

# Sponsors

Army Bass Anglers  
www.armybassanglers.com

Cabela's  
www.cabelas.com

Chuck Wagon BBQ  
Warsaw, MO  
(660) 438-2503

Fish Blaster Baits  
www.fishblasterbaits.com

First Command Financial Services  
Leavenworth, KS 66048  
(913) 651-6820  
www.firstcommand.com

Fitzwater Custom Lures  
www.fitzwaterlures.com

Hidden Lake Resort  
Warsaw, MO  
(660)438-5106  
www.hiddenlakemotel.net

Iguana Grafix  
www.iguanagrafix.com

Leavenworth Bass Club  
www.theleavenworthbassclub.org

Long Shoal Marina  
Warsaw, MO  
(660) 438-2841  
www.longshoalmarina.com

Mike's Pro Bass Gear  
www.mikesprobbassgear.com

Pros Choice Marine  
Warsaw, MO  
(877) 827-2840  
www.proschoicemarine.com

R&H Marine  
Bull Shoals, AR  
(870) 445-2628  
www.rnhmarine.com

Smithville Marine, Inc.  
Smithville, MO  
(816) 532-4000  
www.smithvillemarine.com

Transducer Armor  
www.transducerarmor.com

Walgreens  
www.walgreens.com



## Fishing For Freedom

The Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) is now in its 7th year and our troops have served on multiple combat deployments. The stresses of combat and high operational tempo have strained our military and our military families to no end. We have seen and heard the stories of these heroes, as many have returned home with horrific physical injuries, but a tremendous psychological toll is also being paid. Suicide rates are alarmingly high across the services even though several new Department of Defense initiatives have attempted to destigmatize mental health treatment in the military culture. There is more to be done, and we citizens - back home free from their hardships - can assist these returning heroes to deal with the baggage of combat and reassimilate back into everyday life. Outdoor recreational activities are extremely therapeutic by their very nature and recent examples have made a difference in our returning heroes' lives. Although angling is only one of those activities, it can help our returning warriors escape the hardships of combat deployments and begin the process of readjusting back to everyday life.

Hearing the call to duty, the Leavenworth Bass Club, with assistance from the Kansas Bass Federation Nation (KBFN), a network of bass anglers throughout the region, and caring local and corporate sponsors are conducting an inaugural Fishing For Freedom event on 19 September at Harry S. Truman Reservoir in Warsaw, Mo. Inspired by the Army Bass Anglers, the Leavenworth Bass Club is organizing local bass clubs, local bass anglers, and fishing guides to take Global War on Terrorism veterans and wounded warriors fishing.

The Fishing For Freedom event is modeled from similar events that are occurring across the nation. It is a 'no entry fee' event that pairs avid tournament fishermen, local anglers, and fishing guides with our returning heroes in a buddy bass tournament format on a local fishery. The purpose of the event is to let these American Heroes know how much we appreciate their service and sacrifice. Trophies will be awarded for the top teams.

The inaugural event will launch from Long Shoal Marina on 19 September 2009 at 7 a.m. with a weigh-in at 2 p.m. An awards presentation and a camaraderie-building social with food and drinks will follow the weigh-in. Boater and warrior check-in and pairings will begin at 5:30 a.m. at the Long Shoal Marina. Tournament rules will be posted on the Leavenworth Bass Club website on the Fishing For Freedom webpage. The marina restaurant will be open at 5 a.m. for business, serving a buffet style breakfast.

With your support, there is a significant opportunity for this event to have a tremendous impact on our warriors and their families as they re-assimilate to life back home. Only the generosity of caring local and regional anglers and our sponsors can make this event possible.

*We are in need of Bass Anglers with boats to assist in taking these American heroes fishing. Boaters will provide additional life vests for their backseater and should have shareable tackle available.*

If interested in becoming a volunteer boater please contact Larry Stofer at [Lsto19@yahoo.com](mailto:Lsto19@yahoo.com) or 913-240-5254.

GWOT veterans and wounded warriors who would like to participate contact Larry Stofer at [Lsto19@yahoo.com](mailto:Lsto19@yahoo.com) or 913-240-5254.

Contact Hidden Lake Resort, 660-438-5106, for accommodations. Let them know you are with the Fishing For Freedom event to receive a discount.

# Fishing For Freedom

19 September 2009  
Truman Lake  
Long Shoal Marina

Pairings at 5:30 a.m.  
Take-off Time at 7 a.m.  
Weigh-in Time 2 p.m.

Rules and additional information are on the Fishing For Freedom page at [theleavenworthbassclub.org](http://theleavenworthbassclub.org)

or by contacting

Larry Stofer:  
913-240-5254  
[Lsto19@yahoo.com](mailto:Lsto19@yahoo.com)