

**Next Meeting: March 10, 2012 9:00a.m.**

The March meeting will be held at the home of Deneen Rogers,  
4521 Emelita Ave., Mesa, AZ 85206. Telephone 480-649-1323.

Directions:

I'M IN SUNLAND VILLAGE A RETIREMENT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AREA.  
FROM THE SUPERSTITION FREEWAY TAKE THE GREENFIELD EXIT AND GO  
NORTH PAST SOUTHERN TO THE FIRST STREET THAT YOU CAN MAKE A  
RIGHT HAND TURN (EAST) WHICH IS EDGEWOOD TURN SOUTH ON  
PORTLAND AND EAST ON EMELITA AVE. I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 3RD CUL  
DE SAC AFTER TURNING ON EMELITA. 4521 E EMELITA.

Please be mindful of the flowers growing in the yard and step carefully so that you  
don't crush them as you walk. Thank you.

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

The speaker at the March meeting will be Dr. George Brooks Jr. He  
will be speaking on Aquaponics.

**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

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE? Logon to: [www.phoenixponds.com](http://www.phoenixponds.com)

## Pond Happenings

### President's Letter



Hi GPPS members!

I hope everyone is doing well. There was a great turnout at the February meeting! I would like to thank our gracious hosts Tom & Carla Briggs opening up their home and yard to our members. Tom was also our guest speaker and put together a great presentation on how to build a DIY bio-filter. Thanks Tom for a great and informative presentation!

There were numerous items discussed at the meeting but ultimately most of the topics had to do with the upcoming pond tour and/or getting ready for it. Below is a list of upcoming events that will require some volunteer commitment from our members

1. Saturday March 31, 2012 – Children's Kite Festival – Margaret T. Hance Park
2. Friday, Saturday & Sunday April 27, 28 & 29, 2012 – Maricopa County Home & Landscape Show – Arizona State Fairgrounds
3. Saturday May 12, 2012 – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual GPPS Pond Tour

To be on the Pond Tour please contact GPPS Vice-President Gene Georke at [plantabi@concentric.net](mailto:plantabi@concentric.net) or (602) 410-7147. You can also contact him at the March pond meeting.

Please look for volunteer schedules posted on the GPPS website and at the meetings. You may also contact any of the GPPS officers if you wish to volunteer or help with any and/or all of these events. These events are the way we get the message out about GPPS and through these events grow our membership. Remember, this is **your** club and it is up to **you** to help support it!

The next general meeting will be on March 10, 2012. The meeting will be at the home of Deneen Rogers in Mesa. Deneen has a lot of wildflowers growing in her yard and has asked guests coming to the next meeting to please be mindful and try not to trample them. Please come on out and enjoy our host's yard, pond and hospitality!

I hope to see you at the March meeting!

Dave Nelson - President

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Please contact Gene Goerke if you have volunteered at the Japanese Friendship Garden and would like to have an Iris cutting from the bogs. He will bring them to the March 10<sup>th</sup> GPPS meeting for you.

Also, he has reduced the price of the cuttings to \$12.00 if you would like additional plants.

## Pond Happenings



Thank you to Tom and Carla Briggs for hosting the February meeting. Tom and Carla have increased the size of their pond from 1,500 gallons to 5,250 gallons.

Tom was also the speaker at the meeting. He gave a presentation on how to construct a 55 gallon plastic drum biological/mechanical filter. This presentation is posted on our website [www.phoenixponds.com](http://www.phoenixponds.com)

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### Welcome New Members

Edlyn Soderman, Phoenix  
Lucy Ross, Scottsdale  
Vivian Delci, Gilbert

Please remember to get your dues in to Ed Tunstall as quickly as possible as this will be the last newsletter you receive if the dues are not paid.

## Pond Happenings

The GPPS website needs your input. The Resources page has had little input from the members about who they have had successful and not so successful dealings.

Likewise, Dick mentioned an idea about pdfs being displayed on our site. While the concepts of a keyword search revealing pdfs is a doable entity. I do not see it as being within our limited budgets and the volunteer nature of this club. However, if the members have any good pdf documents relating to goods and services useable by club members -- please send them to [dbeard\\_html@hotmail.com](mailto:dbeard_html@hotmail.com) which could be added to resources and/or FAQs pages.

### Upcoming Dates:

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>** Japanese Friendship Garden volunteer project. 7a.m., 1125 N. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ave. Phoenix. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Gloria Skylstad, [gskylstad@gmail.com](mailto:gskylstad@gmail.com) or Gene Goerke, [Plantabi@concentric.net](mailto:Plantabi@concentric.net). We would love to have you join us. We will be working in the bogs and harvesting Lily and Iris plants.

**March 31<sup>st</sup>** Valley of the Sun Koi Club, Inc. will be at the Japanese Friendship Garden Children's Kite Festival from 10:00-3:00 p.m. The Greater Phoenix Pond Society will also be there and they will need help setting up and running a booth/tent to hand out information about GPPS and the upcoming Pond Tour.

**April 27-29<sup>th</sup>** Home show at Maricopa County Fairgrounds. President Dave Nelson will be needing volunteers to help with the GPPS booth for the three days. This is an important event to promote the upcoming Pond Tour, so please be as generous with your time as possible. Contact Dave to sign up for the event.

**May 12<sup>th</sup>** GPPS Annual Pond Tour will be held on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to be a tour host, contact Gene Goerke at [Plantabi@concentric.net](mailto:Plantabi@concentric.net).

Having trouble with your pump clogging? We just detest having to stick our arms into the pond water this time of year -- brrrr, too cold! Better to keep the pump from clogging in the first place! Stick it in a **Pump Sock** to get rid of that ornery task as much as possible!

It increases the intake area exponentially (and as an extra bonus keeps out baby fish, frogs and other critters whose bodies we do not like to peel off the clogged intake of the Pump)  
Courtesy: [www.pondmarket.com](http://www.pondmarket.com)

Submersible Pond Pump Socks are available at <http://www.webbsonline.com/catalog/acc/> and [www.pondmarket.com](http://www.pondmarket.com), to name a couple sources. For other sources, check [www.phoenixponds.com](http://www.phoenixponds.com) resources page.



## Pond Happenings

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Dave Nelson	<a href="mailto:Bigd_1956@yahoo.com">Bigd_1956@yahoo.com</a>	480-357-7205
Vice President	Gene Goerke	<a href="mailto:plantabi@concentric.net">plantabi@concentric.net</a>	602-410-7147
Treasurer	Ed Tunstall	<a href="mailto:lctricfrog@cox.net">lctricfrog@cox.net</a>	
Secretary	Fern Shaw	<a href="mailto:Fdg1953@cox.net">Fdg1953@cox.net</a>	602-332-8112
Events Coordinator	Kristy Jolly	<a href="mailto:tcterret@hotmail.com">tcterret@hotmail.com</a>	
Newsletter Editor	Gloria Skylstad	<a href="mailto:gskylstad@gmail.com">gskylstad@gmail.com</a>	-
Librarian	Gary Ures	<a href="mailto:gures@koioffice.com">gures@koioffice.com</a>	480-278-6847
President	Dave Nelson	<a href="mailto:Bigd_1956@yahoo.com">Bigd_1956@yahoo.com</a>	480-357-7205

### 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 [gskylstad@gmail.com](mailto:gskylstad@gmail.com)

**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".



**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
Mar 10, 2012	Deneen Rogers, Mesa	June 9, 2012	Gloria Skylstad, Sun City
Apr 14, 2012	Japanese Friendship Garden	July	No Meeting
May 12, 2012	2012 Pond Tour	Aug	No Meeting

### 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

