

MINUTES

Sacramento Fish Rooms
April 2001
Meeting Started at grocery store lot
Sacramento, CA

Minutes of the Meeting

2:00pm - 2:30pm • Milled around in the parking lot while waiting for everybody – much use of cell phones was an asset in keeping track of people trying to meet.

2:30pm – 3:30pm **Gilbert L.'s fishroom**

Report from Larissa:

Visiting Gilbert's fishroom is an awesome experience! The type of place that all us breeders wish we had. ☺ A room off to the side of the house, with wall to wall tanks and a large betta barracks in the middle for the show males to grow and flare. An intricate water flow system and air hosing was setup between the tanks and the barracks, and the room itself was heated to a nice tropical temperature and moist air (crowding all the visitors in there was a chore! and hot!!). There was another room with large sinks and places for the water to sit and bagging zone. Very very nicely set up. Gilbert is the perfect host and answers any and all questions about his fish and his setup with patience and thoroughness.

Report from Christina:

The first thing that struck me about Gilbert's fish room was that there just weren't as many Bettas as I had expected. Of course, quite a few were away at a show that weekend, but an entire wall of the fish room was guppies(!) and empty tanks. The heart of the fish room was a three tier filtered divided tank that held about 150 Bettas. One wall of the fish room contained 20 gallon tanks for breeders, grow-outs, and wild Betta species (of which Gilbert keeps several). Gilbert patiently answered our many questions about his setup. He explained his feeding regimen, disease treatment, and described how he cycled the fish through different stages in his fish room from fry to old age. It was quite a treat to see how this years IBC Grand Champion keeps his beautiful Bettas.

3:30pm – 4:30pm **David Bradley's fishroom**

Report from Larissa:

Different style completely from Gilbert and just as effective! Dave has tanks spreading through the house, and then a special fish room in the back as well where most of the breeding and growout is done. Again, the room itself was heated so the individual tanks weren't. In the room were an incredible variety of sizes of tanks from the smaller 2.5 gal up to 20 gal, and in the corners and in the side areas were jars everywhere for the males. Dave's tanks all have a plethora of live plants for the fish, including the breeding and fry tanks. I adored his method of live plants in the breeder/fry tanks as he kept the tanks bare-bottom, and then had small jars with soil in them with the aquatic plants planted in the soil. (I've personally tried the 'aquarium soil with pots' but this improvisation method looked much easier and much better for the fish.) While Gilbert's fishroom was a dreamroom, David's fishroom looked completely possible for me to do! ☺

Report from Christina:

Dave's house looks a lot more like mine – tanks in every room. Dave keeps a variety of fish besides Bettas, including discus, killifish, angelfish, and rift lake cichlids. He also has a nice selection of live aquatic plants including some large specimens of the famous Madagascar lace plant. In his dedicated fish room, there are tanks of juvenile cichlids growing out next to tanks of white opaque Bettas. Quite an assortment of fish, including lots of jarred Bettas placed where ever room can be found. I came home with some very nice DT opaques from Dave's fish room, and enjoyed seeing how someone else keeps and breeds a variety of fish besides Bettas.

3:30pm – 4:30pm **Meeting and Fish Auction**

- Brief Meeting.
- Fish Auction (see next page for list)

4:30pm

Meeting adjourned

The meeting was adjourned. Most of the out-of-area visitors then migrated over to the Capitol Aquarium where the vast array of types and species were admired and many fish were bought.

People Present:

Larissa Williams, President
Jan Carpenter, Vice President
Christine Tanner, Treasurer
Wendy McKenna, Roving Officer
Gilbert Limhengco
David Bradley
Christina Chung
Karlton Lau
Jeanne Marcella
Jim Clark
Jim Atchinson
John & Debbie Smith
Dennis & Wendy Lee
Brian Chan
Hong Tuong

Fish for Auction:

7 pairs from Gilbert Limhengco
Marbles from Donna Vantreese in Oklahoma
John Smith
Christine Tanner

Member Offerings:

MicroWorm and Vinegar Eel cultures from Larissa