

TAMPA BAY  
AQUARIUM  
SOCIETY

25  
Years



ST. PETE/TAMPA  
FLORIDA



# THE FILTER



*Poecilia reticulata*  
Yellow Tux Guppy

TBAS . . . Since 1992

March 2018

Volume 27 Issue 8



Photo Mike Jacobs . . . 2017



# TAMPA BAY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

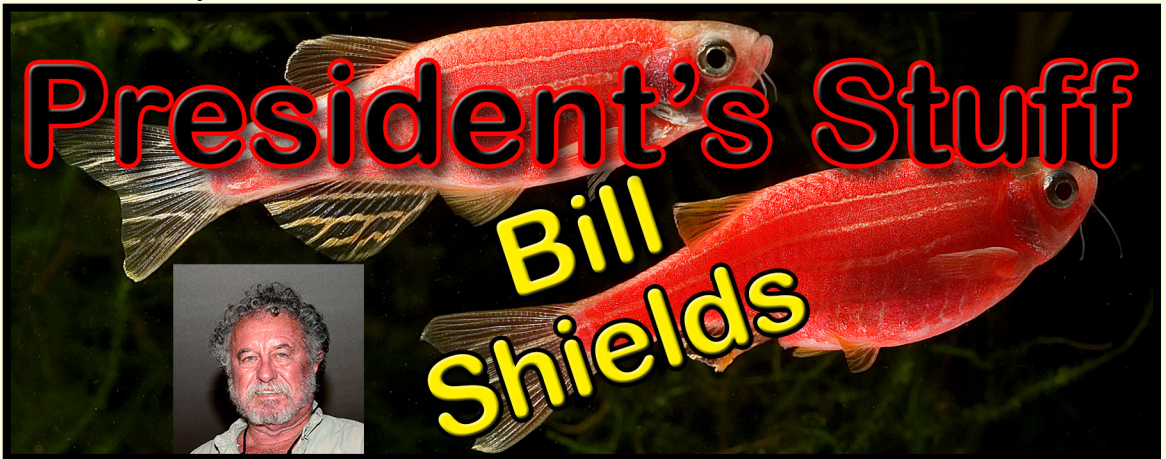
## "THE FILTER"

Tampa/St. Pete, Florida

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Thanks again to Jen Willams for a very educational presentation. Think we all learned how to improve our aquascaping skills. Do not forget to mark your calendars for the BBQ/ tour of Andres Ryan's facility on Sat March 17th. More information as to the time and directions will be given at the meeting. This is a great opportunity to buy directly from the producer.

The Florida State Fair Aquarium Beautiful Competition was a great success and many premiums went unclaimed. Now is the time to start thinking about participating next year. Big Thank you to Frank Guzman (Youtube – Aquatic apprentice) for sharing his video with us,

We will have more information on the First Coast Beta Show and presentation at our May meeting. This is an opportunity to show off your fish and purchase some beautiful Bettas in the auction.

The BOD discussed the state of our forum and we are going to make a concerted effort to let people know what a valuable resource this is as everything is archived and easily located. Not being able to go back to fb and find something has always been a negative for me. When we post something that is worthwhile on fb, take a minute and post it on the TBAS forum.

Best Fishes,



*Poecilia reticulata*  
Red Mosaic Guppy  
Photo by Mike Jacobs 2017

*Bill*

Bill Shields, President, TBAS



# A NEW FILTER & A NEW WIDGIT

by Bill Little

I met Stephan Tanner Ph.D., owner of Swiss Tropicals, several years ago at the Catfish Convention in Northern Virginia. He was selling filtration products which utilize a “Poret” filtering material imported from Germany. I took home a couple of small filters and I have used them very successfully over the past several years.

Recently he has come out with two additional items which also seemed very promising for use in the fishroom. The first item is what he refers to as the BetterBoxFilter. It works on the same principles as the original filters utilizing the Poret filter material and his patented Jetlifter device. The real difference is everything is encased in a plastic container. The Jetlifter device pulls water down through the filter material and then forces the clean water back up the device. The Jetlifter can be configured to permit the clean water to rise toward the surface or to be directed at a 90 degree across the aquarium. The Poret material comes in several filtering densities ranging from 10PPI and 45PPI. \*\*



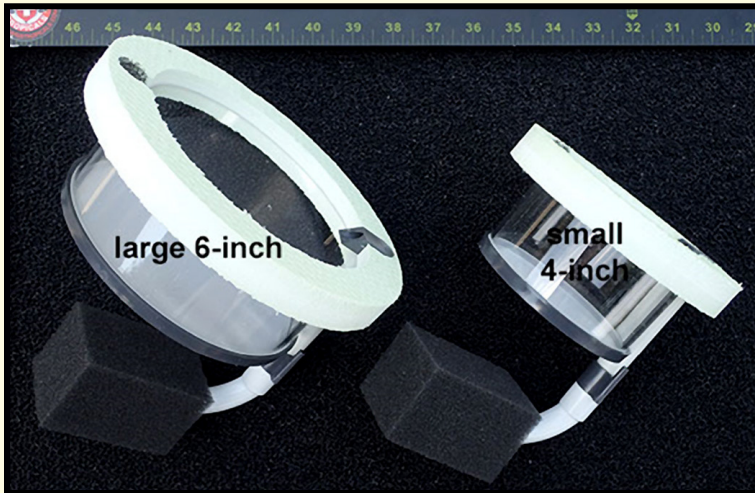
The BetterBoxFilter leverages their unique Jetlifter and Poret foam combination to create a new, simple, and flexible approach to the age-old box filter.





To clean the filter you simply remove the material from the aquarium, remove the Jetlifter and rinse the filter material under the faucet until the water runs clear. You then replace the Jetlifter back into the filter material and place the filter back in the tank. Depending on how much you feed, will obviously determine how often you clean the filter. With the original filters I purchased I tend to clean them about every 6- 8 weeks. Having the box filter for only several weeks; sufficient time has not passed to do the initial cleaning.

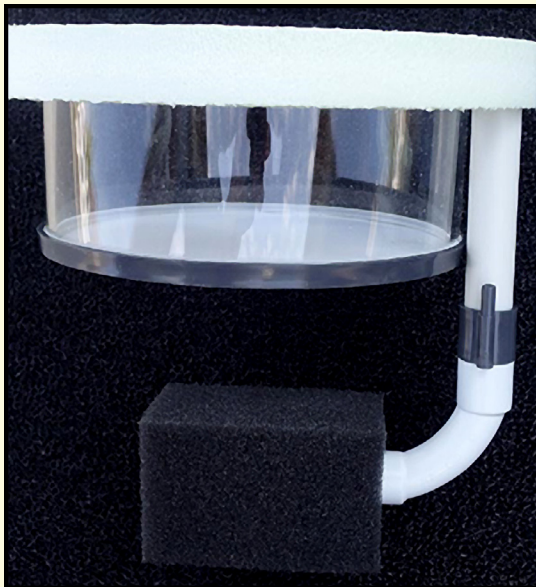
The second item is not a filter but is an equally interesting product. Stephan refers to it as the German Breeding Rings (GBR). The invention was developed by a number of German Pleco breeders. The device is a floating, egg-hatching, and fry-rearing incubator with an integrated mini-Jetlifter that continuously supplies the round holding chamber with fresh water.



Small (4-inch) and Large (6-inch) German Breeding Rings, a new style of aquarium fish egg and fry incubator from Swiss Tropicals.

Intended for use raising small batches of almost any type of fry, the rings have a bottom covered with 30-micron nylon gauze. That means you can feed fry with *Artemia nauplia* (baby brine shrimp), rotifers, or copepods without flushing the live food out.

This side view (below) of the large German Breeding Ring clearly shows the round floating incubation chamber, with the integrated Jetlifter rising up to the chamber with a small foam block covering the intake below. An air feed is attached to the small gray barb on the white lifter tube; flow could be adjusted with an inline needle valve or gang valve (not included).



Because GBRs float on the surface of a bigger tank, they can be used in the spawning aquarium so that water quality remains much more stable and the larvae or fry do not disperse over a large area, which would make them difficult to feed adequately. The device comes in two sizes a 4" and a 6" diameter.



An overhead view of the large and small German Breeding Rings, showing the 30 micron mesh at the bottom of the chamber.

I ordered my first GBR and it should arrive later this week. I hope to use it with my next batch of wild betta fry. Further information can be found at <http://www.swisstropicals.com/filtration-shop/betterboxfilter/>

**\*\*PPI = pores per inch:**

**10 PPI = coarse; 20 PPI = medium; 30 PPI = fine; 45 PPI = very fine**



**Red Belly Pacu Albino . . . *Piaractus brachypomus***

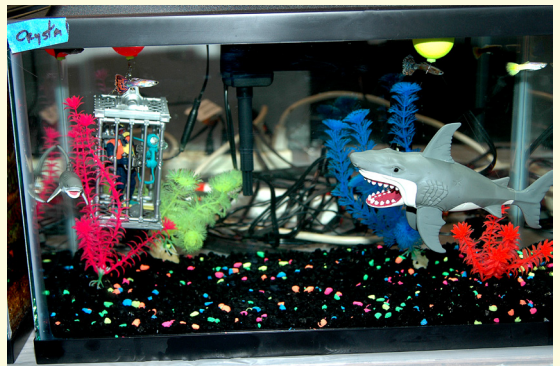
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# Florida State Fair Aquarium Beautiful Tanks - 2018

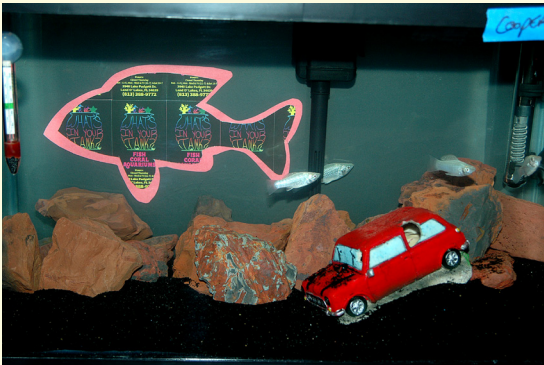
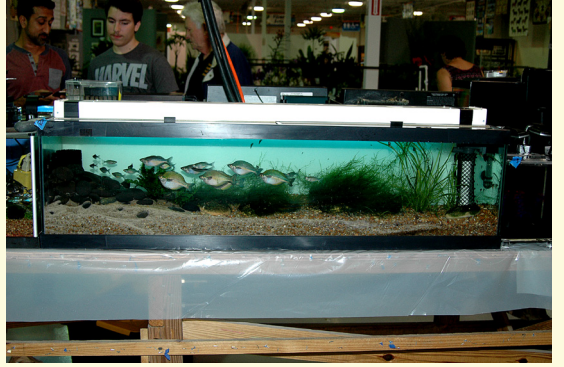
Not all of these tanks were finished when I was there!!!  
by Mike Jacobs



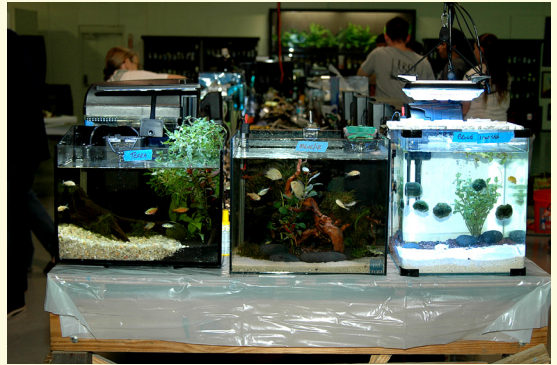








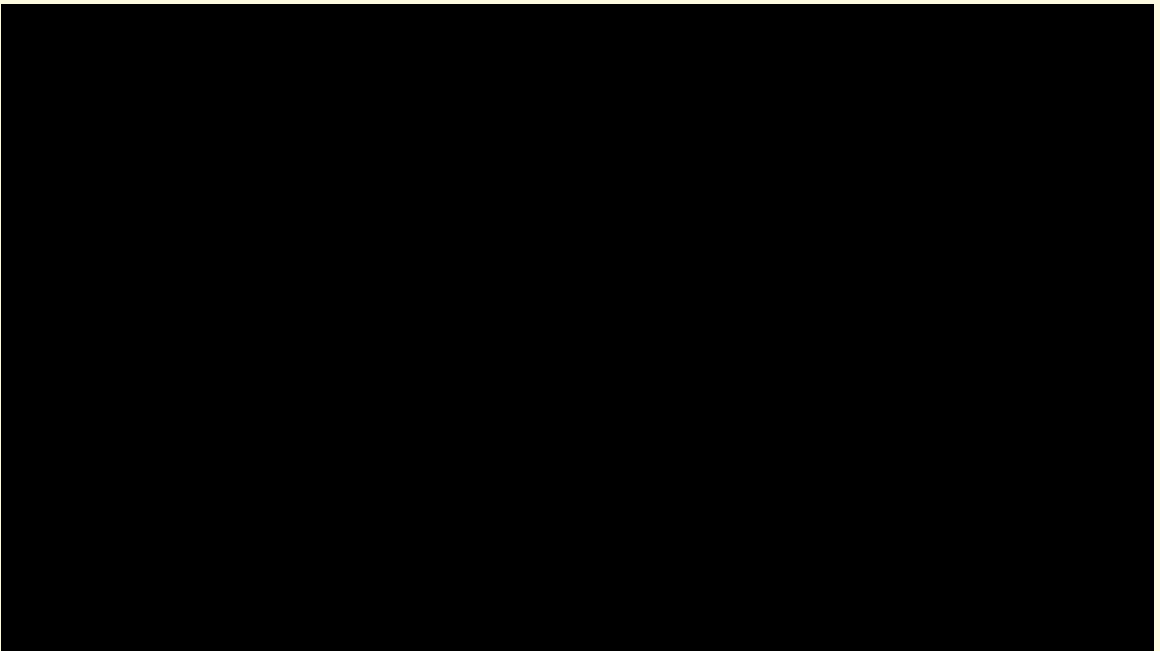




Now take a look at a video made by TBAS's own Frank Guzman. Frank is from his YouTube Channel - "Aqua Apprentice". Left Click on the:

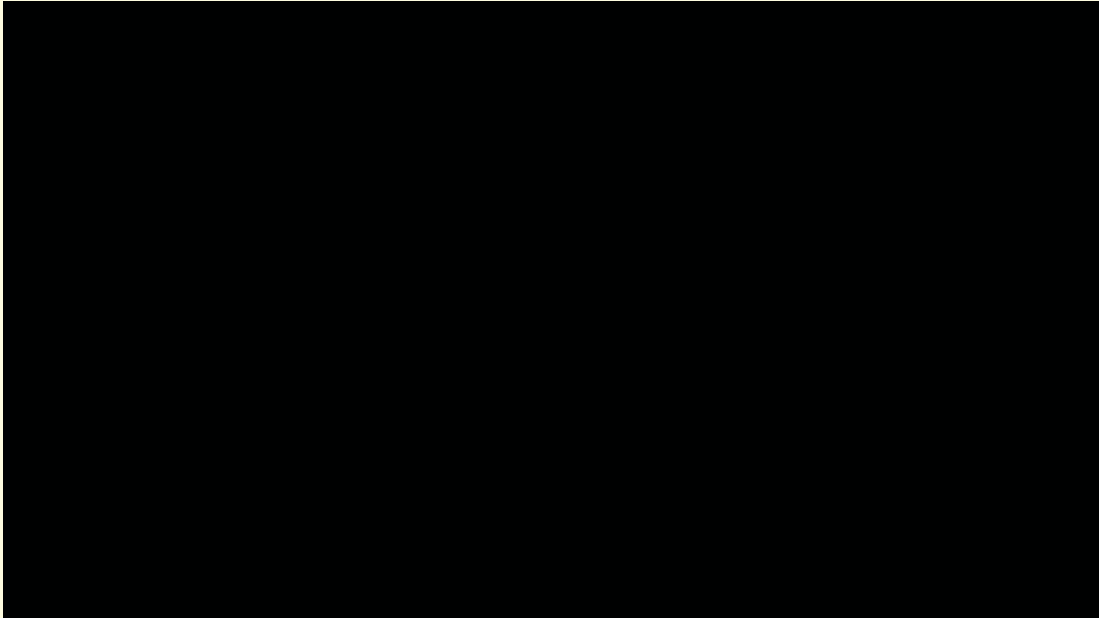


below to begin the video.



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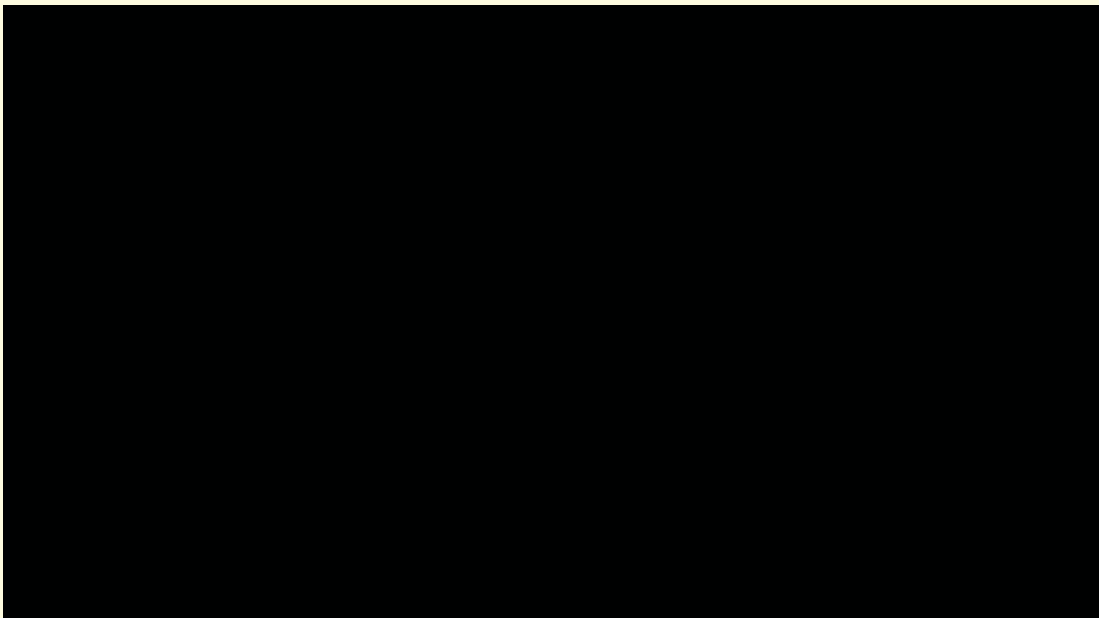
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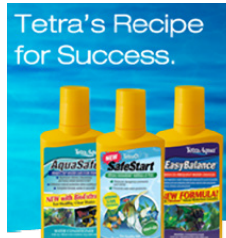
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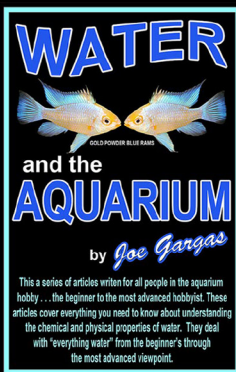


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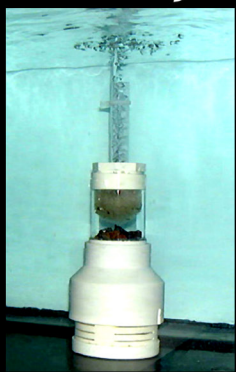


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