

Official publication of

# The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society

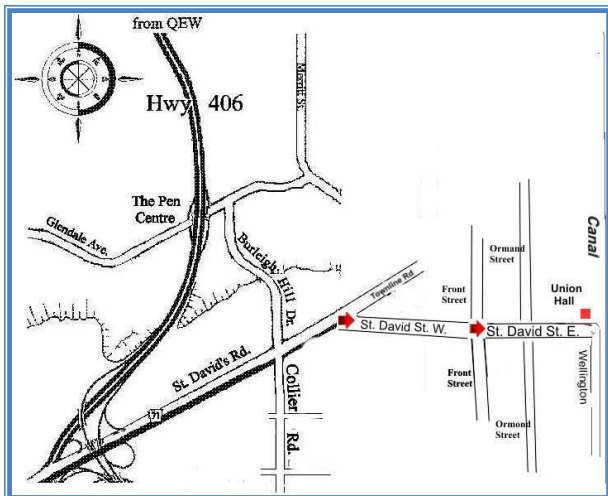
Since 1958

# The SCAT



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## 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](http://www.caoac.ca) and a member of the Federation of American Aquarium Societies, (F.A.A.S.), [www.faas.info](http://www.faas.info)
- ▶ More news and information about S.C.A.A.S. can be found at our web site [www.scaas.info](http://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 October 6, 2014**  
**This program will be Catherine Salmon of Betta Fame . Catherine is a member of our club and President of Betta breeders Canada (<http://bettabreederscanada.com>)**

### Committees

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

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- Horticulture Awards  
Joe Krawchuk (905) 325-5562  
[drummers\\_secret@hotmail.com](mailto:drummers_secret@hotmail.com)

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- Auction Coordinator  
Tom Bridges – see above

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- CAOAC representative  
Phil Barrett (905) 931-2044  
[pbarrett@cogeco.ca](mailto:pbarrett@cogeco.ca)

---

- Newsletter  
Lee Routhier (905) 329-9447  
[Scat.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Scat.newsletter@gmail.com)

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

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- Membership  
Pat Bridges – see Tom above

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- Refreshments  
Position is still open

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- Library G.O.

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- Press/Publicity  
Ken Brady (905) 935-4716  
[kbrady2@cogeco.ca](mailto:kbrady2@cogeco.ca)

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- Webmasters  
Ken Brady and Roman Haljkevic

---

- Programs & Ways & Means  
Tom Hillier  
[tom.hillier@hotmail.com](mailto:tom.hillier@hotmail.com)

### Executive

- President: Joe Krawchuk  
[drummers\\_secret@hotmail.com](mailto:drummers_secret@hotmail.com)  
(905) 325-5562

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- 1st Vice-President: John Verhage  
[joverhage@yahoo.com](mailto:joverhage@yahoo.com)  
(905) 735-7776

---

- 2nd Vice-President: Tom Hillier  
[tom.hillier@hotmail.com](mailto:tom.hillier@hotmail.com)  
(905) 227-5008

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- Secretary: Emma McCormack  
[scaas\\_secretary@hotmail.com](mailto:scaas_secretary@hotmail.com)  
(905) 325-5562

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

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- Past President: Ken Brady [kbrady2@cogeco.ca](mailto: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

- Oct. 4** - Hamilton & District Fall Auction
- Oct. 26** - Kitchener/Waterloo Octoberfish Show & Auction
- Nov. 9** - St Catharines & Area Auction



### Jar Show

#### Fish of the Month

- October** Danios, Barbs & Tetras
- November** Cichlids (any type)
- December** Open to all types
- Stay tuned for Jan-June**

**Remember** each month there is always open class (your choice)

### ADVERTISING in 'The SCAT'

<b>Full Page</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>Half Page</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Quarter Page</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Business Card</b>	<b>50</b>

## JOE'S PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

### Greetings All!

It was great to see everyone at September's meeting! Hopefully as summer activities die down, we'll see even more of you in October. That meeting will feature a talk on bettas. Catharine Salmon will be discussing everything from the different types of bettas, to breeding and showing them! I am very excited to listen to Catharine's presentation.



September's meeting welcomed Ron Bishop and he showed us how to properly display our fish for jar shows and for larger shows. It was perfect timing as we are pleased to announce a new incentive for monthly jar shows; each time you enter, you will be given a ticket for a raffle at the end of the year. We know that all of you have some pretty amazing fish out there – why not show them off?

A big thank you to Lee Routhier, the SCAAT's new editor! Lee has taken over the job from Tom and Pat Bridges who stepped in last year to keep everyone informed throughout the year. It's a thankless job, but one that is important to the club, so it is much appreciated.

Please don't forget your canned goods at next month's meeting. The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society is proud to help our community throughout the year with canned goods and monetary donations being made by members throughout the year.

Also, don't forget that auction season is upon us! I encourage all of you to try to make it out to as many other club auctions as you can. Most importantly, I hope that you'll be able to join us (and lend a hand), at our own auction on Sunday, November 9, 2014. Details, forms and information can all be found on the club's website. Remember that running an auction requires volunteer participation from every club member and it would be nice to have our entire club participate in this great event!

I'll see all of you in October!

*Joe Krauchuk* SCAAS President

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## JAR SHOW RESULTS

**FISH OF THE MONTH – September**  
**Goldfish**

There were no entries for this month

**OCTOBER– Danios, Barbs and Tetras**

**OPEN CLASS – YOUR CHOICE!**



The members of the St Catharines Aquarium Society wish to express their appreciation to the Rolf C. Hagen Company for their continued generous support. *We invite our members to take part in this latest contest by clicking on the banner above.*

## From the Editor's Desk – Lee Routhier

I know I promised I would only be writing as editor in one newsletter, but hey I can change my mind. This one will be short. Unfortunately no pictures are available for this newsletter, and once again, I am asking for your contributions, really, it doesn't take a lot of time to shoot something, not at me but too me. How about a photo of your prize fish? You will also notice that the ad for the Tropical Fish Room has now been removed. As of this date the store is now closed, on behalf of the St. Catharines Aquarium Society we wish to express our sadness at this loss and wish Jerry Draper all the best in the future.



## St. Catharine's Aquarium Society September 2, 2014 Executive Meeting Minutes

**SCAAS Auction:** It is happening November 9th 2014. Tom as well as the team from London Area fish club will be in charge of registration. Joe will advertise with Kijiji and Cogeco. Pam or Roman will have the sign up forms and registration forms. Pat will be able to update these forms once we have a hold of them. A request volunteer in September's meeting.

**Refreshments:** Nobody has volunteered for this position. Joe to bring in coffee, milk, sugar and a dozen donuts. We still have pop and water left over from last year but for the October meeting more will be needed. We can ask for a different volunteer at each meeting until somebody accepts the position. We also need volunteers for the refreshments at our auction. We can ask Shawn and Shirley if they would be still willing to do the June BBQ and possibly the auction.

**Changes to the Jar Show:** Possible ideas to update the jar show: get rid of fish of the month and just have an open class, have 1 month specifically for an open class, have different fish of the month and an open class every month, tank only classes. We chose to update the fish of the month and hold open classes every month as well. We need to get people comfortable with showing fish so one year we can have a show with our auction. Implement a ticket system to raffle off a prize at the end of the month. Prize could possibly be the donated filter. We can display the prize with the jar show to get people excited about what they could possibly win.

**Monthly Programs:** September: Ron Bishop - Showing.  
October - Charlie Drew - Breeding  
November - TBD  
December - Tom H - Making your own food.  
January - TBD  
February - TBD

March - ponds?

April - Jun - TBD.

Possible talks include manufacturer reps, expeditions, filtration, marine fish, breeding, showing, workshop style meeting, "speed dating" to get to know other club members.

Tom H could do a workshop on food, Joe K could do a talk on filtration, Ken could do a talk on lighting and plants, Catherine could do a talk on Betas. Possible other talks on sea horses, frogs and ponds.

**Advertising Fees:** Need Roman to show us the books of who has paid and when. We need to create a list of who is advertising and when they are due to pay. Full page is \$150, Half a page is \$100. We can also accept donations of products for payment.

**Website:** Tom H will speak with Ken about getting the username and password from Ken so we can update our website.

**Breeders Awards:** Tom B has created a new "How To" article on what to do to earn a certificate; to be published in the SCAT. Dave Furness is now a part of the BAP committee. We can award certificates for different variations within the same species but points will only be given for the first kind in a species. Some changes in the rules for getting a plaque; to be published in the SCAT.

**Tank and Stand Donation:** We can sell it in our November auction so we get a better price on it. We might get more money if we piece out the tank and filters and other accessories separately.

**New Business:** Where do shrimp fit in with the BAP?

Collect memberships in September.

Ask the editor if there is anything she needs us to do to help her out.

#### Breeders Award Program



#### The basic steps for a breeder's award: (Revised September 2014)

1. Within approximately 2 to 3 weeks, (not more than a month, please), of a spawn or birthing, request verification by the BAP chair, or, by arrangement with the BAP chair, another member of the club (usually a committee member, at this

time, Dave Furness, or an executive member). Ordinarily, to qualify for a certificate, a spawn should consist of at least 10 fry which survive past the 3 month point. In rare cases, exceptions may be made, (such as allowing successive spawns to be combined to make up the ten), at the discretion of the BAP Committee.

2. Complete and submit a club spawning report — forms are available from the BAP Chair at meetings or by email attachment.

3. **Either** donate 6 fry or two sexable pairs, (*should be approx. 3 months or more old*), to the club mini-auction **or** write an article for the newsletter, describing the care and breeding of the species concerned, **or** instead of writing, give a short oral and/or pictorial presentation at a club meeting. (*Let the President know in advance so he/she can put you on the agenda.*)

Certificates are granted for each specific species. Varieties of species do not qualify for additional points — ie.: red wag platy and gold platy or various colours of angels, etc.. wouldn't get more points if you have already received points for breeding another variety of those species.)

Points are assigned to each class of fish.

Plaques are awarded for the required number of spawns in each class. For example: Tetras & Characins – 4 distinct species for the basic plaque. (See '**Plaque Requirements**' for more information.)

Presentation of your certificates will be made at the club meetings. Credit and points earned will be printed in an upcoming newsletter. Once you have earned a certificate you may be listed in the next update of the CAOAC Breeders Directory.

CAOAC breeders awards may be earned through fish bred for club certification. These applications must be made by the February CAOAC meeting each year. Application forms and details of these awards are on the CAOAC web site.

<<http://www.caoac.ca/awards.html>>

Anyone applying for a CAOAC award will be presented with their special certificate at the annual CAOAC convention in May. If you cannot attend, your certificate will be sent to the club.

*Tom Bridges*

*Current Breeders Awards Program Chair for SCAAS*

#### **Plaque Requirements (rev. Sept. 2014)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number required for plaque</b>
Livebearers	6 distinct species ( <i>Basic</i> ) 15 species ( <i>Specialty</i> ) 30 species ( <i>Master</i> )
Catfish	4 distinct species ( <i>Basic</i> )* 7 species ( <i>Specialty</i> )* 12 species ( <i>Master</i> )*
Barbs and Minnows	4 distinct species 15 species ( <i>Specialty</i> ) 25 species ( <i>Master</i> )
Rasboras	2 distinct species 4 species ( <i>Specialty</i> ) 6 species ( <i>Master</i> )
Tetras & Characins	4 distinct species 9 species ( <i>Specialty</i> )

Killie Fish	15 species (Master) 4 sp. (2 top & 2 soil spawners) 12 sp. Any combination (Spec.)
Anabantids	24 species (Master) 4 distinct species 12 species (Specialty)
Cichlids	20 species (Master) 8 sp. (4 substrate & 4 mouthbrooders) 18 sp. any combination (Spec.)
Sharks, Loaches & Eels	30 species (Master) 1 species 2 species (Specialty)
marine	3 species (Master) 1 vertebrate (fish) or 2 invertebrate sp. (Not opportunistic sp. Brine shrimp etc.) 3 sp. in any combination (Spec.) 5 sp. in any combination (Master)
All Other Species	4 species (Basic)* (includes goldfish, Australian Rainbows, Gobies, Leafyfish, Brackish water types such as Scats, Monos, Puffers and etc.) 6 species (Specialty)* 10 species (Master)*

\* Change approved by the SCAAS executive to be in effect as of December 2014.





Thoughts from the Fish Bowl - Lee Routhier

I really struggled this month to find something to write about. I would start on a topic and then find it wasn't going anywhere so scrap that idea and start again. Finally it came to me, write about all of them. So here it is. The top 5 misconceptions that irk me.

**5.) Ads that say I will take your unwanted fish.** Okay two things about this, the fact that someone has fish they no longer want. If your life changes and you are not able to care for them anymore that's one thing. BUT you bought that fish without any knowledge of its needs or future size and it has outgrown your tank and now you just want to get rid of it. Can't say it enough educate, educate, educate, and learn before you buy that fish what you will eventually end up with. The other part of this is someone wants free fish. Fish are the cheapest part of the hobby. If you can't afford the fish, then how are you going to afford the upkeep and elements needed to look after it?

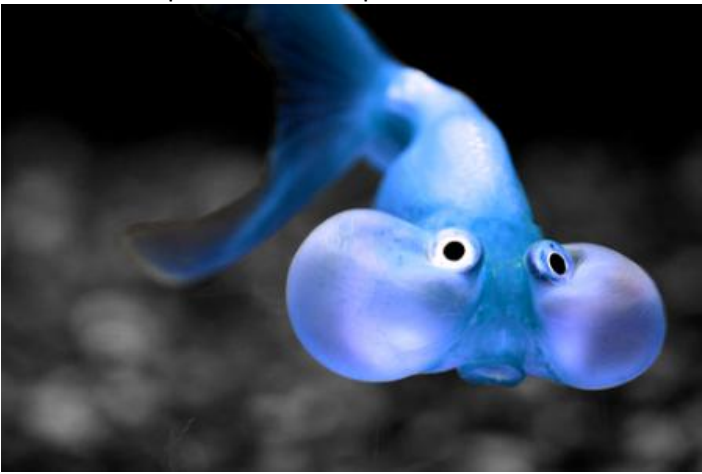
**4.) Overheard- I'm going to get pairs only, breed fish and sell them and make a profit.** Okay all you breeders out there you can stop laughing now. The cost of the hydro, food, and the amount of time you will spend in trying to breed them. You will never make a profit. Not to mention the unsuccessful attempts and the amount of fry lost as you learn. If you are lucky it will pay for your fish food.

**3.) Turtles –“the pet store I bought the turtle from told me if I keep it in a small tank it won't get any bigger”.** You know I did not tell them that, I don't sell turtles. I would really like to see what happens in a few months. If the turtle is lucky enough to live that long. This can also be said for fish as well.

**2.) People who pretend they know what they are doing, so that I will sell them the fish that they want.** For example, “oh I've had lots of fish before, I know all about fish “yet you did not know the difference between an air pump and an auto feeder. Or “I bought cichlids and they all died, must have been the additive I put in the water” maybe it was the fact that the tank had only been running for two days. There is a reason why I ask 20 questions before selling a fish. I don't think you are stupid, I don't want the fish to die on you, and you have wasted your money.

**And the number one thing!!!!.**

My water looks clean, no algae on the glass I haven't needed to clean it in over a year. Hello!!! That's a giant toilet bowl. Those poor fish. Stir up the substrate and see how clean it looks.





**St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society**  
**September Minutes by Emma**

**7:35pm:** Meeting called to order

**Upcoming Events:**

- September 13: Sarnia Fall Auction
- September 28: London Fall Auction
- October 4: Hamilton Fall Auction
- October 26 : Oktoberfish and Kitchener Fall Auction
- November 9: St. Catharines Fall Auction.

Please note we will have a signup sheet next month for people who wish to volunteer at our auction. Your help with our auction is appreciated.

**Memberships:** Memberships are due in September. \$20 for a single membership, \$25 for a family membership, \$15 for a senior couple membership, \$10 for a junior, student, or single senior.

**Financial Update:** We currently have \$3,163.78 including the float

**Breeder Awards:** None this month but Ernest has already earned one for next month.

Please note in order to qualify for a certificate you must do one of the following plus fill out the required paperwork. Write an article for the SCAT, bring in 2 sexed pairs, bring in at least 10 fry which are at least 3 months old, or do a mini presentation on the fish you have bred. The paperwork that is required to be completed can be found on the website and emailed in or ask Tom Bridges for a paper copy.

There has been some slight changes to the requirements to earn a plaque. The changes can be found in this month SCAT.

**Horticultural Awards:** None this month but Ernest has already earned one for next month.

Please note in order to qualify for a certificate you must do one of the following plus fill out the required paperwork. Write an article for the SCAT, donate 2 or 3 plants, or do a mini presentation on the plants you have propagated. The paperwork that is required to be completed can be found on the website and emailed in or ask Joe Krawchuk for a paper copy.

**SCAT Editor:** We have a new SCAT editor; Lee. Thank you for your effort a great job was done on the first one and we all look forward to seeing the coming months issues. Articles are always welcomed for the SCAT.

\*\*\*\*\* Please remember to bring an item of non-perishable food or a donation for community cares to every meeting you are able to \*\*\*\*\*

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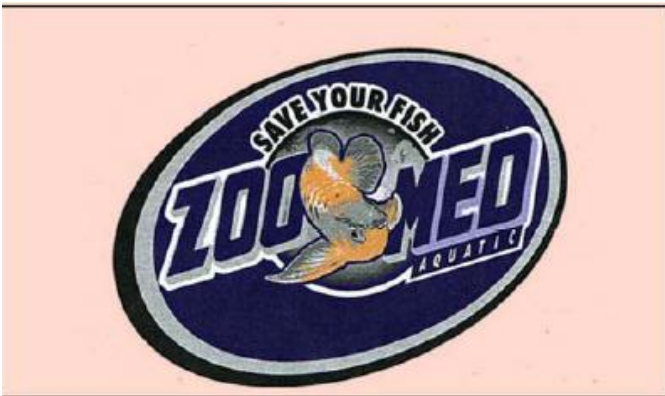
## 2014-2015 SCAAS Meeting Dates

### Mondays:

September 8  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Monday due to  
the Labour Day  
holiday)  
October 6  
November 3

December 1  
January 5  
February 2  
March 2

April 6 (Easter Monday)  
May 4  
June 1



### AHAP AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

No awards this month

*Joe Krawchuk*  
HAP Chairperson



**OAA** stands for **Other Aquatic Animals**, (mainly invertebrates but includes vertebrates such as aquatic frogs).

**Please note:** The points may change as we find out more regarding degrees of breeding difficulty. Appropriate certificate forms are available from the OAA Chairperson.

### OAA AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

No awards this month.

*Tom Bridges*  
BAP Chairperson

### BAP AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

No awards this month!

*Tom Bridges*  
BAP Chairperson



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This is our regular spot in The SCAT. It'll contain brief descriptions of hobby related items that members have 'For Sale' or 'Want To Buy' or 'Swap' and their names, phone numbers and/or email addresses. (To have items entered, you must get the information to the editor by the deadline for that month.)

<p><b>Want To Buy</b></p> <p><b>Always looking Angelfish Juveniles –</b> <b>Lee <a href="mailto:swimmingalong1@gmail.com">swimmingalong1@gmail.com</a></b></p>	<p><b>For Sale</b></p> <p><b>No items for sale this month</b></p>
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**No items to SWAP this month**



**About CAOAC (Canadian Association Of Aquarium Clubs)**

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, and liability insurance, are just a few of the things on which clubs can work and benefit together.

<b>Your New CAOAC Executive:</b>	
<b>President:</b> <i>Ron Bishop</i>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:</b> <i>Peter Melady</i>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President:</b> <i>Ken Boorman</i>	<b>Recording Secretary:</b> <i>Ann Stevens</i>
<b>Corresponding Sec'y:</b> <i>Ann Marie Towell</i>	<b>Treasurer:</b> <i>Albert Van Montfort</i>

**Willing volunteers are golden in all areas but especially in clubs like SCAAS where, without them, it could not exist. Please welcome our new volunteer SCAT editor, Lee. You can say thanks. You can read the SCAT and let her know. You can contribute a picture, cartoon, article, a column, or a useful suggestion. (from your former editor – pro temp)**



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