



Louisville Tropical Fish Fanciers, Inc. is a non-profit society of hobbyists interested in the keeping of tropical fish and plants. It is the area's only all variety aquarium club covering tropical and cold fresh water, brackish, and marine fish in aquaria and outdoor ponds. The monthly meetings are the second Sunday of each month at 6:30 at the Immanuel United Church of Christ, 2300 Taylorsville Rd Louisville, Kentucky 40205.

Board of Directors:

President..... *Sandy Heckman* [s.heckman@outlook.com]

Vice President *Chris Stith* []

Senior Board Member *John Campbell* [jkcjohn@gmail.com]

Senior Board Member *Aaron Riley* [amrile03@gmail.com]

Secretary..... *Sherry Lindle* [sherrylindle@ymail.com]

Treasurer **Rusty Wessel** [rusty@wesselinsurance.com]

Editor **Timothy Stone** [ThePoultryFarm@yahoo.com]

President's Address

Sandy Heckman

First, I would love to thank everyone for electing me as President of LTFF by such a wide margin. I truly appreciate the faith you have in me and I intend to take the office of the club president to a new level, pulling from my experience as a veteran club member and long term senior board member.

I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you at the first meeting of the year with Jim Cumming speaking.

We have some truly exciting things planned for the club and I look forward to being part of them.

I also would like to thank Tim Hopkins for launching our new website <https://louisvilletropicalfish.org/>

Tim has really brought us into the 21st century with his tireless endeavors.

It's very cool to be part of a club with so many great people and I really appreciate everyone's support. Happy Fishkeeping!

We Want YOU!



LTFF is currently looking for an auction chair. We are in the process of bringing our auctions into the 21st century and would love either a short term or long-term auction chair. Please email Rusty Wessel if you are interested in this exciting position.

All members are welcome to attend our board meetings as well. If you want to get involved, reach out to any board member. We want to see you!

Upcoming Events:

January 12th

Jim Cumming on Fish
of Madagascar and
India 6:30-9:30

February 9th

Dre Alvarez on
Aquarium Plants

March 8th

John Krepper on the
exciting cichlids of Lake
Tanganyika

***Want your own article
published in The
Scavenger?***

Copy and paste your
content into an Email
to the editor (No
attachments)

Haves and Wants:

To have your own haves and wants placed here, please email the editor whose information appears on page one.

Haves

For Sale Limia sp "Tiger" adults contact Tim Stone
ThePoultryFarm@yahoo.com

For Sale Contact D Brown LDBrown3138@yahoo.com
Rainbows : M. parva 1", M. affinis Pagwi 1", M. splendida inornata
Coomalie Crater 2", G. multisquamata Pagai 1", G. doryti 1"
Livebearers: A. splendens (Offspring of 2019 ALA best of show,) C.
peraticus, C. audax Toboso, X variatus

Wants

Wanted Guppies contact Brandy P k9sar06@hotmail.com

Wanted Rusty Cichlids Lodotropheus sprengerae Alex R
j.swoose@gmail.com

***Add your own species for sale or wanted by emailing the editor
whose email address is listed at the top of page two.***

Winter Blues: We are Halfway to Spring

Tim Stone

We are nearing the middle of January and the short days coupled with the low winter sun are not making things easy for those of us who like to spend most of our leisure time outdoors. I'm not sure about you, but it is already that time where I occasionally go to my summer outdoor fish breeding area and stare in anguish at the pitiful sight: once lush plants are now brown and dormant, some tubs are half empty, some are overturned. All are devoid of life, spare the occasional tadpole. It is one of the worst times to be a fish keeper this far north. I have been working on improving my fishroom as I try to do every winter, but my frequent piddling does little to ameliorate my growing desire to get some fish moved outside. Everything does better outdoors – even guppies will grow to sizes seldom seen indoors, simply by being moved to an outdoor 110-gallon tub. I'm afraid the time has come for

a few excursions south: Florida, Texas, and perhaps even Mexico are all destinations we all need to reach to help show us that this cold and dreary weather is only a temporary condition. Trips south offer such a great chance to recharge, get into some warm water, take some warm and sunny photographs, and reconnect with friends who we only see during this time of year. There are many great fish clubs all over Florida and Mexico, all chock full of amazing hobbyists who quickly become lifelong friends. I really implore each and every one of you to look into lining a fish club meeting up with a trip south, the Tampa Bay Aquarium Society and the Gold Coast Aquarium Society (Ft Lauderdale) are great options. We all have to do what it takes to get through these winters, but fear not – spring will be here before we know it!

Decision 2019: Election Results

LTFF conducted the 2019 election at the holiday party in December. The results are as follows:

28 people voted in the 2019 election. The winners are in **bold**.

President:

24 Sandy Heckman/4 Morris Spillman

Vice President:

26 Chris Stith

Secretary:

26 Sherry Lindle

Treasurer:

26 Rusty Wessel

Editor:

26 Tim Stone

Membership:

26 Nathan Callaway

Junior Board Member:

26 Hawthorn Carson

Senior Board Member:

24 John Campbell; 23 Aaron Riley; 6 Dee Brown

Meet Dre, our February Speaker

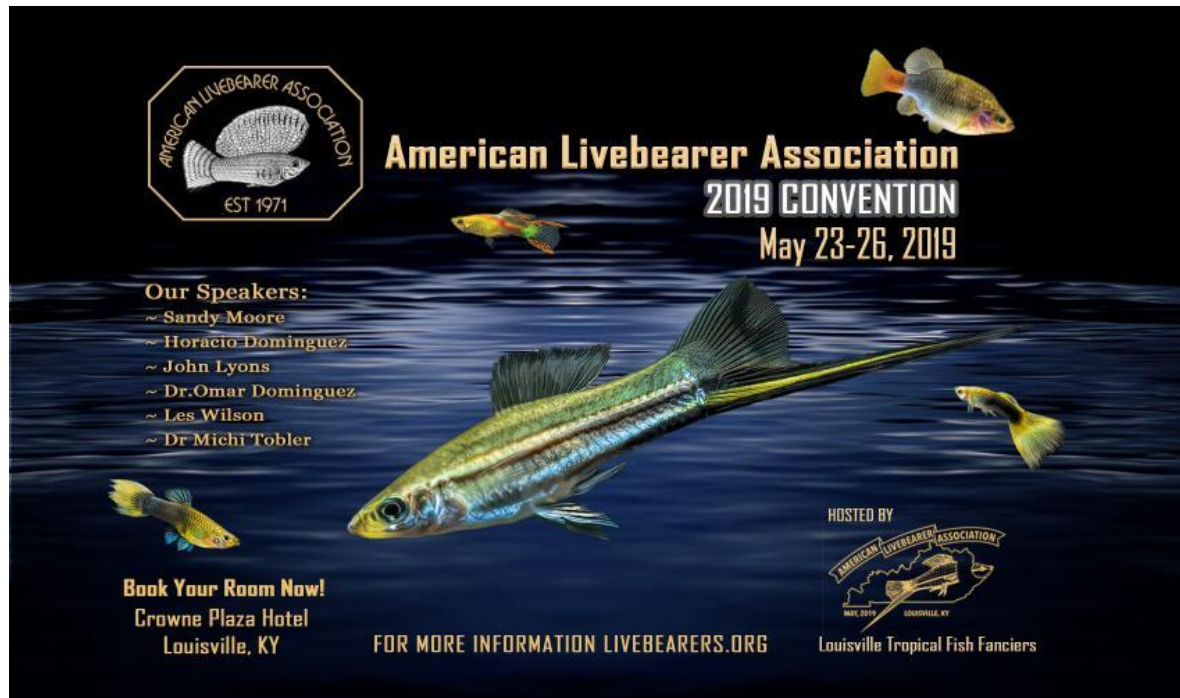
All are welcome to come learn about aquarium plants. Come see what we are about!

I have been an avid hobbyist over the past 10 years. I kept fish as a kid and in college but about 10 years ago I dove deep into the hobby. I joined my local club, Tampa Bay Aquarium Society (TBAS) and within a couple of years I was running for President and organizing major events for the club. I am the past Vice-president of the Florida Fancy Guppy Club and am currently the President of TBAS.

My involvement with the clubs lead me to a job with the Florida Tropical Fish Farmers Association's Coop Store. I managed the store for about 2 years from 2011-2013. While working there I developed connections with many tropical fish farms in the area. I then went to work for Nautilus Marine Wholesale as a sales rep. My love and knowledge of fish exploded there as I was introduced to species from all over the world. At the end of 2015 I left to try to pursue web development and website design. After 1.5 years I came back into the industry working at WaterScapes Aquatic Plant Nursery where I am currently the Sales Manager. I am in charge of all imported items, sourcing new local plants and some dry goods such as driftwood, and working on special projects.

I look forward to seeing everyone in February!

Dre



American Livebearer Convention 2019 Report

Rusty Wessel

In 2017 it was brought to my attention that my local club should consider hosting a livebearer convention. The Louisville Tropical Fish Fanciers had hosted not just one but two very successful

American Cichlid Association conventions (1992 and 2014). The 2014 convention was one of the highest attended conventions for a host club in United States and was the most profitable of any convention for the ACA. So, after some discussion with our members it was decided for us to bid and host a livebearer convention. We all knew the ALA was a much smaller convention but it was agreed we would put our best foot forward regardless of attendance. Fortunately, the board of directors for the ALA awarded the convention to Louisville

and uncharacteristically this was done well in advance of even the 2018 ALA convention. So, the game of sorts was ON at a very early date and it was time for the Louisville club to perform.

Just after receiving the bid, it was decided by the club to make our ALA something really special so we contacted Aqueon to negotiate a tank purchase to showcase the fine livebearers that we were expecting for the show. We wanted glass tanks with tight fitting lids so we negotiated a purchase of the small glass two and half gallon aquariums. It

did make a difference and the fish were displayed perfectly. Once the convention in Grand Rapids was complete, the Louisville club began the process of advertising (with Mo Devlin's assistance of a state-of-the-art advertisement) for the magazines and social media. Mo also handled the professional photos of the fish that were displayed at the show. Furthermore, for the first time the ALA provided a Kids Decorating Contest with the aquariums

donated by Aqueon and the fish donated by Segrest Fish Farms. Sandy Carson handled this duty and the kids all enjoyed a super afternoon decorating their new tanks. Hopefully these young kids become hobbyists of the future and from the smiles on their faces I believe they will.

If you have never attended a weekend event like the American Livebearer Association then I suggest plan on the next one. You won't be sorry and I can

guarantee you will go home with some spectacular fishes!

In case you have not heard you should plan on attending the next ALA convention being held in Ft Lauderdale on June 11-14, 2020 hosted by the Gold Coast Aquarium Society. It will be something special and a side trip to collect local escapees from the Florida fish Farms and natives is being coordinated. So, mark your calendar now.

Thanks to everyone listed below and to all of our sponsors.

Melissa Allen
Garland Bird
Chris Brown
Dwayne Brown
Mike Busch
Candice Champlin
Nathan Callaway
John Campbell
Sandy Carson
Mike Coleman
Mo Devlin
Forrest and Rachel
Dressing
Erwin Gundrum
Sherry Lindle
Jen Loftus
Bill Merkley
Nick Miller

Terry Riggs
Owen Rogers
Bill and Chris Schardein
Dave Smith
Chris Stith
Tim Stone
Mike Thompson
Gary Thomas
Pat Tosie
Rusty Wessel

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 Tim Stone
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