



The Northeast Council of Aquarium Societies, Inc.



[www.northeastcouncil.org](http://www.northeastcouncil.org)

board Meeting – Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00 p.m.

at the Marriott Hotel in Farmington, CT.

If you cannot attend the meeting, please contact Joe Masi at [daas@northeastcouncil.org](mailto:daas@northeastcouncil.org), or 1-845-896-4793

## 2009 NEC CALENDAR

### February

15 NEC General Meeting  
22 NAS Auction

### March

15 JSAS Auction  
20-22 NEC Convention

### April

19 NJAS Auction  
26 NEC BOG Meeting

### May

3 DAAS Auction  
17 ALAS Auction

### June

7 NEC General Meeting

### September

27 NEC General Meeting

### October

3-4 NAS Show & Auction  
11 DAAS Auction (**revised date**)  
18 NHAS Auction  
23-25 NJAS Show & Auction

### November

15 NEC BOG Meeting (conference call)

### December

6 NEC General Meeting

## 2010 NEC CALENDAR

### February

14 PVAS Auction

The NEC does not coordinate dates for club events, but does publish a 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 the Editor of the new date immediately at [cpolicastro1@verizon.net](mailto:cpolicastro1@verizon.net).

## President's Message

Hello Everybody,

The 34<sup>th</sup> NEC Convention is just around the corner; March 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. All the hard work has paid off and everything is coming together. If you haven't already, I would recommend checking out the Convention web site, you can even register on line this year! Lastly, we need each club and NEC member to "get the word out". Convention flyers are available on the web site, please get them posted at your local pet shops, business, libraries, etc. Next year's convention will be Janine's last, so I am looking for someone who would be willing to "shadow" her throughout this and next year's convention, eventually taking over as chairman of the convention committee. If you are interested, please contact me....

At our last BOG and general meetings we discussed the possibility of holding another NEC auction in July. We will need a hall to hold the auction in, so I'm reaching out to all the NEC clubs to assist in this endeavor. If you have prospects, please contact me with the details.

I would like to thank Mark Broadmeyer for the complete makeover of our web site. It looks great, please take the opportunity to check it out. The NEC online calendar is also now available, if you have events that you would like to be added, please send them to me at [daas@northeastcouncil.org](mailto:daas@northeastcouncil.org). The calendar has been populated with the events publicized as of the January NEC newsletter.

The next NEC general meeting will be held on February 15, 2009 at the Farmington Marriott, 12:00pm sharp. Please check with the hotel front desk for the room assignment. All club delegates and members of the BOG, including committee chairman should plan on attending.

The next NEC BOG meeting will be on April 26, 2009 at the Farmington Marriott, 12:00pm sharp in the back of the bar. All members of the BOG, including committee chairman should plan on attending.

In closing, please remember to send your club contact updates and calendar events to Christine Policastro at [cpolicastro1@verizon.net](mailto:cpolicastro1@verizon.net). Linda Giza is always looking for speakers to add to the NEC list, please send the information to [pvaslinda1@yahoo.com](mailto:pvaslinda1@yahoo.com).

Please feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions; it's best to contact me by email at [daas@northeastcouncil.org](mailto:daas@northeastcouncil.org), or call me at 1-845-896-4793.

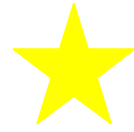
Joe Masi  
NEC President  
02/11/09

### REMINDER TO ALL CLUB EDITORS:

Please send your publication monthly or quarterly to Michael Liu, 14 Indian Hill, Florence, MA 01062 or [mike@berkshiredesign.com](mailto:mike@berkshiredesign.com) to be entered into the 2009 NEC Articles Competition.



**34<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**  
**March 20-22, 2009**  
**Marriott Hotel in Farmington, CT**



Please see our new convention website for all the convention details! [www.northeastcouncil.org/convention](http://www.northeastcouncil.org/convention). Doug Patac has worked tirelessly to put together a user friendly and easy to use website. Convention Sponsors, Vendors and Speakers are all listed in beautiful banners and ads, as well as on their respective menu tabs. The tentative schedule is there, all the auction rules and forms, everything you need to know. Registration fliers can be printed from the website AND you can Register Online directly from the website! (Please note that Registration includes a Breakfast Buffet Saturday morning where the NEC awards will be presented and Les Kaufman will be our keynote speaker.)

**Club Webmasters:** Please include a link to the convention website on your website!

**Club Newsletter Editors:** Please download the “Poster” under convention details on the convention website and include it in your newsletter. Anyone can print the posters and put them up at their local grocery store, bulletin boards at the library, pet stores, etc. Help spread the word about the convention!

**Registration Fliers:** The email we sent as the registration flier was a success, and some people are registering online. Those we did not have an email address for, we mailed registration fliers, and those registrations are coming in as well. If you did not receive either, you can print the registration flier from the website. **Pre-registration Deadline** is February 26<sup>th</sup>!!

**Program Booklet Club Ads:** Gary Wong will be doing the convention program booklet this year. This is his first year as editor, so please get your club ads emailed to me ([dbanks@together.net](mailto:dbanks@together.net)) by Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>!!

**Additional speakers confirmed:**

Justin Credabel from New London, CT will be speaking on Corals. He is president of [Applied Sustainable Aquaculture Inc.](#) and a Resident Scholar at the [Science and Technology Magnet High School](#) of Southeastern Connecticut, where he runs the wet lab and coral aquaculture program, including the [Coral Bank](#).

Ghazanfar Ghori is being sponsored by the [Aquatic Gardeners Association](#). He will present a program on Cryptocoryne at the AGA meeting Friday afternoon.

Several of our speakers will be giving two presentations, Ole Pedersen, Dr. Wolfgang Staeck and Bruce Turner. Please see the schedule on the website for details.

**Looking for Volunteers!**

Please – we need some volunteers to help the convention run smoothly and be successful!

Speaker Chauffeur(s) – Speakers arriving Friday need to be picked up at the airport. We are willing to cover your gas and any parking charges you incur.

Auction Registration Table – Need someone to volunteer to work with Christine & Frank and learn how the registration runs. You can still bid at the auction!

Local Advertising – We need someone to get the convention listed in local papers, on TV, etc. We would also like someone to take a few hours one day & set up a card table at a local pet store & hand out convention registration fliers – do a little promo for the event.

Friday night we will have a **Plant Only Auction**. The Auction will consist of donations from stores, suppliers and anyone may submit up to 15 plant lots to the auction for a 50/50 split or as donations. With three presentations this year on aquatic plants and a meeting of the Aquatic Gardeners Association, everyone interested in keeping plants should come to this specialty auction! Vendors entering lots into the auction must register them at the Convention Registration Table by 8:30pm Friday night! Complete Rules and Plant Lot Registration Forms are available on the convention website.

**Sunday Auction** Vendors wishing to register their lots before the March 13<sup>th</sup> deadline will receive a 60/40 split! The Auction Lot List will be listed on the convention website as items are registered. Lot lists received after March 13<sup>th</sup> will receive a 50/50 split and **MUST** be turned into the registration table at the convention by noon Saturday!

**Hotel Rooms** need to be reserved **DIRECTLY** with the Marriott Reservation line. You will find details on our website, but you must refer to “NE Council Aquarium” (Group code is GIL GILA) when you call the Marriott Reservation Line (888) 236-2427 and reserve your room at the Hartford Marriott, Farmington, CT (hotel code is BDLCT).

*Please note that it is important to reference the NE Council Aquarium because the hotel’s space rental fees (per our contract) are based upon the number of rooms reserved!*

Hope to see you all there!!

Janine Banks

[dbanks@together.net](mailto:dbanks@together.net)

802 372-8716



## 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](mailto:dbanks@together.net) or 802-372-8716

To view the list of available programs online visit:

[http://northeastcouncil.org/video/listings.php?order\\_by=title&sortorder=ASC](http://northeastcouncil.org/video/listings.php?order_by=title&sortorder=ASC)



## NEC Legislative Report

Here are some legislative issues involving the Northeast States. If your state is not listed, it simply means that there is currently no issues surrounding the aquarium trade at this time. Some information is in regards to aquatic plants, which may be of interest to some. Anyone needing further information on anything listed can contact me.

Richard J. Rego  
NEC Legislative Chair

[http://www.pijac.org/files/public/NH\\_H\\_148.pdf](http://www.pijac.org/files/public/NH_H_148.pdf)

[http://www.pijac.org/files/public/NJ\\_AB\\_3488.pdf](http://www.pijac.org/files/public/NJ_AB_3488.pdf)

[http://www.pijac.org/files/public/USDA\\_Contingency.pdf](http://www.pijac.org/files/public/USDA_Contingency.pdf)

[http://www.pijac.org/files/public/USDA\\_VHS\\_Reg.pdf](http://www.pijac.org/files/public/USDA_VHS_Reg.pdf)

### **CT H 5817** JOINT ENVIRONMENT INTRODUCED ON 1/22/09

Concerns the establishment of an invasive aquatic plant eradication and control program; controls and eradicate invasive aquatic plants.

### **CT S 790** JOINT ENVIRONMENT INTRODUCED ON 1/30/09

Implements the recommendations of the invasive plant council; allows the director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to inspect nurseries for violations of section 22a-381d of the general statutes, to allow the Commissioner of Agriculture to issue orders in the case of a pet shop violating section 22a-381d of the general statutes, to expand the prohibition against invasive plants to include their seeds, flowers, roots and tubers.

**MA HD 533** HOUSE INTRODUCTION CALENDAR FILED FOR INTRODUCTION ON 2/2/09 Requires pet shop owners to provide basic pet care information to consumers.

### **NH H 549** HOUSE FISH, GAME & MARINE RESOURCES INTRODUCED ON 1/22/09

Relates to taking of snapping turtles. Provides that no person shall take more than 2 snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*) in any season. No snapping turtle exceeding 30 pounds in weight shall be taken.

### **NH S 162** SENATE ENERGY, ENVIRON & ECON DEVELOP INTRODUCED ON 1/28/09

Makes an appropriation from the land and community heritage investment program to eradicate milfoil.

### **NY A 3467** ASSEMBLY EDUCATION INTRODUCED ON 1/27/09

Relates to the humane treatment of animals by students in schools, in connection with school sponsored events or activities and experimental studies in laboratories.

### **VT H 15** HOUSE FISH, WILDLIFE & NAT RES INTRODUCED ON 1/12/09

Recodifys the existing aquatic nuisance control program of the agency of natural resources under one statutory chapter. The bill would also provide the agency of natural resources with the authority to respond rapidly to outbreaks of new aquatic species. In addition, the bill would require an aquatic nuisance control sticker be affixed annually to all motorboats not registered in the state and to all nonmotorized vessels using state waters. The surcharge on motorboat registrations would also increase.

### **US H 48** HOUSE JUDICIARY INTRODUCED ON 1/6/09

To amend section 42 of title 18, United States Code, popularly known as the Lacey Act, to add certain species of carp to the list of injurious species that are prohibited from being imported or shipped.

### **US H 669** HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES INTRODUCED ON 1/26/09

Prevents the introduction and establishment of nonnative wildlife species that negatively impact the economy, environment, or other animal species' or human health.

# CHANGE TO INNES COMPETITION RULES FOR 2009 PARTICIPANTS

## **Eligibility**

The competition is open to all members in good standing of any NEC member society providing the member society is in good standing with the Northeast Council.

## **Period**

From 01/01/09 through 12/31/09 points earned for entries in any NEC member society show, will qualify a member for entrance into the NEC Annual William T. Innes Award competition. All show entries must be submitted to the NEC Exhibitor Competition Chairperson. The Council will not be held responsible for show results not submitted by a member society.

## **Point Value:**

15 points for Third Place in any NEC member society show  
20 points for Second Place in any NEC member society show  
25 points for First Place in any in any NEC member society show  
40 points for Reserve of Show in any NEC member society show  
50 points for Best of Show in any NEC member society show

## **Process**

The show chairperson must forward a signed and dated NEC Exhibitor Form immediately after the show to the NEC Exhibitor Competition Chairperson. That form must include a list of show participants, their total number of entries, the number of first, second, and third places won, and any Reserve of Show, and Best of Show awards. The NEC club they are affiliated with must also be noted, since show points for non-affiliated entrants are not considered for the Innes competition.

As soon as the standings are forwarded to the NEC Innes Competition Chairperson, they will be recalculated in accordance with the point value listed above. The INNES listing will be updated as soon as the Exhibitor form is received after each show. Each society member who participated in a show should verify their points, and will have 30 days from the posting date to dispute their point total. The show chairperson of the local society having the show, NOT the NEC INNES Competition Chairperson or the NEC Exhibitor Competition Chairperson, will handle all disputes, and resubmit any changes to the Exhibitor Competition Chairperson.

## **NEC Show**

The William T. Innes Show Competition will be held at the NEC Annual Convention. Participation in the competition is by invitation only to those members placing in the top 20 with accumulated points for placing first, second, or third in a show, and winning the Reserve of Show, or Best of Show awards.

Three cash awards totaling \$1,000 (\$500-first place; \$300-second place; \$200-third place) and an award will be presented to the winners. All participants in the NEC show will receive a certificate acknowledging their invitation to the NEC show. The awards will be presented at the convention.

### **Invitations & Responses**

As soon as all submitted points are tallied, requests for contact information for the top twenty participants will be sent via e-mail to the delegate and president of the club listed as the club affiliation for each of the top twenty participants. Invitations will be mailed when contact information is received, along with a packet of show and judging information. An email will follow notifying the participants, delegates and presidents of the participants' clubs that the invitations have been mailed. The invited members must respond within 30 days of that e-mail advising if they will attend. No response will be considered a decline to the invitation, and another person will be asked to compete in the competition in their place.

### **Judging & Show Rules**

Judging will be conducted by NEC certified or recognized judges, in accordance with the point system implemented by the judges and INNES Award Committee.

Rules on entering fish into the NEC show will be provided to all participants. If you have any questions, please contact Frank Policastro at [aquapops@verizon.net](mailto:aquapops@verizon.net), or call him at (609) 371-1195.

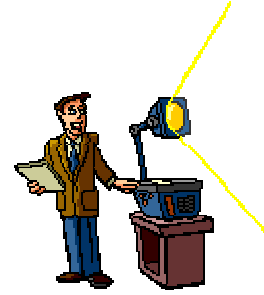
Submitted by: Frank Policastro  
1/01/09

**Please note: The 2008 Innes Competition Standings are attached for your review. Please share with anyone in your club who does not receive a copy of the NEC newsletter. The standings are also posted on the NEC website as well as the NEC Convention website. Invitations are in the process of being e-mailed to the top 22 participants.**

**I will be sending out, under separate cover, some important information about how to submit your club's NEC Exhibitor Competition forms - which have a direct impact on how the Innes Competition points are tallied.**



## NEC Speaker Program



One of the purposes of the Northeast Council is to assist member clubs in remaining a viable and successful aquarium society. I know from previous experience, that one of the hardest jobs in any club is that of the Program Chairperson - who has the responsibility of providing a succession of experienced and entertaining speakers, on a variety of topics, with little or no budget.

I have attached a spreadsheet with program and contact information, as well as information on using an ACA speaker. This is a "work-in-progress", so after you have reviewed both items, please contact Linda with any corrections or additions you have at [lindagiza@comcast.net](mailto:lindagiza@comcast.net) or call her at (413) 301-2803.



## Club Meeting Notices

### **February 19, 2009**

North Jersey Aquarium Society  
**\* NEW MEETING PLACE\***  
Lyndhurst Elk's Club  
251 Park Avenue, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071  
Visit website for directions ([www.njas.net](http://www.njas.net))

#### **Giant Memorial Auction**

To benefit family of John O'Malley  
Meeting starts @ 7:45 p.m.

### **March 19, 2009**

North Jersey Aquarium Society  
Tom Ganley  
"Native Fish Collecting"

### **February 27, 2009**

Danbury Area Aquarium Society  
Eric Cline  
"Poison Dart Frogs"  
@ 7:30 p.m.

### **March 20, 2009**

Long Island Aquarium Society  
Steve Abrams  
"Setting Up a Wet/Dry Filtration System"

If you would like your clubs meeting advertised, please send me the information by the tenth of each month.

**NEC MEMBER CLUBS:**

Aqua-Land Aquarium Society	ALAS
Boston Aquarium Society	BAS
Brooklyn Aquarium Society	BASNY
Danbury Area Aquarium Society	DAAS
Exotic Fish Society of Hartford	EFSOH
Greater City Aquarium Society	GCAS
Jersey Shore Aquarium Society	JSAS
Long Island Aquarium Society	LIAS
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
Pioneer Valley Aquarium Society	PVAS
Pioneer Valley Water Garden & Koi	PVWG&K
Tropical Fish Club of Burlington	TFCB
Tropical Fish Society of Rhode Island	TFSRI

**NEC Board of Governors 2008-2010**

President: Joe Masi (DAAS)  
[daas@northeastcouncil.org](mailto:daas@northeastcouncil.org)

Vice President: Dave Giza (PVAS)  
[Shlegal.pleco@verizon.net](mailto:Shlegal.pleco@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Frank Policastro (NJAS)  
[aquapops@verizon.net](mailto:aquapops@verizon.net)

Recording Secretary: Fran Masi (DAAS)  
[Franc21alliance@optonline.net](mailto:Franc21alliance@optonline.net)

Corresponding Secretary: Christine Policastro (NJAS)  
[Cpolicastro1@verizon.net](mailto:Cpolicastro1@verizon.net)

Past President: Christine Policastro (NJAS)

Corporate Agent: Sue Bush (ALAS)

**Members At Large 2008-2010**

- Linda Giza (PVAS)
- Dan McKercher (ALAS)
- Chuck Pixley (NECA)
- Rick Rego (TFSRI)
- Nancy Villars (JSAS)
- Jim White (PVAS)



**Standing Committees:**

Constitution & By-Laws	Joe Dinho
Programs (Slides & Videos)	Dave Banks
Judging & Standards	Anne Broadmeyer
Legislation	Rick Rego
Raffles (Fund Raising)	Dave Banks
Workshop	Janine Banks

**Non-Standing Committees:**

Articles Competition	Mike Liu
Betty Mueller	Penny Faul
Breeder Participation Program	Rich Pierce
Conservation	Jim White/Bill Maier
Historian	Penny Faul
Newsletter	Christine Policastro
Sunshine	Fran Masi
Webmaster	Mark Broadmeyer
Photo Contest	Jim White
Exhibitor Competition	Christine Policastro
Innes Cup Award	Frank Policastro
Club Speakers	Linda Giza

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 with your club.