



The FAAS Report

By Pat Smith

In the most current FAAS Update we discussed the New Digital Program which is available through the FAAS website. "Introduction to Killifish" was produced by Charlie Grimes and is available for download for use at club meetings. This 63-slide program features audio narration and great photography! The suggested club donations for use of this program are \$30.

Charlie Grimes states "Thirty plus years of killifish keeping and collecting and killies are still my favorite fishes. And being around Killie keepers is still as much fun as I can have and not get in trouble with my wife. "I have never have more fish fun than when I'm collecting fish, and I just happen to live a short 30 miles from the prime collecting area of the greatest, bestest, ad most attractive Killifish in the U.S.A., *Fundulus cantenatus*, the Northern Studfish. In just 30 minutes, I can go from being bored to knee deep, both literally and figuratively, in killies." The program runs for one hour. Visit the FAAS website, http://www.faas.info/programming/intro_to_killifish.html, to view more information and to see some of the slides from this program.

I know that there had been some confusion with the club Post Office Box and receipt of the FAAS awards. They should be presented at the December meeting. If you have visited the FAAS website, I am sure you can see that there are new clubs joining. If you know of any aquarium, plant or pond clubs, be sure to let them know about the FAAS website and urge them to join.

There is also a great power point program on running a "Swap Meet" that you may find interesting if you visit the site.

FAAS has joined PIJAC, the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Committee, and hopes to increase its involvement with legislation to promote the pet hobby. Since 1970, The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) has been the unified voice of the pet industry – promoting responsible pet ownership and animal welfare, fostering environmental stewardship and ensuring the availability of pets. Unfortunately, there are a growing number of well-financed organizations proposing regulations that could put the industry, pets, and the people who love them at risk. Believe it or not, some people are of the opinion that you should be prohibited from having companion animals – no more dogs...no more cats...not even goldfish! Many people in the US would not consider their family complete without a pet – whether it be a dog, cat, parakeet, goldfish, or a bearded dragon. Pets bring considerable joy into people's lives and studies show that their companionship substantially benefits human health and well-being. Therefore, we should all be concerned with the proper administration of legislation so that the pet industry is not put in jeopardy.

With the changes in FAAS and the FAAS website, the need for articles is also increased. Articles pertaining to club administration, method of running programs, etc. can help other clubs. Why not consider writing? Don't stop at only writing for FAAS, but contribute articles for YOUR own society. YOUR publication needs your articles. Support your e-

Finally, we need to discuss FAAS Elections. Just as our local clubs need members to step up and hold positions, so does FAAS. If you are interested in being on the FAAS Board, contact Rick Borstein, at borstein@yahoo.com