

Perennials To Enhance The Beauty Of Ponds

Barry Ritter, is owner of Ritter Perennials, a locally-grown source of perennials and native flowers.

Plants are sold to independently-owned garden centers, landscape designers, and landscapers.



Barry Ritter

“I’m head over heels in love with water gardening!” Says Ritter.

The Ritter family has been in the horticultural industry for nearly 100 years. They started growing vegetables and flowers in the early 1920s

and expanded into growing annuals, perennials, holiday crops, and houseplants over the years.

Twenty-five years ago, Barry, a third-generation grower, carried on the tradition and started his own business, Ritter Perennials. Barry is one of the premier perennial growers in the Midwest. Many of the local independent garden centers stock Ritter Perennials. When not in the greenhouse, he travels the country to find new and unique varieties of perennials that will grow well in the extreme weather conditions of the Midwest.

Don’t Miss This!

What: Perennials To Enhance The Beauty Of Ponds

Who: Barry Ritter, owner of Ritters Perennials

When: Tuesday, June, 18th 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 center**

2024 Pond-O-Rama tickets will be distributed at the June meeting. Stop by and pick yours up.





POND-O-RAMA

June is the perfect time of year to enjoy the outdoors. After spring, the gardens are lush and green. The beauty of nature takes root literally, and we are treated to landscapes rich with color, scent, and sound. We invite all our members to take a stroll through our 24 members water features on the 24th Annual St. Louis Water Garden Society Pond-O-Rama tour, June 22-23, 2024, from 9-5 p.m. There are 12 on Saturday and 12 on Sunday.

Our hosts spent a tremendous amount of time preparing for this year's tour.

The Pond-O-Rama committee worked from January until June to ensure this event was successful and enjoyable. Many of our board members have delivered tickets and brochures to the area's retailers and will follow up after the tour. We have had great publicity on social media, radio, media publications (SLHL, County Living, Gateway Gardener, Healthy Planet, Pond Trade), newspapers, and TV. Each year, the tour grows in popularity and interest.

We all have so much to learn from each other, and our tour is a wonderful event for sharing ideas and the creativity each site brings.

We encourage all our members to support our hosts, the society, and the various committees.

We know the weather can be challenging in June. The weather is always out of our control. As gardeners we go with the flow (rain, wind, sun, heat, hail, and whatever else comes with the change in weather)—looking forward to good weather on the tour weekend. Enjoy the tour, whatever the weekend brings! In the summer heat... dress cool, stay hydrated, and have fun. Many of our hosts are always gracious enough to provide water and maybe refreshments as you enjoy their water gardens.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to all our retailers, advertisers, hosts, board members, and the dedicated Pond-O-Rama committee. This tour would not be possible without your invaluable contributions. Have a fantastic tour weekend!

Ginny Mueller

Pond-O-Rama Chair, Publicity



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



Chalily
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




INTERNET WISDOM

Do I need to hire someone to install lighting in my pond, or can I do that myself?

A: Unless you're planning a Bellagio-esque display in your backyard, you can install some show-stopping lighting. It's perfect for the do-it-yourselfer: A simple transformer and some quick connections allow any homeowner to take their water feature to the next level.

Layout Lighting Goals

Before you dive in, however, brainstorm what you'd like the lighting to do. What are your goals?

If you'd like to highlight one area in your landscape or water feature, check out the Luminosity Power Beam. It is a great way to add nighttime illumination to any pond or water garden. The LED light controller automatically lets you change or rotate colors from red and blue to white. This spotlight has 144 super-bright LEDs and lasts 10 times longer than conventional lighting.

- If you'd like to illuminate a waterfall or accent a small water feature, look at the Color Changing Spot Lights. Use these pond spotlights above ground or underwater and select from 48 different colors to add eye-catching curb appeal.

If you'd like to light up your entire pond, try LEDPro Lights. They can be used in or out of water and shine with the same intensity as a halogen bulb, but they have a longer life span and lower energy costs.

Easy Installation

Installing these LEDPro Lighting systems is easy. If you're considering the High-Output lights, there's virtually no work at all. These lights contain a photocell, so they will automatically turn on when it's dark and turn off when the sun rises.

Most other pond lights have standard plugs, so there's no need for additional control panels or wiring.

Before installing them, check out these pro tips:

- To give you better access, partially drain the pond when installing the lights.
- Leave an extra power cord wrapped around the light so you can easily access it for maintenance or cleaning without draining the pond.

Position the lights to shine into the pond rather than face you.





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

AUTHORIZED
Aquascape PRO
DISTRIBUTOR

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

COMMITTED TO KOI HEALTH

POND CARE PRODUCTS
Phycocyanin
KOI CUISINE


ALL SEASON
HARDY
KOI


Bacteria Protein
Filter Media

Like us 

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

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


 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


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

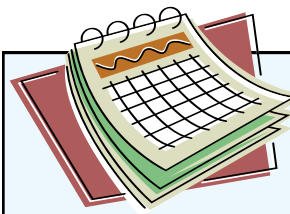
WE ARE THE ONLY PROVEN WINNER'S DESTINATION IN THE ENTIRE ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA!

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.



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.

June 18—Perennials to Enhance the Beauty of Ponds, by Barry Ritter of Ritter Perennials.

July 16—No Auction TBA

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.**





Proven Winners



Redemption Elephant Ear



Solar Fancy Coreopsis



Leading Lady Pink Bee Balm



Silver Lining White Sagebrush



Sarcococca Sweet & Lo



CREEKSIDE Gardens

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



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.

This Basket Bucks discount applies to retail price only and is not valid with any other offer or discount program. Excludes marketplace items. See all terms, verify guidelines from your coupon. Please do not reuse receipt.

Offer expires April 26, 2015.

Proud retailer of quality EzPond aquatic plants




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
@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



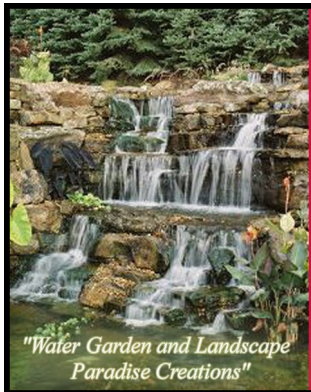
HOURS
Mar-Oct (7 Days)
9 am - 6 pm
Nov-Feb (Fri, Sat, Sun)
10 am - 5 pm



Out on a Limb and need some help?



Find resources at [www.slwgs.org!](http://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

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

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) 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

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



We Need 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.

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!**

Members' Corner:

Happy Birthday to All June Members below and not listed.

Del Baynes 6-4
Rich Miller 6-8
Gail Abernathy 6-10
Ralph Merola 6-30

Howard Schroeder



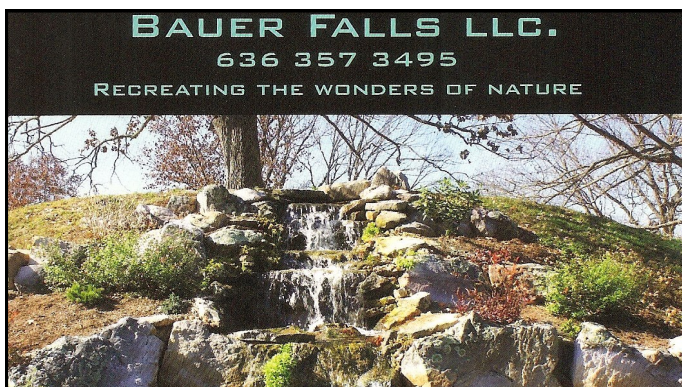
Membership Bonus

International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society

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

Login: SLWGS

Password: slwgs20





Tropical Planting Day June 6th at the Jewel Box

The weather was a little iffy, but the sun was behind the clouds for most of the morning.

This meant the planting was a little easier and there would be no glare on the water. It was clear, so you could see what you were doing and look into the pools very easily.

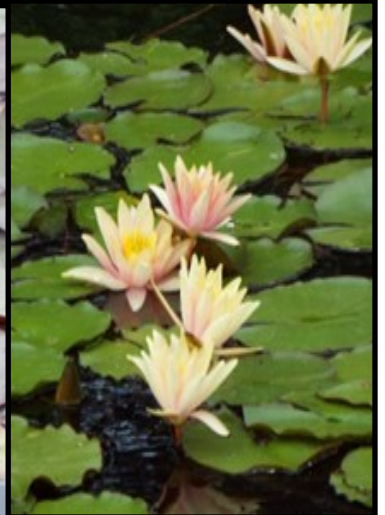


Howard is planting tropical lilies in this pool.



Picture on the left is Greg Heck project For this year at the Jewel Box.

See how well the hardy lilies are doing in just one month being put into the pools. Just wait an see them at the banquet.



SCHMITTEL'S NURSERY
 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., 8a.m.–5 p.m.
 Sunday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

schmittelnursery.com • (314) 469-8900

PLANTHAVEN FARMS
 GARDEN CENTER
 www.planthavenfarms.com





Victoria Lily just starting to grow



Greg & Bob making decisions. Steve Harris in another pool planting lilies.



Diane planting in the St. Francis pool



Black Hollyhock

Walter Knoll Florist
LANDSCAPES
 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

A Water Garden OASIS

Let us help you create yours!

- Water Plants, Native Plants
- Perennials, Annuals & Herbs
- Roses, Trees & Flowering Shrubs
- Succulents, Bonsai & Houseplants
- Fruit, Vines & Vegetable Plants

Effinger Garden Center
 "40 Years Serving The Metro East"

720 South 11th St. • Belleville
 (618) 234-4600
 www.effingergarden.com

GROW HERE TO LIVE HERE



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



Inside this edition:

Perennials to Enhance the Beauty of Ponds.....Page 1
 Pond-O-Rama Page 2
 Internet Wisdom Page 3
 SLWGS Calendar of Events..... Page 4
 Proven Winners Page 5
 2024 SLWGS Officers & Board Members..... Page 6
 Annual Banquet & Awards Page 7
 Members' CornerPage 7
 Tropical Planting DayPage 8
 Photo of the Month Page 10

Photo of the Month



Did you know besides the purple cornflower which is native there are 27 other varies of cornflowers.

