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TheWaterGarden

Journal of the Colorado Water Garden Society

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**Colorado Water Garden
Society**

Pond Side Program

**Saturday, June 21
Water Features at University of
Denver, Denver, CO**

**Bring your own picnic to enjoy!
12:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

Online at:
www.colowatergardensociety.org



*Chester M. Alter Pavilion at University of Denver, (photo
courtesy of Jim Arneill)*

Tour of University of Denver Water Gardens & Arboretum on Saturday, June 21, 2014

by Jim Arneill

Please join us for the first day of summer, June 21st from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm, at the University of Denver for a scenic and informative tour of the campus water features and adjacent arboretum. The University Arborist, Mark Hathaway, who takes care of the aquatic collection and oversees the maintenance of the trees and campus, will be our tour guide. The program will visit the water features and diverse collection of trees and shrubs on the campus.

The University's water features have much in common with those at the Denver Botanic Gardens. Many of the water lilies, lotus, and hardy marginals were provided from the Aquatic Collection at DBG. The water features at DU also contain the same dark, dyed water you see at the Gardens, reflecting the beauty of the lilies and the surrounding grounds.

(continued on page 3)

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www.colowatergardensociety.org

CWGS Treasurer's Report:
Balance as of June 13, 2014 -
\$12,765.25

Remember...

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.

Tour of DU Water Gardens

(continued from page 1)



Water Feature at University of Denver,
(photo courtesy Jim Arneill)



Water Feature at University of Denver,
(photo courtesy of Jim Arneill)

Please bring your own picnic lunch, CWGS will provide drinks and dessert. After the picnic, we will have the opportunity to walk around with Mark and view a variety of water lilies, lotuses, and many marginal plants in the different pools there. Since these water plants will be in the early stages of the season, you may want to return in July or August to see them at their peak. The arboretum displays an interesting collection of well-labeled, stately trees, including 10 State Champions.

We will rendezvous at the Chester M. Alter Pavilion, which is between Cherrington Hall and the Mary Reed Building. There is a parking lot (304) with hourly pay parking very close to the pavilion or you may park on one of the side streets like York or Race off of Iliff and walk to the pavilion. All on-street parking near the University has a one hour parking limit. For longer on-street parking, you will need to park several blocks from the campus. Be sure to check on-street signage for parking time limits and restrictions.

If you choose to park in the Cherrington/Mary Reed parking lot, you may enter either off of Iliff or from University Boulevard on Daniel Ritchie Drive, staying to the left of the Mary Reed Building.

We look forward to seeing you as we usher in summer at a beautiful campus setting!

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Arneill at (303) 843-9619.

Map of DU Parking Lot 304 Near Cherrington Hall & Mary Reed Building



Competitive Beauty

In Water Gardening as in other fields, competition breeds change

by Bill Powell

In Victorian England, competition drove almost every aspect of society. Competition between manufacturers stoked the industrial boom. Competition with waning empires developed profitable trade routes for English goods and services. And a well-mannered, if rather upper crust, competition fed a passion for botanical collection.

The first published description of the Victoria water lily's great water platter was in 1837. Early attempts at collecting and transporting the plant live from South America failed, as did the first attempts to sprout seed. At least two English Dukes expended significant sums in their attempts. In 1849, the Duke of Devonshire's "garden boy" Joseph Paxton won the rivalry and succeeded in bringing the plant to bloom by designing and building a heated hothouse specific to the demands of the giant tropical lily.

Because of the recognition that this plant was likely to be the most majestic (read the largest) *Nymphaea* anywhere, the platter was quickly named in honor of the presiding regent Victoria. Whether Queen Victoria found this regal comparison all together flattering, one wonders. We can assume she didn't focus too closely on the girth of the Victoria leaves or their prickliness. The flowers were lovely in any case.

However, Joseph Paxton the Duke of Devonshire's polymath, did look closely on the broad expanse of Victoria leaves for inspiration in the structural design of successive glass houses. Consequently, he won another competition in 1850. At that time, English trade was vying with European marketing in an escalating exchange of ever-more elaborate trade fairs. They needed an impressive hall for the hastily conceived Great Exhibition of 1851. Stumped for an idea that could be accomplished in under a year, a Royal Commission held an international design competition. Paxton won with a design sketched on a blotter, based upon his previous work on glass houses and inspired directly by – so Paxton remarked – the radiating veined structure of the Victoria leaf!

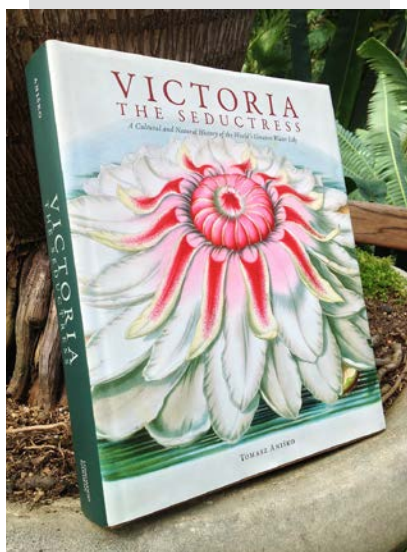
The Victoria plant itself has benefited from another friendly competition between man and nature – hybridization. The two native Victoria species 'Amazonica' and 'Cruziana' were crossed in the 1950's by Patrick Nutt of Longwood Gardens to create a third variant that's proved to be more easily cultivated than the native species. Increased size, color, and cold hardiness of the Longwood Hybrid have greatly expanded the extent to which the plants can be raised outside of hothouses.

Patrick Nutt's successor at Longwood Gardens, Tomasz Anisko, has captured all these stories of competition and inspiration in his sumptuous new book 'Victoria: The Seductress'. The bizarre blooming habits of the plant are revealed along with observations about its discovery, cultivation, and its curious niche in architectural history.

Happily for local (and visiting international) water gardeners, Dr. Anisko will be attending the IWGS (International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society) Symposium in Denver on August 14th – 16th. He'll give the Aug. 15th keynote presentation on the subject of Victoria. Copies of his book will also be on sale at a discounted price.

The Symposium overlaps the annual IWGS New Waterlily Competition. This summer-long test of newly hybridized water lilies is the most important contemporary international venue for aquatic botanical competition. For the last three seasons, the Competition has been held here at Denver Botanic Gardens. Hybridizers from around the world enter the Competition by providing seedlings of their recent work. DBG's Senior Horticulturist Tamara Kilbane pots the seedlings identically and grows them out under controlled conditions in a common test pond. The results – growth rates, habits, blooming periods, etc. – are recorded both statistically and visually through digital photos for eventual review by a panel of industry and academic peers. At the end of the summer, winners are chosen in several categories. Some of these go on to become popular and profitable in the trade. N. 'Wanvisa', a dramatically splotched hardy, is a recent winner that's now widely marketed.

(continued on page 5)



'Victoria, The Seductress', a book by Tomasz Anisko - Keynote Speaker at the 2014 IWGS Symposium, (photo courtesy of IWGS)



2013 IWGS Competition Pond at DBG with Victoria Water Lilies, (photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)

Competitive Beauty

(continued from page 4)

Ideally, a live panel on-site would complete judging, but given the wide range of bloom times for various hardy, tropical, and sub-generic hybrids, the panel has met “virtually” to review the records. This summer, however, a number of the world’s most important hybridizers will be in Denver attending the IWGS Symposium. In addition, several – Brandon McLane, Tony Moore, and Mike Giles – will be demonstrating their hybridizing techniques during a demonstration at Hudson Gardens on August 16th.

The July issue of *The WaterGarden* will cover the offerings of the IWGS Symposium in greater detail, but for more information now, or to register and receive an Early Bird registration price reduction, visit the IWGS website at <http://iwgs.org/2014-iwgs-symposium-registration/>. To make the event more affordable to local participants, a range of Daily Registration Rates have been developed. You can pick the aspects of the Symposium that most interest you. Events are also designed to cover the metropolitan area geographically with individual sessions in Cherry Creek, Denver Botanic Gardens, Hudson Gardens, and Mt. Goliath to name a few. Depending upon venue and timing, some registrations include food and Docent-guided tours.

Club members are helping the IWGS and Denver Botanic Gardens to stage the Symposium, and we will be staffing the Water Blossom Festival on August 15th that’s being held in conjunction with the Symposium. We encourage member participation in both events and hope to see lots of familiar local faces – as well as new – at the various venues.

Upcoming Pond Tour

by Dorothy Martinez

We are teaming up with the Pikes Peak Water Garden Society’s Pond Tour this year. We will not be organizing or hosting our own Pond Tour or Picnic this year.

Pikes Peak Water Garden Society (PPWGS) hosts a pond tour each summer. The tour features PPWGS members’ water gardens and yards. The tour is open to the public at no cost. The pond tour will be Saturday, July 26th and Sunday, July 27th from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm each day. Maps will be available starting Sunday, July 20th. Maps will be available through noon of the last day (July 27th) of the event. You will be able to print your own map packet from a link on the PPWGS webpage at http://www.ppwgs.org/pond_tour/pond_tour.php when details are finalized and ready.

More information, details, and a map will be available in the July edition of *The WaterGarden*. If you have any questions, please call Dorothy Martinez at (303) 279-3137.

2014 CWGS Plant Sale Wrap Up & Thank You!

by Vicki Aber & Dorothy Martinez

The Sale couldn't take place without a lot of hard work and planning. The Plant Sale Committee starts meeting early in the year to decide what plants to order and discuss logistics. Everyone felt this was the most successful Plant Sale in recent years.

All of the people who helped the day of the Sale made sure people found what they were looking for and made sure people bought plants they would be successful with. We have such a great knowledge base in this club, it's great to have the opportunity to share it. Some people were there for every stage, others volunteered a few hours, and some only shopped. We appreciate everyone who helped and attended the Sale! The Sale would never take place, let alone be so successful, without each and every person who takes part. Thank you, thank you!

We would also like to give a special thank you to Hudson Gardens' staff for all of their help in marketing the Sale, allowing us to use such a great venue, and their overall support.

As always, if you have any recommendations or suggestions on how we can improve future Plant Sales, please call Vicki at 303-423-9216.

New & Returning Members for June 2014

June

Bill & Jayne Bittman
Arvada, CO

(Returning)

Don & Sue Eloe
Littleton, CO

(Returning)

Carri Currier
Denver, CO

(NEW!)

Teri O'Sullivan
Denver, CO

(Returning)

Deb & Darrell Dawson
Highlands Ranch, CO

(Returning)

Joseph Salvati
Castle Rock, CO

(Returning)/(NEW!)

Ed Glassman
Denver, CO

(Returning)/(NEW!)

Thomas Taylor
Colorado Springs, CO

(NEW!)

James Howell
Denver, CO

(Returning)

Louise & Leon Thomas
Centennial, CO

(Returning)

Stuart Koons
Lakewood, CO

(Returning)/(NEW!)

Carol Tuttle
Denver, CO

(NEW!)



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I'm looking for good homes for white hardy water lily divisions. My father's house, in the Washington Park area, has been sold & will be torn down.

The house closing is scheduled sometime in the next two weeks. Please call for the exact address and to confirm the pick-up date & time, as closing may affect the date below.

*Rickie Koop
(303) 744-9332
Saturday, June 21st*

ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE HERE

Annual advertising in the newsletter also includes a listing on the CWGS website with an active link direct to your commercial webpage.

We also run single-event ads.

*For details regarding rates, sizes, and formats of ads, contact Dorothy Martinez
dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org*

Make checks payable to:
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Return this form with your payment to:
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Golden, CO 80403



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___ Check here if you are also a member of Denver Botanic Gardens

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 (August) ___

Note: Your newsletter will be made available to you electronically unless you check otherwise below.

___ ***I request to receive a paper copy of the newsletter***

Membership Fees
\$15.00 Individual; \$20.00 Family

THIS YEAR

A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

June 21: Pond Side Program
Water Features at University of Denver, Denver, CO

Bring your own picnic to enjoy!
12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

July 26 & July 27: Pikes Peak Water Garden Society Pond Tour –
Colorado Springs Area, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM each day

August 15: Water Blossom Festival, West Terrace/Plant Society
Building, DBG, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sept. 18: Potluck, Annual Board Elections, & Presentation – Plant
Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Oct. 16: Potluck, Presentation, & Planning Meeting – Plant Society
Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Dec. 18: 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

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