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Online at:
www.colowatergardensociety.org

*Have we wrapped-up
your present for next
season?*

See page 5

Enjoy old friends and meet new at our

December 9 Holiday Party *It's Free!*

by Dorothy Martinez

Kick the holiday season off by attending the CWGS Annual Holiday Party. This year our annual holiday banquet will be at the Montview Presbyterian Church on Thursday, December 9th. The church is located at 1980 Dahlia Street (corner of Dahlia Street and Montview Blvd.). This year's location comes with a large space complete with Christmas tree and fireplace. It's the McCollum room on the second floor, just below the Green Room where we've met throughout this season.

The evening promises festivities for everyone to enjoy. The party will start at 7:00 pm. There will be time to socialize, see old friends, and make new ones. This is a great opportunity to meet with other people who are also interested in water gardening. You can share stories with others about your successes as well as the challenges you had with your water feature.

Dinner will be served around 7:30 pm. After dinner, there will be some announcements, introduction of Board Members, and recognition of volunteers, including several whose service to the club has been so extensive and of such long duration that they are to receive honorary, lifetime memberships. Curious who these may be? Join us and find out!

The main event is the annual white elephant gift exchange. Since we are 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 than \$10.

(continued on page 4)



Parking and access Information:

Park along Dahlia St. or in the "West" church parking lot accessed from Dahlia.

Enter the Church building via the covered portico facing Dahlia, just north of the rear sanctuary steps. A handicapped ramp leads from the city sidewalk to the left door at the portico. (Look for a sign on the door that reads "Center for Immigration Services.")

Once in the building, walk up the half flight of stairs to level 2. Turn left to the McCollum room.

Please note this is on the floor below the room in which we met during the remainder of the year.

2010 Board of Directors:

President	
Vicki Aber	303.423.9216
Vice President	
Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144
Secretary	
Bill Bathurst	303.421.1144
Treasurer	
Jim Wohlenhaus	303.429.9119
Members-At-Large	
Brenda Parsons Hier	303.278.2106
Peter Hier	303.278.2106
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
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137

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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 Oct 31: \$12,395.20

Need to join or renew?...

... The application is on page 9

Does CWGS have your current email address? If you're not sure, contact us.

2010 Committee and Event Chairs:

Newsletter Editor	
Bill Powell	303.355.8098
Newsletter Assembly	
Gary and Joyce Blubaugh	303.989.4464
Membership	
Ken Lange	303.393.8410
Bill Bathurst	303.421.1144
Program	
Bill Bathurst	303.421.1144
Publicity & Outreach	
Jim Arneill	303.843.9619
Marge Oleson	303.989.4809
Education	
Cyndie Thomas	303.755.1885
Get Wet Event	
Jim Arneill	303.834.9619
CWGS June Plant Sale	
Vicki Aber	303.423.9216
Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
Pond Tour / Picnic	
Michael Weber	303.322.6769
Jim Wohlenhaus	303.429.9119
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
Water Blossom Festival	
Duff Kerr	303.871.0336
Marge Oleson	303.989.4809
Bill Powell	303.355.8098
Holiday Banquet	
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
Michael Weber	303.499.6578
WebPage / Archives	
Bill Bathurst	303.421.1144
Janet Bathurst	303.421.1144
DBG Plant Sale & Volunteers	
Bill Powell	303.355.8098
Marge Oleson	303.989.4809

Changes are underway...

Unless you have specifically requested continued receipt of The WaterGarden in paper form, you will receive it electronically.

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

Dorothy.Martinez@colowatergardensociety.org.

From the President... Here's to a short winter

by Vicki Aber, CWGS President

With luck, our ponds are all sleeping peacefully by now. As I write this I'm still fussing with leaves and the like but I know by the time you read this we will probably be dealing with ice. Here's to a short winter and an early spring so we can get back out there.

In September CWGS held its annual meeting and elections. The Board slate that was proposed in the last newsletter was elected on September 9 with one addition. I'd like to welcome the following returning directors and our newest Member-At-Large (MAL) Joyce Bickel.

Elected Board Slate for 2011

Vice President – remains open

Secretary – Dorothy Martinez

MAL 2 Jim Arneill.

MAL 4 Bill Powell.

MAL 6 Marge Oleson

MAL 8 Michael Weber

MAL 3 Joyce Bickel

No one stood for the Vice President's slot so that remains vacant. Anyone interested? We could appoint you! The Secretary Position and MAL 2,4,6, and 8 were elected for two-year terms. Joyce is filling the 1 year remaining on the term of the MAL 3 slot previously occupied by Dorothy who moved on to become Secretary. Joyce will be eligible for re-election to a two-year term in the fall of next year (2011).

In addition to the open Vice Presidency, there's also another slot that remains open (MAL 9). So there's still plenty of opportunity for more of you to become involved! By the way, only half of the

Board is elected in any year. Folks who were elected last year continue to serve in 2011.

It looks like we will have a good Board group for 2011, but we will be missing two board members who decided to step down. Bill and Janet Bathurst promise to be active in the club despite wishing not to be on the board at this time. They have been invaluable. Bill agreed to be Secretary despite really hating the job. He helped us keep on track and kept accurate records of our meetings. He also was instrumental in setting up the club's new website. Janet stepped up to Vice President and had my back on too many occasions to count. I plan on holding them to their promise to not be strangers. In addition to their service to the club, they have become close personal friends.

We also had a great general recap/planning meeting and potluck in October. There was a good turnout of familiar faces and a few newer ones. The input from the meeting will help us plan for next year. If anyone was not able to attend and would like to share ideas for next year on things to do, things not to do, meeting places and times, please let anyone on the Board know.

The next thing we have to anticipate is the Christmas party. Details are on the front page of this newsletter. I know that the date falling at the beginning of the month risks that we may not quite be in the Christmas spirit yet, but on the other hand the hectic-ness (is that a word?) of the season won't have taken over. Please come and enjoy great food, camaraderie, some well-deserved volunteer recognition, and the chaos of the gift exchange.

NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS FOR Sept/Oct/Nov.

Robert and Janice Bowland *new member*
Idaho Springs, CO

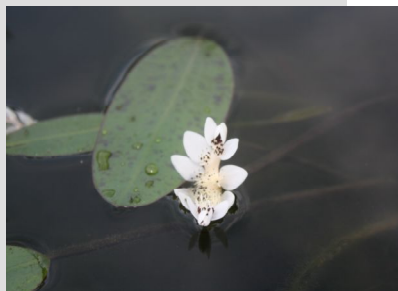
Larry and Keann Brown
Brighton, CO

Cheri Jensen *new member*
Golden, CO

Rebecca Nash
Centennial, CO

Werner and Nancy Neupert
Boulder, CO

Thanks, and Welcome!



A harbinger of spring, Vicki Aber's water hawthorn "is usually blooming shortly after the ice is off the water."

And here's to spring!

Focus on...

Water Hawthorn (*Aponogeton distachyus*)

by Vicki Aber

This plant scares some people because of the name. No, it has nothing to do with a prickly tree! The name came from the scent of the flowers. The plant has floating leaves much like water lilies, but elongated. The leaves are a nice dark green color.

The best thing about water hawthorn is its blooming season. It likes cooler water. Mine is usually blooming shortly after the ice is off the water. It's a real harbinger of spring!

During the heat of the summer when all the other plants are going great guns, water hawthorn takes a little break, quits blooming and has fewer floating leaves. Some people think their plant may have died. Whatever you do, don't pull it out!

Later in the season when the lilies have given up and your pond is kind of sad looking, here comes the water hawthorn again. It grows more leaves and resumes blooming. I'm writing this at the end of October and my water hawthorn has three blooms.

Water hawthorn doesn't take much space - a two-foot circle should be more than adequate. Some people plant it in the same pot with a hardy lily. Since the plants leaf and flower at different times they are more complimentary than competitive. However, I keep mine in a separate pot so I don't get confused at repotting time and accidentally toss the hawthorn bulbs.

The hawthorn's bloom has a very nice scent. Most times you have to get right next to the plant to catch a whiff, but other times you can smell it just walking by the pond.

Water Hawthorn is listed as a zone 6 plant, but I treat mine the same as the lilies and have not had a problem with it returning in the spring. If you don't have one of these plants, be thinking about it for next pond season.



December Holiday Party

(continued from front page)

For those of you who are volunteers at Denver Botanic Gardens, please note that the Garden's Holiday Volunteer Celebration is the same evening. If you arrive at DBG at the beginning of that event (6:00 PM), you should be able to stroll Blossoms of Light, enjoy refreshments and still make the CWGS Holiday Banquet by the time dinner is served at 7:30. Travel time between the Gardens and the church should take about 15 minutes.

The evening of the 9th will also be a busy one at the church. **Please park in the "West Parking Lot."** It's just across Dahlia from the Church entrance. Look for signs directing you.

Please bring your favorite side dish to share. CWGS will provide the main dish, dessert, and drinks. **The festivities are free...**and delicious! Come and enjoy good friends, good food, and a good night for all.

We are looking for some help with setting up for the party. If you are available to arrive at 6:00 pm, please call Dorothy Martinez at (303) 279-3137.

If you have any questions, please call Dorothy at (303) 279-3137 or Michael Weber at (303) 322-6769. See you December 9th!



Horticulturalist Tamara Kilbane speaks about the 2010 IWGS New Waterlily Competition

by Bill Powell



Above:
First day bloom of N.
'Wanvisa' which won both
Best New Hardy and Best
Waterlily.

Below:
Tamara Kilbane, Duke
Gardens Horticulturalist



Below:
Winner in the Tropical
Division – N. 'Bimini Twist'



All bloom photos by
Tamara Kilbane

At the end of August (too late to make our Sept./Oct newsletter), club members who were available for a brown bag lunch on a weekday enjoyed an introduction to the operations of the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society's New Waterlily Competition. We also got a peek into new hybrids under consideration for honors in the competition. The winners have since been selected and can be viewed online at www.hr.duke.edu/dukegardens/waterlilies.htm

DBG's Curator of Water Gardens Joe Tomocik welcomed CWGS members and staff of Denver Botanic Gardens to the presentation in Gates Hall. Tamara Kilbane, a horticulturalist at Sarah P. Duke Gardens in Durham NC, followed Joe's opening remarks with a general explanation of the history and operations of the IWGS New Waterlily trials and some great shots of the 2010 entries.

The competition has been held since 2008 in Duke Gardens, a 55 acre botanical garden located in the heart of Duke University. Plants entered into the competition are raised under controlled conditions throughout the summer. Joe observed that Tamara's careful oversight of the propagation of the plants has taken the IWGS trials "to a new level."

The purpose of the competition is to encourage the development of new colors, forms, and growth habits in nymphaea, both hardy and tropical. Tamara noted that recent trends in hybridization have increased petal variation and mottling of leaves. Recent competitions have also included "intersubgeneric" selections.

Not all winners from the competition go on to mass-production and the commercial market. Some hybrids prove to be unstable and can't be replicated. But many of the past winners have become staples.

For plants to be considered, entry forms must be completed by the end of February. Hardy entries arrive at Duke Gardens in March. Tropicals arrive in late April and May. Tamara takes a photo of each plant upon arrival and she and her volunteers pot them in 6" round pots and place them in heated tanks. Hardy plants are up-potted to 16" tubs in April and then placed outside. Tropicals follow in the second week of June. Both are initially given five tablets of fertilizer and fed twice a month. All plants are groomed regularly.

Nine to twelve judges are selected each year from around the country. Because they can't necessarily visit the growing site at the moment that each plant is performing at its best, Tamara and her team take seven photos of each plant as follows:

1. Bud stage
2. 1st. day bloom

(continued bottom of page 7)

We'll see what comes out in the "Wash"

by Bill Powell



*Above:
Looking across the
Washington Park Lily
pond toward Smith Lake*

*Below:
Volunteers from the
Friends and Neighbors
of Washington Park and
CWGS meet to discuss
a possible restoration
project.*



*Below:
The Lily Pond water level
is still high in October, but
how will it fare in mid-
winter?*



photos by Bill Powell

From time to time CWGS takes part in special projects that promote interest in water gardening or that help the community to develop and improve resources related to water gardening. Recently we were approached by the Friends And Neighbors of Washington Park, a volunteer community-based group that assists the city in preserving and maintaining Washington Park, a 165 acre Municipal park in south central Denver.

The FANs of Wash Park would like to restore the park's "Lily Pond" to its original purpose. Currently, it serves as an overflow for Smith Lake, a larger body of water that lies to the pond's south. It's also stocked as a kid's fishing hole, an activity the city and FANs would like to maintain.

Wash Park, as it's affectionately called by locals, was designed and constructed between 1899 and 1908. German landscape architect Reinhard Schuetze conceived the park's footprint, and his vision remains largely intact although it has been enhanced over the years through additions of a handsome boathouse and large evergreen groves as well as other improvements.

The "Lily Pond" was original to Schuetze's design and is known to have included waterlilies. None remain. Today the pond is devoid of planting except for some cattails that survive near the spillway from Smith Lake.

The disappearance of waterlilies may be the result of changing water levels in the pond. Smith Lake, which feeds the pond, is part of the city's reservoir system and is subject to great seasonal changes in elevation as supply and demand for water ebb and flow. When Smith Lake is high, water flows through a buried spillway into the Lily Pond, but when the water level drops in Smith Lake during drier months, flow to the subsidiary pond is curtailed. Because the Lily Pond is unlined, without a continuous supply of water to replenish loss, water can be largely absorbed by the clay bottom. As a consequence, the Lily Pond is all but empty during drought.

FANs of Wash Park hopes to re-establish the landscape architect's original purpose for the Lily Pond and so have involved CWGS in evaluation and design of the project. Recently, members from both CWGS and FAN met to discuss options. Given the challenge of the ever-changing water levels in the pond and the many municipal authorities that must be consulted, the project is likely to extend over several seasons.

As a beginning it was decided to monitor the pond and chart the extent of water loss during the winter – the season of the year we believe, historically, water loss to have been the greatest. Representatives from FAN will also use the time to meet with city officials. We plan to convene again in spring to pool information and brainstorm possibilities.

If you are interested in participating in the project, contact either Cindy Johnstone cindy.johnstone@comcast.net or Jim Arneill at arneill4@comcast.net



Photos by Joe Tomocik



From The Curator

by Joe Tomocik

Days are getting shorter and colder. Tropical waterlilies, remarkably, continued to flower on warmer days, but another wonderful season of sparkling waterlilies has come to a close. And once more, the Colorado Water Gardening Society volunteers made a welcome appearance, dismantling the Gardens' award-winning displays and putting to rest a multitude of waterlilies ahead of cold weather. For five Sundays this fall the CWGS volunteers have given time, energy and skill to the water gardening effort at Denver Botanic Gardens.

This winter DBG's main water garden, which many of us still call the Monet Pool, will be drained in order to remove the huge Henry Moore sculpture that's been on display this season. Although necessary for the Moore exhibit to move on to its next destination by early in the year, draining the pool during winter presents a challenge for water-gardening. Plants that might have lived in a dormant state tucked safely under the ice may be exposed to extreme cold and arid conditions while the pond is empty. So the best choice this winter is to move the waterlilies from the Monet Pool to the Romantic and Fountain Pools where with a bit of luck, the water levels will remain stable. Chances are good that the waterlilies will escape the hard freeze that could kill or severely injure even the hardiest aquatic plants.

Working in the rain!

The morning of Sunday October 10, (shown in the accompanying photos) was cool with a bit of rain. The rain increased and was steady...very steady. Not ones to give up easily, the vigilant CWGS volunteers applied themselves to the arduous task of removing the cumbersome and super-heavy waterlilies from the Monet pool, inventorying them, and carefully placing them in the Romantic and Fountain Gardens' pools. If anything, the harder it rained, the harder the volunteers worked!

From Denver Botanic Gardens, Director of Horticulture Sarada Krishnan and myself, thank you champion CWGS volunteers! Yes indeed; another job well done!

IWGS New Waterlily Competition

(continued from page 5)

3. 2nd. day bloom
4. 2nd. day bloom with ruler
5. 3rd. day bloom
6. Leaf
7. yardstick over whole-plant expanse

The judges rank flower, foliage, and general impression, assigning values to each aspect. The plants with the highest scores win in various categories.

The IWGS New Waterlily Competition in its eleventh year. 33 entries from around the world were entered in this year's trials. The winner for 2010 "Best New Waterlily" and "Best New Hardy Waterlily" is N. 'Wanvisa' by Nopchai Chansilpa. The winner for Best New Tropical Waterlily was N. 'Bimini Twist' by Florida Aquatic Nurseries. Sompom Janjunjern won with his entry N. 'Maeploi' in the category Best New Tropical Night-blooming Waterlily. Pairat Songpanich's N. 'Siam Pink' won in the Intersubgeneric division. Announcement of the winners was made at the IWGS Awards Banquet in San Angelo Texas on September 18th.



*Above:
Best new tropical
night-bloomer –
'Maeploi'*



Photo by Bruce Polkowsky

DBG Greenhouses Open

After years of design and construction, the Botanic Gardens' new greenhouse complex is open. The public can tour portions and peer into others from an "orangerie" that runs one end of half of the working greenhouses. The Aquatics area will not be visible to the public, and isn't quite fitted with furnishings yet. But, perhaps in early spring we can arrange a behind the scenes tour of this state-of-the-art complex.

Also coming to DBG (but not there yet) will be a new Plant Societies Building, which is where we'll often meet in the future. More about that in the first issue of the 2011 WaterGarden.



Blog Away!

by Dorothy Martinez

The Colorado Water Garden Society's blog* is up and running! Our blog is now available for everyone to use as an information resource. You can use the blog to:

- Post an article or information pertaining to water gardening
- Comment or add advice pertaining to a posted article
- Follow issues that are being discussed by other members

We plan to add a relevant article pertaining to the time of season about once per month. This month we will publish articles relating to winterizing both your bowl lotuses and your pond. These are pieces that are unique to the blog. They don't appear in the newsletter, so be sure to check it out! The blog's purpose is not a chat forum, but more of a source of information on topics of interest to members.

The blog can be accessed by going to the website, www.colowatergardensociety.org. Look for "CWGS Blog" to the left of the screen. Click on "CWGS Blog". This will take you to the blog site. Once at the site, you can read articles already posted, plus any comments and questions that have been posted relating to those articles.

If you wish to post items directly to the blog or add comments, you must join the blog. If you wish only to read what is already posted, it's not necessary to join the blog. If you would like something posted to the blog, but do not wish to join the blog, you can send items to Dorothy Martinez at dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org. Dorothy will review, edit, and post those items to the blog.

To join the blog, access the blog site as noted above and look on the right side of the page toward the bottom for the title "Meta". Under this title is "Register". Click on "Register", and you will be directed

to the "Word Press" login screen. Here you will be prompted to create a user name and input your e-mail address.

Once you have input your user name and e-mail address, click on the "Register" tab. A password will be e-mailed to you. Your password should be e-mailed to you quickly, but please note it may take up to 24 hours for you to receive your password. The password is necessary to prevent unauthorized users from posting malicious comments or adding links.

When you have registered and received your password, you can access the blog site to add comments, questions, etc. To access the blog go to the blog site, look on the right side toward the bottom for the title "Meta". Under this title is "Login". Click on "Login", and you will be directed to the "Word Press" login screen. Here you will need to enter your user name and password.

If you have further questions about the blog or how to add articles, please contact Dorothy Martinez at (303) 279-3137 or

dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org

* Editor's Note:

While most of us have probably heard the word "blog" bandied about, I wasn't sure of its derivation or precise meaning. It turns out the word can refer to a range of on-line, web-based media formats. The term is a shortened composite of "web log."

Dorothy Martinez, our new blog maven, will tell you the CWGS blog is a work in progress and may change in focus, format, or operation as we become more familiar with its potential. At the moment our blog is hosted (at no cost to us) by a third party WordPress, which is why you'll see mention of that entity on the log-in and registration screens. In addition to general posting and comment, our blog can archive and retrieve based on subject or key words.



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 underwrite the cost of the
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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* _____

* Required for electronic receipt of newsletter, beginning in 2010.
 (note: CWGS does not share or sell email addresses)

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

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) _____

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

THISYEAR

A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

Thursday, Dec 9:

Holiday Banquet

**Montview Church, 1980 Dahlia St.,
Denver (Park Hill community)
McCollum Room, 2nd. Floor**

- *Park in West lot on Dahlia*
- *Festivities begin at 7:00*
- *Dinner at 7:30 PM – **It's Free!***
- *Volunteer recognition and gift exchange afterwards*



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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