

# G.C.K.A. Newsletter

January 2009

A (usually) Bi-Monthly Publication of the Greater Cincinnati Killifish Association, edited by Tom Payne

Vol. XIV No. 1

## From Our New President (No, not that one!)

### Happy Holidays (a little after-the-fact)

Christmas is a joyous time and the New Year is a new start for everyone and I feel that the club as a whole can get a new start with old and new members to come together as one. This is the time for us a club to grow as a result of the good fellowship among friends that happened at the Christmas party and carry that into the other meetings during the year. I hope the fun we had at this Christmas party carries over into 2009 meetings.

At the next meeting, we should try to bring a new person to see what our club is like and maybe see something at the meeting that would cause them to join the club. I hope we can show new people the advantages of being in the club for the fellowship, fish, and know-how.

I am very humbled to be your new president. I hope I can do as good a job as others have done through the years. I hope to see everyone at the next meeting. There will be more information before the meeting in the Spring and, if you have anything, please feel free to email me or call me.

Your president,  
Doug Singer  
Greenterror\_691@yahoo.com  
937-212-1858

## 2008 Christmas Party

The 2008 Christmas Party held at Fritz and MaryJo Bazeley's home in Cincinnati was just super! What fun to be around friends at that time of year. The turnout was gratifying in that the Bazeley's warm home was filled with laughter, fun, and really tasty food. The annual auction was well supported and even the prices were decent. The gift exchange

was a hoot, as it always is and everyone remarked at how much they enjoyed themselves. Our youngest member, Vivian Carney, who rode down with me and Cathy, her mother, wrote the following poem about why we do the Christmas party.

### To GCKA Christmas Party Members: A Poem

*Emptiness is never a good feeling.  
It's like finding a gum package with no gum  
inside.  
So, every year we gather as a club,  
To make emptiness go away.  
We have fun and cheerful memories.  
We go home thinking of the fun times we had.  
Next year will be the same!*

Thanks, Vivvy, we all agree.

### December Business News:

In what's been called a "Machiavellian maneuver", Doug Singer has become our new President, hence the lead piece in this newsletter. It was time for new leadership and I have agreed to continue to write the newsletter for the club. My hope is that you, the members will support Doug with your presence at meetings and communicate with him about what you want GCKA to become. Larry James remains the treasurer.

At the Christmas party, we decided to restructure our meeting schedule from monthly to four times a year. The Christmas party in December would be followed by a Spring meeting in late March or April to avoid winter travel miseries. A summer meeting in late June or July would follow with the possibility of it being focused on a collecting trip. The Fall meeting would occur in late September or early October. Each of the four meetings will have a program involving a speaker or activity, an auction, and each meeting will be held in a different geographical

location in Ohio. We hope that fewer meetings with more attractive activities will make them higher on member's priority list to boost attendance.

We discussed the possibility of organizing road trips to attend regional AKA affiliate shows and enjoy the fellowship at those events.

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **NEXT MEETING!!! – Stephan Tanner Program**

---The April meeting of GCKA will be held at 2:00PM, April 18, 2009 at the home of Tom Payne in Galena, Ohio, north of Columbus. Besides our regular agenda of snacks, beverages, fellowship and hanging out in the fishroom, we will have a guest speaker, Stephan Tanner, of Swiss Tropicals ([www.Swisstricals.com](http://www.Swisstricals.com)). Stephan promises a talk on a subject yet to be determined and "I can bring foam, bristlenose, some really cool Black Ruby Barbs (not the washed out stuff you get in stores), F1 from wild Danio aequipinnatus from Sri Lanka, several livebearers and maybe others.", from Stephan's email to me. Stephan's presentations are always fun and informative and his livestock is always "top-drawer" and reasonably priced. The foam of which he speaks to the Poret open cell foam useful in many ways in the fishroom. As the date draws closer, I will have additional information available by email and snail mail. For now, reserve the date on your calendar and think about inviting a friend along for the meeting. Maps will follow along with updates.

#### **Roster Update:**

I've attached a roster to this newsletter for your review. Please send any changes to me and President Singer so we can produce a current list in a few months.

### **KILLIFISH KARNIVAL: in Elkhart Indiana, February 28th and March 1st, 2009.**

It's time to start thinking about which killifish will be ready for shows and which shows you will want to attend to renew those old friendships from shows past.. For those of you thinking of working toward the coveted accolades of the American Killifish Association as the high point person of the year, what better way to get a jump on other killi keepers than to participate in the AKA sanctioned, 30th Annual KILLIFISH KARNIVAL in Elkhart Indiana, February 28th and March 1st, 2009.

This is one of the only specialty shows, if not the only specialty show put on by a general interest aquarium society. We've been doing it for the past 29 years and want to make this 30th anniversary show one of the best yet and one that will continue to set the standard for other specialty and general shows for the coming year. Please review the attached show flier and share it with your club members and all other hobbyists you know with an interest in killi keeping.

This is an AKA sanctioned, fifteen class show, with Best Old World, Best New World and Best in Show being awarded.

Art Leuterman will be offering programs on Rivulus and small roloffia and Lamprichthys. We will also be entertained by our old friend Ray "Kingfish" Lucas who will be speaking on The Hobby.

Sunday March 1st, the Kingfish Auction will start at 11:00 AM and the MAS auction is scheduled to start at 11:30.

If you are unable to attend, we are accepting mail-in entries. Please see the attached flier for additional show information including the full schedule of events, map and lodging information. The show will again be at the Ramada Inn located just off I80/90 exit 92 in Elkhart, Indiana. Please join us helping to make our 30th anniversary show, one to remember.

Editorial Note: This is a great road trip opportunity. Let's put together a group to drive up and find a place to stay overnight. I will provide a van for the travel. Get back to me with your reservation of a seat!

## Grindle Worms

(The following article was written by Barrie McKoy of New Zealand, whom I met via e-mail this month and discovered he was writing killie articles.)

For Killies these have to be one of the easiest live foods to feed to growing fry and adults alike.

The worms themselves are a size that is halfway in-between both White Worms and Micro Worms. They will stay alive in the tanks for up to 48 hours which is great if you're taking eggs from your fish and are going away for a few days.

I feed Grindles to fry that are about 15 to 20mm long with even those that are only 10mm getting the odd one or two.

I was shown this method by Mat Carter and have changed only the food I feed them to Luncheon Sausage.

Firstly you need a container to hold the worms; this should have a lid but needs to allow air in, in other words, holes drilled in the top. I've used a "click it" container



This is placed in another container. In this case I've used an ice cream container to help keep the culture darker. When the Ice Cream lid goes on, I leave one corner open slightly to allow air in and out.



I use soil/peat from a small garden in the front of my garage. It has been built up over the last 30 years with top soil and peat from pot plants as well as a few grass clippings.



I fill the click it container about half full with this medium and dampen slightly so that the worms don't simply dry out.

I add a starter culture of as many worms as I can realistically find without destroying my original culture and place a small amount of luncheon sausage on the top. Just enough for them to eat over a two day period. I change this with fresh luncheon every two days and wait until the worms are multiplying quickly.



They will be clearly seen on the glass.



And can be washed into your tanks to be eagerly consumed by your fish.  
Its enough to make you feel hungry isn't it.



Barrie McKoy with special thanks to Matt Carter.