

# Raleigh Aquarium Society News

April 2004



## Next Meeting

*Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30pm*

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the N.C. State Veterinary Medical College located at [4700 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh](#). Visitors are welcome! Snacks and light refreshments are provided. A raffle of fish and fish related items follow the meeting. Due to Security Issues, NCSU has required that the doors going into the downstairs lobby remain locked. Please be on time, as we will have a designated person standing by the door to let you in. If you are late, you may try knocking or call Brandon Berry's cell phone at 252-266-3559, Jeff Jenkins at 919-612-0229, or John Patterson at 919-264-4011.

## Meeting Agenda

Dr. Dan Johnson: Fish Veterinarian

Dr. Dan Johnson, D.V.M. of Avian & Exotic Animal Care will present our program on health maintenance and medical treatment of pond fishes, with an emphasis on koi. Dr. Johnson's practice in Raleigh specializes in care and treatment of birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and exotic mammals.

### Upcoming Meetings:

At an undetermined date we will have a speaker from the NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores discuss the giant 2 year renovation that has recently begun.

### Other Announcements

We will be having our collecting trip in the Wilmington area this coming weekend. Areas that we will explore are the Cape Fear River, Boiling Springs, Lake Waccamaw, any many more unique coastal habitats. Please contact Brandon Berry at [brandonberry@cox.net](mailto:brandonberry@cox.net) or 252-266-3559 if you plan to join us on this expedition. Accomodations will be at The Days Inn and The Lake Waccammaw State Park campground.

# Monthly Featured Article

## The Amazing Archerfish

by Bruce Hansen

Reprinted from the ANGFA News, Issue No. 14, March 2003

For those of you that find "other than Rainbowfish" interesting - most fish keepers know all about those amazing members of the genus *Toxotes* and how they have the unique ability to "shoot" down insects from overhanging branches with a jet of water. How have they developed this accuracy considering the optical challenges associated with parallax effects at the air-water interface - the insect is in the air and the eye of the fish is underwater? This has intrigued scientists ever since these sharpshooters were discovered.

One of my friends has a very nice Archer in a 3 foot tank that regularly shoots his crickets and moths on request. Carl also regularly supplies small fish and shrimp from the local creek and this particular Archer is much-loved and much observed.

However much one reads on fish behavior, it is always a joy to hear something new and especially when it has been observed by an enthusiastic amateur. Carl observed that his Archer would hunt and devour as many small fish and shrimp as he could by chasing them around the tank. Eventually only a few would be left hiding in the "safe" places in the corners between the driftwood and the backdrop where the Archer could not enter. Our intrepid Archer then simply squirted a powerful jet of water into the corner to dislodge the unwary prey out of the safety and into the open to become lunch. I would be interested to hear if anyone else has seen this happen. Obviously the "calculation" required to be on target underwater is entirely different to above-water targets.



*Toxotes chatareus*, Common Archerfish      Photo by Gunther Schmida  
From the book *Australian Native Fishes for Aquariums* by R. Leggett & J.R. Merrick

# Do You Know ANGFA?

by Derek Girkin, Honorable President, ANGFA, Inc.

When you think of Australian freshwater fish, do rainbowfish come to mind? The Australian New Guinea Fishes Association (ANGFA) was formed in 1982 as a group of hobbyists, scientists, adventurers and conservationists from around the world dedicated to freshwater fishes, plants and other aquatic life native to Australia and New Guinea.

Yes, we love rainbowfish, but there's much more to ANGFA. Whether blind cave gudgeons, nurseryfish, sawfish or even lungfish, we have members with first-hand experience. Our interests extend to other forms of aquatic life such as amphibians, insects, crustaceans and plants. Like other areas of the world, our aquatic life is threatened by pollution, deforestation, development and introduction of exotic species. Surveying and documentation of diverse native habitats is a primary objective. Many species are yet undiscovered.

ANGFA publishes *Fishes of Sahul*,\* a high-quality journal, produced and published by native fishkeepers for native fishkeepers – four issues per year. Each issue contains 24 pages of diverse, informative and interesting original articles backed up by spectacular, full colour, glossy plates. Once a new member receives their first couple journals, they often want a complete set of back issues! A small sample of recent articles:

UNEXPLORED ISLANDS OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Gerald R. Allen
CHEEKY LITTLE BUGGERS, A LOOK AT AUSTRALIAN BLUE-EYES	Gunther Schmida
THE SOUTHERN VICTORIAN SPINY CRAYFISH	Philip Littlejohn
NATIVES VS. GAMBUSIA	Greg Howe
AUSTRALIAN LUNGFISH	Jean Joss
THE MARSHWORTS	Nick Romanowski
FRESHWATER CRAB	Neville Coleman
DARWIN RAINBOWS	Peter Unmack
VISIT TO ARNHEM LAND	Dave Wilson

Original articles in our newsletter, *ANGFA News*, provide assistance to hobbyists rearing and maintaining fish in captivity. Legislative and conservation updates are presented. Regional group summaries, book reviews and the ANGFA shop are regular departments. *Rainbowfishes – Their Care and Keeping in Captivity* CD, ANGFA posters, and *Fishes of Sahul* back issues are currently available for member purchase at attractive prices. We stock books that cannot be found in the usual bookshops including *The Waterbug Book* by J. Gooderham & E. Tsyrlin, *Field Guide to the Freshwater Fishes of Australia* by G.R. Allen, S.H. Midgley & M. Allen and *Freshwater Fishes of the Timika Region New Guinea* by G.R. Allen, K.G. Hortle & S.J. Renyaan.

We invite you to join our membership and enjoy the excellent resources and excellent contacts that become available to you. Membership is \$40 (Australian currency) which includes all postage and handling costs from Australia. Currency conversion is handled automatically with our secure online credit card payment option - available on our extensive website:

**[www.angfa.org.au](http://www.angfa.org.au)**

Alternative payment options are available. Contact our ANGFA-North America coordinator, for further information:

Kevin Hosmer, ANGFA-NA coordinator  
626 Phillips Road  
Blairsville, PA 15717

ph 724-459-4920 until 10 pm, EST  
email: [alfie@helicon.net](mailto:alfie@helicon.net)

\* Sahul refers to the single landmass that encompassed present day Australia, New Guinea and Tasmania.

# TRADING POST

To advertise please send the information to:  
[raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:raleighaquariumsociety@yahoo.com)

**John Patterson has for sale:**

baby discus, quarter size, cross of a wild rio jatupu (orange) and a gold diamond (solid gold in color), weak orange atm but should get darker with age, 30 available, \$15 a piece, will bring them to the next meeting if anyone wants any please have em email me with ruffly how many they want.

**Group Order**

Blackworms - around \$15 per pound (1 lb. Increments)

If interested you must send an e-mail by 3pm Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

[jrpatter@hotmail.com](mailto:jrpatter@hotmail.com)

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**Frank Montillo has for sale:**

African cichlids: Daffodils, Lelupei, Blotched Zebras, Red Zebras, Electric blue ahli

1/2 blue red tail guppies

Brand new Penn plax heater 100 watt

919-556-9004

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**Brandon Berry has for sale or trade:**

- hornwort, duckweed, java moss, val., etc.

- Soon to have: water hyacinth, pickerel weed, anacharis, and other pond plants

- F1 generation of wild caught gambusia with the melanistic (marbled or black colation) trait

- Everglades pygmy sunfish – still very small, let me know if you're interested and I'll save you some, they are breeding like convicts

(252) 266-3559, [brandonberry@cox.net](mailto:brandonberry@cox.net)

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**Sal Notarmasso has for sale:**

Angelfish

African Cichlids: Aulonocara Blue neon Flavescents, very pretty fish.

**Wanted:** Tanyanikan Cichlids

919-383-3131

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## **Wesley Everman (group order) and wanted:**

Trying to put together a group order from Dave Soares and apistogrammaidots.com for apistos

**Wanted:** Grindal Worm Culture

[wjeverma@ncsu.edu](mailto:wjeverma@ncsu.edu)

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## **Patricia Ceger has for sale:**

1 Apistogramma viejita, male, approx. 6 months old. Big and in good health. Needs a new home. \$11.

2 male Apistogramma cuacatoides "triple red". In great health and showing beautiful fin extensions. \$11 ea

Endler's livebearers, juveniles. Males are just starting to show nice colors. \$4 per pair.

[flummery@verizon.net](mailto:flummery@verizon.net), or call (919)403-5522

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## **Infinity Pets (Ken and Wanda Fowlston)**

Some of the hard-to-find and unusual fish they have are:

Crowntail bettas, true Siamese algae eaters, 3 species of pencilfish, the notorious Glofish, pentazona barbs, and Botia angelicus. They also have some really nice anubias and java fern that came in as a trade-in.

Contact Ken and he may be able to bring items to the meeting.

Infinity Pets, 100 West Main St., Suite C, Youngville, NC, (919) 570-3039, [infinitypets@earthlink.net](mailto:infinitypets@earthlink.net)

# Club Sponsors

(The following businesses give *RAS* members a discount on purchases)

Creative Pet	1350 E Broad St, Fuquay Varina	(10%)
Critter Country, Inc.	14 Technology Drive, Garner	(10%)
Fish Pros	5221 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh	(10%)
Pet Mania	All Area Locations	(10%)
Pet Paradise	9101-141 Leesville Road, Raleigh	(10%)
Triangle Tropical Fish	3600 N. Duke St., Suite 36, Durham	(10%)

(Excludes Aquariums and hoods)

You may be asked to show your RAS membership card.

*Please contact Brandon Berry at [brandonberry@cox.net](mailto:brandonberry@cox.net) if you are an active member of the Raleigh Aquarium Society and do not have an up to date membership card. Membership cards can be picked up at any meeting.*

# Raleigh Aquarium Society

## Application for

### Membership

Membership privileges include:

12 monthly newsletters

A discount card good at participating local pet stores

All club discounts on club functions

**Individual Full Year \$15.00**

**Family Full Year \$17.00**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal Membership \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

*Raleigh Aquarium Society*

*PO Box 31564*

*Raleigh, NC 27612-1564*