

Columbia River Bassmasters

Board of Directors:

President:	Mark Forbes	360-772-6055
Vice-President:	Dave Lenihan	360-989-6147
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Member At Large:	Renaud Pelletier	360-430-5616
Member At Large:	Louis Smith	971-212-3778



April-18

columbiariverbassmasters.org

*** March Meeting ***

Who Song & Larry's

Tuesday, April 3rd @ 7:30pm

111 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver

Meeting Agenda

Mark	Call meeting to order/Guest Intro
Vince	Meeting Minutes
Members	Fishing Reports
Gary	BASS/FLW/TBF Report
Chuck	Treasurer's Report

OLD BUSINESS

Gary Updated tournament schedule

----- BREAK? -----

NEW BUSINESS

Renaud	Crankbait presentation
Members	Tackle gadgets, tips and photos
Mark	Draw for Celilo and Boardman tourneys



MARCH MEETING TOPICS

Twelve members and no guests attended the March meeting. The schedule change switching the Riffe Lake and Stevenson July events was approved. July 7th will now be Stevenson while the 28th is Riffe Lake. Chuck said the account balance has dipped to \$360.00. Bob Judkins reported that 36 people helped build Hagg Lake spider blocks while 20 placed them the following weekend. Dave Vericker reported Gabe landed a 5lb Smallie after one of those outings. Bob Judkins gave a presentation on how he is successful dragging 2-3" tubes and drop-shots. Mark suggested future meetings have a show and tell from members on tackle gadgets and tips along with a slide show of our photos from successful outings.

SMALLMOUTH ARE STUPID (by Seth Feider)

It's a little early, maybe, but the spawn will be in full swing somewhere in just a little while, and everyone wants to know how it affects the smallmouth bite and in some cases they want to know how to fish it. Here are my thoughts...

The magic number is 60. When the water hits that temperature the smallies will start their spawn in most parts of the country. The thing about that to keep in mind is that largemouth seem to pay attention to the moon phase and the weather as well as water temperature. That's not so true with smallies. They are much more temperature oriented.

I don't have a theory on that except that smallmouth spawn deeper so maybe they aren't as affected by the weather, and the moon's effect is probably limited for the same reason.

And while we're talking about depth let me tell you that they seem to spawn right where your ability to see into the water ends. In some places that'll be shallow and in others it'll be 25 feet.

Something else about smallmouth bass is that they always build their nests near or on something. Largemouths will spawn in a hole in the grass or sometimes along an open bank. Smallies always want something around them, anything. A big rock is nice but a small stick is just as good. I've even seen them build a nest up against a pop can lying on the bottom.

Another difference between the two is that when smallmouth build their beds the males stick around. A male smallmouth will move in two weeks before the female arrives. He'll make the bed and then just hang around the area until a female shows up ready to lay her eggs. And, after the eggs are in the nest he'll stay for another two weeks. It's crazy when you compare that to how largemouths behave.

But, the real reason I said that smallmouth bass are stupid in the title to this column is how easy they are to catch when they're on the beds — males and females. I don't really like talking about the subject much because I think it's so easy to catch them that it's not right. In full disclosure, however, I do fish for them on the beds in tournaments. That's a necessity, but I never do it otherwise.

They'll bite a spinnerbait the first time through or a drop shot as soon as it's in the water. On top of that, they'll bite the same lure three or four times in the day. No kidding, you can catch the same fish over and over on the same day and sometimes for two days in a row. Try any of that with a largemouth and see what you get.

That aggressive nature is all year, however, not just during the spawn. Smallmouth are not hard to catch like a lot of anglers would have you believe. What they are is hard to find because they move around so much. At times they'll get moody but never like largemouth. If you can find them, you can catch them.

As far as timing the spawn by the calendar goes, it's all about where you live. Depending upon the weather, and how near to the South you are, the spawn might happen as early as late March or early April. Up here in Minnesota where I live it'll be around the first week of May, although I have seen a few on the beds as late as August. Your best strategy is to watch the water temperature.

What I've talked about here is general stuff. Every lake and river is a little bit different. Study the spawn on your home lake. It'll really improve your fishing because once you understand that you can better understand the prespawn and the postspawn.

AN FLW MEMBERSHIP IS WORTH THOUSANDS (January 29, 2018 by FLW)

World's Greatest Deals

You didn't know it, but if you're an FLW competitor member, you just saved yourself potentially thousands of dollars.

FLW just rolled out a new member benefit that provides competitor members with free access to the World's Greatest Deals Powered by FLW program, which offers exclusive savings opportunities to more than 350,000 local and national vendors.

Here's how it works:

GET DISCOUNTS

World's Greatest Deals is a web-based savings program that compiles exclusive discounts for both local and national vendors that, when used regularly, can add up to thousands of dollars in savings per year – \$1,500 to \$5,000 per user. Savings coupons can be printed off or used digitally for categories including dining, grocery, entertainment, wellness, travel and recreation, auto and fuel, home and garden, hotels, health and beauty, and gifts. Retailers and brands such as Apple, Holiday Inn, Redbox, Advance Auto Parts, AVIS, Walt Disney World and thousands more are participating in the program.

HOW TO USE IT

World's Greatest Deals can be accessed by members online or via a GPS-enabled smartphone app, which is available at the Apple or Google Play stores. The app compiles local deals wherever you go, which is a valuable tool for tournament anglers or anyone who travels. For instance, when supertime rolls around, just click open the app and find a deal at a restaurant near you. It's simple.

FREE FOR COMPETITOR MEMBERS

If you're an FLW competitor member, the program is 100 percent FREE and included with your membership. To activate it, go to flwfishing.com/wgd and follow the instructions to complete the World's Greatest Deals registration. You can then access savings online or download the app.

Membership in World's Greatest Deals lasts as long as the competitor membership.

Visit flwfishing.com/wgd to learn more.

DON'T FORGET THE MEETING WILL NOT START UNTIL 7:30!!!!