



MAY 2006

VOLUME 15 • ISSUE 5

# Showfish *coast*

PROVIDING EDUCATION AND CAMERADERIE TO PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN KEEPING TROPICAL AND TEMPERATE FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

NEXT MONTH'S MTG: JUNE 4

## May 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Importing, Collecting, Exporting *Presentation by a U.S. or California Fish and Wildlife Officer.*



You can follow an exporter's instruction to the letter, and still get busted at LAX for bringing in a fish you were guaranteed was legal. You can be sent a package from a fellow enthusiast and end up many dollars poorer and facing legal actions against you. You can bring home invasive species from the local stream and be fined up the ying yang (located in same region as chicken's McNuggets). You can keep a pond filled with a few native California fish and find yourself with a criminal record. And tomorrow, you can find it's all different.

Come find out, from the horse's mouth, what you can and cannot do when it comes to moving fish in and out of California or the country, what happens if you've innocently run afoul of the law, and how to find out what the current laws and restrictions are.

**Error:** I forgot to credit [www.aquarticles.com](http://www.aquarticles.com) last month as the source of Zhou Hang's article on collecting in S. Pahang, Malaysia. I apologize for the omission. – Editor, C. A. Marelius

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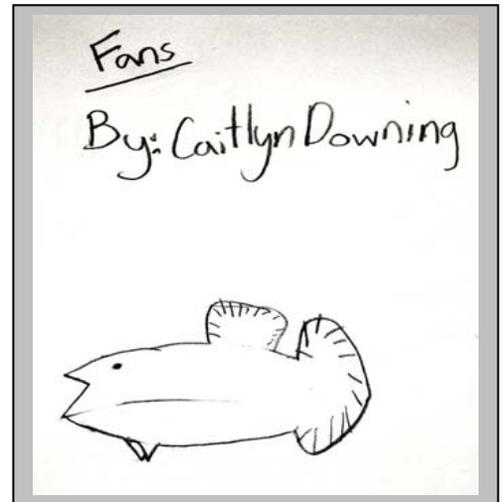
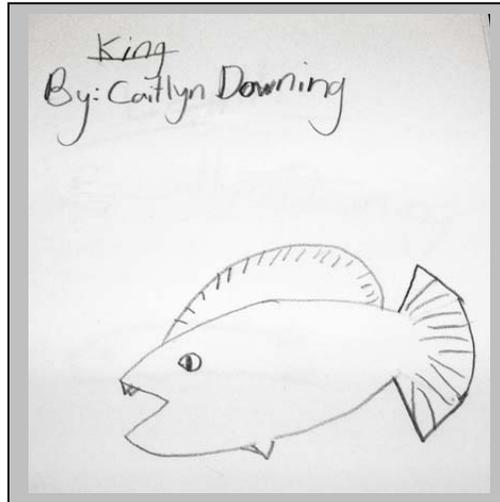
# Summary of April meeting

## *Bettas not made for bowls, a huge auction, and a food decision*

**April Program:** Steve Ehrlich presented information and pictures about the many species of betta, how to get them, and how to breed and take care of them. The program was well organized to highlight the grouping of similar species that is currently going on by those scientists who study bettas, making it easier to understand habitat and reproductive needs. As his own habitat is limited to an apartment, Steve's most extensive experience lies with those betta which he can keep and breed in smallish (by cichlid keeper standards) community tanks. He shared a good deal of information about the mouth brooding bettas as well as the bubble nest builders, and his slides showed the magnificent color and patterns these fish have.

Caitlyn Downing used the slides of betta as a starting point for her own interpretations of wild bettas. She went on to draw other fish and humorous illustrations of possible fish, which will be featured in future Showfish.

The auction was huge this month, and Duncan Mahoney called the lots with alacrity to get all the lots presented for



bidding in time to check out and leave without overstaying our time. You had to be on your toes to get what you wanted! Among the delicacies on the table: three inch diameter discus of various color varieties from a brand new member, including a wild brown one; orange *Eretmodus cyanostictus*, which has never been auctioned in the decade I've been a member of COAST; several fine breeding pairs of angels; some [of my favorite] shell-dwelling cichlids from Lake Tanganyika, *Lamprologus meleagris* (I lost the bid); some pygmy chain sword *Echinodorus tenellus* and the rare and tiny ground cover, *Hemianthus callitrichoides* "Cuba".

Tom Varin volunteered to bring in lunch buffet foods each month up to the amount the club allows for reimbursement. This means you can count on having food for lunch now (not just snacks), and you can count on having to pay a couple of bucks per person for it unless you contribute food to the buffet yourself (in which case your buffet is free).

### Announcements:

1. **Time change caught a lot of us by surprise.** Consequently, we couldn't assess the impact of last month's decision to start the speaker presentation at 1:30 instead of 1:15. Several people were late in April due to the time change taking effect that Sunday, and the board chose to delay the speaker's presentation for half an hour to forty five minutes to allow people to get to the meeting.
2. **Ride Pool from San Diego to Costa Mesa:** Any people in the San Diego area who are interested in ride pooling to the meetings should contact [Brian Downing](#). He has some space available in his car and would be happy to give a couple of people a ride.
3. **Acting Treasurer for a while longer yet is still Pauline Jackson.** Our elected treasurer, John Skocilic, is still out on medical leave, so to speak, recovering from back surgery and the daily-life havoc caused by being disabled for a few months. Pauline has been doing the bulk of the treasurer's job since November or

December, as John was just learning how to do it when he began having problems. She has straightened out all of the problems she knows about with payments by new and renewing members and to auction sellers. For now, address any money-related questions to [Pauline](#) (her email and phone are in the Board of Directors column, her address is on the membership application form on the last page of this newsletter).

And be sweet to her — she’s been doing the treasurer’s job for years and had been really looking forward to passing the mantle on to another, only to be thrust back into it by John’s misfortune.

4. Mamie Nash is searching for contact information on sponsors so she can start the raffle program again. If you have such information on past or potential sponsors, please send it to her.
6. The Board of Directors voted to purchase an entry level laptop to run the auction. In addition to searching out the best deal on a new laptop, Tom Varin is donating MS Office and MS Access software for it. We plan on having it up and running at the May meeting.
7. Treasurer’s report, submitted by Pauline Jackson, was accepted. Her records show the club remains financially sound and would benefit from the raffle being brought back regularly. She passed out receipts for dues and membership cards to recently renewed and new members.

## Membership News

<i><b>Gossip</b></i>	<i><b>New Members- Welcome!</b></i>	<i><b>Renewed- Thank You!</b></i>	<i><b>Due in May</b></i>	
<p><b><u>Chris Breitreutz</u></b> was back, his first meeting a since very serious and complicated heart surgery. He was looked good and was waiting for the day he could get back to his fishroom for more than a few minutes at a time.</p> <p><b><u>Art North</u></b> has had his attention diverted from his beloved puffers by, of all things, a shovel-nosed, beady-eyed pimloides catfish (guentheri??).</p>	<p><b><u>Neil Zarske</u></b> of Huntington Beach (No. 352)  <b><u>Eduardo Millan, Jr.</u></b> of Los Angeles (No. 348)  <b><u>Jonathan White</u></b> of Culver City (No. 349)  <b><u>Cesar Mora</u></b> of San Bernardino (No. 351)</p>	<p>Steve Dickens            John, Anne Niemanns            Kim Chi Bui-Filkin            Nathan Okawa            Craig Fries            Charles Pratt            Alfred and Selma Paul</p>	<p>Robin and Bill Arostegui            Michael Moore            William Moreno            John Pitcairn            Jerry Robinson            Bruce Wilson            Ron Hongo</p>	
	<p><i><b>Error:</b></i> Last month’s newsletter misstated Kevin Hromin’s member number as 348; his correct number is 98.</p>	<p><i><b>One Month Past Due – This is your last newsletter</b></i></p>		<p>Andy Yee                      Corey Anderson</p>
	<p><i><b>Two Month Past Due – No More Newsletters</b></i></p>		<p>Matthew Perry            Alberto Restreppo            Elissa Ritt            Phil Rodriguez            Gary Chow</p>	<p><i><b>Due in June</b></i></p> <p>Larry Gentry            Mike Khalid            Harold Lieberman</p>
	<p>Alan Blum            Scott Daeschner            Martin Gee            Gary Lange            Wook Lim            Anthony Mazeroll</p>			

# Species Profile – *Epactionotus aky*, newly described

## A small green Argentinean catfish discovered in November 2002

by [Roberto Petracini](#) and Francisco Martinez of Argentina, translated by Viviana Garber, originally published at [www.elacuaria.com](http://www.elacuaria.com). Source: [www.aquarticles.com](http://www.aquarticles.com)



In November 2002, while doing field work in Posadas, Misiones, Argentina, José Antonio Granados (AEA) and Roberto Petracini (Argentine Killi Club - KCA) found a number of catfish of a new species. Other collectors later found more specimens, and it was eventually described by Azpelicueta, Casciotta, Almirón and Korber in 2004.

### Habitat

They live in fast water on *Echinodorus* (sword plant) leaves, eating algae.

▲ Arroyo Misionero, home of *Epactionotus aky* ►



Starting with wild-caught specimens, the species has been bred in captivity, as follows

### Aquarium

- Tropical, with plants such as *Echinodorus*, (e.g. *E. horemanii*) and intense lighting to provide lots of algae.
- Substrate of sand or gravel with bogwood
- pH: 7-7.2, dH: 10 (170 ppm), temperature: 22 - 26°C



Broad Leaf Amazon Sword Plant (*Echinodorus bleheri* or *E. paniculatus*) need a rich substrate with clay and abundant trace minerals added regularly, especially iron. Lighting, pH, and hardness aren't critical, temp 68-81°F; tolerates hard, alkaline water and medium to low light. — Editor



*Epactionotus aky*

Geographic distribution is very limited and the fish are few in number. Future conservation is considered very difficult.

### Reproduction

- The male (4cm) is thinner than the female (5.5 cm)
- Eggs are laid on the *Echinodorus* leaves (and also on the aquarium glass).
- The fry hatch within 36 - 40 hours, and attach themselves by the mouth to the plant leaves or aquarium glass.
- Fry that are not provided with *Echinodorus* plants are found to be 20 - 25% slower growing, so it can be deduced that an essential element in their diet is algae that is present only with that plant.
- After 30 days, the fry are 1.5 - 1.8 cm., and after 60 days they are 3.5 - 4 cm.
- Growth is very easy and fast.

### Feeding •

- Adults adapt to common fish food such as flakes, but it is important to provide *Echinodorus* plants.

### Remark

The photos were taken during the November 2002 fishing trip. At that time, the fish was not known.

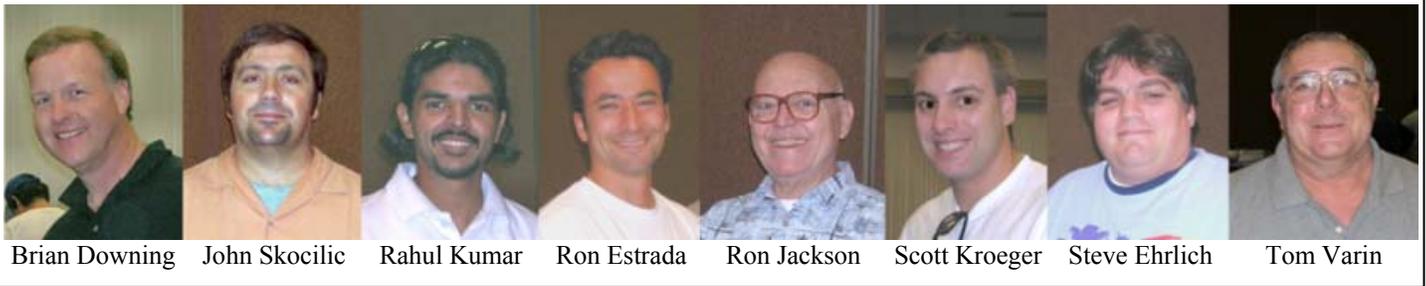


A similar species: *Parotocinclus verde*

Another companion fish found in the same habitat: *Leporelus pictus*



Technical reference: A new species of fluorescent green loricariid catfish, discovered in 2002 in the Rio Uruguay basin of Misiones, Argentina, has been named *Epactionotus aky* by MDLM Azpelicueta, J. Casciotta, A. Almiron, and S. Korber in the journal *Verhandlungen der Gesellschaft für Ichthyologie* 2004: 81-90 in the article "A new species of Ototherini (Siluriformes: Loricariidae: Hypoptopomatinae) from the Rio Uruguay basin, Argentina". At first thought to be a *Hisonotus* species, this tiny catfish is a part of the hypoptopomine tribe of Ototherini. Not a lot is known about the fish, which is believed to hide on the undersides of *Echinodorus* leaves. It is unclear how much of the green coloration is influenced by mood, water quality, or diet. See the Species Profile above for information from two men who collected and bred them. – Editor.



Brian Downing John Skocilic Rahul Kumar Ron Estrada Ron Jackson Scott Kroeger Steve Ehrlich Tom Varin

## Board of Directors

<p>PRESIDENT Brian Downing  <a href="mailto:brianjdowning@msn.com">brianjdowning@msn.com</a>          858-759-4841</p>	<p>EDITOR Charlotte Marelius  <a href="mailto:rcmarelius@earthlink.net">rcmarelius@earthlink.net</a>          818-360-7102</p>	<p>DIRECTOR Ron Estrada          (email)          949-488-8082</p>
<p>VICE PRESIDENT (vacant)</p>	<p>PROGRAM CHAIR Steve Ehrlich  <a href="mailto:hedabuvh20@aol.com">hedabuvh20@aol.com</a>          310-398-4103</p>	<p>DIRECTOR Ron Jackson  <a href="mailto:katfishron@aol.com">katfishron@aol.com</a>          714-638-8445</p>
<p>TREASURER John Skocilic  <a href="mailto:jskoc@yahoo.com">jskoc@yahoo.com</a>          714-225-3491          (On medical leave —          Pauline Jackson is filling in:  <a href="mailto:imbubsie@aol.com">imbubsie@aol.com</a>          714-638-8445)</p>	<p>WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT AND ADMIN          Tom Varin  <a href="mailto:tvarin@usa.net">tvarin@usa.net</a>          714-962-8541          Rahul Kumar  <a href="mailto:cichlididiot@gmail.com">cichlididiot@gmail.com</a>          310-824-1787</p>	<p>DIRECTOR Scott Kroeger  <a href="mailto:skroeger9859@yahoo.com">skroeger9859@yahoo.com</a>          949-701-0429           PUBLISHER Mike McCabe  <a href="mailto:mccabeprint@yahoo.com">mccabeprint@yahoo.com</a>          562-868-1992</p>
<p>SECRETARIES          Recording: Ron Nash          Corresponding: Mamie Nash  <a href="mailto:coast@ronaldvnash.com">coast@ronaldvnash.com</a>          714-226-0045</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP Charlotte Marelius           AUCTION CHAIR Ron Nash</p>	<p>AUCTIONEER Duncan Mahoney  <a href="mailto:dmahoney@usc.edu">dmahoney@usc.edu</a>          310-391-3704</p>

## When and Where the COAST Club Meets

COAST meets the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Meeting agendum:	12:30	Board Meeting
	1:00	Meeting begins; general announcements
	1:30	Presentation begins
	2:45	Auction begins
	4:15-4:30	Auction usually ends; check-out begins
	5:00-5:30	Vacate the room

### Scheduled meeting dates are:

<b>May 7</b>	<b>Topic: Legal Importing, Collecting</b>	September 3	Topic: TBD
June 4	Topic: TBD	October 1	Topic: TBD
July 2	Topic: TBD	November 5	Topic: TBD
August 6	Topic: TBD	December 3	Topic: TBD

We meet at the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center at 1845 Park Ave, Costa Mesa 92627; usually in the Victoria Room, alternatively in the Harper Room. The Center is a dark brick building between the fire station or library and the Lion's Park. The closest large intersection is Harbor Blvd. and 19<sup>th</sup> Street.