

BRASS BULLETIN

November 2015



**This month's
Meeting is
November 10.**

**Next month
December 8.**

Articles:

Breeding Discus



Barrie Region Aquarium Society of Simcoe

President's Message

November 2015

I write this month's message thinking of the coming weather wallop we likely will get living in this part of Ontario near Georgian Bay. I have to admit I am not one to enjoy a lot of outdoor winter sports and activities (some ice fishing would be nice though). Don't own a skidoo or skis, may go public skating once or twice and my teenage daughters are at an age where tobogganing is further down on their list of priorities! But being cosy inside with the fireplace on and enjoying our aquariums is something that Leanne and I enjoy very much. My newest project is to build a stand for a 300 gallon tank I picked up used recently. Many thanks go out to some of my friends in our club that helped me move the heavy beast! Can't wait to move some of my exotic monster fish into their new home.

Our October meeting was fantastic. Zenin Skomorowski of KWAS visited us and gave a great presentation on loaches. I learned a few things and I'm sure you did too. We had an auction and some new people joined us as well. Thanks for coming out!

I am happy to share with everyone that Frank Moreau and I attended the recent KWAS show and auction and we both were thrilled to win a few awards in the fish show. Frank won 2nd place with his Betta and a 3rd place with his White Cloud Mountain Minnow. Way to go Frank! One my fish (actually my wife Leanne's) African cichlid a Scieanochromis fryeri took 1st place and a Yoyo loach took Third. It was fun to attend and represent our club and both Frank and I came home with some goodies from the auction....lots of goodies, right Frank?

For our November meeting we will have a more informal meet and greet where we can share what's new with everyone and perhaps have a question or two that you may want to find an answer to. Let's help each other have success with our aquariums!

I look forward to seeing everyone on the 10th. Bring a friend and lets talk fish or whatever else you are keeping in your aquarium.

Profishly yours

Jeff

Don't forget our webpage

www.1brass.com

Secretary's Report

The October 13/15 BRASS meeting had 14 people attending. We had a good turn out, many new faces. The Peel Auction is November 8. The door prize of Flow 20 Power Filter and box of replacement cartridges was won by Lynda

Hodgins. Congratulations to the 50/50 draw winner, Frank Moreau who went home \$30.50 richer!

Udo asked the club if we would be interested in sponsoring an aquarium, 180 gal. of African Cichlids. The tank is at Simcoe Muskoka Family Services 60 Bell Farm Road. Our responsibility would be up keep of the tank.

Our guest speaker was Zenin Skomorowski from Kitchener. He spoke on Loaches, it was evident that Loaches are a passion of Zenin's and he was able to pass that on to us. We enjoyed a very informative talk, saw many beautiful pictures, learned a lot about Loaches and went home with tips from an enthusiastic expert.

We ended our meeting with an exciting Auction - it was good to have our auctioneer Doug Fleming back - and in fine form!!

See you at the next meeting, November 10/15



<https://www.facebook.com/1Brass>

Breeding Discus

From http://www.devotedly-discus.co.uk/acatalog/Breeding_Discus.html

If you venture into the hobby of Discus, there is little doubt that at some stage you will want to have a go at breeding them. Breeding will happen as a matter of course in an aquarium with adult Discus in it. Problems will arise in a tank



that has more than just the parent fish present, so it is best that having identified a pair of fish that you put them into a separate aquarium. The size of the breeding cube not too important, but in my opinion, 80 litres is about right; you will of course need a mature filter, a heater and a good deal of luck.

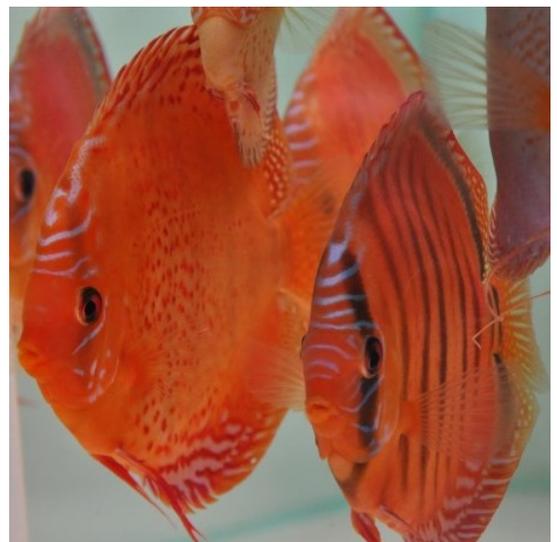
Breeding Discus has become easier in recent years, but the downside of this is an explosion of genetically poor fish. Breeding a strain of Discus that will breed true is a time consuming skilful task. That said nobody should be put off from trying to breed a few Discus from "what they have" because the whole procedure is a wonderful experience and one that hardened breeders never tire of. Although experienced fish keepers can get their Discus to breed in fairly hard water, to have a better chance of success you will need some soft water, this usually will mean filtering the water through an RO filter to remove the dissolved salts and contaminants. A pH of around 6 and hardness values of 1DGH or less will give your fish a fighting chance.

People like me can write as much as they like about breeding but the best way to learn is to have a go. Once the fish are settled they will display to each other and clean the chosen spawning site. This can be any vertical surface, but usually on a "spawning cone". They will then take it in turns to guard the eggs, gently fanning them and ensuring a flow of water over them, until after about 60 to 70 hours they hatch. At this point we refer to the fry as "wrigglers" They cling to the breeding site for a couple of days until they become "free swimming" The fry will seek out the parents and cling to their flanks.

The parent fish will turn dark at this point as they produce mucus for their offspring to feed from. This goes on for about a week, the fry grow very quickly. It is essential at this point to hatch out plenty of baby brine shrimp and offer it to the fry several times each day. I personally remove the parents when the fry are the size of a small finger nail (14 days) they are then fed on baby brine shrimp and beef heart mix.

Conclusion

The above is a very simplified version of how to breed Discus, there are of course many problems to overcome, such as egg eating, disappearing fry, mal formed fry and so on. It is not easy, it can be very frustrating, but when successful there is no better feeling . Devotedly Discus we raise our fry in 2 litre tanks, this ensures we can keep accurate records of their progress and they find their food very quickly and easily. We feed the fry on freshly hatched brineshrimp.



Coming Events



November

10—BRASS General meeting

14 - Hamilton District Aquarium Society speaker dinner with Anton Lamboj.

15 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

15 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON

29 - St. Catharines Aquarium Society fall auction.

December

8—BRASS Christmas General meeting

13 - 11:00 AM - CAOAC Executive Meeting Waterdown ON

13 - 12:00 PM - CAOAC General Meeting, Waterdown ON



St. Catharines & Area Aquarium Society

Annual Fund Raiser



AUCTION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015

At the Seafarers and Teamsters Union Hall
70 St. David St. E. Thorold ON

ENTRANCE IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

**BACK
ENTRANCE**

WASHROOMS ARE NOT WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE



Doors open at 8 a.m.

Auction begins at approx. 10 a.m.

CASH ONLY

Auction forms will be provided

Sellers numbers (lot #'s) available after 8 a.m.

Everyone Welcome!

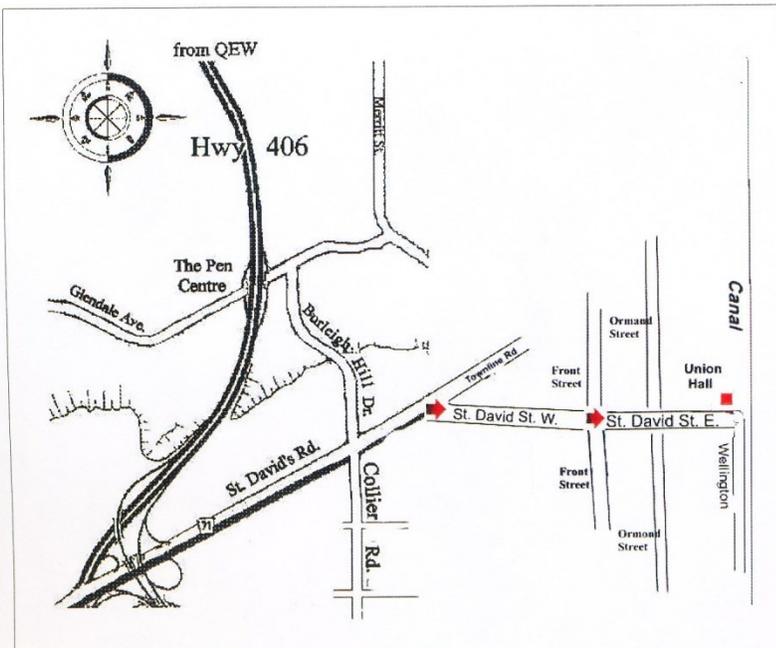
For more info.
go to:

www.scaas.info

and click on

'Forms & Guidelines'

**Refreshments
available**



Only aquarium hobby-related items will be accepted for auction

Brass Buy and Sell

This page is here to remind everyone we can now advertise here in the Brass Bulletin. We can put in pictures along with the write up. Must be sent to editor by 10 days before our meeting as we would like to publish one week before the meeting.

Want to buy, for sale, want to borrow etc...

Free advertising, fish, equipment, plants, need a ride (to shows etc...)

The Librarian

This page is reserved for comments and recommendations from our Librarian, presently Spencer. Spencer may use this space to promote different books or magazines, or may just let us know of new books in the library.

The BRASS Executive

President	Jeff Mountjoy
Vice President	Doug Flemming
Past President	Doug Smith
Secretary	Bonnie Smith
Web Master	Carolyn Duncan
Treasurer	Bonnie Smith
Public Relations	Lee Ann Catling

Who's That?

Every month we hope to have a profile of a Brass member. We ask that everyone fill out a profile questionnaire.

Name _____

How long have you been in the aquarium hobby? _____ How long have you been with BRASS? _____

What fish/plants do you presently keep? _____

What other fish/plants have you had experience with? _____

How many tanks are you now running? _____

What is the largest number of tanks you have had running at one time? _____

What is your occupation?

What other hobbies do you have experience with? _____

What is the nearest cross roads to your home? _____

Would you be willing and able to bring another BRASS member to meetings if they are close to your home? _____

Thank you for filling out this form.