



## X-change it!

By Pat Smith

Well, as the new exchange editor, I would like to welcome everyone to 2005. Judging by the sale of old publications at the monthly meetings, I know that there are a lot of our members who are interested in finding out all they can about their fish. Our monthly publication is great...but there are so many others out there. As we go through the exchanges, if there are any articles you are interested in, please email me at: [guppyghost@hotmail.com](mailto:guppyghost@hotmail.com) and I will try to have a copy of the article available for you at the meeting.

In the next few months, I will try to organize the exchanges that we receive and update our mailing lists. My thanks to all previous Exchange editors, it really is an exciting job, but it is a time consuming one. Especially if you like to read every article and forget about getting the exchange column finished. Sorry James...I will try to get it to you earlier next month.

The first article I would like to review was found in the September/ October 2004 Youngstown Aquarist. What's for Dinner? By Amanda DeCouto, BFAS (reprinted from "The Official Publication of the Bermuda Fry Angle Aquarium Society, July 2004) Now, just that Aquarium Society title was worth the mention. I have always been interested in the nutrition available for our fish, so this article caught my attention. This article discusses the store bought variety of fish foods that are available, and the care needed in using them with your fish. But, it also mentions live foods and table food that we might use. It was interesting reading and if you like to try different foods but are unsure of which fish to use them with, you might want to check out this article.

Our local sister societies also offer some great monthly publications. The North Jersey Aquarium Society provides the "Reporter." I am sure you will be seeing this magazine mentioned frequently as well as Brooklyn, Long Island and Greater City, all of which offer great exchanges.

The October Reporter has several articles that I

would like to mention. The first is "Hydra Who?" by Bob Larsen. Bob is a long time hobbyist and discusses the unwanted tank visitor, the Hydra. Since Bob raises Guppies, and hydra love newly hatched brine shrimp, he raises the question of who are you feeding, your fish, or a pest. His fish were not gaining the size they should have, but he found the hydra were feasting and multiplying on the food designated for his guppies. Locating the cause of fish problems early can help keep your tanks and your fish growing and developing properly. It was an interesting article, about a common problem that may easily be overlooked.

Another article found in this publication was reprinted from the Apisto-Gram, the official newsletter of the Apistogramma Study Group, March 2003. "What's New and News in West Africa: Shromidotilapia mrac a new Species from Gabon, by Randall Kohn. Since fish species are constantly being discovered and being reclassified, articles such as this are important means of relaying this sort of information.

I'AO Hawai'i is the publication of the Honolulu Aquarium Society. First off, I have to mention that reading about the planning of a picnic in the September magazine....when looking at snow outside is depressing...but then again maybe that is what we need— a Winter Picnic. Does the club have the funds to finance a picnic in Hawaii? Sounds good to me. Again, my interest in nutrition is showing.. In this September issue I enjoyed the article, "Are Feeder Guppies A Nutritious Food?" By Clyde S. Tamaru, Steve Hopkins, Harry Ako and Kelly deLemos. It refers to a website on the history of the guppy by Tom Griffin found at <http://www.tomgriffin.com/aquamag/guppy.html>. You might just want to check it out. In any case, the final analysis showed that given the fatty acid levels found in the feeder guppy test groups, that they are indeed a "very nutritious food item, particularly for marine fish".

Modern Aquarium, the monthly publication of the

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Greater City Aquarium Society is probably one of the best you will find anywhere. In the September 2004 publication, I would like to mention the "Second Sight" article by Dr. Ted Coletti. The article is on livebearers. Hmm, I am starting to see a trend in the articles I have picked out. Guppies, food, livebearers. Oh well, what can I tell you. Livebearers are often overlooked. Especially with the current trend toward cichlids. Livebearers are fascinating to keep and can be challenging and fun to keep. This article as well as the welcome to Ted Coletti speaking on "A New Look at Livebearers" might just give you a new outlook on these fascinating fish.

Okay enough about livebearers and nutrition for this month. Moving on to the October 2004 Modern Aquarium magazine, the article "The DeFINitive Tetra Breeding Article" by Bernard Harrigan is interesting and may help in breeding a variety of tetra species. He discusses the water conditions tank size etc. needed to help you in your endeavor to build up some new BAP points.

Another article that I enjoyed in this same publication is "Love, Luck, and the Lonely Loach" by Susan Priest. It discusses the search for the cover fish of the October Modern Aquarium, the "Botia sidthimunki" A great deal of interesting information can be found about these fish.

Finally, one of the interesting things found in the Modern Aquarium is their monthly "Fin Fun" a variety of fish puzzles and brain teasers. I know that the Pisces Press had this in the past. Maybe we have someone out there who doesn't want to write an "article" but would like to offer this information in a different way. Think about it!

One thing that left me wondering while looking at these articles is what the effect the recent Tsunami will have on the importation of fish. So many of our fish come from this area of the world.

Keep on reading! If you know an interesting club publication, let me know at:  
guppyghost@hotmail.com

## **Congratulations to all our new officers:**

**First Vice President** - Daniel Dubins

**Corresponding Secretary** - Kathy Cardineau

**Recording Secretary (One Year)** - Kathy Cardineau

**Treasurer** - Fredrick Bellise

**Sergeant-at-Arms** - Walter Knoblock

**Pisces Press Editor** - James Quattropani

**Exchange Editor** - Pat Smith

**Membership Secretary** - Michael Foran

**Librarian** - David Morenberg

**Non-Officer Board Members** - Bruce Bier,

Angelo Cavallo, Joe Kopian