

May 2018

Pond Happenings

Monthly Newsletter Published by the
Greater Phoenix Pond Society

The Next Meeting: JUNE 9th at 9:00am.

The June meeting will be held at the home of Don & Fern Shaw.

- Telephone: 602-332-8112
- Address: 1220 W. Wahalla Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85027

Bring your lawn chairs & bags/buckets for any plants/fish that may be available.

HELP SPREAD THE WORD!!

Print it, post it, share it, tweet it, say it!

FREE! 22nd Annual Pond Tour FREE!

May 12, 2018 – 9:00AM – 4:00PM



Greater Phoenix Pond Society

Founded in January 1996, the Greater Phoenix Pond Society (GPPS) is a group of pond enthusiasts dedicated to the promotion of water gardening and fish keeping in the Arizona desert.



Many members have been known to say, "Once you join, you'll never need to buy a fish or plant again!"



<http://www.phoenixponds.com>

Map available May 7, 2018

Letter from the President

Hello fellow GPPS members!

Hope everyone had a Happy Easter and is enjoying the wonderful weather while it lasts!

We had a great turnout for our April meeting; it was a pleasure meeting all the new guests and hearing the latest updates from our fellow members. I would like to thank Dean for hosting this month's meeting. I've been looking forward to going to Dean's house to see all his fish, turtles, tortoises and reptiles; I was definitely not disappointed. Dean enjoys experimenting with plants and creating natural habitats for all his animals. He has his own small wildlife Zoo.



It's that time of year again where Annie our very own master gardener and treasurer showed us how to separate our lilies. Thank you and we appreciate all that you do for us.

Thanks to everyone that volunteered to help promote GPPS and the pond tour at the Home and Garden show this year. Please remember you can help too, by posting on your social media or handing out business cards and fliers. Also, a

big thank you to Rita and Fern for all the time and effort you have put into organizing this year's pond tour. I look forward to seeing all the new and amazing ponds that our members have created

There will be no meeting in May, because of the pond tour, so our next meeting will be in June at the home of Don and Fern Shaw.

Hope to see you all on the pond tour,

Ron Christensen
GPPS-President



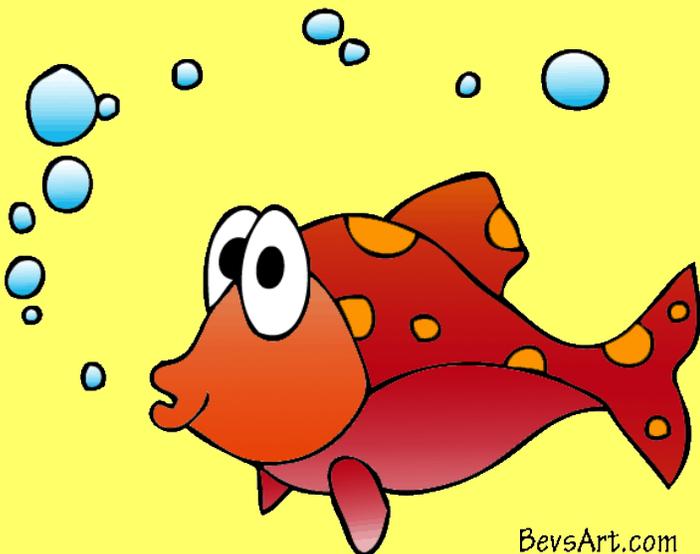
Dissolved Oxygen in Koi Ponds

“Fish need oxygen.” That is an understatement. Oxygen is one of the most overlooked parameters of water quality in the koi hobby. Low dissolved oxygen level is an underestimated cause of many fish losses. As a koi keeper it is imperative that you regularly test your pond water and monitor its dissolved oxygen level. Knowing oxygen requirements for optimum fish health will go a long way in your desire to keep and grow healthy koi.

What makes the oxygen level drop in a koi pond, you might ask. Many factors affect the dissolved oxygen concentration in pond water. It's not just the fish load in your pond. Atmospheric temperatures as well as weather conditions affect dissolved oxygen. Fish waste and decaying organic matter have a draining effect on dissolved oxygen levels because oxygen is used up during decomposition. Aerobic bacteria (good bacteria) consume a lot of oxygen. Algae blooms and submerged plants also have an adverse effect on oxygen level because they consume a lot of oxygen during the nighttime hours, through photosynthesis. This is why you may discover that the dissolved oxygen concentration of your pond is quite low in the early morning hours. If the demand for oxygen by plants, bacteria and fish is greater than the dissolved oxygen level of the pond, your fish are most likely to suffer.

Warm water does not carry as much oxygen as cool water and fish require more oxygen in higher temperatures as they are extremely active and eating more often. In cool water fish are less active and their oxygen requirement is minimal.

The minimum dissolved oxygen concentration for healthy growth, tissue repair and reproduction in koi is 6 mg per liter of water, but ideally the concentration should be higher. An oxygen level over 7 is desirable, and any reading above that should be considered excellent.



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Generally, prolonged exposure to low dissolved oxygen is harmful to all fish. A habitually low oxygen level can be linked to slow fish growth, persistent fish sickness and may contribute to repetitive parasite outbreaks. Continued exposure to low dissolved oxygen is also considered a precursor to bacterial infections in fish.

Please note that tap water and well water have frighteningly LOW levels of dissolved oxygen. You should pay close attention to the oxygen levels whenever a water change is being performed.

What are the signs of low oxygen level in a koi pond?

Fish may congregate near an oxygen source such as waterfall or bubbler when the dissolved oxygen level drops below to an uncomfortable level. In extreme cases of low oxygen, 3-4 mg/L, fish will gasp or pipe at the pond surface and may die after an extended period of low oxygen concentration. Large fish will suffer and die first during an oxygen crisis because they have a higher oxygen demand to live.

What is a good oxygen level for a koi pond?

A dissolved oxygen level in the range of 7-9 mg/L is ideal for koi and goldfish to live and thrive.

Do waterfalls supply oxygen for my fish?

Yes, a waterfall is beneficial and can help to replenish the oxygen in a contained pond. However, for ponds with a depth over 48" a supplemental aeration pump with diffuser stone is recommended. The diffuser, or air stone, should be submerged in the deepest portion of the pond and rest on the pond bottom.

Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L) at Saturation in freshwater		
Temperature (C ⁰)	Temperature (F ⁰)	Dissolved Oxygen at saturation (mg/L)
0 ⁰	32 ⁰	14.6
5 ⁰	41 ⁰	12.8
10 ⁰	50 ⁰	11.3
15 ⁰	59 ⁰	10.1
20 ⁰	68 ⁰	9.1
25 ⁰	77 ⁰	8.3
30 ⁰	86 ⁰	7.6

Member News

Ed Tunstall, our former GPPS treasurer until he retired in 2015, is very ill. He was diagnosed with MSA(a neurological disorder) two years ago. It has been robbing him of his health. His balance is very bad and he fell and broke his hip in February. He had a hip replacement and is in a skilled nursing facility. He is on tube feeding and aspirated and had to have a trach placed. He is now also dealing with pneumonia.

Susan (his wife) says he can't have visitors due to the MRSA he got while in the hospital. He can't speak, so no phone calls. They would truly appreciate your prayers. I'm sure he would love to receive cards too! You can send them to: Ed Tunstall/Susan Smithwick, 5439 East Dolphin Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85206-2208

I will let you know if I hear any further updates. If you have Susan on IM, she will pass along any comments to Ed. In prayer for Ed and Susan and family,

Rita - GPPS Vice President

2018 GPPS Meetings & Events

January 13th: Meeting – 9am Host: Jamie & Liz Coffey	February 10th: Meeting - 9am Hosts: Gary & Susan Stowe 16th-18th: Chinese Cultural Fair	March 10th: Meeting - 9am Hosts: Tim & Judy Restad
April 14th: Meeting - 9am Host: Dean Treadwell 27th-29th: Home Show	May NO MEETING 12th GPPS Pond Tour 9am-4pm	June 9th: Meeting - 9am Hosts: Don & Fern Shaw
July NO MEETING	August NO MEETING	September 8th: Meeting - 9am Hosts: Alan & Molly Hanna
October 13th: Meeting - 9am Hosts: Dennis & Sue Beard	November 10th: Meeting - 9am Hosts: Bernard & Diana Ho BOD Election	December 8th: Meeting - 11am Hosts: Richard & Pet Smith Holiday Potluck White Elephant Gift Exchange Fantastic Food & Fun

Do you have an event or gathering suggestion? Past events have included volunteering at the Japanese Friendship Garden, an Aquarium visit and a Painting party. If you have an idea for a similar or completely new event, please contact one of the board members or share it at the monthly meeting.

Your 2018 Board

GPPS Executive Committee

President	Ron Christensen 480-861-5320	president@phoenixponds.com
Vice President	Rita Karsten	vicepres@phoenixponds.com
Secretary	Sue Beard	secretary@phoenixponds.com
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Webmaster	Dennis Beard	webmaster@phoenixponds.com

GPPS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Jeff Karsten	rj_kars10@yahoo.com
Chuck Basso	1chuckbasso@gmail.com



Sale, Trade, or Free

BOX FILTERS - We have two used box filters FREE to a good home. They are both 16"X22"X16" deep. They each have a foam pad, a blue Matala mat, and a green Matala mat. One has 1 1/2" Bioballs (3" layer) and one has a 3' layer of Bio Strapping. Both filters used together kept our 3000+ gallon pond, with a heavy fish load, clear. Contact Jeff or Rita Karsten 480.821.0768

This adorable little red ear slider needs a new home!! Judy Restad adopted him at a GPPS meeting a few months ago but with their impending move, want to be sure he finds a happy home. Please email Judy if you are interested. judyrestad@gmail.com



1971 Chevrolet El Camino
\$8900

Good condition, runs and drives great. Engine and transmission rebuilt 2013-New carburetor 2015-New heater core 2016-Gear shift & steering column rebuilt 2017-Has SS hood & new tailgate-original hood/ tailgate/user manual/misc parts included. Clean title and license/passed emissions. Contact Jeff at 480-570-2759 or jl_kars10@yahoo.com

Have an item or service to advertise in the newsletter? Or a question, tip, trick, recommendation or idea to share? Send your submission to: newsltr@phoenixponds.com





Compost Giveaway

STEELE INDIAN SCHOOL PARK
MAY 12

City of Phoenix

Compost Giveaway Event-May 12th

Phoenix residents are invited to get some quality compost, courtesy of the Public Works department in partnership with our Compost facility operator, WeCare Denali. The compost is the result of the city's Clean Green Yard Waste program for landscapers and the Curbside Yard Waste program, where select neighborhoods can separate their green materials (grass clippings, tree branches, etc.) from ending up in the landfill. Those materials are then turned into high-grade, certified compost at the city's new compost facility. The city wants to let everyone experience how compost can make your gardens thrive while helping us to Reimagine Phoenix.

The event is happening Saturday, May 12, from 6 a.m. – noon, at Steele Indian School Park, Phoenix, AZ, 85012.

Residents must bring a copy of their city services bill for entry. Residents should bring a shovel to load what they need into their personal vehicle (no trailers). Please bring a tarp, if necessary, to keep your compost from blowing away. This event is for residents only; no businesses will be allowed. This will be a first-come, first-serve event as quantities will be limited. Questions should be directed to 602-262-6251.



Do you have your embroidered GPPS shirt yet? You can have your shirt embroidered with the society logo for \$10 or \$20 including a polo shirt. Contact Tanya at tanyam6@cox.net for more information or to place an order.

Treasurers Report

Starting Balance	\$3177.25
Income	
Dues	\$75.00
Expenses	
Rita-Printing-Pond Tour	\$68.21
Home & Garden Show	\$10.00
Ending Balance	\$3174.04

WEB 101:

If a member wishes to view archived Club Newsletters they must use the URL below. That URL is not a link from any of our pages. There is no need for a password. You can make it a bookmarked or favorite in your browser. I suggest that you highlight and copy the below URL. If you wish to type it in your browser's address window NOTE: there is an Underscore (_) between the gppsarchive and the .htm Failure to type the underscore will result in an error message.

http://www.phoenixponds.com/News/gppsarchive_.htm

If anyone finds a broken link or out of date information on the web pages, please send information like the page name and what needs to be changed or fixed to 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 newsltr@phoenixponds.com