

Killie News

A Publication of the Minnesota Killie Keepers Association
An affiliate of the American Killifish Association (AKA)

December 2006

Minnesota Killie Keepers Association Board of Directors

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From the Editor:

Well, this is it...my last issue of the Killie News. I want to thank Greg Simpson for volunteering to take over as editor. I'm sure he has ideas about what he would like our publication to look like. I'm also sure he'd love any feedback our membership might care to provide. You can e-mail him at gk2simps@msn.com. Please feel free to send him your articles, pictures and artwork. I will still be taking care of the SYLC points for Greg, so continue to send that stuff to me.

I want to thank everyone for your continued support over the past few years. It has been a lot of work, but a lot of fun as well.

Happy fish keeping!

Robin

The November 16th meeting was held in Craig's new apartment in Bloomington. Present: John Aldrich, Bruce Cameron, Bob Carter, Robin Engelking, Brentt Helland, Mike Kromrey, Carter McAninch, Craig Rees, Milo Squires and Brad & Nancy Swanson.

Craig tried out his new hot dog grill and we had some other good stuff to eat.

Craig got some more MKKA pens. They were pretty nice. He wanted everyone to take a couple to "lose" for advertising. He also got brine shrimp eggs from Sanders. They are 85% hatch. There are 12 cans that cost \$20.36 per can. We voted to sell them to anyone who is interested for \$25. Milo will check with Tom Gromek at the MAS board meeting and see if it would be all right for Craig to sell brine shrimp eggs at the MAS meeting in addition to selling the black worms.

Tom Kean wants 3 cans, Milo wants 2 cans and Mike wants 2 cans. There was some interest in getting a case of the decapsulated brine shrimp eggs too. Craig will check into it. Craig is planning to bring black worms to the December MAS meeting.

Craig got a number of the AKA Epiplatys/Aplocheilus book. This book is the German translation. We will sell the book for \$10 to MKKA members and \$12 to non-members. We would like to donate one to the MAS library if they want it.

If you want any of these things e-mail Craig at his NEW e-mail address (killifish777@comcast.net) and make arrangements with him.

We did nominations for the Board positions. Robin nominated Greg Simpson for the Editor position. We opened the floor for the Secretary position, but no one wanted it. Robin declined because she needs a break. She might be willing to step in next year. We voted to have Greg Simpson be the new Killie News editor and the rest of the Board stayed the same.

Lorrell e-mailed all the information that she has on the web site to Sara Goodnow. No one has heard from Sara recently. Craig will get in touch with her and see if she needs additional "stuff" or wants any help.

We tried to get some killie eggs from England, but no luck.

Craig wanted to talk about him doing show donations for MAS too. Bob Randall asked if he would be willing. There is some concern the manufacturers might think we are "double dipping" and might choose not to send stuff to either club. There was a discussion about putting Bob's name on the letters so the items would be shipped to his house in stead of Craig's. The apartment doesn't have as much storage as was available in the house. Craig would hold the stuff for MKKA. If Craig puts Bob's name on the letter and the manufacturer's find out about it, that would seem dishonest and they might not send stuff either. [What if we give Bob our manufacturers list and let him send letters himself? – Ed]

We had a discussion on the show site. We like the site and would like to keep the same location if the price doesn't go up a lot. Craig will try to get the rates for sleeping rooms decreased for next year. It may not be possible because that is one of hotel's busiest times of the year.

Our biggest concern is how to get more people to attend the auction on Sunday.

1 – We could try having a special raffle for auction bidders. Anyone registered as a bidder would automatically be entered for the prize...perhaps a large (e.g. 55-gallon) tank. We should ask Greg Goodnow how much he can get them for and how much it would cost the club.

2 – Have more signs. How about a 12 x 18 or 30 x 36 inch sign directing people to the site? It would have to be a couple of block before the actual turn so people would have time to react. It is unlikely we would get many people just driving by who would want to stop in and see a fish show.

3 – Advertizing! Fliers in stores have been traditional, but it doesn't seem very effective.

What about coupons that the stores hand out and the people have to bring to the show site to enter a raffle to win something? The printing for that would be too expensive for the number of coupons that we would need to distribute. The best way is to bring fish to the stores so people can see the fish and buy them.

(If anyone has any other ideas please contact one of the board members with them.)

Bruce brought a lot of donations for the club.

- 1 bag of Spirodella polyrhizza
- 2 bags of water lettuce
- 2 bags of tropical hornwort
- 2 fruit fly cultures
- dog food to feed worm cultures.

Robin bought one of the fruit fly cultures for \$3. [Bob C and I had to leave, so I don't know who got the rest of the stuff or how much it went for – Ed]

Respectfully submitted, Robin Engelking.

*The Adventures of
Gary Gardneri and Andy Australe*



*Merry Christmas Gary! Yes, Merry Christmas my good friend Andy!
Gary and Andy want to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and Happy New
Year!
2006 out ~~ 2007 in*

Diapteron cyanostictum GBG 92/10 “Blue”

By Eric Bodrock

Reprinted from *Killie Dirt* May/June 2005/ Canadian Killifish Association

Reprinted originally from *Finformation* / Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society

Most of what you read or hear about any of the *Diapterons* is that they are a little bit of a difficult fish to breed and raise. They are small fish, only reaching the total length of about an inch and their colors will knock you socks off if you were to shine a light on them!

The idea of spawning any of the *Diapterons* – *abacinum*, *cyanostictum*, *fulgens* or *georgiae* – has drifted in and out of my mind for many years. I have, on several occasions, been lucky enough to find them at a killifish event at a somewhat affordable price and bring a pair or two home with the intention of spawning them. Those attempts never ended with favorable results! Here is the most important thing I learned from those past experiences: do some research on the species you want to work with and, more importantly, REMEMBER what you’ve researched. A good example of this is that it is recommended in almost every article about *Diapterons* to keep them in cold, clean, soft water. Sort of knowing this in the past, I always tried to keep them in a cooler part of my fish room, bottom shelf, no heater, etc. The problem here was that I was trying to keep them cooler, when they needed to be COLD! I was never able to get them cold enough until this past winter when I moved my fish room from the third floor into the basement. On the floor, on an outside wall, I was able to get the temperature done into the mid 60’s degree F. range. The new trio I acquired this past summer liked that!

In past attempts I used sponge filters, as I do in just about every aquarium I have set up. However, I found that they seemed to adjust rather well when I used a box filter filled with a high grade carbon and jammed so full of filter floss that the fish couldn’t fit through the slots on the filter lid. This filter helps provide the excellent water quality they need. In addition to good filtration, I used straight reverse osmosis (R/O) water with a pinch or two of commercial R/O water conditioner. These conditioners are additives that provide some trace elements that are essential for the health of the fish. They must have liked this idea too!

All of this was going on in a three quarter full, bare bottom, 10-gallon tank that housed the trio. The tank was fitted with a full glass cover and a sunken yarn mop on the aquarium bottom that acted as both cover for the fish and a spawning medium. Their diet consisted mainly of black worms, daphnia, live baby brine and frozen cyclop-eeze that were rotated in twice daily feedings. During the first several months I had the fish there was no sign of spawning activity. Once the outside temperatures dropped, as did the water temperatures in their tank, they started throwing eggs like there was no tomorrow.

About once a week I’d take the mop from the tank and place it in a two-gallon tank or plastic shoebox and throw a new, clean mop into the breeding tank. Eggs are easy to see in the mop because of their large, two-millimeter size. The spawning continued like this throughout the winter, until the water temperature rose above 70 degrees F. Tiny fry could be seen after about a week from the time the mop was pulled from the breeder’s tank. I found *euglena* to be an excellent food choice for their first meals. Microworms can be added after the fry are about ten days old. Live baby brine shrimp are not added to their diet until the fry are nearly three weeks old. The fry are very, very slow growing. With a light beam on them, the males will show faint colors in their fins at about four months of age and a half an inch in length.

Eric operates a hatchery and store in Baldwin, PA, just outside Pittsburg. His business is at: www.alloddballaquatics.com.

Support Your Local Club Point Totals:

<u>Member</u>	<u>point class</u>	<u>Point Total</u>					
Brent Aitchison		0	2	John Metzgar	0	45	
John Aldrich	attend meeting	1	2	Bob Morenski	0	0	
Clay Anderson		0	0	Don Mortenson	pictures for KN	15	108
Guy Bagley & Howie Galoff		0	0		12 entry GCKA	60	168
Ed Brandt		0	0		3 1 st place	9	177
Bruce Cameron	attend meeting	1	49		1 2 nd place	2	179
Sally Cameron		0	3		2 3 rd place	2	181
Bob Carter	attend meeting	1	41		18 entry MKA	90	271
Robin Engelking	attend meeting	1	37		1 1 st place	3	274
Greg Goodnow		0	7		2 2 nd place	4	178
Sara Goodnow		0	1		3 3 rd place	3	181
Gaylon Hafer		0	0		15 entry WAKO	75	256
Brentt Helland	attend meeting	1	15		1 1 st place	3	259
Emily Helland		0	14	Alex Moroz	1 2 nd place	2	261
Rick Ivik		0	0	Gary Palubicki		0	6
Ted Jolivette		0	1	Ernie Plutko		0	0
Tom Kean		1	31	Craig Rees	host meeting	6	84
Mike Kromrey	attend meeting	1	32	Terry Scepurek		0	0
Erin Kromrey		0	9	Greg Simpson	G & A for KN	15	300
Jenny Kruckenberg		0	146	Milo Squires	attend meeting	1	83
Erny May		0	6	Brad Swanson	attend meeting	1	14
Carter McAninch	attend meeting	1	72	Nancy Swanson	attend meeting	1	13

Greg Simpson still has the lead with 300points, but Don Mortenson has gone crazy racking up points for his show entries! He has moved into second place with 261 points which makes Jen Kruckenberg third with 146 points. There is one more month before SYLC ends. Send me your information and I'll se it gets in next month.

If you have any concerns about points, e-mail me at raqbe@usinternet.com.

Support Your Local Club (SYLC) Rules:

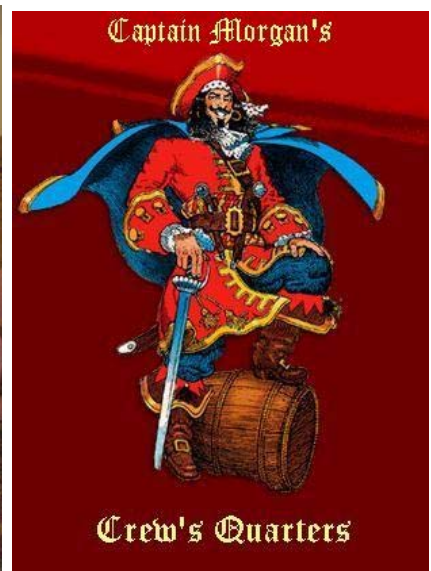
Points are accumulated as follows:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1 – Donate fish for auction at monthly meeting | 5 pts |
| 2 – Send fish to out of town shows | |
| a) participation/entries | 5 pts/pair |
| b) First place | 3 pts |
| c) Second place | 2 pts |
| d) Third place | 1 pt |
| 3 – Bowl show at monthly meetings | |
| a) participation/entries | 5 pts/pair |
| b) First place | 3 pts |
| c) Second place | 2 pts |
| d) Third place | 1 pt |
| 4 – Submit an article, artwork or pictures for the Killie News | 15 pts |
| 5 – Give a program about killies to a local club | 15 pts |
| 6 – Give a program at an MKKA meeting | 10 pts |

7 – Host a meeting	6 pts
8 – Attend a monthly meeting	1 pt
9 – Donate a plant or piece of equipment	1 pt/item
10 – Donate a live food culture	1 pt
11 – Bring a new person to a meeting	1 pt
12 – Have a friend join MKKA	5 pts
13 – Help out at the annual show	1 pt/day
14 - Special functions to be determined by the board	to be determined
15 – Other special events as determined by the BOD	1 pt/day



This was the CKA discussion group saying, "You all come back now, ya hear!"



This is how the "CREW" will know where they are most welcome, and where the "Special Program" will be presented.



This group formed the 1st ever CKA Show Critique Group. This is where the hard questions were met with tough answers. Totally serious debates ranged for several hours. At times, you could hardly hear yourself...not for the meek. These seldom seen photos are rarely shown, due to the sometimes traumatic scars left. Prolonged exposure should be avoided. We are "Professionals"!

Directions to Milo's house,

From the North or East – Take 494 to Eden Prairie. Then go west on Hwy 5 through Chanhassen to Hwy 41. Go south (left) on Hwy 41 to Engler Blvd (Hwy 10). Go east (left) on Engler Blvd two blocks to Park Ridge Drive. Go north (left) on Park Ridge Drive two blocks to Park Ridge Circle.

From the South – Take Hwy 169 to Hwy 41. Go north on Hwy 41 up the hill to Engler blvd. Go east (right) on Engler Blvd two blocks to Park Ridge Drive. Go north (left) on Park Ridge Drive two blocks to Park Ridge Circle.

From the West – Take Hwy 7, 5 or 212 to Hwy 41. Go south (north from 212) on Hwy 41 to Engler Blvd. Go east (left (right from 212)) on Engler two blocks to Park Ridge Drive. Go north (left) on Park Ridge Drive two blocks to Park Ridge Circle.

1811 Park Ridge Circle, Chaska
952-488-9553

MKKA 2006/2007 Calendar of Events:

Thursday, December 21, 2006 is scheduled to be at the home of Milo Squires.
 952-448-4153.

Thursday, January 18, 2007 is scheduled to be at the home of Craig Rees
 952-403-6038.

Thursday, February 15, 2007 **is open.**

Thursday, March 15, 2007 is scheduled to be at the home of Bruce Cameron.
 651-633-9484

Saturday, April 21, 2007 is scheduled to be at the home of Mike Kromrey.
 763-434-3456

Thursday, May 17, 2007 is scheduled to be at the home of Craig Rees.
 952-403-6038.

Thursday, June 21, 2007 is scheduled to be at the home of Milo Squires.
 952-448-4153

Thursday, July 21, 2007 **is open.**

Thursday, August 16, 2007 **is open.**

Thursday, September 20, 2007 is at the home of Robin Engelking.
 763-560-5038

October 2007 We would like to have a road trip to Rochester to Greg G's shop.

Thursday, November 15, 2007 is scheduled to be at the home of Jen Kruckenberg. Nominations for officers are open this month.
 651-457-2302

Thursday, December 20, 2007 is scheduled to be at the home of Milo Squires. We need to elect officers this month.
 952-448-4153.