



# The Water Spout

## Capital Area Pond & Water Gardening Society Newsletter March, 2005

Capital Area Pond & Water Gardening Society, Founded June 1993

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

### MARCH MEETING

#### LSU GARDEN SHOW



**LOCATION:** John M. Parker Coliseum at LSU

**MEETING:** Sunday, March 20 at 2:30 at CAPWGS Booth

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, Sunday**  
**March 19, 20**

**LSU Garden Show**  
**9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Saturday, April 2**

**Botanic Garden Plant Sale, Independence Park, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

**Sunday, April 3**

**Botanic Garden Pavilion Party, Independence Park, 4:00 – 7:00 PM**

**Saturday, April 16**

**Sixth Annual Seed and Plant Swap**  
**BREC Botanic Garden – Independence Park, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon**

**Sunday, April 17**

**Baton Rouge Earth Day, 7:00 AM - 8:30 PM, Meeting 2:30 PM**  
**Downtown Baton Rouge on North Boulevard**

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**Secretary:** Betty Klenke  
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**Treasurer:** Lance Beecher  
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## Minutes February 27, 2005

The February, 2005 meeting of the CAPWGS was held at the home of members Bridget & Darrel Hayes on Green Forest Dr. with 13 members and guests present.

In the absence of the President, Bridget called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. She introduced visitor, Joan Sibley, who she had met on Saturday at an event in St. Francisville and invited to the meeting. Joan later paid her dues and joined the Society. Welcome, Joan.

Nellie Carter, former long time member, was present and re-joined. We are very happy to have her back. Also David and Deborah Taylor from Watson visited and later joined, and we welcome them to membership.

Prior to the business meeting, Bridget presented a demonstration on how to build a table top fountain. The process is surprisingly simple. Select a suitable container, i.e. a pretty bowl or pot, and fill it with decorative objects arranged in whatever manner suits you. Be creative! Bridget made one fountain with medium to large conch shells and another with rocks. After creating the arrangement, you hook up whatever amount of tubing is needed to a submersible pump. Fill the bowl with water, and plug the pump in. You can always experiment and adjust the water flow to suit your taste. These fountains are pretty and provide the pleasing sound of running water to the site where they're located.

Danna brought in a "ready made" tabletop fountain that she had a problem with, and it was worked on and fixed. Small submersible pumps, that we have had on hand for some time, were given to those who wanted to try making a fountain at home.

After the presentation, James Carter, Vice-President, made announcements. On Saturday and Sunday, March 19 and 20, the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Horticulture Show will be held at the LSU Ag Center, and we will have a booth. We need volunteers to staff the booth and to sell fish and plants. Anyone who has excess fish and plants to donate for this sale can either get them to James' house prior to that weekend or take them directly to the Show. It doesn't matter what kind of fish or plants are donated. We will hold our March meeting on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> at the Show at 2:30 PM.

Treasurer Lance Beecher and James also announced and discussed a fund raising activity. Since we no longer have a public tour, we needed some other way to raise money. James has donated a cypress glider that was made at his business, Just-A-Swingin', and valued at \$215. We will raffle this glider for \$2 per ticket, which will be packaged in books of 10. Promotional flyers with a picture of the glider will also be provided. Lance had hoped to have them for this meeting, but they weren't ready.

One book of raffle tickets with flyers will be sent to each member and members are urged to either sell 10 or more tickets or buy a book for themselves. We will sell tickets at the LSU Show and at Earth Day on April 17. Both of these events attract thousands of people, so we should be able to sell quite a few tickets at each of them.

The tickets will be numbered, and will be in two parts – a portion that is filled out and torn off for the drawing and a stub that is retained by the buyer. Our April meeting will be held at Earth Day, and the raffle drawing will take place immediately after that meeting – around 3:30 or 4 p.m.

Tickets and flyers will be mailed soon to each member. Anyone who doesn't want to sell or buy tickets can return them to Lance.

James and Lance also announced that long-time member Andrea Bennett has had surgery on both her knees and is currently unable to get around very well. Her pond has developed a problem, and the Society would like to help her remedy it. Because the roots of taro plants became entwined in the rocks, her waterfall has collapsed. The work would require mortar and elbow grease to replace the waterfall. It will not take long to fix and would be an opportunity to help a member restore her pond. Andrea and her husband haven't decided if they want to restore the waterfall or convert the pond into a mud bottom one. Andrea leans toward the mud bottom, but her husband wants the waterfall. Lance has been working with them on it, and when they make their decision on what they prefer to do, he'll let us know, probably in the next newsletter. The Executive Board feels that we should help our members when we can and not put our efforts exclusively into community projects.

There was some discussion about the pond at Mosquito Abatement. The Richards went by to see it recently when making a trip to the airport and thought it looked very nice. Danna reported that her daughter and grandson had been by there and thought that it is very pretty and well done. The landscaping is not complete yet, but they do have a few small goldfish in it.

The week after our work day Lance had one phone call from the staff about a leak near the overflow. He told them what to do about it, and he hasn't heard from them again so assumes that they were able to fix it. The Mosquito Control staff wants to do something for the Society – maybe a barbecue. They have a large conference room where we can have a meeting, possibly in May, since March and April are already booked elsewhere. We want all our members to see the finished product.

James expressed our thanks to Bridget for today's excellent program and for her hospitality. He asked for suggestions for future programs, field trips, etc. that would interest the membership.

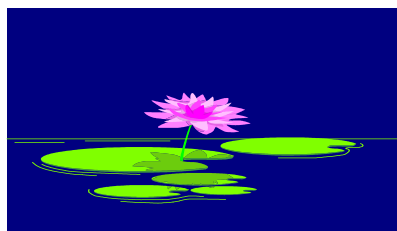
It was suggested that write ups in the "Club News" of *The Advocate* provide information about the location of the next meeting. Danna said she would try to get a meeting notice in the "About Town" section of the Sunday paper the week prior to the meeting. She does that for the Orchid Society and should be able to manage it for CAPWGS. She has also put a notice in the BREvents web site.

Joan Sibley told us about her pond in Watson. It's about 3,000 gallons and houses some large koi. Her grandchildren will catch the koi with fish hooks and then throw them back. She has lots of koi with sore mouths! She has excess koi and offered to donate them to the Society. We can use them for the fish sale in March.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Danna Spayde  
For Betty Klenke, Secretary

**Remember your 2005 Dues!**



## EAT YOUR HEART OUT HGTV!

By Margaret Mercier

Civic-minded members of the Capital Area Pond and Water Gardening Society recently held another work day restoring the bi-level decorative pond at the East Baton Rouge Parish Mosquito and Rodent Control Office.

The above ground pond is now in working order with a beautiful bluestone cap adorning its stucco walls and stylish diagonal waterfall. Lush landscaping, water plants, and decorative fish are still in the planning stage.

Members, community friends, and Mosquito Abatement staff who helped on the initial work day were James Carter, Gerald Bonds, Lance Beecher, Keith Baker, Tiffany Cravens, Janis Bonds, Sandi Bordelon, Margaret Mercier, Daniel Garrett, Larry Mercier, Herff Jones, Brett Mount, and Daniel Stroud.

Members, community friends, and Mosquito Abatement staff who helped on our second work day and pictured (l to r) in the photograph in front of the vinyl-lined pond were Daniel Garrett, Alice Werline, Buzz Werline, Renee Richard, C. J. Richard, Margaret Mercier, Mike Contine, Danna Spayde, Lance Beecher, James Carter, Larry Mercier, Janis Bonds, Gerald Bonds, Keith Baker, Willie Tansiel. Present, but not included in the photo were Randy Vaeth and Lowell Tilley (our Pond Society Publicity Chairperson who took the picture). James Jeansonne, a good friend from the Iris Society and Botanic Garden, generously shared his masonry expertise and loaned us tools for the work day despite being at home with the flu that day.

Companies who have assisted us with materials, equipment, equipment, and expertise for the project are Ewing Aquatech Pools, Innovative Pond Solutions, Louisiana Nursery, and Naylor Brothers Hardware. The Capital Area Pond Society wishes to thank these businesses for their generosity and support of our community projects.

The pond, a work in progress, can be viewed at the Mosquito Abatement and Rodent Control Office at 2829 Lt. General Ben Davis Jr. Avenue, Baton Rouge, near the airport.



## Here, Fishy Fishy - Pond owners' pet names are as colorful as the fish

A koi named Quasimodo? Goldfish called Larry, Moe and Curly? Fish names go beyond the standard Goldie and Spot, according to a recent online survey conducted by The Water Garden. Respondents to the poll submitted the names of their fish, which ranged from the cute - Nemo and Dory from the animated underwater film "Finding Nemo" - to the wacky - Big Rhoda and Monterrey Jack.

We wondered if water gardeners named their fish the way people name cats and dogs. We found that not only does it seem that people give their fish names, but they're pretty serious about it - one pond owner has 130 fish and has named every single one of them!



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While Goldie and Spot were the overwhelming favorites among those polled some of the names submitted, like Filet O. Sole, were decidedly unique.

The movies provided many fish names, like The Soggy Bottom Boys, who were inspired by George Clooney's musical group in the film "O Brother, Where Art Thou." A Western-loving water gardener in Canada called his goldfish Butch and Sundance after the characters played by Paul Newman and Robert Redford.

Even fast food commercials influenced the monikers chosen by some people, like Crunchy, Chewy and Cheesy, owned by a woman who let her youngest son name three of her fish after the Taco Bell ad.

This same pondkeeper also has a fish she calls Not For Sale - "When we first tried to buy it, that's what the salesman told us," she said.

Some pond owners went for themed names for their fish, like Liberty and Justice for a pair of koi acquired over Independence Day weekend.



Several water gardeners took the Japanese heritage of their koi seriously, coming up with names they felt honored the origins of their fish. "We have a 3-year-old male koi who's named 'Toshi' ," wrote one respondent, "short for Toshiro Mifune, the '60s movie star of Japanese samurai films."

Fish were also frequently named in honor of favorite celebrities, including Elvis, Marilyn Monroe, Prince Charles, and even Mary-Kate and Ashley after the Olsen twins.

While many water gardeners name their fish for fun, one respondent noted a more practical reason for christening his fish: "We find names extremely helpful when noting the different habits and problems a fish might have."

## Guarding Against Sick Fish

Fish disease and death can be very frustrating. Unfortunately, it even causes some people to give up on fish-keeping altogether. But a little knowledge along with some basic precautions can be very powerful in the health of our goldfish and koi. Maintaining good water quality is extremely important. It's also important to make sure you are starting with healthy fish. If you purchase sick fish, it's going to be an uphill battle at best. Buy your fish from a dealer you trust. If you are keeping high-dollar fish then trust is not good enough. You should set up a quarantine pond for new fish before mixing them with your other fish.

If a health problem does arise, your first step should be to test the water (you do this once a week anyway, right?).

**Fish Treatment Products Section of our online catalog.**

Symptoms	Possible Cause	Treatment
<b>Cotton-like growths</b>	Fungus	<a href="#">Medi-Koi</a> , <a href="#">ProForm-C</a>
<b>Open wounds</b>	Bacterial Infection	<a href="#">Melafix</a> , <a href="#">Medi-Koi</a> , <a href="#">Debride</a>
<b>Gasping at surface</b>	Oxygen deficiency	More <a href="#">aeration</a> , less fish, <a href="#">Microbe-Lift OX</a>
<b>Bulging eyes</b>	Pop-eye, Bacterial Infection	<a href="#">Melafix</a> , <a href="#">Medi-Koi</a>
<b>Swollen body and scales protruding from body</b>	Dropsy, Bacterial Infection	<a href="#">Melafix</a> and <a href="#">Medi-Koi</a> (mainly for the other fish as usually it is too late for this fish)
<b>Fins deteriorating</b>	Finrot, bacterial infection	<a href="#">Melafix</a> , <a href="#">Medi-Koi</a>
<b>Floats upside down, trouble swimming upright</b>	Swimbladder disorder	<a href="#">Sinking food</a>
<b>"Flashing" through the water (sudden sideways bursts) or jumping</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parasite infection</li> <li>Water toxin</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Salt level to .3%*</a>, <a href="#">Dimilin</a>, <a href="#">ProForm-C</a>, <a href="#">Prazi Pond</a></li> <li>Water Change</li> </ol>
<b>Colored fish turning white</b>	Loss of pigment	More sunlight
<b>Swollen gills</b>	Flukes, parasite infection	<a href="#">Salt level to .3%*</a> , <a href="#">Dimilin</a> , <a href="#">ProForm-C</a> , <a href="#">Prazi Pond</a>
<b>Lying on pond bottom</b>	Flukes, parasite infection	<a href="#">Salt level to .3%*</a> , <a href="#">Dimilin</a> , <a href="#">ProForm-C</a> , <a href="#">Prazi Pond</a>
<b>Scales raised (on only part of the body)</b>	Parasite infection	<a href="#">Salt level to .3%*</a> , <a href="#">Dimilin</a> , <a href="#">ProForm-C</a> , <a href="#">Prazi Pond</a>
<b>Strong red veins in the fins</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacterial Infection</li> <li>Parasite Infection</li> <li>Ammonia or Nitrite poisoning</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Melafix</a>, <a href="#">Medi-Koi</a></li> <li><a href="#">Salt level to .3%*</a></li> <li>Water Change, <a href="#">Ammo-Lock</a></li> </ol>
<b>White Spots (pinhole size only)</b>	Ich, Parasite infection	<a href="#">Salt level to .3%*</a> , <a href="#">ProForm-C</a>

\*This level of salinity is not recommended with plants in the pond.

## 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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**Note from the Editor:** I look forward to serving as your Newsletter editor for this year. Your ideas or any information you would like to add to the newsletter are always welcome. Please contact me at 225 755 2449 or email me at [betty@lakeshoregroup.com](mailto:betty@lakeshoregroup.com).