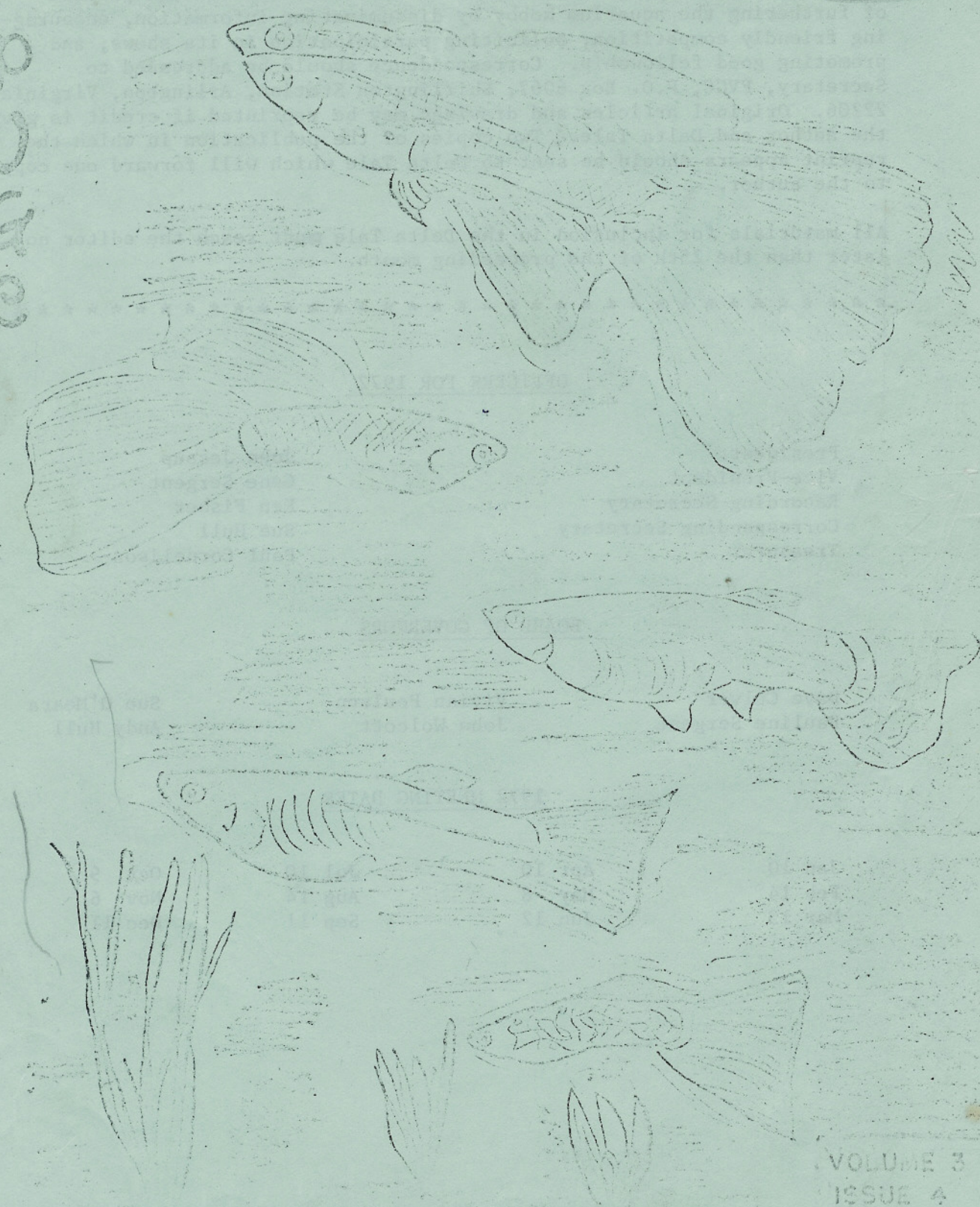


# DELTA TALE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF P.V.G.C.

APR 1972

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VOLUME 3  
ISSUE 4



Delta Tale is published for the benefit of the Potomac Valley Guppy Club, a non-profit organization, established in 1960 for the purpose of furthering the aquarium hobby by disseminating information, encouraging friendly competition, soliciting participation in its shows, and promoting good fellowship. Correspondence should be addressed to Secretary, PVGC, P.O. Box 6067, Shirlington Station, Arlington, Virginia 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.

All materials for inclusion in the Delta Tale must reach the editor no later than the 25th of the preceeding month.

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Jan 10  
Feb 14  
Mar 13

Apr 10  
May 8  
Jun 12

Jul 10  
Aug 14  
Sep 11

Oct 9  
Nov 6  
Dec 11



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last month's DELTA TALE was late in being sent out. I'm sure that this caused individual members many problems and certainly caused problems for the show-committee in determining categories for the table show. All in all, it was a lesson in how easy it is for the best laid plans to go astray. No one is responsible. If blame has to be placed on someone, it must rest on my shoulders. It is unfortunate that a series of events compounded to the point where no time was left for mailing.

While it is easy to say and hard to do, I have given instructions to those concerned that I want the DELTA TALE in the mail no later than 25 March 1972. I hope that this will suffice for everyone's needs. At the same time the next Board of Governor's meeting will have, as a major item on its agenda, a discussion on the future of P.V.G.C. publication.

JOHN E. JESSUP, JR., Ph.D.



### SECRETARY'S LETTER

The Board of Governors and Officers of the P.V.G.C. held its monthly meeting on February 23, 1972 at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Jessup. The following business was discussed:

a. Letters of thanks to our guest speakers will be sent by our President. I think along with this when members find a particular program to their liking, we should take a moment out after the close of the monthly club meeting to add our personal appreciation for its presentation. I realize we are all in a hurry to get home, but these people give up their evening for our benefit. So let's all try and give our personal thanks to them for their presentation.

b. Gene Sargent was nominated and elected to serve on the auditing committee.

c. The advertising committee presented its report. It recommended that monthly ads be placed in the Washington Post's Fish & Aquarium Classified Section to inform the general public of our existence. The board voted yes to this recommendation.

d. The auditing committee presented its report and recommendation. It presented to the Board a new accounting system. This system was adopted and will become effective immediately.

e. The board voted that each member who brings fish to the monthly meeting bowl shows be given an extra door prize ticket, provided that the fish are entered on time according to the bowl show rules.

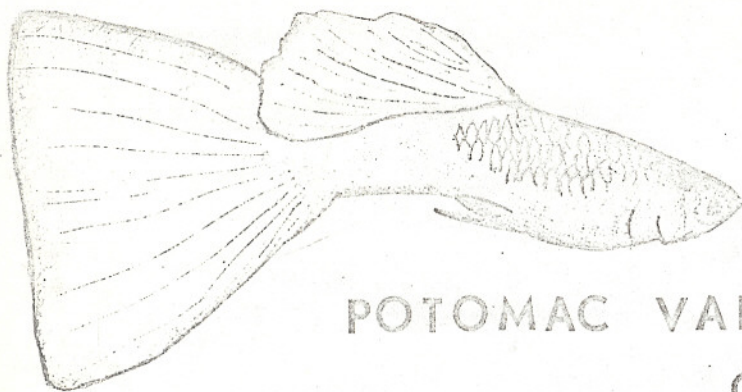
f. Reminder, if you haven't paid your annual dues, please do. We want to bring our club rooster and mailing list for the Delta Tale up-to-date.

See all of you at the next meeting.

Ken Fisher

P.S. We are once again printing the Bowl show rules. Please save for future reference.





POTOMAC VALLEY

GUPPY CLUB

EDITOR'S NOTE

Unlike the poetic impulses of most of his fellow men, the aquarist's thoughts in spring turn to the world of fish shows. We would like to encourage this turn of mind by featuring this month some thoughts from leading show experts on how to prepare ourselves and our fish for competition. Perhaps this in turn will encourage more P.V.G.C. members to participate in some of the many area shows, bringing honor and renown thereby both to themselves and our club. Most of all, we are trying to drum up more interest in our own spring show extravaganza that is scheduled for May.

As writers, our members remain long on promises and short on paragraphs, and once more we have had to rely on canned articles to fill the pages of the DELTA TALE. In an effort to break this dismal course and to extract some of the valuable pisci-culture that is swimming around our club, we are again publishing President Jessup's helpful essay on how to write an article. I hope it works. A few home-grown articles would leave me with some time to raise a fish or two on my own.

Look at it this way: either we start writing our own articles or we'd best drop the name delta tale and call it reader's digest. At least then we'd be truthful.

M. MacGregor



## MONTHLY BOWL SHOWS - RULES AND REGULATIONS

The P.V.G.C. Show Committee has enacted the following rules and regulations for the monthly meeting bowl shows:

There will be three major classes at each month bowl show as follows:

- Guppies
- Cichlids
- Other

Each of the above classes will have a sub-class or classes. Points for each major class will be accumulated towards a quarterly and annual award. Points will be assigned as follows:

- 1st place - 3 points
- 2nd place - 2 points
- 3rd place - 1 point

One point will be given for each entry.

### Awards:

Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each sub-class monthly.

Trophy for high point winner of each major class quarterly.

Donated trophies will be given to the member with the highest total points in each major class at the Christmas meeting.

Each member is limited to five bowl entries each month.

Fish must be owned by exhibitor. This will be an honor system.

Bowl Show entries must be registered with Bowl Show Committee member. No entries will be accepted after meeting is called to order.

Entries will be registered and placed on bowl show table by Show Committee member only. No entry is to be picked up off table except by exhibitor, Show Committee member or judge.



Decisions of the judge are final.

No person may serve as a judge in any sub-class which they have entries.

Recommendations for any change in sub-class show schedule must be submitted to show chairman (Gene Sergeant) for show committee action five weeks prior to change. This is due to needed time for publication of change of bowl show schedule in the DELTA TALE.

\* \* \* \* \*

BOWL SHOW RESULTS FOR MARCH

BLACK GUPPIES:

1st Johnson  
2nd Johnson  
3rd Sergeant

AOC GUPPIES:

1st Thomas  
2nd Oliver  
3rd Sergeant

SNAKESKIN GUPPIES:

No Contest

AFRICAN CICHLIDS:

1st J. Jessup  
2nd J. Jessup  
3rd J. Jessup

SOUTH AMERICAN CICHLIDS:

1st Lenzel  
2nd Aldridge  
3rd Oliver



BOWL SHOW RESULTS FOR MARCH (CONT)

OTHER: LIVEBEARERS:

1st Oliver  
2nd Wittman

OTHER: CATFISH:

1st Rushton  
2nd Lenzel  
3rd Oliver

OTHER: OTHER:

1st Aldridge  
2nd Oliver  
3rd Gargani

\* \* \* \* \*

QUARTERLY POINT TOTALS

(HIGH FOUR IN EACH CATEGORY)

<u>GUPPIES</u>	<u>ENTRIES</u>	<u>1ST</u>	<u>2ND</u>	<u>3RD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Sergeant	15	3	1	3	27
Johnson	10	1	1	1	16
Oliver	4	1	2		11
Wolcott	10				10
<u>CICHLIDS</u>					
Jessup	10	2	1	1	20
Aldridge	5	1	2		12
Oliver	5	1		1	9
P. O'Meara	5			1	6
<u>OTHER</u>					
Walsh	5	1	1	1	12
Oliver	3	1	1	1	9
Goodman	3	1		1	7
S. Hull	4	1			7

NOTICE: P.V.G.C. SPRING SHOW, MAY 20-21 1972.



## A VIEW FROM THE JUDGE'S CORNER

By Stan Shubel

Many times I am asked at shows what qualities I look for in the judging of guppies. Without going into a breakdown of the point system I will try to describe the various things I like to see in a show fish.

The first thing is the overall appearance of the fish. How active is it, does it swim well, is the fish free of disease? These and a few other things determine the condition factor in the judging.

Next, the careful reappraisal of the fish..First, the body.. It should be well rounded, of a good size having a slightly rounded head extending to the base of the dorsal fin. Make sure the fish has neither a humped back nor a crooked spine. The base of the body should be large enough to support the tail. Color should extend as much as possible throughout the entire length of the body, whether solid or with various color patches or bars. Intensity of body color varies with different strains. However, a word of caution. It is not advisable to artificially color your fish for a show, as a judge can usually spot this and will knock off points for color, and you will lose rather than gain.

A larger fish will generally receive more points than a smaller one. The point system is set up this way because it is more difficult to raise a good large fish than a good small one. Then again, you should stay away from giant size fish for show. Usually, much of the form and grace is lost in this type of fish. They also have a tendency to be inactive, and an active fish shows off much better than a fish lying on the bottom of the tank.

The tail, or caudal fin, should be in proportion to the body, although I would rather have the caudal slightly larger than the body, than visa-versa. I like to see the fish with tails the same length on the sides as on the end with no elongated rays sticking out, which is usually the case in older fish. The body should be approximately the same length also. This would be true, of course, only in the triangle type. Variations in other wide



tail types does not mean that they would receive fewer points than the aforementioned triangle tails. Shape of the tail will again vary with the different strains.

Color should be well distributed throughout the entire tail with little or no fade out. Washed out colors will naturally receive fewer points than bright solid or variegated colors.

It is important to determine the predominant color so that the fish may be entered in the proper class. Several times I have seen good fish entered in the wrong class, which did not even place, whereas if they were entered in the correct class, they would have gone home with a trophy.

The dorsal fin will vary greatly in the different strains, especially in size and shape. Try for one as wide and as long as possible without going into the very old fish.

When fish are to be exhibited at shows where an entry consists of two or more males, by all means, try to have the fish as similar as possible. It is far better to have two medium sized fish than one large and one medium, as then one will not distract from the other. Also, the two fish should have the same color patterns in the caudal, as well as similar body pattern. Dorsals the same color as the caudals will receive more points than, say, a white or pale type.

Getting away from the veil or delta tailed fish for a minute.. At the shows there seems to be a lack of interest in the swordtail guppy. That is, at least, in the United States. In Europe, they are still quite popular. Good swords are every bit as hard to raise as the veiltails. By good swords, I mean a fish with a true sword and not the culls from veiltail stock.

The sword, itself, should taper to a point and not be rounded or clubbed at the end. In the case of double swords, they should both be of equal length.

Usually, the swordtails have a highly developed dorsal fin, which some breeders make use of in building up the dorsals of their veiltail stock. However, very few breeders specialize in this type fish, the majority preferring the highly contested or more marketable veil or delta tailed fish.

In regard to the present A.G.A. judging system.. While not perfect, it is the best workable method for judging guppies. I would like to see that after every show each exhibitor receive



a breakdown of the points his fish received. This way, he may correct his strain if it is weak, say in body color, or size of caudal, etc.

Do not think that because you have only a few tanks, there is no chance of your winning a show. Quantity does not necessarily make for quality. The only advantage a person with more tanks has is that he has more fish to select from for his show entries.

As to expense in sending fish to the shows.. You can ship them air mail parcel post special delivery in small insulated boxes to almost anywhere in the country for under three dollars.

When I ship fish, I generally use a cup and a half of water to each pair of guppies, with a lot of air in proportion to the water in the plastic bags. Also, if you have a tranquilizer, such as Metab-O-Fix, it is a good practice to use it with the fish in shipping; but it is not absolutely necessary.

The insulated boxes are made of cut down styrofoam liners from shipping containers.

In closing, many different things go into the makeup of a show fish. I have tried to outline some of them. One or two points can make the difference between first and fifth place, and I hope this article may help some of you in picking up those extra points. As to the perfect guppy, I am still looking for it...

Reprinted From:

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GUPPY NEWS, Guppy Associates, 1964



## PREPARING FISH FOR THE BIG SHOW

By Tina Mann

My first reaction on receiving Zane's request (Miss Mann was asked to prepare this article by Zane Scobey of the Greenwater Aquarist Society of Chicago, Illinois.) that I write this article was one of dismay. Our society had just put on our most successful show to date and I felt this subject was "deader" than yesterday's news.

But as I reviewed the past shows that our club has put on and thought of all the preparations and plans that had been necessary for each, I realized that it was a most apropos subject and this was the perfect time for this article.

It is human nature for most to say "sour grapes" when a few individuals walk off with most of the awards in any competition and unfortunately, fish hobbyists the world over are no different.

The majority of fish keepers seem to think that those lush, green plants were just waiting at some store the day before they appeared in that prize-winner. They think those large, perfect specimens of eye-catching beauty appeared as if by magic just in time for the event.

Those unusual rock formations, these "just right" decorations in the novelty tanks were just lying around in the living room just waiting to be jumped into a tank!

They never stop to think how many months of pampering, coaxing and experimenting it required to achieve those perfect plants. No, they are too busy griping about how many awards someone else won, while in the next breath they will tell you how they "were too busy" or one of a dozen familiar excuses why they didn't enter a tank.

I am sure that I am no different from a hundred other hobbyists when I say that my plans for the 'big show' entries begin months, even years in advance.

For example, in last years's show the pair of black angels that I showed were the results of 18 months of tender loving care. These fish had been hand-fed twice a day a good varied diet. I watched the water conditions: pH, temperature and cleanliness



closely. I talked to everyone who might help me, read every book available with two things in mind. First, and foremost, I wanted a breeding pair of jet black angels that would produce 100% black fry and I was grooming them for the show. I do not agree with some hobbyists who feel prize fish should not be moved and subjected to the changes involved in displaying them in a show. I am of the opinion that good healthy stock that has not been pampered re light and movement about the tank will not suffer any ill effects from this change and in some cases I have seen a definite improvement in their behavior after a change such as this.

For that same show I began months in advance attempting to regulate the spawnings of another pair of veil-tails so I would have a "family of angels" swimming with their parents at show time. I experimented with water changes, food changes and spent many hours poring over this, figuring days between normal spawnings, etc. I was lucky in one aspect, this pair always raised their eggs. There was no problems of their devouring my hopes in front of my very eyes! This planning paid off and I was able to display the pair with their entire spawning of several hundred two months old fry.

I began months in advance of show date culling and selecting young black angels for a special Oriental display that I worked on for two months before the actual show date. The shadow box had to be built, lighting effects figured out, just right oriental figurines to be searched for, the most effective colors of gravel selected to incorporate into the display in the shadow box as well as the aquarium. This tank was set up complete with water and ornaments THREE times prior to show time. This entailed filling and emptying 35 gallons of water each time and starting over again. When I was finally satisfied, the fish were introduced and on the day of the show all was in readiness...to tear down again and move and set up again, tear down on closing night and set up again at home. This was true of the other six exhibits I had and was also true of the other members who were also exhibiting. These finished products of beauty are not the matter of a few hours' or even days' work.

The black half-grown angels used in that display were the actual results of over two years of dedicated work. All of my young fry are fed (at the beginning) at least 10 times a day! These feedings consist of small quantities of freshly hatched brine shrimp until the fish are 6 to 8 weeks of age. At that time I add fine dry food, daphnia and frozen brine shrimp but continue at least 5 feedings a day until adulthood.



Before that same show I had the good fortune to acquire six blue discus about quarter-size. I immediately began to plan for their entry in the show. I decided to experiment with a different type of set-up than that used by the local discus owners because I did not agree with the "bare tank" set-up preferred by them.

These fry were placed in a 10 gallon, sub-sand filtered aquarium heavily planted with water sprite and peat moss (wrapped in muslin) tucked behind the filter stem. They were fed 10 to 12 times a day on freshly hatched brine shrimp and by show time they were a brilliant blue and about 1/3 adult size. I supplemented their diet after a few weeks with frozen adult brine shrimp and beef heart.

What I am trying to point out is that prize-winning fish or decorations don't just "happen". They are the result of months, years of work, planning and care. When you see someone win one prize or more, you can be sure they have earned them and this is just a small reward for their loving care to their fish. In fact, they get more pride out of the praise for their condition and size than they do out of a dozen ribbons or trophies!

It is my opinion, assuming that we begin with top quality stock, that the most important item in raising show stock or just healthy fish is FEEDING.

I have met people who have been so brain-washed by warnings on "over-feeding" that they wonder why their hollow-bellied, under sized fish die! I know before I ask that they will tell me they feed once a day or even every other day because "everyone knows about overfeeding".

They reel with shock and surprise when informed that my feeding schedule is 10 times a day for large egg layer fry as well as live-bearers. On smaller fry, such as the gouramis, I start them out with a 24 hour a day trip feeding from intravenous feeding bottles that can be obtained from your doctor or hospital for the asking.

I point out to them that a fish is small and can only eat so much at a time, but he can and must be fed that small quantity, OFTEN. Probably the truest axiom in our hobby is the saying, "A healthy fish is a hungry fish".

As many of us do, I work from 9 to 5, but by feeding immediately upon arising most of you will have time for 2 more quick feedings before departure. In the evenings they can be fed again



many times before lights out. By following this schedule, my fish are full-bodied, in good color and alert for the big show.

The second most important thing is clean, uncrowded living quarters. I use sub-sand filters and/or outside filters depending on the size and habits of the fish. No debris is allowed to collect on the bottom of the tank.

I think one must always view new species, unusual specimens or new-born fish with the idea lurking in the back of their head, "Can I use this fish in next year's show?"

Let me give you an example of a display that didn't win this year, and the reason, to put across my point. In our novelty class which was to depict a song title there was an exhibit that I know had not been set up at home prior to the showing. True, the fish were in an aquarium at home but the novelty tank had not been tried out for looks first. The gravel was bought that afternoon and washed outside the room before being placed in the display. Although this tank carried out the chosen song title in theme as well as fish, it lacked that certain "something" to make it an eye-catching display. The "something" was the gravel. The color gravel used deadened the beautiful colors of the fish instead of complimenting them. If this tank had been set up in advance, this problem would have been immediately apparent and they could have made the necessary changes in color scheme to make this display a winner!

Plants used in the prize-winning displays are not found in your dealer's tanks the day before the show! They are chose months in advance and coaxed along to good healthy growth under the watchful eye of the far-thinking hobbyist. I have in one of my tanks now, at least 8 months in advance of our next show, what I hope will be a 'piece do resistance'; a huge, green healthy Amazon Sword plant with its trail of "babies" growing alongside. In another tank I have water sprite growing at least 4 inches out of the water on top. I will not disturb these plants except to trim or thin until I use them in a display tank.

With the plants, I don't have any formula. Whatever grows best in a particular tank is left in there and I don't pretend to know the whys and wherefores of aquatic plants. Mine do well if left undisturbed and the fish in the tank do well. There seems to be a relationship.

Remember that perfect specimens of our finny friends are not expendable. It takes many years of TLC to raise a child, many years



of planning and care. Well, if your fish are your hobby, they require years of care. Those winners you saw at your last show worked and planned to achieve the end product. No fairy godmother said a magic formula to give them a "Cinderella" all dressed up in winning show colors. Become more "Show Conscious" about your fish and maybe the "show" will be on the other foot next time.

REPRINTED FROM

BULLETIN OF ADVANCED AQUARISTS, June 1971

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### THE HARDENED AQUARIST'S DICTIONARY

By Ronald Hood

- AIR PUMP: A clever device that makes unbearable noises when it works and kills fish when it doesn't.
- DAPHNIA: Ex-lax for fish. A shell that swims and lives in smelly places, there to be pursued by aquarists in turn pursued by mosquitoes.
- FISH: Slimy creatures of low intelligence commonly found on floors, behind aquariums, in filters and in dealers' shops under signs marked "rare - \$25 a pair". Often causes divorces, suicides, murders and riots (particularly at aquarium society meetings.)
- HEATERS: Electrical devices used in aquaria for cooking fish.
- ICH: Causes many white spots on tropical fish and, eventually, in aquarist's hair. Usually brought on by chilling (what the dealer says you did when you got your new fish home). Many remedies will eradicate ich, along with a few of your favorite fish.
- OXYGEN: What your fish come up and gasp for.

REPRINTED FROM

LOOKING THROUGH THE GLASS, Lafayette Aquarium Society



## ON THE ART OF WRITING FOR PUBLICATION

By John E. Jessup, Jr., Ph.D.

As you know, it is the club's goal to turn the DELTA TALE into one of the best publications of its kind. To accomplish this requires that all the membership contribute material for publication. Each of us has some bit of information which will be useful to the group in expanding the hobby. At the same time, one of the signs of progress is when its members share their experiences. To this end, more of our members should write articles for the magazine. Those who are contributing have turned out some excellent material. It is probable that many who do not write articles are reticent because they lack the know-how. In actuality, it is a quite simple process and by following the few simple suggestions that follow, it can be a rewarding experience. There is not one of us who is not delighted to see his name in print.

These ideas, rules if you wish, will do two things: first, make it easier to turn out the DELTA TALE each month. And, second, enhance your ability as a writer. These thoughts are not all inclusive but they do represent some of the more important points which will aid you in writing for publication. If you become really interested in writing there are any number of good guides published and available in any bookstore.

The first point is format. While a finished article is always preferable, it is not absolutely necessary that the article be typed in final form. For those who can, however, the piece should be typed on white bond paper leaving one and one-half inch borders top and bottom and fifteen space margins on both sides. Type on one side of the paper only and do not number the pages. If you do not have the means for typing letter perfect work then write your article in long-hand on any suitable paper and submit it. As to length, 2,000 words is about the right length for a standard article of this type but, again, this is simply a guide. Remember Einstein changed the world with a one-line equation! Longer articles will also be acceptable but may require some editing to fit them in.

Quite often articles are reprinted from other publications. While this is done deliberately, in some cases, to present worthwhile material to the membership, it is the goal of the DELTA TALE to be primarily a publication of the works of the members of the P.V.G.C.

So, when you feel you have something to write about, write it! Use your own words and thoughts. There is nothing more depressing



to an editor than trying to make sense from a piece of stilted prose. Plain language and simple sentences always are preferable. On this point it should be stressed that spelling is important, especially when dealing with the proper names of fish which are often longer than the fish they identify. To this end, if you are writing your article in longhand, there is nothing wrong with printing proper names and other difficult words. Also, it is wise to give the common name for the fish at the first mention of its name (e.g. Botia macracantha or Clown Loach). Thereafter, the common name can be used, especially if it is shorter than the more scientifically correct title. This is true in writing for DELTA TALE because most of our articles will be short. Notice, too, that the scientific name used in the example is underlined as it is a foreign language, in this case, Latin. Another good point here is that even the best, most competent author will use a good dictionary from time to time to check the spelling of some tricky word.

One of the most disagreeable, costly and career-ruining things that a person can become involved in is a plagiarism suit filed by an irate author whose words have been stolen. While copywrite laws are quite complicated, basically, they protect the writings of one person from use by another without due acknowledgement and, in some cases, recompense. Granting that DELTA TALE is a small journal with limited distribution, the laws still apply. This is not an insurmountable obstacle, however, and should not deter the prospective writer. The easiest way around this is to add a citation or footnote to your work. It is the editor's responsibility thereafter to determine if clearance is necessary. To write a footnote draw a line about two inches long below the last line of the quoted or copied material and citing the work from which it has been extracted. The following example should serve as a guide for the form of quotes taken from books and from periodicals:

One of the most popular of the hobbyists fishes is the Libistes reticulatus (Peters) or guppy known for its infinite variety and beauty. A number of these fish were sent to the British Museum after being found by a British inspector in Trinidad. They were eventually named Girardinus Guppyi in honor of the collector, Robert J. L. Guppy. Later it was discovered that Peters had collected specimens and the species was renamed.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> William Bridges, The New York Aquarium Book of the Water World, (New York: New York Zoological Society and Heritage Press, 1970), p. 95



While the name "guppy" retained its popularity, the fish is no longer the drab-colored topminnow found in Trinidad, but, today, is a fish of extraordinary color variety. Kerr, points out, in a well-illustrated article, that successful breeding of this interesting fish is not for the beginner hobbyists.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Frederich J. Kerr, "Practical Guppy Breeding," TFH, (November, 1967) pp. 4-9.

With this minimum amount of information the editor can insure proper recognition of the sources used although the footnotes will all be at the bottoms of the page in the edited text and will be so placed in the printed article. If you are typing your article in finished form, the footnotes go at the bottom of the page. There are examples of this in back-issues of the DELTA TALE. Footnotes should be numbered consecutively through the article.

With these few rules in mind, anyone can write for publication. From time to time other suggestions will be given which will further enhance the DELTA TALE.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### BOWL SHOW CLASSES FOR APRIL

GUPPY: Black, Mated, Snakeskin, Male, Muttis,  
and AOC  
CICHLID: Angel Fish, Breeding Pairs (Any  
Variety), open  
OTHER: Tetras, Characins, open

\* \* \* \* \*

#### N O T I C E

#### P.V.G.C. 1972 SPRING FISH FAIR

The club's Spring Show will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 20-21 in the Hospitality Room, Coca Cola Bottling Company. More information in the next issue. Get your entries ready.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NATIONAL AQUARIUM

By Alan Levitt

Last month, I mentioned that we would receive some Skates from the New England Aquarium. Two two-foot specimens arrived safely and three days later one of them laid an egg or "mermaids purse." The event, although not particularly rare, caught us by surprise. Only about 15% of Skate eggs laid in captivity hatch, but we will have to wait seven or eight months to find out about ours because of the long incubation period.

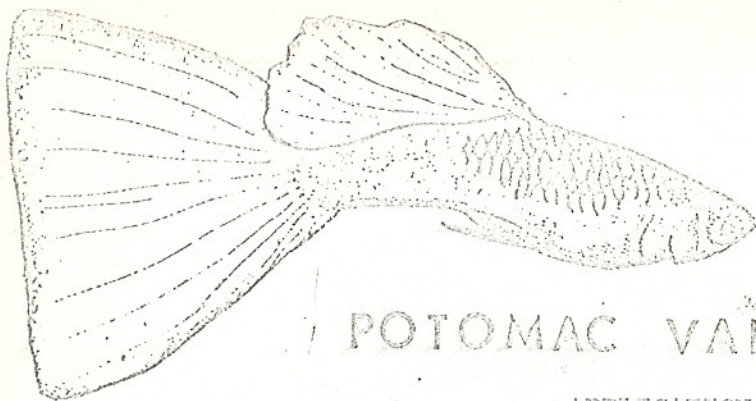
Other spawnings last month included *Tilapia mozambique*, Convict and Rainbow cichlids (parental care tank), *Pseudotropheus tropheus*, *Labeotropheus fuelleborni*, and assorted livebearers.

The section of small tanks (60-100 gallons) near the cold water section that were torn down are now up again. They were resealed and repainted and should have displays in them within two weeks.

Two baby sea turtles (one Loggerhead and a Green-both about 7" and eight months old) were donated last month and are on display in a 1,000 gallon sea turtle tank with two other Greens and a Hawksbill. To make room for them, our largest Green (about 40 lbs) had to be moved to the shark tank. All is peaceful there.

In a trade with the Vancouver Public Aquarium, we will soon receive an assortment of native fish from the Pacific Northwest. Also due next week will be about 30 Coho Salmon from a hatchery on the West Coast.

Many inquiries have been made about the basic staple that is fed to our small to medium size fish. We call it "Invertebrate Ball" since it is made of finely ground clams, oysters, scallops and shrimp. Vitamins are added and baseball sized portions are frozen to be later given to both fresh and salt water specimens. This highly nutritious food closely resembles the natural diet of many fish and is readily eaten. Heavy feedings of it are given about four times a week.



## POTOMAC VALLEY GUPPY CLUB

### 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? \_\_\_\_\_

Other Interests & Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

How long do you plan to be in this area: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues for the P.V.G.C. are \$5.00 Individual or Family; \$3.00 Corresponding; and \$2.50 Junior. Completed applications accompanied by your check or money order should be mailed to Mr. Paul Cornelison, Treasurer P.V.G.C., 2302 Lory Court, Alexandria, Virginia. Please attend one of our meetings held in the auditorium of the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant, 5401 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia, on the dates indicated below at 8:00 P.M.

Jan 10  
Feb 14  
Mar 13

Apr 10  
May 8  
Jun 12

Jul 10  
Aug 14  
Sep 11

Oct 9  
Nov 6  
Dec 11



TRADING POST

If you are looking for particular fish or any equipment or have any to sell or trade, list them below. Tear out this sheet and give it to M. MacGregor so he can put it in the next issue of DELTA TALE.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

I HAVE TO SELL (PLEASE PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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I WANT: \_\_\_\_\_

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TRADES: \_\_\_\_\_

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MISC: \_\_\_\_\_

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