



Canadian Association of Smallmouth Anglers

NEWSLETTER-FEBRUARY, 2008

Well here we are once again with winter receding (at least it is today) and with the sun out it is hard not to think about open lakes, boats and bass.

I know a number of our members have had some successful ice fishing this year and though that satisfies the fishing "urges" it is just not the same as hitting a lake at sunrise.

Naturally, during the winter months CASA's work has carried on and the Executive felt it was time to update you on some upcoming events. This will also be the first newsletter sent out in an entirely electronic fashion. It will, of course, be available on our website hosted by <http://www.novascotiafishing.com/> but we want to get away from both the cost and time consumption of hand mailing these letters.

SPORT AND RV SHOW

Once again we will be putting our booth at the Sport and RV Show, which will run from Thursday evening, March 13th to 5pm on Sunday, March 16th. Ken Roberts will be in charge of the booth operations and will be looking for volunteers to man (or woman) the booth. It is a great opportunity to see fishing friends and at the same time contribute to your organization. You can contact Ken at s.m.bass@ns.sympatico.ca.

Your help will be greatly appreciated so please get in touch with Ken and let him know if you can lend a hand.

This year rather than a GPS system, which has been our raffle prize for years, we are going to try and obtain a coloured screen fish finder from Lowrance. Lowrance has been very generous in supporting our organization for many, many years.

I hope you will be able to put in some time at the booth during the RV show and if not, at least I hope you get a chance to drop by and say hello.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Once again will be held at the Grand Lake Community Centre on Sunday, April 6th and further details will follow. This is a great opportunity to come out and see friends, hopefully win some raffle prizes and be consistently entertained at our annual auction.

Don't forget to start pulling items together for the auction. Dave Upright can sell anything and, as you may know, it does not have to be fishing related.

We always have a great table of items and we have often proven that old saying that "one man's junk is another man's treasure".



EXECUTIVE MEETING

Attached are the minutes from our most recent Executive Meeting on February 5th. Please read through them. Of particular note is our habitat restoration project under the leadership of Eddy Halfyard. It is an excellent project and a great way for our Association to continue a long tradition of contribution to the bass fishery in this Province.

Brian Naugle

**MINUTES OF THE
CASA EXECUTIVE MEETING
February 05, 2008
OFFICES OF CROWE DILLON ROBINSON**

Meeting opened at 5:15 p.m.

Members present; Tony Robinson, Dave Devenney, Brian Naugle and Dave Upright

Members missing Martin Dodge, Eddie Halfyard, Ian Andrews Howard Martell, Ken Roberts

Treasurer Report: Tony stated that CASA as of Jan 31/08 had \$4,479.20 in the general Account and \$2,722.25 in the Capital Account.

Morris Lake silt issue: Tony stated that he received an explanation of the reason that Morris Lake water gets very silted after a rain storm. With all the development in the surrounding area comes paved roads with drainage systems. During a rain storm these roads and drains move the water quiet quickly away from the developed areas, through the drain pipes picking up silt etc as it goes. Some of this material ends up in Morris Lake.

The issue of Grand Lake Parking during tournaments was discussed. In particular the Don Ashley incident last summer about parking during a Bronzeback Bass Tournament which was being handled by Howard Martell. Tony has had a discussion with Murray Hill, Director with NS Inland Fisheries. One rumor was the Dept of Lands & Forest was not going to allow tournaments to be run from Provincial Parks, this is not the case. Parking is still an issue at Grand Lake, Tony is going to follow up with Murray Hill on this issue.

AGM

The Date for the AGM is April 06, 2008 at the Grand Lake Fire Hall.

RV Show

The dates for the RV show are from Thursday March 13 Sunday March 16. CASA will have a booth at the show, which again is free of charge. This is the 25th Anniversary of the RV and Sportsman Show. CASA will be selling raffle tickets on a prize. There is going to be a change in the items for which tickets are going to be sold. Dave Upright suggested getting a sonar unit instead of the GPS, which has been the item drawn for the last several years. It was decided that we would have a good color sonar unit. Tony will contact Lowrance for the prize. Members will be contacted to volunteer at the booth.

Update for meeting by Email from Ed Halfyard

1. General Items

First off, Dave Doggett has created a section within the NSF.com photogallery which is dedicated to CASA. We can therefore add photos from meetings, tournament etc. I believe he is working on linking this to the clubs website as well. There is already a few pictures posted!!!

2. Habitat Enhancement Project Update

Also, after much talk with Murray Hill and Jason Leblanc, we believe that the best way to approach our proposed habitat project is to apply to Adopt-a-Stream. Though administered by the NSSA, they feel that the mandate of this group is such that our project would be accepted. This would eliminate the need to obtain Navigable Waters Act permitting and NSDEL permitting (\$\$\$\$\$ & Time).

The project that Jason and I have discussed would be an experimental project, not only designed to provide habitat enhancement structures (mainly focused on spawning habitat), but also providing a chance to study the effectiveness of these structures. This would aid in the justification of this sort of work in the future.

This project would be a mid-sized affair where 3 lakes would act as trial lakes, with 30 structures installed on each lake for a total of 90 structures. Each lake would receive 10 artificial nests, 10 half-logs (as shown at the Oct. meeting) and 10 combo half-logs + artificial nests.

Nests are made of pea stone surrounded by cobble-sized stone, and the half-logs are 6' sections of softwood log, sawed in half, and anchored atop either brick or wooden posts using rebar.

CASA would be responsible for obtaining no less that 50% of the necessary funding, all of which can be in-kind funding if we so choose. This includes charging \$15 dollar an hour for volunteer time, all donated equipment (trucks, boats etc.) and the project design/reporting that I will provide. As it stands, we will likely more than match the money required for raw materials.

Project proposals are due to Adopt-a-Stream in three weeks so I will have our proposal ready in 1.5 weeks. Ideally, structures would be installed in late April / Early May of this year.

In the mean time, there are several things I would like from the executive:

- 1) Is there still support for a project like this? Is everyone comfortable submitting to Adopt-a-Stream.
- 2) Does anyone have connections to perhaps get a deal on
 - 12 yds³ (9m³) of Pea Stone
 - 2.5 yds³ (2m³) of Cobble-Sized Stone
 - 65 pieces of 6' (2m) logs, sawed in half or log slats from a lumber mill. (Logs should be approx. 10-12" or larger in diameter).
 - 125 cinder blocks

- 125 pieces of ¼" by 3' rebar

3) We will need member to participate in the construction and subsequent installation of these structures. We will therefore need at least two boats and 4 members each day. I estimate that each lake will take 1 to 1.5 days (with 4 people) to install the structures. This does not include the time required to prepare the half-logs (1/2 day with 2 people).

Please discuss this at the meeting and let me know if I should proceed.

Thanks,
Eddie

I will proceed with the application as previously stated. As it stands, we should not need to put any \$\$\$ into this project. I will send more detail ASAP.

-Eddie

From the meeting the following members will try to acquire the following for the Habitant Project:

Brian Naugle will look after the acquisition of the Pea Stone and Cobble Sized Stone, Tony suggested that possibly Marty Dodge may know someone or business that may we may be able to get half sawn logs from and Tony was going to ask Mike Hanusiak if he could look after the acquisition of the cinder blocks and rebar.

Tournament

(Email from Howard Martell)

Some information for the meeting we have plaques already paid for at Nova Trophy for the AGM. As discussed earlier the Lunker of the year goes to Dennis Ferrand at 2lbs 11.5 oz. The boat of the year goes to Rui Amaral @ Chris Clark at 8lbs 15 oz. I can fwd this to Nova Trophy if everyone is happy. I would also recommend approving money to buy 2008 trophies this worked really well. Do we want to stay with the type of trophies we handed out last year. I also believe we should look at providing trophies for the early tournament maybe something along the line of the Iron man. We should also look at having a lunker trophy for all our tournaments. We should also look at paying the entrance fee's of all teams going to the provincial fish off like AVBC did last year. Last I think we should put some money into the Ironman lunker award maybe we put 500 dollars from the club this would increase interest and we would probable have much better turnouts for this tournament.

IFAC Nomination

Email Submission from Ed Halfyard

Hi Guys,

Tony's term on the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council has come to an end and it is in CASA's interest to nominate another CASA representatives to sit on this board. We can offer more than one nomination, however in all likelihood, only one name will be chosen to sit on the board.

I would like to re-nominate Tony, provided he is willing to accept. He is familiar with the system and a true asset to both our club and all NS anglers.

If you could either a) second my nomination or,
b) offer a nomination for this position

I will be sure to pass along our consensus once we agree on nominations.

Thanks,
Eddie

Ian Andrew seconded the nomination

Tony accepted the nomination for the IFAC committee membership.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.