

Albany Area Bass Times

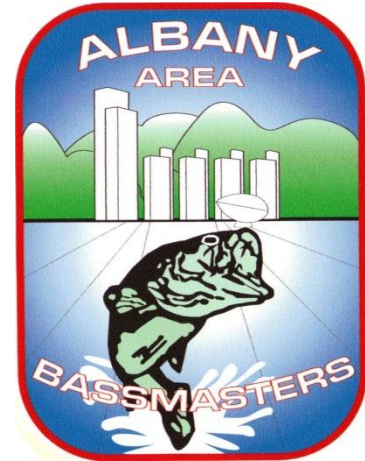
MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

As I sit here next to my fireplace full of burning wood, I am thinking that while it is only January 22, we have exactly 137 days until our first bass tournament. That seems like a long time, but hey it is never too early to start getting our equipment ready. I guess that I will need to get started soon.

This month is really a busy month, we have a club meeting on February 7th, The NY State Bass Federation “meet the president” on February 15, and The Bassmaster Classic from February 21 to 23. I wonder what new lures we will all be searching for right after the classic.

Your tournament committee did a great job in coming up with a great schedule for 2014. I can't tell you how many times during the meeting I heard someone say that we need to make changes that the membership asked for. This year we are fishing one less two-day tournament than last year, and we are revisiting some bodies of water that we have not been to for a while. It seems to get harder and harder every year to come up with a schedule that does not put us at a launch site that is already overcrowded by other events, while at the same time offering us the reasonable chance of good fishing. One real complicating factor in pleasing everyone is the wide dispersion of locations where we live and the corresponding result that no matter where we choose to fish, it will be a long ride for someone.

Your Vice-President, Frank Rossetti will present the schedule at our meeting and will update us on the permitting process for launch sites. The schedule is not final until all of our permits have been approved. Frank will also explain our revised payout schedule for the 2014 season. The officers and Tournament Committee are not proposing any increase in membership or tournament fees for 2014.



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I was pleased at the attendance at the last meeting and I was happy to see the faces of two former good members who are returning to fish with us. I hope that the lively discussion we had about our procedure for readmitting a former member does not discourage either one of them from rejoining us.

We had some discussion about readmitting former members at the January meeting. Since our bylaws do not provide for inactive members, nor do they specifically address the issue of returning former members, we have only one procedure for member admission in our bylaws and that requires attendance at 5 functions and a vote from the membership. A change in our bylaws has been proposed by Tony Curcurito and Frank Polomaine and will be presented for discussion at the February meeting. .

I support a change to a shortened procedure for former members who wish to rejoin, and would suggest a lesser number of functions and a vote by officers & tournament committee. I however do not believe that we should not have at least some sort of a vote before a former member can return. While as far as I can tell there has only been one applicant who was not voted into the club, I would feel more comfortable with some measure of a function requirement and a vote. I would hope that we will not create a bylaw that will keep future club officers from the ability to make decisions that are in the best interests of the club.

At this meeting if Anthony Jr. is in attendance he will be attending his fifth function so we will be prepared to vote on him. Steve Hanley will be attending his second function, and He also has a friend who wants to join us, and if he attends, we should all make his friend feel welcome. I can usually tell pretty quickly if someone is going to fit in when I hear them giving it right back to Charlie at their first meeting. We certainly would welcome a few new members who want to fish and help with keeping the club going.

I attended the NYY Bass Federation meeting in Auburn that was conducted by the new president Fred Blom, and I can tell you that he will be working very hard at the job. I will give a full report on the meeting at our meeting. Fred will be conducting a "meet the president" roundtable discussion for the clubs in the area on February 15th 10AM at CR'S Marine Service 2013 Chrisler Ave.

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Schenectady. Because of work constraints and the need to travel Fred did not want to do an evening meeting. I want to thank Chris of CR's for offering space for this at no charge to the Federation. I would encourage all of you to stop by and say meet Fred, whether you are a federation member or not. I might even buy you a cup of coffee.

Regarding "Fish Talk" at meetings, I have found it very difficult to get a member to step forward and do a presentation on any aspect of fishing. Please volunteer to lead a discussion on any topic-you don't even need to stand up in the front of the room if that is a problem. For this meeting, Mr. Rossetti has "volunteered" (Now I owe him Big Time!) to lead a discussion on tube fishing. I appreciate his agreement to so. The boaters in the club are very aware of his skills with a tube, but the non-boaters probably don't appreciate how deadly he is with that bait. His skill with a tube has earned him some trophies.

I hope that Mike Ellrott is able to attend so that we can get a report on his Florida fishing. It must have been quite a shock when he stepped out of the airplane on is return. I turned down the opportunity to fly to Florida with a friend who left his boat and truck down there, and as I sit here I wonder why?

See you all at the next meeting-It will be an opportunity for all of you to get out of the house and relieve a little of the "cabin fever"." Let's hope that we do not get snowed out for the meeting.

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MEETING MINUTES

Goals for 2014

- Bring back Fish Talk. Looking for volunteers to discuss topics or to at least open up the topic and discuss techniques beginning at the next meeting. This is one of the founding core values of this club. Be ready to share ...
- Maintain our financial status. We are not broke (Yet!)
- Maintain the quality running of our tournaments.
- Expand to a few good members.
- Improve communication (via Newsletter and other media)
- Keep meetings consistent (content and schedule)

Financial Report

- Walked through the financial report.
- \$1152.57 @ years end (12/31/2013)

Committee Reports

Membership: Anthony Jr. is attending his 3rd meeting. Steve (last name) is attending his first.

Gene is looking into trying to arrange a recruiting day at Dicks Sporting Goods in the mid-March timeframe. Hopefully during a fishing special event.

Fund Raising: 50/50 will continued to be chaired by Gene Lavigne.

Conservation: Do not have a chairman. Looking for a volunteer. In the meantime if anyone comes across a conservation topic please plan to share it at the meeting.

Paul P. – There was a research project out of Plattsburgh which did research of tournament Black Bass to see if there was an impact to the fishery over time. It will be another year before there is any concrete findings.

[Click to See the video](#)

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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Safety Report: No report. Need a volunteer.

State Report: New president Fred Blum plans to meet with club members on Feb 15th for our area @ CR Marinas. They also have their next meeting on Jan 18.

2013 Charlie Honors



1Charlie and his secret fish finder.

Frank P – Beaching of his boat on Sacandaga.

Rick P. – One tossed rod/reel into the deep blue.

Brady/Rosetti – Another rod/reel in the drink, hole in a seat and a broken trolling motor rope. All on same day.

Ralph Sommers – Hooked Al D's Seat and smashed his tacklebox.

Joey C. – Culling all day and weighed in 4 fish.

George L – Going shirtless on Saratoga lake to dislodge a Zara Spook from his shirt.

Terry F. – Flat tire coming back from Oneida. Took Brady's spare and ran off.

Ted Underhill - Smallest 5 fish limit – 6.12lbs

Rick Putnam – Of all the members who fished every points tournament Rick finished last in the end of the year standings.

2014 Tournament Schedule

Tentative (Subject to change)

May 10 – Pike (Ti)

June 14 – Bomoseen, VT

June 28 – Mohawk East

July 25 – Rouses 2 day

Aug 9 – Saratoga

Aug 23 – Saratoga (He/She)

Sept 13 – Ti 2 day

Oct 11 – Mohawk West

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Old Business

- Banquet vs. Awards Meeting – We will discuss more but until our funds increase our options are limited.
- Next season we need to have the event in late October/Mid November. A little too close to the holiday season last year.

Dues: Due today for Club and Fed. After today we will be mailing out the information to Bass.

New Business

- Beginning to collect for Lunker of the Year pool (\$15)
- Tournament Meeting met on 1/4/2013. Tentative Tournament Schedule on Page 3.

Bylaw change suggested to Section 2 membership to include a clause in there for members who are rejoining after a period in time. The suggestion is below.

"Members who leave the Club in good standing may be re admitted to the club within 5 years upon their request. There shall be no qualifying process, payment of initiation fees or member vote."

Calendar

Jan 18, 2014

State Fed Meeting (Auburn)

Feb 7, 2014 7:30 PM

Discuss Tournament Schedule
Discuss bylaw change recommendation

Feb 15, 2014

NYS Bass Federation president's forum at CR Marina.

Feb. 20 – 23, 2014

Springfield Sportsman's Show @ the Big E
West Springfield MA

<http://www.osegsportsmens.com/>

Discount tickets available here:

http://www.osegsportsmens.com/html/show_coupon.html

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Message from Fred Blom – NYBCF President

On Saturday February 15th, at 10 am, at CR's Marine,
2013 Chrisler Avenue, Schenectady, New York

I will hold my first Meet the President's Forum. I want to thank
Paul Pflieger for finding a spot for this and I hope that

you or a representative will make the trip. I also welcome any of
your members to attend. I'm not sure what the size of the
location is but we'll manage somehow.

The topics I will cover are:

1. What does membership offer
2. "The Insurance"
3. Sponsorship at the club level important considerations
4. Take a Soldier Fishing Day

What I will ask of those present:

1. Are we missing any opportunities for tournament locations?
Our current "approved" sites are Chautauqua, Cayuga,
Oneida, Henderson, Clayton, Ogdensburg, Massena,
Plattsburgh and Ticonderoga.
Hudson River and Seneca Lake could be used as sites but the
catch rates are not equal to the other sites and that these two
sites have a reputation for "fishing hard" I'm concerned about
participation if I go there. I am looking at a Niagara River site
that would open up to Lake Erie fishing, I have also looked at
Sacandaga Reservoir but i'm concerned about catch rates and
launch facilities.
Our concerns are catch numbers, launch capability, parking
for 100 rigs and another 100 cars as we draw 200 anglers, is
there a supporting community that will sign a sponsor
agreement.

2. Youth and High School and those opportunities

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3. Why have we lost membership both in BASS Nation and NYBCF

I will open for questions.

This is the only format I can think of where I can make myself available to clubs that are in the ends of the state. I know it is a long drive to Auburn for a meeting. Bass Pro Utica does not have meeting facilities. I am trying to help support Bass Pro Shops because of the sponsor support they provide to clubs and our organization.

Thank you all and I hope to see you there

New York DEC Seeks Comment on Lake George Invasive Species Regulations

| January 27, 2014

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has posted online for public comment its proposed regulations to help stop the transport of aquatic invasive species.

Ticonderoga - The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has posted online for public comment its proposed regulations to help stop the transport of aquatic invasive species.

The new regulations would make it illegal to launch at a DEC site without having first removed all visible plant and/or animal material and having drained all water from the boat. The new regulations would also make it illegal to leave from a launch site without having done the same as well.

The proposed regulations will allow DEC law enforcement staff to ticket any user of DEC boat launch facilities that does not drain a watercraft and remove any visible plants and animals attached to it, the trailer or associated equipment prior to launching at or leaving the site.

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The penalty for violating this regulation is imprisonment for not more than 15 days or a fine of not more than \$250, or both fine and imprisonment.

In part, the proposed rules read:

No person shall launch, or attempt to launch a watercraft from a state boat launching site, a fishing access site, or any other site from which a watercraft may be launched, or leave from these sites with any plant or animal, or parts thereof, visible to the human eye, in, on, or attached to any part of the watercraft, including live wells and bilges, the motor, rudder, anchor or other appurtenants; any equipment or gear; or the trailer or any other device used to transport or launch a watercraft that may come into contact with the water, unless a written permit is obtained from the department.

"No person shall launch, or attempt to launch a watercraft from a state boat launching site, a fishing access site, or any other site from which a watercraft may be launched, or leave from these sites without draining the watercraft, including bilge areas, live wells, bait wells and ballast tanks, unless a written permit is obtained from the department."

The entire proposed regulation is available online at www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/95111.html

The comment period is open through Feb 24. It's expected the DEC will have this new regulation in place for the 2014 boating season.

- See more at:

<http://www.thefishingwire.com/story/309600#sthash.sEyusPSv.dpuf>

**NEXT
MEETING:**
Friday February
7, 2014
American
Legion Melvin
Road Post
7:30 PM