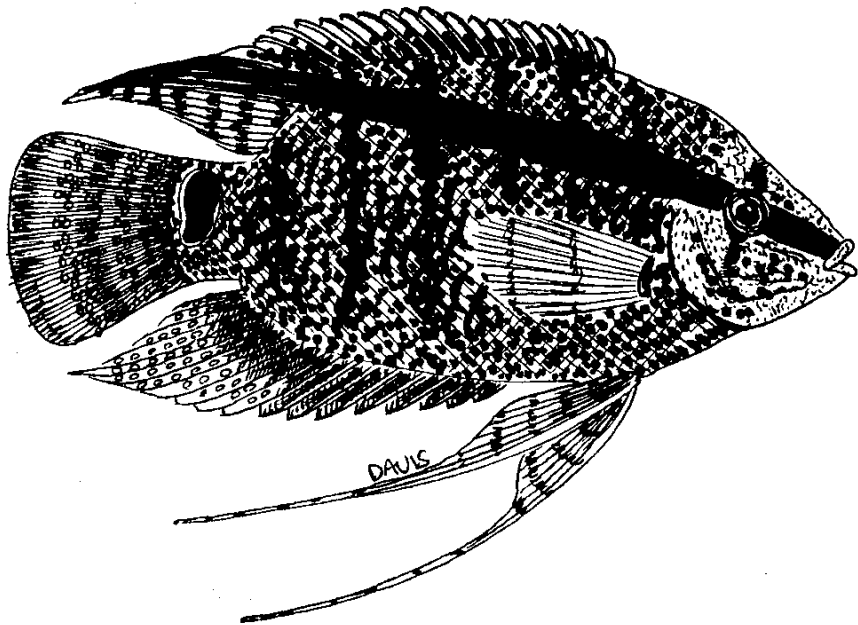


DELTA TALE

Official Publication of the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society

Volume 29 Number 1

January/February 1998



The *Delta Tale* is published bimonthly for the benefit of the membership of the POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY INC. , a non-profit educational and social organization . The society was founded in 1960 for the purposes of furthering the aquarium hobby by the dissemination of information and advice, and the promotion of good fellowship among the membership by organized activities and competitions.

All correspondence to the society and to *Delta Tale* should be directed to P.O. Box 664, Merrifield, VA 22116.

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PVAS Web site: <http://www.erols.com/dsnell/pvas.htm>

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<u>Vice President</u>	Don Kinyon
<u>Treasurer</u>	Barbara McClorey
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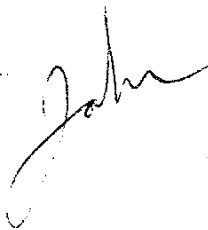
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Frum the editor's desk


It looks like we're starting the year out right. PVAS has recently been mentioned in not just one, but three of the major hobby publications. In the Feb. 1998 issue of TFH Wayne Leibel refers to a conversation he had with PVAS member Gene Moy at our last workshop. In the Feb. 1998 issue of FAMA *Delta Tale* is featured in their "Newsletter of the month" section. They reviewed our Sept/Oct issue and mention the articles by Lorne Williams, Alex Townsend, and Christopher Wright. Also - all of our usual columns and Dave Snell and the PVAS Web site, plus PVAS in general. In the March 1998 issue of Aquarium Fish Magazine Chuck Davis talks about PVAS in his column about judging fish shows and says of the method we used "I still think it is one of the best methods of judging." If all that isn't enough PVAS (and Raleigh Aq. Soc.) member Ms. Wendy Evans Tramm (now that she's famous we have to use her full name) had her article "My fish survived hurricane Fran" published in the Dec. 1997 issue of FAMA.


Our new officers have been very busy and there are lots of things going on or in the planning stages. We will be bringing back the once very popular "Fish Room Tours" starting on Feb. 22 with a visit to Dave Snell's fishroom. We will attempt to arrange a visit to a different member's fishroom each month or two, depending on how often we get volunteers to open up their rooms. See Dave if you are interested in hosting a tour of your fishroom sometime. Our March, 9 meeting will be hosted by Jim Karanikas of Tropical Fish World at his shop in Gaithersburg. I believe Jim will be speaking on fish diseases. We have an auction coming up on March 15 - please note the location - we will be back at the Quality Suites Hotel in Rockville, see the "What's Happening" column for directions, etc. Much work is also being done on planning for our Fall Workshop and Auction.

Until next time...

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John".

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

 For up to the minute information on what's happening call the free PVAS hotline anytime. (703) 352-3365.

 Check out the PVAS Web site at <http://www.erols.com/dsnell/pvas.htm>

Feb. 22: Fish Room Tour. Dave Snell will be opening his fishroom from noon until 2 PM. Directions: 66 west to rt 28 south (exit 52). Go thru the rt 28/29 intersection, go past the Centreville Multiplex Theatre on your right, turn right at the first light after the theatre onto New Bradock rd. At the first traffic light turn right onto Centewood. Get into the left lane, and turn left at the first intersection onto Field Encampment. Turn right at the second street on to Bella, then your first left on to Artillery Ct. Dave's address is 14328 Artillery Ct. - in the far left row of 4 townhouses. Park in any space that does not have a number, there is a lot of parking available around the center island. Contact Dave at (703) 968-9084 or dsnell@erols.com for more info.

Feb. 27 - March 1: Raleigh Aquarium Society's "Carolina Aquarium Workshop XIV". Speakers, field trip, banquet, auction. For more info contact Ken Fowliston (919) 554-9074, or Gary Held (919) 387-0833.

March 9: PVAS Monthly Meeting. Program, door prize, raffle, mini-auction, bowl show, refreshments, and more. Everyone is welcome. Additional parking is available in the school lot right next door. Doors open at 7:30 pm, meetings start at 8:00.

March 15: PVAS Auction. Please note location - **Quality Suites Hotel, Rockville, MD.** Directions: From I-270 north take exit 18 (Shady Grove Rd). Make a left turn at the light onto Shady Grove Rd., Go two lights and turn left onto Corporate Blvd. The Hotel is visible on the left - 3 Research Ct.

April 24 - 26: American Livebearer Association Convention, Akron, Ohio
Speakers (Derek Lambert, Shane Webb, Ray Lucas, Rusty Wessel, Rich Serva, more tba), banquet, auction, etc. See John Mangan for more info or contact Rich Serva, 5407 S. Celeste View Dr., Stow, OH 44224 for registration packet.

If you know of any "fishy" happenings let me know and they can be included here.

J.M.

From the President:

For those of you who do not know me, let me introduce myself. My name is David Snell. I have been keeping fish since 1992. I have been attending PVAS events since 1994, starting with my first tropical fish auction. By 1995, I became a member of PVAS and started helping at the auctions by being an auction runner and recorder. In the middle of 1996, I took over as treasurer from Rich Blumberg, as he had professional commitments that required more time than he could give to PVAS. Also in 1996, I established the PVAS web site on the Internet. I continued as treasurer for all of 1997. In addition, I became a "junior" auctioneer as I started auctioning for the first time during the 1997 Fall Auction. That brings us to 1998, when I was pushed, I mean, volunteered to be president.

I want to thank everyone who made 1997 a successful year for PVAS, including: Pete Thrift (President and Way & Means), Rick McKay (Vice President and Auction mailings), David Snell - that's me (Treasurer and Web Administrator), Alex Townsend (Secretary, Library, Refreshments, and Bowl Show), and our Board Members: Lorne Williams, Ray Hughes, Kenny Warren, Barbara McClorey. I can't leave out John Mangan who has been our editor of the Delta Tale for what seems like forever. Without the great help of these people, PVAS would likely not be here today. I also want to thank anyone else who I may have forgotten to mention who has helped and assisted with various PVAS events and tasks. THANK YOU!

This year is off to a great start. By the time I put this message together and it's published, we will have had at least two monthly meetings. The January meeting had a great talk given by Scott Saunders, owner of Oodles of Angels Hatchery, on angel fish and fish genetics. The February meeting featured another great talk given by Robert Bock, president of North American Native Fishes Association - NANFA, on keeping native fishes. Future programs are taking shape to include possible talks on Koi/Ponds, African Cichlids, and we are working on a few ideas to include Live Foods, Bettas, and possibly Fish Show Judging.

This year's Fall Tropical Fish Workshop and Auction is taking shape. We have already lined up two speakers. Lee Finley, sponsored by Tetra, has confirmed that he will attend. Karen Randall has tentatively agreed to attend, but she must first check on one prior engagement before she will commit to PVAS. Karen Randall does not have a sponsor, but PVAS will be splitting the cost with Jim Karanikas, owner of Tropical Fish World in Gaithersburg, MD. We are looking into at least one more major speaker, possible from the ACA as they will partially pay for travel costs. Then we will fill in the speaker schedule with some great local speakers.

It looks like we might have a person who will take over the Ways & Means job from Pete Thrift. But we are still looking for a few people to help in two other areas. We need a new Refreshment Chairperson. This simple job requires bringing the coffee pot, making coffee, and purchasing cold drinks and snack items to be brought to the monthly meetings.

The costs you incur are reimbursed. So why not get involved and help out? We can also use a member to be the Program Chairperson. This job has been unfilled for several years and the task has fallen on the president. This task should be done by a group of people who coordinate new monthly programs. Anyone who is interested in either of these two jobs, please volunteer and see me.

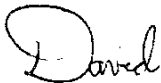
Wayne Considine suggested a great idea that we have started to implement. It's called the Short Video Program. The idea is to video tape a tank or all of your tanks and provide a short talk, about 5 to 15 minutes, at a monthly meeting. Wayne and another PVAS member have already started creating tapes of their tanks. Several Short Video Programs could be presented to create a monthly program. Why not create a tape of your own and show it?

The PVAS web site, <http://www.pvas.com>, continues to be a major means of communications. We currently have over 3,400 hits on the site since August 1996. Most of our new members have found PVAS by using the Internet. The site provides a lot of information about PVAS including: news/announcements, calendar of events, Bowl Show information and results, Breeder's Award Program information, auction and workshop information, list of supporting organizations (local & national), a Frequently Asked Questions section, a trading post, membership information, and links to other sites. We are also looking into adding some new items to the site in the near future to include articles written by PVAS members and posting photographs of past PVAS events in a photo gallery. If you have any ideas or you would like to help with the web site please contact me.

If you don't know, I have also set up an electronic mailing list that I use to send out 1 or 2 e-mail messages a month informing list members of various PVAS activities. This list has grown to 60+ members. If you are not on the PVAS e-mailing list, visit the PVAS web site or send me an e-mail message. (dsnell@erols.com)

I want to establish a Breeder's Registry on the PVAS web site. This registry will list the fish that you are breeding and/or keeping. We have a lot of great fish keepers and breeders in PVAS and I want them to share this information with the rest of the membership. I would like to request all PVAS members provide to Don Kinyon (dkinyon@shentel.net) or myself (dsnell@erols.com) a list of the fish that you keep or breed and your e-mail address if you have one. There will be more information on this in the current *Delta Tale* or a future one.

Remember, this is your club. Volunteer and get involved!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David".

Breeder's Registry

One of my goals for PVAS is to help promote the exchange of information among our members. To do this, I have established a Breeder's Registry on the PVAS web site. I am requesting that all members help by providing a list of the fish that you keep and/or breed, as well as any plants and live food you would like to add, and an e-mail address if you have one. I want this information from all members, from the new hobbyist to the advanced breeders. Please bring this information to the next PVAS monthly meeting or you can e-mail the data to Don Kinyon at dkinyon@shentel.net and myself at dsnell@erols.com. Once we start receiving your fish lists, we will start posting the information to the PVAS web site. If the fish you keep changes, just drop either one of us a note and we will update the registry.

The Breeder's Registry will help

1. Give the new hobbyist people to talk to about keeping and breeding fish.
2. Allow you to find other people with information and advise on similar or different fish.
3. Promote the diversity of the fish PVAS members keep.
4. Promote the fish you keep, which could lead to future fish trades or sales.

This is not a long and hard task, so please take the 5-10 minutes and supply the information.

Thank you,
David Snell
PVAS President



GREEN TETRA

Don Kinyon PVAS

Back in the corner of the pet shop was a tank marked "mixed tetras". There were a few different kinds, all of them very small; under half an inch. I bought all they had.

Out of this bunch were some that resembled pristellas, some that looked a lot like bleeding hearts, and four were about the size of black neons, with silver coloration through the body and a blue-green stripe head-to-tail. These four are the ones I have dubbed "green tetras", for lack of a better name. The closest description I have found to date is *Hemigrammus Hyanuary*, in Baensch's Aquarium Atlas I

These fish were the perfect dither/target fish for the apistos I was working with at the time; lively in the upper layers of the tank, and fast enough to get away from an angry mom guarding her nest. And though they aren't nearly as colorful as some other tetras, under moderate light with a dark substrate, they can be very attractive.

I found how easy they were to breed totally by accident. I was using the waste water from water changes to test a large aquarium I'd repaired, and after the water had been in the tank a couple weeks, and I finally got around to draining it, there was a baby in the bottom. Thinking it must be a killifish or something, I put it in a bowl and fed it baby brine for a couple weeks. In a short time, it was obvious that this was no killi. It swam in typical "tetra" fashion, hovering in one spot by flicking it's fins all at once in a short, quick movement.

Inspired by this lone survivor, I pulled the four adult fish; two males and two females, out of the apistogramma tank. The males were put in a 26 gallon tank and the females in a 19 gallon for conditioning. After a week or so of changing half the water every day with rain water and feeding them heavily on brine shrimp, white worms, black worms, and a variety of frozen and prepared foods, the females were full-bodied and the males very colorful and active. The pH ended up at 6.2 with hardness close to zero.

The males were then put in the 19 with the females, and though I never witnessed the spawning, in a few days the females looked depleted, so all the adults were removed. I kept watch of the tank, and six days later, tiny fry could be seen hiding under the leaves and moss. They were difficult to count, but I was hoping there may be a dozen, maybe a few more.

The young fish ate very well on baby brine shrimp, vinegar eels, and micro worms, and soon it was clear that there would be many more than a dozen. They grew quickly and had to split up into more tanks within the month. At four weeks the iridescent green stripe was evident. Now, at two months, the youngsters are about half the size of the parents, ranging from one half to three quarters of an inch, and they number over eighty.

Lamprologus Daffodil

By Jeffrey Burke, PVAS

A little over two years ago I purchased four one inch Daffodils. I put them in with four young *L. duboisi* and two young *N. leleupi* in a thirty gallon tank. I put in an abundant amount of rock work, making it a sanctuary for the weaker fish. Within several months two of the Daffodils paired up and killed the other two. After carefully observing that I now had a pair I dedicated a thirty gallon tank for their sole use. The tank had an outside canister filter and an undergravel filter driven by an air pump. In the tank I put several flower pots with rocks forming caves for them to use. The female always deposited her eggs in small crevices of the tank, and not the flower pots or caves.

I was able to get a total of nine spawns. The spawns appeared within forty-five to sixty days of each other, with intervals of three to six months with no activity. I was running into some difficulties where I was never able to get more than three fry to live past the age of two months. I decided to try an experiment, removing one parent at a time after they would spawn, thinking perhaps one of the parents was eating the fry. The next step was to set up a new thirty gallon tank, this time without the undergravel filter, assuming maybe the filter was sucking the fry down through the gravel.

Through experiments and observation I came to the conclusion that the filter indeed was sucking down the wigglers and small fry. I now have over twelve fry that have made it through the two month mark.

Editor's Note: Jeff doesn't mention what type of filtration he used on the second thirty gallon tank. I would have suspected the canister to be sucking up fry rather than the undergravel filter, especially one that is just air powered. However, you can't argue with success. J.M.

Decapsulating Brine Shrimp (*Artemia*) Eggs

by John Melgar

Anyone that has hatched brine shrimp cysts knows that hatch rates vary widely between different brands and between different batches of the same brand. At a PVAS meeting a few months ago a group of members were discussing the hatch rates of some of the eggs they were using. Most were complaining that at some point in their lives they have had cans of cysts that yielded very poor hatch rates. While some of the more reputable brands have acceptable hatch rates, most do not.

I remember in my earlier days as a hobbyist trying those little packages of *Artemia* cysts and getting very few, if any, nauplii hatched. I then tried some of the larger cans with better success but I usually ended with a mixture of nauplii, unhatched eggs, and shells. This meant that before feeding the nauplii to my fish I had to go through the tedious process of separating the nauplii from the mixture. Empty shells and unhatched eggs can cause an intestinal obstruction on young fry, killing them soon after.

I was almost ready to give up on *Artemia* but an article written by Lee Bell opened up my eyes to a new method not only for improving hatch rates considerably but also to get an almost clean, shell-less culture of nauplii. This process will also improve hatching times from 36 to 48 hours to about 12 hours when decapsulation is almost complete. The concept is simple: to dissolve the shells by using diluted household bleach (Clorox). All you need is bleach, a glass container, a brine shrimp net, an air source (pump), aquarium tubing, a watch, sodium thiosulfate (Start Right) or any other dechlorinator, and some measuring devices.

Method:

Make sure you have everything ready before you start.

1. Add approximately 1/4 cup of cold water and 1 1/2 to 2 tablespoons of brine shrimp cysts to the glass container (I use a pickle jar). Place your air source in this mixture and allow the cysts to rehydrate for about an hour. What I did is cut 2 holes through the lid. One hole should be big enough for your tubing to go through. The other one will work as an exhaust for the air you are putting in.
2. After an hour of rehydration, add 1/2 cup of household bleach to the mixture and continue aerating. Watch the cysts closely for the next 4 or 5 minutes. After about 3 minutes you will notice the cysts changing color from brownish to orange. It's at this point when the shells begin to dissolve. Depending on the batch, at the 4 or 5-minute mark pour the eggs into your brine shrimp net and rinse them the best you can. Quickly rinse the glass container and add the eggs back into the container with some water. Add dechlorinator until you can't smell bleach anymore. Make sure to also dechlorinate your brine shrimp net. Pour the eggs into your net for one last rinse and you are ready to go.

3. Take a portion of cysts to hatch. Place the rest of the decapsulated cysts in a margarine cup or something similar and store them in the refrigerator. You should hatch the stored cysts within a week or so to make sure that they have not been spoiled by bacteria nor fungused. The decapsulated eggs can also be fed to fish without a problem.

If you have any questions feel free to look me up at the monthly meetings and I'll try to help you out with anything that might not be clear from this article. Also, if you have never hatched *Artemia* cysts before, don't be afraid to ask. There are plenty of members that do this regularly and are all willing to help you get started

TRADING POST

PVAS members may advertise in the trading post at no charge. Send ads to *Delta Tale*, c/o John Mangan, 12633, Oakwood Dr. Woodbridge, VA 22192.

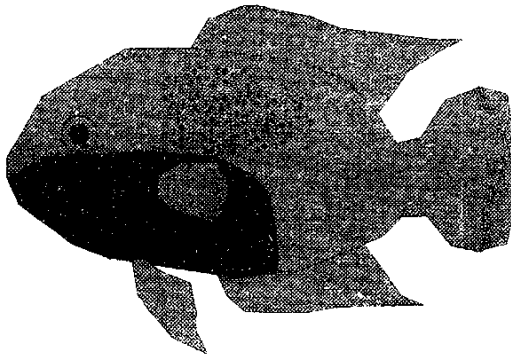
For Sale: backissue aquarium magazines. Many different titles. Send SASE for catalog.
For Sale: Plastic fish bags. Standard thickness and 3 mil extra heavy. Several sizes of each will be available at PVAS monthly meetings and Auctions.
John Mangan, 12633 Oakwood Dr., Woodbridge, VA 22192.

"Cichlasoma" (Archocentrus) Septemfaciatum "Topaz"
Topaz Cichlid

Gene Moy, PVAS

I happened on tankful of Topaz Cichlids while visiting an out of the way shop. I noticed a small two inch fish much more colorful than the others chasing most of the much bigger three inch fish. After inquiring and looking up the fish in the fish Atlas, I found that these fish were related to the group of Cichlasomines that includes *Cichlasoma (Archocentrus) nigrofasciatum*, the Convict Cichlid. I suspected that the more colorful fish was probably a female showing gold coloring in her mid section, similar to female Convicts with red in their belly region. I decided to take her and one of the males home.

I subsequently found a reference to these beautiful fish in a 1995 Tropical Fish Hobbyist (TFH) article about an expedition to Costa Rica. I am using the naming convention that the American Cichlid Association (ACA) has on their World Wide Web homepage (<http://www.petsforum.com/ACA/>). A breeding article of "C." (*A. septemfaciatum*) can be found in the July 1996 issue of TFH. I do not know whether the Topaz Cichlids are a separate species from the normal "C." (*A. septemfaciatum*) or color varieties from different locales. My current pair resemble the pictures in the July '96 TFH article, while my first female Topaz more closely resembles the November '95 picture. The major difference is the presence or absence of gold iridescent sprinkles in the upper portion of the body (see diagram). Topaz cichlids have blue eyes (actually blue corneas) like some of its close relations, such as "C." (*A. spilurum*), and "C." (*A. sajica*).



This species does not seem to take much inducement to spawn. They laid eggs 3 days after I brought them home from the shop! Normally these fish are an overall greenish to bluish gray, with a dark spot near the middle of the body. Other spots or light vertical banding is also evident. Prior to breeding, the female develops dark blue (almost black) color in the lower part of the body (see drawing). My first female also developed an intense iridescent gold in her mid section. The male gets darker changing from the somewhat drab greenish gray to a topaz especially under the chin, but does not compare to the female. A drawback of these Cichlids is that they are a shy fish, and always hiding when in my tanks.

Getting these fish to spawn is one thing. Raising the fry with the parents is yet another matter. For over one year, spawns are devoured by the nervous parent. Within weeks, the pair lay eggs again. The topaz cichlid usually lay about 100 eggs inside a clay flower pot. The eggs are rather large, 2mm, amber ovoids.

After several more attempts, and the parents eating the eggs, I've concluded that if I want to raise the fry I am going to have to incubate them artificially, or try different fish. I subsequently pick up another pair. I still want to see the parents raise the young, and loose another spawn. This pair finally does raise about twenty young for two weeks. Unfortunately, I had to go out of town on business, and end up with a few young to salable size.

Success? I place the pair in a ten gallon tank with a flower pot, plastic plants and a sponge filter. Wanting to free up a fifteen gallon tank, I move a pair of convicts in with the topaz. Two days later, I notice that the convicts are being kept at bay. I look and find some 70 plus wrigglers inside the flower pot. The parents had dumped a small amount of gravel in with the larva. I'm not sure of the reason behind this behavior, but have seen the behavior with other Neo-tropical cichlids. I remove the convicts. Four days later and the 4 mm fry are free swimming.

The fry are eating micro-worms, powder fry food, and infusoria. They graduate to ground up flakes at three weeks. After 2 months, the fry are approximately 12mm (0.5 in). The fry have a voracious appetite.

After much persistence, I finally manage to breed the Topaz cichlids.

APISTOGRAMMA SPECIES AFFINIS GEPHYRA

Don Kinyon PVAS

A few months back, I was lucky enough to "fish sit" some dwarf cichlids for a friend from the club while he was on vacation. It would have been enough to become familiar with some fish I'd not seen before, but as a bonus some of the apistos laid eggs while I kept them.

These fish remind me very much of the *A. Agassizii* that I've kept before. The coloration and the shape of the tail are a little different, But they look and act much the same.

There were two pair to start out with, the males being a bit larger, about three inches, and the females two-and-a- half. They were all in a twenty gallon high tank with no dither fish, as these particular fish didn't seem at all shy. The pH was 6.3 and temperature was eighty-two degrees F. They ate anything that was given to them, Earth worms, white worms, frozen brine shrimp and blood worms, along with several kinds of prepared foods.

The fish spawned in the first week, but the eggs started to fungus and disappeared in a day. I lowered the pH a little at a time down to about 5.0, because I suspect the eggs are infertile at any higher. The next time they spawned, the eggs looked good, so the second day I removed the flower pot they were on and put it in another tank, a fifteen, with the same water I would have liked to try and let the parents raise the young, but I didn't know how many chances there would be before the fish had to go home.

In a little over a day, the eggs hatched, and in five more the fry were swimming. Their first foods were micro worms and vinegar eels, followed by baby brine shrimp on the third day after hatching. In three weeks they were eating much of the same foods as the adults, more finely chopped, and grew well.

At one month, they needed to be split up into another tank, so half the brood, numbered about twenty-five, went into a twenty gallon long tank. The parents have long since been returned to their owner, but the fry, now at over two months, are a great addition to my fish room.

THE AQUARIST'S DREAM

by H. Carl A. Andersen

Of siphoning I had my fill
I planted plants and rocks until
The aquascape was something grand
And looked like unto promised land
For fish of every kind and creed
That in my life would fill the need
For beauty and for jungle streams
That I explored in all my dreams
The filters all had been well cleaned
The bottom sand was finely screened
The tanks were perfect and the fish
Were relishing their evening dish
When tired, bleary-eyed, and numb
I did my final daily sum
And took the census for the day
So I could quit and hit the hay
The night was still, the moon was bright
So I would surely sleep tonight
That's what I thot, but hear my tale
As I on moonlit seas set sail
I drifted thru a jungle land
And dropped my anchor in the sand
Went overboard and swam to rest
Beneath a dwarf gourami's nest
A danio with zebra's stripes
Sat next to me and told his gripes
His wife again was eating eggs
And left for him naught but the dregs
He said that it was time to try
To let them hatch, develop fry
So that again a beauty brood
Could dash about in search of food
And glimmer in reflected light
And show their dazzling colors bright
Then came a corydoras round
All plated and in armor bound
Complaining as all cats are able
He did not like the second table
Of things left over from the feast
Of all the food, he got the least
He stated that some tubifex

Would suit his taste, that his reflex
Would better be, he'd take a wife
If he could be, thruout his life
Assured that he would be a guest
When meals were served to all the rest
A true sclare was next in line
And was he dressed, he sure looked fine
In stripes of black on silver ground
And like the moon he's big and round
In profile he's a silver disk
And when grown up he runs no risk
That he will ever make a meal
For other fish whose inner zeal
Would tempt them to a fearsome try
His filaments are much too high
That even he of gaping jaws
The leaf-fish too would stop and pause
Then change his mind and swim on by
To try his luck on smaller fry
But old sclare he had no gripe
Just mentioned that his wife was ripe
That both of them were satisfied
They realized that I had tried
To make their home a pleasant place
Tehy thanked me and retired with grace
A female fundulus moved in
With somewhat of a sheepish grin
From gill to gill, her face was red
As she remarked she left her bed
To come and have a chat with me
As anyone could plainly see
For she was heavy, rounded well
Her husband thot it sure was swell
And after talking quite awhile
They left me with a sunny smile
A ghost shrimp nipped me were I sat
I asked him what he meant by that
He answered, "I am sorry man
I thot you were a toothsome clam"
And thus the night went swiftly by
When morning came I heaved a sigh
And woke to find, I'm telling you
That this, my dream, was partly true

Reprinted from "The Aquarium Journal"
Sept. 1947

Breeder's Award Program

BAP Checkers:

Annandale/Falls Church area: Jeff Burke (703) 941-3230
Montgomery County: Ray Hughes (301) 424- 3531
Montgomery County: Wayne Considine (301) 977-5973
Mt. Vernon/Olde Town area: Gene Moy (703) 765- 0865
Oakton/Vienna area: Rick Mckay (703) 281- 1647
Occoquan/Lake Ridge area: John Mangan (703) 491-4980
Prince George's County: Lorne E. Williams (301) 630-7674
Springfield/Franconia area: Pete Thrift (703) 971-0594
Warrenton/Manassas area: Gerry Hoffman (540) 347-7486

We still could use some more checkers. There are a number of areas where we don't have anyone. Even if there is someone already listed for your area we could always use someone else to help spread the work around.

BAP Standings:

Breeders Award *
Intermediate Breeder **
Advanced Breeder***
Master Breeder****
Grand Master Breeder*****

Jeffrey Burke 445***
Don Kinyon 235**
John Mangan 155**
Gene Moy 85*
Lorne Williams 75*
Gerry Hoffman 10 +
Dave Snell 10

Recent activity: Don Kinyon receives 15 points for *Apistogramma* sp. aff. *gephyra*. Don's article on these fish can be found in this issue.

Interested in getting started in the BAP? A complete set of rules and forms were printed in the last issue of *Delta Tale*. If you don't have it, or have any questions see me at any PVAS function. You don't need to be an expert fish breeder to get started. One of the purposes of the program is to help you learn. Ask around at a meeting and you will be sure to find someone willing to give you advice.

1997 PVAS Income & Expenses

Bank Book Balance Beginning of Year (1-1-97)	2016.21
Income	
Auction	14165.67
Membership	573.00
Monthly Auction	36.90
Monthly Raffle	245.05
Raffle	771.00
Workshop/Banquet	510.50
Field Trip	0.00
Miscellaneous	419.00
Total Income	16720.22
Total Cash Available	18736.43
Expenses	
Auction	8468.83
Auction Expense	1782.94
Insurance	185.00
Internet	191.54
Meeting Expense	837.36
Membership	30.00
Phone Bill	573.01
Postage	520.90
Post Box	104.00
Printing	862.91
Raffle Expense	949.91
Speakers	663.08
Supplies	20.89
Taxes	35.00
Workshop/Banquet	1038.75
Field Trip	0.00
Miscellaneous	456.10
Total Expenditures	16720.22
Bank Book Balance End of Year (12-31-97)	2016.21
Cash Increase/(Decrease)	0.00

1997 PVAS Expenses

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Auction				3002.16			2403.01				3063.66		8468.83
Auction Expense				320.19		400.00	56.49	115.65		533.00	357.35	0.06	1782.94
Insurance							185.00						185.00
Internet												191.54	191.54
Meeting Expense	41.79	30.76	29.25	18.79	40.42	41.25		48.50	46.51	23.27	102.20	416.62	837.36
Membership					30.00								30.00
Phone Bill	45.10	49.32	50.65	47.78	48.47	46.20	45.51	51.83	46.00	47.29	49.46	45.40	573.01
Postage						5.01	108.80			302.00		105.09	520.90
Post Box						104.00							104.00
Printing		135.00		150.00		175.00		150.00		252.91			862.91
Raffle Expense				57.02			227.10	39.36					626.43
Speakers									144.00	180.00	289.08	50.00	663.08
Supplies		20.89											20.89
Taxes				35.00									35.00
Workshop/Barquet										672.25	366.50		1038.75
Field Trip													0.00
Miscellaneous				68.00			144.00	44.10			44.00	156.00	456.10
TOTAL	86.89	235.97	79.90	3698.94	118.89	771.46	3169.91	447.64	236.51	2010.72	4272.25	1591.14	16720.22

1997 PVAS Income

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Auction													
Oct 95						253.50							253.50
Oct 96		282.00											282.00
Apr 97				4865.17	153.00		3587.00	16.33					5034.50
Jul 97								71.00	91.00				3749.00
Nov 97											4783.67	63.00	4846.67
Membership	48.00	24.00	24.00	204.00		45.00	48.00	24.00	36.00	24.00	84.00	12.00	573.00
Monthly Auction	3.00	4.00	2.00	4.00	5.00	5.00		2.00	9.00	1.00	1.00		36.00
Monthly Raffle	30.00	30.00	31.00	25.00	17.00	24.00		23.00	23.00	18.05	24.00		245.05
Raffle				259.00			215.00				297.00		771.00
Workshop/Banquet							75.50			120.00	225.00	90.00	510.50
Field Trip													0.00
Miscellaneous		35.00	72.00	22.00			195.00	59.00			36.00		415.00
TOTAL	81.00	375.00	129.00	5379.17	175.00	327.50	4120.50	195.33	159.00	163.05	5450.67	165.00	16720.22

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
PO BOX 664, Merrifield, VA 22116

Application for Membership

Date: _____

Name: _____

Street: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Optional information:

Occupation: _____

Where did you here about PVAS/get this application? _____

Number of aquariums: _____ Time in the hobby: _____

Special interests: (e.g., catfish, cichlids, etc.) _____

Reason for joining: _____

Membership dues for PVAS are:

Individual/Family: \$12/yr
Corresponding: \$ 9/yr
Junior (under 18) \$ 5/yr

Please send application and check to the address above.

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Silver Spring, MD 20904
879-0200

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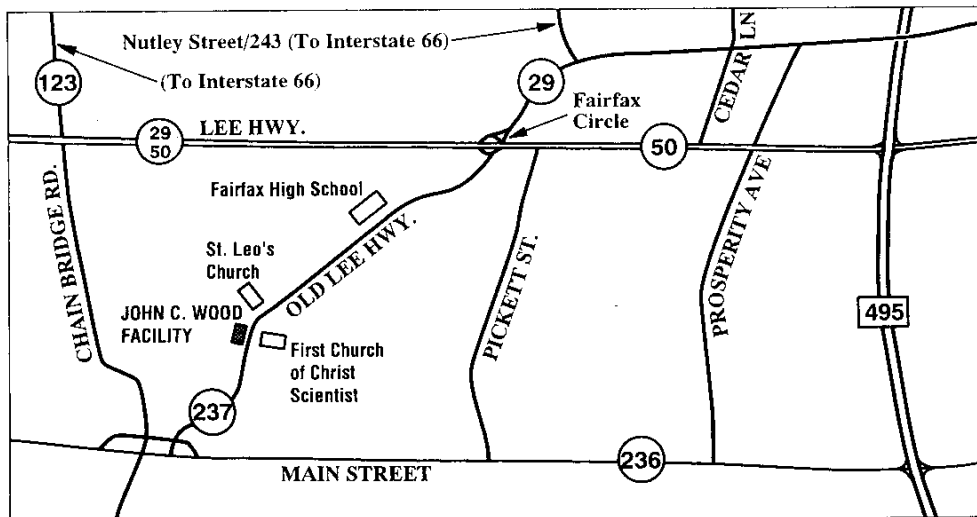
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POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
P.O. Box 664
Merrifield, VA 22116-0664

David J Snell 10\98
14328 Artillery Court
Centreville, VA, 22020
*



MEETINGS are held at the John C. Wood Facility, 3730 Old Lee Highway (Route 237), Fairfax City, Virginia. We meet in room 6, which is located behind the police station. Doors open at 7:30 and meetings start at 8:00—EVERYONE IS WELCOME!