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www.colowatergardensociety.org



The Holidays Begin December 7...

**...with the CWGS banquet and
volunteer recognition.**

by Janet Bathurst

Start the season by attending the CWGS holiday party! This year our annual holiday banquet will be held at the Arvada Church of Christ (ACC) on Monday, December 7th. The ACC is located at 6757 Simms St, Arvada, CO. It's a great location, with both a dining area and a cozy fireside room perfect for a holiday get-together.

This will be a fun evening! The party starts at 6:00 pm. You'll have time to socialize with good friends and meet people interested in water gardening. It is always entertaining to hear and to tell stories about the adventures of the past year.

Dinner will be served around 6:30. After dinner there will be some announcements, introduction of board members, and recognition of volunteers.

The main event of the evening is the annual white elephant gift exchange. Since this is the Water Garden Society, the gifts should have some water gardening theme. Be creative! Your gift can be serious or silly – anything that adds to the fun of the evening. Gifts should be wrapped and worth no more than \$10.00. If you forget to bring a gift but still want to participate in the exchange, there will be some wrapped gifts for sale at the party.

Please bring your favorite side dish to share. CWGS is providing the main dish, dessert, and drinks, free of charge!

Come and enjoy good food, good friends, and a fun time for all.

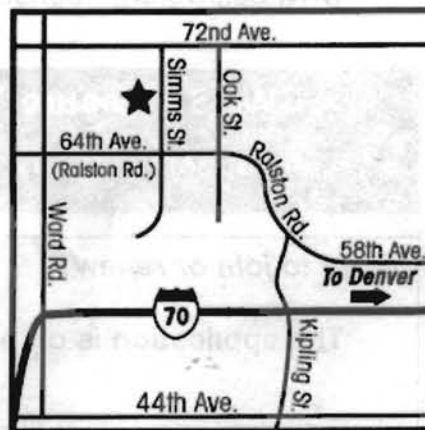
If you have any questions please call Janet Bathurst at (303) 421-1144, April Hough at (303) 499-6578 or Dorothy Martinez at (303) 279-3137.

**CWGS Holiday Party
Monday, December 7
6:00 pm**

**Arvada Church of Christ
6757 Simms St.
Arvada, CO**

It's Free!

*CWGS provides the main dish,
dessert, and drinks! You bring
a side dish to share.*



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Vice President	
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Jim Wohlenhaus	303.429.9119
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Brenda Parsons Hier	303.278.2106
Peter Hier	303.278.2106
Marge Oleson	303.989.4809
Jim Arneill	303.843.9619
Bill Powell	303.355.8098
Michael Weber	303.322.6769
Lynn Jewett	303.671.7964
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137

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The Water Garden is published eight times a year and is made available to current members both in printed form and online. Past volumes of The Water Garden are archived online at:

www.colowatergardensociety.org

CWGS Treasurer's Report:

As of Sept. 30 - \$12, 453.83

Need to join or renew?

The application is on page 9

2009 Committee and Event Chairs:

Newsletter Editor	
Bill Powell	303.355.8098
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Gary and Joyce Blubaugh	303.989.4464
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Get Wet Event	
Jim Arneill	303.834.9619
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Michael Weber	303.322.6769
Jonathan Hough	303.499.6578
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Holiday Banquet	
April Hough	303.499.6578
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Bill Bathurst	303.421.1144
Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144
DBG Plant Sale & Volunteers	
Bill Powell	303.355.8098
Marge Oleson	303.989.4809

Changes are underway regarding your future receipt of...

TheWaterGarden:

In 2010 we will be switching to largely electronic delivery. Please read Bill Bathurst's article on page 5 of this issue. Bill explains the choice and response that you need to make in order to receive the newsletter in the form you prefer.

Thanks,
Bill Powell, Newsletter Editor.

From the President...

It's hard to believe, but the year is almost over. Our next meeting will be the holiday party. I hope everyone can come. It is always a fun time, good food, and lots of laughs with the gift exchange. See Janet Bathurst's front-page article for details.

Going into the new year we welcome four new members to our Board of Trustees. The begging paid off in that we did get a volunteer to take over the Treasurer's position! Jim Wohlenhaus joined us and brings a lot of expertise in this area. We are very pleased to have him. Dorothy Martinez was a big help at the plant sale. Dorothy had so much fun that she decided she wanted to be part of the inner circle. Anyone who has been to any club event this summer has probably met Brenda Parsons-Hier and Peter Hier. They were very active in the club this year and have also joined us on the Board. Welcome to all.

With the happiness of adding new Board members we are equally sad to see three long time Trustees leave. Ken Lange and April and Jonathon Hough will be departing the Board but promise to stay active in the club. We thank these folks for their service.

I think we had a pretty good year. It was full of challenges. Weather, of course, played a big part in most of our gardening lives this year. With Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG) being mostly unavailable to us because of construction, we also had the challenge of finding another location for programs. Our temporary home at the Arvada Church of Christ was a very nice space and suited our needs well. Unfortunately, some of our members from further south had a bit of a time getting to it.

We will not be able to have regular meetings at DBG this coming year, either. Construction continues. In

fact, DBG is building a dedicated space in which associated Societies, including CWGS, will be able to meet. Unfortunately, the Plant Society Building won't be completed until late in 2010. There /S good news: despite construction, we will be able to have our plant sale at DBG this year! It's tentatively scheduled for Sunday, June 6th.

We've found a more central location for our evening program meetings in 2010. We are in the final stages of reserving space, and I think Members will be very pleased with both the location and the accommodations.

Many people really liked this season's pre-program potlucks and enjoyed the social time that came with the innovation. Others struggled just to get there by 6:00 pm. We will be keeping the same format for next year. Keep in mind that the potluck is optional and you're welcome to come for the meeting at 7:00.

About half of our meeting and events will be in the evening and the others, Sunday afternoons. This year's two waterside meetings were very popular, and we plan to continue those for 2010. Think about it...perhaps you would like to host a waterside meeting at your place?

We will be finalizing plans for 2010 in January. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact me, or any member of the Board. Better yet, come to the Christmas party and chat with us in person!

See you on December 7.

Vicki Aber

CWGS President

NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS Sept./Oct./Nov.

David & Cindy Becklund
Littleton, CO

Lannie Hagan
Westminster, CO

Chuck Hunt (NEW, again!)
Denver, CO

Joyce Bickel
Englewood, CO

Rocky Mountain Waterscape
Erie, CO

Martha Miller & Joel Waszak
Louisville, CO

Bob & Terry Curtis
Centennial, CO

Fred & Dona Hollendorfer
Wheat Ridge, CO

Patricia Taylor (NEW)
Arvada, CO

Thanks...and welcome!

Two Gems in a Pond

Waterlilies at Berkeley Lake

by Joseph V. Tomocik
Associate Director and Curator, Water Gardens
Denver Botanic Gardens



The 'Two Gems' of Berkeley Lake are 'Bea Taplin' and 'Denver's Delight.'

The white flowering N. 'Bea Taplin' is pictured above.

The pink N. 'Denver's Delight' is shown below (rear right in the group of three lilies.)



'Denver's Delight', 'Colorado' (left) and 'Joey Tomocik' (center) are part of DBG's 'Rocky Mountain Legacy Collection.'

Photos by Joe Tomocik, courtesy of DBG website.

For over five decades two special waterlilies have reappeared each summer at Denver's Berkeley Lake. A lovely and extremely hardy pink variety and an equally impressive white variety have weathered the coldest winters and hottest summers, to the joy of a multitude of hikers, bicyclists and joggers.

In 1996 Denver Botanic Gardens brought the Berkeley Lake waterlilies to the Gardens for evaluation.

Close observations have confirmed that the Berkeley Lake waterlilies are indeed historical (we are not sure how the waterlilies got into Berkeley Lake), persistent, robust and beautiful.

At the Gardens' 2001 Fete-des-Fleurs social, Carol Purdy was awarded naming rights to the pink Berkeley Lake waterlily. Carol named it *Nymphaea* 'Denver's Delight' and it has sure lived up to that name, flowering magnificently each year in the Gardens' storied ponds.

The Berkeley Lake waterlilies are the first to develop and flower each June, opening at 8:00 A.M. and closing in mid-afternoon. They proceed to flower abundantly well into September, garnering high praise from our many visitors.

Considering their resilience, it is not surprising that the Berkeley Lake waterlilies have proven to be excellent for naturalizing in ponds. Healthy and impressive colonies now exist at Hudson Gardens in Littleton, Colorado and at Fox Hollow and Homestead Golf Courses in Lakewood, Colorado.

The white Berkeley Lake waterlily had gone unnamed as we patiently waited for the right time and occasion, but in July of this year it was named *Nymphaea* 'Bea Taplin' in honor of a cherished long-time supporter of the Gardens. The white variety is in every way as remarkable as its sister waterlily, the pink N. 'Denver's Delight' (Tomocik, Denver Botanic Gardens). Its stately flowers are a pristine pearly white with a diameter of six inches, a touch larger than N. 'Denver's Delight'!

They will forever, along with our eight highly-acclaimed signature waterlilies (Rocky Mountain Legacy Collection), grace the pools at Denver Botanic Gardens.

(Editor's note: The naming of the white Berkeley lake waterlily was covered in the last issue of "The WaterGarden" September/October. Naming of a cultivar is part, but not all, that's involved in the registration of a new lily. For a better understanding of the whole process, read "A Lily By Any Other Name" on page 7 in this issue.)

Going Green **The WaterGarden switches to electronic delivery**

by Bill Bathurst

As many of you have noticed, we have changed our newsletter format. Bill Powell has worked hard to modify the layout to make it compatible with our web site and more readable when posted online.

Recent issues of The WaterGarden have been sent both by U.S. mail and electronically to Members for whom we have current email addresses. From all that we have heard, electronic delivery of the link to the current newsletter has been well received. There have been few problems reported.

Early in 2010 we will be switching primarily to electronic delivery of the newsletter UNLESS we are informed that you prefer a printed paper version.

We are now close to accomplishing our goal of electronic delivery of The WaterGarden. We just need your current email address, contact information, and preference for delivery. Please be assured that we do not sell, trade, or reveal your

email address (or street address) to third parties. We will only use your email address to link you to the club's newsletter and to send you timely reminders about the club's activities throughout the year.

Look for a postcard with the first newsletter of 2010 (March). Fill out and return the card with your preference - digital verses paper copy - and pertinent contact information for your selected form of delivery. We will also provide an email link through which you can respond electronically instead of using the postcard.

We know that many of you are unable to receive a digital newsletter or would, simply, prefer a "hard copy." That's not a problem. We are happy to continue sending printed copies of The WaterGarden to Members who prefer it that way. But, we hope to save a lot of paper, postage and trees over the coming years by switching to a mostly digital newsletter.

If you have any questions or comments regarding CWGS' move to green publishing, feel free to email me at Bill.Bathurst@colowatergardensociety.org or call me at 720 635-2423. And be sure to look for, and respond to, the preference card coming out next March.

Thanks to our many volunteers...

CWGS could not operate without your help. This year our volunteers raised about \$2,000 through our annual plant sale. The money is used to support our programs, but the plant sale volunteers also helped to accomplish important Club goals through the education and access to unusual aquatic species that the sale made possible.

CWGS-sponsored volunteers form the core of two other important programs - Sunday Volunteer sessions and the operation of the Aquatics Division at Denver Botanic Gardens' May Plant Sale. DBG's May sale Aquatics Division raised over \$2,300 this year. As with the CWGS sale, proceeds were down in 2009 because of the economy; enthusiasm

was not. DBG sale attendance and volunteer numbers set an all-time high for the event.

During the ten spring and fall volunteer sessions sponsored by our club at the Gardens, dozens of CWGS members gave almost 1,700 hours helping to propagate and maintain DBG's water gardens and also helping with the May sale. And, of course, many of you have volunteered additional time with the programs and general operations of CWGS.

We'll recognize the contributions of volunteers at our December holiday party. Please join us to celebrate the season and the exceptional volunteer spirit of our members.



Photo by Bill Bathurst

Good advice follows a good meal

by Bill Powell

September's program on "Fall Cleaning And Winterization" attracted both new and seasoned pond keepers. BR&D Landscape's Bud and Debbi Kiebler shared their years of experience as avid water gardeners. The Kieblers, long-time members of CWGS, have five ponds of their own and have also operated their business for fifteen years. It specializes in pond construction and maintenance.

Following another of the club's tasty pot-luck dinners, Bud and Debbi's slide presentation focused on tips for care of water plants during the fall and winter months. The Kieblers also explained the role that fall pond maintenance plays in preserving water quality and the health of fish.

Good water quality isn't merely desirable for visual reasons. If your pond develops brown water in fall it's the result of vegetative decomposition that can threaten the health of your pond during the winter and beyond.

Fallen leaves discolor pond water with tannins. The brown color, however unattractive, is not a problem, but its presence is a harbinger of a process that can rob water of oxygen and contribute to the build-up of noxious gases once ice forms across your pond. Gasses trapped below the ice can smother fish during their winter hibernation. Winter build-up of decayed leaves also contributes to algae bloom next spring.

Should you operate your pond pump in winter? The effect of running water along a frozen stream can be

beautiful as well as functional but there are tradeoffs. The Kieblers feel winter pump operation is the owner's choice, but pondkeepers with any fish – and particularly those who have Koi – should maintain a breathing hole to allow for the exchange of gasses within the pond.

You can maintain gas exchange through continuous operation of your pond pump. However, the Kieblers have also had success using energy efficient bubblers and air pumps to encourage exchange. Bud and Debbi haven't felt the need for floating devices in our climate, but that's an option as well.

By the time this newsletter is received in late November, we may already have some winter ice cover on our ponds. Pond cleaning may be more difficult, but the effort is still worthwhile if ice clears sufficiently to allow access to your water. The accompanying box includes some of the Kiebler's recommendations that can still be addressed before winter descends in earnest.

And thanks, Bud and Debbi, for your thoughtful presentation!

Some of Bud & Debbi Kiebler's tips for fall and winter pond maintenance:

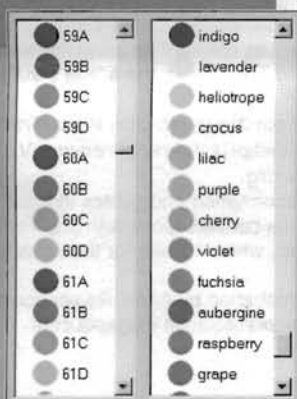
1. *Clean your pond of fallen leaves and trim foliage from hardy marginals. If you have pond marginals or terrestrial pondside plants that you want to leave standing for winter beauty or as a wind foil, be aware that winter winds and snow can topple standing vegetation into the water where it may freeze over, trapping it until the thaw. Still...it's sometimes worth the risk.*
2. *Lower the crowns of hardy waterlilies and lotus below the level of pond ice. If their crowns freeze, the plants will die.*
3. *Position air pump stones and the outlet ports of bubblers in the upper third of your pond so as to preserve the temperature stratification within the water. Placing such equipment in the bottom of the pond will introduce cold air and unnecessarily lower the temperature of the water column.*
4. *If you do choose to run your pump, you'll need to run it continuously to avoid freezing, and keep a sharp eye at the level of your pond. The beautiful ice sculptures that the running water creates may divert flow outside of your stream, lowering your pond's water level with disastrous consequences.*
5. *If you were able to save some of your tropicals by moving them indoors, check for explosive growth of mealybug, mites, aphids, and whiteflies. Infestations can usually be controlled with soap and water or dilute alcohol.*

A lily by any other name...

About naming and registration of waterlilies

by Bill Powell

© Annie Reiser



Botanical Illustrations, like this one of *N. 'Bea Taplin'* by Annie Reiser are part of the exhibits commonly used to support registration.⁴

Color charts produced by the Royal Horticultural Society (sample above) may also be consulted to differentiate leaf and blossom color.

When a new cultivar is hybridized or found (as was the case with plants discovered in nearby Berkeley Lake; see Joe Tomocik's companion article on page 4), assuming that the plant shows distinct and valuable traits, the cultivar may eventually be recognized as unique. Recognition may entail naming and registration. This sequence usually involves a number of steps, venues, and people in order for it to be accomplished successfully. The process can take a number of years.

In the case of *Nymphaea 'Denver's Delight'*, the pink variant of the lilies found in Berkeley Lake, naming and registration played out over eight years. The plants were first collected in 1996 and moved to Denver Botanic Gardens for initial study and cultivation through a number of seasons. When it was determined that the plants constituted at least one unrecognized cultivar with valuable traits, the process of naming and subsequent registration began.

In 2001 DBG's honored volunteer "Carol Purdy selected a specific pink cultivar from the Berkeley Lake collection which she [named] *Nymphaea 'Denver's Delight'*... Nancy Styler, along with DBG's Horticultural interns and staff donated their time, energy, and skills in collecting and preparing the herbarium specimens to be used in registering the plant. The IWGS *Nymphaea* Registrar Andrew Doran [oversaw] the registration."

"Susan Fisher of the School of Botanical Illustration at DBG...created an outstanding scientific and artistic botanical illustration. Archival giclée print reproductions of the illustration [were] included as part of the Registration Voucher [and are] maintained both by the IWGS (at the Torrey Herbarium at the University of Connecticut) and here at DBG in the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium."¹

Registration of *N. 'Denver's Delight'* was completed in 2004. Joe Tomocik, Curator of Water Gardens at DBG, is hopeful that a second, white Berkeley Lake variant named *N. 'Bea Taplin'* will complete the registration process in 2010.

A number of steps are customarily followed in producing a registration that is generally accepted by experts, but there is no one single route to successful registration. At least two organizations – the International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society (IWGS) and Water Gardeners' International (WGI) – will help to oversee the registration process; it's possible, though, for an individual to pursue registration on one's own.

Kit Knotts of WGI observes, "When you have a new and wonderful waterlily and consider naming and registering it, the first thing you have to determine is that you do indeed have a new cultivar. There are a number of criteria that need to be met, the most important of which are 'Is it really different' and 'Do I have a number of plants that are uniform and stable in their characteristics?'"²

(continued on page 8)

A Lily By Any Other Name (continued from page 7)

Because no single certifying entity exists to vouch for the uniqueness of a candidate plant, careful observation, cultivation through multiple seasons, propagation, and scholarly recordation are necessary for a registration to be widely accepted by the waterlily-growing community.

Exhibits provided in a registration vary, but generally include a description of distinct traits and comparisons with certain standards. Blossom and leaf size are recorded, of course, as are other identifying traits of plant size, shape, and habit. More abstract traits like color may be quantified by comparison with commonly accepted standards. For example, color charts produced by the Royal Horticultural Society may be consulted to differentiate leaf and blossom color. Botanical illustrations, photographs, and dried samples may also be included in the final registration, which is usually replicated in two different herbaria locations.

Nancy Styler, who assisted with the registration of 'Denver's Delight' and who is pursuing registration for two hybrids honoring William McLane and CWGS member Stan Skinger, explains that provision of dried herbarium specimens is particularly important to the credentials of a potential register. Genetic material in the specimen provides a basis for future scientific comparison and, perhaps eventually, for definitive genetic testing.

Nancy points out that it's important to have propagated a number of plants prior to pursuing registration. Production of multiple plants helps to

demonstrate that a new cultivar will remain uniform and stable in its attributes and appearance under propagation. Joe Tomocik agrees. He also points out that certain naming guidelines are generally followed for reasons of clarity. "Over-flowery language is frowned upon."

Disagreements over registrations do sometimes occur. Occasionally the community of hybridizers and scholars may question the uniqueness of a registered cultivar or the avenue that was followed in declaring registration complete. Joe notes that disagreement is part of a healthy process that allows for reasonable discussion of a registered plant's merits and the appropriateness of procedures that were followed. Until such time that genetic tests and comprehensive genetic databases are achieved, peer review of carefully prepared registrations remains the best assurance of a plant's unique status.

References:

1. Quotations from "Denver's Lily Of The Lake", published in the Spring 2004 Water Garden Journal of the International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society. The 2004 article was credited as using information from Joe Tomocik and Trey Styler; the article's author was not identified.
2. Quotation from biography on Piers Trehane by Kit Knots via Victoria Adventure www.Victoria-adventure.org.
3. Additional information and quotes in this article were obtained from conversations with Joe Tomocik and Nancy Styler, whom I thank for their contribution and interest.
4. Botanical illustration by Annie Reiser courtesy of www.botanicalillustration.blogspot.com

An offer you can't resist:

***Are you thinking of constructing a new pond or bog for the coming season?
Why not recycle and repurpose a...***

used hot tub shell. It's Free!

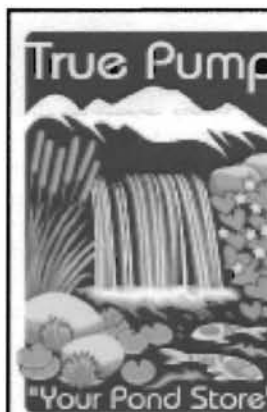
The unit no longer works, but it could be repurposed as a submerged water garden or pond. It's water tight if properly plumbed to account for the jets and drain. Maybe you could use the openings to your advantage?! The pale blue fiberglass shell is 5 ft x 6.5 ft and 2.5 ft deep. I live in Boulder. If interested, contact:

Andy Edmondson
303 443-9253
andyedmond@comcast.net



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**For Information, contact
 Bill Powell**

**(303) 355-8098 or by email
wbpow@comcast.net**

Membership Application

Make checks payable to:
 Colorado Water Garden Society

Return this form with your payment to:
 CWGS Membership
 100 Glencoe St.
 Denver, CO 80220

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

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/Aug.) _____

THIS YEAR

A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

Dec. 7: Holiday Banquet

6 to 8:30 PM, Arvada Church of Christ, Arvada



Colorado Water Garden Society



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

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