

**CT B.A.S.S Nation**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of the CT B.A.S.S Nation was called to order on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at approximately 7:29p by Sylvia Morris.

**ROLL CALL:** Clubs absent – None

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Sylvia Malloy, Bob Malloy's mom, has send a Christmas card and donation to the Robert S Malloy scholarship in Bob's name for \$50.00

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Paul Mueller comes in second in the 2014 Bassmaster Classic! Makes history with a record breaking bag of 32.3lbs for one day!! Congratulations we are so proud of you!!
- CT B.A.S.S Nation wins Berkley Angler Recruitment/Retention Award! \$1,500.00 worth of product of our choice. Thank you to Lee Housley & Carl Pedersen for the initial design of the membership map, Armand Fortier for his help and Carl for the idea of Uncle Sam wants you poster. Thank you Bob Nelson for writing the submission. Great team work!!

- **AutoZone Renews Title Sponsorship of B.A.S.S. *Winning Ways* Show On ESPN2**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — AutoZone will continue in 2014 with its title sponsorship of *AutoZone Winning Ways*, a spinoff of the popular ESPN2 fishing show, *The Bassmasters*.

The hour-long *AutoZone Winning Ways*, which delves into the secrets of Bassmaster tournament champions, will begin Sunday, April 27, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., directly following an episode of *The Bassmasters*.

"AutoZone is proud to renew its partnership with B.A.S.S.," said Brenda Hudson, director of marketing at AutoZone, which is headquartered in Memphis, Tenn. "We've seen how *Winning Ways* is an excellent place to show our support of this great sport."

"We look forward to expanding on a great first year with AutoZone," said Bruce Akin, CEO of B.A.S.S.

As part of the partnership, an "AutoZone Winning Ways" segment will be featured daily on the Bassmaster Interactive Stage at the Feb. 21-23, 2014 GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by Diet Mountain Dew and GoPro. The live-interview stage will be inside the Bassmaster Classic Outdoors Expo within the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex in downtown Birmingham.

AutoZone is the nation's leading retailer and a leading distributor of automotive replacement parts and accessories. There are more than 5,200 AutoZone stores in the United States, Mexico and Brazil.

- **Booyah and B.A.S.S. Team up Again**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — picking up where they left off in 2012, Booyah Baits and B.A.S.S. have reached a sponsorship agreement for 2014.

The agreement names Booyah as a Supporting Sponsor of all 2014 Bassmaster tournament circuits: Bassmaster Elite Series, Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Opens presented by Allstate, B.A.S.S. Nation events and Carhartt Bassmaster College Series.

Booyah also is a Supporting Sponsor of the new Bassmaster Team Championship.

"We are excited to partner strategically with the largest and most powerful fishing organization in the nation," said John Skrabo, vice president of marketing for PRADCO Outdoor Brands, including Booyah. "Our market research provided us with consumer insight that said if we are going to target these passionate and competitive Booyah consumers, we need to reach them with a strong multimedia platform approach.

"B.A.S.S. is able to deliver not only its 500,000-plus members, but the top magazine, website and events in the entire fishing industry," Skrabo added.

The Booyah-B.A.S.S. agreement continues a longstanding relationship between the two industry leaders. The companies have partnered in promotions over the years, and Booyah was the Official Wirebait Sponsor of 2009 Bassmaster events. They partnered again in 2012 with Booyah as a Bassmaster Supporting Sponsor.

“We’re pleased Booyah is again part of the Bassmaster sponsor family,” said Joe Higgins, B.A.S.S. vice president, sales. “The brand is returning with a season-long activation program that fans are going to love.”

Booyah’s Bassmaster activation program will kick off at the Feb. 21-23 GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by Diet Mountain Dew and GoPro in Birmingham. Within its large exhibit space at the Bassmaster Classic Outdoors Expo presented by Dick’s Sporting Goods at the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex, Booyah will display a new, fully loaded, Booyah-wrapped Toyota Tundra, the grand prize in the 2014 Booyah Truck Giveaway Sweepstakes.

The truck is customized for fishing, including rod tubes mounted in an overhead Surco Roof Rack System; Rigid Industries grill with light bars installed; Rigid Industries rear bed lighting and flush mount rear bumper lighting; and a bed slide system. Classic fans will be among the first to be able to enter the sweepstakes. Fans will have more chances to enter the contest at all nine 2014 Bassmaster Elite Series events, as well as online at <http://www.booyahbaits.com/truck>. The Elite Series season will begin March 13-16 in Bainbridge, Ga., with the Dick Cepek Tires Bassmaster Elite Series on Lake Seminole. For a full schedule of 2014 tournament stops, go to [www.Bassmaster.com](http://www.Bassmaster.com).

At each event, one finalist’s name will be drawn and receive a key. All 11 finalists will be Booyah’s guests at the 2015 Bassmaster Classic in Greenville, S.C. The one with the key that fits the ignition to the truck will win it.

- **B.A.S.S. joins Folds Of Honor to assist families of military service members**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Continuing a long tradition of supporting America’s servicemen and servicewomen, B.A.S.S. has signed an agreement with Oklahoma-based Folds of Honor Foundation to assist in its mission to provide educational scholarships to the dependents of soldiers killed or disabled while serving our country. Under the cross promotional agreement, B.A.S.S. will raise awareness of Folds of Honor among its millions of Bassmaster Magazine readers and Bassmaster.com website visitors. In addition, a special fishing tournament pairing Bassmaster Elite Series anglers with active and retired military personnel will be conducted during Toyota All-Star Week, Sept. 23-29, in Muskegon, Mich. Postseason Bassmaster events, including the annual Toyota All-Star Week, have traditionally included fishing outings for wounded service members, with America’s top professional bass anglers serving as guides. Folds of Honor also has been invited to conduct fundraising projects during the All-Star tournament as well as during the 2014 Bassmaster Classic to be held in Birmingham in February. An appeal by Folds of Honor founder Maj. Dan Rooney during a weigh-in ceremony for the 2013 Classic in Tulsa netted more than \$20,000 in donations. Since its inception six years ago, Folds of Honor has raised more than \$25 million and funded more than 3,800 educational scholarships for the dependents of service members. Its flagship fundraising projects are Patriot Golf Day on Labor Day Weekend and the Patriot Cup pro-am, gala and concert held in Owasso, Okla., on Memorial Day. “By providing scholarships and other support, the Folds of Honor Foundation pays tribute to the sacrifices of men and women who have lost their lives or been severely wounded protecting our freedom,” said B.A.S.S. CEO Bruce Akin. “We are proud to be associated with the foundation and to assist in raising funds for this extremely worthy cause.” Rooney, a former F-16 fighter pilot, launched Folds of Honor following the second of his three tours of duty in Iraq. Upon returning home from overseas, he was moved by the profound display of a family’s grief as they welcomed home the remains of Cpl. Brock Bucklin. Inspired by the tragic homecoming of a fallen American soldier, Rooney started Folds of Honor in 2007 to support military families in the aftermath of their tragedies. “We are so thankful for great partners like B.A.S.S. who have stepped up to help fill a gaping need for the families of our heroes,” said Rooney. “There are more than 1 million dependents of fallen or wounded soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan alone and only 87 percent receive federal educational assistance. It’s up to the rest of us to ensure these families are taken care of when it comes to getting the education they deserve.” Folds of Honor will be promoted on Bassmaster.com and through other B.A.S.S. media and events, and B.A.S.S. will be listed as a partner of the organization on its website.

- **Livingston Lures Extends Bassmaster Sponsorship Into 2014**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — After a first year partnering with Bassmaster fishing circuits to introduce its new lure technology, Livingston Lures is ready to go for another year.

Livingston Lures and B.A.S.S. have signed an agreement for the San Antonio, Texas, lure maker to be a 2014 Supporting Sponsor/Hard Baits of all Bassmaster trails: Bassmaster Elite Series, Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Opens presented by Allstate, Carhartt Bassmaster College Series, B.A.S.S. Nation events and the championship event of the new Bassmaster Team Trail.

“We’re delighted Livingston will be back with us in 2014,” said Bruce Akin, B.A.S.S. CEO. “Livingston’s activation activities at tournaments throughout 2013 have been a model of how to reach anglers — and how worthwhile such one-on-one contact

with anglers can be.”

Fred Battah, CEO of Livingston Lures, said that Livingston’s brand-activation vehicle and trailer logged 50,000 miles in 2013 traveling to all Bassmaster events and found true value in the investment.

“We are very satisfied with our first year as a Supporting Sponsor,” Battah said. “For any bass-fishing related company that wants to be a player in this industry, B.A.S.S. is the premier marketing partner.”

Livingston will continue in 2014 to offer its Livingston Lures Leader Award to anglers who excel in Bassmaster events. The total of the 2014 season’s contingency award program is valued at more than \$10,000.

The program includes an award for the second-day leader in all nine Bassmaster Elite Series competitions, including the new Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year Championship (\$500 each event); in all nine Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Open events (\$250 on the pro side; \$250 in the co-angler division in each event); and in B.A.S.S. Nation events (\$250 each event). In the Carhartt Bassmaster College Series, a Livingston Lures Leader Award of \$250 in products will go to each of the anglers on an event’s winning two-man team.

In the new Bassmaster Team Championship, the anglers of the Day 2 leading team will split a \$500 award.

Livingston designs, makes and markets crankbaits and topwaters equipped with proprietary technology that activates when the lure hits the water. The lures produce a sound that mimics the croak made by a real baitfish in distress. In addition, a proprietary chamber produces vibration during retrieve. All models contain this audio technology, and most are enhanced with the additional visual trigger of an LED light that subtly fades in and out intermittently.

Models include Pro Ripper lipless crankbaits; Dive Master crankbaits in shallow, medium and deep-diving models; Pro Wake subsurface swimmers; and Pro Sizzle Jr. topwaters.

Anglers can discover the entire Livingston lineup in Birmingham, Ala., at the Bassmaster Classic Outdoors Expo presented by Dick’s Sporting Goods during the Feb. 21-23 GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by Diet Mountain Dew and GoPro. The expo will be in the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex in downtown Birmingham.

- **New Bassmaster Events Slated For 2014 Season**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Continuing a tradition of pioneering new types of competitions every season, B.A.S.S. LLC is unveiling four unique events for 2014.

The four events are:

**Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year Championship**, Sept. 18-21, in Escanaba, Mich., with competition on Bays De Noc, Lake Michigan. The event host is the city of Escanaba, a partner of Pure Michigan, the official tourism and travel organization for the state.

The culmination of the Bassmaster Elite Series season, this tournament will determine the 2014 Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year, the sport’s prestigious achievement worth \$100,000. Also at stake are 29 berths in the 2015 Bassmaster Classic.

To qualify for the championship, an Elite Series pro must be No. 50 or higher in the Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year points standings after the eight events of the 2014 regular season. Points are earned by pros based on their finishes at each of those eight events.

“Ending the season-long Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year race with a dedicated tournament escalates the excitement for fans — and raises the bar for Elite Series pros,” said Trip Weldon, B.A.S.S. tournament director.

“The total AOY purse has been increased to \$900,000 and pays out from first to 50th place, so all competitors have much at stake, whether or not they’re in contention for the crown,” Weldon said. “Add to that the heated competition for the 29 Classic berths, and the championship sets up as one of the most exciting events of the entire season.”

The Escanaba Pure Michigan competition will be surrounded by a full slate of fan activities, from daily takeoffs and weigh-ins to a Bassmaster Elite Series Expo. Local activities will be coordinated by the Bays De Noc Convention & Visitors Bureau, [www.travelbaysdenoc.com](http://www.travelbaysdenoc.com).

**Bassmaster High School National Championship**, July 16-19, in Tennessee on Kentucky Lake and Carroll County Reservoir. Hosts are Henry and Carroll counties, Bethel University and the Village of Paris, Tenn.

In this event, 96 of the best high school teams in the nation will compete for scholarships and merchandise as well as the first National Championship trophy.

The teams will qualify through individual state B.A.S.S. Nation organizations. Each B.A.S.S. Nation state will send its best two high school teams.

“This is really kicking up the B.A.S.S. high school initiative,” said Jon Stewart, director, B.A.S.S. Nation. “With the competition later aired on ESPNU, the growing high school sport of bass fishing will be showcased like never before.”

The first two days of competition will be on Kentucky Lake with weigh-ins at Paris Landing out of Paris, Tenn. The finalists

will compete for two days on Carroll County Reservoir and weigh their catches on the campus of Bethel University in McKenzie, Tenn.

Besides earning the title of national champion, the winning team will receive a share of \$21,000 in scholarships from B.A.S.S. as well as merchandise provided by sponsors. In addition, Bethel University will award \$40,000 in scholarships; \$5,000 a year for four years will go to the Top 2 finishing anglers provided they are either a junior or senior in high school and use the scholarship to attend Bethel University and become a part of the Bethel University Wildcats bass fishing team.

**Bassmaster High School Invitational**, June 20-21, Douglas Lake out of Dandridge, Tenn.

This event will qualify eight high school teams to compete in the 2015 Bassmaster High School Classic held in conjunction with the pro-level 2015 Bassmaster Classic, Feb. 20-22, in Greenville, S.C.

Any high school club registered with B.A.S.S. can send teams to the Bassmaster High School Invitational. Competition will be on Douglas Lake; weigh-ins will be at the Point Resort in Dandridge.

“Based on the interest in last year’s inaugural High School Invitational, we expect hundreds of boats in the 2014 event,” Stewart said. “This will be a fun event for the anglers and their families. We will have a huge barbecue the night before the tournament, and the anglers can meet other anglers from all over the country with the same passion for bass fishing.”

**Toyota Bonus Bucks Bassmaster Team Championship**, Dec 9-13, on DeGray Lake out of DeGray Lake Resort State Park Lodge and Convention Center in Bismarck, Ark.

Through this new event, one angler will qualify for the 2015 Bassmaster Classic on Lake Hartwell out of Greenville, S.C. In addition, one two-angler team will emerge as the national champion.

The teams will qualify for the championship through various B.A.S.S.-sanctioned team trails across the country operated independently of B.A.S.S. (For a list of sanctioned trails, go to Bassmaster.com.)

After two days of team competition on DeGray Lake, and the crowning of the inaugural Toyota Bonus Bucks Bassmaster Team Champion, the Top 3 teams will be split up. Those six anglers will return to the water to compete for the one Bassmaster Classic spot.

“As we do with the B.A.S.S. Nation program, with this new event we’re reaching grass-roots anglers and giving them a shot at being a Bassmaster Classic competitor,” Stewart said. “Not every angler has the opportunity to turn pro, but this event gives one amateur a shot at competing against top pros in the world championship.”

## **MOTION TO ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES AS POSTED**

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

**Treasurer Report:** Marc Levesque

**Conservation Report:** Dean Rustic

- CAC Meeting
  - Sunday Hunting was submitted by Bob Crook on the Senate side using that support.
  - Much of the Meeting was about the large capacity magazine and Gun registration that was due January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.
  - Act for the staffing levels of for Conservation Officers – Bring staffing levels up to 60 officers by July 2014 and then 65 for July 2015, 70 for July 2016 and finally 75 for July 2017.
  - Hatchery picked up 50,000 sea run Brown trout eggs from Finland and incubating in the Burlington Hatchery
  - DEEP is writing an application for a 4 million dollar grant (hurricane Sandy) to remove the state owned Spring born Dam (scantic river, Enfield)
  - Great Parks outdoor activity on Burr Pond – February 1 – Over 700 attendees
- Fishing Advisory Council
  - CT BASS Nation CARES
    - Training Day on February 8<sup>th</sup> at Cabela’s

- CARE Instructors once certified are committed to participate in at least one CARE class or event every year.
    - Would like to see say thanks to Kevin Rose for attending.
  - Fishing Day at Cabela's
    - April 5, 2014 set for a Family Fishing clinic at Cabela's
    - Cabela's will create starter packs and tackle packs for the families to purchase at a slight discount.
- Conservation Summit at the 2014 Classic
  - Bruce Akin – CEO of B.A.S.S.
    - Wants Gene Gilliland to present 3 initiatives for Conservation
    - CDs spoke about getting Conservation on the Front Page and not under the Nation page
    - Having Pros promote conservation
    - B.A.S.S. has 500,000 members and has been stagnate for the past few years
    - Push for more Conservation awareness and National Promotion
  - Jim Martin from Berkley Conservation - Know your Numbers –
    - 60 million – call themselves an Angler
    - 46 million – Fish 1 day a year
    - 33 million – licensed anglers
    - 6 million – Avid Anglers
    - Now your State Numbers
    - Total Anglers \* 342,000 Spending \$446 million employing 6,625
  - Shimano Youth Conservation Initiative
    - Divided by Divisions
    - Must be Conservation focused
    - Must have Youth Club, High School or College involved
  - Fish America Foundation – BASS Conservation Fund
    - BASS Specific
    - Habitat
    - Resources
    - Grants range from \$1,000 to \$5,000
  - Berkley Conservation Awards
    - Conservation - \$2,000
    - Angler Recruitment/Retention \$1,500 in Merchandise
  - Friends of Reservoirs Foundation
    - Capped at \$20,000
    - E-mail application June 1<sup>st</sup>
    - Application due Back Aug 1<sup>st</sup>
    - Check comes June following year
    - Points based
    - FOR Members get 10 bonus points
  - BoatUS Foundation
    - Based on Boating
    - Boating Safety
    - Boating Access

- B.A.S.S. and Alabama Power – Signed agreement
  - The agreement – or memorandum of understanding (MOU) – provides a partnership framework to enhance and maintain productivity of sport-fishing resources on the 11 lakes managed by Alabama Power. The company, B.A.S.S. and local B.A.S.S. Nation clubs are working to improve fish survival rates at local tournaments that will be announced this summer. “We have earmarked more than \$20,000 for in-state stewardship this year,” said Bruce Akin, B.A.S.S. CEO. “We again look forward to working with Alabama Power to enhance and protect water resources and fish habitat in our home state.
- MossBack Fish Attractors –
  - Peter Aarrestad and I spoke with these folks and they will be sending out one of their Fish Attractors to me to test with CT DEEP.
- Conservation Directors –
  - Talk of creating Teams for the Directors in each state
  - Meeting at the Nationals on the off years to capture Presidents, Youth and CD
  - Have CD Meetings at Divisionals
- Keep America Fishing
  - Keep Fishing Day – June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Boating Advisory:** Dean Rustic

- Major presentation on the work that has been done on the Steel Bridge launch at Lillinonah. Detailed information on the ramp design and how it will last for many years.
- Parking lot was not finished and will need to have the top coat of asphalt applied in the spring.

**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 18<sup>th</sup> and one dated July 13<sup>th</sup>), 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

- **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.
- **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 a 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](mailto: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 18<sup>th</sup>, CBN Tournament #1
    - June 22<sup>nd</sup>, CBN Tournament #2
    - July 13<sup>th</sup>, CBN Tournament #3
    - October 19<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://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](http://www.skeeterboats.com) website homepage.

**CBN Scholarship:** Finalized scholarship application is up on forum and will be on the website. April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline

**Robert S. Malloy Scholarship:** Dave Santos – Still working with UConn

**Banquet Report:** Sylvia Morris

- Banquet booked for next year on November 8<sup>th</sup>

**Membership Committee:** Paul Dingee

- After the shows, 30 names collected and all have been designated to a club and contact has been made, let's see how many we get.

- BASS Renewal Envelopes available – CBN gets \$5 for every one mailed in to B.A.S.S

**Website Committee:** None

**Audit Committee:** Vinny Mucci – None

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

- High School & Juniors will be combined for the tournament trail
- The Qualifying trail for 2014 and 2015 was handed to all club reps at the meeting
- We have asked each club to provide at least 5 boat captains to cover the 2014 and 2015 qualifying trails. This is not a mandate, just a request.
- We have 2 official High School Teams (Suffield and Ellington)
- We have 3 schools in the works and almost official (Berlin, Nonnewaug and Fairfield Prep)
- 2014 High School National Championship is set for July 16-19 on Kentucky Lake - \$21,000.00 in scholarships from BASS and \$40,000.00 from Bethel University with a spot on their College Bass Team
- We are very excited about the progress we are making with the High School program

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

**State Team Report:** Sylvia Morris

- 2014 State Team
  - Next meeting in March 15<sup>th</sup>. All must have at least a passport card and no felonies.
  - StormR has come on board as a State Team sponsor giving each team member and high school team a long sleeve shirt to wear under their team shirts and the Team has the ability to order off the site for 50% off. This gives Dennis Sikorski more than his \$250.00 mandatory sponsorship.
  - Bryan McCleary will supply all paper goods and plastic bags, etc. which adds up to more than his \$250.00.
  - Sylvia still working on jackets
  - Terry will be boat captain at the Divisional for the High School team. We will qualify that team in June.

#### **MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN**

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Excused absences: Thayer's
- Livingston Lures has been in contact again and needs more time, will get back to Sylvia
- 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: 1<sup>st</sup> place highest point state gets a touch 12, 2<sup>nd</sup> place a touch 9, and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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...starts January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014!!**



- Bylaws were passed out – one to each Club Rep and to the Executive Board. Thank you Al Guite for updating them!!
- Thank you to all for working the shows, the volunteers, Juniors/High School kids and especially the State Team, they did a great job!!
- 2014 Show Totals:
  - Casting Kids: CMTA – 125 NEHF – 150 Total: 275
  - Patches Money: CMTA - \$10.00 NEHF - \$20.00 Total: \$30.00
  - Donations: CMTA - \$60.00 NEHF - \$66.00 Total: \$126.00
  - Potential Members: CMTA – 13 NEHF – 17 Total: 30
  - High School Teams: CMTA – 8 NEHF – 9 Total: 17 (some were teachers, one already signed up!)
- Scholarship Tournament Applications – only 2 received so far!!! Let's get behind the Scholarship fundraiser!! Come out and fish it please!!
- New CBN/NEBA Team Championship Trail has been started. Everything is up on the website and there are a few copies here if interested.
- Paul Mueller reimbursed for the practice at the Classic. Marc issued a check for the \$2,000.00 we allotted him. He well exceeded that amount.
- Captain's weekend is set for March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and all set for workers
- B.A.S.S Insurance stays with Nesbit, form stays the same.
- Sponsors for B.A.S.S this year: Triton Alliance Package, Lowrance, Humminbird, Minnkota, Skeeter, Yamaha, Toyota, Boat US, Nationwide, Carhartt, Rigid Industries, Berkley Pure Fishing, Mercury, Motorguide, Evan Williams, Allstate, Geico, working on more.
- The \$200.00 deposit for the Chowder Pot was sent by Marc to secure November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 for the banquet.
- BASS Renewal Envelopes available – CBN gets \$5 for everyone mailed in to BASS.

## **MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- We earned \$1000.00 from Triton Alliance Leads Program. Received \$500.00 from Triton, waiting for the other \$500.00 from Mercury. Only 7 states earned anything!!! We already have some sales pending for this year. Please let me know as soon as someone THINKS they are going to buy a Triton. I will need all his info, name address e-mail and phone number and what he is interested in if you can find out.
- Earned a 2% rebate on our purchases from Mid State Battery!!! Received a check for 88.91, our sales were \$4445.54. Great job!!! As Bob has explained in his report they are back!!! Let's see what we can get this year!!!
- Remember to utilize the hotels in Danbury that supply us with a fishermen rate!! Newbury, ( best parking) Micro-tel & Best Western. All on website! Rosa e-mailed me to remind us!!!
- Marc's proposal to take back to the clubs to be discussed and voted on at the March CBN meeting about the 1099's: Marc would like permission from all members to be able to give our personal information out to a Bonded Accounting Firm to do our 1099's for us at a price (going rate is about \$5.00 each). Standing rule #5 states that we need approval of the board to do this.
- Our Launch fee has been paid for 2014 \$2575.00, because the Two Day is not included yet. We will get this back through the launch fee at the Scholarship and the first Tournament.
- Audit to be done on March 8<sup>th</sup>, Vinny Mucci Committee chair, Al Guite and Dan Monroe are on the committee. Sylvia's House at 11:00am.
- 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 is looking into that now. We want to get them done as soon as possible.
- We have been approached by Folds Of Honor with a unique idea that in addition to raising money for Folds of Honor could draw a lot of attention to the B.A.S.S. Nation. For those that don't know, FOH is the exclusive military assistance partner of B.A.S.S. We work with them throughout the year to help them raise money. Here is the link to the announcement of FOH becoming our partner. <http://www.bassmaster.com/news/bassjoins-folds-honor-assist-military-families> The Idea is to have a tournament in each state, benefiting the FOH either on the same day or same month. It would be billed as B.A.S.S. Nation/FOH day/month and could gain the nation a lot of

publicity. You could use the event as a membership drive as well. The initial thought is to hold the events on Father's Day weekend (June 14-15) across the country. I know that not all states will be able to pull this off, but I would like to get a feel for how many states would participate. THOUGHTS!!! Any CLUB interested in running this? Thoughts are all B.A.S.S. Nations hold something in June and then send in proceeds to B.A.S.S. for the Folds of Honor? We could take up the collection at one of our Tournaments for the food and send that in. Everyone has agreed this what we will do from our June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014 Tournament.

- First Responders Tournament June 25<sup>th</sup> Wed. Danbury Town Park, see Al Guite if you want to volunteer to be a boat Captain. Sponsor a First responders Boat forms on 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.
- Disabled Military Veteran's Tournament  
Tuesday, May 6, 2014 (rain date May 7) sponsor -Major Steven Roy Andrews Fishing Outreach Program. Porto lets ordered, CBN will pay the 50.00 cleanout fee.
- Wednesday, August 27, 2014 (tentative – need to confirm) sponsor – Riverfront Recapture
  - See Al Guite if interested in Boat Captain
- All Open Tournament Apps are up on the website:
  - Scholarship Two day, May 3 & 4 Danbury, Candlewood
  - Reynolds Open, June 8<sup>th</sup> Ct River
  - 26 Angels Foundation Tournament (70% payout cash & prizes)
  - Bryan Kerchal, April 27<sup>th</sup>, Danbury, Candlewood, proceeds go to the CBN Youth

**Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rachel Rose, CBN Secretary**