

THIRD ROW FROM THE BACK

WOW, what a meeting! First, I would like to thank and welcome **Doug and Julie Patek**. Yes, they have been members for sometime now, but have decided to make the drive up from Bennington every month to attend meetings.

This was the most interactive and productive meeting we have had in a very long time. We have a

scheduled agenda for the rest of the this year and for the upcoming year. Joan has agreed to work with me to find speakers. We discussed a few changes from previous years, less speakers more interactive club participation. I think this is going to work just fine.

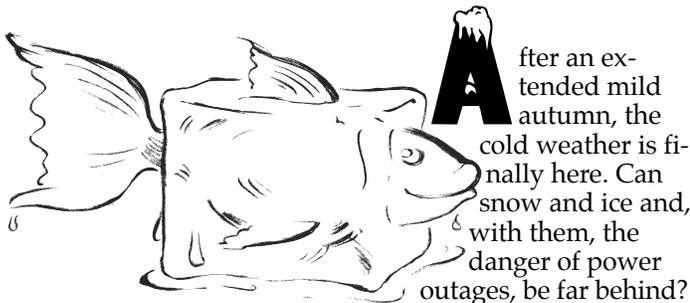
Hope you can join us at our next meeting on October 9, 2012.

Brian Scott

FROZEN FISH AND HOW TO AVOID THEM THIS WINTER

Frank Greco, Senior Aquarist, New York Aquarium

Reprinted with permission from *New York Tails* magazine 2/19/06



When winter is upon you, it's a good idea to make plans for maintaining your aquarium during a power or heat outage. Even a short power outage can lead to disaster and loss of animals if you are not prepared.

The first thing to do in an outage is to unplug your filters. If the power is off for a long time, toxins such as hydrogen sulfide and ammonia build up in the filter. When the power comes back on, the filter will spew this toxic cocktail back into your tank, perhaps killing the fish. Once power is restored, clean out all filters before using them.

Preserving biological filtration is another matter. If you use rotating biowheels, remove them from the unit and submerge them in the tank proper. For fluidized bed filters, remove as much water as possible from the unit, leaving the sand covered by only $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ ". For trickle filters, you can pour water through them once an hour or so or wrap them in plastic film in order to maintain humidity. Hooking any of these filters up to a 12-volt bait pump (small bilge pumps) will ensure their continued operation.

During a cold-weather heat or power failure, maintain your tank's water temperature as best you can. Since glass is a poor insulator, heat loss can be rapid as the house

After an extended mild autumn, the cold weather is finally here. Can snow and ice and, with them, the danger of power outages, be far behind? temperature drops. The easiest way to prevent heat loss is to wrap the tank in Styrofoam or some type of insulating blanket (the thermal type, such as are used to insulate water heaters). Styrofoam can be purchased in sheets and cut to fit the size of the tank. Make sure it is a tight fit, and use duct tape to fasten the pieces together. Do not forget to insulate the bottom of the tank (if it is exposed) and the top. Punch a few small holes in the top for the air lines. If you use an insulating blanket, wrap it around the tank, using duct tape to keep it in place. While neither of these methods will entirely prevent heat loss, it will slow it down. Never heat tank water on the stove and pour it back into the tank! Such wide temperature swings will virtually ensure that your fish will come down with a parasitic infestation. Better to allow the temperature to slowly drop, since your fish will adjust to it--to a point--better than they would such a temperature change seesaw caused by pouring heated water in the tank.

Once you've figured out a way to keep your tank water warm, work on aeration and filtration. The simplest way to aerate is to remove buckets (or cups, if it's a small tank) of tank water and pouring them back into the tank from a height of 6 inches. Do this at least once an hour, more if the animals seem to need it. Another simple method involves hooking an air stone to a bicycle pump and pumping air into the tank as above. The addition of 1 cc of 3% hydrogen peroxide per 10 gallons once an hour can also be used, but this is good only for short power outages since the addition of too much peroxide will destroy the biological filter. The hydrogen peroxide method should be used only as a last resort.



ABOUT THIS MONTH'S MEETING

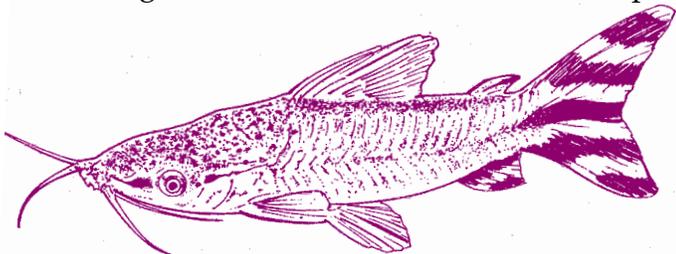
OVAS members fill us in about their experiences in fish keeping and fish breeding, plus how they've dealt with aquarium problems and the solutions... if any!

At last a meeting where everyone has a chance talk and let us know what they've been doing in their fish rooms and tell us how the handled the many happy and unhappy issues of fish keeping.

Brian will inform us about his fish breeding adventures over the summer and what he thinks of the new foods he's been feeding his fish.

John will tell us about how he fought an outbreak of dreaded hair alage that overran his 45 gallon tank. How he dealt with it and the plants, fish, tank and filter and the other problems that came up. Not a total success but he has not given up and is employing a new weapon in his fight to rid the tank of hair alage.

Joan will fill us in on her aquarium adventures over the summer and her shop hoping of fish stores she's visited this summer. This is also a question and answer meeting. We have some really experienced hobbyists in the OVAS, and they'll share their knowledge with us. So, mark October 9th on your calendar and make it a point to come to this meeting of members adventures in fish keeping.



MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 9 Members - Happy & Unhappy Adventures in Fish Keeping Monthly Auction
- Nov 13 Gary Lange - Rainbowfish Monthly Auction
- Dec 11 Bring a Dish Holiday Party @ John Todaro's house

Happy New Year • 1213

- Jan 8 DVD TBA Monthly Auction
- Feb 12 Discussion Meeting or Field trip to Doug Conklin's
- Mar 12 Speaker TBA - Monthly Auction
- Apr 9 Field trip Joan Snider's Fishroom Directions snider6959@gmail.com
- May 14 Annual Auctuon
- Jun DTBD* Summer Picnic @Echo Lake
- Jul DTBD* Shop Hop
- Aug DTBD* Local Collecting Trip

*Date To Be Determend



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LOCAL NEC SOCIETIES' EVENTS

PIONEER VALLEY AS Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at the Springfield Science Museum, 21 Edwards St., Springfield, MA at 7:00pm. Free parking in lot. Public welcome. More info contact: **Dave & Linda Giza** (413) 283-8680 or email: mike@berkshiredesign.com, or for directions go to pvas.net

NEW ENGLAND CICHLIDS Meets 1st Saturday of the month and start at 6:00 pm at the Lutz Children's Museum 247 S. Main St, Manchester, CT., 06040. For more info: necichlids.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE AS Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm in room 110 at Somersworth High School, 11 Memorial Drive located just off of route 9 in Somersworth, NH. For info. New Hampshire Aquarium-Society.com. Directions go to MapQuest.

TROPICAL FISH CLUB OF BURLINGTON Meets 2nd Thursday of the month at the VFW Hall, 73 pearl St., Essex Junction, VT. Free parking in the back. Contact **David Banks** for info 802-372-8716 or dbanks@together.net or www.tfc.org

BROOKLYN AS Meets 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30pm at NY Aquarium, Bklyn, NY. More info: BrooklynAquariumSociety.org

NORWALK AS Meets 3rd Thursday of the month at Earthplace, The Nature Discovery Center, 10 Woodside Lane, Westport, CT. Open to public. MORE info: Norwalkas.org

GREATER HARTFORD AS Meets 4th Tuesday at the LUTZ Children's Museum located in Manchester, Connecticut. For Info & directions visit www.ghasct.org.

DANBURY AREA AS Meets 4th Friday of the month at Carmel Ambulance Corps Vink Dr., Carmel, NY. For more info: **Rich Litsky** (845) 228-0372 or **Joe Masi** (845) 896-4793 or daas@north-eastcouncil.org.



PET SHOPS OFFERING OVAS MEMBERS DISCOUNTS

• **Aquatic Wildlife**, 179D Deming St., Manchester, CT, 06040 Phi: 860.648.1166 aquaticwildlifecompany.com -- 25% off dry goods, 30% discount off livestock.

• **Benson's Pet Center**, 12 Fine Road, Clifton Park, NY, 12065 - 10% Discount.

• **Claremont Pet & Aquarium Center**, 201 Washington St., Claremont, NH. Ph: 603.543.1889 10% discount on dry goods only.

• **Eddie's Aquarium Centre**, 1254 Rte 9, Latham, NY. Ph: 518.783.3474 eddiesaqua.com - 10% discount.

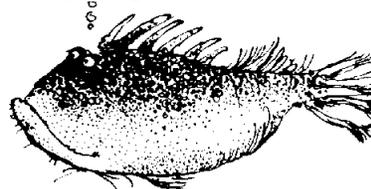
• **Lebanon Pet & Aquarium Center**, 196 S. Main St., West Lebanon, NH. Ph: 603.298.8789 10% discount on dry goods only.

• **Something Fishy Aquarium Sales Inc.**,

219 Mohawk Ave., Scotia, NY 12302
Phi: 518.346.FISH -- 10% discount.

• **The Pet Advantage**, 350 Dorset St., S. Burlington, VT, 05403 Ph: 802 860-1714. 15% discount with your OVAS membership card. Hours: M-F 10am-9pm Sat 10am-8pm Sun 11am-5pm.

• **Whitehall Pet & Supply Inc.**, 9869 State Rte 4, Whitehall, NY 12887. Ph: 518.499.1990 10% discount with your present OVAS membership card.



PRODUCT REVIEW - New Repashy Gel Fish Foods

BRIAN SCOTT - OVAS, BRAS

In the month of June we were fortunate enough to have Mr. Ted Judy as our speaker.

One of Ted's sponsors was Repashy Super foods. Repashy is a gel food that you prepare as per instructions. Ted brought two sizes and four flavors. It is easy to prepare and my fish took to it right away.



After 2 years of research Repashy Superfoods has released a new line of advanced fish foods that become a firm gel when mixed with water. These foods will remain intact in your aquarium for several days, promoting a more natural grazing behavior in your fish and invertebrates.

Repashy gel fish foods come as a powder which is mixed with water and heated until it reaches a boil. The finished product can be molded or cut into any shape desired using cookie cutters, molds, bowls, etc. The only limit is your imagination. Each ounce of dry fish food makes 8 ounces of ready to feed gel and can be refrigerated for up to 2 weeks or frozen for up to 6 months.

There are 4 formulas to choose from:

• Repashy Community Plus is a moderate protein fish food

Once prepared it will last two weeks in the fridge and 24 hours in the tank. This makes feeding quick and easy. For those who have not tried gel foods before I suggest you give it a go. I highly recommend Repashy Super foods. You can get Repashy at www.tedsfishroom.com if not available at your local fish store.

containing premium ingredients such as Whole Krill Meal, Alfalfa Leaf Meal, Whole Squid Meal. It's designed for omnivorous species of fresh and saltwater fish.

• Repashy Meat Pie (Carnivore) is a fish food designed for carnivorous species of fresh and saltwater fish. Repashy Meat Pie is a high protein fish food containing premium meaty ingredients such as Whole Sardine Meal, Whole Squid Meal, Whole Krill Meal.

• Repashy Shrimp Souffle, a fish and invertebrate food designed for fresh and salt water scavengers. It is a moderate - high protein fish food containing premium ingredients such as Whole Squid Meal, Whole Krill Meal, Whole Sardine Meal.

• Repashy Soilent Green is a fish and invertebrate food designed specifically for Aufwuchs eaters. Aufwuchs are algae and small living organisms which are normally found growing on rocks and other aquatic surfaces. Aufwuchs are a very difficult type of food to simulate in aquariums, and using Soilent Green will greatly simplify Aufwuchs eater husbandry. It is a moderate-high protein food with premium ingredients such as Chlorella Algae, Spirulina Algae, Whole Krill Meal.

These foods are not cheap, but you can check them out and buy them at www.tedsfishroom.com.

ABOUT THE OTTER VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

The Otter Valley Aquarium Society is dedicated to educating those seeking knowledge in the breeding, raising and conservation of exotic tropical fish and aquatic plants in the home aquarium. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at the Maclure Library in Pittsford, VT, at 7:00pm. Featuring knowledgeable speakers, a Q & A session, plus a small tropical fish and plant auction.

Meet friendly aquarists and learn more about how to care for your fish. Free refreshments.

Meetings open to the public. For information call, Bob Hooker @ 802 483-6739

MEMBERSHIP • Otter Valley Aquarium Society • MEMBERSHIP

YES, I would like to become a member. Here's my check for a one year membership. Please mail my membership card to the address bellow.

Name _____ Occupation _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Membership: Individual \$20 _____ Family \$25 _____ Student \$10 _____

Make check to; **Otter Valley Aquarium Society**
Mail to: **OVAS, Tom Conway, 90 Center St., Rutland, VT 05701**

