

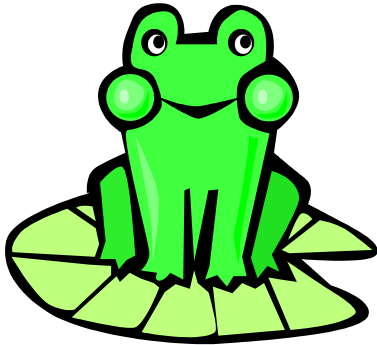
Highlights

Planning Meeting Results

St. Patrick's Day Party

Next Meeting/St. Patrick's Day Party/
Membership Drive

John & Sally Smith's house, 4606 S Hunters Circle
Stillwater, OK March 8th @ 7:00 p.m.



What' Up Under The Lily Pad

Contact Information
President: Sharral Tye 612-0698
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VP: Rick Crawford
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Treasurer: Sally Smith 377-1305

www.stillwaterwatergardens.org

We are off to a good start.

The planning meeting at my house yielded many good ideas. It rained of course. For those of you who have been to my house for SWGS events, you know the weather at 2412 Countryside Drive is historically "inclement."

Our first big event coming up is our **March meeting.**

This is a combination St.

Patrick's Day party and

Membership Drive. It is going to be held at John and Sally Smith's, 4606 S. Hunters Drive in Stillwater. It will be an inside party, but we will be able to see the Smith's water garden near by. We need a count. It would be helpful to Sally if you will let her know you are coming. Give her a call by March 7th. 377-1305.



Directions: From 6th and Main go west on 6th to Sangre. Turn south on Sangre. You will pass 44th street (sign may be down). Continue south for 3 tenths of a mile to the Huntington Hills entrance. This is marked by two round stone turrets on the east side of Sangre, and a large blue and white Victorian house. Turn left. Go down the hill to Wild Turkey Pass and turn right. Continue around a horseshoe bend to a **dead end sign** and turn right. You are now on Hunter Circle. Continue on Hunter

Circle which will bend to the left and the Smiths are next to the last house on the left hand side.

When you come to the party, bring something "green" as a present. Wrap or don't wrap—does not matter. Ideas? Well plants are green.

This also is the time to bring a friend to see if they too might want to join SWGS or just bring them for a fun time. **To those receiving this by regular mail, for your convenience, enclosed with this newsletter is a self addressed envelope to return your dues. It is \$10 again this year. Please include your phone number, address and email address with your check.**

What a bargain for a whole lot of good education and fish tales. And, when you support your club that in turn helps us tell our community about this wonderful hobby.

John Smith has done something very courageous. He "salted" his water garden. I say courageous because I have been reading about how it is good to do this for the sake of the fish. However, I have never had the nerve to put that much salt in. At the March meeting he will tell us how it is done safely. What we do in the early months, along the line of cleaning out our water gardens, will benefit our gardens for the rest of the season. It can make our fish and plants healthier and our water gardens more beautiful. No matter how many times we do it, it is always beneficial to review the steps. You all **will**

have the opportunity to meet with water gardening friends at the St. Patrick's Day Party to ask questions and get some good advice.

Rick Crawford agreed to be chairperson for the Home and Garden Show which is April 2-3. Our theme is "Rain Forest". We are thinking: palm trees, pretty flowers, wet things, mist, sounds, drips, pools, water walls, pith helmets, etc. etc. All this can be done on a small scale and does not have to be difficult. Last year we did a "cowboy" theme and it was really done quite simply. Our display will be helping to decorate the exit this year. When people enter the show, they will be greeted by a living room display as if they were entering a home. When they exit the show through our display, it will be like walking out through the garden. Rick has been emailing me with all kinds of good ideas this week. I think I may use a couple ideas in my water garden this year. Hmmmm. His email address is rec@pp.okstate.edu. Let him know if you can help, and tell him your ideas. He will give a report at the March meeting.

The water garden tour will be June 25-26. We avoided Father's Day like we did last year. We thought the weekend before was too early. Believe it or not, calls are already coming in asking us for the date.

We need to pick a 2005 community service project. Be thinking about that.

Do you think we should continue the web site? Is it a service to our community? To our club? When we voted on the web site last year, we decided to do it for one year as a trial. So we need to vote again in March to continue or discontinue it. It costs \$24 a quarter. Our design fee was waived. That was a real savings. If we decide to keep it, the Chamber will give us a link on their site.

Also be thinking if you would like to have a historian/scrapbook person. Do we want to have a kind of traveling library of water gardening books

that one could check out at monthly meetings and then return at the next meeting.

We will have a photo contest again in September so be snapping your Kodak. You all did great last year. This year we will have almost the same categories, but it was suggested a water garden or at least water, be present in every picture. The categories are: Plants & Fish, Sculpture and Landscape, and instead of Humor, it will be Human Interest which could include humor.

Sally Smith gave a report of income and expense for 2004. That gave us a good basis for projecting income and expense for 2005. A budget will be presented for a vote in March. We appreciate the hard work committees do. Committees need to know what is in the budget for their projects. Then we need to let them do the best job they can within the budget. Of course committee heads can ask for more funds, but those too would be voted on by the club. We have enough money in the treasury as a cushion should we have a bad year or two with the tour.

Another thing that Sally's report revealed was who sold the most tour booklets. It was Oasis coming in with \$280 or 56 booklets. We thought it appropriate to give a free ad in this year's tour booklet to the entity that sold the most booklets the year before. **Congratulations Oasis.**

The Newspress is putting out a new magazine called, "You" In it there will be an article about water gardening and the Stillwater Water Garden Society. This prompted me to try to find out some of the history of SWGS. A big "thank you" to all of you who helped fill in the blanks.

Trivia questions: What year did SWGS begin? Who was our first president? What members got married and went on a honeymoon that year and missed the very first tour? Answers at the party in March.