

ELOSTA Monthly Membership meeting

Wednesday July 20, 2005

Minutes

(Also available on www.elosta.org)

- President Charlie Ames called the fourth 2005 monthly meeting to order at 7:10 PM in the Lodge Meeting Room at Gander Mountain's Cicero store. Twenty six members/guests were on hand to hear Jay Levy's trolling presentation featuring his underwater video tapes.
- Charlie called attention to the store's 9:00 PM closing time and motioned to accept the minutes for the last meeting as presented in the June Newsletter. His motion was seconded and unanimously accepted.
- Treasurer Tom Lott presented his Financial Report for the period June 16 – July 19, 2005. Deposits from ads, dues, and clothing sales totaled \$215.50. Checks written to PIP for the April & May issues of the Newsletter, Newsletter editing, DEC camp, Pulaski Pro-AM* (barge stocking), Salmon River net pen, and Fran's Florist totaled \$1,176.57. ELOSTA's net savings (\$6831.69) and checking account (\$2665.02) for the period total \$7677.12. The Oswego River Net-Pen account remains unchanged at \$1819.59. Tom's report was accepted and approved as presented. Copies of the report were distributed to the officers.
 - *ELOSTA's \$200 check to Pulaski Pro-Am to help alleviate the cost of barge stocking 15,000 surplus Caledonia reared brown trout was returned when it was learned that DEC and the Service would be covering all barge stocking activities through the next five years. At that point in time over \$4000, collected in just two days, had to be returned.
- Charlie Ames also noted that DEC's Mike Mathews will be returning the money ELOSTA had submitted to send a child to environmental camp in 2004. Due to an injury the candidate was unable to attend.
- At 7:35 PM Charlie turned the meeting over to Captain Jay Levy who briefly demonstrated the tying and use of the "Blood" and "Haywire Slip" knots while Tom Lott searched for a VCR that would accommodate Jay's "Strike Vision" underwater tapes.

The video was well worth waiting for and in some respects an eye opener. Fish will come in behind the bait and lazily coast along for long distances without touching it. At times they will grab the bait and mouth without sending so much as a twitch to the rod. Jay pointed out that there is a pecking order and smaller fish will yield when a larger one approaches. Most fish that hooked up were not visible to the camera until they flashed into view from the side.

Perhaps the greatest value of real time video is the opportunity to observe the action of the flashers and adjust for the correct speed. In general, he found the ideal range for cut bait on his boat "Omega II" is 1.8 – 2.2 MPH. Trolling in a figure eight pattern will cause the inside rig(s) to flutter and fall a bit. Sometimes this is all that is necessary to entice a strike.

The water at 90 -100 feet or more, for example, is surprisingly clear with an abundance of light. Individual fish in the large schools of bait are easily identified. Jay closed his presentation as the screen became clouded with a layer of fleas as thick as pea soup. No question about it, these cameras can be informative, entertaining, and, without a doubt, frustrating at times.

- President Ames thanked Jay and resumed the business meeting. He called attention to ELOSTA's 26th annual picnic which has been scheduled to start at noon on Saturday August 6th at the VFW pavilion on State Rte 3 south of Mexico. He announced that he had to give the caterer a number and was taking names of those who planned to attend – they could pay at the gate. He also needed a list of those who will be participating in the fun derby, weigh-in is at 2:00 sharp.
- Doug Fuegel reported that over a 100,000 2-3 inch walleye fry were successfully reared and released to Lake Ontario from the walleye ponds at Cape Vincent. The Coalition is cleaning the ponds and is anticipating the operation of eight ponds next season.
- Doug also reported that DEC has signed the contract that will ensure barge stocking for the next five years. The cost of the barge to stock the 15,000 7-8 inch surplus browns were obtained from the Caledonia Hatchery was also included. Over \$4,000 collected in a last minute two day effort was returned to the donors.
- Doug reemphasized the need for ELOSTA to support “Option B” of the International Task Group's recommendations concerning the readjustment of seasonal water levels affecting Lake Ontario and the upper St. Lawrence River. Mac MacKenzie suggested that such a position might be contrary to the feelings of member property owners who would be affected by the proposed changes. Perhaps it would be better if we advised them of the situation and let them respond as individuals. President Ames made a motion to accept “Plan B”. That motion was seconded and carried. For more information contact: Arleen Kreusch at 716-879-4438. Website is: www.losi.org.
- DEC's Dan Bishop, who was going to speak on the water level proposals, was unable to attend the meeting due to an illness in the family.
- Jerry Lougnot reported that the walleye are still cooperating on Oneida Lake. However, it might take a little more effort to limit out.
- At 8:35 PM Charlie thanked all those in attendance and announced that the next meeting would be held at 7:00 on Friday August 19. Pete Lahosky and the Prime Time fishing team will cover the fine aspects of salmon fishing just in time for the LOC Derby. Charlie's motion to close the meeting was seconded and carried. *Mac MacKenzie Secretary*