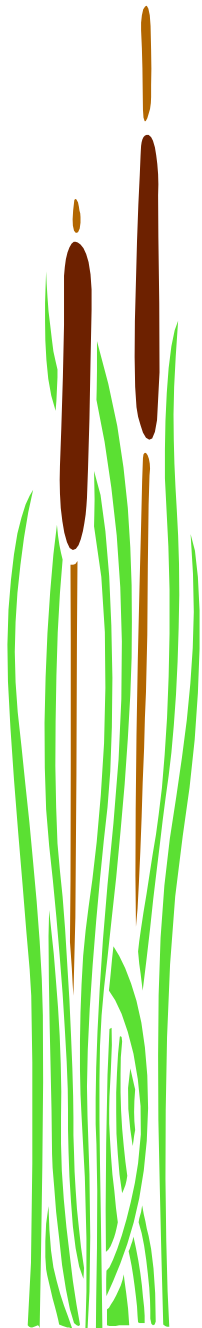


Pond Happenings

A Monthly Newsletter Published
by the Greater Phoenix Pond
Society

March 2014



Next Meeting: March 8, 2014 9:00am

The March meeting will be held at the home of Jamie Coffey

Telephone: 480-213-1092

Address: 3653 E. Decatur, Mesa, AZ 85205

Please bring your own chair and bags or buckets for any fish or plants that may be available

2014 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

Reminder: This issue of the GPPS Newsletter will be your final issue if you haven't paid your 2014 dues. You may bring your payment to the meeting or send payment to Treasurer, Ed Tunstall.



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

President's Letter



Hello GPPS!

I hope everyone is enjoying the unseasonably nice weather we are having; although we could sure use some rain and some decent snow up in the mountains. Our February meeting was awesome! We held the meeting at Margret T. Hance Park at our booth at the Chinese New year festival as guests of the Valley of the Sun Koi Club (VSKC). We had a good turnout for the meeting and everyone was treated to a great presentation on Koi "benching" by Dennis Beard. Dennis also had handouts for everyone and some posters showing the different types of Koi. The information was not only very interesting but it was extremely helpful for the members as they went along the rows of tank holding the fish that were entered in the show judging competition. Thank you Dennis for your presentation and a big "THANKS" to VSKC for inviting us and giving us a booth at their event. I would also like to thank Gloria Skylstad for bring coffee and refreshments for the meeting. Due to the location of the meeting we kept the time of the meeting relatively short so there was not a lot of additional discussion on other topics.

We had a great turnout at the GPPS booth on Saturday at the VSKC show with numerous visitors interested in our pond tour and our club. We talked to hundreds of people and handed out approximately 500 flyers for our pond tour. We enjoyed meeting and talking to everyone who stopped by the GPPS booth; it was a fun day and there were some great discussions and sharing with everyone who stopped by. Thanks to the members who volunteered to help out at the booth.

Preparations are in "full swing" for our annual pond tour and Rita Karsten is working tirelessly on making this year's tour a great event. If you want to be on the tour please get a hold of Rita as soon as possible.

I have three forms that I made up and introduced at the December meeting and they will be at all future meetings:

1. 2014 Meeting host sign-up sheet – we want everyone to have the opportunity to host a meeting and want to encourage those who have never hosted a meeting or those who have not hosted for a while to sign-up. When you host you are able to share experiences with other GPPS members, which is why you joined in the first place. No matter what "stage" you are at with your pond please share and remember if you wait for it to be "perfect" you will never share.
2. Guest speaker/presenter volunteer sign-up sheet
3. Suggestion sheet (meeting locations, guest speaker/topics, etc.)

The next meeting is on March 08, 2014 at the home of Jaime Coffey. Please come out and enjoy our host's pond, yard and hospitality!

I hope to see you at the March meeting!

Dave Nelson - President

Building a Garden Pond, Water Garden or Fish Pond Using Preformed Ponds or EPDM Liner

If using a preformed pond, select a quality Garden Pond that will meet your needs. Many Ponds and Pond Kits are available. Look for features such as plant shelves for aquatic plants. Good pond kits contain Pond pumps and separate Pond filters.



Selecting and installing a preformed Garden Pond.

1. Put the Garden Pond on the selected site and use a shovel to mark its shape.
2. Excavate a hole 2" deeper than the pond to allow for a protective layer of sand.
3. Install and level your new garden pond.
4. Start to fill the pond while taking care that it stays level. Use dirt and sand to fill in any gaps around the sides.

Now you are ready to install a water fountain or waterfall or other water feature in your backyard pond. Check our pages on water quality and fish health before stocking your pond with Koi or other pond fish.

Building a garden pond, water garden or fish pond using flexible EPDM pond liner:

1. Select quality pond liner, EPDM pond liner is the most durable. (Check the pond liner offered inside pond kits - make certain they are 45 mil EPDM pond liner.)
2. Determine the size and shape of the garden pond using a garden hose.
3. Excavate the hole, taking care to slope the sides slightly to give them more strength.
4. Shape the sides of the Pond incorporating plant shelves. The minimum depth of the Pond should be 18 inches for most areas, two feet or more is preferable.
5. Determine the size of the liner needed using the following formula:

$$\text{Length} + (2 \times \text{Depth}) + 2 \text{ (or 3)} = \text{Length}$$

$$\text{Width} + (2 \times \text{Depth}) + 2 \text{ (or 3)} = \text{Width}$$

6. Protect the bottom of the liner with a special under-layment.

Determine the size of the pond pump and pond filter needed for your new garden pond using our formulas page and the pond calculator on the left of this page. Treat the water to eliminate chlorine/chloramines and adjust the pH to acceptable levels before adding pond plants and pond fish. Add beneficial bacteria to jump-start the pond filter.

Article courtesy of http://www.pondmarket.com/ponds_and_liners.htm

Pond Happenings

The February meeting was held at the Margaret T. Hance park where the Annual Valley of the Sun Koi Club Koi show was being held. Thank you to Dennis Beard for an informative and succinct presentation on the benching and judging of Koi. He brought the best visual aids ever! After the presentation, we were able to view the fish that were being shown in their tubs.

If you wish to view the winners for the VSKC Koi Show, please follow this link. http://www.vskc.net/2014/2014_koi_show_results.htm There are three separate links on that page and the big winners are the first link. Thank you Dennis for the follow up on the Koi show results.



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

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	
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Librarian	Gary Ures	librarian@phoenixponds.com	480-278-6847
Webmaster	Dennis Beard	webmaster@phoenixponds.com	

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 "gppsnews@blue-fish.biz".

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

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

GPPS Technical Committee

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Ed Tunstall lctricfrog@cox.net
Tom Briggs tcbriiggsphx@gmail.com
Jon Jolly tcferrret@hotmail.com



Pond Happenings

Upcoming Meetings & Events			
Month	Location	Month	Location
Mar 8, 2014	Jamie Coffey, Mesa	June 14, 2014	TBD
April 12, 2014	TBD	July 2014	No Meeting
May 10, 2014	Pond Tour	Aug 2014	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

Happy St Patrick's Day!