



ALBANY AREA B.A.S.S. TIMES

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

January, 2003

AABM 2003 Tournament Committee & Officers:

TIMEKEEPER

Frank Maher

MEASURER

Greg Allen

WEIGHMASTER

Charlie Curcurito

TREASURER

Paul Pflieger

SECRETARY

Al Maher

VICE PRESIDENT

Bill Swinton, Jr.

PRESIDENT

Mike Ellrott

FOR SALE

MotorGuide 52" stainless steel
trolling motor shaft. \$40.

Call Tony Curcurito.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Well, another 365 days soon will be down the crapper and that credit card bill should be following shortly. Great job by all the guys present for the December meeting for donating a total of \$275 for the Toys for Tots program.

Start to give some thought to where you might like to fish in 2003. We'll probably never be the only group on the water but it's something we're going to have to put up with from now on. This sport has become way too popular.

Great job at paying-up your dues. Only five guys still owe the \$45.

Don't forget to renew your Vermont licenses. Also, other things will be coming up to drain your wallet some more. Like, lunker of the year, State Federation dues, etc.

I have nothing else to say, all the heavy stuff has yet to come. I'm "on-call" and have to get this out before I get called-out. Be there at the January meeting - **Friday, the 3rd** - for all the heart pounding, beer bottle throwing, in your face banter that only a motley crew like ours can provide. Bring plenty of \$1 bills for the strippers. Or maybe that was to throw in the kitty for the use of profanity, I can't remember.

STATE FEDERATION 2003

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

A Message From the "Prez"

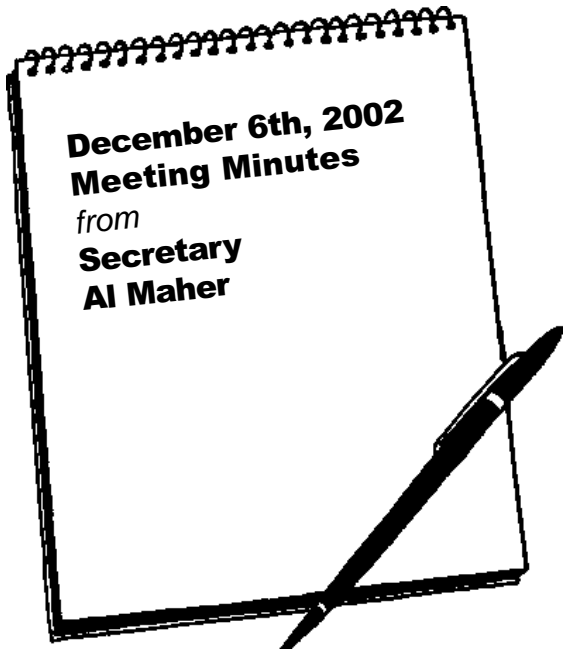
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope Santa thought you were all good boys this past year.

It seems to me the older I get the more quickly time goes by. In a couple of days we will have our January meeting and be starting another New Year. I want to congratulate and thank Bill Swinton, Paul Pflieger, and Al Maher who agreed to work with me again and won their hard fought re-election. I want to congratulate and thank Charlie Curcurito, Frank Maher and Greg Allen for running for and being elected to the 2003 Tournament Committee. I look forward to working with you as well. I also want to thank Bobby Simek for a job well-done as Measurer in 2002.

I hope to jump start things at the January meeting. We need to assess and discuss last year's tournament schedule and provide some guidance for the coming season. These discussions have always been fun and a good fund raiser as well! It is the member's opportunity to let the Tournament Committee know what you liked and did not like and to suggest changes. The Tournament Committee will be meeting soon so that we have an opportunity to secure tournament sites before anyone else.

I already have a commitment from Frank Maher to Chair the Conservation Committee and serve as the Club's representative to the State Federation. George Leibach has volunteered to continue his work on our Fund Raising Committee. George does a great job with the raffle tickets and has even made sure we have a backup supply for that rare time when he cannot make a meeting. These two guys stepped up and offered to help last month. I will be fingering George Locke to again Chair the Membership Committee, so George if you don't want to do it, you've still got a few days to come up with an excuse. These will be the committee chairs, but there will be opportunities for others to serve on the committees as well. We will need to staff the Safety Committee.

We will cover a lot of business in January, so I hope you can all make it. Bring your favorite fishing tale from last season. We have a tackle pack for the guy with the best story. See you on the third!



The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by President Mike Ellrott because guys wandered in late to pay their dues. Charlie also rudely held-up progress with the collection of State Fed. dues.

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

Motion to accept the Minutes from the November 1st meeting by George Liebach and 2nd by Ralph Sommers.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Pflieger

Paul reported that the Club has a balance of \$3,783.63. People that had not paid their dues at the start of the meeting were: Bob Richard, Rob Richard & Frank Rossetti. Mike reiterated we have no "inactive membership."

Membership Report - George Locke

Don Yarter was attending his 5th function and will be

voted on tonight.

Banquet Report - Mike Ellrott

The facility was great even though the weather put a damper on attendance and actually sent people home early. The club received a refund of \$292 (returned deposit). We are also booked for next year on November 15th. Mike asked about having a DJ for next year commenting on how awards are cutting into the time to play music.

Conservation Report - Frank Maher

Frank mentioned that Federal Funding for Lake Champlain would continue. Funding would allow continuation of programs designed to control pollution, sea lamprey & nuisance weed control. In another excellent article from the In-Fisherman Magazine, Frank read of the dangers of early spring, catch & release fishing on northern smallmouth bass fisheries.

Federation Report - Frank Maher

There is a federation meeting in Syracuse on Sunday, December 8th. The boat raffle is not looking good.

New Business

Don Yarter was voted into membership of the Albany area Bassmasters.

The floor was reopened for nominations.

No further members were nominated for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer. The tournament Committee position of Weighmaster was also closed with Charlie as the only candidate.

Measurer: Bobby Simek withdrew. Joey Curcurito, Greg Allen & Al Dickinson running. Al Dickinson nominated by Charlie Curcurito & 2nd by Frank Maher.

Timekeeper: Frank Maher, George Locke & Jim Underhill running.

Nominations were closed and the election took place.

- 10 Minute break -

\$255 was collected for the Toys for Tots program.

Mike mentioned the ongoing program to increase membership to BASS and at the same time earn some money for the club.

Mike received a letter from BASS regarding the Casting Kids event. There was much discussion & many things to consider such as, timing our event for an outdoor or sportsman show for optimum attendance. Jamie Dickinson to explore the possibility of an event.

Ordering new hats. Checked interest of membership in jackets, etc.

Ralph Sommers asked if anyone was interested in old issues of BassMaster Magazine. He may sell the issues on EBay and donate the money to the club if no one is interested.

Election Results:

President: Mike Ellrott

Vice Pres: Bill Swinton Jr.

Treasurer: Paul Plfieger

Secretary: Al Maher

Tournament Committee

Weighmaster: Charlie Curcurito

Measurer: Greg Allen

Timekeeper: Frank Maher

50/50 won by Frank Maher \$29. He donated another \$20 to the Toys for Tots program and raised our total donation to \$275.

Charlie Curcurito gave out the gag gifts for two members that were unable to attend the club banquet. Will Backus received a ball & chain and safety pins to help stay in his seat while fishing. Ralph Sommers received the illustrious "Basshole of the Year" award for diving over board in an effort to retrieve his rod & reel that flew form his hands after applying sun-screen.

Motion to adjourn by Frank Maher, 2nd by Jim Greeley.

Meeting Reminder...

The next meeting of the Albany Area Bassmasters will be **Friday, January 3rd** at the Watervliet K of C hall at 8:00 PM sharp.

Place
Postage
Here

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

