

## Next Meeting: March 12, 2011 – 9:00 a.m.

The March meeting will be held at the home of Don and Fern Shaw.

Address: 1220 W. Wahalla Land, Phoenix, AZ 85027. Phone: 602-332-8112

Presenter: Gary Ures  
Subject: Hospital Tank

### Directions:

No matter how you get there, you have to be going East on Beardsley at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue... then turn right on 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue... we're shortly on the left [two tiny blocks!], Our house is NE corner of Wahalla and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

From Union Hills, go north on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, turn right at Beardsley, turn right on 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Our house is NE corner of Wahalla and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

From 101 W going East, take 27<sup>th</sup> street exit and continue on frontage road until you get to 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Our house is NE corner of Wahalla and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

From 101 E going West, take 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue exit, continue on frontage road until 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue – turn left crossing over 101 and turn left again to get on the frontage road going East. Turn right on 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Our house is NE corner of Wahalla and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Please bring your own lawn chairs and bags/buckets for any plants/fish that may be available.

**2011 dues are \$25.00 per individual/family and are payable by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please send your payment to:**

Ed Tunstall  
5439 E. Dolphin Ave.  
Mesa, AZ 85206-2208

Please note that the March 2011 newsletter will be the last issue unpaid members will receive.

Thank you to Tom and Carla Briggs for hosting the February meeting

### President's Letter



Hello GPPS members,

Welcome to March! The year is off to a great start and the members are gearing up for a great spring. Of course Mother Nature keeps reminding us that Old Man Winter is not done yet. I do not mind the rain and cooler temperatures but that darn wind just wreaks havoc in my yard!

The February meeting was held at the home of Tom and Carla Briggs. Tom told us about his pond, equipment and yard...oh yes, he also explained the very big hole in his yard. It is a new pond expansion; imagine someone thinking that they did not make their original pond large enough! It is looking good and I cannot wait to see the "finished" product...Hmmm, what if we moved the...?

I would like to thank Dan Stough, GPPS Event Coordinator, for arranging the guest speaker for the meeting. Paul Diefenderfer, or "Dief", is a blacksmith, sculpture and metal designer who creates all types of functional and ornamental items in metal. Dief gave a wonderful presentation and talked about a variety of metal working processes he uses in making his designs. There was tremendous interest and a lot of questions were asked. Dief brought several examples of his work as well as large binder showcasing his work

There were several discussions about upcoming events to promote our pond tour. The two main venues for this are the Children's Kite Festival and Valley of the Sun Koi show at Margaret T Hance Park on April the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Phoenix Home & Garden Show at the Arizona State Fairgrounds April 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will have a booth set up at both of these events and need volunteers to help at the booths during the events. Both of these have been extremely successful events for GPPS and we are looking forward to your assistance in making them even better this year.

Once again this year's tour will be free to all attendees. The main purpose of the tour is to promote GPPS to like minded individuals about our club as well as promote interest in ponds and therefore encourage people to become members of GPPS. We will discuss this more at the March meeting.

As stated in earlier letters there are couple of topics discussed that I will continue to bring up. One item has been a "hot" topic at the past several meetings having to do with the availability of a club roster for all current GPPS members. A form was sent out last month with the newsletter. Please refer to last month's newsletter for information and instructions.

Another topic was about bringing back the GPPS Photo Contest. We have not done one in awhile but if you go to the "Photos" section on our website you will see some of the past entrants and winners. Check it out and bring your thoughts and opinions to the next meeting.

I hope to see you at the March meeting!

Dave Nelson - President

## Pond Happenings

### Dividing and Repotting Hardy Water Lilies

Hardy water lilies should be divided every two or three years depending on the plant container size. For the average to large size water lily, a five to seven gallon container is ideal. The best container will be shallow and wide. Small water lilies can be potted in a three to five gallon container.



Begin by removing the soil from the water lily using a water hose to expose the rhizomes. Select the best looking piece with good growth showing and cut to about three inches long, discard the remainder of the plant. Trim away excess roots and any damaged foliage from the selected piece. If the water lily is to remain unpotted for any length of time, keep it in the shade with damp paper

towels or newspaper covering the plant.



Prepare the container by filling about three fourths full of aquatic planting soil (clay loam is ideal) and add ten grams of a good fertilizer such as 10-20-10 for every gallon of soil.

(A Porous Fabric Pot is shown at left; these come in three sizes; 10" x 8", 14" X 12", & 16" X 12".)



Mound some soil against one side of the container and place the rhizome at a 45 degree angle with the cut edge against the pot and the growing point at the level the top of the soil will be. Add more soil to within a couple of inches of the top of the container. Firm the soil in place and add about one inch of pea gravel to cover the soil keeping it from covering the growing point of the plant.

pond.

Gently add some water to the container and then slowly lower the plant into the



If you place the plant just a few inches under the water for the first few weeks, you will get faster growth. After this, place the plant at the proper growing depth (12 to 18 inches of water over the top of the plant). Fertilize the water lily every month with the same amount of fertilizer during the growing season.

Photos and article courtesy of [www.WaterGarden.com](http://www.WaterGarden.com)

**Welcome New Members**

**Sandra Buening and Jayne Fisher**

## Pond Happenings

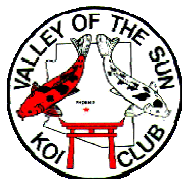
### From The Web:

Webmaster Dennis Beard has posted the following events on the webpage [www.phoenixponds.com](http://www.phoenixponds.com). Please check the webpage for more information.

**Tenth Annual  
Real Gardens for Real People Garden Tour  
\*\*Saturday, March 12, 2011\*\*  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



**13th Annual Southwest Area Killifish Event (SAKE)  
will be held on  
\*\*Saturday, March 12, 2011\*\*  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



**Valley of the Sun Koi Club, Inc  
Koi Show and Phoenix Children's Festival  
\*\*Saturday, April 2, 2011\*\*  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



**Phoenix Bonsai Society  
Saturday, Apr 9  
\*\*9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.\*\***

**1st Annual Bonsai Show at Valley Garden Club**

**Maricopa County Home and Garden Show**

**\*\*April 29, 30, May 1, 2011 \*\***

## Pond Happenings

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Dave Nelson	Bigd_1956@yahoo.com	480-357-7205
Vice President	Nina Koepcke		--
Treasurer	Ed Tunstall	lctricfrog@cox.net	
Secretary	Fern Shaw		
Events Coordinator	Dan Stough		
Newsletter Editor	Gloria Skylstad	gskylstad@cox.net	-
Librarian	Gary Ures		480-306-6417
Webmaster	Dennis Beard	dbeard_html@hotmail.com	--

## GPPS Updates

### GPPS Newsletter

Monthly Submission Deadline: 18<sup>th</sup> of each month. Newsletters will be sent out the 28<sup>th</sup> 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. Submissions can be emailed to "gppsnews@bluefish.biz".

**Did you know?** Receiving an electronic version will save GPPS Members money every month. Contact [gskylstad@gmail.com](mailto:gskylstad@gmail.com) if you'd like to change your newsletter option to "paperless".



### 2011 Pond Tour

Contact Nina Koepcke at [nkdragonlady166@gmail.com](mailto:nkdragonlady166@gmail.com) if you wish to participate in the upcoming pond tour. 2011 Pond Tour date is set for May 7, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. thru 4:00 p.m.

*Have a tip, trick, recommendation or idea? Send it to [gskylstad@gmail.com](mailto:gskylstad@gmail.com)*

## Pond Happenings

### Upcoming Meetings & Events

Month	Location	Month	Location
April 9	Richard & Pet Smith, Chandler	July	No Meeting
May 7	2011 Pond Tour	August	No Meeting
June 11	Jeff & Rita Karsten, Chandler	Sept. 10	Don & Carol Catlin

### A request from GPPS Webmaster Dennis Beard

GPPS has "FAQs" that are listed on the <http://www.phoenixponds.com/archive/gppsfaq.htm> web page. This page is now a link on the left navigation bar titled -- guess? FAQs

I solicit your assistance in helping the club's website. Please write some questions with the answers and send them to the webmaster link on the FAQ page. If you know a good outside source to your answer -- copy the address at the bottom of the supplied answer.

### Time To Rejoin GPPS for 2011!

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 December 31st.



11058 W. Oraibi Dr  
Sun City, AZ 85373

**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**