

Albany Area Bass Times

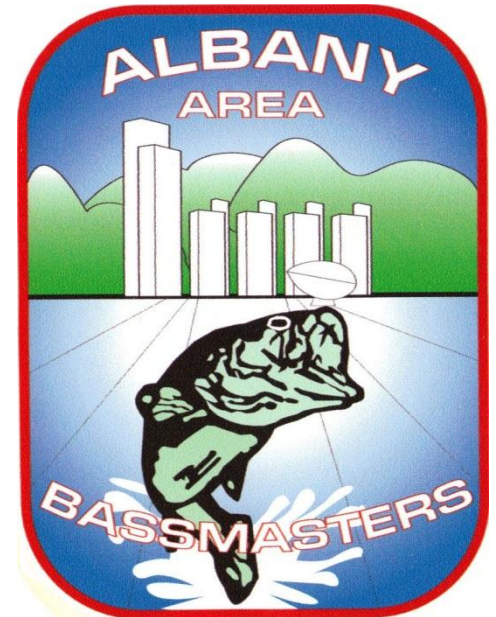
MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

First of all I would like to extend my wish for a happy, healthy and safe New Year to everyone. By now I would expect that some of you are already looking at new tackle on the web and are anticipating the start of the new fishing shows on TV. Then again, I know of at least one member who is already preparing his tackle for his January fishing trip to Florida!

I hope to do a good job as your president and I really look forward to working with all of you to make our club fun and active. You all have my phone number and email address so please feel free to contact me anytime with any suggestions or comments. I have never had the goal of being president and I thought a lot about it before accepting the position, but we really have something special with this club and I did not want to see us lose it when Brady announced that his job responsibilities had increased to the point that he could not stay as president at this time. He has done an excellent job and has left the club in great shape and I hope to pass it on to a successor in great shape. I hope to see him back in the position in the near future! There is no doubt that I will be having coffee a few times with Mr. Ellrott to seek his counsel on how to do this job. (I might even have to buy him breakfast!) I personally hope that Mike stays with his as a member in 2014 because I have plans (don't tell him) of asking him to update the superb statistical club record presentation he did a few years back.

I was very sorry to have missed the awards night, and wish to congratulate all of our awardees for 2013. Winning a tournament in this club is a huge achievement and winning BassMan of the year is double huge! Congratulations to Al Maher for his win a second year in a row. Al quietly gets the job done when the pressure is on.

If any of you have suggestions for winter meeting fishing topics, please bring them forward and we will consider them. I will try to get some fishing discussion going during the winter meetings. If



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you feel uncomfortable making a presentation to the club, then perhaps we can have a roundtable discussion of a subject.

I want to thank all of last year's officers and committee people for their efforts to keep this club running smoothly and I also want to thank those who have stepped forward to take positions for 2014. I realize that everyone has a lot of things to do, and juggling work, family, an insane "hobby" and a club position is not easy at times. The officers and committee members do make a major time commitment to this club.

On a more serious note, based on what is going on in Lake George and Maine's attempt to ban all soft plastic baits, we will need to keep aware of the issues that affect our sport and we need to stay involved as a club and through the New York State Bass Federation. I would encourage all members to support the Federation through their membership at \$20.00 per year. They are our organized lobbying group. Weather permitting I will plan to attend the next Federation meeting on January 18 in Auburn NY and we will be turning in our Federation dues and roster at that time. If you have never been a federation member before, I will bring blank membership applications to the meeting or you can download one from their website www.nybassfed.com Any member of the club is welcome to travel to the 1/19 meeting with me-I will make sure that we have a little shopping time in Bass pro Shops after the meeting.

While we will enter 2014 in good financial condition (Yes you will have to endure my financial report at the January meeting), I think you all know that due to decreasing numbers of active members and suggestions brought forth that we will likely need to do some fine tuning to our schedule making and club operations in order to operate in a sustainable manner. We have had some discussion of this at meetings and I have received private feedback from some members. The officers and the tournament committee will take that into consideration in planning for 2014. The number of participants in our tournaments is critical to financial survivability of the club. We have scheduled our tournament committee meeting for January 4 so we should have tentative schedule to present at the February meeting. (The schedule is only tentative

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until we get required permits approved). For those of you who have sat on the tournament committee meetings you know how difficult the planning process to be as there are many factors that go into the planning process, along with a bunch of Type A personalities sitting at the table. Wherever we meet we usually warn the neighbors on both sides that they don't need to call the local authorities when they hear Charlie screaming!. I am not sure that Felix knows what to expect here but I have confidence that he will hold his own. I seem to remember his first meeting as a prospective member when he was already holding his own with Charlie, so right there I knew that he would do just fine!

One thing that we all have to look forward to at the January meeting is Charlie's annual reading of the "Lucky Dozen " list. Charlie has considered discontinuing this practice, but popular demand has convinced him to keep it going. I personally look forward to his presentation and hope that I won't have anything to add to the "Special Awards" bag hanging in my basement.

Finally, I realize that not all members of the club are able to make all meetings and events due to work, family commitments and other social things going on in our lives. I don't want anyone to feel that they can't be a member of this club if they can't attend all functions. However, I would really hope that we can have good attendance at our winter meetings to get our planning done for the season so that we can concentrate on tournament draws and results during the summer meetings. We may also discuss some minor by-law changes during the winter meetings. I would like to hear the member's suggestions for any other things that they wish to do during 2014.

Gene Lavigne has volunteered to take over membership duties and that function will be especially important this year. It is my hope that all members will do some outreach to try to attract a few new good members as our club functions much better financially with a larger membership than the current one. I would look to all of our members to help with this effort.

Felix will be working on updating our club roster at the January meeting with current information so please bring your Bass# (label

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from Magazine) or current membership cards so he can update that. As you all know you must be a current member of BASS to be a member of this club and all that is tied into our liability insurance policy with BASS that covers us at club events.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting of 2014 on January 3rd and I look forward to some lively discussion.

Your Prez

PP

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MEETING MINUTES – 12-7-2013

Moment of silence honoring the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

November Minutes

- November minutes read by Felix.
- Accepted by Anthony & George.

Treasurer Report – Paul Pflieger

- We are totally not broke. Approx \$300 – 500 going into next year

Membership – Felix Ortiz

- Few people reached out to Rick Putnam. Did not show at the meeting.
- Brady passed along an application for follow up
- Gene Lavigne will be taking over membership in 2014

Conservation

- Lake George Beach New launch – approx. 25 trailers
- Lake George – Washing stations in full effect 2014.
- Lake George – 24 hour watch for boats to protect from invasive species.
- New launch – Round Lake (approx.. 15 boat trailer)

State Report – Paul Pflieger

- New Tournament Director & President in 2014.
- Sponsorship remains an issue at state level.

Tournament and Committee Officers

President

Paul Pflieger

Vice President

Frank Rossetti

Treasurer

Al Maher

Secretary

Felix Ortiz

Weighmaster

Charlie Curcurito

Timekeeper

Joe Curcurito

Measurer

Jim Underhill

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New Business

- Nominations for 2014 officers
- Measurer – Jimmy Underhill. Closed by Ralph
- Timekeeper – Joey Curcurito. Closed by Ralph
- Weighmaster – Charlie Curcurito. Closed by Ralph
- Secretary – Felix Ortiz. Closed by Ralph.
- Treasurer – Al Maher. Closed by Ralph.
- Vice President – Frank Rossetti. Closed by Ralph.
- President – Paul Pflieget. Closed by Ralph.

Congratulations to the new 2014 officers!

Old Business

- Club Dues need to be in to Al Maher by the January Meeting. January 3rd.



2014 Awards



2014 Bassman of the Year

Al Maher

Presidents Award

George and Beverly Locke

Lunker Award

5.87 LMB - Gene Lavigne

Heaviest Limit

21.39lbs – Gene Lavigne

Most Improved Angler

Charlie Curcurito

BOBA Award

Frank Rossetti

Rookie of the year

Rick Putnam

Tournament Winners

Pike – Charlie Curcurito

Felix Ortiz

Couple – George and

Beverly Locke

Rouses Point – Mike Summers

Oneida – Brady Moy

Saratoga – Joey Curcurito

Ti (2 day) – Gene Lavigne

T1 (1 day) – Jimmy Greely

Saratoga – Al Maher

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NEXT MEETING:

Friday January 4, 2014

American Legion Melvin Road Post

7:30 PM

Please remember that at this meeting we will be collecting the remainder of club dues along with Federation dues.

\$70.00 club \$20.00 Federation

Calendar

Jan 4, 2014 6PM

Recognize new officers

Discuss new topics for winter sessions

Collecting remainder of club dues.

Jan 5, 2014

Tournament Committee Meeting