

# Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation

## Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2013

\* The Connecticut Bass Nation is proud to announce their 2013 Scholarship recipients. Every spring, the CBN solicits applications from qualifying candidates that are reviewed and judged by the Scholarship Committee. Applicants must answer various questions, including a small essay and provide information about their studies.

Three awards are provided each year to the top applicants as chosen by the committee.

1<sup>st</sup> Place - Melinda Noel was the recipient of the \$1500 scholarship award. She is sponsored by her father Kevin Noel of Mohawk Valley Bassmasters. Melinda attends Keene State College with a Graphic Design Major. She volunteered her time and services as a photographer for the 26 Angels Foundation event at Candlewood Lake in May.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Daniel Gage received the \$1000 scholarship award. He is sponsored by his father Donald Gage from the Pachaug Area Bassmasters. As a captain of the Indoor and Outdoor Track teams, Daniel is graduating from East Lyme High School and will be attending Ohio State University in the fall.

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Olivia Rustic was awarded the \$500 scholarship award. She is sponsored by her father Dean Rustic from Mohawk Valley Bassmasters. Olivia attends Bryant University. She is a member of the Bryant University Crew Team, Honors Program and the Bryant Helps Service Club.

Since January 2005 the CBN has awarded over \$23,000 in scholarships. The CBN thanks its sponsors, membership, and the committee for making our scholarship program such a success. A big Thank You to our Judges, Matt DeSimone, Rob Germain, Dan Monroe and our Scholarship Chairperson, Kevin Lavender.

The regular monthly meeting of the Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation was called to order on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 at approximately 7:39p by Bob Nelson and a Moment of Silence was held for the victims of the tornado in Oklahoma.

**Roll Call:** The following clubs were absent: CT Sweetwater Bass, MidConn Anglers, North Eastern CT Bassmasters, Statewide Bass Anglers and Team Skeeter

**Correspondence:** None

### **Announcements:**

- AutoZone and BASS have reached an agreement for AutoZone to be the title sponsor of the special editions of *The Bassmasters* TV show, *Winning Ways*, for the 2013 season.
- To showcase its Evan Williams Bourbon brand, Heaven Hill Distilleries, a premier-level sponsor of Bassmaster events, has taken on the title sponsorship of the 7<sup>th</sup> Bassmaster Elite Series competition of the 2013 season.
- The CBN has given \$100 to St. Jude on behalf of Marc Levesque's father who passed recently.

**A motion was made and passed to accept the previous month's minutes.**

### **Report of Officers**

**Treasurers Report:** Marc Levesque.

**Conservation Report:** Dean Rustic:

- CAC Meeting
  - Committee Reports – Legislative – Bob Crook
    - Gun Bills
    - Gun rights organizations are asking for donations to pay for Attorney Fees.
    - HB5412 Sunday Hunting – looks to pass
    - Lowering fees for your hunting – looks to pass
    - Lyme disease – spraying to be done
    - 1018 – Bill for Cleaning Invasive Species
  - Inland Fisheries –
    - Pre-Opening Day media event at lake wintergreen in Hamden went great
    - Opening Day Stocking trucks to 8 locations (media at 2 events) good, but low turnout due to weather
    - Quinebaug Hatchery – David Sumner retired as well as Second in command.
    - Two new fish ways – stam/cam dam
    - 20,000 catfish are being stocked with Fingerling 5 to 7 and catchable fish size.
    - Salmon River complaints for Small Trout for 7 to 9 inch. Seems correct due to mix up at hatchery
    - Free Fishing days – Pickens Park – mirror lake in Hubbard Park (4 free Fishing days)
    - 26 Angles Tournament – Bill said how well it went, asked for me to give a recap.
    - 4100 Strip Bass Vouchers \Youth vouchers signed up already
    - 2.9 Mill for forest damage from Sandy for private land owners
- Recycling
  - Terry will have the youth fishing collecting used line & baits at the tournaments.
- Fizzing Kits
  - Kits will be \$3.00 per kit – Let Dean know how many for your club members would want one & they will be available at the next meeting
- Fishing Advocacy
  - New Hampshire Lead Ban – SB89 – Unfortunately bill has passed
  - Presented to DEEP Program for Stocking Fingerlings in CT River
    - Response was No
    - Also asked if any programs needed support
      - Gave example of Docks for small lakes co-managed with CT BASS Nation.
      - Assisting with stocking inner city ponds – Blue Gills, Sun Fish. Possible Youth & Conservation project planned for later this year
      - Free Fishing Day – Gave idea for free day pass, sign up online
- Conservation Awards – October 2013
- National Conservation Con-Call Meeting
  - Re-writing of Conservation Mission Statement
  - Changing perception about conservation
  - Moving conservation to the front page of bassmaster.com
  - Getting Pros to project conservation
  - Produce National, Divisional & State agendas

**Boating Advisory:** Tom Reynolds – Nothing new to report

### **C.L.A. Report:** No Formal Meeting Held

- The Candlewood Lake Authority regrets to announce that the 2013 Candlewood Lake Cleanup has been cancelled

### **Tournament Report:** Paul Dingee:

- First tournament was held at Candlewood Lake, Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Thank you to the tournament committee and to the State Team and other anglers for their help
  - 69 Anglers & 33 Co-Anglers
  - 416 Fish caught for a total weight of 961 pounds – **all fish released alive**
- Next tournament is Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at CT River, Haddam – Mail in deadline is June 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Surelife for sale (\$10)
- 2014 Tournament trail is in the works – verbal approval and permits have been mailed
  - April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 26 Angels Tournament (Candlewood Lake, Danbury Town Park) – Not a CBN Event however we want to let everyone know that the date & place are confirmed
  - May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 – CBN Scholarship (Candlewood Lake, Danbury Town Park)
  - May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Robert S. Malloy Scholarship (Candlewood Lake, Danbury Town Park)
  - May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – CBN Tournament #1 (Candlewood Lake, Danbury Town Park)
  - June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 – CBN Tournament #2 (CT River, Hartford)
  - July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – CBN Tournament #3 (Lake Lillinonah, Steel Bridge & Pond Brook)
  - August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 – MR. BASS (TBD)
  - October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – CBN Two-Day Tournament (Candlewood Lake, Danbury Town Park or CT River, Haddam – will confirm once location has been confirmed)
  - October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – CBN Classic (Candlewood Lake, Squantz)
- **NEW TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED.**

### **Sponsorship Report:** Bob Nelson:

- Power-Pole sponsorship is open to all CBN members – to receive the discount you have to complete the Pro-Staff application on the website [www.power-pole.com](http://www.power-pole.com)
- The Reynolds' Angler Incentive Program is back. The incentive is doubled for all customers who have purchased a new boat.
  - Anglers paired with the top 3 finishing co-anglers in each of the 4 tournament trail events will be rewarded as follow:
    - Angler paired with the 1<sup>st</sup> place finishing co-angler will receive \$75.00
    - Angler paired with the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing co-angler will receive \$50.00
    - Angler paired with the 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishing co-angler will receive \$25.00
- Bassmaster and ScoutLook created a free fishing weather app for iPhone and Android. To download the app visit [www.scoutlookweather.com](http://www.scoutlookweather.com)
- Midstate Battery – A discount is available to ALL Nation members and the Nation will receive a Volume Rebate
  - 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](mailto:smerone@midstatebattery.com)
  - Notify Sylvia about all purchases so she can keep track of what the CBN rebate should be.
- Powell Rods – “Nation” Special Promotion
  - Offering a discount on rods to the Nation members for 30% off & 20% off retail on Diesel Rods
  - Purchase 6 Diesel Rods (mix & match) and pick an Endurance Rod (from specially marked rods) as yours free

- Please see [www.powellco.com](http://www.powellco.com) to order
- Pure Fishing Discount Purchase Program open May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 30<sup>th</sup>. Almost the entire Pure Fishing portfolio is being offered at a discount of 25% off of MSRP. Each member is allowed to purchase up to 4 items during the purchase window.
  - Order using the following instructions:
    - [https://www.shakespeare-fishing.com/tackle\\_shack/](https://www.shakespeare-fishing.com/tackle_shack/)
    - Enter your complete email address as your username (this is how we will contact you regarding your order)
    - Enter this password: **TackleShack@2012**
    - 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.
- Buff USA is now a State, Trail and State Team Sponsor. You may see their products at: [www.buffusa.com](http://www.buffusa.com)  
Buff USA has a line of buffs and gloves made exclusively for anglers. They have some with bass on them as well. Some of their products were on the prize table at our first tournament.

**CBN Scholarship Committee:**

- Winners announced prior to the start of the meeting

**Robert S. Malloy Scholarship Committee:** David Santos – Scholarships to be given again in November

**Banquet Committee:** Sylvia Morris:

- The next banquet has already been booked. It will be at the Chowder Pot again on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**Membership Committee:** Paul Dingee: Nothing new to report

**Website Committee:** Nothing new to report

**Audit Committee:** Vinny Mucci – Audit Completed

**Youth Report:** Terry Baksay and Ron Frisk:

- First Juniors Tournament will be June 8<sup>th</sup> at Lake Lillinonah
- Waiting to hear about High School to build the tournament trail

**Finance Committee:** Ray Bessette: Nothing to report

**State Team Report:** Sylvia Morris:

- Meeting was held after CBN Tournament May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013.
- State Team Jackets were passed out, a big thank you to LUNKER CITY for paying half the cost of the jackets (approx. \$700.00). They do this every year!!
- Humminbird/MinnKota hats were also passed out.
- All Divisional Entry forms were completed. Juniors will be done after they are decided (by Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>)
- State Team jerseys have been ordered.

- Money has been received from the families going with the State Team for the week for Lodging & Breakfasts.
- Money has also been collected for family jerseys.
- Next Meeting is June 23<sup>rd</sup> following the CBN Tournament at CT River, Haddam.

**Motion made and seconded to accept reports as given**

**Old Business**

- Excused absences: None
- 26 Angels Foundation Tournament:
  - Amazing day! Visit [www.26angelsfoundation.org](http://www.26angelsfoundation.org) for coverage
  - Approx. 600 people on the beach (families & workers)
  - 43 Teams fished – Winners were Dave Maiorano & Ed Groballi with 18.90 pounds (5 fish)
- Scholarship Tournament was held Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013
  - 28 Boats - \$1,302.00 will be split evenly between the Scholarship fund and the Robert S. Malloy fund
- Upcoming Open Tournaments:
  - CT Bassmen Mixed Open – June 2<sup>nd</sup> (Candlewood, Squantz)
  - Reynolds Marine – June 8<sup>th</sup>
- Lowrance isn't doing a booklet anymore
  - CBN must work together to gain benefits from Lowrance at Nationals
    - Friend Lowrance on Facebook
      - Take and post pictures with Lowrance product and let Sylvia know when the picture is posted so she can keep track
  - At Nationals they will decide which states did best
    - The better the state has done the better the benefits

**Motion made and seconded to accept Old Business**

**New Business**

- Donation Request made for Tackle the Storm – for victims of Oklahoma Tornado
  - Don Barone was contacted
    - \$10 buys a rod/reel combo
    - Asking for each club to donate \$20 or whatever they can – 25 clubs
    - CBN will match what is raised (If all clubs donate \$20 we will have \$500 plus the CBN will match the \$500 – that's \$1,000 which will buy 100 rods!)
- Executive Board Meeting to be held on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Sylvia's House

**Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:12 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rachel Rose, CBN Secretary.**