



President's Message

We had a great meeting last month to discuss all the plans for the Convention. The slate of speakers is set and the meals are ordered. Ticket sales have started and that's a good indication that a successful convention is ahead of us. On the Facebook page there is a picture of the portrait that Ken Mckeighan has painted to be given away to the lucky person who has their room booked at Fanshawe for the convention. Get you room booked before April 1st to qualify. It is an 8 x 10 picture of a Moorish Idol and it looks fantastic. I have already booked the Friday off so we can get ready for the festivities.

The Pet Expo is going to be on the Easter Weekend. CAOAC has a booth in the show and Ann Stevens has been looking for some help to man the booth. So if you got some time and you want to have some fun give her a call.

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

We have had the awards meeting and there is a good amount of participation in this year's recipients. It would be nice if all the clubs were involved then the awards could be distributed to all the member clubs. The Newsletter Award only had 3 entries this year and I know there are a lot more clubs have newsletters than that. I think it would be great if all the clubs that do a newsletter would send a copy of their product to Ray Lucas each month and then he has a whole bunch of clubs entered. I bet if this happened we would have more than 3 entries. So those who want to step up and try this you can send January thru to March and then every month there after. Give the old guy something to do other than go to old car shows.

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 updated with information about all that CAOAC has to offer all the member clubs.

I would like to challenge all the Presidents out there to make a donation to the draw table at the convention. Anything you can do would be great and this give everybody a chance to win at the banquet. They will be drawn after din-

Cont'd on page 3

Inside this issue:

Board of Directors	2
Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016	3
Ideas for Change for CAOAC	10
Notice of Proposed By-Law Addition	12
Fishy Trivia	13

Inside this issue:

Mark Your Calendars	14
Frequently Asked Questions	15
Where we meet	15
What is CAOAC	16

MARCH 2016

Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs

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

President's Message Cont'd.

ner. Again this is only done for some fun to be had by all.

If a little person dressed in green comes up to you and asks you to try something Take a chance, It's magically delicious

Happy Easter Ron Bishop, President, CAOAC

We are less than 100 Days away from the CAOAC Convention so hop on board and join us. Also its London's 60th Anniversary

We also need bids to host the 2017 convention. Please present your proposal by the Annual Meeting.

Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016

Executive Meeting

Called to order at 11:02 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	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Ann-Marie Towell (CAS)	Present (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)

Old Business –

Insurance – all clubs have the new certificates.

Pet Expo – Ron received an email from Grant indicating he needed to know if we were going to participate.

Anti-bullying policy. – Ann to convert Violence and Harassment Policy to Word and add provincial standards instead of Ontario and send to Executive for approval and include in the newsletter March and April to vote on at Convention. Motion made by Peter to adopt the KVAS Violence and Harassment Policy amended to reflect CAOAC wording. Seconded by Albert.

Minutes – Peter made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. Ken seconded. Carried To include Tom's letter in newsletter for March.

Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016-Cont'd.

Treasurer's Report

January -2016

1	Treasurer's Report Feb 15 2016	TD Bank Dec 31-2015	\$ 13,260.18
2	Cheque's Cashed # 204		-\$ 955.80
3	Bank Fees ()		\$ -
4	Cheque's + cash deposit's ()		\$ 360.00
5	Transfers deposit's ()		\$ -
6		TD Bank Jan 29-2016	\$ 12,664.38
7	Outstanding Cheque's #205 #206 #207		-\$ 3,268.11
8	Paypal Jan 29-2016		\$ 280.99
9	Cash on hand (0)		\$ -
10	Cheque's deposit after Jan 29 31-2016		\$ 452.95
11	Expenses committed +/-		-\$ 200.00
12	In Trust For London Club		-\$ 280.99
13	Terry Little Memorial Fund		-\$ 466.81
14	Working Balance		\$ 9,182.41

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

Correspondence

Email from East Coast Society from a member about BAP and membership. Package was sent.

Email from Al Ridley was received. It read:

“However, I have always thought that a CAOAC Forum would be an extremely beneficial tool for communicating between the clubs and CAOAC.

Please take a look at the KVAS Forum, now picture all of the committees in CAOAC listed as sections. Everything from Speakers to Awards to Convention. Make as many sections as needed.

What this would accomplish is a real time communication on questions from the clubs and responses. Have the Committee Heads moderate their section. Clubs could post questions, comments, suggestions as they come up and not have to wait for a monthly meeting for a response. The sections could be password protected for Club Presidents and their CAOAC reps but as a read only for the general public.

Could this eliminate the need for a general meeting? I think it could! The Eastern and Western Clubs would all have the same equal access as the Ontario clubs and the information would be recorded and searchable.

Unfortunately, I do not know how these forums operate. I can't be of much help but this idea has been floating around in my head for a couple of years now.

Give it some consideration. I think it has some merit.”

After some discussion it was decided it is a great idea, however, we need more people to take on these activities. It was felt more people are using Facebook rather than forums now.

Ann Marie received an email from someone requesting their blog be included in our links page. The email said:

As of now, we're just shipping in US. With regards to our request, hope you can add our link (particularly our blog link section) wherein we offer latest articles/blogs about koi fish and koi ponds.

Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016-Cont'd.

In your [Links of Interest](#) page, we suggest to put our blog link either in the 2 categories below.

Ann will review and consider for our web.

Membership

Package was sent to East Coast for their inquiry, no reply as of meeting date.

New Business

Received Tim McCaskie's report on Madagascar to be added as an attachment to send with newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 by Peter.

During the break, Ed made a presentation to Ron. We attended the Durham Guest Speaker Dinner and Ed felt sorry for Ron who didn't win any eggs the guest speaker brought. So he presented him with a dozen brown eggs to use as he sees fit.

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	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Ann Marie Towell	Present (Skype)
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	Catherine Salmon	
Calgary	Ann Marie	Skype
Chatham	Lisa Boorman	Skype
Durham	Myron Iwanochko	
Hamilton	Ed Bosker	
London AS	Annette Bishop	
St. Catharines	Phil Barrett	
Guests:		

Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016-Cont'd.

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 Phil. Carried

Treasurers report – see Executive meeting

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

Catherine raised the question what is considered a working balance for CAOAC. Albert explained there is no set amount, however, if CAOAC hosts the convention next year, a healthy balance will be needed.

Business Arising from Executive – see Executive minutes.

Pet Expo discussion took place. Volunteers at the meeting so far are:

Catherine, Ann, Jeff, Phil, Albert (potentially) with his wife. To post on Facebook for help. Ask Grant hold off for one week to confirm but indicate we are interested. Unsure of how many will come from Durham. Ann will send an email to Peel.

Correspondence –

See executive minutes.

Committee Chairs

Title	Name	
AHD	Ann Marie Towell	Skype
Archivist	Paul McIntosh	Absent
Awards	Peter Melady	Present
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
Newsletter	Ann Stevens	Present
Open Show	Barb Draper	Absent
Programs	Ken Boorman	Present (Skype)
Steering	Barry McKee	Absent
Ways & Means	Annette Bishop	Present
Webmaster	Ann Stevens	Present

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

Archivist – slides and photo al albums returned to Paul after digitizing.

Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016-Cont'd.

Awards – Today is the deadline with a number of submissions. Thank you.

Binder –no updates

Fish Breeders Directory – 2 clubs have participated this month, Hamilton and Durham. I cleaned up some older records for Durham and discovered that we have a First In Award to hand out; Barry McKee with *Geophagus winemilleri*.

Fish Rescue –

Futures –

Memberships – see executive report.

Newsletter – Trying to keep it interesting with recent articles, so people will read it

Programs – Nothing new, no requests.

Steering – no report.

Ways & Means –

Draw ticket for convention – Phil Barrett

M	B	Spent	Rec'd	50/50	Raffle
S		-12.16	10.00		
O		-10.00	9.40	11.00	15.00
N		-12.85	3.90	15.00	20.00
D		-2.85	4.65	13.50	32.00
J	1	-10.85	17.10	12.00	25.00
F	1	-7.65	9.85	7.00	10.00
M	1				



50/50 winner - Albert

Raffle winners:

Cory – Ron

Thanks to Ed for the wonderful soup!

Website –Updates for calendar additions and club info were completed as updates were received.

Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016-Cont'd.

Club Reports

Barrie – BRASS currently has 22 members. We will soon outgrow our current meeting room and will have to investigate new meeting room options for the Fall of 2016.

-Kara Fleming has been agreed to be our interim secretary until our elections in May. Thanks go out to Leanne Mountjoy who helped with these duties the past few months.

-At our February 9th meeting Jeff Loney gave a great presentation on the Breeders Award and Horticulture Awards programs that BRASS could consider

-One of our members, Doug Best volunteered to steer a BAP program for BRASS. The club membership agreed that this type of program would be of interest and a positive addition to our club

-We had a mini auction with diverse items at the February meeting and the 50/50 draw was won by Spencer Gervan.

-We welcomed 3 new guests to our meeting in February. A thank you to P.J. who donated some aquarium magazines to our Library.

-BRASS would be interested in doing a bulletin exchange with other CAOAC clubs.

-BRASS has 2 Facebook pages. One is a BRASS Community page which is public and the 2nd, Barrie Region Aquarium Society is a closed group for its members.

-Seller Registration Forms and Auction Rules for BRASS' April 3rd Aquarium Auction should be posted on our website and Facebook pages this week.

Betta –

Calgary –We are at 85 members and sadly lost Dave Howarth, a very long time member last month. Our last meeting featured an interesting presentation on salt water tanks by Al Holms. We have our Aquatic weekend with show, speakers on Saturday and big auction on Sunday. This year we are doing a “bag” plant and live culture sale on Saturday for 3 dollars to encourage attendance. We will have both Ted Judy and Bill Bishopp speaking. Our show is CAOAC sanctioned and we will have judges apprenticing. We are also looking for class sponsors for 30 dollars a class.

Ron suggested CAOAC sponsor a class. Catherine made a motion to sponsor a class for Calgary. Seconded by Ken.

Chatham-Kent – We had Ron and Annette down to speak at our last meeting. It was on aquarium gadgets. We also got a new member. We are slowly growing. We'd like to thank all the companies for the club that we received (or will receive) donations from. We would like to specifically thank Hagen (Fluval), Northfin, Martin Mills, Living Things and Zoo Med. Another one of our club members, Allen Hallet, won a convention ticket. Sure looks like we'll have a great showing!

Durham – thank you to everyone that came out to the dinner. Last speaker was on electric fish. April 17th Aquariana is next auction.

Hamilton – Our Feb program was presented by Frank Aquirre about "Plecos". Great program! Our March presentation is being presented by Andy Turko. April is Home Show month.

Our Spring Auction and Show is on Sat. Mar. 19 at the Waterdown Legion. Doors open at 8am. You need

Meeting Minutes—February 21, 2016-Cont'd.

not be a member of our club to participate. Everyone is welcome. Info for the event can be found on our website (hdas.ca). Hope to see you all at our Auction and Show.

Catherine mentioned they are still looking for show class sponsors. Peter made a motion to sponsor a class. Seconded by Annette. Carried.

Kitchener-Waterloo - Our February meeting featured a presentation on "The Ugly Brown Fish with SuperPowers", an amphibious killifish *Kryptolebias marmoratus*, by Andy Turko from the University of Guelph. Catherine Salmon gave us details of the Hamilton Show and Auction coming up on Saturday March 19. Name that fish were Laser Corys and Dwarf Bristlenose Plecos. The Mini-Show classes were Rift Lake Cichlids and AOV (Any Other Variety). Some auction items were sold. Many raffle items included foods, a thermometer, plastic plant, gravel, a net and a terrestrial crab suitable for a terrarium.

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

London - At our February meeting, Frank Aguirre did a talk on Plecos. He had great pictures and challenged people to ask him questions that he may not have an answer for. He offered a prize to the person who could stump him. He did not have to give out the prize.

Our March speaker is to be announced.

Sarnia -

St. Catharines - For our February meeting we had a presentation on DIY saltwater, it was excellent and very well attended with about 50 people at the meeting. Our March 7th meeting will feature Larry Johnson speaking on his most recent trip to Lake Malawi, everyone is welcome.

Windsor -

Thank you 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 -

We are almost ready to give out our 6th free convention ticket. I encourage everyone to buy their ticket for the convention before April 1st and book their room as well, so that they can be entered into our draws. The early room booking could get you a one of a kind painting done by Ken McKeighen, and the early ticket purchase could get you a free ticket. Those who have won their ticket through the raffle will not be eligible to enter into the free ticket draw. The full convention ticket price goes up after April 1st as well, so you can save a few dollars by getting your ticket early.

We are still looking for anyone who is interested in sponsoring a show class, or possibly even a speaker. Please contact Nancy Egelton for show sponsorships, Ron Bishop for speaker sponsorships.

Annette asked if CAOAC would pay for the gifts for the sponsors. It was felt it would be setting a precedent when CAOAC is not hosting the convention.

New Business

Looking for clubs to host the 2017 convention. Need to know by this year's convention.

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

Ideas For Change in CAOAC by Tom Mason

Ideas for Changes in CAOAC

1. Updating Judging: The rules and regs as they presently stand for judges are outdated and hypocritical. They are based on 50 year old ideals and need to be updated. Some of the things I personally see are:

1. The not judging hybrids has to be revised. Parrot cichlids, flowerhorns, and the modern betta all are hybrids. They have clubs that have specs. If CAOAC is to represent clubs, then they should be looking at what makes a quality specimen.
2. Size: In the present rules, the greater the size, the more the points. These days, modern diets can make species bigger than they are naturally. A quality fish should be the size it is in nature, not oversized and over-weight.
3. Proper specs for invertebrates such as crayfish species, shrimp (Caradina, Neocaridina, Macrobrachium and Atyopsis) need to be created to stimulate the interest of other clubs.
4. Possible complete changes in shows may be required such as on line judging so a fish does not have to leave its tank. (Far fetched but perhaps something that needs to be looked at).

2. Clubs are having trouble producing proper newsletters. They are also costly to each club. CAOAC could develop a newsletter with space for each club to contribute. It would then be available for all club members. It would also give CAOAC a much larger profile while giving each club the chance to participate.

3. Ontario has always been the center of CAOAC. The rest of Canada is not properly represented and thus don't contribute much or get much out of CAOAC.

A system should be developed where CAOAC is divided into three regions; "The East made up of Clubs in NB, PEI, NFLD, NS & Quebec; (I would also put Ottawa into this region as well.), The Central Region (Ontario with the bulk of the clubs); and the West, (Manitoba, Sask., AL & BC). Each Area would be responsible for their own group including conscription of new clubs. Then representatives could meet to discuss developments in each area. Then each area would meet once a year for a proper meeting and each area would have a reason to go.

4. Ways and Means needs to have a true purpose. To be effective, CAOAC will need to have a proper cash flow. Other hobby groups, especially sports have learned to tap into government funding. In Ontario we have 10 areas covered. In Canada, we have we could have representatives in every province. CAOAC could apply for a proper grant to assist every club. This could be the Trillium Fund or it could be a Participaction grant. Ways and Means are the fund raisers for CAOAC. Get them making a difference. There are probably dozens of granting agencies that we could approach.

I know that other people have other ideas that could get CAOAC active and able to help clubs. CAOAC represents hundreds of people across Canada and it is time to step up and help. Presently we are stagnating. The entire hobby needs a boost.

5. The aquarium trade is still big business, but the major manufacturers are beginning to step away and going to the cats and dogs, literally. CAOAC has to get them to recognize the hobby as an important part of their income and that clubs could be a great ally in developing their market

Ideas For Change in CAOAC -Cont'd.

and advertising their products. We need to show them that the trade is still strong and that we can help them.

6. This idea is related to #3. We need to reach to other Canadian non-member clubs and see how we can help them, so they will join us. We also should start contacting other major clubs/societies to find out what they are doing and to get some ideas for Canadian Clubs. We also need the marine clubs to join us.

7. We should develop and promote a stand on conserving aquarium species and provide funding for saving things in the wild. Sooner or later, PETA or some other animal rights group will target the tropical fish trade. We need to show that clubs have been supporting animal welfare and conservation in what ways we can. At this time animal rights are way ahead of the hobbyists and we need to fight back or develop a means to protect ourselves. Zoos are now their main target, but that will change.

So I have given you some ideas. I know that other serious hobbyists have other thoughts and good ideas as well. Some of these ideas are just done by getting off our butts and doing them. Others will take money. As far as I'm concerned CAOAC is sitting on a lot of cash that is not being used for what CAOAC was developed for. So it is a start. The idea of getting grants will provide more. There will be many people that are against changes. Especially things as drastic as this. But change is needed and more has to be done to support clubs. Right now I see clubs supporting CAOAC, All Our Clubs. It's time we developed ideas that will highlight the clubs.

That's my rant.

I also have to update "the Fish Rescue". This year became very busy and I ended up spending a good amount of money to maintain it. I didn't keep mileage or costs of feed, but up to 50% of my tanks are used for fish rescue and I would like to pass it on once I've cleaned it up. I also think that we could use it as a method for fund raising as well.

There are several people that would help . Let's start doing something.

Tom

What do you think of these ideas? Do you have some ideas to contribute? Attend our regular meeting in person or via Skype to be heard. Be part of the discussion.

Remember, a lot of these ideas are good, but invisible people won't get the work done.

The Editor

Notice of Proposed By-Law Addition

In light of events that have transpired this year, it was felt that our By-Laws need to include an Anti-Bullying and Violence section. It is, unfortunately, a sign of the times. In following the current By-Laws regulations,:

Amending of By-Laws

1) *The Bylaws of the Corporation may be amended by passing a motion to do so by a 3/5 majority of votes at any General or Annual Meeting.*

2) *Any motion to amend the Bylaws of the Corporation must be tabled for 60 days.*

The following will be included in the April newsletter and then voted on at the Annual Meeting at the CAOAC Convention in London, Ontario May 20-22.

CAOAC VIOLENCE & HARASSMENT POLICY

CAOAC is committed to the prevention of any form of violence or harassment. The officers of the association will take whatever steps are reasonable and deemed as necessary to protect members and guests from violence and harassment in all forms and from all sources.

Violent behaviour and harassment will not be tolerated from any person present at or participating in a CAOAC sanctioned meeting, auction, event, or official capacity (herein "a CAOAC location").

These procedures are implemented to protect members or guests from violence and harassment while legally attending a CAOAC location. Our procedure is a means of summoning immediate assistance and a process for members or guests to report incidents or raise concerns while attending a CAOAC location or acting in an official capacity.

Executive members, officers, at-large members and guests are expected to uphold this policy at all times.

Definitions:

- ◆ Violence is considered as any unwanted or unwarranted touching, aggressive verbal threats or conduct. This includes physical and verbal intimidation.
- ◆ Harassment is considered as any a comment, course of action or conduct that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome. This includes (but is not limited to):
 - ◆ social isolation
 - ◆ invasion of personal affairs
 - ◆ stalking
 - ◆ gossiping and/or starting rumours
 - ◆ excessive criticism or oversight of ones duties
 - ◆ slander and/or defamation

Harassment may also relate to any form of discrimination as set out in provincial standards.

Any person at a CAOAC location that is a victim of violence or harassment should report the incident to a member of the executive either verbally or in writing as soon as possible after the alleged incident.

Any person observing violence or harassment of another person should seek out an officer of CAOAC for assistance immediately.

Persons who make a complaint, and those who have provided information regarding a complaint, will not be penalized for doing so when the complaint and participation are in good faith. No member will be retaliated against for bringing their concerns to the attention of CAOAC. Therefore

do not allow an inappropriate or unlawful situation to continue by not reporting it, regardless of who is creating that situation.

Any retaliation or reprisal is subject to immediate corrective action, up to and including loss of membership.

Alleged retaliation or reprisals are subject to the same complaint procedures and penalties as complaints of harassment.

CAOAC maintains a “Zero Tolerance” enforcement policy. Any member found, following an investigation, to be in contradiction of this policy will have their membership revoked immediately. The executive may elect to either begin an internal investigation or notify law enforcement for a criminal investigation, or both.

Nothing in this policy prevents, discourages or prohibits a member or guest from filing an application with the provincial standards on a matter related to the provincial legislation. They also retain the right to exercise any other legal avenues that may be available.

Every year following the executive elections in May this document will be signed by all elected officers as a commitment to the general membership. This will occur in front of the membership at the May general meeting.

Thank you to the Kitchener-Waterloo Aquarium Club, who graciously permitted us to use their policy as a guideline.

Plan to attend the convention to vote on the adoption of this policy into our By-Laws.

Fishy Trivia

Q) Where does the word “fish” come from?

A) The Latin word piscis became the Germanic word fisch, which became the Old English word fisc, which became today’s word, fish.

Q) How much of the Earth’s fresh water is underground?

A) 98.5%

Q) Do sharks have scales?

A) No, their skin is covered with dermal denticles, or “skin teeth.”

Q) Do you think your fish can hear?

A) Yes, but they don’t have ears that open to the outside. Sound waves are picked up through a fish’s body.

Q) When and where did the first public aquarium open?

A) 1853, in Regents Park in London, England.

Q) What do you call the whiskers on catfish and other bottom dwellers?

A) Barbels.

Fishy Trivia—Cont'd.

Q) What do you call a scientist who studies fish?

A) An ichthyologist.

Q) What Hollywood blockbuster sold the most DVDs and videos in one day?

A) Finding Nemo, sales of 8 million DVDs and videos.

Q) How many species of fish exist on Earth?

A) More than 24,000.

Q) When and where were Goldfish first bred?

A) In China during the 11th century, from the occasional colorful specimen found among carp bred for food.

Q) Fish live in water, of course ...but how much of a fish IS water?

A) 70%.

Q) There are how many different types of catfish?

A) More than 2,000.

Q) Freshwater tropical fish are most active and most healthy at what water temperature?

A) 76-80 degrees Fahrenheit.

From <http://www.aqua-tech.biz/Fintastic-Fun/Trivia>

Mark Your Calendars—Upcoming CAOAC Events

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.

May

20 - 22 - CAOAC Convention - Fanshawe College, London



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.

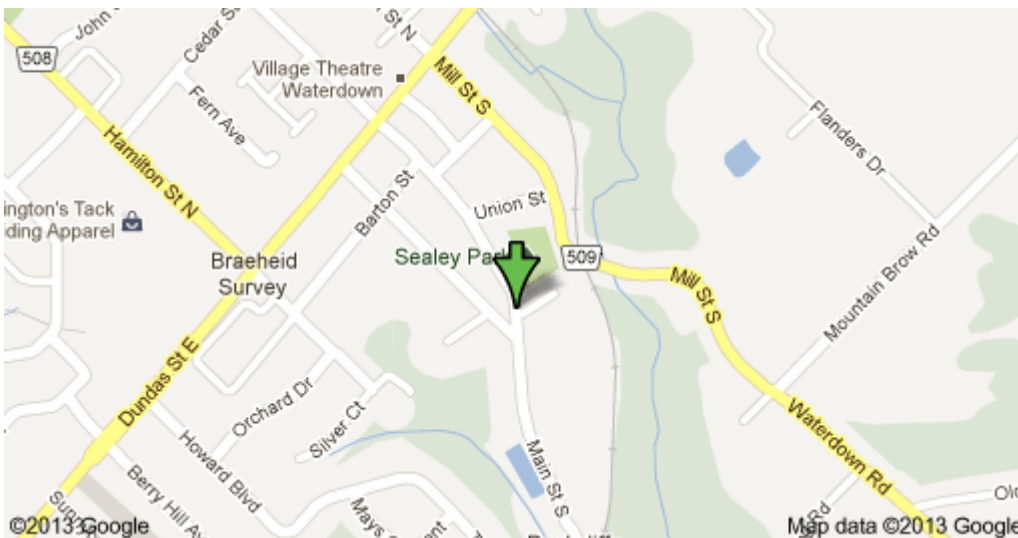
Do I have to belong to a club to attend the convention?

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



MARCH 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.