

**Time-Sensitive Materials - YOUR Response is Required!!**

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



First Class Mail

**December 4  
CWGS Holiday Party  
Morrison Center, Denver  
Botanic Gardens**

**\$8 per person, \$4 children  
under 10**

**Reservations are required;  
see pre-payment form inside  
this newsletter.**

**Last Name A-L - bring Dessert  
Last Name M-Z - bring Salad**

**Coming in 2005!!  
(All dates tentative)**

- *February-March* - Lotus/  
Hardy Waterlily Orders and  
Pre-Sales
- *March meeting* - Growing  
Your Lotus
- *Early April* - Denver Flower,  
Plant & Landscaping Show &  
Sale at Convention Center
- *Early May* - Metro Area  
Plant Society Weekend at  
Hudson Gardens
- *Mid-June* - Tropical Lily/  
Marginal Plant Exchange and  
Sale (Sale pre-orders in May)
- *Mid-August* - Water Garden  
Spectacular at Denver  
Botanic Gardens
- *Late July* - Annual CWGS  
Pond Tour
- *December* - Holiday Party

**Keep your eyes out  
for this newsletter!!**



# The Water Garden

Volume 21, Number 7 - Special Holiday Edition

November 2004

*"A Recap of CWGS - 2004"  
and Volunteer Recognition  
CWGS Holiday Party  
December 4th  
Morrison Center  
6:00 pm*



Just in time for the holidays...

*Special Water Gardening Gift  
Ideas Inside!!*

Official  
Journal  
of the  
Colorado  
Water Garden  
Society

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<http://www.colowatergardensociety.org>



### Renewing Members

Jerry & Melba Johnston  
John & Arlyn Martens  
Derek & Carol McCracken  
Rich & Melissa Wager

### New Members

Paul Bareis-Golumb  
Earl & Brooke Burba  
Bill & Geneva Clymor  
Nina Ehlers  
Art & Wanda Grell  
Kitaya Lindsay  
Joe & Carla Mascarenas  
Anastasia Sdanowich  
Ron Stevens  
Jon & Melody Wines

### TREASURER'S REPORT

BANK BALANCE

(AS OF NOV. 8, 2004)

\$ 13,506.16



## Features

# Members will vote on annual dues increase this month

CWGS members are receiving this edition of *The Water Garden* for several reasons - to announce the details of the annual holiday party, to offer our members a few unique gift products we are using as a holiday fundraiser, and to gather member input on an important issue - the increase of membership dues for the first time since 1991.

Any special interest group, including CWGS, needs an ongoing source of funding to make it possible to provide the best in educational programs and communicate with its members. We are constantly seeking ways of making money to offset expenses. Hence the annual plant sale, the Expo each spring, plant orders and pre-sales, society and membership outreach at trade shows, and similar events many of you have participated in over the years.

CWGS has gone from good profits to no profit in the past few years as the result of competition from local garden centers and home improvement stores selling water garden plants, forcing dramatic changes in what was always our most successful fundraiser. Once free events for members who brought and shared food, the holiday party and pond tour picnic have become large expenses for CWGS due to health concerns and DBG requirements that prepared foods be catered. Those activities now have nominal fees attached to them. Before the end of the year, DBG intends to charge CWGS a \$250/year society membership fee, another expense we cannot control, despite the hundreds of hours of volunteer time we give each year.

The single constant expense of CWGS is the product you are reading right now, the newsletter. Published seven times a year, with occasional special editions like this one, it is published and mailed to every CWGS member household (approximately 200 each month). It is also sent to another 30 or so garden centers, botanic gardens, growers, and others with an interest in CWGS.

The newsletter has always been considered the main benefit of paid membership, and our sincere goal is to continue that practice. To reduce operating overhead in 2004, CWGS bought its own color printer. We found we could distribute a full-color publication for about the same cost as contracting the old black and white version to a commercial printer (\$1,400-\$1,750 per year, depending on size). Mailing costs remain fairly constant, based on minor fluctuations in membership totals (approximately \$600 per year), and usually only vary greatly when postage rates change, as they have at least three times since member dues were last increased.

A successful vote on the dues increase will allow us to continue to take steps to restructure our programs for members, and their related expenses. As our future financial needs change, the CWGS Board is committed to making CWGS activities self-supporting, to the extent possible. You, as a member of CWGS, should expect nothing less.

Thank you,

**Michael Thomas**

Board Member-at-Large/Newsletter Editor

## CWGS activities for '05 offer several changes from the past

The CWGS Board of Directors met early in November to determine activities for the Society in 2005. Responding to member input over the past few years, variances from meetings the second Sunday of the Month mark the new year. Major changes in what are considered "traditional" activities of CWGS are also evident in the new schedule. Preliminary plans at this writing include:

### **Sunday, March 13, Morrison Center, Denver Botanic Gardens - "Growing Lotus"**

Tentative plans include a presentation by several CWGS members who have successfully grown lotus to bloom, followed by an open forum comparing other members' experiences. A lotus and hardy waterlily pre-sale will take place about the same time, with plants to be available for pick up in late April.

### **Friday-Sunday, April 1-3, Colorado Convention Center - "Denver Flower, Plant and Landscaping Show and Sale"**

For the second year, CWGS will participate in this large show, drawing builders, designers and landscapers from around the region. A water garden display will be built, and CWGS members will be available to answer questions and offer advice throughout the weekend.

### **Saturday-Sunday, April 23-24, Hudson Gardens, Littleton**

Plant societies from the metro area will join together for two days, offering a series of special seminars and guest speakers, a gardening-related craft show, and informational exhibits. Pre-orders for tropical lilies and hardy marginal plants will also be

done through the newsletter this month, with delivery scheduled in mid-May and also mid-June.

### **Sunday, May 15, Waring House, Denver Botanic Gardens - Program TBA**

### **Saturday, June 11 or 18, Location TBA - Tropical and Marginal Plants, Fish, Garden Crafts, and More - Sale & Trade**

Presenting a drastic departure from previous Plant Sales, most plants will be available on a pre-order basis only, or will be provided by CWGS members. During 2004 especially, CWGS experienced the hard way exactly how much competition there is providing water plants through big-box home improvement stores and local garden centers.

### **Sunday, July 31, CWGS Pond Tour, locations TBA**

Note the change of date from mid-July to late in the month. Heat earlier in July, the potential for bad storms in June and July, family summer vacations, and the general condition of water gardens during this time prompted moving the tour back about two weeks. Gardens are expected to be in better overall condition at this time, and the weather is not expected to be as much of an issue.

### **Sunday, August 21, Water Garden Spectacular, Denver Botanic Gardens**

Returning for its second year, the Spectacular offers the best view of the year of the water gardens at DBG as summer begins to wind down.

### **Sunday, September 11, Program TBA**

### **Saturday, December 3, Holiday Party**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, all items will be shipped to you in time for holiday gifting. We will notify you if any problems arise.

If you overpay, we will include a refund for overpayment with your shipment.

This is a fund-raising activity for CWGS. We sincerely thank you for your purchases and your support.

If you would like to vote anonymously on the Dues Increase issue, detach this upper section of the page from the rest and mail the lower section to the address on the reverse side.

YES, I agree that an increase in CWGS dues is necessary at this time. I understand the dues will be increased (effective January 2005) from \$10 to \$15 for individual members, and from \$15 to \$20 for a family membership.

NO, I am not in favor of an increase in CWGS dues at this time.

NOTE: NOT voting on the issue of a dues increase demonstrates your ACCEPTANCE of the increase.

*For the holidays: Water Gardening Gift Ideas*



**Water Gardening 2005**  
Colorado Water Garden Society

**CWGS WALL CALENDAR/  
POCKET CALENDAR COMBO**  
\$15.00 + \$1.50 S/H

Make your selections on the order form in this issue.



**T-SHIRT  
OR TOTE BAG  
\$19.00 EA.  
+ \$5.00 S/H**

Shirts are made of 100% pre-shrunk cotton

Bag dimensions are 18" x 15".

Make your selections on the order form in this issue.

**Return to: CWGS, 1023 S. Kittredge Way,  
Aurora, CO 80017**

**1**

- YES, I (we) will be attending the CWGS Holiday Party on December 4th. I am enclosing \$\_\_\_\_\_ payment (check or money order) for: \_\_\_\_\_ adults at \$8.00 each and \_\_\_\_\_ children under 10 at \$4.00 each.
- NO, I (we) will not be attending the holiday party.

**2**

I would like to purchase the following items:

- \_\_\_\_\_ (qty) CWGS 2005 Wall/Pocket Calendar sets \$15.00 per set + \$1.50 Shipping/Handling per set
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pond and Fish T-Shirt - \$19.00 each + \$5.00 S/H first item, \$2.50 S/H each additional item Indicate size(s) and quantity(ies) below:
- Small \_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_ Large \_\_\_ X-large \_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ (qty) Pond and Fish Carryall - \$19.00 each + \$5.00 S/H first item, \$2.50 S/H each additional item
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Payment enclosed (check or money order)

If you are ordering any of the gift items above, please complete the information on the reverse side before you mail it back to us.

If you would like to vote anonymously on the Dues Increase issue, detach this lower section of the page from the rest and mail it separately to the address above.

**NOTE: NOT voting on the issue of a dues increase demonstrates your ACCEPTANCE of the increase.**