

The

Gravel Gossip

Volume 2019

Number 5



Next Meeting:

May 13th, 2019

7:30pm

General Meeting

Hot Dogs & Fried Chicken!

Special Raffle 18gal Tank Complete

Meetings are normally held on the second Monday of every month, beginning 7:30PM at William Penn High School - Main Cafeteria
713 E. Basin Road (Rt. 141 South)
New Castle, DE 19720

Please note: Alternate meeting area is 2nd cafeteria on left side of building by 2nd set of doors, or from the front entrance, turn left and go down the hall and follow around to an intersection of the halls. The 2nd cafeteria will be on the right corner.

William's Greenbank Aquarium

(302) 994-1707

107 Greenbank Rd.

Wilmington, DE 19808

10% Discount on all fish

Show your DSAS membership card

INDEX

General Information	2
Message	3
Members Tank Showcase	4
Prizes	5
Other Clubs	6
Manufacturers	7
Trading Post	8
Advertising	9-10
ABC #24	11
DSAS Annual Auction Mtg	12



FRESHWATER • SALTWATER • REEFS • PLANTS • PONDS • AND MORE

TROPICAL FISH HOBBYIST

THE WORLD'S AQUARIUM MAGAZINE SINCE 1952 • www.tfhmagazine.com

Diamond State Aquarium Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 10443, Wilmington, DE 19850-0443

Founded 1963, Reorganized 1981

Incorporated Since 1988

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Chris Edwards
(302) 382-3051

VICE PRESIDENT
Omar Reyes
(302) 310-1858

SECRETARY
Dolly Ziegler
(302) 322 - 8187

TREASURER
Marty Ziegler
(302) 322 - 8187



Gravel Gossip is the official publication of the Diamond State Aquarium Society, of the state of Delaware. We are a non-profit organization dedicated to the education and advancement of the tropical, marine, and aquatic hobby. The information contained in the articles appearing in this publication should not be construed as 100% factual. It may, however, be accepted as information that has been proven successful for the authors.

Notice

Items to be published in the Gravel Gossip **MUST** be received by the editor two (2) weeks prior to the meeting date.

Membership Fees

Junior (under 18)—\$10/Year
Adult—\$15/ Year
Family—\$20/Year

BOARD MEMBERS

David Mitchell
Phil Simpkins
Harry Bratton
Jeff Mey
Richard Miller Jr
Joe Solge

Lorie Thomas – Facebook
Scottie Schmidt - Webmaster

WEBSITE: <http://dsas.club>

Gravel Gossip Editor

Marty Ziegler
(302) 322-8187

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page
\$100/Year
\$12/Month

Half Page
\$50/Year
\$6/Month

Quarter Page
\$30/Year
\$4/Month

PLEASE NOTE

Correspondence should be sent to:
Diamond State Aquarium Society, Inc
13 Saratoga Drive
New Castle, DE 19720

Newsletter Exchanges
should be sent to :

Marty Ziegler
13 Saratoga Drive
New Castle, DE 19720

The Gravel Gossip

Newsletter of

The Diamond State Aquarium Society, Inc.

Our speaker for the April Meeting, Les Wilson from Cobalt Aquatics, gave us an educational presentation into LED lighting. This new technology is still advancing and offers a wide variety of choices for freshwater planted as well as saltwater and reef aquariums with live coral.

The May meeting will be our last for this school year until we start up again on September 9th. Our May meeting is for a general discussion of the hobby. Also, we have a sort of cookout, except indoors. We will have hot dogs and fried chicken along with potato salad and cole slaw, snacks and desserts. We do ask if members can bring in a dessert or snack.

For this meeting, we will have a special raffle of a Cobalt Aquatics 18 gallon C-View All-in-One aquarium, complete with tank, filtration and pump with a retail value of over \$300. Raffle tickets went on sale at the April meeting at \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. Tickets sales will go on until the 9pm drawing at the May meeting.

At our monthly meetings, we will have our door prize and members only drawings, the monthly raffle and of course the club auction at the end of the meeting each month.

Please take note, due to higher security at the school, the front doors cannot be left unlocked or open unless someone is going to stand by the door. We will have someone there between 7:15 and 7:40pm, so please be on time. If you come later and the door is locked, either call Marty on his cellphone at 302-363-6902 or Chris at 302-382-3051 and he will have someone let you in. Otherwise, you will have to knock real hard (just don't break the glass)!

Anyone interested in being a board member and help plan the activities for the upcoming year, please contact any of the officers.

Refreshment donations brought in by members is greatly appreciated by all.

Be sure to visit us on Facebook and on our new website, <http://dsas.online> or <http://dsas.club>. *Keep an eye out for special summer events advertised on our website!*

See you all at our **MONDAY, May 13th** meeting at **7:30pm** sharp!

Marty Z *Note: DSAS Annual Auction Mtg info on page 12 of newsletter.*

Memberships

Due

2019 memberships due

We are now on a calendar year renewal

Welcome new Members!

Vince Sanzone

Future Meeting Dates

“Summer break”

Sep 9

Oct 14

Nov 11

Dec 9

Keep an eye out for special events over the summer!

Note: All past articles are available from our archives. They are posted on our web site. If you want a copy please email the editor at: martyz50@verizon.net or write to DSAS at our address or see a Board member at a meeting.

Member's Tank Showcase

For the first edition of this I picked one of my simpler tanks to showcase. This is a 55 gallon tank with a clean basic décor set up. For the stocking of this I went with a south and central American group of peaceful community fish. I run this tank at 78 to 80 degrees, my TDS is around 140, ph stays around 6.8. I've had this tank set up for 8 to 9 months. The T-bars are constantly moving the sand around to make a better spawning area. Everybody loves everybody except when someone swims to close to the T-bars spot lol. I hope you enjoy this and I can't wait to see everyone's tanks.

Types of fish.

14- Black skirt tetras

1 – Koi angelfish

1 – blue smokey leopard angelfish

A pair of T-Bar cichlids

1 – rubber lip pleco

2 – white edge choc bushynose pleco's

Who knows how many Malaysian trumpet snails lol

6 or so yellow and blue crossed mystery snails

Décor & Plants

Malaysian drift wood

Lg river rocks

Pool and play sand mixed substrate

2 – small terra cotta pots

Italian vallisneria (some are 5 feet long)

Guppy grass floating around randomly

Filtration

1 – 60 gallon sponge filter

1 – 40 gallon sponge filter

Door Prizes

All members in attendance at the April meeting received a free Cobalt Aquatics fish food sample

Raffle Prizes

Aquarium World \$20 Gift Certificate – Charlie W
The Slo Mermaid – *Melanie* – Vince S
Marineland Blue LED Bubble Wand – Dave K
Marineland Blue LED Bubble Wand – Charlie W
Hikari Cichlid Staple Mini-Pellets 3.5 oz – Vince S
Tetra Pond Koe Vibrance 4.94 oz – Charlie W
Instant Ocean Reef Accelerator 250 ml – Marty Z
Instant Ocean Marine Stabilizer 250 ml – Marty Z
Marineland Color-Enhance Goldfish Flk 4.41 oz- Alex F
Marineland Color-Enhance Goldfish Flk 4.41 oz – Liz A
Marineland Springiri & Boxwood Plant Mats – Alex F
Marineland Springiri & Boxwood Plant Mats – Caleb H
Sera Aquarium Kit – Dave K
Marineland Shrimp Wafers 2.12 oz – Marty Z
Marineland Color-Enh Cichlid Pell 5.19 oz – Charlie W
Marineland Color-Enh Cichlid Pell 5.19 oz – Charlie W
Marineland Color-Enh Cichlid Pell 5.19 oz – Mike
Marineland Color-Enh Trop Flk 3.35 oz – Vince S
Marineland Color-Enh Trop Flk 3.35 oz – Eric H
Cobalt Aquatics Peico Cave – Omar R
ZooMed Power Sweep Prefilter Assy – Liz A
API Cichlid Pellets 2.5 oz – Dave K

Members Only

Tetra Tank Nibblers – Nathan W
Tetra Tank Nibblers – Vince S
OSI Cichlid Flake – Al H
API Proper pH 7.5 – Charlie W
Sera Marin Granules – Dolly Z
TetraAlgae Vegetable Enhancing Crisps – Dennis D
API Fungus Cure – Daniel P
API Bottom Feeder Shrimp Pell – Liz A
Marineland Color-Enhancing Tropical Flk – Laura H
Marineland Color-Enhancing Tropical Flk – Dave K
Marineland Color-Enhancing Cichlid Pell – Dave M
TetraMin Tropical Crisps – Brian W
TetraMin Tropical Crisps – Sherrie M
TetraMin Tropical Flake – Eric H
TetraMin Tropical Flake – Caleb H
TetraMin Tropical Flake – Omar R
TetraMin Tropical Flake – Phil S
TetraMin Tropical Flake – Joe S
OSI Cichlid Flake – Al H
Eco Labs Microbe-Lift Grvl & Substr Clnr – Marty Z
API PimaFix – Harry B

Aquatic Services

**Fresh and Saltwater
Aquarium Maintenance**

Call for Free Estimates
(302) 479 -5747

Fishman Aquarium Center

(302) 658 - 8265
2302 Concord Pike
Wilmington, DE 19803

The following **MANUFACTURERS** donate products for our raffles, auctions,
and door prizes every month

Academic Press
Aqueon Products
Aquadine Nutritional System
Aquaria / Marineland Aquarium Prod.
Aquarian Flake Foods/Kal Kan Foods
Aquarium Fish Magazine
Aquarium Systems
Aquatic Promotions / "Cichlid News"
Aquatronics
Aqua Ultraviolet
Blue Ribbon Pet Products
Boyd Enterprises
Cobalt International, Inc.
Danner Mfg/Pondmasters
DirectAquarium.com
Doctors Forrest and Smith
Dr. Tim Aquatics
Duro-Test Corporation
Ecological Laboratories Microbe-Lift
Ecosystem Aquarium
EcoSystems
Florida Aquatic Nurseries
Freshwater & Marine Aquarium Mag
Fritz Industries, Inc.
Ginger Products Company
Glow Light Aquatics
Hagen USA Corp.
Hartz Mountain Corp.
Hawaiian Marine Imports
Hikari Sales USA, Inc.
Hydor USA
Jungle Labs
Kens Fish
Kent Marine
Lee's Aquarium & Pet Products
Marine Enterprises
Mars Fishcare
Maryland Aquatic Nurseries
Miracle Koi Food

Novalek / Kordon . Oasis
Ocean Nutrition
Oceanic Systems
Omega Sea, Ltd.
OSI Marine Lab, Inc.
Penn-Plax Plastics
Perfecto Manufacturing Co.
Pet Solutions
Premium Aquatics
Python Products
Quality Koi / The Nisei Koi Farm
Rainbow Lifeguard Aquar. Products
Red Sea Fish Pharm
Reefs2Go
St. JON Laboratories
San Francisco Bay Brand
SeaChem Laboratories
Seagrest Farms
Sera
Tetra
T F H Publications
Tetra Sales
Tom Aquarium Products
Tropical Science Biolabs
Two Little Fishes
Ultra Balance Premium Koi Foods
United Pet Group
Vitakraft Pet Products Co.
ZOO Med Laboratories

Aquarium Store Sponsors:

ARMCO Aquatics, Elsmere, DE
<http://armcoaquatics.com>
Aquarium World, Boothwyn, PA
www.aquariumworldpa.com
William's Greenbank Aquarium, Prices Corner, DE
J&J Aquatics, Dover, DE <https://jjaquatics.com>
Reef to Rift Aquarium www.ReeftoRift.com
The Wet Spot <http://wetpottropicalfish.com>

The Trading Post

For Sale: Show Piece Quality **Driftwood**

Ready for immediate use - **Sterile**

Call **Ed** at (610) 586-7250

Looking for a few Meridian Automatic Water Changers.....It was made by Aquarium Products and discontinued several years ago. Call Walt @ 302-834-4138 or e-mail: waltwiso@aol.com.

For Sale: "Almost Natural Tropical Fish Food"

For many years now as most of you know, I have been making my own frozen fish food. It has changed over the years to the point that I am using mostly fresh and naturally found seafood - it contains NO fillers - absolutely NONE! Anyone who has been to my home and seen my fish can attest to the fact of how well this food has been for them. The tremendous size they put on at such a young age and the colors are both astounding, not to mention the overall health of the fish. I attribute it to my homemade "Almost Natural Frozen Tropical Fish Food". With basically all of the same ingredients, I am proud to offer "Almost Natural Tropical Fish Food" in flake and pellet form to other hobbyists.

**** **FRESHWATER FLAKES** ****

**** **SUPER COLOR FLAKES** ****

**** **SUPER COLOR BALLS** ****

**** **SHRIMP PELLETS** ****

**** **FREEZE DRIED BLOOD WORMS** ****

**** **SUPER GREEN FLAKES** ****

**** **ALGAE DISCS** ****

"Breeders Delight Tropical Fish Food"

In addition to the Freeze Dried Blood Worms, the following flake foods are extremely wonderful foods for conditioning your fish for breeding.

**** **EARTHWORM FLAKES** ****

**** **BEEF HEART FLAKES** ****

**** **PLANKTON FLAKES** ****

**** **TRIO SPECIAL BLEND FLAKES** ****

FOR MORE INFO AND TO PLACE AN ORDER, VISIT:

www.AlmostNaturalTropicalFishFood.com

Aquarium Hobbyist
aquariumhobbyist.com

The Pond Guy
www.thepondguy.com

DirectAquarium.com is a top supplier of aquarium lighting supplies, including hard to find fixtures and bulbs. We also stock pumps, skimmers, aquariums and more!

<http://www.directaquarium.com>

Advertisers

Leon's Garden World

Annuals • Perennials • Herbs • Shrubs
Water Gardening • Christmas Trees
Gift Shop



Leon Silicki

137 South DuPont Hwy.
New Castle, DE 19720

(302) 325-2440
Fax (302) 325-4199

MDZ Service Enterprises, LLC

Tax Preparation Service

By Appt Only: (302) 363-6902

Individual and sole proprietorship

returns prepared

WISO'S CRABS & SEAFOOD

WE SHIP ACROSS THE U.S.A.

FRESH DAILY FROM OUR BOATS

Now Featuring
Crabs - Shrimp
Clams - Soup

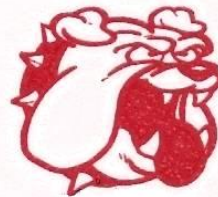
101 FIFTH STREET-ROUTE 9
DELAWARE CITY, DELAWARE 19706

Gourmet Crab Cakes
Retail-Wholesale

302-836-0224

www.Wisocrabs.com
Wisocrabs@aol.com

CAPTAIN BOB WISOWATY - OWNER



Pet Kare

We Care About Pets

Pencader Plaza - Rts. 4 & 72
Newark, DE 19713

Phone: (302) 733-0740
Fax: (302) 733-0745

201 Governor's Square S.C.
Bear, DE 19701

Phone: (302) 832-8775
Fax: (302) 832-8776

Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-9 p.m. • Sunday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Visit

Aquarium Consultant

www.aquariumconsultant.com

MICROWORM CULTURES

For sale

www.microworms.com

For Aquarium Lighting Information

<http://www.AquaLighting.net>



Brine Shrimp DIRECT →

PRODUCTS TO MAKE YOUR TANK THRIVE!

Online at www.brineshrimpdirect.com

Brine Shrimp Direct welcomes Diamond State Aquarium Society and its members to our new Club Discount Program.

All members placing orders online will save 5% off of their order when entering your new affiliate ID#* in the promotional code box. Group Purchases over \$250 (excluding brine shrimp eggs) will receive a 7.5% discount. Brine shrimp eggs will receive a maximum discount of 5%.

We are always available by phone and email to answer member questions about our products or take phone orders for customers who prefer the personal touch.

We have recently added a number of new products including:

Live Brine Shrimp!

Live Copepod starter cultures. (\$9.95)

Enriched Brine Shrimp

Frozen Daphnia

Frozen Krill Pacifica Plankton

Frozen Mysis

Frozen Rotifers

Frozen Bloodworms

all of the above in convenient cube trays.

Plus Flake Sampler

Flake Diets Plus 4 Pack which contains 1 ounce jars of our Garlic Plus Flake, Phyto Plankton

Plus Flake, Zoo Plankton Plus Flake and Mariner Plus Flake. (\$9.95)

Group Purchases will need to be made via phone (800-303-7914 or 801-782-4700), email (sales@brineshrimpdirect.com), or fax (801-782-4200)

Please remember to include DSAS's ID#

*The Club ID # can be obtained from Marty, or Bob

IT'S AS EASY AS A B C . . .

AQUARIUM BASIC CONCEPTS . . .

Article in the ABC Series

By Ed Keene, DCAS

Part #27 in This Series

By Ed Keene, DCAS

Why Quarantine?

Have you ever heard of anyone who had a very well established show aquarium with beautiful, happy, and healthy fish? Well one day they decided to go acquire another fish to add to their aquarium. They brought it home and after having gone through the new fish acclimation process, added it to their aquarium. Within a week several fish had died and several others were looking pretty bad. Turns out a disease was running wild in the aquarium and it all originated from the newly acquired fish. This scenario happens often, more especially with beginning hobbyists. This problem can be prevented and one of the best ways is by the use of a quarantine aquarium.

One of the main purposes of the quarantine aquarium is to hold newly purchased or otherwise acquired fish in an aquarium for a period of 2 to 3 weeks. Keeping a fish separated from any future aquarium mates allows for easy disease detection and other observation. Many times an infected fish will not show any signs of the disease for 10 to 14 days. By keeping a fish in a quarantine aquarium you allow for the disease to proceed through its cycle and finally show itself. If during the quarantine period, the fish should show signs of parasites or other disease, you can medicate it with absolutely no risk of impacting the fish in your show aquarium. It is also very cost effective to medically treat a small quarantine aquarium rather than a much larger aquarium.

The size of your quarantine aquarium will be based upon the size of fish you are going to acquire. For the average sized fish, say up to 4 or 5 inches, a 10 gallon aquarium will serve the purpose well. The quarantine aquarium does not have to have the best and the fanciest equipment on it. In fact, quite the opposite is the suggested way to go and the preferred way of the more experienced hobbyist.

Keep it simple! The standard equipment for the quarantine aquarium is the aquarium with a cover of some type, a heater, a low tech filter without carbon, a light, and a decoration of some type. The decoration, which does not have to be anything fancy, is simply to give the fish a feeling of security, knowing that it has something to hide behind or inside of. A piece or two of plastic PVC pipe will work just fine. This is all you need. It is basically a bare aquarium - no gravel, no plants, no nothing -other than what I previously mentioned. Keep in mind the quarantine aquarium is established to aid in the cure of any fish which might be infected with some type of disease. It is not one which is being entered into the world's greatest looking aquarium contest.

Most any type of filter is adequate provided carbon or charcoal is not used. Remember, carbon adsorbs chemicals in the water, i.e. medication. If you end up medically treating the quarantine aquarium, the carbon will defeat your attempts. Power filters, corner box filters, even canister filters can be used. Just remember - no carbon. Because several of the aforementioned types of filters are expensive and not really being used to their full potential, many hobbyists turn to sponge filters for quarantine aquarium use. The sponges are inexpensive and will provide good bacterial filtration. The sponge filter can be operated with an air pump or with a power head attached to it.

If medical treatment of your fish is necessary, you should allow for another 2 to 3 week period of quarantine after your last treatment. This will assure that a subsequent disease cycle is not in progress. Once this period has been completed, you can begin the acclimation process of moving your fish to your show aquarium.

Continued page 11

Continued from page 10

In conclusion

If you have the space available for a quarantine aquarium, it would be a wise decision on your part to have one and put all future fish acquisitions through the quarantine process. Of course on the other hand, if you reject the idea of a quarantine aquarium and a disease completely terminates the life of all your prize fish, you have the dubious distinction of being able to go out and spend lots of money to purchase all brand new fish! The choice is yours.

DSAS Annual Auction planning meeting scheduled for Sunday, May 19th, at 6pm at Marty's house at 13 Saratoga Drive, Penn Acres South, New Castle, DE 19720-4224. Phone: 302-322-8187.

Same side of Basin Road as WP High School, shared development entrance with Penn Mart Shopping Center (Big Lots, Save-a-Lot, Rainbow stores, PNC Bank).