

# Fish 'N' Chips

A Monthly Marine Newsletter  
July 2006 Issue

## Index

[From Liz  
Review  
Doin' It  
Yourself!](#)

[Caught In The Net  
Marine News  
Chips...er...Tips](#)

[Upcoming Events  
Just for Laughs  
Prove It!, a Bibliography  
Newsletter Disclaimer](#)

---

## From Liz

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 07/25/06

**Links Directory:** I've replaced the site list on the Fish 'N' Chips site with a Links Directory. While I loved using my site list to learn how to work with an online database, I've never found the time to keep it updated with new links. The Links Directory is a fresh start so I'd like to invite everyone to visit it and submit their saltwater related sites. There are only a few categories there now. Suggest the ones that you need for your sites - you know best what category your site should be listed under. Everything submitted will be visited and approved by me before it's published. And, if you become a link partner with my site, I'll display your logo or banner ad. Please make this a great resource for all your fellow Fish 'N' Chips subscribers and other hobbyists. The Links Directory allows you to rate and comment on sites also. Visit the Fish 'N' Chips Links Directory at <http://www.marinefiends.com/wslinkspreview/>.

**Software Reviewer:** I received responses from three subscribers who said they would be interested in doing software reviews for Fish 'N' Chips. Thanks for responding! I've emailed them all and we'll be working out the details. Hopefully we'll get things all figured out quickly and you'll start to see reviews soon.

**UPS Survey:** The UPS Survey is complete. I have all the responses and will be putting together the information and running up all the totals and all the rest of that good stuff. I hope

to have the results for everyone in the next issue.

**Laughs Wanted:** Remember the [Just for Laughs](#) section of Fish 'N' Chips? This will be it's last month if I don't get some new family friendly jokes submitted. Send in your joke by visiting <http://www.marinefiends.com/submit.html>.

**Visit This Month's Subscriber's Tank Showcase:** Russell's 80 Gallon Reef Tank is this month's Showcase and can be seen at <http://www.marinefiends.com/showcases.html>. To submit your tank photos and information, visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/submittank.html>.

[Back to Top](#)

---

## A Short & Sweet Review Oceans Motions Super Squirt

By stepnrazr, 08/25/2005

Edited By Elizabeth M. Lukan, 03/17/06

One of the things that seems pretty important in a reef tank is water motion. Not just any motion, but "surgy" motion, like one sees on the actual reef. The Oceans Motions Super Squirt (<http://www.oceansmotions.com/>) provides the opportunity to do this by having four 3/4" outlets that are opened by a rotating drum. Depending on the version you buy, the outlets can be opened sequentially, or two at once in opposition, or two adjacent outlets with a delay. If it turns out you want a different option, you can buy a new drum for \$25 and pop it right in.

I have been running mine for about 4 months now, and it has been absolutely trouble free. It is rated for 2200 gph, and is easily handling the 1200 gph I am putting through it. The motion is great, and it was easy to plumb. I would have preferred threaded outlets, but I guess you can't have everything.

So, if you want to run a closed loop, and don't mind parting with \$200, I would recommend this unit.

### **Editor's Comments:**

Editing was limited to spelling corrections and some grammar (capitalizing the beginning of a sentence, adding a period at the end, etc.). No other editing was done, what you read was exactly what was posted on the Saltcreep web site.

More information and an image of the product can be found at <http://www.oceansmotions.com/supersquirt.htm>.

Please visit Saltcreep at <http://www.saltcreep.com/> for this review, forums, and much more.



[Back to Top](#)

---

## **Doin' It Yourself!**

### **Auto Top Up!**

By Ian Brunsdon, 07/28/05

Edited By Elizabeth M. Lukan, 03/18/06

Here's a really cheap way to do an auto top up system if you use a deionizer (not an R/O unit).

You need:

- a long length of airline (mine was 12 meters!) and a non-return valve
- a small Torbeck float-type toilet ballcock replacement kit
- an adapter to screw onto it so you can use the airline as the feed for the ballcock (these are available through most aquatic stores or you can make your own from a bottle cap, but be sure it can cope with the pressure!)
- a length of pvc 90 degree angle about 10cm long
- cable ties



- a strip of glass the width of your tank/sump (could be the bracing bar!)
- a power drill

### Steps:

1. Follow the route from the cold water tank in the loft, down to the airing cupboard, this is usually directly over it.
2. Follow the route from the airing cupboard to the tank (not so easy!) you may be lucky or you may need to lift a floorboard to do this!
3. Following the route, drill holes from the airing cupboard to go to both the loft and the room containing the tank
4. Feed the airline down from the loft to the room containing the tank (no one said this was easy ... just cheap!)
5. Assemble the float unit, then drill the pvc angle to take the pipe and also to accept two cable ties to hold the unit to the glass strip.
6. Attach airline to the unit at the tank end and to the D/I unit (in the loft) attach a short length of airline to the inlet, then the non-return valve to the very end of the pipe.
7. Fit the bar across the tank/sump, and adjust the float until the valve is closed at the desired level.
8. Plonk the entire D/I unit in the cold water tank and start the syphon.

Bingo! Auto top up!

Doing it this way means the D/I unit is under no pressure, therefore no leaks on the carpet and the whole thing cost me around £20 plus the purifier.

### *Editor's Comments:*

Editing was limited to spelling corrections and some grammar (capitalizing the beginning of a sentence, adding a period at the end, etc.). No other editing was done, what you read was exactly what was submitted to me by Ian Brundson. The photo was provided by and is the property of Ian Brundson.

[Back to Top](#)

---

## Caught In The Net

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 07/23/06

## New Stuff Found

Advanced Aquarist's Online Magazine (<http://www.advancedaquarist.com/>):

- Volume V, Issue VI, June 2006 - <http://www.advancedaquarist.com/2006/6>
- Volume V, Issue, VII, July 2006 - <http://www.advancedaquarist.com/2006/7>

Reefkeeping Magazine (<http://reefkeeping.com/>):

- July 2006 - Volume 5, Issue 6 - <http://reefkeeping.com/issues/2006-07/index.php>

Seas the Day Ocean Book of the Month (<http://seastheday.theoceanproject.org/seastheday/book/index.htm>)

- July 2006 - Voyage of the Turtle: In Pursuit of the Earth's Last Dinosaur by Carl Safina - <http://seastheday.theoceanproject.org/seastheday/book/july2006.htm>

## Wallpaper of the Month



**Title:** Endless Blue

**Copyright:** Ryan Bliss, [Digital Blasphemy](http://www.digitalblasphemy.com/)

**Link to Wallpaper:** [http://www.digitalblasphemy.com/fshow.shtml?](http://www.digitalblasphemy.com/fshow.shtml?i=endlessblue&w=1152&h=864&y=2005&n=Endless%20Blue&b=count)

[i=endlessblue&w=1152&h=864&y=2005&n=Endless%20Blue&b=count](http://www.digitalblasphemy.com/fshow.shtml?i=endlessblue&w=1152&h=864&y=2005&n=Endless%20Blue&b=count)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## Marine News

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 07/25/06

*06/03/06, San Francisco Chronicle*

Coral reef to thrive in city Science academy re-creates nature's diversity in tank

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/06/03/BAG9OJ7E7S1.DTL>

**06/03/06, Reef Relief Inc.**

Public Comments on 4d Rule on Rule to List Elkhorn and Staghorn corals to the Endangered Species as "Threatened"

[http://www.reefrelief.org/reefnews\\_index.shtml](http://www.reefrelief.org/reefnews_index.shtml)

**06/04/06, INQ7 Interactive, Inc.**

Illegal fishing killing C. Visayas marine life

[http://news.inq7.net/regions/index.php?index=1&story\\_id=77980](http://news.inq7.net/regions/index.php?index=1&story_id=77980)

**06/09/06, Marine Conservation Society**

mcs warns: keep your distance from giant sharks!

[http://www.mcsuk.org/press/press\\_release.php?cust\\_id=73](http://www.mcsuk.org/press/press_release.php?cust_id=73)

**06/16/06, LiveScience.com**

Bush to Create Largest Marine Sanctuary

[http://www.livescience.com/animalworld/ap\\_060615\\_marine\\_sanctuary.html](http://www.livescience.com/animalworld/ap_060615_marine_sanctuary.html)

**06/22/06, Lenfest Ocean Program**

Decline of World's Estuaries and Coastal Seas Has Accelerated in Last 150-300 Years

[http://www.lenfestocean.org/newsroom/pr\\_2006\\_06\\_22.html](http://www.lenfestocean.org/newsroom/pr_2006_06_22.html)

## Recalls

**Scubapro X650 Second Stage Regulators** are being recalled by Scubapro of El Cajon, California, USA because the main housing of some regulators can change shape over time which could interrupt air flow and pose a drowning hazard. Consumers should contact Scubapro (<http://www.scubapro.com/>) for information on receiving a free replacement. Visit <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml06/06177.html> for the press release and photos of the item.

**Suunto D9 and D6 Model Wristop Dive Computers** are being recalled by Suunto Oy of Finland because the computers may incorrectly track dive time which may cause divers to miscalculate decompression time, risking decompression sickness. Consumers should take the product to a Suunto (<http://www.suunto.com/suunto/main/index.jsp>) dealer for a free software update. Visit <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml06/06216.html> for the press release and photos of the item.

**Versa Pro 2A Digital Dive Computers** are being recalled by Oceanic of San Leandro, California, USA because when they are set for "User Selected Digital Gauge Mode," the "Elapsed Dive Time" can exceed the actual elapsed time which may cause divers to miscalculate decompression time, risking decompression sickness. Consumers should take the product to an Oceanic (<http://www.oceanicworldwide.com/index2.cfm>) dealer for a free replacement. Visit <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prereel/prhtml06/06194.html> for the press release and photos of the item.

[Back to Top](#)

---

## **Chips...er...Tips**

### **Stock your tank with scavengers!**

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 07/25/06

It's important to stock your saltwater tank with scavengers regardless of whether it's a reef or fish-only setup. Scavengers eat pretty much anything. There's usually a scavenger out there that'll handle every job in your tank from sand sifter (starfish), detritus eater (hermit crab), algae eater (snail) and so on. There are many, many critters to choose from to fill those odd jobs in your tank. There's a scavenger out there that'll handle the job without putting your other tank inhabitants at risk. You just have to be patient and do your research. Scavengers include the typical hermit crabs and snails as well as starfish, cucumbers, nudibranchs, crabs, abalone, shrimp, even bristle worms. Don't discount fish as scavengers either as blennies love algae and gobies can be sand sifters.

**To Submit Your Tip:** Visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/submit.html>.

[Back to Top](#)

---

## **Upcoming Events**

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 07/26/06

<b>Event</b>	<b>Start Date / Time</b>	<b>End Date / Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Event Details, Notes, and For More Info</b>
--------------	--------------------------	------------------------	-----------------	--

<b>August 2006</b>				
MCS Coastal Challenge	now	Apr. 8, 2007		<a href="http://www.mcsuk.org/support/support.php?title=Coastal%20Challenge">http://www.mcsuk.org/support/support.php?title=Coastal%20Challenge</a>
MASLAC Meeting: So Cal Creations will show us how to work with acrylic and take care of our acrylic tanks.	Aug. 12, 2006			Marine Aquarium Society of Los Angeles County: <a href="http://www.maslac.org/">http://www.maslac.org/</a>
<b>September 2006</b>				
International Coastal Cleanup	Sep. 16, 2006			<a href="http://www.coastalcleanup.org/">http://www.coastalcleanup.org/</a>
California and the World Ocean '06	Sep. 17, 2006	Sep. 20, 2006	Sacramento, CA, USA	<a href="http://resources.ca.gov/ocean/cwo06/">http://resources.ca.gov/ocean/cwo06/</a>
2006 AZA Annual Conference	Sept. 25, 2006	Sept. 29, 2006	Tampa, FL, USA	<a href="http://www.aza.org/ConfWork/AC_Intro/">http://www.aza.org/ConfWork/AC_Intro/</a>
<b>October 2006</b>				
Backer's 40th Annual Pet Industry Trade Show and Educational Conference	Oct. 6, 2006	Oct. 8, 2006	Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont (Chicago), Illinois, USA	<a href="http://www.hhbacker.com/hhbacker/x06tradeshow.asp">http://www.hhbacker.com/hhbacker/x06tradeshow.asp</a>
Oceano Marine Conference	Oct. 21, 2006	Oct. 22, 2006	Pointe Hilton Resort at Squaw Peak, Phoenix, Arizona, USA	<a href="http://www.sioceano.com/">http://www.sioceano.com/</a>
<b>November 2006</b>				
Second Annual Coral Reef Conservation and Management Conference	Nov. 8, 2006	Nov. 9, 2006	James L. Knight International Center, Miami, Florida, USA	<a href="http://www.informalearning.com/coralreefs">http://www.informalearning.com/coralreefs</a>

**To Submit Your Event:** Visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/submit.html>.

[Back to Top](#)

**Just for Laughs**

Submitted by Doreen Pratt, 05/05/06

Edited by Elizabeth M. Lukan 05/15/06

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says "Dam!"

**To Submit Your Joke:** Visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/submit.html>. Your joke **must** be family friendly and fish related. If you can't tell it to your children, don't send it to me and expect to see it published.

[Back to Top](#)

---

## Prove It!, a Bibliography

By Elizabeth M. Lukan 07/23/06

*Article:* Marine News

- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Subscription List (<http://www.cpsc.gov>)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## Newsletter Disclaimer

To subscribe to Fish 'N' Chips, visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/>.

To unsubscribe, visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/>.

Any and all comments, suggestions, etc., should be directed to [fishnchips@mail.com](mailto:fishnchips@mail.com).

The Fish 'N' Chips Website can be found at <http://www.marinefiends.com/>.

To view the current issue of Fish 'N' Chips, visit <http://www.marinefiends.com/current.html>.

Please note that we will never sell, post, or give away your email address - EVER! Any

product names shown are copyrighted and/or trademarked by their respective companies. And, unless noted, they are not endorsements, just examples. When we endorse something, we'll make it obvious.

[Back to Top](#)

[W3C Validation Check](#) / [Labeled with ICRA](#)