

Albany Area Bass Times

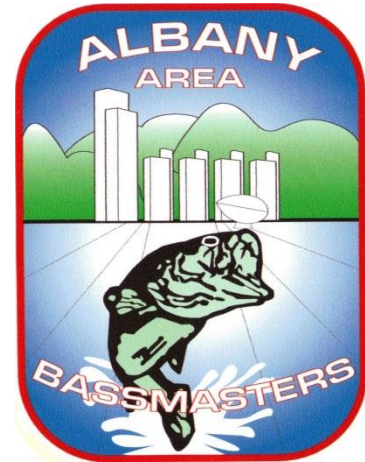
MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

Our next meeting is this Friday March 7 at 7:30PM. By now we are all sick of this winter and our families probably wish that we could get out and go fishing just to get out of their space! Yes it is cabin fever time, best treated by watching fishing shows and running up credit card charges for tackle that we will look at next august and say-Why the heck did I buy that?? Time to get ready-from our meeting date it is only 64 days to the pike tournament and 99 days to our first bass tournament. After hearing George Locke talk about the thickness of the ice on our lakes I wonder if the ice will be gone by May.

Welcome back to Anthony Jr. to the club and I was very happy to see the other prospective members at our last meeting. It will be nice to see some new faces at our tournaments this year. I hope that everyone will welcome these fellows and do their best to make them feel part of our club.

We will vote on the proposed amendment for the procedure for bringing back past members into the club so if it passed we will have a shortened process for re-entry. I support this change and appreciate all of the input that went into this proposed change to the bylaws. You can read the proposal in the other section of this newsletter.

Our vice-president has promised to do his talk on tube fishing at this meeting and Frank will also explain the revised payout schedule for 2014 points tournaments. The payout system requires more effort by Frank, but he suggested this change which the committee easily accepted. I look forward to Frank's tube talk. If anyone else would like to volunteer to do a talk at the next meeting, please let me know.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Prez's Message	1
Meeting Minutes	4
By-Law Change	7
Braid Talk	7
Next Meeting	8

Albany Area Bass Times

Regarding the tournament committee, the members are probably thinking that the officers and tournament committee don't really have much to do at this time of the year, but nothing could be further from the truth. Putting together a tournament schedule is not an easy thing given all of the parameters that are present and sometimes you hit an unexpected bump in the road. Due to permit issues the committee has been working to make adjustments to the schedule that was posted in the last newsletter. I am happy to report that everyone responded quickly to phone calls and emails from Frank and me and we are pretty sure that we have a solution to the permit issue. Frank will announce the changes at the meeting as he expects final permit approval in the next couple of days.

The meeting with Fred Blom, president of the federation was interesting. I learned more about our insurance policy that we get from BASS and more about how the federation operates. I also learned that if you take advantage of even one of the discount programs that federation offers you will quickly recoup your \$20.00 dues. On April 26 the Federation is sponsoring Take-A-Soldier Fishing day on Oneida Lake and they are still looking for volunteers-both boaters and ground crew help for the event. Anyone who had ever done this event says that it is really a day to remember. If you are interested see me after the meeting I would be willing to go and help as ground crew, so if anyone wants to ride out with me and participate then they are welcome. If anyone wants to volunteer their boat to take soldiers fishing I will be happy to travel out with them and share expenses.

If you have recently looked at the Federation website you can see that the Federation won the 2013 Berkley National Conservation Award for their Ramp Monkeys Project and water chestnut removal. The Ramp Monkey project involved youth clubs cleaning boats of invasive species at boat ramps. The Federation was presented with a \$2000.00 check at a banquet at the Bassmaster Classic.

Albany Area Bass Times

The next Federation meeting is Saturday March 8 at Bass Pro Shops in Auburn. If you have not joined the NYS Bass Federation for 2014 and wish to do so, you can give me your 20.00 dues at our meeting as I will plan to attend the meeting the next day.

Remember, if you finish high enough in the club standings for 2014 to qualify for a NYS club team tournament you must be a federation member during the year you qualify. Anyone who would like to ride to Auburn that day is welcome to ride along with me. I will plan to spend some time in the store while I am there.

Everyone should know that Frank is accepting pre-payment of point's tournament entries and all members prepaid before the first point tournament will be eligible for an entry into our gift card raffle at the awards night.

At the last meeting I did mention that we needed to start discussing whether the club will even be sending a team to the NYS Bass Club Team at Ogdensburg on the St. Lawrence this year. If we are sending a team, we need to make lodging reservations way ahead of time. We have fished this location before and we won it there in 1996. (Wow-that was a long time ago!).

As far as committees, Rick Putnam has volunteered to chair the safety committee. I would like to thank him for doing that. I am still looking for someone to step forward for the conservation committee. I would also encourage all members to share any conservation news or issues that they become aware of.

I hope to see everyone at our meeting on Friday!

Your Pres.

PP

Albany Area Bass Times

MEETING MINUTES

Treasurer Report: \$1925.57

Membership Report:

- Steve – 2nd Meeting
- Elyah – 1st Meeting
- Josh – 1st Meeting
- Anthony Jr. – Officially voted in by membership.

Congrats Anthony Jr. on becoming a member of the Albany Area Bassmasters ... again. 😊

Conservation Report:

- No report. Looking for someone to volunteer to do conservation reports monthly.

Safety Report:

- 18 and over a boating course is required. 10% reduction on your insurance.
March 29 – 9am – 5pm a course will be offered

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

Albany Area Bass Times

Tournament Report:

- At the next meeting Frank will explain the revised payout information.
- There will be no other rule changes for the 2014 season.
- Some minor revisions to the tournament will be announced at the meeting. Start times are also TBD until the final tournament schedule is official.

State Report:

- **New invasive species regulations proposed (Clean, Drain, Dry)**
 - **Clean** - Launch with a clean boat
 - **Drain** - livewells, bilge pumps and boat before leaving the site
 - **Dry** – your boat and be ready for your next launch.

Albany Area Bass Times

- **Washing stations @ Lake George** – Washing stations are now required this year. It's free this year. Most likely will cost something after this year.

Federation made the decision to not fish that lake again as a result.

What happened to the people who were ticketed at Lake George last year? - No one knows.

- **NY Bass Federation president Fred Blum Meet and greet**
Saturday at CR's Marina. A report on the event will be presented for those who could not make it.
- **State Discount MinnKota and Hummingbird**
6 of each will be offered by the State Federation. The first 6 e-mail messages received will earn the opportunity to buy their item of choice at the state discounts.
Message president@nybassfed.com on March 1st.
First 6 for each will earn the opportunity.
- **Federation is working in a deficit.** Looking to cut expenses. They are changing meetings and leveraging the release boat at non state events to make some money.

2014 NY Bass Federation Schedule

June 22 – Lake Champlain
(Plattsburgh)

July 20 – Cayuga Lake

Sep 28 – Lake Ontario

For more details go to

<http://www.nybassfed.com/Data/Tournaments/2014/schedule.htm>

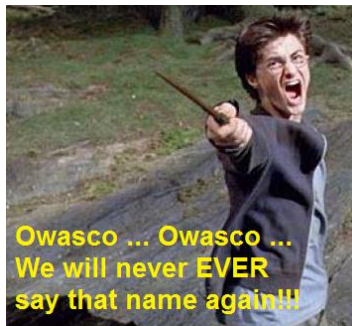
Albany Area Bass Times

Old Business

- State Membership updated and paid online.
- Updated contact list is in progress.
- Lunker pool is being collected. \$15 each – Contact Charlie C. to enter the pool.

New Business

The club team tournament is Aug 16 -17. Practice is on the 14th and 15th. We need to decide at some point if we are sending a team and who would be representing our group. There are currently 12 members who are eligible.



Governor is hosting a fishing event on Owasco Lake.

The “Name we do not speak.”

Braid Talk

Members discussed their usage of braid. As expected it varied greatly across the group. Some tips include.

> For flippin’ and pitchin’ use 40lb braid or more.

> Most members use a [palomar knot](#) to tie directly to braid.

> For braid to fluoro most use a [uni to uni knot](#).

> There IS a difference between superlines like PowerPro Super Slick and regular Power Pro. Noise through the guides is one.

Proposed by-lay change

This by-law change will be voted upon by the members at the next meeting.

“Members who leave the club who have not been removed under article 5 may be readmitted to the club after attending 2 functions and voted on by the club. There shall be no payment of initiation fees.”

Albany Area Bass Times

NEXT MEETING:

Friday March 7, 2014

American Legion Melvin Road Post

7:30 PM

Calendar

Mar 7, 2014 7:30PM

Vote on proposed by-law
change.

May 10, 2014

1st tournament of the
season!