

December 2013

Next Meeting: December 14 at 11:00 a.m.

The December meeting will be held at the home of Richard & Pet Smith.

Telephone: 480-821-9412

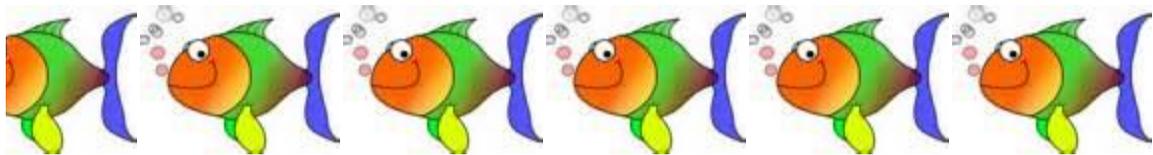
Address: 3096 W. Ironwood Circle, Chandler, AZ 85226

NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FOR THIS MEETING!

We will be having our annual Members Luncheon Potluck at this meeting. Please bring your favorite side dish and/or desert and join us. GPPS will be furnishing baked ham, fried chicken and drinks. Please join us for the festivities.

Please MapQuest for directions.

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



2013 Dues are \$25.00 per individual/family and are payable by December 31st. Please send your payment to:

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



President's Letter

Hi GPPS members!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends! We had a good turnout for the November meeting and it was great to see you all. I would like to thank our gracious host, Gloria Skylstad for opening up her beautiful yard and home for us all to enjoy! Gloria has gorgeous pond in her back yard. Gloria talked about her pond and about the Japanese Trapdoor Snails she has in her pond. Several members were interested in obtaining some so Gloria and Fern Shaw agreed to take orders from the interested members and place the order for the snails. We did not have a guest speaker due to the 2014 GPPS officer elections.

November is when we elect our officers for 2014 and all officer positions were voted on. Some positions had officers who volunteered to return and ran for re-election to their current positions while other positions had the current incumbent not seeking re-election. The 2014 list of GPPS officers are:

➤ President	Dave Nelson	(re-elected)
➤ Vice-President	Rita Karsten	(re-elected)
➤ Treasurer	Ed Tunstall	(re-elected)
➤ Secretary	Sue Beard	(newly elected)
➤ Event Coordinator	Kristi Jolly	(re-elected)
➤ Newsletter Editor	Gloria Skylstad/Fern Shaw	(shared position)
➤ Webmaster	Dennis Beard	(re-elected)
➤ Librarian	Gary Ures	(re-elected)

I would like to thank all of the current GPPS officers for all of their hard work, time and effort in helping to make 2013 an outstanding year! I would also like to welcome back those that were re-elected and welcome our newly elected officers for 2014! Additionally I would like to thank all of the members who showed up to the meeting and cast their votes! Our club is only as strong as our membership and their participation, THANKS!

The next general meeting will be on December 14, 2013 at the home of Richard & Pet Smith in Chandler. We are changing things up a little this year and are having our potluck luncheon at the December meeting so the meeting will start at 11:00AM. GPPS will supply the main dishes, fried chicken and baked ham, and we will also supply the water & soft drinks. We are asking that the members please bring a side dish or a desert. We are also asking the attendees to please RSVP so we can have a general attendance head count when ordering the main dishes. An e-mail invite from Richard & Pet Smith was sent out to all members who have an e-mail address on file with an RSVP reply function as part of the e-mail. If you did not get the e-mail or if you do not have an e-mail address on file, please RSVP by calling me at (480) 357-7205. If no one answers please leave your RSVP information on the answering machine. We also decided to have a "white elephant" gift exchange for those who wish to participate. This is just for fun so please keep your gift fun but inexpensive. Please come on out and enjoy our host's yard, pond, hospitality, a terrific potluck lunch and of course the white elephant gift exchange! I hope to see you all at the December meeting! Happy Holidays to you and your families!

Dave Nelson - President

Pond Happenings

Thank you to all the members who attended the meeting at my house, (Gloria Skylstad). I know for some of you it is a very long trek.

I think Diane and George Morris probably take the prize for the farthest distance traveled. The annual elections were held and the officers for the upcoming year are listed on the following page.

You will note that there has been a change in the Newsletter position, Gloria Skylstad and Fern Shaw are the Co-Editors. This will make it easier for someone from the newsletter to be at all of the meetings where work schedules are at odds with meetings.

Another very nice change is that we have three volunteers, Jeff Karsten, May Nelson and Diane Morris that will be alternates to fill in for the Newsletter Editors and the Secretary if they are unable to attend any of the meetings. A huge thank you to them.

As you all know, due to the increasing cost of mailings and printing, GPPS is trying to email as many of the newsletters as possible. If you are receiving a hard copy in the mail, please consider receiving it as a PDF file in your email. You can then print it and have a hard copy if you wish. We will continue to mail your newsletter if you do not have an email source. However, if you do have an email address, please contact the newsletter editor and make the change.



Pond Chores for November/December

- Net Leaves and Debris out of the Pond
- Add Beneficial Bacteria
- Step down feeding Schedule -
- Prune and/or repot pond plants
- Observe pond fish for sores & parasites - medicate if necessary

Your new officers for the 2013 year are as follows:

President - Dave Nelson

Vice President - Rita Karsten

Secretary - Sue Beard

Treasurer - Ed Tunstall

Event Coordinator - Kristy Jolly

Librarian - Gary Ures

Newsletter Editors - Gloria Skylstad and Fern Shaw

Webmaster - Dennis Beard

Thank you to outgoing secretary, Helen Corson. A job very well done!

Save the Date:

Nov. 10, 2013-May 18, 2014

8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Chihuly in the Garden Exhibition

Desert Botanical Garden

www.dbg.org/luminaria

Nov. 29-Dec. 31

5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Los Noches de las Luminarias

Desert Botanical Garden

www.dbg.org/luminaria

Dec. 2nd 7:30 p.m.:

Tempe Symphony Orchestra

Holiday Concert

Boyle Auditorium

McClintock High School

[1830 E. Del Rio Drive](http://1830E.DelRioDrive)

Tempe, AZ

This is a FREE event, no tickets necessary, no reserved seating.

Seating is a first-come, first served basis (usually plenty of room)

Doors open at 6:30pm

Pond Happenings

Denis Beard, who is also a member of the VSKC, has asked that the following information regarding the benefits of the newly enhanced Wheat Germ Diet be passed along to the GPPS membership. These foods are for both Koi and Goldfish.

Ultra Balance Wheat Germ:

Product order # 74080740 U.B. Koi (Wheat Germ) Medium Pellet 40#
Product order # 74081740 U.B. Koi (Wheat Germ) Large Pellet 40#

Both pellet sizes are also available in 22# & 5# packaging.

A couple of other products that are a bit less expensive are:

Product #75081450 35% Pond Diet 4 mm pellet
Product #70801325 (25#) or #70801350 (50#) 38% Koi & Goldfish Diet 3.5 mm

These diets do not have all the “bells & whistles” such as natural color enhancers, probiotics, Yucca Extract or Organic Minerals as the UB product line, but are still balanced diets to meet the nutritional needs of pond fish and are priced more modestly. They are packaged under the Star Milling Brand.

According to the Star Milling Rep., the newer wheat germ product has some very good additional ingredients like probiotics and in small quantities could be fed all winter long in our climate. These feeds can be purchased at the following locations:

Mesa Feed Barn
240 East Broadway
Mesa Arizona 85210
602-969-9704
Pratt's, Inc.
5237 Glendale Avenue
Glendale Arizona 85301
623-939-3326
Carter Feeds
1430 W. Wetmore Rd
Tucson Arizona 85702
520-887-6232



Black Japanese Trapdoor Snail

What kind of snails to put in the pond? While there are many varieties of snails available to pond gardeners, the preferred algae eating snail is the Black Japanese Trapdoor snail (*Viviparis malleatus*). This snail is black in color, body and shell. This variety of snail gives live birth rather than being an egg layer and they only breed a couple times per year, so they will not overwhelm your pond with offspring.



They can be a great asset in keeping algae under control as they groom your plants, planting pots and water garden walls. They also cruise the pond bottom and consume decaying matter such as leaves and fish food.

Koi tend to eat most of the young so the new baby snails should be picked out of the pond and reared in an aquarium or quarantine tank until they are at least 1-1.5”.

In order for the snails to have a positive effect on algae growth, you should have at least 25 for a small pond and 50 or more for larger ponds.

For more information on snail species, a great site is www.fishpondinfo.com/snail2.htm

www.dragonflyaquatics.com Is a good source if you wish to purchase some of these snails. They ship quality snails at a reasonable price.



Photos and article: Gloria Skylstad

GPPS Annual Luncheon



- Saturday, December 14, 2013 • 11:00 a.m.
- Hosted by Richard & Pet Smith
- 480-821-9412
- Home of Richard & Pet
- 3096 W. Ironwood Circle
- Chandler, AZ 85226

Please RSVP to newsltr@phoenixponds.com if you plan to attend the luncheon. GPPS will furnish Baked Ham, Fried Chicken and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert and join us for the meeting and lunch.

We will also be having a "White Elephant" gift exchange! If you would like to participate, please bring a gift.

Note: If you do not have email capabilities, please feel free to RSVP to Dave Nelson at (480) 357-7205

FRIENDS/NEIGHBORS

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE SEASON

BY RENEWING OLD FRIENDSHIPS AND CREATING NEW AT ...

KARSTEN'S ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

JEFF & RITA

1200 EAST TYSON STREET

CHANDLER, AZ 85225

480.821.0768

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2013

6:30p.m. TO ???

Bring a dish to share and BYOB

For Sale, Trade, or Free

Fishmate 2000UV Pressurized Filter \$100.00; OASE Pond Vacuum \$125.00
please contact newsltr@phoenixponds.com

FREE Goldfish and Turtles, please contact president@phoenixponds.com
Dave Nelson at (480) 357-7205

If you would like to advertise an item or service in the newsletter, send your submission to
newsltr@phoenixponds.com

Pond Tip.....Quarantine everything you plan to put in your pond, whether it be frogs,
snails, fish or plants.

Pond Happenings

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE			
President	Dave Nelson	president@phoenixponds.com	480-357-7205
Vice President	Rita Karsten	vicepres@phoenixponds.com	
Treasurer	Ed Tunstall	treasurer@phoenixponds.com	
Secretary	Helen Corson	secretary@phoenixponds.com	
Events Coordinator	Kristy Jolly	events@phoenixponds.com	
Newsletter Editor	Gloria Skylstad	newsltr@phoenixponds.com	-
Librarian	Gary Ures	librarian@phoenixponds.com	480-278-6847
Webmaster	Dennis Beard	webmaster@phoenixponds.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
 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
newsltr@phoenixponds.com

Pond Happenings

Upcoming Meetings & Events			
Month	Location	Month	Location
Dec 14	Richard & Pet Smith, Phoenix	Mar 2014	TBD
Jan 2014	TBD	April 2014	TBD
Feb 2014	TBD	May 2014	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 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



Happy Holidays to All!