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# Editorial: February 2007

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Terry announces the deployment of the redesigned reefs.org portal and discusses Joe Yaiullo's Atlantis Marine World article.

By Terry Siegel

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I'm very pleased to report that we have redesigned [reefs.org](#) site, and that some of you have already noticed that it is both more attractive and functional. The activity on Reefs.org and Advanced Aquarist has grown steadily over the few years that they have been in existence. As always, if any of you can think of a way to improve either please [let us know](#). The world of cyberspace is indeed the brave new world of our time.

The following information was supplied by Shane Graber, who developed both sites. Great job Shane!

***"We are live!"***

Reefs.org is pleased to announce the release of our new and [improved](#) community web site! It has taken our team well over a year to complete this large project, and we're all very excited to bring you the results of our efforts.





Here are some of what the new Reefs.org offers:

- Over 750 reefkeeping articles
- More than 1500 Photos
- An updated Hitchhiker FAQ
- New, exclusively designed wallpapers for your computer
- New Surveys and Polls
- A thriving community exchanging experiences in our discussion forums
- Site-wide news feeds
- A significantly improved search engine
- Improved navigation and indexing
- An advanced web infrastructure serving as a platform for future projects

The site has undergone a dramatic improvement of its organization. Reefs.org is now easier, faster, and more accurate to navigate than ever before. On just the homepage alone, you can now read about the latest issue of Advanced Aquarist's Online Magazine (AAOLM), find recent information about Marine Aquarist Courses Online (MACO), learn about upcoming reefkeeping events (such as MACNA and IMAC), and save money on the current sponsor's Powerbuys. And thanks to the news feeds (using RSS), you will be able to stay up-to-date with new article postings, newly listed Powerbuys, your personal search results, site announcements, new calendar events, and more.

It is important to stress the new Reefs.org is not a mere superficial update; We are preparing our community for the next-generation reefkeeping portal, capable of endless possibilities.

Reefs.org has always prided itself on being a complete resource for reefkeepers, bringing innovation

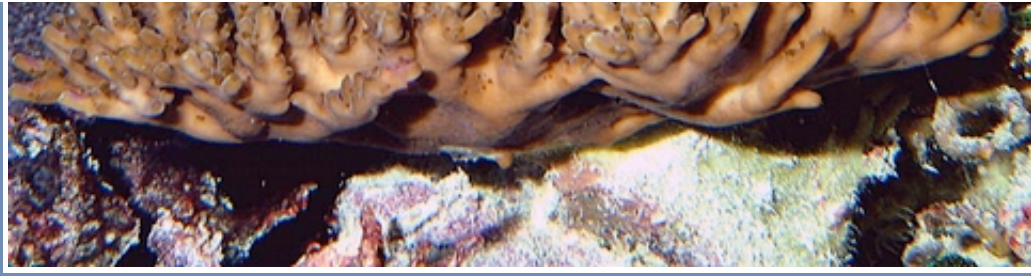
in how information is shared and acquired amongst hobbyist. We were the first online reefkeeping chat (#reefs on afterx.net), a pioneer in dedicated reefkeeping forums, the first to publish a monthly, professional online periodical (Advanced Aquarist Online Magazine), and the first to offer an online curriculum for marine aquarists (Marine Aquarist Courses Online). Reefs.org has a proven history of being a "hobbyist-first" community, relentlessly aiming to improve the hobbyists' experience when other communities may choose to do only what is required to stay competitive. As our membership and traffic grows, so must Reefs.org grow to better serve our community. We will continue to strive for improvement, and our new infrastructure will provide us with this boundless potential. We invite everyone to join Reefs.org in our vision.

Today, Reefs.org is more ready than ever to be where reefkeeping begins on the Internet. We hope you will share our excitement and join us in this new era of community building and informations sharing. If you are an avid reefkeeper with fresh ideas, a local society looking for new exposure, a manufacturer interesting in getting the word out on your product line, etc. .... we'd love to hear from you.

Have a comment or suggestion about the new website? We'd love to hear from you too. Click here to visit our [Questions, Comments and Suggestions](#) forum.

Reefs.org would like to thank Shane Graber for heading up the site redesign, Leonard Ho for the graphical and styling work, and Wade Lehmann for his update on the Hitchhiker FAQ and the upcoming MACO website."





Joe Yaiullo's article, in this issue, on his creation of the Atlantis Marine World (AMW), now 6 years old has special significance for me. I vividly recall going into the basement of the New York Aquarium to see his creation of a reef tank that most professionals in those days said couldn't be done. In fact, when confronted with Joe's experimental 180-gallon reef tank (set up in the late 1980s) some insisted that Joe wasn't really maintaining the animals in it, but was adding new ones as "last weeks" rapidly died. At that time in history, many marine biologists insisted that it was not possible to keep stony corals alive in captivity – tell that to my *E. ancora*, which has grown from a fist size fragment into a large colony 25-inches across over the last 20 plus years -- let alone SPS corals like *Acroporas*. Now we know how to grow them like proverbial weeds. I also remember in those days going with Joe and Greg Schiemer to a guy's house on Long Island, to his basement, where he had a small child's wading pool filled with sea water, and about 24 pieces of PVC, with newly imported *Acropora* frags in each. We, and some other aquarists, surrounded the tub as if it was the center of some kind of strange religious ceremony, as we gazed at the *Acropora* frags. I still have an *Acropora* frag to this day that I bought then. I think it was at that time that Joe called himself and the rest of us coralaholics. A condition I might add that for most of us has remained uncured.



