

April 2013

Next Meeting: April 13, 2013 9:00 a.m.

The April meeting will be held at the home of Bob and Diane Malone

Address: 1511 W. Sequoia Dr., Phoenix 85027

Telephone: 623-518-9901

Bob and Diane will be the presenters at the meeting. The subject will be Aquaponics and Certified Wildlife Habitat.

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



Time to Renew Your Membership for 2013!!

Membership dues are payable by December 31st.

You may 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.



Attention all GPPS members!

Now is the time that we all need to “kick in into high gear” as we make our final push for our annual pond tour. This is the time where we must get the word out about our tour in order to ensure we have a great turn out. We do this several different ways. Our pond tour “team” is busy securing space in various periodicals and on various online event calendars for newspapers and television. Once again we will have a booth at the Maricopa County Home & Landscape Show at the Arizona State Fairgrounds on April 26, 27 & 28, 2013. We depend on our members to volunteer to help at our booth during the three days of the show. Finally there will be flyers available at the April meeting for members to take with them so they can be distributed and displayed at local nurseries, markets, public notice boards, etc. in your area. All of these are equally important and they all depend on your participation and support so please do your part to support your club!

The March meeting was well attended in spite of the damp, cold and dreary weather! The meeting was held at the Gilbert Riparian Preserve which is a gorgeous location with seven different ponds at the preserve. We had a presentation talk about the preserve from one of the members of the preserve who also was doing the tours for the preserve that day. There was a good question and answer discussion during the presentation and I believe everyone enjoyed the meeting. A big “thanks!” to Kristy Jolly for making all of the arrangements for GPPS to have this amazing opportunity to have our meeting here. I was unaware of all the Gilbert Riparian Preserve has to offer and you need to come out here, spend the day and check it all out!

As I mentioned earlier on April 26, 27 & 28, 2013 GPPS will have a booth at the Maricopa County Home & Landscape show. The show management staff has given us a booth for this event at no charge to the club for the past several years and it has worked out tremendously for GPPS every year. The requirements from the show management are that we must have someone occupying the booth at all times during the event so we need volunteers to make sure we comply. There will be a sign-up sheet at the April meeting and a schedule posted on our website. If you can volunteer for a two hour time slot sometime during the three day event please let me know.

Please remember that our annual pond tour is not only our premier event where we get an opportunity to showcase some of our member’s ponds it is also our only membership drive event. Since we do not charge for this event our membership dues are the only source of revenue for our club. Please support this event and GPPS; it is your club so it is your responsibility to support it and make sure it is successful.

There is no meeting in May due to the GPPS Annual Pond Tour on May 11, 2013 so the next GPPS meeting will be on June 8, 2013 at the Japanese Friendship Gardens.

I hope to see you all at some point out along the pond tour route!

Dave Nelson - President

Save the Date:

April 13 & 14 - Phoenix Bonsai Society Show, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Valley Garden Center 1809 North 15th Ave. , Phoenix, AZ 85007
This is an indoor event and admission is free.

April 26-28 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 GPPS Pond Tour, so please be as generous with your time as possible. Contact Dave Nelson at Bigd_1956@yahoo.com to sign up for the event.

May 11 - GPPS Annual Pond Tour. If you would like to be a tour host, please contact Rita Karsten at rj_kars10@yahoo.com



Thank you to George Morris and his Chicago family, Dan Drane, Gloria Skylstad and Gene Goerke for their work at the Japanese Friendship Garden. The ponds and Iris beds are looking beautiful. If you get a chance, stop by and take a walk through the Garden, you won't be disappointed. <http://www.japanesefriendshipgarden.org>

Beneficial Bacteria are essential helpers in the garden pond and for pond filters. They munch on pond fish waste and other organic matter and convert deadly ammonia into first nitrites and then into nitrates thus being an integral part of pond filtration. The nitrates are taken up by the pond plants. This cycle makes the Beneficial Bacteria essential to the health and well being of the water and the creatures of the pond including Koi and all other pond fish, it also helps reduce algae.

Courtesy www.pondmarket.com

Pond Happenings

Kristy Jolly arranged for the March meeting to be held at the Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch in Gilbert. What a beautiful place to visit. Jenny Rambo, a Naturalist with the Preserve was our speaker and talked about the bird species that were in the area and how the Preserve was formed. The link to the website is <http://www.riparianinstitute.org/>. Be sure to check their calendar, they have a variety of events going on and there is lots to do and see. A great place to take your camera for an outing.



Welcome New Members

Paul Steele & Debbie White of Phoenix
Burke & Joy Lokey of Tempe
DeLea Rene of Scottsdale

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE			
President	Dave Nelson	Bigd_1956@yahoo.com	480-357-7205
Vice President	Rita Carsten	rj_kars10@yahoo.com	
Treasurer	Ed Tunstall	lctricfrog@cox.net	
Secretary	Helen Corson	htcorson@aol.com	
Events Coordinator	Kristy Jolly	tcferrret@hotmail.com	
Newsletter Editor	Gloria Skylstad	gskylstad@gmail.com	-
Librarian	Gary Ures	gures@koiiofire.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	tcferrret@hotmail.com



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

Pond Happenings

Month	Location	Month	Location
April 13	Bob & Diane Malone, Phoenix	July	No Meeting
May 2013	Pond Tour	Aug	No Meeting
June 8	Japanese Friendship Garden	Sept 14	Jon & Kristy Jolly, Gilbert

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 2013

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