



Volume 20, Issue 3

May 1, 2017

**UPDATE ON ANNA'S  
POND  
AT WARD MEADE**

**DUE TO A DEATH IN THE FAMILY AND  
OTHER SCHEDULING CONFLICTS  
AMONG THE COUNTY STAFF WHO  
HELP COORDINATE THE  
CLEANING OF THE PONDS, SO  
WE WILL NEED TO CANCEL  
THIS SATURDAY'S CLEANING  
AND WE WILL SHOOT FOR  
NEXT SATURDAY MAY 6TH  
AT 9:00AM ---CRAIG**

Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM May 17, 2017  
Preston Hale Room  
Ward Meade Park Botanical Gardens  
124 N. Fillmore

**TAWGS Minutes April 2017**

The meeting was called to order and Bob Saathoff gave a talk about how Tulips at Twilight came about and how successful it was.

Introduction of Members: New members Dan & Jeanne Woodard & Craig Case will be on the tour this year – Ron & Rhonda Cathey who previously came to the November meeting announced they were putting in a pond. (Jim accepted a membership slip from another couple who joined at the meeting)

Don Taliaferro motioned to approve the minutes, Don Regier Seconded (no vote was taken)

Jim Mowder gave the Treasure's Report stating the only expense was \$150 to reimburse Craig Dannenberg for buying the DVD and rights to our Sunflower Journey segment which we played at the Garden Show. Our bank account stands at \$2044.24. It was motioned and seconded to approve the report. (no vote was taken)

Craig Dannenberg reported per our last meeting, he went through the minutes and did not see a reference to a vote being taken on the use of the liner that Don T . mentioned that was used on the pond expansion at Ward-Meade- There was an image in the newsletter of the liner in question going into the hole. The bylaws say members need to vote on expending any funds, but nothing on the use of resources- since there are costs to using up resources we should consider the two the same and also request a vote on the expending of resources which we'd need to replace if they are used. He then requested \$250 in discretionary spending for expenses for the pond tour ahead of time, to be reported on after they are expended or upon the conclusion of the tour. A motion for approval was made, and seconded, all but one voted to approve the request.

Craig gave a tour update, we have nine verbal commitments and four signed waivers and three advertising commitments. He will be working to finalize those agreements in the next couple weeks and hopes to complete the ticket booklet soon. He started out thinking he could

make it into a legal-sized brochure and then expanded it to an eight page booklet. This will allow us to take in enough ad revenue to pay for printing and marketing. There was a rough draft and a sign-up sheet for pond sitters.

This year we have a couple close neighbors on the tour, so though we have the same number of ponds we'll be able to get by with fewer sitters.

Also, brought up at the last meeting was when members should pay dues, and the bylaws state that it shall be at the time they joined the previous year.

Bob Saathoff talked about pond cleanup day at Ward-Meade on the 29<sup>th</sup> listed items volunteers might need to bring. It was also mentioned that the tulips will go on sale that morn.

Craig Dannenberg passed around a sign-up sheet for the TAWGS Member Tour of Lawrence July 15<sup>th</sup>. Water's Edge is planning a tour special for us of four ponds and will provide lunch so it would be good to give them a head count so they can plan ahead. We also need to figure out transportation. E-mail [craig@craigdannenberg.com](mailto:craig@craigdannenberg.com) if you would like to be included.

Don Taliaferro motioned to adjourn, it was seconded and all voted in favor.



### **DITCH STONECROP**

I've been reading about the native or naturalized wildflowers that can be found in Kansas, and I have found quite a few that like moist-to-submerged conditions. Being from the semi-arid high plains of southwest Kansas, open water and streams are things of memory here. I know that there is a growing interest in wildflowers, and people with natural ponds and streams might consider wildflowers in the water or along the banks. You know who you are, so this is going to be the start of a series on wildflowers that grow in a moist-to-wet condition in Kansas or call Kansas their home. If you think any of the wildflowers might work for you, try to order plants or seeds from a catalog or internet. Never take plants from their natural area. Collecting seed from the plant is usually alright.

Other common names for this plant are Star Fruit and Virginia Stonecrop. It is an erect,

perennial herb, standing up to 2 ½ feet tall and a spread of 10 inches. The slender rhizome roots form a colony but does not become invasive. The 9-inch-long, 1 ½ inch wide leaves are shiny, lanced-shaped with toothed margins. As they mature, the leaves turn an orange to reddish color. In Fall the younger leaves turn a bright yellow. Small, 1/4 inch, 5 section-round flowers appear on 2-6 flower stalks on the ends of the stems, forming a star. These white, yellowish-green flowers form clusters on the stalks and have no petals, flowering during the summer. In the Fall, the oblong, 5-horned fruit forms and, along with the stems, turn pink to red in color. It grows in sun-to-part shade in moist soil or water up to 4 inches deep. Zones that it lives in are zones 4-11. Propagation is by division or by seed. Native Americans used the plant to treat diarrhea, dysentery, tonsillitis, and bronchitis.

## **Queen of the prairie**

### **FILIPENDULA RUBRA**



Named Perennial of the 2012, this plant is a native wildflower and loves wet-to-moist conditions to be happy.

Sounds like a plant our members might want to check out! Also called Meadowsweet, this plant rises to a height of 4 to 6 feet tall with a spread of 3 to 4 feet by rhizomes. The central stem is smooth and reddish in color with large leaves that are deeply cut, yellow-green, compounded with 7-9 lanced-shaped leaflets. They are up to 2 feet long and 6 inches wide but get smaller and become sparser as they get to the top of the stem. Besides the scented leaves, tiny Astilbe-like flower clusters are fragrant and pale pink in color. They are formed on bare stalks above the leaves with a width of 5-8 inches, having tiny flower heads that are only 1/3 of an inch across. Flowering occurs from early to mid-summer for three weeks. The plant cannot be allowed to dry out and in a moist condition will form colonies. Part-shade is recommended because it prefers cooler temperatures and will get leaf burnt in full sun. In a bog it will grow into a large colony. It prefers to grow in zones 3-8 and division is by dividing the rhizomes and by seed collecting. 'VENUSTA' is a named cultivar of this plant.

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

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| May 17 <sup>th</sup>                     | Monthly Meeting        |
| June 21 <sup>st</sup>                    | <b>Fish Fry</b>        |
| June 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> | <b>POND TOUR</b>       |
| July 19 <sup>th</sup>                    | Monthly Meeting        |
| August 16 <sup>th</sup>                  | Monthly Meeting        |
| September 20 <sup>th</sup>               | Monthly Meeting        |
| October 18 <sup>th</sup>                 | Monthly Meeting        |
| November 15 <sup>th</sup>                | <b>POT LUCK DINNER</b> |

**Send Dues to:**  
**Jim Mowder**  
**3717 SE 33<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
**Topeka, Kansas 66605**

### Topeka Area Water Garden Society

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

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 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Topeka, Ks 66605



### *The Lily Pad*

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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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