

Some Things Fishy

I feel like a fish out of water.



Club Announcements

Virtual OCA Convention Nov 20-22, 2020 see www.ohiocichlid.com/extravaganza/

Most other events are cancelled

Do you feel like I do?



- Message to All.....2
- Cave Challenge..... 3
- What to do in a Pandemic.....4
- Meeting Info.....5

Chairman's Message

Hi All,

Well hasn't 2020 turned out to be a year that everything that was planned got tossed out the window. Our speaker lineup was set with top notch speakers coming in from out of town. The Fall Fish Festival was ready to go and lots of interest. We were one of the lucky clubs that had our spring auction before everything got shut down.

We all we hoping that by now we would be able to have our meetings and enjoy the holiday seasons together. But a thing call Covid19 has turned our lives upside down. It has disrupted our families, our hobbies, our everyday life, and has made us really wonder when will this all be over.

I know that we have members who have lost loved ones during this time that I am aware of. Our condolences to the Rizzo's at the passing of Patty's Uncle, and to the Gifford's at the passing of Roy, Bonnie's husband and Chris's Dad.

Also to all those that have been in the hospital, hopefully you are all doing better.

It has been a pretty boring year so far with just about every Auction, Convention or Fish event being cancelled. Some clubs did sneak in a swap meet outdoors this fall, but our state would have been there to shut it down in a second. Hopefully 2021 will be much better. If at all possible we will try to have our spring auction but that is yet to be determined.

So with that being said, keep those fish happy, hopefully some are spawning. Keep yourself and family close to you and healthy.

Enjoy the holidays and hope for 2021 to be a much better year.

Randy



The Cave Challenge

Background

Many of you may know me from fish conventions, swap meets, auctions, club meetings, or speaking engagements "Getting ahead in BAP". I come to you today with a fun challenge which will cost you nothing but a little time.

Going back to late December 2019, I was approached by Phil Hypes (PNT Aquatics) to see if I was interested in purchasing the pleco cave division of his business. He was moving out of town and could not take his equipment. I had shown an interest in the past, and was happy he considered the offer. It has taken close to 8 months to get my garage converted into a Clay Studio, as I call it. The problem I currently have is my business has no name. As I am starting to attend swap meets and making my products available, I would like to have available business cards, but need a company name. This is where the challenge comes into play.

Challenge

At the first advertisement for the NEO (North East Ohio) Fish Swap on Sept 13th, 2020 I put out a challenge and received limited response. Let's try it again: Anyone who suggests a company name that I use to represent my business, I will award 100 caves to that individual. I have set up a special email for the purpose of reviewing suggestions. Please email your ideas to: MySuggestionToJoeDoyle@Gmail.com

If you have already suggested a company name, this will be included in the review list. If you are a competitor to my product line, suggestions like "Drop Dead" or "Go Home" will not be considered. Deadline date for all suggestions will be December 31st, 2020. A winner will be announced in a follow up article. I look forward to hearing from you.



What to do in a Pandemic

By Randy Seufert

So we are in a time of uncertainty, business are closed and we are told to stay home. Well after about 2 weeks of playing games on the computer and phone, downloading a few new ones that you can color pictures, (I do all the fish ones!) . You get pretty bored, so why not work on the fish tanks. You all know Teri has the bulk of the 62 we have going, but I have 5 that are all mine, a 75, 2 40's and 2 15's. My 75 was looking empty after the spring auction, and I had got 4 L036 Pleco's from Freshwater Exotics just as this whole pandemic started. So I visited the fishroom and grabbed the 5 Xiphophorus kallmani "Lake Catemaco", I had purchased at the Greater Akron Auction back in March of '19. These fish were originally collected by Rusty Wessel while in Mexico. Dave Williamson had successfully bred and these were some of his fry. They were about 3/4" when purchased. Now these are a slow growing wild swordtail, In a year they had just reached sexual maturity.

Xiphophorus kallmani, is one of the larger swordtails reaching almost 5 inches. They have a bright metallic sheen to their body which is why they are sometimes called "Copper Swordtails" or "Brass Swordtails." and a dark strip running the length of their body. The male has a long sword. But as we all know we should keep their scientific name and location with them if we sell or pass on these fish. Don't think that they are all females as the males are late maturing as we found out.

I moved the 5 X. kallmani to the 75 gallon, which is well planted and has the 4 L036 Pleco and a few Otocinclus in it. This tank is maintained at 76 degrees, water changes regular, with a power filter and power head to move water, and 2 led light fixtures for plant growth and light. They were happy in their new home and grew more. In May after feeding I noticed some little fry in the tank, about 8 of them, hard to tell if more were hiding in the plants. I left them in the tank to see if they would survive, and the parents left them alone. Crushing up the flake so they would be able to eat. As time passed more fry were found and now there are over 60 young kallmani in the tank. In the past month the older parents have one by one died off, leaving it up to these young to carry on the species.

So if you are bored, from this pandemic, work with your fish, change their scenery or tank and maybe you will get some fry too. I won't mention the hoard of long fin albino pleco's that I now have in my one 40. Now just to be able to have an auction or somewhere we can sell some of these great fish to others.





Tropical Fish Club of Erie County
5725 Herman Hill Road
Hamburg, New York 14075

On the web at TFCEC.com

Tropical Fish Club of Erie County Nov/Dec 2020 Vol. 33 Issue 4

**Regular Meetings
Are Cancelled until
Further notice due
to the Covid 19
pandemic.**

Membership

Know someone that would like to join? Dues can be paid to Andy Shuma at the meeting. Contact him at tfcec.membership@gmail.com Or sent to TFCEC, 5725 Herman Hill Road, Hamburg, NY 14075

Dues as follows:

Individual Membership	\$12.00
Family Membership	\$18.00
Junior Membership	\$6.00

Meetings start at 7pm, at the Lake Erie Italian Club, 3200 South Park Ave, Lackawanna NY 14218

Thanks to the following 2020 Sponsors of TFCEC

Sera, Florida Aquatic Nursery, Amazonas, Ecological Laboratories, The Fish Place, Coral Sea, Rock Beach Aquatics, Pet Friendly, Tannin Aquatics, Cichlid Press, Hagen, Hydor, Flipper, Penn Plax, Dr Tim's , Zoo Med, Pleco Hotels & Accessories, Zito Aquatics, Aquatic Gardiners, Estes