



Secretary's Office

Susan Lema



The Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association (RISAA) Board of Directors meets monthly. In order to keep all members apprised of Board business I will report here when appropriate. It is important to note that not all business will be reported here since there are often issues dealing with individual members and privacy will always be protected. Also, some Board business that doesn't result in any action won't be printed.

RISAA Board of Directors • October 20, 2020 Meeting Summary

This was a very long meeting, with a lot of business handled. I'll provide the highlights.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

- **Treasurer's Report** given by Peter O'Biso

COMMUNICATIONS

- The Board approved \$500 to renew our annual membership in the American Sportfishing Association.

OLD BUSINESS

• **Annual Banquet**

For the past 20 years, our Annual Banquet had been held in January. For the past few years it has been held at the Quonset "O" Club, but due to COVID, we will not be able to hold a banquet. But the main part of the event has always been to present the tournament and other awards and announce the selections of *Member of the Year* and *Angler of the Year*.

So, in cooperation with the Tournaments Committee, our "banquet" will be celebrated as "Awards Night" and will be held via Zoom on Monday evening, February 1, 2021. More information will be sent out via email and in our news magazine.

• **Quarterly Business Meetings**

The Board discussed our first attempt at a zoom business meeting which was held immediately following the conclusion of the September 28 seminar. Although not many members stuck around for it, the meeting was still successful in fulfilling the mandatory quarterly meeting requirements and we will continue in this way until COVID restrictions are removed.

The next quarterly meeting will be the Annual Meeting on Monday, December 28.

NEW BUSINESS

• **Charter Trips Committee**

The Board discussed problems with the Charter Trips committee operating the charter raffles in 2021 if we aren't able to conduct in-person meetings. Board members, Pete O'Biso and Susan Lema are both members of the Charter Trips Committee and explained that the raffles are very complicated to do in person each month and didn't think it can be handled during a virtual meeting. This will be discussed when that committee holds it's annual meeting soon.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

• **Member Meeting Door Prizes**

The Board discussed the fact that COVID caused us to stop the monthly door prizes where members who attended each meeting filled out a raffle slip and one name was drawn. That member would receive a \$200 gift certificate to the tackle shop of his/her choice. This popular monthly raffle has been going on every month for 15 years.

David Michel volunteered to find a way and located a terrific "spinning wheel" that will be able to hold and display up to 500 member names.

Since all members must pre-register for each monthly meeting, Zoom actually compiles a list of all of those names, and also shows who registered, who actually attended the seminar, how long the member remained, time logged in and out, etc. So each month all members who attended the meeting and stayed through the seminar, will go onto the wheel and hereafter, at the end of each seminar, the wheel will "spun" for a winner.

The names on the wheel will be the members who attended the PREVIOUS monthly meeting.

For example, after the October seminar ends, the Wheel will be spun with the names of members who attended the September seminar.

The member who's name is selected, will be immediately checked to confirm he/she is "in good standing" meaning dues must be paid and up to date.

This will be explained in an e-blast to all members and posted in the newsletter.

• **Non-Members at Meetings**

We have received requests from non-members to attend our online seminars. To date they have been told no, they are for members only. But the board has decided that we would continue our long-standing policy that non-members were always welcome to attend our monthly meetings, but they had to pay at \$10 fee at the door which went to our Scholarships fund.

While holding virtual meetings, non-members will be required to call the RISAA office and pay the fee by credit card. That person will then receive a unique link to sign in to the meeting/seminar.

• **Elections for 2021**

The Board's proposed slate has been submitted, as required, to the Elections Committee. See notice on page 4.