Angela McDonnell, a native St. Louisan, was a dancer with the Saint Louis Ballet while she earned her Bachelor of Fine Art at Maryville University. As an elderly dancer of 23 years old, she gradually worked her way up the tiers of administration with the Saint Louis Ballet and its official school. When she finally had enough of the ballet world, she put her college degree to work doing graphic design for Innovations in Art, a company that designed and produced high level corporate awards, signage and museum displays. Due to the ever-increasing demands of motherhood, she downsized and took a job at Made by Me Craft Studio, working for her sister-in-law, until the economy forced its closure. She then took a dream job at Thies Farm and Greenhouses where she spent seven years playing in the dirt. When her husband, Peter, retired early they decided to do something that brought them much JOY... Backyard Bird Feeding! So, Angela and Peter bought Wild Birds Unlimited of Florissant in August 2016 and are now very excited to announce the addition of the Wild Birds Unlimited of Tallahassee in January 2019. Her favorite birds to talk about are the fascinating Hummingbirds.

Hummingbirds – The Jewels of the Sky

Don’t Miss This!

What: Hummingbirds–The Jewels of the Sky

Where: Missouri Botanical Garden, Ridgway Center, Beaumont Room

When: Tuesday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m.

Who: Angela McDonnell, from Wild Birds Unlimited Florissant Master Gardener
Send this form with your $15 check per person payable to the St. Louis Water Garden Society to Gail Abernathy, 10922 Kildare Ct, St. Ann, MO 63074

**Please note: New bylaw changed the price to $15 per person so if there are two of you the price would be $30. Please print or type clearly.

Name(s) ____________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________

City_________________________State______ZIP_________

Phone_______________________
e-mail _____________________________________________________

☐ New Membership  ☐ Annual renewal (Renewals are due in January)

Would you prefer to receive your copies of Water Word:

via email only?   Or by regular mail? Circle one please.

***Note: Some of you only renewed for one person. The price of membership was voted on to be per person, not per household like it was at the beginning of the society. So if you want both of you to be members, you need to send another check for them. THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED, Thank you if you have renewed.

Time to Renew!

Membership renewals for all St. Louis Water Garden Society members are due in January. If you have not sent in your dues yet you may make your payment in person at the March meeting, or mail a check to Gail Abernathy, Membership Chairman, using the form at left. Dues are $15 per person. While non-member guests always are welcome at SLWGS meetings, there are definite benefits to membership. For example, all members receive one free Pond-O-Rama ticket per person a $15 value. In addition, all members receive the regular issues of Water Word, and may participate in a number of special events throughout the year, including tours and field trips that are arranged for members only. Don’t miss out on the fun of 2019.
SLWGS PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Hopefully by now you have seen a glimpse of spring, warmer temperature, and a few Hosta’s poking through the soil. I noticed a few autumn crocuses were coming up on February 25th.

Due to the cancellation of February’s meeting, our speaker has agreed to return and speak at the March meeting. Angela McDonnell from Wild Birds Unlimited will be present a talk on Hummingbirds, “Winged Jewels of the Sky”. Please invite your friends or family members. New faces are always welcome.

With the cancellation of the meetings, I received a couple of comments from the membership about not receiving the Membership blast that Gail sent out. If you did not receive an email notice, PLEASE check with Gail to verify our records are correct. Reminder that renewals are due by the end of March.

The April Auction is approaching fast, and we need auction items. I have been putting this off dividing my water lilies for a couple of years and an absolute must this spring. In addition to water plants, we hope to have several different items given up for auction. This is a great time to box up the extra plants, unused pond items, crafts or jewelry, trinkets, pottery and general items that may be of interest to the bidders. The revenue will be a welcome addition toward future events for this year.

The board has been working on several ideas for summer events. Once finalized a schedule with details will be published. Tonya Summers is the special events chair for this year and is enthusiastic about planning one overnight and one day fieldtrip. I have requested Tonya to present a few details of the proposed locations. Please plan on attending and giving her some feedback at the March 19th meeting.

The Auditing Committee completed its audit of the 2018 finances. The report can been found in this month’s issue of Water World. My thanks go out to Ron Greminger and Dave Schiele who completed the audit with the help of the treasurer, Ginny Mueller. Thanks to all three for the work!

Pond O Rama is only three months away and Joan indicated that 2019 Pond O Rama is now out of the planning stages and the ticket booklets will be going to press next month. This is the biggest event for the society, and we would ask for everyone’s support in making this year’s Pond-O-Rama a big success. If you are not directly involved as a host or on Joan’s committee, I would like to encourage you to take some POR pamphlets and membership cards to distribute to other clubs or post a few at any community bank or grocery bulletin boards. Materials will be available at the March and April meetings.

Due to cancelation of February’s meeting the voting on the budget will be this month, please come.

Mark your calendar for the April Auction. In addition to the auction items, a raffle will be held for a couple of very nice “special items”.

The March 26th SLWGS board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM at the Denny’s restaurant at I-270 and Dorsett Rd in Maryland Heights. Membership is welcome and encouraged to attend.

See you at the garden!

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Henson
Membership meetings in 2019 will be held on the dates and at the locations listed below between 7 and 9 p.m. Meetings will be held at the Missouri Botanical Garden Ridgway Center, Beaumont Room, on the third Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted.

**January 15** — Jack Lane “History of the Missouri Botanical Gardens”

**February 19** — Cancelled Due to Weather

**March 19** — Angela McDonnell, Wild Birds Unlimited, Florissant Store, “Hummingbirds—The Jewels of the Sky”

**April 16** — SLWGS Auction and Raffle

**May 21** — “Plants that Bite Back—Bog gardens and carnivorous”

**June 18** — Laura Bancroft from Ten Mile Creek Nursery “All you need to know about Water Lotus”

P-O-R Host Meeting at 6 p.m.

**June 22-23** — Pond-O-Rama

**July 16** — To be decided

**August 20** — Jewel Box Banquet

**September 17** — Speaker TBD

**October 15** — Betsy Alexander “Preventing Winter Damage to your plants”

**November 19** — Annual Potluck & Elections, in the CBEC Building, 4651 Shaw Ave.

Pot luck dinner and election of officers. Nominations will be accepted for the positions of Vice President and Treasurer to serve two-year terms beginning in January 2020.

Board meetings are held at Young’s Restaurant one week after our general meetings at 7 p.m. **Except this month it will be held at Denny’s Address in Presidents Corner.

Young’s Restaurant & Ice Cream
206 Meramec Station Rd
Valley Park, MO 63088
Water Garden of the Month. New this Year!

IN 2019 WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS!
We would love to see YOUR WATER GARDEN!
WE WILL BE FEATURING A MEMBER'S GARDEN EACH MONTH
AND......you might even receive a special gift!

ENTRY RULES:
YOU MUST PLAY TO WIN
NO STAMPS OR BOX TOPS ARE REQUIRED!!!
SEND US A COUPLE OF PHOTOS OF YOUR GARDEN OR POND.
INCLUDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR WATER FEATURE.
TAKE A PHOTO OF YOU... SO WE KNOW WHO IS THE PROUD CREATOR AND OWNER OF
THE FABULOUS WATER GARDEN FEATURED!
A SELECTION WILL BE MADE ....AND YOU WILL BE INCLUDED IN:
THE MONTHLY EDITION OF WATER WORD AND ON THE SLWGS WEBSITE.

FORWARD THE ENTRY TO:

GAIL ABERNATHY, abernat@swbell.net, WATER WORD EDITOR

Members’ Corner:
April will be our annual auction. Please bring your
divided plants and pond objects that you do not
need and want to donate to the auction.

We have a few birthday’s in March so Happy
Birthday this month.

Ann Lena 3/4
Tom Meier 3/7
Linda Hansen 3/27
Sandy Sher 3/29

HARTKE NURSERY
“Good growing begins here
1030 N. Warson Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63132
Cindy Collins
Owner, Certified Nurseryman
Certified Arborist
(314) 997-6679
FAX: (314) 997-6778
E-mail: hartke@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.hartkenursery.com

MPR Supply Company
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• Driveways
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And new for 2015
• Complete line of grill stations and grill accessories
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Walter Knoll Florist 314-633-6779
**Water Word** is published by the St. Louis Water Garden Society 10 times annually and is distributed to all members. The newsletter contains information about water gardening and fish-keeping, as well as information about SLWGS meetings and activities. Contributions of articles and photos are welcome and should be sent to the Water Word editor listed below. Documents should be in common text formats, and photos should be in high resolution (300 dpi or higher) jpeg format. The deadline for submissions is the first of each month.

Information about the Society, including how to join, can be found at our website, [www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org) or from any of the officers and board members listed:

**2019 SLWGS Officers**

- **President**
  - Bob Henson
  - (314) 495-4233
  - hatt8v92@aol.com

- **Vice President**
  - Joe Summers
  - (636) 527-2001
  - chalilypond@aol.com

- **Treasurer**
  - Ginny Mueller
  - (314) 831-3063
  - vcmueller16@hotmail.com

- **Recording Secretary**
  - Betsy Meier
  - (636) 405-1120
  - lidodeck@att.net

**2019 Board Members**

- **Publicity Chairman**
  - Ginny Mueller
  - (314) 831-3063
  - vcmueller16@hotmail.com

- **Special Events Chairman**
  - Tonya Summers
  - (314) 494-9794
  - tonya2summers@aol.com

- **Society Shirt Sales Chairman**
  - Carol Greininger
  - (314) 487-9119
  - carolnron@att.net

- **Librarian**
  - Betsy Meier
  - (636) 405-1120
  - lidodeck@att.net

- **Membership/Email Chairman**
  - Gail Abernathy
  - (314) 427-7076
  - abernat@swbell.net

- **Jewel Box Chairman**
  - Kay Miskell
  - (618) 344-6216
  - km99@att.net

- **Water Word Editor**
  - Gail Abernathy
  - (314) 427-7076
  - abernat@swbell.net

- **Website Chairman**
  - Ginny Mueller
  - (314) 831-3063
  - vcmueller16@hotmail.com

- **AKCA / Koi USA Representative**
  - Tom Meier
  - (636) 405-1120

- **Pond-O-Rama Chairman**
  - Joan Ziskind
  - (636) 394-6342
  - joan.ziskind@yahoo.com

- **Parliamentarian**
  - Carol Greininger
  - (314) 487-9119
  - carolnron@att.net

- **Historian**
  - Betsy Meier
  - (636) 405-1120
  - lidodeck@att.net

- **Hospitality Chairman**
  - Tonya Summers
  - (314) 494-9794
  - tonya2summers@aol.com

- **Past President**
  - David Stahre
  - (618) 623-9341
  - dstahre@hotmail.com

- **Member-at-Large**
  - Ron Greininger
  - (314) 487-9119
  - carolnron@att.net
Pond of the Month: Dee & Gene O’Neill

Our pond was built approximately 8 years ago but I wanted it enlarged so we had Barkley from Land Works come out and enlarge 3 years ago. He added a 12-foot water fall down to our pond. I plant Impatiens in it every spring and they do well. We have 9 fish and two sharks, which is really to many. The pond is approximately 1000 gallons. We get a lot of enjoyment from it and so did our neighbors.

Sincerely, Dee & Gene O’Neill

O’Neill’s pond under construction

O’Neill’s pond at 2018 P-O-R

Out on a Limb and need some help?

Find resources at www.slwgs.org!
Audit Financials and Report FYE 2018

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category Description</th>
<th>Jan-Dec 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td>Plant Auction</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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Audit Report for FY 2018

Bank Balance 1-1-2018
Checking acct $38,829.83
Total Income for 2018 $27,376.84
Total Expenses for 2018 $34,308.79

LIBRARY NEWS

The SLWGS library books will now be available by request. Over the last several years, only 10 books were borrowed from the table at the members meetings. Many people are using the Internet as a resource. We do have a very nice selection of books for those who like information on the printed page. A complete list is under the "members" heading on the SLWGS website. If you are interested in borrowing a book, contact me and I will be glad to bring it to you at the next meeting.

Betsy Meier
SLWGS Librarian
Lidodeck@att.net
Don’t miss the Bus!

Our semi annual road trip is currently being planned. More details to follow, however the framework is in place. We will be heading to Nashville on May 4th - May 5th. Our anchor tour will be at Cheekwood Gardens. Cheekwood boasts 55 acres of wonderful gardens and features the Robinson Family Water Gardens. In the works would be local garden tours and local shopping. We need to gage interest so we can finalize the tour. A $50 per person deposit is required to hold your spot. Final cost estimate is $115.00 assuming double occupancy. Please contact Tonya Summers at 314-494-9794 or e-mail her at tonya2summers@aol.com

Find Treasures at the Auction

April will be our Plant and other things auction. So gather your garden plants, pond plants, garden statuary and other goodies. Remember one man’s junk really is often another’s treasure! Any pond or garden related item is welcome—plants, pots, books, photos, cute trolls, leftover pumps, and on and on…

The only prohibited items are live fish and animals, which the botanical gardens will not allow to be sold. Hand made items always are generally popular.

What can you do?

Any plants that you bring please make sure they are wrapped in plastic. So we do not make a mess at the gardens that will have to be clean up.
Inside this edition:

Hummingbirds — The Jewels of the Sky ......................... Page 1

Also Inside

SLWGS Renewal Form .........................Page 2
SLWGS President’s Corner ..................... Page 3
SLWGS Calendar of Events...................... Page 4
Water Garden of the Month..................... Page 5
Members’ Corner ............................... Page 5
2019 SLWGS Officers and Board Members...............................Page 6
Pond of the Month ............................. Page 7
Audit Financials & Report ..................... Page 8
Library News ................................. Page 8
Don’t Miss the Bus ............................ Page 9
Auditor’s Check List ............................ Page 9
Find Treasurers at the Auction ................ Page 9
Photo of the Month ............................ Page 10

Photo of the Month

Another picture of the beautiful Cheekwood Gardens.
Check them out on the internet.
https://cheekwood.org/