



SPLASH

APRIL 2013



Milwaukee Aquarium Society

Society Officers:

President:	Austin Braganza	(414)447-5693
Vice President:	Rob McLure	(414)349-2226
Treasurer:	Jerry Michels	(414)353-5370
Secretary:	Andy Hudson	(262)389-2456
Sgt. At Arms:	Don Hinske	(262)238-1916

Board Members:

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Board Member:	Rock Smith	(414)678-9757

Committee Chairpersons:

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Horticulturists Award Program (HAP)	Aaron Glass	(262)436-1157
Fish Store Liaison	Don Hinske	(262)238-1916
Librarian	Jim Everson	
Participation Awards Program (PAP)	Ken King	(262)284-2684
Speaker Chair	Jim Everson	

On the Cover:

Ambastaia sidthimunki... dwarf chain loach, photo compliments of Ted's Fishroom

Important Dates!

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| M.A.S. May Board Meeting | May 4 |
| 1:00 at Rock's home, (414) 678-9757
Everyone is Welcome | |
| M.A.S. May Meeting | May 17 |
| 7:30 at Hoffer's Tropic Life
7323 N. 76 th St. Milwaukee, WI 53223 | |
| M.A.S. June Board Meeting | June 1 |
| 2:00 at Rob McClure's home, (414) 349-2226
Everyone is Welcome | |
| M.A.S. June Meeting | June 21 |
| M.A.S. PicNic at the Zoo | July 27 |
| M.A.S. August Board Meeting | August 3 |
| M.A.S. August Meeting | August 16 |
| M.A.S. September Meeting | September 20 |
| M.A.S. Fish and Plants Auction | October 13 |
| 12:00 at New Berlin Bowl (check in at 9:00)
16000 W. Cleveland Ave. New Berlin, WI 53151 | |
| M.A.S. October Meeting | October 18 |
| M.A.S. Fish-O-Rama Swap | November 3 |
| 10:00 at New Berlin Bowl (check in at 9:00)
16000 W. Cleveland Ave. New Berlin, WI 53151 | |
| M.A.S. November Meeting | November 15 |

M.A.S. Christmas Party

December 8 ?

For more information visit milwaukeeaquariumsociety.com

We will begin including a calendar of events for Species Clubs and surrounding City Clubs. Please submit your entries to tim.pilat@gmail.com.

American Cichlid Association Convention

July 18th – 21st, 2013, Aurora, Colorado

MAAH general meetings: visit madisonaquatic hobby.com

Wisconsin Reef Society general meetings: visit wisconsinreefsociety.com

From the Fish Room of the President

Our hearts go out to the people affected by the bombing at the Boston marathon, in some ways we are all affected, although some a lot more than others. Stay strong America, this is the home of the brave, together we will be strong and this too we shall endure.

Dear MAS members and anyone else who might be reading this, we are almost done with winter after almost 7 long months of cold wintry weather. The plants are confused, the bears have used up all their winter fat and the people of Wisconsin are ready for Spring. Well folks after decades of living in Milwaukee I can cross another item off my bucket list, I am finally the proud owner of some Milwaukee iron, that is to say I bought a hog, a Harley Davidson motorcycle, just in time for the 110th anniversary celebrations this summer. Good riding weather can't get here soon enough, and if it doesn't which is quite likely seeing that we live in the tundra, I might just have to ride anyway. Live to Ride and all that sort of thing. I may not have much time for the fish room this summer.

The ice is almost melted off my pond and soon my koi will be outdoors again, hopefully some will breed this year. If it gets warm enough some of you might even put some cichlids outdoors, in water hopefully. If done carefully you could use the warmer weather to grow some plants in natural sunlight, take care though plants do not like sudden change, so gradual changes are key and remember practice with some hardier stuff if this is your first time growing aquatic plants outdoors. Also please make sure that your aquarium plants are nowhere near a river, stream, sewer drains because you do not want these plants to end up in a natural body of water and become an invasive species.

A big thanks to everyone that supported our auctions and swap meets this year, they have been a big success and we really appreciate all the volunteers that help out they really are the backbone of this club. That's all I have. Be kind to one another, and watch for motorcycles, there will be a lot of them around Milwaukee this year.

Austin Braganza

President, Milwaukee Aquarium Society
aka LIONFISH on the MAS forum

Speakers for 2013 M.A.S. Meetings

May 17, 2013 - John Krepper - Lake Tanganyika Cichlids

June 21, 2013 - Troy Veltrop (or in the event he can't make it- Rob McLure) - CARES

August 16, 2013 - Steve Lundblad - Peacock Cichlids and Imports

September 20, 2013 - Gary Lange - Rainbows

October 18, 2013 - Karen Randall - Aquarium Plants

November 15, 2013 - Mike Wise - Apistogrammas

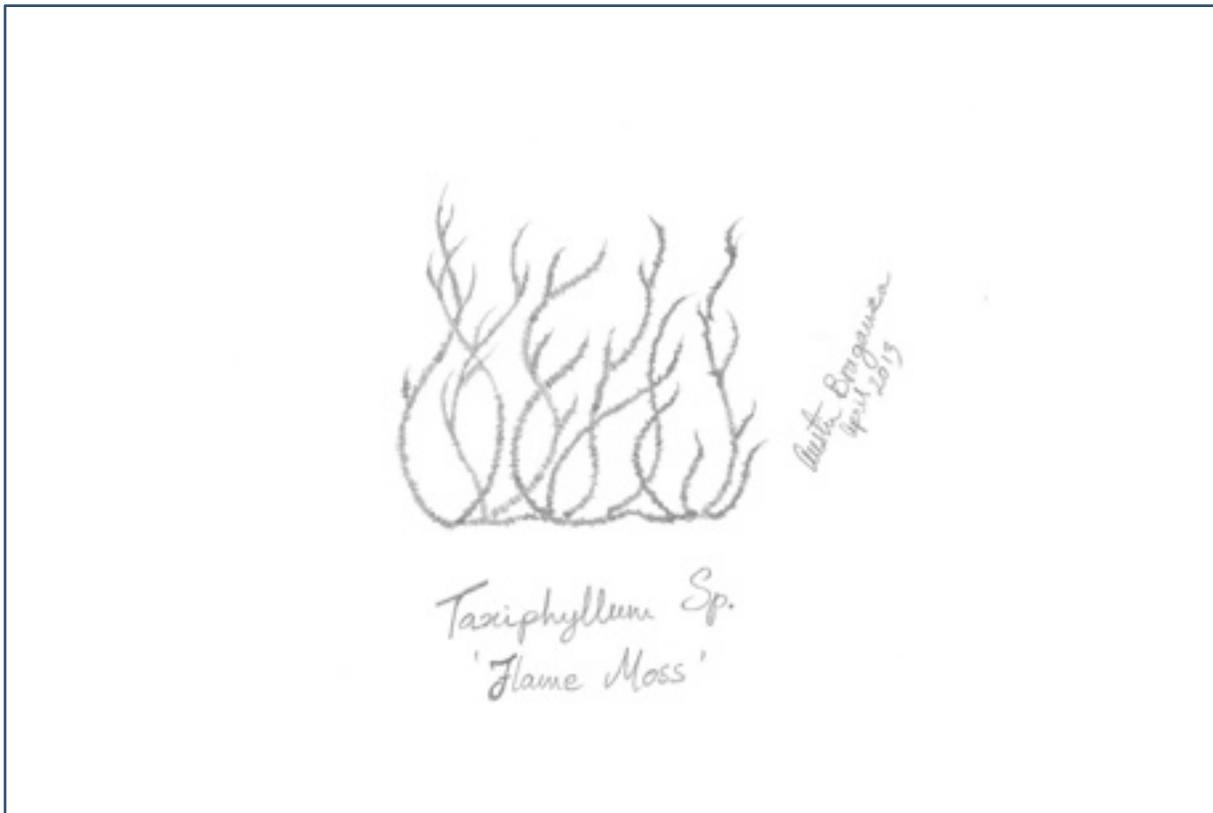
Taxiphyllum Species “Flame”

Flame Moss

by Austin Braganza

I have wanted this very cool looking and sounding moss for a while and even purchased some that turned out not to be very flaming moss. A few years later my wish to own some of this stuff was granted. Last Fall at the Aquatic Gardeners Association (AGA) annual convention in St. Louis I won the bid on some flame moss. While the bidding was still furious I was able to win some of my very own “Flame moss” , this had to be the right stuff because I was at the AGA and this place was full of plant aficionados.

This Moss has its origins in Asia. It is slow growing and according to tropica.com, it’s light demands are only 0.25 watt per liter and 3–5 mg CO₂ per liter.



This moss is not meant to cover walls, it is showcased best as a ground cover or attached to a rock, wood or somewhat horizontal structure with the shoots rising vertically in that undulating flame like pattern. The shoots rise to almost 4 inches. Growth is of course dependent on a variety of factors including but not limited to the genetics of the plants in your tank and environment. In a cherry shrimp tank this moss will create a dramatic scene as the bright red shrimp walk between the rising flaming green fronds. This is a very unique easy to grow moss that I would highly recommend to a beginner. CO2 and regular feeding will definitely help give you thicker clumps as each tiny moss leaf will grow thicker and a more lush green. People can get very creative when aquascaping with this moss. You can see lots of pictures online and come up with some of your own ideas as well. One that sticks out in my mind is a skull with flame moss shooting up out of the eye sockets, not the most natural looking aqua scape but memorable never the less. I have seen people tie this moss to sticks to create a Seussian forest aquascape.

OCEAN FRONT PROPERTY.



(\$60 AND UP.)

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And, if you'd like a larger ocean view, we have tanks up to 200 gallons. We also have enough beautiful salt water fish and shell fish to stock any ocean. In Milwaukee, that is. 

Hoffer's
TROPIC LIFE

MAS Exchanges

“Austin to get a new aquarium”, is the headline I read. How is that worthy of a headline you ask? Is that not a monthly occurrence? Well actually this is not about me, this is the title of an article by Natalie Stoll published in the January 2013 edition of the Lateral Line a publication of the Hill Country Cichlid Club (HCCC), TX. It appears that the city of Austin will be getting an aquarium that will be known as the Austin Aquarium. Vince Covino, one of the brothers that own the aquarium said, “In my brother’s front yard, he built a stingray and a shark pond that the neighbor kids came over and played in all the time, that gave us the idea that people love interacting with these creatures”. Wow that sounds really exciting and hopefully no kids were harmed in the interaction.

The brothers Ammon and Vince also run aquariums in Boise, Idaho and Portland, Oregon. It may be awhile before you can visit the Austin aquarium, they have yet to finalize the spot for the aquarium. I don’t have to tell you how difficult this can be, sometimes you get a new aquarium and after no small effort sneak it into the house through the back door or while the wife is away, and maybe convince a friend to help you get it down into the basement, bribe the kids with candy and cash to keep it quiet, but alas as you stand there huffing and puffing, maybe nursing a skinned knuckle you realize you don’t have spot for it. Sometimes these things just take time, but it is good to know that soon there will be one more gigantic aquarium in the world where 2,500 different species including stingrays and sharks will frolic. Until then the aquarium will be waiting, existing only in plans, just like those extra aquariums in your garage waiting for their spot to be ready.

Also from the January 2013 edition of the Lateral Line a publication of the Hill Country Cichlid Club (HCCC), TX. “Just Another Day in the Fishroom – Harpagochromis sp. “orange rock hunter” by Troy Veltrop. With a name like that you know this fish only eats his vegetables if his parents force him to. Troy the article describing being woken by his cat, “I am so glad that fish cannot behave similarly when they think it is time for a meal!” he writes. I agree whole heartedly, I sometimes wonder why I bother setting the alarm clock, the cat is just as punctual as the alarm clock, and she is a lot more effective at getting me out of bed in the morning. Troy describes how this fearsome ‘orange rock hunter’ dominant male was holding fry and held them for a couple of weeks while maintaining his dominance around the tank. Unfortunately the eggs did

not hatch. Troy did capture plenty of photographic evidence of this strange behavior by the male. The adults of this species are around 5 inches long and are usually asexually mature at this size. The next time Troy noticed a female holding what later turned out to be 92 fry while hiding in the cave structures he had built with plenty of rock in his immense 125 gallon tank. He fed the fry Repashy Meat Pie and Shrimp Soufflé along with some crushed Dainichi pellets. Troy has found that this species from Gabalema island in Lake Victoria does best when kept in a one species tank. His attempts to find suitable tank mates have not been successful and the Harpagochromis end up being harassed or don't spawn at all. This species was recently added to the CARES Preservation Priority list in March 2009.

www.CARESpreservation.com

with a classification of CEW (extinct in the wild). CARES, read all about the program, MAS (Milwaukee Aquarium Society) has a CARES program too, I encourage you to research and participate, you could help preserve a species.

Also in this magazine is a couple of frames from Family guy Peter with fish, check the video out on utube, 'Family guy Peter taking care of fish'.

Tips on Bagging Fish by Jack Kraft, SAS editor, etc. from the 2013 April 'The Tropical News' a publication of the Sacramento Aquarium Society. This is an essential skill to any one hoping to sell or transport fish, little aquarium sized ones anyway. There are a lot of articles online on the topic but one can never know enough about this so I will just point out some of the highlights. "Another trick to eliminate the corners is to turn the bag over and run tape across the seam and up sides, folding the corners up and taped to the sides". This is great to keep those little fishies from hiding in the corners and getting squished when the bag is set down or some similar circumstance. You can also buy bags that have square bases, however these cost a bit more. Add "bag buddies" they add oxygen, promote slime coat, reduces ammonia build up, remove chlorine and some heavy metals, adds electrolytes and reduces stress. The most harmful substance in the bag is usually the fish's own waste, when expelled into the water the ammonia builds up and the waste rots to create a very unpleasant environment for the fish. In order to reduce this you can stop feeding the fish a couple of days before transport, they should be fine. Jack writes "fishes that are being transported over-seas, they are quite often not fed up to two weeks".

I would like to add my favorite tip about bagging, don't blow into the bag, the carbon dioxide humans breathe out not only depletes the oxygen left in the bag it also adds carbon dioxide, like humans fish do a lot better with oxygen. I saw a guy once take a puff off his cigarette exhale and then blew up a bag. Now to be fair he did not blow smoke into the bag, but I'm sure the second breath after a cigarette was not very good for fish either. As Jack writes "bagging your fish isn't rocket science" but just be aware of the science that is involved that's chemistry, physics and biology.

In other news the International Fancy Guppy Association Proudly hosts an IFGA-sanctioned guppy show & guppy judging seminar;

Judging Seminar (free admission) Saturday, July 20th @ 12:00 PM ,

Auction (free admission) Sunday, July 21st @ 10:00 AM

Heron Point Office Building , 645 W. North Ave. , Lombard, IL 60148

Guppy Associates International Chicago Charter, a member of the International Fancy Guppy Association, is opening its membership ranks to a select few adult hobbyists who wish to become members of a club devoted to the breeding and exhibition of show guppies. Learn about...IFGA color strains, foods and feeding, breeding techniques, guppy genetics, judging show guppies...from the experts. Participate in...Q & A sessions, bowl shows, IFGA-sanctioned guppy shows, judging seminars and fish auctions. Socialize with others interested in breeding Best of Show guppies.

Meetings are scheduled every second month. Membership dues are \$20.00 per year. For more information, call (630) 627-8051 or e-mail tgallen40@yahoo.com. Make sure to indicate "Guppy Club" on the subject line.

That's all for the exchanges this month folks, just remember,

Take care of your fish and they will take care of you.

May the 4th be with you,

Austin Braganza

Exchange Editor

Milwaukee Aquarium Society

Milwaukee Aquarium Society

Board Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2013

Jerry Michels reported that there are 21 paid members as of this date. Many members still needed to renew their memberships. The treasury balance was \$10,951.35 of which \$108.96 was in the Library, and \$85 was in the CARES program. The January mini auction had 52 bags for \$253.

Tim Pilat reported that the December Splash had been delivered.

Rob McClure brought up that we have not been getting good responses to our inquiries about the CARES program from Troy. Questions about the rules and arranging trades with other clubs were not being answered.

The issue of ordering in Tshirts with pockets and hats was discussed. The cost for these shirts and hats was very high, and with only a limited number of people wanting them, it was determined not to proceed at this time.

Other new business was the addition of a second spring swap to be held the first Sunday in April. This was based on the strong success of the first swap and requests from vendors. Motion passed unanimously.

We all decided that Tim's planted and marine tanks look great.

Milwaukee Aquarium Society

Board Meeting Minutes

March 9th, 2013

The Board meeting was held at Don Hinske's house. It was called to order at 2:15 pm. In attendance were Austin Braganza, Jerry Michels, Tim Pilat, Don Hinske, Jim Everson, Aaron Glass, and Rob McClure.

Membership Report: We currently have 30 paid members. Jerry will distribute a new membership list at the next Board Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: \$13,343.48, of which the library has \$114.66, and CARES has \$122.00. The February mini-auction sold 33 bags for \$188, bring the YTD to 85 bags for \$441.

Secretary's report: No report

Splash: Tim should email the minutes template to Andy, Austin, and Rob..

Exchanges: No report

Webmaster Report: No Report

Library: No Report

Store liaison: No report

Manufacturer liaison: No report

Auction: Will be held on March 17. See new Auction bag label on the website!

HAP: Aaron will update HAP totals document in two weeks. He will also send an article in for the Splash.

PAP: Points document revised to include new positions. This has been reviewed with Ken and Rob will add it to the website.

BAP: No report

CAP: We have firmed up the June Speaker. We are still awaiting Rules from national group. Jeff Kleba and Kathy Williams are attempting to get species registered.

Old Business: Speaker list for 2013 confirmed.

New Business: Future board meetings – 4/6 Andy, 5/4 Rock, 6/1 Rob, 8/3 Tim, 9/7 Jerry, 10/5 Andy, 11/2 Austin – all at 1:00.

Speaker mileage reimbursement is to be set at the current irs.gov rate based on unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Milwaukee Aquarium Society

Board Meeting Minutes

April 6th, 2013

The April Board meeting was held at Andy Hudson's house. It was called to order at 1:00 pm. In attendance were Austin Braganza, Jerry Michels, Tim Pilat, Don Hinske, Jim Everson, Rock Smith, Andy Hudson, and Rob McClure.

Membership Report: We currently have 42 paid members.

Treasurer's Report: We currently have \$14,307.45, of which the library has \$121.96, and CARES has \$122. The March mini auction sold 7 bags for \$16 bringing the YTD to 67 bags for \$452. **Splash:** April issue needs articles.

Exchanges: No report

Webmaster Report:.

Library: No Report

Store liaison: No report

Manufacturer liaison: No report

Auction: The Spring auction brought in \$1250.17. 623 bags sold for \$4,647 and our costs were \$3,396.83. The net income is about \$400 greater than last Fall's auction.

Dates have been set for the Fall Auction.

HAP: The records still need updating.

PAP: We still need to setup "MAS docs" on the website.

BAP: No report

CAP: DC club is interested in a box swap – Rob is contacting our CARES contact for input.

Old Business: see above

New Business: Motion to add \$50 honorarium to speaker reimbursement for travel expenses. Jim raised the question of whether this honorarium is included in the maximum \$2000 budget for speakers annually. Board decided that it was and voted to increase the annual speaker budget to \$2500 to accommodate. Motion passed.

It was decided to have a picnic/summer get together Saturday July 27th at the Zoo. Attendees should plan on meeting at 10 am. Rock Smith to inquire about possibility of getting group rate tickets.

The next Board meeting will be at Rock Smith's house on May the 4th at 1 pm. Appropriate Star Wars attire for Star Wars day celebration required.

Austin made a motion to adjourn meeting, 2nd by Jim. Meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.

Milwaukee Aquarium Society

General Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2013

Membership (Jerry Michels): We currently have 30 paid members. Please renew your membership.

Treasury (Jerry Michels): We currently have \$13,308.48, of which the library has \$114.66, and CARES has \$122. The February mini auctions sold 33 bags for \$188 bringing our YTD to 85 bags for \$441.

Splash (Tim Pilat): Please send any articles or classified ads to tim.pilat@gmail.com.

Exchanges (Austin Braganza): no report

Webmaster (Rob McLure): no report

Library (Jim Everson): no report

PAP (Ken King): no report

BAP (Andy Hudson): no report

HAP (Aaron Glass): no report

Store liaison (Don Hinske): no report

Manufacturer's liaison (Bonnie King): no report

Auction: Please attend the next auction to be held this Sunday, March 17 beginning at 12:00 at New Berlin Bowl.

Fish-o-Rama: We will have a Spring Swap on April 7 beginning at 10:00 at New Berlin Bowl.

Old Business: no report

New Business: Five new Rainbow Darter species have been named after U.S. Presidents.

The next board meeting will be at Andy Hudson's house on April 6th at 1 pm.

Speaker:

Mike Laursen presented Poison Dart Tree Frogs. He reviewed the various types with their magnificent coloration. The *Phyllobates terribilis* species is the most toxic in the wild – even lethal to adult humans. When captive bred, however these become nontoxic. They are no longer able to accumulate the toxins from poisonous vegetation. He described methods to build excellent habitats.

Thank you Mike for a very interesting presentation.



Milwaukee Aquarium Society

General Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2013

Membership (Jerry Michels): We currently have 43 paid members. Please renew your membership. \$15 single, \$20 family

Treasury (Jerry Michels): We currently have \$15,021.91, of which the library has \$121.16, and CARES has \$122. The March mini auction sold 7 bags for \$16 bringing our YTD to 92 bags for \$457.

Splash (Tim Pilat): Please send any articles or classified ads to tim.pilat@gmail.com.

Exchanges (Austin Braganza): no report

Webmaster (Rob McLure): no report

Library (Jim Everson): no report

PAP (Ken King): no report

BAP (Andy Hudson): no report

HAP (Aaron Glass): no report

Store liaison (Don Hinske): no report

Manufacturer's liaison (Bonnie King): no report

Auction: The Fall Auction will be held Sunday, October 13 beginning at 12:00 at New Berlin Bowl.

Fish-o-Rama: Two Swaps are scheduled for Sunday November 3rd and Sunday January 12th, beginning at 10:00 at New Berlin Bowl.

Old Business: no report

New Business: no report

Speaker:

Dr. Stephan Tanner presented nutritional needs of fish and loricariidae in particular. He has determined that often premature deaths in various species are a direct result of improper nutrition. Our fishes can be grouped into carnivore, omnivore (grazer), and herbivore classifications. Feeding the wrong food will not allow proper digestion which can eventually lead to death. We should consider housing tank-mates with similar nutritional requirements to ensure healthy fish. Thank you Dr. Tanner for a very interesting presentation.

The following Stores Support M.A.S.

Aquatics Unlimited 3550 S. 108th St Greenfield, WI 53228 (414) 543-2552

Best Fish 1335 N. 3rd St. Milwaukee, WI 53212 (414) 224-0486

Feed Bag 10900 N. Port Washington Rd Mequon, WI 53092 (262) 241-7061

Gary's Pet Jungle 2857 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207 (414) 744-3338

Hoffer's Tropic Life 7323 N. 76th St. Milwaukee, WI 53223 (414) 353-6553

Marineland Pets 3519 W Villard Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53209 (414) 527-2511

Pet Supply Port 620 E. Green Bay Ave. Saukville, WI 53080 (262) 268-9966

REMEMBER to show your M.A.S. membership card to possibly receive discounts on your purchases.



Splash Classifieds

USED AQUARIUMS FOR SALE:

- (4) 20 gal. long \$15 ea.
- (1) 20 gal. high \$15 ea.
- (1) 25 gal. high \$20 ea.
- (1) 40 gal. breeder \$40 ea. NEW
- (2) 33 gal. long \$35 ea. ACRYLIC
- (1) wrought iron stand for 20 gal. long \$15 ea.
- (1) wood stand for 55 gal. \$25 ea.
- (1) wood stand for (2) 15 gal. long \$20 ea.

contact Ralph Bahrke (414) 282-6897, (262) 844-1410

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The "Milwaukee Aquarium Society"
and their aquatic hobbyists.

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(Place your Ad Here for items you wish to sell or are looking for)
Contact Jerry Michels or Austin Braganza for ad information.

THE SPLASH

The Splash is the official publication of the Milwaukee Aquarium Society, and is published six times per year under the direction of the Board of Directors.

Articles are always welcome. Please submit them to the editor (Tim Pilat) no later than the first day of even numbered months to be included in the next issue. Articles should be submitted in digital format to tim.pilat@gmail.com.

We will gladly exchange our publication with all interested societies. Please mail exchanges to **Exchange Editor, P.O. Box 250824, Milwaukee, WI 53225**. Reprints of articles published in the Splash are always permitted and encouraged, provided that credit is given in reprinting to The Splash, author and Society. It is also requested that a copy of the issue containing the article reprinted be sent to the address above to be shared with the author. This would be in addition to any exchange copies.

Please inform the editor of any address changes in forwarding of this publication to members or other societies.

THE MILWAUKEE AQUARIUM SOCIETY

The Milwaukee Aquarium Society is an organization devoted to the hobby of tropical fish, both freshwater and saltwater. Its membership consists of hobbyists gaining expertise in all phases of raising and breeding tropical fish, as well as area retailers. Our membership expertise covers a wide range, from beginners to expert breeders, but all members are interested in promoting the hobby and encouraging others to join in the fun.

General meetings are held monthly, the third Friday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at **Hoffers's Tropic Life Pets, 7323 N. 76th Street, Milwaukee**. We thank them for their hospitality. Free parking is available, and guests are always welcome. No general meetings are held in July or December.

Annual membership dues are \$20.00 for a Family and \$15.00 for an individual. Membership dues provide for the Splash, monthly speakers, community support, annual events, and show support. A yearly subscription to the Splash is available for \$15.00. New or renewal of membership dues should be sent to the treasurer: **Jerry Michels 6333 W. Boehlke, Milwaukee, WI 53223**

The Splash

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