

2004 FAAS PUBLICATION AWARDS

BY JOE SEMEISTER

Because the FAAS Publication Awards were received around the middle August, it was too late to publish the list of winners in the September FIN FAX. Ed thought it would be better to wait until October to present, for the winners would have a pre-notification so they could make plans to be present at the Meeting. Well due to a conflict with my availability to present, Ed decided that November would be better. Since I am still the FAAS delegate until Marilyn takes over, Ed wanted me to present the Certificates. Actually, it is not necessary for me to do the presentation. That's the reason for the delay.

DCAS was fortunate to have 7 winners for the 2004 Season.

Chris Guarino, a young man that was a valuable asset as a junior member prior to 2004, received: **FIRST PLACE for BEST MARINE ARTICLE – Courtship and Spawning of the Wolf Eel Blenny *Congrogadus subducens*.** For those that read the article, you will have to agree it is a highly detailed work worthy of being printed in TFH or FAMA. Unfortunately for DCAS and the FIN FAX, this was Chris' last penned article prior to going off to College in Wilmington, NC. With talent like Chris has, I am sure we will see many published professional articles in the future. Chris - Great Success in the Future. We sure do miss you!

Lee Harper, a Life Member and possessor of DCAS' lowest membership number – to my knowledge – unless Frank Branca is still with us in Florida - received: **FIRST PLACE for BEST HOW TO or DO-it-YOURSELF ARTICLE – Semi-continuous Water Replacement System for Aquaria.** Over the years, Lee has shared his vast knowledge and experience with numerous Fish Clubs and Associations. Not only is Lee a plethora of information, but also a man that unselfishly shares his thoughts, ideas, wisdom and fish with all that are interested in the hobby. DCAS is extremely grateful for all that Lee has done for us over the years.

Sean Welsh, the youngest DCAS member to have ever won a FAAS Award received: **FIRST PLACE for BEST ORIGINAL ARTWORK – Junior – Level 1 – Age 5.** One would hope that SEAN maintains his interest in the hobby. At age 5, he has many years to contribute to the FIN FAX.

Dan Fromm, the man whose wit can be as sharp as the saw grass he has encountered on his many explorations received: **HONORABLE MENTION for Volunteers Volunteering Voluntarily.** Don't let the beard or sandals intimate you from having a conversation with Dan. He is another Sage in the Tropical Fish Hobby. He and Pat, his wife, have made numerous collecting trips to Central and South America and places beyond. In fact, he has received the honor of naming a fish after his wife. He often takes a little "razzing" about his interest in -- the Convict Cichlid Group. Those gray and black fish.

Julie Herestofa, a young lady that has attended DCAS meetings since she was an infant received: **BEST ORIGINAL ARTWORK JUNIOR – LEVEL 11.** Julie has received previous FAAS Awards along with winning in the DCAS ANNUAL TANK SHOW. You will find Julie sitting at the sales table with mom and dad (Jeannie and Rich) and brother Cody. Julie has also been a "runner" for the monthly and annual auctions. Hopefully, she continues to show interest in DCAS for years to come.

Marilyn Kurman, a lady that gave birth to her first child Olivia in December of 2004 received: **HONORABLE MENTION – BEST EDITOR/PUBLICATION MORE THAN 6 ISSUES.** Marilyn continued to fulfill her responsibility as editor under very difficult circumstances. Little Olivia was born with an extremely severe heart defect that required several operations. Even though Marilyn was in the hospital or traveling back a forth to doctors, she faithfully put out the FIN FAX. DCAS is very fortunate to have a person with Marilyn's grit. THANK YOU Marilyn. A HUGH THANK YOU TO GOD, for Olivia is getting stronger and better each day.

Joe Semeister, owner of the second lowest DCAS Membership number received: **THIRD PLACE – BEST FAAS – RELATED ARTICLE.** From what I was told, the BOD elected me to a Life Membership in DCAS. This is a great honor to be placed in a select club that contains men like Frank Branca, Bob Britton and Lee Harper. I will let my fans and/or critics fill in the blanks