

# IN DEPTH

## Tropical Fish Club of Burlington

December, 2010



*Aponogeton madagascariensis*

Scan of pressed leaves by Dave Isham

Send me pictures of your fish!

## Officers and Contacts

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Grand Isle, VT 05458

TFCB Web site: [www.tfcg.org](http://www.tfcg.org)

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Meetings of TFCB are at 7:00PM on the second Thursday of every month (Sept-June) at the VFW Hall, 73 Pearl St, Essex Junction, VT

David Banks  
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## Editorial TFCB October, 2010

This month's cover is a scan I took from pressed Madagascar lace plant leaves. It is a repeat. This issue will be printed, so it seemed like a good idea to save money by doing black and white. Anyone reading this: please send me pictures!

The Essex VFW has graciously let us use their space! It is working out very well! If anyone of them is reading this, we thank you very much! The December meeting will be our annual pot-luck dinner, and it's a Fran's house again. Keep watching the TFCB email-list for directions. It is planned for Dec 9th, 6:30PM.

This month we have several original short articles. Short is great! They're easy and quick to do, original, and really add to the variety of the newsletter! Thanks Fran & Richard! I took the liberty of putting up some interesting email from the TFCB list. If it's an issue for anyone, let me know, and I'll take it down.

Last month, we had Tom Grady speaking on Killifish, it was informative! We're lucky to have Tom so close by, in the state next door.

I keep forgetting to bring a camera to meetings. Anyone is welcome to, especially if I get pictures for "In Depth".

See the TFCB monthly bowl show rules listed later in newsletter, I have NOT heard that it's on, and meeting for the first time at a new space? Last month the lone entry won, I believe it came from Brian?

Remember the giant auction on November 7th? I scored some nice fish, and sold some plants, keeping within the budget my wife set for me!

I have two pairs of gold rams from Bill Cole {he hopes they are two pair, so do I} they are doing well in a 55gal with only four other fish. I also got some long-tail ancistrus from Doug Patac, some Jewel cichlids from, I think, Dave Banks {see his article this month!} and some Honduran red-points from Rob Hintze. Those are convicts, but prettier? They are an F2 generation.

The shell-dwellers {*Neolamprologus multifasciatus*} I brought to Calais, ME are still doing well. I will see them over Thanksgiving, and bring them more shells {thanks Rob}.

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David Isham

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Where's the monthly meeting?

**Essex VFW, 73 Pearl St, Essex Jct, VT, 7PM**

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In Depth can always use articles! We print anything, and we have yet to see anything we did not like! I have the technology {spell-checker}.

If anyone needs inspiration:

1a. Fishrooms of the TFCB.

1. My favorite fish is:\_\_\_\_\_

2. The worst thing I ever did to a fish was\_\_\_\_\_

3. How I got another tank past my spouse and into the house.

4. How to breed\_\_\_\_\_.

5. 10 ways to tell that you are hooked on fish.

6. Fish poetry!

7. Fish cartoons!

8. What th?

9. NEC article!

10. Send pics of your fish, your fishroom, anything! I will print them!

11.A report and/or pictures from last month's meeting.

## **From the President**

It has been a while since I wrote a President's Column, so I would like to take this opportunity to give a status report and hopefully inspire us going forward.

TFCB has been through several ups and downs in its 20 plus years. I feel we are on a strong upward swing and would really like that to continue! We have consistently been getting 15 or so members and guests attending our monthly meetings. Our membership numbers are growing, adding almost 10 new members this year alone.

The annual auctions are always a fun and reasonably well attended event. We seem to get the right mix of auction lots and bidders so that we are not giving things away, but there are still plenty of great deals. We have had good donations to help us along. The auctions boost our treasury so we can bring in guest speakers, print this special annual newsletter and cover other expenses while we have fun and educational meetings for our members and guests.

With all of our positive growth and with additional members, we can really do things to help the hobby grow in our local area, and beyond. We each should help to spread the word about the club and encourage others to join in.

Growth comes in many different ways. Helping a newcomer to the hobby better understand (and therefore enjoy more) their new hobby is one way. Empowering an aquarium owner to move beyond just trying to keep the fish alive by teaching them about their fish and how to care for them is another. Certainly educating even longtime hobbyists about new aspects of the hobby, new types of fish and on breeding some of the fish they currently keep perpetuates the fishkeeping hobby. There are so many ways to help everyone at all levels grow in the hobby!

Participating in the club and meeting others who share your interest can really pay off for all hobbyists. Seeing what others are doing with their aquariums, hearing what they are trying, offering help where we can and just talking about fish can really add a new level of interest. I know it has kept me engaged and helps me to enjoy the hobby I have been so interested in for almost 30 years now. My fish interests have changed, evolved and at times returned to past interests. You never know where this hobby will take you!

Thanks for everyone's help and enthusiasm, and let's keep the good time going!

David

### **Calendar of Events**

Dec 9, TFCB holiday meeting

Jan 13, TFCB meeting, Rit Forcier, Livebearers

Feb 10, TFCB meeting

Mar 10, TFCB meeting

Mar 25-27, NEC convention, Cromwell, CT [www.northeastcouncil.org/convention](http://www.northeastcouncil.org/convention)

April 14, TFCB meeting

May 12, TFCB meeting

June 9, TFCB meeting

## Clown Loaches

by Fran Kinghorn

" YOU are old, Father William," the young man said,  
"And your hair has become very white;  
And yet you incessantly stand on your head--  
Do you think, at your age, it is right?"

As I watch the endless antics of my small school of clown loaches I am always reminded of this wonderful verse from the famous poem by William Carroll. Though it would seem these fish are now fairly elderly, they spend their days doing the strangest things. Things that seem so totally beneath the dignity of any self respecting fish of their advanced age. They often lie upside down in the crotches of the plants or in companionable piles on the gravel, they participate in endless "parades" or, as the verse suggests, they spend long periods just standing on their heads. I have to wonder what the other, more staid fish think of them. They never seem to even notice the fun, even when the clowns mockingly imitate their behavior.

A bit of research reassured me that this silliness is quite normal community behavior for these gregarious fish. It's just what they do. I wasn't able to find any information on *why* they do it; I guess nobody knows. That being the case, until I hear otherwise I guess I'll believe they do it just because they can. Perhaps they're just fish with a sense of humor. I also learned that these fish are not as old as I thought; their kind may live as long as twenty years. They come from Indonesia, Borneo and Sumatra and in those places, where they grow to over twelve inches in the wild, they are considered food fish. My little group are all female and from Borneo. You can tell by the straight tail fins and the black and orange pelvic fins and because captive breeding is almost unheard of.

" Father William" is reprinted from The Hunting of the Snark and Other Poems and Verses. Lewis Carroll. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1903.

### TFCB Bowl Show Schedule

January – photos, digital or print

Feb - no bowl show

March – Plants

April – Livebearers, Tetras, Danios or Barbs

May - Cichlids

June - Catfish and Loaches

# **KILLIFISH - FRIEND OR FOE?**

## **OR, WHAT'S THIS THING DOING IN MY TANK?!**

by Richard Weinberg

reprinted from November, 1989 newsletter of the Commonwealth Pet Center, Boston

Let's clear up a few things, shall we? Killies will neither eat all of your most prized fishes nor leave your tank strewn with dead bodies. They are, for the most part, rather peaceful. Although most people who are really into killies keep them separated by species, they get along well in a community tank. So why the name? Killie is a derivative of a Dutch word meaning "small stream." That's it.

Killies are not difficult to keep. They will do just fine in a small aquarium at room temperature, provided, of course, that the room is neither a walk-in freezer nor a sauna. You may keep them in a heated tank if you wish. The tank may be landscaped and densely planted or absolutely bare (not even gravel). Filtration can be high-tech or simple (a sponge filter) or none at all. They will eat most foods other fishes will eat, but like other fishes, will do better with live foods in their diet.

Sounds pretty generic, huh? So why bother to have killies at all? For me, there are two reasons. First, is the colors. Most killies (at least most that I've seen to date) are truly beautiful, with colors rivaling those of salt water species. Second, is their spawning habits. Some will spawn in a yarn mop attached to a cork floating at the top of the tank or in roots of floating plants. Some will dive together into a sub-strata of peat moss and bury their eggs. Some will listen to Johnny Mathis records and smoke a cigarette afterward.

By the way, most killies are good jumpers, so their tanks should have good covers. I, for one, will never understand why a killifish or any other fish would prefer a dry, dusty floor to a tank full of water, but then, I like driving in pea-soup fog, so what do I know anyhow?

I believe the reason killies are not often seen in pet shops is that the large commercial breeders don't want to raise them. Killies don't spawn huge numbers of eggs every few weeks, but rather, a few eggs every day. No one is going to make a great fortune raising killies, but a lot of people all over the world are having a lot of fun with them.

Try a pair or two. I'm sure you'll enjoy them. If not, you can always feed them to your neighbor's cat.

Richard Weinberg, November 1989

## Against the Odds (Even if you do everything wrong, sometimes the fish still spawn)

By Davis L Banks Jr, TFCB

I know fish are very adaptable, and my Jewel fish, *Hemichromis lifalili* proved that to me. I picked up a bag at an auction really not knowing what I was going to do with them, but I have not kept any of these fish since I first started in the hobby, and then it was only a single fish in a community tank. That was the more common *Hemichromis bimaculata*, or the common jewel cichlid of the early 1980's. In general these fish don't make very good community tank fish, they can be aggressive, at feeding time and in general in trying to defend a territory. That territory can be the entire tank!

The lifalili have a much better reputation. They do stay a little bit smaller, topping out at under 5", their color is very intense and they tend not to be quite as aggressive as their cousins. Still, they will protect their territory, and when spawning they do not back down to anything. They come from Western Africa and are a riverine species, and as most species from that area, tend to come from slightly soft acidic water.

Where did I go wrong? First I had not planned on bringing these home, so didn't really have a place to put them. Getting home from an auction, or pet store or wherever you happen to acquire fish, it is always a good idea to have a plan. Moving fish around, or putting them in temporary quarters tends to lead to problems, and late at night after a long day you are not always making the right decisions.

I have a 55 gallon grow-out tank, and after some consideration of other possibilities, I choose this as their new home. First problem was there were already a lot of fish in there, but this was a big tank and adding 7 more fish should not be a problem. There were like sized East African cichlids, a bunch of 1" *Synodontis petricola*, some rainbowfish and dolomite as a substrate. Dolomite is great for the rift lake cichlids and catfish, and even Lake Victorian cichlids, since it buffers the water to a higher pH and hardness. Oh yeah, the jewel cichlids prefer softer acidic water; I hoped they would adjust.

A grow out tank is used to put small fish in and let them grow to a larger size for resale, either to a pet store or other hobbyist. I was not really trying to grow them quickly, just get some more size on them, so I was only feeding flake and pellet foods for the most part, with occasional decapsulated brine shrimp eggs and frozen foods added to the mix.

After 7 or 8 months, many of the original fish had come out of the tank, all of the other cichlids had, and others had been added to grow bigger. The catfish had never been removed, they were too hard to catch, and I had plenty of others that were easier to catch. One day I walked into the fishroom to find 1 of the jewels hiding in the corner. I thought that was odd, but when I fed the tank it came right up to eat with all the others. I noticed it again in that same corner later, it almost looked like it was guarding something. It was around the filter and there was a small (less than 2" across) piece of slate near the base of the filter. I thought I should check it out closer. I got the flashlight out, and sure enough, that little piece of slate and some of the gravel around it was covered with eggs! That was interesting I thought, and decided to see if the fish would protect the eggs and for how long. Since there were more eggs on the gravel than the slate, I didn't think I could rescue them and try to hatch them separately.

The next morning, there were fewer eggs left, but still enough for her to guard. This went on for a couple of days, then I noticed the eggs were all gone. I figured the catfish, or even some of the other cichlids, had finally gotten in and eaten them all. To my surprise however, she had moved the few remaining fry that had hatched. There could not have been more than 5 or 6 left at this point, and after a few hours I could not even find those.



Not more than 3 weeks later, another female was hanging out in one of the front corners of the tank. I quickly checked to see if she had eggs, and sure enough she had spawned on a piece of plastic rock I had in the tank. I decided to leave her overnight to see if she would protect the eggs as the other female had. The next morning it looked like she had all of the eggs left. I really could not move the catfish, or the other tank inhabitants as I didn't have another tank to put them in. I thought I would add a piece of plastic mesh that would separate her from the rest of the tank. The mesh was only 8 inches high, but I was able to wedge it in the back corner to about 8 inches to the front glass. The female and her rock and the eggs were in that separated corner, and she could easily see others coming over the top and could better protect her eggs. It did help, but the number of eggs did dwindle a little. A day or so after the eggs hatched however, all the fry had disappeared. The next time they spawned, I would go a step further.

The next time came fairly quickly. A few weeks later I had a 6 day business trip. When I returned home and finally got into the fishroom to check on things, I noticed they had spawned again, and this time the eggs had already hatched. I siphoned some of the fry out of the tank into a 1 quart container. I did not disturb the female very much and she continued to guard the remaining fry for another day or so, but eventually all that I had left behind were gone.

Now I had no place to put these not quite free swimming fry. The only place I could come up with was an empty 1 gallon tank, which did not have a filter that easily fit into it. I did have some a new mini sponge filter I had just purchased for this tank, but it was still new in the box and needed to be seasoned. Oh well, better than nothing, and the fry were not ready to eat for a few days still, so as long as I did small partial water changes every day or so I thought I would be good. Of course the plan was to only leave them in there for a few days, a week at the very most.

The fry began swimming a few days later and in this tank would all huddle together for the first few days, it was very interesting to watch. They could swim, but not very fast. It was more like bouncing around the tank. They were eating, but would not swim far for the food.

I had a ten gallon tank that only had some small catfish and 1 male livebearer. If I could find suitable homes in other tanks for these, I could use this tank for the lifalili fry. After almost a week in the 1 gallon tank, I began to see signs of problems since I had started feeding them, and had no real active filtration. I was doing almost daily 25% water changes, but that was not quite enough as I started to lose a few fry. It was time to clean out the ten gallon tank and move them there.

After water changes, I moved the lifalili fry into the 10 gallon tank. I also added a few cherry shrimp to help eat any leftovers the fry didn't get. At this time the fry were very mobile, and really took advantage to the extra space and within a day or so were swimming all around the tank.

Finally, I think I can consider this a success. Even though I didn't plan very well, and did not provide very good tank arrangements, the fish beat the odds and now I have healthy fry swimming around in their own tank. Still not sure what tank I will grow them out in once they outgrow the 10 gallon tank, maybe that same 55 where their parents started! Odds seem to be in their favor ...

One last note, since removing the catfish from the 55, the lifalili have not spawned. So those little catfish I had in the 10 gallon tank, are now in the 55, maybe the lifalili like the extra challenge!

## **Outbreak of ICK!**

Taken from the TFCB email-list, Nov 2010

\*On Nov 21, 2010, at 9:25 AM, Frances Alster Kinghorn wrote

I'm hoping someone is up and reading email this morning. I have a serious outbreak of ich in my 75-gallon freshwater, planted tank. Seems like it happened overnight. The clown loaches have it the worst but I'm also seeing white specs on my rainbows and some other fish as well. My tank temp is 75, which is what its normally set at. Nothing out of the ordinary has been done to the tank so I'm not sure how this happened.

What is the best treatment? I'm reading a variety of things on the web but thought I'd ask you all as well.

Fran

\*Reply from James Smith:

Most of the commercial ich treatments will work. I used rid-ich at one point but it's been years since I have seen it in my tanks.

If you don't have any salt-intolerant fish, a little kosher salt also seems to help. Dissolve it before you put it in the water so that they don't think it's food and get a stomach full of salt.

\*Reply from Dave Isham:

:Raise the temp! BUT! make sure everyone can take it, and do it fairly slowly.

Google the life-cycle of ICK.

Note that Madagascar lace plants won't take 80f, I found that out the hard way.

For me, meds are the last resort.

For me, water changes are the first resort, see my last email?

You can google for the "raise the temp" recipe.

Meds will kill your "good" bacteria; it sends you down a long hard road to get back to a working ecosystem.

That said, devote your water change equipment to this one tank. I use a safe garden hose & 2 pony clamps. I'll repost my article on the setup. water changes must be easy, or they don't get done.

Also, look for ways to reduce nutrients.

1 water changes

2 house-plant cuttings, roots in, leaves out of water.

3 more aquatic plants {less affect than the cuttings}

4 less fish. 2nd tank!!

5 more filtration. Add a sponge-filter? cheap & easy.

I am currently doing this nutrient assay for my discus-tank.

Meds will hurt in the nutrients issue, due to reduction in good bacteria.

### **Tropical Fish Club of Burlington Bowl Show Rules**

- 1. Fish must be displayed in a bare tank or bowl, i.e. no decorations, no gravel etc.. The tank or bowl must have one flat side & hold less than 20 gallons of water.**
- 2. A limited supply of bowls is maintained by the club. If a bowl is needed for an upcoming bowl show, it should be reserved ahead of time. Remaining bowls will be available on a first come, first serve basis at the meeting.**
- 3. Life support systems are not encouraged, but will be accepted if necessary to sustain a particular fish.**
- 4. No lights.**
- 5. Water is available, but entrants must supply their own water conditioner, nets, etc.**
- 6. There is a limit of 3 entries per person per class.**
- 7. Judging will be by both popular vote and a qualified judge, when available.**
- 8. The Tropical Fish Club of Burlington is not responsible for any loss or damage resulting from these bowl shows.**

COLLECTING CORYDORAS CONCOLOR IN THE WILD:  
IT DOESN'T GET ANY EASIER THAN THIS!

By Wayne S. Leibel

Reprinted from

North American Catfish Society Magazine, Volume Three, Number One, 1998

What I know about catfish could probably be accommodated by the dried husk of the fish I'm about to tell you about. But I do appreciate and maintain a number of South American catfish. This is a story about observing, attempting to collect, and ultimately buying a flock (or is it herd?) of the diminutive callichthid, *Corydoras concolor* in Venezuela. The story starts back in Puerto Ayacucho, frontier capital of the state of Amazonas, where a small but lively group of gringos (Nathan Okawa, Jim Herman, Stacy Braun and myself, led by Mark Whittle our driver/guide) piled into an open-air jeep with our collecting equipment and took the main road out of town, heading due north. I know this seems puzzling since I billed Puerto Ayacucho as the capital of the state of Amazonas, but it is also the gateway to the Amazon and not the jungle proper. In fact, Puerto Ayacucho sets just across the border from Colombia, separated from it by the mighty Rio Orinoco. And the land is more arid and savannah-like (not quite the llanos) with gallery tropical forest popping up around rivers and streams. So transportation here is easily accomplished via paved road and off-road rather than riverboat. This makes for easy collecting.

On this particular outing we passed Provincial, where a drying laguna yielded up net-fulls of rams (*Microgeophagus ramirezi*) more my kind of experience! And we passed Pozo Azul, a local 'park' (a river flows through it) with the most amazing assemblage of eartheaters, acaras, severum, tetras and, yes, loricariid cats, you could imagine. We enjoyed this site with snorkels and with nets/headlamps on several occasions. The locals enjoy its picnic benches where they come on weekends to eat, drink and splash in the narrow but deep creek. But that's another story for another magazine and audience (i.e. cichlid). About 30 kilometers out of town we pulled over to the side of a road where a medium-sized bridge crossed a medium-sized 'river' below: the sign read "Rio Parahuena". We unloaded our buckets, dip nets and coolers and trudged down through the mud and brambles to the bank of the river. There, a mother - clearly Indian - with her several small children - was doing the laundry in the river. She smiled and continued on, and we plunged into the water.

Dip netting along the banks up into the weeds yielded some *Apistogramma* species (*Apistogramma* sp. 'Breitbinden', and *A. hongsloui*) along with some -surprise! -checkerboard dwarf cichlids (*Dicrossus filamentosus*). We were able to get good quantities of both. Other captures included a lone *Mesonauta festivus* (*festivus*), a dwarf pike cichlid (*Crenicichla* sp.), and several small Basketmouths (*Acaronia vultuosa*) who were clearly attracted by the 'food fish' banquet to be had lurking in the weeds. Nathan caught a snake: an aquatic coral snake! This of course put us on the alert. Luckily it was small (c. 12 inches) and they have to chew you to get their venom in. We also caught one *Corydoras concolor*, about 1 inch long! The catfish people of our group (well, we're mostly switch-hitting, equal-opportunity collectors) freaked! Everyone wanted some. Out came the seine, but the water was fast and deep out in the main channel, and our attempts to drive them to shore didn't work. A few more specimens were taken singly, but not enough to slake our collective and collecting thirst.

Our excitement attracted the kids, and eventually their clothes-beating mother. She looked into our bucket, saw the Corydoras, then motioned us to her own red laundry basin: it was FILLED with Corydoras concolor! Seems she made part of her living seining them up and selling them to a local exporter who drove by occasionally to pick up whatever she caught. She had an aquarium at home where she kept them. She would seine up a few before doing her laundry, then get down to her domestic chores. Needless to say, the wallets came out fast. There were maybe four dozen small C. concolor in the red basin and we bought them all at 20 Bolivars (10 cents) each! Nice collecting if you can get it!

A little later we had the opportunity to see where and how they lived. We had passed a dirt road cutoff about a mile or so back from the bridge (south) which Mark, our driver, knew went down to this same river, much narrowed and shallower at this point. We again walked down with our nets, buckets and seine, this time into the gallery forest that flanked the river and shaded the water from the hot tropical sun. From the high banks, we could see that the water flowed over the granitic rock characteristic of the Orinoco system. Here it was swift, but shallow, and since these were slabs of rock, the water was smooth as glass and not turbulent. There, on the slabs, were schools of Corydoras concolor, gamboling in the current, and slowly feeding on the rocks. They occasionally would rise and break the surface for a swallow of air, but since the water was fast and probably well oxygenated, they did this only occasionally. I find no records of water parameters (I suspect I didn't take them), but most of these Venezuelan sites had water of pH 5.2-5.8, a conductivity of about 0-3 microSiemens, and a January (early summer) water temperature of 80-85 F. This was totally unlike my previous experience in a weed-choked, open laguna in Peru in August 1987 where the water fairly boiled with Corydoras breaking the surface to gulp needed oxygen in this obviously eutrophying and oxygen-deprived still-water habitat. (The candiru didn't seem to mind!) Needless to say, given the clear water, these corys easily avoided all of nets -dip and seine both. We were thankful to have had the opportunity to purchase some caught by the obviously more skilled native people.

Interestingly, despite the great variety and location of sites we collected during the two week adventure, this was the only Venezuelan site (to the best of my recollection and notes) that yielded Corydoras cats, and then, only this species. Corydoras concolor is a rather small and subtly colored member of this great genus, but we were happy to have the experience of seeing them in their native habitat and bringing some home as a living testimony to our experience.

Quote of the month: "As the ecosystem becomes self-sustainable, the fish food comes from the worms, so the entire cycle is free." Charlie Price, founder of Aquaponics UK

From "Fish Farms, With a Side of Greens" By Genevieve Roberts

*Published: September 27, 2010; New York Times*

[http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/28/business/energy-environment/28iht-rbofish.html?\\_r=1&scp=3&sq=fish&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/28/business/energy-environment/28iht-rbofish.html?_r=1&scp=3&sq=fish&st=cse)

## Tank news from the TFCB

11-21-10: This section will self-destruct if there is zero input from members before 1-1-2011.

11-21-10: From Fran: ICK! ICK! YUCK! Save my fish! Help me!

11-7-10: From Brian Candib: I bought too many fish! Help me!

11-7-10: Janine & Fran: we worked all day, and everyone thanks them!!

11-7-10: Doug worked all day, and we thank him too.

11-7-10: Julie: we miss the red hair!

11-7-10: ALL: I bought some fish, I sold some fish, but I'm not sharing with In Depth! My tanks are a secret, known only to\_\_\_\_\_.

10-12-10: No news? That's not good news!

9-9-10: No news?! I think Brian Candib won the bowl show with a blue ram; it was the only entry.

5-22-10: From Dave Isham: I got two outdoor tubs started. One is my big Rubbermaid cattle-waterer, which had a ton of bugs in it already. I added some Lake Victoria cichlids, those "Ruti Island" ones that I keep forgetting the name of. I got them from Dave Banks. I've had good luck with them in my cellar, even down to 65 F.

The other tub has some guppies, my "mixed fancy guppies", that have done time outside for many years now.

3-5-10: from Dave Isham: I got a bag of 10 *J. transcriptus* at the NEC auction, and they all died. The tank still has two platies alive that were there when I put them in. The tank had had a 50% water change the week before, and two years ago I spawned *J. regani* in the same tank. The tank has one power filter, and one sponge filter. My best guess as to what happened is that I overloaded the filters, as they had been running on a light bioload.

12-2-09: From Dave Isham: I lost the two new rainbowfish to ich, and at least one of the 10 *Corydorus paleatus* in the same tank. The temp is up to 80 F now, I need to get the white clouds and the lace plant out tonight, or the higher temp may kill them. Everyone else can go to 90F to kill the ich.

11-8-09: We all got new fish at the Giant Auction!

From Dave Isham: My 55 gallon in the living room has some new residents: a pair of rainbow fish, and eight *Corydorus paleatus*. I also got 5 long-fin ancistrus, four small angels, and quite a few firemouth fry.

10-13-09: From Dave Isham: I lost a pearl gourami. I will move a pair to their own 30 gallon tank. I have some green water going in a two liter soda bottle, hoping for fry! I bred these once, long ago...

9-29-09: From Richard Maxwell:

## **Max's Tank News From The Old North End**

What I have for tanks and bowls here in Burlington, Vermont.

One twenty high with an AquaClear 150 power filter.

Inhabitants:

- Tetras: 4 Rummy Nose~~2 Bleeding Hearts~~2 Neons~~3 Red Eyed~~1 Pristella
- Danios: 3 Zebras~~5 Pantheri (from last years auction)
- 1 Pair of German Blue Rams (last years auction)
- 2 Corydoras Trilineatus (last years auction)

I have a 2-½ gallon I am going to put the Pantheri in and see if I can get some fry.

One ten-gallon with a sponge filter and a corner filter with floss only.

Inhabitant:

- 1 male Apistogramma Cacatuoides Double Red (he will be in the October bowl show)

One two-gallon bowl with no filter except the plants.

Inhabitants:

- Trio of Cobra Guppies and four fry (monthly auction)

One one-gallon bowl no filter except the plants.

Inhabitant:

- 1 male Betta (Lazarus)

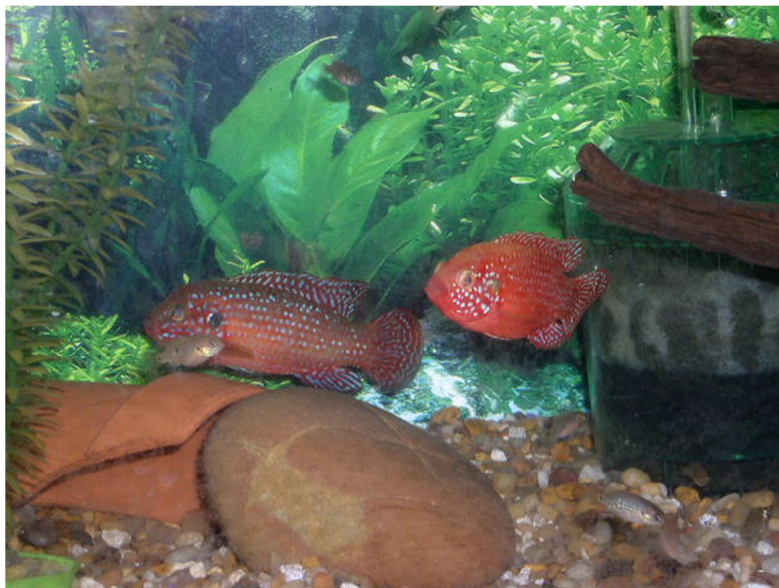
One one-gallon Mason Jar no filter except the plants.

Inhabitant:

- 1 male Plakat Betta (dragon)



Hemichromis lifalili, Picture by Mike Liu, PVAS



Hemichromis lifalili ,Picture by Mike Liu, PVAS

