

There will be no meeting in July!



HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE? Logon to: www.phoenixponds.com



President's Letter

Hi GPPS members!

The weather has heated up and it is officially summer! I hope everyone has a great summer and finds ways to beat the heat. The June meeting was held at Gloria Skylstad's in Sun City. It was a good meeting that was well attended. We had several guests including the

new president of the Valley of the Sun Koi Club, Arne Grant; Arne is also a past GPPS member. Arne brought up some ideas for discussion and consideration about GPPS & VSKC possibly having a joint pond tour next year as well as opening up both the GPPS meetings to the VSKC members and the VSKC meetings to GPPS members. Overall everyone in attendance thought they were good ideas and definitely ideas that would be looked at further.

Another suggestion was brought up that we could look into doing a joint pond and art tour next year. We would try to get local artists to bring some of their art to each pond (one artist per pond) on the tour and guests could not only see the beautiful ponds but some local art and artists at the same time. The exposure would benefit all parties involved and everyone thought it was a great idea! Thank you Gloria for opening up your yard and sharing your wonderful pond with all of the attendees!

There are no meetings in July and August but if any of you hear about something that you think the other GPPS members might be interested in please get a hold of one of the officers and we will post something on our website and/or in our newsletter. Everyone have a safe and fun summer!

The next GPPS meeting will be on September 13, 2014 at the home of George & Diane Morris in Queen Creek, AZ I hope to see you all there!

Dave Nelson - President

It's that time of year to check your UV lights and be sure that they are working properly. Even though the bulb may be lit, the efficacy of the UV will have diminished over time. A good rule of thumb is to automatically replace it every year.



WANDA'S WORLD

Hi, my name is Wanda (The Weeping Juniper) and boy do I have some tales to tell.

This couple found me as a scrawny six foot tall juvenile at a local nursery. The nursery thought I was quite worthy (Honey, good things don't come cheap.) He loved me at first sight but she thought I was too scrawny to survive. He won her over and the nursery allowed them to buy me.

They brought me to their home. They decided to put me on a pedestal area (as I deserve) above the waterfalls to this pond that was filled with huge beings (I think I heard them say something like hoi-poi, no, I think it was Koi.) I thought it felt like a great spot to put down roots. It was sunny for me in the morning and had some shade in the afternoon. (Arizona sure gets warm.) My feet felt really good in the well draining soil and it was a great viewpoint of the rest of my realm.

This couple seemed great. Then I heard they were from the Midwest and had killed a lot of my friends and relatives by planting in the summer "like back at their past home" and not considering what a time we have getting adjusted to the heat. I decided to keep growing in spite of them and give

them another chance to prove themselves. I'm enclosing a "selfie" to show you what a beautiful fifteen year old I have become.

Stay tuned for future tales of the adventures in my yard. If you have any questions for me, you can send them to my co-owner, Rita, at her e-mail (rj_kars10@yahoo.com). I will try to answer them in next month's newsletter.

Wanda

(Don't know why they call me "weeping". I think I just regally drape.)

Submitted by: Rita Karsten

Check out the new FAQ'S at www.phoenixponds.com

Pond Happenings



The June meeting was held at the home of Gloria Skylstad. Thank you to all who attended.

Our guest was the new president of the Valley of the Sun Koi Club, Arne Grant. They would like to invite GPPS members to join them at some of their meetings and/or their annual picnic. In the future we will be including the meeting times and place for the VSKC.

Rita Karsten suggested putting an article in the newsletter each month about pond scaping and

land scaping for our desert climate. She volunteered to write that column as well. Please note the great article that she wrote for this month's newsletter. Thank you so much Rita.

We will be working on getting other members to write articles of interest for you. If you have a topic that you would like to have addressed or if you have information that you would like to share with the membership, please don't hesitate to let myself or Fern Shaw know. We would be happy to publish your photos or articles.



This beautiful Lily was blooming in my pond on June 14th. For those of you who asked it is a "Perry's Fire Opal Hardy Water Lily and was purchased at www.dragonflyaquatics.com



Don't let your Fish suffocate Using Algaecide correctly

Water loses its capability to carry oxygen the warmer it gets. Oxygen available for the Fish, in particular Koi, can diminish quickly in the heat of the Summer.

Many a pond owner has come home only to find he has lost several, or sometimes all, pond fish without any outward signs of disease or injury. Often, lack of oxygen in the hottest part of the day is the culprit.

Fish that are huddling around a waterfall or visibly gasping for air are indicators that something must be done quickly.

It is best to avoid these scenarios completely, and here is how to do it:

Use A Good Algaecide if the pond is green. Algae is a plant and will take oxygen out of the pond at night but never use it during the heat of the day.

Good algaecides kill algae quickly and when the dead algae falls to the bottom of the pond it temporarily takes some oxygen with it..

Always use algaecides late in the evening or early in the morning and make sure lots of oxygen is being pumped into the pond with a fountain, waterfall or aeration kit.

Use Beneficial Bacteria regularly to get rid of decomposing organic matter in the pond bottom which uses oxygen in the decomposition process but never use it on the same day as an algaecide. Always wait 2 or 3 days in between.

Make sure the water feature, waterfall or fountain is running at full capacity during hot days. An aeration kit (pond air pump) will supplement it as well as keep the fish alive if the pond pump fails.

Always use tap water conditioner to remove chlorine chloramines from the water when refilling the pond. Chlorine will slowly, over time deteriorate the gills of the pond fish and the more the gills are damaged the less oxygen the fish can extract from the water.

Information courtesy of www.pondmarket.com

Photo: Gloria Skylstad



Out and About: Things to do and see

Desert Botanical Garden is offering Flashlight Tours each Thursday and Saturday through August 30. They also have many educational programs and lectures to choose from. It's a beautiful place to visit.

<http://www.dbg.org/events-exhibitions>

At the incredible **Butterfly Wonderland** there are many educational and informational programs to choose from.

September 14th: Field Trip to Southern Arizona to Tag Monarch Butterflies

September 25th: How to Build a Fall Butterfly Garden

<http://www.butterflywonderland.com/experience-welcome.html>

The MIM (Musical Instrument Museum) is one of a kind. We are fortunate enough to have the only venue of its kind in the world in our very own backyards.

They continually add to and enhance over 350 exhibits representing nearly every nation on earth.

They have concerts, family events and a great restaurant.

<http://themim.org/>

The Riparian Preserve At Water Ranch. The Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory (GRCO) is the latest addition to the Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch. The facility is available for a variety of public programs, offering an educational opportunity unique to the valley.

<http://www.riparianinstitute.org/riparian.cfm>

Photo: Matt Watson



Pond Happenings

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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GPPS Newsletter

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 newsltr@phoenixponds.com

GPPS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Jeff Karsten	rj_kars10@yahoo.com
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Jon Jolly	tcferret@hotmail.com

*****Sale, Trade or Free*****

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 submissions to:
newsltr@phoenixponds.com

Have a tip, trick, recommendation or idea? Send it newsltr@phoenixponds.com

Pond Happenings

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Month	Location	Month	Location
July 2014	No Meeting	Oct 2014	Les & Janice Tanzer
Aug 2014	No Meeting	Nov 2014	TBD
Sept 2014	George & Diane Morris	Dec 2014	Richard & Pet Smith

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.

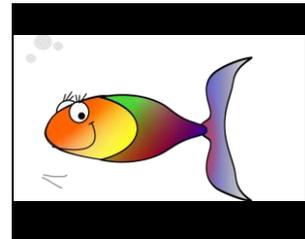


Photo : Gloria Skylstad