

# Buckeye Bulletin

## April 2016

**Social Gathering:**  
**April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**  
**Middleburg Heights**  
**Permanent Location**



**Ohio Cichlid  
Association**



**This Month's Honored Guest:**  
**Ray "Kingfish" Lucas**

# Welcome to the Buckeye Bulletin...

As you turn these pages, you enter the digital archives of the Ohio Cichlid Association. Take a look around and please enjoy.

**Monthly Features include:**

**President's Message**  
**Editor's Message**  
**Bowl Show Results**  
**Cichlid BAP Results**  
**Catfish BAP Results**  
**Program Previews**  
**This Month in OCA History**  
**Exchange Article**  
**And more...**

Special thanks to Jonathan Stranzinsky for the front cover picture and the AWESOME article. Hope you enjoy this contribution!

As a member, you are more than welcome to submit pieces for publication in the bulletin. Please contact Editor, Jon "Jombie" Dietrich at [jdietric@mail.bw.edu](mailto:jdietric@mail.bw.edu)

If you are interested in all things "exchange," please contact Exchange Editor, Eric Sorensen at [Eeleven@aol.com](mailto:Eeleven@aol.com)

## **The Fine Print:**

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When submitting articles for publication in this bulletin, please remember to include any photographs or art for the article. The Ohio Cichlid Association is not responsible for any fact checking or spelling correction in submitted material. Articles will be edited for space and content. All information in this bulletin is for the sole use of The Ohio Cichlid Association and the personal use of its members. Articles, photographs, illustrations, and any other printed material may not be used in any way without the written consent of The Ohio Cichlid Association.

# Meet Your 2016 OCA Board...

President: Lew Carbone

Treasurer: Rhonda Sorensen

Programs: Lew Carbone

Bulletin Editor: Jonathan "Jombie" Dietrich

Cichlid BAP: Mark Chaloupka

Bowl Show: Carl Olszewski

Extravaganza: Marc DeWerth

Photographer: Jonathan "Jombi" Dietrich

Historian: Scott Myers

Raffles: Marc DeWerth

Club Liaison: Lew Carbone

Manufacturer Liaison: Marc DeWerth

At Large (Elected):

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Don Danko

Vice President: Gary Mendez

Secretary: Andrew Shock

Membership: Hilary Lacerda

Webmaster: Gary Mendez

Catfish BAP: Steve Heinbaugh

Apparel: Kyle May

Auctions: Duties shared

Videographer: Jonathan Strazinsky

Librarian: Hilary Lacerda

Refreshments: Bob Tillman

Jim Smith Fund: Lew Carbone

Promotions: Kyle May

At Large (Appointed):

Eric Sorensen  
Sherry Olszewski



Ohio Cichlid  
Association

## **The OCA Mission Statement...**

The OCA is an organization dedicated to the advancement and dissemination of information relating to all aspects of the biology of cichlids and related aquatic life. Our purpose is to promote the interest, keeping, study, breeding, and the educational exhibition of Cichlids. Additionally, the exchange of ideas, meeting new people, and distribution of information concerning Cichlids is of primary interest.

---

### **There are many ways to get involved with the club!**

Attend Meetings  
Contribute to the Buckeye Bulletin  
Participate in the monthly Bowl Show  
Volunteer to “run” at an auction  
Persuade non-members to attend a meeting  
Attend the Extravaganza  
Participate in the Breeder Awards Program  
Enter fish into an auction  
Join the Board – elections are held in December  
Like/Share an OCA Facebook post  
Post a thread on the OCA Forum  
Visit [Ohiocichlid.com](http://Ohiocichlid.com)

Get involved in all things OCA!

# A Word from the President...

Lew Carbone,  
OCA President

---

Greetings, OCA Members

I trust you found the room layout for the March meeting far superior to that of the February meeting. Everyone seemed more comfortable, and better able to concentrate on Sam Borstein's fascinating talk and other meeting activities. We hope to continue tweaking the set-up to eliminate a bottle-neck or two, while keeping the 100 chairs available for attendees.

All area catfish enthusiasts should be aware that some rare Loricariids will be auctioned off at our April meeting, to benefit the Jim Smith Fund. They are Hypancistrus sp. "Gurupa", a rare black and white striped pleco that are new to the hobby and have rarely been bred. (Here's a link to their page on Planet Catfish:

[http://www.planetcatfish.com/common/species.php?species\\_id=6448](http://www.planetcatfish.com/common/species.php?species_id=6448) ) They were donated by tropical fish entrepreneur and catfish expert Dale Ernst, who spoke at one of our meetings a couple years ago. Dale is the owner of Fantastic Fins, in Livonia, Michigan.

(<http://www.fantasticfinsfish.com/> ) On your next fish-trip to Michigan, you definitely need to check out his fabulous shop, and thank him for promoting cichlid research, education and conservation through his support of the JSF.

You've probably talked to this month's speaker. If someone asked me "Who do you think, out of everyone in the American aquarium hobby, knows the most people involved in the hobby, both big names and average Joes?", I'd confidently answer "Ray 'Kingfish' Lucas". If you've ever attended an Extravaganza, you'll recognize him, even if you haven't had the pleasure of speaking with him. (He is that jolly dry-goods auctioneer.) He has been a key supporter of the Extravaganza for the entire 21 years of its existence, and will be sure to have lots of stories about his experiences with hobbyists all over the world.

It would be great to see some of your great fish in the bowl show! This month's classes are Peacocks, Central American cichlids under 6", and freshwater crustaceans. I've always thought that meetings are more fun if we have live aquatic creatures in attendance, instead of just us terrestrial bipeds.

Hope to see you soon!

*Lew*



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**Ray "Kingfish" Lucas**

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and 500 shows!

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## Attention! It's Time to Gather...

The next OCA Social Gathering is  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 – 8:00 PM

Meeting location is **New Permanent Location**  
Middleburg Hts. Rec Center  
6000 E. Bagley Road  
Middleburg Hts., Ohio 44130      Room C

Here's what to expect...

President's Welcome  
Speaker Introduction  
Amazing Speaker  
Social Time  
BAP Certificate Presentation  
Membership Raffle  
Fish Auction  
Huge Raffle

Enjoy a great time with great people and everyone's  
favorite topic, CICHLIDS!

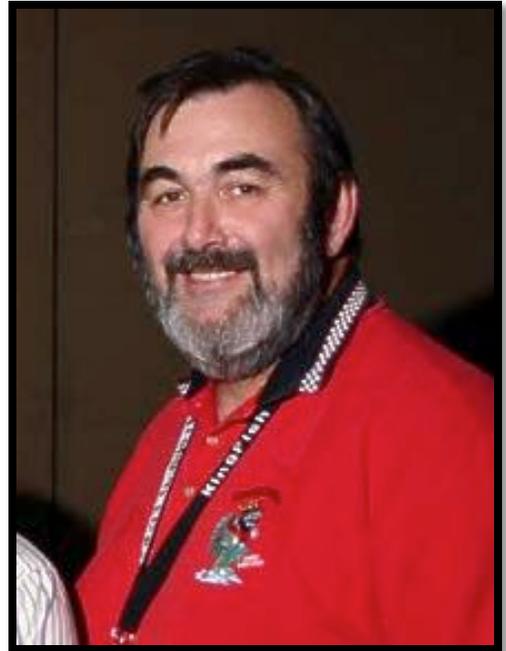


# April Program Preview

## Ray “Kingfish” Lucas

I have been a hobbyist for 56 years. I started keeping fish at age 11, after an older brother left behind an aquarium when he went into the service. My mother asked, “Who’s going to taking care of this?” I said I would. 1 tank turned into 15 tanks by the time I was 15, and we moved the tanks from the dining room into the fruit cellar in the basement.

My first aquarium society was the Buffalo Aquarium Society which met at the Buffalo Savings Bank at Amherst & Bailey Ave, on the east side of Buffalo. I had to take the bus back and forth to the meetings. My first pet shop was Niagara Aquarium on Military Road, in Tonawanda, where I rode my bike back and forth carrying my new fish home in Asian food takeout containers. Plastic bags came later. I rode my bike to several stores, including Scalery Hatchery, and one on Grant & Military road on the west side of Buffalo. The Buffalo Aquarium Society folded, and up came Western New York Aquarium Society, in which I worked my way up the food chain to be president in the 70s. They folded. I move to Southtown and started Southtown Fish Fanciers, hosting a FAAS Convention and a Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs Convention. I’m now a member of the Tropical Fish Club of Erie County.



Growing up, I met so many great hobbyists and still keep in touch with my elders, too many of them to name. But I used to show fish at the Cleveland Aquarium Society, Greater Akron Aquarium Society, SCALES, Medina County Aquarium Society, Greater Detroit Aquarium Society, Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society, Allegheny River Valley Aquarium Society, and Chautauqua County Aquarium Society. Now, it's not only about the fish, but it's also about the people who make this hobby great.

In the late 1980s, I formed Kingfish Services, not to sell anything, but to promote the companies that support the societies. In 25 years of doing this I traveled to 43 States, England, Scotland, Germany, Spain, Holland, France, and every province of Canada. This totals about 500 shows attended and a million miles traveled in 25 years.

I was also one of the founders of the Aquatic Gardeners Association, and of the North American Fish Breeders Guild. I was the only American ever to be president of CAOAC, and am very proud of this.

I have kept many fishes, including livebearers, catfish, plecos, South American cichlids, native fishes, angels, and discus. When Instant Ocean came out, I had a saltwater aquarium. I am a collector of literature, with over 2,000 books & magazines in my library. I also collect antiques, such as tanks, signs, filters, fish cans, food containers, along with too many other things to list.

After working for General Motors for 30 years, I am retired and spend time playing with the fish. I have 11 nice aquariums and an 8,000 gallon koi pond in the yard. I speak not only at fish clubs but also at Senior Citizens groups and at Scout meetings. I am still spreading the word about "Getting Hooked on Tropical Fish".

I have 4 grandchildren, and they all love fish and have tanks or ponds, and love coming to the club meetings and fish shows.

*Ray Lucas is an important supporter of the OCA, mainly through his huge support for the Extravaganza, which he has been a big part of since the 1<sup>st</sup> one in 1995. His talk will be about his favorite fish and his experiences in the organized hobby.*

*-Lew*

# A Year of Great Presentations...

April 1

**Ray “Kingfish” Lucas**

Topic TBA

May 6

**Chris Biggs**

“The Florida Experience: A Nerd’s-Eye View”

June 3

**Larry Johnson**

Lake Malawi

August 5

**Mark Soberman**

Cory Cats

September 2

**Dr. Tom Waltzek**

(University of Florida)

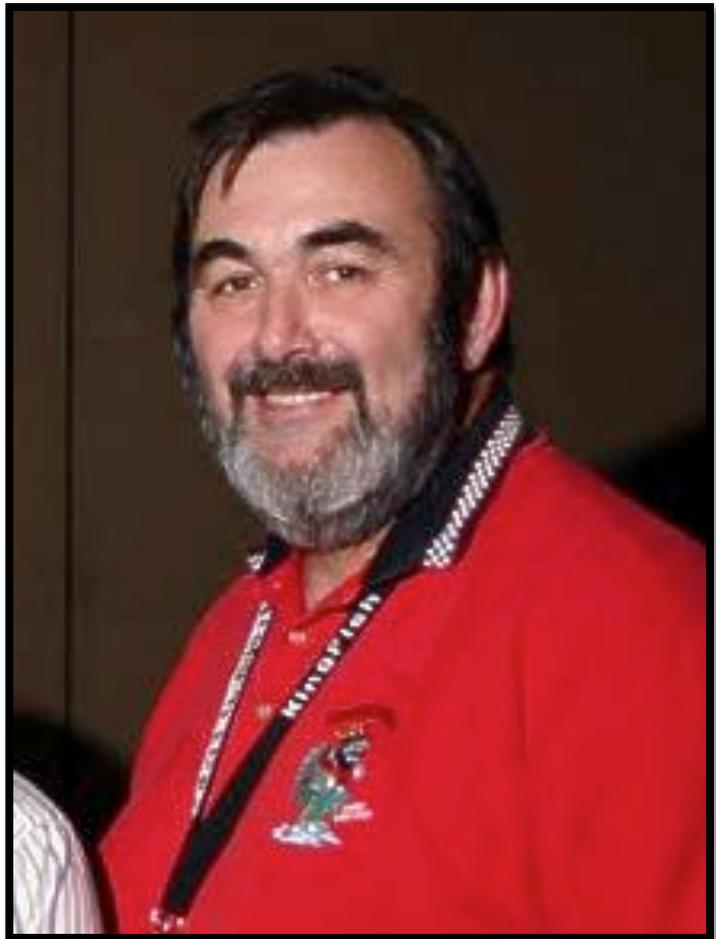
“Diseases of Cichlid Fishes”

October 7

**Ed Burress**

(Auburn University)

Topic TBA

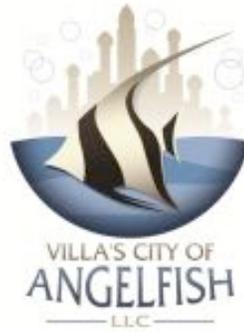




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# March Meeting Photo Recap

Thank you all for attending!



Photos courtesy of Hilary Lacerda - Thank you!

## Cichlid BAP... April 2016

Listed below are the Cichlid BAP submissions for March 2016. Members successfully bred these cichlids and raised a minimum of 6 fry to a minimum of 1". Varying point values determined by spawn difficulty were given to members' total Cichlid BAP points.

Congratulations on these spawns and thank you for your participation.

### **Bob Blazek**

Labeotropheus fuelleborni 10

### **David Hearn**

Astatotilapia latifasciata "zebra obliquidens" 10

Protomelas taeniolatus "red empress" 10

Pseudotropheus acei "black Tanzania" 10

### **Mark Kazanoff**

Pterophyllum scalare "silver angel" 10

### **Matt Lacy**

Pterophyllum scalare "koi angel" 10

### **Chuck Nowakowski**

Amatitlanai nigrofasciata "pink convicts" 10

Nandopsis hatiensis 20

Pelvicachromis pulcher 10

### **Carl Olszewski**

Neolamprologus hecqui 15

### **Jonathan Strazinsky**

Petenia splendida "green snook" 20

# Cichlid BAP Totals... April 2016

Listed below are the Cichlid BAP grand totals. The information is maintained by Mark Chaloupka, OCA Board. See Mark at monthly meetings for more information about the Cichlid Breeders Award Program.

Thank you for your participation.

Lew Carbone	-	2800
Don Danko	-	2395
Dan Woodland	-	2070
Bryan Davis	-	1425
Bill Loudermilk	-	1200
Josh Cunningham	-	1165
Linda Wallrath	-	1130
Rich & Maggie Schoeffel	-	1065
Mark Chaloupka	-	1045
John Tesar	-	1020

## 900 POINT LEVEL

Dennis Tomazin	-	965
Tom Swiderski	-	905

## 800 POINT LEVEL

Dustin Brummitt	-	840
Hilary & Antonio Lacerda	50	800

## 700 POINT LEVEL

Gary Mendez	10	780
Jeff Yadlovsky	25	775
Ken & Sue Galaska	-	770

## 600 POINT LEVEL

Jeff Natterer	-	690
Bill Schwartz	20	645
Jonathan Strazinsky	20	635
Charlie & Cathy Suk	-	615
Steve Zarzeczny	-	600

## 500 POINT LEVEL

Bob Blazek	45	580
Tim Craig	-	540
George Anagnostopoulos	-	515
Ron Georgeone	-	510

## 400 POINT LEVEL

Rick Hallis	-	495
Phil Hypes	-	475
Kyle May	-	460
Bob Bina	10	425
Eric & Rhonda Sorensen	25	425
Tyler Toncler	-	420

## 300 POINT LEVEL

David Hale	-	335
Tony Poth	-	335
Gary Zalewski	-	325
Ken & Karen Grimmett	-	300

# Cichlid BAP Totals... April 2016

The points list for the Breeders Award Program has been updated to include only current members. If you are a current member and your name has been omitted, please see the B.A.P. Chairman at the social meeting so we can correct any errors.

Please remember: You may only turn in a species or strain of fish for B.A.P. points one time. If you need a list of what you have been credited with, see the BAP chairman at the social meeting.

## BREEDER LEVEL

### 200 POINT LEVEL

Tom & Carolyn Evers	-	285
Andrew Schock	-	280
James Shakour	-	275
Greg Senn	10	270
Dennis Kuehn	-	255
Dave Esner	-	250
Ken Walker	-	240
Jonathan Dietrich	-	230
Paul Collander	-	205
Justin Way	-	200

### 100 POINT LEVEL

Marc & Dawn DeWerth	-	195
Ozeal Hunter	-	190
Chuck Carroll	-	185
Andrew Subotnik	-	180
Jason Mylnar	-	170
David Hearn	30	165
Charles Nowakowski	40	165
Frank Mueller	-	160
Bob Evers	-	155
Denis Rozmus	45	155
Steve Heinbaugh	-	150
David Ayers	-	145
Bill & Janice Bilski	10	145
Greg Seith	-	145
Dan Ogrizek	-	140
Mark Kazanoff	25	140
Dan Ogrizek	-	140
John Griffith	10	125
Joe Ring	-	120
Peter Nario-Redmond	-	115
Aaron Stevens	-	115
David Toth	-	115
Raymond Langer	-	110

Mark Huntington	-	95
Carl Olszewski	15	95
Steve Olander	10	90
Pete Gembka	-	80
Rick Wood	-	75
Dolores Bacisin	-	70
Bob Tillman	-	70
Matt Urbin	-	70
Dave Dimond	-	65
Anthony Scarton	15	65
Nicholas Zarzeczny	-	65
Paul Palisin	-	60
Chris Jaskolka	-	55
Dave Dimond	-	50
John Kahl	-	50
Alex Gorges	-	45
Jim Jensen	-	45
John Kaminski	-	40
Ethan Wiley	-	40
Christopher Sooy	-	35
Tom Tansey	-	35
Jason Gorges	-	30
Paul Hutnyak	-	30
Wayne Corman	-	25
Matt Lacy	25	25
Fred Roberts	-	25
Andy Lacerda	-	20
Scott Meyers	-	20
Bill Sensor	-	20
Jason Webb	-	20
Jim & Amy Damm	-	10
Ron Drungil	-	10
Ben Jensen	-	10
Michael Meyer	10	10
Mike Trader	-	10

Congratulations!

**2016 Participants**

Another AMAZING year of  
Cichlid Breeding

Breed...

Share....

Enjoy...

Cichlid and Catfish BAP



## Catfish BAP... April 2016

Listed below are the Catfish BAP submissions for March 2015. Members successfully bred these catfish and raised a minimum of 6 fry to a minimum of 1". Varying point values determined by spawn difficulty were given to members' total Catfish BAP points.

Congratulations on these spawns and thank you for your participation.

---

Breeder	Species	Points
Dave Ayres	Ancistrus sp. Lemon Drop Longfin	10
Don & Marilyn Danko	Lophiobagrus brevispinis Ancistrus sp. Lo88	25 10
Bill Schwartz	Ancistrus sp. Calico	10
Justin Way	Hypancistrus sp. L333	20



## Catfish BAP Totals... April 2016

Listed below are the Catfish BAP grand totals. The information is maintained by Steve Heinbaugh, OCA Board. See Steve at monthly meetings for more information about the Catfish Breeders Award Program.

Thank you for your participation.

Breeder	2016	Total
Dan Ogrizek		385
Steve Heinbaugh	10	365
Dave Ayres	10	260
Don & Marilyn Danko	35	250
Phil Ayres		220
Ken Walker		120
Dan Woodland		100
Matt Urbin		90
Eric & Rhonda Sorensen	10	85
Tom & Carolyn Evers		70
Justin Way	20	60
Bryan Davis		60
Phil Hypes		60
Hilary Lacerda		60
Bob Blazek		50
Ken Galaska		45
Tyler Toncler		45
John Kaminski		40
Kyle May		40
George Aganostopoulos		40
Karen & Ken Grimmett		30

# Catfish BAP Totals... March 2016

Listed below are more Catfish BAP grand totals. The information is maintained by Steve Heinbaugh, OCA Board. See Steve at monthly meetings for more information about the Catfish Breeders Award Program.

Thank you for your participation.

NAME	2016	TOTAL
Lew Carbone		30
Andrew Schock		30
Bob Evers		30
Bill Schwartz	20	20
Tony Poth		20
Josh Cunningham		20
Gary Mendez		20
John Tesar		20
David Toth		20
Paul Palisin		20
Jason Mlynar		15
Dave Hearn		10
John Griffith		10
Carl Olszewski		10
Anthony Scranton		10
Jon Dietrich		10
Richard Shamray		10
William Zarzeczny		10
Wayne Corman		10
Mark Chaloupka		10
David Hale		10
Jonathan Strazinsky		10
Bob & Jennifer Tillman		10

## **Bowl Show – April 2016**

Listed below is information about the monthly meeting Bowl Show. The Bowl Show is your opportunity to show off your fish. Each month different categories of Cichlids and Catfish will be judged. Points will be given and prizes will be awarded. All members are welcome to participate. This is great practice for our yearly Extravaganza show! See Carl Olszewski, OCA Board, at a meeting or contact him at [carlolszewski@yahoo.com](mailto:carlolszewski@yahoo.com) for more information.

---

This month's Bowl Show Categories

Peacocks  
Central Americans over 6"  
Freshwater Crustaceans

Last month's results:

Scott Myers took first, second and third place.  
3rd place for pseudotropheus sp. yellow tail acei.  
2nd for pseudotropheus williamsi  
1st with BOS pseudotropheus sp. blue dolphin.

# Bowl Show 2016 Schedule

## Jan. 2

Tanganyikan Shell- dwellers  
Central Americans under 6"  
Loracariids (Pleco types) over 6"

## Feb. 6

Victorian Basin  
Angelfish  
Synodontis and other Mochokids

## Mar. 6

Pseudotropheus, Cynotilapia, Melanochromis  
South Americans under 6"—exclude Angels, Discus, Apistos  
Catfish—exclude Callichthids, Loracariids, Mochokids (see other classes for explanations)

## Apr. 3

Peacocks  
Central Americans over 6"  
Freshwater Crustaceans

## May. 1

Tanganyikan Mouth- brooders--exclude Frontosa  
South Americans over 6"  
Loracariids under 6"

## June. 5

Mbuna--exclude Pseudo, Cyno, Melano  
Discus, Uaru  
Open Catfish, limit 3 per participant (all Cats eligible)

## July

No meeting

## Aug. 7

Old World—exlude Rift Lakes and Victorian Basin  
Open New World, limit 3  
Open Tanganyika, limit 3

## Sept. 4

Frontosa  
Open Old World, ex- clude Malawi, Tang.  
Corys and other Callichthyids

## Oct. 2

Malawi "Haps"  
Apistos  
Fish Photography

## Nov. 6

Female cichlids, limit 3  
Loaches and Botias  
Telmatochromis, Chalinochromis

## Dec. 4

Tanganyikan "Lamps"—exclude Shell-dwellers  
Julidochromis  
Open Malawi, limit 3



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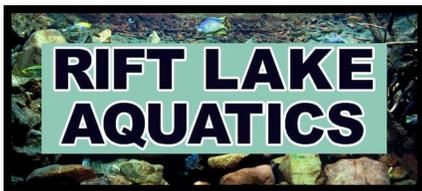
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# Saluting the Five Star General

By Jonathan Strazinsky

Like most of the species I've kept, I originally saw a picture of *Hemichromis Elongatus*, the Five Star General, in a book while doing research on Central American cichlids and thought to myself, "some day I'd like to keep that fish." I know, I know, it's an African cichlid but it thinks it's a Central American cichlid in the way it acts, breeds and eats! They're called Five Star Generals because of the distinctive five black splotches on their flanks and because of their aggressive nature towards each other and their tank mates. There's no doubt that I seem to challenge myself with keeping aggressive species, learning strategies to manage the aggression, keeping the species long term and eventually breeding the species. To me, growing fry to a sellable size is the ultimate goal and it defines success in keeping a species of fish.





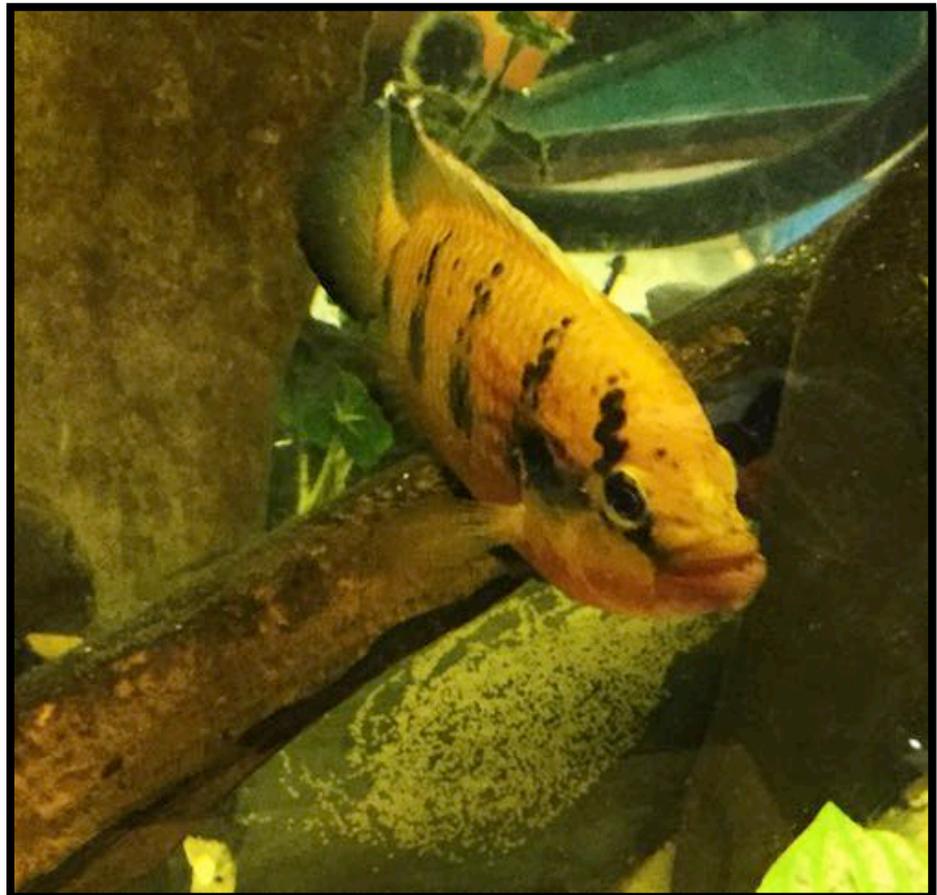
Mike Drawdy brought me five *Hemichromis elongatus* when he came to Extravaganza XX. The first night I had them one jumped out of the tank in my hotel room, leaving me with four. Great, I thought, I'm never going to get a spawn now... But alas, 17 months later it turns out there's one male and three ladies! Let me tell you, this guy was in heaven! (Insert your favorite Barry White tune here). He would spawn with every lady in rotation. They're substrate spawners and like the water warm. The tank they were in was a 240 gallon (8'x2'x2') and was kept at 84 degrees. I was advised early on by Chris Biggs to keep them in a community setting or they would kill

themselves down to one. They were kept with Central and South American cichlids such as oscars, black belts, centrarchus, and bocourti and got along with everything as best they could. They didn't kill themselves down to one and they weren't responsible for any deaths in the community. The male was definitely towards the high end of the hierarchy in the tank.



To differentiate between the sexes was difficult in the beginning. Research on the Internet was no help; everything I saw and read said it was hard to tell the difference between the sexes; next to impossible. I'm not sure if it's just my small group of four, but the male's pelvic fins are longer, more full, and jet black whereas the ladies are shorter, a bit dull, and thin. I suppose he could have made it his mission to go after the pelvic fins of the girls thus making them shorter, but I do not know? His aggression was higher than the ladies as well, but it's not like the ladies were pussycats either! They could definitely hold their own in a territorial dispute! There were numerous spawns and those spawns were huge; easily 1000 eggs but the parents never raised any of their spawns. They would spawn, and within 36 hours they would eat the eggs then, he would move on to the next lady and the cycle would start over. After losing three spawns I decided to pull the eggs and raise them myself. The rock they spawned on was put into a ten gallon tank with just an air stone behind it and enough methylene blue to darken the water so much, that even the light from a flashlight couldn't penetrate the water. The tank was filled with water from the main tank. Twenty four hours later I did a 50% water change, and every 24 hours after that I did the same until the fry were free swimming. At that pivotal point, the air stone was replaced with a seasoned sponge filter and decapsulated brine shrimp eggs were fed. Even at the very small fry stage, if water changes are not done religiously and if they were not fed a minimum of twice per day they would kill and eat each other at an alarming rate!

One of the fry in the spawn I raised, was easily three times the size of the others and was subsequently removed due to its heightened aggression and appetite. You can try your luck at raising this rare species and spawning it yourself, as I'll be bringing some for the BAP program this month! I've enjoyed raising and spawning this beautiful and complex species of cichlid! I hope you will get the chance!





The Five Star General  
*Hemichromis elongatus*

# Fish Market!

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Cichlasoma Bimaculatum 1"-3" \$3 each, 8 available  
Salt water White Spot Grouper 12" \$30  
Male herichthys Carpintis (Escondido) 6" \$10  
Female herichthys Carpintis (Escondido) 4" \$10  
Male herichthys Carpintis (Vontihilo) 6" \$10, 2 available  
Rio chacamax bifas 2"-3" \$3 each, 8 available  
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Hoplarthus psittacum 4"-5" all six \$50  
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Female festae 5" \$25  
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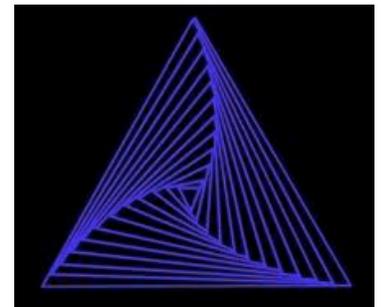


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