

Albany Area Bass Times

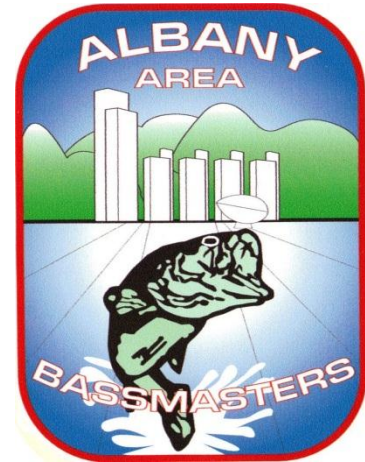
MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

Our next meeting will be September 5 at 7:30. We will be drawing boat partners for the Ticonderoga tournament on September 13 and 14. If you are planning on fishing this tournament and will not be at the meeting please let Frank Rossetti know before the meeting to get into the draw.

It is really hard to believe that we will soon be approaching the end of summer. Where did the time go? I can't really recall having many great days of fishing so far this season. It seems like the weather has been pretty weird. August did not even have one day that we hit 90 degrees. Perhaps fall fishing will be great.

The race for our angler of the year has now become most likely a 2-horse race and I am sure that it will come down to our final tournament for a close conclusion. The level of competition in this club is awesome and it keeps all of us striving to be better fisherman. The Back of The Boat Angler race is too tight for any predictions.

Congratulations to Brady Moy for his win on Saratoga Lake with 12.84 pounds. If my memory serves me correct, this was not the first Saratoga tournament win for an angler fishing from the back of George Locke's boat. Congratulations also to Frank Polomaine who finished second with 12.81 lbs with a tournament lunker of 4.59lbs and Mr. Consistency Al Maher who finished third with 11.26 lbs. I am sure that Frank will always wonder about that .03 lbs! I can honestly say that I know how he feels, the same thing happened to me on Oneida Lake some years ago. While the weights on Saratoga were unimpressive overall, it was a good tournament in that almost everyone had a limit and the weather even cooperated. I was sorry that Charlie had to cancel out of fishing the tournament-It just was not the same without Charlie there. Our Timekeeper Joey, did a great job stepping in as Weighmaster, although I am still not sure that he gave Frank "The benefit of the doubt" when he weighed his fish. This Year's tournament committee has done a great job in making things go smoothly and they have all jumped in to do whatever needed to be done when it was needed. Thanks Guys!



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Let us all hope that we have weather this nice when we fish Lake Champlain for our next tournament.

At our last meeting the bylaws of the club were revised to change our election of officers from December to November. Our VP proposed this with the goal of being able to have an earlier tournament committee planning meeting to assemble a tentative schedule before launch site dates are already taken. Some of the sites that we normally use do accept early applications and that should make the planning process for the committee a little easier. My thanks to Frank Rossetti for this suggestion.

Regarding the 2014 NYS Bass Federation Club Team Championship I will defer to Felix's report on this event for the most part. I would like to say that we did our best, had a great time and learned a lot about fishing the St. Lawrence River. Fishing in a 2.3 mph current certainly is different. We ended up in 11th place out of 18 teams. Everyone cooperated-we were fed well by the Underhills and Joey Curcurito, Felix brought us tackle from Bass Pro Shops and Charlie kept us all on schedule. My highlight of the event was hooking a 5lb smallmouth, my low point was losing it! On that day I watched my boat partner lose a 6lb smallmouth! The Federation deserves a lot of praise for a very well-organized tournament.

I have no report from the He/She tournament on Saratoga, but I am sure that Charlie will give us a report at our meeting. I am also expecting him to update us on the status of our annual lunker pool.

See You all at the next meeting-Friday September 5th-7:30PM.

Your Prez

PP

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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MEETING MINUTES

Treasurers Report: \$??? Not recorded in notes.

Tournament Committee:

- Sept 13,14 - Lake Champlain (Ticonderoga)

Membership: Nothing to report

Conservation: Nothing to report

Safety: Nothing to report

Old Business: Nothing to report

New Business: Nothing to report

State Report:

My experience as a 1st time club team member - Felix

I have to start by saying it was a true honor to represent the club in this tournament. I did not take my role as a team member lightly and did as much work as I could to prepare for this tournament well in advance of hitting the water. No amount of research got me prepared for the realities of fishing in 3-5mph current, wind and water so clear at 30 feet that I felt I could drink it. Just AMAZING!

My practice day with Paul on Friday did a ton to help build my confidence. We ended up on some decent fish and I recognized quickly that placing orders for heavier weights was the smart thing to do. If anyone needs 3/4oz tube or drop shot weights I can refer you to a good brand. LOL. We found the river current very strong but still managed to find a good series of spots to use during the tournament.

Tournament weekend I was blessed to be paired up with two great partners who put me on fish over the weekend. Through careful observation and conversation they taught me how to work in

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these challenging elements. That deep drift technique for smallmouth landed me all my smallmouth while pitching and flipping a craw landed all my largemouth. My heart stopped each time I was hooked up to one of these 3+lb smallies. I had to fight them through current, wind and boat position. Quite the challenge. Quite the thrill! I have a newfound appreciation for fishing the drop shot and for practicing tying good knots all winter.

Throughout the entire event the team was phenomenal. Helping one another out with tackle, discussing techniques which were working/not working and just simply having a good time in each other's company.

I truly hope I get the opportunity to represent the club again. If not I hope that others consider it. These words don't do justice to the experience.

This is the reason I joined the Albany Area Bassmasters!
Experiences like this don't come along every day.

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NEXT MEETING:

Friday September 5th, 2014

American Legion Melvin Road Post

7:30 PM

Calendar

July 11

Next Meeting

May 10

Lake Champlain

(Ticonderoga) - Pike

June 14, 15

Lake Champlain (Rouses
Point)

June 28

Mohawk River - Al Cathys

July 13 - Lake Champlain
(Ticonderoga) - Partners

July 26 - Schroon Lake

Aug 9 - Saratoga Lake

Aug 23 - Saratoga Lake -
He/She

**Sept 13, 14 - Lake Champlain
(Ticonderoga)**

Oct 25 - Mohawk River -
West - (Schoharie Creek)