

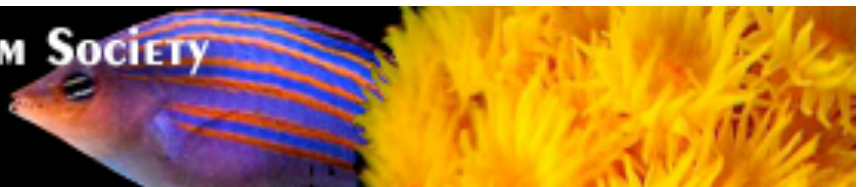
TANK OF THE MONTH- JUNE 2008

EVA RUSHTON'S AQUARIUMS



Interview and Write-up by Corey Price, photos by Mike Savage

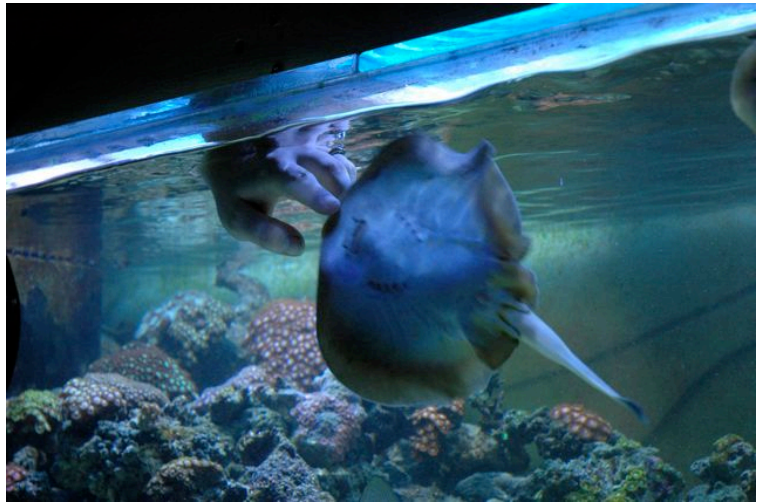
Eva Rushton of West Jordan has many wonderful saltwater aquariums. Eva could have her own reef tour, all within the confines of her own house. She has a true passion for anything having to do with saltwater, and has many, if not all of the common setups represented among her 10 saltwater tanks. When I asked her about how she came to have all of the tanks she currently has she replied by saying "Alex had tanks about 10 years ago, and got out. When we got our house, we got back into aquariums. I've had fish since 4th or 5th grade, during which I won a fish at a school carnival. My first real tank was only 5 gallons, and the freshwater tank upstairs is the second tank I've ever owned." I also asked the standard question of how she found WMAS, and she said "I found the club while researching the stages of cycling for an aquarium. I lurked around the message board for a few months, and then decided to start posting heavily and become a member."



MULTIPLE TANKS

Eva has so many tanks that I can't possibly discuss all of them at length. Here's an abbreviated list of her tanks:

- 180g Ray and zoanthid tank.
- 125 gallon tank acrylic with softies
- 130 tall with candy cane coral
- 5, 12, 24 gallon nanos
- 29, 39, and 44 medium sized tanks.
- 12 gallon stand-alone refugium with no fish, just live rock, brine, bugs, macroalgae, etc. The tank is meant to be devoid of most predators.



FILTRATION

The basic filtration setup for most tanks is a live rock and deep sand bed. Two of the big tanks have suspended reefs, which the fish love. All reef plumbing has been done by myself, including some of the standpipes. Alex's uncle made the 180 gallon tank stand. All of the tanks were purchased used, with only one being fully set up at the time of purchase.



candy canes. I "dose" alex to keep him hauling water for the tanks. I use tap water for top-off water, and I believe that I have no real algae issues or other issues to speak of from that."

Water changes are some of the most widely varying topics for saltwater aquarium enthusiasts. "I don't do frequent water changes," she said. She went on to explain that "most water changes are small and less than ten percent monthly. I did a water change in one tank and lost two SPS colonies from the water change, so I've cut back on large water changes, but I haven't ruled them out completely. I dose alkalinity, calcium, iodine, strontium, magnesium, etc. I think that iodine is very important for my zoanthids on the 180 gallon tank. I dose strontium heavily upstairs for the

LIGHTING

Lighting for the main tanks:

- 180g- 3-150w halides in an Aquatraders fixture with power compact actinic and royal blue lights. halides-6 hours, actinics 14 hours.
- 125g- 3-VHO's, two 48" and one 60". The lighting period is about 10 hours for all of the bulbs.
- 130g- 2-250w halides, with 2-T5 HO actinics. metal halides are on for 6 hours, and actinics are on for 12 hours.



I asked about how one could afford the power that all of these tanks use, and Eva said that the power bill to run all of these tanks is a crazy figure, and that I shouldn't ask for numbers.

APPROXIMATE FISH LIST



Listing all of Eva's fish might fill several pages, it seems. Here is a shortened list:

- 130g- Assorted uncommon damsels, pair of Percula Clownfish, Anthias, Bar Gobies, Scissortail Gobies, a couple Wrasses, Scooter Blenny, Lawnmower Blenny, and a Mandarin.
- 125g- Clarki and Maroon Clownfish, a Porcupine Puffer, Purple Tang, Figure-eight Puffer, Green-spotted Puffer, Engineer Goby, Tiger Goby, Combtooth Blenny, and a Scooter Blenny
- 180g- Two stingrays, sailfin tang, camel cowfish, bicolor blenny, large Mandarin, and a Spotted Puffer
- 44g- unknown Scorpionfish, Fu Manchu, Fuzzy Dwarf Lionfish, Coral Scorpion, Percula Clownfish, Parrotfish, and a Kliens Butterflyfish.
- Other tanks: Bicolor Blenny, Tailspot Blenny, Maroon Clownfish, Coral Banded Shrimp, etc.

APPROXIMATE CORAL LIST

Just like fish, listing coral could fill a few pages. Here are a handful of the many:

- 125g- Xenia, carnation corals, Kenya Tree, Green Nephthia, Sinularia, and lots of various mushrooms
- 180g- over 100 colors of Zoanthids
- 130g mixed reef with several hundred heads of Candy-canes, several SPS colonies and frags, Chalice, several colors of Duncans, a clam, Fungia plates, and various LPS.
- Others: Frogspawn, Star Polyps, Colt Coral, various anenomes, etc.



MISCELLANEOUS



Eva said that “my favorite tank is the 180 gallon tank downstairs. I like the SPS in the 130, and I love the puffer upstairs. I love the mystery fish upstairs, but I don’t know what he is. He looks like a scorpionfish, but who knows what he is.

I think water changes are over-rated, as well as not feeding. I think that feeding every day with the macroalgae and deep sand bed really makes a difference. I’ve been considering a jellyfish tank, but I don’t have a place to put it nor do I have a nano tank to put it in.”

Eva is a video game designer at a local software company, Game Studio.