



BASS TAPS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS, INC.

WWW.LONGISLANDBASSMASTERS.COM

FEBRUARY 2010



President's Line

By Steve Socko

The holidays have come and gone, the memberships have been renewed, and I hope that your gifts included some nice new tackle items. If you are like me, as soon as I put the tree and ornaments away, the room is promptly filled with everything, and I mean everything I have accumulated throughout my many years of fishing. My poor wife doesn't see her dining room table or for that matter the dining room floor till the night before our first tournament, of which I still have not set my final, final tournament bag. But before the rods, reels and equipment

have been gone over and rearranged; our Club has been busy behind the scenes, securing tournament sites, dates, insurance etc. Some of the dates have been procured months if not almost a year beforehand. This is required because simply put; the waters we wish to fish are drying up. There is an ever increasing amount of fishermen vying for a decreasing amount of fishable water. Insurance, regulations, organizations who worry about the fish's feelings, home owners putting pressure on governments to stop the noisy fisherman, are just a few reasons it is becoming harder and harder to have a tournament today. There's more to it of course and I could go on, but for now I'll leave it as it takes a heck of a lot more effort and work by our Tournament committee to provide an exciting schedule year after year, we should all consider this the next time we want to complain about a date/place or time that is not conducive to a moon chart or personnel preference.

The tournaments are just one of a myriad of functions already being prepared for the 2010 season. Experience has taught us that this is the time to prepare. It's a bit ironic that for a Club dedicated to an activity performed mostly during the warming months of the year the majority of the behind the scenes work is performed in the cold months of hard water. We should do as much as we can do with running the Club now, so that when it is fishing time, our only concerns will be about catching that beast? Sure, there will always be something that comes up which requires our attention throughout the year, but for the most part, let's get the bulk of as much work out of the way as possible, so when the time comes to play, we can all sit back on our laurels and enjoy it.

As President, one of my first and most important duties concerns the appointment of this year's Tournament Director. I can't over estimate the importance of having the right man in this position. As in years past, the TD will and should have total autonomy in his decisions, and believe you me, as long as the TD doesn't do anything detrimental or egregious to the Club, I have no intentions of interfering. So it is with great pleasure, I can announce that Dan McGarry has accepted the position. Anyone who has been around LIB knows that few if any hold as much knowledge and caring for LIB as Dan has always exhibited, thank you Dan. It would be appropriate at this time to thank Ed Koster as well. Ed has been at the Tournament Director position for the past four years, is there any wonder, that these four years have been the most attended tournaments in Club history? Everyone deserves a break, and before Ed goes running, screaming into the woods and not seen from again, I think its time to give him some slack, not too much though, we still have plans for such a gifted organizer like Ed. There's still this years awards dinner with all those beautiful plaques to give out. Ed, don't get a hernia lifting them all, Ken Dreyer (Treasurer) has offered a hand with the trophies. Dom Berardi (Secretary) and Dave Delio will help with the festivities associated with the event, which will be held Sunday February 21st, at the J & R Steakhouse in Stony Brook.

Your elected officials and Past-President have met and are designing plans for possible by-law changes, money allotments and dues increases (if any). Others have already stepped-up; such as Greg Kiessler, who will once again take care of our youth program, (Greg, I can taste the ice cream already). Pete Byrnes will lead our Conservation efforts, acting as liaison between LIB and the NY DEC. John Arcuri heads the Membership committee, George Calandrino the Clothing committee, Eric Fieldstadt Audio/Visual. Another Life member Charlie Kick will once again take on the responsibility of putting together our Club's newsletter, the TAPS. Anyone interested in sending an article or a blurb, comic or picture that would be of interest to the Club, should contact Charlie. Hopefully, Brendan Cucinello will do that voodoo he does so well on the internet for us.

Other members have already signed up to be at the Belmont Lake and Hempstead Lake DEC free fishing weekend events. There is interest once again to have night tournaments, and an electric only "friendly" tournament or two may occur this year. The six man team benefit tournaments have at least six people signed to help run the events.

Our by now, famous Glashagel Charity Event will occur on Sunday June 27, 2010. Other than the date, that's all I know for now, as we are still looking for the right person to run this very popular and community minded event. It would be nice to have some if not all of the guys who have really lifted this event to where it is today, run it just one more time. Think of the children and the other needy individuals who have benefited by the events donations over the years, hint, hint Jim, Kevin ET. El. I can taste those real good Bubba Burgers that Bruce Palmer, Joe Russo and Rob Herbst prepare, yum, yum.

So you can see that we already have allot on our plate (Bubba burgers ahhhh) sorry, I couldn't resist, anyway allot to do, and fortunately many people already stepping up. Not to say all is finished, surely most if not all of you have a certain gift, an interest, or idea, we can all use. If you are not sure what to do in the club, ask someone. I'm not asking anyone to stop playing with the kids, or using an LIB function to get out of a honey-do, take care of what is really important first, your family. Whatever time you may spare to help out would be great, as in previous years, when everyone does just a little, it would be amazing what we can all accomplish.

It is my intention to have everyone do something this year, not just because our by-laws require a member to fulfill two functions to be in good standing, but the real reason is; because I truly believe that the more you put into our Club, the more you will get out of it. It is our legendary community involvement that separates our Club from the overwhelming number of Bass clubs out there today. Be a member where you would be just as proud to show off to your children a lake restoration project LIB has accomplished in as much as that picture of your lunker bass. Thank you all, Steve Socko

SAVE YOUR APPETITE

FOR THE LIB

AWARDS DINNER

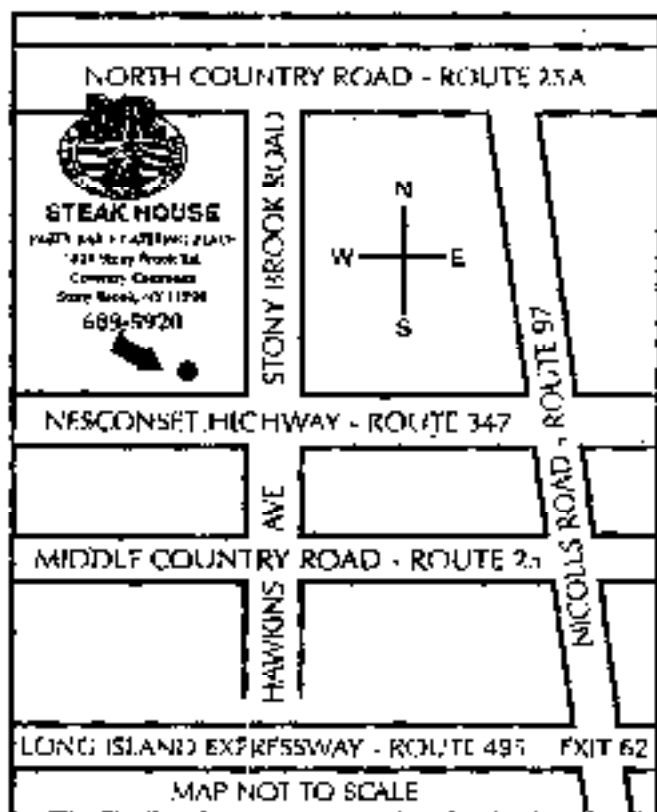
AT

J&R's Steak House

FEBRUARY 21ST • 1-5 PM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL

Dom Berardi 631-928-1432



APPETIZERS

**J&R'S BUFFALO WINGS
OR
SHRIMP COCKTAIL**

SALAD

ENTREES

**CHICKEN MARSALA
PRIME RIB AU JUS
STUFFED FLOUNDER**

**POTATO, VEGETABLE, BREAD & BUTTER,
SODA**

DESSERT

OCCASION CAKE, COFFEE, TEA

\$30.00 PER PERSON

**18% GRATUITY & SALES TAX
INCLUDED**

**Due to last year's impressive turnout we will
be seated in a larger dining room this year!**

**STARTING AT THE
FEBRUARY MEETING**

ALL CLUB T-SHIRTS

WILL BE ON SALE

2 FOR \$10