



The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

Tank Topics

March/April 2012

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There's a new aquarium in town! Check out Frank Mueller's trip through the recently opened Greater Cleveland Aquarium beginning on page 6 of this issue.

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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 davew@gaas-fish.net

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 _____



March 4, 2012 Greater Akron Aquarium Society's Spring Auction

Tallmadge Community Center
80 Community Rd. Tallmadge, Ohio

For more information:

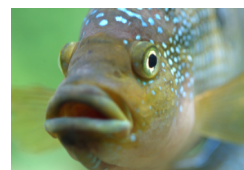
Bud White (330) 848-3856 (bwhite@neo.rr.com),

Wayne Toven (330) 256-7836 (wtoven@hotmail.com)

Rich Serva (330) 650-4613 (rjserva@juno.com)

Registration: 10:00 am

Auction Begins: 11:00 am



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Editor's Message

Dave Williamson

I always save doing my message for the last thing when I'm working on Tank Topics just in case anyone misses anything or something comes up after the board meeting when all the reports are supposed to be in. Unfortunately that also means I'm doing it under pressure and if there is any writer's block involved it can make for some stressful moments. But anyway, this one's done and hopefully I didn't miss anything major. You'll probably notice a few things lacking in the report sections due to various mem-

bers and their families illnesses. Hopefully everything will be back to normal (or as normal as life gets these days!) in the near future.

A big thank you goes out to Frank Mueller for turning in an excellent article, complete with pictures about the newly opened public aquarium in Cleveland. Hopefully soon I'll get a chance to get up there and check it out for myself. Now I don't want to give away anything from Frank's article, but I'm planning on waiting a little while before

venturing there for a visit. Maybe Spring, like after the Spring Auction! (I know, shameless plug! Check out the ad above for all the information.)

Using Frank as an example (a good one, of course!) he submitted an article for me to use in Tank Topics. Another member did too and you'll get to see his next issue. Now, I'm sure you know where this is going. . . If they can do it so can you! It doesn't have to as long or in depth, even a couple paragraphs will work so

think about trying it and I'll see you at the meeting! (and the Spring Auction too!)



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Wayne Toven

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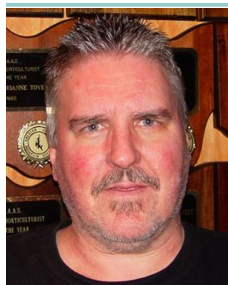
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BAP/HAP Report

Wayne Toven

Phil warned us about six more weeks of winter, while I'm sitting writing this it sure appears that he was correct, temperature is in the teens and there is a fair amount of snow on the ground. Oh well it is only the middle of February, so about five more weeks to go, hope it eases up for our spring auction on March 4th, so we get a decent turn out. The Breeder and Horticultural Awards Programs are starting off the new year like molasses in January, very slow. At the January meeting a total of 3 spawns and two plant propagations were turned in, and February was even worse with only 1 spawn and no plants. Hopefully things will pick up for the March meeting or at our auction on Sunday the 4th. Our's will be the third auction in the area, so there are lots of chances to get some quality stock in the form of young fish, and breeder pairs or groups to get the spawns rolling along. Also if you don't have the room for more fish there should be lots of tanks, filters, decorations, assorted equipment, live plants, and food. So remember members you can turn your March spawns in at the auction instead of the meeting.

January 2012

BAP

	Species	Common name	Class	Points
Phil & Tiffany Hypes				
	<i>Telmatochromis vittatus</i>		Cichlid s.s.	15
Dan McMonigle				
	<i>Poecilia wingei</i>	Chili endlers	Livebearer	5
Wayne Toven				
	<i>Amatitlania siquia</i>	Honduran red point	Cichlid s.s.	5

HAP

Brad Johnson				
	<i>Cabomba sp.</i>	silver – green	B – vegetative	10
Dan McMonigle				
	<i>Chara contraria</i>	musk grass	A – vegetative	5

February 2012

BAP

Phil & Tiffany Hypes				
	<i>Neocaridina Zhangjiajiensis</i>	Blue pearl shrimp	Aquatic animal	10

Standings for 2012	BAP	Points	HAP	Points
Phil & Tiffany Hypes	2	25	-	-
Wayne Toven	1	5	-	-
Brad Johnson	-	-	1	10
Dan McMonigle	-	-	1	5
Orin McMonigle	-	-	1	15

Bowl Show & Special Activities

Ken McGill

February Bowl Show Results:

SWORDTAILS

1st Jeff Plazak swordtail

SUCKERMOUTH CATFISH

1st Wayne Toven Farlowella acus
2nd Jeff Plazak Common pleco
3rd Wayne Toven snowball pleco

CHARACINS

1st Jeff Plazak
2nd Don Youngkin Glowlight Tetra
3rd Wayne Toven Congo Tetra

2012 Bowl Show Classes



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

Exchange Report

Wayne Toven



Here's how this works, incase you forgot, I go through publications from various fish clubs across North America that our club exchanges with, I read original articles from club members, not reprints because I have probably read them in the past. If anyone would like to read one of the articles that are mentioned below, let me know and I will get a copy of it to you via email or a hard copy at a meeting. First of all there are a few articles by our club members that have been reprinted by another club: Rich Serva & Gil Rosenthal's article *The High-Backed Pygmy Swordtail (Xiphophorus multilineatus)* From the Rio Coy was in the Dec 2011 issue of **Greater Detroit Aquarium Society's** Tropic Tank Talk, and the Jan/Feb issue of **Missouri Aquarium Society Inc's** the Darter. Wayne Toven's article *Those Terrible Terrabensis* was in the **Erie Aquarium Society's** January issue. Rich Serva's article on *Poeciliopsis viriosa* was in the January issue of **Greater Detroit Aquarium Society's** Tropic Tank Talk.

Aquarium Club of Lancaster County,

Tank Tales: Nov 2011

Saltwater Made Simple, Part 2, by Michael Steffen

Breeding the Butterfly Goodeid, Ameca splendens, by Joel Antkowiak
Tiger Barbs, by Joel Antkowiak
Coraline Algae Propagation in the Home Aquarium, by Michael Steffen

Aquarium Club of Lancaster County,

Tank Tales: Dec 2011

Saltwater Made Simple, Part 3, by Michael Steffen

Astatotilapia aeneocolor (Yellow Belly Albert), by Jay Stephan

Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society,

Fincinnati: Jan/Feb 2012

Paracyprichromis nigripinnis "Blue Neon", by Jerry Riegel

Hamilton & District Aquarium Society,

Dec 2011

Breeding Norman's Lampeye Killifish, by Charles Drew

Hamilton & District Aquarium Society,

Jan 2012

Spawning the Super Blue Kerri Tetra, by Charles Drew

Kitchener – Waterloo Aquarium Society,

Fins & Tales: Jan 2012

Pseudocrenalabrus philander – dispersus, the Copper Mouthbrooder, by Al Ridley

No Longer Just Feeder Fish (Convicts), by Jeff Loney

Michiana Aquarium Society,

Michiana Tropical Times: Dec 2011

Australoheros sp. "Oblongum", by Bruce Haynes

Limia tridens, by Ben Slocum

Michiana Aquarium Society,

Michiana Tropical Times: Jan 2012

Trichopsis schalleri, by Ben Slocum

Sarnia Aquarium Society,

Aqua Antics: Dec 2011

Breeding the Corydoras metae Catfish, by Wayne Cole

Well What am I? by Peter Melady

St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society,

The Scat: Jan 2012

Bacopa monieri, by Joe Krawchuck

North Jersey Aquarium Society,

Reporter: Jan 2012

Whiptail Catfish, by Joe Graffagnino
I Jump into Water Pumps for My Mini Systems, by Chuck Davis

Aquarium Club of Lancaster County,

Tank Tales: Jan 2012

Saltwater Made Simple, Part 4, by Michael Steffen

Durham Region Aquarium Society,

Tank Talk: Jan 2012

Year of the Cichlid - What are Cichlids?

By Klaus Steinhaus

Common Corydoradine Catfish, by James Studdart

Microworms, by Carmen Webb

Durham Region Aquarium Society,

Tank Talk: Feb 2012

Year of the Cichlid – Getting Started With Centrals, by Lee Nuttall
Spawning and Raising Tetras, Barbs, and Rasboras, by Randy Carey

Greater Detroit Aquarium Society,

Tropic Tank Talk: Feb 2012

The Husbandry of the Black Sailfin Goodeid – Girardinichthys viviparous, by James K. Langhammer

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc.

Finformation: Jan 2012

Simpsonichthys santanae "Ribeiro de Santana", by Roberto Prati
Microworm Serendipity, by Michael D. Heasley

Hamilton & District Aquarium Society,

Jan 2012

Spawning Pelvicachromis taeniatus (Moliwe), by Charles Drew

Kitchener – Waterloo Aquarium Society,

Feb 2012

There's Gold in Dem Thar Hills...err Aquariums Puntius semifasciolatus var. Schubert, by Al Ridley

Ohio Cichlid Association,

Buckeye Bulletin: Feb 2012

Raising and Breeding Neolamprologus multifasciatus, by James Shakour
Albinos, Browns, and Calicos: the ABC's of Bushynose Plecos, by Dave Ayres
Thorichthys socolofi, by Steve Heinebaugh
The Greater Cleveland Aquarium, by Frank Mueller

Pioneer Valley Aquarium Society,

Underwater: Feb 2012

Just When You Think its Hopeless – Keeping and Breeding Cryptoheros nanoluteus, by Michael Liu

St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society,

The Scat: Feb 2012

Breeding Ameca splendens, by Joe Krawchuck
Keeping and Spawning a Whiptail Catfish Species – Hemiloricaria eigenmanni, by Dave Unruh

The Greater Cleveland Aquarium

A visit in January 2012 shortly after its opening

© Frank Mueller, January 2012

On 21 January 2012 the Greater Cleveland Aquarium opened its doors, and for the first time since the City closed the old Cleveland Aquarium in the mid 80's, the people of North East Ohio had a public aquarium again. Naturally for any fish enthusiast this was an historic occasion, and my family just barely managed to keep me away on the opening weekend by pointing out the to-be-expected overcrowding. Accompanied by my Dad, I visited the Greater Cleveland Aquarium on Tuesday 24 January, just four days after the grand opening.

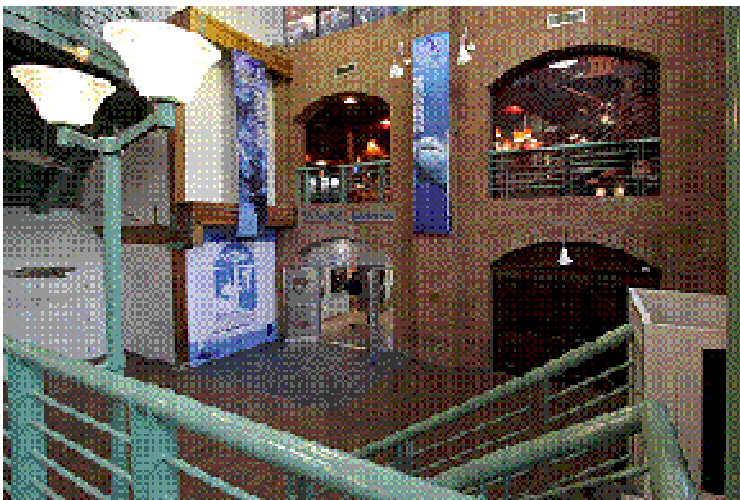
Considering that we came in the middle of a regular weekday, I found the facility well visited but certainly not overcrowded. However, I have heard through the grapevine that the lines on the first weekend needed to be seen to be believed. We had bought our tickets online at www.greaterclevelandaquarium.com, and walked right in. Buying tickets in advance might be a good idea allowing you to jump the queue if you want to visit in the weekend, but probably won't be necessary if you come during the week.

The Greater Cleveland Aquarium is lo-

cated in the historic FirstEnergy Powerhouse, which is both, a burden and an asset. A disadvantage are the space constraints that an historic building imposes. They manifest themselves in a current ban on strollers, which makes the facility less than family friendly for those with very small kids. This is said to be a temporary policy. Considering the number of visitors I saw, I would expect it to be lifted shortly, at least during the week, but for now the policy is in place. The historic building becomes a bonus when it comes to providing a grand setting for the aquarium, as seen in the photo below that shows the entrance hall.

The building also provides many opportunities for integrating fish tanks into its unique features, and makes for very attractive back-drops for the tanks. The designers of the Greater Cleveland Aquarium have taken advantage of that to the fullest. The tanks look stunning in front of lots of exposed brickwork, and the stands built from comparatively rough wood blend right in.

The first feature greeting the visitor is an extensive collection of fish that are native to North East Ohio.



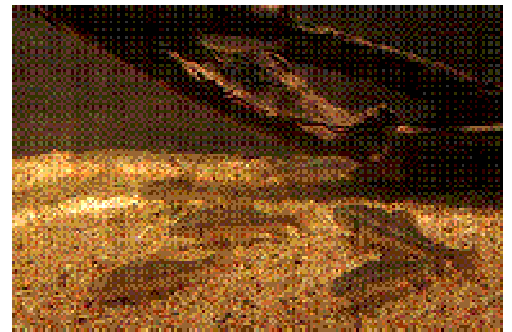
Entrance Hall of the historic FirstEnergy Powerhouse with entry to the Greater Cleveland Aquarium

Most tanks are long and narrow to simulate a river environment, but the flow of water through the tanks appears fairly low. I have very limited experience keeping native Ohio fish species in captivity, but I believe they require fast flowing, oxygen rich water, that is



Some of the tanks housing fish that are native to North East Ohio

fairly cold even in summer. The fish showed no signs of undue stress, but I wonder if the flow through these tanks will be able to provide sufficient aeration, especially in summer. The historic building with its thick brick walls should at least help in keeping the temperatures down. At the time of my visit, some of the tanks looked a little unfinished because wood that was presumably meant to sit on the bottom was still floating, but I guess this will sort itself out in due course. Overall, I found the native fish section fascinating and a great asset to the Aquarium.



Native Ohio fish – those more interested in fishing than myself will have no trouble identifying them

Some more native Ohio fish



Many of the tanks in the Greater Cleveland Aquarium have a circular footprint. This immediately distinguishes them from the tanks most any fish enthusiast might have at home. It also allows viewing from all sides, and by picking up the theme of the smoke stacks and the arched ceilings of the historic power-house in which the aquarium is situated, circular tanks fit in well with the architecture. These tanks encourage the continuous movement typically observed with swarm-forming fish. However, they provide little to no cover for fish that occasionally like to hide. Also, staking out territories becomes very difficult for fish like cichlids that are naturally territorial. Unfortunately in the Greater Cleveland Aquarium, circular tanks are stocked with fish regardless of their natural behavior and associated requirements. Last but not least, the curved acrylic distorts the view of the fish. Note how the fake tree trunk in the above photo appears to be much thinner outside of the tank than inside the tank.

After the large and interesting native fish section, the visitor passes an educational display about invasive species, which curiously is stocked with fancy goldfish. Next to it is a tank with an assortment of common tropical aquarium fish, including for example various tetras, corydoras species, and Blue Rams cichlids. The next room is shown in the photo below. Outside of the frame to the right is a large display featuring alligators. The large tank in the foreground on the left contains an odd assortment of fish ranging from various rays to what could be a collection of fish-store-rescues – tank busting South and Central American cichlids. I initially thought the tank had a New World theme, but I eventually discovered some Asian inhabitants as well – a giant gourami (*Osphronemus goramy*), and a red tail shark (*Epalzeorhynchos bicolor*). In the background you can see three circular tanks, which supposedly contain (from left to right), Amazon river, Lake Malawi, and Lake Tanganyika biotopes.

I am not much of a New World enthusiast myself, so I only gave the Amazon setup a quick glance. To me it appeared pretty decent with a group of angelfish as centerpiece, but also some mesonauta,



Room with various warm freshwater setups

plecos, and so on. The Lake Malawi setup looked like somebody's grow-out tank with lots of juvenile fish, consisting of an assortment of mbuna, haps and peacocks, thrown together without giving it much thought. When those fish grow up, I would expect the tank to become a kind of Woodstock meets World War 3 – free love between all at the same time as unlimited warfare.

As a huge Tanganyika fan, my pet peeve in the whole Aquarium is the Tanganyika tank that is a perfect example of how not to do it. As previously pointed out, a circular tank does not lend itself to provide suitable conditions for territorial fish, which most Tanganyikans are. Also, the fake tree trunk provided as decoration is completely wrong for the Tanganyikan habitat that's dominated by rocks. According to the labels on the tank, the main inhabitants were supposed to be *Paracyprichromis nigripinnis*, *Cyprichromis leptosoma* 'Utinta' and *Tropheus duboisi*, which would have been a pretty good stocking list for the tank, and might have actually benefited from the circular shape. However, in reality the centerpiece of the tank was a colony of adult Frontosa – presumably of the Burundi variety.

Admittedly, they were big and awesome looking. I'd say the biggest Frontosa I have seen so far, but then the curved glass of the tank makes the size of fish impossible to judge. Of the cyps and paracyps there was no trace to be seen, other than that the frontosa looked exceedingly well

fed. I'd hazard a guess that there was a causal relationship. The tropheus looked little frazzled, and were not as active as I'd expect tropheus to be. As any experienced aquarist will be able to confirm, different temperaments and different feeding requirements make frontosa and tropheus notoriously bad tank mates. Often the hyperactive tropheus will stress out the docile frontosa, but here it seemed that the adult frontosa had the upper hand over tropheus that might have been weakened already by digestive problems caused by protein-rich food suitable and necessary for frontosa but not tropheus. In addition to the aforementioned fish, the tank also contained various small juvenile lamprologine, including altolamprologus and shell-dwellers – all of them potential food for the huge frontosa. It would be unfair to judge the entire Aquarium by the small Tanganyika display, but I cannot help but say that it would have been better not to have a Tanganyika biotope than this one.



Lake Tanganyika display

The room contained three information posters, one about the Amazon River, one about Lake Malawi, and one about the Mekong Delta. How these were supposed to match up with the displays remained mysterious to me.

Another noteworthy detail might be that absolutely no life plants were used in any of the freshwater setups of the Aquarium. Let's hope this is planned for the future, since they would make a worthwhile addition.

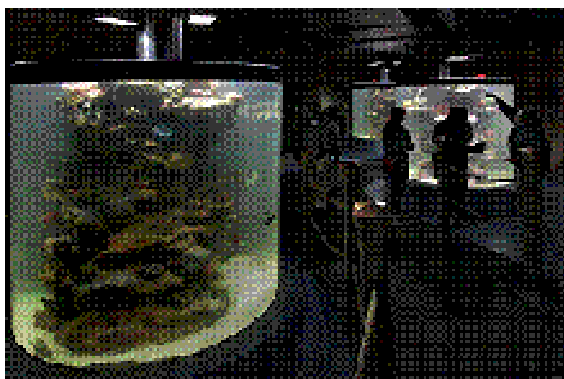
Following this room was a hallway that

showed yet again the designers' ingenious integration of the Aquarium into the historic building. First came a circular skylight offering views up the outside of the chimney of the powerhouse, highlighting its impressive height. With the visitors attention drawn upward, there came a lobster tank integrated in the ceiling offering intriguing views of the crustaceans from underneath.



Lobster tank in the ceiling

The next room contained three circular tanks with marine fish (see photo above). Centerpiece of the first tank was a very large number of lion-fish (*Pterois* sp.),



Some marine setups

and the second one housed some fairly secretive octopuses.

The next hallway continued with various marine displays. I remember seeing seahorses, but since I know little about marine fish, I couldn't list species here. The tanks were built into what looked like old door niches – again an excellent use of the architectural features of the site. The tanks were as wide as a door and also as high – an estimated five feet - but only maybe a foot deep into the wall. I hope the operators know how anybody is ever going to do maintenance at the bottom of these tanks, because I don't.

Conspicuous by their absence were life corals and other creatures typical for reef setups. I'd guess that it would be hard to supply them with the necessary light in the very deep tanks of the aquarium, but I am sure marine enthusiasts will find all those fish-only setups with Disney look-alike fake corals, sponges, and so on a little lacking.

Through a tunnel shaped marine tank the visitor entered a large hall containing the Touch Pool of the Aquarium. During my visit two employees in wet suits were stationed in the tank to interact with visitors, show them the tank inhabitants and let people pet suitable creatures if desired. That pool is sure to be a highlight with the kids, but interesting for adults nevertheless. In addition to the employees in wet suits, the whole aquarium was swarming with staff. The level of service surpassed any expectation, but I wonder if it will be possible for the Aquarium to generate the income that allows it to sustain these high standards in the long term.

The crowning highlight of the Aquarium experience in Cleveland, to which the whole visit leads up, is the large shark tank. Unfortunately during my visit the water was so cloudy that most viewing windows

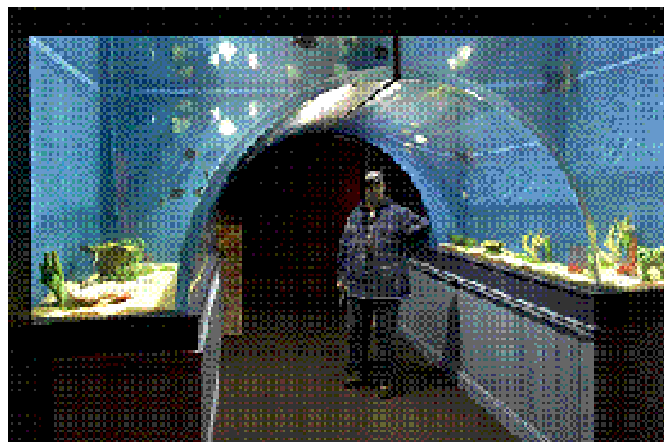


only alTouch Pool

lowed a few feet sight into the tank, and nearly all of the inhabitants remained invisible.

The photo on the next page shows one viewing window were backlight from the SeaTube® tunnel (visible in the background), allowed me to capture an image of some of the impressive sharks. The SeaTube® allows visitors to virtually walk through the tank, being surrounded by sharks and other sea creatures, but when I visited visibility was so poor that nothing but the fake ship wreck could be seen.

In most other tanks of the Greater Cleveland Aquarium water clarity left a little to be desired, but the issue could largely be ignored until I came to the shark tank. There even seemed to be a slimy layer on the water surface as far as I could make out looking through the viewing windows below. Especially if you are planning to visit with kids, I would recommend to wait until the cloudy water situation has been resolved. Maybe give the aquarium a call and check. I am sure



Tunnel shaped marine tank



these are just teething troubles, but most kids might feel severely deprived if they encountered the shark tank in this shape.

Another positive point was that parking was conveniently available in front of the door. However at an extra cost of \$3. At \$21.95 for an adult ticket it would be nice to have that included in the price. As it is, for just two adults you need to budget almost \$50 for a visit. That's a lot of money for about 1.5 hours entertainment, and kids from 2-12 years are \$15.95 per head extra.

What I liked best about the Greater Cleveland Aquarium:

- Integration of Aquarium into the historic building,
- Large section with native Ohio fish displays,
- Great touch pool,
- Impressive Shark tank with SeaTube® (once it's cleared up).

What could use further improvement:

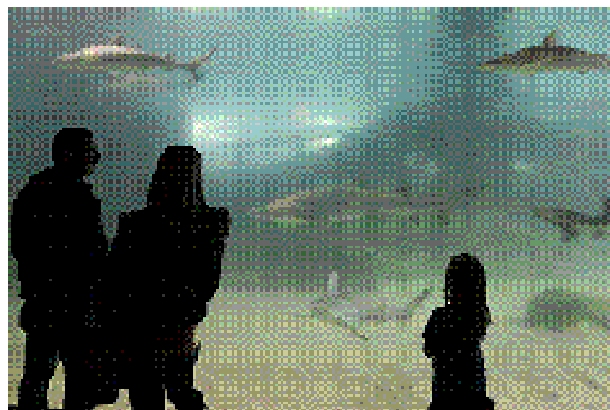
- Aeration seems lacking in many tanks (might even be the problem in shark tank?)
- Half-heartedly done warm freshwater setups
- No plants and live corals.

According to their press pack, the organization behind the Greater Cleveland Aquarium is Jacobs Entertainment, Inc. the owner/developer of the Nautica Entertainment Complex which includes the FirstEnergy Powerhouse, the home of the aquarium. Jacobs Entertainment is a gaming and entertainment development company. They have partnered with Marinescape NZ Limited, which is based in Auckland, New Zealand, and boasts to be the world's leading developer of walk-through aquariums. The Greater Cleveland Aquarium is living proof that the partnership of these folks can put on a good show, and also has the know-how to built some very impressive fish tanks.

In my opinion the determining factor for the long term success of the aquarium will be how well it is accepted by the

community. Unique to Cleveland and the surrounding area is a very large concentration of organized fish enthusiasts. Cleveland itself boasts a very active salt-water club (C-SEA), a general aquarium society (CAS) and two cichlid clubs (OCA and GLCS). These are as many fish clubs as the whole of New York City has! In the closer area there are active fish clubs in Akron, Medina and Youngstown. A little further away there are similar associations in Columbus, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and several across Michigan. I believe the know-how and experience in keeping and breeding fish in tank environments accumulated in the greater Cleveland area might be unparalleled in the world. Other organizations are already taking advantage of this, and I know that for example the zoo in Pittsburgh has recently set up a stunning new Tanganyika tank with fish and the help of a local breeder and fish club member. There is an enormous opportunity for the Greater Cleveland Aquarium to tap into this resource, for example by approaching clubs to consider adopting a tank. For a cichlid club like the OCA, it would be an easy task to fix up the badly lacking Tanganyika display.

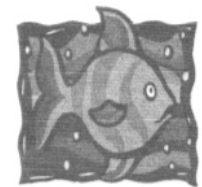
I greatly enjoyed my visit of the Greater Cleveland Aquarium, and consider it a must-see for any fish enthusiast in the area. It is the first thing we can do to help the Aquarium become a success. Hopefully it is not the only thing, and the Greater Cleveland Aquarium can truly become not only a public aquarium, but an aquarium for the people.



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The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

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

Meeting Notice - Do Not Delay

Meeting Notice

Thursday, March 1

Program: Christine Craycruss speaking on the Portage county park system, areas open to public fishing, & native fish in portage county area.

Bowl Show: Barbs, Mollies,
Corydoras Aspidoras & Brochis

Thursday, April 5

Program: TBA

Bowl Show: Female Guppies, Platies,
Aquatic Invertebrates

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

Coming Events

March 17, 2012 – Greater Detroit Aquarium Society - Spring Auction

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 Campbell Road, Royal Oak, Michigan use downstairs North entrance.

Registration starts at 9:30 to 11:00, auction starts at 11:00.

March 18, 2012 – Youngstown Area Tropical Fish Society - Spring Auction

J.V. Johnson Community Center, 800 Gillmer Rd - Leavittsburg, OH 44430 Registration 11am to 1pm - Auction begins at Noon

For more information: Tom mruaru2@aol.com 330-758-3043

March 24, 2012 - Columbus Area Fish Enthusiasts (CAFÉ) Swap Meet

Hamilton Township Community Center, 6400 Lockbourne Rd., Lockbourne, Ohio 43137

For more information: www.columbusfishclub.org or contact Jeremy Basch at jere-mybasch@gmail.com.

April 7, 2012—GLCS Spring Auction and Swap
Euclid Square Mall in the Euclidean Room at the NW entrance. All species, plants and dry goods. For more information contact Dean at dmersinas@gmail.com, 216-906-1800, Marty at 330-650-0237, Bill at 216-692-9296 or Ron at 440-944-3245. Web site: greatlakescichlidso-ciety.net