

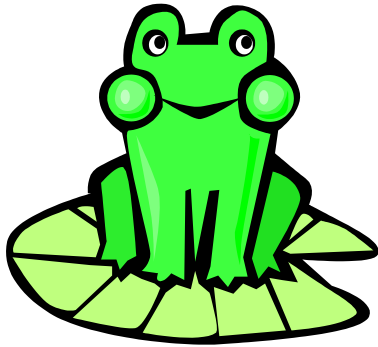
Highlights

- 📁 **Watering Blues**
- 📁 **Whose garden is this?**

Planning Meeting

📁 **At Ernie and Sharral Tye's house—2412 Countryside Drive Stillwater, OK Feb. 8th at 7 p.m.**

Go to 19th & Western. On 19th go west to Countryside Drive. Turn south on Countryside. It is on the right, just past 24th.



What's Up Under The Lily Pad

Contact Information
President: Sharral Tye
 612-0698 cell
VP: Rick Crawford
 624-6508
Treasurer: Sally Smith
 377-1305

Today is gorgeous. So I guess you can understand that I am “chomping at the bit” excited, “flipping out of the water” anxious to get out in the garden and into water gardening again.



will want to address other items of interest such as programming, membership, community projects, and budget. We will also be planning our first general meeting which will be a St. Patrick's Day party in March. Think **green**. Now that is appropriate don't you think? One member said, it was appropriate to the color of water we have that time of year.



Hmmmm.

We are going to have a planning meeting on the second Tuesday of February, the 8th at 7 p.m. It will be at my house (Sharral Tye's). That is 2412 Countryside Drive in Stillwater. We will be discussing recruiting committee heads for the Home and Garden Show and the water garden tour. We

Anyway, if you are a planner, if you are a go getter, if you want to have a hand in setting the direction SWGS is going to go this year, please come to the planning meeting. It will be fun!

We really want to get a lot done so that our regular meetings will be devoted to just enjoying what we all love—water gardening.

Speaking of water gardening, I have been giving this a lot of thought. I think I am of the age that every thing I do to my garden, every improvement I make, has to make the gardening experience a little easier for me. My big plan is to make the least fun thing for me in gardening, more streamlined. For me, that is watering. I hate to water. I love to clip—hate to water.

I called in the experts. I found out to put in an automatic watering system, the source has to be at the water meter. Did not know that. For us that is a long ways away from where I need to water. The experts actually suggested I try a home made system first, using soaker hoses and a drip system. I have been at the drawing board, trying to figure out how to run the hoses, how to conceal them, etc. Today I was previewing a book and came up with a second idea to make my watering less woeful to me. I figure it will be hard to conceal tubes and hoses on the deck to water my container plants. Instead I am going to group several light weight containers in varying sizes and heights and fill them with water garden plants. Topping off the water will be so much less time consuming and forgiving than watering daily during those hot summer days. Planting the containers will be a lot cheaper too. We all know how prolific our water garden plants are.

I have been doing a little research on planting a pretty container garden. First you need something tall and spiky. Sweet flag, or Iris, perhaps Yellow Flag Iris, or Canna will work well. Next you need something broad leaf. Giant Arrowhead, or Calla Lily, would look nice. Finally add something that will cascade down the sides such as Water Mint, or, Parrot Feather. You also can add floaters like water lettuce or Purple Hyacinth. To help keep the water clean, add some Anacharis to each container.

A couple years ago at one of our SWGS meetings we had a speaker who talked to us about water

quality, especially to keep Koi healthy. He ran a tight ship. He exchanged a third of his water in his water garden weekly as I recall. He told us he waters his garden from the bottom of his water garden. I think that will be the third new thing I will be doing this year to make watering easier for me. I will make an effort to hide the hose that will remain attached to a submersible pump. I think I will leave the pump on the bottom all season. Perhaps using a quick release at the end of a short hose will make the pump more accessible.

Anyway big plans are fun. Sometimes we get in over our heads. SWGS can help. SWGS is also a fine outlet for telling people about your garden and seeing what ideas and gardens others have. Maybe you know someone who has not “taken the plunge” yet. Tell them about SWGS. Encourage members to renew their membership, and past members to rejoin.

Whose garden is this? Let's have fun with this. Come to the “Planning Meeting” with your answer.

