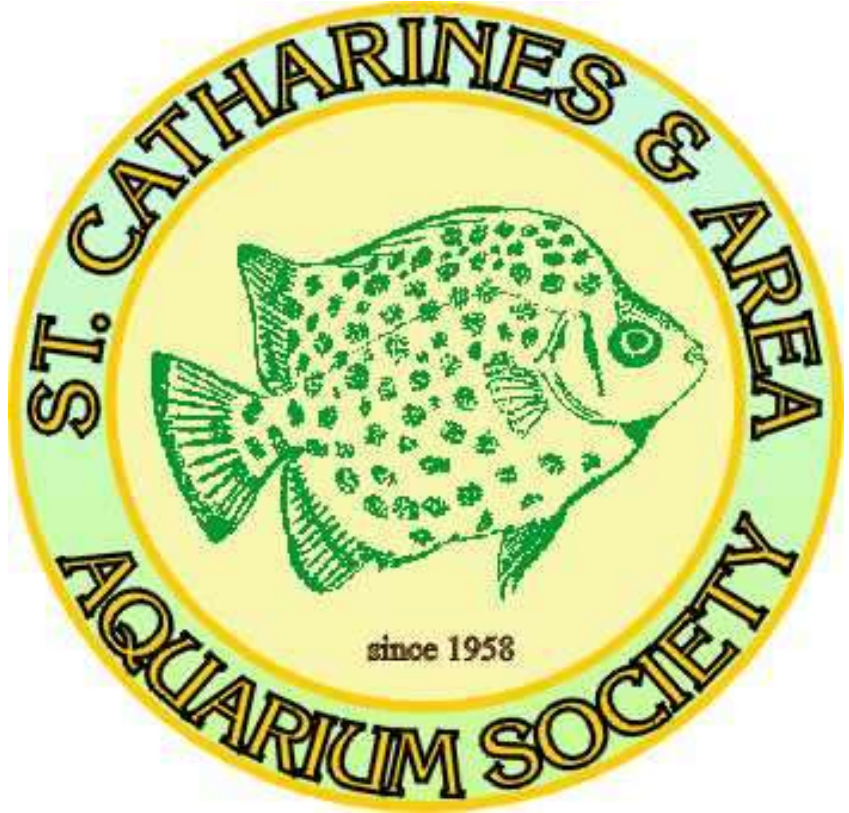


Official publication of

The **St. Catharines & Area** **Aquarium Society**

Since 1958

The SCAT



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Vol. 26 #5 January 2014

Club Notes



- ▶ Meetings of The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society, (S.C.A.A.S.), are held on the first Monday of each month at the Seafarers' and Teamsters' Union Hall, 70 St. David St. E., Thorold, ON. If the first Monday falls on a holiday, the meetings are held on the second Monday.
- ▶ There are no meetings in July and August.
- ▶ The society, established in 1958, is a non-profit educational organization, dedicated to the task of promoting interest in the breeding, raising, maintenance and study of tropical fish, both at the beginner and more advanced levels.
- ▶ S.C.A.A.S. is a charter member of the Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs Inc., (C.A.O.A.C.), www.caoac.ca and a member of the Federation of American Aquarium Societies, (F.A.A.S.), www.faas.info
- ▶ More news and information about S.C.A.A.S. can be found at our web site www.scaas.info and check us out on the new S.C.A.A.S. page at Facebook.com, thanks to Paul Paradis.

The next meeting is on Monday, January 6, 2014
Our program will be a slide presentation and talk titled
"Adventures in Fish Breeding" by Tom & Pat Bridges

Committees

Breeder Awards
 Tom Bridges (905) 735-3352
tp.bridges@sympatico.ca

Horticulture Awards
 Joe Krawchuk (905) 325-5562
drummers_secret@hotmail.com

Auction Coordinator
 Tom Bridges – see above

CAOAC representative
 Phil Barrett (905) 931-2044
pbarrett@cogeco.ca

Newsletter
 Position open

Jar Show Coordinator & Judge
 Pat Shriner (905) 354-1367
gptriner@cogeco.ca

Membership
 Pat Bridges – see Tom above

Refreshments
 Shawn & Shirley Markowski
srogers33@cogeco.ca

Library
 G.O.

Press/Publicity
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Webmasters
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 (905) 325-1622

Treasurer: Roman Haljkevic
romanhaljkevic@gmail.com
 (905) 227-7968

Past President: Ken Brady
kbrady2@cogeco.ca
 (905) 935-4716

Membership Fees

Family	\$25
Single Adult	20
Junior (under 16)	10
Student with card	10
Senior (over 65)	10
Senior couple (both over 65)	15

Upcoming Events

March 15-16 - Calgary will be having its annual speaker weekend, jar show and auction at Montgomery Community Hall. Speakers confirmed are Mike Hellweg and Birger Kamprath.

March 22 Hamilton & District Society Spring Auction and Show – Waterdown

March 29 Brant Aquarium Society Spring Annual Auction & Show.

for more dates go to www.caoac.ca and click on 'Calendar'. ☆

ADVERTISING in 'The SCAT'

Full Page	\$150
Half Page	100
Quarter Page	80
Business Card	50

Jar Show - Fish of the Month

January	Anabantids
February	Loaches & Sharks
March	Plants
April	Angels & Discus
May	Dwarf Cichlids
June	Goldfish & Koi

'Open Class' each month
 (your choice!)



JOE'S PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Season's Greetings, everyone! As I write this, it is still 2013, but at the time of publication, we will have already moved into 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a happy, healthy 2014 not only for yourselves but also for your aquatic families!



Last month brought an unexpected, although pleasant surprise, when I was asked to step in as President of the club for the remainder of the year. I would like to congratulate Paul for all of his efforts and hard work during his time as president. I hope that his new job will still allow him time to come out to meetings.

Being the President is not a position that I will take lightly. I have been a proud member of the club for several years now and will continue to work with the other wonderful members of the executive to bring you great speakers and events each month. Please know that I am always open to ideas and suggestions for how to make the club even better than it already is.

The Christmas meeting and social was a nice night for everyone to get together to talk fish and share some holiday treats. No worries, I'm already brainstorming ways that we can shorten the length of the draw next year!

I'd like to remind everyone that our club continues to support Community Care of Niagara. The Christmas season always sees an influx of people in need, but they help families all year round. If you can, please bring a canned good or two to each meeting – it will make a huge difference to members of our community.

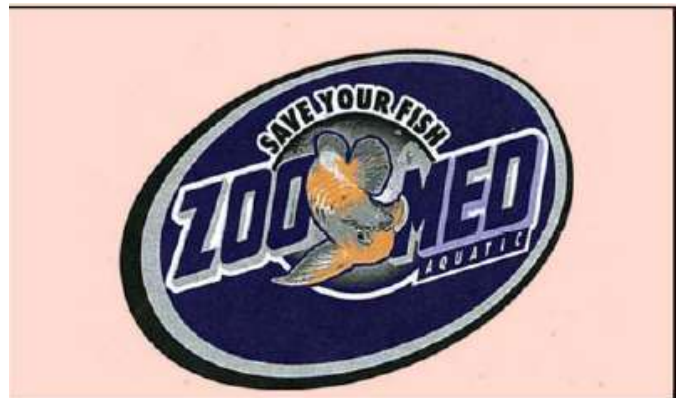
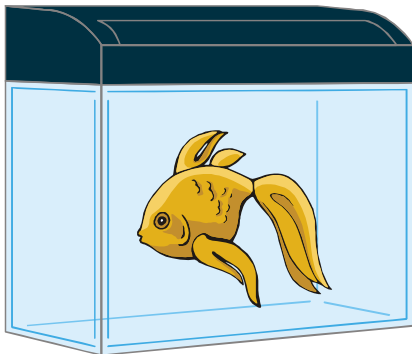
Again, I am very happy to have been given the opportunity to act as your interim President and hope to be able to run for the position officially for next year. All the best!

Joe Krawchuk

JAR SHOW RESULTS FOR DECEMBER

Fish of the Month Class
Mark Lane6 pts
Best in show for his Platy.

Congratulations, Mark. Wouldn't it be great to see more of our members entering fish in our Jar Show?



SCAAS December Photo Ops . . .



President designate
Joe Krawchuk



from the membership
table



Acres of cupcakes and other
goodies contributed by
our very generous members



Where



*Photos
by*

Sascha Duentsch!



to

put



those raffle



tickets?



The feeding frenzy

Would someone please permit the old guy to leave the room.



SCAAS December Photo Ops . . . (continued)



The Auction



**with
our faithful runner
Bruce**



Ember Tetra

By Tom Hillier
BAP Report

The ember tetra, (*Hyphessobrycon amandae*), is a beautiful characin species that is well suited for aquarium life. This vividly coloured tetra is orange in colour. They are only about one inch long at maturity, making them one of the smallest tetras available for the aquarium.



Image from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ember_tetra

Sexing ember tetras isn't easy. The only discernible difference between males and females is the roundness of the belly. Females become thicker and are more round when preparing to spawn.

Ember tetras are found in Brazil. Most specimens of this species are found in tributaries and small streams branching off the Araguaia River basin. In the wild these tetras are found in slow moving water that is acidic and soft. They are usually found around plants and drift wood.

It is best to keep them in groups as they love to school. There should be shade in the aquarium for these fish. They need very soft water and dimly lit aquarium to breed. I feed them flake gel food, micro worms, brine shrimp and small white worms. The water temperature is 78 degrees.





The St. Catharines and Area Aquarium Society Meeting Minutes December 2 2013

The regular meeting of The St. Catharines and Area Aquarium Society was called to order at 7:39 pm on December 2 2013 by President Joe Krawchuk.

38 members were in attendance.

Members were informed that Paul Paradis would no longer be fulfilling his presidential duties and welcomed Joe Krawchuk as new acting president of the club.

The minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Visitors were acknowledged and welcomed.

Members were reminded to kindly bring in canned goods to future meetings which will be donated to the food bank.

150 dollars was generously donated in the club's name to the local food bank.

Jar Show Award was announced at 8:15pm

Christmas Raffle started at 8:35pm and was a huge success and Big Al's and Finatics were acknowledged and thanked for their contributions.

Auction started at 9:20pm and ended at 9:45pm

Special Mention to all those who contributed to making our Christmas meeting a huge success.

Meeting was adjourned at 9: 55 by President Joe Krawchuk. The next general meeting will be at 7:30pm on Monday January 6 2013 in Thorold.

Minutes submitted by *Tammy Pooley*(Secretary)



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Coldwater Corner

by Dave Easingwood...Jan./2014



*'Baby it's cold outside' (so says the song) and that was certainly true of the first real blast of winter we had in the middle of December. The snow fell over two or three days but the temperatures dropped to around -15C overnight and there wasn't much sun to warm things up during the day. My pond heaters are all working and they keep an area of surface free of ice so any bad gases can escape. My fish house activity has slowed down, I'm keeping the temperature of the water at basically 50F, the recommended temperature in books for my fancy goldfish to continue feeding. I keep a close eye on them and if there is any uneaten food after 10 minutes the quantities next time are reduced or the interval between feeds is lengthened. I find that the biggest fish in a brood are generally more greedy than the other, smaller ones. In one tank, there are only six fish of real quality remaining (the rest culled) and one is twice the size of the others, she (?) is the greedy one and often I find her with a water hyacinth root or bit of uneaten algae in her mouth so she, at least, stays active and browses/eats when the temperature drops below 50F. My pond fish outside do not get fed once there is ice on the surface, they 'semi-hibernate' at temperatures below 40F. In January I will

lower the temperature in my fish house to 40F and stop feeding the fish until the beginning of March. That way they have a natural rest and will be better for spawning in the spring of 2014.

*Talking of Pond Fish, I recently got out a new water gardening book from the library, 'Backyard Water Gardens' and I noticed AGAIN that despite generally good photographs of ponds, koi, plants etc., the quality of the goldfish photo's is truly pathetic. It is a moan/beef/grouch/grumble/grouse of mine that the photographs of shubunkins and goldfish in most books is really poor. The profile of the shubunkins in this book would not make it to Big Al's feeder goldfish tank. Beef over !!! I've enclosed a good photo of some Oranda Goldfish from the newsletter of the Northern Goldfish Society in England, now there is a magnificent photograph of a pair of show quality, adult Orandas.

*The Sixth, late spawning of my Bristol Shubunkins continue to develop well, they were culled early in December, the pinks and bronzes and all weaker fish removed. Out of a hatch of 50 fish, I am raising approximately 8 good babies. They are colouring up and show good body shape and are now over 20mm (3/4") in body length. They are fed good growth food, crushed Tetra Goldfish Crisp, with an occasional feed of live brine shrimp and chopped white worm. They are kept at 55F in the best lit tank in my fish house. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a very Fishy New Year, from me and him and all my Bristol Shubunkins !!! *Dave Easingwood.*



“Wow!”



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Aulonocara Jacobfreibergeri - Albino Eureka Red

By Tom Hillier

BAP Report



Developed in the aquarium by selective breeding of albino offspring, Eureka Red adults get between 3 and 5 inches in length. The males retain portions of the red and blue hues of the normal Eureka Red.

A. jacobfreibergeri readily accept most foods, flake, frozen, pellets. A combination of flakes and frozen food is recommended.

The males develop their colouration and finnage over time, but colouration and finnage are especially variable among peacock males.

“Peacock” cichlids of the Aulonocara genus are among the most versatile of all the Rift Lake Cichlids when it comes to compatibility. Rarely is a peacock too aggressive for an African community setup. Rarely is a peacock not able to fend for itself when mixed with a more aggressive species.

Males will display for females attention. A male will normally put on an elaborate show for the females whenever and wherever he feels like it. Courting rituals are spontaneous and exciting. The A. jacobfreibergeri “Albino Eureka Red” is one of several albino peacock varieties which has been developed for the hobby by selective or “line” breeding of mature specimens. Some people confuse line breeding with hybridization, they are NOT the same.



Common name: Yellow Convict

By Tom Hillier

BAP Report

Synonyms: Archocentrus nanoluteus, Cichlasoma nanoluteus, Heros nanoluteus

Family: Cichlidae. Temperament: Territorial

Diet: Omnivore – varied diet of meat and vegetables would be best.

This is one of the more sensitive species amongst the *Cryptoheros* genus.

These fish will not do well with fish that are more aggressive than they are.

These fish should be kept in pairs with some medium and small live bearers.

Temperature: 72-81 degrees. pH: 7.2-8

They stay in the middle, bottom or middle bottom. Males will grow larger and may form a slight hump while females have a distinctive black circle in the middle of their dorsal fin.

When breeding they will pair and clean spawning site. The females will guard the nest while the male protects the surrounding area. They become very territorial once they have spawned to protect the fry. This fish is regarded as the most colourful of the *Cryptoheros* genus, but is not as hardy as its cousin the convict cichlidae. The vertical stripes will come and go depending on the mood.

Main colours: black, yellow. Markings: striped vertical. Mouth: normal. Tail: flat



Cryptoheros nanoluteus





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*'OTHER AQUATIC ANIMALS' BREEDERS CERTIFICATE FORM



NAME: _____ PHONE # : _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ DATE: _____

1. Scientific name of aquatic animal: _____

Common name of aquatic animal: _____

2. Type of breeder (circle one) Self Cloning, Larva development, other _____

DESCRIPTION OF PARENTS - size, color, special characteristics

MALE: _____

FEMALE: _____

3. HOW DID YOU PREPARE THE PARENTS? - including feeding times, types of food

TANK SET-UP - including plants, size of tank, water level, aeration, lighting, gravel, filtration, etc.

BREEDING CONDITIONS Temperature _____ pH _____

Time of day _____ Date of breeding _____

4. How long before the young were free moving? (days) _____

YOUNG First food used _____ # of times per day _____

When they were fed _____ # of young (approx.) _____

Other foods used _____

OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION OR NOTES _____

WITNESSED BY _____ DATE _____

REQUIREMENT FOR CERTIFICATE: (CHECK)

Donation of 6 young or 2 sexable pairs to the mini-auction or BAP article for the newsletter

OR short presentation at a meeting _____ (Breeder's signature)

*mainly invertebrates but including vertebrates such as aquatic frogs.

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