

Finformation

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April 2003



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Next Meeting – April 25
At the Palace Inn, Monroeville
(NOT the Civic Garden Ctr.)

Bob Goldstein, PhD
on collecting fish in Brazil

April 26 & 27: Fish Show!

CONTACT THE
NEWSLETTER

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available in full color online at
[http://shene.killi.net/
gpasi/Finformation.html](http://shene.killi.net/gpasi/Finformation.html)

NEWSLETTER ART

Angel cover art and show flyer by
Kathy Bintrim. Original cover
drawing will be auctioned at the next
meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

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 GPASI2002.TRIPOD.COM

Unless otherwise specified below,
General Meetings are held at the
Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center in
Mellon Park at the Corner of
5th and Shady Avenues.
DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM

2003 General Meeting Dates

Apr 25 at the Palace Inn
May 30 • June 27
July 25 • Aug 22 • Sept 26
Oct 31 • Nov 21

The **Board of Directors** meets at 7pm
at Elmer's Aquarium in Monroeville
on the following dates:

May 5
June 9 • July 7 • Aug 4
Sept 8 • Oct 6 • Nov 3

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

Upcoming GPASI Events

Next General Meeting

Remember that the April 25 meeting has been moved to the Palace Inn in Monroeville, where members will be able to work on setting up the Aquarium Fish Show 03 for Saturday and Sunday and then hear guest speaker Bob Goldstein talk about his adventures collecting fish in South America. See page 4 for more information about Dr. Goldstein. The doors will open at 7 p.m.

Since we will be having a big auction on Sunday, the only auction items allowed at the Friday meeting will be BAP and AHAP submissions.

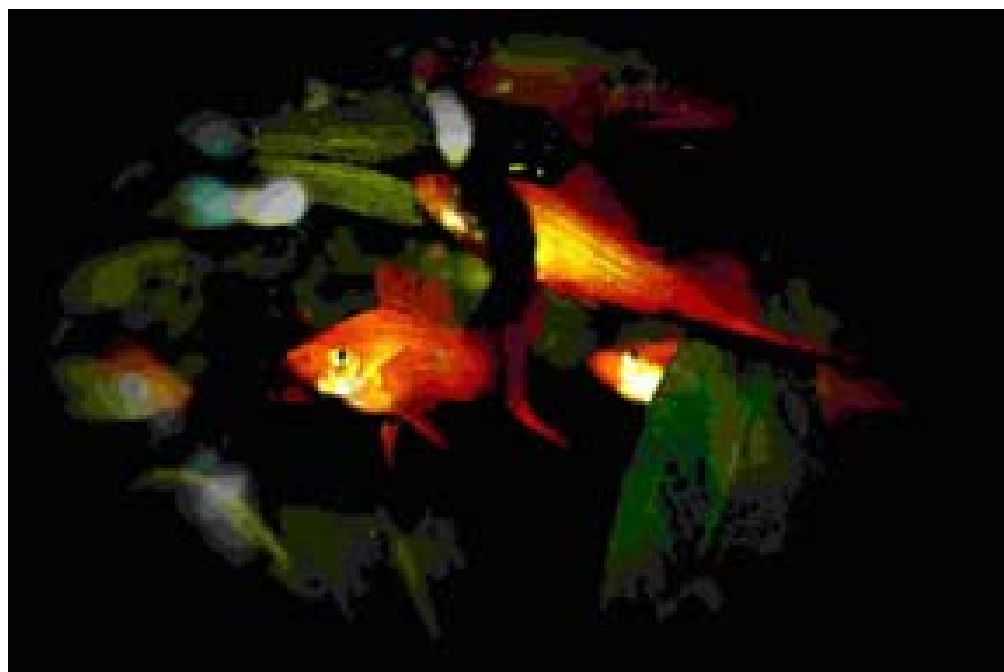
More Opportunities to Learn

Our Aquarium Fish Show 03 will provide several opportunities to hear national speakers. On Saturday, Dr. Goldstein will return to the show to present a talk on native fish at 2:30. Rusty Wessel will speak on Central American cichlids at 4:00. And after our banquet on Saturday evening, Mike Schadle will entertain and instruct us with his fish hobby quiz.

For brief bios of our speakers and judges, see page 4. For a listing of times for show events, see page 2.

Speakers for Coming Months

Watch *Finformation* for more information about these speakers who will be visiting our club: **Mike Wells** in May on discus (visit <http://www.adiscusdream.com/>); **Dan Woodland** in August on "Fishkeeping: Hobby or Disease?"; and **Cheryl Sanders** on goldfish in September.



Swordtails by Bill Shenefelt

Message from GPASI President Mike Solito

On behalf of the Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society, I want to invite you to the Aquarium Fish Show 03. I hope you have a good time and enjoy yourself. We have a jam-packed event scheduled for you. The show theme this year is "come see what evolves." Our event has something for everyone. New this year is a junior fish competition for our young fish hobbyists.

In addition to our fish competitions, we have many nationally known and local vendors selling everything from books, driftwood, and jewelry to ponds. There will be a large raffle of fish foods, filters, tanks and other spectacular fish related items donated by our sponsors (listed in this newsletter). Throughout Saturday we have scheduled renowned speakers talking about cichlids, native fishes, and collecting fish in the wild. Later Saturday evening is the show banquet for pre-registered guests and an entertaining speaker.

We'll top it all off Sunday with a giant auction where you will be able to buy fish, plants, supplies and even some of the fish you have seen in the show. Our goal in producing the Aquarium Fish Show 03 is simple: To promote the hobby, to create camaraderie, and to educate the public about our wet friends. But most of all, it's about having fun with friends, both old and new, who share our common interest. Aquarium Fish Show 03 has evolved into a great event for the hobbyist. Thank you for joining us and HAVE FUN!

GPASI Aquarium Fish Show 03

Schedule of Events

**April 25, 26, 27, 2003 at the Palace Inn, Monroeville, PA
(at Exit 6, PA Turnpike RT 22 & 48)**

Friday, April 25

10:00 a.m. Show Set Up - table layout, main air lines, vendors, etc.

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Registration of Entries

7:00 p.m.--**GPASI Monthly Club Meeting at Palace Inn**

Speaker - Bob Goldstein, Ph.D. Collecting in Brazil
Everyone Welcome!

Saturday, April 26

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration of Entries

9:00 a.m. - Fish Room Open to Public

2:30 p.m. - Speaker Bob Goldstein, Ph.D. - Native Fish

4:00 p.m. - Speaker Rusty Wessel - Central American Cichlids

6:00 p.m. - Banquet (fish room & vendors closed)

After Banquet Speaker Mike Schadle - Fish Hobby Quiz

Sunday, April 27

Fish Room closed until completion of judging at about noon

9:00 a.m. Buyer & Seller Auction Registration

11:00 a.m. until finish - HUGE Auction

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Show entrees may be removed

Awards will be presented at the close of the auction

To see the rules for showing or auctioning fish, **click on the March 2003 Finformation at** <http://shene.killi.net/gpasi/Finformation.html>.

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~ There can be no club without its members. If there is anything that you would like to do for GPASI, just let one of us know. We'd be happy to have you as part of the team. ~

GPASI Aquarium Fish Show 03

Speakers and Judges

Robert Goldstein has visited our club several times in the past few years, most recently last October when he spoke to us about bettas. He got his MS in parasitology at Florida State University and his PhD in parasitology and microbiology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School. He taught biochemistry and microbiology at Emory University for six years, then joined an environmental consulting firm where he worked for 11 years, specializing in the impact of water cooling systems at power plants on fish and fish larvae. His writing on fish has been published very widely in books and magazines. His interest in breeding fish ranges from anabantoids to natives to marines. He has served as an officer, founder, or member in several clubs, and has about 100 tanks at his house.

Jim and Liz Hutchings have kept killies since 1973. Both Liz and Jim are Fellows of the American Killifish Association. They are founding members of NOKA and have both served terms on the BOT. Jim was chairman in 1992. The Hutchings have been judging since 1978, and both Liz and Jim are senior judges. Liz appeared on Morning Exchange back in the 80's, and she is the Chair of the American Killifish Association's Judging Committee. Several years ago, the Cleveland newspaper did a feature story on the Hutchings.

Jeff Natterer has been keeping, breeding, and showing catfish and cichlids for about 11 years now and has taken numerous best of shows at the local and national level. His passion has lately fallen to keeping and hopefully breeding many of the naked cats from South America. Along these lines, he was the first nationally to breed *Centromochlus perugia* (a dwarf species from Columbia) and helped the Ohio Cichlid Association to implement a catfish Breeders Award Program geared to that group specifically. Many of the cichlids he keeps or has kept are "oddballs" that no one else has or doesn't want. They range from all over the globe geographically and vary in size as well. He has *Boulengerochromis microlepis* (the largest cichlid on record) to dwarf tilapia sp. from Cameroon and 2 foot catfish from South America (if they ever breed Lord help us all because he'll have catfish coming out his ears).

Rusty Wessel maintains over 3000 gallons of freshwater aquariums, predominantly containing cichlids and livebearers, which he successfully raise and breeds. He is a prolific author and photographer whose work has been widely distributed in many specialized publications. Rusty has lectured and judged numerous fish shows throughout the United States, including the annual "Florida Tropical Fish Farmers" show and several American Cichlid Association (ACA) conventions. Rusty is active in the administration of the ACA and solicits for a fund set up under the ACA to grant endowments for cichlid research. Rusty has been awarded the greatest honor the ACA gives to its distinguished members, the ACA Fellowship, in 1997. Rusty's specialty is Central American fishes. He has successfully collected fish from Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, from 1983 to the present, for over 35 trips to this date. He has introduced many new species of fish to the aquarium hobby. If it lives in the water, chances are that Rusty has either caught it or been bit or stung by it.

Mike Schadle has been involved in the hobby since grade school. His chief interests lie in livebearing species and the cichlids of the Americas. A member of most national specialty societies, he has served several in a number of administrative positions, including the editorship of the American Livebearer Association's journal for eight years and a term on the American Cichlid Association's Board of Trustees. Mike runs a business specializing in aquarium literature, and he and his books can often be seen at fish shows in the Great Lakes region. He also is frequently called on to judge these shows, and is one of the area's most sought after auctioneers.

**Culturing White Worms (*Enchytraeus albidus*)
Text and Photos Bill Shenefelt**

As a starter, for those who may be concerned, white worms look like human pinworms, but cannot successfully infect a human due to the low temperature requirements of this worm, and to the best of my knowledge, they do not carry any pathogens as can be gotten with tubifex worms.

First, you need a place that can hold a temperature below 70 degrees F. Second you need a starter culture. (The culture comes second since at above 70 degrees your worms won't do well at all). A temperature between 55 and 65 is best if you expect them to reproduce. I prefer to use a Styrofoam box, like a fish box (with lid), since the box will help stabilize the temperature, and the lid maintains darkness which they demand or (otherwise they will hide). An unheated integral garage, an old basement refrigerator set to as high as you can without turning it off, or some other "cold" spot in the house works well. I have heard schemes for raising white worms at above 70 degrees using sponges and water evaporation to keep them cool, but never tried it.

For a medium, I find that Magic Worm Bedding, available at Wal-Mart in the hunting and fishing supplies department is great. They even have a small worm box with bedding for under \$10 if you do not need a large culture. I prefer to use a fish-shipping box usually available at your local fish shop, sometimes free, sometimes for a dollar.



When you obtain a starter culture, you will find it is not a lot of worms. A one pound starter culture from a commercial supplier (priced usually around \$15) is a pound of dirt, not a pound of worms. It will take several weeks if not months to raise enough worms to feed unless your fish room has a single male guppy and planted tanks only. Once established, the supply is reasonable and can be raided for food once or twice a week for a treat for your fish. Many say that the white worms are a high starch food and should be fed sparingly and certainly not as a mainstay; however I have never seen a problem with fish fed exclusively on white worms, although I would not recommend it.

The worm bedding is very dry (weight minimized for shipping) and must be soaked in dechlorinated tap water prior to use. You can put some water right in the box (which has a yellow bag inside that holds the bedding). The bedding looks like it may have a little sand and some peat moss or other mulm, but is much better for raising the worms than a sack of topsoil or other readily available medium. Unless you plan to supply the eastern seaboard with worms, the cost of the Magic Worm Bedding is minimal.

Squeeze all the water you can from the bedding to make it just moist. Fill your box with about 3 to 5 inches deep with the bedding and "fluff" it up a little. Excess water will eventually go to the bottom so if it is a little wet it will not hurt.

Place your starter culture right on top of the bedding. There are many foods that can be used for the worms. Some prefer Pabulum or mashed potatoes placed in small furrows in the medium, but I prefer to use a piece of bread soaked in non fat dry milk. Some bread is less prone to mold; I like the "Italiano" brand sliced bread, since it will hold for several days soaked in milk prior to any mold development. For a starter culture, half a slice is plenty. When the remaining bread shows signs of mold, remove and replace it with a fresh slice. Once established, a good culture will consume a slice of bread in about 36 to 48 hours. Now here is the nice part about using bread as a food for the worms. Once established, the worms will consume, and actually replace the bread slice. This means you do not have any "separation" task: just scoop up a clump of worms, and place them in water to rinse away any bread remnants, replace the cloudy water with fresh water, and baste them into the tanks. The photo shows a good culture 12 hours after placing a new slice of bread into the box.



Unlike black worms, white worms cannot survive under water indefinitely, so you will need to remove uneaten worms the next day if you used more than the fish could consume.

After a few months, the worm bedding may become fouled. You can tell this by seeing if the worms are trying to exit the box by climbing up the sides. When this happens, start a second box culture by splitting the culture into a second box and adding a fresh batch of worm bedding to each box. ■

Wet Science

Genetics for Hobbyists

Text and Photos

Sallie S. Boggs, PhD

This edition is a response to questions from our editor. The questions are as follows: "How can hobbyists use genetic principles when they choose which of their fish they will breed? When we buy groups or pairs of fish from a store or another hobbyist, they are often the same size, so I always think they may be from a single spawn of two fish. Then the hobbyist takes them home and sets them up to breed. In how many generations is that limited gene pool going to start causing problems? If someone is serious about raising good fish, should she also be careful to keep bringing in different individuals to broaden the sets of genes in the pairings?"

I will answer each of these questions to the best of my ability. If you buy fish from a store, they may be caught in the wild or bred in a huge breeding facility. In those cases, they are probably have a fairly diverse background. These fish can be considered to be wild type. The notation for any single wild type gene is +. Because genes come in pairs the designation for all the genes of a wild type fish would be ++ (one + from each parent). Even though both genes are designated by a "+," the two "+" genes are probably different from each other and therefore the fish is said to be heterozygous at that place in the genome (the allele). Fish have tens of thousands of such pairs of genes...all presumably different (heterozygous).

When the hobbyist takes them home, if she is lucky, two of the fish are of opposite sex and they breed and the lucky hobbyist gets 20-2000 fry. Hobbyists like to refer to this generation as the F1 generation. The pair each have specific characteristics of their own and each of the fry randomly received one + from mom (m+) and one + from pop (p+). Now we will follow two such genes in the next generation (the F2 generation). One gene is "desirable," say "red" and the other is "undesirable," say "funnyfin." Both of these genes we will assume are recessive. We can assume this because neither of the parents is red and their fins are fine. Thus, two like genes must be necessary for their effects to be seen. Therefore, the F1 fish will not be red or funnyfined, even if they carry the genes in "single dose." (Note, true geneticist do not use the term "single dose," but hobbyist seem to like it and it is descriptive so I will use it here.)

Now, the lucky hobbyist picks out two of the best-looking, most robust fry and raises them for future breeders. The operative words here are "picks out." By doing this, the breeder is lowering the probability of getting fish with undesirable characteristics. Since all the F1 fry are brothers and sisters, by breeding the F1 the hobbyist is increasing the chance of two recessive genes from the ++ parents pairing up and the result would reveal hitherto hidden characteristics such as red or funnyfinness.

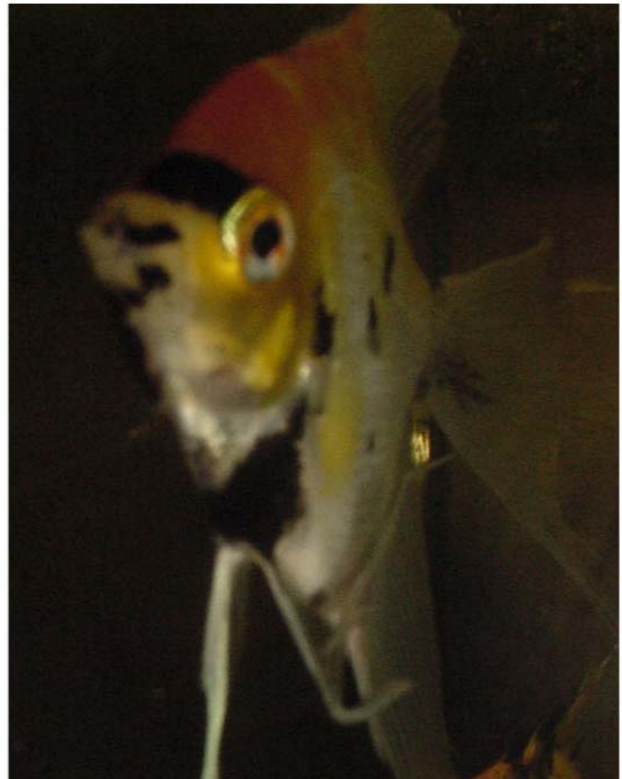
Genetically, this is the same whether the brother-sister pair is human or fish. However, the impact is very, very different. Human parents usually have one offspring and the whole family has to live with the result. The large number of fish offspring allow for selection--both natural selection and hobbyist guided selection. Natural selection will eliminate the fry



A healthy pair of Koi angelfish from the Sallie Boggs "strain."

that inherit recessive gene pairs that result in failure of the fish to thrive in the aquarium conditions. The hobbyist will eliminate the fry that do not have “desirable” characteristics. In this way the genetic makeup of the fish is “improved.”

Scientists carry this process even further in breeding animals for research. For example, if a scientist wants to study the effects of a certain drug, the ideal experiment would be to study the effects of a drug given to one individual and not give it to another identical individual under identical conditions. They have bred “strains” of mice in which all the individuals are genetically identical and homozygous at all alleles. To obtain these strains requires at least 20 generations of brother-sister breeding. These mice are very healthy unless the breeder selected certain characteristics like susceptibility to leukemia. The fact is that each strain, consisting of as many mice as are needed, represents only one genetic combination, whereas, each wild type mouse has a unique combination of genes. Crossing a mouse from strain A to one from strain B results in F1 mice that are all identical to each other, but genetically heterozygous A/B. When these F1 mice are bred, all the baby mice are all different in appearance and gene composition.



Funny fin on left may be genetically transmitted. By breeding, I found that missing anal fins are a genetically transmitted trait.

To readdress the questions: The hobbyist can use genetic principles to determine what genes their fish are carrying and choose only healthy, well formed fish to breed. When you buy fish, be aware that if they were tank raised, they are probably brothers and sisters, at any generation. If they were wild caught they are probably $+/+$ type. Recessive genes begin to pair up at high frequencies in the second generation when brother-sister pairings occur. However, this may not really cause “problems” to the hobbyist as the “bad” genes can usually be selected against in future pairings. This may require ruthless culling. With each generation, the gene pool is getting smaller and the gene alleles are becoming more homozygous. The resultant fish, selected for tank life and some “preferred” characteristic may not be able to survive in the wild and do not have a large number of genes to draw on to adapt to new conditions. If you select for red fish for example you might lose the genes related to other characteristics like blue fins.



Enlargement of the mouth is due to a tumor called Lymphocystus and is not genetically transmitted.

Many very desirable fish have been developed in this way. Consider the many colors of discus, angels and betas. If someone is serious about raising good fish, there is no need to bringing different individuals into the program to broaden the sets of genes as long as the original fish had sufficient “good” genes and vigorous culling is carried out. In fact breeding the fancy, man-made types of fish to wild type fish or even to other strains would introduce new genes, but it might take another 8 generations of back crossing to recover the original characteristics.

The concept of “strain” is different in the hobby and in science. In science, it takes about 20 generations of brother-sister breeding to produce a strain in which all the individuals are so identical that they are like identical twins. In the hobby, one or two generations of breeding apparently qualifies a breeder as having her own strain of fish. This is a nonscientific approach and fails to provide the assurance of homozygosity.

There is an interesting story related to this practice. Several years ago someone developed a pink guppy after many generations of brother-sister breeding and selection. This guppy was pink, but not very large and lacked very fancy fins. The Pingu guppy sold for \$50, a huge amount in those days. The advertisements in all the fish magazines said “Breed the Pingu into your strain and see what great guppies you

can develop.” People bought them and dreamt about double tail pink or pink and blue or other fancy guppies. What they got was very much like the wild type, as should have been expected from knowledge of genetics. After about 2 years the pink guppy virtually disappeared.

Keeping the genome as large as possible is important if a zoo that wants to return the offspring to the wild and to a fish breeder if by selection some desirable trait has been lost. ■

Breeders Award Program

The Breeders Award Program (BAP) promotes the keeping and breeding of tropical fish, recognizes and motivates achievement in the hobby, encourages research into the spawning of more difficult species, shares knowledge about breeding techniques, and publishes accounts of spawning techniques. For a description of the classes, awards, and point system, visit the BAP page at gpasi2002.tripod.com. **If you would like to see the latest standings, you can always visit <http://shene.killi.net/gpasi/Finformation.html>.** Contact BAP Chair Chuck Bialon with questions: bialon@ppg.com.

BAP Standings (as of 3/21/03)

MEMBER/STATUS	POINTS	CLASSES COMPLETED																
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Target	20 pt
GRAND MASTER BREEDERS		>500 points, all classes completed, 5 targets, 9 twenty- point fish																
Sallie Boggs	2950	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	25	50
MASTER BREEDERS		>500 points, 10 completed classes, 2 targets, 9 twenty-point fish																
Eric Bodrock	2760	1			4		6	7	8	9	10	11		13	14	15	4	46
Hank Marzina	1000	1	2	3	4			7	8	9	10	11			14	15	5	13
FOUR STAR BREEDERS		400 points, 7 completed classes, 1 target																
Charles Bialon	2320	1	2	3	4			7	8	9	10	11			14	15	3	5
Robert Fullmer	625	1	2	3				7	8			11			14		2	3
THREE STAR BREEDERS		300 points + 3 completed classes																
Ray Yutzy	685		2					7	8			11						1
Scott Graner	550	1					6			9	10						4	6
Richard Wiley	505	1		3	4			7				11			14			3
Pete Scaletto	440	1		3			6					11					1	1
Gary Balbo	390	1							8			11					2	7
Brian Carson	360		2						8	9							1	1
TWO STAR BREEDERS		200 points + 2 completed classes																
Wallace Cox	280	1						7	8									
Mike Solito	255							7	8									1
Robert Timmins	245	1								9								2
William Montgomery	200	1														15		
ONE STAR BREEDERS		100 points + 1 completed class																
Jason Clester	280											11					2	3
Donald T. Plazek	180	1										11						1
Steven Graner	170										10						1	2
Don Mikulan	165											11						1
Marlene Scholze	140	1																

GPASI Aquarium Fish Show 03

Competition Classes and Sponsorships

Below is a list of the competition classes at the Aquarium Fish Show '03 in April. Sponsors are listed to the right of each class. To all the sponsors listed below: thank you for supporting the club and the hobby!

Killies (All Sponsored by PAKA)

ALL MAIL-IN KILLIE ENTRIES WILL BE AUCTIONED AFTER THE SHOW.

Mail-in entries allowed only in killie classes.

1. *Rivulus* and other New World Non-annuals—Mike Brem, President, CAKC
2. New World Annuals—Curt's Killies
3. *Nothobranchius*—Northern Ohio Killifish Assoc.
4. *Fundulopanchax (Paraphyosemion)*—Exclusively Killies
5. *Fundulopanchax* (all other varieties)—Atlanta Aquarium Society
6. *Chromaphyosemion*—Joel and Robin Antkowiak
7. *Mesoaphyosemion (Calliurium types)*—Lee Harper on behalf of the Keystone Group
8. *Kathetys, Christyi, and Diapterons*—Kalamazoo Valley Killi Guys and Sometimes a Girl via James Graham
9. *Aphyosemions* (all other types)—Shene's Killies
10. *Epiplatys* and all other Africans and Eurasian—Scott Graner

Cichlids

11. Angelfish & Discus—Linda's Lovely Angels
12. *Apistogramma*—Al Yunker
13. New World 6" and under—Hanlon's Café
14. New World over 6"—Hanlon's Café
15. *Aulonocara*—Joe Craig
16. Mbunas—Bill Sensor
17. Haplochromines, Lake Malawi—Wilkensburg Aquarium
18. Victorians—Kevin Hosmer
19. *Julidochromis, Chalinochromis, and Telmatochromis*—Bill Shreves, Jr and Bill Shreves III
20. *Lamprolongus* and *Neolamprolongus*, Tanganyikan only—Gary Balbo
21. Old World under 4"—West Hills Pet Center
22. Old World cichlids AOV—Hanlon's Café

Livebearers

23. Guppies, Males, Solid color tails—Bob Fulmer Aquatic Enterprises
24. Guppies, Males, All others—Mike Ott
25. Guppies, Females, Half Black—Don Plazek
26. Guppies, Females, All others—Ed Redgate
27. Swordtails, Platies, Mollies, Plain finage—Mary and David Webeck
28. Swordtails, Platies, Mollies, Fancy finage—Armand Sichi, Jr.
29. Livebearers AOV—Marlene Scholze

Catfish

30. *Corydoras, Aspidoras, and Brochis*—AllOddballAquatics.com
31. Suckermouth catfish, small, 6" and under—Don Tuttle
32. Suckermouth catfish, over 6"—John Lewis and Stacy Gatto
33. *Synodontis*—Sallie Boggs
34. Catfish AOV—John Shaw, Marineland

Egglayers

35. Sharks and Loaches—Sallie Boggs
36. Rainbowfish—Kathy Bintrim, In Leafy Shadows
37. Rasboras, Danios, and Minnows—West Hills Pet Center
38. Barbs—Mike Parahus
39. Characins 2" and under—Jean Grace
40. Characins over 2"—General Pet Store, Crafton Shopping Center
41. Natives—Jim Graham
42. Egglayers AOV—Mark Short
43. Betta, Male, Double tail—Auto Buyer's Consulting, Mike Solito
44. Betta, Male, single tail—Jim Davidson
45. Betta, Female—John Studeny
46. Anabantids under 4"—Hanlon's Café
47. Anabantids, 4" and over—Hanlon's Café

Goldfish

48. Goldfish w/head growth: Orandas, Lionhead, and Pompoms—Walt's Water World
49. Goldfish w/ eye types: Moors, Bubble eyes, Celestials—Critters, Olympia Shopping Center
50. Fantails, Ryukins, and Pearlscales—John Badd and Tom Badd
51. Goldfish AOV—Guman's

Junior Division

52. Junior Egglayer—The Cox Family
53. Junior Livebearer—The Cox Family

Specialty Classes

54. Sexable Pairs (1 male and 1 female)—Joe Amuso
55. Family (parents and six fry at least 3 months old)—Marshall Davis
56. Aquatic Plants—Cavan Allen
57. Saltwater fish All Varieties (will compete for Best Egglayer in Show)—PMASI, www.pmasi.com
58. Tank Beautiful (Fresh or Salt up to 10 gal.)—Steve Okabayashi
59. Arts and crafts—Youngstown Area Tropical Fish Society
60. Slides and photos—Chili's of Monroeville

1. Best Of Show—Python

2. Reserve Best Of Show—Elmer's Aquarium

3. President Award (Most Points In Show)—Three Guys Aquatics

4. Jack Wilson Memorial Award (Most Points For GPASI Member)—Petland, Monroeville

5. Challenge Trophy (Most Points Visiting Society)—Pet Supplies "Plus"

AOV = All Other Varieties

Aquatic Horticulture Award Program

AHAP Standings (as of 3/03)

GRAND MASTER AQUATIC HORTICULTURIST		1000 points; all classes completed; 8 flowering or sexual reproduction; 6 articles, presentations, or artwork in newsletter												
No members in this category														
MASTER AQUATIC HORTICULTURIST		800 points; 6 classes completed; 8 flowering or sexual reproduction; 4 articles, presentations, or artwork in newsletter												
		COMPLETED CLASSES										Reproduction	Talks or newsletter publication	
	Points	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K		
Cavan Allen	1105	X	X				X	X	X		X		14	4
EXPERT AQUATIC HORTICULTURIST		500 points; 4 classes completed; 5 flowering or sexual reproduction; 2 articles, presentations, or artwork in newsletter												
		COMPLETED CLASSES										Reproduction	Talks or newsletter publication	
	Points	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K		
Sallie Boggs	725	X		X	X			X		X			8	2
SENIOR AQUATIC HORTICULTURIST		300 points; 2 classes completed; 3 flowering or sexual reproduction; 1 article, presentation, or artwork in newsletter												
No members in this category														
ADVANCED AQUATIC HORTICULTURIST		200 points; 1 class completed; 1 flowering or sexual reproduction; 1 article, presentation, or artwork in newsletter												
		COMPLETED CLASSES										Reproduction	Talks or newsletter publication	
	Points	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K		
Tom Connors	300							X					3	1
BEGINNING AQUATIC HORTICULTURIST		100 points + 1 completed class												
		COMPLETED CLASSES										Reproduction	Talks or newsletter publication	
	Points	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K		
Walter Roth	230								X					
Ted Neill	425	X						X					9	
Marlene Schulze	155	X					X							
Mike Recklitis	195	X												
NOVICE AQUATIC HORTICULTURIST		5 to 100 points												
		COMPLETED CLASSES										Reproduction	Talks or newsletter publication	
	Points	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K		
Cliff Zigler	125													
Wally Cox	45													
Mark Seidel	10													
Terrence Trasatti	115												2	
Bill Montgomery	25													
Bill Sensor	10													
Jason Clester	150												1	
Mark Short	55													
Atsuko Zigler	15													
Rick Reiter	20													
John Lewis	5													
William Wells	70													

Breeders Award Program

March BAP Submissions—Congratulations to all the breeders.

Member Name	Genus	Species	Class	Points		Further Information
Gary Balbo	<i>Pseudotropheus</i>	<i>demasoni</i>	7	10		
Charles Bialon	<i>Xiphophorus</i>	<i>sp (PMH)</i>	1	5	*	
Eric Bodrock	<i>Pelvicachromis</i>	<i>subocellatus</i>	7	10		Matadi
	<i>Protomelas</i>	<i>fenestratus</i>	7	10		
	<i>Pseudotropheus</i>	<i>acei</i>	7	10		
Wallace Cox	<i>Corydoras</i>	<i>aeneus</i>	11	15		
Michael Parahus	<i>Aphyosemion</i>	<i>scheeli</i>	9	10		
Richard Reiter	<i>Cichlasoma</i>	<i>severum</i>	8	15		
Pete Scaletto	<i>Moenkhausia</i>	<i>sanctaeofilomenae</i>	6	15	*	tetra

*first time spawn by any current BAP participant

Aquatic Horticulture Award Program

The Aquatic Horticultural Award Program (AHAP) promotes the propagation and enjoyment of aquarium and pond plants by recognizing achievement in aquatic horticulture. It also encourages beneficial exchange of information and plant material among aquatic gardeners. Contact AHAP Chair Cavan Allen with any questions regarding AHAP: Millsman7@yahoo.com.

Feb. and Mar. AHAP Submissions—Congratulations!

Member Name	Species	Class	Points
Cavan Allen	<i>Crinum thaianum</i>	E	10
	<i>Alternanthera reineckii</i>	G	10
	<i>Hemianthus micranthemoides</i>	G	10
Ted Neill	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	G	15
	<i>Elocharis vivapara</i>	C	10
Mike Recklitis	<i>Echinodorus blehri</i>	E	15
Rick Reiter	<i>Nymphoides aquatica</i>	F	15
	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	B	5
Walter Roth	<i>Vallisneria spiralis</i>	C	5
Mark Short	<i>Microsorium pteropus</i>	K	10
	<i>Limnophila indica</i>	G	15
Cliff Zigler	<i>Vallisneria spiralis</i>	C	5

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Upcoming Events of Interest

- April 26-27** **GPASI Show and Auction, Pittsburgh, PA**
Contact Mike Solito (412) 571-2418
- July 12-13 Medina Show, Wadsworth, Ohio
Contact Earl Steffensen (330) 896-3314
- August 16-17 Youngstown Area Tropical Fish Society (YATFS) Show and Auction
Contact Curt Smith (330) 824-2653
- October 5 Medina Auction, Wadsworth, Ohio
Contact Earl Steffensen (330) 896-3314
- October 19 YATFS Auction
Contact Curt Smith (330) 824-2653
- Ongoing Reptile Swaps at Palace Inn in Monroeville, PA
Contact Herb Ellerbach (412) 361-0835

GPASI Marketplace

Laura and Ross Cronkhite have some **tanks to sell**. (412) 233-0996 or lauross@libcom.com:

Larry Brown wants to **buy some long-finned oscars**. Please call (304) 797-0503.

Walter Roth has **plastic bags to sell in 100 count packages**. Sizes are 6 x 12", 8 x 15", 10 x 20". Call (724) 449-9651.

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.

Attention: Newsletter Exchange

If you are the newsletter exchange liaison for another aquarium club, you are receiving this hard copy issue as an announcement of our new on-line newsletter exchange opportunity. You can find recent issues of *Finformation* on-line in MSWord format, ready for you to easily copy print-ready articles you would like to re-print in your club's newsletter. Please go to this URL:
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Remember to send the *Finformation* editor two copies of the reprint:

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c/o Jean Grace
360 S. Pacific Avenue
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Shene's Killies	http://shene.killi.net	(724) 449-9651
That Fish Place	www.thatpetplace.com	
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Walt's Water World	4151 Grandview Dr., Gibsonia	(724) 449-9651
West Hills Pet Center	West Hills Shopping Center, 925 Broadhead Road, Moon Township	(412) 262-2220
Wet Pets and Friends	Waterdam Commons, Rt. 19, McMurray	(724) 942-4442

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April 2003