

# What's happening?

## Mar. 9—Wed.

### **LED Lighting**

Monthly Meeting:  
7 TO 9 PM

### **Stacy Furniture in Grapevine**

(see map elsewhere  
in newsletter for di-  
rections)

## Apr. 13—Wed.

### **Dallas World Aquarium**

Monthly Meeting:  
7 TO 9 PM

### Coming Soon

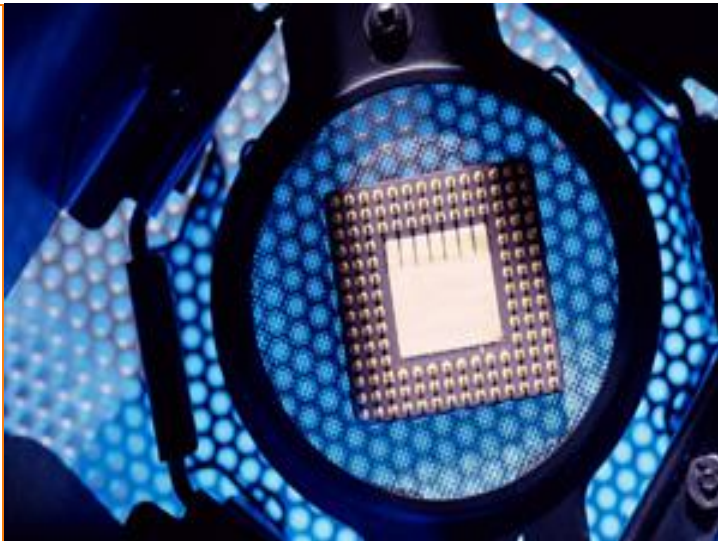
### **Spring Frag Swap**

Location and  
times to be de-  
cided. Watch fu-  
ture newsletters  
for info.

### June Meeting

Election of Offi-  
cers

**Plan to attend the  
Summer Social**



## **Mysteries of LED Lighting For Marine Aquariums Revealed!**

Numerous mysteries about high-power LED lighting will be revealed. This includes a review of the manufacturing process of an LED, various types of LEDs, various types of LED drivers, how to pair LEDs to drivers, thermal management, and how to select the appropriate LED for your aquarium. It will be concluded with an LED Retrofit Kit demo build. Here is your chance to ask an expert all those LED questions that you have been wondering about. A PRESENTATION NOT TO BE MISSED!

**PLUS, if you haven't spent all your money on the raffle at NextWave, we will have a raffle at this meeting. This includes the LED Retrofit Kit that Steve will build at the meeting.**

## **Start planning to attend Next Wave 2012.**

## From Our Pens

Drew Richardson/Jim Turkett

### **Where the Club is and where it is Headed**

After an up-and-down 2010, the club started this year very strong—with growing membership and a few club events that were very successful. In December, we held our winter social combined with a white-elephant gift exchange and a few “Minute-To-Win-It” games. Everyone that attended seemed to have a wonderful time, and the enthusiasm was evident.

Last week, we held Next Wave 2011 featuring The Coral Farmers Market™. To say the event was a tremendous success would be a serious understatement. The day started a little slowly, but quickly picked up steam, and turned out with a flurry of coral purchases, wonderful speakers, and a top-notch raffle. It was by far my proudest day as a DFWMAS member, and I can't say how appreciative the BOD is that so many attended and for each of the members that gave up a Saturday to help make Next Wave such an exceptional event for all involved. The reviews back from the attendees, vendors and speakers were all very positive, and it was a great day for DFWMAS. We surpassed our attendance numbers from last year, and it was great to see a packed vendor hall as well as a packed lecture hall during the presentations. Next year the club is planning a similar event, but we intend to make it even bigger and better than this year's record breaking Next Wave.

As we look into the future, we have a great meeting coming up in March with one of our homegrown vendors, Steve's LEDs. Steve will be discussing the positives and negatives of LED lights, and he will also be assembling a light fixture during his presentation. One lucky member will get to take the light home at the end of meeting. In April we have a couple of exciting events lined up, including a return to the Dallas World Aquarium. We also decided to add a third frag swap into the rotation, and this will be happening at the Irving Bible Church. Typically our swaps are such great successes and so well attended, we decided it was time to add one more.

As we look toward the summer, please keep in mind that we have BOD elections coming up in June. If you enjoy volunteering and you're looking for a way to get more involved with the club, please considering running for one of the open positions. Feel free to email or pm me with any questions on what exactly is involved.

I want to end this month's Pen by again saying thank you to all that attended Next Wave 2011. It truly made all of the BOD's hard work pay off, and it gave us all a renewed energy as we plan future events like Next Wave 2012 and other club extravaganzas.

*DREW*

President, DFWMAS

### **What a Wave -- Next Wave 2011**

Thanks to all who worked countless hours to make the NextWave the best in the history of DFWMAS. Attendance exceeded all our expectations, the company donors were very generous, our sponsors were awesome, the speakers were not only informative but very entertaining, and the raffle was the best ever. PLUS (last but certainly not least), we joined forces with the Steve Tyree and the Coral Farmers Market™ which provided those attended with a chance to acquire a prized coral frag at a terrific price. I just don't think it gets better than this.

There were so many volunteers that helped in one way or another but I would like to highlight a few that really work for many hours before as well as the entire day of the event. That's your Board of Directors. If I told you what all they did to make this event a success — you would be shocked. Thanks to Drew, Marc, Wes, Dennis, Misty, Lindsey, Matt, Jeff and myself :). *(continued on page 3)*

**DFWMAS**

**Board of Directors**

**Drew Richardson**

President

**Marc Levenson**

Vice President/Membership

**Misty Johnson**

Treasurer

**Wes Parton**

Secretary/Webmaster

**Lindsey Angelone**

Board Member

**Jim Turkett**

Newsletter Director

**Jeff Dheere**

Library

**Dennis Freeman**

Board Member

**Matt Little**

Board Member

## March Meeting

**TOPIC: Mysteries of LED lighting for Marine Aquariums Revealed!**

**SPEAKER:** Steve Parker

*Steve Parker has been a marine aquarist for over 15 years. He has an extensive background in physics, astronomy and electrical engineering. He has two bachelor's degrees and one Masters degree. His hobbies include aviation, salt-water coral and fishkeeping, woodworking, and metalworking. He also enjoys involvement with his church, and keeping up to date with high tech electronics and electronic components. Steve's interest with LEDs all started when he originally created a "do-it-yourself (DIY)" budget retrofit lighting system for his 210 gallon marine tank with great success. After building a similar retrofit kit for a friend, he realized how much he enjoyed providing the retrofit kit at a very low price. Several months later, with the help of DFWMAS and it's members, he is able to refine this idea into a viable business! Steve's LEDs company is a sponsor of DFWMAS.*

See his products at [www.stevesleds.com](http://www.stevesleds.com).

*(continued from page 2)*

Finally, a special thanks to those serving as our security: James, Patrick and Ian. You guys were outstanding.

Besides all the CFM vendors, we also had Tunze, Fritz, Unique LED, Exotic LED, Boston Aqua Farms, Reef Nutrition, ReefBrite and Precision Marine. Without these vendors, DFW would have had difficulty providing such an unmatched event.

Additionally, thank you to all the donors who provided raffle prize items: Reefgeek, Precision Marine, Unique LED lights, Exotic LED lights, Fritz, Brightwell, Macna, Lone Star Corals, CFM vendors, Rods Reef foods, Air, Water & Ice, Tunze, Reef Nutrition, NextReef, Aquahub, Eco-Tech, CPR Aquatics, Melev's Reef, Exotic Fish and Corals, and Aquatic Life.

Finally, thanks to all of you who attended. As Drew put it, "this was one of the proudest moments in DFWMAS history."

*Jim*

Newsletter Editor



Melev's Reef - [www.melevsreef.com](http://www.melevsreef.com) - Owned and operated by Marc Levenson, who resides in the Fort Worth area. His passion for the hobby and years of experience drove him to build the new venture known as Melev's Reef.

Marc began selling sumps and RO/DI systems via Melev's Reef back in 2004. Self-taught, but with plenty of construction experience in his past, he learned how to fabricate high-quality products out of acrylic. His intuitive designs are based upon logic and a hard-earned understanding of what works best. Over the past seven years, he has created a number of practical sump designs that have been reproduced by hobbyists both nationally and internationally. He takes orders for standard and custom sumps, as well as for specialty items like corner overflows, frag tanks, top down photo boxes, fan trays and more.

Two years ago, Marc closed down his floor cleaning business and put all of his energy into caring for his online store by filling orders for RO/DI systems that are shipped out to people throughout North America. He's been a DFWMAS sponsor as well as some of the bigger message boards nationwide. When people write to him with questions about their RO systems, he responds quickly, freely offering his extensive knowledge with possible options or practical solutions. Maintaining an inventory of filters, housings, fittings and more, orders can be filled and shipped out usually the next day or if you're in the area, picked up locally.

Marc's shop only carries products that he uses himself. He prefers to sell what he trusts and is willing to bet his reputation on. Plans are in the works to feature more products this year.

When you make a purchase from Melev's Reef, you are getting a reliable product that will last for many years. If an issue arises, Marc will personally be happy to help get it resolved quickly. He knows that your livestock is important to you, as he's a hobbyist himself. Link to his store: [www.melevsreef.com/shop](http://www.melevsreef.com/shop)



Marc is also a former President of DFWMAS, a current member of the Board of Directors (Vice-President), and a frequent speaker at club meetings.

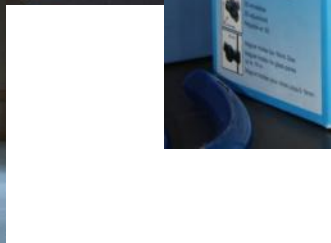
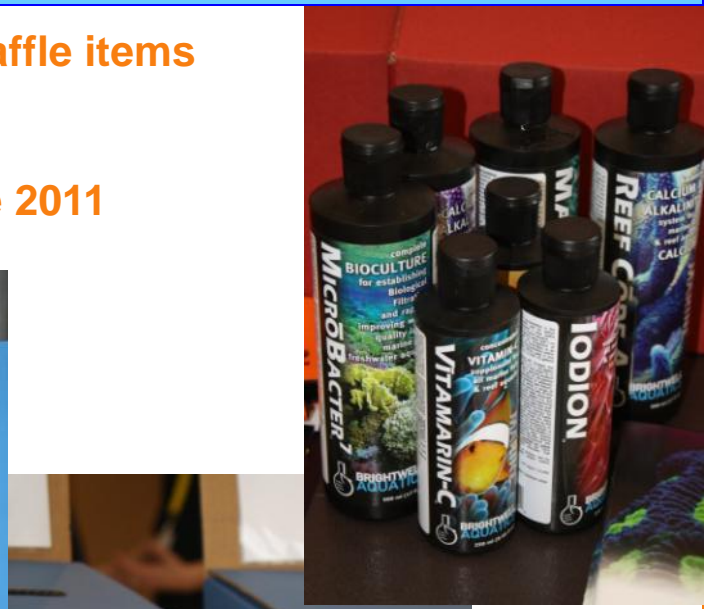
## Event Sponsors



Reef Nutrition  
Exotic LEDs  
Boston Aqua Farms  
Exotic LEDs  
ReefBrite



Some of the raffle items  
at  
NextWave 2011



# Scenes in the Raffle Room at Next Wave 2011



## DFWMAS Membership

There are a few things you should know before signing up to join the club - which is different than registering on the forum. You will see that some users have a "Member" logo with a clownfish; others do not. Those users with that logo under their name have paid to become DFWMAS Members.

### Membership

#### has its privileges!

In the forums you can see special areas that are just for Members - special sales and giveaways are the best part. We also have a special Members Only Directory where you can list your business. We have special tours and meetings just for Members (e.g. the Summer Social party) You get a discount for Next Wave, our annual conference with nationally-known speakers. And of course, the best reason of all, you support a wonderful club full of helpful, generous people.

### **Mission Statement**

- Strives to initiate public interest in the marine aquarium hobby.
- Educates hobbyists regarding the importance of the marine ecosystem.
- Increases knowledge in the husbandry of the marine aquarium system.
- Promotes captive propagation



**First and Last Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State and Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Forum Screen Name (if applicable)** \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Annual Membership Options - choose one:*

New \$20                       Renewal \$20

**Attach a check and bring to a meeting**

**or mail to:**

**Membership Chairman**

**P.O. Box 797602**

**Dallas, TX 75379**

You can also apply for membership on our website: <http://www.dfwmas.org>

**Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for DFWMAS Membership**

**Circle one:**                      **New**                      **Renewal**

**<http://www.dfwmas.org>**