



# President's Message

Lest we forget,

I hope everybody has had a chance to take in some of the Fall Auctions and Shows. The competition in the shows has been exciting. The Kitchener, Waterloo Aquarium Society had their show at the end of October. The turn out was alright but all in all there was some great fish. The Auction was well attended as well as lots of great bargains for all. The Peel Auction will be next then St Catharine's . Lots of miles and lots of great deals. Then it is time to get ready for the cold and crappy weather and with all the new species to breed over the winter this is one of the exciting things about our hobby.

The London Aquaria Society executive has got the raffle tickets for a chance to win your convention ticket. They are five dollars each and with every twenty tickets sold, a draw will take place and the winner will get their convention ticket for free. Good luck to all.

I would still like to see a few more faces at the CAOAC Meeting in Water-down , As this is a great way to increase the communication between the clubs and find out what everybody is doing to help their club work and maybe get some fresh ideas to bring back to your own club. We had a few new faces at the last meeting but there were still a lot of empty chairs around the table. Remember an empty chair makes no noise and there are a lot of great ideas that are not being shared. It is very discouraging when you hear grumbling from the clubs that don't make an appearance at the meetings. When you hear this stuff from somebody who was not there it has no bearing on those that were. We had a great discussion from those in attendance at the last meeting and lots of great ideas came out. For those who don't care to show up I guess you will have to put up with the your same ideas . Once again, Remember a empty chair makes no noise.

Also if there are interested people we need some committee people to fill some empty spots. We will be having our 50/50 Draw and the ever popular draw table so we can all either donate or buy some tickets for a chance to win what is on the tables. So come one all.

If there are any clubs out there that have changes in executive please get the new information to us so we can update our records.

The chill is in the air, Time to enjoy the fall,

Ron Bishop, President, CAOAC

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NOVEMBER 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

# Meeting Minutes—October 18, 2015

## Executive Meeting – October 18, 2015

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)	Skype
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Peter Melady	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Ann-Marie Towell (CAS)	Absent
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)

### Old Business –

An email was received in August in regards to a Peterborough Pet Expo. Due to a lack of quorum, it wasn't discussed at the last meeting. It was thought it should be something looked at for the next one. Ken advised that there are 4 per year throughout Ontario. A good idea would be to let the clubs know if they want to help man the booth and include flyers or newsletters.

Discussion in regards to the insurance ensued. Ann to send out survey to clubs with questions asked from insurance company and increase in coverage.

### Convention

Minutes – Peter made a motion to accept the minutes from the June meeting. Ken seconded. Carried

### Business Arising

### Treasurer's Report

#### September 2015

1	<b>Treasurer's Report Oct 18 2015</b>	<b>TD Bank Aug 31-2015</b>	<b>\$ 10,219.02</b>
2	Cheque's Cashed #		\$ -
3	Bank Fees (Jun 30)		\$ -
4	Cheque's + cash deposit's ()		\$ -
5	Transfers deposit's ()		\$ -
6		<b>TD Bank Sep 30-2015</b>	<b>\$ 10,219.02</b>
7	Outstanding Cheque's # 199		-\$ 50.00
8	<b>Paypal June 19-2015</b>		\$ 19.12
9	Cash on hand (in trust \$ 25.00)		\$ 25.00
10	<b>Cheque's on hand \$ 0.00</b>		\$ -
11	Terry Little Memorial Fund		-\$ 466.81
12	<b>Working Balance</b>		<b>\$ 9,746.33</b>

To Come for show \$35 **Brant Club Class # 19 Novelty**

To Come for show \$70 **Ottawa Valley Aq. Club Class # 17 Sharks & Loaches & #31 Photograph**

# Meeting Minutes—October 18, 2015—Cont'd.

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## Correspondence

### New Business

Meeting adjourned at 11:49

# General Meeting

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Called to order at 12:06 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	Absent
Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens (HDAS)	Present
Treasurer	Albert Van Montfort (HDAS)	Present
Past President	Claudia Carthew (TFCEC)	Absent
Club	Name	
Barrie	Jeff Mountjoy	Skype
Betta Breeders	Catherine Salmon	Skype
Chatham	Lisa Boorman	Skype
Durham	Barry McKee	Myron Iwanochko
Hamilton	Albert Van Montfort	
London AS	Annette Bishop	
Ottawa Amphibian	Tom Mason	
Sarnia	Peter Melady	
St. Catharines	Phil Barrett	
Guests:	Ed Bosker (HDAS)	

Ron welcomed Jeff Mountjoy and Ken joining us through Skype.

Minutes – Peter made a motion to accept the last General Meeting minutes in April. There was no General Meeting in June due to lack of a quorum. Seconded by Ken.

**Treasurers report** – see Executive meeting

Peter made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Ken.

**Business Arising from Executive** – Tom Mason will check into the next Pet Expo show and advise.

**Correspondence** – A request was sent through Facebook about the Flowerhorn show. Ron will reply.  
Ann shared the PIJAC certificate and mail.

# Meeting Minutes—October 18, 2015—Cont'd.

## Committee Reports

Break was taken

### Committee Chairs

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

Due to lack of quorum, the Committee Chairs was not voted on at the last meeting to accept the current chairs. Call to someone who would like to participate as the Futures Chair. What are the responsibilities of the Futures Chair?

The Chairperson shall be responsible for chairing the committee meetings.

2) The Chairperson shall generate ideas for future development of C.A.O.A.C. and promoting the hobby.

3) The Chairperson shall submit an annual report at the C.A.O.A.C. convention.

Ron asked Tom Mason what ideas he feels needs to change for the future of CAOAC. He suggested trying to look at Families to be involved, including retail stores and possibly natural aspects of the hobby.

Peter made a motion to pass all chairs. Seconded by Ken.

To have all committee chairs send over what is involved with position to be included in the newsletter.

AHD- no club reports and I will be updating in the next month or so.

Awards – Now is the time to start getting your paperwork in order for Breeders, Aquatic Horticulturalist and Recognition Awards. **December 13 is the deadline date** for Authors Awards. If you are submitting your Newsletter for the Newsletter Award, you can start sending your newsletters to **Ray Lucas (kingfish51@verizon.net)** at any time making sure that you put "CAOAC Newsletter Award" somewhere in the subject line. Ray has once again graciously agreed to judge the Newsletter Award for us and he will be at the 2016 CAOAC Convention. The Newsletters should be in Ray's hands by the January 2016 CAOAC Meeting which is January 17, 2016. All

# Meeting Minutes—October 18, 2015—Cont'd.

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other Achievement and Recognition Awards submissions are due by the **February 21, 2016** CAOAC Meeting.

**Binder** –no report

**Fish Breeders** – 3 submissions from Winnipeg, Kitchener and Chatham have been received.

**Memberships** – Renewals are coming up quickly. Email to be sent once insurance is confirmed.

**Newsletter** – To add a section, what has CAOAC done for clubs? To add any communication one can go to our website or please send to our Facebook page.

**Programs** – nothing new to report, there have been no requests lately.

**Ways & Means** –

Starting Balance \$29.90

50/50 winner is Albert with \$11.00

Month	Balance	Spent	Rec'd	50/50	Raffle
Sept.	32.06	- 12.16	10.00		
Oct.	29.90	- 10.00	9.40	11.00	15.00

## Club Reports

**Website** – Please send changes for club information to [ann.stevens11@gmail.com](mailto:ann.stevens11@gmail.com). A generic email address was added to the Committee and Executive pages.

### Club Reports

**Betta** – because of the long weekend, meeting is tonight, SLACK is the new communication program being use.

**Calgary** – We are at about 80 members and have our fall auction today!! I'm auction chair and will not be able to attend the CAOAC meeting. We book our auctions a year in advance so it's hard for me to get the date right!! We have our elections next month. I was not able to attend the Saskatoon show but sent fish. Sounds like it went well. Edmonton has their big auction November 8th and will have Anton Lamboj as a speaker on November 7th. Regina (not Region) has their auction today too.

**Chatham-Kent** – next meeting is November 14 with Larry Johnson talk on Lake Malawi

**Durham** – Membership is currently 66.

The DRAS Speaker Program in October was "Fish Collecting" locally and in the tropics with Derek Tustin, Tom Mason and Barry McKee (attendance 38).

November 10th is our GIANT AUCTION and December is our social pot luck event.

The DRAS Annual Dinner and Speaker details are under development.

Aquarium is April 17th, 2016 at the Ajax Community Centre. We are working on some changes TBA'

**Hamilton** – Our fall auction was a great success. Spring auction and show is on Sat. March 19 if you can please sanction that date.

Anton Lamboj will be presenting 2 talks at our dinner on Sat. Nov 14 at the Waterdown Legion. West African cichlids and Bettas. Pot-luck Dinner item and a Neighbour- to-Neighbour Food Drive. Cost is \$15. Please contact me at [events@hdas.ca](mailto:events@hdas.ca) for tickets.

Don't miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity.

**Kitchener-Waterloo** - Our October meeting featured Catherine Salmon speaking on Bettas. The Mini-Show classes were Large American Cichlids and AOV. Name that plant was Wisteria. Some auction items were sold. A Breeding Award Program certificate was given to Shawn O'Halloran. There was some discussion of upcoming events at other clubs as well as our Oktoberfish on Sunday October 25th.

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)

# Meeting Minutes—October 18, 2015—Cont'd.

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

London - On the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, we had our meeting, we did not have a speaker.

We talked about some of the decisions that were made for our convention in May 2016.

We had two golf shirt options brought forth. There will be a follow-up convention meeting to finalize the rest of the details and make any final decisions, so we can move on with printing out tickets and advertising. The meeting was to be held on Saturday, but our treasurer's partner who was also a club member, passed away suddenly and we will have to reschedule. We will also hold a meeting to discuss any updates that may need to be made to our by-laws.

We wish to express our sincerest condolences to Bob Steele on the passing of Laurel Westman.

Sarnia - While attendance and sale items were low at our September auction; we still managed to turn a small profit. Elections are coming up in November and Awards/Christmas party are in December.

St. Catharines - The club report for St Catharines is as follows. Last month we had a club member give an excellent presentation about setting up planted tanks .

Our next meeting will be Monday November 2nd and our member Pam Danyluk will be giving a presentation on nutrition and her product "Critter Crumbs" ever one is welcome. Also club auction is November 29, doors open at 8:00, auction begins at 10:00, cash only.

Windsor – planning an auction in the spring and elections are this month.

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

## **Convention 2016**

We gave out our first full convention ticket to Glen Hawkins of Windsor. He won our first raffle. We are in the midst of selling more raffle tickets to give away another full convention ticket. The date of the convention is Friday May 20- Sunday, May 22, 2016. It will be hosted by the London Aquaria Society who is celebrating their 60th anniversary! It will be held at Fanshawe College on Oxford St in London. It is close to the airport and many amenities.

The speakers are Leslie Dick, on Goodies / Livebearers. Mark Denaro, on Anabantids. Hernan Lopez Fernandez, on density and diversity of fish populations. Karen Randall who was at the last London convention is returning to talk on plants. Ken Mckeighan, on Killies. Ken is also doing some paintings, one for an earlybird draw for room bookings, and some others that may be auctioned off. Ray Lucas will be doing our ice breaker on the Friday night.

CAOAC will also sponsor the Hospitality Suite again this year supplying pop and water and chips and other munchies.

Saturday will be a large fish show, including Betta classes. The Betta Congress will be joining us. They will have their own show and auction which will not interfere with ours. Also the Killie Club Of South Western Ontario will be joining the convention

On the Saturday night we will be having the awards dinner, to be followed by karaoke and a dance. We are hoping to have all of the club presidents donate something for door prizes.

Sunday will be the AGM, which we encourage people to attend. Followed by an auction.

More details to follow, once there is a meeting with the college and then the convention committee. Meals will be decided on as well as prices. We are hoping to have golf shirts for sale to club members first and if there are more, then they can be sold to others who wish to buy them.

CAOAC is looking for a club who would like to host the 2017 convention. A final Convention budget will be sent in November.

## Ever wondered what the various chair positions do?

I will highlight some this time and more next.

### **Aquatic Horticulturalist Directory (AHD):**

The Chairperson is:

- ◆ responsible for keeping the directory up to date.
- ◆ make suggestions for changes to the C.A.O.A.C. guidelines of the AHAP programs.

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- ◆ submit an annual report at the C.A.O.A.C. convention.

#### Archivist:

- ◆ store and keep up to date the historical memorabilia and ephemera of C.A.O.A.C.
- ◆ report from time to time on the best way of preserving the history of C.A.O.A.C.

#### Awards:

- ◆ responsible for the administering and directing of all Breeder Awards, Long Service Awards, Scientist of the Year Award, Hobbyist of the Year Award, and Authors Award.
- ◆ responsible for the refurbishing of the yearly awards for both Open Show and Awards committee.
- ◆ plan in conjunction with the Open Show Committee the handling of these awards at the Annual Convention.
- ◆ submit an annual report at the C.A.O.A.C. convention.

#### Judges:

- ◆ responsible for the Apprenticeship Judging Program available through C.A.O.A.C.;
- ◆ set up the rules and regulations governing this program.
- ◆ responsible for the evaluating, testing and certifying of these apprentices.
- ◆ update the judging standards and also the list of active judges.
- ◆ make these standards and lists available to any club requesting such.
- ◆ award the Judging certificates at the Annual Convention.
- ◆ handle all problems regarding C.A.O.A.C. certified judges at open competition club shows.
- ◆ submit an annual report at the C.A.O.A.C. convention.

## Mark Your Calendars—Upcoming CAOAC Events

### November

8 - Peel Region Aquarium Society auction.

14 - Hamilton District Aquarium Society speaker dinner with Anton Lamboj.

15 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

15 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON

29 - St. Catharines Aquarium Society fall auction. .

### December

13 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown

ON

13 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON

### January

17 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

17 - 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 invited 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.*



# Recognition & Achievement Awards

They may not be due until the beginning of next year, but now's the time to look at what awards are available and how close you are to achieving these

Check out the list below.

If you have any questions, you can either check the website <http://www.caoac.ca/awards.html> or contact Peter Melady, Awards Chair at [hpmelady@hotmail.com](mailto:hpmelady@hotmail.com).

Recognition Awards		
NAME OF AWARD	AWARD	REQUIREMENTS
Author	Certificate	10 articles and at least two (2) different reprints.
Advanced Author	Plaque	By his/her outstanding articles, contributed to the
		betterment of the hobby. For both, articles and, if
		available, reprints must be submitted.
Hobbyist of the Year	Plaque	Contributed immensely to the betterment of the hobby over the past year
Junior Hobbyist of the Year	Plaque	Time and energy to advance themselves in the hobby over the past year
Service	Plaque	Time and energy over extended period of time to benefit C.A.O.A.C.
Scientist	Plaque	Contributed scientifically to advancement in the field of Ichthyology
25 Years of Service	Framed Certificate	25 years of continuous service to C.A.O.A.C.
		OR 25 years of combined continuous service to club and/or C.A.O.A.C.
40 Years of Service	Framed Certificate	40 years of continuous service to CAOAC
		OR 40 years of combined continuous service to club and/or CAOAC
Newsletter	Plaque	Presented annually to a club's editor for the best newsletter published in the past year

Achievement awards			
NAME OF AWARD	POINTS	NUMBER OF SPECIES	CLASSES
Aquatic Horticulturalist	50	4	B C D
Advanced Aquatic Horticulturalist	120	12	2C 2D 1E
Expert Aquatic Horticulturalist	250	30	2D 2E 1F
Master Aquatic Horticulturalist	500	40	3D 2E 2F 1G
Grand Master Aquatic Horticulturalist	1000	80	3 lectures
			OR 3 photo essays
			OR an article of identification 2000 words for publication

## Achievement Awards Cont'd.

<b>QUICK REFERENCE FOR BAP AND AHAP AWARDS</b>							
<b>NAME OF AWARD</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>KILLIES</b>	<b>AFRICAN RIFT LAKE CICHLIDS</b>	<b>LIVE-BEARER</b>	<b>CHARACINS</b>	<b>CAT-FISH</b>	<b>CICHLIDS (Other than Rift Lake)</b>
Basic Merit Award	6 species of fish  3 different egg-laying species	10 species of Killifish  2 separate classes	12 species of African Rift Lake Cichlids	12 species of Livebearers	8 species of Characins	8 species of Catfish	10 species of Cichlids  2 different Genera
Intermediate Merit Award	17 species of fish categories:  Cichlids; Killies Anabantids; Livebearers; Minnows; Tetras; Barbs; Catfish; Inverts (variance of 3)	20 species of Killifish  4 separate classes	36 species of African Rift Lake Cichlids  10 - class B 6 - class C 1 - class D	25 species of Livebearers  2 families maximum of 18 per family	15 species of Characins	15 species of Catfish.  2 different families	20 species of Cichlids  5 different Genera & 2 different geographical areas
Advanced Merit Award	37 species of fish  Categories as above plus 4 target fish  (variance of 6)	40 species of Killifish  6 separate classes	50 species of African Rift Lake Cichlids  12 - class C 4 - class D	50 species of Livebearers  3 families maximum of 35 per family plus 2 target fish	25 species of Characins  plus 1 target fish	25 species of Catfish.  3 different families and 5 Genera.	40 species of Cichlids  10 different Genera & 3 different geographical areas  (2 target)
Senior Merit Award	75 species of fish  No more than 10 live-bearers. 10 target fish	75 species of Killifish  8 separate classes	75 species of African Rift Lake Cichlids  14 - class C 7 - class D	75 species of Livebearers  4 families maximum of 60 plus 5 target fish	40 species of Characins  plus 5 target fish	40 species of Catfish.  4 different families and 6 Genera.	75 species of Cichlids  4 different geographical areas (4 target)

*NOTE: This page has been created as a "Quick Reference Guide", for details, please refer to the actual sections for the Award applying for.*



**NOVEMBER 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.