

108 Years of Educating Aquarists

# BAS BULLETIN

Brooklyn Aquarium Society Monthly Online Newsletter

VOL. 22

February 2019

No 2

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 @ 7:30 PM**

The Brooklyn Aquarium Society Presents

## JOE GRAFFAGNINO

A Pond Grew in Brooklyn



**fun fact**  
Joe has bred  
close to **200**  
species of  
tropical fish!

### AUCTION AFTER THE SPEAKER FEATURES:

Marine Fish, Aqua-cultured Corals,  
Freshwater Fish, Plants & Dry Goods Auction

**At New York Aquarium, Education Hall, Surf Ave. & West 8th St., Bklyn, NY**

\$5 Donation for non-members. Good towards membership that night only.

**Held the 2nd Friday of each month @ 7:30PM except July & August**

For Information Visit [WWW.BROOKLYNAQUARIUMSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.BROOKLYNAQUARIUMSOCIETY.ORG).  
Or Call BAS 24 Hr. Calendar of Events Hotline (718) 837-4455

# 108 Years of Educating Aquarists

## The President's Message



**W**e started off the new year with a presentation that was truly revolutionary; our very first streaming video presentation by **Dr. Tim Hovanec**. His topic for the evening was *"Modern Day Approach to Chemistry."*

Dr. Hovanec was in California and the

PowerPoint presentation went perfectly. Dr. Hovanec saw us and was able to answer questions as if he was in the room with us. We are thinking about doing this with speakers who live great distances from us.

Next month we have one of our own, **Joe Graffagnino**, former president of BAS, will give a talk about the creation of his koi/goldfish pond. His topic is called *"A Pond Grew In Brooklyn."* The presentation will be about the trials and tribulations of building above ground and below ground pond in concrete-filled Brooklyn.

Also, on Saint Valentines Day our great society will be 108 years young. We are the oldest general aquarium club in the United States and that is because of you – our members, our Board and Officers and the love we all have for aquatic creatures. So come on down on February 8 for a fun night filled with great people, an interesting topic and aquatic auction and sales tables that can't be beaten. As always there will be FREE parking and FREE refreshments, doors open at 7:30 pm.

New BAS shirts arrived and they were selling like hotcakes! Many of you noticed that the BAS officers and Board members wore the regular BAS shirt with the word TEAM on the back. We did this to identify our members that work and help organize our events. We also have new BAS hats in a light blue color.

Due to confusion at a previous meeting, we need to reinforce policy issues: BAS will no longer permit reserve prices on aquatic donations in our auction and no individuals, member or guests, are allowed to sell or buy anything on New York Aquarium grounds.

I must ask for our members' help – our Treasurer had to leave due to personal reasons. Please, if you have experience in accounting, we need your help.

Also, we are looking to rent a garage, street level, to hold our BAS equipment and supplies. If you have something reasonable, please let us know.



If you want to see different speakers and learn about different aquatic systems, fish, plants and marine life, please let me know. The elected officials of the Brooklyn Aquarium Society are here to serve YOU! Please let us know what you want and why, because it would be helpful to everyone. It is important that you visit and patronize our sponsors. It goes full circle: by helping them, they are also helping you as hobbyists and everyone is helping the Brooklyn Aquarium Society, so help us, help you!

For more info, please call our BAS Hotline at (718) 837-4455, or visit our modern website at [WWW.BROOKLYNAQUARIUMSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.BROOKLYNAQUARIUMSOCIETY.ORG).

On a more personal note – any member who wants to attend a Board meeting, which is held at Education Hall of the New York Aquarium on the 1st Friday of the month, September through June, please notify me at (347) 277-4793 by the Tuesday before the meeting.

# Steven

**Steven Matassa,  
President**

# This Month's Speaker



**J**oe Graffagnino has been a hobbyist of freshwater fish for over 40 years. He enjoys breeding all species of tropical fish and sharing them with fellow hobbyists. Joe has written extensively on breed-

ing and raising fish and has been published in various magazines, such as *Tropical Fish Hobbyist*, *Aquarium Fish* and *Freshwater and Marine Aquarium* (FAMA).

Joe has also been published in the American Cichlid Association publication *Buntbarshe Bulletin*

and in many local aquarium society publications throughout the United States and England. He also enjoys fish photography.

Joe lives in Brooklyn, NY with his wife and currently maintains 34 aquariums of various sizes containing killifish, anabantoids, characins, cyprinids, livebearers, cichlids and catfish both Old and New World and has an outdoor pond with koi and goldfish. Joe is a former president of the Brooklyn Aquarium Society; prior to that position, Joe was the Society's Corresponding Secretary.

He joined the Brooklyn Aquarium Society in 1975.



## DIRECTIONS TO THE NY AQUARIUM

**Directions by Car:** Take Belt Parkway to Ocean Parkway South (Exit 7S). Take Ocean Parkway approx. 1/2 mile. The New York Aquarium will be on your left.

**Directions by Subway:** Take either the Q or F trains to West 8th St., NY Aquarium Station. Follow signs to NY Aquarium.



# Brooklyn Aquarium Society

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019



**FEB 8 Joseph Graffagnino -A Pond Grew in Brooklyn** ~ Followed by an auction of marine fish, aqua-cultured corals, freshwater fish, plants & dry goods.

**MAR 8 Richard Ross - Coral Spawning and Secore** ~ Followed by an auction of marine fish, aqua-cultured corals, freshwater fish, plants & dry goods.

**APR 12 Ralph Chi owner of Pacific Aquarium & Pets, Inc. Topic TBA** ~ Followed by an auction of marine fish, aqua-cultured corals, freshwater fish, plants & dry goods.

**MAY 10 Giant Spring Auction** ~ Freshwater fish, plants, marine fish, aqua-cultured corals & dry goods, including a brand new 55-gallon tank & stand.

**JUN 14 Cameron Provost - House of Fins -Rare Marine Fish in the Aquarium Hobby**~ Followed by an auction of marine fish, aqua-cultured corals, freshwater fish, plants & dry goods.

### **NO MEETINGS JULY & AUGUST**

**SEPT 13 Tullio DelAquila ~ The Fact's of Light: A Scientific Approach to Comparing Light Sources for Aquarium Use** ~ Followed by an auction of marine fish, aqua-cultured corals, freshwater fish, plants & dry goods.

**OCT 11 Giant Fall Auction** ~ Freshwater fish, plants, marine fish, aqua-cultured corals & dry goods, including a brand new 55-gallon tank & stand.

**NOV 8 Lou Ekus (Tropic Marin) - Reef Chemistry Made Easy** ~ Followed by an auction of marine fish, aqua-cultured corals, freshwater fish, plants & dry goods.

**DEC 13 Holiday Party** ~ Members, Their Families & Friends • BAS awards presentations.

**All BAS meetings begin at 7:30pm.**

No members, other than those donating their help setting up or items for the auction, will be allowed in before that time.

# Regional Society Events

## CHECK ALL TIMES AND DATES BEFORE ATTENDING

If listed **TBA** (TO BE ANNOUNCED), the Society has not gotten a speaker or has not updated their calendar of events. Before attending a meeting please check their web site for more information.

### FRIDAY FEBRUARY 1 - LONG ISLAND REEF ASSOCIATION • VINNY KREYLING - VINNY'S TANK BUILD

Meets the 1st Friday of the month @ 8:00 pm at Acan Lighting, 75 Austin Blvd, Commack, NY 11725.

Info: <http://www.LongIslandReef.org>

### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 5 - PIONEER VALLEY AS • ANNUAL AUCTION

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at The First Congregational Church, 20 Lathrop St, West Springfield, MA @ 7:00 pm. Free parking in lot. Public welcome. Info: Jacob Guinasso, [jguinasso@pvas.net](mailto:jguinasso@pvas.net) or Martha Morris, [martha\\_morris@hotmail.com](mailto:martha_morris@hotmail.com). or [pvas.net](http://pvas.net)

### THURSDAY FEBRUARY 7 - BUCKS COUNTY AS

#### • MARK DENARO - TOPIC TO BE DETERMINED

Meets the 1st Thursday of the month except August. Meetings start @ 7:30pm doors open @ 7:00 pm, at the Churchville Nature Center, 501, Churchville Lane, Churchville, PA. Annual membership is \$20 for single membership, and \$10 for each additional family member who wishes to have voting privileges and the ability to participate in the BAP program. Info: [bcasonline.com](http://bcasonline.com)

### MONDAY FEBRUARY 11 - JERSEY SHORE AS • ZOO MED - TOPIC TO BE DETERMINED

Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at the South Wall Fire Rescue Co., 2605 Atlantic Ave., Manasquan, NJ. @ 7:30 pm. Speakers, auction rare & exotic fish, aquatic plants, door prizes.

Info: [www.jerseyshoreAS.org](http://www.jerseyshoreAS.org); or (732)-859-5595 or [mws71@yahoo.com](mailto:mws71@yahoo.com)

### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 12 - NASSAU COUNTY AS

#### • TBA

Meets the 2nd Tuesday. of the month at Molloy College., 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre NY @ 8:00 pm. General meetings open to the public. Guest speakers, fish related events, raffles, mini-auction.

Info: Mike Foran (516)-798-6766, or at [info@ncasweb.org](mailto:info@ncasweb.org) or <http://ncasweb.org/directions.php>.

### THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14 - TROPICAL FISH CLUB OF BURLINGTON • IRA GARDNER-MORSE - FISH ROOM DESIGN

Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at the VFW Hall, 73 Pearl St., Essex Junction, VT. Meetings start @ 6:30 pm. Door prizes, bowl show (warmer months), monthly auction, fish discussions and a good time!

New members are welcome! Info: David Banks at [dbanks@together.net](mailto:dbanks@together.net) or [www.tfcfb.org](http://www.tfcfb.org)

### FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15 - LONG ISLAND AS • FLEA MARKET & SILENT AUCTION

Meets the 3rd Friday of the month at SUNY Stony Brook's Maritime Science area, Room 120 in Endeavor Hall (After you enter building, take hallway on the right. Room 120 is first room on the left) on the State University at Stony Brook Campus, Stony Brook, NY 11794. Doors open @ 7:30 pm, meeting starts @ 8:00pm. Speakers, auctions, refreshments, free parking.

Info: [www.liasonline.org](http://www.liasonline.org)

### SATURDAY FEBRUARY 16 - NORTH JERSEY AS • JASON D'AMBROSIO - STINGRAY HUSBANDRY

Meets the 3rd Saturday of the month 12:30 pm sharp at the Clark Public Library Union County just off the Parkway at exit 135. NJAS one of the largest and most well respected aquarium clubs in North America. Since 1953, NJAS has provided a friendly outlet for the exchange of aquarium-related ideas and information and recognizes the accomplishments of local hobbyists.

Info: [www.njas.net/](http://www.njas.net/)

### THURSDAY FEBRUARY 21 - NORWALK AS • ANNUAL AUCTION

Meets the 3rd Thursday of the month @ 8:00 pm at Earthplace, The Nature Discovery Center, 10 Woodside Lane, Westport, CT. Open to public.

Info: [Norwalkas.org](http://Norwalkas.org)

### FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22 - DANBURY AREA AS

#### • TBA

Meets the 4th Friday of the month @ 7:30 pm at Laura Sprain Memorial Cornerstone park, 1 Fair St. Carmel, NY 10512. Info: Rich Lit-sky (845) 228-0372 or Joe Masi (845)-896-4793 or [daas@northeastcouncil.org](mailto:daas@northeastcouncil.org)

### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 26 - BIG APPLE GUPPY CLUB

#### • TBA

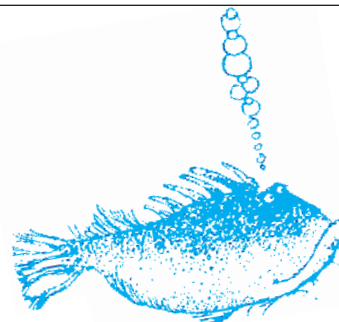
Meets: the last Tuesday each month (except Jan, Feb, July, and August) @ 7:30 to 10:00 pm. Alley Pond Environmental Ctr., 228-06 Northern Blvd., Queens, NY. Info: Donald Curtin (718) 631-0538 or [twindon1@aol.com](mailto:twindon1@aol.com)

### WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 27 - METROPOLITAN AREA KILLIFISH ASSOC.

#### • TBA

Meets 4th Wednesday of the month @ 8:00 pm at the Meadowlands Environmental Center, Lyndhurst, NJ. Speaker and auction of fish eggs, plants and dry goods. Refreshments served.

Info: [SLMACK@compuserve.com](mailto:SLMACK@compuserve.com)



### WEDNESDAY MARCH 6 GREATER CITY AS • NO MEETING UNTIL MARCH 6

Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month @ 7:30pm at the Queens Botanical Garden, except for January and February. The public is welcome. Speakers, publication, bowl show, raffles, door prizes, refreshments, plant and fish auctions.

Info: Claudia Dickinson at: [ivyrose@optonline.net](mailto:ivyrose@optonline.net) or (631)-668-5125, or [www.greatercity.org](http://www.greatercity.org)

# Coming Events

## 2019 EXHIBITIONS, AUCTIONS & CONVENTIONS 2019

**FEBRUARY 10 - NORWALK AQUARIUM SOCIETY BENEFIT AUCTION** held at Earthplace, 10 Woodside Lane, Westport, CT 06880. Auction is open to the public. Set up and viewing starts at 10:30 am to 11:30 am Auction starts at noon. **For info:** [www.norwalkas.org](http://www.norwalkas.org) or [www.earthplace.org](http://www.earthplace.org).

**FEBRUARY 15, 16, 17 - CAPITAL CICHLID ASSOCIATION'S BIG FISH DEAL** held at the Hyatt Regency, Metro Center, 1 Bethesda, MD 20814 Events: Aquarium supplies and equipment, Auctions, Conventions, Exhibition, Fish and aquatic plants, Freshwater, Speakers, Tropical Fish, Vendors. **For info:** [capitalcichlids.org](http://capitalcichlids.org)

**FEBRUARY 17 - PIONEER VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY ANNUAL AUCTION** held at Loyal Order of Moose Hall, 244 Fuller Rd., Chicopee, MA 01020. Doors open at 9:00 am for viewing and vendor registration Free Admission! Everyone is Welcome. Giant Auction of Live Tropical Fish, Aquatic Plants, and Dry Goods Door Prizes. Silent Auction. Raffles. 50/50 Cash Raffle! Bring the Entire Family and Enjoy the Day with New and Old Friends! **For info:** [www.pvas.net/](http://www.pvas.net/)

**MARCH 1 - 3 RALEIGH AQUARIUM SOCIETY 34TH CAROLINA WORKSHOP** held at the Holiday Inn, 2805 Highwoods Blvd, Raleigh, NC. **FRIDAY 1** - Native Fish Collecting Trips: 1 am -6 pm • Meet & greet with speakers 7 pm - 8 pm. (Ted Coletti) • Rare fish mini-auction 9 pm - 9:30 pm. **SATURDAY 2** - Speaker presentations & display 9:30 am - 5:30 pm • *Fish Collecting in Florida* - **Bob Bock** • *The many ways to grow aquarium plants* - **Tom Barr** • *Are sunfish bizarre cichlids* - **Bob Bock** • *It's planted, now what?* - **Tom Barr** • *Joys of African Rift Lake cichlids* - **David Herlong** • *Surprising world of platies & swordtails* - **Ted Coletti**. Social Time 6 pm -7 pm Dinner Banquet 7 - 8 pm, After dinner speaker 8 - 9 pm. *Hidden history of the aquarium hobby in America* - **Ted Coletti**. **SUNDAY 3** Auction starts 10 am - fish, plants, inverts, supplies. RAW registration costs: \$20 Members \$25 Non-members, Kids under 12 Free. Diner Banquet & talk \$20 members \$25 Non-members \$10 Kids under 12. Sunday Auction members free, Non-members \$5. **For info:** [raleighaquariumsociety.org](http://raleighaquariumsociety.org) or RAS Facebook Group

**MARCH 2 - NEW ENGLAND FRAG FARMER'S MARKET** held at Smith High School, 1235 Storrs Rd. Storrs, CT 06268. Event Categories: Coral Exhibition, Frag Swaps, Raffles, Saltwater & Tropical fish vendors. **For info:** Email: [swansonjl@hotmail.com](mailto:swansonjl@hotmail.com) or visit web site [www.eosmithcoralproject.org/index.html](http://www.eosmithcoralproject.org/index.html)

**APRIL 12-14 - NORTHEAST COUNCIL 44th ANNUAL CONVENTION** held at the Red Lion Hotel, 100 Berlin Rd, Cromwell, CT 06416. One of the country's premier tropical fish hobby event, with an all-star speaker line-up: **Eric Bodrock, Ken Boorman, Rosario LaCourt, Dr. Paul Loiselle, Regina Spotti** and more speakers to be scheduled. The exciting schedule includes: Fish shows • Nano tank contest • Photo contest • Vendor hall • Trade displays • Club swap meet • Silent auctions • Live Auctions • Symposia • Hospitality suite and Awards banquet. **For info:** [www.northeastcouncil.org](http://www.northeastcouncil.org)

**MAY 23-24-25-26 - AMERICAN LIVEBEARER ASSOCIATION 2019 CONVENTION** held at the Crowne Plaza, [Louisville Airport] 803 Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY. **Event Categories:** Auctions, Conventions, Fish and aquatic plants, Freshwater, Livebearers, Speakers, Trade Show, Tropical Fish, Vendors. Hosted by Louisville Tropical Fish Fanciers. **For info:** <http://ltff.net/>

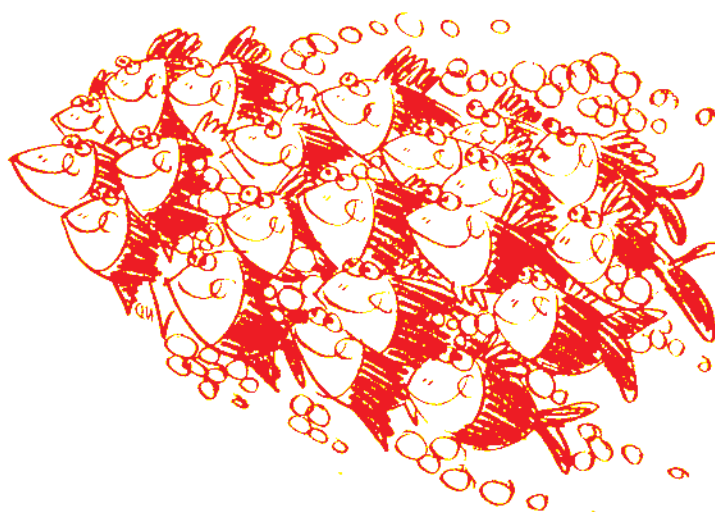


**JUNE 7 - 9 - THE TROPICAL FISH CLUB OF BURLINGTON CELEBRATES 30 YEARS.** Held at the Holiday Inn, South Burlington, VT. Seminars & speakers: **Hans Georg Evers, Steve Lundblad**, and others. Also includes a tour of Vermont Microbreweries, dinner cruise on Lake Champlain, Friday night social pizza party...plus Sunday Auction, raffles, vendors, and more. **For info:** Visit [www.thcb.org](http://www.thcb.org)

**JUNE 20-21-22-23 - INTERNATIONAL BETTA CONGRESS SHOW & ANNUAL MEETING** held at the Atrium Hotel & suites, 4600 W. Airport Fwy, Irving, TX 75026. **Event Categories:** Bettas, Club Meetings, Conference, Exhibition, Fish Shows, Freshwater Tropical Fish. **For info:** <http://www.ibcbettas.org/>

**JULY 18 - 22 NEW ENGLAND CICHLID ASSOCIATION. ACA CONVENTION** Held at the Red Lion Hotel, 100 Berlin Road, Cromwell CT. Event Categories: Aquarium supplies and equipment, Auctions, Cichlids, Conventions, Exhibition, Fish and aquatic plants, Fish Shows, Freshwater, Raffles, Speakers, Trade Show, Tropical Fish, Vendors **For info:** [www.necichlids.org/cich-toberfest-2017#](http://www.necichlids.org/cich-toberfest-2017#)!

**AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 1 - MARINE AQUARIUM CONFERENCE OF NORTH AMERICA 2019 [MACNA]** held at the Walt Disney World Swan & Resort, Florida. The Conference Tickets include: 3-day access to the Exhibit Floor, Speaker Access, Workshop Access, Meet-up Access, Friday Night Reception, and Saturday Night Banquet Tickets start at just \$139 (chicken/vegetarian) and \$154 (beef). This early bird pricing will not be available for long, so book early! Our #MACNA2019 rates include the resort fee and start at \$175 per night, so don't believe the prices you see on the internet which will charge you more at checkout. All reservations for rooms through MACNA.org are held with your credit card, but the deposits are not charged until August 1, 2019. **For info:** [macnaconference.org](http://macnaconference.org)





# News & Notes

## Some of The Best Aquarium Products in 2018



### BEST NEW LIGHT



#### The Kessil A360X

For years we've touted the Kessil LED lights as the best lights on the market for reef tanks and freshwater planted tanks. Kessil has made the best light even better with the Kessil A360X Tuna Blue and Kessil A360X Tuna Sun. There are three significant improvements. 1) It's smaller and has a lower profile. 2) It's brighter. 3) It has new colors and these colors can be individually accessed with the Spectral Controller X. For those looking to use a combo of LEDs and T5s, we recommend the K.

### BEST NEW FILTRATION PRODUCT



**The Cobalt Aquatics E-X-T Aquarium Canister Filter** is the most innovative canister available. Its unique inline pump allows complete flexibility on any aquarium, terrarium or vivarium setup. The In-Line Pump can be placed before the filter (either in the tank or outside the tank) or connected to the water return line. The innovative valve with 5/8" hose barbs allows the pump to continue to run and keep vital circulation to your display even while the canister is disconnected for maintenance. Easy to open and close clips and removable media trays make maintenance a breeze!

### STILL THE BEST AWARD



#### The Python No Spill Clean & Fill

There tends to be improvements in aquarium products every year. But when it comes to gravel vac/water changers, there is still one product that has never been improved on, the Python No Spill Clean & Fill. The Python hose and the Python fittings are top quality and made to last. The add on products, such as the Python Squeeze Stressless Siphon Starter, the Python Porter, Extended Length Gravel Tubes, Extensions and the Python Hook, give you options not available with the competing products. They even have a new line of Python Additives to help with your water changes.

# News & Notes



## Press release: **Petland Discounts**

New York pet store Icon **Neil Padron**, owner and founder of Petland Discounts, has passed away at 74 years of age after his battle with bladder cancer.

Neil was the pioneer of the largest privately owned pet store chain in the New York Tri-state area and at its peak had 118 locations. Petland Discounts began in September 1965, when Neil opened his first store in Queens. Its name was originally used as a concept of a tropical fish store, selling various aquatic merchandise. The company now offers a full line of pet supplies, as well as live fish, birds, small animals and reptiles.

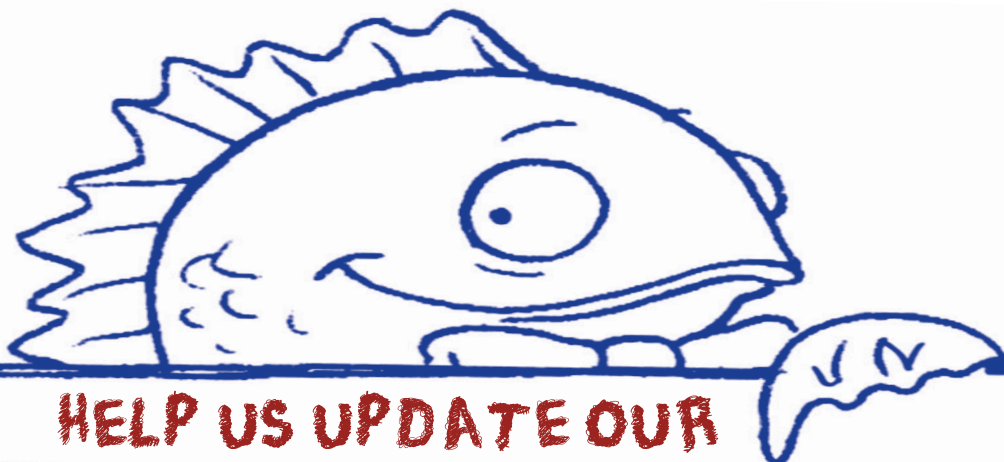
Neil has also raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for North Shore Animal

League, The Humane Society and other smaller shelters. He was an original outlet for being a huge help with animal adoptions. The company had just celebrated its 54th year in business. Neil was a well-known fixture in the Tri-state area, often recognized for his years of self-featured commercials. Slogans most recognized would be "Petland Discounts, At Petland we care" (late 1980s–early 1990s) and "Petland Discounts, For the best care a pet can get" (Early 1990s–2000s).

He is survived by his wife Joan and daughters Amy and Lisa. Donations can be made to Memorial Sloan's Kettering in his name. He will be missed.



# News & Notes



## HELP US UPDATE OUR ARCHIVES

We need someone who can edit the videos we make at our speaker events and upload them to our account on Vimeo.

Please contact Joe at (917) 922-5108.

We have an archive of our guest speaker videos from as far back as 1995. We make these videos so that members who could not attend the meeting or wish to refresh their aquatic skills can watch and learn from the speaker's topic.

Our mission since 1911 is Educating Aquarists!

## BAS MEMBERS CAN BUY & SELL ON THE BAS FORUM

Any BAS member can place a **free** ad to sell or to buy any fish type item. The item to sell or buy is to be entered into the BAS Forum which is located on our BAS website: <http://WWW.BrooklynAquariumSociety.org>. The Forum entry point is located on the top right side of our websites main page.

The Brooklyn Aquarium Society Inc. is a non-profit organization 501(C) (3) for people interested in the aquarium hobby and the study of aquatic life. The Society meets the 2nd Friday of each month except July and August at the Educational Hall of the NY Aquarium at Coney Island, Surf Ave. at West 8th St., at 7:30 PM. Meetings are open to visitors. Membership is \$25 per year family, \$20 individual, \$15 for students under 18. Send inquires or membership checks to Brooklyn Aquarium Society, c/o Membership Chairperson, P.O. Box 290610, Brooklyn, NY 11229-0011.

# News & Notes

## Petco to Close Drs. Foster and Smith

BY PET BUSINESS STAFF



**petco**

with the exception of Live Aquaria.

Operations will be closed to the public and all online services will be transferred to Petco.

This change affects 289 employees, with their last days of employment varying over the next 60 to 120 days. All have been notified and will be provided severance and transition support.

Petco will close all operations of its Drs. Foster and Smith (DFS) business, based in Rhinelander, Wis., on Feb. 12, 2019,

The company is working with local officials to provide outplacement programming for those impacted.

"This decision has not been an easy one, nor has it been made lightly, and we appreciate that it has a very real effect on both individuals and the broader community in Rhinelander," Petco said in a statement. "Taking into account the needs of modern pet parents, shifting consumer preferences and the ongoing evolution of the Petco brand, we believe this will enable us to streamline operations and better focus on our core business and customer."



## OCEAN WONDERS AT THE NY AQUARIUM

### SHARKS

Over 115 marine species, 18 different kinds of sharks and rays, an unforgettable experience. The Donald Zucker and Barbara Hrbek Zucker Ocean Wonders: Sharks! the exhibit brings some of the most misunderstood animals out of the depths and nose-to-nose with you!

### CORAL REEFS

Sometimes tunnel vision is a good thing. Like when it puts you smack dab in the middle of this colorful coral reef, surrounded by blacktip reef sharks, butterflyfish, and zebra sharks swimming above you.

### DAILY SCHEDULE

10:00 AM - Aquarium Opens  
10:30 AM - Penguin Feeding 15 minutes  
11:00 AM - Aquatheater Show 15 minutes  
11:30 AM - Sea Lion Feeding 15 minutes  
11:45 AM - Harbor Seal Feeding 15 minutes

1:00 PM - Aquatheater Show 15 minutes  
1:30 PM - Otter Feeding 15 minutes  
2:45 PM - Harbor Seal Feeding 15 minutes  
3:00 PM - Sea Lion Feeding 15 minutes  
3:15 PM - Aquatheater Show 15 minutes

4:00 PM - Penguin Feeding 15 minutes  
4:00 PM - Last Entry  
5:00 PM - Aquarium Closes

# News & Notes



## Ten Tips for Making Your Aquarium Quieter

**There is nothing more relaxing than gazing at a beautiful aquarium. But the aquarium noise can sometime detract from the experience. Here are ten ways to keep your aquarium quiet.**

### 1. Avoid Falling Water

Free falling water creates an annoying splashing noise.

If you are using a hang on filter, keeping your aquarium water level high enough so the filter's water return is partially submerged will reduce the splashing significantly.

For aquarists using sumps, make sure to use stand pipes in the overflow box that stop the water from falling farther down the overflow than needed. Aquarists with sumps will also benefit from having the drain to the sump submerged to reduce splashing.

Aquarists using canister filters should make sure the output to the filter is completely submerged and not so high it makes a rippling noise.

### 2. Use Soft Plumbing

Vibration is the chief cause of noise in the aquarium. A simple way to stop vibration is to use soft aquarium hose rather than hard PVC pipe as much as possible. Using soft hose before and after pumps will help to stop vibration from transferring to hard pipes.

### 3. Dampen Vibrations

In addition to using soft plumbing there are other ways to limit vibration. Avoid placing water pumps directly on the bottom of sumps or leaning against the sump's walls. Use the suction cups included with pumps in aquariums and sumps to reduce the amount of vibration transferred from the pump to the hard plastic/glass of the sump/aquarium. Using mouse pads or foam



underneath external pumps limits vibration. For submersible pumps silicon drying mats placed under the pump can help.

#### 4. Use Dual Drain Overflows

If you are using an aquarium with an overflow box and sump, then it helps to use two drains rather than just a single drain. When using two drains one drain should suck from the bottom of the overflow box and have a gate valve below it to adjust flow before draining into the sump. The second drain should draw from the top of the overflow box and drain directly into the sump. Using this method you can adjust the flow from the drain with the gate valve so that almost all the flow goes through this drain and only a trickle goes through the second drain. This will significantly reduce the gurgling noise that comes from the drain.

#### 5. Use Overflow Mufflers

If you have a sump with only a single drain then you can quiet the drain with a Maggie Muffler. The Maggie Muffler sits on top of the overflow stand pipe and reduces the noise from water falling down the pipe. Even if you have two drains, adding a muffler to the tall stand pipe will further decrease noise.

#### 6. Use DC Air Pumps

With freshwater aquariums with air pumps the air pump is often the loudest piece of equipment. Switching to a quieter air pump like the Cobalt DC USB Air Pump will reduce this noise and also

provide a battery back up solution for your aquarium.

#### 7. Use DC Water Pumps

For most aquariums pump noise is the loudest aquarium noise. Switching to equipment using modern DC pumps will significantly reduce noise. We like the Reef Octopus VarioS Circulation Pumps and the Reef Octopus Regal Protein Skimmers powered by the VarioS pumps.

#### 8. Use a Stand With a Closed Back

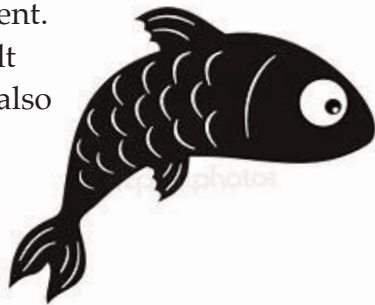
Many entry level aquarium stands have open backs that allow noise from equipment to escape the stand and fill the room. Choosing a stand with a back or adding a back to your stand will help to contain the noise.

#### 9. Use Modern Lights

Metal halide and T5 lights often have fans and ballasts that make buzzing sounds. LED lights are quieter because they don't have ballasts and they either have small fans, or no fan at all.

#### 10. Clean Your Equipment

When equipment gets dirty it often gets louder. Make sure to clean your pumps by scrubbing them with a tooth brush and occasionally soaking them in vinegar. Use compressed air to periodically remove dust from your lights to ensure that the fans don't have to work as hard.



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# New and Renewing members in January 2019

## NEW Members

Caleb Bernal  
Christopher Kirstein  
Judy Maitland  
Joel Pina

Richard Quintana  
Christopher Tam  
Scott Washington

## Renewals

Anthony Kroeger

Pauline Griffin

**THE FOLLOWING MADE GENEROUS DONATIONS TO  
THE JANUARY AUCTION. THANK YOU!**

## INDIVIDUALS

Nick DeCillis  
Serena Duenas  
Gene & Ed Kogan

Steve Matassa  
Paulo Patrinicola  
Scott Peters

Dan Puleo  
Gale Scalta  
Denis Vardaro

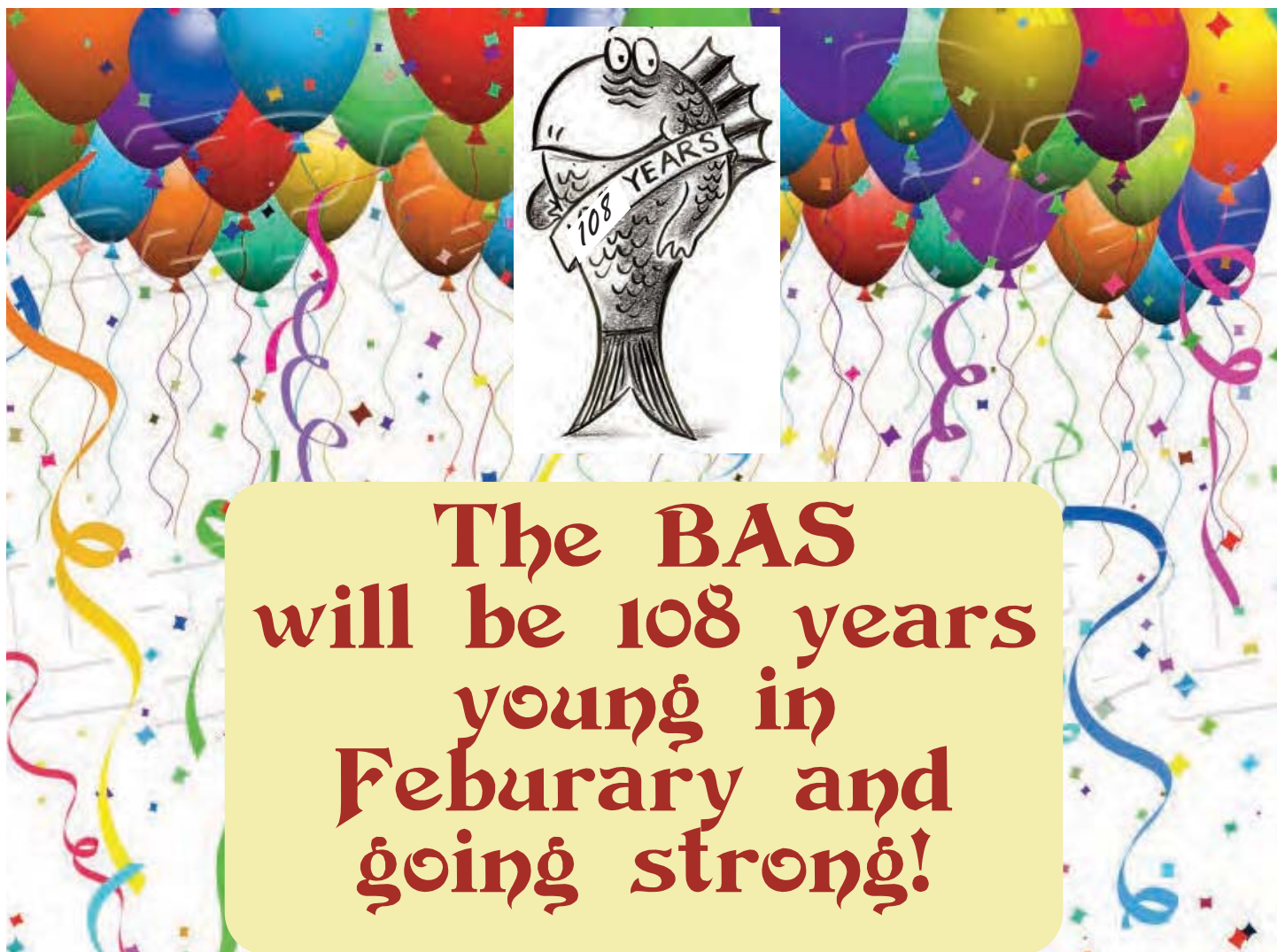
## STORES & COMPANIES

- Aquarium Village, Westbury, NY
- Brooklyn Zoo & Aquarium, Brooklyn, NY
- Monster Aquarium, Queens, NY
- Pacific Aquarium & Pet, New York, NY
- Parrots of the World, Rockville Centre, NY

**WE THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR  
GENEROUS TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS**

**Christopher Matassa & Manhattan Aquariums**

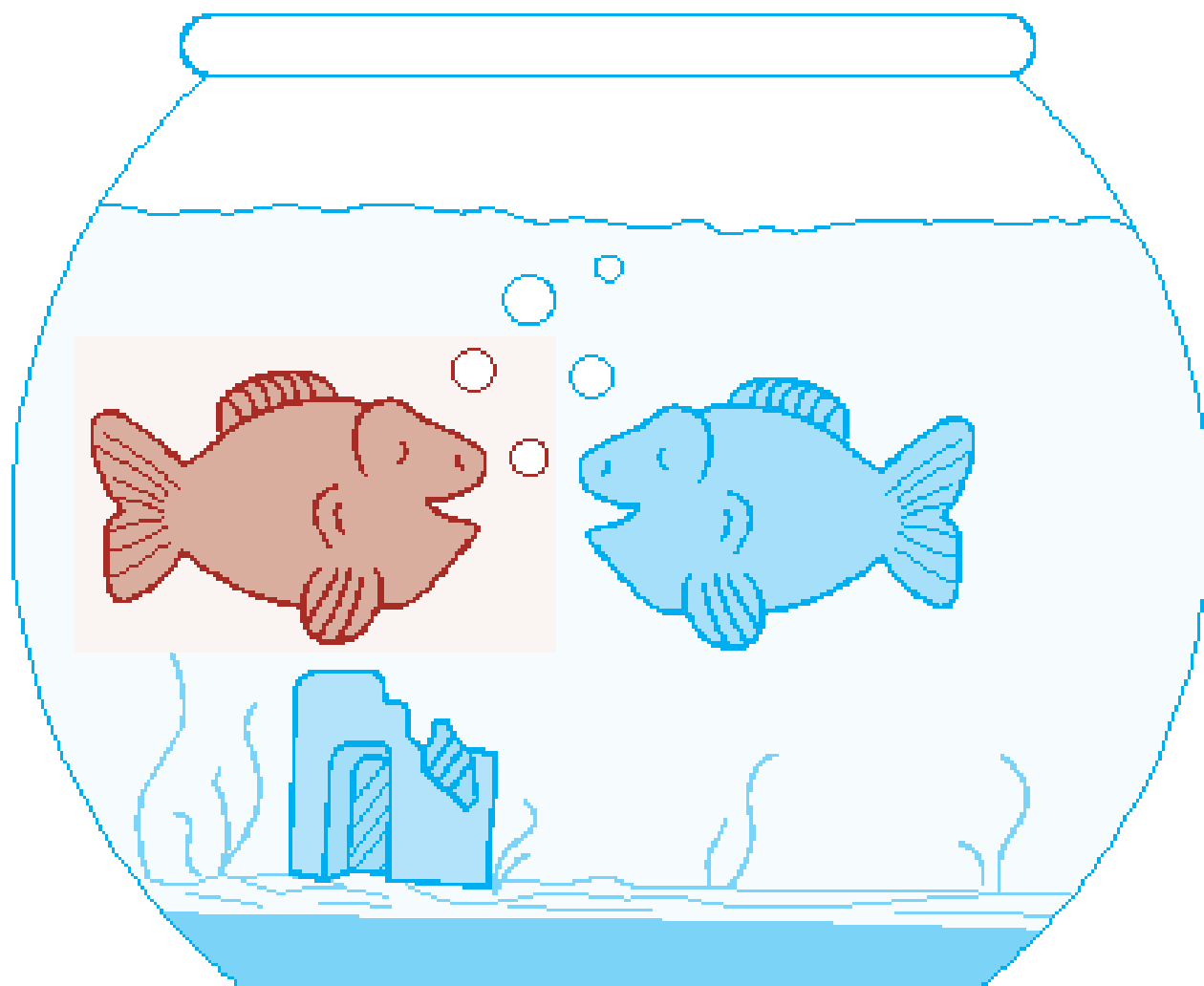
The Brooklyn Aquarium Society is a federally registered 501(C) (3) nonprofit organization.  
Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.





## Tip Of The Month

**W**hen the water level in your marine tank is low due to evaporation you can replenish the water loss by adding fresh water, because none of the sea salt is lost by evaporation. Adding salt water would alter the specific gravity of the water. Always check the salinity of the water in your marine tank before and after replenishing evaporated water.



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### A FEW BLACK BAS T-SHIRTS LEFT

BACK



FRONT

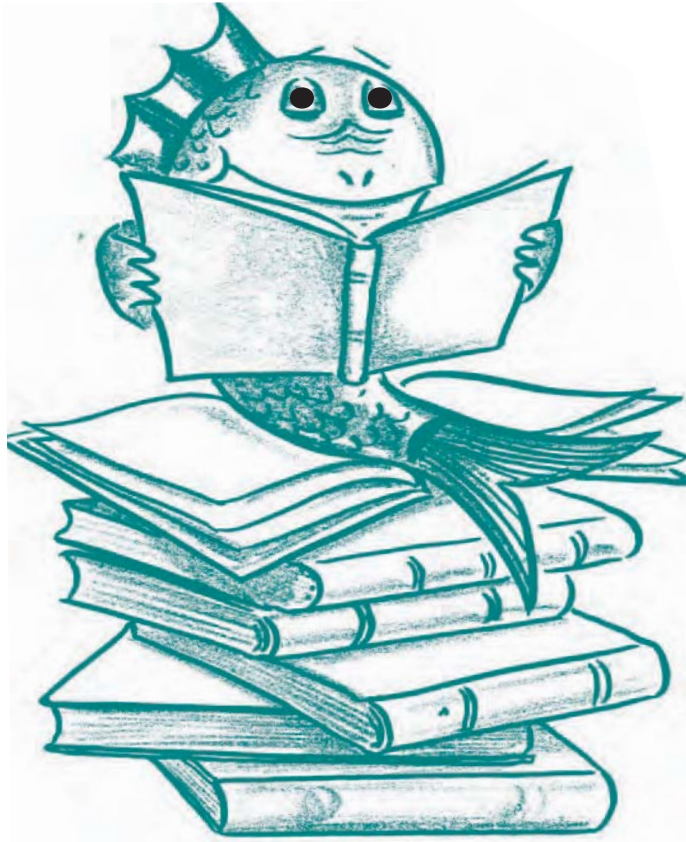


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# Books By Our Talented Members



## P. M. GRIFFIN

**P.M. Griffin**, better known to us as **Pauline Griffin**, lives in Brooklyn, N Y, with her cat Nick-olette and two tropical fish aquariums and devotes just about every 'spare' moment to writing, research, and reading.

Pauline is an award winning well known science fiction and fantasy writer with some 28 novels and story collections under her belt. She has now branched out and written a romance novel, featuring two farms, one purpose. Two hearts, one love, but there are diffi-

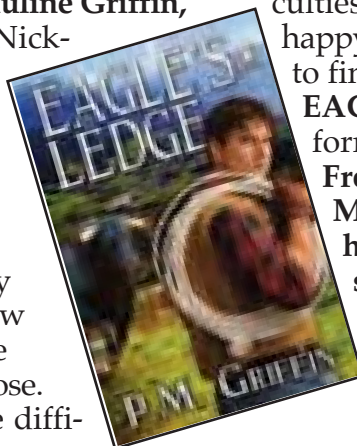
culties in plenty to challenge any hope of a happy conclusion. You have to read this novel to find the answer.

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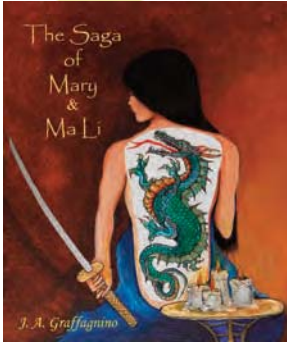




# Books By Our Talented Members

**NEW**

**JOE GRAFFAGNINO**



The Saga of Mary & Ma Li is the final piece of a fantasy and adventure trilogy. A ruthless Chinese billionaire industrialist and his gorgeous homicidal maniac enforcer convince the leaders of China to support their plan to manipulate the world's stock markets and thus control the world. With China's political and military might behind them, it seems that nothing can stop their plan of world conquest. As fate would have it, their accountant is a CIA undercover mole operative. Mary and the Carrington Protection and Recovery Agency are hired by the CIA and the Chinese billionaire without each sides knowledge, to find and return the elusive agent and the secret documents he possesses that prove China's involvement.

The story unites modern China and feudal Japan in turmoil. Old enemies and new ones become allies to destroy Mary and Ma Li. Unknown to the spirit sisters, a bet between a demon and an archangel centuries before was the catalyst that created both Mary and Ma Li and the mystical swords that became their weapons. These same elements are needed by demons to open a chasm between the world of humans and the demon realm to start an unholy revolution.

Mary and Ma Li are thrown into a fight for survival in both the mortal and spirit worlds. Friends' loyalties are tested and enemies are forced to trust each other. Ancient prophecies are fulfilled, but not the ones written by man, but the original vows witnessed by long-dead spirits and enforced by demons and angels. The saga now comes full circle for Mary and Ma Li. The past and the present combine to decide their own fate. But, who will decide the survival of supportive friends, loving family, Mary's children?



## **Ma Li & Mary**

A bet between a demon and an angel created the existence of Ma Li, a 15th century warrior priestess and Mary, a 20th century Taoist priestess. The trials and experiences these two women endured; the battles they fought and the people they met in their travels were merely guideposts along their preordained path. Separated by five centuries the connection they shared survived and strengthened. Both women learned and grew from their spiritual bond.

The story of Ma Li & Mary is one of love, loyalty, betrayal and survival at all costs.

Mary Petrovich's mother was a Sioux Indian cryptologist working for the U.S. government in Moscow, and her Russian Secret Police father, were forced to flee to Chicago to escape Soviet and American government agents in the 1980's. They took refuge with her Uncle, a crazed, sadistic gangster. He murdered her parents and repeatedly beat and raped her before she escaped at the age of twelve.

• Local book stores have it as well as **Amazon, Barnes and Nobles** and my publisher **AuthorHouse**.

Soft cover is priced at \$13.99 and Kindle/Nook version at \$3.99. I will bring some to the next meeting for those who want autographed copies.



## **Fantasy & HORROR** SHORT STORIES

In addition to his fantasy / adventure novel "*The Journey of Mary/Ma Li*". His latest book has 13 short stories under the title of "*Fantasy & Horror Short Stories*". These 13 stories draw readers into a compelling web of intrigue and suspense. Some are funny, others sad, and still others capture the inner conflicts that torment us yet hint at hope for a brighter tomorrow. Readers immediately identify with the bigger-than-life fictional characters that make us ponder our inner selves, fantasies, dreams and passions, and question how far we're willing to go to get what we want.

"*Fantasy & Horror Short Stories*" is available at all book retailers and is available in hardcover, softcover and electronic editions. **Amazon has it in Kindle and Barnes and Noble has it in Nook versions for \$3.99.**

Please visit Joe's web site [www.JAGraffagnino.com](http://www.JAGraffagnino.com) to purchase either book, in any of the listed formats. Also visit his web site for contests, FREE giveaways and information about other soon-to-be-released works from the author.



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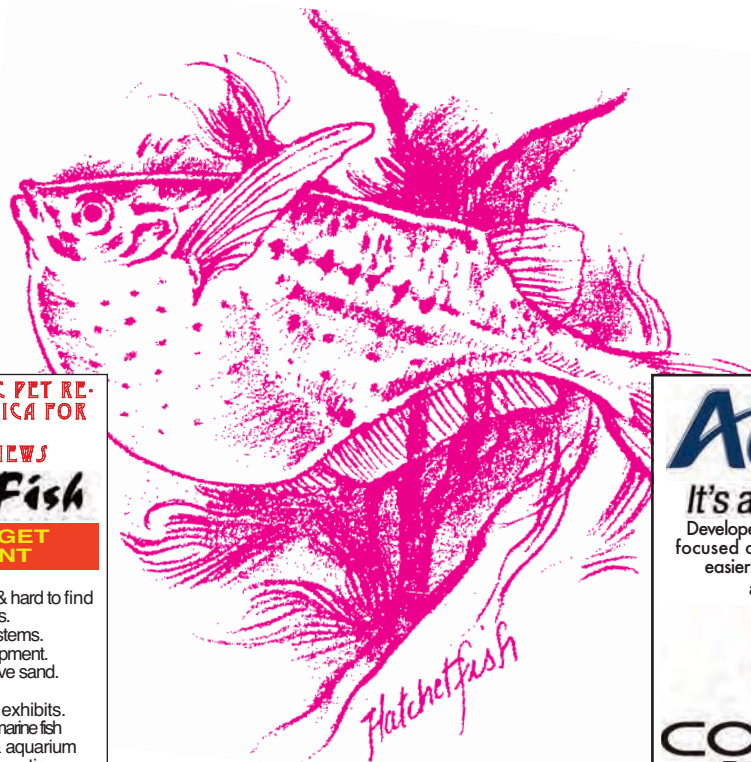
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**Special Interest Groups (SIGs)** hold meetings, free at members' homes, for members only. Here's your chance to network with members with the same interests. Discuss, ask questions, learn, teach and develop your expertise in freshwater and/or marine aquarium keeping.

***Aquatica The Journal of the Brooklyn Aquarium Society***, our bi-monthly (5 issues except July & August) award winning publication is on our web site. Each issue is filled with articles on both marine and freshwater aquaria keeping. Articles can be downloaded.

The **BAS Bulletin**. All members receive our monthly (10 issues except July & August) Newsletter, the *BAS Bulletin* via email, keeping members up to date on the latest events at the Society, notices of interest and monthly regional society events. All non-commercial members are entitled to a free classified want ad in each issue, to sell, give away or request fish or dry goods.

The **BAS is on-line at BASNY.ORG**. You'll find up-to-date information about our monthly events, links to other aquarium societies

in the US and stores, manufacturers and related aquarium sites. We have an on-line library with downloadable articles. We have our own BAS forum, where you can interact with other freshwater, marine or reef members and post free hobby-related classifieds where members sell and trade fish, corals, plants and equipment.

**BAS Hotline:** For the latest information call the BAS 24 hour Hotline 718 837-4455 for event and inclement weather information. If you need advice on fish keeping, breeding or where you can find rare or hard to find fish, you can often get help calling the Hotline. Help from the Hotline is always free.

**Volunteer:** The Brooklyn Aquarium Society is an organization run by volunteers. Without them there would be no BAS. Volunteers help set up events, write articles, coordinate projects, assist and work on committees, help at auctions and meetings. Join in, help, learn and have fun doing it. Call **Steven Matassa**, President (718) 238-1792.

**Discounts for Members** at many BAS participating pet stores when you present your current BAS membership card.

Welcome and we hope you take advantage of the many benefits BAS has to offer.

The Officers & Board of the Brooklyn Aquarium Society

**Educating Aquarists Since 1911**





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Meetings are held at the NY Aquarium Education Hall on the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30pm. Knowledgeable speakers on fish care and culture, and fish auctions.

Free parking and refreshments. All meetings are free to members. Visit us on line:

[WWW.BROOKLYNAQUARIUMSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.BROOKLYNAQUARIUMSOCIETY.ORG)

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **OCCUPATION** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** (DAY) \_\_\_\_\_ (EVE) \_\_\_\_\_ (FAX) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE & LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP:** (CHECK ONE)

**INDIVIDUAL**

**FAMILY**

☐ **\$15 STUDENT 1 YEAR**

(UNDER 18 YEARS)

1yr. \$20	2yr. \$36	3yr. \$51	4yr. \$68	1yr. \$25	2yr. \$45	3yr. \$63	4yr. \$85
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\*If family membership, please list all family members. **Only first two listed will have voting rights.**

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of tanks** ☐ **marine** ☐ **freshwater** ☐ **Do you breed fish?**  
☐ **[yes]** ☐ **[no]**

**If yes, what types do you breed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special interest (if any)** \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you hear about BAS** [friend] [dealer] [flyer] [Aquatica] [mag ad] [online] other \_\_\_\_\_

**To volunteer check [yes] [no]** A board member will contact you if you check yes.

On occasion, the Brooklyn Aquarium Society uses its mailing list to send notices of interest to our members.

If you **DO NOT** wish to receive these mailings please check here ☐

### Official use

Member number: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of membership ☐ [F] ☐ [I] ☐ [S] Date  
 paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Board approved date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal/member since \_\_\_\_\_