



The View...

... From The Other Side Of The Tank

By Margaret Peterson

A "Fishy" Valentine .

Valentine's Day, 2006, happened to fall on the very same day as the meeting of the Nassau County Aquarium Society, which as the members know, meets the second Tuesday of every month at the American Legion Hall in Massapequa. My husband Jim, knowing how important Valentine's Day is for us as a couple, decided to invite me to join him and celebrate this event at the fish club meeting that evening. After all, they were even having a Valentine's Day fish night at the races in honor of the holiday! I'm sure you thought I would be regaling you with stories about a moonlight dinner somewhere special or maybe even a weekend away but what kind of hobbyists would we be if we did not celebrate February 14th at the fish club? As Valentine's Day 2007 is fast approaching, I thought I'd share some of my memories of my first experience attending the Nassau County Aquarium Club. First I must say how friendly and welcoming everyone is. It was nice too to see some familiar faces such as those of Harry Faustmann, Tim Duff, Jeff Bollbach, Rich Levy, and Pat Smith to name just a few. Those who knew me seemed surprised to see me at the meeting. I just smiled and asked where else I would be on Valentine's Day when my spouse was here at the meeting.

One of the goals of these meetings is to increase membership. This is done by having speakers of interest to both members and non-members with the hope that any guests will "sign up" to become members after visiting the club and becoming aware of what the club offers. As this was my first visit to the Nassau county club, I met some new people and also enjoyed their great sense of humor and keen knowledge of the aquarium hobby. Valentine's Day is about sharing your love, the love you have for one another and your interests as well. If something is important to your partner, then it is important to you as well.

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Did you ever notice that even some of the names of the fish in this hobby sound romantic? For example, we have kissing gouramis, paradise fish, bleeding heart tetras, angel fish varieties, jewel cichlids, pearl danios, diamond tetras, and marine species such as the regal flame angel fish and the rock beauty. It was a fun evening shared with others who enjoy spending time with their beloved fish and their loved ones too. No, we did not win the fishy night at the races, not even second place but enjoyed watching those who raced. Of course, there was an auction and no club meeting is complete for Jim without an auction. This translates into, "We cannot go home until the auction is over and all the fish are gone!" You know Jim, have auction, will travel to anywhere..... even on Valentines Day! 🐟

Authors Post Script

The above article was to be printed as an "original" for the Nassau County Aquarium Club; however, since I was unaware of their deadlines, the article arrived too late to be printed in the February issue of the *Pisces Press*. It will appear as an original in our *Paradise Press* and reprinted next month in the *Pisces Press*. I must say that while I find it very interesting and entertaining to visit our neighboring clubs, meet new people and share ideas, there is just no place like home.