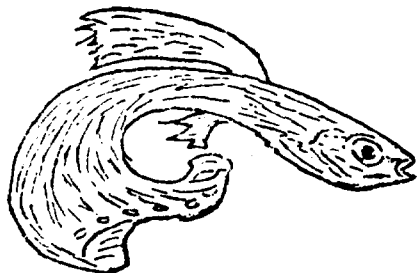


POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
P. O. Box 6219
Shirlington Station
Arlington, Virginia 22206

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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DELTA TALE



VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4

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Official Publication of The
POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

DELTA TALE is published for the benefit of the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society (formerly the Potomac Valley Guppy Club), a non-profit organization, established in 1960 for the purpose of furthering the aquarium hobby by disseminating information, encouraging friendly competition, soliciting participation in its shows, and promoting good fellowship. Correspondence should be addressed to Secretary, P.V.A.S., P.O. Box 6219, Shirlington Station, Arlington, Virginia, 22206. Original articles and drawings may be reprinted if credit is given the author and DELTA TALE. Two copies of the publication in which the reprint appears should be sent to DELTA TALE which will forward one copy to the author.

All materials for inclusion in the DELTA TALE must reach the editor no later than the Saturday after the monthly Monday meeting.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor Susan Sprague
 Staff Writers Ruth Brewer, Jerry Meola

Officers

Pres. John Jessup
 Vice Pres. John Wolcott
 Rec. Sec. Ruth Brewer
 Corr. Sec. Chuck Story
 Tres. Gene Sergent

Board of Governors

Gene Aldridge Carl Hardy Mike Sprague
 Ann Garnar Mary Hardy Ted Walsh
 Bob Smith

1975 Meeting Dates

April 14	July 14	Oct. 13
May 12	Aug. 11	Nov. 17
June 9	Sept. 8	Dec. 8

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I had the opportunity last week to see some of the largest fish I've ever seen in home aquariums. Both South Americans and African cichlids were kept in 850-1000 gallon homemade aquariums and the tank size really made a difference. Donald Caldwell, the owner, has proven to my satisfaction that we really don't know the true sizes of many of our fish simply because we are unable to provide spacious enough quarters for the animals. I guess we all need at least one 1000 gallon tank!

John Jessup, Jr.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The Board of Governors met February 25 at the home of John Wolcott. Nine members were present. Gene Sergent, Treasurer, reported that we had a bank balance of \$267.31 with all bills paid and some dues money still to come in. Sue Sprague and Bob Smith discussed the Editorial Committee meeting and presented a format which will permit continuance of a monthly Delta Tale of increased size at less cost than we are now paying. The Board accepted the proposal and the new format will be used beginning with the April issue. John Wolcott announced the spring show dates as May 17-18. Ann Garnar was asked to explore the idea of a marine class with the Marine Group. Various suggestions for publicity were discussed as well as ideas for better control of the auction. President Jessup and Gene Sergent both offered to donate the quarterly trophies for 1975. Gene Aldridge reported that he has programs lined up for the balance of 1975. After some further discussion, the Board also agreed to present the Breeders Award Program proposal at the next membership meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Brewer, Recording Secretary

PVAS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined PVAS during February. Their special interests are shown following their names.

- RON DAVIS - guppies
- FRED FALES - cichlids, livebearers, and fancy guppies
- CLYDE LASSELL - swordtails and guppies
- DIANE NIXON - anabantoids and cichlids
- CAROLINE SPAHR - cichlids and guppies

TABLE SHOW RESULTS AND STANDINGS
March 10, 1975

<u>GUPPY</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>POINT STATUS</u>	
	Sergent	Wolcott	Wolcott	<u>GUPPY</u>	<u>MAR</u>
a. Red	---	---	---	Sergent	8
b. 5 Matched Males	---	---	---	Walsh	-
c. AOC	Wolcott	Sergent	Wolcott	Wolcott	11
					ANN'L
					13
					9
					28
<u>CICHLID</u>				<u>CICHLID</u>	
a. C&S,Am. dwarf	Jessup	Jessup	---	Aldridge	-
b. Afr. br. pr. All	Sprague	Jessup	Jessup	J.Gaines	3
c. Other	Jessup	J. Gaines	---	Jessup	16
				Lloyd	2
				Sprague	6
					13
<u>EGGLAYER/LIVEBEARER</u>				<u>EGGLAYER/LIVEBEARER</u>	
a. Livebearers	B. Hardy	B. Hardy	---	Gaines, H.	-
b. Killifish	B. Hardy	B. Hardy	---	Gaines, J.	8
c. Other	J. Gaines	B. Hardy	J. Gaines	B. Hardy	14
				Lloyd	-
				Nixon	-
					5
					7

MEETING DATES

<u>Board of Governors</u>	<u>Cichlid Group</u>
Gene Aldridge	Steve Siska
3045 S. Buchanan St.	2223 Dairy Farm Rd.
Arl., Va.	Gambrills, Md.
931-7426	261-7923

Apr 1

Apr 16

April 14, 1975

Guppy: Blue, Black, AOC
Cichlid: Cent.&S.Am. home spawn & raised, Haplochromis, Open
Other: Sharks & Loaches, Catfish--African, Open

Comment: several drawings and color photos

This way when I have a question concerning a various fish, plant, or disease, etc., I can go to my card file and readily know where to find that information. I've often thought when I've the time I'd like to extend this to include the various aquarium books I have.

One idea used by some of my aquarist friends is a small spiral note book wherein can be jotted helpful hints and useful information gleaned from newsletters or conversations with fellow hobbyists.

I use a notebook to record spawning. To participate in the Breeders Award Program it is vital to keep track of spawnings. Information concerning the size of tank, temperature, pH, filtration, foods fed to condition, date of spawning, hatching time, number of fry, growth record, etc. will help you to be able to determine where you did right or wrong with a particular pair of fish. This could also be done in a card file.

I hope I've been able to show that record keeping can be very important and very simple. Your system need not be any more complicated than you want it. Try it though----I think you'll find a notebook or card file a vital tool for the fish room.

MEETING NOTICE

Make a special effort to come to our Feb. 10 meeting. Our guest speaker will be Nancy Kaufman from The National Aquarium. Her talk should be extremely interesting. Let's have a good turnout to show Nancy how much we appreciate her taking the time to come talk to us.

BOWL SHOW FEB. 10, 1975

Guppies - H/B AOC, Female, AOC
Cichlids - Cent. & S.A. med. br. pr., Congo River, Open
Other - Barbs, Anabantoids, Open

A VISIT TO THE SHEDD AQUARIUM

By: John E. Jessup, Jr. Ph.D.

Anyone who gets to Chicago must find the time to visit the John G. Shedd Aquarium. It is well worth the effort. On a recent trip, I managed to get an afternoon free, went to the Aquarium and spent several hours in the company of Mr. Emanuel Ledecy-Janecek, the Curator of Exhibits, who graciously took the time to answer my many questions.

The aquarium is arranged in galleries with about 130 large tanks which range from 450 to 13,500 gallons. The array of fish will certainly keep even the most jaded hobbyist fascinated. I was especially impressed by the African Cichlid tank which held excellent specimens of many of the more well known species--and some not so well known. There are also numerous Central and South American fish to see including *Geophagus surinamensis* at least eight inches long!

The people at the aquarium are as concerned as the hobbyist about the future, especially as it will be affected by the imposition of some of the federal restrictions in the offing. Mister Janecek said he was impressed by the interest and skill hobbyists have shown in handling fish and was genuinely interested in what we in the hobby were doing, especially how we make Red Devils red--theirs are yellow!

Our Spring show dates have been confirmed! It will be the weekend of May 17-18, 1975. It will be held at the Coca Cola Bottling Plant in Alexandria, Va. For more information write to FVAS, P.O. Box 6219, Arlington, Va. 22206, c/o John Wolcott our Show Chairman.

Mentions of DELTA TALE in Review Columns

- The Oklahoma O'Quarist - Oct. 1974
Mentioned the July issue and the reprint of the Betta article by Jim Sonnier.
- The Pisces Press - Sept. 1974
Mentioned the DELTA TALE in general.
- Tropi-Topics - Aug. 1974
Anabantoids by Perry Ragan - Aug.
- Nov. 1974
Notes on Treating African Cichlids by Jerry Meola - Sept.
New African Species Imported by Jerry Meola - Oct.
- Aqua Media - Oct. 1974
What's New in Africans by Jerry Meola - Aug.

DIARY OF A MAD FISHWIFE

By: Susan P. Sprague

Dec. 15 - I finally went over to the new Aquatic World at Loehmann's Plaza managed by Steve Banner. I like the set-up of the front. It is a very compact and aesthetically pleasing way to display many tanks. Also the raised wooden platform prevents slipping on possibly wet floors.

I also like the diverseness of the fish and plants offered. When I was there, they had about 10 varieties of plants and 4 types of snails. There were many kinds of scavengers such as plecostomus, 3 or 4 types of loaches, a few different corys and some crayfish. There were some fish not seen too often-leaf fish and the fresh-water butterfly fish. It was too bad that the selection of African Cichlids and saltwater fish was extremely limited.

Dec. 22 - While on our trip to S.C. to visit relatives, we went to one fish shop, Altee's, in Charlotte, N.C. The store is owner managed. The store is fairly small but I was impressed by the cleanliness and health of his tanks. Nothing was very different from the Washington, D.C. area including prices. I was pleased to see 4 or 5 tanks of African Cichlids mostly stocked with fish from the local hobbyists. I learned there was no aquarium club down there although I later read in one of our exchanges that the Charlotte hobbyists are hoping to establish a club soon.

Dec. 26 - I took a trip to Fathoms Unlimited in Wheaton, Md. It is a clean, pleasant store managed by John Grunden, a previous member of our club. John is very friendly and seems to know his fish. The store appears well kept and had some fish I haven't seen lately. The most interesting were some small Uaru. There was also a fair amount of different botia and some clown plecostomus with cream and black stripes.

South American Cichlids were well represented by breeding pairs of *C. salvini* and Gold Severums. There was a different species of pike cichlid as well as some huge *Cichla ocellaris*.

Dec. 29 - Tony Rizzuto and Vaughn and Kay Silar from Pa. came down for the day. We ran around to 5 different shops in the general area of my house. We also paid a pleasant call on Heinz Lenzen.

While getting dinner, I was interrupted by a chorus of voices from the fish room. Unbeknownst to me, I have a pair of *H. poly-stigma* who were going through their spawning routine. These fish are approximately 5" long and had shown no sexual distinction

except what turned out to be the male had been intensifying his splotched patterning for about a week. The night of the spawning a blue cast appeared on his face and some orange edged his dorsal and anal fins. To this day he has not progressed any further into his adult color pattern.

The pH was 7.4, 110ppm DH and water temperature of 72⁰. The pair circled in typical African Cichlid fashion with the female dropping from 1-3 eggs at a time, the male passing over and fertilizing the eggs which the female then picked up in her mouth. Some of this spawning was done on a piece of tuffa rock and some on top of the gravel in the bottom of the tank. The frustrating end to the story is that the female carried for 4 days and then ate the eggs. I don't know if the male hadn't fertilized the eggs, or there was too much hassle from tank mates(a br. pr. of *H. compressiceps*, another *H. polystigma* and a mbuna cross), or not enough reserve food in her body to take her through her abstinence while carrying the spawn. Next time I may try hatching the eggs artificially.

Jan. 5 - While reading our club's exchange magazines, I learned of a man willing to act as go between for anyone interested in corresponding with another fishy person. He is Warren Lund of Tri-Parish Aquarium Society. Write to

T.P.A.S.
c/o Warren Lund
913 Maryland Ave.
Kenner, La. 70062

MEETING DATES

Board of Governors

February 4
Bob Smith
31 School Dr. #104
Gaithersburg, Md.
559-3096

Cichlid group

February 19
Chuck & Genny Story
482 N. Owen St.
Alexandria, Va.
370-3593

Saltwater group

February 7
Renata Murphy
1914 Sword Lane
Alexandria, Va.
360-3839

TRADING POST

Steve Siska 261-7923
P. johanni 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
M. vermivorus 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
I. sprengrae 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Cobalt blue zebra 1"
P. lucerna 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "

Susan & Mike Sprague 534-7487
L. brichardi(s. elongatus) 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
J. ornatus 1-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
L. fuelleborni 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
(red-top father, mottled moth.)
P. socolofi 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
P. zebra (red-top parents) 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "