



# The Harlequin



The ICRI International Year of the Reef 2008 is a worldwide campaign to raise awareness about the value and importance of coral reefs and threats to their sustainability, and to motivate people to take action to protect them. All individuals, corporations, schools, governments, and organizations are welcome and actively encouraged to participate in IYOR 2008.

Ten years ago, 1997 was declared the International Year of the Reef (IYOR). The first IYOR campaign was initiated in response to the increasing threats and loss of coral reefs and associated ecosystems, like mangroves and sea grasses. IYOR 97 was a global effort to increase awareness and understanding of coral reefs, and support conservation, research and management efforts.

IYOR 97 proved to be very successful, with over 225 organizations in 50 countries and territories participating, over 700 articles in papers and magazines generated, hundreds of scientific surveys undertaken, and catalyzed conservation and policy initiatives, as well as numerous local and global organizations dedicated to coral reef conservation. More information on IYOR 97 can be found here: <http://www.publicaffairs.noaa.gov/coral-reef.html>

Recognizing that ten years after IYOR 97 there continues to be an urgent need to increase awareness and understanding of coral reefs, and to further conserve and manage valuable coral reef and associated ecosystems, the **International Coral Reef Initiative** designated 2008 as the International Year of the Reef (IYOR 2008).

IYOR 2008 will:

- Strengthen awareness about the ecological, economic, social and cultural value of coral reefs and associated ecosystems
- Improve understanding of the critical threats to coral reefs and generate both practical and innovative solutions to reduce these threats
- Generate urgent action at all levels to develop and implement effective management strategies for conservation and sustainable use of these ecosystems.

Have a problem or a question you'd like answered. Email it to the news editor and get your answer from the experts.

This month's question:

### What are the functions of the cleanup crew?

- Astrea Snail** = the best for algae
- Cerith Snail** = the best for algae & detritus
- Large Cerith Snail**—film algae, sand stirrer
- Mini Blue leg Hermit**—algae & food scraps
- Brittle Star or Serpent Star** - detritus
- Cucumber**—detritus
- Small True Emerald** - algae & bubble algae
- Sally Lightfoot Crab**- algae & detritus
- Red Leg Scarlett Hermit** - algae & detritus
- Nassarius Snail**—detritus, sand sifter
- Turbo Snail**— Algae



### Ask the EXPERT

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# First Quarter Review

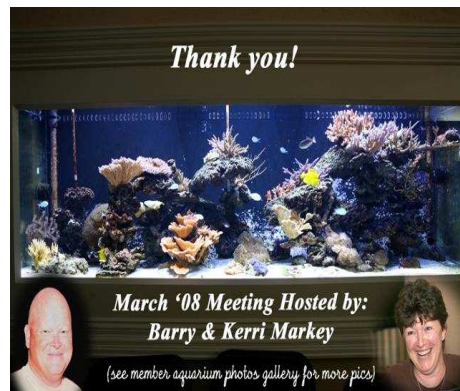
(Below) The January meeting was held at the beautiful home of Jessie & Julian MacGowan in Apopka. This was a frag event meeting with over 60 members attended this meeting and approximately 150 frags being auctioned off.



(Below) March found us at the home of Barry and Kerri Mackey in Ormond Beach for our monthly meeting. The food was non stop, the 350 gallon in wall tank was gorgeous and over 40 members were present. Joe Burger gave an excellent presentation and demonstration about culturing phytoplankton and rotifers. Afterwards the culturing media was raffled off and Barry donated 3 corals from his tank to the raffle.



(Above) Rick and Terry Loewen hosted the February meeting at their home in Ocoee. Over 60 members came to listen to ORCA's own Justin Zimmerman, the guest speaker from SeaWorld, who gave a very informative presentation on coral spawning. This presentation was followed by a frag demonstration.



## ORCA IS GROWING

*Welcome to Our New members*

### January 2008

Jim, Jennifer, Abigail & Alyssa Troeger  
 Mitch Carter, Laurie Haglund  
 Jason & Denisa Moorehouse  
 Ryan Heider, George Heider  
 Michael Mosseri  
 Jeff Petrusky  
 John Toms  
 Mike Fielder  
 James Dooling, Sarah Harnett  
 Charlie Plaza, Victoria Butler  
 Nick Slater

#### Corporate Sponsors

Exotic Aquarium  
 David's Tanks & Innovations  
 (DTI LLC)

### February 2008

Cezar Campo

#### Corporate Sponsors

Seven Seas Aquarium  
 Seven Seas  
 Reef Works  
 Ocean Inspirations  
 Oceans Direct  
 Ocean Blue/Aquaria Studios  
 Aquarium Fanatics  
 Blue Reef Marine

### March 2008

Yanira Rodriguez  
 Reinaldo Perez  
 Jean Cintron  
 Luigi Gesaulo  
 Renaldo Perez Jr.  
 Heather Joubran  
 Mark Unger  
 Leslie Masem

# Upcoming Meetings

## APRIL

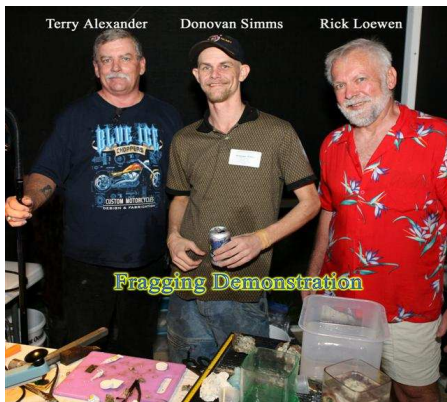
The April meeting will be held at the home of John Toms, in Orlando on Saturday, April 26th. This will be a frag event meeting. Pictures of frags will be posted on the website as they are registered.

## MAY

May will find us at the Orlando Science Center in Orlando on the 31st of the month. Our guest speaker for this meeting will be Dr. Bruce Carlson, the curator of the Georgia Aquarium. His presentation describes the actual building of the aquarium along with a discussion of the displays including the three whale sharks.

## JUNE

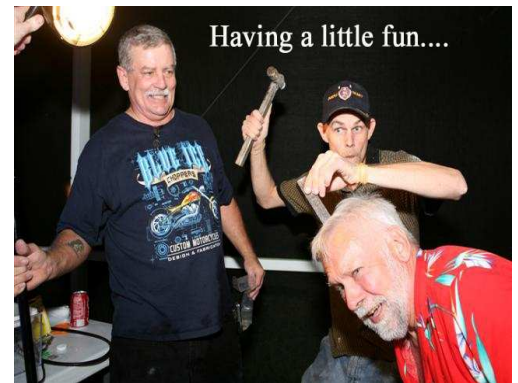
June's meeting place has not been determined yet but will be posted on the website soon. If you are interested in hosting a meeting, please contact any one of the Board Members.



### February Meting

Left—Terry Alexander, Donovan Simms and Rick Loewen gave an awesome fragging demonstration in Febraury.

Right—a different kind of frag.



## 2nd Annual ORCA Swap Meet



This years event was held on March 14th, 2008 and hosted by World Wide Corals. This event was an enormous success with many members getting great bargains on equipment that others no longer had any use for, while Matt Kantz served up burgers and dogs from the BBQ.

# Strange News

## Do They Make Barf Bags for Fish?

February 21, 2008

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) - Seventy-two small fish were briefly launched into space by researchers Thursday, hoping their swimming patterns would shed some light on motion sickness. German researchers sent the cichlids on a 10-minute rocket ride that blasted off from a launch pad in northern Sweden, said Professor Reinhard Hilbig, who was in charge of the project. "They were very happy, I think they want to have another flight," he said. The thumbnail-sized fish were filmed as they swam around weightlessly in small aquariums during the unmanned space flight. The German team will now study the video to see if some of the fish swam in circles because that is what fish do when they experience motion sickness, said Hilbig, of the Zoological Institute at the University of Stuttgart. He said scientists hope the experiment can help explain why some people experience motion sickness while others do not. The mechanisms involved are similar for both fish and humans. Hilbig said the fish landed safely and appeared to be in good condition. Cichlids were picked for the experiment because they are sturdy fish who were deemed to have good chances to survive the stress of a space flight. "Goldfish are a little bit fat and messy, while the cichlid fish is a well-trained, sporty fish with muscles," he said.



## Local Fish Stores / Sponsors

## Online Stores / Sponsors

### **ORLANDO REEF CARETAKERS ASSOCIATION**

We're on the Web  
[www.o-r-c-a.com](http://www.o-r-c-a.com)

Have something to include in the newsletter?

*Send it to:*

Ron DeNoia  
[Newsletter@o-r-c-a.com](mailto:Newsletter@o-r-c-a.com).

**Aquaria Studios  
Aquarium Fanatics  
Blue Reef Marine  
Coral Reef Aquariums  
Exotic Aquarium  
Ocean Blue  
Ocean Direct  
Reef Works  
Sea in the City  
Seven Seas Aquarium  
World Wide Corals**

**Air Water & Ice  
David's Tanks and Innovations  
Looking Glass Aquarium •  
Ocean Inspirations  
Oceans Blend**

April is a frag event month

*ORCA thanks you for your support*



## ORCA Board of Directors

### **Club Officers:**

**President** - Matt Kantz

**Vice President** - Ray Wortley  
**Secretary** - Joshua Solomon

**Treasurer** - Pam McDougall  
**Public Relations** - Terry Alexander

### **Club Directors:**

**Membership Director** - Melissa Kantz

**Web Admin** – Jim Troeger, Paul Ogne

**Frag Director** - Joe Durham

**Photographer** - Bonnie Alexander

**Newsletter Editor** - Ron DeNoia

**Mentoring Director** - George Reed

**Raffle Director** - John (Mac) McDougall