

# The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

# Tank Topics

**July/August 2013** 

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# **Important Dates for 2013**

Meeting Notice

10

March 3
Spring auction

July 13 & 14 Ultra Aqua 2013

November 3 Fall auction



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

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### 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 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 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 dwilliamson223@hotmail.com

The Greater Akron Aquarium Society Membership Form				
Name Age				
Address	Now — Donous			
City State Zip	New ☐ Renewal ☐ Electronic ☐ Mail			
Phoneemail	Adult (18 years and older			
How did you find out about GAAS?		1 year \$7.50		
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:	Family (includes children under 10) Junior (10-17 years)	2 years \$12.00 1 year \$10.00 2 years \$15.00 1 year \$5.00		
GAAS Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 494, Akron, OH 44309-0494	, ,	2 years \$7.00  Date Received		
	Dues Collected	Date Received		

### **President's Message**

Hello Everyone,

JUST A REMINDER THERE IS NO JULY GENERAL MEETING, SINCE IT FALLS ON JULY 4. WE DID NOT THINK MANY WOULD SHOW UP. AGAIN NO JULY GENERAL MEETING!!!!!!!

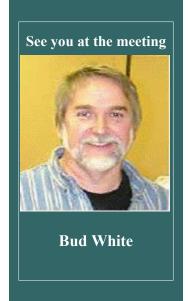
Once again it is almost show time, it is July 13 & 14 and we need everyone to participate to make it fun and successful, bring something to enter in the show and then stay for the Saturday night dinner and talk, it is always fun to meeting and be with new fish people, it is also great to see and talk with old friends.

We will be setting up on Friday July 12 at 7PM, at the Tallmadge Community Center, same place we have had it for several

years now, we need people there to help, the more we have the easier and faster it gets done, there is something for everyone to do, just see me when you get there.

We have started a new thing for the show this year. We have swap meet tables on Saturday from noon till 5 PM. Stop in and check it out, there will be several people there and lots of nice fish and items for sale. We still have about 3 tables left, if anyone wants one, call me at 330 848 3856 leave a message if I am not there or email me at bwhite@neo.rr.com, they are \$25.00 each, you can pay at the show.

Well I think that is about all for now, be at the show and support your club.



# **Editor's Message**

Here we go again, It's SHOW TIME! No, I haven't taken up acting or run away and joined the circus, I'm talking about Ultra-Agua 13 which will be here before we know it. Most of the pre-show stuff is taken care of with just the picking-up of items and arranging for things that will happen during the show weekend left to go. For something new this year to try to develop some interest in people sticking around on Saturday afternoon we are adding a swap-meet sales area for vendors to sell items to show attendees that may not be the typical things you are used to seeing in an auction. Something else we're trying to develop interest at the show is to have a large tank (75 gallon with stand and top) as part of the raffle items. This is in addition to our usual selection of Chinese Raffle items. Having a larger tank is something we used to always do, but over the years we've gotten away from it. We'll have to wait and see if there is enough interest in it to keep it going. We do have an investment in it and it wouldn't make a lot of sense to spend money on an item that doesn't return at least our investment.

Since we're on the subject of the show, I would be missing a great opportunity if I didn't try to push the

idea of coming, entering and helping out at your club's show. I've enjoyed the whole process for more years than I'd care to admit. Granted it does take a lot of work to put one of these on, but to me it's worth it. There used to be a whole lot of these shows around the area (at least an hour or two drive), now we're the only all species show in the area. I believe that some of the other clubs didn't have a core group that was willing or able to put a show together, and I'd sure hate to see that happen here as well. If you can spare a few hours to help out, especially on Friday for set-up and Sunday for the auction and teardown, it would be much appreciated.

I haven't' done it lately, but the time has come. . . I have to beg for articles! What you see in this issue is it, I have no more in reserve. Now for your homework assignment, you have plenty of time since the next issues has the show results in it and doesn't have much room for anything else. I've had a couple of members tell me they have something in the works, so now is the time to get crackin'! I don't want to hear any lame excuses like "My Oscar ate my assignment" either!

I'll see you at the meeting and the show!



For those people who have ordered frozen foods, you can pick them up at the show on Friday and Saturday. Any extras will be available on a first come, first served basis.

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# BAP/HAP Report

**Wayne Toven** 

Well it seems like everyone's fish went on summer vacation a little early this year. I know mine have been eagerly awaiting the short trip to the outdoor tubs, to get back to nature, and hopefully start doing what comes naturally. The water is finally staying warm enough for some of the goodeids, who like slightly cooler water, but it needs to get a little warmer and more stable temperature wise for some of the barbs, danios, and tetras.

Just a reminder that our annual all species show Ultra - Agua 2013 will be here before you know it, the second weekend of July the 13th and 14th. It is the largest number of classes in an all species in all of North America, best chance for some of those freeloading fish (dependents you keep but can't claim on your taxes)to earn their keep and win you some prize money. The Best of Divisions have been raised to \$50 instead of \$25. There is a pair's class and a family class along with 63 other classes. So get those fish into show condition, get them used to being looked at with a flashlight, get the show tanks all cleaned up and ready. The club is trying something new for us this year; we are having a swap meet Saturday during setup, from 12 noon till 5 pm. Then the dinner will be at 7 pm with a guest speaker. The auction will be Sunday from 11am till it is over, so lots of new fish and breeder stock should be available. then maybe the Breeder Award Program will pick up a little.

It has been a very slow year for both the Breeder Award Program and Horticultural Award Program, it is over half done and we are at the lowest number of spawns and plant propagations I have ever seen. There were two spawns and one plant propagation turned in at the May meeting, and then June came along and there was nothing turned in for either program. At this rate we are not even going to reach last years dismal numbers, come on everyone let's get these programs moving along, you can do it!!

May 2013

**BAP** 

Species	Common name	Class	<u>Points</u>
Dan McMonigle			
Poecilia reticulata	Half black pastel guppy	Livebearer	5
Wayne Toven			
Cyprinodon variegatus	Sheephead minnow	Native	10
HAP			
Wayne Toven			
Hygrophila sp.	Sunset hygrophila	A – vegeta	tive 5

2013 Totals	BAP	Points	HAP	Points
Rich Serva	5	30	-	-
Joe Reich	4	35	-	-
David Girard	3	25	-	-
Wayne Toven	2	15	1	5
Dan McMonigle	1	5	2	25
Don Youngkin	1	15	-	_







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# **Bowl Show & Special Activities**

**Don Youngkin** 

Wayne has passed Jeff to take the points lead. All are invited to join the fun an bring in entries. Since there will be no July general meeting, the July bowl show entries will be skipped, and the rest of the schedule will continue as published.

### May

### Goodeids

1<sup>st</sup> - Wayne Toven - Xenotaenia resolanae male 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wayne Toven - *Xenotaenia resolanae* female 3<sup>rd</sup> -

### Rift Lake Cichlids

1<sup>st</sup> – Wayne Toven - *Neolamprologus* sp. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wayne Toven - *Julidochromis transcriptus* 3<sup>rd</sup> – Jeff Plazak - Julidochromis dickfeldi

### **Aquatic Plants**

1<sup>st</sup> – Wayne Toven *- Cryptocoryne wendtii* 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wayne Toven - Hygrophila sp Sunset Hygro

#### June

#### Native Fish

1<sup>st</sup> - Wayne Toven - Cyprinodon variegatus 2<sup>nd</sup> - Wayne Toven - Jordinella floridae

### Rainbowfish

1<sup>st</sup> – Wayne Toven *- Chilatherina fasciata* 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wayne Toven *- Melanotaenia praecox* 

### Male Betta Splendens

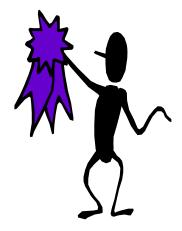
1<sup>st</sup> – Wayne Toven - Blue & Yellow 2<sup>nd</sup> –Wayne Toven - Black Orchid 3<sup>rd</sup> – Jeff Plazak - Betta





### **Annual Point Totals**

Jeff Plazak 71 Wayne Toven 86 Don Youngkin 7 Dan McMonigle 3





Mon-Sat 11-8 Sunday 11-6

6629 Engle Rd. **Unit 108** Middleburg Hts., OH (216) 433-1340



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### **How the Point System works:**

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

### 2013 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

Native Fish, Rainbowfish, Male Betta splendens

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,

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# 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.

### **Greater Detroit Aquarium Society**,

Tropic Tank Talk: Apr 2013

The Rio Beni Dwarf Whip-tailed Catfish, by James K. Langhammer

### Pacific Coast Cichlid Association,

Cichlidae Communique: Mar/Apr 2013

Collecting California Cichlids, by Mark Tomassello

Copadichromis sp. "Virginalis Gold", My Adventures into Breeding the Lake Malawi Haplochromine, by Lauren Mazano

### Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium

Society Inc. Finformation: Apr 2013

Spawning Hemiloricaria wolfei, by Leslie Ernst

Spawning the Imperial Tetra, Hyphessobrycon nigricinctus, by Eric Bodrock

### Hamilton & District Aquarium Society: May 2013

Spawning Corydoras caudimaculatus, by Charles Drew

### **Greater Detroit Aquarium Society**,

Tropic Tank Talk: May 2013 Subwassertang, by Mark Allar

### Missouri Aquarium Society Inc.

The Darter: May/June 2013

Faowi Wowee – Exploring for Rainbowfish in Papua, by Gary Lange

Decapsulating Brine Shrimp Eggs, by Gary Lange

### Michiana Aquarium Society,

Michiana Tropical Times: May 2013 *Amatitlania siguia*, by Ben Slocum

### **Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Soci-**

ety Inc. Finformation: May 2013
The Good the Bad and the Ugly,

Tatia Intermedia, by Stan Chechak

Lamprichthys tanganicanus, by John Barnes

### Pacific Coast Cichlid Association,

Cichlidae Communique: May/June 2013

Chocolates for All, by Daniel Spielman

Michiana Aqaurium Society, Michiana Tropical Times: June 2013

Tanichthys albonubes (White cloud mountain minnows), by Alexandra Reed

Ambystoma Mexicana, by Kaitlin Williams

Skiffia lermae, by Deseree Eudave Pelvicachromis pulcher, by Amy Wilkinson

Black Lyretail Molly Habitat, by Tom Bartelmay

The Guppy, Poecilia reticulata, by Liz Brennen

Swordtail Breeding, by Tim Turensek Betta Fish Organism Library, by Dana Handley

The Cherry Shrimp, Neocaridina heteropoda, by Kasan Yuan

Guppies, Family Poecillidae, by Anna Graff

Marbled Crayfish, by Sam Bartelmay

### Hamilton & District Aqauarium Society: June 2013

Spawning Guianacara stergiosi, by Jessica Bullock

Spawning the Dwarf Spotted Danio, by Charles Drew

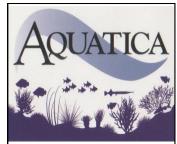




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**Wayne Toven** 

(330) 256-7836 or wtoven@hotmail.com



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# What We Did on Our Florida Vacation (Visit a Fish Farm!)

Dan & Vi McMonigle



Heading down Citrus Blvd. in Sarasota, Florida, our trip ended at Andres Ryan's fish farm. Andres is well known as a wholesaler of tank bred oddballs and difficult to breed fish. With his masters in Marine Science Aquaculture, he's a natural for this challenge.

Imagine this setup, one outbuilding and three plastic greenhouses, one greenhouse filled with aquaculture breeding vats and the other buildings hold thousands of tanks from over 100 gallons to small tanks.

Popular fish in the hobby are clown loaches and cardinals. If he raises those species here, they make it from breeder to pet shop to hobbyist with nearly zero losses, but U. S. breeders have to compete with cheap and wild caught imports that have heavy losses in transit and during acclimation. The Asian countries can make a profit pay-

ing their workers "just a bowl of rice a day". Andres gave us some interesting facts that the German, Czech Republic, Indonesia, and Thailand are also big in breeding fish. The challenges of those countries vary because of climate, demand and other factors.

In America we too have our challenges. Some points of interest was that Andres was able to develop a foolproof method for raising Garra flavatra (Panda Garra). His use of bits of black plastic garland made with stainless steel wire is a substitute for the natural habitat. We saw how eggs and fry are automatically siphoned into raising centers. Shrimp, shrimp, shrimp! Red, yellow, blue, orange, and a new yet unnamed color variety not yet released to the aquarium hobby. Cardinals and neon tetras are thought by many to be similar, but cardinals breed in the

purest of water while neons breed in any type of water. A small point important to Andres' breeding successes -- any oddball species require green water either to breed or to raise the fry.

The fish and shrimp and plants he sells don't impact any natural habitats. He sells only tank raised fish and shrimp. He finds that F2 fish, the grandchildren of wild fish, are the best breeders. There is no reason to rely on obtaining wild fish. Their website is: http://bioaquatix.com



His older brother Tomas from Colorado has joined him for a while to integrate computer technology developing a more comprehensive website and sales strategies. It was great to see two bothers working together. We were both happy to receive a warm greeting and a lively discussion and tour on a fish farm in America. Andres' warning is that the fish breeding market in America is dwindling due to competition from overseas. The aquarium hobby is grow-



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ing, more fish and more aquariums are sold in the US yearly now than ever before, but ironically many US fish farms have closed due to imports.







# GAAS Ultra-Aqua Show and Auction July 13 & 14, 2013 Don't FORGET!

# Tallmadge Community Center 80 Community Rd. Tallmadge, Ohio

Saturday Show Registration: 10-5

Sunday Auction Registration: 10, Auction begins at 11

# New this year:

Saturday Afternoon Swap Meet: Noon-5

### 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@gmail.com)

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# Cloning Aponogetons, Aponogeton longiplumulosus

Dan McMonigle

You don't need Star Wars for a Clone Army. Gardeners and farmers have been cloning since the beginning of the Neolithic stone age. Cuttings, runners and bulb division all produce genetic twins fo an existing plant, not genetically new versions. Nature has been cloning even longer than us. Plants, obviously, spread themselves more rapidly by cloning themselves, but animal too, can be clones. Flatworms (Planaria), amoebas, and sea stars break apart and clone themselves. More advanced aminals from shrimp and their relatives clone too. Daphnia are one example. Females give live birth to clones of themselves every few days, until conditions start turning bad. Then males show up, fertilize all the the females who then produce eggs that fill up their body and they die. Their carapace protecting the eggs from heat, dryness or freezing temperaturs until better times return. Even animal high up the ladder of complexity can clone themselves. There are two species of fish that have no males. All the members of the species are female who produce clones of themselves. Even humans have natural clones which we call identical twins.

Sometime an Aponogeton will produce a runner with a tring of tiny bulbs and plantlets. Aponogeton natans clones by "bulb" division. I have some of those reproducing now in a few aquariums. Tose examples tend to the small species in the genus, but some larger ones do too. I have had Madagascar lace plants do this several times, but it seems like the more lace plants there are attached togheter, the better they do. They are susceptible to rotting at any cut or bruise

in the bulb.

Aponogeton longiplumulosus is one of severl kinds of Aponogeton that I buy new bulbs, more accurately tubers or even rhizomes, not true bulbs, from various suppliers. I Plant them in bare spots in planted tanks, and bare no more! The stored energy int eh tuber gives these plants a jump start to restore their leaves. It's not one of the species, like the lace plant, A. natans, or A. rigidifolia that are reported to grow new plants from their tubers or rhizomes. And the ones I've had before, never gave any hint they could do this. But one of the A. logiplumulosis I got last year was different in that it started with a single plant but soon looked like it had more than one.



In photo 1, you can see the plants are so close together that it almost looks like one plant.



Photo 2, the fuzzy too-close up, tries to show that there really are several plants all attached to the same tuber.



Photo 3 shows the same tuber, now broken apart, as one larger piece on the left with two distinct plants attached, and a "nose" on the left side where I earlier this year broke off a few plants.



In photo 4, the large piece is turned so you can see the lighter scar on the bulb where the plants had been removed.

Internet rescources:

http://www.krib.com/plants/plants/apons-randall.html

http://www.aquariumplants.com/aponogetons\_s/27.htm

### The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

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

### Meeting Notice - Do Not Delay

# **Meeting Notice**



# Thursday, Aug. 1

**Program:** Orin McMonigle "The Bug Man" brings us a new program on a really big critter!

**Bowl Show:** All Other Old Word Cichlids, Amphibians, Bog Plants

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

# **Coming Events**

### July 13 & 14 – Greater Akron Aquarium Society -Ultra-Aqua 2013 Show and 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@gmail.com)

### September 22 Lorain County Aquarium Society Fall Auction

Pittsfield Township Hall Corner of Rts 58 & 303 16940 Ohio 58, Pittsfield, OH 44090 Contacts: Barbara: 440-774-4533, heybarb@hotmail.com, Ken: 419-677-3405, kmcgill@neo.rr.com www.lcas-fish.net LCAS@LorainCounty.com

# September 22—Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Fall Auction North Hampton VFD 5149 North Pioneer Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044 Registration will open at 9:30 AM and close at 1 PM. Auction will start promptly at 11 AM. WWW.GPASI.ORG Wally Cox 412-420-7985 walmich@verizon.net OR Joe Doyle 724-602-7564 BrokenBox@gmail.com

# September 28, 2013 - GLCS Fall Auction

Pipefitters Union hall, near the I-480 and I-77 interchange.

Reg. 9 AM, auction starts at Noon. All species, plants and dry goods.

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: greatlakescichlidsociety.net