Coming in 2007…

May 6: Gen. Meeting
1:30 PM Gates Hall, DBG
Plant Swap and Round Table Discussion on Spring Start-up

June 10: CWGS Annual Plant Sale -- 9 AM to 3 PM Morrison Ctr., DBG

July 14/15: Pond Tour (10 AM to 4 PM) and Picnic (July 14 at 5 PM)
This year, a special two-day “tandem” tour with the Koi Club! CWGS tour in Lakewood and North Littleton. Shared picnic to follow. Koi Club tour on July 15.

Aug. 11: Water Blossom Festival 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM Monet Pond, DBG

Sep. 9: Annual Mtg.& Board Elections
1:30 PM Gates Hall, DBG

Dec. 1: Holiday Banquet: 6 to 9 PM Morrison Ctr., DBG

New Plants for Old:
Plant Swap on Agenda for General Meeting on May 6th.

Gary Blubaugh

Responses to last fall’s Member Survey indicated there’s a desire to have a Plant Swap separate from the June CWGS Plant Sale. In light of this preference, CWGS will hold a Plant Swap at our General Meeting to be held on May 6th at 1:30 pm in Gates Hall at DBG.

Members are asked to bring plants they wish to trade in sealed plastic bags so that spillage will not be a concern. The Plant Swap will allow members to find plants they wish to introduce to their pond in trade for plants they have brought. No money will be exchanged. To avoid creating a mess, it will not be possible to divide plants in Gates Hall. Please do that before arriving.

The Plant Swap is intended to be a fun way to find plants that will enhance your water garden without digging into your pocketbook.

Following the Plant Swap, a round table discussion will enable members to ask questions regarding concerns they have about their water gardens during the spring startup. Topics will include dealing with algae bloom, fish problems, dividing water plants, placing tropicaals in the pond, and introducing new lotus.

These subjects -- plus any additional questions members may have -- can be discussed so everyone feels confident about getting a good start with the 2007 gardening season. See you there!

2007 Lotus Sale
A Great Success

Vicki Aber

Wow!… I think of the beautiful leaves and, hopefully, blooms in the ponds of all the people who bought lotus and it makes me smile.

We had a number of pre-orders and those people got the exact lotus they ordered. We still had a large number of lotus available at the Get Wet Event and were mobbed with

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Eighth Page Ad:
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Large Turnout Enjoys New Pond Ideas at “Get Wet!”

On the eve of this year’s most mispredicted snowstorm, approximately sixty-five water gardening enthusiasts and experts assembled in Gates Hall for a fun and informative evening. After nearly two hours of humor and practical tips on enhancing water features, everyone seemed to leave with a feeling of enjoyment and new ideas to apply at home. Many also left with some outstanding door prizes provided by Keith Funk, and still others took home a brand new lotus to feature in their ponds!

As our keynote speaker, Keith highlighted many new products that would benefit our water features or would be just fun to add! He demonstrated many reasonably priced mechanical and biological filters to improve water clarity. …And he showed several types of fountains and misters -- some with Las Vegas-style lighting that would definitely turn a pond into a show palace for those wanting a colorful, glitzy look.

Other information helped participants to understand indicators to look for and which actions to take in response to this past harsh winter. Special thanks to Cyndie Thomas for all her photographs of plants and fish, as well as knowledge and research on this topic!

Joe Tomocik, Curator of Water Gardens at Denver Botanic Gardens, also provided helpful information. Special thanks to Stan Skinger who demonstrated how to plant and care for lotuses. Another “expert-on-hand” Bob Hoffman handled the questions at our Ask the Experts table and also assisted Stan’s demonstration.

Joe Mascarenas demonstrated how to take great pictures of water features. Joe’s handout sheet contained many helpful tips that were clearly manifest in his incredible photographs. What a great inspiration to encourage us all to get out there and photograph! Although Joe does process some of his photos at home, he uses Costco and other commercial resources for most of his production and even for his over size prints. His results are spectacular and still reasonably inexpensive to produce.

Vicki Aber brought pre-ordered lotuses for pick up. An additional 16 lotuses were...
Welcome New and Returning Members:

Vicki Aber
Arvada, CO

Cara Ablin
Littleton, CO

Bill & Janet Bathurst
Arvada, CO

Gabriella & Mario Bertelmann
Denver, CO

Deanna & Larry Davis
Highlands Ranch, CO

Gail Goldberg
Denver, CO

Nancy Novinger
Hagerty
Englewood, CO

Melba & Jerry Johnston
Lakewood, CO

Georgia Keller
Lakewood, CO

Kiebler (BR&D Landscape, Inc.)
Franktown, CO

Irmal L. Miller
Franktown, CO

Rebecca Nash
Centennial, CO

Bill Powell & Bruce Polkowsky
Denver, CO

Chuck & Mary Purdy
Lafayette, CO

Andrea Sahlen & Dan Fyles
Aurora, CO

Joe Salvati
Castle Rock, CO

Paul Swenby
Longmont, CO

Karen Young
Englewood, CO

Contact me concerning volunteer opportunities I have checked below:

DBG Volunteer Sundays
Hudson Gardens Newsletter
Plant Exchange/Sale (June)
Pond Tour (July)
Water Blossom Festival (Aug.)
Holiday Party (Dec.)

Or...Did you know?

You can now pay your dues online at www.colowatergardensociety.org using PayPal

How YOU can participate in Professor Cranshaw’s study:

Whitney’s study of aquatic insects and water garden ecosystems will continue. If you are interested in volunteering your pond, and perhaps your own involvement in insect collection, contact Cyndie Thomas at 303.755.1885 and via splaash@comcast.net

Features

(Continued from page 3) answer the question “How do you tell the difference between a damselfly and a dragonfly?”

Professor Cranshaw explained that even after a year of careful observation his study remains a work in progress. Fieldwork will continue. Various options are possible for distribution of the data and conclusions. Eventually the results may be published, or a website may be developed.

After Whitney’s presentation, the 60-plus attendees had an opportunity to enjoy refreshments, order lotus plants, and visit with Whitney. (By the way, the lotus plants can be picked up at the upcoming Get Wet Event in Gates Hall - 7 to 9 PM April 11. Lotus plants are still available for purchase, too! See page 10 of this newsletter.)

While a few lucky individuals left with door prizes, everyone walked away with a better appreciation for the role aquatic insects play in a water garden ecosystem.

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Membership Fees: $15.00 Individual; $20.00 Family
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Make checks payable to Colorado Water Garden Society; DO NOT send cash; Check or Money Order only, please. Thank you.

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* Note: Providing your e-mail address authorizes and enables CWGS to send you notifications of interest from time to time. CWGS does not share e-mail addresses with other entities.

Contact Gary@303.989.4464 to Volunteer April 11 at “Get Wet”... TO HELP WITH GET WET