



# President's Message

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Elections will soon be upon us so if anybody has a person they feel would make an addition to the present executive put their name or your name in the running. Contact Barry McKee, he is the person on the Steering Committee. Thanks to all.

We had a great meeting last month short of Mother Nature trying to raise havoc, but again a lot was done. We had our draws for the early bird people who purchased tickets and booked room for the convention. The ticket winner was the Draper Family and the room prize went to the Mountjoy Family. I have already booked the Friday off so we can get ready for the festivities.

The Hamilton shows and auction was a lot of fun and got a few new fish for our fish room. We had a chance to meet with old friends and catch up with the good and the bad of the long winter. There is always lots of fun at whatever you are doing.

I would like to make a Presidents Challenge to the entire club Presidents to make a donation to the prize table at the convention. This has been done for a lot of years and it makes it more fun if some people win something. So if all the clubs make a donation we should have a nice prize table.

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.

Is it trout chow or bunny droppings?

Take a chance

Ron Bishop, President CAOAC

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APRIL 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—March 15, 2015 Meeting

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## Executive Meeting – March 15, 2015

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Called to order at 11:10 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)	Present
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Peter Melady (SAS)	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Ann-Marie Towell (CAS)	Skype
Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens (HDAS)	Present
Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort (HDAS)	Present
Past President	Claudia Carthew (SCAAS)	Absent
Also In Attendance:	Annette Bishop (LAS)	Ed Bosker (HDAS)
Lisa Boorman (CKAS)	Brian Glazier (LAS)	Carl McCleary (Guest)

### Old Business

Results from the two surveys were discussed and will be published in the newsletter. It was great to see participation from so many clubs. There was 67% participated in the General survey and 76% for the Awards survey. The results will be sent out with the next newsletter.

### Convention

More donations are coming in, with free passes for Ripleys. Some have been sent to Catherine, some to Ken.

Sponsorships have been purchased and tables are being reserved for vendors.

Bob Fenner is having friends pick him up, Rachel is driving up.

Ken has not sent out the information for the President's Challenge for convention but will in the next week or so.

A question was raised as to who is responsible if Betta show loses money. Will be raised at general meeting when Catherine is present.

### Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes by Ken, seconded by Albert. Carried

Comment was made that previous minutes listed judges and Ron Bishop was missed from the list.

### Business Arising

# March 15 Minutes—Cont'd.

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## Treasurer's Report

An unofficial report was read and a full report will be in next month's minutes.  
Motion to accept the Treasurer's report, as read, by Ken seconded by Peter. Carried

## Correspondence

## New Business

IBC Show Judging Class to be after the General Meeting.  
Adjourned at 11:55 by Peter, second by Ken.

# General Meeting

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Called to order at 12:21 by President Ron.

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

Motion to accept the minutes by Ken, seconded by Albert. Carried.

## March 15 Minutes—Cont'd.

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### **Treasurers report**

See Executive meeting for details. Motion to approve the verbal report by Catherine seconded by Annette. Carried

### **Business Arising from Executive**

Recapped items from Executive regarding the survey.

### **Correspondence**

See Executive report.

### **Old Business**

Barry reported that Paul thinks he has a carousel of slides and 2 binders of pictures. The Lady from Fort Erie has not replied back after information was sent by Ron in regards to a new club in Fort Erie.

### **Committee Chairs**

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

**AHD-** no new report.

## March 15 Minutes—Cont'd.

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**Archivist** – Barry has contact Paul.

**Awards** – Done for the year, had awards meeting, next is convention.

**Binder** – updates are done. Ann to update analysis on some programs and add to web.

**Breeders** – Few reports from Sarnia, no first ins.

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

**Fish Rescue** – Just to let you know that the Fish Rescue has been very busy over the past month. I rescued a Tropical Gar, two Florida gar, a clown knife fish and two Jack Dempseys from an apartment in Scarborough and 5 koi and 7 goldfish from a restaurant in Guelph this month. I also found homes for the Florida gars, one Jack Dempsey, the clown knife, a walking catfish, a large Tilapia zillii, plus the Koi and goldfish. All of which were taken by Big Al's in Whitby. They have my deepest thanks.

Also could you please inform member clubs that if they are rescuing fish, it would be nice to have them contact me so I can put them on the list of fish. It would also be nice to know which fish were available and where fish ended up. If a member ends up taking the fish it would be sufficient to say that the fish went to a member. I am trying to get this on line more to show that CAOAC is being responsible. I'll revamp the list and get it to you as soon as I can.

Include list in newsletter

**Judges** – List of approved judges in previous minutes was missing Ron Bishop. Try to have meeting shortly.

**Memberships** – Regina has paid for insurance. Welcome packages were sent to all contacts received but some were returned due to incorrect email addresses.

**Newsletter** – Always looking for information to include in the newsletters. A suggestion was made to give information about the speakers, that was included. So please read through it, you don't know what gem may be hidden in it each month..

**Open Shows** – no report

**Programs-** nothing new.

**Steering** – Barry to send out email to executive to see if they want to run again and any nominations.

## March 15 Minutes—Cont'd.

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### **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	-70.85	16.65	18.00	36.00
Apr.	118.91				
May	Conven- tion				
June					

I spent 58.00 including the tip at the awards meeting in late February. (Bill for pizza was 54.20) At the March CAOAC meeting we had donations of homemade potato and leek soup from Ed, homemade shortbread from Ron an apple cake from Albert, and Timbits from the Boormans. We started at 67.86; I spent -12.85 for cream and cookies. We took in 36.00 from our raffle, 18.00 from our 50/50 which was won by Ed Bosker and 16.65 from donations. Our new total is 118.91  
Raffle raised \$36 – 3 containers of food-Carl, pail of food from Carl-Barry, shamrock plant-Carl, Bristlenose ansistrus, breeding pair from Barry - Ron  
50/50 was+ 18.00 to CAOAC 18.00 to Ed

**Website** – calendar updates were complete for what was sent.

### **Club Reports**

**Barrie** – Brian Glazier is speaking on April 14 on nutrition, live foods.

**Betta** – Seven members attended the on line meeting on March 8th.

Items discussed were:

1/ Up coming Face book Betta auction. 10 pairs of Bettas were ordered from Hung (transhipper) 5 pairs of Half Moons and 5 pairs of Plakets. prices were discussed. Price has gone up due to the Canadian dollars fall. Starting bid will be \$37 and Buy now will be \$50. Once bettas are received prices will be confirmed. Delivery date postponed by one week. Pictures will be posted on our BBC Face Book page last week of March.

2/ Confirmed size and discussed placement of tables for the IBC District show at the CAOAC con-

## March 15 Minutes—Cont'd.

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vention.

Morgan and I went over to the hotel to take a look at the room again. Back wall will work great. Will be using the 18" wide tables against the wall with two rows of bettas. Shelf will be made up of planks and bricks covered with black ground sheeting.

Plenty of room for registration table and wider table for wilds, photos and arts and crafts classes. 3/ Order put in for 100 Beany baby containers. Still looking for containers for wilds. Awards and ribbons being looked into.

4/ Convention tickets to be purchased for 2 other judges coming.

5/ Dinner with Gerald and Kayla Griffin on Thursday evening. They are coming in to Buffalo on Thursday. Will be picked up at air port.

6/ Possibility of Larissa Williams giving the first of the 3 judging talks. More information to come when available.

We are gearing up for the CAOAC convection and IBC district show. Have 10 members confirmed so far that they are coming. Heather is flying into Hamilton Airport on Wed and JC to Toronto on Thursday morning (3:00am) Ashley and Morgan available Friday early afternoon. Diana after work on Friday.

Last Sunday BBC did a talk show on Betta Time on the radio, Natures Talk Show Radio, mentioning the convention and a club covering all of Canada. It still can be accessed from the Facebook page.

Calgary – Our last auction was a big success with the largest turnout in 5 years. We have our fall auction in October and I will send you the date. We are 87 members and growing fast!! Last meeting we had a presentation on the Chicago Aquatic Expo and jar show was characins. We have our home competition in May and home tour in June.

Chatham-Kent – speaker didn't show at last meeting due to sickness and they used a CAOAC program instead and a potential new member. Greg Steeves will be coming up from Texas on September 12.

Durham – Membership is currently 61.

Our Annual Social Dinner was February 22 with guest speaker Larry Johnson on "Swimming with Cichlids", Lake Malawi. Larry gave a great presentation with extraordinary underwater pictures and anecdotes from his latest trip. There were 45 people attending even with the terrible weather. The venue was the Mandarin in Pickering and everyone enjoyed the quality, variety and quantity of the food.

The DRAS Speaker Program for the following four months includes:

- April 14th 2015 Tim McCaskie – Madagascar Endangered species Program
- May 12th 2015 Elections and speaker TBA
- June 9th 2015 Ken Boorman (Chatham Kent Aquarium Society & ANGFA)  
- Rainbowfish species of Australia and Blue Eyes of Australia (a myriad of forms)

DRAS "Aquariama" is on April 12th 2015. Vendor expo and our Buck a Bag auction continues. Canada Pet Expo is Easter weekend at the International Centre, Airport Road. Rolf C. Hagen will provide a Freshwater Aquarium display, organized by DRAS. Tom Mason will provide further information at the CAOAC General meeting.



## March 15 Minutes—Cont'd.

### Hamilton –

Kitchener – Our March meeting was supposed to feature Frank Aguirre presenting Plecos, but due to the poor weather and road conditions, he will present at a later date. Instead we watched some videos and commented on what is going on in our tanks at home. Three members received BAP certificates. The “Name That Fish” was a group of three Long Fin Rosy Barbs. The Mini-Show featured classes were Characins and AOV. There were only a few fish and plants in the auction. Despite the poor weather and road conditions, we had 16 people in attendance.

Check the KWAS 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)

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

London - The March meeting was cancelled due to freezing rain. We will be having Ken Boorman do a talk in April. We have our spring auction on Sunday, May 3, 2015

Sarnia – auction April 18, Brian Glazier is our speaker for April and Ken Boorman is our speaker for May.

St. Catharines - Last month we had Peter De Souza speaking about killie fish and we had a good turnout. Our next meeting is Monday April 6th and Larry Johnson will be speaking about his most recent trip to Africa, everyone is welcome.

Windsor – Ken is speaking next month.

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

### **Convention 2015**

Barb Draper won the free ticket draw. Congratulations. See Executive report for more details. Betta Show awards will be certificates. It was agreed that Betta will have a Class on judging of Betta's in the room after the General Meeting for about an hour. Catherine confirmed that Betta Breeders are well covered for any expenses for their show.

### **Old Business**

### **New Business**

Hagen is giving 5 displays for the Pet Expo. Tom Mason is looking for volunteers. April 3-5 for the Pet Expo, 9-5, at the International centre

Next meeting will be April 19.

Motion to adjourn by Barry and seconded by Lisa. Meeting adjourned at 1:40

## Fish Rescue

Fish Rescue has been very busy over the past month. Tom Mason has rescued a Tropical Gar, two Florida gar, a clown knife fish and two Jack Dempseys from an apartment in Scarborough and 5 koi and 7 goldfish from a restaurant in Guelph this month. He also found homes for the Florida gars, one Jack Dempsey, the clown knife, a walking catfish, a large Tilapia zillii, plus the Koi and goldfish. All of which were taken by Big Al's in Whitby. They have his deepest thanks.

Tom is asking that clubs that if they are rescuing fish, please contact me Tom I can put them on the list of fish.

The following information would also be nice to record:

- which fish were available, name, number
- where the fish ended up. If a member ends up taking the fish it would be sufficient to say that the fish went to a member.

This information is helpful to show that we, as caring hobbyists, are helping.

## List of Fish Available Through Fish Rescue

CAOAC Program				as of February 2015	
Species	Qty.	Detail	Qty	Size	Disposition
Liposarcus disjunctivus	1	white		30 cm	
	6	normal	2	20cm	
			4	30-35cm	
Glyptoperichthys gibbiceps	4		1	15cm	
			2	30cm	
			1	45cm	
Glyptoperichthys joselimaianus	2			30cm	
Glyptoperichthys scrophus	1			30cm	
Pacu	1			10cm	
African cichlid (unidentified sp.)	1				
Oscars females	2			25 cm	
Alligator gar	1			55 cm	
Florida gar	2			25 cm	Big Al's -Whitby
Clown Knife	1			35 cm	Big Al's - Whitby
Koi & goldfish	12			10 - 30 cm	Big Al's - Whitby
Honey Gouramis	12			3 cm	Mr. Pet - Ajax
Archocentrus siquia	24			3 - 6 cm	DRAS member
Walking catfish albino	1			35 cm	Big Al's Whitby
If interested in any fish call Tom Mason at 905 839 6764 or email coterc09@gmail.com					

## Survey Responses

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I, as the editor and many other hats of CAOAC, and the Executive, would first like to thank everyone that took the time to reply to the surveys offered. It's all well and good for people to complain, but when given the chance to make a difference, it's people like you, who replied, that are the winners.

A couple of comments I thought could be replied to here. I hope this helps. I will be attaching the results of both surveys with the newsletter. So if you didn't see them, please contact me and I will send them to you. **Please note, these are the express written thought of the writer and not necessarily those of the executive.**

### Awards Survey

- ◆ In answer to Question 1, "Have you participated in the CAOAC Awards Program?" Two people replied they didn't know about the awards.
  - ◆ We have a report from the Awards Chair each month at our meeting, which is published in the newsletter. The website has a section called Award Programs. We've also sent out a list of awards to be included in club newsletters.
  - ◆ I would like some suggestions how else we can communicate this to the clubs.
- ◆ Question 8, "Any other comments you'd like to make in regards to CAOAC Awards?"
  - ◆ Comment, "they should be awarded at the CAOAC Convention dinner. This will be done this year.
  - ◆ Comment "A program outlining the various awards that could be delivered to clubs." This is something we will try to work on before the next year's awards are due.
  - ◆ Comment "Very Ontario centred" If we don't have participation from clubs outside of Ontario, then it makes it difficult to award outside of Ontario.

### General CAOAC Survey

- ◆ Question 1, The CAOAC website has been extensively updated. Have you visited the website in the last year? "
  - ◆ Comment—"Calendar should be September through June". The calendar is on a rolling basis, which means, that when I have something to add, I add the date, regardless of when it is in effect, unless of course it's a year out. When it gets updated, the previous month is removed and any new dates are added, all of them. However, dates can not be added if they aren't sent to the webmaster to add. Currently, the calendar is running April to December.
- ◆ Question 9. "We introduced Skype as an option to participate in our monthly Meetings. We included raffle items and 50/50 draws for those living in Ontario. What do you think can be done to encourage more attendance at our General meetings? "
  - ◆ Maybe attendance online/real life in a draw for some sort of fish related gift certificate. Might encourage non-Ontario to Skype in. People like 'freebies' This is a good idea but not sure what incentive we could use that would be cost effective as well as beneficial to all. Looking for suggestions to incorporate this in our meetings.

# 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

### April

12 - Durham Regaion 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?

*You 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?

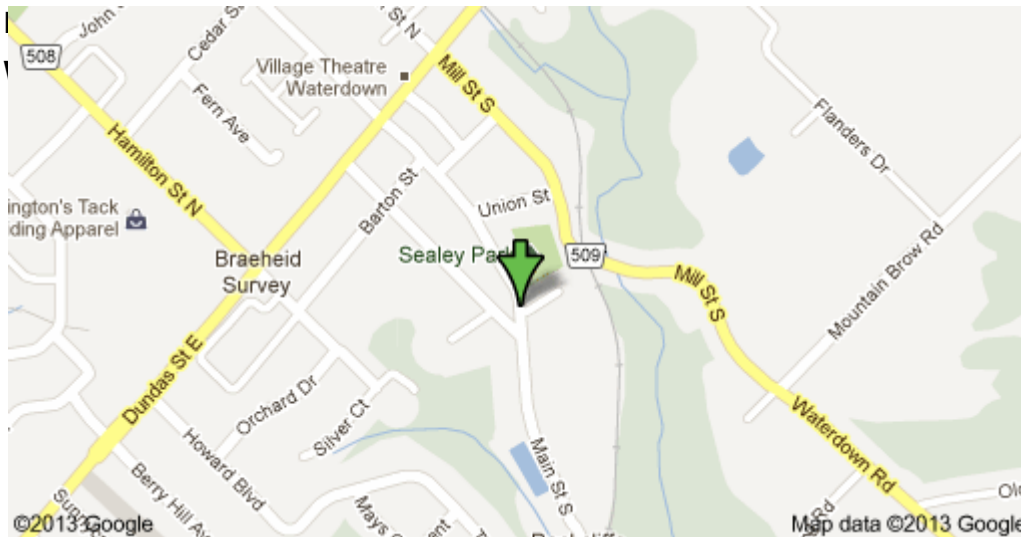
*You are available to Skype into the meeting. Search for [ann.stevens11@gmail.com](mailto:ann.stevens11@gmail.com) in Skype and request to be added, mentioning your interest in participating in the meeting.*

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.



**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



APRIL 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.