

# Ponderings

Official  
Newsletter of  
The Tucson  
Watergardeners

## End Of Our Season!

Volume XII, Issue 9

October 2010



### Ponders Calendar

#### NOTEWORTHY:

We extend a very warm welcome to new members!

For current members, look for your 2011 membership renewal invoice in your January mail box!

This is also the last issue of Ponderings for 2010! See you in the Spring!

#### President's Potluck

Sunday, October 24th 5:00 –7:00 PM



Please RSVP to Paul Roberts at

paul.robertstwg@yahoo.com by Friday October 15th with your choice of bringing a Salad, Hot Dish or Dessert.

Tell Paul how many folks are in your party. You can also call Paul's phone number in our Directory.

#### General Meeting

Thursday, October 28th 7:30 PM

@ Junior League of Tucson

2099 E River Road

**Program: 2011 Elections,  
Mastergardeners Project Update &  
End-Of-Year Celebration**

Refreshments: The McMackens *Thank you!*

#### Board Meetings Date/Location

**Murphy-Wilmot Library**  
320 S. Wilmot Road  
Tuesday, **October 5th,**  
**6:30 PM**

#### Inside this issue:

<i>2011 Slate for Voting</i>	2
<i>Year In Review</i>	3
<i>Aquatic Plant Profile</i>	4



## 2011 Officer & Board of Directors Candidate Slate

The following is the 2011 slate to be voted on by the general membership at our October 28th meeting.

**President\*:** Paul Roberts

**Vice President:** Dan Jenks

**Secretary:** Wayne Tomczyk

**Treasurer:** Mary McMacken

Three **Directors** for the two-year term of October 2010 through October 2012:

Bill Hudson      Steve Walkosak      Tony Shrader

### Notes:

1. The Tucson Watergardeners By-Laws, Article V. Officers Section 3. Succession in Office, states that officers may *not* be elected for more than two consecutive one-year terms in any one position. Because there was *no* candidate stepping forward for 2011 President to date, Paul Roberts has agreed to serve another *one-year term*. This one time exception to the By-Laws was put forward, voted, and passed on by the Board of Directors on October 5th, 2010.
2. Elizabeth Good, President '07-'08, will continue to fill the *Immediate Past President* position on the 2011 Board.
3. At the October General Meeting, nominations may also be made from the floor, providing the nominee has agreed to run prior to being nominated.
4. The following three elected Directors will continue to serve through the end of 2011: Ken Canada, HL Swain, and Cynthia Rae.

## Other 2011 Important Positions Can You Help Out?

The success and growth of the club depends on leadership and new ideas from our membership. Here's the other really critical positions and what's needed:

**Program Chair.** This position assists the President/Board in coming up with ideas and topics for our nine public meetings; contacting potential speakers; obtaining a short biographical sketch—as appropriate; coordinating schedules and any special equipment requirements; and, writing thank you notes. Estimated time requirement: 25 hours/year.

**Publicity Chair.** Develops and maintains media contacts for all publicity. Develops press releases and special feature items. Works from a set of written guidelines. Estimated time requirement: 40 hours/year.

**Public Pond Tour Organization.** This position assists the President/Board in contacting and evaluating gardens for the tour; suggesting improvements based on the experiences of previous tours; and assisting in a number of administrative tasks, including ticket and sign distribution. Estimated time requirement: 40 hours/year.

**Grants Committee.** The Grants Committee will continue to be Chaired in 2011 by Paul Roberts. Past President, Elizabeth Good, will also serve on this committee.

A special **note of thanks** for your time, contributions, and invaluable suggestions goes out to our retiring Officers and Board Members: **Secretary:** Regina Nassen; **Board:** Klara Cserny, Betty Blackstock, and JoAn Stolley.

A **bouquet of flowers** to Anne-Lee Tomczyk for the generosity of her time and quality of work over the past couple of years with our membership badges. You will be missed!

**Kudos** to Ken & Jane Canada for stepping up to offer storage space for club items. That saves us \$\$\$\$'s for paid storage!

## Year In Review

Before we go our separate ways, it's good to spend a moment reflecting on the club's 2010 accomplishments—for which we all contributed.

In February we were able to transfer plants from a pond being disestablished to the Desert View Botanical Garden pond project.

April saw us meeting at the Canada's, with their lily ponds, surrounding desert spring gardens, and fabulous greenhouse. We were also able to help two University of Arizona PhD candidates with their Biosphere 2 Earth-science Program projects.

May was busy! Our annual Reid Park Plant Sale was one of the most successful ever, generating \$1,736 for the club in net proceeds. We had our first ever club "turtle talk" in May by Lee Oler, a relatively new club member.

In June we heard from our friends at the Maricopa Country Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area that the native water lilies we provided them were taking hold this season!

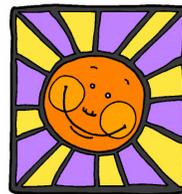
July and August saw a line up of fourteen—yes, *fourteen* watergardens for the September Public Tour, with about 165 tickets sold. This was our first-

ever raffle, with the beautiful mosaic garden bench done by member Cindy Yrun-Calenti, won by another club member, Leesa Jacobson. "Tour Central" was in its second year, and net profit to the club remained at about \$1,700.00

Oh, let's not forget to generously thank our two waterlily "Moms." That would be Casey Case for nurturing her tropical waterlily collection and Jane Canada for fostering a growing hardy waterlily collection. Their "babies" end up in many of our ponds! A thank you also goes out to charter member Bert Detwiler for continuing to share his knowledge of Louisiana Iris.

Our watergardening club year ends with 27 individual, 62 household, and 7 honorary memberships.

Be sure to check our **GuideTo Watergardening In Southern Arizona**. A Spring & Fall Seasonal Maintenance Checklist is on page 21. Important fall maintenance items include: getting decaying leaves and debris out of your pond; adding cold water bacteria; trimming back brown and dying aquatic plant foliage; stopping fertilizing of aquatic plants when water temperature drops below 70 degrees; moving sensitive tropical water plants to a warmer place or even indoors; doing a 10% water change to last through the winter; and switching fish to lower protein food when the water drops below 60 degrees; below 50 degrees, stop feeding your fish.



### Watergardening Classifieds

**Our Logo Apparel is Here!** A terrific new selection of clothing items will be at the October 28th meeting. Aquatic blue T-shirts with our club logo will be available in S, M, L and XL sizes. *Cost per shirt is \$10.00.* New items include khaki color baseball caps and white visors with the club logo; both of these items are \$12.00 each.

**Southern Arizona Koi Association** is having its 31st annual koi show at the Kino Veteran's Memorial Community Center, 2805 East Ajo Way, on November 13th-14th.

**"Ponderings" Helper Wanted!** If you have writing talent or are just curious and want to do some research, we would sure like to have you on board as a 2011 *Ponderings* contributor. Contact your Editor!



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“To promote responsible ideals of water gardening among our members.”

## Aquatic Plant Profile

**President:** *Paul Roberts*  
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**Treasurer:** *Mary McMacken*  
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<http://tucsonwatergardeners.org/>

Bacopa, also called Water hyssop or Herb-of-Grace, belongs to the family Plantaginaceae. This perennial is a great choice to plant in desert bogs and watergardens, as it grows and flourishes in moist soil or shallow water as a groundcover. In fact, it is a quite showy marginal, but can also become invasive.



*The Bacopa plant is shown with two rain lilies peaking through its foliage! Photo courtesy Anne-Lee Tomczyk.*

The small, bell-shaped white flowers are often tinged with blue or pink and attract butterflies. The small, oval shiny leaves are succulent and relatively thick.

This is a very easy to grow water plant. Just pick off trailing stems with roots and replant. As a herb, Water hyssop is used for several medicinal purposes because of its antioxidant, cardiotoxic, and anticancer properties.