



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CONNECTICUT 06784-0037 • (860) 354-6928 • FAX (860) 350-5611

## Minutes of Meeting June 8, 2011

### Attending:

H. Berger	Sherman
P. Schaer	Sherman (7:45)
E. Hayes	Sherman (7:45)
H. Mayer	New Milford
J. Hodge	New Fairfield
B. Kemble	New Fairfield
J. Murphy	Brookfield
F. Cioffi	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield
G. Dufel	Danbury
E. Siergiej	Danbury

### Absent:

M. Calandrino	Danbury
M Toussaint	New Milford
R. Guendelsberger	New Milford
R. Stroh	New Fairfield

L. Marsicano, CLA Executive Director  
F. Frattini, CLA Administrative Coordinator  
M. Howarth, CLA Public Education Director

Recorder: F. Frattini

Guests: D. Gilbert – CT Bass Federation Nation  
M. Propper, Danbury and  
Joe and Sue Wodarski, CLUB-A

Howie Berger, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:31 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. He welcomed the guests.

Secretary's Report: In the absence of the Secretary, Frances Frattini noted that there was one correction to the minutes of the May 11, 2011 regular meeting. On page three at the last paragraph of Public Awareness it should read, "Mrs. Schaer reported that she and Harold Mayer *accepted on behalf* of the CLA the Housatonic Hero award....." Jerry Murphy moved to accept the minutes of the May 11, 2011 meeting as corrected, seconded by Harold Mayer and voted with all in favor, minutes have been accepted.

Chairman's Report – Howie Berger, advised he had nothing to report.

Vice-Chairman's Report: In the absence of the Vice-Chairman there was no report.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
DANBURY TOWN CLERK

2011 JUN 15 P 12: 5L

BY: 

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Treasurer, Mr. Berger reported that FirstLight had been contacted regarding their annual payment and they noted that they would advise the CLA by the end of the month. He then advised that two new Patrol officers have started with the Lake Patrol – Peter Frengs and Stephen Bartek. John Hodge moved that the new officer be paid by the CLA, motion seconded by Jerry Murphy. Discussion – it was noted that the officers are appointed by the DEP recommended by the Public Safety committee and paid by the Authority. With no further discussion the motion was voted with all in favor. Motion carried. Gary Dufel questioned the consequence of losing one sixth (FirstLight's portion) of the budget. Mr. Berger advised that the CLA would clearly be hurting but the reserve money would cover this year. It was noted that the CLA cannot do all that it does with just the appropriations from the towns, there is the need to find other sources of income.

(Found that the tape recorder may not be working properly).

Ed Hayes and Phyllis Schaer arrived at 7:45PM.

Discussion continued that losing the one sixth would be felt more next year. Mr. Berger noted that there has to be some kind of prior notification if FirstLight is not going to contribute and the CLA needs to find alternate means of funding such as a Friends of the Lake or grants.

Phyllis Schaer, Treasurer, reported that the financials would be available for the next meeting.

Executive Director: Larry Marsicano noted that his report is attached to these minutes. He reviewed the items in his written report. It should be noted that his report states the rain date for the fireworks at July 9 – that is incorrect the rain date is June 26<sup>th</sup>. He also reported that the first month of water quality monitoring has been done and the calcium level is at 16 for all sites on the lake. The CleanUp was a success and he thanked Frank Cioffi for his work on coordinating the boat captains for the day, also another 30 yard dumpster was filled with trash from around the lake. He also asked for Project CLEAR volunteers to transport students the week of June 27<sup>th</sup>. With the Federation of Lakes pursuing a proclamation for CT Lakes Awareness Week and has asked assistance from local legislator, Clark Chapin to request from the Governor a proclamation and he thought that might be a good week to take the new DEP Commissioner out on Candlewood.

John Hodge reported that Dr. Knocklein will be presenting his report on the impact of annual deep drawdowns to the New Fairfield Board of Selectmen tomorrow night 7:30 PM in the NF Community Center.

Public Education Director: Mark Howarth showed the delegates the Zebra Mussel signs that he has designed and have been installed at the Town Launch ramps. They are waiting for approval from the DEP before they can be put up at the State Ramps. The files for these signs will be shared with Lakes Lillinonah and Zoar. He reported that the CLA website has a new Zebra Mussel page. Yesterday, he and Mr. Marsicano met with Michael Morin of NWCD to discuss a map for the Boat Cleaning Guide that the CLA has been working on. Mrs. Schaer noted that the Guide would be applicable to the tri-state area. Mr. Howarth advised that he is also working on the Dragon Boat Fundraiser which will be held on August 20<sup>th</sup> – he distributed the posters and asked the delegates to put them up in local areas. He advised that we are capped at 20

teams this year and once that is reached registration will be closed. Discussion followed and Mr. Berger noted that there is a potential for a profit of more than 15 thousand dollars from this event.

Public Safety: Howie Berger reported that he had received an email regarding some changes to the BUI law – he will forward to the delegates. Ed Hayes reported that the Sherman BOS is agreeable to making appointments for special constables as discussed last month – they are just waiting for the standard letter of agreement noting no liability to the Town. Rich Stroh, Public Safety Committee chair is following up on this.

Public Awareness: In the absence of the Committee Chairman, Mr. Berger reported that the committee will be working more with Mr. Linkletter on the PR program for the CLA.

Equipment/Facilities: Ed Siergiej, Committee Chairman, reported that everything is in good shape.

Watershed Management: Harold Mayer, Committee Chairman, advised they did not meet but did attend the Executive Committee meeting and discussed Zebra Mussels. Mrs. Schaer reported that the ZM Taskforce will be having another meeting but the date has not yet been determined. She advised that over the Memorial Day weekend the Invasive Investigators were out (she was at Sherman and Lattins Landing). She noted that it was a good experience and that the new boat cleaning guide will be very helpful. Also she reported that a boat that had been on the Hudson River and was at the lunch ramp at Lattins Landing was found to have ZM and the owners were asked to more thoroughly clean their vessel to remove the ZM and they did comply and not launch. It was noted that the larger signs need to be at the State Ramps. Mr. Marsicano advised that the CLA will have an intern who will be coordinating this program and compiling the data from the fact sheets. Jerry Murphy suggested that everyone on the CLA take the Invasive Investigator course as it is very informative – next course is Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 12:30 in the New Fairfield Community Center. Mr. Berger reported that Congressman Murphy's office had been contacted and they have responded positively by contacting his peer in Massachusetts and the EPA District I which covers Western CT and Southern MA. They are willing to help secure funding if the CLA can identify a source.

Old/New Business: Mr. Berger reported that the Sherman Delegates had been invited by the First Selectman to tour a house that may possibly be donated to the Town. After touring the property they thought it would be an interesting opportunity for the CLA to have an Educational Center. This has to go to a Town Meeting in Sherman and if they vote in the affirmative then the CLA will have to discuss the possibilities. Mr. Hayes noted that the BOS is interested in having the CLA there.

Ed Hayes and Phyllis Schaer left at 8:35 PM.

Gary Dufel asked with the emphasis on the Zebra Mussel has the Milfoil problem been forgotten. Mr. Marsicano reported that last year at this time the Milfoil was evident but this year it is not seen – it will probably not become a nuisance until late in the summer. This is based on the deep drawdown that was done following the parameters of a successful drawdown. Discussion followed. Mr. Propper added that there needs to be a Milfoil Taskforce similar to the one now focused on Zebra Mussels. Discussion continued. This will need to be brought to the Invasive Species Subcommittee for further action. No one has taken their eye off the Milfoil.

Mark Howarth added that the CLA website will provide the public with information on Milfoil control.

Mr. Berger reported that he had visited Laurel Lake and was surprised to see that it seems that they are not doing very much regarding the Zebra Mussels.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Frank Cioffi moved to adjourn, seconded by Harold Mayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Stroh, Secretary  
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

n/r/b/s

***These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority.***



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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***Executive Director's Report  
June 3, 2011  
Larry Marsicano***

*The following report summarizes activities May 9, 2011 to June 3, 2011.*

## **ZEBRA MUSSELS**

Much of staff and delegate's time continues to go towards the zebra mussel issue. On May 12<sup>th</sup> Howie Berger, Phyllis Schaer, Bill Lohan and I met with representatives from FirstLight, including their new Director of Plant Operations, John Shue, to discuss our intent to develop a cooperative plan to address the threat of zebra mussels. We've continued to work with Congressman Murphy's office, composed and sent a letter outlining how the Congressman could help (see attached), and have maintained a dialog with his staff. On May 13<sup>th</sup> we received FirstLight's proposed zebra mussel monitoring plan for our comments before their submittal to FERC. We reviewed and submitted our comment back to FirstLight on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. On Sunday morning, May 22<sup>nd</sup> I met with the Lavelle Avenue Association at their Annual Meeting to discuss the zebra mussel issue.

On May 27<sup>th</sup> I met with our media / public relations consultant, George Linkletter, to discuss his work on the zebra mussel issue on our behalf. A number of articles have already been released due to his efforts. PSA spots, as well as cable community bulletin board ads, are in the progress of being developed. There are also plans to create a cable community access show on the issue.

We continue to regularly correspond with our partners, e.g. FirstLight, CT DEP, HVA, etc., regarding this issue. Our zebra mussel veliger early detection / monitoring plan will begin later this month. We will be facilitating the efforts of WCSU.

Invasive Investigators logged in hours over the Memorial Day weekend and another training event is scheduled for Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **LAND USE ISSUES**

We received calls regarding activity at Shoreview Estates in Danbury in mid May and forwarded those concerns to Brian Wood of FirstLight. Mr. Wood advised that the activities were not permitted and that actions would be taken against the those conducting the work.

We received calls regarding activity on Lake Drive S. on Candlewood Isle. I contacted both Brian Wood and Tim Simpkins of the Town of New Fairfield, later to learn that the activity was above the 440. I participated in a site visit on May 13<sup>th</sup> with Mr. Simpkins, NF IWWC Chairman Pat Del Monico, and the property owner and agreed upon a process to mitigate the disturbance. A plan should be submitted to New Fairfield's IWWC for approval.

Gary Dufel and I reviewed a revised plan for a proposed project on Northwest Passway (Shady Knolls). Comments were crafted and submitted to Danbury ZBA and EIC.

### ***WATER QUALITY MONITORING***

Our first water quality monitoring trip of the season occurred on Candlewood on May 26<sup>th</sup> and later on June 2<sup>nd</sup> on Squantz Pond. Bacteria water quality monitoring by the Senior Citizens Environment Corps from the New Fairfield Senior Center should begin later month.

### ***JOHN MARSICANO MEMORIAL CANDLEWOOD LAKE CLEAN UP***

We held our 12<sup>th</sup> Annual John Marsicano Memorial Candlewood Lake Clean Up on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Volunteer numbers were estimated to be between 175 and 225, and were sufficient enough to remove the amount of garbage and debris needed to completely fill a 30 yard dumpster plus part of a second dumpster. Considerable preparations in weeks leading up to the event were required including a meeting of all volunteer boat captains which was held on night of May 19<sup>th</sup>. Mark Howarth was successful in using the Clean Up as part of a dual sponsorship opportunity. Success of the event is due to, in addition to the volunteers, to all staff and several delegates, particularly Frank Cioffi who serves as Clean-Up Fleet Coordinator.

An ad in local papers thanking our sponsors, including the lunch sponsors, and volunteers is forthcoming.

### ***EDUCATION / PROJECT CLEAR***

This month we contributed to another successful season of middle school version of Project CLEAR. On Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, we grilled hamburgers and hotdogs for ~125 middle school students from our participating school districts at Squantz Pond State Park. The grill was provided by the Sherman Historical Society.

We are preparing for the high school field research running the week of June 27<sup>th</sup> thru 30<sup>th</sup>. We need volunteers to help transport the students around on boats.

### ***OTHER***

On May 31<sup>st</sup> we received a call from the resident 87 Lake Drive South on Candlewood Isle who reported a wave runner washing up along his property. We were able to visit the property and obtain registration of the vessel. CLAMP Chief Vane was able to provide identification and we were able to contact the owner of the vessel. The owner has since retrieved the vessel and has promised a donation to the CLA for our efforts.

On Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> I spoke with Mr. George Buck of New Fairfield regarding his concerns about overuse of state ramps by tournament fishing groups. Early this year, Mr. Buck had sent along an email detailing those concerns. I advised Mr. Buck I would convey that email to you (attached).

We participated in the Sherman Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Our participation was due in large part to our Operation Manager's efforts, several LPOs, and Sherman Delegate Ed Hayes.

Sherman Garden Club is visiting the Buffer Garden on June 8<sup>th</sup> where I will discuss the benefits of a vegetated riparian buffer and the history behind our demonstration area.

The fireworks are scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup> with rain date of July 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Executive Committee met on June 1<sup>st</sup>.



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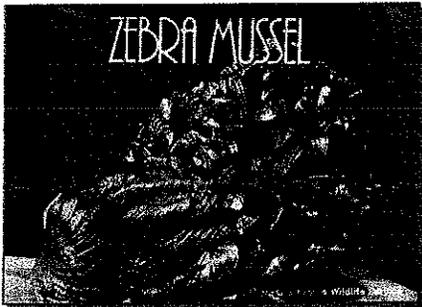
May 16, 2011

The Honorable Chris Murphy  
114 West Main Street, Suite 206  
New Britain, CT 06051

**RE: PROPOSED REMEDIATION OF THE SERIOUS THREAT TO THE HOUSATONIC RIVER  
WATERSHED FROM ZEBRA MUSSELS**

Dear Congressman Murphy:

Many inland water resources within the Housatonic River drainage basin are now threatened with the introduction and/or colonization of the aquatic invasive species, zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*). The Candlewood Lake Authority believes that this challenge is a regional problem and that it requires assistance at a federal level if it is to be effectively addressed before incurring sizable damages to water resources, environmental and economic



health of both the region and local communities, encompassing the residents, visitors and businesses that use and rely on these resources today. This problem must be addressed quickly to mitigate the large cost of remediation. It is clear that the interstate spread of this invasive species has grown too large for a local or even state response, even though actions have been taken at the local and state levels in both Massachusetts and Connecticut.

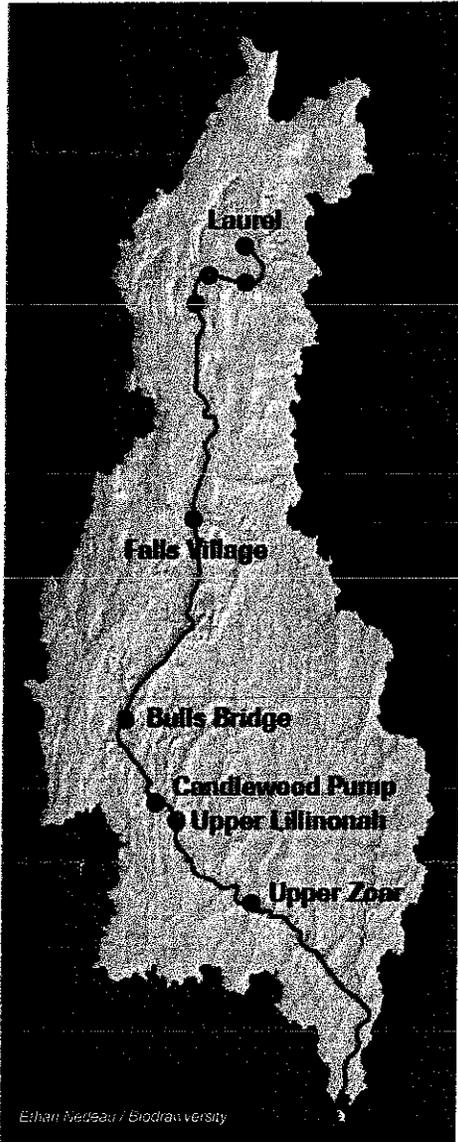
Much of this regional threat can be attributed to a single source, Laurel Lake, in Lee and Lenox, MA, which drains and carries zebra mussel larvae (or veligers) to the Housatonic River in MA via a broken pipe and an outlet to a small watercourse.<sup>1</sup> Despite efforts by Massachusetts this introduction has currently spread south of the CT / MA border resulting in zebra mussels being found in reservoirs including Lake Lillinonah and Lake Zoar along the Housatonic River in

<sup>1</sup> Biodrawiversity. 2009. Zebra mussel phase I assessment: Physical, Chemical, and Biological Evaluation of 20 Lakes and the Housatonic River in Berkshire County, Massachusetts.

[www.biodrawiversity.com/pubs/Zebra\\_Mussel\\_Phase\\_I\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.biodrawiversity.com/pubs/Zebra_Mussel_Phase_I_Assessment.pdf)

southwestern Connecticut.<sup>2</sup> The USGS states on their web site that “Zebra mussels can have profound effects on the ecosystems they invade.”

We applaud and support FirstLight Power Resources’ reaction to the threat imposed and response, by initiating the unprecedented step of temporarily suspending the pumping of water from the Housatonic River into Candlewood Lake to try to prevent the lake from being infected thru their penstock.<sup>3</sup>



We believe the key to a successful resolution of this problem and to minimizing the mitigation in both states is remediation at the source, Laurel Lake. Research has demonstrated that a constant upstream source of zebra mussels greatly increases the prospect of downstream colonization, even in waters not ideal for zebra mussel reproduction. If the known source of zebra mussels can be eliminated, then addressing the smaller localized populations borne out of the larger upstream source becomes much more manageable. There are a variety of methods being used or tested elsewhere in the country that may prove useful in eliminating the Laurel Lake zebra mussel population or at the very least, stopping its distribution down the Housatonic River. However, it will take federal intervention to accomplish this. We need the cooperation of the states of Connecticut and Massachusetts to work together to achieve our goal of preventing the wholesale spread and colonization of zebra mussels in waters throughout the Housatonic River basin. Part of that intervention will be to leverage interest in MA, and thereby stimulate their immediate responsive action, and secure enough funding (e.g. from the Federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force) to do the job.

Part of the approach used across the country in preventing invasive invertebrates from entering uninfected waters is through the monitoring of public ramps and inspections of boats, trailers, and towing vehicles. The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection has, with limited funding, begun this on Lakes

<sup>2</sup> Biodrawiversity. 2010. Distribution, abundance and demographics of the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) in Lake Lillinonah and Lake Zoar in southwestern Connecticut.

[www.candlewoodlakeauthority.org](http://www.candlewoodlakeauthority.org)

<sup>3</sup> FirstLight Power Resources. May 11, 2011. Update from FirstLight Power Resources on Pumping Operation at Rocky River. FirstLight Power Resources / GDF Suez Energy North America. Hartford, CT

Candlewood, Zoar and Lillinonah, but lacks the funding to provide adequate coverage at all high risk public launch sites. A portion of the funding you can help secure should go toward additional ramp monitoring by the CT DEP, which is one of a number of partners in this effort.

We are reaching out to form a consortium of collaborative partners who we have been in, or will contact which include FirstLight Power Resources, Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials, the Housatonic Valley Association, the Lake Lillinonah and Zoar Authorities, Rivers Alliance, and others. As stewards of our inland water resources in western Connecticut, it is our hope you will join us in our efforts to resolve this aquatic invasive challenge through the means and resources available to you. As we have stated earlier, this challenge is a regional problem but has viable solutions as long as immediate actions are taken in Connecticut and Massachusetts; but those solutions far exceed our resources and will require assistance at a federal level if the problem is to be effectively addressed.

We are available to meet with you to discuss a mutually beneficial course of action or to provide further information. We thank you for your continued support and leadership.

Sincerely,

CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

*Howie Berger*

Howie Berger  
Chairman

**Larry Marsicano**

**From:** George Buck [georgebuck2@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 09, 2011 6:49 PM  
**To:** Larry; John Hodge; Richard Smith; Sen. McLachlan, Michael  
**Subject:** Fw: Candlewood Lake -- over crowding issues

Larry, I am forwarding the note I sent to you and Eleanor Mariani back in late October so that my town's 1st Selectman, and a CLA member, plus my state rep and senator can have the benefit of reviewing this issue. I do this because ultimately I believe that if there is to be any change on Candlewood Lake with regards to bass tournaments and over-crowding at the two state boat launches it will have to be done through legislation.

That said, the first initiative would be to ask the DEP Bureau of Natural Resources to voluntarily cut back bass tournaments to under 100 per year. Currently it is almost 200 bass tournaments per year. And they should limit guaranteed parking for bass tournaments to 25% of the parking spaces on weekends in July and August to allow more access to the general public. Currently they authorize allocating 50% of the available parking to bass tournaments.

If the DEP fails to act on this request then the legislative route, similar to what was done with the 26' boat limitation, would be the proper course of action. There is no doubt in my mind that the legislation would pass because every rep and senator in the state has a lake in his/her district that has an access/crowding issue.

The next step of course is to discuss this among the CLA board to see if there is support to proceed. If there is then a review with the five town's Selectmen's Office would be appropriate to gather more support. Then a request submitted to the DEP to limit bass tournaments and to reduce the guaranteed parking.

Finally, there would need to be political support to craft and propose legislation and to introduce a Bill into the House and Senate to create a law that the DEP has to follow, limiting bass tournaments to under 100 per year on Candlewood Lake, assuming of course they don't take action voluntarily.

Below is more detail on the issues from my original email memo.

George R Buck  
 New Fairfield  
 ---- Original Message ----  
**From:** George Buck  
**To:** Mariani, Eleanor  
**Cc:** Larry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 26, 2010 1:38 PM  
**Subject:** Candlewood Lake -- over crowding issues

This is possibly the most contentious of all of the issues facing the community. There are two parts to the issue; one is crowding on the lake and the other is access to the lake.

The crowding on the lake on summer weekends is difficult to manage because of the number of lake front homes and marinas plus the town facilities in the five towns surrounding Candlewood. If there is good news it is that we are probably already at the saturation point. There is little waterfront to build on so new homes and marinas are limited and town launch facilities for the most part are poor, over priced and have limited parking. Eventually the "stickers" program will be resurrected but that is a different topic.

That leaves public access at the two state facilities at Squantz Pond and Lattins Cove as a controlling factor regarding who gets on the lake via boat launches. Of the 140,000 or so residents of the five towns, few live on the lake or have the resources to keep a boat at a marina. The rest use a town launch if they can or use the two state launches. The problem is the two state launches are tied up on weekends with bass tournaments.

The DEP's Bureau of Natural Resources controls the permit process for bass tournament applicants and currently allows enough tournaments per day to fill roughly 50% of the allocated parking spaces at each of the two boat launch sites. That number is way out of line with similarly situated lakes in the northeast and in New England. Using this formula, there are nearly 200 bass tournaments per year on Candlewood Lake which is more than 300% more than similarly situated lakes in the six state area. These bass tournament boats are at the launches by 7am and the remaining spots are taken by other bass fishermen and some of the versatile fishermen who get there early. The remaining few spots are filled by the general public by 9am. This allocation to bass tournaments is way out of line and discriminates against all other recreational boating. I have not been out on the lake on a weekend in years.

Lets look at some examples.

In Pennsylvania in the eastern Poconos there is an almost identical lake to Candlewood called Lake Wallenpaupak. This is a hydro impoundment like Candlewood and is larger at approximately 5,700 acres. There are only 42 bass tournaments scheduled on Lake Wallenpaupak this year.

In central Pa. there is the 8,300 acre Raystown Dam reservoir, a body of water nearly 50% larger than

6/3/2011

Candlewood. It will have around 100 bass tournaments this year.

In speaking with Mr. Robert Lorantas, a Pa. Fish Commission fisheries biologist at the Pleasant Gap hatchery (814-359-5168) who is the focal point for all bass tournaments in Pa. from a fisheries standpoint, it became apparant that there is a major difference between the Pa. process for approving bass tournaments and what we do here in Ct.

In Pa. each tournament applicant applies to the local Fish Commission Conservation Officer that controls the lake who in turn checks with local stake holders like the towns and lake associations and then back with Mr. Lorantas from a fisheries standpoint before approving any bass tournaments for that lake.

Virtually all fisheries units in most states agree that bass tournaments have little effect on the lake's fisheries dynamics such as over harvest, mortality, etc. because bass tournaments are catch and release with fairly strict live well requirements. So this approval process becomes more of a Socio-Political issue and how to balance boat launch usage and over crowding on weekends.

Here in Ct. if the same process were employed on Candlewood Lake we would have applicants apply into Encon Police where the CO for the Candlewood area would work with Larry and the CLA (who represent the five towns) and Bob Orciari in Inland Fisheries and this team would determine the right balance at the two launches and then schedule the bass tournaments on a first come, first served basis. I can guarantee that there would never be close to 200 tournaments a year. I can see maybe 25% of the parking spaces being allocated to the bass tournaments on a weekend with maybe more on a less crowded weekday but the usage dynamics would change allowing more of the public access during the summer. But that is not what happens here. Local stakeholders have little to say and the permit process goes through one person in the Bureau of Natrual Resources which is interesting because it is the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation that owns the parks, the boat launches, boating in general and the Encon Police team. By ownership the bass tournament permit process should be handled by Matthew Fritz's team with review by Inland Fisheries.

Bass tournament organizations would be told to do more scheduling during the week, in the spring and in the fall to spread out the usage and lake crowding problems.

The perception among the local town residents is that there are too many bass tournaments on the lake, they speed, they don't pay the launch ramp fee because they are there early, they conduct themselves in a narcissistic manner as they race from spot to spot trying to fill their limit and win money, and out of state boaters have no boating certificate or license. The reason they have this perception is because it is all true. 300% more bass tournaments than any other similarly situated lake in the northeast or New England is out of line and out of balance.

Inland Fisheries approves these bass tournaments only based upon fisheries dynamics. Candlewood is a smallmouth bass fish factory and can support these tournaments but the competition for launch space and surface water space can not support nearly 200 tournaments.

--We need to reduce the bass tournament load to under 100 tournaments a year.

--We need to allocate no more than 25% of all parking spaces in the two state launch areas to bass tournaments on weekends during June, July and August.

--We need to require boating licenses or certificates from every out of state lake user in Ct. NJ does exactly that with no exceptions. Every other state has a licensing process so these boaters can comply with the requirement.

--We need to insure that the bass tournament permit have an additional requirement for payment up front for each boat launching in that tournament. Currently we collect nothing. This is a simple addition of one line item on the application.

--We need to consider reducing the speed limit to 35mph during the day and 10mph after dark.

And if we do all of that Candlewood Lake will still have 100% more bass tournaments than its similarly situated Lake Wallenpaupak which is only two hours away. Or the same number of bass tournaments as Raystown Lake which is 50% larger than Candlewood and according to the Pa. Fish Commission, has about 25 public boat launches which is 23 more than Candlewood Lake.

Changes are required. This is a major contention point among the citizens of the five towns and other users of the lake. When they see the statistics and understand the real numbers they will know for sure that their perception was actually reality and the political pressure to change will be over-whelming. Sorry this is so long but there is a lot of information to process to understand what is a very complex issue.

Thank you for listening.

George



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**June 8, 2011**  
**Public Education**  
**Mark Howarth**

## Clean Up:

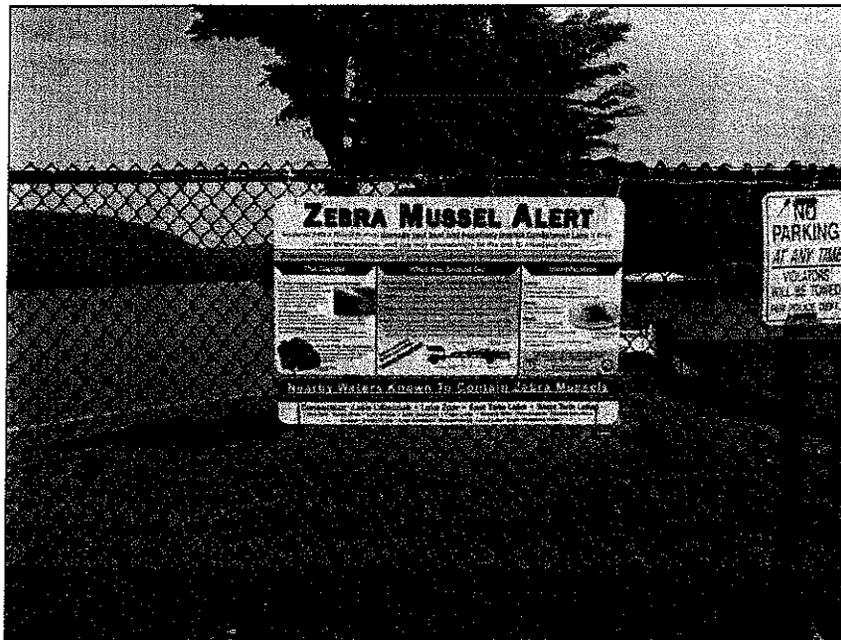
The 2011 Clean Up went very well. We lucked out with the weather that day. We were fortunate to have a window of nice, sunny weather, which lasted long enough for us to complete the event and clean up before the rains came back. As in past years, we had a great group of volunteers and many boats with boat captains who transported the other volunteers around the shoreline, collecting debris.

By noontime, clean up crews had gathered at New Fairfield Town Park where they received their clean up t-shirts and sat down for a great cookout, donated by numerous area restaurants. Once again, the dedicated volunteers collected enough debris to fill a large 30-yard dumpster.

## Zebra Mussels:

### **Zebra Mussel Task Force:**

We received our five large "Zebra Mussel Alert" boat ramp signs (for the five town ramps). They measure roughly 4 feet wide by 2 ½ feet high. The sign below is mounted on the fence at the Danbury Town Park.



We are anticipating delivery of the smaller (12x18 inch) zebra mussel signs from the DEP shortly. Once received, those will be made available for posting at all Candlewood Lake communities, as well as marinas etc.

We have completed a 2<sup>nd</sup> printing of 3,000 zebra mussel alert tri-folds after distributing the first 3000 in the area. We will continue to get these out to help educate users of the Lake.

The new zebra mussel web page is now available at the CLA's website. There is a lot more information available there and we will continue to update the site as information becomes available.

We are in the final revisions of a boat-cleaning guide, adapted from the CA Guide. Once the changes are complete, they will be printed and distributed.

### Dragon Boat Race:

We are working on promoting and planning for the 2011 Dragon boat Races. Our posters have been printed and delivered (image below). We have begun putting them up around New Milford and will expand the effort to the other towns and will continue to use other methods to increase exposure and participation. Teams have begun signing up and we are anticipating another great event in 2011. The website has been updated with new features including the 2010 race video.

