



The Water Garden

Volume 21, Number 3

May 2004

Annual Sale will be held June 6th

The Colorado Water Garden Society's annual fundraiser, its Waterlily and Plant Sale, will be held in the Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens on Sunday, June 6. The Center is located at 11th Avenue and York Street, directly east of DBG.

This is the premier event of the season, with many members holding off on planting until they can check the sale. Over the years, the Sale has brought in hundreds of different types of plants from around the country. This year, the sale will feature a wide range of waterlilies, both hardy and tropical, plants native to Colorado, emergent (bog) plants, floaters and oxygenators, and specialty items.

Plant donations are still being sought from members, and volunteers are needed on Saturday, June 5, to help with plant preparation and setup for Sunday's sale. For more information, or to donate or volunteer, contact Cyndie Thomas, President, at 303-755-1885. See you there!

Annual Waterlily and Plant Sale

Sunday, June 6th
9:30 am Members Only
10:00 am General Public
Denver Botanic Gardens
Morrison Center, 11th & York

Tropical & Hardy
Waterlilies .. Emergent Plants .. Floating Plants
Oxygenating Plants .. Native Plants .. Fertilizer
Critters .. Pots .. and More!

Next Meeting:

Sunday, May 16, 2 pm
Morrison Center, DBG

**Container Water Gardens
and Fountains**

*Official
Journal
of the
Colorado
Water Garden
Society*

Inside: Special Color Supplement

Hardy Plants for the Colorado Water Garden

May 7-8
Denver Botanic Gardens Annual Plant Sale

May 16
CWGS Mtg. - Container Water Gardens and Fountains
Morrison Center., Denver Botanic Gardens, 2 PM

June 6
CWGS Annual Plant Sale,
Morrison Center, Denver Botanic Gardens
(volunteers needed for a wide variety of tasks both days, June 5 and 6 - call 303-755-1885)

July 11
CWGS Annual Pond Tour & Picnic
S.E. Metro Area

August 8
Location/Program TBA

September 12
Location/Program TBA

December 4
CWGS Holiday Party
Morrison Center, Denver Botanic Gardens

Board Meetings are held at 12:00 pm prior to general meetings. Members are welcome to attend.



Colorado Water Garden Society
c/o Newsletter Editor
1023 S. Kittredge Way
Aurora, Colorado 80017

First Class Mail

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President

Cyndie Thomas 303.755.1885

Vice President

Duff Kerr 303.871.0336

Secretary

Bill Powell 303.355.8098

Treasurer

Gail Goldberg 303.329.6624

Programs

Rebecca Nash 303.766.2863

Members-at-Large

"Moe" Belisle 303.744.0745

Lowell Coon 303.427.8532

ad hoc Board Members-at-Large

Chuck Hunt 303.399.9729

Ken Lange 303.393.8410

Newsletter/Membership Database

Michael Thomas 303.755.1885

michael.thomas@comcast.net

Volunteer Coordinator

Lowell Coon 303.427.8532

CWGS June Plant Sale

Cyndie Thomas 303.755.1885

July Pond Tour & Picnic

Kathy Childs 303.221.5407

DBG May Plant & Book Sale

Bob Hoffman 303.978.0124

Carla Littlefield 303.399.7946

Archivist

Mary Mirgon 303.922.9559

Opinions of the authors in this publication are their own. Any products reviewed in this publication are not specifically endorsed by CWGS, nor does the Society accept any liability arising from the contents of this publication. CWGS requests that other organizations and publications wishing to reproduce articles or portions of articles from The Water Garden please contact Michael Thomas, Editor, regarding permission. Reproductions should credit CWGS and the author.

The Water Garden is
the official journal of the
Colorado Water Garden
Society (CWGS)
Copyright © 1983-2004

<http://www.colowatergardensociety.org>

Upcoming Events

--- **Coming in December 2004**....an exclusive CWGS calendar featuring YOUR photographs. The photos that appear in the calendar will be selected by the CWGS Board, and all photos submitted will be put on the CWGS website. Send your pictures in digital format to: michael.thomas@comcast.net

If you don't have a digital camera, we can scan photos and convert them to digital format. All photos become property of CWGS.

--- **Rose Swenby and Cyndie Thomas** will present "Ponds and Water Conservation" on behalf of CWGS at Tagawa Garden Center, 7711 S. Parker Rd., on Saturday, May 22, 1-2:30 p.m. Good tips on conserving water with a pond.



CWGS volunteers were hard at work May 2 trying to get the final plants in the DBG ponds. Everyone felt it was a good learning experience.

MARKET PLACE



Koi Ponds ■ Waterfalls
Water Gardens

John and Terri Rowe
720.318.7414

fax: 303.466.1745

email: waterscape_info@comcast.net

120 Fairplay Ave. Broomfield, CO 80020

Pond Design, Installation
Maintenance & Cleaning ■ Filtration

*Have your pond
and yard listed as
a Backyard Wildlife
Habitat*

www.nwf.org/education

go to: "backyard habitat

wildlife program"

-- POND SERVICE --

Cleaning and maintenance

Repairs and rebuilds

Call 303-660-5015

to schedule a technician

BR&D Landscape, Inc.

www.coloradoparadeofponds.com

WANTED

As you begin to do your spring clean-up, remember the CWGS sale in June. We can use any plants and fish you have decided to dispose of. We will remind you again before the sale, and we can even arrange to pick up your items, if necessary. If possible, all plants should be properly labeled for maximum saleability. For more information, contact Cyndie Thomas, Plant Sale Chair, at 303-755-1885.

MARKET PLACE

CWGS Members - use this space to TRADE or DONATE water garden plants and supplies. Let us know what you have too much of, don't need anymore, or would like to have. We'll put your request in the next issue. **michael.thomas@comcast.net**



Alpine Koi & Homescapes
Water Garden Center

- * Quality Pond Supplies
- * Large Selection of Aquatic Plants
- * Show Quality Japanese Koi * Domestic Koi * Goldfish
- * Pond Maintenance Service
- * Wild Bird Food, Feeders & Houses
- * Wall, Tabletop & Bonsai Fountains
- * Unique Yard Accessories
- * Gift Certificates & MORE !

2715 E. Mulberry (Mulberry & Summit View)
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970-224-3663

* Summer Hours: Mon-Sat 8 am-6 pm Sunday Noon-5 pm

CWGS scores well at Plant Show

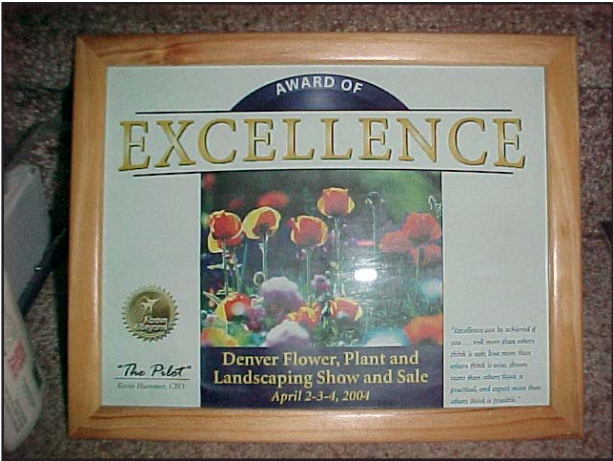
With over 700 booths represented at the recent Denver Flower, Plant and Landscaping Show and Sale at the Colorado Convention Center, CWGS earned one of only 20 Awards of Excellence for its display of container gardens, disappearing fountain, and small back-yard pond with waterfall. Designed and created by CWGS members, it was the largest and most comprehensive display created by the many plant societies in attendance.



The entire project, created by Mike and Cyndie Thomas, Paul and Rose Swenby, Bill Powell, Duff Kerr, Mo Belisle, Bo Lindsey, Chuck Hunt, and Damon Ginnow, took less than five hours to complete, and

even less time to dismantle Sunday evening after the show closed. During the show, the display was inspected and admired by a steady stream of visitors for three full days, and resulted in the largest number of new members ever from such a CWGS outreach effort.

Thanks must go to the many CWGS members who helped answer questions and handed out materials during the show - Marge Oleson, Gail Goldberg, Mary Mirgon, Vicky Aber, Lowell and Laurissa Coon, and Bob and Fran Hoffman. Also, thanks to those who supplied goods and/or materials for the display - APR Landscaping, Best Block, Denver Botanic Gardens, and Rocky Mountain Tree Care.



On the Road Again - CWGS goes to Nick's

The April 29-30 snow was beginning to melt May 1 as Mike and Cyndie Thomas packed the CWGS brochures and portable signs to travel to Nick's Garden Center in Aurora for an open house.

Nick's sponsors the annual event to give customers a chance to talk to the many vendors that supply plants and landscaping materials at the garden center.

Despite the fact the calendar said it is spring, the weekend for the open house has traditionally been one of the worst of the season, with cold temperatures, cold rain, cold wind, or whatever was available over the years.

This year, however, proved to be an exception. The snow stopped late Friday evening, the sun came out Saturday morning and, by the time everything was set up at Nick's, it was warm enough for a light jacket or sweat-shirt, a good day to answer customers' questions about fish, water plants, pond construction, and general gardening topics.



CWGS and the Rocky Mountain Koi Club were the only "societies" invited to the event, and took advantage of the opportunity to share their hobbies with interested customers. Delicious Mexican food was provided for participants, and a Mariachi band played new and traditional music much of the day.

CWGS attends a number of similar events throughout the year, and is always seeking interested members who would be interested

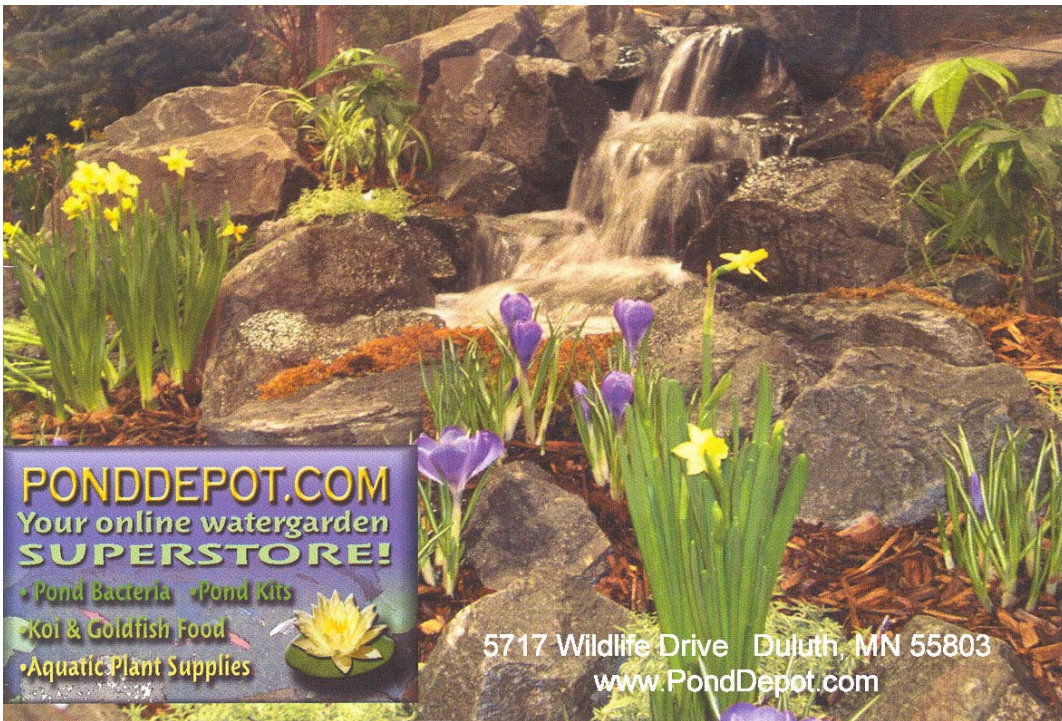
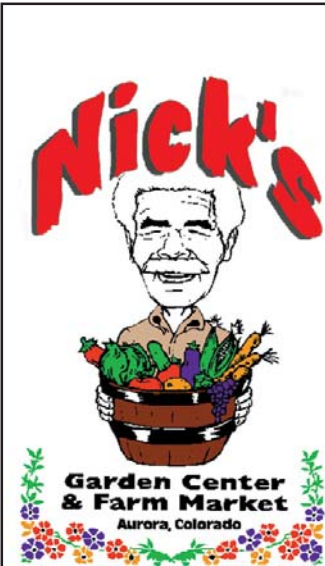
in helping "spread the word" about the benefits of water gardening. Membership in the Society is a soft-sell, and a membership brochure is only given to a person if it appears they are serious about joining or attending such events as the Plant Sale or the Pond Tour. Otherwise, just sharing your knowledge is all that's required. If you think you might like to help, contact Cyndie Thomas, or check the space on your membership application when you renew.

We are a full-service nursery
& garden center.
Come in and look us over!

LINERS • PUMPS • FILTERS • PLANTS
DECHLORINATOR • WATER TEST KITS • MEDICINE
REPAIR KITS • NETS • HEATERS
KOI - GOLDFISH - TADPOLES

Ready to serve you!
Hours: Mon.-Sat. - 8am-6pm
Sun. - 9am-5pm

2201 S. Chambers Rd. (Iliff & Chambers)
303-696-6657



PONDDEPOT.COM
Your online watergarden
SUPERSTORE!
• Pond Bacteria • Pond Kits
• Koi & Goldfish Food
• Aquatic Plant Supplies

5717 Wildlife Drive Duluth, MN 55803
www.PondDepot.com

Nip Censorship in the bud! Make this publication YOURS! I dare you!

Let’s make one thing clear from the start - this newsletter is YOURS! It belongs to the members of CWGS as a means of communication. The web site *dictionary.com* defines communication as:

com·mu·ni·ca·tion *n.*
The act of communicating; transmission. The exchange of thoughts, messages, or information, as by speech, signals, writing, or behavior. Interpersonal rapport. **communications** (*used with a sing. or pl. verb*) The art and technique of using words effectively to impart information or ideas.

That means this publication is a way of exchanging thoughts or information in an effective manner (I hope!) with you, the CWGS member and reader. There are other people who read this newsletter, too, but they’re not the ones it’s being aimed at. Let’s go back to the first sentence in the paragraph above - “...way of exchanging thoughts or information...” and use that as the ONLY viable reason this publication exists. Ah, but there’s the problem - we’re not EXCHANGING; I’m writing some things and editing a few more, but I’m not sharing YOUR thoughts and information with other CWGS members, am I? Let’s be honest here - I could sit and come up with all sorts of things I think are important for you to see and read. There’s a word for that - CENSORSHIP! Censors usually put themselves up as “experts” and the only ones who could possibly know what is “right” for others to learn about. Still being honest, I’m NOT an expert. I do surprise myself with the knowledge I have when I begin talking to someone who is think-

ing about building a pond, but I’m far from an expert. Experts are people like John and Mary Mirgon, one of whom we don’t get to learn from too often anymore due to health problems. Experts are members like Len and Doris, and Lois, and Ellen, and Carla, and Nancy and Lynn, and Bob, and Cyndie, and the other names most of you would easily recognize. We quite possibly are all experts in some aspect of water gardening, and every expert has a story (or stories) to share. How about sharing with us and letting everyone know? If you have an idea for something you’d like to see in this publication, let me have it. If you have an opinion about water gardening, share it. If you have a photo you think others might enjoy, let’s print it. Another example of how you can get involved- we have a calendar project underway right now to collect pictures for a 2005 calendar. Last time I looked, there were 12 months in a year, but I only have two pictures submitted by members so far. I take photographs, Cyndie does, too, as so do most of you. Maybe you’re an expert in water garden photography and don’t even know it. Let the CWGS Board decide if you are or not, but at least give it a try! The only other option is to print two months from the photos we have so far and do the other 10 from pictures Cyndie and I have taken. Do you hear how ludicrous that sounds? All I’m asking from you is a little sharing of thoughts and information - make my job as newsletter editor easier and more fun by sharing your expertise in something, anything, that other members might enjoy and learn from.

Mike Thomas, Editor

Water Garden Society Contacts

EDITOR’S NOTE: *The addresses below that include an asterisk (*) have been recently verified. In the process of updating our courtesy mailing list, we discovered a few changes that need to be corrected. If you have a contact to add, or a correction to make, please send it to me. Thanks. -- Mike Thomas*

Delaware V alley Water Garden Society
J. E. Rabian
207 Chestnut
Newtown Square, PA 19073

Florida West Coast Koi & Water Garden Club
P.O. Box 7554
North Port, FL 34287

Green Country Water Garden Society
Joe Van Hook
16125 E. 460 Road
Claremore, OK 74017-5356

Idaho Water Garden Society
P.O. Box 6060
Boise, ID 83707

*** Internation Waterlily and WaterGarden Society**
Paula Biles
6828 26th St
W Bradenton, FL 34207

Lone Star Koi Club
Dan Robinson
16126 Lafone Drive
Spring, TX 77379

*** Minnesota Water Garden Society**
John Scully
2500 Flag Ave. S
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

North Texas Water Garden Society
P.O. Box 9127
Dallas, TX 75209-9127

*** Pikes Peak Water Garden Society**
2485 Haystack Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80922-1314

*** Royal Horticultural Society**
80 Vincent Square
London SW1 2PE UK

Santa Fe Pond Society
PMB # 286 Alice Ames
223 N. Guadalupe
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Springfield Water Garden Society
Linda Siler
2936 W. Republic Road
Springfield, MO 65807

*** Saint Joseph Area Water Garden Society**
Steve Ayers
4301 Green Acres Road
St. Joseph, MO 64506

*** Wabash Valley Water Garden Society**
Debbie Nelson
806 S 16TH Street
Terre Haute, IN 47807

*** Washington Koi & Water Garden Society**
P.O. Box 148
Bothell WA 98041

*** Water Garden Society of Greater Kansas City**
Ted Tschirhart
4954 Marsh Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64129-2111

*** Water Garden Society of Oklahoma**
Laura Gustafson
1128 Kingsway Avenue
Yukon, Ok 73099

Wisconsin Water Garden Society
Steve DeBaker
8150 River Road
Greenleaf, WI 54126



So, you think you're serious about fish, huh?!?

Serious enough to equip your yard or deck with a 4-foot high chiminea in the shape of a Koi? Just the ticket for those brisk evenings outside, this clay monster goes for the price of only \$170. Smaller replicas (offspring, maybe?) can be used as planters, candle holders, or
Hurry, though, rush over to Nick's Garden Center in Aurora - this is the only one we've seen in town!!



Sleeping on a bed of lilies...

Created in February, 2000 by long-time CWGS member Alice Miller



Renewing Members

John Alden
Aquademic
Janice Barbee
Gabriella & Mario Bertelmann
Ron & Betty Lou Bissonnette
Gary & Julie Bolopue
Ron & Mary Cameron
Steve & Rose Carson
Lowell & Larissa Coon
Larry & Deanna Davis
Gene, Dan & Gail Goldberg
Lynn & Nancy Jewett
Ken Lange
Carolyn Lupe
Dennis Martin
Pam Maxwell
Elaine Menter
Carolyn Norblom
David & Jill Pepper
Tom & Judy Richter
Craig & Millie Russell
Allen & Andrea Schultz
Elliott & Betty Sutta
Diane Thompson
Margaret Toth
Nancy Tucker
James & Obie Waples
Jim & Betty Wibby
Beth Wright

New Members

James Ciarlo
Barry & Toni Fox
Charlotte Knudson
Linda Krueger
Maude Lofton
Eric Martin
Gary May
Katharine Rase
Casey & Hanna Sparks
Eric & Amy Tease
Mark & Nikki Tomlin
Richard & Marie Unger
Darla Wolcott

