



# President's Message

We had a great meeting last month to discuss all the plans for the Convention. The slate of speakers is set and the meals are ordered. Ticket sales are started and that's a good indication that a successful convention is ahead of us. I have already booked the Friday off so we can get ready for the festivities.

The shows and auctions will soon be starting. This will give us a chance to meet with old friends and compete against them on the show floor or the auction floor. There is always lots of fun at whatever you are doing.

We have had the awards meeting and there is a good amount of participation in this year's recipients. It would be nice if all the clubs were involved, then the awards could be distributed to all the member clubs.

Thanks to Ed for another fantastic crock pot full of hot food on a cold blustery day. All that were there got a belly full. The draws have been a lot of fun and we will continue with them. It is always nice when you can win something to take home. Thank you to all that have donated. If your club has not sent a rep to the meetings you are missing out on all the news and goings on in the association. It opens doors to many with ideas and experiences and we can learn from the expertise of others. The CAOAC website is constantly being upgraded with information about all that CAOAC has to offer all the member clubs.

If a little person dressed in green comes up to you and asks you a question

Take a chance  
 It's magically delicious  
 Ron Bishop  
 President  
 CAOAC



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MARCH 2015

# Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs

## Board of Directors

Executive			
<b>President</b>	Ron Bishop	<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Ann Stevens
<a href="mailto:ron.bishop2@sympatico.ca">ron.bishop2@sympatico.ca</a>	Club: London	<a href="mailto:ann.stevens11@gmail.com">ann.stevens11@gmail.com</a>	Club: Hamilton
<b>1st Vice-President</b>	Ken Boorman	<b>Treasurer</b>	Albert Van Montfort
<a href="mailto:rhad@kent.net">rhad@kent.net</a>	Club: Chatham-Kent	<a href="mailto:avanmont@gmail.com">avanmont@gmail.com</a>	Club: Hamilton
<b>2nd Vice-President</b>	Peter Melady	<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Ann-Marie Towell
<a href="mailto:hpmelady@hotmail.com">hpmelady@hotmail.com</a>	Club: Sarnia	<a href="mailto:amtowell@shaw.ca">amtowell@shaw.ca</a>	Club: Calgary
<b>Past President</b>	Claudia Carthew		
<a href="mailto:carthew@yahoo.com">carthew@yahoo.com</a>	Club: St. Catharines		

Committees			
<b>Archivist / Historian</b>	<b>Paul McIntosh</b>	<b>Fish Rescue Program</b>	Tom Mason
<a href="mailto:pdmcintosh@rogers.com">pdmcintosh@rogers.com</a>	Club: Durham	<a href="mailto:coterc09@gmail.com">coterc09@gmail.com</a>	Club: Durham
<b>Aquatic Horticulturist Directory</b>	Ann Marie Towell	<b>Judges</b>	Brian Glazier
<a href="mailto:amtowell@shaw.ca">amtowell@shaw.ca</a>	Club: Calgary	<a href="mailto:bglazier@cogeco.ca">bglazier@cogeco.ca</a>	Club: Hamilton
<b>Awards</b>	Peter Melady	<b>Webmaster</b>	Ann Stevens
<a href="mailto:hpmelady@hotmail.com">hpmelady@hotmail.com</a>	Club: Sarnia	<a href="mailto:ann.stevens11@gmail.com">ann.stevens11@gmail.com</a>	Club: Hamilton
<b>Information Binder/CD</b>	Ann Stevens	<b>Membership</b>	Albert Van Montfort
<a href="mailto:ann.stevens11@gmail.com">ann.stevens11@gmail.com</a>	Club: Hamilton	<a href="mailto:avanmont@gmail.com">avanmont@gmail.com</a>	Club: Hamilton
<b>Breeders Directory</b>	Lisa Boorman	<b>Ways &amp; Means</b>	Annette Bishop
<a href="mailto:lisachromis@yahoo.com">lisachromis@yahoo.com</a>	Club: Chatham-Kent	<a href="mailto:ally_ann@hotmail.com">ally_ann@hotmail.com</a>	Club: London
<b>CAOAC/FAAS Liaison</b>	Ken Boorman	<b>Programs</b>	Ken Boorman
<a href="mailto:rhad@kent.net">rhad@kent.net</a>	Club: Chatham-Kent	<a href="mailto:rhad@kent.net">rhad@kent.net</a>	Club: Chatham-Kent
<b>Open Show</b>	Barb Draper	<b>Futures</b>	Ron Bishop
<a href="mailto:barb.ireland@rogers.com">barb.ireland@rogers.com</a>	Club: Hamilton	<a href="mailto:ron.bishop2@sympatico.ca">ron.bishop2@sympatico.ca</a>	Club: London

## Minutes—February 8, 2015 Meeting

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# Executive Meeting – February 8, 2015

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**Called to order at 11:05** by Ron Bishop (President) at Optimist Hall, Waterdown.

### **Executive Attendance**

Position	Name	Absent/Present
President	Ron Bishop (LAS)	Present
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Ken Boorman (CKAS)	Skype
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Peter Melady	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Ann-Marie Towell (CAS)	Skype
Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens (HDAS)	Present
Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort (HDAS)	Skype
Past President	Claudia Carthew (SCAAS)	Absent
Also In Attendance:	Annette Bishop (LAS)	Ed Bosker (HDAS)

### **Old Business**

A discussion was ensued as to what questions should be asked on the survey. A final version was approved and will be sent out this month.

### **Convention**

Ken requested a link to sponsor show classes, once determined, and also a link for the sponsorship information presented at the last meeting. Summarize the package and have the full details as a PDF.

Ron raised the question whether we're going to have the President's Challenge for convention. Ken to create write-up and send to club presidents.

### **Minutes**

Motion to accept the minutes by Albert, seconded by Ken. Carried  
Some corrections will be made with the individual reports.

### **Business Arising**



# February 8 Minutes—Cont'd.

## Treasurer's Report

<b>1</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report Jan 18 2015</b>	<b>TD Bank Nov 28</b>	<b>\$ 9,449.27</b>
2	Cash on hand 0.00		\$ -
3	<b>Paypal Jan 18-2015 \$ 481.45</b>		
4	Cheque's on hand \$ 0		\$ -
5		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 9,449.27</b>
6	Cheque's Cashed #179		-\$ 62.15
7	Bank Fees (Dec 31)		-\$ 4.95
8	Cheque's deposit's		\$ 2,780.00
9	Transfers deposit's		\$ -
10		<b>TD Bank Dec 31</b>	<b>\$ 12,162.17</b>
11	Outstanding Cheque's #		
12	Terry Little Memorial Fund		-\$ 466.81
13	<b>Working Balance</b>		<b>\$ 11,695.36</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report Feb 8 2015</b>	<b>TD Bank Dec 31</b>	<b>\$ 12,162.17</b>
2	Cash on hand \$ 237.00		\$ -
3	<b>Paypal Feb 5-2015 \$ 972.55</b>		
4	Cheque's on hand \$ 240.00		\$ -
5		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 12,162.17</b>
6	Cheque's Cashed #180		-\$ 116.68
7	Bank Fees ()		\$ -
8	Cheque's deposit's		\$ 890.00
9	Transfers deposit's		\$ -
10		<b>TD Bank Jan 30</b>	<b>\$ 12,935.49</b>
11	Outstanding Cheque's #		\$ -
12	Terry Little Memorial Fund		-\$ 466.81
13	<b>Working Balance</b>		<b>\$ 12,468.68</b>

### Pre Paid Show Fee's for 2015

Kitchener Oct 25 2015  
 London Sept 27 2015  
 Hamilton Mar 21 2015  
 Saskatoon Oct 10+11 2015  
  
 Caoac May 17-2015

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report by Ken seconded by Peter. Carried

## Correspondence

Ron received an email from someone interested in starting a club in Fort Erie. Ron is continuing to correspond with the person for more information.

## New Business

## February 8 Minutes—Cont'd.

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Adjourned at 11:40 by Ken, second by Ann Marie.

# General Meeting

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Called to order at 12:03 by President Ron.

Position	Name	Absent/Present
President	Ron Bishop (LAS)	Present
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Ken Boorman (CKAS)	Skype
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Peter Melady	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Ann Marie Towell	Skype
Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens (HDAS)	Present
Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort (HDAS)	Skype
Past President	Claudia Carthew (TFCEC)	Absent
Club	Name	
Betta Breeders	Catherine Salmon (Skype)	
Calgary	Ann Marie (Skype)	
Chatham-Kent	Lisa Boorman (Skype)	
Durham Region AS	Barry McKee (Skype)	
Hamilton District AS	Albert Van Montfort (Skype)	
London AS	Annette Bishop	
Sarnia	Peter Melady	
Guests:	Ed Bosker (HDAS)	

Motion to accept the minutes by Peter, seconded by Lisa. Carried.

### **Treasurers report**

See Executive meeting for details of the Treasurer's Report. Motion to approve by Catherine seconded by Annette. Carried

### **Business Arising from Executive**

Recapped items from Executive regarding the survey.

### **Correspondence**

See Executive report.

## February 8 Minutes—Cont'd.

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### **Old Business**

Barry hasn't had a chance to speak with Paul to get the slides.

### **Committee Chairs**

Title	Name	
AHD	Ann Marie Towell	Skype
Archivist	Paul McIntosh	Absent
Awards	Peter Melady	Present
Breeders	Lisa Boorman	Skype
Binder	Ann Stevens	Present
FAAS	Ken Boorman	Skype
Fish Rescue	Tom Mason	Absent
Futures		
Judges	Brian Glazier	Absent
Membership	Albert van Montfort	Skype
Newsletter	Ann Stevens	Present
Open Show	Barb Draper	Absent
Programs	Ken Boorman	Skype
Steering	Barry McKee	Skype
Ways & Means	Annette Bishop	Present
Webmaster	Ann Stevens	Present
Convention chair	Ken Boorman	Skype

**AHD-** received an admission for an award that was forwarded to Peter.

**Archivist** – no report.

**Awards** –. Today is the deadline for Award submissions. I thank all those who have submitted and for those who haven't there is always next year.

**Binder** –

**Breeders** – KVAS, HDAS and ASW have sent in reports. Discussed the program with WAS.

**FAAS** – nothing until they have another meeting

## February 8 Minutes—Cont'd.

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**Fish Rescue** – Annette & Ron rescued 3 iridescent sharks last month. Calgary also rescued some green terrors.

**Judges** – no report.

**Memberships** –

Hi please note that there was an error in the last Membership report. The Regina only sent a \$60 cheque.

<b>Insured Member Clubs</b>	<b>2015</b>
Aquarium Club of Edmonton	ACE
Aquarium Society of Winnipeg	ASW
Calgary Aquarium Society	CAS
<b>Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs</b>	<b>CAOAC</b>
Durham Region Aquarium Society	DRAS
Forest City Pond Club	CPCP
Hamilton & District Aquarium Society	HDAS
Kitchener Waterloo Aquarium Society	KWAS
London Aquaria Society	LAS
Ottawa Amphibian and Reptile Association	OARA
Ottawa Valley Aquarium Society	OVAS
Sarnia Aquarium Society	SarAS
Saskatoon Aquarium Society	SAS
The Greater Victoria Aquaria Society	GVAS
The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society	SCAAS
Maritime Aquarium Club	MAC
Chatham-Kent Aquarium Society	CKAS
<b>Membership only</b>	
Regina Aquarium Society	RAS
Windsor Aquarium Society	WAS
Betta Breeders Canada	BBC
Peel Regional Aquarium Club	PRSC
Barrie Region Aquarium Society of Simcoe	BRASS
<b>No renewal</b>	
Brant Aquarium Society	BAS TSHEL
Turtle S.H.E.L.L./ Tortue S.H.E.L.L.	L
Toronto Aquarium Society	TAS

I have phoned some members of the Regina club to see if it was an oversight that they not renewed their insurance. I am waiting for an official response.

**Newsletter** – suggestion to add speaker profiles in newsletter.

**Open Shows** – nothing new

# February 8 Minutes—Cont'd.

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**Programs-** nothing new.

**Steering** – nothing new

**Ways & Means** –

Starting Balance \$0.00

Month	Balance	Spent	Rec'd	50/50	Raffle
Sept.	0	-16.00	2.25	15.00	8.00
Oct.	9.25	-5.10	13.20	14.00	19.00
Nov.	50.35	-12.75	16.90	14.00	20.00
Dec.	88.50	-31.55	0	*0	14.00
Jan.	70.95	-2.80	7.56	17.50	32.00
Feb.	125.21	-18.55	2.45	10.00	0
Mar.	119.11				
Apr.					
May	Convention				
June					

Ed donated his beef stew for the meeting  
started with 125.15  
purchased bowls, cream, cookies and brownies -18.55  
no raffle 0.00  
50/50 was+ 10.00 to CAOAC 10.00 to Ron  
donations were +2.45  
starting total for awards meeting is 119.11  
monies were down due to poor attendance (5 in the room)

**Website** –. IBC final class listing added to web and removed non renewed clubs.

## **Club Reports**

**Betta** – meeting postponed due to football game

**Calgary** – 74 members and growing with new members from Facebook group. March 8 is auction.

**Chatham-Kent** – no meeting yet

**Durham** – Membership is 79

Our February 10th general meeting features Jessica Bullock speaking on Dwarf Cichlids, everyone welcome,



## February 8 Minutes—Cont'd.

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The DRAS Annual Social Dinner is February 21st at the Pickering Mandarin Restaurant and the featured Guest Speaker is Larry Johnson presenting "Swimming with Cichlids". Cost for the dinner is \$35.00. Please contact Barry.McKee@rogers.com to reserve your seat.

The Canada Pet EXPO is at the International Centre, Toronto, over the Easter weekend. Tom Mason is coordinating the Aquarium Exhibits.

The DRAS annual AQUARIAMA Auction and Vendor EXPO is April 12th at the Ajax Community Centre, 75 Centennial Road.

Hamilton – Hdas February meeting is this Thurs Feb 12. Our speaker is Peter Desouza and he will be speaking about Killie fish. Sure to be snow awesome talk. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our spring auction and show is on Sat March 21 at the Waterdown Legion. Doors open at 8 am. I can confirm that Anton Lamboj will be our guest dinner speaker on Sat Nov 14. Details to follow. I will keep you updated with information to post on the site.

Kitchener – Our February meeting featured our President Al Ridley discussing various methods of propagating plants and our Horticultural Award Program. Karen and Al brought lots of plants as samples and put them in the auction. The new room layout to encourage more interaction between those in attendance seems to be working well. The Mini-Show featured classes were Rift Lake Africans and AOV. There were some nice raffle prizes as well as lots of fish, plants and equipment in the auction. We had about 28 people in attendance.

Check the KVAS Facebook page for meeting photos:

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kitchener-Waterloo-Aquarium-Society/141380715918322?sk=photos\\_stream&tab=photos\\_albums](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kitchener-Waterloo-Aquarium-Society/141380715918322?sk=photos_stream&tab=photos_albums)

Our website and forum are available again after the software has been updated with security patches.

Visit our website and forum [www.kwas.ca](http://www.kwas.ca)

### London

February speaker is Bill Gibbons.

March speaker is John Swick - repairing broken tanks \* March meeting has been moved to the first Tuesday\*.

April speaker is Ken Boorman.

May speaker is Ernest from St Catherine's - collections  
spring auction is Sunday, May 3, 2015

fall show and auction is Sunday, September 27, 2015

Two cheques to be delivered to Albert via Ann. One is a show sponsorship for the Hamilton show, and the other is a show sponsorship for the CAOAC convention show.

Sarnia – Auction April 18, everything is going good with speakers for the next 3 months.

Thank you Zenin, Peter, Barry, and Carla for sending their reports prior to the meeting. Thank you to those who sent their reports after also. I appreciate it.

### **Convention 2015**

See executive report.

# 2015 CAOAC Convention

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**2015 CAOAC Annual Convention**  
**Featuring the IBC District 6 Sanctioned Show**  
**May 15, 16, 17 2015**  
**Burlington Holiday Inn & Conference Centre**



## **Speakers**

Bob Fenner  
Rachel O'Leary  
Ken McKeighen  
Gerald Griffin

## **Features**

38 CAOAC Class Show  
IBC Sanctioned Betta District 6 Show  
Large auction of tropical fish & supplies  
Vendor Show Room  
Saturday Banquet  
CAOAC Annual General Meeting  
\$79 full Convention Ticket (includes speakers and dinner)  
\$39 Speakers only  
\$45 Dinner only

*Check our website for a chance to win your free convention ticket.*

[www.caoac.ca/convention](http://www.caoac.ca/convention)

## 2015 Convention Speaker Schedule

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The following is a guidelines of topics the guest speakers will be covering.

**Friday Night:** 7:00 – 8:00 Gerald Griffin – SMP Wild Betta Slide Show

8:15 – 9:15 Rachel O’Leary – Freshwater Invertebrates: A Primer

**Saturday AM:** 8:30 – 9:30 Jae Hovius –

9:45 – 10:45 Gerald Griffin – Betta Genetics

11:00 – 12:00 Bob Fenner - Breeding Marines

**Saturday PM:** 1:30 – 2:30 Ken McKeighen –

2:45 – 3:45 Bob Fenner - Putting up a New Collecting Station in Fiji

4:00 – 5:00 Rachel O’Leary – An Introduction to Asian Hill stream species

**Saturday Banquet:** Ken McKeighen – Evolution of Fishes

## So Who are these speakers anyway, you ask??

Now, if some of you are like me (the Editor), you may not know these names from Adam, so, I thought I’d print their bio here for you, so you can become familiar with who they are and what they bring to the convention.

**Bob Fenner**— Born in Rhode Island, but grew up in the orient, due to his father’s military career. He has worked for a Betta culture business, collecting and processing marines in Manila, livestock wholesale worder for Pratt’s in San Diego, and eventually formed his own aquarium service business. It eventually became an employee-owned corporation with aquarist retail outlets, fabrication (principally large acrylic systems), water feature construction, manufacturing and distribution divisions. Subsequent to the tax law changes, water-shortage "scare", and general decline in the California and U.S. economy in the late eighties these businesses were sold and liquidated. He then worked for three years as a consultant and buyer for the mass-merchandise PetCo in their bid to upgrade their stores, incorporating livestock.

He writes articles and books for the diving/underwater natural history and ornamental aquatics interests. He browses the electronic bulletin boards to "chat" with others daily, and often travel, to go "hashing" (sort of running), writing and photographing with friends around the world.

He’s been an avid hobbyist since first memories. Active in the local SDTFS from the sixties; helped in development of all three goldfish/koi clubs in San Diego. At times more active in scientific (AVMA, IAAAM, ASIH) and industry professional/business associations.

## So Who are these speakers anyway, you ask?? (Cont'd.)

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This is his life's work and passion. The central thread to everything he has attempted in writing, presentation or action in the interest has been/is "to enhance people's love of their own lives through an appreciation of the living world". He sees the hobby/business evolving, much like and approaching Western Europe, with a real interest in biotopes, the underlying science, understanding the technologies employed... This is an era of consumer awareness; there are less Fenner Bioaquarists, but more conscientious ones that are becoming more aware and demanding value.

**Gerald Griffin**—He first started keeping fish at the age of nine and by ten bred his first fish species *Colisa lalia*, followed shortly by *Colisa chuna* (sota), *Colisa fasciata* and *labiosa*. At the age of twelve he read *All About Bettas* by Walt Maurus and fell in love with wild bettas. The only problem was that in the 1970s he couldn't find any living in Oklahoma. By the time he went to college, he found articles on wild bettas in the school library and joined the International Betta Congress and started corresponding with various fish keepers, and found some wild betta stocks and started collecting them and writing articles.

Around the year 2000, he once again got hit with the betta bug and started keeping domestics again. As soon as he did, the wild betta bug hit him again and he went crazy again collecting them. He currently runs over 80 tanks dedicated to a number of different fish. As he became more involved in his local fish club, the Oklahoma City Aquarium Association, he started keeping a variety of species and has since spawned various barbs, African cichlids, killifish, native American fish, American cichlids, livebearers, and a number of miscellaneous fishes, and have recently diverged into saltwater fishes (clownfish and seahorses). However, wild bettas and anabantoids will always be his first love and the primary fish he keeps.

He's am currently the President of the International Betta Congress and the BAP chair of the Oklahoma Aquarium Association, the Treasurer for the American Labyrinth Fish Association, and has also been the President of the Oklahoma Aquarium Association's Tulsa Chapter, as well as their HAP and Presentations Chair.

**Ken McKeighen Jr.**—Ken McKeighen Jr. fondly remembers his first fish he purchased when he was 10 years old, a coffee can full of bait minnows he purchased for 10 cents. He was 10 when he won his first art contest, first place with an ice cream social poster at his elementary school. He was 11 when he discovered his first fossil, a brachiopod (a type of shelled filter feeder). He also "grew up" along the rivers and in the woods of Indiana. From these beginnings Ken began his journey into the natural sciences and as a fish and wildlife illustrator. Ken became fascinated with killifish while in high school and led to his joining the American Killifish Association in 1973. Ken's fascination with fish includes everything from lampreys to modern bony fish. Ken's interest in paleontology has led him to keep almost all the primitive fish types from fresh water in-

## So Who are these speakers anyway, you ask?? (Cont'd.)

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cluding lampreys, bichers, gars, bowfins, lungfish, sturgeon, and several of the bony tongues. Ken has also kept a number of marine fish and invertebrates as well as most of the fish types available. Ken has been a member of the British Killifish Association, the North American Native Fish Association, and many other clubs, groups and associations. Ken has also donated many articles and illustrations to these and other associations including the German Killifish Association and the Japanese Killifish Association. Ken has also done presentations to both the American Killifish Association, NANFA, and many AKA affiliate groups from coast to coast. Ken has also become noted for his killifish illustrations which have been used as illustrations and as awards around the world. Ken has painted over 1,650 killifish paintings which have been proudly presented as awards since the Hull Group of the British Killifish Association commissioned him for 14 paintings in 1990. Ken has also illustrated many other fish, both from fresh water and marine. Ken has also been to almost every type of fish habitat available in North America from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. These habitats include the following: swamps to desert springs, from the Great Lakes to small ponds; and from headwater streams to the Mississippi River.

Ken is currently both a life and distinguished member of the American Killifish Association and donates the McKeighen Award for the best North American Killifish entry at the AKA's national convention. Ken also supports the George Maiher Fund with art donations that are auctioned at the convention to help raise funds for killifish research. Ken is the host of the Under the Sea Radio Show on Blogtalk Radio. The show brings many issues and information to it's listeners from aquariums and fish to conservation issues. He is also the host of the Fine Art of Paleontology, a show dedicated to paleontology and the prehistoric past.

One of Ken's talks will deal with pupfish, their care and captive maintenance along with what he has observed at the different habitats these interesting fish live in, including Devil's Hole, NV. Ken has kept a number of species of these interesting, little fish. Ken is the banquet keynote speaker and this presentation will deal with the evolution of the freshwater fish. Ken will take us on a journey from the fishes' humble beginnings as motile ascidian larvae to the masters of the world they live in.

**Rachel O'Leary**—Rachel O'Leary of Mount Wolf, Pennsylvania has been in the hobby since childhood but has gotten increasingly active in the past decade. She is currently operating over seventy tanks with interests that range from the micro to monster. She has a special focus on dwarf freshwater invertebrates including snails, shrimp, crayfish, and aquatic crabs as well as all freshwater nano fish. Rachel is currently housing over one hundred different species, all of which are in the nano category. She also has a passion and interest in gar and polypterids and houses several species.

## So Who are these speakers anyway, you ask?? (Cont'd.)

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She is currently breeding catfish, many species of shrimp, snails, pseudomugil rainbows, dwarf crayfish, West African dwarf cichlids, discus, ancistrus and hypancistrus plecos, as well as a range of livebearers and egg scatterers. Her tanks range in size from ten gallon to 220 gallon.

Rachel is an active member and on the board of the Capital Cichlid Association, as well as a global moderator on Aquaria Central and a moderator at MonsterFishKeepers. She actively attends conventions and travels to speak at clubs and conventions on her invertebrate and micro fish interests. A big advocate of rallying regional support, Rachel also sponsors many clubs and events around the United States.

She imports from around the globe to redistribute and help share with hobbyists around the country. Rachel is very focused on education and information for her customers, and personally deals with each individual to help them make the best choices for the tank.

A proud mother of three, she actively donates livestock to schools around her area, and the country.

Future projects include a lot more travel to increase awareness of invertebrates and nano fish as well as furthering the growth of her fish room through increased breeding efforts and availability.

## Mark Your Calendars—Upcoming CAOAC Events

### March

8 - Calgary Aquarium Society Spring Auction  
15 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON  
15 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON  
21 - Hamilton & District Aquarium Society Spring Auction & Show.

### April

12 - Durham Region Aquarium Society Annual Aquariama Auction and Vendor EXPO,  
18 - Sarnia Aquarium Society Spring auction.  
19 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON  
19 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON

### May

3 - London Aquarium Society Spring auction. Click here for details  
15-17 - 2015 CAOAC Annual Convention - check the convention page on our site for more details

### June

28 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON  
28 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON



Check  
[www.caoac.ca](http://www.caoac.ca)  
for links and-  
more details

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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Did you miss a copy of the newsletter?

*Past copies of the newsletter are available on our website [www.caoac.ca/newsletters](http://www.caoac.ca/newsletters)*

Why isn't my event listed on the website?

*If you have an event you want included on the website, send the information to the webmaster and it will be added.*

Why am I not receiving emails or notifications?

*Please send changes of email address to the newsletter editor and correspondence secretary to keep us up to date.*

I'm not a CAOAC representative, can I attend a meeting?

*Your are welcome to attend a General Meeting. You just do not have a vote. We'd be happy to see you.*

I don't live in Ontario, how can I participate in the meeting?

*You are available to Skype into the meeting. Search for [ann.stevens11@gmail.com](mailto:ann.stevens11@gmail.com) in Skype and request to be added, mentioning your interest in participating in the meeting.*

Do I have to belong to a club to attend the convention?

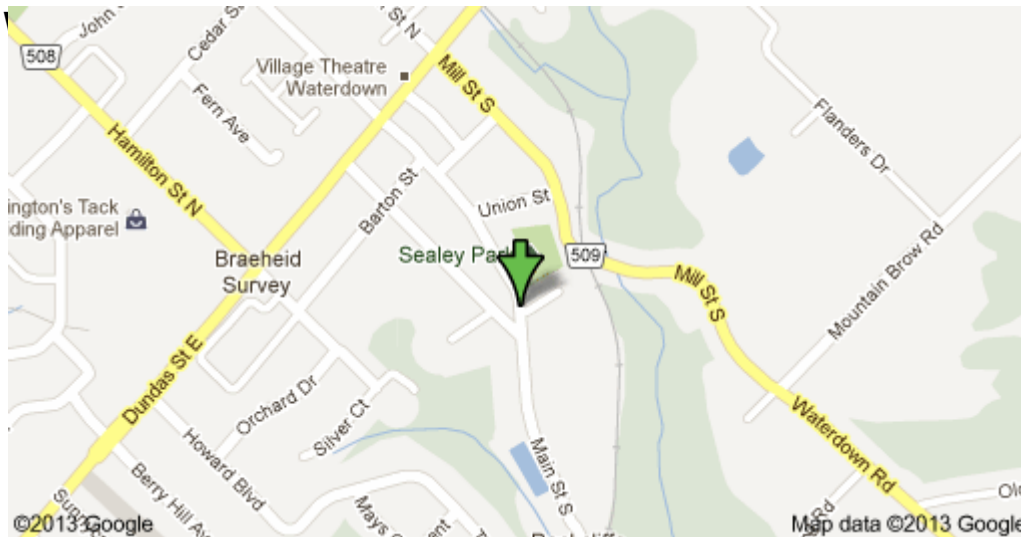
No, but it is helpful to keep up to date with current events in your area.

I have a suggestion for the meeting, how can I get it mentioned?

You can email anyone on the executive and they will raise your comment at the next meeting under Correspondence.



## **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO OUR REGULAR MEETINGS. Where we meet**



**CAOAC Meetings are Held at the Optimist Hall, 115 Main Street South Waterdown, Ontario.**

11:00 AM CAOAC Executive meeting

12:00 PM CAOAC General meeting

**NEXT MEETING IS March 15, 2015.**



**MARCH 2015**

**We're on the web**  
**[www.caoac.ca](http://www.caoac.ca)**

## What is CAOAC?

We are often asked this question. CAOAC stands for The Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs. We are a non-profit corporation and are composed of member aquarium, reptile & amphibian, pond & water garden, and similar clubs or societies from across Canada and the Northeast United States.

CAOAC was founded in 1959 (incorporated in 1963) to allow the clubs to work together for their common good and the good of the hobby. Legislative issues, promotion of events, a judging system, national awards, assistance for new clubs, & liability insurance are just a few of the things on which clubs can work and benefit together. Recently, a Fish Rescue Program has begun. This has been developed with outside partners who also have an interest in our hobby and environmental issues.

## What are the benefits of being a member?

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National awards program to honour those in member clubs who have achieved success in breeding, plant propagation, or other endeavours related to the hobby.

National judging program to train and certify judges as well as set standards that all can use to judge their shows.

Third-party liability insurance program to protect club members in case of an unfortunate accident at one of their functions.

National forum to express views and opinions.

National voice to deal with legislation which may impact negatively on our hobby and to put forward constructive ideas to politicians and bureaucrats.

A chance to become involved with people who share similar interests with yourselves.

If you are interested in joining CAOAC as a club or as a private (non-voting) member, please contact our Membership Chair, see under committees for email address.

In person meetings are held monthly (except July & August) in Waterdown, Ontario (unless otherwise posted) at the Optimist Hall where clubs which are within driving distance send their representative (s) to discuss issues of the day as well as the future.