

The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

Tank Topics

April/May 2010



Just one of the many tables of items at our Spring Auction on March 7th! A big thank you to all those who came out and helped, sold stuff and especially those who stuck it out 'til the bitter end over ten hours later! We couldn't have done it with out you! Check out the rest of the auction pictures taken by our Historian Dave Girard on page nine of this issue. Who knows, you might even be in one of them!

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Important Dates for 2010

March 7
Spring auction

July 10 & 11 Ultra Aqua 2010

November 7
Fall auction

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THE GREATER AKRON AQUARIUM SOCIETY

WHO ARE WE? We are a local group of aquatic enthusiasts. Formed in 1952, the Greater Akron Aquarium Society is a non-profit, non-commercial organization. Our membership ranges from the beginning hobbyist to the advanced aquarist with many years of experience. The goals of our club are to promote the care, study, breeding and exhibition of aquarium related aquatic life and to promote interest in the aquarium hobby.

MEETINGS: Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at the Mogadore Community/Senior Center, 3857 Mogadore Road, Mogadore, Ohio. It is located East of Route 532 across from McDonald's in the former post office building. Visitors are always welcome, it costs absolutely nothing to attend a meeting and look us over.

MEMBERSHIP: The cost is only \$7.50 for adults, \$10 for a couple or a family (includes children under 10 years of age) and \$5.00 for a junior membership (10 to 17 years) Membership provides an opportunity to socialize with other that share your interests, a subscription to our bi-monthly magazine, library usage and more.

AGENDA: Our meeting agenda is simple and informal. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. with a short business meeting. Immediately following is the program for the evening which usually lasts about 45 minutes. Our programs consist of a speaker, slide program, movie or perhaps a panel discussion always on a particular subject related to the hobby or various species of fish. Following the program is a short refreshment break. After which the winners of the Bowl Show are announced, the Breeder's Award Program fish are auctioned and tickets are drawn for the equipment and book raffles.

THE BOWL SHOW: Each month members can bring in fish for specific classes to compete for first, second and third place awards. The charge for each entry is only \$.25. Members also compete for annual awards by accumulating wins throughout the year.

BREEDER'S AWARD and HORTICULTURE AWARD PROGRAMS: members can receive recognition for spawning species of fish or propagating aquatic plants. All that is required is to turn in a minimum of six fry from the spawn that are between 30 and 90 days old. Members earn certificates for each species and can work towards plaques in different categories.

LIBRARY: At the library table are a number of books and other publications covering all areas of the aquarium hobby. Members may borrow the books for a month at a time. Also each month several books are raffled off.

EQUIPMENT RAFFLE: The raffle table has such items as tanks, fish food and aquarium accessories that are donated by national manufacturers, area dealers or purchased by the Society. Tickets may be purchased by anyone attending the meeting. Save your losing tickets for the Christmas Party raffle.

ANNUAL SHOW: The Ultra-Aqua show is held during the summer at the Tallmadge community Center. This has become one of the largest all-species tropical fish shows in North America. It is an international gathering of hobbyists to display their fish in class competition, talk fish and to learn about the hobby from each other.

TANK TOPICS: is published on a bi-monthly basis for the members of the Greater Akron Aquarium Society. Articles and comments for this publication are welcome and encouraged. Such articles are to be submitted no later than the board meeting prior to publication. All articles may be reprinted as long as the author(s) and GAAS are given proper credit and two copies of the publication containing the reprint are sent to GAAS. Please send any correspondence regarding this publication to:

Editor/Tank Topics, P.O. Box 494, Akron, OH 44309-0494 or email to $\underline{G_A_A_S@hotmail.com}$

The Greater Akron Aquarium Society Membership Form							
Name Age	o for A Ninikal Special						
Address	☐ New ☐ Renewal						
City State Zip	Electronic Mail	100					
Phone email	Adult (18 years and older	1 year \$7.50					
How did you find out about GAAS?	Family (includes children under 10)	2 years \$12.00 1 year \$10.00					
Memberships are due one year from the date of joining. Completed membership forms can be turned in at a meeting or mailed to the membership	Junior (10-17 years)	2 years \$15.00 1 year \$5.00					
chairman at this address:	Duos Callacted Data D	2 years \$7.00					
GAAS Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 494, Akron, OH 44309-0494	Dues Collected Date R	ecerveu					

President's Message

WOW OH WOW!!!

That's what I have to say about our Spring Auction! It was a nice sunny day and dry. We had around 250 people show up, with 85 sellers and

1268 items and it was pretty much all good stuff. It was our second largest auction ever, our largest one was 1380 items.

We had a lot of help from other clubs as well as from our new members. It was a very smooth day, a long day but smooth. We did not get done till 10 PM, but still had several people there. We even bought pizza for everyone free of charge because it was so late.

Our auctioneers did a great job of moving the items! **THANKS** to Eric Bodrock, Eric Cappy, Joanne Toven and Ken McGill!

The kitchen did a great job of supplying quality food and all of it was gone by 5 PM! Like

I said, there were a lot of people there!

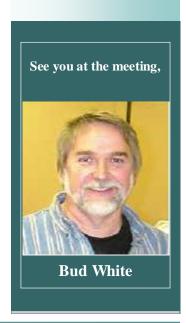
We are going to have a

growth program and the fish will be distributed at the April meeting, so if you want to be a part of it, you need to be there! We were trying to get this started sooner, but were unable to come up with the

As for the GAAS Ultra Aqua show, we have all of the classes sponsored and are working on other parts of the show now. Great job Wayne Toven!

fish we needed for it.

I have been told that Youngstown is going to have a show this year in August. That is great, we need more shows. They are great social events.



Editor's Message



Well that was quite a Spring Auction! If you were there then you know what I mean. Lots of stuff, lots of people and a lot of time spent matching the two up! Other than the fact we were there for more than ten hours selling stuff, it all went off pretty painlessly. If they only could all be that way!

A special thank you has to go out to our auctioneers Eric Bodrock (Pittsburgh), Eric Cappy (Youngstown) and our own members Ken McGill and Joanne Toven. Without you guys calling the shots, everything else comes to a stand still. There's no way I'd have the patience and stamina

to do what they did, especially the part at the end that is Joanne's specialty! Thanks again!

In the Old Days (am I showing my age by that statement?) all the aquarium club functions used to be in the Summer, now most of the local clubs aren't having shows any more and the Spring has become the time for conventions and auctions. Check out the Coming Events listing on the back page of this issue and you'll see what I mean. In a two month period within a few hour drive you can go to CAFÉ's Convention as well as two national organizations annual conventions (the American Livebearer Association in Detroit and the American Killifish Association in Cleveland). Nowhere else in the same amount of time would you have access to as many rare and interesting species of fish as well as the opportunity to

hear world-class speakers. It appears that the aquarium hobby is alive and well in the mid-west! If you can make it to one or more of these functions, I'd highly recommend it for both the previously mentioned reasons as well as the fact that convention weekends are just plain fun!

I'd like to thank a few people for "stepping up to the plate" when I asked for articles and getting a few to me. Some are old hands at it and even a new author or two, all are appreciated. But here's the bad news, there always will be another issue coming up, so don't get complacent. We will always need more articles. So keep up the good work those that have written. And why not give it a try if you haven't before? It really isn't all that hard, I can handle it so it should be a breeze for most anyone!

I'll see you at the Meeting!

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BAP/HAP Report

Wayne Toven

Wow, I guess the little furball Punxsutawney Phil was right again about winter, we certainly got our share of snow, but at least it wasn't as bad as some of the people in the northeast states. Seeing as we just had our spring auction on Mar. 7th Spring must be just around the corner, that was quite an auction we started at noon and sold the last item at 10:15 pm, over 1250 items went out the door. I know there was plenty of young stock, breeder pairs and groups to keep the Breeder Award Program rolling along, but if you didn't get enough there are still plenty of opportunities as there are lots of fish club auctions coming up over the next couple months.

Finally with the warmer weather all of the snow is melted and all my ponds and tubs are almost free of ice, there are plants with new shoots and some of the water lilies have leaves on them. It won't be too long I will be outside repotting lilies, irises, and other plants; it will be a little while yet before the fish get to go outside for the summer. Back to business, we are off to a great start this year at least in the Breeder program, with 9 spawns turned in at the auction we have a grand total of 34 so far this year, the Horticultural program is suffering with only 2 propagations so far.

December 2009					
Species	Com	mon name		Class	Points
BAP					
Ron Drungil					
Amatitlania nigrofasciatum	Conv	victs		Cichlid s.s.	5
Julidochromis ornatus				Cichlid s.s.	15
Poecilia reticulata	Blue	delta guppy		Livebearer	5
Bruce Fraley					
Alfaro cultratus	Knife	e belly liveb	earer	Livebearer	5
Labidochromis caerueleus	Electric yellow			Cichlid m.b.	15
Lamprologus brevis	Mloto zebra			Cichlid s.s.	15
Pseudotropheus zebra	Red top zebra			Cichlid m.b.	15
Poecilia reticulata	Doub	ole sword gu	рру	Livebearer	5
Dan McMonigle					
Danio choprae				Barbs, etc.	5
Pelvicachromis taeniatus "Wouri"				Cichlid s.s.	15
Cichlasoma octofasciatum	Jack	Dempsey		Cichlid s.s.	5
Species	Com	mon name		Class	Points
BAP					
Joe Reich					
Pundimilia nyererei "Makobe"				Cichlid m.b.	10
Neolamprologus signatus			a	Cichlid s.s.	15
Procambarus marmorkrebs	Blue	marble cray	tish	Aquatic anima	al 10
Wayne Toven					
Poecilia sp. Rio Jutiapa	Honduran molly		Livebearer	5	
Poecilia velifera	Mexican sailfin molly		Livebearer	5	
Allotoca dugesi			Livebearer	10	
Dave Williamson					
Normoramphis towoetii	Black Halfbeak		Livebearer	5	
Macropodus erythopterus	Red shoulder paradise		Anabantid	5	
Julidochromis ornatus	Cichlid s.s. 15				
2010 Spawn & Point Totals	BAP	Points	HAP	Points	
Wayne Toven	7	60			
Bruce Fraley	5	55			
Phil & Tiffany Hypes	5	50			
Dave Williamson	5	45			
Ron Drungil	3	25			
Dan McMonigle	3	25			
Joe Reich	3	35			
Rich Serva	3	20			
Dennis Bechter			1	10	
Nick Rezac			1	15	

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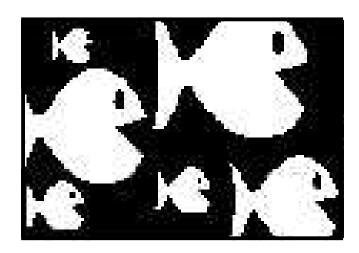
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Exchange Report Wayne Toven

First of all the purpose of this column is to inform our members about original articles written by members of other fish clubs, that might help our members with keeping and spawning certain types of fish, new things or techniques to make work in the fish rooms easier and more efficient, or mistakes others have made so they will not be repeated. If anyone would like to read one of the articles mentioned below, let me know and I will get a copy of it to you, via email or a hard copy at a meeting. Secondly, in the Missouri Aquarium Society Inc. Jan/Feb 2010 issue of The Darter, three articles by G.A.A.S. members were reprinted: Otopharynx tetrastigma by Joe Reich, Xiphophorus nezahuacoyotl by Rich Serva, and The Goods on Goodeids by Wayne Toven. See other people not only read these articles, but see fit to reprint them in their club publications so even more people have a chance to read them. Who knows someone might learn something.

Aquarium Club of Lancaster County,

Tank Tales: Feb 2010

Breeding Chalinochromis ndobhoi, by Joel Antkowiak

<u>Cambridge – District Aquarium Society</u>,

Aquatic Views: Jan 2010

Breeding African Jewels – Hemichromis

cristatus, by Anthony McAslin

Breeding Zebra Danios – Danio rerio, by

Anthony McAslin

<u>Circle City Aquarium Club</u>, Fancy Fins: Feb 2010

Poropanchax luxophthalmus, the Green Lampeye, the name is Bigger than the Fish, by Charlie Grimes

Orange/White Procambarus clarkii, by Mike Matthews

Impaichthys kerri, the Royal Tetra, by Charlie Grimes

Julidochromis marlieri, by Mike Matthews Pteronotropis hyselopterus, the Sailfin Shiner, by Charlie Grimes

<u>Cleveland Aquarium Society</u>, The Wet Thumb: Jan/Feb 2010

Fish Keeping in a Poor Economy - part 1, Obtaining the Tank, by Pam Briggs Fish Keeping in a Poor Economy – part 2, Aeration & Heating, by Pam Briggs Spawning Julidochromis transcriptus, by John Kahl

Eastern Iowa Aquarium Society, Fin

Flap: Feb 2010

Maintenance of Characids, by Dick Van-Hyfte

Corydoras sterbai – a Series of Spawns, by Marti Horan

Eastern Iowa Aquarium Society, Fin

Flap: Mar 2010

A Low Tech Planted Tank Experience – part 2, by Carol Sindelar

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society

<u>Inc</u>. Finformation: Jan 2010

Lamprologus ocellatus (gold), by Roberto Prati

Puntius conchonius (Rosy barb), by Stan Chechak

Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society

Inc. Finformation: Feb 2010

Xiphophorus cortezi, by Regina Spotti Spawning Xiphophorus alvarezi, by Regina Spotti

Breeding the Fork Tail Rainbow Fish – Pseudomugil furcatus, by Leslie Keefer

Hamilton & District Aquarium Society:

Jan 2010

Breeding Congo Tetras Again, by Charlie Grimes

FAQ About Keeping Discus, by Richard Vasquez

Hamilton & District Aquarium Society:

Feb 2010

Spawning the HY511 Tetra, by Charles Drew

Pretty as a Peacock, by Larry Johnson

<u>Kitchener - Waterloo Aquarium Soci-</u>

ety, Fins N Tales: Feb 2010

Breeding Julidochromis marlieri, by Al Ridley

Breeding Neolamprologus maranguensis, by Cameron Turner

Breeding Neolamprologus leleupi, 3rd Time Lucky, by Zenin Skomorowski

Breeding Paracyprichromis nigripinnis, by Cameron Turner

Michiana Aquarium Society, Michiana

Tropical Times: Feb 2010

Killies – Killies – Killies, by Bud Rambow Choosing Your First Killifish, by Ken McKeighen

Missouri Aquarium Society Inc. The

Darter: Jan/Feb 2010

Vacation Time, by Gary McIlvaine Fish Collection Follies in Tanzania, by Lawrence Kent

Motor City Aquarium Society, Tropi-

quarium: Jan 2010

Loaches the Natural Way to Eliminate Snails in the Aquarium, by Timousseau

Pacific Coast Cichlid Association, Cichli-

dae Communique: Jan/Feb 2010 Tropheus sp. Black "Ikola", by Rolf Mader

My Greedy Shellie Mind & Neolamprologus similis, by Lauren Manalastas

Pioneer Valley Aquarium Society, the

Underwater News: Feb 2010

A Journey to England & the British & International Discus Show, by Martha Morris Keeping & Breeding Amphilophus zaliousus, the Arrow Cichlid, by Michael Lin

Sarnia Aquarium Society, Aqua Antics: Feb 2010

Pearls in My Tank, by Peter Melady

Greater Detroit Aquarium Society,

Tropic Tank Talk: Jan 2010

Combtail Gourami – Belontia signata, by Mark Allar

Minnows & Cyprinella spiloptera (Spot fin shiners), by Leo S. Long

Greater Detroit Aquarium Society,

Tropic Tank Talk: Feb 2010

I Never Thought I Would Be Breeding Tetras: Fun with Glow Lights, by Bob Muller Tatia intermedia, by Carl Krajniak

Aquarium Club of Lancaster County,

Tank Tales: Mar 2010

Mertiaclimacyneusmarginatus – Nkhomo Reef, by Jay Stephan

Ramshorn Snails, Or Milking the Pest for as Many BAP Points as I Can, by Joel Antkowiak

Greater Cincinnati Aquarium Society,

Fincinnati: Mar/Apr 2010

How to Pack & Ship Fish with Breathable Bags, by John Pasnau

<u>Kitchener - Waterloo Aquarium Soci-</u>

ety, Fins N Tales: Mar 2010

Altolamprologus calvus 'Moliro', by Cameron Turner

Life After Electric Blue Jack Dempseys, by Phil Maznyk

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Bowl Show & Special Activities

Ken McGill

We've got some good participation in the bowl show. Three new participants in the last two months and 8 entries in February and 16 in March.

February

Suckermouth Cats

1st Place - Wayne Toven

Swordtails

1st Place - Jeff Plazak 2nd Place - Ron Drungil

Characins

1st Place - Jeff Plazak 2nd Place - Michael Berger 3rd Place - Ron Drungil

March

Barbs

1st Place - Jeff Plazak 2nd Place - Wayne Toven 3rd Place - Jeff Plazak

Mollies

1st Place - Jeff Plazak 2nd Place - Jeff Plazak 3rd Place - Bill Schake

Corydoras, Aspidoras, & Brochis

1st Place - Jeff Plazak 2nd Place - Jeff Plazak 3rd Place - Wayne Toven

NameTotalJeff Plazak37Bill Schake20Wayne Toven19Ron Drungil6Michael Berger3Miranda Boerema1



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How the Point System works:

1st - 4 points

2nd - 2 points

3rd - 1 point

1 point per entry,

maximum 12 points per class

2010 Bowl Show Schedule

January:

Goldfish, Male Guppies, Minnows Danios & Rasboras

February:

Suckermouth Catfish, Swordtails, Characins

March:

Barbs, Mollies, Corydoras Aspidoras & Brochis

April:

Female Guppies, Platies, Aquatic Invertebrates

Mav:

Goodeids, Rift Lake Cichlids, Aquatic Plants

June:

Native Fish, Rainbowfish, Male Bettas

July:

Synodontis Catfish, Killifish, Angelfish & Discus

August:

AO New World Cichlids, Amphibians, Bog Plants

September:

Gouramis & Anabantoids, Sharks & Loaches, Photography

October:

Arts & Crafts, Marine Fish, All Other Old World Cichlids

November:

All Other Livebearers, All Other Egglayers, All Other Catfish



New Tank Again

By Brad additudesrme@aol.com



Hey everyone. Now that its 2010, Happy New Year, and Dave has begged us members to write and article for the news letter I figured I could do that much. Your welcome Dave.

Well as the title says I setup yet another tank and wanted to do this super cheap and easy to take care of but still get a great looking planted tank so I did some research on some ways to setup a tank. As most of you are thinking oh do a tank with low light and some amazon swords, java ferns, anubias and maybe some moss. NO. that was not what I wanted. I wanted a look of a high tech tank with the ease of a low light low tech tank. Low and behold I found the planting method I had dreamed about and the plants were growing like weeds.

How did I do it? well im sure maybe some of you have heard of Diana Walsted. Basically here method is simple, let nature take its course. good enough for me. so as I briefed the article (I don't like long drawn out things I loose interest), I quickly got underway planning my new tank.

I basically made my own way of setting up the tank, but I will let you in on some of my recommendations to better improve your tank. On to the setup.

My tank of choice was a 28 gallon bow front tank (I like a challenge), cleaned it out and got it situated on the stand of choice. Diana states that the tank should be in front of a south facing window (but not needed) to optimize light, save on energy, and cut back on extra fixtures. As I did not have a south window to work with I had a east facing which I placed the tank by.

When it comes to the substrate in which your plants will grow in, its quite simple. go to a local gardening

store and purchase an organic or very basic soil. Nothing can be in this such as the little white styro water savers or perlite. the darker the soil is the better it is.

Now that you have the soil you need to purchase a small amount, depending on the size of tank you will be using, of crushed coral or some type of calcium building substrate. you want to mix these at a ratio of about 4:1 soil to calcium material. this will help the tank from having a very low pH. my tank does not have the crush coral as I wanted a low pH and I have somewhat hard water here in Ravenna.

Lay the mixture down on the bottom of the tank, no more then an inch. If you use more the soil can become anaerobic and could harm the fish and plant roots. Plants oxygenate there roots and with a soil that is anaerobic this can cause major issues for all the live residents in the tank. A good way to keep the soil turned without you doing it yourself is to get some Malaysian Trumpet Snails. Now I know you all just cringed but you will thank me later for telling you to do this.

Your soil is layed and its time to plant! I have chose for my tank a variety of plants and have had good success with these. One main thing you want to do is to get enough fast growing plants to out beat the algae like any other planted tank. Hydro's and other fast growing stems will work. I cant suggest really any type of plant because everyone's water is different and some do well and some don't. find what works from you and go from there.

As you place your plants you want to fill in with gravel. now this can be a number of things. I have read all over on the forum sites in which I visit, that people use different things. I have used Schultz aquatic soil, pool filter sand, and just plain old gravel. all have done good but the sand didn't do as well. the best was the aquatic soil. The tank which I just

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setup is using black gravel.

If your wondering if you can still add rocks and wood to the tank, yes, this is just a regular tank that just happens to be using soil. Diana states that you should place the ornaments on the bottom and then place the soil around them but I have yet to have any problems with mine on top since I do have MTS in the tank to take care of the soil.

I filter my water with a hang on the back filter but will be switching this out to conserve co 2 with a power head that has a pre filter. This is ultimately the way to filter a tank like this. just keep it below the water line and your good.

Remember you have that the tank in front of a south facing window all you really need is about 1.5 watts of light per gallon. now this may not sound like a lot for stems to keep there leaves at the bottom but you will be surprised.

My tank has 3 x 28 watts of T 5 lights over it. that's 3 watts per gallon. you don't need that but remember that I'm by a window that doesn't get a lot of light.

I'm sure your asking if you have to dose any ferts or add some extra co 2 to make sure the plants grow, NOT AT ALL!!! That's the beauty of the tank setup. low maintenance and outstanding growth with no effort.

Now that the tank is setup and has water you can add fish as soon as the water is at a stable temp for the fish you wish to keep. yes I said that right, you can add fish right away.

I hope to hear of some people that are setting these up. you wont be disappointed with what you get. maybe we can hold a contest for the best looking Natural tank!!! Oh Dave....can we talk about this?!?!



Swap Meet Welcome to our Aquatic Classifieds - a place where you can list fish and aquatic items that you would like to sell or trade or are interested in buy or trading for. There are a few simple rules to prevent problems and abuses of the system:

- 1. You must be a members of GAAS to list either Haves or Wants.
- 2. No retail or commercial sales establishments will be permitted to list.
- 3. Only hobby related items will be listed.
- 4. Ads are limited to six items only and may only be run for three issues of Tank Topics. (You must give the Editor notice before the publication deadline to have an ad re-run!)

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The Greater Akron Aquarium Society

P.O. Box 494 Akron, OH 44309-0494

Meeting Notice - Do Not Delay

Meeting Notice

Thursday, April 1

(No, we're not kidding!)

Program: Jeff Craven, on Introduction to Saltwater,

President of Cleveland Saltwater Enthusiasts Association, will give an introduction to saltwater, from the FOWLER, one of the simplest saltwater aquariums to set up and maintain, on to the various types of reef aquariums.

Bowl Show: Female Guppies, Platies, Aquatic Invertebrates

Thursday, May 6

Program: Doug Sweet, from the London State Fish Hatchery

Learn about fish breeding on a large scale!

Bowl Show: Goodeids, Rift Lake Cichlids, Aquatic Plants

All general meetings begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Mogadore Community/Senior Center

Coming Events

March 28, 2010 - Erie Aquarium Society - Spring Auction

West Ridge Fire Station, 3142 West 26th Street (Rt 20), Erie, PA 16506

Registration begins at 10 am, Auction Starts at 11:00 am For more Information: Russ Lasher (814) 833-0946 or Chris Mitchell (814) 899-8920 camrcm@yahoo.com

April 10, 2010 – Great Lakes Cichlid Society -Spring Auction

Masters Church, 771 East 260th Street in Euclid. Registration starts at 9 AM, auction starts at 11. All species, plants and dry goods. Contact Dean at Merspainting@netzero.net, 330-656-0079, Marty at 330-650-0237, Bill at 216-692-9296 or Ron at 440-944-3245. web site: http://www.great lakescichlidsociety.net

April 10 & 11, 2010 - Columbus Area Fish Enthusiasts (CAFÉ) 2010 Convention The Courtyard by Marriott Columbus- West, 2350 Westbelt Dr., Columbus, OH 43228 Further details and directions for the convention are here: http://www.columbusfishclub.org/convention.php

April 22 through 25, 2010 – American Livebearer Association Convention The Detroit Marriott - Southfield, in Southfield, MI. More information can be found at

www.ALA2010.com

April 25 – Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society Inc.- Spring Auction North Hampton VFD, 5149 North Pioneer Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044 For more information: Don Tuttle 724-327-5163 or Bill Sensor 724-845-7171

May 28, through 30 – American Killifish Association - Convention

Sheraton Inn & Conference Center Hopkins Airport, 5300 Riverside Drive, Cleveland, OH, 44135 For more information: http://www.aka.org/convention/2010/