

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine**

I am pleased to introduce you to a young organization which, I am certain, shares with your readers common goals.

The International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine was conceived in 1965, by a small group of veterinarians who sought to dispel the witchcraft from the science of marine mammal husbandry. In the few years since, through meetings and intensified efforts, we have come a surprisingly long way towards realizing our aims.

Last year, at our fourth annual gathering, we incorporated as an organization, and broadened our sights to include husbandry and diseases of all aquatic organisms. To reflect this new point of view, we adopted the name International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine. Our membership now includes scientists representing virtually all biological and medical disciplines.

The forthcoming conference will be held April 28-30, 1971 in co-operation with the University of Guelph. Three divisions relating to management and disease will be represented. Together with section chairmen, they are: fish and shellfish (Dr. C. J. Sinderman), marine aquarium fishes (Dr. R. F. Nigrelli), marine mammals (Dr. S. H. Ridgway). It is the first meeting in which all aspects of aquatic animal medicine will be brought together and we are hopeful that this joint effort will serve as the basis for integrated annual conferences.

In view of the interests which your subscribers share in these related areas, we would be pleased if you would notify them of this invitation to attend our Guelph meeting. We are seeking presentations of a general nature, on casual or research interests, including relevant case report studies. These will be followed by workshop discussions on specific topics.

The program scheduling requires that titles of presentations be submitted by January 15, and abstracts by March 15, 1971. Completed manuscripts, ready for review and publication as part of a PROCEEDINGS will be due at the time of the meeting.

The conference timing is uncomfortably close to that of other meetings relevant to your interests. So too, in view of our neoteric existence, we are unable to bear the cost of expenses. Nevertheless, I am hopeful that you and your colleagues will be able to attend, and to assist us in our endeavour to grow and to centralize a resource pool of information on diseases and management of aquatic organisms.

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