



AUGUST 2006

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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: SEPT 10

August 6th Meeting – Central American Cichlids

Presented by Rusty Wessel

Rusty Wessel of Louisville, Kentucky maintains 8000 gallons of freshwater aquariums in a specifically constructed, state of the art fish house. His 90+ aquariums predominantly contain cichlids and livebearers, which he successfully raise and breeds. Rusty's specialty is Central American fishes.

He has taken his hobby to a point where he has successfully collected fish from the countries of Africa, Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, and Mexico, making well over 50 trips since 1983. Considered by many to be a consummate collector, he has introduced many new species of fish to the aquarium hobby. If it lives in the water, chances are that Rusty has either caught it or been bit or stung by it.

Dr. Robert Rush Miller, emeritus professor of the University of Michigan discovered a beautiful, elusive cichlid during one of his expeditions to Honduras. He named it *Theraps wesseli*, in honor of Rusty, in the June 1996 edition of Tropical Fish Hobbyist.

On a local level in the organized hobby, Rusty is currently Treasurer for the Louisville Tropical Fish Fanciers in Kentucky. At the national level, Rusty has lectured and judged numerous fish shows throughout the United States, including the annual Florida Tropical Fish Farmers show and several American Cichlid Association conventions. He currently serves as Convention Liaison and as Back Issues Salesperson for the American Cichlid Association; he is also a participant in the ACA/Marineland Speaker's Program. He is Past Chair of the

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY OF JULY MEETING	2	BOARD OF DIRECTORS; WHEN, WHERE WE MEET	3
MEMBERSHIP NEWS	2	KID'S CORNER	4

ACA Board of Trustees (1990) and ACA Past Convention Chair (1992). In addition to these duties, he is an active solicitor for the ACA's "Guy Jordan Endowment Fund", which grants endowments for cichlid research. In 1997, Rusty was awarded Fellowship in the American Cichlid Association, its highest honor.

Rusty is a prolific author and photographer. His writings or photographs have appeared in a wide variety of specialty publications, such as Aquarium Fish Magazine, Aquarist and Pondkeeper, Buntbarsche Bulletin, Cichlid News, Ad Konings' Cichlid Yearbooks, Freshwater and Marine Aquarium, and Tropical Fish Hobbyist.

Rusty's presence as speaker for our August meeting is courtesy of the ACA/Marineland Speaker's Program, which has subsidized a large portion of his airfare from Kentucky.



Summary of Meeting Last Month –

Topic/Speaker was video tapes of some very large tropical fish as well as some more typically sized ones (from Singapore?) which Art North shared. A low-volume problem could not be solved, so several members chimed in with identification, information, and humorous comments: their narrative was probably better than what was on the tape.

Board meeting business: Treasury continues to have enough to meet expenses.

Auction summary: As it was a small meeting due to our Independence Day holiday weekend, the auction did not cover the expenses of the meeting in July.

Membership News

<i>Member Gossip</i>	<i>New Members – Welcome</i>	<i>Renewing Members – Thank You</i>	<i>Memberships due this month</i>
Pauline and Ron Jackson celebrated their 52 nd wedding anniversary in July. Pauline quipped that they can't figure out where all the time went. Congratulations to them both.	No new members this month.	Ron Estrada	Don Mackey, Maria Blair Chuck Mateo Victor Tongco Ken, Eva Hengstebeck Norman Brown Joe, Esther Candelaria Rino Olivares Scott Kroeger
		<i>Memberships due next month</i>	
		Chris Breitreutz Pam & Gary Chin Wanda Jacobson Art North	Luke Roebuck Yemyint Wu Barbara Healy-Sprague John Skocilic
<i>Two months past due – no more newsletters will be sent</i>		<i>One month past due – this is last newsletter of your membership year</i>	
Larry Gentry			Tim Adams Fernando Rodarte



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

Board of Directors

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COAST meets the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center in the Victoria Room. The Center is located at 1845 Park Ave, Costa Mesa next to the fire station and library on one side and Lion's Park on the other. Closest major intersection is 19th and Harbor Blvd.

COAST maintains a members-only discussion group on Yahoo.com. If you would like to join, just contact Brian Downing via email. The group is at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coastfishclub/>

The Showfish is the newsletter of California's Organization of Aquatic Show Tropicals (COAST). 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.

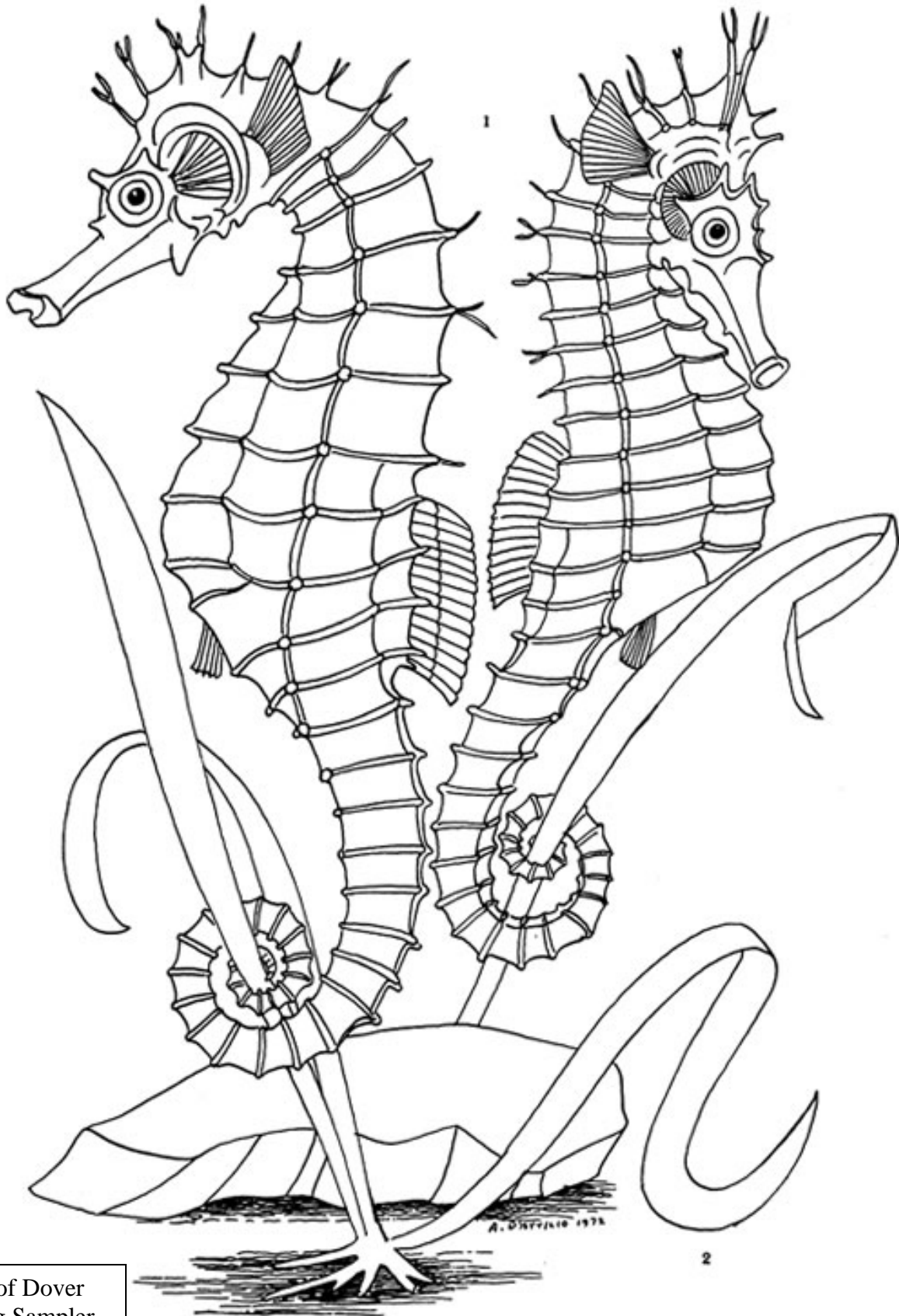
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Exchange Policy: COAST will exchange newsletters which contain information about fish and the fish hobby with other fish clubs. Please notify the Showfish editor, C.A. Marelius, if your club would like to participate in an exchange program.

Kids' Corner

Atlantic Seahorses to Color



Courtesy of Dover
Publishing Sampler