

# Columbia River BASSMASTERS

[www.columbiariverbassmasters.org](http://www.columbiariverbassmasters.org)



**October 2011**

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**Remember: You must be present at the meeting for the Tournament Draw, or notify the Tournament Director BEFORE the meeting to fish the monthly tournament.**

**\*\*\* MEETING \*\*\***

Tuesday October 4th, 2011 at 7pm  
**Who Song and Larry's**  
**111 SE Columbia Way**  
**Vancouver, Washington**

*CRB Members DO NOT miss this meeting  
 It could prove to be the most important  
 event of our season! See you there!!!*

**Prineville**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Place Gary**  
**and Jim**  
 Two Days: 22.38

Day One. Four of  
 their limit with Gary,  
 holding a 4.30 S/M.  
 Part of limit at 14.85!



**October Meeting Agenda**

- Call meeting to order – Tim
- Introduce officers/Board
- Bass/FLW – Ed
- Old Business – Tim
  - Eligibility
  - Nomination for club officers
  - 2 day Ideas for 2012 Season
- Review Prineville tourn/Awards – Tim
- New business – Board
  - TOC Location - Tim
  - TOC Pot - Chuck
- Draw for The Dalles – Tim
- Christmas Party - Chuck
- Close meeting Mix and Mingle



Gary and Jim on  
 Day Two with Jim  
 holding his 2.75  
 L/M, and Gary has  
 his "twin" S/M at  
 2.75.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

Randy holding two  
 of dad's and his  
 limit. One L/M  
 weighed in at 4+ lbs.



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

Zip and Joe  
 with part of a  
 9.52 limit.



**Next CRB Tourney**  
**The Dalles, Columbia River**  
**October 8<sup>th</sup>/Saturday**

I cannot believe that a full season has come and gone, but here above is your last CRB tourney to get some points or show that you can catch some bass before the CRB TOC on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>, with the site to be determined. Let's make this event at The Dalles our best turnout of the season! See you there!

## Gary Estes/Jim Miller Capture 1<sup>st</sup> Place at Prineville /CRB 2 Day

### \*\*\*\*THE COMPLETE STORY OF A WIN\*\*\*\*

Once a season our club votes on a lake to be in our schedule that will consist of an event that will be fishing for two days for a grand total weight of those two days determined to be the winner. I have been asked to recapture those two days in as much detail as is practical, to tell our story of success. Understand that I have always believed that there is “no substitute” for time on the water in our sport. I probably pushed that to extreme, as my pre-fish for Prineville, alone, as I could not find a CRB member, who wanted to drive over seven hours (round trip) to fish for just six hours on the Saturday before our event on the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>. So, off I went at 6AM, armed with my Map Quest directions to the camp ground launch site of our event. Having never fished Prineville, I simply read the directions and for whatever reason ended up at the dam at the far end at the wrong location, trusting that typing in “government camp site” would do the job. Now it is 9:30AM, and I find the short way back to town is across the dam, and the road is closed due to work atop the dam that would have meant just 20 minutes to put me where I had planned on launching, or take the long way around at over an hour more on the road.

A “no brainer” there, simply I’d launch the boat for fifteen minutes to the camp ground site via the lake in my boat if I go directly there. I took the time to prepare myself for a pre-fish, having contacted the Central Oregon Bass Club and the Bass and Panfish Club of Portland, both of which have had events on Prineville yearly. I should take the time here to thank both of these organizations for emailing me back and spending much time on the phone with “virtual tours” of the lake and their learned thoughts on Prineville Reservoir. Thank you Dan and Russ, respectively, for your beyond, “comradery” of our sport for all of your time spent with me previous to CRB event on Prineville. Launch my boat and off to the campground launch site. Prineville reminded me so much of a small version of Shasta Lake, having spent over 40 years, pounding the waters there, in fun and tourney fishing it previous to retiring in Portland. River arms, cliffs and back bays, deep cut channel breaks, it was all there, now just to apply all my knowledge gathered recently and past and make it happen! After almost an hour just looking at structure and marveling at what a beautiful lake this was I arrived at the camp ground launch. I attempted not to have any pre-conceived ideas and keep an open mind on the pre-fish at hand. For certain I took notice of the unusually clear water with views to 15 feet as I tied off at the dock to walk up to the camp ground to take a look at the facilities. Now it is almost 10:45AM and I elect to tie on a clear plastic single spin Colorado spinner bait that has won for me, for decades, a lot of dollars in clear water situations on many different lakes, with two spotted bass out of Shasta over seven pounds to its credit. The last tournament situation with this spinner bait was at Shasta Lake several years ago, when Shon (CRB/AOY) and I decided to fish some of our old productive areas with SCBA Fall Classic and a 80 boat field. This very blade went back to work and ended up with a few culled limits and two spotted bass went to the scales with Shon’s and we ended up in 6<sup>th</sup> place! At Prineville I made a cast from my boat tied to the dock just to “tune my blade” and a 2.5# smallie grabbed my favorite lure! I unbuttoned her in the boat and took a look at the beautiful point the campground had in front of it with rock and channel swing on it and decided what the heck, I will start here. Long story short I put over 12 pounds in the boat (all smallmouth) in about a half hour, including one over three pounds. My graph was just loaded with arch’s, and every large small mouth I caught had two or more come up with the one hooked, one I saw was easily a five pounder! So, I decided to scout out more points just like

this one. Three points found within eye sight of this one, and two more SM over three and a bunch of two's, all on my plastic blade, at approximately 13+ pounds! Wow, was I "stoked"! So, I take the long drive home just can't wait to call my partner for the event, Gary Estes. I drew Gary in our draw system at the CRB meeting for this tournament to allow all CRB members in the draw to have a partner, as opposed to a few boats going out alone for two days fishing. I have known Gary for over 20 years, having never met him until joining CRB, and was really looking forward to fishing with him. Gary, unlike me, is no stranger to Prineville and seemed excited to hear my news. Again, long story short, he goes out on Prineville on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup>, two days before our CRB tourney and puts 14#s in the boat, only he's on the big Largemouth, just what we needed to be really successful. Then he fine tunes the pre-fish on Friday as well. Gary's pattern was best on a 1/4oz dart head 6" worm and various jigs, better than his reaction bite as I was having the past Saturday. So, we are as excited as two tournament anglers can be. We talk on the phone again, Friday night and go thru are time allotments etc. for Day One. We decide to go with Gary's fish up the Crooked Arm of the lake in the AM, as I was confident of my "point/blade pattern". For purposes of this article we will call this point discovered by me at the launch ramp, "magic point".

**DAY ONE:** We head up the Crooked Arm (I feel like I have been there, thanks again to Russ and Dan mentioned earlier in their virtual GPS Global mapping they did on the phone with me). So, the big fish of the morning goes to my partner with a hefty 3# LM and all I could manage to do is get the small keeper fish out of the way on wacky rigged Senkos and dart head grubs, for Gary to get five in the boat at around eight pounds, as we both go thru approximately fifteen keepers. What scared me was not one fish on my blade all morning! I thought, no worry, when I get to the hot point at the launch it will all happen! So, off we go to "magic point" to get on it. I could hear Gary's mind a "buzzin".

We get there and NO blade bite!! However, Gary adjusted fast to dart head worm and jigs, and in about fifteen minutes (I said 15 minutes) puts ten pounds of small-mouth in the boat, to go along with his 3# LM. What we did not know until weigh in that one of the smallies caught on this point turns out to be big fish for the day at 4.30 and one other that was over three pounds, again all on this point! Worth mentioning here that Gary has taken big bass for a ride in his Skeeter in CRB events four of seven times, with a 5.13 L/M at Cullaby, to a 4.14 at Celilo, to a 3.79 (Caught by Joe B. in Gary's boat from back seat) to a 4.55 at Stevenson to the big SM here at Prineville. The rest of the first day I never got a bump on my plastic blade. Not to matter as there was always tomorrow and besides the winning point had produced for us "big time" with a big part of the 14# plus bag we had for day one! We weigh in our big limit of five bass at 14.85 (all caught and culled by Gary) that puts us in 1<sup>st</sup> Place on Day One.

**DAY TWO:** We start across the lake from the launch site on one of the points that was good on day one and in my prefish a week ago. Nothing!!! We go to the "magic point" of yesterday, with bass on the graph we fish and fish, nothing for either of us. We hit many of Gary's productive spots on the way up the Crooked Arm, NOTHING!! Can this be, yes it can, we both had been in this position many times in our careers in the sport! Not knowing that the reaction bite had evaporated for every CRB participant this day two.

Now it is around 9:30 and we are sitting on one of Gary's pre-fish productive walls for LM and I feel just pressure at approx. 25ft on my 1/4 oz Yamamoto single tail grub/dart head and set the hook. Finally, a fish on and it's a good one to get the skunk off the boat, a

2.75 LM. With a club decided 1 PM weigh in and time surging on fast, and only one bass in the boat, we decide to run and gun. NO keepers to be had! We decide to hit the magic point one more time, just knowing that that reaction bite could come on any time! I manage barely a keeper on a jig and we decide with only two keepers in the boat to run a few more, recent past productive areas, saving time for a half hour on the magic point to close out the day. Gary finally manages to put two keepers in the boat, one of them a nice SM in the 2# class. Now we have four bass and return to the magic point, to find 2<sup>nd</sup> place from day one, Randy Abbot sitting on magic point! "How you doing Randy"? we ask from legal distance on the point. He replies, "Got about what we had yesterday, ten pounds"! Just as he says this he sticks a 2# smallie and culls right in front of our open mouths. We have four fish, he has a limit and off to the scales we go, both of us knowing it will be a close weight for 1<sup>st</sup> Place. Don and son Randy's weight was just over a pound less than ours as you can see by the totals, with our final weight at 22.38 and their two day's weight at 21.04. Gary and I, high five and get our breath back that we had lost in the past few minutes! A much deserved victory for both Gary and I, complimenting each other's abilities and pre-fish in a proven successful manner, long to be remembered by us both! Oh, and the Abbott's, one heck of a performance for both of you for the two days for a very close Second Place finish with the only team with two limits! Super job!!

### THIRD PLACE GOES TO ZIP AND JOE BADOLATO..13.37

So, Zip has his gear ready and some limited knowledge of Prineville, having fished it in the past and he gets up before dawn on Friday to meet another CRB angler and going across the 205 Bridge he hears a loud bang from his truck engine and it's bad news, a blown engine. He gives me a call and asks if I would be willing to take my boat and I say sure if it will help and all anglers will still be able to participate. Long story short, his next door neighbor offers him his truck and Randy's off again. He and Joe (present Angler of the Year in points) manage a nice 9.52, day one, but fall short at 3.85, day two, for a total weight of 13.37, well off the Abbott's Second Place weight of 21.04, the only CRB team to catch a limit both days at Prineville.

### THANK YOU MR. ED CHIN FOR YET ANOTHER DINNER

One of the best parts of a two day event for CRB is sitting around the camp fire and telling lies after partaking in now infamous, Ed Chin's prepared complete, multi-course dinners. Twelve of us and Sherrie, Don Abbott's wife, and Randy's lady friend guest had all the food we could manage, thanks to Ed's culinary arts on Saturday night. Then we try to sleep with all that great food in our stomachs to anticipate Sunday's big bass in our dreams. It's a tough life, this CRB tournament fishing, but someone has to do it!

# Columbia River Bassmasters Tournament Weigh-In Sheet

Event: **Prineville Reservoir**  
**"The Sage Brush Slammer"**

Date: **September 17/18, 2011**

Place	Boater	Non-boater	Day 1		Day 2		Total Weight	AOY Points
			Big Fish	Weight	Big Fish	Weight		
1	<b>Gary Estes</b>	Jim Miller	<b>4.30</b>	14.85		7.53	22.38	100
2	Don Abbott	Randy Abbott		10.05		10.99	21.04	96
3	Zip Decker	Joe Badolato		9.52		3.85	13.37	92
4	Tim Ihle	Gabe Cheek		8.85		2.73	11.58	88
5	Ed Chin	Nick Chin		1.12		4.97	6.09	84
6	Mark Forbes	Chuck Smith		5.02		0	5.02	80

\* AOY points: 1st = 100 pts, 2nd = 96 pts, 3rd = 92 pts, 4th = 88 pts, etc. Anglers weighing no fish get last place pts weighing in, minus 20 pts.

As if the Tourney Director did not have enough numbers to contend with, Jim is pestering Mark to have the number of bass caught on the above stats. We will begin in October. Jim assures all that this will be of interest and tell a story complete to a tourney weigh-in.

## Columbia River Bassmasters Angler of the Year, 2011

Best **FOUR** tournaments are scored.  
 (These tournaments are excluded)

Scoring:  
 1st 100  
 2nd 96  
 3rd 92  
 4th 88  
 etc. less 4  
 No Weight 20 less than minimum weight

Rank	Current Points	Angler	Cullaby	CFC	Cello	Swan Island	Silver Lake	Stevenson	Swan Island	Prineville, OR
			3/19/2011 Place Pts	4/2/2011 Place Pts	4/23/2011 Place Pts	5/15/2011 Place Pts	8/4/2011 Place Pts	7/17/2011 Place Pts	8/13/2011 Place Pts	9/17-18/2011 Place Pts
1	396	Joe Badolato	98	88	100	100	100	96	80	92
2	388	Gary Estes	92		88	100		96	88	100
3	380	Tim Ihle	100	88	92	80	56		100	88
4	376	Rob Allen	96	92	78	92	78		96	
5	372	Zip Decker	56	92	100	84	56	88		92
6	380	Don Abbott	84		84	88	92	88		96
7	380	Randy Abbott	84		84	88	92	88		96
8	356	Gabe Cheek	100	88	72	80	88	76		88
9	336	Shon Childers	56	88	96	96	88			
10	336	Mark Forbes	56		80	80	84	92	80	80
11	332	Tom Hartshorn			72	92		84	84	
12	328	Ed Chin	78	88			56	100		84
13	328	Jim Miller	56	88	78	80	56	84	84	100
14	320	Rich Lockhart	56			80	80	88	92	
15	316	Colby Botts	78		88	96	78			
16	316	Joe Doyle	80		92	80		84		
17	312	Michael Parker	56	96	80			80		
18	308	Chuck Smith	56		96	80		72		80
19	284	George Zelaya			88	80	56	80		
20	284	Jody Cagle	56				56	84	88	
21	244	Don Randolph	56					92	96	
22	228	Bob Larimer	56		88		84			
23	196	Nick Fitzsimmons	96	100						
24	180	Renaud Pelleier	80				100			
25	152	Ken Ponder					80	72		
26	144	Todd Martinez	56	88						
27	144	Rob Simmons	88				56			
28	140	Pat Rall				84	56			
29	100	Gregor Pierce							100	
30	84	Jim Massey			84					
31	80	Sherry Lohse			80					

# TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

Hi everyone. It seems like the summer has flown by...maybe because it didn't feel like summer until September! But, it's soon to be October and that means the club's Tournament of Champions. This is an exciting tournament for a number of reasons. First, for those who qualify by fishing in four of the club tournaments during the season, you can enter with no entry fee! Second, the prize money has been accumulating from each of the tournaments and will make a nice pot. Last year, the pot was more than \$500. The exact pot will be announced by Treasurer Chuck Smith at the October meeting.

Here is the list of qualified anglers. Don Randolph and Bob Larimer can still qualify if they fish The Dalles.

	Current	
Rank	Points	Angler
1	396	Joe Badolato
2	388	Gary Estes
3	380	Tim Ihle
4	376	Rob Allen
5	372	Zip Decker
6	360	Don Abbott
6	360	Randy Abbott
8	356	Gabe Cheek
9	336	Shon Childers
9	336	Mark Forbes
11	332	Tom Hartshorn
12	328	Ed Chin
12	328	Jim Miller
14	320	Rich Lockhart
15	316	Colby Botts
15	316	Joe Doyle
17	312	Michael Parker
18	308	Chuck Smith
19	264	George Zelaya
19	264	Jody Cagle

There will be a signup sheet available at the October meeting. If you are in attendance, please sign up as either a boater or non-boater. We may have more boaters than non-boaters, so I've added a column where you can volunteer to be a non-boater if we need to even out the draw. Note that as many can volunteer as want to. If we have more volunteer than we need, we will draw from the list to determine who changes to non-boater. Anyone who does not attend the October meeting can call me to sign up, or I will contact anyone I haven't heard from.

The rules for the TOC are posted on the website as part 12 of the Tournament Rules.

**TOC DRAW:** The draw cannot be made until after The Dalles tournament since two people can possibly qualify there. So, I will be conducting the draw with one or more board members at my house Sunday afternoon.

We will schedule a conference call that anyone interested may join to hear the draw "live". I'll send out the time and phone number before October 1. The draw procedure will be the normal format with chips, and my wife will pick the chips from a "hat". Immediately following the draw, I'll post the teams on the website.

**VENUE:** The venue is to be decided by vote of members at the October meeting. Since there are few (if any) other tournaments scheduled for October ANY VENUE IS OPEN.

That's the scoop. I hope all who qualified can make the tournament. It's sure to be fun and there will be some nice prize money. Since this is our last tournament of the year, how about everyone having a bite and a beer (or snack and soda) following the weigh in?