

THE SCAT

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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 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

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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

May Guppies
June Corys & Catfish (including plecos)
****Remember** the Open Class every month.

SCAT Editor

Les Brady
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May Program

The Next Meeting is on Monday May the 7th. This months program Peter Desouza from the Hamilton Club will be speaking on line breeding of tropical fish. We will also have our usual raffle draw and auction as well as jar show.

Upcoming Events

6 - London Aquaria Society Auction details to follow

18-20 - CAOAC Convention

Attention Members

It has been brought to my attention that a former member is looking for a ride from Port Colborne and back, for the May and June meetings.

If you can help out please contact Pat Bridges to make arrangements

905-735-3352



Pat's Presidential Message



Welcome to you all. Our April program was a little bit different for the club as we had three members (myself, Tom Bridges and Ryan Koch) give mini demonstrations on fish egg capture/fry rearing, spawning mop making. I hope the club members found that enjoyable and a good learning experience. We had another great turn out to our meeting with almost 45 people in attendance. We had a large auction as well with a lot of fish, plants and aquarium related equipment. The CAOAC convention is coming up in Burlington between May 17 and 21/18, with multiple shows, speakers and

auctions. Additional details can be found on the CAOAC website.

This month Peter Desouza from the Hamilton Club will be speaking on line breeding of tropical fish. 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, 1st and 2nd vice president, treasurer or club secretary) or would like to nominate someone (with their permission, of course) please see our new Elections Chairman (Jim Chalmers, thanks Jim for taking on this role).

We are also looking for someone to take on the roll of Program Chairperson. This person would schedule the various monthly speakers (both internal and external) that we bring to the club. If you have any questions on this roll or would like to take on this position, please see me or any other member of the executive.

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

Thank you

Pat

MARCH'S AWARDS

JAR SHOW RESULTS

F.O.M.

1. Karen Rogers
- 2.

Pat Shriner



AHAP AWARDS

NO AWARDS

RY KOCH
(AHAP CHAIR)



BAP AWARDS

Tom Bridges

BAP Chairperson

OAA AWARDS

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C.A.O.A.C. Update

by Phil Barrett

During the April 22 caoac meeting nominations for executive positions were held. It was announced that Ray Lucas will not continue as the judge for the caoac newsletter awards and a replacement is being sought. The Montreal aquarium Society was officially accepted as a member of caoac. The Hamilton club has volunteered to run the auction at convention. It was also mentioned that there are still a number of classes needing sponsorship for the show during the convention, if anyone is interested please contact Catherine Salmon. Class sponsorship is \$35 per class. There was also talk of the United flowerhorn Club having interest in displaying fish during the convention.

Please keep in mind that this long may weekend is convention weekend I am quite looking forward to it. Much of what was talked about at the most recent meeting was to do with convention as the caoac executive is running the convention this year. Don't forget that any club member has welcome to attend these monthly meetings.

Words from the Editor Type Person

Spring!! It has finally made it! We went from freezing to melting overnight but finally we can start enjoying the outdoors again. Whether you're sitting by a pond or having a few brews with some friends around a fire, tending to a garden or going fishing we can all be outside. Of course this means some of us will be busy getting our ponds going again. So this year I have been doing my best to make sure our mass mailing list is up to date, and that everyone is receiving the newsletters, as well as any other announcements that are passed to me for the entire club. I can't stress enough that if you're not receiving the newsletter via e mail and wish to, come see me or email me .

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

Didn't receive the newsletter?
scateditor2018@gmail.com

Or come see me at the meeting.

Les Brady

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Archocentrus (Herotilapia) multispinosa

The Rainbow Cichlid

by Dave Furness

This attractive Central American cichlid is found on the Atlantic slope, from the Patuca River in Honduras, to the Matina River in Costa Rica. They are also found on the Pacific Slope, from Guasaula River in Nicaragua, to the Tempisque and the Bebedero River in Costa Rica. They are also found in Lakes, ponds swamps.



The Rainbow Cichlids are 5 to 6 inches in total length, and are yellow in colour, with some black. They get darker when breeding. The Rainbow cichlid is a semi-aggressive fish when they are not breeding, but picks it up a bit when they have fry. Their water conditions are as follows; Temperature between 72 and 77 degrees F, KH 9-20, and a PH range from 6.5 to 8.9 . This fish having an omnivore diet, are easy to feed, as

they accept flake and frozen foods.

I have read that the minimum tank size for this species should be from 20 to 50 gallons. I agree with this assessment . I have my Rainbows in a 125 gallon tank with some other cichlids. It is furnished with some caves, and plenty of drift wood. The temperature of the tank was set at 82 degrees F, for the other occupants in the tank, but the temperature was perfect for breeding the Rainbow cichlid. I was happy to see them spawn in this tank. The fry are very small , and they were feeding mainly on inforsoria and some liquid fry for egg layers, if I could direct it in their direction. I tried to scoop as many of the fry as I could without disturbing the tank occupants and their surroundings . I had no luck at all, so I let them be, and they slowly disappeared.

They spawned five times in that tank, but I could not rescue them without destroying the tank. If I did so, the fry would have been pick off a lot sooner by the other fish. I decided to remove the pairs to a 35 gallon tank, which was furnished with a lot of the driftwood and caves for them. The 35 gallon was the only spare tank that I had. I left the Rainbows in the tank for about four to five weeks. The fish just laid on the bottom of the tank and barely showed any interest in feeding. I was worried about their progress ,so I returned them to the 125 gallon tank, where they became their selves, and spawned within a couple of days. I was fortunate to see the fry swimming on front of the tank one day, so I scooped some of the fry out of the tank. They are doing very well now, eating some liquid fry and micro worms. Some brine shrimp will also be offered.



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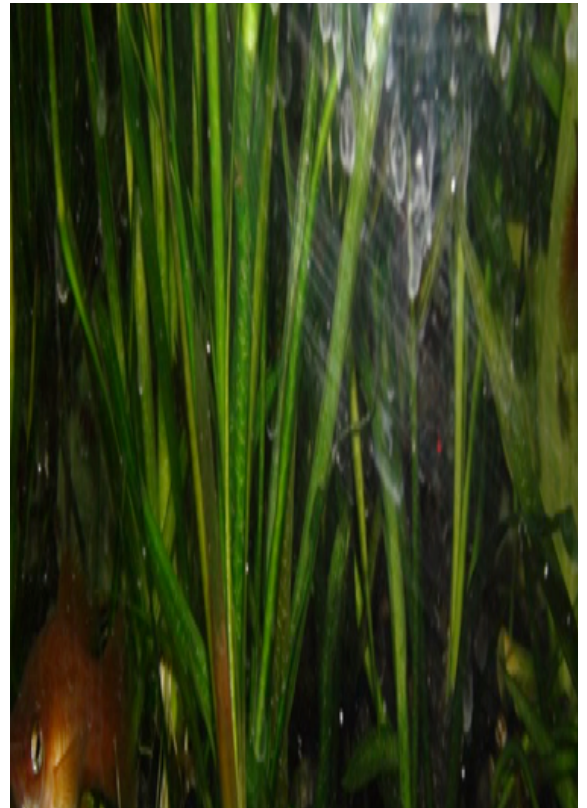
Vallisneria

What variety are you growing in your tank?

YOUR LIBRARIAN

Over the last several meetings at our club, members and myself have had several discussions with the identification of some of the linear rosette plants (VALS) in the club auction. Are they Vallisneria, Sagittaria, or Echinodorus Tenellus? They all look quite similar. Depending on growing conditions, they are identified by common names like Jungle Val, Corkscrew Val, Pigmy Chain, Tiger, Spiralis, Eel grass, Ribbon Wapato,

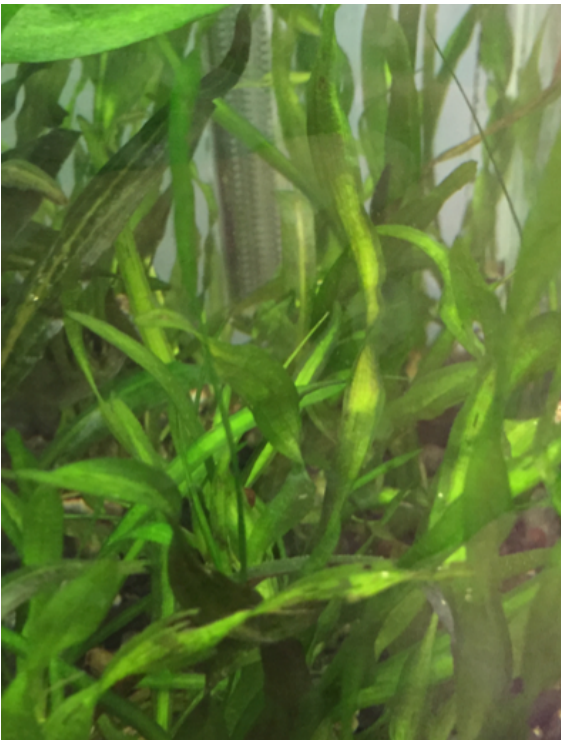
Hudson Sagittaria, Gigantea, Sagittaria Subdulata, Vallisneria Americana. These plants have been around for years. Unfortunately, is a great deal of confusion as to exact naming.



Vallisneria Americana

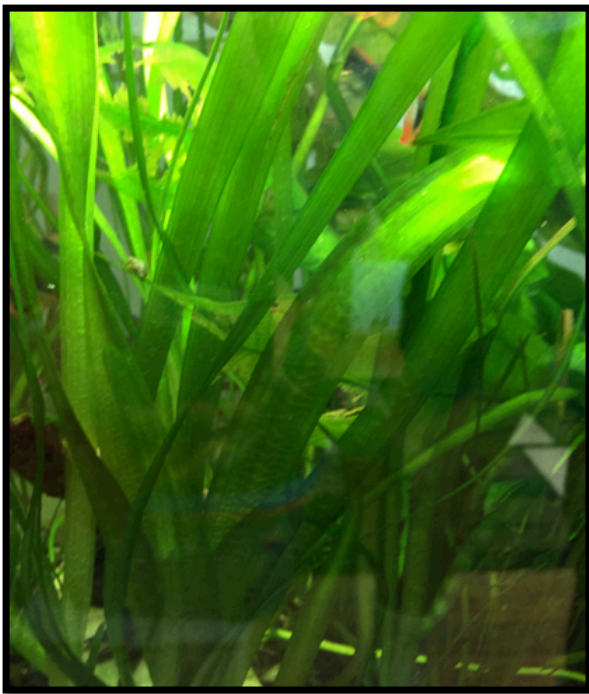
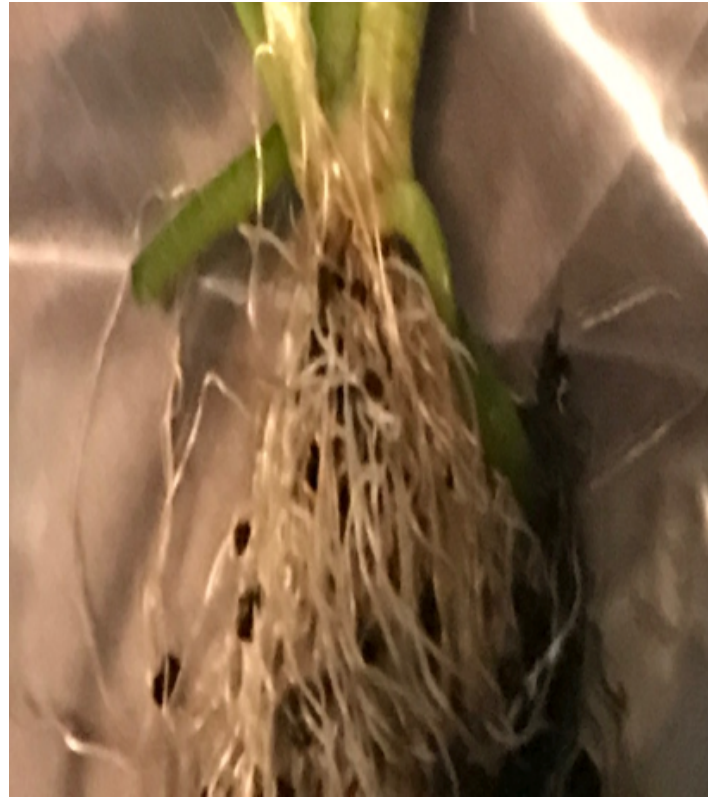
Or is it?

They are almost all from the family Alismataceae or Hydrocharitaceae. Plants have become hybridized where it is difficult to identify the true variety. One sure way to know the true identity of the plant in question is to purchase it from a large certifiable plant grower that has cultivated the plant from healthy mother plant certified tissue in a laboratory setting. Others could be from cross-pollination seeds that could lead to hybrids or "wild" varieties. I'm not saying these plants aren't good. It's just that they are slightly different. It's like saying all African Violets look the same or all grasses grow the same. Slight differences in leaf structure could mean hybridization or water conditions (iron, CO₂, fertilizer, light).



A 20 gallon tank with Vallisneria. You can see a runner in the right photo

Some early Val plants had course roots in the structure than that shown. You can see the larger diameter cut runners protruding from the plant in the photo below.



Vallisneria Americana Gigantea

Sagittaria Subdulata looks the same but has much narrower leaves. There are three or four identifiable varieties based on leaf length. Subdulata - up to 12 inches tall. (Tropica var.)

Gracillima- 24 to 36 inches

Kurziania- up to 20 inches tall

Accepted species and location of *Vallisneria* listed in Wikipedia are the following:

1. [*Vallisneria americana*](#) – North America incl West Indies, Colombia
2. [*Vallisneria anhuiensis*](#) – Anhui
3. [*Vallisneria annua*](#) – Australia
4. [*Vallisneria australis*](#) – Australia
5. [*Vallisneria caulescens*](#) – Australia
6. [*Vallisneria densiserrulata*](#) – China, Japan
7. [*Vallisneria erecta*](#) – Queensland
8. [*Vallisneria longipedunculata*](#) – Anhui
9. [*Vallisneria nana*](#) – Philippines, New Guinea, N Australia, New Caledonia
10. [*Vallisneria natans*](#) – China, Japan, Korea, [Primorye](#), Vietnam, India, Nepal, Iraq
11. [*Vallisneria rubra*](#) – northern Western Australia
12. [*Vallisneria spinulosa*](#) – China
13. [*Vallisneria spiralis*](#) – S + E Europe, W + S + SW Asia, Africa
14. [*Vallisneria triptera*](#) – N Australia

Pseudotropheus sp. Williamsi

by Dave Furness

The origin of these fish are from Lake Malawi. This species is from the Northern part of Lake Malawi, and is found from Makonda to Nkhata Bay. Other variants are found through out Lake Malawi, which is thought to be the same species.

The Pseudotropheus sp. Williamsi are one of the largest among the Pseudotropheus at 7 inches in total length. The males are yellowish gold through out their body, with blue lips. The females are brownish yellow to grey.

The water conditions for this species. They should have hard water, with a temperature between 78 to 82 degrees F., and a Ph of 7.8 to 8.6.

I have my Williamsi in a colony in a 100 gallon tank. There is some rock work in the tank, along with some artificial plants for the fry to hide.

I had some trouble at the beginning with some females holding their eggs for too long of a period. I finally had to strip one of the females and all the fry she was carrying were dead. I waited a couple of more weeks before I decided to strip another female. This time she released several healthy fry. Since then, the fish have spawned and released their fry on their own. There are now several generations in the tank. The fry are easy enough to feed, for they will accept anything small enough to get into their mouths, such as flake, brine shrimp, micro worms etc..



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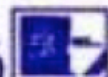
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