

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Jerry Lougnot**

Our May meeting was held at the Gander Mtn. store in Cicero. Captain Rick Mick of Dream Catcher Guide Service gave an informative presentation on Walleye fishing on Oneida Lake. I haven't been fishing yet due to shoulder surgery. I've been getting mixed reports while at work in the Cicero Gander Mtn. bait shop. Some are doing well on blade baits at the east end of Oneida. Trollers are doing well when they find the fish and the guys looking for weeds are catching a few when they find good weed beds. All report there is no problem catching pickerel. Captain Tony Buffa reports that there is an abundance of shad and small perch which the walleye are feeding on.

We received word from Congresswoman Buerkle's office that she submitted a proposal for the restoration of the Cormorant hazing program to the house floor. We're all hoping that both sides can come together on such an important issue.

We had our drawing for the Lowrance HDS7 Chart plotter/ Fish finder unit and Nick Polifko of Mexico, NY was the winner. Congratulations and thank you for supporting ELOSTA. Oswego County River Guides Association is hosting a Water Chestnut pull on the Salmon River at the Pine Grove Boat Launch on July 9, 2011 at 8:00A.M. For more information contact Margaret Kastler at 315-387-5209. Lunch will be provided.

Our membership has been steady over past few years; however we've noticed a drop this year. If you know of a former member or a potential new member please let them know that by being a member it will keep them up to date on the issues of concern to our fisheries and the latest news from DEC, along with updates on new or different angling techniques and places to enjoy fishing.

Our meeting schedule will be changing after our June meeting. Our July meeting will be held **Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at the Post 369 VFW Pavilion in Mexico** - same location as our Derby/Picnic with Captain Rich Nau presenting on summer Salmon fishing. Our August meeting will be held at the same location on **Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00P.M.** Your board of directors thought by having this meeting on Friday night it would give our out of town members a chance to attend a meeting. Captain Brian Garrett and other Captains will have a panel discussion on late summer – early fall Salmon fishing.

**Be sure to attend our June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7:00 at Gander Mtn. Cicero when Dave MacNeill from New York Sea Grant will speak on Asian Carp issues facing the Great Lakes.**

Good Fishin'

Jerry

## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the next newsletter will be July 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 May 18, 2011**

The May meeting was held at the Gander Mountain Store in Cicero On the 18th. Treasurer Tom Lott indicated a balance of \$13,273.35 in the treasury, and \$3023.67 that we are holding in net pen funds.

President Jerry Loughnot told us that for the past three years ELOSTA has sent \$350 to the New York State Conservation Council for the "Buck - Member- Program " and have not ever received a "thank-you" in the form of a letter or mentioning us in their newsletter. Many Members were upset but finally we decided to send them \$ 250 this year. Let's see what happens....

Tom , Jerry, and Mike Roche at their meeting with Congresswoman Buerkle were very pleased to hear that she proposed \$ 1 million in federal funds to help take care o f the cormorant problem on Oneida, Champlain, and the Eastern Basin of Ontario. Now we are going after Congressman Bill Owens and our two Senators for their help.

The winner of the Drawing for the Lowrance HDS7 depthfinder was Nick Polifko of Mexico Point Dr. in Mexico. It is valued at around \$1300. Congratulations Nick !!!

Dave MacNeill of Sea Grant will be our speaker at the June Meeting on the 15th. Dave will give us an up-date on the Asian Carp problem that may impact the Great Lakes.

Tom & Jerry also said that they got a lot of good comments from the content of the last newsletter. If anyone has anything to pass along to the members feel free to e-mail your comments to Libby at [LibbyL@twcny.rr.com](mailto:LibbyL@twcny.rr.com).

Ken Esser did an especially good report in the last newsletter.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Capt.Rick Miick from Sandy Creek. Rick kept his talk on the walleye fishing on Oneida. He likes to use Sonar -type lures in the Spring. Red is always a good color and DON'T use ones with big eyes and rattles. He likes to "doctor" his lures with yellow tape and other colors; a strip here and a strip there and use a Sharpy to put red bottoms of the lures. I've been doing that for years.

Drift and cast down-wind and retrieve slowly after the lure hits bottom. Lift the rod only a foot or so and keep this right up to the boat. He catches many fish on the way up. Rick uses 12# Power Pro line with 18" to 24 " flourocarbon leader and he ALWAYS keeps the snap in t he middle hole.

He likes to fish in 17to 24 ft. of water early and going deeper to 22' to 27' later on - the northside of the shoals from Buoys 109 all the way toward 121. Tom Lott asked him how many pickerel he catches because Tom is getting "tons" of them and Rick said he doesn't catch any.....food for thought. The Sonar is size #433. Don't rip it..use a stiff rod and lift it about a foot at a time.

When Rick trolls he uses 10# to 12# line and flatlines with a line -counter reel at a speed of 1.5 to 2.2 mph. Favorite lures are fire-tiger Shad-Raps (SR-7). He may use a 1oz. keel weight with an 8' leader to get it down a little deeper when the fish are not near the top 6 ft.

One rod is usually out with a Chart./yellow/orange spinner on a worm harne ss Lindy-Rigged with 3/4oz. weight down at a 45degree angle off the boat. The weight is a sliding Rocky-Roller with a 3' leader in 17' to 27' of water.

If things are going slow Rick goes to a black and purple jig with a treble stinger in size #6. Don't be afraid to use a glo jig when nothing else works. He likes to use Smelly Jelly on his terminal gear.

In deep water Rick also likes a purple or fire-tiger Reef-Runner.

Now you folks have a few new ideas to try when you are walleye fishing on Oneida ...or any other lake for that matter.

We'd like to thank Rick for a very informative and interesting talk !!

By the way...I can't add any fishing experiences as I've been chasing my Grandson and his baseball team. I'll be out fishing by the time you get this though.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Thomas, Secretary

## TIME TO GET THE KIDS OUT Phil Lucason

School is winding down, sport seasons have come to a close, the weather is improving, and kids are looking to do something with you. It's time to make some time to take them fishing. Now when I say take them fishing, it may not be your usual type of fishing. Depending on experience, age, and attention span of the youngster you may have to put a different tackle box in hand than you would normally be carrying. I say this from experience as I have failed before by trying to have kids stick it out waiting for the rod to fire and watch their expressions fade from excitement and anticipation to utter boredom and frustration. The same kids catching six inch perch and pumpkinseeds were lit up.

Over the years I have had the opportunity to take many kids fishing from those still in diapers to older teenagers and have had some of my most memorable fishing moments with them and I am sure some of theirs with me. My two greatest fishing buddies at this point for all types of fishing are my two daughters ages seven and eight. Through them I have learned a lot about fishing with kids. The first is short trips are better in the beginning, duration will grow with the kids' experience. When I first started with them an hour was a long time even with moves and lots of snacks. Over time they have grown to where they can excitedly wait for a rod to fire on the big lake and fished hard for seven hours straight on the Hudson for Stripers, quitting because we ran out of time, not out of boredom or frustration.

The biggest suggestion is read the kid. Look for what makes them excited, bored, frustrated, pleased, and upset. When taking a kid fishing we want them to want to go again, it has to be positive. A couple of things to make a conscious effort to not do – never get upset or get frustrated. Even if it is the worst rats nest, tangle, favorite lure lost, broken rod, tipped tackle box (into the water), rod thrown in the water, hook in the finger or ear, or the seventh record breaker lost, make light of it or even joke about it. All of these things have happened to me and I have learned. If you get upset it will instantly show on their face and whatever happened will pale with how much you'd want a do over.

Another biggy, let them have a lot of input with guidance and then give them a hefty share of the reason for success. Kids like to have real success in a world filled with empty accomplishments. As simply as picking out the "right" bobber or worm, deciding where to cast, where to move the boat with carefully picked options, through picking from your tackle box to target salmon allows them to feel like they are a real part of the fishing expedition.

Lastly, **every fish is a trophy**. Enjoy each one with them. Talk about each fish, the name, where it lives, what it eats, what eats it, how nice theirs is, what a nice fight it gave, how well they did, etc... We all know that there is more waiting than catching when fishing so make the most out of each fish. This is when the teaching can happen. While they are excited and everything is positive explain only one thing that they could have done better in case "old grandpa" bites next. Remember only one thing at a time so that the energy remains high and positive. We all have a wealth of knowledge to distill upon others, but they can only absorb a little constructive advice at a time.

Many of us are parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, neighbors, friends of the family, coaches, etc... who can really benefit from taking these kids fishing and them from us. By ourselves we can catch lots of trophies and fish for the freezer, but they can be empty moments compared to sharing a first fishing experience with someone. If we do it right, at worst they will remember and relive the experience with us to other people and at best they will consider us lifelong fishing companions and speak about their time with us long after we are gone from this Earth as most of us remember and relive our experiences fishing with our father or grandfather.

Best of Luck.

Phil Lucason

Dad, teacher, coach, and captain.

Family Style Fishing Charters

## **MAY LAKE REPORT**

### **Barry Stevens**

Well the fishing for browns out of Oswego continued to be great for us. The key to success this spring has simply been the ability to get out between the rains and the winds. We made four trips in the first three weeks of May, and for the first three trips we limited out and even had one special day when two of us caught over thirteen browns, releasing every one. We had a few strikes where the inline planer board disappeared completely for a while, which is always fun. We also had a super strike and retrieved only the nose of the plug. Now how can that happen?

Once again we hugged the shore during our trips, staying in the murky water in anywhere from around seven to twelve feet. For us we continued to rely on Smithwick Rogues, using the shallow runners that run about three feet down. On some trips the color didn't matter, and on others a given color did. On one trip blue was the secret, and on another definitely silver worked best. On the trip when we caught over thirteen one plug caught eleven of the fish. Go figure. For us it was imperative to run plugs with orange on the bottom. But with a number of boats also catching fish it is obvious that not everyone is using Rogues.

The last trip with three of us was an adventure in the fog. It always amazes me how the sun can be shining at the boat launch, but a hundred yards from shore the visibility is squat. On this last trip we struggled to remember the basics of watching the compass, the GPS, the depth finder, the temperature, and the speed. And oh yes also trying to pay enough attention not to run over our planer board lines, or worse yet, not to run into another boat. We came close, but fortunately only our planer boards were really in any risk of a collision with those of a bigger boat. On our last trip we hugged the shallows a little too long, and once again forgot the basics. We should have checked our lines more frequently as we were picking up bits of weeds and other garbage. If we could simply remember to remember everything.

Now you may wonder why we only made four trips in May to the big lake, but alas Oneida Lake and the walleyes were calling. And after two short trips to Oneida I am proud to state that I left plenty of fish for everyone else. At this point I would normally explain what we used and how we caught them, but it's pretty hard to do when we the only things we could catch were weeds and zebra mussels. On the first trip I proved that jigs did not produce on the Lakeport Shoals, other than bass, and on the second trip I proved in Billington Bay that I quickly became a pro at hooking zebra mussels with blade baits. Like they always say, watch out for the next trip...

For this month that leaves just Cazenovia Lake to report on. I fish Caz simply to justify the permit cost of launching my small boat there. Plus at nine miles from home it is fairly close. I also fish this lake because the fishing for bass and panfish is outstanding.

I managed two trips this month, and kept to my normal success rate by struggling to catch a meal early in the month, but on the last day of the month I had an unbelievable day. Once I found them the fish were so aggressive that the jig barely touched water and wham! I like using very small jigs such as mini-mites, and by using an eight foot long ultra-light it feels like a small mouth bass on the line. I could have limited out by staying longer, but about noon my endurance and interest were fading. Plus it takes a while to clean a limit of panfish.

So everyone, now that the weather finally seems to be cooperating, get out and do some fishing. We certainly have a choice of lakes among the finger lakes, Oneida Lake, Lake Ontario, and many smaller lakes and reservoirs.

## **GOOD DEAL FOR ELOSTA MEMBERS!**

### **Dave Myers**

Great Lakes Angler magazine is offering special subscription pricing for ELOSTA members. The magazine focuses on topics concerning big water fishing for salmon, trout and walleye. It contains lots of good information on techniques and equipment from contributors across the Great Lakes area.

Regular pricing is 19.95 for one year (9 issues). Special club pricing is \$13 for one year, \$25 for two years, and \$37 for three. To get the discount, use the code MCLUB10 when subscribing on line at [www.GLAangler.com](http://www.GLAangler.com) or by phone at (800) 214-5558

Try it, you'll like it.

## **WEST END FISHING REPORT**

### **Capt Brian and Marlene, Tall Tails Sportfishing**

The 2011 spring fishing on the western end of Lake Ontario has started off slow. Mother Nature with her cold weather and an over-abundance of rain, then East winds wreaked havoc on surface temperatures and made fishing spotty. The end of April found 38 degree water on top outside of Olcott and Wilson. This and with rivers running chocolate including the Niagara, fish remained in deep waters, dormant and scattered. Brown trout and Lakers saved many a fishing trip, but the brown fishing was not comparable to the stellar east end fishing. Debris brought into the lake from swollen waters has continued to be a hazard. Having a scout with keen eyes has been needed while on plane to avoid disastrous collisions, and trolling lines have at times been impossible to duplicate.

As the east winds lessened during the last 2 weeks of May it allowed the green, warmer Niagara water to return towards Olcott and Wilson. Kings were being marked on screens in numbers, but getting them to bite proved to be a difficult, if not seemingly impossible task. Pulling spoons and 00 red dodgers with peanut flies, Cohos bit on riggers and dipsies, but still not in great numbers or size. As May draws to a close, the waters are settling down and setting up and fishing is improved. Surface temps have increased to mid and high 40's, and an occasional 50 degrees. Temperature breaks are present but not yet set up to hold Steelhead in numbers. Lake trout normally not seen outside of Olcott Harbor at this time, provided us with a great time the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in May. Fishing an impressive class of Lakers, we caught and released over 25 trout most between 12 and 20 pounds in 60-90 feet of water, with one impressive laker weighing in at 25 pounds. Spring kings later that weekend were found in abundance and biting in 400 feet of water. Currently as we write this report, kings are moving into shallower depths, and they are hungry. Spoons are always a good choice, but they are also hitting attractors and flies. Usually at this time the lake begins its transition, and kings start their travels to other areas. With the arrival of these fish approximately 2 weeks behind what we normally see, we are hoping for a spectacular early June for west end kings. Tight Lines and Full Coolers!

### **ELOSTA ON FACEBOOK**

Want to share your fish stories and those great fish pictures? Share them on ELOSTA's Facebook page. If you are a member of Facebook, just search for "EASTERN LAKE ONTARIO SALMON AND TROUT" and you should find us. We look forward to hearing from you!

### **FRESHWATER FISHING REGULATION CHANGES ANTICIPATED**

#### **Mac MacKenzie**

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has announced that changes affecting the current freshwater fishing regulations are available for public review and informal feedback. Angler suggestions during this early stage of development helps Staff to better understand and incorporate user concerns into the on-going development of a final product to become effective on October 1, 2012.

The current version of Staff's initial draft is viewable on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/73762.html>. "Changes being considered include modifications to the current seasons, size limits, and creel limits on certain waters for popular game fish species such as trout, salmon, walleye, black bass, pickerel, muskellunge, and tiger muskellunge. Additional suggested changes pertain to ice fishing on certain waters, as well as for establishing specific gear requirements for certain angling practices."

Comments will be accepted through June 24, 2011. Just follow the directions to submit your comments directly on line.

## **UPDATE ON MIKE D'ALONZO Mac MacKenzie**

Many you have already heard that Mike will be undergoing a follow-up operation on June 7<sup>nd</sup> to further address complications resulting from a reoccurrence of a medical problem that was identified and dealt with in a similar procedure last season. Understandably, Mike will be not be able to participate in marina affairs for at least 5-8 weeks. During the interim, Ron Sharpe, a very able and capable marine mechanic with many years of experience, will be assuming boat maintenance and repair responsibilities.

Beth, with some exceptions, will continue to operate the marinas and attend to daily business matters. Another member of the family or an employee will be on hand to provide clients with assistance at times when Beth is pursuing other priorities. You're understanding is appreciated.

## **"PRIME TIME" PLACES IN THE WILSON INVITATIONAL Mac MacKenzie**

February snows covered the ground and ice clogged the rivers when Elost member Pete Lahosky of Team Prime Time received an invitation, to participate in the First Annual Wilson Harbor Invitational Tournament held on May 13 & 14. The inaugural event featured Lake Ontario's top anglers in a Friday "Big Fish" only day followed by a head "one day shootout" on Saturday. The Prime Time team could hardly refuse this offer.

The decision was a no-brainer and accommodations were quickly made to include four additional pre-tournament days to check out the Western Basin fishing arena. Mark Bukowski donated a trailer for the 28 foot Baha, Bob and Jon Wilbur had a truck that could pull it, and Pete obtained a wide load permit to haul it west to Olcott. Obviously, the tailoring option was a lot cheaper than a questionable 150 mile open sea run with two gas guzzling 350's chewing up the water.

The weather was less than accommodating. An uncomfortable northeast chop argued with the Baha from Monday through Thursday and, in general, the fishing could have been a lot better. Cheaters accounted for a few nice cohos and steelhead but, nothing of significance that would result in oohs and aah's on "Big Fish Friday". Only four teams out of the 77 boats entered weighed in fish over the established minimum. Tom Burke's boat "Cold Steel" won that day with a nice 27 pound King.

Shootout Saturday arrived with a dense blanket of fog covering the lake. As Pete put it, "... 77 high powered fishing vessels blasting off from a shotgun start in heavy fog is nothing for the faint of heart ...". Their destination in the soup was the Youngstown Canadian Border area about 15 miles to the east. The team would work the top 50 feet over 300 feet with two copper, two lead core and two wire dipseys – no riggers. The copper lines proved to be the most effective.

Finding a school of bait was essential to the bite. The hot spoons were Ice Frog and Michigan Stingers in Purple Thunder and Venom patterns. After a busy morning they had landed 13 Kings with only 5 fish meeting the tournament minimum. Time was running out and it would be another hectic 15 mile ride back in the fog before they knew that they had qualified for seventh place in an event featuring the best of the best. Forty five of the teams entered no fish and only three teams had a full six fish limit to offer.

In sharing his team's experience Pete has provided us with a few tips that could be useful in our home water pursuit of early deep water Kings. However, there might also be cause for some concern in his report. Many of the top Western NY teams were unthinkably skunked. Hopefully, this relatively poor showing is attributable to adverse fishing conditions which would not reflect a sign of things to come in mid-August.

## 33rd ANNUAL

### E.L.O.S.T.A. PICNIC & DERBY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2011

MEXICO VFW PAVILION, ROUTE 3, MEXICO, N.Y.  
(NORTH OF MEXICO ON ROUTE 3)

**STARTS AT NOON -- CHICKEN SERVED AT 2 P.M.**

ADULT PRICE: \$17.00

Includes:

1/2 B.B.Q. Chicken  
Hamburgers  
Hot Dogs  
Salt Potatoes  
Baked Beans  
Macaroni Salad  
Corn  
Beer, Soda, Coffee

CHILDREN (12 & UNDER) \$7.00

Includes:

Hamburgers  
Hot Dogs  
Salt Potatoes  
Baked Beans  
Macaroni Salad  
Corn  
Soda

NOTE: If you want your  
Child to have chicken, you  
must pay \$17.00/child

DERBY: \$10/Person - MUST BE A MEMBER!!!  
Fish Weigh-In Closes @ 2:30 P.M.

There will be numerous raffles throughout the afternoon. Come join us, have a good time and meet your fellow club members!

**R.S.V.P. BY JULY 25, 2011 TO:**

Tom Lott, Phone (315) 699-4797

Jerry Loughnot, Phone: (315)699-0112, email- fishless@tweny.rr.com

**REMINDER: FISH WEIGH-IN CLOSSES AT 2:30 P.M. SHARP!!**  
**IF YOU ARE NOT IN LINE, DON'T WHINE!!!**

**THIS IS YOUR CLUB'S MAJOR FUNDRAISER!!!**  
**WE NEED EVERYONE TO ATTEND!!!!!!**