

The Prairieland Splash

Prairieland Koi And Pond Society Meeting: ICC Pond Area, 8 September 8, 9:00 AM

Directions From Peoria: From Peoria take RT 24 East, turn right at the entrance to ICC, The Horticulture building will be on the left, please park in the designated areas. The pond area is located about 100 yards south of Horticulture building.

It is hard to believe that it is September already, and time to start thinking about protecting your pond from all the falling leaves and to about shutting down your pond for the winter.

This months meeting will be held in conjunction with ICC Day and the plan is for Vince Smith to give a demonstration on the construction of a pond heater. There will also be the nomination of club officers for next year; elections will be held during the October meeting.

As with last year the club will have a display as part of ICC Day, I know the college will be offering plants for sale as well as many demonstrations and displays also. This will be a good time to get your gardening questions answered by the experts.

Many thanks to Mike White for making the trip to last months meeting, his discussion of the different types of filters was very informative.

Cheryl and I will not be attending this months meeting as we will be taking a late summer vacation, I hope that everyone enjoys the meeting and don't forget to think about the officer nomination .

Todd

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$4199.76
Income	\$ 695.50
Expenses	\$1136.89
Ending balance	\$3758.37

Pond Supplies for sale

Microb-lift Bacteria	Fish food spring summer
Superbugs bacteria	Filter media (stored in East Peoria)
Algae fix	
Lily tabs	
Plant stakes	

Contact Allen

Prairieland Koi & Pond Society

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The Club will be selling supplies at each meeting . If you need something before a meeting date please contact Allen.



Don't Forget to check the website;

www.pkps1.com

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2012 Meeting Dates and Locations

Sep 8 ICC East Peoria, Pond adjacent to the Horticulture Building	Oct. 13, 2012 - Loren & Margaret Swanson, East Peoria
	Nov. 10, 2012 - Banquet

Praireland Koi & Pond Society Club Meeting

August 11, 2012

The August 11th, 2012 meeting was held at Allen and Lori Kruger's home. President Todd Bong called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. There were 26 members in attendance.

Guest Speaker

Guest speaker, Mike White, from White Water Filters gave a very informative discussion on filtration systems and ultraviolet lights. The three major filters he talked about were: Mechanical, Chemical and Biological filters. According to Mike, there is no one filter that is considered the best. It all depends on how it is used, and if it is not designed properly, it will be ineffective.

The first item discussed was the Mechanical filter. It removes the solid debris from the water. The problem with this is that it tends to plug up quickly. It does collect the debris so that it can be removed, but because it clogs up it reduces the water flow, thus starving the bacteria. On a small pond with a light biological load, this may be all that is necessary. A strainer or a screen on the inlet side of the pump will act as a mechanical filter but this too will have to be cleaned frequently. The larger the opening on the screen or strainer, the less often it will have to be cleaned.

The next type, Chemical filters, converts fish waste to nontoxic by-products by the use of chemicals, typically zeolite. In a pond set-up, this is usually not practical due to the size of the pond when compared to aquariums. Mike didn't spend too much time discussing this filtration system.

Lastly, Biological filters are designed by utilizing the water fall unit as a filter. It is important that the water has the capacity to flow through the media. If it can not, than the water will flow around it and eventually clog up.

Mike brought examples of filter media to explain their functionalities. The purpose of the filter media is to provide a surface for bacteria to live and grow. Bacteria are either aerobic or anaerobic. In other words, requiring oxygen or not requiring oxygen. Media have a big effect on the amount of oxygen available for the bacteria.

Bio Balls is one option that can be used. They are plastic open balls usually made of polyethylene. Normally these will not clog up or channel. Surface area is fair to good depending on size of ball and construction. These can have negative to positive buoyancy based on the material used in construction, negative buoyancy means it sinks, positive means it floats.

Another example Mike provided was the PVC ribbon. This thin, narrow ribbon has negative buoyancy and provides good surface area without clogging. One cubic foot on a bio-filter increases the capacity 100 times.

Lava Rock is another type of media but is not well received. One reason is that it is hard to clean. If placed in a bag water can not penetrate it and will go around the media instead, which will cause aerobic bacteria to die.

Once Mike finished his presentation on filtration systems he discussed ultraviolet lights. Ultraviolet lights are used to remove algae and to help clear up green water. The light breaks down the DNA of algae which will eventually stop it from reproducing. Beware of the verbiage on this product. There are no standards in this industry, thus manufacture's can say what they want about their product. He also mentioned the life span of the fluorescent bulbs. Most are good for 9,000 hours or 80% usage. In our climate that translates to about 2 years.

The next meeting will be held at ICC on September 8, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. by the pond. Also, it is ICC days and the club will have a booth like the ones' in the past.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Letriana Cantrell, Secretary

Nomination of club officers will take place during the September meeting

Positions open for nominations are:

President

Todd Bong is seeking nomination and re-election

Vice President

Secretary

Letriana Cantrell is seeking nomination and re-election

Treasurer

Karen Hofstetter is seeking nomination and re-election

Elections will take place during the October meeting

Prairieland Koi & Pond Society Board Minutes

July 28, 2012

Place: Todd Bong's house

Attending: Todd Bong, Greg and Letriana Cantrell, Jean Clarke, Karen Hofstetter, Rick Moreland, Allen Kruger, Brenda and Vince Smith

Treasure Report:

Beginning Balance:	\$4,479.01
Income:	\$ 723.00
Expenses:	<u>\$1,002.25</u>
Ending Balance:	\$4,199.76

Jean has been in contact with Bradley University to give a seminar regarding ponds in January. She will utilize information given to her by Sheldon and add updates where it is needed. A potential member, lives in a condo has had problems with her pond water turning green. Someone told her to drain it, which killed her fish. Todd told her he will make a home visit and evaluate the situation and provide her with suggestions. If he is unable to do this Vince said he will take care of it.

The National Club is still a mess due to internal fighting. Because of this a new club is trying to develop. Their problems have not affected us at this time.

Equipment

Two tanks have been purchased. A pond vacuum and 3,300 gallon pump still needs to be purchased. Allen stated that Mike White was the least expensive. The pump is \$221.40 and the pond vacuum is \$300 totaling \$521.40 before tax. The board made a motion to purchase items from Mike and it was approved unanimously. A GFI and cord still need to be purchased. A waiver for members to sign needs to be created stating expectations and a no liability clause towards the club. A check list with all parts needs to be placed on the lid of the tub to insure everything is returned. Members will be given a time limit as to how long they can have the pond vacuum. In the February newsletter there will be a sign up sheet. All of these items will be stored at Greg and Letriana's house.

Club meeting changes

Brenda informed the board that we have our June 2013 meeting scheduled at Hornbakers, which is the same month as our pond tour. One has to be rescheduled. Hornbakers has their annual sale in June so the board is thinking about changing the pond tour to early

July. We will take time to discuss the particulars of the pond tour after our regular board meeting on August 28th. Because the board has changed events and/or procedures, Vince suggested that we post minutes the following month to avoid confusion.

Future pond meetings

The August 11, 2012 meeting will be held at Allen and Lori Kruger's house at 10:00 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m. Mike White will be the guest speaker to discuss filtration systems. The board will take him out to lunch following the meeting. The September meeting will be held at ICC and we will have an informational booth to attract new members. Our October meeting will be held at the Swanson's house to discuss end of the year procedures and tricks and tips. Allen is going to advertise our pond meetings on the Access Channel in Lincoln.

Sadly, Brenda will be resigning from the raffle after this year. She will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Letriana Cantrell, Secretary



Prairieland Koi & Pond Society

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