Summer

Typical summer patterns, like 10” worms and deep diving crankbaits excel here in the summertime. Look for main lake points closer to the mouth of this arm for the best action.



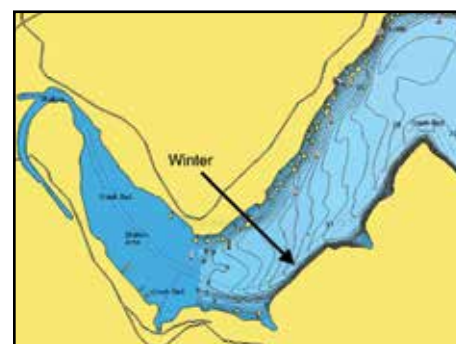
Fall

Fall is one of the best times to fish this area. Since the arm is mostly shallow, square-billed crankbaits and flipping style plastics are going to be the go-to baits. Target shallow wood and docks on the flats in the upper stretch of the arm.



Winter

During the winter months, you can target bass grouped up along the deepest holes of the channel banks throughout the upper end of the arm. Finesse jigs, Wiggle Wart crankbaits, and jerkbaits are going to work best on these banks.



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Late Spring and Early Summer Fishing On Grand Lake, OK

by Chance Davis

Oklahoma has many great fisheries in the state but none as well known as Grand Lake. Grand Lake hosts many bass tournaments throughout the year and has hosted the Bassmasters Classic in 2013 and 2016. Grand Lake offers both quantity and quality of fish and has a wide range of species for anyone wanting to get out and enjoy the outdoors. The experts at grandlakefishintel.com expect good things this spring and summer and have a few pointers to help you be more successful on your next fishing trip.

Here in late April, the spawn is in full swing. With bass being in all three stages of the spawn, this creates an amazing opportunity to not only catch a large quantity of bass but be able to catch some really big bass as well. As we progress into the spring, you will want to start looking to the spawning flats and secondary points leading to the spawning flats. Some of the popular places to fish this time of year are the back of Duck Creek, Drowning Creek, and Horse Creek. All of these areas have everything the bass need to thrive, and they all hold large populations of fish year round.

Some of the popular techniques to catch these bass during this time of year is by throwing a chartreuse and white spinnerbait with gold blades, a buzzbait over spawning flats and around visible cover, a jig, and the always reliable Senko style bait.



Chance Davis, Davis Guide Service

Chance Davis, with Davis Guide Service is a bass and crappie guide on

Grand Lake. Chance likes to start at the back of the creeks and work his way out to the mouth of the creek. Using a search bait, like a spinnerbait or a topwater bait, you can find those bedding fish. Once you find those bedding fish, you can slow down with a jig or the Senko and try to pick up another fish or two.

Once the spawn is nearing the end, in May. The fish will pull back out of the shallow water and school up on offshore cover. Chance likes to target big boat docks, secondary points, and main lake points. If you can find points that have brush on them, that's even better. These fish are hungry and trying to recover from the spawn. This makes them overly aggressive, and you can catch some really big fish by focusing on these areas. Once again, the spinnerbait, a deep diving crankbait, and a jig are some of my go to baits.



Zack Rumble, BZ Guide Service

If you are more of a crappie fisherman, Zack Rumble with BZ Guide Service is a crappie, catfish, and spoonbill guide on Grand Lake. Zack says that crappie fishing during this time of year is phenomenal. Once the crappie transition from the spawning grounds to the summertime patterns, the fish are hungry and aggressive. When finding crappie on Grand Lake, Zack uses his sidescan to look under docks and search for fish. He also focuses on the shade lines. Throughout the day, the shade line will move. As the shad line moves, the fish will move with it. If you go to a dock that was loaded the day before and when you get to it the next morning and the fish are gone, pay attention to where the shade lines are. Chances are, the fish are still there, they are just positioned differently on the dock.

Another technique Zack likes to use is fishing offshore brush piles. Grand Lake has a ton of offshore brush from fishermen planting it, to being washed down the river during heavy rains. I like to focus on areas like Horse Creek and target brush piles in 12-20 feet of water. My go to baits for catching the crappie this time of year are Dipping Sticks and Daggers from Harms Lures. Live minnows are also really good this time of year. I like to use a 1/8 to 1/4 oz. jig head depending on the depth I'm fishing.



Justin Hatfield, Hatfields Guide Service

Grand Lake also has a large population of catfish that can provide fun for the whole family. Justin Hatfield with Hatfields Guide Service is a catfish, crappie, white bass, and spoonbill guide on Grand Lake. Justin says that in the early spring, catfish will move out of the deep water and start moving shallow. I like to target windblown banks on shallow flats. Justin says his favorite bait to use is shad. I run a sinker on the bottom of my setup with a hook attached above it with a barrel swivel. On the main line over the swivel, I attach a bobber. This helps me make long cast and keeps the bait suspended in the water column.

Once the water warms up and it starts turning to a summer pattern, I don't change a whole lot. I still like targeting the windblown banks but I will also target offshore humps, ledges, and will fish shallow willow trees if the water gets up. Justin says he also likes to downsize his bait during the summer. I will cut my shad into smaller pieces and seem to have better luck.

If you don't have a boat, no problem. Grand Lake offers plenty of fishing opportunities from the bank. Justin likes

(continued on next page)

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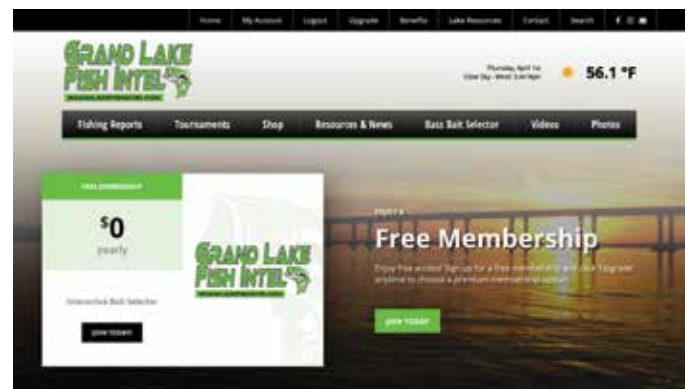
@terryblankenshipfishing

(continued from page 16)

to catfish from the banks in Carey Bay, Sailboat Bridge, and Ballerina. You will want cast into the wind because the fish will be pushing up against the wind-blown bank in these areas.

Whether you are chasing bass, crappie, or catfish; Grand Lake provides an abundant amount of fish for everyone to enjoy. Whether your in a boat or fishing from the bank, Grand Lake can create memories for the whole family. Fish are being caught already and the fishing is only going to get better. This is a great time of the year to get outside and enjoy one of the best fisheries in the country.

Be sure to visit and become a member of www.grandlake-fishintel.com to stay up to date on the daily/weekly fishing reports, articles, and videos from the experts who make their living on Grand Lake by putting fish in the boat.



Bass World Sports Tournament Association Now Bass World Sports

After 37 years, Bob Horrell and his wife Ann have sold Bass World Tournament Sports Association by local and avid anglers Greg West and Randy Shanuel. Bob decided it was time to step back from all the travel and rigors of running tournaments.

Randy and Greg have been helping Bob with the BWSTA tournaments here at Lake of the Ozarks, Randy for 20 years and Greg for the past 5 years. As such and being tournament anglers themselves, Greg said “we know what the anglers want”.

In the past BWSTA tournaments would regularly draw 50 – 100 boats but recently has experienced a decline which Greg and Randy attribute to the trail being spread too thin over so many lakes through-out Missouri and Illinois and the increase in the number of tournaments that has spread the tournament anglers thin across so many tournaments to choose from.

In recent years with Greg’s assistance BWSTA Lake of the Ozarks tournaments have grown from 17-20 boats to 35-50 boats on a regular basis. Greg and Randy hope to improve on those numbers with some tweaks to the circuit.

Recognizing the competition for tournament anglers, they plan to increase payouts to the top winning teams. The pot will be increased by adding a separate/optional big bass fee, which in the past has been included in the tournament entry fee and an optional side pot. Bass World Sports will continue to pay 1 place for every 5 anglers.

Greg and Randy have been working hard to improve on the efficiency of the weigh-ins and shorter time from close of the weigh-in till checks are presented to the top finishing anglers.

This year a few lake divisions that have not been drawing many anglers have been

dropped and Truman Lake and Pomme de Terre divisions have been added.

The annual championship tournament will be held at regional lakes versus at national lakes so the anglers have shorter distances to travel and will be held in late March or early April to provide a better opportunity for better weather conditions versus in early March.

They plan to continue to not allow the Alabama Rig in their tournaments, which is always a controversial topic, however Greg and Randy feel that there are a lot of anglers that prefer to fish a tournament series that does not allow it and thus far that decision has not affected their tournament angler numbers, the numbers have increased.

Greg and Randy want to be known as the trail run by fisherman for fisherman.

Sport Fishing Industry Booms and Struggles with COVID-19 *By Ben Verhoef – Fitz Fishing Tackle & Supplies*

As we struggle with an ever-changing social dynamic due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, many industries have taken a huge hit. The fishing industry however, has seen a huge boom in the past year. With more people than ever working from home, quarantining, or even out of work, people are finding more and more time to get into the outdoors and go fishing. As a nation, the Department of Natural Resources estimates that 8 million people picked up a fishing rod in America for the first-time last year. Working as a retail fishing tackle store manager, I have seen this boom firsthand. Sales have increased significantly as more people are escaping crowded areas to hit the lake and social distance in the best way possible.

While the COVID-19 Pandemic has created an industry wide boom, the uptick in sales does not come without struggles. Most of the challenges our industry is facing right now stems from lack of product. Worldwide shutdowns and restrictions have left most major manufacturers and distributors operating with skeleton crews, or even shut down completely for extended periods of time. Once this was combined with the increased demand for products, empty shelves started to appear at an alarming rate. Like “The Great Toilet Paper Shortage of 2020”, we are seeing an industry wide shortage of sporting supplies, but the difference between toilet paper and fishing equipment is that consumers around the country quit hoarding toilet paper, and went back to buying it at a normal rate, so the supply has caught up to demand. People are still buying fishing products at an increased rate. Demand is so high that many of the popular products are backordered from manufacturers for months, and in some cases, years.

While the “new normal” of high demand and low supply has sent the fishing industry scrambling, we are very excited to see that more people are getting into the outdoors and going fishing. On behalf of everyone at Fitz Fishing, and also Bassingbob.com; our goal is to help people catch more fish. Though a pandemic may create some struggles, we will continue to work hard to make sure your tackle box is full, and lines are tight!



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AN INSIDE LOOK INTO

TOURNAMENT FISHERMAN

Michael Harlin



Twenty-six-year-old Michael Harlin was born at Camp Pendleton in San Diego. His parents moved to Versailles, MO when he was a one-year-old. At about 6 years old, Michael started fishing from the bank at his homes 9 acres lake and from a dock at his grandparents' house in Porter Mill cove, a few miles above the Hurricane Deck Bridge fishing for anything that would bite, catfish, blue gill, crappie, and carp. Michael did not fish out of a boat until he was eighteen years old. It is amazing the bass fishing success he has had without ever fishing out of a boat just 8 years ago.



In 2013 Michael entered the University of Missouri and joined the Mizzou Bass Fishing Club. Michael had never fished a tournament until then. Anyone could join the fishing club, there were no qualifications required to join. In 2014, he purchased a sixteen-foot Pro Craft Fish n Ski boat with a 115 horse power mariner motor. Since Michael was one of a few anglers in the club that had a boat, he was selected to fish his first tournament ever on Kentucky Lake for Mizzou. Michael fished with a Mizzou team partner and had 21 pounds on the first day, catching their big bag of fish on the Alabama Rig. Day two they finished with just 9 pounds, good enough to finish high in the tournament. He attributes their day 2 decline to the lack of experience not practicing multiple areas of the lake and varying patterns. The fishing conditions changed, and they did not have a plan B. Michael and Mizzou continued to have success that year and finished the season ranked 7th in the country.

Michael moved back home in 2015 and joined the Mid Lakes Fishing Club. While Michael had that good success in his first tournament on Kentucky Lake, he said he felt like he still barely really knew how to catch bass but was dedicated to learning. Through trial and error and getting his butt kicked he just kept after it, trying to learn and absorb every bit of information he could to be a better bass angler. He had a lot of top 3 finishes in the club and finally won his first club tournament in March of this year.

Michael's tournament success really started to take-off in 2016. He decided to enter bigger tournaments, fishing FLW tournaments, initially on Lake of the Ozarks and then the full Ozarks Division circuit which included tournaments on other big lakes including Table Rock, Grand Lake, Truman Lake and others. Michael said that practicing, doing map study and research really helped him to become a better angler.

In 2016, at age of 21, he finished 11th place

in the FLW BFL fall Super Tournament a two-day event on Lake of the Ozarks. In 2017, Michael fished the full FLW/BFL multi lake tournament circuit, in a field of 150 plus of the best anglers in the Midwest, he finished the season in 18th place overall. To do that it requires consistently finishing high (top 20 finishes on foreign lakes) in the 5 tournament circuit. In 2018 he again finished 18th overall for the season and had another 11th place finish on Lake of the Ozarks.

In 2019 Michael had the biggest win of his life. At age 24, he won the June FLW/BFL on Lake of the Ozarks, blowing away the field with 24.9 pounds including a dead fish penalty, that's a 4.98 average fish (would have been 5-pound average without the penalty) wow. He caught those big bass on a Strike King 6xD Crank Bait, Chartreuse/Powder Blue Back color, slow cranking points from the Toll Bridge to the Dam. Overall, in 2019 he finished 22nd place for the season. He finished 18th place in the Regional on Grand Lake. Michael qualified for the Regional in 2017, 2018 and 2019. That is an awesome track record for such a young angler that just started fishing tournaments in 2014.

2020 was not the season that he had hope for, finishing 25th overall in the FLW/BFL season including one tournament that he zeroed. In that tournament his co-angler fell in the water. While could have just packed it in at that point, Michael pulled his boat out of the water, drove his co-angler to Wal-Mart, where he got a whole set of clothes, including undies, LOL and then got back on the water to finish the tournament.

In 2020 Michael moved to a place in the Gravois arm of the lake. With a ramp close by and as he said for 9 months of the year, most tournaments are being won from the Glaize to the dam. He took advantage of his new location on the lake and worked hard to learn everything he could in that stretch of lake. He won several night tournaments in that stretch and finished 2nd place overall in the Bassing Bob Winter Bass Challenge tournament series, attributing his success to learning that stretch of the lake.

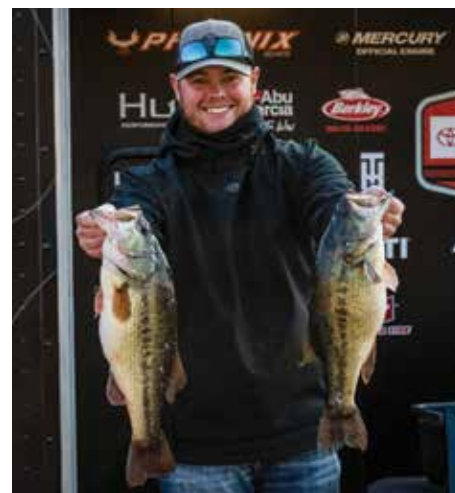
In March of 2021, Michael had his biggest win ever. Winning the FLW Toyota Series tournament on Lake of the Ozarks a 3-day tournament with the very best anglers from the entire central United States. Michael had 20+ pounds each day of the tournament, that is unheard of, seriously



insane good fishing. Unlike his first tournament on Kentucky Lake, when he had 21 pounds the first day then 9 the second, in this tournament he had lots of spots to fish and looked for fresh spots each day of the tournament. He won \$37,800 in that tournament, pretty darn good day for a 26-year-old with a 2-month-old young baby.

Winning that kind of money as a young man, he has his head on straight. Using some of that money to apply to a new Caymas boat that he had already ordered, pay entry fees to fish the remaining two MLF Toyota Series Tournaments with hopes to qualify for the championship tournament and save the rest for his family's future.

When asked about his future aspirations, Michael replied, "I just plan to keep things simple, take it day by day and tournament by tournament and just go with the flow to see where it might lead. Qualifying to fish the Toyota Series Championship



and/or the All-American are aspirations, but I will take it a step at a time". When asked if after his big wins, whether he felt pressure to continue to win at these high level tournaments, he said very humbly "no, while I always will work hard, do my homework and fish hard, I feel zero pressure to win, I just go fishing, follow my instincts, follow my plan from practice, make adjustments on the water that I feel will help me catch fish and my competitiveness and confidence will alone produce results but knowing it does not work out that way all of the time and I am OK with that".

Wow, that is so fresh. Many of the young and successful anglers have that very same humble attitude there are however a few that get a big ego, very moody if they do not do well and always have excuses if they don't, most of the young anglers that have had success, have an attitude just like Michael does, if it works out great and if not that's fine so long as I felt I put my work in and the fish just did not cooperate. As Michael said, "fishing is a humbling sport, so take it a day and tournament at a time and embrace the outcome whether good or bad. Success last for a week, not doing good, oh well, there is another tournament coming up next week."

I want to add one final point to this article. Michael has had no fishing mentors. Many anglers have had someone to teach them over the years, Michael is completely self-taught and just works hard to create success.



Michael Harlin's Keys to Success

- Stay ahead of the bass patterns. Where they have been and where they should be going.
- Match the right line, rod and reel to the baits being fished.
- Time on the water and let the fish tell you how and what they want.
- Half the time doing map study off the water, researching on-line videos and half of the time on the water applying and checking the bite based on his research and expanding.
- Know ahead of a tournament what baits will likely win the tournament and stick to those baits, keeping the baits vanilla and simple.
- Know what part of the lake is likely to win the tournament and focusing on that area.
- Check multiple areas of the lake. Practicing for a tournament, Michael takes his boat out and puts back in 2-3 times a day.
- Keep open minded and don't set barriers for yourself.
- Follow your instincts on the water. If you see a bank that looks like it should be holding fish, go fish it.
- Don't always rely on history, sometimes history can back-fire.
- Leverage the best and latest tools available, forward facing sonar, on-line maps, Lake Master, Navionics and Google Earth. Latest baits, rod n reels and fishing line.

Michael's sponsors are Crock-o-Gator Bait Company, FX Custom Rods, BoatWrx, E-Factor Lures and Fitz Fishing Tackle and Supplies.

Michael Harlin's Favorite Baits by Season

Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring/Spawn
Strike King 6XD Crank Bait Powder Blue Back	Crock-o-Gator ½ oz. Zapper Jig Missouri Craw	Megabass Vision 110 Stick Bait, Stained Reaction	E-Factor Lures, 3/4 oz. spinner Bait, White/Chartreuse with Single Colorado Blade
Crock-o-Gator 5/8th oz. Wiese Jig Ozark Craw	Strike King Structure Bug Green Pumpkin	Alabama Rig, Flash Mob Jr. with 3.8" Kietech French Pearl Swim Baits on Crock-o-Gator 1/8oz Head	Crock-o-Gator Neon Black Tube on Crock-o-Gator, Gator Lock Jig Head
	E-Factor Lures ½ oz. Spinner Bait with Willow Blades, Smoked Shad		Spawn Crock-o-Gator ½ oz. Zapper Jig Whacky Rigged 5" Yamamoto Worm in Green Pumpkin or Black n Blue Flake

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About Us

We are a collegiate fishing team at the University of Central Missouri located in Warrensburg, MO. We are a student run organization through UCM. We rely solely on fundraisers and donations to help fund our college fishing season. We currently have a website ucmbass.com to help out with our funding. This website includes many different selections of apparel to help support the team. Here at UCM Bass Fishing, we fish at the highest level when it comes to college fishing. We compete against many other Universities all over the country. Our tournament platforms consist of MLF College Fishing, Bassmaster Carhartt College Series, and ACA Collegiate Fishing. In our 2020 season we were ranked Top 10 in the central conference and top 50 nationally for school of the year points. We also had 2 teams qualify for the 2021 National Championship down at Grand Lake in Grove, OK. We currently have a total of 15 anglers on the team that compete at each of our tournaments throughout the season and we are growing at a great rate as we have 5 new recruits joining our team in the fall of 2021. Our tournaments the team will be attending for the 2021 season include the Mississippi River in La Crosse, WI on July 30th, Lake Dardanelle in Russellville, AR October 1st,



Lake of the Ozarks in Osage Beach, MO October 15th, and Lake Chickamauga in Dayton, TN October 22nd. You can tune in live to all these events on majorleaguefishing.com to help support not only the UCM Fishing Team but the great sport of bass fishing.

Apex Tackle-Blankenship Shooter Jig Head

The Blankenship Shooter is Back! Now made by Apex Tackle Company, the Blankenship Shooter is perfect for dock shooting or any style of crappie jig fishing in general. What makes the Blankenship Shooter unique is the spring hook keeper that you can screw your bait on so that a fish can't pull it off of the hook. Give these heads a try and you will spend more time catching, and less time putting on baits.



Cool Baits-Down Under Underspin

The Cool Baits Underspin has been around as a "garage bait" for a while, mainly held secret by tournament anglers in California, but has now gone mainstream. This is by far the best underspin on the market. It has a perfect head design with a wire hook keeper, and comes in 1/8 oz.-2 oz. and every size in between that you could imagine with the right size of hook to match it. What makes this underspin stand out is its dual ball bearing swivels that allows the blade to turn no matter how slow you are reeling it.



13 Fishing Jaber Jaw Hybrid Crankbait

The 13 Fishing Jaber Jaw Hybrid Crankbait is one of the hottest new baits on the market. What makes this lure different from other square billed crankbaits is that it has a bladed metal bill that swivels and vibrates through the water like a chatterbait. Since the bill is on a swivel, it allows the bait to deflect off of cover erratically to draw strikes, but also ensures that the crankbait runs true without having to adjust the line tie.



NEW
BAITS

Robins Resort Now Robins at the Waters Edge

Robins Resort has been a staple resort at the Lake of the Ozarks for 69 years catering to vacationers and the fishing community.

In December of 2020, the owners of Robins Resort sold the property to WK Holdings, the owners of Remax here at the lake.

According to Bill Morgan, managed Robins for the past 5 years. WK Holdings contracted Bill's company 4-M Management and 4M Vacation Rentals to manage the property and handle vacation reservations for the individual unit owners.

Robins Resort new name is Robins at Waters Edge, is a community of condo units that are now owned by individual owners/investors. Of the 39 units on the Robins property, 35 of the units will still be available for rental.

According to Bill, the property will continue to operate substantially similar to Robins Resort with units available for rent along with boat slips by vacationers and anglers. The individual ownership of the individual units will not affect the tradition operation of the resort. Bill's 4 M Management and Vacation Rentals business will have their office on property and will handle all reservations and maintenance of the property.

Bill indicated that there are improvements underway at the resort including new siding and roofs on all of the buildings. The roads throughout the property are schedule for varying repairs and all new black top. All of the docks have recently been completely rewired to bring up to code.

Rental prices for boat slips and units will remain the same as 2021 and published on the Robins website.

Fishing tournaments will also still be executed at Robins. Most of the 100+ tournaments run from Robins have already committed for their tournaments in 2021.

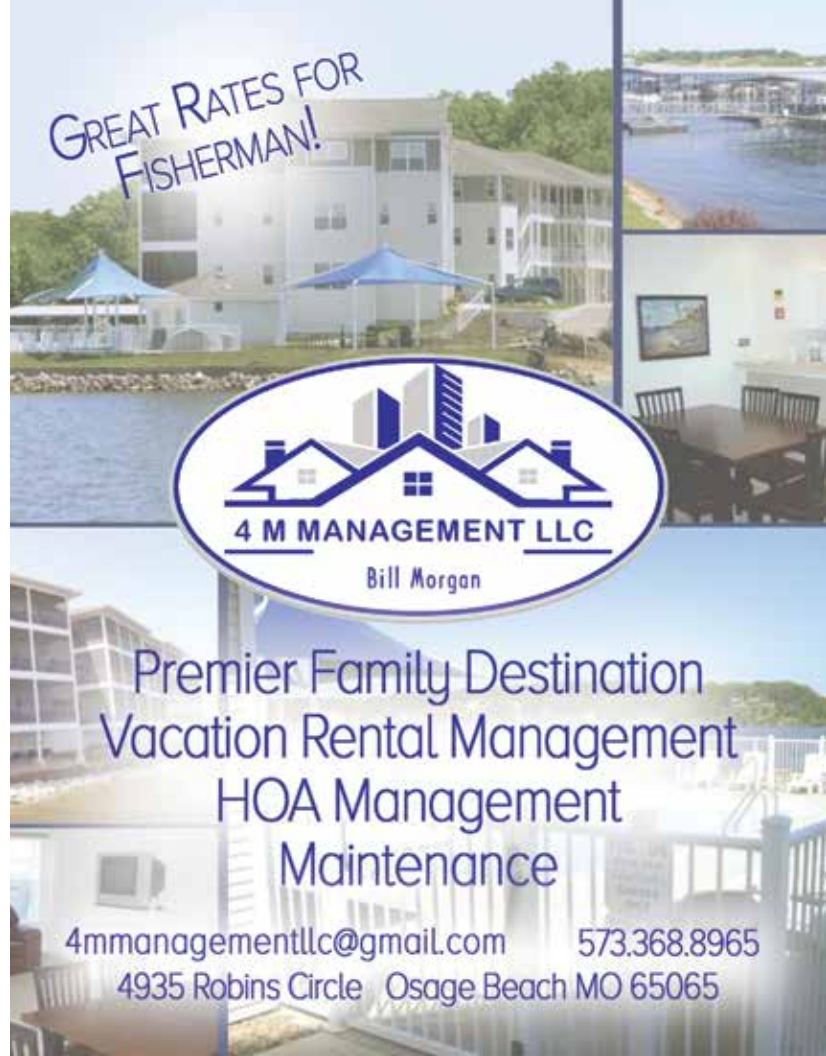
The objective of 4-M Management is to maintain a very clean look and family style atmosphere, a Marriott style experience.

(continued from page 14)

Editor's Note:

While Ortega will manage and operate these locations in the State Park, the Department of Natural Resources will continue to manage and maintain the infrastructure of these locations, including the ramps, parking lots, grounds, set ramp fees and other infrastructure items.

To learn more or to visit Lake of the Ozarks State Park Marina, check out their website LOTOspmarina.com.



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Fitz Fishing Tackle and Supplies

Under New Management



Business partners, Mike Kisner and John Taylor, acquired Fitz Fishing Tackle and Supplies in September of 2020.

After 36 years working as a machinist at the State of Missouri and 10 years working with his wife Barb to build Fitz Fishing into the very successful and number one bait and tackle store in Osage Beach, while Wayne and Barb were not actively wanting to sell the business, an offer was brought to them that they decided made sense for both.

Over the course of time, the Fitzpatrick's were often approached by several entities wanting to acquire the business. However, they really were not interested in selling the business and generally simply did not pursue any of this interest. In addition to having created their dream business they were very cautious that if they were to entertain an offer to buy the business,

the new owners would have to be willing to invest in keeping the brand very strong and willing to keep the store current with all the right products and/or new products.

During Wayne and Barb's time working for the State, they always had their eye out to build a bait and tackle store that had the best products for all species of fish on Lake of the Ozarks. Wayne indicated that there really was not any such tackle stores in the area, other than a handful that had just the basics, worms, jigs, hooks, weights and other more standard fishing products.

Being a machinist, Wayne started to build his own rods and create custom baits. Through word of mouth, they were selling 200-300 rods per year and countless jig, jig heads, spinner baits, etc. Being a successful angler on Lake of the Ozarks for 40 years, Wayne knew the right baits

and tackle needed for successful fishing. Barb and Wayne knew that there was an opportunity for a bait and tackle store with all the right products.

After retiring from the State in 2000, the Fitzpatrick's purchased a building in Osage Beach, the current location at Mace Rd. and Osage Beach Parkway. After cleaning and remodeling for several years, they started to order product and stock the shelves, opening the doors for business in 2011. The Fitz Fishing brand and store has become the most popular bait and tackle store in the area.

Wayne and Barb attribute the success of Fitz Fishing Tackle and Supplies, to help from Ben Verhoef, Dirk Sluyter and others. In addition to Wayne's 40 years of fishing experience, Ben and Dirk helped Wayne and Barb with selection of the right



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baits and tackle for all species. The store was sure to have all the right basic baits and tackle from industry leading companies like Zoom, Strike King, Crock-o-Gator, Omega, Reaction Innovations, Bobby Garland, Lews, St. Croix, Pflueger, Diawa and many others. Wayne said that he was constantly approached by off brand and home-made bait and tackle companies, he would often reject them, resisting the urge to buy the latest fad products, the products he ordered stocked had to have a proven track record.

After 10 years of building a highly successful bait and tackle store, working 6-7 days a week and 10-18 hours a day, it was time for Wayne and Barb to step back from the

daily grind. Wayne, however, wanted to continue to work at the store and interact with his fishing customers. With the pressure and time commitment now off, Wayne enjoys continuing to work at the store. Many of the Fishing customers know and respect Wayne's advice for fishing and Wayne enjoys that interaction. With whatever free time he now has, Wayne plans to do more fishing, taking care of his deer property, hunting deer, squirrel and mushrooms. Fishing and hunting relaxes Wayne, he just totally enjoys being in the outdoors.

The new owners of Fitz Fishing Tackle and Supplies, Michael Kisner and John Taylor are very excited to have acquired the store. As mentioned above, Wayne and Barb were very selective about who they would sell to. They wanted someone that would maintain the quality and integrity of the brand, were avid anglers, would invest to build inventory and willing to expand the inventory of products.

Mike and John both own other businesses and have split residency in St. Louis and Osage Beach. They are at the lake weekly. Both Mike and John are avid anglers and know the right baits and tackle that anglers need and desire for catching varying species on Lake of the Ozarks.

They purchased Fitz Fishing in September of 2020. Since that time, they saw an opportunity to have a second store location near PB2 and seized on that opportunity, acquiring Osage Beach Bait and Tackle. They have done significant renovation to the former Osage Beach Bait and Tackle and opened the doors in that location late last year.

Since the acquisition and opening the second location near PB2, they have increased their inventory of products, brought on additional popular and successful brands, and have added varying hard good products including life jackets, running face saver masks, batteries, trolling motor props and popular apparel, including outerwear for all times of the year.

In the future, they will be expanding their outdoor products including kayaks, camping equipment and additional lines of outdoor apparel.

Due to the challenges that Covid-19 has created in the supply chain, they are aggressively purchasing quantities of products 6-12 months ahead of a fishing seasons, so to be sure they have a quantity of the right baits.

They are looking right now at having expanded business hours based on the season and to accommodate big tournaments





so that anglers can buy products early in the morning before tournament take off and/or after a full day of fishing.

One of the acquisition stipulations was that Wayne Fitzpatrick, Ben Verhoef and Rob Bueltmann, all avid and experienced anglers would remain working for the new ownership. All agreed. As mentioned above,

Wayne will continue to work at Fitz Fishing, Ben will manage the original Fitz Fishing location and Rob will manage the Fitz Fishing 2 location. Mike and John want to be sure that knowledgeable anglers will be on hand working at each location. They have recently added successful anglers Michael Harlin, Brian Maloney, Gary (Coach) Schultz and Leon Dannatt. Mike and John will also be working at the Fitz's locations.

A new concept to the fishing bait and tackle business is bait self-service vending machines for which they have exclusive rights on Lake of the Ozarks. They have acquired several of these units, one for each Fitz locations and the others to be placed at varying fishing friendly resorts, marinas, and key fishing spots around the lake. The vending machines will be stocked with bass, crappie and catfish baits and supplies. The vending units are refrigerated and thus you will be able to purchase minnows and worms as well. The machines will accept cash or credit cards, so you can purchase baits during the off hours when the stores are closed.

Mike and John are currently looking at expansion opportunities to have bait shops

and/or place vending machines around the lake, including around the Gravois, Camdenton, Sunrise Beach and up in the river area of the lake. They are excited to have the opportunity to continue to build upon the Fitz Fishing legacy started by the Fitzpatrick's.





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DEEP SUMMER CRAPPIE

*FISHING FOR CRAPPIE IN THE SUMMER ON LAKE OF THE OZARKS
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After the spawn which is generally the 3rd or 4th week in April it gets HOT! The Ozarks will have long hot 90 degree days which push the crappie down in depths where they are more comfortable. In the early spring the crappie seek warmer water that is shallow and close to the banks in the summer it the exact opposite. They will now seek the cooler water temps in deeper depths. Bottom line is the crappie just want to be in a place that is comfortable to them and with plenty of oxygen.

In the summer catching them deep can require many different styles of fishing. The most common method is vertical line dropping. When vertical fishing you can either fish from deeper docks or from a boat over brush piles. When vertically fishing, I search for 15-30 foot of water. If I'm fishing around docks I personally prefer condo docks and or community docks. These types of docks usually multiple depths and you can work the varying depths, you will find the right depths, these docks generally have plenty of structure and cover for the fish to feel safe. I like the dock to have

about 40 foot of water or more. This gives the crappie options for for the depth they feel most comfortable, while still having the preferred cover over their heads.

For vertical fishing a St. Croix Pan Fishing Series Rod 6-footer is fine. More limber medium to medium light works the best. However, I like my all-purpose crappie rod that I speak of a lot, the 6'6 medium fast action St. Croix Avid X.

A 1/16th ounce jig head with a Bobby Garland Blue Ice Baby Shad is Lake of the Ozarks go to bait to catch Lake of the Ozarks crappie in the summer. When fishing the condo docks vertically, I like to drop down to depths of 30 foot or so and slowly, I mean real slowly reel upward to find what depth the fish want to be in on that given day. This method usually tells you what depth to key in on.

Another great way to fish deep in the summer is trolling crank baits. The most popular way is to troll Bandit Crankbaits usually using just use 1 rod. I will scan a deeper set of docks where the dock front is in 20-25 foot of water and look for crappie

sitting towards the front of the docks with my side imaging electronics. When you find the fish make a long cast with the Bandit 300 series crankbait behind your boat and troll on your trolling motor about 1.8-2.0 mph fishing as tight as you can get to the docks. This method will catch some magnum crappies in the summer months. The chrome blue back or chrome black back Bandits seem to be the hottest colors for trolling.

Finally dock shooting in the summer can be really good as well. Look for the docks that are isolated all by themselves with good depths such as 20-25 foot at least. Do not fear the really deep docks like 60-80 foot because those crappies will be suspended under those as well. A good side imaging unit comes into play big time in these summer months. Don't let the fisherman tell you, that crappie are tough to catch in the summer. While the summer might not be as good as the spring or fall, you can always find and catch nice crappie with no problem on Lake of The Ozarks during the summer with these suggestions.

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GROW FOR IT!

Bassing Bob's Fish-Intel Websites Spawn Online Success for a Growing Field of Entrepreneurial Anglers Across the U.S.

In the spring of 2020, the Bassing Bob team launched a plan to enable others with a passion for fishing, to launch their own monetized websites modeled after BassingBob.com. Little more than a year later, the pool of Fish-Intel website licensees has grown to cover three new lakes – Table Rock, Truman and Grand Lake; plus, plans are underway to launch Fish-Intel websites on lakes across the country including in Texas and Florida.

Designed specifically for fishing enthusiasts, the Fish-Intel prebuilt website platform includes a multitude of tools and resources that make it easy to launch and grow a robust online business regardless of your computer skills.

“With Fish-Intel, license holders can launch their own monetized fishing website with a low startup cost,” Bassing Bob founder Bob Bueltmann said. “In turn, they receive a fully functional website along with a high level of tech support, robust content archives, marketing tools and expert guidance from the same team that developed BassingBob.com.”

Table Rock Lake licensee Eric Prey recently celebrated one year of impressive online growth for TableRockFishingIntel.com. Prey credits Fish-Intel's user-friendly website platform, robust web tools and responsive expert support, for giving him the ability to flourish online while navigating the rough waters of the 2020 pandemic.

“Within six weeks of launching tablerockfishingintel.com I was able to recoup all of my initial investment and have been in profit ever since,” Prey said. “I highly recommend the team at Fish-Intel if you are considering creating a website for your lake, from start to finish they make the process seamless and incredibly easy.”

The Fish-Intel team includes tech professionals, business advisors, and of course, expert anglers who are committed to supporting site owners through the long haul. Fish-Intel license holders also benefit from the marketing expertise garnered

by Bassing Bob through years of building online revenue.

Every Fish-Intel website reflects the same format and content that made BassingBob.com a success. Pre-built with the tools needed to provide anglers with a wealth of in-depth fishing content that includes expert articles and videos; daily and weekly fishing reports; tournament schedules and results; lake maps and graphs, photo galleries and interactive tools; Fish-Intel websites are designed to attract legions of loyal subscribers as well as online advertisers.

Thus far, Fish-Intel's pain-free onboarding process and relatively quick financial returns have proved a winning formula for early adapters. Tyler Mahoney launched Truman Lake Fishing Intel after seeing Eric Prey's success at Table Rock.

“Eric Prey was happy with the site and the support; plus, I had heard about BassingBob.com for years and saw their track record of success at Lake of the Ozarks,” Mahoney said. “No other company offers a total website package like this. It's too costly to develop a system on your own when you can just buy one already completed with the massive support the Fish-Intel team provides.”

Better yet, Mahoney broke even on his initial investment within two months of launching TrumanLakeFishingIntel.com.

“Fish-Intel websites provide numerous opportunities to profit from online revenue,” Bueltmann said. “Our startup package includes materials and advice on selling online advertising, email marketing and sponsorship opportunities that will maximize income potential.”

Learn how you can profit from your passion for fishing with your own Fish-Intel website by visiting fish-intel.com or call Bob Bueltmann 314-575-5545.



No Need to Be a Computer Wiz

Just like starting a boat simply requires turning a key, a Fish-Intel website comes fully functional and ready to launch. The pre-built platform is already equipped with the modules, widgets and functions site owners need to easily post all types of online content including:

- Daily, Weekly and Monthly Fishing Reports
- Tournament Schedules and Results
- News, Articles, Resources
- Photo Galleries and Videos
- Forums
- Online Store
- Integrated e-commerce
- Local Business Directory
- Paid Banner Ads
- Plus, a Fish-Intel website can be customized to feature content relating to the types of fishing and the lake locations relevant to your followers.

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The Two-Pronged Approach for Big Post spawn Bass



As the bass finish up their spawning patterns and the post spawn settles in, the bass population splits. While most of the small males stay in the shallows and protect the fry, the large females retreat to

deeper water to feed and take cover. Most of these bass will situate on hard cover, usually close to the spawning zones. This fact can make these fish very predictable and easy to locate.

Since various groups of bass spawn on different banks and structure types, the fish can situate on many types of structure and cover. For bass that spawn on points, this cover often consists of rocky outcrops and main lake brush piles. Bass that spawn in coves and flats, though, often relate to docks, creek channels, and shallow brush. These bass will stay in the coves for the majority of the post spawn, before they move to their deep summer haunts. To target these bass, I often focus on docks and isolated cover. If there are only one or two brush piles or docks near a prime spawning bank or flat, the majority of the fish in the area will relate to these pieces of cover.

My favorite way to target these fish is with a two-pronged approach. I like to use a large presentation hopped slowly along the bottom like a jig, Texas rig, or Carolina rig, followed up by a faster, moving bait. This approach allows for me to fish slowly and methodically to attract the large, hungry post spawn fish, and use a fast-moving bait to pick up the extra reaction bite from fish that are not willing to take a jig or bottom presentation. I prefer to fish this presentation along the sides of docks, especially those with brush or variants in bottom structure. The bottom bait moves slow and usually draws fish out from under the dock, while the moving bait provides a reaction strike that causes the fish to commit.

When fishing docks with this technique, I prefer to fish a large flipping jig, especially one with a rattle and a very



active trailer. Since the water is usually dark by this time of year, I usually choose black and blue and Texas Craw color patterns. This large bait is usually best at catching the attention of a large bass and gives me the best opportunity of catching a hungry post-spawner.

In shallower water, though, I would make a different choice. When fishing shallow brush and docks, I usually opt for a Texas rig with a large ribbon tail worm or creature bait. The Texas rig stays weedless in heavy cover and can easily draw fish out of the shallow brush. My favorite for the Texas rig is the ribbon tail worm. The Ribbon tail gives a large presentation, but it is still easy for bass to eat, preventing short strikes. Its thin but active profile creates displacement in the water, but it can easily slide in and out of docks and brush.

On deeper docks, I like to use a spinnerbait or square bill to follow up after my jig. In the morning or evening, when fish are shallow, a square bill, such as the Lucky Craft LC DRS, is often the best choice. This is because the square bill's rattling sound, water displacement, and rolling action have the power to pull fish from great distances away while still fishing in the top of the water column. Even though the water may be deep, many bass are suspended below the docks or on brush, making them a perfect target for a crankbait.



When the fish are still active but slightly less aggressive, though, I often follow up with a spinnerbait. For this technique, I usually use a heavy, ¾ ounce, EFactor spinnerbait, as it can easily reach the depths of midday summer bass and has the flash and drawing power to incite a reaction bite. For shallow water post spawners, I tend to adapt the way that I target the bass.



During the early to mid post spawn, when the bass are still close to spawning banks and flats, I will swap my jig out for a light Carolina rig, as it can be more visible to the fish and catches the eye of shallower bass. Because I am fishing in shallow water, I prefer to make the Carolina rig light, with a ½ ounce weight instead of the standard 1 ounce. I like to trail my C-rig with a lizard, brush hog, or any similar creature bait.

For my moving bait follow up, I like to use a Spook or a walking topwater, especially if I am fishing around shallow docks. Walking baits, like the spook, are very good and will bring fish out from under docks and to the surface.



As the post spawn progresses, I use the spook less, only fishing it in the morning and evening and I pick up a larger square bill, bouncing it off of brush, rocks, and any hard cover that I can find.

For fishing with this approach, I prefer to use a medium heavy, fast action, 7'0-7'2 casting rod for fishing my bottom baits and spinnerbaits. This rod is stiff enough to fish heavy baits, but it still has good feel of the bottom allowing you to feel soft, "pickup" bites on plastics. The shorter rod length helps me keep good control over my lure, but it is long enough to make hard, powerful hooksets on jigs and spinnerbaits. The second rod that I use for this technique is a shorter, 6' 10- 7'0, moderate action square bill rod. This rod is optimal for fishing square bills and treble hook topwaters, such as the spook. The slower, moderate action helps drive the treble hook into the fish's mouth and prevents you from pulling the hook at the side of the boat.

When I am fishing the post spawn, this two-pronged approach always produces fish, giving you a chance at the biggest early summer bass in the lake.

Commitment to Excellence is a Formula for Success at Angler's Port Marine

Top-rated boat lines and stellar customer service make the Warsaw-based marine dealer a favorite among weekend anglers and fishing pros *by Deborah Wolfe*

Building strong customer relationships is at the heart of the Angler's Port Marine in Warsaw, MO and it plays a central role in everything from choosing product lines to staffing decisions. Their strong commitment to integrity and exceptional customer service has led Angler's Port to be a top performer in the marine industry.

Founded by Dennis and Linda Morgan in 2000, Angler's Port built a solid reputation for boat sales and service from a small location off 65 HWY south of Warsaw, later moving to their current location on 7 HWY. In 2016, the couple decided it was time to pass the torch and sold the business to Klaus Fink. Under Fink's guidance, the small-town marine dealer rapidly grew to become a major player in the fishing industry.

Don Schlesselman, credits Fink's love of fishing along with 25 years of product development and engineering experience as being key factors in the company's impressive growth.

"As a lifelong fishing enthusiast, Klaus continues the fishing heritage of Angler's Port Marine," Don Schlesselman, Angler's Port Marine sales and marketing director said. "His focus is to create a place where fishermen and boaters can receive the guidance needed to buy the right boat for their lifestyle, and then provide them with exceptional service over the life of their boat."

Consistently ranked as one of Lowe Boats' top-performing dealers in recent years, Angler's Port was recognized as one of Lowe's top three performing dealers in

terms of overall sales in Model Year 2018, with over \$5 million in sales. The accomplishment garnered them the prestigious Lowe's President's Award for that year and they've continued to make impressive sales gains in the years since.

While the Angler's Port team is honored by industry accolades, the opinions of their customers are the top priority.

"We believe in safety first, doing the right thing, and maintaining a friendly, professional environment for our customers," Schlesselman said. "If a buyer lets us know that they are first-time boaters, we will be happy to take them out on the lake for some beginner boating lessons. Regardless of your boating style or level of experience, Angler's Port is dedicated to being there for our customers."

Though they are well-known as a prominent Lowe boat dealer, in recent years, Angler's Port added Phoenix and Caymas boats to their product lines.

"We took on the challenge of bringing Phoenix bass boats into this area because they are designed by fishermen for fishermen," Schlesselman said. "Simply stated, they are the best riding high-performance fiberglass bass boats on the market today."

included a lucrative \$5,000 Phoenix MLF BIG5 Bonus.

He gives Angler's Port customer support and service high marks for keeping his Phoenix bass boat finely tuned for the demands of competitive fishing.

"Angler's Port Marine has a friendly and knowledgeable staff that make the boat buying process a breeze and their service after the sale is top-notch," Newcomb said. "I highly recommend you check out Angler's Port the next time you're in the market for a new or used boat."



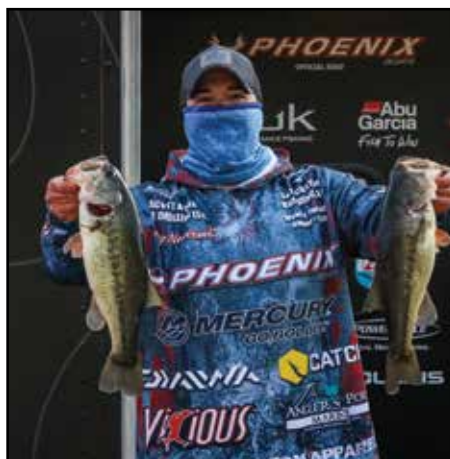
Angler's Port pro staff anglers Brad Jelinik and Brock Reinkemeier.

About Angler's Port Marine

Located at the intersection of Truman Lake and the Lake of the Ozarks, Angler's Port Marine brings together two of the premier fishing and boating lakes in Missouri and gives customers convenient access from both lakes.

In addition to selling Phoenix, Caymas and Lowe boats, Angler's Port carries an extensive line of electronics and boat accessories. Plus, they provide top-rated service from certified technicians highly experienced in servicing all types of boats including Yamaha and Mercury motors, and MERCURISER® I/O engines that require servicing by hard-to-find specialized mechanics.

To learn more about Angler's Port Marine boats, services and events, visit anglersportmarine.com or call (660) 438-4600. Or stop by their showroom at 13979 MO-7, Warsaw, Missouri.



FLW Ozark Division Angler of the Year Andy Newcomb is a loyal Phoenix boat owner and Angler's Port customer. Newcomb recently took the top spot at the Phoenix Bass Fishing League tournament presented by T-H Marine at Lake of the Ozarks. The win landed him \$12,000 that



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TINCUP Whiskey Sharpens its Competitive Edge on-and-off the Water

An expanded roster of pro anglers and major sponsorship deals deepen the brand's commitment to the sport of fishing. *by Deborah Wolfe*

In 2019, TINCUP Whiskey announced the inception of the TINCUP Professional Fishing Team with the signing of fishing legend Dion Hibdon as pro-angler and brand ambassador. They continued to build on the Hibdons' rich fishing legacy by signing Dion's son Lawson, in 2020. And now, the highly regarded mountain whiskey distillery has raised the stakes with the addition of four notable anglers to their pro lineup. With combined career earnings of more than \$1.4 million, new TINCUP team members Seth Feider, Matthew Robertson, Zack Birge and Kristine Fisher will no doubt ramp up the competition on the water.

Since its launch, the TINCUP Professional Fishing Team has become a pivotal part of the company's outdoor-focused marketing drive. Named after Tincup, an old mining town set on the Western Slope of Colorado, TINCUP Whiskey is a celebration of the rugged spirit of the Colorado mountain lifestyle and enjoying the great outdoors.

Promoting the earthy spirits comes easy to Dion Hibdon who learned the ins and outs of public relations by watching his legendary father Guido greet legions of fans.

"TINCUP Whiskey is all about fishing and the outdoor lifestyle, and it's great to be out promoting them," Hibdon said. "Getting to know fans and showing our appreciation is what it's all about."

Expanding the dynamic father-son Hibdon duo to a roster of six powerhouse pros is sure to make the TINCUP Pro Fishing Team hard to beat.

"All of the anglers bring something different to the team and appeal to every kind of angler," said Luke Foli, Proximo Spirits area manager. "We at TINCUP feel very lucky to have these anglers on our team and look forward to everything that they will accomplish in the near future."

You can follow the progress of the TINCUP Professional Fishing Team on the Tin Cup Whiskey Facebook page and by following Dion and Lawson Hibdon on Facebook. Learn more about TINCUP Whiskey at tincupwhiskey.com.



New in 2021: TINCUP Signs on as Official Sponsor of Bass Pro Tour, Exclusive Whiskey of Major League Fishing BIG5 and B.A.S.S. sponsor.

Furthering their support of recreational and tournament fishing, TINCUP inked a major sponsorship deal with Major League Fishing (MLF) in March 2021.

According to a recent MLF press release, the agreement ensures that TINCUP will be showcased across multiple MLF tournament circuits and through exclusive digital content, as well as an official sponsor of the Bass Pro Tour and the

Exclusive Whiskey of the MLF BIG5. TINCUP, The Mountain Whiskey, is proud to support the growing outdoor sport of fishing and MLF given the dynamic and challenging nature of the sport, as well as the powerful

bonds that are formed between participants in its pursuit.

"This sponsorship agreement reinforces the marketability that professional bass fishing offers," MLF President and CEO Jim Wilburn said in the release. "The popularity of our sport continues to grow, and the involvement of the TINCUP whiskey brand reinforces this. The passion and loyalty of fishing fans in this country

TINCUP American Whiskey is a blend of two great American whiskeys, each aged in #3 charred oak barrels. "High rye" bourbon, distilled and aged in Indiana, is blended with a small amount of Colorado single malt whiskey. These whiskeys are then cut with Rocky Mountain water and bottled in Colorado. The result is a smooth, yet bold, whiskey fit for enjoying with friends in the great outdoors. TINCUP Whiskey is available nationally in three expressions: American Whiskey (Bourbon plus Colorado Single Malt), Straight Rye and 10-Year Aged. Learn more about TINCUP Mountain Whiskey at tincupwhiskey.com.



Whiskey-loving fishing fans can now purchase outdoor gear from the TINCUP online merch store. Just like their whiskey, TINCUP apparel has been curated to be worn in celebration of your favorite outdoor activities, whether they be fishing, hiking, skiing or simply sitting by a campfire enjoying a glass of TINCUP Mountain Whiskey. Check out the merch store online at tincupwhiskey.com.

is something that TINCUP recognizes and plans to embrace. MLF is the unquestionable leader in the industry, and this alliance solidifies our commitment to bringing the sport to mainstream America.”

TINCUP will be prominently featured at all Bass Pro Tour, Tackle Warehouse Pro Circuit, Toyota Series and Phoenix Bass Fishing league tournaments and will be showcased with the TINCUP Whiskey Winning Moment, which takes place at each Pro Circuit tournament. The Mountain Whiskey will also be seen across MLF’s various media platforms including MajorLeagueFishing.com, the “MLF NOW!” live stream broadcasts, the MLF social media outlets and MLF Bass Fishing magazine.

TINCUP is also slated to be the presenting sponsor of 30 Bass Fishing League events during the 2021 tournament season.



Dion Hibdon with Luke Foli



New to the TINCUP Pro Fishing Team in 2021 are Seth Feider, Zack Birge, Kristine Fischer and Matt Robertson.





A bold and smooth 90 proof rye whiskey, made of 95% Mid-Western Rye & 5% Barley. TINCUP® Rye is distilled and aged for three years, then cut to proof with pure Rocky Mountain water.

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