



ALBANY AREA B.A.S.S. TIMES

Vol. 28 Issue No.5

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

May, 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

MORE PLACES TO STAY

For Oneida Lake:
Town & Country (315)668-6751

For Port Henry:
Family Fun Cabins & Motel
(518) 546-7127

PIKE TOURNAMENT

It's that time of year again! If you haven't finished the projects around the house by now forget about 'em, it's time to fish. **Sunday May 4th. 6AM-2PM, Saratoga Lake at the state launch (north end).** If you haven't got a partner yet, there is still time. Just let Bill know at the May meeting. \$60 covers the entry fee & luncheon for the team and there is an optional calcutta that may pay 4 or 5 places depending on the number of entries. Play it safe, get in it. Show up bright and early so that we can get out there and get to business.

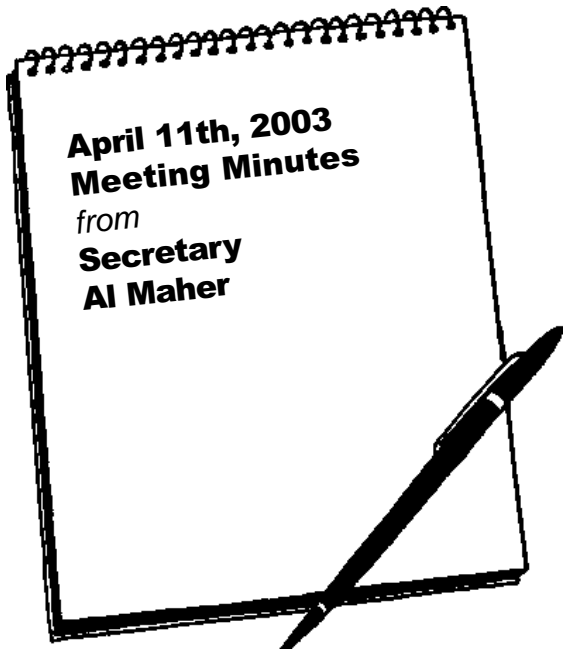
**DON'T SPEND THOSE LOTTERY WINNINGS IN ONE PLACE! \$15
WILL GET YOU INTO THE "LUNKER OF THE YEAR POOL"
YOU HAVE UNTIL THE JUNE MEETING TO PAY.**

THE PERILS OF SPRING BOATING

After a great presentation by Greg Allen on the use of a GPS, I was determined to get out there on the water and become a little more comfortable with mine and just see how accurate it would be. I never really had the chance last fall when I bought it because I was trying to get used to a new boat.

So, I left the rods home, emptied my wallet at the local Mobil station and was on my way. I picked the worst day out of the week (Thursday) which saw the temperature drop about 40* from the day before. The wicked north-west wind had sea gulls ducking behind any available wind break they could find. Ignoring my common sense, I launched the boat into the 36* water. My front depth sounder read 38*, either way it was damned cold. I turned on the GPS and parked the trailer.

To make a long story short, I learned alot. First, with a severe north-west wind, windchill in the teens and spray from 38* water, it takes approximately 45 seconds to get a debilitating headache. Second, Greg is right. It is very hard to watch your depth sounder, GPS and drive your boat while trying to negotiate rough water. Third, when the battery meter on your GPS is below the halfway mark you better bring a fresh set along. Fourth, I need to buy the 12V adapter for the GPS. The fifth thing I learned was I forgot to tighten the nut on my water pressure gauge which I realized when my thigh became wet. And it wasn't a good wet either. But it still beat going to work.



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

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

Motion to accept the Minutes from the March 7th meeting by Charlie Curcurito and 2nd by Bill Pigott.

Mike announced that the team of Jim Underhill & Bill Pigott came in 2nd Place at Lake Congamond the weekend before the meeting. Water temp was a cool 38°F with an air temp of 24°. Sanding the boat ramp was necessary in the morning.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Pflieger

Checkbook balance is \$3,881.76. Paul is looking onto opening an account with Charter One Bank for the club in order to save on fees.

Membership - Joey Curcurito

We had three (3) prospective members in attendance. Mike Richard was making his 4th function. Nash Alexander & Gene Lavigne were attending their 3rd.

Conservation - Tom Haley

Tom gave us a few tips on how not to spread the dreaded Largemouth Bass Virus. Cleaning out your livewells regularly and not transferring fish from one body of water to another are two easy precautionary measures that we can take. D.E.C. has an educational summer camp for kids. Contact D.E.C. for more info. Also, the Albany County Soil & Water Dept. is having its annual sale of fish stock. A 4" bass is going for a \$1.75.

Safety - Tim Bantham

Tim was able to contact the local Coast Guard Auxiliary and arranged for a vessel safety check. The BIG THREE for not getting a "sticker" are: lack of visual distress signals (flag or flares), inoperable navigation lights & not having your registration. Guys that will be fishing waters that boarder Canada may want to look into their safety regulations, also.

Banquet - Tony Curcurito

All set. Tony arranged for a D.J.

State Federation - Mike Ellrott

Mike mentioned the program to help increase federation membership. The club with the largest increase in federation membership will have free entry into the 2003 club team event.

Tournament Committee - Bill Swinton Jr.

Sunday, May 4th. 6AM - 2PM at the state launch on Saratoga Lake. \$60 per boat, that includes luner. We have 15 teams signed up as of this report. Saturday will be open for practice if you want to "sting" all your fish. Bill asked for a show of hands of non-boaters that are driving so that he could include their payment for parking. He will also be checking NY & VT licenses at the upcoming meetings.

Tournament Committee....cont.

We also need a count of kids that will be fishing the kid's tournament in May. Tom Haley offered to bring in applications for the Empire Pass which allows you to pay a one time fee for the season giving you access to all state-run, pay per use ramps.

Lunker Pool - *Charlie Curcurito*

Charlie read off the names of the people that have paid to date. 21 guys are in the pool. You still have the May & June meetings.

Old Business: Hats have been ordered and should be in by the May meeting.

New Business: None.

- 10 Minute Break -

50/50 was won by George Liebach - \$31

Motion to adjourn by Russ Camadine and 2nd by Leo Godin.

Special presentation by Greg Allen on the use of GPS units...very well done.

Meeting Reminder...

The next meeting of the Albany Area Bassmasters will be **Friday, May 2nd** at the Watervliet K of C hall at 8:00 PM sharp.

Place
Postage
Here

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

