# Buckeye Bulletin March 2020

Social Gathering: March 6, 2020 Middleburg Heights Rec. Center





# Jim Cumming is BACK!

### Welcome to the Buckeye Bulletin...

As you turn these pages, you enter the digital archives of the Ohio Cichlid Association. Take a look around and please enjoy.

**Monthly Features include:** 

President's Message Editor's Message Bowl Show Results Cichlid BAP Results Catfish BAP Results Program Previews Extravaganza Show Results!

And more...

As a member, you are more than welcome to submit pieces for publication in the bulletin. Please contact buckeyebulletin@gmail.com

If you are interested in all things "exchange," please contact Exchange Editor, Lew Carbone!

**The Fine Print:** 

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## Meet Your 2020 OCA Board...

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At Large: Jeff Natterer



If you would like to be a part of the OCA Board, please speak to a Board member for more information!

## **The OCA Mission Statement...**

The OCA is an organization dedicated to the advancement and dissemination of information relating to all aspects of the biology of cichlids and related aquatic life. Our purpose is to promote the interest, keeping, study, breeding, and the educational exhibition of Cichlids. Additionally, the exchange of ideas, meeting new people, and distribution of information concerning Cichlids is of primary interest.

#### There are many ways to get involved with the club!

Attend Meetings Contribute to the Buckeye Bulletin Participate in the monthly Bowl Show Volunteer to "run" at an auction Persuade non-members to attend a meeting Attend the Extravaganza Participate in the Breeder Awards Program Enter fish into an auction Join the Board – elections are held in December Like/Share an OCA Facebook post Post a thread on the OCA Forum Visit Ohiocichlid.com

Get involved in all things OCA!

## A Word from the President...

Lew Carbone, OCA President

Greetings, OCA Members

I'd like to thank all the local hobbyists that came out to the 2020 OCA Winter Auction in Strongsville a few weeks ago. It certainly wasn't the biggest auction we've ever had, but buyers were happy with the selection and quality, sellers were very happy with the prices, and auction workers were happy that we could eat dinner at a decent hour! The Greater Akron AS, the Youngstown Area TFS, NEOfish, CAFE, the Medina County AS and the Lorian County AS all have auctions coming up in the next few months. Check those clubs' websites and FaceBook pages for details.

If you are interested in South American cichlids, and want to learn more from a reliable, nationally known source, attend our meeting on Friday, May 6. Jim Cumming will be making a return engagement, and even if you aren't a South American cichlid maven, you will love his photography and videography.

Please consider participating in our monthly Bowl Show! The March show classes are South Americans over 6" (excluding angels and discus), Mbuna, and Callichthyids (Cory types). There are monthly cash prizes and a grand prize for the 2020 champion. You most likely will be competing with ordinary hobbyists like yourself, so don't feel like your fish aren't good enough. Rules, prizes and the yearly class schedule, along with other details, can be found in this issue. In addition, there is an article on our website that gives suggestions about handling fish for monthly bowl shows. It also explains how fish are judged. You will find it here: <a href="https://www.ohiocichlid.com/meetings/bowl-show">https://www.ohiocichlid.com/meetings/bowl-show</a>

Normally, the Extravaganza speaker line-up would set by now. This year, several of the prospective guests were away on expedition when contacted, so we were left waiting for answers, and then the answers aren't always what we're hoping for. I certainly expect to be able the announce the 2020 slate in this space next month, but I can tell you that we'll have a mixture of new and familiar, with at least one prominent European authority making his first US appearance.

See you soon!

Lew

Pleco Caves Brantly Berry & Jodi Brooks!

www.plecocaves.com

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NEO Discus Nate Larson

neohdiscus@aol.com

Imperical Tropicals Mike Drawdy & Jacob Tallman

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Neptune Aquatics John Patakos



## Aquatica Steve Shin



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Fritz Aquatics Jason Wilson

www.fritzaquatics.com

Mikes Cichlids Mike & Jen Szumigala

www.mikescichlids.com



## Scalz Sam Garcia



www.facebook.com/scalznatureartist

## **Attention! It's Time to Gather...**

The next OCA Social Gathering is March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 8:00 PM

Meeting location is Middleburg Hts. Rec Center 6000 E. Bagley Road Middleburg Hts., Ohio 44130

Room C

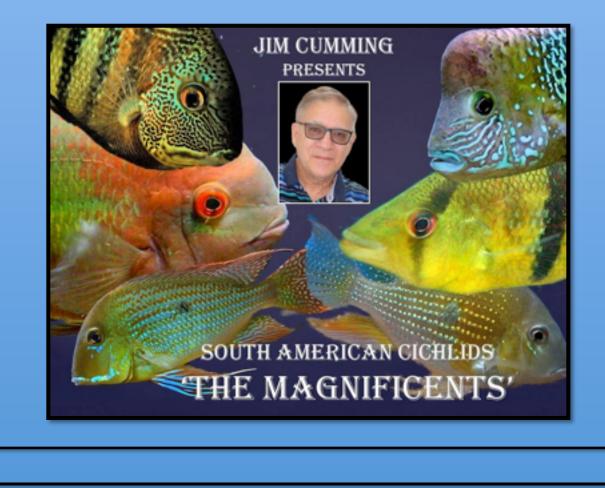
Here's what to expect... President's Welcome Speaker Introduction Amazing Speaker Social Time BAP Certificate Presentation Membership Raffle Fish Auction Huge Raffle

Enjoy a great time with great people and everyone's favorite topic, CICHLIDS!



## March Program Preview Jim Cumming "South American Cichlids: The Magnificents"

Jim Cumming hails from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada and has been keeping tropical fish for over 65 years. Other than a fifteen-year sojourn into the world of killifish (his online name is 'notho2000') he has kept and presently keeps Central and South American cichlids, and currently devotes about one third of his 40 aquarium fish room to Madagascan cichlids and the Etroplus genus from India.



Jim has given presentations to over 100 cichlid and generalist aquarium societies throughout the US and Canada over the last 6 years, and in the Spring of 2018, was invited to Berlin and Dresden, Germany, where he presented on Madagascan and South American cichlids to the German Cichlid Association (DCG). Other speaking engagements included the International Cichlid Conference in Brisbane, Australia, in November 2018, the Nordic Cichlid Association in Uppsala, Sweden, in March 2019, the East Anglia Cichlid Group in Newmarket, UK, in April 2019 and the ACA Convention in Cromwell, Connecticut, in July 2019. In 2020, Jim has been invited to speak in France at the French Cichlid Association's Convention in Lemans, and in Lausanne, Switzerland, as well as a return to Australia where he will be presenting to four groups in November. Jim has never turned down an invitation to speak other than for a conflict of dates.

Over the last 10 years, Jim has become captivated by the magical cichlids from Madagascar. They have certainly 'supercharged' his passion for the cichlid keeping hobby. Jim has had extensive collecting experience in Mexico, Belize, Cuba, and Brazil as well as the Southern U.S. He maintains a very active YouTube channel with around 700 videos as of January 2019, highlighting the fish he keeps or has kept. The emphasis is on maintenance and breeding, along with social interactions, both con- and hetero-specific. Jim has been a moderator for several on-line forums and several Facebook aquatic interest groups and maintains a Facebook site solely devoted to fish and their conservation. Jim has had articles published in Amazonas, Cichlid News, Buntbarsche, and the Swedish Ciklid Bladet magazines. He is also an American Cichlid Association sponsored Speaker, as well as a Madagascan Cichlid Species Specialist and speaker for the CARES Preservation program. On Facebook he administrates the group Madagascar Endangered Fishes and is a Moderator of Geophagus Keepers. He also has been actively involved in the local Aquarium Society of Winnipeg, where he served for many years as Program Chair, Journal Editor, and President. He enthusiastically looks forward to spreading the word on Madagascar and its cichlids, as well as on variety of other hobby-based topics wherever and whenever he can.

Jim's talk is entitled "South American Cichlids: The Magnificents". His aquarium photography and videography are outstanding, so you won't want to miss this one. In April, Rich Bierbower will share his experience with "Breeding and Raising Quality Angelfish".

## Social Meeting Schedule

Times approximate

7:30 Doors open

8:00 Social Time

8:15 Call to Order Announcements New Member Welcome Speaker Introduction

8:30 Speaker

9:30 Break

9:45 BAP Awards Bowl Show Results

9:55 Mini-Auction (BAP / Buck-a-bag)

10:25 Raffle



## Flip Aquatics

**Flip Aquatics** 



Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society

GCASfish

API

API Fish Care









Gold Coast Aquatics Cristina Gangi / Mike T.

https://goldcoastaquaticsny.com

Pleco Paradise Gino Dinella

https://plecoparadisellc.com/welcome/

Cichlid News

www.cichlidpress.com



## **RMS** Aquaculture









## Cichlid BAP... March 2020

Listed below are the Cichlid BAP submissions for February 2020. Members successfully bred these cichlids and raised a minimum of 6 fry to a minimum of 1". Varying point values determined by spawn difficulty were given to members' total Cichlid BAP points.

Congratulations on these spawns and thank you for your participation.

Josh Cunningham	
Aulonocara brevindinus	10
Stigmatochromis modestus "red"	10
Jonathan Dietrich	
Haplochromis stappersi "Kalombo Chippewa"	10
Placidochromis milomo "VC-10"	10
Pseudotropheus perspicax "red top Ndumbi"	10
John Kaminski	
Hemichromis bimaculatus	10
Ron Maichle	
Labidochromis caeruleus	10
Gary Mendez	
Aulonocara sp. Lwanda"	10
Petrotilapia chitimba "thick bar"	10
1	
Jonathan Strazinsky	
Amphilophus labiatum	15
Jeff Yadlovsky	
Melanochromis exasperates	10
Pseudotropheus demasoni	10
i seddellopheus demusem	10

## Cichlid BAP Totals... March 2020

Listed below are the Cichlid BAP grand totals. The information is maintained by Mark Chaloupka, OCA Board. See Mark at monthly meetings for more information about the Cichlid Breeders Award Program.

#### Thank you for your participation.

BREEDER	2020	TOTAL
	MASTER BREEDER 10	00 POINT LEVEL
Lew Carbone	10	3095
Don & Marilyn Danko	-	2435
Dan Woodland	-	2070
Josh Cunningham	20	2040
Bryan Davis	-	1455
Bill Loudermilk	-	1200
John Tesar	-	1145
Linda Wallrath	-	1130
Jeff Yadlovsky	20	1120
Mark Chaloupka	-	1110
Rich & Maggie Schoeffel	-	1065
	<u>900 POINT L</u>	EVEL
Jonathan Strazinsky	15	995
Dennis Tomazin	-	965
Gary Mendez	20	945
Hilary & Antonio Lacerda	-	910
Tom Swiderski	-	905
•	•	800 POINT LEVEL
Dustin Brummitt	-	840
Ken & Sue Galaska	20	820
1		700 POINT LEVEL
Bill Schwartz		760
Jeff Natterer		725
Bob Blazek	-	720
BOU BIAZER	•	600 POINT LEVEL
Charlie & Cathy Suk		615
Steve Zarzeczny		600
	<u>500 POINT L</u>	
Dan & Vi McMonigle	-	585
John Jancik Sr. & Jr.		575
Jonathan Dietrich	30	565
Tim Craig	-	540
Eric & Rhonda Sorensen		530
George Anagnostopoulos	-	515
Ron Georgeone	-	510

## Cichlid BAP Totals... March 2020

#### 400 POINT LEVEL

Rick Hallis	-	495
Phil Hypes	-	475
Kyle May	-	460
Bob Bina	-	435
Tyler Toncler	-	420
Andrew Schock	35	415

#### **300 POINT LEVEL**

Dennis Kuehn	-	350
Greg Senn	-	350
David Hale	-	335
Tony Poth	-	335
Dennis Kuehn	10	325
Gary Zalewski	-	325
Tom & Carolyn Evers	-	320
Ken & Karen Grimmett	-	310

#### 200 POINT LEVEL

James Shakour	- 275
David Hearn	- 270
Jason Mlynar	- 270
Mark Kazanoff	- 255
Dave Esner	- 250
Ken Walker	- 240
Justin Way	- 230
Bill & Janice Bilski	- 205
Paul Collander	- 205
2	

3

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#### 100 POINT LEVEL

		107
Marc & Dawn DeWerth	-	195
Ozeal Hunter	-	190
Chuck Carroll	-	185
Denis Rozmus	-	185
Roger Stark	-	180
Andrew Subotnik	-	180
Bob Evers	-	175
Charles Nowakowski	-	165
Frank Mueller	-	160
Steve Heinbaugh	-	150
David Ayers	-	145
Greg Seith	-	145
Dan Ogrizek	-	140
John Griffith	-	135
Carl Oszewski	-	135
Keith Robinson	-	130
Joe Ring	-	120
Steve Olander	-	115
Peter Nario-Redmond	-	115
Aaron Stevens	-	115
David Toth	-	115
Raymond Langer	-	110

## Cichlid BAP Totals... March 2020

#### BREEDER LEVEL

Mark Huntington	-	95
Randall Wyan	-	95
Ron Maichle	10	90
Dolores Bacisin	-	85
Nicholas Zarzeczny	-	85
Pete Gembka	-	80
Rick Wood	-	75
Bob Tillman	-	70
Matt Urbin	-	70
Dave Dimond	-	65
John Kaminski	10	65
Scott Mabee	-	65
Russell & Tom Pierce	-	65
Anthony Scarton	-	65
Lee Spencer	35	65
Jim Jensen	-	60
Paul Palisin	-	60
Chris Jaskolka	Î -	55
Dave Dimond	-	50
Margaret Heifner	-	50
John Kahl	-	50
Alex Gorges	-	45
Jason Gorges	-	40
Ethan Wiley	-	40
Matt Lacy	-	35
Sam Muselli	20	35
Christopher Sooy	<u> </u>	35
Tom Tansey	-	35
Paul Hutnyak	-	30
Adam Stallman	-	30
Wayne Corman	-	25
Fred Roberts	-	25
Pat Daley	-	20
Andy Lacerda	-	20
Scott Meyers	-	20
Bill Sensor	-	20
Jason Webb	-	20
Ken Carey	-	10
Jim & Amy Damm	-	10
Ron Drungil	Ĵ	10
Ben Jensen	-	10
Cory Knarr	-	10
Michael Meyer	-	10
Mike Trader	-	10

The points list for the Breeders Award Program has been updated to include only current members. If you are a current member and your name has been omitted, please see the B.A.P. Chairman at the social meeting so we can correct any errors.

Please remember: You may only turn in a species or strain of fish for B.A.P. points one time. If you need a list of what you have been credited with, see the BAP chairman at the social meeting.

Breed... Share.... Enjoy...

# **Cichlid and Catfish BAP**

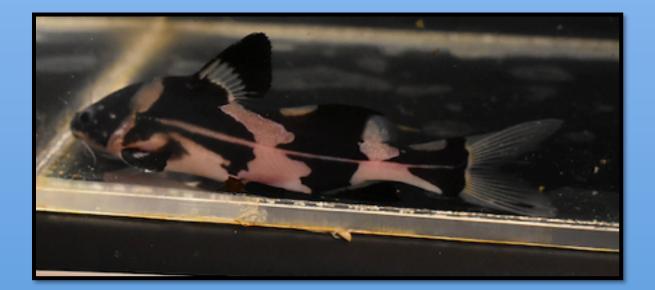


## Catfish BAP... March 2020

Listed below are the Catfish BAP submissions for February 2020. Members successfully bred these catfish and raised a minimum of 6 fry to a minimum of 1". Varying point values determined by spawn difficulty were given to members' total Catfish BAP points.

Congratulations on these spawns and thank you for your participation.

Breeder Josh Cunningham Species Ancistrus L393 "Cheese Creek" Points 10



## Catfish BAP Totals... March 2020

Listed below are the Catfish BAP grand totals. The information is maintained by Steve Heinbaugh, OCA Board. See Steve at monthly meetings for more information about the Catfish Breeders Award Program.

Thank you for your participation.

Breeder	2020	Total
Dan Ogrizek		430
Steve Heinbaugh		365
Dave Ayres		345
Don & Marilyn Danko		285
Phil Ayres		230
Eric & Rhonda Sorensen		120
Ken Walker		120
Bob Blazek		110
Hilary Lacerda		105
Dan Woodland		100
Matt Urbin		90
Tom & Carolyn Evers		80
Bill Schwartz		70
Bob Bina		70
John Kaminski		70
Josh Cunningham	10	60
Justin Way		60
Bryan Davis		60
Phil Hypes		60
Jeff Natterer		50
Ken Galaska		45
Tyler Toncler		45
Matt Lacy		40
Kyle May		40
George Aganostopoulos		40

## Catfish BAP Totals... March 2020

	2020	Total
Jason Mlynar		35
John Tesar		30
Karen & Ken Grimmett		30
Lew Carbone		30
Andrew Schock		30
Bob Evers		30
Lee Spencer	20	20
Russell & Tom Pierce		20
Tony Poth		20
Gary Mendez		20
David Toth		20
Paul Palisin		20
Ron Maichle		10
Dan McMonagle		10
Roger Stark		10
Mark Kazanoff		10
Randall Wyan		10
Keith Robinson		10
Jeff Yadlovsky		10
Dave Hearn		10
John Griffith		10
Carl Olszewski		10
Anthony Scranton		10
Jon Dietrich		10
Richard Shamray		10
William Zarzeczny		10
Wayne Corman		10
Mark Chaloupka		10
David Hale		10
Jonathan Strazinsky		10
Bob & Jennifer Tillman		10

## **Bowl Show – March 2020**

Listed below is information about the monthly meeting Bowl Show. The Bowl Show is your opportunity to show off your fish. Each month different categories of Cichlids and Catfish will be judged. Points will be given and prizes will be awarded. All members are welcome to participate. This is great practice for our yearly Extravaganza show! See Ron Miachle, OCA Board, at a meeting for more information.

Last month we had a great speaker, however the weather was less than ideal. I believe the poor weather may have attributed to our lack of entries. Just remember that the field is wide open so bring those fish to show.

If you are considering participating this year, but you're not sure what to do, go to the OCA website and under the "Meetings" tab click on "Bowl Show". You will see an article there called "Bowl Show Primer" that explains just about everything you need to know.

Don't forget the monthly awards are listed below, and you need to earn points in at least three months to be eligible for the grand prize:

Monthly	Points awarded	Cash Prize
Best of Show*	5	\$15
First place, each class	10	\$10
Second place, each class	7	\$7
Third place, each class	3	\$5
Non-placing entry	1	\$0
*Will only be awarded if there are two or more entries		

#### Hope to see you at the meeting, Ron

#### Last Month's Results

Participant	Class	Fish	Placement
No entries			

The Current Standings				
Participant Total Points Months Points Earned Number of Best in Sh				
Hilary Lacerda	10	1	0	
Upcoming Classes <b>March 6</b> South Americans over 6", exclude Discus, Angels Mbuna Callichthyids (Cory types)				
<b>April 3</b> Central Americans 6" and under Tanganyikan Shell Dwellers Mochokids (Synodontis types)				

## **Bowl Show 2020 Schedule**

**Jan. 3** Parachromis, Amphilophus, Nandopsis Loracariids (Pleco types) over 6"

#### Feb. 7

South Americans 6"and Under, exclude Angels, Apistos Old World, exc Rift Lakes, Victoria Basin Fish Photography

#### Mar. 6

South Americans over 6", exclude Angels, Discus Mbuna Callichyids (Cory types)

#### Apr. 3

Central Americans 6" and under Tanganyikan Shell Dwellers Mochokids (Synodontis types)

#### May. 1

Angels Peacocks Catfish, exc Mochids, Callichyids, Loric

#### June. 5

Tanganyican Lamps, exclude Shell Dwellers Frontosa Loaches and Botias

#### July

#### No meeting

Aug. 7 Discus, Uaru Mouth Tang Mouth Brooders, exc Frontosa Freshwater Crustaceans

#### Sept. 4

Centrals over 6", exc Parachromis, Amphilophus, Nandopsis Malawi Haps Loracariids (Pleco types) 6" and under

#### **Oct. 2**

Apistos Open Tanganyika Open Old World Catfish

#### Nov. 6

Julidochromis, Chalinochromis, Telmatochromis Open Old Word, exc Tang, Mal Female Cichlids

#### Dec. 4

**Open** New World Open Malawi Open New World Catfish

#### 2020 OCA Monthly Bowl Show Competition Rules

The primary purpose of the bowl show is educational and practice for the annual Extravaganza. It enables members to see and examine different species of fish, it familiarizes members as to judging procedures. In addition to encouraging the showing and keeping of fish.

- 1. The Bowl Show Chairman, or designated appointee for a specific month, shall have complete charge of all entries. Any unusual requirements or exceptions or questions about these rules must be discussed with the chairperson.
- 2. All entries shall be in containers having at least 1 flat side (not including the bottom). Only one fish per container, unless a full divider is used then only one fish per section of the container. It's also a good idea to have some form of lid for your animal's protection.
- 3. All containers must be devoid of contents, except for water and fish. A background, outside of the container, is allowed. However, special lighting is not allowed.
- 4. A label (piece of paper) should be placed in front of each entry giving the scientific name and the class the fish is being entered. The owner's name (the person[s] receiving points) of the entry should be placed on the back of the label.
- 5. Only members in good standing and present at the monthly meeting may submit an entry.
- 6. No more than 6 entries may be submitted by any one member during a monthly show.
- 7. Entries must be owned by the person(s) submitting it for judging. In addition, the last permeant residence of the entry must be from an aquarium maintained by the owner(s).
- 8. The chairperson, from time to time, may ask for guest judges in helping to award points. However, the final decision to award any points is the responsibility of the chairperson.
- 9. Each month different categories, typically Cichlids and Catfish, will be judged. Checkout the most current listing for monthly classes.
- 10. Size restrictions refer to full-grown adult sizes as reported by Cichlid Room Companion or Planet Catfish.
- 11. A fish can be entered in only one of the available classes, each month.
- 12. Diseased, malformed, mutilated, hybrid specimens, or other reasonable grounds may be cause for disqualification of an entry. If an entry is disqualified, then all points and cash prizes accumulated for that month's show will be forfeit by the owner(s) that submitted the entry.
- 13. The decision of the chairperson is FINAL.
- 14. Monthly Point awards and cash prizes: (OCA to potentially award \$81, and 65 points to all placing entries, per month)

Monthly	Points awarded	Cash Prize
Best of Show*	5	\$15
First place, each class	10	\$10
Second place, each class	7	\$7
Third place, each class	3	\$5
Non-placing entry	1	\$0

\*Will only be awarded if there are two or more entries

- 15. Yearly Point awards and prizes:
  - 1. Grand Prize for 2020: 75-gallon aquarium or cash equivalent. To qualify for the grand prize, you must have earned points in at least three separate monthly shows.
  - 2. A Certificate (or plaque) will be awarded to the OCA Bowl Show Champion (overall point leader for the year). To qualify for the certificate, you must have earned points in at least three separate monthly shows.
  - 3. Certificates may be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up in the yearly point totals. To qualify for a certificate, you must have earned points in at least three separate monthly shows and have at least half the total points as the overall point leader.
  - 4. For tie breakers, the number of monthly awards won will be utilized starting with Best of Show.

Agnoquatics George Anagostopolous

Aqnoaquatics Facebook

## Nocturnal Aquarist Paul Introcaso

Nocturnal Aquarist Facebook

Nationwide Aquatics Jorge Garcia

Nationwide Aquatics Facebook

OMEGA ONE

https://www.omegasea.net









## **Cobalt Aquatics**

www.colbaltaquatics.com



## **Central Aquatics**

www.central-aquatics.com



## New Life International

www.nlsfishfood.com



Fins of Fire Aquatics Bryan Artrip

Fins of Fire Facebook



## NorthFinUSA Jason Wilson



www.northfinusa.com

Zogari.com Kyle May & Andrew Subotonik

http://www.zogari.com

Amazonas Magazine Janine Banks



AMAZONAS

www.amazonasmagazine.com

Something Fishy, Inc. Dave Hale

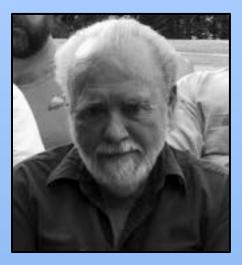


www.somethingfishyinc.net

## THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR 2020 WINTER AUCTION!



# THE JIM SMITH ENDOWMENT FUND



Who Was Jim Smith?

Jim Smith was the Membership Chair for the Ohio Cichlid Association from 1991 to 2003.

Jim was not a big man, but because of his obvious physical and mental toughness, fronted by a calm, friendly demeanor, he was loved and respected by friends and co-workers, who referred to him as "The Buffalo." We in the OCA often called him "Santa," both because of his looks and because of his gentle and patient way with young children.

#### What is the Jim Smith Fund?

Following Jim's passing, in July of 2003, the OCA board knew that something big had to be done to honor Jim's memory. The lead was taken by OCA board member Dan Woodland. Later that year, the OCA announced the establishment of the Jim Smith Fund. The purpose of the fund is to support research, education and conservation efforts that focus on cichlids and catfish.

#### How can I support the Jim Smith Fund?

The OCA has fund-raising activities, such as auctions and raffles at meetings and events, to benefit the Jim Smith Fund. When you support these efforts, you help to fund cichlid and catfish research, education, and conservation projects, and carry on the good work that Jim Smith started many years ago. You can donate fish or aquarium goods at any event, including Sunday's auction. Just right "Donation" on the item, and include your name, if you want. You could also make a cash donation directly to the OCA. Any OCA Board Member can take your donation in person, or you can donate directly at paypal@ohiocichlid.com.

#### How can I apply for a Jim Smith Fund grant?

If you have a project in mind that that shares all or some of the goals of the Jim Smith Fund, email JSF Chair Lew Carbone at <a href="https://www.lewcarbone@gmail.com">lewcarbone@gmail.com</a>. You will be added to the list of invitees that will be notified when the next application period begins.

#### Who are recent Jim Smith Fund grant recipients?

**Ryan Greenway**, a PhD candidate at Kansas State University, was awarded a \$1,000 Jim Smith Fund grant at the 2017 Extravaganza. Ryan is studying the interrelatedness of, and possible hybridization between, 3 species of Thorichthys, living in 4 different areas of the Grijalva River Basin, in Mexico. He will be using the funds to pay for genetic testing. Anton Lamboj, a colleague of Ryan's PhD advisor, Dr. Michael Tobler, accepts the award on his behalf.



**Ad Konings** recently discovered that the Tropheus duboisi "Maswa" is virtually extinct in Lake Tanganyika, due to over-collecting. In 2017, the Jim Smith Fund gave a \$500 grant to the Stuart Grant Fund, earmarked for obtaining a large group of already captive "Maswa" adults. The intent is to begin a breeding program with the goal of eventually re-establishing a wild population in their original home range. Ad accepts the award, and will oversee the project.



#### Who are recent Jim Smith Fund grant recipients?

At this recent Extravaganza, the Ohio Cichlid Association announced the winner of the 2018 Jim Smith Endowment Fund grant. Jim Smith was a long-time and highly-regarded Membership Chair of the OCA, who passed away in 2003. Later that year, the Jim Smith Fund was established in his memory. The Jim Smith Fund solicits proposals for research, education or conservation projects that deal with cichlids or catfish. Each year, the OCA board votes to determine the best project or projects from the list of applicants, taking in consideration the current balance in the fund.

On November 17, 2018, the Ohio Cichlid Association announced that a team of researchers from McGill University, in Canada, and University of Pará, in Brazil, has won the Jim Smith Fund grant for 2018, and will be awarded \$1700. The team is made up of Oliver Lucanus (McGill), Dr. Margaret Kalacska (McGill) and Dr. Leandro Sousa (Pará).

The driving force behind the team's project is that the incredible fish diversity of the Volta Grande section of the Rio Xingu, in Brazil, is gravely threatened by a variety of human activities. Part of what makes this diversity possible is the unusual and complex bottom structure, which features many different types of rocks, crevices, caves and other features, each used by certain species. This team plans on using photogrammetry (a method of 3-D digital mapping that uses hundreds of photos) to study the bottom of this part of the Rio Xingu.

The idea is to be able to use the data from this mapping, along with 3D printing, to make artificial stand-ins for that section of the Xingu's substrate. These printed structures will be installed in aquariums, ponds or man-made streams. The goal is to get the more difficult-tobreed Xingu species to feel at home enough to reproduce, thereby keeping these species alive in the hobby, even if they go extinct in the wild.

We wish **Oliver, Dr. Kalacska and Dr. Sousa** the best of luck in carrying out their project. We look forward to a personal update on the project's status when Oliver visits to speak at the 2019 Extravaganza, our 25<sup>th</sup> annual show.

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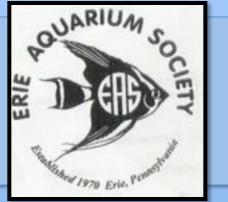
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