

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 annual awards banquet at the Jewel Box Tuesday, August 15th. The caterer will be Pasta house. It will be a buffet dinner, and tickets are \$20 per person. Plan to come for an evening of socializing and enjoying each other's company. You can make your reservations by calling Kathie Soehngen at (314) 894-0981 or emailing her at kasoehng@sbcglobal.net or mail a check to her at 5111 Lampglow Ct., St. Louis, MO 63129. You can also pay online through the website or bring your check or cash the night of the event if you have made reservations.

Don't Miss This!

What: Annual Banquet

When: Tuesday, August 15th, 6 p.m.-9 p.m.
Dinner is to be served around 6:45 to 7
Greg Heck will be having a tasting of what is being grown this year in the ponds.

Where: Jewel Box
Forest Park
McKinley Dr & Wells Dr
St Louis, MO 63110



Come join us for a evening at the Jewel Box. Enjoy Fellowship and good food.





Jewel Box Pond Tower by Greg Heck

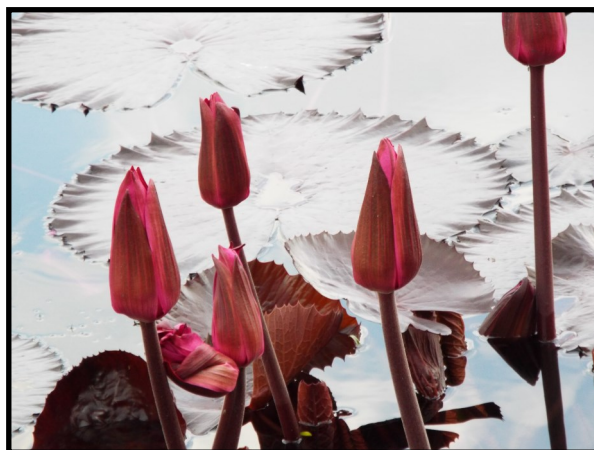
Interested in unusual biology and trivia around aquatic life?

I can take you on a tour around the ponds at the Jewel Box in Forest Park for about an hour, where you can see the beauty of this year's plantings. Get some non-typical closeup views (for example, the underside of a Gorgon plant pad) and discover interesting finds that the casual observer would probably never see. Plus, you can meet some wonderful volunteers grooming the plantings on Saturdays.

When?: Saturday mornings in August / early September, 9:00 am

Where?: Jewel Box, Forest Park

How?: Contact Greg Heck (Taraxacum44@gmail.com), and I will schedule small groups of 6 or so individuals. There will be limited dates and numbers that can be accommodated, but if successful, we can plan for more next year.




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SLWGS President's Corner

Hot enough for you? The only positive thing about the recent heat wave is that the water lilies are thriving in the heat and should be putting out lots of blooms. Hopefully, you will be attending the August 15th banquet at the Jewel Box. The water lily bloom display is tremendous this year and is exceeding our expectations. The Gorgon water lily (*Euryale ferox*) is a special treat and has been planted near the middle pond's edges for a close-up view of the unique bloom. A very different lily, one must use caution when fertilizing and pruning due to the needle-like thorns. I don't think there is any part of the plant that doesn't want to stick you. After all, its common name is the "Prickly water lily".

Last month's auction was well attended and included several lovely items for bidding. A big thanks go out to Mark Collins for stepping in as this year's auctioneer. This event is a significant money maker for society. This year the proceeds helped to offset the cost of the annual insurance policy renewal. A heartfelt thanks to those SLWGS members who brought items to the auction. Several homemade things were on hand including bird feeders, table runners, and lots of plants. I want to thank Gail and Sue Abernathy for organizing the

event, Beverly for keeping the bids in order, and of course, Jerre for taking care of the money!

Pond O Rama 2024 is underway, and I invite you to attend the August 8th board meeting. This month's agenda is to discuss the event and possible ways to make it even better. Your input is welcome and we would encourage you to consider contributing your thoughts and suggestions. Feel free to submit comments in person or forward them to any board member.

Don't forget you have a special invite to enjoy the cool water by joining us at the Jewel Box any Saturday morning starting around 9:00 a.m. My solemn promise is that there are NO snakes in the water!

Enjoy your ponds, and don't get overheated.

Bob Henson
President, St. Louis Water Garden Society



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St. Louis Water Garden Society Calendar of Events 2023

Membership meetings in 2023 will be held on the dates and at the locations listed below between 7 and 9 p.m. Meetings will be held on Tuesdays at the Kirkwood Community Center, Room 200 A/B. There is an elevator.

August 15th—Annual Banquet at the Jewel Box

September 19th—The Thyme is Cumin to learn about herbs!
 By Niki Salima, Certified Herbalist

October 7th — Tiki Tour

October 17th—Raindrops to Rainbows
 By Allison Joyce, Earthways Center of MOBOT

November 14th— Budget—Election of President and Secretary
 This year Potluck Dinner will be back!

****** Meeting Location ******
 Kirkwood Community Center
 Rm# 200 A/B
 111 S Geyer Rd
 Kirkwood, MO 63122



10TH ANNUAL MOONLIGHT POND TOUR & AFTER PARTY

Saturday, September 30, 2023

5:45 PM - 10:00 PM



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Tickets start at \$10 dollars. Visit their website to get pricing and to order them. [Nature's Re-Creations | Moonlight Pond Tour in St. Louis \(recreatenature.com\)](http://Nature's Re-Creations | Moonlight Pond Tour in St. Louis (recreatenature.com))

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Nov-Feb (Fri, Sat, Sun)
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Water Word

Water Word is usually 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:

2023 SLWGS Officers

President

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

Vice President

Greg Heck (314) 302-0273 taraxacum44@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jerre Baynes (314) 775-5453 baynes_j@swbell.net

Recording Secretary

Sophia Cluck (636) 530-1726 rodie0415@gmail.com

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Ginny Mueller (314) 808-7000 vcmueller16@gmail.com

Special Events Chair

Laurel Walle (314) 898-7216 lollysnorkels@gmail.com

Kathie Soehngen (314) 894-0981 kasoehng@sbcglobal.net

Society Shirt Sales Chairman

Gail Abernathy (314) 427-7076 abernat@swbell.net

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Jewel Box Chairman

Kay Miskell (618) 344-6216 km99@att.net

Water Word Editor

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Website Chairman

Ginny Mueller (314) 808-7000 vcmueller16@gmail.com

Pond-O-Rama Chairman

Ginny Mueller (314) 808-7000 vcmueller16@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

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Historian

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

Hospitality Chairman

Bev Maschek (314) 954-8616 maschek@sbcglobal.net

Member-at-Large

Carolyn Haus (314) 993-0985 chaus2016@gmail.com

Keith Haus (314) 993-0985 keithhaus33@gmail.com

Jim Haegele (636) 349-5511 jimhaegele@gmail.com



HELP NEEDED!

The Jewel Box Lily Pools. This is our civic project for the club. Could any of you spare two hours on a Saturday morning? It doesn't have to be every Saturday but come and help out in the water pulling spent blooms and bad leaves off the lilies. If you could only spare an hour, that would be helpful. As the temperatures go up, the plants take off in their growth. You don't have to get into the ponds. We need someone to help take the stuff that comes out. If you have a cart or something, you can wheel it around, collect the trash, and take it to the back of the Jewel Box to the dumpsters. That will help a lot. It is a great way to meet other members and you would not believe how many people come



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Sunday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

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Members' Corner:

Happy Birthday to All August Members below and not listed.

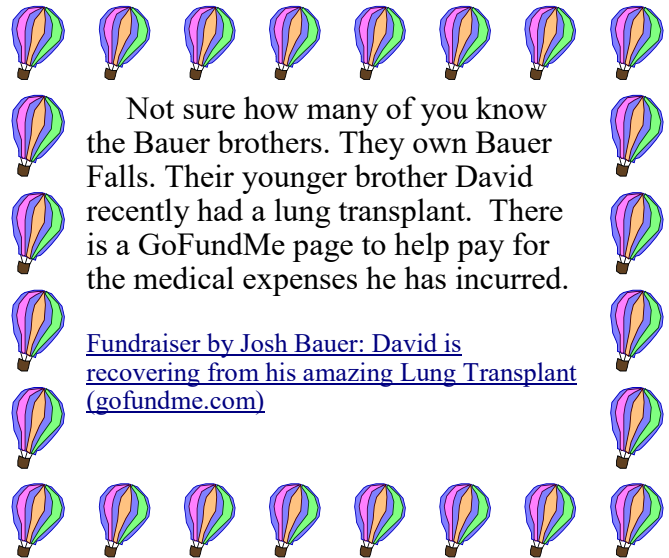
Bill Harrison 8/5
Betsy Meier 8/9
Rita Jenkins 8/12
Lawrence Hummel 8/12
Bob Temper 8/19
Kevin Behn 8/20
Edie Cornell Smith 8/23




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Not sure how many of you know the Bauer brothers. They own Bauer Falls. Their younger brother David recently had a lung transplant. There is a GoFundMe page to help pay for the medical expenses he has incurred.

[Fundraiser by Josh Bauer: David is recovering from his amazing Lung Transplant \(gofundme.com\)](https://www.gofundme.com)

Membership Bonus

International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society

Here is the link to their site and the login information. www.iwgs.org

Login: SLWGS

Password: slwgs20



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Chalily invites you to join them for Splash! Splash is a charity garden tour around St. Louis! From DIY-er to professionally built, these hosts are opening their water features for your inspiration! Splash is happening on Saturday, September 23rd, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. You can buy a ticket for the bus, and we'll drive you to every stop, or you can go self-guided and be in charge of your route. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and drinks will be provided along the way. There are nine fabulous gardens on tour this year, some of them never before seen by the public.

The purpose of Splash is to raise money for a good cause. Tickets are \$48, and all proceeds benefit Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic located right here in St. Louis. Their mission is to care for injured and orphaned wildlife and then release them back into their natural habitat. They care for hundreds of animals annually by providing food, shelter, and medical care for needy animals. You can purchase tickets in-store at Chalily or online at Chalily.com. Chalily hopes to see you there!

Chalily **Presents:** SPLASH!

Pond and Garden Tour September 23rd, 2023



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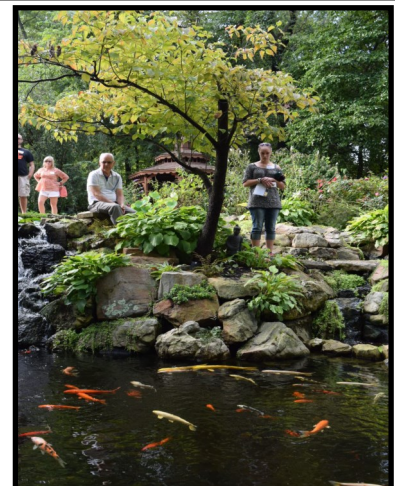


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Chalily.com
636.527.2001
14430 Manchester Rd.
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POND-O-RAMA



NEEDS YOU!

The 23rd Annual Pond-O-Rama tour was the best yet, but this event needs many more volunteers to be successful. If you're waiting to be asked, this is it.

We need *your* help. 😊

POND-O-RAMA 2024 PLANNING MEETING

August 8th, 2023, 7 p.m.

The tour is our most important event of the year.

Revenue from Pond-O-Rama funds our civic project. It gives members, builders, and retailers a platform to promote their work. It reaches new members in the community to grow our water garden society.

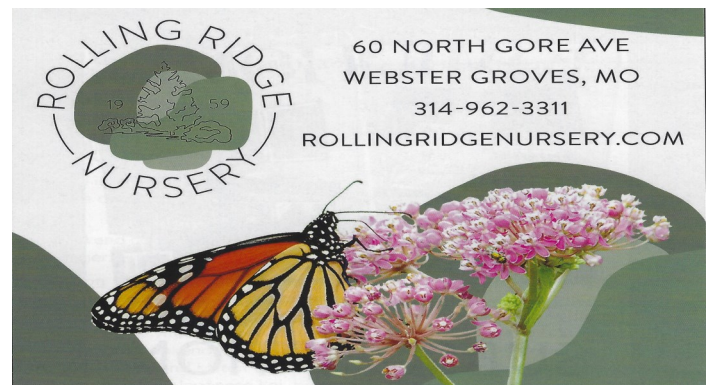
Join us on Tuesday, August 8, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss how we continue making next year's tour bigger and better. Pond-O-Rama Host please return your feather flags.

What ideas do you have for the 2024 tour?

Every year we need the same essential elements: Hosts, Advertisers, and Ticket Sellers. We need people with organization skills, people management skills, and sales skills. *What skills, connections, and time can you contribute?*

To reach new audiences and compete on the busy summer calendar, we need even more. That includes fresh, fun ideas *and* people to execute them!

There's a place on the Pond-O-Rama committee for ALL.



Events Around Town

May 2– October 15 — Chihuly in the Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden

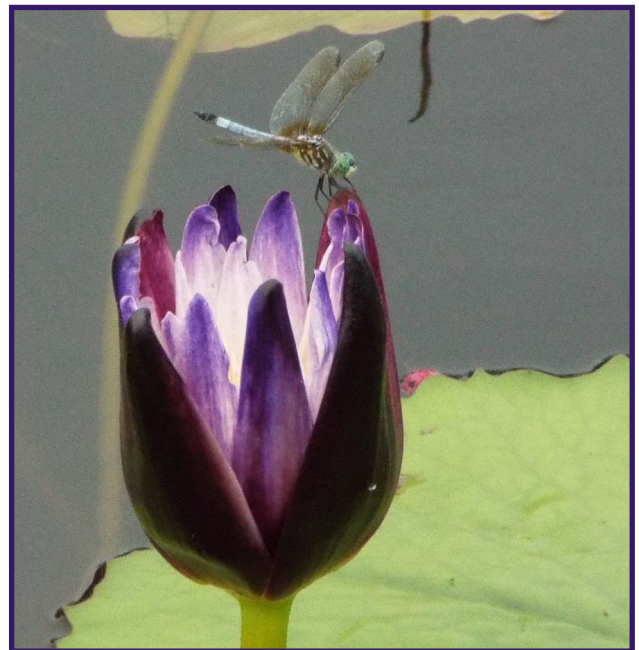




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Photo of the Month



Jewel Box Lily with a visitor