



Ice Cream Social And P-O-R Discussion

Come to our July meeting for an Ice Cream Social and a discussion about this year's Pond-O-Rama. Please share your thoughts on what was good about it and what was not. Also, help brainstorm for our **25th Pond-O-Rama**, our Silver Jubilee. Let's hear all your ideas. Have some good ice cream with a toppings bar. Share your thoughts. Everyone is welcome. It should be a lively time for all. See you there!

Don't Miss This!

What: Ice Cream Social And P-O-R Discussion

Who: Ginny Mueller and Members

When: Tuesday, July, 16th from 7p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

****Enter Kirkwood Community Center from Geyer Road due to construction work at the Center**



Ice Cream Social

Annual Banquet

Our annual banquet, catered by the Pasta House Company, will be held on Tuesday, August 20, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Jewel Box. It's an opportunity to relax with Society friends, and see the beautiful water lily display in the ponds which our faithful Saturday morning workers have created and maintained as our Society's gift to the people of St. Louis. The cost will be \$25 each.

The highlight of the evening is the presentation of awards to recognize members who have made special contributions or gone above and beyond the call of duty.

***Add this special club event to your calendar and **JOIN THE FUN!**





POND-O-RAMA

Thank you for another successful St. Louis Water Garden Society tour!

Even with the St. Louis hot weather, we had great visitors to our gardens. Personally, I enjoyed the day on Saturday, and I always loved talking with all the hundreds of guests who visit my garden. A little breeze and shade helped. I visited a few of the gardens on Sunday, and they all looked really wonderful.

Our hosts did a terrific job of making their spaces look fantastic and welcoming.

I heard many comments and accolades about the beautiful water gardens and the friendliness and knowledge of all our hosts and members. Our members love their water features, plants, fish, AND PEOPLE! We had many new visitors on the tour this year; many signed up for membership, and a few even said they wanted to be on the 25th tour in 2025.

I know personally all the work, time, effort, and money that goes into ensuring that the host gardens are beautiful for the public but, it's also for your own enjoyment each day. So many ideas and information sharing spark interest in the water garden tour. Thank you to all the hosts for all your efforts.

Thank you to our members who participate and support all the efforts of the society all year long.

Thank you to all our advertisers who continue to support us year after year.

Thank you to the ticket sellers who sell our tickets each year.

Free water hyacinths just for visiting Chalily!!!

Joe Summers
Tonya Summers
Owners
14430 Manchester Rd.
Manchester, MO 63011

T. (636) 527-2001
E. info@chalily.com
www.chalily.com



Picture taken at Mark & Mark pond during their interview with Show Me St Louis KSDK promotion.

Your Personal Florist and Landscape Specialist Since 1883

Walter Knoll Florist is a full service landscaping company offering

- Plant Maintenance
- Landscaping
- Lawn Service
- Outdoor Lighting
- Walkways
- Driveways
- Paver Installation

And new for 2015
• Complete line of grill stations and grill accessories

Give us a call to schedule your appointment.
Walter Knoll Florist 314-633-8770

13801 Marine Ave. • Maryland Heights, MO 63043
(across the street from Creve Coeur Park)

SERVICES

- Landscape design, consultation, and installation
- Tree and shrub installation
- Products for all your landscaping needs
- Trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, veggies, fruits, tropicals, and indoor plants
- Bagged and bulk soil, mulch, topsoil, and compost
- Bagged garden soil, fertilizers, and plant food
- Bulk rock, pottery, and more

For all your landscape needs

SPRING HOURS
(starting April 1)
Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

schmittelnursery.com • (314) 469-8900





The interview on Riverbender Radio mentioned ALL the ticket sellers on air.

<https://www.riverbender.com/video/details/our-daily-show-interview-pondorama-back-june-22nd23rd-tickets-on-sale-video-7161.cfm>

Show-Me-St. Louis, Mary Caltrider and I visited Mark and Mark’s garden in Lafayette Square to promote the tour.

<https://www.ksdk.com/video/entertainment/television/show-me-st-louis/explore-local-water-gardens-across-the-st-louis-region-at-the-24th-annual-pond-o-rama/63-79d4f653-2078-4270-b865-8888d1232af1>

LOOKING AHEAD:

NOW is a good time to take great pictures of your garden at its best, especially if you are considering being on tour next year.

Ladue News visited a few of the host gardens on Saturday and will write an article about them in a future issue.

NOTE: We would like to get feedback on this year’s Pond-O-Rama tour from our hosts and members at the July Ice Cream Social. Next year is the society’s 25th anniversary tour, a milestone event. Our Pond-O-Rama tour is becoming renowned around the country. I received a call from a lady in Texas requesting next year’s date so they can plan their trip. This year people visited from Iowa, Indiana, Massachusetts, and places in Missouri and Illinois.

In order for our tour to remain sustainable, we need new folks, new members, and lots of people to take the reins for future tours. We need many people to be part of the 25th Pond-O-Rama committee. Please share your talents for next year’s tour. Many folks make event planning much more fun, and shared responsibilities lighten the tasks.

Thank you for a great St. Louis Water Garden Society 24th Annual Pond-O-Rama tour!

Ginny Mueller

Pond-O-Rama Chair, Publicity

BUY KOI DIRECT FROM THE BREEDER
kloubeckkoi.com
 SHIPPED TO YOUR DOOR

COMMITTED TO KOI HEALTH

POND CARE PRODUCTS
Phosphor
 KOI CUISINE

ALL SEASON HARDY KOI

Bacteria Power Filter Media

Like US!

Kloubeck Koi Farm
 North America's Premier Breeder of Champion Koi

1375 Baxter Ave.,
 Amana, Iowa
 319.846.2077
 kloubeckkoi.com

CREEKSIDE Gardens

721 Johnson Hill Drive • Collinsville, IL 62234
 618-344-7054 • creeksidegardensinc.com





SANDY'S
BACK PORCH GARDENS

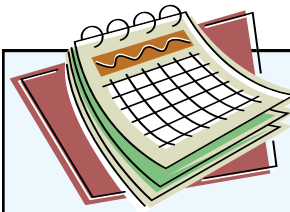
We have a large selection of colorful Annuals, Perennials and Shrubs!

2004 West Boulevard
Belleville, IL 62221
(618) 235-2004
sandysbackporch.com



PW
PROVEN WINNERS
DESTINATION

WE ARE THE ONLY PROVEN WINNER'S DESTINATION IN THE ENTIRE ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA!



St. Louis Water Garden Society Calendar of Events

Membership meetings in 2024 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.

July 16—Ice Cream Social and P-O-R Discussion

August 20—Banquet at Jewel Box

Sept. 17—

October 15—


November 19th — Budget—Election of Vice President and Treasurer. Potluck Dinner.

****** Meeting Location ****
Address:**

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


****Enter Kirkwood Community Center from Geyer Road due to construction work at Center.**

*****Meeting place will be changing. So check the website and your newsletter for new location and address. Kirkwood will be closing there meeting rooms down in August.**



ROLLING RIDGE
NURSERY

60 NORTH GORE AVE
WEBSTER GROVES, MO
314-962-3311
ROLLINGRIDGENURSERY.COM




WEBB'S
WATER GARDENS

Shop over 3000 pond products!
Use code **STL10** and receive **10% OFF** on your next order.

WWW.WEBBSONLINE.COM




Proud Supporter of the
Pond-O-Rama Tour
since 2005

Pick up your FREE copy at more than 400 locations throughout the Metro area or read it online at GatewayGardener.com

THE GATEWAY GARDENER
Your Guide to Enjoyable Gardening and Easy-Care Landscapes

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.





Pond-O-Rama Photos



M P R
S U P P L Y
 COMPANY

2541 LINK ROAD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63114
 314-426-4838, www.mprsupply.com

AUTHORIZED
Aquascape PRO
 DISTRIBUTOR

COUPON
Basket Bucks
\$10 off your purchase
 of \$60 or more

Take advantage of this great offer and you'll enjoy savings on top of our great service and selection.

Offer expires April 26, 2016. This Basket Bucks discount applies to retail price only and is not valid with any other offer or discount already in use. Excludes marketplace. Item at time, verify guidelines from when coupon image is available receipt.

Proud retailer of quality EzPond aquatic plants

ezPond

Market Basket
GROCERY • LANDSCAPE • GARDEN

1700 East HWY 50 • O'Fallon, IL 618.632.9055
www.joesmarketbasket.com

447 South Buchanan • Edwardsville, IL 618.632.9055

Edwardsville and O'Fallon Locations on

MISSOURI POND COMPANY

MISSOURI POND COMPANY
 @MOPondCo

314-499-2782
<https://mopondco.com>

PONDS PLUS (636) 946-2242
 Water Garden Center
www.pondsplusstl.com
 1757 S. Old Hwy 94
 St. Charles, MO 63303

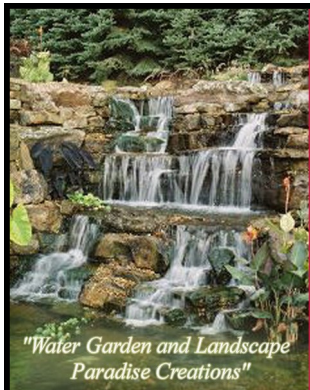
HOURS
 Mar-Oct (7 Days)
 9 am - 6 pm
 Nov-Feb (Fri, Sat, Sun)
 10 am - 5 pm



Out on a Limb and need some help?



Find resources at www.slwgs.org!



"Water Garden and Landscape Paradise Creations"

(314) 831-0344



LAND WORKS, INC.

Design • Ponds • Plants • Patios • Walls

BARCLAY H. COMPTON
President

3295 Charbonier Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63031

www.landworksnet.com

Email: landworks@sbcglobal.net

Largest selection of plants in the Midwest!

www.sugarcreekgardens.com

Visit the website to find a wealth of information on plants, gardening and to discover the many benefits gardening has to offer beyond a beautiful yard.

1011 N. Woodlawn
Kirkwood, MO
(314) 965-3070



Voted #1 Best Garden Center

Looking for more information about pond building, plants or fish care? Visit our website, www.slwgs.org Check out our "Articles of Interest" section and "Links We Like" for help.

Pond, Waterfall & Landscape Construction
Aquascape™ 2012 Artist of the Year



Nature's Re-Creations

PONDS & FALLS

Chris Siewing
636. 223. 2330

www.Re-CreateNature.com
[Facebook.com/NaturesReCreations](https://www.facebook.com/NaturesReCreations)



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:

2024 SLWGS Officers

President

Sue Abernathy (314) 795-2160 abernat56@gmail.com

Vice President

Carol Ann Miller (314) 821-0184

Treasurer

Jerre Baynes (314) 775-5453

Recording Secretary

Jane Sykes (314) 535-0101 gardenlady490@sbcglobal.net

2024 Board Members

Publicity Chairman

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

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) 808-7000 vcmueller16@gmail.com

Pond-O-Rama Chairman

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

Parliamentarian

Carol Greminger (314) 799-7880 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

Carolyn Haus (314) 993-0985 chaus2016@gmail.com
Keith Haus (314) 993-0985 keithhaus33@gmail.com
Jim Haegele (636) 349-5511 jimhaegele@gmail.com



Summit Your Award Nominations!

Which Society members have made a difference? Who's done something special that should be recognized? Who's doing the work or making it fun? Write down each individual's name and the reason they should be awarded, and give/email all your suggestions (yes, more than one!) to a board member by the July 16th meeting. Previous award winners will vote on the ultimate recipients. The results will be unveiled at the banquet!

The **Bonnie Alford Service Award** is given in honor of the founder of the St. Louis Water Garden Society and is awarded annually to a person who has been a member of the society for at least three years. All persons are eligible who have 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.

TIKI TOUR

Please start thinking about the annual tiki tour. We do it on the first Saturday of October to avoid conflict with anything else that may be going on. Please let Gail Abernathy know at (abernat@swbell.net) if you would like to be on it, the route depends on who and where the ponds are.

Show off your pond in the evening, I'm sure it looks very different and spectacular with the lights on.

Members' Corner:

Happy Birthday to All July Members below and those not listed.

JoAnn Batzer 7/2
Diane Heuvelman 7/5
Tara Bailor 7/9
Pat Siewing 7/10
Rebecca Harrison 7/10



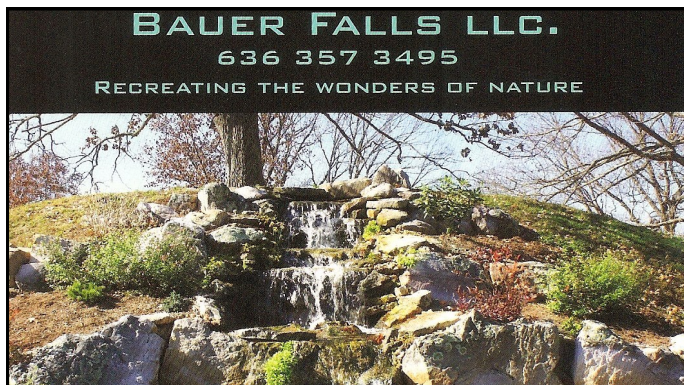
Membership Bonus

International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society

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

Login: SLWGS

Password: slwgs20





Victoria versus the Gorgon by Greg Heck

Waterlilies with enormously impressive pads come in two distinctive forms: *Victoria*, and *Euryale* which is (the Gorgon plant or prickly waterlily). These warmer water giants dominate their natural habitats with super-sized leaves that are believed to help the plants by dominating the surface area so that other aquatic plants cannot get enough sunlight to thrive and compete. Domination is enhanced by a formidable array of spines that cover all underwater surfaces (and the upper surface of the Gorgon pads) to persuade herbivores to leave them alone aggressively.

The Gorgon plant is the last of its line. *Euryale ferox* is the only species in its genus *Euryale* living today. The Victorias are made of three species: *Victoria Amazonia*, *Victoria cruziana*, and *Victoria boliviano*. We have both Gorgon and Victoria's representation at the Jewel Box this summer. Last year, we had *Victoria cruziana*, but this year, we could plant the hybrid *V. cruziana* x *V. amazonica* (also known as the 'Longwood Hybrid'), which is more robust and colorful than *V. cruziana*. Last Summer, we achieved 5-foot leaf diameters on both *V. cruziana* and the Gorgon plant leaves at the Jewel Box. However, we still have a way to go to match the almost 10-foot pad diameter recorded for *V. boliviana*.

In the grand scheme of things, both genera are in the same botanical family, Nymphaeaceae, which includes all the species we would recognize as waterlilies. These giants aren't super closely related, however. You can think of their relatedness, like house cats and tigers, indeed both cats, but they are very distinct. The two genera have been physically isolated for a very long time. Victorias are from central South America, and the Gorgon is from India and Southeast Asia.

An evolutionary history separated from each other has allowed each genus to develop its special

qualities. Gorgon plants are day-bloomers and typically self-pollinated. They are even capable of flowering/self-pollinating underwater. Their flowers are relatively small but colorful. In contrast, Victorias are night-bloomers. Their flowers are white to pinkish. Victorias also have an elaborate trick to attract their scarab beetle pollinators. The first night, they open and heat up their flowers by burning lots of calories, so they are well above the surrounding temperature of the environment to release a scent like rotting fruit. Beetles find the scent irresistible and enter a special chamber in the flower. There, they are trapped when the flower closes in the morning. This allows the beetles to drop pollen onto the flower's female part. The second night, the flower sheds its pollen and opens without scent. Bored beetles exit and seek out the next scented *Victoria* carrying fresh pollen.

Victorias probably won't set any viable seed in our local environment, yet Gorgons do. The plants die as the winter comes on, but their seeds tolerate freezing temperatures and can germinate in the Spring. We had many volunteer Gorgon plants in the Jewel Box ponds this Spring, so it's a potential warning for growing Gorgons in natural waterways or hard-to-manage ponds where they could self-propagate. The seeds of Gorgons are known as fox nuts or makhana and have long been harvested and eaten and popped like popcorn.



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

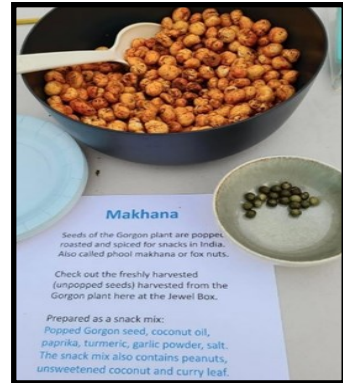
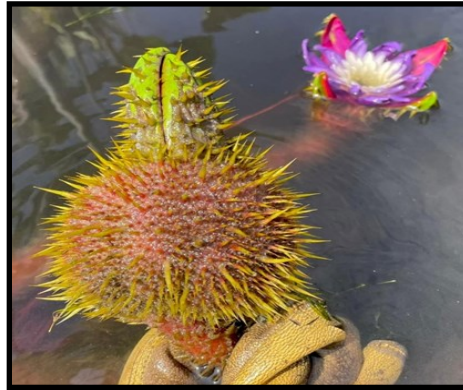




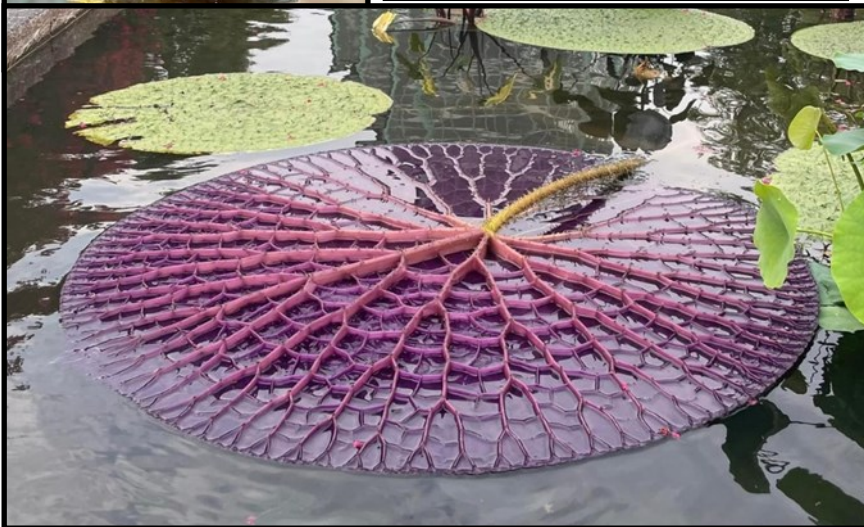
Check out these fascinating giants at the Jewel Box and Missouri Botanical Garden. This Summer, we are growing Victoria waterlilies supplied by the Botanical Gardens, and they are growing Gorgon plants started from seeds harvested last Fall from the Jewel Box. Both were started from the pea-sized seeds this past January for the current season.



Morning view of Victoria ‘Longwood Hybrid’ before flowers close. Buds and young leaves



Makhana
Seeds of the Gorgon plant are popped, roasted and spiced for snacks in India. Also called phool makhana or fox nuts.
Check out the freshly harvested (unpopped seeds) harvested from the Gorgon plant here at the Jewel Box.
Prepared as a snack mix:
Popped Gorgon seed, coconut oil, paprika, turmeric, garlic powder, salt. The snack mix also contains peanuts, unsweetened coconut and curry leaf.



Some great videos:

Dramatic Victoria time-lapse with David Attenborough narrating: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWSF3df6jUs>

The labor-intensive (crazy) harvesting and preparation of Gorgon plant seeds (makhana): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GAuCQe2qqro>

Copy links into your browser.

Gorgon plant (*Euryale ferox*) flower fruit, overturned leaf to sow structure and popped seeds that we enjoyed at last Summer’s St. Louis Water Garden Society Banquet.



SLWGS *Water Word*
 10922 Killdare Ct
 St. Ann, MO 63074
www.slwgs.org



Inside this edition:

Ice Cream Social and P-O-R Discussion.....	Page 1
Annual Banquet	Page 1
Pond-O-Rama	Page 2
Pond-O-Rama Cont.....	Page 3
SLWGS Calendar of Events.....	Page 4
P-O-R Photos	Page 5
2024 SLWGS Officers & Board Members.....	Page 6
Award Nominations	Page 7
Tiki Tour	Page 7
Members' Corner	Page 7
Vitoria versus the Gorgon	Page 8
Photo of the Month	Page 10

Photo of the Month

