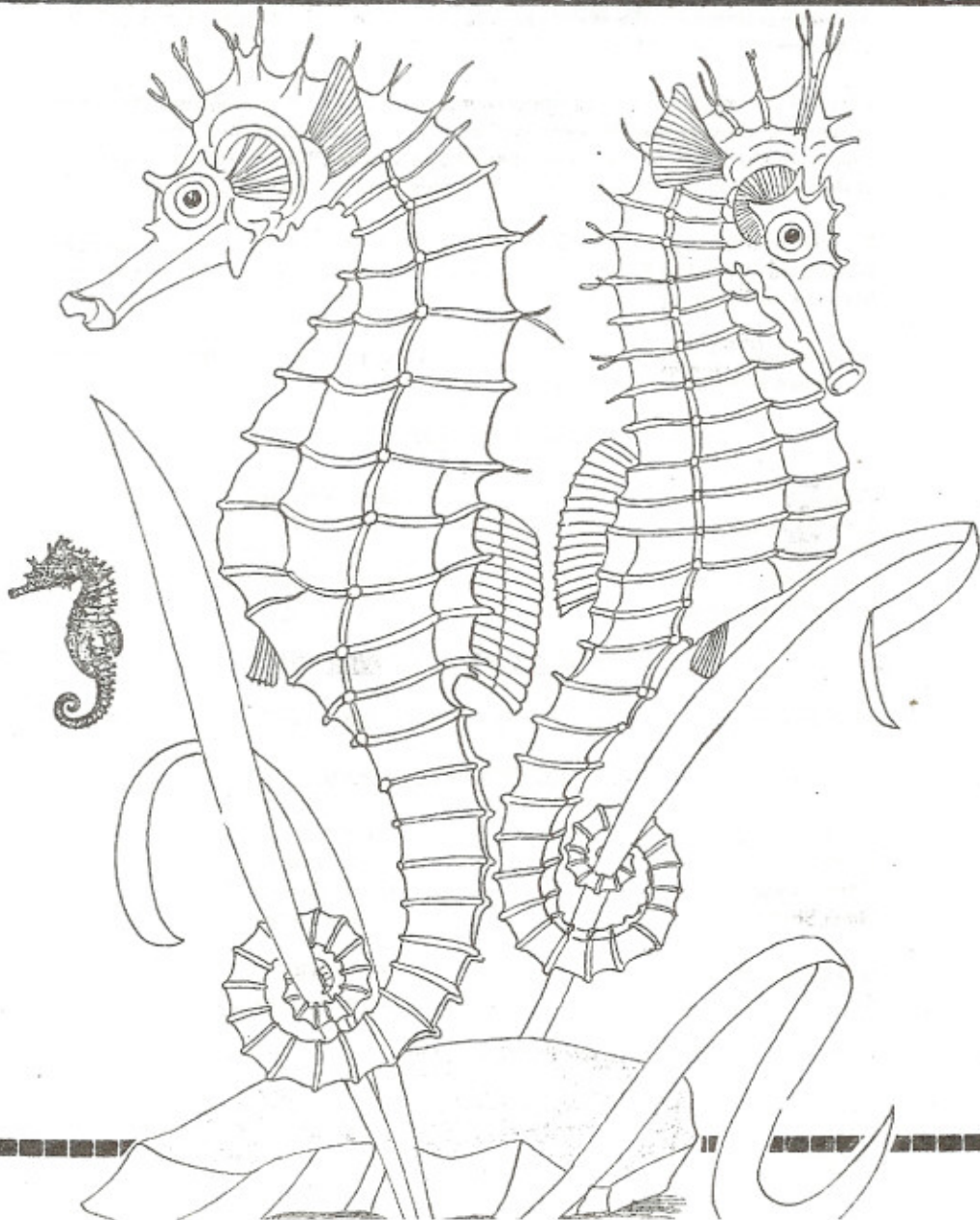


* DELTA TALE *

May/June 1996
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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

potomac valley aquarium society



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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All materials for inclusion in *Delta Tale* must reach the editor by the 10th of even numbered months (Feb.,April, etc.).

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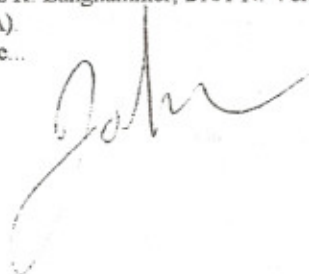
Frum the editor's desk

A whole lot of fishy stuff has happened since last time I wrote. The PVAS bus trip to That Fish Place went well. Everyone that was able to go had a good time and I'm sure they brought back lots of stuff. If you weren't able to go on this one I'm sure we'll do it again sometime in the future. That same weekend I was down at the Raleigh Aquarium Society workshop and auction. This group always puts on great workshops and they really out did themselves this year. The lineup of speakers included: Kim Somermeyer, Steve Somermeyer, Greg Lewbart, Rosario LaCorte (twice!), Jeff Voet, Bob Goldstein, Lee Finley, and John Tulloch. If ours is half as good it will be a success. I'd like to thank Wendy and Brian Tramm for putting up, or should that be putting up with, myself and Kenny and Sandy Warren for the whole weekend. Next was the PVAS Winter Auction. Everyone there had a chance to get lots of good stuff at bargain prices. As if all of that wasn't enough, I recently went to the American Livebearer Assoc. convention. On my way there I stopped in Akron to speak to the Akron Aquarium Society. If you're ever lucky enough to be in Akron when they're having a meeting, show, etc. be sure to attend. They'll be having a show and auction Aug. 2-4. I'm going to try to get back for it. I'm working on an article on the ALA convention but won't have it finished in time to put into this issue. Watch for that next time.


More fishy stuff yet to come- the PVAS Spring Auction will be June 9th. It will once again be at the Howard Johnson's on Rt. 1, right off of 495. More info elsewhere in this issue. Our auctions are always good so plan on attending. There will be lots of good stuff to buy that you won't see anyplace else locally plus raffles, including a 55 gal. tank/hood. Because the auction is the day before our usual meeting date **the June meeting has been canceled**. In the past whenever we have tried to have a meeting the day after an auction turnout was so low that it wasn't worthwhile showing up. There will be a board meeting that night however. All board members and committee chairman should be there - 8:00 in our usual meeting room.

My last topic this time is a sad one. The aquarium hobby has recently lost one of it's best. Vern Parish passed away recently. Besides being an accomplished aquarist and all around naturalist Vern was one of the best people I have ever known. Everyone that was lucky enough to meet him loved him and he will be deeply missed. The ALA is establishing a fund in Verns' name to give research grants to graduate students working with livebearers, Verns' main interest. Anyone wishing to contribute can send donations to the Vern Parish Fund, c/o James K. Langhammer, 2101 N. Vermont, Royal Oak, MI 48073. (Checks payable to ALA).

Until next time...



WHAT'S HAPPENING!

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

May 13: PVAS Monthly Meeting.

June 9: PVAS Spring Auction. Registration to sell 9 am- noon. Auction begins at 11:00am. Location- Howard Johnsons at rt. 1 and 495 (see map next page). Complete info beginning on next page.

June 10: The PVAS general meeting scheduled for this date has been **cancelled**. There will be a board meeting at 8:00 in our usual meeting room. Board members and committee chairs should attend.

July 4: National Goodeid Day. This is the day everyone honors goodeids with parades, picnics, and fireworks. Some misguided people, mostly cichlid keepers, may try to tell you this stuff is all to celebrate Independence Day. Don't believe them. They're just jealous because there isn't a national cichlid day. Just go to the history section of your local library and you can easily find that the Declaration of Independence was signed on Aug. 2nd, not July 4th. So there!

July 8: PVAS general meeting. Program, bowl show, mini-auction, raffles, door prize, refreshments, and lots more fun stuff.

Aug. 12: PVAS general meeting. All of the usual good stuff, plus free air-conditioning. That may not seem like a big deal now, but it will in Aug. (at least I hope so, when is spring going to get here?)

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. John Mangan, 12633 Oakwood Dr., Woodbridge, VA 22192.

For Sale: *Neolamprologus cylindrus*, proven breeding pair, \$35 Pair.
Cyprichromis leptosoma (Blue Flash), 1", \$5 each.
Heros appendiculatus (Turquoise Severum) 3/4- 1", \$3 each.
Corydoras panda, 3/4- 1", \$3 each.

Contact Jeffrey Burke, (703) 941-3230.

June 9, 1996

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

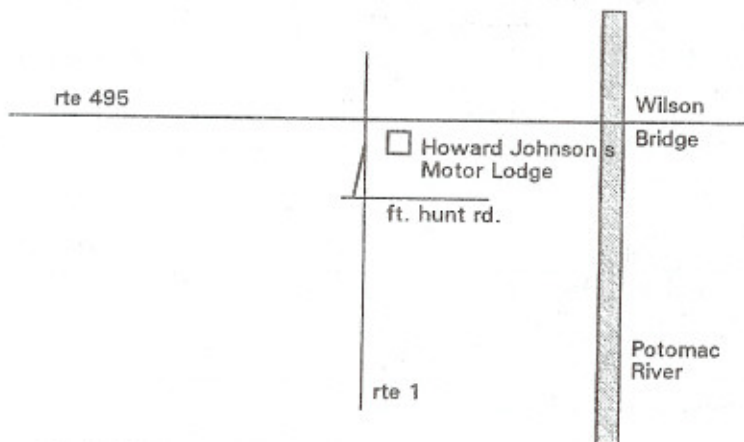
AUCTION!

TROPICAL FISH AND EQUIPMENT

HOWARD JOHNSON HOTEL, 5821 Richmond Highway, Alexandria,
VA. (route 1 at the beltway).

A great opportunity to buy-sell fish, plants, aquariums, books, equipment, supplies...
We will also hold a raffle for new equipment and supplies!

Registration 9 am - 12 noon
The auction will begin at 11 am!



Directions: Howard Johnson's is located on the east side of rte 1 just south of rte 495 and north of Fort Hunt Rd. Exit rte 495 onto rte 1 south. Howard Johnson's is located on the other side of the divided highway. Follow the signs for Ft. Hunt Rd., then turn back onto rte. 1 heading north.

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY AUCTION RULES

RULES FOR THE SELLER

1. You do not need to be a PVAS member to buy or sell hobby-related items, including fish, plants, equipment, etc. in the auction.
2. Registration of items for sale will begin at 9 AM and will end at 12 PM. Auctioning will begin at 11 AM. Items arriving after 11 AM may not be placed on the tables until after the first break. You must be in line by 12 PM to register.
3. All items must be labeled with the identity of their contents, to include: number, sex (if possible), and other pertinent data. Use a waterproof marking pen and adhesive label. Labeling equipment will be available at the auction site, but items must be labeled before being registered.

Fish: "Pair" means one of each sex. "Mated Pair" means a pair that have spawned with each other. "Trio" means one male and two females. "Reverse trio" means two males and one female. "Mixed sexes" means at least one of each sex is present. If you are not certain label "unsexed". Any major flaws should also be mentioned. PVAS reserves the right to reject any fish judged as unsuitable for auction.

Supplies: All equipment **MUST** be labeled as to working condition, missing parts, and any other pertinent data. PVAS reserves the right to reject any item judged as unsuitable for auction.
4. Proper fish bags must be used. Live items must be bagged with ample air and water (don't overfill the bag with water, leave plenty of air space also). Make sure the bag is of a suitable size for the fish in it. Do not overcrowd fish. More than one bag may be joined together as one item if necessary. Fish packed in ziploc or similar bags will not be registered. If a fish is registered in a bucket, tank, bowl, etc. the container will be considered part of the item and they will be auctioned as a unit. PVAS reserves the right to reject any improperly packed item and to re-bag any item if necessary.
5. Registration is limited to 15 items per person. A limit of 5 bags per species or color variety or form is allowed unless prior approval is obtained from the auction chairman.
6. Each item to be auctioned will receive a label with an item number and a colored dot. Those items with a red dot will be auctioned first. Each seller will be given one red dot for each four items registered. There will also be three other colors. The order that these are auctioned in will be determined by the auction committee and/or chairman after the auction begins.

7. Items will be offered as is and will be sold as one item. Once registered, the contents of an item may not be split.
8. Each item carries a \$1.00 minimum bid, unless the seller assigns a higher minimum (make sure to include the minimum on your label if it is higher than \$1). The seller may lower the minimum on an item that does not sell. Items that do not sell will be set aside and offered again at the very end of the auction.
9. No payment will be made to the seller on the day of the auction. Payment will be forwarded by mail within ten days after the auction date. It is the sellers responsibility to give PVAS a proper name and address to receive payment. Envelopes for this purpose will be filled out during registration.
10. The seller will receive two-thirds of the selling price. PVAS retains one-third.
11. All items not sold must be claimed at the close of the auction, or they will be disposed of at the discretion of the auction chairman.
12. The auctioneer retains the right to set aside any improperly bagged or marked item, or any sick or otherwise unsaleable item.
13. Fish species that are restricted by either federal or state statues will not be accepted.

RULES FOR THE BIDDER

1. All persons wishing to participate in bidding are required to register with their full name and address. Bidding numbers will be assigned to all buyers.
2. Items may be inspected only before the auction and during breaks.
3. Bidding raises will be in \$1.00 increments. The auctioneer has the right to alter this on an item at his discretion.
4. Successful bidders will have their items brought to them at which time payment is expected. An authorized bidder may run a tab or pay by check. See the treasurer before the auction. Proper identification will be required in these instances.
5. All sales are final.
6. In all cases the decision of the auctioneer is final.

VERN PARISH

1917 - 1996

By Charles T. Grimes

I first met Vern Parish twenty-six years ago at a meeting of the Indianapolis Aquarium Society. Our young family had just moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, with all of our possessions, which included seven aquariums.

I made sure to attend the next Aquarium Society meeting after moving. The IAS was a cordial bunch; Vern and Jean Parish were among the members who made sure I felt welcome. Before the evening was over, Vern made a special effort to talk to me again and, before the evening was over, I had been invited to visit him and his fishroom.

I later learned that I was not the first nor was I the last to be greeted in this fashion by Vern. He was exceptionally open and sharing with his time and expertise for all who had interest in the tropical fish hobby. In short order, not only was I a frequent visitor at the Parish residence, I was quickly brought up in his enthusiasm for all sorts of biological and botanical interests.

Before I realized what was going on, I was joining him on seining expeditions all over central Indiana. His telling of his experiences in South America had me dreaming of similar trips, something I have finally been able to accomplish and it was every bit as rewarding as Vern had promised. His zest for Mother Nature's bounty was extremely infectious.

As a *warm-up*, Vern sort of led some of us local aquarists on a half dozen expeditions to southern Georgia and northern Florida. Vern's knowledge of the flora and fauna of the area made these trips some of the best times of my life.

Under Vern's tutelage, I went from a guy with seven aquariums, that purchased fish to replace those that had died off on a regular basis, to a hobbyist that had over 100 tanks, I was the breeder award point leader in our local club and I amassed enough knowledge and confidence to become a regular speaker, country-wide, on tropical fish.

Was I unique in my association with Vern? I should say not! Vern was one of the most generous people I have ever known. He was always available to share his knowledge and experience, and he had plenty of both. Vern started keeping fish as a five year old, had a retail tropical fish store for years, was a founding member of the Indianapolis Aquarium Society in 1947, for the 25 years I knew him, maintained in excess of 75 aquariums, and, of course an ardent supporter of the A.L.A.

It was almost impossible for any aquarist, advanced or neophyte, to visit Vern and not leave with at least one bag of fish, usually multiple bags. For me, Vern's influence ran deeper and broader. Over the years of association with Vern, I would leave the Parish household, often fed in the process, with cage birds, and cages, rabbits, landscape plants, orchard fruit, and, of course fish.

Vern was an easy person to like and everyone who knew Vern absolutely loved him. And, sometimes, to my inconvenience, people did their best to reciprocate Vern's generosity. Vern, having never met a fish he didn't like, seemed to be a magnet for gift bags of fish that people brought to fish doings, especially just for Vern. Of course, American Livebearer Association conventions were the worst of the lot because Vern had an unwavering interest in livebearers, especially the wild species.

On one occasion, Vern and I drove to an ALA Convention in my Miata. A Miata is a small, really small, convertible sports car. Knowing my car's almost non-existent storage and Vern's capacity to accumulate bags of fish, I warned Vern at least a week in advance of the convention that he could only bring home six bags of fish and the all had to fit within a "Playmate Cooler" I had packed expressly for his fish bags.

Vern, of course, agreed with, I am sure, the best of intentions.

We arrived about 7:00 PM on Friday night and I sort of lost track of Vern, not unusual at a convention. He showed up at our room about midnight with his cooler packed too tight to close properly in one hand and four bags of fish in the other hand, Vern, again, with firm resolve, promised "this was it" and there would be no more fish and the four extra bags would fit in his softside luggage.

By Sunday, noon, Vern had accumulated a total of 19 bags of fish, including a special bag from one of our overseas visitors; how could he say no?

On our way back home, we even had fish in my luggage and a grocery bag of fish on Vern's lap. Was I surprised? Of course not! Vern was Vern. He couldn't help himself and no one who ever knew him ever wanted him to change.

To know Vern was to love him. Vern was one of the most positive people I ever knew and definitely a major influence on my life. Again, I am not unique in this experience.

Years ago, in *Tropical Topics*, the publication for the Indianapolis Aquarium Society, I stated I wanted to grow up to be just like Vern Parish. I, just now, realize that is a pretty lofty goal. It is, however, more valid for me now than it was ten years ago.

Many of us are better people for having known and been influenced by Vern Parish. We, individually, are more, but our hobby is diminished with his passing.

Reprinted from LIVEBEARERS Bulletin of the American Livebearer Association.

MY EXPERIENCE RAISING RED-TAIL HALF BLACK GUPPIES

After having been out of the tropical fish hobby for about ten years I bought two pairs of guppies at the PVAS auction and decided to give fish raising another shot. They were very healthy and seemed to be well taken care of, also at the auction I bought several nice Java Fern plants and some Water Sprite.

I had set up a ten gallon aquarium a week previously and used a inside corner filter. The substrate I used was small natural gravel. I tested the PH and it was about 7.1.

I planted the plants in the substrate and made sure the water in the fish bag was the same as the aquariums water and released the fish into the aquarium. The fish did well and about a month and a half both of the females were looking very pregnant and I removed the males to another tank I had started. I put the females in a plastic double hatchery that floated and about a week later one of them gave birth to about 30 fry. After about two more weeks without the other female giving birth I put her in the tank with the males. (After 3 months she remained bloated and never gave birth.)

I fed the fry baby brine shrip, OSI Brine Shrimp Flakes, and a Spirulina flake, alternating for three feedings a day. Also they grazed the plants constantly.

The fry grew rapidly with water changes one and two times a week, with about 30 % changed each time. A lot of the information I read suggested that I age and airate the water before I used it but I used freshly drawn water out of the tap and used a declorinator and had no problems. There were very few deformities. I wanted to separate them by sexes at 3 or 4 weeks but by me being a novice I was unsuccessful. They were about two and a half months old before you could distinguish the gonopodium of the males. Looking for color on the tails was no help because all of them had color in their tails.

After I thought all things were going good I was expanding in the hobby and bought an Ammonia testing kit and tested the water for ammonia and it was very high. I immediately changed the water (50 %) and tested again and it was still high but it eventually went down to nondetectable levels. I attribute the high ammonia level to overfeeding and the Water Sprite dying and me not getting the dead plants out.

In conclusion some things I would do differently would be to use a bare bottomed tank and upgrade my lighting system or use plastic plants for the fry. I decided to change to another species of fish after I had aquariums in closets and other places and my wife started getting aggravated. The problem was I thought they were all so good and didn't want to cull any of them because I didn't know what I was looking at and didn't want to get rid of possibly another strain. The process was very educational and I learned a lot.

Heros Severus
Gold Severums

By Gene Mey, PVAs

I've always been fond of Severums, especially the gold variety. Some of the ones I currently keep have been in my tanks for four years. About a year ago, I became interested in breeding these South American Cichlids. I had managed to raise three Gold Severums to six inches total length from one inch total length. I discovered that in all probability I had three males. I set out on a difficult task to locate mature female Gold Severums, visiting different aquarium/pet shops in the process. I also decided to join PVAS and started attending the monthly meetings in seeking out fish and information.

At the Fall '95 auction, I picked up several more Gold Severums, including a "pair". The "pair" consisted of a five and half inch male and a four inch female. The female looked too small to be mature. I set up the "pair" in a 20 gallon high aquarium as I was somewhat limited in tank space. The "pair" got along splendidly. Within days, the male started moving massive amounts of gravel. Within two weeks the "pair" had laid some 200 eggs on top of a clay flower pot that I had provided. To my disappointment, the eggs proved to be infertile and died off over a period of three days. After reading several recent magazine articles and speaking to others at the PVAS monthly meeting, I allowed that male Gold Severums generally have fertility problems. Unfortunately this particular male was probably infertile, or he may be too young.

Fortunately, I had several more males, and I felt I had little to lose in trying to match the female with another male. I tried matching her with a four and a half inch male, closer to the female's size. Using a piece of Plexiglas to initially separate them in the 20H, the Severums were conditioned on a variety of foods including meal worms and live black worms. Within ten days, some 300 eggs were laid on the flower pot. Within three days, all the eggs turned white. Again I was disappointed.

I next decided to try to match the female with one of my older males, who was now eight inches long. They were introduced with a loose fitting Plexiglas partition. Two days later I removed the partition. There was no fighting, or bullying on the part of the much larger male. I felt a sense of relief. I started to condition the two fish with cut up night crawlers, pieces of boiled chicken, pieces of ham, live black worms, and some Cichlid pellets. The male's breeding tube had been visible long before being introduced to the female. The two did not demonstrate much interest in each other. There were displays by the male, and shaking by the female, but the displays were few and far between. During this time I did partial water changes of 30 percent weekly, and increased the temperature to 85F. Around Jan 9th, the female started moving small amounts of gravel. Her breeding tube was now visible. The male still did not seem too interested and did not move any gravel.

On the morning of January 11th, some 400 amber eggs were laid on a piece of shale, resting flat on top of the gravel. I noticed that two eggs were white, and possibly not fertilized. Both the male and female showed signs of parental protection of the eggs, and this behavior strengthened over the next couple of days. On day 2, I noticed ten percent of the eggs turned white. I was ready to be disappointed. That evening some 30% of the eggs were white. On day 3, I noticed several pieces of gravel on top of the shale. Upon closer inspection, I noticed movement within the gravel. Wrigglers! Some of the eggs had hatched. I cannot tell how many there are at this time. I've got to start planning. The box filters will have to be replaced with sponge filters, and the power filter will have to be screened or turned off. I will have to go get some baby food. Maybe hatch some brine shrimp? That afternoon, upon my return from visiting several shops looking for fry food, the wrigglers were gone.

Well, the bright side is I'm making progress. I started conditioning the pair again with more chopped night crawlers, meal worms, black worms, some table scraps, and partial water changes. The female started moving gravel again. The male did not like my maintenance activities and attacked anything inserted into the tank. After a while, the male started moving some gravel to help uncover pieces of shale I had partially buried in the gravel.

On the morning of February 2nd, I heard more gravel being moved in the tank. I discovered more

than 500 eggs covering an area three by four inches on a flat piece of shale. I'm excited again. The pH, checked the night before was 6.5. The water temperature was 86F.

On day two, the female hovers close to the eggs, fanning water over them with her fins. Some 60 eggs have turned white. I've come to expect this. Later in the day, the female has piled several small pieces of gravel on top of the eggs. I blow off some of the gravel with water through a piece of rigid tubing, blowing a few eggs in the process. The parents are extremely agitated and attack the tubing, but do not notice the scattered eggs. Later in the day, I noticed a few more white eggs, but the number of viable eggs are halved. I may have lost some to the power filter, before I put a sponge over the intake.

On day three, the eggs have hatched. The fry are white except for the black eyes. The parents have moved the wriggling fry on top of the flower pot. The female is constantly picking up loose fry that seem only loosely anchored to the pot. I find it hard to estimate the number of fry as some are piled on top of each other and pieces of gravel. The male is more concerned with defending the territory.

The 200 or so translucent fry are about 4 mm long, and are free swimming on day five. During the morning, the parents had bedded down the fry on the gravel. I am feeding them boiled egg yolk suspended in water, after discovering one of the commercial liquid mixtures clumped when squirted into the tank.

It's been a full week since the eggs were first laid. I performed a 15% partial water change today. The fry seem to be healthy, and their numbers remain approximately the same. Their bellies seem to be full as well and the young have grown to 5 mm. The parents are performing their duties of protection and herding the fry.. A somewhat large tail fin is visible. Some fry are getting trapped in the gravel when they are bedded down for the night. The 5M gravel leaves cracks between the pieces that the fry squirm into and have difficulty finding their way out. Although the number of fry lost is probably small, smaller gravel would have been more suitable for the breeding and rearing tank.

A full week after the fry have been free-swimming, and they seem to be healthy and growing. The parents still protect and herd the young. There is a disparity between the largest at 6 mm and the smallest at 4 mm. The parents are being fed small pieces of ham and peas, as they seem to prefer table scraps over dry pellets.

The fry has been free-swimming for two weeks now, and the largest have grown to 10 mm. All fins are translucent and so are difficult to see. The fry are healthy and are eating liquid food and insufovia found in the gravel. Their pectoral fins are noticeable, but I cannot see their pelvic fins yet. The fry are transitioning to ground up flake food. The fry are moving about more on their own, although the parents still are trying to herd the young. The parents vigorously attack the stick that I use for stirring up the gravel.

Approaching week four, the largest fry are 12 mm in length and beginning to grow in height as well as in length. The fry are beginning to look more like their parents in shape and color. The largest are taking Hikari Micro Pellets, while the smaller ones are taking ground up flakes. I estimate that I still have 150 fry. The majority show very full bellies.

At week five, I still have 75 young. I've remove the sponge pre-filter to the power filter, as the young are big enough now. The fry are on average 12 mm (0.5 in), with the largest being 14 mm. This will be a critical week as I will be out of town on business and could not find a fish sitter. I've remove the parents to another tank, so there will be no temptations on their part.

The fry have survived five days of my absence with a small vacation food block containing freeze dried tubifex worms. I do not know whether the food block helped or not, but it did not seem to have hurt anything. The largest fry are now approaching 18 mm, while the smallest are only 10 mm.

During my trip, the parents have laid another batch of eggs in their new tank. The parents ended up eating their second batch of eggs prior to hatching. Ten days later, the pair lay another 500 - 600 eggs on another piece of shale, and these eggs hatch in 48 hours at 85C. The pair's behavior is the same as before. The total percentage of eggs turning white is less than 10%. Good thing that I've recently thinned out my tanks. Now, if I could only get my other two (Severums) to pair up.

Breeding *Apistogramma Borelli* and *Papillichromis Ramerezi*

I treat these two small cichlids about the same and they both spawned at about the same time, so I will group them together for this short report. I acquired a young pair of each, and in a short time, feeding on a varied diet of live, frozen, and dry foods, they were breeding size and condition. I kept the Rams at a temperature of 82 degrees and the Borelli at 78.

The rams were housed in a 30 gallon tank with an undergravel filter. They laid eggs several times before I lost patience and removed the broken flower pot they seemed to prefer, along with about 100 eggs. The pot and eggs were placed in a ten gallon tank that I had filled earlier with water from the spawning tank mixed with fresh. In four days the eggs hatched, and the young were free swimming a few days later.

The Borelli, in their 10 gallon tank, never ate all the eggs or young, but I was never able to save more than a few until I removed the overturned flower pot with eggs attached. This was also placed in a 10 gallon tank with water from the parents tank. The Borelli don't seem to lay as many eggs at one time, but the mortality rate isn't nearly as high.

All the young fish were raised on newly hatched brine shrimp, micro worms and water fleas (when I could find them). My tap water has a pH of about 7.4 when stabilized, and a hardness of 8.5 degrees.

I hope in the future to have better luck raising these fish with the parents.

Don Kingon

Neolamprologus cylindricus

by Jeffrey Burke, PVAS

The first time that I saw *Neolamprologus cylindricus* was in a pet shop in Baltimore. I was fascinated by its unique torpedo shape and the deep blue vertical bands. I would later find in addition to the unique shape it also had some unique traits.

At the 1993 spring auction some juveniles were available for sale. I bought two bags of five and they were less expensive than the price of the one I saw previously. When I got the fish home I put them in the right side of a 20 gallon divided tank. Their roommates on the other side were a breeding pair of *Neolamprologus brevis* and their fry which were not even half the size of the *cylindricus*. I came to find out that they do not grow as fast as many other Tanganyikan cichlids, the *brevis* fry doubled their size in a few months.

After two years I had 5 adults and could only identify two out of the five. The dominant male and the only female. When moving adults with a net I found that while in the net the fish will take an offensive posture with its mouth wide open. The dominant male would even snap his mouth open and shut. I once put a chopstick in an open mouth to see if this was just show. The fish bit the stick and that question was answered. Unlike most other cichlids the dominant male did not tear up the subordinate males or any other resident of the tank. Even at spawning time there was no, or at least minimum, fin damage. I do not know if all of *cylindricus* are this way or if I just lucked out.

There was one spawn where I saw wigglers but no free swimming fry, but at least I knew I had a fertile pair. There was no spawning activity going on so after six months of inactivity I removed the dominant male and the next dominant male stepped up. I had eggs within one month and my pair of *Synodontis* had caviar that night. The next spawn was inside a barnacle shell where the catfish could not enter because of their size. When I saw wigglers I used a siphon hose and removed approximately 60 wigglers.

The fry were easily raised in a five gallon tank. The big problem was when the heater failed and temperature in the tank went down to 65 F. I lost a significant percentage.

All in all *cylindricus* are an attractive unique Tanganyikan cichlid, with minimum work they can be maintained and even spawned.

PVAS MONTHLY BOWL SHOW

RULES:

1. Any PVAS member may participate
2. Each participant may enter up to three (3) fishes per month
3. Fish must be displayed in a clear container with at least two flat sides to allow easy viewing by the judge(s). The container should be of an appropriate size for the fish being displayed. Covers are strongly recommended. Some containers will be available on a first come first served basis.

POINTS

Each participant will receive 1 point for each fish entered (up to 3)

First place will earn an additional 3 points

Second place will earn 2 points

Third place will earn 1 additional point

Prizes will be awarded to the persons with the highest number of points at the end of the year

Additions may be added to these rules as needed

To encourage participation in starting this program back up we will be giving a small prize to everyone entering (a can of fish food most likely). The end of the year prizes haven't been decided on yet but will be something good

STANDINGS: as of May

Alex Townsend 23

John Mangan 16

Don Kinyon 9

Gene Moy 4

Mark Kaprow 1

Scott Saunders 1

George White 1

Lorne Williams 1

We had a great turnout for the May bowl show. Let's keep it up. Everyone is encouraged to participate. If you have any questions, or need any advice on participating Alex or John will be glad to help you.

Breeder's Award Program

BAP Checkers:

Annandale/Falls Church area Jeff Burke (703) 941-3230
Montgomery County Ray Hughes (301) 424-3531
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) 505-2917
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 335***
John Mangan 155**
Don Kinyon 60*
Gene Moy 30
Gerry Hoffman 10 +
Lorne Williams 10

Recent activity Gene Moy receives 30 points for gold severums. Golds are much tougher than the wild type to spawn and raise. Jeffrey Burke receives 15 points for *Neolamprologus cylindricus*. Don Kinyon receives 15 points for *Apistogramma borelli*, and 15 points for German Blue Rams. This elevates Don to Breeders Award status- Congratulations Don!

Keep breeding those fishes and let's get a few more people involved in the program. We're off to a good start in getting the BAP reestablished but I would like to see still more people involved. If you need a copy of the rules let me know. I usually bring copies to the meetings and, if I remember, I'll bring some to the auction. BAP forms can be obtained from me or any BAP checker (checkers- if you need copies let me know).

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.

SUPPORTING SHOPS

ANNANDALE PET SHOP

7406 Little River TrnPk.
Annandale, VA 22031
256-2400

AQUATIC ENHANCEMENT

PO Box 22677
Alexandria, VA 22304
765-4620

CREATURES 'N CRITTERS

9575 Braddock Rd.
Fairfax, Va
978-0745

DISCOUNT PET CENTER

9028 Mathis Ave
Manassas, VA 22110
361-7769

NATIONAL PET & AQUARIUM

6168 Arlington Blvd.
Falls Church, VA 22046
533-7828

OAKTON PET SHOP

Rt. 123 & Hunter Mill Rd.
Oakton, VA 22124
281-9622

PET MART-TYSONS

8417 Old Courthouse Rd.
Vienna, VA 22180
281-8181

VIRGINIA

PETS ETC-ALEXANDRIA

7688-B Richmond Hgwy
Alexandria, VA 22306
768-2200

PETS ETC-CHANTILLY

13932 Lee Jackson Hgwy
Chantilly, Va 22021
378-2777

PETS ETC-HERNDON

462 Eiden St.
Herndon, VA 22171
437-9667

PETS ETC-STERLING

243-C Harry Flood Byrd Hgwy.
Sterling, VA 22170
430-9667

CUSTOM AQUARIUM CONCEPTS

293 Sunset Park Drive
Herndon, VA 22094
(703) 689-2815

SUPPORTING SHOPS

ANIMAL EXCHANGE

765-A Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852
424-PETS

AQUARIUM CENTER

Liberty Rd at Offut Rd
Randlestown, MD
521-4529

BROTHER'S PETS

13810 Georgia Ave
Aspen Hill, MD 20906
460-4600

CONGRESSIONAL AQUARIUM

162 Congressional Ln
Rockville, MD 20852
881-6182

DISCOUNT PET SUPER- MARKET

1321 A&B Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852
309-9110

FISH FACTORY AQUARIUM

582 N. Frederick Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
881-6182

HOUSE OF TROPICALS

7389F Baltimore-Annapolis Blvd.
Glen Burnie, MD 21061
761-1113

MARINE CARE SPECIALISTS

16065 N. Frederick Rd.
Rockville, MD 20855
330-0720

MARYLAND

MARYLAND TROPICALS

13884 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904
879-0200

MONTGOMERY TROPICALS

7845-G Airpark Rd
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
670-0886

RICK'S FISH & PET SUPPLY

1003J West Patrick St.
Frederick, MD 21702
694-9664 831-6866

SHOWCASE AQUARIUM

11248-11250 Triangle Ln
Wheaton, MD 20902
942-6464

TOTALLY FISH

14332 Layhill Rd.
Silver Spring, MD 20906
598-2229

TROPICAL FISH WORLD

16529 S. Frederick Center
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
921-0000

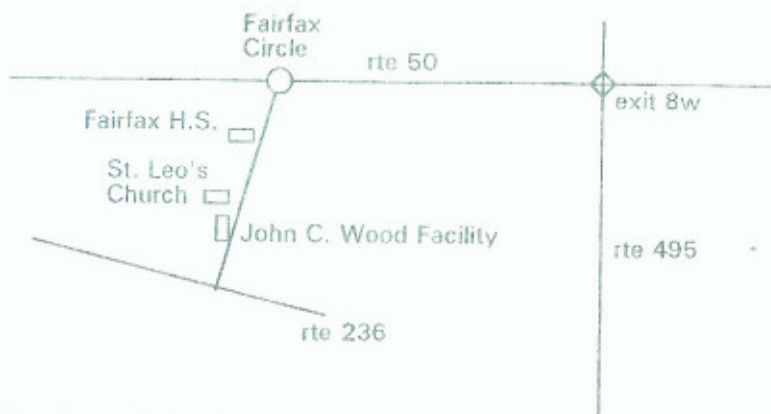
TROPICAL LAGOON

9439 Georgia Ave
Silver Spring, MD 20910
585-6562

AQUATIC CREATIONS LTD

2909 Urbana Pike
Ijamsville, MD 21754
(301) 831-8200

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society
PO Box 664
Merrifield, VA 22116



Meetings are held at the John C. Wood Facility, 3730 Old Lee Hgwy (rte 237), Fairfax City, VA Room 7 (in the rear of the building) Doors open at 7.30, meetings start at 8.00. Everyone is welcome