

CT B.A.S.S Nation

Meeting Minutes

April 24th, 2014

Prior to the monthly meeting, special guest Steve Marone, owner of Mid State Battery gave a presentation on available battery options as well as the CBN Member Discount Program.

ROLL CALL: Clubs absent – MidConn Anglers

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Shimano Teams Up Again With B.A.S.S. And Bassmaster Events**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — After a successful first year as a 2013 Bassmaster Supporting Sponsor, Shimano is back for another year.

Shimano is continuing in 2014 as a Supporting Sponsor of the Bassmaster Elite Series, Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Opens presented by Allstate, B.A.S.S. Nation events and the Carhartt Bassmaster College Series.

The Bassmaster events are owned and operated by Birmingham-based B.A.S.S. LLC, a member organization that also supports a multimedia platform of print, digital and television properties.

“Being involved with B.A.S.S. provides the opportunity to bring awareness of Shimano tackle to the 500,000-plus members of B.A.S.S. through the various Bassmaster media outlets, and to thousands more at Bassmaster Elite Series tournaments across the country,” said Bob Mahoney with Shimano's marketing team.

“Shimano and B.A.S.S. have a shared vision of growing the sportfishing market while preserving our fisheries resources,” said Bruce Akin, CEO of B.A.S.S. “We look forward to strengthening the B.A.S.S.-Shimano connection throughout 2014.”

Key aspects from the first-year partnership will continue, Mahoney said. One is activities for fans at Elite Series events. Elements of Shimano's involvement include a full display of Shimano bass tackle; the Shimano Experience Team “bass crew,” experts who are available to answer questions and talk fishing with fans; and an eye-catching, specially wrapped Shimano Toyota Tundra tow vehicle and Skeeter bass boat powered by Yamaha.

At times throughout the Elite Series season, the Shimano Experience Team will conduct the Cast-Pitch-Flip Challenge, an opportunity for attendees to attempt to win prizes while trying out some Shimano gear, such as the new Curado baitcasting reels and Antares, Metanium and Chronarch CI4+ reels.

Another key aspect of the Shimano-B.A.S.S. partnership relates to the care of tournament anglers' catches. A Shimano wrap on each Bassmaster live release boat testifies to Shimano's commitment to keep bass healthy before they are released alive, a practice Shimano was instrumental in developing.

The two companies also are working together on a new project, the B.A.S.S./Shimano Youth Conservation Initiative.

Announced in February, the initiative was designed to be a funding source for fisheries enhancement projects undertaken by the youth members of B.A.S.S. Nation chapters in the United States and Canada.

- **Bass Pro Shops And Nitro Boats Partner Again With B.A.S.S. And Bassmaster Events**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Bass Pro Shops, along with its Nitro brand of performance bass boats, is teaming up with the Bassmaster Tournament Trail for another two years at the Premier Sponsor level.

The agreement between Bass Pro Shops and B.A.S.S. LLC, owner of Bassmaster events, continues the title sponsorship of the popular Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Opens presented by Allstate.

The renewed partnership also extends the Bass Pro Shops and Nitro top-level sponsorship of the Bassmaster Classic, Bassmaster Elite Series, Carhartt Bassmaster College Series and B.A.S.S. Nation events as well as the Bassmaster Opens. Nitro Boats also will be a Premier Sponsor of the new Toyota Bonus Bucks Bassmaster Team Championship.

“We are thankful for the opportunity for Bass Pro Shops and Nitro Boats to continue the relationship with the premier bass fishing organization in America,” said Johnny Morris, founder of Bass Pro Shops/Nitro Boats. “Since 1968, B.A.S.S. has been an organization dedicated to the needs of its membership, and we look forward to extending our partnership with them and supporting that passion for bass fishing.”

Bass Pro Shops and B.A.S.S. grew up together in the sportfishing industry. Bass Pro Shops' history extends back to 1971, when Morris first sold fishing tackle out of the liquor store his father ran in Springfield, Mo. — still the home base of Bass Pro Shops. Morris published his first mail order catalog in 1974.

“The partnership Bass Pro Shops and B.A.S.S. have developed together over many years is very special to us,” said Bruce

Akin, CEO of B.A.S.S. LLC, owner of Bassmaster events. "We share a strong dedication to conservation of fisheries resources and to bass anglers all over the world. B.A.S.S. especially values the key role Bass Pro Shops has played in elevating the visibility of Bassmaster Opens events."

Many final-day weigh-ins of the nine annual Southern, Central and Northern Opens events have taken place at Bass Pro Shops retail locations. The Open Series will continue to hold final-day weigh-ins at Bass Pro Shops the majority of the 2014 and 2015 Open Series season events.

Bass Pro Shops and Nitro will continue to have a strong presence across the B.A.S.S. multimedia platform. This includes *Bassmaster* and *B.A.S.S. Times* magazines, *Bassmaster.com*, *The Bassmasters* TV show and social media programs.

- **Ouachita To Host Nation Championship**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The 2014 B.A.S.S. Nation Championship will be held on Louisiana's Ouachita River, Nov. 6-8, B.A.S.S. announced today.

The world's best amateur anglers will convene in Monroe, La., as each of the contenders vies for a spot in the 2015 Bassmaster Classic.

The venue was also the site of the 2011 B.A.S.S. Nation Championship, which Alabama's Jamie Horton won. By virtue of his victory, Horton earned an invitation to compete on the Bassmaster Elite Series, where he's still competing today.

"It's always good to go back to Monroe," said Jon Stewart, B.A.S.S. Nation director. "The host and the community really make us feel welcome."

"Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau is excited to bring the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship back to Monroe and the Ouachita River," said Scott Bruscato of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau.

"The community will once again rally around this event and make the anglers, vendors and B.A.S.S. fans feel welcome and appreciated as they come to Monroe to fish in this elite tournament."

The championship is the goal of anglers all over the world who qualify through their respective division. The contenders come to represent each of 47 states, one province (Ontario, Canada) and eight countries.

"Australia and Namibia, our two newest nations, will likely send their first competitors to this year's championship," Stewart said. Both countries joined the B.A.S.S. Nation in early 2014. Other countries that are represented at the championship are Japan, Mexico, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Italy and Spain.

Another country may send a qualifier, too. Portugal is working on finalizing its status as a B.A.S.S. Nation chapter. If it becomes an official member of the B.A.S.S. Nation in time, Portugal will also have a contender in the championship.

The only contender who is currently qualified to compete in the 2014 B.A.S.S. Nation Championship is Jeff Lugar of Virginia, who will be defending his title from 2013. Other competitors will qualify by winning their state or nation in upcoming divisionals. Also, the Paralyzed Veterans of America Tour will send its Angler of the Year winner to compete.

Jamie Horton won the three-day event on Ouachita in 2011 with only 36 pounds, 2 ounces over a three-day period, beating his nearest competitor by nearly 5 pounds.

"It's a large, expansive fishery with a lot of backwaters," Stewart said. Horton's victory came from an area more than an hour away from the launch site. His ride included several skims over thin water that other anglers avoided because it was too low.

The first batch of anglers to win their berth in the championship will come this week, when the B.A.S.S. Nation Southern Divisional takes place on Alabama's Lake Eufaula, April 16-18. The final group of anglers to qualify will be decided months later in New York for the Eastern Divisional in September.

Official practice for the championship will be Nov. 4 and 5.

The winner of each division at the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship will be invited to compete in the 2015 Bassmaster Classic in Greenville, S.C. Six spots in the world championship of bass fishing are allocated to the B.A.S.S. Nation.

"It's going to be another great year for the B.A.S.S. Nation," Stewart added. "Competing in the B.A.S.S. Nation is a great way to learn the sport from others, and it's one of the only ways an amateur can qualify to compete in the pinnacle of the sport, the Bassmaster Classic."

MOTION TO ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES AS POSTED

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque

Conservation Report: Dean Rustic

- **CAC Meeting**

- SB 241 AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES, REVISING CERTAIN HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE FEES AND REQUIRING REGISTRATION BY HUNTING AND FISHING GUIDE SERVICES – This is a good bill and it has been JFed out of the Environment Committee. The bill calls for a reduction of license fees by 50 percent for 16 and 17 year olds. A handout with the text of the bill and testimony written by Commissioner Klee in support of the bill was distributed to the CAC delegates.
- HB 5119 AN ACT CONCERNING THE MAINTENANCE OF STATE PARKS – This is another good bill that would ensure state park fees are used for the benefit of state parks. The bill includes a proposal to have 25 to 50 percent of the parks revenue go to the DEEP for resources to staff and maintain the parks.
- Prescribed burns will be conducted in Barn Island WMA, Harkness State Park, and Wharton Brook State Park. The control burn season will be cut short this year somewhat due to heavy snow in some areas.
- There was apparently no effect on Emerald Ash Borer numbers due to the colder temperatures this winter.
- HB 5417: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SEASON FOR THE TAKING OF GLASS EELS which would establish a program for the harvesting of glass eels effective January 1, 2015. The DEEP supports the intent of the proposal to remove the statutory prohibition but has some concerns regarding the proposed timing of doing anything to open a season.
- A handout with information regarding the release of adult anadromous Atlantic Salmon in CT watershed streams was distributed.
- To date, 1,800 people are registered for the youth passport to fishing program.
- Plans are in place to add six new community fishing sites (primarily in urban areas).
- There is an ongoing genetic study conducted, in cooperation with UConn, to examine the possibility of changing bass feeding behavior. Fish Management staff are available to present more detailed information at a future CAC meeting.
- Summer Flounder – 18” minimum size; possession limit of 5 fish; season length of 128 days, May 17 – September 21
- Black Sea Bass – 13” legal size; reduction in harvest of 7 percent
- The Striped Bass voucher program will be extended from an April-May only season to run May through December this year.
- **Boating Advisory Council (BAC)**
 - Cutting of Federal Funds will impact staffing at launch. Recommendation from Ken Shailer was to have it staffed on Saturday and Sunday as it is not busy during the week
 - The Marina has 46 of the 56 slips paid for already with quite a few on the waiting list.
 - The docks are scheduled to be installed by May 15th as workers are back logged due to this past winter.
 - Blue Green Algae – Information was handed out about the Blue Green Algae. The lakes that are on the watch list are – Lilly, Zoar, Candlewood, Warmaug and Bantam. Discussion on the Nitrogen issues that cause the Algae Blooms was followed by questions as to who was responsible for testing the lakes. State only tests if there is a state beach on the water. Otherwise it is for the local Health Directors to handle.
 - Weed Control – Last year the DEEP had treated the Bantam River with a new herbicide, Clipper. Unlike SONAR which is a systemic, Clipper controls on contact. Originally DEEP thought that it would last only for one season, but in testing they are getting multiple years of control. The issue that they are trying to control is Fan Wart weeds. They will hit the river again and up to the little pond at the beginning of the Bantam River as it seems to be the source of the Fan Wart.
 - White Memorial will be hosting a Bantam Lake Day in August. They will have events and a BBQ at the Morris town Beach.

- **Fishing Advocacy** – Working directly with CT DEEP to promote Fishing with these initiatives.
 - Fishing Day at Cabela's
 - April 5, 2014 we did a Family Fishing clinic at Cabela's
 - Our guest was Andrea Repko – Winner of the cover photo for the 2014 Fishing Guide
 - Autism Awareness at Derby Hospital
 - April 10th with Eli Delany
 - Thanks to Mike Zadroga for putting this together and to all whom helped with their time and effort.
 - Shimano Youth Conservation Initiative
 - Worked with Peter Aarrestad, Mike Beauchene, Ron Frisk & Dean Rustic
 - Draft program (project) will be presented under new business.
- Keep America Fishing
 - Keep Fishing Day – June 7th, 2014

Boating Advisory: Next Meeting is May 14th, 2014

C.L.A Report: Chris Bielert – Nothing New

Tournament Report: Paul Dingee

- Tournament Application, Rules & Zebra Mussel forms are up on the website. Please be sure to include two separate Zebra Mussel forms with your applications (one dated May 18th and one dated July 13th), Insurance and copy of Boaters certificate. **Make sure to mail by the mailing deadline!!** Late fees will be charged for anyone who does not meet the deadline, **no exceptions!!**
- Trail is sanctioned under:
 - Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Highest finishing Skeeter Owner Contingency Program
 - Skeeter Real Money
 - Stratos 2X the Money
 - Triton Gold

Sponsorship Report: Robert Nelson

- **Pure Fishing Discount**
 - We are excited to announce the 2014 – 2nd quarter Pure Fishing Discount Purchase Program for your members. We have included almost the entire Pure Fishing portfolio at a discount of 25% of MSRP. Each member is allowed to purchase up to a total of 4 items during this quarter and the purchase window is May 1st through May 31st.
 - Each of you and your members are a key element in gaining awareness and education on our brands and products and we are proud to support you with our discount purchase program.
 - This program is not designed to circumvent any retailers and we strongly encourage your members to support them with any additional purchases.
 - Here are the instructions for placing orders:
 - **Click the link below (this is a new address)**
 - http://mpf.shakespeare-fishing.com/tackle_shack
Enter your complete email address as your username (this is how we will contact you regarding your order)
Enter Password

- Once you are on the home page, click **My Account** to enter your shipping address, etc. Save the information then click on **Products** to begin shopping. *If you ordered during the first quarter your account information is still in place.*
 - Add your selections to the shopping cart. You may increase the quantity of any product from the shopping cart. When you have completed your order, submitted payment by credit card and logged out, you will receive an email confirmation of your order.
- **Rigid Industries** - There is a 30% off offer to all members. Members should follow the instructions and using the order forms and links on the CBN website.
- **Navionics**
 - Navionics will be a sponsor of the CBN For 2014. They will be giving the CBN four (4) Navionics+ Charts to be used at the CBN Awards Banquet.
- **Thayer's Marine** – Thayer's Marine has become a Gold Sponsor!!
- **Midstate Battery** – A discount is available to ALL Nation members and the Nation will receive a Volume Rebate
 - MidState Battery was very pleased with the use of the sponsorship by our members! Members spent a total of \$4,400.00!! We earned a check of approx. \$88.00!! At the April meeting there will be a presentation of the new line of Northstar AGM Batteries, MidState will be donating \$600.00 in gift certificates again for the banquet also!
 - They can be reached at 139C West Dudley Town Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002
 - Phone 860.243.0646 Fax 860.243.5945 or email at smerone@midstatebattery.com
 - Notify Sylvia about all purchases so she can keep track of what the CBN rebate should be.
- **Reynolds Garage & Marine** – Reynolds & Skeeter Highest Finishing Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money
 - Qualifying Events:
 - May 18th, CBN Tournament #1
 - June 22nd, CBN Tournament #2
 - July 13th, CBN Tournament #3
 - October 19th, CBN Classic/Tournament #4
 - Payout:
 - Reynolds & Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money based on the year of the highest finishing Skeeter Owner's boat (only one award per event)
 - \$3,000.00 (2011 model Skeeter or newer)
 - \$1,000.00 (2010 model Skeeter or older)
 - Skeeter Real Money up to \$3,000.00
 - Rules:
 - The Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money will be paid to the highest finishing Skeeter Owner in each of the four CBN Tournaments outlined above. Only one prize per event will be awarded. Dollar amount of the award will be determined by the age of the highest finishing Skeeter Owners boat...2011 model or newer Skeeter boat will qualify for \$3,000.00 per event, 2010 model or older Skeeter boat will qualify for \$1,000.00 per event.
 - The highest finishing registered Skeeter Owner must have verifiable proof that he or she is fishing from his or her Skeeter boat to qualify for the Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money. Proof of ownership and insurance must be produced and verified by the CBN Tournament Director at weigh-in at each of the four 2014 CBN Events.
 - In the event that the highest finishing Skeeter Owner cannot provide verifiable proof that he or she is the registered owner of the Skeeter boat that he or she used in the event, the second highest finishing Skeeter Owner will become the winner of the Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money.
 - There will be no limit to the times an angler can win per calendar year.
 - The four CBN Events outlined above will also be sanctioned for 2014 Skeeter Real Money. Each CBN Event must have a minimum of 30 boats and 60 anglers to qualify for 2014 Skeeter Real

Money. To qualify for 2014 Skeeter Real Money, each individual registered Skeeter Owner must register for the 2014 Skeeter Real Money program. Go to www.skeeterboats.com and download an application. Annual dues are \$25.00 per year. Skeeter Real Money rules are available by clicking on the Skeeter Real Money logo on the www.skeeterboats.com website homepage.

- **Lowrance Insight Genesis B.A.S.S Nation Challenge**
 - In addition to the current Lowrance Social Media challenge, Lowrance has issued another, please see below. PLEASE send to all your club members!
 - The program is split into two groups, large and small B.A.S.S Nations. The contest will award \$20,000 in Lowrance product to the large state that ends up on top, and \$12,000 in Lowrance product to the top state in the small division. They didn't want to lump you all together and give the states with larger member numbers too much of an advantage.
 - Clubs can earn \$3,000 of Lowrance product awarded monthly
 - Individuals that take part have the opportunity to win and HDS12, HDS9 or HDS7 in the monthly awards for the top three people respectively, and if they are the top person for the entire year, they will earn and all-expense paid fishing trip with one of the Lowrance Tour Pros (I was told it would be an Elite Pro).
- **Power Pole**
 - Power-Pole is now a sponsor of the B.A.S.S Nation for 2014. Effective January 1st, they will be offering a discount to all B.A.S.S Nation members. They will match your officers listed with the B.A.S.S Nation against the rebates applied for and will match members names with current B.A.S.S Nation rosters. You must be a CBN Member to be eligible.
 - The discounts are available via a rebate program through <http://www.power-pole.com> The product will be purchased at the retail value of the Power-Pole (limit 2 per year per boat). In order to receive your rebate you will need to register the Power-Pole at <http://www.power-pole.com> located under the "Support" column header, then "Product Registration" Once the product has been registered you will then be prompted to fill out the rebate form, with this the discount will be issued in accordance with the discount you are entitled to receive. The discount levels will remain active on accessories and apparel purchased through the website for a period of 12 months. Should you have any questions, contact Casey Carpenter @ 813-689-9932 ext. 2021 or email casey@power-pole.com
- **Navionics**
 - Navionics will be a sponsor of the CBN For 2014. They will be giving the CBN four (4) Navionics+ Charts to be used at the CBN Awards Banquet.
- **Livingston Lures**
 - New sponsor for the CBN, check for \$1500 received, product coming for banquets, tournaments etc.

CBN Scholarship: Judging was held prior to the meeting, winners will be awarded at the May 22nd CBN Meeting. Thank you to the Scholarship committee, Kevin Lavender, Dan Monroe, Bob Germain & Matt Desimone!

Robert S. Malloy Scholarship: Dave Santos – Andrew Ransom was chosen as the recipient. He is looking to obtain a position/internship as part of his continuing education within the Natural Resources field of study. He is an avid fisherman, hunter, boater, member of the UCONN Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Would like to become a fish biologist for a state or private agency in order to manage fish stocks for recreation as well as commercially.

Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris

- CHANGE OF DATE: Due to Nationals being held on our original date of November 8th, we will now be holding it on November 22nd. Please be sure to notify all club members of the change.

Membership Committee: Paul Dingee

- 10 of the names have joined clubs. The others are still thinking about it. Membership is now at 260.

Website Committee: None

Audit Committee: Nothing new to report

Youth Report: Terry Baksay & Ron Frisk

- We currently have 8 official teams from 5 High Schools
 - Berlin High School – 2 Teams
 - Ellington High School – 1 Team
 - Fairfield Prep – 3 Teams
 - Nonnewaugh High School – 1 Team
 - Suffield High School – 1 Team
- In the process of adding an additional Berlin High School Team
- BASS provided the updated official rules for the High School Program
- BASS provided a “Hot Sheet” to hand to school officials to help sway those on the fence. It outlines the key parts of the program and more importantly the benefits for the students.

Finance Committee: Ray Bessette – Nothing to report

State Team Report: Sylvia Morris

- 2014 State Team
 - Shirts are ordered. Jackets are ordered.
 - Dave Maiorano brought in Trailer Depot as a Gold Sponsor of the CBN, a check for \$600.00. Credit of \$250.00 to the State Team sponsorship for Dave!! Good job Dave & Welcome Trailer Depot!!
 - Next meeting is set for May 18th after weigh-in.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN

OLD BUSINESS:

- Excused absences: CT Yankee, CT Black Bass & Talcott Mtn
- Casting Kids finals were held on April 5th, the winners are Brian Fickett & Lucas Kamoen! Thank you to Ron Frisk, Bob Nelson, Rich Russell and Terry Baksay for all their help running the event!
- Held the Family Training Day at 1:30 after Casting Kids, poor attendance however the children and parents that attended had a blast. Thank you to Dean Rustic, Kevin Noel, Tom O’Connor, Tom from the other DEEP C.A.R.E Program and Mike another Certified C.A.R.E instructor.
- Autism Awareness evening was held on April 10th, Eli Delany was our guest speaker. MyLittleBuddysBoat is his foundation. His motto is, Fishin’ with a Mission! Paul Mueller & Terry Baksay also spoke. Mike Zadroga from Milford Black Bass put the event together and Griffin Hospital hosted and supplied snacks, beverages and a dinner (prepared by Mike) for the speakers and organizers. Was a great informational event. Thank you to all who were involved.
- The Berkley Pure Fishing Award of \$1,500.00 was cashed in on 4 Abu Garcia Rods (Villians, 2 spinning & 2 baitcasting) and 4 Revo Reels (2 spinning & 2 baitcasting) for our banquet. Total of \$1539.60 (they did not charge us the extra). They will be shipped next week.
- Livingston Lures update: Received the check of \$1500.00 and a box of 12 lures to raffle one at each Nation meeting, one ticket per club.

- New CBN/NEBA Team Championship trail has been started. Everything is up on the website. Call Sylvia with any questions. 25 teams so far!
- Remember to utilize the hotels in Danbury that supply us with a fisherman rate!! Newbury (best parking), Micro-tel & Best Western. All info on the website.
- Marc is working on getting the taxes done as Cohen has told us he will no longer do them but will help us get someone else. Marc updated, we have contacted new company and may need to apply for an extension.
- Triton Alliance Leads Program, we already have some sales pending for this year. Please let Sylvia know as soon as someone THINKS they are going to buy a Triton. She will email all the info (name, email, phone number and what boat he is interested in if possible) to put the lead in.
- New Lowrance program – Details Below:
 - New Lowrance program for 2014: Quarterly postings of pictures of Lowrance products being used or events featuring Lowrance products gives us 1 point for each, videos of the product or event featuring Lowrance gives us 2 points, pictures or videos with a new idea using the Lowrance gives us 3 points and finally a unique event or idea gives us an extra point for each. Points will be added and prizes awarded in each quarter. 3 prizes for each: 1st place highest point state gets a touch 12, 2nd place a touch 9, and 3rd place gets a touch 7. A state can win in multiple quarters. You must notify Sylvia when you post anything to the Lowrance Facebook page or any other form of social media. You must begin each post with **#Lowrance BN CT or we will not get credit for it!!! You must notify Sylvia when you post anything to the Lowrance Facebook page or any other form of social media. Let's try to win all four!!!**
 - **UPDATE:** We won the 1st quarter and have received the HDS 12 for the Banquet. There is no limit to how many times a state can win!! We are currently working on the 2nd quarter and have the lead by 20 points, however we have two full months to go. Remember if you post something to Lowrance it MUST be done exactly as the instructions say. Let Sylvia know when you do post so she can keep track. It would be great if all clubs tried to post Lowrance pictures or videos.
- Update on applications for the Scholarship Tournament (still not many received) – Let's get behind the Scholarship fundraiser. Please come out and fish!!
- Need clubs to accept new members. I have encountered clubs saying they are full. How can we grow if we tell people we are full? I understand clubs have by-laws that might prohibit this, maybe revisit the by-laws? We have quite a few clubs with 6 members. There are four clubs out of 24 that total 106 of our members, when they say they are full it is understandable. The rest have between 6 & 13, the majority being 6. Our total membership right now is 250, not counting the new ones coming in. Please accept new members
- Disabled Military Veteran's Tournament & First Responders Tournament – Boat captains needed. Contact Al Guite to volunteer for any of these events (Al Guite 860-829-0616 or alanguite@comcast.net)
 - Tuesday, May 6th (Rain date May 7th) sponsor Major Steven Roy Andrews Fishing Outreach Program
 - Wednesday, June 25th – First Responders Tournament (Danbury Town Park)
 - Tuesday, Sept 16th sponsor River Front Recapture
 - Sponsor a First Responders Boat forms available on the table (corporate and personal). I would like to suggest a club take the personal one and collect within the club and make it a club donation.
- All Open Tournament Applications are up on the website under "Opens"
 - Scholarship Two Day – May 3rd & 4th – Danbury, Candlewood
 - Reynolds Open – June 8th – CT River
 - 26 Angels Foundation Tournament (70% payout cash & prizes) – Apr 26th – Danbury, Candlewood
 - Bryan Kerchal – April 27th – Danbury, Candlewood (Proceeds go to CBN Youth)
 - Mixed Open – June 1st - Candlewood
- BASS Renewal Envelopes available – CBN gets \$5 for everyone mailed in to BASS.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

- CLA looking for a contribution to their Lake Clean up on May 17th and Dragon Boat Races on August 16th again this year. Last year we gave \$250.00. Motion was made and passed to donate \$250.00 to the CLA projects.
- Stan Socha – BASS Mafia sponsorship but they could not come in at level we require. We got weigh in bags at a discount and are working with her on sponsorship.
- Livingston Lure Raffle: Milford Black Bass won
- Dean Rustic – Thank you cards from the Sandy Hook Wolf Pack 170.
- Dean Rustic – Working on a Shimano sponsoring initiative to create a better fishing environment. Ask Dean for details on CT Program.
- **DEEP NOTICE: Notice of Intent to Amend Regulations and Notice of Public Hearing**

The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, pursuant to Sections 4-168(a) and 22a-6 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, hereby gives notice of his intention to amend sections 26-55-1(i), 26-112-43, 26-112-44, 26-112-45, 26-112-46(a), 26-112-46(c), 26-112-46(d), 26-112-46(g), 26-112-46(h), 26-112-46(k) and 26-112-48 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. These regulations will be adopted under authority of Sections 26-55, and 26-112 of the General Statutes.

The proposed amendments to the regulations will 1) revise triploid (sterile) grass carp (used to manage nuisance aquatic plant growth) permitting procedures to improve the application process for water bodies under multiple ownership; 2) increase the number of lines allowed for angling in inland waters from two to three lines; 3) move the date of "Opening Day" of trout season one week earlier, from the current third Saturday in April to the second Saturday in April, 4) remove the closed season from three areas (Batterson Park Pond, Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, Yantic River below falls at Indian Leap), and establish a closed season for one water body (Scoville Reservoir), 5) removes twenty-three areas from the lists of children's fishing areas; 6) increase the minimum length to 9 inches and reduce the creel limit for American eel and limit harvest of American shad to the Connecticut River system to comply with provisions of interstate fishery management plans of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC); 7) update regulations for several other species (reduces creel limit for Kokanee salmon, allows fishing for bowfin and tench and defines methods of fishing for them, and explicitly prohibits taking of state-endangered brook lamprey) to better reflect current status of their populations; 8) refine existing regulations concerning thermal refuges intended to protect trout seeking cool water refuge at tributaries to major rivers and establish a thermal refuge at a site on the lower Salmon River that serves as a cool water refuge for several species including trout, salmon and northern pike; 9) remove special regulations for brown trout and extend the fishing season at East Twin Lake (Salisbury) to be consistent with the other designated Trout Management Lakes; 10) designate additional portions of the Tankerhoosen River and its tributaries in Vernon as a Class 1 Wild Trout Management Area; and 11) allow the use of boats and electric motors on Hewitt Pond (North Stonington). There are also several minor conforming and technical adjustments.

The proposed regulations and statement of purpose can be found attached to this notice. Copies of the proposed regulations, statement of purpose, small business impact statement and a fiscal note indicating no additional expense to the state or municipal governments to implement these proposed regulations are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Bureau of Natural Resources, Inland Fisheries Division, 6th Floor, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT, 06106-5127. A link to the proposed regulations is available on the Department's website at <http://www.ct.gov/deep/publicnotices>. These documents can also be obtained by contacting Bill Foreman at the above address, by phone at (860) 424-3474, or by email (deep.inland.fisheries@ct.gov).

One public hearing has been scheduled to obtain public comment to determine whether to adopt the proposed regulations or to adjust the measures. All interested persons are invited to express their views on the proposed regulations at the following public hearing:

Date: May 19, 2014

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Phoenix Auditorium
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Interested persons may also choose to present their views regarding the proposed regulations in writing. Written comments should be submitted no later than 4:30 PM on June 3, 2014 to Bill Foreman at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Inland Fisheries Division, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT, 06106-5127. Comments may be submitted by post, facsimile to [860-424-4070](tel:8604244070) or by electronic mail to william.foreman@ct.gov. Based on public comment, the proposed regulations may be adjusted to meet the objective of the proposal.

- Next month, May 22nd, Gene Ellison will be a guest with a presentation of Navionics products. Please try to have club members attend.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:24 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 22nd, 2014

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Rose, CBN Secretary