



April, 2008  
Volume 16 Issue 9

# THE TBAS . . . Since 1992 FILTER



It was a wonderful time with Jaap-Jan deGreef in March

## **April Program**

Paula Biles: "The Victoria Waterlily: An Amazon Adventure with a  
Touch of History and Physics."

## **Bowl Show Fish**

1) Sucker Catfish 2) All Other Cats

# Tampa Bay Aquarium Society



## “The Filter”

Tampa/St. Pete, Florida

**Volume 16 Issue 9**  
**April, 2008**

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# Ethelwynn Trewavas . . .

“when an old person dies, a library burns down”.

by **Patty Moncrief**

## Ethelwynn Trewavas: A Pioneer Ichthyologist

Although ET, as friends and colleagues called her, was not known as a pioneering aquarium hobbyist her work in Malawi Cichlid taxonomy, she profoundly effected them. Certainly she is worthy of my continuing series of great women in the Aquarium hobby. ET was one of the first professional ichthyologists to recognize that aquarists could make a valued contribution to the scientific community of tropical fish. ET



photo of ‘ET’ supplied by Ad Konings

traveled to hobbyist conventions and encouraged dialogs between the scientific community and the hobbyist community. Her collaboration with the hobbyists added to contemporary ichthyology by including and recording their observations, particularly colors and breeding habits. She became President of the British Cichlid

Association at the age of 92 and attended meetings and wrote for it’s publications until she passed away at 93.

ET was born November 5, 1900 in Penzance on Mounts Bay in southern England. She attended Cornwall West College before

going on to become one of the first women to enter Reading University College, in 1917. Reading did not get its University accreditation until later however. She chose to study science specifically Botany and Geology, which was very unusual at that time. She also studied Education at the same time so as to get a teaching certificate. In 1921 she received a BS in Zoology with a secondary degree in Biology and for the next 3 years she taught science in a number of local schools. It was during her teaching that time that she became a regular visitor at the British Museum of Natural History. In 1925 she did research at King's College for Women with a scholarship and received a grant from the Royal Society. Her thesis was on "The Hyoid and Larynx of the Anura" (frogs and toads). This thesis was finally published by the Royal Society in 1933. All of this caught the attention of Dr Charles Tate Regan, the Keeper of Freshwater Fishes of the British Museum of Natural History, who was already a famous cichlid taxonomist. He invited ET to become his assistant, and she accepted, beginning her groundbreaking work on Malawi Cichlids. She joined the British Museum in 1928.

In 1928 Dr Regan was attempting to classify the African cichlids naturally using dissections and skeletal preparations, a method still used today. This became the foundation of ET's work in cichlids and many other fishes she studied. In 1928 she described 5 new cichlids from Lake Victoria, and with Dr Regan described 4 other Victorian cichlids. She was his assistant until 1935 when she became the first woman Assistant Freshwater Fish Keeper, eventually working her way all the way to become the Deputy Keeper in Zoology at the British Museum. In 1934 she received a Doctor in Science for her published work in Zoology. Her first expedition to Africa was in 1938 to do a survey of the fishes of Lake Malawi, giving her a chance to work with fresh specimens. At that time there were 4 known species of Tilapia in the Lake, she added 3 more. She made 4 other field trips over the next 43 years to study African cichlids, visiting several of the Rift Valley lakes not just Lake Malawi. She retired from the British Museum of Natural History in 1961 but she continued working there on research. In 1964 she worked on a revision on the genus *Serranochromis* and described

3 new species in that genus. In her later years she expanded her research to include deep water marine fish and fish dietary requirements. She was well known for offering encouragement and assistance to aquarists and co-authored with Ad Konings “The Cichlid Yearbook” about the ‘Spawning Techniques in Mouthbrooders’. She attended and spoke at several American Cichlid Association Conventions. In 1989 she worked with David Eccles to combine into book form her papers on Lake Malawi cichlids from as far back as 1931 into the comprehensive “Malawian Cichlid Fishes”. There are a number of fish named for her and a research vessel in Lake Malawi also. She received numerous honors for her work including an honorary foreign membership to the American Society of Ichthyologist and Herpetologist, and Honorary Fellow of the Linnaean Society.

All of this information about this great woman seems very dry and doesn't begin to show who she really was. She was an early feminist and insisted on equal treatment and opportunities. She took a field trip at the age of 70 to crater lake Barombi Mbo in Cameroon and the story goes that when they reached the lake the only transportation for fishing was dugout canoes and she was told that she could not participate because of her age, (70). She hijacked a canoe and paddled out to the center of the lake and refused to come back until she was allowed to participate.

She touched the hearts of many people. She is remembered in some third world countries for her work with food fish and a genuine concern for their problems. She wrote letters of encouragement to many people, scientist and hobbyist alike. She never married and lived with her sister for a long time.

ET passed away at home August 16, 1993 at the age of 92. In the obituary that Ad Konings wrote about her he said . . . An African proverb says: “when an old person dies, a library burns down”. This is so true of this pioneer, who paved the way for women and ichthyologists and the hobbyist.



*Xenotoca variata*  
by Joseph P. Berberich Jr

Home to *X. variata* is the Rio Santa Maria, Rio Grande De Santiago, tributaries of the Rio de le Laja, Riolerma Basin of Mexico in Central America and not know to be an endangered species in the wild, but may become so in the near future. This species can be very variable in its coloration which is referred to in its Latin name. The dark band along the lateral line is more pronounced in females and fades dorsally and ventrally in males. The male caudal is dark with a yellow fringe while the female's tail is colorless to slightly yellow.

All natural habitats of *X. variata* have areas of overgrown algae or vegetation. This shows they are heavy on the greens and light on the meat menu and hardy plants such as java moss or java fern should be used for a tank setup so they don't get ate. Plenty of plant flake food, blanched spinach, lettuce, mashed frozen peas or chickweed is great. They will also take live food like daphnia.

Water quality is not really of great matter. Use water with a pH ranging from 6.5-7.8 with a hardness of 5-25 dGH and slightly alkaline.

Size ranges from two an a half inches in males to two an three quarters in females. Females can have broods every two months with anywhere from twenty to forty young about a half inch in length. Of course size of female determines size and number of fry produced. Try to keep algae on tank sides if possible for this species.



**The Aquarium Hobby  
C.A.R.E.S. Preservation  
Program  
Introduction to the T.B.A.S.**

**By Jim Norris**

There is not a region on this planet that has not suffered from the effects of pollution, overpopulation, and political unrest. These forces are affecting the health and welfare of the fishes we as hobbyist keep. The heroic efforts of scientists and environmentalist are overwhelmed by the sheer enormity of the problems. The lakes, rivers, and ecosystems our fish live in are under siege like never before in recorded history.

This is where the C.A.R.E.S. Preservation Program comes in. The C.A.R.E.S. Program encourages hobbyists worldwide to devote tank space to one or more of the species-at-risk. This simple concept is the basis for the C.A.R.E.S. Preservation Program. For the hobbyist, the C.A.R.E.S. Program is a way for the hobby to show that we do indeed care for the species we keep by ensuring their survival in our tanks.

The C.A.R.E.S. Preservation Program has four major objectives which are

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- 1) to bring **AWARENESS** to the critical situation of our fish in nature
- 2) to **RECOGNIZE, ENCOURAGE**, and offer **SUPPORT** to hobbyists who maintain species-at-risk
- 3) to **SHARE** data and experiences through notes, graphing, and manuscripts so that others may learn to maintain identical or similar species; and
- 4) to **PRESERVE** species-at-risk for future generations.

The people behind C.A.R.E.S. include Cares Preservation Program Coordinator, CARES for Education Coordinator, and Editor of ACA Journal, *Buntbarsche Bulletin*, Claudia Dickinson, world renown ichthyologist, author, and champion of conservation, Dr. Paul V. Loiselle, Editor-In-Chief of *Tropical Fish Hobbyist Magazine*, David Boruchowitz, and many others.

The Tampa Bay Aquarium Society has an opportunity to join the C.A.R.E.S. Program by forming an affiliated program here in Tampa. The list of species that our membership would be able to keep as C.A.R.E.S. fish include anabantoids, catfish, cichlids, characins, killifish, livebearers, loaches, rainbowfish, and marine vertebrates. It would give every member the opportunity to register at least one of the species they keep, or plan to keep, as a C.A.R.E.S. species that is threatened in their natural habitat. Each member of the TBAS to keep a C.A.R.E.S. species in their tank would become in a small way a ray of hope to a species whose very existence is so threatened in their natural environments.

As a member of the TBAS, I have asked myself over the years how I could participate in a conservation program that would benefit my hobby and the fishes in my tanks. C.A.R.E.S. would do that by ensuring that if a species does go extinct in their natural environment, we would not lose the species, but maintain it in the hobby in tanks just like mine and yours.

After I made a presentation on the C.A.R.E.S. Preservation Program, I was asked by the Board of Directors to write this article and to present this program to the membership to gauge interest. If you think that this is a worthwhile program and we should have it at TBAS, at the sign-in desk there will be a member sheet to sign along with a C.A.R.E.S. species-at-risk sheet. Take a look, sign the sheet, and by doing so show that TBAS does indeed care.

For more information on the C.A.R.E.S. Preservation Program visit the C.A.R.E.S. website at: [www.CARESPreservation.com](http://www.CARESPreservation.com).

Some of the information in this article is used with permission as it appears on the C.A.R.E.S. website. To Table of Contents

## **BOWL SHOW RESULTS JANUARY - MARCH**

<b>Hank Darin</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Ken/Jackie Friesen</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Fred Hill</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Barabra Kusich</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>John Papp</b>	<b>16</b>

**... come on you other guys!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

“Easily one of the top Aquarium Society Web Sites in the country.”

.....TBAS WEB SITE.....

[\*\*http://www.tbas1.com\*\*](http://www.tbas1.com)

T.B.A.S. Webmaster: Bruce Lilyea

.....Mike Jacobs Editor TBAS “FILTER”

## 2007 - 2008 BOD Meeting Location

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<del>January</del> .....	<del>???????????????</del>
<del>February</del> .....	<del>Barbara Kusich</del>
<del>March</del> .....	<del>Chris Hockett</del>
April .....	Thelma Frias
May .....	Ludo Van Den Bogaert
June .....	Hank Darin
July .....	Patty Moncrief
August .....	Chris Hockett
<del>September</del> .....	<del>_____</del>
<del>October</del> .....	<del>_____</del>
<del>November</del> .....	<del>John Papp</del>
<del>December</del> .....	<del>Gene Linkoski</del>

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... of course you are welcome!!!!!!

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# INTERNET IDEAS

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- 1) <http://www.reefpix.com.au/>
- 2) <http://www.fotosearch.com/photos-images/tropical-fish.html>
- 3) <http://tropicalfishgallery.com/>

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# Monthly Bowl Show

## January

- 1) Livebearers
- 2) Egglayers

## February

- 1) Killies Top
- 2) Killies Bottom

## March

- 1) Old World Cichlids
- 2) New World Cichlids

## April

- 1) Sucker Catfish
- 2) All Other Cats

## May

- 1) Livebearers Spawned & Raised
- 2) Egglayers Spawned & Raised

## June

- 1) Open
- 2) Fish Shirt (must be worn)

## July

- 1) Barbs & Rasboras
- 2) Danios, White Clouds & Rainbows

## August

- 1) Bettas
- 2) Anabantids

## September

- 1) Characins
- 2) Sharks, Loaches & Eels

## October

- 1) Native Florida Fish
- 2) Any Plants

## November

- 1) Goldfish & Koi
- 2) Participant Created Fish Art

## December

### Awards

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Tampa Bay Aquarium Society...

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