

A Long Stretch until April

To all our Bergen Bassmaster members and families and to all of our prior members and friends of Bergen, I wish you a **Happy and Healthy New Year!** Unless you are planning a trip down south, this is a tough stretch for bass anglers. On the other hand, one can catch up on the latest bassin' tactics by attending a Fishing Outdoor show, or by taking a bass fishing seminar. Most notable is the **BASS UNIVERSITY** seminar which for the first time, will be held in the Tri-State area. **Pete Gluszek** our Bergen friend and the co-founder of the nationally acclaimed bassin' seminar will have a great line up of pros including **Mike Iaconelli** and **Shaw Grigsby**. The two day seminar will take place March 3 and 4 during the 2012 **World Fishing Outdoor Expo** in Suffern NY at Rockland Community College. This is not the usual one hour type speaking engagement normally associated with the live Bass Tank at the Expo. Two full days of detailed and proven bass fishing techniques in a classroom setting is well worth the expense. Many topics are covered by the Pros and all questions are answered. As I attended the BASS UNIVERSITY seminar in South Jersey two years ago, I can assure you that there will also be a lot of laughs and fun associated with some funny stories shared by the pros. To sign up for the Suffern New York two day BASS UNIVERSITY seminar, go to www.thebassuniversity.com.

As we welcome new 2012 members **Bruce MacConchie** and **Sean Combs** and returning member **John Hayden** (who really didn't leave), we still have five club openings and will be accepting qualified applicants from now until April 19th. Many of our members will be staffing a volunteer USO AT&T Trooper Phone Card donation booth at the March 1 to 4 World Fishing Expo in Suffern. This will be an excellent opportunity to promote our club and we will have plenty of Bergen membership flyers available. Before we take on any riders we first need to vote in 2 or 3 qualified boat owners.

To review a few issues like updating the By-Laws and Tournament Rules (per previous amendments) and discussing new motions, your Bergen Board will be meeting before our regular January meeting. We hope to initiate a few new ideas, take on your suggestions and vote on any and all motions by March. The objective is to complete all miscellaneous administrative business and to move forward with an excellent Bergen Bassin' Trail by April. Our only 2012 Club Community Event, managed by **Kris Lechman**, continues to be the Darlington Park "**Outing for the Disabled**". Unless working or because of a personal commitment, all Bergen Bassmasters should assist at the Outing. As of now, the Outing date may be either Saturday, June 2 or 9. Other miscellaneous community events i.e., USO-Bergen Booth at Suffern Expo, ACS Fish for the Cure Bass Tournament on Lake Hopatcong, the Take a Soldier Fishing Day on Lake Lillinonah, etc are attended on a volunteer basis. With many economic issues affecting family life and with many guys juggling other personal activities, the Board does not expect everyone to volunteer at the miscellaneous events. **The few guys who can get away and assist at these various functions do so at their own will and are happy to represent all Bergen Bassmasters.**

Bergen Bassmaster verbal presentation for NJBF Chapter of the Year – January 13

Let's see if we can match Yogi Berra for TEN Titles?

Nick Albano