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Monet Pond, Denver Botanic Gardens – Site of the 2013 IWGS New
Water Lily Competition, (photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)

Thirty Years in the Water and Coming
into Full Bloom…

by Bill Powell

Despite the welcome relief of monsoon clouds, this season’s
late July heat has brought hardy water lilies to peak bloom.
Now the tropical lilies are beginning to flourish – just in time for
the annual Water Blossom Festival at Denver Botanic Gardens.
Beginning at 10:00 am Saturday, August 10th, CWGS’ tents will
be unfurled in celebration of the historic links between the
Gardens and the Club.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Colorado Water
Garden Society. In 1983 volunteers working with Joe Tomocik,
the Curator of Water Gardens at DBG, had the idea to form a
water gardening club and have it recognized by the Royal
Horticultural Society at Kew Gardens. Founding members John
and Mary Mirgon contacted Kew expecting to be added to a list
of water gardening clubs around the world. They learned
instead that there were none; at least no gardening clubs
existed at that time with the specific purpose of water gardening.
Therefore, they created the first.

(continued on page 3)
2013 Board of Directors:

President
Bob Hoffman 303.978.0124

Vice President
Vicki Aber 303.423.9216

Secretary
Dorothy Martinez 303.279.3137

Treasurer
Jim Wohlenhaus 303.429.9119

Members-At-Large
Lynn Jewett (MAL1) 303.671.7964
Jim Arneill (MAL2) 303.843.9619
Ben Coleman (MAL3) 303.772.7220
Bill Powell (MAL4) 303.355.8098
Brenda Parsons-Hier (MAL5) 303.278.2106
Janet Bathurst (MAL6) 303.421.1144
Peter Hier (MAL7) 303.278.2106
Bill Bathurst (MAL8) 303.421.1144
Fran Hoffman (MAL9) 303.978.0124

2013 Committee and Event Chairs:

Newsletter Editor
Dorothy Martinez 303.279.3137

Membership
Ken Lange 303.393.8410
Dorothy Martinez 303.279.3137

Publicity & Outreach
Jim Arneill 303.843.9619
Brenda Parsons-Hier 303.278.2106

Get Wet Event
Jim Arneill 303.843.9619

CWGS June Plant Sale
Vicki Aber 303.423.9216
Janet Bathurst 303.421.1144
Brenda Parsons-Hier 303.278.2106
Bob Hoffman 303.978.0124
Fran Hoffman 303.978.0124
Dorothy Martinez 303.279.3137

Pond Tour / Picnic
Bob Hoffman 303.978.0124
Fran Hoffman 303.978.0124
Dorothy Martinez 303.279.3137

Water Blossom Festival
Bill Powell 303.355.8098
Jim Arneill 303.843.9619

Holiday Banquet
Fran Hoffman 303.978-0124
Dorothy Martinez 303.279.3137
Sandi Berenbaum 303.322.6769

WebPage / Archives
Dorothy Martinez 303.279.3137
Bill Bathurst 303.421.1144
Janet Bathurst 303.421.1144

DBG Plant Sale & Volunteers
Bob Hoffman 303-978-0124
Bill Powell 303.355.8098
Brenda Parsons-Hier 303.278.2106

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www.colowatergardensociety.org

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dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org.
These early CWGS members broke other ground as well. Denver’s arid climate and short, relatively cool summers were – and still remain – a challenge to water gardening. Club members, DBG staff, and many volunteers pioneered propagation techniques still in use today. They have continued their historic cooperation for 30 years. Over three decades this partnership has transformed the Gardens’ extensive waterways from bare reflecting pools to today’s lush display of aquatic plants. It’s also fostered a growing interest in water gardening throughout the front range.

This anniversary season’s efforts at DBG include an extensive display of hardy and tropical water lilies as well as blooming marginals. And once again, the Gardens are hosting the New Water Lily Competition that’s undertaken annually by IWGS, the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society. Tamara Kilbane, the Horticulturist at the Denver Botanic Gardens in charge of aquatics, directs the competition and will be on hand during the Festival to give insight to the purpose, procedures, and diverse entries of the trials. In addition to hardy and tropical water lilies, the competition includes exotic inter-subgeneric hybrids that represent the cutting edge of water lily propagation. Tamara will explain the hybridization process poolside during a guided tour to be given by Club member and DBG docent Jim Arneill.

The Festival will operate from the Monet Garden from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. Look for the Club’s tents just West of the concessions’ area at the South end of the Monet Garden pond. Jim will conduct two tours of the Gardens beginning at 10:20 am and again at 11:30 am. Club members Brenda Parsons-Hier and Peter Hier will offer demonstrations on plant division and propagation. We will have numerous choice plants to give away, and there will be plenty of expertise available under the tents. Of special interest in this anniversary year: longtime DBG Aquatics Curator Joe Tomocik will be on hand to share Club history and memorabilia.

When you see these colorful aquatic displays, you’ll be tempted to take photos. If you have questions about the best way to capture the illusive beauty of water plants and water, Club member Joe Mascarenas will be happy to give tips on adjusting your camera settings to achieve various effects. His audio-visual presentation on aquatic photography at 1:00 pm in the DBG Plant Society Building will conclude the Festival. We’ll also offer light refreshments and have a few announcements about Club activities for the remainder of the year.

Admissions to the Festival activities are free with paid admission to Denver Botanic Gardens. Parking is available in the parking garage off York and Josephine Streets immediately to the East of the Gardens’ entrance. For additional information, contact Bill Powell at 303 355-8098.
A Wonderful 2013 CWGS and Rocky Mountain Koi Club Pond Tour & Picnic

by Bob Hoffman

There are many people to thank, so I will start with the Pond Tour hosts who opened their ponds for the Tour. Thank You!

Second, I want to thank Hudson Gardens for hosting the Picnic. Hudson Gardens supplied the indoor venue with air conditioning and provided all the drinks free of charge. Thank You!

Third, I want to thank Dorothy Martinez and Fran Hoffman for setting up the venue, providing what we thought would be plenty to eat, going out to buy more food, and then cleaning-up the venue after the Picnic. I also want to thank Dorothy for providing directions to each pond and making sure pond hosts were happy with their responsibilities. Thanks to both of you!

Fourth, I want to thank the Rocky Mountain Koi Club for being a part of this year’s event. I know many of you enjoyed the Tour and attended the Picnic.

Fifth, thanks to the Colorado Water Garden Society members who attended the Tour and the Picnic.

Sixth, I want to give a shout out to Vicky Aber for providing all the giveaway plants at the Picnic.

As Club President and a volunteer at Hudson Gardens, I want to thank Dorothy, Jackie Writz, and Ericka Ezell for making the Hudson Gardens’ water gardens so special. I hope everyone enjoyed this year's Pond Tour. I sure did! Thank you and we hope to see you again next year!

Leaf Casting Class/Seminar

by Dorothy Martinez & Theresa Rounds

The Colorado Water Garden Society will be hosting a Leaf Casting Class/Seminar on two consecutive Saturdays during August. What is leaf casting? This art form is where you make an impression of an actual living leaf in a permanent media such as concrete.

The concrete leaves are a fun way to add sculpture to your garden or house. The leaf impressions will be made out of a portland cement mixture. The leaf casts need about a week to dry and cure before they are revealed. The casts can be painted with acrylic paint after they cure. After curing, the casts are sealed with a concrete sealer, allowing the cast to be placed outside in the garden or inside your house.

(continued on page 5)
Leaf Casting Class/Seminar

The first class, to be held on Saturday, August 17th from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, will be when we make a cast of an actual leaf. The second class, to be held on Saturday, August 24th from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, will be when the casts are revealed by peeling the leaf back and cleaning the concrete cast. The group can decide if they want to gather for a third session to paint the leaves together.

Space for this class/seminar is limited to a maximum of 15 people. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dorothy Martinez at 303-279-3137 as soon as possible. The fee to cover the instructor’s (Theresa Rounds) time and the cost for materials will be $60 per person. The class fee will be due no later than Friday, August 9th. Please make all checks payable to “Colorado Water Garden Society” and mail them to Dorothy Martinez, 14837 W. 57th Drive, Golden, CO 80403.

Payment will need to be received prior to the first class in order for you to participate.

Upcoming September Board Elections

by Dorothy Martinez

We have several Board positions whose term ends in September 2013. We will be holding elections at the September 19, 2013 meeting for the following positions:

President – Bob Hoffman – eligible to run for another two-year term
Treasurer – Jim Wohlenhaus – term limited
MAL (1) – Lynn Jewett – term limited
MAL (3) – Ben Coleman – eligible to run for another two-year term
MAL (5) – Brenda Parsons-Hier – term limited
MAL (7) – Peter Hier – term limited
MAL (9) – Fran Hoffman – eligible to run for another two-year term

(continued on page 6)
September Board Elections

(continued from page 5)

The meeting will start at 7:00 pm after the potluck dinner that starts at 6:00 pm. All positions will be open for nomination from the floor during the meeting. Members are encouraged to attend and participate in the elections. We strongly encourage any member to join the Board, the time commitment is minimal, it's educational, and also a lot of fun.

If you wish to run or be re-elected for any of the above positions, please contact me, Dorothy Martinez (CWGS Secretary) at (303) 279-3137 and let me know your intentions.

### New & Returning Members for May, June, & July 2013

#### May 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Jaynne Bittman</td>
<td>Arvada, CO</td>
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<td>David Brunell &amp; Susan Fayad</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
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<td>(Returning)</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Capan</td>
<td>Broomfield, CO</td>
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#### June 2013 continued

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<tr>
<td>Andi Sahlen &amp; Dan Fyles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tara Tull &amp; Sam Walker</td>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
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#### July 2013

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<tr>
<td>Joan &amp; Brian Greelman</td>
<td>Arvada, CO</td>
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<td>Joe Springer</td>
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<td>Louise &amp; Leon Thomas</td>
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#### June 2013

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<td>Deb &amp; Craig Dawson</td>
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<td>Les Lambert</td>
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<td>Greg &amp; Kellie Meyer</td>
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<td>Teri O’Sullivan</td>
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<td>Louise Roe</td>
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<td>Jennifer Trueblood &amp; Mark Bussinger</td>
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<td>John &amp; Pam Witt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim &amp; Bev Wohlenhaus</td>
<td>Westminster, CO</td>
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For a copy of the Colorado Water Garden Society Membership Form, please go to:
http://www.colowatergardensociety.org/files/ItemFileB75.pdf or request a copy from Dorothy Martinez at 303-279-3137
Membership Fees are $15 Annually for an Individual and $20 Annually for a Family
Please make checks payable to “Colorado Water Garden Society”
THIS YEAR
A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

August 10 (Saturday): Water Blossom Festival
Monet Water Garden Area, Denver Botanic Gardens
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Demonstrations, etc. – Monet Water Garden Area

August 10 (Saturday): Presentation by CWGS Member Joe Mascarenas on Photographing Water Lilies, Lotus, & Water Plants
Plant Society Building, Denver Botanic Gardens
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM – Presentation, Plant Society Building

August 17 (Saturday): Leaf Casting Class/Seminar, Part I
Martinez/Funk Residence
14837 W. 57th Drive, Golden, CO 80403
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Leaf Casting Class/Seminar, Part I

August 24 (Saturday): Leaf Casting Class/Seminar, Part II & Pond Side Program
Martinez/Funk Residence
14837 W. 57th Drive, Golden, CO 80403
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Leaf Casting Class/Seminar, Part II
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Pond Side Program

Sept. 19: Potluck & Annual Board Elections – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Oct. 17: Potluck & Planning Meeting – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Dec. 19: Holiday Banquet and Volunteer Recognition – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

From…
TheWaterGarden
c/o Journal Editor
14837 W. 57th Drive
Golden, CO 80403-3001

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