

# The Water Garden

Journal of the Colorado Water Garden Society

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Online at:  
[www.colowatergardensociety.org](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)

## Monday, August 30

Lunchtime program on the 2010  
IWGS New Waterlily Competition  
- Gates Hall, DBG

Tamara Kilbane,  
Duke University Horticulturalist,  
to speak at 11:30 AM.

See  
Page 7

## The Waterside Program Visits DU Sunday, August 15 at 2:00 pm

*One of Denver University's  
water features that CWGS  
will tour on Sunday,  
August 15 at 2:00 PM*

*Photo by Jim Arneill*



*by Jim Arneill*

Our next waterside program will visit the water features and diverse collection of trees and shrubs on the beautiful campus of the University of Denver. How exciting and nostalgic to imagine that for just one sunny Sunday August afternoon you are back in college strolling the campus! DU's campus has stunning scenery including lotus and lily-filled water features as well as many unusual and stately trees.

The University's water features have much in common with those at Denver Botanic Gardens. Over the years, Joe Tomocik, Curator of the Aquatic Collection at DBG, has provided water lilies, lotuses, and hardy marginals for the DU campus. And the DU arborist, Mark Hathaway, has done an outstanding job maintaining and developing his aquatic collections. The water features at DU also contain the same dark, dyed water you see at the Gardens, reflecting the beauty of the lilies and the surrounding grounds.

Our visit will be after the peak for the lotus display, but you will see many colorful water lilies blooming in addition to visually stimulating arrangements of plants and waterfalls. This area of the campus also houses a fascinating variety of unusual trees that have been planted since the founding in 1864. The campus is actually a designated arboretum.

Our visit to the DU campus will take place at 2:00 pm on Sunday, August 15. There are three main options for traveling to the campus and parking:

1. Take University Blvd. one block south of Evans to Chancellor Daniel Ritchie Way, turn right and follow the circle in front of the Mary Reed Building to the visitor parking lot on the south side of the building. Park in a designated visitor parking space, and there is a parking payment machine right there in which you purchase a ticket that you place on your dashboard. The cost is \$1.25/hr. and is purchased in hour increments. (The address of the building is 2199 South University Blvd. if you have a GPS.)

*(continued on page 6)*

## THISYEAR

A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

Aug. 15: *Waterside Program - Fieldtrip to DU Water Gardens*

*Guided tour begins at 2:00 PM*

Sep. 9: *Potluck dinner and Annual Board Elections*

Dec. 9: *Holiday Banquet*



From...

TheWaterGarden

c/o Journal Editor  
1210 Clayton Street  
Denver, CO 80206-3214

*The Colorado Water Garden Society (CWGS) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization founded in 1983 to encourage appreciation and interest in the use of water in the landscape.*

To learn more, visit us at  
[www.colowatergardensociety.org](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)

FIRST CLASS MAIL

## 2010 Board of Directors:

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

## CWGS Treasurer's Report:

As of July 31: \$13,433.30

**Need to join or renew?...  
... The application is on page 9**

**Does CWGS have your current email address? If you're not sure, contact us.**

## 2010 Committee and Event Chairs:

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<b>Holiday Banquet</b> Dorothy Martinez Michael Weber	303.279.3137 303.499.6578
<b>WebPage / Archives</b> Bill Bathurst Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144 303.421.1144
<b>DBG Plant Sale &amp; Volunteers</b> Bill Powell Marge Oleson	303.355.8098 303.989.4809

### Changes are underway...

Unless you have specifically requested continued receipt of The WaterGarden in paper form, you will now receive it electronically.

To request a change or to report a problem with downloading of the electronic journal, reply to Bill Bathurst at:

[Bill.Bathurst@colowatergardensociety.org](mailto:Bill.Bathurst@colowatergardensociety.org).



**“...Many new faces, and a few ‘blasts from the past’” dropped in on the 2010 Pond Tour & Picnic**

**Above:**  
The picnic begins pondside at the Martinez/Funk residence. About 50 people enjoyed the cook out.

**Below and bottom photo:**  
Two shots of CWGS President Vicki Aber’s many water features.

**Eleven sites across the northwest metro area were on the tour. Happily, the weather was “just right.”**



Photos by Marge Oleson and Gary Blubaugh

## From Vicki...

### *...“Just Right”*

by Vicki Aber, CWGS President

The weather for the pond tour in years' past has been good, bad, and ugly. This year it was just right. We did have a little low-lying rain (a sprinkler system came on unexpectedly) that added some excitement to the picnic.

I saw many new faces, and a few ‘blasts from the past’ stopped by my yard during the tour. We had a great variety of water features to admire with a minimum of driving. The picnic was well attended and turned out great. And, of course, there was good food, good conversation and a door prize or two.

Thank you to all the people who opened their yards for our visit. Special thanks to Dorothy Martinez (and John Funk) for hosting the picnic and for all the behind-the-scenes things Dorothy did to make the pond tour happen. Thanks also to Michael Weber for his tour coordination with Dorothy and to Michael and Sandy Weber for taking care of the food. This yearly event is truly a team effort. Of course we also have to thank all the people who spent their Saturday attending the tour and picnic. What would all the work of putting it on be without people to come and enjoy it!

Our next meeting is a “waterside” program held on the grounds at the University of Denver. Jim Arneill's article on the front page gives background and logistics you'll need to meet us there. It promises to be an interesting introduction to the growing array of new water features that the University is incorporating on its historic campus.

Before we turn around it will be September - time to start putting the pond to bed for the winter. This is time to start planning for next year. What plants did you see on the tour you would like to have next year? Did you get an idea to add to your water feature or a way to do something better?

It is also the time to have similar thoughts for the society. September is when we have our annual meeting and elections. We will have at least a couple openings on the board of directors. Think about if you would like to be more involved by being on the board. Believe it or not we really have a lot of fun.

If you would like to be just a little more involved but you're not ready to take on a board position, let us know. There are always little projects that don't require a lot of on-going commitment, but that would benefit the club. We can match you with something you'd enjoy.

Over the winter break we also start planning for activities next year. Tell us what you think worked and what didn't. We always value members' input, and we will be asking your opinions. Don't be shy!

**PS: More photos of the Tour and picnic follow on pages 4 & 5**

## More photos of the tour....



**Above and right:**  
Two views of Janet and Bill Bathurst's  
50 ft. stream and large pond.



**Above:**  
Spectacular views are  
reflected in the expansive  
Frisch pond.

Photos by Gary  
Blubaugh, Marge  
Olsen, and Bill Powell



**Above:**  
Pondless waterfall at Arvada's Majestic View  
Park and Nature Center



**Above:**  
McColley Water Gardens, an extensive and  
beautiful installation constructed by a retirement  
subdivision to control storm water.



**Left:**  
The stream and edge of the  
Thomas' large pond. If you step  
from the stone at the center of the  
photo, you can cross the pond to  
the other side on "floating"  
stones.

*...and MORE photos, still*



**Above and right:**  
Two views of the Pflug grounds. A balcony overlooks the stream and multiple bridges. Beyond the water widens to fill the 18,000 gallon pond.



**Above:**  
A stair cascade, one of several water features at the home of Brenda Parsons-Hier and Peter Hier. Brenda and Peter have cleverly adapted their plantings and water features to a steep lot where the largest dimension is the vertical.



**Above:**  
The Trefz stream and pond compliments their putting green.

**Below right:**  
Two more views from Dorothy Martinez and John Funks' grounds where the picnic was held. A particularly persuasive naturalized waterfall runs from their newly constructed bog filter to one of several large ponds. At the far right is a newly completed glass and metal sculpture celebrating Dorothy and John's "fishy" yard.



**Immediately Below:**  
A "brand new" work in progress, the Larson pond gleams in the sunlight.. In addition to the cascade shown here, a long stream drops in from the right.



Photos by Marge Oleson, Gary Blubaugh, Bruce Polkowsky and Bill Powell

## Celebration, education, and a look back... ...the 2010 Water Blossom Festival revisited.

by Bill Powell



**Above:**  
*The information booth opens for business near the Monet Pond.*

On July 18 CWGS and DBG celebrated the art of water gardening and the Gardens' extraordinary aquatic displays during the daylong Water Blossom Festival at Denver Botanic Gardens.

The Festival included a poolside informational booth from which tours and demonstrations operated throughout the morning. Jim Arneill's Water Garden strolls attracted crowds, and the waterlily propagation demonstration by Brenda Parsons-Hier and Peter Hier drew lots of questions from new and experienced water gardeners alike.

At 1:00 Sarada Krishnan, DBG's Director of Horticulture, gave a presentation on the history and collections of the Gardens' aquatic program, which began in the 1970's following the realization of the Gardens' master plan. Water was a fairly late introduction to the gardens, but once there the pools quickly bloomed with hardy and tropical collections thanks to the efforts of Curator of Water Gardens Joe Tomocik and his group of devoted volunteers.

These volunteers, whose work the Water Blossom Festival also honors, not only supported DBG's aquatic display; they became the founders and core of CWGS. The club was, in fact, begun at the Gardens in 1983, making it the first incorporated water garden society in the world, predating even the IWGS.

Volunteers from the Society's ranks continue to help with the planting and maintenance of DBG's extraordinary annual Aquatic display. ■



### The Waterside Program Visits DU (*continued from front page*)

2. Drive a few blocks south of Evans to Iliff Avenue and turn right going west. The first street on your left with available free street parking is York. You may find a parking spot there, and then walk through the visitor parking lot on the north side of Iliff to the back of the Mary Reed building. If there are no available parking spaces on York, you may try other nearby side streets. Since it is Sunday, there is no time limit of parking there, and you will just have to walk an extra block or two.
3. DU promotes the use of light rail, and you may take that from your home to a station on campus, though the walk to the Mary Reed Building is a bit longer than the other two plans.

Whichever option you choose, we will meet directly behind the Mary Reed Building near a statuary bust of Chester Alter, former Chancellor of Denver University. The tour on this part of the campus will be guided and will take 1 to 1 1/2 hours. Refreshments will be provided.

You will enjoy the beauty of the water features and special trees on the University of Campus. You may also want to bring some old college textbooks to carry around as you walk the campus!

**We hope to see you at our next waterside program on Sunday, August 15! Please contact Jim Arneill at (303) 843-9619 if you have any questions.**



**Above and below:**  
The Virtue Peace Pond at Duke Gardens, site of the 2010 IWGS New Waterlily Competition

Tamara Kilbane, seen tending the lilies on the far side of the pond in the photo above, will speak on the competition entries on Monday Aug 30 at Gates Hall, DBG.



## The Future In Bloom

**Join us Monday, August 30 for a peek at new lilies currently being evaluated by the IWGS**

By Bill Powell

New cultivars of hardy and tropical waterlilies are developed each year. The more promising hybrids may go through years of cultivation before reaching the commercial market (if they ever do.) Plant cultivation trials are one way that new hybrids are evaluated under controlled and documented growing conditions. The International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society (IWGS) has conducted trials and competitions at various sites around the country for more than a decade.

*"This year the IWGS has once again chosen Sarah P. Duke Gardens at Duke University in Durham NC to be the growing site for the organization's annual New Waterlily Competition, a contest that draws entries from skilled hybridizers around the world.*

*"The purpose of this competition is to promote interest in hybridizing new colors, forms and sizes of both tropical and hardy waterlilies. In the past few years, several noteworthy new hybrids have been introduced as a result of the competition, including plants with unusual flower shapes and colors, and with new leaf patterns and colors, as well as new viviparous waterlilies.*

*"This year, 33 new hybrids have been entered in the competition by hybridizers from the U.S., Canada, Thailand, Cyprus and Taiwan. These one-of-a-kind lilies will be on display in the Virtue Peace Pond at Duke Gardens from June through September. Visitors are invited to see these new hybrids up close this summer and to choose their favorites as part of the People's Choice Awards."<sup>1</sup>*

You can also see the competition entries online and even vote for your personal favorites. (See the accompanying article on page 8 for more detail and links to the online voting.)

Better yet, learn about the competition entries first hand from Tamara Kilbane, the horticulturalist who administers the competition at Duke Gardens.

***"Join Tamara on Monday August 30 for a slideshow of this year's stunning new hybrids, as well as a discussion of the methods used to plant, maintain, and photograph each entry for the competition."*<sup>1</sup>**

Tamara's presentation will be from 11:30 – 12:30 in Gates Hall at Denver Botanic Gardens. Joe Tomocik, DBG's Curator of Water Gardens, will introduce Tamara and comment on Lily trials that the Gardens undertakes.

Tamara's program is free with regular admission to the DBG. Why not bring a bag lunch and enjoy the Gardens and the current Moore Exhibit well? For details on Denver Botanic Gardens, visit [www.botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org) or call 720-865-3500.

## About Tamara Kilbane and The IWGS New Waterlily Competition

*“Tamara Kilbane (pictured on the front cover in a photo from her blog) is a horticulturist specializing in aquatic plants at Sarah P. Duke Gardens at Duke University in Durham, NC.*

*“For the past five years, Duke Gardens has served as the growing site for the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society’s New Waterlily Competition. Tamara works with a team of volunteers each spring and summer to grow and maintain the new waterlily hybrids entered in the contest. This year’s 33 entries include 17 hardy waterlilies, 5 tropical night-blooming lilies, and 11 tropical day-bloomers from around the world.”<sup>1</sup>*

To learn more and view photos of the current Competition entries online, visit [www.hr.duke.edu/dukegardens/waterlilies.htm](http://www.hr.duke.edu/dukegardens/waterlilies.htm) and select “Click Here To Vote.” The link brings up the photos and also enables you to vote in the Competition’s “Peoples’ Choice Award.” Also, check out Tamara’s personal blog on water gardening. There’s an active link near the bottom of the page.

**Editor’s Note:**

1. The text in quotes and italics from this article and the one on page 7 are by Tamara Kilbane.

### NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS FOR JULY

**Jim & Tudi Arneill**  
Centennial, CO

**McColley Water Gardens**  
Castle Rock, CO

**New!**

**Lew & Jana Artelli**  
Littleton, CO

**Brenda Parsons-Hier & Peter Hier**  
Golden, CO

**Bill & Janet Bathurst**  
Arvada, CO

**Don & Eileen Pflug**  
Golden, CO

**New!**

**Sandra Ellsworth**  
Boulder, CO

**New!**

**Joe & Gail Pizzi**  
Centennial, CO

**New!**

**Don & Sue Elo**  
Littleton, CO

**Bill Powell & Bruce Polkowsky**  
Denver, CO

**Heidi Frisch & Fran Brodigan**  
Arvada, CO

**New!**

**Roger & Jolane Thomas**  
Newport Beach, CA

**New!**

**Phil & Lisa Larson**  
Golden, CO

**New!**

**Tom & Sherry Trefz**  
Golden, CO

**New!**

**Majestic View Park & Nature Center**  
Arvada, CO

**New!**

**Brad & Jenn Winget**  
Denver, CO

**New!**

**Dorothy Martinez & John Funk**  
Golden, CO

**Thanks & Welcome!**

### LINK TO EVENTS

*A calendar of non-club events of interest to water gardeners*

**August 14 – 15**  
**Aug 28 – 29**

**2010 Water Garden Tour**  
**2010 Parade of Ponds**

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Denver, CO 80220

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City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required for electronic receipt of newsletter, beginning in 2010.  
(note: CWGS does not share or sell email addresses)

Check here if you are also a member of Denver Botanic Gardens

**Membership Fees:**  
**\$15.00 Individual; \$20.00 Family**

**Check one:**

I would like my contact information included in a membership list that will be distributed only to the members.

I do not want my contact information published in the membership list.

**Contact me concerning volunteer opportunities I've checked below:**

DBG Volunteer Sundays \_\_\_\_\_

Water Plants booth DBG May Sale \_\_\_\_\_

Hudson Gardens \_\_\_\_\_

CWGS Plant Sale (June) \_\_\_\_\_

Pond Tour (July) \_\_\_\_\_

Water Blossom Festival (late July) \_\_\_\_\_

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I request to receive a paper copy of the newsletter