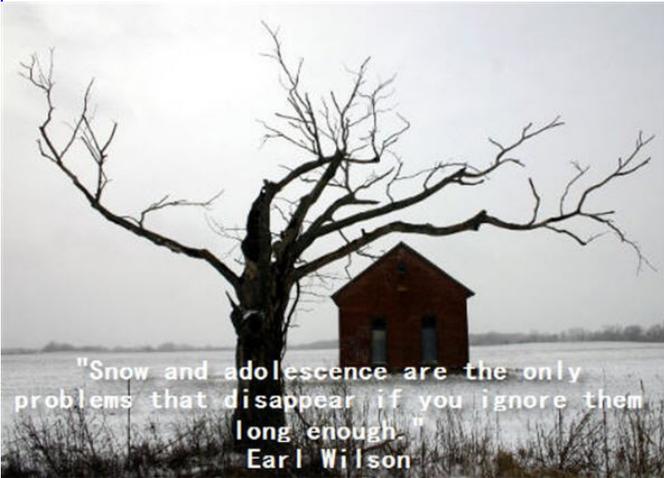


## Mike's Minutes

Imagine being born today and having the prospect of living until 3000. Some of you might feel the same way if you were born prior to WWII. Would you have believed you would live to see 2020? I remember things that happened in the 80's and think "Oh that was just a few years ago." No it wasn't, it was 40 years ago. I have many fond memories of my life in grade school and lots of friends from then. Not long ago? Try 60-65 years. I wouldn't have believed it if you'd told me then that I'd live until now, it was inconceivable. I had no concept of what my 70's would look like or what the year 2020 could look like. I don't know that I'd change anything I did even if I had known.



"Snow and adolescence are the only problems that disappear if you ignore them long enough."  
Earl Wilson

As we enter this new year and new decade, think about all the possibilities that may happen just in the pond world; new technologies, new equipment, new fish, new



plants to name a few. What would you like to see in the next ten years for your water feature? Remember, Marcus Aurelius, the Roman philosopher said, "What the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve."

So far we've been lucky weather wise. While this is normally our coldest time of the year, we are enjoying unseasonably warm weather. I use the term 'warm' loosely. At least instead of the average 29 we're seeing days in the high 40's and low 50's. I hope this doesn't mean we're due for a terrible February. Our ponds are just hanging in there, cold water, dormant fish, dormant bacteria although we are still feeding cold weather bacteria, a little string algae on some waterfalls and streams using up the little ammonia the fish are still releasing, nets keeping the leaves out, plants trimmed and dormant. Not a lot going on the pond world this time of the year. That makes it a great time to start planning your next project. If we can help, come see us. Because we're typically slow this time of year, it's a good time to spend some time planning with you.



Enough philosophizing, time to look ahead, plan for the year. Choose to be happy. Try to be healthy.

Always be humble and kind~~~Mike

### TIPS and TRICKS

We often have customers ask, "What if my pond freezes over solid this winter?" Don't panic and hit the ice with a hammer to make a hole!! The shock-wave may injure your fish and it will for sure give them a headache and they will be mad at you! Many farm ponds freeze over all the time and those fish usually don't die from it. YOUR pond probably has a lot more fish per gallon of water than a farm pond so you should try to keep a hole in the ice for gas exchange. We have several different heaters in stock that should do the trick or you might just leave your pump running. Water flowing at 2,000 gallons per hour or more should not freeze around here.

## 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**

**Closed November 28-30 for Thanksgiving**

**Classes - SPRING/SUMMER 2020 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. One Pond Dollar awarded  
for each class. Attendees receive a 10% discount on all purchases that day. We  
train rain or shine in the only indoor pond training facility in the U.S.

**March  
14  
2020  
10am**

### Spring Startup

I had a long time customer tell me today that she had learned something at every class. You might too. This is the class where we talk about how to get your equipment, plants and fish ready for a new season.

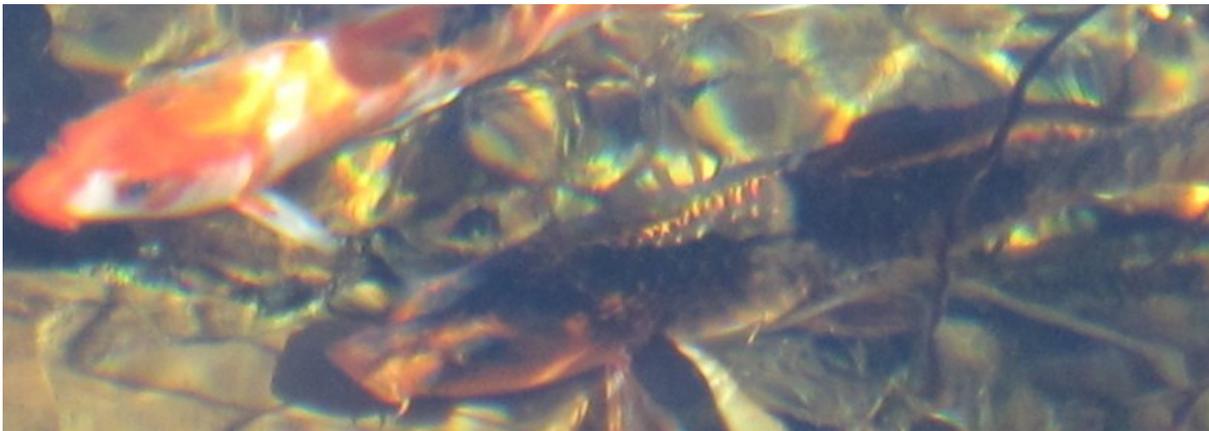
**March  
28  
2020  
10am**

### Pond Filtration

The secret to a happy healthy pond is good filtration. If you've had problems keeping your water clear, come to this class and learn how filtration might be the solution you've been looking for.

There is no advanced registration required and we do not charge for our classes. We will have 12 classes each year, 4 pond builds, 4 pondless waterfall classes and 4 that are general in nature and cover everything from startup to shut down, plants fish and algae, your worst enemy, next to a blue heron.

**Hunkered down for the winter. These fish will live off their fat during the winter, just grazing on the algae from the sides of the pond if they get hungry. Do not feed at temps below 55.**



Get the latest information on our FACEBOOK page. Facebook.com/pages/Pond-Pro-Shop Please note: No more Winter hours!!!! We will remain open Tuesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Closed Sunday, Monday. Phone 405-273-8363.

### MicrobeLift Autumn Winter

Helps maintain a healthy system for your pond. Contains a hydrophilic bacteria specifically for cold water. Good at water temps under 40 degrees.



### Still Good for Your Pond



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

### Crystal Clear Muck Off

Helps reduce muck, leaves and other organic matter in the bottom of your pond with regular use. Does not replace the need for a net or manual removal of organics.

