



The Water Spout

Deep South Koi and Pond Society Newsletter November, 2005

Deep South Koi and Pond Society, Founded June 1993

Best website on the web... www.capwgs.org ... go there!



Annual Christmas Party

Where: Home of Roger and Kathie Dietrich
18481 Manchac Lake Dr.
Prairieville, LA 70769
225-677-5032

When: Saturday, December 3

Time: 5:30 PM

Potluck – Bring your favorite holiday dish
Meat will be furnished by the Society

Directions:

From interstate: Exit Highland/Perkins and take left. Turn right next street towards Sante Maria Golf course on Old Perkins. Turn Left into Manchac Plantation (subdivision right past Sante Maria), at first stop sign take Right, next street take Right (Manchac Lake Dr.) go to next stop sign. The first house on right past the stop sign is the Dietrich's house.

From Airline Highway: Turn on Old Perkins beside the new Wal Mart. Go across the railroad tracks and turn Right into Manchac Crossing subdivision. Go to second stop sign (Manchac Way Dr.) turn left. Go to end of the street and it dead ends into the Dietrich's house.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 30
Betty Klenke @ 755-2449 or betty@lakeshoregroup.com

Deep South Koi & Pond Society

Minutes for the October 2005 Meeting

The October Meeting was held on October 23 at Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center.

Margaret demonstrated how to make a tabletop fountain with large glass, pottery, and stainless steel balls; a large decorative glass bowl; and a small fountain pump. She described different materials that can be used in creating unique fountains and brought two other commercially produced tabletop fountains for display.

Bridget, our webmaster, needs a new version of FrontPage in order to design websites. The cost is approximately \$125. After discussion, Roger Dietrich said that he would contact Bridget and offer to donate the software for her use. The members present voted to give the Executive Committee the authority to make decisions regarding this situation. The website is a great way to educate as well as attract new members.

Roger and Kathy Dietrich volunteered to host our Christmas Party. The Party will be held Saturday, December 3 and will be a potluck with the club furnishing the meat. It was suggested that we could assign people what to bring (salad, vegetable or dessert) by dividing the alphabet.

Danna brought examples of a logo that a graphic designer created for us years ago. Members discussed our need of an attractive shirt to wear to meetings, events, and around town. Lance will gather information on the options for the types of shirts and screen-printing or embroidery and bring this information to the Christmas Party for us to discuss.

Election of officers will take place at the Christmas Party. Please contact one of the officers if you are interested in serving as an officer.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Klenke
for Sandi Bordelon



Decorate Your Garden Pond For Christmas

Your garden pond does not have to be a dark, ugly, wet hole in the ground once the plants die and the fish go dormant!

With just a little bit of imagination it can be beautiful all winter and even add to your outdoor decorations by being lit just right at night!

A few ideas:

- Place an Angel Statue on an upside down flower pot or other platform into shallow end of pond.
- Illuminate the statue with under-water lighting. Use green or red lenses for this special season!
- Put rope lights around the perimeter of the pond and float a few Water Lettuce replicas inside the pond.
- Scrunch up some red cellophane and form loosely into 6 - 8 inch balls. Float these among the Water Lettuce replicas.
- Add a floating light or two.
- Float 3 or 4 "Duckies" and adorn them with red ribbon around the neck and maybe even a tiny Santa hat.

With these tips and some ideas of your own your pond can be the envy of the neighborhood and a beautiful focal point for your garden even in the dead of winter.

Article courtesy of <http://www.pondmarket.com>
For a list of pond articles and resources send a blank e-mail to <mailto:pondindex@sendfree.com>



Gazing Globes

Gazing globes are used year-round in the garden. Why not put them to work during the holiday season as decorations? After all, they look like large Christmas tree bulbs. Good quality glass globes like the ones we carry at the store are very sturdy outdoors, even during freezing weather. Stainless steel is also available but, although they are nice, they don't have the luster of the hand-blown glass.

One can easily convert a gazing globe from garden art into holiday décor by tying a large ribbon around it with a big bow in the middle. For an added touch try hot-gluing artificial holly and pine cones found in the woods to the ribbon. Don't glue or permanently fix anything to the globe or you have a holiday decoration for life.

12" and larger globes fit into the neck of many planters. Decorate two matching globes and set them into planters on either side of the door. In northern climates folks tend to leave their planters bare in the winter. This will give them purpose — winter life! Glass balls do not come in larger than 12" sizes but stainless steel are available in 16", 20" and 22" — as long as you order them early. They tend to be swept up quickly for Christmas gifts.

If your yard is graced with a big, nice, healthy tree that is *just right* for decorating, try sticking smaller-sized gazing globes into the branches. Glass balls are available in 6" and 10". Again, stainless steel balls offer a better selection of sizes — 4", 6", 8" and 10" — but they can be harder to get. String the tree with white lights to bounce off the globes at night and create a glistening and twinkling wonderland.

Holiday Décor for the Birds

During the winter many species of song birds can be found pillaging through the yard for tasty morsels. You can transform a tree into a holiday smorgasbord for birds by creating edible decorations. The birds, then, become part of the holiday décor whether they want to or not.

Cut bagels in half, creating two circles, and smear a thick layer of crunchy peanut butter on the cut side. Press the bagel, peanut butter side down, onto a plate filled with bird seed, raisins, shelled peanuts, dried cheese crumbs, berries — anything the birds might desire — and coat it well. Hang the bagels up on the tree by using cheerful holiday ribbon threaded through the hole in the middle of the bagel.

Make edible pine cone decorations by threading thin ribbon into the spaces between the prickly parts and leave enough ribbon to tie the pine cone onto the limb of the tree. Fill the spaces of the pine cone with peanut butter or suet and coat it with seeds and raisins. In fact, anything that is not toxic to the birds and squirrels can be coated with peanut butter and bird seed and hung on the tree. Your imagination is your only limitation. Try recycling old decorations that have been cleaned or cutting festive shapes out of wood.

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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
- St. Joseph Water Garden Society: 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

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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.