

CICHLID TAILS

The Official Newsletter of the Texas Cichlid Association

Volume 25, Issue 5

Celebrating 25 Years

September/October 2008

Inside This Issue:

- 1 Some Wacky Fish Laws
- 2 Editor's Notes
- 3 FOTAS Information
- 5 2008 All-Aquarium Catfish Convention
- 5 The 8 Steps of Spawning Corys
- 6 Tail Trader
- 7 Calendar of Events

In **Oklahoma** and **Seattle, Washington** it is illegal to carry a fishbowl or aquarium onto a public bus because the sound of the splashing water may disturb other passengers.

It is illegal to catch a fish in **Kansas** with your bare hands.

You may not catch a fish in **Pennsylvania** with any body part except your mouth. Also dynamite cannot be used to catch fish.

Tennessee law says it is illegal to catch fish by lasso. (Too bad, it would make it so much easier to carry them back to the trailer park).

It's illegal to fish from horseback in **Utah**.

In **Muncie, Indiana** it's a crime to carry fishing tackle into a cemetery.

It is illegal in **Vermont** to whistle underwater. (Not to mention pointless, stupid and down right impossible).

Montana wins the prize in my opinion for stupid laws. It's illegal for married women to go fishing alone on Sundays, and illegal for unmarried women to fish alone at all. It is also against the law for a man to knit during fishing season. This one is not fish related but definitely worth a mention... It is illegal to have a sheep in the cab of your truck without a chaperone. (There go my Saturday night plans).

Some Wacky Fish Laws

by Ed Katuska

*From Wet Pet Gazette, Norwalk Aquarium Society,
Nov/Dec 2000
Aquarticles*

Did you know...

Animals are banned in **Arizona** from mating publicly within 1,500 feet of a tavern, school, or place of worship. (Better get those guppys home quick).

In **California** it is a misdemeanor to shoot at any kind of game from a moving vehicle, unless your target is a whale.

Idaho residents cannot fish from a giraffe's or camel's back.

It is illegal in **Ohio** to get a fish drunk. Also in this state do not go fishing for whales on a Sunday, It's a no, no.

Don't get caught catching crabs in **Sarasota, Florida**.

CICHLID TAILS

Cichlid Tails is a bi-monthly publication produced by and for the members of the **Texas Cichlid Association**, a non-profit group of hobbyists dedicated to furthering the aquarium hobby and promoting the practice of keeping cichlids by the dissemination of information. Published since 1983, **Cichlid Tails** is dedicated to sharing technical and educational information on the keeping of the fishes of the family **Cichlidae**, and the keeping of aquariums and aquarium fish in general.

Officers:

President	Kathy Stearns
Vice President	Ralph DeBoard
Secretary	Phil Tucker
Treasurer	David Andrews

TCA Board of Trustees

Dave Gregory	Page Ullman
Alan Young	D'Wyatt Green
Randy Rhoades	Paul Scarborough
Diane Stewart	Ernie McAnally

Committee Chairmen

Donations Chairman	Alan Young
---------------------------	------------

Show Chairmen	Page Ullman Marvin England
----------------------	-------------------------------

Cichlid Tails Editors	Marvin and Kathy England
------------------------------	-----------------------------

Auction Chairmen	Ernie McAnally David Andrews
-------------------------	---------------------------------

Webmaster	Jim Lancaster
------------------	---------------

Photographer	Randy Rhoades
---------------------	---------------

TCA's website: www.texascichlid.org

EDITOR'S NOTES

I figured it up - I have worked every Saturday since the first weekend in July, except for the Atlanta trip, so I am TIRED! It sure is nice to have a whole weekend off to get things done that have been neglected - like tending to my plants, playing in my ponds, mowing the grass, doing laundry, cleaning off the front porch, admiring my water lily blooms, etc., etc., etc., all those things that just don't get done by themselves. However, I suppose I should stop whining and be grateful for a job!

This month TCA is hosting the annual FOTAS convention, as well as celebrating TCA's silver anniversary. The FOTAS speaker lineup is outstanding, and we anticipate one of the largest crowds ever at this event. A pre-registration flyer is included with this issue of Cichlid Tails, so be sure to use it and get your registration and show fish entries in before the deadline. We will also be having a silent auction, so bring your donations to the convention and we will take it from there.

The regular monthly meeting to be held in October will be the second Saturday instead of the third Saturday, to accommodate our host, Alan Young. Alan has some great fish, and is a great fish guy - we always have fun at AY's house! Mark your calendar and plan on attending the October TCA meeting.

The nights are lengthening and the days are growing shorter, so Fall and Winter will be here before we know it. If you have tropical fish outside, now is a good time to start planning where you are going to put them during our colder weather. There's never enough space, is there??!!

See you at FOTAS - keep cool and think fish!

Kat

Federation of
Texas Aquarium Societies
2008 Annual Convention

Hosted by the Texas Cichlid Association
Celebrating 25 Years
(1983 – 2008)

September 26 – 28, 2008
Hilton Garden Inn DFW South
2001 Valley View Lane, Irving, Texas 75061
(972) 313-2800

Featured Speakers:

Ad Konings – World-renowned author and
photographer
Jeff Cardwell – Cichlids
Gary Lang – Rainbowfish
Barbie Fiorentino - Spawning L-Number Plecos

Tentative Schedule of Events:

Friday, September 26th:

9:00 am	Show Set Up
5:00 pm	Show tanks ready for fish
6:00 pm	Registration table opens
9:00 pm	Speaker

Saturday, September 27th:

9:30 am	Registration
10:00 am	Speaker
12:00 pm	Lunch on your own
1:00 pm	Speaker
3:00 pm	Speaker
7:00 pm	Banquet, Show Awards

Sunday, September 28th:

10:00 am	Registration begins
11:00 am	Auction begins

Everyone is welcome and you do not have to be a TCA member to attend. Seller split at the auction is 75% to the seller for items selling for less than \$30.00 and 80% for items selling for over \$30.00. Show entries are \$3.00 each and **must be pre-registered by 9/22/08**. Contact Show Chairmen Marvin England (903) 794-3474 or Page Ullman (817) 831-7876. Twenty-gallon rental tanks will be

available for \$15.00 each. Call Page Ullman to reserve rental tanks (please leave a message).

For further information contact:
Kathy Stearns (817) 337-0117
www.texascichlid.org

FOTAS 2008 SHOW CLASSES

Division A: Central and South American Cichlids.

Class 1: Discus, Angels, Uaru
Class 2: Biotecus, Crenicara, Aequidens, Geophagus and Related Non-Dwarf South American Cichlids
Class 3: All South American Dwarf Cichlids
Class 4: Central American Cichlids over 6"
Class 5: Central American Cichlids under 6"

Division B: Lake Malawi Cichlids/Victorian Cichlids

Class 6 Mbuna - Pseudotropheus, Melanochromis, Cynotilapia, Labidochromis, Labeotropheus, etc.
Class 7: Aulonocara & related species
Class 8: Lake Malawi Haplochromines
Class 9: Lake Victoria & Lake Kivu Species

Division C: Lake Tanganyika Cichlids/Other Old World Cichlids

Class 10: Lamprologus, Neolamprologus, Altolamprologus & Related Genera
Class 11: Julidochromis & Related Genera
Class 12: Tropheus, Petrochromis,
Class 13: Featherfins - Cyanthopharynx, Ophthalmotilapia, Cyprichromis, Paracyprichromis, Xenotilapia, Goby Cichlids
Class 14: Cyphotilapia, Madagascar cichlids
Class 15: West African and Old World Cichlids Not Listed Elsewhere

Other Classes (Not Eligible For Best In Show or Best Of Division Awards)

Class 16: Livebearers
Class 17: Egglayers
Class 18: Plecostomus and all other Scavengers

Best of Division A
Best of Division B
Best of Division C
Best of Division D
People's Choice Award
Best Cichlid in Show

FALL 2008 AUCTION RULES

EVERYONE IS WELCOME, BUT YOU MUST PAY THE AUCTION REGISTRATION FEE IN ORDER TO BUY AND SELL.

Items are accepted at seller's risk. TCA cannot accept responsibility for any item's safekeeping nor its condition either before or after the sale.

Once they are registered, all for-sale items become property of the TCA and cannot be withdrawn from the auction.

Each seller is allowed to sell 40 bags of fish, with a maximum of five (5) bags of any one species or color strain.

All fish are expected to be bagged properly. A seller will be charged \$2.00 for each bag of fish that requires rebagging due to improper bagging. **NO ZIP-LOCKS ALLOWED.**

BIDDERS: Know what you are bidding on. All items are available for inspection prior to the auction. Take the time to examine each item so you positively know what it is BEFORE you bid.

Each bag must include fish species, quantity, a description if appropriate (breeding pair, trio, sex, etc.), assigned seller initials and a **unique** bag number (do not put your buyer number on each bag as the bag number). If you're selling 10 bags, your bags should be numbered 1-10. The information must be legible--use black lettering directly on the bag or lettering on a white label on the bag. Make sure you use permanent markers that won't run or smear when they get wet. Example of how your lettering/labels should read on the bag:

MLE #1
Altolamprologus calvus
"Zaire Black" F1
Breeding Pair

MLE#2
Synodontis petricola
4 fish

Adult males and females of the same species should be bagged separately and the bags attached together.

Priority colored dots will be issued at registration. Place one dot on each item for sale. At the beginning of the auction, one color will be drawn at random. The items with that color dot will be sold first. After all the items with that

color dot are sold, another color will be drawn. This will continue until all items are sold.

Each bidder must register and be assigned their own bidder number. TCA will not split items sold under one bidder number between multiple bidders at checkout time. **Each bidder** is responsible for **EVERYTHING** bought with their bidder number.

When an item is sold, the runner will bring the item to the buyer, along with a sales verification form, which the buyer will initial. **No one will be allowed to remove any auction item from the auction room unless proof of payment is shown. Your proof of payment is your paid auction receipt.**

Once you have cashed out, you will no longer have a bidder number. If you want to purchase other items, you must be issued a new bidder number (there is no additional charge for the second bidder number).

The auction chairperson retains the right to reject any fish not fit for sale (sick fish, deformities, hybrids, etc.).

FALL 2008 SILENT AUCTION RULES

1. EVERYONE IS WELCOME, BUT YOU MUST PAY THE REGISTRATION FEE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SILENT AUCTION.

2. You must have a bidder number.

3. Each item in the silent auction will have a bidder's sheet. The sheet contains an item number, a description, a starting minimum bid, and an "open" and "close" time. If you wish to bid on that item, enter your bidder number, your name and the amount you wish to bid on that item.

4. You may bid any amount you wish, but your bid must be at least \$1.00 more than the previous bid. **BIDS MUST BE IN WHOLE DOLLARS ONLY. BIDS NOT IN WHOLE DOLLARS WILL BE IGNORED.**

5. The closing of an item will be announced a few minutes before closing to allow final bids. Once an item is closed, no more bids will be accepted.

6. Upon the close of bidding, the winner of each bid will receive their item and must pay for it at that time.

7. All items must be paid for and removed from the hotel by the end of the live auction on Sunday.

NOTE: All plants will be sold via the silent auction; however, they must be bagged and marked as if they were being sold in the “regular” auction (see bagging and labeling instructions above). Also see seller quantity limitations listed above. Plants will *not* be considered donations; regular auction split will apply

2008

All-Aquarium Catfish Convention

Expedition Amazon!

October 16-19, 2008

Laurel, Maryland

Hosted by

Potomac Valley Aquarium Society

Speakers include Dr. Devon Graham (Expedition Amazon); Dr. Wayne Leibel (Waters of the Amazon), Julian “Jools” Dignall (Catfish Collecting Adventures in South America); Ingo Seidel (Breeding Loricariid Catfishes); Hans-Georg Evers (Ecology of Corydoras & Other Small Aquarium Catfishes); and Lee Finley (keynote speaker). An all-species show will be held, as will a Sunday auction. Trips are planned to the Baltimore Inner Harbor and local fish stores. Collectors will also have an opportunity to get wet.

If you are interested in attending this every-other-year event and need more information, please go to www.catfish2008.com.

The 8 Steps of Spawning Corys

by Robert Dwyer

from *The Informer*, Green Water Aquarist Society of Chicagoland, March 2004

Aquarticles

1) First, let's talk about the tank size:

For the smaller corys (pandas, aneus and julies), I always use a 10 gallon tank with no gravel because I like to be in control of the areas that the fish spawn in. By that I mean I don't have to remove the eggs from the tank - just the spawning corys. Then I can treat the eggs with chemical fungicides without the risk of killing the eggs by moving them... (By the way, that's how 50% of all cory eggs die).

For the larger corys (sterbi, adolfis and rubuties), I always use a 20 high. You have to take the eggs out of these tanks because you run the risk of the adult corys eating their own eggs.

Now we get to the fun part, how to get the eggs out of the tank without damaging them! Some people scrape the eggs off the side of the tank with a razor blade. I don't, it's a no-no! I have seen a lot of eggs damaged without the person knowing it. The best way, I have found, is to use a clear turkey baster or your fingers.

2) Now, let's talk about filtration and water cleaning:

No filter is needed. The fish do just fine with just an airline and an air stone. They like it a bit on the dirty side. After all, all corys are scavengers. Besides, if you put a filter in the tank, that is one more place you are going to have to look for eggs.

3) Conditioning the breeders:

There are two ways of doing this. The slow way and the fast way.

The slow way is the best way to get a larger spawn. The slow way involves feeding the fish in colder water so they build up more eggs before they spawn (just shut off the heater, they can take it).

The fast way involves using a lot of chemicals to modify the fish's hormones. We won't go into that right now, since that really is not good for the fish. What I do is trick the fish into thinking it is a different time of the year (spawning season.) Note: The fish can spawn five to six times per year.

4) What to feed the breeders to condition them?

Live food and lots of it (black worms, daphnia, wingless fruit flies; and if you can get it or raise it, live adult brine shrimp).

5) How do we trick them into spawning?

First you need to drain the tank of at least 50% of its water. Next, continue to feed the breeders the live food we talked about earlier. Leave the tank like this for at least three days. After the three days have passed, refill the tank with a sloshing motion on top of the water (at night is best, with 65° water from the tap). This will imitate a heavy rainstorm which should trigger the start of spawning season. If successful, you should see cory eggs in the morning just after dawn, or in the first couple of hours after dawn.

6) Spawning medium:

I have found that the wild stock (sterbies, adolfis and rubuties) need some kind of floating plants to lay eggs on. The normals (tank raised) don't care where they lay their eggs (on mops, stones or on the glass).

7) Now that you have eggs, how are you going to hatch them?

You can either:

- Remove the eggs and put them in a bubbler.
- Remove the adults and treat the whole tank.
- Do nothing and hope the adults will not find the babies.

The answer is: A or B, but never C.

8) The last, but not least, important thing is what to feed the baby corys?

- Green water.
- Micro worms.
- Baby brine shrimp.
- Daphnia.

The answer is: A through D in that order.

Good Luck!

TCA OFFICER ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE JANUARY MEETING. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RUN FOR AN OFFICE, PLEASE CONTACT PHIL TUCKER, TCA SECRETARY.

TAIL TRADER

Got something fishy to sell or trade? All TCA members in good standing may advertise fish, equipment and related supplies for sale, or place a "want" ad free. Notify the *Cichlid Tails* editors.

David Andrews

(817) 291-4169

dandrews12@access4less.net

FOR SALE:

Demasoni - 1 1/4" - 1 1/2" \$1.50 each

Demasoni - 2"+ \$2.50 each

Snow White Socolofi - 1 1/4 - 1 1/2" \$2.00 each

Snow Shite Socolofi - 3" \$4.00 each

Albino Dwarf Bristlenose Plecos \$3.00 each

Marble Angels -half-dollar+ size \$4.00 each

Endlers Livebearers \$0.50 each

Protomelas Spilonotus - Sulphur Head - 1 1/2"- 1 3/4" \$2.00 each

Multifasiatus- shell dwellers \$3.00 each

Golden Peacock Maleri Island - 1 1/4" - 1 1/2" \$2.00

Pseudo. Flavus "Chinyankwazi" - 1 1/4" - 1 3/4" \$2.00 each

Paracyprichromis Nigripinnis - 4"-5" Males \$12.00

Cynotilapia Afra - Jalo Reef - 1 1/4" - 1 1/2" \$3.00

Marvin and Kathy England

(903) 794-FISH; (903) 244-3993 cell

marvinengland@hotmail.com

Will deliver to FOTAS

FOR SALE:

Altolamp. compressiceps "goldhead" F1 \$10

Altolamp. calvus "black" (small) \$5

Neolamp. Multifasciatus \$1.50

Synodontis petricola 1" + \$7

Hardy water lilies \$10 up

Dwarf papyrus \$7

Hardy lotus \$15 up

Red-stemmed Thalia \$5 up

Water poppy \$3 up

Yellow snowflake \$5

White snowflake \$2

Umbrella palms \$7 up

Brugmansia (angel trumpets) \$10 up

Passion vines \$3 up
Water clover \$4
Louisiana iris (small) \$2

Ernie McAnally
(817) 329-2096

FOR SALE

144 Gallon Oceanic half round tank with full complete setup, all glass tops, Cabinet tops, stand, Oceanic 30 gallon sump, Iwaki pump, lights.

3 -75 gallon Oceanic tanks with tops and lights

2 - 55 gallon Oceanic tanks tops and lights, one with Ponderosa pine stand.

1 - 45 gallon tall Oceanic tank, Oceanic Ponderosa Pine stand, glass tops and light.

2 - 58 gallon Oceanic tanks with Oceanic tops and lights

3 - 29 gallon Black All Glass Tanks, glass tops and lights

10 - 20 gallon tank setups with tops and lights.

2 -29 gallon Oceanic Bio Cubes, with cabinet stand includes wet dry and light.

Please call to discuss if interested. 817-329-2096

Glen Bacon
(214) 402-8978

sales@baconsrock.com

FOR SALE:

F1 Burundi Frontosas 2" \$12.00

Texas honeycomb (holey) rock and petrified wood for sale; all types and sizes. Call for availability.

Amy Ginley

amy@amysgarden.com

FOR SALE:

Koi angels (larger breeders) \$10; bonded pairs \$25

Yellow Labidochromis 1"-3" \$2/\$4

Aulono. Stuartgranti (red shoulder) adult female \$10

Aulono. Stuartgranti fry 1"+ \$2

Placidochromis Electra Deep Water Hap Br. Trio \$15

WANTED:

Labidochromis "Hongi", especially breeder-size females

Calendar of Events

September 26-28: Annual convention of Federation of Texas Aquarium Societies at the Hilton Garden Inn DFW South, 2001 Valley View Lane, Irving.

October 11: Regular monthly meeting, 7:00, at the home of Alan Young, 1201 Brookvalley, Arlington. (817) 467-9739. **NOTE THAT THIS MEETING IS TO BE HELD THE SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH INSTEAD OF THE THIRD SATURDAY.**

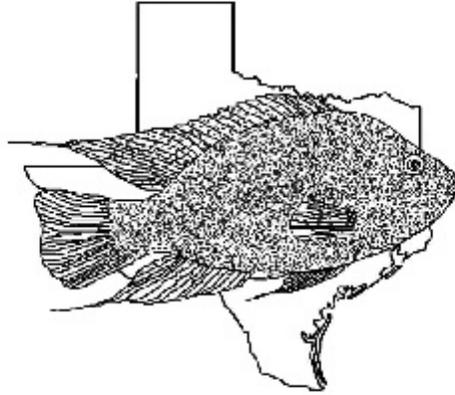
December: Annual Christmas Party and Crazy Santa Gift Exchange.

January 17, 2009: Regular monthly meeting at 7:00. Office elections will be held. If you are interested in running for an office, please contact TCA Secretary Phil Tucker. We also need a meeting place. Would you like to volunteer?

February 21, 2009: Regular monthly meeting at 7:00. Location to be announced later.

**C
I
C
H
L
I
D
T
A
I
L
S**

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF



THE TEXAS CICHLID ASSOCIATION

Texas Cichlid Association
Kathy Stearns, President
1515 Creekview Drive
Keller, Texas 76248

SPECIAL FOTAS EDITION!