



The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

Tank Topics

September/October 2015

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Although a little too big for the average aquarium, check out this hump-back whale and see more from Dave Williamson's fishy vacation pictures on page 7

2015 GAAS Board of Directors

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Important Dates for 2015

March 1
Spring auction

June 13 & 14
Ultra Aqua 2015

November 1
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 \$10 for adults, a couple or a family (includes children under 10 years of age) and \$5.00 for a junior membership (10 to 17 years) Membership provides an opportunity to socialize with others that share your interests, a subscription to our bi-monthly magazine and more.

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

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

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

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

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

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

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

How did you find out about GAAS? _____

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

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

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

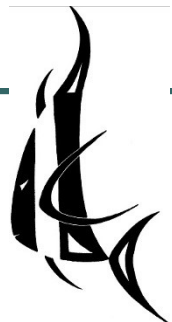
☐ New ☐ Renewal

☐ Electronic ☐ Mail

Adult (18 years and older) & Family
(includes children under 10) \$10.00

Junior (10-17 years) \$5.00

Dues Collected _____ Date Received _____



President's Message

I must say I was disappointed at the turnout for the August meeting. If you were not there, we had a nice picnic type dinner, ribs and burgers, lots of talking and laughing amongst our members that were there. We had a very nice free for members raffle of fish and plants, and because you were not there, we all got 5 or 6 items from the raffle, thanks! We also had a larger than normal equipment raffle, with some nice items, those of

us there won several items there also, again thanks!

I must say the weather has been nice and if you enjoy it outside like most people, don't forget to take care of your fish friends in the house, they still need your attention, they can't come out to play.

We don't have much else going on until our auction in November, so enjoy the weather and see you at the meeting.

See ya soon



Bud White

Editor's Message

Dave Williamson

What the heck is happening to this year? It doesn't seem like all that long ago we were all complaining that Summer was never coming and now all of a sudden we've had a month or so of blazing hot dry weather and it seems like Fall is going to come early! I'm not sure what exactly we've done to upset Mother Nature (I have a few ideas) but maybe Fall will be nice and Winter won't be too awful! This is North East Ohio, you never know what you'll get!

First and foremost I have to bring up the ever-present situation about articles for this publication you're reading. You'll notice that except for the board reports, I've written everything in this issue. Don't get me wrong, I was working on the Danio article anyway and now was as good a time to use it as any, but let's be honest, the fish pictures from my vacation are a space filler at best. I like to show off my photography when I can, but we as a group deserve better than that. So that said, I would also like to thank Wayne, Rich and Dan for the articles they've given me over the past couple of years since they're usually the only ones doing it. I'd hate to us fall into the trap that many other aquarium clubs have and either not have any arti-

cles in their publications or rely on reprints from others to fill their pages. Look at this issue's exchange report and you'll see how slim those pickings are getting these days! If I have to, I'll go back into our archives and print articles from our past issues that are so old most current members will not remember seeing them before. At least it will be new information for some of us! But wouldn't it be great if we stepped up to the plate and kept up the good work of this being a totally locally produced (and current!) publication? One thing I refuse to let happen to not get a publication out in time due to lack of content to put in it. Trust me It'll be out to keep you abreast of the upcoming meetings and other events even if it's in a different format or filled with something other than what I'd like to see. There is nothing that will hurt a club faster than lack of timely communications.

Don't forget that coming up on November 1st is our Fall auction. We will have one more publication out before then, but now is the time to start thinking about what you want to move out and make room for more. There are also a bunch of other clubs having them as well. Try to make it to one or more, you'll enjoy it!



Ok, that's enough out of my big mouth (although it's not nearly as



big as that whale's!) I'll see you at the meeting!



BAP/HAP Report

Wayne Toven

I think summer is just drying up and blowing away, June tried to wash it away, but July & August are just the opposite, my ponds and tubs are evaporating like crazy. School will be starting up soon, for those of us that are not old geezers, but for those of us that are, get those fish in their schools and teach them how to spawn, but don't forget to condition them, and do your water changes, these are very important. There are only 3 more months left, but 4 opportunities to get those spawns and plant propagations turned in to be in the running for Breeder of the Year and Horticulturist of the Year for 2015, those awards will be presented at the December meeting / Christmas party. The four opportunities are the three regular monthly meetings and the fall auction which will be on Sunday November 1st. That is when you move the old breeders and youngsters from those breeders out to make room for new species, which I'm sure will be in abundance at the many auctions besides ours this coming fall.

July 2015
BAP

Species

Common name

Class

Points

Dan McMonigle

Geophagus steindachneri Red hump Geophagus Cichlid mouth 15

Joe Reich

Labidochromis caeruleus Electric yellow Cichlid mouth 15

Dave Williamson

Girardinichthys multiradiatus Golden sail fin goodeid Livebearer 10

HAP

Phil Hypes

Lemna trisulca Ivy leaf duckweed A – vegetative 5

Nymphaea sp. Blue tropical lily E – flowering 10

Nymphaea sp. Star of Zanibar lily E – flowering 10

August 2015
BAP

David Girard

Ameba splendens Butterfly goodeid Livebearer 10

Goodea gracilis Dusky split fin Livebearer 10

2015 Totals	BAP	Points	HAP	Points
Gary Shingler	11	100	-	-
Wayne Toven	6	60	-	-
Joe Reich	5	45	-	-
Ken McGill	3	25	-	-
Dan McMonigle	3	35	-	-
Rich Serva	3	20	-	-
Dave Williason	3	20	1	20
David Girard	2	20	-	-
Orin McMonigle	1	15	-	-
Don Youngkin	1	20	-	-
Phil Hypes	-	-	4	30



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Bowl Show & Special Activities

Don Youngkin



After taking June off our Ultra Aqua Show, the Bowl Show returned in full force. Jeff Plazak is maintaining his slim lead over Dave Williamson, with Wayne Toven not far behind.

So far this year, 10 different people have submitted entries, with 5 of them winning at least one class.

There is still time to join in the fun. All are invited to participate. The Bowl Show schedule is listed on this page.

July

Native Fish:

1 st	Wayne Toven	Stone cat
2 nd	Dave Williamson	Gambusia holbrooki
3 rd	Dave Williamson	Fathead minnow

Aquatic Plants:

1 st	Dave Williamson	Cryptocoryne wendtii
2 nd	Wayne Toven	Crinum calamistratum
3 rd	Dave Williamson	Java fern on rock

Angelfish and Discus:

1 st	Jeff Plazak	Angelfish
2 nd	Jeff Plazak	Angelfish
3 rd	Jeff Plazak	Angelfish

August

Platies:

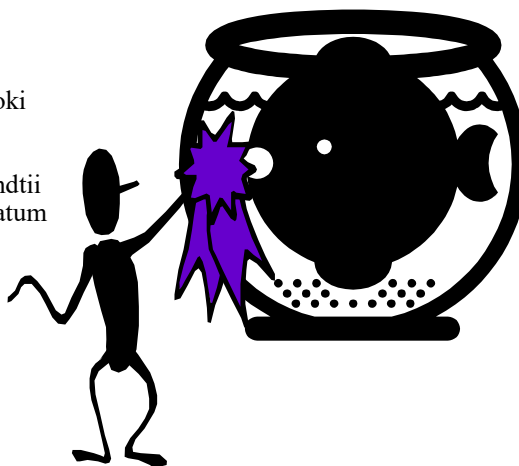
1 st	Jeff Plazak	Black red platy
2 nd	Jeff Plazak	Black platy
3 rd	Jeff Plazak	Black red platy

Amphibians:

1 st	Dave Williamson	Axolotyl
2 nd	Wayne Toven	Lesser siren
3 rd	Dave Williamson	Vitatta Dart Frog

Rainbowfish:

1 st	Wayne Toven	Melanotaenia trifasciata
2 nd	Jeff Plazak	Bosmani
3 rd	Wayne Toven	Belontia signata



Annual Point Totals

Jeff Plazak	79
Dave Williamson	72
Wayne Toven	63
Ken McGill	17
Don Youngkin	15
Bill Koleszar	8
Charlie Suk	5
Nicole Youngkin	5
Alissa Harvey	3
Lisa Koleszar	1

2015 Bowl Show Schedule

January:

Male Guppies
Goldfish
Minnows, Danios & Rasboras

February:

Swordtails,
Male *Betta splendens*,
Characins (Tetras & relatives)

March:

Mollies
Suckermouth Catfish
Barbs

April:

Female Guppies
Corydoras, Aspidoras & Brochis
Photography

May:

Rift Lake Cichlids
Sharks & Loaches
Aquatic Invertebrates

June: no bowl show

July

Native Fish
Angelfish & Discus
Aquatic Plants

August:

Platies
Rainbowfish
Amphibians

September:

Goodeids
AO New World Cichlids
Bog Plants

October:

Gouramis & Anabantoids
AO Old World Cichlids
Arts & Crafts

November:

AO Livebearers
AO Egglayers
AO Catfish

December: no bowl show

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sun 12-5 (330) 374-6765

Exchange Report

Wayne Toven



This service is to read articles from other fish club's publications, and mention original articles by those clubs members that are informative and worth taking your time to read. If you would like a copy of an article mentioned below let me know and I will either email you a copy or get a hard copy to you at a monthly meeting.

Pacific Coast Cichlid Association, Cichlidae Communique: May/June 2015

Paralabidochromis chromogynos, by Greg Garrett

Pacific Coast Cichlid Association, Cichlid Blues

Reflections: Nicaragua Route Canal, by Ron Coleman

Danbury Area Aquarium Society, Gills 'N Gossip: Apr/May?June 2015

Spawning the Pretty Tetra (Hemigrammus pulcher), by Fred

Allen

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: July 2015

Ancistrus sp. L180, by Charlie Mueller

Tropical Fish Club of Erie County, Some Things Fishy: July 2015

Breeding Telmatochromis vittatus, by Donna Czarnecki

Axolotl Coloration, by Kimberly Ball



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GAAS Fall Auction

November 1, 2015
Tallmadge Community Center
80 Community Rd.
Tallmadge, Ohio

Schedule

Auction Registration 10 am
 Auction Begins 11 am

For more information:

Bud White (330) 571-0394

bwhite@neo.rr.com

Wayne Toven (330) 256-7836

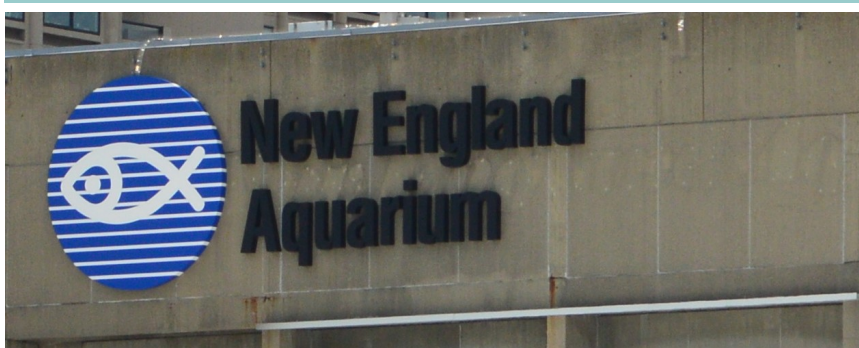
wtoven@hotmail.com

Rich Serva (330) 650-4613

rjserva@gmail.com

website: www.gaas-fish.net

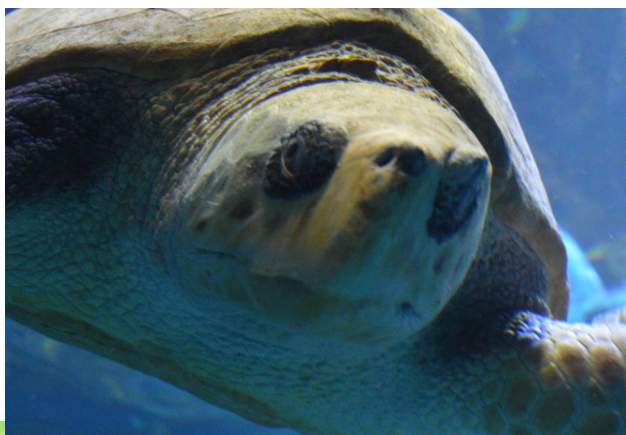




This isn't really a "what did I do on my Summer vacation article, It's just an assortment of photos I took at Boston's New England Aquarium.

Really went on this trip to go on the whale watch tour and the aquarium was just a side trip, but we really enjoyed it. I love to go to public aquariums

and take a bunch of pictures and we needed something to help fill up this issue of Tank Topics and this seemed like the perfect idea!



Keeping, Breeding and Identifying *Danio pulcher*, or the problem with common names

Dave Williamson

This story starts with a fish I had gotten directly from a local wholesaler (TFD) way back when I used to order livestock for the pet store I used to work for. They would occasionally list the fish with not only the common name that the store would use but with the scientific name as well. Now you could never be 100% sure of the identification since they were just using whatever their supplier gave them, but at least it was a starting place to do some homework to positively identify them. One of those times I found a fish listed as "Red-line Danio, *Danio sondhi*" and since I'm enamored with danios and they weren't terribly expensive I ordered myself six of them. As often happened with import fish at wholesalers, they came in looking good, but a week or so later I started losing some of

them. I ended up with two that appeared to both be males, so no hoped for spawning was going to happen. Fast forward a year or so and both the store I had worked for and the wholesaler had gone out of business. I no longer had the opportunity to look over availability lists and cherry-pick nifty new species for myself. Well then the next part of this story comes along when one of our members started a home-based aquatic supply business (PNTAquatics.com) and offered some of us the opportunity to look over an availability list from one of his suppliers. I was a happy camper, I had missed this for quite a while. Long story short, I found a couple of things I would like on that list, one of which was called "Red-lined Danios". This list did not include any scientific name

listing, but at the price they were being offered, I went ahead and took the chance and ordered six of them hoping they were the same thing as the two lonely boys I had. A week or so came and went until I received a call from Phil that the fish had arrived, so I hopped in the car and drove down to pick them up. You know where this is going next, the catfish I ordered were exactly what I thought they would be, the Purple Passion Danios were like the ones I had before and the Red Lines looked nothing at all like what I had. Great. Now I had another species that I wasn't sure of the identification of. The first one was a thin-bodied silver fish with a bright red line from the eye to the caudal peduncle. The new ones looked a lot like a Pearl Danio, with an orange stripe from the caudal pe-



duncle that tapered to a point about a third of the way up the body of the fish. After I had them a while and they started to grow, you could see that they were very similar to the Pearls (*Danio albolineatus*) but instead of the “pearly” sheen they were distinctly blue. I kinda forgot about them for a while and they did their thing and grew to about 2-1/2”. At that point I noticed that of the four I had left there were three males and one female. Like most Danios, the females are a little larger with a little less color than the males. At that time I was setting up some other egg scatters (*filamentosa* barbs, but I didn’t get anything from them!) and there was an empty fifteen gallon tank available so I figured I’d try something else at the same time. I put the female Danio in there by herself for about a week then added two males and left them for two days. The bottom was covered with plastic canvas material suspended over small pieces of slate to allow eggs to fall through out of reach from the adults. This was covered with sunken yarn mops to serve as spawning sites. Danio eggs are not adhesive like some egg scatterers and will fall through any type of grate or marble bed, etc. so the adults won’t eat them. After the two days, I took all the adults out and left the tank alone for a few days until I started to see free swimming fry. At first I didn’t think there were too many of them, but that changed quickly with at least a hundred of them swimming near the surface within a week. Like most egg scatterer fry they were tiny, hair thin with two eyes about an eighth of an inch long. They were a little too small for live baby brine shrimp,

but luckily I had some microworms going and apparently they were able to eat them because after a few days I noticed some growth and the larger ones were starting to hit the baby brine shrimp. You could tell once they started eating the shrimp since you could see the orange in their stomachs after they ate a few. From this point on, growth increased and I never found any dead ones. I’m sure there were some that didn’t make it but the snails took care of them before I saw them. As of this point I’ve taken thirty of them out but there are still plenty of them left.

Now for the story of trying to identify them. Started with all of the fish book I own, and I have quite a few, but that was a losing battle. Most only work with a few species of danios, and none of them look like either of the fish I’m dealing with. Next step was the internet. I started searching by the common name and was getting nowhere fast. I then started looking at pages of pictures of danios hoping I’d find one that looked like my fish. Finally that’s where I came up with the name *Danio pulcher*. It was attached to a picture of what looked like a blue version of a pearl danio. I was hoping it just wasn’t a poorly reproduced photo. Then when I searched that name Bingo! Finally hit pay-dirt. The first page I came across considered it a junior synonym of *albolineatus* (the pearl danio). I was hoping that it was a distinct species so that I would be able to turn them in for BAP credit since and our rules usually accept sub-species and population varieties all I really needed was a reference to a named variety and I’d be OK. I figured I’d keep looking just to see

what other information I could find. That’s when I stumbled across a page listing them on Wikipedia. This finally explained the situation as they described as a species in 1931 but then it synonymized with the pearl danio. As of now there is still a lot of confusion as to which types of danios are distinct enough to be considered species and which should be considered variants of other species. So it all depends on which scientist you talk to. Another little wrinkle to my searches was the fact that the common name I got with them was incomplete. It should be “Blue-red striped Danio”, they kinda left out the blue part which is apparently why I couldn’t find them when searching by the common name. The only other bits of information I was able to pick up from there was that they are from Southeastern Thailand and they are considered fairly rare in the aquarium hobby. They weren’t difficult to spawn and raise by the bucket load, so their rarity must have been due to them being in an area where collectors don’t work regularly, or they weren’t considered different enough by the exporters to bother with. I’m just glad I had the opportunity to work with them and will spread them around and see if hobbyists can get them firmly entrenched in the hobby since they are nice looking and easy to keep. And by the way, while I was doing the research to identify these fish, the other species name from the fish that started the whole thing appears to be right as well. Now all I have to do is get a hold of some of them and spawn them too! (I know, good luck on that plan!)

The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

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

«firstname» «lastname»

«address»

«city», «state» «zip»

Meeting Notice - Do Not Delay

Meeting Notice

Thursday, September 4

Program: Plant Anchoring Techniques: Hands-on program shows which plants and how to attach them to non-traditional substrates. If you have any drift wood or porous rock you'd like to see covered in plants some day bring them along!

Bowl Show: Goodeids, Bog Plants
All Other New World Cichlids (no angels)

Thursday, October 1

Program: Robert Bauer:
Aquatic Plants

Bowl Show:
Gouramis & Anabantoids
AO Old World Cichlids Arts & Crafts

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

Coming Events

September 20 — NEO-Fish Fall Auction

Pipefitters Union Hall, Local 120, 6305 Halle Drive (off Rockside Road) Valley View, Ohio 44125 Registration opens at 9am and the auction starts at 11am.

For more information go to: <http://www.neo-fish.com/events/auction-information/>

Sunday, October 4, 2015 Columbus Area Fish Enthusiasts (CAFE) Fall Auction

Courtyard Columbus West 2350 Westbelt Drive Columbus, Ohio 43228 Auction Starts At 11:00am with registration starting at 10:00am <http://www.columbusfishclub.org/index.php>

October 11- Youngstown Area Tropical Fish Society Fall Auction

J.V. Johnson Community Center 800 Gillmer Road, Leavittsburg, OH Registration: 11:00 to 1:00. Auction: NOON www.YATFS.com For more information: Tom 330.758.3043 mruru2@aol.com

October 24, 2015 - Motor City Aquarium Society - Fall 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