



ALBANY AREA B.A.S.S. TIMES

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

Message from the Prez...

Something about our group meeting on April Fools Day seems so appropriate.

There are Robins in my yard, the Mohawk is flowing, and two days of rain will clear my yard of any remaining snow. Spring is officially here, but I need a couple days over 50 degrees to believe it.

Friday is our April meeting! Next month we will be getting ready for our pike tournament. Please think about who you will partner up with for the pike tournament and let Mr. Swinton know as soon as you are sure.

I want to thank everyone who showed up for the Casting Kids Event at Crossgates. I hate to admit it, but I think the best thing about the day is having everybody together to socialize. We have forged a pretty good relationship with Dick's. Bob Miller has expressed an interest in providing some "sponsorship" for our tournaments in the form of tackle and gift certificates. We are also working on the possibility of Dick's providing shirts for the Club Team Event. We do need to re-assess the Casting Kid event itself. We did have 52 kids compete, but of those 52 I would guess the number who ever handled a fishing rod before or who will handle one again was relatively small. I don't think the event does anything as far as introducing kids to the sport.

I hope to see everyone Friday night as we celebrate spring and getting ready for a fun, challenging 2005 season.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Prez	1
Tournament Schedule	2
NY Fed Schedule	2
Meeting Minutes	3-4
New Business	4
Committee Appointments	4
Important Reminders	5

**AABM 2005
Tournament Committee
& Officers**

President
Mike Ellrott

Vice President
Bill Swinton

Treasurer
Paul Pflieger

Secretary
Bill Pigott

Weighmaster
Charlie Curcurito

Timekeeper
Frank Polomaine

Measurer
Al Dickinson

**Winners of Casting Kids Event
Held At Dick's Sporting Goods**



Winners of the Casting Kids March 20 at Crossgates Blake Gordon (L) and Steven Konopinski show off their prizes.

Bill's Costa Rica Catch



Bill Pigott traveled to Costa Rica for two weeks in February, and had the opportunity to fish the Pacific Ocean. Shown here is a Sailfish weighing approx. 110 lbs. Other catches included a 175 lb. Sailfish and half a dozen Dorado. Bill gave a short talk about his trip at the March meeting.



2005 Albany Area Bassmaster's Tournament Schedule

May 21	Saratoga—State Ramp	Pike Tournament	6:00 AM-2:00 PM
June 11-12	Rouses Point—Chazey	Points Tournament	5:30 AM-1:30 PM
June 25	Sacandage-Sunset Day Campground	Points Tournament	5:30 AM-1:30 PM
July 2	Cossayuna—State Ramp	Kid's Tournament	7:00 AM-1:00 PM
July 9	Saratoga Lake—State Ramp	Partner's Tournament	5:30AM-1:30PM
July 23-24	Oneida Lake—Oneida Shores Park	Points Tournament	5:30AM-1:30 PM
August 6	Cossayuna—State Ramp	He/She Tournament	6:00AM-1:00 PM
August 20	AlCathy's-Mohawk River- State Ramp	Points Tournament	6:00AM-2:00 PM
Sept. 24	Lake Bomoseen-Edgewater	Points Tournament	6:30AM-2:30PM
Oct. 15-16	Ti Bay-State Ramp	Points Tournament	7:00AM-3:00 PM

The Schedule is now Official.

2005 NY State B.A.S.S. Chapter Federation Tournament Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sun, June 19	Seneca Lake—Susan Johnson Opener Points Tournament	Stivers Seneca Marine, Inc. Bloody's Hill Road, Waterloo, NY
Sun, July 17	Lake Champlain Points Tournament	Plattsburg Boat Basin 5 Dock Street, Plattsburg, NY
Sun, July 31	Oneida Lake Points Tournament	Oneida Shores County Park Bartell Rd., Brewerton, NY
Sun, Aug 14	Cayuga Lake Partner's Tournament	Frontenac Park Village Launch Union Springs, NY
Aug 27 & 28	Cayuga Lake Rosemary Murphy Memorial Club Team Championship	Frontenac Park Village Launch Union Springs, NY
Sun, Sept. 11	Lake Champlain Points Tournament	Fort Ticonderoga Boat Launch, Rt 71 East at Ft Ticonderoga Road, Ticonderoga, NY

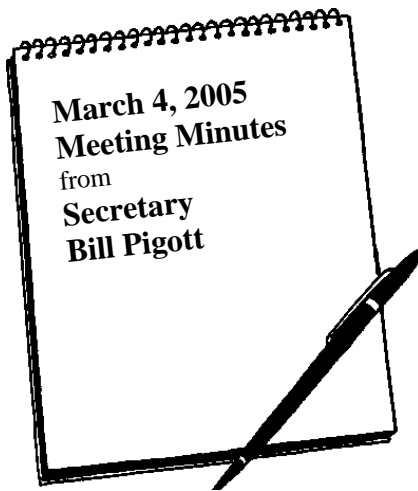
Places To Stay

Rouses Pt.
The Anchorage (518) 297-4211

Ticonderoga
Circle Court (518) 585-7660
Stonehouse (518) 585-7394
Super 8 (518) 585-2617

Oneida Lake
Belair Motel (315) 699-5991

Bomoseen
Edgewater Inn (802) 468-5251



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

Officers Present: Mike Ellrott, Bill Swinton, Bill Pigott & Paul Pflieger.

Motion was made to accept the minutes from the December meeting. First - Tony Curcurito, Second - Frank Polomaine.

Mike's opening remarks

Mike thanked last year's Vice President Jim Underhill and welcomed back Bill Swinton as our VP. Bill had taken the year off to win the Bassman of the Year Title.

Mike introduced the 2005 Tournament Committee.

Mike also discussed "Meeting Etiquette". Mentioned where the items below:

Meetings start at 8 PM

Please pay entry fees before meeting starts

This is your club so please participate

Mike Requests ideas for Guest Speakers or topics for Fish Talk

Meetings will be held the 1st Friday of every month, however there may be exceptions during the tournament season so please pay attention to your newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Pflieger

Paul reviewed the annual financial report in depth. Additionally he reported a checkbook balance is \$659.69. Motion was made to accept the report: First—Bill LaRose, motion was seconded by Bob Richardson, Sr.

Membership Report - Jamie Dickinson

Jim Turngren made his first function.

Anthony Curcurito, Nick Fantasia and Mike Waitehus were all making their third function.

Nick and Anthony were given credit for their fourth function for their participation in the Casting Kids Event on March 20, 2005.

Bill Greely was voted in as our newest member. Congratulations, Bill, we look forward to fishing with you!

Safety Committee - Tim Bantham

Tim did not have a report at this time. He will have more information as the Tournament Season approaches.

Tournament Committee Report - Bill Swinton

Bill reviewed the 2005 tournament trail and asked that members please keep in mind that you can pay for the season up front. This is very helpful to the club. If for some reason you do not fish a given tournament, your money can be refunded.

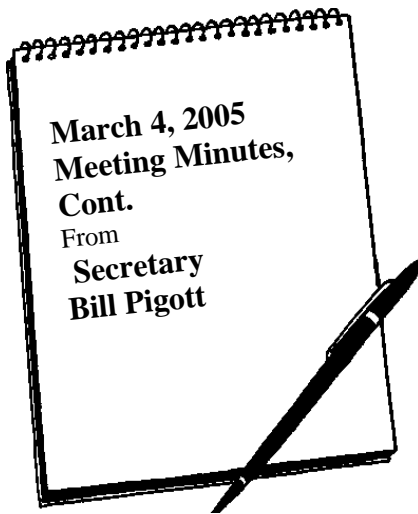
****Keep in mind that there will be three boat draws at the June meeting. If you cannot attend, please be sure to notify the club of your intentions for those tournaments. If you're going to fish but cannot make the meeting, be sure that your money does.**

Bill stated to the club that entry fees must be paid at or prior to the meeting at which the boat draw is held. We will be assessing late fees for entries paid late. We will not accept entry fees on tournament morning.

Additionally Bill reminded everyone that you must be at the launch at least 1/2 hour before the start of the tournament.

10 Minute Break

Bill Pigott gave a short talk on his trip to Costa Rica.



2005 Committee Appointments

Membership—Jamie Dickinson, Chairman
 Fund Raising—George Leibach, Chairman
 Conservation—Greg Allen, Chairman
 Safety—Tim Bantham, Chairman
 Banquet—Tony Curcurito, Chairman
 Casting Kids—Mike Ellrott, Chairman

Federation Report - Mike Ellrott

Mike reviewed the January minutes of the NYSBCF Executives Board.
 The Club Still needs a Federation Representative if anyone is interested.

Also Worth Noting

A Bill before Governor Pataki to allow/empower the DEC to permit catch and release season was signed.

****Please make sure that your Boater's Insurance is at the \$300,000 minimum from the \$100,000 that was previously required.**

New Business

It was decided that the club would hold a Casting Kids event at the Crossgates Mall in of Dick's Sporting Goods March 20, 2005 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

There was a discussion about the NYS DEC survey regarding the proposed catch and release season of Large Mouth and Small Mouth Bass. Also the survey forms were sent in.

The Tournament Committee will be assessing the boater to non-boater ratio in the club before prospective members are admitted. We do not want to risk a situation where we do not have a ride for everyone who wants to fish. We will try to determine the ratio as soon as possible. If you are a boater but do not plan to fish all the tournaments, please let Bill Swinton or Mike Ellrott know as soon as possible.

The club received a thank you note from the Maher Family for the donation we made to Hospice in memory of Frank Maher, Sr.

Additionally the club received a thank you from the Barrett and Simek families for the donation that was made in honor of Warren Barrett.

A certificate of appreciation was presented to the Club for our donation of \$325.00 to the Marine Core Reserve Toys for Tots program. Thank you's were also received from Phillip Santangelo, the Toys for Tots Coordinator and Valerie Bochenek of the Community Maternity Services, which is a beneficiary of the Toys for Tots program. Let's give ourselves a hearty pat on the back for making Christmas for many needy children this year. Thanks to all our members.

Mike mentioned yet another Tournament Trail, Capitaland Pro Bass will be sharing many of the same waters we fish.

Lunker Pool - Charlie Curcurito

Charlie Curcurito is collecting for the lunker pool—\$15.00. You must have your money paid before the first tournament

50-50 Raffle

The raffle was won by Mike Richards. Mike took home \$37.00.

Motion to Adjourn

First—George Liebach, Second Bill LaRose.

Club Reminders

Meeting Reminder....

The next meeting of the Albany Area Bassmasters will be

Friday April 1, 2005

at the Watervliet K of C hall at 8:00 PM sharp.

Important: Please look over the updated club roster attached. If you notice any discrepancies, let Bill Pigott know.

Last Call! Paul Pfleiger will be taking deposits for club shirts and jackets at the meeting. If you can't make the meeting and want a shirt or jacket, please let Paul know. Jackets are \$59.00, Fishing shirts \$21.99, Polo shirts \$20.00. Please add \$3.00 for name embroidery.

Remember that you can pre-pay for the points tournaments—\$180.00 pays for the year, and if you do not fish some of the tournaments, you will get that money refunded.

Also, be sure to have your Vermont and New York licenses and proof of boater's insurance before the first tournament.



**ALBANY AREA
B.A.S.S. TIMES**

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