



## *2017 Northern Division Tournament Recap*

### **LAKE WACO**

9/23/17

By Jon Griffin

### **TEAM JOE LEE/MIKE THURMAN LEAVE ZERO DOUBT**

Longtime team partners **Joe Lee & Mike Thurman** completed their 4<sup>th</sup> team/AOY title by winning the season's final event of the year Saturday, Sept 23 on Lake Waco. With only a slim 2 point lead over **Brandon Wooddell** going into Waco, **Joe & Mike** left no doubt as they sacked their 3 fish limit @ 12.01, including a 3 plus pound kicker caught in the final minutes within view of the Speegleville ramp & weigh-in location. **Joe & Mike** had an amazing run 7 of 8 events in the top 10, including their only win of the season in the final tournament. **Brandon Wooddell** needed to beat **Lee/Thurman** by at least 2 places to tie for the AOY, & 3 places to win, but finished the event in 18<sup>th</sup>, his worst finish of the year after posting 6 top 10 finishes in the 8 event series. The big movers were **Gene Collins/Daryl Hester** who's 4<sup>th</sup> place finish with 3 @ 8.19 moved them into 2<sup>nd</sup> overall for the season. The Lake Waco tournament combined the CCBC Northern & Central Divisions, with 2<sup>nd</sup> place going to Central Division anglers **Bob Reed/Mike Sedillo**. **Doyle Ray** took 3<sup>rd</sup> by hiring a fill-in partner "hitman" **Al Kohutek**, while 5<sup>th</sup> place went to father & son team **Brent & beardless Luke Stanford** with 3 & 8.08, including a nice kicker @ 4.46, the tourney's 2<sup>nd</sup> big bass.

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mike Thurman/Joe Lee	12.01 lbs	\$406
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bob Reed/Mike Sedilla	10.07 lbs	\$236
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Doyle Ray/Al Kohutek	8.86 lbs	\$141
4 <sup>th</sup>	Gene Collins/Daryl Hester	8.19 lbs	\$95
5 <sup>th</sup>	Brent & Luke Stanford	8.08 lbs	\$66

Big Bass Gene Collins

5.57 lbs \$135

## **CONDITIONS**

Clear skies, winds SSE 6-12 mph; air temp 72-94; water temp/conditions slightly stained 79 degrees, rocks & wood, zero grass.

## **SCATTERSHOOTING**

Start calling him **Gene "BIG BASS" Collins** as he caught the BB for the 2<sup>nd</sup> tourney in a row...big thanks to the couple handling the Speegleville Park Ramp for opening early, best location on the lake for larger clubs...why was **Brandon Clayton** NOT wearing his Aggie hat?? May be why his luck ran out chasing the big ones, word is they only caught their 3<sup>rd</sup> with minutes left in the tourney...Team **Fabby/Segovia** tied **Team Griffin/Johnston** for 6<sup>th</sup> place end of year points, so 2 teams edged into the Top 6??...great year **for John Allen** fishing with both his son **Sam & Shane Dupree** ending the season in 9<sup>th</sup>....and a great top 10 finish for **Tim Casbeer/Mike Grove**, although they would win the title for their "non-bass" tournament catches...big thanks to **James & Eric Cook** for acting as tournament weighers & improving our weigh scales...and thanks to **Charley David's** friend/partner **Les Smith** for assisting the Waco weigh-in...another awesome season is in the books, next up is the annual banquet October 21<sup>st</sup> @ Cowboy Church of Ellis County in Waxahachie!

## **LAKESIDE DEVO**

**Tim Casbeer** shared his testimony/story of growing up in the church with both parents ordained ministers, so he felt God has always watched over him. Tim started by sharing one scripture...actually part of one verse.

John 3:16, For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son.

Tim's ensuing story explains the partial verse. Tim shared that he & his wife had two great sons, Clinton & Blake. June of 2015 Tim's younger son, 14 year old Blake, was a passenger riding in a truck & was killed then their vehicle ran off the road & struck a tree. Their truck was run off the road by another driver as a result of road rage. Tim & his wife Crystal were present when the ventilator was pulled & young Blake breathed his last breath on this earth. While Blake was a Christian, & his parents knew without a doubt he was now in heaven, despair & anger built with Tim. Tim admitted he always loved God, always believed God would take care of his family. But for weeks Tim's anger was pointed to God, he continued to cry out "why?"

**John 3:16, For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son.**

Over time that partial verse reminded Tim that while he had two sons, God had ONE, and He gave His ONLY Son to save all of humanity.

A few months ago the trial included the arraignment for the man responsible for Blake's death. He faced up to 25 years in prison, or probation. Tim was asked to speak at the trial. He was ready to unleash on the man, & spill out over 2 years of pent up anger on the man. But after Tim & his wife prayed, and prayed, & prayed, on the stand through tears, Tim publicly forgave him. Tim realized this man was a father of children, had a life ahead of him, and felt that forgiveness ultimately was the only answer.

**Romans 10:9** And I know that God works for the good of those who love Him, & are called according to His purpose.

Following Blake's death, Tim & Crystal donated his organs. They later were notified that a 12 year old girl, with just days to live, received Blake's heart, and lives to this day. Tim also received a letter from the man who's rage killed Blake. He thanked Tim immensely for the forgiveness given to him. He also told Tim that this experience had pushed him to a relationship with Christ, he was now actively a part of a church, & had become a Christian. Tim gave up one of his 2 sons. Now 2 others live. Christ gave up his only Son, now everyone has the opportunity to live. Tim now knows why Blake was taken that day, & knows he will see him again soon!

**John 3:16**, For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that WHOEVER believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.

Jon Griffin closed us in prayer

## Grapevine

8/26/17

By Jon Griffin

### TEAM COOK GETS WACKY FOR WIN ON GRAPEVINE

Father & son team **James & Eric Cook** credited the wacky rig in the marina for helping catch their winning limit Saturday at the Cowboy Church Bass Club event on a cloudy & unseasonably cool Lake Grapevine. No boat troubles this time for the **Cooks** who included 2 overs in their winning sack. Lake Grapevine is a slot lake, meaning only fish 14" & under & 18" & over can be retained. And that also includes a full limit of 5 overs is legal on the lake. CCBC awards cash payouts to the top 5 teams, and places 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> were separated by less than 3 ounces! 2<sup>nd</sup> place along with big bass went to **Gene Collins/Daryl Hester**. 3<sup>rd</sup> place to **Heath Harper/Brandon Clayton**, 4<sup>th</sup> to solo basser **Doyle Ray**. And 5<sup>th</sup> place to Granddad & Grandson, **James "Jim" Fabby/Jonah Segovia**, their 4<sup>th</sup> top 10 finish of the year.

1 <sup>st</sup>	James & Eric Cook	7.55 lbs	\$346
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gene Collins/Daryl Hester	7.13 lbs	\$201
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Brandon Clayton/Heath Harper	7.11 lbs	\$121
4 <sup>th</sup>	Doyle Ray	7.04 lbs	\$81
5 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Fabby/Jonah Segovia	6.54 lbs	\$56
Big Bass	Gene Collins	5.31 lbs	\$115

### SCATTERSHOOTING

You might notice **Doyle Ray** fishing out of a “new” Nitro-he recently bought it from **Al Kohutek’s brother**, who won it several years ago by winning his bass club season championship...cool weather & light rain was welcomed indeed by everyone fishing....noticed James **Cook** had a rain suit, while son **Eric** did not....while neither **Tim Casbeer** nor **Mike Grove** brought theirs...**Jon Griffin’s** cranking battery keeps going dead, the battery tests good, but for the 3<sup>rd</sup> tourney of the year, I was glad to have my jumper cables in the boat...double honorable mention goes out to a couple of teams-new member fishing solo, Officer **Kevin Goodman** took 6<sup>th</sup>; and a nice points day for father/son team **Albert & Matt Love** in 7<sup>th</sup>...did I hear that **Brandon Clayton** is getting married??...and is it true that they are registered @ Cabela’s & BPS??...the bass were a biting Saturday on Grapevine with many teams reporting 25+ combined fish catches....

## NEXT UP

2 important notes regarding our next & season final tournament on Lake Waco

1-Baylor is hosting Oklahoma University for a football game that day. Therefore lodging in Waco will be both difficult to find & expensive!

2-The Angler of the Year title is up for grabs. Team **Thurman/Lee hold** a slim 2 point lead over **Brandon Wooddell**; 10 points over **Clayton/Harper**; 12 points over last year’s champs **Team Collins**; & 13 points over **Collins/Wheat**.

## LAKESIDE DEVO

Club member **John Allen** shared the devotional by sharing his story. John is presently in full time ministry as an associate pastor/youth pastor @ Victory Baptist Church in Tarrant County. But by his own admission, that was not the path he ever dreamed he’s ultimately be on. He shared about being born in Germany to parents who were not necessarily Christian. When John was 9 years old, his father died. That led to a bit of a spiral for young John as he navigated through a somewhat tumultuous next 5-7 years, in & out of trouble. Basically living a sinful, un-focused, un-faithful life. Fortunately, his mother found comfort through faith in God, and his shared scripture remains a guiding force:

**Acts 3:25** And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.'

This directive was made not only to Abraham thousands of years ago, but to us individually as well. As John shared so simply-if you honor God, He WILL honor you, your children, and your lineage. It’s His covenant, His promise. John has seen this as now he is a youth minister, and his brothers are ministers as well! At the age of 24, John’s girlfriend left him unexpectedly. John was crushed, but found comfort in **Isaiah 43:18-19**:

**Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not see it??**

John fully realizes through his life that God made a covenant...a promise to ALL. We are saved by grace through faith in Christ alone. It’s a promise for us all to accept.

**Joe Crouch** closed us in prayer.

# Joe Pool Tournament

7/22/17

By Jon Griffin

# BRYAN & KYLE BARFIELD HIT THE BRIDGE FOR THE JOE POOL WIN

The longtime CCBC series team of father & son **Bryan & Kyle Barfield** topped 28 teams with a 3 fish limit @ 9.25 including the big bass @ 7.08 for the victory on a sweltering Joe Pool Lake Saturday July 22<sup>nd</sup>. While it's believed that the North Lake Ridge Parkway bridge yielded the fish for the Barfields, it cannot be 100% confirmed. Kyle actually caught an over in the 6-7 lb range around 9am, but it was Dad Bryan that landed the 7.08 later after 12 noon that was ultimately weighed in. I'm guessing now it's Kyle who is the "dip-net-extraordinaire"! Club rules only allow one "over" per team on slot lakes, with the Joe Pool slot @ under 14 inches and over 21 inches. Drop shots & shaky heads were the main lures, and the team reportedly would have weighed in around 22 pounds for their five best had it not been a slot lake. They also found early schooling fish to bag an early limit.

While points leader Brandon Wooddell slipped with only 2 fish weighed in, the team of **Mike Thurman/Joe Lee** roared into the overall lead with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish with 3 @ 6.58 including the only other "over" caught in the tournament. It was great to see team **Kirk & Dondy Markgraf** back after a few years away from the club as they took 3<sup>rd</sup> with 3 @ 3.69. **Gene Collins & Daryl Hester** teamed up for 4<sup>th</sup> with 3.35, and an awesome points day for team **Randall & Kel Collins** who move back up to 3<sup>rd</sup> in the overall standings with 3 @ 3.15. On a personal note, never have I ever found JP to fish tougher than last Saturday, 8 good teams only managed to weigh in 2 fish.

1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Bryan &amp; Kyle Barfield</b>	9.25	\$421
2 <sup>nd</sup> <b>Joe Lee/Mike Thurman</b>	6.58	\$236
3 <sup>rd</sup> <b>Kirk &amp; Dondy Markgraf</b>	3.69	\$137
4 <sup>th</sup> <b>Gene Collins/Daryl Hester</b>	3.35	\$91
5 <sup>th</sup> <b>Randall &amp; Kel Collins</b>	3.15	\$64
Big <b>Bass-Barfields</b>	7.08	\$130

## CONDITIONS

Water: Slightly stained, 86-89 degrees; Wind/Sky: SSE 6-8 mph, clear to partly cloudy, air temp 83-101 degrees. Lake: very little grass/hydrilla, FULL

## SCATTERSHOOTING

Was the heat & high pressure the reason the bass bite was sloooooow for most?...nice "new" rig for the **Barfields**, Thursday they picked up their sharp Ranger boat with a 250 Merc & Powerpoles & christened it with a victory....word is **Bryan** took **Kyle's** father in law back out Sunday & caught ANOTHER over...what, does it come with air-conditioning as well??...honorably mention goes out to **Ben Griffin/Steve Reynolds** who took 6<sup>th</sup>, one spot out of the money...lures catching money limits included drop shots, shaky heads, c-rigs, Tx Rigs shallow & big worms...when it it too hot to fish????...**James & Eric**

**Cook** had starter problems on the lake, forcing the team to hitch a ride with **Jeff Harrington**, then Harrington went back out to tow the Triton back to Loyd Park...and big thanks to **James Cook**, his Wingstop restaurants provided 400 wings with all the sides for a post tourney feast. ALSO, James filled in for **Charley David** as Tournament Director which he realized is a massive amount of work!...points leader **Charley David** missed the tournament as he was in Oklahoma celebrating his father's birthday...welcome to our newest member **Kevin Goodman**, an Irving police officer who did not weigh in his small bag of 3; hey Kevin, do you realize that 3.15 was in the money??...a bit more than 2 pounds separated 3<sup>rd</sup> from 23<sup>rd</sup> meaning every ounce counts in the slot lake events...and speaking of which, our next event is on slot lake Grapevine August 26<sup>th</sup>. Grapevine's slot is 14-18, so we should see more overs weighed in, with 2 tournaments to go in the 8 event season series there is still a shot at the AOY for 10+ teams!

## LAKESIDE DEVO

**Jon Griffin** filled in last second for a late speaker cancelation, but timing was that Jon was prepared. He had just returned from a week with the First Baptist Irving Youth Mission Trip in New Orleans. Jon shared a little about the trip that he learned. Our trip included our church separated into 4 groups, with 3 groups serving in recreation, VBS, & homeless ministry. While Jon's group served as the construction group in the still devastated upper & lower 9<sup>th</sup> Ward area so badly affected by Hurricane Katrina 12 years ago. I learned that a mission trip is really "mission training", as we are all on mission, not just a group for a week out of the summer, but 365 days a year. So what is "mission"? It's our individual responsibility to share the Gospel. And it's directly from the Great Commission, Jesus' last command to us before His ascension.

### **Matthew 28:19-20**

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

And as most all of us who feel completely unworthy and unprepared, just how do WE do this? Very simply-allow God to speak through you through his word. For HE saves people, we are simply his tools to farm the seed.

### **Romans 10-9-13**

"That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame. For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile, the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

So you might ask, why does God need to be me to spread this good news? Why not the pastor, or some super-Christian? **Verses 14-15** explain.

"How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news".

It's our job to share the way to salvation. We are ALL commanded to be on mission. For the non-Christian hearing this right now, now is the time. It will be the best decision you'll every make. Your eternal life is depending on it!

**Joe Lee** closed us in prayer.

## **Winnsboro Tournament 6/24/17**

By Jon Griffin

### **TEAM CROUCH CELEBRATES JOE'S 70<sup>TH</sup> WITH THE VICTORY**

The husband & wife team of Joe & Tina Crouch teamed up for the 1<sup>st</sup> place win Saturday on Lake Winnsboro. While it was it Joe's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, Tina gave him a nice birthday present by landing the team's big bass of 5.02 lbs. Ironically, it was caught on the white spinnerbait that Joe gave Tina. 2 words-community property. No doubt Joe is an off-shore master, & he & Tina proved it by bringing in their post-spawn winning sack of 11.95 lbs. A mere .30 pounds behind was the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team of James Fabby/Jonah Segovia @ 11.65, their 3<sup>rd</sup> top 10 of the year. 3<sup>rd</sup> place went Brandon Wooddell/George Walker with 3 fish @ 10.02, their 3<sup>rd</sup> top 5 of the year, and now the overall points leaders. Jon Griffin/Pierce Johnston took 4<sup>th</sup> with 3@9.84 and the 5<sup>th</sup> place sack of 3@ 9.73 was caught by Bryan & Kyle Barfield.

1 <sup>st</sup> Joe & Tina Crouch	11.95	\$376
2 <sup>nd</sup> James Fabby/Jonah Segovia	11.65	\$218
3 <sup>rd</sup> Brandon Wooddell/George Walker	10.02	\$131
4 <sup>th</sup> Jon Griffin/Pierce Johnston	9.84	\$88
5 <sup>th</sup> Bryan & Kyle Barfield	9.73	\$61
Big Bass Mahone	5.28	\$125

### **CONDITIONS**

Water: Slightly stained, 82-85 degrees; Wind/sky: NNW 3-10 mph, overcast, post frontal, 73-79 degrees;  
Lake: Native emergent vegetation, maidencane, cutgrass, FULL.

### **SCATTERSHOOTING**

25 teams, 24 limits...big storms rolled in the overnight before as a result of Tropical Storm Cindy, but God truly graced us with no rain during the event & unseasonably cool temperatures...in fact, upon arriving to the ramp in the 5am hour, the huge storm with lightening was clearly visible, but south of the lake & moving south, the weather could not have been more perfect...for a free ramp we could not ask for a better launch & parking area, no doubt Wood County has been working hard to continually improve the

area...7 teams had sacks in the 9 pound range, a mere .66 lbs separated 3<sup>rd</sup> place from 10<sup>th</sup> place...Pierce Johnston lost a \$300 rod & reel overboard, after over 10 minutes of trying to snag it, we virtually gave up, but returned for one last ditch try and were SUCCESSFUL...Gene Collins caught a snake, & partner Daryle Hester refused to lip it...Brandon Clayton's 4 year old son, Hunter, endured another 9 hours in the boat for the 2<sup>nd</sup> tourney of the year with partner Heath Harper...and for the record, George Walker has not retired...the tight AOY race continues now with 3 more tournaments left in the year including 2 slot lakes, next up Joe Pool with after tourney wings courtesy of James Cook's Wingstop restaurants!

## **LAKESIDE DEVO**

Randall Collins shared his testimony opening with the statement "have you ever considered flying into the Gulf of Mexico?" Randall shared about his life growing up in rural east Texas as the middle child of 2 brothers including fishing partner Kel. Typical childhood experience with a country upbringing, Godly parents and church was a vital part of their lives. Living next to a small airport and a father that flew small planes, Randall caught the flying bug early. Early on Randall bought a small plane & began flying, soon getting married at age 19, started a family and began the American dream. After his wife grew weary of raising small children she felt compelled to go back to work, eventually becoming an LVN at the local hospital, thus working long hours away from family. Randall admitted it was at this time that life became so busy that church attendance began to lapse. And as he shared, that's when the devil moved in. The separation then caused Randall to sway from his marriage, and an affair occurred. She left, took the children, then Randall felt very guilty, even possibly considering "flying his plane into the Gulf." After attempts at reconciliation and counseling which proved to be futile, Randall, who is a delivery employee at UPS, climbed into his UPS truck for the day's work. Radios are not installed in UPS trucks, so Randall had a small radio that this particular morning came on with renowned preacher/pastor Dr. Tony Evans. He switched the station, still Dr. Evans...switched it multiple times, every time Dr. Tony Evans. And the sermon topic? Divorce. Randall learned through Evans teaching that he cannot fix his wife, he needs to focus on mending himself. It was truly an eye-opening moment, still to this day for Randall. He realized the HE was forgiven. Randall shared the following meaningful verses from his own experience.

### **1 Corinthians 10:13**

**And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted[b] beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted,[c] he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.**

### **Acts 3:19**

**Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord**

Randall admits his sin, has repented, and now knows without a doubt, he is forgiven. He's now happily married to a wonderful, loving wife Elaina, has reconciled with his children, and is back to actively pursuing Christ at Triple S Cowboy Church in Palestine.

Jon Griffin closed us in prayer.



# Cedar Creek Tournament

## May 27, 2017

By Jon Griffin

### CHARLEY DAVID & MASON DAWSON TAKES THEIR WIN ON THE ROCKS

Charley David stacked his team this tournament with Midlothian Heritage sophomore Mason Dawson to team up for the "W" Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> on a busy Cedar Creek Lake. Just 2 weeks previously, Charley captained Mason's high school fishing team to a solid sack. And as Charley predicted, where he found rocks, that's where the bass would be. Their 13.62 bag was anchored by a nice 5.97 largemouth, with jigs and crankbaits hooking their winning limit of 3 bass. Brian Hopkins once again used his lifetime knowledge of Cedar Creek along with new partner Jarrod Coker fishing shaky heads for a solid 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish @ 13 pounds even. Perhaps the hottest team of late are Brandon Clayton & Heath Harper who took 3<sup>rd</sup> with 11.49. Brandon's frog failed him, but partner Heath took up the slack with the keeper catches. 4<sup>th</sup> place was awarded to Randy Jenkins fishing solo, who also caught the tournament big bass @ 8.09 within the 1<sup>st</sup> hour of the event. 5<sup>th</sup> place went to Mike Thurman & Joe Lee with 8.52. Joe & Mike has been the most consistent team thus far this season, now in 1<sup>st</sup> place overall.

1 <sup>st</sup> Charley David/Mason Dawson	13.62	\$436
2 <sup>nd</sup> Brian Hopkins/Jarrold Coker	13.00	\$254
3 <sup>rd</sup> Heath Harper/Brandon Clayto	11.49	\$152
4 <sup>th</sup> Randy Jenkins	11.11	\$102
5 <sup>th</sup> Mike Thurman/Joe Lee	8.52	\$71
Big Bass Randy Jenkins	8.09	\$145

### CONDITIONS

Water: Slightly stained, 74-77 degrees; Wind/Sky: Overcast, SSW 10-16 mph, humid; air temp 73-84. Lake: Native emergent grasses, FULL

### SCATTERSHOOTING

While some may have scoffed at a Memorial Weekend tourney, CCBC may have been the only tournament happening on the lake, a true rarity on Cedar Creek...Brandon Clayton's 4 year old son handled the entire day with Dad & fishing partner Heath, even not complaining when the team made the long run all the way up north...speaking of "Hunters", Andy Wright fished with his own young "Hunter" Jackson, finishing 8<sup>th</sup> @

8.38...Jerrod Coker, Brian Hopkins' friend & partner fished his very 1<sup>st</sup> tournament of his life, and helped win 2<sup>nd</sup> place...lure variety continued with jigs, crankbaits, shaky heads, brushhogs, frogs, chatterbait, & the Thurman/Lee staple grub...one team counted 7 snakes...Cookie caught a grinnel on a bed...Harrington spotted jet skiers & wake boarders in tiny-narrow "Coal Mine Creek" later in the day....speaking of those who enjoy the water in that way, we fishermen get up A LOT EARLIER than you, but when they did role out of bed around 10:30am, Cedar Creek got mighty rolling & busy, but everyone appeared safe...Jim Fabby continues to show his "Marine Grit", fishing fresh off back surgery for crying out loud...and speaking of Jim, he & grandson/partner Jarred Weient won the \$100 drawing.

## LAKESIDE DEVO

Waiting

"Rest in the Lord and wait patiently on Him" Psalm 37:7

Jon Griffin shared the difficult prospect of waiting for all of us. Waiting at the doctor's office, waiting in traffic, waiting at a restaurant. Fact is, we all hate to wait. Because it involves patience. Which ironically is a "fruit of the spirit". So what does it really mean to "wait on the Lord?" It does NOT mean standing still and doing nothing like Mom directed us when we were young. The word "wait" in the original Hebrew means **"to be bound like a rope or twisted or bonded together."** That means when we "wait", we are patiently bound with Christ TOGETHER, we're bonded, we are connected with His strength. Waiting on God is tough, but God's timing is always best for us and for others. Waiting on the Lord involves the confident expectation of a positive result in which we place a great hope-a hope that can only be realized by the actions of God. It's based on knowledge & trust. Those who wait on the Lord do not lose heart in their prayers:

1 John 5:14 "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us."

Isaiah 30:18 "For the Lord is a God of justice, blessed are all those who wait for Him"

Waiting on the Lord renews our strength. Prayer and bible study and meditating upon God's Word are essential.

Isaiah 40:31 "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Joe Crouch closed us in prayer.

# Ray Roberts Tournament

## 4/29/17

### CLAYTON/HARPER FROG FOR FIRST ON RAY BOB

Brandon Clayton & Heath Harper drilled the field by boating a 3 fish limit of 13.79 including the tournament's big bass of 8.32 to win the 3<sup>rd</sup> event of the Cowboy Bass Club Northern series Saturday on Lake Ray Roberts. The team barely burned any fuel as they launched at the Sanger Access Ramp, then caught all their keepers in and around the

Ray Roberts Marina directly next door. Brandon Clayton threw his signature hollow body frog on 50 lb braid 99% of his casts to help partner Heath boat his team's fish, including the big bass.

Charley David fished "baby-doll-less". That means wife Donna stayed home out of the winds, yet Charley took 2<sup>nd</sup> place throwing primarily a white spinnerbait. Gene Collins & Daryl Hester posted their 2<sup>nd</sup> top 5 in a row with 3<sup>rd</sup> including a 4.86 kicker. 2 time AOY & Lake Vilbig legend Brandon Wooddell fished "solo/George-less" for a 4<sup>th</sup> place sack @ 8.52 launching out of Jordan. And 5<sup>th</sup> place went to David Lewis & self proclaimed "Dip-net Extraordinaire" Bryan Barfield with 3 @ 7.19 catching their limit out of Buck Creek.

Extreme north winds forced club leadership to move the tournament up one week from last Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. This turned out to be a very smart move, as conditions, although very windy, were much more favorable & fishable with a southerly wind. The Lord definitely gave us favor as every forecast called for rain, wind, hail & cool weather. While the wind was definitely in the 15-25 mph range, not a drop of rain fell.

1 <sup>st</sup> Heath Harper/Brandon Clayton	13.79	\$225
2 <sup>nd</sup> Charley David	9.33	\$131
3 <sup>rd</sup> Gene Collins/Daryl Hester	8.62	\$79
4 <sup>th</sup> Brandon Wooddell	8.52	\$53
5 <sup>th</sup> David Lewis/Kyle Barfield	7.19	\$37
Big Bass Brandon Clayton	8.32	\$75

## CONDITIONS

Water: Slightly stained, surprisingly clear 68-74 degrees; Wind/Sky: SSW 15-25 gusty, mostly cloudy with some sun, frontal, air temp 74-86 degrees; Lake: emergent pond weed, lotus, milfoil, limited submerged hydrilla, FULL.

## SCATTERSHOOTING

Horrible predicted forecast conditions resulted in the lowest number of entries in 10 years, BUT do know this, Lake Ray Roberts is comfortably fishable with strong south winds....a poll of the 15 teams showed an even number spread out between all of the southern access ramps including Sanger Access Ramp, Pond Ramp, Ray Roberts Marina, Isle Du Bois, Jordan & Buck Creek...it would be a safe bet to say that the CCBC consisted of 90% of the fishermen on 26,000 acre Ray Roberts....after launching @ Buck, Team Griffin/Johnston never saw another boat until 1pm...The Collins brothers drove nearly 200 miles from Palestine to weigh in a single swimmer, but they keep on smiling!...Clayton's BB @ 8.32 was not big enough to top the year's BB of 8.76 caught by Doyle Ray at Athens, but that 8.32 was no doubt fatter 2 months ago...Mike Thurman/Joe Lee posted their second 6<sup>th</sup> place finish in a row, just one spot out of the money, course they did take the Classic top prize \$\$ just 2 weeks ago...winning lures continues to be a mixed bag of speed craws, top waters, frogs, pop-ars, beavers, sinkos, baby brush hogs, and Charley David's white spinnerbait...our post weigh-in drawing for non-money winners of \$100 went to James Fabby & Grandson/partner Jonah Segovia, courtesy of Al Kohutek. BTW, while not fishing this year, Al continues maintaining communications/website/FB/points data/social media role, and paid our web hosting annual fee himself, thus the giveaway courtesy of good 'ole Al...leaving Sanger heading south, I-35 was backed up & stopped, forcing some to go around via I-35 W. Griffin then caught 114 east back to Irving & saw John Allen's Suburban & wheel-less boat trailer on the side of the road. A call to John revealed a wheel bearing issue, which he & his partner Shayne Dupree fixed quickly. BTW, John Allen shared that he always keeps extra bearings with him, so if anyone has an issue at the ramp, bet he can help (if he remembered the grease as well!)

## REMEMBER

Brandon Wooddell has 2017 CCBC t-shirts to sell. Some anglers have paid but have not picked up. Find Brandon @ Cedar Creek in May-white Chevy Truck/White Ranger boat. ALSO, Charley David has new CCBC camo hats, \$15.

## LAKESIDE DEVO

Jon Griffin attempted to answer perhaps the #1 most ask question by Christians, and even non-Christians-Why do bad things happen to good people? It's a question he was asking himself as a result of blowing 2 trailer tires 2 weeks ago driving to and from Lake Palestine during our Classic tournament. No doubt it was a lesson that Jon learned quite vividly after he returned home. While God may not protect you fully from bad things or difficult circumstances, he is always with you, often times working through His disciples. In this case through great guys like CCBC members Kevin Davis & Byron McFarland. As Jon was driving back to DFW on I-20, he noticed their white GMC in his rear view mirror right about the time his 2<sup>nd</sup> trailer tire blew. As Jon exited, Kevin & Byron exited. They jumped out of their truck, pulled out a floor jack & had Jon's tire removed before he could do it himself. Even though Kevin now offered his own spare tire, he was unable to remove it, but assured Jon that he could safely make it home on 3 tires on his tandem axle trailer. They followed him almost home, and then called him to make sure he made it home safely. So in hindsight as Jon recalled, Kevin & Byron were the true extensions of Jesus. Right there with him when trouble struck. Right there to assure him & give him comfort. Right there to follow him, then follow up upon arrival!

This is what the bible tells us over & over. Being a Christian will not put an end to your problems, but having Christ right there with you every step of the way make the problems easier to bear.

### Luke 6:47-48

Jesus said, "As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

\*The closer your walk with God, the stronger & more consistent your relationship is with Christ, the deeper your foundation is set

### Deuteronomy 31:8

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged.

### Psalms 23:1-4

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

3 things I learned from 2 blown tires:

1-Even in the midst of troubles, especially in troubles, open your eyes & heart-because Jesus is right there with you

2-Ask & it will be given to you. Seek & you will find. Knock & the door will be open. ALWAYS!

3-Begin every day with these simple words, no matter how un-worthy you may think you are: GOD, TODAY MAY YOU BE GLORIFIED THROUGH ME.

Joe Lee closed us in prayer.

# April 8-9, 2017 CLASSIC PALESTINE

By Jon Griffin

## BARFIELDS BAG 'EM BOTH DAYS FOR CLASSIC VICTORY

Longtime CCBC father & son team Bryan & Kyle Barfield smoked the field to take the 2017 Classic Tournament on Lake Palestine. Amazingly just 2 weeks prior, the team managed only a single keeper @ 1.39 during our regular season tourney on the same lake. Even more amazing was the fact that last year's AOY Team & this year's current points leaders Randall & Kel Collins lead after day one with a 3 fish sack @ a whopping 14.58. But their Neches River spots dried up on day 2 managing only a single keeper @ 2.14, thus opening the door for Team Barfield to barrel through. The classic rules were a combined 8 fish weight for both days, 3 on day 1, and 5 on day 2. The Barfield's 8 bass limit tipped the scales @ 26.29, giving them a nearly 8 pound victory. 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to the CCBC Central Division team of Gus Chavira & Toby Turner with 7 fish @ 18.91. 3<sup>rd</sup> place was an amazing comeback for Mike Thurman & Joe Lee. After only 2 fish on day 1 @ 3.31, the duo stormed back with a 5 fish Kickapoo sack @ 14.73. James & Eric Cook 6 bass limit was good for 4<sup>th</sup> @ 17.04, while Team SSS (that's their Cowboy Church in Palestine) of Randall & Kel Collins finished the top 5 @ 16.72.

1<sup>st</sup> Bryan & Kyle Barfield 26.29 (11.39 + 14.90) \$1500

2<sup>nd</sup> Gus Chavira/Toby Turner 18.91 (8.25 + 10.66) \$1000

3<sup>rd</sup> Mike Thurman/Joe Lee 18.04 (3.31 + 14.73) \$400

4<sup>th</sup> James & Eric Cook 17.04 (9.99 + 7.05) \$175

5<sup>th</sup> Kel & Randall Collins 16.72 (14.58 + 2.14) \$150

1<sup>st</sup> Big Bass Kel & Randall Collins 6.11 \$300

2<sup>nd</sup> Big Bass John Allen/Shane Dupree 5.57 \$170

## CONDITIONS

Water: Mostly stained to dirty 69-74 degrees; Sky/wind: SSW 10-25 mph, sunny to partly cloudy, 55-85 degrees; Full moon

## SCATTERSHOOTING

Following the day 1 weigh in @ the Villages Marina, Darren Coslin & Bud Benner were hanging out at their condo at the marina & noticed 2 sailboats launch into the 25 mph gusts. They quickly witnessed the sailboats topple in the very dangerous conditions, watching 1 sailboat sink to the bottom of the lake. The immediately launched their boat & moved in through the 3-4 foot swells to save the people. If not for Darren & Bud's quick thinking, expert boat maneuvering, & fast action, these people could well have drowned. No doubt God arranged everything perfectly to put them in the right place & time, great job men!! Joe & Tina Crouch's bad luck continued, after zeroing on day 1, they were trailering to their spot on day 2 when their Chevy's transmission began overheating, thus ending their day & sending them on a 5+ hour slow ride back to Waxahachie...Brandon Wooddell & George Walker clogged their water pump in the shallow north water, thus ending their chances at victory after a day 1 10 lb bag...Central Division leaders Earl & Leisha Loggains spanked 'em on day 1 with over 10 lbs only to goose egg on day 2, narrowly finishing out of the money...we paid the top 10 places, so Jon Griffin & Brandon Clayton were elated with \$160 for an 8<sup>th</sup> place finish...once again the lures that caught bass were a variety including black & blue creature baits, frogs, beavers, spinner baits, flukes, jigs, sinkos, speed craws & swim baits...as an lake local correctly mentioned 3 weeks ago, our tournament would be won up north in Kickapoo, Neches & Old Folks...Griffin shredded a trailer tire on the trip up, then destroyed his spare on the trip back. BIG THANKS to Kevin Davis & Byron McFarland who were following behind Griffin on 175 when the spare gave it up, then helped to jack up, remove & follow the rest of the way...and BTW, you CAN pull a tandem axle trailer on 3 tires for 60 miles successfully...Gene Collins/Shane Wheat won the rod & reel raffle for the lowest weight caught & still at the weigh in, thanks to SW Parts & Service....and Team Loggains won a rod (aren't they sponsored by Kistler Rods!!!???) Sure there was a big bass tournament happening on the same weekend, but this writer saw zero fishing effect....and finally, Team Crouch has not had the best of seasons thus far, but lookout, Ray Roberts is a coming in less than 2 weeks, & Joe DOMINATES on that lake!

## NEXT TOURNAMENT

4/22/17 Ray Roberts (look for launch details coming soon)

## LAKESIDE PRE-DAWN PALM SUNDAY DEVO

**-Charley David began:**

If I am here for my glory I am wasting my time.

If this ministry does not bear fruit it is a waste of time.

As Christ followers we are to remain in the Lord & bear fruit.

[John 15:5-8 NLT](#)

““Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.”

What is the fruit he is referring to? The fruit of the spirit!

Galatians 5:19-26 NLT

“When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.”

When we are in God’s will & glorifying him with our lives he rewards with the desires of our hearts. But when he rewards us we must bear fruit with what he gives us. There is no retirement this side of heaven we are to constantly be fruitful for the glory of God.

Matthew 25:14-30 NLT

““Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip. “The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master’s money. “After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, ‘Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.’ “The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’ “The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, ‘Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.’ “The master said, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’ “Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, ‘Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn’t plant and gathering crops you didn’t cultivate. I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.’ “But the master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn’t plant and gathered crops I didn’t cultivate, why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.’ “Then he ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

We are not here for our Glory we are here to pass on the Good News! We are here to grow the Lords Kingdom so that many more will have the eternal life & not eternal death. You are our Church family even though some of you do not go to regular Church meetings you are part of the body through this ministry. We Love you each & everyone as Christ has Loved us.

This ministry is not about fishing! Fishing is just the bait to catch fisherman & a means of fellowship for fellow believers. As much as I enjoy fishing I Love the Lord more because he died for everyone to be free!! Including me & I want you my friends & your family's & friends to know that. That is why we exist to grow the Kingdom of the Lord & that needs to be our Number 1 focus to help everyone we can to be free.

### 2 Corinthians 3:16-18 NLT

“But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.”

When you learn about a new lake where 5 pounders practically jump in the boat do you keep it a secret? Heck no!! You call all your friends & post pictures on facebook & twitter. Well I am here to tell you my friends about the greatest Lake of all time & the fish are plentiful some come Brothers & Sisters & Lets be Fishers Of Men!! Let us produce much fruit for the kingdom of the Lord who died for all of us Amen!

Charley then lead us in taking communion through the Lord's Supper

### Luke 22:19-20 NLT

“He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.” After supper he took another cup of wine and said, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.”

In Christ!

-JG

## March 25, 2017 – Athens

By Jon Griffin

### LAST YEAR'S AOY TEAM TAKES 1<sup>ST</sup> ON PALESTINE

Brothers Randall & Kel Collins boated the tournament's big bass @ 6.45 pounds to add to their 3 fish winning total of 13.29 pounds to take the victory in the 2<sup>nd</sup> tournament of the 2017 Northern series of the Cowboy Church Bass Club. The 2016 AOY team, who live in the Palestine area, made sure their “home” lake advantage held by fishing “up north”. And as predicted by a local a week before, our tournament would be won “up north”. In fact, word has it that the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team of Phil Hickle & Brad Rumbo also battled the skinny water & stumps of north Lake Palestine to bag their 10.48 pound limit. For the top 5 teams, the lures of choice were a complete variety, depending on the boat. Black & blue creature baits, flukes, poppers, sinkos, shaky heads...even a red & black Chatterbait (Go Tech!).

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kel & Randall Collins 13.29 \$452
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Phil Hickle/Brad Rumbo 10.48 \$263
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Brandon Wooddell/George Walker 9.67 \$158
- 4<sup>th</sup> Delwin Sims/Gary Herrell 9.05 \$105
- 5<sup>th</sup> Gene Collins/Daryl Hester 8.95 \$74



1<sup>st</sup> Big Bass-Kel & Randall Collins 6.45 \$113  
2<sup>nd</sup> Big Bass-Brandon Wooddell 4.88 \$38

## CONDITIONS

Water: Stained/murky 66-72 degrees; Wind/Sky: WNW 7-12 mph, mostly sunny, post frontal;  
Lake: emergent grass, duck weed, coon-tail, FULL.

## SCATTERSHOOTING

Congrats to our post devo drawing winners of Jacob Stanford & Rodney Pickard (\$100 BPS), & Doyle Ray (\$50 BPS). FYI, for any non-\$\$ winners, we draw for gift cards courtesy of Donna David Realtors. Too bad, you have to be present to win (hint hint Harrington/McNeely & Aman/Smith)...word is anglers caught many varieties including crappie, hybrids, perch, & Brandon Clayton boated a giant grinnel...The Villages ramp was great even though multiple tournaments were launching, the store was up & running for business by 5am...Jon Griffin's Stratos was tied up in the marina next to another tournament's team when their boat failed to start due to a dead battery. Griffin loaned them his jumper cables, then offered to let them keep them. They refused, THANKFULLY, as Griffin's starter battery died in the final hour of the tournament about 6 miles from the ramp!...reports of lots of fry up north, however this writer saw zero fry in the main-lake & it's creeks, therefore the spawn continues as it will for a few more weeks...James Fabby's stint must be doing great, he & grandson Jonah posted another strong top 10 finish... Darren Coslin would like to blame Griffin for jinxing his string of giant tournament bass caught in the past month, but he needs to blame a stump for breaking off a Palestine giant...a goose egg for Team Crouch?? I'd be worried except Lake Ray Roberts is the next regular season series tournament, a lake Joe has won many derbies on...and finally, honorable mention goes to the smallest 3 fish limit weighed in-Doug Powell & Charlie Conine w/ 3@ 4.65!

## NEXT TOURNAMENT

\*4/22/17 Ray Roberts (next REGULAR SEASON tournament)  
\*\*4/8/17 & 4/9/17 Palestine (CLASSIC TOURNAMENT FROM 2016 SEASON)

## REMEMBER

By rule, teams will drop their LOWEST tournament of the year. 8 tourneys in the year, so if you missed Palestine or did poorly, you can still compete for the 2017 AOY. Ray Bob should be awesome in April! Brandon Wooddell has 2017 CCBC t-shirts (short & long sleeve) for sale with the 2017 tournament schedule on the back. Big thanks to BW for organizing...all ending proceeds go back to the club.

## LAKESIDE DEVO

Jon Griffin shared the passage from Matthew 4: 18-25, Jesus calling his 1<sup>st</sup> disciples

<sup>18</sup> As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>21</sup> Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a

boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, <sup>22</sup> and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

### Jesus Heals the Sick

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup> News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. <sup>25</sup> Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis,<sup>[a]</sup> Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.

3 things I learned from this passage:

#### 1-Following Jesus should ALWAYS be immediate

Vs 20-22

#### 2-God has a history of using ordinary men & women for extraordinary things

From Moses, to Joseph, to David, to Mary, to a hot headed fisherman names Peter, to a very young son of a fisherman John...to guys like you & me! No doubt, by a simple & immediate act of obedience, Peter & John followed, learned, grew, wrote a large chunk of the New Testament...and helped transform the world!

#### 3-Following Christ leads to great things that will astound you

Vs 23-25.

\*Jesus simply said "Come follow Me."

There are only 2 types of people in this world. Those who follow Him. And those that do not.

Mike Thurman closed us in prayer

## February 25, 2017 – Athens

By Jon Griffin

### Doyle Ray bags 1<sup>st</sup> Place & Big Bass

Doyle Ray fished solo & beat out 37 other teams to win the 1<sup>st</sup> event of the 2017 Cowboy Church Bass Club Saturday February 25 on Lake Athens. Doyle's 3 fish sack @ 10.65 was anchored by the tournament's big bass @ 8.76, his personnel best. Doyle coaxed the big female to bite off her spawning bed in 4 feet of water. 2<sup>nd</sup> place team went to new members Benny Cowart & Danny Shaw with 3 fish @ 8.45. 3<sup>rd</sup> place team was Darren Coslin & Bud Benner. Amazingly, while they boated many slot fish throughout the day, their only keeper was a giant @ 8.06. Concurrently Team Coslin/Benner were fishing a Bass Mafia tournament, that same fish won them 3<sup>rd</sup> place there as well. 4<sup>th</sup> was awarded to Mike Thurman & Joe Lee with 3 @ 7.49 including Mike's 4.98 big bass. Rounding out the money winners were newcomers Kyle Williams & Dustin Seaton with 3 @ 4.16-the only team in the money without an "over". Lake Athens is a 14-21" slot lake, meaning only fish under 14 inches or 21 inches & greater can be retained & weighed in. Also, CCBC rules only allow 1 "over" to be weighed in per team.

1 <sup>st</sup> -Doyle Ray	10.65 \$572
2 <sup>nd</sup> -Benny Cowart/Danny Shaw	8.45 \$332
3 <sup>rd</sup> -Darren Coslin/Bud Benner	8.06 \$200
4 <sup>th</sup> -Mike Thurman/Joe Lee	7.49 \$133
5 <sup>th</sup> -Kyle Williams/Dustin Seaton	4.16 \$94

1<sup>st</sup> Big Bass-Doyle Ray, 8.76, \$143  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Big Bass-Darren Coslin, 8.06, \$48

## CONDITIONS

Water: clear, 58-64 degrees; Wind: NNW 3-9 mph, partly cloudy/sunny. Air temp: 36-57; Lake: Full, grassy, great condition

## SCATTERSHOOTING

Many ask where Al Kohutek was. He's taking most of the tournament season off focusing on his new Lake Whitney Lake house purchase (he now only has 2 lake houses, 3 if you count his father's). Lake Vilbig resident & angler Pierce Johnston joins Jon Griffin in the boat this season. James Fabby had 2 stints installed last Thursday, & STILL fished the tournament with his grandson Jonah! (Much to his doctor's disappointment). Speaking of improved health, Joe Crouch reports that after over 1 year of chemo, his cancer is now "officially" in remission. Praise be to God for healing, Joe never missed a tourney due to his illness. The bladed swim jig was responsible for several big Athens bass. Fish on beds in February, WOW! Within a few days, Athens will be ON FIRE with big bass & bucks on beds EVERYWHERE!! When was the last time Coslin/Benner failed to catch a 3 fish stringer??? BTW, 38 teams fished our Athens event, only 2 teams failed to weigh in a fish, quite extraordinary. Brandon Clayton finished 10<sup>th</sup> last year out of his kayak...he's now been reunited (and it feels so good) with his fishing partner from 2015 in Heath Harper. Move aside Gerald Swindle, Jacob Stanford definitely has a beard to fear! Someone hit a deer leaving the parking lot, witnesses saw venison limping off into the brush. Big thanks to Tina & Joe Crouch providing the venison chili, beans & all the fixins for a post tourney feast! Last year's AOY team Randal & Kel Collins' 3 fish @ 3.40 was good for 18<sup>th</sup> place. But don't look now, our next event in March is on Lake Palestine (the duo lives in the Palestine area!). And finally, impressive day on the lake for father/son team Brent & Luke Stanford-3 bass @ 1.19! Now THAT takes skilled angling prowess!

## NEXT TOURNAMENT

3/25/17 on Lake Palestine

## REMEMBER

By rule, teams will drop their LOWEST tournament of the year. 8 tourneys in the year, so if you missed Athens OR zero'd, you can still compete for the 2017 AOY. Palestine should be smoking come late March! Brandon Wooddell has 2017 CCBC t-shirts (short & long sleeve) for sale with the 2017 tournament schedule on the back. Big thanks to BW for organizing...all ending proceeds go back to the club.

## LAKESIDE DEVO

CCBC Ministry Leader Charley David shared, beginning with the question-Who are we? Why do we need to be fashionable? Why in this day & age are people questioning who they are, what sex they are, who they should be...instead of the person God created them to be? Have you asked God about who you are? Does he approve?

Who are we supposed to be in Christ?

2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. ([Romans 12:2 NLT](#))

4 You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God. ([James 4:4 NLT](#))

24 "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. 25 Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. 26 But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. 27 When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash." ([Matthew 7:24-27 NLT](#))

"There are six things the LORD hates— no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family."

[Proverbs 6:16-19 NLT](#)

He sent his only son to suffer on the cross so we could be free of sin.

Does this mean we can keep sinning? No! We have the Holy Spirit to help us keep from sin but we must listen to it over the noise of the world.

"Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death?" [Romans 6:1-3 NLT](#)

Jesus says

"For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

[Matthew 11:30](#)

His yoke not ours! We do not get to build our own yoke & ask God to bless it! God wants to be our priority! God wants to be included in every part in our lives.

Not just Sunday!

How do we make God our priority? Time & fellowship

"As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend."

[Proverbs 27:17 NLT](#)

Brent Stanford closed us in prayer

**For more information about the Bass Club email [cowboychurchbassclub@hotmail.com](mailto:cowboychurchbassclub@hotmail.com) or contact Charley David at [214-878-3354](tel:214-878-3354)**

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