

Utah Water Garden & Koi Club

October 2017



Our September meeting was held at the beautiful Galieti home although the weather wasn't so beautiful! Brave souls did go out in the misty rain to walk the beautiful water feature that wandered around the house. We were fortunate to be able to utilize a room in the house to hold the meeting which featured Josh Pendelton in an informative question and answer session on trees and their maintenance. We learned that Poplars are not so popular and we also learned how to prune Japanese Maples. A delicious peach cobbler with whipped cream was provided by Shirley and Jon. Due to the rainy weather, the auction that we had planned for the September meeting has been postponed until our October Banquet. We sold a lot of tickets to the banquet and thanks to Daniel Peel we now have a credit card reader which made it so easy to make the purchase. We will also have the credit card reader available for the auction in October.



Our October banquet will also feature our **annual auction** (bring money!). Please help your club by submitting items to sell to Suzi Janic phone 801-231-5963 or sjanic@comcast.net. Any type of donation is welcome.

Elections!



The club president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer positions are up for election. Also, several board members are up for election. Please submit your nominations for each of these positions to Shirley Simmonds shirjonevermore@gmail.com or call her at 702-302-6315. Nominations should be received by **October 15**. Voting for nominated positions will be held during the October banquet (another good reason to come to the banquet!).

Survey!



Would you say that you are extremely satisfied, mostly satisfied, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, mostly dissatisfied, extremely dissatisfied, or dumb penguin?

Please review the survey that is on page 10 of this newsletter so you can contemplate your responses prior to turning it in at the October banquet. We will be handing out blank surveys at the banquet for you to fill out then, or you can complete yours and bring it to turn in that evening.



October

October 19, 2017 6:00 pm

Meeting, auction, and banquet

\$28 for members, \$38 for non-members

contact Shirley Simmonds for tickets

shirjonevermore@gmail.com or call her at

702-302-6315

Rodizio Grill

Trolley Square

600 South 700 East

Wheelchair Accessible

**We have a new Facebook Page.
Please go out and like it!**



https://www.facebook.com/pg/UtahWatergardenandKoiClub/posts/?ref=page_internal

IHOP The Ponder Frog...



Ponders the cycle of Autumn/Winter

One of the most significant events of Fall is, of course, when leaves begin to fall from the trees above. If these leaves get in the pond and decay it will throw off the ecological balance of a water garden. One option is to use a net to skim leaves off the surface of the pond as they fall, but this can be a daily chore. Also, don't expect a skimmer type filter to get the leaves. Skimmers are designed to get the occasional leaf or other floating debris.

Heavy leaf fall can clog a skimmer several times a day. Installing leaf netting over the pond will be easier to maintain.

It is best to try to minimize the amount of accumulated sludge, decaying plant debris, etc. from the water. This can be done with a net, by siphon, or by use of a pond vacuum.

Fish

- Feed fish appropriately. The water temperature is dropping now and we should be feeding our fish less as their metabolism slows down. Hopefully you have been feeding your fish well with a high protein food this summer to allow them to build up a reserve of fat to help them through the winter. After the water temperature drops to the sixties you should decrease the amount of food given and feed only once a day. A wheat germ based food is good at this time as it is easily digested. As the water temperatures

continue to drop to below 60 degrees you should feed only two or three times a week. It can take your fish two or three days to digest food at this temperature. Once the temperature drops below 50 degrees you should stop feeding altogether until spring when the water temperature remains above 50 degrees.

- As organics decompose in the pond they can produce toxic gases that could be trapped in the pond if it is covered by ice for more than a few days. It is important to keep at least a small area free of ice so that these gases can escape. **Do not break the ice** as the shock waves created can damage or kill your fish. One of the easiest ways to do this is with a floating pond de-icer. This device floats in the pond and has a built-in thermostat to turn the heating element on when the water temperature drops below 40 degrees. They can also be used to keep a small pond from freezing solid allowing you to keep your fish alive.

Protect your fish. With their slower metabolism and the absence of plants our fish are more susceptible to predation by raccoons, birds and other animals. If you added leaf netting to keep the leaves out of your pond this should protect your fish as well. A Koi Kastle will help your fish be more comfortable by providing a place for them to hide. One of the most effective methods of keeping predators away from the pond at any time of the year is the ScareCrow. This device senses movement with a motion detector and sprays any intruder with a burst of water frightening them off.

Plants

- Prepare the plants. You should have stopped feeding your plants by now. As the foliage on your hardy plants begins to die back you should remove any dead and dying leaves and place the plant deep enough in the pond to keep the roots from freezing. While it is true that some marginal or shallow water plants will survive even if their roots freeze solid it is best to lower all of your plants below the ice zone.

- Prepare the pond. If your pond is too small or shallow to offer protection from freezing temperatures then you still have other options. You can add a floating deicer, which will keep an area of the pond above freezing. If your pond is not too large and does not contain any fish you can place a cover such as plywood over the pond and cover this with bags of leaves or bales of straw to provide insulation. A tarp should also be placed over the straw to keep it dry to provide better insulation. A basement can provide protection if you remove the plants and store them either in their original containers or in peat moss. One method is to build a temporary shelter over the pond. Lumber or PVC pipe can be used to construct a framework over the pond. Place clear plastic over this and weight the plastic down with soil or stone. This frame should hold the plastic a few feet above the water. Greenhouse type plastic is best but construction grade plastic should last the winter. This method works very well and is basically like moving the pond to one USDA hardiness zone higher. On clear days, the sun warms the water and even if covered with snow there is good insulation over the pond. Some tropicals can be wintered over this way in mild winters even if you live in zone 6 or 7.
- Plants with special needs. Some plants do not like being submerged in the pond through the winter. *Iris ensata* formerly known as *Iris kaempferi* a Japanese Iris should be removed from the pond and planted in the yard until spring when new growth starts and it can be placed back in the pond for the summer. *Lobelia cardinalis* (Cardinal Flower) should be removed from the pond and planted in the yard for the winter. This plant should have a few inches of mulch over it as well. You will have more success wintering over Canas if you remove the rhizomes from the pot and store in slightly damp peat in a basement or other cool area.
- Tropical plants. Some tropical water lilies will bloom all winter if kept in a tub container inside and given at least six hours of bright light. You can also winter them over by

removing the tuber from the pot after the foliage has died back from a freeze. Place the tuber in a container of slightly damp sand or peat moss at 50 degrees. In the spring, you will need to heat the tuber in an aquarium to about 75 degrees to trigger its growth before moving outside. One choice with tropical plants is simply to dispose of them after freezing weather and replace them in the spring. This way you get to try new plants and colors next season. If you want to try wintering over your tropical plants there are a few methods worth trying. Many tropical plants can be brought inside and treated as a houseplant for the winter. Umbrella Palm, will do very well with medium light levels. If these are in no-hole containers then no special care is needed otherwise keeping the pots in a tray full of water is needed to keep the plants wet. Water hyacinths and water lettuce require more care than they are worth; it is much easier and less expensive to replace them each spring. If you still want to make the effort they require 10 hours of intense light and temperatures above 70 degrees.

Pumps and Filters

- Prepare the equipment. Depending on your climate and other factors you may or may not want to run your pump and filter system through the winter. The bacteria in your biological filter will not be active at low temperatures but it will remain alive as long as you keep it supplied with oxygen-laden water. When spring arrives and the water temperature is rising the bacteria can start to work immediately keeping the water quality good for your fish and helping to control the algae. Should you choose to run your filter through the winter it is a good idea to minimize the water circulation to take advantage of the layering effect of the water. (Water temperature is densest at 39 degrees and the water on the bottom of the pond will remain at this temperature even with freezing temperatures on the surface.) Some ways to minimize circulation is to turn off bottom drains if possible, place intakes to pumps/filters at mid-water, turn off surface skimmers, (you do not want to circulate top or bottom water in the winter), place your

intakes closer to the outlets in the pond (waterfall or fountain), and or turn the pump down. These actions will allow the biological filters to stay alive without interfering with the layering of the water. Massive circulation of water in the winter can super chill the water by exposing warmer pond water to below freezing temperatures leading to the death of the fish. One problem with running a pump and filter in the winter is the potential of major damage to your filter and plumbing system if the power goes off for extended periods and you are not at home to make sure that no water is present in the filter and plumbing. If water can freeze in plumbing, UV's and filters this can lead to breakage requiring replacement of these units. If your system is designed to allow the water to flow back into the pond in the event of a power outage then these problems can be averted. If you have a check valve installed in your system you can use a long piece of small tubing or wire to hold the valve open to allow the water to drain out.

You can turn off the pumps and filters for the winter. Cold water holds much more oxygen than warm water and the fish's respiration is slow therefore you should not need the circulation and aeration. The bacteria in your biological filter does not work in cold temperatures so the only reason to run the filter is to keep the bacteria alive. If you turn off the pump and filter for the winter be sure to drain all plumbing. External filters, UV's, and external pumps will need to be drained. Submersible pumps should be left in the pond or in a bucket of water in a warm place to keep the seals from drying out. If you choose this method be sure to clean the filter before starting up in the spring.



Congratulations to Julie and Kelly Flint for producing the fickle but stunning Victoria! Here are pictures of their new arrival and some other images to show off this beautiful water lilly. Yes, they can be grown here in Utah under the right conditions. Julie was SO EXCITED about her beautiful plant and she stayed up over several nights to watch the blooms come out as they are nocturnal.



Victoria waterlilies are an extraordinary genus of waterlilies native to South America, famous for the huge size of their pads (up to 6 feet in diameter) and the upturned rims on the pads. Victorias are night blooming waterlilies, with large, beautiful blossoms. Usually the flowers bloom white the first night, and pink or red the second night. The third night the bloom is darker and beginning to fade. A larger plant can have pretty much continuous bloom in hot weather. The fragrance is delightful and powerful, reminiscent of pineapple.



Random Thoughts



I've spent all year saving Ferrero Rocher wrappers. Today I boiled up loads of Brussels sprouts and covered them in chocolate, then wrapped them in the gold foil. They want trick or treat? Ha ha...Bring it on.

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.

Fish for Free or Trade for Koi

I have about 20 large pond goldfish that I'd like to find a good home for, free or trade for a couple koi if anyone is interested. They are 4 and 8 years old and 4" to 8" long. Call Brandon 801-232-1012.

Koi needs a home

My neighbors are wanting to find a new home for this koi, he might answer to Charlie, but didn't when I tried to converse with him. He's camera shy. If interested, call me at 801-969-5038, and leave a message, and I will pass it along. Richard Sawdey



Koi for sale

Could be up to 20 years old! We have had for 10 years since moving into our home. They are 7-22" We live in Sandy. Call Ted 801-523-6190 Katherine 801-859-2706 or email us at kmahoney772@gmail.com



In preparation for the installation of new officers, we will be handing out a survey during the October banquet. It is very important to receive your thoughts, comments and suggestions about the direction the club will take in the upcoming year. Please think about what is important to you as club members so you can let us know. We want to hear from you!

Utah Water Garden & Koi Club 2017/2018 Survey

Why did you join the organization?

How long have you been a member? _____ Do you intend to renew your membership? Yes No

If not, what could we offer you that would make you renew?

How did you first hear about us?

What do you believe is the primary function of our association?

What would you like the club to focus on?

What do you like the most about being a member of our organization?

How would you prefer to pay for dues and other fees the club collects?

Credit/Debit Card

Cash

Check

Rate each of our benefits / programs on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being most valuable and 1 being least valuable.

_____ Monthly meetings

_____ Speakers

_____ Pond tour

_____ Newsletter

_____ Auction

_____ Web site

_____ Facebook page

_____ Summer BBQ

_____ Annual Banquet

_____ Socializing

_____ Plant Exchange (new)

Did you attend the 2017 Pond Tour? (Circle one) Yes No

How many ponds did you visit? (Circle one) All Most Some

How would you rate the pond tour on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being disappointing and 5 being outstanding?

What suggestions do you have to improve the pond tour experience?

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 pm. What would your food preference be? (Circle one)

Snacks

Dinner

Dessert Only

Nothing

What topics would you like to hear about at the monthly meetings?

Do you receive the monthly newsletter? (Circle One) Yes No

Please provide your email address if you would like to receive a newsletter

Please rate the following newsletter articles on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being most valuable and 1 being least valuable

_____ Ihop the Ponder Frog Articles

_____ Calendar of Events

_____ Down in the Garden with Rosie

_____ Random Thoughts

_____ The Pond Trading Post

_____ Chef's Corner

Please rank your interests in order of preference on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being most interested and 10 being least interested:

_____ Koi

_____ Goldfish varieties (comet, shubunkin, orfe)

_____ Other fish (trout, bass, bluegill)

_____ Amphibians and other non-fish species

_____ Aquatic plants

_____ Pond maintenance

_____ Pond construction

_____ Gardening

_____ Turtles

_____ Other (please specify)

Please list any additional thoughts or suggestions that you feel are pertinent on the back of this survey form.



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

DEILED SALMON

- 1 ancho chile, stemmed and seeded
- 2 tablespoons Sriracha
- 1 tablespoon sambal oelek or other Asian chile sauce
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 hot pickled cherry pepper, stemmed, seeded and minced, plus 1 tablespoon brine from the jar
- Four 6-ounce skinless salmon fillets, about 1 inch thick

Step 1

In a small bowl, cover the ancho chile with hot water and let stand until softened, about 20 minutes. Drain and mince the ancho. In a small bowl, whisk the ancho with all of the remaining ingredients except the salmon.

Step 2

Add all but 1/4 cup of the marinade to a baking dish. Add the salmon fillets and turn to coat. Cover and refrigerate the salmon for at least 1 hour and up to 4 hours.

Step 3

Light a grill. Grill the salmon fillets over moderate heat, turning once, until lightly charred and nearly cooked through, 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer the salmon to plates and serve with the reserved marinade.

THIS YEAR'S POND TOUR SPONSORS

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!

American Stone	801-262-4300	4040 South 300 West	Salt Lake
American Stone	801-768-8909	2100 North 1200 West	Lehi
American Stone	801-774-8500	975 N Main St.	Sunset
Ann Elizabeth Print Studio	801-262-3605	4970 South 900 East	Salt Lake
Parker Bautner			
Cactus and Tropicals	801-485-2542	2735 South 2000 East	Salt Lake
Cactus and Tropicals	801-676-0935	12252 S Draper Gates Dr.	Draper
Glover Nursery	801-562-5496	9275 South 1300 West	W. Jordan
House of Pumps	801-262-3369	8510 Sandy Parkway	Sandy
Landscape Lighting Pro	801-440-7647		
Millcreek Gardens	801-487-4131	3500 South 900 East	Salt Lake
Oasis Gardens & Koi	801-656-7011	By Appointment Only	
Pendleton Design Management	801-453-0067		
Steve Regan Company	801-268-4500	4215 South 500 West	Murray
Schmidt's Farm & Greenhouse	801-566-5735	9120 S Redwood Rd.	W. Jordan
Utah Koi	800-270-4211	3494 West 6925 South	W. Jordan
Utah Water Gardens	801-590-8516	3674 South 900 East	Salt Lake
Wasatch Shadows Nursery	801-566-0608	9295 South 255 West	Sandy

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.

Club Officers

President: Shirley Simmonds 702-302-6315 (shirionevermore@gmail.com)

Vice-President: Julie Flint 801-274-3040 (jam199@comcast.net)

Secretary: Connie Wagstaff 801-944-3911 (idiq15@aol.com)

Treasurer: Suzie Janic 801-231-5963 (sjanic@comcast.net)

Board Members:

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Brett Reynolds 801-272-2541 (brett@reynoldsgraphics.com)

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Newsletter: Gil and Sherry Avellar 801-572-0853 (trout42@hotmail.com)

Photographer and Historian: Daniel Peel 435-660-0784 (danielpeel@me.com)

Board Assistant: Claudia Larsen 801-898-0915 (smokeysox@aol.com)