

The Prairieland Splash

**Prairieland Koi &
Pond Society**

**March 2024
Vol 24, issue 2**

**ICC
March 9 at 9:00 AM
1 College Drive**

Directions:

From East Peoria, Take 116 W/N Main St. for .5 mi and take US24 E toward Washington for .3 miles and turn right onto Centennial Drive and turn into the parking lot of the horticultural building.

Please send your dues which are still only \$20.00 to:

Deb Palmquist

110 Devonshire Rd.

Washington, Il. 61571

Meetings

Speaker

March 9	ICC	Ginnie Gibbs on garden whimsy
April 13	Kullscape	To Be announced
May 11	Christian Rath	To be announced
June 8	To be announced	
July 13	Terry Hess	To be announced
August 10	Mark Alig	To be announced
September 14	To be announced	
October 12	Banquet	

Prairieland Koi and Pond Society

General Meeting Minutes

Saturday February 10, 2024

9:15 – 10:20 a.m.

Attendance: 17 members

Location: Luthy Botanical Greenhouse, Peoria, IL

Meeting:

Doug Holmes, Peoria Zoo herpetologist, gave a talk about reptiles and amphibians and their interactions with ponds. He discussed the status of the zoo pond and

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asked for volunteers for cleaning and maintenance help from our group. Some of the animals he talked about included turtles, toads, raccoons, herons, bald eagles, snakes, ducks, mice, rats, and different types of frogs. He discussed both good and harmful animal-pond interactions. He discussed a fungus called Chytrid that gets on the skin of frogs, choking off their respiration, decimating their populations. Zoos have become insurance repositories for species of frogs (like the Golden Frog at the Peoria Zoo) that help preserve genetic diversity and can help restore decimated populations. He held an interactive question/answer session to finish out the meeting.

President Jeannie discussed the need for speakers to talk at our meetings on pond-related topics and asked for speaker and topic suggestions. A vote was taken on whether to have the PKPS banquet in October or go back to a November date. After voting, it was decided our banquet would continue to be in October.

Our next meeting will be at ICC on Saturday, March 9, 2024, starting at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Palmquist

Acting for Chery Ivey

Welcome to March! The temperatures are up and down, up and down. I opened my pond when it was so warm I didn't wear a coat then turned it off when it got really cold. Well, it's open for good now. I do hate it when my water isn't running. I turn on the bottom drain and the big bubblers when the weather warms and then just run the pump when it gets cooler. I keep thinking about the fish sleeping in their own crud and try to freshen it up a bit. Costia (it's a bad parasite) loves this time of year. I do hope you will plan on helping at the zoo pond clean out when the time comes. It is usually is a fun, dirty, exhausting but a good bonding time. All pretensions fall by the wayside when you work together to dig in to help the Zoo.

On another note, I would like to start an exchange of "stuff" we have accumulated and will not use again. Just bring it to the meeting and everyone can see if there is anything they could use. Lets keep that out of the landfill. If it doesn't work out, we may try something else.

Ginny Gibbs will talk about "Garden Whimsy". After the talk lets bring some ideas about your own ponds, problems, and solutions like how can we make our job easier.

Looking forward to seeing you on March 9 at ICC.

Prairieland Koi & Pond Society

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