

# The Federation Report

January 2002



**The Official Publication of the  
Federation of American Aquarium Societies**

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# E.A.A.S.

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# In This Issue

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<b>Presidents Message.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Delegates' Council Report .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Legislation For January &amp; February 2002 .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Program Rentals .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Calendar Of Events .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Committees.....</b>	<b>16</b>

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<b>Deadlines:</b>	<b>Must be received by:</b>	<b>Deadlines:</b>	<b>Must be received by:</b>
January Issue	December 10th	July Issue	June 10th
March Issue	February 10th	Sept. Issue	August 10th
May Issue	April 10th	Nov. Issue	October 10th

Items submitted for **Calendar of Events** must be submitted by the deadline of the previous issue.

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# President's Message

Jerry Montgomery  
*President*

January begins a new “program participation year” for the Federation of American Aquarium Societies (FAAS). I would like to urge all member Societies to consider greater participation during this year. Your participation in programs such as Publication Awards, Breeders Awards, Horticulture Awards and Aquatic Photo Awards gives your Society's members recognition on the national level. If you have questions about the different program opportunities you may contact the committee chairman listed elsewhere in the Federation Report or contact me directly. Your Society's participation accomplishes two things: most important is that it gives your Society's members its best value for the cost and it also helps strengthen FAAS. This in turn helps FAAS to position itself to better help the individual Society.

In November, I requested that I be placed on your Society publication mail list. A few Societies have done so and I hope the rest of you will include me in 2002. This will better help me keep up with what is going on in the hobby. I am also asking for each Society to send their official web address to the FAAS webmaster and to myself so it may be added as a link to the FAAS webpage. If your Society wishes to be listed, please do so. This will assure that we are listing the “official site” and not someone's personal page or an outdated or old site that is still “out there”.

The Nominations Committee will be maintaining a list of people interested in taking a more active role in FAAS. There is a need for someone to take the Awards Chair which is currently vacant and I would like to step down from the Aquatic Awards Chair as well. If you might be interested in becoming involved as a “working member” you may contact the Nominations Chairman or myself to discuss your interest and the available opportunities.

Last month I challenged each member Society to help develop a  
**con't on page 9**

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# Delegates' Council Report



Respectfully submitted  
Al Priest  
*Chair, FAAS Delegates' Council*

The recommendations of the Delegates' Council, as described in the last issue of Federation Report, were submitted to the President, for presentation to the Board of Directors. Undoubtedly, the Board's decisions with respect to changes in the FAAS Publication Awards Program will be published when everything is finalized. Until the Board's decision is announced, I feel it inappropriate to suggest additional changes to this program, or to start another discussion thread, even though additional suggestions for changes to the Publications Awards have been suggested to me by other delegates and editors. But, right now, I'd like to address some comments made by some Delegates.

One person suggested that, to enhance fairness, all articles be submitted electronically. This would force articles to be judged on their merits, and influenced by the formatting and presentation skills of an editor (using drop-caps, pull-quotes, columns, etc.). Maybe someday this will be possible, but not now. The main reason is that there is no single uniformly compatible electronic file format. I happen to use WordPerfect to produce my society's publication. Someone else might use Lotus WordPro (or Lotus' earlier program, AmiPro), or Microsoft Word, or Ability Write, or Sun Microsystem's StarOffice Writer for a word processor (and, of course, there are others). There are comparable programs running on operating systems other than Windows, such as OS/2, Unix, Linux, Macintosh, AmigaOS, FreeBSD, BeOS, GNU, Solaris, VMS, to name but a few. Some editors may use a desktop publishing or text/graphics program such as Quark XPress, PageMaker, PageStream, Microsoft Publisher, Photoshop, InDesign, Adobe Illustrator, Ventura, Corel's Print Office, Design Intelligence's

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**Delegates' Council Report  
con't from page 3**

Ipublish, Serif PagePlus, Harvard Publisher, Envision Publisher, GreenStreet Publisher, PageFocus, etc., etc. Not only are many of these incompatible with each other, different versions of the same program are often mutually incompatible.

As an example, I recently converted an article I wrote into Word (using Word97), making certain everything looked and printed correctly. I e-mailed it to the editor of the journal of the International Anabantoid Association ("IAA"). Even though the IAA editor uses Word, and I only used Times New Roman (the default Windows font that she uses), the degree symbols, "em dashes" and several other characters (e.g., fractions, as in 5 1/2 gallon tank) in my article did not correctly translate. In fact, she saw garbage" characters and had to ask me to reedit the document under Word2000 (which, fortunately, I also had). Now consider the problems of a judge who gets files in 20 or 30 different (and possibly mutually incompatible) formats! And, no, we can't convert all articles into ASCII (or "MS-DOS") text, or even into Rich Text Format (".RTF"), because tables, charts, related illustrations (illustrations, pictures, etc.), as well as many symbols (e.g., degree symbols, super- and subscripts, "smart quotes," bold letters, underlined words, and italics for scientific names) either may not convert, will convert incorrectly, or will not convert reliably for every possible word processor or desktop publishing program. Finally, it is almost certain that any judge receiving the electronic files would need to print out each article, in order to judge them. This is a time-consuming extra step (and, considering the paper, laser toner or ink cartridge usage, and the wear and tear on equipment, a costly extra step, as well).

Another Delegate felt that reintroducing the "Author of the Year" category places undue focus on the individual author, as opposed to the society. I'd like to see more society delegates comment on this. Since most of the certificates currently have the name of an individual author (the exceptions being those in the  
**con't on page 5**

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**Delegates' Council Report  
con't from page 4**

Best Publication and Best Cover categories), it seems to me that the individual authors are already being recognized. What the "Author of the Year" award would do (assuming it is reintroduced in the same format as it was in previously) is recognize a person for the breadth of his or her writings, as opposed to excellence for one article or category. Even if a person won no other awards, he or she could still be "Author of the Year." Why bother? Well, from purely the selfish point of view of an editor, it's another "carrot" an editor can use to induce members to write, and to thank those who do. I can think of no better reason for the existence of a Publications Award Program than to stimulate articles by rewarding those who contribute, and providing an incentive for new contributions.

Another comment received related to the number of judging categories in the Publications Award Program. While this has not yet been addressed, I would like the delegates to comment on a possible rule to the effect that, if any class receives fewer than five "appropriate" submissions (that is, articles which, in the opinion of the judge, belonged in that class), or had submissions from fewer than three different societies, for two consecutive years, then the Publications Chair must announce that, unless either more than five appropriate articles, or submissions from at least three different societies are received for this class in the next round of submissions, such class will be discontinued (or be merged into an existing class, at the discretion of the Board of Directors), effective the year following the year in which this announcement is made. Basically, this means that if, for three years in a row five or less articles were received, and/or two or less societies submitted articles for a given category, that category is eliminated, with a one year warning in advance.

If your society is not already participating in the delegates council, an e-mail to me at [102337.517@compuserve.com](mailto:102337.517@compuserve.com) is all it takes.



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# Legislation For January And February 2001

Judi J. Peterson  
*Editor*  
*Membership Chairman*

The Marine Aquarium Council (MAC) announced today a new certification system to ensure the quality of organisms in the marine aquarium trade. Aquarium hobbyists and industry operators, public aquariums, conservation organizations and government agencies are challenged to support the system they all helped to create.

Dr. Bruce Bunting, a vice president of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and a MAC board member, said, "The certification tool meets internationally accepted environmental and quality standards and allows consumers to easily identify marine aquarium organisms that were collected in a sustainable way and handled to ensure optimal health." He presented his statements during a keynote speech at the 2nd International Marine Ornamentals Conference in Orlando, Florida.

"With the new certification system, consumers will be able to identify certified facilities and organisms by looking for the MAC certification label on store windows and retail aquarium tanks. While it should be noted that a shop can carry both certified and non-certified organisms, these must be segregated in separate tanks.

The industry will be able to locate MAC certified suppliers and facility operators on the MAC web site at <http://www.aquariumcouncil.org>. The label was unveiled at the conference and depicts a fish and a coral within an oval shape encircled by the words "Marine Aquarium Council Certified Organisms. See label on the right (on the following page), the label is copy righted and used with the permission of Marine Aquarium

**con't on page 7**

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**Legislation  
con't from page 6**

Council. The Logo on the left is the corporate logo for the Marine Aquarium Council and is also copy righted and used with the permission of Marine Aquarium Council.



With one million marine aquarium hobbyists, the United States accounts for an estimated 60 percent of the worldwide demand for ornamental fish. Another major importer is Western Europe. Americans and Europeans buy a combined \$200 million worth of marine aquarium organisms annually, the vast majority of them collected from reefs off Indonesia and the Philippines. Or offshore of Hawaii, Florida, the Caribbean and Red Sea countries, Sri Lanka, East Africa, the Maldives and other Pacific island countries.

Collectors, therefore, have strong financial incentives to ensure that stocks of marine aquarium organisms and their environments remain healthy. Aquarium fish sell for \$248 per pound compared to food fish at \$3 per pound. Likewise, live coral is worth \$3.50 per pound, while crushed coral for lime sells for 3 cents per pound.

Some industry operators currently use destructive collecting methods, resulting in unnecessary and often irreversible environmental damage to coral reefs. In addition, poor handling practices can contribute to marine fish deaths, incurring financial losses on marine ornamental retailers and hobbyists who purchase the fish. "A key goal for MAC certification is to put an end to destructive collecting practices, therefore ensuring the economic stability of responsible collectors, the ability of consumers to get a healthy product, and preservation of our fragile marine environment," said Paul Holthus, MAC's executive director.

**con't on page 8**

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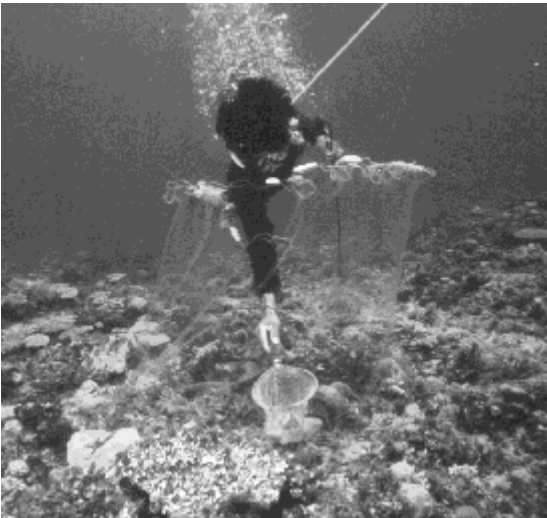
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**Legislation  
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The MAC Core Standards, which aquarium collectors, wholesalers and retailers must meet to become MAC certified and handle MAC certified organisms, cover the supply chain “from reef to retail.” The organisms must pass in an unbroken chain from certified collectors operating in certified collection areas to certified export-import, wholesale and retail facilities. A MAC accredited; independent Certification Company will assess collection areas, collectors and wholesale and retail facilities for their compliance to the MAC Core Standards. These standards conform to World Trade Organization (WTO) guidelines and were developed through an international process involving conservation groups, the industry, hobbyists, public aquariums and government agencies.

Already about 45 percent of the U.S. importers have made a commitment to become MAC certified. The Indonesia Coral, Shell and Ornamental Fish Association and the Philippines Tropical Fish Export Association have agreed to promote MAC certification among its members. Additionally, the American

Zoo and Aquarium Association also strongly supports MAC certification.



***Collecting using hand net.***

**Photo used with the permission of International Marinelife Alliance**

**con't on page 9**

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**Legislatipm  
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***Philippine  
collector w/  
environmentally  
safe hand net.***

**Photo used with  
the permission  
of Marine  
Aquarium  
Council**



Information for this article was taken from the Marine Aquarium Council web site <http://www.aquariumcouncil.org> and Nov. 27 /PRNewswire

**FAAS**

**President's Message  
con't from page 2**

program. I have been contacted by a couple of people interested in doing so. I hope that your Society will also consider doing its' part in this effort. If you have an idea or need suggestions for a topic please contact me directly so we may discuss the possibilities.

FAAS is also trying to develop lists for speakers, judges and aquarium societies. If you have contacts that would be of help please send the information to the Federation Report Editor or myself.

Through your Society's involvement, FAAS can accomplish good things and help secure the future of the Hobby.

**FAAS**

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# Program Rentals

There are a number of programs now available for use by FAAS member societies. Programs may be obtained by contacting **Jerry Montgomery, 2508 Alton Drive, Champaign, IL., 61821-4744, Phone: 217-359-6707 or e-mail [jmont@soltec.net](mailto:jmont@soltec.net)**

All shipping costs are the responsibility of the renter. **A separate check for deposit** must accompany the request for a program as well as the check for rental and shipping. The check for deposit will be held (not cashed) and then returned to you unless there is a problem with damage or in the return of the program material. Programs will be sent by Priority Mail and be insured, return receipt requested. **They must be returned by the same method.** Expedited shipping may be available in an emergency by contacting the Chairman. Please contact me for current shipping costs.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Rental</b>	<b>Deposit</b>
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## **Slide Programs**

<b>Breeding and Maintenance/In the Beginning (75 slides/30 minutes)</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$75</b>
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This program places emphasis upon breeding fishes. Several different groups are represented with details for the spawning and care of each.

<b>Rare and Unusual (63 slides/27 minutes)</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$65</b>
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Species covered may be considered rare/unusual depending on their availability in your area. Though some of these fish are no longer considered that rare, they are unique. Care, maintenance and description of each species is provided.

<b>Killifish #3-North American Natives and Others (57 slides/30 minutes)</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$60</b>
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Covers in detail members of the Epiplatys, Rivulus, and Lampeye groups. Care, feeding, egg collecting and the raising of fry are all explained. Several North American genera are also discussed as are several representatives of other killie groups

**con't on page 11**

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**Program Rentals**  
con't from page 10

<b>Description</b>	<b>Rental</b>	<b>Deposit</b>
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**Slide Programs con't**

<b>Catfish #2-Cats without Claws (63 slides/23 minutes)</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$65</b>
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A look at the major catfish groups with hints and ideas for their maintenance. Also included are some seldom seen species. Special attention is made to the varied characteristics of each special group and species as well as special requirements of each.

<b>Florida Fish Farms (70 slides/25 minutes)</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$70</b>
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An in-depth look at the source of a large number of the many tropical fishes sold in North America. Methods used and the operations of these farms are of major concern.

<b>Shell Dwelling Cichlids of Lake Tanganyika/Dr. Peter Lewis (45 slides)</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$45</b>
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This program was presented by Dr. Peter A. Lewis at the 1998 ACA Convention in St. Louis. It contains several of the Lamprologus and Neolamprologus species and covers such topics as natural habitat, keys to successful breeding, and the observations and experiences of Dr. Lewis.

<b>Modern Aquascaping by George &amp; Karla Booth (80 slides)</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$80</b>
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Aquascaping has become an important aspect of the hobby in recent years. This program presented by George and Karla Booth will help you learn to arrange plants in a pleasing design. Color, texture, size and shape all come into play. Learn about planted aquarium basics, lighting, water chemistry, plant nutrients, maintenance and how to aquascape a "tank beautiful".

**Videos**

<b>Laguna: How to Build a Pond (34 minutes)</b>	<b>\$5</b>	<b>\$10</b>
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This video will show you just how easy it really is. Follow step by step instructions to learn everything you need to know about planning, setting up and maintaining a pond system with practical tips from professional gardeners and landscapers. Learn about ideal sites, choosing a style (formal or informal), containers (liners/pre-formed pools) and filtration elements (pump/filter/U.V. sterilizer). Observe actual set-up procedures,

con't on page 12

**Description Rental Deposit**

**Videos con't**

decoration techniques, introduction of fish, and how to maintain your pond system.

**Garden Pond Basics (35 minutes) \$5 \$20**

A comprehensive video with tips on planning, building and maintaining a beautiful and healthy garden pond. You will learn how to build an effective and inexpensive filter system, the secrets to good water quality (including pH, Ammonia, Nitrite, Nitrate and problems associated with overstocking). There is also useful information on Koi, Goldfish & Catfish. Tips on Plants & Water Gardening plus you'll see sample ponds from 100 to 100,000 gallons.

**Tetra Pond: Video for a Successful Garden Pond (16 minutes) \$5 \$20**

Step by step instructions on how to establish and maintain a successful garden pond, selection information on pond fish and plants, with information on Tetra Pond products. The information on this video will show you how to establish and maintain a successful garden pond with additional information about plants and fish.

**Tetra Pond: Video for Successful Koi Keeping (17 minutes) \$5 \$20**

This program features by Mr. Robert Spindola of the Associated Koi Clubs of America. Learn how to establish and maintain a successful Koi pond, the history of Koi culture and how to identify Koi varieties.

**Tetra/Secondnature: Video for a Successful Aquarium \$3 \$20**

Learn how to set up and maintain a successful aquarium, also features a color segment and useful information on the most popular tropical fish.

**Coralife/Freshwater Fundamentals The Beginners Guide (32 minutes) \$10 \$30**

This video will provide both the basic elements of aquarium keeping and some key details which will ensure the success of your aquarium. It explains how to select your aquarium and accessories, a step by step guide to set up, choosing fish and plants, introducing new fish, feeding your fish, water testing and aquarium maintenance.



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# Calendar Of Events

## January 2002

**January 11, 2002 – Friday**

**Brooklyn Aquarium Society**

**Breeding the Oddballs (Synodontis Catfish & Loaches)**

**Sallie Boggs Ph.D.**

New York Aquarium, Education Hall, Surf Avenue & West 8th Street, Brooklyn  
New York

7:30 pm. Free Parking, Refreshments and fish food samples. \$5.00 donation for non-members. Good towards membership that night only. For more information check our web site at [www.brooklynaquariumsociety.org](http://www.brooklynaquariumsociety.org) or call (718) 837-4455 for a BAS 24 hour Calendar of Events.

**January 15, 2002 – Tuesday**

**Federation of American Aquarium Societies**

**Nominations due for all awards – Delegate's National Achievement & Meritorious Service**

**January 19, 2002 – Friday**

**Champaign Area Fish Exchange**

**Winter Auction**

Urbana Civic Center, 108 Water Street, Urbana, Illinois

Doors open at 8:00 am, Auction begins at 10:30 am promptly. Items include, fish, plants, equipment, supplies and more. For more information contact Mark at 217-428-6133 or [guppymom\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:guppymom_2000@yahoo.com) or Jerry at 217-359-6707 or [jmont@soltec.net](mailto:jmont@soltec.net).

**January 31, 2002 – Thursday**

**Federation of American Aquarium Societies**

**Publication Awards nominations postmark deadline**

## February 2002

**February 8, 2002 – Friday**

**Brooklyn Aquarium Society**

**Fish in Your Reef Tank (How You Can Keep Them Disease Free) – Pat Donston**

New York Aquarium, Education Hall, Surf Avenue & West 8th Street, Brooklyn  
New York

con't on page 15

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# Calendar Of Events (con't)

**February 8, 2002 – Friday (con't)**

**Brooklyn Aquarium Society**

7:30 pm Free Parking, Refreshments and fish food samples. \$5.00 donation for non-members. Good towards membership that night only. For more information check our web site at [www.brooklynaquariumsociety.org](http://www.brooklynaquariumsociety.org) or call (718) 837-4455 for a BAS 24 hour Calendar of Events.

**February 16, 2002 – Saturday**

**Ohio Cichlid Association – Winter Auction**

Holiday Inn Select, 15471 Royalton Road (at I-71, Rt 82 exit)

9:30 am until 5:00 pm (auction begins promptly at 11:00 am. Huge Cichlid, scavenger, plants and dry goods auction features a 70/30 split and a one time \$2.00 seller fee. 60 bag limit per family. For more information go to [www.ohiocichlid.com](http://www.ohiocichlid.com) and click on events or Marc DeWerth 440-236-6301 or [maddbigfoot@aol.com](mailto:maddbigfoot@aol.com); Dan Woodland 440-885-2033 or [woodland@core.com](mailto:woodland@core.com) or Don Danko 440-526-0755 or [don@cichlidae.com](mailto:don@cichlidae.com).

## March 2002

**March 2, 2002 – Saturday**

**Tri-County Tropical Fish Society - Annual Spring Auction**

Mark Twain Hotel, East Peoria, Illinois. For mor information contact Roger Halleen at [Roghfish@aol.com](mailto:Roghfish@aol.com) or phone 309-699-7394.

**March 5, 2002 – Tuesday**

**Federation of American Aquarium Societies**

**Board of Directors nominations postmark deadline**

**March 31, 2002 – Tuesday**

**Federation of American Aquarium Societies**

**Aquatic Photography Award nominations postmark deadline**

## May 2002

**May 4 – 5, 2002 – Saturday & Sunday**

**The Greater City Aquarium Society of New York**

**80th Birthday Multi-Species Fish and Aquatic Plant Show and Auction**

73-50 Little Neck Parlway, Floral Park (Queens), New York. For more information contact Al Priest at [102337.517@compuserve.com](mailto:102337.517@compuserve.com).

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Vacant

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In Revision

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