

Connecticut B.A.S.S. Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2016

Roll Call – 7:30PM

CLUBS ABSENT: CT Black Bass Anglers, Candlewood Bassmasters, CT Bassmen, Naugatuck Valley Bassmasters.

Correspondence: We received the Invite to the 2017 Hunting & Fishing Show, March 31st to April 2nd. For a cost of \$150.

Announcements: Simons Family Benefit Dinner Tickets are for sale \$25.00 Adult and \$10.00 for kids. Please contact Sylvia for additional information and tickets..

Favorite Fishing Is Presenting Sponsor For Elite Series Finale

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Favorite Fishing LLC has signed on as the presenting sponsor for the final regular-season Bassmaster Elite Series event of 2016.

The Plano Bassmaster Elite at the Mississippi River presented by Favorite Fishing will take place in La Crosse, Wis., Sept. 8-11.

Favorite Fishing debuted its product line at the industry trade show, ICAST, in Orlando, Fla., this week.

“We have released 83 new rods in the market,” said Winston Tucker, CEO of Favorite Fishing, “as well as a line of reels. We’ve worked to use the lightest, best-quality graphites in the market, materials never before used in fishing.”

Favorite Fishing’s top series of rods, the Summit, are the lightest in the market — between 1.9 and 3.3 ounces — and are twice as strong as and 40 to 50 percent more sensitive than other brands. Favorite Fishing introduced several lines of rods, including Big Sexy, Jackhammer, Rush and Yampa River.

As part of the sponsorship deal, Favorite Fishing will have its products on display during the Elite Series season finale at La Crosse.

“We are pleased that such an innovative company as Favorite Fishing has decided to partner with B.A.S.S. and market its products to our 500,000 members and thousands of other fans of the Bassmaster Elite Series,” said Bruce Akin, CEO of B.A.S.S.

“Fans who attend the Plano Bassmaster Elite at Mississippi River presented by Favorite Fishing

will want to try out their Summit rods,” Akin added. “One I picked up weighs less than my fountain pen.”

“B.A.S.S. is No. 1 in the industry,” said Tucker, “so it makes sense for us to be at one of the biggest events in the country. We care about the future of fishing, and our goal is to grow as a company as we help grow the sport.”

The final Bassmaster Elite Series event of the year will be the third time La Crosse has hosted an Elite Series tournament. The first time was in June 2012, when Todd Faircloth of Texas won the Mississippi River event with 62 pounds, 4 ounces. The second time was in June 2013, when Oklahoma’s Tommy Biffle won with 64 pounds, 2 ounces.

About Favorite Fishing

Favorite Fishing is a Christian-based company focused on grass-roots growth. It specializes in rods but also carries a line of reels, line and apparel. The company’s American design team works with the best designers around the globe to ensure the product is unrivaled in the fishing market. Favorite Fishing’s 120,000-foot warehouse is located in Thayer, Mo. Learn more about Favorite Fishing at www.favoriteusa.com.

A motion to accept the previous month’s meeting minutes as posted was seconded and approved by the Board of Directors.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Treasurer Report: Was presented by Marc Levesque

Conservation & FAC Report: by Dean Rustic, Conservation Director

CBN Conservation objectives for the 2016

1. Work closely with CT DEEP Officials to create a C.A.R.E. Bass Class
2. Conservation Projects for Housatonic Watershed Organizations
3. Create a Youth/School based Conservation initiative
4. Leverage our position as number 1 for fishing revenue to get funding for CBN endorsed projects

Information from this past Month –

1. Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting
 - a. No Meeting this month
2. Fisheries Advisory Council
 - a. No Meeting this month
3. NRD Grant
 - a. No movement on finding a Barge or Pontoon Work boat for rent.

Boating Advisory: No Report

CLA Report: presented by Sylvia Morris

Carbon dioxide could keep zebra mussels out of Candlewood Lake

The answer to keeping invasive zebra mussels out of Candlewood Lake could be the same thing that makes your soda fizz. Several local organizations are about to start a groundbreaking study on preventing the spread of zebra mussels using carbon dioxide.

The main groups involved are the [Candlewood Lake Authority](#), [Kevin Kelly](#) from the [Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation](#), [Western Connecticut State University](#) and Praxair.

“If it works, it will be something useful to other places around the world where they’re trying to keep the numbers low or out of the water,” said [Mitch Wagener](#), a biology professor at Western. A group of seven or eight scientists will test the effect carbon dioxide has on the zebra mussels’ ability to survive as larvae, or veligers, within a few weeks at Laurel Lake in Lee, Massachusetts, which feeds into the Housatonic River.

By adding carbon dioxide, the water’s pH levels will decrease, creating weak carbonic acid and killing the larvae, said Candlewood Lake authority Executive Director [Larry Marsicano](#).

Unlike other organisms in the water, the zebra mussels are unable to regulate their own pH levels and are sensitive to carbon dioxide. The carbon dioxide shouldn’t affect other organisms in the pipe and the gas leaves the water shortly after. “Unless you’re a shellfish going through the pipe, you’re fine,” Marsicano said.

Kelly, who specializes in zebra mussels along hydroelectric dams, has tested this theory in his lab in Colorado, but hasn’t been able to apply it to the larvae, which are harder to keep alive in a lab and must be tested on in the field.

Scientists consider Laurel Lake the perfect test site because it has a pipe that feeds into the Housatonic River. The lake was made several decades ago to provide water to a paper mill, but when the paper mill closed, the pipe remained open. Zebra mussels appeared several years ago in the lake and have made their way into the Housatonic River and downstream to other lakes, including Lillinonah and Zoar.

Different levels of carbon dioxide will be fed into the pipe using a special machine. Scientists will count how many larvae are alive in the lake before they enter the pipe and how many are alive a mile downstream after they travel through the pipe. This will allow them to determine if carbon dioxide kills the larvae and the least amount of carbon dioxide needed to do it. “This is something we’re interested in here,” Marsicano said.

If this works, it reduces the risk of the zebra mussels spreading to other water bodies or increasing at existing locations. This could also reduce the populations downstream, Marsicano said.

Wagener said the project is a culmination of studies he and other scientists have done on zebra mussel populations in lakes and the Housatonic River since 2011. "We hope it's successful and it turns out to be a useful technique," Wagener said.

Once zebra mussels were discovered at these lakes, several lake organizations and Western professors mobilized, researching the organism and starting a monitoring program, Marsicano said. They connected with Kelly during their research, and two years ago Praxair joined the project.

Both Wagener and Marsicano said they were thankful for Praxair's involvement. Praxair, which is headquartered in Danbury, covered about half of the project's costs with funding from the company's global giving program and in-kind donations of technical expertise, carbon dioxide and equipment. The rest of the project is covered with \$38,000 in grants from the [Connecticut Department of Energy](#) and Environmental Protection, as well as money from organizations affiliated with nearby lakes.

[Tamara Brown](#), Praxair's director of sustainable development and community engagement, said the company has collaborated with the Candlewood Lake Authority for many years.

She said Praxair wanted to be a part of the project because it addresses a concern many in the Danbury community have. It also concerns the environment, which is a key focus area for the company, and aligns with the company's expertise. The company has a lot of business applications specializing in water treatment. Brown said zebra mussels are a local and global problem. She said she hopes the study provides some information to help resolve the issue. It's not hard to sit down with folks in the community and the Candlewood Lake Authority and hear about how zebra mussels affect boaters and the quality of life at Candlewood Lake," she said.

Tournament Report:

A discussion on Fish Care and the possibility of 3 fish limits in tournaments during the warmer months due to high water temperature was discussed. An Emphasis on fish care was the focus. Members are being reminded to purchase and use Sure Life and ice.

Members were also reminded that all No Wake Zones must be adhered to.

CBN Sponsorship Report:

CBN Sponsorship Report

Full Sponsorship Report can be found on Sponsor Page of the ctbase.com Forum Sponsor Section. Nothing new for July.

SPONSOR REMINDER: A.R.E. TRUCK CAPS

B.A.S.S. Nation members can go to http://www.4are.com/arefishingteam/member_discount.php in order to download a \$200 coupon by using the promo code "bassnation". They also qualify for our Top Angler Award of \$250 if they have an A.R.E. cap. See details at the following link <http://www.4are.com/topangleraward/>

CBN Scholarship:- No report

Robert S. Malloy Scholarship Report: No report

Banquet Report: Banquet for 2016 has been booked for Nov 12th,2016.

Membership Committee: No report

Website Committee: We are currently working on updates with Armand Fortier

Audit Committee: No Report

High School & Juniors: presented by Ron Frisk

3 tournaments complete with one more to go on 8/13 at Lake Zoar – May need a few boat captains. Will know final count Wednesday, 8/3

- Program is a huge success thanks to all the help and volunteering from the families and especially the boat captains
- The boat captains are having a great time and the kids appreciate it.
- Battle atop the standings in both divisions heading into last event
- Junior Championship is 8/2 & 8/3 on Clark County Lake – Jake Schiavi and Lorin Valenti are teaming up
- High School Championship is 8/4 & 8/5 with top 12 fishing day 3 on 8/6. It is on Kentucky Lake – Noah Winslow and Shane Powers from Nonnewaug High are representing CT.
- HAN.Network did a piece on Notre Dame High School BASS fishing and promoted the CBN and the High School program
- They then showed up and filmed Lake Lillinonah tournament. Visit han.network and check them out.
- Asked and was approved to donate \$100 to the Chris Simon's Golf Tournament for a Hole Sponsor
- Asked and was approved to donate \$100 to the Katie Dobricinski Golf Tournament for a Tee Sponsor

Finance: We need a Financial Advisor!

State Team: No report

A motion to accept all reports as given was seconded and approved by the Board of Directors.

Old Business

Excused Absences from June: Tolland County Bassmasters

- Craig Mergins, Riverfront Recapture had a meeting with Nathan Grube, Traveler's Championship Tournament Director as many of the professional golfers love to fish. He was inquiring whether or not a couple CBN members might be available to take interested professional golfers out on the CT. River. Al Guite and Chris Simons have volunteered. The tournament dates are August 1 through August 7.
- Sylvia has booked flights for herself and Dean Rustic who will represent the CBN youth director to attend the meetings at the 2016 Nationals. Total cost - \$1148.00
- We tabled a proposal from Dean concerning a bid for Social Media set up and training and tracking. This topic will be discussed at the Executive Board meeting on August 9.
- Update on CBN Trailer: Vinny Mucci - The Stormr Decal has recieved and will be put on the Trailer.
- No Nominations were turned in for Tournament Director for 2017. We need to take this back to your clubs and find someone who is willing to step up and help!!!We NEED A TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR!!!! We will revisit this in August.
- The Last HUK order will be going in on Aug 13th, clubs get your orders to me with the monies. I will not order without the money!!! I have placed two large orders so far and everything has come in quickly!
- Reminded all members present that Sure Life is now \$11.00 a bottle and will be sold at each Tournament. Please try to have the right change. Currently it is not selling very well and if there is no additional interest we will revisit purchasing in the future. UPDATE: Sold 9 more at the last Tournament and sold more at the High School Tournament and some at the NEBA/CBN Team Trail Tournament. We still have 24 bottles left out of 48!

- Triton Alliance Leads Program - please let Sylvia know as soon as possible if anyone in your club is considering purchasing a Triton so we can connect and get credit for the sale. We have 11 leads already for 2016! We have already made \$2000.00.
- Website and Calendar have been updated! If you have anything that needs to go on the Calendar or website get it to Sylvia.

New Business

- This year we were unable to find an appropriate time to schedule a Tournament to Benefit Folds of Honor. We would like to ask each club to donate something to the Folds of Honor. Milford Black Bass is kicking it off with \$50.00. Please try to match that or whatever you can give!!!! Individual donations would be great also! We should have it collected by October 30 to be sent in time for the Nationals. Please make checks payable to the CBN and write Folds of Honor in the memo line.
- Passed out Two Day Criteria & Registration Information for Clubs. A review was performed with all members present. An error was made on the Entry Fee, the correct entry fees are Anglers \$150.00 and Co Anglers \$100.00. Passed out an example of the Two Day Application with correct entry fees. All are posted on the Forum and have been e-mailed to all club presidents.
- A conversation took place about the lack of communication between the Board of Directors and their clubs specifically explaining the New BASS Format for 2016 and beyond. Many calls have been received from members who did not understand or were not aware of these changes. The Board of Directors present at the monthly CBN meeting must improve communication with their memberships.
- CT Hunting and Fishing Days are coming up in September! Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area in Burlington on Saturday, September 24, 2016 & Franklin Wildlife Management Area in Franklin on Saturday, September 10, 2016. Both will take place from 10 to 4. Anyone interested in attending for us and holding casting instruction & Knot Tying please let Sylvia know. She must respond by Aug 15th with the names of Volunteers.
- Sylvia has been in contact with Lillinonah Lake Authority, Zoar Lake Authority and Housatonic Lake Authority about possibility of them lending us a barge or Pontoon boat for our Mossback Fish Attractor installation. Still waiting to hear back from them.
- Ron asked if the High School/Juniors account could provide the funds for tee box sponsorships in the amount of \$100.00 each for the Katie Dobroczyński Memorial Golf and the Simons Family Benefit Golf Tournament. A motion was made and passed unanimously.

- Al Guite asked for Boat Captain volunteers for the Veterans Tournament on September 13 on the CT River at Riverside Park. Please contact Al Guite if interested: 860-436-8646
- Armand talked about the website possibly having a virus and needing a cleaning that would require paying an outside Company \$7.00 a month to do it and continue it each month from now on. Motion was made, second and passed. He was waiting for Nick to come back from Vacation for some expert guidance on this matter before committing to this. He will keep us posted.

Al Guite informed us that we will have to find a new meeting facility for our CBN Meetings starting in September. We will still meet at the Eversource Building in August. We will let the membership know where the new Meeting place will be for September and beyond.

Remember to utilize the hotels in Danbury that supply us with a fishermen rate!! Newbury, (best parking) Micro-tel & Best Western. All on website! They have contacted me this past week to remind us to ask for the Fisherman Rate!

- Best Western Danbury/Bethel, 11 Stony Hill Road, Bethel CT, 203-744-3200
- Microtel Inn & Suites Bethel, 10 Benedict Road, Bethel CT, 203-748-8308
- Newbury Inn, 1030 Federal Road, Brookfield CT, 203-775-0220

OPENS & EVENTS FOR 2016

All other Open Tournaments Applications are on the Table that are available and also on CTBASS.com, on the Calendar.

Reynolds Boats Northern Bass Tournaments Trail & Opens, many dates

Thayers Marine Customer Appreciation Open Sept, 11, Candlewood , Danbury Town Park

Katie Dobroczyński Memorial Golf Tournament - Sept 30, 2016, HLCC Southington CT.

CBN Scholarship Open, Oct 2, Candlewood, Squantz

Simons Family Benefit Dinner, Oct 1st

Simons Family Benefit Golf Tournament, Oct 5, Portland CC

Simons Family Benefit Tournament, Oct 16, Candlewood, Squantz/Lattins

Raffle winners;

Snag Proof Winner-David Santos

Whip Em Baits Winner-Bailey Hood

Keitech- Ken Dzurenka

A motion to adjourn was seconded and approved at 8:45PM

Next month's meeting – August 25, 2016