

CT B.A.S.S. Nation
Meeting Minutes
August 28th 2014

ROLL CALL: Clubs absent – BassBusters, CT Bassmen, Tobacco Valley

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you note from Chris Klepinger for the CBN 2nd place 2014 Scholarship award.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

MOTION TO ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES AS POSTED

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque

Conservation Report: Dean Rustic

- **Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting** – No August Meeting
- **Fisheries Advisory Council meeting** – No Meeting
- **Fishing Advocacy – Working directly with CT DEEP to promote Fishing with these initiatives.**
 - Shimano Youth Conservation Initiative
 - The Pilot Project at Echo Lake in Watertown was on August 10th.
 - 7 members of Mohawk Valley BassCasters, (Armand Fortier, Peter Gumprecht, Bill Murphy, Kevin Noel, Tom O'Connor, Dean Rustic and Jason Rustic)
 - 2 members of the Nonnewaug High School Fishing Team (Doug Marino and Noah Winslow) along with Parents Mr. & Mrs. Winslow
 - 1 Member of the CBN (CT B.A.S.S. Nation) Juniors Club - The Bass Lightning (Lorin Valenti) along with his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Valenti and Stephanie.
 - Watertown Community Fishing Club (Bret Hodorski and Geoff Lindstrom)
 - Remaining Community Waters:
 - Brige Pond, Bristol - Edward Swicklas
 - Hubbard Park Pond, Meriden - Michael Roberts
 - Butternut Park Pond, Middletown - William Russo and Debbie Stanley
 - Stanley Quarter Park Pond, New Britain - Bill Demaio
 - Upper Fulton Park Pond, Waterbury - Edward McCann
 - Crescent Lake, Southington - David Lapreay
 - Rob Klee called to commit to help on Sunday Sept. 21st
 - Working to get Media Coverage for at least one of these events.
- **Nationwide Insurance Conservation Challenge.** –
 - Currently B.A.S.S. is in third place, up from fifth.
 - Post on Face book – Vote every day.
- **Moss Back Grant coming in October.**

Boating Advisory: No Meeting until September

CLA Report:

- Very vague, more information next month regarding Zebra Mussels and Grass Carp.
- **Citizen Lake Scientists Wanted**
CLA Looking For Ten Lake Residents to Help with Study

In April of 1865, Fr. Pietro Angelo Secchi measured the transparency of the water in the Mediterranean Sea with a device now named after him, the *Secchi disk*. Since then, the Secchi disk has become an essential water quality measuring tool used by all those who study lakes. Although a fundamental lake water quality measurement, actually measuring Secchi transparency is not really rocket science. You lower a 20 cm diameter black and white disk in the water from a boat or dock and determine the exact depth where you lose visual contact with it. So you lower it down until it disappears, raise it back up until you just see it, and lower it down a little at a time until it disappears again. Once you have determined that the exact depth where visual contact is lost, you measure that distance with a meter stick and record it. That is it! We are looking for about ten volunteers who would be willing to regularly measure Secchi disk transparency from their dock during the months of August, September, and October. Requirements to participate include a willingness to take the Secchi transparency measurement at least two to three times each week, have access to a wireless communications device (e.g. iPhone or iPad with iOS 7 or later operating system, or an Android device), and have a willingness to download a free app called Collector which will be used to record the data. We will provide you a Secchi disk for August, September, October and show you how to use it, and how to download and use Collector. So become part of this important study and learn a little something about the lake! Your participation in the program will help the CLA gather valuable data from around the lake, which will help us to better understand the seasonal water quality trends on Candlewood. To volunteer, call us at the CLA office at [\(860\) 354-6928](tel:8603546928) and ask for Larry.

CT Haddam Canal Issue:

- Norb Heil – Nothing new at this time. He will keep us posted. Please watch the forum for any updates between now and the next meeting. B.A.S.S has been informed of the situation and Gene Gilliland, B.A.S.S Conservation Director has contacted the DEEP on our behalf. He feels that they will reopen the canal, just may take a while. B.A.S.S is ready to help us if needed.

Tournament Report: Paul Dingee

- The new 2-Day application is out. Please make sure you follow the instructions! If you are linked both of you must fill out your sections (Linked and Co-Angler) with a check for \$100.00 for each of you and applicable paperwork in the SAME envelope.
- If you are not a linked angler just fill out the Angler section and send it in with a check for the \$100.00 and the applicable paperwork.
- Please see the Two Day Criteria sheet on line and follow proper procedure.
- Congratulations to the top 40 Anglers and Co-Anglers for qualifying for the Classic/Tournament #4. The app will be up by the first week of September. Nothing will be mailed to you. You must download the app from ctbass.com and mail it by the deadline of Oct 4th.

Sponsorship Report: Robert Nelson

- **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
- **Livingston Lures**
 - New sponsor for the CBN, check for \$1500 received, product coming for banquets, tournaments etc.

CBN Scholarship: Nothing New

Robert S Malloy Scholarship: Nothing New

Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris

- Change of Date: Due to the nationals being help on our original date of November 8th, we will now be holding in on November 22nd. Please be sure to notify all club members of the change. Getting prizes for the youth that will attend, right now that is about 24!
- Invitations online next week.

Membership Committee: Paul Dingee – Nothing New

Website Committee: Armand has been paid

Audit Committee: Nothing to report

Youth Report: Terry Baksay & Ron Frisk

- Winding down 2015 qualifying trail to qualify 2 kids for 2015 Divisional and send top 2 high school teams to HS National Championship
- Can still use 2 boats for the 9/13 tournament on Lillinonah
- Can still use 1 boat for 10/11 tournament on Zoar
- Please call Ron at 860.940.5553 or email rfrisk@accare.com the kids need you guys and so do I.
- The Banquet is looking fantastic for the kids. Thank you to those individual clubs who have donated items for the kids.
- Thanks to Milford Black Bass, Housatonic Valley and Heart of CT for their continued support, holding tournaments to benefit our program.
- Thanks to Mohawk Valley for making 1000 jig heads so each of the 10 Juniors in our program receives a pack of 100.

Finance Committee: Ray Bessett – Nothing to report

State Team Report: Sylvia Morris

- Next meeting before leaving will be Sept 6th at Sylvia's house at 12pm.
- \$100.00 Check was sent to NY for Gift Cards to give the High School teams, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners at the Divisional. The Eastern Division States sent \$100.00 each.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN

OLD BUSINESS:

- Excused Absences: Pachaug
- Nominations for Tournament Director – Sal Messina. Sal accepted the nomination and ran unopposed. Secretary cast one vote for Sal Messina. Congratulations to Sal Messina!!
- We would like to thank Paul Dingee for giving the CBN two years of his time as Tournament Director. Thank you Paul!!!
- The 2 High School teams have been reimbursed \$1000.00 each as stated in the May minutes. All receipts have been received. They well exceeded the \$1000.00. Cost for both High School teams, boat captains and one parent per team was approx. \$6000.00. There will be discussion on this at the CBN Executive Board Meeting on Aug 30th and the B.A.S.S Presidents meetings coming up in Sept. and Nov.
- 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 BNCT 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 2nd quarter and will receive another HDS12! Thank you to those who have posted pictures and have posed for me! Working on quarter 3 and are currently in the lead!! Keep the pictures coming!!
- New CBN/NEBA Team Championship Trail has been started. Next tournament October 26th, CT River. New guideline, for every 25 teams signed up by June Tournament we can send 1 team to the Championship. We need 9 more to be able to send two teams.
- The CBN Taxes have been completed and turned into the IRS. Cost was \$950.00
- Remember to utilize the hotels in Danbury that supply us with a fisherman rate!! Newbury (best parking), Micro-tel and Best Western.
- 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.
- Disabled Military Veteran's Tournament & First Responders Tournament – **8 More Boat captains needed.** Contact Al Guite to volunteer for any of these events (Al Guite 860-829-0616 or alanguite@comcast.net)
 - 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.
- BASS Renewal Envelopes available – CBN gets \$5 for everyone mailed in to BASS.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

- A check for \$1,160.00 for the Youth account has been received from Housatonic Valley Bassmasters. This is from the Bryan V Kerchal tournament which they hold annually with some of the proceeds donated to the CBN youth. Thank you!!
- National Invitation has been received for the President and Youth Director. Sylvia will be purchasing tickets for herself and Terry to attend on the CBN's behalf. This year Nationals are November 5th-9th in Monroe, LA on the Ouachita River.
- Effective September 1, 2014, the new renewal date for all clubs, adult, junior, HS and College will begin September 1st of each year. In other words, the roster systems will reset all members to "pending" and allow renewals to begin on September 1st. The roster will still show a B.A.S.S Nation expiration of December 31. For

example, all members/clubs that pay before September 1st will expire December 31 of that same year and all that renews September 1st or after will expire December 31 of the following year. November 1st is still the deadline for renewals.

- This gets all club types on the same renewal schedule and should help with everyone's membership tracking. Please make every effort to spread this work to the clubs. It really shouldn't change much in the way you manage rosters, but wanted to make sure you knew what was going on, should you get questions about the member status changing to "pending"
- They should not experience any lapse in Bass Times deliver. This is just allowing us to start the renewal process earlier. The Nation expire dates will stay the same and the BASS Times will continue on the normal schedule until 2015.
- Steve Barlow, a writer for the Waterbury Republican did an article in 2009 about 34 Grants that were awarded to different groups doing various Conversation projects. He decided to do a follow up and see just how many of the 34 completed those projects. Good for us, because we were chosen however never received the monies. He has brought this forward to the proper people and they are checking into it. David Santos was in charge of the project then and has been having conversations with Steve. Looks like we will receive this money!!! Should know soon! Will keep you posted. The article on the NRD grants will run on 9/1/2014
- Had a Conversation with Bill Foreman and there a few things he has asked me to talk about with all of you. First and foremost the no wakes on the river. There have been many complaints in the past few weeks of Bass Boats blowing the no wakes and especially the no wake at the bridge!!! Just happened a DEEP official was out for a fun day of fishing on Sunday and witnessed it himself. We are being warned. They will be out there and giving tickets. As always if any tickets are brought to our attention you will be disqualified.
 - During night fishing your lights must be on at all times!! There have been few reports of boats with no lights on during a tournament.
- Nominations will open up in September for Pres., VP, Sec, & Treasurer. I will need a nominating committee. I need three people to be on the committee, they are:
 - Sal Messina – 860.883.3116
 - Kevin Rose – 860.978.3987
 - Bob Nelson – 914.588.1999
 - You will receive calls with nominations and all three of you will get together prior to the November meeting and compile your list of nominees into one and turn in the nominees (written) to the President to read. Members will then take back these nominees to their clubs and be prepared to vote at the Dec meeting.
- By Law Proposals are due in at the September meeting! I will not be at the September meeting as I will be at the Divisional with the State Team. Just hand them in to Al Guite or you can E-mail to me : [**Wefish2@att.net**](mailto:Wefish2@att.net)
 - Al Guite, By Law Chairperson will look over with the Executive Board, make copies for the Oct meeting to pass out to each Rep(will post in Minutes) who will bring back to their clubs. We will discuss at the Nov meeting and apply any changes to them and post in the minutes again. We will vote on them at the Dec meeting.
- Bob Nelson, Marc Levesque and Rachel Rose will run the September meeting in Sylvia's absence. Good Luck to the 2014 State Team!! Look on the forum for updates daily!!!
- Milford Black Bass 2nd Annual High School Benefit Open, Oct 12th Candlewood Lake, 7a-3p.
- Thayer's Open, September 7th Candlewood Lake (Squantz). Sign Ups available at the ramp
- Livingston Lure Drawing – Dave Santos – winner again!!!

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 25th, 2014

**Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Rose, CBN Secretary**