

## Coming Events

- **May 7**  
Tagawa Garden Center
- **June (date TBA)**  
Plant Sale/Swap
- **July (date TBA)**  
Pond Tour/Picnic
- **August (date TBA)**  
Water Blossom Festival, DBG
- **September 10**  
Annual Meeting/Elections,  
Morrison Center, DBG
- **December 2**  
Holiday Party, Morrison Center,  
DBG

Support those who  
support CWGS!!

International Waterlily and Water-  
gardening Society (IWGS)

<http://www.iwgs.org>

Alpine Koi & Homescapes

<http://www.alpinekoi.com>

Falls by Fox, Inc.

<http://www.fallsbyfox.com>

Natural Elements

<http://www.techconsult.org/>

Natural\_Elements

Nick's Garden Center

<http://www.nicksgardencenter.com>

Paradise Water Gardens Ltd.

<http://www.paradisewatergardens.com>

Waterscape Solutions, Inc.

<http://www.waterscapesolutions.net>



# The Water Garden

Volume 23 Number 1

February 2006

# GET WET!

## WATER GARDENING

## FUN IN 2006

Join KEZW's GardenWise Guy Keith Funk

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2006 - 7 to 9 PM**

**GATES HALL**

**DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS**

**1005 YORK ST.**

**FREE ADMISSION -- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Gear up for the water gardening season! Keith Funk, DBG Water Garden Curator Joe Tomocik, and other experts will stimulate your imagination with fun facts and a multimedia presentation.

Learn from practical demonstrations. Meet local vendors. Win a Door Prize.

Official  
Journal  
of the  
Colorado  
Water Garden  
Society

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<http://www.colowatergardensociety.org>

### New Members

Floyd Hatch, Centennial

### Treasurer's Report

#### BANK BALANCE

January 1 \$15184.82

## Express Membership Application

**Membership Fees: \$15.00 Individual; \$20.00 Family**  
Join or Renew Today!

Make checks payable to Colorado Water Garden Society;  
DO NOT send cash; Check or Money Order only, please. Thank you.

Return this form with your payment to:

**CWGS Membership**  
**100 Glencoe St.**  
**Denver, CO 80220**

(Please Print)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pond Experience (Beginner) \_\_\_\_\_ (Some Skill) \_\_\_\_\_ (Pro) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact me concerning volunteer opportunities I have checked below:

Plant Exchange/Sale (June) \_\_\_\_\_ Water Garden Spectacular (August) \_\_\_\_\_

Pond Tour (July) \_\_\_\_\_ Holiday Party (Dec.) \_\_\_\_\_ DBG Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_



### Renewing Members

Toni & Barry Fox, Denver  
Gail Goldberg, Denver  
Rebecca Nash, Centennial

## Volunteers, Frogs & Aunt Velma

Remembering Velma Disbrow

by Joe Tomocik

I have been blessed with the opportunity of getting to know many exceptional volunteers by way of the Colorado Water Garden Society). Velma Disbrow was one of the best!

After graduating from the University of Iowa with a degree in Library Science, Velma had a very successful career working in Tucson, Arizona and then North Platte, Nebraska.

She returned to Denver, volunteering for the Rock Alpine Garden and the Scripture Garden at Denver Botanic Gardens, in addition to being a tour guide. Granddaughter and long-time Society member and Gardens volunteer, Bev Counce, was the first to get Velma interested in water gardening. Bev was looking for suggestions for waterlilies to grow in an old tub.

Velma took a serious liking to the waterlilies and soon was creating her own garden at her Lakewood home. She got to know me and soon joined CWGS, only a year or so after the Society was founded on Feb. 13, 1983.

Bev and Velma were two of our most cherished Sunday volunteers, giving us their excellent service for 17-18 years. Velma also assumed some high-priority watering responsibilities for me. She was conscientious,



Cyndie Thomas

tious, and I had never seen a hose coiled so expertly!

Frogs! Velma anxiously pursued me on how to eradicate the croaking poolside residents. A not-so-kind neighbor sued Velma, citing the excess noise. The case was dismissed. Possibly because of a nearby pesticide application, the frogs died before Velma could construct an innovative trapping device made of Popsicle sticks and margarine bowls!

For sure, she was not dismayed for long! Velma was full of life and energy. She was a blessing...kind, respectful, adventurous, devoted and fun.

Aunt Velma left this earth at age 96 on July 18, 2005. How are things up there in waterlily heaven, Velma? Good?

*An extra special thank-you to Bev Counce for sharing some wonderful Aunt Disbrow stories with me.*

## A Message From The New Kid On The Block

Gary Blubaugh, President

I hope that everyone had a joyful holiday season, with lots of family, food, and fun, and that many of you, as I am, are anxious to see the end of the "couch pondering season".

I still venture out weekly to check my skimmer, sometimes removing a layer of snow and ice from the cover, checking for debris and making sure the water level is where it should be. That task completed, I methodically use my long-handled pool net to remove leaves and debris from areas of my pond that are ice free. With the unseasonably warm weather that periodically awakens my wet friends, I am pleased to see my resident koi venture out from their fish garage and cruise around doing what good koi do.

Before you know it, it will be time to get ready for the annual spring cleanup. What better time than now to make plans for the "Get Wet! Water Gardening Fun In 2006 Event" on March 7 at DBG, Gates Hall, 7-9 pm? Join your old friends and make new ones while joining KEZW's Garden Wise Guy Keith Funk for an evening of funny pond stories and pondering.

I invite you and your family to spend the evening with us, enjoying an entertaining multimedia presentation that will stimulate your imagination and inspire you to new endeavors with your water feature. CWGS will "wet" your appetite with a rundown on planned events in 2006, plus you will learn some new approaches to dividing water plants and photographing your beloved water feature. Save your questions for our experts and explore the "things you cannot live without" at the local vendor displays.

### MarketPlace

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