

Connecticut BASS Nation

Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2016

Roll call – 7:00PM

CLUBS ABSENT: Sweetwater, Tolland County, Housatonic, Xtreme, Candlewood

Correspondence:

- Ray Kerchal contacted Sylvia and said he had been reading our minutes and noticed we had a dilemma with our CBN Scholarship. He informed her that he had some money he would like to donate to the CBN. He sent a check for \$3000.00 to be put into the CBN Scholarship account so that CBN members & immediate family members can benefit from it. He was hoping that we would reconsider our decision to cut back in what we are awarding in 2017. Executive Board will revisit this decision on Dec 15th.

Announcements:

- Reynolds Garage & Marine is donating \$500.00 to the CBN Scholarship Fund! Check will be coming. NADA Program (National Automotive Dealer Association)
- Dan & Christina Dobroczynski presented Ron Frisk and the High School/ Junior account a check for \$2000.00 from the Katie Dobroczynski Foundation.

A motion to accept the previous month's meeting minutes was seconded and approved by the Board of Directors

Reports from Officers and Committee Chairs

Treasurer Report: presented by Marc Levesque

Conservation & FAC Report: presented by Dean Rustic

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. Discussed by-law changes
 - b. Discussed Lake Winchester and Beach Pond launches
 - c. Discussed updates to launch and courtesy docks at Squantz
 - d. Discussed the ongoing (since 9/20) fire at Flat Rock in the Wyantnock State Forrest.
 - e. Shallow draw down on Candlewood Lake this year. Grass Carp not seen as effective yet
2. Fisheries Advisory Council
 - a. No meeting
 - b. Had discussion on Starting a Committee for Boating/Fishing access.
3. DEEP Items
 - a. Boating division will be holding 2 Public Informational Meetings on proposed ADA improvements for Beach Pond and Winchester Lake state boat launches.
 - i. Beach Pond will be on November 2nd from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Voluntown Volunteer Fire Department, 205 Preston City Road, Voluntown, CT
 - ii. Winchester Lake will be November 3rd from 7:00 to 9:00pm at the Winchester Town Hall, Hicks room, 338 Main Street, Winsted, CT
 1. Both Jon Puhalski and I attended the Winchester Lake meeting
4. NRD Grant
 - a. Based on the testing at Lake Winniemaug the design of the device worked fine and will fit well on Bass Boats. The next hurdle is that we will need to create a carrier to bring the Moss Back fish structures on to the boat and place on the lift. Our plan is to start with Lake Housatonic as it is the smallest body of water and there is the beach at Indian Wells to use as a staging area in early spring.

Dean Rustic
Conservation Director

Boating Advisory: No report

CLA REPORT:

Zebra Mussels Found at Rocky River Hydroelectric Station

New Milford, CT -- FirstLight Power Resources, the owner and operator of the Rocky River power station and Candlewood Lake, recently discovered the presence of adult zebra mussels attached to the foundation of the station and riprap along the shoreline of the Housatonic River near the station. While zebra mussels have been observed in the river and in Lakes Lillinonah and Zoar since 2009, this is the first-time adults were found attached to the Rocky River Station where water is pumped up to refill Candlewood Lake. For the past 5 years FirstLight has voluntarily restricted pumping water into Candlewood during times when zebra mussels

reproduce to prevent the spread of the veligers (baby zebra mussels), which can float downstream from adult populations. These restrictions, which are based on water temperatures, have been highly successful to date. However, given the close proximity of these adult zebra mussels and others nearby in the Housatonic River, there is a high likelihood that the adults, which are not affected by river temperatures, will be pumped into the lake. Candlewood Lake is a manmade lake which can only be sustained through the pumping efforts of the station. Drought conditions and the current low water levels on Candlewood Lake necessitate pumping from the Housatonic River to return the lake to a usable level prior to the start of the fishing and recreational seasons in 2017.

BioDrawVersity, LLC, FirstLight's consultant on invasive species and zebra mussels, has indicated that any pumping operations will likely result in the spread of adult zebra mussels through the station into Candlewood Lake. There is currently no technology available to prevent the spread of zebra mussels through the penstock, which is the 10' diameter pipe that transfers water between the Housatonic River and Candlewood Lake.

In consultation with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) and the Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA) FirstLight will continue to adhere to voluntary pumping restrictions to continue to prevent the spread of veligers into the lake. A deep drawdown, designed to mitigate the proliferation of invasive milfoil, was approved earlier in the year by members of the Technical Drawdown Committee, which includes representatives of the CT DEEP, Candlewood Lake Authority, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. FirstLight and the members of the Technical Drawdown Committee are currently reviewing the options available to develop a strategy moving forward that most effectively addresses the needs of the lake.

Annual Boat Count

Every year, the Candlewood Lake Authority conducts a resident boat count. To get as accurate of a count as possible we get up before sunrise and over the course of several days in the early morning hours before boats head out we count every "resident boat" on the shores of Candlewood Lake.

The count includes private residences, community docks and commercial marinas. In the process, we also categorize the different types of boats we are finding to get an understanding of possible trends in what kinds of boats are populating the lake.

The above figure shows you the trends since 1981, and below the results of our annual boat count are as follows (change from 2015 is in parentheses):

Total Vessels: 6,534 (+283)

Registered Boats: 4,262 (-30)

Unregistered Boats: 2,272 (+313)
No Cabin: 3,355 (-17)
Cabin: 308 (-6)
PWC: 599 (-7)

Note: Unregistered boats include paddle craft such as kayaks and canoes, plus other boats not requiring a registration.

Welcome Sgt. Greg Ulkus

The Candlewood Lake Authority Marine Patrol is supervised and trained by the CT DEEP EnCon Police.

Recently, the CLA's Supervising Sergeant Keith Williams was promoted to Captain and as a result will no longer be our supervising sergeant.

Sgt. Greg Ulkus, who has been with the CT DEEP EnCon Police for over 6 years, will serve as the new Western District Lake Supervisor, which includes supervising the CLA Marine Patrol.

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Sgt. Ulkus, whom we are looking forward to working with, and we would like to thank Captain Keith Williams for everything he has done for us here at the CLA with our Patrol.

Blue-Green Algae

Lately, blue-green algae blooms have been getting a lot of attention both locally and nationally, and with good reason. As many of you know and may have read, some blooms can produce toxins, however one cannot know if toxins are present, or at what levels, simply by looking at a bloom. Last summer, Candlewood experienced some blooms in late August prompting the closure of some town beaches until water samples could be analyzed for toxin levels at the lab. Fortunately, those samples all came back below the State of CT threshold for toxins, but the lab we had available to analyze the samples was an hour away and needed several days to provide the results.

This past winter the CLA worked with Edwin Wong, Ph.D., Molecular Biology - Western Connecticut State University, and the five towns around the lake to develop and fund a local regular testing program with a quick turnaround time. Funding for this program was also provided by the Albert W. and Helen C. Meserve Memorial Fund and the Ellen Knolls Harcourt Foundation. What came out of it was a 10-week program where samples were taken at all five municipal beaches on Thursdays and results were provided by the end of the next day by Dr.

Wong and members of his lab. The CLA would then get those results and post them every Friday on their [website](#), in addition to their [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages, for the public. While we did have some early blooms this summer beginning in late June, fortunately none of the tests this summer came back above the State threshold. This program was well received by both the towns, their health departments and the public.

On the night of September 22nd, the Candlewood Lake Authority and Western Connecticut State University hosted a public presentation on blue-green algae in the science building on the University's Midtown Campus. About 70 members of the public attended this open information session. Larry Marsicano, the Executive Director of the Candlewood Lake Authority and Dr. Wong both presented. Topics that were covered included the testing program, background information on blue-green algae including information on potential health risks from exposure to blooms that are producing elevated toxin levels, and new research Dr. Wong is currently working on as he studies the DNA of the algae found here.

Tournament Report: presented by Sal Messina

The 2017 Schedule is on line in the Forum, calendar will be updated soon. 2017 Tournament Apps will be up in January.

2017 Opens, CBN Tournament Trail, High School/Juniors & CBN/NEBA TCT

April 22nd, Candlewood, Reynolds Northern Bass Open Danbury 7 to 3
April 23rd, HOC, Candlewood, Squantz 7:00
April 29th, 26 Angels, Candlewood & Latins 8:00 to 3
April 30th, Sunday, Candlewood, (Kerchal out of Danbury)

CBN Trail, Classic, Mr. Bass & Two Day

May 7th, Sunday, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins Launch, 75 boats, 8 to 4 T#1
June 4th, Sunday, Ct River, Haddam & Salmon, 70 boats, 7 to 3 #2
July 9th, Sunday, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins, 70 boats, 8 to 4 T#3
July 30th, Sunday, Mr. Bass, TBD 18 boats
August 27th, Sunday, Classic, Lilly, Steel Bridge & Pond Brook, 25 boats, 7 to 3
Sept. 9th & 10th, Sat Sunday Two Day, Candlewood, Squantz, 50 boats, 7 to 3?
Oct 1st CBN Scholarship, Candlewood, Squantz, 50 boats, 7 to 3?

HIGH SCHOOL

5/13 Lilly
6/17 river shooting for Hartford
7/22 Zoar
8/12 candlewood

2017 NEBA/CBN TCT TRAIL

MAY 21st CANDLEWOOD, Squantz

June 25th Lilly Steel Bridge
July Champlain 16th or 23rd? Date to be picked in January.
August 20th Lake Zoar
Sept 24th CANDLEWOOD Squantz
Oct 15 Ct. River, Haddam

YOU MUST ABIDE ALL NO WAKES AND SPEED LIMITS ON ALL BODIES OF WATERS IN OUR CBN RUN EVENTS!!!!!!

CBN Sponsorship Report:

Steve Marone is once again be sponsoring the CBN with his discount and rebate program in 2017. He will also give us \$600.00 in gift Certificates for the 2017 Banquet making him a returning Gold Sponsor. He will get me the new Discount program soon and It will posted.

Full Sponsorship Report can be found on Sponsor Page of the ctbase.com Forum Sponsor Section.

CBN Scholarship-No report

CBN Robert S. Malloy Scholarship: presented by Dave Santos however not submitted in writing to the CBN Secretary. Two scholarships have been awarded. The details should be posted in the December meeting minutes.

Banquet Report:

Banquet for 2016 was held and was a success!!! We had 212 attend. Food was great and the service also very good! We sold \$6865.00 worth of Raffle Tickets. That included 140.00 rose from a special Raffle designated to the CBN Scholarship Fund, donated by Don Barone, of an ESPN shirt signed by Alton Jones and a Photo of Don Barone, James Overstreet and Dave Mercer.

Cost of the Banquet:

\$7784.00 plus \$252.00 spent on women's prizes for a total expense of \$8036.00.

We took in \$5,912.00 for meal payments and are owed \$190.00 from those that did not show up.

We took in \$6865.00 in the total Raffle money

Income is: $12,777.00 + 190.00 = 12,967.00$ less expenses of \$8036.00

Total profit = \$4931.00.

Take away - \$140.00 for Scholarship from Special Raffle - \$70.00 into each Scholarship) Leaves \$4791.00 profit 10% goes to Scholarship funds, \$479.00 (split between Scholarships, \$240.00 in each (rounded out), 15% goes to HS/Juniors, \$719.00.

Each Scholarship will receive \$310.00.

This leaves a profit of \$3593.00 to be deposited into the general fund.

We have rebooked for Nov 11, 2017.

***Sylvia wanted to say Thank You to all of you & Don Barone for all the recognition given to me at the Banquet and the unbelievable Gift of a Fishing Trip to Jim and**

myself!! Totally surprised and for the first time speechless!!! LOL! I will always hold each one of you close to my heart and consider us one big family! Just because I will not have a title does not mean I will not be around to help, I will always be there for the CBN! I love all of you!!!

Membership Committee: Paul Dingee has a New Number 860-929-1713

Website Committee: No report

Audit Committee: No Report

High School & Juniors: presented by Ron Frisk

Picked up our 10th junior so we are full in that division.

At 9 high school teams currently that have confirmed. Will email this week to ask them to reply with their status ASAP.

With a few new committed boat captains we picked up, along with the regulars that usually do most if not all 4, we are close to 10. Add in state team, we look good so far.

Paid for all juniors and high school members that paid me. Will email to remind to do so when I ask for status.

Nice to receive \$2,000 from HOC as well as \$2,000 from Katy Dobricinski fund. Will be giving a yearly plaque in her honor. More details to follow.

Really hoping I can pass this on to someone soon, like in 3 weeks at most. I can guide and answer things but will not have time to chase dues, consent forms, etc. probably best to have a meeting again in January, feb the latest. Ensure all dues and consent forms good and confirm participation. Tackle supply was fun and easy.

Thanks

Ron.

Finance Committee: No report. We need a Financial Advisor!

State Team: Pictures were taken at the Banquet for the website. Meeting is set for Dec 4th my house. I have received a 250.00 Sponsorship for Paul Mayo from Toyota so far. I have also started to receive food forms and info sheets back from the Team members.

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

Old Business

- Excused Absences: CBBA received an excused absence for October.
- September 1st the B.A.S.S. Nation on line roster will clear and be ready to accept 2017 Dues of \$30.00 a person as usual.
- 2017 B.A.S.S. Nation on line roster dues are due by Nov 1st, beginning September.
- 2017 CBN Dues & Roster are due, starting in Sept to be in by Nov 1st also. **YOU MUST USE THE ROSTER FORM PROVIDED FOR YOU ON CTBASS.COM**, fill out completely, turn in with ONE check per club!!!! Club Name on the check please!!!
- By Law proposals were due in at the last meeting. One By Law Proposal was handed in along with a Tournament Rule Change which should, not have been passed out yet. We apologize for any confusion. The By Law was reviewed, copied and was handed out last meeting. Brought back to the clubs, and we discussed, no changes applied, we will vote on it at the December meeting.
- Nominations for, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, Are due in tonight! Nominations in writing are: Vinny Mucci, President, Mike Billings, Vice President, Marc Levesque, & Al Guite Secretary. All running unopposed. The Secretary will cast one vote for all positions at the Dec 15th meeting. We will also be looking for anyone interested in any of the appointed positions High School Director, Sponsorship Chairperson, someone to help with Tournament Trail Computer duties, Etc. and someone to do a Power point for the Banquet and the Shows. Still need a Financial Advisor also!
- Triton Alliance Leads Program, please let me 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 18 leads already for 2016! We have already made \$4000.00. Need 3 more for \$5000.00! He is also working on a Fundraiser boat for us again this year.
- Website and Calendar are being updated! If you have anything that needs to go on the Calendar or website, get it to me so I can get it up.
- The Folds Of Honor was sent \$825.00 from the CBN. \$425.00 was collected from donations and \$400.00 was voted on and approved from the CBN general fund.
- NEBA/CBN Team Championship, TCT is being held on Kentucky Lake, Nov 30th to Dec 3rd Marc Condron and Jess Caraballo are going, let's wish them good luck!
- We will be rescheduling the November Executive & Committee meeting to 5:00pm on Dec 15th prior to the CBN Meeting as I will have info from the Nationals then. Will keep you posted as to where.
- Toys for Tots will be held on Dec 10th, Wallingford Walmart. Hosted by Mohawk Valley Basscasters. Dave Miller and myself will be going to help.
- WE NEED ALL E-MAILS FOR ALL MEMBERS! Please get them to us ASAP. Please e-mail them to myself, wefish2@att.net or Vinny Mucci, vinnymucci@sbcglobal.net
- Steve Marone, Midstate Battery will be at the Feb 23rd 2017 CBN Meeting to give a presentation on his batteries. Be sure to let your members know! It is an informational presentation!

New Business

- We received our rebate from Mid-State Battery. Our sales were down a little, just under \$5,000.00. We received \$196.00. They will be offering the same program for 2017! Please remember this when you need Batteries!
- David Santos asked the CBN to pay the CBN & BASS NATION dues for the Two 2016 & 2107 Recipients of the Robert S Malloy UConn Scholarship. Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

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 (**No Longer owned by Rosaria**)

OPENS & EVENTS FOR 2016

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

Thayer's Marine Open House Dec 3rd. 4:00 to 9:00 Pizza & Beer RSVP Please!

Toys for Tots Dec 10th, Wallingford Walmart 9 to 2

Northeast Hunting & Fishing Show March 31st to April 2nd

2017 RBNB SCHEDULE		
DATE	LAKE	
4/22/2017	Candlewood	
5/13/2017	Winni	
7/22/2017	Champlain-Plattsburg	
8/26/2017	Champlain-Ticonderoga	
9/16 & 9/17/17	Sebago	
10/6 & 10/7/17	TOC-Champlain - Ticonderoga	Friday/Saturday
10/7 & 10/8/17	TOC-Champlain - Ticonderoga	Saturday/Sunday
6/10/2017	Reynolds Cust. App	

Snag Proof Winner-Marc Levesque

Whip Em Baits Winner- Bryan Liebenthal

Keitech- Eric Kohler

Meeting Adjourned – 8:30PM

Have a Blessed & Happy Thanksgiving!

Next Meeting – December 15, 2016 – One week early!