



MAY 2008

VOLUME 17 • 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 8—it's on the second Sunday of the month!

May 4th meeting: Dan Woodland from Ohio

Topic: Expedition adventure to Argentina and South America



South America: Experience a new adventure in South America, Argentina, and see some new species. This trip in June of 2003 yielded a wealth of new fishes including cichlids, plecos, corydoras and more!

Since 1998 Dan has traveled to Central and South America annually in an effort to inject new specimens into the hobby and to take a small part in the preservation of troubled cichlids through captive breeding.

Dan has been involved in the aquarium hobby since the age of ten. His aquarium illness began when his parents purchased a ten-gallon tank, where he spawned black mollies for the first time. At that point he was completely and hopelessly infected with the tropical fish hobby.

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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.

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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.

Dan has kept many different types of aquatic life including saltwater fish, turtles, indigenous Ohio species, and amphibians, but he has turned most of his attention to cichlids. He has written articles on his adventures, breeding cichlids, and other aquatic interests for Cichlid News, Aquarium Fish Magazine, Tropical Fish Hobbyist, and the American Cichlid Association's Buntbarsche Bulletin. Dan maintains over 1500 gallons of water in his self-built fish room, where he has raised and bred a wide variety of animals, including some of the largest cichlids.

Active in his local fish club, the Ohio Cichlid Association, for the past 20 years Dan has held the positions of President, Editor, Program Chairman, and Librarian. He is currently serving as Vice-president. 

Summary of last month's meeting

Wherein we learned freshwater shrimp are not bizarre—

they are much stranger than that. In spite of the fact that Sabrina Fullhart has spent just a bit of quality time with shrimp—or because of it, if you have the perspective of a fish hobbyist—she delivered an entertaining and informative presentation, complete with incredible pictures and well-organized narrative. The pre-schoolers were very high energy this month, but it's nice to see parents involving their children in the hobby. The auction was reasonable, with things that have been selling for low prices bringing in top dollar and, curiously, practically no freshwater shrimp.

Board meeting minutes:

Tom Varin has a new version of the website up and is working on putting up additional pages. Articles and pictures are most welcome, hint hint.

Brian Downing had the idea that the newsletter carry a small list informing people of who is good with a particular family of fishes; it would promote learning and encourage interaction.

Jim Herman reported we are losing money on speakers, mostly because we haven't had advanced-ticket-purchase opportunities all that often, nor time to explore alternative routing. He and Brian also noted the cost of airline tickets is going up and up fast.

Jeff Long has bravely waded into the waters of Membership Chair—everybody be nice to him, now. He's volunteered to be responsible for this computer-intense position even though he has no knowledge of the software at all. He's already got good ideas he wants to implement.

Mike Khalid volunteered to help with the layout of the Showfish, which will help reduce the workload of the editor, Charlotte Marelius. Charlotte tried to lay out the newsletter for April so it could be a booklet rather than stapled in one corner. Mike McCabe gathered information from his copy house on what was needed, but in the end we were unable to coordinate efforts successfully. Mike Khalid may be able to help with a booklet layout, so we may see that format yet.

Charles Clifford asked for information on who in the club could create a design for a club tee-shirt. He has been researching this project, but lack of a design has brought things to a halt.

Nathan Okawa reported he has not been able to contact many sponsors yet. He brought the owner of Marine Depot to the meeting, along with a generous sampling of dry foods Marine Depot sells, and he himself donated two high-quality glass aquariums (a 20 and a 40 gallon) to the raffle for the meeting. Nathan has long believed having something very nice for raffles and/or door prizes would result in more member participation—judging by raffle ticket sales, he clearly has a good strategy. ■■■

Introducing Marine Depot Sponsor of April's Raffle



and



Marine Depot is an Anaheim-based online and catalog retailer freshwater and saltwater supplies for hobbyists and professionals. They sell some of the very best equipment the pet industry has to offer, such as Euro REEF protein skimmers and Tunze filter systems, from their site at <http://www.marinedepot.com>.

You'll also find a good equipment selection if you're a hobbyist in the middle between "almost too much for the house" and "not quite enough to build a fish-room" — in your spouse's opinion.

If, however, you need more fish to get that fish room started, rather than just more supplies, check out their online marine fish store at <http://www.marinedepotlive.com>.

To be kept informed of their specials and other benefits they offer, sign up for their newsletter, a half-page sample of which is shown at left.

Many thanks to Marine Depot for their sponsorship. ■■■

Sponsor introductions

Watch the Showfish for extended introductions of all of our sponsors. Marine Depot is the first to be highlighted in this new and sporadically recurring column. ■■■

The screenshot shows the Marine Depot website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, Specials, Livestock, New Items, Education, Forums, and Help. Below the menu is a banner for "EARTH DAY 08" with the subtext "TOP 10 REASONS TO FRAG YOUR CORALS". The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Top 10 Reasons to Frag Your Corals:** A list of reasons including supporting hobby spending, saving reefs from over collection, and healthier specimens.
- Featured Products:** A grid of three products:
 - CaribSea Purple Up Coralline Algae Accelerator 16oz:** Price \$14.99, Sale \$11.99, Save \$3, 20% Off.
 - Two Little Fishies KorAFix 2oz Adhesive:** Price \$9.99, Sale \$7.99, Save \$2, 20% Off.
 - 10-Pack Fired Ceramic Frag Disks:** Price \$4.99, Sale \$3.99, Save \$1, 20% Off.
- Top 5 Coral Frag Tools:** A list of tools including D-D ROWA AquaScape Epoxy 4oz, CPR Specimen Collection Cup, Coralife Aqua Gloves, Book Of Coral Propagation Vol. 1 Ed. 2, and Boston Aqua Farms Coral Propagation Starter Kits.
- Product Review:** A review titled "Great Holder" by Andy, dated 1/18/2008.
- Did You Know?:** A section with a question mark icon.

America's Family Pet Expo

Photos by William Scott The ribboned tanks are from Pet Expo's kids' contest.



The beginning symptom of fish-itis: a hand reaching out to pet a big fish!

Tom Varin on duty

Using wood in an aquarium stand or rack—

Some statistics on the load-bearing capabilities of common woods

Loads are given for wood that has a moisture content of 22%, which represents its weaker state. The higher the moisture content, the weaker the wood. Construction lumber moisture content is generally no more than 19%. Dry (19%) wood can withstand approximately 30% more load than wet (22%) wood. Density of the majority of woods we would use in this application is typically 40 ± 5 pounds per cubic foot.

SPECIES	COMPRESSIVE LOAD PERPENDICULAR TO GRAIN (in psi)	COMPRESSIVE LOAD PARALLEL TO GRAIN (in psi)	RESISTANCE TO SPLITTING
Beech, American	477	960	Very good
Cedar, various	247 – 283	750 – 800	Poor
Fir, California Red	270	1200	N/A
Fir, Douglas	417	1360	Fair
Fir, other	247 – 283	1120 – 1320	Fair
Hickory, various	477	960	Good
Larch, Western	417	1360	N/A
Oak, Northern Red	590	920	Good
Oak, Southern Red	547	800	Good
Oak, White	533	880	Good
Pine, varieties most commonly used in Calif.	223	840	Poor
Pine, various eastern US varieties	377	960 – 1440	Poor
Poplar, Yellow	280	720	Good
Redwood	433	1200	Poor
Spruce, various	223 – 283	960 – 1120	Poor

And Lo! How the Spanish Armada did curse the British ships of oak plank hulls!

Note: data was based on wood that was 2"–4" inches thick and 12" wide, maximum of 24" apart.
Reference source: Pocket Ref, 3rd Edition, by Thomas J. Glover

When calculating weight the stand will bear, remember that water is about 8.2 lbs/gallon, glass is 1.7 lbs/sq ft per 1/8" thickness, and most minerals weigh 3 to 5 g/cm³.

Board of Directors

Our Sponsors

			Please evaluate sponsors' goods. Logos are hyperlinks to their websites.
Brian Downing	Kirk Bean	Jim Herman	
			
Larry Guillow	Charles Clifford	Charlotte Marelius	  
			
Mike McCabe	Ron Nash	Tom Varin	 
	No image available		
Mike Khalid		Jeff Long	 
			
Rick Marelius	Duncan Mahoney	Kristian Downs	  
Staff Photographer for meeting photos needed	Article finder for our newsletter needed	Welcome Chair needed	  

Email LINKS TO DIRECTORS

- Brian Downing brianjdowning@msn.com
- Kirk Bean kb1752@sbc.com
- Jim Herman jhfinwing@msn.com
- Larry Guillow lguillo@yahoo.com
- Charles Clifford 4cliffords@cox.net
- Charlotte or Richard Marelius rcmarelius@verizon.net
- Mike McCabe mccabeprint@yahoo.com
- Ron Nash coast@ronaldvnash.com
- Tom Varin tvarin@usa.net
- Mike Khalid mkhalid1@socal.rr.com
- Nathan Okawa nhokawa@earthlink.net
- Jeff Long bert@zow.com
- Duncan Mahoney dmahoney@usc.edu
- Kristian Downs **Kristian, can we print your email?**
- Staff Photographer (position awaits a shutterbug)
- Article Hunter (position awaits a predator)
- Welcome Chair (position awaits a cheerful table)

SPONSORS' WEBSITES

- www.marineland.com
- www.meisalt.com
- www.instantocean.com
- www.casco-group.com
- www.sfbbs.com
- www.novalek.com
- www.drsfostersmith.com
- www.omegasea.net
- www.oceanicsystems.com
- www.dannermfg.com
- www.hamiltontechnology.com
- www.petsolutions.com
- www.tetrafish.com
- www.hikariusa.com
- www.hbhnet.com
- www.seachem.com
- www.junglelabs.com
- www.marcweissco.com

Member ad – Rino’s Caves

Rino Olivares has specialized in providing single-entrance domes, cylindrical condos, compressed niches, and flattened tunnels for low- to moderate-income fish (how much can you earn by munching snails, pruning plants, or digging gravel pits?) for more than a decade now.

Reclusive bachelors and harem-breeders alike find them to be attractive ceramic housing. The fired, brick-red clay. Half-covered in glaze provides two very desirable surfaces for laying eggs (so hard to find in the modern urban environment).

Rino’s Caves—made by a potter who understands what fishes need to feel comfortable and safe.



Tally: how we’re doing with at-risk aquatic animals— *Groups which are listed or have Recovery Plans as of Mar 19, 2008:*

From The Endangered Species Bulletin of the US Fish and Wildlife Service:

GROUP	ENDANGERED		THREATENED		TOTAL LISTINGS	U.S. SPECIES W/ PLANS
	U.S.	FOREIGN	U.S.	FOREIGN		
AMPHIBIANS	13	8	10	1	32	17
FISHES	74	11	65	1	151	101
SNAILS	64	1	11	0	76	69
CLAMS	62	2	8	0	72	70
CRUSTACEANS	19	0	3	0	22	18
CORALS	0	0	2	0	2	0
SUMS	232	22	99	2	355	275

Member gossip —

Larry Guillow successfully gave his daughter away last month. I’m sure he was hoping to get a top-notch fish room for her, but he got a son-in-law instead.

Tom Varin had routine, scheduled surgery on April 22nd. We hope he’s doing well and that he will recover in the typical five or six weeks.

Membership news —

Due in May

ROBIN AND BILL AROSTEGUI
 GRANT, JARED, OWEN BGRWA
 MARCO FERREL
 JEFF LONG
 JOHN MARTIN
 MICHAEL MOORE
 WILLIAM MORENO
 JOHN G PITCAIRN
 WILLIAM J SCOTT
 CHRIS STINNETT
 RYAN VAZQUEZ

Due in April

FRANK & ILAN CHANG
 CRAIG DAVID
 KRISTIAN DOWNS
 JOHN & ANNE NIEMANS
 CHARLES PRATT
 PHIL RODRIGUEZ
 KENAAN TABIKH

Due in March—This is your LAST Showfish

RYAN D'CUZ
 CRAIG FRIES
 NATHAN OKAWA
 ALFRED & SELMA PAUL
 RICHARD WOON

Time and place we meet:

Time: the first Sunday of every 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

Place 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

Discussion Group: <http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/coastfishclub/>

Website: <http://www.coastfishclub.com>

Newsletter: The club's newsletter, the Showfish, is published at least six times a year (usually 10 to 12) and mailed to arrive a day or two before the meeting. The current issue is published on our discussion group in the Files section around the 25th of the month, and previous months' Showfish are published on our website.

Meeting dates for 2008

All meetings will be in the Victoria Room unless otherwise noted.

June 8, **the second Sunday**
(Lion's Club Fish Fry is on first Sunday)
July 6
August 3

September 7
October 5
November 2
December 7

Board Meetings starts at 12:30.

Book Announcements

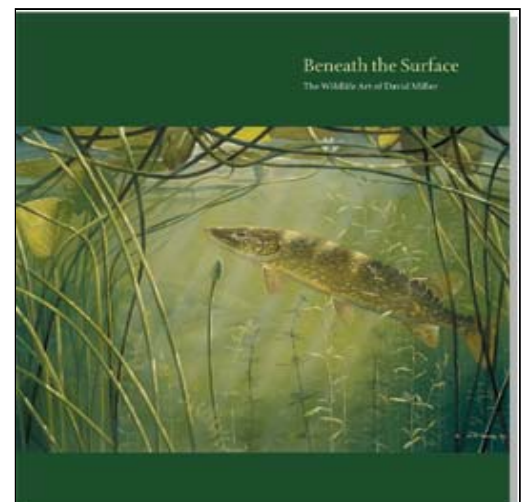
The Fresh and Brackish Water Fishes of Lower Guinea, West-Central Africa, Volume 2. In French and English.

2008. **Volume 2.** 26cm. Pp.600. 8 colour plates, numerous photos & figures, keys to species. Paperback. Text in French and English.

Covers the fresh and brackish water fishes of Lower Guinea of West-Central Africa from the Cross River in south-eastern Nigeria to the Angolan province of Cabinda and the Republic of Congo. For each species an illustration and a concise description summarizing the important morphological features are provided along with distribution maps for freshwater species. **Price = 35.95 GBP**

2007. **Volume 1.** 26cm. Pp.410. Numerous photos & figures, keys to species. Paperback. Covers the taxonomy and distribution of the fresh and brackish water fishes of Lower Guinea West-Central Africa from the Cross River in south-eastern Nigeria to the Angolan province of Cabinda and the Republic of Congo.

Price = 35.95 GBP



Miller, David **Beneath the Surface – The Wildlife Art of David Miller**

2008. 30cm. Pp.156. Colour plates. Hardbound. 'Like many artists, Miller likes to get the details right and that's clear enough in this stunning collection of paintings, sketches and photographs of fish, faithfully depicted in their habitat. The book is arranged in three sections, covering coarse, game and sea fish. Much as I love all of his work, it is the paintings of pike that stand out for me.' Richard Donkin, Financial Times, November 24/25th 2007. **Price = 38.00 GBP**

Seen at <http://www.stevensimpsonbooks.com>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

COAST MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Mail to: **Jim Herman, COAST Treasurer**

GUEST Registry / AUCTION Sign-In

1317 Bradley Court, Glendora, CA 91740

(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 our newsletter, Showfish (six to twelve issues a year), and 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 Referred by _____

What fish do keep / want to keep? _____

What contact information would you like to list in the Membership Roster? (Membership Rosters are COAST property and distributed only within the club to encourage fellowship among members.)

Publish full contact info (default) Do not publish street address Do not publish phone Do not publish email

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



<http://www.coastfishclub.com>

c/o C. A. Marelius, Showfish Editor
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