

Buckeye Bulletin

January 2018



Next Social Meeting: Friday, January 5, 2018 at 8:00 pm

OCA Winter Auction: Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 10:00 am



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For membership info please contact Hilary Lacerda: <u>hilarylacerda@gmail.com</u> or visit the <u>OCA forum</u>.



On the Cover

This month's cover features a Best of Show winner from the OCA Extravaganza. This *Geophagus brasiliensis* was entered by Scott Myers.

Do you want your picture on the cover of the *Buckeye Bulletin*? Please email photos to buckeyebulletin@gmail.com.

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PROPOSED CHANGE TO OCA CONSTITUTION

About the Ohio Cichlid Association

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.

The 2018 OCA Board

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_		Mark Chaloupka	Cichlid BAP
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Scott Myers	Historian	Jonathan Strazinsky	Photographer
Marilyn Danko	At Large	Dan Ogrizek	At Large
Eric Sorensen	At Large*	Rhonda Sorensen	At Large*

* denotes appointed position

Get The Most Out of the OCA

The OCA's monthly meetings are free and open to the public. Feel free to invite a guest! There are many ways to get the most of your membership:

submit an article, classified ad or photograph for the bulletin • put a fish in the bowl show • attend the OCA Extravaganza • turn fry in for the BAP program • attend the social meetings • buy and sell fish during the winter auction • join the board • start a forum discussion • visit ohiocichlid.com •

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM DON DANKO

Happy New Year to All! I hope that your holidays have been restful, productive and filled with joy and time with family and friends.

I've used the holiday time to implement some of the cool photo suggestions that Mo Devlin provided in his awesome late night photography workshop at the 2017 Extravaganza. In doing so, I've finally gotten my computers set up to properly edit RAW images. It's only taken me about 17 years to finally do it! I've taken a number of tutorials and started editing some of the pics that I took on our December trip to Tranquilo Bay in Panama with Ad and Getrud Konings. I've also begun post processing some of the Shell Dweller pics that I've been taking and getting some nice images to include in a Shell Dweller talk that I'm working on.

One of the cool tools Mo introduced us to in his Extravaganza workshop was Lume Cubes (www.lumecube.com). Lume Cubes are small, but very powerful, 1500 lumen, LED lights that can be used for fill lighting, remote or primary flashes, continuous lighting for videos and many, many other purposes. I decided to purchase a pair on Black Friday at a significant discount and so far I'm glad I did. Just scratching the surface so far, but I've tried using one placed on the glass top above the Shell Dwellers while using a flash on the hot shoe of the camera. Doing so, has allowed me to dramatically reduce the shadows in the pictures.





There's a lot going on behind the scenes to make 2018 a great year for the OCA. The Board has reviewed our auction process and plans to implement some changes to make it more effective for our upcoming February 10 Winter Auction. Among the changes is relocating the clerk to the other side of the auctioneer to improve the flow of the auction. Also, we will have a Runner Coordinator to coach the runners on the proper process to use and to recruit more runners when needed to keep the auction moving. We'll also be running 50/50 Raffles for the benefit of the Jim Smith Fund and other fund raising activities. So, we're planning a great event again for you in February! Be sure to put it on your calendar and plan to attend:

February 10, 2018 Auction Begins: 11am **Registration: 10am to 12pm 60 Bag limit with 5 bags maximum per species will be enforced at Check-in!** Holiday Inn – Strongsville Phone: 440-238-8800 15471 Royalton Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136 Located at I-71 and Route 82 just 10 minutes south of Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

We'll also be running a project planning workshop at our January Board Meeting to set our key 2018 Extravaganza activity dates prior to putting our plans into motion. We expect that doing so will increase our efficiency and eliminate some of the last minute items leading up to the event. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Extravaganza planning, please speak with Show Chair, Jeff Natterer, Lew Carbone or me via e-mail or in person at a monthly meeting or event.

VP and Speaker Chair, Lew Carbone, informed me yesterday that Birger Kamprath had to cancel for the January 5 meeting due to personal reasons. Lew's asked me to fill in, so I'll be giving a talk on Lake Tanganyika Cichlids. Maybe I'll have time to salt in a few pics taken with my new Lume Cubes!

So, keep warm and we'll see you at the January 5th meeting at the Middleburg Hts. Recreation Center and at the February 10th Winter Auction!

Don

SOCIAL MEETING INFORMATION

The Next OCA Social Meeting is Friday, January 5, 2018 at 8:00 pm

Middleburg Heights Community Center, Room C 16000 Bagley Rd Cleveland, OH 44130



Meetings usually begin with a talk about cichlids or a related subject. The OCA is proud to bring world class speakers to Ohio, not only for our yearly convention, the OCA Extravaganza, but also for our monthly meetings. With Northeast Ohio being the hotbed for cichlid breeders that it is, we have discovered that there seems to be no shortage of world-class speakers locally, a number of which have used the opportunity to talk at OCA meetings to later tour the country with their fantastic presentations. After the talk we usually take a break for refreshments and some socializing among "cichlidiots". This also gives people a chance to look at bowl show entries, and after the break the bowl show winners are announced. Next, Breeder Award Program (BAP) awards are handed out. We have a Breeder Award Program for cichlids and one for catfish, turning our program into probably the largest one of its kind in the country. The entries are subsequently auctioned off, making some of the newest and rarest cichlids in the hobby available to our members at low auction prices! The OCA has had a number of first spawns in the United States and members have donated some very nice stuff to be auctioned off for the benefit of our Jim Smith Fund. Meetings end with a raffle, where we give away prizes that are set up on a huge table, which typically bends to the point of breaking under their load!

SOCIAL MEETING SCHEDULE

7:30	(All times approximate) Doors Open
8:00	Social Time
8:15	Call to Order Announcements New Member Welcome & Speaker Introduction
8:30	Speaker
9:30	Break
9:45	BAP Awards Bowl Show Results
9:55	Mini-Auction
10:25	Raffle

UPCOMING OCA SOCIAL MEETING PROGRAMS

2018

February 2 Matt McGee Monash University, Australia

March 2 Ricard Kraus, Ph.D. U.S. Geological Survey Biologist Lake Erie

April 6 Chris Carpenter "Shell Dwellers of Lake Tanganyika"

May 4 Charlie Mueller Catfish

June 1 Lee Newman "Cenotes, Caves and Fishes of the Yucatan"



Cichlids*Catfish*Plants*Hard Goods Saturday, February 10th

Strongsville Holiday Inn I-71 & 82 🗯

Enter for a Chance to Win AMAZONAS MAGAZINE Subscriptions **50/50 Raffles Throughout the Day**

Registration 10 AM till Noon Auctions begins at 11 AM Most major credit cards accepted Higher split for OCA members!

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A special THANK YOU to Ken Walker



PROPOSED CHANGE TO OCA CONSTITUTION

The OCA Board has proposed a change to the OCA Constitution. The change re-defines the definition of a quorum for purposes of conducting official OCA business. This change was proposed to make the monthly board meetings more frequently productive by requiring a smaller group of board members to be present in order to conduct official business.

This change will be published in the Buckeye Bulletin twice and then put to a vote of the membership at a monthly social meeting before it can be made.

Currently the relevant portion of the Constitution reads:

"If there is no quorum at an OCA Board Meeting, no official action may take place. A quorum is defined as a majority of Board Members eligible to vote."

The proposed change defines a quorum as follows:

"A quorum at in-person monthly board meetings is defined as 8 voting Board Members, including the President who can only vote to break a tie. A quorum for Forum voting is defined as 10 voting Board Members."

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the board or speak up at a social meeting if you have any questions or concerns about the proposed change!



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REFLECTING ON THE 2017 EXTRAVAGANZA

By: Andrew Schock

Another Extravaganza is in the books. The 2017 Extravaganza was a great event with great fish, great speakers, and most importantly great people. This year we received strong support from some of the most prominent vendors in the hobby as well a great cast of representatives from staple manufacturers in the aquarium trade. I would like to thank the vendors and manufacturers who support our show:

Glass Cages Northeast Ohio Discus South Central Cichlids Aquatica New Life Spectrum Omega One

- Mike's Cichlids Super Cichlids Imperial Tropicals Swiss Tropicals Aquatic Life Handcrafted Aquariums The ACA
- Rift Lake Aquatics Neptune Aquatics The Fish Factory Pleco Caves Cobalt Python Products

In addition to the vendors and manufacturers, the show featured world class speakers Wolfgang Staeck, Daniel Konn-Vetterlein, Anton Lamboj, Mo Devlin and Ad Konings. The speaker slates for Extravaganza are always exceptional, and this year was no exception.

Saturday afternoon was highlighted by a large swap meet, which was jam-packed full of high quality fish. Below is a snapshot of the swap.



If you didn't find what you needed at the swap, chances are it could be found elsewhere in the hotel. Several dozen hobbyists from near and far were selling livestock, plants and equipment from their rooms. There were rare fish and great deals to be had!

If you still had room for more fish, Sunday's auction featured roughly a thousand bags of fish which were up for grabs to the highest bidder.

The OCA board will begin its planning for the 2018 'Ganza this month. We hope it will be the best Extravaganza yet, and that you will be there to experience it. Save the date for November 16-18 2018!

2017 EXTRAVAGANZA SHOW RESULTS

The Extravaganza show is always one of the best Cichlid shows in the country. 2017 was no different, as there were over 175 total entries. There were many fantastic specimens on display, as well as some truly unique artwork. The show is a big part of what makes the Extravaganza a can't miss event for cichlid and catfish enthusiasts from around the world.

Anyone who placed in the show should be extremely proud! Pictured below are OCA members Scott Myers and Phil Ayers displaying their awards for Best of Show and Best Catfish of Show. Also pictured are the best of show and reserve best of show cichlids.







Division A - New World

Class 1 – Discus

Sponsored by Bergen Water Gardens & Nursery 2 Entries

1st Place – Bill Wroblewski, Snakeskin Discus 2nd Place – Bill Wroblewski, Red Melon Discus

Class 2 – Angelfish

Sponsored by Bergen Water Gardens & Nursery 5 Entries

1st Place – Douglas Singer, Pterophyllum scalare 2nd Place – Mark Murtaugh, Pterophyllum scalare 3rd Place – Douglas Singer, Pterophyllum scalare Marble

Class 3 - Apistogramma, Nannocara, Crenicara, Microgeophagus

Sponsored by Bill Sensor 8 Entries

1st Place – Bill Sensor, Ivanacara adoketa 2nd Place – Bill Sensor, Ivanacara adoketa 3rd Place – Bill Sensor, Apistogramma cacatuoides

Class 4 - Central Americans 6 inches and under

Sponsored by Motor City Aquarium Society 5 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Neetroplus nematopus 2nd Place – Bruce Duong, Cichlasoma (Amatitlania) 3rd Place – Scott Myers, Amatitlania nigrofasciata

<u>Class 5 - Amphilophus, Parachromis, Nandopsis</u> Sponsored by Something Fishy, Inc. 9 Entries

1st Place – Antonio Martina, Amphilophus labiatus 2nd Place – Tom Rizzo, Amphilophus trimaculatus 3rd Place – Scott Myers, Amphilophus festae

Class 6 - All other Central Americans over 6 inches

Sponsored by Mike's Wet Pets 5 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Herichthys pearsei 2nd Place – Jonathan Raviotta, Vieja maculicauda "Black Belt" 3rd Place – Scott Myers, Herichthys carpintis

Class 7 - All other South Americans 6 inches and under Sponsored by Triton Freshwater Aquatics 11 Entries

1st Place – Jeff Walker, Andinoacara pulcher 2nd Place – Erwin Gundrum, Andinoacara pulcher 3rd Place – Matt Anderson, Cleithracara maronii

<u>Class 8 - All other South Americans over 6 inches</u> Sponsored by Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society 10 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Geophagus brasiliensis 2nd Place – Scott Mclaughlin, Crenicichla lenticulata 3rd Place – Jason Mlynar, Geophagus dicrozoster

Division B - Old World

Class 9 - Haplochromines, Victorian Basin Sponsored by Northfin USA 6 Entries

1st Place – Stephan Kalbli, Pundamilia 2nd Place – Stephan Kalbli, Pundamilia nyererei 3rd Place – Scott Myers, Yssichromis sp. Blue Tip

Class 10 - Haplochromines, Malawi

Sponsored by Northfin USA 7 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Protomelas spilonotus 2nd Place – Mark Murtaugh, Sciaenochromis ahli 3rd Place – Bill Schwartz, Sciaenochromis ahli

Class 11 - Aulonocara jacobfreibergi, "Eureka", "Lwanda", "Walteri" Sponsored by Rift Lake Aquatics 4 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Aulonocara jacobfreibergi "Mamela" 2nd Place – Bruce Duong, Aulonocara sp. 'lwanda' 3rd Place – Scott Myers, Aulonocara jacobfreibergi "Eureka Red"

Class 12 - All other Aulonocara

Sponsored by Something Fishy, Inc. 7 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Aulonocara maylandia 2nd Place – Scott Myers, Aulonocara baenschi 3rd Place – Bruce Duong, Aulonocara "Ngara Flametail"

Class 13 – Mbuna

Sponsored by Northfin USA 11 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Labidochromis hongi 2nd Place – Jonathan Raviotta, Labidochromis sp. 'perlmutt' 3rd Place – Scott Myers, Pseudotropheus acei Yellowtail Ngara

Class 14 - Julidochromis, Chalinochromis, Telmatochromis

Sponsored by Mark Kazanoff 7 Entries

1st Place – Matt Anderson, Julidochromis marlieri 2nd Place – Scott Myers, Julidochromis regani 3rd Place – Bill Wroblewski, Julidochromis marlieri

Class 15 - All other Tanganyikan substrate brooders Sponsored by Triton Freshwater Aquatics

5 Entries

1st Place – Stephan Kalbli, Lepidiolamprologus nkambae 2nd Place – Scott Myers, Lamprologus brevis 3rd Place – Chris Hardy, Altolamprologus calvus Black white chatika

Class 16 - Tanganyikan mouthbrooders, exclude Frontosa Sponsored by Cunningham Cichlids

2 Entries

1st Place – Marilyn Danko, Red Bishop Tropheus 2nd Place – Bill Schwartz, Tropheus kaiser II

<u>Class 17 - All other Old World 5 inches and under</u> Sponsored by Mark Kazanoff 5 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Steatocranus Casuarius 2nd Place – Bill Wroblewski, Pelvicachromis pulcher 3rd Place – Bill Sensor, Pelvicachromis pulcher

Class 18 - All other Old World over 5 inches

Sponsored by Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society 5 Entries

1st Place – Scott Myers, Paratilapia polleni 2nd Place – Scott Myers, Tilapia Mamfe 3rd Place – Scott Myers, Hemichromis Elongatus

Division C - Catfish/Misc.

Class 19 - Loracariids over 6 inches Sponsored by Jeff Natterer

6 Entries

1st Place – Jason Mlynar, Pseudacanthicus spinosus L096, L160 Spiny Monster Pleco 2nd Place – John and Jim Baad, Hypostomus roseopunctatus 3rd Place – Wayne Toven, Leporacanthicus L007, Vampire Pleco

Class 20 - Loracariids 6 inches and under

Sponsored by Something Fishy,Inc. 5 Entries

1st Place – Bill Wroblewski, Hypancistrus sp. L260, Queen Arabesque Pleco 2nd Place – Phil Ayres, Rineloricaria eigenmanni 3rd Place – Phil Ayres, Rineloricaria hasmanni

Class 21- Corydoras, Aspidoras, Brochis

Sponsored by Triton Freshwater Aquatics 15 Entries

1st Place, Jason Mlynar - Corydoras sp. (C091) 2nd Place – Douglas Singer, Brochis multiradiatus Hognose Brochis 3rd Place, Phil Ayres - Corydoras similis

Class 22 - All other New World Catfish over 6 inches

Sponsored by Bergen Water Gardens & Nursery 7 Entries

1st Place – Wayne Toven, Platydoras armatulus 2nd Place – Phil Ayres, Pseudopimelodus bufonius 3rd Place – Jason Mlynar, Goeldiella eques

Class 23 - All other New World Catfish 6 inches and under

Sponsored by Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society 8 Entries

1st Place – Phil Ayres, Microglanis iheringi 2nd Place – Jeff Walker, Microglanis iheringi South American Bumblebee Catfish 3rd Place – Phil Ayres, Spinipterus asci

Class 24 - Sharks and Loaches

Sponsored by NBM Aquatics 7 Entries

1st Place – Jeff Walker, Pangio oblonga Black Kuhli 2nd Place – Hilary Lacerda, Pangio oblonga Black Kuhli 3rd Place – Wayne Toven, Sinobotia pulchra

Class 25 - Synodontis Catfish

Sponsored by NBM Aquatics 9 Entries

1st Place – Wayne Toven Mochokiella paynei

2nd Place – Tom Rizzo, Synodontis lucipinnis

3rd Place – Jeff Walker, Synodontis eupterus

Class 26 - All Other Old World Catfish

Sponsored by The Tropical Fish Club of Erie County 4 Entries

1st Place – Phil Ayres, Horabagrus brachysoma 2nd Place – Phil Ayres, Pseudomystus siamensis 3rd Place – Bill Wroblewski, Horabagrus brachysoma

Class 27 - Prints and Slides

Sponsored by Hocking Hills Bigfoot Conference 2 Entries

1st Place – Zenin Skomorowski, Red Spotted Gold Severum Photo 2nd Place – Zenin Skomorowski, Guianacara stergiosi Photo

Class 28 - All other art forms

Sponsored by RMS Aquaculture 6 Entries

1st Place – Charles Davis, License Plate 2nd Place – Gene Longino, tank buster sculpture 3rd Place – Gene Longino, Steel Sculpture

<u>Class 29 - Any fish or other aquatic pet (participants under 16 years of</u> age)

Sponsored by Ohio Bigfoot Conference 2 Entries

1st Place – James Myers, Metriaclima sp. Blue Dolphin Manda 2nd Place – Shaun Myers, Pseudotropheus "Gallereya" Longfin Pelvic

Best of Show Sponsored by Python Products

Scott Myers, Geophagus brasiliensis



Reserve Best of Show Sponsored by Swiss Tropicals

Antonio Martina, Amphilophus labiatus



Best Catfish of Show Sponsored by Ken Walker

Phil Ayres, Microglanis iheringi



President's Trophy Sponsored by Handcrafted Aquariums

Scott Myers



Memorial Trophy Sponsored by Jackson Kelly PLLC

Dave Ayers



<u>People's Choice</u> Sponsored by Mike's Wet Pets

Antonio Martina, Amphilophus labiatus





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Ray "Kingfish" Lucas

Thanks for 25 years and 500 shows!

DECEMBER CICHLID BAP

Listed below are the Cichlid BAP submissions for last month. Members successfully bred these cichlids and raised 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.

December 1, 2017

Lew Carbone Yssichromis pyrrhocephalus	10
Josh Cunningham Callochromis pleurospilus "Kigoma"	15
David Hearn Haplochromis sp. "Uganda red"	10
Bill Schwartz Aulonocara sp. "ruby red"	10
Greg Senn Aulonocara sp. "OB peacock"	10

Congratulations to:

Bill Schwartz

700 Point Level

CICHLID BAP TOTALS

Listed below are the Cichlid BAP grand totals. The information is maintained by Mark Chaloupka. See Mark at monthly meetings for more information about the Cichlid Breeders Award Program. Thank you for your participation.

CURRENT B.A.P. STANDINGS (12/1/17)

MASTER BREEDER 1000 POINT LEVEL

Lew Carbone	140	2995
Don & Marilyn Danko	-	2405
Dan Woodland	-	2070
Josh Cunningham	135	1640
Bryan Davis	-	1455
Bill Loudermilk	-	1200
Linda Wallrath	-	1130
John Tesar	90	1110
Mark Chaloupka	20	1075
Rich & Maggie	-	1065
Schoeffel		

900 POINT LEVEL

Dennis Tomazin	-	965
Jeff Yadlovsky	140	955
Tom Swiderski	-	905

800 POINT LEVEL

Hilary & Antonio	40	870
Lacerda		
Dustin Brummitt	-	840
Jonathan Strazinsky	70	840
Ken & Sue Galaska	-	800
Gary Mendez	10	800

700 POINT LEVEL

Jeff Natterer	15	705
Bill Schwartz	55	700

600 POINT LEVEL

Bob Blazek	60	660
Charlie & Cathy Suk	-	615
Steve Zarzeczny	-	600

500 POINT LEVEL

Tim Craig	-	540
George	-	515
Anagnostopoulos		
Ron Georgeone	-	510

400 POINT LEVEL

Rick Hallis	-	495
Phil Hypes	-	475
Eric & Rhonda	15	475
Sorensen		
Kyle May	-	460
Bob Bina	-	435
Tyler Toncler	-	420

300 POINT LEVEL

Jonathan Dietrich	45	335
David Hale	-	335
Tony Poth	-	335
Greg Senn	10	325
Gary Zalewski	-	325
Ken & Karen	-	310
Grimmett		
Tom & Carolyn Evers	15	300

200 POINT LEVEL

Andrew Schock	10	290
Dennis Kuehn	10	285
James Shakour	-	275
Jason Mlynar	90	260
David Hearn	60	255
Dave Esner	-	250
Ken Walker	-	240
Justin Way	20	220
Mark Kazanoff	55	215
Paul Collander	-	205

100 POINT LEVEL

Marc & Dawn	-	195
DeWerth		
Ozeal Hunter	-	190
Bill & Janice Bilski	40	185
Chuck Carroll	-	185
Denis Rozmus	-	185
Andrew Subotnik	-	180
Bob Evers	20	175
Charles Nowakowski	-	165
Frank Mueller	-	160
Steve Heinbaugh	-	150
David Ayers	-	145
Greg Seith	-	145
Dan Ogrizek	-	140
John Griffith	-	135
Carl Oszewski	30	135
Joe Ring	-	120
Steve Olander	25	115
Peter Nario-	-	115
Redmond		
Aaron Stevens	-	115
David Toth	-	115
Raymond Langer	-	110

BREEDER LEVEL

Mark Huntington	-	95
Dolores Bacisin	-	85
Pete Gembka	-	80
Rick Wood	-	75
Bob Tillman	-	70
Matt Urbin	-	70
Dave Dimond	-	65
Anthony Scarton	-	65
Nicholas Zarzeczny	-	65
Jim Jensen	10	60
Paul Palisin	-	60
Chris Jaskolka	-	55
John Kaminski	15	55
Dave Dimond	-	50
Margaret Heifner	50	50
John Kahl	-	50
Roger Stark	50	50
Alex Gorges	-	45
Ethan Wiley	-	40
Matt Lacy	-	35
Christopher Sooy	-	35
Tom Tansey	-	35
Jason Gorges	-	30
Paul Hutnyak	-	30

		-
Keith Robinson	30	30
Adam Stallman	30	30
Wayne Corman	-	25
Fred Roberts	-	25
Andy Lacerda	-	20
Scott Meyers	-	20
Bill Sensor	-	20
Jason Webb	-	20
Ken Carey	-	10
Jim & Amy Damm	-	10
Ron Drungil	-	10
Ben Jensen	-	10
Cory Knarr	-	10
Michael Meyer	-	10
Mike Trader	-	10

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.







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2017 Jim Smith Fund Grants

By: Lew Carbone

At this recent Extravaganza, the Ohio Cichlid Association announced the winners of the 2017 Jim Smith Endowment Fund grants. Jim Smith was a long-time and highly-regarded Membership Chair of the OCA, who passed away in 2003. Later that year, the Jim Smith Fund was established in his memory. The JSF solicits proposals for research, education or conservation projects that deal with cichlids or catfish. Each year, the OCA board votes to determine the best project or projects from the list of applicants, taking in consideration the current balance in the fund.

In 2017, the Jim Smith Fund awarded two grants, one of \$1,000, to Ryan Greenway, and one of \$500 to the Stuart Grant Conservation Fund.

Ryan Greenway, a Ph.D. candidate at Kansas State University and a student of Dr. Michael Tobler, is studying the Grijalva Basin in the state of Chiapas, Mexico. One of his interests is the make-up of the *Thorichthys* population in that area. There are four areas that he has identified. They are areas that *T. passionis, T. heller*, and *T. passionas* each occupy separately, plus Laguna de las Ilusiones, a lake in which all 3 species intermingle. Ryan is interested in how the possible natural hybridization in that lake is effecting the *Thorichthys* in that area, hoping to answer bigger questions about how hybridization can drive evolution.



To study this, Ryan will be collecting samples from all four areas, doing DNA analyses on them, and comparing the fish from the Lugana de las Ilusiones population to those where the species are found separately. The Jim Smith Fund grant will pay for the testing of 100 specimens.

If you heard Ad Konings's talk about Lake Tanganyika at this past Extravaganza, you know that *Tropheus duboisi* "Maswa" is virtually extinct in the wild. According to Ad, in earlier days there were

only 2 or 3 commercial collectors working their way around the lake, so a population of fish was able to maintain itself because it wasn't hit very often. Nowadays there are many small outfits collecting fish for the aquarium trade. As each of them take their turn collecting the Maswa *duboisi*, the population doesn't have time to recover. During a survey Ad conducted of that part of the Lake Tanganyika shoreline a few months ago, he found that, in their home range between Maswa and Halembe, not enough individuals are left to sustain the population. Their popularity in the hobby is what may have sealed their doom.

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Working through the Stuart Grant Conservation Fund, Ad has a plan similar to the one they're implementing in Lake Malawi. (You may be aware that they are releasing hundreds of *Chindongo* (*Pseudotropheus*) saulosi at Taiwanee Reef to replace the original population that was wiped out by collectors.) The Stuart Grant Fund will use the money donated by the Jim Smith Fund to buy a large enough group of *T. duboisi* "Maswa" breeders that they'll be able to produce hundreds of fry with minimal inbreeding. They only want stock that have been raised in Lake Tanganyika water, and they'll continue to keep the breeders and raise the fry in that water so that, when the time is right, they can be released back into the lake with few acclimation problems.

The OCA would like to continue doing good work through the Jim Smith Fund, but we can't do it without your help. Our ability to fund research, education and conservation projects, such as those described above, is based entirely on the money that the Fund can raise. When you see a JSF raffle at one of our events, please be generous and buy some tickets. When an item donated to the JSF comes up at one of our auctions, bid what the fish is worth instead of going for the lowest price you can. You can even donate directly by giving a check (payable to the OCA) to one of our board members, or by going to our <u>online store</u>, choosing the amount you'd like to give, and contribute through PayPal. With your help we can give either bigger grants, or fund more grants, in the future.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE JIM SMITH FUND





Throughout the year, we will be running a number of fund raising activities for the OCA Jim Smith Fund for Conservation and Education. These will include the following:

- Raffling off donated livestock or goods
- 50/50 Raffles during OCA events
- Donated bags of fish will be raffled at club auctions
- Sale of shirts and goody bags donated by Omega/Ad Konings
- Donations will be accepted through a button on the club website

Please consider donating cash, livestock or hardgoods at any OCA event or meeting to help raise money for the Jim Smith Fund. Because of the generous donations of our members and supporters, we have been able provide much needed grants for cichlid or catfish research and conservation! Thanks for your anticipated support!

The Jim Smith Fund is the OCA's endowment fund that annually awards Cichlid and Catfish researchers and others funds to promote Conservation and Education efforts. To date:

- 2008: \$1,000 was given to support the construction of Anti-Netting Devices in Lake Malawi
- 2009: \$1,000 was donated to the Stewart M. Grant Conservation Fund
- 2010: \$1,000 was donated to the Max Hayes High School to support local education
- 2011: \$2,500 awarded to Jay Stauffer at Penn State to catalog 3,200 collections of Cichlids
- 2012: \$1500 awarded to Jay Stauffer of Penn State University to videograph cichlids in the wild
- 2013: the Jim Smith Fund was able to make two awards, one to Ed Burress for Pike Cichlid research and the other to Ron Coleman for Central American research
- 2014: an award of \$1000 was made to Ad Konings for Tanganyikan breeding facilities
- 2015: Melanie Stiassny received a \$1200 grant to fund attempts to collect live Teleogramma obamaorum. Sam Borstein received \$2000 to study Malawi Cichlid feeding techniques.

The Jim Smith Fund has awarded over \$13K to support Conservation and Education!!

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CATFISH BAP

Listed below are the Catfish BAP submissions for last month. Members successfully bred these catfish and raised 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.

CATFISH BAP TOTALS

Listed below are the Catfish BAP grand totals. The information is maintained by Steve Heinbaugh. See Steve at monthly meetings for more information about the Catfish Breeders Award Program. Thank you for your participation.

NAME	2017	TOTAL
Dan Ogrizek	10	420
Steve Heinbaugh		365
Dave Ayres	20	310
Don & Marilyn Danko		285
Phil Ayres		230
Ken Walker		120
Eric & Rhonda Sorensen		110
Dan Woodland		100
Matt Urbin		90
Tom & Carolyn Evers	10	80
Bob Blazek	10	80
Hilary Lacerda		80
Bob Bina	10	70
John Kaminski		70
Justin Way		60
Bryan Davis		60
Phil Hypes		60
Jeff Natterer		50

Ken Galaska		45
Tyler Toncler		45
Matt Lacy		40
Bill Schwartz		40
Josh Cunningham		40
Kyle May		40
George Aganostopoulos		40
John Tesar	10	30
Karen & Ken Grimmett		30
Lew Carbone		30
Andrew Schock		30
Bob Evers		30
Jason Mlynar	10	25
Tony Poth		20
Gary Mendez		20
David Toth		20
Paul Palisin		20
Jeff Yadlovsky		10
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



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OCA BOWL SHOW

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 Jeff Natterer at a meeting for more information.



BIG CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE BOWL SHOW THIS YEAR. STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!

This Month's Bowl Show Categories:

A. Open New World

B. Open Old World

C. Open Catfish

D. Brightest/Most Colorful Cichlid

OCA Bowl Show Rules

All entries must be set up no later than 8:30 pm.

Entries should be labeled with the name of the fish (common and Latin names). This should be placed on or next to the tank being shown

When judging is complete points and prized will be awarded as follows:

1ST PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE 10 POINTS

2ND PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE 7 POINTS

3RD PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE 5 POINTS

ALL FIRST PLACES WILL PAY \$10