



2018 Northern Division Tournament Recap

LAKE WACO 9/22/2018

By Jon Griffin

CHARLEY DAVID WINS THE EVENT

Charley David ended the season the way he started it 8 months ago with an event victory Saturday in our final tournament of the year on Lake Waco. Fishing solo this tournament, Charley's 2 buzz-bait fish @ 10.33, including the big bass @ 7.35, bested the field for the tournament win.

TEAM DAVIS/MCFARLAND WINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP

The slightly bigger story was the team of **Kevin Davis & Byron McFarland**, as they managed 2 fish @ 7.79 for a 5th place finish, thus wrapping up the coveted Team Anglers of the Year title. Based on our points system, beginning the day 2nd place Charley was 17 points behind **Kevin & Byron**. The only hope for an AOY for **Charley** would be a win on Waco, and Kevin & Byron zero-ing. That's right, we had 17 northern division teams. The result would have been a tie, with the tie breaker being big bass for the year, which **Charley** would have won with his Athens slaunch of 7.70. And it very nearly happened. With zero fish in the livewell, Kevin Davis, to his own admitted amazement, boated a 5.90 pound bass just before 1:00 pm, virtually sealing their 1st AOY.

Tournament 2nd place went to **Gene Collins/Daryl Hester** with a nice 3 fish sack @ 9.30 throwing square bills & wacky rigged senkos. 3rd place went to father & son duo of **Jake & Randy Ward** with 3 @ 8.97 throwing a chartreuse squarebill in rocks. Central division AOYs **Gus Chavira & Toby Turner** took 4th with 3 @ 8.76 flipping wood, and 5th to **Kevin & Byron** throwing craw worms at points & rocks.

1st Charley David	10.33	\$391
2nd Gene Collins/Daryl Hester	9.30	\$228
3rd Jake & Randy Ward	8.97	\$137
4th Gus Chavira/Toby Turner	8.76	\$91
5th Kevin Davis/Byron McFarland	7.79	\$64

2018 TEAM ANGLERS OF THE YEAR NOTES

Amazingly, Team **Davis/McFarland** did not win an event all year. But, they were consistently in the money with a dominating run to the title. That run included 7 top 10 finishes, including 5 times in the money (Top 5)! Their only bad finish was a zero on Tawakoni, which became their drop. Big bass were another part of their winning ways, weighing a 7.40 @ Athens, a 5.45 @ Palestine, a 5.26 @ Bob Sandlin, and a 5.90 @ Waco. It was an amazing year for an outstanding team, congratulations to **Kevin Davis & Byron McFarland** on their well earned **2018 Team Anglers of the Year!**

SCATTERSHOOTING

Always great to see & fish with the CCBC Central Division club, as we were fishing our final event of the year, they were fishing their series opener-if anyone from the north can, please fish with them throughout the cooler months in lakes around the Austin area...giant thanks to **Charley David** for leading us again as Club Director-**Charley** is responsible for much & always delivers with a smile on his face, we are truly blessed with his Christian attitude & leadership, no doubt **Donna** is in the background guiding & directing...ooohhh, so THAT'S what a Guadalupe bass looks like, Waco is loaded with the official state fish, but they're all dinks...once again we were blessed with great weather as the forecast only 24 hours previous had us fishing in a downpour-very little rain all day, reasonable winds & cool, cloudy weather greeted us...nice tie for 6th in the event between **Mike Aman/Mike Smith & Joe Lee/Mike Thurman** with 3 @ 7.38...speaking of **Lee/Thurman**, they're hot-after starting the season's 1st half horribly, they came back in the 2nd half with 2 wins, a 3rd & a 5th....next up, the CCBC Banquet October 20th @ **Cowboy Church of Ellis County**.

CONDITIONS

Heavy storms overnight, light rain early, then overcast, 73-76 degrees; Winds SW to NE 8-12 mph; water temp 80-82, 8-10" clarity; 4.3' low

LAKESIDE DEVO

Jon Griffin opened with a story of the worst storm he'd ever fished in off the coast of Gulf Shores, Alabama in the summer of 2000. It was awful, everyone got sick, there were some injuries, they were genuinely fearful for their lives. If not for the skill of the charter captain, Jon felt it would have resulted in a horrible tragedy.
-- Jesus Calms the Storm

MARK 4 (background on Mark, written as a factual description of Jesus' day to day life & ministry including His miracles, parables & stories of His wild travels.) Not doctrine, or spiritual religious philosophy, but very short story like. Highly recommended reading!

-SETTING—the Sea of Galilee. 13 miles long, 8 miles wide...along the Jordan River. 2nd lowest body of water in the world, 2nd only to the Dead Sea, which is further downstream along the Jordan-separates Israel from Syria & Jordan.

KNOWN FOR QUICKLY FORMING STORMS & SQUALLS—apprx 40 miles east of the Mediterranean Ocean AND 10 miles WEST OF a vast wasteland of arid desert of Syria & Jordan. Along the Jordan River it's lush, green—the land of milk & honey—the Promised Land.

Jesus Calms the Storm

SET THE STAGE HERE-Jesus has been very busy, curing diseases, speaking, teaching for days now, 1000s of people are flocking to him where ever he's going—He's become a ROCK STAR. He's exhausted and right up against the west bank of the Sea of Galilee, and now it's night time. Let's read:

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. 38 Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

1- JESUS IS GOD, BUT WAS ALSO HUMAN.

-We cannot begin to wrap our brains around who is God..it's impossible, it's inconceivable-but we can understand flesh similar to us, and that's who Jesus is-God in flesh. We can relate to Him, we can learn from Him. He is the intersessor, the conduit, the connection from us to God. *Ant story

2- STORMS ARE COMING----THE FISHERMEN WERE WORRIED FOR THEIR LIVES, BUT THEY'D BETTER WATCH THEIR MOUTHS.

-Seasoned fishermen in the storm of all storms—"Don't you care if we drown??"

-Jesus was God, he knew there would be a storm brewing, they launched at night-so we should not be surprised there are storms in our life. It didn't phase Jesus in the slightest, he was sleeping thru it all. He cares, and loves us intensely, more than we can comprehend.

He died an excruciating death for us all. And what did he do here? With a word, stopped the wind and waves in an instant. *Disciples reaction from text. NOW they're terrified!

3-IT'S GOOD TO HAVE JESUS IN YOUR BOAT!

-See text about multiple boats in the area-they were all a witness, and were ALL saved. Is Jesus in your boat? Or do you just invite him occasionally? Do you leave Him on shore. Everyone one of us know that answer. If he's not in your boat 100% of the time, storms will come, and your boat, tackle, Lowrance, MinnKota ultrex, your \$200 Kistler rods, and your life---everything will be destroyed.

Review the 3. Is Jesus in your boat? Invite him in your life, and Christ will NEVER leave your boat.

Joe Lee closed us in prayer.

Joe Pool 8/25/18

By Jon Griffin

JOE POOL IS SO COOL FOR TEAM LEE/THURMAN

The four time AOY team of **Mike Thurman & Joe Lee** nailed a one eyed 6 and a half pounder in route to their 3 fish limit of 8.78 to take the win Saturday on Joe Pool Lake. The half blind bass bit Lee's famous "grub" to claim the tournament's big bass prize, and help the team win for the 2nd time in the last 3 tournaments. Note that Joe Pool is a slot lake, meaning only fish under 14 inches & 21 inches & over can be retained, & only one "over" can be weighed in per team. The tournament's only other "over" @ 5.94 was caught by the 2nd place team of **Greg & Curtis Hindman** who's sack totaled 7.38. **David Lewis & Tony LeCount** found 3 solid "unders" @ 3.09 for 3rd, while current AOY leaders **Kevin Davis & Byron McFarland** weighed in a 3 fish limit @ 3.05. And how about **James & Eric Cook**, their 2 fish @ 2.73 took 5th and the final money spot.

1st	Joe Lee/Mike Thurman	8.78	\$346 and 2 round trip tickets on Southwest Airlines
2nd	Greg & Curtis Hindman	7.38	\$201
3rd	David Lewis/Tony LeCount	3.09	\$121
4th	Kevin Davis/Byron McFarland	3.05	\$81
5th	James & Eric Cook	2.73	\$56
BB	Big Bass-Joe Lee	6.60	\$115

SCATTERSHOOTING

Big thanks to Southwest Airlines employee & club patriarch **Al Kohutek** for working with SWA to supply the extra bonus of airline tickets for this tournament's winners-anywhere SWA flies!...and equally big thanks to longtime member **James Cook** who owns several **Wingstop** restaurants in DFW as he supplied all the wings & fries we could handle at the weigh-in...great to have **Darren Coslin** help weigh fish...for a hot August day we were blessed with a 10 mph wind that helped it feel not so hot...for a lake that is famous for lots of fish, JP was again quite stingy as only 11 out of 23 teams managed a limit...**Jon Griffin** had a monster for about 3 seconds before it snapped his c-rig, he thought it must have been a 60 pound flathead, until seconds after the break the massive bass jumped out of the water trying to throw the hook...**Steve "Rattlesnake" Reynolds** fished solo without his normal partner of **Ben Griffin**, thus his truck lights got left on leaving a dead truck battery-JG's jumper cables did the trick...winning fish catching rigs included the drop shot, shaky head, grub, rattlesnake c-rig, top water plugs, and a stud fry, whatever that is...It's been an incredibly solid year for **Kevin Davis/Byron McFarland** including 4 top 5s & 7 top 10s...**Charley David** relinquished the overall lead after a paltry 1.23 pound bag, now it's Kevin & Byron's championship to win with one event remaining on Waco.

CONDITIONS

Clear & sunny, 78-98 degrees; Winds SE 8-12 mph; water temp 83-86, 18" clarity; 2.05' low

NEXT UP

September 23rd on Lake Waco. This is our 8th & final series event of the year, and we will be joined by the CCBC Central Division club as it's their 1st series event of their new season.

LAKESIDE DEVO

Kyle Backhus, 1st Baptist Church of Irving's Associate Youth Pastor, who attends along with club members Jon Griffin & Brandon Wooddell, came & spoke on "PEACE". Kyle began with an open question to the club, "What gives you peace?" Some said fishing, some said family, while most agreed "having your bills paid." But as Kyle shared, those kinds of peace are always temporary. In fact, the bible teaches us that there is no peace anywhere in this world but through Christ alone.

Ephesians 2:11-22

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)—remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Kyle then shared the following points regarding PEACE ONLY THRU JESUS

- You and I were once far off, and separated
- Christ Jesus has done something that has ended the separation
- He himself. Our peace, was able to overcome hostility. What is hostility?
- He ended the strife for those who were not the people of God (the Gentiles)
- By ending the strife, God was able to reconcile us.
- He is peace to all whether we are far off or near. It is who He is.
- We have access to this peace through Jesus, by the Spirit of God.

Encouragements for you men today:

- Spiritual hostility and separation from God is ended
- God himself is true peace. Peace that draws you near to himself.
- This peace is eternal, and not conditional. This peace does not last a few hours, or even encompass short areas of your life. Whether you are far off, or near, God desires to be your peace.
- This peace is firm, stable, and secure in Christ.

Challenges:

- Do you know this God of peace?
- Is your life built on God being your peace, or on your own efforts to create peace?

Kyle prayed for us, then Joe Lee closed the tournament in prayer

LAKE GRANBURY

7/28/18

By Jon Griffin

TEAM ALLEN'S NEVER GIVE UP ON GRANBURY TAKES THE TITLE

Father & Son team **John & Sam Allen** caught two 4 plus pounders in the final 17 minutes to win the Cowboy Church Bass Club event on Granbury Saturday July 28th. With 2 small keepers in the box, John spotted a bass cruising in super shallow water, cast a Christie Craw over and hooked it. Minutes later son Sam caught an even bigger largemouth @ 4.85 to cull their dink & win the tournament. Their winning limit of 3 @ 11.04 was just over ½ pound ahead of the 2nd place team of **Mike & Mike...Aman & Smith** who threw topwaters, rage tails & wacky worms for their 3 fish sack of 10.52. Don't look now but the 5 time AOY winners of Joe **Lee & Mike Thurman** followed up last month's victory with a solid 3rd place limit @ 9.03, catching most of their fish within sight of the launch ramp. 4th place goes to **Charley David & Mason Dawson** with **Charley's** 4th top 5 of the year buzz-baiting their way to 3 @ 8.29. The 5th place sack was caught by **Brandon Wooddell & Keith "Big Fish" McMillan** with a 7.65 limit, **Brandon's** 1st time on the Granbury river system.

1st John & Sam Allen	11.04 \$331
2nd Mike Aman/Mike Smith	10.52 \$193
3rd Mike Thurman/Joe Lee	9.03 \$116
4th Charley David/Mason Dawson	8.29 \$77
5th Brandon Wooddell/Keith McMillan	7.65 \$54
Big Bass-Doyle Ray	5.30 \$110

SCATTERSHOOTING

Unofficial AOY has **Kevin Davis/Byron McFarland** with a slim 1 point lead over **Charley David**, might have been more if not for 2 dead fish incurring a 1 pound penalty for **Kev & Byron...Ben Griffin & "the Snake" Steve Reynolds** had a decent points day & reported catching nearly 30 bass...betcha there was a fairy wand, shaky heads & rattlesnakes being utilized...many of the winning stringers included bass caught in less than 1 foot of water...good points day for Teams **Thurman/Lee, Wooddell/McMillan**, the Barfields, and Mike & Mike...Joe Crouch caught a blue heron & lost a good crankbait...**Griffin/Johnston** started the morning fishing dock lights below a million dollar home, and shared the dock with a family of raccoons...Jenkins, Jenkins, Jenkins & Jenkins sat this one out...great to have new members **Geoffrey Ross/Brad Phillips, John Newkirk/Michael Chadwick, Kevin Belcher/Jon Brewster** and **Shawn McDonald**...no doubt Granbury's Rough Creek Ramp is

outstanding, and free to launch...**Brandon Wooddell** actually believed the heavy wake & wave action helps the fishing by pushing bait fish into the strike zone-he threw a Zara-spook top water most of the day for his best fish...winning lures of choice included Christie Craws, wacky worms, rage tails, speed craws, whopper plover, buzz bait, jigs, & drop shots, with most fish caught in 5 feet and less...2 tournaments to go in the season, it's still anyone's title to take with a super stingy summer slot lake in Joe Pool upcoming, then off to Waco to crown a champion!

CONDITIONS

Mostly cloudy to partly sunny, 81-102 degrees; Winds S 1-3 mph; water temp 85-88, 1-2' clarity; lake level 2.06' low

NEXT UP

Joe Pool 8/25/18. Come hungry as very possibly **James Cook's** Wingstop will provide all the wings you can handle!

LAKESIDE DEVO

2 year member **Pierce Johnston** shared his testimony opening with **1 Corinthians 10:13-14**
No temptation[a] has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. 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.

Pierce shared about his early childhood going to church with his family. But when he was 7 years old, his parents divorced, and for an unexplained reason their church attendance diminished. Otherwise it was a fairly normal childhood until at the age of 17 Pierce began having panic attacks & severe anxiety. Couple that with a devastating 4 wheeler accident that severely broke his leg & followed up with serious complications that kept him in crutches for most of a year, along with the Xanax he had been prescribed for anxiety & ultimately became very dependent on, the problems began to take their toll. The drug dependency overtook him to the point of over-medicating & doing whatever it took to acquire the drug after his prescription ran out.

Matthew 26:41

Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Pierce admitted that his flesh had become weak, but realized he had a problem. He shared it with his mother, and soon was admitted into a treatment center. For Pierce it worked, along with a required 3 day a week follow up treatment. Through the center, he was offered an opportunity to go to a bible study, which he readily accepted. It was there that he met a very strong Christian who became a friend, mentor & offered huge help to Pierce, even to this day. Today Pierce fully recognizes that although those years were very difficult, they were also a blessing. His life is now rich through the mercies & graces in a relationship with Christ. And the blessings are evident with a wonderful fiancé in Amy, a new lakefront home purchase, good business, free from addiction, and most importantly he has hope-the only hope in life through Jesus Christ.

Mark 10:27

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

Philippians 4:13

I can do all this through Christ who gives me strength.

Pierce gives all the credit to God!

PRAYER REQUEST

New member **Shawn McDonald** shared a personal prayer request. He lost his best fishing partner & father recently, and not long after, Shawn himself was diagnosed with 2 brain aneurisms. Shawn is a Christian, but is still struggling. Also **Jeff Harrington** had to cut his day on Granbury short with grueling back problems. Let's join as a club & pray for healing, but ultimately pray that God be glorified in these difficulties, then give praise no matter the ultimate outcome.

Jon Griffin closed us in prayer

Lake Tawakoni June 23, 2018

THE DAM IS THE DIFFERENCE AS TEAM LEE/THURMAN TO TAWAKONI WIN

The 4 time CCBC AOY team of **Mike Thurman & Joe Lee** topped the field of 27 teams to take the victory @ a stingy Tawakoni June 23rd. As **Al Kohutek** predicted, **Thurman & Lee** caught their limit, then hit the Tawakoni rip rap dam with grubs late in the day to cull out all their keepers, in route to 3 bass @ 9.52. After disappointing finishes in this season's 1st half, **Mike & Joe** posted their only top 10 of the year, and made it count. 2nd place went to **Brian Hopkins & Cory Cone**, bagging over 9 pounds in a short flurry that made up for an otherwise slow fishing day. The 3rd place team of **Charley David & high schooler Wesley "What" Dawson** caught 9.07 including the tournament's big bass that amazingly Charley DID NOT LOSE AT THE BOAT, this time on a buzz bait. **Joe & Tina Crouch** snagged 4th with another short flurry in submerged green bush tops, catching all their keepers in minutes. 5th place went to the very bearded father & son team of **Brent & Luke Stanford** throwing frogs in shallow grass catching 3 @ 7.86.

1st Mike Thurman/Joe Lee	9.52	\$406
2nd Brian Hopkins/Cory Cone	9.48	\$236
3rd Charley David/What Dawson	9.07	\$142
4th Joe & Tina Crouch	8.73	\$95
5th Brent & Luke Stanford	7.86	\$66

Big Bass-Charley David 4.51 \$135

SCATTER SHOOTING

So far into the 2018 season, 5 tournaments & 5 winners...a mere 12 ounces separated 1st place from 4th place...the season's 2nd half kicked off @ Tawakoni, and the new leader is none other than **Charley David**, the Love's holding steady with 2nd, and check out the **Jenkins/Jenkins vs Jenkins/Jenkins** battle...big thanks to

Tawakoni State Park Superintendent **Clay Boone** for opening the locked gate @ 5am, but couldn't help but notice the striper guides apparently have their own key??...and speaking of Tawakoni, the lake is in tremendous shape, color is awesome, structure, grass, bushes & lily pads abundant, but are there any concentrations of fish??...**Brandon Wooddell's** occasional fill in partner **Keith "Big Fish" McMillian** has his back give out, and undoubtedly cost the team as he could not set the hook & land several difference makers...lures of choice included frogs, cranks, buzz bait, speed worms...God definitely graced us with a gift as the forecast was for south winds @ 15-25, but instead we received cloudy cool conditions & an light east breeze...

CONDITIONS

Mostly cloudy, clearing to partly cloudy 75-90 degrees; Winds easterly 3-7; water temp 81-86, 1-3' clarity; water level .27 high

NEXT UP

June 28, Benbrook. Most likely launching from Mustang Park. Note that the park has 4 ramps, we'll determine the best ramp & communicate. Also it's a Corp of Engineers lake, thus the gate does not open until 6am, we're working on that as well.

LAKESIDE DEVO

I had ask **Joe Lee** to share details of his most recent BASS Co-Angler win recently on the Arkansas River, and how that applied to his walk with Christ. **Joe** shared about the win, his 2nd on the BASS tour. **Joe** shared how God loves to give good gifts. It ended with winning another boat, but started with drawing a good boat. Joe shared that through fishing he has learned to trust the Lord in what he has been given. In this BASS tournament, His good gifts on day 1 included 3 good keepers for a limit. Day 2 the good gift was his 3rd keeper with 5 minutes to go. And his day 3 gift was a great pro partner of Greg Yates and 3 fish at 11 pounds for the win. No doubt fishing is weird. On Palestine **Joe & Mike** struggled mightily and finished 36th, Athens same result, Bob Sandlin better but still well out of the top 10. Trust in the Lord, thru the good AND the bad.

Matthew 7:9-11

“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

- God's good gifts simply remind us of who He is and how much He loves us
- Our greatest joy is not found in gifts, they are just reminders

Philippians 3:7-8

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ

- The greatest gift is knowing God, nothing else in this world can compare
- *Today's culture tells us that if we know about God, we must be a Christian. However you can't truly know God without knowing about Him, but you can know about Him without knowing Him.

Psalms 34:8

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

HONEY-Take the illustration of honey...I could tell you about the sweetness of honey, the beautiful golden hue, it's rich, thick texture...and after describing honey, you could in a sense say you "know" honey. But it's abstract theoretical knowing. You know about it. But it's entirely different knowing once honey hits your tongue. In that moment you don't just know about honey...you personally truly know honey. When honey hits the tongue, you have a "realizing sense" of the honey you may have heard so much about.

-Whether you grew up in church or have never been in church, the invitation is the same: Taste & see that the Lord is good!"

Bob Sandlin

5/28/2018

TEAM WARD SNAGS SANDLIN VICTORY

Fishing their 1st season with the CCBC, **Jake & Randy Ward** pitched pop-r's and crankbaits to snag their 1st win of the season Saturday on a warm & sultry Lake Bob Sandlin. Their 3 bass limit of 13.48 included the tournament's big bass of 6.37. Four tournaments into the CCBC Northern Division circuit, this marks the 3rd victory for a father/son duo. 3 pounds behind 1st, Brandon "Put the hammer down" **Wooddell** teamed up with **Keith "Big Fish" McMillan** for 2nd, while another father/son team of John & Sam Allen took 3rd anchored by the tournament's 2nd big bass caught by son Sam on a deep diving crankbait. Season leaders **Kevin Davis & Byron McFarland** took 4th with 8.63, even though they were assessed a 1/2 pound dead fish penalty, AND they weighed in only 2 fish. A tournament angler's worst nightmare came true for **Kevin** as he tripped slightly moving from his beached boat to the ground with their 3 fish limit in the bag, 1 keeper escaped back into 'ole Bobby-Sand! The 5th place bag was caught by the hottest team in the club, father/son **Albert & Matt Love** with 3 @ 7.93, their 3rd top 10 of the year.

1 st Jake & Randy Ward	13.48	\$346
2 nd Brandon Wooddell & Keith McMillan	10.39	\$201
3 rd John & Sam Allen	9.99	\$121
4 th Kevin Davis/Byron McFarland	8.63	\$80
5 th Albert & Matt Love	7.93	\$57
Big Bass-Jake Ward	6.37	\$115

SCATTER SHOOTING

4 tournaments in, 4 different winners...Bob Sandlin State Park is still the best launch for a reasonable sized club, gate is always open early, park is always in great shape...**Brandon Wooddell** took an involuntary swim as he was releasing his weighed fish, fortunately no iphone was in his pocket, however his cheap sunglasses took a swim forever...the **Jenkins** battle is heating up, this tourney **Jared & Jacob** beat **Randy & Joel** by less than 1 pound-both teams are within season total points of each other...may be a record setting year for lost fish for **Charley David**, yet another 3+ pounder shook off leaving him with only 2 keepers on the day...several

applauded our revised launch system, after briefing and prayer, walk down & head off in IDLE until the time to fish-this tournament we were released at 5:45am & could idle until 6am, at that time we could “Hammer Down” and officially begin *See **Brandon Wooddell**...lures of choice included pop-r’s, crankbaits, shaky heads, tx rigs, jigs, flukes, spinnerbaits, and c-rigs...second 6th place finish in a row for Team **Griffin/Johnston**-like kissing your sister, yet another good points day...and speaking of points, now at the season’s half way point and still chances for an AOY for anyone in the current Top 20!

CONDITIONS

Partly cloudy/mostly sunny, 69-94 degrees; Winds SSE 3-5; water temp 83-88, 3-4’ clarity; lake level .07’ high

NEXT UP

June 23rd, Tawakoni. Most likely launching from the State Park Ramp off 2475.

LAKESIDE DEVO

Kevin Davis presented the devotional on SALVATION. Kevin shared that he accepted Christ at the age of 12, and has known beyond any doubt where he is going one day when he leaves this earth. Kevin shared:

Romans 2:13-15

¹³ For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. ¹⁴ (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.)

Summed up, this scripture means that EVERYONE has in their consciousness an awareness of God, of right and wrong, and a deep seeded need for a savior—all of us!

Webster defines Salvation as “deliverance from harm, ruin or loss; deliverance from sin and it’s consequences”. We are in harm’s way because of the “fall of mankind”, as initiated by Adam & Eve’s disobedience. Thus Jewish law instituted not only the 10 commandments, but 613 total laws that proved one thing. It is impossible to keep 1 of the laws, much less all of them. Out of those laws came from the sacrificial system, where the blood of a pure animal must be spilled to purify us. Therefore a perfect Jesus came to be the perfect sacrifice in OUR place. Kevin then shared the Roman Road.

Romans 3:23 “ADMIT YOU’RE A SINNER”
for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 3:10
“There is no one righteous, not even one

Romans 5:12
Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned

Romans 6:23 (IS SIN REALLY THAT BIG OF A DEAL??)
For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in^[a]Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8 (SO JESUS IS THE WAY?)

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9-10 (HOW DO I DO THIS, HOW DO I ACCEPT CHRIST?)

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Romans 10:13 (HOW CAN I BE SURE?)

for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Romans 10:17 (WHAT NOW?)

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Kevin closed with the one absolute in life he knows. Because God’s word is truth, he trusts it. And knows when his time is up on this earth, Heaven awaits!

Whitney

4/24/2018

STOVER & STOVER BAGS THE BIG ONE FOR WHITNEY VICTORY

The father & son team of **Robert Stover Sr** and **Robert Stover Jr** made their very first entry in the Cowboy Church Bass Club Series Saturday on Lake Whitney, and they made it count. A 3 fish limit of 17.69 pounds included the tournament’s big bass @ 7.17. That big bass was the 1st in the livewell that morning for the club’s newest team from Clifton. It fell for a ¾ oz jig in shallow water. 2nd place went to the current points leader, **Albert Love** as he teamed up with yet another hired gun **David Lewis**. Their 3 bass limit totaled just under 15 pounds including their 7.01 kicker which was the tournament’s 2nd big bass. **Jared & Jacob Jenkins** (not to be confused with relatives Randy & Joel Jenkins) took 3rd with 13.09; 4th went to father & son **Kyle & Brian Barfield** w/ 3 @ 12.24, basically fishing on their home lake. Another strong finish by **Doyle Ray** fishing with his now collegiate son **Noah** with 3 @ 11.76, including a last second 6.16 pounder pushing them into the top 5 & edging out this author (JG).

1 st Robert Stover Sr & Jr.....	17.79	\$482
2 nd Albert Love/David Lewis.....	14.81	\$280
3 rd Jared & Jacob Jenkins.....	13.09	\$168
4 th Brian & Kyle Barfield.....	12.24	\$115
5 th Doyle & Noah Ray.....	11.76	\$80

1 st Big Bass-Robert Stover Jr.....	7.17	\$120
2 nd Big Bass-Albert Love.....	7.01	\$40

SCATTER SHOOTING

Ok, let's get this straight regarding the **Jenkins** clan. **Randy Jenkins** is Daddy-o, while **Joel, Jared & Jacob** are his sons...**Randy** fishes with Joel (the favorite?), while brothers **Jared & Jacob** team up...do note both teams are neck in neck in the points....not to be confused with team **Jake & Randy** who are right with them Top 10 in points, that is **Jake & Randy Ward**...Lake Whitney is on fire, darn near every team caught stripers, sand bass & black bass, while some caught crappie, drum, gar & catfish...an example of the great fishing at Whitney, of the 32 teams entered, 29 teams weighed in limits, and ALL teams weighed in bass...the only teams in the Top 10 entering Saturday that cracked the Top 5 in the Whitney event was **Albert Love & David Lewis** with 2nd....good points day for **Davis/McFarland, Griffin/Johnston, Randy & Joel Jenkins, Joe Crouch Tina**-less...after bitterly losing several fish in the Classic, **Charley David** remarked he didn't lose a fish all day, guess it was the fact that **Baby-Doll** was back in the boat...even **Al Kohutek** came back to fish this event as his SECOND lake home is on Whitney with a decent 9.05 stringer with **Cody Pratka**-big thanks to **Al** for opening up his Whitney lake front house to myself, **Pierce Johnston & Joe Crouch**-plenty of room & crappie are always biting-better get your reservations in for Waco, I've already got mine!...lures of choice included jigs, square bills, c-rigs, senkos, spinnerbait, chatterbait, and several Top 5 teams chunking the painful Alabama rig...no doubt shad is the food of choice of Whitney...and finally, great to see 3 new teams join the club including **Lonny Pierce/Richard Robertson, Joe Rapp/Jeanneta Green**, and our winners **Robert Jr & Robert Sr Stover**—do hope to see y'all again, especially at our next tourney on Bob Sandlin May 26th!

CONDITIONS

Mostly sunny, 52-84 degrees; Winds SE 3-5 mph; water temp 66-74, slightly stained 7-12" clarity; lake level 2.01 low.

NEXT UP

May 26th at Bob Sandlin. Most likely we'll launch out of the State Park Ramp, next to the FM 21 bridge.

LAKESIDE DEVO

Longtime member Byron McFarland shared his testimony, primarily how he's experienced both the testing & growing of his faith just in the past few years. Strife, problems, difficulties and getting through them. Admittedly, the past 5 years Byron has found himself shaking his fist at God. His boat quit, pet dogs died, mother passed away, lost his job. Little stuff mounted to bigger stuff, and it began to take it's toll. Just how did he get through it all? His best friend of 35 years, fishing partner & solid

Christian buddy Kevin Davis. *Editor's note-99% of the time, God speaks to us through his people, his servants. People like friends, like Kevin. Byron shared the following scripture:

Corinthians 4:8-10

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

The key part is the end of verse 9 "BUT NOT DESTROYED". As Byron related, we are like a canvas that God wipes clean & starts over. If we have patience, we can & should allow God to create something new & wonderful.

Romans 8:28

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,^[a] for those who are called according to his purpose.

Looking back, Byron now knows that full well. He also appreciates his wife, who remained faithfully on her knees through these trying years. She trusted Christ, she helped her husband to develop trust in Jesus as well. The results have been amazing. Through this growth, with credit to his wife Janice, & his trusted friend Kevin, things are looking up. Not only is Byron now employed, he's got his own business, great employees, and is as "busy as all get out!"

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,^[a] whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Byron's personal advise: God will not destroy you..put God in your heart, trust in Him completely & watch what he does!

Kevin Davis closed us in prayer.

Cedar Creek – The Classic

4/14/18 – 4/15/2018

WINDS & WAVES ROLL TEAM GRIFFIN/REYNOLDS TO CLASSIC ON CEDAR CREEK

Brothers & longtime CCBC anglers **Ben Griffin & Steve “Rattlesnake” Reynolds** teamed up for the Classic victory over 27 teams with a 2 day total of 19.67 pounds on a blustery and cool April weekend on Cedar Creek Lake. Their 7 bass of a possible 2 day limit of 8 bass were anchored by a solid 3 fish limit on day 1 @ 10.77 lbs including their big bass of 5.31, leaving them in 2nd place overall after day 1. The day 1 leaders of **Darrin Coslin / Bud Benner** with 3 @ 10.85 could not duplicate their sack, boating only 1 bass on day 2 slipping them to 7th overall. Big movers of the tournament were the father & son team of **Albert & Matt Love**, moving up from 13th after day 1 to 2nd overall after their day 2 sack of 5 @ 12.63. But the tournament’s biggest movers were **Mike Thurman / Joe Lee**, going from 15th to 3rd with 5 @ 13.63, the biggest sack weighed in on the 2nd day. 4th place went to Team **Brian Hopkins / Brandon Clayton** moving from 7th to 4th with a 2 day total of 17.98. And 5th went to Team **Jon Griffin / Pierce Johnston** with 16.58. Of the 27 team field, only 2 teams managed a limit both days, 3 on day 1, 5 on day 2-the **Love’s** finishing 2nd, & the **Loggains** finishing 6th.

Over \$5,500.00 in Cash & Prizes

1 st Ben Griffin/Steve Reynolds.....	19.67	\$1500
2 nd Matt & Albert Love.....	18.68	\$800
3 rd Mike Thurman/Joe Lee.....	18.40	\$400
4 th Brian Hopkins/Brandon Clayton.....	17.98	\$300
5 th Jon Griffin/Pierce Johnston.....	16.58	\$250
6 th Alan & Leisha Loggains.....	16.55	\$200
7 th Darrin Coslin/Bud Benner.....	13.13	\$150
8 th Mike Aman/Mike Smith.....	12.96	\$100
9 th Charley David.....	12.60	SW Airlines single ticket
10 th Rodney Pickard/Jacob Stanford.....	12.42	SW Airlines single ticket

#1 Big Bass-Mike Smith	6.22	\$300
#2 Big Bass-Darrin Coslin	5.50	\$160

Full 2 day limit with the smallest weight - Team Love / 2 Kistlers Rods

SCATTERSHOOTING

Seems everyone had stories of lost fish that would have made a difference-**Charley David** lost the tourney on day 2 by losing four crankbait fish including a 4 pounder by the boat....**Jon Griffin** broke off a 4-5 pounder that would have completed his team limit on day 2...**Team Cook** apparently lost all 8 bass they did not weigh in...nice come back for **James Fabby Jonah Segovia**, after a goose egg on day 1, weighed in 4 @ 9.10 on day 2...**Brandon Wooddell** was sitting nice after day 1 in 4th place, only to push his Ranger thru shallow mud and clog up his intake early on day 2 ending his day...the **Love’s** fish n ski can handle waves a bit better, trekking across the main lake both days, and with a little help from **Team Thurman / Lee** catching a full 8 fish limit...some did challenge the 25+ winds & the main lake, while most stayed in the Log Cabin cove proving that with strong north winds, Cedar Creek is both navigable & fishable...no doubt a strong northern front with high winds & low temps in the upper 30s caused the bass to change their moods drastically....**Ralph Gomez / Bruce Griffith** broke a trailer spring coming back to weigh-in on day 1, but after a tow truck & quick \$400 repair, they were back on the water for day 2...big thanks to **Al Kohutek** providing 2 SW Airlines tickets for the Classic bounty...winning lures of choice included the rattlesnake, shaky heads, watermelon red baby brush hogs, swim jigs, spinnerbaits, c-rigs, buzz baits & crank baits...thanks also to **Charley David**, following day 1 he grilled burgers & brats for the club...and big thanks to **Leisha Loggains** who is sponsored by Kistler Rods. She would donate 2 Kistlers to the team who’s full 2 day limit was the smallest weight. Only 2 teams

had full limits, she & her husband Alan, and Team Love. Funny because **Team Loggains'** weight was the smaller, so she awarded the 2 rods to **Team Love**, an awesome prize in addition to their 2nd place \$800 check!

CONDITIONS

Partly cloudy to sunny, 39-62 degrees; Winds NNW 15-25 mph; water temp 60-65, heavily stained 2-5" clarity; lake level FULL.

NEXT UP

The season's 3rd tournament on the year on Lake Whitney 4/28/18

LAKESIDE SUNDAY MORNING PRE-SUNRISE DEVO

Jon Griffin spoke to the club gathering on the subject of:

EVIDENCE....PROOF....SOMETIMES DIFFICULT FOR US BASS TOURNAMENT FISHERMAN

-As it applies to the stories in the bible, ESPECIALLY in the NT...the EVIDENCE is overwhelming, substantiating with facts the TRUTH of the GOSPELS. SCHOLARS HAVE PROVEN BEYOND ANY DOUBT, THE NT IS THE BEST FORM OF FACTUAL, HISTORIC TRUTH OF ANY WRITING IN THE HISTORY OF ANTIQUITIES. AND IT'S NOT EVEN CLOSE.

THIS AM, WE'LL EXAMINE ONE PIECE OF EVIDENCE THAT IS OVERWHELMING.
--THE EMPTY TOMB **SIGNIFICANT.

MATTHEW 28:1-10

The Resurrection

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

- **ARCHEOLOGISTS HAVE DETERMINED & NARROWED DOWN 2 POSSIBLE LOCATIONS *BOTH TOMBS HAVE THE EXACT SAME THING IN COMMON. BOTH EMPTY.**

- **HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT, BECAUSE AN EMPTY TOMB MEANS JESUS DID EXACTLY WHAT HE SAID OVER & OVER WHAT HE WAS GONNA DO. RISE AGAIN.**

- **EMPTY TOMB IS ALSO HAD TO DARN NEAR MAKE THE CHIEF PRIESTS, PHARISEES & ROMAN SOLDIERS HEAD EXPLODE. BECAUSE THEY DID EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO**

STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING. EVEN MORE AGGRAVATING TO THEM, THEY COULD HAVE STOPPED THIS RESURRECTION NONSENSE QUICKLY BY PRODUCING THE BODY, PARADING AROUND TOWN FOR DAYS FOR ALL TO SEE. BUT THEY COULD NOT, CAUSE NO BODY WAS IN THE GRAVE....DESPITE THE FACT JESUS WAS CLEARLY DEAD....DESPITE THE FACT HIS BODY WAS PLACED IN A TOMB THAT EVERYONE KNEW ABOUT...DESPITE THE FACT THAT IT WAS NOW GUARDED BY DOZEN OF THE BIGGEST, BADDEST, MEANEST ROMAN SOLDIERS...DESPITE THAT FACT THAT A 6,000 ROCK WAS NOW PERMANENTLY WEDGED IN THE HOLE OF THE TOMB—NO BODY WAS RECOVERED, BECAUSE NO BODY WAS IN THE TOMB ANYMORE.

- **THE SOLUTION?** LET'S SAY THE DISCIPLES STOLE THE BODY.

MATTHEW 28:11-15

The Report of the Guard

While they were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers and said, "Tell people, 'His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.' And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story has been spread among the Jews to this day.

- SO YOU'RE REALLY GONNA BELIEVE THESE 10 TERRIFIED DISCIPLES ARE GONNA PULL OFF THE CRIME OF THE CENTURY. NO MONEY, NO RESOURCES, NO WEAPONS...JESUS CRUCIFIED, THEY'RE NEXT. THEY'VE SCATTERED, THEY'RE TERRIFIED, AND THEY'RE GOING TO OVERTAKE A LEGION OF SPECIAL FORCES, GREEN BARET FIGHTING MACHINES IN THE ROMAN GUARD, THEN MOVE THE STONE, GRAB THE BODY & MAKE OFF WITH IT, WITHOUT BEING SEEN. REALLY??

- AND NOW, THEY LIE ABOUT IT. THE BIGGEST LIE EVER PERPETUATED ON HUMANKIND.

- WHEN YOU LIE-IT'S ALWAYS TO GAIN SOMETHING, WEALTH, POWER, HONOR, SAFETY

- THEIR TESTIMONY PRODUCED THE OPPOSITE. POVERTY, SHAME, PERSECUTION & DEATH. YET THEY PROCLAIMED THIS STORY JOYFULLY. WE ARE A TESTIMATE TO THE EVIDENCE OF THE TRUTH, AND THEIR REFUSAL TO NOT BACK DOWN & TELL THE TRUTH IN THE FACE OF ALL ODDS, WE ARE HERE THIS VERY MOMENT AS RECIPIENTS OF THE FACT, THE TOMB IS EMPTY, JESUS REALLY DID RISE FROM THE GRAVE.

- CENTRAL QUESTION THAT MATTHEW &THE OTHER GOSPEL WRITERS POSE TO US: WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THIS EVIDENCE? THE EVIDENCE THAT JESUS WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD? OUR RESPONSE CAN ONLY BE 1 OF 2 THINGS:

1--BE LIKE THE WOMEN WHO FOUND THE EMPTY GRAVE AND REACTED WITH INSTANTANEOUS JOY & FEAR...

OR 2: BE LIKE THE CHIEF PRIESTS. THAT IS CLEARLY SEE THE OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE, BUT REFUSE TO ACCEPT THE TRUTH BECAUSE OF THE IMPLICATIONS. THEY WOULD HAVE TO GIVE UP ON RELYING ON THEIRSELVES & THEIR PRIDE, AND RELY 100% OF CHRIST.

FACT: YOU HAVE ZERO CHANCE ON PUTTING 1 TOE IN HEAVEN UNLESS YOU'VE MADE JESUS CHRIST THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE....UNLESS YOU'VE TOLD JESUS-DUDE I AM ALL IN. NOT 50%, 75%, 94%....ALL IN.

TO ME...THE EMPTY TOMB & JESUS OVERCOMING DEATH MEANS THE PAIN OF THIS LIFE DOES NOT HAVE THE LAST WORD. ADDICTION....DESPAIR...ILLNESS....LOSS OF A CHILD....MASS SHOOTINGS.....OVERDOSE....DIVORCE....FAILED RELATIONSHIPS.....MASS SHOOTINGS....HURRICANES....WARS—JESUS RESURRECTION PROVED THAT HE HAS OVERCOME ALL THIS, & SO WILL WE THRU JESUS & ONLY JESUS.

- BILLY GRAHAM QUOTE FROM 10 YEARS AGO “ONE DAY YOU’LL HEAR BG IS DEAD. DON’T YOU BELIEVE IT, HE SAID...I’LL BE MORE ALIVE THAN EVEN, I’LL HAVE JUST CHANGED ADDRESSES”

- CLEAR EVIDENCE-JESUS REALLY DID RAISE FROM THE DEAD

- I TRUST YOU TAKE THAT FACT AS THE WOMEN DID...WITH FEAR & GREAT JOY. THINK ABOUT THAT TODAY ON THE WATER...AS YOU’RE DRIVING HOME & AS YOU GO BACK TO WORK THIS WEEK. (PRAY)

LAKE PALESTINE

3/17/18

FLAT CREEK LOVES THE LOVE’S FOR THE PALESTINE VICTORY

Longtime members & the father & son team of Matt & Albert Love notched their 1st career victory Saturday, March 17th with a 3 fish limit out of the stumpy waters of Flat Creek on Palestine. Black & blue senkos caught their 10.65 lb limit including their 4.20 lb kicker. 2nd place went to the team of Kevin Davis/Byron McFarland less than 1 pound behind the Loves, and included their second runner up finish of the year, good for 1st place in points after 2 tournaments in the 8 tournament series. 3rd place went to another team dominating this year, Charley & Donna David, while 4th went to yet another dominate 2018 team of brothers Ben Griffin and “Rattlesnake” Steve Reynolds, this after a 3rd place finish last month on Athens. Rounding out the top 5 money places was Lake Vilbig legend solo angler Brandon Wooddell.

1 st Albert & Matt Love	10.65	\$421
2 nd Kevin Davis/Byron McFarland	9.95	\$245
3 rd Charley & Donna David	9.20	\$147
4 th Ben Griffin/Steve Reynolds	8.70	\$98
5 th Brandon Wooddell	8.65	\$69

SCATTERSHOOTING

The Texas High School Bass Association East Division tournament with approximately 120 teams was not a factor whatsoever on this big body of water, in fact no one reported any issues with ramp parking, that included Kickapoo & Flat Creek...perhaps a little early for Brandon Clayton's frog bite...and speaking of pre-tournament favorites, Team Collins only managed 2 fish from "up north" ...in fact, the northern part of Lake Palestine is typically where tournaments are won, and Casbeer/Grove's 6th place limit of 7.40 with multiple culls may have been the only success reports from the stumpy northern shallows...and please know this writer is not dog-piling, but Team Lee/Thurman may be setting us all up for a monumental comeback come September, after all his last name is Lee...#JordanLee, #2crazyclassiccomebacks....Team Griffin/Johnston fished main lake & caught plenty, just nothing over 15", except for the 4 pound hybrid...lures of choice included the winning lures of black & blue senkos, plum worms, rattlesnake worms, jerkbaits, flipping beavers watermelon red, swim jigs, and most teams catching more on spinnerbaits, Jimmy Houston would be so happy...The Villages is still the best launch facility on the lake in my opinion, big thanks to Carla & all their staff during Spring Break...Eric & James Cook should be thanked again for their hard work as tournament weighers, and of course Donna & Charley David for ALLLLLLL they do every month...and finally, GIGANTIC THANKS to Tina & Joe Crouch for the post tourney feast of venison chili, fixins & drinks, and all those who stayed behind to clean up & load up.

CONDITIONS

Mostly cloudy, some sun 63-79 degrees; Winds SW 5-8mph; water temp 62-66, murky/dirty 5-8" clarity; .39' high.

NEXT UP

The COWBOY CHURCH BASS CLUB CLASSIC, April 14-15 on Cedar Creek. To qualify, you MUST have fished in at least 3 tournaments during the PREVIOUS 2017 season. The TOP 6 pays no entry. *See www.cowboychurchbassclub.com for additional rules.

The next regular season tournament is 4/28/18 on Lake Whitney

LAKESIDE DEVO

Randall & Kel Collins' pastor from Triple S Cowboy Church, Frankie Smith, was our guest speaker. Pastor Frankie, a former rodeo clown by the name of Punkintown, shared insight & wisdom he learned from his Grandfather he called Pawpaw. He enjoyed fishing with his Pawpaw, who he remembers fishing with a laser focused tunnel vision. Exactly how his Pawpaw lived out his spiritual life, with a tunnel vision never wavering on his TRUST IN JESUS. Frankie never saw his Pawpaw "spun out". He's was always laser focused & calm with his tunnel vision on Christ. He reminded his grandson & all who knew him, "TRUST IN JESUS....PERIOD!" Pastor Frankie also talked about a friend from Tennessee who had designed a special bass fishing lure that is incredibly unique and a bonafide bass catcher. His rule, share the lure, never keep it a secret. Just how we are commanded to share the saving Gospel of Christ. Never hold it to yourself, share the good news.

Frankie read Jeremiah 29:11-14

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord!”

Frankie shared that EVERYONE knows John 3:16, but few know the next verse, perhaps even more profound in John 3:17 “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.”

For Jesus said in John 14:6 “I am THE way, THE truth, and THE life. NO ONE comes to the Father but through ME.”

We all have our favorite baits in our tackle box...the great bait we have in life is Jesus, there is NO OTHER. Grab that “bait of life”, and go fishing!

LAKE ATHENS

2/24/2018

TEAM DAVID SINGS SWEET HOME ALABAMA TO WIN @ ATHENS

Wife & husband team of **Donna & Charley David** threw the Alabama rig all day through the wind & rain to bag their limit & take the victory Saturday in the 2018 season opener for the Cowboy Bass Club Northern Series. Their 3 fish limit @ 10.40 included the tourney’s big bass of 7.70, caught on the A-rig next to a dock. Athens is a slot lake, meaning no fish may be retained between 14-21 inches, and only 1 “over” can be retained & weighed in per team. The 28 team field managed to weigh in 3 overs, including 2nd place anglers **Kevin Davis & Byron McFarland** with 3@9.35 and their 7.40 over. 3rd place went to the team of **Ben Griffin/Steve Reynolds** with 3@9.15 with a 6.50 over. **David Lewis & Tony Lacount** caught 3 fat unders for 4th @ 4.05, and Randall & Kel Collins took advantage of the short 20 minute drive from home to Athens by getting extra sleep & taking 5th with 3@4 pounds even.

1 st Charley & Donna David	10.40 lbs	\$421
2 nd Byron McFarland/Kevin Davis	9.35 lbs	\$245
3 rd Ben Griffin/Steve Reynolds	9.15 lbs	\$147
4 th David Lewis/Tony Lacount	4.05 lbs	\$100
5 th Randal Collins/Kel Collins	4.00 lbs	\$70

Big Bass-Charley David	7.70 lbs	\$140
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SCATTERSHOOTING

47 degrees leaving DFW, 64 degrees when we arrived at the ramp, it was balmy....winds were fairly light @ take off, but picked up considerably along with the rain-a good rain suit was a must...**Griffin** already had an A-rig tied on but failed to hook up with any bass using that lure....”new” Skeeter with dandy blue neon lit power

poles for **Ben Griffin** helped he & his bro to 3rd place...big thanks to the Lake Athens Marina restaurant for allowing us to meet for the devo on their covered back patio-it's all new, gorgeous, great food & open for business with a smile...great to fish with 5 new member teams...**Joe Crouch** continues gutting it out, fished all day, then had hernia surgery the following Monday...no bass on beds, but no doubt Athens is about to explode with a bit of sunshine for the spawn...still for lower 50s water temps, the bass are biting great with many teams boating 20-30+ fish...while some caught numbers in 10-15' of water on wind blown points, some reported catching their big bass in less than 1 foot of water...lures of choice were c-rigs, a-rigs, brushhogs, rattlesnakes, speed craws & red lipless crankbaits...

CONDITIONS

Overcast, rain, winds SW 12-25+ gusty; water temp 53-55, 2 foot clarity, 1 foot above full level

NEXT UP

March 17 on Palestine, we're launching from Flat Creek Marina. If need of lodging, many of us use the Lake Palestine Motor Inn.

LAKESIDE DEVO

At the tournament pre-briefing before we started, Club Director Charley David asked us while fishing to contemplate what it is to be a member of the club, and what is required. In the post tourney devo, Charley asked again.

It requires signing up officially, being active and participating. Same goes with being a "member of the body of Christ". We need to become a "member" before we can really enjoy the benefits of membership. That is accepting Christ through belief & repentance, and then making Christ Lord & Savior of your life from that point forward. Members thus need a covenant, or promise.

The bible is comprised of 2 covenants. Old testament covenant, and New Testament covenant. The OT covenant, as described in **Leviticus 26:43-46** was the covenant of Moses/Abraham/Jacob, based on living by the "law", or 10 Commandments. The fact is, the 10 Commandments are a guide for living, but proven to be impossible to keep all the time. The 10 commandments show us a need for something else. The OT even prophesied many times of a New Covenant that would be delivered through a Savior.

Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of the New Covenant, now known as Covenant #2 in the New Testament. **2 Corinthians 3:7-18** talks of this.

Getting back to the "member" discussion, THE HOLY SPIRIT RESIDES IN YOU ONLY WHEN YOU ACCEPT CHRIST INTO YOUR LIFE. This means making Him Lord of your life, walking with Him, talking with Him continually, like you do a trusted friend, wife, husband or family member...but even more! **1 Thessalonians 5:17** says "NEVER STOP PRAYING". Don't know how to pray? Don't worry about it. The Bible says "God knows your thoughts & words before you even say them." Simply make Jesus a part of your life every day. It's a membership that never expires. Welcome to The Club!

Jon Griffin closed us in prayer.

For more information about the Bass Club email cowboychurchbassclub@hotmail.com or contact Charley David at 214-878-3354

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