

The Ohio Cichlid Association Buckeye Bulletin

www.OhioCichlid.com

December 2018



Next Meeting: Friday,
December 7, 2018, 8:00 p.m.



Ohio Cichlid Association

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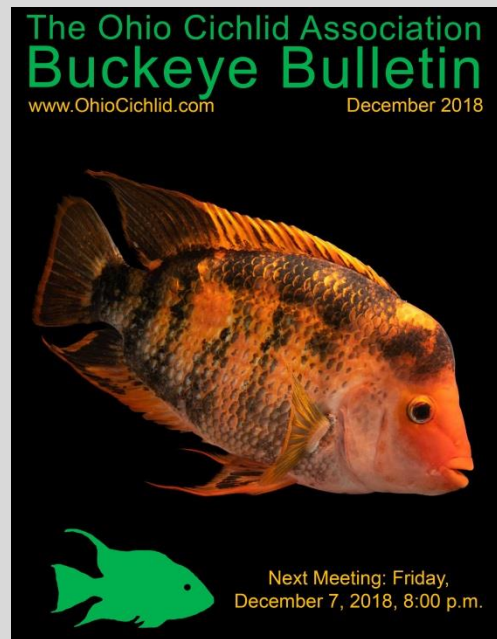
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For membership info please contact Hilary Lacerda: hilarylacerda@gmail.com or visit the [OCA forum](#).



On the Cover

The subject of this month's cover photo is the best of show winner at the 2018 Extravaganza! This image was captured by Mo Devlin. You can find more Mo's fantastic photos on his AquaMojo Facebook Page.

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

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About the Ohio Cichlid Association

The OCA is an organization dedicated to the advancement and dissemination of information relating to all aspects of the biology of cichlids and related aquatic life. Our purpose is to promote the interest, keeping, study, breeding, and the educational exhibition of Cichlids. Additionally, the exchange of ideas, meeting new people, and distribution of information concerning Cichlids is of primary interest.

The 2018 OCA Board

Don Danko	President Promotions*	Lew Carbone	Vice President Program Chair* Jim Smith Fund*
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Steve Heinbaugh	Catfish BAP	Scott Myers	Bowl Show Historian
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Marilyn Danko	At Large	Jonathan Strazinsky	Photographer
Eric Sorensen	At Large*	Dan Ogrizek	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



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM DON DANKO

Wow, what an Extravaganza! I want to acknowledge the hard working Board of the OCA that tirelessly gave their time to put on another fantastic show to entertain our members and attendees as well as to fund club activities. You guys are awesome! Many thanks to all others that worked, supported and attended this outstanding weekend event – it's certainly one that will be hard to top!

Here are some highlights from the weekend:

- We had 275 registered attendees and thousands of walk-in visits
- The new layout for the Manufacturers and Vendors worked out well and was a noticeable improvement over prior years. Thanks to Jonathan Strazinsky for making his brainchild a reality! We got lots of positive feedback about the new layout.
- The Fish Show classes were very well represented with 175 awesome Cichlid, Catfish and Art entries. As always, the Large Central American and Peacock classes were extremely competitive with some amazing fish to be seen. We really appreciate you bringing your fish out for the weekend for all to see and to allow the attendees to see the amazing diversity of fishes available in our hobby.
- The Swap Meet was likely our largest and best attended to date with some great finds. Marilyn and I snagged a beautiful pair of LDA08 Ancistrus claro! We're already planning an improved layout for next year's swap.
- Thanks to the donations from Omega, Ray Lucas, Gary Bagnall and ZooMed and others, our Dry Goods Auction on Saturday night had lots of great items and great deals that raised money for the club.
- Room sales were brisk all weekend with many fine and unusual species.
- A number of great talks were heard by our attendees. What a fantastic line-up arranged by Lew Carbone!

For our December meeting, we will have our annual Holiday Party with gifts for the Kids under 16 years of age from Santa "William Claus" Zarzeczny, a gift exchange for those bringing in a gift of nominally \$15 to \$20, monthly BAP and Bowl Show, an Auction and our HUGE POT LUCK DINNER! Be sure to bring your favorite dish or dessert to share with other members!

I hope you enjoyed Jeremy Basch's talk on Geophagines last month as much as I did. He shared pictures of many beautiful species not often seen. It's easy to see why Geophagus species always do very well in our auctions after seeing Jeremy's talk.

Well, that's all for now, so please plan on joining us for the December 7th Holiday Party at the Middleburg Heights Recreation Center at 8 pm. See you there!

Don

SOCIAL MEETING INFORMATION

The Next OCA Social Meeting is Friday,
December 7, 2018 at 8:00 pm

[Middleburg Heights Community Center, Room C](#)
[16000 Bagley Rd](#)
[Cleveland, OH 44130](#)



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

SOCIAL MEETING SCHEDULE

(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



Come Join Us!

Ohio Cichlid Association Holiday Party

Middleburg Hts. Recreation Center

Friday, Dec. 7, 8 pm



Program Preview
December, 2018

Christmas Party

By Lew Carbone



It's time for the OCA Christmas Party...and come hungry!

This meeting is like no other throughout the year. Instead of the usual theater-style seating, the room will be set up with tables and chairs, plus a buffet laden with food. Roast turkey and ham will be provided by the club, facilitated by Eric and Rhonda Sorensen. Side dishes and

desserts are handled “pot-luck” style, so bring something for us to share and for you to show off.

One of the activities will be the Fish Room Gift Exchange. Choose an item from your fish room that you no longer need but may be usable for somebody (no more than a \$10-\$15 or so value), gift wrap it, and bring it with you. (Please bring aquarium hobby-related items only.) When you bring your gift to the table, you’ll receive a raffle ticket. We’ll use the raffle tickets to call people up in a random order, so you don’t have to worry about Jombi sprinting in front of you so he can get the biggest gift.

Another thing: This one’s for kids, too! Don’t call Mom or the babysitter...bring them along. There will be plenty of other kids, and gifts for them all, courtesy of RMS Aquaculture.

Another thing: This one’s for kids, too! Don’t call Mom or the babysitter...bring them along. There will be plenty of other kids, and gifts for them all, courtesy of RMS Aquaculture.

This meeting will also feature the usual raffle, and BAP and Buck-a-Bag Auctions. I’ll be looking for you there!

Next month, “Big” Rich Price will visit all the way from Strongsville to talk about his labor of love, Ohio Fish Rescue. Big Rich is an entertaining story teller and deals with huge fish, so this should be a fun talk.

Photo: *Xystochromis phytophagus* “Christmas Fulu” by Kevin Bauman

UPCOMING OCA SOCIAL MEETING PROGRAMS

2018

December 7

Christmas Party

OCA provides turkey and ham
Sides and desert will be pot-luck style
Gifts for kids
Gift Exchange

2019

January 4

Big Rich Price

Ohio Fish Rescue

February 2

Joe Cutler

National Geographic Society
West African Cichlids

March 2

Jonathan Strazinsky

“Breeding New World Cichlids”

April 5

Ryan Greenway

Winner of 2016 JSF Grant
Thorichthys

May 3

Josh Cunningham

“Breeding Set-Ups for Rift Lake Cichlids”

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Stuart M. Grant

Cichlid Conservation Fund



Dear Friends,

After a hiatus of more than one year I want to update you on the developments regarding the protection of cichlids in lakes Malawi and Tanganyika. There have been some developments at both lakes and those in Lake Malawi have not been very favorable for the wellbeing of fish populations.

A little over a year ago Larry Johnson and seven other participants of his safari on Lake Malawi set out to Taiwanese Reef to release a whopping 700 *C. saulosi* that David Nkwhazi of Stuart Grant Ltd had bred for reintroduction. Unfortunately the visibility at the reef was very poor and no count of *C. saulosi* was made prior to the release. However, the video of the release (thank you Pete Barnes) shows that there were no resident *C. saulosi* visible in the area of release. There have also been reports that wild *C. saulosi* were offered for sale in Germany and China. Whether these were collected at the reef or captivity raised could not be determined, but I'm afraid that publicizing our reintroduction efforts also informs individuals with no scruples about extracting the last few specimens to make a buck.

2017 Release of Chindongo *saulosi* at Taiwanese Reef. Video by Pete Barnes: <https://youtu.be/Sar4GZ8gxvU>

A similar scenario was met by Mattia Matarrese and his team who, together with Pierre le Roux, visited Chidunga Rocks to prepare for the release of a second batch of *Melanochromis chipokae*. They couldn't find a single individual of *M. chipokae* even though Pierre had released 68 fish in May. Also here I fear that most of these were extracted by collectors. It was decided to not release any more *chipokae* at Chidunga Rocks till a time when the ornamental fish collectors stop targeting these rare species. We

are still breeding these and other species in Malawi and Pierre has been gracious enough to hold stocks of them at his facility.

I have spent the better part of seven months updating the status of all Malawi cichlids for the recently released red list update by the IUCN and at a workshop in Malawi in May this year it became clear that a huge number of species have disappeared. Most significantly for Malawi, the principal food fishes Chambo (*Oreochromis* species) and Kampango (*Bagrus meridionalis*) have decreased more than 99% in population density compared with data of 20 years earlier. Still there is no regular collection of data about what fish and in what quantities are being caught around the lake. The Utaka have been heavily overfished and now the lake water is slowly getting turbid as the fish that used to eat the plankton has been all but eliminated. The sole species which showed an increase in population density was the Usipa, the lake sardine, as it now has more food available. However, the commercial trawlers are now targeting this species and it is expected to have declined at the next census.

There is fortunately some good news from Malawi. Ripple Africa, a non-profit organization based in the UK and led by Geoff Furber, managed to convince the government that it would be better for the fish and fishermen to empower the local communities and allow them jurisdiction of the lake's shoreline. They have established about 200 fish conservation committees and have setup bylaws in Nkhata Bay and Nkhotakota. Now that each village along the lake shore owns the right to fish and is able to arrest and fine fishers from other villages who intrude on their portion of the lake, the fish now appears to slowly return to normal densities. Also illegal nets, such as mosquito nets which were used to catch the tiniest of fish in the very shallow water, have largely been abandoned in the areas which were converted by Ripple Africa. Check out their website and find out the staggering number of confiscated mosquito nets.

Lake Tanganyika

While the authorities in Malawi do little to nothing about the rampant overfishing going on in the lake the situation in Tanzania on Lake Tanganyika is much better. The authorities try hard battling illegal fishing, partly supported by visitors who want to see the cichlids in the lake. They have imposed fees—\$50/week/visitor—which are used for a special police

force patrolling the entire shoreline of Tanzania and arresting any fisherman with illegal nets or while fishing in forbidden areas. I have just returned from a trip in Tanzania and Zambia and have noticed the difference in fish densities in Tanzania compared to those in Zambia where there is very little oversight, similar to Malawi.

Zambia used to have more than 20 commercial trawlers that targeted the open water fish, Kapenta (*Limnothrissa* and *Stolothrissa*), and in the 1990s fisheries was sure that there would be no end to the Kapenta fishing. Huge quantities of Kapenta were caught at night, attracted by lights, frozen in large warehouses, and then shipped to Lusaka or even exported to other countries. More than 10 years ago it became clear that Kapenta was limited and every commercial company has abandoned its collection. Still, Kapenta has not yet returned and the local fishermen are actually poaching in Tanzanian waters to catch some. With the cichlid stocks it is not much different: shallow water sand-dwelling cichlids have basically disappeared in Zambia while any fish that dared to swim out into the open water has been captured. Nowadays fishermen use small-meshed gill nets that are draped near shore and by throwing rocks and by loud splashing on the surface they hope to scare a few fish into the net.

Not only are the food fishes threatened with extinction in Zambia also the ornamental fish collectors have wreaked havoc on the more popular species such as the all-orange *Neolamprologus mustax*, the yellow and the white *Altolamprologus calvus*, the so-called Transcriptus Gombe, and various others that are also targeted by the food fishermen. We also visited Toby Veall's compound and were happy to see that many vats were dedicated to breeding the Maswa Duboisi and all appeared in good health.



Some of the vats with breeding groups of *Tropheus duboisi* "Maswa" at Toby Veall's Kalambo Lodge.

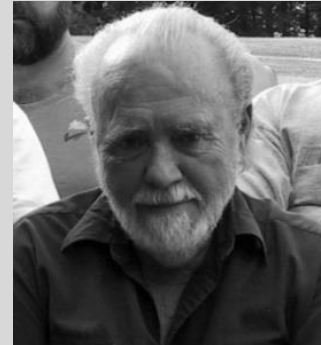
Chris and Louise Horsfall of the Lakeshore Lodge in Kipili are successfully breeding several threatened species which they will hold till such time they are no longer targeted in the wild. At present more than 80% of the fish collected by the ornamental fish trade is exported to Asia with more than 11 exporters operating in Tanzania alone! We are in this for the long haul.

This year was a great year for our fundraising as we received a little over \$12,000! Our total from 2007 till now stands at \$98,205! I would like to thank Mattia Matarrese and the Perth Cichlid Society, Steve Edie and the Missouri Aquarium Society, Dick Au, the Nordiska Ciklidsellskapet, Patrick Tawil, Associazione Italiana Ciclidofili, and the Babes in the Cichlid Hobby for their large donations to the Fund. Thank you ALL for your support and concern for our cichlids in the wild.

Remember that a portion of each package of Frozen Cichlid Formula of Omega One supports the Fund!

Ad

PLEASE SUPPORT THE JIM SMITH FUND



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

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

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

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

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

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

2018 EXTRAVAGANZA SHOW RESULTS

Class	1st	2nd	3rd	Sponsor
1	Christian Kline - Red Pigeon Blood Discus	Wild Bill Wroblewski - Eruption Discus	#N/A	Samantha Lutz
2	Ray Bierbower - Angel	Isaiah Jenkins - Silver-Gold Marble Veiltail Angel	Ray Bierbower - Angel	Marc DeWerth
3	Christian Kline - Apistogramma sp. Tame	Wild Bill Wroblewski - Mikrogeophagus "Gold" ramirezi	Fred Kraus - Mikrogeophagus ramirezi	Mike Helford
4	Scott Myers - Amatitlania sajica	William Sensor - Amatitlania siquia "Rio Animas"	Wild Bill Wroblewski - A. nigrofasciata Marbled Calico Convicts	Greater Akron Aquarium Society
5	Tony Martina - Amphilophus labiatus "Thor"	Joe Burke - Amphilophus labiatus "Bruce"	Tim DeRobertis - Amphilophus labiatus	Something Fishy
6	Scott Myers - Vieja regani	Scott Myers - Herichthys pearsei	Tim DeRobertis - Herichthys cyanoguttatus "Texas Cichlid"	Michigan Cichlid Association
7	Roger Stark - Andinoacara pulcher	William Sensor - Australoheros scitulus	Matt Anderson - Cleithracara maronii	Ken Galaska
8	Tim DeRobertis - Andinoacara rivulatus	Scott Myers - Geophagus brasiliensis	Scott Myers - Geophagus dicrozoster	Ken Galaska
9	Stephen Kalibli - Pundamilia nyererei "Makobe Island"	Scott Myers - Astatotilapia calliptera "Chismulu"	William Sensor - Yssichromis sp. Blue Tip	Michigan Cichlid Association
10	Scott Myers - Tramitichromis intermedius "Kambiri Point"	Scott Myers - Champsochromis caeruleus "Malawi Trout"	George Anagnostopoulos - Copadichromis azureus	Josh Cunningham Cichlids
11	Scott Myers - Aulonocara Iwanda	Scott Myers - Aulonocara eureka	Philip Johnson - Aulonocara jacobfreibergeri "Otter Point"	Mark Kazanoff
12	Tim DeRobertis - Aulonocara "Fort MaGuire"	Scott Myers - Aulonocara maylandi	Scott Myers - Aulonocara "Maleri"	Something Fishy
13	Scott Myers - Melanochromis kaskazini	Mark Murtaugh - Metriaclima "Elongatus Chewere"	Scott Myers - Labidochromis sp. 'hongji'	Mike Helford
14	Matt Anderson - Julidochromis transcriptus gombe	Matt Anderson - Julidochromis transcriptus bemba	Mark Murtaugh - Julidochromis ornatus	Mark Kazanoff
15	Stephen Kalibli - Triglachromis otostigma	Mark Murtaugh - Altolamprologus compressiceps "Goldhead"	Philip Johnson - Lamprologus brichardi daffodil	Bill Schwartz

16	Scott Myers - Limnotilapia dardennii	Wild Bill Wroblewski - Tropheus duboisi	William Trautman - Tropheus duboisi "Maswa"	William Trautmann
17	Scott Myers - Steatocranus Casuarius	Greg Bodden - Nanochromis splendens	Greg Bodden - Nanochromis transvestitus	Peter George
18	Scott Myers - Paratilapia bleekeri	#N/A	#N/A	King and Queen Cichlids
19	Fred Kraus - Hemiancistrus subviridis L200, Green Phantom Pleco	Wild Bill Wroblewski - Hypancistrus inspector 201	William Sensor - Loricaria similima	Something Fishy
20	Phil Ayres - Rineloricaria eigenmanni	Fred Kraus - Peckoltia lineola	Scott Myers - Albino Ancistrus Bushynose	Plecocaves
21	Phil Ayres - Corydoras delphax	Phil Ayres - Corydoras blochi	Randy & Terri Seufert - Corydoras aeneus Albino	Tropical Fish Club of Erie County
22	Phil Ayres - Pseudopimelodus bufonius	Tim Rizzo - Pseudopimelodus bufonius	Phil Ayres - Spinipterus Acsi (Trachyopterus galeatus)	Jeff Natterer
23	Phil Ayres - Microglanis iheringi	Fred Kraus - Megalechis thoracata	Fred Kraus - Dianema urostriatum	Michael Liu
24	Dave Williamson - Botia sidthimunki	Fred Kraus - Botia hymenophysa Tiger Botia	Fred Kraus - Botia almorhae YoYo Botia	Mark Kazanoff
25	Phil Ayres - Synodontis polli	Phil Ayres - Synodontis Zebra Kutu	Fred Kraus - Synodontis decorus	Birger Kamprath
26	Fred Kraus - Pelteobagrus sp.	Randy & Terri Seufert - Akysis vespa Orange-Banded stone Catfish	Phil Ayres - Pseudomystus Siamensis	Birger Kamprath
27	Carl Olszewski - Photo Crenicichla sp. "Belly Crawler Pike"	Carl Olszewski - Photo Hoplarchus Psitticus	Zenin Skomorowski - photo green tiger silver dollar	Goldcoast Aquatics
28	Randy & Terri Seufert - Fish City Crosstitch	Randy & Terri Seufert - Fish City Crosstitch Ornaments on tree	#N/A	Mike Culkowski (Mike's Wet Pets & mikesplantsandfish.co m)
29	Shaun Myers - Aulonocara jacobfreibergi	James Myers - Otopharynx tetrastigma	Larisa DeRobertis - African Leaf Fish, Polycentrosis Abbreviata	Michael Liu

Best Cichlid Of Show
Sponsor: Willem Heijns

**Tony Martina -
Amphilophus
labiatus "Thor"**

Total # Entries: 167

Reserve Best of Show
Sponsor: Keith Knapp

**Scott Myers -
Vieja regani**

Best Catfish of Show
Sponsor: Plecocaves

**Phil Ayres-
Microglanis
iheringi**

of Entrants: 33

Presidents Trophy
Sponsor: Claudia
Dickinson

**Scott Myers -
40pts**

Memorial Trophy
Sponsor: Greater
Cincinnati Aquarium
Society

Ron Maichle

Peoples Choice
Sponsor: Medina County
Aquarium Society

**Tony Martina -
Amphilophus
labiatus "Thor"**





**Ohio Cichlid
Association**

THANK YOU!
OMEGA ONE
for your
AMAZING SUPPORT!

**Your support makes this weekend celebration
of all things Cichlid and Catfish possible!**



The Ohio Cichlid Association would like to thank you for your support of the Extravaganza 2018. Without the overwhelming support of the Cichlid and Catfish nation, this event would cease to exist. We work hard to bring you an event that has great speakers, a world-class fish show, manufacturer representatives, and a huge cichlid/catfish only auction. It's important to us that this is a cost-effective event so that you can afford to bring the whole family for the entire weekend.

Thanks to our speakers for educating and entertaining us with their presentations. Your excellence is what brings us back to Ohio every year. Thanks for sharing your knowledge of cichlids and catfish.

Thanks for helping us to sell out the hotel each year. Thanks for sharing your fish with us by selling out of your rooms, selling during the swap meet, and by entering your best fish in our Sunday auction.

Thanks to all of the manufacturers who've taken time and effort to come and speak directly to the end users of their products. Meeting customers leads to product ideas and a better understanding of what type of products that the cichlid and catfish crowd want to see.

Thanks to all of our vendors who fill our show room each year with an amazing variety of high quality products at reasonable prices.

Thanks to all who register each year. You keep the show healthy and reaffirm that this show is important enough to save one weekend each year to come to Ohio. We are humbled by your support and hope that we've presented a show worthy of your attention. We always look forward to reconnecting with our friends each year.

Thanks also to the local fish clubs. As always, we value your support and input. Let's keep working together into 2018 to make our hobby stronger and the Extravaganza larger. More hobbyists are a great thing for all of us –manufacturers, vendors, and those of us who continue to enjoy this hobby of ours.

Lastly, thanks to all of those in The Ohio Cichlid Association who spend a significant part of their free time to put this show together each year. It's a lot of work and effort, but seeing our good friends each November and especially the smiles on the faces of the young, is reward enough.

Please mark your calendar for:

25th Anniversary!
Extravaganza 2019
November 15th, 16th, and 17th



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2018 OCA Initiative

The Future of Our Hobby

This year, the Ohio Cichlid Association put forth an initiative to educate and captivate our youth. The OCA Board approved the fund to sponsor a complete 40-gallon aquarium set-up at North Royalton High School. Board Member, Jonathan “Jombie” Dietrich, teaches English at the high school and welcomed the tank in his classroom under the following stipulations: the tank will follow the mission of the OCA, the tank will house C.A.R.E.S. species only, all fry will be donated to auction for the Jim Smith Fund, a Fish Club will be created to promote fish keeping and fish education.

The NR Fish Club was created shortly after the installation of the tank. After posting a 8x11 flyer outside Mr. Dietrich’s classroom, 500+ students joined our NR Fish Club Google Classroom online forum. The first meeting had to be abruptly moved to the Media Center after the halls were lined with excited teens. Over a 140 students attended the first meeting where students learned about the OCA and the initiative. There were tank raffles, fun and games, and, of course, gold fish crackers. Later, Fish Council was created through elections led by none other than the Big Tuna (President). At subsequent meetings, students learned how to setup a tank properly and received a crash course in Cichlids.

At the beginning of the school year the fish tank was installed and it was an immediate hit. The current C.A.R.E.S. species is *Haplochromis lividus*. The students have been learning all about Cichlid behavior, breeding, and care. After only a month or so, students witnessed their first spawn and learned about mouth brooding and fry care. Currently, NR has experience two spawns and raised 40 fry. Look for them in an upcoming auction!

The students at NR thank the OCA for this initiative.



A “School” of Fish Enthusiasts

by [royalnews](#) • October 24, 2018 •

By: Tina Avondet.

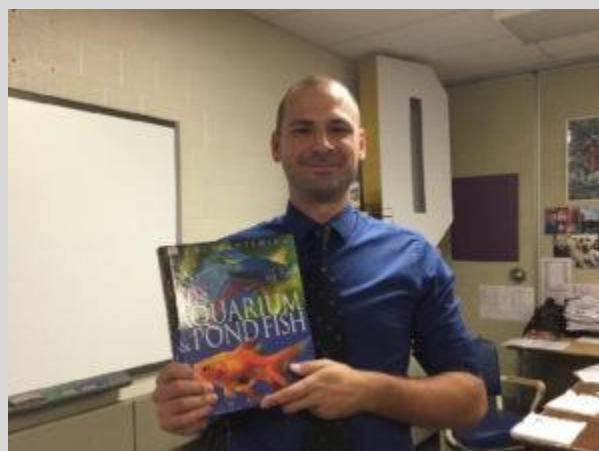


The OCA sponsored a tank for the newly-founded Fish Club and is featured in Mr. Dietrich's room.

A new club has recently “caught” the attention of many North Royalton High School students. Fish Club, lead by Mr. Dietrich, now has more than 500 members including students and teachers and a sponsorship from the Ohio Cichlid Association (OCA). Even though Dietrich has noticed that the club has taken on a life of its own, he's still excited to see what positive impacts the club can make.

“There's excitement and energy. It's really been a dream come true for me,” Dietrich said on the club's success.

There was a staggering amount of support for the club and as the amount of members began to climb, Dietrich was excited to start a club that everyone could enjoy. Many members are excited to see that the club was filled with new potential fish keepers. Dietrich has hopes for the club to have a lasting positive environmental impact.



Mr. Dietrich, the Fish Club founder, plans to educate kids on all things fish related. Dietrich was not prepared for the surge of interest in the club. “It must have been a similar experience to a pre-celebrity gaining fame on Instagram,” Dietrich said. “I was amazed at the Google Classroom enrollment number increase at every login.”

But the club isn’t just about the numbers or hilarious memes that have been emerging. Many Fish Club members wish to help start a school conservation effort. Starting with a breeding tank, sponsored by the OCA, containing a threatened species of fish, the *Haplochromis lividus*. This species is currently on the Conservation, Awareness, Recognition and Responsibility, Encouragement and Education, and Support and Sharing (C.A.R.E.S) priority list, meaning that its current wildlife population is threatened in some way. Having a gateway for a conservation opportunity in school will help to show students easy options to help the environment.



Fish-themed signs made by Fish Club students formed into the words “FISH!”, set in North Royalton High School Halls.

“The C.A.R.E.S. program was created to inspire hobbyists, like us, to take an active role in conservation,” Dietrich said. “As we participate in this program, NR Fish Club will hopefully breed *Haplochromis lividus*, adding to the threatened population.”

As there is no set future for the unofficial club, and Dietrich hopes for every meeting to be a proactive step in the way of conservation. Amongst all of the excitement of the new club gaining student interest and potential new energetic fish keepers, Dietrich will still to continue to have more fish-related games and activities and fish tank raffles (sponsored by the OCA). He invites students and to join them for their next meeting.



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NOVEMBER CICHLID BAP REPORT

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.

November 2, 2018

Mark Chaloupka

Uaru amphiacanthoides 20

Jonathan Dietrich

Iodotropheus sprengerae 10

Neolamprologus brevis "Ikola sunspot" 15

Yssichromis pyrrhocephalus 10

Dennis Kuehn

Astatotilapia calliptera "Chizumulu" 10

Hilary Lacerda

Otopharynx lithobates 10

Ptyochromis sp. "red rock sheller" 10

Yssichromis sp. "blue tipped" 10

Ron Maichle

Pelvicachromis pulcher 10

Eric & Rhonda Sorensen

Tropheus moori "Chimba red" 20

Jonathan Strazinsky

Labidochromis caeruleus 10

Jeff Yadlovsky

Amatitlania nigrofasciata "marbled" 10

Otopharynx lithobates "Zimbawe Rock" 10

Congratulations to

Jonathan Dietrich

for reaching the

400 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 (11/2/2018)

BREEDER	2018	TOTAL
---------	------	-------

MASTER BREEDER 1000 POINT LEVEL

Lew Carbone	45	3035
Don & Marilyn Danko	15	2420
Dan Woodland	-	2070
Josh Cunningham	85	1725
Bryan Davis	-	1455
Bill Loudermilk	-	1200
Linda Wallrath	-	1130
John Tesar	10	1120
Mark Chaloupka	20	1095
Rich & Maggie Schoeffel	-	1065
Jeff Yadlovsky	65	1020

900 POINT LEVEL

Dennis Tomazin	-	965
Hilary & Antonio Lacerda	40	910
Jonathan Strazinsky	55	905
Tom Swiderski	-	905

800 POINT LEVEL

Gary Mendez	65	865
Dustin Brummitt	-	840
Ken & Sue Galaska	-	800

700 POINT LEVEL

Bill Schwartz	40	740
Jeff Natterer	-	705

600 POINT LEVEL

Bob Blazek	20	680
Charlie & Cathy Suk	-	615
Steve Zarzeczny	-	600

500 POINT LEVEL

Tim Craig	-	540
George Anagnostopoulos	-	515
Eric & Rhonda Sorensen	45	515
Ron Georgeone	-	510

400 POINT LEVEL

Rick Hallis	-	495
Phil Hypes	-	475
Kyle May	-	460
Bob Bina	-	435
Tyler Toncler	-	420
Jonathan Dietrich	75	410

300 POINT LEVEL

Andrew Schock	85	375
Greg Senn	25	350
David Hale	-	335
Tony Poth	-	335
Dennis Kuehn	40	325
Gary Zalewski	-	325
Ken & Karen Grimmett	-	310
Dennis Kuehn	30	315
Tom & Carolyn Evers	-	300

200 POINT LEVEL

James Shakour	-	275
David Hearn	15	270
Jason Mlynar	10	270
Dave Esner	-	250
Ken Walker	-	240
Mark Kazanoff	20	235
Justin Way	10	230
Bill & Janice Bilski	20	205
Paul Collander	-	205

100 POINT LEVEL

Marc & Dawn DeWerth	-	195
Ozeal Hunter	-	190
Chuck Carroll	-	185
Denis Rozmus	-	185
Andrew Subotnik	-	180
Bob Evers	-	175
Charles Nowakowski	-	165
Frank Mueller	-	160
Steve Heinbaugh	-	150
David Ayers	-	145
Greg Seith	-	145
Dan Ogrizek	-	140
John Griffith	-	135
Carl Oszewski	-	135
Joe Ring	-	120
Roger Stark	70	120
Steve Olander	-	115
Peter Nario-Redmond	-	115
Aaron Stevens	-	115
David Toth	-	115
Raymond Langer	-	110

BREEDER LEVEL

Mark Huntington	-	95
Dolores Bacisin	-	85
Nicholas Zarzeczny	20	85
Pete Gembka	-	80
Rick Wood	-	75
Bob Tillman	-	70
Matt Urbin	-	70
Dave Dimond	-	65
Anthony Scarton	-	65
Jim Jensen	-	60
Paul Palisin	-	60
Chris Jaskolka	-	55
John Kaminski	-	55
Russell & Tom Pierce	55	55
Keith Robinson	25	55
Dave Dimond	-	50
Margaret Heifner	-	50
John Kahl	-	50
Alex Gorges	-	45
Jason Gorges	10	40
Ethan Wiley	-	40
Matt Lacy	-	35
Christopher Sooy	-	35
Tom Tansey	-	35

Randall Wyan	35	35
Paul Hutnyak	-	30
Adam Stallman	-	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
Ron Maichle	10	10
Michael Meyer	-	10
Mike Trader	-	10

The points list for the Breeders Award Program has been updated to include only current members. If you are a current member and your name has been omitted, please see the B.A.P. Chairman at the social meeting so we can correct any errors.

Please remember: You may only turn in a species or strain of fish for B.A.P. points one time. If you need a list of what you have been credited with, see the BAP chairman at the social meeting.

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NOVEMBER CATFISH BAP REPORT

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.

Breeder	Species	Points
Jason Mlynar	Ancistrus sp "Super Red"	10

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	2018	TOTAL
Dan Ogrizek	10	430
Steve Heinbaugh		365
Dave Ayres	30	345
Don & Marilyn Danko		285
Phil Ayres		230
Eric & Rhonda Sorensen	10	120
Ken Walker		120
Bob Blazek	30	110
Dan Woodland		100
Matt Urbin		90
Tom & Carolyn Evers		80
Hilary Lacerda		80
Bill Schwartz	10	70
Bob Bina		70
John Kaminski		70
Justin Way		60

Bryan Davis		60
Phil Hypes		60
Josh Cunningham	10	50
Jeff Natterer		50
Ken Galaska		45
Tyler Toncler		45
Matt Lacy		40
Kyle May		40
George Aganostopoulos		40
Jason Mlynar	10	35
John Tesar		30
Karen & Ken Grimmett		30
Lew Carbone		30
Andrew Schock		30
Bob Evers		30
Russell & Tom Pierce	20	20
Tony Poth		20
Gary Mendez		20
David Toth		20
Paul Palisin		20
Jeff Yadlovsky		10
Dave Hearn		10
John Griffith		10
Carl Olszewski		10
Anthony Scranton		10
Jon Dietrich		10
Richard Shamray		10
William Zarzeczny		10
Wayne Corman		10
Mark Chaloupka		10
David Hale		10
Jonathan Strazinsky		10
Bob & Jennifer Tillman		10



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ONE CYPHOTILAPIA FRONTOSA

By Pierre Brichard, Republic of Burundi

(Reprinted as it appeared in Ross Socolof's book, "Confessions of a Tropical Fish Addict")

I don't suppose anyone would have called him bright, if being bright mean being well know or making money. A peasant, like so many others on the hills of the African bush close to the shores of Lake Tanganyika. How could he be making money? With barely an education, what could he hope for in poor and overcrowded Burundi, but to spend all his life tending a banana grove or a tiny field, raising a few chickens an a goat or two. Perhaps, if he were lucky or thrifty, he would eventually acquire a Watusi cow, the ultimate status symbol in this cattle-raising country. He would then grow old, respected, and envied by his neighbors until his last day, after which he would be quickly forgotten, one who sinks beneath the surface of Mother Earth without a ripple.

Meanwhile, he and his wife did not earn much, just the ten dollars a year which is the annual average per capita earning in this country. But they did not starve with the beans and bananas they grew... if the dry season wasn't too long nor the rains too heavy. Altogether, from day to day, they had a peaceful life, found in what the experts of international organizations cal "subsistence economy". They had few needs, few worries, fewer hopes and no dreams.

They were "hill people", and although they had spent their lives near the shores of Lake Tanganyika, they seldom got near it. They never fish, never swim or wade in the water, leaving this to the water people", the fishermen who earn their living with net and line and do not belong to the same tribe. It is like this over all of Central Africa. On the on hand, the bush or forest people who tend their fields or raise cattle, and on the other hand, the water people. The former sedentary, the latter semi-nomadic, independent and perhaps smarter, having been in contact with more people and seen more of the outside world.

One day our man happened to overhear a bunch of fishermen as they were sitting and mending their nets. What he heard made him stop and hear more of the story. It seemed as if a few days before, a foreigner, a white man, had come and asked for inedible and very tiny fish; he wanted them alive and in very good health. The price he wanted to pay for such "junk" was incredible. One of the fishermen said "Ridiculous! The guy is stupid. Why, he paid at least ten times for them than I would have asked". "But" cut in the man from the hills, "what does he do with such fish?"

“I heard that he is sending them to Europe by plane, in boxes with water. But that is not the point. What is important is that I made extra profit on an easy catch. Look at those fish there in the pebbles... they're a gold mine for me.”

“I wish I could fish them too”, said the peasant.

“Go ahead”, said the fisherman. “But you know nothing about fishing. Why don't you try to sell him your goats?” And everyone burst into laughter.

He got hold of a small second hand net which the fishermen were quite willing to get rid of at a profit (nothing is given free between people of different tribes. He put the shreds together and started to fish. His days were now spent wading in the shallows with his younger brothers, whom he had enrolled as helpers.

My God! How hard it was and how meager the catch at the end of a day's work. At sunset one could see him by the roadside, waiting in the dusk for the white man's truck to pass. Sometimes he stood there for hours before he could bring forth the small pot in which some of the fish had already died and suffocated from heat and pollution. Most of them, anyhow, were useless. The fishermen had not told him exactly which fish the man would buy, and his catch usually wound up wriggling in the dust. He received a few coins to bring back home, shivering from cold and exhaustion.

Other hill people had also tried their luck at collecting fish, but it wasn't worth all the trouble or the sarcasm from the fishermen. But he kept observing the fishermen and the fish they brought to the foreigner. Their names he didn't know. That didn't matter much. What mattered was that his fishing was becoming more selective and the pay greater now from day to day. He buried his money in his hut from fear of thieves. He was earning now in a week as much as he earned all the previous year. All his unfulfilled wishes came back to him more intensely, as they were now within his grasp. His priorities were now to first buy a bicycle, then a transistor radio, fancy clothes, a sewing machine for his wife, and cases of beer. As a rich man should he think about entertaining his neighbors?

These were his thoughts when he explored the lake shores for better fishing grounds or when he ventured in open waters as he daily improved his fishing. “The fishermen are not laughing at me anymore. I am as good as they are”, he thought. “The white man knows it too; he gave me goggles and fins to improve my fishing, and this equipment he only gives to the very best”.

One day as the white man was picking up the day's yield, one of the fishermen produced a splendid fish, azure blue with deep blue vertical stripes.

“So, you got one” said the white man with a deep smile. “Congratulations, man! You get the prize that I promised, although the fish will most certainly die. You brought him up too fast. How deep did you catch him?”

“Very, very, deep boss,” said the fisherman, and the fish buyer started to explain why the fish was dying and how to bring them up. Of course, it was easy for the foreigner to

be talking like this. He went down into the lake with battles of compressed air on his back. He could stay under as long as he wished, hunting the fish for hours if need be. But what a fantastic price he paid for a fish like that!

“I will get some”, the peasant promised.

“No you won’t”, answered the buyer. “You don’t know enough about diving, and it is dangerous work. It’s too much for you.”

Next day a few of these fish, which the man called Ngumu Ngumu were found and there were many happy faces.

“You see, you are still not a fisherman”, one said.

Our man of the hills started diving deeper and deeper toward the steep slopes where the blue fish live. Sometimes he happened to sight their bright shapes silhouetted against the dark background of the scary depths. His eardrums ached intolerably, but each time he managed to stay a few seconds longer, to learn a bit more about the fish and their ways, before having to paddle back up to the surface desperately in need of air and his head buzzing with pain. His brothers on the beach were afraid and begged him to come back.

“You are losing a day’s fishing,” they said. But next day he would be at it again, swimming in the depths. The fishermen had a trick which they kept between themselves of course... if you have a pot of gold you do not tell where you keep it.

He was all by himself in the deep, and he couldn’t have possibly brought a fish up alive. He was going down to depths of 8 to 10 meters, several hours in a row, and one morning he caught one Ngumu Ngumu. Very probably it is almost impossible to imagine the amount of dedication, sheer courage and physical endurance which was needed to get that first fish. How many fruitless dives to sight but one fish, to isolate it on favorable ground within that dark and hostile world. So many desperate struggles back to the surface to dive again, to trap the fish in the net, up again, then down, to free the net from the rocky snags and then, as often as not, to discover that the fish had found an opening in the net and escaped to safety. That morning the fish died and similarly all the others, which he collected during the following days.

The white man gently said, “I know how you feel, but you cannot do it by yourself. It needs teamwork, and you are alone. Do not dive too deep and never dive alone. This is an absolute safety rule”.

The peasant had a contrite smile on his lips and did not answer. If the fishermen can do it, so can I, he thought. He could earn in one day what he earned during a year’s work in the banana grove and in the fields. One Friday this past August he did not come up. His brothers waited on the beach until evening... (end of story)



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OCA BOWL SHOW

Hello OCA membership, below you will find our current 2018 Bowl Show standings, better late than never. I would like to thank everyone who participated so far this year, it has been a fun, and exciting year for me to look at all of your fish from the other side of the spectrum as a judge, and not a competitor.

Please join me in congratulating **Russell and Tom Pierce** as they have won the year as OCA Bowl show champions with the most points. We will still be having a bowl show in the month of December with the cash prizes still up for grabs.

Thanks,
Scott Myers
Bowl Show Chair

Point Standings	
Member	Points
Russell and Tommy Pierce	129
Roger Stark	52
Lacerdas	25
Andrew Shock	21
Marilyn Danko	17
Carl Olszewski	11
Don Danko	7



December Classes:

Julidochromis, Telmatochromis, Chalinochromis
Tanganyikan Lamps, exclude shell dwellers
Open Malawi

2019 BOWL SHOW CLASSES

January 4

Parachromis, Amphilophus, Nandopsis
Victorian Basin
Loricariids (Pleco types) over 6"

February 1

South Americans 6" and under, exclude Angels, Apistos
Old World, exclude Rift Lakes, Vic Basin
Fish Photography

March 1

South Americans over 6", exclude Discus, Angels
Mbuna
Callichthyids (Cory types)

April 5

Central Americans 6" and under
Tanganyikan Shell Dwellers
Mochokids (Synodontis types)

May 3

Angels
Peacocks
Catfish, exclude Mochokids, Loricariids, Callichthyids

June 7

Tanganyikan Lamps, exclude Shell Dwellers
Frontosa
Loaches and Botias

August 2

Discus, Uaru
Tanganyikan Mouthbrooders, exclude Frontosa
Freshwater Crustaceans

September 6

Centrals over 6" exc Parachromis, Amphilophus, Nandopsis
Malawi Haps
Loricariids (Pleco types) 6" or under

October 4

Apistos
Open Tanganyika
Open Old World Catfish

November 1

Julidochromis, Chalinochromis, Telmatochromis
Open Old World, exclude Malawi, Tanganyika
Female cichlids

December 6

Open New World
Open Malawi
Open New World Catfish

All classes are for cichlids, unless otherwise specified.