

The Federation Report

November/December 2005



The Official Publication of the
Federation of American Aquarium Societies



The Federation Report
11308 Donneymoor Drive
Riverview, FL 33569

December 31, 2005

Election Ballots Return Deadline

January 31, 2006 – Publication Awards &

Nominations Postmark Deadline

March 15, 2006 – Aquatic Photography Award

Postmark Deadline

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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

I would like to begin this month by saying THANKS to Judi and John Peterson for the great effort and all the many hours that they devoted to FAAS. Judi and John's contributions helped make the organization stronger during the time they served on the BOD and as Committe Chairman of the Federation. It is going to be difficult to replace such quality people and I personally will miss their enthusiasm and encouragement. Again, 'THANKS' Judi and THANKS' John for your efforts. You will be missed.

I would like to welcome Don Miller who is taking over from Judi as the Newsletter Editor/Publication Chairman and also taking over the position of Publication Awards Chairman from John. Scott Tetzlaff is filling the position of Horticulture Awards Chairman. I am sure they will do a great job. Please give them all of your support.

If there are any clubs that would be interested in getting more involved in the day to day activities of FAAS, please let any of the BOD or myself know of your interest. We would welcome your involvement, ideas and assistance.

I need to find an individual willing to serve as Treasurer for FAAS. There are still some committee openings that need to be filled. I need to find a Chairman for Advertising and Membership.

There is also the possibility of assisting one of the current chairman. If you find a certain area might be of interest to you. One of the opportunities is with the Program Committee. I can use assistance there for things such as slide identification, finding new images, developing new program ideas and writing scripts. If you might be interested in this effort please contact me to discuss what you can do to help.

Just a reminder. Please note that my correct email is jmont@insightbb.com and the correct US mail and phone number

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Calendar of Events con't from page 22

just you wait. Some of the details are shown below and I hope you will all give serious consideration to attending the Convention.

The Convention Co-Chairpersons are Ron Bishop and Dorothy Reimer. The Convention Show Chairperson is Terry Little. If you have any questions please feel free to contact these people or any member of the club executive. (www.londonaquariasociety.com)

Ron Bishop 519-457-7907 ron.bishop@sympatico.ca

Dorothy Reimer 519-438-7682 dreimer@wwdc.com

Terry Little 519-752-8642 tlittle28@rogers.com

Fish Show 50 Class show celebrating the 50th anniversary of the London Aquaria Society.

Class Sponsorship available at a cost of \$30.00 per class. There are also 6 Special awards and sponsorship is available at a cost of \$60.00 each.

Convention Rates

Full Convention \$75.00 each (until April 1st)

Full Convention \$80.00 each. (after April 1st)

Children 10 or under \$40.00 each

Saturday Banquet only \$45.00 per person

Sunday Banquet only \$45.00 per person

4 Speakers (Saturday only) \$45.00 per person

Convention Speakers

Ian Fuller, UK Topic-Catfishes

Juan Migel Artigas Azas, Mexico Topic-Cichlids

Karen Randall, Boston, MA Topic-Plants

Mike Schadle, Chesterton, IN Topic-Humour

Mike will speak on Friday evening, May 19, 2005



Calendar Of Events

November 2005

November 20, 2005

**Milwaukee Aquarium Society
Fish O Ramma (A Swap Meet)**

Burnham Bowl
6016 W. Burnham Avenue, Milwaukee WI
For further information please visit our website at
www.fishclubs.com/wi/mas or contact revo@execpc.com

January 2006

January 21, 2006

**Champaign Area Fish Exchange
Winter Auction**

Urbana Civic Center 108 Water Street, Urbana, IL. The doors open at 8am for registration, Auction begins at 10:30 am. Anything related to the Aquarium hobby may be presented for sale at this event. Fish, plants, food, equipment, etc. will most likely be there. The FAAS ten Table method of auctioning items will be used. For more information contact Mark 217-428-6133 or email guppymom_2000@yahoo.com or Jerry 217-359-6707 or email jmont@insightbb.com This event is open to the Public Free Admission.

May 2006

May 19 - 22, 2006

**CAOCA Convention
Host Club London Aquaria Society**

Fanshawe College, 1460 Oxford Street East, London, Ontario, Canada. N5Y 5R6. The London Aquaria Society is very proud to host the 2006 CAOAC Convention. We are working very hard to make it the best Convention ever held in the 47 year history of CAOAC. We realize most of the Conventions have been great but

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Nominations Committee Special Election

Roger Halleen
Chairman



The FAAS Nomination Committee would like to submit the following names to the FAAS member clubs to be considered for elections. Below are the bio's that these six individuals submitted to me as chairman of the committee.

The bio's are listed in alphabetical order. Following the bio's or at some other place in this FAAS Report is a ballot. Please review these bio's with your club members and submit your ballot to the election Chairman Tony Berry.

Jan Benes, Ohio. Coordinator of Student Teaching for Miami University. Jan been keeping and breeding tropical fish for over 35 years. She started out with guppies and now, along with husband Phil, currently maintains over 100 aquariums, with the majority containing cichlids and rainbowfish. Jan was Registration Chairman (as well as wearing several other hats) for the 1999 ACA convention in Detroit and 2003's convention in Cincinnati. In addition, Jan currently edits All Cichlids, the publication of Michigan Cichlid Association and was Secretary for that club for several years.

Rick Borstein is the Webmaster for FAAS and the Greater Chicago Cichlid Association (GCCA). Rick is the former Editor for GCCA and the Suburban Aquarist Society. Rick is currently Show Chair for the 2006 American Cichlid Association Convention to be held in July in Chicago. Rick has kept a variety fish since he was 12 years old and currently has 21 tanks, most dedicated to cichlids. He is a Master Breeder and has spawned over 100 species of cichlids in the GCCA's Breeders Award Program. Rick Borstein has presented the programs at a number of aquarium societies.

con't on page 4

Janice Emmons, I have a bachelors and masters degree from Western Illinois University I have been involved with native and tropical fish from the age of 6 years. I have thirty-six years of familiarity with the identification of native Illinois fish and their habits as well as concurrently being introduced to the hobby of aquarium fish through the keeping of goldfish at the same age. Currently, I'm involved in keeping New World Cichlids, Old world Cichlids, Synodontis Cats, Discus, Saltwater Fish and Saltwater invertebrates. I also enjoy using my research skills to explore areas of knowledge regarding these organisms on the Internet and solve new and existing aquarium related problems.

I'm also an active member of two Central Illinois fish hobbyists clubs and actively participate in their shows and feel that this is an excellent way to promote the hobby and cultivate novice hobbyists. Part of my goal for the future involves culturing corals and anemones and gaining more experience with the propagation of freshwater plants.

My most significant accomplishment this year has been to get my mated Discus pair to spawn in their home tank. My other interest and activities include Bearded Dragon Vivariums, Leporard Gekco Vivariums, Fishing and Gardening.

Roger Halleen, I have been involved in the tropical fish hobby for over 35 years. I currently maintain 35 aquariums and one medium size garden pond that is home to a large number of tropical fish during the summer months. The aquariums range in size from 200 gallons down to several 5 ½ gallon aquariums. My main interest in fish is with the Catfish and odd livebearers. During my involvement with Fish I have been involved not only on the hobby end but also with the business side of the hobby. I ran an aquarium leasing business for about 8 years and did some wholesaling of tropical fish for several years

I have been active in both my home aquarium society, Tri-County Tropical Fish Society and with FAAS. I have served as President, Vice President, Ways and Means Chairman, BAP.

con't on page 5

Committee Update

Advertising

nothing to report this month

Aquatic Photography Awards

no response received

Awards

no response received

Breeder's Award Program

no response received

Computer/Website

see article

Delegates

see article

Elections

see article

Federation Liaison

no response received

Horticulture Awards Program

no response received

Legislation – Canada

no response received

Legislation – USA

nothing to report this month

Membership

nothing to report this month

Nominations

see article

Programs

We urgently need help and new materials for new programs – please contact Jerry Montgomery and volunterr.

Publication Awards Program

see article

Publishing

nothing to report this month

Sales

no response received

Show Sanctioning

no response received



2004 Publication Awards



John E. Peterson, Ph.D.
Past Publication Award Chairman

I would like to apologize for the following two errors on the 2004 Publication Awards.

First Place for Best Marine Article - Fish
Chris Guarino's name was spelled wrong

and

Honorable Mention Best Editor/Publication More than 6 Issues
Marilyn Kurman's name was spelled wrong.



Best Website as a Resource for the Aquarium Hobby

- 1st Place Greater Chicago Cichlid Association— Rick Borstein
- 2nd Place Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society— Erich Dellensbusch
- 3rd Place Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society— Sean Danekind



President's Message con't from page 2

are listed in the Officers section on the inside cover of the FR. If anyone's address has changed PLEASE send the new address to me directly as well as the other officers so that we won't lose you during the change. It is frustrating for us all when we lose contact and don't know where to turn for communicating with you or your group.

As I have said in previous Presidents Messages, I would hope that your club is participating in the Delegates' Council discussion group. This is the best opportunity for member clubs to have a voice in the activities of FAAS and the best way to stay in touch with the most current activities as well. Try to get a member of your group to join the Delegates' Council, if you have not already done so. It is easy to do, just send an email message to the Chair and ask for your group to be added to future discussion. I would like to see this get to 100% participation so all clubs have the opportunity to be heard and represented.

Lets all try to work hard and help keep the hobby we all love strong and continuing to grow .



Roger Halleen (con't)

Chairman, Program Chairman and Show Chairman over the course of my 30 years of involvement with Tri-County Tropical Fish Society. I have served on the FAAS Board for ten years and have served as Vice President of FAAS for the last 6 years. I believe that with the decline in small fish shops and the fact the many fish clubs are struggling with memberships FAAS need to take on a very active roll in providing help to the organized aquarium hobby.

Don Miller, I'm semi-retired, but still do some substitute teaching and teach some private music lessons. I have written, published and/or recorded a number of poems, short stories, songs, music compositions, including one musical. I have just finished a guitar instruction book. I am working on my photography skills, and then I have a number of aquarium topics I plan to write about.

The most experience I have working in a hobby related field has been chess, where I spent 10 years as club president, tournament director and organizer, chess coach, and editor of a monthly newsletter. I also organized and served as North Carolina Chess Association's first Postal Chess Director, and as a voting member to the US Chess Federation.

In the aquarium hobby I was president of the Mid-Michigan Aquarium Society, Editor of their newsletter, BAP director and SMP director. I have served as Greater Detroit Aquarium Society's co SMP director. I am a member or have been a member of Motor City Aquarium Society, Greater Detroit Aquarium Society, and Mid-Michigan Aquarium Society, in addition to Michigan's Killifish, Cichlid & Saltwater clubs, plus the American Livebearer Association, and most of the study groups affiliated with the American Cichlid Association.

I have been in the hobby 38 years and for 35 of those I have kept saltwater fish, the last 14 years I have been living in Michigan. I recently cut down on the number of tanks I run, but at one time I had over 100. My interest is in species maintenance, and in breeding some of the now out of fashion species from Innes book.

con't on page 6

Don Miller (con't)

I think FAAS has a large number of programs to help the local clubs, but most of the clubs in my part of Michigan haven't seemed to take advantage of it? I'm not sure if they don't know about it, or if it does not meet their needs? I would like to survey FAAS's current member to find out which programs they like or dislike, any changes and/or new programs they would like FAAS to make. I would like to ask the same questions to the former member clubs, plus why they decided to discontinue their membership. As for the clubs that have never joined, while I would like to why they have not joined? I think it will be because most of them do not know what programs FAAS has that would benefit them, or they have never heard of FAAS.

Pat Smith, and I have been involved with the fish hobby since 1968. I was a member of Exotic Aquarium Society in New Jersey for many years, and have been a member of the Nassau County Aquarium Society in Long Island since 1974. During that time, I have held many positions, including Treasurer, Secretary, Editor, Exchange Editor and President. NCAS members Bruce Bier, Ken Smith and I printed out the first FAAS handbook on a printing press in our garage. I am currently serving as the Exchange Editor and as the FAAS Delegate.

To help the club get into the cyber-age, I set up the first NCAS web page, which has been redone by our current Webmaster, who has the expertise to do it without the use of Templates. Since that time, I have learned more about using the web and recently completed my Master's Degree in a program that was done entirely online.

As a member of NCAS, I have presented programs on "Paste Foods" and "Philaquas: A Philatelic Aquarium" as well as programs on Collecting Black Banded Sunfish, and arranging for collecting trips.

website. Please recognize the efforts of your society webmaster.

The Winners

Each of the winning societies is listed below. I have included the name of the Society Webmaster.

Best Overall Society Website

- 1st Place Greater Chicago Cichlid Association — Rick Borstein
- 2nd Place Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society — Erich Dellensbusch
- 3rd Place Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society— Sean Danekind
- Hon. Mention Nassau County Aquarium Society— Joe Kopian

Most Innovative or Unique Society Website

- 1st Place Greater Chicago Cichlid Association— Rick Borstein
- 2nd Place Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society— Sean Danekind
- Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society — Erich Dellensbusch

Most Informative Society Website

- 1st Place Greater Chicago Cichlid Association— Rick Borstein
- 2nd Place Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society — Erich Dellensbusch
- 3rd Place Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society— Sean Danekind
- Hon. Mention Nassau County Aquarium Society— Joe Kopian

2005 Website Awards



Rick Borstein
FAAS Web Master

The results from the 2005 FAAS Website Awards are in! I want to thank all of the nine societies that entered the awards. This was the first year of the awards and I was pleased to see the participation from so many societies.

Judging

Each judge used a point system to rate each website in six major categories. Each category had five sub-categories. Thus, each website was rated in 30 different areas! The six main areas were:

1. Functionality
2. Design
3. Club Content
4. Hobby Content
5. Originality
6. Professionalism and Effectiveness

I detailed other provisions of scoring in a *Federation Report* article. You can find this information at in the July 2004 FR at <http://www.gcca.net/faas/download/pubs/faas7-04.pdf>

Observations

Although I did not take part in judging the sites, I did review them and was pleased to see the great strides many societies have made in the past year.

It is great to see relevant content, good design and attention to detail. The winning sites—listed below—all are terrific examples of the way that the web can make a difference in the aquarium hobby!

Being a society Webmaster is hard work and requires many hours of work. You can't just push a button and have a good

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Special Election
con't from page 6

Pat Smith (con't)

I am interested in joining the FAAS Board since I feel it is the responsibility of all member clubs to take an active interest and participation in running FAAS.

Steve Vogelgesang , I started keeping fish in 1969 with five 1 gallon wide mouth glass jars. They had a little fill sand, a sprig or two of plants and a few guppies. At that time my dad gave me \$2.50 a week for lunch money and instead of buying lunch it went into my hobby. By the end of high school I had progressed to three ten gallons, a fifteen gallon and a 20 ex high. During one of those summers I worked over at Aquatic Gardens for Chuck on a volunteer basis to which he gave me a few fish and supplies. After high school I expanded with an additional 40, 55, and 135 gallon tanks. These are the tank I had until about ten years ago. Somewhere around that time I rearranged my tanks eliminating the small tanks and adding another 55, 2-40s, 75, 150, and a repaired 80 ex high. Up to this point my main focus was community tanks. Six years ago I added 25-10 gallon, 8-40 gallon, 6-55 gallon, and 6-75 gallon tanks with an emphasis on African cichlids. During this time I have bred several Africans, Plecos, Angels, and Albino Corys. In 2000 my wife and I sat down and talked about what I would like to do when I retired from Caterpillar Inc. We decided to start a Hatchery/retail/wholesale in the basement of our home. So for six years we have been gathering equipment and assembling it towards that end.

Now a little bit about our budding business. We have 313 tanks containing 14,000 gallons of water. We have a central water system with a 10hp water pump with a flow rate of 700 gallons/minute. This flows through a filter system designed to filter 61,000 gallons per hour. The system contains 75-55 gallon, 138-29 gallon, 77-15 gallon, 6-75 gallon and 9-40 gallon tanks. The showroom contains 4-130 gallon, 155 bow, 150 ex high and of course our flagship tank the 265 gallon. The 265 tank will be live plants with Discus. The 150 ex high will be live plants with Altum Angels. These are both hi

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Steve Vogelgesang (con't)

tech tanks with high intensity lights, automatic CO2/ ph controls, and UV sterilization. The 265 will have 24hr lighting involving moonlights, 10,000k, blue actinic, and 6700k lights. These tanks will also have a mixture of R/O and tap water to maintain the correct conductivity.

The 155 bow will be on the main system unlike the 265 and 150 which are free standing tanks The bow will be set up as a general community of rainbows, tetras, livebearers and assorted other small fish. This tank will be lit with two 13,000k metal halide fixtures. Black Beauty substrate, black basalt rock, driftwood, and silk plants complete out this tank.

Of the 130's one will be a Tanganyika community, one will be an oddball community, one set up for Frontosa, and the last one set up with Zebras and twin types of lighting to show the differences lighting makes on the same fish. These tanks are also on the main system.

The air system is powered with twin air turbines each able to drive 400 air stones to a depth of 18 inches. Lastly the whole electrical system is backed up with a 16 kilowatt standby stationary generator. This kind of describes what is going on in our daily lives.

Now as to what to what I feel I can bring to FAAS. I feel there needs to be more and better communication between FAAS and member clubs. Next, it says an organization for North, South, and Central America. Where is Central and South America? I feel communication is more than email; it should also be person to person. There should be more clubs involved in a thinking process on how to rejuvenate the fish hobby. We need to bring our collective heads together to find ways to encourage our youth to get involved and once involved to maintain their interest. There also needs to be renewed vigor in our senior members to get out of the old ways of doing things and try out new ways and ideas. Remember part of the excitement of the hobby is going to the fish store and seeing what's new and different. It's time to reinstall that same excitement into our members.



Treasurer/Membership/ Advertising/Publication News



Judi J. Peterson
Treasurer and Chair(s)

As you already know this will be the final issue of the Federation Report that I am the Editor of. I have enjoyed the various positions that I have held with FAAS with the exception of the Membership Chair which was very frustrating and time consuming.

I am turning over the Federation Report into the very capable hands of Don Miller, who I am sure will do an excellent job. Please make sure that all future articles are sent to him at millerdongin@hotmail.com.

I would like to welcome our newest society to join this great organization.

Putnam County Aquarium Society

P.O. Box 1153

Cookerville, TN 38501

Delegate: Derrick Jackson

931-528-1080

derrick@pcaquarium.org

Please take the time to make them feel welcome.

A Treasurers report will be printed in either the January/February Federation Report or in the March/April issue, depending when Don decides to send the publication to press.

Again, thank you for allowing me to be part of the directing body of this great organization and please give all of your support to the new board member and committee chairmen. FAAS and the board need your involvement to take this organization to the next level.



Delegates' Council
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Most Innovative or Unique Society Website

1st Place: Greater Chicago Cichlid Association — [http://
www.gcca.net/](http://www.gcca.net/)

2nd Place (Tie): Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society — [http://
www.swmas.org/](http://www.swmas.org/)

2nd Place (Tie): Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society — [http://
www.swmas.org/](http://www.swmas.org/)

Most Informative Society Website

1st Place: Greater Chicago Cichlid Association — [http://
www.gcca.net/](http://www.gcca.net/)

2nd Place: Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society — [http://
www.swmas.org/](http://www.swmas.org/)

3rd Place: Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society — [http://
www.swmas.org/](http://www.swmas.org/)

Hon. Mention: Nassau County Aquarium Society — [http://
www.ncasweb.org/](http://www.ncasweb.org/)

Best Website as a Resource for the Aquarium Hobby

1st Place: Greater Chicago Cichlid Association — [http://
www.gcca.net/](http://www.gcca.net/)

2nd Place: Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society — [http://
www.swmas.org/](http://www.swmas.org/)

3rd Place: Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society — [http://
www.swmas.org/](http://www.swmas.org/)



Federation of American Aquarium Societies Ballot for Board of Governors Election.

Please vote for four of the following people that have been nominated for FAAS Board of Governors. You may vote in one of two ways :

Mark your ballots and mail them to the election Chairman:

Tony Berry
222 E. Gift Ave.
Peoria, ILL 61603

Or e-mail the to Roger Halleen at rogfish@insightbb.com

Please vote for ONLY FOUR of the following nominees.

_____ **Jan Benes**

_____ **Rick Borstein**

_____ **Janice Emmons**

_____ **Roger Halleen**

_____ **Don Miller**

_____ **Pat Smith**

_____ **Steve Vogelgesang**

**All Ballots must be to Tony or emailed no later than
December 31, 2005**

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Delegates' Council Report

Al Priest
Chair, FAAS Delegates' Council



FAAS President, Jerry Montgomery, has made an appeal for persons interested in replacing the positions held by John and Judi Peterson, who have resigned from all positions within the organization effective at the end of 2005. John and Judi are both currently on the Board of Directors, so there will be 2 openings there. John is also currently the Publications Award Chairman and this position needs to be filled before this year's Publication Awards need to be submitted. Judi is currently the Treasurer, and also holds the Committee positions of Publishing (FAAS Report Editor), Advertising, and Membership. Jerry has asked interested persons to contact him directly, and I hope that you have passed this message on to your societies.

We may want to discuss the future of the Publication Awards. Should they be judged by one person, by a committee, by a society? Let's have a discussion on this.

One of the delegates asked for the website addresses for the winning websites in the recent FAAS Website Awards, so here they are:

Best Overall Society Website

1st Place: Greater Chicago Cichlid Association — **<http://www.gcca.net/>**

2nd Place: Southwest Michigan Aquarium Society — **<http://www.swmas.org/>**

3rd Place: Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society — **<http://www.swmas.org/>**

Hon. Mention: Nassau County Aquarium Society — **<http://www.ncasweb.org/>**

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Expired Or Expiring Memberships

Acuarista Metro Este Pr 9/05
Allegheny River Valley Aquarium Society 1/06
American Livebearer Association 1/06
Associ. de Acuaristas de Aguadilla 1/06
Buck's County Aquarium Society 1/06
Calgary Aquarium Society 11/05
Central Florida Aquatic Plant Club 10/05
Delaware County Aquarium Society 1/06
Diamond State Aquarium Society 1/06
Eastern Iowa Aquarium Association 1/06
Federation of Texas Aquarium Societies 8/05
Grand Valley Aquarium Club 12/05
Greater Akron Aquarium Society 1/06
Greater Chicago Aquarium Society 3/05
Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society 1/06
Medina County Aquarium Society 7/05
Milwaukee Aquatium Society 11/05
Minnesota Aquatium Society 6/05
Nassau County Aquaroum Society 9/05
Northeast Philadelphia Aquarium Society 6/05
Pacific Coast Cichlid Association 1/06
Rocky Mountain Cichlid Association 1/06
Southern Colorado Aquarium Society 12/05
Southwestern Michigan Aquarium Society 6/05
Tri-County Tropical Fish Society 8/05



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A Plea for Content

I would like to add relevant content to the FAAS.INFO website.

Do you have old copies of the *Federation Report* or information you would like to see posted on the FAAS website? Please send it on to me. I can scan paper documents, so please send them to me at R. Borstein, 337 Ronnie Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. You can also fax me at 847 478 8119.



On Technology



Rick Borstein
FAAS Web Master

I've decided to rename my column from "On the Web" to "On Technology". This allows me to cover a broader set of topics. And, frankly, I'm kind of running out of web stuff!

Scanning

In my last column, I discussed the Fujitsu ScanSnap. I've had my ScanSnap for two months now and I really like it. This device scans fifteen double-sided pages per minute. The input bin can hold 50 pages. Better yet, it is under \$400 and comes with a full-version of Adobe Acrobat 7.0 Standard. That's everything you need to create compact, searchable PDFs using the Acrobat Image+Text format.

My original reason to get this device was to scan in historical issues of the Greater Chicago Cichlid Association's *Cichlid Chatter*; my local society's publication. The club was started way back in 1971 and with six issues per year, that's over 200 publications.

I've faced two challenges in scanning:

- 1) Getting back issues. There are a limited number of people who have back-issues. Our club, unfortunately, never archived any.
- 2) Scanning 5.5" X 8.5" format pubs.

The second topic deserves a bit more explanation. So far, the ScanSnap has done a superb job of scanning in pretty much anything I've thrown at it. At some point, the *Cichlid Chatter* went to 5.5" by 8.5" format. It makes sense—this format is easier to mail and the pocket-sized format is handy.

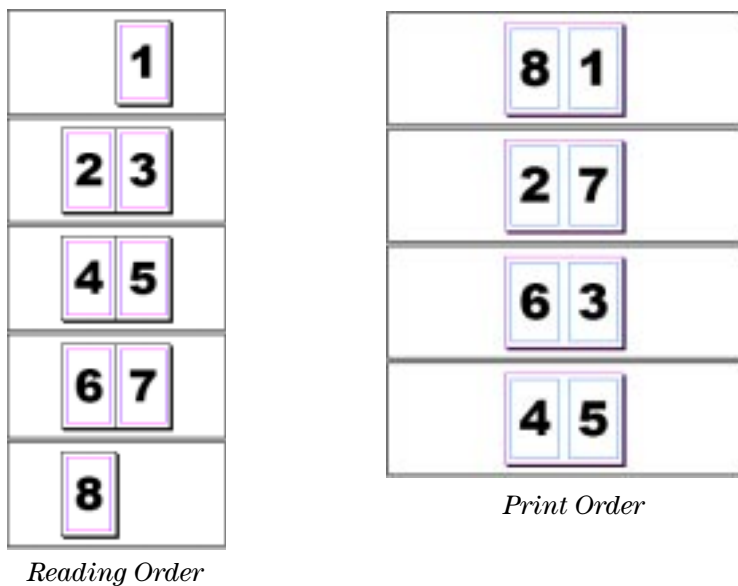
To scan in these smaller pubs, I simply removed the center staples, fed them in to the ScanSnap and scanned them. They scanned fine, but the problem was that the pages were not longer in reading order.

If you've ever been a publication editor, you probably know that

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pages need to be imposed for the printer. In other words, the pages need to be arranged so that two 5.5X8.5" pages fit on a single 8.5"X 11" piece of paper. So in a 36 page publication, the first two pages contained four actual publication pages—1, 36, 2, 35. Ack!

The following diagram is a visual explanation of Reading Order compared with Print Order.



There are a couple of ways to fix this:

- 1) Cut the pages down the middle and scan them manually in order using a custom page size. This isn't that hard with the ScanSnap as it will patiently wait for the next page to be put in the bin if you set it in "Continue" mode. Unfortunately, this wasn't an option as I wasn't the owner of the publications and cutting them apart was not an option.
- 2) Crop the pages and re-arrange in Acrobat. This option is time-consuming and treacherous. In many of the pubs, page numbers aren't included.

So, in effect, I haven't solved this issue yet, but I'm working on it! I'll keep you up to date if I find a quick fix.

Slides Going Away . . . Projector Recommendations

Many societies have purchased digital projectors. Very few presenters are using slides these days. It's a lot more convenient to use PowerPoint or Photoshop to create your shows.

If your society hasn't purchased a digital projector, expect to pay in the \$1000 to \$1500 range for a good projector.

Presentations Magazine regularly rates projectors. You can reach them on the web at www.presentations.com. A few recommendations from me:

- Resolution—choose a projector with a resolution of 1024 by 768. This is referred to as XGA resolution.
- Lumens is a measurement of picture brightness. I recommend a projector with a minimum of 1500 lumens.
- Buy a major brand projector. I have heard horror stories of clubs who bought off-brand projectors, especially off of eBay. My favorite brand is Epson, but I have also used good projectors from InFocus, Dell and NEC.
- Buy a 20-foot VGA cable. Most projectors come with only a very short cable.

Buy a Screen

A poor quality screen or, worse, the uneven surface of a wall, greatly degrades the quality of a presentation.

Why not purchase good quality screen for your meetings? I recommend the DaLite 80" Deluxe Insta-Theatre. Place this screen on a standard 6-foot table and it pulls up from the sturdy case. It also includes a very nice, soft carrying case. Cost is about \$360. You can find more information at <http://www.dalite.com/products/product.php?cID=19&pID=92>. You can purchase this product from a variety of places, but I've had good service and pricing from www.bhphoto.com.

I'm here to help...

If you would like some advice or a critique of your club's web site, email me at webmaster@gcca.net.