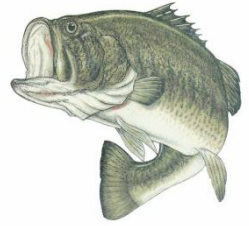


Smithville Bassmasters



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dickson - Kitterman Win 6th Annual Daniel Palmer Memorial Classic Open Buddy Bass Tournament

The Smithville Bassmasters recently held the Sixth Annual Daniel Alan Palmer Memorial Classic Open Buddy Bass Tournament on Missouri's Smithville Lake.

This special, all ages tournament is a way for the Smithville Bassmasters to remember and pay tribute to Army Specialist Daniel Alan Palmer, son of club member and former club president, John Shields. It also serves as a great way to raise money to help US veterans enjoy the outdoors.

"It's great that this event gets bigger and better each year," Shields said. "It really touches my heart to see folks show up for this, especially the fathers fishing with their sons and daughters."

This year, Ryan Dickson and Bob Kitterman took home the top prize. Their 5 fish bag weighed-in at 17.28 pounds. Their catch also contained the tourney's Big Bass of 5.39 pounds.

"It was a really tough day. We took advantage of the five good bites we had," claimed Dickson. "When my partner would say, 'This stump or tree has always been good for a fish.' We'd get a bite!"

The second place team was that of Jeff Saunders and Clay Palmer with a total of 7.06 pounds. The team also had the second place big bass of 5.38 pounds.

Third place was claimed by Mike Harris and Fabricio Toledo, weighing-in 3 fish for 5.94 pounds.

The tournament raised a total of \$1,869.00 through entry fees, raffle ticket sales and donations. All those funds will be presented to the Fishing for Freedom Foundation, a group dedicated to helping US veterans enjoy the outdoors and the sport of bass fishing. The money raised will go to cover expenses for Fishing for Freedom's annual

tournament. Each year they host an all expenses paid bass tournament for returning US veterans.

All participants of the Sixth Annual Daniel Alan Palmer Memorial Classic Tournament enjoyed door and raffle prizes donated by Anderson Metals Corporation Inc., Shoreline Boat & RV Repair, Smithville Marine, Burton's Bait & Tackle, Joe's Auto Service, Mondo Tackle, Ace Pipe Cleaning, Blue Nile Contractors, Kevin Swink Shelter Insurance, Skirmish Baits, KMBC-TV and private donations.

The Smithville Bassmasters will host the Daniel Alan Palmer Memorial Classic again in September 2018 on Smithville Lake. All ages and skill levels welcome to participate.

"We have plans to raise more money and have more prizes and bigger payouts for next year's tournament," stated tournament director, Tom Carlin. "Young or old, professional or novice, we'd love to see you in 2018!"

For more information on the Smithville Bassmasters visit smithvillebassmasters.com or facebook.com/smithvillebassmasters. To learn more about the Fishing for Freedom organization go to fishingforfreedom.us.

Attachments Palmer Classic Winners – (l-r) Ryan Dickson & Bob Kitterman
Palmer Classic 2nd – Jeff Saunders
Palmer Classic 3rd – (l-r) Fabricio Toledo & Mike Harris
All photos courtesy – Clay Palmer

#####