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Potluck & Presentation

**Denver Botanic Gardens
Gates Hall
Denver, CO**

Thursday, April 27th
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM – Presentation

DBG Annual Spring Plant Sale

**Area near Marnie's Pavilion
Denver, CO**

Friday, May 12th & Saturday May 13th
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Online at:
www.colowatergardensociety.org



Display Pond at the University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, China, (photo courtesy of Tamara Kilbane)

Get Wet 2017 – Water Gardening in China

by Tamara Kilbane

Last summer, I was invited to speak at the 4th Annual Water Lily and Lotus Symposium at Guyi Garden in Shanghai, China, as well as the 30th Annual National Lotus Exhibition in Yangzhou, China. During this year's "Get Wet" event, I will share photos of Shanghai, Yangzhou, and Beijing, with a focus on the different gardens and hybridizers I visited while in those cities. I will also share photos of some of the amazing foods we were served while in China, including many dishes that featured lotus!

The lotus is an iconic flower in Chinese culture and has been a part of Buddhism for thousands of years. The lotus symbolizes purity of heart and mind, as well as honor and tranquility.

Please join us for "Get Wet" Thursday, April 27th at 6:30 pm in Gates Hall at Denver Botanic Gardens.

2017 Board of Directors:

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Teresa Burkert (MAL8)	303.452.0637
Fran Hoffman (MAL9)	303.978.0124

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www.colowatergardensociety.org

CWGS Treasurer's Report:
Balance as of April 15, 2017 -
\$10,868.23

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Membership	
Dorothy Martinez	303.279.3137
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DBG Plant Sale & DBG Volunteers	
Tamara Kilbane	720.865.3556
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Hudson Gardens' Volunteers	
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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.

Getting Your Pond Ready for Spring

by Vicki Aber

It's finally Spring! The plants are waking up, the fish are begging for food, and we are ready to get out there and get our Vitamin D. So, now that we're outside admiring all the signs of Spring, what do we do? Don't you just love "to do" lists?

- 1) Clean gunk out of the pond. Scoop when possible, vacuum if necessary, or if absolutely necessary, drain, clean, and refill. Remember you don't need to get it antiseptic. Many of those bacteria are our friends.
- 2) Get the filter running if it has been turned off. Clean the filter media and discard that water. There are probably a lot of dead bacteria in the filter media and that isn't going to help anything. Before starting the pump, check for leaks in the plumbing, and address it (better now than after you make an impromptu swimming pool).
- 3) Check those lilies. Depending on the size of pots the lilies are in, they will need to be divided every few years to keep them blooming. If this isn't something you have done before, check out the Hardy Water Lily Brochure posted on our website for detailed instructions. You will probably get several viable tubers out of each pot. If you have more room in your pond, then plant them up. If you don't want to repot more of that particular lily, save those tubers! At our May meeting, we have a Plant Swap. You can trade those extra lily tubers for a different variety, a marginal, or something else. We get a great variety at the Plant Swap. The earlier you divide those lilies, the more time they will have to grow roots and be ready to reward you with increased vigor and blooms later this Summer.
- 4) Check those marginal plants. Upright marginal plants tend to grow from the center out until they reach the edge of the pot. They often stop thriving, become stagnant, and start dying in the middle. You can put it in a larger pot if that's feasible. If you don't want it larger, dump the whole clump out, divide in 1/4's and re-plant 2 of the 1/4's. What to do with the other 2 divisions? You guessed it, bring it to the Plant Swap.
- 5) If you are a brave soul or like me, have a hard time calling tropical plants annuals, you have some plants you have been storing for the Winter. If you harvested plants that have tubers (cannas, taro) last Fall, it's time to plant those up, get to watering them, and give them some light. It's still too cold for them to be outside full time, but they could go out a little during nice days to harden them off. If you have some plants that have been masquerading as houseplants over the Winter, start getting them cleaned up, check for bugs, and slowly start giving them some outside time. If you have tropical lily corms that you harvested before the freeze, it's time to start waking them up. You will need heated water for this; a lighted aquarium works until they can go outside, but that won't be until June so you'll need a fairly large space. You can also heat an outdoor container if you have something that would work for that. If any of these have gotten larger than you need.....bring them to the Plant Swap!
- 6) Here fishy fishy. My fish are demanding food. I can hear them saying "Haven't you heard of global warming, it's time to feed us". Try to avoid the sad fish eyes until the water temperature is 50 degrees or warmer. When you do start feeding, feed them a fish food made for Spring feeding (it is easier to digest) or do what I do and feed them Cheerios. My grandson loves helping feed the fish, but he often eats as many Cheerios as the fish. I have to remind him when we move on to real fish food that he probably shouldn't eat that. If you realize there are more fish in the pond than you can support, bring the extra to the Plant Swap or even better, bring them to the Plant Sale in June. (Any plant divisions that don't make it to the Plant Swap or are left over after the Plant Swap are more than welcome at the June Plant Sale.)
- 7) Sit back and enjoy a pond that is ready to explode in beauty for the rest of the Summer.





Denver Botanic Gardens Spring Plant Sale, (photo courtesy of Denver Botanic Gardens)

DBG Plant Sale

by Dorothy Martinez

The Denver Botanic Gardens Spring Plant Sale will be taking place on Friday, May 12th and Saturday, May 13th opening at 8:00 am and closing at 5:00 pm both days. Thanks to all of the CWGS volunteers who signed up to work the sale. We're hoping for good weather. Since it's Colorado, the weather could be sunny and warm or rainy and cold. We're keeping our fingers crossed for sunny and warm.

Most of the plants have arrived, been planted, and are growing out in the DBG greenhouse, so they should look good for the Sale. There will be several plants available that were divided from DBG plants and stored over the Winter. I hope to see many of you at the sale and thanks again for supporting the Sale. The Aquatic Plants' booth will be located near Marnie's Pavilion.

IWGS 2017 Symposium at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA

by Vicki Aber

What is new with IWGS? As most of you know, the acronym stands for International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society. Think CWGS only on a much bigger scale. If you are interested, go to their website at <http://iwgs.org>. One of the biggest things each year is the Annual Symposium. Water Garden enthusiasts from all over the world converge on one spot to share stories, listen to lectures, and see the sights at the chosen venue.

This year the symposium is going to be in Pennsylvania August 8 - 11. The biggest draw is Longwood Gardens. Longwood is one of the premier gardens in the world. Longwood has recently revamped the fountain gardens and they are reputed to be spectacular. Longwood has a reputation for it's emphasis on aquatic gardening. The New Water Lily Competition moved there after it left Denver Botanic Gardens. The Symposium will have a whole day there from sunrise at the gardens through the evening festivities. There will be many opportunities for behind the scenes tours.

There will also be tours to Chanticleer, another beautiful botanic garden, as well as tours to other smaller gardens and water garden related business. There will be lectures during the day at Longwood from world-renowned experts (at least one name will be very familiar). The best part of a Symposium is just interacting with the other attendees. I have learned as much from chatting with others on the busses as at the lectures.

If you have never been to Longwood Gardens or have and want to go back, this is a great opportunity. The details are up on the IWGS website. We don't have registration information yet, but hope to very soon.



Longwood Gardens Exhibition Hall, (photo courtesy of Longwood Gardens)



Longwood Gardens Water Lily Display, (photo courtesy of Longwood Gardens)

Mark Your Calendar for the 2017 CWGS Plant Swap

by Dorothy Martinez

Spring is finally here. With that, our thoughts turn to the gardening season ahead. If your pond is like mine, you probably have lilies and plants that are outgrowing their pots and are in need of being divided.

Bring your divisions to our Annual Plant Swap on Thursday, May 18th at 7:00 pm in the Plant Society Building located within the Denver Botanic Gardens. Please join us for a potluck starting at 6:00 pm.

If you have participated in the past, you know this is a must come meeting. For every plant you bring, you get to take one home that someone else brought. Don't worry, if you don't have any plants to bring there are usually enough plants so no one goes home empty handed.

Details about how this all works will be in the next Newsletter, stay tuned.

2017 Pond Tour

by Sue & Dennis Weatherman and Rebecca Nash

Mark your calendars for July 15th! This year's Tour will be in the Central Denver area. We are in the process of lining up ponds for the tour, so if you live in Central Denver or know of someone with a pond who does, please contact Dennis at (303-457-1783) and we will coordinate with you.

The Tour typically includes all sorts of ponds and water features. This is a great opportunity for members to get ideas, make new friends, and catch up with old ones.

We are looking for all types of ponds including new ponds, older established ponds, as well as ponds ranging in various sizes, large and small. Pond-less water installations are also welcome. We hope to showcase a variety of ponds, streams, container gardens, and fountains.

The July issue of The Water Garden Newsletter will include the logistics and details about the ponds on the Tour, addresses, suggested routes, times, etc. Be sure to mark July 15th on your calendar, so you can visit a variety of water features at homes in Central Denver.

The Tour is announced only to members of the Colorado Water Garden Society. Visitors access the ponds through the yard, NOT through the house. The Tour is designed to show off your pond and promote water gardens.

Please join the fun and put your pond on the tour. For more information or to sign up your pond, please call Dennis Weatherman (303-457-1783) to discuss having your pond on the July 15th Tour.

**New and Returning Members
for
December 2016 & January, March, & May 2017**

December 2016

Larry Brown *(Returning)*
Brighton, CO

January 2017

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

Lois Krause *(Returning)*
Arvada, CO

March 2017

Georgia Keller *(Returning)*
Lakewood, CO

May 2017

James Howell *(Returning)*
Denver, CO

Victoria Joyce *(Returning)*
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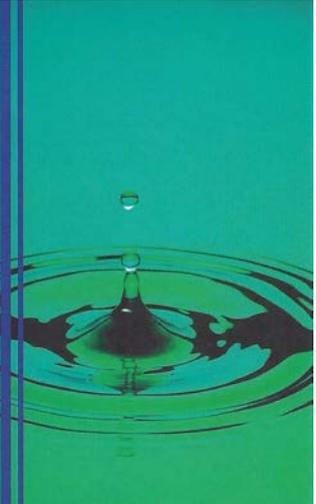


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Annual advertising in the newsletter also includes a listing on the CWGS website with an active link direct to your commercial webpage.

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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___ *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



Colorado Water Garden Society

From...

The Water Garden

c/o Dorothy Martinez, 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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

THIS YEAR

A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

**April 27: "Get Wet" Presentation featuring Tamara Kilbane's Trip to China
Gates Hall
Denver Botanic Gardens**

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM, Presentation on Water Gardening in China

May 12 & May 13: DBG Annual Plant Sale – Area near Marnie's Pavilion,
DBG, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Friday and Saturday

May 18: Potluck & Annual Plant Swap – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00
PM – 8:00 PM

June 4: 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 24: Pond Side Program – Knudson Residence, Picnic Potluck, Boulder,
CO, 12:00 AM – 2:00 PM

July 15: CWGS Pond Tour & Picnic – Central Denver Area, Pond Tour 10:00
AM – 4:30 PM, Picnic 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

August 5: Water Blossom Festival – Monet Pond Area, Tours of Aquatic
Greenhouse & DBG Gardens, DBG, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

August 26: Pond Side Program – Burkert Residence, Picnic Potluck,
Northglenn, CO, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Sept. 21: Potluck, Annual Board Elections, Presentation featuring a
round-robin discussion on winterizing your pond, & 2018 Planning
Meeting** – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Oct. 19: Potluck, Presentation featuring Jim Arneil on the architecture or
Jules Jacques Benois Benedict , & 2018 Planning Meeting** – Great Room,
Waring House, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Dec. 14: Holiday Banquet & Volunteer Recognition, – Plant Society Building,
DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM