

ELOSTA Monthly Membership meeting

Wednesday May 18, 2005

Minutes

(Also available on www.elosta.org)

- Charlie Ames called a quick meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 6:30 PM in the Lodge Meeting Room of the Gander Mountain store in Cicero. The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss ELOSTA donations to be applied to this years barge stocking effort and the Little Salmon River Skamania net-pen project. Both proposals received unanimous Board approval to be offered for consideration at the membership meeting.
- President Charlie Ames called the third 2005 monthly meeting of the Eastern Lake Ontario Salmon and Trout Association (ELOSTA) to order at 7:00 PM. and introduced the officers and Board Members to the forty one members and guests in attendance.
- Charlie noted that the April Newsletter mailing had been delayed due to last months late meeting date. His motion to dispense with the reading of the April 28th minutes was seconded and unanimously approved.
- Treasurer Tom Lott presented his Financial Report for the period April 26, 2005 – May 17, 2005. A reimbursement check in the amount of \$30.85 was written to Mac MacKenzie for refreshments at the March 16 State of the Lake Meeting. Deposits from the raffle, dues, and Newsletter advertisement fees totaled \$464.50. ELOSTA's savings and checking accounts for the period total \$9288.05. The Net-Pen account remains at \$1819.59. Tom's report was accepted by as presented and copies were distributed to the officers.
- Doug Fuegel briefly explained a situation concerning a shortfall of funds to support this years barge stocking effort. This money was to be provided from the "Sport Fish Restoration Act:" (Dingle-Johnson Act) which is funded by excise taxes on fishing tackle and related equipment. It appears the problem resulted from a communication mix-up between DEC and the Feds. The full amount will be available next season. Charlie motioned that ELOSTA contribute \$200 to help off-set this years expenses. A show of hands in support was unanimous.
- Doug also explained that the Lake Ontario lake trout restoration program is dependant upon fish obtained from the Federal Allegheny Hatchery. I seems that the hatchery's backup generator failed during a planned power outage and significant number of this years lake trout quota was lost. All 247,000 of the remaining fish will all go into the Eastern Basin.
- Charlie Ames called attention to funding problems being experienced by the Little Salmon River skamania net-pen volunteers and motioned that ELOSTA contribute \$100 to that effort. The motion was seconded and a show of hands in favor was unanimous. That money will be forwarded to the Fravor Road address.
- Gerry Lougnot and C. Ames gave an excellent presentation on Oneida Lake walleye fishing. They started with a brief listing of preferred lures (stick-baits) that included Rapala and Storm. Charlie rigged an effective combination with deep diver and shallow runner trailed off a

three way swivel. He explained that the larger lipped a deep diver pulls down and well below the second bait giving the appearance of one fish chasing the other – or something like that. In fact their emphasis was on controlled depth fishing using weights, crankbaits, and jigs. In-line planer boards are used to present the bait out and away from the influence of the boat..

Line counter reels form the back bone of their equipment for determining depth for the amount of line out. They rely heavily on the book entitled “Precision Trolling” by Steven Holt, Mark Romanack, and Tom Irwin. The 7th edition contains the dive curves for over 230 crankbaits and line weights. During mid-May the lake was gradually clearing up and most of the fish were suspended. One can’t say enough about having to place the bait right under a walleye’s finicky nose.

All who regularly fish Oneida Lake agreed that this has been a banner year. Full limits are common place and they come quickly.

Jerry suggested that replacing the off-the-shelf foam in in-line boards with closed cell foam keeps them from becoming waterlogged. He precuts and installs the foam pieces with silicone.

- Tom Lott played a recently taped 10-15 minute home (boat) video he took while fishing in-line boards on Oneida. The fish were cooperative and the subject was timely. Don’t look for any smashing hits that send the board tailing off into the air. They simple drop back a bit and, if you are aren’t on your toes, you will be dragging that fish around the lake all day. No question about it, these fish are not pursued for their fighting qualities. Tom relies heavily on blue/silver and black/silver stickbaits.

- Rick Peninski, also know for his walleye successes, has a whole different approach to filling the live well. Or as he puts it catch-photo-release. Rick uses the more conventional spinners and bait. He prefers “Willow Leaf” spinners pulled slowly over the top or through openings in the weed beds. This means that most of his fishing is going to be drift fishing or casting in less than 12 feet of water.

His spinner is rigged with a bullet head sinker and red beads. He uses a piece of worm or Berkley’s “Gulp” to sweeten it up. Too much worm and the fish will take it and run. He also suggests a substantial leader of around 20# - pike are fond of this rig too.

- At 8:50 PM Charlie thanked Rick and Tom for their contributions to the format and called attention to our curfew at 9:00 when the store closes. His motion and a second to close the meeting were drowned out by several enthusiastic discussions on the floor concerning the attributes of planer boards vs. in-line boards. *Mac MacKenzie*