

## Connecticut B.A.S.S. Federation Nation

### Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Connecticut B.A.S.S. Federation Nation was called to order May 27, 2010 at approximately 7:30 by Sylvia Morris.

Regular business was suspended in order to hear two presentations.

The first presentation was given by Kevin Lavender on behalf of the 2010 CBFN scholarship fund. Kevin presented each of the winners a check from the CBFN and Ed Weeks photographed each presentation. The winners were each accompanied by their relative (CBFN member and sponsor). The winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Ricky Wisniewski accompanied by his father Rome Wisniewski; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Kathryn Gage accompanied by her father Don Gage; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Angela Molnar accompanied by her grandfather Amadee Burrell. On behalf of the CBFN, thank you to all that participated. If you would like more details you may contact CBFN Scholarship chairman Kevin Lavender.

The second presentation was given by Andre Fraser on behalf of Jackall Lures. Andre passed some product brochures out to each member in attendance and also passed some product around for inspection. Andre briefly described some of the cutting edge lure designs being offered by Jackall. Andre also generously donated some product to be raffled off to the attending board of directors. Thank you Andre.

**Roll Call:** The following clubs were absent: Bass Blazers, Candlewood Bassmasters, and Shoreline Bassmasters.

#### **Correspondence:**

- The Federation received a check from "Toyota Bonus Bucks" on behalf of Paul Carter, Toyota Tundra owner and 2010 State Team member.

#### **Announcements:**

- **THIS JUST IN: CT WINS! The CBFN were recently announced as the winners of the 2010 Evan Williams commercial contest grand prize of \$5000.00. Thank you to members Carl Pedersen, Armand Fortier, and website host/designer Nick Gugliotti for making it possible.**
- It was also announced that the executive board was given a personalized pro staff shirt, hat and U.S. Reel SX spinning reel. This was done to give the board a chance to try out the reel and provide feedback to the membership and provide additional exposure.
- U.S. Reels has announced backorders on recent baitcaster orders in excess of 2 to 3 weeks.
- The CBFN juniors "casting Kids" finals were profiled in the May issue of Bass Times.
- CT Bassmen's Mixed open will be held Sunday June 6, 2010 on Candlewood. \$55.00 entry fee.

- Reynolds Marine customer appreciation tournament will be held Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup> at the CT river out of Haddam Meadows. Entry will be allowed at the ramp for \$225 cash, and applications can be downloaded at [www.reynolds1859.com](http://www.reynolds1859.com)
- Bass Pro Shops will be sponsoring the B.A.S.S. opens in the future
- Ramada will once again be offering discounts for all B.A.S.S. members

**A motion was made and passed to accept the previous months minutes.**

### Report of Officers

**Treasurers Report:** Sue Weeks

**Conservation Report:** Dave Santos

- Riverfront Recapture's "A Sporting Chance for Youth" will be Saturday June 19, 2010 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer as a boater or work with kids from shore contact Dave Santos 860-869-7722 [dsantos222@cox.net](mailto:dsantos222@cox.net)
- National Fisheries Habitat Conservation Act - National B.A.S.S. Federation Nation is asking member to contact your Senator and Congressmen regarding this ACT. If you are unsure what this is please check out the below website

[http://fishhabitat.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=213:national-fish-habitat-conservation-act-toolkit&catid=36:news&Itemid=50](http://fishhabitat.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=213:national-fish-habitat-conservation-act-toolkit&catid=36:news&Itemid=50)

Here is a sample letter

The Honorable (Full Name)  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator (Last Name):

As an avid angler, I am writing in strong support of the National Fish Habitat Conservation Act (S. 1214) and request that you sign on as a co-sponsor of this important legislation and support its passage into law.

As you know, our state is fortunate to have many important freshwater resources that are vital to our way of life. As a member of the Bass Angler Sportsmen Society (BASS), we have worked for many years to restore and improve fisheries habitat in local lakes and rivers. These waters

are an important economic engine to our region, providing recreational, commercial and social benefits that enhance our quality of life.

The National Fish Habitat Conservation Act (S. 1214) will for the first time establish a national framework for freshwater and coastal habitat protection, restoration and enhancement. The Act implements the National Fish Habitat Action Plan, a national framework developed jointly by the states, federal agencies, business and the angling and conservation community that lays out a clear set of national goals and objectives for protecting, restoring and enhancing aquatic habitats on a national scale. Modeled after the highly successful North American Wetlands Conservation Act, this legislation will bring a strategic, science-based and action-oriented approach to freshwater and coastal habitat conservation and provide vital resources to support these efforts and leverage other public and private resources.

I urge you to support this bill and to work to see the swift passage of the National Fish Habitat Conservation Act. Our angling heritage, as well as the health of our nation's aquatic ecosystems, depends on it.

Sincerely,

(your name)

- Bantam Lake- I have nothing new to report. The Town of Morris is developing plans which may consist of a launch fee. I hope to have more information in my next report.
- Legislative- The Boating Fund has been eliminated. Lobbyist Bob Crook doesn't know how registration in lieu of taxes will work. I hope to have more information in my next report.

Submitted by David Santos, CBFN Conservation Director

**Boating Advisory:** Sue Weeks

**Connecticut Boating Advisory Council (CBAC)**

**May 12, 2010**

The meeting was held at the Maritime Museum and Aquarium in Norwalk, CT so those that normally travel to the DEP Marine Headquarters in Old Lyme had a shorter distance to commute.

Legislation was reviewed. One item of interest to the CBFN is that the length of boats on Candlewood Lake will be reduced to 26 feet or under. Boating has been asked to write Regulations for this which will be more specific. Currently there are about 100 boats over the new length limit and they would be grandfathered in. New boats on the lake could not exceed this size. Motor size would not be restricted as it is difficult to tell what horsepower is on inboard motors.

Governor Rell has proclaimed the week of May 22 – 28th as Safe Boating Week to promote awareness of safe boating practices as well as declaring the importance of Life Jackets and that they are a necessity.

On June 17<sup>th</sup> at the DEP Boating Headquarters in Old Lyme, the CT DEP Boating Safety Vessel will be officially commissioned at an 11am ceremony. Members of the CBAC have been invited to attend.

There will be a Public Hearing on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the DEP Marine Headquarters on a Notice of Intent to Add, Amend and Repeal the Boating Regulations. The following is the link:  
[http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/browse.asp?a=2586&depNav\\_GID=1511](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/browse.asp?a=2586&depNav_GID=1511)

The CBAC will meet again in September at the DEP Headquarters in Old Lyme.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Weeks, CBFN CBAC Representative

**C.L.A. Report:** Dave Gilbert

- The bill regulating boat length on Candlewood has passed the legislature and now just needs to be signed by the governor.
- It was announced that weevils will once again be stocked into the lake in June to deal with the weeds.

**Tournament Report:** Harry Gordon

- The first trail tournament of 2010 was held on Candlewood Lake out of Danbury town Park, we had 75 boaters and 56 non-boaters. There were only 6 dead fish weighed in, great considering the number of fish caught.
- Thank you to Reed Johnson and Dave Dziob for helping out in the morning running trailers and Todd Zup and Paul Lucke for helping in the afternoon with clean-up.
- \$264.50 in donations were raised for the youth from the food grilling.
- **PLEASE READ THE AGENDA BEFORE THE NEXT EVENT! THERE WILL BE SEVERAL IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS AS TO THE WAY THIS NEXT EVENT WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE MORNING. PLEASE MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO CONTACT YOUR PARTNER BEFORE THIS EVENT TO AVOID THE CONFUSION THAT WAS EXPERIENCED AT THE FIRST EVENT.**

**Sponsorship Report:** Bob Nelson

- **InvisaSwivel** will be donating a sample pack for all participants in the Divisional Tournament. Sample packs will be part of the goodie bag that each participant receives during registration for the tournament
- Bob Nelson spoke to the representative from **Johnson Outdoors/Minn Kota**. Since we are currently without a trolling motor sponsor, we are looking to set up a deal that will benefit all members of the CBFN. It is my goal to get 2 trolling motors for the CBFN and a special price list for all Minn Kota products. Surrounding states currently have a promotional deal with Minn Kota.
- **Johnson Outdoors/Minn Kota** said that it is near the end of their fiscal year and they were not entertaining any more sponsorships for 2010. Bob Nelson was told to submit a proposal by, in August, for a possible 2011 sponsorship.
- Attempts to contact **Motor Guide** have gone unanswered. They have not responded to email or phone calls from members of the executive board or Bob Nelson. We hope this will change after their July meetings.
- **The Tackle Hut** continues to offer an exclusive for CBFN members. Exclusive items are changed regularly.
- If you would like a **Kistler Rods** VIP Cash Card, speak to Bob Nelson.
- If you buy something from a CBFN sponsor, please let them know that you are a member of the CBFN. Doing this lets the sponsor know that their support of the CBFN is paying off for them.
- We are looking to add to our sponsor list. If any member knows of any potential sponsors of the CBFN, please give their contact information to Bob Nelson.

**C.B.F.N. Scholarship Committee:**

Please see presentation description above.

**Bob Malloy Scholarship Committee:** No Report

**Banquet Committee:** Banquet is November 6, 2010 at the Chowder Pot in Hartford

**Membership Committee:** None.

**Raffle Committee:** None.

**Website Committee:**

- More updates to the site are on the way, if you would like anything special put on the site, contact Armand Fortier
- If you are having trouble getting on the forum, you may also contact Armand at [cbfnmember@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbfnmember@sbcglobal.net)

**Audit Committee:** None.

**Youth Report:** None.

**Finance Committee:** None

**State Team Report:** Sylvia Morris

- Jackets have arrived, THANK YOU HERB REED. Please Thank Herb Reed if you see him for his generous donation to the 2010 State Team,
- Next meeting will be June 20<sup>th</sup> after the next tournament.
- Divisional shirts have arrived and will be available at upcoming meetings for \$14.00.

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

#### **Old Business**

- A motion was made and passed to donate \$125 to the Pachaug Area Bassmasters for their annual Kids fishing derby.
- A new raffle chairperson was named, Ken Dzuerenka has stepped up to take Armand's place.
- Skeeter has not yet committed to a boat offer for next years raffle and we are asking the board of directors to discuss ideas with their clubs on possible new raffle ideas. Please try to discuss this issue with your clubs and bring ideas to next months meeting.
- Excused absences: Tobacco Valley Bassmasters and Pachaug Area Bassmasters.

#### **New Business**

- A motion was made and passed to donate \$250 to the annual dragon boat races on Candlewood lake again.
- Trailblazer Adventure Day will be held June 5<sup>th</sup> 8:30 – 4:30 at the Hebron Fairgrounds and volunteers are needed to teach angling skills and fly tying. Please contact Sylvia Morris for more information.
- On June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm The Lake Lillinonah Authority will be hosting a forum at the Brookfield Town Hall. The goal of this forum is to document the current perception among those most actively fishing Lake Lillinonah, to hear concerns; and get an idea of what these active fisherman want Lake Lillinonah's fishing resource to be in the future. Invited guests include: CT DEP western fisheries division, First Light and Power, Newtown Bait and Tackle, Candlewood Bait and Tackle, CBFN, Northeast Bass fishing club, and local angler Greg Clark. LLA past president Byan Piepho will lead the discussion. Discussion items will include: Current fish species availability, safety of fish consumption, fish habitat for security and spawning, water quality, fish stocking, and fishing regulations.

**Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:20 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: June 24, 2010**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Carl Pedersen**

**CBFN Secretary**