



# GRAND VALLEY AQUARIUM CLUB TANK NOTES

OCTOBER 2015 - DECEMBER 2015

ISSUE 70

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	3
Calendar	4
How to Raise Angelfish	4
Data, Data, Data	5
BAP	6
Auction Primer	7
HAP	8
Enterochromis Paropus	8
C.A.R.E.S.	9
Keeping & Breeding Pseudotropheus Saulosi	9
The New Old Way to Light a Tank	10
Sword Plant, Echinodorus Bleherae	11
Bowl Show	11

## GVAC FALL AUCTION

OCTOBER 17

Everyone is welcome and you don't have to be a club member to buy or sell!

**Location:** Home School Bulding Gym  
5625 Burlingame Ave SW  
Wyoming, MI 49509

**Registration:** 9:30 AM – 11 AM

**Auction:** Starts at 11 AM, Ends when all items are sold!

**Rules:** Go to the website ([www.GVaquariumclub.org](http://www.GVaquariumclub.org))  
under the "Auction Rules" tab.

**Bag Limit:** Each seller may sell up to 50 bags total.

**Buy It Now:** Table open 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Preregister:** Contact Roger Miller for seller code: [miller.roger@att.net](mailto:miller.roger@att.net)



Photo by V. Joe Spaniolo  
Electric Blue Acara

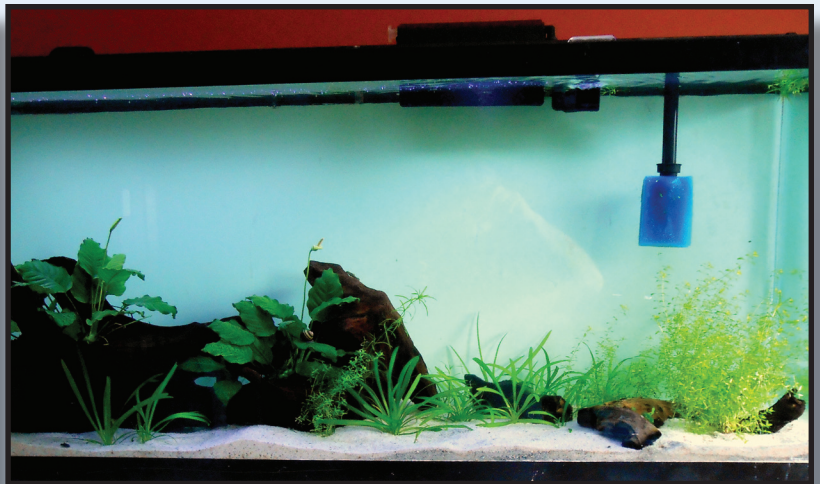


Photo by Dan Kraker  
Tank Set Up for Shrimp and Spixie Snails

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Mike Monje, exstreamaquatix@gmail.com

### Vice President

Justin Sarns, sarnsj@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Roger Miller, miller.roger1@att.net

### Recording Secretary

Patrick Miller, thriftyfisher@1791.com

### Corresponding Secretary

Ken Zeedyk, zeedyk66@charter.net

### Sergeant-at-Arms

Chris Carpenter, christojanet@hotmail.com

### Members at Large

Cyndi Westra, ccyndiw@yahoo.com

Heather Burke, burkehe2@msu.edu

Kory Voodre, kvoodre@gmail.com

Scott Tetzlaff, thefishguy@triton.net

Andrew Kalafut, kalafuta@gvsu.edu

John Schafer, cichlids29@gmail.com

## GVAC FELLOWS

*The following is a list of Fellows of the Grand Valley Aquarium Club. These are members who have contributed to making GVAC a successful club. They have held many positions within the club and donated countless hours during those tasks that would not be completed without their hard work and dedication. New Fellows are nominated by current fellows and voted on by the general membership.*

Tim Boelema

Ben VanDinther

Finn Nielsen

Jeff Vander Berg

Ken Zeedyk

Patrick Miller

*Don't forget to thank them when you see them at meetings or other events.*

### Reprint Policy:

Articles appearing in the Newsletter of the Grand Valley Aquarium Club may be reprinted in a newsletter (not on website or e-mail) by any non-profit aquarium organization as long as the author and GVAC are given written credit. Two copies of the publication in which the article is printed must be sent to:

Shealyn Sarns, GVAC Editor

P.O. Box 325

Grandville, MI 49418-0325

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### Membership, Public Relations, Raffle and Website Administrator:

Ken Zeedyk, zeedyk66@charter.net

### Program Director and Auction Chair:

Justin Sarns, sarnsj@gmail.com

### Breeders Award Program (BAP)

Tom Siegfried, tomsiegfried@charter.net

### Hort. Award Program (HAP)

Steve Hosteter, fishguy311@yahoo.com

### Newsletter Editor and Website Administrator:

Shealyn Sarns, 4tendesign@gmail.com

### C.A.R.E.S. Coordinator

Cyndi Westra, ccyndiw@yahoo.com

## 2015 CLUB BUDGET

### Income:

Spring and Fall Auction: \$5000.00

Raffles: \$1000.00

Swap Meet: \$520.00

Memberships: \$1000.00

Monthly Auctions: \$1200.00

**Total: \$8720.00**

### Expenses:

Monthly room rental: \$1600.00

Large auction room rentals (2): \$880.00

Swap meet room rental: \$280.00

Featured speaker fees: \$1200.00

Rare Fish Night: \$700.00

Christmas party: \$900.00

Summer picnic: \$500.00

Insurance: \$432.00

Newsletter: \$500.00

Awards: \$1000.00

Website: \$300.00

PO Box: \$124.00

Misc expenses (forms, stamps, etc): \$304.00

**Total: \$8720.00**

### GVAC Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 325

Grandville, MI 49418-0325

**Website:** [www.GVAquariumClub.org](http://www.GVAquariumClub.org)

**Email:** [gvaquariumclub@gmail.com](mailto:gvaquariumclub@gmail.com)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer and Pond season is ending in a hurry. I hope everyone gets their fish in, in time. The end of summer and pond season, brings with it; the busy time in the hobby! It's auction time, many clubs around the area have started their fall auctions and swap meets, and many more are coming up. Check the upcoming events column in the newsletter for events, if you've never attended another club's event I encourage you to check one out. It's a great way to meet fellow hobbyists, and get some new and different fish than what's available in our local club, and to meet people with similar interests.

So as we enter the final quarter of 2015, a few notes. First GVAC's Christmas Party will be held at the Home School Building (our regular meeting place), this will be on our regular meeting night, Dec. 12th. I should also mention November's meeting will be the final turn in for BAP & HAP for 2015, it will also be elections for your 2016 GVAC Board.

This year has turned out to be another banner year for GVAC and 2016 looks just as good if not better. Your board has authorized some great speakers, Dave Ramsey, Matt Bielski and Dave Schumacher just to name drop a little. Dave Schumacher is the owner of Dave's Rare Fish and specializes in Mbuna Cichlids. Matt is an accomplished Killie Fish Breeder. Many club members have requested that we invite Dave Ramsey back to speak, we heard you and scheduled him for 2016.

Please remember GVAC is your club, if there's an event or speaker you'd like to see, please bring it up to board member. Donating your time and energy to the club helps to make us what we are, a fantastic club!

Participation in HAP, BAP, C.A.R.E.S., writing articles, turning in photo's, and participation in the many club events and programs we sponsor, helps both the hobbyist and the club.

Best Fishes,  
Mike Monje



*Photo by Art Griffin*  
*Red Eye Brasiiliensis*



*Photo by Kevin Hightower*  
*Gold Nugget Pleco*

## PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT GVAC:

**Blue Fish Aquarium**  
**Preuss Pets**  
**Aquarium Services**  
**ADG/Aqua Design Amano USA**  
**Amazonas Magazine**  
**Aquatic Gardeners Association -**  
**Karen Randall**  
**Boyd Enterprises**  
**Cichlid Press**  
**CichlidBreeding.com**  
**Doctors Foster & Smith**

**Florida Aquatic Nurseries**  
**Hagen**  
**HBH Pet Products**  
**Hikari USA**  
**Kordon - Novalek**  
**Marineland**  
**OddballFish.com**  
**Ocean Star International**  
**OmegaSea**  
**Penn Plax**  
**Pet Supplies Plus**

**Python Products**  
**Repashy Superfoods**  
**San Francisco Bay Brand**  
**Seachem Laboratories, Inc.**  
**SpectraPure**  
**Ted's Fishroom**  
**Tetra**  
**TFH - Tropical Fish Hobbyist**  
**Zoo Med Laboratories, Inc.**



## FISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

### OCTOBER:

- 3-4:** SWMAS Fall Workshop and Auction  
Ken Krum Center  
East Clay ST, Schoolcraft MI  
[www.swmas.org/fall-workshop-auction](http://www.swmas.org/fall-workshop-auction)
- 3:** GDAS Fall Auction  
Madison Heights MI  
<http://greaterdetroitaquariumsociety.org/>
- 10:** **GVAC Meeting**  
**Homeschool Building**  
**Speaker: Dale Ernst, Loricariid Catfish**
- 11:** **GVAC Board Meeting, 1 PM**  
**Justin Sarns' House**
- 17:** **GVAC Annual Fall Auction**  
**Homeschool Building (details on page 1)**
- MCA Fall Auction  
Madison Heights MI  
<http://michigancichlid.com/>
- 24:** MCAS Fall Auction  
Madison Heights MI  
[www.motorcityaquariumsociety.com](http://www.motorcityaquariumsociety.com)

### NOVEMBER:

- 3:** **GVAC Meeting**  
**Homeschool Building**  
**Speaker: Elizabeth Marchio**
- 15:** GCCA Swap Meet  
Hillside IL  
[www.gcca.net/](http://www.gcca.net/)
- 20-22:** OCA Extravaganza  
Strongsville OH  
[www.ohiocichlid.com](http://www.ohiocichlid.com)

### DECEMBER:

- 12:** **GVAC Christmas Party**  
**Home School Building**  
**Members Only**

## HOW TO RAISE BABY ANGELFISH

By Charles Smith

I told myself I will not raise anymore angelfish, but a pair of my adult angelfish had other ideas.

I am really lucky that this pair of angelfish really cared for this babies. All the way from eggs, wigglers, to free swimming fry. They cleaned out the bad eggs, and moved the wigglers around to different spot in the tank. From what I could tell it was always where algae are growing. The babies must feed on the one cell animals or maybe the algae. They are so protective they would jump out of the water and hit my hand when I went to feed. But then they stopped, and I notice they had laid eggs again. This time they almost covered the entire slate I had in the tank. I quest about five or six hundred eggs.

I worried that the parents may eat the fry to protect the eggs, so I decided to move them into another tank. This tank is a twenty gallon tank sitting in front of a window. From all the sunlight the water was green with algae. So I added a few teaspoons of salt, and string algae. I place in this tank some small red & green shrimp about an inch or so long. Then I added daphnia in the tank. After hatching baby brine shrimp they too went into the tank. This is where I move the baby angelfish. They would have all the live food they could eat.

To make sure they were getting food small enough they could eat I added once a day powdered food by "HIKARI" called first bites for new born fish. This batch of babies is now about dime size and eating live and flake food.



*Photo by Art Griffin*  
*True Parrot Hoplarchus psittacus*

# DATA, DATA, DATA

By Kevin Hightower

I will be the first to admit that I am a numbers geek. I have been since I was a kid keeping track of my batting average and free throw percentage and it has carried on to my professional career. Naturally the next thing that I kept thinking of is how can I keep data on my hobby, fish? After some thought, about a year ago I started to keep an excel spreadsheet of all my fish and it has grown from there.

My first attempt I started with everything that I currently had in my tanks. I listed the common name, quantity, where I bought the fish and how much I paid. This satisfied me for a short period but in no time I found myself adding a bunch more information. At last count, I keep 5 main data worksheets and 6(ish) more Pivot Tables full of fish data.

My first worksheet is an adaptation of my initial attempt, Current Fish in Stock Worksheet. It is basically a spreadsheet of all the data that you can think about the fish from scientific names, date purchased, where purchased, C.A.R.E.S. Species, etc. This is the main hub because this is a list of your fish!

The second worksheet is my Sold Worksheet. As described it is anything that I have sold at auctions or to customers. What I do is if I sell a fish or plant, I take it from my Current Fish in Stock Worksheet and transfer it to the Sold Worksheet (if I only sell part of a group I will adjust the quantity on the Current List and make a new row on the Sold). In this worksheet I keep track of where and when I sold the fish, how much I sold it for, and profit or loss. I don't believe most of us are in this hobby for the money but to me in most cases I don't want to spend the initial money on fish that if I breed them that nobody wants either.

The last 3 sheets are not very exciting but provide value. They are the Dead / Lost, BAP, and HAP Worksheets. All three are self described and important for me in different ways.

The first 5 Worksheets are interesting but the geek side of me comes out in the Pivot Tables. By keeping those 5 worksheets up-to-date, I have created pivot tables off of them. The names of the pivot tables that I currently keep are called: Active Purchase by Location, Fish by Species, Dead / Lost Percentages, Sold by Place, Sold Breakdown, Sold by Place & Species. Most are self described and there are many more possibilities.

The reason that I like the pivot tables is that it is the pure data of your fish. When I first did this I was shocked to see how many cichlids that I had. I do not consider myself a cichlid person at all but I must like

them more than I thought for how many that I keep. I also found out that I had spent a bunch of money on fish at a couple auctions and LFS's and other auctions I mainly sold at with very few purchases. I would have never fully understood the difference without comparing all of the data and having it right in front of me. Numbers never lie.

In the last few months I have made it mobile and uploaded everything to Google Sheets. It is free through Google and all you need is a Gmail address. This allows me to access to all the data anywhere I am via my phone or iPad. If I'm at a club meeting and I can't remember if I have or had this fish I can look it up. My system is not perfect or for everyone and I am constantly changing and modifying everything to make it better for myself. I would like to add water parameters and temperatures at some point but I have not got there yet. If anyone has any questions please let me know and I would be happy to help you out (fishnutsofmichigan@gmail.com).



*Photo by Shealyn Sarns  
Water Lily*

**Mitchell Hammer – 19**

*Clea helena*  
*Neocardina heteropoda*  
*Ancistrus sp. bristlenose*  
*Aulonacara hansbaenchi*  
*Hemichromis bimaculatus*  
*Pseudotropheus joanjohnsonae*  
*Melanochromis cyaneorhabdos*  
*Protomelas taeniolatus*  
*Metriaclima estherea*  
*Amatitlania nigrofasciata*  
*Nimbochromis livingstonii*  
*Pseudotropheus socolofi*  
*Copadichromis borleyi*  
*Aulonocara stuartgranti*  
*Amphilophus labiatus*  
*Zoogeneticus tequila*  
*Cyphotilapia frontosa*  
*Aquidens pulcher*  
*Apistogramma cacatuoides*

**Chris Carpenter – 15**

*Julidochromis regani* “kipili”  
*Haplochromis thereuterion*  
*Neochromis omniceruleus*  
*Haplochromis sp. 44*  
*Tanginicus irsacae*  
*Lamprologus speciosus*  
*Pelvicachromis sacrimontis*  
*Cryptoheros chetumalensis*  
*Pundamilia sp. red flank*  
*Paralabidochromis sauvagei*  
*Neolamprologus gracilis*  
*Lamprologus signatus*  
*Lepidiolamprologus sp. Meelli Kipili*  
*Lepidiolamprologus attenuatus*  
*Poecilia obscura*

**Patrick Miller – 12**

*Xiphophorus milleri*  
*Allotoca catarinae*  
*Poecilia reticulata*  
*Poecilia obscura*  
*Corydoras gossei*  
*Allotoca meeki*  
*Girardinichthys multiradiatus*  
*Notropis chrosomus*  
*Devario aequipinnatus*  
*Aspidoras c35*  
*Pseudotropheus sp. Perspicax*  
*Xiphophorus kallmani*

**Ken Zeedyk – 10**

*Xenotoca variata*  
*Astatotilapia aneacolor*  
*Lepomis marginatus*  
*Polypterus senegalus*  
*Xiphophorus mayae* “panzos Guatemala”  
*Pseudomugil gertrudae*  
*Zoogeneticus purhepechus*

*Poecilia obscura*  
*Etheostoma nigrum*  
*Sewellia sp. spotted*

**Justin Sarns – 10**

*Placidiochromis sp. Electra Yellow*  
*Limia sp. tiger*  
*Neochromis sp. Entebbe*  
*Xiphophorus evelynae* Puebla Platyfish  
*Copadichromis trewavasae* Mloto Likoma  
*Metriacimia sp. msobo deep*  
*Xiphophorus alvarezii* Rio Candleria  
*Xiphophorus mayae*  
*Paralabidochromis sauvagei*  
*Xenotoca variata* “Jesus Maria”

**Scott Tetzlaff – 9**

*Xiphophorus kallmani*  
*Micropocelia minima*  
*Poecilia sp. coatzacoalcos*  
*Xenotoca melanosoma*  
*Julidochromis marksmithi*  
*Gymnogeophagus sp. Neon Blue*  
*Allotoca catarinae*  
*Hemichromis elongatus*  
*Pseudomugil cyanodorsalis*

**Mike Monje – 9**

*Alunocara Hansbaenchi*  
*Pundamilia sp. blue bar*  
*Neochromis omniceruleus*  
*Archocentrus centrarchus* Flier Cichlid  
*Labidochromis sp. Zebra Lundo*  
*Haplochromis sp. Kyoga flameback*  
*Haplochromis sp. Fire Red Uganda*  
*Haplochromis sp. Entebbe*  
*Chromidotilapia guentheri*

**Darrell Ullisch – 8**

*Caquetaia spectabilis*  
*Thorichthys sp. Coatzaocalcos*  
*Steatocranus irvinei*  
*Cryptoheros nanolutens*  
*Nannostomus beckfordi*  
*Sewellia sp. spotted*  
*Cryptoheros chetumalensis*  
*Pseudomugil cf. paskai*

**Roger Miller – 5**

*Moenkhausia pittieri*  
*Julidochromis ornatus*  
*Alfaro cultratus*  
*Rasbora espei*  
*Asolene spixi*

**Dan Kraker – 4**

*Metriaclima msobo deep*  
*Pseudotropheus sp. Perspicax orange cap*  
*Neocardina heteropoda* var. *rili*  
*Clea helena*

**Eric Maxson – 4**

*Apistogramma panduro*  
*Aquidens patricki*  
*Apistogramma trifasciata*  
*Asolene spixi*

**Kevin Hightower – 4**

*Neocardina davidi* var. *cherry*  
*L340 Hypancistrus pleco*  
*Poecilia wingei*  
*Labidochromis sp. perlmutter*

**Adam Persenaire – 3**

*Protomelas taeniolatus* “likoma island”  
*Protomelas spilnotus*  
*Protomelas taeniolatus* “namenji island”

**Randy Morris – 3**

*Poecilia gilla* “madre de dios” Costa Rica  
*Ancistrus sp. bristlenose*  
*Poecilia latipinna*

**Allan Workman – 2**

*Neochromis greenwoodi*  
*Ancestries sp.*

**Cyndi Westra – 2**

*Astatotilapia latifasciata*  
*Neochromis omniceruleus* “Makobe II”

**Heather Burke – 2**

*Xiphophorus couchianus*  
*Nanochromis parilius*

**Dan Ondersma – 2**

*Xiphophorus maculatus*  
*Amatitlania nigrofasciatus*

**Chase Kilnesteker - 2**

*Apistogramma panduro*  
*Pseudomugil cyanodorsalis*

**Steve Hosteter – 2**

*Xiphophorus couchianus*  
*Xiphophorus alvarezii*

**Dave Swoveland - 1**

*Synodontis petricola*

**Charles Smith – 1**

*Pterophyllum scalare*

**BAP BY THE NUMBERS**

**Participants: 22**

**Total Points Earned: 129**



# AUCTION PRIMER

By Mike Monje

Fish club auctions, my favorite club event, no matter which club is hosting. However, they can be a bit overwhelming, confusing, or disappointing. Hopefully, this article will help the novice to overcome some of these feelings, yet still have some tidbits for the seasoned hobbyist. This is meant to be a short primer article. Hopefully I will follow this article with some of the material in a more in depth presentation or article in the future.

Every club has variations on auction rules; I find it best to review the hosting club rules during the week leading up to the event. This way if I have any questions or need some clarification there is plenty of time to contact the auction chairperson for clarification. I've always been able to find the Auction Rules & Chairperson listed on the hosting club's webpage. From here we need a brief discussion on buying.

Everybody loves a bargain, but a bargain is relative. When you find that bag of fish you can't live without. First you must come to grips with what they're worth to you. Then when the bidding starts, or better yet you start the bidding. I suggest starting your bidding five or at the most ten dollars below your maximum bid. This way you can still get a bargain, while keeping the auction moving along. I've found more than once if the auctioneer starts at 5 dollars, and it's the bag I want, when I lob my fifteen dollar bid out there people are done. I still get my bargain, the seller gets a fair price, and things keep moving along.

Searching through the multitude of bags on the auction table can be a bit overwhelming. Doing your homework before the event can help a lot with this, have a wishlist made out ahead of time. Do your due diligence species research ahead of time, try and stick with your wishlist as much as possible. After finding one, two, three or more bags of your dream fish, you must sort and prioritize. First inspect the bags, leaking, water quality in the bag, quality of the bagging process, size of the fish, condition of fins, coloration, (I realize fish are washed out

in the bag), you can still tell a lot by direct comparison to the other bags. Next do you know the seller? If not ask around, see if anybody knows them. Talk to the seller, find out about their fish, and their husbandry. I use all of the above to evaluate on which bags if any I will bid on.

This is all well and good, but the temptation is great for impulse buys, by all means indulge a little. Just a brief word of warning, when impulse bidding, please look at the bag first. I've gotten some great fish this way I've even bought a bag when it had a dead or dying fish in it. I was willing to take a break from the auction, rebag the remaining fish in good water and dispose of the sick / dead fish. It's just best to know that's what you're getting into, no one is trying to mislead you, but it is buyer beware.

So now a brief primer on selling at an auction, most of which is applying what we covered under buying and putting that to use on your fish. Why did that bag go for twenty dollars but the next bag of the same species only went for five dollars? There are many reasons for this;

## Presentation;

- 2/3 to 1/3 air to water ratio - This is for the fish, it's always animals first.
- Good Clear Labels - All info on labels, clear and legible.
- Double Bagged - This not only shows better, it's better for the animals.
- Great Water Quality - I use 1/3 tank water & 2/3 fresh treated water.
- Pictures - A picture of the adults can be a big boost.
- Plants/Animals - Larger fish sell better and for more money, tiny fry don't sell well.
  - If selling fry at least four to a bag, six is better.
  - If selling plants, there should be enough in the bag to show well in a tank.
  - Proven pairs (have bred successfully) bagged separately but sold together.
  - Breeding groups have males bagged separately, but sold as a group.

# RANDOM THOUGHTS

By Chris Carpenter

I've had an extreme lack of motivation this summer, not quite sure why but it's leaked into almost every aspect of my life including my fish room and article writing. I hope to snap out of it soon but I knew it wasn't going to happen before this article was written so to make my life easy I started collecting some random thoughts on a sheet of paper that I've been carrying around with me. So here we go...

- Trying to ID Malawi cichlids can be a real pain, there are just too many that look similar.
- Mouthbrooding Bettas are cool.
- I want to have a fish named after me.
- Fish that eat their young are stupid.
- Water changes on 10 gallon tanks stink.
- Keeping tiny fry alive can be a challenge.
- I need an automatic water change system.
- I wish pond season was year round.
- DAMN! My electric bill is high!
- Why does everyone say pLEEEco?
- I wish I took Latin in high school.
- I want a fish tattoo.
- Saltwater aquariums are mesmerizing, beautiful and a pain in the butt.
- Corals are expensive!
- I am a fish snob.
- I am running out of ideas for articles.



Photo by Shealyn Sarns  
GVAC Annual Summer Picnic, 2015

# 2015 HAP TOTALS JANUARY - AUGUST

## Kevin Hightower – 31

### Vegetative:

*Sagittaria subulata*  
Dwarf sagittaria  
*Fontinalis antipyretica*  
Willow Moss  
*Ludwegia peruvensis*  
*Cryptocoryne balansae*  
*Cabomba aquatic*  
*Echinodorus uruguayensis*  
*Echinodorus muricatus*  
*Cryptocoryne wendtii*  
*Anubias barteri* var  
wrinkle leaf  
*Bolbitis asiatica*  
*Bacopa monnieri*  
Moneywort  
*Cryptocoryne willisii*  
*Echinodorus Osiris*  
Melon Sword  
*Hydrophilia difformis*  
Wisteri  
*Heteranthera zosterifolia*  
star grass  
*Riccia fluitans*  
crystalwort  
*Lemna minor*  
Duckweed  
*Rotala rotundifolia*  
*Echinodorus echlueteri*  
*Ammania senegalensis*  
*Ammania gracilis*  
*Althernanthera reineckii*  
*Ludwigia muelleri*  
*Hydrocotyle tripartite*  
*Iris pseudocorus* (water iris)  
*Vallisneria nana*  
*Pistia Stratiotes* (water lettuce)  
*Eichhornia crassipes*  
(water hyacinth)

### Flowering:

*Nymphaea odorata*  
(Water Lilly)  
*Iris pseudocorus* (water iris)  
*Eichhornia crassipes*  
(water hyacinth)

## Justin Sarns – 6

### Vegetative:

*Mynophyllum simulans*  
*Echinodorus* sp. Red Rubin  
*Cryptocoryne beckettii*  
*lobelia cardinalis*  
*Ludwigia* sp 'Red'  
*Rotala macandra*

## Steve Hosteter – 6

### Vegetative:

*Ludwigia* sp 'Atlantis'  
*Lobelia cardinalis*  
*Cryptocoryne beckettii*  
*Alternanthera philoxeroides*  
(Alligator weed)  
*Sagittaria lancifolia*  
(Arrowhead duck potato)

*Eichhornia crassipes*  
(water hyacinth)

## Dan Kraker – 5

### Vegetative:

*Sagittaria subulata*  
(dwarf sag)  
*Versicularia dubyana*  
(java fern)  
*Pistia Stratiotes*  
(Water Lettuce)  
*Ranunculus Flammula*  
(Small creeping spearwort)  
*Micranthemum Umbrosum*  
(Giant baby tears)

## Roger Miller – 4

### Vegetative:

*Staurogyne repens*  
*Nuphar japonicum*  
*Spirodela polyrhiza*

### Flowering:

*Nuphar japonica*

## Mike Monje – 4

### Vegetative:

*Taxiphyllum* sp peacock  
(Peacock Moss)  
*Bucephalandra* var.  
"Mini Catherine"  
*Bucephalandra* var. "Micro"

### Flowering:

*Anubias minima*

## Heather Burke – 1

### Flowering:

*Pistia stratiotes*  
(water lettuce)

## Melissa DeHaan – 1

### Vegetative:

*Spirodela polyrhiza*  
Giant Duckweed

## Patrick Miller – 1

### Vegetative:

*Limnobium Laeigatum*  
Frogbit

## Dan Ondersma – 1

### Vegetative:

*Pistia Stratiotes*

## H. Scott Bultman – 1

### Vegetative:

*Hydrocotyle leucocephala*  
(Brazilian Pennywort)

## HAP BY THE NUMBERS

Participants: 11

Total Points Earned: 115

# ENTEROCHROMIS PAROPIUS

By Josh Cunningham (Photo by the Author)

*Enterochromis paropus* (common name of Broken Bar) to date has become one of my favorite Lake Victorian Species that I have kept. I am currently keeping and breeding six species of Lake Victorian Cichlids which are *Astatoreochromis alluaudi*, *Haplochromis* sp. "Red Back Scraper", *Haplochromis Thereuterion*, *Neochromis Greewoodi*, *Paralabidochromis Sauvagei* (Mwanza Gulf), *Pundamilia Nyererei* (Makobe Island). This in my opinion is one of the more uncommon Lake Victorian cichlids kept to my knowledge.

*Enterochromis paropus* prefers to live in sheltered bays on muddy bottoms. This species is considered to be a detritivore and feeds on diatoms and algae that live in the muddy substrate. It is said to thrive in large schools in the wild. In an aquarium this species can be kept in large numbers as females and males are generally peaceful when spawning.

*Enterochromis paropus* from what I can tell from keeping them is they are one of the less aggressive Lake Victorian species. *Enterochromis* are considered to be almost, if not extinct from the lake. Before the introduction on the Nile perch, the *Enterochromis paropus* had wide distribution.

For tank maintenance I am currently performing water changes of around 30% every ten days. The tank is currently filtered with two hydro sponge IV's. If you like keeping Lake Victorian Cichlids, this is one species I encourage you to keep at one time or another.

Like all Lake Victorian Cichlids, this species is a maternal mouthbrooder. They have been averaging around 20 fry per spawn. Currently I am keeping a group of five males and seven females. They are housed in a 40 breeder with some cichlid stones and 3-foot floating bamboo plants on top for extra cover and escape when the females are being chased. Substrate is the black and white Caribsea African Cichlid mix.

This species is said to max out around 3". I have noticed males do chase and rare up at each other from time to time, but don't do any real damage to one another. Their diet consists of mainly spirulina flakes as well as omnivore crumbles from Paradigm Fish Foods. They seem to really like their diet as they are really starting to spawn frequently with multiple females holding at a time



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# C.A.R.E.S. CORNER

## GVAC C.A.R.E.S. List (as of 9/30/15)

### **Bitterling, Curt:**

Skiffia lermac

### **Burke, Heather:**

Botia sidhimunki  
Tilapia synderae  
Xiphophorus Couchianus

### **Carpenter, Chris:**

Pelvicachromis sacrimontis  
Pytochromis sp. Salmon  
Hippo Point

### **Hartman, Pat:**

Amea Splendens -  
Rio Teuchitlan, Mexico  
Girardinichthys Multiradiatus -  
SanMiguel Spring  
Skiffia Multipunctata-  
Laeo de Camecuaro, Mexico  
Allotoca Catarinae  
Chapalichthys Peraticus  
Xenotaenia Resolanae

### **Hightower, Kevin:**

Hypancistrus sp. L333  
Melanotaenia Bosemani  
Rainbow  
Melanotaenia Lacustris  
Glossolepis Incisus  
Pseudotropheus Saulosi  
Hypancistrus sp. L066  
Baryancistrus sp. L081

### **Hosteter, Steve:**

Xiphophorus couchianus

### **Kalafut, Andrew:**

Glossolepis wanamensis  
Melanotaenia lacustris  
Melanotaenia boesemani

### **Klinesteker, Chase:**

Characadon audax

### **Kraker, Dan:**

Pseudotropheus saulosi  
Pseudotropheus Demasoni

### **Maxson, Eric:**

Pseudotropheus saulosi

### **Monje, Michael:**

Xiphophorus couchianus  
Zoogoneticus tequila  
Placidochromis sp.  
"Phenochilus Tanzania"

### **Morris, Randy:**

Glossolepis Wanamensis  
Glossolepis Incisus  
Melanotaenia Lacustris  
Melanotaenia Boesemani

### **Adam Persenaire:**

Pseudotropheus saulosi  
Xystichromis phytophagus

### **Sarns, Justin:**

Paralabidochromis  
Chromogynos "Zue Island"  
Platytaenioidus sp.  
"Red Tail Sheller"  
Pseudotropheus Saulosi  
Ptychromis sp. Salmon  
"Hippo Point"  
Pundamilia sp.  
"Blue Bar" Hippo Point  
Yssichromis sp. "Blue Tipped"  
Astatotilapia Aenocolor

### **John Shafer II:**

Cyrtocara Moori  
Haplochromis sp. 44  
Haplochromis sp.  
Redfin Picbald  
Placidochromis Phenochilus

### **Westra, Cyndi:**

Neochromis Greenwoodi  
Xystichromis Phytophagus  
Astatotilapia latifasciata  
Pseudotropheus Saulosi  
Neochromis Omnicaeruleus  
Makobe II  
Cyrtocara Moori

*\*Please contact Cyndi with any corrections*

To view the species list, go to  
**www.carespreservation.com**  
and select tab "Priority  
List". To register a species  
and receive a blank form  
or ask questions, email  
Cyndi, GVAC C.A.R.E.S.  
Coordinator at  
**ccyndiw@yahoo.com**



It's great to see all the participation in this program! The purpose of C.A.R.E.S. is to encourage the research and longevity of the species kept, and not so much the number of different species a fishkeeper can have. Those of you currently registered in the C.A.R.E.S. program, may want to consider the next step to earn another seal on your certificate: Journaling. These journals are vital for recording research on these endangered species and are being assembled by the C.A.R.E.S. team worldwide to eventually be available to other fishkeepers interested in their care. Look for the C.A.R.E.S. display table at the October meeting and the October Auction and pick up a blank Journal if you would like to record your observations on your registered species.

Thank you!  
Cyndi

## KEEPING AND BREEDING PSEUDOTROPHEUS SAULOSI

By Justin Sarns

Pseudotropheus Saulosi is a beautiful dwarf mbuna from Lake Malawi. The sexual dimorphism found in this species is stunning. The females are a vibrant yellow reminiscent of a good yellow lab. The male of the species has a brilliant blue body with black vertical barring. As far as Mbuna are concerned, saulosi are relatively calm. My colony lives comfortably in a 46 bow front and while there is occasional chasing, there is little to no damage to finnage. They stay relatively small with a max size of 4 inches, though mine have maxed out around 3 inches. They breed in the typical fashion of Malawi mouthbrooders with the female having around 30 fry in each batch. The fry are hardy and take crushed flake, or powder right away. They start to show their yellow color within a few weeks and start to look like little versions of their parents. The fry reach a saleable size around 3 months and start to show male coloration around 1 1/2 -2 inches.

This fish was once surprisingly common in the trade. However, recently it has been very hard to come across and can usually only be found from hobbyists, or online retailers. This fish is endangered in the wild, and is on the C.A.R.E.S. list. If you have an open tank and want to try a relatively easy, beautiful mbuna consider giving these jewels a try!

# THE NEW OLD WAY TO LIGHT A TANK

By Patrick Miller (Photos by the Author)

Last year I was in Scott Tetzlaff's fish house. He was putting in new lights over some of his tanks by wiring in old fashioned sockets and using compact florescent bulbs. Old tank hoods used standard incandescent light bulbs in the days before florescent bulbs, you can still find these hoods. Today, I think most people put the compact florescent bulbs in them, like Scott was doing with his fixtures. I thought going back to this type of fixture was a great idea, but not to use florescent bulbs, I wanted to use LED spotlight bulbs to grow plants.

I truly think that the future of aquarium lighting is going to be LED lights, even if we aren't there with pricing and design yet. I have made a couple LED lights by using the LED strip lights, however, I have not been happy with the way these lights have grown plants and lasted, I could already see some of the LED bulbs starting to dim in less than a year.

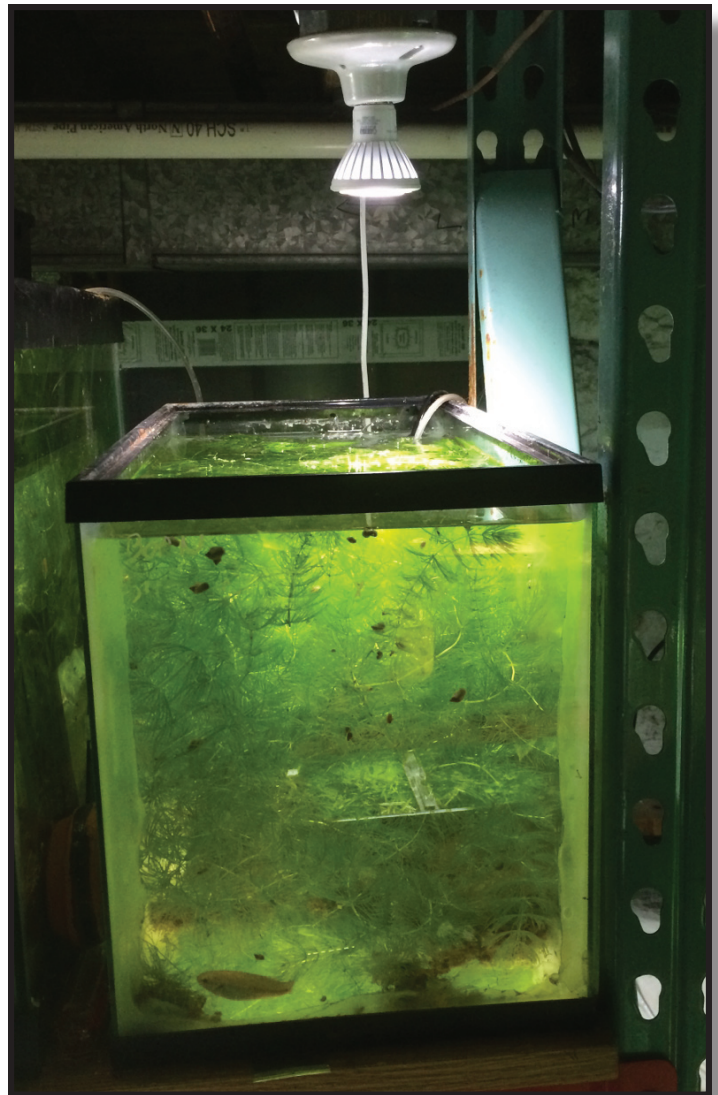
So, I did some searching and found a bulb that I liked. It was only 9.5 watts, 5000k color, 500 lumens, and rated for 25000 hours, which should last about 5 years in my fishroom. You can find these bulbs at Menards (I am not endorsing Menards I just haven't found the same type of LED spotlight at other stores). I put together a proof of concept light to see if it would grow floating plants such as Hornwort and Najas Grass.

Over the next 6-8 months, I found that not only did the light grow a lot of plants (I end up throwing a lot of Hornwort and Najas Grass out from this tank) but I didn't get a lot of algae growth. The proof of concept proved itself and I now have a way to effectively grow plants in a 10 gallon tank.

I put in a new tank rack during the fall of 2014 and the middle row was nothing but 10 gallon tanks. This summer, I built a fixture so that I had one socket over each 10 gallon tank. The proof of concept had the 5000K bulb, which I like, but I decided to try some 3500K bulbs along with the 5000K bulbs. In the photo of the 7 light fixture and 10 gallon tanks, you can see the two 3500K bulbs as the 3rd and 4th bulbs from the right. These do grow plants but unlike the 5000K bulbs I have found a lot of blue green algae growing in these tanks, I won't be purchasing any more of this color bulb. I also have one 6.5 watt 5000K bulb, the 3rd from the left that is also doing well with the plants.

I have now started to plant these 10 gallon tanks with Dwarf Sagittaria, various Crypts, and my standard dirt sand substrate. The 3 tanks on the left have the full substrate. After just 2 weeks the Dwarf Sagittaria in those 3 tanks are already sending out runners.

I think, for a fishroom with industrial racks, where plants are growing, this might be an effective way to light tanks and grow plants. It will be interesting to see how the fully planted tanks do after 6 months.



*This is the 10 gallon proof of concept tank with Hornwort, it was thinned out a week before this photo.*



*These are 7 tanks each with a LED spotlight over it. The plant grown has been great.*



# SWORD PLANT, ECHINODORUS BLEHERAE

By Kevin Hightower

Even though the sword plant (*Echinodorus bleherae*) is one of the most common plants in the aquarium hobby today, it has developed into my favorite plant for several reasons. First of all, the sword plant has very minimal lighting and substrate needs which almost every hobbyist has and the second part stems from being my first living plant that I ever owned.

I bought my first sword plant at a LFS around 4-5 years back. I started talking with one of the employees while she sorted through a fresh shipment of plants. She pulled out one that was half dead and asked if I would give this one some extra care. I quickly said that I only had plastic plants but she gave me some tips on how to take care of it and I bought it. After following her simple directions, I observed a couple new leaves a few weeks later. After trimming off the dead leaves a couple months later I had a sword plant that was thriving, and shortly after that it sent off a couple runners of daughter plants.

The sword plant currently resides in a 130 gallon tank and has produced hundreds of daughter plants and continues to grow and produce new leaves. At its largest point it had around 30 leaves and 18 inches tall (both estimates). It has had two times over the years where I thought that it was going to die but it has always come back to life.

I do fertilize it liquid flourish monthly or as I remember (never has been on a regular schedule of dosing) and currently I have it planted in about 2 inches of black dirt with a thin layer of pea gravel over the black dirt. I have transplanted it a few times over the years and it has never had much of a root system for the size of the plant. This is different from what most articles say that they can have huge root systems. I have several of the daughter plants planted in my other tanks and I even have some that the substrate only consists of black diamond sand blasting sand. They continue to grow and develop healthy green leaves.



Photo by Shealyn Sarns  
GVAC Annual Picnic 2015

## BOWL SHOW RESULTS

**February:** Meeting Cancelled

### **March:**

Livebearers other than Guppies:

- 1st Nikki Westra
- 2nd Patrick Miller
- 3rd Meghan Westra

Killifish: No Entries

### **April:**

African Cichlids larger than 4"SL:

- 1st Brian Buskirk
- 2nd John Schafer

Favorite Fish:

- 1st Ken Zeedyk
- 2nd Patrick Miller
- 3rd John Schafer

### **May:**

Catfish other than sucker-mouth catfish:

- 1st Patrick Miller
- 2nd Patrick Miller

Rainbow fish and Blue Eyes:

- 1st Ken Zeedyk
- 2nd Brian Buskirk

### **June:**

Guppies: No Entries

Goldfish/Koi: No Entries

### **August:**

Angels, Discus & Uaru

- 1st Dan Ondersma
- 2nd Mitch Hammer

Characins

- 1st Kevin Hightower

### **September:**

Anabantids other than Bettas

- 1st Justin Sarns

Favorite Fish:

- 1st Justin Sarns
- 2nd Patrick Miller
- 3rd Lee Cepero

### **Upcoming Bowl Shows:**

October: African Cichlids smaller than 4"SL  
Sucker-mouth catfish

November: Central & South American Cichlids  
smaller than 4"SL  
Favorite Fish



GRAND VALLEY AQUARIUM CLUB  
P.O. Box 325  
Grandville, MI 49418  
Address correction required

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## GRAND VALLEY AQUARIUM CLUB

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Meetings are held on the second Saturday of every month at 7 PM (See inside for detailed schedule).

### MEETING LOCATION:

Home School Building Gym  
5625 Burlingame Ave SW  
Wyoming, MI 49509

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

#### **GVAC Apparel**

#### **Store Discounts at Blue Fish Aquarium\***

10% off livestock  
20% off bulk food (does not include 5 lb boxes)  
Club Nights - Tuesday & Wednesday  
20% off livestock

***\*Must show GVAC membership card to receive discounts.***

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## GVAC APPAREL!

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- T-shirts
- Jackets
- Hats
- Coolers
- ...and more!

*Order forms available at club meetings, see Andrew and Heather Kalafut to order.*

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## IN THIS ISSUE...

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- Get ready for the GVAC Annual Fall Auction
- A Review of New Lighting Methods
- HAP & BAP Updates
- Organizing Data
- ...and more!

