



The Prairieland Splash

PKPS MEETING: Saturday February 12th, 2011—9:00 am

**OUR HOSTS: Raymond & Lisa Kull
KULLSCAPES LANDSCAPING**

DIRECTIONS:

The address for Kullscape is: 1401 Meadows Ave, East Peoria.

The subject for the meeting will be about Water Reclamation. I believe this to be a very important matter to consider for all of us Pond Owners.

This meeting should not be taken lightly, for Water Reclamation affects all of us, If not now, perhaps one day in the future. Please try to attend. Lets try to have a record breaking attendance again this year.

MEMBERS:

If anyone would like to compose an article for the newsletter please email me or call me.

Ron Kramer

Buggs844@comcast .net
309-645-4459

I am including the Club Meeting Agenda for 2011, it is also on the web, Allen has put a lot of work in the web site, do yourself a favor sometime, and take a peek at it, if you haven't already. We are very proud of it.

Allen can do a lot of things with it, so don't be shy to ask him questions.

I think he also can put pond related things in a "For Sale" column on the Web Site, Again, ask him to be sure.

TREASURES REPORT:

Beginning Balance:	\$4661.80
Income	1342.00
Expenses	2830.49
Ending Bal	\$3173.31

BIRTHDAY BABIES

December: Lori Kruger

Nora Heruth

Bev Thompson

January: Peter Barclay

Patty Kramer

Cathy Collins

Jay Sauer

Mark Schatsiek

February: Steve Depew

Denese Bevard

Nadine Sauer

Barb Luick

Pat Gay

Vince Smith

Tom Collins

NAME TAGS

Please don't forget to wear your name tags so we start to get to know each other a little better.

It sure helps me to address you with your name rather "Hey you"

Volume 15, Issue 01

February , 2011

Special things to remember:

- Bring Lawn Chairs to the outdoor meetings.
- Perhaps a paper and pen to jot down notes
- Don't forget your Name Tags Please!
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Pond/Water Feature of the Month

by Ron Kramer

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE

There are few ways to distinguish male from female, one being color intensity. At 3 to 4 years of age (14 to 18 inches), the male Koi becomes more colorful with the intensity becoming deeper than the females. Red is especially darker with a purple hue. Most of the female's red color is pink and harder to develop into a deep red color. Japanese judges dislike the purple type red color as it makes the pattern on the body appear heavy. Male Koi reach their peak sooner and deteriorate faster than the females, therefore the female is more desirable and about four times as expensive.

Another way to distinguish between the male and female is to turn the Koi over and squeeze slightly towards the tail. If sperm is noticed in the anus area then the fish is male. The Koi must be over three years of age for this to be 100% effective. It should not be attempted by novices as the Koi may be damaged and lose a large amount of protective body slim. It is advisable the fish be tranquilized prior to performing this test.

	MALE	FEMALE
<u>BODY</u>	Skinnier	Rounder & Fatter
<u>FIN</u>	Large, pointed	Small, round
<u>ANUS</u>	Pointed & Indented	Wide & Raised
<u>ABDOMAN</u>	Slim & Hard	Wide & Round, Soft

During the spring and summer breeding time the male has a rough texture, much like sandpaper, at the gill area. The female will appear fatter and chunkier because she is carrying eggs plus, she will have a much thicker slim coating. Other methods of determining sex should be left to the experts who must be able to identify the difference. A dealer or breeder should be consulted if there is doubt.

MALE OR FEMALE WHICH TO RAISE?

There are a few features to consider when choosing between a male or female Koi. The female will usually place higher than the male in competition but are more difficult to raise. Each year they produce eggs and tend to add weight. If the extra weight causes the body to be unbalanced judges will consider it to be of lesser "quality" and accordingly mark it down; at least mentally. To raise a female Koi effectively it requires a good size pond, preferably larger than 10,000 gallons, a water current to keep the fish exercised, and high nutrition foods. Be aware that excessive amounts of high protein food, such as trout chow, can cause problems with tumors and obesity. Do not overfeed to add weight. Allow the fish to add bulk naturally with growth.

If competition is not your major interest then the male fish is easier to raise. They are less expensive compared to the females and have reduced problems with stomach tumors. With a good pond it is possible to raise a male fish with the same body conformation as a female.

Mr. Anabuki, Vice-Chairman of Z.N.A. is well known in Japan for raising male Koi that have female conformation.

Through the Fish Eye

by Denese Bevard

From Your Librarian

The February meeting will be about water reclamation. One of the many books our club library has for your use is “Pond and Brook” by Michael Caduto. The book is a guide to nature in freshwater environment. It covers our world of freshwater; still water in ponds and lakes, flowing water in streams and rivers, and wetlands.

An excerpt from the book’s foreword tells us, “The human race is not meeting its own need for clean water. Even in the United States where we have clean water, the use of water is not sustainable. Wells are dug deeper and deeper and will some day be dry.

About one third of surface water and much of groundwater is polluted to the point it is no longer usable. Wildlife in that water is dying. We can have cities and industries without putting their wastes into water.

Human beings are always messing about with the world’s flows of water. We deepen them, dam them, stock them with fish or harvest fish from them, pump them up, rechannel them, put them into pipes. To do these things wisely, we need to know more about water and the creatures that live in it and around it.”

Locally, we are going to find newer EPA laws will force us to look at where our rainwater runoff goes, where the soapy water from washing our cars goes, how the chemicals we use on our lawns or in our homes pollutes our water sources and destroys or deforms our wildlife. Remember the meeting we had a while back about how birth control pill hormones, excreted by human females, have actually made male frogs into females frogs? We may pay penalties for letting water run into the city storm sewers. We may receive other incentives to preserve water by using rain barrels or constructing rain gardens.

Rain is a resource meant to nourish our world, but we build our homes with the concept that rain must be gotten rid of as quickly as possible. Because of the way we design our communities, rain has turned into a dirty waste product that turns our streams and rivers into health hazards. Rain gardens are designed to absorb rain and clean storm water runoff naturally.

Using various methods of water reclamation, anyone has the ability to do something to help solve storm water problems. This can be a very powerful way to be involved in making our world a better, healthier, and more beautiful place to live.

If you would like to check out this book or any other book in our library, see Denese before or after the meeting.

The Chicago flower and Garden show is coming up on March 5-13 at Navy Pier, \$15 weekdays, \$17 weekends.



Members:
If there are others that want to be on the Pond Tour Please let Karen and Larry Dickerson, or myself (Ron Kramer), or any Board Member know. Also: we really can use some helpers, please sign Up with the Pond Tour team. WE NEED YOU!!



Do you have Moles in your yard. Here is another fix to try for lawn destroying little buggers.

- 1-1/2 tbsp. of Tabasco Sauce
- 1- tbsp. of liquid dish soap
- 1- tsp. of chili powder
- 1 - Qt. of water

And simply pour this tonic in mole runways.....and they'll run away!! ya,right!!!!



HAPPY VALENTINE



PKPS CLUB BANQUET:

I WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO THOSE WHO WERE EFFECTED BY THE CHICKEN SHORTAGE ISSUE AT THE BANQUET. K OF C WAS TRYING TO USE A DIFFERENT FORMAT TO SERVE US, THINKING IT WOULD BE A BETTER WAY. IT DID NOT TURN OUT AS THEY HAD HOPED, WE HAVE DISCUSSED THIS ISSUE WITH THEM AND THE SERVING WILL GO BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE. I AM TRULY SORRY THIS HAD TO HAPPEN. THE BANQUET IS SOMETHING WE WANT TO RUN PERFECTLY WITHOUT ANY ERROS. WE DO TRY VERY HARD TO HAVE A GREAT PRESENTATION TO ALL OF YOU.

I DO REGRET ALONG WITH THE BOARD THAT THIS HAPPENED, AND WE HAVE THE ASSURANCE FROM K OF C THAT IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

**REGARDS:
RON KRAMER,
PRESIDENT OF PKPS**

Did you know that next to Warsaw Poland, "Chicago" has the largest Polish population in the World!!!!

2011 PKPS CLUB MEETINGS

MONTH	LOCATION	SPEAKER	TOPIC
February 12, 2011	Kullscape	Raymond Kull	Water Reclamation
March 12, 2011	Luthy Botanical	Bob Strietmatter	Poinsettia Care
April 9, 2011	Mark Schatsiek Hm.	Terry Richards	Spring care of Roses
May 14, 2011	Glen Oak Zoo	Susan Borden	Koi Health
June 18 & 19, 2011	POND TOUR	POND TOUR	POND TOUR
July 9, 2011	Horticulture Lab ICC	Ginny Gibbs	Stress from Summer heat
August 13, 2011	Lincoln, IL	Allen & Lori Kruger	Bog Garden
September 10, 2011	Ralph Nelson Hm.	Larry Zahr	Tropical Lilies & Koi
October 8, 2011	Cancer Center	Golda Ewalt	Propagation Hosta
November 12, 2011	Knights of Columbus	PKPS BOARD	PKPS BANQUET



PrairieLand Koi & Pond Society

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We're on the web!!!

www.pkps1.com

It's All For the Hobby



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