

MARCH 2006

Beneath The Surface



A Compendium of Facts, Fancy, Tidbits, Tips



We are excited to return to Peck's Green Thumb Nursery in Cedar Rapids for our March 25 meeting. For the 2:00 meeting the nursery staff will talk about Landscaping around the pond. Shirley Peckoch will include her specialty, 'what's new' in the plant industry and how to include it in your pond landscape.

Peck's Green Thumb Nursery Inc.

3990 Blairs Ferry Road NE • Cedar Rapids

Bring a lawn chair. Be prepared to be inspired. We will be in the greenhouses, so dress accordingly. We will have our EIPS sign out and will be watching for you all.

Directions: So easy, no map is necessary - take the Blairsferry Road exit off I-380 on the north side of Cedar Rapids. Follow Blairsferry Road west past Walmart, and the new Hy-Vee. Peck's driveway is part of the intersection of Blairsferry and Edgewood Roads.



Getting
ready
for
Pond
Season!



Eastern Iowa Pond Society - 2006 Tentative Program Schedule

Bus. Meeting: 30-40 minutes Program: 30-45 minutes

Tour of host's pond/water features: 40-60 minutes

Pencil us in, on your calendar now.

Date	Time	Location	Program	<i>Responsibility</i>
03-25-06	2:00	Peck's Nursery, 3990 Blairs Ferry Rd NE, Cedar Rapids	Landscaping Around Ponds	Larry
04-13-06	7:00	Joe Hall, 620 33 rd St NE, Cedar Rapids	Garden Railways: How to Get Started	Jim
04-22-06	2:00	Judy and Joe Olsen, 2003 206 th St., Independence	Rock Gardening and Miniature Conifers: Devon Dietz, Master Gardener	Jim
05-11-06	7:00	Location: TBD	Nature Photography: John McHugh, Windsong Photography	Jim
05-27-06	2:00	Quinn and Kacy Novak, 601 Wilder Drive SE, Cedar Rapids	EIPS Buy, Sell and Trade: Fish, Pond and Landscaping Supplies	Stephanie/ Rose
06-08-06	7:00	Brandy and Lisa Lanham 2057 Eastern Blvd SE, Cedar Rapids	Bat Houses: Master Gardener	Erma
06-24-06	2:00	Bob and Stephanie Geers, 3615 Honey Hill Dr SE, Cedar Rapids	Making Cement Stepping Stones: Erma Thompson	Erma
07-13-06	7:00	Locations: TBD	Pre-Pond Tour	
07-22-06	2:00	Joyce Jensen 172 Gray Street Elk Run Heights	Cake Decorating Contest: Aquatic Theme	Rose
08-10-06	7:00	Gary and Jo Hunerdosse, 306 Red Fox Rd SE, Cedar Rapids	Landscaping for Residential Areas with High Deer Population: Brian Hughes, Smith-Massman Landscape and Design	Larry
08-26-06	2:00	Robert and Roberta Ward 3313 Waveland Dr. NW Cedar Rapids	Fall Bulbs and Plantings: Master Gardener	Jim
09-14-06	7:00	Location: TBD	Program: Open Discussion on Pond Related Topics	Stephanie?
09-23-06	2:00	Murillo and Morley, 6207 Spring Cove St NE, Cedar Rapids	Jackie Allsup, Pond Fish and Their Care	Larry
10-23-06	2:00	Larry and Erma Thompson, 131 Rosedale Rd SE, Cedar Rapids	Larry Thompson: Winterizing Your Pond	Larry
11-18-06	5:00	Pizza Village, Vinton	Election of Officers	

Meeting minutes

February 20th

Welcome Back. Ready for another fun filled year? Just wait till you see what we're planning for this year! We just get bigger and better every year!

Our new president, Monica Morley, began our first meeting of the year by welcoming everyone to the meeting. This first meeting was held at the Pizza Ranch in Vinton and is usually designated as a planning meeting for the year ahead. It's not typical of most meetings as it really concentrates on the business of the club's year ahead.

Minutes were approved as printed.

Monica had several invitations and announcements. The club was invited to participate in the Master Gardeners Tri State Conference; however, I don't believe we will be participating as the club could not meet the requirements. March 18th is the Green Scene Symposium in Waterloo. We were asked to set up a table at this function. Carol, being chair of the Publicity committee asked that anyone willing to sit at a table during this event to please contact her. In The Country Garden and Gifts is putting together their Spring Open House and invited the club to hold their May meeting there during this event. Monica also brought information regarding member, Deb Walser's, *See My Garden Tours*. For more information on any of these events, please contact Monica.



Monica then read a letter of thanks from Wade Wagner for the bench and plaque that the club donated to Cedar Rapids. A thank you letter for our donations to the McBride Rapture Rehabilitation Center was also read.

Treasurer, Joe Olsen, handed out a financial summary report, which he went over with us. It was approved. He reminded members that dues are now

due again for the 2006 year and asked members to be sure to fill out a form if any contact information has changed since last year.

Robert Geer reported for the program committee. This committee has already got a great line up of speakers at nearly every meeting! They had 2 openings for host when they came to the meeting, but they may be filled by now. Please contact Robert if you want to host a meeting to see if there are openings.

Elana reported for the hospitality committee. Their group came with several suggestions. They will be responsible to mail welcome packets to new members. They want to recognize a "Member of the Month" as well as birthdays in each newsletter.

Carol Sindelar reported for the Publicity and Writing Committee. She reported that EIPS has most recently had a table at the Kirkwood Master Gardener's Symposium. She also said she gets contacted frequently from other groups looking for speakers from our group. If you would like to do some of this public speaking on behalf of our group, please call Carol and she'll be happy to hook you up.

We next had some discussion about this year's pond tour. No site was chosen yet. Many of the members volunteered to get together and bring some recommendations to the next meeting. There was also some discussion on estimates for new pond tour signs.

I, Jackie Allsup, gave a report on our upcoming Pond Expo on May 20th. I explained to the club that the Expo committee was planning, a full trade show with all day speakers. I gave a brief description of the speakers that were planned for this very special day. I'm excited, something new for the club to look forward to!

New business consisted for letting the club know we now have a Fed. ID number. Monica also presented some information about the possible application for a 501 non profit status with the IRS. There was a lot of conversation that followed with pros, cons, and concerns. Finally, a small committee was formed to further look into these concerns and come back at the next meeting with some answers. If you have any special knowledge or experience with this, please contact Monica, Faith Miene, or Kacy Novak as no one present at the meeting seemed to have such experience. Monica also passed out a proposed EIPS Constitution and By-Laws draft. She asked members to read through them and give suggestions for auditing.

Greg Bickal announced that he was putting

together a bulk Koi food order. If you would like to add your order, please contact him. Food comes in 25# bags and will be around 1.14 a lb.

Someone inquired if Larry Tharp would have the one tablet a year, time released fertilizer tablets again this year. Larry said he'd be happy to order them again if there was enough interest. So please contact him, if you'd like to get your name on his list.

I spoke to the club about the recent fish kill at the Dubuque arboretum and asked for club comments or recommendations. After a short discussion, we decided an investigative road trip was definitely a must as we needed more information regarding the pond and their financial situation. A committee of 10 volunteers quickly offered their time and help. I'll contact Jack at the arboretum and arrange that meeting.

Finally, the meeting was adjourned and door prizes were drawn for. The lucky winners were Rita Tharp, Robert Ward, Shirley Thurm, Larry Thompson, and Roger Thompson.

Everyone filled their plates at the buffet and we returned to watch the video of last year's pond tour. Set to music and produced by Roger and

Shirley Thurm, we watched as beautiful plants, fish, and water unfolded on the big screen. This was really a nice presentation and we thank Roger and Shirley for the hours it must have taken them to put this together. This CD is for sale for 15.00 each and are great souvenirs and keepsakes. If you would like one, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Allsup, Sec.

P.S. If you ordered a shirt, they will be at the next meeting for pickup.



Ask the experts: Do you have a ponding related question or problem? With over 85 members, EIPS is a tremendous resource of information. Beginning this month a new feature in the newsletter will give you a chance to ask that burning question and get feedback from the "experts" in the club. Email your questions to olywon@indytel.com....., we will print them in the newsletter. Replies will be included in the following month's issue of Beneath the Surface. This will work only if you submit questions AND if club members with ideas reply (email answers to olywon@indytel.com before the last meeting of each month)

Space is limited so be concise in both questions and responses. Let's have some fun with this.

There are three questions to get us started:

1. My pump quit (out of warranty of course). Where can I get it checked out to see if it can be repaired? New ones are really pricey.
2. What is the formula for determining the amount of fish I should have in my pond?
3. Is anyone using bog filtration for their pond and if so how is it working?

Remember, if you have some comments on these questions, send them along to Joe .

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

NAME: **Tim Nolan**

Year I Joined: 2000

I have been a life long resident of Cedar Rapids with brief periods away for school and career pursuits. My wife Linda and I just celebrated our 35th anniversary on December 26th! We have 3 grown children, Abby, Holly, and Casey. Holly and her husband John, have recently blessed us with our first grandchild Nicholas Jay! I have been a member of Salem United Methodist Church for over 50 years and I enjoy running the sound system there for Sunday services.

I was a club member for 2 years before we ever dug our pond! We did a lot of planning first! I have enjoyed helping with the pond tours, handling the business of arranging for, and distributing the door prizes at monthly meetings, and working on the writing committee. I also like seeing the excitement new members bring as they become involved in the activities of the club, and the ponding hobby. One of the best parts is that it is an endless learning experience.

My personal background is one of musician, photographer, entrepreneur, and service worker most recently for the Cedar Rapids Community Schools. I currently work as a Distribution Specialist at the Purchasing Department Warehouse. We receive and distribute all of the equipment and supplies used in the daily operation of the school district. We deliver the school mail to 33 schools and 16 ancillary buildings everyday.

Heavy equipment transfers for all buildings including major events are part of our daily routine. Pianos, choral risers, stage blocks, racks of tables and chairs, huge wrestling mats and gymnastic equipment ride on our trucks. It's a fast paced strenuous environment. This is one of the reasons I needed a pond! Sanctuary now!

My hobbies include photography, music of all kinds, movies and television, and enjoyment of the computer. We still love to go tent camping as we did while our children were growing up. We even set up the tent by our pond several times during the summer! I like to do a little bicycle riding and a bit of cross country skiing now and then. I am a former member of the American Federation of Musicians, Professional Photographers of America, Midwest Industrial Photographers, and currently a member of Service Employees International Union . Wow this kind of feels like writing your own obituary.....something I have often thought everyone should take a

crack at!



Tim & Linda Nolan's pond in NE Cedar Rapids.

“Although this is our private sanctuary, visitors are always welcome”

Something about my pond:

Our pond is kidney shaped with a river rock bottom . Approximately 12 ft. x 18 ft. in size, it is 30 inches deep overall. Straight down sides to discourage predators, it is trimmed with granite rock all around, and features a 2 foot waterfall. The waterfall contains our bio-filter which is filled with plastic strapping tape as the bio medium. (easily accesses from work) It works great and is lightweight and easy to remove for cleaning. We have the traditional skimmer and waterfall arrangement.

The volume of the pond is 2200 gallons and it is home to about 30 gold fish of various kinds, and 4 medium sized Koi. We have several water lilies and numerous plantings all around the pond. Cattails, water hyacinths, and of course a healthy crop of anacharis started from some bunches that Sindelars donated to us a few years ago! It grew so well in our pond I was able to give some back to the Sindelars the year theirs declined.

I built the pond myself with some help from family members. It features a covered board walk that includes a swing overlooking the pond. You will find numerous mermaids in the area, hence the name we have given it, "Mermaid Lagoon". Remember?..... it's where Peter Pan hung out all the time! A recent addition to the board walk deck area is a misting system that brings a cooling relief to those incredibly hot summer days!

Our yard is completely fenced in for safety and privacy. A tall wooden fence gives us a cozy, away from it all feel, and the serenity of the pond is our daily therapy. We have outdoor speakers very near the pond and play all kinds of music throughout the summer. The resident toads seemed to prefer the music of Muddy Waters believe it or not! They would sing most joyously when he is cranked up! Myself, I love to listen to Andrea Bocelli and watch the fish as I relax in the shade of the ivy covered deck. It is truly a romantic, peaceful place to be.

We have had many get-togethers by the pond, often in the evening. We have underwater lighting but mostly like the effect of candles and lanterns around the pond. A portable fire pit allows us to enjoy cool nights even into the fall.

Although this is our private sanctuary, visitors are always welcome.

Eastern Iowa Pond Society - Library

Available to be borrowed by members.

Contact Ron & Edna Rife 319-247-0206

RifeRliffe@aol.com

Books:

Koi - AKCA - Grant Fujita

Practical Koi Keeping Vol. I - AKCA

Practical Koi Keeping Vol. II - AKCA

Practical Koi Keeping Vol. III - AKCA

The Water Garden - Hattatt

The Rock & Water Garden Expert -

Dr. D.G. Hessayon

The Stream Garden - Skimmer & Arscott

Ponds & Water Features - AHS

Simple Fountains for indoor and outdoors

by Dorcas Adkins

Basic Masonry - A Sunset Book

Water Gardens - Sunset Books

Landscaping for Small Spaces - Sunset Books

Garden Pools & Fountains - Ortho Books

Creating a Japanese Garden - Ortho Books

The Pond Doctor - Helen Nash

The Complete Pond Builder - Helen Nash

Water Gardening in Containers

by Helen Nash and Greg Speichert

Home Landscaping - Better Homes & Gardens

Herbs, Step by Step - Better Homes & Gardens

Outdoor Projects - Better Homes & Gardens

Decorative Accents for the Garden - Phillips

Quick Guide, Ponds & Fountains -

Creative Homeowners Press

Illustrated Guide to Gardening - Readers Digest

The New Gardener National -

Home Gardening Club, Series

National Home Gardening Club, Series

Container Gardens -

Perennials

Cutting Gardens -

The Bird Garden -

The New American Kitchen Garden -

Wildlife Gardens -

Garden Butterflies of North America -

Eastern Iowa Pond Society 2006 Pond Expo!

Giant Trade Show and Lecture Series

May 20th

9:00 am—7:00 pm

Hawkeye Downs

Fairgrounds

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

First of it's kind in Iowa

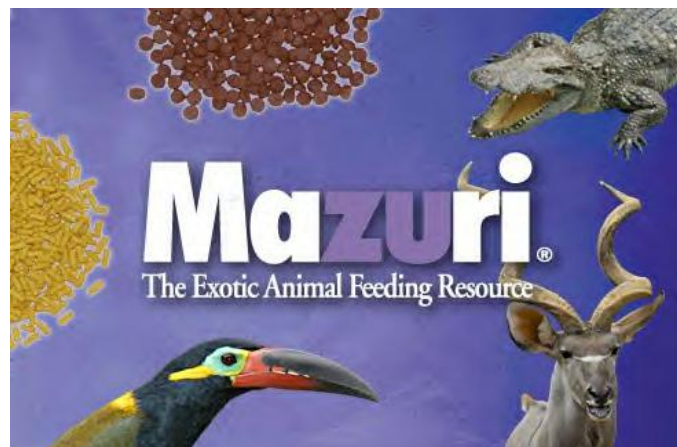
Just \$6.00 gets you into everything!

Vendors from all over the country will be here to show you what's new in the water garden and pond fish world.

Goldfish and Koi vendors

Pond supply vendors

One stop shopping!



The Schedule:

- 9:00 Doors Open
- 9:30 - 9:45 Welcome - The Three Laws of Ponding
Bob Passovoy
- 9:45-10:25 Water Plants - Ann Passovoy
- 10:35-11:25 Filtration - Dr. Kevin Novak
- 11:35- 12:25 Water Quality - Bob Passovoy
- 12:25 - 1:00 Lunch - food on premises
- 1:00 - 1:30 Pond Side Triage -
Bob Passovoy & Bryan Bateman
- 1:30 - 2:00 Fish Nutrition -
Stephanie McLean
- 2:10 - 3:00 Goldfish varieties and care -
Peter Ponzio
- 3:10 - 4:00 Koi classifications and care -
Dr. Bryan Bateman
- 4:00 - Pond Q & A Panel
- 5:00-7:00 Trade show still open
- 7:00 Closed- Thanks for coming!
Subject to Change



Meet Our Speakers:

About our seminars: Since many of our participants are experienced ponders already, we have tried to push the talks 'up a notch' to address the more experienced person's desire to learn yet more about what goes on inside their pond. For the beginners, we hope you won't find this information over whelming. Water gardening and fish keeping is a wonderfully flexible hobby, that is suitable to all degrees of time and experience.

Ponding is for EVERYONE

Dr. Bob Passovoy

Bob will open up our seminar talks by telling us about *The Three Laws of Ponding*. 1. There is Always A Better Fish. 2. There is Always A Better Filter and 3. There is Never Enough Water. Join us as Bob reiterates what we experienced ponders already have regretfully come to realize and what newbies will come to learn.

Later in the day, Bob will also *help* us try to demystify the whole *Water Quality* issue. It's probably the most confusing part of water gardening yet the most important part of fish keeping.

Just after lunch Bob will join Dr. Bryan Bateman and show us some simple *Pond Side Triage*. (Treating a simple sore or ulcer that we might find on our fish caused from an injury of any type.) This is treatment that you can do yourself with a little know how! You won't want to miss this talk!

Ann Passovoy

A Pond is not complete without the **Water Plants!** Whereas, Bob can explain the technical parts of ponding, his wife Ann has agreed to talk a little about the plants. Coming from Chicago, Ann can tell you what will work in our zone. She'll highlight the common plants and tell us about a few plants that work well in the pond that we may not have thought about. Come and enjoy her pictures and see what the people from Chicago may be doing differently than us.

Stephanie McLean

Stephanie is the SW area rep for one of our gracious co-sponsors Mazuri foods. Stephanie will take a few minutes to explain a fish's nutritional needs and how various types of food are required to satisfy those requirements. A short talk full of lots of information on how to get maximum growth and the brightest colors possible from our fish friends.

Dr. Kevin Novak

With an PH.D. in Ichthyology (study of fishes) and post graduate studies in Limnology (Study of inland water, ex. lakes and ponds) and being a mechanical programming design engineer by profession, Dr Kevin Novak has been in the hobby of ponding since his teenage years. The problems encountered with the growth of plants and the misunderstanding of biological bacterial processes in the pond hobby resulted in an intense research project some 20 years ago. Today, he has designed what he believes to be one of the most versatile and easy to maintain filtration systems that is now available to all hobbyists. Controversial in nature, his design addresses iron deficiencies to plants and "anoxic" low oxygen levels for tiny beneficial organism like bacterium.

Dr. Novak will be talking to us about his proven Anoxic **Filtration** System. Don't let the extensive scientific research scare you away from learning all about this exciting alternative to "buying the big filtration box". Dr. Novak will walk us through his DIY filtration system. Part veggie filter/part settling tank (but with a big twist) you can put this system on any existing pond or new construction. All natural, he works with Mother Nature to teach you how the laws of chemistry and physics can and will bring you sparkling clear and healthy water. He guarantees this will put an end to all your filtration woes. (Remember Rule #2!)

Peter Ponzio

Peter has been a goldfish judge for the past 12 years, and led a committee which wrote the standards on judging goldfish in the U.S. and were adopted by the GFSA in 1995. Peter has been past Chairman, Membership Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and frequent contributor of articles in the GFSA. Peter's articles on goldfish have appeared in the Midwest Pond & Koi Society, Louisville Koi and Goldfish Society, the Northwest Koi & Goldfish Society, the Goldfish Report and MAKC Report. Peter currently writes and maintains the site www.goldfishpages.com.

Peter is here today to educate us on the different **Goldfish Varieties**. The different types of goldfish are as numerous as Koi. This is a much overlooked side of ponding. People see common comets and Koi in ponds, but there are a whole host of beautiful and fascinating goldfish to be had and enjoyed. We feel after you hear Peter's presentation, you may consider the addition of a goldfish pond. (Remember Rules No# 1 and 3!)

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Do Your Fish Smile?

Do you really know where your frogs and toads are at any given moment? What are your apple snails actually doing all day long? Do you suspect that sea serpents or mermaids may be inhabiting your pond?

If your pond is very deep at all, you may have difficulty answering all of these questions accurately. Even shallow water gardens may hide their own mysteries of the deep! Wouldn't it be cool if you could peek under the surface of the water and discover what is really down there? Examine it up close. Get a fish's viewpoint if you will.



Well you may be surprised to learn that you can actually do this! There are toys out there that will not only make this possible, but truly entertaining as well! We're talking about Underwater Video Cameras!! Yes you know they exist but did you know that they are affordable to even ponders on modest gadget budgets? Not the high definition stuff that the big studios use, but reasonably decent quality equipment that can really amplify the ponding experience at a fair price.

We are all familiar with the little web cams that hook up to your computer, and allow you to send pictures and video to friends, relatives or clients. Well they have similar versions of this, which are completely waterproof and can go clear to the bottom of your pond! Not only that, but they can be hooked up to your computer as well, allowing you to put video of your fish on the internet via your web page! Streaming video from your backyard stream if you will!

Imagine being able to see your fish on your TV or computer! In living color and motion! Live! Yes you

can send live video of your fish from under the water, to the web, or to your large screen television in your home! You can track their behaviors no matter how inclement the weather is. You can even monitor the sick tank aquarium from your desktop!

You will be amazed at how much gear is out there to choose from. Most cameras in this category start around \$100 and go up from there. Way up! Many are in the \$200 to \$800 price range. Of course the sky's the limit if you have the cash and the itch.

Think of the possibilities..... now you can see if your fish are ok 24 hours a day without even going to the pond. Some of these cameras will even work under the ice so you can actually see that your babies are all still alive throughout the winter!! Numerous models have white led lights built in or available as an optional add on. This means that you can see good color video even if the sunlight is not bright. Even at night! Some units have infra red capabilities and automatically switch to that mode when it is too dark to work otherwise.

Wouldn't it be handy to see if your fish have any health problems developing before they get too far along? And think about the fun of running live video of your underwater creatures at your next house party! Like having background music just for ambiance!

Avid fishermen have been using these devices for quite some time to locate fish, check the integrity of lines, lures, and boats as well as monitor the response of fish to different baits. You can even use the cameras to find objects lost under water, or for above water security cams. They work in bad weather and can be mounted above your property to keep an eye on things. Some companies even offer specialized monitors which include the ability to run 4 or more cameras at one time showing all viewpoints on the screen at once.

But for water gardeners the most potential they provide is an enhanced ponding ex-



perience in the form of entertainment. We are always looking for ways to make the pond more interesting and enjoyable . These underwater cams can do just that.



The basic set up usually consists of a small camera about the size of an egg. It has a long cable on it to allow dropping it down into the water and then reaching off to the video device of choice.....tv, vcr, computer, etc. One line of the cable feeds the video input of your device, another line feeds the low voltage power supply to the camera and light. Most plug into the ac power feed from the wall in your house, and convert that to the low voltage power for the camera, similar to underwater lights or landscape lighting units. Some setups come with an adaptor to work off the cigarette lighter of the car or a portable battery. Some even have rechargeable batteries.



The cameras can be mounted permanently, in a fixed location or they can be adapted to other means of operation. Think scuba diver with a camera on a helmet, or just holding it in their hands. Suspended in your pond by a cable or mounted on a weighted base like an underwater light. Most appealing and perhaps most fun would be to mount the camera on a pole and walking it around in the pond to find a great shot.

Finding out what is really under the surface is sure to be a lot of fun and would provide countless hours of entertainment for you and your family. If you go to the links listed here, you will see that the possibilities are endless! Check out what promises to be an exciting new angle on ponding without investing in a lot of complicated expensive equipment. Wouldn't it be fun for a pond club to have an underwater camera available for club members to borrow, or for shows and exhibits?!! Then we would know if our fish are really smiling!

seaviewer.com

Check out the Model 650 Sea-Drop cam!

seaview.com

Another company offering color cameras.

diversdiscount.com

Many brands starting at \$150 for b&w

splash.com

Color cameras from \$795

camerainport.com

All types of security and specialty cams from \$110

wetrocks.com

Color and infra red models that go 100 feet deep!

borelmfg.com

Sea-Cam color unit with white leds \$160

bonniesplants.com

Color cam that goes 60 feet deep...great site!

lorexstore.strategicvist.com

Specialty cams and monitors, color cams from \$210

After looking at all of the above go to E-bay and find some great prices on similar gear!

Search for
"underwater video cameras"

Tim Nolan

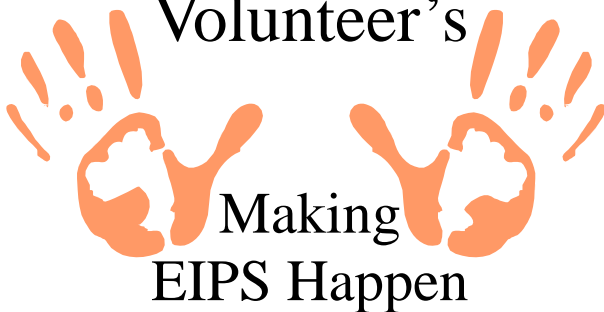




Upcoming Gardening Events in the Area

It is spring and many of the ISU Master Gardeners and garden centers are having gardening events, open houses and speakers. For the next couple months watch this purple pencil logo for lists of area events. And if you know of one you would like other EIPS members to know about, email that information to me at www.Fishlounge1@cs.com. Watch for area events.

Volunteer's



PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:

*Bob & Stephanie Geers 363-2448
hawkskier@yahoo.com

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS :

*Kacy Novak 362-0487
cqknovak@msn.com

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:

*Gary & Jo Hunerdosse 364-6627
gfhunk@mchsi.com

WATER GARDEN TOUR COMMITTEE:

*Brandy & Lisa Lanham 362-7672
lanhamb1@earthlink.com

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:

*Carol Sindelar 365-1839
fishlounge1@cs.com

WRITING COMMITTEE:

*Carol Sindelar 365-1839
fishlounge1@cs.com

Dr. Bryan Bateman Continue from page 6

Bryan and his wife Bay have been involved in the Koi hobby for 15 years. They enjoy showing their Koi at shows. They have shown throughout the Midwest and have won Grand Champion on five occasions! Bryan has served as President of the Midwest Pond and Koi Society. Bryan has also served as AKCA rep for the past 5 years and was certified as a Koi Health Advisor by the AKCA in 2003. Bryan joined the AKCA Koi judging program in 2002 and was certified in 2005. He was recently selected to judge in the prestigious Holland Koi Show near Amsterdam this coming August. Bryan enjoys writing articles on all things Koi and has written articles for MPKS newsletter, Mid-Atlantic Koi, and Koi USA.

Ever stood by your Koi pond and had someone point to a fish and say "I love your Kohaku"? Kohaku, Showa, Sanke...it's all Japanese to some of us. There are actually 14 different recognized **Classifications of Koi**. You know the difference between a German Shepard and a poodle, maybe it's time you learnt the difference between your Bekko and an Utsuri. Bryan will help us understand the differences and maybe even give us a few clues on how to pick out that **2007 Expo Grand Champion!** (See Rule #1)

RECOGNITION COMMITTEE:

*Ron & Edna Rife 247-0206
RLrife@aol.com

EXPO COMMITTEE

*Jackie Allsup 934-3665
Cedarserviceja@aol.com
Pat Beuter 448-4147
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rfmiene@yahoo.com
Richard Miene 393-4142
rfmiene@yahoo.com
Tim Nolan 363-9408
nolans@mcleodusa.net

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE:

no one!!!!

SPRINGVILLE GARDEN CLUB

INVITES YOU TO SPRING INTO SPRINGVILLE

DATE : March 18, 2006

Place: Presbyterian Church in Springville

10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

Gayle Bates

Ever lasting florals and great patio ideas.

11 a.m.

Master Gardener Deb Walser

Container gardens

12 noon

Master Gardener Carol Bruch

Japanese style gardening

Country Store:

Mini garden stones

Everlasting florals

Russ Schmidt's Birdhouses

DOOR PRIZES

COOKIES, COFFEE, AND APPLE CIDER

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

Once a year Fertilizer

Last year several members joined together and ordered Pond Pak 1-year time release fertilizer packets from JRP International. At the February meeting some members wanted to order again for 2006. Interested in obtaining a once per year fertilizer for your lilies, lotus and other pond plants?

Contact - Larry & Rita Tharp
396-3293 or
tharp.larry@mcleodusa.com.

Must have been a great product since there has been an unsolicited request to reorder.



Fig. 48

Member of the Month:

New addition for the newsletter. At the last meeting of the month there will be one drawing to determine who will be the member of the month. That member will fill out a short form providing information on themselves, their pond, gardens etc. pictures if provided.

Tim Nolan is the Member of the Month for March. We look forward to hearing about Tim & Linda's pond.

Birthday wishes of the Month:

For members whom wish to share their birthday in the newsletter:

Belated Birthdays in February :	Rose Milden	2-6
	Ron Rife	2-13
	Robert Ward	2-14
	Edna Rife	2-15
	Elena Murillo	2-16
	Tim Nolan	2-16
	Pam Moore	2-21

Birthdays in **March**: Jackie Allsup 3-10



We would love to remember your birthday. If you have not submitted your birthday, please contact the Hospitality Committee. Elena & Gil / Hospitality Committee

CREATIVE GARDENING SERIES

Linn County Master Gardeners are sponsoring three lectures in their Creative Gardening Series:
Tuesdays in March & April
Beems Auditorium, Cedar Rapids Public Library, 500 1st St. SE, Cedar Rapids.
free to the public

Tuesday, March 21st, **6:30-8:00 pm.**
Trudi Temple.

"Make Beauty Where You Are Planted,"

Ms. Temple is an extraordinary gardener who has created outstanding landscapes and is a frequent speaker at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show.

Tuesday, March 28, **6:30-8:00 pm.**
April Meyers

"New Plants for 2006,"

Ms. Meyers is a former horticulturist and teacher at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

Tuesday, April 1, **10:00-11:30 am.**
Jamie Beyer.

"Water Gardens for all Landscapes,"
Mr. Beyer is one of the Midwest's foremost experts on ponds and co-authored the popular Ortho book, "All About Garden Pools and Fountains."

For more information, contact the Linn County Extension office at 319-377-9839 or benesh1@iastate.edu.

ANNUAL GREEN SCENE SPRING GARDEN SYMPOSIUM

Saturday, March 18th
Waterloo Center for the Arts
8 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.
\$20 - includes lunch

Five speakers:

Dr. Adam Hoogstraat
"Gardening the Healthy Way"

Gary Whittenbaugh
"Trough Gardening"

Kathleen Ziemer
**"Power of the Wing--Butterflies of the
Heartland"**

Shelly Codner
"Weed it and Reap"

Jamie Busch-Upah
"Growing Grapes in Iowa"

The Gardener's Marketplace will be open during the lunch break and following the last speaker. Master Gardeners will receive 5 hours of continuing education

Send pre-registration to:

Green Scene
Box 2004
Waterloo, IA 50704

Questions?? 319-232-5934 or
mlj091554@aol.com

Spring In the Country Open House



May 13th
In The Country Garden & Gifts
Independence, Iowa.

Free

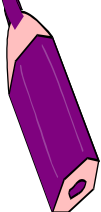
Josh & Sue invite you to visit them during their Open House, see the new greenhouse and hear these speakers:

10 am - Edible Flowers from Garden to Palate
with Cathy Wilkinson Barash

12 pm - Evening Gardens - Nighttime is the Right Time to Enjoy the Garden
with Cathy Wilkinson Barash

1:30 pm - Pond Construction 101
with Owen Twedt

Registration is not required,
but is greatly appreciated!
You can register by calling (319-334-6593),
e-mail info@inthecountrygardenandgifts.com.
Check out the web site
www.inthecountrygardenandgifts.com
For additional information.



Indian Creek Nature Center Plant Sale

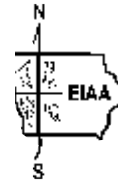
Saturday, May 6th.

The Nature Center Guild offers wildflowers, hostas, geraniums, and a variety of perennials and prairie plants for your choosing. Numerous vendors provide garden art and accessories to create a charming garden showcase in your yard.

9 AM TO NOON FREE

Indian Creek Nature Center
6665 Otis Road SE Cedar Rapids
www.indiancreeknaturecenter.org

AUCTION
March 19



**EASTERN IOWA
AQUARIUM
ASSOCIATION**

The next EIAA auction of tropical fish and related items will be held, Sunday, March 19, at 12 noon.

Location will be The El-Kahir Shrine Embassy Club, C Avenue and Blairsferry Road NE, Cedar Rapids. The general public is invited to bring fish and fish related items (including pond items) to be auctioned. This is a fund raiser for the EIAA and there is a 30/70 split. 30% going to EIAA and 70% going to the seller. Check out their website: www.finflap.com for more details or con-

Something a little different!

Indian Creek Nature Center public program:

IN SEARCH OF THE ELUSIVE SKUNK CABBAGE

March 19th -

2 PM-MEMBER- \$3 NON-MEMBER - \$4

Enjoy a trek up Bena Brook's valley to look for one of the earliest and most unusual wildflowers. The Brook is also home to liverworts, shining club moss and blue beeches. Wear boots and be prepared for off-trail hiking through tall grass and possibly mud in this search for Iowa's seldom-seen but intriguing plants. CALL 362-0664 TO REGISTER. www.indiancreeknaturecenter.org (Editor's note: I have seen this plant and it is large, it will be blooming and totally amazing!)



Eastern Iowa pond Society Membership Application 2006

To become a member of the Eastern Iowa Pond Society,
Complete this form and mail it along with your dues to :

Eastern Iowa Pond Society
2003 206th Street
Independence, Iowa 50644

Dues are \$10.00 per calendar year.
Make checks payable to Eastern Iowa Pond Society.

_____ New Membership

_____ Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

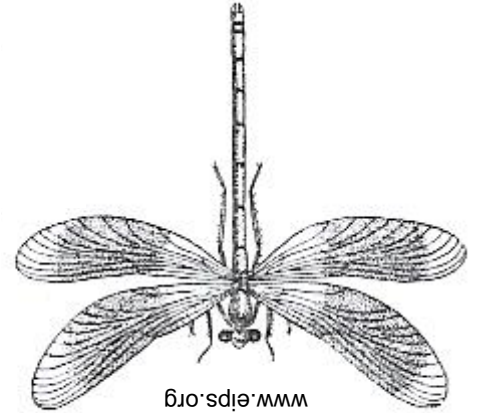
Phone Number: _____ E-mail address: _____

_____ Please mail the monthly newsletter to me.

_____ E-mail the newsletter to me.

Volunteers are needed to help with these committees.

- Community Service—organize community service projects
- Programs— identify and organize programs and speakers for meetings
- Commercial Relations—establish and maintain our relationship with retailers
- Hospitality Committee—welcome new members, provide mentoring
- Writing \committee—help write and organize the newsletter
- Water Garden Tour Committee—coordinate and conduct tour annual tour
- Publicity Committee—organize and get publicity for meetings and activities
- Recognition Committee—send thanks yous to presenters & business sponsors, plan November meeting



Eastern Iowa Pond Society
 2003 206th Street
 Independence, Iowa 50644

Visions

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are committed to providing a social atmosphere for members dedicated to sharing and learning the pleasure of water gardening. We are a non-profit organization.

Membership in this association shall be open to any individual without regard to race, creed, national origin or sex, who shall render membership dues as specified in the governing documents.

HISTORY

The Eastern Iowa Pond Society was established by Sharon Weiss in 1996 to encourage and promote water gardening and ponds.

MEETINGS

Meetings are held at different members homes the second Thursday at 7:00 PM and fourth Saturday in April, May, June, July, August and September. During Feb., March, October and November, meetings are held once a month on a Saturday. No meetings are held in December or January.

YEARLY PLANNING

A plan-the-year meeting is held on a February afternoon at a central location to hammer out strategies on how the club will conduct business and to plan activities for the up coming year.

ACTIVITIES

A yearly Pond Tour event involves selected members opening their ponds to the public. Speakers, demonstrations, field trips, plant and fish swap, pot lucks, and club projects are all activities that happen during the year.

DUES

Dues will be \$10.00 per family payable February 1st and delinquent May 1st of each year. These dues entitle a member to participation in all activities and receive a monthly newsletter.



2006 Officers

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 Monica Morley
 319-294-4866
 mespringcove@aol.com



Vice President
 Pam Moore
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