

JUNE 2018

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 6

TANK TALES

June Meeting

Shane Misuro

“Building a Coral Tank for Under \$200”

Saturday, June 16th at 1:00

Hand-in-Hand Fire Co., Bird-in-Hand, PA

CORYDORAS
WEITZMANI

DON KINYON

THORACHROMIS
DEMEUSII

ALAN ROLLINGS

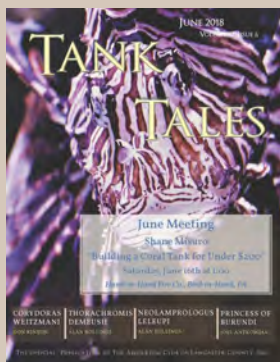
NEOLAMPROLOGUS
LELEUPI

ALAN ROLLINGS

PRINCESS OF
BURUNDI

JOEL ANTKOWIAK

TANK TALES™



ON THE COVER:

Lionfish at Aquarium of the Smokies

Photo by Joel Antkowiak

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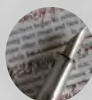
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Michael Buchma

ACLC:

Last month, we had the wonderful Joe Doyle speak to us at our meeting. Joe gave a great presentation which included numerous videos about breeding of fish and everything revolving around it. Perhaps we will have him down again if he is willing.

We are still looking for volunteers to take on some fun duties at the ACLC. Tank Tales Editor, Exchange Editor, WAAP Chair, and ALEF Chair are all still up for grabs. Please contact me if you are interested.

On June 16th at 1:00, we will meet at Bird-in-Hand Fire Company to welcome our speaker of the month, Shane Misuro. Shane is from North Penn High School (NPHS). He will be talking about reefing utilizing minimal funds than traditionally thought of. NPHS is the awardee of ACLC's Aquatic Life Education Fund award for 2018.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

This is my final issue as your Associate Editor. As I have stated before, it has been an enjoyable journey and a pleasure serving in this position. We ended my time with a great issue. After a long absence, Alan Rollings decided to find time to write 2 BAP Reports. Thanks Alan. I encourage all of you to continue writing the informative and exciting articles that have made this newsletter one of the best in the hobby.

It's Your Club, Your Tank Tales!

Thank you

Kurt

Send all communications for Tank Tales to editor@aclcpa.org

Deadline for August Tank Tales is August 1st!

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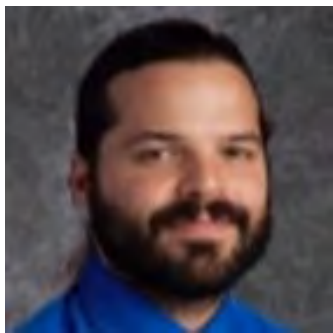
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JUNE PROGRAM

“Building a Coral Tank for Under \$200”



Presented by Shane Misuro

Shane Misuro has been the lead teacher of the North Penn Marine Science Program since its start in 2007. He wrote the curriculum to the marine science course and work study program, and is the current teacher advisor for the North Penn Marine Society. Over the past 10 years Shane has personally overseen the design, fundraising, building, and maintenance of virtually every type of salt and fresh water aquarium. With his students and co-teacher Shane currently maintains over 500+ gallons of aquariums spread through North Penn High School.

The North Penn Marine Science Program has been Growing and evolving for over 12 years. The program now includes a class curriculum, a work study program, and an extracurricular club. In our Marine Science Class students are introduced to the topics of oceanography, marine chemistry, marine ecology, fish science, and fisheries management and become familiar with the theory behind these subjects. The Marine Science Work Study Program was designed to deepen what students learn in Marine Science through its application to fish tank design and aquarium management. Each work study student designs and maintains the 500+ gallons of salt and fresh water aquariums we now have based on their own interests. The systems begin based on each student's individual research, and then they are built, stocked and maintained throughout the school year. Over the last few years the program has started to emphasize coral keeping and propagation. We now have over 100 gallons of coral propagation takes, and are successfully breeding and fragging 10 species of corals. Finally, the North Penn Marine Society is an extracurricular club founded and run by our students. The club meets multiple times a month after school where the members help the school and its teachers set up and maintain aquarium systems as well as fundraise for equipment to improve the marine science program. The club serves as an easy way to spark an interest in fish keeping for every student of North Penn High School.

Coral has been looked at as both the holy grail and third rail off anyone interested in aquarium science. Historically reef tanks have been the most difficult tanks to set up and keep, involving the most maintenance and certainly the highest cost per gallon. Given the unique challenges of having to build and maintain coral tanks in a high school, over the past decade we have learned through trial and error how to build a low cost, low maintenance coral tank, that will look great and be able to keep virtually and grow any kind of coral. In "building a coral tank for under \$200" you will learn everything you need to know about the requirements a system needs to have to raise healthy coral, and how to most economically and efficiently provide those requirements. We will finish by providing a plan for building 3 separate coral systems (that actually exist and have shown to work the way we say they do) complete with a price per item breakdown to prove that you can really can build a tank to house all types of coral for under \$200

Time & Place

**Saturday, June 16th
at
1:00 PM**

**Hand-in-Hand Fire Co.
313 Enterprise Drive
Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505**

ACLC SPEAKER SCHEDULE

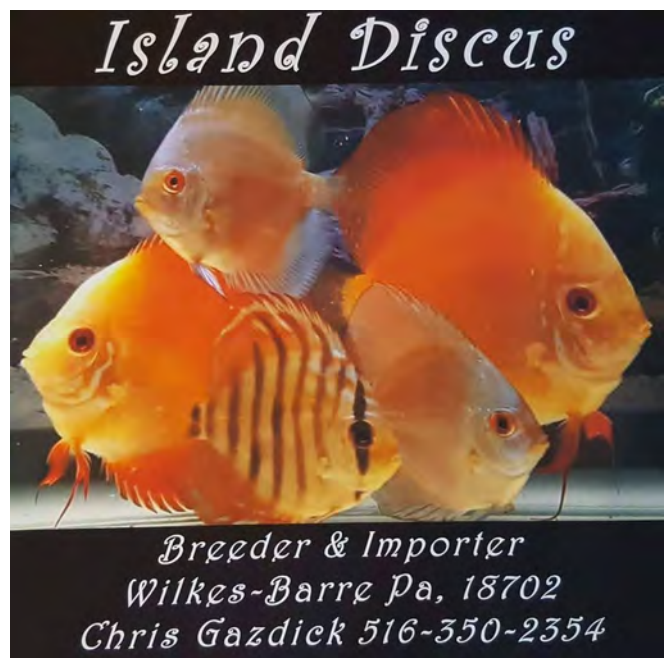
2018
August 18th—Joshua Wiegert
Brackish Water Fishes
September—No meeting
See you at the Keystone Clash!
October 13th** - TBA
November 17th—TBA

* - Board Meeting will be held prior to meeting

** - Meeting is not on 3rd Saturday



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ABOUT THE ACLC™

Established in 1972, the Aquarium Club of Lancaster County is dedicated to further the study of all forms of aquatic life, to promote interest, exchange ideas, distribute information concerning the aquarium hobby and to encourage the breeding and display of aquatic life. The ACLC is an affiliated member of the Northeast Council of Aquarium Societies, Federation of American Aquarium Societies, International Guppy Education & Exhibition Society and the C.A.R.E.S. Preservation Program. The ACLC also actively supports and encourages our members to join the American Cichlid Association, American Livebearer Association, American Killifish Association and any other International, National, Regional or Local Club and Societies. In 2015 we hosted the American Livebearer Association Convention and in 2016 established the Aquatic Life Education Fund.

The ACLC is scheduled to meet on the third Saturday of each month (except July and August) at the Hand-in-Hand Fire co., 313 Enterprise Drive, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. Meetings begin at 1:00 PM unless otherwise noted. Meetings usually are comprised of a program featuring a guest speaker, raffle and door prizes and a mini fish auction, with a period allowed for mingling and refreshments. The philosophy of the club is such that our activities are interesting to both the novice and advanced hobbyist alike. An effort is made to keep business to a minimum at the general meetings, with the board of directors meeting being held quarterly at a pre-established date and time.

DATE: / /

AQUARIUM CLUB OF LANCASTER COUNTY - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Individual: \$18 – Secondary: \$12 – Family: \$35 – Junior: \$6 (under 18)

Secondary members must reside at the same address and do not receive an additional newsletter. Membership is effective the month you join. Renewals are due the following year of the last day of the month you joined. Make checks payable to: Aquarium Club of Lancaster County. Mail to: ACLC Membership Chair, 590 Centerville Rd. #318, Lancaster PA 17601

Do you want your phone number and email address published? Yes () No ()

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How did you hear of the Aquarium Club of Lancaster County? _____

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Spawning *Neolamprologus leleupi*

A BAP Report by Alan Rollings

Long before I arrived in Pennsylvania Karen had a small group of *Neolamprologus leleupi*. She housed them with various other fish in 125-gallon tank. The tank had a white substrate littered with various caves and holy rock, and other caves. For more than 18 months we would undertake regular water changes and re-arranging of the landscape. We provided a wide range of foods, including commercial produced flake foods, live foods and food sticks.

Early in 2016 I was invited to speak at the Youngstown Area Tropical Fish Association in Ohio, and we took the opportunity to visit as many of the local fish stores in the Pittsburg area on our

way home as we could. We have a particularly orange strain of *N. leleupi*, and always take the opportunity to hunt down similar looking specimens to add to the group. This endeavor had previously ended without any success. However, at one of the stores in Pittsburg we stumbled across 5 specimens of a very similar colored *leleupi* to those we had. We bought all 5, and introduced them to the 125-gallon tank increasing our number to 9. They quickly settled in. After a few months we noticed the group had dropped to 6. Each had their own cave. The largest couple being most frequently seen swimming the length and breadth of the tank.



During November 2016 we began to move home, and the fish room had to be decommissioned. The last large tank to be dismantled was the “**leleupi**” tank. I moved the major caves that we had observed the *N. leleupi* using. The larger fish were rehoused in tanks at the new property, and the *N. leleupi* were left in the tank at the former property. We fed them whenever we returned to the house. Then the adults were moved to a 30-gallon

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breeder tank at our new fish room Karen had built in the basement at the new house, and brought over the caves they had been using.

The 125-gallon tank back at the old property still had a few gallons of water in it, and an airstone, and no heater. A few days after we had moved in to the house we had the 125-gallon tank to drain off. Before I did so I checked over the substrate, and was surprised to see rapid movement in a number areas of the tank. I hunted down one of the last

remaining nets. A specimen container was nearby and a couple of plastic bags were at hand. I netted all the little swimmers and bagged them to take back to our new fish room. Once I got back to the new house I introduced the young fish in to an empty 20-gallon tank.

The next day I took time to check these unexpected new additions and realized that they were young *Neolamprologus leleupi*. Over the next few weeks they were fed a wide range of foods, including live foods, crushed flake, and crumbled pellets. Over a very few short

weeks these 20 or so young fish quickly grew with the regularly water changes and various foods, and gradual increase in foot print tank space.

Once the fish had reached one-inch total length we began selling through “aquabid”, and through our various club BAPs.

We submitted our lot of 6 for Donation for BAP on **02/18/2017**. Later in the year we sold the breeding group of 6 adults on to our good friend, and President of CCY, Dwayne Walker.



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AQUATIC LIFE EDUCATION FUND

In January 2016, the Aquarium Club of Lancaster County Board of Directors announced a new program, the ACLC Aquatic Life Education Fund. This program has been instituted to assist schools in our area with funding for the continued development of curriculums related to the study of aquatic life. The importance of continued education of young people in this field could not be overstated and we felt that there is no better way to show our support than to develop a means for our club to assist financially.

The program works as follows:

- Five percent (5%) of the ACLC's auction proceeds annually between September 1st and August 31st will be earmarked for this fund
- The ACLC will also collect any donations offered by members and guests at all meetings and events held during the year and put 100% of those into the fund
- In 2017 the ACLC BOD decided that the moneys we collect from Amazon Smile will also be used to fund the ALEF.
- The ACLC will accept nominations from ACLC Members in good standing, for schools to be considered recipients beginning in September of each year and the decision will be made by a vote of the ACLC membership no later than at the March General meeting.
- Nominations should be accompanied by a letter from that school's representative with a description of the program the funds will be used for.
- Schools must be pre-college education facilities from neighboring counties in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey.
- No fees or other costs will be deducted from the funds collected. 100% will go to the school selected by the ACLC. A check will be awarded to that school as soon as possible after August 31st each year.

We look forward to this being and long term annual program to help educate our areas' young people in all aspects of our hobby and to promote the conservation efforts necessary for the continues existence of aquatic life.

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AQUATIC LIFE EDUCATION FUND MAY 2018 REPORT

Let's go ACLC! We are only \$157 away from our goal for 2018! Time for all of us to step up! Please consider donating at this months meeting. We have the pleasure of hosting the Shane Misuro of the North Penn High School program as a speaker at this months meeting and it would be great to show him how generous the members of the ACLC are! It is also a good time to ask him about what they do at NPHS and how our donations will benefit the programs at the school.

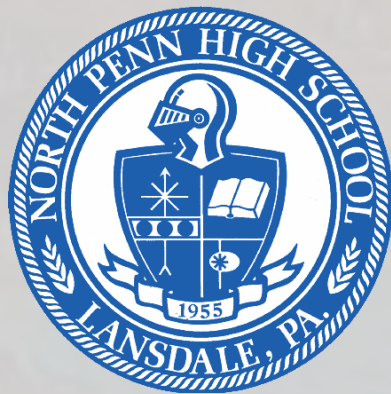
Let's keep up the good work and raise some money for this worthwhile group of young people!

If you have any questions, please contact me at ALEF@aclcpa.org.

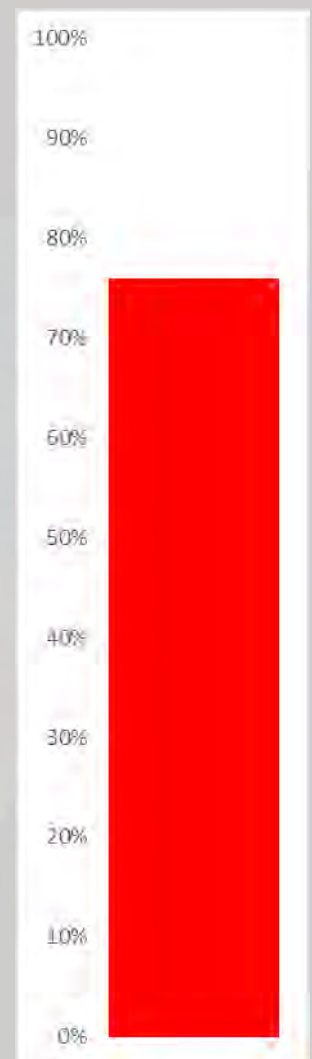
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Kurt Johnston

ALEF Chair



2018 Goal = \$650.00
Current = \$493.28



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Mike Mull

Collecting, Keeping & Breeding *Corydoras Weitzmani*

Journey of One of My Favorite Corys:
From a Peruvian Stream to Producing Fry in the Aquarium

By Don Kinyon

When I was a kid, I could catch any minnow, chub, madtom, or stickleback in the stream at any given moment. Either the *Corydoras weitzmani* is a much more crafty and elusive fish than the inhabitants of the streams in Western New York, or the decades of time between then and now have dulled my senses and reaction time extensively. In either case, I could not catch one of these guys for the life of me and it's a good thing I had help.

Corydoras weitzmani was described in 1971 by Nijssen, but the location was recorded incorrectly, and the fish was not imported until after Belinda and Lance Peck discovered the fish living in streams of southern Peru near Quince Mil in 2003. * It gets its name from Dr. Stanley H. Weitzman (1927-2017), one of the most pleasant people there ever was in the scientific or aquarium hobby worlds.

This *Corydoras* is a very attractive fish. It's sometimes called the "two saddle Cory" because of the black markings on the back of the bronze colored fish; one directly under the dorsal fin and one at the caudal peduncle, vaguely resembling two western saddles. The fish also has a prominent black eye-stripe. When the light reflects from the fish's armor plates, they reflect a brilliant metallic green. The fins are clear. The males reach a little over two inches, the females can reach two and a half.



Background photo and collecting photo by David Snell. All other photos by the author



Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

In October of 2017 I was lucky enough to have the chance to tour the Madre de Dios region of Peru with a group of friends and collect a number of really cool South American fish. For part of the trip we stayed in Quince Mil along the Rio Araza. Lance Peck was one of our guides, so finding the sites was not a problem. Due to industry, the location Lance had found this *Corydoras* in 2003 no longer existed, but he had found others. I won't give out the exact locations because commercial exporters have devastated locations in the past (but I'll make any hobbyist a deal: take me back there on a collecting trip and I'll show you where they are).



We collected in two locations along the Rio Araza and found the fish in both spots. Everyone in the party was catching *Corydoras weitzmani*: that is, everyone but me. Both habitats were shallow, shaded, and very rocky with moderate current.

The water conditions were: pH from 6.5 to 7.0, TDS around 30ppm, and temperature at site 1: 70°F, site 2: 78°F. The technique for capturing these fish is to spot one in the stream and wait for it to stop, which was almost always under the edge of one of the rounded stones, then slowly come up behind it with a hand net and move your other hand towards the fish quickly from the other side to scare it into the net. Easy, right? Spotting the fish was easy in the clear water when they were moving, and I tried the approved method again and again. The fish never swam into the net. Faster, slower, round-house moves, splashing: it didn't matter, the fish just wouldn't cooperate. After a while, the rest of the group had caught what they wanted and were ready to move on. I think Lance realized that I wasn't going to go until I had at least one *Corydoras weitzmani* to my credit.

Lance had a definite advantage as he's done this for a long, long time. He tracked me down in upstream in the forest and coached me as we looked for more fish. Once we found one and followed it to a large stone, where it stopped. Lance told me where to set the net and he moved both hands around the rock. Easy as that, the catfish swam into the net- seems like I should've been able to do that! That catch, even

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

though I needed help, made my day. The rest of the group was happy as well, because now we could move on to the next site.

We did have a short delay when we got back to the van, when a local police officer was curious as to what all these Americans were doing in the creek. He was interested in the fish we were catching and asked about them. Once he checked out the fish, he smiled and sent us on our way.

The *C. weitzmani* turned out to be very hardy and traveled well. From the wild, to the holding tanks at Go Wild Peru, to the shippers, to Northern Virginia, we lost very few if any fish. When we split up the fish on arrival, I ended up with nine individuals.

Once the fish were back home, they were housed in a 20-gallon long aquarium filled with tap water. I already had a group of this species (most likely from a location that has since been destroyed) that were doing well and breeding in this water, so I assumed the wild fish would do the same. I wanted to keep these separate because the markings on the wild fish was more distinct, making the fish stand out. The tank used a Matten filter with two air-powered lift tubes and no heater. The temperature varied from the mid-sixties to low seventies, pH was 7.2 and TDS in the 150ppm range. One large yarn mop was at the bottom along with several pieces of bog wood. The floor of the tank was covered with a thin layer of brown sand.

It took the wild fish no time at all to make themselves at home in their new digs. Within a few minutes of release, a few of them were in the current of the airlift tubes and seemingly having a great time. From the very first, they ate heartily: usually flake or pellet food in the morning and either frozen or live food in the evening. Frozen blood worms or brine shrimp, live black worms, white worms or chopped earth worms were all accepted when offered. On this diet the female Corys grew robust in no time, and the males paid more attention to them. It turned out that there were five females and four males in the group; maybe not perfect, but a very good mix.

I checked the bottom mop daily, as well as the tank bottom and walls, but for the first few months, found nothing. In mid-February when

there were two eggs in the mop, but nothing in the rest of the tank. I put them in a hatching container to keep watch but sadly, they were not viable and never hatched. It was another two weeks before more eggs appeared in the mop: over 40 of them! Some fish had to be evicted from their 5-gallon tank in order to start an F1 hatching / rearing tank for the *Corydoras*. This tank was filled with water from the breeding tank and contained a sponge filter, some java moss, and brown sand on the floor. A few days later the fish presented me with another 22 eggs which were added to the others.

In three days, the eggs began to hatch. During the day the fry would remain under the moss or the filter but using a flashlight after the lights were out would catch them in the open. At this point, they young look like nothing more than an egg with a tail, but they scurry away as soon as the light shines on them. In another day, all the eggs from the first group had hatched that were going to, and by a quick count about 80% had hatched out. I gave them another two days before I started to feed micro worms, followed by *Golden Pearls* powdered food and decapsulated brine shrimp eggs a few days later. In one week, the youngsters looked more like a catfish and could be seen, mostly at night, searching the bottom of the tank for food; sifting through the sand with their snouts. At this point they have very little pigmentation: just a few speckles of black on a bronzy background.

These are one of the faster growing *Corydoras*. At around a month's age, the young *Corydoras weitzmani* looked much like a small version of the adults and the pattern could be seen, though not as distinct as on the adult fish. Now the oldest of the group were about three-quarters of an inch long and crushed flake food was added to the diet rotation. The young fish accepted the new food with no problem.

At this writing, the oldest of the F1 fish are almost six weeks old and still growing quickly. Once they are mature enough, I hope to distribute some to hobbyists that have not kept the species before and possibly get some to breeders that already keep *Corydoras weitzmani*, to enhance the genetics of their breeding groups.

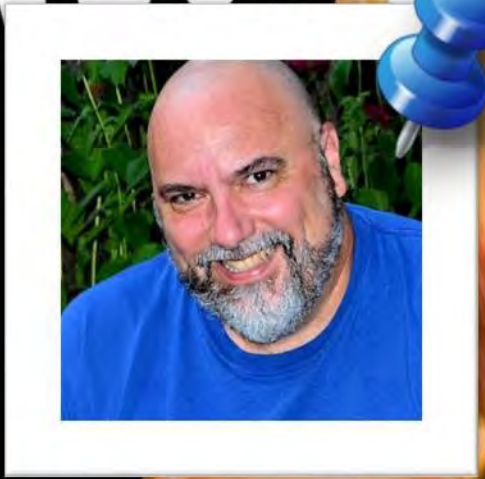




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Blasts from our Past

Let's Talk Cichlids—*Geophagus balzanii*

-by Delores Schehr

This article was first published in a 1983 Issue of Tank Tales™ and was reprinted from Tropiquarium, the publication of the Motor City Aquarium Society

In the southernmost range of the aquarium world is Paraguay. Paraguay, until the last decade, had never been exploited for aquarium fishes. One reason was the climate was too cold and also it was not known what the country had to offer hobbyists. In many of the higher regions, the waters may freeze over during July and August and so tropical fish were not expected in these areas. There was an expedition in search of new aquatic plants and in the course of dragging a seine across the river a bright yellow-blue cichlid with a large hump on its head was found. These fish were identified as *Geophagus* and were named *Geophagus balzanii*.

My first experience with *G. balzanii* began one and a half years ago when I purchased three fish approximately three inches long. I could find very little information on this unusual fish, but I decided that, through reading, there was a noticeable difference in the sexes, but I could find no difference in mine. They spent their day going around "chewing" on the gravel. They grabbed a mouthful of gravel, removing whatever food was to be found, and spewed the gravel out of their gills. They spent all day rearranging the gravel. They had good appetites and grew nicely. Another interesting characteristic is their peace-fulness; regardless of how big they got, they can be kept with smaller cichlids with no fear of the small ones being harassed. When full grown, a male gets to be about six inches, the female about five inches.

Ever so often, one of the fish would drop a tube and the spawn in a flower pot or on a rock. They stood guard over the eggs and they continuously fungused. I kept hoping one of my three would be a male, but not so. Then I got a call from the shop telling me there was a male *balzanii* there so I drove across town, checked the fish and purchased it hoping for a male. When I put the fish in with my three, I waited to see the reactions and hoped. After a couple of months, the new male (?) laid eggs too. Now I have four fish laying eggs, but no fry.

This past summer, at the A.C.A. Convention, I found a member of a local club who presented me with a male *G. balzanii*. When this one was introduced to my tank there was a definite different interaction. The females are a silvery-yellow with a dark spot on the flanks of their body. A distinct dark line comes across the eye and down their gill plate. When guarding eggs, the vertical bars of the female are apparent. The profile of

(Continued on page 21)

(Continued from page 20)

the female's head is more pointed. The male has a hump-headed appearance. The flank spot is faint and the body is yellowish-blue with blue iridescent spots on the body and fins. There is also red markings in the dorsal. The most unusual and identifying thing about the males is the hump, which I have already mention, then the head; instead of slanting goes straight down and the mouth is set very low.

He started showing off in front of the females with all his fins erected. He very soon began ruling the tank, but it took two months before he got down to business. When I noticed a female cleaning the inside of a flower pot the male stood close by chasing all the other tank mates away. Then they spawned in typical cichlid substrate - spawning fashion. About 50-60 eggs were laid in the pot. After spawning the male left the scene and the female assumed all the duties of caring for the eggs. They do not form a pair bonds, instead, group spawning is very successful. One thing I've never noticed in other fish, but in these is that hey cover their eggs with sand. After about 36 hours, the eggs were gone, however, the female's buccal cavity was bulging a little. She steadily washed the eggs.

This is what is called a delayed mouthbrooding species. Sometimes it is not all that easy to tell if a female has eggs in her mouth, she keeps it closed pretty tight. After a few days, I remove the female to a tank of her own and after about ten days she released her fry.

The fry were very small, but did eat newly hatched brine shrimp nauplii. After a few days, I moved the female back to her regular tank. The fry are very slow growing at first, but, so what, I at least have *Geophagus balzanii* fry.

Cichlids cover a big subject and when one is searching for a fish with an interesting breeding habit; peaceful and pretty, this fish has it all!

~ Special Editor's Note

In August of 2016, the Aquarium Club of Lancaster County lost its last remaining founding member when F. Wayne Calender passed away. Wayne's son David got in contact with me this summer to let me know that there were some ACLC related items in the house that he thought we might appreciate having. After, bringing these boxes home, I have found a small treasure trove of interesting ACLC history including several articles written by Wayne, other ACLC members and even some exchange articles that were sent to Wayne. I am going to reprint these articles and I will include any information I have with the article. For those of you that did not have the pleasure of knowing Wayne, he was "The Scaly Thumb"!

Kurt Johnston
Associate Editor

HORTICULTURAL AWARD PROGRAM MONTHLY REPORT-MAY 2018

SPECIES PROPAGATED—MAY 2018

GARY HAAS—10 POINTS

Hygrophila difformis * 10 points

WES BAHRT—20 POINTS

Ludwigia repens x arcuata* 20 points

* indicates that plant was donated to club auction (2x points)
+indicates plant was donated & article submitted to Tank Tales
donation points only—plant was registered earlier

PROPAGATOR OF THE YEAR

Wes Bahrt	5 species
Bressler Family	4 species
Joe Yanik	2 species
Chris Edwards	1 species
Gary Haas	1 species

GARDENER OF THE YEAR

Wes Bahrt	80 points
Bressler Family	70 points
Joe Yanik	15 points
Chris Edwards	10 points
Gary Haas	10 points



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LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

2 Star Gardener

Gary Haas
Bressler Family
Wesley Bahrt

Novice Gardener

Clair Klinedinst
Karen Haas
Joel Antkowiak

1 Star Gardener

Gary Boyer
Alan Rollings
Scott Sommer
Charles Vickery

WRITER'S & ARTIST'S AWARD PROGRAM

Congratulations to Don Kinyon. His article on *Apistogramma rubrolineata* that was published in our May issue was reprinted in the May 2018 edition of the Sacramento Aquarium Society's Tropical News and reviewed in the June 2018 edition of the Kitchener Waterloo Aquarium Society's Fins & Tales.

Unfortunately, I need to step down as WAAP Chair and we need someone to take charge of this very important program. Please consider spending a few moments of your time and help your club with this worthwhile program.

~ Kurt Johnston
WAAP Chair

2018 MIGHTY FIN STANDINGS

THROUGH JUNE 5, 2018

Joel Antkowiak	295 points
Don Kinyon*	275 points
Kurt Johnston	95 points
Rich Bressler	40 points
Jim Stokes	30 points
Dan Taylor	20 points
Karen Haas	85 points
Alan Rollings	10 points
Michael Buchma*	5 points

*includes points for 2017 NEC
Awards

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CLASSIC CICHLIDS

The Princess Of Burundi

Photos & Story by Joel Antkowiak

This time we travel back to the Old World where we find there is royalty endemic to Lake Tanganyika in East Africa. These monarchs of the water have become a vastly popular aquarium fish over the years, with their magnificent white tipped lyretail providing a flowing crown to their beauty. I am of course referring to the fish that was once known in many circles as the Princess of Burundi, *Neolamprologus brichardi*.

Princess of Burundi is more a name of the past for this fish, having been dubbed that in the early 1970s when it was originally imported. Nowadays, the fish is more commonly called the fairy cichlid, lyretail cichlid, or simply 'brichardi'. It is very similar in appearance to another popular cichlid from Lake Tanganyika, the daffodil cichlid, *Neolamprologus pulcher*, whose fins are yellowish colored. Two other species that are closely related to and very similar in appearance to the princess are *N. crassus* and *N. marunguensis*.

The princess is a true beginner's fish. It will acclimate to a wide range of water conditions, preferring alkaline water that is moderately

hard. They are not fussy as to temperature, doing well from the low 70s F to the low 80s F. And they eagerly accept a wide variety of foods. The fish is mostly peaceful except, as with most cichlids - during spawning, and is an excellent community fish.



Pair of *B. brichardi* with fry

Speaking of spawning, these fish are exemplary parents. They are substrate cave spawners, depositing their eggs on the roof or sides of

(Continued on page 25)

(Continued from page 24)

caves. The female guards the eggs while the male tends to the territory. Often times the aquarist will not even know the fish have spawned until the young appear, as they are quite secretive in their spawning behavior. The eggs hatch in two to three days, depending on temperature, and are free swimming in another four to five days. The fry are large enough to accept baby brine shrimp as a first food, and will quickly adapt to prepared foods such as crushed flakes or powder.



Grampa above—notice the nuchal hump, makes an appearance

It is at this time when they become really interesting, as the parents guard the family vigorously as they mosey around the tank. This care goes on for months, even as subsequent spawns are hatched, and the young royals also share in tending to their younger brethren. In a large enough aquarium, you can get multiple family units spawning and caring for their young together. Actively parental *N. brichardi* have been known to care for the young of other fish as well as their own, even other species.

If the young are fed 3 to 4 times daily, and weekly 50 percent water changes are performed, they will reach a half inch in about a month, and near an inch in length by 2 months of age. By about 3 months of age the unpaired fins will start to develop their bluish tips and extensions. They become sexually mature at approximately 7 months of age and will start to pair off to start their own family units.

When not in parental mode, the species has been known to show schooling behavior and

can be a great community aquarium addition. Some possible tank mates include other smaller, on the peaceful side Tanganyikan cichlids such as *Julidochromis ornatus* and *J. transcriptus*, *Neolamprologus multifasciatus* and *N. leleupi*, as well as rainbowfish, danios and even a killifish if one is so inclined - *Lamprichthys tanzanicanus*.

The Princess of Burundi is a royally beautiful fish that has become a mainstay in the aquarium hobby, but it is their parenting behavior that sets these fish apart from most others in the hobby. Although they make a great addition to almost any community aquarium, an aquarist will get the most joy from breeding these gems. This is one of the easiest fish to breed as the fish do all the work for you. You may not even realize that you have bred them until a school of fry suddenly appears with their proud parents out of a secluded cave in your aquarium.



**Dave's Rare
Aquarium Fish**

www.davesfish.com

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C.A.R.E.S. REGISTRATION

ACLC CARES May Monthly Report

Updated on April 30, 2018

Congratulations to Karen Haas and Alan Rollings for being selected ACLC's, "CARES Members of the Year 2017".

Let's talk about how to register your CARES fish with the national organization. Ask me, or check out the new CARES website at caresforfish.org.

Clair Klinedinst—ACLC CARES Coordinator

CARES@ACLC.org



JOEL ANTKOWIAK

Tanichthys micagemmae	●		●		6
Ameba splendens	●	●			6
Tanichthys albonubes	●				5
Pachypanchax sparksorum	●				3
Xenotaenia resolonae	●				3
Melanotaenia boesemani	●		●		3
Melanotaenia eachamensis	●				3
Cryptoheros myrnae	●				2
Bedotia geayi	●				2
Xiphophorus malinche	●			●	2
Zoogoneticus tequila	●				2
Nothobranchius kilomberoensis	●				1
Neotoca bilineata	●				1
Xenotoca melanosoma	●				1
Skiffia francesae	●				1

STEVE ARNOTT

Tanichthys micagemmae	●		●		5
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GARY BOYER

Pundamilia nyererei	●		●		1
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Pundamilia pundamilia	●				
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RICH BRESSLER

Melanotaenia lacustris	●				5
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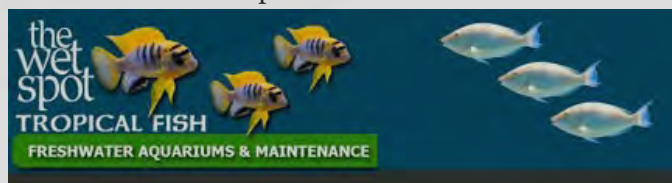
Bedotia geayi	●		●		3
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Zoogeneticus tequila	●	●	●		3
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Glossolepsis incisus	●		●		3
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Melanotaenia boesemani	●				2
------------------------	---	--	--	--	---

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C.A.R.E.S. REGISTRATION

PAUL BRICKNELL

Ilyodon whitei (lennoni)	●				
Zoogeneticus tequila	●				
Ameca splendens	●				
Ataeniobius toweri	●				

CLAIR KLINEDINST

Tanichthys albonubes	●				2
Tanichthys micagemmae	●				2
Chapalichthys encaustus	●		●		1
Xiphophorus kallmani	●				1
Xiphophorus malinche	●				

JOHN & NATALIE DICKEL

Xenotoca eiseni	●		●		1
Ameca splendens	●				

PAUL TANGREDI

Melanotaenia lacustris	●				3
------------------------	---	--	--	--	---

GARY HAAS

Fundulopanchax sjoestedti	●	●			3
Fundulopanchax amieti	●		●		2
Puntius titteya	●	●			2
Melanotaenia boesemani	●				1
Nematolebia papiliferus (Inoa)	●				1
Nothobranchius kilomberoensis	●				3
Puntius denisonii	●				1

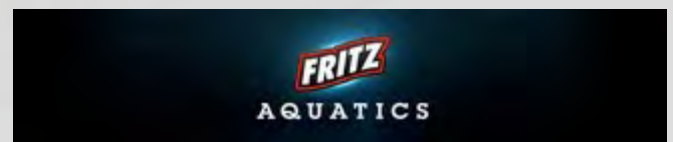


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KAREN HAAS & ALAN ROLLINGS

Synodontis brichardi	●				2
Glossolepis incisus	●				2
Chapalichthys encaustus	●		●		3
Amatitlania nanolutea	●		●		1
Ataeniobius toweri	●				1
Ptyochromis sp. 'Red Rock Sheller'	●				
Amatitlania myrnae	●				
Paralabidochromis sp. 'Fire'	●				
Pundamilia pundamilia 'Senga Point'	●				
Rocio spinosissima	●				
Amatitlania septemfasciata	●				



ACLC Sponsor Advertisement

Experiences and Breeding of *Thorachromis demeusii*

(Inga Point, Congo River)

A BAP Report by Alan Rollings

Some years ago I obtained Anon Lamboj's book "The Cichlids of West Africa". It is adorned with many pictures of rare and beautiful species. Among the many fish that I would want was one of this species, *Thoracochromis demeusii*.

By chance during March 2017 I happened to attend the Spring Auction held by NECA (New England Cichlid Association). As part of their Silent Auction there was a bag lot of 4 adult *Thoracochromis demeusii*. I saw this as my chance to get one of my "Bucket List Species". The lot was a donation to the club by Oliver Lucanus. I won the silent auction, and housed them in a 10-gallon quarantine tank until we were able to rehouse them in larger quarters.



The reported maximum length for a male *Thoracochromis demeusii* is 6 inches. It has a moderately deep body sloping to a pointed snout. The head profile varies from slightly concave – females and juveniles – to sharply concaved in adult males, and the dominant males can develop a nuchal °There is no dimorphism in the sexes in their body color. The overall body color is lovat-brown. Some scales in

(Continued on page 29)

(Continued from page 28)

areas of the body can exhibit a silvery center. Both the dorsal and caudal fins have a mix of blue and red, and the colors are stronger in the males and are edged in with a black margin. Males can be distinguished by the pale egg spots in the anal fin.

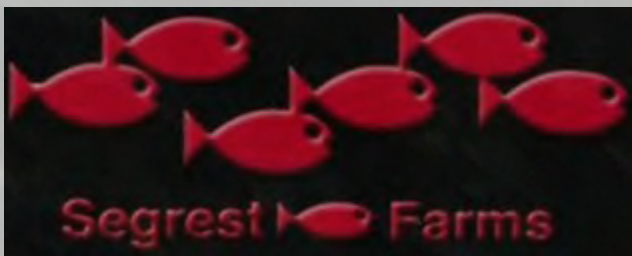
The group of fish were maintained in a 125-gallon tank that was decorated with several caves and clear swimming areas. The water temperature ranged from 71° F to 80°F. Weekly partial water changes varied from 30% to 75%. The water was Allentown Municipal supply which is on the hardside, and the pH around 7.3

Thoracochromis demeusii is a maternal mouth brooder. Courtship is instigated by the male dancing in front of a ripe



female. Our females had brood sizes up to 30. The mouth brood care lasted for 21 days.

The young once released, or stripped from the female, were fed a collection of live foods such as micro-worms, brine shrimp, crushed commercial flake, and vinegar eels. As the fry grew and matured the diet included Cobalt flake and cichlid sticks, live black worms, and frozen foods.



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BREEDER AWARD PROGRAM

MONTHLY REPORT

BAP NEWS AS OF MAY 31ST, 2018

The month of May brought a number of BAP points to ACLC, as did April. However, I was up late writing the April report and forgot to email the completed report to the editor. For which you can be grateful, as about half of the report was puns about breeding snails, several of which were a real stretch .

April brought BAP points to a BAP veteran, the team of **Karen Haas and Alan Rollings**, and a BAP newcomer, **Wesley Bahrt**. Just in time for our May speaker, **Joe Doyle**, who spoke about BAP as it is practiced in Pittsburgh. We can all learn from our western brethren. (Is there an emoji for rolling eyes???)

Karen and Alan claimed points last month for three live-bearers and two snails, while Wesley claimed points for a snail and for a Tanganyikan cichlid which in the wild lives primarily in (large) snail shells. Yes, you can get points for a snail, and it's a fine way to get started in BAP. We see BAP veterans keeping and breeding some of the more interesting and harder snails, as well.

This month Karen and Alan claimed points for two African cichlids and two South American cichlids. Two of these fish are CARES fish, earning the 30% bonus BAP points for fish properly registered with the national CARES program. These bonus points propelled Karen and Alan past Danny Corman into the lead for 2018 Breeder of the Year. I understand there will be an article in this edition of Tank Tales about spawning one of these fish, which will earn even more BAP bonus points, not to mention WAAP (Writer & Artist's Award Program) points.

The big news this month comes from Danny Corman, who reported spawns of a gorgeous Rainbow fish and a Blue-eye (a diminutive cousin of the rainbow fish). These two spawns earned Danny BAP points, and also completed the Class 9 Specialist Breeder award. The Specialist Breeder award, Danny's third, advances him to the Advanced Breeder level of BAP Lifetime Achievement. Danny's Blue-eye species is a brackish-water fish, adding to the challenge of the path Danny chose in pursuit of BAP achievement. Congratulations to Danny.

Now I have to mail this in. Twenty-five minutes before deadline.

~Gary Haas, BAP Chair

APRIL MAY SPECIES BRED

Haas/Rollings

Belonesox belizanus

Carlhubbsia kidder

Asolene spixi

Marisa cornuarietis

Pelvicachromis silviae

Ptyochromis sp "Red Rock Sheller"

Panamius panamensis

Herichthys tamasopoensis

Danny Corman

Melanotaenia boesemani

Pseudomugil cyanodorsalis

Wesley Bahrt

Neolamprologus multifasciatus

Planorbarius corneus

2018 BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Haas/Rollings	99 points
Danny Corman	92 points
Bob Kulesa	55 points
Paul Bricknell	36 points
Wesley Bahrt	20 points
Gary Haas	20 points
Bressler Family	20 points
Gary Boyer	7 points

2018 SPECIES BRED

Haas/Rollings	9 species
Danny Corman	4 species
Paul Bricknell	2 species
Gary Haas	2 species
Bob Kulesa	2 species
Wesley Bahrt	2 species
Gary Boyer	1 species
Bressler Family	1 species

BAP LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

CURRENTLY ACTIVE ACLC MEMBERS

F. WAYNE CALENDER BREEDER

Wayne Calender	1978 pts
Bressler Family	1593 pts

GRAND MASTER BREEDER

Paul Bricknell	2039 pts
David Stephon	1120 pts
Pedro Sanchez	1050 pts

EXPERT BREEDER

Bob Kulesa*	867 pts
-------------	---------

ADVANCED BREEDER

Joel Antkowiak*	1278 pts
Haas/Rollings*	1034 pts
Gary Boyer*	722 pts
Danny Corman*	610 pts

2 STAR BREEDER

Gary Haas*	554 pts
Clair Klinedinst*	235 pts
J/N Dickel	178 pts

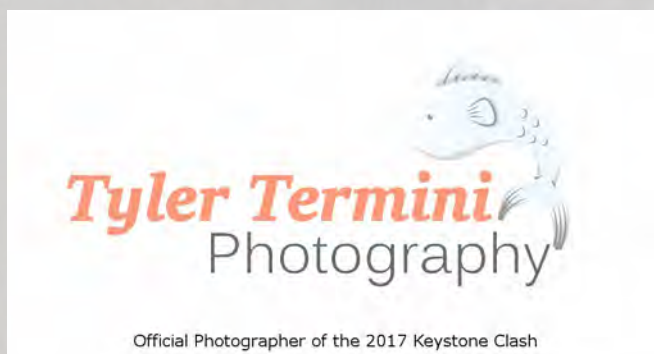
1 STAR BREEDER

Glenn Davies*	140 pts
Dave Frehafer	90 pts
Scott Shenk	70 pts
Wesley Bahrt	67 pts
Tony Kline	60 pts
Robin Antkowiak	57 pts
Kurt Johnston	56 pts

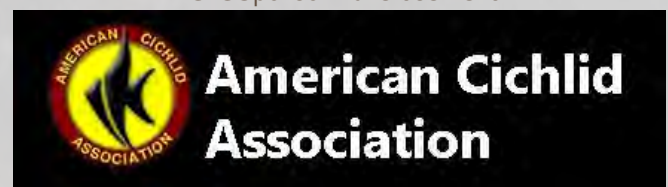
OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Sam Jones	66 pts
Charles Vickery	39 pts
The Moyers	37 pts
Lonny Langione	35 pts
Julie Lovell	26 pts
Ashley Antkowiak	21 pts
Mackenzie Dalton	14 pts

**Breeder has enough points for next higher class award but needs to complete one or more classes to achieve the award.*



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SPECIALIST BREEDER AWARDS

CURRENTLY ACTIVE ACLC MEMBERS

CLASS 1—LIVEBEARERS

Paul Bricknell (A) Wayne Calender
Bob Kulesa Pedro Sanchez
David Stephon Joel Antkowiak (X)
Bressler Family (X) Gary Boyer (A)
J/N Dickel Haas/Rollings (A)
Clair Klinedinst Danny Corman

CLASS 2—CATFISH

Wayne Calender Bob Kulesa
Bressler Family

CLASS 3—BARBS & MINNOWS

David Stephon Paul Bricknell
Bressler Family

CLASS 4—CHARACINS

Wayne Calender David Stephon
Danny Corman Bressler Family

CLASS 5—KILLIFISH

Bob Kulesa Wayne Calender
Pedro Sanchez Paul Bricknell (M)
Bressler Family Gary Haas

CLASS 6—ANABANTOIDS

Bressler Family

CLASS 7—NEW WORLD CICHLIDS

Bob Kulesa Pedro Sanchez
David Stephon Bressler Family
Paul Bricknell Haas/Rollings (A)
Gary Boyer

CLASS 8—OLD WORLD CICHLIDS

Bob Kulesa Joel Antkowiak
Bressler Family Paul Bricknell
Gary Boyer Haas/Rollings

CLASS 9—RAINBOWS & BLUE-EYES

Bressler Family Danny Corman

CLASS 11—OTHER AQUATIC ANIMALS

Bob Kulesa Joel Antkowiak
Bressler Family Haas/Rollings
Paul Bricknell

CLASS 12—U.S. NATIVE SPECIES

Wayne Calender Paul Bricknell
Bressler Family

CLASS 14—ALL OTHER FW FISH

Bressler Family

SPECIAL NOTES

(A) - Designates Advanced Breeder for that Class

(M) - Designates Master Breeder for that Class

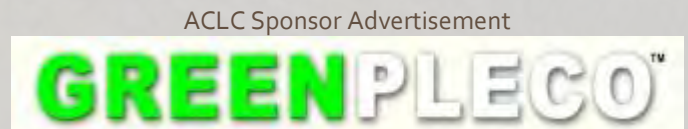
(X) - Designates Expert Breeder for that Class



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BREEDER AWARD PROGRAM INFORMATION

All ACLC Members in good standing are eligible to participate in the breeders Award Program. The purpose of the ACLC Breeders Award Program is to promote the keeping and breeding of tropical and marine fish and invertebrates, to recognize and motivate achievement in the hobby, to encourage the development of the skills and knowledge necessary to spawn more difficult species ,to support the CARES program by encouraging the spawning of species endangered in the wild, to share knowledge about breeding techniques and to publish accounts of spawning techniques.

Please use the form on this page to submit spawning reports or for a full copy of the BAP rules and an electronic form submission, go to our website at <http://aclcpa.org>

The Aquarium Club of Lancaster County - Spawning Report					
Member Name:		Member No. #:		Date:	
Scientific Name:					
Common Name:					
If this is a CARES eligible species, have you registered it in the CARES Program Y/N?					
Tank Tales Article Written Y/N ?			Fish Donated in Auction Y/N?		
Comments:					
Class:		Group:		Points:	
Confirmed by:				Date Confirmed:	

The Aquarium Club of Lancaster County - Spawning Report					
Member Name:		Member No. #:		Date:	
Scientific Name:					
Common Name:					
If this is a CARES eligible species, have you registered it in the CARES Program Y/N?					
Tank Tales Article Written Y/N ?			Fish Donated in Auction Y/N?		
Comments:					
Class:		Group:		Points:	
Confirmed by:				Date Confirmed:	

South Jersey Guppy Group

is proud to host the

Frank Zillitto Memorial IFGA Sanctioned Guppy Show



July 14-15, 2018

LOCATION

Griggstown Volunteer Fire House

1037 Canal Road

Griggstown, NJ 08540

(Princeton works better in some GPS devices)

SHOW SCHEDULE

Friday, July 13th

4:00 pm - 8:00 pm setting up

Saturday, July 14th

9:00 am - 1:30 pm Enter your fish
2:30 pm Judging begins.
If you would like to be an observer, the sign-up
sheet will be at the admin table.

Sunday, July 15th

9:00 am - 10:00 am Auction fish on display
|10:30 am Auction begins.

CO- SHOW CHAIRPERSONS

Michael Soda 908-637-4895

gemstarguppies@comcast.net

Cheri Tenaglia 215-586-1397

southjerseyguppygroup@gmail.com

SHIPPED ENTRIES TO:

Russ Beasty
158 Bryans Road
Hampton, N.J. 08827

Must be received by 4:30 pm on Friday, July 13th
Please email to Russ prior to shipping
rbeasty158@comcast.net
Russ's phone # 908-246-5441 if needed.

Show rules posted at:

www.south-jersey-guppy-group.com/
www.ifga.org/jerseyannual

Keystone Clash



Cichlid Club of York

Aquarium Club of
Lancaster County

September 14-16, 2018

Clarion Hotel & Conference Center - Harrisburg West
148 Sheraton Drive (PA Turnpike Exit 242)
New Cumberland, PA 17070

All Species Fish Show: 46 Classes including plants, photography, & crafts

American Cichlid Association sanctioned show classes

American Killifish Association sanctioned show classes

**Speakers: Eric Bodrock, Mike Hellweg, Jonathan Strazinsky,
Mark Henry Sabaj, Mark DelRaso, Josh Cunningham**

<https://keystoneclash.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1388547304496191/>

- ↔ Vendor Room
- ↔ Room Sales
- ↔ All Day Auction
- ↔ Hospitality Suite
- ↔ Banquet
- ↔ Raffles
- ↔ 12 talks
- ↔ Buffet Breakfast Included with Hotel Room
- ↔ Hotel complimentary shuttle to Harrisburg Int'l Airport, Harrisburg Amtrak and Bus Station

WORLD CLASS SPEAKERS



**Ad
Konings**



**Greg
Steeves**



**Jose
Gonzales**



**Kathy
England**



**Paul
Loiselle**



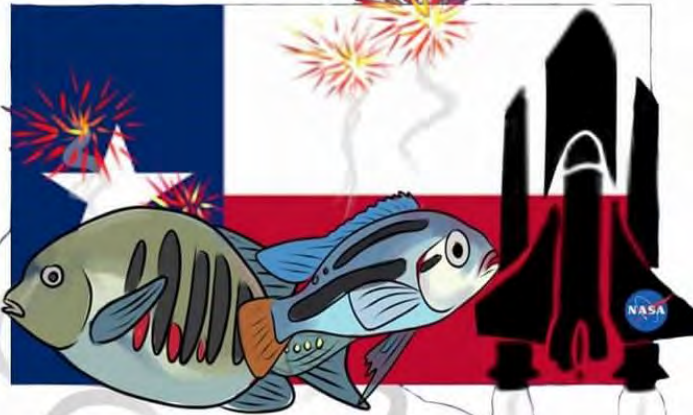
**Dave
Schumacher**



**Michael
Kidd**



**Marvin
England**



ACA 2018 - HOUSTON, TX
*A CICHLID FAMILY
 C.A.R.E.S. CONVENTION
 July 4th-8th*

JULY 4TH FIREWORKS
MULTIPLE SPEAKERS, FISH SHOW
VENDOR ROOM, SHOW ROOM
C.A.R.E.S. PROGRAM FISH
KEEMAH BOARDWALK, MOODY GARDENS
SPACE CENTER HOUSTON
T-SHIRTS & MORE
AWARDS BANQUET, RAFFLE, CONTESTS
FUNNY MONEY FISH TRIVIA CONTEST
BULLETIN BOARD PEER TO PEER SALES
MULTIPLE LIVE AUCTIONS & SILENT AUCTIONS

FISH, FUN, FOOD, FRIENDS & FIREWORKS!