

THE SCAT

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Inside this issue

Club Notes, Fish of the Month, & Upcoming Events
Page 2

March Program **Page 3**

Pat's Presidential Message
Page 3

Words from the Editor Type Person **Page 4**

Awards **Page 5**

Java Fern a Hardy Aquarium Plant **Pages 8 & 9**

Few pics from last meeting

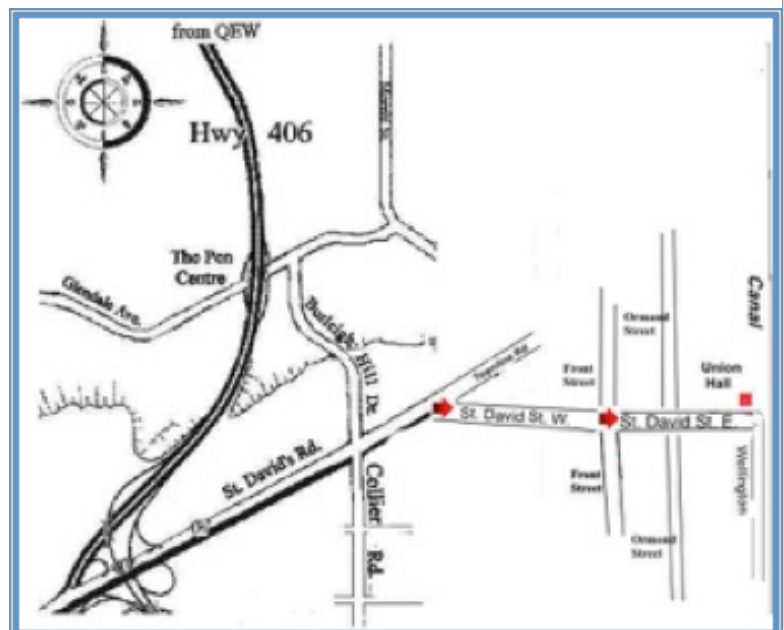
Page 11

Interesting Fish Facts

Page 12

Aquarist Fish House Sale

Page 14





Committees

Breeder/OAA Awards:
Tom Bridges
tp.bridgese@sympatico.ca
(905) 735-3352
BAP/OAA Awards Asst.:
Dave Furness
dmfish1@sympatico.ca
(905) 935-3220

Horticulture Awards
Ry Koch
Koch.ry@gmail.com

Auction Coordinator
Tom Bridges - see above

CAOAC representative
Phil Barrett (905)
931-2044
pbarrett3@cogeco.ca

Newsletter editor Les
Brady (below)

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

Membership
Trish Fruck
tfruck1@gmail.com

Refreshments
Wendy & Wayne
Wallington

Library G.O.

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

Webmasters
Ken Brady and Roman
Haljkevic
Programs - OPEN

Ways & Means
Tom Hillier see 1st Vice
Pres

► 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. **Meetings begin at 7:30. There are no meetings in July and August.**

► **Our Mission Statement:** 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

Executive

President: Pat Shriner
gpshriner@cogeco.ca
(905) 321-0527

1st Vice President: Tom
Hillier
tom.hillier@hotmail.com
(905) 227-5008

2nd Vice President: Ry Koch
Koch.ry@gmail.com

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

Secretary: Andrew Fruck
tfruck1@gmail.com
(905) 650-0557

Past President: Paul
Paradis
pparadis1@hotmail.com
(905) 941-9867

Advertising in 'The SCAT'

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

Membership Fees

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

Upcoming Events

18- 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

18 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting , Waterdown ON

24 -Hamilton District Aquarium Society Show & Auction, details to follow

Jar Show Fish of the Month

March Swords, Platies, Mollies

April Anabantids including Gouramis & Bettas

May Guppies

June Corys & Catfish (including plecos)

****Remember** the Open Class every month.

SCAT Editor

Les Brady
scateditor2018@gmail.com

March Program

The Next Meeting is on Monday March the 5th.

We welcome Haydn Pounder who will speak about fish quarantine. Of course we will also have our Jar Show (F.O.M. will be Swords, Platies, Mollies), raffle, and mini auction.

SHOW (F.O.M. will be Swords, Platies, Mollies), raffle, and mini auction.

WE WELCOME HAYDN POUNDER WHO WILL SPEAK ABOUT FISH QUARANTINE. OF COURSE WE WILL ALSO HAVE OUR JAR

PAT'S PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE



Welcome to you all. Our February program was on Dwarf Cichlids by Jessica Bullock from the Hamilton Aquarium Society. I believe that this program was well received by all in attendance. She has extensive knowledge with the raising and breeding of many wonderful dwarf cichlids. We had a good turn out to our meeting with almost 40 people in attendance.

Our speaker for March will be Haydn Pounder who will be speaking on Fish Quarantine. I don't believe we have ever had this subject discussed at our club. I am looking forward to this talk as it may save some troubles down the road with introducing diseases into an already established aquarium. We will also have our usual raffle draw and auction as well as jar show.

We have some show/auctions coming up in March. The first that I am aware of would be Hamilton & District Aquarium Society spring auction/show on March 24, 2018 in Waterdown. There is also a first for Niagara, where there will be the Greater Niagara Coral show on March 25, 2018 in Niagara Falls at the Cairn Croft Hotel on Lundy's Lane. There will be 20 vendors selling various corals.

I hope you are able to attend our March meeting, see you there.

Pat



Words from the Editor Type Person



After two excellent presentations from Jessica Bullock, i am now wondering what do you keep? i know in the past it has been asked of the membership to write articles about what they have or how they got into the hobby. i am interested in continuing this type of article, but i want to know what you keep and your personal experiences, not that interested in the scientific stuff. This month Ernest submitted an article on Java Fern that i rather enjoyed, and would like to see more stuff like this. I would also like to open up this invite to new members as we would like to get to know you.

Send in suggestions, stories, whatever you the members would like to see in your newsletter.

Didn't receive the newsletter?

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Or come see me at the meeting.

Les Brady

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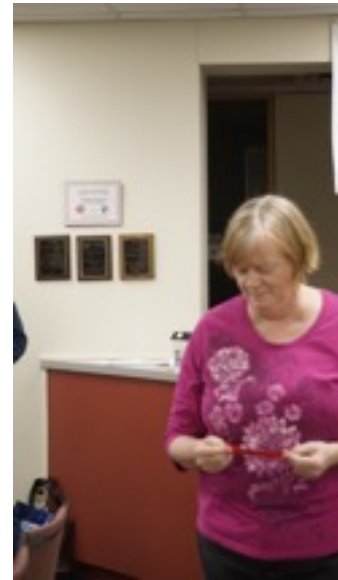
FEBRUARY'S AWARDS

JAR SHOW RESULTS

OPEN CLASS

1. Catharine Solman
2. Ernest Biktimirov

Pat Shriner
(Jar Show Chair)



AHAP AWARDS

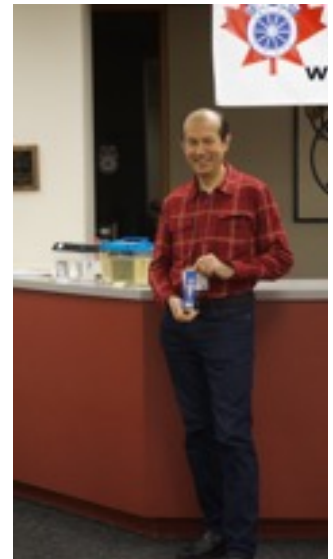
NO AWARDS

RY KOCH
(AHAP CHAIR)

BAP AWARDS

NO AWARDS

TOM BRIDGES
(BAP CHAIR)



OAA AWARDS

NO AWARDS

TOM BRIDGES

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Last month I somehow managed to forget to include the ad for Cat's Fish Caves. This is my official apology and my endorsement. I picked one of these wonderfully hand crafted caves up through our raffle and tried it in with my Cory Cats. Not that I can ever get a picture of it, but i often find my small Corys in there. These are a wonderful hand made product available at a reasonable price.

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Ernest Biktimirov

Java fern – a hardy aquarium plant

If you are looking for a plant that can survive herbivorous fish, low light, brackish water, and absence of substrate in the form of gravel or sand, Java fern (*Microsorium pteropus*) will be your choice. Due to its attractiveness and ability to tolerate a wide range of conditions, Java fern has become one of the most popular plants in the aquarium hobby.



Originating from Southeast Asia, Java fern is a *Rhizome plant* that grows by attaching itself to woods and rocks along banks of rivers and streams. It can reach up to 30 cm in height, and has several varieties that differ in leaf size and shape. Typically, Java fern features long leaves and the green rhizome with dark-brown rootlets. According to Hiscock (2001, p.173), Java fern contains chemicals that deter most herbivorous fish from eating its leaves. This plant grows slowly and tolerates low levels of nutrients. Java fern obtains nutrients directly from water and stores them in the rhizomes.



In the aquarium, the rhizome should not be buried in the substrate, otherwise it will rot. Usually *aquarists* attach this plant to a driftwood or a rock with a thread, an elastic, or an aquarium safe glue. I prefer, however, just to squeeze the rhizome and/or its rootlets through cracks in a driftwood. Over time the plant will cover the entire driftwood.

It is easy to propagate Java Fern by cutting the rhizomes. In addition, adventurous plants form near the pointed edge of dead-looking leaves.



Adventurous Java fern plants



Young Java fern plants

Java fern can be very prolific. For example, a photo below shows a 33 gallon tank with multiple Java fern plants that all came from the same parent plant. They grow well under the LED light, which would be insufficient for the majority of other plants.



Taken together, Java fern is a hardy and beautiful plant suitable for different types of aquariums. If you do not have it in your tanks yet, I advise you to give it a try. You will not be disappointed.

Reference: Hiscock, Peter. 2003. *Encyclopedia of Aquarium Plants*. New York, NY: Barron's Educational Series.

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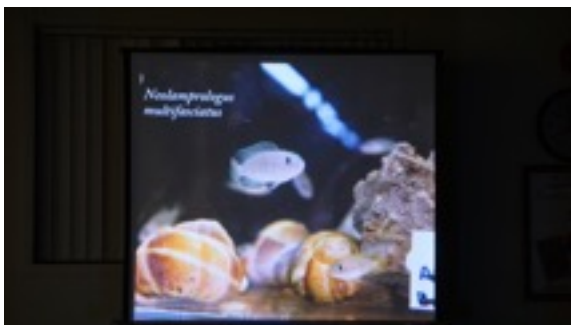
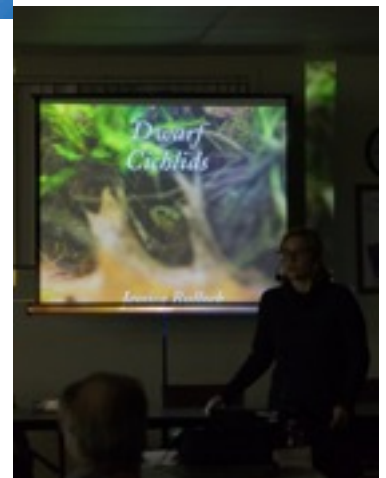
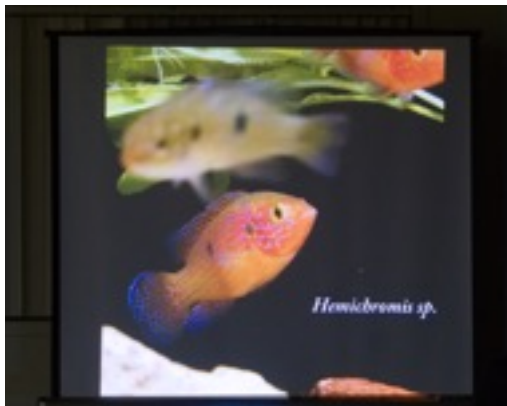
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Interesting Fish Facts

1. Most fish reproduce by laying eggs, though some fish, such as great white sharks, give birth to live babies called pups.[4]
2. Lungfish can live out of water for several years. It secretes a mucus cocoon and burrows itself under the unbaked earth. It takes in air with its lung through a built-in breathing tube that leads to the surface. A lungfish has both gills and a lung.[4]
3. Some fish, such as the great white shark, can raise their body temperature. This helps them hunt for prey in cold water.[5]
4. The oldest known age for a fish was an Australian lungfish. In 2003, it was still alive and well at 65 years old.[5]
5. Fish use a variety of low-pitched sounds to convey messages to each other. They moan, grunt, croak, boom, hiss, whistle, creak, shriek, and wail. They rattle their bones and gnash their teeth. However, fish do not have vocal chords. They use other parts of their bodies to make noises, such as vibrating muscles against their swim bladder. [1]
6. Fish can form schools containing millions of fish. They use their eyes and something called a lateral line to hold their places in the school. The lateral line is a row of pores running along the fish's sides from head to tail. Special hairs in the pores sense changes in water pressure from the movements of other fish or predators.[5]
7. Interesting Starfish Fact
8. Starfish don't have a brain or blood
9. Starfish are not fish. Neither are jellyfish.[1]
10. Since a fish's jaw is not attached to its skull, many fishes can shoot their mouths forward like a spring to catch startled prey.[1]
11. Electric eels and electric rays have enough electricity to kill a horse.[3]
12. Sharks are the only fish that have eyelids.

There more interesting facts like this found at <https://www.factretriever.com/fun-fish-facts>

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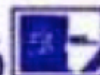
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