



April 2013
email edition



Join us at Millers Greenhouses on Sunday, April 21st at 10 am

Miller Greenhouses is a family-owned and operated business and has been a wholesale grower of quality plants, since 1973. Chuck and Rosemary Miller, who are members of DVWGS, have invited us to visit their 12 greenhouses during the springtime growing season. So make a list of your favorite ANNUALS that you want to add to your pots and gardens. With the splash of color exploding from the greenhouses, this is the day that will cure your spring fever. Discount prices will be extended to all DVWGS members. MillerGreenhouses is located at 403 Beech Road in Wallingford Pa. Contact information: Chuck and Rosemary Miller's phone # 610-874-3863.

Refreshments will be provided.
See next page for directions

**for purchases REMEMBER:
CASH OR CHECKS ONLY**



Upcoming

April:

Sunday, April 21st, 10 am to 3 pm. Annual visit to Millers' Greenhouses, Wallingford, Pa.

May:

Saturday, May 4th, 10 am to 1 pm. Russell's Nursery, Churchville, Pa.

Saturday, May 18th, 11 am to 3 pm. Plant and Garden exchange and brunch. West Mount Airy, Pa.

June:

Saturday, June 22nd, 3 pm to 9 pm
Our first PPP (Progressive Pond Party) Rain date is June 23rd.

July:

Tyler Arboretum, Media, Pa. Date TBD.

August:

Saturday, Aug 17th, 3 pm - 9 pm, our second PPP. Three locations TBD. Rain date is Aug 18th.

Sept:

Location and date TBD. Lecture, Landscaping around the pond by Paul Pezzotti of Pezzotti Landscaping.

Directions To Miller Greenhouses
403 Beech Road * Wallingford * Pa * 19086

**Coming towards Media/
Chester on Rt 252:**

Cross over Baltimore Pike in Media. Turn right at 2nd traffic light onto Brookhaven Road. Turn left after 2nd traffic light onto Moore Road. Follow Moore Road until Firehouse on your left. Turn right onto Hastings Ave. Go 2 blocks and turn right onto Beech Road. We are the 2nd house on the right, # 403.

**From Rt 352 from
Granite Run Mall:**

Follow Rt 352 into Brookhaven. At traffic light look for Walgreens store. Turn left onto Brookhaven Road. At first traffic light turn right onto Waterville Road. Go to first left and turn onto Hastings Ave. Go 1 block and turn left onto Beech Road. We are the 2nd house on the left, # 403.

**From Macdade Blvd
South into Chester:**

Macadde becomes 22nd Street. At the first light on 22nd Street turn right onto Chestnut Street. Follow Chestnut Street. You will go down a long hill and up another very long hill. At the top of the hill look for a park on the left. One block past the entrance to the park turn right onto Hastings Ave. Go 1 block and turn left onto Beech. We are the 2nd house on the right, # 403





Progressive Pond Party

We need your help. You are the club! Please **Volunteer to be a host or to assist** with these two summer events. Email Connie at ccsnyder123@verizon.net to volunteer.

What is the plan?

- Each member attending will bring a pot Luck dish.
- The PPP begins at the first hors d'oeuvres pond from 3:30 - 5pm.
- We will progress to the dinner pond from 5:30-7 pm.
- We will end the evening by visiting the third pond for dessert from 7:30-9pm.

(times and details are subject to change as we plan this new event)

Dates for this years two PPP's are:

- 1.) Saturday June 22nd, rain date Sunday 23rd.
- 2.) Saturday Aug 17th, rain date Sunday 18th.

What would this mean if your we include your property?

- Our goal is to minimize expenses and trouble for our hosts.
- Hosts will be asked to provide ice and maybe some beverages or coffee.
- Hosts will provide one or two tables for the Pot Luck Food.
- You and your family will be able to proceed to the other two ponds.
- Members would be at your house for approximately 1 to 1-1/2 hours.
- Parking is required on or near your property for up to about 30+ cars.
- Your home should have rest room facilities accessible to party guests.



Our kickoff Luncheon at Springfield Country Club

1-27-2013

LOOKING BACK



Delicious Lunch!

Upcoming Events Briefing



Thank you to Sandra Stashik of Acuity Brands Lighting for her informative presentation on outdoor lighting.



Numerous Raffle Items handled by Cindy Weiss and Marshall Hatfield!



Thank you to Alan Russell from Russell's Perennial Greenhouses, for bringing some pond plants along for discussion and raffle.



Updates from Mr. President, Victor

Members Bulletin Board

Instructions:How to Repot Water Lilies

By Dannah Swift, eHow Contributor

For best results, repot your water lilies early in the spring just as they are putting out new growth. For large plants use a five to seven gallon pot and for smaller plants a three to five gallon pot that is wider than it is tall.

Remove the water lily from pot or cut away the pot from root bound specimens. Rinse the soil from the lily so the roots are visible. A water lily's roots are called rhizomes.

Select the piece with the best growth showing and cut it with a small sharp knife (a drywall saw works great) to about three inches long. It's OK to discard the remainder of the plant.

Trim away any excess roots and damaged foliage, keeping the healthy foliage intact.

Fill a pot about one-third full of aquatic planting soil, preferably one comprised mostly of heavy clay loam. You can dig yard dirt out of the ground if you have a suitable place to dig and if your soil is heavy. Any pots with holes can be lined with several layers of newspaper to hold in the dirt.

Add 10 grams of 10-20-10 fertilizer for every gallon of soil. Don't neglect this step: water lilies love their fertilizer. The fertilizer comes in tablet form. Press the tablets into the soil.

Add more soil until the pot is around three-quarters full.

Tropical water lilies are planted in the center of the pot. Hardy water lilies are planted on the edge of the pot as they grow in one direction

Add soil to about two inches from the rim of the pot. Tamp down the soil using your fist and add one to two inches of pea gravel to cover all the soil. The soil should not touch the crown of the rhizome or the growing part of the plant.

Gently water the plant once the gravel has been added and lower the pot into the pond.

Water Lilies are heavy feeders. You will get more blooms if you feed every 10 days. For each gallon of soil, push one tab in the pot. If you have a lily in a two gallon pot, you will need two aquatic plant tabs. Feed the water lily until the days begin to shorten in October. Stop feeding and allow the plant to go dormant for the winter. You may begin feeding again when you see the pads in the spring.

Members Bulletin Board Page

Population Control Experiment, an ongoing story by Connie Snyder

The sunfish experiment continues!

I wrote about my sunfish population control idea in the December 2011 issue (really has it be that long ago that I started with this idea?) and again in the July 2012 edition, as my plan came to an abrupt end. If you remember, that was when my one and only sunny jumped ship and ended the experiment, which I must say was somewhat successful, as I was left with only 4 baby koi out of the thousands of koi eggs that were spawned that spring.

So here we are in March of 2013 and I am still determined to control my koi population in the easiest way, by culling the herd by natural selection so to speak.

But I wondered where would I get my next sunfish? Well my question was answered as we walked the dogs one morning in the park, next to the Brandywine river. The river had recently flooded over its banks and there were numerous puddles left along the trail. As I passed by one of them I noticed a splash and a flash of purple color glinting in the sun. Low and behold, what was that?? Fish in the puddles that had gotten trapped when the river receded. What luck!



We collected them, in doggie bags of course, and threw back the larger ones that were maybe trout leaving 4 of them that looked like they had the potential to be pond fish, and took them home to our indoor pond for the winter. They were still very small and it was hard to tell what

they were but we finally identified them on the internet as.... drumroll... Sunnies! I had my population control back!

We discovered one had only one eye, so we passed him off in a little beach bucket to my son who was just going out the door on his way to work, and convinced him to find a pond along his pizza delivery route and let this one go back to nature. He being a good sport, and being used to our fish craziness agreed, so now we had three.

They were so small that I had nothing to feed them as they would not touch the tiny koi pellets I had, and the indoor pond was not blessed with the algae and bugs and things they would have in nature. One disappeared and I feared they would all just wither away during the winter unless I found something for them to eat. I finally found the solution at the pet store, dried bloodworms!

Now I have two very healthy sunfish that are growing larger day by day. I hope that in another month or so they will be big enough to help with my koi population explosion which usually occurs around the first truly warm day in May or June.

So they will go into our new pond as soon as the water warms enough to provide them with enough bugs and insects to eat while awaiting the main course. And yes, I have named them... Sunny of course for the one... and the other .. maybe Ill call him or her Dingo. What? That doesn't sound like a fish name... well think about it!

I have to wonder... are they both one sex, or do I have one male and one female. I might have to answer that question in another newsletter. What could happen next???? Stay tuned.

Members Bulletin Board Page



As suggested by a club member, we now have an official **DVWGS Pond Help Line!** Bill Fogel has volunteered to be on-hand for any questions that members might have about fish and pond health. You can contact Bill at his home phone 610-687-3105. Bill has also volunteered to submit articles to our newsletter and web site regarding our ponds and fish for the newsletter at various times during the year.

Thank You Bill!

(Other club questions will still be answered by Vic Barsky at 215-840-0811)

Question: Last summer we got our pond, so this is our first spring. Someone said that spring is hard on koi. What should we do?

True spring can be hard for koi. This is because winter temperatures are stressful on koi, and their surroundings can be full of *Aeromonas* bacteria. The 40-50 deg. Temperature range is when bacteria start to multiply and the ciliated pathogens like *Chilodinella*, *Costia*, and *Tricodina* are multiplying fast. Along with this the fish have been in stressful conditions all winter. Their immune system is depressed, they could be in trouble.

To combat these things be proactive. Change 10% of the water on warmer winter days about once a month. In spring (April) clean the bottom of all the leaves and other debris, then change 50% of the water (take from the bottom). Replace with dechlor; add 0.3% salt (3lb per. 100 gal.) use 99.5% pure salt, no additives. Salt is safe for fish and humans. Leave salt in for two weeks. Remove by water changes later. Salt helps the fish by lowering stress and raising their osmotic balance along with killing off most of the parasites.

Add salt gradually. Example – 1000 gal. pond, needs 30 lbs. salt. Add 1/3 per day, dissolve before adding to pond. Use tub and recirculating pump to dissolve the salt.

Read two articles in KOI USA for January/ February. First, "Aeromonas Alley" by James Reilly, ZNA NA District Chairman and "Don't Ignore Ponds in Winter" by Jerold Kyle, KHA Director.

Bill Fogel

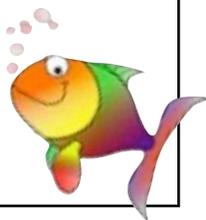
Members Bulletin Board Page

Do Koi need sun?

In answer to my question in the January newsletter, as to whether or not blocking the sun with a dense leaf net over the winter is detrimental to the koi as I was thinking that it does not allow much sunlight to pass through. The general consensus is, fish do not need sun. So I still hope they do not suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder like many of us feel during the darker and drearier season. At any rate, it wont be long now.... soon we will all see and feel the warmth of the sun once again!

Connie Snyder

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 newsletters.



Open to all members, upcoming Board Meeting:
April 22nd, at 7 pm, at the home of John & Sandi Stouffer, 105 Mansion, Media, Pa 19063

We will be planning our upcoming Progressive Pond Parties.

Your input is needed now to make this new activity a success.

So, save the date.

Call Vic for details.



Officers:

President:

Victor Barsky 215-840-0811

Vice Presidents:

Suzanne Durand 215-247-7279

Michelle Cohen 610-299-5011

Secretary:

Sandi Stouffer 610-566-0472

Treasurer:

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Members at large:

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Sunshine Committee:

Sharon Deutsch 856-983-2729

Webmaster:

Alexander "Sandy" Grimwade
610-664-6084

Welcome Committee:

Michelle Cohen 610-299-5011

Monster Goldfish Found in Lake Tahoe

By Tanya Lewis, LiveScience Staff Writer | LiveScience.com

A new kind of lake monster has been found, in the depths of Lake Tahoe:

Researchers trawling the lake for invasive fish species scooped up a goldfish that was nearly 1.5 feet long and 4.2 pounds.

"During these surveys, we've found a nice corner where there's about 15 other goldfish," environmental scientist Sudeep Chandra of the University of Nevada, Reno, told LiveScience. "It's an indication that they were schooling and spawning." The arrival of the fish, which were probably dumped there by aquarium owners, has Chandra worried — goldfish are an invasive species that could interfere with Lake Tahoe's ecosystem.

It's unclear whether the giant fish were introduced as fully grown adults, or while they were still small, Chandra said. But even a small creature can have a big impact, if there are enough of them.

The goldfish are just one of several species of invasive warm-water fishes in Lake Tahoe. "The invasion is resulting in the consumption of native species," Chandra said. What's more, the invasive fish excrete nutrients that cause algal blooms, which threaten to muddy Tahoe's clear waters. Aquarium dumping has become a common practice in the United States and elsewhere, and it's taking a toll on native wildlife. A recent report on California's aquarium trade found that fish owners and importers are introducing hardy, nonnative aquatic species to California waters. "Globally, the aquarium trade has contributed a third of the world's worst aquatic and invasive species," Williams, who was lead author of the report, told OurAmazingPlanet, a sister site of LiveScience, in January.

While the exact number of aquarium owners dumping fish is unknown, scientists know the practice is occurring because these species could not have ended up in these waters naturally.

Between 20 percent and 69 percent of fish keepers surveyed in Texas admitted to dumping, according to Williams.

Other ways that invasive species find their way into natural ecosystems include aquaculture, live seafood, live bait, and fishing and recreation vessels. More than 11 million nonnative marine organisms representing at least 102 species arrive at ports in San Francisco and Los Angeles alone, Williams has found.

The invaders include tropical fish, seaweed and snails. One of the nastiest is a deadly type of seaweed known as *Caulerpa*. A type of algae that produces toxic compounds that kill off fish, *Caulerpa* was eradicated in 2000 (at great expense) from lagoons in Southern California.

Aquarium owners should be more careful when disposing of unwanted fish and other animals, Williams cautioned. "It's pretty simple: Don't dump your fish," she said. Instead, she suggests calling the pet shop that sold the fish or your state department of fish and wildlife. (Euthanasia is another option, but simply flushing fish down the toilet can be problematic — for the fish and for your plumbing.) The largest pet goldfish, according to the BBC, was a fish named Goldie that was 15 inches (38 cm) long and weighed more than 2 pounds (0.9 kg).



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.

About half of us are currently paid for 2013.

If you are not current please renew in order to continue receiving club benefits!

You will not want to miss out on this years planned festivities!

Membership forms can be found in this newsletter or on our web site.

Now you can also renew by credit card on our website,

www.dvwgs.com

NOTE: We will not have a registration table at our Pond Parties this summer, as we did in the past at our pond tour. Please check the following page for a list of members who are current, and send in your membership renewals prior to our summers events. Thank You !!

PAID for 2013	PAID for 2013	PAID for 2013
Armstead, Valerie and Shirley	Goldstein, Judy and Buzz Miller	Pastman, Bonnie and Stuart
Ball, Rose	Grimwade, Linda and Alexander	Perkowski, Jim
Ball, Liz and Rick Ray	Holloway, Robin and Steven	Pierce, Anne and Carey
Barnett, Rena and Sam	Isenberg, Drucie and Gerald	Pierro, Chas and Michael
Geoglobal Partners, Dave Dower and Tracy Baxter	Janney, Lois and Bill Rose	Rakickas, Nancy and John
Bradley, Fran	Land and Seascapes / Steven Katz	Reed, Sharon and Carl Hughes
Brewer, Gail	Kimber, Charles	Rhodes, Alisa and John
Bubenick, Gail and Dan	Kreider, Lillian and Jerry	Richardson, Kim and Brian
Chmielewski, Wendy and Alice Hasbrouck	Larro, Carol and Peaches	Rohana, Joanne and Pete
Chung, Richard and Ann	Lemmerman, Marilyn and David	Russell, Alan
Cohen, Michelle and Bob	Letofsky, Jean and Alan	Senkow, Bonnie and Walt
Coleman, Nancy and Paul	Lichtman, Craig and Ben	Shea, Richard
Deutsch, Sharon and Herb	Lilypons Water Gardens	Snyder, Connie and Craig
DiCarlo, Jackie and Vince Amico	Lorantas, Barbara	Stitely, Pam and Dave
Drucker, Robert	Mallory, Linda and Jim	Stouffer, Sandi and John
Duffy, Dr and Mrs.	Marziano, Marie and Tony	Straub, MaryLee and Jack
Durand, Suzanne and Everett Ferri	McClain, John and Mitch Prince	Trout, Diana and Ray
Dusinberre, Sheila and Herb	Meyer Weiner, Joan	Vogel, Barbara and Ed
Ewing, Janice and Marshall Hatfield	Miller, Sandi and Rick	Wagner, Lois and Lamar
Fogle, Jan and Bill	Ockman, Carol and Stuart	Weiss, Cindy and John Cornwell
Gans, Maryann and Charles	Oehlert, Beverly and Jim	Weigoszinski, Joan and Richard
		Wilmer, Susan and John
		Ziamba, Maryann and Vince