

# Mike's Minutes

I probably should title this one "Late Edition" since it's getting out to you this late in the month. Couldn't be helped though. I fully intended getting it done last week before I left on what was supposed to be an enforced long weekend for me. It turned into a l-o-o-o-nger almost a week-end than expected. But I'm back and trying my best to get got up.

It's Spring! We're doing our best to get our ponds and yard up to snuff but the Oklahoma weather is not cooperating.

We'll get there though and I suspect you will too.

Fish and plants should be available beginning in May. Typically I wait until the confirmed last 'freeze date' to even bring plants in then it takes a few days to get them all planted and set out for you. Some, like the floaters, may be ready a little earlier, depends on the weather between now and then. Fish won't be available until May 18th, the date of our "Plants/Fish and Lage" class. I'll have them sooner but they have to be quarantined after we receive them to insure they are safe for your ponds.

Things are starting to bloom here in the yard, mostly weeds but a few

Tulips and some kind of purple ground cover. I'll bet your yard is looking the same. As for the ponds, they are turning green faster than we can get to them. By that I mean before we can do the partial water changes and begin to adjust the bacteria. Many of you are coming in requesting algaecide. I personally think it's too early to begin relying on chemicals; your pond needs

some time to shake off the affects of Winter and begin the balancing act for the Spring and Summer seasons. Filtration is the key. Get your media cleaned and filters backwashed and begin feeding bacteria to them as quickly as possible

then be very patient. Give it a couple of weeks and Mother Nature will begin to assist you by allowing plants to grow using the nutrient rich water which will starve out the algae. Right now, that stringy stuff is your friend helping to maintain some sort of balance against

over-toxicity to your fish.

Always be humble and kind ~~~Mike



## TIPS and TRICKS

*Not so much as a Tip or Trick but a shameless plug for the newest filter we now stock. The picture above is the GC TEK (Grand Champion Technologies) Pond Keeper 2500. It comes complete with pump, UV light, Blower, Filter and pad. It has been pre-assembled at the plant and all parts marked so it's an easy install for the homeowner. Perfect for your water garden.*

## Water Garden Club Meetings

Tulsa 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30pm Tulsa Garden Ctr  
www.gcwgs.com for more info

OKC 1st Tuesday @ 7:00pm (New Location)  
Grace UMC, 6316 N. Tulsa, OKC  
www.wgso.org for more info

Stillwater Meetings on hold until further notice  
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.

**Military (Active or Retired) and Water  
Garden Club members**

**receive a**

**10% discount**

(If you remember to tell us up front!  
Not after you've already paid.)

Valid for Pond Pro Shop purchases only

**Classes** - SPRING/SUMMER 2019 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.

**April 27  
2019**

**10:00am**

### Pondless Build

For those of you who want the sound of a wa-  
terfall without the maintenance of a pond, this  
class is for you. Come to class to learn how.

**May 18  
2019**

**10:00am**

### Plants/Fish and Algae

These things make your pond beautiful. Learn  
how in this class. We'll help you with types of  
plants, fertilizing (when and how) and what  
you need to do to help them thrive. Your fish  
are the jewels of your pond, help them stay  
healthy with these tips. All ponds have algae,  
Learn how to manage it.

**June 8  
2019**

**10:00am**

### Pond Build

The second build of the season. We'll walk  
you through each step and discuss why and  
what is happening. You'll be able to ask ques-  
tions and see how a pond is built during the  
two hour class.



If you haven't been to one of our classes, come on  
out. I know to many the word 'class' is reminiscent of  
school and nobody wants to go back to school. I try  
to make them a little different and enjoyable. We start  
with the hole in the ground in our indoor classroom  
and go step-by-step until the pond is full of water or  
the waterfall is running. I'll explain each step and an-  
swer questions. We'll cover some design, some  
equipment and some reasons for why and what we  
do. The best part is there are no TESTS! For your  
attendance at class, we'll reward you with ten Pond  
Dollars. Come find out how you can redeem them.

Get the latest information on our FACEBOOK page. Facebook.com/pages/Pond-Pro-Shop Please  
note: We will go to **Summer hours March 5th: Tuesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday  
10:00am-4:00pm. Closed Sunday, Monday.** Phone 405-273-8363.

### BiOrb

Come see the line of  
aquariums we now  
carry. They come in  
several different styles  
and sizes from 4 to 28  
gallon. You can get  
color changing lights,  
heaters and filters to  
suit your décor.



### You Should See These!!!



Build a pond today  
We'll show you how  
Free !!!!  
See the Class Schedule  
above for more infor-  
mation

### 15% off Muck Off 15% off

A special blend of  
bacteria to work on  
the that nasty sludge  
in the bottom of your  
pond. Not a quick fix  
but one that will work  
for you all year long.  
Once you get control  
of the dissolved or-  
ganics you'll have  
less algae

