



Ohio Cichlid
Association
Cichlids - Catfish

Buckeye Bulletin

September 2017



• Next Social Meeting: Friday, September 1, 2017 at 8:00 pm •



Ohio Cichlid Association

Buckeye Bulletin Staff

Andrew Schock

Editor

BuckeyeBulletin@gmail.com

Eric Sorensen

Exchange Editor

Eleven@aol.com

The Ohio Cichlid Association's Buckeye Bulletin is produced monthly by the Ohio Cichlid Association. All articles and photographs contained within this publication are being used with consent of the authors.

If you have an article, photograph, or ad to submit for publication, please send it to buckeyebulletin@gmail.com. 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.

For membership info please contact Hilary Lacerda: hilarylacerda@gmail.com or visit the [OCA forum](#).



On the Cover

This month's cover photo was provided by 2017 Extravaganza speaker Anton Lamboj. Make sure to check out Anton's article on *Pelvicachromis silviae* in this month's Bulletin!

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

In This Issue of the Buckeye Bulletin

- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE •
- CICHLID BAP RESULTS •
- CATFISH BAP RESULTS •
- BOWL SHOW INFORMATION AND RESULTS •
- PROGRAM PREVIEW •
- **ANTON LAMBOJ – PELVICACHROMIS SILVIAE** •

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 2017 OCA Board

Lew Carbone	President Programs* Club Liaison Jim Smith Fund*	Don Danko	Vice President Promotions*
		Jonathan Dietrich	Secretary
Sherry Olszewski	Treasurer* Refreshments	Hilary Lacerda	Membership Librarian
Andrew Schock	Bulletin Editor*	Gary Mendez	Web Master*
Mark Chaloupka	Cichlid BAP	Steve Heinbaugh	Catfish BAP
Carl Olszewski	Bowl Show Photographer Refreshments	Carole Doerr	Apparel*
		Jonathan Strazinsky	At Large
Scott Myers	Historian	Marc Dewerth	Raffle* Manufacturer Liaison
Marilyn Danko	At Large	Jeff Natterer	Videographer
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



**Greater Chicago Cichlid
Association**

**2111 Butterfield Rd.
Downers Grove, Illinois**

**Meetings are held the 2nd
Sunday of each month**

**GCCA.net for club
information and awesome
cichlid profiles!**



Seachem Laboratories

Just add water. We'll do the rest.

Check out the NEW HydroTote!

<http://www.seachem.com/>



**Tropical Fish Club of Erie
County**

**5725 Herman Hill Road
Hamburg NY 14075**

**[http://tropical-fish-club-
of-erie-county.com](http://tropical-fish-club-of-erie-county.com)**



**The All-Aquarium
Catfish Convention**

**Presented by the Potomac
Valley Aquarium Society**

<http://catfishcon.com/>

**South Central
Cichlids.com**

**"Caves made so you will enjoy them as
much as we enjoy making them!"**

- Will not leach chemicals
- Won't break down over time
- Will not have sharp edges



www.southcentralcichlids.com



**Good for the
Hobby –
Organizations –
Industry**

Ray "Kingfish" Lucas

**Thanks for 25 years
and 500 shows!**



LEW CARBONE: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, fellow OCA members!

The OCA board is continuing to immerse itself in Extravaganza planning. Despite the Extravaganza's continued success and popularity with hobbyists all over the country, we're not afraid to consider changes that will enhance our attendees' experience. We are discussing, for example, altering the physical set-up in the main room with the goal of increasing the quality of the registration process, the Swap Meet and the Speaker Meet and Greet. We are also working to improve the way we handle show-fish registration, in order to try to eliminate (or greatly shorten) the wait for show-tank labels. Some clubs require early pre-registration of show fish, which means labels can be made ahead of time, but we want to make sure that our show participants have the flexibility to make last minute decisions on which fish to bring.

Our speaker line-up for the next few months is pretty special. This month, local aquarist Nick Zarzeczny will do a presentation about an expedition that he and his dad, Steve, went on. With Ad Konings as their guide, they explored the Tanzanian coast of Lake Tanganyika. I am really looking forward to Nick's account of the trip, and seeing the photos and videos he took. Then in October, a well-known (in Europe) catfish authority, Andreas Tanke, will visit. He will give his final talk of a three week, four appearance tour of aquarium clubs in New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, before returning home to Germany. For our last speaker of the year, in November, we'll host one of the nation's authorities on the aquaristics of Victorian and other East African Haplochromines, Greg Steeves.

You may be getting tired of hearing this, but we're not just saying this stuff for promotional purposes. If you haven't made your Extravaganza hotel reservations yet, please do it now. The first block of rooms that they were saving for us has sold out. Upon our request, they've opened a second block, making more rooms available. Eventually, however, they will tell us that they are booked solid. The sooner we fill each block of rooms, the better the chances that another block will be available to us. Call the Holiday Inn at (440)238-8800, and, if you plan on registering for the event, make sure you get the \$70 per night rate.

Hope to see you at the meeting!

Lew

Letter From the Editor

Hello OCA Members,

As we head into September, it is important to make arrangements for attending this year's Extravaganza, and this month's Bulletin and monthly meeting will contain some nice previews of what is to come.

Anton Lamboj, who will be one of the speakers at Extravaganza, has provided a fantastic article on *Pelvicachromis silviae*, a dwarf cichlid from West Africa. Anton is one of the leading authorities on this genus and we look forward to hosting him in November. The article is a nice appetizer for what Anton will be presenting at Extravaganza.

This month's speaker, Nick Zarzezny, will give a presentation based on his trip to Lake Tanganyika. Nick was guided by none other than Ad Konings, an Extravaganza mainstay who often updates on the news and views from rift lakes of Africa. See the program preview in this bulletin for the full preview of Nick's talk.

The schedule for the Extravaganza is on the following page. Don't miss out!

I hope you enjoy this month's version of the bulletin. As always please contact me with any content, ideas or suggestions.

Until next month,

Andrew Schock
BuckeyeBulletin@gmail.com



OCA Extravaganza 2017 Schedule

Friday, November 17, 2017

2:00 PM	Registration, Show Room (including Manufacturer/Vendor area) Open
6:00 PM	Wolfgang Staeck: "Underwater Observations of Cichlids in Bolivia and Brazil"*
7:15 PM	Daniel Konn-Vetterlein: "Cloudy and Clear – Plecos in Mamoré and Xingu"*
8:45 PM	Anton Lamboj: "Pelvicachromis and Related Genera"*
10:00 PM	Registration Closes
10:00 PM	Hospitality Room* Opens
10:15 PM	Mo Devlin: Aquarium Photography Workshop

Saturday, November 18, 2017

8:00 AM	Morning Mixer* (Donuts and Coffee in the Hospitality Room)
9:00 AM	Show Room Opens
9:00 AM	Daniel Konn-Vetterlein: "The Incredible Diversity of South American Catfishes"*
10:00 AM	Registration Opens
10:15 AM	Wolfgang Staeck: "South American Dwarf Cichlids of the Genus Apistogramma"
11:45 AM	Ad Konings: "The Tanzanian Shore of Lake Tanganyika"*
2:00-3:30 PM	Swap Meet (Main Room)
2:00-2:30 PM	Speaker Meet and Greet (Main Room)
2:00 PM	Registration Closes
4:00 PM	Show Room Closes for Judging
6:00 PM	Pizza Party*
7:00 PM	Awards, followed by <u>Manufacturer's Dry Goods Auction</u>
9:30 PM	Showroom Opens (after Auction)
10:00 PM	Hospitality Room* Opens

Sunday, November 19, 2017

8:00 AM	Morning Mixer*
9:00 AM	Auction Registration Opens
10:00 AM	Auction Begins
10:00 AM	Show Room Opens for Tear-Down
12:00 Noon	Auction Registration Closes

* **Registered attendees only. All other activities are open to the public.**



**Scalz Fine Art and
Illustration
Sam Garcia Jr.**

Extensive Cichlid and fish
collection for purchase

[https://www.facebook.com/
/ScalzNatureArtist/](https://www.facebook.com/ScalzNatureArtist/)



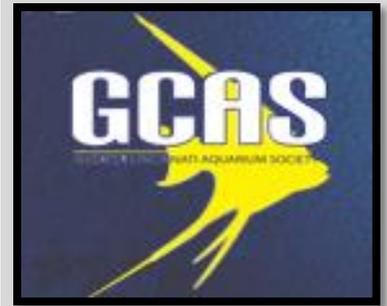
NorthfinUSA

“NorthfinUSA because your fish are
worth it!”

“100% veteran owned”

“The first ever US run business
that has been providing Northfin
fish food since day one.”

<http://www.northfinusa.com/>



**GCAS
Greater Cincinnati
Aquarium Society**

Gcas.org

Meetings held last Sunday
of month at 7:30 pm at
10245 Winton Road,
Cincinnati, Ohio



**Greater Cleveland
Aquarium**

2000 Sycamore Street
Cleveland, OH 44113

216-862-8803

Greaterclevelandaquarium.com

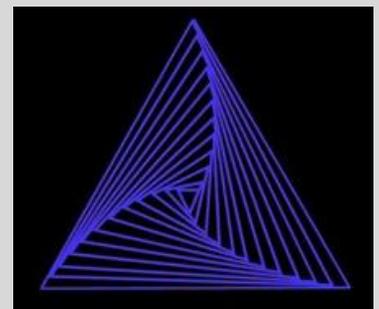


The Wonder of Cichlids

African Cichlids for Sale

Thewonderofcichlids.com

617-895-9902



**Paradigm Fish Food,
LLC.**

Stephanie Butt

“Our food is the only 100%
Grain and Gluten Free fish
food on the market.”

Paradigmfishfood.com

AQUATICA
WWW.AQUATICASUPERSTORE.COM



THE LARGEST SELECTION OF PREMIUM AFRICAN CICHLIDS IN OHIO!

WE SPECIALIZE IN AFRICAN CICHLIDS AND OTHER FRESH WATER FISH AND CATFISH. WE STOCK OVER 10,000 PRODUCTS AND OVER 22,000 GALLONS OF TROPICAL FISH AND LIVE PLANTS!

THURSDAY & FRIDAY 12:00 - 8:00
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 12:00 - 5:00

6653 GRAFTON RD
VALLEY CITY, OH
330-866-0559



Mike's Cichlids

Mike's specializes in breeding African cichlids from Lakes Malawi, Tanganyika and Victoria. We breed Central & South American cichlids and stock a variety of Florida raised tropical fish such as Angels, Catfish, Plecos and more.

floridatropicalfishdirect.com

386-426-0131

CENTRAL
Garden & Pet

At Central Garden & Pet, we know that the home is the heart of activity.

Central Garden & Pet brings you these fine brands



A special THANK YOU to our individual sponsors:
Claudia Dickinson, Ted Judy, Mark Kazanoff, and Zenin Skomorowski



Jungle

Aquariums and Ponds made easy

Check out their full line of products at

Junglelabs.com



Aquarium Technology, Inc.

Aquarium Technology, Inc.

Since 1991 the Hydro-Sponge has been the iconic product of ATI. With six different sizes, the Hydro-Sponge can biologically and mechanically clean nearly any tank!



<http://www.atisponge.com/>



Amazonas Magazine

Hans-Georg Evers

Editor-in-Chief

Freshwater Aquariums & Tropical Discovery

Amazonasmagazine.com

SOCIAL MEETING INFORMATION

The Next OCA Social Meeting is Friday,
September 1, 2017 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

(All times approximate)

7:30	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



September Program Preview

Nick Zarzeczny:

“Adventure on Lake Tanganyika”

Nick Zarzeczny was born into fishkeeping. His dad, Steve, is one of the founders and owners of RMS Aquaculture in Middleburg Heights, and Nick has had aquariums for as long as he can remember. For the past 5 years, he has concentrated on keeping and breeding African cichlids, particularly those from the Rift Lakes.

While attending North Royalton High School, he worked at RMS and was elected President of the Science Club. He graduated in 2015. Nick is an avid and accomplished sport fisherman.

The year of his graduation, as Nick says, “The stars lined up” and he was able to accompany his dad on “a once in a lifetime trip” to Lake Tanganyika from June 17th to July 4th. Hosted and guided by Ad Konings, the Zarzeczny's explored the Tanzanian coast, stopping off at various locations to snorkel. They visited over a dozen places, including Fulway Rocks, Isinga Island, Mpimbwe and Kipili.

Nick brought his cameras, including an underwater video camera, and will be sharing photos, videos and memories with us during his talk, which is entitled “Adventure on Lake Tanganyika”.

Next month, Andreas Tanke, will visit from Germany. The tentative title of his talk is “The Plecos of South America”.

UPCOMING OCA SOCIAL MEETING PROGRAMS

2017

September 1

Nick Zarzeczny

“Adventure on Lake Tanganyika”

October 6

Andreas Tanke

Germany

“Plecos of South America”

November 3

Greg Steeves

East African Haplochromines

December 1

Christmas Party

2018

January 5

TBA

February 2

Matt McGee

Tentative

March 2

TBA

April 6

TBA

May 4

Charlie Mueller

Catfish

June 1

Lee Newman

Cenotes, Caves and Fishes of the Yucatan



**Python Products,
Inc.**

No spill Clean & Fill Gravel
Cleaner, Ulti-Vac, and
more!

Pythonproducts.com

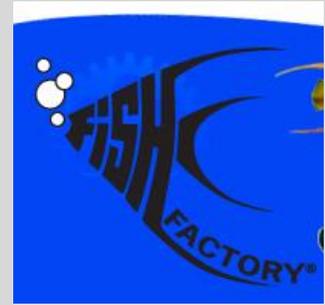


**Bergen Water
Gardens & Nursery**

7443 Buffalo Road,
Churchville, NY 14428

(585) 293-2860

<http://bergenwatergardens.com/>



The Fish Factory

“Aquatic Business of the
Year”

9218 W Oklahoma Ave
West Allis, WI 53227

(414) 546-2201

Thefishfactoryonline.com

Reserve your spot in every issue of next year’s bulletin by contributing \$100 in sponsorship at the Extravaganza!



Swiss Tropicals

Stephan M. Tanner

HOME OF SIMPLE AND
EFFICIENT FILTRATION
SYSTEMS based on the
Poret® and Jetlifter™
brands of products.

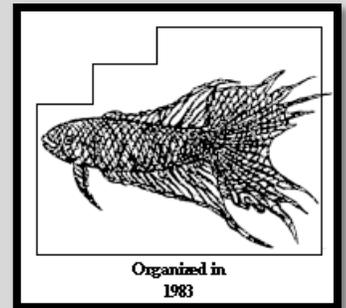
Swisstropicals.com



**NorthFin Premium
Fish Food
Canadian Aquatic Feed Inc.**

**First Canadian manufacturer of
premium quality aquatic food!**

www.canadian-aquatic-feed.com



**Medina County
Aquarium Society**

<http://mcas-fish.net/>

Meets on the 2nd Friday
of the month at 8pm at
the Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church in
Medina, OH



Willem Heijns

DVDS: “Mexico — a journey into the world of cichlids”

And

“Nicaragua — cichlids from the crater “



Excalibur Aquatics and Pet Supplies

887B Edison St NW
Hartville, Ohio 44632

330-587-4582

<http://excaliburaquaticsandpetsupply.com/>



WINDOWS | ROOFING | INSULATION



KEEPING ENERGY BILLS LOWER THAN AN AQUARIUM D.Y.I. PROJECT EVER COULD...

440-439-8250

COMMERCIAL | RESIDENTIAL

NRGMASTERS.NET

440-439-8250



“We are innovators, hobbyists, and perfectionists. We are the best fish foods in the world.”



FRESH FROM ALASKA
THE BEST FISH FOOD IN THE WORLD

- Made With Fresh Alaskan Seafood from Sustainable Fisheries
- Fishmeal-Free to Reduce Waste and Pollution
- Natural Fats & Proteins Deliver Complete Nutrition
- Salmon Skins Provide Natural Color Enhancement

AUGUST 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.

August 4, 2017

Bill & Janice Bilski

Aulonocara sp. "Lwanda"	10
Cyphotilapia frontosa "Burundi 6 bar"	20
Petrotilapia sp. "Chitimba thick bar"	10

Lew Carbone

Harpagochromis cf. vonlinnei "Juma"	10
Haplochromis lividus "Murchison Bay"	10
Pundamilia macrocephala	10

Mark Chaloupka

Tomocichla sieboldii	20
----------------------	----

Jonathan Dietrich

Bujurquina vittata	10
Cryptoheros panamensis	15
Paralabidochromis chilotes "Ruti Island"	10

David Hearn

Aulonocara sp. "dragon blood"	10
Protomelas spilonatus "Mara Rocks"	10

Margaret Heifner

Aulonocara sp. "dragon blood"	10
-------------------------------	----

Jeff Natterer

Copadichromis quadrimaculatus "Mbenji"	15
--	----

Carl Olszewski

Bujurquina vittata	10
--------------------	----

Roger Stark

Amphilophus labiatus	15
----------------------	----

John Tesar

Aulonocara sp. "albino strawberry"	10
Ptyochromis sp. "Hippo Point salmon"	10

Jeff Yadlovsky

Guianacara stergiosi "Rio Caroni"	10
-----------------------------------	----

Congratulations to

Jeff Natterer

For reaching the
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 (8/4/17)

BREEDER	2017	TOTAL
---------	------	-------

MASTER BREEDER 1000 POINT LEVEL

Lew Carbone	75	2930
Don & Marilyn Danko	-	2405
Dan Woodland	-	2070
Josh Cunningham	-	1505
Bryan Davis	-	1455
Bill Loudermilk	-	1200
Linda Wallrath	-	1130
John Tesar	90	1110
Mark Chaloupka	20	1075
Rich & Maggie Schoeffel	-	1065

900 POINT LEVEL

Dennis Tomazin	-	965
Jeff Yadlovsky	105	920
Tom Swiderski	-	905

800 POINT LEVEL

Hilary & Antonio Lacerda	40	870
Dustin Brummitt	-	840
Jonathan Strazinsky	35	815
Ken & Sue Galaska	-	800

700 POINT LEVEL

Gary Mendez	-	790
Jeff Natterer	15	705

600 POINT LEVEL

Bill Schwartz	10	655
Bob Blazek	40	640
Charlie & Cathy Suk	-	615
Steve Zarzeczny	-	600

500 POINT LEVEL

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

400 POINT LEVEL

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

300 POINT LEVEL

Jonathan Dietrich	45	335
David Hale	-	335
Tony Poth	-	335
Gary Zalewski	-	325
Greg Senn	-	315
Ken & Karen Grimmett	-	310
Tom & Carolyn Evers	15	300

200 POINT LEVEL

Andrew Schock	-	280
Dennis Kuehn	-	275
James Shakour	-	275
Dave Esner	-	250
David Hearn	50	245
Ken Walker	-	240
Jason Mylnar	55	225
Justin Way	20	220
Mark Kazanoff	55	215
Paul Collander	-	205

100 POINT LEVEL

Marc & Dawn DeWerth	-	195
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
Peter Nario-Redmond	-	115
Aaron Stevens	-	115
David Toth	-	115
Raymond Langer	-	110
Steve Olander	15	105

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
Dave Dimond	-	50
Margaret Heifner	50	50
John Kahl	-	50
Alex Gorges	-	45
John Kaminski	-	40
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

Roger Stark	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.



Proud Sponsor of OCA Extravaganza

A family of products committed to
developing technologies
and innovative solutions
for pet owners and their pets.

Brands you know. Brands you trust.



Bringing the ocean home.



AUGUST 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.

August 4, 2017

Breeder	Species	Points
----------------	----------------	---------------

No Submissions – Breed Those Catfish!!

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	10	300
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
Karen & Ken Grimmett		30
Lew Carbone		30
Andrew Schock		30
Bob Evers		30
Jason Mlynar	10	25
Tony Poth		20
Gary Mendez		20
John Tesar		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



Imperial Tropicals

One of Florida's leading tropical fish farms since 1970

Operated by Mike Drawdy

Live Arrival Guarantee

Visit Imperialtropicals.com



Mike's Wet Pets

Aquarium Plants & Fish in Lancaster, New York

Family Owned and Operated for More than 10 Years!

Visit <http://www.mikeswetpets.biz/>

Or Email Info@mikeswetpets.biz



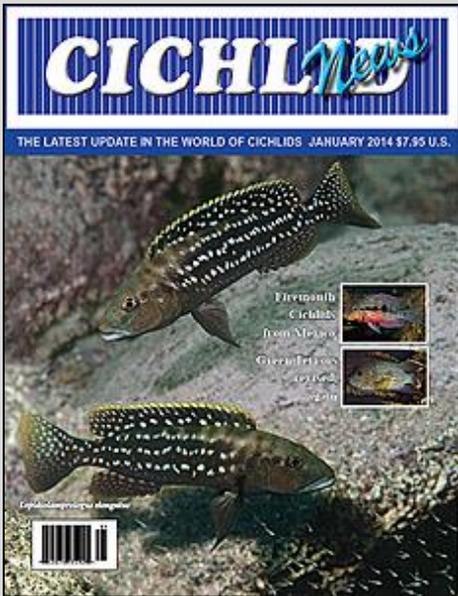
The Cichlidroom Companion

Owned by JUAN MIGUEL ARTIGAS ASAZ

The Internet Cichlidae Information Center!



Visit: Ohiocichlid.com



Cichlid News

Visit <http://cichlidnews.com/>



Plecocaves.com

We carry Pleco caves, breeding caves, SERA fish food, Poret foam, driftwood, California Blackworms, OMEGA One food, cichlid caves, cichlid huts

Visit plecocaves.com

Or Email plecocaves@gmail.com



RMS Aquaculture

Over 25 years experience in both freshwater and saltwater aquarium sales!

6629 Engle Rd., Middleburg Hts., OH 44130

(216)433-1340

Visit www.rmsaquaculture.com/

Pelvicachromis silviae – A Colorful Dwarf Cichlid

By: Anton Lamboj

For more than 35 years, I have been working with the cichlids of West and Central Africa. While many of the cichlid species found in this region have only spent a limited amount of time in my aquaria, there are a few species that I have maintained over extended periods of time, in some cases for more than 10 years, as they have proven to be such interesting aquarium subjects. There is one species in particular that has spent a significant amount of time in my aquaria, in fact since 1981. *Pelvicachromis silviae*, formerly known as *P. sp. aff. subocellatus*, has enjoyed an almost unbroken presence in my cichlid collection. In the curious way of our hobby, it was surprising that, for about 50 years, this regularly imported dwarf cichlid from Nigeria had not been formally described and given its own scientific name, until I described it as *P. silviae*. I named it after my wife as a little “Thank you” for her patience and support of my scientific as well as aquaristic interest during all the years we’ve been together.



Male in standard coloration



Female in standard coloration

Pelvicachromis silviae has been recorded in aquarium literature since the 1950s, albeit in some instances incorrectly listed under different, wrong or invalid names. My first experience with this species was in 1981, when, with assistance from the Dutch aquarist Ernst van Genne, I received my first pair. At that time I had very little experience working with this group of dwarf cichlids, but I found their pretty colors and interesting behavior fascinating. I only succeeded in breeding this pair once, and that was more through chance than by planning. The cause of these early failures was certainly a direct result of my water – it was just too hard for them. In the second half of the 1980s I was able to set up an ion exchange column. The ability to provide soft water proved to be the turning point in successfully maintaining and breeding these fish. Since that first pair in 1981, I have managed to obtain on numerous occasions either wild fish or aquarium bred specimens, with the result that *Pelvicachromis silviae* has never really disappeared from my collection, and I’m still, like in my first days with this species, absolutely thrilled to have them in my aquaria.

So, what do we know about *Pelvicachromis silviae*? Well, they are regularly imported from Nigeria and although there are usually no specific location details given about localities, the Niger Delta appears to be the general region of occurrence. While they are rarely targeted for the aquarium trade by the fishermen in this region, they appear from time to time as a by-catch in *Pelvicachromis pulcher* or *Pelvicachromis taeniatus* shipments coming out of this West African country. It is a curious fact, that given the length of time this species has been in the hobby, I have been able to find very few specimens in scientific collections. Even when specimens are found, they tend to be labeled (if at all) as an unidentified by-catch of the above mentioned species.

The species is a typical dwarf cichlid. Under aquarium conditions (assuming suitable conditions are provided) males will reach a length of no more than 8cm, females will remain 1 or 2cm smaller. The body is relatively deep, nearly ovoid and with a rounded caudal fin. The basic body coloration of both sexes is light to medium brown, the abdominal region is somewhat brighter, and the cheeks and gill cover are yellowish in color. They may show, at certain times (e.g. under stress, the first days of brood-care or when subdominant), six or seven indistinct dark bands that reach from mid body towards the dorsum, and a further two longitudinal dark bands.

The sexual dimorphism of this species is well established, with differences in coloration between the male and female exhibited in their fins. Males show extensions to the first rays of the pelvic fins and both the anal and dorsal fins. Additionally, the caudal fin of mature males may show extended rays in the upper lobe. The dorsal fin has a red outer border, and the soft parts of both the dorsal and anal fin exhibit a pretty pattern of pale blue and red dots. The lower area of the caudal fin displays a yellow band.



Courting female, this coloration they only show when they have to compete against other females

Females have a distinctive bright yellow dorsal fin which display various numbers of black spots in the soft part of the fin, varying between individuals. The caudal fin is a bright yellow to smoky color with a white and red upper outer edge. Intense yellow spots are also displayed in the upper half of the caudal fin. Depending on the mood and brood condition of the female, the abdomen is an intense red to purple coloration, and a white to light silver iridescence, the size of which will vary depending on the individual fish, may also be displayed above the red abdomen. The silver band that is visible around the red abdomen of female *Pelvicachromis subocellatus* is absent in *Pelvicachromis silviae*.

During courtship (and dominant moods) the colors displayed on both male and female fish will intensify substantially, with the head, cheeks and fins taking on a more intense yellow coloration. This is reinforced by the bright blue and red of the fins. In females, the areas in front of and behind the red abdominal region become very dark to nearly black, and above the red patch there will also be a

bright metallic blue area. The caudal fin will become dark and smoky with bright yellow spots. Overall, this is a fantastic look, as hopefully the images illustrating this article will show.



Two males fighting for a female



Females competing for a male...which one is the most beautiful babe for him?

When it comes to describing the water conditions this species should be kept in, we can only guess, due to the uncertainty surrounding the actual location in which this species can be found in the wild. That guess is based on the available knowledge of the area, and of course, experiences gained from maintaining and breeding this species in the aquarium.

I have successfully kept my *Pelvicachromis silviae* in soft water with a conductivity between 50 to 150 μS . It should be noted, though, that this conductivity is often not a result of conventional water hardness (i.e. mineral substances). The water for my aquaria formerly was primarily straight Reverse Osmosis (RO) water, but now I mainly use pure rain water I collect – fortunately I am living in a region with low air pollution, so that the rainwater is relatively clean. Therefore, the conductivity in my aquaria is mostly derived from organic material, though it may be slightly influenced from the fine sand substrate (grain size less than 1mm). This sand is very old now, and unlikely to be leaching much mineral content into the water. The total (and the carbonate) hardness is therefore usually low to not measurable. The aquarium is well ventilated and filtered, and the pH usually ranges from 7.0 up to 7.5. In my experience such conditions actually represent the ones of the rivers found in West and Central Africa. My aquaria are filtered using Hamburg Matten Filters (biofilters with a very large capacity). Twice a year, when performing my normally monthly water changes, I add about 20% tap water (~20 °GH and 12-13 °KH). With the fluctuation in water parameters, I think the fish build a healthy resilience, and I guess the introduction of trace minerals into the aquaria could also be beneficial. A power filter is also used, primarily to remove debris from the aquaria, a task the biofilter is not designed to complete. It should make clear that these water changes with tap water are only carried out if the fish are not expected to spawn in the coming period, or if they already have free swimming juvenile fish. Following this process I have never encountered any problems.

Pelvicachromis silviae is a typical cave spawner, and they exhibit good pair bonding and good parental skills. It is best to start with a group of juvenile fish, or at least two pairs of fish, to allow the pair bonding to develop naturally. This natural pair formation should generate a strong bond and the pair should also stay together for the duration of the brood cycle. However, unless you've provided a large enough aquarium for individual pairs to maintain their own territories, it is important to remember to remove the spare fish once the pair have bonded. Individual and subdominant fish are likely to be attacked vigorously, a stressful situation that could see the demise of these individuals if not managed correctly. Other species of fish present in the aquarium are far less violently attacked by the dominant fish. If the tank is big enough, you can keep more specimens in it, especially more

females than males, as the females show much better and more striking coloration when competing against each other for a male, than they would in front of a male when kept just as a pair.

Pair formation can be a lengthy process, sometimes lasting several weeks, although in some cases, all that is required is 1 or 2 days. During the pair formation process it is the female that is most active. She will swim in the vicinity of her chosen male, who will be showing off his magnificent colors. While near the male, the female will shape her body into a “U” or “S” shape and shake her body in a series of rapid tremors. During this process she will display very strong colors; in particular her abdomen will be a vivid dark red to purplish red coloration. If the chosen male fish is receptive, he will respond in a similar manner, but instead of bending his body, he will hold it rigidly. Once the pair have bonded, you will see them eating and swimming together. They will also begin to chase intruders away from their chosen territory. The focus of their territory is always a cave, which on most occasions is chosen by the female. I would recommend placing several caves to permit the pair to choose their own preferred site. Particularly popular are those caves that have a relatively small entrance, just big enough for the female to pass through. Alternative cave choices include tubes, spherical cavities, or stones placed together. It should be remembered that each pair will have its own criteria for choosing a suitable cave, and not all will choose the same site or type of cave.



Female with freshly hatched fry

During spawning, the female will place a couple of eggs on the cave wall or roof which will then be fertilized by the male. The female will then lay another couple of eggs for the male to fertilize, and this process will continue until all eggs have been laid. Following spawning, it is typical for the female to stay in the cave while her partner remains outside. The female will spend the majority of the next 3 days inside her cave, only occasionally venturing out for food or to chase potential enemies away from her cave. Similar behavior to that seen in courtship will also continue, but the colors are not as intense and the body tremors in front of each other are also reduced. At this point the male will secure and defend the whole of the selected territory, although not as aggressively as he could be capable

of. The female's coloration also changes; she is now more inconspicuous, as the red belly disappears, as does the bright yellow in the face and fins. At this time, she displays the dark longitudinal bands, and may also show the vertical bars as well. This coloration signals the ongoing development of the larvae, which after 3 days should have hatched. The intensity of these longitudinal markings (a feature also typically displayed by other members of the genus *Pelvicachromis* during brood care) may be significant to the parents' control of the juveniles.



Pair with fry about 3 weeks old

The male usually takes no part in caring for the eggs and larvae, but once the juveniles are free swimming (some 8 to 9 days after the larvae have hatched), he will accept his brood care duties. At this stage the female can be seen swimming with the juveniles around the aquarium in search of food. The female will display a variety of body and fin movements while caring for the juveniles, which can signal a variety of messages, including to hide or to remain calm and continue swimming. Normally only one parent will remain with the juveniles - the other is left to defend the territory from enemies and competitors, or to look for food. The juvenile fish at this point are less than 1 cm long with a brown body coloration marked with dark irregular vertical stripes from the belly region towards the caudal fin. The diet should be rich in baby brine shrimp and ground up spirulina flakes and tablets, in essence the same diet as the parents. As I do with the parents, they are fed just every second day, something I have learned from experience. My nursery tanks always contain some algae and debris/mulm as a food source, and of course they will sift through the sand substrate looking for micro-organisms and other food morsels. With intensive feeding you need to provide a diet that contains a high proportion of fiber to ensure good intestinal action. I have noticed that since I stopped intensive feeding (every day) of my fish, they appear healthier, although growth rates are slower. I think daily intensive feeding (sometimes multiple times per day), as often recommended in most articles and books, leads us to produce obese fish with very fast growth rates, which I consider

unnatural, as it also appears to shorten the lifespan. A scientific investigation revealed that after spending some time in our aquaria, more than 90% of our fish have elevated levels of liver fat!!

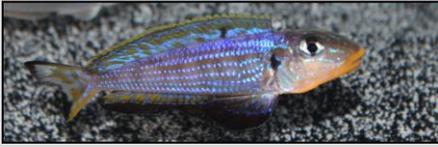


My first pair I could breed with, this was in the early 80's

I have no problems maintaining the juveniles in a group. It takes more than 6 months for them to reach maturity, with the first signs of breeding occurring at about 1 year old. From my observations of congeners in the wild, this seems to be a perfectly natural time span.

After about a month, the juveniles begin to change color, as the vertical barring disappears and is replaced by two longitudinal dark stripes that are visible at most times. At this time the parents brood care instincts begin to diminish and the juveniles can quite often be seen roaming the aquarium, either alone or in small groups. The parents are now slowly beginning the courtship and spawning process again. If the aquarium is large enough, it may be possible to leave the juveniles with the parents for a bit longer. However, if space is at a premium, it is best to move the juveniles to their own rearing aquarium. From a size of about two centimeters, the juvenile fish will begin to show the typical gender specific coloration and the young females will begin to display the distinctive spots found in their fins. Of course, they will continue to grow, and at a length of about five centimeters, they will begin to show the first signs of pair formation, and the keeper can now look forward to the next generation.

Sometimes it had been difficult to maintain the presence of this species in my aquaria, as bottlenecks arise when I need aquaria to be available to house either new imports, or on some occasions, fish received from friends in different countries (e.g. Germany, France, USA), sometimes descendants of fish that I originally distributed. All in all, I have kept *Pelvicachromis silviae* almost without interruption for the past 36 years and I now look forward to spending the next 36 years with this fish. I hope that in the future more aquarists will be able to breed this species, and with a regular exchange of fish between friends and colleagues, it should be possible to establish a large enough gene pool so that we are not dependent on the irregular imports of wild fish. We do not know how long they will survive in the wild, as pollution of natural habitats by humans increases, and as sea levels rise due to climate change, which may destroy habitats in the lower Niger River regions.



Cunningham Cichlids, LLC

Breeder of Quality African
Cichlids

9128 Lantern Way

Newport, MI 48166

734-755-0295

josh@cunninghamcichlids.com

www.cunninghamcichlids.com

Facebook: Cunningham Cichlids



Cobalt Aquatics

Cobalt Aquatics will always strive
to bring the highest quality
products to market.

624 Wilkerson Rd.

Rock Hill, SC 29730 USA

803-591-9500

Visit www.cobaltaquatics.com/



Something Fishy Inc.

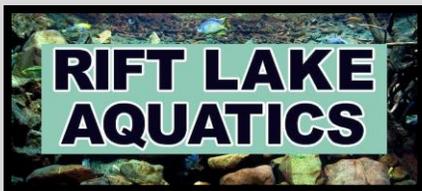
Sales-Setup-Service-Leasing

The premier breeder and
aquarium retailer
specializing in African
Cichlids in Northeast Ohio.

4764 State Road Cleveland,
Ohio 44109

216.635.1625

www.Somethingfishyinc.net



Rift Lake Aquatics

6777 Engle Rd. Suite J
216-215-1639

www.shop.riftlakeaquatics.net

Jim@riftlakeaquatics.net



North East Ohio Discus

Nate & Bonnie Larson

620 West Nimisila Rd,
Akron, OH 44319

Phone: 330-882-5158

Email: neohdiscus@aol.com

Hours by Appointment only



The Ohio Bigfoot Conference

The premier Bigfoot
conference in the world.

Visit
Ohiobigfootconference.org
or check them out on
Facebook for up-to-date
information

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 Carl Olszewski, at a meeting for more information.



This Month's Bowl Show Categories:

Frontosa

Open Old World, exclude Malawi, Tang.

Corys and other Callichthyids

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 prizes will be awarded as follows:

1ST PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$40.00 + 12 POINTS

2ND PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$20.00 + 7 POINTS

3RD PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$10.00 + 5 POINTS

OCA BOWL SHOW

The grand prize winner will be announced at our December Christmas Party meeting. This will be awarded to the person who accumulated the most points at the end of the year.



The grand prize for this year's Bowl Show may be out of reach for some of you, but we still have prize money to give! All you have to do to win this prize money is bring in your best fish for the classes posted this month. It's that easy. Just bring in your fish before 8:30 pm, set it up and sit back and collect that cash! It's that easy!

BRING THOSE FISH IN AND
GET SOME FAST CASH!!

2017 BOWL SHOW SCHEDULE

January 6:

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

February 3:

Victorian Basin
Angelfish
Synodontis and other Mochokids

March 3:

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

April 7:

Peacocks
Central Americans over 6"
Freshwater Crustaceans

May 5:

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

June 2:

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

August 4:

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

September 1:

Frontosa
Open Old World, exclude Malawi, Tang.
Corys and other Callichthyids

October 6:

Malawi "Haps"
Apistos
Fish Photography

November 3:

Female cichlids, limit 3
Loaches and Botias
Telmatochromis, Chalinochromis

December 1:

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