

# The Darter

*Nov-Dec*

*2013*



*JOLLY OLD ST. CICHLIDUS*

*Missouri Aquarium Society, Inc.*

*St. Louis, Missouri*

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MASI's official web page: [www.missouriaquariumsociety.com](http://www.missouriaquariumsociety.com)

Join the all-new MASI FishHeads Forum. See web page for instructions.

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# Places to Be / Things to See

SUNDAY November 10, 2013

MASI Fall Auction

Crowne Plaza Hotel

THURSDAY November 15, 2013

General Meeting, 7:30 PM @ Dorsett Village Church

SATURDAY December 7, 2013

Executive Council hosted by Ed Millinger

THURSDAY December 19, 2013

General Meeting, 7:30 PM @ Dorsett Village Church

MASI Christmas Party

THURSDAY January 16, 2014

General Meeting, 7:30 PM @ Dorsett Village Church

SUNDAY February 16, 2014

MASI Winter Auction

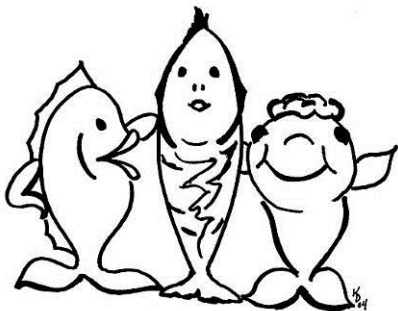
Crowne Plaza Hotel

THURSDAY February 20, 2014

General Meeting, 7:30 PM @ Dorsett Village Church

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## *Membership*



Yearly membership in the Missouri Aquarium Society, Inc. is \$20 per calendar year for members receiving a paper copy of the *Darter*. Starting in 2013, it will only be \$15 for members electing to receive the *Darter* electronically. Membership includes the *Darter* subscription for the year, which is currently 6 issues. New memberships and renewals can be submitted at club functions such as meetings and auctions, or by contacting Ron Huck, our membership chair.

# Editor's Notes

Steve Deutsch

I am a little sad, but mostly happy, that this is my last issue of the Darter and we will be turning it over to good hands. I have really enjoyed doing this but it is time for a change. Please support Mark England, your new editor, as you have supported me. There comes a time where it is hard to keep something fresh, and a new point of view is beneficial. I think you will like what is coming.

I would like to thank the following people: Katherine Arney, Terry Atherton, Klaus Bertich, Diane Brown, Scott Bush, Kathy Deutsch, Steve Edie, Joe Gephart, Maureen Green, Charles Harrison, Jack Heller, Mike Hellweg, Lawrence Kent, Bart Kraeger, Cory Koch, Gary Lange, Mark and Tammy Langer, Gary McIlvaine, Tony McMillan, Ed Millinger, Rick Smith, Rick Tinklenberg, Pat Tosie, Andy Walker, Derek Walker, Harold Walker, and Kurt Zahringer. If you haven't guessed by now, what these 28 people have in common is that they are the authors of the articles over the last 10 years. It has been wonderful to have so many people contribute. If your name is not on the list, Mark is waiting to hear from you.

The 'winner' for most articles, direct from the fishroom, is Ed Millinger with 49. Mike Hellweg was next at 39, and probably won for most words. Pat Tosie was next with 23. Lawrence Kent, Gary McIlvaine, Andy Walker, and Kathy Deutsch all submitted at least 10, and Klaus Bertich, Maureen Green, Charles Harrison, Steve Edie, Cory Koch, Derek Walker, Harold Walker, Tony McMillan, Kurt Zahringer, and Gary Lange had at least 5. Many of the authors also contributed some great photographs to go with the articles.

This does not include all of the committee reports, etc. that people do as part of their jobs, so additionally I need to thank all of the HAP and BAP chairs, Presidents, Show Chairs, Swap Meet Chairs, Membership Chairs, Auction Chairs, etc. who submitted their reports.

I would also like to thank Kathy for the many covers drawn over the years as well as other illustrations. Jolly Ol' St. Cichlidus is making an encore appearance this month.

Charles Harrison has been the printer for my entire time, and Gary McIlvaine and Pat Tosie have been the Postmen. Having these jobs covered has been part of why I could do this as long as I have. And more people than I can count or recall have participated in collating the Darter at the meetings; thanks to every one of you.

I think what has been most fun for me is seeing how many different people have turned in really interesting work. The articles have covered a wide range of ground including spawning, tech tips, history, travel and collecting, emergency procedures, conservation, and much more. All have added something.

I have enjoyed being able to be your editor for the last ten years and hope I have left your Darter in as good of shape as when it was handed to me. I will enjoy seeing what awaits now that I am starting my new position as 'reader'.

# *Geophagus crassilabris*

By Ed Millinger

*Geophagus crassilabris* sometimes is called the Panamanian *Geophagus*. Thomas Weidner in his book "South American Eartheaters" includes *crassilabris* because it's closest relatives are inhabitants of South America. He states that they are the only mouth brooding cichlid in Central America. They are similar to *Geophagus steindachneri* and *Geophagus pellegrini*, together they are referred to as "Red-hump Eartheaters."

I had been on the look out for these fish and found them last November on The Wet Spot fish list. They were listed as tank raised. I am on their weekly e-mailing list and was very interested in purchasing some. They were a little pricey, \$20 apiece. I would have liked to have bought five to ensure a pair but decided to gamble and bought only three. Tony who runs their mail order picked out a trio (one male and two females), so I lucked out. When they arrived they were small, about an inch and a half long. I released them into a 40 breeder and they adapted to their new surroundings quickly. They are not picky when it comes to water parameters or food. They ate flake, frozen and relished live black worms. They are a bit reclusive so I included a flower pot with the bottom removed and a two inch high rock which provided enough cover so that they felt comfortable. I decided not to introduce dither fish (which would draw them out). The *crassilabris* grew quickly but in June I was disappointed to find one of the females had died. By now the male had reached four inches and the remaining female three inches. The two are very easy to distinguish, the male has colorful fins with a yellow face tinged in red, while the female is a drab brownish color. Both have thick lips thus *crassus* (Lat.) = thick: *labrus* (Lat.) = lip. (page 175, "South American Eartheaters").

I was relieved that the other female looked fine. I wasn't expecting a spawn anytime soon because Weidner states that males reach eight inches and mine was only half way there, and I only had them less than a year. It was then a great surprise while feeding one evening that I saw some fry close to the female. She quickly gathered up the fry as I approached. I threw in some food for the male and finished feeding the rest of my fish. The next day I was looking for the fry again but when I put food in the tank she started eating. Of course this was bad news and I scanned the rest of the 40 breeder with no luck. I started kicking myself for not removing the fry but I have always given my fish the chance to raise their fry by themselves. Aware now that they were capable of spawning I started keeping a close eye on the female. I wasn't disappointed, in August I noticed the female wasn't eating (holding is usually 16-18 days). From the time I noticed she was holding until I saw a single fry emerge was 14 days. I decided to not trust her and caught her in a net and held her underwater in a two and a half gallon tank. I then stroked the underside of her mouth and the fry started to emerge. After about two minutes I felt that she had released most if not all of the fry. After returning her to the 40 breeder she did release a few more but they were gone the next day. This reinforced my decision to strip her of the fry. In total she had released 44 babies in the two and a half gallon tank. I first fed micro worms the first week and mixed in live baby brine shrimp after that. Mindful of the small tank I was raising them in I performed many small water changes every day. After a while (three weeks) I started moving the fry to a ten gallon aquarium and later to a 20 high. Like their parents the babies are growing quickly and I have been converting them to flake and pellets in addition to continue feeding them live baby brine shrimp.

Reference: South American Eartheaters Thomas Weidner

# Wow What a Swap meet!

Derek Walker

Well what can I say, " We've pulled another great swap meet off"! Over 200+ people came out to have a fish frenzy day. I want to first thank Holly for all the hard work in advertising this event on the social media sites. I believe this has taken the club to an all new level. It basically started with Damon's St.Louis Aquarium Club page on Facebook.

As we see the events are growing because no one really knows about MASI. COME ON PEOPLE SPREAD THE WORD. This is a great club and getting better each year.

Three years ago the swap meet was a in and out event and the out of town people stayed away from it. Because it wasn't worth the hassle and the money to have 8 tables and maybe 50 people show up. I think the best one was the first one that was put on by Mike Hellweg. Sorry Mike but I think this year was the big one! We had some great sellers and you could find just about anything you wanted. The bad thing is the sellers couldn't go buy themselves because there were so many buyers that came in to the early bird hour.

All the vendors seem happy and had some that said they will be back next year. I say the out of town people was happy as well. Did you know we had people from Michigan, Colorado, Tennessee, Iowa, Indiana, and Kansas! So where were all the MASI members?

Most of the people that showed up weren't even a member of the club. The swap meet was so big I was able to find EL CHEAPO in the Crowd.

Save up for next year! Because we really only began to grow the swap meet. Looking forward to next years big three room setup which should hold 60 tables.

Going forward to next year, Holly will be taking over as swap meet chair-lady. We will hopefully setup a PayPal cart for out of town sellers. Maybe a little time change is in the works. This way sellers can look around before the early people show up.

Once again thanks to the helpers, Damon, Holly, Mike H, Mark, Marlon, Ed, and Ron.

And want to say thanks to the companies that donated to the Swap meet.

## From The Fish Room

By Ed Millinger

There is no truth to the rumor that due to the large volume of Corydoras breeders award program (BAP) submissions from Jerry Jost he is not changing his first name to Cory. The September/October issue of Amazonas magazine page 93 mentions MASI's own Gary Lange, who along with Johannes Graf found Pseudomugil sp. "Dekai Village" in 2010 during an expedition to the south side of New Guinea in southern West Papua. Derek Walker put together a great swap meet but apparently not satisfied with just that challenge he has now taken on the job as show chair for the 2014 American Livebearers Association convention to be held here in St. Louis next May. This would be a great opportunity for new members to get involved. The convention requires a great deal of effort and would be an excellent chance to discover what it means to participate and achieve something great. Speaking of the swap meet I was really impressed with the selection and wide variety of fish and fish related items. Holly Paoni Wise has agreed to take over as the swap meet chair for 2014 and she is already planning on taking up three rooms for next year! Start planning now

# Put a Lid On It – Making Glass Tops with Hinges to Keep Your Fish in and Your Pets Out

By Gary Lange

After Mike's talk on fixing tanks at our September meeting he reminded me of something. He said that a lot of tricks that he had learned about fixing tanks came from our now deceased friend Ralph Wilhelm. Ralph's favorite saying was "I'm not cheap, I'm frugal". He taught us how to fix a problem with as little fuss as possible. Since Ralph collected literally tons of glass he always had the right piece to fix a whole side of a tank or even a long enough piece for a very heavy tank lid. He too taught me the tricks that I'm passing on to you about making a hinged glass hood. He also reminded me that it's tubIFEX not tubifLex worms (get the L out goofy!). And he always called that pretty solitary fighting fish in the bowl by its correct name, betta – pronounced bet-ta. The second letter in the Greek alphabet, beta – pronounced bait-ta has nothing to do with fish and he would have steered you in the right direction had you resorted to Greek letters instead the beautiful fish from Thailand. He tried to teach the newbies what he had learned so that we could build upon it. I will always be grateful for the knowledge that he passed on to me especially when it came to breeding Corydoras catfish, my first love before rainbowfish. I bet you didn't know that. Hopefully you'll enjoy this little piece of "Ralph" wisdom and be able to put it to good use in your fishroom.

First of all, why a glass hood or for that matter any covering? I guess if you only keep Plecos and only have a few tanks then topless is fine. If you have a good collection of tanks though you will end up with a moisture problem in your house. I have a friend in Indianapolis that had lots of tanks in his basement and would never put lids on his tanks because he was too cheap. He also didn't insulate his basement fishroom and the damp air was allowed to go up into the walls of the upper floors. The wood in his upper floor closet started rotting, it really was gross and cost him much more to repair than it would have cost him to put glass tops on his tanks. He could have purchased glass tops for all of his tanks and still come out ahead. Hopefully you'll learn from his mistake and not have to pay the price yourself. It certainly reinforced one of my main reasons for "keeping a lid on it".

Some people say that you don't need a glass top and can do just as good with a plastic top, made out of those drop ceiling light diffusers. They are quite cheap and the really cheap ones don't sag and fall into the tank when they get wet. You can cut two pieces for a top and then slide the front piece over the back when you want to get into the tank. I did make one of these but I didn't use it for very long. First of all if you get a little moisture between the two pieces of plastic they tend to stick together. Then instead of just using one hand to close the lid, like you would do with a glass hood, you have to put down whatever and use two hands to pry them apart and then put the other piece back in place. I guess it's not all that important if you are keeping a bunch of non-jumping fish but for killifish, rainbowfish, and wild Bettas this is an invitation to dead fish. I never leave a lid open because my Bows and my Bettas will often be jumping, even if left alone for a few seconds. You could use a full piece of plastic but then you have to remove it completely. I have enough troubles finding a net that I just put down in the fishroom or the scrounge pad to clean the glass. It's just so much easier to fold back the hinged glass and I know exactly where it is when I'm ready to put the lid back down. Gee glass breaks right? I guess in the almost 30 years that I've had an "official" fishroom I've broken maybe 6 covers and I'm keeping over 95 tanks now, so not a viable excuse either. Plastic tops really do look trashy, just not very professional. Also if you are trying to grow plants in your aquariums you will do much better with glass than with plastic. You can't rest your lights on plastic without them falling into the tank or at least I wouldn't, it's just an invitation to a disaster. If you get a light big enough to rest on the edges it can still slip and then end up



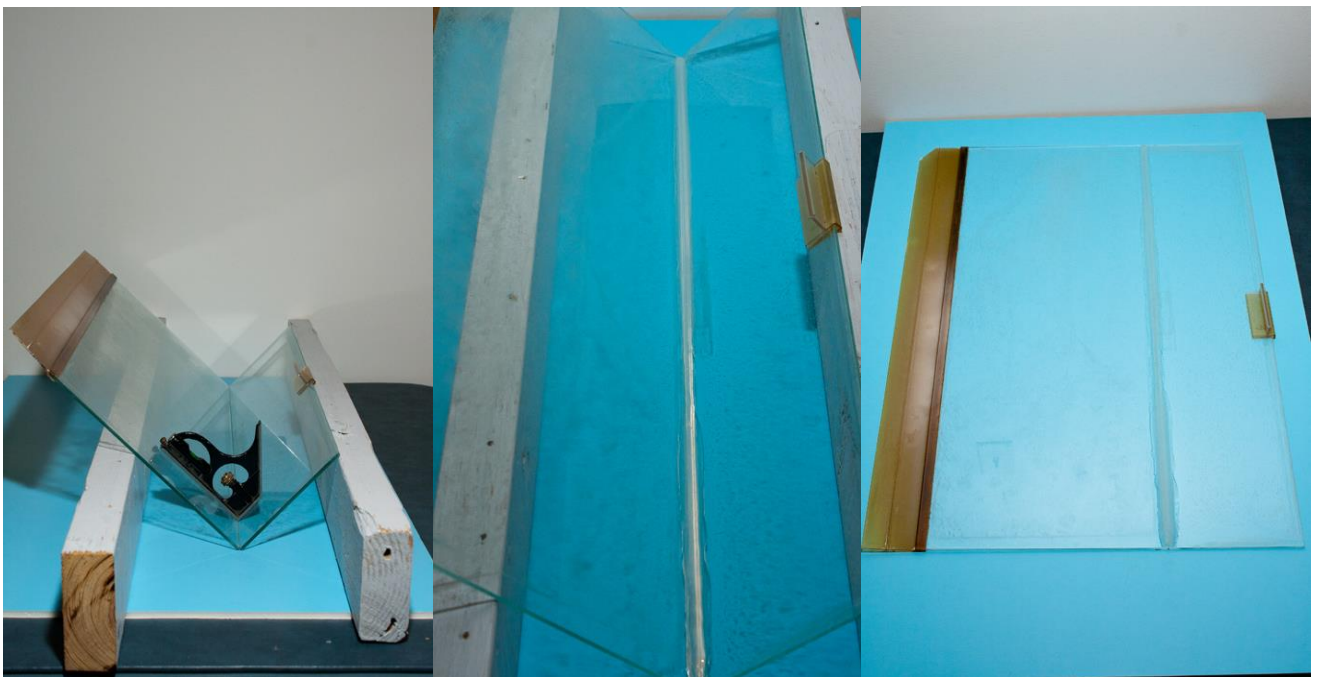
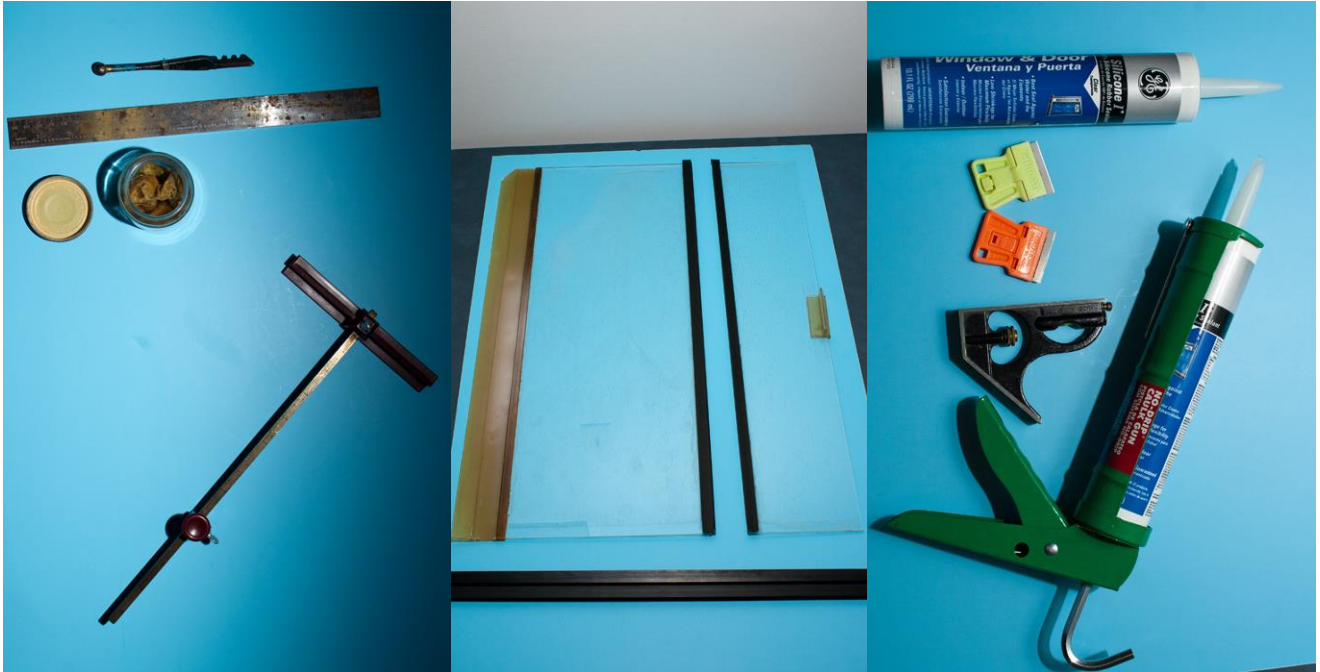
crashing through the plastic into the tank. Putting the lights up inside the tank stand and out of reach is handy but you should remember the inverse square law of illumination. It's one over the distance squared. For every foot away from the source you end up with only 25% of the light. Even putting the light 6 inches up into the tank rack is going to lose a lot of light. You could compensate by adding a second light to get the same amount of light on the tank but then what sense does that make in the cheap or frugal argument? In the long run you're better off using the glass top and only using one bulb instead of two. So I hope I've convinced you that glass is a much better choice than plastic.

Should you cut your own glass or have the glass shop do it? Measure the size and width that you'll need. Use double thickness glass (1/8<sup>th</sup> inch) for up to a 2 foot tank, 3/16<sup>th</sup> of an inch for up to a 3 foot tank and 1/4<sup>th</sup> inch for 4 foot lengths. For the front piece of glass in a typical 12 inch wide tank I make that piece from 5 to 5.5 inches and the back piece from 6 to 6.5 inches. If your tanks are going onto a homemade rack though think about the head space above the tank. If you make that front piece too wide you might not be able to open the lid. Yeah, how do I know this!? Don't make the same mistake just measure carefully. Just call up the glass shop and see what they will quote you. If you are doing several tanks using the same dimensions let them know as often they will quote you a better price. If you are doing a lot of different size pieces of glass they still might give you a volume discount. By all means have them lightly sand all of the edges of glass so it won't cut you when you are getting in and out of the tank. This is usually for free or a very low price and beats doing it yourself. If you do cut your own glass you can "sand" the edges and corners down with a wet fine tooth rasping file, don't forget safety glasses for those flying micro pieces of glass. If you've come into a lot of free glass then you might try and cutting and sanding it yourself. The file works a lot better and faster than sandpaper on a block. If you are cutting your own glass then you'll need the tools in photo #1. I highly recommend also getting the glass cutter with the straight edge built in (at the bottom of photo #1). It makes cutting a straight edge a snap and can be purchased at any stained glass shop. There is a good one right along Main Street in Old St. Charles. For lids you really need a good straight line so doing it freehand with the smaller glass cutter is usually going to cause you grief, which is the reason I usually have the glass guy cut it for me!

I really hate the manufactured glass hoods that come with those terrible plastic hinges. I usually make my own hinges out of silicon glue and buy my glass locally. It's cheaper, the silicon hinges are easy to fix when they eventually break and they block a whole lot less light than the store bought models. If your store bought glass hood finally breaks at the hinges though don't go out and buy another hinge, which are quite expensive, make your own instead. Making a silicon hinge is easy. Actually I like the silicon hinge way better, even if it is a lot cheaper than the store bought hinges. There are a few tricks for "getting it right" though so that you avoid either the lid: 1) won't stay open and will slam down perhaps smacking your fingers or 2) it stays up and let's all of the fish jump out and the water evaporate out of your tanks. I run a lot of tanks so it's important that I have lids on all of my tanks to avoid the jumpers but mainly to keep the humidity down in my fishroom.

Let's start with glass and the old hinges as in photo #2. Removing old hinges is hardest part which sometimes requires a sharp razor blade and/or paint spatula to carefully remove the old hinge from the glass. Wear safety glasses and make sure to push the razor blade (in an appropriate holder) away from you and any fingers. The tools in photo #3 are what you'll need to fix that broken hinge. And of course your favorite cuss words. If you start with glass without hinges to remove you will use fewer cuss words! You'll also need a caulking gun, fish safe silicon glue and a device so that you can measure 90 degrees and 45 degrees. A couple of 2x4's to prop up the glass while the silicon is drying and, most importantly, a beer. Don't open the beer just yet though.

Put a Lid On It Images - #1-3, first row, 4-6, second row



After getting the old hinge off clean the glass really really well and use the razor blade to scrape off all of the glue and gunk. If it's not clean the silicon won't stick or will fall off very quickly and you'll have to do it again. These silicon hinges usually last 3-4 years so you will have to redo them eventually. When you do have to make another silicon hinge make sure you remove ALL of the old silicon by scraping with the razor blade and then cleaning the area with acetone to get it all. Use the 2x4's or any other straight items you have to prop up the glass. Note that there is a 90 degree right angle between the two pieces of glass in photo #4. Get the glass pieces fitting right next to each other, no gaps otherwise you will have a big mess.

Open the silicon. I usually cut the tube (cut on an angle) so I have just about 1/4 to 3/8th of an inch of silicon coming out. Use a larger bead for thicker glass. Lay down a bead of silicon from one side of the hinge to the other. Give your index finger a lick (keeps the silicon from sticking and pulling) and then gently drag it along the surface of the silicon. This helps to eliminate any bubbles, smooths out your work and makes sure the silicon sticks to the glass as in photo #5.

Now this is the important part - Go drink a beer. You need about a 15-20 minute break to let the silicon "rest" and "remember" this position. If it's really cool where you are making hinges then a bit longer wait than 15-20 minutes. If it's really warm, then drink your beer faster. Note that I didn't tell you to drink the beer while you were playing with the razor blade as this can be dangerous, especially if you have several lids to fix. If you must, soda/coffee/water/tea but a good beer is a much better break. Also I recommend getting all of the lids set up and ready to lay down the silicon bead instead of one at a time if you have multiple lids that need fixing. Yeah only one beer for six hood repairs, not a six pack! I know for sure I would forget that last lid and it would be "frozen" in that 45 degree angle and would be pretty worthless! But I've never done that!

After your beer break then it's time to GENTLY and CAREFULLY remove the braces/2x4's and lower the glass as in photo #6. Let it set this way overnight. For a handle on a homemade lid I often use wooden dowels or large wooden beads that you can purchase very cheaply at the craft stores. Glue those to the glass with the same silicon glue. Photo #7 shows an example of a cover with wooden bead for handles, two on larger pieces of glass. Now you can have another beer or two. From what you saved on hinges you can afford the good stuff! For what it's worth, if I'm not using a power filter on the back of the tank and I'm buying or cutting the glass myself I get the glass cut so that it fits the aquarium completely. Then I just cut off the corners a bit so I can just slip a piece of airline tubing thru the crevice. No need to buy those expensive back pieces of plastic either. Hope this helps, and just remember, "We're not cheap, we're frugal"!



An expanded line of MASI Logo merchandise is now available from Café Press. Derek Walker has picked up management of the site and added many new items. Pick from T-shirts, jerseys, caps, tote bags, coffee cups, and more.

Go to [www.cafepress.com/MissouriAquariumSociety](http://www.cafepress.com/MissouriAquariumSociety) to view and order the merchandise.

# MASI Breeders Award Program (BAP)

Steve Edie

## **I. Purpose:**

1. To encourage members of the Missouri Aquarium Society to breed fishes.
2. To share information concerning their spawning and rearing.
3. To make available to the hobby a wider variety of fishes.
4. To recognize achievements by members concerning the breeding of fishes.
5. To promote greater participation by members in the activities of MASI.

## **II. Administration:**

1. A BAP Committee consisting of a BAP Chairperson, appointed by the President, and 1 to 2 additional members appointed by the BAP Chair shall administer the BAP.
2. The BAP Chair shall set up and maintain a record system containing all pertinent data, along with a file of spawning reports submitted. The BAP Chair shall be responsible for preparation and presentation of awards, and for submission of information to the Editor for publication.
3. The BAP Chair shall be responsible for the placement of fishes into point classifications, and shall maintain a list of these classifications to be posted on the MASI website. From time to time it may be necessary to reclassify certain fishes. In case of reclassification, all previously reported spawnings shall receive the current point value. Nomenclature will be determined in accordance with the California Academy of Science, currently the most complete reference available.
4. The BAP Chair shall keep a record of participating members' point totals, to be published on the MASI website at least once a year.
5. All decisions of the BAP Committee relative to this program shall be final and binding.

## **III. General Rules:**

1. Participants must be MASI members in good standing.
2. All fish entered by a member into the BAP must be conditioned and maintained in his/her own tank or pond. The breeding of the fish and raising of the fry must be done in the same manner.
3. In order to be credited with spawning any species, the member must spawn and rear to at least 60 days of age at least 4-10 fry, depending on the class of fish. The fry shall be presented at the first general meeting following their having reached 60 days of age, except where noted for Class "D", in which case special rules apply.
4. In order to defray the cost of award plaques, and to spread various fish species through the club, some fry from each spawn (2-10, depending on the class of fish) are to be donated to the club at general meetings or quarterly auctions, to be auctioned to the club membership.

5. Donation skip. In the case of very rare, valuable, or non-prolific species, a member may turn in the spawning paperwork and not donate any fry under the following conditions: It can only be utilized once per year per member. The member must have donated fry from at least 5 spawns in the same year prior to the skip. It cannot be applied to commonly bred fish. It will only apply to 15 or 20 point species. An article or short presentation about the spawn will be required.

6. All spawning reports must be submitted upon approved BAP forms to the BAP chair for verification.

7. Hybrids of any type are not allowed, with the exception of established domestic livebearer strains.

#### **IV. Requirements for Spawning Credit According to Classification:**

1. Species will be classified according to four levels of difficulty, Classes "A", "B", "C", and "D". Requirements for receiving credit for spawnings from the various classes are as follows:

**Class "A"** (5 Points) - raise at least 10 fry; donate 10 fry or a pair. General Rules apply.

**Class "B"** (10 Points) - raise at least 8 fry; donate 5 fry or a pair. General Rules apply.

**Class "C"** (15 Points) - raise at least 6 fry; donate 3 fry or a pair. General Rules apply.

**Class "D"** (20 Points) - raise at least 4 fry; donate 2 fry or a pair. General Rules apply. In addition, a member of the BAPC must be notified and given the opportunity to witness the spawn and spawning conditions within two weeks after spawning

An article is required for class "D" spawns. The article should provide details and insight on the conditions that resulted in a successful class "D" spawn. The article shall be submitted to the MASI Editor for publication in *The Darter*. A short presentation on the class "D" spawning, given to the general membership, may be substituted for an article. With prior approval of the BAP chair, an article on a class "C" spawn that was also a MASI "first" species spawn may be substituted for a class "D" article. However, once a second spawn of that "first C" species has been submitted, the class "C" article will not apply.

**2. MASI First Spawn Bonus** (5-15 Points) To promote the raising and sharing of rare species, a bonus point system has been implemented. For the first MASI spawn of any Species, a 5 point bonus will be given, in addition to the standard points given for its class. An additional 5 points will be given for the first MASI spawn in any Genus and any Family.

**3. Color Variety Bonus** (1-4 Points) In the BAP, full points will be awarded only once (to each breeder) for any species or subspecies, regardless of color or finnage variety. Subsequent spawns of the same species (but of different color or finnage varieties) will be awarded reduced points. (i.e. Black Angelfish = 10 points; then later, Silver Veil Angelfish = 2 points)

**4. C.A.R.E.S. Bonus** (5-20 points) The C.A.R.E.S. preservation program (Conservation, Awareness, Recognition, Encouragement, Support) has been incorporated into the MASI BAP program to encourage members to focus efforts on the many endangered species that we are in danger of losing if hobbyists don't get involved. To qualify, species must be listed on the C.A.R.E.S. priority list website.

Commercially mass-produced species that are well established in the hobby will not receive bonus points. (Examples: white clouds and cherry barbs, even though they are threatened in the wild, are under no danger of disappearing from the hobby.)

The C.A.R.E.S. bonus will be equal to the point value of the species. (Example: a 10 point species on the C.A.R.E.S. list will receive a 10 point C.A.R.E.S. bonus for a total of 20 points.)

In addition, to encourage long term maintenance of C.A.R.E.S species, additional spawns may be turn in annually for an additional C.A.R.E.S. bonus, provided fry are donated to club membership.

## V. Achievement Levels:

The following achievement levels will be recognized upon accumulating the listed requirements:

**Novice Breeder** - Only Novice Members of MASI may receive this award. Spawn any 3 species, from 3 different genera, must include both egglayers and livebearers.

**General Breeder** - (50+ Points)

at least 2 species from Class "B" or higher  
at least 2 different families

**Advanced Breeder** - (100+ Points)

at least 2 species from Class "C" or higher  
at least 3 different families

**Senior Breeder** - (200+ Points)

at least 3 species from Class "C" or higher  
at least 4 different families

**Master Breeder** - (300+ Points)

at least 1 specie from Class "D"  
at least 5 different families  
at least 1 article regarding Class "D" species

**Grand Master Breeder** - (500+ Points)

at least 2 species from Class "D"  
at least 6 different families  
at least 2 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Advanced Grand Master Breeder** – (1000+ Points)

at least 3 species from Class "D"  
at least 8 different families  
at least 3 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Senior Grand Master Breeder** – (1500+ Points)

at least 4 species from Class "D"  
at least 10 different families  
at least 4 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Supreme Grand Master Breeder** – (2000+ Points)  
at least 5 species from Class "D"  
at least 12 different families  
at least 5 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Ultimate Grand Master Breeder** – (2500+ Points)  
at least 6 species from Class "D"  
at least 14 different families  
at least 6 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Most Exalted Grand Master Breeder** – (3000+ Points)  
at least 7 species from Class "D"  
at least 16 different families  
at least 7 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Illustrious Grand Master Breeder** – (3500+ Points)  
at least 8 species from Class "D"  
at least 18 different families  
at least 8 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Most Excellent Grand Master Breeder** – (4000+ Points)  
at least 9 species from Class "D"  
at least 20 different families  
at least 9 articles regarding Class "D" species

**Loftiest Grand Master Breeder** – (4500+ Points)  
at least 10 species from Class "D"  
at least 22 different families  
at least 10 articles regarding Class "D" species

**TBD Grand Master Breeder** – (5000+ Points)  
at least 11 species from Class "D"  
at least 24 different families  
at least 11 articles regarding Class "D" species

**TBD Grand Master Breeder** – (5500+ Points)  
at least 12 species from Class "D"  
at least 26 different families  
at least 12 articles regarding Class "D" species

For highest level TBD awards (3000 points and up), the first recipient gets to name the award. (I should have known better.)

## VI. Awards:

All awards will be presented to recipients at the Annual Show Banquet, will be published in *The Darter* in recognition of the member's accomplishments.

Resource authorities:

Cal Academy -

<http://research.calacademy.org/redirect?url=http://researcharchive.calacademy.org/research/Ichthyology/catalog/fishcatmain.asp>

C.A.R.E.S. - [http://www.carespreservation.com/priority\\_list.html](http://www.carespreservation.com/priority_list.html)

Revised Nov 2013

# Club Hopping 2013

Steve Edie

Nov 10 – St Louis: MASI - Fall Auction

Nov 15-17 – Chicago: Aquatic Experience – Trade Show & Convention

Nov 17 - Indianapolis: Circle City Aquarium Club – Fall Auction

Nov 22-24 – Cleveland: Ohio Cichlid Association – Extravaganza

Jan 18, 2014 – Champaign, IL: CAFÉ – auction

Feb 16, 2014 – St Louis: MASI – Winter Auction

Feb 16, 2014 – Chicago: GCCA – Swap Meet

Mar 27-30, 2014 – Hartford, CT: NEC Annual Convention

Apr 4-6, 2014 – St Louis: MASI – Annual Show

Apr 27, 2014 – Chicago: GCCA – Swap Meet

Jul 10-13, 2014 – Louisville: ACA – Annual Convention

Aug 10, 2014 – St Louis: MASI – Summer Auction

Oct 4, 2014 – St Louis: MASI – Swap Meet

Oct ??, 2014 – Virginia: Catfish Convention

Nov 9, 2014: St Louis: MASI – Fall Auction

Check with the individual clubs for more details.



# 2013 Membership List

Member information has been removed from Electronic Exchanges.

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## Electronic Distribution Now Available

For those who prefer, the Darter is now available electronically, instead of the paper distribution. To change from paper to electronic distribution, email [editor@missouriaquariumsociety.com](mailto:editor@missouriaquariumsociety.com). You will get your Darter sooner and the club will save printing and postage. And, starting in 2013, you will save \$5 on your membership. With the upcoming new format of the Darter, print copies will be black and white, while electronic copies will have an expanded use of color, so there is one more reason to switch!

# Breeder's Award Program Report

Steve Edie

Member	Species	Common	Pts	Total
<b><u>Sep 2013</u></b>				
Eric Beger	<i>Laimosemion agilae</i> "Mont de Maheury" *		15	90
Mike Hellweg	<i>Jenynsia lineata</i> "Embalse de Maldonado" ***		35	5684
	<i>Oryzias wolasi</i> *		15	5699
Jerry Jost	<i>Corydoras hastatus</i>	Tail Spot Pygmy Cory	10	1990
	<i>Corydoras</i> sp. "CW018" *		15	2005
Cory Koch	<i>Poecilia picta</i>	Red Swamp Guppy	10	3037
Ed Millinger	<i>Macropodus erythropterus</i>	Red Back Paradisefish	10	715
Holly Paoni & Kevin Wise	<i>Danio kyathit</i>		10	114
	<i>Heterandria formosa</i> #	Least Killie	0	114
	<i>Macropodus opercularis</i>	Paradisefish	5	119
	<i>Pterophyllum scalare</i>	Zebra Angelfish	10	129
Debbie Sultan & Tom Corradini	<i>Pelvichromis pulcher</i>	Kribensis	10	140
Pat Tosie	<i>Amatitlania nigrofasciatus</i> "Rio Choluteca"		5	4145
	<i>Amatitlania siquia</i> "Rio Cabayo"		10	4155
	<i>Astatotilapia aeneocolor</i> @		20	4175
	<i>Aulonocranus dewindti</i>		15	4190
	<i>Xenotoca variata</i> "Zacupu"		15	4205
<b><u>Oct 2013</u></b>				
Mike Hellweg	<i>Danio nigrofasciatus</i> *	Dwarf Spotted Danio	10	5709
Jerry Jost	<i>Aspidoras</i> sp. "C035" *	Black phantom Aspidoras	20	2025
Cory Koch	<i>Neolamprologus wauthioni</i> *		15	3052
Gary Lange	<i>Lamprichthys tanganicanus</i>		20	1739
Ed Millinger	<i>Geophagus crassilabrus</i> *	Panama Eartheater	15	730

Nick Scarlatis	<i>Boraras naevus</i>		20	535
	<i>Corydoras</i> sp. "CW010" *	Orange Laser Cory	15	550
John Stollhans	<i>Ancistrus cirrhosus</i>	Bristlenose Pleco	10	285
	<i>Ophthalmotilapia ventralis</i> "Kambwimba"		15	300

\* = First MASI species spawn (5 point bonus)

\*\* = First MASI species and genus spawn (10 point bonus)

\*\*\* = First MASI species, genus and family spawn (15 point bonus)

@ = C.A.R.E.S Species at Risk (Double base points)

# = Species previously submitted = 0 points, except for C.A.R.E.S. = base point bonus

^ = Species previously submitted, limited points for additional color varieties

Sources:

Cal Academy - <http://research.calacademy.org>

CARES - <http://www.carespreservation.com>

## HAP Report September - October 2013

Mike Hellweg

Member	Species	Common	Rep	Pts	Total
Holly Paoni Wise/ Kevin Wise	<i>Cladophora aegagropila</i>	Moss Ball	V	5	75
	<i>Cryptocoryne parva</i>		V	15	90
	<i>Cryptocoryne wendtii bronze</i>		V	15	105
	<i>Helianthium bolivianum vesuvius</i>	Vesuvius Sword	V	15	120
	<i>Lilaeopsis novae-zelandiae</i>		V	10	130
Derek Walker	<i>Wolffia columbiana</i>	Columbian Water Meal	V	5	3250
Mike Hellweg	<i>Cryptocoryne wendtii</i> Mi Oya*	Mi Oya River Crypt	V	15	3250
	<i>Fontinalis</i> sp. aff. <i>novae-angilae</i> *	Rhodes Pond Weed	V	5	3255
	<i>Hydrolea</i> sp. aff. <i>ovate</i> *	Blue Waterleaf	V	5	3260
	<i>Hydrolea</i> sp. aff. <i>ovata</i>	Blue Waterleaf	IB	10	3270

# Auction Chairman's Message

Mike Hellweg

Hello all,

By the time you read this, our Fall 2013 auction will be history. I hope it was another great auction for everyone. Remember the auction is not just about selling stuff. It's more about camaraderie. Come and spend a little time with your fellow members and have some fun. Grab a lunch with a few MASI folks at TGI Fridays in the hotel. I guess you could also say the auction is also about buying stuff! Come and bid! We have plenty of sellers bringing plenty of fantastic items. What we always need most are BUYERS! Even if you only have one tank, there are lots of great items at the auctions – magazines, books, equipment, and more!

Since this message will be coming out between auctions, I've had several people ask a couple of different questions, so I'll address them here.

First, several have asked about having permanent auction numbers. That might be something we can do in the future. We've been talking about that off and on for many years now. It might be a step closer to reality. We'll see how things go in the next few months.

Second, people have asked about how long they have to work if they volunteer to help out. The answer to that is "as long as you want to". It's that simple. Some folks just come to help get things rolling in the morning. Others come to help throughout the day, or at the end. Some of us do come early and stay till the very end, too. It's whatever you can do. All help is greatly appreciated!

It's not too soon to start thinking about the Winter auction! After the Holidays, if you're like me you'll want something to do in the cold winter months. February 16, 2014 isn't too far off. As always, we'll need volunteers to help out with check in and helping sellers get their items unloaded around 9:00 am.

Don't forget we take all major credit/debit cards via Square.

I hope we see all of you at the next auction in February I hope we see all of you at the next auction in February. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and Happy New Year to all!

And for now, 'nuff said

Mike

[auction@missouriaquariumsociety.com](mailto:auction@missouriaquariumsociety.com)

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# The Computer Page

Steve Deutsch

MASI's official web page: [www.missouriaquariumsociety.com](http://www.missouriaquariumsociety.com)

MASI's email group: MASIFishHeads Yahoo Group - see web site for joining instructions

Addresses are only printed with permission of the owner. If you would yours added, please email me at [steve@skdeu.com](mailto:steve@skdeu.com). If you would like yours removed, or if it needs correction, also please email me.

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Jim & Rosie Yaekel	<a href="mailto:jryaekel@htc.net">jryaekel@htc.net</a>

# Member Classifieds

Ed Millinger is looking for a wrought iron double 75 gallon tank stand.

I have bloodworms and brine shrimp. Brine Shrimp eggs 16 oz. can. I am looking for a 200 gallon tank. Jim Miller, 314-638-1134.

Charles Harrison (314) 894-9761, [charles@inkmkr.com](mailto:charles@inkmkr.com) –

Thiosulfate crystals (Chlorine Remover).....	\$3.00 a half pound
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Wanted: Small Styro shipping boxes - 12 x 12 x 12 or a little bit smaller. If your company uses them and throws them away, save them! Bring to the meeting or I'll come pick them up. Mike 636-240-2443

MASI Members can place a classified ad in the Darter for free. Ads may be up to 30 words in length. Send your ads to the editor. The ad will run for one issue unless you specify how long to run it, in which case it will run as requested.

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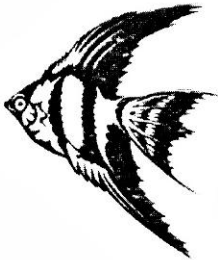


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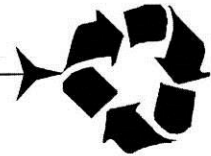
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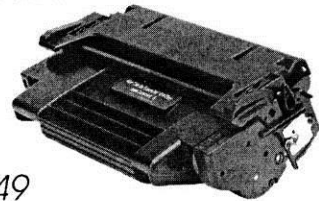
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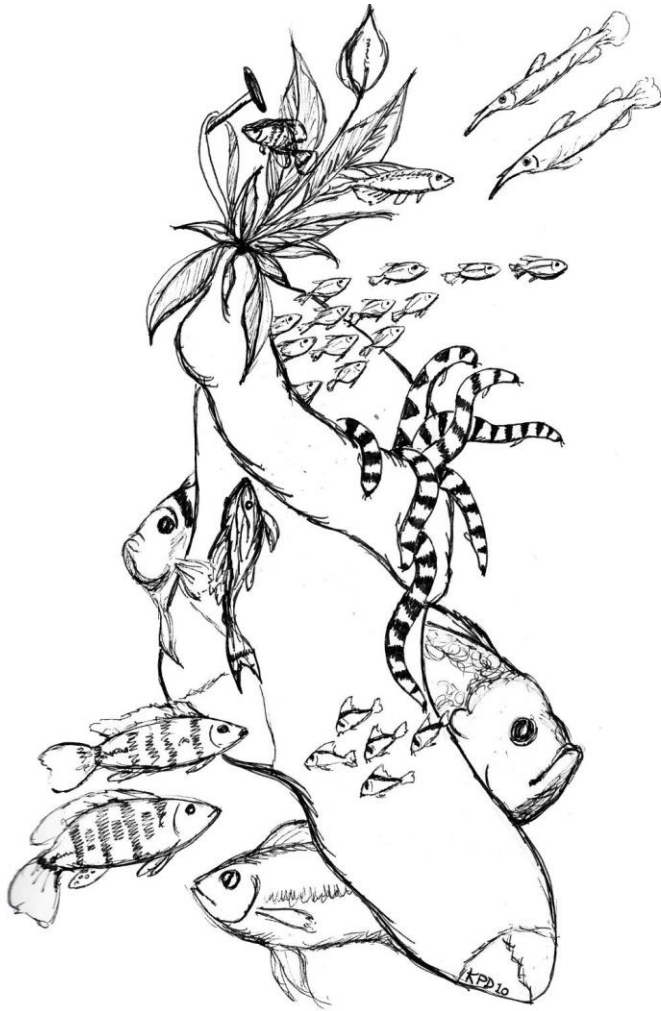
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