

The Official Publication of the St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society since 1958  
Volume 23 No.7 March 2011

**The**

# **SCAT**



**In This Issue:**  
**Scanning the Exchanges**  
**Red Claw Macro Shrimp**  
**Year of the Rainbowfish part 2**

[scaas.info](http://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 February 07 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 by Klaus Steinhaus on "C.A.R.E.S."**

## 2009 – 2010 Executive

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2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Bruce Hallett - (905) 934-7138  
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CAOAC Representative – Tom Hillier  
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## Membership Dues:

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

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Cover photo of a 2cm  
Red Claw Macro Shrimp  
Photo © by DAVE Unruh

## Jar Show

**The "fish" of the Month is  
Plants**

## President's message

**Hoping** everyone had a great Family Day!

**First** off I would like to thank Dave Unruh for handling the Horticultural Awards Program over the years and Pam Danyluck for providing us with the member profiles over the past couple of years. We have a couple of new members who have agreed to help out and relieve some of the work load for other members. I would like to welcome Joe Krawchuk as our new Horticultural Awards Program Chairman and Heather Krawchuk as our new Member Profile Journalist.

**At** the February meeting Dave Unruh, Dave Furness and Pam Danyluck were presented with Breeding Awards.

**I** would to thank our February program presenter Steve Messier. His talk on setting up a salt water tank was very interesting and informative.

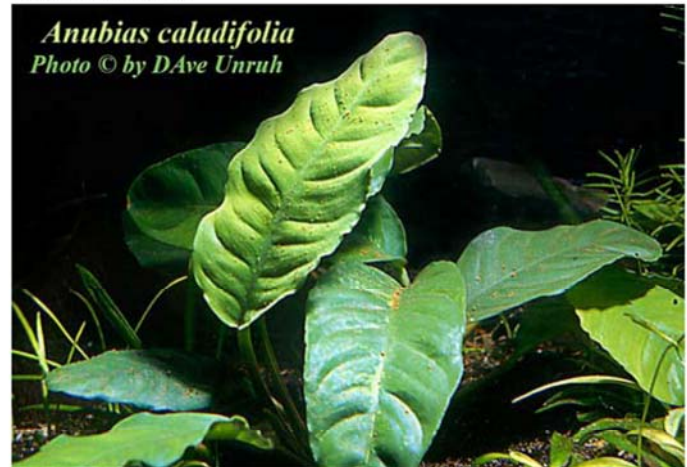
**We** are going to be trying hard to get the meetings started on time. We have younger members and some older ones that can't stay up too late or have early hours for work the next day. Our March program will be on C.A.R.E.S. presented by Klaus Steinhaus. Also at the March meeting we will be conducting a vote regarding whether to have an Auction or Show & Auction next fall. This is our major fund raiser. These funds are needed to bring in speakers and run the club. The auction by itself is a lot of work and adding the show adds even more work to the day and with only a small group of members who regularly help out. This puts a big work load on that small group. So if you vote to have a Show & Auction it will also mean that you are agreeing to setting aside time to help.

**The** Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs will be holding their annual convention May 20 – 23 in Brantford. Ticket prices are 80.00 until May 1st, 90.00 until May 19th and 100.00 at the convention. *We will be raffling tickets for the*

*Convention at \$5.00 once we have sold 16 tickets we will be drawing the winner.*

**We** are in the process of buying a new plant book for the club. The book will be a good reference for identifying plants.

**March** Jar Show is Plants, hoping to see a few more entries.



**Just** a reminder, we are still taking food bank donations.

**We** will be purchasing a plaque in Memory of Wally Ebert. This plaque will be a service type award and will be presented in June with the other year end presentations.

*Tom*

**Niagara Pet Corner**

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## Minutes of February 7, 2011

Meeting commenced at 7.50 pm.

President Tom Hillier

- Welcomed guests Margaret and Chris Dent from the Hamilton Club along with Ashley, Steve and Rick.
- Welcomed new member Hank Makriel
- Club News:
  - o Joseph Krawchuk will be taking over the HAP program from Dave Unruh
  - o Heather Krawchuk will be taking over Member Profiles from Pam Danyluck

### Upcoming events:

March 6, 2011 Hamilton & District Aquarium Society **Auction Only**

March 20, 2011 Awards meeting breakfast in Waterdown at 9am  
10:00 AM CAOAC Executive meeting in Waterdown, ON  
12:00 PM CAOAC General meeting in Waterdown, ON

March 27, 2011 Brant Aquarium Society **Show & AUCTION**

April 10, 2011 Durham Regional Aquarium Society **SHOW & AUCTION**

April 16, 2011 Sarnia Aquarium Society **AUCTION ONLY**

April 17, 2011 Annual reports are due  
10:30 AM CAOAC Executive meeting in Waterdown, ON  
12:00 PM CAOAC General meeting in Waterdown, ON

May 20 - 23, 2011 CAOAC Annual Convention hosted by the Brant Aquarium Society  
Best Western Brant Park Inn, Brantford ON Canada **SHOW & AUCTION**  
Early Bird Tickets by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 \$80 at the door \$100

- Pet Store Poker Run
- Casino Night & Auction
- Karaoke
- Banquet & Award Dinner
- Fish Show
- Public Auction Monday

Secretary's minutes from January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting can be found in February Scat

Bob Hayslip Presented Treasurer's report Total Funds \$1568.31

Tom Bridges presented Breeders Award to:  
Dave Furness for *Girardinus microdactylus* & *Pseudotropheus acei*  
Pam Danyluck for *Arcocentrus nigrofasciatus*  
Dave Unruh –for *Corydoras napoensis* & *Puntius semifasciolatus*

No Horticultural Awards

Our program this meeting was a demonstration on setting up a Salt Water tank by Steve Messier. It was a very interesting and informative program. I have some quick notes that were being distributed that evening available if anyone is interested.

**Patrick** Shriner presented the Jar Show award for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> to Joseph Krawchuk  
Patrick has show tanks for sale in anyone is interested.

Door Prize

Regular Evening Raffle & Raffle for Chocolate

Evening Auction

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm

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# Year of the Rainbowfish

A monthly column about Rainbowfish  
by Derek P. S. Tustin

Reprinted from "Tank Talk", the newsletter of the  
Durham Region Aquarium Society Feb. 2011

## *Melanotaenia*



**Melanotaenia parva**  
Photo by Joel Felix

**A**s mentioned last month, there are two families of Rainbowfish; *Pseudomugilidae*, which has three genera, and *Melanotaeniidae*, which has seven genera. This month we will be looking at the most populous genus of the *Melanotaeniidae* family, *Melanotaenia*.

In 1838 John Gilbert, a taxidermist for the Zoological Society of London, was hired by John Gould, an English ornithologist and bird artist, to accompany him to Australia and assist in the collection of specimens for *Birds of Australia*, a book John Gould was planning on writing. While it appears that the main task of Gilbert was to gather ornithological specimens, he also studied and gathered specimens of other fauna native to Australia. Somehow one of the specimens of fish that Gilbert gathered ended up in the British Museum of Natural History. This specimen was found by John Richardson in 1843 and he described it as a new species of hardyhead, *Atherina nigrans*. (Canadian Connection – John Richardson, later Sir John Richardson, was a member of the Coppermine Expedition of 1819 – 1822 that was searching for the Northwest Passage. He returned between 1825 and 1827, and a result of natural history discoveries made during the years he was in Canada co-authored a book, *Fauna Boreali-Americana*.)

In 1862, based on this sole specimen, American naturalist Dr. Thomas Gill created the genus *Melanotaenia*, although still within the family *Atherinidae*. In 1894, Dr. Gill created the subfamily *Melanotaeniidae* to stress the number of differences between what we now know as *Melanotaenia* Rainbowfish and the hardyhead fish.

In 1964, 70 years later, Australian ichthyologist Ian Munro elevated *Melanotaeniidae* from a sub-family of *Atherinidae* to a family in its own right. And that's where we stand today.

So now that you know all about *Melanotaenia*, next month I will be... okay, hold on. That's all historical stuff, and while interesting to know, is probably not essential.



**Melanotaenia nigrans**  
Photo by Gunther Schmidt

The word *Melanotaenia* is actually very descriptive of the first Rainbowfish species that was discovered. The first fish described, now known as *Melanotaenia nigrans*, has a very clear and distinct black stripe running down its side. The word *Melanotaenia* is derived from the Greek work "melano" (meaning black) and the Latin word "taenia" (meaning stripe). Therefore, these fish are literally "black-striped".

The *Melanotaenia* genus of fish currently has 53 different described species. They originate from across Australia, Papua New Guinea, and from several of the surrounding islands. As such, they come from various different geographic regions where temperature as well as water conditions differ. Elsewhere in this edition of *Tank Talk* you will find a chart detailing the different known *Melanotaenia* species.

Included in this chart you will find;

- The species name as most recently described.
- The origin of the given species name.
- The year it was first described.
- The general geographic origin of the species.
- The average maximum growth for the male of the given species (in both metric and imperial).
- The recommended minimum and maximum temperature (again in metric and imperial).
- The recommended pH range.
- The availability of the given species within Canada.

A couple of quick notes on this chart (a similar form will be used in the future months on the other Rainbowfish). This information has been compiled using the internet as well as various books on Rainbowfish. As such, the information recorded in this chart may differ depending on the source you reference. When a given species of Rainbowfish is first discovered and gathered, it is usually done by respectable scientists, and information regarding the location where they were gathered is often included in the paper or article describing their discovery. However, given the remote locations where many of these fish are discovered (especially in Papua New Guinea) and the limited time available at some sites, the information regarding temperature and water parameters is often only a snap-shot of the conditions at the time the fish were gathered. Seasonal variations (and often variations between night and day) in both temperature and water conditions are often not known. Different people over the years have informed and published of the temperatures and conditions that they have kept Rainbowfish under. Using this information, the chart was developed to give an idea regarding the general parameters under which the various species should be kept. If you do keep some of these species, your experiences may vary. Treat this chart as a guideline, rather than a rule.



**Melanotaenia kamaka**

Photo by Gunther Schmidt



**Melanotaenia oktediensis**

Photo by Klaus Steinhaus

Generally, Rainbowfish from Australia are adapted for lower temperatures than those from Papua New Guinea and the surrounding islands. The exception to this is for Rainbowfish that come from the interior mountain rivers of Papua New Guinea, such as *Melanotaenia monticola* (the Mountain Rainbowfish) and *Melanotaenia oktediensis* (another Rainbowfish from the interior mountain rivers).

Also of consideration is that many of the various species, such as *Melanotaenia boesemani*, have been captive bred for numerous generations, and therefore their temperature and condition tolerances, and indeed preferences, may have altered from the wild form of a given species.

Finally, I have listed the given species availability with-in Canada. For your

reference, the terms I used were based on my personal experience with Rainbowfish keepers in Canada and North America, the various specialty fish stores, local fish stores and pet shops in Southwestern Ontario, and my interactions with participants on the various Rainbowfish forums on the internet. The terms referencing availability, and my arbitrary definition of the terms, are;

- Unavailable** No known population of the given species is currently being maintained in Canada. Many species are not maintained at all globally, but some may have small captive populations in Europe or the United States, but have not entered the Canadian aquatic hobby.
- Very Rare** One or two people in Canada are maintaining these species. They will not be found in any local fish store.
- Rare** More than two but probably less than twenty people are maintaining populations. They may occasionally appear at either specialty local fish stores (such as Menagerie in Toronto), or at local aquarium society auctions.
- Uncommon** Species of Rainbowfish listed as “Uncommon” will often be seen in specialty local fish stores and aquarium society auctions. They will also occasionally be seen at local fish stores and pet stores.
- Common** Those listed as “Common” are often seen as local fish stores, specialty fish stores, and aquarium society auctions.
- Very Common** Often seen at the same sources as those listed under “Common” as well as general pet stores such as PJ’s Pets.

### About the Black Stripes

As mentioned, there are 53 described species of *Melanotaenia*. Other than an overall body shape, there are really no characteristics that are identical from one species to the next. Some, such as *Melanotaenia nigrans*, *M. oktediensis*, and *M. vanheurni*, have a very bold black stripe. In others, such as *Melanotaenia angfa* and *M. monticola*, there is a diffuse stripe. In others, such as *Melanotaenia sexlineata* and *M. utcheensis*, there are multiple thinner horizontal lines across the body.

Regarding colour, well they are known as Rainbowfish for a very simple reason – they reflect all the colours of the rainbow. Sir Issac Newton was one of the first to study light and the composition of colours and he initially stated that a rainbow was comprised of five colours. And each colour has some corresponding species of Rainbowfish which feature that colour. The colours of the rainbow, along with a corresponding *Melanotaenia* species are;

- Red – *Melanotaenia parva*, *M. rubripinnis*
- Yellow – *Melanotaenia angfa*, *M. boesemani*, *M. herbertaxelrodi*
- Green – *Melanotaenia misoolensis*, *M. monticola*
- Blue – *Melanotaenia batanta*, *M. boesemani*, *M. kamaka*, *M. lacustris*
- Violet – *Melanotaenia arfakensis*, *M. duboulayi*

### Melanotaenia & C.A.R.E.S

Unfortunately, several species of Rainbowfish feature are on the C.A.R.E.S. Conservation Priority Species at Risk List. The *Melanotaenia* species on this list, along with their status, are;

- *Melanotaenia arfakensis* – Vulnerable
- *Melanotaenia boesemani* – Endangered, At Risk in Nature
- *Melanotaenia eachamensis* – Vulnerable
- *Melanotaenia lacustris* – Vulnerable, At Risk in Nature
- *Melanotaenia oktediensis* – Vulnerable
- *Melanotaenia parva* – Vulnerable



**Melanotaenia splendida**  
Photo by Neil Armstrong



To refresh;

- Vulnerable means “(a) species facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium term future.”
- Endangered means a “(s) species facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future.”

Each of the *Melanotaenia* species listed, with the exception of *Melanotaenia eachamensis*, is from Papua New Guinea. Unfortunately as both Indonesia (the country controlling the western half of Papua New Guinea) and New Guinea (the country of the eastern half of the island) continue to develop, resources are being exploited and irreparable environmental damage is being done. Personally I feel that the list for *Melanotaenia* species is too short and despair that in the coming years more species will be added to the list, and that many species may become extinct before they were ever even discovered.

Luckily, we have DRAS members keeping four of the six *Melanotaenia* species on the C.A.R.E.S. Conservation Priority List, including one member who is keeping *M. oktediensis*, his population which is the only one known to currently exist in

North America. A detailed examination of why *M. oktediensis* is on this list, as well the attempt to bring it to North America, will be presented in the November 2011 edition of *Tank Talk*.

Locally you will often see *Melanotaenia boesemani* and *Melanotaenia lacustris* for sale, and will occasionally see *Melanotaenia parva*. Should you have the tank space, it would be beneficial to the hobby and personally satisfying to acquire a school and start breeding them. (The September edition of *Tank Talk* will have an article on breeding Rainbowfish. If you want a head start, come see me, or visit the website *Home of the Rainbowfish* (<http://members.optushome.com.au/chelmon>.)



**Melanotaenia angfa**  
Photo by Gerald Allen

## A General Appreciation

The above, and the chart in this issue, are all intended to give you a broad appreciation of the *Melanotaenia* genus of fish. With 53 different known species, and with all of them coming from different habitats, it is difficult to give an in-depth review of them all. Should one of these fish catch your eye, or should you like the idea of keeping some of the most colourful freshwater fish, or should you want to participate in the C.A.R.E.S. program, I would encourage you to come talk to me about *Melanotaenia*, or take the time and do some research. They truly are wonderful, and I know you won't be disappointed.

Next month, I'll be telling you about the ten species of the Lip-Silversides, better known as *Chilatherina*. Until then!



**Melanotaenia boesemani**  
Photo by Klaus Steinhaus



## Year of The Rainbowfish

Species	Origin of Name	Year	Origin	Maximum Size		Water Temperature				pH		Availability in Canada
				cm	inch	°C		°F		Low	High	
<i>affinis</i>	Related ( <i>affinis</i> = Latin "related to")	1908	Papua New Guinea	15	6.00	20	28	68	82	6.8	7.8	Uncommon
<i>ajamaruensis</i>	From Lake Ajamaru ( <i>Ajamaru</i> + <i>ensis</i> = Latin "from")	1980	Papua New Guinea	11	4.25	23	27	73	81	7.0	8.0	Unavailable
<i>ammeri</i>	Max Ammer ( <i>Dutch owner of diving company is Indonesia, exploration expedition member</i> )	2008	Papua New Guinea	9	3.50	24	28	75	82	7.0	8.0	Unavailable
<i>angfa</i>	ANGFA (Australia New Guinea Fish Association)	1990	Papua New Guinea	13	5.00	23	29	73	84	6.5	7.5	Very Rare
<i>arfakensis</i>	From the Arfak Mountains ( <i>Arfak</i> + <i>ensis</i> = Latin "from")	1990	Papua New Guinea	10	4.00	23	29	73	84	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>australis</i>	Southern ( <i>australis</i> = Latin "of the south")	1875	Australia	10	4.00	22	28	72	82	6.8	7.8	Common
<i>batanta</i>	Batanta Island	1998	Batanta Island	10	4.00	22	28	72	82	7.0	8.0	Unavailable
<i>boesemani</i>	Dr. Marinus Boeseman ( <i>Dutch ichthyologist</i> )	1980	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	22	28	72	82	6.7	7.7	Very Common
<i>caerulea</i>	Blue ( <i>caerulea</i> = Latin "blue")	1996	Papua New Guinea	8	3.00	25	28	77	82	7.2	8.2	Unavailable
<i>catherinae</i>	Catharina Josephone Boissevain de Beaufort ( <i>wife of Dutch explorer Lieven de Beaufort</i> )	1910	Waigeo & Batanta Islands	10	4.00	22	28	72	82	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>corona</i>	Bordered ( <i>corona</i> = Latin "border")	1982	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	Data Deficient						Unavailable
<i>duboulayi</i>	Francis Houssemayne Du Boulay ( <i>Australian entomologist and natural history artist</i> )	1878	Australia	12	4.75	18	28	64	82	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>eachamensis</i>	From Lake Eachem ( <i>Eachem</i> + <i>ensis</i> = Latin "from")	1982	Australia	8	3.00	18	28	64	82	6.7	7.7	Unavailable
<i>exquisita</i>	Excellent ( <i>exquisitus</i> = Latin "excellent")	1978	Australia	9	3.50	20	28	68	82	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>fasinensis</i>	From the Fasin River ( <i>Fasin</i> + <i>ensis</i> = Latin "from")	2010	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	22	30	72	86	7.2	8.2	Unavailable
<i>fluviatilis</i>	River ( <i>fluviatilis</i> = Latin "river")	1878	Australia	10	4.00	15	30	59	86	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>fredericki</i>	Frederick Crockett ( <i>American ichthyological explorer</i> )	1939	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	22	28	72	82	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>goldiei</i>	From the Goldie River	1883	Papua New Guinea	10	4.00	22	30	72	86	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>gracilis</i>	Slender ( <i>gracilis</i> = Latin "slender")	1978	Australia	10	4.00	22	28	72	82	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>herbertaxelrodi</i>	Dr. Herbert Axelrod ( <i>American ichthyologist and expedition financier</i> )	1980	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	24	30	75	86	7.0	8.0	Uncommon
<i>irianjaya</i>	From Irian Jaya	1985	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	25	29	77	84	7.0	8.0	Unavailable
<i>iris</i>	Iridescent ( <i>iris</i> = Latin "iridescent")	1987	Papua New Guinea	10	4.00	25	29	77	84	7.0	8.0	Unavailable
<i>japenensis</i>	From Japen Island ( <i>Japen</i> + <i>ensis</i> = Latin "from")	1980	Yapen Island	11	4.25	24	28	75	82	7.0	8.0	Unavailable
<i>kamaka</i>	From Lake Kamakawaiar	1996	Papua New Guinea	8	3.00	24	28	75	82	7.0	8.0	Uncommon
<i>kokasensis</i>	From Kokas, New Guinea ( <i>Kokas</i> + <i>ensis</i> = Latin "from")	2008	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	21	29	70	84	7.2	8.2	Unavailable
<i>lacustris</i>	From a Lake ( <i>lacu</i> = Latin "lake" + <i>ustris</i> "origin")	1964	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	21	27	70	81	7.5	8.5	Common

## Year of The Rainbowfish

Species	Origin of Name	Year	Origin	Maximum Size		Water Temperature				pH		Availability in Canada
<i>lakamora</i>	From Lake Lakamora	1996	Papua New Guinea	6	2.25	21	27	70	81	7.0	8.0	Unavailable
<i>maccullochi</i>	Alan R. MacCulloch ( <i>Australian ichthyologist</i> )	1915	Australia	7	2.50	20	30	68	86	6.0	7.0	Very Rare
<i>maylandi</i>	Hans J. Mayland ( <i>German aquarium related author and ichthyological explorer</i> )	1982	Papua New Guinea	10	4.00	22	28	72	82	6.8	7.8	Very Rare
<i>misoolensis</i>	From Misool Island (Misool + ensis = Latin "from")	1982	Misool Island	6	2.25	22	28	72	82	7.0	8.0	Rare
<i>monticola</i>	Mountain Dweller (Mons = Latin "mountain" + cola = Latin "inhabits")	1980	Papua New Guinea	10	4.00	18	26	64	79	7.2	8.2	Very Rare
<i>mubiensis</i>	From the Mubi River (Mubi + ensis = Latin "from")	1996	Papua New Guinea	10	4.00	Data Deficient					Unavailable	
<i>nigrans</i>	Dark Coloured (nigrans = Latin "dark coloured")	1843	Australia	12	4.75	20	30	68	86	7.1	8.1	Unavailable
<i>ogilbyi</i>	J. Douglas Ogilby ( <i>Australian ichthyologist</i> )	1910	Papua New Guinea	10	4.00	21	27	70	81	6.6	7.6	Unavailable
<i>oktediensis</i>	From the Ok Tedi River (Ok Tedi + ensis = Latin "from")	1980	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	19	27	66	81	7.3	8.3	Very Rare
<i>papuae</i>	From Papua	1981	Papua New Guinea	8	3.00	26	30	79	86	7.1	8.1	Unavailable
<i>parkinsoni</i>	Brian Parkinson ( <i>New Zealander author and ichthyological explorer</i> )	1980	Papua New Guinea	15	6.00	26	30	79	86	7.4	8.4	Uncommon
<i>parva</i>	Small (parvu = Latin "small")	1990	Papua New Guinea	9	3.50	23	27	73	81	6.8	7.8	Uncommon
<i>pierucciae</i>	Paola Pierucci ( <i>Italian ichthyologist</i> )	1996	Papua New Guinea	8	3.00	23	27	73	81	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>pimaensis</i>	From the Pima River (Pima + ensis = Latin "from")	1980	Papua New Guinea	9	3.50	24	28	75	82	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>praecox</i>	Early (praecox = Latin "early")	1922	Papua New Guinea	8	3.00	22	28	72	82	6.4	7.4	Very Common
<i>pygmaea</i>	Dwarf (pygmaeus = Latin "dwarf")	1978	Australia	7	2.50	24	28	75	82	6.6	7.6	Unavailable
<i>rubripinnis</i>	Red Fins (rubri = Latin "red" + pinnis = Latin "fins")	1998	Papua New Guinea	12	4.75	24	30	75	86	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>sexlineata</i>	Six Parellel Lines (sex = Latin "six" + lineata = Latin "fine parellel lines")	1964	Papua New Guinea	8	3.00	24	26	75	79	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>splendida inornata</i>	Unadorned Splendid (splendida = Latin "splendid" + inornata = Latin "unadorned")	1875	Australia	12	4.75	15	30	59	86	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>splendida rubrostriata</i>	Red Striped Splendid (splendida = Latin "splendid" + rubro = Latin "red" + striata = Latin "striped")	1886	Papua New Guinea	16	6.25	23	29	73	84	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>splendida splendida</i>	Splendid Splendid (splendida = Latin "splendid" + splendida = Latin "splendid")	1866	Australia	12	4.75	23	29	73	84	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>splendida tatei</i>	Ralph Tate ( <i>British botanist and geologist</i> )	1896	Australia	10	4.00	23	29	73	84	6.5	7.5	Unavailable
<i>sylvatica</i>	Of the forest (sylvaticus = Latin "growing among trees")	1997	Papua New Guinea	6	2.25	21	25	70	77	6.8	7.8	Unavailable
<i>synergos</i>	Synergos Institute (name sold at Christie's Blue Auction 2007)	2008	Batanta Island	12	4.75	19	27	66	81	7.4	8.4	Unavailable
<i>trifasciata</i>	Three Banded (tri = Latin "three" + fasciata = Latin "banded")	1922	Australia	15	6.00	23	29	73	84	6.5	7.5	Rare
<i>utcheensis</i>	From the Utchee Creek (Utchee + ensis = Latin "from")	2001	Australia	7	2.50	24	30	75	86	6.6	7.6	Unavailable
<i>vanheurni</i>	Dr. Willem van Heurn ( <i>Dutch civil engineer and zoologist</i> )	1922	Papua New Guinea	20	8.00	24	28	75	82	6.8	7.8	Unavailable

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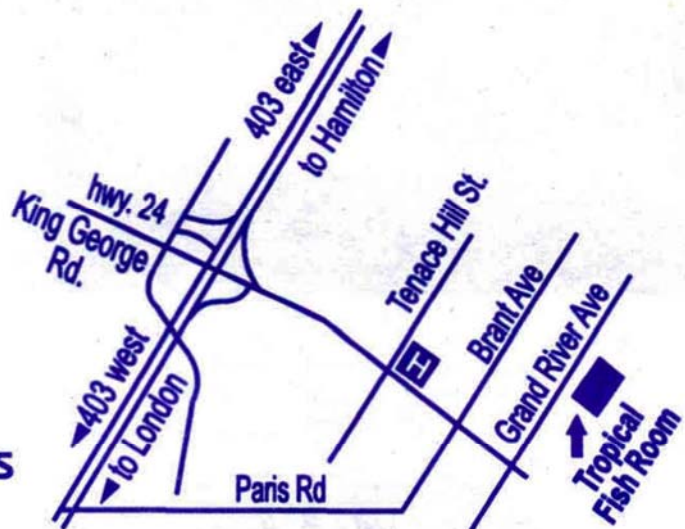
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## Member Profile – Steve Messier

by Heather Krawchuk

**This** past meeting we were fortunate enough to have Steve Messier, owner of Living Aquarium, as our guest speaker. Steve walked us through the set-up of a saltwater system from start to finish and also answered many questions and provided helpful tips and ideas.



**Steve** was born and raised in Cambridge, Ontario. When he was younger, he kept more than twenty reef and fish-only tanks in his home. The biggest tank that he had was one hundred gallons. However, once he opened his store, he quickly found that it was too difficult to maintain so many tanks at work and at home, so he moved his hobby to his store.

**Steve** says that his favourite fish is the Moorish Idol. He explained that this is because they are notoriously difficult to keep alive, but he had success keeping one alive for seven years. It likely would have been around even longer, but sadly, it died at the hands of a clam that broke its nose. The Lion Fish is Steve's second favourite and he had one that lived a remarkable fourteen years.

**Steve's** father works with him full time, but he says that as for other family members sharing his enthusiasm, they prefer to just enjoy the tanks, not to

keep or maintain them! Steve has friends who are interested in the hobby too. We were lucky enough to meet both Steve's father as well as his friend, Ashley, at the meeting; both of these gentlemen were a wealth of information as well.

**When** Steve started Living Aquarium several years ago, he had thirty-five tanks. Now, three years later, he has over one hundred tanks and is importing fish from all over the world. When I asked Steve what he felt was the single most important thing to remember about keeping/maintaining a saltwater tank, he said that it is to take your time. In his words, "Anyone can make art in five minutes. It can take years to make a masterpiece."

**Steve** wanted to add his gratitude for inviting him to speak at our club and said that he hopes to see us in the future at his store; if we go as a group, he will offer a twenty percent discount on all live products...we'd better get Tom to arrange a trip!

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## Moorish Idol by Heather Krawchuck



**The Moorish Idol** is a member of the Zanclidae family most commonly found in the Indo-Pacific. Its name comes from the Moors of Africa, who believe that this species is a “bringer of happiness”. While popular for saltwater hobbyists, they are known for being very sensitive and having a rather short lifespan – this is due in part to the fact that they do not adapt well to life in captivity and often reject the foods that they are provided with, leading to death by

starvation. Shrimp, clams, squid and some vegetables as well as vitamin supplements are their staple diet.

**The Moorish Idol** is generally seven inches in length, but can reach eight to nine. They are a semi-peaceful fish that need to be kept away from aggressive species. They do best either singly or in a mated pair because as adults, they are known to have a low tolerance level for each other and can become unpredictable.

**If** buying this species of fish (a high level of knowledge and experience is suggested), some things to pay attention to are:

**Colour** – they should be dark and bright.

**Body shape** – they should be rounded at the sides and their stomachs should not appear concave.

**Diet** – ask to see them at feeding time to make sure that they are eating; also make sure that you have the food that they are eating to match their diet.

Sources:

<http://saltaquarium.about.com>

<http://www.peteducation.com>

## Lion Fish by Heather Krawchuk

**Lionfish**, aka, Turkey Fish, are members of the scorpionfish family, and consist of sixteen species, eleven of which are common to the saltwater hobby. In addition to their beauty, they have venomous spines that can deliver painful stings. This sting is very painful to humans, can cause nausea and difficulty breathing, but is rarely fatal – this is a defensive reaction. However, despite this, they are known as being a peaceful, hardy fish that are suited to anyone with a moderate level of comfort with saltwater tanks.

**Lionfish** can grow to be between ten to fifteen inches long and require large aquariums (seventy-five gallons or more). Like the Moorish Idol, they are most commonly found in the Indo-Pacific. Lionfish need many places to hide in a tank and are usually only seen/active at night. Lionfish are carnivorous schooling fish

and can live up to fifteen years. Their pectoral fins are feathery and often spread and used to herd smaller fish into a corner where they are swallowed easier.



Sources:

[www.reefkeeping.com](http://www.reefkeeping.com)

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com>

# SCANNING THE EXCHANGES & etc.

with Pat and Tom



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

▶ ... in the Durham Region Aquarium Society's newsletter 'Tank Talk' – February, 2011

\*Celestichthys margaritalus The Galaxy Rasbora, republished from the AQUA-FISH.NET website at <http://www.aqua-fish.net/show.php?h=galaxyrasbora>

\*Some Hard Thoughts on Conservation By Juan Miguel Artigas Azas

\*Year of the Rainbowfish: Melanotaenia & The names you know, the people you don't: Dr. Herbert Axelrod by Derek P.S. Tustin

▶ ... in the Long Island Aquarium Society's Newsletter 'Paradise Press' – January, 2011

- \*Easy Lyretails – Killies by Jack Guida
- \*Visiting the Rainforest Café – The View from The Other side of the Tank By Margaret Peterson
- \*Aphanius mento The Persian Killie by Jack Guida
- \*Livebearer Basics in...the View...From the Other side of the Tank by Margaret Peterson

▶ ... in the Hamilton & District Aquarium Society's monthly bulletin – February, 2011

- \*Preventing Fish Loss by Charles Drew
- \*Apistogramma barlowi, the Mouthbrooding Apisto by Jessica Bullock

If you'd like to read any of the newsletter articles, and if they aren't available on the respective clubs' websites, just let me know and I'll email them to you. My email address is [tp.bridges@sympatico.ca](mailto:tp.bridges@sympatico.ca)



Give your fish a change of pace...bring them to a jar show once in a while and get in line for a trophy!



## BAP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS presented at the February meeting

**Dave Furness**

**Girardinus microdactylus**..... 5 pts.

**Pseudotropheus acei**..... 10

**Dave Unruh**

**Corydoras napoensis**..... 20

**Puntius semifasciolatus – Gold Barbs** ..... 20

**Pam Danyluck**

**Arcocentrus nigrofasciatus –**

**Convict Cichlids**..... 5

Congratulations!  
Tom Bridges

BAP Chair

## FISH BAGS

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



**Please wear your name badges at meetings.**

They are 'an easy introduction'; they establish a sense of community and hospitality and a more friendly atmosphere. I have noticed when I get home that several of you are not leaving them at the sign-in desk when you leave. I try to keep up with making new name badges each month, but I'd like **not** to have to make them ;- ) Help!

## **Red Claw Macro Shrimp**

(*Macrobrachium dayanum*)

by *Dave Unruh*

**At** an auction this past fall I noticed these shrimp & decided to bid on them. I had the winning bid & took the four shrimps home. The tank I wanted to put them in had only four Dull-eyed Royal Plecos (Panaque L191) in it along with a lot of Malaysian livebearing snails. You know the ones – once you have one you soon will have hundreds. It seems that nothing will kill them & even loaches seem reluctant to go after them.

**What** interested me about the shrimps is that on the bag was written “great snail eaters” and I thought perhaps these red claw macro shrimps would make a good weapon against the invasion of the Malaysian snails. So into the tank went these four shrimps.



*Adult Red Claw Macro Shrimp*

**They** were a good size – about 5 cm long so I had no worries about the plecos bothering the shrimps and my lack of concern was proved correct. The plecos did not seem at all interested in the new additions to their home. The shrimp as well seemed to ignore the plecos, which was what I expected.

**The** shrimps also seemed to ignore the snails. At least not entirely. After a couple of months I noticed a sharp decline in the number of snails in the tank. I had never noticed the shrimps going after the snails, but there was no denying that the number of snails in the tank had

dropped. But of course, I think nothing will ever kill all the snails in a tank as they like to live in the gravel where most fish or invertebrates can not get them.



*Juvenile Red Claw eating a Tetra Color Bit* You can get an idea of the size of the shrimp by imagining the actual size of the Tetra Bit which is about 2 – 3 mm

**I** did not pay much attention to the tank until one day I noticed something new in the tank – a small shrimp about one centimeter long. As I looked closer at the tank I was able to find another shrimp and then another. They had spawned! This was quite unexpected but a bit of research revealed that this was not uncommon and the Red Claw Macro Shrimp was actually quite easy to spawn. I took some Tetra Color Bits, sprinkled a few about and in no time flat there were small red clawed shrimps coming out from everywhere. There was a variety of sizes – from about 1 cm up to 3 or 4 cm. The parents were now quite large – about 6 to 8 cm.(2.3”- 3.2”).

**Red** claws have a tan, almost clear body with a slight bluish tint. But as they get older the body color becomes a darker brown. Their claws are darker and colored solid red. However, some of mine did not have red claws, they were more brown than red. I am not sure why. Perhaps diet? Young red claws sometimes have black and red claws, as they grow older the claws turn completely red. The dominate male has significantly larger claws that are a darker red than the subordinate shrimps.



Photo © by Dave Unruh

A juvenile showing the clear-tan color

**These** shrimps will eat various fish foods, they seem to love Tetra Color Bits (But what doesn't!). I suspect that feeding them makes them less likely to go hunting for snails. If you want them to eat snails it becomes a bit of a dilemma – to feed or not to feed. Easy if there are no other fish in the tank. But if there are other fish you want to feed them of course, and then the shrimps will go for the food rather than the snails. I wanted to see if the shrimps would go after other fish so I put some Endlers Livebearers in the tank to see. I put an adult pair in along with four juveniles. None were eaten & then the adult female had some babies. I counted 12 new fry and none of those disappeared either. I also added 5 - 4 day old red

calico pleco fry and they all have survived as well. So I think it is safe to say these shrimp do not go after live fish.



Photo © by Dave Unruh

Young male adult dominate shrimp

**Breeding** is said to start to take place at around 8 months of age. Apparently the female is receptive to a male after molting. The female will transfer the eggs under her tail and she will carry them there for about 6 weeks before they hatch. There is no pre or post larval stage as in some shrimp species. Once the shrimp hatch they look like miniature versions of the adults.



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Julidochromis marlieri "Gombie"  
photo © by Dave Unruh





**Database Entries for John Verhage**

<b>FISH</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<i>Melanotaenia splendida splendida</i>	all other	may09
<i>Telmatherina ladigesi</i>	all other	
<i>Colisa lalia</i>	anabantid	jun82
<i>Colisa sota (chuna)</i>	anabantid	
<i>Trichogaster microlepis</i>	anabantid	sep82
<i>Trichogaster trichopterus</i>	anabantid	jun82
<i>Barbus tetrazona</i>	barbs etc.	jun82
<i>Ancistrus dolichopterus</i>	catfish	may09
<i>Corydoras aeneus (albino)</i>	catfish	
<i>Apistogramma borelli(pertense)</i>	cichlid	
<i>Aulonocara stuartgranti</i>	cichlid	may09
<i>Cyphotilapia frontosa</i>	cichlid	dec07
<i>Geophagus brasiliensis</i>	cichlid	
<i>Geophagus rhabdotus</i>	cichlid	feb83
<i>Haplochromis burtoni</i>	cichlid	
<i>Haplochromis electra</i>	cichlid	
<i>Haplochromis sp. 44</i>	cichlid	may09
<i>Hemichromis bimaculatus</i>	cichlid	jun82
<i>Julidochromis dickfeldi</i>	cichlid	dec07
<i>Julidochromis marlieri</i>	cichlid	dec07
<i>Julidochromis transcriptus</i>	cichlid	dec07
<i>Labeotropheus trewavasae</i>	cichlid	
<i>Labidochromis caeruleus</i>	cichlid	may09
<i>Melanochromis johanni</i>	cichlid	
<i>Neolamprologus pulcher "daffodil"</i>	cichlid	may09
<i>Pelvicachromis pulcher</i>	cichlid	jun82
<i>Pseudotropheus acei</i>	cichlid	may09
<i>Pseudotropheus demasoni</i>	cichlid	may09
<i>Pseudotropheus zebra</i>	cichlid	
<i>Pterophyllum scalare</i>	cichlid	dec07
<i>Tropheus moorii "Chimba"</i>	cichlid	may09
<i>Cynolebias (Nematolebias) whitei</i>	killie	nov82
<i>Epiplatys dageti</i>	killie	
<i>Ameba splendens</i>	livebearer	
<i>Poecilia latipinna</i>	livebearer	sep82
<i>Xiphophorus maculatus</i>	livebearer	jun82
<i>Ampullaria cuprina</i>	mollusc	jun82

**Database Entries for Tom Hillier**

<b>FISH</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<i>Ancistrus sp. (albino)</i>	catfish	jan10
<i>Amatitlania nigrofasciata (Convict)</i>	cichlid	mar10
<i>Julidochromis dickfeldi</i>	cichlid	oct10
<i>Julidochromis marlieri</i>	cichlid	oct10
<i>Labidochromis caeruleus</i>	cichlid	jan10
<i>Nimbochromis venustus</i>	cichlid	jan10
<i>Pelvicachromis pulcher</i>	cichlid	oct10
<i>Pseudotropheus acei</i>	cichlid	jan10
<i>Ameba splendens</i>	livebearer	mar10
<i>Girardinus falcatus</i>	livebearer	jan10
<i>Heterandria formosa</i>	livebearer	mar10
<i>Poecilia reticulata</i>	livebearer	jan10
<i>Xiphophorus evelynae</i>	livebearer	jan10

**UPCOMING EVENTS  
TO OCTOBER, 2011**

March 6, 2011 [Hamilton & District Aquarium Society](#) AUCTION ONLY

March 20, 2011 Annual awards meeting in Waterdown at 9 a.m. Location will be announced closer to the date.  
10:30 a.m. CAOAC Executive meeting in Waterdown, ON  
12:00 p.m. CAOAC General meeting in Waterdown, ON

March 27, 2011 [Brant Aquarium Society](#) SHOW & AUCTION

April 2 - 3, 2011, Calgary Aquarium Society presents a Speaker Weekend with SHOW & AUCTION. Come see Gary Lange, Spencer Jack and Aquaflora at the Montgomery Community Hall, located at the corner of 16th avenue and Home Rd.

April 10, 2011 Durham Region Aquarium Society SHOW & AUCTION

April 17, 2011 (Annual Reports are due)  
10:30 a.m. CAOAC Executive meeting in Waterdown, ON  
12:00 p.m. CAOAC General meeting in Waterdown, ON

May 20 - 23, 2011, CAOAC annual convention hosted by the Brant Aquarium Society at the Best Western Brant Park Inn, Brantford, ON, Canada  
SHOW AND AUCTION

June 26, 2011 CAOAC meeting/President's BBQ  
10:30 a.m. CAOAC Executive meeting in Waterdown, ON  
12:00 p.m. CAOAC General meeting in Waterdown, ON

October 2, 2011 Hamilton & District Aquarium Society SHOW AND AUCTION



Marine Cunner (*Callinectes astivus*)  
Photo © by Dave Durub

**Database Entries for Henry Soja**

<b>FISH</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<i>Betta splendens</i>	anabantid	jan97
<i>Brachydanio frankei</i>	barbs etc.	apr98
<i>Ancistrus sp.</i>	catfish	apr00
<i>Corydoras aeneus (albino)</i>	catfish	mar97
<i>Hoplosternum thoracatum</i>	catfish	mar99
<i>Pelvicachromis pulcher</i>	cichlid	june01
<i>Pterophyllum scalare</i>	cichlid	jan97
<i>Poecilia reticulata</i>	livebearer	jan97
<i>Xiphophorus variatus</i>	livebearer	jan97

**Database Entries for Tom Hillier**

<b>FISH</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<i>Ancistrus sp. (albino)</i>	catfish	jan10
<i>Amatitlania nigrofasciata (Convict)</i>	cichlid	mar10
<i>Julidochromis dickfeldi</i>	cichlid	oct10
<i>Julidochromis marlieri</i>	cichlid	oct10
<i>Labidochromis caeruleus</i>	cichlid	jan10
<i>Nimbochromis venustus</i>	cichlid	jan10
<i>Pelvicachromis pulcher</i>	cichlid	oct10
<i>Pseudotropheus acei</i>	cichlid	jan10
<i>Ameba splendens</i>	livebearer	mar10
<i>Girardinus falcatus</i>	livebearer	jan10
<i>Heterandria formosa</i>	livebearer	mar10
<i>Poecilia reticulata</i>	livebearer	jan10
<i>Xiphophorus evelynae</i>	livebearer	jan10

**Database Entries for Pam Danyluck**

<b>FISH</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<i>Ancistrus dolichopterus (Albino)</i>	catfish	apr07
<i>Ameba splendens</i>	livebearer	dec08
<i>Heterandria formosa</i>	livebearer	may07
<i>Limia perugiae</i>	livebearer	dec07
<i>Poecilia (Acanthophaelus) wingei</i>	livebearer	apr08
<i>Poecilia reticulata</i>	livebearer	apr07
<i>Poecilia sphenop</i>	livebearer	apr08
<i>Xiphophorus helleri'</i>	livebearer	apr 08
<i>Xiphophorus montezum</i>	livebearer	sep 10

**Database Entries for Bob Hayslip**

<b>FISH</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Date</b>
<i>Pseudotropheus</i>	cichlid	jan10

**Database Entries for Bruce Hallett**

<b>FISH</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Date</b>
<i>Sarotherodon mossambicus</i>	cichlid	feb.91
<i>Poecilia reticulata</i>	livebearer	nov.93
<i>Xiphophorus helleri</i>	livebearer	nov.93
<i>Xiphophorus maculatus</i>	livebearer	feb.91



**Apricot crab**  
photo © by DAVE Unruh



**Tatia perugia** Photo © by DAVE Unruh



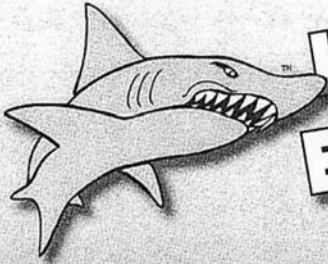
**Aulonocara sp. "German Red"**  
Photo © by DAVE Unruh



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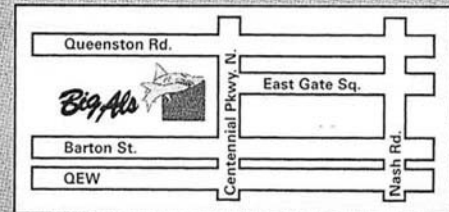
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