

Mike's Minutes

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. All of us did if you discount eating way too much and watching too much football. I can honestly say now we're thankful it is over although it probably means we're in for some winter weather.

Since we're into Winter now, your pond has gone dormant for the season. The water temperatures are so cold your fish are just hanging out in the deepest part, not swimming much and certainly not eating. Most, if not all, of your plants have given up and if they are now laying down into the water, get them out when you can. Trim the marginals and water lilies back to just above the crown and move the lilies into the deepest part of the pond to winter over. If you are a water gardener who is bound and determined to save your lotus and tropical lilies, you should have already moved them into the greenhouse or into the basement or cellar if you're going to try to winter them over there. Directions can be found online in any number of places, here is a link to one I've found with lots of information on plants: <http://www.fishpondinfo.com/plants/overwinter.htm> be certain wherever you are reading that it is applicable to our area, NOT some southern clime where they can just leave them in the pond...that doesn't work well around here.

All things being considered, we've had a really good year...not all pleasant considering that Alice retired and Juan left us for greener pastures early in the season. But, we've rebounded and with Sandy, Jaclyn, Luanne and Jay we made it through the season. Jaclyn has now left us to follow her dream of nursing school and Luanne is back at her 'regular' job at Grove School for the school year so it's just the three of us for now. Classes start in mid-March and we're already looking forward to that.

If you haven't been in for a while, don't forget to use your Pond Dollars prior to the end of the year they don't carry over. Pond Dollars are redeemable for up to 50% off the price of any in-stock items in the store. They are not honored for online sales though Pondliner.com. The Pond Dollar redemption period next year (2014) will be the entire month of October.

As always this time of year, call before you drive out if the weather is 'iffy'. By now, you all are aware we are closing Sunday-Tuesday for the winter. We're still open Wednesday through Saturday, weather permitting; plenty of time to pick up any pond supplies you need. Depending on the weather, our contractors are still doing rebuilds and new features throughout the winter and sometimes that can be a cost savings for you because they are not as busy and as long as you are willing to wait for decent temps and dry (or drier) ground.

We're hearing rumblings about new products, changing product lines, enhancing some products; all exciting news. We won't have any definite information for another month or so and won't start receiving any new products until January/February. Usually by the time we host the wholesale seminar the third week of February, we have a pretty good handle on what's new and what's not and have begun to receive our training on anything that is different or new in the line.

We'll be closed December 25 and January 1 to celebrate Christmas and New Year's with our families! We hope you'll have the same opportunity and take a moment to remember those who are unable to be with their families this year.

...Mike



Water Garden Club Meetings

Tulsa 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30pm Tulsa Garden Ctr
www.gcwgs.com for more info
 OKC 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00pm Will Rogers
www.wgso.org for more info
 Stillwater 3rd Monday @ 7:00pm
www.stillwaterwatergardens.org for more info
 Duncan 1st Tuesday @ 7:00pm Red River Tech
 580-595-0842 for more info
 If you have a water garden club let us know so we can advertise it here for you.

CLOSING SPECIAL NOTE

In order to allow our employees to celebrate Christmas and New Year's with their families, we will be closed on both Christmas Day and new Year's Day. Please call ahead to confirm our hours during inclement weather. We hope you enjoy the holidays with family and friends and remember, if you're traveling over the river and through the woods, please be careful.

NEW Classes - SPRING/SUMMER 2014 SCHEDULE

Check the schedule for start times. All classes are free and open to the public. No advance registration required. More classes added each month. Ten Pond Dollars awarded for each class. We train rain or shine in the only indoor pond training facility in the U.S.

March 15 2014 **Spring Startup**
 Your pond will be waking up soon and the fish will be hungry. It's time to find out all about getting ready for the new season. Come to class and earn ten Pond Dollars besides learning a lot about your pond.
10:00am

March 29 2014 **New Class...Pond Filtration**
 We get lots of questions every year about filtration in water gardens and koi ponds. During this class, we'll show and discuss the various types of filters available and how you can best implement them in your pond.
10:00am

April 12 2014 **Pond Build**
 If you have ever wanted a pond in your landscape, now is the time and this is the place. We start with a hole in the ground and go through every step up to and including adding water. Come let us show you how it's done.
10:00am

More on Our Lake Levi Clear Water Project

Obviously the cold weather is really helping with algae control right now but all-in-all we are really pleased with the effects of the Biotec 32000 on Lake Levi. Here's the other reason it's so clean...lot's of TLC from Jay.



Get the latest information on our website or Facebook page; www.pondproshop.com or [facebook.com/pond-pro-shop/](https://www.facebook.com/pond-pro-shop/). **Please note our Winter store hours began November 1; Wednesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Closed Sunday-Tuesday.** Our store number is 405-273-8363 if you have questions concerning products or classes.

\$25 Merry Christmas \$25

Our gift to you. Twenty-Five **Pond Dollars** to add to your total. Just our way of saying "THANKS" to our valued customers.



One per customer please. Coupon required, Redeem November 15-December 28 for up to 50% off the retail price on any in-stock item. Expires December 29th.

Coupons for in-store use ONLY

Coupon must be present for discount where required. Valid for retail store purchases only. **Not valid with any other discount**
 Only the largest discount will apply.

20% off Pond Heaters

Remember, the purpose of the heater is to keep a hole in the ice so gas can transfer out of the pond, not to 'heat' the water for the fish. They like the cold!



One per customer please. Coupon required. Redeem prior to December 29, 2013.