



REFLECTOR

PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL NEW YORK AQUARIUM SOCIETY

November 2024, Volume 49, Number 3



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 November 20, 2024
@ 7:00 pm**

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- 2) The article is reprinted in its original form.
- 3) The original author is credited appropriately.
- 4) An author's copy is provided to the Editor at the time of distribution of the reprint.

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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

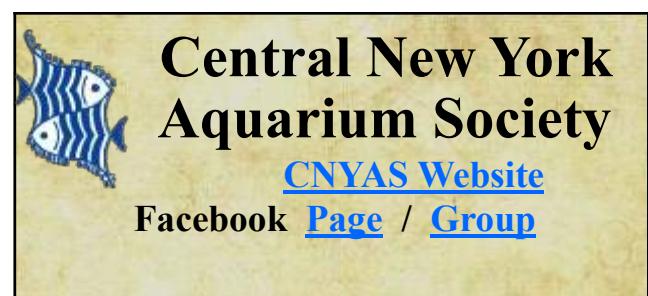
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AHAP: Bill Newell
WAP: Arnaud Germain
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Exchange Editor: Clifford Crain
Assistant Secretary: Sue Kotcher
Hosp. & Refreshments: Mary Teelin
Swap Meet: Doug Hillman
Webmaster: Tom Garafalo





PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ron Fabiny

Presidents Message November 2024

Hi everyone! Last month's meeting was very good and I think everyone enjoyed it. I want to thank Ron Kline for the great presentation and the donation to the Clubs mini auction. He made that auction a success. This month's guest speaker will be Heather Burke talking "The Fish Room Pharmacy" via Zoom. Don't forget we will have the Great Turkey Raffle at this month's meeting.

I also heard the field trip was a great success. I like to thank Clifford for the work he did to made it great.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Ron

Thiel Valdes: A Tank within a Tank! at Low Tide Corals



This Month's Presentation by: Heather Burke

The Fish Room Pharmacy



Heather Burke is a 32-year-old aquarist from Charlotte, Michigan. She has kept and bred fish for most of her young life and harbors a keen interest and passion for the aquarium hobby. She obtained a degree in Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University in May of 2016. She has previously been employed with Preuss Pets in Lansing, MI and worked for the University of Michigan as a fish room tech for a zebra danio lab. Heather also has worked at a fish wholesale facility and ran an aquatics department for an online pet retailer for two years. This talk draws from insights managing fish health in pet stores, laboratories, as well as personal collections in both high volume and low volume facilities

Talk: The Fish Room Pharmacy — This talk is a comprehensive aquarist's guide to common fish diseases and how to remedy them. Here, you can find top recommendations for fish medications to have on hand to treat or prevent outbreaks in your aquarium. This talk will also cover water quality issues that can tip the scales when it comes to fish health.

BOARD MEETING



CNYAS Board meeting

9/11/2024

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

1. Committee Reports:

1. Treasurer—Report and budget. Down payments for VFW, Elks and Dewitt Community room. May need to raise table prices due to Elk prices going up.
2. AHAP— see Reflector
3. BAP- see Reflector, change # of frys?
4. WAP- see Reflector, Clifford to take over
5. Membership-3 paid members
6. Auction - Will plan for starting in Jan 25. New tee shirts this year. Projecting fish bag on the screen, Large banner with pictures. Look at getting lightweight banner
7. Bowl show- see Reflector.
8. Webmaster- Tom Garafalo is taking over as Webmaster, thanks Tom!
9. Exchange editor- still getting articles. Cliff is 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. Sept 24 speaker is Mark Duffil speaking on Loaches. Oct 24 speaker is Ron Kline speaking on shrimp.
3. Board Meetings 2024-2025
4. Swap meet was a Great Success!
5. Send Speaker info to Lenny
6. Mike Flintrop contacted TFH and they want to do an article about the club, he will gather info about the club through a survey next meeting
7. 50th Anniversary of CNYAS in 2026. Sue and Mike to head committee for celebration.
8. Clifford to plan field trip to Morrisville college this fall.

3. New Business:

1. Mike suggested option for 10 fry vs 6 fry and donate to the club. Clifford to work on it with him.
2. Doug got 2 gift cert from Empire Aquatics. Going to raffle at last meeting.
3. Sigi asks for a forum to get questions answered. Will discuss at the meeting.
4. Arnaud met someone who has a website called Freshwater Conservation, wants to know if the club wants to donate. Doug to send link.
5. Is the 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.
6. Mike will give a short talk on Keystone clash.

CNYAS General Meeting 10/18/24 .

1. Regular business meeting. Looking for new president and VP for next year.



Field Trip Report

By: Clifford H. Crain, Jr.

This year's Central New York Aquarium Society field trip to the Aquaculture Center at SUNY Morrisville, Empire Aquatics and Doug Hillman's fish room broke all records. A surprising 27 CNYAS members and family members showed up on a perfect Central New York Saturday autumn morning (sunny, cool and windy with lots of color in the leaves) for a tour of the facility hosted by its director, Dr. Elisa Livengood.

Dr. Livengood kicked things off with an introduction to the facility including its goals and an explanation of student involvement. The timing was perfect as this is trout-spawning season, so we got to see eggs incubating in dozens of trays that have a continuous flow of water to prevent fungus. Despite that, some eggs weren't fertilized and turned white (sound familiar?). One of the jobs of the students is to carefully remove all fungused eggs.



Dr. Elisa Livengood introducing us to the Aquaculture Center



**Building holding five large vats of trout.
Notice the density of fish in the foreground vat**

Next we entered a room containing five large circular pools packed with trout. After pointing out fin damage and body sores, Dr. Livengood explained that trout are aggressive, especially since these trout are preparing to spawn in the next several weeks. The density of fish was amazing, made possible by a constant flow of cold, fresh well water that is heavily aerated and kept flowing.

To keep all this going, the college has a maintenance building containing spare parts and the fish food. Picture your own fish supply and spare parts closet, only on a much larger scale. The Aquaculture Center requires a lot of power to run the pumps, with about 15% of it coming from a solar array. Dr. Livengood is working to increase the contribution of clean energy to the operation of the Center.

Our next stop was the greenhouse, a building that serves several purposes. First, it houses student projects experimenting with plants that can be grown hydroponically. Also on site are aquariums and tubs housing fish and turtles that have been rehomed to the college such as piranha and goldfish (an invasive species in New York) and turtles. There are two vats of 24 ancient paddlefish. Probably the most amazing thing we saw all day was how we got to view one of these fish. So how do you show your guests these ancient fish when the vat they're in is so dark, you can't see them? Well, you take off your jacket, roll up your sleeves, reach into the vat and pull one of these monsters out with your bare hands! This happened so fast, and was so unexpected, I did not have time to take a photo but fortunately one of our new members, who just joined CNYAS less than two weeks earlier, was there to snap two photos! Dr. Livengood explained that she had to almost immediately return the fish to the tank to avoid it writhing so hard it would break its cartilaginous backbone. Wow!



**Two vats of tanks holding 24 Paddlefish
With student hydroponics above**



**Dr. Livengood reached in and grabbed this
paddlefish With her bare hands**
Photo by: Debbie Walcott



**The Paddlefish squirmed hard in Dr. Livengood's
hands, and soon returned to its tank**
Photo by: Debbie Walcott

The final stop at the Aquaculture Center was at one of two outdoor ponds. We had the opportunity to do some complicated, scientific hands-on work here, throwing trout feed into the water and watching the fish go into a feeding frenzy.

We then drove to the college's nature museum and laboratory, located in the main part of the campus. The museum's taxidermy rooms housed an impressive number of animals from North America and Africa that had been donated to the college. In the basement was Dr. Livengood's laboratory and classroom where we viewed more student experiments and projects.

Bidding farewell to Dr. Livengood, we drove the eight miles to Empire Aquatics, one of the largest fish stores in CNY. John “Jack” Miller opened the store in 1989 and stocked it with over 200 aquariums, a 10,000 gallon indoor concrete koi pond and plenty of space for a wide variety of equipment and supplies. Jack was an active member and supporter of CNYAS, and we were saddened to learn of his passing in May 2024. His daughter, Shelly Holdridge, has taken over the store on a part-time basis, as she still has a day job. Despite the store’s limited hours, it has 170 tanks with water in them (I counted them!), including eight different species of gouramis, the best selection of gouramis I’ve ever seen in any fish store. She is performing necessary maintenance on the heating system and intends to replace the roof on the attached greenhouse. She hopes to bring the store back to its glory days when she re-tires and can devote full-time attention to it.



Shelly Holdridge, owner of Empire Aquatics fish store

We returned to Morrisville for a group lunch at the Copper Turret restaurant. The restaurant is manned by SUNY Morrisville students enrolled in the college’s culinary arts and hospitality management programs.



We enjoyed both a great lunch and socializing at the Copper Turret restaurant in Morrisville, NY

Photo by: Doug Hillman

Fortunately the restaurant includes a large group dining area that was plenty big enough to accommodate the 23 of us still on the field trip. Not only was the American-style food excellent, the restaurant was able to accommodate off-menu, special dietary requests, such as vegan food. Also important, considering that the meal was not paid by CNYAS, was the restaurant’s willingness to bill us individually. We were surprised when we received our checks to notice that there was no place for a tip. The manager explained that the employees are paid a living wage, so tipping was unnecessary. Everyone I talked to raved about the meal, and I heard one person promise the manager to return monthly.

Our final stop for the afternoon was Doug Hillman’s fishroom. Doug, the editor of the CNYAS *Reflector*, lives only three miles from the restaurant, in a rural log house overlooking a lake. His fishroom is one of the finest I’ve ever seen: well-designed and expertly constructed in a well-insulated converted garage. The room is neat and clean and every tank is spotless. The fish are happy as evidenced by lots of spawning and fry. I especially enjoyed shining a flashlight in a pleco cave and seeing about 50 wriggling fry. Doug’s fishroom impressed us all and gave us a model to which we can aspire.

We will plan another field trip next year, but it will be hard to beat what we did this time around!



View of part of Doug Hillman’s fabulous fishroom

CLUB MEMBERS FISH AND/OR AQUARIUM

David Pomeranz:

One of my oldest Strawberry Rasboras
Almost 7 years old now.

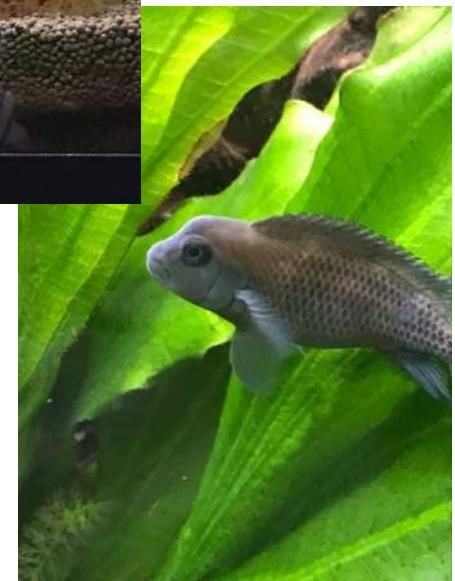


Black Fancy Tiger that I got from Ron Kline
at the last meeting



Marc Tuori:

A breeding colony of
Steatocranus casuarius Buffalo head cichlid
In my 90 gallon setup





**WRITERS AWARD
PROGRAM**
Chairman– Arnaud Germain

PEN & QUILL

Crain	1848	Teelin-Futterman	711
Spahn	1416	Pitzeruse	652
Vormwald	1260		
Kotcher	851	Smith K.	600
Fowler	751	Fabiny	521

WORDSMITH

Kinney	470	Rademacher	215
Hillman	235		

AUTHORS AWARD

Baird	120	Doyle	115
Futterman	105	Beeman	105

WRITERS AWARD

Rafferty	95	Cody	70
O’Neil	90	Collins	75

PARTICIPANT

Armstrong	40	Pomeranz	15
Smith I	40	Kocak	15
Van Camp	30	Sandler	10
Harris	20	Newell	10
Bertrand	20	Cepeda	10
Flintrop	20	Pope	10
Wisneski	20		

SUBMISSIONS:

Clifford Crain: “Fish Friends From Afar #28”,
REFLECTOR, October 2024

Clifford Crain: “Convention Report: American
Cichlid Association 2024 Part Two: “Shop Hop”,
REFLECTOR, October 2024

Clifford Crain: “It’s Time for a field trip”,
REFLECTOR; October 2024

Suzie Rafferty: “Club Members Fish and/or Aquarium”, REFLECTOR, October 2024



**AQUATIC HORTICULTURE
AWARD PROGRAM**
Chairman– Bill Newell

Name **Points** **Species**

Grand Master

Spahn*	4,015	288
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14		
Pitzeruse, W*	1,230	87
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14		
Fabiny*	940	68
2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,13,14		

Master

Van Camp*	465	36
1,7,8,9,11,14		
Lee*	575	42
3,4,7,8,10,12,13,14		

Expert

Senior

Snead*	460	26
2,4,7,10,14		
Kotcher*	165	11
10,14		

Aquatic

Futterman*	180	16
Beeman	190	19
3,4,6,7		

Beginning

Yard	95	9
Newell	75	11
Wisneski	65	7
Taylor	50	6

Participants

Janus	25	4
Smith	20	1
Taylor	50	6

Additions:

Bill Newell:

Ceratophyllum demersum (Hornwort) 5 pts
Hydrocotyle leucocephala (Brazilian Pennywort) 10 pts.
Nymphaea sp. (Aurora) 10 pts.
Pistia stratiotes (Water Lettuce) 15 pts.



BREEDER AWARD PROGRAM

Chairman - Michael Flintrop

Name	Points	Species	Name	Points	Species
Grand Master			Participants		
*Van Camp	965	77	Mike Flintrop	40	3
1-2-3-4-6-7-8-9-11-13-15-16			Spahn	30	3
Master Breeder			Domanowski, S	25	4
*Pitzeruse, W.	610	50	Chris Pollard	20	2
1-2-3-4-7-8-9-11-12-13-14-15-16			Maxwell	20	2
Beeman	615	46	Kotcher	10	1
4-7-8-11-12-16			Futterman, L	10	1
Fabiny	525	46	Futterman, M	5	1
1-7-8-11-12-14-15-16			Numbers under the name are completed Specialty Classifications groups.		
Expert Breeder			*Indicated Species Classification Award		
Hunter Collins	235	13	^Indicates first spawning		
8, 11			New Additions:		
Clifford Crain Jr.	220	19	Bill Newell 10 Points		
7,8			<i>Brachydanio rerio</i> (Zebra Danio)		
Advanced Breeder					
William Newell	175	14			
8					
Doug Hillman	125	14			
11					
Breeder Award					
Wisneski	65	7			
11					
Denise Baird	75	5			
Chris Allen	60	4			
11					



BOWL SHOW

Chairman - Arnaud Germain

YTD Scores:

Doug Hillman:	114	Points
Denise Baird:	47	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 7 entries for the October Bowl Show!

- A: *Fundulopanchax gresensi* Takwai – First place – Doug Hillman – 21 points
- B: *Epiplatys annulatus* (Clown Killi) – Second place – Doug Hillman – 15 points
- C: *Rivulus pivijay* – Third place – Doug Hillman – 10 points
- D: *Epiplatys dageti* (Red-chinned Panchax) – Bill Newell

OPEN:

- A: *Hypancistrus* sp. L345 (Nosestriped Zebra Pleco) – First place – Doug Hillman – 21 points
- B: Blue Velvet Shrimp – Second place – Denise Baird – 16 points
- C: Self Cloning Crayfish – Third place – Denise Baird – 10 points

A**B****C****D****A****B****C**



FISH FRIENDS FROM AFAR #29 EXCHANGE REPORT

By: Clifford H. Crain, Jr.

“Breeding *Apistogramma caucatoides* ‘Super Reds’” by Jen Silverman Tank Tales, Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, October 2024

I have discovered that Jen’s articles are always filled with wit and humor, even an article like this where she has to admit a few failures before crowing about the successes. She decided to start her journey with cichlids with *A. caucatoides* because it’s small, beautiful and plentiful at aquarium society auction. She fed her trio of one male and two females with high quality dry food, frozen food and live brine shrimp and white worms. She chose a trio because “the male will choose his preferred female to spawn with, and then they will have fun protecting their eggs and fry from the 3rd wheel female.” *A. caucatoides* lays its eggs on the roof of a cave. The first batch of fry was eaten by the male. To thwart the male, she pulled the second batch of eggs on the half cocoanut shell, but the eggs fungused. To get around these problems, Jen sucked out the free-swimming fry as soon as she saw them and before the male could have a meal of them. That worked, but “Mom was NOT happy with me.” The mother took better care of the fry on the fourth try, but Jen still siphoned them out for their own protection.

“*Neolamprologus multifasciatus* AKA Multis Shell Dwellers” by Larry Thompson Tank Tales, Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, October 2024

Larry set up his 20 gallon tank in typical Tanganyika fashion, with mid to upper seventies temperature and hard, alkaline water. Though small, the multis had no problem moving their shells around the tank, to their liking. High energy fish, “nothing special [was] required to breed them. They’re ease of breeding almost feels like Guppy level...” In case you’re wondering, “despite living in shells, multis won’t actually eat any of the snails in the tank.”

“*Limia islai* AKA Tiger Limia” by Larry Thompson Tank Tales, Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, October 2024

Tiger limias are members of the family *Poeciliidae* along with guppies, but have a distinct series of vertical strips which led to the tiger limia common name. Larry’s tigers were quite shy which he addressed by creating an open feeding area which forced the fish to come in the open to eat. However, “noise and sight tend to create darting behavior in adults.” Larry’s fish really liked the sinking algae tabs. His article includes three nice photographs of the fish.

“*Neoheterandria elegans*: A Micro-Predator Called ‘Teddy’” by Ed Moats Finformation, Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc., October 2024

The Tiger Teddy livebearer has a reputation for being difficult to spawn, maybe because of their size: “I knew these fish were small, but I was shocked to see that they rival *Neoheterandria formosa*, the Least Killifish, in size.” Due to their reputation of ingesting anything that will fit in their tiny mouths, when it came time to spawn the fish, Ed filled the tank with guppy grass and removed the ripe female to a breeder box containing guppy grass. “To say the fry are small is an understatement.” They look like small dots and required Golden Pearls (5-50), fed four to five times daily, as their first food. Only after a week of growth were they able to handle newly hatched brine shrimp.

**“*Hoplisoma microcanthum*, AKA *Corydoras microcanthus*” by Regina Spotti
Finformation, Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc., September 2024**

These small, former *Corydoras* catfish from Argentina prefer cooler water. Regina used floating and sunken acrylic yarn mops in the breeding tank and got the fish to spawn by feeding them live white worms. Getting the fish to spawn was not much of a problem, but getting viable eggs and fry that would live for more than a few days was difficult. Regina tried many different combinations of water chemistry, aeration and so on but “each time I removed eggs, nothing good came of it.” After finding fry in the breeding tank, now she just leaves the eggs there to “just let Nature take her course.”

**“EAS Fall Auction” by Wilma Chesnut
ARVAS Aquatic Digest, Allegheny River Valley Aquarium Society, November/December 2024**

Wilma reports that the recent Erie Aquarium Society auction lasted until 8:00 PM! Randy Seufert was the auctioneer and followed his usual practice of not taking a break during the auction. Wow, nine hours straight; how does he do it? I had the pleasure of meeting Wilma, the Secretary/Treasurer/Editor of ARVAS, for the first time at the fall Tropical Fish Club of Erie County auction in September. She loves to attend auctions for the pleasure of meeting other aquarists and making friends. “So when the next auction comes up, get up and go to it, and help support a fish club.”

CNYAS articles reprinted/reviewed/mentioned in other publications:
None this month.

CLUB MEMBERS FISH AND/OR AQUARIUM

Denise Baird:
This was **Ghost**, and **Cheeto**.....both have passed
But these are my favorite pictures of them.



CLUB MEMBERS FISH AND/OR AQUARIUM

Joe Ziembab:

150 Gal fresh water Tank
Fluval fx 4 Filter
Whisper 150 air pump with
2 bubblers
Corallife light bar

The tank has no ornaments
because the fish is so big.
This tank has been running
for almost 20 years



Justin Olney:

Red Kribensis male next to his cave
With female inside



Joe Ziembab:

10 year old fancy Comet purchased from
Walmart as a feeder fish to replace my 26 year
old fish who passed





UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 13, Board Meeting
Nov. 20, General Meeting
Dec. 11, Board Meeting
Dec. 18, General Meeting

CNYAS CLUB MEETINGS

Each monthly meeting consists of :

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



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: Bob & Sue Kotcher	Feb: Mike Flintrop
Mar: Bill Newell	April: Ron Fabiny
May: Hershel Beeman	June: Clifford Crain

CNYAS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Witnesses for the BAP and AHAP Programs

Sue Kotcher	BAP
Clay (315) 622-9668	
Winnie Pitzeruse	BAP AHAP
Syracuse (315) 488-0133	
Ron Fabiny	BAP AHAP
Clay (315) 440-5806	
Len Futterman	BAP
East Syracuse (315) 560-0955	
Herschel Beeman	BAP
(315) 663-8694	
Bill Newell	AHAP
(315) 440-9513	
Mike Flintrop	BAP
(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!](#)

**The Central New York Aquarium Society
would like to Thanks these Companies and Individuals for
their contributions and support**

Please support those who support the CNYAS

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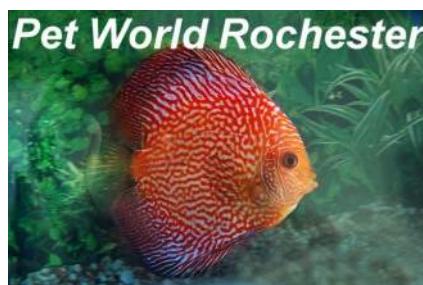
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Pullover Hoodie	— \$30
Zip-up Hoodie	— \$50
Cap	— \$20
Coffee Mugs	— \$5

ATTENTION LOCAL MERCHANTS

Advertise in the Reflector!

Rates for 1 Year (10 Issues)

Business Card- \$30

1/4 Page- \$80

1/2 Page- \$100

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>

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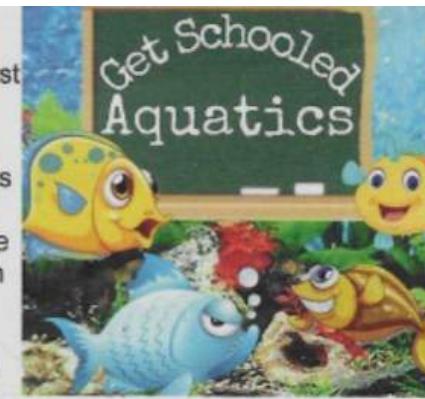
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