



Volume 20, Issue 2

April 1, 2017

TAWGS Minutes March 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Dannenberg. The February minutes were approved as reported in the past newsletter. Don Taliaferro made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Don Reiger.

The Kansas Garden Show was a success again this year. We thank Deb and Susan with Waters Edge in Lawrence for loaning us the bubbler used in our booth. Also, a thank you goes out to Skinner's for loaning us plants for the booth. The booth went up in two days and we completely disassembled in just 90 minutes. Our booth was on a smaller format this year, but people seemed to be interested in it. It was helpful in getting some pond leads for our upcoming tour in June.

Suggestions were taken for next year's display. Perhaps preparations could start earlier and have a little larger display. Next year's theme will be Gardens of the World.

Bob Saathoff shared information about Tulips at Twilight coming up at Ward-Meade on April 7, 8, 14 and 15 at 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed to man the ticket

Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM April 19, 2017
Preston Hale Room
Ward Meade Park Botanical Gardens
124 N. Fillmore

gate, check-in table, sell concessions and to be path ambassadors. A sign-up sheet was passed around. Some of the more specifics if you signed up to work is to wear weather-related clothing, come in the Clay St. entrance, sign in at the volunteer check-in table (located at the gate), hand in your waiver, receive a name tag and report to your assigned area.

With April 22 being Earth Day this year, Craig would like to plan a clean-up day at Ward-Meade to show our commitment to the gardens and parks. We will also be cleaning Anna's pond at the Asian Garden. We could meet at a local establishment for breakfast and come to work at Ward-Meade. You can come to help clean up as long as you like, and Bob will have a list of tasks to help us make it a beneficial day.

The storage space at Don and Tom's is getting very full. We need suggestions on how to remedy this situation.

Calendar of Event items are: Pond Tour 2017 June 24 & 25, Fish Fry, Post Tour gathering, Kansas City tour on July 8 & 9, TAWGS Members Tour of Lawrence ponds July 29th and Apple Festival the first weekend of October.

There is also a Hosta garden tour taking place in June.

Other business included a pond building opportunity at the Legends on 21st street, behind the mall. Craig made a motion to do this and it was seconded by Don Reiger.

It was also discussed to have all dues come due at one time. Craig will check the by-laws of the club to see if this would be feasible.

Don Taliaferro brought it to the club's attention that a pond liner was purchased for the purpose of using it for our displays at the Kansas Garden Shows. Don found it was not available for the last show. Bob Saathoff thought it had been decided to use the liner for construction of the Asian Pond at Ward-Meade. Previous minutes will be checked to verify the purpose of the liner.

Craig made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Bob Saathoff.

FISH FEEDING

Always remember, feed your fish only what they can eat in about 5 minutes. Uneaten food can reduce water quality in your garden pond. If there is still food floating (assuming you use a floating food) after 5 minutes, then you have fed too much. If this happens scoop out the excess food if possible and feed less next time.

Adding Night Interest to Your Pond

Reprinted from Water Works, North Texas Water Garden Society, June 2014.

by Darren Lucas, Nature's Touch Ponds,

New Jersey Ponds look great during the day with the bright sun highlighting the glimmering waterfalls and catching the subtle sparkle of its fish, but what about at night when it is dark? Most people are missing out on how beautiful a pond and surrounding landscape can be with a professionally installed low voltage landscape lighting system. The art and science of low voltage landscape lighting has evolved to a point where it is possible to transform any pond and the surrounding property into a dynamic nighttime scene of breathtaking beauty.

Strategic placement and proper selection of lighting fixtures will ensure an elegant night-time scene. Properly sizing a transformer and wire is most important. Always consider the opportunity to add more lights. There are numerous methods to illuminating your pond. We do however discourage installing underwater lights in



ponds. They will become covered with algae, can be hard to service, and are subject to corrosion. Also, for every foot of depth that the fixture is placed approximately 50% of the brightness or foot candles are lost. This lighting effect is murky at best. The following lighting design techniques will accentuate and enhance the natural beauty of any pond.

- Reflective Lighting – Select objects that can be seen reflecting on the pond surface, such as rocks, plant materials, trees, statuary and structural features. Then by up lighting or grazing these objects a beautiful reflection is seen in the pond.

- Moon Lighting – By installing fixtures in a nearby tree, a natural moonlight effect will create shadows from branches and leaves onto the pond. Remember to install the fixtures within the tree canopy to get the best shadowing effect.

- Path Lighting – Lighting paths around the pond defines the pond edges and creates reflections in the water. There are numerous path lights available from various manufacturers. Keep in mind the path lights should enhance the beauty of the pond and not clutter the scene we are trying to create.

- Waterfall Lighting – Bullet or deck lights that are strategically placed will make any waterfalls explode with sparkling dazzle and will complete the nighttime scene.

Additional advantages of Landscape lighting are:

- Security – High voltage floodlights leave dark shadows and unseen areas around a property. A better choice is strategically placed low voltage landscape lighting fixtures that provide proper levels of even illumination.

- Safety – Low Voltage lighting is the ideal choice for illuminating walkways and entranceways. This ensures that residents and visitors can safely navigate around the property.

- Usability – Illuminating the private areas of a property allow the evening enjoyment of decks, sitting areas, and recreational spaces. The flexibility of low voltage landscape lighting provides the opportunity to add, relocate and adjust fixtures easily and inexpensively.

- Beauty – Low voltage lighting accentuates the shapes and textures of a landscape and its structures. Lighting

designers not only paint pictures with light, we create dramatic scenes that give the viewer a dynamic experience of their pond and property.

- Economy – Low voltage lighting consumes about 1/3 the electricity and costs about 1/3 to install and maintain as compared to high voltage systems.

The Water Garden Tip of the Week

Ambient Temperature - the air temperature surrounding the pond. Ambient temperature affects the pond, but watertemperature is the gauge for what to do and when to do it in regards to your pond. Avoid feeding your fish until the water temperature is consistently above 50 degrees Fahrenheit.



EARTH DAY APRIL 22, 2017

**Pond cleaning and General
clean-up at Ward-Meade**

Topeka Area Water Garden Society
3119 SW Arrowhead Rd.
Topeka, Kansas 66614

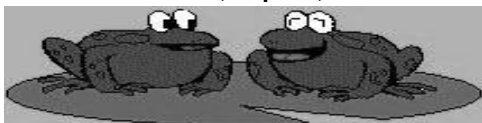
April 19 th	Monthly Meeting
May 17 th	Monthly Meeting
June 21 st	Fish Fry
June 24 th & 25 th	POND TOUR
July 19 th	Monthly Meeting
August 16 th	Monthly Meeting
September 20 th	Monthly Meeting
October 18 th	Monthly Meeting
November 15 th	POT LUCK DINNER

Send Dues to:
Jim Mowder
3717 SE 33rd Street
Topeka, Kansas 66605

Topeka Area Water Garden Society

Craig Dannenberg	President
	785-221-6828
Catarina Brunner	Vice-President
	785-379-9598
Sherry Reed	Secretary
	785-408-5060
Jim Mowder	Treasurer
	785-267-0672

Meetings are usually held the third Wednesday of Each month at Old Prairie Town (Ward Meade Park) Unless otherwise publicized. Dues are \$15 per single or \$20 per family and can be sent to Jim Mowder, 3717 SE 31st Street, Topeka, Ks 66605



The Lily Pad

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TAWGS

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

Address input and or questions to:

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