Remembering Marian, Les, and Mary by Bill Powell

Over the past couple of months, CWGS has lost three of our friends, all long-time members of the Club: Marian Metsopoulos, Les Petrash, and Mary Mirgon.

Marian Metsopoulos was born November 7, 1921. From 1971 to 1993, Marian served as the first director of the Foothills Art Center. She was also on the board and was a past president of the Lakewood Historical Society where she enjoyed doing oral histories, historical research, and preparing write-ups. She was a longtime member of Lakewood’s Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church. Marian passed away Monday January 15, 2018 at the age of 96.

Marian was an accomplished gardener and an early member of the Colorado Water Garden Society. From September 1991 to August 1994, she was the editor of “The Water Garden.” Always a careful custodian of history, Marian carefully preserved copies of our early newsletters and passed them on years later to a subsequent editor.

Condolence messages can be sent to Lisa Norris (Marian’s daughter), 25383 W. 144th Court, Olathe, KS 66061. Donations can be made to Foothills Art Center, 809 15th Street, Golden, CO 80401.

Les Petrash was born on September 7, 1945. Les served honorably in the United States Navy. He lived in Englewood, Colorado where he was active in his community. An avid outdoor enthusiast, Les enjoyed traveling, a pastime he often combined with hiking, biking, and birding. Les died January 19, 2018 following a short, but difficult, bout with cancer.

Les was a long-time volunteer at Denver Botanic Gardens. He was instrumental in helping to plant and maintain the many aquatic features there, working in the pools (literally for donuts, as his co-workers fondly remember) during the CWGS-sponsored spring and fall Sunday work sessions. Always happy to tackle the toughest jobs, Les tirelessly lifted pots, hauled wet soil, and divided overgrown plants. He enjoyed Club meetings and, of course, our potlucks.

(continued on page 3)
2018 Board of Directors:

President
Brenda Parsons-Hier  303.278.2106

Vice President
Vicki Aber  303.423.9216

Secretary
Tamara Kilbane  303.865.3556

Treasurer
Trina Jacobson  303.871.8135

Members-At-Large
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)  303.921.8144
Janet Bathurst (MAL6)  303.421.1144
Peter Hier (MAL7)  303.278.2106
Teresa Burkert (MAL8)  720.219.6481
Dorothy Martinez (MAL9)  303.279.3137

2018 Committee and Event Chairs:

Newsletter Editor
Dorothy Martinez  303.279.3137

Membership
Dorothy Martinez  303.279.3137

Publicity & Outreach
Jim Arneill  303.843.9619

Get Wet Event
Dorothy Martinez  303.279.3137

CWGS June Plant Sale
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

Pond Tour / Picnic
Rebecca Nash  303.921.8144
Dennis Weatherman  303.457.1783
Sue Weatherman  303.457.1783
Fran Hoffman (Picnic)  303.978.0124
Vicki Aber (Picnic)  303.423.9216

Water Blossom Festival
Teresa Burkert  720.219.6481

Holiday Banquet
Teresa Burkert  720.219.6481
Sue Weatherman  303.457.1783

WebPage / Archives
Bill Bathurst  303.421.1144
Janet Bathurst  303.421.1144
Dorothy Martinez  303.279.3137

DBG Plant Sale & DBG Volunteers
Tamara Kilbane  720.865.3556
Brenda Parsons-Hier  303.278.2106

Hudson Gardens’ Volunteers
Dorothy Martinez  303.279.3137

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

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.

Remember…
Unless you have specifically requested receipt of The Water Garden 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.
Remembering Marian, Les, and Mary

You can honor Les by donating to one of his favorite organizations: the Denver Botanic Gardens Aquatic Division, where he was a longtime volunteer, or to the Audubon Society in recognition of his love of birds, which was Les’ passion.

Mary Mirgon was born on July 20, 1929 in Iowa. Mary and her husband John, who predeceased Mary in 2005, were founding members of the Colorado Water Garden Society. Volunteers in the 1970's to Denver Botanic Gardens’ early aquatic efforts under Curator Joe Tomocik, the Mirgons were instrumental in conceiving the Club and in developing governance that led to our recognition as the world’s first incorporated water gardening society. Mary passed away on Thursday, February 1, 2018.

Through the years, Mary was recognized publicly for her contribution to water gardening, and twice she was honored by noted hybridizers Kirk Strawn and Charlie Winch who both created new lilies in her name. In 1990, Mary and John received a joint “Hall of Fame” Award from the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society, “attesting to [their] contributions and recognition from IWGS.” Joe Tomocik, the source of this quote, remembers Mary as “so very kind to me and Denver Botanic Gardens” and “a long-time leader of CWGS.”

Both Marian and Mary were “Lifetime” members of the Colorado Water Garden Society. There are currently 14 Lifetime members. The Colorado Water Garden Society bestows Lifetime membership upon those long-time members who have contributed significantly to the Club over many years of service.

Water Gardening at Denver Botanic Gardens
by Peter Hier

Have you ever wondered how water flows from one pond to the other and back again through the gardens at DBG? Or what goes into the planning and preparation of the beautiful water garden displays? Please join us on Thursday March 15th at the Plant Society Building located within Denver Botanic Gardens where you will be able to see and hear the answers to these questions. Through the medium of video, watch, as club member Bill Powell will explain the Hydrology of the gardens, and then Tamara Kilbane, Senior Horticulturist Aquatics, will explain how she plans the upcoming season and what goes into the preparation that culminates in those beautiful displays.

Please park in the Parking Garage located between York Street & Josephine Street and enter the Gardens through the Pinion Gate, located just North of the Visitor Center. DBG's Plant Society Building is located at the West end of the staff parking lot and drive. The building is immediately adjacent to the Bonsai Garden and Pavilion. From inside the pedestrian area of DBG, the Plant Society Building is reached by walking through the sliding gate at the end of the greenhouse structure and West Terrace.

Pond Fertilizer Tabs Available for Sale
by Teresa Burkert

Pond fertilizer tabs will be available for sale from the Colorado Water Garden Society at the following meetings:

Get Wet on Wednesday, April 18th
CWGS Plant Sale on Sunday, June 3rd
Pond Tour Picnic on Saturday, July 21st

They will be available in packages of 100 for $10, 50 tabs for $5, and 25 tabs for $3. If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Burkert at teburkert85@gmail.com or 720-219-6481.
DBG Spring Plant Sale Volunteers Needed
by Brenda Parsons-Hier

As I write this article, the temperature outside is 13 degrees and a light snow is falling. So thinking about the Denver Botanic Gardens Spring Plant Sale warms my thoughts. Every year the Aquatics Division needs our club member’s water plant expertise to help the public make good plant choices. So, if you like talking about water plants and helping people, this may be the job for you!

The first need is for the Preview Party on Thursday May 10th from 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Dinner is provided. We also need people on Friday the 11th and Saturday the 12th. On these days, we can buy plants as well as sell them. Lunch will be provided during the 2nd shift. Friday’s shifts are 7:30 am – 11:00 am, 11:00 am – 2:30 pm, 2:30 pm – 6:00 pm. Saturday’s shifts are 7:30 pm – 11:00 am, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm. Each shift needs 4 - 6 people. DBG always treats us well with snacks and beverages.

No guarantees on what the weather will be during the Sale. It could be sunny, raining, or snowing. The temperatures can be 40 – 80 degrees, so come prepared for all weather scenarios. No matter the weather, we have a good time interacting with people who may be new to water gardening or who already have experience. If you would like to join us or if you have any questions, please contact me with what specific shift(s) you would like to work. You can contact me at either moose.4bph@q.com or 303-278-2106.

Thank you.

Seeking Pond Tour Participants
by Rebecca Nash

Our annual Pond Tour and Picnic is scheduled for July 21st from 10:00 am until 4:30 pm, with the Picnic starting at 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. The Tour is free to all CWGS members and their guests. Our location will be in the Arvada and Golden area this year. Dorothy Martinez and John Funk will be hosting the Picnic this year.

We are looking for participants who live in the Arvada and Golden area. If you choose to participate in the Tour, you will receive a one-year free membership to CWGS. Last year’s Tour had 10 ponds and about 50 members came to see the ponds.

We encourage you to participate, no matter what type of water feature you have. We really like variety on the Pond Tour, so all pond sizes and types are welcome on the Tour. It’s nice to see smaller features, pond-less features, as well as container gardens. This is a great excuse to spruce up your water feature and show off your hard work with other water feature enthusiasts.

To make the Tour a success we need 10 to 12 participants. Please seriously consider participating in this year’s Tour. It really is a lot of fun!

If you would like to participate or if you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Nash at nashrebecca@q.com or at (303) 921-8144.
**Beverages at Colorado Water Garden Society Meetings**  
**by Dorothy Martinez**

At the last Board meeting, it was decided the club would no longer be providing drinks during the Potlucks. It has become a hardship on the person(s) responsible for bringing drinks to the meetings due to stocking and storing the inventory and transporting the drinks to and from meetings.

The club will provide drinks at the following meetings:

- All Pond Side meetings, for 2018 this includes June 23rd and August 25th
- Pond Tour & Picnic, for 2018 this will be July 21st
- Holiday Banquet, for 2018 this will be December 13th

The club asks that you provide your own beverage at all other meetings. Those meetings include:

- Potluck & Presentation on March 15th
- Get Wet on April 18th
- Potluck and Plant Swap on May 24th
- Potluck & Presentation on September 20th
- Potluck & Presentation on October 18th

If there is someone interested in being responsible for stocking, storing, and transporting drinks to and from meetings, please contact Brenda Parsons-Hier at either moose.4bph@q.com or 303-278-2106.

---

**Newsletter Printed Copies**  
**by Dorothy Martinez**

After much discussion at our last two Board meetings, the Colorado Water Garden Society has decided to begin charging an additional $10 for those members wanting a printed copy of the Newsletter.

As our single most expensive line item is printing and mailing the Newsletter, we decided raising the membership rate was a good way to offset this expense. Membership rates have remained the same for over 10 years. We hope to use the additional income to bring in outside speakers and other experts to future meetings. This is in step with our Mission of “encouraging a greater appreciation and interest in the use of water in the landscape and to provide education about water gardening to the general public and to stimulate the study and culture of water plants.”

This change will take effect as memberships become due throughout the year. Currently, individual memberships cost $15 and family memberships cost $20. Upon a member’s renewal, this amount will increase to $25 for individual members and $30 for family memberships.

(continued on page 6)
Newsletter Printed Copies

(continued from page 5)

For example, if you are currently receiving a printed copy of the Newsletter and your family membership expires in May 2018, you would renew on or before May 31st for the new amount of $30. This only affects those members who still wish to receive their Newsletter in printed form. For those members receiving their Newsletters electronically, membership rates will remain the same.

If you have any questions, please e-mail or call Dorothy Martinez at dam@johnfunk.com or 303-279-3137.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New and Returning Members for December 2017</th>
<th>January, February, &amp; March 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 2017</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Brown</td>
<td>Renewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brighton, CO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy &amp; Gary Reid</td>
<td>Renewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boulder, CO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 2018</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John &amp; Charlotte Knudson</td>
<td>Renewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boulder, CO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 2018</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Carlson</td>
<td>Renewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tianxi Zhang</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Collins, CO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 2018</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Oleson</td>
<td>Renewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakewood, CO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis &amp; Sue Weatherman</td>
<td>Renewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornton, CO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

True Pump

“Your Pond Store”

Water Gardening Supplies
POND KITS
PUMPS
FILTERS
LINERS
AQUATIC PLANTS
FISH

303-744-3505
800-999-9021

www.truepump.com
1429 S. Broadway
Denver, CO 80210

JARED’S Nursery, Gift & Garden

10000 W Bowles Ave
Littleton CO, 80127
303 979 6022
www.jaredsgarden.com

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

We have Your...
Purr-fect Pond Plants!

Tagawa Gardens
7711 S Parker Rd
Centennial, CO 80016
303.690.4722

TagawaGardens.com
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

We offer a full range of services:
- Water-loss troubleshooting
- Maintenance
- Cleaning
- Repairs
- Referrals to local vendors for:
  - Plants
  - Locally produced bacterial treatments
  - Contractors, etc.

3481 S. Fenton Street, E305
Denver, CO 80227
https://www.liquiscapes.com

Liquiscapes
Water Feature Service
Ponds Don’t Have to Leak!
Check Us Out On Facebook!
25+ Years Experience
Call For Service Today!
303-861-1314

Advertising Space Available

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:
“Colorado Water Garden Society”

Return this form with your payment to:
CWGS Membership
14837 W. 57th 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 for an additional fee of $10 plus the $15 for the Individual Membership or $20 for the Family Membership

Annual Membership Fees
$15.00 Individual; $20.00 Family
Printed Copy of Newsletter (Annual)
$25 Individual; $30 Family
THIS YEAR
A calendar of CWGS Activities and Events:

March 15: Potluck & Presentation by Peter Hier
DBG Plant Society Building
Denver Botanic Gardens
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM, Presentation on DBG’s Water Features & Their History

April 18: Get Wet Presentation featuring 2017 IWGS Symposium, “How to Grow Lotus”, & Lotus Sale – Gates Hall, DBG, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

May 11 & May 12: DBG Annual Plant Sale – Area near Marnie’s Pavilion, DBG, 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM on Fri. and 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Sat.

May 24: Potluck & Annual Plant Swap – Business Office/Residence, The Hudson Gardens & Event Center, Littleton, CO, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

June 3: 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 23: Pond Side Program – Water’s Edge, Picnic Potluck, Elbert, CO, 12:00 AM – 3:00 PM

July 21: CWGS Pond Tour & Picnic – Arvada & Golden Area, Pond Tour 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Picnic 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

August 4: Water Blossom Festival – Monet Pond Area, Docent Tours of DBG Gardens & Opportunity to Buy a Venus Fly Trap, DBG, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

August 25: Pond Side Program – Blakley/Hamm Residence, Picnic Potluck, Lafayette, CO, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Sept. 20: Potluck, Annual Board Elections, Presentation featuring a round-robin discussion on pond experiences & favorite plants, & 2019 Planning Meeting – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Oct. 18: Potluck, possible Ghosts in the Gardens’ Tour, & 2019 Planning Meeting – Great Room, Waring House, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Dec. 13: Holiday Banquet & Volunteer Recognition, – Plant Society Building, DBG, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

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