

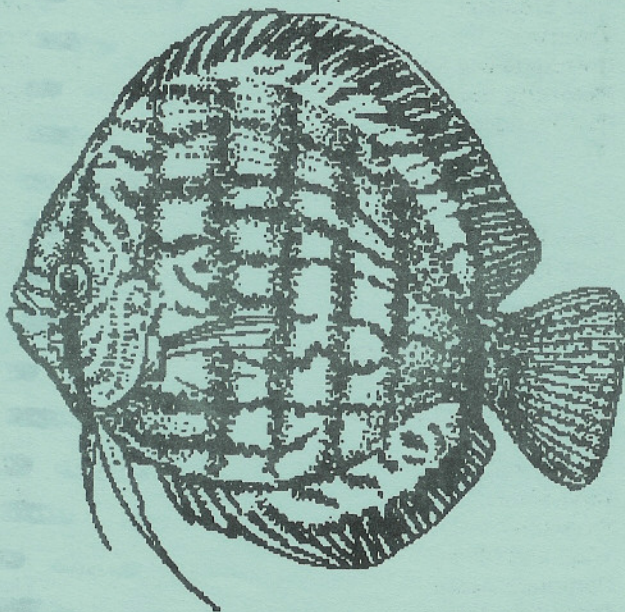
* DELTA TALE *

MAY/JUNE 1992
vol 23 #3

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

potomac valley aquarium society

SPRING AUCTION 92



The Delta Tale is published 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 to 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 Box 6219, Shirlington Station, Arlington, VA 22206. Original articles and artwork appearing in Delta Tale may be reprinted by other non-profit organizations if credit is given to the author, Delta Tale, and PVAS. Two copies of the reprinting publication should be sent to Delta Tale; please include the author's name so that a copy of the publication can be forwarded to him or her. The Society disclaims any responsibility for the content or availability of merchandise or services advertised in the Delta Tale. Customer satisfaction is a matter to be worked out between the advertiser and the buyer. All material for inclusion in Delta Tale must reach the editor by the 10th of the month preceeding the issue month.

1992 PVAS OFFICERS

President	Beverle Sweitzer
Vice President	John Oliva
Treasurer	Kenny Warren
Corresponding Secretary	Julie Spall
Recording Secretary	Pete Thrift
Past President	Rick McKay

1992 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Steve Buckel	Alex Townsend
Tony Fitz	Wendy Tramm

1992 COMMITTEE HEADS

Breeder's Award Program	John Jessup
Library	Brian Groover
Membership	Gene Aldridge
Bowl Shows	William McKinney
Programs	
Ways and Means	Pete Thrift
Corporate Agent	Gerry Hoffman
<u>Delta Tale</u> Editor	John Mangan

LETTER FROM THE PREZ

Hi Guys:

I was talking to a club member the other day about my worms and he was telling me that in Colorado, after a rain, you could go out and get worms by the wheel barrow load if you were so inclined and "bip" just like that I was transported back to my childhood. I too, remember going out after a rain and the gutters and sidewalks were just awash with worms. Where are they now? Sometimes you can find a few, but not like when we were kids.

In the process of learning how to raise worms, I have read about 10 different books on them in the last month or so. Did you know that chemical fertilizers and pesticides kill worms? Especially the stuff that the so-called "Lawn Doctors" spray so indiscriminately? In 1965 335 million pounds of synthetic pesticides were applied to crops. In 1989 806 million pounds of synthetic pesticides were applied to crops. Without earthworms the soil becomes compacted and when it rains the topsoil washes away.

I have nine styro boxes of worms now and they are just squirming with juveniles. The adults don't like the kids so I put the food in a line in the center of the box and that way the adults can move away when they are finished eating. Apparently the kids eat all the time. I have had a few fish die since I started worming (it just happens when you have hundreds of fish) and I put the dead fish in a corner of the worm box. This was less than a month ago and yesterday I found just a wisp of skeleton from a large angel.

I really like my worms. They are vigorous and healthy. I have found several outlets for selling them and will actively seek more. I only feed the worms to the fish that will take them whole. I tried several times to chop them after freezing them and just don't have the heart for it.

If anyone should have any questions about the worms feel free to ask because unless something extraordinary happens I will not be adding more to my worm saga.

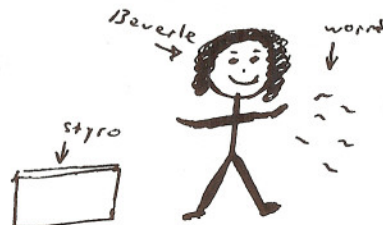
P. S. I hope you all are grooming a few select fish for our big fish show in the fall.

Later, Dudes

New Feature:

Delta Tale Predicts:

Delta Tale predicts that after her term as President Beverle travels the country as the "Johnny Appleseed" of worms.



Hello? Hellooo. Is anybody out there? I still haven't gotten anything for the question & answer column. If I don't get anything by next issue that's it, no more chances, forget it, it's history. At least until some future editor says "hey, I have an idea..." Did anybody notice the new columns? Does anybody care? If I don't get any input on what you, the membership, likes or don't like then I will just fill the magazine with what I like- a pretty scary thought.

The PVAS Spring Auction is coming up very soon. All the rules can be found elsewhere in this issue. Be sure to read them carefully there are a few minor changes.

As I promised in the last issue I am going to give you another reminder of the Fall Show- October 10th and 11th October 10th and 11th October 10th and 11th October 10th and 11th October...

I'm still looking for articles 'n stuff. You did real good last year. What happened? I can only fill up so much space myself. This month I'm having a hard enough time just trying to fill up this page.

...10th and 11th October 10th and 11th october 10th and 11th Oc...

I've just gotten back from taking a break and now I'm ready to try to fill up the rest of this page.

Since the last issue went to press I've received material for, not just one, but two cartoon series by PVAS members. Somewhere in this issue you should be able to find the first installments of "Larry Fishnet" by Tom Biery and "Mulm" by Abner Mull. Future installments will appear as I find room and/or the aspiring Gary Larsons get inspired.

...tober 10th and 11th October 10th and 11th October 10th and 11th

Maybe I should have taken a longer break. I still can't come up with anything else so maybe I'll just stop here and spend my time working on the rest of the issue.

Until next time...



TRADING POST

PVAS members may place ads in the Trading Post at no charge. Deadline for the next issue is June 8. Ads can be sent to Delta Tale c/o John Mangan 9770 Oleander Ave. Vienna, VA 22181.

For Sale: New 50 Gal. low boy stand \$25. contact Scott LeMessurier (301) 977- 6455 after 8:30 pm.

Wanted: Mature female Aequidens rivulatus. Contact Anne Lindgren, 15 Iraquois Trail, Ruckersville, VA 22968.

For Sale: Backissue aquarium magazines. Many old and rare issues. Send SASE for catalog. John Mangan, 9770 Oleander Ave, Vienna, VA 22181

WHAT'S HAPPENING

May 11- PVAS Monthly Meeting. Program, Bowl Show (catfish- non cory. and open), Raffles, Door Prize.

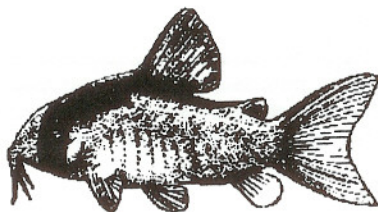
No Mini-auction this month due to the Spring Auction, Save all of your stuff for that.

Plus the usual refreshments and socializing. Doors open at 7:30, meeting starts at 8:00. Everyone is welcome except presidential candidates (their Secret Service guards always eat all of the cookies).

May 17- PVAS Spring Auction. All of the details on this event can be found in the next few pages. Please read ALL of the rules carefully. Make note of the new location, this is NOT being held at John C. Wood. PLEASE bag your fish properly. If you don't have the right bags go to your local pet shop and buy some.

June 8- PVAS Monthly Meeting. All of the usual stuff. Mini-auctions will resume.

Oct. 10-11- Why do these dates sound familiar? Could these be the dates of the PVAS Fall Show and Auction? Why yes, I think they are.



INDUSTRY SUPPORTERS OF PVAS

Do you ever wonder where the club gets all those raffle and door prizes which are given away at our monthly meetings and weekend workshops, shows, and auctions? It's true that the club buys some of the prizes, primarily tanks and tank set-ups. But the bulk of the raffle prizes are donated by hobby manufacturers to help support the activities of our club. Each year, PVAS writes to these companies soliciting product donations to be used as raffle and door prizes, or in some cases auctioned off, with all the proceeds going to the club treasury.

This year, the club wrote to more than 30 manufacturers. Despite the poor economy which is affecting them just like everyone else, the following firms have made generous donations to our club:

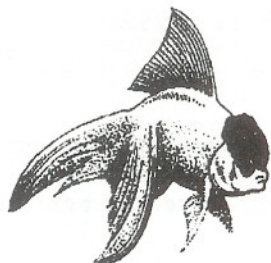
Aquarium Pharmaceuticals
Eugene Danner Manufacturing (Supreme)
Freshwater and Marine Aquarium Magazine
Fritz
Rolf C. Hagen (USA)
Hawaiian Marine Imports
Hikari Sales U.S.A.
Jungle Laboratories
Mardel Laboratories
Marine Environment
Ocean Star International
Penn-Plax Plastics
Python Products
San Francisco Bay Brands
Tetra Sales (U.S.A.)
Willinger Brothers

The Federation of American Aquarium Societies estimates that these companies receive donation requests from more than 200 hobby societies each year. The resulting donations represent tens of thousands of dollars in contributions from each of these companies to our organized hobby. PVAS realized more than \$750 in raffle income during last year. That's almost as much as the club nets from an average weekend auction! Societies and clubs represent only a small fraction of the fishkeeping hobby as a whole, yet these firms are actively working to promote the organized hobby at the national and local levels. These companies are supporting our club - shouldn't we be supporting them?

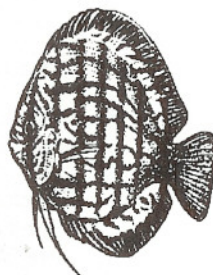
Pete Thrift
Ways and Means



THE POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY



SPRING AUCTION!



Tropical Fish and Equipment

Sunday, May 17th

at the HOWARD JOHNSON HOTEL, 5821 Richmond Highway,
Alexandria, Va. (*Route 1 at the Beltway*).

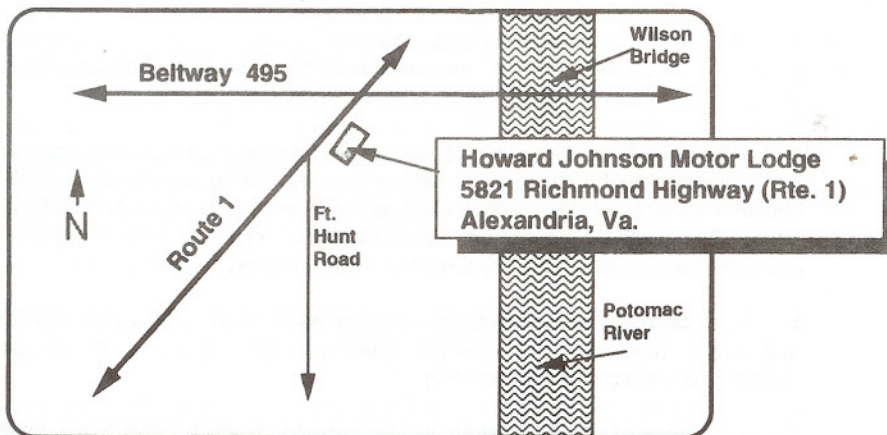
A great opportunity to buy-sell fish, plants, aquariums, books, equipment and supplies!

WE WILL ALSO HOLD A RAFFLE FOR NEW EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES!

Registration 9 am - 12 noon

The auction will begin at 11 am!

For information call Rick McKay at 703-281-1647.



DIRECTIONS:

The Howard Johnson's is located on the east side of Route 1 just south of the Capital Beltway (495) and north of Fort Hunt Road. Exit the Beltway onto Route 1 south. Since the HoJo's is located on the other side of the divided highway, follow the signs for Fort Hunt Road, then turn back onto Route 1 heading north. This will put you in front of the Hotel.

AUCTION RULES

PVAS SPRING AUCTION - SUNDAY MAY 17, 1992

RULES FOR THE SELLER

1. You do not have to be a PVAS member to buy or sell aquarium hobby related items, including fish, plants, equipment, etc., in the auction. The auction is open to the general public and will be so advertised. All prior auction accounts must be settled before registering for this auction.
2. Registration of items for sale will begin at 9:00 am and will end promptly at 12 noon. If a seller has not completed registration or is not in line to do so at noon, they will not be permitted to register as a seller for this auction. Items registered after the auction begins (11 am) will not be placed out for viewing until the first break.
3. The auction will begin promptly at 11 am and will continue with periodic breaks until all items have been sold.
4. All items must be labeled with the identity of the contents. Include number, sex (if possible) and other pertinent data. Use a permanent marking pen and adhesive label (supplied by PVAS). Labeling supplies will be available at the auction, but labeling must be completed before the items will be registered.
 - A. **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 a least one specimen of each sex. If you are uncertain, label the bag 'Unsexed'.
 - B. **SUPPLIES:** All aquarium equipment **MUST** be labeled as to working condition or missing parts.
5. **Proper fish bags must be used!** Live items must be bagged with ample air and water. Fish packed in 'baggies' or similar bags will not be registered. If a fish is registered in a bucket, tank or bowl, the container will be considered part of the item and will be auctioned as a unit. There will be a supply of fish bags at the registration desk. After registration, PVAS reserves the right to re-bag any item as it deems necessary.
6. A maximum of five (5) bags per species or color form/variety is allowed unless prior approval is obtained from the Auction Chairman. More than one bag may be bound together, but the result will be sold as one bag.
7. A series of colored stickers will be provided to each seller to assign the order in which the items will be sold. Every effort will be made to auction all items with a particular sticker color during one designated period of the auction.

8. Bags will be offered 'as is' and will be sold as one item. Once registered, the contents of a bag may not be split.
9. Each item carries a \$1.00 minimum unless the seller assigns a higher minimum bid. The seller may lower the minimum on an item that does not sell during the auction.
10. PVAS reserves the right to refuse registration of any item which it determines to be not suitable for this auction.
11. No payment will be made to the seller on the day of the auction. Payment will be forwarded by mail within ten (10) days after the auction date. It is the seller's responsibility to give PVAS a proper name and address to receive payment. Envelopes for this purpose will be filled out during registration.
12. The seller receives two-thirds of the selling price. PVAS retains one third, with a maximum of \$33 commission per single auction item or bag.
13. All items not sold must be claimed at the close of the auction or they will be disposed of at the discretion of PVAS.
14. The auctioneer retains the right to set aside any improperly bagged or marked item, or any sick or otherwise unsalable item.
15. Fish species that are restricted by either federal or state statutes will not be accepted.

RULES FOR THE BIDDER

1. **All items are purchased in 'AS IS' condition.** PVAS assumes no responsibility for the health or working condition of auctioned items.
2. All persons wishing to participate in the bidding are required to register with their full name and address. Bidding numbers will be assigned to all buyers. A buyer may register at any time during the auction. **All prior auction accounts must be settled before a bidding number will be issued for this auction.**
3. Items may be inspected only before the auction and during the intermissions.
4. All bidding raises will be made in dollar (\$1.00) increments. The auctioneer has the right to alter this procedure at his/her discretion.
5. Successful bidders will have their items brought to them, at which time payment is expected unless the bidder has been authorized to run a tab. (Please see the Treasurer before the auction. Proper identification will be required in these instances.)
6. The decision of the auctioneer as to the highest bidder and price is final.

Microworm Culture

compiled by: Tom Biery, respondents: Cristobal Diaz, Mark Stevens, Alex Townsend, Larry Wilkie

Microworms are a great food for fish fry. The following questions were independently posed to some PVAS and CAKC (Chesapeake Area Killifish Club) members. The results provide various techniques and recipes for culturing microworms. Why not try one or more of these methods. Thank you to the respondents.

What size/type container do you use to culture microworms?

Diaz: Small margarine tub. About 2 1/2 in. in dia. by 1 in. deep. The cover needs holes for ventilation!

Stephens: Small margarine tub.

Townsend: 1/2 gallon plastic ice cream containers (roughly 6.5 inch diameter); cut slits in the lid for ventilation.

Wilkie: five inch petri dish.

What food/medium do you use to culture microworms?

Diaz: Gerber baby cereal "peblum" - prefer grain base such as rice, oats.

Stephens: Quaker's Old Fashioned oatmeal, water - zap in microwave till water is absorbed. Add dash vinegar (optional). When cool sprinkle with yeast (bakers). Add worms from old culture.

Townsend: Gerber's baby oatmeal mixed with Fleishman's active dry yeast and warm water.

Wilkie: Gerber rice cereal, dry yeast, warm water to thick milkshake texture.

How do you start new cultures and how often?

Diaz: Put center cut of a piece of white bread, that has been moisten in luke warm water, into the clean margarine tub. Add the starting worms. - collected from old culture; sides or top of medium.

Stephens: About every other week. Cultures take 5 days to become useful.

Townsend: Place about 3/16 inch of oatmeal in container. Dissolve about 1/3 package of dry active yeast in warm water, then add enough to the oatmeal to get a consistency similar to that of a soft milkshake. Add small quantity of micro worms (maybe 1/2 teaspoon) from established culture. I keep three cultures going in a staggered sequence, assuring that I always have some available when needed. Each culture lasts about 10 days.

Wilkie: I prepare new dishes then transfer a small culture to a new container.

What temperature do you maintain the culture at and how do you maintain this temperature?

Diaz: My daughter performed an experiment for science. To determine this - results. Worms prefer dark warm environment. Approximately 75-80 degrees F, at these temperatures the medium will need moisture every day (slightly).

Stephens: Apx. room. They get some extra warmth sitting on top of a fluorescent fixture.

Townsend: I don't worry about temperature, but mine are normally at about 68 degrees by virtue of being kept in the basement.

Wilkie: 65 to 75 degrees F

How do you collect the microworms and how do you feed them to your fishes?

Diaz: I Run my moist finger along the side of the container and wash it in water. Then, I feed the water, with a dropper to the fry.

Stephens: Cut off one Q-tip tip. Scrape the worms off the sides & wash off in aquarium.

Townsend: When I first prepare the culture, I lay a 3 X 3 inch piece of plastic eggcrate (available at Hechingers and other home centers for about \$9.00 for a 2 X 4 foot piece - useful for a number of aquarium applications) onto the medium. I then place a wet popsicle stick (or equivalent) across the eggcrate. The worms will crawl onto the stick via the eggcrate. Using a separate feeder stick (another popsicle stick with flattened end) I simply scrape the desired quantity of microworms from the first stick and feed to the fishes. This method avoids introducing any of the culture medium into the aquarium.

Wilkie: Chopsticks are used to collect the worms, I lay them across the dish overnite. Microworms are only feed to fry, twice daily is normal, frequent water changes are necessary when microworms are feed.

Do you have any additional pointers?

Diaz: Out of all the methods I have tried, the one proposed in Jul/Aug 85 JAKA (Journal of the American Killifish Association), page 101, has done best for me.

Townsend: Better to keep several cultures going and never, never let one get too old before discarding and starting another -- when you pop the lid off of a dead microworm culture, the smell is just about lethal!!

Wilkie: (1/ Always start new cultures to soon, rather than waiting too long. (2/ Avoid use unless you do frequent water changes.

P. S. Next time grindal worms.

Use extra chlorine remover! Fairfax County water has very high amounts of chlorine in it. The thing to remember is you CAN'T OVER DO IT, but you can under do it. For people with well water, use a product like Novaqua-it helps remove excess metals from the water as well as chlorine.

Buy a Ph kit. They are relatively inexpensive and can save you money from unnecessary fish deaths. The water that comes from the tap in this area is almost always very alkaline and can kill fish very quickly. A Ph kit will help you stabilize your new tank and maintain an already established one.

Be patient! Allow at least 24-48 hours for your tank to run before you get fish. This is to make sure that all your equipment is working properly and that your Ph level is ok. Also, a new tank will get what is called a "bacterial bloom" within the first day or so. A bacterial bloom is a harmless build-up of bacteria in the water. This is a necessary part in the biological function of your tank. You will notice the bacterial bloom by the hazy or milky look of your water. Don't panic! The water will clear up within a week. Don't think that changing the water, all or part of it, will help-all that will do is start the process of bacterial build-up over again.

Buy only a few fish at first. Take them home and see how they do for a few days, then you can get more. Remember to be patient! It's better to lose a few inexpensive fish than a whole tankful. Most fish do best in groups of two or more, excluding catfish and algae eaters. Just let the salesperson know you have a new set-up and that you need help, most people are very willing to help a new hobbyist get started.

Once a week, siphon 10% of the water from the aquarium. Use a siphon hose-preferably one with a gravel washer attachment-and siphon the water from the bottom of the tank. This will help remove fish waste, uneaten and rotten food and gases that build up in the gravel. Even though you have a filter, you need to do this. A filter will not remove ammonia and other gases from the water and is not strong enough to pull the dirt from the gravel. Stir your gravel up once and see how much dirt is hiding in the gravel! You'll be surprised!

Don't over feed your fish. Once a day is plenty. A small pinch of food is enough for about 10 small fish. Remember, their stomachs are about the size of their eyeballs, it doesn't take much to fill them up.

Don't over crowd your tank. The general rule is 1"-2" of fish per gallon of water. This rule changes when you have goldfish or very large fish, as they are dirtier and require more space and oxygen.

Care and Propagation of *Barclaya Longifolia*

by Michael A. Korzeniewski

Barclaya Longifolia is number one of my top ten most beautiful aquarium plants! If your interested, read on. If your not, you must be into plastic.

The family Nymphaeaceae (Water-lily Family) is represented by typical aquatic plants which are distributed everywhere in the tropical, subtropical, and temperate zones. The greatest number of these plants are found in the tropics. External organs of this family are most varied. Some plants are entirely submersed, such as the beautiful Barclays. Altogether six genera with 65 species are known.

Barclaya Longifolia originally came from Thailand and Burma. Rataj suggests that this plant is very exacting, but I have not found this to be the case. The only difference has been that it does not do well in hard water so a water-softener pillow took care of that problem.

Rhizomes are formed from which a rosette of leaves develop; these leaves are lanceolate, 30cm long, and 25 to 40 mm wide, cordate at the base, and gradually taper toward the apex. The upper surface of the leaf is a deep brown to maroon red. They are very thin, nearly pellicular, and with moderately undulated margins.

A solitary flower, which opens on the surface of the water, is formed on the scape. Flowers are self-fertile and are pollinated even if the flower never reaches the surface, or fails to open (this is the general rule in aquariums.)

Seeds are soft, and prickly, and germinate well!

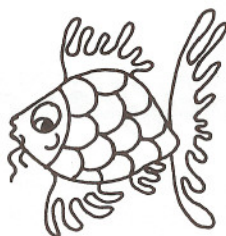
This plant requires a fairly rich soil without too much lime, soft water, and sufficient light. My bulbs were placed in 4 1/2 inch red clay pots, with 3/4 filled washed gravel, medium grade, and one piece of clay in the middle of the pot, with the roots spread out and surrounding it.

Strong overhead illumination was supplied by two 48 inch fluorescent bulbs, one Triton and one cool white bulb. A timer was employed to supply 14 hours of light, in a shop-lite fixture, hanging 14 inches above the water line. The temperature range should be between 77 to 86 degrees, to flower and produce seeds. As you can see from these requirements, the Barclays are the best plants for the Discus aquarium! For growth, this plant needs a minimum of 68 degrees; the plant does not thrive at lower temperatures and generally dies at 59 degrees.

This species grows in slow-flowing rivers in the rain-forest, often in waters containing iron. I have found by planting the rootstocks which just start to sprout, in little 1 1/2 inch red-clay pots, they grow to about 10 inches in a couple of months. After the plant reaches 6 to 7 months of growth, it starts to die back, and you start the process all over again. Don't let a few different requirements to your tank and water, prevent you from enjoying a most beautiful, colorful and engaging plant!

GOLD FISH GENETICS--RANDOM DEVIATION

by "Good" Ed White, PVAS



← "Goldie Hahn"

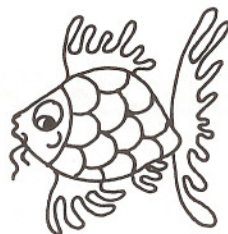
Fry shown below:



Notorious Cichlid breeder, John Managuense decided to make some money by raising feeder goldfish and selling them to coy hobbyists. Unfortunately, the fry did not have all the attributes of his favorite breeder which he named for a movie star, "Goldie Hahn." Help John and circle the missing or wrong features on each of the offspring.

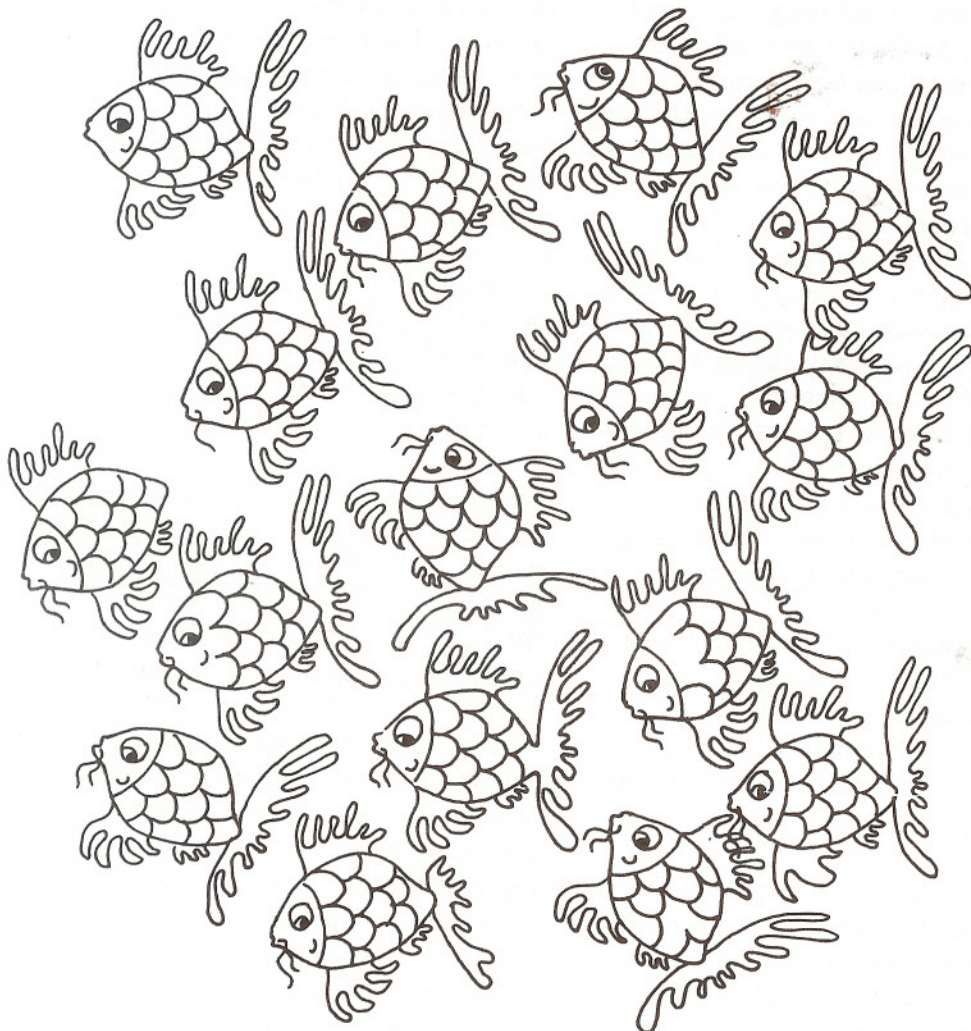
GOLD FISH GENETICS---RANDOM DEVIATION

by "Good" Ed White, PVAS



← "Goldie Hahn"

Fry shown below:



Notorious Cichlid breeder, John Managuense decided to make some money by raising feeder goldfish and selling them to coy hobbyists. Unfortunately, the fry did not have all the attributes of his favorite breeder which he named for a movie star, "Goldie Hahn." Help John and circle the missing or wrong features on each of the offspring.

A PHANTASY ON pH VALUES by Phil pHorbes

IpH your pHish are pHit and well
Why contrive to break the spell,
Trying methods to depHine
IpH the water's alkaline
Or tending towards too great acidity!
Surely this is sheer stupidity.
What's the pH value?

In seeking pHor complete neutrality
One may unbalance one's mentality,
Chasing ions pHrom out the main
Or spotting them in drops of rain,
Asking, when one wants a drink
Of water pHrom the kitchen sink,
"What's the pH value?"

Reprinted from "The Aquarist & Pondkeeper", march/april 1933.

LARRY FISHNET



I told you before, Dave—
no spawning until we
get the results of
your ich test.

MULL

by Abner Mull



The Golden Skiffia: A Fish Without A Home

By Doug Sweet

Prologue

Our beloved tropical fish hobby has a good side and a bad side. On the good side is the fact that the tropical fish hobby teaches responsibility, conservation, ecology and biology. On the bad side is the fact that the tropical fish hobby is responsible for a considerable amount of environmental damage. Of prime concern is the release of unwanted pets into foreign environments (i.e. our own lakes and streams.) Once released into new environments, some species flourish and cause alarming ecological disasters when they compete against or displace other species. The following story relates how the bad side of the hobby was responsible for the demise of one species and how the good side of the hobby actually saved this same species from extinction.

On the central plateau of Mexico lives a very unique family of fishes. This family, the Goodeids, contains more than 36 species of fish. The Goodeids live only in this central region of Mexico and can be found nowhere else.

All of the Goodeids have a very unique mode of reproduction. They give birth to live young. Giving birth to live young is not all that unusual for fishes, but unlike other live-bearing fishes, the Goodeids have their own special way of nurturing their unborn young. Most

live-bearing fish simply retain their large eggs within the female's body. The developing embryos obtain all, or most, of their nutrients by absorbing the yolk of their egg. The Goodeids, however, have adopted an almost mammalian method of supplying nutrients to their babies. Each baby has fleshy extensions from their anal area called trophotaeniae. This trophotaeniae can be compared to the placenta and umbilical cord of a mammal. Nutrients and oxygen travel from the mother Goodeid to her offspring via this organ. Nurtured in this way, Goodeid babies can grow quite large before being born. This gives them the advantage of size since they must fend for themselves the moment they are born.

The golden Skiffia (*Skiffia francesae*), one of the Goodeid species, lived in the Rio Teuchitian of Jalisco, Mexico. The golden Skiffia can no longer be found in this river. No living specimens have been caught since 1978 and this species is presumed to be extinct in its natural habitat. The golden Skiffia seems to be a victim of the pet trade. Apparently, an aquarist released some unwanted red platyfish into the Rio Teuchitian. The platys, which do not naturally live in this river, were able to reproduce faster than the golden Skiffias and quickly out-competed the Skiffias for space and food. This is a typical example of what can happen when an irresponsible person releases captive animals into the natural habitat of another species. Tropical fish hobbyists must

never release any exotic species of fish into their local waterways.

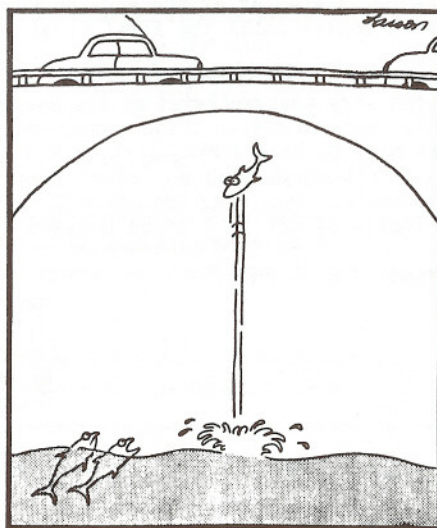
Ironically, the pet trade was responsible for the demise of this fish, but it also saved this species from extinction. About the time the golden Skiffia was described to science, a captive population was established by a biologist studying the fish. From this captive stock, some fish were distributed to fish hobbyists interested in live-bearing fishes. They were bred and have been maintained for generations in captivity. Hobbyists can do their share for conservation by maintaining stocks of this livebearer in home aquariums. In this way, the golden Skiffia will continue to exist and its story told to others who are not aware of the ecological disasters which occur when unwanted pet fishes are released where they do not belong.

Unfortunately, the golden Skiffia will probably never be returned to its natural habitat. There

is no practical way to exterminate all of the platyfish which have taken over the habitat.

The golden Skiffia is not alone in its plight. Two species of Goodeids have already become extinct due to mankind's activities. Eight other species of goodeids are listed as endangered or threatened with extinction. These Goodeids live in desert springs and streams. These spring are very susceptible to the activities of man. Groundwater pumping and stream diversion for irrigation of crops is limiting habitat size. Population growth of Mexico (especially Mexico City) is causing extensive pollution of waterways. Finally, the introduction of foreign species (largemouth bass, bluegills, carp, and Tilapia) for human recreation and food is causing problems for this unique family of fishes.

Reprinted from TropiQuarium, the official publication of the Motor City Aquarium Society, October 1990.



"We're too late! ... He jumped!"

**MINUTES OF A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THE POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
March 2, 1992**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society was called to order at 7:45 PM on March 2, 1992, at the home of Wendy and Brian Tramm. Officers and board members attending were President Beverle Sweitzer, John Oliva, Kenny Warren, Julie Spall, Pete Thrift, Tony Fitz, Wendy Tramm, and Rick McKay. Also attending were Gene Aldridge, Gerry Hoffman, John Jessup, Ray Hughes, John Mangan, Sheryl Katsman, and Brian Tramm.

The first item discussed was the concept of a welcoming/hospitality chairman. Beverle described a need to have at least one person at the monthly meetings to welcome and introduce guests and new members, making the club friendlier and less intimidating. Ray Hughes volunteered for this position.

The above led into a discussion of ways to attract new members. Rick McKay volunteered to prepare additional and more durable posters to be placed in supporting pet shops. It was also agreed to eliminate the "What Can You Do For PVAS?" question from the membership application, as it can discourage membership, especially from those new to the hobby.

Beverle is looking into possible locations in Maryland for occasional monthly club meetings.

Beverle requested that the Board consider computerizing the club's financial records, to facilitate periodic financial reports for the membership.

The board discussed the PVAS spring 1992 auction arrangements. The auction will be held on Sunday, May 17th. It will be held at the Howard Johnsons' hotel located at Route 1 (Richmond Highway) and the Beltway (Va 95/495 exit 1 south). The membership will be solicited to provide new volunteers for the work to conduct the auction. Efforts will be made to tighten enforcement of the club auction rules, especially concerning bag limitations, finality of sales, and the quality of items registered for sale. The board decided to add a new auction rule - if items are registered after the auction has started, they will not be placed on the auction tables until the first break is taken.

The final agenda item for this meeting was the club's fall activity. After much discussion concerning very poor interest by the membership in recent club shows and workshops, it was decided not to stage a combined show/workshop weekend this fall. A motion was made to hold a PVAS fish show in conjunction with a show by the Chesapeake Area Killifish Club on Columbus Day weekend in October. The motion passed unanimously. Tony Fitz and Gerry Hoffman volunteered to chair the fall weekend, and Tony will act as liaison between PVAS and CAKC.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.



PETER A. THRIFT
Recording Secretary

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society

Member Information Request

Please list the information you would like from the PVAS Library below, and I will send it to you as soon as I can. If I mail the information to you, there will be a cost of ten cents per page. If I bring it to a monthly meeting, the cost is five cents per page. Alternatively, you can read the desired articles at a monthly meeting (but not remove them) for free.

I would like information on: _____

Please

- ☐ send the information to me (ten cents per page).
- ☐ bring it to the meeting (five cents per page).
- ☐ three-punch the pages for my notebook (no charge).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mail or give this to:

Brian H. Groover
HC 36, Box 105
Winchester, VA 22601
(703) 888-4378

Call me if you have any questions.

P.S. If you would like me to automatically scan the incoming articles each month for information on a particular topic, and copy them for you, I am willing to do that. Just remember that the articles may or may not be what you want, but I will copy them (and expect to be paid) anyway!

☐ Please scan articles each month for information on _____.
I will be responsible for the costs of copying them. (For PVAS Members only.)

Date Requested: _____ Pages: _____ Cost: _____ Paid? _____ Date Delivered: _____ How? _____

**MINUTES OF A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THE POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
April 6, 1992**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society was called to order at 7:50 PM on April 6, 1992, at the home of Alex Townsend. Officers and board members attending were President Beverle Sweitzer, Kenny Warren, Pete Thrift, Tony Fitz, and Alex Townsend. Also attending were Gene Aldridge, Ray Hughes, and John Mangan.

The first business item discussed was the 1992 spring auction, to be held on May 17th at the Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge located at Route 1 south (Richmond Highway) and the Virginia Beltway (Va 95/495) in Alexandria, VA. Because the club's auction mailing list has grown so large, it was decided to remove the names of those persons who have not attended an auction since 1991. It was decided to continue mailing auction flyers by first class mail. It was decided to prohibit anyone from registering items for sale when that person has unpaid auction bills. Rick McKay was volunteered to prepare the flyer and arrange the Washington Post classified ad.


The second item of business at this meeting was a report by Tony Fitz on the fall show and auction being held in conjunction with the Chesapeake Area Killiefish Club (CAKC) on Columbus Day weekend in October. The show weekend will be held at the same Howard Johnson location as the May auction. Room costs for Friday night, Saturday, and Sunday will total \$500. The weekend schedule will be:

Friday, 9 October	- 6 PM	- Show set-up
	7-10 PM	- Show registration
Saturday, 10 October	- 9 - 2 PM	- Show registration
	9 - 4 PM	- Public viewing
	4 - 6 PM	- Judging
	6 - 9 PM	- Public viewing
Sunday, 11 October	- 8 AM	- Show stand teardown
	8 - Noon	- Auction registration
	10:30 AM	- Show awards ceremony
	11 AM	- Auction begins

Costs for the weekend will be divided between the two clubs in proportion to their percentage in the weekend gross auction receipts. PVAS will handle judging for all classes other than killiefish classes, which will be the responsibility of the CAKC. There will be two best of show awards - one from each club. PVAS will run the raffles, and CAKC will handle concessions and plant sales.

A motion and made and passed unanimously to approve the above arrangements for the fall weekend.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.


PETER A. THRIFT
Recording Secretary

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY



POST OFFICE BOX 6219 SHIRLINGTON STATION ARLINGTON VIRGINIA 22206

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date: _____ 19 _____

Name: _____

Street: _____ Apartment: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone H: _____ W: _____

Optional:

Occupation: _____

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

Number of tanks: _____ Time in hobby _____

What can this club do for you? _____

What do you want to do for the club? _____

Membership dues for the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society are:

Family/Individual: \$12/yr

Corresponding: \$ 9/yr

Junior (under 18): \$ 5/yr

Please send application and check for dues to the address above.

SUPPORTING VIRGINIA SHOPS

ANNANDALE PET SHOP
7406 Little River Turnpike
Annandale, VA 22031
256-2400

AQUATIC ENHANCEMENTS, INC.
Aquarium Sales/Leasing/Service
Box 22677
Alexandria, VA 22304
(703) 765-4620

DISCOUNT PET CENTER
Manassas Shopping Center
9028 Mathis Avenue
Manassas, VA 22110
361-7769

BAILEY'S PET CENTER
Leesburg Pike Plaza
35217 South Jefferson Street
Falls Church, VA 22041
931-1400

BEACON MALL PET CENTER
Beacon Mall Center
6776 Richmond Highway
Alexandria, VA 22306
660-6100

NATIONAL PET AND AQUARIUM
Williston Shopping Center
6168 Arlington Blvd
Falls Church, VA 22046
533-7828

OAKTON PET SHOP
Oakton Center
Rt 123 & Hunter Mill Road
Oakton, VA 22124
281-9622

PET MART - TYSONS
8417 Old Courthouse Road
Vienna, VA 22180
281-8181

PETS, ETC - ALEXANDRIA
7688-B Richmond Highway
Alexandria, VA 22306
768-2200

PETS, ETC - CHANTILLY
Sully Plaza
13932 Lee-Jackson Highway
Chantilly, VA 22021
378-2777

PETS, ETC - HERNDON
Stuart Center
462 Eiden Street
Herdon, VA 22171
437-0381

PETS, ETC - STERLING
Hechinger Jamesway Plaza
243-C Harry Flood Byrd Hwy
Sterling, VA 22170
430-9667

PETS-N-THINGS
Pan American Center
3081 Nutley Street
Fairfax, VA 22031
573-4400

SUNSHINE PETS
7395-H Lee Highway
Falls Church, VA 22042
573-6946

TANKS-A-LOT
Lee Center
6635 Backlick Road
Springfield, VA 22150
703-866-1057

WILSON'S PARROTS & MARINE
Shirley-Edsall Industrial Park
5605-G General Washington Dr
Alexandria, VA 22312
922-7358

SUPPORTING MARYLAND SHOPS

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

AQUARIUM CENTER
Liberty Road at Offutt Road
Randlestown, MD
301-521-4529

BROTHERS PETS INC.
13810 Georgia Avenue
Aspen Hill, MD 20906
460-4600

CONGRESSIONAL AQUARIUM
162 Congressional Lane
Rockville, MD 20852
881-6182

FISH FACTORY AQUARIUM
582 North Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
881-6182

GLENMONT TROPICALS
12345 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902
949-0344

HOUSE OF TROPICALS
7389F Baltimore-Annapolis Blvd
Glen Burnie, MD 21061
301 761-1113

MARINE CARE SPECIALISTS
15820 Redland Road
Rockville, MD 20855
330-0720

MARYLAND TROPICALS
11229A New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20904
593-1116

MONTGOMERY TROPICALS
7845-G Airpark Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
670-0886

PETLAND
13833 Outlet Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20904
762-3505

PETDALE
5268 Nicholson Lane
Kensington, MD 20895
231-5216

PET MART ROCKVILLE
2230 Veirs Mill Road
Rockville, MD 20851
762-3505

RICK'S FISH & PET SUPPLY
1003J West Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21702
301-694-9664 301-831-6866

SHOWCASE AQUARIUM
11248-11250 Triangle Lane
Wheaton, MD 20902
942-6464

TROPICAL FISH WORLD, INC.
16529 South Frederick Center
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
921-0000

TROPICAL LAGOON
9439 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
585-6562

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
P.O. Box 6219, Shirlington Station
Arlington, Virginia 22206-0219



THE SOCIETY WILL MEET ON THESE MONDAYS IN 1992:

13 JAN
10 FEB
9 MAR

13 APR
11 MAY
8 JUN

13 JUL
10 AUG
14 SEP

19 OCT
9 NOV
14 DEC

Meetings are held at the John J. Wood Facility, Room 7, 3730 Old Lee Highway (Rt 237), Fairfax City, VA. Doors open at 7:30, and the meeting starts at 8PM. ALL ARE WELCOME!

