

Pond Happenings

A Monthly Newsletter Published
by the Greater Phoenix Pond
Society

JANUARY 2010

Next Meeting: Saturday, January 9th at 9:00 a.m. at the home of Tom and Carla Briggs.

Address: 4310 E. Glenhaven Drive, Phoenix, 85048-0504. Phone: 480-510-2403

Directions: From either I-10 or SanTan 202 take the Pecos road west exit 1 mile to 40th St. Go right on 40th, ½ mile to Frye. Hang another right. Go ½ mile to 43rd Place. Again go right, to Glenhaven Dr. Right on Glenhaven. We're the 4th house on the right.

There will be 2 gas patio heaters in use to keep people warm during the meeting. Please bring chairs for seating outside.

The koi pond is 1,800 gallon, 3 foot deep is home to 2 dozen plus koi of various sizes. Several biobogs filled with water plants and a recently upgraded homemade biofilter keep everything healthy. The koi pond is the centerpiece of a larger desert oasis. Surrounding the pond is a mesquite tree bosque filled with flowering desert plants and cacti that attract all numerous variety of birds. There is also a treehouse for kids to play in. The latest addition is the koicam to watch the koi underwater on the tv inside the house.

We also will have several medium/ smaller koi we'd like to adopt out. One is black on top and orange on the bottom. The next is orange shiny. A fat opal like koi and a orange beccoko. We also have 150 1-2" koi fry we are re-homing from Flagstaff. We're asking 50 cents per fry to cover the cost of gas and koi food.

- Tom and Carla Briggs

**Welcome to new members
Daniel and Carol Catlin of
Mesa!**

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE? Logon to: www.phoenixponds.com

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The Facts About UV

UV or Ultraviolet light has been used in many industries. It is used for sterilizing instruments in the medical field and for sterilizing drinking water. It has also been used for aquariums and ponds for several years for algae control. Basically, there are four main components of the ultraviolet sterilizer: a germicidal lamp, a quartz sleeve to protect the lamp from the water, a ballast to provide the correct electrical requirements for the lamp, and the housing which holds all of the other parts and the water flows through it.

There are a lot of misconceptions regarding the use of UV in water gardens. One concern is that you will sterilize your pond and kill all of the beneficial bacteria. This is impossible. Not all of the water will pass through the UV in one circulation and there is always going to be beneficial bacteria inside your biological filter and on everything in the pond, including the liner. What the UV will do, when properly sized for your pond and flow rate, is reduce some bacteria including some harmful bacteria, as well as microscopic organisms that could be harmful to your fish. It will also destroy the DNA in single cell algae cells thereby killing it very efficiently. This will provide clear water when the turbidity is due to suspended algae. UV provides 100% success for achieving clear water from single cell algae in a pond.

While UV will provide clear water, it does not filter the pond water. One concern of using UV in a pond is that some people will look at their perfectly clear pond and think that the water quality must be good for the fish. You can have clear water and still have water that would be detrimental to the fish. Always have good biological filtration along with the UV in your pond. You need the biological filter to break down the ammonia given off by the fish and to break down dead organics including the dead algae that is killed by the UV. If you don't have enough biological filtration then you may see one algae problem disappear (green water) and another one (filamentous algae) replace it.

When shopping for a UV you may find some confusing statements. Some companies don't even call their UVs sterilizers. They call them clarifiers. Company X says that their 25 watt UV is for ponds up to 1200 gallons and company y says that their 25 watt UV is for ponds up to 2300 gallons. What's the deal? There are actually two reasons for the discrepancy. When a UV is sized as a clarifier it may not provide crystal clear water and a large number of plants are required to assist with the clarity. If a UV is sized for sterilization then you can have crystal clear water even without plants in the pond, although the plants will certainly make for a healthier pond. Also, there are differences in the efficacy of the UV light from one brand to the next; 25 watts from one company may not be as effective as a 25 watt from another company.

Adding a UV to your pond can provide some real benefits but get the facts before making your purchase and be sure to include adequate biological filtration as well.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Dave Nelson	480-357-7205
Vice President	Laurie Ramsbacher	
Treasurer	Ed Tunstall	480-654-2107
Secretary	Diane Morris	480-306-6417
Events Coordinator	Diane Malone	
Newsletter Editor	Matt Watson	623-322-8447
Librarian	George Morris	480-306-6417
Webmaster	Dennis Beard	

GPPS Updates

From Dennis: The Valley of the Sun Koi Club will hold a four hour educational "Koi Health Event and Wet Lab" on **January 17th**. This is a free event. RSVP for attendance to webmaster@vskc.net. Information is at <http://www.vskc.net>. DVM Nicholas Saint-Erne is the presenter. If you have one, bring your microscope to look and help with diagnosing fish problems.

Some of the GPPS pages have been reorganized and cleaned up as far as spacing along the edge of text areas. Other corrections have been made in the underlying code, but it did not effect the display (except it may have shortened the time for a page to load).

I would like to solicit the membership for pictures of pond tours that currently do not appear on our website.

I would also like to solicit members for any ideas they would like to see on the website.

A Google Search function has been added to the website, which can be used to search the GPPS site or the Internet.

Lastly, if anyone finds any error – Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation, or broken links, please report them to the Webmaster, dbeard.html@hotmail.com

GPPS Newsletter Submissions

The submission deadline for the monthly newsletter will be the 18th of each month. Newsletters will be e-mail and snail-mailed on the 28th of each month. All submissions are subject to review and all materials become the property of GPPS. Due to space and timing, it is not guaranteed that all submissions will be printed.

If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please send an email to: gppsnews@blue-fish.biz

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Upcoming Meetings & Events

Month	Topic	Location	Month	Topic	Location
February	TBA	Don & Dawn Jaratt, Mesa	May	TBA	Pond Tour
March	TBA	TBA	June	TBA	Bill & Gay Reeves, Mesa
April	TBA	Richard & Pet Smith, Chandler	July	TBA	TBA

Time To Rejoin GPPS for 2010!

Membership forms will be on the table at the monthly meetings or contact the treasurer,
Ed Tunstall, 5439 E. Dolphin Ave, Mesa, AZ 85206-2208.
The cost is \$25 to join or renew your membership. Dues should be received by March 31st.



11058 W. Oraibi Dr
Sun City, AZ 85373

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!