Don’t Miss This!

What:  Reptiles and Amphibians in the Water Garden

Where:  Missouri Botanical Garden,  
Ridgway Center,  
Beaumont Room

When:   Tuesday, July 16, at 7:00 p.m.

Who:   Josh Higgins from  
Missouri Botanical Garden

Annual Banquet

Need a reason or excuse to stop by the Jewel Box in Forest Park to see how the night-blooming tropical water lilies are doing? The St. Louis Water Garden Society will hold its 19th annual awards banquet at the Jewel Box Tuesday August 20. The caterer will be Russo’s. It will be a buffet dinner, and tickets are $25 per person. Plan to come for an evening of socializing and enjoying each other’s company. You can make your reservations at the upcoming meeting, or by sending a check, made payable to the St. Louis Water Garden Society (SLWGS), to Tonya Summers, 7810 Weil Ave, St. Louis, MO 63119. If you have questions please contact Tonya Summers at 314-494-9794 or e-mail her at tonya2summers@aol.com
Award Nominations Sought

The St. Louis Water Garden Society is now soliciting nominations for the **Bonnie Alford Service Award** and the **Ganim Service Award** for 2019. Nominations should be made in writing and turned in at the next meeting or mailed to **Bob Henson, 6 Concord Ln, St. Louis, MO 63123**

The **Bonnie Alford Service Award** is given in honor of the founder of the St. Louis Water Garden Society. It is awarded annually to a person who has been a member of the society for at least three years and has made measurable and significant contributions to SLWGS.

The **Ganim Service Award** honors Don and Lizanne Ganim. The award is given annually to a member who, during the past year, has gone beyond the call of duty for SLWGS. Candidates need to be a member of the society for no less than 60 days.

The form below can be used to nominate those volunteers deserving of recognition for their hard work and time, or you can use a separate sheet of paper to make your nominations. Please be specific about the reasons you believe your nominees deserve the awards.

I nominate ___________________________________
for the **Bonnie Alford Service Award** for 2019
because: ______________________________________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________

I nominate ___________________________________
for the **Ganim Service Award** for 2019
Because:______________________________________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________

The Bonnie Alford and the Ganim Service Awards will be presented at the banquet. Nomination forms for the awards are on the left. Copy the form as many times as you need to nominate the members who you think make outstanding contributions to the society. Forward your nominations to Bob Henson, president. The winners will be chosen by the past award winners.
As I write this report for the July Water Word, I must confess that I am pleased that June has finally ended. June was a whirlwind of preparing for two major garden tours. Saturday June 22 was the scheduled Master Gardeners tour followed by Sunday with the SLWGS annual POR tour.

For the brave hosts, members and viewing public who endured the storms and heavy downpours on Saturday, I am ever so grateful. Every host I had the chance to talk with indicated that they had a heavy turnout despite the disagreeable weather. We will evaluate this year’s POR and report back to the membership at a monthly membership meeting. If you were a host this year or a participating member, I would invite you to attend the July board meeting at Young’s restaurant in Valley Park to share comments or provide feedback about this year’s Pond O Rama. Joan Ziskind was this year’s POR chair and her merry band of helpers did an outstanding job of organizing and implementing this year’s event. It goes without saying that without the hosts we could not have held the event. Thank you so much for your hard work and dedication.

Of the almost 300 visitors to my garden, I had several tell me that they felt visiting the 20 ponds over two days provided the extra time to see and ask more questions as well as enjoying the tour without feeling rushed for time.

I will not steal the thunder from Tonya Summers our Special Events chair, but the word is that we have a of membership events in the works for the months of August and September ( Tiki ) that are not to be missed.

The June SLWGS board meeting was held at the Missouri Botanical Garden. I was contacted by MOBOT to help with the June 25th Tuesday Members only night. The theme for the evening was “water”. I want to thank Tom and Betsy Meier, Carol Gremminger, Ginny Mueller and Joan Ziskind for helping out and being on hand to answer questions from the garden members. We had several people walk away with SLWGS information and membership forms.

Our July guest speaker will be Josh Higgins from the Missouri Botanical Garden. Josh, besides being a horticulturist for the garden, has an extensive knowledge of amphibians and reptiles. I have invited Josh to speak on how these animals play an important role in our water gardens. Josh is a fantastic speaker and did a superb job as the auctioneer in April. Please join us to hear his presentation.

I would like to remind the membership the Annual Banquet and Awards presentation will be on August 20th. The general membership is encouraged to submit nominations. This issue of Water Word includes an overview of the awards, nomination and selection process. Please take the time to make your nomination as soon as possible.

Enjoy your garden!

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Henson
President, SLWGS
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.

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

**April 16**—SLWGS Auction

**May 21**—“Plants that Bite Back— Bog Gardens and Carnivorous Plants”

**June 18**—Laura Bancroft from Ten Mile Creek Nursery “A-Z Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Growing Lotus”

**June 22-23**—Pond-O-Rama

**July 16**—Josh Higgins “Reptiles and amphibians in the Water Garden”

**August 10**—Potluck Picnic at Chip & Christina Soule’s home. (Rain Date August 20th)

**August 20**—Jewel Box Banquet

**September 17**—Speaker TBD

**October 15**—Betsy Alexander “Preventing Winter Damage to Your Plants”

**November 19**—Annual Potluck Dinner & Election of Officers, in the CBEC Building, 4651 Shaw Ave.

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 meeting at 7 p.m.

Young’s Restaurant & Ice Cream
206 Meramec Station Rd
Valley Park, MO 63088
My garden was created by Chris Siewing in 2005. I have lost fish and bought replacements over the years. Presently, I have 9. I had lost 4 of my 8 to a heron this spring but got 5 more at the Koi Auction. Most plants are perennials and if something dies, I try something else till I have a success. The daffodils are done, but the water iris and roses are blooming now. The daylilies and lilies are just starting to shoot up flower stalks.

Members’ Corner:

We have a few birthdays in July so “Happy Birthday” this month to:

Pat Siewing 7/10

Mary Anne Chevalier
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 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 Greminger  (314) 487-9119  carolnron@att.net
- **Librarian**
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  - Kay Miskell  (618) 344-6216  km99@att.net
- **Water Word Editor**
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  - Ginny Mueller  (314) 831-3063  vcmueller16@hotmail.com
- **AKCA / Koi USA Representative**
  - Tom Meier  (636) 405-1120  brummeier@gmail.com
- **Pond-O-Rama Chairman**
  - Joan Ziskind  (636) 394-6342  joan_ziskind@yahoo.com
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- **Historian**
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- **Hospitality Chairman**
  - Tonya Summers  (314) 494-9794  tonya2summers@aol.com
  - David Stahre  (618) 623-9341  dstahre@hotmail.com
- **Member-at-Large**
  - Ron Greminger  (314) 487-9119  carolnron@att.net
  - Dee ‘Neill  (314) 223-9119  oneilldee@sbcglobal.net
Members’ Outing Save the Date August 10th

The board is planning an outing on August 10th (rain date the 17th) to visit one of our fellow members' ponds that is farther away. This will be a fun summer event at a beautiful location.

Member Chip and Christina Soule, 201 Woodland Ct, O'Fallon, IL 62269, will host a pot luck lunch and lounging by the pond from 11am to 1pm.

The society is providing fried chicken and water will be available. Attendees are requested to bring a side dish or desert.

Please contact Tonya Summers if you plan to attend and let her know what you would like to bring. Also may be throw in a extra chair just in case.

Farewell, POND-O-Rama’ 19.......It was great!

HELLO to Pond-O-Rama’ 20 ......

2020 will be the 20th Anniversary of Pond-O-Rama. How exciting is that?

Let's plan on some really "over the top" fantastic events!

Think about ideas ..... and think about being a host for this very special 20th Anniversary of Pond-O-Rama!
Wow! What a 19th Annual Pond-O-Rama we had!

The rain didn't deter the hundreds of visitors who wandered through our gardens under the cover of umbrellas or clad in rain gear. When the sunshine came through the clouds everything looked green and lush and so much more fun! It was a great Pond-O-Rama!

Thank you to all our member hosts who so graciously shared their lovely spaces with the public. All of us who have our own water features and gardens know the effort, time, and work that goes into making it so beautiful to enjoy. People had time to really enjoy each garden they visited and didn't have to rush off in a frenzy to try to see so many in one day.

Thank you to all our advertisers who willingly support us each and every year. We appreciate you and we always encourage our members to support your businesses throughout the year.

Thank you to all our ticket sellers who promote our event during their busiest season of the year. We appreciate the many locations that offer people the opportunity to purchase tickets throughout the metro area. We also continue to encourage our members to support you.

Most of all, thank you to all the members and public who came to our water gardens. We enjoy visiting with you! You made our day WONDERFUL!!!

Just a reminder: If you purchased a ticket book, don't forget to sign up for the free membership for the remainder of 2019.

LIBRARY NEWS

The SLWGS library books are now available by request. We do have a very nice selection of books for those who like information on the printed page. A complete list is on the SLWGS.org website. Go to the membership page and click on Lending Library. 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
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Photo of the Month

Come join us for an evening at the Jewel Box and see our civic project. Enjoy an evening eating and strolling by the reflection pools, which are maintained by SLWGS.
Make your reservations to attend the annual banquet. A good time is had by all who attend.

Contact Tonya Summers to save your spot.