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WET PET GAZETTE

VOLUME 56 / ISSUE 5



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Convict Grow-Out Contest

2007 NAS Show & Auction

Show Results

**THE JOURNAL OF THE
NORWALK AQUARIUM SOCIETY
CELEBRATING 56 YEARS**

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N.A.S. is a member of The Northeast Council of Aquarium Societies, INC (NEC)

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Acquired by Cathy Chapkovich



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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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GENERAL MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held the third Thursday of each month (except July & December) at Earth Place, The Nature Discovery Center, 10 Woodside Lane, Westport, CT. Each meeting includes a short business meeting, program or event, door prizes, raffle, auction, and refreshments. All regular meetings are open to the public to attend.



EDITORALLY SPEAKING

By

Cathy Chapkovich - Editor

This issue of the Wet Pet was a little bit of a challenge to put together. Even without any articles, there was so much that went on, I had to cut pictures from the auction & show that I wanted to use.

At the beginning of the year, Dan McKercher set up a convict grow out contest between the clubs, the results are included and I thank Ken Purcaro very much for his pictures of the winners.

Barry Lynch submitted not only his BAP results, but also put together the results page for the show.

Search through the pictures of the Show, Judges Dinner & the Auction. How many people can you recognize? A special thanks to all those who had helped to set up the show and also those who had taken down all the equipment and put it away on Sunday.

I can not say enough about all those who had helped out. It is because of your help, that the show & auction was a success.

Remember, it takes everyone in the club to make things happen. At the November meeting, we will be holding elections – see “A View from Upfront” – for information.

Not only do we need members to participate in the elections, but we also need members to help out with the Wet Pet. It takes a lot of work to put the Wet Pet together, and the one thing that members can do to help is write an article to put in it. You don't need to be a professional writer, all you need is a little incentive. So maybe this will help, if we don't get articles there won't be a wet pet. So if you enjoy the wet pet, help out with articles.

Cathy





A VIEW FROM UP-FRONT

By:
Barry Lynch - NAS President

Show/Auction: As this WPG issue covers in detail the NAS Show & Auction conducted on the September 29/30 weekend, I will limit my comments here to a brief overview. In short, the Show & Auction must be considered a rousing success.

1) **The Show:** Although there were more entries last year (167) than this year (156), I believe this year's Show was better. Why? It all has to do with the distribution of the Show entries. Last year, a heavy proportion (40%) of the entries fell within the Betta Show classes. A number of Show classes were either under represented or not represented at all. Such was not the case this year. Virtually every Show class was well represented this year. And, if you missed viewing a multitude of Betta entries in our Show (there were 21), this taste had to be satisfied by viewing the 300+ quality Betta entries in The Connecticut Betta Club Betta Show!

2) **The Auction:** The principal objective of the Auction is to generate the funds required to conduct the various NAS activities throughout the upcoming year. While the final figures are not yet in, it would appear this objective has been met. I'm advised that "revenues were strong". This year there were lots and lots of lots. Thirty vendors brought in many lots - mostly fish lots. And, an unusually large group of organizations (over 40 - see the "Donors" listing herein) was especially generous with donations - mostly dry goods lots. While I would characterize attendance as "average" and the bidding "less than ideal", the sheer multitude of the available lots served NAS well.

3) **Participation:** To my mind, the success of such a big undertaking is predicated upon the contributions made by the NAS membership and other individuals and parties. I can only say that this year the participation and assistance was absolutely outstanding. I believe every active NAS member pitched in - principally through plain hard work. For goodness sake, a record 22 people showed up to help with the Wednesday night Show set-up! Not to be overlooked was the help received from the afore-mentioned donors, the NEC, sister societies and individual members of these groups. Very sincere thanks go to one and all.

Officer Elections: This is to remind everyone that the annual officer elections will be held at the November 15 general meeting. (This election is limited to officers - the 6 directors were elected to two-year terms last year.) While some of the current officers have indicated they will run again for office this year, all 6 officer positions (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary and Sergeant at Arms) are, per the By-Laws, up for grabs. If you are interested in serving on the NAS Board in any capacity, please see me or make that interest known at the November meeting. New Board members would be very welcome.

Apistogramma, etc.: David Soares, renowned breeder of South American dwarf cichlids, will be flying in from Seattle to present an Apistogramma program at the November 15 general meeting. As an additional bonus, David will be bringing a number of Apistogramma and other South American dwarf cichlids for inclusion in the auction. Prepare some tanks for an infusion of special fish. I know I will.



The Dan McKercher Convict Grow-Out Contest

Last January or February, Dan McKercher had an over abundance of Convict fry and was wondering what to do with them. He came up with this crazy idea to have a grow out contest between clubs and have them shown at the NAS Show. He distributed 5 fry to each club and asked for 5 people at each club to grow out one of the convicts. As the year progressed, competition and bragging went on. "My convict is this big now." Well, when it came down to the actual competition, only three convicts were there. These are the winners - with all bragging rights.

The Queens & Kings of Convict Growing



John & Cathy Chapkovich
Took top bragging rights with their
convict - Al Capone

Pictures by Ken Purcaro



(Left to Right) Barbara Day (convict - Moe); John & Cathy Chapkovich (convict - Al Capone); Doug Kneissl (convict - John Wayne Gacie; Ray "Kingfish" Lucas, over seeing the winners.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUPPORT YOUR SISTER SOCIETIES

October

- 14 New Hampshire Aquarium Society Auction - Newington, N.H.
nhaquariumsociety.com
- 17 NAS General Meeting
Speaker - **Luis Morales**: "Fish Farms Around the World"
- 21 Danbury Area Aquarium Society Auction
northeastcouncil.org/daas
- 26 NJAS "MEGA" Aquarium Weekend
- 28 NJAS Auction www.njas.net

November

- 1 NAS Board Meeting - Hosted by Dick Moore
- 9-11 AFISH 2007 Convention with Auction
Brooklyn, Greater City, Long Island & Nassau County
www.afishconvention.org
- 15 NAS General Meeting - **David Soares**: "Up to Date with Apistogramma Today"
NAS Elections
- 22 Thanksgiving

December

- 25 Christmas
NO General Meeting -
Happy Holidays





NAS 2007 Annual Show & Auction My Own Personal Thank You

by:
Cathy Chapkovich

Today is October 2, 2007 – it has been two days since the show and auction ended. I am sitting here thinking about this past weekend. My head is still spinning from it all.

Though my head is spinning, I think the show was a big success, though we were unable to do the presentation of the awards before the auction. We ran behind on time, and I wanted to make sure that the auction started at noon so it wouldn't run late. I apologize to all the winners in the show for this, but I think most of you will understand.

I would also like to take this time to thank Maryanne Naylor for all her hard work on the Judges dinner. The board of directors allocated us \$125 to purchase entrées for the judges dinner. Originally this would have been enough for us to have the food prepared by one of the local caterers. We were asked a week before the dinner if it would be okay if the CT. Betta Club could have some of the people from the betta show come to the dinner. We decided that it would be nice to have them there since most of them were staying at a local hotel.

Unfortunately, as we looked into what it was going to cost to add the additional people we realized that we could not afford to have the entrées catered. Maryanne stepped in and saved the day. We purchased what we would need for the main dishes and prepared them. For those of you that don't know, Maryanne was not only working everyday, she and Dan are involved in the Trail of Horror in Wallingford. So not only were they working on preparing the trail, they were also working on preparing the food.

I can not thank her enough for all she has done. And yes, I must thank Dan (her husband) for helping her. He also stepped in Saturday afternoon to help us finish the preparation of the food.

Barbara Day, I must also thank. Somehow things got a little mixed up and jammed for our helpers for the dinner. Barbara stepped in and helped out. I can not say enough about Barbara. We all know her. She is at most every auction and one of the first to jump in to help out with being a runner. It doesn't matter that she is not a member of that particular club. Barbara is always willing to help out at all these events.

There are truly others that need to be thanked for all their help and I know I can not remember all the names of those that were there. Don Barbour, setting up the air system with Dan helping him. Don is always there to help out with the setting up the tables for the dinner and the auction. I am sure Barry Lynch will remember those that I haven't mentioned in his thank you article.

For all those unsung hero's of the NAS who helped with the task of setting up on Wednesday night – Thank You. For those that were there on Friday and Saturday to help with the entries coming in to be set up – Thank You. To the Judges – Ray "Kingfish" Lucas, Lee Finley, Sal Silvestri – Thank You. To Anne Broadmeyer, for her help in keeping all the paperwork that the judges needed organized for John & me to key in, Thank You. And for those that no one actually sees on Sunday when the auction is going on – the guys who take down all the equipment, air system, racks, fish bowls and put them away – Thank You.

I would also like to thank all of our generous vendors who donated to our auction. Thank You –



without your generous donations, we would be unable to publish the Wet Pet Gazette, have our Web Site (norwalkas.org), door prizes for our meetings, and special functions through out the year. We really do need to support all our donors. Please. They support us, so we need to make sure we support them.

August's General Meeting



September's General Meeting





THE NORWALK AQUARIUM SOCIETY
BAP REPORT
By: Barry Lynch

As detailed below, there has been an incredible amount of BAP activity in the two month period since my last BAP Report. As a result, this year's BAP totals stand as follows: 14 participants and 69 entries. With two meetings left to go, we have already exceeded last year's record totals of 12 participants and 53 entries.

August 16 Meeting: This meeting set the standard. An astounding total of 21 entries was submitted. The team of **Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor** led the way with 5 entries including the first time entry of *Otopharynx tetraspilus*. **Bob McKeand** brought in 4 entries with two first time entries - *Poeciliopsis monacha* and *Rivulus cylindraceus*. Not to be outdone, **Cathy Chapkovich** likewise submitted 4 entries to include the first time entry of *Rivulus holmiae*. New member **Steve Capelle** earned 40 points for his 3 Malawi cichlid species including the first time entry of *Melanochromis cyaneorhabdos*. I also had 3 entries highlighted by one of my all time favorites, the beautiful Golden Dwarf Cichlid - *Nannacara anomala*. **Don Barbour** and **Ryszard Krzynowek** completed the record evening with their respective submissions of *Cyprichromis leptosoma* and *Pterophyllum scalare*.

Ryszard Krzynowek received a special award for being the magical 100th participant in the BAP program. Other milestones reached included the following. **Bob McKeand** became only the second person in BAP history to exceed 1500 points. (**Sal Silvestri** is, of course, the first.) My entries moved me over the 600 point threshold and vaulted me into 10th place in the all time standings. **Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor** crossed the 200 point threshold.

September 20 Meeting: This meeting restored normalcy - 8 entries. **John Chapkovich** brought in 4 - demonstrating to wife **Cathy** the competition in the Chapkovich household is not yet over. Continuing the recent trend, one of **John's** entries was the first time entry of *Pytochromis* sp "Hippo Point Salmon". **Dan & Maryanne** brought in 3 more - establishing an apparent stranglehold on the Breeder of the Year competition. **Don Barbour** brought in the rare South American dwarf cichlid, *Nannacara taenia*. The evening's BAP highlight was the presentation of the Senior Breeder award to **Dan & Maryanne**.

September 30 Auction: The only BAP entry at the Auction was my *Trichogaster trichopterus* (Opaline Gourami) submission. Ordinarily I probably would have withheld this entry until the October general meeting; but, with over 1000 fry, I thought I'd better get started in disbursing the fish at every opportunity!

Almost There: One of my greatest treats in administering the BAP program is the presentation of awards to those who have deservedly earned them. More awards are on the way. Those closing in include the following. **Steve Capelle** needs only one more 10 point species for the Breeder award. **Cathy Chapkovich** needs one 15 point species for the Senior Breeder award. **John Chapkovich, Steve Ng** and the **McKercher/Naylor** team each need one 20 point species for the Master Breeder award. Similarly, I need one more 20 point species (I already have one) for the Grandmaster award. Finally, the following participants need only to submit an article for the next level award: **Bob McKeand** - Expert; **Dick Moore** - Senior Breeder; and **Slawomir Konrad** - Senior Breeder.

Standings: Immediately following this report are (1) the Breeder of the Year standings and (2) the BAP point standings for current NAS members.



100th BAP Participant

Ryszard Krznowek accepts a special BAP award from NAS President Barry Lynch



BAP SENIOR BREEDER AWARD

Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor achieve another step in the Breeder Award Program



BAP POINT STANDINGS - CURRENT NAS MEMBERS

Date: 10/1/07

<u><i>Participant</i></u>	<u><i>Breeder Award</i></u>	<u>Species Points</u>	<u>Bonus Points</u>	<u><i>Total Points</i></u>
Sal Silvestri	Expert	1545	515	2060
Bob McKeand	Grandmaster	895	680	1575
Don Barbour	Expert	1085	170	1255
Barry Lynch	Master	530	90	620
Ed Katuska	Grandmaster	470	40	510
John Chapkovich	Senior	325	20	345
Anne & Mark Broadmeyer	Breeder	280	25	305
Rich Grenfell	Grandmaster	260	45	305
Dick Moore	Breeder	165	90	255
Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor	Senior	215	20	235
Steve Ng	Senior	185	20	205
Jack Adinolfi	Senior	120	20	140
Slawomir Konrad	Breeder	95	10	105
Joe Masi	Breeder	85	10	95
Cathy Chapkovich	Breeder	80	10	90
Doug DeMent	Breeder	70		70
Ed Schildnecht	Breeder	70		70
Charlie Sundberg	Breeder	60		60
Steve Capelle		30	10	40
Pete Izzo		20	10	30
Bob Alberino		20		20
Ira Friedman		10	10	20
Doug Kneissl		20		20
Ryszard Krzynowek		15		15
Rich Weglinski		15		15
Peggy Heckler		10		10
Ed Peters		10		10
Sue & Scott Reed		10		10
Gina Bell		5		5



**NAS BAP PROGRAM
BREEDER OF THE YEAR - 2007**

Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor**17 entries**

Ancistrus dolichopterus	Big-Fin Bristlenose
Aphyosemion australe	Lyretail Killy
Aulonocara maleri	Sunshine Peacock
Aulonocara stuartgranti	Ruby Red Regal Peacock
Dermogenys pusilla	Malayan Halfbeak
Iodotropheus sprengerae	Rusty Cichlid
Julidochromis ornatus	Ornate Julie
Labidochromis sp "Blue/White Tanzania"	White Lab
Lamprologus ocellatus	Ornate Shell-Dweller
Mesonauta festivus	Festivum
Microgeophagus altispinosa	Bolivian Ram
Neolamprologus caudopunctatus	Caudopunc
Nimbochromis venustus	Venustus
Otopharynx tetraspilus	Mloto Yellow Princess
Poecilia sphenops	Balloon Molly
Pterophyllum scalare	Angelfish
Xiphophorus montezumae	Montezuma Swordtail

Barry Lynch**11 entries**

Ameca splendens	Butterfly Goodeid
Carlhubbsia stuarti	Banded Widow
Cichlasoma nigrofasciatum	Convict Cichlid
Corydoras caudimaculatus	Tail-Spot Cory
Gambusia affinis	Mosquitofish
Girardinus metallicus	Metallic Girardinus
Nannacara anomala	Golden Dwarf Cichlid
Nannacara taenia	Banded Dwarf Cichlid
Neoheterandria elegans	Elegant Poeciliid
Poecilia heterandria	Venezuela Molly
Trichogaster trichopterus	Opaline Gourami

Cathy Chapkovich**9 entries**

Corydoras aeneus	Albino Aeneus Cory
Corydoras paleatus	Hi-Fin Peppered Cory
Limia tridens	Tiburón Limia
Melanotaenia boesemani	Boesemani Rainbow
Poecilia wingei	Ender's Livebearer
Pseudotropheus zebra	False Zebra Mbuna
Pterophyllum scalare	Black Marble Angelfish
Rivulus holmiae	Golden-Tailed Rivulus
Xenotoca eiseni	Red-Tailed Goodeid

Bob McKeand**8 entries**

Aphyosemion australe	Lyretail Killy
Fundulopanchax gardneri	Steel-Blue Killy
Labidochromis caeruleus	Yellow Lab



- Poecilia heterandria
 Poeciliopsis monacha
 Rivulus cylindraceus
 Rivulus geayi
 Rivulus xiphidius
- John Chapkovich**
 Cynotilapia afra
 Julidochromis transcriptus
 Limia tridens
 Neolamprologus brevis
 Pseudotropheus zebra
 Pytochromis sp "Hippo Point Salmon"
- Bob Alberino**
 Ameca splendens
 Poecilia wingei
 Xiphophorus helleri
- Don Barbour**
 Cyprichromis leptosoma
 Nannacara taenia
 Neolamprologus splendens
- Steve Capelle**
 Labidochromis caeruleus
 Melanochromis cyaneorhabdos
 Pseudotropheus socolofi
- Doug Kneissl**
 Corydoras aeneus
 Pelvicachromis pulcher
- Slawomir Konrad**
 Geophagus iporangensis
 Tateurndina ocellicauda
- Ryszard Krzynowek**
 Gambusia holbrooki
 Pterophyllum scalare
- Peggy Heckler**
 Pterophyllum scalare
- Charlie Sundberg**
 Haplochromis obliquidens
- Rich Weglinski**
 Julidochromis transcriptus
- Venezuela Molly
 Orange-Finned Topminnow
 Cuban Rivulus
 Chevron Rivulus
 Band-Tailed Rivulus
- 6 entries**
 Dogtooth Cichlid ("Blue Reef")
 Masked Julie
 Tiburon Limia
 Brevis Shell-Dweller
 Nyassa Blue Cichlid (long pelvic)
- 3 entries**
 Butterfly Goodeid
 Ender's Livebearer
 Red Wag Swordtail
- 3 entries**
 Bright-Finned Slender Cichlid (Blue Flash)
 Banded Dwarf Cichlid
 Neolamprologus helianthus
- 3 entries**
 Yellow Lab
 Electric Blue Maingano
 Eduard's Mbuna
- 2 entries**
 Green Aeneus Cory
 Kribensis
- 2 entries**
 Peacock Goby or Gudgeon
- 2 entries**
 Holbrook's Mosquitofish
 Pearl Angelfish
- 1 entry**
 Black Lace Angelfish
- 1 entry**
 Zebra Obliquidens
- 1 entry**
 Masked Julie



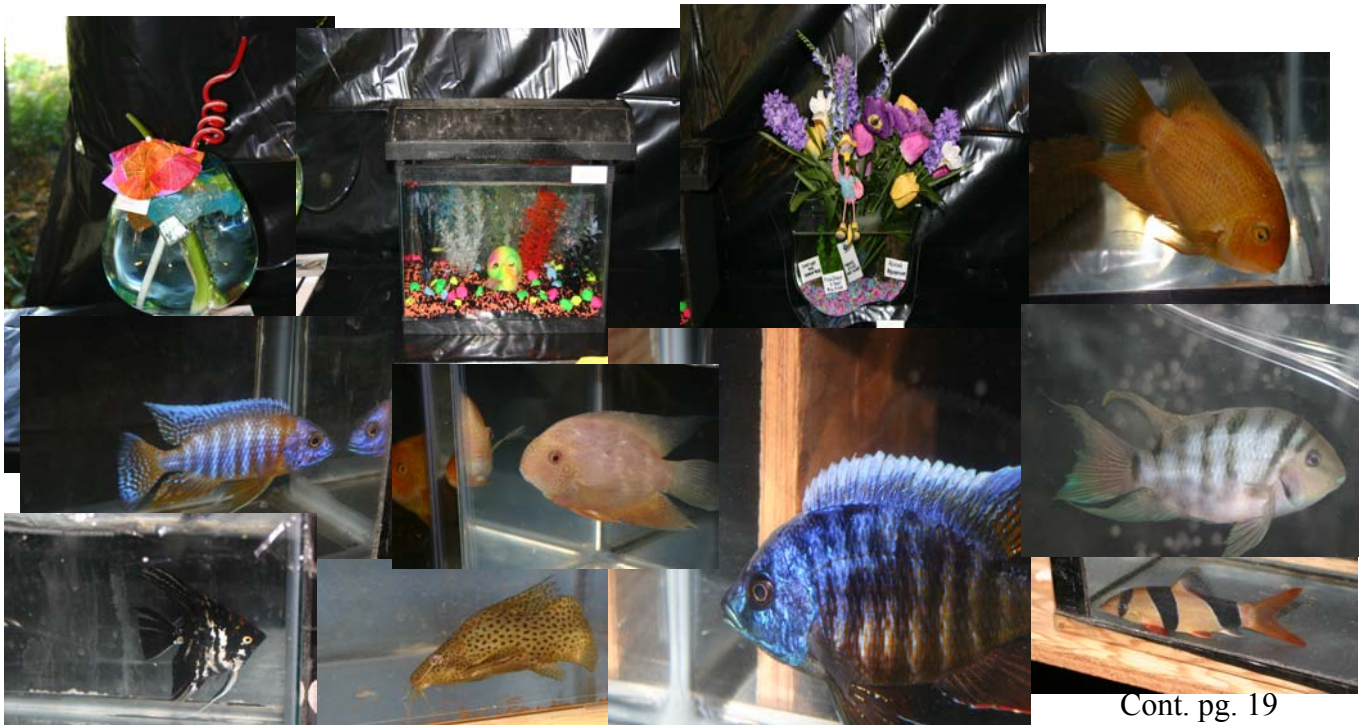
2007 WAS SHOW & AUCTION

Pictures by:
John & Cathy Chapkovich

Wednesday Night Setup



Show



Cont. pg. 19



NAS BAP FISH CLASSIFICATION LIST

NOTE: An Asterisk (*) indicates some members of the family or genus are in a different class.

This list is for reference only. Please check with the BAP Chairperson for any changes.

Class A (5 points)

Brachydanio	Carassius	Cichlasoma*	Gambusia
Goodeids*	Killies*	Laetacara	Limia
Poecilia	Tanichthys	Xiphophorus	

Class B (10 points)

Anableps	Archocentrus	Astatotilapia	Aulonocara
Barbs*	Belonesox	Betta*	Brachyrhaphis
Characins*	Chromidotilapia	Cichlasoma*	Colisa*
Copadichromis	Corydoras*	Cyntilapia	Enantiopus
Etroplus	Geophagus	Goodeids*	Haplochromis
Hemichromis	Heros	Iodotropheus	Killies*
Koi	Labeotropheus	Labidochromis	Lipochromis
Melanochromis	Melanotaenia*	Nannacara*	Nimbrochromis*
Pelvicachromis*	Phallichthys	Protomelas	Pseudotropheus
Pterophyllum	Telmatochromis	Thorichthys*	Tilapia*
Trichogaster	Trichopsis		

Class C (15 points)

Altolamprologus	Ancistrus	Apistogramma*	Badis
Bedotia	Betta*	Characins*	Cichlasoma*
Colisa*	Corydoras*	Crenicara	Ctenopoma
Cyprichromis	Hypostomus	Julidochromis	Killies*
Lamprologus	Lepidolamprologus	Limnotilapia	Loricariidae
Melanotaenia*	Microgeophagus	Nannacara*	Monochromes
Neolamprologus*	Nicralestes	Nimbrochromis*	Paracyprichromis
Pelvicachromis*	Thorichthys*	Tinfoil Barbs	Tropheus

Class D (20 points)

Anostomous	Apistogramma*	Apistogrammoides	Dermogenys
Dicrossus	Hoplosternum	Labeo	Lamprichthys
Loaches*	Megalechis	Neolamprologus*	Pantodon
Petrochromis	Rasbora	Sphaerichthys	Sturisoma
Symphysodon	Synodontis*	Taeniacara	Tateurndina
Tetras*	Tilapia*	Toxotes	

Class E (50 points)

Arrowana	Biotodoma	Botia	Coius
Distochodus	Monodactylidae	Pangio	Scatophagidae
Synodontis*			



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

By: **Barry Lynch**

Believe it or not, the NAS Show/Auction work experience commenced in early Spring and, for some of us, has not yet ended. Putting on a quality Show & Auction is a massive undertaking requiring contributions from the entire NAS membership and numerous outside parties. I am pleased and proud to say that this year's Show & Auction was a complete success. This is a tribute to the many people and organizations who pitched in to help. On behalf of NAS, I thank everyone for the great effort. During this lengthy work experience, a number of parties, for various reasons, caught my eye as deserving of **special recognition**. These include:

Cathy Chapkovich - NAS Show Committee Chairperson: The title "Show Committee Chairperson" is actually misleading. This position not only carries the ultimate responsibility for the Show but also for the Auction. **Cathy Chapkovich** did a fantastic job. Of course, as any good manager would do, she delegated responsibilities wherever possible while retaining the ultimate oversight responsibility. Additionally, she personally accomplished the following tasks (among others). She set up and conducted the numerous Show Committee meetings. She produced and distributed the Show & Auction Rules, various entry forms, flyers, etc. She solicited donations throughout the fish-keeping industry and received an overwhelming response (see the "Donors" listing herein). She selected the raffle prizes and produced the raffle tickets. She manned the Show registration table - processing entry forms, generating show labels and establishing the data base required for multiple purposes. Through the signs she produced and her personal energy, she provided needed organization for the Auction. Put simply, I don't know how we could have done it without her.

Peter Fraboni - NAS and Earthplace: In light of his association with Earthplace, we sometimes tend to forget that **Peter Fraboni** is a full-fledged dues-paying member of NAS. Host sites generally take the understandable position that "we provide the hall - you do the set-up, break-down and clean-up". As he has for many years, Peter performed yeoman's work in both the Show and Auction set-ups and break-downs. Throughout the year, he accommodated our every request for special or early openings of Earthplace for inventories, show committee meetings and the like. What has impressed me the most through the years is his constant graciousness and willingness to help. He is a credit to Earthplace and a very special member of NAS.

Ray Lucas - Kingfish Services: For 18 years, **Ray "Kingfish" Lucas** has toured the country - bringing life and joy to aquarium hobby conventions, shows and auctions everywhere. This year was no exception. He served as one of our Show judges. He set up a magnificent professional display of the products of his ten sponsors. He got the Auction off to a great start - auctioning off donations from his sponsors in his usual entertaining fashion. Throughout the weekend, he demonstrated an enthusiasm and energy which belies his age. (I don't know his age; but, he refers to me as "young man".) If you ever get a chance to sit down with Ray, take advantage of it. He will both recount stories going back many years and bring you up to date on new happenings. NAS and the entire hobby owes so much to **Ray Lucas**.

NEC & Sister Societies - Show Sponsors: Thanks are sincerely extended to all the individual NAS members who volunteered (contributed \$) to be sponsors of Show classes (see the "Sponsors" listing herein). However, it early became evident that, due principally to an increased number of classes, would not be enough. This is when the NEC and a number of aquarium societies stepped into the breach. The NEC took the Novelty Tank sponsorship (the most expensive sponsorship due to its \$80 in



awards). **Aqua-Land, Danbury, Pioneer Valley** and the **New England Cichlid Association** each sponsored a Special Award (respectively Best of Show, Reserve of Show, Best Junior and Best Cichlid). Stepping in to sponsor regular classes were the **Connecticut Betta Club** and **NELA** (Northeast Livebearers Association).

It's not uncommon to occasionally hear comments like "What has the NEC or our sister societies ever done for us?" (These comments are not limited to NAS meetings - I have heard the same questions raised at other society meetings.) One example of what they have done for us is the above sponsorships.

In my opinion, a club or society is its membership. When viewed this way, I see many more examples. **Joe Masi**, the Danbury President, made the long drive through heavy traffic from Boston, New York to help with the Wednesday night Show set-up. **Bill Cole**, also of Danbury, spent most of the Auction afternoon serving as a runner. **Artie Friedman**, of Greater City, manned the auction tables for a good part of the afternoon. I was particularly touched by **Sue Bush**, a long-time Aqua-Land member, who, at the Auction, so much wanted to be a Show Sponsor (even though I explained that all sponsorships had been taken) that we created a special sponsorship for her and husband **Wally Bush**, namely "Sponsor at Large".

Rit Forcier - ALA & NELA: Special thanks go to **Rit Forcier** and the two livebearer associations he chairs - the **American Livebearer Association** and the **Northeast Livebearer Association**. When Rit learned we were short one Show Sponsor, he volunteered NELA. At the Auction, the ALA and Rit donated 8 special lots of livebearers - some flown in from Texas for the occasion. The lots included 3 different species of molly (latipinna, petenensis & velifera), plumetail platys and a seldom seen swordtail species, *Xiphophorus nezahualcoyotl*. This was a real treat for livebearer enthusiasts.

Show Exhibitors: **Larry Jinks** greatly enriched our Show with the multitude of beautiful quality fish he entered. Not only did he sweep the special awards (Best of Show, Reserve of Show and Best Cichlid), in 11 different fish classes he took 19 awards to include 9 first places. Other notable exhibitors included the following. **John & Cathy Chapkovich**, in 10 different classes, received 14 awards to include 3 first places. **Barry Lynch's** (that's me) guppies served me well, earning me 3 first places and 6 other awards out of the 11 total awards I received. In dominating the Betta and Photography classes, **Rich Martucci** received 7 awards to include 3 first places. The entries of **Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor** proved to be top quality, earning them 4 first places (including the coveted Novelty Tank class) and 1 second place.

Doug Kneissl - The Connecticut Betta Club: As you are aware, this year our Show/Auction weekend offered the added attraction of an IBC sanctioned Betta Show hosted by the **Connecticut Betta Club**. This was principally due to the efforts of **Doug Kneissl**. Doug first broached the proposal to the NAS Board in February. While the concept was appealing, the proposal raised numerous questions - principally those of logistics. Could the facilities accommodate a second show? Were there sufficient show supplies (display tables, fish bowls, etc.)? Was adequate manpower available? Should there be a combined auction or two separate auctions? Would two shows and two auctions ultimately result in utter chaos? Through months of planning and hard work, Doug, **Amin Rubirosa** and many others resolved the issues and implemented the plan. You've seen the result. This very special weekend came off virtually without hitch.

While Doug understandably devoted a lot of time to the Connecticut Betta Club production, he somehow found the time to assist NAS in innumerable ways. He actively participated in all the Show Com-



mittee meetings. Once again, he was the leading seller of raffle tickets. He was a valued contributor to the Wednesday night Show set-up. He was another significant Show Exhibitor - receiving 6 awards including first place in the "Old World Cichlids Other" class.

Amin Rubirosa - Rubi Aquatics & Pet Supplies: I first met **Amin Rubirosa** just prior to last year's Show. I was cleaning up the Show area - principally lugging unused tanks and fish bowls down to the basement. Although not then an NAS member, Amin volunteered to help. Shortly thereafter, he joined NAS. Since then, he's been a regular attendee at NAS meetings and has helped out wherever possible. This has included sponsoring two Show classes, participating in the Wednesday night Show set-up and, as a Connecticut Betta Club member, doing all sorts of work in connection with the Betta Show. Notably, he donated the beautiful 55 gallon aquarium set-up (tank, stand & hood) for the Auction raffle. As it turns out, Amin has just opened a pet store named **Rubi Aquatics & Supplies** in West Haven. Knowing Amin, I know this will prove to be a quality store. I hope that those of you within the area will patronize the store and that those of you, like me, who live further away, will take the time to support our fellow member and good friend.

The Ladies: Peggy Heckler, Julie Hevel & Maryanne Naylor: Historically, for whatever reasons, the fish-keeping hobby has been a predominantly male hobby. This has particularly been the case in aquarium societies. One notable exception has been our own **Anne Broadmeyer**. Today, NAS is very fortunate to have four very active female members - the afore-mentioned **Cathy Chapkovich** together with **Peggy Heckler, Julie Heyel** and **Maryanne Naylor**. Peggy and Maryanne each sponsored a Show class. Julie and her son, junior member **Kevin Heyel**, likewise each sponsored a Show class. All three women assisted in the Wednesday night Show set-up. Together, the three planned and hosted the Judges' Dinner. At the Auction, Julie, with Peggy's assistance, worked the raffle table. Maryanne with husband **Dan McKercher** handled the bidder receipts. NAS is indeed very fortunate to enjoy the participation and assistance of these members.

As I was writing this article, other names kept popping up of people who had contributed in so many ways. I was very tempted to add you to my 'special recognition' group. But, Cathy tells me there's a deadline for producing this WPG issue - i.e I have to stop somewhere. The above is clearly deserving of special recognition. I would like to end this article with special recognition to the **NAS Board, the entire NAS membership and all our friends**. Thanks for everything.

Show (cont.)





NAS 41st ANNUAL SHOW - AWARD WINNERS

NAS thanks all the Show exhibitors for contributing to the success of this year's Show. Special recognition goes to the following award winners.

Best of Show: Larry Jinks
Reserve of Show: Larry Jinks
Best Cichlid: Larry Jinks

BETTA SPLENDENS:

BF Betta - Female 1st: Rich Martucci
 2nd: Rich Martucci
 3rd: Doug Kneissl
 BM Betta - Male 1st: Rich Martucci
 2nd: Rich Martucci
 3rd: Rich Martucci

CATFISH:

CC Corydoras, Brochis & Aspidoras 1st: Larry Jinks
 2nd: Larry Jinks
 3rd: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 CL Loricariidae 1st: Larry Jinks
 2nd: Larry Jinks
 3rd: Larry Jinks
 CS Synodontis 1st: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 CO Catfish - Other 1st: Rich Weglinski

CICHLIDS:

ECAD Angelfish, Discus & Uaru 1st: Don Barbour
 2nd: Doug Kneissl
 3rd: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 ECNS New World Cichlids under 4" 1st: Larry Jinks
 2nd: Larry Jinks
 3rd: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 ECNO New World Cichlids - Other 1st: Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor
 2nd: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 3rd: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 ECHM Haps, Aulonocara & Mbuna 1st: Larry Jinks (**Best of Show & Best Cichlid**)
 2nd: Larry Jinks
 3rd: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 ECOT Tanganyikan Cichlids 1st: Dick Moore
 2nd: Cathy & John Chapkovich
 ECOO Old World Cichlids - Other 1st: Doug Kneissl
 2nd: Larry Jinks
 3rd: Dick Moore

OTHER EGGLAYERS:

EA Anabantoids - Other 1st: Larry Jinks
 2nd: Larry Jinks
 3rd: Rich Weglinski



EB	Barbs	1st:	Cathy & John Chapkovich
		2nd:	Larry Jinks
ECR	Characins, Danios & Rasboras	1st:	Frank Nell
		2nd:	Cathy & John Chapkovich
		3rd:	Cathy & John Chapkovich
EK	Killies	1st:	Larry Jinks
		2nd:	Larry Jinks
		3rd:	Doug Kneissl
ESL	Sharks, Loaches & Botias	1st:	Larry Jinks
		2nd:	Charlie Sundberg
		3rd:	Charlie Sundberg
GK	Goldfish & Koi	1st:	Cathy & John Chapkovich
		2nd:	Rich Weglinski
RB	Rainbowfish	1st:	Larry Jinks
		2nd:	Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor
		3rd:	Larry Jinks
<u>LIVEBEARERS:</u>			
LGF	Guppy - Female	1st:	Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor
		2nd:	Barry Lynch
		3rd:	Frank Siracusa
LGDT	Guppy - Male - Delta Tail	1st:	Barry Lynch
		2nd:	Barry Lynch
		3rd:	Barry Lynch
LGOT	Guppy - Male - Other Finnage	1st:	Barry Lynch
		2nd:	Barry Lynch
		3rd:	Barry Lynch
LS	Swordtails, Platys & Mollies	1st:	Larry Jinks (Reserve of Show)
		2nd:	Frank Nell
		3rd:	Frank Nell
LO	Livebearer - Other	1st:	Frank Nell
		2nd:	Cathy & John Chapkovich
		3rd:	Barry Lynch
<u>SPECIAL EVENTS:</u>			
FT	Family Tank	1st:	Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor
		2nd:	Barry Lynch
		3rd:	Don Barbour
MP	Misc. Pairs	1st:	Barry Lynch
		2nd:	Doug Kneissl
		3rd:	Barry Lynch
NT	Novelty Tank	1st:	Dan McKercher & Maryanne Naylor
		2nd:	Cathy & John Chapkovich
		3rd:	Steve Capelle
PHO	Photography	1st:	Rich Martucci
		2nd:	Doug Kneissl
		3rd:	Rich Martucci



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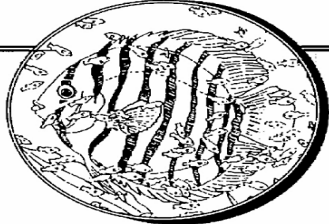
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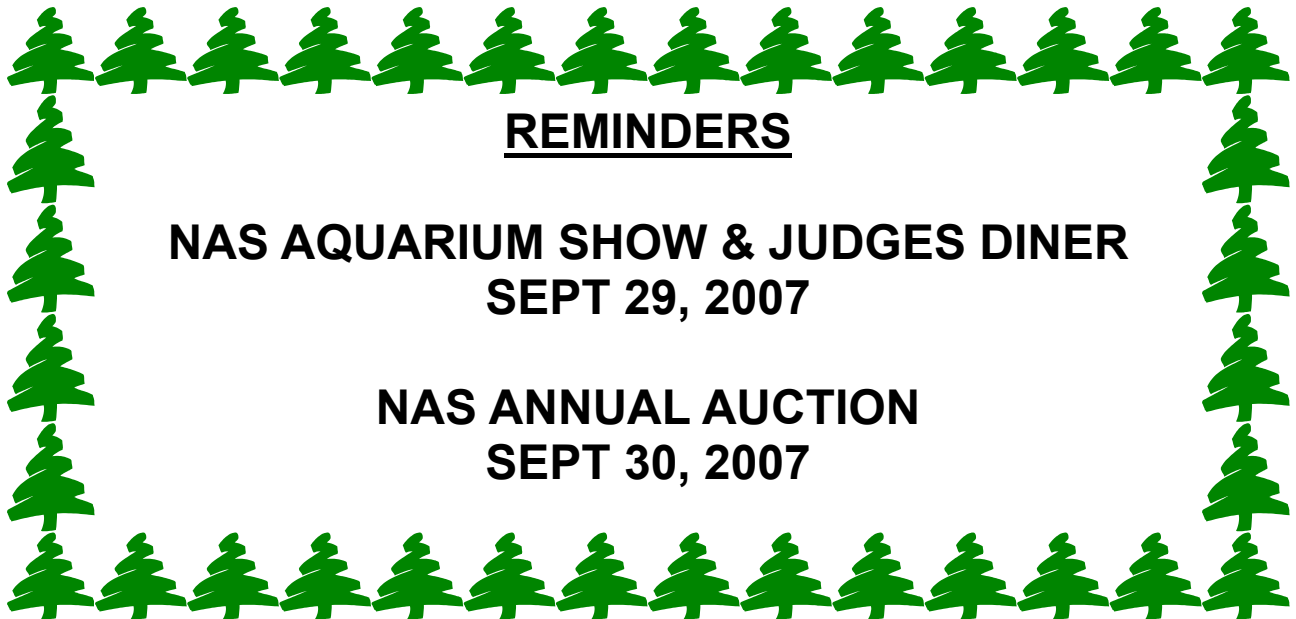
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