

Finformation

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IMAGES

Cover image by Timothy Gross

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DUES are \$20 a year per family
or street address.
To become a member, write to us or
see Steve Gibbs at the next meeting.
Visit WWW.GPASI.ORG

General Meetings are held at the
Phipps Garden Center in Mellon
Park at the Corner of
5th and Shady Avenues.
DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM

General Meetings
May 11, June 29
July 27, Aug. 31, Sept. 28
Oct. 26, Nov. 16

Board of Directors Meetings
7 p.m. at Elmer's Aquarium in
Monroeville:
Apr. 30, June 4,
July 9, Aug. 6, Sep. 10,
Oct. 8, Nov. 5, Dec. 10

All members and suggestions for
discussion are welcome. Contact a board
member for meeting confirmation.

Upcoming Events

May 11 Meeting

Our May 11 meeting will be at the Phipps Garden Center. The doors open at 7 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7:30. **John Chapek will be speaking on mop-spawning killies.**

According to John, "I began keeping fish when I received my first aquarium for Christmas at 8 years of age. I began breeding cichlids at about age 15, which led me to Killifish. I'm a little over 50 now. I've been married to my better half (Ginny) for 25 years, and we have 2 children Julie (21), and Mark (18).

"Sometime in the wild and wacky 70's, I began working for wholesaler Allied Aquarium Life and eventually for Tropical Fish Distributors. For most of the past 10 years, I owned a pet shop named Lotsa Pets in Garfield Heights, Ohio. I closed it in 2005 because I could no longer compete with the chain stores, and another one was due to open not far from me. I only keep a few Killifish now.

"I have been active in many of the Aquarium Societies In northern Ohio, The American Killifish Association, and NOKA. About 10 years ago I began hybridizing Daylilys, and except for weeding, really enjoy the challenge of trying to build a better and unique plant. Most recently I have begun collecting Bromeliads of the genus *Neoregelia*, with plans to hybridize them as well. Future plans include moving south to eastern Tennessee where they still have winter, but it's much milder. We're looking for a place in the country with 5 to 10 acres so we can have enough room for all the daylilys I want, and Ginny wants to raise goats for fiber, milk, and meat. I am currently unemployed, and working on getting my son Mark through his last year of high school. He has been home schooled via the Internet the past 4 years, and attends a vocational school. I have made many trips to your club in the past as a speaker, and judge, and have always enjoyed my visits. I also have many fond memories of the friends I've made there, every time I see Iron City Beer I think about Jack Wilson, Ken Milick, Eric, and the many good times we had back then. Hey Eric, can I sleep in your bath tub?"

June 29 Meeting: John Tornese

July 27 Meeting: Mark Danero on Anubias design

President's Message

By Steve Okabayashi

There are only two weeks between meetings due to Memorial Day and some date conflicts with the Garden Center. Our meeting on May 11 will feature John Chapek, speaking on Killie Mop Spawners. After 8 years, John Lewis and Stacy Gatto have asked for someone to take over the raffle. We are also in need of a Treasurer in 2008 to replace Sue Solito. I want to thank them for their service and commitment to the club. Interested persons, please let me know.

Exchange Article

Hygrophila corymbosa stricta

Story and photos by Ann Stevens, Sarnia Aquarium Society

Family:	Acanthaceae
Scientific Name:	<i>Hygrophila corymbosa stricta</i>
Common Name:	Temple Plant or Cherry Leaf
Synonyms:	Nomaphila siamesis, Justicia stricta, Nomaphila stricta, Hygrophila stricta
Distribution:	South-East Asia
Origin:	India, Malaysia, Indonesia
Height:	15-50
Width:	15-20
Light Required:	average-high
Temperature:	20-26
Water Hardness:	80 – 150 ppm
pH:	acid-neutral (6.5 – 7.3)
Propagation:	From cuttings and/or adventive leaves
Ease of care:	average
Description:	Straight stem plant that's for sale in a number of different forms. The most common form has large egg-shaped light green leaves. Other forms on the market vary in the leaf form and/or the color of the leaves.

(continued next page)

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WITHOUT ITS MEMBERS. IF
YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO
ANYTHING FOR GPASI, JUST
LET ONE OF US KNOW. WE'D
BE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU JOIN
THE TEAM. ~

Hygrophila corymbosa "Stricta" is an unpretentious plant suitable for a large aquaria. The colour of the leaves varies from light-green to red-brown at high light intensities. *Hygrophila corymbosa* "Stricta" is also suitable for open top aquaria where it likes to pierce the water surface to set beautiful blue flowers. The growth of *Hygrophila corymbosa* "Stricta" benefits from a nutrient rich substrate in combination with CO2 addition and high light, and under such conditions the plant soon attains a beautiful stature. In a dense population the plant often loses the lower leaves because of insufficient light but *Hygrophilacorymbosa* "Stricta" is, nevertheless, most decorative in groups.

Notes:

The above is what I found on the internet. This is a very nice plant that really grows well. When Ed cut it to put it into another tank, since it had grown to the top of the first tank, he wasn't sure if it would grow. He just cut it and placed it into the gravel. Well, let me tell you, not only did it grow, but the original tank grew back very quickly also. We had it with our 20-gallon tank with guppies and platys originally. We do have a heater in there with a CO2 unit and a bubbler. Then we put a cutting into our community tank, a 70-gallon tank with angels, barbs, tetras of various species, kuhli loaches, and a very large plecostomus, to name a few. We have cut both plants numerous times and they are all living and growing well. If you want a plant that fills up your tank and grows quickly, then I would strongly recommend this plant. It didn't take any special care. Ed did notice that it seemed to do better in the guppy tank than in the community tank. I'm not sure if this is due to the size or the type of fish in the tank. ♦



This is a close up of the plant. Here it is in the tank.

Upcoming Events

- 05/25-27/07 AKA Convention, Milwaukee, Wis
- 05/25-27/07 CAOAC Convention, London, Ontario
<http://caoac.canadiancrayfish.ca/>
- 06/23-24/07 Scales Show + Auction, Massillon, Ohio
330-452-9027 – John Baad
- 07/07/07 Great Lakes Auction, Euclid, Ohio
440-944-3245 – Ron Georgeone
- 07/18-22/07 ACA Convention, Sacramento, CA
<http://www.sacramentoaquariumsociety.org>
- 08/04-05/07 Akron Show + Auction, Tallmadge, Ohio
330-848-3856 – Bud White
- 08/19/07 Yatfs Auction, Lordstown, Ohio
330-758-3043 – Tom
- 09/14-16/07 Macna XIX, Pittsburgh, Pa
Expo Mart
- 10/20-21/07 Yatfs Show + Auction, Ohio
330-824-2653 – Curt Smith
- 11/04/07 Akron Auction, Tallmadge, Ohio
330-848-3856 – Bud White

Note on Email

When you join GPASI, your email address is not automatically added to our email list. If you would like to receive notices about additions to the GPASI website and other announcements, send your email address to <web@gpasi.org>. Also, we have recently had to delete several people from the list because their email addresses no longer work, so if you are no longer getting email and you would like to, send an email to <web@gpasi.org>. ♦

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Hikari

BUY

Pete Beckish is looking to buy a used 220 gallon or larger to replace his 125 gallon. He has a freshwater set up. izabella06@verizon.net

SELL

Kevin Zang is looking to sell his custom-built acrylic 475-gallon aquarium. Manufactured by Tencor, the tank is 4' high, 8' long, 2' deep, and the acrylic is 1" thick. It comes with lighting, a custom-built low stand, a wet-dry system plumbed with pvc and shut-off valves, 2 1800 gph pumps. It is drilled for an overflow. The tanks' occupants are 4 oscars, 4 convicts and their fry, 1 channel cat, 2 plecos, 3 fire mouths. They are a happy community. Kevin would like \$3500 for everything. You can call Kevin up until 10 p.m. at 724-752-0213. He lives in Ellwood City.

Walter Roth has plastic bags to sell in 100 count packages. Sizes are 6 x 12", 8 x 15", 10 x 20". He also has a large selection of pond plants. Water Hyacinths, Water Lettuce, Lilies, Water Canna, Iris, Tara, and more. Also pond Fish & Supplies available. Call Walt at 724-449-9651

Barb Jurich is starting to keep very large tanks and so is phasing out her smaller ones. She has these for sale with or without accessories, prices negotiable: a 50-gallon breeder, a 20-gallon long, a 15-gallon, and various 10-gallon tanks. 412-825-0667

140 Gallon custom aquarium with oak stand and canopy. Comes with 60-gallon ecosystem under tank with all plumbing and pumps. Two heaters, 2 UV Sterilizers, 1/3 HP brand new chiller, 6 light kits, 150 pounds of live rock, sand, fish, AquaC EV240 Protein Skimmer and many more items. Paid over \$7000 two years ago for complete setup, will sell entire setup for \$2000 or individual pieces. Currently setup for Salt Water, but can be used for fresh as well. Contact David at 724.449.2689 or david@darkspyre.com.

Sharon Serbin designs and creates fish-related art: stained glass mosaic tables and wall hangings; tile mosaic floors; and hand-painted T-shirts and other clothes items. E-mail sjserbin@pgh.net or page her at (412) 949-3106.

To let other members know about aquarium-related items you'd like to buy, sell, or trade, contact Jean Grace at (412) 441-1106 or jgrace@pitt.edu. **Please let me know when you want to delete your ad.**

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***Procatopus nototaenia* “Yabassi”**

Story by Eric Bodrock, 12/02

Photo by Gary Bartell (used with permission)



Procatopus nototaenia, a type of fish commonly referred to as a “lampeye,” are killifish that are found in Africa. “Yabassi” refers to the location of my strain. At the breeding size of two inches, the males are brightly colored with a pearly blue, aqua shimmer that covers their bodies. Orange trim shines bright over the top of the body and highlights their fins. Their anal fin has faint horizontal markings. The females, at an inch and a half, are plainer, with a more silver body. In both sexes, their eyes seem to glow as if they have a light in them. When you see them in the sunlight, their beauty is breathtaking!

I had two pair set up for breeding in a twenty-gallon high aquarium with a single sponge

filter. The tank was on the bottom shelf of a tank rack and was covered tightly with a glass lid. (Anyone who has had any type of killies knows that they are excellent jumpers, and these are no exception.) The tank had no gravel, but I added a few smooth seashells to act as a slight buffer. The temperature was about 76F and the pH ranged 7.2-7.6 between water changes, which were done at a rate of twenty percent every ten days. I used a mix of about sixty percent R/O water, twenty percent aged tank water with a lower pH, and twenty percent aged tank water with a higher pH; a TDS reading of 76 was measured. The light level was low with a little natural sunlight hitting their tank during the day and some light from overhead fluorescent fixtures. I offered the fish live black worms, live baby brine shrimp, and frozen bloodworms a couple of times a day.

These killies are sometimes called “crevice spawners.” They deposit their eggs daily into small cracks in wood, rocks, or plants in order to protect the eggs from being eaten by predators. I used a regular killifish mop made of acrylic yarn, but wrapped rubber bands tightly about every two inches along the length of the mop. This gave the fish the tight crevices that they needed to deposit their eggs. Every couple of days I pulled the mop from the tank, gave a slight squeeze to remove some water, and gently pulled the yarn apart to remove the eggs. I placed the eggs in a separate container where they hatched in about ten to twelve days, depending on the temperature.

When I saw fry swimming in the hatch tank, I added a small clump of Java moss and a little Euglena to provide some tiny organisms as starter food. After a few days, I added live baby brine shrimp and microworms to their diet.

When they are swimming, all the fry appear as if they have trouble maintaining their balance; they actively swim near the surface but with their heads high and their tails low. It looks like they have a swim bladder problem, but at eight weeks of age all the fry now look as if they are out growing this appearance. They grow slowly: at eight weeks of age, the fry range from a quarter of an inch to a half-inch.

These fish aren’t commonly seen in the hobby. If you get a chance to get hold of some, do it! They are beautiful, active, and peaceful fish with an interesting spawning ritual. You won’t be disappointed in them.



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