

Bluegrass Fishkeepers Association

The Splash

Spring 2021

Volume 01 Issue 03

The Splash is a quarterly publication of the Bluegrass Fish Keepers Association. The views and opinions contained within are not necessarily those of the editors and/or the officers and members of the Bluegrass Fish Keepers Association.

BFKA The Splash Interim Editor:
John Tyler
Bluegrassfishkeepers@gmail.com

The Splash submission guidelines for articles and art:

Please submit all articles, photos and art in electronic form. We can accept most popular software formats and fonts. Email to bluegrassfishkeepers@gmail.com. Photos and graphics are encouraged with your articles! Please remember to include the photo/graphic credits. Graphics and photo files may be submitted in any format, however uncompressed TIFF, JPEG or vector format is preferred, at the highest resolution/file size possible. If you need help with graphics files or your file is too large to email, please contact me for alternative submission info.
Next deadline..... Aug 01, 2021

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Upcoming Important Dates

All Dates are subject to change or be cancelled due to local regulations and conditions of the pandemic please watch the Facebook group for up to date information on changes.

If you know of an event you would like added or want more information contact the editor

June 12-13 Aquashella Orlando
July 23-25 American Cichlid Association National Convention St Louis
July 29-31 Deep South Fancy Guppy Show Murfreesboro TN
July 30-31 Aquaticon Cave City, KY
August 14-15 Aquashella Chicago
September 3-5 MACNA Atlanta
September 11 Bluegrass Fish Keepers Association Swap
September 18 NWOAS Swap Maumee OH
September 24-26 Keystone Clash Morgantown, PA
September 26 Circle City Aquarium Club Auction Indianapolis
October 8-10 Catfish Cataclysm Madison WI
October 22-24 IFGA Show Chicago
October 22-24 American Livebearers Association National Convention. Coral Springs, FL
October 30-31 Aquashella Dallas
November 19-21 Ohio Cichlid Association Extravaganza

President's Message

This is a great time of the year to be into fish. Pandemic restrictions are beginning to lift across the country meaning more clubs are having meetings, swaps, conventions and all kinds of aquarium related events. Also with the weather warming people start looking to outdoor tubing and going to local waterways to collect decor and native species. I look forward to getting out of the house more and traveling to fish events and I hope we as a club can start bringing more events and activities to the bluegrass.

As we get more into warmer weather I understand people become busier with activities such as pools, gardens, vacations, and yard work. To help maintain the hobby and the interest in the worlds we create in these water filled glass boxes, we as a club want to continue to offer entertaining, educational, and exciting things to do. We are always open to suggestions and ideas from you all. We are always looking for hands on people to help with things. If you have an idea of something we should do or if you have a passion for something and think we might could incorporate it into the club let us know. For example, if you really enjoy writing maybe helping with the newsletter would be an option. We have a good group of people in our group and each of our abilities and knowledge will add up to a great club when we work together.

John Tyler
2021 President

Bluegrass. Fishkeepers
Association meets each 3rd
Saturday at 5pm at Lafayette
Church of the Nazarene in
Lexington, KY.

264 Lafayette Pkwy,
Lexington, KY 40503

Keep an eye of the Facebook
group for changes or special
events.

A Special Thanks to Our Speakers
This Quarter

Brandon May - March

Hudson Esnz - April

Ben Brammell - May

Breeders Award Program Standings

name	species	other	points	total points	title
Michael Gray	<i>Aphyosemion australe</i>		5	95	General Breeder
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	20		
	<i>Pterophyllum scalare</i>		10		
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	25		
	<i>Melanotaenia praecox</i>		10		
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	25		
	p. reticula		5		
Donna Dray-Fetters	L144		10	60	General Breeder
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	25		

	Neocaridina davidi		5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
			15		
	Anentome helena		5		
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
			20		
Brandon May	Ameca splendens		10	50	General Breeder
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	25		
	p. reticula		5		
	Caridina cantonensis		5		
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
			20		
Scott Breidert	Pomacea bridgesi		5		
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	20		

35

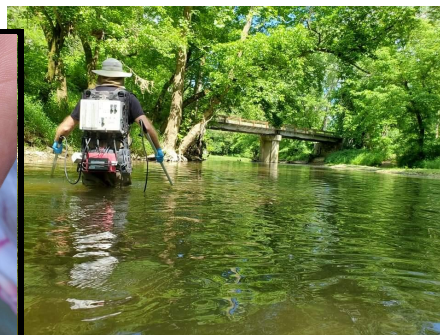
	Ancistrus sp. bristle nose common		10		
		1st species	5		
			15		
John Tyler	p. reticula		5	20	
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	20		
Andrew Callahan	danio rerio		5	20	
		1st family	5		
		1st genus	5		
		1st species	5		
		total	20		

Our Recent Events

Cookout



Native Collecting



Meet The Board

	President John Tyler alex_tyler@ymail.com		Vice President Mason Fish
	Treasurer Hudson Enszt Phone: 605-906-8110 Email: HUDSONENSZ@gmail.com		Secretary Donna Dray-Fetters
	Director at Large Will Branham		Director at Large Laurin Howard

Aquatic Species Surrender Program

In 2019 we started a program that we don't talk much about. It, however, is a program that is an important part of fulfilling our club's mission and we should bring a focus to it for those of you that aren't aware or may want to help with it. The Aquatic Species Surrender Program is a program where fish, aquatic plants or other aquatic species can be taken in no questions asked when their owner can no longer care for them.



Unfortunately, some misguided folks in our hobby purchase fish, plants, and other aquatic creatures and due to changing interests, moving, lack of knowledge, outgrowing their aquarium, etc. become unwanted. Regardless of reasons, they may end up being released into the wild. Needless to say, this is far from ideal, and in many cases cruel, because our local habitats don't fulfill the requirements for most aquarium animals.

The main reason behind this program is these unwanted animals and plants could become invasive or transmit diseases to our local species. While people may think they are doing the kind and right thing by releasing their pets into the environment, it is not a good choice. In the best-case scenario, the animals die. In the worst-case scenario, the fish may physically harm other organisms, spread disease to our native fauna, or, if it finds mates, it may become invasive. This is particularly true for some cool-water species, such as goldfish and koi.

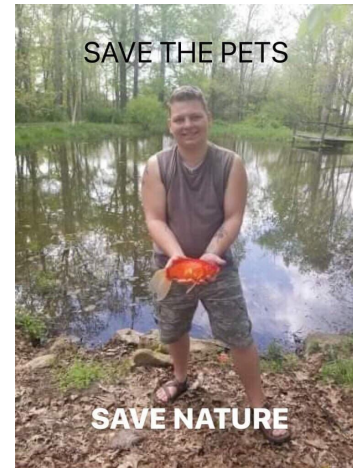
Regardless of what reason leads to release of non-native species into our environment, it reflects poorly on us as hobbyists. Whenever you are part of a group with distinct interests, the rest of the world thinks of you as a group, justified or not. Sure, you can argue that there are always a few black sheep or ignorant individuals, and most of us would never want to harm our native habitats. However, it is up to us—the organized hobbyists and engaged aquarists—to work in our own circles to prevent such releases. Who else should and could accept that responsibility? It is up to us to educate and help so that intentional release does not occur.

The tricky part is that, if this happens and leads to environmental or economic harm, then sooner (not later), someone will want or need to curtail our hobby. Even if the majority of us are

responsible and keep non-natives out of our ponds, lakes, and sewers, we are guilty by association, whether we like it or not.

From the above follows that the idea of accepting and containing unwanted aquatic life—no questions asked—and trying to re-home them if possible is really a no-brainer.

Any aquarium or pond fish or plant that is no longer wanted by someone needs to be re-homed or destroyed. Obviously, the former is the preferred method, and we actually have an easy tool at our disposal. Firstly each month at our meetings we have an auction. Any unwanted fish can be brought to the auction and surrendered there. And beyond the club meetings all you have to do is contact me at the email listed on the 1st page of this newsletter or contact any of our board members and we will help to get it to one of our volunteers and taken care of.



We built a network of volunteers across the state with a few contacts across the country and even a few international contacts that have agreed to be on a contact list to be a potential resource to help us find homes for these fish. If you would like to be added to this list or would like to get more information about the program or being one of the volunteers on the list just contact me.

It is up to us to not only take care of these fish but also to protect our native environments from these species. But moreover it is up to us to protect our hobby and its reputation, so that we can continue to enjoy the hobby.

***Want to share your
experience? Submit an
article by contacting the
editor. We want to hear
your stories.***



Aquarium

Swap Meet



WHAT

Aquarium swap meet featuring hard to find equipment, fish, plants, and other aquatic related items at great deals.

WHEN

Saturday September 11, 2021
10 am - 2 pm

WHERE

264 Lafayette Pkwy, Lexington, KY
40503

MORE INFO

Open to the public
Free admission
Family friendly event
Lots of experience and knowledge in one room

facebook



Website

For general inquiries and information
on vending, please email
bluegrassfishkeepers@gmail.com

