

ELOSTA Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday May 20, 2009

(Also available at www.elosta.org)

President Charlie Ames called the third monthly meeting of the 2009 summer season to order at 7:10 PM on May 20th in the meeting room at Gander Mountain's Cicero store. Twenty three members/guests attended and Mac MacKenzie acted in his capacity as Secretary.

Charlie motioned that the minutes in the April Newsletter be accepted as written. His motion was seconded and unanimously carried. Several members present stated that they had not been receiving their Newsletters. Some minor address irregularities were noted and hand written on June's mailing labels. The database will be corrected accordingly.

Tom Lott gave a detailed summary of payments and account transfers for the period April 16 – May 20, 09. Checks, totaling \$833 were written for postage, Newsletter editing, and Newsletter printing. Elostas's current savings and checking accounts total \$15,067.73 including the \$1918.17 remaining in the Pro -Am netpen account. Copies of Tom's Report were also available to the officers and Board members present. The motion to accept the report as presented was seconded and unanimously approved.

Diane Kuehn – Coastal Tourism Specialist from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) spoke briefly about a lake oriented study they will be initiating during June 09 to obtain marketing and promotional information concerning resident participation in Lake Ontario bass angling opportunities. Not a lot of data is available and the study is being prepared in anticipation of a significant decline in non-resident interest. The surveys will be mailed directly to Lake County property owners. Members who receive the survey are urged to respond.

At 7:30 pm Charlie Ames introduced Captain Troy Creasy publisher of *Lake Ontario Outdoors*. Troy enthusiastically prefaced his presentation on "Bobber (float) Fishing Techniques" with the announcement that this past season provided the best steelhead fishing he has seen on the Salmon River in years. At the present time we can only speculate about the reasons for this dramatic improvement. However, "catch and release" and predation on juvenile naturally spawned salmon are at the forefront of thought. All stocked fish are now marked but it will take a year or two before a comparison with un-tagged fish can be made.

Troy explained that bobber fishing is about as simple and forgiving as stream fishing gets. All the angler needs is 9 – 13 foot long flexible (noodle type) rod, a relatively light duty spinning reel, some split shot for weight, the all important adjustable bobber, and plastic "Glow Roe Beads" English round shot are preferred over the eared "Splits" to reduce drag and no smelly bait is required.

Adjustments to the weight, sliding bobber and the sliding bead are dependant upon the current and depth of water to be fished. The basic idea is to drift the bead and

hook along the bottom slightly ahead or down stream from the float (Trodding the Float). This can be accomplished by casting the rig across current or slightly upstream and slowly controlling the release of line from the reel with a forefinger . The fish will hit the bead (an Alaskan creation) and the hook will slip up to the corner of the mouth. Legal, perhaps, but the jury is still out on this one. The long flexible rod will do the rest but, heavier line should be considered to reduce stress and contain the fish, within reason, to a respectable reach of the river. The more experienced can finesse the presentation with a center pin reel at some extra cost.

In general the time of day has little effect on the bite and monofilament line is preferred to prevent icing up. After taking questions from the floor the meeting was returned to Charlie at 8:10 PM.

Charlie Ames noted that his son Eric (member) and his team mate placed second to a North Carolina duo in the May 5th 50 hours long Baldwinsville carp tournament. Each team netted around 2500 pounds of fish.

Doug Fuegel gave a brief wrap-up on the raffle and noted that the dues will not need to be increased in the near future.

Comments from the floor were consistent regarding the season to date on the big lake. Fishing for browns and Kings has been exceptional, weather permitting. Green on green continues to be a favorite but, they seem to hit on everything at one time or another. Flutter spoons and stick baits have also produced a lot of fish. No secret hot colors or lures of the year have been mentioned. The number of fallback steelhead taken seems to be consistent with great river fishing experienced earlier.

Tom Lott reported that walleye fishing on Oneida Lake continues to be slow although he and his partner limited out earlier in the day.

President Ames thanked all those who attended and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM. Next meeting is at 7PM, June 17 at Gander Mountain in Cicero. As always, walk-ins are welcome. *Mac MacKenzie*