

BENEATH THE SURFACE

NEWSLETTER FOR EIPS MEMBERS

November 1, 2011

FROM THE EDITOR



Can it really be November already? I hope this newsletter finds you all happy and healthy. Halloween is over and Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner, hard to believe that our year is coming to a close. It has definitely been a great year though for the club and all its members.

I hope everyone is getting their ponds/fish/and plants ready for winter. Kerry and I were out working in the pond and remarked how strange it is that at the end of the year our water always looks the best, I wished it looked that good in July.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



As this year starts to wind down, I want to take this opportunity to really say thank you to all the members for everything they have done this year. This year saw so many things happening for our members.

We had the bus trip with the Northern Iowa Club to Koi Acres in Minnesota. While the weather was not the best, Larry Thompson was not giving up the warmth of that kitten in his lap, Mike from Koi Acres really showed both clubs a great time and the sight of that storage area under the bus full of fish was amusing.

In the late spring our club sponsored the Water Gardening Event. We had a good turnout especially for a first time event and I was glad to see so many members there. Everyone found something to take away from that and it was good to have our members Jamie and Josh speak and it was very nice to make a new member and friend in MaryEllen. I want to thank the committee involved with that for all their work and especially Monica for being the chair. As I have discovered, being in charge of anything is not easy but it is a necessary evil to have someone to head things up. Thank you to the committee and Monica.

We had a very successful Pond tour this year and that was the direct result of great ponds, great ponds, great volunteers and a really well run pond tour committee. Tom Coyle as Pond Tour Committee chairman did an amazing job, especially considering he was a pretty new member. To take that on was a big commitment and he did a bang up job with it. Thank you to the committee and thank you Tom.

We had another fun time at the Bruce more event and thank you to Jackie and Harry for taking care of set up and manning our booth during the day.

Lastly I would like to thank all members that hosted a meeting, opening your home to members and speakers helps to keep the club vibrant and interesting to all. I hope we get some new members to have a meeting next year and if you are interested in hosting a meeting please contact me.

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes 10/22/11

The Saturday, October 22, 2011 meeting was held at the home of Gerry and Paul Dickerson, in West Liberty complete with a delicious potluck dinner. Following dinner, Jackie Allsup introduced the evening's speaker, Ryan McCaw of Essential Pond Management.

(Ryan McCaw, Efficient Pond Management (563-370-6608)
www.essentialpondmanagement.com,)

Ryan spoke about achieving environmental balance in ponds.

Following the evening's program, President Jeff Garner opened the business meeting at 7:00 P.M. Seventeen members along with one guest attended the meeting. Jeff thanked the Dickerson's for their warm hospitality and Gerry spoke about their backyard pond.

The minutes of the September 8th and September 24th meetings were approved as printed in the club's October newsletter (the updated online version). (The September 8th minutes will be reprinted in the November newsletter).

Jackie Allsup presented the Treasurer's Report, date October 18, 2011. Jackie reported that the club has \$833.98 in checking and \$3822.47 for a total in the bank of \$4656.45. Jackie clarified that the Wine Tasting was not underwritten by the EIPS. It was underwritten by Jeff Garner and Kerry Shaner. No checks were written by Jackie in payment for the event. Some members provided food for the

event and poured at the event in exchange for a discount on their admission. The profit from the event (\$570.00) was donated to the EIPS. An enthusiastic round of applause was given to Jeff and Kerry in honor of their hard work and generosity.

Old Business

Following significant discussion regarding the disbursement of 2011 Pond Tour proceeds; the following motions were made, seconded and approved:

Gary Hunerdosse made a motion to designate \$1000.00 of the 2011 Pond Tour proceeds for donation to community concerns. Jo Hunerdosse seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rose Milden made the following motion: to donate from the above designated \$1,000.00, \$500.00 to Kirkwood Community College for a scholarship in memory of Dorothy Helms (), \$300.00 to Storybook Zoo in Dubuque to defray the expense of gas for the zoo's train and \$200.00 to the Marion Parks Department to be used in the Lowe Park beautification project. The motion was seconded by Hugh Albrecht. Motion carried.

Ed Railsback made a motion to carry-over the remaining \$3656.45 for future club operating expenses. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Jeff Garner proposed that a Budgetary Committee be formed. Discussion followed and it was suggested that such a committee would: explore the possibility and direction of future projects. ascertain what funds will be needed to proceed with future projects and ensure that there is sufficient planning and appropriate timelines are in place to carry out projects. Further discussion was tabled.

New Business

Jeff reported that the Recognition Dinner Committee had met. There will be a year-end dinner to celebrate and recognize the club's work and achievements on Saturday, November 19th. Jeff made a motion requesting that this event be kept simple, no decorations and gifts. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. There will also be an election of officers held following the dinner. The location is yet to be determined.

Kathi Albrecht made a motion to send a stipend to Josh Spece in thanks for his excellent work as our club webmaster. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

A 2012 Meeting Schedule Sign-Up was passed around. Jeff asked members to volunteer to host a meeting.

Jeff announced that he and Kerry will host a club Christmas party at their house on Saturday, December 3. Further details are forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathi Albrecht, Secretary

END OF THE YEAR/RECOGNITION DINNER SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19TH

Thank you to Greg Bickal for helping to secure our location for the end of the year dinner. This dinner will be at Los Compadres Mexican Bar and Grill located at 2825 6th st Sw Cedar Rapids. Time for the dinner is 530pm and please RSVP by email to me eipspres2011@yahoo.com or phone 389 3992 by November 15th if possible.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Los-Compadres-Mexican-Bar-Grill/215845071775343?sk=wall>

At this dinner we will be electing new officers for the 2012 year. At this time I would like to thank all the 2011 officers, Tom Coyle, Jackie Allsup, and Kathi Albrecht for their efforts and time given to the club for the 2011 year. Thank you.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Kerry Shaner and Jeff Garner will be hosting a holiday party at their home 1323 34th st Se Cedar Rapids, on Saturday December 3rd. The party is just a chance for members to share in some holiday goodwill.

Time is 6 pm to 10 pm and please bring a dish to share.

Kerry and Jeff will provide wine, soda and beer. Hope to see everyone there with their holiday bells on.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

The following is a website sent to me by Kathi and it seems to have some great articles and information for pond owners and water gardeners. Thank you Kathi.

<http://www.the-artistic-garden.com/garden-pond-intro.htm>

Well that is a wrap; see you all at the dinner and holiday party. Jeff