



REFLECTOR

PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL NEW YORK AQUARIUM SOCIETY

June 2025, Volume 49, Number 10

CNYAS Annual Award Banquet

The Retreat Restaurant

302 Vine Street, Liverpool 13088

June 18, 2025

Cocktail Hour starts at 6 PM

Buffet Dinner 7 PM



CENTRAL NEW YORK AQUARIUM SOCIETY

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CNYAS GENERAL MEETING

LOCATION

The Dewitt Community Center
148 Sanders Creek Pkwy
East Syracuse, NY

DATE / TIME

Wednesday September 17, 2025
@ 7:00 pm

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- 3) The original author is credited appropriately.
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CNYAS will exchange publications with any non-profit hobby related organization with the following stipulations: 1) The request to exchange must be made in writing. 2) The organization informs us of their reprint policy 3) The exchange is mailed to The **Reflector** Exchange Editor upon publication.

CNYAS Background Information:

The Central New York Aquarium Society, Inc. was established in 1976. It is a non-profit organization under section 501 {c} {3} of the Internal Revenue Code. Board meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month. General meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Dewitt Community Hall in East Syracuse. General meetings normally begin with a brief business meeting followed by a guest speaker, refreshments, door and raffle prizes, and a mini- auction of live fish, plants, and other hobby related items.

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Officers

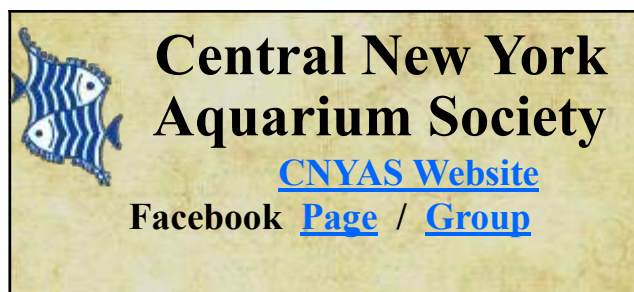
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Michael Flintrop
Clifford Crain
Ron Alexander
Bill Newell
Herschel Beeman

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BAP: Michael Flintrop
AHAP: Bill Newell
WAP: Clifford Crain
Bowl Show: Arnaud Germain
Auction: Ron Alexander & Brian Bowers
Membership: Denise Baird
Exchange Editor: Clifford Crain
Assistant Secretary: Sue Kotcher
Hosp. & Refreshments: Mary Teelin
Swap Meet: Doug Hillman
Webmaster: Tom Garafalo





PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ron Fabiny

Presidents Message June 2025

Hello

This month we have our Annual Awards Banquet at the Retreat Restaurant in Liverpool. There is a welcome hour at 6 PM and dinner at 7 PM. Remember you must be signed up with Sue if you were going to attend. On August 2nd we are having our summer picnic at my house please see the flyer in the Reflector also I will be passing around a sign up sheet at the Banquet.

Last month's meeting was presented by Kapil Mandrekar. It was a very interesting meeting with all the research they are doing in Brazil.

It's with saddened heart that I must inform you all that we lost Winnie Pitzeruse June 1ST. Winnie was an asset to Central New York Aquarium Society and a dear friend. I am going to list here all she did for the Club:

1980-1982 Bowl Show Chair	1981-1983 Club Secretary	1982-1983 FAAS Delegate
2000-2017 Breeder Awards Chair	2001-2003 President	2003-2006 Vice President
2006-2016 Member Board of Directors		

She also received the FAAS Award in 1999, achieved the Pen & Quill level in the Writers Award Program, achieved the Master Breeder level in the Breeders award Program, and achieved the Grand Master level in the Aquatic Horticultural Award Program.

If I do not see you this summer be safe and see you all in September.

Ron

ANNUAL ELECTIONS FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD

The CNYAS held its annual elections for Officers and Board positions at the May general meeting on May 21, 2024 at the Dewitt Community Center. The following individuals have been elected for a one year term. The term of office for the newly elected members of the Executive Board shall commence following the close of the June general meeting.

PRESIDENT: Ron Fabiny

VICE PRESIDENT: Ron (Chip) Alexander

SECRETARY: Mary Teelin

TREASURER: Bob Kotcher

EDITOR: Doug Hillman

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bill Newell
Lenny Futterman
Mike Flintrop
Clifford Crain
David Pomerantz

BOARD MEETING**CNYAS Board meeting**

5/14/2025

Attending: Ron Alexander, Doug Hillman, Bob and Sue Kotcher, Bill Newell, Mike Flintrop, Clifford Crain, Ron Fabiny, Hershel Beeman

1. Committee Reports:

1. Treasurer-Report and budget. Auction, shrimp and pleco raffles were very productive. The option to use credit cards worked very well.
2. AHAP-see Reflector
3. BAP- see Reflector, working on changing # of fry for points, now have BAP computer. Clifford and Mike to work on fry#s.
4. WAP- see Reflector.
5. Membership-72paid member
6. Auction –New tee shirts next year for 50th Anniversary. Projecting fish bag on the screen, Large banner with pictures. Look at getting lightweight banner. Shrimp/ Pleco raffle. Flyer is out, please distribute. Bob to contact bank about getting a machine for epayments from the bank. Will cost 100\$ plus 2.6%. Board voted to get. Chip to change flyer to say we will now take credit cards.VFW has a digital board to advertise the auction. Ron has signed contract. We can get in VFW to set up Friday night at 6pm. We need to mark walls before we start moving things. Would like to get pictures of raffle winners for Reflector. Mary to look for new banner. Check to see if we have enough paperwork/cards. Chip to email flyer to Doug. VFW to sell breakfast/lunch. There will be ATM at the VFW. Wetspot will need to be called in Dec of this year for 2026. Need someone to do membership during aution.Chris Allen to do computer updates and at the auction. Will need volunteers for all jobs at the auction. If needed, Doug will lend trailer and store things for the Swap meet. Auction set up will be Friday night at 6pm. Can set up on Sat morning at 8am. Need to tape walls and take pics where tables go. Shrimp and Pleco tables set, Mary will make poster boards. Exp after table 3. Are now accepting credit cards. Ron and group got dry goods from Wayne Murrar's fish room to sell at the auction. Thanks to all! Clifford mentioned it was great how all the aution donors were honored at the auction and in the Relector.VFW rent may go up next year, Ron to discuss with them and book for next years auction. All the board members are pleased with the VFW.
7. Bowl show- see Reflector.
8. Webmaster- Web Company was bought out. Tom looking into it.Website is updated.
9. Exchange editor- still getting articles. Cliff doing a great job.
10. Reflector- Doug is doing a great job!

2. Old Business:

1. Voted to change Superbowl prizes to cash, talk about increasing prize amount next year. Voted to increase prizes to 1st 35.00, 2nd 25.00 and 3rd is 20.00.
2. Len to work on speakers for this year. Joe Doyle to be March speaker. April is Auction meeting
3. Send Speaker info to Lenny
4. 50th Anniversary of CNYAS in 2026. Sue and Mike to head up a committee for celebration
5. Is the NEC Convention budget worth 600\$? Discuss during the next meeting board meeting. Ask Arnaud to see if NEC could support free hotel room for club reps. Board discussed that the NEC rep for the club will receive the free convention Registration if they attend the required meetings and the club will give them 150.00 to be used to attend the Convention. Passed.

New Business:

1. Sue to work on June Banquet at the Retreat again. Banquet is all set, will have same menu as last year and cake. Still 10\$ for members. 3rd Wed in June.
2. Date for Swap meet is Oct 4th 2025, Doug to follow up with booking and tables. Bob to cancel tentative date at the Elks club.
3. Cliff brought up doing a group buy of fish on line. Discussed, he will follow up with interest in participation from club. Voted to put this on hold till after the auction as Cliff is not at this meeting. Cliff still looking at options to buy from.
4. Len to find signs for lamination for club meetings.
5. Board decided that points for WAP that are part of a officers or chairs duties can be posted but not used for Scaly Eraser or any awards, passed.
6. Picnic at Ron F's house on August 2, will pass around a sign up list next meeting.
7. Aquarist of the year vote taken.
8. Discussion regarding updating the auction computer.
9. Ron F to coordinate cleaning out Wayne Murrar's fish room.
10. Clifford asked that people come at 0630 for June board meeting if they want to see his fish room.
11. UNYKA wants to participate in our Swap meet per Doug.

5/21/25 CNYAS General meeting

1. Great talk by our own Kapil Mandrekar! Awesome to see and visit with him again.
2. Nice mini auction
3. Joe Doyle did a great talk via Zoom on BAP and breeding fish. Thanks Joe!





Fishroom Visit: Joe Sullivan

By: Clifford H. Crain, Jr.

It's funny how one event can lead to a completely unexpected outcome. Case in point: the sale of my unused 45XH aquarium led me to visit one of the most unusual fishrooms I've ever seen.

About 45 years ago I bought a 45XH aquarium (that's a standard 30 gallon tank that is extended to 24 inches high instead of 16 inches) and built a stand to accommodate this unusual dimension. A few years later, after having to put the hobby on hold, I sold the tank but kept the stand. It moved with our household belongings around the country, serving as a shelf to put stuff on. When I retired and got back into the hobby in 2021, I bought a new 45XH and returned the stand to its original purpose. That aquarium was perfect for growing plants (requiring a powerful new LED light) and viewing angelfish and other fish. But eventually I decided to focus on spawning fish (yay, BAP!) and took this tank and its stand out of service to make room for breeder-type aquariums (low and wide instead of tall). I listed the tank, stand, top and light on Facebook Marketplace but had no takers despite several price drops. I gave up and moved the setup to our unheated back basement where it sat for several years.

In an effort to declutter the house, we decided to get serious about selling and getting rid of stuff, so I re-listed the tank setup on FBM with another lower price. Mixed in with over two dozen spambot responses was one that seemed genuine. The guy who showed up was not only enthusiastic about acquiring this setup but also was super-knowledgeable. I never pass up an opportunity to talk up the Central New York Aquarium Society, and the buyer already knew about the club from our friends at Low Tide Corals (thanks, Low Tide!). When I asked him which fish he kept, he really grabbed my attention stating that he spawns Apistos in Syracuse city tap water, which is hard and alkaline. Due to lack of space, I don't have room to keep and breed large fish. The small size of apistos would make them a natural fit for my setup, but I have shied away from them due to their proclivity for softer, more neutral water. I urged the buyer to join CNYAS.

Several months later, when I didn't hear from the buyer, I emailed him to tell him about our annual auction, and he said he would attend. Well, Joe Sullivan attended the auction, bought a bunch of fish and is a new member of CNYAS. Joe made a point of looking me up at the auction, and since I hadn't forgotten about his feat of spawning apistos in Syracuse tap water, I suggested he bring a bag of apistos to the next meeting. As the May meeting approached, I made sure I had enough money to buy these fish by utilizing the cashback option at the Bank of Wegmans earlier that day. I was disappointed when Joe did not show up at the meeting. Not willing to let the poor guy be, I emailed asking if I could come to his place to purchase the fish.

I apologize for the long and wordy introduction to this fishroom visit article, but I marvel at how the sale of a forlorn aquarium setup led me to one of the most interesting fishrooms I've ever seen.

I knew something was up when I got out of the car and noticed a sign in Joe's front yard that said "Pardon Our Weeds We are Gardening for Pollinators and Wildlife." This was confirmed when I saw that his entire enclosed front porch is taken up with growout trays of *Nepenthe* and *Sarracenia* pitcher plants. Entering the living room, I noticed that he was watching fish videos on his bigscreen TV and that told me, "Wow, this guy is hardcore!" I marveled at the *Epipremnum* plant, commonly known as "pothos," with roots in an aquarium and the plant growing from one end of his living room to the other. That's got to be 25 feet! I complimented him on the aquascaping in his living room tanks. He uses CaribSea Eco-Complete as a substrate in his planted tanks.



Grow-out trays on Joe's front porch



Pothos rooted in an aquarium, growing around the living room. Note the aquarium video playing on the TV in the corner



Do you have a tub in your dining room with two large koi? Joe does!

Descending to the basement, the first thing I noticed was three features that I also have in my fishroom that ease maintenance: a laundry tub, concrete floor and a floor drain. Also prominent is his RODI (reverse osmosis/deionization) system. Joe creates two barrels (about 50 gallons) a week of this water, which he uses not only for fish not accustomed to hard, alkaline water, but also certain delicate terrestrial plants (more on that later).

Getting down to business, Joe showed me the apistos and explained in detail how the rainy/dry seasons impact their spawning in the wild. Wait a sec, this is a lot more than "I put a pair in the tank, fed them and they spawned." Turns out, Joe has a master's degree in Fish and Wildlife Biology and Management from SUNY ESF. And lots of practical experience too, racking up nine years working in a Rochester fish store.



Breeding and grow-out rack of tanks



Joe's RODI setup in the basement

Lots of aquarists spawn cichlids and livebearers, but how many have spawned tetras? Joe has a 75 gallon tank of diamond tetras, *Moenkhausia pittieri*, that spawn on a regular basis. I saw three generations of fry in the grow-out tanks. You'd think to spawn these fish, you'd need a lot of Java moss, guppy grass, or spawning mops, but no, there aren't many plants in this tank. In an upper corner of the tank is a mesh pot filled with mulm and roots of a terrestrial plant. The fish either spawn in this pot, or the tiny fry find their way into the pot, where they then dine on micro-organisms. When Joe disturbs the pot, the fry fall out, and he catches them and puts them in a grow-out tank. What a unique and successful way of spawning diamond tetras.

Next to the diamond tetra tank is an impressive 150 gallon aquarium housing, among others, a rainbowfish tank boss and a huge seven year-old Royal Pleco catfish that grinds driftwood down to shavings. This is the first low-iron glass tank I've seen. Low-iron glass is exceptionally clear without the blue-green tint that regular sheet glass has. That glass combined with a sump filter makes it easy to see all the fish in the crystal clear water. This tank receives its semi-weekly water change using the waste water from the RODI system. The sump is drilled, and the tubing attached to the bulkhead sends the overflow from the water change to the floor drain.

If you run out of room for tanks in your basement, living room and dining room, the next logical place is your bedroom, and that's where I found my 45XH setup. Joe has the beautiful and very desirable checkerboard cichlid, *Dicrossus filamentosus*, in that tank. I was so pleased to see this display tank once again put to good use. In another tank he has festivums, *Mesonauta festivus*, a common South American cichlid but not seen in the hobby much anymore. It's a fairly peaceful fish with a distinctive black line running diagonally from dorsal fin through the eye. If he can spawn them in our hard, alkaline tap water, I will buy the fry!



Joe's crystal-clear 150 gallon tank and sump. Note the sump overflow with tubing that leads to the floor drain

Joe supported our annual auction by purchasing rainbow fry, bronze corydoras, two king tiger plecos, and even a bag of my trout goodeids, *Ilyodon furcoides*. I took him a bag of *Limia islai* and the cash I would have bid at the May meeting auction and got a trio of *Apistogramma cacatuoides*. I urged him to participate in the CNYAS Breeder's Award Program.

I mentioned Joe's credentials and experience with fish, but there are other things he does that indicate that he's a pro. For instance, he utilizes not one, but two quarantine tanks. Newly acquired fish from a trusted source go in one tank and are observed for four weeks before being placed in their home tanks. All other fish, for example from Petco, go in a separate quarantine tank for three months



My former 45XH now put to good use

Joe hatches brine shrimp for the fry, although he swears by ground-up pellet food from Keeping Fish Simple (Australia). And when he bagged the apistos he was giving me, he solved the problem I have, which is how to keep the bag open while putting the fish in it. It's a trick he learned working at the fish store: roll the top of the bag down several inches and let it float in the tank. The bubble formed in the part of the bag that was rolled down has enough buoyancy to float the bag, allowing the aquarist to use two hands to get the fish out of the net and into the bag. Finally, Joe urged me to use non-detergent Magic Eraser to remove algae from aquarium glass. It's very inexpensive (search for "melamine sponge" on Amazon) and works great. Joe gave me some samples.

While in the basement I noticed a corner of the room that was sheathed in plastic sheet, with a zippered plastic sheet door. When I asked Joe what this was, his response was that breeding tropical fish is only his number two hobby. His primary interest is plants, especially carnivorous plants. In the plastic-encased room, which is heated to tropical temperatures and kept humid with a mister, are dozens of *Nepenthe* tropical pitcher plants. They emit a sweet nectar, and when bugs enter the tube to investigate, they are digested. These very expensive plants are rather delicate, and I mentioned earlier that some of the RODI water is for these plants. When I asked Joe how he got involved with carnivorous plants (and he is involved, as a member of the International Carnivorous Plant Society), he surprised me by stating that he got the idea from a speaker at one of the informal *aquarium* meetings in Rochester. (Big city Rochester has no formal aquarium society; I'm so proud that we in Central New York do!) Joe, who works for a company dealing with Onondaga Lake remediation, has started a business with a partner that will focus on cultivating and selling plants that are native to Central New York in addition to the carnivorous plants.



Check out the carnivorous *Nepenthe* plants



**This end of the tropical plant room features
Nepenthe seedlings**

Wow, what a visit! I had told The Chief that this visit would not take too long, back in 45 minutes. Returning home two-and-a-half hours later, I wouldn't blame her for wondering what the heck I was doing. Joe Sullivan's fishroom (and plants) are fascinating and unlike anything else I've seen. I hope this friendly, knowledgeable and enthusiastic aquarist will be a regular at our meetings and become active in the CNYAS.



**Central New York Aquarium Society Inc.
Writer's Award Program**

Chairman: Clifford H. Crain, Jr., Committee member Doug Hillman

Based on submissions to date through the May 2025 Reflector and points published in June 2025 Reflector

Name	Status	June Reflector	Scaly Eraser	Total
Crain	Pen & Quill Award	75	55	2,454
Spahn	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	1,276
Kotcher	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	851
Teelin-Futtermann	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	711
Pitzeruse	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	652
Fabiny	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	561
Hillman	Author's Award	50	50	320
Rademacher	Author's Award	0	0	215
Pomerantz	Participant	0	0	135
Baird	Author's Award	0	0	130
Futtermann	Author's Award	0	0	110
Beeman	Author's Award	0	0	105
Rafferty	Participant	5	5	100
Cody	Writer's Award	0	0	70
Sager	Participant	0	0	70
Tuori	Participant	0	0	60
Walcott	Participant	10	10	60
Gibbs	Participant	0	0	40
Flintrop	Participant	0	0	35
Van Camp	Participant	0	0	30
Lindblom	Participant	15	15	15
Newell	Participant	0	0	10

Submissions appearing in the May 2025 Reflector:

Crain, "Our 45th Auction," article 20 points, 7 photos, 35 points

Crain, "Fish Friends From Afar #35," 1 article, 20 points

Hillman, Club Members Fish And/Or Aquarium, 1 photo, 5 points, caption > 50 words, 20 points

Hillman, "More CNYAS Auction Photos" 4 photos, 20 points

Hillman, Cover photo, 1 photo, 5 points

Lindblom, "More CNYAS Auction Photos" 3 photos, 15 points

Rafferty, "More CNYAS Auction Photos" 1 photo, 5 points

Walcott, Club Members Fish And/Or Aquarium, 2 photos, 10 points



THE TAIL END

Year End CNYAS BAP News and Chairman's Observations

Upcoming BAP changes for 5/1/2025 thru 4/30/2026:

1. Check out www.cnyas.net Member Handbook for updated rules, but briefly:
 - a. Members only need 6 fry at 30 days to qualify for points.
 - b. *Ancistrus cirrhosis* (bristlenose plecs) are now class B and 10 points.
2. New annual award coming for 2025-2026:
 - a. *Rookie Of The Year Award*: Must be an active member to compete and qualify, and must be a new participant in the BAP program. Highest point total from participating rookie member during the year (5/1/2025 thru 4/30/2026) takes home the award.

Congratulations 2024-2025 Awards:

Denise Baird: Breeder Award (2024-2025).
Mike Flintrop: Breeder Award (2024-2025) and Advanced Breeder (2024-2025)
Doug Hillman: Breeder Award (2023-2024)* and Advanced Breeder (2024-2025)
Bill Newell: Expert Breeder Award (2024-2025)
Rich Piteruse : Breeder Award (2024-2025)
David Pomeranz: Breeder Award (2024-2025) and Breeder Of The Year Award (2024-2025)
**Belated but well deserved!*

*Members Chasing the Species Award:

Congrats to Herschel Beeman: for completing C1 (Livebearers), C4 (Barbs), C7 (cichlid mouthbrooders), C8 (cichlid substrate spawners), C11 (other catfish), and C12 (corys, etc). Very close to C6 (tetras).

Congrats to Clifford Crain: for completing
C1 (*livebearers*), C7 (*cichlid mouthbrooders*), and C8 (*cichlid substrate spawners*).

Congrats to Ron Fabiny: for completing C1(*livebearers*), C7 (*cichlid mouthbrooders*), C8 (*cichlid substrate spawner*), C11 (*other catfish*), C12 (*corys, etc*), C14 (*goldfish, koi*), C15 (*native Americans*), and C 16 (*other*).

Congrats to Doug Hillman: for completing C8 (*cichlid substrate spawner*) and C11 (*other catfish*). Very close to completing C1 (*livebearers*)

Congrats to Bill Newell: for completing C1 (*livebearers*), C8 (*cichlid substrate spawner*), and C12 (*corys, etc*). Very close to completing C 13 (*cyprinids not listed elsewhere*)

**Specialty Class, see p 23 CNYAS Member Handbook for specialty class "C" for identification and number of species required.*

Final Thoughts

It has been a pleasure serving CNYAS during these past few months in my inaugural year as BAP Chairman. Moving forward, I hope to spend this summer updating the scientific nomenclature in the BAP Species Classification Lists. Please keep me honest and call me out if I stray from the accepted nomenclature!

Many thanks to ... Herschel for being patient with me as I learn the ropes, and for never getting tired of my dumb questions ... Many thanks for Clifford's much appreciated help in redefining our CNYAS club rules by joining me in reviewing ten different aquarium club BAP programs, rules, awards, and points ... and many thanks to Lenny and Mary, who gave up their time on a busy winter weeknight to transfer 50 years of BAP data to my new laptop ... couldn't have done it without all your help.

56 submissions to BAP in the past 12 months, hoping that we can exceed that this coming year. Summer is coming, get those tanks and tubs ready for CNYAS BAP 2025-2026.

See you in September,
Mike Flintrop



Name	Points	Species	Name	Points	Species
<u>Grand Master</u>			<u>Participants</u>		
*Van Camp	965	77	Spahn	30	3
1-2-3-4-6-7-8-9-11-13-15-16			Domanowski, S	25	4
<u>Master Breeder</u>			Chris Pollard	20	2
*Pitzeruse, W.	610	50	Maxwell	20	2
1-2-3-4-7-8-9-11-12-13-14-15-16			Kotcher	10	1
Beeman	615	46	Futterman, L	10	1
4-7-8-11-12-16			Futterman, M	5	1
Fabiny	540	48	Numbers under the name are completed Specialty Classifications groups.		
1-7-8-11-12-14-15-16			*Indicated Species Classification Award		
<u>Expert Breeder</u>			^Indicates first spawning		
Hunter Collins	235	13	New Additions:		
8-11			Bill Newell:		
Clifford Crain Jr.	240	22	<i>Limia nigrofasciata</i>	5 pts	
1-7-8			<i>Pethia nigrofasciata</i>	5 pts	
William Newell	220	19	Clifford Crain:		
8			<i>Limia isalai</i>	5 pts	
<u>Advanced Breeder</u>			(Congrats, completed class 1)		
Doug Hillman	140	15			
8-11					
Mike Flintrop	100	6			
11					
<u>Breeder Award</u>					
Wisneski	65	7			
11					
David Pomeranz	65	8			
Denise Baird	85	6			
Chris Allen	60	4			
11					



BOWL SHOW

Chairman - Arnaud Germain

YTD Scores:

Bill Newell:	305	Points
Doug Hillman:	223	Points
Denise Baird:	78	Points
David Pomeranz	42	Points
Debbie Walcott	21	Points
Joseph Marascalchi	11	Points

The 2024-2025 Categories will be as follows:

September:	Livebearers
October:	Killies
November:	New World Cichlids
December:	Barbs, Rasboras & Danios
January:	Goldfish & Koi
February:	Catfish & Loaches
March:	Bettas, Anabantoids & Gouramis
April:	Old World Cichlids: Africa & Asia
May:	Super Bowl

Don't forget the OPEN category option at each meeting.

All bowl show guidelines are available online in the Members Handbook (pages 5-6)

To participate, either bring your fish in person or submit pictures to ag297@cornell.edu before noon on Tuesday before the general meeting. Online submissions will be displayed during the meeting break using the projector for judges to award points.

We had 1 entire for the Super Bowl Show!

Gold Lame Medaka – First place – David Pomeranz – 21 points



The Central New York Aquarium Society losses a long time club member

Winifred (Winnie) Pitzeruse



Winifred (LaFrance) Pitzeruse, 81, of Onondaga Hill passed Sunday at Upstate Community Hospital. Born in Syracuse she was a graduate of Onondaga Valley Academy. Winnie retired after more than 20 years from Syracuse University as a human resources analyst. She was active and a past president of the CNY Aquarium Society. Winnie loved camping, sewing, knitting, and was an avid reader.

She was predeceased by her husband, Richard Pitzeruse Sr. in 1985.

Survivors: her children, Richard (Patricia) Pitzeruse Jr., Mark Pitzeruse, Jennifer (Ronald) Lioto; grandchildren, Mya, Eric, Michael, Joseph, Anna, Anthony, Kira; and 2 great grandchildren.



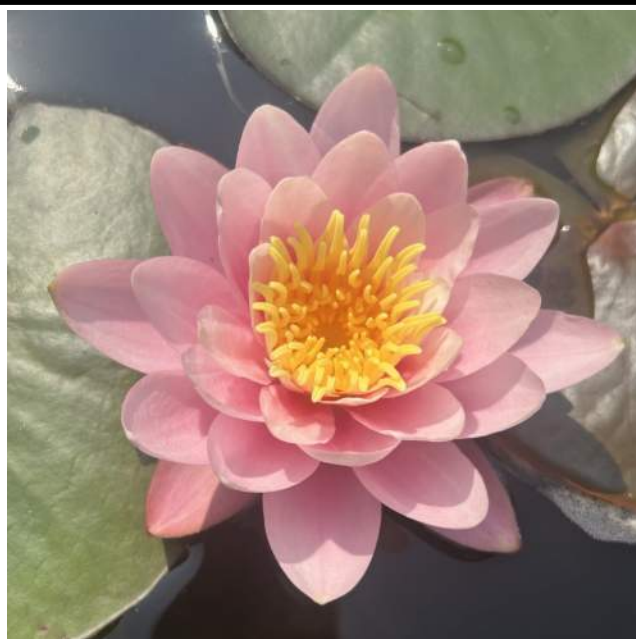
**AQUATIC HORTICULTURE
AWARD PROGRAM**
Chairman– Bill Newell
Email: bnewell44@gmail.com



Name	Points	Species	Name	Points	Species
<u>Grand Master</u>			<u>Beginning</u>		
Spahn*	4,015	288	Yard	95	9
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14			Wisneski	65	7
Pitzeruse, W*	1,230	87	Taylor	50	6
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14			<u>Participants</u>		
Fabiny*	940	68	Flintrop	40	4
2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,13,14			Janus	25	4
<u>Master</u>			Smith	20	1
Van Camp*	465	36	<u>Additions:</u>		
1,7,8,9,11,14			Bill Newwll:		
Lee*	575	42	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> 10 pts		
3,4,7,8,10,12,13,14			(Water Milfoil)		
<u>Expert</u>			<i>Najas guadalupensis</i> 10 pts		
<u>Senior</u>			(Guppy Grass)		
Snead*	460	26			
2,4,7,10,14					
Kotcher*	165	11			
10,14					
<u>Aquatic</u>					
Futterman*	180	16			
Beeman	190	19			
3,4,6,7					
Newell	130	16			
6					



**Photos by:
Herschel Beeman**





FISH FRIENDS FROM AFAR #36

EXCHANGE REPORT

By: Clifford H. Crain, Jr.

The Missouri Aquarium Society is taking readers on an around-the-world tour this year, and the May/June issue (99 pages!) brings us to the Caribbean.

**“Poecilids of the Caribbean” by Mike Hellweg, CFN (Certified Fish Nut),
The Darter, Missouri Aquarium Society, May/June 2025**

“Looking at the map of the Caribbean islands today, you might wonder how the heck freshwater fishes got to those seemingly isolated islands.” Various theories have been proposed to explain how this happened, all leading to the idea that at one time the islands were connected to the mainland. “While one might think the islands are tiny and lack any major freshwater features beyond resort swimming pools” (ha, ha), Mike reports that there is a lot of water on some of the islands while others sport creeks and drainage ditches that often run dry. Mike goes on to describe the major poecilids of the Caribbean, concentrating on the genera *Poecilia*, *Gambusia*, *Giardinus* and *Limia*.

**“Sunken Treasure: Sex and Evolution in the *Limia*” by Sebastian L. Chavez
The Darter, Missouri Aquarium Society, May/June 2025**

Sebastian informs the reader of what the livebearer *Limia* can tell us about evolution. Found only in the Caribbean, the 23 species of *Limia* can inhabit water ranging from hyper-saline ponds to clear fresh water. Experiments have shown that *Limia perugiae* males select the largest females for mating. “Despite their small size, *Limia* fishes are incredibly sophisticated in their behaviors, from their mating preferences to their ability to navigate extreme environmental conditions.”

**“Brackish Habitats: Estuaries and Their Inhabitants” by David Farel
The Darter, Missouri Aquarium Society, May/June 2025**

David explains in detail the various types of habitats that are considered “brackish,” such as intertidal flats, salt marshes, mangroves, estuaries and coastal lagoons. He provides a helpful chart describing how the aquarist can replicate each of these habitats. The aquarium should be covered to minimize evaporation. “While salinity changes are unlikely to bother fish, it may affect biological filtration in the tank, leading to an ammonia spike.” He stresses the importance of researching the fish you wish to keep for the habitat you are setting up. David recommends a “cleanup crew,” since most brackish tanks do not feature plants, and “Without plant to export nutrients, brackish tanks will be prone to algae.” He provides a helpful chart listing the differences in maintenance needed for low-salinity tanks versus high-salinity tanks and concludes, “Every aquarist should try a brackish aquarium at least once.”

“Eye Opener” by Bill Duzen***Some Things Fishy*, Tropical Fish Club of Erie County, May 2025**

“While cleaning out my office, I have only been retired for 10 years, no need to rush these things...” With an opening line like that, I just had to finish reading Bill’s article. He found three old copies of *The Aquarium* magazine from the 1930s, and his article is Bill’s trip down memory lane, remembering the companies, most long-since gone, that sold products in the old days. Bill helpfully converts the dollars into today’s value and discovers that we are paying less for our fish and equipment than the old timers did, adjusted for inflation.

Reprints and reviews:

“Product Test: Milwaukee Instruments MW802 PRO pH/EC/TDS Meter” by Clifford Crain, April 2025. Mentioned in *The Darter*, Missouri Aquarium Society, May/June 2025.

“Product Test: Milwaukee Instruments MW802 PRO pH/EC/TDS Meter” by Clifford Crain, April 2025. Mentioned in *Fins and Tales*, Kitchener-Waterloo Aquarium Society, June 2025.

“Breeding Rice Fish” by David Pomeranz, March 2025. Mentioned in *Fins and Tales*, Kitchener-Waterloo Aquarium Society, June 2025.



Photo by: Debbie Walcott

CLUB MEMBERS FISH AND/OR AQUARIUM

Debbie Walcott

This is my newest 5 gallon shrimp tank I set-up today (Saturday, June 7th)



CLUB MEMBERS FISH AND/OR AQUARIUM

Sue Kotcher: Here are my Himalayan Blues, aka thundering hoard at mealtime. They are the stars in my 36 bowfront. Underneath the plant you see the back end of my almost 40 year old Raphael cat.



CLUB MEMBERS FISH AND/OR AQUARIUM

Photos by: Thiel Valdes





UPCOMING EVENTS

May 14,	Board Meeting
May 21,	General Meeting
June 18,	CNYAS Banquet
Aug. 2,	CNYAS Annual Picnic
Sept 10,	Board Meeting
Sept 17,	General Meeting
Oct. 4,	CNYAS Swap Meet

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and are open to all members who would like to attend.



2024-2025 Schedule

Sept: Ron Fabiny	Oct: Doug Hillman
Nov: Chip Alexander	Dec: Mary & Lenny Futterman
Jan: Mary & Lenny	Feb: Mike Flintrop
Mar: Bill Newell	April: Ron Fabiny
May: Hershel Beeman	June: Clifford Crain

CNYAS CLUB MEETINGS

Each monthly meeting consists of :

- Short business meeting; program (slide show, movie, guest speaker, etc.).
- Break (refreshments/social gathering)
- Bowl Show
- Mini auction of member items (plants, fish, equipment, etc.).
- Raffle (equipment, books, food, magazine subscriptions, etc.).
- Question and discussion session.



CNYAS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Witnesses for the BAP and AHAP Programs

Sue Kotcher	BAP	
Clay (315) 622-9668		
Ron Fabiny	BAP	AHAP
Clay (315) 440-5806		
Len Futterman	BAP	AHAP
East Syracuse (315) 560-0955		
Herschel Beeman	BAP	
Chittenango (315) 663-8694		
Bill Newell		AHAP
Liverpool (315) 440-9513		
Mike Flintrop	BAP	
Manlius (315) 415-1471		

Central New York Aquarium Society



CNYAS is a non-profit educational organization with a goal of furthering the study of all forms of aquatic life. In order to achieve this, we promote the interest in, and encourage the breeding of, aquatic life. Through the exchange of ideas and distribution of information concerning the hobby, we will advance our members' knowledge of the hobby, providing valuable information to those who seek it.

[CNYAS is now on Facebook!](#)



CNYAS

Annual Picnic is on for 2025!

When: Saturday, 8/2/25 at 1pm

Where: Ron Fabiny's house:

5237 Cremona Trail, Clay NY

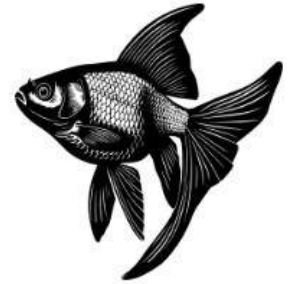
Please email him at CNYASpres@gmail.com or call 315-440-5806. Also please bring a chair and a dish to pass. They also have a pool if you'd like to swim bring a suit and towel.

Please contact Ron with any questions.



CNYAS

5th Annual



Tropical Fish and Reptile Swap Meet

Saturday, October 4th

Tables: 1 for \$20 2 for \$35 3 for \$45

**WWW.CNYAS.NET and
<https://www.facebook.com/cnyasnet/>**



10AM - 2PM
Village of Minoa Municipal Building
240 North Main Street
Minoa, NY 13116



Tropical Fish, Reptiles, Plants, Hardgoods, Foods.

**Sales are the responsibility Buyer and Seller ONLY..
Central New York Aquarium Society is not responsible for items sold**

**Contact Doug Hillman or Lenny Futterman
At CNYAS.swap.meet@gmail.com**



Low Tide Corals Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/1027502091/0416af01a2>



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For information:

**Call Len @ 315-560-0955 Or
 email futtermania@gmail.com**

REFLECTOR ARCHIVES

CNYAS has made our archives of past published Reflectors available online to all members. They go all the way back to 1976, to the inception of our club. The link below will take you to the archive. Enjoy your trip through our fishy past!

<https://tinyurl.com/CNYASreflectors>

2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$15.00 - Individual

\$20.00 - Family

**Send to: CNYASTreas@gmail.com on
 Paypal.com (send as friend & family)**



MON.-SAT.: 12PM-8PM
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