

The CALQUARIUM

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Next CAS General Meeting

June 13, 2016 (Monday!)

Start: 7:00 pm

Where: Crescent Heights

Community Association

1101 – 2nd St NW, Calgary

JUNE JAR SHOW: GOLDFISH & KOI

The speaker for our next CAS meeting on June 13th will be our very own CAS President Cate Forbes.

Cate went on a lovely trip to Thailand and agreed to share her impressions and experiences of the domestic fish markets.

She says “Nothing beats the experience of going to the Bangkok Fish Market at Chatuchak, but pictures will have to suffice until you get to experience it for yourself.”

Join us and experience Thailand through her eyes and camera!



Photos: Cate Forbes



June Message from the President

Thank you all very much for your support and encouragement! It is my hope to be able to help our club grow into the next phase and incorporate new ideas, projects, and of course help our club grow its membership base. I encourage everyone to bring an idea to the table; to bring a friend to a meeting; to bring a fish/plant to a jar show! Every one of us has something to offer and it is my hope that we can harness those skills and knowledge to make our club even more amazing! Please feel free to bring your questions, concerns and/or comments to myself or one of our executive members. Thank you again and I look forward to working with all of you.

*Sincerely,
Cate Forbes, CAS President*

2016 Upcoming CAS Meetings:

- June 13th: Cate Forbes “Fish Markets in Thailand”
- July/ August: No General Meeting
- September 13th: Irene Gustafson “How to properly ready and bag fish for auctions”

Meetings are held every 2nd Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise noted.

Our Meeting Schedule has changed:

7:00 pm – Social, Chat Time, Set Up

7:15 pm – **Start of the Meeting:**

- Report from Board of Director officers
- Discussion concerning items of interest to the general membership

7:30 pm – **Program:**

- Presentation by invited speaker
- Short break: Raffle ticket purchase; More chat time
- Mini Auction of fish, plants and equipment and Raffle ticket draw

SUMMARY OF THE CAS AQUATIC WEEKEND 2016

The Calgary Aquarium Society CAS Aquatic Week-End took place March 11-12, 2016.

Events included great presentations by:

- Ted Judy
 - 1) Raising Fry From Egg to Adolescence
 - 2) The Peru Pipeline
 - 3) West African Aquariums

- Bill Bishopp
 - 1) Flowers in the Aquarium
 - 2) All Other Varieties of Livebearer

Our fish show, open to the public Saturday and Sunday, was sanctioned by the Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs and judged by the guest speakers assisted by apprentice judges Birgir Kamprath and Ken Junor. It featured 92 entries in 18 classes.

Best in Show was a female Moscow Guppy shown by Ann Marie Towell.

Thank you to our guest speakers, judges and all the volunteers.

*Sincerely,
Fred Guy (CAS Show Chairman
and Vice President)*



Photos: Irene Gustafson

DIY BREEDER BOX – TUTORIAL

BY NANCY HELMER (CAS TREASURER)

Making your own breeding box is an extremely easy DIY project. It is not only used for breeding fish but has many other purposes such as temporarily housing an aggressive fish, separating species or varieties, keeping female livebearers from breeding with unwanted males, and breeding specific pairs of fish.

List of materials:

- ✓ Plastic craft mesh
- ✓ Cable zip ties - I used the thinnest ones I could find as they have to fit through the mesh
- ✓ Aluminum wire
- ✓ Utility knife
- ✓ Plastic pex pipe, available in the plumbing section. This is optional and only required for larger boxes as support
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Bread bag clips

Depending on the final desired size of your breeder box, the amount of material will vary; so measure and do the math carefully. The plastic mesh can be purchased at most craft stores, in the knitting / embroidery section. It comes in approximately 10 x 14

inch sheets. However don't let the size of the sheet limit how large the box can be, it's easy to connect sheets.

First you need to do a quick sketch; this will help determine the size of each panel. For ease, I make the two long sides and the bottom the same length. Next you need to determine the size of the two side panels, the length of the shorter side of the bottom panel and the height of the side panel.

Cut the craft mesh to the required sizes. Arrange the panels for assembly, first the bottom, two long sides, two short sides. Insert the cable ties, between the mesh squares, from one panel through the other panel. Zip the tie but not too tight at this point, you will want to keep it loose so you can maneuver the box. Use a tie in each corner and it should start to resemble a box. Once you have your box shape, tighten your cable ties and snip off the excess tie. Use enough ties to connect each side to one other and snip off the excess cable tie. Make sure to use enough ties so that there are no gaps.

If more support is needed, cut a length of pex pipe. Use a utility knife to make a slit along one side of the pipe. Alternatively, a table saw can be used. Insert the mesh

panels into the pex pipe and use a cable tie to secure it to the top of the box.

Cut sufficient wire to go around three sides of the box plus enough extra to hang over the top of an aquarium. Mold the wire around the box and attach with cable ties on each corner (you don't need wire along the back part of the box). Now put the breeding box into the aquarium and mold the wire over the top of the aquarium and a bit down the side of the aquarium. If using pex pipe, insert the wire through the pex pipe, on the side which is against the aquarium, and mold to the shape of the aquarium top.

*Special note (this is really important!): Use the bread bag clips, along the bottom of the box next to the glass, to keep the sides of the box away from the side of the aquarium. If left flat fish will squeeze

between the box and the glass - often resulting in death. If needed clip a few squares out of the mesh so that the bread bag clip can be secured and correctly positioned. Use your imagination to use any other idea or material to keep the box away from the glass, I just had bread box clips handy.

To clean it I scrub it and rinse well. On occasion I have had to use a weak bleach solution to remove algae build up - rinse well and set in the sun for a bit.

I have been using my breeder box for two years and it still is holding up really well. It has been used for a ton of purposes. Right now it is being used to keep an unexpected pair of new guppies in one of my larger tanks. For fish comfort I always include some plants in the box to give them a place to hide.

Some of the Materials:



Photos: Nancy Helmer



MEMBERSHIP CORNER:

Greetings members! Our membership numbers are still in the 60s. And our attendance at our monthly meetings is less than 50%. AND I DON'T LIKE THAT! So, I invite you talk to your fishy friends and encourage them to join. Bring them to a meeting just to get a feel. Hopefully we will make them feel like the fish nerds we are!

I would also invite you to email me with ideas for membership drives and ways to encourage meeting attendance. Send your ideas to mylifeasapineapple@gmail.com and I will present them at the Executive Meeting.

Help make our club grow.
Your Membership Director

Irene Gustafson

(membership@calgaryaquariumsociety.com)

We've had some great presentations so far!

May - Nancy Helmer- DIY Breeder box/
Fred Guy - Spawning tips for Egg Scatterers

April - Paul Belanger - Cory's I Have Known

March - Hung - Shrimp Keepers

Anonymous - Designer Shrimp

February - Al Holm - Basics of Starting a
Salt Water Tank

Membership Privileges:

- ✓ Attend monthly meetings, enjoy the presentations, meet fellow hobbyists, enter the Jar Show contest
- ✓ Participate in our mini-auctions and raffle contests
- ✓ Sign out books from our continually expanding library
- ✓ Enter and be rewarded in the HAP and BAP programs
- ✓ Access 'member only' features on the CAS website
- ✓ Receive the CAS newsletter 'The Calquarium' per PDF

BREEDERS AWARD PROGRAM (BAP)

Enter the competition, collect points and receive awards.

Contact Ken Junor for more information.

bap@calgaryaquariumsociety.com

HORTICULTURAL AWARD PROGRAM (HAP)

The HAP is an award program in which awards are given for the successful growth and propagation of aquatic plants.

Any members can enter. All you have to do is get a plant to double in size or reproduce (and get it spotted). Try duckweed, try not getting it to double in size. Have fun with it, "Last summer my plants gruesome".

Bear

hap@calgaryaquariumsociety.com

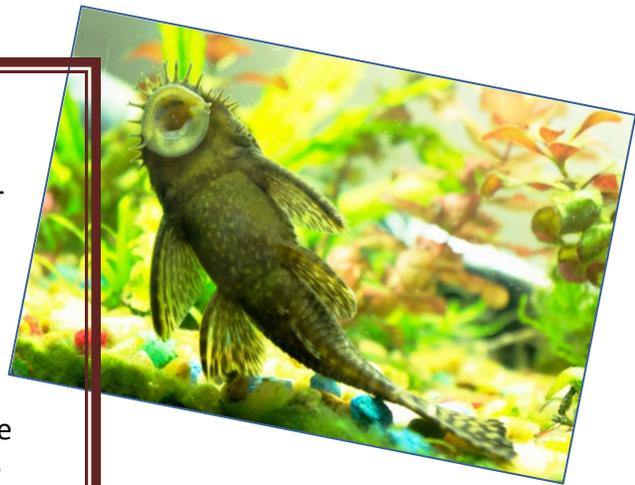
Helping out Dave Edmonston – Fish Sale

I would like to personally thank all aquarium club members for their support of Dave Edmonston.

The liquidation of his fish room, held April 30th, was a great success.

Dave's health continues to improve. There is no official release date, from the hospital, but if he continues to do well it will be soon.

Yours, Nancy Helmer



*One of Dave's Plecos in his new home.
Photo: Karolin Klement*

Member's Photos and Artwork



Photos by Keith Procter:

Electric Yellow Cichlid - *Labidochromis caeruleus*
Cobalt Blue Cichlid - *Metriaclima zebra*

Letter to the Editor

*This is a new section of the newsletter!
As CAS members, your opinions and suggestions are very valuable to us. Let us know what you think and write a Letter to the Editor!*

You want to hear about a specific topic in the general meeting? You'd like to make a suggestion on how to change things up a bit? Or maybe you just want to say Thank you to a special member of the club who is helping out a lot.

Here is your platform!

*Sent Letters to
editor@calgaryaquariumsociety.com*

Please make sure you add your name and phone number, in case there are questions.

*Jar Show Results May 2016
Category: Novelty*



Winner:
Jim
Hendricks

Runner-up:
Irene Gustavson



*Did you know that
members can post items
for sale – for free!?
Contact the Editor!*

Phillipine Blue Zebra Ghost Pearlscale
& Double Black. \$100

Phillipine Blue Marble X
Twinkle Blue Ghost \$100

angelfish breeding pairs
for sale
TEXT IRENE : 403-443-8251

Silver Veilfin X
Double Black \$80

MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR

Dear Fellow Fish Friends,

I hope you enjoyed the June newsletter, just in time to wrap up the 2015-2016 cycle. Since there is no general meeting in July and August, the next newsletter will appear in September.

I would like to take the opportunity and share my thoughts on this new format of newsletter with you:

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform and educate members of CAS. It will contain lots of information about our meetings, jar shows and club programs, but will also contain about 1-2 articles about a topic of interest per issue. These articles are either written by one of our members, or articles that have been published elsewhere (as long as permission is granted). So, really, the newsletter can be great, but it needs constant input from the members of the club.

Therefore, if you have expertise in a topic:

Step forward and contact the Editor to discuss your contribution!

You don't need to be a writer in any fashion, we are all here for fun and sharing information is the main purpose of this newsletter. I am happy to assist with edits and proofreading.

In addition, we will have a membership corner! Every month, you'll receive an update from the membership coordinator and updates on our club programs, particularly BAP and HAP. This is also the space to show off your fish! Especially for new members, learning how advanced fish keepers set up their tanks and what kind of fish they keep is priceless!

So go ahead, and submit your photos for the next newsletter!

Also, members can advertise here what they have for sale!

Importantly, every newsletter, we'll introduce a "Member of the Month", who will share some key quick facts on their hobby with us in an interview style. **You can nominate a fellow CAS member to be the next "Member of the month". Email your suggestion!**

Last but not least, here is something new and really exciting: A member's blog post! Every month one member will have the opportunity to write about an experience or something about aquatic life they are passionate about. Could be ice fishing on the lake, a visit to the Toronto aquarium, a tour to a fish hatchery, a diving adventure in the Caribbean. **Contact me for more information!**

Cheers, Karolin Klement (Newsletter Editor)

The Calgary Aquarium Society

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The Calquarium is the official publication of the Calgary Aquarium Society. Questions should be addressed to the Calquarium Editor Karolin Klement (editor@calgaryaquariumsociety.com)

Board of Directors 2016:

President	Cate Forbes
Past President	Jerry Yaremko
Vice President	Fred Guy
Treasurer	Nancy Helmer
Secretary	Sunshine Whillans
Librarian	Fred Guy
Membership	Irene Gustafson
Breeders Award Program (BAP)	Ken Junor
Horticultural Award Program (HAP)	Barry Bienia
Calquarium Editor	Karolin Klement
Website Editor	Roberta Bremner
Exchange Editor	Karolin Klement
Show Chairperson	Fred Guy

Directors at Large 2016:

Gord Derhak
Kurt Easterby
Irene Gustafson
Jim Hendricks
Ken Junor
Karolin Klement

Our Objectives:

Study of aquatic life
Encouragement of the hobby of fish keeping
Provision of a library
Provide for recreation of members and interaction

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