



THE FILTER



Threadfin Rainbow
Iriatherina wernerii

March 2019
Volume 28 Issue 8

TBAS . . . Since 1992

Photo Mike Jacobs . . . 2019



TAMPA BAY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

"THE FILTER"

Tampa/St. Pete, Florida

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Greeting Everyone.

This month has a lot going on. First off we have our Spring BBQ at Bioaquatix hatchery in Sarasota, FL. on March 9th. The location is at 4420 Greenwood Stables RD, Sarasota, FL. 34235. We will get started around noon.

Next we have our general meeting with Mr. Rusty Wessel. He is a renowned collector and hobbyist. Rusty has spoken to a couple of dry goods manufactureres and we will have a bunch of new items to auction off. We have sets of T5 and LED lights, bulbs, food, decor, and tons of other stuff. Can't wait to see everyone on Monday March 11th at 7pm.



Dre

Dre Alvarado, Pesident TBAS

Nannoptopoma sp.
"Orange Zebra Oto"

Orange head Otto
Photo by Mike Jacobs 2019

AQUARIUM BEAUTIFUL

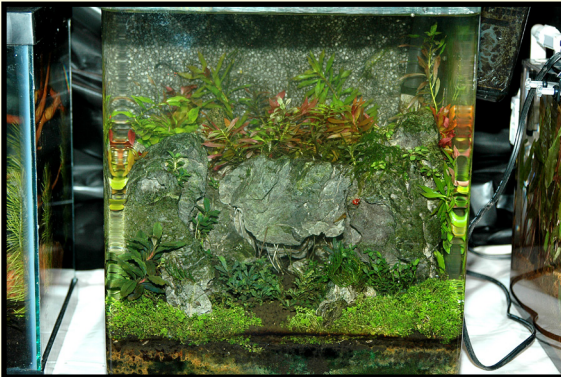
Florida State Fair

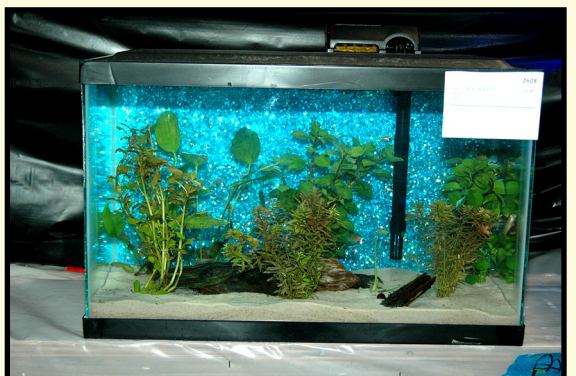
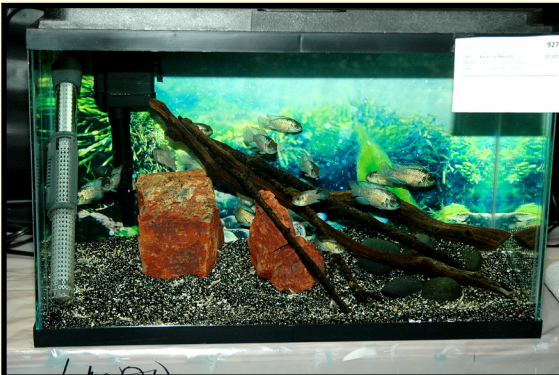
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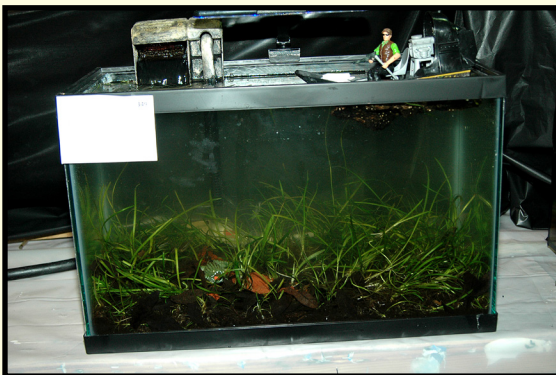


Folks . . . these photos are not in ANY order - category or placement. They were simply all taken when I was there . . . **ENJOY!!!**









MEMBERSHIP DUES!!!!



Membership Dues for TBAS are due on the anniversary of your sign-up date every year. Please make sure you check the “sign-in” list on the table at every meeting to check your “Dues-Date” . . . Thanks!!!

USE PAYPAL ON THE TBAS WEBSITE . . . TBAS1.COM . . . !!!!!



Every once in a while I see a fish I just can't live without. I do have a quarantine tank, but I must admit I have been too lazy to set it up sometimes, and it always seems to cost me heavily. There are a few questions that everyone should ask about the new fish, especially saltwater.

The first question I always ask is how long have they had the fish? In saltwater, if they haven't had the fish for at least one week then don't buy it, no matter how bad you want it. Even with a quarantine tank the chances of losing an expensive fish are high. In freshwater, usually 48 hours is sufficient to tell the health of the fish, except in delicate species like neons and cardinals. Take a close look at all the fish in the tank. If any other fish doesn't look healthy then you must decide why. There are times when the fish are deformed not ill. Sometimes they show poor color because of lack of habitat, more aggressive tank mates, or injury.

You also need to be aware of the type of filter system in the tanks. Some places used central systems where some of the tanks are connected water systems. In these cases you will need to look in all the tanks for unhealthy fish. There are some viruses that only

affect one species, like the angel fish virus. If you buy an unrelated fish it can carry the virus to your tank. If the tanks are separate, what method are they using to sterilize their nets? Are there dead fish in the tank? What is the fish eating? Does it look skinny? A skinny fish is not determined by the size of the belly; take a head a head-on look at the fish and look at the backbone. Is it rounded or sunken in? If it is sunken in, it is using its body muscle to stay alive. This is more often a problem with saltwater fish than freshwater. Look closely at the pectoral fins. Usually they are clear, so this is a good area to check for parasites. I should point out here that goldfish get white “spots” when they are ready to breed: the males get them on their gill plates, and the females get them on their tails. Rainbow daces get “spots” on their heads when they are ready to breed.

If you don't know about the fish see if the store has any books on it and don't be afraid to look it up. Don't always expect to get good information from someone just because he or she works at a pet store. It is hard for me to describe everything you should know. Some fish lay on their sides naturally, some even swim upside down. Use your best judgment before buying that special fish, use a quarantine tank, and ask questions. I hope the next time you look at a fish in a store you will look at it differently, because how it appears tells you a lot about the care it has been receiving.



Copella nattereri
Redline Splash Tetra

photo: Mike Jacobs 2019

Mike's Moments

. . . from an old TBAS bulletin in 1995!!!

I hope you don't mind a few OLD MEMORIES from time to time!

Why do Eskimos do their laundry in Tide?

Now, you don't think you will get the answer that quick do you? You're going to have to do a little more work than that . . . You're going to at least have to read part of this column to get the answer.

The other day I was sitting around doing nothing and I thought, oh boy, it's been years since the wife and I have been fish hunting. No we aren't going to South America . . . although I wish to do so some day . . . we used to drive to several nearby towns and visit all the different shops. Well, it wasn't "shop hoppin'" but the other day I went to some shops that I have never been to before. Some of these shops I have passed a zillion times before. I've been here in the area since 1973, and never did I have so much fun . . . again!

Shop hoppin' used to be a favorite sport for us Hoosiers back in the days when we were young and ambitious and full of what the hobby would give us next. We would leave at 7AM and not return until 10PM . . . even in the dead of winter. Boy do I remember the time the floorboard of the old car became a direct link to the ground and there was 3' of snow on the ground and it was freezing cold and the heater stopped working and the hole in the floor was like air conditioning and we had a good two hours to go until we got home and we weren't sure if the \$50 worth of fish would be suspended in animation or dead or what . . . (\$50 was a lot of money for a college kid to pay for some fish in 1968) . . . but we were young . . . and the hobby . . . oh my, those fish. There was always something new back in those days.

We heard there were some "butterfly" bettas in a shop 60 miles away . . . off we go! In Indianapolis there is rumor of some real black bettas . . . off we go. Over in Ft. Wayne there was supposed to be some new cichlid that is as blue as the sky . . . Cobalts. A guy in Evansville is supposed to have some of those angels that start as silver angels and turn to gold at the size of about a silver dollar . . .

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“Naja Angels” they were called. Someone said they were in Anderson and there were some discus over there that were ALL bluish-green . . . from a guy in Florida named Wattley. We had to go to a place in Chesterton to see our first hi-fin platies . . . \$7.00 a pair in 1969. But it was fun . . . it was a time that was measured in enjoyment and not in dollars. The entire state of Indiana was our ground and we covered it all. We even got to the Windy City . . . Chicago . . . and participated in the infancy of the saltwater hobby, and I mean infancy. We didn’t know about the nitrogen cycle then, we honestly figured it out . . . less the correct element . . . but what we did know was that it was fun to drive 150 miles each way to buy percula clowns for \$4.00 each . . . those orange/black/white little devils . . . and we thought we could sex them by their stripes Thank you Martin Moe (the first to spawn a saltwater fish commercially) . . . **St Pete, FL!**

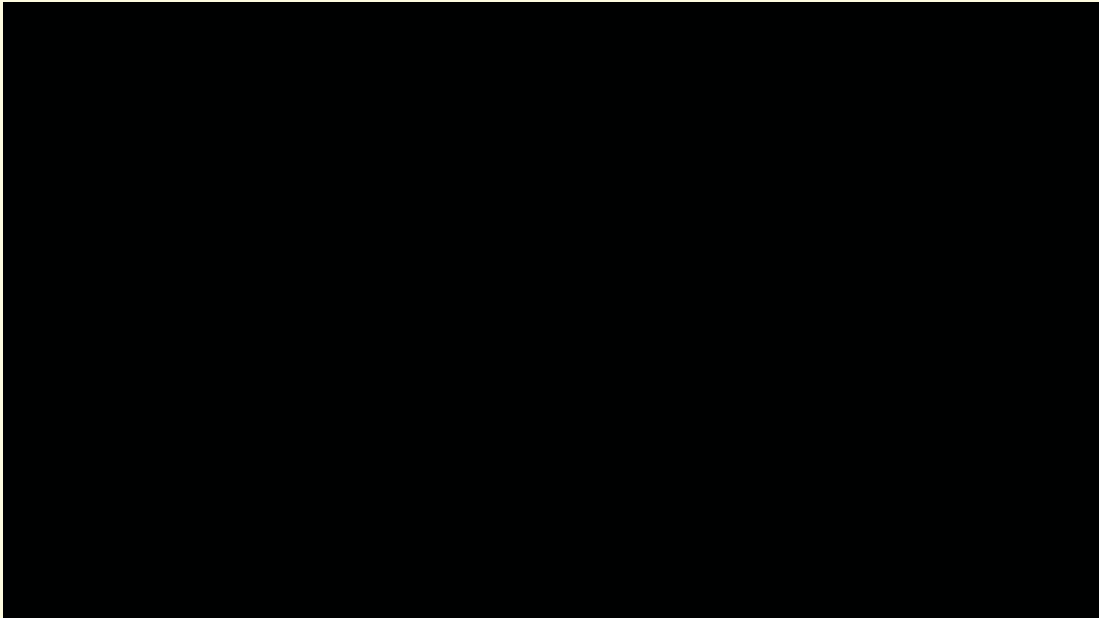
What’s the point? The point is those wonderful days of the hobby when everything was happening like lightning. Everything was booming . . . everything was new. All of the people who keep fish were anxious to hear the latest word on the new filter, the new fish. Shops kept all kinds of fish . . . and they learned to do it well. If a shop was to succeed they would always be open and they would learn everything about everything . . . and would sit and talk with people for hours . . . this is a social hobby. Everyone’s view is correct. If it worked for them then it’s correct . . . what works for you is just what works for you . . . nothing more, nothing less. There’s always more than one way to spawn an angel. I really hope that the new generation of fish keepers have it as nifty as we did back in Indiana . . . it was a great introduction to a hobby that has lasted me a lifetime, and the friends we made during those trips have turned into great memories and the stuff that produces daydreams. Avail yourself of the whole hobby. Keep freshwater for a while, then keep killies, and then do discus. Then it’s time for you to spawn things. Then set out to spawn a difficult fish . . . you will be rewarded!!

. . . **Why do Eskimos do their laundry in Tide? . . . BECAUSE IT WORKS!!!**



<http://www.sks1.com>

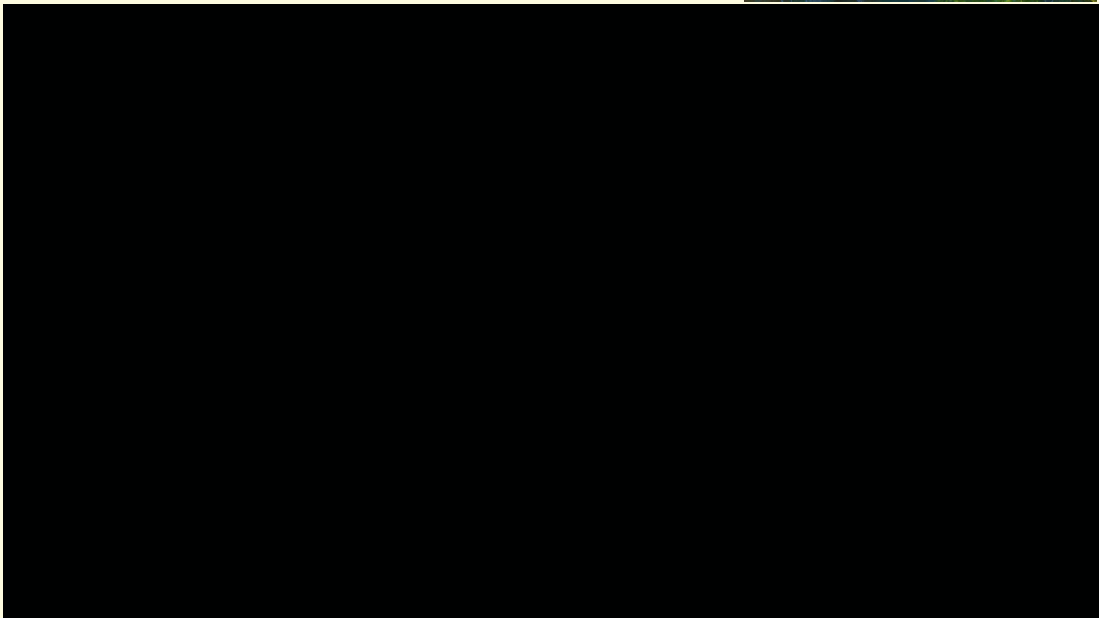
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Tropical Fish Word Search

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 D E S B N A A T U R A S L R C
 A M O U S A R T E T F L A G E

Words You Are Looking For!!!

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| ANGELFISH | KILLIFISH |
| BARBS | LOACHES |
| BETAS | MOLLIES |
| BICHIR | ODDBALL FISH |
| CATFISH | PLATIES |
| CICHLIDS | PLECOS |
| DANIOS | RAINBOW FISH |
| DISCUS | RASBORAS |
| GOURAMIS | SWORDTAILS |
| HATCHETS | TETRAS |

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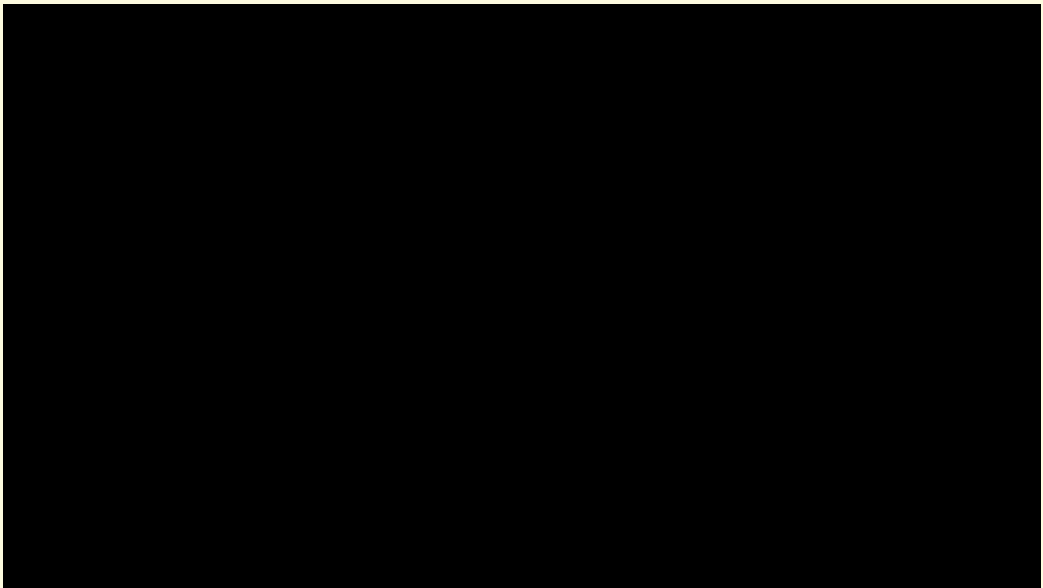
THE ANSWERS NEXT MONTH!!!

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Angelfish & Eggs



Angelfish & Eggs Video [Click on the](#)  [to See Video](#)





Reticulate knifefish . . . *Papyrocranus afer*

photo: Mike Jacobs 2019

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alphabetical order

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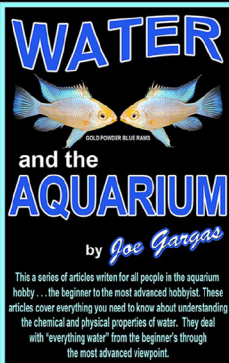


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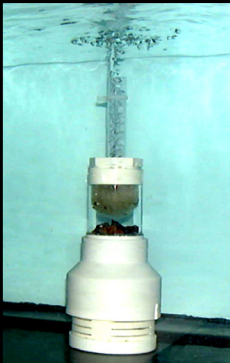


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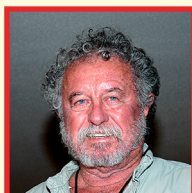
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