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**Annual Holiday Banquet  
Plant Society Building  
Denver Botanic Gardens**

**Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>  
Social Time: 6:00pm – 6:30pm  
Dinner: 6:30pm – 7:30pm  
Gift Exchange: 7:30pm – 8:30pm**

**Board Meeting & Event Planning  
Location TBD  
Sunday, January 19, 2014  
1:00pm – 4:00pm**

**Board Meeting & Event Planning  
Location TBD  
Sunday, February 16, 2014  
1:00pm – 4:00pm**

Online at:  
[www.colowatergardensociety.org](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)



*Artist Kelton Osborn at September 7, 2013 Berkeley Lake "Plane of Existence" Dedication Ceremony, (photo courtesy of Dorothy Martinez)*

## Public Art Project "Plane of Existence" at Berkeley Lake in Denver

by Dorothy Martinez & Kelton Osborn

In January 2013 our President, Bob Hoffman was contacted by a local artist named Kelton Osborn. Kelton was interested in designing and creating an art project for the old swimming pier area in Berkeley Lake at Denver's Berkeley Park located off Sheridan Blvd. and West 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

After meeting with Bob to discuss his initial concept about the piece, Kelton was able to further his design and incorporate many of Bob's suggestions about the specific applications for this project pertaining to the inclusion of water lilies. Through the Colorado Water Garden Society, Bob offered to provide his expertise, water lilies, and help with the installation of the piece.

With the procurement of the water lilies, Kelton was able to finalize his design and get approval from Arts and Venues, the City and County of Denver's public arts program. Kelton was awarded a grant of \$21,000 to complete the project inclusive of design, fabrication, and installation. On June 18, 2013, the project was installed with help from Kelton, Bob, Dorothy Martinez, and several of Kelton's friends (thanks Kenny!). A dedication ceremony for the piece was held on September 7, 2013. Kelton named the piece: "Plane of Existence".

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Fran Hoffman (MAL9)	303.978.0124

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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](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)

**CWGS Treasurer's Report:**  
Balance as of November 15,  
2013 - \$11,786.05.

**2014 Committee and Event Chairs:**

<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
<b>Membership</b>	
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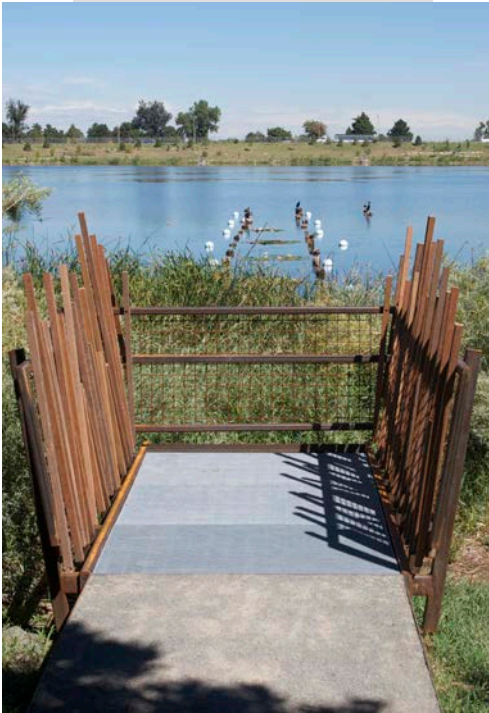
Unless you have specifically requested receipt of The WaterGarden in paper form, you will receive it electronically.

To request a change in delivery, report a change in email, or to report a problem with downloading of the electronic journal, reply to Dorothy Martinez:

[dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org](mailto:dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org).

## Berkeley Lake

(continued from front page)



*"Plane of Existence", (photo courtesy of Kelton Osborn)*

At the dedication ceremony, Kelton expressed his desire to incorporate the piece within its natural surroundings and also for people to linger and spend time in the park. Inspiration also came from reading about the original species of water lilies located in the lake. When the water is at a higher level, the pier piles disappear, leaving only the buoys and lilies visible. The buoys represent the piles when the water is high. From the viewing platform, you not only see "Plane of Existence", you can also see other plants, the lake, and animals.

Denver Parks and Recreation will maintain the project, including the lilies. The Colorado Water Garden Society provided Kelton and Denver Parks with the necessary information in keeping and maintaining the water lilies. Kelton's intention is to keep the lilies within the linear confines of the piles.

Dorothy asked Kelton for his perspective of the project, what inspired him, and how the idea for this project came to be.

"As an artist and architect, I typically incorporate sustainable design in my work, including the reuse of materials. Much of my design stems from the natural characteristics specific to a site. For the Berkeley Lake design, I was intrigued by the rich history of the lake. I immediately gravitated to the remaining wood piles (that typically are concealed under water) from the original historic swimming pier.

My concept was simple; to recreate the "presence" of the historic pier with visual markers. Hand formed metal buoys are tethered to each pylon to create the "structure" of the pier. "Suspended" between the buoys are vessels that contain water lilies, which are similar to those cultivars originally in the lake. People are encouraged to "inhabit" the pier by entering the viewing platform. Once on board, it is possible to look across the surface of the lily pads and recall the presence of the original pier. As always, I aspire to create a design that transcends art and provides for a spatial sculptural experience."

## Thoughts from the President:

by **Bob Hoffman**

CWGS is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary this year. Throughout those thirty years, CWGS has seen a lot of changes. We have seen changes at Denver Botanic Gardens and Hudson Gardens & Event Center that have brought water gardening to new heights at both facilities.

Many of our members have passed on and we have seen many who are new to the organization. Numerous individuals have made the effort to enhance the programs that CWGS sponsors and I thank you for that!

We have seen water plants come and go through the years, but some major changes are happening now. Crosses with hardy and tropical water lilies have given us new plants that take on some of the qualities of tropical lilies and some of the qualities of hardy lilies. This leads to traits such as flower and lily pad colors only found in tropical lilies, but with plants exhibiting hardiness found only in hardy lilies. These intersubgeneric plants are becoming more and more available as time goes on.

(continued on page 4)

## Presidential Thoughts

(continued from page 3)

Looking ahead to 2014, Denver Botanic Gardens, Colorado Water Gardening Society, and Hudson Gardens & Event Center will be hosting the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society (IWGS) Symposium August 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, & 17<sup>th</sup>. The Symposium will include international speakers as well as various events and activities while IWGS is here. I hope you plan to attend one or more of them. As August gets nearer, look for more information on the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society website at: <http://iwgs.org/>.

***For all members attending the 2013 CWGS Annual Holiday Banquet, we have a special gift for you to help commemorate and celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will be giving a full color 2014 wall calendar designed by CWGS members. You must attend the Holiday Banquet to receive one.***

## Upcoming 2014 Holiday Banquet

by Dorothy Martinez

Please join us in kicking off the holiday season by attending the CWGS Annual Holiday Banquet on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. The banquet will be held at the Plant Society Building, Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York Street, Denver. The Plant Society Building is located at the West end of the staff parking and drive. The building is immediately adjacent to the Bonsai Garden and Pavilion. From inside the pedestrian area of DBG, the Plant Society Building can be reached by walking past the greenhouse structure and West Terrace.

The party will start at 6:00 pm; there will be time to socialize, see old friends, and make new ones. This is a great opportunity to meet other people who are interested in water gardening as well as fellow members of the Colorado Water Garden Society.

Dinner will be served at approximately 6:30 pm. After dinner, there will be some announcements, introduction of Board Members, and recognition of volunteers.

***Please bring your favorite appetizer, salad, or side dish to share. CWGS will provide the main dish, dessert, and drinks free of charge!***

The main event is our Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange. Since this is a Water Garden Society, the gifts should have a water gardening theme. Be creative! The gift can be serious or silly, anything that adds to the entertainment of the evening. Gifts should be wrapped and worth no more the \$10.00.

Come and enjoy good friends, good food, and a good night for all. ***Remember to pick up your 2014 CWGS Calendar!***

We are looking for some help with setting up for the party. If you are available to arrive at 5:00 pm, please call Fran Hoffman at (303) 978-0124. If you have any questions, please call Fran at (303) 978-0124 or Dorothy Martinez at (303) 279-3137.

## T'is *Always* the Season

by Bill Powell

For volunteers the season of giving extends throughout the year. January and February may be bleak, but even during the winter months volunteers maintain the aquatic collections at Denver Botanic Gardens and Hudson Gardens & Event Center. With more volunteer help, both DBG and Hudson Gardens begin germinations in late February (inside hot houses of course) that will blossom in May and June.

## T'is the Season

(continued from page 4)

April, often a cruel month of promise and frustration in Denver, attracts volunteers nevertheless. Dozens brave fickle spring weather to divide and expand the aquatic collections at Hudson Gardens and DBG. By May and June the Aquatics Division at the Denver Botanic Gardens Sale and our own CWGS Annual Plant Sale draw a steady stream of volunteers.

And so it goes. Each month's tasks attract volunteers with a range of interest and experience. Some people work only seasonal jobs they relish, others volunteer year round in a number of capacities. It is because of these volunteers' skill and dedication that we all can enjoy the beautiful public aquatic displays of summer.

Volunteers also staff the many events in which the Club participates. Pond tours, waterside picnics, educational booths; really everything CWGS does, depends on its volunteers.

This year CWGS-sponsored volunteers have given almost 1,700 hours promoting aquatic gardens at DBG and Hudson Gardens alone. The CWGS board and club members gave hundreds of hours more toward the workings of the Club. They planned events, wrote newsletters, staffed sales, and considered every detail right down to the decorations on the banquet tables for the Holiday Party – which by the way is coming up! Please join us Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> to help us recognize our many volunteers.

I also hope you'll consider joining us as a volunteer in 2014. We offer lots of opportunities and interesting niches to explore. Those of you new to water gardening might appreciate the group experience of spring planting at DBG or Hudson Gardens. You can learn skills useful to propagation of both hardy and tropical water plants as you enjoy a chat with some old hand who just can't get dirty enough in his/her own pond.

Maybe you prefer a more contemplative experience. At DBG, Tamara Kilbane has many jobs well suited to individual volunteerism. Weekly maintenance, summer studies of plant growth, and even special projects on abstruse water gardening subjects are a few possibilities. I'll be working on a display next spring demonstrating Meso-American Chinampas, the historic precursor to hydroponic gardens. I'd love to have some help!

At Hudson Gardens, Bob Hoffman is always looking for help in maintaining the various water garden displays. He also has the promise of a complete refurbishment of one of the larger ponds that might interest you, come spring. And with the return of the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society (IWGS) Annual Symposium to DBG in the summer of 2014, both of the gardens and CWGS will have special needs related to hosting attendees from the US and abroad.

Like working with people? Consider helping with our information booth at Echter's Spring Echxpo or you could staff one of the sales. Have something on aquatics you'd like to share in writing or photographically? You can contribute to the Club's newsletter. We have just the right spot for your interests, abilities, and availability during any season of the year.

**To explore possible volunteerism, contact any of the following people:**

**Tamara Kilbane (720) 865-3556 - Recurring and special projects at DBG**

**Bob Hoffman (303) 978-0124 - Hudson Gardens' annual water garden displays**

**Vicki Aber (303) 423-9216 - Spring Echxpo at Echter's and the CWGS Plant Sale**

**Dorothy Martinez (303) 279-3137 - Newsletter and website contributions**

## Extending the Benefits of a Denver Botanic Gardens' Membership

by Jim Arneill

The noted quote - 'Tis a privilege to live in Colorado' - that appeared in the masthead of our former morning newspaper "The Rocky Mountain News", helps remind us of our wonderful weather, majestic mountains, and many other favorable attributes of our state.

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## Benefits of a DBG Membership

(continued from page 5)



*Entrance to Denver Botanic Gardens, (Photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)*



*Japanese Garden at the Chicago Botanic Garden, (Photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)*



*Heritage Garden at the Chicago Botanic Garden, (photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)*

For those of us who enjoy botanic gardens, we are very fortunate to have one of the premier gardens in the United States. Denver Botanic Gardens offers much to delight at its 24-acre York Street site, in addition to the 750-acre Chatfield expanse, and Mt. Goliath wildflower garden on Mount Evans.

As a water gardener, two of my favorite parts of the Denver Botanic Gardens are the Monet Pool and the Anna's Overlook water feature, which has been showcasing the IWGS New Water Lily Competition during the summer months. We have not only been able to appreciate the beauty of the water lilies, lotuses, and a multitude of both tropical and hardy marginal plants, but we have also had many opportunities to learn as volunteers from two highly respected experts, Joe Tomocik and Tamara Kilbane.

This past summer, my wife Tudi and I decided to travel back to the Chicago area for our Lake Forest College Reunion. Besides enjoying visits to some of the Lake County Forest Preserves, (one of which is Ryerson Conservation Area, where Tudi worked and where we were married), we also took advantage of the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe. While we were prepared to pay the \$25 daily admission charge there, we found out this garden is on the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Membership List. On each of our four visits there, we merely had to show our Denver Botanic Gardens' membership card.

One of our favorite parts of the Chicago Botanic Garden was their Japanese Garden, which like the Shofu-En Japanese Garden at DBG, was designed by noted landscape/architect Koichi Kawana. After recently talking with Ebi Condo, who takes care of our Japanese Garden, he indicated the Chicago garden was one of Kawana's earlier designs, and that Shofu-En was one of his last ones. Ebi pointed out the significance of using the native ponderosa pines as the featured plant in Shofu-En and how the garden is regarded as one of the most peaceful and tranquil areas within Denver Botanic Gardens.

The Japanese Garden in Glencoe was very special in other ways. It looked very picturesque approaching it from the distance due to its large area with many character pines beckoning visitors to come closer. Like our Japanese Garden, it was very well maintained and tidy, giving it a very ordered, organized appearance.

The Chicago Botanic Garden also has an attractive display of water plants at its Crescent Garden near the entrance, Heritage Garden, and other water gardens spread throughout the grounds. Seeing many familiar water lilies, lotuses, and marginal plants, as well as a few new ones, was very enchanting. From talking with one of the staff members in waders at one of the water gardens, I learned that the "Colorado" and "Denver" water lilies there were from a current employee who had done her internship at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Tudi and I would have liked to have had more time to visit other gardens in the area, but time was a factor. What this visit helped point out is having a Denver Botanic Gardens' membership extends well beyond what we enjoy at our local gardens.

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## Benefits of a DBG Membership

(continued from page 6)

In fact, by visiting the American Horticultural Society's website at <http://www.ahs.org/>, you can see the nearly 300 gardens across the United States and Canada that have reciprocal privileges. Some gardens in the listing have free admission and many offer other benefits and discounts. I would recommend calling the gardens ahead of time to ensure their participation and to receive up-to-date information.

So, during the next few months of winter, a trip to some warmer climates to savor other botanic gardens might be in order, or perhaps waiting for warmer weather to visit others. Some gardens with noted water features include the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii, McKee Botanical Garden in Florida, the Sarah P. Duke Gardens in North Carolina, the Missouri Botanical Garden, and Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. For now the Denver Botanic Gardens, including the Tropical Conservatory is a very nice respite!

### New & Returning Members for September, October, & November 2013

<b>Lorna Moore</b> <i>Denver, CO</i>	<b><u>September 2013</u></b>	<i>(NEW!)</i>
<b>Jana &amp; Lew Artelli</b> <i>Centennial, CO</i>	<b><u>October 2013</u></b>	<i>(Returning)</i>
<b>Dorothy Martinez &amp; John Funk</b> <i>Golden, CO</i>		<i>(Returning)</i>
<b>John (Larry) Wiberg</b> <i>Denver, CO</i>	<b><u>November 2013</u></b>	<i>(Returning)</i>

## 2013 International Waterlily and Water Garden Society New Water Lily Competition Winners

by Tamara Kilbane

Denver Botanic Gardens again hosted this year's IWGS New Water Lily Competition, which drew many entries from hybridizers around the world. These entries were divided into the following categories: Hardy, Day-blooming Tropical, and Intersubgeneric. The intersubgeneric category consisted of crosses between hardy and tropical water lilies.

Photos were taken throughout the summer of each entry's first, second, and third day blooms, along with each second day bloom with a ruler and each plant with a yardstick. Grower's notes were maintained throughout the season as well to record growth characteristics, which were not clearly visible in the photos, such as duration of bloom, average height of blooms above the water's surface, rate of growth, and any issues noted.

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## Water Lily Competition

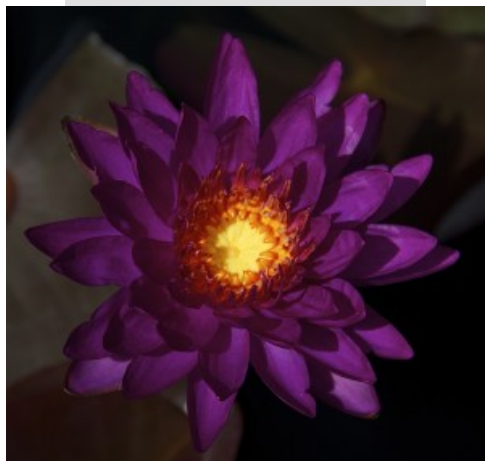
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**2013 IWGS Best New Water Lily and Tropical Water Lily Winner 'Plum Crazy', Hybridizer: Florida Aquatic Nurseries, (Photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)**



**2013 IWGS Hardy Water Lily Winner 'Fuchsia Pom Pom', Hybridizer: Tony Moore, USA, (Photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)**



**2013 IWGS Intersubgeneric Water Lily Winner 'Purple Fantasy', Hybridizer: Florida Aquatic Nurseries, (photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)**

In mid-September, after taking the photos and grower's notes under careful consideration, an international panel of judges provided scores for each new hybrid in the following categories: Flower, Foliage, General Impression, and Unique Characteristics. The judges' scores were then combined and the hybrid receiving the highest number of points in each entry category was awarded first place for that category. The entry receiving the highest overall number of points was named the Best New Water Lily of 2013 and the Second Best New Water Lily of 2013 went to the entry with the second highest number of points overall.

The IWGS and Denver Botanic Gardens would like to congratulate Florida Aquatic Nurseries for their winning entry, 'Plum Crazy'. This tropical day-blooming water lily boasts beautiful, rich purple blooms, and striking pads mottled with bright green and deep burgundy.

To see more 2013 competition lily winners, go to the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society's website at: <http://iwgs.org/>.





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<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:*

**December 19 (Thursday): Holiday Banquet, Volunteer Recognition, and White Elephant Gift Exchange**  
**Plant Society Building, Denver Botanic Gardens**

6:00 PM – 6:30 PM – Social Time

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM – Dinner

7:30 PM – 8:30 PM – White Elephant Gift Exchange

**Jan. 19, 2014 (Sunday) Board Meeting & Future Events Planning –**

*Location to be determined, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM*

**February 16, 2014 (Sunday) Board Meeting & Future Events Planning**

*– Location to be determined, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM*



*From...*

**TheWaterGarden**  
c/o Journal Editor  
14837 W. 57<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.colowatergardensociety.org)

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