

TANK

MARCH 2018

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 3

TALES

March Meeting

Michael Barber

“The Fish of the Madre de Dios & Cusco Region”

Saturday, March 17th at 1:00

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

TANGLED UP IN
CICHLIDS

KAREN HAAS

CLASSIC CICHLIDS
JACK DEMPSEY

JOEL ANTKOWIAK

THE TUCANO
TETRA

DON KINYON

TANK TALES™



ON THE COVER:

Tropheus sp. At the Cleveland
Metroparks Zoo

Photo by Joel Antkowiak

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Michael Buchma

ACLC, welcome back to another great issue of Tank Tales! Speaking of great, how can the ACLC be even more enjoyable to you? At our last Board of Directors meeting, the board tossed around ideas on how we can do this. Many ideas were thought of, but it surely wouldn't hurt to hear from you. Please send me a message to president@aclcpa.org

Do you ever just sit back and wonder how you got to this point in your life with your aquarium obsession? How many of us spend an entire night, or several nights a week for that matter, and do what most would consider additional chores? Every week, we continue to do those additional chores. What is it for? Why can't we just be like "normal" members of society and spend countless hours playing videos games, scrolling thru page after page on social media, or lie on the couch and watch countless hours of reality TV shows? I have an answer! We are truly amazed by our aquatic inhabitants. Isn't it so much more rewarding to think about the fish you have just bred successfully for the first time or cultivated an aquatic plant after months of different growing techniques? We are a special group of people. This is why we all come together every month and never (hopefully) grow tired of the hobby. Life does get in the way sometimes, but most of us find our way back. We can't stay away. With all of this being said, what is your story? What is going on in your fish room? Did you just set up your first African cichlid aquarium after years of keeping planted aquariums? Oh wait, that's me! Well, what I am getting at is share your story or photos with us. You may even win an award or two thru the WAAP program.

On March 17th at 1:00, we will meet at Bird-in-Hand Fire Company to welcome our speaker of the month, Michael Barber. Hope to see you there!



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EDITOR'S NOTES

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

This month features 3 great articles by our members and take a look at the Writer & Artist's Award Program. More of our members' articles are being reprinted this year than we have seen in quite a while. ACLC Pride should be strong. Keep writing folks, the talent is showing and the photos are pouring in also.

Right now we have very few articles in backlog so, we are still needing more and we really would like to have another few months to pick article and photo of the month.

It is all in your hands!

It's Your Club, Your Tank Tales!

Thank you

Tim & Kurt

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

Deadline for April Tank Tales is April 4th!

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MARCH PROGRAM

“The Fish of the Madre de Dios & Cusco Region”

Presented by Michael Barber



Michael has been a fish keeper for over fifty years. His parents started the journey with the gift of a five-gallon stainless steel slate bottom aquarium with box filter and stainless incandescent hood. Oh, the joys of spun fiber glass filter media and unexpected electrical groundings. He graduated from live bearers to egg layers before ten years of age - first egg-layer bred and raised was the Pearl Gourami.

Passion is Calichthyidae and Apistogrammas (& Apistogrammoides pucallpaensis). At one time had over fifty species of Corydoras, Brochis and Aspidoras in the fish room with successful breeding of nearly all. Now keep just a few Rio Nanay Angels (called the Peruvian Altum as a marketing gimmick), Otocinclus, Ancistrus, Corydoras, Apistogrammas and Characins.

Recently downsized to just four tanks. Downsized from a dedicated fishroom with over 100 tanks with centralized filter system and automated water changes. A former laundry room served as a support hub with water treatment/storage facilities and now contains three quarantine tanks to support a 125 Perfecto 5' tank. Also, maintain outdoor pond with waterfall containing many fish and plants.

Blessed to venture to the Amazon basin to collect most of the fish kept and thoroughly enjoy introducing others to the collecting experience; especially mentoring them while they prepare for their first Amazon expedition. Co-leader, with Devon Graham of MT Amazon Expeditions fish collecting trips. In 2014, with the collaboration of a few friends in the DC area, began facilitating the trans-shipping of fish caught on these trips. In 2015, in partnership with Ian Fuller, they established a new fish collecting venture, GoWildPeru, in Puerto Maldonado, Madre de Dios, Peru.

Member of the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society (PVAS), Greater Washington Aquatic Plant Association (GWAPA), the Capital Cichlid Association (CCA), James River Aquarium Society (JRAS) and the Catfish Study Group. Currently serve as Treasurer and Past President of PVAS (2008). Past Co-Chair of the All-Aquarium Catfish Convention.

Time & Place

**Saturday, March 17th
at
1:00 PM**

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

ACLC SPEAKER SCHEDULE

2018
April 21st—David Banks
”African Rift Lake Cichlids & Appropriate Tankmates”
May 19th—Joe Doyle
“Getting Ahead in BAP”
June 16th—Shane Misuro & Dan Krueger (NPHS)
Cheap Low Maintenance Reef Tanks: It’s Not A Myth!
August 18th—TBA
September—No meeting
See you at the Keystone Clash

* - Board Meeting will be held prior to meeting

** - Meeting is not on 3rd Saturday



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Official Photographer of the 2017 Keystone Clash

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 ()

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: () NEW () RENEWAL **for** () Individual () Secondary () Family () Junior

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____ City: _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 years: _____

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

2018 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & CHAIRPERSONS

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President	Michael Buchma	president@aclcpa.org
Vice President	Kurt Johnston	vicepresident@aclcpa.org
Treasurer	Tim Brady	treasurer@aclcpa.org
Secretary	Wesley Bahrt	secretary@aclcpa.org
Past President	Jack LaFayette	pastpresident@aclcpa.org

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Member-at-Large	Mike Mull	mal1@aclcpa.org
Member-at-Large	Clair Klinedinst	mal2@aclcpa.org

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BAP	Gary Haas	bap@aclcpa.org
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NEC Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Raffle	Mike Mull	raffle@aclcpa.org
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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 FEBRUARY 2018 REPORT

Thank you folks! We are well on our way to the goal for 2018! We are also going to have the pleasure of hosting the 2 instructors of the North Penn High School program as speakers at our June Meeting!

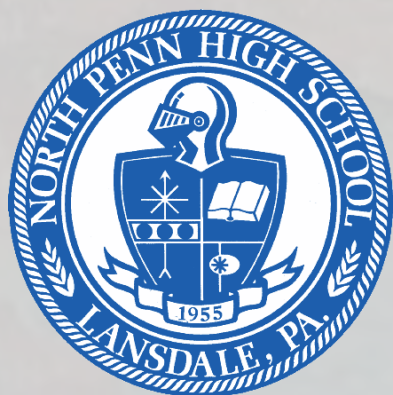
Let's keep up the good work and raise some money for this worthwhile group of young people!

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

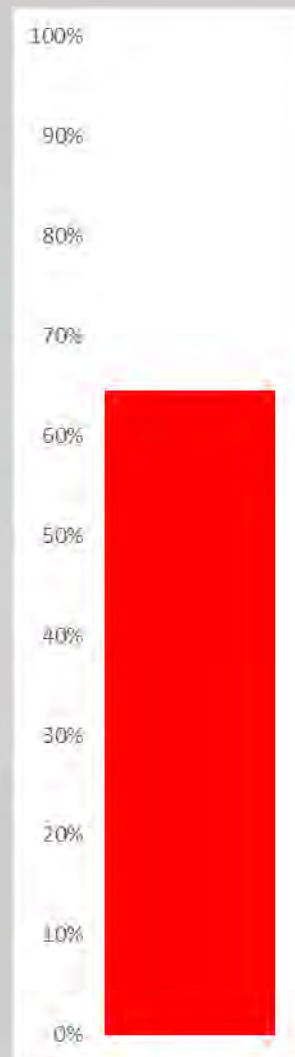
Thank you

Kurt Johnston

ALEF Chair



2018 Goal = \$650.00
Current = \$419.61



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North American Goodeid Working Group (NAGWG) Fall 2017 Update

Copy of an Email from Dr. John Lyons

Hi Folks,

The winter here in Wisconsin is dragging out, but warmer days will be coming eventually. I hope all your fish are prospering. Here's the latest news from the North American Goodeid Working Group (NAGWG). Please note the key points in **bold**, and please respond to the **questions** I pose:

1. As usual, NAGWG will plan to meet as part of the 2018 American Livebearer Association Convention, May 4-6 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Details aren't finalized yet, but I'm shooting for a 2-hour NAGWG meeting late Friday afternoon, May 4. The first hour will cover group business and information, and the second hour will be our annual fund-raising goodeid mini-auction. As always, we need donations for the auction. **Please let me know what goodeids you might be willing to donate to the auction.**
2. The Chicago Livebearer Society has generously provided NAGWG with a \$500 donation, and chair Rick Borstein's company, Adobe, has agreed to match this, for a total gift of \$1,000 to the NAGWG treasury. **Many thanks to CLS and Rick!**
3. **Budget.** As of January 1, 2017, NAGWG had \$1,278.93 in its treasury, held within the ALA account. I have committed \$200 of this to help bring Mexican scientist Arely Ramírez-García to the ALA Convention to present her work on the ecology of livebearers in the famous Teuchitlán Springs in Mexico. That leaves \$1,078.93. Adding in the \$1,000 from the Chicago Livebearer Society and Adobe will give us \$2,078.93 by the time of the ALA Convention. We strive to clear at least \$500 at the mini-auction, **hopefully giving us \$2,600 or more by the end of the convention.**
4. I am working with Michael Koeck from the European branch of the Goodeid Working Group to hold our **second joint GWG Meeting on November 9-11, 2018, in Guadalajara, Mexico.** The first joint GWG meeting was held in Morelia, Mexico, in November 2014, and was a great success. Much remains to be worked out for the Guadalajara meeting, but our plan is to have a day of presentations on goodeids and their conservation, a day of field trips to observe goodeids in the wild including a visit to the site of the *Zoogoneticus tequila* re-introduction project at the Teuchitlán Springs (where you can snorkel with *Ameca* and *Zoogoneticus*) and the nearby spectacular pre-Columbian ruins of Guachimontones, and many opportunities for NAGWG members to socialize with Mexican and European goodeid specialists in the scenic and historic city of Guadalajara. **All of you are invited.** Stay tuned for more details.

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Related to the joint GWG Meeting in Guadalajara, **I would like to request approval from you, the members of NAGWG, to spend up to \$2,000 total from the treasury to cover up-front expenses associated with the meeting (e.g., meeting room costs, buses for field trips), to pay for up-front costs for a possible shipment of live fish back to the U.S. after the meeting (dependent on our ability to get the necessary permits), and to help subsidize travel and daily expenses for Mexican students living outside of Guadalajara to attend the meeting.** The up-front meeting costs should eventually be paid back through registration fees, and the up-front fish shipping costs should be paid back through direct sales and auctions for any fish brought back, so ultimately any outlays should be recovered and these two items should have a minimal long-term effect on the NAGWG treasury. Any support provided to Mexican students would not be recovered and would represent a permanent outlay from the NAGWG treasury. The benefit of spending this money would be to allow a greater number and variety of Mexican students to attend, strengthening relationships between GWG members and the future leaders of goodeid study and conservation in Mexico, and thus greatly enhancing the value of the meeting. However, this spending request represents a large chunk of our treasury, so I want to have the blessing of the NAGWG membership before going forward and making a formal application to the ALA Board of Directors (required for any expenditures from the NAGWG treasury). **Please let me know what you think.**

That's the latest. I'll be providing another update before the ALA Convention, so pass along any relevant news or information you want me to distribute to the NAGWG membership. And please send me any changes in the list of goodeids you are keeping so that I can revise the NAGWG database.

Cheers,

John

As always, I encourage all of our members to get involved and join both the American Livebearers Association (ALA) and the North American Goodeid Working Group (NAGWG).

If anyone is interested in anything that John has mentioned in this update, you can either contact me or contact John directly at jdlyons@wisc.edu. **Maybe we can have a Pennsylvania contingent in Guadalajara in November!!!**

~Kurt Johnston

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We will be placing a group buy this month for Aquatic Gardeners Association memberships. This is open to any interested club members.

The details:

Cost: \$20 per year for 6-10 membership
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Please email Wes at secretary@aclcpa.org to let me know if you are interested in the group buy.

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Piscatorial Pearls

“Reviewing Aquarium Society Newsletters from Around the World”

This month we begin our travels with 2 articles in the December 2017 issue of the [Diamond State Aquarium Society](#)'s **Gravel Gossip**. The first article is titled [“Firemouth Cichlid, Thorichthys meeki”](#) by Bob Berdoulay. Bob gives us a good description of his experience with this popular Central American Cichlid. The second article is titled [“Why Quarantine?”](#) by Ed Keene and does an excellent job at answering that question.

For our next stop we need to get out our passports for 3 stories in the December 2017 issue of the [Kitchener Waterloo Aquarium Society](#)'s **Fins & Tales**. The first story is titled [“The Lowly Lemna”](#) by Jelle Faber and goes into a great amount of detail regarding a very misunderstood plant. Next, we have a great travelogue by Zenin Skomorowski that tells us all about his trip to [“Preuss Pets Lansing Michigan 2017”](#). The final story in this edition is by Karen Murray that give us [“A Comprehensive Guide to Hatching Small Batch Brine Shrimp”](#).

Coming back to the USA we make a stop for 2 articles in the December 2017 issue of the [North Jersey Aquarium Society](#)'s **Reporter**. The first article is Dr. Paul's Fish of the Month which for December is the [“Pristolepis rubripinnis”](#) a newly described Asian fish that has yet to be successfully bred in captivity. The other

article in this issue is titled [“Microworms”](#) and it is uncredited. It is a very good description of how to culture this wonderful fry food.

We now go for some warm weather in Florida for a story in the December 2017 edition of the [Tampa Bay Aquarium Society](#)'s **The Filter**. The story is Part 3 of Joe Gargas' [“Nutrition”](#) series and is a great breakdown of some of the important vitamins our fish need and what foods are good suppliers of those needs.

Next we head to one of the 5 Boroughs for 4 articles in the January—February issue of the [Brooklyn Aquarium Society](#)'s **Aquatica**. The first article is John Todaro's recipe and instructions for [“Infusoria Live Soup”](#), a great food for fry. Next article is titled [“Breeding the Blue Gularis”](#)

by Anthony Kroeger that gives us a great description of Tony's experience with this beautiful Killifish. Tony also gave us a great article about his [“Surprising Breeding Experiments with the Bluenose Shiner”](#) a cool looking native he found in an interesting place. The final article in this issue is also by Tony and does a good job explaining some of the [“Classic Platy Varieties”](#).

Heading out to the Midwest we stop for a story in the January 2018 edition of the [Eastern Iowa Aquarium Association](#)'s **FinFlap**. This story is titled [“Celebrating](#)

(Continued on page 17)

IMPORTANT

If you see an article that you would like a copy of, just click on the article title. It will generate an email for you to send to the ACLC Exchange Editor, requesting a copy. If you would like to visit the website of the Club that publishes the newsletter, just click on the club name. Copies are only available to current ACLC Members. If you have any questions contact the ACLC Exchange Editor at exchange@aclcpa.org

(Continued from page 16)

[the First Guppy Genetics Centennial](#)” by Mark Schmidt that gives us a great historical reference regarding the details behind the genetics of *Poecilia reticulata*.

Our next stop is back in the Keystone State for an article in the January 2018 issue of the [Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society's Finformation](#). This article is titled [“Building a New Stand \(and lessons learned\)”](#) by Steve Okabayashi that walks us through Steve and his son Sam’s adventure into the world of carpentry.

We now head out to the Great Northwest for a couple of stories in the January 2018 edition of the [Greater Seattle Aquarium Society's Northwest Aquaria](#). The first story is titled [“Convict X Nicaraguense”](#) by Steev Ward that talks about some of the fish he has that have hybridized in his tank. The other story is the first of a series by Roy Slettevold that goes into [“Planted Aquarium Basics”](#). This part is about lighting, filtration, nutrients and plant deficiencies.

Heading back to the middle of the country we stop for 6 articles in the January-February 2018 issue of the [Missouri Aquarium Society's Darter](#). The first article is titled [“Central Air Supply, Not Just for the Big Guys”](#) by Rick Renfro that describes how Rick set up central air in his man-fish-dog-second refrigerator cave. The next article is a real helpful DIY guide by Ed Millinger for [“Converting Fluorescent Fixtures to LED”](#). Kathy Deutsch wrote the next article titled [“In it for the Long Haul”](#) which gives us her methods for keeping long-lived fish. In [“Harlequin Presents An Unexpected Romance”](#) by Ed Millinger we have a very detailed description of Ed’s success with *Trigonostigma heteromorpha*, the Harlequin Rasbora. The next article is titled [“The Secret is Out! It's Live Foods!”](#) by none other

than the live food guru and 2018 Keystone Clash speaker, Mike Hellweg. Mike gives all the information you need to keep, culture and feed several different live foods. The last article in this issue is a very informative account of Chris Mohrle’s method for building a [“PVC Breeding Trap for *Synodontis petricola*”](#) and gives some information on the setup and approach to get these Tanganyikan catfish to cooperate.

Our final stop this month is in the Upper Midwest for a story in the January 2018 edition of the [Michiana Aquarium Society's Tropical Times](#). This story is titled “What are YOU Doing for your Club” by Jim Lindeman, MAS President. This story is a good guide and call to action for members of any fish club to read. We may just have to reprint this in the next Tank Tales.

See you on the 17th!



Kurt Johnston – Exchange Editor

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exchange@aclcpa.org

Tangled Up In Cichlids

by Karen Haas

Alan and I are fortunate that we live less than an hour from Jeff Rapps' location for his online fish store called Tangled Up In Cichlids,

<http://www.tangledupincichlids.com/>.

Alan became friends with Jeff during his visits to the US prior to our marriage and through the British Cichlid Association's group buys from Jeff's business. His business is in a residential area which means that the general public is not allowed to visit. We hope you enjoy these pictures from two of our visits.

Outside Jeff has a large koi pond. Inside his house he has a very large aquarium housing some tank buster fish. Inside his warehouse there are more than 100 aquariums ranging in size from 40 gallon to 200 gallons. They are on several centralized filtration systems. Lighting is minimal and the front glass isn't clean because these aren't show tanks. This is a working import, export, and internet retail sales business. I hope you can get an idea of how wonderful some of these rare fish would look in person. Some of these fish he collected personally from his visits to places like Brazil, Peru and Costa Rica. Jeff is known to specialize in fish from South and Central America, but he also imports unusual fish from Asia as well.



More photos on page 19



Blasts from our Past

Hero or Sucker? - by Bob Wetherell, MCAS

This article was first published in the January 1983 Issue of Tank Tales™ and was reprinted from the Motor City Aquarium Society's Tropiquarium.

Usually once I have bred a fish, I don't keep it around long. This comes from not having a large fish room (I have to back out to change my mind) and not having a community tank. But many times, I will see fish in the pet shop and get the urge to breed them again. Most of the time it's when I see a pair of fish trying to set up housekeeping and I know it's next to impossible in a dealer's tank.

That was what was happening when I looked in the tank of pick convicts. There in a corner, was a pair trying their best to set up a home. They both seemed to be the smallest of the lot, watching the small male try to defend his corner from his larger brothers and sisters while his bride was busy cleaning it up, this moved the "hero" in me. The least I could do was take them home and give them a place of their own.

Cichlasoma nigrofasciatum, much better known a "Convicts", a "Zebrafish" and sometimes the "Congo Cichlid" like television comes in a choice of black and white or color. It is not held in the highest esteem by cichlid breeders. It's a shame because this fish is a perfect beginner fish and also a good source of food; not for us but, as fry, for our fish. Although I have kept smaller fish from the lake, Convicts can get to over 6 inches in length. It breeds at a much smaller size; the ease of its breeding, ability to court, and raise their young under the eyes of a group make it a real family affair. It's one of the few fish, being in the center ring, children can watch and not cause distractions. They are not a belligerent fish but are apt to tear up plants and can get a bit nippy at breeding time; which is quite often, if kept in good conditions. But they can teach a beginner what and what not to do when breeding cichlids.

Back to my heroism; feeling good about taking this pair home to the safety of their own home away from the bullies.

A few quick moves, some fry moved, some fresh water, a few rocks, a couple of coconut shells and flower pots which I didn't come by fast since my killies don't like that type of material and it had to be found. But it was a labor of love, the cichlids had tried so hard. Now they had a home of their own with all the things a cichlid home should have. With a tank and everything in place, they went right on to setting up housekeeping. WRONG! The fish ignored each other and wouldn't even swim on the same side of the tank. They acted as if each had leprosy and wouldn't eat at the same time. After a week of this action, I was ready to climb into the tank and deliver a kick to somebody.

I went back to the store and got another female, a bit larger but seemingly full of eggs. I figured she would put an end to his high living and set him straight to getting a home ready. After putting her in with the dissenters, I left them alone until the next day. When I looked into the tank, there, in a corner, was one badly beaten female looking for any escape route. There in a pot, were the small pair making love and getting their house in order as if it had been their idea all along. Needless to say, the pair did begin a family which my Blue gularis enjoyed and the second female survived her ordeal in good spirits. Beginners, you may breed better cichlids and more expensive ones, but this is one fish you will always remember.

~ 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



AKA Convention 2018

May 25-27

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Romulus Mi 48174

www.aka.org

Leendert van den Berg



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Glen Collier



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Roundtable: Annual Killifish

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Killifish Show

Saturday Evening Awards Banquet

Sunday Auction: Show and New & Rare Fish

The hotel is \$99 per night. Special Convention Reservation at:

HORTICULTURAL AWARD PROGRAM MONTHLY REPORT-FEBRUARY 2018

SPECIES PROPAGATED—FEBRUARY 2018

WES BAHRT

Bacopa monnieri*	20 points
Lemna minor*	10 points

BRESSLER FAMILY

Potamogeton gayi*	10 points
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* 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

Wesley Bahrt	2 species
Bressler Family	1 species

GARDENER OF THE YEAR

Wesley Bahrt	30 points
Bressler Family	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

2018 continues to be a great year for the Writer's and Artist's of the ACLC ! Dan Taylor's article, "My New-Found Cory Experience" from our December issue, was reprinted in the March 2018 issue of The Tropical News, the newsletter of the Sacramento Aquarium Society. Alan Rollings' article about Brachyraphis rhabdophora from our December 2015 issue and Joel Antkowiak's Tiger Barbs article from our November 2011 issue were both reprinted in the Brooklyn Aquarium Society's Aquatica.

The articles that we published in January and February's issues by Joel Antkowiak, Rich Bressler and Don Kinyon were reviewed by the Greater Akron Aquarium Society in their newsletter, Tank Topics. Congratulations everybody! It is really great to see our authors efforts being appreciated.

I am close to having everything updated and should be able to have a full report for our April issue of Tank Tales. I appreciate your patience.

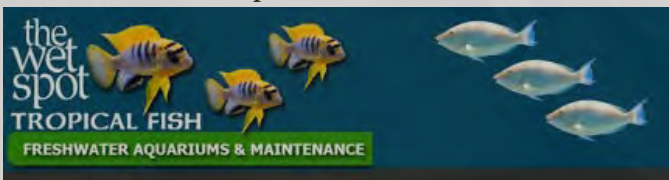
~ Kurt Johnston
WAAP Chair

2018 MIGHTY FIN STANDINGS

THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2018

Joel Antkowiak	110 points
Don Kinyon	65 points
Rich Bressler	40 points
Kurt Johnston	40 points
Jim Stokes	30 points
Dan Taylor	20 points
Karen Haas	10 points
Alan Rollings	10 points

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CLASSIC CICHLIDS

Former Heavyweight Champion ...

Jack Dempsey

By Joel Antkowiak

Once the world champion of cichlids, the reign of the Jack Dempsey in the aquarium hobby spanned several decades in the early to mid 1900s. It has been known by several scientific names over the years, with the currently accepted name being *Rocio octofasciata*. The common name hales from its perceived aggressive nature in its early years in the trade, as well as its strong facial features, likening it to the great boxer Jack Dempsey. While many species of cichlids have been described since the Jack Dempsey that are much more aggressive, this species can hold it's own with most of them, and certainly with those that are of similar size.

A mature Jack Dempsey is a beautiful fish. The adult will have a dark purple-gray to black background contrasted with iridescent light



Fig. 1—Adult male Jack Dempsey from cichlids.com

blue or greenish spots all over its body. The male Jack Dempsey tends to have more of this iridescence than females, and they also have

bright red edges on their dorsal and anal fins which make for a striking contrast. In addition



Fig.2—Adult male Electric Blue Jack Dempsey. Credit unknown

to the normal wild coloration, several color varieties have also been developed and are available today.

Of course, the most notable is the electric blue Jack Dempsey which has been fixed from a natural color mutation in the species. It is one of the bluest freshwater fish in the hobby, and the electric blue pattern varies greatly. Its development has led to the development of several other “electric blue” cichlids, including the electric blue acara and electric blue ram. If trying to breed this variant though, remember that the electric blue gene is recessive, so you must at least have a female that is carrying the gene in order to get electric blue offspring. If

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not, you may be waiting a long time to get those electric blue young.

Another less commonly seen variant is the gold Jack Dempsey. This fish is really kind of bland in color compared to the normal and electric blue variants. It is not really gold, but more pinkish like an albino but with a black eye, with varying amounts of gold iridescence on the body.



Fig. 3—Adult male gold morph—credit unknown

The Jack Dempsey is native to slow moving waters in Central America, from the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico southward through Guatemala and into Honduras. Feral

populations also exist in various locations in the United States, as well as Australia and Thailand. In Thailand, the fish is sometimes called the ‘Mexican Blue Frontosa.’

The Jack Dempsey is one of the easiest cichlids to keep and breed. It does get large and can approach 10 inches in length, so a large aquarium is necessary. While aggressive, like with most aggressive species you can crowd the tank to spread the aggression. They tend to be more territorial if the aquarium is sparsely populated. But they are not too particular as to water conditions. Spawning can be induced in a well conditioned pair by a water change and raise in temperature to the 80s. They are very good parents with both male and female usually contributing to the care of the brood. The eggs will hatch in 3 to 4 days, with the fry becoming free swimming in another 2 days. They are easily raised on baby brine shrimp and crushed flakes.

While the popularity of the Jack Dempsey has waned over the years due mostly to a huge influx of newly discovered species, it still has a strong foothold in the hobby. The heavy weight champion may have been dethroned, but it remains in contention to reclaim the crown.

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C.A.R.E.S. REGISTRATION

ACLC CARES Monthly Report

We had no additions to our program for the month of February.

NEW additions to the CARES program have to be done through CARES at https://caresforfish.org/?page_id=879. So any of the new CARES species (since 1/1/2017) need to be done that way. We can record deletions but everything else comes from CARES.

A big THANK YOU to all those actively participating in the CARES preservation program!



Clair Klinedinst—ACLC CARES Coordinator

JOEL ANTKOWIAK

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

STEVE ARNOTT

Tanichthys micagemmae 5

GARY BOYER

Pundamilia nyererei 1

SYMBOL KEY

The Gold Seal , designates that species is registered in ACLC CARES

The Green Seal , designates that a spawning report has been published in Tank Tales.

The Blue Seal , designates that species has been distributed and registered within the ACLC

The Red Seal , designates that species has been distributed and registered in another clubs' CARES program.

Longevity Seal # , indicates the number of years the member has maintained the species.

C.A.R.E.S. REGISTRATION

RICH BRESSLER

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

PAUL BRICKNELL

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

JOHN & NATALIE DICKEL

Xenotoca eiseni	●		●		1
Ameca splendens	●				

GARY HAAS

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

CLAIR KLINEDINST

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

KAREN HAAS & ALAN ROLLINGS

Synodontis brichardi	●				2
Glossolepsis incisus	●				2
Chapalichthys encaustus	●		●		2
Amatitlania nanolutea	●		●		1
Ataeniobius toweri	●				1
Ptyochromis sp. Red Rock Sheller	●				
Paralabidochromis sp. Fire	●				
Pundamilia pundamilia Senga	●				
Amatitlania myrnae	●				

PAUL TANGREDI

Melanotaenia lacustris	●				3
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TUCANOICHTHYS TUCANO THE TUCANO TETRA

*AN INTERESTING ADDITION TO YOUR
"NANO" TANK*

A relatively new addition to the hobby, the tetra *Tucanoichthys tucano* was described by Gery and Romer in 1997. It's still not a very common find, almost never in stores and rarely on import lists. They are named for the Tucano Indians that are native to the Amazonas State of Brazil, where the fish are found in blackwater streams of the Uaupes system. With the continued rise in popularity of "nano" tanks, small and unusual tetras such as these are being more and more sought after.

These tetras stay small; not reaching much more than an inch in length. The color of the fish is not extreme, but very attractive nonetheless. The sides of the body sport a distinct dark stripe, starting at the gill and tapering off to the caudle peduncle. The upper body and head are bright gold and the belly is white. There is a pinkish blush at the lower gill. Most of the fins are clear, but in some individuals the gold coloration extends through the top lobe of the tail.

An importer friend had this fish on an availability list and I jumped at the chance to buy some. They were on the

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INTRODUCING

Don Kinyon, the ACLC 2017 Mighty Fin Award Winner

When Don was 9 or 10, his folks bought a ten-gallon aquarium stocked with some of the common aquarium fish available at the time. They had no idea what it would lead to. His knowledge of fish keeping was zero, but it looked like fun. Don started to read about fish keeping and breeding, set up a gallon jug with some White Cloud minnows and floating plants, and the obsession began. Within a couple years, one end of the living room was jamb-packed with aquariums.

That was a long time ago, but the obsession remains. Don's live with his wife Sue in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and she tolerates his hobby almost as well as his parents did. There are around 40 tanks in the fish room that hold mostly Corydoras catfish and blackwater cichlids, along with the odd tetra, pencil fish or rainbow.

This is one of the greatest hobbies one can be involved with, and you meet some of the most interesting folks on the planet.

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pricey end for tetras, but the rareness of the find more than made up for that. The eight specimens arrived healthy and active and were soon searching around their new home, a five-gallon tank, for something to eat. I tried to duplicate the blackwater conditions of the fish's habitat, so 100% rain water was used and lots of leaf litter and bog wood added to the setup and a clump of java moss covered about half the bottom. The pH was 5.0, TDS of 26ppm, and temperature of 70 to 75°F. The only filtration was a small bubble-up sponge filter. There was no added heater in the tank, so the temperature fluctuated with ambient but the fish didn't show any ill effects.



T. Tucano fry

The small tetras always seemed to be looking for their next meal, so feeding was not a problem as long as the food was small enough for them to fit into their mouths. I found that mosquito larvae when full grown were too large for the fish to eat, and pupae much too large. Mosquito egg rafts collected from an outside pool and floated onto the tank surface gave an almost constant supply of fresh, properly sized live food for the group. These were supplemented with daphnia and newly hatched brine

shrimp. The tank had previously been empty of fish residents for some time and there was a population of cyclops crustaceans present. I'm not sure how much nutritional value the tetras received from the tiny animals, but they did seem to enjoy chasing them around.

Water changes were done weekly at around 50% with fresh rain water. The fish always got more active after these, and displayed what seemed (to me) to be courting behavior. One of the males always played the aggressor and chased the other males from one corner of the tank near the filter. I've read that these fish will stake out a nesting site and protect it until the eggs hatch, but I can't say that I witnessed it. The dominant male stayed around his territory unless he was eating and kept all others away. Two of the females were heavy with eggs, by their appearance, but they were chased away with as much vigor as the subdominant males.

On returning home one evening, I noticed one of the females was much thinner. The male that had been guarding his spot was still there, but rather lackadaisical in his patrol duties. Assuming the fish had spawned, I removed the adults to another 5-gallon tank and checked the breeding tank for any signs of eggs. After a thorough search, I found nothing, but didn't really know what the eggs would look like; whether they would be scattered or gathered, brightly colored or clear. A sticky note on the tank with the date the adults were removed reminded me to check on the progress, if any, every so often.

Two nights later, a flashlight check revealed several very tiny fry hanging on

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the glass near the surface of the water. They were clear, maybe an eighth of an inch in length and looked like tiny shards



of glass. They must be very light sensitive, because as soon as the light shone in their vicinity they would dive for the tank bottom. After another day they could be seen free swimming. The fry were too small for even newly hatched brine shrimp, but the moss and filter of the established aquarium provided first food, at least for a few days.

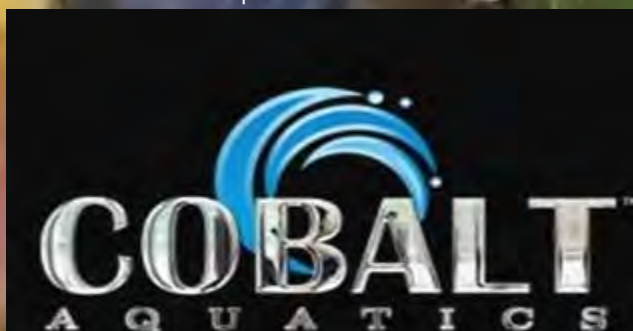
After that, an outside pool was harvested for the fry's food. A bucket of water from the pond was poured through a standard fine fish net to remove the larger crustaceans and larvae, then through a

brine shrimp net to catch the smaller animals. The net could be dumped directly into the fry tank. I'm not exactly sure what the food was, but a cloud of microfood came from the net every time, which was usually every second day, and the fry always had full bellies.

The young tetras grew steadily on this diet and in three weeks they were around three-eighths of an inch long and showed some very nice color. At this point they could easily take newly hatched brine shrimp. The immature Tucanoichthys tucano display a brilliant blue-green iridescent stripe just above the lateral line. A group of them together is quite a light show. It's a shame, but in a few more weeks the line disappears and the fish acquire the adult coloration.

This spawn produced only eight fish, but all grew to adult with not problems. Later spawns using the same method averaged around ten fish each, which isn't what you'd expect from a tetra. This tetra, in this hobbyist's opinion is worth the extra work. At this writing the adults and some of the young are ready to be passed on to other breeders and a few of the young are set up in a breeding tank with hopes of a more abundant outcome!

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Tropical Fish Society of Rhode Island

Triple Crown Fish Auction Saturday, March 10, 2018

Free Admission!

All are welcome!

**St. Joseph's Parish Center
1303 Mendon Road (Rte. 122)
Cumberland, RI**

**Doors will be open at 9:00 AM.
The auction starts promptly at Noon**

**Visit www.tfsri.net for
complete rules and auction forms.**

DIRECTIONS TO THE AUCTION:

Route 295 to Route 122, (exit 10). Take a left off the ramp, proceed past the Burger King on your left and Route 116 on your right. Continue on route 122 for approximately one mile. St. Joseph's church will be on your left. Turn left into the driveway immediately before the church, and follow the driveway around the rear of the church and proceed to the top of the hill. The Parish center will be on your right.

The Tropical Fish Society of Rhode Island meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Meetings are free and all are welcome to attend. Go to www.tfsri.net for meeting location

BRING YOUR BEST FISH!

For a \$1 fee you can put a reserve on any lot! **YOU** set the minimum bid, if the lot doesn't sell for your price or better, you get it back! **TFSRI's split is \$3 per bag sold, all the rest goes to the vendor!**

No limit on the number of lots submitted. All lots must be live fish, plants or aquarium-related items. See rules for complete details.

All TFSRI members get 3 free bumps. Join at the auction for 3 free bumps.

All lots open at \$3. Lots not selling for the minimum bid of \$3 are returned to the seller. Lots selling for only \$3 are considered donations to TFSRI.

Vendor Fee: \$2

Bidder Card: \$2 (Waived for Vendors)

Bump any lot \$2 Rebagging fee: \$2

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The Jersey Shore Aquarium Society presents its SPRING 2018 tropical fish and dry goods auction!

Featuring **rare and exotic tropical fish**, a wide selection of **aquatic plants**, with **free goodies** and **door prizes** all day long! Snacks and refreshments will be available.

Open to public – free admission.

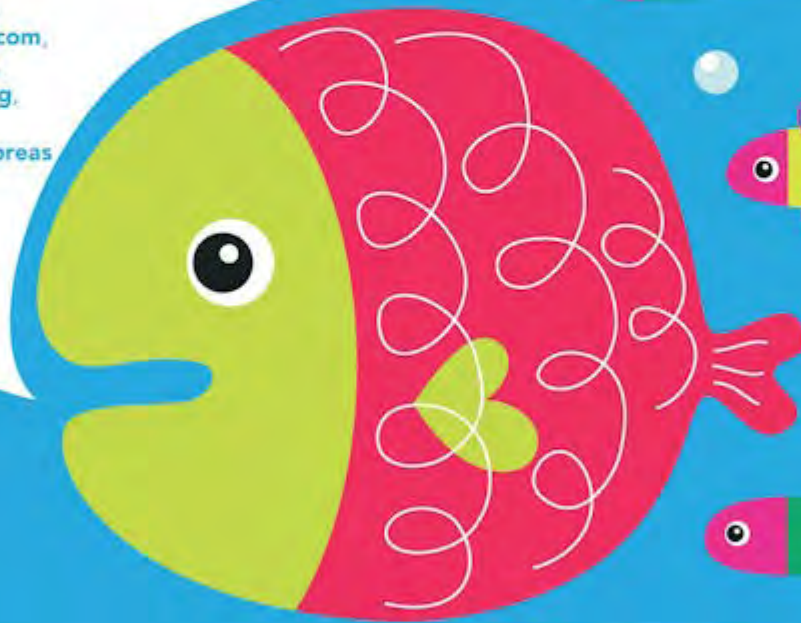
To be held

Sunday, March 11th, 2018 at the
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For more info:

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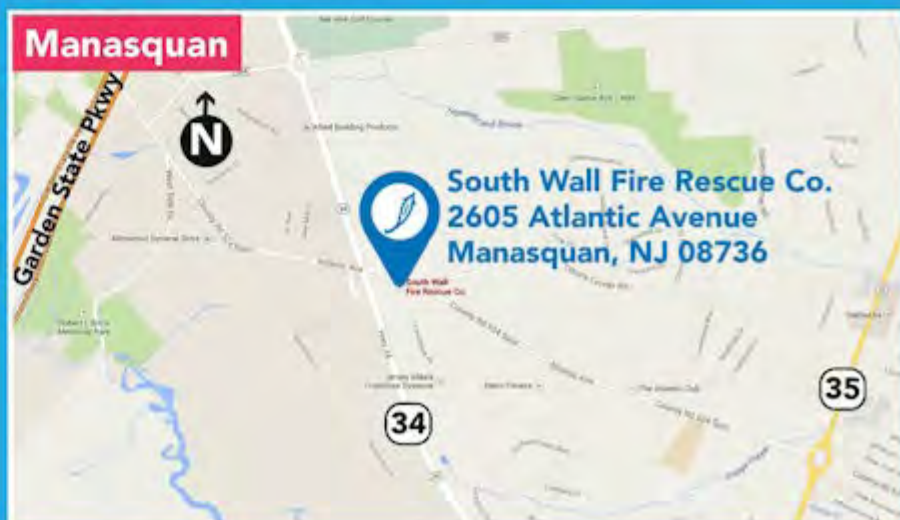
Live goods registration: 9 to 11 a.m.
No guarantee that items registered after 11 a.m. will be auctioned. No used dry goods.

Viewing of items: 11 a.m. – 12 noon.
There will be no viewing allowed after noon.

Auction starts at noon sharp!

Any person may bring quality live fish and aquatic plants to enter into auction.

- Pre-registration on our club's website (date TBA—about 1 week prior) (jerseyshoreas.org).
Pre-registration will get a 60/40 split.
 - 50/50 split for walk-ins at the auction.
- Auction rules available upon request.



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AUCTION

(TROPICAL FISH & DRY GOODS)

Saturday, March 24, 2018

Portsmouth United Methodist Church Hall

129 Miller Ave, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Auction will begin at 12 Noon. Arrive early for viewing.

Doors open at 10am to register items.

Preregistering of lots is appreciated. Email preregistration sheets

by Sun. 3/18 @ noon

to president@nhaquariumsociety.com.

Less waiting for labels!!!!

\$25 drawing for those who preregister!

Bump-ups are \$2.

Donations accepted or sell your extra fish & equipment, 60/40 split.

For more information & preregistration sheets

visit www.nhaquariumsociety.com

DIRECTIONS to Portsmouth United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave, Portsmouth, from I-95:

From Maine: I-95 South to Exit 7, Market St., to Deer St., to Maplewood Ave. turns into Middle St., to 129 Miller Ave.

From Boston: I-95 North to Exit 5, to Traffic Circle, to (East) Rte. 1 By-pass, to Rte. 1 North, turns into Middle St., to 129 Miller Ave.

From Dover: Rt. 16 South, to Traffic Circle, to (East) Rt. 1 By-pass, to Rt. 1 North, turns into Middle St., to Miller Ave.

2018 Burlington Aquarium Fish, Frag and Reptile Swap Meet



Saturday, April 14, 2018

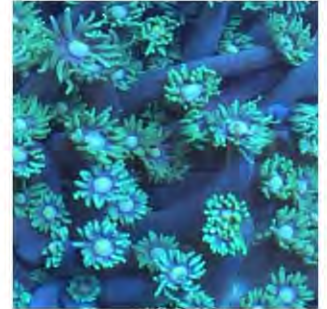
11:00AM – 3PM

Holiday Inn, Williston RD, South Burlington

Free Admission

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Fun Family Event. All are Welcome.



Come see what other hobbyist breeders have to offer!

What to Expect:

Local Breeders, Hobbyists and Retailers selling—

- Freshwater fish, shrimp and plants
- Saltwater coral frags
- Reptiles
- New and used equipment and aquariums.



To Sell at the Swap:

Please register with number of tables desired and a brief description of your items **before March 26th**. Table availability is limited. If any space is still available on the day of swap, prices will increase by \$5.

1 table for \$20

2 tables for \$35

½ table for \$10

Note: You are completely responsible for your own items and the well-being of your livestock. TFCB holds no responsibility whatsoever for your items or for the health of your livestock .

Setup will begin at 9AM

You may sell any item related to aquariums and reptiles, except species prohibited by the State of Vermont. Please check with TFCB for prior approval for non-aquarium or non-reptile related items.

Questions and Registration:

David Banks - dbanks@together.net 802-372-8716

Brian Candib – bcandib@comcast.net – 802-864-0746

Sponsored by **The Tropical Fish Club of Burlington, tfc.org**



SARNIA AQUARIUM SOCIETY'S SPRING AUCTION

APRIL 21, 2018

Doors Open 9:30am, Auction Starts at 11am



SARNIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1273 Exmouth St., Sarnia

IN THE GYM

(entrance off Exmouth St. parking lot)

CASH ONLY

For more information, please contact:

Jack VanderAa 519-542-8282 OR

Wayne Cole 519-674-3192

Or email us:

sarniaaquariumsociety@hotmail.ca

www.sarniaaquariumsociety.com



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NORTH JERSEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

**GIANT SPRING
TROPICAL FISH
AUCTION**

DAYS HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
195 ROUTE 18 (TURNPIKE EXIT 9), EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 732-828-6900

SUNDAY APRIL 22, 2018

REGISTRATION STARTS 9:30 AM ... VIEWING 11:00 AM
AUCTION 12 NOON ... PRE-REGISTER your items online.
Visit us at www.njas.net for rules and registered items!



LARGEST AQUARIUM HOBBY AUCTION IN NJ!

NJAS is an all-volunteer federal 501(c)3 non-profit organization est. 1953

SPRING 2018 FRAG SWAP

April 28, 2018
11 AM to 5 PM

\$10/person or
\$20/family
Under 18 free

Williamsport Area
High School



2990 W. 4th St.
Williamsport, PA 17701



Awesome deals on coral!

Lunch included at Noon

Raffle at 3:00

Vendor information
at ReefCon.org

Central New York AQUARIUM SOCIETY

49TH ANNUAL FISH AUCTION



SATURDAY APRIL 28TH, 2018

Transfiguration Church
740 Teal Ave, Syracuse, NY 13206

REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN AT 10:00AM TO 11:00AM

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Pre-registration is required for sellers

Buyers register at the auction

CASH ONLY

Unless you are a CNYAS member

FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS & DIRECTIONS:

Call: [315]-454-4792

e-mail: cnyas@yahoo.com

Or visit our website at:

WWW.CNYAS.ORG



107 Years of Educating Aquarists



All sorts of freshwater fish, plants, marine fish, aqua-cultured corals & dry goods, including a new 55 gal. tank & stand. Rare & hard to find live stock & MUCH MORE!

*View lots
7:30pm - 8:30pm*

**DOORS OPEN @ 7:30
AUCTION @ 8:30PM**

At The New York Aquarium, Education Hall,
Surf Ave. & West 8th St., Bklyn, NY 11229

HELD THE 2ND FRIDAY EACH MONTH, EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST

Free Parking • Free Refreshments

\$5 Donation for Non-members. Good towards membership that night only.

For Information Visit BROOKLYNAQUARIUMSOCIETY.COM

Or Call BAS 24 hr. Calendar of events hotline (718) 837-4455

Car Directions: Belt Parkway to Ocean Parkway South (Exit 7S). Take Ocean Parkway approx. 1/2 mile. The NY Aquarium will be on your left.

Subway Directions: Either the Q or F trains to West 8th St., NY Aquarium Station.



AKA Convention 2018

May 25-27

Sheraton Detroit Metro Airport
8000 Merriman Rd
Romulus Mi 48174

www.aka.org

Leendert van den Berg



Collecting Killifish in Africa

Glen Collier



DNA and Killifish

Frans Vermeulen



Collecting and Raising South American Killies

Andrew Thompson



Delayed Hatching in Killifish

Also:

- Roundtable: Aphyosemions
- Roundtable: Annual Killifish
- Saturday Fish Sale Room
- Killifish Show
- Saturday Evening Awards Banquet
- Sunday Auction: Show and New & Rare Fish

The hotel is \$99 per night. Special Convention Reservation at:

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



June 21st - 24th, 2018

IBC GENERAL CONVENTION

HOSTED BY GOLDEN STATE BETTAS

Join us for adventure in Long Beach, California
aboard the RMS Queen Mary

RMS Queen Mary is an permanently moored, retired cruise liner with a rich history

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FINE DINING





Houston Aquarium Society and Houston Cichlid Club Present the 2018 American Cichlid Association Convention! (ACA 2018)

Featuring

- World Class Speakers
- Amazing Side Trips
- Firework Show
- Giant Auction

Location

Hilton Nasa Clear Lake
3001 E. Nasa Parkway
Houston TX, 77058

Dates

July 4th - July 8th, 2018

www.2018acacares.com