

The Lily Pad

The Topeka Area Water Garden Society

Published Monthly – February to November

Volume 6, Issue 1

February 1, 2003

From the President

By Tom Platis

This is the beginning of a new year. I hope that we are all looking forward to a happy new year filled with beautiful ponds and colorful flowers. Because it is the start of the new year, I thought it best to re-state who we are and what we want to accomplish.

First, we are a not-for-profit corporation. We are organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. No part of our earnings of our organization shall insure to the benefit of, or be distributed, to our members or other private persons. We are not political. We cannot carry on any activities that are prohibited by the federal code. We can give money or other assets away but only to organizations that are 4exempt like us.

If we purchase any assets or buy anything, it is better to get quotes or bids on prices. At least two bids are required, but three are better. This shows we do not prefer one company over others.

Right now are in the advance ruling period to qualify for exemption. It began in April, 2001 and ends December, 2004. At that time we will be asked to file a support schedule for advance ruling period. Until then, we will operate as usual, hopefully enjoying our water gardens and the friendship derived from our association.

Have a safe new year.

Your president

Lawn & Garden Show

By Becky Coffman

First I would like to thank everybody who has volunteered his or her time to work at the show. Without you there wouldn't be a booth there. All of you who couldn't volunteer I hope you get to come and stop by to see what it looks like. The show is February 14th-16th, times are Friday & Saturday 10:00am – 9:00pm and Sunday 11:00am – 5:00pm.

For the ones who have volunteered just a few reminders: Wear your club shirt if you have one. Try to get people to start thinking about if they would like to have their pond on the pond tour. There will be applications there for the ones who might be serious about it, give these out sparingly please. There will be club applications there also to hand out. There will be a VCR with a tape of the pond tours that will need to be

Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m. Wed., February 19, 2003

Ward Meade Park

Welcome Back – Shop Talk!

rewound when it gets to the end. Last but not least wear a big smile. When showing up for your shift enter on the southeast side and sign in at the volunteer booth, this is how you get in for free. We will be located in the arena next to Puddles-N-Pads display.

Thanks again and have a great time.

Peas for swim bladder?

By David Puff

I remember one of your articles in the newsletter about one of your fish called bubble butt and a heater. I thought I would share our experience this winter with fish we have in quarantine showing signs of swim bladder. I went to the internet and did a search on swim bladder and found a pretty good site. Our favorite fish are ryunkins, orandas, and black moors they would indiscriminately show signs of swim bladder. It seemed to be worse if I had the front door open allowing the sun to directly shine on the aquarium so I thought it had to be a temperature problem. But it didn't affect them last year when I left it open. The web site I went to stated these particular fish have a little tube that gets plugged up between their bladder and their stomach. It said to take them off food for 3 or 4 days and feed them some peas and then put them back on food. We did this and saw good results until Ruth Ann gave them the Wardly pellets she purchased at a pet store and had been feeding them when this started. We gave them some frozen peas and they started doing better again so we switched back to the Tetra floating pond sticks and they seem to be stable again. I have come to the conclusion their diet plays a major role in swim bladder problems. The peas gave immediate relief. They just needed the little tube cleared out. It makes you wonder if Fish fart and when they get plugged up the gas floats them to the top. Their digestive system works different in colder water so if you know anyone concerned that doesn't use a heater you can pass this info on. I have a nickname for Ruth Ann's fish in quarantine "Those little farts". Dave

Dave also sent a helpful website about swim bladder
www.netpets.com/fish/reference/freshref/swimblldr.html

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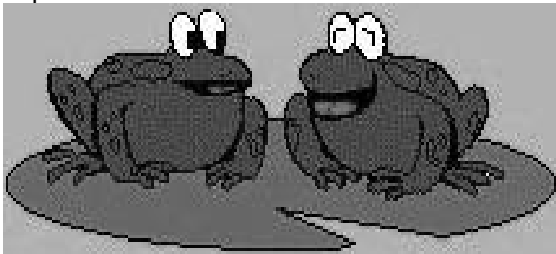
2003 Calendar of Events

Feb. 14-16	Topeka Lawn and Garden Show
Feb. 14-16	Kansas City Metropolitan L&G Show, American Royal
Feb. 19	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
Mar. 1 – 2	Johnson Co. Show, Kansas City
Mar. 5 – 9	Wichita Lawn and Garden Show
Mar. 19	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
Mar. 20-23	Kansas City Home Show, Bartle Hall
April 16	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
May 21	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
June 18	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
June 21-22	Topeka 12 th Annual Pond Tour
July 12-13	Kansas City Pond Tour
July 16	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
August 20	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
Sept. 17	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
Oct. 15	TAWGS Monthly Meeting
Nov. 19	TAWGS Monthly Meeting

Your Dues are Due if your label reads
10-02, 11-02 or 2-03
 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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Published Monthly, February to November by the Topeka Area Water Garden Society (TAWGS), a non-profit organization. TAWGS does not warrant the information in this newsletter. The opinions expressed are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Topeka Area Water Garden Society.

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