**2014 Show News**

The 2014 TAKO BELLE Revue will indeed be held at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 575 Texas 46, New Braunfels, Texas on Saturday and Sunday, July 12th and 13th.

Our featured speakers will include Dr. Sue Katz Amburn on Saturday afternoon. The afternoon is rounded out tentatively with Lori Green/Sherolyn Craig de-mystifying bettas; Kelly McDowell with U.S. Fish & Wildlife; and hopefully a presentation on plants. Saturday evening, the Banquet & Awards speaker will be Arthur Leuterman on the real cost of collecting fish.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the annual event. For those of you from out of state, remember that in Texas we drive differently than many other states, i.e. here it is more offensive driving, which can make newcomers very nervous. Just remember that it is nothing personal and to stay in the right hand lane!

Regardless of your point of origin, observe the signs and drive carefully.

**aleuterman@slb.com**

**2014 Nationals in Syracuse**

I was fortunate enough to attend the AKA Nationals over the Memorial Day Weekend and was reminded very clearly why I make an effort to participate in this annual event. Although I had no fish worthy of entry nor any fry large enough for the fish sale room I felt I could find other ways to contribute.

My wife was able to join me and we were blessed in that the U.S. Navy issued a holiday vacation pass to our oldest son so we were able to spend time with him and his girlfriend.

My points being:

- The show is about the fish and the friends one encounters.
- The memories obtained and stored away will last long after the fish and some of the friends have passed and will warm the heart over the intervals of time.

**Special points of interest:**

- Set up opens Saturday morning at 0600 hrs.
- All mail-ins to arrive no later than Friday, July 13th.
- Receiver of mail-ins:
  - Arthur Leuterman
  - 742 Bison Drive
  - Houston, Texas 77079-4401

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Syracuse continued

- As shows go it was average in size, i.e. right around 200 entrants and another 180 N&R for auction.
- As an opportunity to spend time with icons, such as Drs. Dan Nielsen, Ken Lazara, and John Brill along with notables such as Jim Gasior, Charlie Nunziata, Tony Terceira, Lenny Mackoviak, Chuck McLamb and Tom Grady it was invaluable.
- Yes, the two most expensive pairs did not make it back to Houston.
- Yes, I did find ways to contribute; in my case, through judging three classes, overseeing judging and serving as a runner during the auction.
- Conclusion, a great weekend with friends/fish.

Pictures on these pages taken by A. Leuterman
For those of you wishing to economize, as is the editor, I am including a listing of hotels thirteen (13) minutes south of New Braunfels for your review. Some of you may find sites just north of New Braunfels, in San Marcos, Texas that appeal more to you. New Braunfels summertime prices are higher than the surrounding areas for room rates due to the Schlitterbahn Waterpark.

Hotels in the Schertz area:
1. Fairfield Inn & Suites, 5008 Corridor Loop Road (210)658-1466.
4. La Quinta Inn & Suites, 17650 4 Oaks Lane (210)655-2700.

Hopefully you will find the above useful. I also recommend reviewing the physical location on Google Maps prior to booking.

1 C. Nunziata, T. Terceira et al.
2 Bazeleys
3 C. McLamb et al.
4 T. Woeltjes, L. Mackowiak et al.
Message from the President

This month’s message is again ghost written for our lame duck (or is that lame brain!) President, who despite the reminder, has once again forgotten his monthly. Knowing him as well as I do as a close ‘personal’ friend (this letter should take care of that stigma!) I know that he would wish to encourage each of you to support the annual show in any way you possibly can; whether by attending, sending entrants, and/or participating in the auction.

He would encourage you all to attend both days if possible. This year, for the benefit of those that are physically unable to attend, a list of available fish, by class, will be ‘email able’ on Saturday afternoon by 1600 hrs from Stephen and myself for those who wish to bid ‘long distance’. Simply contact either of us with the maximum bid for an item of interest and we will include you in the auction in this manner. (from the pen of Dr. A)