July will be our “Plants 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 gnomes, leftover pumps, and on and on…. The only prohibited items are live fish and animals. Hand made items are always popular.

Please make sure any plants that you bring are wrapped in plastic, so we do not make a mess that will have to be cleaned up.

All donations should be brought to the site by 6:30 p.m. for registration. The auction begins promptly at 7. Don’t forget to bring your checkbook!

Here is a small glimpse of some things that will be there:

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**AUGUST 16th**

**JEWEL BOX RECEPTION**

Join your fellow St Louis Water Garden Society members on August 16th at 7:00 p.m. for a reception at the Jewel Box. View the lily pools and see a Pond-O-Rama review. Enjoy light hors d’oeuvres and a dessert bar for a $10 per person. Soda and tea are included.

RSVP to Betsy Meier at lidodeck@att.net by July 29th.
Checks can be mailed to Ginny Mueller
16 Talismanway
Florissant, Mo 63034
You can sign up at the July meeting.

We hope everyone can come for a great evening!
We hope you enjoyed visiting many of our water gardens on Pond-O-Rama weekend. St. Louis weather in summer is always unpredictable, but it didn’t stop any gardeners. Saturday’s sun and heat didn’t stop the hundreds of visitors throughout the day. Sunday’s early morning rain brought lovely guests, and by afternoon the weather was delightful for those that came.

We appreciate the many members who stopped by. It is always great to visit with them. Many visitors came from Kansas City, MO, Cape Girardeau, MO, Mount Vernon, IL, and the metro area. Everyone I spoke with was extremely impressed with all the water gardens and thought this year “SLWGS stepped up their game”. So many out-of-town folks loved the ticket book and maps. It’s wonderful to hear great compliments!

Thank you to all our 30 hosts who worked so hard to make their water gardens beautiful. We appreciate all of the time, money, efforts and labor of love to make your places stunning. So now, take time to enjoy your stunning spaces and reflect on all the accolades you received.

Thank you to all our retail locations who promoted the tour on social media and sold our tickets. We couldn’t do this tour without your help.

Thank you to all our advertisers who placed ads in the ticket book this year and supporting us throughout the year.

Thank you to St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles for sponsoring us and promoting the tour in the magazine and on your email blasts and social media. The editors visited a number of the gardens, and they will be photographing their gardens for future features in the magazine. To be featured in their magazine is an ultimate compliment!

A SPECIAL thank you to the Pond-O-Rama committee for all their help in making this year’s tour a great success. Each year our tour becomes bigger and better, and the assistance of our members is invaluable.

The support and efforts of our members are what has made Pond-O-Rama sustainable for the past 22 years.

Gratefully,
Ginny Mueller
2022 Pond-O-Rama Chair
SLWGS President’s Corner

The July meeting will be our auction so please plan on bringing items to help make the event successful. Josh Higgins, formerly of the Missouri Botanical Garden will be this year’s auctioneer.

The August meeting is to be held at the Jewel Box for the 2022 “Reception”. September we’ll be back at the Kirkwood Community Center with Derek Lyle. Derek will be teaching us how to be successful at overwintering tropical lilies, something I have yet to perfect!

In October we hope to have a well-noted expert speak on owls and, of course, November is the annual budget meeting and election of officers. The year is certainly moving along!

Enjoy your garden and see you in July.
Membership meetings in 2022 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.

June 25 & 26 Pond-O-Rama

July 19 — Auction
Josh Higgins, Auctioneer

August 16 — Reception, at the Jewel Box

September 20 — Derek Lyle
How to winter over tropical lilies.

October 18 — TBA

November 15 — Budget—Election of Vice President and Treasurer

**** Meeting Location ****

Address:
Kirkwood Community Center
Rm# 200 A/B
111 S Geyer Rd
Kirkwood, MO  63122
What is in The Name of a Koi?

Special names are given to Hariwake koi with distinct characteristics.

For example: Doitsu Orinje: Scaleless, orange pattern.

Yamabuki: Scaleless, yellow pattern.

Orinje: Scales, orange pattern.

Lemon Hariwake: Scaled or scaleless with a bright, vibrant yellow pattern.

Need fish, fish food, pond equipment/supplies, landscape and/or pond designs or plants? All that and more is available from our advertisers. Drop by or call them when you need help.

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**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](http://www.slwgs.org) or from any of the officers and board members listed:

### 2022 SLWGS Officers

- **President**
  Bob Henson  (314) 495-4233  hatt8v92@aol.com
- **Vice President**
  Bryan Cox  (618) 593-4238  bcox741@gmail.com
- **Treasurer**
  Ginny Mueller  (314) 831-3063  vcmueller16@hotmail.com
- **Recording Secretary**
  Sophia Cluck  (636) 530-1726  rodie0415@gmail.com

### 2022 Board Members

- **Publicity Chairman**
  Ginny Mueller  (314) 831-3063  vcmueller16@hotmail.com
- **Special Events Chairman**
  Gail Abernathy  (314) 427-7076  abernat@swbell.net
- **Society Shirt Sales Chairman**
  Betsy Meier  (636) 405-1120  lidodeck@att.net
- **Membership/E-mail 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  ufo.kites@att.net
- **Pond-O-Rama Chairman**
  Ginny Mueller  (314) 831-3063  vcmueller16@hotmail.com
- **Parliamentarian**
  Carol Greminger  (314) 487-9119  carolnron@att.net
- **Historian**
  Betsy Meier  (636) 405-1120  lidodeck@att.net
- **Hospitality Chairman**
  Bev Maschek  (314) 954-8616  maschek@sbcglobal.net

### Member-at-Large

- **Greg Heck**  (314) 302-0273  taraxacum44@gmail.com
**Natural Ways to Repel Mosquitoes.**

**A grass that repels mosquitoes.**
A very effective substance that repels mosquitoes is citronella. Citronella can be found in lemon grass and in the natural oil form, found in the grass, which is even more effective than the citronella that you purchase from the store. It is also called Thai grass and is available at most garden stores. Use the scallion-like stem of the plant, crush it and use on your arms, legs and neck to repel mosquitoes. You can also make a spray by making a tea from the stem. Then put into a spray bottle to spray areas as needed.

**Scare them away.**
If you want an easy solution to ridding your home and garden of mosquitoes, just purchase some castor bean seeds and grow a few plants. They grow like weeds. Extreme caution: If you have pets castor bean plants can be deadly if ingested.

Here is a spray that I use around our deck and it seems to work in small areas.

- 16oz bottle of Listerine
- 8 oz bottle of baby shampoo (lavender scented if you can find it).

Pour all ingredients into a 20 gal hose in-sprayer. Spray the area till it runs out of the solution. If it does not rain it last about a week. If you are planning an outside party doing this every other day before the event helps a great deal.

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**Membership Bonus**
International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society (IWGS).

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

**The login:** SLWGS **Password is:** slwgs20
Pond-O-Rama Photos

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The striking red hot poker plant is also known as the Torch lily. They like sun and bloom from spring to summer if the deer do not eat them. Mulch in for the first winter. Remove excess mulch in the spring.