



President's Message

All awards nominations are due at the February Meeting. So if you have any members in line for awards please submit them. The Awards Committee is looking forward to all the applications for the awards to being submitted on time.

A very interesting letter was submitted by Tom Mason on different things that could be done to make the hobby more attractive to all and have CAOAC do a lot of changes for the hobby. These ideas are great and all is good on paper but we need bodies to try to implement some or all of the suggestions. A lot of great ideas for the Future's Committee.

There was a discussion about CAOAC putting a policy into the Bylaws regarding Bullying and Harassment, we will have a final draft for this done for the next meeting and will can put it on the table to be voted on in the near future. It is disturbing we have to go this far as we are hobbyists and volunteers trying to make this hobby more enjoyable for all.

Please consult the calendar for events, as soon as you can get the info to Ann Stevens so she can get it updated. The Durham Aquarium Club just had Gary Lange speak at the Toronto Zoo with a very good meal. We all had lots to eat then we were educated about finding new Rainbows for our hobby. There was an auction with lots of eggs for all to bid on. A fun time was had by all, great job Durham People. It is always a fun evening and the meal is great. I know we have enjoyed it every time we have gone.

The CAOAC convention is fast approaching on the May long weekend. Check back often for updates. London is offering two draws for the convention. The first is a painting done by Ken McKeighton for anyone who has booked their rooms for the convention at Fanshawe College by April 1st will qualify for that one. And the second is anybody that purchases a full convention ticket will be entered into a draw for their ticket to be reimbursed to them. (Note only tickets purchased before April 1st qualify.) All people who won their tickets thru the raffles will not be entered into these draws. The latest winner was Ann Stevens, congrats this makes five winners so far.

Candy is Dandy and it might help get that new tank in the fish room. Happy Valentines Day

Ron Bishop
President CAOAC

FEBRUARY 2016

Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|----|
| Board of Directors | 2 |
| Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016 | 3 |
| Potential invasive species identified in S. Gulf of Mexico | 10 |
| What is the definition of Bullying | 12 |

Inside this issue:

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Mark Your Calendars | 12 |
| Frequently Asked Questions | 13 |
| Where we meet | 13 |
| Recognition & Achievement | 14 |
| What is CAOAC | 16 |

Board of Directors

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

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

Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016

Executive Meeting

Called to order at 11:20 by Ron Bishop (President) at Optimist Hall, Waterdown.

Executive Attendance

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

Old Business

It appears that the individual that was discussed at the last meeting has stepped back and legal advice will only be sought at this time.

Insurance, Albert will get new certificate for Durham and waiting on word from insurer for balance of clubs certificates.

Pet Expo – Ron sent emails, but still has not received any replies.

Anti-bullying policy. A meeting will follow the general meeting to discuss.

ANGFA request – Ken made a motion to support the Preservation of the species and to help with the research in the amount of \$200 Canadian. Ann seconded. Carried.

Minutes – Ken made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. Albert seconded. Carried

Treasurer's Report

| December - 2015 | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Treasurer's Report Jan 17 2016 | TD Bank Nov 30-2015 | \$9,706.03 |
| 2 | Cheque's Cashed # 202 | | -\$175.02 |
| 3 | Bank Fees (Dec 31) | | -\$4.95 |
| 4 | Cheque's + cash deposit's () | | \$3,734.12 |
| 5 | Transfers deposit's () | | \$- |
| 6 | | TD Bank Dec 31-2015 | \$13,260.18 |
| 7 | Outstanding Cheque's # 203 #204 | | -\$1,032.85 |
| 8 | Paypal Jan 8-2016 | | \$510.00 |
| 9 | Cash on hand (0) | | \$- |
| 10 | Cheque's deposit after Dec 31-2015 | | \$360.00 |
| 11 | Expenses committed +/- | | -\$3,000.00 |
| 12 | Terry Little Memorial Fund | | -\$466.81 |
| 13 | Working Balance | | \$9,630.52 |

Motion to accept by Ken, seconded by Ann. Carried.

Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016-Cont'd.

Correspondence

Email for a link on the website, for selling Koi but not to Canada. No further action or replies.

Email re PIJAC renewal, Ken made a motion to renew. Seconded by Ann

Ron received email from Tom Mason, regarding some suggestions for CAOAC. To be discussed under Futures.

Membership

All clubs were voted on and accepted. Carried.

| 2016 | Club Legal name | |
|------------------------|--|-------|
| 1 | Aquarium Club of Edmonton | ACE |
| 2 | Aquarium Society of Winnipeg | ASW |
| 4 | Calgary Aquarium Society | CAS |
| | | CAOA |
| | Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs | C |
| 5 | Durham Region Aquarium Society | DRAS |
| 6 | Forest City Pond Club | CPCP |
| 7 | Hamilton & District Aquarium Society | HDAS |
| 8 | Kitchener Waterloo Aquarium Society | KWAS |
| 9 | London Aquaria Society | LAS |
| 11 | Ottawa Valley Aquarium Society | OVAS |
| 12 | Regina Aquarium Society | RAS |
| 13 | Sarnia Aquarium Society | SarAS |
| 14 | Saskatoon Aquarium Society | SAS |
| 15 | The Greater Victoria Aquaria Society | TGVAS |
| 16 | The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society | SCAAS |
| 21 | Chatham-Kent Aquarium Society | CKAS |
| 24 | Barrie Region Aquarium Society of Simcoe | BRASS |
| 19 | Windsor Aquarium Society | WAS |
| Membership only | | |
| 10 | Ottawa Amphibian and Reptile Association | OARA |
| 22 | Betta Breeders Canada | BBC |
| 23 | Peel Region Aquarium Club | PRAC |

| No renew-als | No renewals | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 3 | Brant Aquarium Society | BAS TSHEL |
| 18 | Turtle S.H.E.L.L./ Tortue S.H.E.L.L. | L |
| 17 | Toronto Aquarium Society | TAS |
| 20 | Maritime Aquarium Club | MAC |

A request was made that only one person is a point of contact for their clubs. This is not the policy of CAOAC.

New Business

Meeting adjourned at 12:13

Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016-Cont'd.

General Meeting

Called to order at 12:30 by President Ron.

| Position | Name | Absent/Present |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Ron Bishop (LAS) | Present |
| 1 st VP | Ken Boorman (CKAS) | Present (Skype) |
| 2 nd VP | Peter Melady | Absent |
| Corresponding Secretary | Ann Marie Towell | Present (Skype) |
| Recording Secretary | Ann Stevens (HDAS) | Present |
| Treasurer | Albert Van Montfort (HDAS) | Present (Skype) |
| Past President | Claudia Carthew (TFCEC) | Absent |
| Club | Name | |
| Barrie | Jeff Mountjoy | Skype |
| Betta | Catherine Salmon | |
| Calgary | Ann Marie | Skype |
| Chatham | Lisa Boorman | Skype |
| Durham | Barry McKee | Myron Iwanochko |
| Hamilton | Ed Bosker | |
| Kitchener-Waterloo | | |
| London AS | Annette Bishop | |
| Ottawa Amphibian | | |
| Sarnia | | |
| St. Catharines | Phil Barrett | |
| Guests: | | |

A quorum of 25% or more as per the By-Laws was met.

Minutes –Myron made a motion to accept the minutes of the last General Meeting. Seconded by Ken Carried

Treasurers report – see Executive meeting

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

Business Arising from Executive – see Executive minutes.

Correspondence –

See executive minutes.

Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016-Cont'd.

Committee Chairs

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

AHD- nothing, hoping to have directory updated within the next week or so.

Archivist – Quote received, to get 2 extra copies, one to Paul for Archivist, one to Ken for Programs

Awards – All Achievement and Recognition Awards submissions are due by the February 21, 2016 CAOAC meeting. All rules, requirements and forms are on the CAOAC website in the Awards button. Please double check that all paperwork is filled out as per these rules and requirements to avoid being disqualified.

Binder –no updates

Fish Breeders Directory – submission from Hamilton.

Fish Rescue –Ken rescued a goldfish and kept it.

Futures – Tom Mason's email was discussed and will be considered.

Memberships – see executive report.

Newsletter –

Programs – Nothing new, no requests.

Steering – will not be at the next meeting.

Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016-Cont'd.

Ways & Means –

Draw ticket for convention – Phil Barrett

| 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 |
| Nov. | 55.30 | - 12.85 | 3.90 | 15.00 | 20.00 |
| Dec. | 81.35 | -2.85 | 4.65 | 13.50 | 32.00 |
| Jan. | 128.65 | -10.85 | 17.10 | 12.00 | 25.00 |
| Feb. | 171.90 | | | | |

Raffle winners:

Anaubias – Catherine

Valisneria – Ed

Cory – Ron

Thanks to Ed for the wonderful soup!

Website –Request all forms to PDF forms. Catherine requested the Open Show form be made into a PDF form. Updated Convention information has been added, as well as a link to the Canadian Aquatic Invasive Species Network.

Club Reports

Barrie – -As of today BRASS currently has 17 members.

Our January meeting was cancelled due to bad weather. The meeting has been rescheduled for January 19th. Udo Rohmann is presenting a talk on a unique filter system and there will be a fun fish ID-Quiz slide show.

An Auction Committee has been formed to steer and organize our upcoming auction on April 3rd. The event will be called BRASS Aquarium Auction 2016.

The Auction will include new & used dry goods. There will be no fish show. More details are coming this week.

Our Secretary position is being temporarily filled by Leanne Mountjoy. The appointment of Mr. Moreau at our December meeting was not in accordance to our Club bylaws and Election rules (see commentary regarding BRASS' position with respect to Frank Moreau).

Commentary on Mr. Moreau:

Mr. Moreau emailed myself on January 1st stating that he was resigning from BRASS effective January 1st 2016. Our Executive was prepared to ask him to leave the club as his behaviour was deemed detrimental to the well-being of BRASS and CAOAC. I would like to make it clear that at no time were Mr. Moreau's videos or behaviour conducted outside of our club meetings representative of the views and opinions of BRASS. The online activity of Mr. Moreau was an ever fast changing situation with videos being uploaded and taken down. As a newly elected President, I showed poor judgement and inexperience at the December BRASS meeting with respect to temporarily filling our Secretary position.

Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016-Cont'd.

(Mr. Moreau was the only person present at that meeting that showed an interest!).

Our club looks forward to reviewing our own club bylaws and other CAOAC club's as well to especially address the area of bullying, inappropriate behaviour and what actions should be taken when this happens. I believe that this will be a positive move for all CAOAC clubs and its members. The behaviour of Mr. Moreau over these last few months has brought unnecessary stress upon many of us and I hope that we can put all of it behind us. The BRASS Executive is prepared to deal with Mr. Moreau in accordance with our club bylaws if need be and I expect CAOAC to do the same.

Betta – This will be my last message to CAOAC as President of Betta Breeders Canada. Our elections were called and the new President will be Morgan Ruttie.

President: Morgan Ruttie morganruttie@Hotmail.com

V.P : Zena Campbell

Secretary: Ann Marie Towell

Treasurer: Ashley Rezka

CAOAC rep: Catherine Salmon

Another of our fabulous Face Book auctions is in the works.

Also the plans for the IBC District show at the CAOAC convention are underway.

Take care everyone and Happy Betta.

Calgary – Calgary aquarium society is at 85 members and has our bi annual show, speakers and auction March 12 and 13th. Ted Judy is our featured speaker and more TBA. Last meeting we had Fred Guy talk to us about the show and auction. Our jar show was anything other than fish and plants. We are in the process of getting our newsletter going too.

Durham – Membership is currently 70.

The January program was Kolmann. Nathan talk was on Stingrays and covered a wide range of interesting information on adventures on scientific collection trips both Marine and freshwater.

The DRAS Annual Dinner will be at the Toronto Zoo Atrium on January 30th, 2016 with Gary Lange as our featured speaker (details on our DRAS FACEBOOK page and Website).

Aquarium is April 17th, 2016 at the Ajax Community Centre.

February 9th is Nate Lovejoy – Electric Fishes

March is Nathan Luzon – Loricaridae

April is Haydn Pounder – Live Foods

May is Brian Telford – Breeding Jellyfish and Cuttlefish

June is Bob Wright – Native Fishes

Please view our Facebook Page and our Website (www.dras.ca)

Barry McKee, DRAS CAOAC representative.

Kitchener-Waterloo - Our January meeting featured a presentation of KVAS member's fish and aquariums that was assembled by our president Al Ridley. The Mini-Show classes were Dwarf Cichlids, Rainbows and AOV (Any Other Variety). Name that plant was an anubias nana. Some auction items were sold. Many raffle items included foods, handy spring clips for the fishroom, some medication, a thermometer and an African Butterflyfish.

Meeting Minutes—January 17, 2016-Cont'd.

Check the Kwas Facebook page for January meeting photos. Visit our website and forum www.kwas.ca

London - Our first meeting of 2016 was held on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. After having spent two very long meetings with a committee, we brought our updated by-laws to the club members. There was some discussion, and minor changes. Everyone was invited to have a copy emailed to them, so that they could go over it more thoroughly. In February, our constitution, the final, updated by-laws, and a newly introduced bullying and harassment policy will be brought to the membership for final approval. Club's seal is missing. We are now looking into getting a new one made. We also decided during this process, that we need to update our club inventory list., and are currently doing so.

While going over the constitution and by-laws, it was discovered that the Our February speaker is to be announced. Two of our members had some black club t-shirts made up, and another member is ordering blue golf shirts. A limited number of the t-shirts were available to purchase for \$13.00 and deposits of \$10.00 were taken for the golf shirts, which should be around \$25.00-27.00. There were samples of the golf shirts to try on for sizing.

St. Catharines - In January we had Ron Bishop giving his presentation on gadgets for the hobby, it was very good and was very well attended there where over 40 members at the meeting. for our February meeting we are having a salt water basics program giving by Rob Vanderklok. Everyone is welcome.

Windsor - In December we had our nominations for executive members. By default, since there was only one person nominated for each position, the positions were claimed in January as follows:

President: Gabor Rac- Sabo

gabor129@cogeco.ca

Treasurer: Les Turnbull

Executive Member: Glen Hawkins

The only change was the president of the club; since Ryan laqunita had to step down to turn his full attention to his studies. We wish all the luck to Ryan, and would like to thank him for his devotion to the club in past years!

After the executive positions were taken over, we had our mini auction for a few items members donated to the club.

Also we had a raffle for a few items donated by a local pet store (Ruffin's Pet Centres in Leamington)

The meeting ended by a "bowl show" which in January was fish related arts and crafts.

We also had some time left for a well overdue relaxed social interaction between the members.

They are also planning on having a busy trip.

Thank you Peter, Albert, Zenin, Annette and Phil for sending their reports prior to the meeting. Thank you to those who sent their reports after also. It is appreciated.

Convention 2016 –

The fourth raffle has been drawn. Wayne Cole is the winner. Sharon has started the process of having the convention tickets printed out. We have quite a few vendors who are interested in setting up tables at the convention. We are looking for sponsors for show classes. The price of a sponsorship is \$35.00.

April 1st will be the early room booking draw.

New Business

Adjourned at 2:48 by Myron, second by Ed.

Potential invasive species identified in S. Gulf of Mexico

New research centers around the diminutive regal damselfish, found in non-native waters in the southern Gulf of Mexico. Damselfish are some of the most beautiful fishes in the ocean, and that's why they are so attractive to those who want a saltwater aquarium in their home or place of business. But there's a bit of a concern when it comes to one damselfish species -- it is starting to pop up in a part of the ocean where it doesn't really belong.

In fairytales, it's usually the damsel who is in distress. When it comes to the marine world, however, it seems it's the damsel that can cause some distress.

Damselfish are some of the most beautiful fishes in the ocean, and that's why they are so attractive to those who want a saltwater aquarium in their home or place of business. But there's a bit of a concern when it comes to one damselfish species -- it is starting to pop up in a part of the ocean where it doesn't really belong.

"While you wouldn't immediately think of the regal damsel as a dangerous fish, the fact is they are now in places where they are not native and they're spreading, which makes them potentially an invasive species," said Matthew Johnston, Ph.D., a marine researcher at Nova Southeastern University's (NSU) Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography. "They may not be as impactful as say the lionfish has been, but these fish can also have a negative impact on their new habitats -- it could throw the ecosystem out of natural balance."

Johnston is part of the group of researchers working out of NSU's Guy Harvey Research Institute. An author of many scientific studies, Johnston's research has provided fundamental insight into the spread and impact of invasive species, including the lionfish, in western Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico marine waters.

The fish in question is the diminutive, non-native regal damselfish (*Neopomacentrus cyanomos*), which was recently discovered inhabiting coral reefs near Veracruz, Mexico. While it's not exactly a "fish out of water," given its native waters are the Red Sea and the Indo-Pacific, clearly this fish is a bit out of its normal neighborhood. The proliferation of these fish in non-native waters, and the fact that the invasion risk posed by this fish hadn't been fully assessed, Johnston set about creating a forecast to see just how impactful this damselfish could be to the area.

Johnston and Lad Akins of the Reef Environmental Education Foundation used computer simulation to forecast the spread of this tiny fish from where they were first found near Veracruz, Mexico. In their model, Johnston and Akins factored in oceanic water flow, the tolerances known to the damselfish in the ocean environment and their reproductive strategies -- all of which have a direct impact on how fast they can spread. The good news is that they anticipate most of the Gulf of Mexico won't see this fish swimming in their waters anytime soon. The bad news is that reefs in the southern Gulf of Mexico are likely to see a lot more of them.

Johnston said there's a couple of ways a non-native species like this damselfish could get into new waters. One could simply be people getting rid of their fish tanks and literally dumping the fish into the ocean or canals that feed into the ocean. Another scenario could be that large ships that navigate the open oceans accidentally "sucked" these fish into their ballast tanks and then when arriving in other areas, discharged them into the new waters as they emptied their ballast tanks.

Potential invasive species identified in S. Gulf of Mexico

"The discovery of the regal damsel in Mexico highlights that we need to be very careful not to let our pets escape or release them into the wild," Johnston said. "This fish is just one of at least 40 marine aquarium fish that have been documented in the tropical Atlantic. You don't have to be an apex predator, have huge teeth or venomous spines to be a negative force on a reef -- you just have to be where you're really not supposed to be and compete for the reef's limited resources."

The research paper was published in the journal *Marine Biology*. Please visit the USGS-NAS to learn more about the regal damselfish and other invasive species in our marine waters.

Story Source:

Nova Southeastern University. "Potential invasive species identified in S. Gulf of Mexico: Research shows non-native damselfish in part of Gulf." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 19 January 2016. <www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/01/160119141800.htm>..



Regal Damselfish is shown.

Credit: John E. Randall, Ph.D., Hawaii Biological Survey

What is the definition of Bullying

According to the RCMP website, bullying is:

Bullying happens when there is an imbalance of power; where someone purposely and repeatedly says or does hurtful things to someone else. Bullying can occur one on one or in a group(s) of people. There are many different forms of bullying:

- ◆ Physical bullying(using your body or objects to cause harm): includes hitting, punching, kicking, spitting or breaking someone else's belongings.
- ◆ Verbal bullying (using words to hurt someone): includes name calling, put-downs, threats and teasing.
- ◆ Social bullying (using your friends and relationships to hurt someone): includes spreading rumours, gossiping, excluding others from a group or making others look foolish or unintelligent. This form of bullying is most common among girls

Cyberbullying involves the use of communication technologies such as the Internet, social networking sites, websites, email, text messaging and instant messaging to repeatedly intimidate or harass others.

Cyberbullying includes:

- ◆ Sending mean or threatening emails or text/instant messages.
- ◆ Posting embarrassing photos of someone online.
- ◆ Creating a website to make fun of others.
- ◆ Pretending to be someone by using their name.
- ◆ Tricking someone into revealing personal or embarrassing information and sending it to others.

Cyberbullying affects victims in different ways than traditional bullying. It can follow a victim everywhere 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from school, to the mall and all the way into the comfort of their home - usually safe from traditional forms of bullying.

Mark Your Calendars—Upcoming CAOAC Events

February

21 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

21 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON

March

12-13 - Calgary Aquarium Society show, speakers and auction

19 - Hamilton & District Auction - details are [here](#)

20 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

20 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON

April

3 - Barrie & Region Aquarium Society of Simcoe Auction
-Royal Canadian Legion, Barrie, more details to follow

10 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

10 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON

16 - Sarnia Aquarium Society Auction

17 - Durham Region Aquarium Society Aquariama.



Check www.caoac.ca for links and more details

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Did you miss a copy of the newsletter?

Past copies of the newsletter are available on our website 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 in Skype and request to be added, mentioning your interest in participating in the meeting.

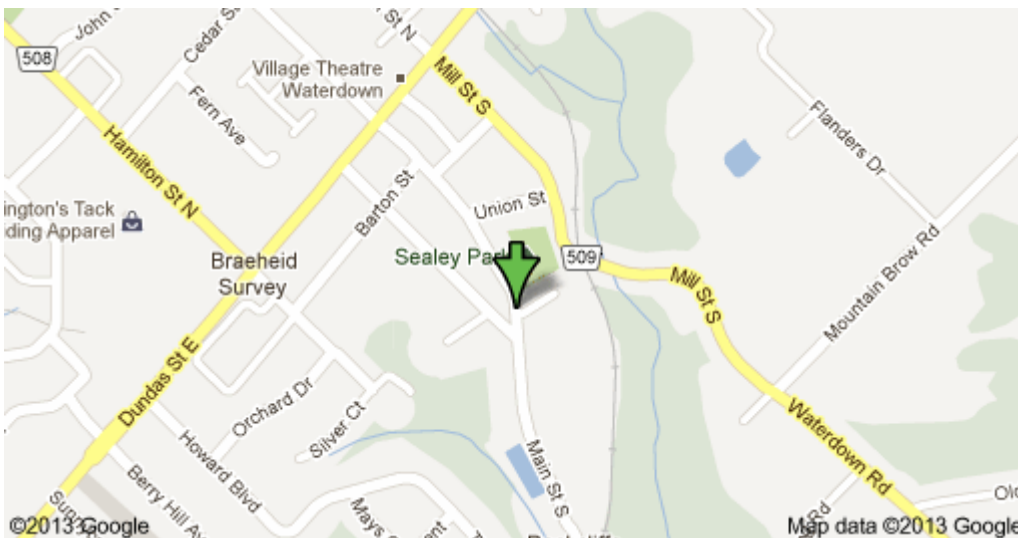
Do I have to belong to a club to attend the convention?

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.

Where we meet



Everyone is welcome to our regular meetings.

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 February 21, 2016

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.

| 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.

| QUICK REFERENCE FOR BAP AND AHAP AWARDS | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| NAME OF AWARD | GENERAL | KILLIES | AFRICAN RIFT LAKE CICHLIDS | LIVE-BEARER | CHARACINS | CAT-FISH | CICHLIDS (Other than Rift Lake) |
| 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.



FEBRUARY 2016

We're on the web
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?

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.