

ELOSTA Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday June 21, 2006

(Also available on www.elosta.org)

- President Charlie Ames, called the fourth monthly meeting to order at 7:10 PM in Bass Pro Shops meeting room in Auburn's Finger Lakes Mall. Forty two members and guests were in attendance at the start of meeting. Mac MacKenzie acted in his capacity as Secretary.
- The motion to dispense with the reading of the April 19th meeting minutes was seconded and carried. Charlie advised the members present that Captain Dick Whitney, who was scheduled to speak about fishing Skaneateles Lake, had a family emergency and couldn't be there for the evening. He and Gerry Lougnot would fill in with a report on Oneida Lake and the walleye tactics that have been successful for them so far this season.
- Tom Lott read the Treasurer's Report for the period May 18th – June 18th, 2006. Deposits received from dues and Ad fees totaled \$140. Checks written for the website space, West Marine door prizes and, Newsletter editing and printing totaled \$908.09. Elosta's current balance is \$9,432.37. The ongoing net-pen account remains at \$1,566.25. The motion to accept the report as presented was seconded and carried. Copies were made available for those who were interested.
- Don Fuller spoke briefly about the current fishing action on Skaneateles Lake. Long lining from planer boards has been the most effective method for landlocked salmon and rainbows. Thunder Sticks and Needlefish in bright colors and chartreuse are preferred. Lake Trout are 30-50 feet down throughout the lake. This will change as summer progresses and the lake sets up – July is usually a good month.
- Don Fuller followed up with a presentation featuring the many fishing products offered by Mustad & Son (USA) Inc. Mustad is the oldest hook manufacturer in America. They have diversified and now feature tools, terminal tackle, baits, and "Ultra Fishing Line". "Ultra Thor" is a new large diameter 30 Lb. test line that is designed to effectively repel fleas. UL Max is a low memory line with excellent casting characteristics.

Don focused on Mustad fish stimulants and various applications to utilize them in a presentation. Mustad introduced "Ultrabrite" in 2003 – a great addition to the tackle box if you could stand the smell. In 2005 "Stimulate" with "Ultrabrite" was introduced to meet species specific needs of every freshwater fisherman. Looking to be the leader in the field of fish attractants Mustad will be introducing "Activate" in 2007 to replace Stimulate and Ultrabrite. Pheromones are used to trigger feeding frenzies in fish and, from Don's personal experience, they continuously out produced baits that were run clean. These products are available from www.netcraft.com.
- At 7:30 PM Charlie Ames and Gerry Lougnot paired up to talk walleye fishing on Oneida Lake. To date the action has been inconsistent. Gerry commented "when they shut-off, they shut-off". The two methods they rely on are trolling from in-line boards and casting in the weeds. They do not do a lot of jigging.

In general, they use three way swivels to combine deep and shallow running ThunderSticks or other stick baits. A shorter two foot lead to the deep running plug and a four foot long lead to the shallow running plug. Their preferences are modified with a new VMC hook as a trailer and a Mustad Triple Grip on the front. The rig is run 120 feet back and 20 feet down. The preferred speed is 1.6- 2 mph and “Snap Weights” are used when deeper depths are desired. Dipseys, regardless of size, are not used because the bite is not perceptible over the increased drag.

In-line boards such as “Off-Shores” modified with “Snapper” releases are their choice. These releases are a little on the expensive side but, they are easy to open to get the boards off. Both boards are run on the same side of the boat for comparison purposes. When one board drops back there is a good chance you have a hook-up with a lazy fish that is going along for the ride.

- At 8:10 PM DEC’s Dan Bishop brought the membership up to date on the results of the recently completed creel census, hatchery staffing changes, Salmon River channel improvements, Redfield walleye stocking progress, and the Redfield boat launching sites. He also emphasized that the Chinooks are reproducing naturally and considerable numbers of these fish are returning to the lake. However, the extent of this contribution to the fishery is not known. Any significant contribution from naturally reproducing trout such as steelhead is not likely because these fish would have to survive in the warm river waters for a least one season.

Dan spoke briefly on the status and bright outlook for of the blossoming fisheries in the various Finger Lakes.

- Jay Levy commented on conditions in the “Big Lake” and mentioned that his “Cream Sickle” spoon can be purchased from him or in the Sodus Bay area. It seems that Jay bought up all the tape that is required to make this spoon. He says it is a producer.

- Charlie thanked George Fiorille and Bass Pro Shops for their hospitality. He noted that the next Elostia meeting will be at Gander Mountain’s Lodge in Cicero on July 19th and motioned to dismiss the meeting at 8:30 PM. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mac MacKenzie