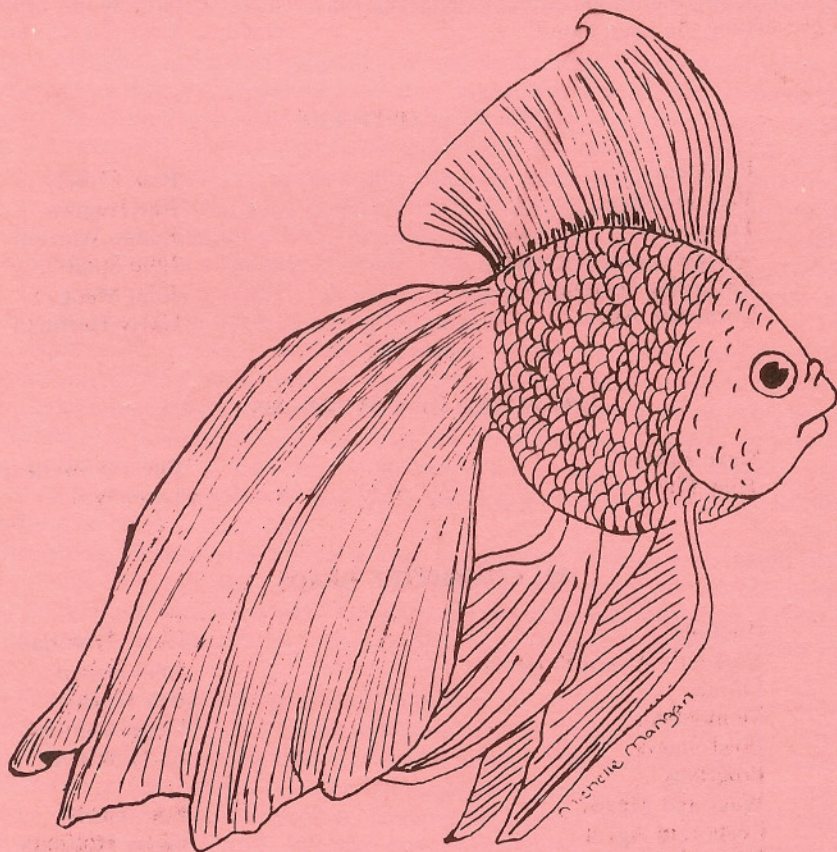


* DELTA TALE *

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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.

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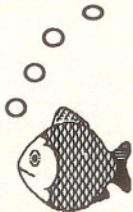
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Ramblings from Rick

(a message from the president)



Ladies and gentlemen, **IT'S SHOWTIME!!** That's right, once again it is time for the annual **Potomac Valley Aquarium Society** spring tropical fish show and auction. We were not able to have a show last year because of a variety of reasons, but now we are back on track!

I think everyone is excited about having the opportunity to once again show a favorite fish, and hopefully we will have a large number of entries to demonstrate this enthusiasm. Sure it is a little bit of work to get your fish into perfect 'show condition', but isn't it worth it when you bring home that ribbon or trophy? It is also a bit of work putting together a show and auction and requires some extra participation from the club members to ensure things go as planned. If you can help out during the weekend please let me, Ray Hughes or Pete Thrift know. There are always jobs to be done that would benefit from an extra pair of hands. We always need help setting up and taking down the show racks and there are plenty of opportunities for people to show their commitment to helping the club during the auction.

For those of you attending a show and auction for the first time, I would like to welcome you to this **PVAS** event. You will find that attending a show such as this offers a great opportunity to discover fish that you might want to keep. You will have the chance to see many beautiful fish that are not commonly available at your local stores, and many of these fish will be for sale in the auction. It also gives you the chance to talk with experienced hobbyists about any problems you might be having with your own aquariums or fish.

Although we have only one show a year, we do meet monthly and would like to have you join us at our next meeting. Our membership varies from people new to the hobby to veterans who have been keeping and breeding fish for decades. You don't have to be an expert to join our club, you only need to have a sincere interest in the hobby.

We meet the second Monday of each month at the John C. Wood facility on Old Lee Highway in Fairfax. We have guest speakers or slide programs each month which cover a variety of interesting and educational topics. The meetings also include refreshments, a small raffle for aquarium supplies, a door prize, bowl show and a mini-auction. It is a great way to spend an evening talking with fellow "fish nuts" about the latest goings-on in the hobby. We also publish the Delta Tale on a bimonthly basis. All of this for only \$12 a year in annual dues!

I hope you will join us at our June meeting and decide to join our club. You will benefit from the knowledge club members will share with you, and we as a group will benefit from your participation in the club. **ENJOY THE SHOW!**

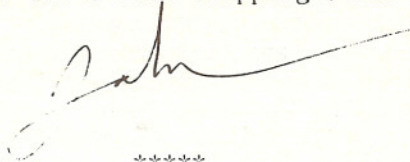
FROM THE EDITORZ DESK

To all of you that have picked up this issue at the PVAS Spring Show and Auction I'd like to say "Welcome" on behalf of everyone in PVAS. We hope you enjoy the activities and consider becoming a member of PVAS.

I'd like to thank everyone that took the time to write an article for this issue. I actually received enough so that I have three left over to start the next issue. Look for Ron Burch's very good article on Rivulus marmoratus and Pete Thrift's tips on Ehiem filters, plus Bill Hester's "secret" to successful fishkeeping. This is the first time I've ever had this much original material stockpiled. That doesn't mean that you should stop sending me stuff. Keep it coming. Three articles aren't enough to fill up a whole issue, and there's always another one coming up that needs stuff too. I could still use some original artwork very badly. There's only so many ways I can rearrange the same old stuff.

Due to all the show and auction info packed into this issue I'm going to have to cut my column off short this time to make room for all the other good stuff we have. I hear your groans of disappointment (hey! who's that clapping?) and I'll try to make it up next time.

Until then...



WHAT'S HAPPENING

May 3-5: American Livebearer Assoc. Convention, Akron OH.
For more info contact Rich Serva or Gina Tash
(216) 650-4613.

May 13: PVAS Monthly Meeting. As usual- program, raffles, door prize, etc. No mini-auction this month, save your stuff for the big one. Bowl Show- Catfish (non-Corydoras). See back page for location.

May 18-19: PVAS Spring Show and Auction. see elsewhere in this issue for complete details.

June 10: PVAS Monthly Meeting. Program, raffles, door prize, mini-auction, bowl show- Angels and Discus. More.

Oct. 12-13: PVAS Fall Workshop and Auction. More details in future issues of Delta Tale.

THE CONVERT

One Saddy nite as I was goin'
Where a super-film was showin'
I 'appened for to pass a shop
Wo't ad some things that made me stop
Some fish, they was a lovely site
A-swimmin' round that Saddy nite.

I couldn't 'elp but step inside
An' ask the bloke to put me wide
'Ow I could keep some for meself
Just in a bowl up on a shelf;
It made that feller laugh all right
'E bust 'isself that saddy nite.

"Look 'er" ses 'e. "It's plain ter me
You want a bloomin' tip or three."
'E told me 'ow these fish came
From tropic lands; 'e knew the name
Of every blessed one by sight.
I learned a bit that saddy nite.

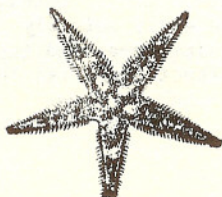
'E showed me proper tanks to use
An' wot aerators I should choose
A thermo-wotsis heater too,
Wiv plants an' sand an' all the do,
The 'ole thing lit wiv special light-
I bought the lot that Saddy nite.

Now Platty Peaceless is my friend
I like it 'cos it breeds no end;
An' I've got Corridors an' Tets
An' Danny Rerios as pets.
I don't go places or get tight-
I'm in my fish house Saddy nite.

"Silurus"

Reprinted from "The Aquarist and Pondkeeper" oct. 1947.

Poetry editors note- for those of you not familiar with it,
"Aquarist and Pondkeeper" is a British magazine started in
1924, and still being published today. Keep the fact that
it's British in mind when reading the poem, and use the
proper accent. Who needs PBS and Masterpiece Theater. You
can get all the culture you need right here in the pages of
Delta Tale. J.M.



SPAWNING THE GOLD ANGEL
Pterophyllum scalare
BAP Report by Pete Thrift, PVAS

In early June of 1990, I purchased four large (over 3" body length) gold angelfish. I haven't kept angelfish for several years and had never successfully spawned them. The gold coloration of these fish made them the most striking angels I had seen in quite some time, so I was hooked. I brought the four fish home and set them up by themselves in a 50 gallon tank with gravel and plastic plants. Filtration was by large, air-driven Tetra sponge filters. The tank's water parameters included a temperature of 80 degrees, a pH of 6.8, and a hardness of around 5 DH.

Within weeks I noticed definite signs of two fish pairing off, but didn't pay too much attention as I was distracted by normal summer activities. Much to my surprise, one evening in early July while changing the tank's water, my hand was repeatedly attacked by the pair. Looking more closely into the tank's plastic plants, I discovered a swarm of comma-sized fry hovering around their VERY angry parents! I didn't have a brine hatcher running, and by the time I did, all the fry had been lost. Oh, well . . .

Ten days later, the pair spawned again, but this was just before my Connecticut vacation, and this spawn was also lost. Oh, well . . .

After returning from vacation, I was determined to successfully raise a spawn from these fish. I added a strip of spawning slate, and started doing more frequent water changes. Within a week, the pair spawned on the slate. Water conditions were the same as described above, except the temperature now was 82 degrees. The eggs hatched in six to seven days, and about 100 fry became free-swimming three days later. I immediately began offering brine shrimp nauplii, but began to lose fry in very large numbers. I couldn't tell whether the nauplii were too large for the fry, or that the fry couldn't find the shrimp in the 50 gallon tank. Perhaps both theories were at least partially true. After two days of heavy losses, I siphoned out the remaining two dozen fry into a 10 gallon tank filled with water from the spawning tank to eliminate shock. This slowed the rate of loss, but did not stop it. After another week (about three weeks post-spawning), I was down to ten noticeably growing fry. At this point, the losses stopped. I was able to keep the remaining fry alive for the next two months, gradually switching them from shrimp to flake food, beefheart particles, and bloodworms. They seemed to especially relish the beefheart. At ninety days, they were the size of a fifty-cent piece, and most were sold in the PVAS fall auction. I kept four to raise to adult size to see how they would eventually turn out.

Finally, I should mention that the parents were very, VERY aggressive and protective once they had spawned. The other two angels were fiercely attacked if they left the corner they had been driven into, and were removed to save their lives. The parents would violently respond to anyone coming near the tank, and would repeatedly attack siphon hoses, arms, and anything else entering their tank. The male would actually jump nearly out of the tank trying to reach my fingers waving more than two inches above the water surface. I honestly didn't expect angelfish to be this aggressive!

African Cichlids by Dr. Paul V. Loiselle

a book review by George White, PVAS

A Fishkeeper's Guide to African Cichlids by Dr. Paul Loiselle provides a splendid overview of this fascinating group of freshwater fish whose flashy colors rival those of saltwater fish. This well researched and precisely written guide book contains valuable information which makes it a "must have" for beginners and very useful for experienced Cichlid fanatics. This is, without a doubt, the best inexpensive book a hobbyist can buy if she or he wishes to be successful with African Cichlids. (Dr. Loiselle's other recently published book, The Cichlid Aquarium, contains more than twice as many pages and is also packed with useful information. It, of course, costs more than this smaller book, but is also an excellent buy.)

A Fishkeeper's Guide to African Cichlids, is item no. 16037 published by Tetra Press, 201 Tabor Road, Morris Plains, New Jersey 07950, ISBN 3-923880-39-1 and may be ordered through your local aquarium store.

Many novice hobbyists visiting aquarium shops admire African Cichlids' spectacular colors, but sigh and pass them by believing these wonderful fish are denizens of the deep blue sea. Once they realize that these beauties only require freshwater, a whole new world opens up. Often spectacular specimens can be bought at aquarium club auctions as well as in stores.

Some of the species from the great rift lakes of East Africa display bright reds, blues, greens, yellows or combinations of colors. Those possessing bright colored bodies and fins of another tint rank among the favorites of Cichlid hobbyists. Species with bright combinations, e.g., black and yellow stripes, add sparkle to the show aquarium. In some cases, the males may be one color (often blue) while the females are another (often yellow or orange). This sexual dimorphism aids the fishkeeper in breeding the fish and adds to the conversation value of show tanks.

The African riverine species and species from other lakes usually have subtler, but also beautiful colors. However, some of the non-rift lake Cichlids, such as the *Astatotilapia* species, will wow you with their bright colors. But, in almost all cases, they should not be mixed in with rift lake Cichlids who have different water requirements and behavioral patterns.

African Cichlids display wonderful diversity in behavior as well as in coloration. Their range of adaptations to various biological niches makes Cichlids especially interesting. (This evolutionary capability is due in no small part to the extra set of "teeth," a pharyngeal mill in their upper throat which contributed to Cichlids' ability to evolve and specialize in their choices of food.)

Some of the more interesting behavior patterns include:

--Cichlids that brood their eggs in their mouths. Most are maternal mouthbrooders, but a few species are paternal mouthbrooders or switch hitters. In some species, small fry retreat into their parents' mouths when confronted with danger.

--Some Cichlid species dwell in empty snail shells. These shell dwellers pick their shells carefully and often will move then to just the right position in the aquarium. Some even spawn in the shells.

--One species (Haplochromis Livingstoni) with a blotchy appearance catches its prey by lying on the bottom mimicking a rotting cadaver. When unwitting small fish come by to graze, the "dead body" suddenly disposes of them.

The diversity of behavior and water requirements have led some hobbyists to claim that Cichlids are difficult to keep or to breed. Actually, they are easier than fancy Bettas and Killifish. If the hobbyist provides the proper environment, the fish will show their best colors and actively propagate.

A Fishkeeper's Guide to African Cichlids covers all the topics that a hobbyist should know in concise language. This precision of expression enables Dr. Loiselle to pack the book with a number of experts' tricks for maintaining and breeding even the so-called difficult species. The titles of the chapters in the book are: introduction; general considerations; water requirements and filtration; heating and lighting; aquarium selection and aquascaping; feeding; routine maintenance; health care; breeding and rearing; and, species section (this last section is a bit short, covering only 40 of the most popular species).

A Fishkeeper's Guide to African Cichlids surpasses other books on Cichlids in several key areas. It goes beyond the superficial presentation of information often found in other books. For example, Dr. Loiselle does not just give the reader a brief note on the water chemistry in the natural habitats of the various species--he explains how this knowledge should be applied in the aquarium. Riverine species from forested areas have evolved in aquatic habitats in which only minimal fluctuations in pH and hardness occur. These fish obviously fare best in the aquarium when not subjected to abrupt changes in pH or hardness.

The chapter on aquarium selection and aquascaping provides an excellent four page chart with rules of thumb on how to design habitats best suited for the various types of African Cichlids. Size of the species, territoriality and breeding behavior rank as the key factors in planning the tank setup. A similar chart provides recommended diets for the various feeding groups, omnivores, micropredators, piscavores, and herbivores. It also lists the most popular species that comprise these various categories.

In summary, anyone who buys a nice aquarium and some fine African Cichlids, would be well advised to purchase one or both of Dr. Paul Loiselle's books, A Fishkeeper's Guide to African Cichlids or, The Cichlid Aquarium. These are cheap insurance for your investment. And, you owe it to your fish.

Anyone wishing to join the American Cichlid Association should contact Glenn Eaves, P.O. Box 32130, Raleigh, North Carolina 27622.

A TAIL OF TWO CICHLIDS*

by Beverle Sweitzer, PVAS

Heros septemfasciatus - a medium sized cichlid. The males are red/copper colored with turquois eyes and the females are pink/copper colored with the same eyes. I got a pair from a friend several months ago and knew nothing at all about them. (Still don't for that matter) I put flower pots and slate in the tank and they would spend all day hiding. I suspect that they were out when no one was in the room, but as soon as I came in they scooted into their pot or under their rock. Once they must have had eggs because when I put my hand in to clean the slate, the male came charging out and nipped me. I jumped a mile. At other times he was meek and mild.

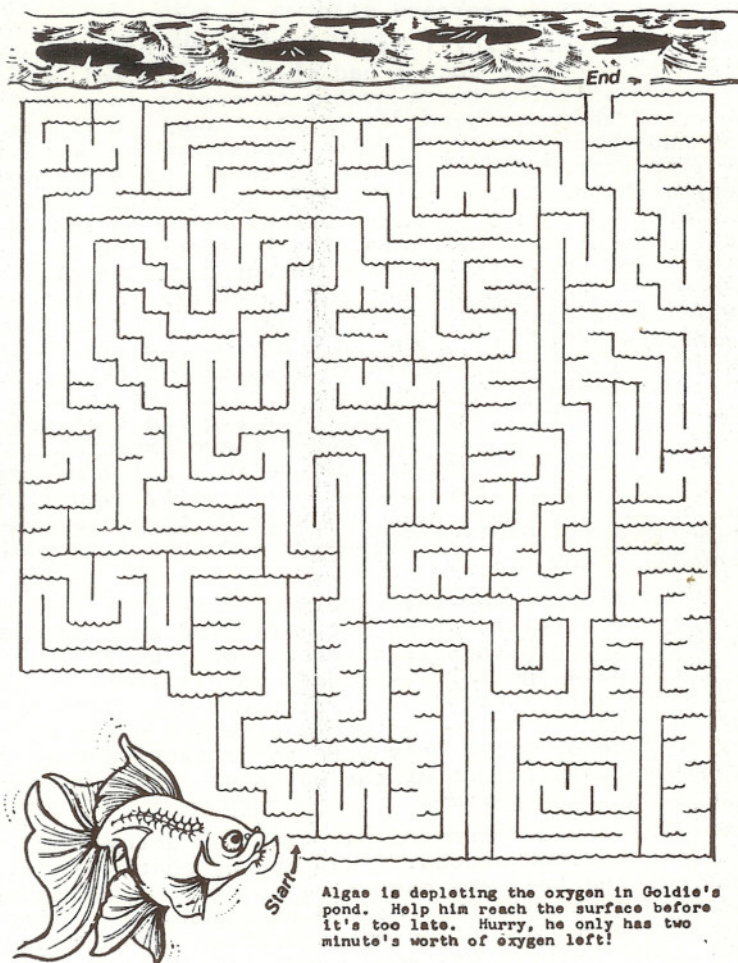
In another, larger, tank I had a pair of Herotilapia multispinosa. They were very prolific when I had them in a 10 gallon but (luckily) they didn't do anything for a couple of months in a 20 gallon. One day I observed the male being especially rough on the female and since I already had about 2 million multispinosa and no one else seemed to want any I separated them and put the female in a community tank. Sure enough, the next morning the male was tending eggs on a slate. What do I do now? I have so many, but gosh, he is taking care of them so sweetly even without her help. The next morning the slate was empty. I assumed the little so and so got tired of playing daddy alone and ate them. I snatched him out and threw him in the community with the female. I now had this lovely 20 gallon empty so I put the pair of septemfasciatus in it. I put in a divider to try to stimulate them to renewed interest. They seemed to miss each other so much. Butting at the divider and staying out where I could see them, just so they could see each other. I was thrilled! I figured that when I took the divider out in a day or two they would spawn immediately. The next day I looked in the tank and can you believe it!?? the male had a whole cloud of little babies around him!! Well, even I can count and there was no way they were his. The male multispinosa must have hidden his little brood in a corner somewhere and then I came along and unceremoniously took him away.

It was enchanting to see the excellent care this male septemfasciatus was giving these foreign babies but I figured that as soon as they made their way through the divider the female would make lunch out of them. For 3 days the male kept them on his side- no small feat since the divider was only a piece of fluorescent egg crate diffuser. On the fourth day they went to the other side and there the female took just as good care of them. They were so protective that at one time the male jumped totally out of the water to get my hand when I was putting in some brine shrimp.

I removed the divider and the pair started doing their little dance and chasing each other around. I was hoping that with this experience they might get the idea and have some of their own. Having had parents eat the little ones when they wanted to spawn again, I took $\frac{1}{2}$ of the babies and put them in a different container. I had heard that an overload of multispinosa was good conditioning food. Nope. They both took care of them until I finally took them out. The babies that were left with the foster parents for the longer length of time were more than twice the size of the ones I took originally.

I have heard more than one person say that cichlids are "big, ugly fish that eat other fish". I can't think of any other fish that would do what I have just related. Lord sakes, even I wouldn't, unbidden, take on 75 or 80 orphans. You can call it instinct or whatever else you want- I call it wonderfull!

* ed. note- this is an example of what can happen when you give the editor an article without a title. J.M.



Reprinted from The Goldfish Report, Goldfish Society of America.
for more info. on GFSA contact Tony Reynolds, PO Box 54502,
Tulsa, Ok 74155.

SPAWNING of ATTILLA
THE HUN

(A true story.)

I have always had a soft spot in my heart for big, mean, downright nasty fish. I don't exactly understand this attraction to the "bruisers" of the fish world, and my wife has given up on trying to convert me to Guppies. However, she can't resist the occasional remark about the psychological implications of feeding poor, defenseless goldfish to my greedy Oscars.

I have been keeping *Astronotus ocellatus* for many years, and have found them to be as personable, and loyal as our dog...and quite a bit less noisy. Sure, they eat a lot. They're big.

I thought for many years, that I had found the toughest fish of the aquarium. Last summer I discovered *Cichlasoma managuense*, and found that my Oscars had met their match. I purchased a juvenile Managuense at our local pet shop, and within a month it was standing up to my adult Oscar! Another month, and I had to move my Oscar to a safe haven. With the removal of its principal victim, the Managuense methodically made the rounds of the tank, randomly beating up other fish.

After a few days, its aggression seemed to focus on my 10 inch *Pimelodus clarius*. This poor catfish wants nothing more out of life than to have a nice dark log to sit under, with maybe some juicy earth worms to eat at night...he's not what you would call an aggressive fish, (as long as he can't swallow his tank mates.) I moved him to another tank, and expected the Managuense to choose another victim. His tank mates were a 10 inch *Hypostomus Plecostomus*, a 9 inch *Synodontis notatus*, a 6 inch *Aequidens Rivulatus* (Green Terror), and a 6 inch *Aequidens Pulcher* (Blue Acara). Sure enough, the Managuense bullied the Blue Acara and the Green Terror unmercifully. I moved them to another tank, also.

With almost all of his tank-mates gone, the Managuense seemed to settle down some. Oh sure, he'd take an occasional swipe at the *Plecostomus*, but it seemed kind of half-hearted. I noticed that the *Synodontis* and the Managuense seemed to have hit it off...they were practically inseparable. They staked out their territory under a log, and sat there side by side.

I was very relieved that "Attila the Hun" (that's what I call him), had finally settled down. The next few months were uneventful. Everybody seemed to be getting along nicely. Then I complicated matters by selling one of my tanks. Suddenly, I had no tank space for all my fish.

I put the Oscar, Pimolodus, Green Terror, and the Blue Acara all back into the 55 gallon tank with the Managuense, Synodontis, and Plecostomus. The fight was on! I immediately found a new home for the Managuense in a 20 gallon tank all by himself.

After a few days of watching the Managuense and the Synodontis mope around...I decided to put his buddy into the tank with him. Two days after I had transferred the Synodontis to the 20 gallon tank, I noticed some unusual behavior on their part.

The Synodontis and the Managuense began to exhibit behavior remarkably approaching what I would call spawning behavior. I thought to myself at the time that was odd, but put it down to be coincidence. The next day when I was feeding the fish, I saw the Managuense drive the Synodontis away from the rock in the middle of the tank. I noticed, because so far, the Synodontis was the only fish that could stay in the same tank with "Attilla", and I hoped that the massacre wasn't about to begin again.

The Managuense didn't follow through with his attack, though. He seemed to be driving the Synodontis away, and keeping him at a distance. With closer inspection, I saw why. On the back side, there were about 80 eggs literally covering the surface of the rock. The Managuense fanned the spawn faithfully, and after awhile even allowed the Synodontis to come closer. At one point the Synodontis swam over the eggs, actually brushing them, and the Managuense didn't react at all. I thought that was a little odd.

After a few days, all the eggs had fungused and been eaten by one or the other, or both. They are still exhibiting what I would call bonding behavior...brushing against each other, posturing, spreading of fins, etc. I keep them together in their 20 gallon tank, and they seem perfectly content...

Now I have another problem...is "Attilla" a feminine name?

Bill Hester
Walkersville, MD

BOARD MINUTES- March 1991

The meeting was held at the home of Rick McKay. Those present were Rick, Ray Hughes, Kenny Warren, Pete Thrift, Julie Spall, John Mangan, Gerry Hoffman, Steve Buckell, Tony Fitz, Beverly Sweitzer, Larry Wilkie, John Jessup, , and Gene Aldridge.

Classrooms 5 and 8 have been confirmed for our use sat. and sun. of the show/auction weekend.

Pete will handle creating and printing of a show flyer to be sent out to our mailing list, taken to shops, etc.

We will run a classified ad in the Washington Post the sunday before the show and the sat. and sun. of the show as usual.

Trophies for the show were discussed and it was decided to only give trophies for Best of Show, Reserve, and the 4 Best of Class awards. Ribbons will be given for all other awards.

It was decided that the club will purchase some plants and African Cichlids to seed the auction . It was decided to purchase African Cichlids due to their being poorly represented in the last several auctions. The club will also purchase a roll of airline tubing and airstones for use at the show. Any excess will be auctioned on Sunday.

Our non-profit status is being worked on and is near completion.

Fall Workshop- will be held oct. 12-13 at the Knights of Pythias in Maryland (same location as last fall). We will begin contacting possible speakers. Mike T. of Delare Aquatics will be asked to come again with his plants.

Submitted by John Mangan, Recording Secretary.

TRADING POST

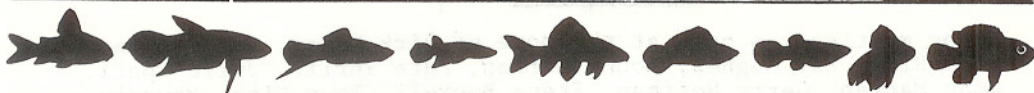
Ads for the Trading Post should be sent to Delta Tale C/O John Mangan, 9770 Oleander Ave, Vienna, VA 22181 by June 10th for the next issue, or given to me at a meeting.

WANTED- Books; Magazines; any tropical fish related material.
Larry Wilkie: (703) 847-7360 or 273-8606.

FOR SALE OR TRADE- (2) 6" Amazon Red-tail Catfish
(1) 10" Plecostomus Catfish
(1) 6" Female Managuense AND (1) 8" Synodontis Catfish (The Managuense and Synodontis are buddies, and I don't want to separate them. They will need a tank of their own. She is pretty mean.) ed. note: see Bill's article on these fish elsewhere in this issue. J.M.

Bill Hester, 102 Adams Way, Walkersville, MD 21793. (301) 845-6046.

PODOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY



POST OFFICE BOX 6219 SHIRLINGTON STATION ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22206

1991 TROPICAL FISH SHOW AND SPRING AUCTION

THE JOHN C. WOOD RECREATIONAL FACILITY
3730 OLD LEE HIGHWAY (RT 237)
FAIRFAX CITY, VIRGINIA

SATURDAY, May 18:

- 7 AM to 9 AM - Show set-up
- 9 AM to Noon - Registration of show entries
- 1 PM to 5 PM - Judging
- 3 PM to 9 PM - Public viewing of show entries

SUNDAY, May 19:

- 9 AM to Noon - Public viewing. The public is cordially invited to attend the awards presentation and the auction.
- 9 AM to 11 AM - Registration of sale items for the auction
Note that seller registration will end **promptly** at 11 AM!
- 11 AM - Awards presentation
- 11:30 AM to 6 PM - Auction

**THERE IS NO ADMISSION CHARGE FOR VIEWING THE SHOW OR
ATTENDING THE AUCTION**

The show will be located in Room 5, which is in the rear building of the Wood Center, and faces away from the complex. The auction will be held in Room 8, which is the large room on the left as you drive into the Center from Old Lee Highway. There will be signs to guide you. There is limited parking around the Center and a parking lot adjacent to the Center. Please see the map elsewhere in this booklet.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

All classes are open to public competition

I. Livebearers

- a. Guppies
- b. Mollys, Swordtails, & Platies
- c. Goodeids
- d. Other Livebearing Fish

II. Egglayers (Non-Cichlid)

- a. Catfish, Corydoras
- b. Catfish, Loricariidae
- c. Catfish, Synodontis
- d. Catfish, Naked
- e. All Other Catfish
- f. Betta Splendens
- g. All Other Bettas & Anabantoids
- h. Sharks & Loaches
- i. Characoids, Under 3" Mature
- j. Characoids, Over 3" Mature
- k. Barbs
- l. Goldfish & Koi
- m. Danios, Brachydanios & Rasboras
- n. Killifish, Aphyosemion/Fundulopanchax
- o. Killifish, Nothobranchius/S. American Annuals
- p. All Other Killifish
- q. North American Native Fish
- r. Other Non-Cichlid Egglayers

III. Cichlids

- a. New World Large (over 7" mature)
- b. New World Medium (4-7" mature)
- c. New World Dwarf (under 4" mature)
- d. Angelfish
- e. Discus
- f. Mbuna
- g. Tanganyikan
- h. Cichlid Pairs
- i. All Other Cichlids

IV. Marine Fish and Invertebrates

V. Family of Fishes

VI. Plants

VII. Photography

THE FOLLOWING APPLIES TO ALL ENTRIES

PVAS reserves the right to subdivide any class when, in the opinion of the Show Chairman, sufficient entries have been received to warrant this action. Once entered into the competition, no entry may be removed before 9 PM on Saturday, May 18th, without the consent of the Show Chairman. All entries must be removed by 1 PM, Sunday, May 19, or they will be disposed of at the discretion of the Show Chairman. All entries must be accompanied by an entry form, a copy of which is in this flyer. There will be qualified hobbyists available to assist you in classifying your entries. PVAS can assume no liability for any entry. However, at least one qualified hobbyist will be present during show hours to assure the safety and well being of the fish, and to deter theft or other damage.

AWARDS

Trophies will be awarded for Best In Show (Classes I through IV), for Reserve In Show (Classes I through IV), and for Best In Class (Classes I through III). Ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, and Third Place in each category of Classes I through III, and in classes IV - VII.

INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please contact either Rick McKay at (703) 281-1647, or Ray Hughes at (301) 424-3531.

SHOW RULES

The competition is open to anyone.

FOR CLASSES I THROUGH VI:

TANKS, OTHER CONTAINERS, AND STANDS: All tanks, drum bowls, and stands must be furnished by the entrant. All containers must have at least two clear, flat sides. Tanks larger than 5 1/2 gallons must be accompanied by a stand. An air pump, filtration, light, and extension cord must be furnished by the entrant for each tank larger than 5 1/2 gallons, as they may have to be placed at some distance from the PVAS-supplied air source.

DECORATIONS AND LIGHTING: No decorations of any kind, including plants, back or side painting, or gravel, will be allowed in Classes I through V. See below for Class IV. The external bowl or tank bottom may be painted flat black. Only tanks on stands may have entrant-provided lighting.

AIR, HEATERS, AND FILTRATION: PVAS will furnish a constant air supply for all bowls and small tanks. Entrants must furnish their own airline and airstones. A supply of each will be available for purchase from PVAS. Box and sponge filters or outside filters will be allowed at the entrant's discretion. In Class IV, undergravel filtration may be used, but the tank must otherwise be bare. Heaters are allowed in all classes.

FOR CLASS V (FAMILY OF FISHES):

An acceptable entry consists of a breeding pair of adult fish and their fry. The fish may be displayed in a single container, a divided container, or separate containers.

FOR CLASS VI (PLANTS):

An acceptable entry consists of a single species of any recognised aquatic plant displayed in a single container. Several individual species may be displayed as separate entries in a compartmented container. A rooted plant may be displayed in a pot or floating. No gravel or planting medium is allowed on the bottom of the container. No fish or other fauna may be present in the container.

FOR CLASS VII (PHOTOGRAPHY):

Judging of photography will be based primarily on composition and technique. All entries are expected to be the work of the entrant. If desired, entries may be titled but must not display the name of the entrant.

JUDGING

All entries will be judged equally by established PVAS standards. If an unbreakable tie occurs, duplicate awards will be made. In all cases, the decision of the judges is final. Judging sheets will be available for entrant review after the judging process is completed.

PVAS JUDGING STANDARDS

For each show class, at least two qualified judges are assigned. A judge may decline to judge a category in which he or she is not qualified, and will not be assigned a category that he or she is personally entering. Each entry is evaluated in the following five areas: **SIZE, BODY SHAPE, FINNAGE, CONDITION AND DEPARTMENT, and COLOR.** In each area, each entry is given up to 20 points. A perfect entry would receive the maximum 20 points in each area, or 100 total points. The overall points assigned by each judge for an entry are then averaged, and this average becomes the entry's overall score. The three entries with the highest averaged points are the winners for that class.

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY
Show Entry Registration Form

Name: _____ Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

Club: _____

Entry Class	:	Bowl Number	:	Entry Fee	:	Auction?
1	:	:	:	:	:	:
2	:	:	:	:	:	:
3	:	:	:	:	:	:
4	:	:	:	:	:	:
5	:	:	:	:	:	:
6	:	:	:	:	:	:
7	:	:	:	:	:	:
8	:	:	:	:	:	:
9	:	:	:	:	:	:
10	:	:	:	:	:	:
11	:	:	:	:	:	:
12	:	:	:	:	:	:
13	:	:	:	:	:	:
14	:	:	:	:	:	:
15	:	:	:	:	:	:

Entry Fees: Single Fish - \$2.00 Photography, Arts & Crafts - \$1.00
 Pairs, Families - \$2.00 Plants - \$1.00

PVAS MEMBERS NOTE: No more than \$20 in entry fees will be charged to club members entering five or more sub-classes, regardless of the number of total entries.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE SHOW ENTRY FORM

Use of this form is required, as it facilitates registration, insures the safeguarding of your entries, and allow PVAS to notify you of future events.

In the CLASS column, list the competition category for each individual entry. A swordtail, for instance, would be placed in category "1c". Do not write in the BOWL NUMBER column, as this is for use by the registrar in assigning a specific number to your entry. You may tally your total entry costs by entering the correct fee for each entry, or the registrar will do this for you. If you wish to have the entry placed in the auction and sold after the completion of the show competition, write "Yes" in the AUCTION column. If you have any questions, the registrar will be happy to assist you.

AUCTION RULES FOR THE SELLER:

1. Registration of items for sale will begin at 9 AM and will end promptly at 11 AM on Sunday, 19 May. If you are not in line to register at 11 AM, you will be turned away. The auction will start at 11:30 AM.
2. All items must be labeled with the identity of their contents, to include number, sex (if possible), and other pertinent data. Use a permanent marking pen and adhesive label. Labeling equipment will be available at the auction, but labeling must be accomplished 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 at 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. PVAS reserves the right to reject any equipment judged to be unsuitable for auction.
3. Live items must be bagged with ample air and water, and in proper fish bags. 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 for sale at the registration desk. After registration, the Auction Committee reserves the right to re-bag any item as is necessary.
4. Registration is limited to fifteen (15) items per person. A limit of five (5) bags per species or color form/variety is allowed, unless prior approval is obtained from the Auction Chairman. Colored dots will affixed to all items, and will be used to govern when items are auctioned.
5. Bags will be offered 'as is' and will be sold as one item. Once registered, the contents of a bag may not be split.
6. Each item carries a \$1.00 minimum, unless the seller assigns a higher minimum. The seller may lower the minimum on an item that does not sell during the auction.
7. Payment will be forwarded by mail to the seller within ten 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. The seller receives two-thirds of the selling price. PVAS retains one-third.
8. 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.
9. The auctioneer retains the right to set aside any improperly bagged or marked item, or any sick or otherwise unsaleable item. Fish species that are restricted by either federal or state statutes will not be accepted.

AUCTION RULES FOR THE BIDDER:

1. All persons wishing to bid are required to register. Bidding numbers will be assigned to all buyers.
2. Items may be inspected only before the auction and during the intermissions.
3. All bidding raises will be in one dollar (\$1.00) increments. The auctioneer has the right to alter this procedure discretion.
4. Successful bidders will have their items brought to them, at which time payment is expected. Authorized bidders may run a tab, or pay by check. Please see the Treasurer before the auction. Proper identification will be required in these instances.
5. In all cases, the decision of the auctioneer is final.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PAGE IS A PVAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION!

WHY SHOULD YOU FILL IT OUT?

Because by doing so, you will be joining over 100 aquarium hobbyists in the greater Washington area, ranging from beginning tropical fish enthusiasts with a single small tank to advanced aquarists with dozens of tanks. Our only goals for this society are to help each other advance his or her knowledge and skills in the aquarium hobby, and to have fun while doing so.

We meet on the second Monday of each month at the John C. Wood Recreational Facility, 3730 Old Lee Highway (Rt 237), Fairfax City, Virginia. The meeting is called to order at 8:00 PM, and begins with a very brief business meeting. A short break for open discussion is then followed by the program for the evening. A program normally consists of a knowledgeable speaker and a slide presentation on some aspect of the aquarium hobby, followed by an informal discussion period.

A bowl show is held at each meeting to allow members to bring some of their prized fish and compete in specific categories for first, second, and third place ribbons. Each month, one fish is judged the best overall entry for that month, and its owner wins a large can of flake food or other prize.

At each meeting, a door prize is awarded, and six to eight other prizes are raffled off at three chances for a dollar. These prizes are donated by supporting manufacturers or are purchased for this purpose by PVAS.

The Delta Tale is the official club newsletter and is mailed every other month to each member. Each issue has club information and several articles on the aquarium hobby written by PVAS members. Selected articles from other club newsletters are also reprinted in The Delta Tale.

PVAS exchanges newsletters with dozens of other aquarium clubs all over North America. All hobby-related articles in the newsletters received by PVAS are maintained in the club library for reference by the membership.

At the end of most monthly meetings, a small auction is held to allow members to buy and sell fish, plants, and hobby equipment.

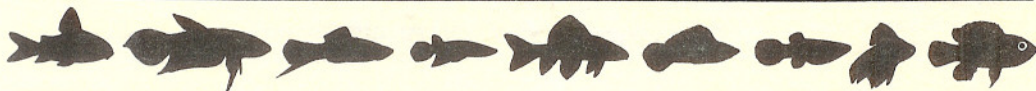
The club has an active Breeder's Award Program (or BAP), the purpose for which is to promote, enhance, and recognize the fish breeding skills of the club membership. Each participant gains BAP points for each species of fish that he or she successfully breeds, and receives a BAP plaque for each level of expertise attained, from novice to grand master.

PVAS hosts both a Spring Tropical Fish Show and Auction, attended by hundreds of hobbyists from the Washington area and up and down the Eastern seaboard, and a Fall Workshop and Auction, at which nationally recognized hobby authors and speakers give talks on aquarium subjects. We also hold a Christmas party, and a fall club banquet.

PLEASE COME TO OUR NEXT MEETING AND GIVE US A TRY.

WE THINK YOU'LL LIKE US!

POTOMAC VALLEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY



POST OFFICE BOX 6219 SHIRLINGTON STATION ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22206

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

How long have you been in the hobby? _____

What parts of the hobby interest you? _____

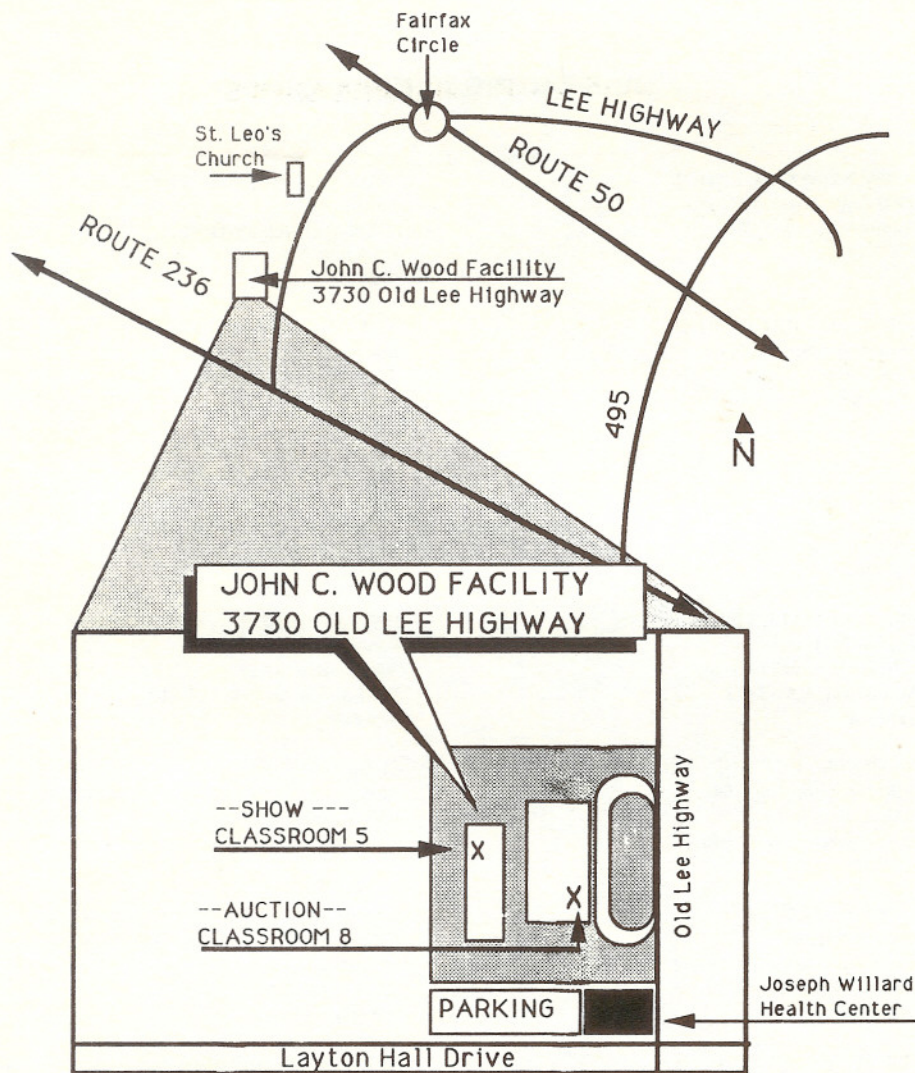
What can PVAS do for you? _____

Have you ever belonged to another aquarium society? _____

If yes, which one(s)? _____

Individual and family dues in the Potomac Valley Aquarium Society are \$12.00 per year, renewable each June.

Please hand your application to any PVAS member, or mail it to the above address. You will be contacted.



DIRECTIONS FROM THE BELTWAY (495)

- Exit Route 50 West and go three miles to Fairfax Circle.
- Proceed 3/4 around circle (like making a left turn) to Old Lee Highway
- A mile and a half on the right is the John C. Wood Facility
- PARKING --
- There is limited parking in front of the main building and a large parking lot around the corner. Turn right onto Layton Hall Drive. The lot is on the right behind the Joseph Willard Health Center.
- Do not park behind the main building at the Wood Center in the lot reserved for the police. Your car will be ticket and/or towed.

SUPPORTING VIRGINIA SHOPS

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

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

BAILEY'S PET CENTER
Lcesburg 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

WEBERS PET SUPERMARKET
14508-G Lee Rd.
Chantilly, VA 22021
631-2738

SUPPORTING MARYLAND SHOPS

ANIMAL EXCHANGE

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

AQUARIUM CENTER

Randlestown Plaza 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

Congressional Plaza
162 Congressional Lane
Rockville, MD 20852
881-6182

FISH FACTORY AQUARIUM

582 North Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
881-6182

GLENMONT TROPICALS

Glenmont Shopping Center
12345 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902
949-0344

MARINE CARE SPECIALISTS

15820 Redland Road
Rockville, MD 20855
330-0720

MONTGOMERY TROPICALS

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

PETLAND

Briggs-Chaney Plaza
13833 Outlet Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20904
762-3505

PETLAND

White Flint Plaza
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

36 South Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301-694-9664 301-831-6866

SHOWCASE AQUARIUM

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

TROPICAL FISH WORLD, INC.

Walnut Hill Shopping Center
16529 South Frederick Center
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
921-0000

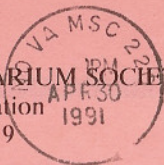
TROPICAL LAGOON

9439 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
585-6562

ROCKVILLE AQUARIUM

611 Hungerford Rd
Rockville, MD 20850
309-0456

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



THE SOCIETY WILL MEET ON THESE MONDAYS IN 1991:

14 JAN

11 FEB

11 MAR

8 APR

13 MAY

10 JUN

8 JUL

12 AUG

9 SEP

21 OCT

11 NOV

9 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!

