

Gentlemen,

Club Rep's, please forward this message to all your members.

This message will be quite lengthy, but there's a lot of information that needs to be relayed.

### **Summary of 2003**

- We had a significant increase in participation in 2003. We averaged a little over 100 entries per tournament. There was a total of 603 total entries for the tournament season
- Bradley Stringer of the North Rayburn Bass Club was AOY. He received a check for \$3015 for his efforts
- The Southeast Region tournament circuit concluded with 870 total fish caught with live release of 851 for 97.82%. Ed Grisham of the Katy Bassmasters had the largest bass weighed in, a 8.22. There were 22 bass over 5 lb's caught
- The Region Championship was held at Cedar Creek in Athens and it was very successful. Contestants were treated with tackle packs and custom made rods from CastAway. Also there was a banquet held with meals and door prizes provided by the region
- Mark Martin of the Vidor Bass Anglers won the two day event and will represent our region at the Divisional Championship in Morgan City, La.
- Not only did we have an increase in participation, but also a membership increase. Four new clubs joined the region this year and there are several that have showed interest

### **Treasury Report**

- Current balance reported at the Region Meeting, \$2,788
- Director expenses for the State meeting had not been subtracted from this amount
- Some items we feel necessary to purchase for the region: back-up lap-top computer (we have an inside source to make a discount purchase), back-up scales, and upgraded 'tournament keeper' program
- Promotions Program
- We'd like to thank our sponsors for a great year. Participation increase was largely due to the increase in sponsorship for our region

- We gave away a lot of 'stuff' at the tournaments in 2003. You guys should be appreciative to our sponsors. Thank you notes and e-mails will not go unnoticed. Show our sponsors your support
- The rods that were given away at the Region Championship were bought with raffle ticket funds

### **Election of Officers**

- To comply with the State Operating Policies (they state that the Southeast Region Director is to be elected on even numbered years) myself, Mark Grissom, was elected to a two year term
- Donnie Golleher, Houston Oilman's Bass Club, was elected as Associate Director and Tournament Director
- Bill Wedelich, Southern Bassmasters, was elected to Treasurer
- Gordon Casey, The Bass Club, was elected as Secretary and appointed as Internet Coordinator
- Buddy Hicks, Vidor Bass Anglers, was elected as Youth Director
- Ed Parten, Bass Busters of Houston, was elected as Conservation Director
- Sam Creel, Vidor Bass Anglers, was elected as Promotions Director
- David Walton, North Rayburn Bass Club, and State President was appointed as Advisory Director

### **Tournament Schedule for 2004**

Schedule was presented to Club Rep's and accepted  
 Schedule will be posted on the Region web page soon

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Launch site</b>
Jan. 24, 2004	Rayburn	Shirley Creek Marina -host
Feb. 28, 2004	Livingston	Lakeview Marina -host
Mar. 27, 2004	Conroe	April Plaza -host
April 17, 2004	Limestone	BRA Ramp -Running Branch Marina -host
May 15, 2004	Toledo	Alpine Marina -host
June 19, 2004	Rayburn	Mill Creek -host

### **More important dates**

Texas State Championship Tourn.                      March 7-13, 2004  
Lake Livingston

Casting Kids Championship                              March 13, 2004  
Lake Livingston

Federation National Championship                      April 19-24, 2004  
Tulsa, Ok.

Federation Central Division Champion.                      May 31-June 4, 2004  
Morgan City, La.

BASS Classic    Last week of July  
North Carolina

PVA Texas Tour    Sept. 18-19, 2004  
Sam Rayburn

### **Quarterly Regional Meetings    Second Tues. of month**

Jan. 13, 2004

Apr. 13, 2004

June 8, 2004

Sept. 14, 2004

Dec. 14, 2004

### **Texas State Championship**

- Entry forms must be submitted by Feb. 15, 2004, forms on the State web site
- Do away with net rule
- No off limits
- Entry fee is \$490 (Big Bass included, no option)
- Schedule of events are on the State web site
- Tournament rules are on the State web site

## **Raffle Tickets**

- Due to legal matters, tickets will be sold to Federation members only as opposed to earlier reports
- We have sold our allotment, but still have extras for those of you who would like to purchase

## **Tightlines Magazine**

I am happy to announce there will be a State wide publication that will be delivered to all Federation members this year. The State Board of Directors have made an agreement with a publishing company to distribute two 'newspaper' type editions in 2004. Plans are to make them a quarterly event in the future. Each region will have a section for articles and photos. Paid advertisements will finance this venture with no cost to Federation members or the State Federation. Please make sure that the Region has current member addresses.

## **2004 Goals for Southeast Region**

- Better communications to the region members
- We will be putting a new Southeast Region web page out soon. We will have control of our site now, thus enabling us to post results and information in a timely manner
- Appointment of a Internet Coordinator will facilitate this
- Stronger Youth and Conservation Programs
- Volunteers for Assistant Youth Director and Assistant Promotions Director will spread responsibilities over the entire area of the region
- Promote increased usage of the Internet.
- Continue the 'Bonus Programs' put into effect last year.

## **State of the Federation**

There's been a lot of controversy about BASS and the Federation in the last year. Things have been worked out and nothing has changed. BASS and the Federation are working together and have a stable relationship. We as a State and Region, support BASS and the Federation.

As always, I am open to questions and/or comments. Feel free to e-mail or call me at any time.

May your Holidays be Merry and your New Year Prosperous

Yours in service,

***Mark Grissom***