**February 2013**

The Northeast Council of Aquarium Societies, Inc.

www.northeastcouncil.org

Next NEC General Meeting Sunday, February 24th @ Noon
Speaker: Scott Dowd  (Crowne Plaza Hotel)

If you cannot attend the meeting, please contact Joe Masi at president@northeastcouncil.org or 845-896-4793

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### 2013 NEC CALENDAR

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<th>February</th>
<th>August</th>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>NEC Annual Convention <em>(flyers page)</em></td>
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<td>NJAS 60th Anniversary Event <em>(flyer)</em></td>
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* (CP) – Crowne Plaza Hotel  (CC) – Conference Call

The NEC does not coordinate dates for club events, but does publish this monthly calendar for your convenience. Prior to selecting a date for your club’s next event, please check the NEC calendar for availability, and then notify me of the new date immediately at BRomeo1234@optonline.net or by phone @ 914-433-2556.
Hello Everyone,

The following NEC committee chairs have resigned their positions: Mike Liu – Articles, Christine Policastro – Newsletter, Dan Mckercher – Corporate Agent. They have my personal gratitude and that of the board's for the time they served in these positions. We have so far been able to fill two of the three chair positions: Barbara Romeo – Newsletter and Dave Hardenbrook – Corporate Agent. We are still looking for someone to take on the Articles chair position. If you are interested please contact me at: president@northeastcouncil.org.

I would ask that all the clubs please assist us in advertising the 2013 convention, by placing the following advertisement and web link in their newsletter and on their website:

NEC 38th Annual Tropical Fish Convention  
When: April 5-7, 2013  
Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cromwell, Connecticut  
What: Speakers, Vendor/Exhibitor Room, discussion groups, specialty organization meetings, a judged fish show, and a Giant Auction Sunday  
Info: http://www.convention.northeastcouncil.org

Also, please feel free to advertise wherever you think people might be interested in attending the convention...

Betty Mueller Award Nominations: Nominees have been submitted to the judges...

In the future, please read the rules before submitting nominations. I received several nominations where the submitter failed to follow the rules and I had to return the nomination.

I would like to remind everyone to please check the NEC calendar for club events.

Upcoming NEC / Sister club events for 2013:

Feb 17: PVAS Auction  
Mar 3: NAS Benefit Auction  
Mar 10: JSAS Annual Auction  
Apr 5-7: NEC Convention/Show/Auction

Please make the time to get out and support the NEC and these sister clubs…

NEC meeting dates for 2013:

General:  
1Q - Feb 24 (CP)  
2Q - Jun 2 (CP)  
3Q - Sep 8 (CC)  
4Q - Dec 8 (CC)

BOG:  
2Q - May 5 (CP)  
3Q - Aug 10 (CP)  
4Q - Nov 17 (CC)  
*(CP) – Crowne Plaza Hotel  *(CC) – Conference Call
Note: the above dates may change if conflicts are encountered; meeting confirmation and information will be published in the newsletter President’s message.

The next NEC General Meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza on Sunday February 24, 2013 at 12 noon; Scott Dowd will be speaking. Please check in the entrance atrium or front desk for meeting room information. There will be an opportunity to order lunch in if you so chose. Leslie will have convention materials to hand out for your clubs, so please make it a point to send a representative to this meeting.

The next NEC Board Meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza on Sunday May 5, 2013 at 12 noon. The details will be sent prior to the meeting.

Items to Remember:

1. Send your club contact updates to Barbara Romeo at bromeo1234@optonline.net
2. Newsletter events to Barbara Romeo at bromeo1234@optonline.net
3. Website news & events to Kurt Johnston at kaj41354@comcast.net
4. Speaker list updates to Linda Giza at lindagiza@comcast.net
5. If your club is looking to schedule a conference room at the Crowne Plaza, please contact Leslie Dick at ldick@comcast.net

Please feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions; it's best to contact me by email at president@northeastcouncil.org, you can also call me at 1-845-896-4793.

I just want to extend my thanks on behalf of DAAS to our fellow NEC members that attended our auction on January 20, 2013. We had a full house and I saw a number of new faces in the crowd.

Joe Masi
NEC President

02/10/2013

In January’s newsletter (click here) we published e-mail sent by Tracy Marcus (LIAS Recording Secretary and Sea Explorers Marine Camp Director) to Barbara Romeo detailing Hurricane Sandy’s devastation to the Sport Fishing Education Center.

Tracy and her staff are trying to rebuild their freshwater and saltwater aquariums before camp begins in May. Donations of fish and dry good supplies would help them towards this goal.

Tracy expects to attend the NEC Convention in April. Please contact her at tm353@cornell.edu or 631-587-2873 to coordinate donations and exchange.
**NEC Convention Update**

**Registration:** The registration cart is now open! The Special Package is available until March 4th. Register now for the most economical package. Online registration will be open until March 22nd. After this time, attendees will be able to register as a walk-in at the convention registration table. To register online, go to [http://northeastcouncil.org/convention/index.php?option=com_virtuemart&Itemid=145&vmcchk=1&Itemid=145](http://northeastcouncil.org/convention/index.php?option=com_virtuemart&Itemid=145&vmcchk=1&Itemid=145). There is a downloadable registration form for those who wish to mail a check in with the registration form. The form is available at [http://northeastcouncil.org/convention/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=200&Itemid=150](http://northeastcouncil.org/convention/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=200&Itemid=150). Mailed in forms will be accepted with a post date on or before March 18th.

**Free Club registration:** For those member clubs who received a free registration, please ask the recipient to send the filled in form as soon as possible to ConventionChair@northeastcouncil.org. If you haven't attended an NEC Convention, or attended on in the past few years, you will be in for a treat! Ted Judy was a speaker at our 36th Annual Convention in 2011, and made a video of the weekend. Thank you very much, Ted for permitting us to link to your Youtube video!

Speaking of videos, Mark Denaro made two videos of the Long Island Aquarium when he visited it. Todd Gardner, one of our current convention speakers, works at the aquarium. Mark wrote an article about his visit in the February 2013 issue of Tropical Fish Hobbyist magazine. You can watch both videos - one of a 20,000 gallon reef tank, and the other of an 80,000 gallon snorkel tanks - and read Mark's articles by clicking here. Thank you, Mark, for the link to your videos!

**Tropical Fish Show:** New this year! The NEC will be holding its first judged fish show in many years. Fish Show rules and a registration form are now available for download on the Tropical Fish Show page.

**Under the Sea Radio Program:**

The Convention and most of our speakers will be highlighted in upcoming radio interviews!

Click here to listen to Greg Steeves discussing The Hill Country Cichlid Club, promoting his book, and The 38th Annual NEC Convention on Friday, February 22, 2013 at 10 PM EST.

Click here for a discussion on "Goliad Fish Farms" with Charles Clapsaddle on Sunday, February 24, 2013 at 10 PM EST.

Click here to listen to “Propagating Maine Species” with Todd Gardner on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 10 PM EST.

**Vendor Room:** If you or someone you know would like to be a vendor, please send an e-mail to Vendor and Exhibitor Room Chair Nancy Villars-Hallgring. Nancy is also accepting product donations and convention sponsorships.
**Hotel Information:** The Convention will be held for our fourth year at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell, CT. Reservation information can be found at the [Hotel Information page](#).

The hotel is expecting to be fully booked for the weekend of our convention. Please make your room reservations early!

**Publicity:** The convention has been listed on various Craig’s Lists (CL). Check out your local CL and see our ad!

The convention is fast approaching! We are always looking for volunteers before and during the weekend. If you would like to help the convention be a great success, please e-mail me at ConventionChair@northeastcouncil.org.

See you next month!

Leslie

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**NEC Slide and Videos Program**

All video and slide presentations are available to any NEC club to use as their monthly meeting program. Any other use should be discussed with the NEC slide and video chairman prior to the request. Please make requests as far in advance as possible to allow for scheduling and regular mail delivery. The NEC club requesting the program is responsible for actual shipping charges in both directions. Failure to return the program will result in a $50 replacement charge. Please return programs within 14 days after the scheduled meeting.

**Requests should be made to:**

David Banks  
315 US RT 2  
Grand Isle, VT 05458  
dbanks@together.net or 802-372-8716

To view the list of available programs online visit:  
December 4, 2012
Hawaii – Marine Ornamentals Rules
The Hawaii Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) will hold public hearings on December 5th to receive public comments on their proposal to amend certain existing marine ornamental fish regulations and to adopt several new regulations for both West Hawaii and O'ahu. Written testimony may be submitted until December 19, 2012.

The Impact:
The purpose of these hearings is to: 1) adopt new rules packages for the West Hawaii Regional Fishery Management Area (WHRFMA), 2) amend regulations in the Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) for Puako Bay and Reef Fisheries Management Area, the Keauhou Bay Fisheries Management Area, Laynets (Statewide), and 3) to amend existing regulations and to adopt new regulations in the Hawaii Administrative Rules for management of aquarium fish collecting in O'ahu.

These rules packages (see links above to obtain copies) are proposed by the DLNR to provide for additional regulation and oversight of the aquarium fish fishery, and other net and spear fisheries in Hawaii. These proposed rules are supported by most aquarium fishermen in the Hawaiian ornamental industry. They believe that the proposed changes benefit not only the resource, but also the industry. The North American industry participants should embrace the proposed additional management of the fishery as well. Supporting these new and amended rules will benefit the long term health of the marine resources the industry and the State depend on. Support will also provide a viable future for a pro-actively managed fishery and ensure continued trade in marine aquarium fish from Hawaiian waters.

Both rules packages contain a variety of provisions including the imposition of bag and size limits on certain species, no take of other species, net size limits, certain closures, rules and boundary clarifications. While not perfect, these proposed rules reflect proactive and cooperative efforts by the DLNR and the Aquarium Fish Fishery to regulate and manage the State’s near-shore fisheries. While the Aquarium Fish Fishery in Hawaii is already one of the best managed fisheries in the entire state, and in North America, supporting additional oversight ensures it continues to be a sustainable and viable fishery in the future.

Source: PET INDUSTRY JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PIJAC); 1146 19th Street, NW, Ste 350, Washington, DC 20036 Tel: (202) 452-1525 / (800) 553-PETS, info@pijac.org http://capwiz.com/pijac/issues/alert/?alertid=62217336

Additional Breaking News:

HAWAII: House To Hear 2 Bills Regulating Ornamental Aquarium Trade
Date Posted: January 30, 2013; Last Modified: February 8, 2013

UPDATE: House Bill 359 and House Bill 989 were passed by both the House Water & Land Committee and the House Oceans, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs Committee on February 1st. HB 359 has been assigned to the House Committee on Judiciary, while HB 989 currently resides in the House Finance Committee.
UPDATE: The Senate Committee on Energy & Environment and the Senate Committee on Water and Land jointly heard **SB 26** and **SB 27** on January 29th. The committees decided to hold SB 26 in committee (effectively killing the measure for this session), while they decided to defer SB 27 for consideration at a future date.


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**2013 Club Meetings**

Please note that all NEC clubs are listed on the NEC website’s homepage, and have a link to each of the local club’s websites if you need additional information for any of the club meetings.

### February

**February 12**
Otter Valley Aquarium Society (OVAS)
Hans-Geog Evers
DVD Presentation
“The Fishes of Sulawesi”

**February 14**
Tropical Fish Club of Burlington (TFCB)
Dwight Moody
“Keeping Native Fish in Aquariums”

**February 15**
Danbury Area Aquarium Society (DAAS)
Rich Pierce
“It Rains Fishes, South American Annual Killifishes”
More info: [daas@northeastcouncil.org](mailto:daas@northeastcouncil.org)

**February 15**
Long Island Aquarium Society (LIAS)
Steve DeSimone-Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery
Health and Regulations on the Aquaculture Industry
February 16
Aquarium Club of Lancaster County (ACLC)
Joel Antkowiak
“Komments on Killiekeeping”
More info: http://www.aclcpa.org/

February 16
New Hampshire Aquarium Society (NHAS)
Jason Kookien
“Italy Fishkeeping; Back Stage Tours of 2 Public Aquariums and Reviews of two long standing Stores”
More info: http://www.nhaquariumsociety.com/

February 18
Boston Aquarium Society (BAS)
Cody Ibbitson
“Saltwater Aquariums”
More info: http://www.bostonaquariumsociety.org/

February 20
Central New York Aquarium Society (CNYAS)
Tom Huges
“Native Fishes”
More Info: http://www.cnyas.org/

February 21
North Jersey Aquarium Society (NJAS)
Joshua Wiegert
“North American Native Fish for the Aquarium”
More info: http://www.njas.net

March

March 2
New England Cichlid Association (NECA)
Bill Shields
More info: see flyer or http://www.necichlids.com/
March 7
Greater City Aquarium Society (GCAS)
“Meet the Experts”
An Open Forum Q & A Session
More info: http://www.greatercity.org/

March 8
Brooklyn Aquarium Society (BASNY)
Kevin Kohen of LiveAquaria.com
” Superstar Fishes ...”
More info: see flyer or http://www.basny.org/

March 11
Jersey Shore Aquarium Society (JSAS)
American Water Company
“Water Quality and Your Town”
More info: http://www.jerseyshoreas.org/

March 15
Long Island Aquarium Society (LIAS)
Laura Birenbaum
“Coral and Marine Invertebrates”
More info: http://www.liasonline.org/

March 18
Boston Aquarium Society (BAS)
Chuck Fittz
“Vernal Pools”
More info: http://www.bostonaquariumsociety.org/

March 21
North Jersey Aquarium Society (NJAS)
Rusty Wessel
"Fishes of the Maya"
More info: http://www.njas.net
April 4
Greater City Aquarium Society (GCAS)
Felicia McCaulley
“Felicia’s Tips and Tricks to Aquarium Photography on a Budget”
More info: http://www.greatercity.org/

April 8
Jersey Shore Aquarium Society (JSAS)
Shawn Crouse
NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife
“Invasive Species”
More info: http://www.jerseyshoreas.org/

April 9
Otter Valley Aquarium Society (OVAS)
Field Trip
Joan Snider’s Fish Room
Directions: Snider6959@gmail.com

April 12
Brooklyn Aquarium Society (BASNY)
Mark Denaro
“Where rare species are common”
More info: http://www.basny.org/

April 18
North Jersey Aquarium Society (NJAS)
Patrick Donston
“Setting up a marine aquarium with spare freshwater equipment”
More info: http://www.njas.net
Otter Valley Aquarium Society

Annual Tropical Fish & Plant Auction & Peoples Choice’s Bowl Show

Sunday - May 19

Viewing Lots 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM • Auction starts 12 NOON
Free Admission • Refreshments Available.

at the Rutland/ Killington Holiday Inn located on US Route 7 near the junction of Route 4.

IMPORTANT DRIVING INFORMATION: The GPS systems will not recognize their physical address. We highly recommend you use 1 Holiday Drive, Rutland, VT 05701.

Make it a Weekend Get Away. Enjoy Beautiful Vermont than attend the Auction on Sunday.
Special room rates for the Auction weekend $92 per night including breakfast. For reservations call 800 462-4810 or info@hivermont.com

For more Information contact Lee Scott at 802-537-2713
or Leebrianscoot@yahoo.com or www.ovasociety.com

If you would like to advertise your monthly meetings or special events, please forward the information to Barbara Romeo by the tenth of each month. Be sure to include all pertinent information (location, time, contact person or website for additional information) in your announcement.
NEC MEMBER CLUBS:
Aquarium Club of Lancaster County  ACLC
Boston Aquarium Society  BAS
Boston Guppy Club  BGC
Brooklyn Aquarium Society  BASNY
Connecticut Aquatic Plant Enthusiasts  CAPE
Central New York Aquarium Society  CNYAS
Connecticut Betta Club  CBC
Danbury Area Aquarium Society  DAAS
Greater City Aquarium Society  GCAS
Greater Hartford Aquarium Society  GHAS
Jersey Shore Aquarium Society  JSAS
Long Island Aquarium Society  LIAS
Metropolitan Area Killifish Assoc.  MAKA
Nassau County Aquarium Society  NCAS
Norwalk Aquarium Society  NAS
New England Cichlid Association  NECA
New Hampshire Aquarium Society  NHAS
Northeast Livebearers Association  NELA
North Jersey Aquarium Society  NJAS
Otter Valley Aquarium Society  OVAS
Pioneer Valley Aquarium Society  PVAS
Pioneer Valley Water Garden & Koi  PVWG&K
Southern New England Killifish Assoc.  SNEKA
Tropical Fish Club of Burlington  TFCB
Tropical Fish Society of Rhode Island  TFSRI
Upstate NY Killifish Association  UNYKA
Worcester Aquarium Society  WAS

NEC Board of Governors 2012-2014
President: Joe Masi (DAAS)
president@northeastcouncil.org
Vice President: Kurt Johnston (ACLC)
Kaj4135@comcast.net
Treasurer: Joe Dinho (DAAS)
joedinho@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary: Fran Masi (DAAS)
Franc21alliance@optonline.net
Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Romeo (DAAS)
Bromeo1234@optonline.net
Past President: Christine Policastro (NJAS)
cpolicastro1@verizon.net

Members At Large 2012-2014
Leslie Dick (DAAS)
Linda Giza (PVAS)
Dave Giza (PVAS)
Ben Belancik (NECA)
Nancy Villars (JSAS)
Bill Gill (BAS)

Standing Committees:
Corporate Agent  Dave Hardenbrook
Judging & Standards  Anne Broadmeyer
Legislation  Dave Giza
Planning (Council Mtg. Prog.)  Linda Giza
Programs (Slides & Videos)  Dave Banks
Raffles (Fund Raising)  Open
Workshop  Leslie Dick

Non-Standing Committees:
Advertising  Dave Hardenbrook
Articles Competition  Joe Masi/Dave Giza
Auction  Joe Masi
Betty Mueller
Breeder Participation Program  Rich Pierce
JJW Memorial Conservation  Dave Giza
Donations  Nancy Villars
Exhibitor Competition  Bill Gill
Historian  Dave Banks
Newsletter  Barbara Romeo
Nominating  Open
Photo Contest  Rich Pierce
Speakers  Linda Giza
Sunshine  Fran Masi
Webmaster  Kurt Johnston

Please bring an item or two from your clubs for our “mini” auction at our general meetings. The proceeds are used to offset the cost of the meeting, and your items can be auctioned either as a 100% donation or a 50/50 split.