

The Official Publication of the St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society since 1958
Volume 23 No. 4 December 2010

The

SCAT

In This Issue :
Show Summary
Show & Auction Photos
Girardinus microdactylus
Breeding Cyphotilapia frontosa

scaas.info

Club Notes

Our Mission Statement: Meetings of the St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society are held on the first Monday of each month, 7.30 p.m., at the Seafarers & Teamsters Union Hall, 70 St. Davids Rd. E. Thorold, ON. No meetings are held on Mondays that are holidays. Those meetings are held on the second Monday. There are no meetings during the months of July and August. *The Society, established in 1958, is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to the task of promoting interest in the breeding, raising, maintenance and study of tropical fish, both at the beginner and advanced levels.* The St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society is a charter member of the Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs Inc. (CAOAC) <http://www.caoac.ca>. SCAAS is also a member of the Federation of American Aquarium Societies (FAAS) <http://www.faas.info>. More news and information about St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society can be found at <http://www.scaas.info>

Our next meeting will be held on December 06 at the Seafarers & Teamsters Union hall, 70 St. Davids Rd. E. Thorold. Start time is 7.30 pm ALL ARE WELCOME
This month's program will be our Christmas Social & potluck – see page 10

2009 – 2010 Executive

President – Tom Hillier - - - (905) 227-5008 tom.hillier@hotmail.com
1st Vice President – John Verhage – (905) 735-7776 jverhage@on.aibn.com
2nd Vice President – Bruce Hallett - (905) 934-7138
Secretary – Pam Danyluck - - (905) 562-3290 danyluck@sympatico.ca
Treasurer – Wally Ebert - - (905) 687-6907 lebert@cogeco.ca
Past President - Ken Brady - - (905) 935-4716 kbrady2@cogeco.ca

2010 – 2011 Committees

Aquatic Horticulture Awards Dave Unruh (905)684-9860
Archives - Tom & Pat Bridges - - (905) 735-3352 tp.bridges@sympatico.ca
Auction Coordinator – Tom Bridges
Auctioneer – open
Breeder Awards – Tom Bridges
CAOAC Representative – Tom Bridges
Editor - Dave Unruh (905) 684-9860 dunruh@cogeco.ca
Jar Show – Pat Shriner – - - (905) 354-1367 gpsriner@sympatico.ca
Library – Gary Phelps - - - (905) 563-6523
Library - Jeff Phelps - - - (905) 892-0248 nurselisa9611@gmail.com
Membership & Exchanges – Pat Bridges (905) 735-3352
Programs – Pam Danyluck - - - - - danyluck@sympatico.ca
- Tom Hillier - - - (905) 227-5008 - tom.hillier@hotmail.com
Press/publicity – Ken Brady - - (905) 935-4716 - kbrady2@cogeco.ca
Raffle & Draws – Priscilla Heus - (905) 988-9741
Refreshments – Shawn & Shirley Markowski - - - srogers33@cogeco.ca
Web Master - Ken Brady - - - - (905) 935-4716 kbrady2@cogeco.ca

Reprint Policy

Any not-for-profit organization may reprint articles from "The Scat" provided credit is given both to the author of the article and to the St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society (SCAAS) and that two copies of the reprinting publication are sent to: Exchange Editor, Pat Bridges 4 Crescent Dr. Welland, Ont. Canada L3B 2W5. Opinions or endorsements expressed in any article do not necessarily reflect the views of the SCAAS.

Membership Dues:

Family: \$ 25.00
Single - \$ 20.00
Junior - \$ 10.00 (under 16)
Seniors - \$ 10.00 (over 65)

Inside This Issue

Pg 2 - Club Notes, Executive & BOD
List, Membership Dues, Fish of the Month
Pg 3- Presidents Notes
Pg 4 – 7- Nov. minutes, Show & Auction photos
Pg 8- 9 – Show Summary
Pg 10 – SCAAS Food Drive
Pg 11 - Show Sponsor Thanks
Pg 12 – 13 – Breeding Cyphotilapia frontosa
Pg 15 - Girardinus microdactylus
Pg 16 - Scanning the Exchanges



Cover photo of
Dave Furness's male
Paratilapia polleni
© by Dave Unruh

**The Fish of the
Month for
December will be:
Swords, Platies &
Mollies**

President Message

October was a very busy month. We had our first show and auction in about 10 years and it was one of the largest shows of this year if not the largest. There was a lot of feed back from the people who were there, saying it was very good. Also asking when we were going to have our next one.

I would like to thank everyone who helped us, we could not have done this with out you. We had a lot of help from other clubs, in particular Albert from Hamilton Terry Little from Brantford. Dan Singerland, who is not a member, helped me get my fish ready. He also stayed all day and helped Pam with what ever she needed. Thank you all and thanks to our sponsors. I would also like to thank Big Als, The Tropical Fish Room, Rona Lumber, Zoo

Med and Metro Niagara Falls for their contributions to our show and auction.

Now on to December, Santa will be here even though this is his busiest time of year. He promised he would make a special trip to our club to see all our junior members and our older kids at heart with some presents.

As many of you know the food banks always need donations. We started taking food donations at our meetings and would like to continue to do so every month we meet. Last month's donations went to the Thorold food bank. We will pick another town for this month's donation, hopefully by June we will have covered most of the food banks in our area. Don't forget to bring a donation.

Tom

THANKS!

To everyone (too numerous to mention) who helped in any way at the October 31st show and auction – a **HUGE** thanks! The event went very well.

Sponsors, manufacturers and donators are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks have been delivered.



From the executive of SCAAS

Membership Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2010

Meeting commenced 7:42 pm.

Tom Hillier welcomed three guests to our meeting from the Hamilton Club.

Announced upcoming events

- Tropical Fish Club of Erie Auction November 7
- Peel Regional Aquarium Society Auction November 14
- Dinner on November 13 with Speaker Charlie Grimes
- Minutes of previous membership are in the November Scat
- Still finalizing the finances from the Show and Auction
 - Show Room brought in \$247
 - Raffle \$117
- Had one of the biggest shows this year with 200 entries
- Auction had over 500 items

Tom Bridges presented Breeding Award to Pam Danyluck for *Xiphophorus montezumae*
No Horticultural Awards to be presented
Program for the evening was by Bob Wright "Is Desert Fish an Oxymoron". Very interesting presentation on the Devil's Hole pupfish and others from that area of Nevada and the efforts to save them.

Break

Door prize and raffle winners were drawn

Patrick Shriner presented the jar show awards to Tom Hillier for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Meeting was adjourned after the evening auction at 9:45 pm.

submitted by Pam Danyluck

Rona

Building Supplies

St. Catharines

Please support our advertisers when you can



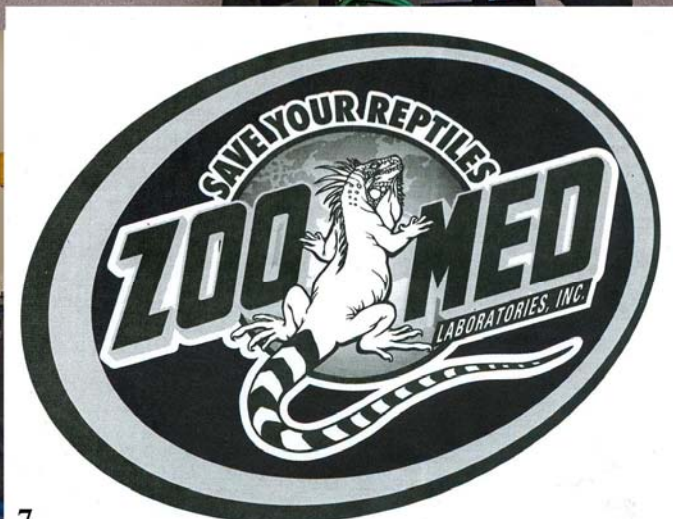
SCAAS SHow & Auction 2010 Photos

Photos courtesy of Zenin Skomorowsky









SCAAS OPEN SHOW REPORT SUMMARY

information courtesy of Terry Little

PART A - SPECIAL AWARDS

NAME	CLUB	AWARD CATEGORY	TOTAL POINTS (CAOAC USE)
Bob Hayslip	SCAAS	Best of Show	5
Patrick Shriner	SCAAS	Best Egglayer	
Shawn Austin	BAS	Best Livebearer	
Karl Baumgarten	LAS	Best Cichlid	
Barb Ireland	BAS	Best Catfish	
Barb Ireland	BAS	High Aggregate	
Brant Aquarium Society	BAS	Club High Aggregate	
Tom Hillier	SCAAS	SCAAS High Aggregate	

PART B - NAMES OF JUDGES AND APPRENTICES

Charlie Drew	Karl Baumgarten, app.
Brian Glazier	Ron Bishop, app.

NUMBER OF CLASSES: 35
NUMBER OF ENTRIES: 200
NUMBER OF ENTRANTS: 20
SHOW CHAIRPERSON: Dave Unruh, Tom Bridges
CLUB or SOCIETY: St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society
DATE of SHOW: October 31, 2010

PART C - ENTRANT STATISTICS

NAME	CLUB	number of 1 st places	number of 2 nd places	number of 3 rd places	TOTAL POINTS CAOAC USE
Barb Ireland	BAS				116
Karl Baumgarten	LAS				32
Tom Hillier	SCAAS				19
Dave Unruh	SCAAS				18
Nancy Egleton	LAS				18
Shawn Austin	BAS				13
Zenin Skomorowski	KWAS				13
Catherine Salmon	BAS				12
Bob Wright	LAS				12
Bob Hayslip	SCAAS				10
Tom & Pat Bridges	SCAAS				6
Pam Danyluck	SCAAS				5
Saima Kivinen	H&DAS				5
Patrick Shriner	SCAAS				5
Walter Murfin	BAS				3

Mike Milne	LAS				3
Dave Easingwood	SCAAS				1
Ken Brady	SCAAS				0
Jim Chalmers	SCAAS				0

PART D - CLASS STATISTICS

NAME of CLASS	no. of Entries	NAME of CLASS	no. of Entries
Angels & Discus	6	Dwarf Cichlids 4" & under	5
Large Cichlids	7	Mouthbrooding Rift Lake Cichlids	13
Substrate Rift Lake Cichlids	4	Corydoras Type Catfish	7
Suckermouth Catfish	8	A.O.V. Catfish	7
Sharks & Loaches	6	Betta Splendens Male	11
Betta Splendens Female	8	Any Other Anabantid	4
Swordtails	11	Platies	4
Mollies	2	Guppies Male	10
Guppies Female	9	A O V Livebearer	7
Barbs	6	Minnows, Danios, Rasboras	6
Tetras & Characins	9	Killifish	7
Rainbows	7	Goldfish & Koi	3
Marine & Brackish Fish	3	Livebearer Family	2
Egglayer Family	5	Aquatic Plants	6
Aquatic & Amphibious Animal	5	Tank or Bowl Beautiful	0
Junior Livebearer	0	Junior Egglayer	0
Novelty	4	Photographs	8
Egglayer AOV	3		

PART E - BETTA CLASS STATISTICS

NAME of CLASS Betta splendens Male	ENTRANT'S NAME	CLUB	POINTS CAOAC USE
1 st	Saima Kivinen	HDAS	5
2 nd	Tom Hillier	SCAAS	3
3 rd	Dave Easingwood	SCAAS	1

NAME of CLASS Betta splendens Female	ENTRANT'S NAME	CLUB	POINTS CAOAC USE
1 st	Catherine Salmon	BAS	5
2 nd	Catherine Salmon	BAS	3
3 rd	Tom Hillier	SCAAS	1



SCAAS's ongoing FOOD DRIVE

The food drive at SCAAS's recent event went well.

Tom Hillier is willing to take the contributions to local food banks each month.

If you'd like to contribute, bring a non-perishable food item to each meeting.

Please be sure to check the 'best before' dates and please, do not bring any items that have already been opened.

Thanks! 😊

Hi Everyone. Hope you are all looking forward to our December meeting. This month's meeting will be the Christmas Social and Potluck, and we are inviting your families and children to join you for the evening.

Of course there will be a special guest visitor for the children so please let me know, as soon as possible, how many children will be attending.

Everyone is asked to bring a favorite food or snack to share in the potluck. Drinks will be provided free of charge.

We will also be having the regular Christmas Members' Raffle. A little about the raffle for those who have never participated: each paid single member or family membership will be given free tickets. On the raffle table will be items purchased or donated by the club and some of its members, with a cup in front of each item. Place your ticket/s in the cup/s in the item/s you would like to win.

Also please remember to bring a nonperishable item for the monthly food donation.

Thanks,
Pam



THANKS!

TO THE SPONSORS, DONORS AND
CONTRIBUTORS AT OUR SHOW AND
AUCTION ON OCTOBER 31st.

<u>JERRY DRAPER</u>	<u>BIG AL'S HAMILTON</u>
<u>TOM, BRENDA & JENNIFER HILLIER</u>	<u>AMERICAN CICHLID ASSOCIATION</u>
<u>DAVE FURNESS</u>	<u>MARTIN MILLS</u>
<u>BRUCE HALLETT</u>	<u>TEAMSTERS UNION</u>
<u>DAVE UNRUH</u>	<u>LOCAL 879</u>
<u>BIKTIMIROV FAMILY</u>	<u>JUST ONE MORE BETTA</u>
<u>PHIL BARRETT</u>	<u>AQUA TERRA INC.</u>
<u>BOB & JULIE HAYSLIP</u>	<u>Niagara Falls</u>
<u>PAT & TOM BRIDGES</u>	<u>HYDRASERV LTD.</u>
<u>TIM MORRISON</u>	<u>SUMMIT DIRECT</u>
<u>KEN BRADY</u>	<u>COMPUTERS</u>
<u>BOB & NOEL WRIGHT</u>	<u>TROPICAL FISH ROOM</u>
	<u>BRANTFORD</u>
	<u>CRITTER CRUMBS</u>
	<u>BY PAMELA(JO)</u>
	<u>NIAGARA PET CORNER</u>
	<u>WELLAND</u>
	<u>ZOO MED</u>
	<u>RONA</u>
	<u>METRO</u>

Please forgive any errors and/or omissions. This was the list at press time.

Breeding *Cyphotilapia frontosa* (sort of)

by Tom & Pat Bridges

Let's begin with a disclaimer: If you choose to read this article in the hope that it may help you become more successful at breeding your frontosa you may be disappointed. Note the (sort of) in the title.

The ichthyologists are now renaming different populations of these fish so I should point out that ours are *Cyphotilapia frontosa* 'Burundi' (6 bars). 'Burundi' is the location, actually the country, that owns the north eastern section of Lake Tanganyika where these fish were originally discovered and are still common. They grow quite large, (especially the males) to a foot or more and are said to inhabit deep water, (up to 50 meters), and to stalk their prey nocturnally or at least in the dim light of early morning. We found ours to be rather slow and deceptively calm and peaceful. I say 'deceptively' because, when startled they can and did move like bullets.

Our adventure, or misadventure with these handsome fish began some years ago at one of the yearly auctions put on by a CAOAC member club – sorry, I can't remember which one. A bag of 4 good looking little 'Fronts' came up and I made a modest bid to get things started. To my surprise, no one else seemed interested and they went home with us. Auctions are strange and wonderful – I had seen these fish about the same size in pet stores for around \$25.00 each.

As fortune would have it we had a 50 gallon rift lake set up with 3 *Synodontis multipunctatus* and some left over mbunas that could be moved out. They had bred but the Multipuncts had repeatedly failed to do their famous Cuckoo thing. I was 90 percent sure, (now 100%), that they were all males which makes any kind of breeding more than difficult. The tank has external and

undergravel filtration plus lots of broken clay pots for caves and the little 'Hump heads' soon seemed comfortable. At water change times, a bit of Rift Lake cichlid salt was added to keep things appropriately alkaline.

Years passed and they all grew but two of them grew much larger and developed those characteristic humps on their foreheads. At least one of them should have gone to auction but I procrastinated. There was no evidence of breeding activity but one of the large males began to show signs of physical damage and



the other hid most of the time and became startled sometimes for no apparent reason. He'd suddenly hit the lid or the walls of the tank with great force. I moved the damaged large male to his own tank and hoped things would settle down. They didn't. One of the smaller ones started to show some wear and tear. At this time we noticed that it too was beginning to develop a gibbosity. Some luck – three males and only one 'possible' female. I moved the smaller male out.

I began to notice that the 'female' would approach the lumps of homemade food and then stop, turn away and return to her hiding place. I wondered if she was sick or, perhaps, incubating, eggs. There was no perceptible swelling of her lower jaw so I just awaited developments. What seemed like a long time later, (these frontosas are mouth brooders and they incubate the eggs and fry for 30 days or more), I spotted a little one dashing from one pot to another nearby. We carefully removed all the caves and discovered the grand sum of 3 baby Fronts. No wonder her jaw wasn't noticeably distended. We moved the little guys to their own ten gallon and reset the tank to await further developments.

Unfortunately the first development was that one morning I found the male dried up and dead on the floor. Something must have startled him during the night and he obviously hit the lid hard enough to lift it out of his way. One down. We put the smaller male who had been growing pretty rapidly in his own tank, back with what we now knew was a female. He never got as big as the other males but he did put on some size and more male hump. He also started to hide most of the time and to be easily startled.

The female began again to reluctantly refuse food so we captured her and put her in a ten gallon tank of her own. So to make a long story shorter, after what seemed like an eternity, she released 11 baby Fronts. I decided to leave her with them for awhile so she could recover and get properly nourished. Big mistake! She stopped eating

no matter what I tried to tempt her with and she died.

We were now left with 14 young and 2 surplus males. That situation soon changed when the smaller male followed his brother's example and committed suicide on the floor. The other larger male had been placed in an out of the way corner tank where he wasn't easy to observe. I found him dead in the tank. I did say 'misadventure'. All down, except the babies which have been doing fine. Six of them have gone to auction and the remaining 8, some of which you can see in the picture, are about ready to be placed in the big tank. With any luck there should be more than one female this time around.



**Mail Order
Pet Supplies**

*Call for a
FREE Catalogue!*

"Delivering Affordable Prices
to Tropical Fish Hobbyists."

**Full line of brand name aquarium
supplies at discount prices**

**Save more with our
flat-rate shipping**

No Minimum Order



1-888-648-MOPS • WWW.MOPS.CA 

Niagara Pet Corner

"For all your pet needs."



545 Niagara St., Unit 6
Welland, ON
L3C 1L7
(905) 735-2221

THE TROPICAL FISH ROOM LTD.



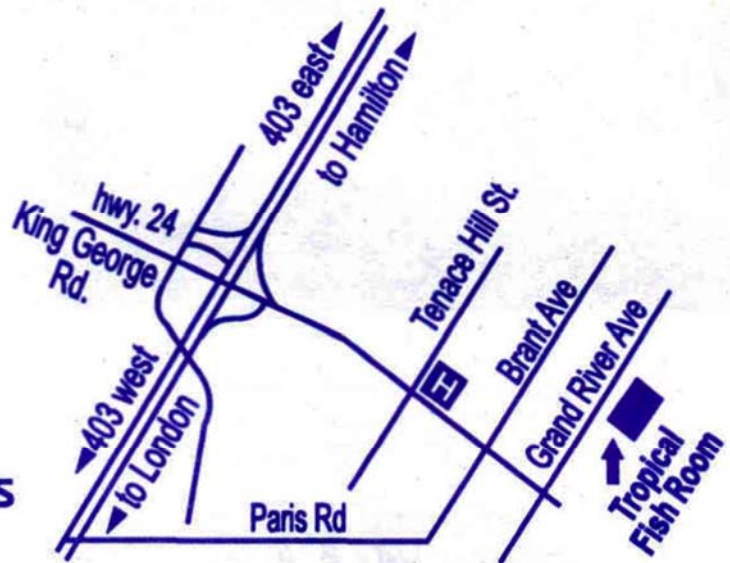
Quality Tropical Fish & Supplies!

*OVER 100 AQUARIUMS OF
FRESH & SALT WATER
FISH TO CHOOSE FROM!*

• POND FISH, SUPPLIES & ACCESSORIES •



Visit Our New Reptile Room
Amphibians • Invertebrates
Food • Supplies • Accessories



New Convenient Location With lots of Free Parking!

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

MON-FRI 11AM-8PM SAT 11AM-5PM SUN 12NOON-4PM



519-756-6225



166 GRAND RIVER AVE, BRANTFORD, ONT. N3T 4X6



www.tropicalfishroom.ca

Girardinus microdactylus

by Dave Furness

This peaceful little livebearer is found in the southern drainage system of the Sierra de Los Organos, Pinar del Rio, Cuba. They live in slow flowing and rapid flowing waters in areas with a lot of vegetation. The temperature in these streams can vary from below 75 degrees F to above 86 degrees f.. The PH of the waters where they are found was around 7.7 .



Female Girardinus microdactylus

In appearance, they have an elongated body and a pointed head. The colour is a light brown with black vertical stripes on their sides. There is a black spot at the base of the dorsal fin, plus the first two rays of the dorsal, may seem black as well.

I picked these fish up at the Brant Aquarium club, when I visited them with three friends from the St.Catharines club. These, new to the hobby specimens, were introduced to the Brant auction by Brian Glazier. Thank you Brian for bringing the different livebearer species to our clubs. It is greatly appreciated.



Male Girardinus microdactylus

When I got the fish home, I placed them in a 15 gallon tank with some Java moss and some floating plants for cover. I filtered the tank with a box filter and set the temperature to 76 degree F. The PH was 7.4. With the higher temperatures, I made sure that the water is well agitated to keep to keep the oxygen level higher.

The parents were fed a variety of foods such as frozen blood worms, flakes, and micro worms. The gestation period is about 25 days. I could not find any information on them about how many fry they have usually, but, if they are like some of the other Girardinus; they may have between 10 to 40 fry. Mine where only giving me from 3 to 5 fry at a time, so it took me a little longer to get the required count for a BAP certificate.



The fry were fed crushed flakes, powdered dried shrimp and micro worms. The fry should be sexually mature in about 3 to 4 months.



3770 Montrose Road, Unit 8
Niagara Falls, Ontario L2H 3K3
Tel: (905) 354-3555
Fax: (905) 354-9306
Email: niagarafalls@summitdirect.com
Web: www.summitdirect.com

SCAAS Members receive 50% off all services !

WE WILL BEAT ANY ADVERTISED PRICE!

SEE STORE FOR DETAILS

Critter Crumbs

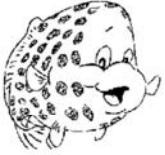
All Natural Homemade Food
For Pleco, Snails, Fish and Shrimp
Regular, Seafood, Veggie, Sweet Potato
Seafood & Sweet Potato, Shrimp & Sweet Potato

For more info:

<http://pamelajo.webs.com/>

SCANNING THE EXCHANGES & etc.

with Pat and Tom



GOOD READING IN THE S.C.A.A.S. LIBRARY ...

- ▶ ... in the Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society's newsletter 'Fincinnati' – September/October 2010
 - *Breeding *Paracyprichromis nigripinnis* by Cameron Turner
 - *Beyond the Breeders Award Program Conservation Goals for the Aquarium Hobbyist by Lenny Llambi
 - **Ancistrus* "Red and Black" Spawning Report By Jerry Riegel
- ▶ ... in the Hamilton & District Aquarium Society's monthly bulletin – November, 2010
 - *All Aquarium Catfish Convention by Joe Bastianpillai
 - **Dicrossus filamentosus* by Jessica Bullock
 - *Another Jewel in the Aquarium – The Diamond Tetra by Dolores Schehr Motor City Aquarium Society



UPCOMING EVENTS in 2010

December 12, 2010 CAOAC meetings
10:30 AM CAOAC Executive meeting in Waterdown, ON
12:00 PM CAOAC General meeting.
Christmas pot luck lunch following the executive meeting. Membership and Insurance applications are due. Author and Advanced Author applications are due.



JAR SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS

will be on display at the jar show table at each meeting



S.C.A.A.S. MEMBERS!

If you haven't already renewed, please come to the membership desk at the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP:

An annual membership includes attendance at the monthly meetings, a copy of our monthly newsletter 'The SCAT', voting privileges, use of the club library, participation in the Breeders Award Program (BAP), the Aquatic Horticultural Award Program (AHAP) and other interesting events during the year. All this, and available information on fish shows and auctions hosted by other clubs and societies around southern Ontario and the northern United States.

BAP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS presented at the November meeting

Pam Danyluck

Xiphophorus montezumae..... 5 pts.

Congratulations!

Tom Bridges

BAP Chair



FISH BAGS

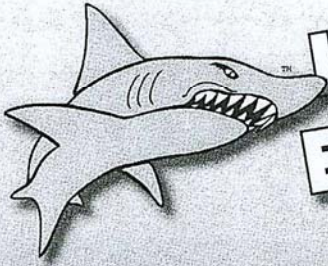
Fish bags (10x20, 8x16 and 8x10) are available for sale at the library in packages of 25 for \$3.75 per pkg.

Newsletter articles listed here will be available at the club library.



Big Al's AQUARIUM SUPERCENTRES & PET CITY

Serving You Since 1985



LIVE SHARK FEEDING FRENZY EVERY TUESDAY 7 PM SHARK!

Tropical Fish

- Marine Fish
- Aquariums
- Feeder Fish
- Specializing in Custom Aquarium Units
- All Aquarium Supplies

Puppies & Kittens

- Pet Foods
- Extensive Dog & Cat Supplies

Exotic Birds

- Large Selection of Tropical Birds
- Cages & Supplies
- Bird Grooming Available by Appointment

Dog & Cat Grooming Salon

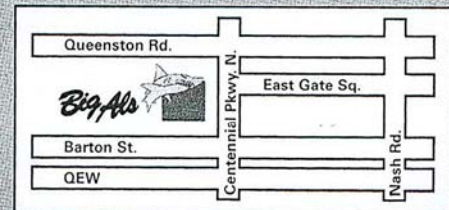
Small Animals

Exotic Reptile Room

Full Line of Pond Supplies

COME VISIT OUR 12,000 SQ. FT. SHOWROOM

- Open to the Public
- Warehouse Prices
- Fish Direct from our Florida Farm



MONDAY - FRIDAY 10 am - 9 pm • SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10 am - 6 pm
140 Centennial Parkway N., Hamilton (next to Crabby Joe's)

905-560-1000

www.*Big Al's*hamilton.com



For further information about Nutrafin products visit www.hagen.com. Nutrafin is a registered trademark of Rolf C. Hagen Inc. ©2008



Give them a taste of the good life.

Nutrafin Max has evolved and adopted the new Nutrafin family look. It's bold, it's tasty and it's packed with quality nutrition to help ensure your fish are colorful, active and able to remain that way.

The new generation of Nutrafin Max features Advanced Yeast Extract, an important addition that naturally helps your fish stay resistant and vibrant. There are new and enhanced formulations, more beneficial natural ingredients, no artificial colors, more flakes in every container, new dosing caps and more.

What are you waiting for? Try the new Nutrafin Max and give them the taste they crave.



NUTRAFIN[®]
EVOLUTIONIZE your aquarium