



The Prairieland Splash

Meeting Date: Saturday 8 November 2014, 6:00 PM Knights of Columbus Hall
715 N. 11th Street Pekin, IL

Directions to K of C: Take Route 29 south to Sheridan Road (1 to 11 th Street. Turn right onto 11 St

From Morton: Take Queenswood Road to 155 South. Take 155 South to the Br Turn right onto Broadway. Proceed on Broadway to 11 St

We have come to the final meeting of the year and with that comes my final meeting as the club president, three years has gone by very quickly and during that time I have had the opportunity to come to know a lot of the members and learn about your ponds.

I want to take some time to thank several people that helped make my time as president much easier, first the other officers, Karen does an excellent job as the club treasurer, I can count on her to know exactly how much money the club has at any given time and her records have never failed an audit. Next is Letriana, as the club secretary she does double duty as she takes minutes for both the club and board meetings. The final officer is Vince, he can be counted on to make sure that the board is moving in the right direction and coming up with something new to make a ponders life easier.

I also want to thank the board members ,Rick who makes sure that we have a meeting place and don't forget the donuts and coffee. Jeanie makes sure that each new member receives their club guide and does a very job of representing the club at the numerous presentations that she has done during the last 3 years.

Greg, aka Mr Waterfall has stepped up to handle the distribution of the club products, food, filter material, bugs and all of the other good stuff the club sells. And you can always count him to lend a helping hand .

The final board member is Allen, as webmaster he makes sure that the newsletters get to each and everyone of you, he also make sure that the products that the club offers for sale get ordered.

I also want to thank the spouses of officers and board members, I know their support make the job easier.

And finally I would like to thank each and every club member; without your continued support there would be no need for the officers and board. I hope that each will continue to carry the message about the club.

Prairieland Koi
& Pond Society

November 2014
Volume 18 Issue 10



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance: \$3268.19
Income: 1026.50
Expenses 572.75
Balance \$3721.94



Don't Forget to check
the website;

www.pkps1.com

Prairieland Koi & Pond Society

October 11, 2014

The October club meeting was held at the Simmons's home. President Todd Bong called the meeting to order at 9:00. There were 29 members in attendance.

Club Business

Jim Simmons began the meeting by talking about his pond. He and Margy have had their pond for 10 years. It was dug by hand and many of their plants were collected while he was fishing. Their pond, which is crystal clear now, was not always that way. Throughout the years they had had a bad bacteria problem and the water was very cloudy. He tried numerous things to try and combat these problems to no avail. When he added a bigger skimmer box and began adding packing material wrapped in plastic, which he keeps in the bio falls, the water cleared up and the bacteria disappeared.

Jeannie Clarke discussed different options on how to close a pond for the winter. The first thing that needs to be done this time of year is to net it. This will help prevent debris such as leaves to get into the pond and cause detrimental damage over the winter. She talked about using bigger nets verses smaller nets. The larger nets do not freeze up as fast as smaller ones. However, it is more difficult to handle and do not protect ponds from smaller leaves and debris. The smaller nets can catch most leaves that blow around but, it freezes up faster and can break apart and sink.

Another option Jeannie spoke about was to close a pond or keep it open for the winter. The advantage of keeping the pond open prevents closing and opening of the pond each year. It brings aesthetic beauty and wild life during the long winter months. However, there are certain things that need to take place to prevent fish from dying. Some sort of heating or floating device needs to be in the pond to maintain a hole in the ice. Also, it needs to be monitored every day. If a problem takes place it needs to be attended to immediately.

Another thing that should take place if possible is to remove all dead leaves from water plants. Vince Smith has concocted a device to make this process easier. He took an extension pole used for swimming pools and added a PVC pipe to the end to add length. At the end of the pole he attached hand clippers with a string and this will allow dead leaves to be clipped without getting into the water.

The 2015 officers were announced. Karen Hoffstetter will remain the treasurer, Letriana Cantrell will continue to be the secretary, Allen Kruger will be the new Vice President and Vince Smith will take over as President.

Our banquet will be on November 8, at 6:00 pm at The Knights of Columbus in Pekin. If your RSVP have not been sent in please do so as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

Letriana Cantrell, Secretary

Board Meeting Dates

Club Meeting Date

8 Nov Banquet

Date Location

15 Nov Clarke

Pond Closing Information from the membership Guide Section 1 Seasonal Care

- Store submersible pumps in a container of water and place it where it will not freeze. Most pumps have seals that need to be kept wet, otherwise if they dry out they crack. Clean filters and store them in a dry location.
 - If you have a bio-fall, empty and blow out your lines with air. If you have a skimmer you can use a shop vacuum to suck out the water in the tubing going to the bio-fall. The skimmer cannot be emptied. Some books state draining down your pond several inches, if it rains or snows your water level will raise back to the fill line. Cover bio-fall with a plastic covered frame. Clean filters and store dry, wash lava rock, curlers, clay pieces, or what ever else you use for bacteria filter media also in a dry location or drop to the bottom of your pond.
 - Automatic water fill valves are disconnected and the valve assembly can be left in place as long as it is above the water freeze line. Blow out water from the line and any in the automatic fill devise it self.
1. Follow the manufactures instructions on purchased systems.
 - External Biomechanical Filters are drained and covered as to prevent water building up in the chamber thus freezing and cracking your unit, leave the drain port open to allow an empty basin. Blow out your water lines as described in the Aquascapes and Other manufactured pond component units.
 - Raise submersible pumps off the bottom, turn the pump to its minimum out put, place on a shelf 6-9 inches below water level. Water is a poor conductor of heat, cold water and ice form an insulating layer that keeps warmer water below it. The depth of your pond aids in temperature stability of the warmer water below the ice, and the water will also absorb heat from the ground. You won't want to circulate your bottom water with a pump.
 - UV lights will be turned off, drained, cleaned with bleach, rinsed and stored indoors.
 - Disconnect spitters, fountains and other water features, store indoors.
 - Restrict the air flow on Venturis, bypass water falls should be turned off.





Prairieland Koi & Pond Society

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