

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Charlie Ames**

Our first meeting at Gander Mountain was held on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Although Tom Lott and I intended to give a presentation on spring walleye fishing we ran out of time since the whole meeting was devoted to how we can improve our organization.

The fishing in Lake Ontario for Browns has been fair to excellent. Unfortunately for Bill Thomas and me we hit a fair day. Ken Esser has been having some great days fishing out of Oswego and Barry Stevens and Mike Roche had a real great day last week.

The Walleye opener on Oneida was tough. The weather was great but the fish were hard to come by. The only good catch I heard of was taken by Rick and John Paninski who limited out. I'm sure this fishing will improve.

I have had some good fishing for Carp in the Seneca River. One afternoon I landed 12 and lost 2 in 3 hours. The biggest was a chunky 24 pounder. The Baldwinsville tournament will take place May 14-16. Teams from all over the world will be competing and I'm sure there will be some great catches. Stop by and watch some of the anglers and I'm sure you will leave with an appreciation of Carp fishing.

**Be sure to attend our May 20th meeting at Gander Mountain .** Capt. Troy Creasy will give a presentation on Steelhead fishing. Last, but not least, we will have the drawing for the Lowrance GPS/Sonar. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. We'll see you then.

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the next newsletter will be June 1. All information should be sent to Libby Lougnot, 8205 Yukon Dr., Cicero, NY 13039 e-mail: [LibbyL@twcny.rr.com](mailto:LibbyL@twcny.rr.com)

### **ELOSTA Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday April 15, 2009**

**(Also available at [www.elosta.org](http://www.elosta.org))**

President Charlie Ames called the second monthly meeting of the 2009 summer season to order at 7:00 PM on April 15 in the meeting room at Gander Mountain's Cicero store. Twenty one members attended and Mac MacKenzie acted in his capacity as Secretary.

Charlie noted that many members had not yet received their copy of the March Newsletter and motioned that the reading of the minutes be tabled until the May meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Tom Lott read a detailed Treasurer's Report for the period Sept. 18, 08 – Apr. 15, 09. He also provided the officers with a copy of a March 09 bank statement regarding the status of ELOSTA's accounts at Alliance Bank in Syracuse. After expenses there is \$13,137.86 in the savings account, \$1918.17 in the net pen account (savings account), and \$706.40 in the checking account (**\$15,812.43**). Copies of Tom's report were also available to the officers and Board members present. The motion to accept Tom's report as presented was seconded and unanimously approved.

Charlie asked Mac MacKenzie to comment on ELOSTA's current membership status. The data base is carrying a total of 384 individual records which include 83 former members who are no longer available or interested? These names will be moved to an

archive file in August after the 09 renewal period has passed. The remaining **301 active members** include 18 complimentary and 22 advertisers. For comparison purposes the membership roster in 08 was 330. (Not bad considering energy and economic constraints)

Doug Fuegel expressed his concern regarding the cost, time involved, and effectiveness of sending a second renewal notice to those who failed to respond to the January mailing. Only 14 out of 80 responded. His motion to forgo future follow-up mailings was tabled pending review by the Board of Directors.

Mac Mackenzie was asked to give a brief report on the status of ELOSTA's website. [www.elosta.org](http://www.elosta.org). The site is generally maintained on a continuous basis as information becomes available or, is offered. Mac deferred with regard to providing specifics until the May meeting. The general opinion that the website could be improved with a more interactive format (blog) was also discussed. However, there were no suggestions from the floor regarding personal involvement or contribution to such an endeavor if implemented.

The website discussion led to the on-going issue of ways to improve upon ELOSTA's image and membership interest. The usual suggestions to conduct seminars and hold flea markets were raised and dismissed as generally non-effective "preaching to the choir" type activities. Mac suggested more person to person interactions that expressed an outgoing attitude with an open exchange of "on the lake" information. Jerry Lougnot suggested more involvement in local fishing derbies such as: "The Little Salmon River Challenge" at Mike's Marina on July 25<sup>th</sup>. We will follow-up with Beth for her ideas.

Jerry Lougnot reported that all four of the children sponsored by ELOSTA to attend DEC's environmental summer camps have been accepted. The tuition totaled \$1300.

Charlie Ames commented on member returns from the survey that was included with the membership renewal applications. That information will be provided in the Newsletter.

A general discussion from the floor followed. Issues of interest included, among others, current fishing conditions on the lake and the insignificant fines being levied in response to violations of the fishing regulations. In general paying a fine appears to be the cheaper alternative to purchasing a license.

President Ames thanked all those who attended and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM. Next meeting is at 7PM, May 20 at Gander Mountain in Cicero. As always, walk-ins are welcome. **Mac MacKenzie**

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Doug Fuegel**

I have to believe many of our members are not taking advantage of ELOSTA's group affiliation with Boat U S. As an affiliate member, for starters, our members can enjoy a 50 percent discount on their annual dues; our member cost is just \$12.50 per year. I just recently renewed our membership and according to Boat U S records only 40 of our 300 plus members enjoyed the benefits of Boat U S during the past year. Our Group number is GA81225B; when renewing your membership make sure you write that group number on your renewal form. Membership is well worth the \$12.50. In addition to 12 issues of their magazine you receive an automatic \$50.00 towing allowance and access to great prices on boat insurance.

As I prepare this column on the last Wednesday of April scores of sportsmen from across New York are traveling to our state capitol to be a part of "Gun Lobby Day"; I sincerely hope there are some members of ELOSTA among that group making the trip. Since Governor Patterson was appointed and last November's election, which resulted in a complete Democratic Party majority in our state government, there has been a flood of anti gun bills introduced. Although we are a fishing organization I am sure many of our members own guns, target shoot from time to time and hunt both big and small game. Consequently we should harbor a deep interest in the outcome of these anti gun bills. Today April 29<sup>th</sup> has been labeled "Gun Control Day" by the New York Assembly, a day in which all gun bills will be voted upon; word from organizers of the sportsmen's lobby group is that there were so many bills introduced the debating and voting actually began on Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup>. The results and impact of the massive effort by SCOPE and other organizations to muster hopefully thousands of sportsmen marching on Albany will not be known in time for this report; however if this effort fails you as sportsmen will feel the effects with gun registrations, higher prices for ammunition and discovering your semi - autoloader shotgun is now an illegal weapon. Sadly sportsmen do not have a proven track record of unification when crises looms as do our civil service employees or our teachers unions; when these groups converge on Albany, Albany listens.

The anti gun lobby will not go away, they will keep hammering at our legislators to pass more and more restrictive gun laws; we have to counter their attack by doing the same, keep in constant contact with our state assemblymen and senators, with today's technology it is so easy to send an email or make that phone call.

Late April is still a might early but I did enjoy one meal of tasty St Lawrence River bull head. By the time you read this, the bull head run should be in high gear and this time of year there is no better table fare than a platter of deep fried bull heads from the still cold waters of lake Ontario and the river.

The next meeting May 20<sup>th</sup> at Gander Mountain will be highlighted by our annual drawing of the Lowrance LCX 27 C chart plotter/depth finder, raffle tickets are still available; for additional tickets drop me an email or call. See you at the meeting and bring a friend.

# TROPHY FISH CONTEST

The 2008-2009 Trophy Fish Contest ended on March 31<sup>st</sup> with the conclusion of the Bass, Steelhead, Brown Trout and Walleye divisions.

The winners are as follows:

CHINOOK SALMON..George & Gloria Burkholder....33lb. 9oz.  
BROWN TROUT.....Mac Mackenzie.....15lb.11oz.

Other entries that earned a Trophy Patch are:

CHINOOK SALMON... Tom Lott.....29lb 10oz.  
Roy Hunsberger.....29lb 7oz.  
Marlene Petrucci.....29lb 5oz.  
June Howell.....28lb 13oz.  
John Dubbelde.....28lb 10oz.

There were no entries in the Coho Salmon, Lake Trout, Steelhead, Bass and Walleye divisions.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS !!



The 2009-2010 contest begins on April 1, 2009. All fish entered that meet the minimum weight qualifications will earn the contestant a Trophy Patch with the appropriate chevron. The winners of each division receive a handsome plaque with an inlaid photo of the catch. In addition, all winners are guests at our annual picnic/derby which takes place the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in August. The plaques are awarded at the picnic.

The minimum weights are as follows:

Chinook Salmon.....25lbs.	Steelhead.....12lbs.
Coho Salmon.....12lbs.	Walleye.....10lbs.
Brown Trout.....12lbs.	Bass.....3lbs.
Lake Trout.....16lbs.	

The "Lake Caught" portion of the contest starts April 1<sup>st</sup>. and ends Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> for Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon and Lake Trout. The contest continues until Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> for Bass, March 15<sup>th</sup> for Walleye and March 31<sup>st</sup> for Steelhead and Brown Trout. In addition we have a "Stream Caught" contest for Brown Trout and Steelhead that starts Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and ends March 31<sup>st</sup>. Fish caught from a drift boat are "Lake Caught for contest purposes .

Let's hope every member takes home a trophy this year.

 <b>E.L.O.S.T.A TROPHY FISH AWARD ENTRY FORM</b> 	
Return to: Charlie Ames, 2223 Connell Terrace, Baldwinsville, NY 13027	
(Please print and complete all spaces and remember to include a picture of the entrant with the fish they caught.)	
NAME: _____	DATE: _____
ADDRESS: _____	PHONE NUMBER: (____) - _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____	DATE CAUGHT: _____
SPECIES: _____	LOCATION OF CATCH (I.E.: OSWEGO, SALMON RIVER, SODUS): _____
WEIGHT OF FISH: _____ LBS. _____ OZ. LENGTH: _____ INCHES	GIRTH: _____ INCHES
LURE/BAIT USED: _____	COLOR & SIZE: _____
WEIGHERS NAME: _____	PHONE NUMBER: (____) - _____
BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____	
CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP: _____	