

THE
WATER
GARDEN
CLUB
OF
SOUTH
TEXAS

LILIES & THINGS
A quarterly publication for our members!

Volume I, Issue 3
Third Quarter 2000

Table of Contents

Pond Tour	1
Lakeside Gardens	2
Water Gardening Day	3
Dealing with The Drought!	4
Austin Pond Tour	5
Prez Sez	6
Calling All Photographers	6
Shades of Green	7
Sneak Preview	7
Board of Directors	8
Christmas Party	8
Upcoming Events	8
Help Wanted!	9
Tales from the 'Net	9
Additional Pictures	9
Koi & Fancy Goldfish	
Show	10
Controlling Aphids	10
New Members	11
Caveat Ponder!	11
Water Garden Gems	12

OUR POND TOUR!

Keep your calendars open for September 30th! That is the date for the historic "**1st Annual Alamo Tour de Ponds**". Our first pond tour! This is truly a club event as all ponds on the Alamo Tour de Ponds belong to members of the Water Garden Club of South Texas.

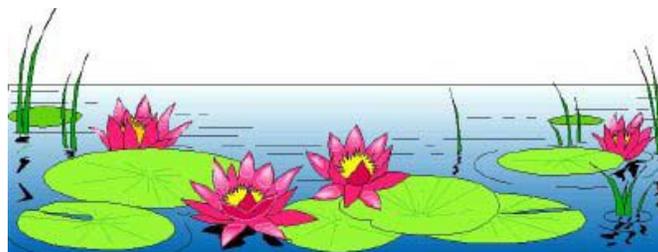
We've got some great ponds lined up but we still **need volunteers to be at each house** to sell tickets and to check for tickets of incoming visitors to see who has already paid. This will allow the pond owner to give their full attention to giving the tour of their pond and answer questions about it.

Proceeds for this exciting event will benefit the San Antonio Botanical Society and the Water Garden Club of South Texas. For the Society, funds will be spent on new plants for the San Antonio Botanical Gardens while the club will use the funds for our educational programs.

At press time we are still finalizing locations that will sell tickets for us. We have four businesses lined up so far and hope to have some more in the next day or so. Tickets will be in place by the first week of September.

Note to the volunteers - this doesn't mean you won't get to see the ponds on tour - on the contrary - we will have a special day for all volunteers to see the ponds on tour! Please call Mary Moore (659-3697) if you can help out.

Let's make this another great FIRST for our club.



Pilgrimage to Water Lily Heaven

In August members made a pilgrimage to one of the most holy sites of water gardening – Lakeside Gardens.

This, you see, is the home and business of the one and only Dr. Clyde Ikins. Known world wide for his wholesale business of lilies and irises, we braved the Texas August heat to have the chance to see his place. Members and friends came from San Antonio, Uvalde, and College Station for this exciting chance to see Lakeside Gardens.

Like little ducklings following their parents, we walked along Dr. Ikins as he conducted the tour from his golf cart. (Hey, when YOU'RE in YOUR 80's, you'll wish YOU had a golf cart too!) He probably thought that he should have tied us all with rope hooked to the cart as we would get to one pond and then seemingly freeze, unable to move from the beauty in front of us. Had we been tied to the cart, he could have simply taken off, pulling us along!

One of the more exciting moments was when we would get to a pond that had the lily named for Dr. Ikins. Kirk Strawn hybridized two lilies and named them after his friends, Clyde and Bernice Ikins. N. 'Clyde Ikins', a large hardy apricot water lily and N. 'Bernice Ikins', a medium-sized glowing red hardy, were the hit of the tour. After Dr. Ikins pointed out the first one, as we would get to a new pond people would excitedly point and ask "is that the one named after you?"

Just when we would think that we had seen the most beautiful lily or bloom or whatever, we would go to the next stop and then be struck down yet again by the beauty of the latest item. We would stagger to the next pond and then the process would start all over again.

As in awe as we were of the sites before us, we still had not gotten to the business part of the land. We were simply in his "show and tell" ponds. I didn't think of counting, but there seemed to be around a dozen in-ground ponds

and as many, if not more, huge ornate container ponds. Now that he had us in his total control, Dr. Ikins headed the cart up the hill where the business ponds were. His little flock followed excitedly along.

In this area there must have been 100+ ponds, most large timber ponds but a lot of concrete ponds as well. And these ponds were crammed full of blooming lilies of every color imaginable, waiting to be shipped around the world. In addition to the lilies and irises, Dr. Ikins also had a large supply of lotuses and bog plants eager to find new homes.

Sadly though, no purchases could be made as Lakeside Gardens is strictly a wholesale operation and does not have the license for sales tax.

Was the trip worthwhile? Well, it almost seemed that we were at an old-time religious revival with all of the "my God", "good heavens", "Jesus", etc. comments that were being uttered all day. And one member exclaimed, "it's as if we've died and gone to heaven". It would be interesting to know the total number of pictures that were taken!

A big THANKS to Dr. Ikins for taking the time out of his busy schedule to take us through his lily wonderland.



Looking through Dr. Ikins' golf cart at the "business" part of Lakeside Gardens. These ponds extend all the way around the huge greenhouse.



Patio to the left is one of several formal pond areas around Dr. Ikins' house.

WOW - what a place for a party!

WATER GARDENING DAY A BIG HIT!

This past June the Water Garden Club of South Texas made history by sponsoring the first-ever Water Gardening Day at the San Antonio Botanical Center. Don Pylant, senior horticulturist at the Center, came up with the idea to have one of their educational programs dedicated to water gardening. Don approached the club with the idea and asked if we were interested in organizing it.

Our goal was to share the joy of water gardening with the public and help people that might be interested in starting their first water garden gather some much-needed information. For them to realize that a water garden could be as simple as having a container pond. That was in February, and by June we were ready.



Dr. Clyde Ikins has his audience spell bound with his beautiful slide presentation

We were very fortunate to have two very famous names in the water gardening world agree to come be speakers for our new event. Dr. Clyde Ikins is a world-famous breeder of lilies and irises.

Operating a wholesale business, Dr. Ikins is known for having one of the largest collections of lilies and irises, with over 200 different types of lilies and 600 types of irises. Dr. Ikins gave a presentation on “Lilies and Irises – Blossoms of Joy”.

Our other speaker was Anita Nelson, co-owner of the fabulous Nelson Water Gardens in Katy (just east of Houston). Anita is a much sought after speaker on all aspects of water gardening, from design to flower selection. Her presentation was “Building Your Dream Pond”.

Both speakers had very interesting presentations. Well, they were interesting for those who were able to get

into the room. The week before, the newspaper had run a huge article, complete with numerous pictures, about Dr. Ikins and our Water Gardening Day. Between that and our own publicity, the resulting crowd was way more than expected. Estimates are that over 125 people were crammed into the room with an untold number being finally turned away. (I was expecting any minute for the second floor to collapse from the weight of all of us!)

The slides that Dr. Ikins had for his presentation had the people “oohing and aahing” like they were at a fireworks show. Spectacular pictures of lilies of every size and color imaginable. And everybody was really impressed with the pictures of the Victoria, whose leaves can get over 6’ wide and support 150 pounds. (Got a pond big enough for that?) Anita had people furiously writing notes as she showed us how to go about planning for that dream pond. And she had us practically falling out of our chairs with laughter when she got to her “now this is how NOT to design a pond” part of the presentation. People kept asking us if a seminar would be repeated, as they wanted to sit through it again.

In-between seminars, water garden fans were able to visit with vendors that we had come in for the occasion. Many thanks to the fine folks at **Water Garden Gems, Poolside Sales and Service, Easy-Pond, Tetra,** and **Jungle Pond** for their contributions in making this event such a well-rounded success. In addition to the tables for the vendors, our club had an information table with members staffing it all day. We talked with a lot of great water gardeners and made a lot of new friends.

(Continued on Page 5)

Booth for vendor (and new member!) Poolside Sales and Services (210) 496-2244



Water Gardening in a Drought

us.



We have received some questions as to whether or not water gardening is really appropriate during this time of drought and water restrictions. Anybody who listens to Bob Webster's gardening show on KTSA knows how Bob feels on this very timely subject. He has repeatedly stated that a "water garden takes LESS amount of water to maintain than an equal area of St. Augustine grass".

To get yet another knowledgeable opinion on the subject, we went to Dr. Calvin Finch, Director, Water Conservation for the San Antonio Water System. (Hey, it's a **water** issue so go to the **water company**!) You can also hear Calvin on weekends on Milberger's Gardening Show on KLUP, where he shares the air with Dr. Jerry Parsons. (Hint: Calvin is the calm voice.)

As we continue through our drought here in South Texas, it is important that all of us do our part in conserving water. Believe what you will about the amount of water in the aquifer and whatever your thoughts are on the little critters we're supposed to be saving, we all need to conserve water to keep more stringent controls from being placed upon

To learn about our current water restriction schedule, check out the web site for the San Antonio Water System at www.SAWS.org. Here you will learn what stage we are at and by clicking on the appropriate link(s), you can learn the details of each particular stage.

You should also become familiar with your sprinkler - don't be watering too much! I believe that a recent study showed that St. Augustine grass could get by with only 3/4" of water a week. I'll soon find out, as that is all I have been watering this entire summer, cutting back from 1" a week. So far so good as my grass is still green.

With EVERYBODY helping out on this, and EVERYBODY following the guidelines, we will ALL benefit!

Water is life - don't waste it!

Now, just when **ARE** we getting a second source of water?

CONSERVE WATER
*Take a shower with a friend.
 You'll save water AND have fun!*

Water Conservation for Water Gardens

by

Calvin R. Finch, Ph.D.
 Director, Water Conservation
 San Antonio Water System
 Submitted to

The Water Garden Club of South Texas Newsletter

August 14, 2000

There are specific rules for swimming pools and specific rules for fountains, but none specifically for water gardens. We can, however, borrow from the other rules to come up with a common sense set of practices to reduce water use for water gardens.

- Most water gardens have over 50% of the water surface covered with plant material. If that is not the case in your garden, use floating foam pads or other floaters to reduce water surface area. Water evaporates from exposed surfaces.
- Minimize sprays or fountain-type activity. Water sprayed in the air or flowing in shallow streams along surfaces during 100°F days will lead to high evaporation losses.
- Postpone emptying and refilling water gardens unless it is absolutely necessary for health, safety or leak repair.
- Repair all leaks to minimize water waste.
- Follow all the other water use restrictions so we can avoid reaching Stage III where restrictions are more severe.

Encourage your neighbors to comply with the rules!

AUSTIN POND TOUR

Road trip! In July the members of the Water Garden Club of South Texas, along with The Men's Garden Club of San Antonio, chartered a bus and headed up to partake in The Austin Pond Society's 6th Annual Pond Tour. We very quickly learned that THIS was the **only** way to do a pond tour! We also learned that huge tour buses and the sharp hills of Austin do NOT go well together. No, not at all.



With the gracious cooperation of the Austin Pond Society, we actually saw "the best of" this tour, with ponds pre-selected for our viewing pleasure. With our very own Sandy Harper acting as navigator, off we went in search of ponds galore!

Each stop had us excitedly talking to the pond owner about how they built their little water getaway.

Some of our more curious members even went around checking water depth by sticking their arms in the pond, leaving some of us wondering if the heat wasn't a little too much for our friends.

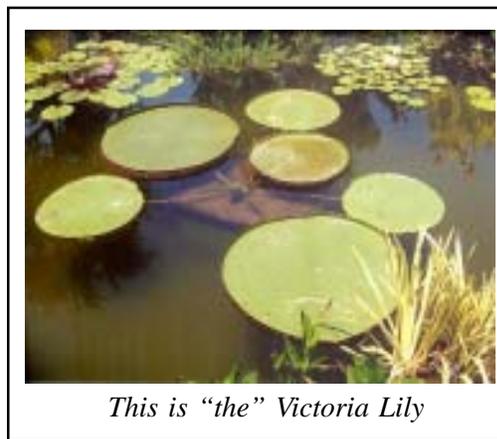
Look up the word "spectacular" in the dictionary and you'll probably see pictures from the Austin Pond Tour. One industrious pond owner even used Lake Austin as his source of water, pulling in water from two 4" input pipes 200' out in the lake. That in turn fed a yard full of various water features with streams, waterfalls, fountains, etc. The water rushed through all of his water features and then back out into the lake. No filter was even needed, as it was constantly recirculated!

We also got to see what do you do when you buy a lot that nobody else was willing to buy because of a natural spring-fed stream running through it. Well this was a no-brainer – you dig a huge hole and make a pond out of it! The results were astounding, with two streams feeding a 40,000 gallon pond. (Yes, the zeros are correct!) The pond area was beautiful; with plants galore everywhere you looked.

There was even a Victoria Lily in this beautiful water Shangri-La. (Our friends at **Nelson's Water Garden** in Katy did all of the plant work. AWESOME job folks!)

By the end of the day, everybody was tired but very excited nonetheless. We spent the trip back trying to convince the dirt gardeners to toss some water into their hobby as well. Who knows – maybe we got a convert or two. And as for our own club members, well we were all trying to figure out how to redesign our yards to make room for a 40,000 gallon pond!

Special thanks to the **Austin Pond Society** folks for arranging this special day, and a VERY special thanks to the pond owners for sharing their beautiful ponds with the public.



This is "the" Victoria Lily

Water Gardening Day

(Continued from Page 3)

We would like to thank **EVERYBODY** involved in making this event such a success. In particular, the following **club members** who dedicated their time to the day:

Tana White	Duane Eaton
Art & Margaret Brock	Sandy Harper
Naomi & Richard Hamilton	Tommy Kleiber
Pat & Nikki Rayburg	Harriett Einolf

We would also like to thank our **vendors!** Vendors were Tetra, Water Garden Gems, Tank Hollow Fisheries, Poolside Sales and Service, Easy~Ponds, and Jungle Laboratories. And many of the vendors donated materials for door prizes too!

(Continued on Page 11)

Prez Sez

The other night I was flipping through the cable channels and saw the beginning of the movie "Field of Dreams" with Kevin Costner. I had never seen the movie, but had heard plenty of talk about it. The saying of "*build it and they will come*" seemed to become a part of everyday talk after the movie came out. Interestingly enough, I saw a moment in the movie when Kevin hears that saying. Having other things to do, I turned off the TV and got busy on the computer. (So I **still** haven't seen the movie!)

That saying, though, kept going through my mind. "*Build it and they will come.*" "*Build it and they will come.*" You know, it could be true for our new club too. "*Start it and they will join.*" We **did** start it, and you **did** join. Now not only do we have a new club full of excited water garden enthusiasts (membership is now over **100**), but we have a new club with NEW members now stepping forward to take on much needed positions. (And yes, "enthusiasts" might be too calm a word describing some of us. "Lunatic" might be more appropriate.)

No longer is it the same small group of us who first came up with this crazy idea of a water garden club. It is very exciting that members are now stepping forward offering their assistance. We knew that it would eventually happen. And thank goodness it has!

Many thanks to the following members who have taken on positions in YOUR club: **Ruth Thomas** for becoming Membership Vice President, **Pat Rayburg** for the daunting task of chairing our first pond tour, **Hank Macina** for taking over as Treasurer, **Margaret Brock** for becoming our Librarian, **Dick Lepere** for chairing the Bylaws Committee, **Mary Moore** for chairing our much needed Telephone Committee, **Naomi Hamilton** for serving as our club rep to the Associated Koi Clubs of America, and a special thanks for **Bill Witte** for helping wherever he is needed. WOW! What a group of **fantastic** folks.

Now don't think that YOU are clear of having to help out! We can still use some volunteers. And we will need a lot of help on the day of the pond tour! Please call me at 525-1198 to see how **YOU** can help **YOUR** club.

Calling All Photographers!

Did you know that each year **Water Garden Gems** hosts a pond photo contest? The only entry requirement is that the pond must be "home made". That is, a professional pond company cannot build it. Two photos can be entered, and they are to be submitted to Water Garden Gems by the end of October.



No judge is aware of who the pond owner is at judging time. Each entrant is assigned a number that is attached to the front of the photo(s). Photos are placed on a large board in the categories entered. (If entries are not labeled as to which category preferred, WGG selects the entry.) Judges are given a form to complete, judging each entry with a number from 1 to 5 (5 being the best) and asked to include their selection for one Best Overall from both categories. The numbers are added together and the highest number wins, etc. (In case of tie, we have had a new judge break the tie ... or in the past, there have been co-winners.)

The judges are asked to look for total balance of the pond (waterfall proportion to pond, plant placement, natural look, etc.), originality (of size, shape, materials used, etc.), and pond placement in total landscape. (If your pond has any plants that are illegal in Texas, be sure to remove them from your pond **BEFORE** you take the picture!) And keep in mind that not everyone is a professional photographer!

Judges come from all walks of life ... landscape architects, engineers, welders, teachers, graphic arts students, homemakers, doctors, and fish farmers.

Each winner receives a Gift Certificate to **Water Garden Gems** (Best Overall - \$100, 1st - \$75, 2nd - \$50, and 3rd - \$25).



NEWS FROM THE SHADE

Shades of Green, that is!

SUMMERTIME FEEDING



It is very easy to let your feeding program slide at this time of year. The heat is on and your plants may not be looking so great anyway. However, we strongly encourage you to feed regularly during the summer months. Plants need food now more than any other time of the year, and if you feed them they will reward you with luscious growth and more abundant blooms.

Because nutrients are leached out of the soil with frequent watering in the summer months, we recommend feeding every two to four weeks with either Hasta Gro (organic), Miracid (increases the acidity of the soil), or Hibiscus Food (especially good for tropical such as hibiscus and bougainvillea and it is easy to use).

The plants needing nutrients the most are annuals and perennials growing in containers and also houseplants and blooming tropicals. Beds of flowers will also greatly benefit from regular feeding.

You can avoid the heat by feeding in the early morning or late afternoon but do not forget to feed.

TERMITES!

No no – termites did NOT invade Shades of Green and leave their old greenhouse a shambles. Shades of Green, is however, undergoing a renovation project under “old management”. While most business hang up signs advertising “Under New Management!” to bring in customers, Shades of Green is doing the opposite, advertising “Under Old Management”!

Yes, Bob and Roberta and the gang are back in full force. And you would **not** believe the changes coming down the road! Stay tuned to “Lilies & Things” for more exciting news from Shades of Green.

Bob and Roberta are good friends of our club, so be sure to do some shopping there and please let the staff

know that you are an appreciating member of our club! And yes, the entire staff is **VERY** friendly and helpful. (Oh yeah -- they are located at 334 Sunset between US 281 and Broadway and their phone number is 824-3772.)

I know that **I** have been an especially good customer of theirs these last several months, filling up my yard with hanging baskets and potted plants. And the yard is absolutely the most beautiful it has **ever** been! But as my mother said to me today as she stopped by to visit, “Your yard is beautiful. But just **what** do you think you’re going to do with all of these plants this winter?” **Yikes!** Now if anybody would be so kind as to volunteer space in their greenhouse this winter, I would greatly appreciate it! **HEEEEEELP!**

SNEAK PREVIEW:

This beautiful pond and massive waterfall, sitting beside a hot tub with its own waterfall, will be on the **1st Annual Alamo Tour de Ponds** Saturday, September 30th



*The
Water Garden Club
of South Texas*

*All who dream
are welcome
to our
pond!*

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CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Huh? Talking about **Christmas** in the heat of August? **YOU BET!** It's **always** a good time to talk about a party!

We are looking for a host for our first big Christmas Party. (Of course, everything we do is a "first"!) Our club

Christmas Party is scheduled for the evening of our regular meeting day, which is Saturday, December 9th. We are looking for a "host with the most", a club member who has their house all decorated for the holiday season. This will be a fun chance to show off your beautifully decorated house!

The meal will be "pot-luck", with everybody signing up at the November meeting for a dish to bring to the party. Details of the party itself will be finalized in the coming months. To give the host proper time to commit, we need to get the host location finalized now. If you would like to volunteer your colorful holiday house, please call Duane Eaton at 525-1198.

Upcoming Events

Be sure that your calendars are marked for the following exciting events coming up for the remainder of the year:

September 9th

****NO MEETING****

September 30th

1st Annual Alamo Tour de Ponds
(VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!)

October 14th

"Gardens Under the Moonlight"
Enjoy the Botanical Gardens at night!
Music and food booths.

Admission charged.

October 14th - 15th

Fall Open House
Water Garden Gems
Weekend full of seminars!
Check our web site for details

October 21st

Tentative Club Meeting

November 11th

Club Meeting

Topic: Designing a Japanese Garden

December 9th

Christmas Party!

7:00 PM - ?

We don't do sushi!



DON'T FORGET!

Call Mary
at (210) 659-3697
to volunteer to help
for the Pond Tour!

**WE NEED
VOLUNTEERS!!!**



TALES FROM THE 'NET

Should You Marry A Non-Ponder?

(NOTE: This article was taken some years ago from the Internet. An email was recently sent to the author, but it came back as undeliverable. If you should happen to know the author, please let us know!)

Should you marry a non-ponder? There are many weddings, going on even as you read this, where this important

question has not even been considered. Now I know that the idea of it is definitely shocking, but those things do happen in the real world so we have to consider it. In fact, I have been married to my first wife, a non-ponder for over 30 years, but I think if something happened to her, I would only look at ponder women for a prospective second wife.

My wife is in good health so don't think I am too serious about this second wife business, but one does have to think ahead. So how would I go about picking this pond woman? Since I have only been married once, I don't have a lot of experience to call on, but here is what I would do. First I would request a picture! No, no, not of her, but of her **pond!**

Maybe I would post something to one of those lonely heart clubs that read something like this, "Lonely 50-ish widower, wanting woman for serious pond relationship. Must have at least three years of pond experience and be able to clean filters, treat sick fish, raise water lilies, lift at least 50 pounds, and chase frogs. Age, race, religion, and beauty are not important, but husky women will receive higher consideration. Please send large picture of pond." Now that ought to get a few good responses.

Now why would I want to only marry a ponder woman? Well, non-ponders just don't understand why another pond or a larger pond is really necessary. They also complain about the costs of things, such as spending \$60 on a lotus, \$150 on a good quality pump, or \$200 on a prize koi. Now how can you honestly put a value on such an important thing as ponding? Now I know some of you are between marriages, or at least thinking about it, or maybe like me, just speculating, so what do you think, should **you** marry a Non-ponder?



For additional pictures,
please check out our
web site at
www.WaterGardeningSouthTX.org

Bag Those Fish!

Well, not just **any** of your fish. But the **best** quality fish that you have. Yes, it's that time of the year again for The Texas Koi and Fancy Goldfish Society to have their annual **Koi and Fancy Goldfish Show**. Koi will be in large tanks while goldfish will have large aquariums.

This is their 9th annual event, and it promises to be another winner for everybody. In addition to the fish show and judging, over 20 vendors from all over the country will also be in attendance. If you want a piece of jewelry/art involving koi, this is **THE** place to head to!

Held at Water Garden Gems in conjunction with their fall open house the weekend of October 14th and 15th, this year's show is ready to showcase the pride and joy of fish owners from all over the United States. And they **will** be coming with their fish from all **OVER** the United States too! (Registrations have already been received from eight states.) This show is sanctioned by both the Associated Koi Clubs of America and the Goldfish Society of America. (Your club belongs to both of these organizations.)

If you have never been to this event, this is a **MUST** for the pond enthusiast. There will be some spectacular fish entered, and will be well worth the trip out to WGG for the show. While we do not all have show quality koi and fancy goldfish, we all appreciate their beauty and grace.

For additional information, please call Duane at 525-1198. We will see to it that you get all the info you need for registration expenses, how to catch and bag your fish, etc. (You thought it was **FREE**? Get out of here! Seriously though, there is a **FISH** registration fee.) Admission to the **event** itself is free though.

Oh yeah, if you do head out there don't forget your camera. Not only will the fish be great, but Water Garden Gems (at press time) looks the best it has ever looked with water lilies. "*Kodak moment!*"



Controlling Aphids

Well, if you can not control them, at least you can keep the aphids down to a dull roar!

Aphids are tiny black, green or red specks that suddenly, and inexplicably, appear on all your plants in the pond one day! Suddenly, you go out to trim your lilies, and there are tiny black specs everywhere, consuming the pond!!!!

Pond aphids are the same aphid which besets the dirt garden. For some reason, they seem to really enjoy the water plants, and congregate on them. A sure sign that you indeed have aphids, is to look for ants....ants crawling on your plants. There is a symbiotic relationship between the common garden aphid and the common ant — the ant removes (and eats) the "honey dew" or liquid waste produced by the aphid.

Aphids are only harmful when, and if, the infestation becomes heavy. A colony of aphids can destroy or disfigure the foliage of a plant rapidly, and prefer the tender, new growth which is more susceptible. In addition, the honeydew of the aphid, left on a plant, can be responsible for sooty molds, and may transmit viruses.

The most natural control is to create an environment where ladybugs are a part of your ecosystem. Also, dwarf marigolds (*Tagetes patula*) planted near the pond, attract hoverflies, which feed on aphids. Avoid chemical sprays and treatments in your yard and invite the natural enemy. In the pond we have a method of control not easily available in the dirt garden - dunking or drowning the persistent critters!! For the lilies, marginals and lotus, using a garden hose with a spray nozzle attached. Spraying the aphids with a strong stream of water into the pond may prove effective. Lily leaves can simply be brushed with the hand, brushing the aphids into the water. Now, if your fish are like ours, they may simply turn up their noses at the aphid snack and not touch them, but we can try (smile).

If the above remedies don't seem to work, we use a homemade insecticidal soap recipe. Now before we give you the recipe, please remember the following:



- Never, ever, treat the pond with any chemicals
- The following recipe contains soap, soap is deadly to fish, even in small amounts
- Treat your plants away from the pond, out of the sun
- Plan an all day affair for this treatment:
- You will need to remove the plants from the pond,
- Soak them in this solution,
- Allow them to sit for a couple of hours, preferably in a bucket of water,
- Then rinse well before returning them to the pond.

Following is the recipe for homemade insecticidal soap:

- ◆ Mix one tablespoon of dishwashing detergent (I like Dawn dishwashing detergent myself) with one cup of cooking oil
- ◆ Add the detergent/oil mixture to 1 gallon of water and put into a spray bottle
- ◆ Spray the affected plants
- ◆ Treatment may be repeated every 10 days, if necessary

In addition to our specific pond cautions above, please remember the following about insect treatments:



- Think before you treat, is it **really** necessary?
- Do not spray into the wind and treat other plants that don't need it
- Do not spray during the hottest part of the day, because hot, sunny weather increases the risk of scorching your plants. The oil in insecticidal soap is especially dangerous for doing this.
- Keep pets and children away during use
- Store the remaining mixture away from children and pets
- Wash hands thoroughly after use

We find that treatment is rarely necessary. The aphids are a part of gardening, and not bothersome unless the infestation is especially heavy. Unless you see plant damage, treatment is not necessary, and washing them into the pond to drown or become fish snacks will usually be all the control you need. Aphids are nothing more than a sign of a healthy ecosystem, so rejoice that you have accomplished exactly what you set out to do. (very big EVIL grin)

New Members!

To Our New Members, we'd like to WELCOME YOU to our humble pond! Come on in for the ceremonial dunk — Aw, don't be shy, everyone gets christened in the PAA Club "PONDERS ADDICTION ANONYMOUS". We just call ourselves pond addicts! And the new members are —:

Eugene & Betty Fairchild	Jean Fairweather, MD
Robert & Dawn Poston	John Woodward
Antonio & Aida Cardenas	Keith Amelong
Debra Galerneau	Mark & Sherry Metzger
David & Jennifer Herrera	Hazel Mondin
Joel & Linda King	Mark & Susan Posson
Clinton McKenzie	Ricardo & Jackie Hernandez
Karl Steiner	Donna S. Munt
Paul & Terry Allen	Patrick Sturdivant
David & Diane Alberthal	

Water Gardening Day

(Continued from Page 5)
And another special thanks to the San Antonio Botanical Gardens staff! Especially Pat Hernandez, who made the posters.

And as far as the crowd problems, wow. If you were one of the people who were unable to get in the room to attend the seminars, **we sincerely apologize that you were left out.** We can promise you that if the event is held again next year, we will have larger facilities to handle a large crowd.

**We're hopping
over to help
out during
the pond tour.
Hop over and
join us!**

Caveat Ponder!

Don't forget one of the main rules of water gardening: what works in one pond might not necessarily work in another pond with different plants. Suggestions offered here are things that have worked from the experience of the writer or what we have learned in research.

Good luck!

Water Garden Club of South Texas

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www.WaterGardeningSouthTX.org

Burt Nichols

President & Owner

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