

The Lily Pad

The Topeka Area Water Garden Society

Published Monthly – February to November

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February 1, 2005



Lawn & Garden Show Booth committee members (l-r) Marikay and Doug Peterman, Don Taliaferro, Dean Demoss, Cheryl Saathoff, Ruth Taliaferro and Bob Saathoff take a break from working on the water garden they are building for the TAWGS booth.

L&G Show Booth Committee working hard on pond

Bob Saathoff reports that work is progressing nicely for the TAWGS booth at the February 18-20 Lawn and Garden Show. The group has been working the last couple months and has hauled tons of rocks to Bob Whitehead's shed where they have been making a mockup of the pond for the 10'x25' booth. The theme for the show is "30th Year Celebration." Blackburns, Skinners and Puddles-N-Pads have agreed to loan plants for the booth.

Betty Karnes has agreed to line up the volunteers to help man the booth. I think the shifts are about 3 hours each and with 3 or 4 working per shift it will take approximately 40 volunteers to fill all the slots.

If you would be willing to help TAWGS out with a few hours of your time that weekend we would certainly appreciate it. I think that you will find it is a fun experience to work with, and get better acquainted with, other TAWGS members and visit with the general public about water gardening.

If you can work please call Betty at 785-266-5620. We sure appreciate your willingness to help

Monthly Meeting
7:00 p.m., Wed., Feb. 16, 2005
 Lighting your Pond & Landscape
 Kip Walker – Puddles-N-Pads

Gage Greenhouse Open House scheduled

Joe Breitenstein has notified me that the City Parks and Recreation will have an open house at their new "state of the art" greenhouse on Sunday, February 6 from 2 to 4 PM for **garden club members and their spouses only**. It is not open to the general public and it will not be open to the public in the future.

The greenhouse is located in the Southwest part of Gage Park and south of Reinisch Rose Garden. If you enter Gage park from Tenth Street, turn left and wind around to the West. From Sixth, go past the Zoo and wind around to the right. You can't miss it.

This will be a rare opportunity to see a first class greenhouse operation. They grow plants for all the city's flower beds and also plantings along Kansas Avenue.

Robins make mess big time

I don't know if any of the rest of you have had robins visiting your pond this winter or not, but we have had hundreds at a time when ice is on the pond. Now, I like birds and we feed birds year round, but let me tell you, these guys are a big mess! It seemed to me that something came out the back end every time they took a drink. The ice was a disgusting mess! Then, everything fell into the pond when the ice melted. ☹ I'm wondering just what all that ammonia and nitrogen are going to do to the fish and the pond. It is a good thing we were planning a complete water change this spring since the pond is seven years old. Algae, algae, algae...

Kip Walker at Puddles-N-Pads advised us to start treating the pond immediately with bacteria to get a jump start controlling the algae. I certainly hope it helps!

Never thought I'd hate to see a robin!



Topeka Area Water Garden Society
9900 SW K-4 Highway
Topeka, KS 66614

Calendar of Events

Feb. 6	Open House at Gage Park Green House
Feb. 11-13	Metropolitan L&G Show, American Royal Center
Feb. 16	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
Feb. 18-20	Topeka Lawn & Garden Show
Feb. 25-27	Manhattan Area Garden Show
Feb. 25-27	Johnson Co. H&G Show, Overland Park Convention Center
Feb 26-27	Emporia Flower Lawn & Garden Show
March 3-6	Wichita Lawn & Garden Show
June 25-26	Topeka Pond Tour

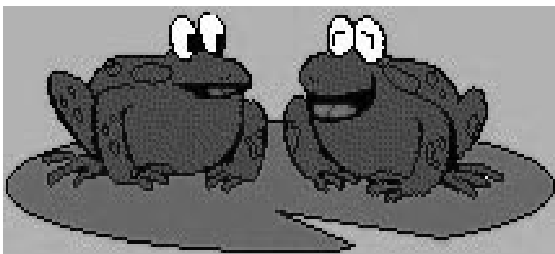
***Congratulations to
Bob & Cheryl Saathoff
Who won first in the Topeka
Christmas Lighting contest!***

**Your Dues are Due if your label
reads 10-04, 11-04 or 2-05
(or anything in 2004)**

**Please renew as soon as possible to continue
receiving the newsletter.**

THE TOPEKA AREA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY OFFICERS:

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Check it out - www.tawgs.org

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The Lily Pad encourages submission of articles pertaining to water gardening from the membership and other interested parties. Deadline is the third weekend of each month.

Address input and/or questions to:
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We reserve the right to edit input to meet publishing requirements. Copy cannot be returned.