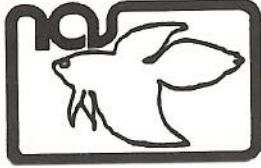
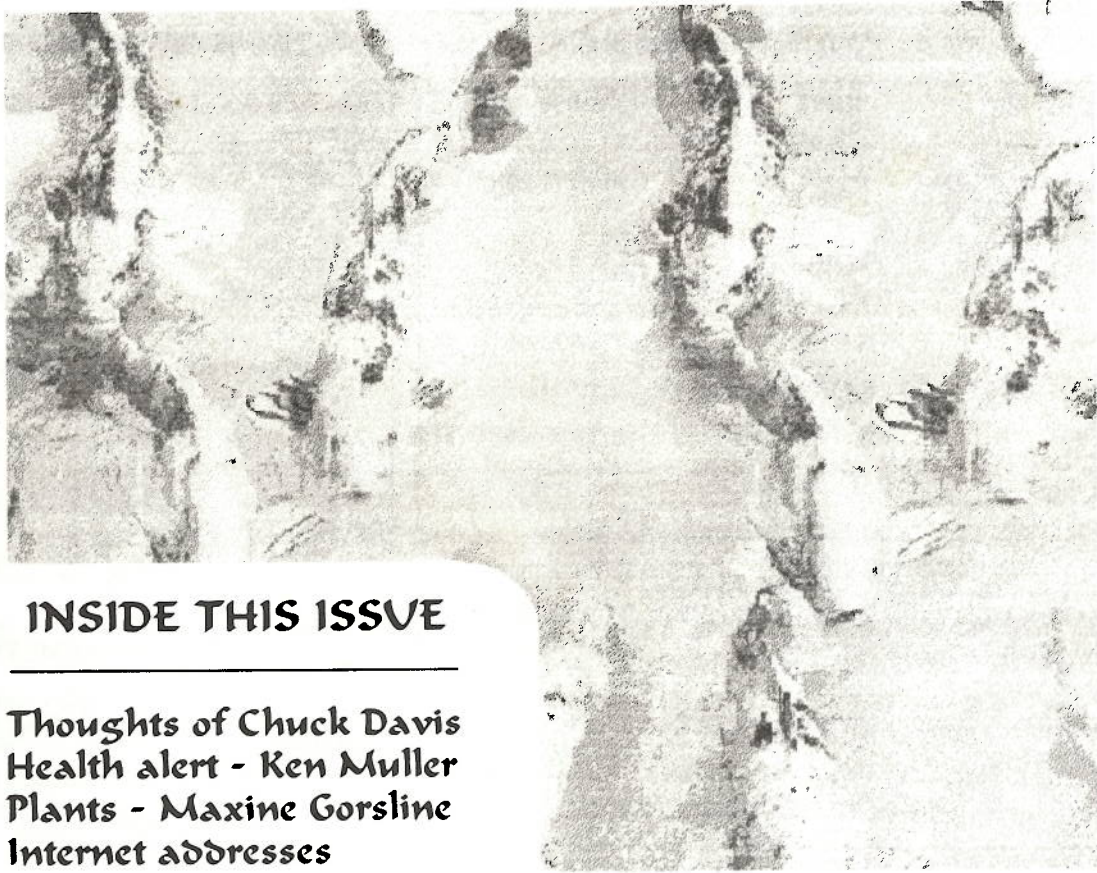


THE WET PET GAZETTE

November 1996



Volume 1 Issue 2



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Thoughts of Chuck Davis
Health alert - Ken Muller
Plants - Maxine Gorsline
Internet addresses
and more

photo by Mark Broadmeyer

The Journal of
The Norwalk Aquarium Society

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The views expressed in this publication are the views of the author(s), and are not necessarily the views of The Norwalk Aquarium Society, its Officers, Directors, or Editorial staff.

We reserve the right to reject any article which are in our opinion is offensive, and/or does not promote the hobby.

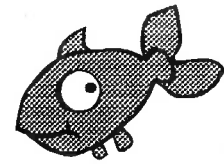
WET PET GAZETTE EXCHANGES

Norwalk Aquarium Society gladly exchanges its publication with other societies that send their publication to us. We publish nine issues a year. We send our exchange copies as bulk mail in March, June, and November

Requests and publications should be sent to:
Exchange Editor
Norwalk Aquarium Society
P.O. Box 84
South Norwalk, CT 06856



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AFFILIATIONS

N.A.S. IS A MEMBER OF THE FEDERATION OF AMERICAN AQUARIUM SOCIETIES (FAAS) AND THE NORTHEAST COUNCIL OF AQUARIUM SOCIETIES, INC. (NEC)

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Norwalk Aquarium Society is a not for profit, all volunteer organization, dedicated to the advancement, and promotion of the Aquarium hobby

REGULAR MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

There are regular meetings on the third Thursday of each month except December. Meetings are held at The Nature Center for Environmental Activities, 10 Woodside Lane, Westport, CT. Meetings start at 8:00 PM. Each meeting includes a short business meeting, program or event, door prizes, raffles, auction, and refreshments. All regular meetings are open to the public.



A VIEW FROM UPFRONT

ED KATUSKA
NAS PRESIDENT

I would like to start off with a big round of applause for our new Wet Pet editor, Mark Broadmeyer. Mark has made many new changes in the format of the Wet Pet Publication, as you can see. The publication is sent out to over two hundred sister clubs and societies. We invite you to write articles for the Wet Pet and share your knowledge and experiences with others. Looks great Mark, keep up the good work.

The annual show and auction are now behind us. Another success story for the history books. Last month's Wet Pet Gazette listed all the winners. Congratulations to all.

Sandy Drobish was awarded the Unsung Hero Award. This award is bestowed by the Board of Directors, at their discretion, to a member who has gone above, and beyond the call of duty. Sandy did a great job as as the editor of the Wet Pet. Good luck to Rich and Sandy in Arizona.

The annual elections will be held at the November meeting. All are requested to attend. The leadership of the club has been handling many of the jobs that would normally be handled by other members. This has put a strain on jobs being completed on time or with the care they should be given. We can only do so much. Volunteers to help this club operate are greatly needed.

The annual holiday party will be held in January, 1997. Anne Broadmeyer will be chairing the event. The date, time, and location will be announced shortly.



FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR

MARK BROADMEYER
WET PET GAZETTE EDITOR

Have you ever noticed how many times an individuals name is listed in the Who's Who page in the Wet Pet. If not stop reading this, and go look. If the plan went according to schedule, a name would probably only be listed once, and there would be far more names. If it wasn't for the dedicated volunteers listed in the inside cover, this club would no longer exist. They have been given the responsibility by their predecessors to see that this organization, and the foundation for which it was formed, not only continue, but grow as well. The trend in most clubs seems to be that only a few are expected to do it all, as if they are somehow required to serve the rest of the members. Is it true, that the dedicated volunteers who do all of the work, have no life? Of course they do. They also would like to spend time with their families. Unfortunately their time, which is just as valuable as yours, is eaten up, by doing jobs that you should be volunteering for. Great leadership means nothing without the support of the members in getting the job done. It is not fair to lay blame for things not getting done on the leadership of the organization, but on those who don't volunteer to help, or who don't follow through, when everyone is counting on them.

Its hard to lead a volunteer organization, you can't demand anything of anybody. You can't fire someone for not doing their job. You want to remain friends, that's why we are here. Yet, you have chosen a leader to make sure things get done, but he can't do much if you don't follow through. A club leader almost has to decide, that in order to be effective, he has to stop being friends, and be the boss. That is very hard to do. The best way to avoid making that choice is for you to volunteer, and follow through with your commitment. If the leadership has to do it all, they are going to burn out, and *then there will be none*. I expect to see some new names in Who's who real soon.



MARK



PROGRAMS, PROGRAMS, PROGRAMS

ANNE BROADMEYER - PROGRAMS CHAIRPERSON

I promised you the results of the survey y'all filled out in September. It seems there is a lot of interest in building! How to build a Fish Room, How to build an Aquarium, How to prepare live foods. The next popular subject was CICHLID'S - that's a pretty broad topic but some focus was on Lake Tanganyika.

Many thanks to Dan Katz for an excellent program. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend - but I heard I missed a great program.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

December MERRY CHRISTMAS. No meeting

January 16, 1997 Home Show Program and Awards. This is your opportunity to view the home tanks which are entered in the November Home Show Contest. (Hint. Show your tank in November and the program will be spectacular!!!!)
Mark Keitel and Joe Canna will be masters of ceremony.

February 21, 1997 Dr. Pete's Fix-it Night by Pete Schaumberg of the Salty Society. Pete visited us about a year ago and you all were so interested in his program that he only got half way through! In this program he will show how to fix many items in the hobby.

March 20, 1997 Collecting in South America by Jim Carmark from Massachusetts. Jim has been keeping fish for over 30 years and been collecting in South America for the last ten.

THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE



November

1996

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 NJAS WW	2 NJAS WW
3 NJAS WW	4	5	6	7 NAS BOD	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 ALAS AUCTION	18	19	20	21 NAS MEET	22 OCA SHOW	23 OCA SHOW
24 OCA SHOW	25	26	27	28	29	30

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP RATES

ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES
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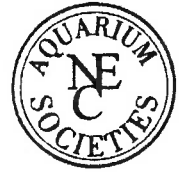
JUNIOR	5.00
FAMILY	17.00
NAME BADGE	5.00

SEND TO:

JOE CANNA
NAS MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
492 OAK AVE
CHESHIRE, CT 06410

CONTEST

LOGO CONTEST RULES FOR THE NEC's 22nd ANNUAL CONVENTION



- 1) Artist must be a member of an NEC club.
- 2) Entry must be an original drawing. (Never used before)
- 3) Entry must be submitted by the artist. Please send two copies of each entry, one signed and one not signed.
- 4) The design should follow the theme of this years banquet, Costume Party, and be submitted in black and white. We also recommend the artist submit a copy of the entry using four colors in the design. (Black outlining, if used, counts as one color)
- 5) The winning logo, as decided at the December NEC meeting, will appear on the cover of the Annual Convention program and on the AC T-shirts, and may be used in all 22nd AC publicity.
- 6) The winner will receive a free T-shirt and free registration for the 22nd Annual Convention.
- 7) The deadline is December 1, 1996. All entries must be in the hands of an AC Committee member by this time. You may mail your entry(s) to Janine Banks / RR 3 Box 1548 / Hinesburg, VT 05461.

ELECTION NOTICE



The Annual Election of the Officers and
Directors of
The Norwalk Aquarium Society
will be held

November 21, 1996

8:00 PM

at the Regular Meeting held at
The Nature Center For Environmental
Activities

10 Woodside Lane, Westport at 8:00 PM .

DON JOHNSON APPOINTED



NORWALK AQUARIUM SOCIETY MEMBER **DON JOHNSON** HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY MARK BROADMEYER, THE NEC PRESIDENT, TO HEAD UP THE NEW **NEC SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE**. THE COMMITTEE IS CHARGED WITH FINDING WAYS TO MORE EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT THE NEC'S FUNCTION OF PROMOTING THE TROPICAL FISH HOBBY AND, STRENGTHENING ITS MEMBER CLUBS. DON IS ALSO AN NEC DIRECTOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE NEC LEGISLATION COMMITTEE.

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WHAT'S ON THE CALENDAR

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---|
| NOVEMBER | 1-3 | NORTH JERSEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY WEEKEND EXTRAVAGANZA ALL SPECIES SHOW AND WORKSHOP - 2 GIANT AUCTIONS - BANQUET
CALL DORI 201-432-1042 |
| | 7 | NAS BOARD MEETING - SAL SILVESTRI HOME |
| | 17 | AQUALAND AQUARIUM SOCIETY AUCTION - BONNIE ACRES, BRISTOL CT |
| | 22-24 | OHIO CICHLID ASSOCIATION'S 11TH ANNUAL NORTHEAST OHIO CICHLID EXTRAVAGANZA - CICHLID AND SCAVENGER SHOW AUCTION SPLIT 70/30
CALL MARK DEWERTH 216-816-0125 |
| DECEMBER | 5 | NAS BOARD MEETING - ED KATUSKA HOME |
| | 8 | NORTHEAST COUNCIL OF AQUARIUM SOCIETIES 2nd QUARTER MEETING
FARMINGTON MARRIOTT HOTEL |
| 1997 | | |
| JANUARY | 12 | NEC BOD MEETING, YORK STEAK HOUSE, AUBURN, MA |
| FEBRUARY | 2 | NORWALK AQUARIUM SOCIETY'S BENEFIT AUCTION FOR THE N.C.E.A. |
| | 16 | PIONEER VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY ANNUAL AUCTION, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL, ENFIELD, CT |
| MARCH | 5 | NEC 3rd QUARTER MEETING , FARMINGTON MARRIOTT HOTEL |
| | 9 | EXOTIC FISH SOCIETY OF HARTFORD ANNUAL AUCTION, UCONN MEDICAL CENTER, FARMINGTON, CT |
| | 15 | NEW ENGLAND KILLIFISH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BOWL SHOW |
| | 30 | MAINE STATE AQUARISTS SOCIETY AUCTION |
| APRIL | 11-13 | NORTHEAST COUNCIL OF AQUARIUM SOCIETIES 22nd ANNUAL CONVENTION - HARTFORD MARRIOTT HOTEL, FARMINGTON, CT - 11 SPEAKERS - ANNUAL AWARD BANQUET - AUCTIONS - MFG'S DISPLAYS -
CALL JANINE BANKS 802-482-3616 |
| | 27 | BOSTON AQUARIUM SOCIETY ANNUAL EVENT, WEYMOUTH ELK'S HALL |
| MAY | 2-4 | TROPICAL FISH CLUB OF BURLINGTON, ANNUAL SHOW AND AUCTION, BURLINGTON, VT CALL JANINE BANKS 802 482-3616 |
| | 18-20 | AQUALAND AQUARIUM SOCIETY 24th ANNUAL SHOW AND AUCTION, BONNIE ACRES, BRISTOL, CT |



JUST A THOUGHT I HAD....

BY



CHUCK DAVIS
Norwalk Aquarium Society

It happened to me again. Somebody says, "I hear you are into fish!" and that is followed by, "Me too, fly fishing mostly, but once in awhile I like to troll a 'hula-popper' for large mouth bass."

Fish is a funny word. It has so many meanings other than those scaly things: a person can be a fish - an odd fish or poor fish - or just a new guy, or a poor card player that doesn't know the game. But the word fish has fostered many a slang phrase. Here are some that come to mind:

DRINK LIKE A FISH

FISH OUT OF WATER

NEITHER FISH NOR FOWL

OTHER FISH TO FRY

TO FISH THROUGH SOMETHING

FISH FOR A COMPLIMENT

FISH THAT OUT OF THERE

FISH IN TROUBLED WATERS

FISH OR CUT BAIT

LOOKING THROUGH A FISH-EYE

HANDSHAKE LIKE A DEAD FISH

FISH AND CHIPS

FISH BELLIED

FISHING EXPEDITION

FISH STORY

FISH TALE

FISH WIFE

And of course there is always the former Secretary of State - Hamilton Fish.

"So, I hear you're into fish! Me too. Fresh or saltwater?"

"Mostly freshwater."

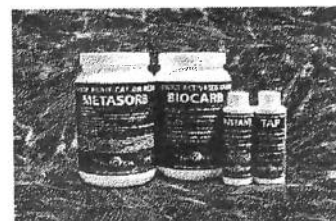
"Not me, I'm into salt. Yellowfin tuna is my favorite, course I wouldn't mind a sailfish or a big stripper."

"Why me?"



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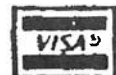


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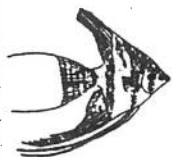
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The Internet World Wide Web has taken the world by storm. Each month we publish addresses of aquarium hobby related sites. Have you found an interesting site you would like to share? Send us the the address.

TRY USING A SEARCH ON ONE OF THE SEARCH ENGINES

<http://www.yahoo.com>
<http://www.altavista.com>
<http://www.webcrawler.com>
<http://www.lycos.com>

THERE ARE MANY OTHERS SEARCH FOR THEM



Here are a few more aquatic sites:

FISH CLUBS CENTRAL
<http://www.mindspring.com/%7Embarnett/clubs.html>
U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
<http://www.fws.com>
WINDOWS TO THE SEA MARINE AQUARIUM
SOCIETY -NEW JERSEY
<http://www.gate.net/~tbc/windows.html>

WORD JUMBLE

U P E L E L I

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NEW PRODUCTS UPDATE

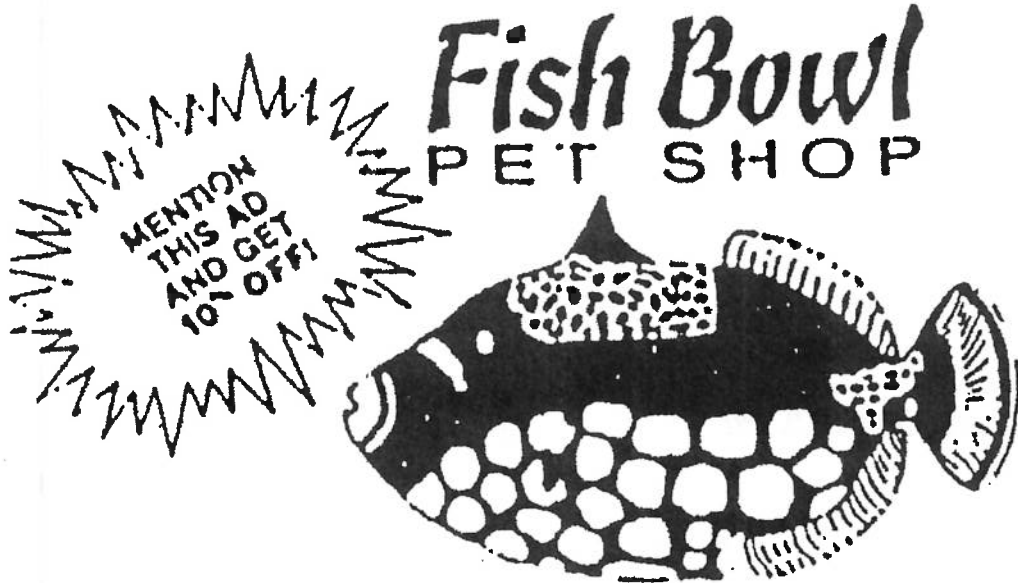
Biotope ML has just announced the worlds first foam fractionating and UV sterilization filter for freshwater. Foam fractionating of freshwater systems has been, until now, not effective enough for the sole support of freshwater system. This new unit is capable of removing copious amounts of protein from freshwater. The optional Ultraviolet technology available from biotope provides the equivalent of 12 - 30 watt standard UV sterilizers in a 1 foot bulb. The kill diameter around the bulb is 6". conventional UV's have a kill range of 1".

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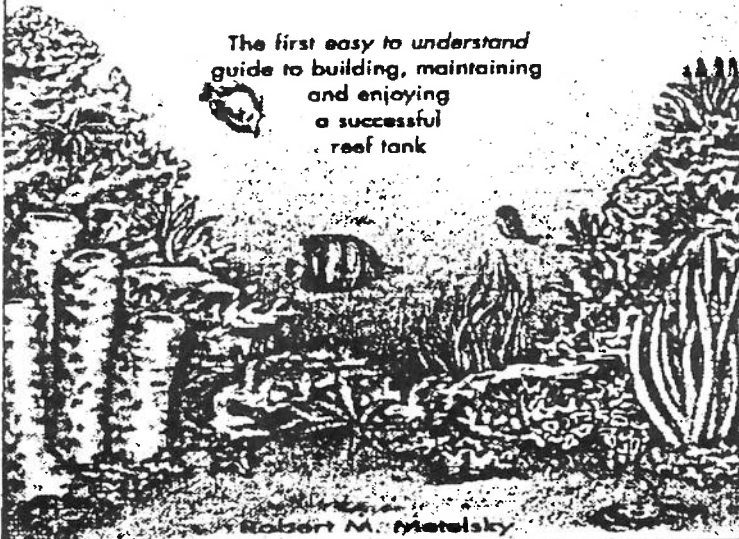
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Are You Into Your Hobby or Is Your Hobby Into You?

by Ken Muller

In the past few years of being in the tropical fish hobby, I have referred to the hobby as a disease more than I have referred to it as a hobby. You know the symptoms, first you get one tank, then another, and another, until finally your place of residence is cluttered with your disease (hobby). Well many people refer to this as "getting into your hobby" and it was not until I read an article on problems some people have with bloodworms did I realize that the information I will soon reveal may be relevant to more than just a few concerned hobbyists.

In the past several months I have been to four doctors about a sore on my hand that has lasted for over one and a half years. I also had a lump in my right biceps that also concerned me. I will describe the lump since the sore on my hand and now a second lump followed the same pattern. I first notice a sharp annoying pain when moving my elbow and soon discovered a soft lump about one and a half inches in diameter above the muscle in my right biceps. This concerned me so I made an appointment with a doctor about my hand and arm. It was two weeks before I could get an appointment and by the time I got to the doctor the lump had risen to the surface and looked like a pimple. It was about 1/2 an inch in size and hard. The doctor said he was not concerned about the lump since I had no lumps in my glands. The sore on the hand was thought to be fungal. A scraping was taken of the hand and sent to the lab for analysis in the meantime it was burned with acid. On the follow up visit to the doctor I asked about the lab report. I was told that it was not fungal and no further information was available. This attitude by the doctor influenced my decision never to see him again. After six weeks from the initial visit, a second lump appeared just above the elbow. This one was extremely painful and an appointment with a different doctor was sought. I told him about the previous lump, hand and my hobby. He prescribed a broad spectrum antibiotic and request I return in a week. The next week I return and the new lump was no longer hurting but had risen to the surface. After a thorough examination for more lumps, the

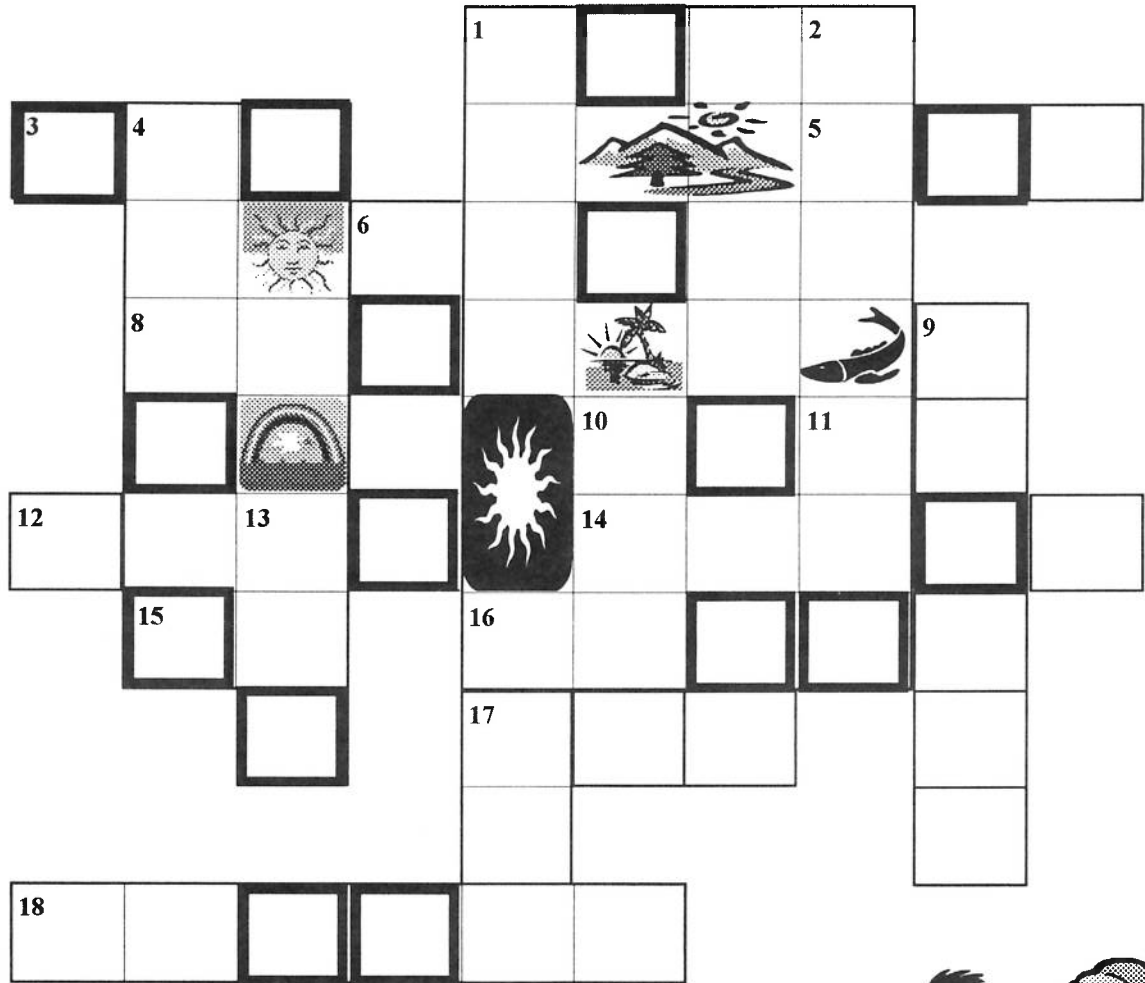
doctor left the room for several minutes. Upon his return, I learned that he had been researching his medical books during the evenings at home and stated that there are about five disease a human can contract from fish. Although his books did not contain any pictures, he thought I might have *Mycobacterium marinum*, fish tuberculosis. I asked about the cure and he said that his books recommended over twelve methods of treatment. This meant there was no sure method of treatment. The body fights of the disease my blocking it off from the rest of the body but it unable to destroy it. The most recommended method is surgical removal and external treatment with antibiotics. He recommended a dermatologist for confirmation of his diagnosis. I went to the dermatologist and after quick visit he stated that he was 95% sure it was not *Mycobacterium marinum* and that the two lumps were probably two different problems. They were probably fatty tumors. He sent me to a surgeon to perform the biopsies. The surgeon removed the lumps and sent them to the lab for analysis. I returned ten days later for the removal of stitches and the lab report. The surgeon said the pathologist was excited when he called with the report. I indeed had *Mycobacterium marinum* and I was the right. I knew I should have taken pictures. The royalties alone could have helped to offset the doctor bills. I have returned to the doctor that originally diagnosed my disease. I'm starting a six to eight week period in which I will be taking antibiotics that have some side effects. The first may cause liver disorder and the second distortion of vision. I have spent over \$1000 dollars between lab work, x-rays, doctors, surgery and medicine and more to come. If I had only known about this disease sooner I could have saved some of that money and brought a few more tanks.



"This material was obtained from CompuServe's FISHNET computer information service."



WORD SEARCH

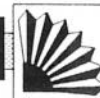


ACROSS	DOWN
1 CICHLID FIGHT FOR	1 BABY SAVER
3 FISH GO ___ FOR LIVEFOOD	2 BABY FISH
5 FISH EGGS	4 FISH SIGN
6 HYBRID GUPPY	6 THE WHOLE BUNCH
8 MUD ___ PER	7 FUNNY LOACHES
10 HEAVED	9 HOBBYIST
12 NET SPACING	10 TYPE OF ALGAE
14 SHOW PRIZE	11 HOLDING TANK
15 AMAZON CONTINENT ABBR.	13 YOLK ___
16 8 TO A GALLON	16 SLENDER CICHLID
17 DEDUCT HOBBY EXPENSE TO	
18 WATER PURIFIER	



by
CHUCK DAVIS
Norwalk Aquarium Society

BOLD BOX LETTERS
SCRAMBLE THE NAME OF A
FAVORITE CLUB



SURFACE AREA - An Important Consideration

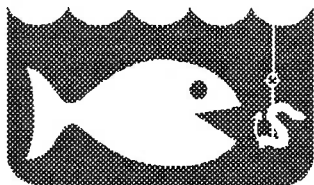
One of the most important concepts to understand as an aquarist is the relationship between the exchange of oxygen in the water and the area of water exposed to the 'air' or atmosphere. To quell many misconceptions, items like air stones do very little to regenerated oxygen into the aquarium water below the surface. How they do help is by causing the surface water to move and thereby exchange oxygen for carbon dioxide and other gases. So, as you can imagine, the more surface area of water you have moving, the greater the exchange of gases, both coming and going in aquarium water. And it only follows then that a tank, aquarium, pond or pool with more surface area will be able to support more aquatic life.

This is important when you are thinking about purchasing a new fish tank. Consider the space you have available for the aquarium, and purchase a tank that fits that space with the most surface area. For example: you have a space you would like to put a fish tank set-up in that measures 50 inches in length and

20 inches in useable depth. The first tank size that may come to mind is a 55 gallon (48"X12"). This tank has a surface area of about 576 square inches. Now consider a 50 gallon aquarium (36"X18"), which will support more fish though it is approximately 5 gallons smaller, because the surface area of this tank is 648 square inches.

This concept has fostered the term "Breeder tanks". These are aquariums that have a large surface area in comparison to the gallonage of the tank. Common breeder tank sizes are (in inches) 36L x 18W x 12H (36 gal.-s 648 sq.in.); 48L x 24W x 12H (60 gal Vs 1,152 sq. in.); and 48L x 12W x 12H (30 gal. Vs 576 sq. in.). Breeders use these tanks to stock juvenile fish, because they can hold a lot of fish in a relatively compact space - flat space, so they can be stacked 4, 5, & 6 high on a rack.

This same principle can apply to bagging fish too. Leave plenty of air/oxygen space in the bag. Also, the longer the bag time, increase the surface area as much as possible.



by
CHUCK DAVIS
Norwalk Aquarium Society



SLITHER AND SWIM



EXOTIC FISH AND REPTILE EMPORIUM

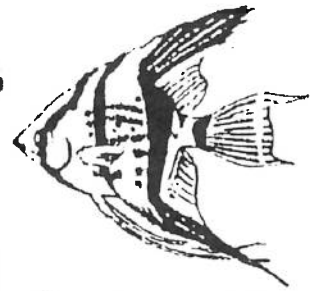
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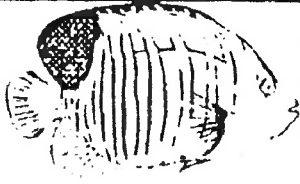
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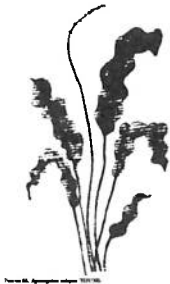
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EDITOR'S PLANT RECOMMENDATIONS



Anubias Nana
drawing by Karen Randall



apontageton crispus



Anubias Barteri
drawing by Karen Randall

Three Plants That Are Easy To Grow

Maxine Gorsline

We, as fish hobbyists, are always striving for a beautiful aquarium environment with the right balance of gravel, fish, and forever thriving plants. (Of course at the same time always thinking of a larger tank, and/or more tanks, a few rare fish would be great, and last but not least, live plants that survive.) How many times have you bought a beautiful aquarium plant from a fish store only to find it slowly decay in your aquarium, leaving a big mess of floating dead leaves to be cleaned up?

I've found three plants that do quite nicely and reproduce with no difficulties which you might like to try in your own aquariums.

1. *Microsorium pteropus* - Java Fern. This beautiful plant comes from India, Java, and South America. It has bright green leaves but the leaves do tend to turn brown as new plants are formed on the parent leaves. (I'm assuming the new plants take the nourishment from the original leaf). It is a plant with roots that like to attach itself to rocks, wood, gravel, filter tubes, etc. It has survived and reproduced at 74 to 84 degrees. When cared for properly, it is quite beautiful and makes a super addition to any aquarium.

2. *Vesicularia hubyana* - Java Moss. This plant is not considered to be a floating plant, rooted, nor a typical bunch plant. It is of the moss family. Java Moss originates from Java, Malaysia, and tropical Asia. I wish I could explain how it reproduces but I don't know for sure and cannot find any satisfactory information on it. It's one of those plants that seem to double in very little time. It's a great medium for fry to hide. As long as it's in a clean aquarium and doesn't collect dirt, etc., which inhibits growth and can kill it, the moss prospers well. It has done fine in 75 to 82 degrees.

3. *Ceratopteris thalictroides* - Water Sprite. We started out with a clump of water sprite about the size of a 50 cent piece approximately 6 month ago. We now have the plants in over 20 aquariums. It grows and prospers in temperatures ranging from 72 to 85 degrees. Once water sprite starts multiplying (baby plants grow from the leaves of the adult plant) there is no stopping it. Water sprite comes from Old World tropical regions. If you have difficulty keeping plants alive I highly recommend water sprite. It is almost impossible to kill. This plant does have roots and can either be submerged or used as a floating plant.

Reprinted from the February 1987 -Kitsap Aquarian-
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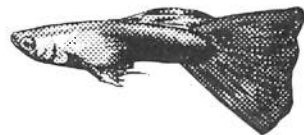
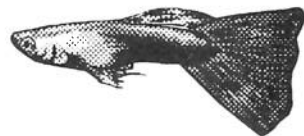
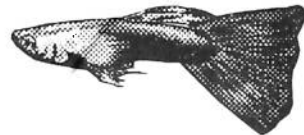
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