



**Newsletter
Of the
Canadian Association of
Aquarium Clubs**

3/1/2017

Editor: Ann Stevens



Contents

Board of Directors.....	2
Executive	2
Committees.....	2
President’s Message	3
Meeting – February 18, 2017	4
Club Reports.....	4
Fish uses sneaking behavior as stealth mating strategy	6
Upcoming Events	8
CAOAC 2017 Convention.....	9
American Livebearers Association Convention.....	10
What do you want to read?.....	11
Regular Monthly Meetings	11
Skype Details	11
Where do we meet?	11
What is CAOAC?.....	12
What are the benefits of being a member?	12

Board of Directors

Executive

President	Ron Bishop	Recording Secretary	Ann Stevens
ron.bishop2@sympatico.ca	Club: London	Ann.stevens@gmail.com	Club: Hamilton
1st Vice President	Ken Boorman	Treasurer	Barry McKee
rhad@kent.net	Club: Chatham-Kent	Barry.mckee@rogers.com	Club: Durham
2nd Vice President	Ann-Marie Towell	Corresponding Secretary	Lisa Boorman
amtowell@shaw.ca	Club: TCGG/BBC	lisachromis@yahoo.com	Club: Chatham-Kent
Past President	Claudia Carthew		
carthew@yahoo.com	Club: St. Catharines		

Committees

Aquatic Horticulturalist Directory	Ann Marie Towell	Judges	Haydn Pounder
amtowell@shaw.ca	Club: TCGG/BBC	fishheads02@aol.com	Club: Peel
Archivist		Membership	Barry McKee
		Barry.mckee@rogers.com	Club: Durham
Awards	Peter Melady	Newsletter	Ann Stevens
hpmelady@hotmail.com	Club: Sarnia	Ann.stevens@gmail.com	Club: Hamilton
Fish Breeders Directory	Lisa Boorman	Open Show	Barb Draper
lisachromis@yahoo.com	Club: Chatham-Kent	barb.ireland@rogers.com	Hamilton
Binder	Ann Stevens	Programs	Ken Boorman
Ann.stevens@gmail.com	Club: Hamilton	rhad@kent.net	Club: Chatham-Kent
FAAS	Ken Boorman	Steering	Peter DeSousa
rhad@kent.net	Club: Chatham-Kent	pdesouza1@msn.com	Hamilton
Fish Rescue	Jerry Draper/Ann Marie Towell	Ways & Means	Annette Bishop
drapibar@gmail.com	amtowell@shaw.ca	ally_ann@hotmail.com	Club: London
Futures	Jeff Mountjoy	Webmaster	Ann Stevens
jmtjoy@rogers.com	Club: Barrie	Ann.stevens@gmail.com	Club: Hamilton

President's Message

HAPPY ST. PATRICKS DAY

I hope you have some green beer

First of all I would like to apologize for the missed meeting last month. We were involved in a car accident on the 403. Thankfully there was nobody seriously hurt. It could have been a lot worse. Peter was ok and Annette and I had some bruises and bumps but they will heal. Mother Nature and her crazy weather.

By this month's meeting the Awards Committee meeting will have come and gone with the decisions on the CAOAC Awards for this year CAOAC Convention. Congrats to all the award winners to be announced at the convention.

The Hamilton Convention team has everything in place for a great weekend. I hope you all come and join this affair. Details are on the Hamilton web site. The prices for tickets and hotel info are up for all to see. It is promising to be a fun event. Great work to the Hamilton team. They are planning a great expo of different groups from the hobby to make this even more fun. So if you have not made plans yet, book your weekend and join us with the Hamilton club.

Come out to the meeting and join other club representatives for a round table talk about all the events and plans they have for the balance of the year and their future plans for next year. It is very constructive and who knows you may have extra ideas for your own club.

We always have treats for the munchies and usually Ed has a pot of something very tasty and hot. Thank you very much for that .Also we have a 50/ 50 draw and door prizes for the group to enjoy.

Happy St Patrick's Day

Ron Bishop

President CAOAC



Meeting – February 18, 2017

The meeting was cancelled due to the weather and the President was in a car accident on the way to the meeting.

Notice was placed on Facebook and emails were sent as soon as it was decided. Our apologies to anyone that may have been inconvenienced.

The following are the reports that were submitted. Thank you.

Treasurers report –

1. Financial Report:

a. Opening balance December 30, 2016			\$12,799.09
b. Income: Membership/Insurance		+\$1,140.00	
c. Cheque #218 Expenses	-\$576.35		
d. Banks fees/credit	-\$4.95	+\$4.95	
e. Closing balance January 31, 2017			\$13,362.74
f. Commitments:			
i. L. Boorman/Awards	-\$115.21		
ii. Insurance	-\$3,385.80		
iii. PIJAC	-\$197.95		
iv. B.Mckee/URL	-\$124.30		
g. Working Balance			\$9,539.48

2. Membership/Insurance.

- a. Ottawa Amphibian & Reptile membership outstanding.
- b. All Insurance Certificates for third parties sent via e-mail.

- 3. Insurance. A new policy has been finalized for the 18 clubs plus CAOAC and provides \$5m liability insurance (at a higher cost). The increase in cost will be absorbed by CAOAC this year and the extra cost will be passed on in future years. New insurance certificates will be sent out within 2 weeks.
- 4. 2016/2017 Budget. For discussion.
- 5. CAOAC Archives. TBD.
- 6. CAOAC Domain Name (URL). Renewed for 5 Years February 2022. Cost \$124.30. Contacts changed to Barry McKee and Ann Stevens.

Club Reports

Barrie – For BRASS, the winter weather is always a going concern in our part of the province and because of this our January meeting had to be cancelled. However some members got together that evening for some fishy aquarium chat on our members Facebook page. Our February meeting will feature a DVD presentation. For March and April, our meetings are being held on the 3rd Tuesday. The March 21st meeting will feature Derek Tustin speaking on Planted Aquariums. On April 21st, Frank Aguirre will join us and present a talk on Saltwater aquariums. Plans are well along the way for BRASS' 2nd Annual Aquarium Auction which takes place on Sunday, April 2nd at the Barrie Legion. Our 2016 Auction was a fabulous success and we are looking forward to another great event. BRASS hopes to see many fellow aquarium club friends come up Hwy 400 to visit us. Our theme this year is "Fresh Fish" so bring your freshest best fish to sell and that cooler to buy some! Our auction will again feature used goods including aquariums and we will have some fantastic auction items that have been donated to the club.

Hamilton – HDAS is excited to be hosting the CAOAC Aquatic Expo May 19 thru 21. Our team has been working on donations and finalizing speaker presentations. I think it's going to be a great weekend.

Our spring auction will be held at the Waterdown Legion on Sat Mar 25. Doors open at 8am.

Please check out our website for more details.

Kitchener-Waterloo -. Our February meeting was attended by 16 people.

The feature presentation was several YouTube videos on planted tanks and Ted Judy's trip to Colombia. The Name That Fish was a bag of 3 Colombian Tetras. There was a second Name That Fish, it was a male Betta Splendens Crowntail. Mini Show Annual Awards were handed out as they were missed in December. 1st went to Zenin Skomorowski, 2nd went to Jeff Samson and third went to Dave de Leeuw. There were 2 featured classes in the Mini Jar Show this month; Rift Lake Cichlids and Any Other Variety. There were 5 entries from 2 people. There was also some discussion of upcoming events at other clubs as well as the CAOAC convention in May.

Visit the Kwas website and forum www.kwas.ca

See photos on Facebook - search for Kitchener-Waterloo Aquarium Society.

London – Our guest speaker for Tuesday, February 14 will be Frank Aguirre. Frank will be doing a talk on biotope tanks. Our March meeting is moved to the first Tuesday, due to the school closing for March break.

Our spring auction will be held on Sunday, May 7, 2017 at the Optimist hall in Dorchester.

Our fall show and auction will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2017. It will also be held in Dorchester.

St. Catharines – Our February meeting was a great success, we had 52 in attendance. The program featured video clips from Members aquariums. Our next meeting is March the 6th and Zenin will be speaking on filtration, everyone is welcome.

Trans Canada Guppy - Hello everyone! I will be off to Kettering England this week to represent our club. I will be doing a talk on Sat Feb 18. It will be live streamed to our club facebook page along with other speakers. More info to be posted to our fb page. We are very excited about the upcoming Caoac convention and our next meeting will be a discussion on how to best show our guppies. We are up to approx. 53 members.

Thank you from Tcgg.

Windsor - Our February meeting had 41 members, it was a mix of some new faces, some faces we haven't seen for a while and some that are there every month rain, sleet or snow. We had a lot of donations for our mini auction and raffle. This month we had no entries into our bowl show which was matching pairs, two fish that look identical, and AOV any other variety.

Our club president Gabe Rac Sabo, did a presentation on his experience with keeping and breeding bristlenose plecos. For Gabe's first presentation he did a great job, it was a well-planned and very informative talk about his experiences with keeping this very interesting fish.

The end of our meeting like always we had some social time to talk fish with each other.

It was a great meeting

Thank you, Phil, Nancy, Carla, Zenin, Jeff Mountjoy, Annette and Les Turnbull, Jr. for sending their reports prior to the meeting. Thank you to those who sent their reports after also. It is appreciated.

Fish uses sneaking behavior as stealth mating strategy

Humans aren't the only species that resort to a little subterfuge

While a dominant male fish from northern Mexico mates with a female, a small fella bides his time in the offing. Suddenly, the little guy darts in ahead of Mr. Big and plants his seeds on freshly laid eggs.

The behavior, which biologists aptly call sneaking, is rare -- known to occur among only a few dozen of about 34,000 fish species worldwide. A Case Western Reserve University researcher reports that the Cuatro Ciénegas cichlid, a rare fish by the scientific name of *Herichthys minckleyi*, uses this alternative stealth mating strategy.

Ron Oldfield, a senior biology instructor at Case Western Reserve, videoed the underdog's effort to pass on his DNA in a 300-gallon aquarium.

The video recordings are among the first of sneaking behavior published for any species of animal. Oldfield and collaborators published a description of the behavior in the journal *Hydrobiologia* and then last month the three videos in this release, along with further recordings, images and a research paper describing mating and parental care by the species, were published on Case Western Reserve's permanent electronic archive, DigitalCase, at <http://hdl.handle.net/2186/ksl:HminckBehavior>. DigitalCase is an initiative by the university to make information available to the public for free in an electronic format.



The Cuatro Ciénegas cichlid, *Herichthys minckleyi*, will dart in between mating pairs to pass its DNA into the next generation.

Credit: Ronald Oldfield

Uncommon strategy

"Sneaking has been recorded in diverse species, but overall it's uncommon throughout the animal kingdom, including fishes," Oldfield said. "Sneaking is especially rare in species that have monogamous mating systems. Among those species, there is no shortage of females, so no reason to sneak."

But when "large dominant males monopolize multiple females, there are a lot of males that aren't competitive enough to get their own females, and sneaking is their only option to get their DNA into the next generation," Oldfield said.

Cichlids are small perch-like tropical fish found in Africa, Asia and Central and South America, and include tilapia and aquarium angelfish. As a group, Central American cichlids are known for being monogamous. Oldfield, however, recently discovered in the wild that the Cuatro Ciénegas cichlids are polygamous, with a few very large males owning large territories that each contain multiple females. That leaves a lot of lonely males.

Oldfield observed the sneaking behavior while sitting in his home office -- a desk surrounded by large aquariums. In one tank, "a large, macho male -- the largest fish in the tank -- was mating with the largest female in the tank," he said. "Another, smaller male was hovering obliquely in the water, hiding next a large piece of wood near the water surface, and was pointed straight at the mating pair."

This species lays adhesive eggs on the surface of a rock. The female makes a pass across the rock and lays a row of eggs. Her male mate typically follows immediately after, releasing an invisible cloud of sperm over the eggs. In doing so, he adds his DNA to hers as the sperm cells bind with the eggs.

Darting procreation

"As the female finished a pass, in a sudden burst, the small male dove to the rock, tilted his underside toward the eggs, and then leisurely swam away and went back to his hiding place," Oldfield said.

He could see the sneaker's genital papilla, which carries sperm outside the body, was enlarged; a sign the fish was very likely contributing to the gene pool.

Both the large female and the large male attacked the sneaking male in an attempt to drive it away, but the sneaker still managed to insert himself several times before the pair finished spawning several hours later.

During that time, "the sneaking male attacked other males and drove them away from the periphery of the spawning site," Oldfield said.

Oldfield believes his use of large fish tanks, which allow the fish to act naturally, led to the discovery. Small tanks, he's found, can make fish behave differently from the wild.

With the studies complete, the rare fish are expected to head back toward home. Oldfield plans to donate the fish to Odysea, a new public aquarium in Scottsdale, Ariz., where they will enter a captive breeding program administered by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums to preserve the species.

Oldfield hopes the discovery will encourage people to conserve the environment of Cuatro Ciénegas. The basin holds hundreds of brightly colored spring-fed pools in the Chihuahua Desert and is home to the cichlid, which is listed as a threatened species, and dozens more unique fish, reptile, snail and plant species.

Case Western Reserve University. "Fish uses sneaking behavior as stealth mating strategy: Humans aren't the only species that resort to a little subterfuge." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 8 February 2017.

www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/02/170208111557.htm

Upcoming Events

March		May	
10-11	North East Council of Aquarium Society - Convention	7	London Aquaria Society Auction
19	CAOAC Executive Meeting – 11:00	4-7	ALA Convention
19	CAOAC General Meeting – 12:00	21-23	CAOAC Convention – Aquatic Expo
25	Hamilton & District Aquarium Society - Auction		
April		June	
2	Barrie Region Aquarium Society Auction, Barrie	25	CAOAC Executive Meeting – 11:00
9	Durham & Region Aquarium Society Aquariana	25	CAOAC General Meeting – 12:00
14-16	Pet Expo		
22	Sarnia Aquarium Society Auction		
23	CAOAC Executive Meeting – 11:00		
23	CAOAC General Meeting – 12:00		
30	Société d'Aquariophilie de Montréal Auction		





Hamilton & District
Aquarium Society Presents
Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs
Aquatic Expo 2017

May 19-21, Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel & Conference
Centre

Full weekend Show with specialty classes (Guppies and Killifish)

3rd Annual *Betta Breeders Canada* Betta Show

Saturday Betta Auction, Sunday General Auction

Vendors Room

Saturday Banquet Dinner

Guest Speakers:

Ian Fuller **Regina Spotti**

Lawrence Kent **Gerald Griffin**

Eric Bodrock

Early Bird Ticket Price: \$85

Vendors Room, fish shows and auctions open to the public

Visit hdas.ca/convention or contact president@hdas.ca for more details

American Livebearers Association Convention

ALA 2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION

Brought to you by the American
Livebearer Association,
the Missouri Aquarium Society and
the Gateway Guppy Association
May 4-7, 2017 in St. Louis



**Huge Fancy &
Wild Type
Shows!**

Huge Auction!

8 Speakers!

Rare Fish Sales!



Holiday Inn

Airport West - Earth City
3400 Rider Trl S, Earth City, MO 63045
US Reservations 314-291-6800

www.ala2017.com or Email
ALASTL2017@gmail.com
for Further Details!!

See WWW.ALA2017.COM for Partial Fish List

2017 ALA Convention

St Louis, May 4-7, 2017

If you keep Livebearers this is one Convention you owe it to yourself to attend!

GREAT speakers! Charley Grimes, Mike Hellweg, Rusty Wessel, John Lyons, Gene Anderson, Jim Alderson, Les Wilson and Shelby Bush bring centuries of experience to the speaker's platform. Don't miss the excellent and useful information they will impart to attendees.

Not enough? Meet with old friends and make new ones! With the involvement of the GGA and the IFGA there will be even more livebearer nuts to network with about more topics, including wild and fancy forms of several families of livebearers. Expect more Livebearer folks than ever at this Convention! More friends to make and more to exchange information and fish with over the next years.

...and new fish every day... there will be hard to get and rare fish available in the Friday Box Sale, the Saturday Special Fish Sale Hour and the Silent Auctions. We're looking all over for all of the ones you've told us about and we can find for you. ...and don't forget the Huge Sunday Auction. Anyone who's got any fish in demand will have them there, rare, and ready for you to take home. See some of the fish we expect listed on the Convention website and let us list what you are bringing.

Register NOW for the 2017 ALA Convention in St Louis! Registration order determines your place in the Saturday Special Sale where we have accumulated most desirable fish. Registration prices will increase March 15th.

Additional information and registration at
www.ala2017.com

What do you want to read?

The intent of this newsletter is to share some of the details of the meeting and upcoming events. From time to time, I try to include recent news. If there is something you would like to see, or if you have an article you would like included, please send it to me, ann.stevens11@gmail.com.

Regular Monthly Meetings

Who can attend? Any member of an Aquarium Club can attend the General Meeting that follows the Executive Meeting. It usually starts around 12:00 noon.

We have raffles, 50/50 draws, and snacks to share.

Why should you attend? To be part of the discussion that takes place between other clubs and items that are raised by the Executive. It's a great way to share ideas and discuss issues you may be having.

Skype Details

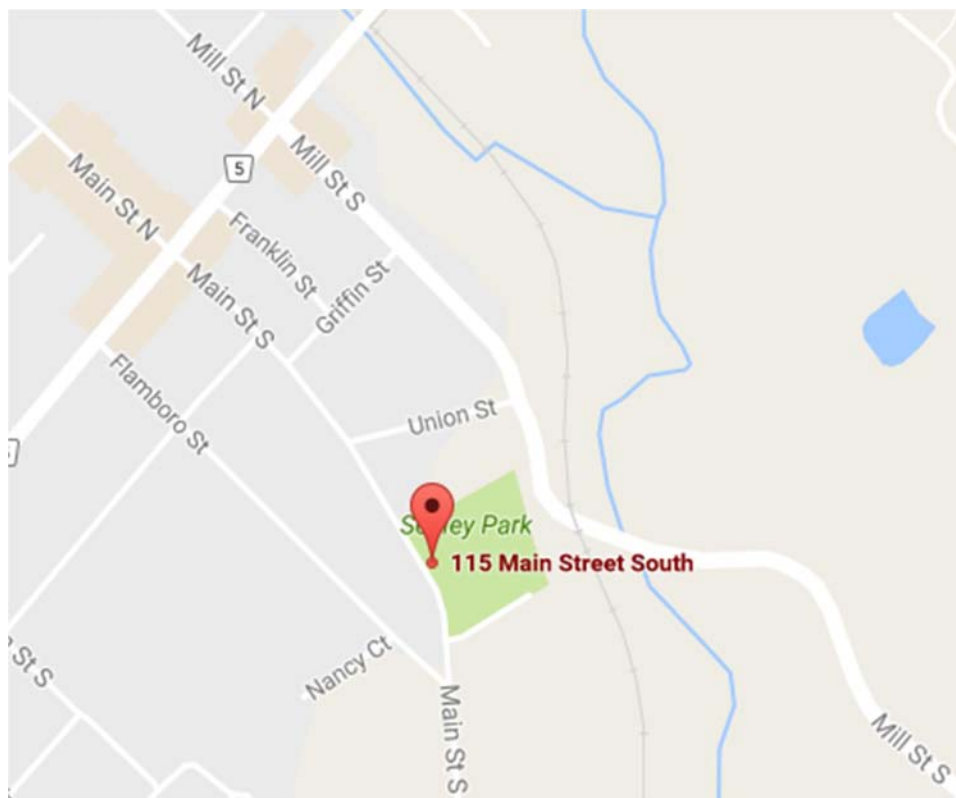
Can't attend the meeting? You can Skype in and participate that way. Here are the details:

Search for either Nov18angel or ann.stevens11@gmail.com

Request to added to your contacts and I will accept.

Where do we meet?

Optimist Hall, 115 Main Street South Waterdown, Ontario



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.