

# THE SCAT

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## Volume 30 # 8

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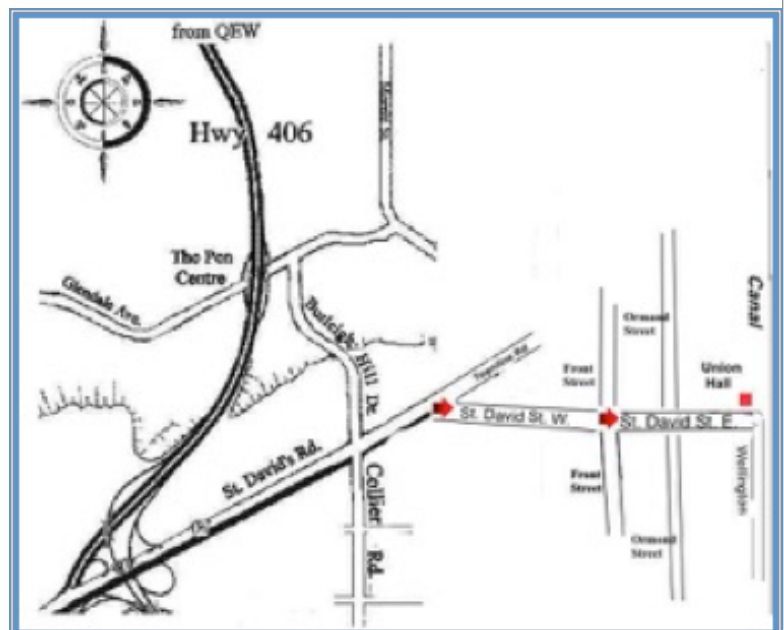
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► Meetings of The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society, (S.C.A.A.S.), are held on the first Monday of each month at the Seafarers' and Teamsters' Union Hall, 70 St. David St. E., Thorold, ON. If the first Monday falls on a holiday, the meetings are 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](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)

## Executive

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## 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

## Jar Show Fish of the Month

**April** Anabantids including Gouramis & Bettas

**May** Guppies

**June** Corys & Catfish (including plecos)

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

**\*\***

## April Program

The Next Meeting is on Monday April the 9th. This months program will be having 3 demonstrations put on by some of our senior members. These demonstrations will be on spawning mop making, doing up a dirt planted tank and fish egg capture and fry rearing. Of course we will also have our usual raffle and mini auction as well.

## Upcoming Events

- 8 - Barrie Region Aquarium Society Auction details to follow
- 8 - Société d'Aquariophilie de Montréal - Super Auction , details [here](#)
- 15 - Durham Region Aquarium Society Aquariana, details to follow
- 15 - Calgary Aquarium Society Auction, check website for details
- 21 - Sarnia Aquarium Society Auction, details [here](#)
- 22- 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON
- 22 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting Waterdown ON
- 29 - Aquarium Club of Edmonton Auction
- 29 - Ottawa Valley Aquarium Society Giant Auction, held at Tom Brown Arena, 141 Bayview Rd,

## March Meeting Minutes

- ✦ 7:35 Meeting called to Order
- ✦ BAP Update
  - ✦ Two awards handed out this month
- ✦ Library Report
  - ✦ Three new books on plants added to the library
- ✦ Treasury Report
  - ✦ Few minor Payments issued
  - ✦ Bank balance is healthy
- ✦ Events Announced at March Meeting
  - ✦ Hamilton Spring Auction March 24
  - ✦ PRAC Speaker Dinner with Rachel O'Leary June 9
  - ✦ Niagara Falls Coral Show
- ✦ 7:45-8:50 Presentation by Hayden Poundr on Quarantining You Fish
- ✦ 9:00-9:45 Monthly Mini Auction

## Pat's Presidential Message



Welcome to you all. Our March program was on Fish Quarantine by Haydn Pounder. I found this to be an interesting topic and I learned a few things about possible transmission of fish diseases through introduction of new fish to your aquarium. He was very detailed in explaining how he keeps these possible diseases out of his tanks. We had a good turn out to our meeting with almost 40 people in attendance. Also in March I attended both the Hamilton show and auction in Waterdown as well as the Coral Show in Niagara Falls and both were very well attended. I had heard that the coral show/sale was the largest attended in

Canada and they have already planned to have another one in Niagara Falls in March 2019.

This month we are doing it a little bit different. We are having three fish keeping demonstrations (spawning mop making, doing up a dirt planted tank and fish egg capture and fry rearing). We will have individual stations and split the members into three groups to do the circuit at each station. We will also have our usual raffle draw and auction as well as jar show.

Just a reminder that our club's upcoming elections for the executive are in June. If you would like to run for one of the executive positions (president, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president, treasurer or club secretary) or would like to nominate someone (with their permission, of course) please see our new Elections Chair Jim Chalmers (thanks Jim for taking on this role).

I hope to see you at the meeting on April 9, 2017 starting at 7:30 PM.

Thank you

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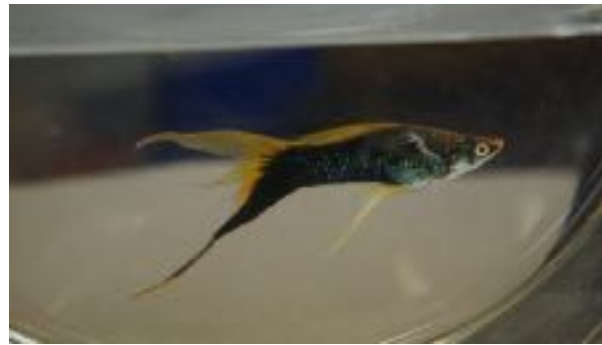
# MARCH'S AWARDS

## JAR SHOW RESULTS

### F.O.M.

1. Karen
2. Catherine Salmon

Pat Shriner  
(Jar Show Chair)



## AHAP AWARDS

NO AWARDS

RY KOCH  
(AHAP CHAIR)



## BAP AWARDS

Dave Furness

*Limia nigrofasciata*

5 pts

Congratulations!

Tom Bridges  
BAP Chairperson



## OAA AWARDS

Ernest Biktimirov

*Pomacea canaliculata* (Channeled Apple snail)

5pts

Congratulations!

Tom Bridges  
OAA Chairperson





## C.A.O.A.C. Update by Phil Barrett

During the March caoac meeting these were some items discussed. It was voted in favour that points earned from specialty shows would not count towards caoac show points.

The current president Ron Bishop will not be seeking re-election therefore caoac is looking for nominees for this position. To hold a position on the caoac executive a person must be a member of a caoac member club ie: a St Catharines club member or Hamilton club member etc. Anyone interested should get in touch with Peter DeSouza, his contact information should be on the caoac website under committees or speak to me.

Soon it's time for convention, it's on the May long weekend and will be held in Burlington at the same hotel as last year. There are 5 speakers booked. There will be a shrimp show, and specialty guppy and betta shows in addition to the all species show. Sunday is the day of the auction, in addition there will be a special guppy auction and a special betta auction both will feature high end show quality fish. Saturday night after the speakers is the banquet dinner included with your full convention ticket. I've been told there are 14 people coming to convention this year from Europe.

Tickets are \$85 before April 14th and \$100 after. That's a full ticket including 5 speakers and banquet dinner. \$60 dinner only. \$50 speakers only.

Your St Catharines club caoac rep.

## Words from the Editor Type Person



Ah spring.....spring? Well the weather may be all over the map but allegedly Spring is here. Eventually people will be working on their yards, gardens, and ponds.

The birds will be out.....dive bombing me again, the warm weather returning, and i don't know about you but i will be found on my deck more often than not. Fishing trips will be planned, and we will come to our last meeting of the year before we know it.

Of course that also means elections are coming soon. Time to start putting some thought into this. Do you wish to be more involved? Or are you happy with the current executive and wish to stay the course?

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

Didn't receive the newsletter?

[scateditor2018@gmail.com](mailto:scateditor2018@gmail.com)

## A Few Bad Jokes

- What did the fish say when he posted bail? "I'm off the hook!"
- Why don't fish like basketball? Cause they're afraid of the net
- Which fish can perform operations? A Sturgeon!
- What do you call a fish with a tie? soFISHticated
- What do you get when you cross a banker with a fish? A Loan shark!
- How do you make an Octopus laugh? With ten-tickles
- Why did the vegan go deep-sea fishing? Just for the halibut!

source: <http://www.jokes4us.com/animaljokes/fishjokes.html>

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# Black Barred-Limia

(Limia Nigrofasciata)

by Dave Furness

The Black barred-limia are a small fish found in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. They grow to about 2.5 inches. Like most livebearers, the males have a gonopodium, are slightly smaller and more colourful than the females. Males also grow a hump when they get older.



The Limia can have between 5-20 fry at a time. You should place them in a well planted tank where the fish will feel more comfortable, and the fry have a greater chance of survival, if you want to spawn them in a species tank. You could also put a gravid female into a breeding trap, if you prefer.

The temperature of the tank should be between 72- 79 degrees F, and the water should have a PH between 7.0 and 8.0 . This Limia is very sensitive to ammonia build up, so do a minimum 10 percent water change weekly.

This fish is omnivorous and will accept most foods, but should have some vegetable matter as well. They also do well on frozen foods

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# Channeled Apple Snail

Ernest Biktimirov

The Channeled Apple Snail (*Pomacea canaliculata*) is a large freshwater snail that can reach up to 10 cm in size. The shell colour varies from yellow to brownish black, with or without dark spiral bands. Originating from the Amazon basin, in the 1980s the snail was introduced in Taiwan to start an escargot industry. The Asian escargot market, however, never developed, and the snails, that escaped or were released, began to damage rice fields. Since then, the Channeled Apple Snail has become the most serious pest of rice throughout Southeast Asia.



I bought 7 Channeled Apple snails at the Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs (CAOAC) convention auction in Burlington in May 2017 and put them in a 25 litre tank at home. It didn't take long for the snails to show their voracious appetite, as in two weeks they completely consumed the hornwort plant that had been abundant in the tank. Besides plants, these snails enthusiastically consume fish food, vegetables (e.g., cucumbers, zucchinis, and lettuce), dead fishes, and even other small snails and their eggs.



The Channelled Apple Snails do not have special water requirements. Moreover, their advanced respiratory system, which includes both the gill and the lung, allows them to survive in the still water, with rotting organic waste, containing almost no oxygen. However, the water should not be too soft and it should contain calcium, which is used as the main building material for the snails' shells. To provide the required calcium, I put small pieces of the cuttlebone, which is sold by pet stores as a dietary supplement for birds, into the tank.

The optimal water temperature for the Channelled Apple Snails ranges from 18 to 28°C, and their activity rate varies greatly with the water temperature. At lower temperatures they hardly move around, whereas at higher temperatures they eat and grow faster, and are more likely to reproduce.



The Channelled Apple Snails are also master escape artists, and two of my snails managed to escape from the tank through a narrow opening between an overhead filter and an aquarium cover. Although the snails can survive outside of water for several days, a fall from a tank may damage their shell and kill them. This is exactly what happened to one of my escapees, as I found it dead on a floor with a broken shell. I never found the second escaped snail.

These snails usually remain submerged during the day. They are more active during the night when they may leave the water in search for fresh vegetation or for a place to lay eggs. In the Channelled Apple snails, sexes are separate. It is difficult to determine the sex of the snails based on their appearance. However, females can be identified when they deposit eggs above the water surface.



Apparently I had both sexes in my batch of snails, as two months after bringing them home I found bright red eggs attached under the aquarium cover. Although the eggs should stay moist, they should not be submerged in water, because this will drown the baby snails. In a couple of weeks, the eggs hatched, and shortly after I could observe about 30 baby snails crawling in the tank.

Although the Channelled Apple snails are not suitable for a planted tank, they still can be of interest to a typical aquarium hobbyist. For example, to

help with digestion, the snails have a large amount of microorganisms in their intestine, which are expelled with the feces.

Harmless to the fish, these microorganisms can help cycle new tanks and serve as the first food for fish fry. Also, the Channelled Apple snails can serve as a live indicator of the oxygen level in a tank, as they will crawl to the water surface when the oxygen level declines. Lastly, the Channelled Apple snails have interesting *anatomy and behaviour*. For instance, in addition to having both the gill and the lung, they have the syphon (a breathing tube), which allows them to inhale fresh air while staying hidden below the water surface to avoid some predators, such as birds, rats, and turtles.

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## Some interesting facts about fish:

- Fish have been on the earth for more than 450 million years.
- Fish were well established long before dinosaurs roamed the earth.
- There are over 25,000 identified species of fish on the earth.
- It is estimated that there may still be over 15,000 fish species that have not yet been identified.
- There are more species of fish than all the species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals combined.
- 40% of all fish species inhabit fresh water, yet less than .01% of the earth's water is fresh water.
- The spotted climbing perch is able to absorb oxygen from the air and will crawl overland using its strong pectoral fins.
- Some fish like sharks don't possess an air bladder to help keep them afloat and must either swim continually or rest on the bottom.
- Some fish make sounds by grating their teeth and others like some catfish make sounds from their air filled swim bladder.
- Some species of fish can fly (glide) others can skip along the surface and others can even climb rock.
- Fish have a specialized sense organ called the lateral line which works much like radar and helps them navigate in dark or murky water.
- The largest fish is the great whale shark which can reach fifty feet in length.
- The smallest fish is the Philippine goby that is less than 1/3 of an inch when fully grown.
- Some species of fish have skeletons made only of cartilage.

Read the rest of these Fish Facts: <https://www.petcoach.co/article/interesting-fish-facts/>

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