

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Kelly Billing, National Lotus Expert, to Speak at Get Wet .....1, 3  
by Vicki Aber

- Board Members & Chairpersons  
- Treasurer's Report .....2

A Note from the President .....3 - 4  
by Brenda Parsons-Hier

April Meeting - Video Presentation from Water's Edge .....4 - 5  
by Vicki Aber

New Security Procedures at Denver Botanic Gardens .....5 - 6  
by Dorothy Martinez

New & Returning Members .....6

- Market Place .....7 - 8

CWGS Membership Application .....9

This Year:  
CWGS Calendar .....back page

---

**Get Wet Event**  
**Kelly Billing – Renowned**  
**Speaker on Lotus**

**Mitchell Hall**  
**Denver Botanic Gardens**  
**Denver, CO**

**6:30 PM – 9:00 PM**

**Park in the Parking Garage**  
**between York Street and**  
**Josephine Street and enter the**  
**Gardens through the Pinion**  
**Gate, located just North of the**  
**Visitor Center entrance.**

---

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

---



*Kelly Billing of Maryland Aquatic Nurseries, (photo courtesy of Kelly Billing)*

## Kelly Billing, National Lotus Expert, to Speak at Get Wet

by Vicki Aber

We have a special treat in store for our March meeting. Kelly Billing will be speaking about lotus and a little about banned species on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in Mitchell Hall, Denver Botanic Gardens. Since the meeting is after hours, you can enter the Gardens through the Pinion Gate, located just North of the Visitor Center.

Kelly is a nationally recognized expert on all things lotus. She co-wrote the book "Lotus, Know it and Grow it" with Paula Biles and the "Water Gardener's Bible" with Ken Helm. She also writes frequently in trade magazines such as "Pond Trade" and "IWGS Journal". Kelly has been working in the water garden industry for over 30 years (hard to believe when you meet her, she must have started in her infancy). She has also been a manager at Maryland Aquatic Nurseries for most of that time.

Kelly is a frequent speaker at many venues from small groups like ours to regional meetings and international groups. I have heard her speak twice and she is a very energetic and passionate speaker.

Lotus has always been Kelly's special interest because of their beauty, mystery, and versatility. She has recently branched out into making art with lotus leaves. Please bring any questions you might have about lotus to the meeting, I'm sure she will be able to answer them. There will be a question and answer period after her presentation.

**2016 Board of Directors:**

<b>President</b>	
Brenda Parsons-Hier	303.278.2106
<b>Vice President</b>	
Vicki Aber	303.423.9216
<b>Secretary</b>	
Tamara Kilbane	303.865.3556
<b>Treasurer</b>	
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
<b>Members-At-Large</b>	
Dennis Weatherman (MAL1)	303.457.1783
Jim Arneill (MAL2)	303.843.9619
Gabriella Bertelmann (MAL3)	303.777.7774
Sue Weatherman (MAL4)	303.457.1783
Rebecca Nash (MAL5)	303.766.2863
Janet Bathurst (MAL6)	303.421.1144
Peter Hier (MAL7)	303.278.2106
Bill Bathurst (MAL8)	303.421.1144
Fran Hoffman (MAL9)	303.978.0124

The Water Garden is the official journal of the Colorado Water Garden Society (CWGS)  
Copyright © 1983-2014

**Please Note:**

Opinions expressed by authors in this publication are their own. Products reviewed and/or advertised are not specifically endorsed by CWGS. Please contact Dorothy Martinez, Newsletter Editor, to obtain permission to reproduce materials published in The Water Garden. Reproductions should credit CWGS and the author.

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 February 25, 2016  
- \$11,140.12

**2016 Committee and Event Chairs:**

<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
<b>Membership</b>	
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
<b>Publicity &amp; Outreach</b>	
Jim Arneill	303.843.9619
<b>Get Wet Event</b>	
Vicki Aber	303.423.9216
<b>CWGS June Plant Sale</b>	
Vicki Aber	303.423.9216
Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144
Fran Hoffman	303.978.0124
Brenda Parsons-Hier	303.278.2106
Tamara Kilbane	720.865.3556
<b>Pond Tour / Picnic</b>	
Rebecca Nash	303.766.2863
Dennis Weatherman	303.457.1783
Sue Weatherman	303.457.1783
<b>Water Blossom Festival</b>	
Bill Powell	303.355.8098
<b>Holiday Banquet</b>	
Fran Hoffman	303.978-0124
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
<b>WebPage / Archives</b>	
Bill Bathurst	303.421.1144
Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
<b>DBG Plant Sale &amp; DBG Volunteers</b>	
Tamara Kilbane	720.865.3556
Brenda Parsons-Hier	303.278.2106
<b>Hudson Gardens' Volunteers</b>	
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137

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



*'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum' Lotus Bud, (photo courtesy of Joe Mascarenas)*



*'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum' Lotus, (photo courtesy of Joe Mascarenas)*



*'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum' Lotus Bud, (photo courtesy of Joe Mascarenas)*

## Kelly Billing, National Lotus Expert, to Speak at Get Wet

(continued from page 1)

At some point Kelly got involved in the very convoluted world of controlled plant species. When I say convoluted, it is no exaggeration. Many levels of government have decided it is their duty to say what plants we can and can't grow. Some regulations make sense, others not so much. Protecting native species from invasive introduced species is something I think we can all understand. Banning Water Hyacinth in climates (like ours) where there is really no chance of overwintering makes less sense.

Kelly has kept a list of what plants are controlled and where they are controlled. Needless to say, this list is a moving target. She compiled and maintains the Aquatic Plant Regulated & Invasive Species List for the nursery trade in the United States. Kelly will also speak briefly to us on this topic.

In addition, we will also have Robert Walters from the Colorado Parks & Wildlife speak about the State's Aquatic Nuisance Species list. Robert will give us a short explanation of what aquatic plants are controlled in Colorado. Colorado Parks & Wildlife really wants to team up with various Pond Clubs to explain and educate everyone about Aquatic Nuisance Species. Please, no throwing rotten fruit! After all, he is just the messenger.

Be sure not to miss this meeting, I'm sure it will be quite informative!

## A Note from the President

by Brenda Parsons-Hier

The Winter of 2016 has been a season of extremes. The national political scene has been wild, and so has our weather. We had weeks of snow and ice, then record heat, and recently... such wind! Once again, snow is on the way. I'm just happy to enjoy the view from my window for once and not see ice. Watching the fish moving to the surface is wonderful, and it reminds me that Spring isn't too far away.

With Spring comes everything we water gardeners love – the return of color to the garden, an annual explosion of life in our ponds, and water gardeners coming together to share ideas and plants. The annual Plant Swap (May 19<sup>th</sup>) is always a motivator to clean up our plants and look forward to getting some new ones. Peter wants to know where WILL I put them all?

(continued on page 4)

## A Note from the President

(continued from page 3)



*'Pekinensis Rubra' Lotus, (photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)*

Our recurring Club Pond-Side meetings are a time to socialize and enjoy each other's efforts. And the CWGS Pond Tour! What can I say? I'm so happy to report that plans are already in the works for a Pond Tour of Aurora and southeast Denver area. Thanks Rebecca, Sue and Dennis for taking this on! Also, thanks to member Robert Kahn.

First though, I'm really looking forward to meeting and hearing Kelly Billing, our initial speaker of the season. The club is flying her in from Maryland to speak at the Club's "Get Wet" event at Denver Botanic Gardens. By the way, this year "Get Wet" falls a month earlier than usual in March. That's nearly here!

Kelly is the nursery manager for Maryland Aquatic Nurseries. She's a regular columnist for several publications, an award-winning writer, and by all reports, Kelly is a really dynamic speaker. Her presentation on March 17<sup>th</sup> in Mitchell Hall will focus on lotus (see Vicki's article in this issue for all the details).



*'Rosy Clouds' Lotus, (photo courtesy of Bill Bathurst)*

While I know something about lotus, I can't always grow it successfully. Mine don't always bloom; do yours? Maybe Kelly will have a few tips to encourage lotus at our higher altitudes.

Speaking of lotus, there should be many new and interesting lotus varieties on sale at the Aquatics Division of the DBG May Plant Sale. Many have been ordered directly from China. And once again this year, the Club will be holding our own popular Sale in June at Hudson Gardens. It's a great and convenient location, and the Sale offers the chance to buy tropical lilies that aren't widely available at affordable prices.

The CWGS 2016 calendar is packed with these, and even more, events – potlucks, video presentations, and get-togethers. It's "just plain fun." Join us, and I'll see you soon!



*'Chawan Basu' Lotus, (photo courtesy of Bob Hoffman)*

## April Meeting – Video Presentation from Water's Edge

by Vicki Aber

Looking ahead to our April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, we have a taped talk - but it is a good one. During the Denver IWGS Symposium meeting in August 2014, Deb Spencer and Susan Davis from Water's Edge gave a very lively talk on using plants in ways you might not have thought of.

Deb and Susan have some great original ideas, and in many cases, have used plants you might not think of as aquatic. I was making notes right and left during the talk and came away with many new ideas. Peter Hier was kind enough to record the talk from the Symposium, so we may view it.



'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum' Lotus at Hudson Gardens, (photo courtesy of John Funk)



'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum' Lotus at Hudson Gardens, (photo courtesy of John Funk)

## April Meeting – Video Presentation from Water's Edge

(continued from page 4)

Deb and Susan own and operate Water's Edge, a pond related business located in Lawrence, Kansas. According to their website "Water's Edge is committed to providing the best pond related plants and materials and assisting their customers with the information needed to build and maintain healthy ecosystems. Water's Edge also assists customers with design ideas and can offer technical advice when needed." Their website is an excellent resource and has a lot of useful information. The website is located at <http://watersedge.com/>.

If you want new ideas for your pond, please join us for the April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting! Meeting details will be in the April issue of *"The Water Garden, a Journal of the Colorado Water Garden Society"*.



## New Security Procedures at Denver Botanic Gardens

by Dorothy Martinez

The new Security Procedures regarding all upcoming CWGS meetings held at the Denver Botanic Gardens is all gates and entrances will be locked after the Gardens close to the public. The only way to access the Gardens after closing time is to contact a CWGS member or Security. For the Winter/Summer (September 26<sup>th</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup>), after hours is any time after 5:00 pm. For the Summer/Fall (May 8<sup>th</sup> through September 25<sup>th</sup>), after hours is any time after 8 pm.

Only those members who are loading, unloading, or have a handicap placard will be allowed to park in the North Staff Parking Lot near the Plant Society Building. All others will be required to park in the Parking Garage located between York Street and Josephine Street and then will have to walk over to the North Staff Parking Gate to be let in by Security.

(continued on page 6)

## New Security Procedures at Denver Botanic Gardens

(continued from page 5)

If you are entering the Gardens during normal business hours, you can enter through the Visitor Center. To access the Gardens after normal business hours, you will need to contact Security at (303) 472-1288 to get in. Depending on where the Security person is when you call, it may take up to 10 minutes for them to let you in.

For our meeting in March, the Pinion Gate, located just North of the Visitor Center, will remain unlocked from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm. It is not clear at this time if the Pinion Gate will be open from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm for our April meeting. We'll keep you posted as information becomes available. Since our October meeting is at the Waring House, you will enter the Waring House from 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and not have to go through the Gardens for access. We are not sure what the procedure will be for the December meeting, we will have more information as that date approaches.

We are very sorry for this inconvenience, but this has been a decision of Denver Botanic Gardens to address issues related to maintenance, safety, and security. Changes were necessary to increase safety and prevent unauthorized persons from entering the Gardens after hours. Plant Societies were not consulted before this change was made. We are in ongoing communications with the Gardens concerning this change.

### New and Returning Members for Nov. & Dec. 2015, January, February, & March 2016

#### November 2015

**Larry Wiberg** *(NEW!/Returning)*  
Denver, CO

#### December 2015

**Larry Brown** *(Returning)*  
Brighton, CO

**Susan Davis & Deb Spencer** *(NEW!)*  
Lawrence, KS

#### January 2016

**Jana & Lew Artelli** *(Returning)*  
Littleton, CO

**Ken & Teresa Burkert** *(Returning)*  
Northglenn, CO

**Charlotte Knudson** *(Returning)*  
Boulder, CO

**Justin & Lois Krause** *(Returning)*  
Arvada, CO

**Dierdre Parker** *(NEW!/Returning)*  
Boulder, CO

#### February 2016

**Trina Jacobson & Les Petrash** *(Returning)*  
Denver, CO

**Art of the Yard** *(Returning)*  
Highlands Ranch, CO

**Jared's Nursery, Gift, & Garden** *(Returning)*  
Littleton, CO

**Nick's Garden Center & Farm Market** *(Returning)*  
Aurora, CO

**Rocky Mountain WaterScape** *(Returning)*  
Erie, CO

**Tagawa Gardens** *(Returning)*  
Centennial, CO

**True Pump & Equipment** *(Returning)*  
Denver, CO

#### March 2016

**Charlie Oleson** *(Returning)*  
Lakewood, CO



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
WATERSCAPE**

**Design, Construction,  
Maintenance**

*Award Winning Water Features  
Inspired by Nature*

(303) 666-5430  
Mark Russo's mobile (303) 870-5607  
[www.rmwaterscape.com](http://www.rmwaterscape.com)



**True Pump**

Water Gardening  
Supplies  
POND KITS  
PUMPS  
FILTERS  
LINERS  
AQUATIC PLANTS  
FISH

303-744-3505  
800-999-9021

[www.truepump.com](http://www.truepump.com)  
1429 S. Broadway  
Denver, CO 80210




**JARED'S**  
Nursery, Gift  
& Garden

10500 W Bowles Ave  
Littleton CO, 80127  
303.979.6022  
[www.jaredsgarden.com](http://www.jaredsgarden.com)

We carry water plants, koi, pond supplies  
and more. Stop in for all your pond and  
and yard needs.



**Tagawa  
Gardens**

*Water Plants & Supplies for a  
Purr-fect Water Garden!*

7711 S. Parker Rd., Centennial, CO 80031  
303.690.4722  
[TagawaGardens.com](http://TagawaGardens.com)



**JUST EAST OF DENVER IN AURORA**

**Nick's GARDEN CENTER & FARM MARKET**

**Superior Quality**

**TWO BLOCKS NORTH OF ILIFF ON SOUTH CHAMBERS ROAD**

**Everything You Need For Your Water Garden!**

**GREAT SELECTION:**

Water Plants	Fish Food
Koi and Goldfish	Pumps and Filters
Water Treatments	Experienced Staff

2001 SOUTH CHAMBERS ROAD \* AURORA, COLORADO 80014  
CALL US TODAY AT (303) 696-6657 \* NICKSGARDENCENTER.COM



**Art of the Yard**

**Creating Paradise in Your Own Backyard**

We specialize in the design, installation, & maintenance of water features in Denver & its surrounding areas. With 30+ years of experience, we strive to provide the best in quality & service. We offer a 1-year guarantee on all our workmanship.

**Contact us at 303-204-0456**  
or  
<http://customwaterfeaturesdenver.com/index.html>

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



**Make checks payable to:  
"Colorado Water Garden Society"**

**Return this form with your payment to:  
CWGS Membership  
14837 W. 57<sup>th</sup> Drive  
Golden, CO 80403**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Required for electronic receipt of newsletter..  
(note: CWGS does not share or sell email addresses)*

\_\_\_ *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:*

**March 17: Get Wet Presentation featuring Kelly Billing**  
**Mitchell Hall**  
**Denver Botanic Gardens**

6:30 PM – 9:00 PM, Presentation on Lotus and Aquatic Nuisance Species

**April 21: Potluck & Video Presentation by the Water's Edge –**  
*Cottonwood Classroom, DBG, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM*

**May 6 & May 7: DBG Annual Plant Sale – Area near Marnie's Pavilion,**  
*DBG, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Friday and Saturday*

**May 19: Potluck & Annual Plant Swap – Plant Society Building, DBG,**  
*6:00 PM – 8:00 PM*

**June 5: CWGS Annual Plant Sale – Business Office/Residence, The**  
*Hudson Gardens & Event Center, Littleton, CO, Members only 9:00 AM –*  
*10:00 AM, General Public 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*

**June 25: Pond Side Program – Neupert Residence, Picnic Potluck,**  
*Boulder, CO, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM*

**July 16: CWGS Pond Tour & Picnic – Southeast Denver & Aurora Area,**  
*Pond Tour 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Picnic 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM*

**August 6: Water Blossom Festival – Monet Pond Area, Tours of**  
*Aquatic Greenhouse & DBG Gardens, DBG, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM*

**August 27: Pond Side Program – Bathurst Residence, Picnic Potluck,**  
*Arvada, CO, 11:00 PM – 3:00 PM*

**Sept. 22: Potluck, Annual Board Elections, Presentation, & 2017**  
**Planning Meeting – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

**Oct. 13: Potluck & Planning Meeting – Great Room, Waring House,**  
*DBG, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM*

**Dec. 15: Holiday Banquet & Volunteer Recognition, – Plant Society**  
*Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM*



FIRST CLASS MAIL

From...

### The Water Garden

c/o Dorothy Martinez, 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)