



Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs

Special points of interest:

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- > 2013-2014 Executive
- >

Vice-President's Message

We all hope that Jack Frost and his friends are gone for the next many months and Mother Nature brings sun and warmth and gentle breezes as our ponds and plants come to life again. It's the month when CAOAC takes a look at where we've been and where we hope to go in the coming year. Our hobbyists take a proud look at their achievements and celebrate their success, or make plans to start over with new stock. Executives of member clubs breathe a sigh of relief because the summer hiatus is almost here. Welcome to May.

The 2013 CAOAC Annual Convention and Fish Show is being hosted by the Aquarium Club of Edmonton on May 18-19 in Edmonton AB. The Annual General Meeting will be attended via SKYPE between Edmonton and Waterdown, on Saturday May 18th, at 8AM Edmonton time and 10AM Waterdown time. Everyone is welcome to join us at these locations or via Skype from wherever you are located ; contact Ann Stevens in advance for Skype information.

The AGM agenda will include review of Annual Reports, Treasurer's Report, Executive Election, Meeting schedule, Committee Chair considerations, and Convention 2013-14. If you and/or your club would like an addition to the agenda, please contact

Claudia Carthew (crcarthew@yahoo.com) before May 15th.

We are pleased to present the CAOAC 2013-14 Executive slate from the April meeting.

President : Claudia Carthew,
1st Vice-President: Ron Bishop,
2nd Vice-President: Ken Boorman,
Corresponding Secretary: AnnMarie Towell,
Recording Secretary: Ann Stevens,
Treasurer: Albert Van Montford

After the AGM, all of the CAOAC Awards for 2012-13 will be announced and presented to those honoured and in attendance at the Waterdown location. For those not in attendance, their award will be presented at the June BBQ and Potluck on June 23rd in Waterdown.

The Executive of CAOAC, both old and new, sincerely hope for everyone's continued and dedicated support. We look to new energetic faces and fresh ideas, and the wisdom and guidance of the not-too-new smiling faces. Life is a journey, and I am sure that the 55th year of CAOAC will be an exciting adventure.

See you in Waterdown.
Claudia

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2012-2013 Executive

President	Bob Wright	Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort
908-373 Front Street West Toronto, ON M5V 3R7	(416) 883-0571	298 Hawkrigde Ave Hamilton On L9C 3L2	(905) 575-1509 (HDAS)
1st Vice President	Claudia Carthew	Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens
100 1/2 Eastchester Ave St. Catherines, ON L2P 2Z1	(905) 684-0394 (TFEC)	1902-10 Willowridge Rd. Etobicoke, ON M9R 3Y8	(416) 985-0266 (SAS)
2nd Vice President	Ken Boorman	Corresponding Secretary	Ann Marie Towell
33 Courtyard Walk Chatham, ON N7L 5S3	(519) 352-5573 (CKAS)	223-1717 60 Street SE Calgary, AB T2A 7Y7	(403) 244-7575 (CAS & BBC)

April 23, 2013 Minutes

Executive Meeting – April 21, 2013

Called to order by Claudia Carthew (Vice-President)

The meeting was called to order 11:00 AM at Optimist Hall, Waterdown.

Executive Attendance

Position	Name	Absent/Present
President	Bob Wright (LAS)	Absent
1 st VP	Claudia Carthew	Present
2 nd VP	Ken Boorman (CKAS)	Skype
Corresponding Secretary	Ann-Marie Towell (CAS)	Skype
Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens (SAS)	Present
Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort	Present
Also In Attendance:		
Peter Melady (SAS)	Ron & Annette Bishop	Richard Carthew (TFEC)

Minutes

No Executive Meeting minutes due to Awards meeting.

Convention

Juan Miguel will not be there. Other speakers will still be there. Dinner is \$45. Information can be found at edmontonfish.com. It appears no time was set aside for the Annual CAOAC Meeting.

Newsletter Award Survey

Ann read the results of the newsletter. Basically the feeling is the information is not being shared to Presidents. Ann indicated another short survey be sent out, asking clubs for input on how they feel information should be shared to club.

Adjourned at 12:15, adjourned by Ken and Ann

April 21, 2013 Minutes—Cont'd.

General Meeting

Additional club members present, other than Executive.

Position	Name	Absent/Present
President	Bob Wright (LAS)	Absent
1 st VP	Claudia Carthew	Present
2 nd VP	Ken Boorman (CKAS)	Skype
Corresponding Secretary	Ann-Marie Towell (CAS)	Skype
Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens (SAS)	Present
Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort	Present
Past President	Tony Bernard	Present
Club	Name	
Brant AS	Barb Draper	Stephanie Bernard
	Michele Colwell	
Betta Breeders	Catherine Salmon	
Chatham-Kent AS	Lisa Boorman	
Durham Region AS	Barry Iwanochko	George Banavage
Kitchener-Waterloo AS	Zenin Skomorowski (Skype)	
London AS	Ron & Annette Bishop	
Sarnia AS	Peter Melady	
St. Catherines & Area AS	Phil Barrett	
Tropical Fish Club of Erie County	Richard Carthew	
Committee Chair		
Awards	Peter Melady	
Binder	Ann Stevens	
Breeders Directory	Lisa Boorman	
FAAS	Lisa Boorman	

Steering

Ann Marie has not heard anything and no nominations received. In accordance with the Bylaws, nominations were closed after the break of the April meeting.

The following is the new slate from that meeting:

April 21, 2013 Minutes Cont'd.

Position	Name	Position	Name
President	Claudia Carthew	Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort
1 st Vice President	Ron Bishop	Corresponding Secretary	Ann Marie Towell
2 nd Vice President	Ken Boorman	Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens

Because it appears there were no accommodations made for the CAOAC Annual meeting at the Convention, Barb Draper made the motion to hold the Next meeting on May 19th at 10:00 AM in Waterdown and the west would Skype in. Seconded by Ron. Ann Marie did not agree to this motion, due to the fact, the auction will be that morning and therefore the west would not be able to participate.

An Amendment to the motion was made to change the date to May 18th at 10:00 AM, allowing Ann Marie to Skype in with anyone else that is interested at the convention.

Treasurer's Report –

All cheques should be made payable to **Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs**. The bank will not cash cheques made payable to CAOAC.

Albert is finally official signing officer, it took a month and a few trips to the bank but it's done.

Treasurer's Report March 28, 2013		
Cash on hand		\$ 40.00
TD Bank		\$ 11,716.42
Pay pal		\$ -
	Sub-total	\$ 11,756.42
Outstanding Cheques		\$ -
Cheques to deposit (still to come)	\$ 290.00	\$ -
Receivables		\$ -
Terry Little Memorial Fund		-\$ 625.00
Expenses paid		
Rocket Stick (Ann Stevens) # 129	\$ 41.40	-\$ 41.40
Awards breakfast Albert # 156	\$ 115.74	-\$ 115.74
HP 920 CMY/920XL BLK Comb	\$ 70.99	
DC HP Office LTR Ream	\$ 6.96	
(Ann Marie Towell) # 154 Gst	\$ 3.90	
	\$ 81.85	-\$ 81.85
Working Balance		\$ 10,892.43

Motion to accept the report by Peter, seconded Ken.

Awards - An award meeting was held last month. Good discussion in regards to time levels. The Authors/Advanced Authors Award was being treated as an Achievement Award. We want to bring it back to its original intent which is a Recognition Award. The Awards Committee has changed the rules to refer back to the way they were in 1987. It appeared no one was aware why they were

April 21, 2013 Minutes Cont'd.

changed.

Guidelines for Author's and Advanced Author's award to be up on website soon.

Binder – Still at a standstill right now.

FAAS - Still no change.

Breeders - Lisa has received some submissions for first-ins and will create a new certificate, since the old certificate was made in an older program.

Judges – (report submitted by Paul Mansfield via email) The New National Judging Standards are complete except for being correlated into one document and will be presented at the CAOAC convention in May. I am hoping to introduce a new selection process for judges as the present one is too cumbersome, time consuming and unfair. Also a tiered system of judges based on experience. Again, I will present this at the convention.

I have received no information about current judges or methods so I am writing to all CAOAC clubs asking for a list of their judges.

I am also re-writing all Judging Sheets and anything necessary to making judging more efficient.

Chris Larsen is writing a Guide to Showing which is basically a check list of things clubs need to do to ensure their show has worth, and what judges require. I have read this through and asked him to add or change some things which he is doing so this will be presented at the convention.

I am distressed by clubs holding shows and not using proper judges, preferring to use speakers or simply their own untrained members. I have been involved with two apprentice judges, trying to get them into Edmonton show and it has been very frustrating. I heard yesterday that Ken Ealey is taking them under his wing for the show which is good but unfortunately one of the apprentices has now decided he will not make the trip after all.

I think CAOAC needs to urge all clubs to use only certified judges and certainly not hold the convention at clubs that refuse to do so. Without proper judging the show is totally meaningless anyway as proved by a show I visited last year where the results were not of the best standard and in some cases laughable.

I have also heard from an Apprentice judge who went to a show only to be told he couldn't apprentice there after all. This is terrible behaviour from the club concerned.

I continue to work on the size book but this is obviously a huge process and I will probably die before it's finished. I am incorporating as many pictures as possible into the 'book' so that judges will not only see the size of the fish but a picture of what it should look like. My idea is that this would be an electronic 'book' set up as a website with password for judges only. This would negate the need to carry around piles of books when a laptop or mobile phone would do. Being electronic will also enable updates as the names of fishes change or new species are discovered.

Since taking over as JSC chairman last year I have received no requests for new apprentice judges and no forms from current judges who have taken on an apprentice at a show so assume everything is quiet.

Once the convention is out of the way I will be trying to get more people interested in becoming judges.

Club Reports

Brant – Sadly lost a 60 year member and executive at the end of last year. Terry contributed immensely to our club, the show and auction as well as to CAOAC as a representative, a judge and executive for many years. He helped to host numerous conventions and helped other clubs run their shows. Terry is greatly missed. There was a shift in executive positions at beginning of the year. Small but dedicated number of members attending meetings each month. Weddings and babies seems to be the theme with members; Tony & Stephanie had baby Clarissa and got married, Walter and Trish are expecting baby Ivy in June. Jerry and Barb are loving every minute with Jackson. Fantastic programs have been presented every month. Annual show and auction was a success; 146 entries. Club made about

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\$1000. Nominations for elections have been made to be voted at May meeting. May program is axolotls and June will be Fish trinkets and collectibles with a potluck. Summer BBQ date to be determined.

Calgary – April was the auction. Great meeting on fish names. 65 members currently. Fall auction booked.

Chatham – good meeting in April with Dr. from Windsor. May meeting is Larry Johnson. Chatham-Kent Aquarium Society is excited to host its first event - two talks and dinner with Ted internationally acclaimed author, speaker and breeder extraordinaire, Ted Judy. Ted will present two talks. \$30 per ticket includes dinner. Dinner will be buffet style: Tossed Green Salad, Creamy Coleslaw, Penne Salad, Roast Chicken, Roast Beef and Gravy, Roasted Potatoes, Vegetables, Dinner Rolls, Assorted Desserts, Coffee and Tea.

Ted Judy is an addicted aquarist with over 25 years of fish keeping and breeding experience. He is a generalist who enjoys all types of fish from anabantids to tetras, but always finds plenty of room in his fish room for fish from West Africa (especially the dwarf cichlids). Ted's club affiliations are the American Cichlid Association, the Madison Area Aquatic Hobbyists and the Milwaukee Aquarium Society. Ted is a former high school science teacher who is now a full-time stay-at-home father with a fish room. He is a prolific speaker, proficient writer and wants to be a better photographer. See more of Ted's hobby by visiting his video blog at www.tedsfishroom.com.

Repashy Superfoods and OddBallFish.com are proud sponsors of Ted's activities in support of the aquarium hobby.

Tickets can be purchased on the club website through PayPal. Book early to guarantee your seat! <http://chathamkentaquariumsociety.webs.com/>

Durham – Auction and vendor show was held April 7. Not as much in auction, but still good. Next year is April 6. 89 members currently.

Hamilton – April 11-2013 was our home show,

May: Ed Craighton will do a talk about importing fish across the border.

June 2-2013 Trip to Moores

June 13-2013 Carla's program on ponds.

Sept 21-2013 Fall Auction

November 9-2013 Dinner speaker: Mark Denaro, at the Legion. Possible topics: Peru talk, anabantid labyrinth fish, reef tanks. We need 2 topics, one before and one after dinner. Anabantid seems to be a favourite for one of the topics.

Kitchener-Waterloo – April's meeting was Ken Boorman with native fish other than rainbow. Confirmation for Oktoberfish is Oct. 27. It will be in the basement of hotel this time, due to the room being booked. They are taking nominations for new executive.

London – Great meeting with Ken Boorman. Bus trip on track for June 22. Bus halfway booked already. Plans for 2016 CAOAC convention are underway. May 5 in Dorchester next auction.

Sarnia – Auction was a success.

St. Catharines – April program was Tom Mason on Costa Rica. May in-house auction.

Betta Breeders – April meeting was held last Sunday. Best meeting over 2 hours with 8 people in attendance.

Erie County – May 21st is Jodi Ghianni is speaking on angel fish, and June 18th is Larry Johnson.

April 21, 2013 Minutes Cont'd.

April features the club members' Awards Banquet. There is a new meeting location because families are now in attendance. Bowl shows have taken off with 20-30 participants. This was promoted by executive bringing in fish and talking about them.

Newsletter Survey

Needs to be better communication. Results are included at the end of the minutes.

Old Business

Convention 2014 - Durham, looking for venue for 2014 convention.

New Business

Brant Proposal – Terry Little Fund

Barb Draper presented an idea for the Terry Little Fund. The Brant Aquarium society would like to make a suggestion in regards to the monies that was donated on behalf of Terry Little when he died. It was his wish that the monies be used by CAOAC to further youth interest in the hobby. Our club would like to assist with that. Here is what we propose;

The monies are used each year at the CAOAC convention to purchase a 20 gallon kit to be given to the Junior High Aggregate winner. The Brant Club would be willing to look after getting the kit and ensuring that it gets to the convention for the presentation. The current funds would cover a few years and in order to maintain the funds we intend to invite people who are selling at the auction to donate 1 item to the Terry Little/Junior Aggregate Fund. We would invite other clubs to do the same if they would like. Our club would be willing to monitor the funds if that would be helpful.

The money would remain with CAOAC and write a cheque to Brant each year for the kit. Albert motioned to accept the proposal seconded by Ron. Carried

Word to go out to club that if they would like to participate, please forward the money from that item to Albert indicating it is for the Terry Little Fund.

Ron has been approached as to why there has not been a judges meeting this year. They need to have a meeting in order to vote on the apprenticeships to see if they qualify for a judge. There hasn't been communication with the Judges Chair.

President's barbecue will be held in Waterdown on June 23, date has been confirmed with the club. Barb wanted to have it be known that the Brant club is disappointed that CAOAC Service Award was turned down for Terry Little.

Next meeting Saturday, May 18 at 10:00 AM where we will be joining Edmonton via Skype for the Annual Meeting. It was determined the Awards will be announced and presented at that meeting, if they are in attendance.

Results of Newsletter Award Survey

Number of Responses	20	
Number of clubs	23	
Clubs responded	18	
Percentage replied	78%	
2 clubs responded twice, both with some variances in the answers		
Results		
Q1. Does your club have a newsletter?		
Yes	17	85%
No	3	15%

Results of Survey Cont'd.

Q2. Does your club have a website?		
Yes	20	100%
No		
Q3. Is your newsletter available online?		
Yes	10	50%
No	8	40%
Not applicable	2	10%
Q4. Do you print copies of your newsletter for your members/Advertisers?		
Yes	16	80%
No	2	10%
Not applicable	2	10%
Q5. Have you participated in the CAOAC Newsletter Award in the past?		
Yes	6	30%
No	10	50%
I didn't know about the award	4	20%
Q6. Did you participate in this year's award for the newsletter?		
Yes	1	5%
No	18	90%
Not applicable	1	5%
Q7. If you answered No to the last question, why did you not submit your newsletter for consideration? (multiple choice answer)		
We don't have a newsletter	2	12.5%
Didn't know the award was available	11	68.75%
Didn't think it would win, so didn't	5	31.25%
Skipped	4	
<i>Comments:</i>		
<i>new editor...learning curve</i>	<i>too busy with other club stuff</i>	<i>Was not aware when the nomination was due</i>
<i>currently it's very intermittent</i>	<i>We wrote a letter of our achievements, goals etc. to our donor. Monthly or bi-monthly agenda and minutes etc. are sent to our volunteers prior to the meeting</i>	
Q8. Do you have any suggestions that would encourage you to participate in the future?		
<i>Let us know what the criteria are for entering.</i>	<i>Ask for nominations.</i>	<i>Send out information on the award a month before due date.</i>
<i>We lack member involvement</i>	<i>Other than articles and club information, what are the ground rules for a newsletter to be nominated?</i>	<i>Just can't remember getting or hearing any info about the award</i>
<i>none</i>	<i>Knowing about this award</i>	<i>Just let me know about it!</i>
<i>I do not know if it will be enough to have recognition. We are a small group. Per e.g. we have the second educational Cd and a power point presentation animated- non animated in English and French for group naturalist, summer camps who care about turtles. It has about 84 slides and you can hide slides behind the screen if it not applicable to your presentation. It took us a year to accomplish this. We have a prototype of an educational family Trivia game for turtles and we will have another game about the dangers that a turtle face during its journey. Then we will have to find a printer, none in Ottawa for this.</i>		

Results of Survey Cont'd.

Q9. Do you think this award should be cancelled?		
Yes		
No	20	100%
Q10. Any other comments you'd like to make in regards to CAOAC awards?		
<i>Would like to see some direct contact with hap and bap contacts as a reminder. Mine forgot to submit the awards and bap didn't think anyone qualified. Quite disappointed with both of them!!</i>		
<i>Didn't know they existed.</i>		
<i>Clubs should be made aware of when any nominations are due. Not everyone can make it to all the meeting. That way the club can discuss with the executive at a meeting. It shouldn't be a one man decision but a team decision.</i>		
<i>Cannot think about anything else.</i>		
<i>CAOAC Hobbyist of the year award. Asking people to nominate persons and explain why they should be CAOAC Hobbyist of the Year</i>		
<i>None</i>		
<i>I would like to know more about all of the awards that you have.</i>		
<i>Re: question #9 - I think that there are many different levels of comfort with producing and printing a newsletter. Some clubs may not have the expertise to produce a quality newsletter but are still doing their best. I truly am not in favour or against newsletter/website awards. I think we should place our efforts and resources somewhere to promote kinship, not competition.</i>		

March 17, 2013 Minutes

Executive & General meeting – March 17, 2013

Called to order by Claudia Carthew (Vice-President)

The meeting was called to order 12:15 AM at Optimist Hall, Waterdown.

Executive Attendance

Position	Name	Absent/Present
President	Bob Wright (LAS)	Absent
1 st VP	Claudia Carthew	Present
2 nd VP	Ken Boorman (CKAS)	Skype
Corresponding Secretary	Ann-Marie Towell (CAS)	Absent
Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens (SAS)	Present
Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort	Present
Also In Attendance:		
Peter Melady (SAS)	Ed Bosker	Richard Carthew (TFEC)
Catherine Salmon (BBC)	Phil Barrett (SCAAS)	George Banavage (DRAS)
Tom Mason (OARS)	Myron Iwanochko (DRAS)	
Tom & Pat Bridges (SCAAS) - Skype	Ron & Annette Bishop (LAS)	

Minutes

The reading of the minutes was dispensed. They were circulated.

Omissions:

March 17, 2013 Minutes Cont'd.

Omissions, Derek raised the concern in regards to the Author's Award and Advanced Author's Award in relation to the time limit. He asked why it was there. Peter will investigate further.

Errors:

Correction, Terry Little fund should be \$625 not \$575.

Ron made a motion to accept the amended minutes. Seconded by Peter.

Carried

Treasurer's Report

Albert was unable to report since has not been able to access the account yet.

Ann and Albert went to the bank after the meeting and Albert was able to get a look at the account.

Here is his statement:

Treasurer's Report March 17, 2013		
Cash on hand		\$ 40.00
TD Bank		\$ 11,716.42
Paypal		\$ -
	Sub-total	\$ 11,756.42
Outstanding Cheques ??????		\$ -
Cheques to deposit (2)	\$ 290.00	\$ -
Receivables ???		\$ -
Terry Little Memorial Fund		-\$ 625.00
Expenses to be paid		
Rocket Stick (Ann Stevens)	\$ 41.40	-\$ 41.40
Awards breakfast Albert	\$ 115.74	-\$ 115.74
HP 920 CMY/920XL BLK Comb	\$ 70.99	
DC HP Office LTR Ream	\$ 6.96	
(Ann Marie Towell) Gst	\$ 3.90	
	\$ 81.85	-\$ 81.85
Working Balance		\$ 10,892.43
Outstanding Cheques ????????		
Fisher Stevenson Boehm Ins Inc	151	-\$ 3,207.60
Working Balance, if the insurance Cheque has not been Cashed		\$ 7,684.83

Awards

The Awards meeting was conducted prior to the General Meeting. Several awards have been approved. Some changes have been made.

March 17, 2013 Minutes Cont'd.

Ken made the motion to accept the report, seconded by Myron

Binder

Thanks to Zenin's prompt email after the last meeting. Ann was able to contact Char. Char sent the updates. They were sent to various people to review, since some changes have taken place since this started. Once completed, the next issue will be how it is to be distributed. Privacy needs to be addressed, since some people do not like to have their name public.

FAAS

Still no news and still no new President, so technically it is still Rick.

Breeders

Lisa has received some submissions for first-ins from Charlie Drew and a Chatham member.

Club Reports

Brant – show & auction coming up April 6 and all classes are sponsored. They are also trying to increase membership.

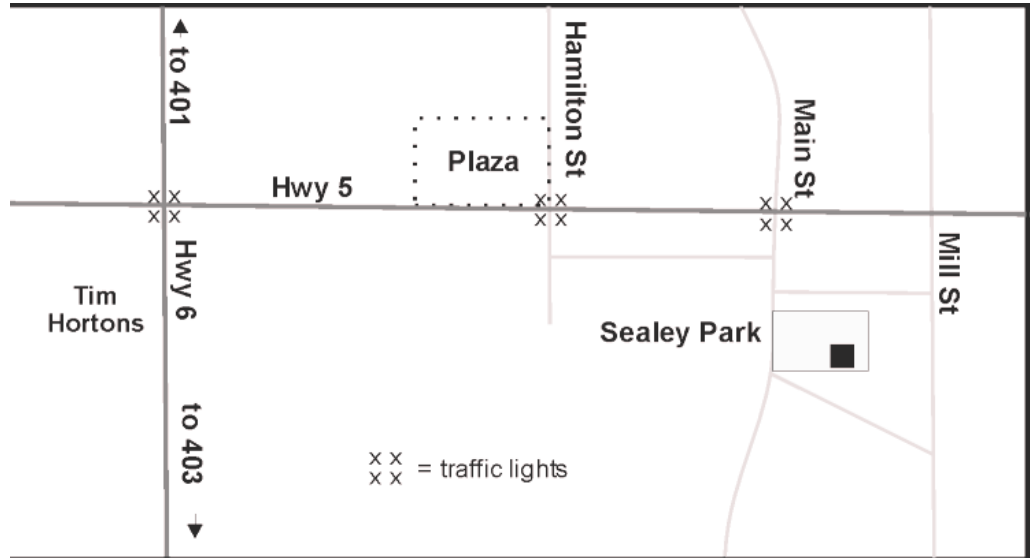
Chatham – They had a great meeting with Tom Mason as speaker. Next month Dr. Lynda Corkum, Professor of Biological Fishes in Windsor who has written on Native fishes of Essex, will be the guest speaker.

Durham – The meeting on Tuesday will have guest speaker, Zenin, speaking on photography. April 7 is

**Want to be as part of the meeting??**

Can't make a meeting in person but would like to attend via Skype. You can, just look up **Ann Stevens** our Recording Secretary and add her to your list. Search for user **Nov18angel** and then let Ann know prior to the meeting, and she will sign on to Skype and accept your call.

Directions to the CAOAC Monthly Meeting



Ww.caoac.ca