



REFLECTOR

PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL NEW YORK AQUARIUM SOCIETY

April 2025, Volume 49, Number 8



CENTRAL NEW YORK AQUARIUM SOCIETY

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CNYAS GENERAL MEETING

LOCATION

The Dewitt Community Center
148 Sanders Creek Pkwy
East Syracuse, NY

DATE / TIME

Wednesday April 16, 2025
@ 7:00 pm

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All original, previously unpublished material will be considered for publication. The preferred method of delivery for articles is via E-Mail in MS Word or Text format to Editor.CNYAS@gmail.com. Alternate means of submitting may be arranged via phone. Articles the Editor deems harmful will not be published. Original articles may be reprinted by other non-profit hobby organizations with the following stipulations:

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- 2) The article is reprinted in its original form.
- 3) The original author is credited appropriately.
- 4) An author's copy is provided to the Editor at the time of distribution of the reprint.

Exchanges:

CNYAS will exchange publications with any non-profit hobby related organization with the following stipulations: 1) The request to exchange must be made in writing. 2) The organization informs us of their reprint policy 3) The exchange is mailed to The **Reflector** Exchange Editor upon publication.

CNYAS Background Information:

The Central New York Aquarium Society, Inc. was established in 1976. It is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Board meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month. General meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Dewitt Community Hall in East Syracuse. General meetings normally begin with a brief business meeting followed by a guest speaker, refreshments, door and raffle prizes, and a mini-auction of live fish, plants, and other hobby related items.

Identification Statement:

Publication Title: Reflector

Statement of Frequency: Published ten times per year (monthly except July and August)

Authorized Organization's Name and Address: The Central New York Aquarium Society Inc, PO Box 291, Clay NY 13041

Email: Editor.CNYAS@gmail.com

Officers

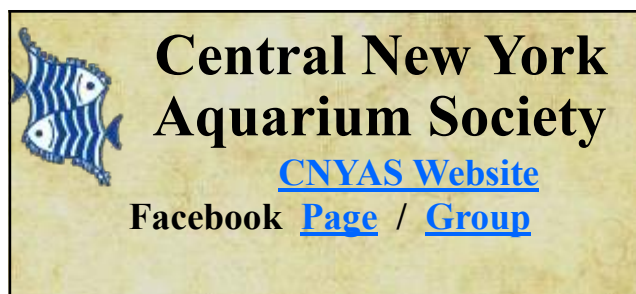
President:	Ron Fabiny CNYASPres@gmail.com
Vice President:	Len Futterman CNYAS.VP@gmail.com
Secretary:	Mary Teelin
Treasurer:	Bob Kotcher CNYASTreas@gmail.com
Editor:	Doug Hillman Editor.CNYAS@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Michael Flintrop
Clifford Crain
Ron Alexander
Bill Newell
Herschel Beeman

Chairpeople

BAP: Michael Flintrop
AHAP: Bill Newell
WAP: Clifford Crain
Bowl Show: Arnaud Germain
Auction: Ron Alexander & Brian Bowers
Membership: Denise Baird
Exchange Editor: Clifford Crain
Assistant Secretary: Sue Kotcher
Hosp. & Refreshments: Mary Teelin
Swap Meet: Doug Hillman
Webmaster: Tom Garafalo





PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ron Fabiny

Presidents Message April 2025

Sorry I missed last month's meeting, but I heard Lenny did a great job covering for me. I want to thank Joe for putting on another great presentation.

Our auction will be April 26, 2025. I just want all our new members to know that this is our biggest fundraiser of the year. We will need help from everyone. Details will be given at the meeting on the jobs that are required. Ron Alexander is the chairperson and will be asking for help.

This month we also have to get nominations for the elections that will be held next month. Sue is the election chair so let her know if you want to hold an office or if you would like to nominate someone.

Ron

ANNUAL ELECTIONS FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD

Every May we vote for officer and board positions. Initial nominations will be held at the April meeting. At the May meeting before the vote, we will open the floor for further nominations. If you would like to run for a position and did not attend the April meeting, there will be another chance in May.

At this time, the nominations will be taken for:

PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, EDITOR

BOARD MEMBERS—5 board members to be elected

To run and to vote you must be a member in good standing.
If you have any questions, call Sue Kotcher, 315-382-5139

BOARD MEETING**CNYAS Board meeting**

3/12/2025

Attending: Ron Alexander, Len and Mary Futterman, Doug Hillman, Bob Kotcher, Bill Newell, Mike Flintrop, Ron Fabiny, Hershel Beeman

1. Committee Reports:

1. Treasurer-Report and budget.
2. AHAP-see Reflector
3. BAP- see Reflector, working on changing # of fry for points, now have BAP computer. Clifford and Mike to work on fry#s.
4. WAP- see Reflector.
5. Membership-46 paid members
6. Auction—New tee shirts next year for 50th Anniversary. Projecting fish bag on the screen, Large banner with pictures. Look at getting lightweight banner. Shrimp/ Pleco raffle. Flyer is out, please distribute. Bob to contact bank about getting a machine for epayments from the bank. Will cost 100\$ plus 2.6%. Board voted to get. Chip to change flyer to say we will now take credit cards.VFW has a digital board to advertise the auction. Ron has signed contract. We can get in VFW to set up Friday night at 6pm. We need to mark walls before we start moving things. Would like to get pictures of raffle winners for Reflector. Mary to look for new banner. Check to see if we have enough paperwork/cards. Chip to email flyer to Doug. VFW to sell breakfast/lunch. There will be ATM at the VFW. Cliff brought new kind of bidder #s from another auction, will look at changing. New numbers are bigger, easier to see. Wetspot will need to be called in Dec of this year for 2026. Need someone to do membership during aution.Chris Allen to do computer updates and at the auction. Will need volunteers for all jobs at the auction. Ron to talk to Doris about Wayne's fish room. If needed, Doug will lend trailer and store things for the Swap meet.
7. Bowl show- see Reflector.
8. Webmaster- Web Company was bought out. Tom looking into it.Website is updated.
9. Exchange editor- still getting articles. Cliff doing a great job.
10. Reflector- Doug is doing a great job!

2. Old Business:

1. Voted to change Superbowl prizes to cash, talk about increasing prize amount next year. Voted to increase prizes to 1st 35.00, 2nd 25.00 and 3rd is 20.00.
2. Len to work on speakers for this year. Joe Doyle to be March speaker. April is Auction meeting
3. Send Speaker info to Lenny
4. 50th Anniversary of CNYAS in 2026. Sue and Mike to head up a committee for celebration
5. Is the NEC Convention budget worth 600\$? Discuss during the next meeting board meeting. Ask Arnaud to see if NEC could support free hotel room for club reps. Board discussed that the NEC rep for the club will receive the free convention Registration if they attend the required meetings and the club will give them 150.00 to be used to attend the Convention. Passed.
6. Minoa Community Center has a room non profits can use for free. We will book the next swap meet there when we get a date.
7. Mary to get more membership forms to have at meetings if membership chair not there.

New Business:

1. Sue to work on June Banquet at the Retreat again. Banquet is all set, will have same menu as last year and cake. Still 10\$ for members. 3rd Wed in June.
2. Date for Swap meet is Oct 4th 2025, Doug to follow up with booking and tables. Bob to cancel tentative date at the Elks club.
3. Cliff brought up doing a group buy of fish on line. Discussed, he will follow up with interest in participation from club. Voted to put this on hold til after the auction as Cliff is not at this meeting.
4. Len to find signs for lamination for club meetings.

3/19/25 CNYAS General meeting

1. Joe Doyle did a great talk via Zoom on BAP and breeding fish. Thanks Joe!
 2. Thanks Len for covering for Ron who was on vaca!
 3. Great mini auction.
 4. Chip reported getting auction donations.
-

CNYAS JUNE BANQUET—Sue Kotcher

The June 18th meeting will NOT be held at the DeWitt Community Center. It will be held at the Retreat Restaurant, 302 Vine St, Liverpool 13088. The banquet is a yearly event that replaces the June meeting. The night will consist of awards, fun and friendship.

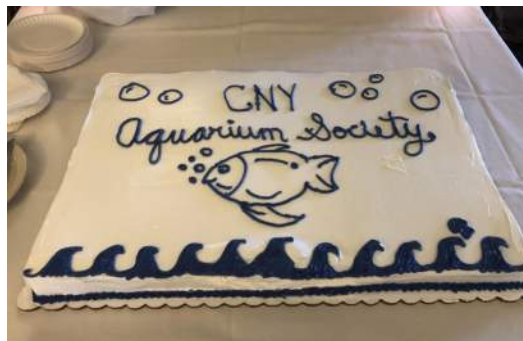
The festivities will begin at 6 PM with a cash bar for alcohol and a vegetable and cheese hor d'oeuvres tray. The buffet dinner will be served at 7 PM.

The price per person is \$10. The Club will cover the rest of the buffet cost. Guests are welcome. There will be a signup sheet at the May meeting. All signups and money for members and guests are due by the May meeting.

The menu for the dinner buffet is as follows:

Baked penne pasta, chicken marsala, burgundy beef tips, roasted potatoes, chef salad, fruit salad, rolls and butter. Soda, coffee and tea are included in the banquet price. The Club will provide a cake for dessert.

Come and join us for an evening of fun and companionship before the summer break.
If you have any questions, call Sue Kotcher at 315-382-5139.





Product Test: Milwaukee Instruments MW802 PRO pH/EC/TDS Meter

By: Clifford H. Crain, Jr.

I've never paid much attention to the parameters of my tap water, mainly because, as a resident of the city of Syracuse, my tap water comes from Skaneateles Lake, one of the clearest, most pristine lakes in the United States. When I set up my first aquarium, I used the API Freshwater Master Test Kit to check my pH, ammonia and nitrites in order to manage the nitrogen cycle. I don't bother with that much anymore, because if I'm setting up a brand-new tank, I know I can manage the nitrogen cycle by simply throwing a fully cycled sponge filter in the tank. I've done this successfully many times, and I keep extra sponge filters in my tanks just for this purpose.

From those tests, I knew my water was alkaline, and the API 5-In-1 Test Strips revealed that my water was pretty hard. The problem is reading the results of those tests. One has to compare the color in the water or on the strip to a color chart. I didn't find this to be easy and guessed that it wasn't super accurate either. Some fellow CNYAS members told me they use an inexpensive portable digital tester for total dissolved solids (TDS), so curious, I decided to buy a laboratory-grade pH/TDS/EC (electrical conductivity) tester. I see Milwaukee Instruments' (MI) ads in aquarium magazines, so I decided to buy their MW802 meter. This meter is accurate to within ± 0.2 pH and 2% EC/TDS.



Closeup of the Milwaukee Instruments
MW802 PRO pH/TDS/EC meter and
probe

I discovered with laboratory-grade equipment, you don't just pull the meter out of the box, dip it in the aquarium, read the results and call it a day. First, the probe must be calibrated for all three measures. The MW802 comes with one-use packets of calibration liquid. You dip the probe in the liquid, then turn the calibration adjustment knob so that the reading on the meter equals the value of the calibration liquid. For example, you open the pouch of pH 7.0 calibration fluid, dip the probe in, then turn the pH adjustment knob until the reading on the meter is 7.0. Repeat the process for TDS and EC.

Probe
Immersed
in a pouch
of TDS
calibration
fluid



After turning
the calibration
adjustment
knob, the
readout is 1490
and TDS
calibration is
complete



After calibrating the meter, I took measurements in all 21 of my tanks that are in use, plus water straight from the tap. I was especially interested to see if there was any difference in tanks containing limestone and tanks that have no limestone. I was surprised to find no relationship between the presence of limestone and pH/TDS/EC. The average and median pH was 8.0, TDS 250 and EC .35. My tap water is pH 7.8, TDS 210, and EC .27.



Final step is to store the probe. Note the plastic cap on the end of the probe: it is filled with storage solution

After measuring the water, it is necessary to clean the probe for 20 minutes with a special MA9016 cleaning solution from MI. To do this, I built a little stand to hold the probe upright while it was soaking in a small glass of the cleaning solution.

But wait, there's more. If you allow the tip of the probe to dry out, it is ruined, so MI sells a special MA9015 storage solution. You pour a little of the solution in the tight-fitting plastic probe cap, then store the probe upright in this solution until the next use. And for your next use, you will need to recalibrate, which involves purchasing more pH 7.01, 1500 ppm TDS and conductivity calibration solution.

I've made it a point to stay away from fish that require soft, acidic water for successful spawning, and now I have an accurate measure of just how alkaline and hard my water is.



After testing the water, the probe must be soaked in a cleaning solution.

The downside to all this accuracy is cost. Prices, including shipping, as of April 5, 2025:

MW802 meter	247.20
MA9007 pH calibration solution	13.90
MA9061 conductivity calibration solution	13.90
M10442 TDS calibration solution (25 sachets)	28.90
PH-MAIN MA9015/MA9106 combo cleaning and storage solution	<u>23.65</u>
Total before sales tax	327.55

Note that according to the MI website, its products are manufactured in Europe, which means the costs listed above may increase soon due to the increased tariffs on imports

OK, that's a bunch of money, so how am I going to amortize this cost? Ask me at our monthly meeting and I'll be happy to come to your fishroom and measure your tap and aquarium water for free, of course. While there, I'll pay attention and, if you don't mind, borrow your good ideas!

Shown are the MW802 meter and probe, calibration packets, instructions and the extra cost cleaning and storage maintenance kit





Central New York Aquarium Society Inc. Writer's Award Program

Chairman: Clifford H. Crain, Jr., Committee member Doug Hillman

Based on submissions to date through the March 2025 Reflector and points published in April 2025 Reflector

Name	Status	April	Scaly Eraser	Total
Crain	Pen & Quill Award	40	821	2,309
Spahn	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	1,276
Kotcher	Pen & Quill Award	0	20	851
Teelin-Futtermann	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	711
Pitzeruse	Pen & Quill Award	0	0	652
Fabiny	Pen & Quill Award	0	45	561
Hillman	Author's Award	0	100	255
Rademacher	Author's Award	0	0	215
Baird	Author's Award	0	10	130
Pomerantz	Participant	70	115	135
Futtermann	Author's Award	0	5	110
Beeman	Author's Award	0	20	105
Rafferty	Participant	0	15	95
Collins	Participant	0	0	80
Cody	Writer's Award	0	0	70
Sager	Participant	70	70	70
Tuori	Participant	0	60	60
Walcott	Participant	30	40	40
Flintrop	Participant	0	15	35
Van Camp	Participant	0	0	30
Gibbs	Participant	15	15	15
Newell	Participant	0	0	10
Pope	Participant	0	0	10
Ziemba	Participant	0	10	10

Welcome new Writers Award Program participants! Racheal Sager and Chloe Gibbs

Submissions appearing in the March 2025 Reflector:

Crain, "In Defense of Frozen Bloodworms," article, 20 points

Crain, "Fish Friends From Afar #33," article, 20 points

Gibbs, Club Members Fish And/Or Aquarium, 3 photos, 15 points

Pomerantz, "Golden Lane Medaka," 1 photo, 5 points

Pomerantz, "Breeding Rice Fish," article, 20 points, 6 photos, 30 points

Pomerantz, "Rainbow fish," 3 photos, 15 points

Sager, "A Visit to the National Aquarium in Baltimore," 10 photos, 50 points, caption > 50 words, 20 points

Walcott, Cover photo, photo, 5 points

Walcott, Club Members Fish And/Or Aquarium, 5 photos, 25 points



BREEDER AWARD PROGRAM 2024-2025 for Breeder of the Year

Chairman - Michael Flintrop
Email: michaelflintrop@yahoo.com

name	species	class	points	specialty class	date
Hillman, Doug	Neolamprlogus brichardi	C	15	8	3/15/2025
Hillman, Doug	Amatitlania nonolutea	B	10	8	6/5/2024
Hillman, Doug	Neocaridina davidi	B	10	INV	6/5/2024
Hillman, Doug	Poecilia salvatoris	A	5	1	6/5/2024
			40		
Newell, Bill	Osteogaster aneus	C	15	12	4/1/2025
Newell, Bill	Ameca splendens	B	10	1	3/9/2025
Newell, Bill	Xenotoca doadrioi	B	10	1	1/14/2025
Newell, Bill	Danio rerio	B	10	13	10/6/2024
			45		
Flintrop, Mike	Ameca splendens	B	10	1	3/25/2025
Flintrop, Mike	Osteogaster aneus	C	15	12	3/23/2025
Flintrop, Mike	Limia perguia	B	5	1	3/23/2025
Flintrop, Mike	Neolamprologus multifascitus	C	15	8	9/16/2024
Flintrop, Mike	Ancistrus cirrhosus	D	20	11	9/16/2024
Flintrop, Mike	Poecilia sphenops	A	5	1	9/16/2024
			70		
Baird, Denise	Neocaridina davidi	B	10	INV	10/16/2024
Baird, Denise	Pomacea bridgesii	B	10	INV	4/24/2024
			20		
Pomeranz, David	Oryzias latipes	B	10	16	2/19/2025
Pomeranz, David	Xiphophorus maculatus	A	5	1	2/21/2025
Pomeranz, David	Poecilia reticulata	A	5	1	2/21/2025
Pomeranz, David	Poecilia wingei	A	5	1	2/21/2025
Pomeranz, David	Neocaridina davidi	b	10	INV	2/21/2025
Pomeranz, David	Pseudocrenilabius multicolor	B	10	7	2/21/2025
Pomeranz, David	Oryzias wowrae	B	10	16	2/21/2025
Pomeranz, David	Tanichthys albonubes	B	10	13	5/15/2024
			65		
Crain, Clifford	Ilyodon furicdens	A	5	1	2/14/2025
Crain, Clifford	Limia nigrofasciata	A	5	1	2/14/2025
			10		
Fabiny, Ron	Neocardinia davidi	INV	10	INV	3/10/2025
Fabiny, Ron	Melanoides tuberculata	INV	5	INV	3/10/2025



Name	Points	Species	Name	Points	Species
<u>Grand Master</u>			<u>Participants</u>		
*Van Camp	965	77	Spahn	30	3
1-2-3-4-6-7-8-9-11-13-15-16			Domanowski, S	25	4
<u>Master Breeder</u>			Chris Pollard	20	2
*Pitzeruse, W.	610	50	Maxwell	20	2
1-2-3-4-7-8-9-11-12-13-14-15-16			Kotcher	10	1
Beeman	615	46	Futterman, L	10	1
4-7-8-11-12-16			Futterman, M	5	1
Fabiny	540	48			
1-7-8-11-12-14-15-16			Numbers under the name are completed Specialty Classifications groups.		
<u>Expert Breeder</u>			*Indicated Species Classification Award		
Hunter Collins	235	13	^Indicates first spawning		
8, 11			New Additions:		
Clifford Crain Jr.	235	21	Doug Hillman:		
7,8			<i>Neolamprologus Brichardi</i> 15 pts		
<u>Advanced Breeder</u>			Mike Flintrop:		
William Newell	195	16	<i>Ameca splendens</i> 10 pts		
8			<i>Osteogaster aneus</i> 15 pts		
Doug Hillman	140	15	<i>Limia perguia</i> 5 pts		
11			Bill Newell:		
<u>Breeder Award</u>			<i>Ameca splendens</i> 10 pts		
Mike Flintrop	70	6	Ron Fabiny:		
Wisneski	65	7	<i>Neocardinia davidi</i> 10 pts		
11			<i>Melanoides tuberculata</i> 5 pts		
David Pomeranz	65	8			
Denise Baird	85	6			
Chris Allen	60	4			
11					



BOWL SHOW

Chairman - Arnaud Germain

YTD Scores:

Bill Newell:	259	Points
Doug Hillman:	223	Points
Denise Baird:	78	Points
Debbie Walcott	21	Points
Joseph Marascalchi	11	Points

The 2024-2025 Categories will be as follows:

September:	Livebearers
October:	Killies
November:	New World Cichlids
December:	Barbs, Rasboras & Danios
January:	Goldfish & Koi
February:	Catfish & Loaches
March:	Bettas, Anabantoids & Gouramis
April:	Old World Cichlids: Africa & Asia
May:	Super Bowl

Don't forget the OPEN category option at each meeting.

All bowl show guidelines are available online in the Members Handbook (pages 5-6)

To participate, either bring your fish in person or submit pictures to ag297@cornell.edu before noon on Tuesday before the general meeting. Online submissions will be displayed during the meeting break using the projector for judges to award points.

We had 6 entries for the March Bowl Show!

A: *Trichopsis pumila* (Sparkling Gourami) – Third place – Bill Newell – 10 points

B: *Trichopodus leerii* (Pearl Gourami) – Second place – Bill Newell – 16 points

C: *Betta splendens* (Fighting fish) – First place – Debbie Walcott– 21 points

OPEN:

A: *Kryptopterus macrocephalus* (Striped Glass Catfish) – Second place – Bill Newell – 16 points

B: Golden Lazer Corydoras catfish – First place – Denise Baird – 21 points

C: Creamsicle Balloon Molly – Third place – Denise Baird – 10 points

A



B



C



A



B



C





**AQUATIC HORTICULTURE
AWARD PROGRAM**
Chairman– Bill Newell
Email: bnewell44@gmail.com



Name	Points	Species	Name	Points	Species
<u>Grand Master</u>			<u>Beginning</u>		
Spahn*	4,015	288	Yard	95	9
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14			Wisneski	65	7
Pitzeruse, W*	1,230	87	Taylor	50	6
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14					
Fabiny*	940	68	<u>Participants</u>		
2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,13,14			Flintrop	40	4
<u>Master</u>			Janus	25	4
Van Camp*	465	36	Smith	20	1
1,7,8,9,11,14			<u>Additions:</u>		
Lee*	575	42	Mike Flintrop:	<i>Taxiphyllum Barbieri</i>	10 pts
3,4,7,8,10,12,13,14				(Bogor Moss)	
<u>Expert</u>					
<u>Senior</u>					
Snead*	460	26			
2,4,7,10,14					
Kotcher*	165	11			
10,14					
<u>Aquatic</u>					
Futterman*	180	16			
Beeman	190	19			
3,4,6,7					
Newell	110	14			
6					

By: Doug Hillman

My fish room also works as a great location for starting my flowers and Vegetables!!!

They grow fast with the warmth and humidity. I will even use water from cleaning my sponge filters for watering the seedlings





FISH FRIENDS FROM AFAR #34

EXCHANGE REPORT

By: Clifford H. Crain, Jr.

This month's Missouri Aquarium Society *Darter* is <GULP> an eye-popping 112 pages! According to David Farel, Managing Editor, "Believe it or not, we had to cut a number of pieces as the contributions came in."!! David, do you realize how jealous you're making aquarium society editors all over the U.S.? He reminds readers that the articles that didn't make the March/April *Darter* issue are available in the April *Darter Mini Mag*, "which is free for fishkeepers everywhere." Go to the dartermagazine.com website and sign up for the *Darter Mini Mag*.

**"The Biogeography of *Nothobranchius*: Ephemeral Beauties of East Africa" by Andrej Spec,
The Darter, Missouri Aquarium Society, March/April 2025**

I have discovered that when Dr. Spec writes an article, he is very thorough. The annual killifish of the genus *Nothobranchius* evolved when the East African climate became less rainy; the fish had to contend with dry periods, when their rivers and lakes dried out. Andrej includes a helpful illustration that relates the life cycle of the fish to the climate. He also provides charts (and many photos) of *Nothobranchius* by clade, or grouping, that lists the location, incubation time, and survival status of each specie. Andrej discusses the importance of the calcium-rich, clay soil to the life cycle of *Nothobranchius*. Their water is soft yet alkaline, and "This water chemistry has led to one of the most frustrating parts of keeping *Nothobranchius*. They are notoriously sensitive to Velvet (*Oodinium* sp.)" It is customary to incubate the eggs in peat moss or coconut coir, but Andrej notes that these are "highly acidic and highly organic.... They work against the environment we are trying to create." Since in the wild, "the general structure of the soil protects the eggs," Dr. Spec provides a recipe and instructions the aquarist can use to recreate this soil and dramatically improve the chance of successfully hatching the eggs. (Part of the instructions are to mix the ingredients together "until your hands become tired and you begin questioning your life choices.") He ends this highly informative article with a plea to keep and breed these super-colorful fish.

**"Lampeyes from the Heart of Darkness" by Sam Fernald
The Darter, Missouri Aquarium Society, March/April 2025**

Lampeyes are a mostly unknown group of fish. "These gem-scaled fish are desired for their social personalities, firework displays between males, delicate beauty and fine-scaled, streamlined figures. They're also prolific breeders in the home aquarium." Lampeyes are egg-laying *cyprinodontiformes*, related to rainbowfish, killifish, ricefish and *Poeciliids* such as guppies and mollies. They are found in clearwater creeks with moderate water movement. Sam's article includes a generous number of photos of these beauties, but unfortunately "The supply chain for Lampeyes is nearly non-existent. Few US importers and retailers work with Africa currently, due to the political instability of the continent, high mortality rates on cargo, and general shakiness of the African export infrastructure." The article concludes with instructions on spawning both types of Lampeyes, egg scatterers and crevice spawners.

**"Float Like a Butterfly" by Carlyn Muehlhauser,
The Darter, Missouri Aquarium Society, March/April 2025**

Carlyn's article deals with the Butterfly Barb, *Enteromius hulstaerti*, a small barb with black blotches on its body and yellow dorsal and anal fins from the Democratic Republic of the Congo that is becoming more available here. It prefers slow-moving, soft, acid water with lots of plants. "It is good to note that these fish are not good candidates for a community tank and will fare better in a species only set-up due to their shy and retiring nature." They are egg scatterers, although the fry require special attention: "These fry likely need constant sources of live food or frequent feedings, as the fry do not tend to go actively looking for food but rather wait under cover near open stretches of the surface for food to appear for them to snatch. Therefore, live cultures of vinegar eels, paramecium, small scuds and daphnia, and eventually small live baby brine shrimp once the fry have grown some more, will help ensure fry survival."

**“Flora Africana: Options for African Biotope Plants” by Micah Issitt,
The Darter, Missouri Aquarium Society, March/April 2025**

Now that you’re excited about creating an African biotope, what plants do you choose? Micah’s article lists the nine basic biotopes in Africa and suggests plants for each. For example, Anubias for the tropical and subtropical forest, sedges for the tropical grassland and wetland, and water lilies, pond weeds, crinum, red stems and water lettuce. The article includes photos and detailed descriptions and care for each plant group.

**“Video of My Longfin Ancistrus” by Tony Patti,
The Buckette, Bucks County Aquarium Society, April 2025**

Tony tells us why he enjoys his bristlenose catfish: peaceful, hardy, great algae eater and easy to feed. He includes a link to a video of his Ancistrus chowing down on zucchini. What caught my attention is how he gets the video: “I have a 6 megapixel network video camera wired into my home ethernet LAN, and run the Blue Iris video management software, which has the advantage I can remotely check up on my fish even when I am not at home! The web video above is at a reduced resolution, the original is 4x more detailed.”

**“Exodon paradoxus: The Bucktooth Tetra” by Glenn Roberts,
Fins and Tales, Kitchener-Waterloo Aquarium Society, April 2025**

Glenn kicks his article off with a photo of the scary choppers that belong to the bucktooth tetra. “Often believed to be more ferocious than the Piranha, the bucktooth tetra is significantly smaller.” Although he states that “Their temperament requires a species only tank,” he disobeys this rule by successfully keeping a leftover *Ameca splendens* and some African catfish with the tetras resulting in no harm, no foul. These fish are fast and need plenty of space, and “Be sure to have a lid, because these fish do jump, especially when feeding.” The article includes three photos.

**“Aquarium Keeping History: Pins and Embroidered Crests” by Zenin Skomorowski
Fins and Tales, Kitchener-Waterloo Aquarium Society, April 2025**

Are you the type of person who collects stuff? Zenin has collected pins and embroidered crests of aquarium societies, conventions and aquarium organizations. There are interesting stories to tell for each of the photos.

**“How To Breed Cardinal Tetras (Without Even Trying!)” by Thomas Warns,
Modern Aquarium, Greater City Aquarium Society, April 2025**

When Bill Newell visited my fishroom a few weeks ago, I told him the theme was “Failure,” since fish that should be spawning are not doing so. Now Thomas Warns comes along and is getting regular spawns, and successfully raising the fry, of the notoriously difficult-to-spawn cardinal tetra. OK, what’s the story here? Thomas has a tank of discus (another difficult fish to spawn) that were, you guessed it, regularly spawning although not successful in raising the fry. He decided to give up and turn the tank into a community tank, adding a bunch of cardinal tetras. Then one day a batch of baby cardinals appeared and surprised him. He guesses the fry survived predation due to the very large size of gravel he used in the tank. The openings between the granules gave the eggs and fry a place to hide. The tank is also heavily planted, has been established for a long time, so it’s loaded with micro-organisms for the newly-hatched fry, the water is extremely soft and slightly acid and warm. And food: “It also helped that I feed my discus a generous diet of brine shrimp, bloodworms and the occasional Beefheart and blackworms. The cardinal tetras patrol the bottom of the tank and catch anything the discus fail to eat towards the top. In other words, I was unintentionally conditioning my cardinal tetras for breeding.”

Reprints and reviews:
None this month.

CLUB MEMBERS FISH AND/OR AQUARIUM

Photos by : Chloe Gibbs

Galaxy Fishbone Shrimp and their breeding tank





UPCOMING EVENTS

April 9, Board Meeting
April 16, General Meeting
April 26, CNYAS Annual Auction
April 27, GPASI Spring Auction
May 14, Board Meeting
May 21, General Meeting
June 18, CNYAS Banquet

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and are open to all members who would like to attend.



2024-2025 Schedule

Sept: Ron Fabiny	Oct: Doug Hillman
Nov: Chip Alexander	Dec: Mary & Lenny Futterman
Jan: Mary & Lenny	Feb: Mike Flintrop
Mar: Bill Newell	April: Ron Fabiny
May: Hershel Beeman	June: Clifford Crain

CNYAS CLUB MEETINGS

Each monthly meeting consists of :

- Short business meeting; program (slide show, movie, guest speaker, etc.).
- Break (refreshments/social gathering)
- Bowl Show
- Mini auction of member items (plants, fish, equipment, etc.).
- Raffle (equipment, books, food, magazine subscriptions, etc.).
- Question and discussion session.



CNYAS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Witnesses for the BAP and AHAP Programs

Sue Kotcher	BAP	
Clay (315) 622-9668		
Ron Fabiny	BAP	AHAP
Clay (315) 440-5806		
Len Futterman	BAP	AHAP
East Syracuse (315) 560-0955		
Herschel Beeman	BAP	
Chittenango (315) 663-8694		
Bill Newell		AHAP
Liverpool (315) 440-9513		
Mike Flintrop	BAP	
Manlius (315) 415-1471		

Central New York Aquarium Society



CNYAS is a non-profit educational organization with a goal of furthering the study of all forms of aquatic life. In order to achieve this, we promote the interest in, and encourage the breeding of, aquatic life. Through the exchange of ideas and distribution of information concerning the hobby, we will advance our members' knowledge of the hobby, providing valuable information to those who seek it.

[CNYAS is now on Facebook!](#)



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30 / 70 Split for non-member sellers

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Visit our website for rules at: www.cnyas.net



Photo by: Debbie Walcott



Low Tide Corals Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/1027502091/0416af01a2>



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- Cap — \$20
- Coffee Mugs—\$5

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REFLECTOR ARCHIVES

CNYAS has made our archives of past published Reflectors available online to all members. They go all the way back to 1976, to the inception of our club. The link below will take you to the archive. Enjoy your trip through our fishy past!

<https://tinyurl.com/CNYASreflectors>

2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$15.00 - Individual

\$20.00 - Family

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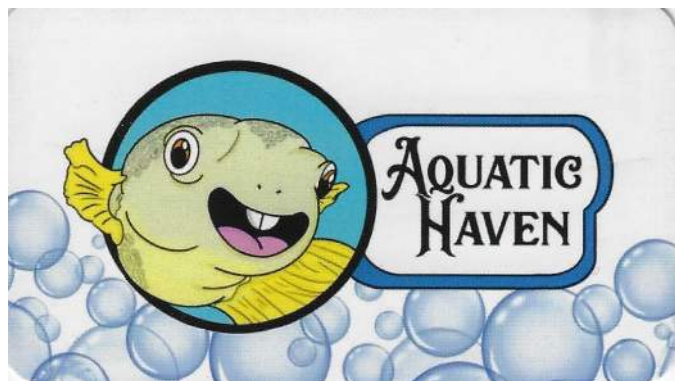
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