Meeting: May 6th, 1:00 to 5:00

Join us for another fine month of talking about things that go splash in the night. The meeting, as usual, is the first Sunday of the month, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., preceded by a board meeting at 12:30 p.m. and probably followed with several members having dinner at Mimi’s Café near the meeting site (anyone can join in). Mark your calendars for the meeting next month – it will be on the second Sunday of the month.

Editor’s Note:

I am starting a two year long group of classes for career advancement/education/certification. This will take any and all spare time I sort of have. That means if members (i.e., you) do not submit articles and photos for the Showfish (or at least links to them), there will not be any articles in it.

Note my new email: rcmarelius@verizon.net

What’s in the Showfish this month –

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When do we meet:

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

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

Where do we meet:

We meet in the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center in the Victoria Room (usually) or the Harper Room. The Center is a brown brick building between a fire station and Lion’s Park. Closest major intersection is 19th and Harbor Blvd.

Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center
1845 Park Avenue
Costa Mesa, CA

Upcoming meetings for 2007:

- **June 10** Speaker and Topic: SECOND SUNDAY
- **July 1** Speaker and Topic:
- **August 5** Speaker and Topic:
- **September 2** Speaker and Topic:
- **October 7** Speaker and Topic:
- **November 4** Speaker and Topic:
- **December 2** Speaker and Topic:

Discussion Group: [http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/coastfishclub/](http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/coastfishclub/) (members only)

Website: [http://www.coastfishclub.com](http://www.coastfishclub.com)

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New Self-Filling Auction Forms Available

There is now an MS Excel spreadsheet, named “Bag-Auction form1.xls”, in the Discussion Group (Files section) that automatically fills in the Auction Registration Form from information you put in the bag labels. All you have to do is enter information in the yellow areas of the bag labels and the Auction Registration form (the two worksheets in the file) and voilá! the bag number, quantity, and description magically appear in the Auction Registration form. There are enough labels for 24 items, and the form will not let you accidentally enter information in the wrong places. The editor can also email you the form if you request one by email.

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The Showfish is the newsletter of California’s Organization of Aquatic Show Tropicals (COAST), a 501(c)(7) not-for-profit association registered in California. It is published six to twelve times a year and is a benefit of membership in COAST. The information and opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and may not reflect those held by COAST or other COAST members.

Showfish is printed and distributed at cost by Mike and Elaine McCabe of McCabe Printing, 11918 E Rosecrans Ave Suite B, Norwalk, CA 90650.

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**Exchange Policy:** COAST will exchange newsletters which contain information about fish and the fish hobby with other fish clubs. Please notify the Showfish editor, C.A. Marelius, if your club would like to participate in an exchange program.
Summary: Meeting of April 1st

The General Meeting: Dr. Ross, our scheduled speaker for April, had the wonderful opportunity to watch his daughter compete in an important soccer tournament on the day of our meeting, so the talk on freshwater stingrays will come later in the year. Rahul Kumar, prepared for the soccer possibility, gave a presentation on members of the danio family (the danionins), the wide ranging fishes of India, Laos, Myanmar, and other countries of the IndoChina subcontinent. There were many beauties among these fast, small, schooling fish of streams and ponds, and Rahul brought several species to the auction for people interested in trying something new.

In May, we will pull the winning ticket for the big-ticket raffle – an Eclipse aquarium system. Remember to put your name and phone number on the tickets you drop into the jar for this item.

We add four new sponsors to our list this month: CASCO (brought to us by member Ross Freeman), Marc Weiss Inc, Tetra, and San Francisco Bay Brand.

Membership News

New Members:
Kristian Downs, Norwalk

Renewing Members:
Craig David         Frank Chang
Phil Rodriguez      Kenaan Tabikh
John Niemans

Memberships Due in May:
Rich Becktell       William J Scott
Marvin Zabie        John G Pitscaim
William Moreno      Jeff Long
Michael Moore       John Martin
Chris Stinnett      Robin and Bill Arostegui

Past Due – This is your last Showfish
Eduardo Millan Jr  Cesar Mora
Jonathan White     Kim Chi Bui-Filkin

Manufacturers and Vendors
Supporting our Club
Please support these companies when shopping for food, products, and equipment.

Eugene Danner Manufacturing, 160 Oval Drive, Islandia, NY  11749
Hikari Sales, Shawn Bonham, 2804 Mc Cone Avenue, Hayward, CA  94545
Energy Savers Unlimited, Inc., 910 E. Sandhill Avenue, Carson, CA  90746
Omega Sea, Ltd., Marty Crews, 3767 Lane Rd. Ext., Unit B, Perry, OH  44801
Jungle Laboratories, Lisa Hendrix, 120 Industrial Drive , Cibolo, TX  78108
Hamilton Technology Corp., 14902 S. Figueroa St., Gardena, CA  90248
Marine Enterprises International, Inc., Bob Spellman, Sales Mgr, 8800 A Kolso Dr., Baltimore, MD  21221
Brackish-Water Fishes by Neale Monks

New Book from TFH Publications

Neale Monks has brought together input from many people who have experience with various species of brackish-water fishes, as well as providing a primer and overview of this group of both common and rare fishes. He discusses the habitats and the biology unique to animals who need salty water. Other experts discuss a variety of fishes that must have, can adapt to, or spend part of their lives in brackish water. The photography is exceptional and the information well organized and cleanly presented. Representative species have detailed info on feeding, tank size and décor, temperament, and breeding. Fishes from around the world are profiled. This is an excellent 381 page book on a neglected niche. Cost: $40.
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<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:dmahoney@usc.edu">dmahoney@usc.edu</a></td>
<td>310-391-3704</td>
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<td>949-488-8082</td>
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Richer environments change fry brains and behaviour –

Fry brain size is influenced by the challenges of their natural habitat

A study by Rebecca Kihslinger and Professor Gabrielle Nevitt of UC Davis has shown that rainbow trout fry, called alevins, which spend their first few weeks of life buried in the gravel of their natural, stony substrates grow larger cerebella than similar fish reared in a hatchery in bare, smooth-bottomed tanks. Fish fry raised in a hatchery in natural conditions also had larger brains than those raised in smooth-bottomed tanks. The larger brain size was accompanied by changes in locomotory behaviours often attributed heretofor to genetic selection. Because of their findings, Kihslinger and Nevitt suggest breeders design captive breeding or conservation facilities to provide an enriched environment for the fry.

For more information, read their article in the Journal of Experimental Biology:


Mini Spawning Report – Danio choprae

By Charlotte Marelius

The egg scattering Glowlight Danio

On the first of April, I bought four Danio choprae at auction; they were captive bred young adults from Rahul Kumar. I put them in my twenty gallon tank that I am reestablishing as a planted tank after the failure of my last planted tank effort. The pH is around 7.2 and general hardness between 100 and 120 ppm. The water is filtered by a power filter and by a reverse flow powerhead for the undergravel filter. A mini-powerhead shoots water mixed with a small amount of CO₂ along the back of the tank. The tank is well lit for twelve hours a day and sporadically supplemented with plant liquid and tablet fertilizer. A thin portion of the tank top is open, and midges that occasionally get through the living room screen door lay their eggs in the tank or just volunteer themselves as food outright.

No other fish are in the tank at the moment. To borrow a phrase from the film “You’ve Got Mail,” these fish would make coffee nervous. These danios are very easy to recognize in photos: they are the fuzzy beige smudge with a vague hint of orange-red shading on the top and bottom amidst in-focus plants. Zebra danios are organized and slow compared to choprae. Choprae are extremely fast, extremely active, and obsessed with current. They prefer the top third of the tank and zip in six inch long spurts in three thousand different directions inside two seconds.

If the activity I think is spawning really is spawning, it is distinguishable by a smaller and larger fish swirling around each other in a tight circle for thirty seconds, breaking back into the larger frenzied pattern, then returning to close quarter drill again. They do this most commonly for a short period after the lights first come on. I have never seen eggs, I have never seen them make a special attempt to do their tight circling in the more planted areas of the tank. This is the first time an egg scattering species has spawned in my tank, and I really need one of those cameras that can photograph the splash from a drop of water in order to see them.

The chopae’s eating pattern is to strike and run at anything that falls through the water column. They will not follow food as it sinks to the gravel but take it only while it is in swirling motion in their preferred part of the tank. They like frozen baby brine, general flake food, and, as I found recently, most especially little chunks of not completely dissolved Artifical Plankton Rotifer in solution.

Three weeks after I brought the choprae home, I was watching them zip about their tank when all of a sudden there was a separate ZIP off to one side. There it was – a 1 cm long fry, with an iridescent gold stripe from operculum to caudal peduncle, carefully staying in the crown of a large Crypt. wendtii. Watching longer, I spotted a transparent sliver of flesh a quarter inch long with a tiny light dot at one end that was trying to stay in one spot. Then I saw a third one of middle size that seems to have been injured, as it was a bit bent (I only saw that one for a couple of days.) Now that a bit more than three weeks have passed, I count ten tiny fry of two distinct sizes, scarcely visible, and one now ½” long fry. The parents flash in and out of the plants where the fry spend most of their time, an area where current is low, generally within an inch or two of the top. They are
growing in confidence before they are growing in speed, so I hope their transparency protects them from the
eager appetite of their parents. I’d love to have a dozen more of this exciting, beautifully striped fish.

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<th>SELLER NAME:</th>
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**Auction Rules**

You must be a current member of COAST to sell items at the auction.

**NOTE WELL:**

Buyer Beware! Auction items are sold “as is” and COAST does not guarantee items sold at auction as to health, accuracy, working condition, suitability, etc.

**BAGGING FISH:**

Use proper fish bags. Double bag the fish.

Bag **adult males** separately from **females** and separate **territorial or aggressive fish** from each other to minimize damage or death. Individual bags can then be taped together to be sold as pairs or groups.

Do not feed fish the night before. Bag fish in clean water, with a ratio of 1/3 water to 2/3 air. Bag fish at home please.

**LABELLING:**

Label bags with member no. and bag no., qty and sex of fish, genus/species, and phone no. Paper labels are preferred. Use Sharpie for marking on bags if reqd.

**PLANTS:**

Plants may be single bagged and do not need to be submersed in water. Label as for fish.

Turn completed and double checked auction form in to an auction recorder.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ........................... ☐
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ................................. ☐
GUEST Registry / AUCTION Sign-In ................. ☐

COAST MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Mail to:  Pauline Jackson, COAST Treasurer
10926 Ranney Ave, Garden Grove, CA 92843

(Received by _______________________________ Date Rcvd _______________ Payment $ _____________ Member No. ___________ )

Yes! I want to be a member or guest of COAST. Enclosed/attached is my check or money order made payable to COAST in the amount of $20 for a one year membership as an individual or family (within the same household please). Senior citizen (aged 62 or over) or junior (aged 20 or under) memberships are $15 for one year. Members receive Showfish (up to twelve issues a year), which contains information of interest to hobbyists. Meetings have programs specific to the hobby, and you are eligible to participate in our monthly auctions and raffles.

Name ____________________________________________________ Email __________________________________________
Address________________________________________________________________  Phone ____________________________
City ______________________________________________________State ________  Zip Code __________________________

Thank you for your membership and registration. Please tell us how you heard about COAST:

☐ Member  ☐ Magazine  ☐ Fish Store  ☐ Website  ☐ Showfish  ☐ Other ______________________
☐ Renewing  ☐ Returning  ☐ Update  ☐ Guest  Referred by __________________________________

Hobby Interests __________________________________________________________________

What information would you like to share with club members in the Membership Directory? (Membership Rosters are COAST property and distributed within the club to encourage fellowship.)

☐ Yes to full membership listing (default)  ☐ Name  ☐ Phone  ☐ Mailing Address  ☐ email  ☐ City, St, Zip

Unless otherwise specified, the full membership listing of member no., name, phone number, address, city, state and zip code will be listed in our membership directory. Please be sure to notify us of any changes in your contact information, either by email or by using this form.

Please fill it out completely when you’re renewing, too. That’s how we keep the membership list correct and up to date.

CALIFORNIA’S ORGANIZATION OF AQUATIC SHOW TROPICALS

COAST is a 501(c)(7) Not-For-Profit Association

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