



# The Water Spout

## Capital Area Pond & Water Gardening Society Newsletter June, 2004

Capital Area Pond & Water Gardening Society, Founded June 1993

Best website on the web... [www.capwgs.org](http://www.capwgs.org) ... go there!

### June Meeting

June 27, 2004

This will be our 1<sup>st</sup> annual Fish Fry to celebrate the pond societies 11th birthday. Happy Birthday CAPWGS! The festivities will begin at 5:30 at the home of James & Ruth Carter, 2563 Riverview Dr., Denham Springs, LA 70726. All food and refreshments will be provided by the society, the only thing you need to bring is yourself and a lawn chair. Hope to see you Sunday!

**Note from the Editor** - It is my pleasure to serve another year as your Newsletter Editor. Thank you for entrusting me with this responsibility. I look forward to another fun-filled year and would like to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve. **-Happy reading! Bridget Hayes, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster**

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# CAPITAL AREA POND & WATER GARDENING SOCIETY

## MINUTES FOR THE MAY 2004 MEETING

Our meeting this month was held on May 23, 2004 at the home of John & Julie Newman. Margaret opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking John and Julie Newman for hosting the meeting.

The minutes were approved by the membership present. Danna was not present to give the Treasurer's report. There is a bank balance of approximately \$2,000.

We had 21 members plus a guest attending the meeting. They were Julie and John Newman, Alice and Buzz Werline, Sandi Bordelon, Bridget Hayes, Lowell Tilley, James and Phyllis Smith, Renee and C J Richard, Rhonda and Allan McGehee, Judy Buckley (guest), Courtney Chaney, Keith and Shirley Baker, Tony and Charlotte Gray, James Carter, Margaret Mercier and Betty Klenke.

Margaret spoke about hoping to make the meetings more meaningful to the members with topics such as the Lily Dividing Clinic, the topic of today's meeting. Hopefully, we can have some field trips but we need help from the membership in coming up with the ideas.

Margaret brought up the idea of sending a letter to companies that install ponds offering a free 1-year membership in our club to their new customers. This would be a way to increase our membership. The membership voted to accept this proposal and letters should go out in the next week or so.

In the past we have helped on a number of community projects such as working with BREC, installing a pond at the Bluebonnet Swamp, Council on Aging and others. EBR Mosquito Abatement has an in-ground cement pond which has developed structural problems over the years. They have asked us to help them rejuvenate this pond. They have a budget for materials and equipment plus labor so they are looking for advice on this project. If anyone would like to work on this project please contact Margaret or Lance.

Our next meeting which is our First Annual Pond Society Fish Fry & Eleventh Annual Birthday/Anniversary will be at James Carter's home on Sunday, June 27 at **5:30**, instead of our usual meeting time. This will be a Fish Fry. Originally we had a planned this to also be a covered dish dinner. Instead all food will be provided so just bring yourselves.

John showed us a great new way for splitting and repotting night blooming water lilies. He started by putting fertilizer in the bottom of a large pot, approximately 16" x 10" high, added a layer of sand, then more fertilizer and another layer of sand. He then added 1 fertilizer tablet and the plant and added more sand. John usually plants several plants in one pot. He topped it off with large rocks and some smaller one. He adds fertilizer tablets every 4 to 6 weeks. It is easier to add the tablets when you use larger rocks. John then gave everyone a lily – a real prize. Several other members brought plants also so everyone went home with a bag full.

Everyone visited snacking on cookies, fruit and lemonade.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Klenke

## Internet Interests...

**Best Website on the web. GO THERE!**  
Capital Area Pond & Water Gardening Society  
<http://www.capwgs.org/>

Here are a few of our members favorites...

- Pond keeper Magazine <http://www.pondkeeper.com>
- Water Gardening Magazine Info on disease topics for aquatic animals <http://www.koivet.com>
- National Pond Society <http://www.bandd.net/nps/index.htm>
- Austin Pond Society <http://www.austinpondsociety.org/>
- Stokes Tropicals in New Iberia <http://www.stokestropicals.com/>
- Rare and Exotic Seeds <http://www.seedman.com>
- Big Cat Sanctuary <http://www.yogieandfriends.org>
- Miami Valley Water Garden Society Web Page <http://www.mvwgs.org>
- Pond Pals Tour <http://members.aol.com/marylady/pondpals/pindex.htm>
- Water Gardening Magazine <http://www.watergardening.com>
- Master Garden Products <http://www.mastergardenproducts.com/watergar.htm>
- <http://www.ponddoc.com/>
- [www.gardenlink.com](http://www.gardenlink.com)
- St. Joseph Water Garden Society: [www.sjwatergarden.com](http://www.sjwatergarden.com)

Go to the CAPWGS website for more favorites. If you have a favorite that will benefit other society members, please let us know. Thanks!

To purchase a business card ad space, contact Bridget Hayes 225-275-4698 or [lilypads@capwgs.org](mailto:lilypads@capwgs.org)



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## ADDING NEW FISH TO YOUR POND

Article provided by PoKoi.com.

Introducing koi to a new pond is extremely tricky because there are so many variables.

These are some basic steps you should definitely follow:

1. Do not release new koi into pond immediately upon reaching home after purchases;
2. Float the plastic bag of koi into pond, taking care to wrap bag with wet newspaper during the hot afternoon for at least one hour; (make sure the retailer puts enough CO<sub>2</sub> in the bag. Let them know how long your trip will be and add two hours to it.)
3. After one hour of floating, open plastic bag and add pond water gradually into plastic bag with koi for about fifteen minutes and release it gently into pond;
4. Abstain from feeding new koi for at least 2 days; (after that, start feeding it medicated food in case of any ailments it might have)
5. Do not introduce new fishes into pond during green water as p.h is generally above 8 degrees, fluctuating up and down;
6. Should new koi be introduced during green water period, extreme care must be taken to acclimate the condition of pond water and those in the plastic bag very slowly and gradually taking at least half an hour for the process.
7. Add salt to into the pond before introducing Koi into the new pond. As nitrification is still in process, this would result in a high level of ammonia in the pond. Adding salt in the pond would convert the ammonia into ammonium, which is far less harmful and toxic. depending on what time of the season you do it,

If your koi does a Jumping Jack koi, that means there is a slim coat issues or it has not acclimated to the water. Put either a foam block on top of the pond or just cover it with a net.

You should find out if the koi has been quarantined. If it has, that is great. But if not, we would be weary of buying it. The best scenario is to quarantine the fish and treat it yourself if you have room. Try to buy fish in the late spring or summer because of their immune system.

