



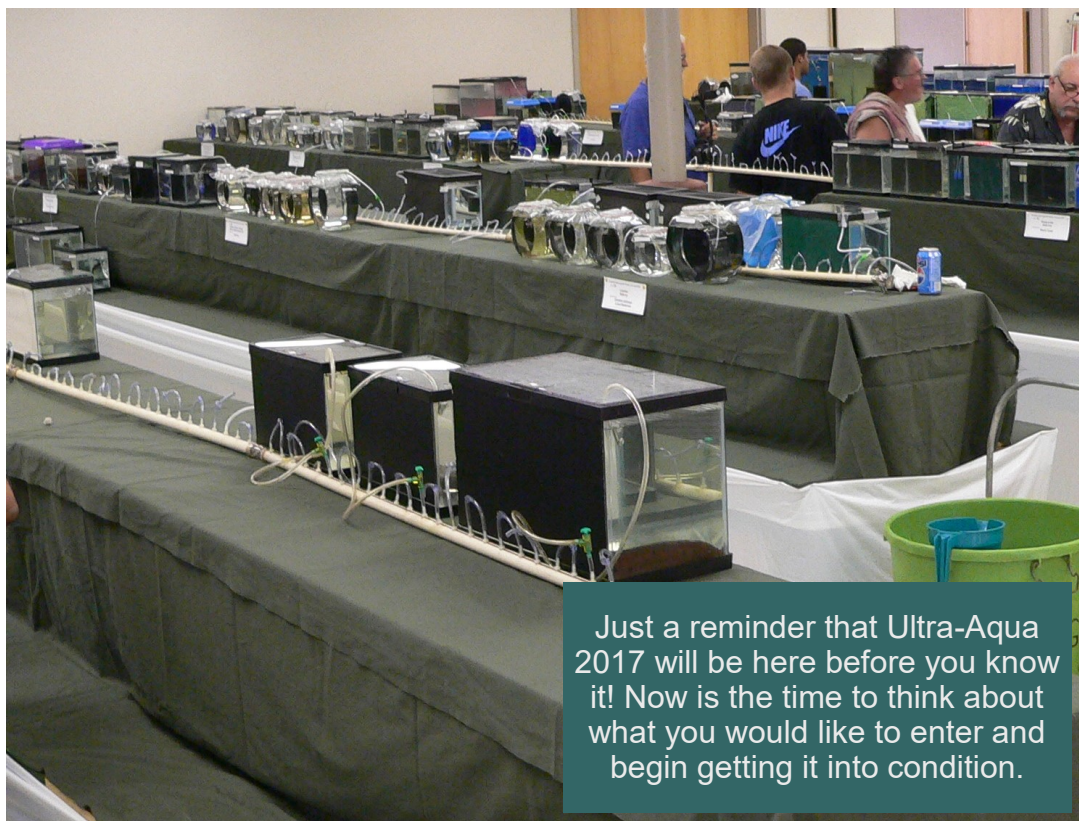
The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

Tank Topics

May/June 2017

Inside this issue:

President's Message Bud White	3
Editor's Message Dave Williamson	3
BAP/HAP Wayne Toven	4
Bowl Show David Girard	5
Exchange Review Wayne Toven	6
Membership Report Don Youngkin	7
Manifold Program Growth Program	8
Mortality - Todd Zettler Pearl Gourami - Larry Secaur	9
Coming Events	10
Meeting Notice	10



Just a reminder that Ultra-Aqua 2017 will be here before you know it! Now is the time to think about what you would like to enter and begin getting it into condition.

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Program	Open	

Important Dates for 2017

March 5
Spring auction

June 10 & 11
Ultra Aqua 2017

November 5
Fall auction

Check out our website: www.gaas-fish.net

THE GREATER AKRON AQUARIUM SOCIETY

WHO ARE WE? We are a local group of aquatic enthusiasts. Formed in 1952, the Greater Akron Aquarium Society is a non-profit, non-commercial organization. Our membership ranges from the beginning hobbyist to the advanced aquarist with many years of experience. The goals of our club are to promote the care, study, breeding and exhibition of aquarium related aquatic life and to promote interest in the aquarium hobby.

MEETINGS: Our meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at the Ritchie Memorial Shelter House, 109 West Avenue, Tallmadge, OH 44278. It is located West of Tallmadge Circle with access from Sperry Ave., behind Vet Clinic and across from the Chevrolet dealer. Visitors are always welcome, it costs absolutely nothing to attend a meeting and look us over.

MEMBERSHIP: The cost is only \$10 for adults, a couple or a family (includes children under 10 years of age) and \$5.00 for a junior membership (10 to 17 years) Membership provides an opportunity to socialize with others that share your interests, a subscription to our bi-monthly magazine and more.

AGENDA: Our meeting agenda is simple and informal. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. with a short business meeting. Immediately following is the program for the evening which usually lasts about 45 minutes. Our programs consist of a speaker, slide program, movie or perhaps a panel discussion always on a particular subject related to the hobby or various species of fish. Following the program is a short refreshment break. After which the winners of the Bowl Show are announced, the Breeder's Award Program fish are auctioned and tickets are drawn for the raffle.

THE BOWL SHOW: Each month members can bring in fish for specific classes to compete for first, second and third place awards. The charge for each entry is only \$.25. Members also compete for annual awards by accumulating wins throughout the year.

BREEDER'S AWARD and HORTICULTURE AWARD PROGRAMS: members can receive recognition for spawning species of fish or propagating aquatic plants. All that is required is to turn in a minimum of six fry from the spawn that are between 30 and 90 days old. Members earn certificates for each species and can work towards plaques in different categories.

EQUIPMENT RAFFLE: The raffle table has such items as tanks, fish food and aquarium accessories that are donated by national manufacturers, area dealers or purchased by the Society. Tickets may be purchased by anyone attending the meeting. Save your losing tickets for the Christmas Party raffle.

ANNUAL SHOW: The Ultra-Aqua show is held during the summer at the Tallmadge community Center. This has become one of the largest all-species tropical fish shows in North America. It is an international gathering of hobbyists to display their fish in class competition, talk fish and to learn about the hobby from each other.

TANK TOPICS: is published on a bi-monthly basis for the members of the Greater Akron Aquarium Society. Articles and comments for this publication are welcome and encouraged. Such articles are to be submitted no later than the board meeting prior to publication. All articles may be reprinted as long as the author(s) and GAAS are given proper credit. Please send any correspondence regarding this publication to:

Editor/Tank Topics, P.O. Box 494, Akron, OH 44309-0494 or email to dwilliamson223@hotmail.com

The Greater Akron Aquarium Society Membership Form

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

How did you find out about GAAS? _____

Memberships are due one year from the date of joining. Completed membership forms can be turned in at a meeting or mailed to the membership chairman at this address:

GAAS Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 494, Akron, OH 44309-0494

Dues are for 1 year or 2 years if
email publications are chosen

☐ New

☐ Renewal

☐ Electronic ☐ Mail

Adult (18 years and older) & Family
(includes children under 10)

\$10.00

Junior (10-17 years)

\$5.00

Dues Collected _____ Date Received _____



President's Message

Well folks, things are looking good at the new meeting place. Easy access, good lighting, new tables and chairs, nice clean new kitchen and \$600.00 less from our pocket. Hope you have had a chance to stop and see it.

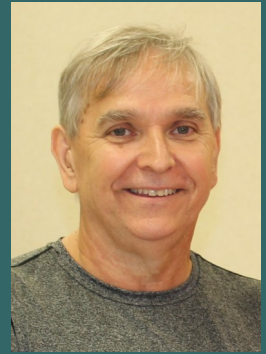
Wayne Toven is our next speaker and it will be a fun night, with teams trying to identify what Wayne projects on the screen, so come out and join us.

Also things are on the way for the show,

June 10 & 11. We setup Friday June 9 at 7 pm and we need you there to help set-up. Also to help Sunday at the auction. We also need you to help support the show by bringing some entries in. It is our show we need to support it! I get many compliments from other clubs that support us. We have one of the few shows left, help keep it alive.

See ya at the meeting,

Bud



Editor's Message

Dave Williamson

Yet another year seems to be flying by. It seems like just a few weeks ago it was New Year's and now here I am again talking about getting ready for our show in June. The Spring Auction has already come and gone as well as my nearly annual (made them all except three since 1989) expedition somewhere for the American Livebearer Association Convention (this year was St. Louis).

Since I mentioned this year's show, I may as well just roll with it. You all know by now that we need our member's help in putting all of our events on. I'm not going to go into all of the different jobs that need done, I've done that so many times before. Just come on out at some time during the weekend and if you're willing to help, we can find you something to do. What I really do want to bring up is a plea for participation. I would absolutely love to see every member show up with a least one entry. Now I realize that's not likely to ever happen, but it would be really cool if it did. Just keep in mind its not difficult and someone will help you out if you need it. We were all beginners once!

Now its time to talk about content for Tank Topics. I've got a total of one article in the file that I haven't used. It's a good sized one and will take up most of the space in an issue, but that's no excuse to not consider writing one. At the last meeting I brought up the idea of

doing a themed issue again and had asked for suggestions and we settled on "Have you ever rescued a fish?" This covers situations such as you felt sorry for one that was damaged, you saved it from improper conditions or it was just a "refugee" from someone who didn't want it any more. Let us know about your soft spot and we'll probably run these in the Sept./Oct. issue since the next one will be full of show results.

There are a few different things in this issue, rules for the gold severum growth program, explanation of an upcoming month's hands-on meeting and a short article to make you think about euthanasia and our fish. No hard answers, just think about when or if that is the right option for one of your aquarium residents. Plus to finish up a small space I pulled an article out of the archives from 1986 by regular attendee of our auctions Larry Secaur. Every once in a while I pull one out and dust it off. It's interesting to see the changes in what we actually know about some of these fish over the course of twenty to thirty years. Many times, the old information works just as well as the latest "breakthroughs" Remember we're dealing with species that took millions of years to evolve and develop in the natural world, twenty years is just a drop in the bucket.

I'll see you at the meeting and Ultra-Aqua 2017!



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BAP/HAP Report

Wayne Toven

Looks like spring might finally be here to stay, for a while. Been cleaning leaves out of the in-ground ponds when it's warm enough, the water that is, still cools down at night so water doesn't stay warm enough. Probably will be another month before the temperature stays warm enough to think about putting fish out in the tubs. I already have a list of species I want to put out this summer. The water lilies and irises are growing well, should have some to sell at our show auction.

At the April meeting the club gave away 100 gold severums to club members (8 to each member) who wanted to participate in a growth contest, which will probably end in December, the winner's prize is yet to be determined and will be awarded at the December meeting / Christmas party. Thanks to YATFS member Brian Strickland for providing the gold severums for the contest.

Good news on the Ultra – Aqua 2017 front, all of the sponsorships have been sold, and it will be here before you know it on June 10th and 11th. Show registration starts at 10 am Saturday until 5 pm, also there will be a swap meet on Saturday from noon till 5 pm, show area closes at 7 pm, then the show dinner and speaker if we can find one. Sunday will be the LIVE STOCK ONLY auction, registration starts at 10 am auction starts at 11 am, the awards will be presented at 5 pm, the auc-

tion will then resume, tear down starts at 4 pm. Hope to see lots of people show some fish, after all how often can your fish earn money for you? There used to be plenty of opportunities many years ago, but now the Greater Akron Aquarium Society is the only all species show in Ohio, and with the 60 classes it is the largest show in North America. On another note, the club was established in 1952 so it is the club's 65th anniversary, yet another reason to celebrate.

Now on to the business of Breeder Award Program, we had a combination of 7 spawns turned in at the spring auction and the March meeting, still no Horticultural Award Program submissions. At the April meeting there were 4 spawns turned in, and surprise still no plant propagations, flowerings, or sexual propagations, there are 7 more months this year to hopefully get something turned in so we can have a Horticulturist of the Year. The grand total of spawns turned in so far this year from 8 members is 20; come on people, every member in good standing is eligible to participate in either of the two programs. For the past couple of years there have been over a dozen members participating in the two programs.

March 2017 BAP

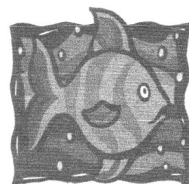
Species	Common name	Class	Points
Dan McMonigle			
<i>Puntius fasciatus</i>	Melon Barb	Barbs etc.	10
<i>Metriaclima sp.</i>	long pelvic	Gallireya reef	Cichlid m.b. 10
Joe Reich			
<i>Neetroplus nematopus</i>	Neets	Cichlid s.s.	5
Rich Serva			
<i>Cnesterodon decimaculatus</i>		Livebearer	5
Jeffrey Swanson			
<i>Neocaridina davidi</i>	Bloody Mary shrimp	Aq. Animal	10
<i>Girardinus metallicus</i>	Black chin livebearer	Livebearer	5
Bud White			
<i>Pelvicachromis subocellatus</i>	"Matadi"	Cichlid s.s.	15
April 2017 BAP			
Jeffrey Swanson			
<i>Limia vittata</i>	Cuban limia	Livebearer	5
Mike & Elsie Swanson			
<i>Aphyosemion australe</i>	Gold australe	Killifish	10
Wayne Toven			
<i>Pseudocrenilabrus multicolor</i>	Egyptian mouthbrooder	Cichlid m.b.	5



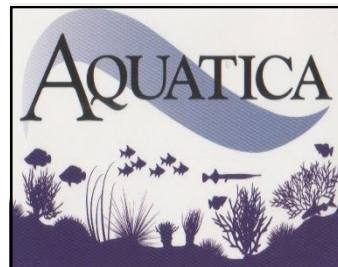
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Bowl Show & Special Activities

David Girard



After four months we have a close race for the lead. Dave Williamson has taken over the lead with Jeff Plazak and Wayne Toven close behind with only six points separating the three. March had 17 entries and April had 29 entries.

March results

Barbs

- 1-Dave Williamson - filamentosa barb
- 2-Wayne Toven- filamentosa barb
- 3-Wayne Toven- cherry barb

Mollies

- 1-Don Youngkin-gold dust molly
- 2-Don Youngkin-black molly
- 3-Dave Williamson-female spenops

Suckermouth catfish

- 1-Wayne Toven-L-107 vampire pleco
- 2-Wayne Toven-farlowella sp.
- 3-Wayne Toven-*Farlowella acus*

April results

Female guppies

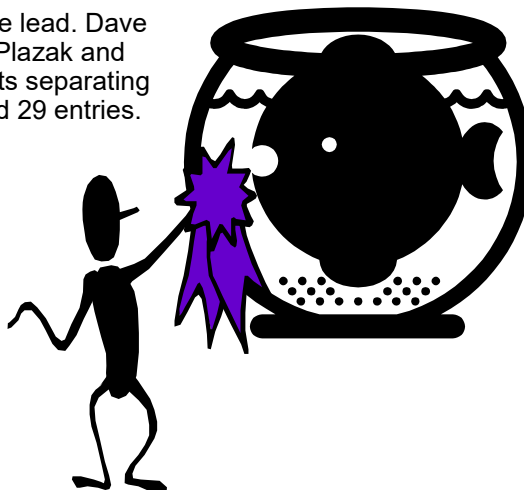
- 1-Jeff Plazak
- 2-Jeff Plazak
- 3-Mike and Elsie Swanson

Corydoras, Brochis, and Aspidoras

- 1-Dave Williamson-*Corydoras elegans*
- 2-Jeff Plazak-*Corydoras sterbai*
- 3-Bill Bilski-*Corydoras nanus*

Photography

- 1-Elsie Swanson-gold severum
- 2-Jeff Swanson-*Pelvicachromis subocellatus*
- 3-Wayne Toven-redtail sand loach



Annual Point Totals

Dave Williamson	42
Jeff Plazak	39
Wayne Toven	36
Don Youngkin	19
Mike Swanson	15
Misty White	7
Bill Bilski	7
Jeff Swanson	6
Todd Zettler	4

2017 Bowl Show Schedule

January:

Male Guppies
Goldfish
Minnows, Danios & Rasboras

February:

Domestic Swordtails,
Betta splendens,
Characins (Tetras & relatives)

March:

Mollies
Suckermouth Catfish
Barbs

April:

Female Guppies
Corydoras, Aspidoras & Brochis
Photography

May:

Rift Lake Cichlids
Sharks & Loaches
Aquatic Invertebrates

June: no bowl show

July

Native Fish
Angelfish & Discus
Aquatic Plants

August:

Platies
Rainbowfish
Amphibians

September:

Goodeids
AO New World Cichlids
Pairs (male/female)

October:

Gouramis & Anabantoids
AO Old World Cichlids
Arts & Crafts

November:

AO Livebearers
AO Egglayers
AO Catfish

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Exchange Report

Wayne Toven



Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, Tank Tales: Feb. 2017

Corydoras sp. CWO 16 – *Corydoras teniente*, by Don Kinyon

Tropical Fish Society of Rhode Island, Tankquillizer: Feb 2017

Keeping Arowanas in the Freshwater Aquarium, by Katherine Barrington

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: Feb 2017

Harvesting Microworms by the Tablespoon, by Joe Doyle

Aulonocara kandeense "Blue Orchid Peacock", by Roberto Prati

Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society, Fincinnati: Jan/Feb 2017

Ancistrus sp. "Honeycomb", by Jerry Riegel

Kitchener – Waterloo Aquarium Society, Fins & Tales: Mar 2017

The Hair Bellies (Gouramis) Part 1, by Al Ridley

Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, Tank Tales: Mar 2017

Enatiopus melanogeys – a Tanganyikan Beauty, by Klaus Steinhaus

Tubbing Last Summer, by John Dickel

Corydoras knaacki, by Don Kinyon

Hamilton & District Aquarium Society: Mar 2017

Lepidolamprologus hecqui, by Catherine Salmon

Melanotaenia praecox (Dwarf Neon Rainbowfish), by Catherine Salmon

Youngstown Area Tropical Fish Society, News & Views: Mar 2017

Echinodorus ozelot – Ozelot Sword Plant, by Lisa Reel

Aspidoras cf. Taurus, by Joe Doyle

Missouri Aquaium Society Inc.

The Darter: Mar/Apr 2017

Elassome okefenokee – the Okefenokee Pygmy Sunfish, by Mike Hellweg

Hamburg Matten Filter and a New Tank – a Foray into a New Territory, by Rick Renfro

Pseudocrenilabrus multicolor – the Dwarf Egyptian Mouthbrooder, by Mike Hellweg

Michiana Aquarium Society, Michiana Tropical Times: Mar 2017

Laetacara curviceps, by Ben Slocum

Brooklyn Aquarium Society, Aquatica: Mar/Apr 2017

The Responsible Aquarist Part 3 – Eurasian Water Milfoil, *Myriophyllum* sp. by Anthony P. Kroeger

Open Wide to Say Ahhh – Keeping Leaf Fish in the Aquarium, *Monocirrhus polyacanthus*, by Anthony P. Kroeger

Terrific Tetras Part 4 – Lemon Tetras – *Hyphessobrycon pulchripinnos*, by Anthony P. Kroeger

Propagating *Cryptocoryne griffithii*, by Izzy Zwerin

I'm Melting, I'm Melting, Oh What a World, What a World - Common Crypt Problem, by Anthony P. Kroeger

Fly with Me! Meet the Hatchets, by Anthony P. Kroeger

Circle City Aquarium Club, Fancy Fins: Mar 2017

Ancistrus cf. cirrhosus 'Green Dragon' Plecos, by Kelsea Kruger

Eastern Iowa Aquarium Association, Fin Flap: Oct 2016

Breeding *Corydoras panda*, by Scott Wiersema

Rivulus bolivianus BPV 2014-09, by Pete & Beth Lafrentz

Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, Tank Tales: Dec 2016

Breeding *Corydoras paleatus*, by RichBressler

Brachyrhaphis rhabdophora, by Alan Rollings

New Hampshire Aquarium Society, The Granite – Fisher: Apr 2017

Feeding Your Fish Garlic, by Don Van Pelt

PP – Pro System for Plants, by Martha Bonney

Eastern Iowa Aquarium Association, Fin Flap: Apr 2017

Spawning *Aphyosemion ogoense* GHP80-24, by Dick VanHyfte

Hamilton & District Aquarium Society: Apr 2017

Heterandria formosa 'Dwarf Mosquitofish', by Catherine Salmon



Membership Report

Don Youngkin



As you would guess from the title of this column, it is about matters related to membership. In it, you can find information about the attendance of the meetings. New members will also be welcomed here, as well as giving members advance warning of expiring memberships.

When you attend a meeting, please be sure to sign in. This will make you eligible to the door prize drawing. Additionally, attendance at GAAS events, including our Auctions, will also earn you tickets for the raffle drawing at the annual Christmas Party. But, you must sign in for your attendance to be recorded.

We had 20 members sign-in at the March meeting, with Ron and Amy Mullens winning the door prize. In April, 19 members were at the meeting, and Jeff Plazak won the door prize.

For those keeping track, with our meeting night moved to the second Friday of the month, we have seen a 12% increase in the number of members in attendance for the first two meetings.

The memberships for the following people expire in May and June: None.

If you have any question about the status of your membership, you can either see me at our meeting, or email me at the address listed on the front page of this newsletter. Membership forms can be found in this newsletter and on our website. Forms are also available at our club functions, including our Auctions.

GAAS ULTRA-AQUA 2017

All Species Show and Auction

Tallmadge Community Center, 80 Community Rd., Tallmadge, Ohio

Friday June 9

Set-up 7 p.m.

Saturday June 10

Show Registration 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Swap Meet noon to 5 p.m.

Show area closes 7 p.m.

Dinner/Party 7 p.m.

Sunday June 11

Auction Registration 10 a.m.

Auction Begins 11 a.m.

Awards Presentation 5 p.m.

Tear-Down 4 p.m.



For more information:

Bud White (330) 571-0394

bwhite@neo.rr.com

Wayne Toven (330) 256-7836

wtoven@hotmail.com

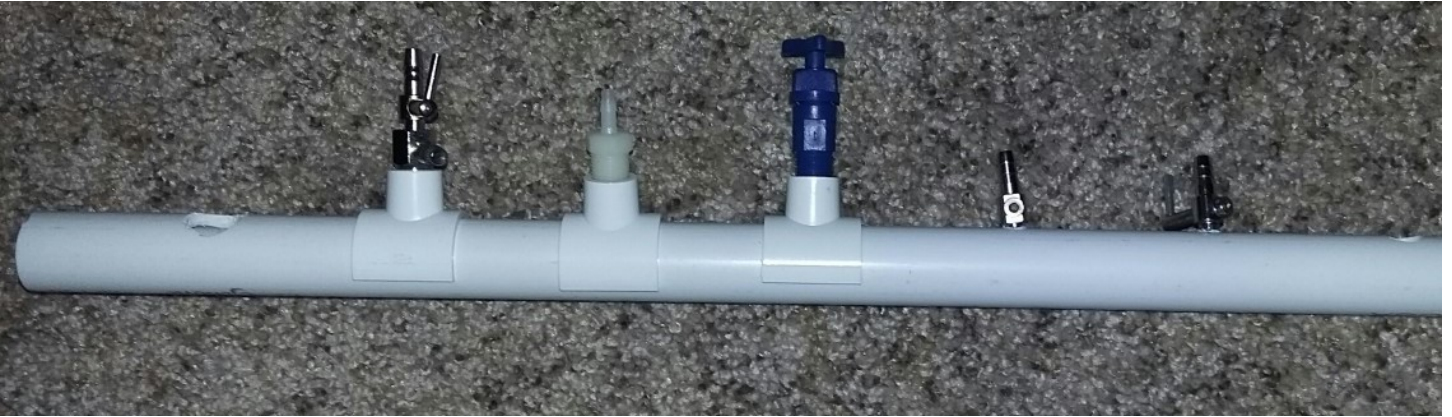
Rich Serva (330) 650-4613

rjserva@gmail.com

website: www.gaas-fish.net



Air Manifold Workshop



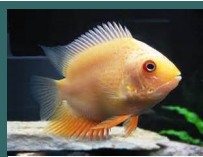
The Greater Akron will be hosting a build an air manifold workshop at the July meeting. Since members' needs are different, we will assist each member that attends and wants to make a manifold in building a customize manifold for their fish room. In order to make this fair the value of the manifold will be determined by the workshop presenters. GAAS will offer a \$10 discount for each paid member.

If you want to build a manifold, you need to contact Rich Serva or Bud White at least 14 days in advance of the meeting. To ensure that you get what you need please let us know if you want to build a manifold that is longer than 2 feet. This also applies to the number of valves/nipples needed for your manifold.

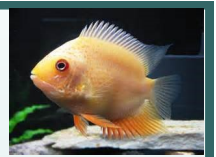
Schedule 80 pipe is thicker walled and works better for mounting the valves/nipples directly on the pipe. Straight saddles are 1/4 inch threaded and are a great alternative to threading a hole drilled into the pipe. You can use schedule 40 pipe if you plan to use a saddle.

To help you estimate the cost for your manifold use the values listed below.

- * 1/2 inch schedule 80 pipe – 2 feet for \$1
- * 1/2 inch schedule 40 pipe – 3 ft for \$1
- * 3/4 inch schedule 80 pipe - 1 ft for \$1
- * 3/4 inch schedule 40 pipe – 2 fr for \$1
- * Nickel plated lever valve with straight port, 1/4 inch threaded for pipe connection - \$2 ea (if available)
- * Nickel plated lever valve, 1/8 inch self-threading for pipe connection - \$1.30 ea
- * Plastic valve, 1/4 inch threaded for pipe connection - \$1 ea
- * Plastic nipple, 1/4 inch threaded for pipe connection - \$0.25 ea
- * 1/2 inch Pipe saddles with 1/4 inch threaded valve connection - \$1 ea
- * 3/4 inch Pipe saddles with 1/4 inch threaded valve connection - \$1 ea



Growth Program 2017



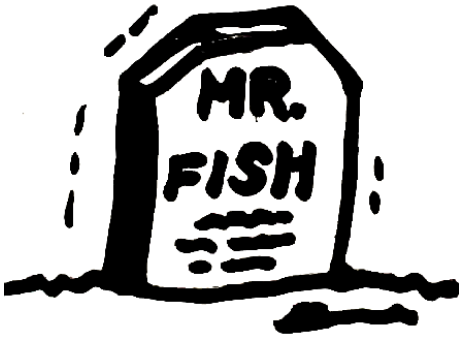
At the April meeting we passed out a group of 8 juvenile gold severums to all members in attendance. We told you at that time we would have rules soon, and here they are: Bring in your largest individual at the December Christmas party. That's it! The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate and a one year extension to their club membership. We're also working on a couple other things for the future, possibly an award for the first

spawn or a special competition at the 2018 show between our participants and those from YATFS (they are working with the same fish from the same source)

Feed and maintain your fish however you normally do, but keep some records (tank size, water changes, feeding etc.) This will allow the winner to pass along to other members what worked for them.

Mortality in the tank

Todd Zettler



A couple of weeks ago on a Thursday evening, my gold marble angelfish did not look quite right at all. I could tell there was something apparently wrong with the fish, so I grabbed the fish net and I poked him slightly. He moved a little. I did not believe in euthanizing him in a zip-lock freezer bag. The gold marble angelfish did die overnight even though I offered him a variety of food, sometimes a high protein diet.

During the summer of 2015, I could tell there was something wrong with my *Aulonocara jacobfreigergi* female. There was plenty of aeration in the aquarium but she was behaving very strangely in my 20 gallon low aquarium. So, I netted her out, she jumped around in the net, threw her in the freezer bag and placed her in the freezer.

No matter how a fish dies it was a loss. I admit I cried about 20 minutes when I knew the angelfish would not make it.

Never flush any tropical fish down the toilet.



Breeding Pearl Gouramis

Larry Secaur



The Pearl Gourami is a pretty anabantid which can be spawned with little difficulty. This fish has a beautiful pearl coloration which adds to the attractiveness of the fish. The male's coloration is usually more intense than the female's. These fish belong to the anabantid family and reach a length of about four inches. These fish generally breed best at a temperature of about eighty degrees Fahrenheit.

Breeding pearl gouramis wasn't very difficult. They spawn just like all other anabantids, with the male blowing a nest of bubbles, into which he puts the eggs. Once the nest is blown and the female has swelled with eggs the actual spawning takes place. The male wraps his body around the female's and starts squeezing her until she releases a few eggs. These eggs float to the top, the male quickly releases the female and begins to gather the eggs. He blows each egg into its own individual bubble. The male then squeezes the female again and this process repeats itself until the female is depleted of eggs. After the spawning has taken place it is best to remove the female or the male is most likely to kill her. The male tends

to the nest repairing any bubbles which burst. The fry can be hatched without either parent present. Simply leave the nest float in the tank and the fry will hatch out of their own. If for some reason the nest is disturbed the eggs will float and they will still hatch. The eggs hatch in about four days and the

fry are very small. I fed these fry on liquid-fry, sponge filter squeezings and pulverized spinach. The fry grow rapidly as long as they are supplied with plenty of food.

The other cause for losses is the failure to keep the aquarium covered with glass during the critical period when the labyrinth is forming, for this organ does not begin to develop until the fish is about three weeks old. At this time they are particularly sensitive to draughts and temperature changes. If the surface of the water is at all dirty or filmy it should be frequently cleaned by drawing a piece of newspaper across it.

If you are looking for an easy gourami to spawn, try the pearly gourami it should prove to be very rewarding.



The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

P.O. Box 494
Akron, OH 44309-0494

«firstname» «lastname»

«address»

«city», «state» «zip»

Meeting Notice - Do Not Delay

Meeting Notice

Friday, May 12

Program: Pick Pisces Species Pix
Fish ID contest hosted by Wayne Toven

Bowl Show:
Rift Lake Cichlids
Sharks & Loaches
Aquatic Invertebrates

Friday, June 9

Program: No actual meeting,
show set up night at the
Tallmadge Community
Center at 7:00 pm

General meetings begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Ritchie Memorial Shelter House

Coming Events

May 13 – 2017 Satur-
day – starts at 11 am

**Medina County
Aquarium Society –
MCAS spring auction**

Prince of Peace Lu-
theran Church – 3355
Medina Rd. Medina,
Oh 44256

www.mcas-fish.net

**May 26th – 28th
American Killifish
Association Conven-
tion**

Crowne Plaza –
Chicago Northbrook

2875 N. Milwaukee
Ave. Northbrook, Il.
60062

www.aka.org

June 2 – 2017 Sunday
– starts at 11 am

**Erie Aquarium Socie-
ty – EAS auction**

Perry Hi-way Social
Hall

8281 Oliver Rd. Erie,
Pa.

www.erieaquariumsociety.com

**June 25, 2017 – Sun-
day** – starts at 11 am

**SCALES - Summer
Auction**

Perry Grange, 6300
Richville Dr. SW,
Massillon, Ohio

[http://
www.scalesclub.com](http://www.scalesclub.com)