



ALBANY AREA B.A.S.S. TIMES

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

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Message from the Prez...

After a nice tenure at the Knights of Columbus in Watervliet things have changed and it is no longer the reliable home it has been to the Albany Area Bassmasters. Getting confirmations of meeting dates takes several days and the building is no longer available on request as it once was. I was hopeful we could work things out, but I am less optimistic. We need to search for a new home. I am hopeful we can find a location that is convenient to everyone. We need to keep in mind we have several members driving in from Massachusetts; Washington, Rensselaer and Schenectady counties.

Thanks to Anthony Curcurito we have a meeting place for this month's meeting: American Legion Post 1231 at 200 Columbia Turnpike. The Melvin Roads Post is just "up the hill" from the City of Rensselaer. Columbia Turnpike (Route 9) is a main artery connecting the Capital District to Mass.. We have had a superficial discussion with the people from the American Legion about the possibility of becoming our monthly meeting place.

We are open to any other candidates and I am still trying to get a better commitment from the Knights.

The American Legion is easy to find once you get to Columbia Turnpike. It is more difficult to provide general directions. If you are not sure how to get there, send me an email or give me or Anthony a call.

**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

Important

We will be meeting **7:30 PM** at the American Legion Melvin Roads Post 1231 at 200 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush Thursday June 2, The Post is on Rtes 9 and 20 just past K-Mart

Pike Tournament

Saturday, May 21st the 2005 fishing season was kicked off for Albany Area Bass Masters with the annual Pike Tournament. As I tried to wake up from my nap with a cup of coffee, I checked the weather report. Chance of rain, with 5 mph winds. Not bad, I thought. Well they were partly right. I think the wind blew a little more than 5 mph. Tim Batham arrived with his new ride as did Gene Lavigne. Gene, they say that there are three things you never forget in life: your first Bass Boat and two other things :) Anyway, the team of Al Dickinson and Bill Swinton walked away with first place with a total weight of 26.14 pounds. Second place went to the team of Rich Bishop and Frank Rosetti. Third were Bill Pigott and Jim Underhill. Lunker Pike was caught by the team of George Locke and Brady Moy. Lunker Walleye went to Paul Pflieger and Gene Lavigne. Complete tournament results can be found on page six of this newsletter

Bill Pigott



Al Dickinson (L) and Bill Swinton with their winning catch. Photo by Bev Locke.



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

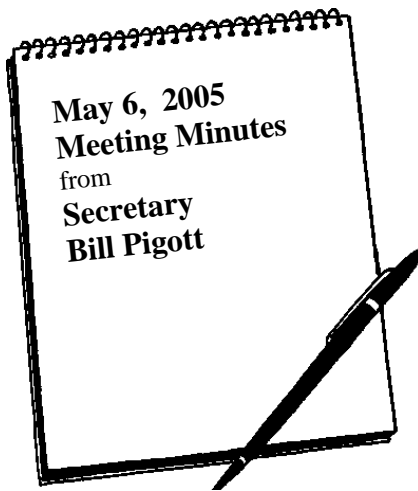
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sun, June 19	Seneca Lake—Susan Johnson Opener Points Tournament	Stivers Seneca Marine, Inc. Bloody's Hill Road, Waterloo, NY
Sun, July 17	Lake Champlain Points Tournament	Plattsburg Boat Basin 5 Dock Street, Plattsburg, NY
Sun, July 31	Oneida Lake Points Tournament	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.		Oneida Lake	
The Anchorage	(518) 297-4211	Belair Motel	(315) 699-5991
Ticonderoga		Bomoseen	
Circle Court	(518) 585-7660	Edgewater Inn	(802) 468-5251
Stonehouse	(518) 585-7394		
Super 8	(518) 585-2617		

Emergency Numbers

NY STATE POLICE	(518) 563-3761
VT STATE POLICE	(802) 655-3435
COAST GAURD	(802) 864-6791



The meeting was called to order at 8:03 PM by President Mike Ellrott.

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

Mike's opening remarks

Mike mentioned that the Pike Tournament's off limits is actually Monday before the tournament, not Saturday as stated in the newsletter.

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the April meeting. The motion was accepted by Charlie Curcurito and seconded by Tony Curcurito.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Pflieger

Paul reported a checkbook balance of \$4,551.72.

Membership Report - Jamie Dickinson

Jim Turngren was unable to attend the May meeting, Jim has two functions to his credit.

Mike Waitehus made his fifth function and was voted in as our newest member.

Congratulations, Mike, we look forward to fishing with you!

Conservation Committee—Greg Allen

Greg was unable to attend the May meeting. Art Grant mentioned some information regarding new Vermont regulations prohibiting the use of lead in 2006 and 2007. Please read the copy of the enacted law on page 5 submitted by Bill Pigott.

Safety Committee - Tim Bantham

Tim talked about the upcoming vessel safety check to be held at the Pike Tournament on May 21st. Tim also handed out and reviewed a check list of items that could be cause to fail the inspection.

Banquet Committee-Tony Curcurito

Tony reported that everything is all set for the 2005 Banquet.

Old Business

Mike thanked Jamie for his donation of Albany Area Bass Masters Decals to the club.

Lunker Pool - Charlie Curcurito

Charlie Curcurito stated we have 32 members paid. If anyone is still interested in participating, you may still enter by paying your \$15 before the first tournament.

New Business

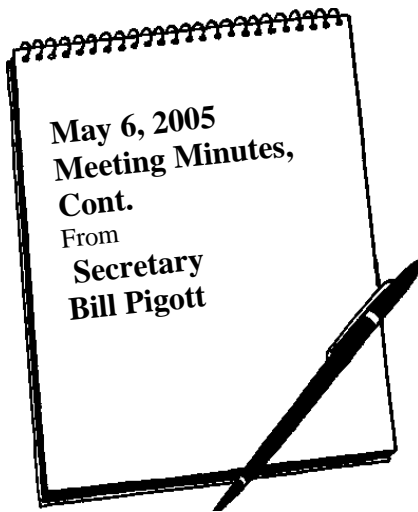
The club would like to wish Jim Greeley a fast recovery. Jim recently underwent surgery for a double hernia. We hope you're back on the water soon, Jim.

It was also great to be fishing with Jim Underhill as he is recovering from rotator cup surgery and doing very well.

Congratulations to Greg and Pam Allen—we understand that they are expecting their first child.

Mike received an email from Will Backes asking if the club would like to participate with a hunting and fishing Task Force. Mike offered to represent us if there is any interest.

It was decided to change the meeting from June 3rd to Thursday, June 2nd to accommodate the people who are planning to pre-fish Rouses Point.



New Business, Cont.

There was a lively discussion regarding the rowing regatta being held on Saratoga Lake, and our rights as fishermen. Mike mentioned the possibility of inviting someone from DEC to one of our meetings to discuss the matter. We also discussed the new speed limits issued by the State Canal Corp. We seem to come up with more questions than answers so Mike asked Tim if he would be willing to get some clarification on the issue.

Charlie Cucurito also reminded everyone that if you are interested in trying to make the Club Team this year you need to have your Federation dues paid before the first tournament.

10 Minute Break

After returning from break we voted in our newest member Mike Waitehus.

Tournament Committee Report - Bill Swinton

Bill reviewed the legal lengths and limits for the Pike Tournament. Bill also thanked Terry Flemming and Nash Alexander for volunteering to use their boats on such short notice. The boat draw for the Pike Tournament was then held. (Always entertaining)

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

Items For Sale

Rich Bishop is selling his camp—Mead's Cottages on Brant Lake in Cheshiretown, NY. If anyone is interested they may call Rich at 518-966-8663.

If anyone is looking to buy a club hat, Terry Flemming is the new "Mad Hatter". Hats are \$8.00 each.

50-50 Raffle

The raffle was won by Bob Richards. Bob took home \$38.00.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 9:15 pm. Motion was accepted by Jim Underhill, seconded by Brady Moy.

I DON'T WANT TO MENTION ANY NAMES BUT!

When it happens right in front of you :) Let me start off by saying fortunately know one was hurt or were any Fish injured that said. Jim Underhill and myself were fishing in the same area as a father and son team when we notice the son netting a fish. The dad in order to save time opens the livewell for him, only the son doesn't notice this. As he steps back he finds he is knee deep in water and pickerel much to his surprise. The dad finds this quit humorous as did Jim and myself. The son was a good sport about it also, even though it took most of the day for his sneaker to dry out. I'm pretty sure that was the most weight that has ever been in that livewell. A reminder that stuff happens, we just got lucky and were there to see it :)

Bill Pigott

ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2003-2004

*NO. 137. AN ACT RELATING TO A PROHIBITION AGAINST THE USE AND SALE OF LEAD SINKERS.
(H.516)*

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4606(g) is added to read:

(g) A person shall not use a lead sinker for taking of fish in any state waters. In this section, "sinker" means any device which weighs one half ounce or less and is attached to a fishing line for the purpose of sinking the line, and does not include other lead fishing related items such as weighted fly line, lead-core fishing line, downrigger cannon balls, weighted flies, lures, spoons, or jig heads.

Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 4614 is added to read:

§ 4614. LEAD SINKERS; SALES PROHIBITED

It is unlawful to sell or offer for sale a lead sinker in the state of Vermont. In this section, "sinker" means any device which weighs one half ounce or less and is attached to a fishing line for the purpose of sinking the line, and does not include other lead fishing related items such as weighted fly line, lead-core fishing line, downrigger cannon balls, weighted flies, lures, spoons, or jig heads.

**Sec. 3. LEAD SINKERS; PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM;
APPROPRIATION**

(a) The commissioner of fish and wildlife shall develop and carry out:

(1) a public education program designed to alert the public to the threat that lead fishing tackle can pose to wildlife; and

(2) a program to provide Vermont anglers lead-free fishing sinkers in exchange for leaded sinkers.

(b) On or before January 15, 2006, the commissioner shall report on expenditures for the programs to the house committee on fish and wildlife and the senate committee on natural resources and energy.

(c) Pursuant to Sec. 205(e) of H.768 of 2004 as passed by the house of representatives, the amount of \$25,000.00 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of fish and wildlife to develop a public education program designed to alert the public to the threat that lead fishing tackle can pose to wildlife. The program shall be administered by the education coordinator within the department of fish and wildlife.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Sec. 1 of this act shall take effect on January 1, 2007.

(b) Sec. 2 shall take effect on January 1, 2006.

(c) This section and Sec. 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2004.

Approved: May 27, 2004

Published by:
The Vermont General Assembly
115 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont

Club Reminders

Meeting Reminder....

The next meeting of the Albany Area Bassmasters will be

THURSDAY JUNE 2, 2005

**at the American Legion Melvin Rd Post 1231
200 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush**

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.

Shirts and Jackets are in!

Paul reports that the shirts and jackets have started coming in and that he will be handing them out at the meeting. You may want to arrive a little early to pick up. Please be sure to bring your payment. Paul also reports that the jacket cost is \$67.00, except 2xl is \$70.00 . Short Sleeve Shirts will be \$26.00, and long sleeved \$27.00 .



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B.A.S.S. TIMES**

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