

# Raleigh Aquarium Society

## News

April, 2005

(Spring is finally here!)

*Next Meeting:  
Thursday, April  
7th @ 7:30pm*



Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the N.C. State Veterinary Medical College located at [4700 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh](#). Visitors are welcome! Snacks and light refreshments are provided. A raffle of fish and fish related items follow the meeting. Due to Security Issues, NCSU has required that the doors going into the downstairs lobby remain locked. Please be on time, as we will have a designated person standing by the door to let you in. If you are late, you may try knocking or call Brandon Berry's cell phone at 252-266-3559, Jeff Jenkins at 919-612-0229, or John Patterson at 919-264-4011.

### Meeting Agenda

John Godwin from the NCSU Zoology Department will be presenting  
"Social dominance and sex change: Fishy sex lives on coral reefs."

He'll be talking primarily about the work exploring patterns of sexual differentiation and the social interactions that drive this differentiation in coral reef fishes. This includes fishes that change from male-to-female, female-to-male, and even female-to-male-to-female again. These fascinating reproductive adaptations can tell us a lot about how these species adapt to their social systems and how they exploit flexibility in their sexual differentiation to most effectively

reproduce in the complex reef environment. They are also increasingly teaching us more general lessons about how social cues are integrated by the brain and how these interactions help to shape behavior.

**Future Speakers for our Meetings:** If you know of anyone who would be willing to give a talk at one of our meetings, **please** contact Gerald Pottorn at [gpottorn@rjgaCarolina.com](mailto:gpottorn@rjgaCarolina.com) or Patricia Ceger at [raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com)

## *Monthly Feature:*

### *A Drive to Greensboro*

By: Patricia Ceger

Well, I woke up one morning feeling edgy and a little out of sorts. I wanted to get out and see something new, something interesting. So, I grabbed the wallet and the camera and decided to drive over to Greensboro to visit Aquamain.

Actually, first I did a google search on aquarium stores in Greensboro, NC. Google has not yet lead me wrong, right? Wrong! By clicking on the local results for aquarium stores near Greensboro, NC, I was given an address for Aquamain in (somewhat) nearby Thomasville. This address is **WRONG!!!** Not only is it wrong, it's a significant distance out of your way, especially if you're heading there from the RTP. Luckily, the phone number listed was correct, and I was able to call for help. Had I checked the Aquamain site (<http://www.aquamains.com/>), I would have found the right address of 4645-A West Market St., Greensboro NC on the first try. C'est la vie!

Anyway, I finally managed to get there, and I asked an employee for permission to take a few snapshots. Here is a shot of the main entrance, and of one of the stores' official greeters. Handsome devil, isn't he?

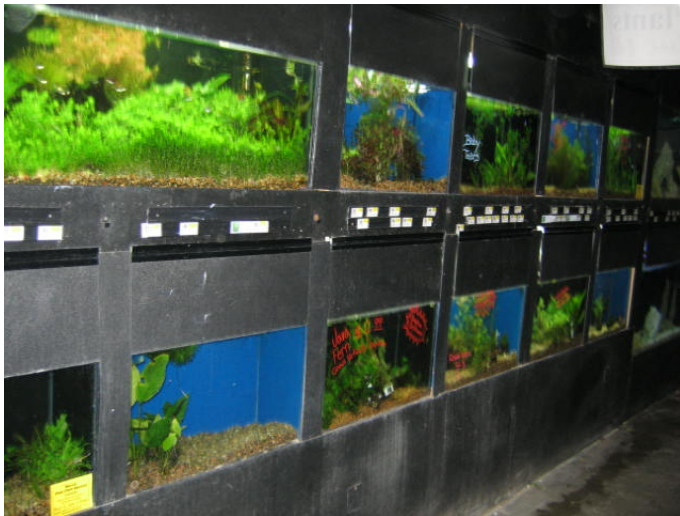


When you walk in the door, you are greeted by lovely display tanks to the front and right, and a koi pond, complete with waterfall, koi feeding station and bench to the left.

To the right and back a bit are shelves of driftwood and decorative rocks, as well as row upon row of dry goods.

Then, in the back and the middle of the store is the best part, the livestock section.

The tanks are stacked, and in double rows on stands that are painted black. This has the effect of making the fish and plants stand out nicely against the dark background. The fish were in good health, and many were personable, swimming to the front of the tank in search of fish treats.



The plants were of a nice size, and looked healthy as well. While there, I bought myself some new *Corydoras sterbai* to give myself a nice little group for my new 55 gallon tank. Upon mentioning to the employee that I would be driving for 1.5 hours, he made sure the fish were extra carefully bagged.

I wandered around and enjoyed. I was especially impressed by the massive pools

of live rock sitting in the rear of the fish area. There were 2 or 3 large pond sized open pools of cultured live rock and coral frags sitting under bright lights. These pools were just in front of the

large display of “tank busters”, all of which were carefully labeled as being too big for anything less than a 55 gallon (preferably bigger) tank. Nearby was a tank full of baby tank busters (juvenile Oscars), at the peak of cuteness. It was a nice visual lesson to be able to see an adult in the next tank over. That little 2” baby is going to be a biiig fish!

I walked back over to sit and watch the koi for a few minutes, and then on the way out, I spotted my dream tank, all 450 gallons worth. I’ve been dreaming about it ever since, even though it is quite possibly bigger than my entire bathroom!

So, go check out Aquamain. It is certainly worth the drive!

Take care,

Patricia

# Trading Post

**To advertise please send the information to [raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com). Please send all trading post items by noon on the Wednesday before the first Thursday of the month in order to get them in that month’s newsletter.**

Gerald Pottern – Mexican Dwarf Crayfish \$6, Crystal Red Bee Shrimp \$4, Kribensis 1/2 -3/4 inch, 6 for \$5, aequidens dorsiger breeding pair \$15, aequidens dorsiger extra female \$5, Nannacara taenia \$8 pair – Contact him at [gpottern@rjgacarolina.com](mailto:gpottern@rjgacarolina.com), 556-8845

John Patterson - frozen brine shrimp, mysis shrimp, bloodworms, and krill for \$9 a lb. Blackworms (excellent) – contact for price [jrpatter@hotmail.com](mailto:jrpatter@hotmail.com) 919-264-4011

Sal Notarmaso - Marble Angle fish, African Peacocks yellow, Kenyi, Lake Victoria Obideians - contact him for pricing at [luck\\_sal009@yahoo.com](mailto:luck_sal009@yahoo.com) or call 919-383-3131

Brandon Berry – 2- Elassoma evergladei -males- free - will bring to the next meeting – contact him at [brandonberry@cox.net](mailto:brandonberry@cox.net)

Amy Witt has 3 full grown, 8 mo. old *S. eupterus* in need of a new home. “They are gorgeous healthy fish that were more of a "rescue mission" on my part and they need good homes. They are free, split up or all together. She is seeking blue or gold rams – contact her at [a.m.witt@gmail.com](mailto:a.m.witt@gmail.com)

**Check out our yahoo group "raleighaquariumsociety". Feel free to post items for sale or trade as well as any other aquarium related discussion.**

# Aquatíps

(new section: please send your tips to [raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com))

Please bear in mind that these are tips based on the past experience of others. They are not guaranteed to work for you.

1. When pruning stem plants like *Rotala macrandra*, pull the entire plant out of the substrate, cut off the tops and replant them. The bottoms, which can be unattractive, can be discarded or traded in at the fish store.
2. Consider hiding unattractive aquarium equipment like heaters and power heads with aquatic moss for that more natural look.
3. Plant a nice line of tall, grass-like plants like Vals or *Crypt. balansae* across the back of the tank. It looks nice and helps with an impression of depth.
4. Consider investing in an Aquarium Landscape toolkit. Some members have found them to be an invaluable tool for keeping plants trimmed, gravel level and things tidy.

## Aquatic Plant & Water Garden Info

The NCSU Crop Science Dept has an Aquatic Plant website with useful info for aquarists and pond keepers: <http://www.weedscience.ncsu.edu/aquaticweeds/ID.html>. Under the Plant

Identification link there's a page on "Selecting Plants for Water Gardens" and under Important Links there's links to the Nuisance Aquatic Weeds list and NCSU Horticulture Dept's Water Gardens page, with info regarding ponds, container water gardens, plant care, algae problems, etc.

# Club Sponsors

**(The following businesses give *RAS members* a discount on purchases)**

Aquatica	5533 NC Hwy 42-W, A-16, Garner	(10%)
Carolina Pet Supply	322 McCormick Street, Garner	(10%)
Creative Pet	1350 E Broad St, Fuquay Varina	(10%)
Critter Country, Inc.	14 Technology Drive, Garner	(10%)
Fish Pros	5221 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh	(10%)
Pet Mania	All Area Locations	(10%)
Pet Paradise	9101-141 Leesville Road, Raleigh	(10%)
Triangle Tropical Fish	3600 N. Duke St., Suite 36, Durham	(10%)

(Excludes Aquariums and hoods)

You may be asked to show your RAS membership card. Please contact Patricia Ceger at [raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com) if you are an active member of the Raleigh Aquarium Society and do not have an up to date membership card. Membership cards can be picked up at any meeting.

# Raleigh Aquarium Society

## Application for Membership

Membership privileges include:

Ability to post items in trading post section of monthly newsletter  
A discount card good at participating local pet stores  
All club discounts on club functions  
Education from the most knowledgeable aquarium experts in NC

**Yearly Membership - \$15.00** (includes spouse and children)  
(Membership dues run from March 1<sup>st</sup> each year. New members joining any other time will be pro-rated at \$3 + \$1 for each month remaining in the year.)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date to begin membership: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal Membership \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

*Raleigh Aquarium Society  
PO Box 31564  
Raleigh, NC 27612-1564*