

Monthly Newsletter Publication of the Montgomery County Water Garden Society

At the Waters' Edge

MONTGOMERY COUNTY WATER GARDEN SOCIETY
2277 Wilma Rudolph Blvd., Suite C
PMB 222
Clarksville, TN 37040

May 2011
VOLUME 12, No 5

POUND PARTY!!

The Vaden's will be hosting the first pond party of the season on the 22nd of May from 04:00-06:00. The Nashville Koi club will be joining us as well. The Vaden's address is 1555 Big marrowbone Rd. Ashland City. To get there, proceed to Junction of 41A Bypass and Riverside, and turn onto State Route 48/13. Turn slight right onto Ashland City Road/ TN-125. Proceed 26.2 miles, then turn left on little Marrowbone Rd. Proceed 1.2 miles, then turn left onto Big Marrowbone Rd. After 1.6 miles, number 1555 will be on the left side of the road. The MCWGS will provide entrée and papergoods and drinks- just bring a side dish and an appetite!!

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

May 2011

Hello Everyone!

If it's true that April Showers bring May Flowers, then we should all be blessed with multitudes of color this month!

Regarding our April Outing to KY, all I can say is, Mister Rogers would have been very proud of us. It was truly a wonderful day in the neighborhood!!! Jeff and I are now the proud owners of two new Butterfly Koi. A yellow "yawmamama" something and a new white one, named accordingly, Old Yeller and Snowwhite! Thus far, they are adjusting well. After our visit to Country Koi, we hit up Country Garden, Schlabach's Bakery and the Pantry Store. Needless to say, we came home laden with plants, baked goods and other fine fare. Lunch was enjoyed by all at Mike's BBQ.

I hope this finds your ponds and gardens faring well and ready to kick off our season with the first Pond Party at the Vaden's. I cannot wait to see everyone, get caught up and share some Koi Stories!

Until Then....Sincerely, Sharon Baggett

Visit us on the web at www.mcwgs.org

Upcoming Calendar Events: Board meeting 06 April at Mike and Linda VanManaan's House. All members are welcome, Green Thumb Festival May 7, Master Gardener Plant Sale May 7, see page four for details. Pond party May 22, 04:00-06:00 at the Vaden's

Predators in Your Pond- Minimize the opportunity for plunder

In this area we have several threats from herons, to raccoons to the river otters, as well as neighborhood dogs and cats. This little critters can't wait to take home a koi for dinner- some tips so that won't get YOUR koi- more next month as well

Small ponds with shallow areas make fish easy prey. On the other hand, most predators will not venture into ponds where fish have room to escape or hide, making their hunt difficult, or from which their own exit may be awkward.

If you are about to build an additional pond, or expand the one you have, we recommend that you build it as large and deep as possible, and with steep sides. If you plan to have Koi, a depth of three to four feet is recommended. Also, because you can always elevate your plants with rocks, make plant shelves 12" to 16" deep so they won't be used as access points by predators.

Always locate your pond where you can observe it from a window, and have a light ready to illuminate it at the flip of a switch.



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**Treasurer's Report from Dina Speta-
As of Apr 2011**

Balance as of JMar 2011.....	2984.91
Deposits.....	30.00
Expenditures.....	-343.58
Balance as of Apr 2011.....	2671.33

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- **Cream of Asparagus Soup-**
- **Asparagus is cheap and plentiful this time of year!**

- 2 pounds green asparagus
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 5 to 6 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 cup crème fraîche or heavy cream

1/4 teaspoon fresh lemon juice, or to taste

Cut tips from 12 asparagus

1 1/2 inches from top and halve tips lengthwise if thick. Reserve for garnish. Cut stalks and all remaining asparagus into 1/2-inch pieces. Cook onion in 2 tablespoons butter in a 4-quart heavy pot over moderately low heat, stirring, until softened. Add asparagus pieces and salt and pepper to taste, then cook, stirring, 5 minutes. Add 5 cups broth and simmer, covered, until asparagus is very tender, 15 to 20 minutes.

While soup simmers, cook reserved asparagus tips in boiling salted water until just tender, 3 to 4 minutes, then drain. Purée soup in batches in a blender until smooth, transferring to a bowl (use caution when blending hot liquids), and return to pan. Stir in crème fraîche, then add more broth to thin soup to desired consistency. Season with salt and pepper. Bring soup to a boil and whisk in remaining tablespoon butter.

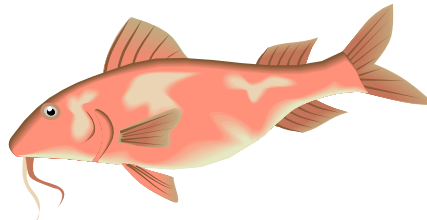
Add lemon juice and garnish with asparagus tips.

Do you have some photos of your water garden, pond, plants or fish that you would like to share with other members? The Pond Society keeps a scrap book that is shown at pond days and other functions, but it needs updating. Please contact Pam Ross, 368-1583, if you would like to have your photos included.

Also, any info that you would like to have published in the newsletter, send to Terrie Young at terrieyoung200@lycos.com.

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Sharon Baggett, President 249-2355
- Herman Albright, Vice President 645-3175
- Linda VanMaanen, Secretary 368-1636
- Dina Speta, Treasurer 368-1583
- Linda Earp, Banquet Chairman 645-9700
- Pam Ross, Events Chairman 368-1583
- Ron and Linda Westfall, Publicity 648-6350
- Terrie Young, Membership Chair 302-3387
- Roy Prewitt, Sponsor Chairman 647-0518



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THANK YOU !

Mary Cooper
Owner

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Swap Board

Dale Davis 931-648-8245 has 5 10 - 12 inch Koi for sale. \$30 each. Most are white and orange and 1 gray w/black spots and silver fins. 619 Rocky Hill Road, Clarksville TN 37042. Give him a call if interested.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

There will be a Master Gardener Plant Sale on the 7th of May starting at 08:00 and ending when the plants are sold. It will be held on Madison Street in the parking lot of the Habitat for Humanity Restore.

Green Thumb Festival will be held on 7 May at the Habitat for Humanity Restore parking lot. It will begin at 08:00 with the plant sale. This is an excellent chance to come out and see what eco-friendly products and organizations are out there in Clarksville!