



October 2011
email edition



UPCOMING:

DVWGS Annual Kickoff Luncheon will be held on **January 29, 2012, at Springfield Country Club at 12:30 pm.** Mark your calendars and plan to attend. This is a perfect time to get together with members to review the past season and prepare for the next one! It is always nice to compare notes with other members while the snow flakes come down to blanket our sleeping ponds and gardens. *More information on this annual kickoff event to come.*



**Michelle and Bob
Cohen's PotLuck Social, Aug 20, 2011**

LOOKING BACK



A big thanks to Michelle and Bob Cohen for hosting another very successful DVWGS Social.

We had around 50 members who came out to enjoy the beautiful weather, fabulous pot luck food, and a SOCIAL par excellent. A special thanks to Suzanne Durand for putting it together too!!



LOOKING BACK

Michelle and Bob Cohen's PotLuck Social, Aug 20, 2011



LOOKING BACK

20th Annual Pond Tour, July 10, 2011



Water Falls



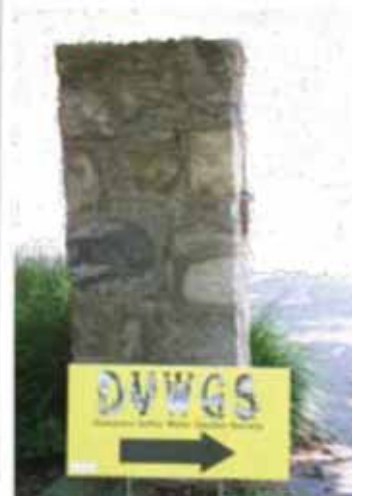
LOOKING BACK

20th Annual Pond Tour, July 10, 2011

A sunny day!



Great directions!



LOOKING BACK

20th Annual Pond Tour, July 10, 2011

*Flowers,
Gardens,*



*Ponds, fish,
friends*



*Refreshments along
the way!*



LOOKING BACK

20th Annual Pond Tour, July 10, 2011



Garden Art



LOOKING BACK

20th Annual Pond Tour, July 10, 2011

*End of the Tour spectacular barbecue
at John McLaine's and Mitch Prince's Residence.*



LOOKING BACK

20th Annual Pond Tour, July 10, 2011



What were those concoctions that Bonnie and Walt Senkow was serving in those icy pitchers in the gazebo?

The Mojito recipe was: 1/3 part pineapple-coconut rum, 2/3 parts Fresca, 1 cup sugar (per pitcher) then add fresh mint and limes.

The Apple Pie cocktail was: 1 gal. each apple cider and apple juice, 10 cinnamon sticks, 1 cup sugar. Boil all together. Then after cooling, and add 750ml (1 liter) grain alcohol.

CHEERS!

At Pam and Dave Stitely's home, Pam uses milk jugs filled with water that can leak out of tiny holes in the bottom to water new plants or when you are away from home for a couple days.



I loved the sun shade sail too!



POND TOUR: THANK YOU ALL!

The Pond Tour is a huge undertaking and has many moving cogs and gears all working together to make this day a success. This year's tour was picture perfect, organized to the last dotted i and crossed t. This doesn't happen without a huge effort and a lot of dedicated volunteers.

Thank you to the Pond Tour Committee for their hours of work that begins early in the year determining host availability and locations and doesn't end till the last of the signs have been removed.

Thank you to the pond tour hosts who willingly shared their gardens, ponds and hospitality with us. Every one of the properties we visited were fabulous!

Thank you to Marshall Hatfield who once again drummed up the ponds and the volunteers to carry on this tradition.

Thank you to John McClain and Mitch Prince who provided their home and hospitality for the end of the tour barbecue.



Pond Tour Committee:

Rose Ball
Bill Fogle
Marshall Hatfield
Lois Janney
Chas Pierro
Michael Pierro
Bill Rose



Thank You Pond Tour Hosts:

Sharon Reed
Pam & Dave Stitely
Rena & Sam Barnett
Bonnie & Walt Senkow
Gail Barber & Bob Schwenk
Suzanne Stone
Linda & Sandy Grimwade
Andrea & Howard Friedberg
Judi Goldstein & Buzz Miller
John McClain & Mitch Prince

Members Bulletin Board Page

Connie and Craig Snyder's "volunteer" Adonis Blue Butterfly Bush



Sometimes our gardens surprise us with unexpected volunteers, such as this Adonis Blue Butterfly Bush! It seeded itself in the flagstone capping of our upper pond this spring. I let it grow there, thinking it would not last long but it surprised me as it grew with its roots down in the pond and seemed to look happier than the parent bush in my garden as we progressed into the heat of the summer! It has provided some shade for the koi and it continues to bloom and thrive with no dirt to support it. It has stood its ground through the hottest of days of summer and the winds and rain of Irene. Next year, I may even try to grow another one in our new pond. It seems to like it there!



I am looking for members stories and or photos for the newsletter. Please share your ponding and garden adventures. We would all like to see your photos, hear about your trials, errors and success stories. Send in any newsletter stuff to ccsnyder123@verizon.net for publishing in the



Members Bulletin Board Page

Connie and Craig Snyder's ugly "duckling" koi story of Bubba Gump



One of my favorite shows when I was growing up was Flipper. I loved the idea of a pet dolphin, waiting at the end of the dock, to provide hours of summertime entertainment. Maybe that is why I wanted a pond with koi. When they grow large, they kind of resemble dolphins... with a stretch of the imagination.

We were excited to have our pond finally completed at the end of September 1996 and we set off in an end of the season search for a couple of inhabitants to add to the pristine waters. On the way to the pond store I imagined all the beautiful varieties of koi there were to choose from.

When we did not find a large selection at the pond store my previous excitement was somewhat diminished but we were determined to purchase something. The two koi swimming in the bag on the way home could hardly be called jewels of the pond. But rather I called them the bottom of the barrel variety. One was all black and I thought it was pretty obvious why no one had chosen him all summer long.

Once home he kind of disappeared into our pristine sterile waters, likely never to be seen again. The one lonely water lettuce which floated all alone on top of the now cold water didn't do much to boost my spirits.

Springtime finally returned, and I must say I was excited to see he had indeed survived the winter, although he was still as ugly as the day we set him free.

Summers came and went and each spring he was always the first to greet us and beg for food. He grew larger and when he began to develop a golden glow under the black color of his doitsu scaleless body we began thinking that he was becoming somewhat attractive. It was easy to get up close and personal to him as our pond is raised and we could view him and his antics at close range. He easily learned how to eat out of our hand.

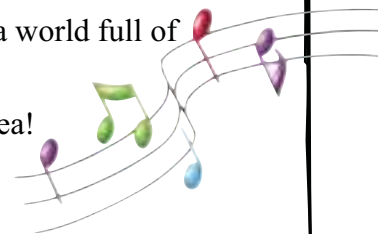
Then he started playing dolphin games. Ok, maybe he is just begging for food. He has startled the mailman and other unsuspecting guests, as he dances half out of the water, sometimes splashing those who walk by on the sidewalk beside the pond on their way to our front door.

Our ugly ducking black koi is now 15 years old and has splashed his way into our hearts. He has definitely secured the number one slot of favorite koi in the pond with us, our family, friends and neighbors. He is there every morning at the end of the dock, (I mean sidewalk) and if you ever come for a visit you may see him perform his out of the water splashing dolphin tricks. If you listen carefully you may hear the song I hear playing in the background..

They call him Bubba, Bubba, faster than lightning,
No one you see, is smarter than he,

And we know Bubba, lives in a world full of
wonder,

Flying there under, under the sea!



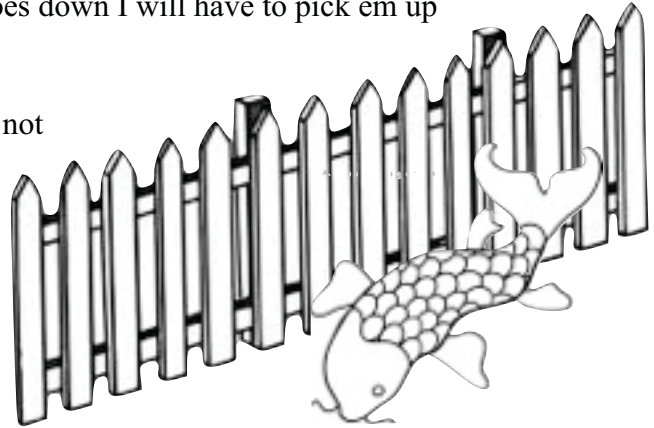
Members Bulletin Board Page

Here are two emails from Walt Wisowaty, on Canal Street in Delaware City, Delaware. We hope everyone weathered Hurricane Irene as well as Walt and Barb did!

Before the hurricane!!

Here in Delaware City we are expecting to have a storm surge of up to six feet. If that happens the fish will have a mighty BIG pond for a while. But our yard is fenced in with stockade fencing. All the fish should stay in the fenced area. When tide goes down I will have to pick em up and put em back in the pond.

I have decided to stay and ride it out. Hoping it will not come over the storm wall in front of the house. They are saying it **will** come over. In that case....I will lose all of my fish in the basement.....at least a couple thousand of them.



Walt Wisowaty

After the hurricane!!!

Thanks for your prayers....They worked GREAT! I was really expecting the storm of the century to come thru Delaware City. But.....Would you believe.....It was nothing but a tropical storm that hit here. Extra High tides with water coming about halfway up the driveway, about 15 feet from the garage door.

When the worst of the storm was going thru (Sunday AM) thank goodness it was **low tide**. Only had minor water in the basement. The two sump pumps kept up with it. We never lost power.....Lights only blinked once.

There was a lot of wind damage in the area but nothing on my property but a few broken off branches from neighbors trees.

I did so much in preparation for this one.....and it was all a waste of time..... I'm glad I wasted my time. I was extra ready with three sump pumps, a gasoline powered water pump. And, two generators....one large enough to do the whole house....and the smaller one for the sump pumps and the blower in the fish room.

Walt Wisowaty

Members Bulletin Board Page

News from Suzanne Durand and Everett Ferri on the results of the PHS Garden Contest.

Hello All,

Good news! Our garden has been awarded 3RD PRIZE for Individual Flower garden category, of the 2011 City Gardens Contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The Awards Ceremony took place on Saturday, September 24, 2011, at 2:00 PM at the PHS Fall Garden Festival at the Navy Yard.

Thanks to everyone who has ever helped us with our Ponds and Gardens!

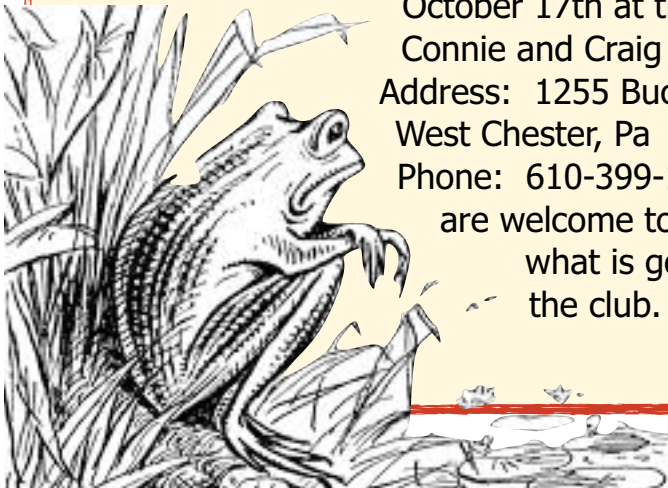
Best regards,

Suzanne Durand & Everett Ferri!



Upcoming Board Meeting: 7PM

Please join us Monday night ,
October 17th at the home of
Connie and Craig Snyder.
Address: 1255 Buck Lane,
West Chester, Pa 19382.
Phone: 610-399-1654. All
are welcome to come see
what is going on in
the club.



Officers:

President:

Victor Barsky 215-840-0811

Vice Presidents:

Stephanie McGrory 610-789-9921

Anne Pierce 610-356-4110

Secretary:

Sandi Stouffer 610-566-0472

Treasurer:

Gail Brewer 610-853-6361

Members at large:

Rose Ball 610-642-3276

Suzanne Durand 215-247-7279

Bill Fogle 610-687-3105

Marshall Hatfield 856-546-0391

Lois Janney-856-234-4835

Alan Letofsky 610-649-1424

Chas Pierro 610-353-0595

Cindy Weiss 856-504-6666

Committees:

Membership:

Connie Snyder 610-399-1654

Newsletter Editor:

Connie Snyder 610-399-1654

Pond Tour Committee:

Rose Ball, Bill Fogle, Marshall Hatfield, Lois Janney, Chas Pierro, Michael Pierro, Bill Rose.

Programs Committee:

Suzanne Durand 215-247-7279

Sunshine Committee:

Sharon Deutsch 856-983-2729

Webmaster:

Alexander "Sandy" Grimwade
610-664-6084

Welcome Committee:

Michelle Cohen 610-299-5011

NOTE: Two Newsletters per year, one in January and one in July, will be delivered to members in hardcopy by US mail.

Additional newsletters throughout the year will be email only editions. If you would like a email address added, or changed please contact Connie Snyder at ccsnyder123@verizon.net.

ADVERTISING AVAILABLE

Place your business ad in the newsletter to reach all of our pond members. Newsletters are also placed on our web site and are viewed by many others.

Rates per issue are as follows:

Full Page	\$100.00	Half Page	\$60.00
Quarter Page	\$35.00	Business Card	\$20.00

Send your ad as a PDF file to ccsnyder123@verizon.net Mail a check made out to DVWGS to Connie Snyder, Newsletter Editor, 1255 Buck Lane, West Chester, Pa. 19382.

NOTE: Members may place a non-business notice (such as free plants or fish, etc) in the newsletter or by email at no charge. Contact Victor at petfoodboy@aol.com to send out email notices to all members.

NOTE: Non members may also advertise in this newsletter at above pricing.



Thank You for paying your dues!

DVWGS memberships are based on a calendar year beginning on Jan 1st.

Currently we have 105 family members and everyone is current with their dues!