



ALBANY AREA B.A.S.S. TIMES

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

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**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

Message from the Prez...

Well, I did it again. I waited until the coldest day of the year to put my boat in storage. Sorry to say it is nestled away on the Washington County Fair Grounds all wrapped up for the winter. It is a depressing prospect that I won't see her again for four months.

This month's meeting is probably the busiest and maybe the most important of the year. First of all Club dues must be paid so that we can retain our insurance coverage through B.A.S.S. In a related matter, we also need to discuss raising our dues to meet the \$5 increase in B.A.S.S. membership dues.

We will also be collecting for our annual Christmas gift. We would like to put together another nice contribution toward grocery money that we think will be matched by Hannaford Market. There will only be this opportunity to contribute.

The 2005 schedule will be discussed to find out what you liked or didn't like about it. We also need to gain a consensus with regard to how the Tournament Committee should react to rising gasoline prices. There have been jokes about fishing only the Mohawk and Saratoga. We have floated ideas about adopting a Federation model where you practice one day and compete the next, at least for our travel tournaments. Some have suggested shortening the schedule to five tournaments. And there are those who think the price of gas is not an issue and we should not let it affect our schedule. There are a great number perspectives and to do the right thing we need to hear from you, the membership. The Tournament Committee will be meeting in a few weeks to put together the 2006 schedule.

Of course there is the re-opening of nominations and the election of Officers and the Tournament Committee.

If you decide you still want me to represent you as Club President, we will not be meeting in January. We all have enough to do during the Holidays and I will be in Florida the first couple of weeks of January. So if you think you are ready to skip a meeting, I urge you to attend the December meeting and enjoy a free January.

Attention Members

If you are unable to attend the December meeting, please give your dues to another attending member, or you may mail your dues to Paul Pflieger at:

Paul Pflieger
336 Shirlwood Drive
Schenectady, NY 12306
(518)355-3334

Also please remember that we will be finalizing the Nominations for Officers and Tournament Committee Members.

2005 Annual Awards Banquet



Bassman of the Year Al Dickinson shows off his prize plaques and sporty new jacket.

The club's end of season awards banquet was held November 19th at the Best Western Sovereign Hotel. Mike Ellrott, who was the master of ceremonies, thanked Tony Curcurito for doing a great job arranging the banquet again this year. Mike then thanked everyone who helped to make this past season such a success. Good Food and Good Company equal Good Times.

Mike announced the award winners, then it was Charlie's turn to announce the Dirty Dozen Awards. When Charlie was finished, there was one more award to be given. Mike present Charlie with the Basshole of the year award. As you can see from the pictures, everyone had a great time.



Bassman of the Year Al Dickinson is officially crowned.



Charlie Cucurito received the Basshole of the Year award for his part in the delivery (or almost lack thereof) of the prize money.



Back of Boat Angler of the year Will Backhus.



Top six, minus one— (left to right) Back of Boat Angler of the Year and fourth place finisher Will Backhus , Paul Pflieger (fifth place), Bassman of the year Al Dickinson, Al Maher (second place finish), and George Locke (third place finish). Not pictured is Nash Alexander who finished sixth.



2006 Club Team—left to right: Charlie Curcurito shows us the hokey pokey, Paul Pflieger, Bassman of the Year Al Dickinson, George Locke, Bill Pigott, and Bill Swinton.

2006 NYSBCF Banquet

Saturday, December 3, 2005

6:00 PM

Quality Inn, 1308 Buckley Road North Syracuse, New York

Special room rates are available for anyone attending the banquet. Call (315) 451-1212 and ask for the **NY Bass Banquet rate (\$65/night) before 11/27/05.**

Please call or write to:

Pam Bliss

1746 Addison Back Rd.

Addison NY 14801

(607) 359-3947

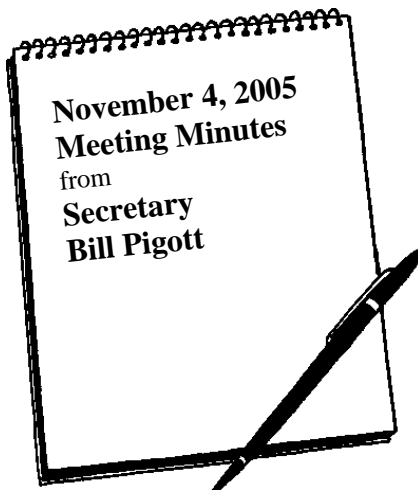
2006 NY State B.A.S.S. Chapter Federation Tournament Schedule (Tentative)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
June 18, 2006	Chautauqua Lake
July 16, 2006	Sackets Harbor
July 30, 2006	Lake Champlain Plattsburg
August 13, 2006	St. Lawrence Ogdensburg
August 26-27, 2006	St. Lawrence Ogdensburg
September 10, 2006	Lake George

Last Year.....

Just in case you can't remember or maybe need a refresher, here is a list of our points tournaments. Please let us know if there was a specific reason you did not fish a certain tournament, or if you have any other suggestions to improve the schedule.

June 11-12	Rouses Point—Chazey
June 25	Sacandage-Sunset Day Campground
July 23-24	Oneida Lake—Oneida Shores Park
August 20	AlCathy's-Mohawk River-State Ramp
Sept. 24	Lake Bomoseen-Edgewater
Oct. 15-16	Ti Bay-State Ramp



The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by President Mike Ellrott.

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

Mike's opening remarks

Mike extended a Happy Birthday wish to Sandy Curcurito and Bill (Pops) Swinton, both born November 6 ("not the same year"). Also the club congratulated Greg and Pam Allen on the birth of their son, Cade Gregory Allen born October 5, 2005. The club sent Greg and Pam a \$25 Gift Certificate.

Mike also informed the club we would have guests from the Saratoga Lake Improvement District who would be discussing two important issues that directly effect fishing: the proposed use of Saratoga Lake for drinking water, and weed control. Mike then reviewed the minutes of the October 7th meeting and motion was made to accept them. The motion was made by Bill Larose and seconded by Brady Moy.

Guest Speaker's Report

Guest Speaker Wilma Koss from the Saratoga Lake Association voiced concern over the use of Saratoga Lake as a source for drinking water and what effects the proposal would have on anglers and other recreational users of the lake. The Saratoga Lake Association was able to get the decision made in 2004 to use Saratoga as a drinking source reversed in 2005. Wilma said that they can't do it alone and need the support of anglers and other recreational users of the lake. We can help by writing letters to the DEC voicing our opinion and concerns. For more information, please visit www.saratogalake.org. There is also a form letter on the site that you can use to help you get started on writing a letter of your own. Wilma mentioned that there seems to be more effect if you send in an original letter, rather than a form.

Mr. Ed Dweek and Mr. Joseph Finn also spoke about a rather unpopular topic with our club: weed control with the use of chemicals. A lively debate was had regarding this issue. Many club members voiced their concerns about this subject. Mike thanked our guests for sharing their time and information with the club.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Pflieger

Paul reported a checkbook balance of \$8,718.25.

Membership Report - Jamie Dickinson

Jamie was unable to attend the meeting. Mike talked about potential new members having to be turned away due to the fact that the club is at capacity. However, Mike also voiced concern about inactive members and how to address this sensitive issue. One approach Mike said he would write a letter to the inactive members voicing the club's concerns and ask whay their intentions may be for next season. Also it was mentioned that the club could start an inactive member's list.

Conservation Committee—Greg Allen

Greg Discussed the high levels of Phosphorus in local lakes and the spread of Chestnuts. So please remember to check your boat and trailer for contaminates as you travel to different lakes. Greg also informed the club that the reef at Isle Lamotte was established as a national preserve.

Safety Committee - Tim Bantham

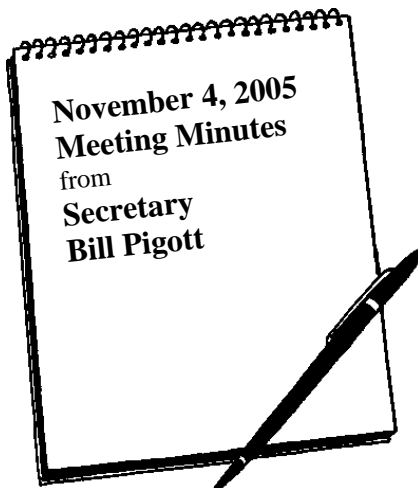
Tim had nothing to report at this time.

Banquet Committee—Tony Curcurito

Tony reported that everything is all set and looks forward to seeing everyone at the banquet.

Federation Report—Mike Ellrott

Mike reminded everyone that the Federation raffle tickets moneys are due. The drawing will be held December 3, 2005.



Tournament Committee Report - Bill Swinton

Bill thanked everyone for making this past season a success by keeping it safe and enjoyable. Bill also asked that boaters need to get their updated insurance to him. Also, please remember to have your club and Federation dues at the December meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting but intend on fishing, let a club officer know. You can mail a check to Paul Pflieger or have a friend bring it to the December meeting.

Old Business

Mike reported that a total of \$1,622.00 was raised by the club for the Scott James Children's Trust Fund. The club donated an additional \$178 making an even total of \$1,800.00. Great Job, Guys!

Lunker Pool - Charlie Curcurito

Charlie had nothing to report at this time.

New Business

It was decided that the James Family will be the focus of the Albany Area Bassmasters Christmas gift this year. Bassman of the Year Al Dickinson agreed to contact the local Hannaford Store and see if they would agree to a matching gift for the James Family.

Nominations for officers and tournament committee members were as follows:

President: Charlie Curcurito nominated **Mike Ellrott**. Motion was seconded by George Leibach. Mike accepted the nomination.

Vice President: Bassman of the Year Al Dickinson nominated **Bill Swinton**. Motion was seconded by Bill Larose. Bill Swinton accepted the nomination.

Treasurer: Frank Polomaine nominated **Paul Pflieger**, which was seconded by Gene Lavigne and accepted by Paul.

Secretary: Charlie Curcurito nominated **Bill Pigott**, which was seconded by Bill Larose and accepted by Bill Pigott.

Weighmaster: Bassman of the Year Al Dickinson nominated **Charlie Curcurito**, which was seconded by Frank Rosetti. Charlie accepted the nomination.

Tony Curcurito nominated **Joey Curcurito**, which was seconded by Gene Lavigne. Joey accepted.

Measurer: Frank Polomaine nominated Bassman of the Year **Al Dickinson**, which was seconded by Charlie Curcurito. Al accepted the nomination. Also nominated was **Al Maher** by Paul Pflieger, which was seconded by Frank Maher. Al also accepted his nomination.

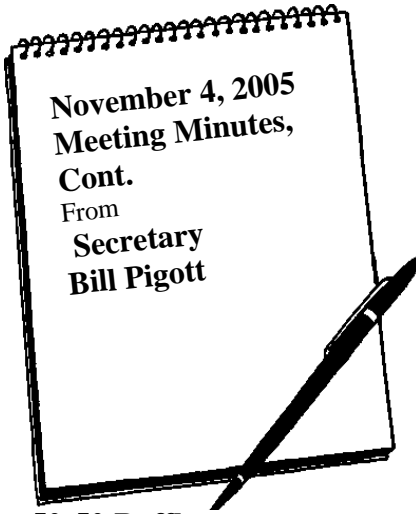
Timekeeper: Frank Polomaine nominated **Gene Lavigne**, which was seconded by Bill Larose. Gene accepted the nomination.

Paul Pflieger nominated **Frank Polomaine**, which was seconded by Jim Underhill. Frank accepted his nomination. Frank Polomaine also nominated **Frank Rosetti**, which was seconded by Frank Maher. Frank Rosetti also accepted his nomination.

Note: *Nominations for officers and tournament committee members will be held again at the December meeting prior to the Elections.*

Fish Talk

Mike asked that members give some thought about the pros and cons of the 2005 Tournament Trail and what impact rising fuel prices may have on the 2006 schedule. Also, if you have something constructive to say, please speak up.



And for those who don't have anything constructive to say but who speak up anyway, bring plenty of \$1 bills for the fines that will be levied against you.

Mike reviewed the top ten finishers on Lake Champlain.

Frank Maher gave a talk on his first place finish on Lake Champlain held on October 15, 2005 at Ti-bay. Great Job Frank!

Mike also reviewed the top 20 Bassman standings and introduced the club team representing the Albany Area Bassmasters in 2006. Mike congratulated Lunger winners Mike Richard and Rich Bishop. Additionally Mike reviewed the results of the Scott James Memorial Tournament held on the Mohawk River October 29th 2005.

50-50 Raffle

The raffle was won by Terry Fleming. Terry took home \$33.00.

Items For Sale

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

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 9:45 pm. Motion was accepted by Art Grant, seconded by Frank Maher.

A Heartfelt Thanks

The Tournament Committee members and other officers would like to thank President Mike Ellrott for his tireless efforts on behalf of our club. Mike presides over the meetings month after month, and keeps us all on our toes. He goes above and beyond what is required of his job description and really gives our club a professional edge. Sometimes we tend to take Mike's efforts for granted, just wanted to say a "heartfelt thanks" from the Albany Area Bassmasters.

Fisherman's Homework Checklist

- ◇ Pay Club & Federation Dues
- ◇ Remember Nominations held at December Meeting
- ◇ Christmas Gift Collection at December Meeting
- ◇ Review 2005 Tournament Schedule & Prepare for 2006 Schedule Discussion at meeting
- ◇ Review Saratoga Lake Info and decide whether to send letter to DEC
- ◇ Federation Raffle will be held Dec 3, also Fed banquet that day

Club Reminders

Meeting Reminder....

The next meeting of the Albany Area Bassmasters will be

Friday December 2, 2005

at the American Legion Melvin Rd Post at 7:30 PM.

200 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush

Please remember to have your club and Federation dues at the December meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting but intend on fishing, let a club officer know. You can mail a check to Paul Pflieger or have a friend bring it to the December meeting.

The Club will be accepting nominations for Officers and Tournament Committee at the December meeting.



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B.A.S.S.TIMES**

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