



# SPLASH

JUNE 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:**

Board Chairman	Tim Pilat	(262)853-4895
Board Member:	Rock Smith	(414)678-9757

## **Committee Chairpersons:**

Splash Editor <a href="mailto:tim.pilat@gmail.com">tim.pilat@gmail.com</a>	Tim Pilat	(262)853-4895
Breeders Award Program (BAP)	Andy Hudson	(262)389-2456
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:**

White Cloud Mountain minnow (*Tanichthys albonubes*), a CARES species, is nearly extinct due to pollution and tourism. photo compliments of Ted's Fishroom

# Important Dates!

M.A.S. Behind the Scenes at the Zoo	July 27
M.A.S. August Board Meeting 1:00 at Tim's home, (262) 853-4895 Everyone is Welcome	August 3
M.A.S. August Meeting 7:30 at Hoffer's	August 16
M.A.S. September Meeting	September 20
M.A.S. Fish and Plants Auction 12:00 at New Berlin Bowl (check in at 9:00) 16000 W. Cleveland Ave. New Berlin, WI 53151	October 13
M.A.S. October Meeting	October 18
M.A.S. Fish-O-Rama Swap 10:00 at New Berlin Bowl (check in at 9:00) 16000 W. Cleveland Ave. New Berlin, WI 53151	November 3
M.A.S. November Meeting	November 15
M.A.S. Christmas Party	December 15

For more information visit [milwaukeeaquariumsociety.com](http://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](mailto:tim.pilat@gmail.com).

American Cichlid Association Convention  
July 18th - 21st, 2013, Aurora, Colorado

MAAH general meetings: visit [madisonaquatichobby.com](http://madisonaquatichobby.com)  
Wisconsin Reef Society general meetings: visit [wisconsinreefsociety.com](http://wisconsinreefsociety.com)

# From the Fish Room of the President

Memorial Day in Door County, it is a Saturday and what a gorgeous Wisconsin day it is. This perfect weather of this along with the scenery has reaffirmed my appreciation for the beauty that is to be found in this state. 65 degrees Fahrenheit but it felt like a perfect 72 in the sun, clear skies of azure blue accented with white clouds.

The next morning I go for a short run before everyone is up, this is part of my effort to jump start my diet and exercise lifestyle change, a creation or reaffirmation of healthy habits and letting go of bad ones. On my run I see condos to the left of me condos to the right until around a corner and between the forest of white buildings I spot a pine tree fringed pond like a large bowl of dark water with a surface that mirrored the trees surrounding it.

Later in the stay we visit Nicolet beach in the national park nearby, winding trails, a historical lighthouse complete with historian and guide, a beach made up of clusters of white rocks and a convertible to appreciate it all. I see drift wood littering the beach, I love turning over drift wood to peer beneath and see what inhabits these cast offs from the trees. The inhabitants scurry away quickly making their escape or once in a while they would stand their ground to defend this piece of drift wood I'm sure they called home. I see some wild columbine what color will the blooms be I wonder. Between the rocks I spot bright green velveteen clumps of semi aquatic mosses, these are often indicator species.

I can see a few rock piles in each direction as I look up and down the lake shore. I'm not sure what these rock piles mean, but I like them, they mean different things to different people at different place and times. I wonder who made them, when did they make them. Rock piles are just fun to make, all ages seem to enjoy this almost primitive activity from grandparents to little children. Skipping stones on Lake Michigan by Horseshoe island, skipping rocks polished by the weather flattened and re-polished deposited here by the glaciers that passed through here a very long time ago. Do you have rock piles in your yard?

We skip rocks across the lake for awhile, until finally we take a rest on the alabaster rocky steps and just enjoy the moment in this beautiful scenery.

I hear Milwaukee iron rumbling by, twin pistons chugging, powering Milwaukee iron, leather and chrome thundering by the entire drive up the peninsula, people living to ride, enjoying the ride, feeling alive, one with wind and the motorcycle. On the roads living to ride and hopefully living to ride, riding in this weather is fine living, living high on the hog if you will. ....pun alert...there's a pun in there isn't there, well you go ahead and find it, mold it, make it your own and share it ...I'm moving on.

Well enough of my watching scenery of Door county on to fishy stuff, I keep hearing of people debating the best method to get rid of green water in their ponds or easy methods to culture live foods, well with Daphnia (water fleas) colonies you can do both. Once you put a culture in your pond the Daphnia will come back every year. I've been sharing some Daphnia cultures with friends, spreading the love that Daphnia brings if you will. Research these wonderful creatures online and fear not the scary blown up images of Daphnia they are tiny hard working creatures, them sure are.

Have a great summer,

Austin Braganza  
President, Milwaukee Aquarium Society  
aka LIONFISH on the MAS forum

## **Speakers for 2013 M.A.S. Meetings**

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

# Milwaukee Aquarium Society CARES!

by Rob McLure

In the last half century science has made the world aware that much like the black rhinos, blue whales, snow leopards, pandas and tigers many fish species are also in danger of becoming extinct. Faced with the annihilation of as many as 400 cichlid species in Lake Victoria alone scientists have tried to work together with public zoos and aquariums around the world to preserve as many endangered fish species as possible, but as with anything there are limits to the numbers they can hold. In 2004 the CARES (Conservation, Awareness, Recognition, Encouragement, and Support) Preservation Program was founded by Claudia Dickinson with the help of Ichthyologist and Conservation champion Dr. Paul V. Loiselle.

The purpose of the CARES program is to allow aquarists of all levels to participate and play a role in the conservation of at risk, endangered, or even extinct in the wild species of fish. Whether the aquarist has one 10 gallon tank and wants to help, or an entire fish room and wishes to dedicate some tank space to a species in trouble the CARES program welcomes them. While it is possible to participate in the CARES program on an individual level organization becomes much easier when a local club like Milwaukee Aquarium Society can be a “go between.” In addition club members can provide each other with face to face encouragement, advice and even help with obtaining hard to find fish. With this in mind Milwaukee Aquarium Society became an official CARES member club in January of 2013.

Each person that participates in the MAS-CARES program will receive a certificate acknowledging that they have a tank with a group of fish that is on the CARES priority list. This list, which is updated regularly can be found on the CARES website – <http://www.carespreservation.com>.

The only thing they will be required to do at this point is give verbal (or written if preferred) updates to the MAS CARES chairperson on whether they are still keeping that fish every 3 months. If the aquarist wishes to take the program to the next levels they are encouraged and will receive recognition for keeping a CARES approved journal on their fish, breeding their fish and giving the offspring to another club member to keep as a CARES fish, or ultimately

breeding their fish and giving offspring to a member of a different club or aquarium society to be kept as a CARES fish. In addition aquarists are recognized for the longevity, or length of time they keep their CARES species. As the program picks up steam MAS will hopefully have enough participation to warrant annual awards on our own to recognize our members' achievements, much like the BAP and HAP programs that already exist.

As someone that has kept fish almost my entire life I find it particularly rewarding to provide a fish that may not stand much of a chance in nature a safer home. Given the rates of pollution, dam building, introduction of predatory invasive species, and climate change more and more species of fish will unfortunately populate the IUCN red list of endangered animal species and as a result the CARES priority list. We can all play a part, however small, in ensuring that while wild populations are gone some of these animals are still here to observe and enjoy. I think the possibilities for these species to live on even after their wild counterparts have left the earth is not just a responsibility but can be a joy to the average everyday home aquarist, and I encourage anyone to participate! If you have questions about the MAS-CARES program or would like to start keeping a CARES priority list fish please don't hesitate to contact the Milwaukee Aquarium Society CARES chairperson - Rob McLure at [rcmclure@gmail.com](mailto:rcmclure@gmail.com).

# OCEAN FRONT PROPERTY.



(\$60 AND UP.)

On either coast, owning ocean-front property is painfully expensive. Here, in Milwaukee, you can have your own 10-gallon piece of the briny blue for as little as \$60.

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**



# Spawning Report *Peckoltia* sp. “latuba Tiger”

by Andy Hudson

There are several species of Loricarids commonly known as “Tiger Plecos”. These include the “Iquitos Tiger Pleco” (*Panaque changae*, L226), the “King Tiger Pleco” (*Hypancistrus* sp. L66), the “Prince Tiger Pleco” (*Peckoltia* sp. LDA018/L377), and the Tiger Pleco (L38). All of these species get their name from their tiger like striped pattern. At the 2012 ACA convention in Indianapolis I picked up a group of 4 tank raised fish labeled as latuba tiger. These fish had wide stripes similar to *Peckoltia* sp. L15, which I had spawned before, but had a more orange color and the stripes were not as crisp or clearly defined. When I returned home I did some internet searching on the species but only could find one reference in a 2010 Aquabid auction post by the online retailer known as “Snookn21”. In the post he states that they were a new import and an L number or description had not been assigned to them yet. I started a thread on planetcatfish requesting help in identifying this species and received several responses that it was probably L38. I went along with that ID until the spring of 2013.

In the spring of 2013 the fish spawned for me for the first time. However, after they spawned I noticed that the fry did not match the pictures of fry for L38. L38 fry have stripes almost from the day they hatch. My fry did not develop stripes until they were about 30 days old. Up until then they had a reticulated pattern. So although these fish look very similar to L38 as adults they are probably not the same species based on the coloration of the fry. I did some more research and discovered that there is a city called Ubatuba that is located on the southeast coast of Brazil located between Sao Paulo and Rio De Janeiro. It is possible that this fish comes from somewhere close to here and the name was corrupted in translation. Extensive internet searches could not find anything on “latuba”.

I spawned these fish in a 29 Biocube planted tank. Half the tank is filled with *Crypt. walkeri* and there are two spawning caves in there for the plecos. Water is straight RO water without any buffering or additives. Rocks I keep in my

tanks will dissolve and buffer up the GH and KH a little. Water temperature was kept at about 80 degrees. Between the two caves there is a pile of rocks that the females like to hide in. As it turns out I picked up one male and 3 females. Only the male occupies a cave and he preferred the cave that was heavily concealed in the crypt forest. In the spring of 2013 I inspected his cave with a flashlight and saw wigglers inside the cave for the first time. I allowed him to guard the fry for another week and then dumped them out into a nursery tank I had setup. There were about 20 fry in the first brood. After returning the male and his empty cave back to the tank I set about caring for the fry in their hospital tank. Checking on the male the next day I noticed that he had eggs again! Seems all the females were gravid and they were just waiting their turn with the male. I allowed him to guard the eggs for two weeks and then dumped the wigglers in with the original batch of fry. Now I had more than 40 fry growing up. A third female spawned with the male immediately after putting the empty cave back. However this time the male, who had to be starving after not eating for so long, ate the eggs.

The fry have continued to grow well and I do not see any signs of snub nose and there has been no mortality. I feed them a slice of cucumber every other day and some Repashy food twice a week along with some Aqueon cichlid pellets and flakes. They share their grow out tank with some green shrimp and some juvenile corydoras that I am also growing out.

# MAS Exchanges

As I write this article I am trying to get koi eggs to hatch. I collected some eggs from a person whose koi have been filling his pond with eggs every June. I can't wait for these eggs to hatch, yes I know they are carp but not just any carp, these are descendants of line bred carp spawned from parents of brilliant hues and vibrant shades of vermilion and ever evolving sumi. Pedigrees that go back centuries transcending space and time under the stewardship of generations of breeders. On to the exchanges.

## **Breeding *Neolamprologus Multifaciatus* by Sarah Rosengrant April 2013 edition of the Fish Tales from the Tri-County Tropical Fish Society (TCTFS)**

Sarah describes her experience housing and breeding this diminutive shell dwelling cichlid species. She uses a 10 gallon tank with enough marine shells so that every resident had at least one shell to call home. The fry are tiny and fed on crushed flake, micro worms and baby brine shrimp. Though not very colorful Sarah is fascinated by the behavior of these fish. The author stresses the importance of plenty of shells to minimize fry fatality, she also says that a species only tank and a sand substrate contributed to her success at breeding this species. Sarah highly recommends keeping this species, "at least once in your life".

## **Vernal Pools by Don Van Pelt - The Granite Fisher from the New Hampshire Aquarium Society May 2013**

The Definition, according to Wikipedia is, "Vernal pools, also called vernal ponds or ephemeral pools, are temporary pools of water that provide habitat for distinctive plants and animals." Don writes about this unique wetland that does not contain fish species and hence allows insect and amphibian species to exist in this mini-ecosystem without the threat of competition or attack from fish.

## **From the Editor's Desk, Fin Flap June 2013 publication from the Eastern Iowa Aquarium (EIAA) Society by Carol Sindelar. [www.finflap.com](http://www.finflap.com)**

The local 4H group recently took a field trip out to Kloubec's koi farm near Amana. Carol writes about walking amongst koi and shubunkin brood stock and then peering into hatching vats with eggs and concrete pools of two day old hatchlings. You can check out the Kloubec website or make an appointment to stop by on a Saturday morning this summer if you are in the area. For those of you interested there are koi farms in the Midwest that are open to public in the summer, if you just love koi or you wanted to pick out that one special koi for your pond or just wanted to get a tour of a koi farm. Do your research, some places may need you to make an appointment before you visit.

**The EIAA June meeting topic of discussion was about tropical fish that you can put in an outdoor pond in the summer, the title “Beyond Goldfish” was suggested.** I know some of you put various livebearers in your ponds, some put African cichlids out and yet others have central or South American species. This could be a fun topic to explore. With all the live foods outdoors and with the occasional storm you may even see some breeding. I know many fish species do very well outdoors in a summer pond with natural sunlight and live foods. Do your research, get some feedback on the species you plan to put outside from your buddies in or outside MAS and try something new, maybe discuss it on the forum. If you have some information to share, good or bad write an article we would love to hear all about it, take pictures.

**Also from EIAA June 2013 The Exchange Editor’s report by Marti Van Allen mentions an article titled The Axolotl Is Not a Fish *Ambystoma tigrinum* by David Rentz,** this article was published in Tank Talk from Canberra and District Aquarium Society, Australia.

A tiny image of a tiger salamander caught my eye while turning the pages of this publication. This article described how some salamander larvae have bushy gills. These gills shrink as they develop lungs and eventually leave the water to continue their adult lives on land. The axolotl comes about when the larvae never change into adults a condition termed “neoteny” instead they remain in water with gills and tadpole like tail. This occurs in highland lakes of Mexico and the Rocky mountains. Axolotl is an Aztec term.

Read the entire article on [Aqarticles.com](http://Aqarticles.com).

Austin Braganza  
Exchange Editor  
Milwaukee Aquarium Society

# Milwaukee Aquarium Society

## Board Meeting Minutes

May 4th, 2013

The Board meeting was held at Rock Smith's house. In attendance were Austin Braganza, Jerry Michels, Tim Pilat, Rock Smith, Connie Smith, Don Hinske, Jim Everson, Jeff Michels, Aaron Glass, and Rob McClure. The meeting began at 1:15 P.M..

**Membership Report:** We currently have 45 paid members.

**Treasurer's Report:** \$14,816.90, of which the library has \$128.16, and CARES has \$140.00. The April mini-auction sold 14 bags for \$180, bringing the YTD to 106 bags for \$367.

**Secretary's report:** Seventeen Clubs participated in the BAP programs.

**Splash:** No report

**Exchanges:** No report

**Webmaster Report:** Meeting info will now be updated regularly. The forum activity runs hot and cold – talk it up.

**Library:** Looking for the return of the "Pleco" book.

**Store liaison:** No report

**Manufacturer liaison:** No report

**Auction:** No report

**HAP:** Over 100 entries have been completed and 25 more are needed to "catch-up" with the record keeping. Thank you Aaron.

**PAP:** No report

**BAP:** record keeping is up to date and BAP plaques will be ordered for distribution at the June meeting.

**CARES:** We are still have difficulty getting response from the central committee. Rob will deliver the June CARES presentation, if necessary. Rob will send in the MAS Quarterly report.

**Old Business:** The zoo event is shaping up with a Behind – the – Scenes tour. We decided to charge in advance \$10 per person (club members only) and then use the proceeds to defray the cost of a Platypus Sponsorship. Rock will present this at general meetings and author an article for the Splash.

**New Business:** We are investigating hosting a Fish Show. The intent is to: socialize, encourage membership, sustain interest in our club, have fun, and obtain national exposure. The event may include: rare fish auction, vendor swap, competition, and education/speakers. The tentative plan is to hold this in the Fall of 2014. Andy will write up a rough plan and present it for vote at a future board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:32 P.M.

## Splash Classifieds

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

# Milwaukee Aquarium Society

## Board Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2013

The June Board meeting was held at Rob McLure's house. It was called to order at 1:49 pm. In attendance were Jerry Michels, Tim Pilat, Jim Everson, Rock Smith, Andy Hudson, and Rob McClure.

**Membership Report:** We currently have 46 paid members.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jerry Michels reported that we had a balance of \$14,497.27 in the account with 46 paid members. Of which the Library had \$142.16. Last month's auction bag totals was 25 bags for \$131.00 Year To Date there have been 205 bags for \$742. The CARES balance was \$144.00.

**Secretary's reports:** No Report

**Splash Editor report:** No Report

**VP report:** No Report

**President's Report:** Absent

### **Old Business:**

The zoo trip on July 27th was discussed and finalized. Sign up at June meeting. Rock will post on forum.

### **New Business:**

Discussion about MAS mini convention in 2014. Andy and the Smiths are working as a committee to develop a plan. Will present plan at August board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be at Tim Pilat's house on August 3rd at 1 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

# Milwaukee Aquarium Society

## General Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2013

minutes not available

### The following Stores Support M.A.S.

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

Best Fish                      1335 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. 76<sup>th</sup> 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.**





# Milwaukee Aquarium Society

## General Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2013

**Membership (Jerry Michels):** We currently have 47 paid members.

**Treasury (Jerry Michels):** We currently have \$14,442.27, of which the library has \$148.16, and CARES has \$144. The May mini auction sold 25 bags for \$105 bringing our YTD to 131 bags for \$742.

**Splash (Tim Pilat):** Would you like to share your successes (or failures) of your fishroom with the other members? Please send any articles or classified ads to [tim.pilat@gmail.com](mailto:tim.pilat@gmail.com).

**Exchanges (Austin Braganza):** no report

**Webmaster (Rob McLure):** no report

**Library (Jim Everson):** no report

**PAP (Ken King):** The annual MAS Christmas Party will be held at New Berlin Bowl on December 15. Please save the date!

**BAP (Andy Hudson):** Please congratulate the following members for their BAP award achievement.

2009 David Timmer

2010 David Timmer

2010 Kevin Steers

2011 Shirley Ratzmann

2012 Rob McLure

**HAP (Aaron Glass):** no report

**Store liaison (Don Hinske):** no report

**Manufacturer's liaison (Bonnie King):** no report

**Auction:** no report

**Fish-o-Rama:** no report

**Old Business:** The plans have firmed up for the MAS Zoo Event. we have arranged for up to 30 MAS member adults to enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of the Milwaukee Zoo. The tour will include the Aquatic Center and the Stingray Exhibit. For entrance, state your name at the gatehouse and meet in the welcome center.

**New Business:** There will be a meeting this weekend to discuss the 2014 Fall convention.

**Speaker:**

Rob McLure presented the national C.A.R.E.S. Program. This program helps protect endangered species through Conservation, Awareness, Recognition, Encouragement, and Support. MAS has become a Member Club in the worthy endeavor. Our role is to maintain CARES fish, document their needs, breed them, and share the fry. Attractive certificates and seals will be awarded to individual participating members. Public zoos and aquariums are very confined toward this goal – and this program is not! Thank you Rob for a very interesting presentation.



# 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](mailto: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***

The Official Publication of the  
Milwaukee Aquarium Society, Inc.

Milwaukee Aquarium Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 250824  
Milwaukee, WI 53225

**Address Service Requested**

