

IN THIS ISSUE:

Practical Tips for Fall & Winter
Our Sept. 21 meeting1
by Jim Arneill

Board Members and
Chairpersons for 2009.....2

- Board Meeting Schedule
- Treasurer's Report2

September Elections / Slate.....3
by Vicki Aber

New & Returning Members3

Trials, yes... but no tribulation
The IWGS New Lily Competition4
by Tamara Kilbane

Let Them Eat Cake5
by Bill Powell

Notes From Lotus Growers5

Reports from the
Water Blossom Festival6
by Duff Kerr and Lynn Jewett

- N. Bea Taplin Named
- Volunteer to learn at DBG
- About October's Program8

- MarketPlace
- Membership Application9

This Year:
CWGS Calendarback page

Online at:
www.colowatergardensociety.org

4207 WINS!



See Page 4

Practical Tips for Fall & Winter

Learn ways to transition your water feature into our colder seasons.

By Jim Arneill

Are you noticing the changing temperatures of autumn? Lower air temperatures also bring differences in your pond's water temperature that have a significant effect on your plants and fish.

BR&D Landscape will present "Fall Cleaning and Winterization - Whether to Shut Down or Not" at our Monday, September 21 Meeting at the Arvada Church of Christ. As a full-service custom landscape contractor with a pond service division, the folks from BR&D will offer many practical tips and steps to serve the needs of your plants, fish, and even the aesthetics of your pond during our colder weather.

The evening begins at 6:00 PM with a potluck dinner. Bring a dish of your own choosing. The club will provide drinks, cups, plates, and utensils.

At 7:00 we will hold our annual Board elections for 2010. There are still openings for Directors' positions including Treasurer and Members-at-Large. (Read Vicki's article on page 3.)

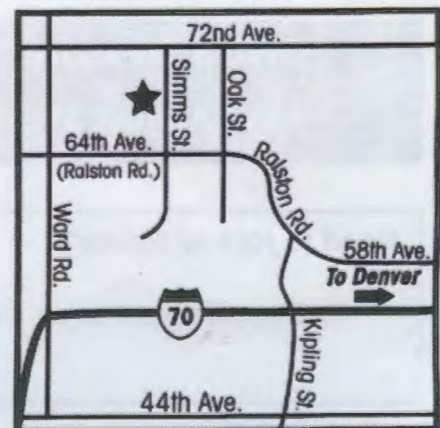
Shortly after the election, which should only take a few minutes, we'll begin the audio-visual program on ways to transition your pond to fall and winter. We hope that you will be able to join us for the good food, company, and useful information.

Directions to Church of Christ Church (ACC) at 6757 Simms Street in Arvada: Drive west from downtown Denver on I-70 to Kipling Street. Drive north on Kipling, which curves west via Ralston Road and becomes 64th Avenue. Then turn right on Simms, and the church is just over the crest of the hill on the left. Enter through the glass doors, cross the lobby to the stairs and follow the signs to the fellowship hall on the second floor.

**BR&D Landscape on
"Fall Cleaning and
Winterization..."**

**Monday, Sept 21
ACC, 6757 Simms**

**Potluck at 6:00 pm
Program at 7:15 pm**



Board of Directors:

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Vice President	
Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144
Secretary	
Bill Bathurst	303.421.1144
Treasurer	
Ken Lange	303.393.8410
Members-At-Large	
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April Hough	303.499.6578
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

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Newsletter Assembly	
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Membership	
Ken Lange	303.393.8410
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Program	
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Get Wet Event	
Jim Arneill	303.834.9619
CWGS June Plant Sale	
Vicki Aber	303.423.9216
April Hough	303.499.6578
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Pond Tour / Picnic	
Michael Weber	303.322.6769
Jonathan Hough	303.499.6578
Ken Lange	303.393.8410
Water Blossom Festival	
Duff Kerr	303.871.0336
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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 August 31, \$14,556.67

Need to join or renew?

The application is on page 9

CWGS BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2009:

Sept. 20, ~~1:00~~ PM – Oleson residence
Oct. 18, ~~1:00~~ PM – ~~Weber~~ residence

The last two Board meetings of the year have been rescheduled to 6:00 PM, Monday Oct. 19 at the Arvada Church of Christ, 6757 Simms St., Arvada. Potluck dinner and planning for 2010. All club members are encouraged to attend!

September Elections

By Vicki Aber, President

It's that time of year again - the time when we decide who will steer the ship that is the Colorado Water Garden Society. This September we elect officers and Members-at-Large for 2010.

Positions are for a 2-year term. This means that in any one year only half of the Board turns over. This year the offices of President and Treasurer are open along with five Member-at-Large positions.

Our current Treasurer Ken Lange is term limited and cannot serve in that position another term (Officers are limited to two consecutive terms in a given position). We really need to fill the position of Treasurer for the club to continue. If anyone has a desire to be more active and/or is good with numbers, WE REALLY NEED YOU.

There... you made me use my capital letters voice!

Jonathan and April Hough have been great and faithful members of the Board for a number of years. They intend to stay active on committees that they have been on but do not feel they can continue to be Board members. I will stay on as President unless someone would like to give it a try. Lynn Jewett has agreed to run for another 2-year term as Member-at-Large. This leaves, in addition to Treasurer, four positions that do not have a name on them.

It really isn't that hard. You don't need any special knowledge to be a Board member; it's a learn-as-you-go position. In addition to the regular program meetings we hold Board business meetings about once a month, but have been trying to cut that down by communicating through email and phone calls.

If you would like more information about these positions or are considering putting your name in the hat, please call or email me or anyone on the Board.

You can also submit your name at the meeting on election day, September 21st.

CWGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION SLATE FOR 2010

OFFICERS:

President – Vicki Aber
Treasurer – Open

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (MAL)

MAL #1 – Lynn Jewett
MAL #3 – Open
MAL #5 – Open
MAL #7 – Open
MAL #9 – Open

NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

Dennis Albrecht
Aurora, CO

Ben Coleman
Longmont, CO

Helen Feiner (NEW)
Golden, CO

Fred & Dona Hollendorfer
Wheat Ridge, CO (NEW)

Stuart Koons (NEW)
Lakewood, CO

Al & Glenda Kravitz
Highlands Ranch, CO

Dr. & Mrs. Justin Krause
Arvada, CO

Joseph Salvati
Castle Rock, CO

Thanks...and welcome!

Belated Thanks

All of you who worked so hard in both the DBG aquatics booth and at the CWGS Annual Plant Sale are due a report. Amid the coverage of our late summer events, I've been looking in vain for space to include a follow-up on both sales.

For now, be assured that the sales were successful despite the challenging economy and on-going construction at DBG that displaced us from our usual locations.

Look for more detail on both sales in the Nov./Dec. issue of "The WaterGarden."

Bill Powell, Editor

Trials, yes... ...but no tribulation

*Tamara Kilbane
at work among the
Victoria 'Longwood
Hybrid' in
Duke Gardens*

IWGS New Waterlily Contest at Sarah P. Duke Gardens sparks a pleasant visit to DBG

*By Tamara Kilbane, Horticulturist
Sarah P. Duke Garden
Duke University Durham, NC*

As a heat wave rolled into Durham this August, sending our temperatures soaring to over 100 degrees, I happily found myself on a plane to Denver to visit with Joe Tomocik, Curator of Water Gardens at DBG.

Along with the promise of cooler temperatures and a respite from the humidity of the south, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to finally see Denver Botanic Gardens in person after hearing so much about its renowned waterlily program, as well as to meet with Joe after exchanging so many emails and phone calls over the past couple of years. I was even more excited when Joe told me that my visit would coincide with the 2009 Water Blossom Festival at the Gardens!

The afternoon of my arrival began with a tour of the beautiful display ponds at the Gardens and concluded with a presentation by Jim Wullschleger that gave those of us unable to attend the IWGS Symposium in Thailand a good feel for what we missed. Jim's presentation also touched on the development of new waterlilies by hybridizers around the world, a topic that is close to home for those of us tending the display pools at Duke Gardens.

For the past three years, Sarah P. Duke Gardens has served as the growing site for new hardy and tropical waterlily hybrids entered in the annual International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society (IWGS) New Waterlily Contest. The goal of this competition is to encourage the development of waterlily hybrids exhibiting unique traits such as new flower and leaf colors and sizes and desirable growth



Photo courtesy of T. Kilbane

habits. Hybrids once thought of as impossibilities, such as the elusive blue hardy waterlily that hybridizer Pairat Songpanich of Thailand has recently created, are also exciting additions to the waterlily world and possible (we hope!) future entries in the contest.

Our work begins in early spring as hardy waterlily entries are shipped to the Gardens and potted into 6" round containers filled with clay loam upon arrival. These are allowed to acclimate and root in our greenhouse before being planted outdoors in 17" solid round plastic tubs, the standard size used to grow out all of the entries. Tropical waterlily entries arrive in May and the same procedure is followed.

Once all of the entries are at home in our contest lily pool, they are given equal care, which includes the twice-weekly removal of dead leaves and blooms and the bi-weekly application of aquatic fertilizer tabs. As the plants reach their peak growth and bloom period, photos are taken of each flower, leaf, and plant along with measurements. These photos are sent to the IWGS in mid-August, and a panel of ten judges chooses the Best New Waterlily Overall, along with the Best New Hardy and Best New Tropical.

As I write this article, the results of this year's contest have just been announced. Florida Aquatic Nurseries swept the tropical waterlily category this year and also earned the award for the Best New Waterlily Overall for 2009 with their hybrid #4207 (since named *N. Tanzanite*.) The vibrant purple blooms and heavily mottled leaves of this lily were a

(continued on page 7)

Photo by Len Freestone



Members admire one of the Freestone's several ponds (above.)

A beautiful cake, complete with waterlilies, provided by our hosts (below.)



Photo by Bill Powell

Let Them Eat Cake and ice cream, too!

Members crowded around the ponds and dessert tables at the August 30 Waterside Program. Hosts Len and Doris Freestones' gardens provided a beautiful display of water plants and terrestrials, too, despite repeated storms that plagued them this summer.

Hail (and how to recover from it) was the focus of the program discussion. The Freestones have kept a photographic record of damage, cleanup, and stages of recovery this year. Reviewing the Freestone's visual record, Vicki Aber solicited observations and recommendations from Members' experience dealing with plant damage:

- Water plants generally come back following hail. They "grow out of it", possibly because much of their growing structure is protected under water.
- If you're lucky, blooms may have closed for the day by the time hail strikes. These may reopen the following day. Damaged buds, though, are less likely to mature.
- Fertilize after hail to encourage rapid growth.
- Removing destroyed leaves from lilies is worthwhile both for aesthetics and water quality, but leave less-damaged pads that might still help with photosynthesis.
- Lotuses are more permanently affected by hail than lilies or canna and other marginals.
- Covering the pond with plastic sheeting may help, but warning of an approaching storm is often so short and if the wind picks up, laying out plastic or bubble wrap may be impossible.
- The reasons for fish death from hail are unclear. Is it sudden temperature drop, ph change, concussion, or some mix of the above?

Thanks, Len and Doris, for your hospitality...And the beautiful and tasty cake!

This was the last of this season's Waterside Programs at member ponds. Waterside programs have been a well-attended feature over the past two seasons. Shall we continue them next year?

Notes From Lotus Growers

Founding member Mary Mirgon had a good idea during the Water Blossom Festival: Let's survey how members fared with the lotus they bought at the Club sale earlier in the spring.

Mary had pretty good success with her Nelumbo 'Evening Shower.' She reports that she "planted it in a 12 in. black kettle [and] kept it on the patio in the sun during the day and in the garage on the colder nights. It grew 12 to 15 leaves and it had two flowers, one at a time. It was a double white with

with pink edges 2- 1/2 inches [in size.] Very pretty. I plan to try to over-winter it in the garage."

How did your lotus perform? We sold 'Evening Shower', 'Green Maiden', 'Momo Botan', 'Lavender Lady', 'Red Scarf', and 'Russian Red.' Drop us a line with your results – good, bad, or indifferent. We'll compile the results and publish them in a future newsletter. E-mail your experience to wbpow@comcast.net

Photos by Bill Powell



CWGS tents attract a crowd to Nancy and Werner Neupert's demonstration (above)

Sampling edible water plants and exotic Thai fruit (below)



Photo by Bill Bathurst

Reports from the Water Blossom Festival

by Duff Kerr, Event Chair

The 2009 edition of the Water Blossom Festival was carried off successfully Sunday, August 16 - a day of perfect weather and abundant water blossoms!

Logistics in the Gardens were a bit complicated by on-going construction, but thanks to the efforts of the set-up team (Jim and Tudi Arneill, Bill Powell, Bill Bathurst, and Michael Weber) our display made a festive appearance adjacent to the Monet Pond.

Jim Arneill conducted tours of DBG's water features with significant input by Len and Doris Freestone. The Freestones have been temporarily evicted from their usual lair in the now-demolished greenhouses and are working outside. They took time out from their pond chores to talk with a number of Festival participants.

Nancy and Werner Neupert gave a lengthy demonstration on planting and general care of water plants. Their audience replenished itself several times with people arriving and exiting in stages as the Neuperts patiently revisited tips for a second and third time!

The *piece de resistance* of the day was a special audio/visual presentation (reported in some detail below by Lynn Jewett). Prior to the program Joe Tomocik, Curator of Water Gardens, introduced Tamara Kilbane, a visiting horticulturist from Duke Gardens who was here in part to inspect growth of trial lilies. (*Editor's note: Tamara's article on the 2009 IWGS new lily competition and her serendipitous visit here is included on page 4 of this newsletter.*)

Snapshots of Thai Water Gardening:

by Lynn Jewett

The guest lecturer at this year's WBF was the noted pond industry speaker Jim Wullschleger. His program on "Water Lilies of Thailand" was very colorful and informative. The photographs shown in Jim's video were taken at the 2007 International Water Garden Society's symposium in Thailand.

Jim's program included lots of lotus and water lilies. Surprisingly, many were grown in individual above-ground containers rather than submerged in ponds. It was a wonderful display of container sizes, shapes and uses. It's also obvious that the climate of Thailand enhances the growth of all the tropical plants we only dream about here in Colorado. The normal high daily temperature and sometimes-insufferable humidity of the weather there make gardening very prolific.

The pictures and narratives about the "Monkey School" and "Elephant School" (day tours at the IWGS Symposium) were very entertaining, but the highlight of Jim's lecture was his update on the "Siam Blue Hardy", hybridized by Pairat Songpanich. Mr. Songpanich began his

Photo by Bill Bathurst



Speaker Jim Wullschleger (above) updates the Water Blossom Festival audience about Pairat Songpanich's effort to hybridize the world's first blue-flowering hardy waterlily

Snapshots of Thai...

(continued from page 6)

hybridization in Thailand in 2003, resulting in 2007 with what he believes to be the first example of a blue-flowering hardy waterlily. It was hybridized by crossing a hardy (pod parent) and a tropical (pollen parent). The plant's DNA and morphological marks certainly seem to show a valuable find, but the lack of reproduction from the plant itself during a year and a half of cultivation leaves much to be desired for hobbyist water gardeners. Only time may tell, and we certainly hope the "blue hardy waterlily" will become a commercially available plant someday, for all water gardeners to enjoy.

Between 1967 and 1968, Nancy and I traveled to Thailand several times from Clark Air Base, Philippines. We were somewhat acclimated coming from a similar climate, so we understand the "meltdown" the IWGS symposium attendees endured during their 2007 trip. Visiting the Queens Zoo generated Nancy's favorite story about me teasing a baby elephant with a banana: the mother finally had enough and charged to the length of her chain and swiped at my head with her trunk. Thankfully she missed by a few inches and I very humbly, softly, tip-toed away in one piece. SEE...let the hybridizers fool with Mother Nature, but not me!!!

Thanks to all of you who participated in the 2009 Water Blossom Festival! ...And special thanks to those who helped with publicity, presentation, set-up, and operation of the Festival booth. This year's event was fun and educational for newbies and experienced hands alike.

Trials, yes...

(continued from page 4)

hit with visitors and judges alike. In the hardy waterlily category, the bright yellow blooms of hybrid 'Cliff Tiffany', created by Fourth Generation Nursery, took the top prize, while 'Cyprus Pink Star', hybridized by Andreas Protopapas, took second place with its delicate pink flowers and compact growth habit.

Many of the waterlilies entered into the contest each year are donated to the Gardens by the hybridizers. These plants enhance our displays for seasons to come. This spring, however, we came across the problem of having too many of some of the hardy contest lilies that had multiplied happily in their pots. Luckily, Joe offered to grow them at DBG, the hybridizers agreed, and they were saved from a slow death in the compost pile and shipped to Denver to be enjoyed by a new group of visitors. Look for the hybrids 'Tan-Kwhan' and 'Miss Siam', created by Pairat Songpanich of Thailand, and 'John Wedgwood' from Andreas Protopapas of Cyprus the next time you visit.

A special thank you to Joe Tomocik and the Colorado Water Garden Society for making my visit to Denver Botanic Gardens so enjoyable. If any of you ever find yourselves in North Carolina next summer, please stop by Duke Gardens for a visit – we'll have the air conditioning ready for you!



Winner of Best Hardy
N. 'Cliff Tiffany'

Hybridized by Fourth
Generation Nursery

Photo from WWW.IWGS.org



Joe (front right) chats with Bea Taplin near the new Welcome Garden cascade.

Nymphaea 'Bea Taplin' blooms at right in the pot. DBG CEO Brian Vogt stands. Chairman of the DBG Board Jerry Ladd is seated behind Bea.

***Nymphaea* 'Bea Taplin' officially named at DBG**

Joe Tomocik, the Curator of Water Gardens reports "A ninth member to the 'Rocky Mountain Legacy Collection' was added this year. The versatile and beautiful white waterlily from nearby Berkeley Lake was christened *N. 'Bea Taplin'* by Denver Botanic Gardens' Chief Executive Officer Brian Vogt at the July 28, 2009 dedication of the Welcome Garden. *Bea Taplin* is a long-time, cherished Gardens supporter."

Editor's Note:

Issue 8 of the Water Journal (November/December) will publish an article by Joe on the "Two Gems..." of Berkeley Lake, the two related hardy lilies that have been named at DBG following years of evaluation after their initial collection. The pink-blooming variant was registered *N. 'Denver's Delight'* in 2001.

Volunteer To Learn... ...At Denver Botanic Gardens

Each year CWGS solicits and coordinates volunteers from its ranks to help with the aquatic displays at Denver Botanic Gardens. The annual Water Blossom Festival (which was just held and is recapped on page 6) was conceived in part as a way of recognizing this extraordinary volunteer effort.

Although the Gardens certainly benefit from volunteerism, so do the volunteers. It's a great way to learn the basics of water gardening from experienced gardeners under the direction of Denver Botanic Gardens' Water Gardens Curator Joe Tomocik.

During a minimum of ten Sunday mornings over the spring and fall, our team meets at the Gardens. The fall sessions

will begin soon. Joe says "this year again presents some challenges with all of the construction going on. As of now we will keep water in the pools for the winter. There will be plenty to do including doing away with excess plants, moving waterlilies together, dismantling the Fly Trap Feast, trimming foliage and organizing labels."

The fun and learning will begin the last Sunday of September or the first of October. If interested in joining us, contact Bill Powell (303) 355-8098. wbpow@comcast.net. I'll place you on the list and you'll be contacted with exact dates, times, and logistics. All levels of expertise from rank beginner to experienced are welcome!

About Our October Program

We had hoped to give an October program on the new pastime of aquarium aquascaping. It seemed just the right subject for this time of year when we're missing our summer water gardens. Unfortunately, we were unable to secure the aquascaping speaker for Oct. 19. We're reserving the topic for next year's program schedule, which begs the question... "**What SHOULD CWGS do in 2010?**"

Help the Board determine the direction of the Club. We're converting the advertised Oct. 19 program meeting to a planning meeting for the coming year. The Board needs your feedback. What's worked this

year? What fell short? What new ideas are worth exploring? For those of you who feel you can't obligate yourself to serving on the Board, but would like to help, here's your chance to make a difference in just one short meeting:

Please participate as we begin to plan CWGS's activities for the coming year. The process will be informal, fun, and rewarding for the club. We kick off with a potluck on Monday, Oct 19 at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall of the Arvada Church of Christ, Arvada. Let's see where some smart dinner conversation will lead!



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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:

**Sep. 21, Arvada Church of Christ:
Annual Meeting, pot Luck, & Program... "Fall Cleaning And
Winterization – Whether to shut down or not."
Presented by BR&D Landscape.**

6:00 PM – Potluck dinner
7:00 PM – Annual Board elections
7:15 PM – Program presentation

**Oct. 19, Arvada Church of Christ:
Pot Luck & program... "CWGS In 2010"**

6:00 PM – Potluck dinner
7:00 – Planning for CWGS activities next year

Dec. 7: Holiday Banquet
6 to 8:30 PM, Arvada Church of Christ, Arvada



DENVER CO 802

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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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