

November 2012

Next Meeting: November 10, 2012 9:00 a.m.

The November meeting will be held at the home of Richard and Pet Smith.

Address: 3096 W. Ironwood Circle in Chandler.

Phone: 480-821-9412

Directions:

From the West: I 10 to US 60, south on Loop 101 to Warner exit (58). Follow access road (Price Road) South past Warner to N. Seville Blvd. Turn right on W. Ironwood Circle, left where road branches follow to 3096 W. Ironwood Circle.

From the Northwest/Northeast: Loop 101 south to Warner exit. Follow directions above.

From the East/Southeast valley: US 60 to Loop 101, south to Warner exit and follow directions above.

Please bring lawn chairs and containers for plants and fish.

This meeting is our annual luncheon and election meeting. If you are interested in running for any of the officer positions, please join us for this important meeting.

GPPS will be furnishing an entrée, drinks and serve ware. Members are asked to bring a side dish of their choosing. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Dave Nelson, President at Bigd_1956@yahoo.com



Hi GPPS members!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Halloween and got more treats than tricks! It was great to see so many of you at the October meeting! We had a great turnout and I would like to thank our gracious hosts, Mike & Liz Mantsch, for opening up their beautiful yard and home for us all to enjoy! They have gorgeous pond in the front courtyard with Koi, turtles and frogs. The meeting was held in their

back yard that was equally stunning in its layout and landscaping. Mike shared information about their pond and courtyard design. We did not have a guest speaker but the meeting was full of discussion on a wide variety of topics.

One of the main topics was about what to schedule for next year. We always try and come up with new guest speakers but there are things that need to be revisited from time to time such as pond maintenance, plant care, fish health, etc. Additionally we would like to plan a few "out of the box" meeting locations and non-meeting events. If you have any ideas or input please come to the November meeting and share them!

We also discussed the November meeting's lunch and it was decided that we would have a "potluck" lunch this year. The club will supply the main dishes (fried chicken & honey baked ham) and the drinks, plates, utensils, etc. while the members would bring an appetizer, a side dish or a dessert. Please bring one (or more if you wish) of those items to the November meeting and we will all get to enjoy the combined feast!

November is when we elect our officers for 2013 and all officer positions will be voted on. Some positions have officers who will be running for re-election to their current positions while other positions will have their current incumbent not seeking re-election. The list of GPPS officer positions are:

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Event Coordinator
- Newsletter Editor
- Webmaster
- Librarian

If you are interested in running for any of the officer positions listed above please show-up at the November meeting and "throw your hat into the ring". Each position is important and as a member it is your responsibility to participate in the election process. This is your club and your voice needs to be heard, your vote needs to be tallied and your participation is needed.

The next general meeting will be on November 10, 2012 at the home of Richard and Pet Smith in Chandler. Due to the GPPS officer elections for 2013 there will be no guest speaker. This is a very important part of our organization and your input and participation is needed so please come out and support your club! There will be a "potluck" lunch for all in attendance so please bring an appetizer, a side dish or a dessert. Please come on out and enjoy our host's yard, pond and hospitality! I hope to see you all at the November meeting!

Pond Happenings



Thank you to Mike and Liz Mantsch for hosting the October meeting.

The presenter for this meeting was Kristy Jolly, GPPS Event Coordinator. She offered several options for the group to tour a commercial aquaponics venture or a hobbyist grower.

If you have any suggestions or thoughts on this, or for a group adventure, please contact Kristy at tcferrret@hotmail.com



Our beautiful fish that was donated by Ed LaBonte was raffled off during the meeting. Ticket sales were \$40.00 and Bob Malone took the little guy home with him. Thank you to Ed for the donation.

Time to Renew Your Membership for 2013!!

Membership dues are payable by December 31st.

You can pay Ed Tunstall or Dave Nelson at the meeting or you can mail a check to Ed at: 5439 E. Dolphin Ave, Mesa, AZ 85206-2208.

Fall and Winter Checklist for Ponds

Pond Plants

Prune dead leaves (leave at least 3 or 4 inches of stems)

Move hardy marginal Pond Plants into deeper water (several inches below the freezing line)

Bring tropical marginal Pond Plants inside, store by a window and keep very moist all winter (some leaves will wilt but the plant will perk back up in the Spring)

Switch to Cool Weather Pond Fish Food once the water temperature of the Pond drops below 60 degrees Fahrenheit (Pond Fish do not have a stomach and their digestion slows which can lead to impaction if food with too much protein is fed in cooler water)

Keep a Pond Thermometer in the Pond to closely monitor water temperature

Stop feeding the Pond Fish once the water temperature drops below 48 degrees

Add Pond Salt & Koi TLC to increase the slime coat, help ward off parasites & disease & reduce stress

Pond Filters

Thoroughly clean the Pond Filter

Inspect the Pond Filter for any wear or damage (it is best to order Pond Filter Replacement Parts now, so the Pond Filter is ready to go in the spring)

Submersible Pond Filters & Pond Filters without UV should be disconnected & stored in a frost free area

Pond Pumps

Thoroughly clean the Pond Pump

Inspect the Pond Pump for wear and damage (order Pond Pump Replacement Parts now so it is ready for spring)

Move the Pond Pump well below the freezing line if it will be left running. Take the Pond Pump inside if it will be turned off

Information courtesy of www.pondmarket.com

The GPPS Website has a new aeration section in the FAQs. Be sure to check out the new information. The following is a new question and answer that appears in this section:

Question: **What are solutions to the loss of power and hence the shutting off of aeration?** **NEW**

There are two simple options for the continuation of aeration plan:

Have a backup power supply: In these days solar electric or gasoline generators are options.

A short term solution is created by the adding of Hydrogen Peroxide (from pharmacies or other type of store. Note: Hydrogen Peroxide breaks down to oxygen and water in twenty-four hours. The ration for addition is one (1) milliliter (ml) / gallon of water. There are 5 ml per teaspoon to ease any calculations.

Welcome New Members

David Devlin
Laverne Branum
Norma L. Harvey

Save the Date:

There will be a work day at the Japanese Friendship Garden on November 3, 2012 at 7:00 a.m. to fertilize the Lilies and Iris beds. Please contact Gene Goerke at plantabi@concentric.net or Gloria Skylstad at gskylstad@gmail.com if you are available to help with this project.

Nov. 10, 2012 Japanese Friendship Garden 10th Anniversary Celebration.

10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. \$2.00 Admission

Free activities, tours and refreshments. Free gift to the first 100 guests.

www.japanesefriendshipgarden.org 1125 3rd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85003 602-256-3204

Dividing and Repotting Hardy Water Lilies

Hardy Water Lilies can be re-potted anytime from early spring to early fall.

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



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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE			
President	Dave Nelson	Bigd_1956@yahoo.com	480-357-7205
Vice President	Gene Goerke	plantabi@concentric.net	602-410-7147
Treasurer	Ed Tunstall	lctricfrog@cox.net	
Secretary	Fern Shaw	Fdg1953@cox.net	602-332-8112
Events Coordinator	Kristy Jolly	tcterret@hotmail.com	
Newsletter Editor	Gloria Skylstad	gskylstad@gmail.com	-
Librarian	Gary Ures	gures@koioffire.com	480-278-6847
Webmaster	Dennis Beard	dbeard_html@hotmail.com	

Monthly Submission Deadline: 18th of each month. Newsletters will be sent out 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. Submissions can be emailed to gskylstad@gmail.com

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

GPPS Technical Committee

Gene Goerke	Plantabi@concentric.net
Jeff Karsten	rj_kars10@yahoo.com
Dick Wilson	radwilson@cox.net
Ed Tunstall	lctricfrog@cox.net
Tom Briggs	tcbriiggsphx@gmail.com
Jon Jolly	tcterret@hotmail.com



Have a tip, trick, recommendation or idea? Send it to gskylstad@gmail.com

Pond Happenings

Upcoming Meetings & Events			
Month	Location	Month	Location
Nov. 10	Richard & Pet Smith, Chandler	Feb 9, 2013	TBD
Dec. 8	Gary Ures, Gilbert	Mar 9, 2013	TBD
Jan 12, 2013	TBD	Apr 13, 2012	TBD

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 2012!

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 Thanksgiving