

EASTERN IOWA POND  
SOCIETY, INC

Visit us at  
www.eips.org

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# Beneath The Surface

A Compendium of Facts, Fancy, Tidbits, Tips

May, 2011

**Thursday May 12, 2011**

**6:30 pm**

Jeff Garner & Kerry Shaner  
1323 34th St SE, Cedar Rapids IA 52403  
Tel: 550-6893

Speaker: Mellisa owner of The Pond Store

**“Locating & Fixing Leaks”**

**Desert Brownie Bar with Ice Cream will be served**

Bring your chairs

**Saturday May 21, 2011**

**4:00 pm**

Greg & Martha Bickal  
3653 Toddville Rd, Toddville IA  
Tel: 378-8961

Bring a snack to share

Greg will have Koi specials for members.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**June 4, 2011 Water Gardening Event**

**July 10, 2011 EIPS Pond Tour**

New feature in the newsletter ~ **“Let’s Talk Goldfish”** see page 6

Thank you, LouAnn Jayne, for suggesting to add articles pertaining to Goldfish.

*Editor Monica Morley*

*Co-Editor Maria Hamilton*

## Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2011

President Jeff Garner called the April 14, 2011 meeting of the Eastern Iowa Pond Society to order at 7:01 P.M. following a pond-side program by Bob Geers. Jeff thanked our meeting hosts, Bob and Stephanie Geers. Twenty members were in attendance. Jeff introduced and welcomed new members Sondra Longcor and Michael Wilkin-son.

Minutes of the March 26, 2011 meeting were approved as printed in the club's April newsletter.

### Committee Reports

**Educational Event Committee** - Larry Thompson, June 4<sup>th</sup> Water Gardening Event Chairperson reported that the event speakers are now confirmed. Event admission has been set at \$5.00 per person. MaryEllen Malinowski, "The Koi Whisperer", St. Charles, IL has been hired to serve as the event's keynote speaker. Josh Spece, EIPS member and co-owner of In the Country Garden and Gifts near Independence will speak about "Hosta Myths and What's New For 2011". Jamie Beyer, also an EIPS member and the owner-operator of Midwest Waterscapes, Boone, IA will speak at two sessions, the first entitled, "The Dirty Secret of Ponding" and "30 Causes of Pea Green Soup in Water Gardens". Larry also reported that the "Save The Date" cards and event brochures have been printed and are ready to go.

**2011 Annual Pond Tour** - Jeff Garner reported that 10 -11 club members have volunteered their ponds for this year's pond tour, to be held on Sunday, July 10. Jeff reminded members that plant donations will be needed for the accompanying plant sale.

### Old Business

Jeff announced that Connie and Ed Railsback and Gerri and Paul Dickerson have volunteered to man the EIPS booth at the "Extreme Garden Makeover" event at Usher's Ferry on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Not only will participation in this event give the E.I.P.S. an opportunity to educate the public about the joys of water gardening, it will also provide a great opportunity to promote our upcoming educational event, our annual pond tour and our club.

Donovan Burke spoke about the upcoming chartered bus trip to the Koi Acres Open House in Skandia, MN. the weekend of May 14<sup>th</sup>. A total of 32 members from the combined membership of the Northern Iowa Koi and Water Garden Club (Waterloo/Cedar Falls) and the Eastern Iowa Pond Society have signed up for the trip. The estimated cost per person is \$108.60. This amount may change slightly as more people sign up or cancel. The bus will leave from Cedar Falls at 7:00 am on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. EIPS members planning to go, should send a check (\$100 per person) to Jackie Allsup (made payable to: Jackie Allsup) by April 27<sup>th</sup>. The \$100 fee covers the bus trip, motel accommodations (dbl occupancy), meals and a tour of the 2010 Pond of the Year in downtown Minneapolis.

### New Business

Jeff Garner announced that door prize donations had been very slow. He asked members to consider re-gifting previously won door prizes.

Jackie Allsup reported that an Aquarium Club Show will be held on Saturday, April 23 at the Noelridge Greenhouse in conjunction with the Noelridge Greenhouse Easter Weekend Open House.

Jeff announced that the next meeting will be held at the home of Erma and Larry Thompson with a potluck beginning at 5:30 pm.. Dr. Brad Peterson, a local veterinarian, whose practice includes the care of fish, will present the program.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. An open discussion among members immediately followed the business meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathi Albrecht, Secretary

## Meeting Minutes - April 23, 2011

Preceding the business portion of the April 23, 2011 meeting, Dr. Brad Petersen, D.V.M., of Petersen Pet Hospital presented a program, entitled, "Aquatic Viral Diseases". Dr. Petersen's Cedar Rapids practice includes the care and treatment of aquarium and pond fish. Following Dr. Petersen's presentation and the evening's potluck dinner, Larry Thompson led a discussion on the differences between a Koi pond and a garden pond. President Jeff Garner called the business portion of the April 23, 2011 meeting of the E.I.P.S. to order at 6:43 pm. Jeff thanked our meeting hosts, Erma and Larry Thompson. Twenty-four members and one visitor were in attendance.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Club Treasurer, Jackie Allsup reported a total of \$2189.92 in checking and \$1729.86 in savings for a total of \$3919.78 in the bank as of April 20, 2011.

### **Committee Reports**

**Educational Event Committee** - Monica Morley, June 4<sup>th</sup> Water Gardening Event Chairperson reported that the "Save The Date" cards, press releases and event brochures have been printed and are ready to go. Kathi Albrecht reported that the poster is in the final design phase and will be printed and available, soon.

**2011 Annual Pond Tour** - Chairperson, Tom Coyle reported that eleven club members have volunteered their ponds for this year's Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> pond tour. There will be five ponds shown in Cedar Rapids, and six from surrounding Eastern Iowa communities. The plant sale will be held at Erma and Larry Thompson's home. Jeff asked members to volunteer to serve as pond sitters and sent around a sign-up sheet. Jeff thanked Ed Railsback who is in the process of "selling" advertisement space on the flipside of the Pond Tour Guide Sheet in hopes that we can offset our printing costs.

### **Old Business**

Jeff announced that Connie and Ed Railsback and Gerri and Paul Dickerson have volunteered to man the EIPS booth at the "Extreme Garden Makeover" event at Usher's Ferry on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. They will hand out promotional materials for the Water Garden Event and information about the pond tour.

Donovan Burke reported that a group of 30 members will be participating in the upcoming chartered bus trip to the Koi Acres Open House in Skandia, MN. the weekend of May 14.

### **New Business**

There was discussion regarding the increase in club dues and whether that had made an impact on 2011 membership numbers. It was reported that membership was down, however the income from dues was about the same.

Monica Morley and Maria Hamilton, editors of the club newsletter reported that the newsletter would go "paperless" with the May, 2011 issue. A number of members have agreed to read the newsletter online, which will significantly reduce monthly printing and postage expenses.

Jeff announced that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23 at 6:30 pm in the home of Jeff Garner and Kerry Shaner. Dessert will be served. Liquid Landscapes of Johnston, IA will present a program on how to find pond leaks. On Saturday, May 21 at 4:00 pm, there will be a club meeting hosted by Greg Bickal at his home and Koi Farm in Toddville. Greg will have "specials" available for club members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathi Albrecht, Secretary



## Water Gardening Event

June 4, 2011

Kirkwood Outreach Training & Services

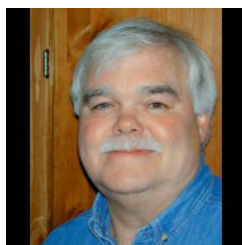
3375 Armar Dr, Marion, IA

### Schedule:

- 8:30 Doors Open
- 9:00-10:30 Mary Elen Malinowski – Japanese Garden Design & Zen Living
- 10:40-11:30 Josh Spece – Hosta Myths & What's new for 2011
- 11:40-12:30 Jamie Beyer – The Dirty Secret of Ponding
- 12:30-1:30 Break
- 1:30-3:00 Mary Ellen Malinowski – The Koi Whisperer
- 3:10-4:00 Jamie Beyer – 30 Causes of Pea Green Soup in a Water Garden

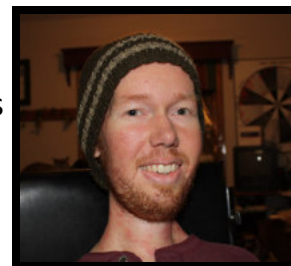
### Speakers:

**Mary Ellen Malinowski** is an international award winning infrared photographer, Japanese garden designer and Koi Importer. The Koi Whisperer began in 2010 after she rescued a dying Koi from a garbage bag..



**Jamie Beyer**, an EIPS member, has a Master's Degree in Fish and Wildlife Biology. Jamie frequently speaks and writes on all aspects of water feature and water gardening to gardeners in the Midwest.

**Josh Spece**, an EIPS member and owner of In the Country Garden & Gifts has an AAS degree in Horticulture. He regularly contributes article and photos to the American Hosta Society's The Hosta Journal.



Check out the event brochure for complete details on [www.eips.org](http://www.eips.org)

# Pond Tour Plant Sale

The plant sale committee would like to remind members when they are dividing up plants this spring to think about donating them to the plant sale. July isn't always the best time to be transplanting plants, so try to pot your plants as early as possible to get them well established and looking good for the plant sale. Rose Milden has volunteered to keep plants at her home if you don't have the area to store them.

Please contact any member of the plant sale committee if you have questions.

*Tom Coyle*

Plant Committee Members: Tom Coyle, Rose & Jim Milden, Stephanie Geers.

# Volunteers

**2011 Pond and Garden Tour July 10th**

**In need of sitters**

Volunteers don't necessarily have the time, but they have the heart.

The gift of time is priceless.

Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.

No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.

**Help your club, Eastern Iowa Pond Society, by joining hands with your fellow members during this fun event.**

**Volunteer**

**Contact Tom Coyle** [thomasg64@yahoo.com](mailto:thomasg64@yahoo.com)



Koi and some variety of goldfish are popular pond fish, since they are very hardy. They can survive in a pond in extreme temperatures, as long as there is adequate oxygen and the pond does not completely freeze over.

Common (sometimes called feeders) goldfish, London and Bristol shubunkins, jikin, wakin, comet, and fantail can be kept in a pond all year round in temperate and subtropical climates. Moor, veiltail, oranda and lionhead are more fragile and can only be kept in ponds during the summer in cooler regions.

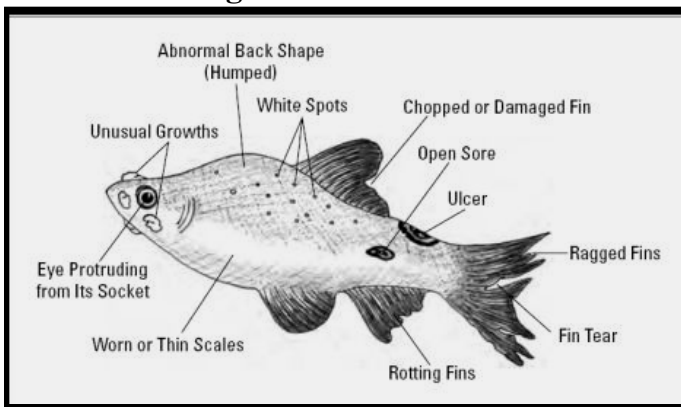
During winter months, goldfish will become sluggish, stop eating, and often stay on the bottom of the pond. This is completely normal behavior; once the temperature is warmer they will become active again.

Regular maintenance and water-quality checks help keep diseases away from goldfish, but illnesses still occur, even in the best-kept aquariums and ponds. The first sign of a problem may be a goldfish floating at the surface, by which time it is probably too late for effective treatment. For this reason, it is vital to set up a routine for examining fish; feeding time provides an ideal opportunity to check their appearance and behavior.

Fancy goldfish are more susceptible to different diseases, including bacterial, viral, and fungal, than the flat body type goldfish such as shubunkin and comet goldfish. As a result they are more prone to becoming ill and sick when kept in less than ideal conditions.

[www.petgoldfish.net](http://www.petgoldfish.net)

### Signs of a sick fish



Fin rot is often a symptom of disease and commonly plagues goldfish. It is not hard to treat fin rot and the outcome is usually positive. Fin rot is a symptom of a number of different diseases, but it can also be the result of an injury. It can be a primary or secondary infection. If it is primary it is a definite symptom of a specific bacterial invasion such as that by the mycobacterium that causes columnaris disease. Sometimes fin rot is the direct result of a secondary bacterial infection such as that which occurs when a goldfish is already weakened

1. What is believed to be the memory span of a goldfish?

- A  3 seconds
- B  6 seconds
- C  9 seconds
- D  12 seconds

2. If you keep a gold fish in a darkened room, it will eventually turn which colour?

- A  Black
- B  Grey
- C  Yellow
- D  White

**Saturday, May 21, 2011**

8 AM to Noon (Note: No Early Sales)

ISU Linn County Extension Office Parking Lot

3279 7th Avenue, Marion, Iowa 52302

For more information call: 319-447-0647

**As always**, pick plants for your garden from many kinds of perennials (both for sun and or shade), and many varieties of hosta and daylilies, also wildflowers, groundcovers, ornamental grasses, annuals and more. These plants come from our Master Gardeners' gardens, where they were carefully dug and potted, and tenderly taken care of until the sale day. Best of all, they are priced for anyone who likes a bargain. Take Master Gardener plants home, grow them and enjoy them for years to come.

Master Gardeners will help you choosing the plants just right for you and Plant Doctors will answer your gardening questions.

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## Pond Quiz Answers From The March Newsletter

1. By raising the ph, you now make any ammonia in the water much more toxic. Always remember, when raising the ph, "bind the ammonia, or lose the fish".
2. QT at 75 degrees and let them rest undisturbed for at least 3 days so that they may decompress.
3. Potassium Permanganate
4. Scrape and Scope
5. A.=false
6. A.= False
7. A. = lack of O2
8. A.= other koi/ chlorine
9. A.= ammonia
10. A=6.5-9
11. A= O2, caused by algae/plant respiration
12. A= hydrogen sulfide(very soluble in water and very toxic to fish)
13. A= NH3/ammonia
- 14.. A = 10%
- 15 A= false, topping off results in a building up of chemicals, water changes dilut



# 2011 Tentative Meeting Schedule

																	
	June 9th	Thursday															
	June 25th	Saturday															
	July 10th	Pond Tour															
	July 23rd	Saturday															
	August 11th	Thursday															
	August 27th	Saturday															
	September 8th	Thursday															
	September 24th	Saturday															
	October 22nd	Saturday															
																	
																	
																	
																	
																	
																	
																	
																	
																	
																	



								
<b>May Birthdays</b>								
	Curt Moore						6th	
	Gary Hunerdosse						9th	
	Rosie Michel						10th	
	Jim Milden						10th	
	Cecy Bisenius						14th	
	Roy Gaddis						27th	
								



# EASTERN IOWA POND SOCIETY—MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2011

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  
206 N. 3RD ST  
PO BOX 148  
QUASQUETON IA 52326

**DUES ARE \$25.00 PER CALENDAR YEAR.** MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: EASTERN IOWA POND SOCIETY

\_\_\_\_\_ NEW MEMBERSHIP      \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ YES, I WOULD LIKE TO ACCESS THE NEWSLETTER VIA THE WEBSITE.

YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BY EMAIL WITH THE NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE.

\_\_\_\_\_ NO, I WOULD PREFER MY NEWSLETTER TO BE MAILED.

Dues will be \$25.00 per family, payable November of previous year and delinquent April 1st of each year. These dues entitle a member to participation in all activities and receive a monthly newsletter.

## Open House

In The Country

2392 240th St

Independence, IA 50644

May 7 & 8 \*\* 9 am—5 pm

Tour the hosta gardens, pickup a perennial, or succulent. Take a look at the Bubble-scapes, a fun and unique spin on terrariums, using succulents and air plants. Select a succulent from the diverse collection. You'll find an array of colors, textures, and plant shapes. See the new water gardening plants for 2011.



Take a moment to enjoy the Quilter's Corner.

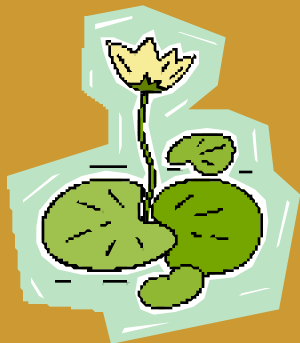


**Bubble-scapes**

Photo by DeAnna Taylor

# Eastern Iowa

WWW.EIPS.ORG



## 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 of 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 7:00PM and the fourth Saturday in April, May, June, July, August and September. During Feb., March, October and Nov. meetings are held once a month on a Saturday. No meetings are held in Dec & Jan.

**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 upcoming 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 luck, and club projects are all activities that happen during the year.

**Dues** Dues will be \$25.00 per family, payable November of previous year and delinquent April 1st of each year. These dues entitle a member to participation in all activities and receive a monthly newsletter.



Eastern Iowa Pond Society Inc.  
PO Box 148  
206 N 3rd St  
Quasqueton, IA 52326