

# Ponderings

Official  
Newsletter of  
The Tucson  
Watergardeners

Volume XV, Issue 9

October 2013



End of Our Season—The Delphinium blue  
of the Laura Frase Tropical Waterlily



## NOTEWORTHY:

*Don't forget our  
Sunday, November 3rd potluck.  
More details inside  
this issue.*

## Ponders



## Calendar

### General Meeting

Thursday, October 24th, 7:30 PM at the  
Junior League of Tucson  
2099 E. River Road

**Program: "Chapter One—The Dream,  
The Challenge; The Pond, Almost!" By  
Dennis & Mary McMacken.**

*Long time members of our club, the McMackens bought their dream west side home three years ago — and have been taming their piece of the desert into garden areas. With its sloping back yard, the pond has been a particular challenge. Thank you for sharing!*

### Refreshments, Raffle & Give-Aways!

*Bring & share your extra plants & stuff.*

### Board Meetings Date/Location

**Nov 21st  
Thursday**

**7:00 PM**  
at the Junior  
League of  
Tucson

### Board Room

This is a critical meeting—decisions that affect the club's future will be discussed. All members are welcome!

### Inside this issue:

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## Our Recently Awarded Grant—Progress!

Much has been happening at the Tucson Wildlife Center with the club's \$2,500 grant to this non-profit organization. Thanks to Bob Publicover's (member) leadership, the pond has taken shape in the newly constructed Pelican/Eagle enclosure! Labor to build this pond was generously donated by "Serve and Be Served" Men's Group, Pantano Christian Church.

After Tucson's summer heat, the Center will open for public visitors, beginning November 2nd. *Free tours are each Wednesday and Saturday, at 11:00 AM. This is a great opportunity to check out the results of our grant.* The Center's address is 13275 E. Speedway Boulevard.



*Signage has already been made by the Center, recognizing our club's contribution.*

*Bob Publicover, hard at work, stacking those waterfall rocks. And just how many rocks are left to be stacked???*



*Testing the waterfall.*



**Sunday, November 3rd  
3:00 pm—????**

Mary and Dennis McMacken (638-8178) are hosting the **Watergardeners Potluck** on **Sunday, November 3rd** to close our 2013 club season. The event begins at **3:00 PM**. Bring any dish you like and your favorite drink, if the usual lemonade and water doesn't work for you. **The McMacken's address is 4875 N. Sun Copper Court, Tucson, AZ 85745.** Take the Camino del Cerro/Ruthruff exit West off the I-10 Drive two and one tenth mile and turn right onto N. Sun Copper Court. *See you then with dish in hand!*

# Our Winner!

*Congratulations to Eddie Phillips on winning that beautiful stained glass side table as part of our September Public Tour Raffle! Eddie was an early visitor to "Tour Central" on the day of our tour. Thanks to everyone who bought raffle tickets! Thanks to Casey Case for donating her time and stained glass talents to this one-of-a-kind garden table!*



## President's Perspective

As we close our 2013 watergardening season, there's much to talk about. These past two years have been personally very rewarding for me as your President. Thank you for your support and confidence!

Our fall round of "kudos" goes to those club members who actively helped with our September tour. We received very positive feedback on our four tour gardens—each with a distinct personality in terms of outdoor living space. Thank you to our meet-and-greet folks who volunteered at each garden. A special note of appreciation to Kathy Harris for developing our Tour Ticket and to Casey Case for her Tour Central efforts.

I leave office knowing that the two grants our club awarded to area wildlife rehabilitation centers are most appreciated. I also take pride in that our club awarded its first scholarship—with a goal of a degree related to aquaponics.

Over the past two years, our club has enjoyed some of the most successful aquatic plants sales in its history; and, we have organized and sponsored two free fall public garden tours.

Our "Guide to Watergardening in Southern Arizona" was also updated in 2013 and is available on the web.



## Watergardening Classifieds

**Pond Liners.** Two gently used pond liners to give away. No leaks. One is about 5' x 8'; the other is about 3' x 2'. Contact Jim at 219-4675.

**Large Cattails.** Large cattails to find new homes for, with elimination of a water feature. Contact jsruggill@gmail.com.

Sadly, what is missing from this Ponderings issue is the 2014 Officer and Board of Directors Candidate Slate for voting by club membership. This is the first time in our club's history that there haven't been enough volunteers to assume leadership positions and move the club forward. *I want to personally thank those members who did step forward and offer their name up for nomination.*

*What are the implication of this situation?* As a formal non-profit organization registered with the Arizona Corporation Commission, Officers and a Board of Directors are mandatory — not optional. Without this elected leadership formally in place, the club cannot function in 2014. At our October meeting, we will be taking a vote on extending the present 2013 Board. Our November 21st Board meeting will be addressing the issues revolving around the club's present situation and what the next steps will be.

On a more positive note, let us keep connected with the friendships we have made through this club. We are all gardeners and ponders at heart — and cherish what a water feature brings to our desert homes.

Happy Ponding! JoAn

## Your 2013 Board —Officers & Directors

<b>President:</b>	JoAn Stolley	jstolley@cox.net
<b>Vice President:</b>	Pam Glenn	pglenn4@cox.net
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Bill Hudson	lloydhudson@cox.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ray March	rmarch123@comcast.net
<b>Past President:</b>	Paul Roberts	paulrwi@aol.com

### Board:

<b>Jane Canada</b>	janemcan@cox.net
<b>Mary McMacken</b>	azwhiner@yahoo.com
<b>Toni Moore</b>	tmoore1@flash.net
<b>Barbara Phillips</b>	bjpovaz@comcast.net
<b>Bob Publicover</b>	bobandarnelle@yahoo.com
<b>Wayne Tomczyk</b>	waynet987@aol.com

### Other Positions:

<b>Membership:</b>	Smokie Steffe	smokie@dakotacom.net
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<b>Webmaster:</b>	HL Swain	hl@swain.net
<b>Refreshments:</b>	Dennis McMacken	dkmcmacken@yahoo.com
	Mary McMacken	azwhiner@yahoo.com



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*Photo Courtesy Jane Canada*

*The beautiful Colorado hardy waterlily!*

Last issue of this  
season!

## Fall Maintenance Tasks

- ◇ Keep skimmer baskets and filters clean. Remove excess bottom sludge if over 1".
- ◇ This is a good time for adding cold water beneficial bacteria.
- ◇ Brown and dying aquatic plant foliage should be removed as plants are going dormant.
- ◇ Stop fertilizing plants when the water temperature drops below 70°.
- ◇ Prune yellow water lily pads within several inches of the crown, and drop tropical lilies into the deepest part of the pond.
- ◇ For your sensitive tropical plants, transfer them to a warmer place or even indoors.
- ◇ When water temperature drops below 60°, switch fish to lower protein food; below 50°, stop feeding.
- ◇ Do a 10% water change to last through the winter.

## Item For Voting At Our Upcoming October Public Meeting

A vote will be taken of the membership present at our October meeting regarding extension of the present 2013 Officers and Board of Directors through 2014 to address the future of the club, as well as any recommended disposition actions related to the club's resources.