



January 2010

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Beverly Jarmuz 833-3889
John Porter 694-6652
Carol Krajewski 937-9810

MEMBERSHIP

Greg Young 537-2830

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual.....\$20.00
Family.....\$25.00

REFRESHMENTS

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Greg Young 537-2830

POND SQUAD

Chris & Dennis Wilkolaski
662-9429

RAFFLES & PROMOTIONS

Carol Krajewski 937-9810

CLUB PURPOSE

Share ideas on building &
maintaining ponds
& filter systems

CLUB LIBRARY

Mary McKee 876-0210
Pond related books & tapes
available for loan to members

PROGRAMS

Guest speakers; Raffle of pond
related goods; Auction of pond
related goods; Member sharing
pond experience

ACTIVITIES

Pond tour; Koi show; Photo
contest; Hands on hobby
related projects

Wetwork News

A monthly publication of the Niagara Frontier Koi and Pond Club

Season's Greetings Everyone.

This has to be one of the coldest Decembers I can remember in a long time. As I look out our window I can't help but wonder how our little fellows are doing down there in their new home. The ice on the pond is thick enough to support the deer that wonder through the yard and I can't help but wonder if they are trying to reach the hole in the ice that is helping the gasses escape during this cold spell.



Speaking of cold spell....have you noticed the last 2 years, when we have had a Christmas Party, the weather turns poopie? Still it amazes me the fortitude club members have to eat and socialize. If you didn't make it, you missed a fun evening. The food and atmosphere at Banchetti's was terrific, not to mention the table favors that Nancy Wojnowski put together. How creative. We ended the evening with Paul Krajewski leading us in Christmas carols with his guitar. Thank you everyone for making the evening a memorable one.

A couple things to keep in mind for the January meeting. First, it will be held at the Fair Grounds, there was a scheduling issue at St. Agatha's that was in place months in advance. It is also that time of year when we elect new officers. To my knowledge we have two that have volunteered for the Board and we are still looking for our new leader. The President and Treasurers spot are open. We will also be voting for our AKCA Person of the year. Nominations will be accepted at the meeting. Contact Nancy Wojnowski at 675-3017.

When I was a young lad, my mom and dad took the family to Texas to visit family. To my surprise, they didn't have lawns, just sand and cactus plants everywhere. As we wandered through what I would call the desert, we happened upon a lizard scurrying across the sand. Curious, I chased him down and caught him. I brought him up to my uncle Bobby and said, "What is this?" To my surprise, he told me it was a horny toad. Well that made sense; I mean ...it was horny all over. Later in life I sadly had come to find out, that there was no such thing as a Horny Toad, they are actually called Bearded Dragons.

The other day I went to do a FiOS Installation in Amherst. When I walked in I saw a family room full of turtles, birds, snakes and what? A Horny Toad. As it would happen, the home belongs to Mary Hughes. Mary has dedicated her life to the world of nature and has given presentations to many groups. Mary will be joining us this January as our guest speaker speaking on a topic I don't think I've seen the club have. Reptiles. Mary will be bringing some of these friendly little critters along with her so don't miss out!

*See you there,
Walt*

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REFRESHMENTS FOR 2010

January Chris Wildolaski, Bev Jarmuz,
and Ann Marshall

Please contact Barb Weber at 688-7924 if you are interested or sign-up at the next meeting.

The club will reimburse you up to **\$45.00** each month for expenses. You can do it alone or with a friend or two. This is always an enjoyable part of the meeting when we are able to visit with each other.

Also, please remember to make a donation when partaking of the refreshments to help the club break even for the evening.

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Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be at the home of Paul and Carol Krajewski on January 26th at 7pm. Their home is located at 3232 Wende Road, Alden, NY 14004.

If you are planning on attending or require driving directions you may contact them at 937-9810.

A Brief Bio on January's Speaker – Mary Hughes

I have always been an outdoor person and been inordinately interested in the other animal species. They are always so much more interesting than homo-sapiens, in my opinion. I can't walk on the ceiling or run 50 yards in 10 seconds or fly (naturally, that is). They can.

I have been a naturalist for over 25 years and continue to learn "new" things every day about the world that surrounds us. There's no excuse to be bored if you visit the outdoors. I count myself lucky to be able to work, primarily with young people, in museum, nature preserve, and scout venues. Reptiles are special creatures, accused of being "dumb", yet they have been around for almost 300 million years. We will have to wait to see if primates can stay the course for that length of time. Reptiles have only been of "interest" to science, unless you count dinosaurs, for the last 40 to 50 years. For all our reputed intelligence, we can't communicate with them. From snakes, to turtles, to crocodilian, lizards, to tuataras, they are a class worth considering.

Thank You

I would like to take a moment to thank everyone in the club that has made it a huge success. The friendships we made will last forever. I read a long time ago that if you want to bond a family together, take them camping. Calamities have a tendency to bond people together. It reminds me of the projects we have endured through. Building a pond at Reinstein Nature Preserve, cleaning the Botanical Gardens and flooding their basement and then transporting a group of fish to sell. Limer pulls and the ever so tedious labor of love, our annual Koi Show. What a great event to demonstrate your skills and knowledge to the public.

One of the highlights for me is the yearly Pond Tour. I think it's there that we finally get a chance to break away from our tables and meet others on a personal level. I also love to see the efforts our member make getting their ponds ready just for us. Thanks for that.

I would also like to thank all you folks that make the Auctions a great success. Jeff Dewey wrote a fantastic program to keep things running smoothly and with the help of Nancy, Mary, Jen and all the runners we couldn't ask for a better crew.

It's through all of your efforts and combined skills that make this club one of the best Koi and Pond Clubs in the United States. Remember that.

Warm regards,
Walt and Lin

Refreshments for 2010

It's that time once again to sign up for refreshments for 2010. I know that we can count on the "usual suspects" to sign up once again to participate in a most important function of the club, socializing.

If you have never brought refreshments, now is the time to sign up. Are you a bit shy, ask another club member or two to assist you. It is another great way to learn more about your fellow members.

Please contact Barb Weber at 688-7924 if you are interested or sign-up at the next meeting.

ELECTIONS

The elections were mentioned in last month's newsletter and Walt mentioned it again in this month's President's letter.

This club is only as good as its leadership and we need you now to stand up and say that it is your turn to lend a hand to keep this club doing what it does best. Lending a hand to those in need, educating the public, and participating in community events.

Please contact Nancy Wojnowski at 675-3017 to put your name on the ballot.

Koi Person of the Year

This is an honor that we bestow each year on one of our members for outstanding service to the club and the hobby.

We have several members who are always there to help whenever a project is announced. They participate in the Koi Show and at different club functions through the year. Some have served as Officers and Board Members also.

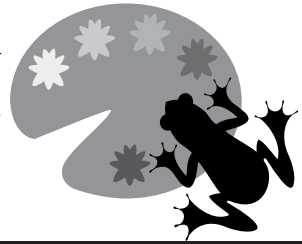
This is certainly not going to be an easy job to pick one person. So think it over carefully.

Sunshine Club

Please remember our fellow members having surgery this month. John Porter and Audry Behlau who will be having knee surgery this month.

If you are aware of a member experiencing a "Life Event" in their family such as weddings, birth announcements, illness, surgery or death, please contact me at 694-6652 with the details.

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Niagara Frontier Koi & Pond Club
23 Crystal Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14220



Up-Coming Events

- January 8 Elections
- January 8 Speaker of the Month
Mary Hughes - Reptiles

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