

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Charlie Ames**

Here it is October and fall is in the air. It's been a strange summer and the fishing has been spotty. The Salmon and trout fishing on the big lake ranged from excellent to so-so. The spring brown trout fishing was excellent and the July salmon fishing was great but the August and September salmon fishing was so-so. The walleye fishing on Oneida was also spotty. The early season eyes were tough to get a handle on. They were not in their usual early season locations. The summer weed fishing was also inconsistent. However the late summer deep water trolling was excellent. Bill Thomas and I, Jerry Lougnot, Rick Paninski, Tom Lott, Barry Stevens and Mike Roche had some great days. Also the bass fishing on Oneida was great. I have to believe that the weather contributed to a rather spotty season. However, we are indeed lucky to have all this great fishing available in our back yard.

The perch fishing on Oneida has been poor this September. There have been some decent catches taken in the weeds but the deep water fishing has been tough. What is really surprising is the large number of dinks taken in the deep water. One day Jerry Lougnot and I caught about 75 and only kept 10. Let's hope it gets better in October.

Many thanks to Bill Lefanchek, Mac Mackenzie, Roy and Deb Hunsberger, Bill Thomas and Jake and June Howell for manning our booth at the hatchery on National Hunting and Fishing day. It was beautiful day and there was an excellent turnout.

Our next and final meeting of the year will be at the **SALMON RIVER HATCHERY** on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21st**. Please note that this is a change from our normal Gander Mountain location. We'll get an update on hatchery operations from Andy Grulic and a state of the fishery report from Dan Bishop and Fran Verdaliva. Also, election of officers will take place. We'll see you there.

## **ELOSTA Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes**

### **Wednesday September 16, 2009**

**(Also available at [www.elosta.org](http://www.elosta.org))**

President Charlie Ames called the seventh monthly meeting of the 2009 summer season to order at 7:05 PM on September 16th in the meeting room at Gander Mountain's Cicero store. Twenty five members/guests were in attendance and Mac MacKenzie acted in his capacity as Secretary.

Charlie motioned that the minutes of the August meeting be accepted as they appeared in the Newsletter. His motion was seconded and carried.

Tom Lott gave a detailed summary of payments and account transfers as they appeared in his Financial Report for the period August 15 – September 16, 2009. Checks, totaling \$792.02 were written for the Northeast Sports Show booth, Libby Lougnot (Newsletter), Encompass Printing (Newsletter), and Tom Lott (soda pop and crackers for the Sept. meeting). Tom provided the smoked salmon dip.

A deposit in the amount of \$1053.00 from Mike's Little Salmon River Challenge (earmarked for netpen activities in the Eastern Basin) was deposited with the Pro Am Netpen funds. That account now totals \$2971.17. The last outstanding Ad fee of \$75 was

also deposited bringing the combined savings, netpen, and checking accounts total to \$14,284.38. Copies of Tom's Report were provided to the officers and board members present.

A motion to accept the report as presented was seconded and carried.

President Ames advised the membership that he had polled and received approval from the Board regarding an ELOSTA donation in the amount of \$350 to the Conservation Council. A motion to accept the proposal was seconded and carried.

Jerry Lougnot called attention to a case of StarBrite's "**Star\*Tron Enzyme Fuel Treatment**" that he brought in for interested members at dealer's cost. An \$18 bottle will treat 250 gallons of gas or diesel fuel. StarBrite claims that this additive will correct most fuel storage and clean burning problems including those attributed to Ethanol. Ethanol has been added to automotive fuels for some time. As of October 1<sup>st</sup> it will also become a component of all fuels obtained at marina operations.

A note from the Secretary. A member suggested from the floor that the additive "ValvTect" already does this job. Not sure about that; but, StarBrite obtained a court injunction that dismisses ValvTect's claim.

The meeting was turned over to Jerry Lougnot who, standing among a number of favorite rods and assorted colored "STUFF", gave a presentation on Oneida Lake perch "catching" tactics. Essentially, the basic and most productive method is a vertical presentation with a controlled horizontal drift. Drift bags and electric motors are needed to effectively compensate for a wind that seldom cooperates. Anchoring is not as productive as it is on Lake Ontario for example.

Fickle winds also require the use of various sinker weights, ½ - 2 ounces, to maintain contact with the bottom. This translates into a sensitive stick, or two, or three, - with the backbone to cope with changing conditions. Jerry also experiments daily with various colored hooks tied with a relatively short snell to provide a better off-set from the line. This gear has to be coupled with a bit of finesse and some fathead minnows to produce the foot long fish he took from his cooler.

A general and somewhat heated discussion from the floor expressed concern over the proposed closing of Carpenter's Brook Fish Hatchery by Onondaga County. Whether this is just another political diversion tactic to obtain concessions elsewhere is not apparent at this time. However, members are encouraged to contact their legislators and make their feeling known. ELOSTA has responded under its letterhead.

Opinions concerning this season's fishing experiences on the "Big O" were inconsistent to say the least. In general it was felt that there were more than the normal numbers of Coho and the Kings were few and far between. Schools of baitfish ??? clouded the sonar screens across the Eastern Basin. Large dormant hooks suggested that the fish were there??

Charlie reminded everyone of the upcoming open house at the Altmar Hatchery on September 26. A number of members volunteered to set up and man ELOSTA's booth throughout the day.

President Ames thanked all those who attended and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM. Next meeting is at 7PM on October 17 at the DEC Fish Hatchery in Altmar. As always, walk-ins and their input are welcomed. **Mac MacKenzie**

## SOME 2009 ODDS – N – ENDS

**Canadian Boater Education Requirements** – The enactment of a National law on September 15, 2009 mandates that all boaters who operate a motorized vessel in Canadian waters must meet the requirements of an approved boating and safety education course. Proof of competency must be carried at all times when afloat. Boaters should check to ensure that their US or State programs are acceptable for this purpose.

How does this affect American visitors? Non-residents must meet acceptable “Proof of Competency” requirements if their stay exceeds 45 days, if they are operating Canadian rentals, or a Canadian registered boat. Non-residents who operate a motorized vessel within the 45 day limit must have proof of residency on board at all times. Visiting boaters are also required to comply with National and Provincial equipment and safety requirements. A Restricted Operator’s Permit is also required to operate a VHF radio. Go to [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca) for details. *Mac*

**Recreational Marine Fishing Licenses (RMFL)** – Eastern Basin anglers who are fortunate enough have salt water opportunities during the off season – listen up. On October 1, 2009 all persons 16 years of age and older will be required to obtain a marine fishing license for marine and coastal waters. This requirement usually implies coastal and inland tidal waters and some degree of salinity? However, this license is also applicable to anglers who are fishing the Hudson, Delaware, and Mohawk Rivers (and tributaries) for migratory species.

So who is fishing for what? If you are after striped bass, shad, or blueback herring etc. in the upper Hudson or Mohawk you will need an RMFL. On the other hand, you would still need a regular fishing license to fish for freshwater species, even bluegills, in these same waters. In some instances it appears that you will need both licenses?

So what is the act of fishing? Is it the motions we go through, or perhaps the tackle we are using? A comparable jig will work on stripers and small mouth. Maybe it is fish in the cooler? I hate to think that these issues are going to be decided in the field by the “Man with the hat”? [www.dec.ny.gov/permits/54950.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/54950.html) *Mac*

**Proposed 2010 NYS Fishing Regulations** – DEC has announced that it will be accepting public comments on the proposals until November 9, 2009. Although there are no changes relevant to Lake Ontario, some of our blow-off wanderers might be interested in other area waters. It is interesting to note that Jefferson County has once again been ignored with regard to bringing it into conformity with the State-wide limit of 50 perch per day. *Mac* <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/57841.html>

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Doug Fuegel**

Another summer/fall fishing season is fast coming to an end. Now all we anglers can do is wait for hard ice to wet a line again but in the meantime if hunting is also one of our passions we can go for a few cottontails, maybe some state released pheasants or add a little venison to our freezers. By now all of you have probably purchased your new 2009-2010 hunting and fishing licenses; how many of you were surprised at the new increased fees? And how many of you seniors were surprised that now you have to ante up \$10.00 for that DMU permit? Apparently a good number were aware of the increases especially seniors and middle aged who thought buying a life time license before the September 30 deadline was a good deal; word out of Albany reports that some 48,000 took advantage of the lifetime savings, a whopping increase in sales over previous years.

Our next and final meeting of this year will be October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Salmon River Fish Hatchery and as usual we should be receiving some good news of the fishery from Hatchery Manager Andy Greulich. This meeting is also our annual election of officers. I am sure you all read in our September newsletter the note explaining Mac's decision to step down as our secretary. First let me say that Mac has done an outstanding job as our secretary. It is not an easy task and month after month he kept members abreast of every happening at both our regular meetings and the occasional board meetings; filling this position will not be an easy task but it is an important position and must be filled. As I prepare this column for you no member has stepped forward willing to take this position. Each October President Ames asks for nominations from the floor, you can hear a pin drop as there is complete silence. Do I need to remind our members that your present slate of officers has held their positions for in some cases more than a decade and that the combined age of your present officers likely exceeds nearly three centuries. Would you agree with me that it is past the time when other younger members step in and shoulder some of the burden? I am sure if Mac, who also does a fantastic job of keeping our data base current, were to run a check of all members who live in the immediate location of our monthly meetings at Gander Mountain it would be quite a list; there must be one among you that would be willing to sit and take notes at the regular meetings and become a part of your working board. I sure hope my or Charlie's phone jingles prior to the meeting with a call from a member willing to fill Mac's position.

ELOSTA is a great organization, let's pull together and see that it continues to be the voice of the eastern basin; see you at the hatchery and bring a friend.

*The following is a condensed version of a news release issued by Cornell's Dept. of Natural Resources in partnership with New York Sea Grant. Additional information can be obtained by visiting the web site listed or by contacting Dave White of Sea Grant at 315-312-3042.*

## **Lake Ontario Trends Outlook May Prompt Action to Offset Decline**

Ithaca, NY -- Lake Ontario is New York's largest sport fishery, in terms of both angler days and expenditures. At the peak of the lake's fisheries growth, at least \$100 million in angler expenditures accrued to communities on or near Lake Ontario, say researchers Tommy L. Brown and Nancy A. Connelly of Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources. Their new report *Lake Ontario Sportfishing: Trends, Analysis, and Outlook* published in partnership with New York Sea Grant, offers science-based predictions for the Great Lake's future. Our goal was to develop a better sense of the factors associated with changing trends in fishing effort on Lake Ontario and to use that information to develop short-term fishing forecasts for the next three to five years, Brown says. Armed with the information in this outlook, local community and sportfishing leaders can choose to be proactive about counteracting the trends predicted by the model says Connelly.

The researchers say a decline in fishing activity on Lake Ontario mirrors a declining interest in fishing and outdoor recreation seen nationally. Brown and Connelly predict a decline in Lake Ontario fishing trips of 32 percent with an associated decline in direct expenditures of \$17.3 million to \$19 million (in 2007 dollar terms) and 330 jobs in the next five years.

Connelly says, there are ways to impact the future to help reduce the predicted loss of \$19 million and 330 jobs associated with the lake's angling activity if no action is taken. The report notes that DEC biologists suggest some anglers have already adjusted their fishing techniques to catch more bass. Analysis of a 2007 statewide survey of anglers fishing New York State waters estimates that anglers spent 1.5 million days fishing on Lake Ontario that year, spending on average \$35 per day at the fishing site and \$17 en route, creating an aggregate total expenditure of \$80 million (\$54 million at the fishing site and \$26 million en route). The impact of tourist-anglers - those living outside the Lake Ontario county fished in - is estimated at \$60 million and 1,032 jobs.

The researchers measured the impact of fishing activity on Lake Ontario by the effects of tourist spending on jobs. The total number of full-time job equivalents attributable to recreational tourist fishing on Lake Ontario in 2007 was just over 1,000. Brown and Connelly say the current recession could lower fishing activity even more or result in a shift in fishing-related tourism such as more day trips.

Brown and Connelly reviewed 30 years worth of data from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), NYSDEC Cape Vincent Fisheries Station, and New York Sea Grant, and newspaper articles on Lake Ontario from the Syracuse Post Standard. Datasets and documents included Great Lakes states fishing license sales, recreational boating expenditures, charter fishing industry and fishing derby impact summaries, open boat fishing trips data, fiscal analysis of fisheries impact, water level impacts on recreational boating and associated businesses, reports on food web and fisheries impact, and angler surveys.

Funding for the study was provided by National Sea Grant College Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through the Research Foundation of the State University of New York on behalf of New York Sea Grant.

The complete *Lake Ontario Sportfishing: Trends, Analysis, and Outlook* can be downloaded as a pdf from the web at [www.nysgextension.org](http://www.nysgextension.org).

## MAKING CEDAR-PLANKED SALMON

A guide to cedar plank-grilled salmon, from Kitty Hoynes' chef Damian Brownlow:

1. You can use cherry, apple, oak or other wood, but "cedar seems to have the strongest flavor," Brownlow says. He cuts up cedar siding he buys at Home Depot, "as long as it's not chemically treated." (Some stores, like Lowe's, sell cedar planks in the same aisle with grilling and barbeque supplies.)
2. Cut the wood to a size just slightly larger than the fillet. Soak the planks in water for a minimum of four hours, or overnight. Use them straight out of the water.
3. You don't need to oil either the plank or the fish "because salmon are pretty oily." Brownlow does season the fish with salt and pepper.
4. Lay the planked salmon directly on a hot grill, cover it (with the grill lid or an over-turned pan). "Don't turn it," he says. "Let the plank do its job."
5. Check periodically to see how it's cooking. As the fish cooks, the plank should begin to smoke and char (blacken) around the edges.
6. When the fish is cooked (about 15 minutes on a hot grill for a fillet) lift it, plank and all, off the grill and onto a plate. Add glazes or garnishes if you like.

## CLASSIFIEDS

**For Sale:** 20 ft. 1997 Crestliner Model 2050 Bow Rider welded aluminum boat, no rivets, no leaks, powered by a 2000 Suzuki 140 HP Outboard, oil injected, fuel injected, tops out at 38 mph. 1998 Stainless Steel Trailer, all new tires including spare, new VHF radio, AM/FM radio, anchor & rope, bumpers, dual batteries, many rod holders, all new canvas and bow cover, very low hours, ready to go, just turn the key, will be glad to demo. Was \$14,000, reduced to \$11,800 firm. Call Ken Esser at 315-342-2996 or e-mail: [Kesser@twcny.rr.com](mailto:Kesser@twcny.rr.com)

**For Sale:** 2000 22.6 ft. Starcraft Cuddy Cabin Boat; Merc Cruiser IO 190 hp; Honda 9.9 hp kicker motor; new top, stern curtain, drop curtain and side curtains; new inside side rails; Lowrance Dual frequency fish finder; Lowrance GPS; Sub Troll 9000 Temp & Speed Probe; Radio; Cannon Mag 10 down riggers & Cannon balls (8 lb., 10 lb., & 13 lb.); 8 Rod Holders; Ex. Propeller; Landing net; 50 gal. Live Well; Galvanized trailer w/spare tire & 2 extra tires; Two masts w/side planers; all required Coast Guard equipment; 33 Ft. Sierra Camper Trailer "FREE" with purchase of boat. Both in excellent condition! \$17,000. Call 570-853-4511 anytime.

Note: Classifieds are free of charge to members. Ads run for one month and may be renewed by notifying the newsletter editor, Libby Loughnot