



The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

Tank Topics

January/February 2012

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Christmas Party 2011

For more pictures taken by our historian Russ Kirkendall,
see pages 8 & 9 of this issue.

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50/50.....		

Important Dates for 2012

March 4
Spring auction

July 14 & 15
Ultra Aqua 2012

November 4
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 first Thursday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at the Mogadore Community/Senior Center, 3857 Mogadore Road, Mogadore, Ohio. It is located East of Route 532 across from McDonald's in the former post office building. Visitors are always welcome, it costs absolutely nothing to attend a meeting and look us over.

MEMBERSHIP: The cost is only \$7.50 for adults, \$10 for 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 other that share your interests, a subscription to our bi-monthly magazine, library usage 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 equipment and book raffles.

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.

LIBRARY: At the library table are a number of books and other publications covering all areas of the aquarium hobby. Members may borrow the books for a month at a time. Also each month several books are raffled off.

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 and two copies of the publication containing the reprint are sent to GAAS. Please send any correspondence regarding this publication to:

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

☐ New ☐ Renewal
☐ Electronic ☐ Mail



Adult (18 years and older)	1 year	\$7.50
	2 years	\$12.00
Family (includes children under 10)	1 year	\$10.00
	2 years	\$15.00
Junior (10-17 years)	1 year	\$5.00
	2 years	\$7.00

Dues Collected _____ Date Received _____



BAP/HAP Report

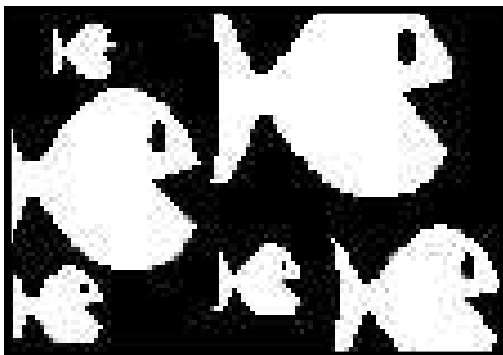
Wayne Toven

Seems like I just did this, but here we go with the start of the new BAP/HAP year.

Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving, as this is the start of the holiday season also. We had our annual club Christmas party/December meeting on the 1st. There was lots of good food, a big raffle, and the member appreciation giveaway, this year we had fish of course, plants, driftwood,

and fish food; everyone should have gotten something they can enjoy or use in their fish rooms. I know I did. This comes as no surprise to me, there were no spawns turned in at the meeting, this is usually the way it is, since we give fish away no one wants to buy fish in the BAP/HAP auction. I did receive a picture and paperwork for one plant flowering, so the Horticultural Award Program is off and running.

To stimulate the Breeder Award Program, I will be giving a coupon for one dollars worth of raffle tickets for each spawn submitted by a member for the next year, let's see if that helps any. Just to remind everyone, to get credit for a spawn a couple of things can be done, the most commonly used method is to turn in a minimum of 6 fry between 30 – 90 days old either at a monthly meeting or at one of our auctions. The second method is to have a spawn verified by a board member that the breeder kept them alive for the 30 - 90 days, write an article telling what the fish are, where they come from, how you kept them, what you fed them, how they spawned, and how you kept the fry alive. Believe me writing an article is not that hard and of course our editor would appreciate getting something to put in our Tank Topics.



Now I come to the Horticultural Award Program, the main item I am bringing up is something that we have been to lenient on for the past few years, to be given credit for a vegetative propagation of a plant in classes C & D a written report needs to be turned in. This does not have to be an extensive article, although you can write one if you want again our editor would be happy. Just a simple report; what the plant is, species name and common name, where it comes from, how it grows, conditions under which you grew it, if you used fertilizer, CO2, what kind of lighting was used, grown submersed, emersed, or floating, in an aquarium, outdoors, if it flowered (class E) more points, or whatever you want to share about it. A report also has to be written for class F – sexual reproduction, the plant needs to be verified that it flowered and went to seed, and seeds sprouted and grew into plants that are recognizable as the same kind of plant as the parent plant; pictures are a good way to document the entire process. The pictures are also good to illustrate the report, and good filler for our publication. If anyone needs a copy of the rules and forms for either of the programs they can all be downloaded from our club web site, or you can get a copies from me at the meeting. Again we need to follow these simple rules of the programs, this year let's do it right!

December 2011 HAP

	Species	Common name	Class	Points
Orin McMonigle	<i>Pistia stratioides</i>	Shell flower	E – flowering	10

Standings for 2012

	BAP	Points	HAP	Points
Orin McMonigle	-	-	1	15

Exchange Report

Wayne Toven



There is not that many as I just did this last month. If anyone would like to read one of the articles listed below let me know and I will get a copy of it to you one way or another.

Greater Detroit Aquarium Society, Tropic Tank Talk: Nov 2011

“Topminnow (*Fundulus cingulatus*) as an Aquarium Species”, by Robert Rice

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: Aug 2011

“*Paracyprichromis nigripinnis*”, by Eric Bodrock

“*Nothobranchius korthausae* RK Red”, by Roberto Prati

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: Sept 2011

“*Aphyosemion bitaeniatum* “Mbanga”, by Roberto Prati

“*Neolamprologus multifasciatus* (Lake Tanganyika Shell Dweller Cichlid)”, by Stan Chechak

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: Oct 2011

“*Scriptaphysemon etzeli* ‘Lungi Loc 99/10’”, by Regina Spotti

“*Betta pugnax*”, by Stan Chechak

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: Nov 2011

“*Labidochromis caeruleus* – the Next Generation”, by Stan Chechak

“The Savanna Tetra – *Hyphessobrycon stegemanni*”, by Eric Bodrock

Kitchener – Waterloo Aquarium Society, Fins & Tales: Dec 2011

“Leaving the Best to Last at the National Aquarium at Baltimore”, by Dick Mattison

Long Island Aquarium Society, Paradise Press: Oct 2011

“The Care and Handling of *Poecilia reticulata*”, by Margaret Peterson

Long Island Aquarium Society, Paradise Press: Nov 2011

“*Poecilia reticulata* Part 3 – Health Concerns”, by Margaret Peterson

Michiana Aquarium Society, Michiana Tropical Times: Nov 2011

“A Collecting Trip”, by Ben Slocum

“Amazing *Corydoras*”, by Linda Corwin

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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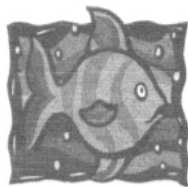
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Wayne Toven

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Bowl Show & Special Activities

Ken McGill



Just a review of the annual competition rules this month:

Each month members can bring in fish for specific classes to compete for first, second, and third place ribbons. The charge for each entry is only \$.25. Members compete for the **Bowl Show Championship** by earning points for participating in the Bowl Shows throughout the year starting with the January General Meeting and ending at the November General Meeting. An award will be presented to the person earning the highest number of points at the Christmas Party. Points will be awarded to the aquarist in the following manner:

4 points for each 1st place entry

2 points for each 2nd place entry

1 point for each 3rd place entry

1 point for each entry (maximum of 5 points per class, in addition to points for placing entries)

If a class of fish has been shown previously in that bowl show year, it is not eligible for judging in any "all other" species bowl show (example: If there is a bowl show for guppies, guppies can not be entered in the "all other" livebearer species bowl shows.) The Special Activities chairperson should point out deformed or diseased fish to the participants.

How the Point System works:

- 1st - 4 points
- 2nd - 2 points
- 3rd - 1 point
- 1 point per entry,
- maximum 12 points per class

2012 Bowl Show Schedule

January:

Goldfish, Male Guppies, Minnows Danios & Rasboras

February:

Suckermouth Catfish, Swordtails, Characins

March:

Barbs, Mollies, Corydoras Aspidoras & Brochis

April:

Female Guppies, Platies, Aquatic Invertebrates

May:

Goodeids, Rift Lake Cichlids, Aquatic Plants

June:

Native Fish, Rainbowfish, Male Betta splendens

July:

Synodontis Catfish, Killifish, Angelfish & Discus

August:

AO New World Cichlids, Amphibians, Bog Plants

September:

Gouramis & Anabantoids, Sharks & Loaches, Photography

October:

Arts & Crafts, Marine Fish, All Other Old World Cichlids

November:

All Other Livebearers, All Other Egglayers, All Other Catfish



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Poeciliopsis viriosa

By Rich Serva

The fish genus *Poeciliopsis* is widely distributed from Arizona to northern Colombia. There are 20 named species with half distributed near the geologically active Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt. This geologic feature marks the southern limit of the Mexican central plateau. This genus is assigned to the tribe Heterandriini, supertribe Poeciliini, subfamily Poeciliinae so it is a Poeciliid that is more closely related to the *Heterandria* genus than the *Poecilia* or *Xiphophorus* genera. Like *Heterandria formosa*, many *Poeciliopsis* are superfoetaters, a reproduction trait that allows females to carry multiple broods of young at a time. Unlike *Heterandria formosa* that can carry up to nine broods of young, the *Poeciliopsis*



NEODAT lists that museum specimens have been collected in some of Figure 2: Female *Poeciliopsis viriosa*

the following places: Rio, 8 mi NNW of Rosario, on Nat. Rt. 15, Sinaloa; Rio Panuco, Chele, Sinaloa; Stream 26 mi SE of Culiacan, Sinaloa; Small stream 8 mi NW of Elota, Sinaloa; Rio San Lorenzo at Quila, Sinaloa; Junction of Rio Culiacan and Bladat Creek, near Imala, Sinaloa; Arroyo Huajote, Sinaloa; Rio Chila, Nayarit; trib Rio Grande de Santiago, Nayarit; Rio San Miguel, Nayarit; trib. to Rio Santiago, Nayarit; Rio Aca-poneta, Nayarit; trib. of Rio Ameca, Nayarit ; Arroyo San Francisco just SE of San Francisco, Nayarit; Rio Sauta just S of Mexico Hwy., Nayarit; trib. Rio

Ameca, Jalisco; Spring-fed creek ca. 4.5 mi SW of Las Palmas on road to Ixtapita, Jalisco. A general map of the area is in Figure 1.

Description of the species

Poeciliopsis viriosa looks similar to other *Poeciliopsis* species. The males are around 1.5-inches long with an elongated body and a pointed head. Females can reach up to 2.5-inches in length. Males display a brassy body color with black coloration in the ventral region behind the gonopodium. (Figures 2 & 3)

Habitat

According to Wischnath, this fish can be found in a variety of freshwater habitats in the Pacific coastal regions of the Mexican states of Sinaloa, Nayarit and Jalisco.

Personal observations

I had picked up some fry from Bob Cashin at the end of last summer. I placed the fish in a 15-gallon bare bottom tank containing a sponge filter, Java moss and Riccia. The fish were fed a variety of foods - live daphnia, baby brine shrimp, frozen brine shrimp and flake foods.

Since the tank was filled with plants and the fish grew slowly, they were mainly ignored. I was able to grow up fry in the same tanks of the parents but the adults seemed fond of chasing babies. The fish were quite sensitive to water quality slacking off on water changes was not tolerated.

References:

Mateos, M., O. Sanjur, and R. Vrijenhoek, "Historical Biogeography of the Livebearing Fish Genus *Poeciliopsis* (Poeciliidae: Cyprinodontiformes)". *Evolution* 56(5): pp 972-984 (2002).

Meffe, G. and F. Snelson, "Ecology & Evolution of Livebearing Fishes (Poeciliidae)", Prentice Hall (1989)

Meyer, M. K., L. Wischnath & W. Forster, "Lebendgebarende Zierfische-Arten Der Welt". Mergus-Verlag (1980).

Wischnath, L., "Atlas of Livebearers of the World". T.F.H. Publications, Inc (1993) – TS-180.

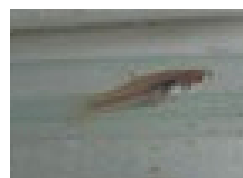


Figure 3: Male *Poeciliopsis viriosa*



sp can carry only two or three broods at one time.

Figure 1: Range for *Poeciliopsis viriosa* in the Mexican states of Sinaloa, Nayarit and Jalisco.

Poeciliopsis viriosa comes from the Gulf of California in the Mexican state of Sinaloa down to the Pacific coast of the state of Nayarit, almost to Jalisco. I decided to search NEODAT II for listing of Museum Records of collected specimens.



Christmas Party 2011

Photos by Russ Kirkendall





The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

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

Meeting Notice - Do Not Delay

Meeting Notice

Thursday, January 5

Program: Learn how to build your own sponge filters by actually making one yourself, with experienced members around to show you the steps. Guests are welcome to watch, but are encouraged to join so they can participate and go home with a filter they have made themselves. All the sponge filters will be made with the best sponge material especially developed for water filtration and imported from Germany.

Bowl Show: Goldfish, Male Guppies,
Minnnows Danios & Rasboras

Thursday, February 2

Program: Rich Serva - The Swordtails
of the Rio Panuco Basin .

Bowl Show: Suckermouth Catfish,
Swordtails, Characins

All general meetings begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Mogadore Community/Senior Center

Coming Events

Feb 11, 2012 – Ohio Cichlid Association - Winter Auction

Holiday Inn Select Strongsville, 15471 Royalton Road. Located at I-71 and Route 82 Cichlids, scavengers, plants and dry goods only. Registration: 9am to 11am Auction Begins: 10am. Visit www.ohiocichlid.com for more info

February 18, 2012 - Motor City Aquarium Society - Spring Auction

Madison Place, 876 Horace Brown Dr., Madison Heights, Michigan. Registration 9:00 to 10:30, auction starts at 10:30. For more information: www.motorcityaquariumsociety.com

March 4, 2012 – Greater Akron Aquarium Society – Spring Auction

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

For more information: Bud White (330) 848-3856 (bwhite@neo.rr.com), Wayne Toven (330) 296-6322 (wtoven@hotmail.com) or Rich Serva (330) 650-4613 (rjserva@juno.com)

April 26 – 29, 2012 – American Livebearer Association Convention

Ft. Lauderdale Airport Hilton, Hosted by the Gold Coast Aq. Soc. 21 class livebearer show, collecting trip, fish farm tour and much more! For more information: www.ALA2012.com