



# Tank Topics

May/June 2018

## Inside this issue:

President's Message Bud White	3
Editor's Message Dave Williamson	3
BAP/HAP Wayne Toven	4
Bowl Show David Girard	5
Exchange Review Wayne Toven	6
Membership Report Mike Swanson	7
Red Fin Caudopunctatus Dave Williamson	8
Microworms Joe Doyle	9
Coming Events	10
Meeting Notice	10



A pair of *Neolamprologus caudopunctatus* 'Red Fin' (female on top) photo by Dave Williamson. Read all about their interesting spawning behavior in Dave's article beginning on page 8 of this issue.

## 2018 GAAS Board of Directors

President.....	Bud White .....	(330) 571-0394/president@akronfishclub.com
Vice President.....	Jeff Plazak .....	(330) 854-5257/jvicepresident@akronfishclub.com
Treasurer .....	Rich Serva .....	(330) 650-4613/treasurer@akronfishclub.com
Secretary.....	Misty White .....	(330) 706-9258/secretary@akronfishclub.com
Editor.....	Dave Williamson.....	editor@akronfishclub.com
Special Activities .....	Dave Girard .....	specialactivities@akronfishclub.com
BAP/HAP .....	Wayne Toven .....	(330) 256-7836/baphap@akronfishclub.com
Membership .....	Mike Swanson .....	membership@akronfishclub.com
Raffle.....	Phil & Tiffany Hypes ....	(330) 327-6316/raffle@akronfishclub.com
Program/Historian .....	Steve Brunn.....	(330) 524-3096/program@akronfishclub.com
FAAS Rep. ....	Ken McGill .....	(419) 677-3405/faas@akronfishclub.com
Refreshments.....	Elsie Swanson (440) 466-1799/refreshments@akronfishclub.com	
Web Master/Publicity ....	Will White .....	(330) 706-9258/webteam@akronfishclub.com

## Important Dates for 2018

March 4  
Spring auction

June 9 & 10  
Ultra Aqua 2018

November 4  
Fall auction

Check out our website: [www.akronfishclub.com](http://www.akronfishclub.com)

## 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 second Friday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at the Ritchie Memorial Shelter House, 109 West Avenue, Tallmadge, OH 44278. It is located West of Tallmadge Circle with access from Sperry Ave., behind Vet Clinic and across from the Chevrolet dealer. 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. 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](mailto: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

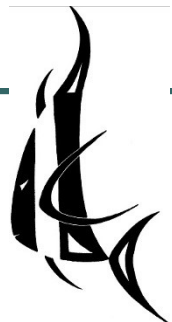
☐ New ☐ Renewal

☐ 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

Well everyone enjoyed the speaker last month. Joe has been a great fish person for as long as I have known him, had a lot of interesting information to provide. As always we appreciate people like Joe.

Also we did get a new video screen in the hall now and it looks great. Tallmadge has always been great to work with.

We need to start getting things ready for the Ultra Aqua show, it will be here soon. June 9th and 10th, so start getting show tanks ready and things like air tubing and valves get ready now and put them in a

bucket and you won't be rushing to get ready at the show.

That's it for now, enjoy the weather but don't forget to take care of the fish.

Cya



**AQUARIUM GALLERY**  
[aquaticsuperstore.com](http://aquaticsuperstore.com)  
 330.866.0559  
 6653 GRAFTON ROAD,  
 VALLEY CITY, OHIO 44280



## Editor's Message

Dave Williamson

Spring finally? I think so, at least the snow isn't sticking anymore and it looks like I'll have to cut the grass soon (yecch!) I guess "better late than never". Ugh, how I hate those type of sayings. . .

Some kinda big news about Tank Topics this time around, first off in collaboration with our Membership Chairman, we're fixing up our neglected membership and mailing lists. This issue was mailed with a notice of your current status according to our records. If you feel that a mistake has been made or have any questions, get with our chairman, Mike, at the upcoming show or a meeting and we'll get it sorted out. We wouldn't want anyone to miss out. . . Membership has it's benefits!

Also regarding this publication, it's been a few years since the last major revamp of the look of Tank Topics. Since we're mostly in the digital age, it's probably time as well as the fact I may have to get a new computer in the not too distant future so might as well make the changes then. We always welcome content submissions (articles, pictures, etc.) as well as suggestions as to what could be included, changed, or even left out. This is a volunteer organization, so we all make the rules together.

If you were at the last meeting you saw Joe Doyle from Pittsburgh give an informative program on breeding some interesting and not-so-easy species of fish. Makes me want to try Banggai Cardinals

again, but that's a whole other story. Anyway, Joe has graciously given us a handful of articles for use in Tank Topics, the first of which is in this issue. We appreciate anyone who wants to share information about our hobby and help others become better aquarists.

I know we brought this up last time but I don't want to forget about it with all the show info coming up. The next themed issue: **Memories of Long Lost Aquarium Shops**. We'd like to have your submissions in by the end of end of August for publication in the Sept.\Oct. issue.

And speaking of the show, BE THERE! Help out, enter fish, whatever. Trust me, it's a lot of fun! Even if you think you're not able to do the physical labor involved in setting up the show, Never fear we can always find you something to do! You will receive full sets of show rules and entry forms soon so there will be no excuses that you didn't know what to do or when!

I'll see you at the meeting and Ultra-Aqua 2018!

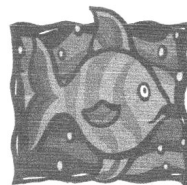


two turtles pet center  
 highland square  
 760 w.market  
 akron, ohio 44303

mon-fri 10-7  
 sat. 10-6  
 sun 12-5 (330) 374-6765



**KEN'S FISH**  
 HOME OF QUALITY TROPICAL  
 FISH FOOD AND SUPPLIES



KEN MENARD (508) 823-4043  
 32 4TH Ave. Taunton, MA 02780  
[www.kensfish.com](http://www.kensfish.com)  
[KENM333@COMCAST.NET](mailto:KENM333@COMCAST.NET)

**PNT**  
*Aquatics*

Caves, Driftwood, Supplies  
 Repashy Superfood

[www.pntaquatics.com](http://www.pntaquatics.com)  
[info@pntaquatics.com](mailto:info@pntaquatics.com)

Hours by appointment only







## BAP/HAP Report

Wayne Toven

Spring is finally here, at least officially, the calendar says so. Spring auctions of the fish clubs have started, so if you need some new species or breeder stock there are plenty of chances to get some, get out there and support the local clubs. We had our spring auction the first Sunday of March, there were over 1100 items that went on the auction block, I got some new stuff for my fish room, and for the outdoor tubs when it gets warm enough. Our show Ultra – Aqua 2018 will be here before you know it, the second weekend of June, the 9th and 10th, so get your fish in condition to show them off and earn you some prize money; our show is the largest show, class wise at least, in all of North America. But before that, the American Livebearer Association's annual convention is in Grand Rapids, Mi. the first weekend of May, looks like I'll miss the free fishing weekend in Ohio as it is that weekend also. Then the North American Native Fish Association is having their big convention on our show weekend, guess I'll miss that also, but not our show!

I got the privilege of awarding a few plaques at the March meeting, Bud White was the recipient of two specialist plaques for spawning 15 Species of Livebearers and 15 Species of Catfish, congratulations Bud! Then we had another milestone achievement by Dave Williamson, he was awarded his third Centurion Award for spawning 100 species of fish, you read right, his THIRD, congratulations, okay Dave now you got to get to work on the next one.

### March 2018 BAP

#### Species

Jeremy Harsh

*Ancistrus temminckii*

Mike & Elsie Swanson

*Metriaclicma greshaki*

Wayne Toven

*Poecilia obscura*

Will & Misty White

*Poecilia reticulata*

*Ancistrus sp.*

Dave Williamson

*Cyrtocara moori*

*Crenichthys baileyi*

#### HAP

Mike & Elsie Swanson

*Lomariopsis lineata*

*Taxiphyllum barbieri*

Will & Misty White

*Lemna minor*

*Echinodoras bleheri*

### April 2018 BAP

Rich Serva

*Poecilia obscura*

Mike & Elsie Swanson

*Puntius conchonius*

Wayne Toven

*Astatotilapia calliptera*

#### HAP

Dave Williamson

*Centella asiatica*

#### Common name

#### Class Points

Albino bristlenose pleco

Catfish 20

Albino greshaki

Cichlid mb 15

obscure guppy

Livebearer 5

Purple grass guppy

Livebearer 5

Green dragon pleco

Catfish 20

Blue dolphin cichlid

Cichlid mb 15

White river spring fish

Native fish 10

Susswassertang

B – veg 10

Java moss

B – veg 10

duckweed

A – veg 5

Amazon sword plant

C – veg 15

obscure guppy

Livebearer 5

long fin rosy barb

Barbs etc 10

Cichlid mb 10

Pennywort

B – veg 10

### 2018 Totals BAP Points HAP Points

Mike & Elsie Swanson	6	50	2	20
Dave Williamson	4	45	1	10
Bud White	3	35	-	-
Wayne Toven	2	15	-	-
Will & Misty White	2	25	2	20
Jeremy Harsh	1	20	-	-
Rich Serva	1	5	-	-



#### ALL ODDBALL AQUATICS

[SALES@ALLODDBALLAQUATICS.COM](mailto:SALES@ALLODDBALLAQUATICS.COM)

[www.alloddballaquatics.com](http://www.alloddballaquatics.com)



# Bowl Show & Special Activities

David Girard



After 4 months of bowl shows Jeff Plazak has a 19 point lead. The battle for second is close with 4 people within 8 points of each other. You will notice that we decided to split the photography class into two categories because we had 21 great photos entered and we did not specify what we are judging on. We picked the 3 best photos based on looks of the photo and also picked the 3 that were best for identifying the fish.

## March

### Barbs

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1-Jeff Plazak- | Black ruby barb |
| 2-Jeff Plazak- | Tiger barb      |
| 3-Misty White- | Cherry barb     |

### Mollies

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1-Jeff Plazak- | Silver molly |
| 2-Jeff Plazak- | Silver molly |
| 3-Jeff Plazak- | Silver molly |

### Suckermouth catfish

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1-Jeremy Harsh- | Albino bristlenose  |
| 2-Misty White-  | I333 pleco          |
| 3-Misty White-  | I201 snowball pleco |

## April

### Female guppies

- |                        |
|------------------------|
| 1-Jeff Plazak          |
| 2-Jeff Plazak          |
| 3-Mike & Elsie Swanson |

### Corydoras, Aspidoras, Brochis

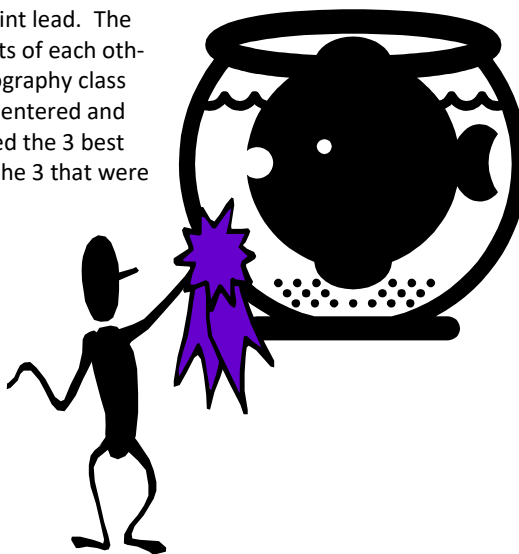
- |                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1-Jeff Plazak- | Corydoras sterbai  |
| 2-Misty White- | Pygmy cory         |
| 3-Jeff Plazak- | Corydoras paleatus |

### Photography (Identification)

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1-Mike & Elsie Swanson- | Pelvicachromis pulcher   |
| 2-Wayne Toven-          | Pelvicachromis taeniatus |
| 3-Mike & Elsie Swanson- | Cylindricus              |

### Photography(Looks)

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1-Misty White- | Dojo loaches |
| 2-Misty White- | Marble betta |
| 3-Misty White- | Lucy axolotl |



## 2018 Standings

Jeff Plazak-48  
 Dave Williamson-29  
 Misty White-26  
 Wayne Toven-25  
 Mike & Elsie Swanson-21  
 Ken McGill-13  
 Rik & Dana Borger-10  
 Jeremy Harsh-5  
 Brandon Snopek-2

## 2018 Bowl Show Schedule

### January:

Male Guppies  
 Goldfish  
 Minnows, Danios & Rasboras

### February:

Domestic Swordtails,  
*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  
 Pairs (male/female)

### October:

Gouramis & Anabantoids  
 AO Old World Cichlids  
 Arts & Crafts

### November:

AO Livebearers  
 AO Egglayers  
 AO Catfish

Since 1981



745-3059

Large Selection of:  
 TROPICAL FISH BIRDS  
 SMALL ANIMALS  
 REPTILES AMPHIBIANS  
 DOG & PET SUPPLIES  
 Tues-Fri 12-7 Sat: 10-6  
 196 2nd St., NW  
 (Downtown Barberton)



Mon-Sat 11-8  
 Sunday 11-6

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

## RIFT LAKE AQUATICS

TROPICAL FISH, FRESHWATER & MARINE  
 SUPPLIES and PREMIUM FISH FOODS

Jim  
 Laco



6777 Engle Rd. Suite J  
 Cleveland OH 44130  
 (216) 215-1639

email: jim@riftlakeaquatics.net  
 www.shop.riftlakeaquatics.net

# 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.

## Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: Feb. 2018

Alestopetersius cf. nigropterus, AKA the Orange Flash Congo Tetra, by Regina Spotti

Greater Detroit Aquarium Society, Tropic Tank Talk: Feb. 2018

Oh! Look fish Eggs – Corydoras aeneus, by Jim Craig

## Brooklyn Aquarium Society, Aquatica: Mar/Apr 2018

Sexing Aquarium Fish – a Commercial Breeder's Tips, by Tony Kroeger

Meet the Striped Anostomus – Anostomus anostomus, by Tony Kroeger

Breeding the 3 Spot Blue Gourami, Trichogaster trichopterus, by Tony Kroeger

Zucchini Strips & Chips Munchies, by John Todaro

Breeding the Tatia intermedia, by Joe Graffagnino

Propagating Anubias coffeefolia, by Izzy

Zwerin

Feather Dusters in Your Reef Tank, by Tony Kroeger

## Kitchener – Waterloo Aquarium Society, Fins & Tales: Mar 2018

Hoplias malabaricus, by Dr. Glenn Roberts

A Species Only Aquarium, by Matthew Penney

Altolamprologus calvus sp. Sumbu Dwarf, by Terry Clements

## Hamilton & District Aquarium Society: Mar 2018

Betta smaragdina, by Catherine Salmon

Neon Gold Barbs, by Catherine Salmon

## Missouri Aquarium Society Inc. The Darter: Mar/Apr 2018

Breeding Success of the Green Oto: Hisonotus aky, by Ian Fuller

Oryzias Species – the Ricefish, by Mike Hellweg

Achieving Indoor Blooms on Water Lettuce, Pistia stratiotes, by Chuck Bremer

## Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. Finformation: Mar 2018

Farlowella vittata, by Mike Debevec

## Circle City Aquarium Club, Fancy Fins: Mar 2018

Betta Barracks, by Bob Hargis

Breeding Iodotropheus sprengerae, by Tarri bain

Breeding Apistogramma viejita, by Bob Hargis

Nymphoides aquatica, by Tarri Bain

Breeding Corydoas paleatus, by Bob Hargis

## Kitchener – Waterloo Aquarium Society, Fins & Tales: Apr 2018

Don't Pick on Cory – Cousin Brochis is Watching You, by Stuart Morley

Bucephalandra: the Newest & Coolest "Easy" Category, by Dylan Hodges

St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society, The Scat: Apr 2018

Channeled Apple Snails, by Ernest Biktimirov

## Hamilton & District Aquarium Society: Apr 2018

Aphyosemion australe, by Catherine Salmon

## Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, Tank Tales: Mar 2018

Former Heavyweight Champion... Jack Dempsey, by Joel Antkowiak

Tucanoichthys tucano – the Tucano Tetra, no author listed

## Aquarium Club of Lancaster County, Tank Tales: Apr 2018

Corydoras CW 124 – Collecting, Keeping, & Breeding an Undescribed Cafish sp. From Peru, by Don Kinyon

The Dragon of Cichlidom... Firemouth, by Joel Antkowiak

## Ohio Cichlid Association, Buckeye Bulletin: Apr 2018

Hybrids and Line Breeding: Threat to the Hobby, by Willem Heijns

The Blackout Look – Part Two, by Mo Devlin

What is the Dead Zone (Lake Erie), Ohio Sea Grant

Aquatic Invasive Species in the Great Lakes, Ohio Sea Grant & Stone Laboratory



# Membership Report

Mike Swanson



Hi Everyone!

Thanks to all of you who came out to the auction, sorry I missed you, I had to work the power outages that mother nature whipped up. I heard we had a great turn out and several new people signed up as members. So I would like to take a moment to welcome them to our club. Thank you for joining or renewing. Our newest members joining at the auction, meeting or online are:

Russell Bolender  
Travis Miller  
Randy Foxx

Jeremiah Hargh  
Dennis Moffit

James Lehberger  
Big Rich Price

Bill Lipscomb  
Madison Shaw

and our three members who renewed are:

Mike Culkowski

Dee Bacisin

Todd Zettler

I want to say Thanks to my wife for taking care of membership at the auction in my absence. I enjoyed the presentation at our March meeting; Speaker Big Rich Price from Ohiofishrescue.com. We had 28 members in attendance and Wayne Toven won the door prize. I hope to see everyone at the April meeting.

Since there are no memberships expiring in May, I thought I would list the recently expired in case anyone missed it.

Ron & Amy Mullens  
Scott Mans

George Anagnostopoulos  
Scott Marris

David Harley  
Frank Myerski

Cathy Keiper  
Don Gould

See you soon! Mike. As always you can renew at auctions, meetings, or online.

## GAAS Ultra-Aqua 2018

June 9 & 10 60 Class All Species Show All Cash Prizes

**Tallmadge Community Center**

**Saturday Swap Meet**

**80 Community Rd.**

**Saturday Party with Speaker**

**Tallmadge, Ohio 44278**

Saturday Show Registration 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday Auction begins at 11 am

[www.akronfishclub.com](http://www.akronfishclub.com) or

<https://www.facebook.com/Greater-Akron-Aquarium-Society>





# Spawning *Neolamprologus caudopunctatus* 'red fin' by accident

by Dave Williamson

This whole story starts with helping out a friend who over did it at an auction. On the way home he was lamenting the fact that he didn't know where he was going to put some of the fish he bought since they were much smaller than the other African cichlids he had. Well, being me, I offered to house them "for a little while" until he figured out where they could go. When he handed them over, that's when I understood his dilemma. They were tiny, maybe a quarter of an inch. Realizing that "Lamps" take a while to mature and grow I figured I'd have these guys for a while. I stuck them in a 2-1/2 and kinda forgot about them other than my regular feeding and water change routines. After a few months of really slow growth I asked about moving them on and that's when I was told "they weren't really what he was looking for so you could keep them". Great. Reminiscent of helping out the bird rescue, I "get" to keep something that I never really wanted.

I had heard the name "Red Fin Caudopunctatus" in a lot of auctions, but never really knew much about them or wanted them for that matter. I'm a little funny about cichlids and usually am not interested in keeping species I'm not familiar with. Well I figured I should do a little research to find out something about what I had and broke out my copy of Ad Koning's *Lake Tanganyika Cichlids in their natural habitat* and looked them up. Come to find out they are a small species (rarely larger than 2-1/4" and here I thought I had stunted their growth!) found in shallow water at many locations in the southern part of the lake. Up to this point I had been keeping them in the same small tank for nearly a year and they had whittled their number down to three from the original six in typical Lamprologus fashion. I knew I couldn't keep them in there much longer

or there would only be one in the near future so I took a chance and dropped them into my 125 African cichlid community. I was a little concerned about the size difference between them and what was already in the big tank, but I didn't think they could swallow them and went ahead with it. Upon releasing them, they promptly disappeared into the fifty pounds or so of lava rock in the tank. After a few days I would see them dart out and grab some food and hightail it back to the rocks so I figured they were doing what nature intended and didn't worry about them anymore.

Fast forward a few months (by this time I had them for about a year and a half) and I could tell that they had grown up to be two males and a female based on the size difference 1-3/4" to 1-1/4". Like most "Lamps" there really wasn't any difference in coloration between the sexes. For that matter there really wasn't much coloration at all; they are basically a cream colored fish with orange edged unpaired fins. Yeah, I know the common name says "red fin" but as we all know, whoever comes up with these common names is very liberal in their use of the term "red" when it comes to African cichlids and most of the time they are orange at best. It was hard for me to believe but these fish, roughly a third the size of everything else in the tank, had paired off and were getting ready to spawn. I knew this because one of the males and the female began to hang out on the left side of the tank and the other male was always on the right. You would think that a six foot long tank would be enough room for some two inch fish, but you could tell that the "spare" male was no longer wel-

come and I took him out and sold him in an auction for his safety.



Opening to cave that the female excavated.

Over the next few weeks you could see that they were investigating rocks and crevices searching for a suitable spawning site. Finally they settled on defending a five inch chunk of lava rock right up against the front wall of the tank. It didn't look much like a spawning site to me, but that's when the female went to work. She dug the sand out from under the rock and made her own cave. After a couple of days it seemed that they had lost interest and the hole partially filled in. That was just a trick since they had apparently spawned already and covered up the hole so nothing else could get in there. A few days later the hole was opened up again and I could see a few tiny fry hopping around in the sand around the opening. Figuring the other fish in the tank would make quick work of them I turned my attention to finding another tank somewhere in the fish room to move them to so they could set up housekeeping in a quieter neighborhood. I was in for quite a shock because by the next day there was a nice group of fry actually swimming around the vicinity of the



rock and the parents were doing an amazing job of keeping them together and safe. I knew they wouldn't be able to keep it up for long and siphoned out some of the fry to raise in a separate small tank. As I assumed, the remaining fry in the tank began disappearing and were all gone over the course of the next few days.

Whatever the reason, after about two months the fry in the 2-1/2 crashed and I only salvaged one of them. In the meantime the adults had actually

spawned again and it looked like they were thinking about it for a third time. It was the same routine every time except that the number of fry increased a little each time, but their guarding behavior seemed to not last as long after the first spawn. When the third batch was free swimming I removed some again and was more careful with them this time and after a month moved them to a ten gallon to grow out. This group did fine and I was able to turn them in for my BAP credit. Then I sold the pair at an auc-

tion so someone else could enjoy their interesting behavior. Pretty good return on my investment (\$0) for a fish I never really wanted to have in the first place isn't it!



## Harvesting microworms by the tablespoon

by Joe Doyle

A few months ago, after joining the American Killifish Association (AKA), I came across a Facebook group run by well known killifish breeder Jeff Wasley, named "Killifish breeding, conservation, maintenance". On this site was a video posted by Scott Kuhnel about how to harvest a larger number of microworms to feed your fish. This article is about putting that concept to work in the fishroom.

Won an auction for a 3 pack of worms from NEO Fish spring auction. Thanks Larry. I setup one culture of banana worms in a plastic shoebox and decided to hold off on setting up the other two (Walter & Microworms) until I knew for sure this method worked.

Using a method developed by a breeder in Pittsburgh of grinding oats in a coffee bean grinder, mixed with water and a starter of culture, filled the plastic container a quarter inch thick with medium. Affixed a label to the lid so I could tell the worms apart later. After a few days, worms started climbing the sides. I like to use a



Q-tip to harvest the worms off the sides to minimize contamination of the culture.

For a long time, I would

bring home from an auction a small deli cup of microworms, banana worms, or walter worms and feed out of that same container for 3 weeks or until the culture went bad. Throw it away and buy another one. Took a while to figure out the cultures would last a lot longer if I stopped adding yeast. The yeast doesn't die. It lives on for weeks/months. Adding yeast to the culture just causes it to burn out faster.

Got into a habit of washing the worms before feeding them to fish, after watching Scott Kuhnel's video. Any worms removed from sides of containers are dipped in half a deli cup of aquarium water. Placed the container on a 45 degree angle for 5 minutes. Poured off the cloudy water till worms approached the edge of the container. Filled with fresh aquarium water. Repeated 3 times. Used a plastic eye dropper to feed out of deli cup into fry tanks.

Going back to the video, Scott said to place a piece of a paper towel on half the culture, and another paper towel of smaller size on top of the first, for the worms to crawl over. I found out by



accident that Brawny paper towels are 2 ply, meaning at harvest time, I can leave the bottom piece on the media and pick up the top piece the worms crawled all over, dip it in my water in deli container, a place back on top of the towel still sitting on the media. Cleaned the worms, and wow! Got at least a tablespoon of worms, or more.

I repeated this every day till the amount of worms harvested started to get smaller and smaller. Chose Sunday as the day to throw away the old paper towel, add more ground oats & water, and stir the culture well. Don't harvest on Sundays. Just before I lay down the paper towel, I sprinkle ground oats over the spot so the surface becomes more firm.

Have since started a shoebox for the walter worms and microworms and are getting 3 tablespoons a day for feedings for all tanks. All fish love live foods. For an added bit, I've added spirulina powder to the cultures to gut load the worms with nutrition for the fish.



Maximize your worm cultures and harvest by the tablespoon. Save money and reap the benefits by feeding your fish live food

## 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

## Friday, May 11

**Program:** :- GAAS's own Steve Brunn will report on the events and information presented at the annual American Livebearer Association's 2018 Convention, which convenes in Grand Rapids, Michigan, May 4-6. Additional observations will be provided by other GAAS members who also attended the convention.

### **Bowl Show:**

Rift Lake Cichlids, Sharks & Loaches,  
Aquatic Invertebrates

## Friday, June 8

### **Program:** Show Set-Up for Ultra-Aqua 2018!

Instead of our regular meeting location come out to the Tallmadge Community Center at 7:00 pm and help get ready for our biggest event of the year. Rack assembly, table cloths, tables and chairs all need to be put together so that registration can open the following morning. None of the usual meeting agenda will take place that night such as the Bowl Show and Breeder's Award auction. Please consider coming out to help, the more that are there, the quicker it all gets done!

**General meetings begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Ritchie Memorial Shelter House**

## Coming Events

**May 12 – 2018 Saturday** – starts at 11 am

### **Medina County Aquarium Society – Spring Auction**

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3355 Medina Rd. Medina, Oh 44256 [www.mcas-fish.net](http://www.mcas-fish.net)

**June 24, 2018 – Sunday** – starts at 11 am

### **SCALES - Summer Auction**

Perry Grange, 6300 Richville Dr. SW, Massillon, Ohio

<http://www.scalesclub.com>

**July 5 – 8, 2018**

### **American Cichlid Association Convention**

Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake

3000 NASA Pkwy., Houston, TX 77058  
<http://2018acacares.com/wp/>

**Sept. 9th 2018 Sunday** – starts at 11 am

### **Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc. – Fall auction**

Garden City Hall, 600 Garden City Dr. Monroeville, Pa. 15146  
[www.gpasi.org](http://www.gpasi.org)