



Merry Christmas

From your Executive.

Art Taylor  
Cal Self  
Doug Robinson  
Maggie Snell  
Bob Harris



PRESIDENTS      NEWSLETTER

Hi Everyone!, this newsletter will no doubt be my last and before I go further I would like to give a great big welcome to our new President and his executive for 1972, he is young and keen and should be good for the club, maybe this is the shot in the arm the guppy world here is looking for, GOOD LUCK.

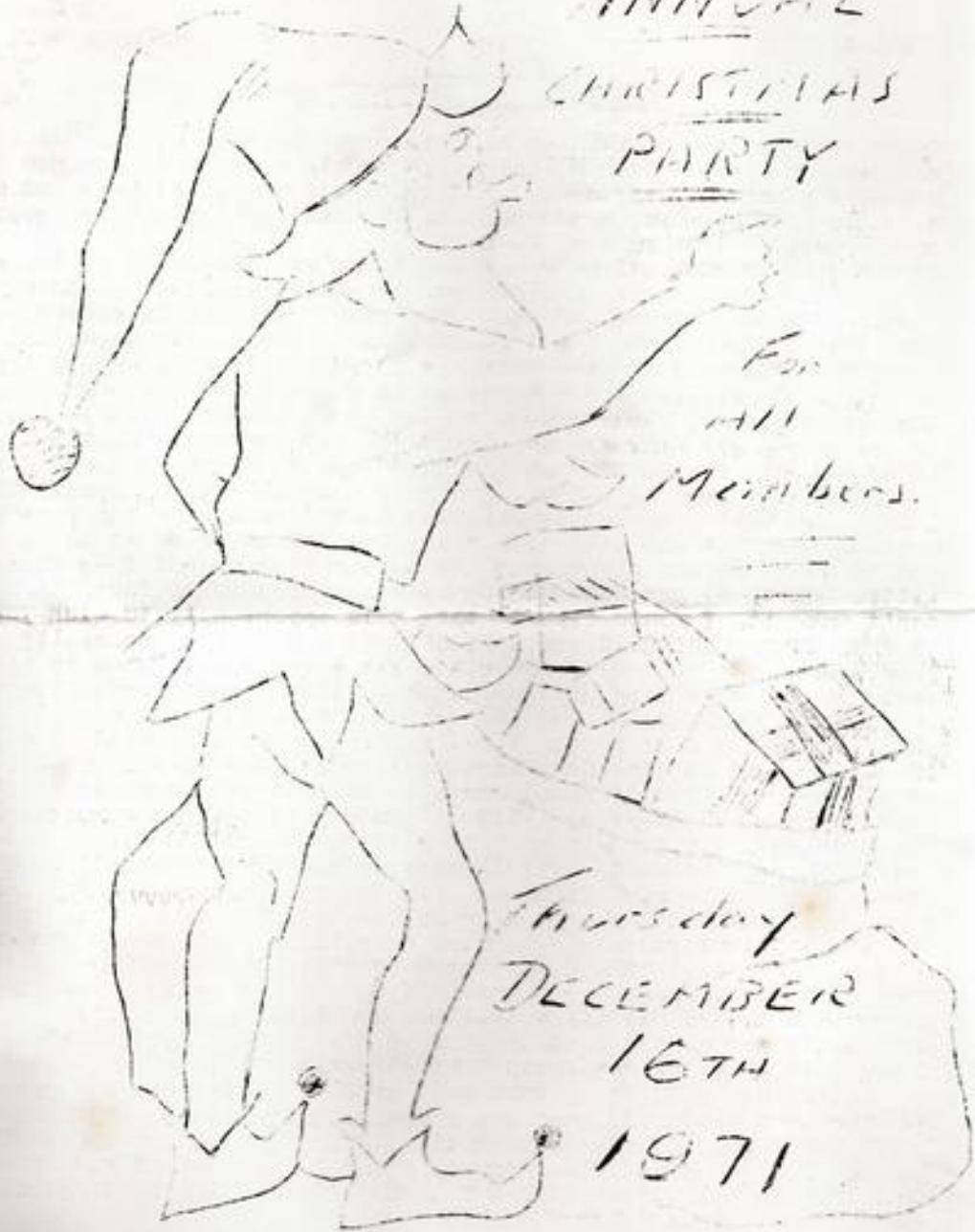
At the last meeting there was a debate on what is needed in the way of programs and possible solutions, it is ironical that all these ~~fish~~ things come out at the end of the year, it makes an executive feel they have fallen down, but I guess that is the way it goes, and as was stated then it is very hard and difficult to find enough things to keep a specialist group happy be it guppies, bettas, killies, ~~fish~~ dogs birds or any other group, so the local readers of this who are in the club, get behind your executive, let them know what you want after all the suggestion box has just been an ornament for the two years I have been in office, for gods sake use it, it doesnt bite. I hope we have a marked improvement in attendance at the December meeting, get out and give your new president the support he deserves, and as usual we are planing on having our festive get-together and little feast, so get out and let us see your smiling face, if you can't make it, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all "A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR", especially with your fish.

Over the six years I have been in the club, I have seen many changes, when I first joined there were about one hundred members, now we have about forty, then our monthly jar show was almost like a full sized show, we also had about nine people who made most of the shows in a year, last year we had one for most of the year and four at about three shows, and yet there is still a vast interest in guppies, a lot of you say it is disinteresting at the meetings, and that is what is holding down new members, and many other things, for most of this year we had open discussions, I felt a lot was learned at these, our judging seminars for the most part consisted of the same four or five people, to me this is just disinterest personified, I am sure everything was done to encourage people in the ways of recognizing good fish, but to no avail, it is your club and it is you who are holding its future in your hands, so you had better be the people to do something about it. As I mentioned at the last meeting, I may be leaving this area, and I say this with all my heart, I have been proud of this club and my association with it, I have been proud to have been its president for the past two years, and its representative to the INTERNATIONAL FANCY GUPPY ASSOCIATION in that time, I feel some of you have the potential to be first class breeders and I am proud to know you all, GOOD LUCK in the future, MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND YOUR FAMILIES, and of course your fish,

GOOD FISH KEEPING EVERYONE  
CHRIS

ANNUAL  
CHRISTMAS  
PARTY

For  
All  
Members.



Thursday  
DECEMBER  
16TH  
1971

1972 EXECUTIVE

President	Cal Self
1st Vice-President	Doug Robinson
2nd Vice-President	Paul Sciberras
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Maggie Snell
Corresponding Secretary	Tony Taylor
Treasurer	Frank Ryan
Immediate Past President	Chris McKay

The following appointments have been made by the new Executive:

Monthly Show Chairman	Steve Birks
Membership Chairman	Frank Ryan
I.F.G.A. Representative	Chris McKay
Bulletin	Tom Cook - Printing & Mailing
	Evelyn Taylor - Typing
	Art Taylor

The post of Social Convenor is still to be filled and the Executive would be most grateful for a volunteer or two to look after our monthly coffee and cookies.

Your Executive doubtless have many fresh ideas for the overall betterment of the Club. They are a keen group -- GIVE THEM YOUR FULLEST SUPPORT IN EVERY WAY.

As we welcome our new Executive, let us also extend our heartiest and deep thanks to all the retiring members for a job well done. Thank you Chris, Gabby, Bob, Al.

XX

The Executive and Members extend their sincere sympathy to Paul Sciberras in the loss of his Mother in Malta; and to Tom Cook in the recent death of his Mother-in-law.

### IT'S YOUR CLUB

Being a recently new member of the "Guppy Associates of Toronto, I hope that I am able to speak from a new and possibly refreshing viewpoint regarding present club conditions.

When I first joined there seemed to be a lot said about the club folding. My feelings are that if you hammer such thoughts long and hard enough they will inevitably become a reality. However, that all seems to be in the past now and the talk centres around our future and in what ways we might improve upon the existing situation.

As was pointed out at the November meeting a large membership does not necessarily guarantee a successful Club with good member participation in club duties and activities. It still usually boils down to relatively few members pulling the largest share of the load.

However, as pointed out by Mr. Art Taylor at said meeting, we have elected a relatively young executive for the coming year who should hopefully be able to come up with some new and perhaps novel ways in which to increase participation by all members. Couple this with perhaps a few new members who are willing to give generously of their time and I feel that we should be able to overcome any difficulties in which the club finds itself at the present time.

Now let's explore a few of these possibilities:-

1. I suggest that we should try to solicit some new members from where they obviously are, in existing tropical fish clubs.
2. Let's advertise the odd time, perhaps offering prizes to non-members thereby luring potential members who might not otherwise know that we exist.
3. Why not organize a trip to a major guppy show, perhaps Montreal next year, with the club defraying part of the expenses. I would far sooner see some of the clubs excess funds spent in this way than on a trip to an aquarium.
4. Institute a "topic of the month" as I suggested at the November meeting. This would serve to bring a lot of members out of their shells regarding their way of attaining successful results and at the same time leave a more favourable impression upon any potential new members in attendance.
5. Reactivate the judging seminars with the hopes of better turnouts, perhaps in member homes. As our President Chris McKay so bluntly puts it, "if you don't know how to judge a fish, how the hell do you expect to raise them to show standards".

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INTERNATIONAL FANCY GUPPY ASSOCIATION  
CLASS TROPHY WINNERS, 1971, who were  
 presented with their trophies at the Annual Meeting  
 in St. Louis, Missouri, November 1971.

Class		Points
Male Grand Champion	Dale Marteeny	26479
Female Grand Champion	Joe Scialdone	8856
Breeders	Lou Wasserman	3690
Red	John Pinkl	3396
Blue	Chris McKay	6272
Green	Mike Regent	3604
Black	M. L. Richardson	4120
Multi	Dave LeValley	2680
A. O. C.	John Schroeder	2514
Bi-Colour	Dale Marteeny	4946
Purple	Chris McKay	2140
Snakeskin/Cobra	Dale Marteeny	6242
½Black Red	Mike Shye	4436
½Black A. O. C.	Lou Wasserman	3794
½Black Pastel	Floyd Perkins	2832
Gold	Stan Shubel	3478
Yellow	Stan Shubel	4852
Bronze	J. & B. Rack	2554
Albino	Midge Hill	3311
Swordtail	Chris McKay	2832

Congratulations to our own Chris McKay who again won the Blue Class, as well as winning the Purple and Swordtail classes, and was runner-up in the Male Grand Championship after having led for many months during the year. Congratulations also to J. & B. Rack of the Montreal Club; and to Dale Marteeny and all the other winners in the above list. May Guppies continue to show the remarkable progress of recent years.

Final Male Grand Championship Point Standings - 1971

1.	Dale Marteeny	26479	points
2.	Chris McKay	23152	
3.	Lou Wasserman	18424	
4.	Stan Shubel	12324	
5.	H. & C. Hamm	9800	
6.	Mike Shye	7364	
7.	J. & B. Rack	7210	
8.	John Pinkl	6586	
9.	Floyd Perkins	6408	
10.	M. L. Richardson	6228	



PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

The points from the December Monthly Show will be included in the Point Totals for 1971. At our Meeting on December 16th Trophies will be presented to Class Winners and the Rainbow Challenge Trophy to the Exhibitor having the most points in all classes for the year 1971.

YY

THE LOSER

As I watch my Gupps swim by,  
I often wonder how and why,  
They never manage to survive  
In a Show, higher than five.  
Excuses I have no trouble to make,  
Some of these judges are surely fakes.  
Number one has only size,  
That's all I see through these eyes.  
Number two, his colour's not true  
To deserve a ribbon of blue.  
Number three has poor shape;  
For this alone he should not rate.  
Number four, how does he score?  
Sitting there on his fish bowl floor.  
Number five is by far the best,  
But since he's mine all can rest.  
For in this wonderful hobby it's known,  
It's in bad taste to judge your own.

Frank Ryan.

~~~~~

MOMENT OF TRUTH

Our Monthly Meeting is my treat,  
For it is there that I meet  
My friends, my foes in friendly battle,  
Who bring their wards and try to rattle  
The confidence I know is mine,  
Because my fish is best this time.  
We hurry through a lively meeting,  
View the results and start the bleating.  
For you see it is sad to note,  
That earlier line in which I wrote  
About that thing I thought was mine  
Since my fish came last this time.

Frank Ryan.

## SINGAPORE SILHOUETTE

by Rolly Langloy

(The following article appeared in the July, 1971, issue of "GUPPY DIGEST", the excellent quarterly publication of the Singapore Guppy Club. We hope you, too, find it most interesting.)

So prolific in begetting young they are called "Rabbit Fish", so dramatically colorful the Chinese call them the "Peacock Fish", some with skins so reptilian they are called the "Snake Skin Fish" and "King Cobra", yet so common and acclimated here that many think they are indigenous and know them simply as "Drain Fish", the Guppy is a tropical fish with a bright future, of growing economic importance in Singapore, and its most enthusiastic advocate is Tay Kah Send, M. D., who is President of the Singapore Guppy Club.

This hardy little fish with a Latin name longer than a one-inch adult male was discovered in 1859 by Wilhelm Peters, a German, near Caracas, on the northern coast of South America. In 1866, Reverend R. J. L. Guppy discovered them offshore on Trinidad Island, sent some of them to the British Museum in London, and the Curator named them in his honor.

"Guppies were first brought to Singapore in 1930," says Dr. Tay. "They were introduced to control mosquitos, and in this they were most helpful, consuming mosquito larvae in huge volume."

From such a mundane start, Singapore Guppies have attained aesthetic stature in aquariums around the world. Singapore Guppies are prized by fanciers in Germany, East and West, where they prefer predominantly black strains, in Austria, Britain, Denmark, Sweden, Japan, where there's a strong preference for the all-reds, and the U. S. A.

"The Germans must be given credit for first seeing the decorative potential, for first cross-breeding and "setting" strains with many exotic color patterns and features," says Dr. Tay. "But in Singapore, breeders have acquired the German and Austrian skills and reached new heights. We have "set" about all the colors except yellow. The first breeder to "set" a yellow -- and by "set" I mean so when two yellow parents will produce all yellow offspring -- that breeder will make a fortune!"

Originally females were two inches long, and the males, which have all the brilliant coloring, matured only an inch long overall. Singapore breeders have doubled that length. A super delta male with a variety of color combinations will have a one-inch body and a one inch triangular tail fin.

"Hobbyists, fanciers, professionals everywhere know that Singapore now produces the best Guppies in the world," Dr. Tay says with the pride of a man who is a citizen by choice.

SINGAPORE SILHOUETTE -- 2

Born in Malacca 43 years ago, he became a Singaporean in 1957, after earning his M. D. degree at the University of Hong Kong.

"Singapore has the world's best climate for Guppy breeding, but that alone doesn't account for the Singapore Guppy Club's amazing record in international competitions", asserts Dr. Tay. "The Guppy Club was organized in 1968. The very next year, our entries won 7 First Prizes and 5 runners-up at the 8th International Guppy Show in Vienna, Austria.

"The big one, the prestige show, is held annually in West Berlin, with entries from all the affluent countries. Singapore won 18 First, 7 Seconds, and 10 Thirds in 1970! Our Club was awarded the "City of Berlin" prize for Most Successful Foreign Participant. Mr. Richard Woon's blonde Guppies captured "Best of Show" in Vienna. We entered the Indianapolis Guppy Assn. Show in the U. S. A. for the first time in 1970, and we came home with 6 Firsts, 7 Seconds, 6 Thirds, and Mr. Ng Yoong Min won Second Best of Show for us."

Singapore dealers are exporting literally millions of tropical fish by air to all parts of the world. About 500 Guppies, for example, are "packed" in a minimum of water in plastic bags. The bags are filled with pure oxygen and sealed with plenty to sustain the valuable cargo for the flight. During the busy season (winter in Europe and America) dealers ship up to 50,000 in a single consignment.

Tropical fish exports amounted to S\$5 million in foreign exchange for Singapore in 1968: in 1970 the figure doubled to S\$7 million.

Anyone with 30 cents and an eye for the exotic can see specimens of Singapore's tropical fish at the Van Kleef Aquarium on Tank Road near the National Theatre. It's operated by the Primary Production Department of the Ministry for National Development.

Inexplicably, "Guppy" has a ludicrous sound to this ear; only an ichthyologist could have tagged such little beauties with it, but that's an entirely personal reaction and certainly the name had proved no deterrent here or elsewhere. Nearly every country now has at least one Guppy Club.

As Dr. Tay points out, Guppy growing is a "natural" as a hobby for Singapore families, including his own. The climate is ideal, the city tap water is great, tanks take little room and the investment is small. Guppies are hardy, and always decorative, never noisy! They offer a competitive outlet at the annual show, a common interest for parents and their children.

SINGAPORE SILHOUETTE -- 3

When his son was given a small tank and a few Guppies in 1967, Dr. Tay was intrigued by the opportunity for genetic experiments. The females start bearing live young when only three months old, 60 - 100 in a brood, and they continue to bear a brood per month during their 18-month lifespan. New generations are thus produced so rapidly that the results of cross-breeding can be seen in a relatively short time. Today, Dr. Tay has over 200 tanks for more than 5000 Guppies.

Unusual? Perhaps not, considering he also has six huge Boxer dogs, and five of the rare, almost extinct, Orang-utans from Sumatra and Borneo which he is raising and caring for against the day Singapore can manage a zoo and he can present them to his adopted country. Parenthetically, Bobo, now five, will probably have to mend his ways before entering a public zoo. Bobo is an inveterate cigarette smoker -- any brand, any time, any given number per day!

There's another aspect to Guppy growing with strong appeal to countless Singaporeans. Many a low-income family, living in a small Housing Development flat adds to its monthly take by breeding Guppies. An exporter will supply good breeding stock and contract to buy the Guppies produced. A housewife can gross more than "cake money" right in her little flat. By selling 1000 good Guppies, she can gross \$250, net \$150. If she can breed "Super-Deltas", she can get up to 80 cents each.

The Club's dynamic President has three projects in the works now: (1) to publish a quarterly Singapore Guppy Digest keeping members abreast of scientific developments and breeding techniques --with full color illustrations, (2) to organize a Guppy Cooperative to deal with export problems, and (3) to stage the First International Guppy Show in 1972.

These aren't idle dreams. With the Club's record in mind, one could make good all three goals will materialize -- right on schedule!

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EXCHANGE BULLETINS

Please check your records to ensure that your bulletin is addressed:

Guppy Associates of Toronto  
Box 875  
Terminal "A"  
Toronto 1, Ontario, CANADA.

A VERY SPECIAL HOLIDAY  
GREETING

TO ALL WHO RECEIVE

RAGGED TALES

THE EXECUTIVE AND ALL MEMBERS OF GUPPY  
ASSOCIATES OF TORONTO WISH YOU ALL THE  
MERRIEST OF CHRISTMASSES AND ALL THAT IS  
GOOD FOR THE YEAR 1972.



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MONTHLY FISH SHOW RESULTS  
 Winners for the month of NOV Points standings to date

|                                   |                                                                                      |                                                                               |                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| RED<br>WIDETAILED<br>CLASS        | 1st Maggie Snell<br>2nd Maggie Snell<br>3rd Doug Robinson<br>4th Doug Robinson       | 1st Doug Robinson<br>2nd Maggie Snell<br>3rd Cal Self<br>4th                  | 68<br>40<br>12       |
| BLUE/GREEN<br>WIDETAILED<br>CLASS | 1st Paul Sciberras<br>2nd Paul Sciberras<br>3rd Paul Sciberras<br>4th Paul Sciberras | 1st Paul Sciberras<br>2nd Chris McKay<br>3rd Cal Self<br>4th Al Cook          | 67<br>5<br>5<br>2    |
| HUP/BACK<br>WIDETAILED<br>CLASS   | 1st Frank Ryan<br>2nd Cal Self<br>3rd Doug Robinson<br>4th Frank Ryan                | 1st Bob Harris<br>2nd Cal Self<br>3rd Doug Robinson<br>4th Jim Gage           | 37<br>27<br>15<br>15 |
| A.S.C.<br>WIDETAILED<br>CLASS     | 1st Steve Birke<br>2nd Paul Sciberras<br>3rd Paul Sciberras<br>4th Steve Sciberras   | 1st Paul Sciberras<br>2nd Doug Robinson<br>3rd Steve Birke<br>4th Chris McKay | 50<br>32<br>13<br>5  |
| FEMALE<br>CLASS                   | 1st Cal Self<br>2nd Steve Birke<br>3rd Doug Robinson<br>4th Cal Self                 | 1st Cal Self<br>2nd Doug Robinson<br>3rd Paul Sciberras<br>4th Chris McKay    | 81<br>13<br>11<br>5  |
| A.S.V.<br>CLASS                   | 1st<br>2nd<br>3rd<br>4th                                                             | 1st Horn Hamilton<br>2nd Doug Robinson<br>3rd Maggie Snell<br>4th Chris McKay | 45<br>17<br>7<br>4   |
| NOVICE<br>CLASS                   | 1st William Bowman<br>2nd William Bowman<br>3rd Art Taylor<br>4th William Bowman     | 1st William Bowman<br>2nd A.E Taylor<br>3rd<br>4th                            | 39½<br>2             |
| JUNIOR CLASS                      | 1st Mike Sciberras<br>2nd Mike Sciberras<br>3rd Mike Sciberras<br>4th Mike Sciberras | 1st Mike Sciberras<br>2nd John Estok                                          | 43<br>33             |

The above standings have been noted and recorded.

Date November 18th, 1971

Bob Harris  
 Monthly Show Chairman.