

## Highlights

📁 St. Patrick's Day Party and meeting at Ken Garrett's Garage—5310 West 6<sup>th</sup>

📁 This issue--Gardening with Kids

## Next Meeting is March 13th at 7:00 p.m.

📁 We will be 200 yds west of Stillwater Surgery Center. A big KG is on the front of Ken's building. Park in front parking lot & walk around west side to the 2<sup>nd</sup> building. You don't want to miss this meeting. If you are misguided and can't find us, call Sharral at 612-0698. Bring something green for an exchange gift & your favorite tool for show and tell.



# What' Up under the Lily Pad

## I'm So Excited!!!!

First, I hope you get a kick out of the picture above—perfect for setting the mood of telling you what's up under the lily pad. And there is a lot! We are going to have a **great March meeting/St. Patrick's Day party**. It will be held at a most unusual and fun place. We call it Ken Garrett's Garage. It is much more than a garage however. It looks like a movie set of "main street USA in the 50's. Your seating will be car seats and the smell of popcorn will be wafting through. This garage happens to be where Ken keeps several of his classic cars. Glen Summers who works for Ken, and says he has the best post retirement job in Stillwater, will be making a special surprise for our water gardening group. We did not want to have a big program at this party, because it will be such a fun place to just get reacquainted. However, we thought it would be fun for you all **to bring a picture of some of your favorite tools (or the actual items) that help you with gardening and water gardening**. It can be something you made or something you saw somewhere that you want to make or buy. Any kind of good idea that makes our

**Contact Information**  
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**377-2082**  
**Treasurer: Sally Smith 377-1305**

[www.stillwaterwatergardens.org](http://www.stillwaterwatergardens.org)

hobby easier and more fun. You can bring a picture, or the actual item. I have one thing I absolutely can not do without. I treat it rough and I have had to buy more than one, but I need this thing. See you at the party. Bring a friend. We want to emphasize this year that **the public is invited** to any of our meetings.

**Save the date—Home Show March 31 and April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Hmmm, April Fool's day, now that could be interesting. We will have a display in the arena area of the Payne Co. Expo Center.

Watch for the next few **Stillwater Living Magazine** issues. The Stillwater Water Garden Society will have a series of articles there.

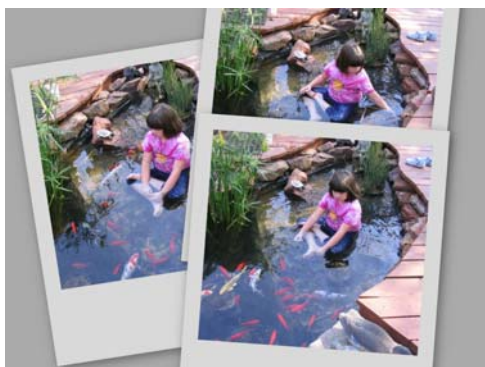
**Save another date—Water Garden Tour June 23-24**. We are looking for water gardens to be on the tour. Be thinking about that. It is a great way to share your water garden with the community, and a great way to get support from other water gardeners. When I first put my water garden on the tour, I found that water garden members were very helpful and I felt good about sharing my garden with others and found several who wanted to have a

**Public is welcome to attend SWGS meetings.**

water garden too. The days of the tour were quite gratifying. I found I really like telling people about my garden and got a lot of pleasure from seeing others delight in what they saw. So, consider it. Don't be bashful and this is important, **please let us know where the water gardens are in our communities—Stillwater, Perry, Perkins. Call me with locations. Sharral Tye 612-0698.**

### Calling All Kids.....

Gardening with children and grandchildren can be a great lesson in responsibility while helping a young child cultivate an interest that could become life long. Share your **water garden** with them, and children can become even more enthused. They love to feed the fish of course, but if your child is mechanically oriented, even placing the pumps and getting a spitter to spit just right can be intriguing.



It's best to encourage a youngster by making as sure as possible that success is imminent. Put a clay pot in a special shallow spot in your water garden

that will hold an aggressive water plant—plenty of those around that are pretty, but you can't allow them to get into the main pond. Those are perfect for kids because they have to prune them to keep them in the pot. When it comes to planting in the soil, kids do better with seeds than plants. Tender roots are easily damaged by excited helping hands. Start with seeds that are easily germinated, like cosmos or snap dragons. Ha, and you thought all those cosmos growing in your garden were due to your expertise! Planting herbs would be great because they grow easily and the kids can go pick ya some basil for your chicken dish for supper that evening. One study found that 3-4 year olds who spent 30 minutes a week for 8 weeks, tending their vegetable garden, were more likely to eat their vegetables. How's that for a bonus! Make

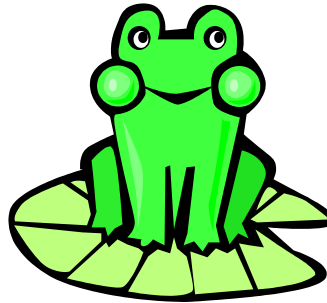
gardening special for the youngster by furnishing them gardening gloves, and tools, that are just their size. Set aside a special seating arrangement where the two of you can rest and enjoy the fruits of your labor. Sit by the edge of your water garden with your feet in the water on a hot summer day. Ask your helper to be your gofer when you are cleaning the water garden and are up to your waist in pea green water. Of course be sure to set ground rules for safety whenever youngsters are around the water garden. Keep a gardening log or better yet, snap some pictures for better documentation of your progress. I bet there will be a special picture or two you could enter into the SWGS photo contest next September. Make a colorful sign for their special garden, "This little spot is mine, I'm gonna make it shine!"



If you have friends who would benefit from **SWGS membership**, be sure to tell them that we usually meet at a member's garden on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. We hear programs about timely subjects. We **exchange plants**, and someone always walks away with a door prize. Ask them to join us at our next meeting. The public is always invited.

**Langston University Aquaculture Program** is hosting another workshop this year. It will be for commercial aquaculturists and people who have an interest in ornamental fish ponds. Save the date: March 10<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. Did you know Zebra Mussels are invading Oklahoma water systems? Well you will hear about that. When we are finished for the day we will know how to monitor water quality in our fish ponds, and we will have an update on the Koi Herpes Virus problem that surfaced last summer all over the world including Stillwater USA. You may register by phone or email. Talk to George Luker, 405-466-6104 or [gluker@luresext.edu](mailto:gluker@luresext.edu). Also SWGS member, Conrad Kleinholz, will have information about the Langston workshop.

**We would like to have you join us. Fill out the membership form on the next page and mail to Sally.**



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership fee: \$10**

**Make checks out to Stillwater Water Garden Society.**

**Stillwater Water Garden Society  
Membership Form**

**Please return form to Sally Smith  
4606 S. Hunters Circle  
Stillwater, OK 74074**