

ACLC WRITER'S & ARTIST'S AWARD PROGRAM (WAAP)

PURPOSES

- A. To encourage the writing of articles for Tank Tales and the development of writing skills by ACLC members.
- B. To acknowledge the accomplishment of ACLC members contributions to the hobby through their writing and artistic efforts.
- C. To encourage a spirit of competition for the annual "Mighty Fin Award".
- D. To increase information about the tropical fish hobby to ACLC members and aquarists in general.

ELIGIBILITY

Participation is open to all ACLC members. Articles (the word "article" shall mean any written composition, photograph, drawing or other item for submission) by nonmembers will not qualify retroactively upon joining ACLC. Articles required by ACLC offers and committee chairs are not eligible. All submissions must be published originally by Tank Tales of the ACLC and not by any other club, website or publication. Articles must be submitted in Word or other acceptable word processing format. Photos must be submitted in JPEG format or a print suitable for scanning. All original artwork will be scanned and the original will be considered a donation to the ACLC.

AWARDS

- A. The Mighty Fin Award will be given to the ACLC member who accumulates the highest number of points, as described in the points accumulation rules, for original articles and/or artwork published in Tank Tales from December 1 of one year through November 30 of the next. The member must have submitted an original item for publication in Tank Tales to be eligible. The exception to this time frame shall be the initial award, which shall run from the inception of the program to December 1 of the following year. Points for this award will include bonus points earned for previously published articles earned during the same time frame. This award shall be a plaque plus a special gift from the club.

- B. Accumulated Points Awards shall consist the following:

Writer's Award: Participants must accumulate 50 points, at least 30 of which are from the basic point rules. The award shall be a framed certificate.

Author's Award: Participants must achieve the Writer's Award level and accumulate 250 points, at least 150 of which are from the basic point rules. The award shall be a plaque.

Wordsmith Award: Participants must achieve the Author's Award and accumulate 500 points, at least 300 of which are from the basic point rules. The award shall be a plaque.

Pen & Quill Award: Participants must achieve the Wordsmith Award and accumulate 750 points, at least 500 of which are from the basic point rules. Participants must have at least (2) articles reprinted in another club's publication and must also have achieved at least 1 of the Specialty Awards described in Awards section C. The award shall be a plaque.

The Ultimate Writer Award: Participants must achieve the Pen & Quill Award and accumulate 1000 points, at least 600 of which are from the basic point rules. Participants must have at least (5) articles reprinted in another club's publication. Participant must also have achieved at least 2 of the Specialty Awards described in Awards section C. The award shall be a plaque and lifetime membership in the ACLC.

For consideration for the Pen & Quill Award and the Ultimate Writer Award, the following substitutions may be made:

A first place finish in a regional or national (i.e., NEC or FAAS) Author of the Year competition can replace 1 reprint.

Five first place in category awards in either the Northeast Council of Aquarium Societies and/or Federation of American Aquarium Societies writers' award programs may replace 1 reprint.

- C. Specialty Awards shall consist of a plaque. The awards are as follows:

The Writing Breeder: Participants must accumulate 100 points from the submission of BAP or CARES articles.

The Writing Grower: Participants must accumulate 100 points from the submission of HAP articles.

The Fishy Artist: Participants must accumulate 100 points from the submission of original artwork.

The Fishy Photographer: Participants must accumulate 100 points from the submission of original photographs.

ACLC WRITER'S & ARTIST'S AWARD PROGRAM (WAAP)

The Popular Fish Head: Participants must accumulate 100 points from reprinting and reviewing of their submissions by other clubs.

Acclaimed Author: Participants must accumulate 100 points from awards based bonus points during the program year. Eligible points include Article and Photo of the Month awards, and first, second, third place and honorable mention finishes in a category in the FAAS or NEC (or other regional or national awards) writers award programs. For an article that gets submitted in multiple categories in a single award program (i.e., 2 different categories in the FAAS program), only the highest placing finish will count towards this award. A member may earn this award multiple times, however, this award may only be used once towards meeting the requirements of lifetime achievement awards described in Awards section B. For the purposes of this award, points will be tallied for the articles or photographs submitted during the program year and after the awards for that year have been presented. Therefore, this award will be presented after any regional and/or national writer's awards have been announced, either in June or September of the following year. A person must maintain member in good standing status through the award presentation date in order to be eligible.

D. Article of the Month:

Every month that has Tank Tales published with 5 or more original articles written by 2 or more members of the ACLC will have an "Article of the Month" award presented. The winner will be chosen by a popular vote of the membership at the general meeting for that month. The winner will receive 10 bonus points towards their total which will count towards the annual and cumulative awards. The winner will also receive 7 raffle tickets for that month's raffle. If the winner is not present at the meeting, they will forfeit the raffle tickets but will still receive the bonus points.

D. Picture of the Month:

Every month that has Tank Tales published with 5 or more photographs (or original artwork) submitted by 3 or more members of the ACLC will have a "Picture of the Month" award presented. The number of pictures entered will be limited to 2 per member. The WAAP Chairperson shall determine which pictures are to be entered in the event that there are more than 2 photos from any one member. The winner will be chosen by a popular vote of the membership at the general meeting for that month. The winner will receive 10 bonus points towards their total which will count towards the annual and cumulative awards. The winner will also receive 7 raffle tickets for that month's raffle. If the winner is not present at the meeting, they will forfeit the raffle tickets but will still receive the bonus points.

COMMITTEE

- A. The Writer's Award Program Committee shall consist of a chairperson and up to two (2) members. The Exchange Editor must be a member of the committee and may be the chairperson.
- B. The duties of the committee are
 1. Maintain records of the points earned by all participants
 2. Provide a report each month of the current standings, to Tank Tales Editor, by the editor's deadline date.
 3. Arrange the purchase and presentation of awards with the board of directors of the ACLC.

POINT ACCUMULATIONS

- A. Points will be awarded based on the following schedule for articles first published in Tank Tales, from January 1 of one year through December 31 of the following year, or the club year as determined by the board of directors.
- B. All point awards are at the sole discretion of the committee.
- C. Articles and/or artwork not published within the time frame, for any reason, will be included in the year's competition in which they occur.
- D. Co-authored articles will have the points split evenly.
- E. If any member should not renew his/her membership, accumulated points will be kept on an inactive list until such time as membership is renewed.

BASIC POINTS

- 5 - Required BAP or HAP articles.
- 5 - Short articles (less than 50 words) such as tips, jokes, etc.

ACLC WRITER'S & ARTIST'S AWARD PROGRAM (WAAP)

10 - Optional BAP or HAP articles.

10 - Puzzles, games, teasers, etc.

10 - Not required articles on any hobby-related subject, including letters to the editor, of less than 250 words.

15 - Not required and non-BAP/HAP articles on any hobby-related subject, including letters to the editor, of 250 - 500 words.

20 - Not required and non-BAP/HAP articles on any hobby-related subject, including letters to the editor, of 500 - 1,000 words.

35 - Not required and non-BAP/HAP articles on any hobby-related subject, including letters to the editor, of more than 1,000 words.

20 - Original hand-drawn artwork of fish or plants.

10 - Original photographs submitted without an article. Photographs must be in focus and usable. To be usable, a photograph must be in focus and centered in the frame of the picture, with subject matter readily identifiable.

10 - Other original drawings or cartoons, hand-drawn, or computer assisted.

10 additional points will be awarded for each photograph submitted with an article that relates to the subject matter of the article, to a maximum of 20 additional points per article. Photographs must be in focus and usable.

BONUS POINTS

For reprinted items appearing in publications that the Exchange Editor does not receive, it will be the responsibility of the author to provide proof to the committee by November 30 of the contest year.

20 - A continuing column of six or more editions within the time frame of the contest, usually a period of twelve consecutive months. Awarded upon publication of the sixth (6th) edition.

10 - Articles reprinted in another club's publication (each reprinting).

5 - Articles reviewed in another club's "Exchange Column", each review.

10 - Any artwork reprinted in another club's publication (each reprinting).

10 - Articles mentioned or reviewed in a "for profit" hobby publications.

30 - Articles reprinted (with permission of the author) in a "for profit" hobby publication. These may be edited by the publication or the author but must be substantially the same. These points will be awarded only if the ACLC and Tank Tales are credited.

Articles and authors receiving awards in the FAAS Publications Award Program will be awarded bonus points based on the following schedule. The FAAS award points will be counted in the year in which they are awarded, not necessarily in the year **for** which they are awarded.

50 - Article/Author of the Year

30 - First in category

20 - Second in category

10 - Third in category

5 - Fourth in category or honorable mention.

Articles and authors receiving awards in any other award program will be awarded bonus points based on the following schedule. This will include such awards as the NEC Articles competition. These award points will be counted in the year in which they are awarded, not necessarily in the year **for** which they are awarded.

20 - Article/Author of the Year

15 - First in category

10 - Second in category

5 - Third in category

3 - Fourth in category or honorable mention.