



ALBANY AREA B.A.S.S. TIMES

Vol. 27 Issue No.12

New York State B.A.S.S. State Federation

December, 2002

Nominations for Tournament Committee & Officers:

TIMEKEEPER

George Locke
Frank Maher
Jim Underhill

MEASURER

Joey Curcurito
Greg Allen
Bob Simek

WEIGHMASTER

Charlie Curcurito

TREASURER

Paul Pflieger

SECRETARY

Al Maher

VICE PRESIDENT

Bill Swinton, Jr.

PRESIDENT

Mike Ellrott

2003 ELECTIONS & DUES!

Don't miss out on the December meeting. This is your chance to elect your tournament committee and officers for the 2003 season. Also of equal importance is your club dues. It is due at the December meeting. We need to get this in to BASS in a timely manner for insurance purposes and at \$45 is a great bargain to belong to such a prestigious organization. First ten people paying their dues will receive a free lolly-pop.....Speaking of suckers, Charlie Curcurito will also be collecting membership money for the State Federation. Yearly membership is \$20.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Every year we try to show a little kindness and donate rods & reels or money to a local charity. This year we will be accepting a monetary donation to the Toys for Tots program that is run by the U.S. Marine Corp. Please give what you can to this fine charity.

STATE FEDERATION

The state federation has already come out with their tentative 2003 tournament schedule. If you plan on fishing all of these, you might want to ask for "oil change" gift certificates to your local Jiffy Lube for Christmas. All points tournaments are on Sunday with Saturday as the practice day.

June 22	Points	Lake George	Hague
July 13	Points	Hudson River	Catskill
August 3	Points	Sackets Harbor	Lake Ontario
Aug 16&17	Club Team	St Lawrence R.	Ogdensburg
Sept 7	Points	Niagara R/Lk Erie	Buffalo

VOTE EARLY & VOTE OFTEN!

A Message From the "Prez"

The December meeting officially brings the curtain down on the 2002 season. I want to take a moment to thank all of you for making this such an enjoyable return to the President's chair. You responded to the call for participation better than I could have ever imagined. Without looking back at the records I have to think this season set a new standard for tournament participation. We averaged 34 members at each tournament with the highlight being Saratoga Lake, where 41 out of 42 members fished. Only Robby Richard missed that one. I also appreciate your turnout and participation at the Club meetings. A full room makes the meeting more fun. My personal thanks to all of you. I hope we managed to keep it fun for you too.

We didn't admit any new members this year, but we did welcome back three former members: Terry Fleming, Bobby Burns and Bob Simek. We have new one prospective member, Don Yarter ready to be voted in for the 2003 season.

The banquet was a great success as well. It's unfortunate the weather didn't cooperate. We sent the DJs home at 11:45 PM, even the Curcurito's had left by then. In spite of the early retreats, it was a fun evening. I thought the Best Western accommodations were fine and want you to know that we've booked the room for November 15, 2003. We learned this year, that if you don't book early, you run the risk of losing out.

Don't forget December is our election meeting. Right now the officers are all un-opposed, but we will open the floor again for nominations before we have the election. There is some pretty good competition for Timekeeper and Measurer, so your votes will count.

You also need to make sure your dues are paid in December. We have to square up with B.A.S.S. to make we are covered for insurance purposes.

Have a Happy ThanksGiving, and I'll see you at the meeting.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE THAT CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED

- Never ask your 3 year old brother to hold a tomato.
- You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- You can't hide a piece of brocolli in a glass of milk.

WHERE THE HECK WAS OUR FALL??

As I looked out the window this afternoon, it reminded me more of a blustery day in January than the day after Thanksgiving. Had I known it was going to get this cold, this fast, I would have winterized my motor instead of going fishing. But who would think that the temps would stay below freezing this early? I silently cursed the weather as I thought about how cold that water was going to feel as I winterized my motor. It also prompted me to include the poem on the next page.

A Yankee Bass Fisherman's Christmas Story

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house. Every Yankee was wishing, they lived in the South.

The tackle bags were hung by the chimney with care, in hopes that Johnny Morris soon would be there.

And Mamma in her Gortex, and me on the sauce, wishing that mamma would take her Gortex off.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I thought man it's too cold to go see what's the matter.

But off to the window I stumbled and tripped, busted open the shutters and left the curtains ripped.

The moon on the crest of that miserable snow, gave illusions of frostbite that most just can't know. - When what to my watering eyes should appear, but a fat redneck in a bass boat, being pulled by some deer. - Who is that guy? I pondered in thought, If he'd just change his hat, he'd look just like Ray Scott.

More rapid than cormorants his coursers they came, he whistled and hollered, and called them some names. - "Now Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Venison! Hurry up Cupid! Or it's you I'll be fixin'!" - "To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall! Y'all hurry up! Hurry up Y'all!" -

As a bass boat before the wild hurricane fly, meets with a big wave and mounts to the sky. - So up on the housetop the coursers they flew, with a boat full of tackle, rods and reels, too! - Then in a twinkling I heard on the roof, the destruction of my shingles with each tiny hoof.

As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney, the fat man came with a bound.

He was all dressed in Guide Wear, from his head to his toes, and his clothes reeked of KNB, and burned the hair of my nose.

A bundle of baits, he held on his back, and he looked like a non-boater, opening his pack.

His eyes how they squinted, his nose was all wrinkled, his cheeks were all stretched from the chew that he dribbled.

His mouth was all puckered, from speaking so slow, the goatee on his chin was white as the new fallen snow.

The stump of some jerky, he held in his teeth, looked more like dried gator than regular beef.

He had a broad face and a little beer belly, that shook when he belched like a bowl full of jelly.

He was chubby and plump, a right good ol' elf, and I didn't dare laugh, in spite of myself!

A wink of his eye, and a twist of his head, soon gave me to know what a sheep had to dread.

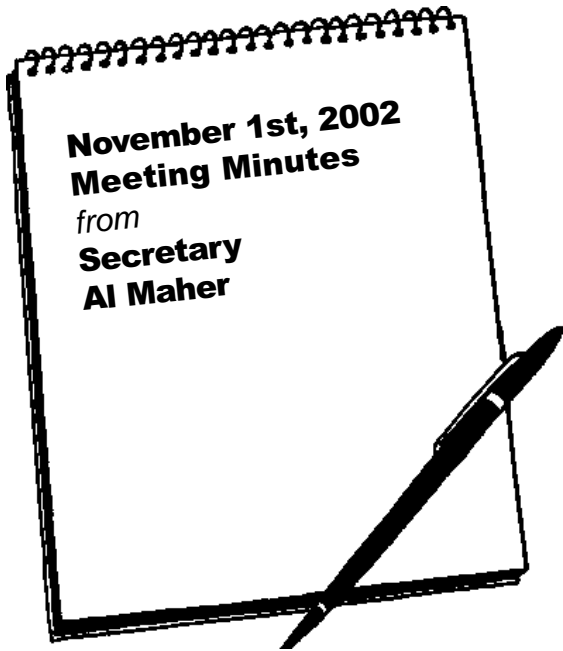
He spoke with a draw, and said "boy, let me werk", then filled all the tackle bags while mumbling, "Yankee jerk".

Then scratching his rump and spitting some chew, he gave a slight nod and up the chimney he flew.

He crawled into his rig and got his team into flight, yelled a YeeeeeeHawww, then turned south in the night.

And I heard him exclaim, as he left me there shiverin', "Hope you're happy Yankee. Tomorrow I'll be FISHIN'!!!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!



The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by President Mike Ellrott.

Officers Present: Mike Ellrott, Bill Swinton Jr., Paul Pflieger and Alan Maher.

Motion to accept the Minutes from the October 4th meeting by Jamie Dickinson and 2nd by Jim Underhill.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Pflieger

Paul reported that the Club has a balance of \$8,421.85. Mike mentioned that our unusually high balance was due to the fact that we had outstanding attendance at our tournaments. Our highest number was 41 guys at Saratoga and our lowest number was 31.

Membership Report - George Locke

Don Yarter completed his 3rd function.

Banquet Report - Tony Curcurito

Banquet fees were due tonight. Tony gave specific directions to the Best Western.

Conservation Report - Frank Maher

Frank read some high points from an article out of the Feb 2002 In-Fisherman magazine. The article was the findings of a study done on delayed fish mortality from deeply hooked fish. Frank went on to say that leaving a length of line attached to the hook (~18 inches) actually increases the odds of survival for the fish. This goes against conventional practices that much of us have employed. The results of the study also indicated that %12 of "gill-hooked" bass die, which is much less than ones that were hooked in the throat.

Tournament Report - Bill Swinton Jr.

Bill Swinton: "We came, we fished, we're done." Bill also mentioned that the ramp at Ti may be closed next season due to a possible improvement program. Apparently, Ti is going through the funding application process at this time.

Federation Report - Frank Maher

Frank had more boat raffle tickets. He also said that the federation is getting close to the minimum number of tickets that they need to sell. He also had NYS BASS Fed. lottery tickets. Charlie C. is collecting State dues. The cost is \$20.

New Business

Mike announced a fund raising program from BASS. For each new member that we bring to BASS for a paid one year membership, BASS will return \$6 to our chapter or state federation. For each two year membership, the return will be \$12.

Mike asked for ideas of possible recipients of a charitable contribution. Several ideas were brought up. George Locke was going to check into the possibility of making a cash donation to the "Toys for Tots" program.

Mike went over the results of the Mohawk River tournament. It was the 33rd win for George Locke. There were only 5 limits brought to the scales and only 73 fish caught by 33 competitors. 20 out of 33 had 2 fish or less in their bags. Average weight was 2.3 pounds.

Frank Maher is Bass Man for 2002. He and George Locke are tied at 6 titles a piece!

Along with reading off the top ten of the Mohawk tournament & final Bass Man standings, Mike read off the top four of our partners event on Saratoga Lake.

4th George & Bev Locke	8.83 lbs.
3rd Frank Maher & Mike Ellrott	9.01 lbs.
2nd Blase Regina & Frank Polomaine	9.51 lbs.
1st Mike O'Brien & Andy Zima	9.52 lbs.

Mike & Andy also had lunger @ 3.09 pounds.

10 Minute Break

Nominations for Officers and tournament committee positions were accepted.

President: Mike Ellrott by Frank Maher & 2nd by Greg Allen

Vice Pres: Bill Swinton Jr. by Charlie Curcurito 2nd by Paul Plfieger.

Treasurer: Paul Plfieger by Anthony Curcurito 2nd by Frank Polomaine

Secretary: Al Maher by Charlie Curcurito 2nd by Paul Plfieger.

*Tournament Committee

Weighmaster: Charlie Curcurito by Al Maher 2nd by George Locke

Measurer: Joey Curcurito by Charlie Curcurito 2nd by George Locke.
Greg Allen by Tom Haley 2nd by Paul Plfieger.
Bobby Simek by Bill Pigott 2nd by Mike Ellrott.

Timekeeper: George Locke by Charlie Curcurito 2nd by Frank Polomaine.
Frank Maher by Jim Underhill 2nd by Mike Ellrott.
Jim Underhill by Tony Curcurito 2nd by Frank Maher.

Nominations were closed and will reopen at next months meeting.

50/50 won by Charlie Curcurito \$27.

Boat raffle ticket raffle draw won by Bobby Simek Jr.

Motion to adjourn by Bill Pigott, 2nd by Brady Moy.

Meeting Reminder...

The next meeting of the Albany Area Bassmasters will be **Friday, December 6th** at the Watervliet K of C hall at 8:00 PM sharp.

Place
Postage
Here

**ALBANY AREA
B.A.S.T.M.E.S.**

