

**Adirondack-Champlain Guide Service  
The Long Pond Lodge Update  
December 2011**

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***The Number #1 Guide Service in the Northeast is also the  
Number #1 value in Fishing.***

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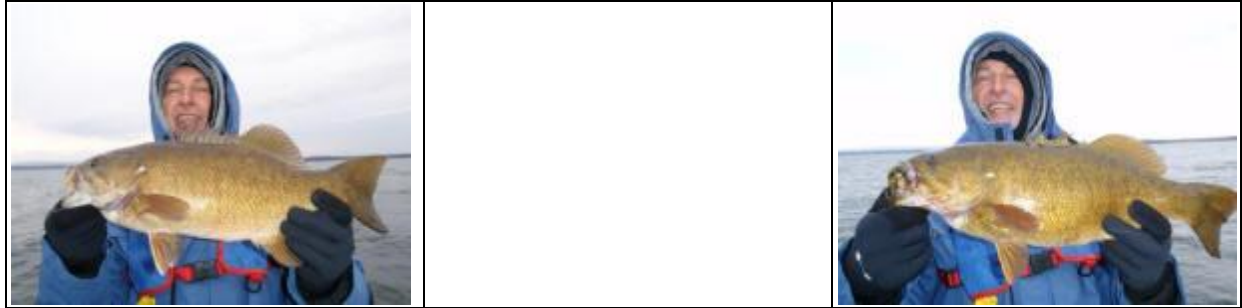
**Hi Everyone!**

Our last smallmouth fishing trip of the season was on Friday, December 2nd with Greg Atkinson (Green Coat) from Saddle Brook, NJ and Stan Kasica (blue coat) from Mahwah, NJ. We enjoyed a great outing and caught 30 smallmouth in 4 hours with three fish over 6 pounds. The tube jig proved once again to be the lure that produced the most fish while fishing in 30-35 feet of water.



**Belated Merry  
Christmas Everyone**





The last fishing trip of the 2011 season was for Lake Trout and salmon on Saturday, December 3rd in Lake Champlain. I fished with Eric Backman from Norwalk, CT. and my son Casey. We launched in Willsboro Bay and trolled for a couple of hours but the results were not positive for that particular day. This is why they call it "Fishing" and not "Catching." We saw many other boats out trolling basically the same areas we were using. We were using a variety of streamer flies and small spoons.

It's time once again to put the boats away for another season and get them ready for winter. It has been an enjoyable season, but not great weather-wise, with more windy days than I care to remember. We didn't fish for long nosed gar at all this season because of the windy conditions. We were only able to fish for largemouth bass later in the season because of the "Record Setting" high waters of spring, so we missed that great early spring bite. The monthly updates certainly showed we caught some real quality fish this year with page after page of big fish. Many of our clients were thrilled to catch the largest smallmouth bass of their lives. There were several smallmouth trips in the spring that over 100 fish were caught in a single day by a party of two and their guide. A few new lures, ones we had never seen before, proved to be very effective in catching smallmouth bass.

We were very concerned about the lack of launching docks early in the season because of the flood conditions. This made launching very difficult for some of our older clients. We were also concerned when the docks were pulled out of the lake so early in the fishing season, right after Columbus Day. We want to thank all of our clients for putting up with these difficult conditions, which we had no control over. We felt so badly about these conditions we had to take some form of action. We have written to our local Congress and Legislative representatives and the Chamber of Commerce requesting their assistance in the future to ensure the docks are installed right after the ice goes



**The Boats are Ready for Winter**



**Cloudy, Calm Day**



**Big Rough Water**

out, unless extreme flooding happens again, and the docks are left in until at least late November. We can only hope our efforts in reporting this problem will bring about some positive changes.

We finally found the time and the manpower to remove our Roll-away docks from Long Pond. My son Casey and a few of his friends handled that chore a little later in the season than normal. Long Pond produced some really quality bass this season and some of the pictures were on our website. We always ask our clients to share their pictures with us, but sometimes they forget once they get home. We had reports from clients of catching 40-50 fish per day in the pond and some huge largemouth were caught. The pike bite was better than we have seen in years for spring and summer fishing. We normally catch many more pike while ice fishing than we do all the other months. The water level in the pond remained high during most of the season. The pond can prove challenging for first time anglers even when we provide a map showing the weed lines and hot spots. The fish are there, you just have to put ample time in to locate them and present them with a lure they are willing to bite. We are happy to report that almost all our clients practice "Catch and Release" when fishing our pond and that is just one of the many reasons the fishing is so good.

Remember, we provide the use of a FREE Jon boat in all of our fishing packages but the boat must be used only on Long Pond and cannot be removed. The on your own, three day fishing package on Long Pond, which includes 4 meals and two nights lodging, is the best buy on the market. This package helps us to remain the Number One Guide Service in the Northeast. Remember, we offer this unique fishing package as part of our Gift Certificate program and is available to everyone.

### **Rates for 2012**

It certainly would be easy to increase our rates for the coming year with everything else continuing to increase in cost. The cost of food is really going out of sight. The LP gas to heat our lodge and water goes up and up each year and sometimes every time we take a delivery. Our operating costs continue to escalate but we have made the difficult decision **not** to increase our prices for 2012. Gasoline prices are down right now and hopefully they will stay that way so we won't have to impose a "Gas Surcharge" during the fishing season.

We wanted to do something to help our clients and we chose **no price increase. HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!**



**Long Pond is Frozen  
12/19/11**



**Winters Coming**



**Winters Coming**

### Ice Fishing Time Is Here (With Good Safe Ice)

The lodge is all decorated for the holidays and we await your arrival to go ice fishing with us. Bear and Jack, our Golden Retrievers, are looking forward to spending some time on the ice with you. I'm looking forward to the arrival of our first clients as we start another New Year in business. The ice is in good shape and plenty thick enough to setup some tip-ups to see what we can catch. If you don't have safe ice where you live, why not come north and fish with us. Our first Sportsmen's Show is not until February so I will be here at the lodge during the entire month of January. This will allow me to teach as many people as possible how to ice fish. Remember, for first time ice fishing clients we can supply all the ice fishing equipment you will need and we will show you how to use it. Those of you who have your own equipment we will show you the best locations to fish and be available if any help or advice is needed.

The ice on Long Pond is only 25 yards from the back door of our lodge, so it's within easy walking distance. If you wish to bring a snowmobile or 4-wheeler to the lodge, that's no problem at all, as we have plenty of parking for your trailer. It's always a good idea to call me before your arrival date to check on snow conditions and safe ice conditions because of the added weight of the machines. We don't normally get a great deal of snow, but it is always better to give me a call to check on winter conditions, (518) 963-7351.

I believe we have the best ice fishing pond in the entire Northeast. It is 400 acres in size and is one and half miles long and a quarter mile wide. The pond contains some quality northern pike and both large and smallmouth bass of good size and pan fish. The bass cannot be taken during the winter months because bass season is not open. Yes, you do need a New York State fishing license to ice fish Long Pond. Willsboro Bay is located on Lake Champlain and is less than 25 minutes away from our lodge. You can fish there for Lake Trout, landlocked salmon, perch and smelt. You can see we have the best of both worlds with Lake Champlain being so close to Long Pond.

Weekends and especially holiday weekends are very busy for us and book up first and fast. I would



**Bear and Jack**



**Perch Caught through  
the Ice Caught  
12/30/2011**



**Long Pond Ice Fishing**



**Long Pond Ice Fishing**

recommend you get your reservation in the book as soon as you possibly can to ensure we have room for you and your party. We have already received several reservations from clients who fished with us for the first time last year or are long time clients that come back every year. We have limited space and can only accommodate 16 clients during the winter months.

Well, you've read all the great reasons why you should come up and ice fish with us !!! Give me a call at (518) 963-7351 or send me an email at [acgsipl@willex.com](mailto:acgsipl@willex.com) and let's get together for an Adirondack adventure you will be talking about for years.





### **Champlain Salmon Fishing Heats Up as Waters Cool**

If you are an angler who enjoys exciting fishing opportunities even in cool weather, give Lake Champlain a try for landlocked salmon before the lake ices over. You will need a boat that can take the rough conditions which can develop quickly on the big lake. The high quality of the landlocked salmon fishing experienced by anglers this fall makes it a worthwhile venture. Salmon numbers have definitely increased this year on monitoring done each fall by state fisheries biologists.



**Nice Salmon**

"We have finished our fall salmon assessment sampling on Lake Champlain," said State Fisheries Biologist Brian Chipman, "and the results indicate continuing improvement in the Lake Champlain salmon fishery accruing from the sea lamprey control program."

Fishing for salmon on Lake Champlain this time of year is much like fishing for them in early spring. Deep trolling equipment is not required. The fish are cruising and feeding near the surface, where the action can be spectacular when trolling streamers with a fly rod or lures with spinning tackle.

### **New ACGS Hat for 2012**

My wish for a new lodge "Fishing" hat has come true. Wait until you see what Santa Claus dropped off at our lodge on Christmas Eve. Our most popular hat "ever" was a green Forest cap with a Tan suede bill. We have never been able to replace that hat, try as we might with different vendors. Cabela's has been able to supply us with a great copy of that popular hat. It is appropriately called Cabela's Outdoorsman Cap. It is a 100% cotton canvas cap in Olive color with a synthetic Tan suede bill. It also has an adjusting self-fabric, one size fits most, cloth strap for a perfect fit. It also has our Long Pond Lodge logo, with the smallmouth bass included right on the front of the cap.



We will have this new hat for sale at the lodge when you arrive to ice fish with us.

## Monster Muskies

A pair of huge muskies caught last month in the St. Lawrence River have once again fueled talk that a world record fish is swimming in that popular water. Daniel Polniak, Jr. of Ogdensburg (St. Lawrence County) caught and released a 60-inch muskie that weighed an estimated 60-65 pounds with a girth of 29 1/2 inches while fishing with Sign Man Charters. On the Canadian side of the border a 54-inch fish taken by Jason Phillips and Sandra Ellis weighed an estimated 50-70 pounds. It's unlikely that the 54-inches would top Art Lawton's state record catch of 1957, a 69 pound, 15-ounce fish. The fish taken by Phillip and Ellis was weighed on a 50 pound hand scale before its release and is almost assuredly not as heavy as Polniak's 60-incher.



Still, the big catches have ignited speculation that Lawton's state record muskellunge could eventually be topped by another St. Lawrence River leviathan.



## 2012 Sportsmen Show Schedule

February 10th - 12th: Eastern Fishing & Outdoor Expo - Worcester, MA

February 16th - 19th: The Greater Philadelphia Outdoor Sport Show - Oaks, PA

March 1st - 4th: World Fishing & Outdoor Expo - Suffern, NY

## Something to Think About

*Even if you've been fishing for three hours and haven't gotten anything except poison ivy and sunburn, you're still better off than the worm on your hook.  
(anonymous)*

*- Pete*