

The

DARTER

JUL/AUG 2014



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Membership

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**JULY 15—JACK HELLER, MASI MEMBER
 “A TRIP OF A LIFETIME - COLLECTING AQUARIUM FISH IN THE PERUVIAN
 RAIN FOREST”**



Jack Heller has been in the aquarium hobby since he received his first aquarium at the age of ten. When he was in graduate school, he walked into a pet store in Granit City Illinois and saw his first Killifish book, "Enjoy your Killifish" by Dr. Bruce Turner and John Pafenyk. Shortly after, Jack acquired his first killifish, *Fundulopanchax gardneri*, and he has been hooked on killifish ever since.

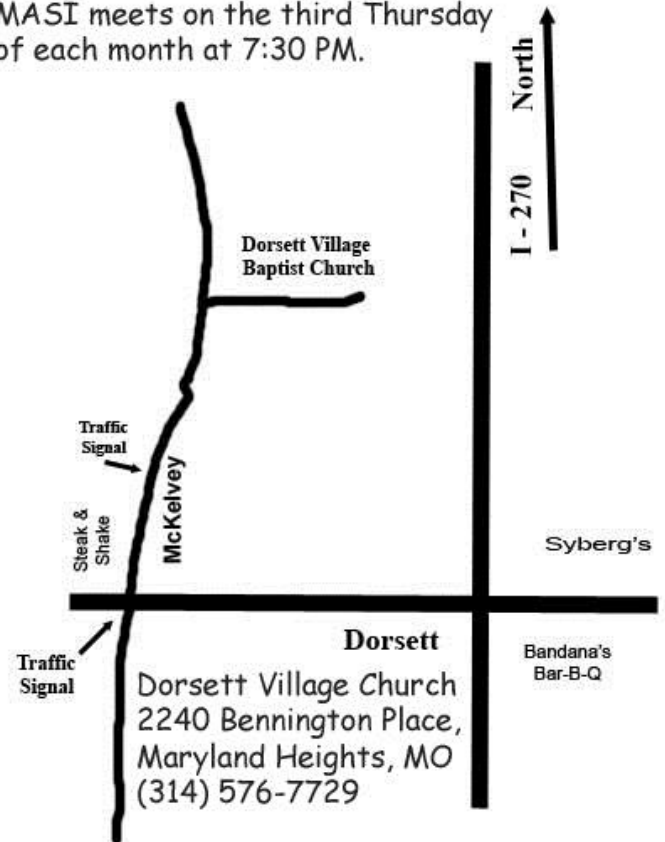
However, in the new fish room that Jack built after retirement from the Federal Government, he has also raised many other fish including Apisotgrammas, Kribs, Darios, Rainbows and Blue Eyes. In addition to these smaller

aquarium fish, Jack is currently enjoying his first tank of discus.

Jack is active in the American Killifish Association, having served four terms on the Board of Trustees and served one term as Chairman of the BOT.

Jack also enjoys collecting aquarium fish in the wild and was fortunate to accompany two scientists, Dr. Nevin Aspinwall and Dr. Tomas Hrbek, on a trip to Cameroon, West Africa in 1998, where he spent three weeks collecting West African Killifish. In 2013, Jack joined two AKA friends on a collecting trip to Peru where he collected many aquarium fish and experi-

MASI meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM.



enced the Amazon first hand, including Tarantulas, Wolf Fish and chiggers.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Pat Tosie



Changing of the Guard! We start the new elected term this month and first off I would like to thank all the elected officials, council members and appointees for a job well done. Special thanks go out to a few who are taking a break; Cory Koch, Scott Bush, Derek Walker, and Ed Millinger. Thank you for your service.

2013-2014 was a very exciting year for MASL, we had a great show weekend and then followed it up hosting a wonderful national convention of the American Livebearer Association! What a fantastic job Scott Bush did with MASL's Spring Fling Fishy Thing and Derek Walker did with the 2014 ALA Convention. They had a lot of help from many

of our members and we want to thank everyone who helped and supported our activities for a job well done.

Don't forget, our last Auction of the year is fast approaching on August 10 and it will be followed by the ever growing Swap Meet on October 4 (Be sure to check with Holly about a table, as they are going fast).

Gary is already working on the new year's speaker lineup, and if it compares anything like the past year, he will have an all-star lineup that you won't want to miss. The July meeting will start it off with one of our own, Jack Heller, giving us his view and experience with a talk titled "A Trip of a Lifetime - Collecting

Aquarium Fish In The Peruvian Rain Forrest".

Our goal as a club is to share our knowledge as aquarists and I hope all of you will get involved with our club and help us to grow. Invite a friend. Spread the word about our club, auctions swap meet, show and everything else we do. Talk it up! Every member has something to contribute, so please step forward, talk to me or any of the officials, council members and committee heads and see what you can do to help out. We are looking for a new Show Chairman, if that job may interest you, please let me know.

Keep looking below water....

New Officers and Executive Council Members

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FROM THE EDITOR

Mark England



I have an iPad and recently bought an Android phone, so I went searching for aquarium apps for both. I wasn't sure what exactly I wanted, but the lack of apps surprised me for a tech-rich addiction like aquariums.

I found virtual aquariums, screen savers, and aquarium games, but very little that was actually useful. I certainly don't need a virtual aquarium.

AquaPlanner Pro is an aquarium manager for maintenance and

scheduling. You can track water tests, specimens, and equipment. There are also calculators and you can export to a CSV file.

The app is \$2.99. I didn't find an Android version.

Available on both platforms is Aquarimate by Wise Logic. It also tracks and schedules tasks and records parameters, equipment, and inhabitants.

Unfortunately, I won't use this one—it track expenses and we know how dangerous that

would be. It's \$9.99 in either version.

I also found a couple of salt water apps, one on plants, and several used in conjunction with controllers of various sorts.

I'd like to know our readers' experience with various apps. If you have experience to share, send me a note to editor@missouriaquariumsociety.com

From The Fish Room by Ed Millinger

Fishy Headlines

Emperor Tetras Prepare To Rule The Aquarium

Pencil Fish Swimming Slowly- Can't Seem To Get The Lead Out

Cardinal Tetras - A Big Hit With Baseball Fans

Shovelnose Cats - Chicks Dig 'Em

A huge tip of the MASI cap to Derek Walker for chairing the ALA (American Livebearer Association) convention here in St. Louis during May. I heard nothing but positive feedback from the attendees. Word on the street is that it was so successful that the powers to be would like to return to St. Louis.

One of the most popular features was the room sales where people post what they have to sell, and their room number. Folks are then free to visit and work out a deal for what they desire.

If you have ever wondered where the big livebearers are these days they were here. A great large beautiful pair of swordtails sold for \$95 at the auction.

Another great treat was the presence of Ray "Kingfish" Lucas who is in his last year of representing manufacturers of aquarium goods.

Apparently the meat served at the banquet was not the only thing roasted, thanks to Mike Schadle (who Ray swears conveniently disappeared after the dinner).

I have now tried Repashy Super Foods for two months and the results are interesting. About half of my fish love it and the other half spit it out every time. No matter what the flavor and how many times I feed it the results are the same. I mix mine and heat in the microwave and then pour into a muffin pan. After cooling I slice into sections and store in baggies in the refrigerator (for up to two weeks). Any leftover is placed in the freezer until needed. I recommend not making it while your wife is in the house, if she already doesn't care for your fish, the smell is likely to push her over the top (it's really not that bad, but is distinctive). Anytime you can offer your fish another premium choice of food it can only enhance their well being. Visit tedsfishroom.com not only to order but to view videos by Ted on creative Repashy Super Foods feeding strategies.

I was having trouble keeping my albino cory fry alive. I was hatching them in a bare bottomed tank and kept losing one or two every day or so until they were all dead. Jerry Jost told me to add a

thin layer of sand because the bare bottomed tank encourages bacteria growth that kills the fry. Once I added the sand my troubles were over. In order to hatch the eggs I used two different commercial fungus eliminators but I wasn't happy with the way they stained everything. I have now started using alder cones which also are good to use with South American fish as well as anabantoids—they release tannins into the water and drop the ph. If you go to aldercones.com you will see an experiment that shows the ph dropping after the cones are placed in the water. The eggs are stained brown but that is all. I scraped the cory eggs off the glass and then put them in a cool whip container with about two inches of water and four cones, plus a gentle air stone. Not every egg hatched but then they might not all have been fertilized. I found the alder cones on eBay. I first bought 300 and was quite surprised when they arrived in a very small box as they are only about three quarters of an inch long. For some reason I thought they would be bigger.

Do you have any old wrought iron stands that need refurbishing? Maybe a little rusty around the edges. I will strip and paint them black for you if you make a minimum \$10 donation to the MASI challenge fund. My e-mail



address is amazonedy1@yahoo.com.

I just finished serving on the executive council for a year and it reminded me of just what a commitment our officers and council members make. One extra meeting a month doesn't sound like that much but at times it is. We are very fortunate to have such a great club and people willing to sacrifice to help improve things. We are always looking for new ideas so don't hesitate when asked to participate, you will enjoy it and MASI will be stronger for it.

Derek Walker noted on Facebook that MASI's own Cory Koch came in eighth place in the 2013 ACA breeder of the year competition with 16 species spawned! As a club MASI came in fourth with 68, well done everyone.

Fans of the movie City Slickers will remember the premise that people would pay to work on a cattle drive as part of their vacation. I wonder if any of the tropical fish farms would consider such an arraignment?

Electronic Distribution Now Available In Full Color

For those who prefer, the Darter is now available electronically, instead of the paper distribution. To change from paper to electronic distribution, email me at editor@missouriaquariumsociety.com. You will get your Darter sooner and the club will save printing and postage. And, as in 2013, you will save \$5 on your membership.

American Livebearer Association Convention by Derek Walker

The 2014 ALA Convention in St. Louis has come and gone. It was a huge success. There were over a hundred people registered from all over the United States and Denmark. Registrants stayed at the Crowne Plaza Hotel where they enjoyed a variety of speakers, a show, and a vendor room.

The festivities kicked off on Thursday with a native fish collecting trip. A group of seven enthusiasts headed to the Meramec River, where they collected Darters. While the adventurers headed out, the show room was set up. That evening the MASI general meeting took place.

Friday morning began with putting the finishing touches on the show room. While that was being done, seven people toured the St. Louis Arch. They enjoyed a trip to the top of the Arch that overlooks the city. Following the Arch tour, the group proceeded to Schlafly's Brewery for a tour and lunch.

The first speaker of the night was the NAGWG (North American Goodeid Working Group). Dr.

John Lyons spoke and following the talk, Pat Hartman and Angie La Voy put on an auction to help raise money for the group. Following the NAGWG presentation, Rick Borstein from the Chicago Livebearer Society spoke. He discussed livebearer reproduction strategies with those who attended.

Saturday morning began with sessions from Mike Hellweg, Gary Lange, Rick Borstein, Juan Miguel Artigas Azas, and Jennifer Reynolds. The talks continued throughout the day, followed by the "Rare Fish Buy It Now Hour." The rare fish were shipped by Michael Kock. After the group had a chance to purchase these rare species, the wine tasting began. The proceeds from the wine tasting event went to the NAGWG. The wine tasting was followed up with a dinner banquet, where the show and breeder awards were presented. A painting was given to Ray Kingfish Lucas for his dedication to the hobby. The evening ended with a session from Charles Clapsaddle on Hatchery



Operations and Breeding Techniques.

Sunday morning arrived and the auction began. Over six hundred auction items were displayed for bidders. The items ranged from stingrays to power filters, from

tanks to paintings. There was something for everyone to enjoy at this year's American Livebearer Association's Convention in St. Louis, Missouri!



CLUB HOPPING By Steve Edie

More events will be added as clubs firm up their schedules. Check with the individual clubs for more details.

Aug 10	St Louis	Missouri Aquarium Society	Summer Auction	www.missouriaquariumsociety.com
Oct 4	St Louis	Missouri Aquarium Society	Swap Meet	www.missouriaquariumsociety.com
Oct 16-19	Herndon, VA	All Aquarium Catfish Convention	Annual Convention	http://catfishcon.com/
Oct 24-26	San Antonio	Federation of Texas Aquarium Societies	Annual Convention	www.texascichlid.org
Nov 7-9	Chicago	Aquatic Experience	Industry Show	http://aquaticexperience.org
Nov 9	St Louis	Missouri Aquarium Society	Fall Auction	www.missouriaquariumsociety.com
Nov 21-23	Cleveland	Ohio Cichlid Association	Extravaganza	www.ohiocichlid.com

THE ROSY LOACH



By Mike Hellweg

In late September of 2006 a photo began circulating hobbyist circles of a beautiful new “Rasbora” that had been discovered in a series of spring fed plant laden pools in the hills of the Shan Plateau above the Salween River in Burma. It turned out to be the type species for a new Danionin genus, *Celestichthys*. We now know this fish as the Celestial Pearl Danio, or CPD. Along with the original collection it was noted that the only other fish found in these pools was a

small red colored loach. At the time, the CPD was the focus of collecting efforts, so the loach was not collected.

In the late part of the last decade miniature fishes began to become a main focus for the hobby, and folks began to collect several species of miniature loaches. At that time the rosy loach, as it was being called, began to make its way into the trade. No one had any idea to what genus or species this little loach belonged and likely it had not yet been

described.

Even today, they are usually assigned the name *Tuberostichura arakensis*, but this is a totally made up name and has no basis in fact. In 2012, Maurice Kottelat suggested that they most likely fit into the genus *Petruichthys*, but they don’t match up with any of the known species. Another *Petruichthys* species, *P. brevis*, also from the Shan plateau, is becoming a fast favorite among the legions of nano tank hobbyists. It, too, is easy to keep and

THE ROSY LOACH

“The rosy loach is a perfect resident for medium-sized nano tanks and for planted tanks.”

relatively easy to breed, but that is for another article. The trade largely ignored Kottelat, and has continued to call the diminutive loach “Tuberohistura” which is what most dealers still call it. At some point someone will finally take a closer look at these little loaches and sort things out, but until then, we hobbyists can just call them Rosy Loaches.

They grow to just about an inch in size. Females get a bit larger, and are heavier bodied than the males. They are generally an olive green color with tiny brown spots. Males are bright orange to rosy red with a black stripe down their lateral line. They are best kept in large groups. Fortunately they are inexpensive, so it’s not too

hard on the wallet to buy a dozen.

Care couldn’t be easier. A ten gallon tank is perfect for a dozen adults. Add a sponge filter (I use a Mattenfilter, but most folks use other types and have equal success), some pea gravel on the bottom and a pile of Java moss and you’re done. Current isn’t that important. These guys are found in pools in the wild, so they are used to less water movement. No heater is needed. In fact, just like the CPDs, these are cool water fish that prefer temperatures in the 60’s and low 70’s.

They are easy to feed, too. They will eat any tiny commercial food – I feed them my Cory Crumbles, coarsely

ground in a small pepper mill (Thanks Andy Walker for that idea!), along with newly hatched brine shrimp and microworms and frozen Cyclops, but they will also eat flakes and frozen foods. In addition, at least twice a week I give them some live blackworms. It doesn’t matter at all that the worms are almost as long as the adult loaches. In fact, I’ve even seen half inch long juveniles wrestling with (and winning!) a blackworm!

Large regular water changes are very important. The water these guys come from is hard and alkaline, think Lake Malawi, not typical Southeast Asian biotopes. I give my fish at least a 50% water change every week to keep them happy. But



THE ROSY LOACH

don't use the gravel vac! You want some detritus to build up in the interstices of the pea gravel. That's where the fry will get their start.

If they are given conditions as above, plus a LOT of live foods including regular feedings of worms, they will do what comes naturally and spawn for

into the gravel after hatching and spend a week or more feeding on the microscopic life found there. The first I knew of a successful spawning was when I saw some tiny loaches coming out to feed with the adults at dinner time. From that point on until I added a pair of *Apistogramma nijseni*

larger siblings don't seem to be interested in the smaller fish. As long as you regularly remove fish and don't let the population get too large, they seem to pretty much keep going and producing. I moved my group to a 30 breeder hoping to ramp up production, but they didn't seem to understand

half dozen or more and you'll be entertained with their constant antics and non-stop darting about. If you give them conditions to their liking, live food, and no other tank residents, maybe they'll even spawn for you!



you. The spawning chase is somewhat frantic, with two or three (or more!) males chasing a single female around the tank. Then one male will dive into the Java moss with the female at his side and eggs are released and fertilized. They are typical egg scatterers in this regard – the eggs are laid in the plants and then ignored by the parents from this point on. Many of the eggs are likely eaten. The fry move down

to the tank there were always at least a few juveniles popping up at feeding time. After the addition of the Apistos, I didn't get any more fry until I removed the Apistos.

When young are first spotted they are generally three-eighths of an inch or so. There doesn't appear to be any need to separate out the young as long as there are no other fish in the tank. The adults and

that idea, continuing to produce only a few new juveniles every week or so. My next project will be to move them back to a 10, leave them for a few weeks, then move the adults out and see what happens.

The rosy loach is a perfect resident for medium-sized nano tanks and for planted tanks. Just be sure to keep them in a group of at least a



THE EASY WAY TO BREED KILLIFISH

By Joseph Ferdenzi

Aphyosemion australe. Native to Gabon and the Congo.
Photo from SeriouslyFish.com.



If I could only keep one group of fishes, I have no doubt that I would choose the killifishes. Why? Because this group includes many small but highly colorful fish, with an appearance so exotic that few other groups of freshwater fishes can match—but I suppose I would stress the colors. There are many African and South American killifish species whose colors would rival those of many marine fishes. Yet they are small, and therefore can be maintained in relatively small aquariums. And I want to further stress that these colors are not man-made—they are as nature has bestowed them. So, you might ask, if they're so great, how come you so rarely see them for sale in pet shops, and when you do, why are they so expensive? Ah, in the answer lies the reason for this article!

Most egg-laying aquarium fish—and this includes such large groups as catfish, cichlids, barbs, tetras, and rasboras—lay their eggs in large quantities in a single spawning event. This spawning method lends itself to commercial production of large numbers of these fish. Not so with killies. Most killifish females will lay one or two eggs a day, and not necessarily every day. Therefore, collecting killifish eggs, especially from the non-annual species (the vast majority of killifish), becomes a very time-consuming task. Even in countries where labor is very cheap, this is not an attractive business model. After all, hobbyists aside, who is going to walk into a pet shop and choose that orange lyretail killifish (*Aphyosemion australe*) that costs \$8.99 when they can buy a larger red platy (*Xiphophorus maculatus*) for

\$1.99? There is no commercial incentive to killifish breeding. Perhaps that is another reason why I gravitate toward killifish—they are only readily available to hobbyists or the cognoscenti of the aquarium world.

So, you get the picture—breeding killies is very labor-intensive if you do it the conventional way. But what is the conventional way? Well, for all but the true annuals (whose eggs must go through a "dry" period of hibernation) it consists of providing a spawning medium (the most common being a "mop" made of synthetic yarn) where the killies lay their adhesive eggs. Every day or two you pluck these mops from the aquariums and examine each strand (a typical mop will consist of anywhere from 50 to 100) for the eggs. You remove them using your

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THE EASY WAY TO BREED KILLIFISH

thumb and forefinger, and place them in a small container of water until they hatch. Well, if your life is anything like mine, do you have time for that? (What is my life like? Let's see: On work days I leave home at 7:30 AM and return at around 7:00 PM. Then I go to bed at around 10:30 because I need to be up by 6:30. That leaves a whopping 3.5 hours to do everything else—you know, the spouse, the children, the house, and I don't want to leave out eating.) When you throw in feeding the fish and routine tank maintenance, I wish you much luck in having the time to go looking for eggs in six to a dozen mops!

Therefore, I have devised a solution. It consists of keeping the non-annual killifish in heavily planted tanks—the larger the

better. I have several kinds of killies that I now maintain this way. Before I describe a typical setup, I readily acknowledge one disadvantage—you will never produce as many fry as you would the conventional way. No matter how heavily planted your tank is, a certain number of fry will fall prey to their parents and older siblings. But if, like me, you have scarce time to pick eggs, the answer to the question, "Is getting some fry better than getting no fry?" explains why I have chosen this method in my present stage of life.

Most killifish do not prefer brightly lit tanks, so heavy plantings also create an environment much to their liking. My experience has led me to conclude that the ideal planting consists of a floating plant such



as hornwort or water sprite combined with plants such as Anubias or Java fern. In my opinion the hornwort/ Anubias combination is easier, because these are not finicky about water conditions. I always include gravel

fern is planted in the gravel. Rather, they are usually attached to driftwood or stones—my favorite being petrified wood. Under standard lighting conditions (a 15W fluorescent bulb on a ten-gallon tank, or a 40W fluorescent on a 55-gallon tanks) these plants do well. Hornwort in particular grows copiously, because it floats just beneath the light source. Java moss is also highly recommended, either for the lower stratum or for filling the entire tank.

When feeding the fish, make sure you include very fine foods, so that the fry also have something to eat. Newly hatched brine shrimp are an ideal live food in such a setup—both adults and fry will relish it. Non-annual killifish will eat most anything, and they do not require live food.

Depending on the size of the tank, you will occasionally have to look for fry swimming among the floating plants, and



THE EASY WAY TO BREED KILLIFISH



remove them. Why risk losing them? In a larger tank such as a 55 there is less risk, because there is so much more space, including hiding spots, but in, say, a 10, it's a little dicier. So when I see fry swimming among the plants I catch them with a small net, and place them in a small rearing tank (one to two gallons) with other similarly sized fry until they are about three-quarters of an inch in size, at which time they can be moved to a larger rearing tank (10 gallons).

If you can, when acquiring your

killies try to get at least three pairs. This insures some genetic diversity, results in less stress on individual fish, and of course produces more fry.

The photos accompanying this article illustrate three of my killifish setups. The top photo is a 55 gallon tank housing *Aphyosemion bivittatum* "Funge." The floating plants are hornwort and *Najas*, and the plants underneath are *Anubias barteri* (they have quite an exposed root structure). It also contains a #3-sized gravel as well. The next one is a 20-long

housing *Epiplatys annulatus* (the so-called clown killie). This tank has water sprite on top, Java moss, #3 gravel, and petrified wood on the bottom. The third tank is a 10 gallon that houses *Pachypanchax spark-sorum*. This tank has a slate bottom and no gravel. It has a very dense growth of hornwort, over some *Anubias barteri* held down by small pieces of petrified wood. None of these setups is complicated. I get fry—not a lot, but I also get to step back and enjoy the natural beauty that the aquari-

um hobby so abundantly provides.

As an aside, when non-hobbyists see my fifty aquariums they invariably say that it must take me "hours" to feed all the fish. I smile when they say that; I can leisurely do it in under fifteen minutes.

BREEDING THE TANGANYIKAN SHELL-DWELLER, LAMPROLOGUS MELEAGRIS

By Joseph Ferdenzi

It is my personal opinion that this fish is the most beautiful of all the Lake Tanganyikan Cichlids. Also known as the “pearly cichlid” because of the numerous bluish-white pearly dots over the body and fins of the fish. There are several darkish tan blotches on the lateral aspects of the body. A dark band is present along the border of the dorsal fin. The picture below was taken of the male from my pair. The species is rather small, with the female being about three centimeters and the male slightly smaller at 4.5 centimeters. My male has a permanently fixed open mouthed position. I suspect this was the result of previous skirmishes with other tank mates of the same species. I originally obtained my group of 8 young adults from Bruce Hart, a member of the Sarnia Aquarium Society. He had successfully bred his pair.

They were identified as *Lamprologus meleagris*, however I have learned since that there is some conjecture as to it's real name. It has been equated with *Lamprologus stappersi* and has been more recently been called *ex Lamprologus meleagris*. Since I obtained them as *Lamprologus meleagris*, that is what I will call them.

I placed all eight of them in a 15 gallon tank. Medium sized chicken grit covered the bottom of the tank. A number of small flat rocks were stacked to form caves and a flower pot with a 5 cm hole in the side

was turned upside down. Also, numerous, variably sized shells were scattered over the bottom. A corner filter maintained the filtration. There were lots of places for the fish to scatter and fine solitude. The fish continued to grow over the next year, however no evidence of breeding was observed. There was however evidence of ag-

gressive behaviour. Mouth to mouth combat was evident. I ended up removing three of the fish for torn fin lesions over several months. One of these fish died while the other two were sold at an auction. Getting somewhat frustrated by the lack of any breeding activity, I decided to read up more closely about their needs. The temperature in my fish

room is set for 25-26 degrees Celsius, within their preferred range. So, I didn't believe that temperature was an issue. The aggressiveness did continue and I continued to pull out dead and injured fish, until only two remained. These two remaining fish also seemed to be aggressive towards one another. The smaller of the two fish always

of all the competition before they would. I started feeding the fry banana worms through a plastic pipette. The adults actually attacked the pipette when it entered the water. I am sure that they would attack my finger if I was bold enough to dip it in the water. The fry grew quickly, which surprised me since any other



Reprinted courtesy of *Aqua Antics*, May-June 2014, Sarnia Aquarium Society.

hovered around a small shell, while the larger fish would stay at a distance, but periodically would drift into the smaller fish's territory. One day, I thought I saw some movement at the opening to the shell. I shone my flashlight into the area and was surprised by what I saw; a swarm of small babies. They had finally spawned, but it took removal

Tanganyikan Cichlid fry take a long time to grow. My banana worms soon gave way to freshly hatched brine shrimp. I removed them from the parent's tank into a 15 gallon tank of their own. Now they are on flaked foods. The parents have since spawned once again, but not as many fry as previous.

spawned, but it took removal

TOP TEN SIGNS SOMEONE IS AN AQUARIUM HOBBYIST...

10. They own more than two articles of clothing with fish on them.
9. Their children's names are Barb, Molly and Oscar.
8. They cut their honeymoon short because they don't trust Grandma to take care of their fish.
7. They spend their Saturday nights doing partial water changes.
6. The only time they wash dishes is when they need the sink to clean their tanks.
5. Their friends say, "You really need to talk to someone." So they join an aquarium club.
4. It occurs to them that if they get rid of their husband's favorite recliner, they'd have the perfect place to put another aquarium.
3. There's nothing to eat in the refrigerator, unless you like bloodworms!!
2. There's not one aspirin in the house, but if you ever get ich, they're prepared!
1. They can hardly wait for the next _____.

*Aquarium Fish Magazine!
Cleveland Aquarium Society meeting!
or whatever you wish to put here.*

by Lisa Englander

First published in Aquarium Fish Magazine, Dec. 1999.

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<http://www.aquarticles.com>

Fish Schticks

Susan Scheuer



by Susan Scheuer

First published in newsletter of the Lorain County Aquarium Society, Ohio . 1997-1999.

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CALL FOR ENTRIES:

Inaugural Aquascaping Live! Contest Aquatic Experience – Chicago

\$3,900 dollars in prize money available

Judging during Aquatic Experience Nov. 7-9, 2014

CHICAGO (June 10, 2014)—The World Pet Association (WPA) will host the inaugural Aquatic Experience Aquascaping Live! Contest during its second annual Aquatic Experience – Chicago, Nov. 7-9, 2014.

The Aquascaping Live! Contest is sanctioned and presented by The Aquatic Gardeners Association (AGA) and will include celebrity judges Oliver Knott, Oliver Lucanus, Brandon McLane, Karen Randall and Bailin Shaw. Contestants will compete in two categories (Small or Large Tank) for \$3,900 dollars in prize money and certificates. All contestants will receive free admission to the show floor at Aquatic Experience – Chicago, experiencing “everything aquatic under one roof” at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center.

Along with the Aquascaping Live! Contest, Aquatic Experience – Chicago 2014 will host the inaugural Aquatic Experience Fancy Guppy Competition presented by the International Fancy Guppy Association.

The show will also include a thriving show floor of exhibitors showcasing the latest in aquatic trends and products, and educational seminars on hobbyist and retail topics featuring aquatic experts Anton Lamboj, Bob Fenner, Brandon McLane, Charles Delbeek, Chris Lukhaup, Eric Bodrock, Francis Yupangco, Heiko Bleher, Jake Adams, Jen Reynolds, Joe Olenik, Jonathan Dooley, Julian Sprung, Karen Randall, Kevin Kohen, Oliver Knott, Oliver Lucanus, Patrick Dontson, Rusty Wessel, Sandy Moore, Sanjay Joshi, Steve Lundblad and Ted Judy.

Seminar topics include: aquarium and water garden plants; fish breeding; changes in the aquatic world; specialty stores in niche markets; hiring and training strategies; designing a successful fish room;

and aquatic explorations of Thailand and Lake Tanganyika. Show attendees will also have the chance to experience the only travelling shark show in the country, Haai Inc’s Live Shark Encounter, and see displays of fish from around the world.

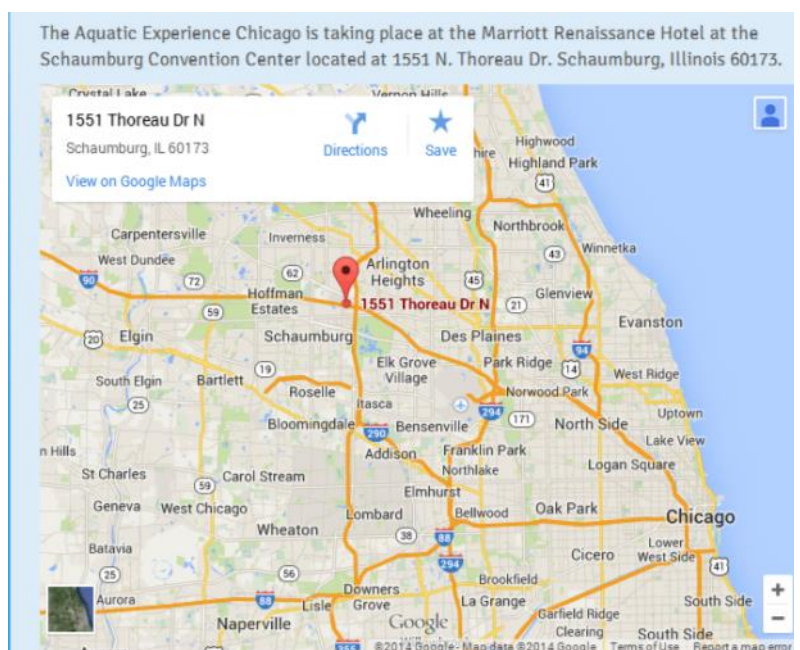
For more information on this year’s show and the Aquatic Experience Aquascaping Live! Contest please visit www.aquaticexperience.org. The competition and judging will take place on the show floor from 12-6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 7 and 10 a.m-1 p.m. on

Saturday, Nov. 8, 2014. Winners announced and prize money awarded at 5 p.m. The first prize winners will be invited to attend the Aquatic Experience Keynote Dinner Banquet being held that evening at 6:30 p.m.

The World Pet Association (WPA) is the oldest industry organization promoting responsible growth and development of the companion pet and related products and services.

For more information, please visit:

<http://aquaticexperience.org/>



FISHES AS DISHES**PATRICK A. TOSIE, SR.****Tilapia With Coconut-Cilantro Sauce****Ingredients:**

Canola oil spray
 Four 6-ounce pieces tilapia fillet
 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt, plus more for seasoning
 1/2 cup light reduced-fat coconut milk
 1/2 cup cilantro leaves, plus more for garnish
 1 teaspoon peeled chopped fresh ginger
 1/2 teaspoon garam masala
 2 garlic cloves
 1/2 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped
 3 cups cooked brown rice, for serving

**Directions:**

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. Spray a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with canola oil spray. Sprinkle the fish with the salt and place it in the pan.

Combine the coconut milk, cilantro, ginger, garam masala, garlic and jalapeno in a blender and pulse until fairly smooth. Pour the mixture over the fish. Bake until the fish is just opaque in the center, about 15 minutes. Garnish with more cilantro and serve with the rice.

Serving Size: 4,

Total Time: 25 minutes (Preparation: 10 minutes, Cook: 15 minutes)

SWAP MEET—OCTOBER 4

By Holly Wise

If anyone wants one or more of the few remaining tables... please get with me Soon.... I am very close to being sold out. We started with 3 rooms, and 60 tables... only about a dozen left. Do not wait till the last minute, as there may not be any available.

I have a 40 gallon Breeder with glass top ,2 Lit betta bowls, and some nice new equipment a raffle Items !!! If interested in raffle items, buy your tickets day of the swap, and then place the tickets in the marked containers for the item(s) you'd prefer !!!

There is also around 2 dozen goody bags that will be attendance prizes this year !!! Ticket for these will be given upon admission. Some of these include- 1 pound bags of food from Southern Delight Fish Foods, And themed fish care packs. (african cichlid with food, and chemicals, Betta and tropical community care packs, and more !!!)

I will also be needing volunteers. Places you could help include ; Helping with the raffle tickets, Some extra hands to set up and tear down, Some one to give Ed and Ron a break at the Masi table.... And a couple or so folks to help with the admission table. Even if you can help for an hour, that help is greatly appreciated !!! So please let me know !!!

Holly

hcaaquatics@yahoo.com

Points Update by Ed Millinger

Points are awarded for showing fish and earning service points. At the annual banquet we give out awards to both novice and hobbyist of the year in both categories if enough points are earned. For instance you must enter the annual show, the Super Bowl (October), and five monthly shows in order to qualify for the bowl show award. For more information on points consult your MASI handbook. On our website click on WHO WE ARE and after the 9th item you will see-download MASI handbook. If you ever have any questions feel free to ask me. If you do something that deserves points let me know. Ed Millinger



A minimum of three service points earned was required to make this list. I first list service points and then show points

Member	Service	Show	Member	Service	Show	Member	Service	Show	Member	Service	Show
Larry Allbright	71	32	Angela Hellweg	9		Jim Miller	11	124	Debbie Sultan	75	
Dave Bell	18		Mike Henthorn	5		Ed Millinger	86	47	John Stolhans	3	
Klaus Bertich	14		Mike Henthorn Sr.	3		Chris Mohrle	5	15	Mark Theby	35	
Connie Bremer	16		John Higgins	3		Kitty Mueller	5		Rick Tinklenberg	8	
Scott Bush	37		John Hitler	10		Jim Mueller	28		Pat Tosie	103	74
Bob Buckles	3		Ron Huck	45		Dwayne Peters	18		Jim Ulett	5	
Tom Carradini	45		Doug Jeffries	4		Todd Powers	5		John Van Asch	43	
Steve Deutsch	47		Sarah Jefferies	3		"Diamond" Dave Rush	44		Andy Walker	14	
Kathy Deutsch	40		Jerry Jost	14		Nick Scarlatis	26		Derek Walker	36	25
Steve Edie	78		Carl Kling	5		Randy Shell	16		Andy White	6	
Mark England	40		Cory Koch	59		Robby Simmons	29		Bill Willingham	8	
Marlon Felman	70		Amber Koch	26		Larry Sigel	16		Holly Panoi Wise	68	
Josh Gutheridge	3		Gary Lange	62	30	Susan Sigel	6		Kevin Wise	26	
Charles Harrison	56		Dan Ludden	6		Mike Slater	29	10	Holly & Kevin		30
Sue Harrison	30		"Books" Mayhew	4	2	Rose SondermaN	18		Norb Wright	6	
Jumpin' Jack Heller	25	21	Leroy McCreary	29	10	Tom Sontag	4		Evan Wright	5	
Joel Healy	6		Tony McMillian	27		Randy Steele	15		Kurt Zahringer	20	40
Mike Hellweg	114		Wayne Miller	4		Mike Steffans	4				

May/June HAP Report by Mike Hellweg

Holly Paoni Wise Kevin Wise

435 points

Anubias	barteri	coffeeafolia	Coffee Leaf Anubias	V	15
Bacopa	australis		Southern Bacopa	V	20
Cryptocoryne	retrospiralis		Retro Crypt	V	15
		Marble			
Echinodoras	cordifolius	Queen	Marble Queen Sword	V	15
Echinodoras	sp.	Red Vein	Red Vein Sword	V	15 MASI First!
Hydrocotyle	verticillata		Pennywort	V	10

Mike Hellweg

3355 points

Elodea	canadensis	Rhodes Pond	American Pondweed	V	5
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Pat Tosie

365 points

Anubias	barteri			IB	20
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Evan Wright

710 points

Hygrophila	pinnatifida		Feather Leaf Hygro	20	MASI First!
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Derek Walker

3275 points

Microsorium	sp.	trident	Trident Leaf Java fern	V	10 MASI First!
Nitella	sp.		Brittlewort	V	15 MASI First!

Reproduction Key: V = Vegetative, OB = Outdoor Bloom, IB = Indoor Bloom, S = Seedling

COCONUT WARNING—FUNGICIDE

By Jim Carmark



I recently acquired some coconuts that were scored to make them more easily opened. After removing the meat, I put the cleaned husks in boiling water. The smell of undecylenic acid filled the kitchen (I'm a chemist). This is the cheap athlete's food medicine often sold as a spray or powder. It is also used as an agricultural fungicide. **DO NOT USE THESE COCONUTS FOR FISH HOUSES.** The poison is absorbed through the husk. I wouldn't eat the meat, either. Use organic coconuts **ONLY**, and if they smell, when boiled, don't use. Organic does not mean chemical free—they can still use sulfur and the like. Please pass this info along to other clubs. *Reprinted by permission from the June 2014 newsletter of The Northeast Council of Aquarium Societies.*

Breeders Award Program by Steve Edie

May 2014	Species	Common Name	Points	Bonus	CARES	Total
Mike Hellweg	<i>Betta chloropharynx</i> * @	Green Throat Betta	15	5	15	5,959
	<i>Xiphophorus milleri</i> "Lago Catemeco" @	Catemeco Platy	10		10	5,979
Cory Koch	<i>Brachydanio kyathit</i>	Redfin Zebra Danio	10			3,333
	<i>Tilapia bathobates</i> @		15		15	3,363
	<i>Xystichromis phytophagus</i> # @		0		10	3,373
	<i>Yssichromis</i> sp. "Blue Tipped" ** @		10	10	10	3,403
Ed Millinger	<i>Corydoras aeneus</i>	Albino Cory	10			765
Pat Tosie	<i>Xenotoca</i> sp. "San Marcos" *		15	5		4,470

June 2014	Species	Common Name	Points	Bonus	CARES	Total
Mike Hellweg	<i>Apistogramma nijsseni</i>		15			5,994
	<i>Pethia aurea</i> *	Dwarf Gold Barb	10	5		6,009
	<i>not Tuberoshistura arakensis</i> *	Rosy Loach	15	5		6,029
Jost Jerry	<i>Corydoras pulcher</i> *	Pretty Cory	10	5		2,057
Cory Koch	<i>Enterochromis paropijs</i> **	Broken Bar	10	10		3,423
	<i>Rocio octofasciata</i>	Jack Dempsey	5			3,428
	<i>Skiffia francesae</i> "Sayula" * @	Tiro dorado, Golden Skiffia	20	5	20	3,473
	<i>Tropheus moorii</i> "Nkonde" *	Nkonde "Sunspot"	15	5		3,493
Ed Millinger	<i>Pethia padamya</i>	Odessa Barb	10			775
Holly Panoi & Kevin Wise	<i>Brachydanio nigrofasciatus</i>	Dwarf Spotted Danio	5			165
	<i>Cryptoheros nanoluteus</i> @		10		10	185
	<i>Oryzias wolasi</i>		10			195
	<i>Xiphophorus milleri</i> @		10		10	215
Todd Powers	<i>Pundamilia nyererei</i> "Makobe Island" @		10		10	80
	<i>Xystichromis</i> sp. "Dayglow" @		10		10	100
Pat Tosie	<i>Amphilophus citrinellus</i>		10			4,480
	<i>Pachypanchax omalonotes</i> "Nosi Be" * @		5	5	5	4,495
	<i>Xiphophorus milleri</i> @		10		10	4,515
Derek Walker	<i>Aspidoras albater</i>		15			3,175
	<i>Cyprinodon fontinalis</i> "Ojo de la Carbonera" * @	Carbonera Pupfish	15	5	15	3,210
	<i>Jenynsia lineata</i> "Embalse de Maldonado"	One-sided Livebearer	20			3,230
	<i>Xystichromis</i> sp. "Kyoga Flameback" @		10		10	3,250

* = First MASI species spawn (5 point bonus)

** = First MASI species and genus spawn (10 point bonus)

*** = First MASI species, genus and family spawn (15 point bonus)

@ = C.A.R.E.S Species at Risk (Double base points)

= Species previously submitted = 0 points, except for C.A.R.E.S. =

base point bonus

^ = Species previously submitted, limited points for additional color varieties

Sources: Cal Academy - <http://research.calacademy.org>

CARES - <http://www.carespreservation.com>

Classifieds

Buy/Sell	Member	Item	Bid/Asked	Contact
Sell	Jim Miller	Bloodworms and brine shrimp. Brine Shrimp eggs 16 oz. can.		314-638-1134
Sell	Charles Harrison	Thiosulfate crystals (Chlorine Remover) - half pound	\$3.00	
		OTO double strength Chlorine/Chloramine test kits - 4 ounce	\$12.50	(314) 894-9761
		Flubendazole, 10% powder 25 grams	\$20.00	charles@inkmkr.com
		Lavamisole HCl Powder - 5 grams treats 100 gallons	\$10.00	
		Methylene Blue 5% solution (4 ounces)	\$12.75	
		Acridine Concentrate (4%) solution, 2 ounces	\$12.70	
		Bromthymol Blue pH test solution, 4 ounces	\$7.00	
Buy	Mike	Small Styro shipping boxes - 12 x 12 x 12 or a little bit smaller. If your company uses them and throws them away, save them! Bring to the meeting or I'll come pick them up	Free	636-240-2443

MA SI Members can place a classified ad in the Darter for free. Ads may be up to 30 words in length. Send your ads to the editor. The ad will run for one issue unless you specify how long to run it, in which case it will run as requested.

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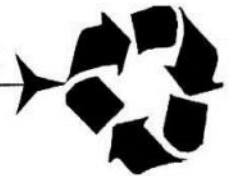
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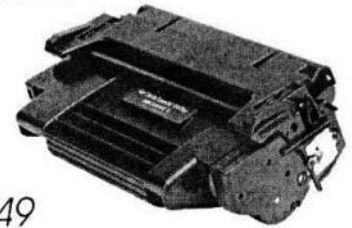


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