

Utah Water Garden & Koi Club

March, 2018

We had a great first meeting of the pond club last month at the Conservation Garden Park. Thanks for coming to those that attended. It was a small group but the talk was very interesting and informative. We learned a lot about water conservation and perennials that are perfect for Utah gardens. Cindy Bee, our speaker, is an expert in garden design and she showed slides of plants by color and texture that go together to make a beautiful and water wise garden. Richard Cobbley, our President, announced the dates of the 2018 Pond Tour (August 4 and 5) and asked for volunteers to show off their ponds for this great event. Please let any officer know if you have an interest in showing your pond at the tour or offering your garden for one of our monthly meetings (when the weather gets warmer!).

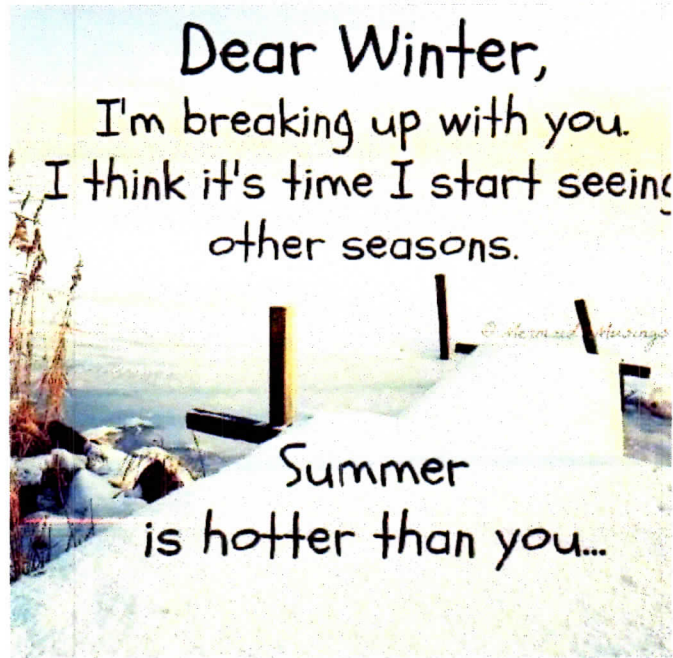


We are looking forward to seeing even more of our friends again at the March, 2018 meeting! We hope current members, members-to-be, and friends can break away from your normal routines to join us at **Red Butte Garden on March 15 at 7:00 pm**. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Please remember to pay your membership dues for 2018. We will have a credit card reader available at the meeting and we can also accept checks and cash. Dues for 2018 are \$45 for couples and \$35 for singles. We encourage you to become club members so you can receive the all the benefits the club offers.

If any member wishes to help the officers and the board with activities and events this year, please contact any officer. We could use the help and it is a great way to get to know the members. We promise we won't take advantage of your precious time by asking for more than you may be willing to provide.

Countdown to spring (March 21, 2018) is 16 days





March

March 15, 2018 7:00 pm

Red Butte Garden

300 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City

Speaker: Stewart Jesse & Stephanie Duer,

Salt Lake City Public Utilities –

Water Department

Topic: Water

Dessert and soft drinks provided

No Adult Beverages

Wheelchair Accessible

April

April 19, 2018 7:00 pm

Utah Water Gardens

3674 South 900 East, Salt Lake City

Speakers: Sheida Hajarian-Maguire and

Sterling Hermann

Topic: Pond Plants for Utah Ponds

Meal & soft drinks provided

Adult Beverage Friendly

Wheelchair Accessible

May

May 17, 2018 7:00 pm

Glover Nursery

9275 South 1300 West, West Jordan

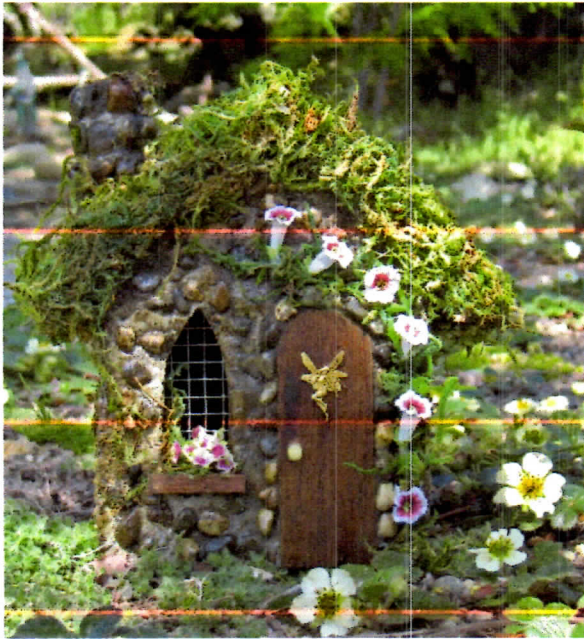
Speaker: Shane Thorstrom

Topic: Container Water Gardening

Meal & soft drinks provided

DOWN IN THE GARDEN WITH ROSIE

By Rosie Cobbley



Hey there! It's officially Spring on March 20th, and those of us who are addicted to Veggie gardening are getting itchy fingers. Got your seeds? Got some fresh planting mix (for raised beds)/compost (for in ground planting)?

Ready, Set, GO!



Not so fast- you have to wait for the frost to get out of the soil before you dig, or you'll destroy the soil structure, resulting in poor plant performance. We have a (debatable!) saying in England- if you can sit on the soil comfortably in your underwear, it's warm enough to dig. But you knew we were all nuts, didn't you?

There's an abundance of early season veggies you can plant in the Spring, which will be done producing by the time you need to plant your warm season veg. This doubles your production, making more efficient use of your space. If you are going to plant root crops- ie carrots, beets etc, these require a longer growing season to maturity, so those need to be planted early, and occupy that area for the whole season.



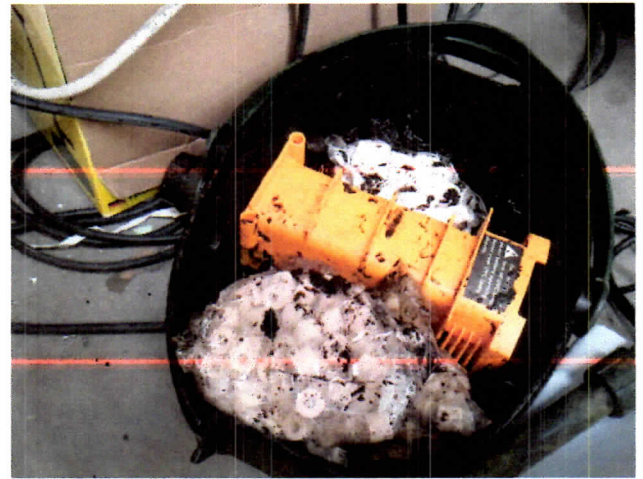
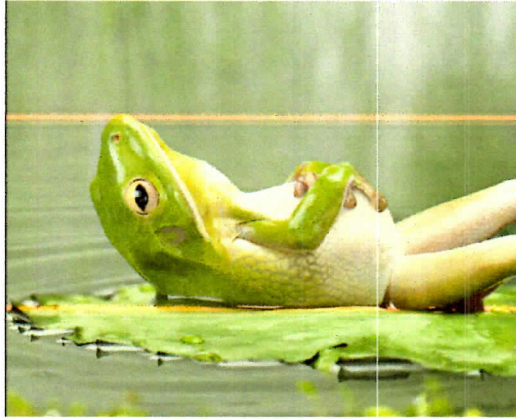
If you have limited gardening space, think outside of the box- Containers, Vertical gardens, Window boxes, all provide space for veggies with shallow roots-just remember they need a constant supply of water and nutrients as they will dry out quickly. You can even add veggies to your flower beds- how about a pretty border of crunchy lettuce and radishes? Here's a few of my favorites-: Peas, Fava Beans (need support), Swiss Chard, Spinach, Lettuce, Radishes.... Plant what you like to eat.



Don't have room in the back garden- How about a front garden veggie planting? This option needs to be carefully thought out, well designed, with a lot of shape and structure- as it can easily look messy. A focal point like a bird bath or bubbling rock would give it a center, and add some attractive flagstone or paver pathways to define the shape. One drawback- you may be sharing your crops..... By the way, that pesky Rabbit is out there somewhere.....



IHOP The Ponder Frog...



Ponders...Pumps

Recently made pond pumps are extremely reliable and energy-efficient and getting more and more so every few years. As with any mechanical device, though, there are things that can go wrong.

Fortunately, problems with pond pumps are fairly predictable, and checking on just a few things can solve the majority of pump failures. Here is a quick checklist of things to try before contacting the manufacturer. Feel free to ignore this list if you're just looking for an excuse to get a new pump.

Check water flow to the pump. This is, far and away, the most common pump problem that occurs. Your pump can't push water if it doesn't have access to it. First, check to see if there is anything keeping water from getting to the pump, be it a large rock or debris, leaves, a clogged skimmer net or opening, a jammed skimmer flap, or just a skimmer mat that has gone too long between cleanings. All of these things can keep water away from the intake on your pump. Your pond could also just have low water, keeping the pump from getting enough water through the skimmer box. Keep in mind that, between the plumbing, your filter/waterfall box, and the waterfall itself, the pump will drop the water level a good bit when it's running. It may seem like the skimmer box is plenty full when the pump is disconnected, but once it starts it the box runs dry or nearly dry.

Make sure the pump isn't vapor locked. A vapor lock happens when the pump gets an air bubble trapped in the volute, the main internal space of the pump. The

impeller will spin, but it won't be able to move water because of that air bubble. The solution to this one is pretty simple, just tilt the pump underwater so that the intake is upward, letting the air bubble escape.

- **Make sure the pump is getting electricity.** Check the ground fault and circuit breaker to make sure that neither has been tripped. You may also want to try plugging a different compatible appliance into the outlet your pump usually uses to make sure that power is getting to the outlet. If not, it's time to call in a qualified electrician.
- **Flush your plumbing.** The easiest way to do this is to disconnect the fitting above the check valve, letting water flow out of the system and back into the skimmer box, bringing any possible clogs with it.

Pull your pump out to inspect it. Check the intake on your pump for any debris that has lodged in it. Most pumps will deal with small debris pretty well, but something like a rock or large piece of detritus could get in there and block the impeller or intake. Clean out the intake to make sure that it's clear.

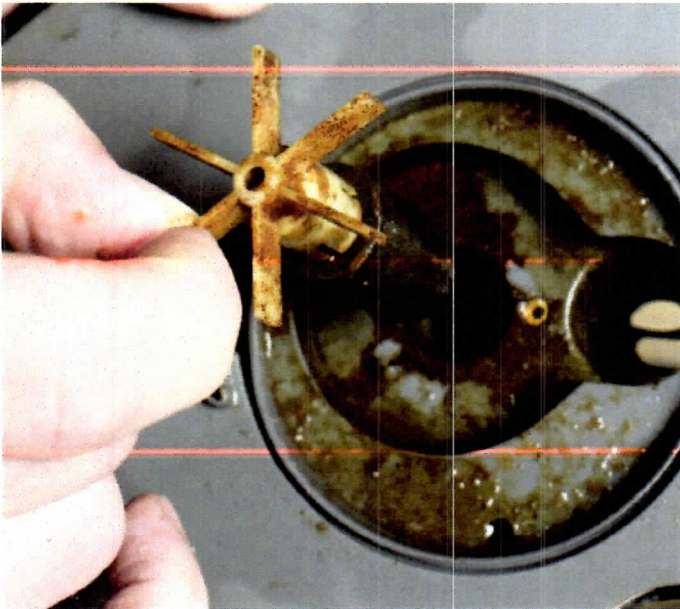
- **Try it again.** After you've got the pump out and cleaned, try plugging it in at this point to see if the impeller is spinning. If it isn't spinning, go to the next item. If it is spinning at this point, re-install and try it again. If your impeller is spinning properly at this point and you're still not getting water flow, then it's time to check again to make sure that your pump is getting enough water and that your plumbing is clear.

Jumpstart your pump. If your impeller isn't spinning, first try a jumpstart. **Unplug** the pump and carefully give the impeller an assisted bump with a screwdriver. If the impeller has seized up, this should knock it loose and give it a chance to spin freely. Plug it back in and, if the impeller is now spinning, unplug it again and re-install it.

Check the power supply. If the impeller is able to move freely but still isn't spinning when plugged in, take it to a different electrical outlet to try it. This must be an outlet with a ground fault (GFCI). Plug in the

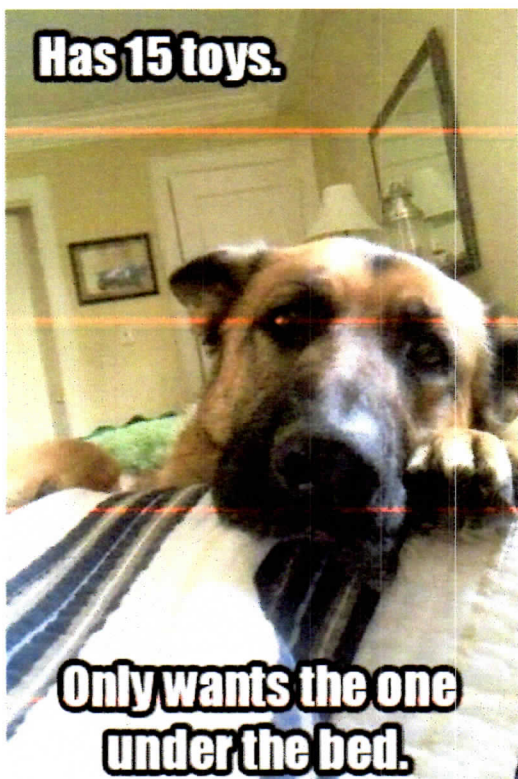
pump at this different outlet. If the pump still doesn't respond or if the pump trips the ground fault, something is likely wrong with the pump. If the pump works fine at another outlet, then something is wrong with the electrical supply at your pond, and it's again time for an electrician.

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- Once you've run through these items with no joy, it's time to get in touch with the pumps manufacturer. Seriously, though, it's probably just the pump not getting enough water.



Random Thoughts

Chocolate dipped golden retrievers are my favorite breed of dog



The Pond Trading Post



The Pond Trading Post is a forum to trade or adopt plants, fish, amphibians, single socks or small children. Please email Sherry and Gil Avellar at trout42@hotmail.com with a short description of what you would like to adopt out or what you might be seeking for your pond. Please provide contact information as well.



Have a good fishy recipe? Submit it for our newsletter to trout42@hotmail.com

Mustard Roasted Fish

Ingredients

- 4 (8-ounce) fish fillets such as red snapper
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 8 ounces creme fraiche
- 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon whole-grain mustard
- 2 tablespoons minced shallots
- 2 teaspoons drained capers

Directions

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F.

Line a sheet pan with parchment paper. (You can also use an ovenproof baking dish.) Place the fish fillets skin side down on the sheet pan. Sprinkle generously with salt and pepper.

Combine the creme fraiche, 2 mustards, shallots, capers, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1/2 teaspoon pepper in a small bowl. Spoon the sauce evenly over the fish fillets, making sure the fish is completely covered. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, depending on the thickness of the fish, until it's barely done. (The fish will flake easily at the thickest part when it's done.) Be sure not to overcook it! Serve hot or at room temperature with the sauce from the pan spooned over the top.

Pairs well with a crisp Pinot Grigio.

Club Officers 2018

President: Richard Cobbley 702-302-6315 (randrcobb@comcast.net)

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Club Historian

Lewis Wayman 801-916-2500 (lwayman@stylecraftframe.com)

2018 POND TOUR SPONSORS

The officers are starting to solicit support for our club by approaching past sponsors and encouraging new sponsors to join. We will be expanding this list as we get commitments so stay tuned!

Please visit our merchants who have been so generous in sponsoring this pond tour. Without their help we would not be able to provide the quality tour books and put on as great a tour as people in the community have come to appreciate. Keep this book for future reference. If you are planning on building a pond, the sponsors listed here will be glad to offer help and advice along with the best prices in town. The pond tour book is also a handy phone book to many of the pond suppliers in Utah, as well as an address guide of your future friends, should you join our club!

Glover Nursery 801-562-5496 9275 South 1300 West W. Jordan

Last but not least, thank-you to all of our members and pond tour homes. Without all of your help we would not be able to put on such nice tours.