

The Federation Report

November/December 2002



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

E.A.A.S.

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Materials for publication should be submitted to the Editor for consideration according to the established deadlines. The Federation of American Aquarium Societies reserves the right to reject any materials as unsuited to its purposes and goals and assumes no liability for such refusal. The *Federation Report* also has the right to edit any article as needed. All materials submitted are considered as original works of the author unless otherwise designated.

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Deadlines:	Must be received by:	Deadlines:	Must be received by:
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.

President's Message



Jerry Montgomery
President

In the September/October FR I mentioned that there was an opening on the FAAS Board. I had hoped that possibly someone would step up and show some interest in this opportunity to serve the hobby and volunteer. It is really a rewarding experience and affords those involved many opportunities to meet fellow hobbyists across North America as well as Internationally. Please give this opportunity serious consideration for either yourself or mention or suggest it to another member of your Society. I will be happy to answer questions or discuss exactly what is required for you to serve in this capacity.

FAAS is also in need of a new Publication Awards Program Chairman, beginning with the 2002 Awards judging. Kathy will complete the 2001 Awards in time for publication in the next Federation Report, but will be unable to continue after that because of increased professional responsibilities. Please consider taking charge of this very important Committee.

I am totally at a loss as to why there is so little interaction between FAAS member Societies and those serving on their behalf within FAAS. We are here to work with you to benefit everyone involved in the Hobby. It would be so much easier and to everyone's advantage if we can improve the channels of communication between your Society and the working members of FAAS. If you have any suggestions as to a way of accomplishing this goal I am interested in hearing from you. If you have a complaint or question I would like to hear from you.

Judi Peterson has spent countless hours trying to compile and update various list for speakers, manufacturers, and societies. You could make the job much easier and more complete if you would

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Legislation For November And December 2002



Roger Halleen
*Legislation-USA
Chairman*

Hello once again and let me start out by wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year. I know it hard to believe that it's that time of year again.

I would like to start out this month by looking at what the MARINE AQUARIUM COUNCIL is doing. It was there goal to have MAC Certified organisms in the marketplace by midyear. Well I'm sad to say that they are running slightly behind on this goal, but it looks like by mid October the MAC Certification program will have reached it's goal. The following is take from the MARINE AQUARIUM COUNCIL 3rd quarter newsletter:

First MAC Certified Collection Area, Collectors Association, Exporters, Importer and Retailers.

The worlds first to achieve MAC Certification were confirmed by the London-based MAC Accredited certification company IMS International in August. The Batasan Tropical Fish Collectors Association in the Province of Bohol, Philippines, and their collection area have been certified, as have the Manila-based exporters Aquarium Habitat, Aquascapes and HD Marineworld. IMS assessed the collection area and the organizations for their compliance with the appropriate MAC Standard in late June 2002. Collection areas are assessed to the Ecosystem and Fishery Management Standard; collectors to the Collection, Fishing and Holding Standard; and exporters to the Handling, Husbandry and Transport Standard.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the chain of custody, a Michigan
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**Legislation
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import company and four Midwest retail facilities in the United States were assessed in mid September for their compliance with the MAC Handling, Husbandry and Transport Standard. The initial report by the Vancouver-based MAC Accredited certification company Shizen Megumi sound very promising, and in early October it is likely that these companies will become the first import and retail facilities in the world to realize MAC Certified status.

Raising Hobbyist Awareness of the Responsible Marine Aquarium Trade: MAC Info Kit for Hobbyist Clubs Available

In mid-2002 MAC completed an initial one-year effort aimed at raising awareness among hobbyists of aquarium trade issues and the role of MAC Certification to ensure sustainability of marine aquarium stocks and their habitat. The project included development and dissemination of an information kit for marine aquarium hobbyist clubs, the publication of articles in aquarium magazines, postings on websites and the development of a MAC website area for consumers. The MAC Info Kit for Hobbyist Clubs contains a 12-minute narrated PowerPoint presentation (also available as a slide show) and an eight-page booklet specifically designed for marine aquarium enthusiasts, as well as several informational sheets, news clips, a colored map depicting the global trade in marine aquarium organisms and more.

For more on these outreach efforts or to obtain a copy of the informational kit for your hobbyist club, please contact MAC Communications Coordinator Sylvia Spalding at info@aquariumcouncil.org.

Last month I wrote about the snakeheads in Maryland and the fact that the government wants to band the importation and transportation of them. Well, as of October 4, 2002 they have done

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**Legislation
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that here is a link to the web address for the Federal Register this link should that you right to the snakehead information. It is 12 pages long and would be very hard to summarize so I will let you read it for yourself. http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2002_register&docid=02-25337-filed.pdf

I also know that at least 13 states have enacted laws regarding the snakeheads, with most of the 13 banning the keeping of any snakehead even the dwarf ones. I would suggest that if you have any of the 28 species from the channidae family that you check with your local Department of Natural Resources and see just what your state law is. I know that in Illinois anyone having one in the possession after October 27, 2002 is subject to a fine of \$ 5,000 per day.

Let's take a look at some of the aftermath of the Maryland incident.

Cleanup crews hauled away nearly 800 pounds of dead fish — including hundreds of baby northern snakeheads — from three Crofton ponds poisoned by the state to get rid of the finny predators from Asia.

State biologists scooping up the bodies of 3 1/2 - to 5-inch-long snakeheads sprayed with a lethal dose of rotenone Wednesday suddenly began netting miniature versions of the dead.

When they finished, they had collected 566 of the 1-inch-long fish, mostly in a tight cluster, indicating that they were probably about 2 weeks old and still being guarded by their parents when they died. The finding startled Department of Natural Resources biologists, who until yesterday believed that the two adult snakeheads dumped in the Crofton pond two years ago had produced only one crop of young.

Declaring that the northern snakehead fish has been eradicated in Crofton, state biologists applied a neutralizing agent September 17, 2002 to the largest of three poisoned ponds to rid

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**Legislation
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the water of toxic chemicals added this month to kill the alien fish. Officials are satisfied that the voracious snakeheads, which can crawl on land for short distances, have not spread to the nearby Little Patuxent River. However, the poison seemed not to have harmed turtles, tadpoles, frogs or the pair of ducks that live in the pond.

I know that a hobbyist did not cause this release, but please folks let remind all of our club members to never release anything into the wild.



Expired Or Expiring Memberships

The following memberships have already expired or will be expiring shortly.

Tom & Pat Bridges 10/02

Eric Hammeman 10/02

Aquarium Hobbyists of Amarillo 5/02

Calgary Aquarium Society 11/02

Colorado Aquarium Society 9/02

Federation of Texas Aquarium Societies 8/02

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society, Inc. 12/02

Long Island Aquarium Society 11/02

Milwaukee Aquarium Society 11/02

Ohio Cichlid Association 10/02

Rocky Mountain Cichlid Association 10/02

Tampa Bay Aquarium Society 10/02

Tri-County Tropical Fish Society 8/02

Delegates' Council Report

Al Priest

Chair, FAAS Delegates' Council



Ever so often, I have a minor computer crash. This time, it was a MAJOR crash, and I am still not recovered. Please feel free to correct any inaccuracies, as I have not yet retrieved most of my files (assuming that I can even do so!), and much of what follows is from memory. We were last discussing judging criteria for an “Author of the Year” award for the FAAS Publication awards. While we won’t be able to get this matter finalized for the 2002 Awards, I hope we can at least reach agreement for the 2003 awards. (And, please, do NOT ask me the status of those awards — I’m an entrant, both personal and society, just as many of you are, and I have no more involvement with the program, or information about the awards, than most of you.)

Up to now, the Council has been in apparent agreement that “Author Of The Year” be based on a point system (five points for every first, three points for every second, and one point for every third place article, but excluding “Junior” articles — which I will discuss later). The author with the most points gets that year’s “Author of the Year” award. A slim majority of the delegates are of the opinion that an article that wins in more than one category should be counted only once — for the highest number of points it won (for example, an article that one won one first and one third place would give the author five, not six, points towards his or her “Author of the Year” award). Only a few societies have commented on this, so if you haven’t voiced your opinion, you still can do so.

Prior to 1998, “juniors” (as defined by their own society) were free to participate in the publications awards, and win awards in, all categories, with an additional “junior” category reserved only for them. Under that system, junior articles were judged against adults

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Newsletter And Membership Committee

Judi J. Peterson
Editor
Membership Chairman

Well, it is that time again. The holidays are upon us. Where does the time go? I hope that each of you have a happy holiday season and wish you the very best for the coming year.

Membership

I am going to try something new in this newsletter. In the past I have tried e-mailing you renewal information and found that I did not receive the response that I received when I mailed the information to your societies. Starting with this issue I will listing those societies that their membership has either expired or is expiring. This will save me considerable time and will also save FAAS postage. I am hoping that you will either e-mail me at judi@4cohen.com and I will e-mail you back a renewal form or that you will simply mail me your renewal and indicate any changes in delegates, addresses or e-mail addresses. Checks need to be made payable to FAAS and mailed to me at: Judi J. Peterson, 11308 Donneymoor Drive, Riverview, FL 33569.

I am again requesting that you please take the time to either e-mail or mail me a listing of the various clubs/societies in your areas. I have been requesting this for over a year and have only received three responses to date. Please take the time to help me out. The larger our organization is the more influence we will have.

Manufacturers List

The Manufacturers List is complete and in Pdf format for e-

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**Newsletter & Membership Committee
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mailing. I would like to sincerely thank Marc DeWerth of the Ohio Cichlid Association for checking out the listing for errors, omissions or changes. It is a very time consuming job and we need to give Marc a big "Thank You." Please e-mail me at judi@4cohen.com if you would like the list e-mailed to you. They are also being e-mailed out with the information sent to your society when your annual membership is renewed.

Speakers List

We are still working on a Speakers List. If you know of any speakers please either e-mail me their name, phone number and/or e-mail address so that I can contact them for their bios, fees and topics. I do have a partial listing that I am now e-mailing out with renewal information that is being sent at the time your society renews its membership. Should you want a listing prior to that please e-mail me and I will e-mail the listing back to you.

Newsletter

I would like to remind you again that listing your events in the Calendar is FREE and if your function is being sanctioned by FAAS, you will even get a larger space in the Calendar. However, I can't put in the information if you don't get it to me.

FAAS is a great organization, but in order for us to be a leader in the field, we need more member participation and a larger member base to work from. Please help us make this happen!



Delegate's Council Report
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by the same judges, and using the same rules and judging criteria. However, now every FAAS Publications Award category has its own “junior” division, and every article in that junior division wins something. Therefore, it could be argued that now societies with more junior members have an unfair advantage for an “Author of the Year” award if those “automatic” junior points are treated exactly the same as non-junior points, and that adults who are not automatically awarded something for every article submitted are at a disadvantage with respect to juniors who get points regardless of the merit of their articles. This argument holds that “automatic” points for any group (be they “juniors,” “seniors,” “veterans,” or whatever), with those points counted towards the Author of the Year award appears to favor one group, to the detriment of another. At least one society wanted to continue both the practice of giving an award to every “junior” article, and also to count every such award towards an “Author of the Year” award. Most delegates wanted to do either one or the other, but not both.

With respect to ties, the delegates were evenly split between those who wanted to award two or more “Author of the Year” awards whenever there is a tie, and those who wanted, in the event of a tie, to give the award to the author with the most first place awards (and, if there is still a tie, to the author with the most combined first and second place awards).

So, if you haven't weighed in with an opinion (or even if you have, feel free to expand, amend or clarify your position), please comment on the issues above, and specifically comment on the issue of “junior” submissions. Should we exclude juniors, and/or have a separate “Junior Author of the Year” award (if we continue the practice of automatically giving something to every junior author)? Also, should we apply “tie-breakers” when two or more authors have exactly the same number of points (such as the author with the most first place points), or should we automatically

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Delegate's Council Report
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award multiple "Author of the Year" awards whenever there is a tie?

This is being sent as an e-mail to the FAAS Board and Delegates Council members listed below. If you want to comment (and I do welcome all comments), please do so by sending an e-mail reply to "All." I have seen comments about Delegate Council discussions in society newsletters by people who did not raise those issues in our discussions. While you are free to do so, this deprives the rest of us of the benefit of your thoughts while we are in the process of making up our minds.

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Cleveland Aquarium Society Alan Robbins alanr@brightdsl.net

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**President's Message
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drop her a note with information that can be included for those within your geographical area. Please take a moment from your busy schedule to drop her a note.

Since I have been unable to keep in touch with the individual Societies by writing this message in the FR each issue, I am going to try a different approach. I am going to begin, as time permits, to contact each group directly by e-mail or letter if no e-mail address is available. I am also going to call as many of the delegates as possible so I may speak directly to each of you, giving you the opportunity to have greater input in the direction FAAS takes in the future. I am looking forward to meeting you all within the next year.



Treasurers Report

Greg Wooters
Treasurer

**Treasurers Report
January 1, 2002 through August 31, 2002**

Income

Donations	299.39
FR	16.00
Membership	710.00
Programs	144.00
Show Sanctioning	30.00
Total	<u>1199.39</u>

Expenses

Bank Charges	54.00
FR	610.68
(includes adv for 1/02 issue paid in 12/01)	
Refund -over payment	5.00
Program-Postage	7.00
Total	<u>676.68</u>

Net Income 522.71

Current Check Book Balance 2170.93

Committee Update

Advertising

Nothing to report this month.

Aquatic Photography Awards

Nothing to report this month

Awards

**Nominations for Awards are due
by January 31, 2003**

Breeders Award Program

No response received

Computer

No response received

Delegates

See article

Elections

Nothing to report this month

Federation Liaison

No response received

Horticulture Awards Program

No response received

Legislation – Canada

Nothing to report this month

Legislation – USA

See article

Membership

See Membership/Newsletter article

Nominations

Nothing to report this month

Programs Programs

Still in need of assistance for slide
acquisition and program
development

Publication Awards Program

2001 Results will be printed in the
January/February 2003 FR.
Chairman need for the 2002
Awards.

**2002 Materials for Publication
Awards Program must be
received by January 31, 2003.**

Mail to:

**Jerry Montgomery
2508 Alton Drive
Champaign, IL 61821**

Publishing

See Membership/Newsletter article

Sales

No response received

Show Sanctioning

No response received



Calendar Of Events

November 2002

November 3, 2002 – Sunday Greater Akron Aquarium Society Fall Auction

Tallmadge Community Center, 137 East Avenue, Tallmadge, Ohio. For more information contact Dan Frase at 330-434-4860 or danf@neo.rr.com, Bud & Cathy White 330-848-3856 or bwhite@neo.rr.com or GAAS directly at G_A_A_S@hotmail.com.



November 22 – 24 , 2002 – Friday, Saturday & Sunday Ohio Cichlid Association Northeast Ohio Cichlid Extravaganza 2002

Strongsville Holiday Inn Select, I-71, route 82 exit. Speakers include Rusty Wessel, Dr. Jay Stauffer, Ad Konings, Rainer Stawikowski and Ingo Siedel. Special Registration Package, \$20 per person gives you full registration to everything and a Extravaganza 2002 T-shirt. You must be preregistered no later than November 9th, 2002 for this price. Printable registration form, auction rules, show rules, show classes and event schedules are available at www.ohiocichlid.com. For more information or questions contact Marc DeWerth at madbigfoot@aol.com or 440-236-6301.

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Calendar Of Events (con't)

January 2003

January 25, 2003 - Saturday Champaign Area Fish Exchange Winter Auction

Urbana Civic Center, 108 Water Street, Urbana, IL. This is an auction of fish, plants, supplies, equipment, books and other hobby related items. The FAAS 10 table method will be used for all items auctioned. The split is 70% to seller. Doors open at 8 A.M. for Registration, Auction begins promptly at 10:30 A.M. For more information or to advance register contact Jerry: 217-359-6707 or email jmont@soltec.net or Mark at 217-428-6133 or email guppymom_2000@yahoo.com You may also request info by mail to C.A.F.E., 2508 Alton Dr., Champaign, IL 61821-4777

March 2003

March 15, 2003 - Saturday Tri-County Tropical Fish Society Spring 2003 Auction

Contact Roger Halleen for more information 309-699-7394 or rogfish@aol.com

Your Event Could Have Been Listed Here



E.A.A.S.

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