



Club Profiles

Fox Valley Bass Club

By Mark Boyd

The Fox Valley Bass Club (FVBC) of Appleton, Wisconsin has been around so long none of the current members are absolutely sure when it was first formed (somewhere around 1974), but it's safe to say that this group has been casting the waters of Northeast Wisconsin for the better part of three decades. Most of the names and faces have changed over the years, but the two dozen or so avid anglers that currently comprise the club's membership still come together for the same purpose they always have; to fish for bass and fish for fun.

Club members gather for monthly meetings to talk fishing and club business, with two summer meetings being held as family picnic get-togethers. They also compete during the Wisconsin "all-too-short" bass fishing season in eight "buddy-draw" qualifying tournaments in hopes of making the cut for the season's end Tournament of Champions (TOC). Each year concludes with an annual Awards Banquet held in December.

While the competition and camaraderie of fishing is key to this group, their community spirit runs strong. For the past



several years, the FVBC has teamed with the 1,000 Islands Nature Center of Kaukauna, Wisconsin to conduct a 2-evening "Fishing For Kids" event. The first evening youngsters are educated in such topics as fish identification, lures, fishing knots, fish cleaning, angling and boat safety and casting. The second evening is the one the kids look forward to the most, because they are treated to a couple hours of fishing along the banks of the Fox River then its back to the Nature Center for the

handing out of door prizes and goodies. We've hosted as many as 100 youngsters during these events, but through donations from a great bunch of community and national sponsors, no one goes home empty handed.

This club is all about keeping fishing fun, with very affordable yearly dues and club tournament entry fees. We don't compete for the cash, but rather for the spirit of fun competition, the chance to learn a few tricks from one another and bragging rights.

If you're a bass angler living in or around the Fox Valley of Northeast Wisconsin, contact us to learn more about joining our club! We'd love to have you join us! Learn more about us by visiting our website at www.foxvalleybassclub.com **BCD**