

IN THIS ISSUE:

Hot Crossed Lilies (Water Blossom Festival)1/3
by Bill Powell

- Board Members & Chairpersons
- Treasurer's Report2

IWGS Water Lily Competition3/4
by Bill Powell

Remembering Mary Purdy4

2012 Pond Tour Wrap-Up5
by Dorothy Martinez

Upcoming Board Elections6
by Dorothy Martinez

New/Returning Members6

- Market Place
- Membership Application7

This Year:
CWGS Calendarback page

Pond-Side Program Neupert Residence

**Sunday, August 5th
2:00 pm**

Water Blossom Festival Denver Botanic Gardens

Saturday, August 18th

**Information, Demonstrations, &
Tours – Monet Deck Café Area
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Presentation – Plant Society
Building
1:00 pm- 2:00 pm**

Online at:
www.colowatergardensociety.org



IWGS 2012 Intergeneric Waterlily Competitor, (photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)

Hot Crossed Lilies

The Water Blossom Festival offers a wealth of blooms, a noted hybridizer, and exciting new intersubgeneric cultivars

by Bill Powell

Brandon McLane, Vice-President and hybridizer for Florida Aquatic Nurseries, will speak during this year's Water Blossom Festival on Saturday, August 18th. The Festival is an annual event held at Denver Botanic Gardens each summer to highlight the Gardens' extraordinary aquatic display and to inform the public on the growing craft and science of water gardening.

Brandon's presentation will provide both a general overview of hybridizing methods used at Florida Aquatic Nurseries and news about his recent experience working on exotic crosses of hardy and tropical water lilies. These intersubgeneric crosses are currently being pursued by hybridizers around the world with the goal of producing hardy purple and blue lilies – a color range that previously had been unknown in hardy species.

Brandon, his father, uncle, and grandfather have operated Florida Aquatic Nurseries since the 1950's. Founded to provide aquaria plants to the trade, the company's plant stock has grown to include marginal plants, surface and oxygenating species, as well as hardy and tropical water lilies. The company now offers more than 250 varieties of aquatic plants and has introduced more than a dozen tropical and hardy water lily cultivars resulting from its own hybridization program. Florida Aquatic Nurseries' cultivar N. "Scarlet Flame" was selected as the Best New Tropical Day-blooming Water Lily in the IWGS (International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society) Competition last season. It was also selected to be marketed as the IWGS 2012 Collector's Aquatic Plant of the Year.

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www.colowatergardensociety.org

CWGS Treasurer's Report:
Balance as of July 31, 2012
\$12,147.35

2012 Committee and Event Chairs:

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dorothy.martinez@colowatergardensociety.org.



IWGS 2012 Tropical Waterlily Competitor,
(photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)



IWGS 2012 Hardy Waterlily Competitor,
(photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)



IWGS 2012 Waterlily Competition Pond at Denver Botanic Gardens(Fountain Pond), (photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)

Hot Crossed Lilies

(continued from front page)

Brandon's recent interest in the development of intersubgeneric crosses between hardy and tropical water lilies is yielding results, some of which can be seen growing now in the IWGS competition trial pond at DBG. Florida Aquatics is also "growing out" a large number of these crosses at their own facilities and Brandon promises to include photos of the results in his presentation. Festival attendants will, in fact, be the first to see and hear about these exciting new plants from Florida Aquatic Nurseries. We'll also be able to view firsthand all the new crosses entered in the 2012 Competition at DBG. For additional information regarding the IWGS New Waterlily Competition and to learn how you can vote on your favorite entry, see the accompanying article below.

The Water Blossom Festival is a daylong event that includes information, personalized help, hands-on demonstrations of aquatic gardening techniques, and docent-guided tours of DBG's many water gardens. We'll be offering behind-the-scenes peeks at the working aquatic greenhouse too. It's normally closed to the public, but offers insight to the work undertaken by staff and volunteers year-round.

Tamara Kilbane, DBG's Senior Horticulturist in charge of Aquatics, will also be on hand pond-side during the tours to explain the purpose, history, and protocols of the IWGS Competition.

The Festival begins at 10:00 am pond-side near the "Monet" water garden and Monet Deck Café. Look for the Club's brown tents. Throughout the morning and continuing until 1:00 pm we'll be offering a cultivation demonstration and two tours. Brandon McLane's audio-visual presentation "Hybridizing Water Lilies" will be given at 1:00 pm in DBG's new Plant Society Building. The building can be accessed by way of the large sliding metal gate adjacent to the new Bonsai Garden.

Participation in all the Festival activities is free with the purchase of admission to the Gardens. For more information, call Bill Powell (303) 355-8098.

IWGS New Waterlily Competition ... *now underway at Denver Botanic Gardens*

by Bill Powell

For the first time in many years, the IWGS (International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society) New Waterlily Competition has returned to Denver. Tamara Kilbane, the new Senior Horticulturist in charge of Aquatics at DBG, is directing the Competition. It attracts entries of new cultivars from all over the world.

This year's competition has drawn entries from multiple countries in categories that include hardy, tropical, and intersubgeneric water lilies. Plants in the third category are essentially the product of crosses between tropical and hardy genera.

(continued on page 4)

IWGS International Waterlily Competition

(continued from page 3)

Intersubgeneric crosses are at the cutting edge of water lily hybridization today. Cultivars resulting from hybridization of hardy and tropical species had previously been thought to be impossible. In recent years such crosses have been accelerated through the work of Pairat Songpanich in Thailand, Kew Garden's Carlos Magdalena, and other expert hybridizers including Mike Giles in West Virginia and Brandon McLane of Florida Aquatic Nurseries. Brandon will be speaking at the DBG/CWGS Water Blossom Festival on August 18th. (See accompanying article on page 3 for information regarding the Festival and McLane's presentation).

The annual IWGS Competition allows new hybrids to be tested under controlled conditions and to be evaluated by a panel of experts in the fields of aquatic genetics, hybridization, and propagation. The goal is to *"promote interest in hybridizing new colors, forms, and increased frequency of blooms of various sizes of both tropical and hardy water lilies... This exciting competition has resulted in the introduction of noteworthy new hybrids: plants with unusual flower shapes and colors; new leaf patterns and colors; and new viviparous lilies."*^{note1}

Many, but not all, of the Competition entries eventually reach the market place, expanding the selections, hardiness, and growing habits of water lilies available to home gardeners.

Although experts select the eventual winners of most of the Competition's categories, you can participate via several media and platforms. The entries may be seen in person along the west walk of the Fountain Pond at DBG and they can be viewed online at <http://iwgs.org/2012-new-waterlilies-competition/>. You'll be able to vote online as well in the "People's Choice Awards" for each of the three categories. DBG's website will also provide links to the IWGS site. Additionally, CWGS plans to hold its own ballot. (Information on the CWGS vote will be forthcoming in an e-mail.)

And, if you attend the Water Blossom Festival on August 18th, you can cast your vote on the spot during the conclusion of the CWGS ballot process. The results of our Club members' poll will be announced at the conclusion of the Festival's keynote presentation.

Note 1: Quote is taken from online IWGS information about the "New Waterlily Competition."

Remembering Mary Purdy

Longtime CWGS Member Mary Purdy died on June 23rd following an extended illness.

Mary and her husband Chuck, who pre-deceased her, were avid water gardeners. They also volunteered to help the Society's events and sales, and they assisted with the propagation and maintenance of the Aquatics collection at Denver Botanic Gardens. They were also often involved with the operation of the Aquatics Division booth during the Garden's annual May plant sale.

Both Mary and Chuck are missed. We remember them fondly.



Pamela & John Subry's Pondless Water Feature, (photo courtesy of John Funk)

2012 CWGS Annual Pond Tour & Picnic Wrap-Up

By Dorothy Martinez

The Colorado Water Garden Society held it's Annual Pond Tour and Picnic on Saturday, July 21st. The day proved to be a bit challenging with temperatures reaching over 100°. For those brave enough to endure the heat, the rewards were great.

There were seven water features on this year's tour. It's always enjoyable to tour other's ponds and have the opportunity to speak with other water gardening enthusiasts. The diversity of water features was phenomenal, as was the huge variety of water plants and fish.

Each pond had it's own unique style and each was a treat to see. There were two very nice pondless features, a pond with an intricate garden railroad, a great example of container water gardening, a dramatic cascading waterfall, a pond with many beautiful leaf castings nearby, a spouting rock, and a pond with its own resident pot bellied pig!

This year we teamed up with the Rocky Mountain Koi Club, so both clubs could enjoy each other's Pond Tours. Many of their members attended our Tour and Picnic. In turn, Colorado Water Garden Society members were invited to join the Koi Club's Pond Tour held on Sunday, July 22nd. Thanks to the Rocky Mountain Koi Club for their great collaborative effort. Without their vital participation, our Pond Tour and Picnic would not have been such a huge success!

Also, a big thank you to all of our Pond Tour participants, and in particular, to Mark Russo of Rocky Mountain WaterScape who was kind enough to host this year's picnic. Having the picnic near his numerous water features was a great way to end the hot day. Despite record-setting high temperatures, we had a great turnout for both the Tour and the Picnic.



Rene Potter & Patrick McGraw's Pond, (photo courtesy of John Funk)



Dave & Theresa Rounds' Pond with Leaf Casting, (photo courtesy of John Funk)

Upcomig CWGS Board Elections for 2013

by Dorothy Martinez

We have several Board positions whose term ends in September 2012. We will be holding elections at our upcoming September 20th meeting for the following positions:

Vice President (currently held by Vicki Aber)
 Secretary (currently held by Dorothy Martinez)
 Member at Large (2) (currently held by Jim Arneill)
 Member at Large (4) (currently held by Bill Powell)
 Member at Large (6) (currently held by Marge Oleson)
 Member at Large (8) (currently held by Michael Weber)

The meeting, on Thursday, September 20th, will convene after the Pot Luck dinner at 7:00 pm. All positions will be open for nomination from the floor during the meeting. Members are encouraged to attend and participate in the elections.

If you wish to run or be re-elected to any of the above positions, please notify our President, Bob Hoffman at (303) 978-0124 and let him know your intentions.



New & Returning Members for July

Bill & Janet Bathurst
Arvada, CO

(Returning)

Steve & Maryann Miller
Boulder, CO

(Returning)

Sandra Ellsworth
Boulder, CO

(Returning)

Bill Powell & Bruce Polkowsky
Denver, CO

(Returning)

Susan Haley
Longmont, CO

(Returning)

Brenda Parsons-Hier & Peter Hier
Golden, CO

(Returning)

Jill Daugherty & Keith Hoffman
Boulder, CO

(NEW!)

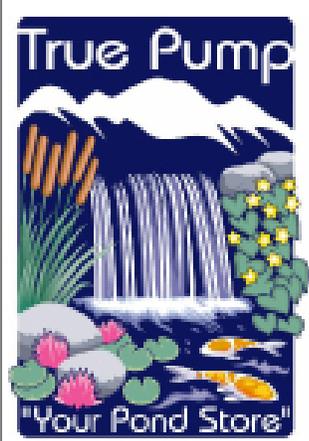
Bill Swalling
Centennial, CO

(NEW/Returning)



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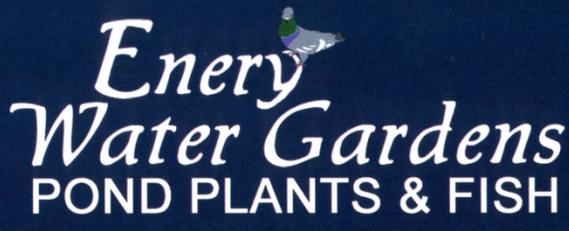
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We also run single-event ads.

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

Membership Application

Make checks payable to:
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Return this form with your payment to:
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Denver, CO 80220

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

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 (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

THIS YEAR

A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

August 5 (Sunday): Pond-Side Program
Neupert Residence – 333 S. 68th Street, Boulder, CO

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Pot Luck

August 18 (Saturday): Water Blossom Festival
Denver Botanic Gardens – Monet Deck Café Area
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Information, Demonstrations, & Tours
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM – Presentation by Brandon McLane from Florida Aquatic Nurseries –Plant Society Building, DBG

Sept. 20: Potluck & Annual Board Elections – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM

Oct. 18: Potluck & Planning Meeting – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM

Dec. 20: Holiday Banquet and Volunteer Recognition – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 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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