DELTA TALE May, 1980
Issue 5 - Vol XI
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
potomac valley aquarium society

ANNUAL SPRING SHOW & AUCTION MAY 17 - 18

MINUTES OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING, APRIL 10,1980

Woody called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. at Bill Trouts. Present were: Sandy & Kenny Warren, Ken and June Reese, Dana Best, Ruth Brewer, Darrell Holman, Bill Trout, John Jessup, Gene Aldridge, Woody and Nancy Griffin, Vince and Barbara Edmondson, Pete Tietjen and Pat and Maggi Mahoney.

Gene reports we have about $900 in the treasury.

Joe Paull has resigned from the Board of Governors,but would like to retain chairmanship of the Breeders Award Program. Woody read a letter from Gene Aldridge in which, because of his imminant move to Pennsylvania, he will have to resign all club offices and duties as of May 1.

Woody nominated and the board endorsed the following:

To fill Joe Paull's remaining tenture on the board,
Kenny Warren - effective immediatly.

Effective May 2 - To fill Gene's position as treasurer,
Dana Best. Gene's B.A.P. position - Darrell Holman
Dana's vacated board seat - Vince Edmondson

The next board meeting will be on May 1 at the Reeces. Ruth Brewer will take the June meeting.

All points of the show and auction were discussed. Posters are printed and ready to be distributed. Judges are set. Mailings have gone out to all attendees of last fall's auction. Raffle books are printed and available to all members for sale to the general public and themselves. Trophies are ordered as are the ribbons. Kenny Warren has donated a beautiful trophy for "Best in Show". Darrell will donate a roll of air tubing for sale at the show -- John will obtain two sheets of air stones for sale. Gene will donate 10 gang valves to use with the air system.

Other assignments and duties were discussed. The last show-auction committee meeting will be held Sunday, April 20 at 3 pm.

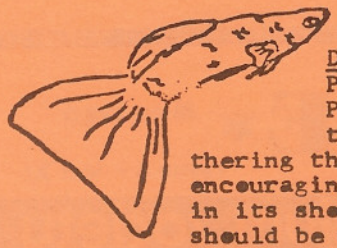
The price of printing the Delta Tale has gone up to $25 an issue -- due to the cost of paper. We're still getting a bargain compared to what other printers would charge, thanks to Ted Herndon's generosity.

Postal regulations in re.size of 1st class mailing have caused a problem with the cost of mailing Delta Tale. Maggi will look into the options.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggi Mahoney,
Recording Secretary



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 disseminationg 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, VA 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/artist. All materials for inclusion in the Delta Tale should reach the editor no later than the first Saturday after the monthly Monday meetings.

EDITOR: Maggi Mahoney

P.V.A.S. OFFICERS FOR 1980

President:	Woody Griffin 949-1290	Corresponding Sec.:	Ken Reece 360-4752
Vice President:	Pete Tietjen 939-2638	Recording Sec:	Maggi Mahoney 534-0006
Treasurer:	Dana Best 548-1868		

1980 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

John Jessup, Ed Smith, Pat Mahoney, Kenny Warren, Vince Edmondson

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Breeders Award - Joe Paull
Library - Nancy Griffin
Membership - June Reece
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Programs - Ruth Brewer
Ways/Means - Kenny Warren, Bill Trout

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Gene Aldridge - 931-7426
John Jessup - 534-1704
Darrell Holman - 532-3419
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4 April 1980

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society
P. O. Box 6219
Shirlington Station
Arlington, Virginia, 22206

Attn: Mr. Haywood M. Griffin

Dear Woody;

I have a very unpleasant task to perform. I must resign from all my current positions with the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society effective on 1 May 1980. These positions include Treasurer, Breeders Award Program Committeeperson, Breeders Award Program Checker and Show Committeeperson.

Our current plans for our move call for the furniture to go out sometime in early June, thus my resignation as of 1 May 1980. I will be as active as I can during the month of May, but the last part is going to be very hectic.

Over the years PVAS has meant a great deal to Millie and I and it has been a big part of our lives. We are going to miss the club and all of its members. We have made a lot of lasting friendships through the club that can not be replaced . In the future we will come down to as many functions as possible.

FISH POWER

Gene

Eugene T. Aldridge, Jr.

Gene & Millie --

I think I speak for everyone in P.V.A.S. when I say that the club cannot have meant as much to you as you have meant to the club. We have already expressed our gratitude to you and there is no doubt that you will both be sorely missed. Our best wishes for all kinds of new experiences, friends and lots of luck go with you. See you often, we hope.

maggi

ICHTHYOLOGY MADE EASY

John Mangan, P.V.A.S.

PART I

When looking through tropical fish literature, the aquarist often comes across terms, abreviations etc, that seem like part of some strange foreign language. This is especially true when using some of the more technical books or scientific journals -- but may occur in even the most basic books and articles. It is the purpose of this series to help the more inexperienced aquarist become more familiar with these terms and therefore be able to use them with ease. Hopefully, this will enable you to enjoy your hobby and learn from it at the same time.

In the first part of this series, I will discuss fins and the terms used in describing them. While you are reading, it might be helpful if you could sit next to an aquarium or have a book with a good variety of fish pictures next to you. In this way you will be able to look at a fish and be able to see exactly where the various fins are located and how they vary in size, shape etc. in different species.

Fins serve three main functions -- stability, steering and propulsion. Each fish has two main types of fin: median and paired.

The median fins are considered to be the more primitive of the two types (in the sense that they developed first.) They were first developed in primitive fishlike creatures to serve as a keel. The median fins are located on the midline of the fish's body and consist of the dorsals, adipose, caudal and anal fins.

Dorsal Fins - The dorsal fin(s) is located on the midline of the fish's back. It is variable in size shape and number. For example Gymnotids, South American knifefish, have no dorsal fin; while Pungitius pungitius, the ninespine stickleback, may have eight to twelve. (Eddy, 1969) In many spiny rayed fish there are two dorsals, the anterior one being made up of spines and the posterer of rays (these terms are defined a little later.) The dorsal fin may be connected to the caudal fin in some fish, such as eels.

Adipose Fin - In some fishes (catfish, characins) there is a small fin on the back between the dorsal and caudal fins. This is the adipose fin. This fin is made up of fatty (adipose) tissue and contains no rays (except in some catfish in the family Callichthyidae, which have one spine in their adipose fin.)

Caudal Fin - This is the fin that makes up the tail. It's main function is locomotion. Caudal fins vary greatly in size and shape. They include such types as swordtails, in which the bottom rays are elongated and lyretails, in which the topmost and bottommost rays are elongated. There are also many other variations.

Anal Fin - This fin is located on the underside of the fish, just behind the vent (in most fishes). Like the other fins, it is variable in size and shape. In male livebearers, Poecilirds for example, it is modified into a gonopodium. In some fishes, such as eels, it is connected to the caudal fin. The primary function of the anal fin is to help provide stability.

The paired fins receive their name from the fact that they occur in pairs, one on each side of the body. The main function of the paired fins is maneuvering (diving, turning etc.) They secondarily serve as keels to prevent rolling. There are two sets of paired fins -- the pectoral and the pelvic.

Pectoral fins - The pectoral fins are generally located on the sides of the fish near the rear edge of operculum (gill cover.) The pectoral fins are attached to the pectoral girdle,which corresponds to the shoulder girdle of humans. The pectoral fins are greatly enlarged in many fishes, such as darters, which live on the bottom of swift streams and act as brakes or anchors against the current. They are also enlarged in flying fish and act as the wings of a glider. In some fishes, such as seahorses and pipefish, the pectorals are the primary means of locomotion. The pectorals of some fish, such as catfish, contain sharp spines which can be used as defense (and to get tangled in your net.) In some species this spine is connected to a venom gland which makes being stuck by them a very painful experience. The pectoral fins are the primary means of maneuvering in most fish.

Pelvic Fins - The pelvic fins are variable in their location along the underside of the fish. They may be abdominal, thorasic (just below the pectorals) or jugular (in the throat region). The more anterior they are located, the more advanced the fish is considered to be. The pelvics serve as accessory maneuvering organs. They are absent from some fish, eels for example. They form a suction cup-like disc in gobies and some other fishes that live in turbulent water. The pelvic fins are attached to the pelvic girdle which corresponds to the pelvic (or legs) girdle of humans.

In the preceeding discussion of fin types, I have several times mentioned fin rays. Fin rays provide support for the fins. There are two basic types of fin rays -- spines (also called spiny rays) and rays (also called soft rays.)

Spines -- these are unsegmented, hard and sharp. If you have ever picked up a spiny rayed fish with your hand, or even in a net, you may have found out just how sharp they are. Spines may be associated with venom glands. The venom glad is located at the base of the spine and the venom flows outwards along a groove on the outside of the spine.

Rays - these are segmented, very often branched, relatively soft and flexible. In some species several rays have been fused together to form one hard ray. You would probably have to look at these under a microscope to tell that they are not spines.

In fins that contain both spines and rays the spines generaly occur in the anterior part of the fin, and the rays in the posterior.

When reading a description of a fish, you may have come across something that looked like this: dorsal XII, 19 to 21; anal III, 15 to 17. This is a fin ray count and is of great importance to an ichtyologist in identifying fish. The Roman numerals stand for the number of spines and the Arabic numerals the number or rays. The count given above is that for the Oscar (Astronotus ocellatus.) It tells you that Oscars have 12 spines and from 19 to 21 rays in their dorsal fin and 3 spines and 15 to 17 rays in their anal fin. If you ever do any work with preserved fish (especially something like minnows which almost all look alike in preservative) or even hard to identify live ones, you will see how useful these counts can be in making positive identification.

This article has not even come close to saying everything there is to say about fins, but those of you that are interested in learning more have a base to start from now.

References: Eddy, S.,1969; How to know the Freshwater Fishes, Wm.L.Brown Co., Dubuge, Iowa. 2nd Ed.

PART II - Scales

Most people probably think of all fishes as being fully scaled. However, the amount of scales a fish has ranges from fully scaled to partically scaled, such as the bowfin (Amia calva) to scaleless, such as catfish, and just about everything in between. Some fish, such as the trout perches (Percepsidae) may have more than one type of scale.

Scales range in size from microscopic to relatively large and in thickness from tissue to plate-like. Some fish have dicidous scales which are shed periodically (not all at once, though). This can be seen especially well in large, tinfoil barbs.

There are many different types of scales, but I will limit this discussion to the four major ones: placoid, ganoid, cycloid and ctenoid.

Placoid scales - This type of scale is found only in the class Chondrichthys (sharks, rays etc.) This is the most primitive type of scale. They are capped with enamel, which makes them extremely hard and abrasive (shark skin can be used as sandpaper.) It is thought that teeth evolved from this type of scale.

Ganoid scales - This is the most primitive type of scale found in bony fish (osteichthys.) It is made of bone. This type of scale is found in gars and sturgeons.

Cycloid scales - This is the intermediate type of scale found in osteichthys and is the first true scale.

Ctenoid sclaes - This is the most advanced osteichthys scale. It difers from the cycloid scale by having ridges on its embedded portion.

In part one of this series I mentioned fin ray counts and how they could be used in identifying fishes. Scale counts are also very useful.

Lateral line scale count - this is the number of scales along the lateral line from the first scale to touch the pectoral girdle to the base of the caudal fin.

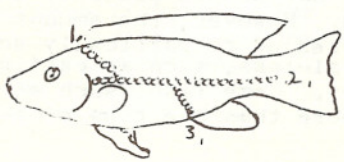
Scales above the lateral line - This is counted from the origin of the anterior dorsal fin, downward and backward to the last scale not included in the lateral line.

Scales below the lateral line - These are the scales starting at the anterior origin of the anal fin upward and forward to the lateral line.

Drawing: 1=Scales above lateral line

2=Lateral line scales

3=Scales below lateral line

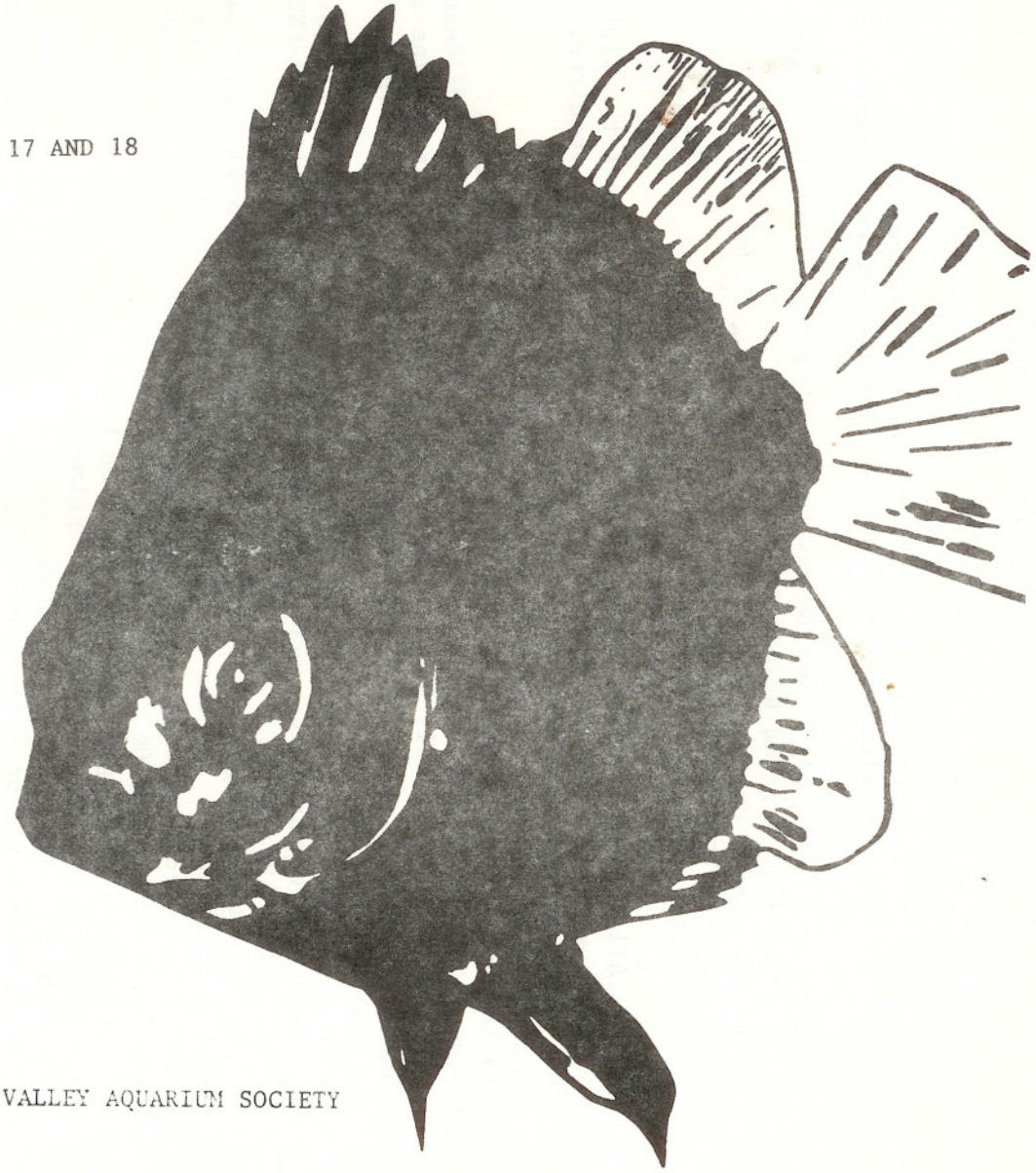


These first two parts of John's series were printed in the National Aquarium Club News, which is now out of business. The rest of the series is ours alone.

1980 SPRING SHOW

AND AUCTION

MAY 17 AND 18



POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY

RULES OF THE SHOW

Registration of Entries: 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, Saturday, May 17. Includes all classes.

Judging: 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The public will be required to leave during this period. Open to the public for viewing from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on Saturday; Sunday beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Entry Fees: Single Fish--$1.50(female may be added, but will not be judges.)
Pairs(III h.)--$2.00.
Set Tanks, non dealer--$3.00.
Dealer Tanks--no charge.
Slides and Prints--$1.00.

Regulations: All entries must be shown in containers with at least two flat surfaces. Two-quart drum bowls are available from P.V.A.S., $2.00 rental fee required. (Call Dana Best at 548-1868 to advise how many you require.)

- All tanks or larger drum bowls must be provided by entrants.
- Entrants must provide a stand for tanks in excess of 5½ gallons.
- Classes I through IV may not have individual lights or decorations. Heat may be provided by entrant. Air will be provided by the Club; bring your airline and airstone.
- Classes I through IV should be labeled above the waterline to indicate the generic or common name of the fish.
- Classes V and VI--all equipment must be supplied by the entrant; tank, stand, filter, air, lights, extension cords, etc. No restrictions on tank size. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT A STAND.
- Class VII--Photographic entries will be accepted by mail provided that payment of the entry fee is enclosed. Return of entries will be made only with the receipt of a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Mail entries to PVAS, PO Box 6219, Shirlington Station, Arlington, Virginia, 22206.
- All entries will be judged and pointed in each class in accordance with current class standards. Photography will be judged primarily on technique and composition. Decision of the Judges in all classes are final.
- Set tanks, freshwater or marine, should present an overall pleasing appearance of fish and/or invertebrates, plants, and other decorating materials. In the marine class, algae is considered a plant.
- Exhibitors will be responsible for proper classification of their own entries. Assistance can be provided by a member of the show committee if needed.
- All entries must be left overnight unless prior permission is obtained at the time of registration. All entries must be removed on Sunday, May 18, between 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m.

-The Potomac Valley Aquarium Society will not be liable for any entries, but will act to the best of its ability to protect all exhibits against theft and tampering. There will be a night watch all Saturday night to ensure the safety of the fish.
-The Show Committee will have the final ruling on all matters pertaining to the show and entries.
-AWARDS: One Best-of-Show trophy. One Best-of-Class trophy for each of Classes I through IV. Dealers have a rotating plaque. Trophies for 1st place in sub-classes I through V and Class VII. Ribbons for 2nd and 3rd place for the sub-classes I through V and Class V I. Awards will be presented promptly at 12:30 Sunday.

The following classes are open to the public competition:

I. LIVEBEARERS
- a. Delta Tail Guppies, Male
- b. Delta Tail Guppies, Female
- c. Guppies, all other
- d. Mollies
- e. Swordtails and Platies
- f. Other livebearing fishes

II. EGGLAYERS (NON-CICHLID)
- a. Catfish-Corydoras
- b. Catfish-African
- c. Catfish-all other
- d. Betta Splendens
- e. All other Bettas and Anabantoids
- f. Sharks and Loaches
- g. Tetras
- h. Barbs
- i. Goldfish and Koi
- j. Danios, Brachydanios and Rasboras
- k. Killifish
- l. Other Egglaying non-cichlids

III. CICHLIDS
- a. New World Large(over 7"0
- b. New World Medium(4-7")
- c. New World Dwarf(under 4")
- d. Angelfish
- e. Riftlake Mbuna
- f. Riftlake non-Mbuna
- g Non-riftlake African
- h. Cichlid pairs, 1 male, 1 female
- i. Other Cichlids

IV. MARINE
- a. Fishes
- b. Invertebrates

V. SET TANKS

VI. DEALER TANKS

VII. PHOTOGRAPHY
- a. Color slides
- b. Color prints
- c. Black and white prints

(Auction Rules and Map on back page.)

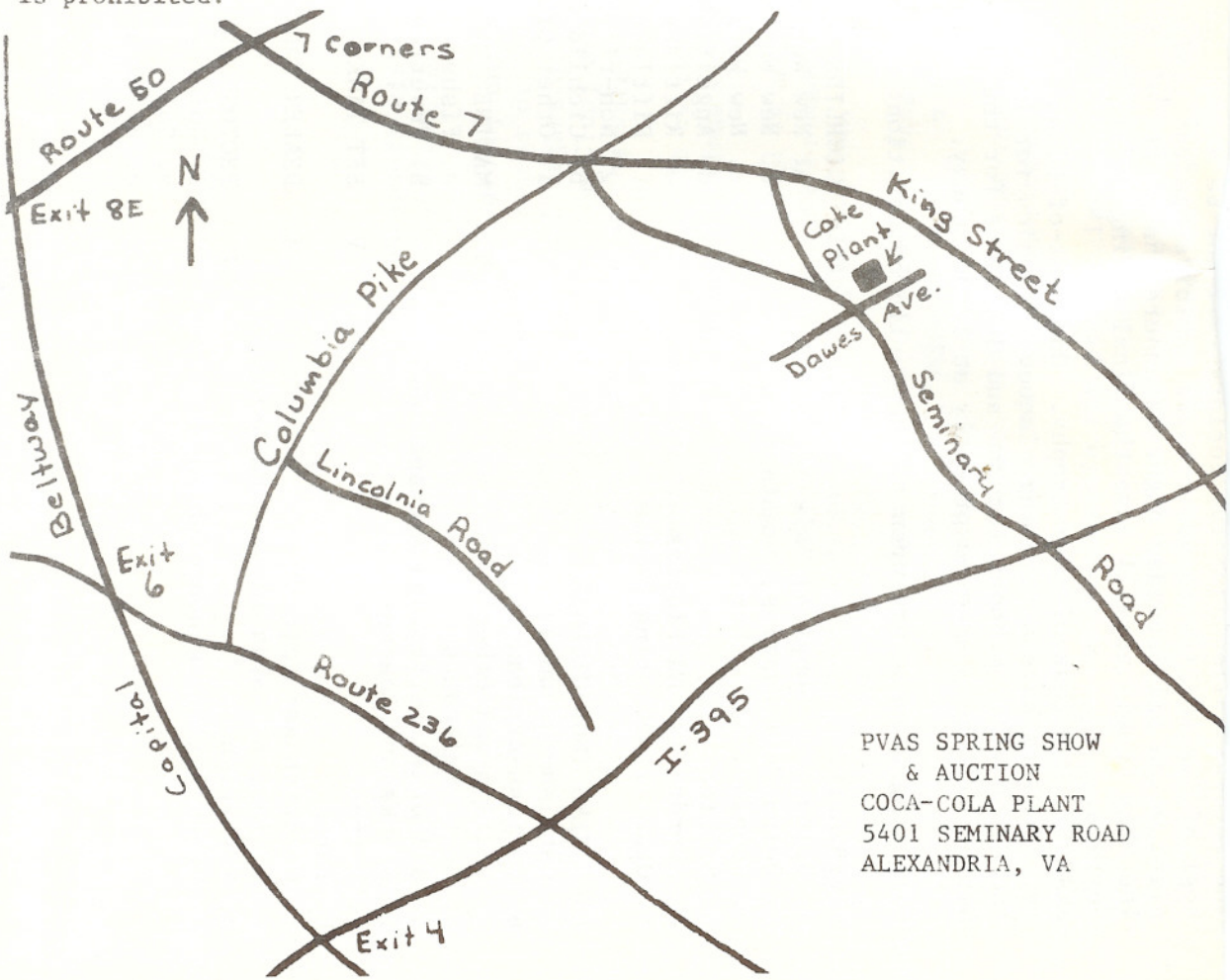
MAY 18 AUCTION

Fish for auction must be registered between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Limit 15 entries per person, plus fish entered in the show. Please leave your name and address when registering. NO MONEY will be given out at the show. It will be mailed to the seller within 10 days.

The Club will divide the sale price with the seller at the ratio of 1/3 to the Club, 2/3 to the seller. Bags of fish not sold during the auction must be picked up by the owner immediately upon the conclusion of the auction, or they will be disposed of by the Club.

The auction will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. Raffle drawings will be made at intervals during the auction. There will be a special raffle for a 55 gallon tank, stand, hood, and appropriate filter and heater.

Fish for sale at the auction may not be withdrawn. $1.00 minimum per bag; you may set a higher minimum. Private sale of fish within the show or auction is prohibited.



KEEPING THE BUBBLE-UP*DOWN

Ken Reece, P.V.A.S.

Have you ever been in an aquarium store on a busy Saturday afternoon and noticed most of their inside air filters either floating mid-water, or turned upside down in the tanks? This of course is due to netting out sold fish and inadvertently bumping the filter. Even in our home aquariums these 'box' or 'corner' filters, firmly set in place, are uprooted by the digging habits of our pets, especially our scavangers and the clumsy sucker mouth plecostomus. The reason these filters won't stay in place is they are filled with material that is lighter than water, such as charcoal, filter floss, peat moss, etc.

Even when these materials become water logged, you still have air flowing through the filter, causing it to become unbalanced.

Some aquarists use marbles inside the filter for weight, but then they don't have room for their charcoal. By using a large aggregate like marbles or small rocks they eliminate the possibility of an essential part of filtration, the biological break down of waste products. Gravel can be used in an inside filter in place of carbon to form a biological culture,but you would lose the many benefits activated carbon offers. Benefical bacteria will only multiply and colonize in a smaller aggragate like charcoal or,better yet, activated carbon, which I use.

What I have done to keep these filters in place and still maintain their excellent filtering qualities is easy and economical.

Actually, all I do is glue a piece of glass to the bottom of the filter. Soundssimple enough and it is, but let's take it step by step. First of all, I use glass instead of plastic or plexiglas because glass is heavier and for tanks with no gravel, glass will form a suction against the glass tank bottom,making the filter yet more stable. The type and size of glass to use is the next step. I have been buying cutoffs used for jalousie windows -- one foot long or so -- from hardware stores for 25¢. This glass is heavy (1/4 inch thick) and 4 inches wide (wide enough for the larger filters.) It is also rounded on the sides for safety and is chip resistant. This glass filter base should be larger than the filter. If using a 3-inch square filter, I cut the glass base 5-inches long, making a 4x5 inch base.

For safety -- yours and the fishes --a piece of medium grit emery cloth should be used to sand the sharp edges off after cutting the glass. As for cutting the glass itself, a wheel cutter can be purchased at any hardware store -- then just follow directions.

The last step is the easiest -- just pour a big glob of aquarium cement on the center of the glass base and press the filter down firmly, making sure it is centered. The cement will flow between

* Registered trade mark.

the glass and the filter, eliminating air pockets that would otherwise be formed if you cemented just around the edges.

Let the filter sit for 48 hours to make sure the cement dries completely. Cut off the excess cement with a razor blade and wash the unit thoroughly. Presto! Now you have an inside filter that will stay on the bottom of your tank, even without using charcoal, such as in a sick tank.

After fifty years and spending thousands of dollars in research, our equipment manufacturers have not been able to better this idea. Now if some hobbyist could only divise a system of make these filters self cleaning ..... I. I. I.

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AN EDITOR'S PRAYERS ANSWERED:

Thank you -- all of you members who have been writing for me lately. Ken-- for the first article I can remember getting that wasn't a must for BAP points, I thank you. All the rest of you -- keep it up, too. Even when it is for points I am more than delighted to have them. (Oops, sorry Pete - forgot your Lion Fish.)

Thanks also to the two gals who have been helping me with the typing of exchange articles -- Carol Kawecki and Chrys Guilder. It's such a joy to be able to just pick up an article and put it into the paste-up.

AND IT'S PAYING OFF -- GOLD STARS AND BACK PATS GO TO:

Joe Paull -- his September, 1979 article "Fuzzy Face" was reviewed in the February, 1980 issue of The Filter, the publication of the Rochester (New York) Aquarium Society.

Joe's "The Pygmy Corydorus" was reprinted in the same clubs March, 1980 issue. When we start getting reprints, we know we've hit the big time!

SPEAKING OF REPRINTS:

Woody Griffin's "Rewarding Experience" Discus article is getting a lot of action. It has been reviewed in The Nekton, a Canadian Society's publication - Saskatoon Aquarium Society in Saskatchewan. It was also reprinted in two publications: White Rose's Wet Pet Gasette, Feb.-March issue. That's the White Rose Aquarium Society in York, PA. It was also reprinted in Fish Facts, April, 1980 - the Tropical Fish Hobbyists of Central Kentucky.

Congratulations to you both -- and to all members who want to see their names in print -- write up a storm. I love it and you!

THE COOLIE LOACH

(Aconthophthalmus kuhli kuhli)

Darrell Holman, P.V.A.S.

A Coolie loach is an elongated, snakelike fish that is very active and acts as a good scavenger. There are many species which are considered Coolie Loaches, but only two are the real Coolies: Acanthophthalmus kuhli kuhli and Acanthophthalmus Semicinctus. I am writing about Acanthophthalmus kuhli kuhli.

This is the fish that the nickname "coolie loach" originated with. It is called the Giant Coolie. It has an overall pinkish colored body with about 15 black crossbands running from side to side. They grow to be 3-1/2 to 4 inches in length. They mature at about 3 inches. To keep these fish you must keep the water clean and avoid polluting by overfeeding. Their tank doesn't need to be large but should not be overcrowded. You should have small gravel or sand on the bottom and some hiding places in the tank.

With conditions just right they are quite easy to spawn. I selected a dozen of these fish from a tank of newly imported wild caught fish. They were still in pretty good condition and sexing was no problem. When loaded with eggs, the female has a greenish tint to her belly. The conditioning tank should be at least 15 gallons and kept very clean. They eat just about any kind of fish food and no special foods are needed for conditioning ... just time.

When ready the females body turns geen in color and they become very active. Select a good healthy pair and place them in a 10 gallon tank. The tank should be prepared at least a week in advance so the water will have time to age and get settled. Ideally there should be sand on the bottom and a few plants in each corner. I recommend the use of box filters in their tank. Undergravel filters are OK, but the Coolies will go down the tubes and then under the plate. With outside power filters, the water gets pushed around too much.

I used peat as a spawning medium. It worked two ways. It kept the water soft, which is a must if you are going to spawn these fish, and the Coolies love to spawn in it. Their courtship is fascinating. The male will chase the female for several hours. When they are both ready they will swim almost parallel. If you are watching them, they look as if they were one fish. They will swim like this for awhile and then they dive into the peat. As they go through, the female lays her large green eggs and the male fertilizes them. Only one or two eggs will be layed at a time. They will repeat this until they have layed 20 to 30 eggs. The parents will not bother the eggs or the fry, so you can leave them in the spawning tank. The fry are fairly large when they hatch and will scavange around the tank for food immediatly. They grow fast and will reach a length of 1-1/2 inches in two months.

MAY, 1980 PROGRAM AND EDITORIAL RAMBLINGS

Our program Chairman, Ruth Brewer, will offer one of the slide quizes for the May program. They're fun, relaxing -- you can test your knowledge or just sit and learn -- and just the ticket for the program just before the big show and auction.

Our April program was really outstanding - at least in my estimation. If you had told me that a program on an aquarium would be that exciting I would have called you a liar -- but I really found it fascinating. Sounds as if the National Aquarium in Baltimore is going to be quite a place.

It was the first I had known that it was so designated -- National Aquarium. So that was news. Jim Kepley, the very personable Executive Director made it seem like an adventure and we weren't even there.

We can all look forward to summer 1981 when he has promised that a behind-the-scenes tour can be arranged for such as we -- Aquarium Society's who could be construed to be interested in a bit more than the general public. If we think cleaning OUR filters are a chore I imagine after we take a look at their jobs in maintenance it will seem like child's play. When we went with another fish club to the existing National Aquarium for just such a tour not only the filtration system, but the research and educational program were of great interest. As was the laboratory and all of the testing they were doing on food, medicines and the like. With this brand new and far advance facility, we can really look forward to a stimulating and exciting trip.

If you were not there - or did not read Watermarks, the quarterly newsletter that Jim passed out -- I hearby reprint an item of interest from it.

WORDS FROM THE DEEP

Creatures of the land that we are, we often forget the tremendous role water plays in our lives. Ambrose Bierce defined Ocean in The Devil's Dictionary as "A Body of water occupying two thirds of a world made for man -- who has no gills." Some might call that an extreme point of view, yet H_2O is the major component of our bodies and the earth's surface as well. Our bodies, our planet and, more to the point, our language is even shaped by water. So many of the words and expressions sprinkled in our everyday conversation are water related. The words listed below are commonly used as far inland as DesMoines, Iowa but the context in which they are spoken is usually a far cry from their sea-faring origins.

Blue Monday - On wind ships, Monday was punishment day, and punishment was usually bylashing or flogging leaving the victim with blue welts.

Son of a Gun - Impressed crews could not be allowed ashore for fear of desertion, so women were allowed aboard. Sailors had no bunks or cabins, so liaisons took place between or on the guns. Children born of such liaisons were called "sons of guns" if boys and given names like Johnny Bowline, Jack Backstay, etc.
(Definitions courtesy of Elizabeth and Harold Goodwin.)

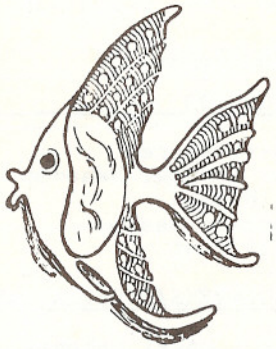
bap REPORT

NAME	POINTS
Joe Paull	505****
Ruth Brewer	305***
Garland Neese	320**
Gerry Hoffman	280**
Pat & Peggi Mahoney	185**
Bev Fazil	180**
Sue & Mike Sprague	165**
Woody Griffin	160**
John Jessup	110*
Kenny Warren	90*
Gene Aldridge	80
Vince Edmondson	75*
Darrell Holman	70*
Ken and June Reece	10

* Breeders Award
** Intermediate Breeders Award
*** Advanced Breeders Award
**** Master Breeders Award

Recent points for spawning:

Garland Neese:	H. venustus
Gerry Hoffman:	Bristlenose plecostomus Red tailed goodeid
Darrell Holman:	Likoma Island elongatus Cobalt zebra Lemon zebra M. chipokae H. burtoni H. brownae H. moorii
Ken June Reece:	H. brownae



If you want to get into the Breeders Award program or have additional spawns to report -- here are the folks to call. (Remember, any member in good standing can sign in a 10 point spawn.)

Alexandria/Arlington - Dana Best, 548-1868
Darrell Holman - 532-3419

Fairfax City - Joe Paull, 591-9245

Fairfax County - Pat Mahoney - 534-0006

Falls Church - Ruth Brewer, 893-6997

Warrenton - Gerry Hoffman, 347-7486

Prince George's County - Tom Wright, 345-7486

Montgomery County - Nancy or Woody Griffin, 949-1290

BOWL SHOW RESULTS AND STANDINGS, APRIL,1980

CICHLIDS

Angels/discus

1st - Silver Viel, P.Mahoney
2nd
3rd

African/non-Riftlake

1st - P. taeniatus - Pat Mahoney
2nd
3rd

OPEN

1st - Ps. ornatus - P.Mahoney
2nd - Ps.lucerna - Bill Kent
3rd - Pz. zebra - P. Mahoney

EGGLAYER/LIVEBEARERS

Livebearers, non-guppy

1st - Albino Sailfin Molly)
2nd - Starburst Molly - D.Holman
3rd - Albino Sailfin Molly)

Sharks & Loaches

1st - Clown Loach -Suzann Reynolds
2nd - Kuhli Loach-P. Mahoney
3rd - Bala Shark - P. Mahoney

OPEN

1st - Red dwarf Gouramis-D.Holman
2nd - Prochiludus- S. Reynolds
3rd - Albino corydoras - S. Reynolds

STANDINGS:

CICHLIDS	MONTH	QUARTER	YEAR
Kenny Warren	0	0	44
Pat & Maggi Mahoney	21	21	41
D. Holman	0	0	38
Garland Neese	0	0	23
Bill Kent	4	4	8

EGGLAYERS/LIVEBEARERS			
Pat & Maggi Mahoney	9	9	67
D. Holman	19	19	43
Suzann Reynolds	14	14	31
Garland Neese	0	0	11
Kenny Warren	0	0	3
Bill Kent	2	2	3

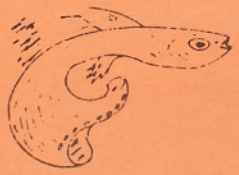
MAY BOWL SHOW CATAGORIES:

CICHLIDS

New World Mouthbrooder
Pseudotropheus
Open

EGGLAYER/LIVEBEARER

Goldfish and Koi
Characins and Tetras
Open



POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
PO BOX 6219, SHIRLINGTON STATION
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22206

Date _____ 19____

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

PHONE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Number of tanks _____

Type of fish _____

Time in hobby _____

Fish you have spawned _____

_____

What you would like to do in this Club? _____

Which sub-group interests you? (guppy, cichlid, other) _____

How long do you plan to be in this area? _____

Occupation _____

Membership dues for the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society are:

Family	$10.00	Corresponding	$5.00
Individual	$ 7.00	Junior (under 18)	$3.00

Completed applications accompanied by your check or money order should be mailed to P.V.A.S., P.O. Box 6219, Arlington, Virginia 22206.

Please attend our meetings at the Cocoa-Cola Bottling Plant, 5401 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia at 8:00 P.M.

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society
P.O.Box 6219
Shirlington Station
Arlington, VA 22206

FIRST CLASS MAIL

1980 MEETING DATES

MAY 12	JUL. 14	OCT. 13
JUN. 9	AUG. 11	NOV. 17
	SEP. 8	DEC. 8

Meetings are held at the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant, 5401 Seminary Road, Bailey's Crossroads, Alexandria, Virginia. Meetings start at 8 p.m., Bowl Show Registration at 7:45 p.m. -- Doors open at 7:30 p.m.