

## Find Treasures at Annual Auction

With Pond-O-Rama concluded, we move directly into our second (and last) fund-raising event for 2023—our annual auction. It will be held July 18 (THIRD Tuesday) at the Kirkwood Community Center Rm. 200, selling everything from pond plants and equipment to garden statuary and other goodies. As always, donations are now being collected. Remember, one man's junk really is often another's treasure! Any pond or garden related item is welcome—plants, pots, books, photos, cute trolls, leftover pumps, and on and on...

The only items prohibited are live fish and animals, from being sold. Handmade items always are generally popular, like the handmade bird house last year from Keith Haus. What can YOU do?

If you have something you would like to donate, but can't get it to the meeting, contact one of the board members, and we will try to arrange a pick up.

So be sure you bring your checkbook. Don't miss your chance to buy a real bargain—and support the efforts of SLWGS at the same time. See you on the 18th.



### Save the Date

Our Annual Banquet at the Jewel Box August 15th. Please call Kathie Soehngen at 314-495-4233 to make your reservations. There will be light appetizers like last year. It be a fun time all around talking to fellow members and catching up. It is always an enjoyable time.

### Don't Miss This!

**What: Find Treasures at Annual Auction**

**Who: Auctioneer**

**When: Tuesday, July 18th, 7p.m. —9 p.m.**

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

### Refreshment theme:

July- At the Ballpark

Nacho chips/ cheese  
Pretzel Bites  
Cracker Jacks  
Cookies



# thank you! POND-O-RAMA thank you!

*What a great 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pond-O-Rama tour this year!*

The twenty-two water features were beautiful! The hot weekend didn't deter the hundreds of people from visiting the amazing water gardens. The tour would not have been possible without the tremendous support and months of preparation (beginning in January) to make it all happen from so many people.

Thank you to all our advertisers who provide services and products throughout the year and place their ads in the ticket book. They have the products and expertise to make water features stunning.

Thank you to all our ticket sellers who did a fabulous job of promoting the tour at their locations.

Thank you to all our contractors who share their talents and encourage new hosts to be on tour.

Thank you to all the talented individuals who spend hours working on the ticket book, posters, and brochures. (Ellie Flesch, Christine Ryder, Joan Ziskind)

Thank you to all our members who enjoyed the weekend.

Special thanks to all the members who take the time to assemble the ticket packages, and then distribute the brochures and tickets at various locations and pick them up after the tour. (Bob Henson, Gail Abernathy, Sue Abernathy, Beverlee Maschek, Greg Heck, Tom & Betsy Meier, Carolyn & Keith Haus, Kathy Soehngen, Carol Ann Miller) Thanks to Jim Haegele for ensuring our host plaques are special. Thanks to Laurel Walle for ensuring our hosts receive a beautifully engraved gift.

A very special thanks to Carolyn and Keith Haus who made multiple trips to the post office to mail over 144 tickets from our website online sales. They logged and tracked every ticket. Tickets were sent to

many places in Illinois, Missouri, Texas, Oregon, and other states.

Every year the pond tour increases in the sales of tickets, publicity, and membership. It just gets bigger and better every year!

This year the tour was promoted on Riverbend Radio, Fox 2 Morning Show, Healthy Planet, Gateway Gardener, St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles Magazine, Pond Trade, Explore St. Louis, Visit Missouri, Garden-Lou, Webster-Kirkwood Times, and online calendars.

I am grateful for all the support and assistance from so many people who made this year's tour a success.

Thank you!  
 Ginny Mueller  
 SLWGS Pond-O-Rama Chair, Publicity

## PUBLICITY:

Check out our YouTube Channel St. Louis Water Garden Society and our Facebook & Instagram page.

Members, please ensure your email is correct and that you receive all the information on meetings and events from the St. Louis Water Garden Society. Let us know if you aren't getting that information.

[vcmueller16@gmail.com](mailto:vcmueller16@gmail.com)

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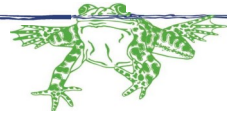
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# SLWGS President's Corner

So many thanks go out to everyone who participated in this year's Pond O Rama. The host ponds and gardens were some of the most spectacular in years. Each one reflects the owners' hard work and diligence for perfection. Being a host on past POR tours, I know how much labor, time, and money it takes to host the event.

Speaking on behalf of the board, membership, and myself, I sincerely thank everyone involved in making this year's event successful. Obviously, without the hosts, there would not be a POR tour; however, without the dedication of our member volunteers on the POR committee, nothing could be accomplished!

Many hours of discussion, planning, phone calls to vendors and ticket sellers, emails, publicity engagements, host gift selection, delivery of tickets to the sellers, distribution of tickets to the membership, poster design artwork, creation of the ticket booklets, proofreading, mapping out of routes between hosts are just a few of the responsibilities. Without these people and their commitment of time, POR would not be possible.

The water lilies and aquatic plants at the Jewel Box are all in place and being attended to each Saturday by fellow SLWGS members.

Unfortunately, we have slowly been losing our workforce. I worked in the ponds this morning with Kay, Steve, and Beverly. Each of the three ponds contains hardy and tropical lilies that require the removal of spent blooms and dead and yellow leaves and fertilizing every other week. No complaints as we do enjoy our work, **BUT** more help is desperately needed from the membership. When we cannot do all the work for the society, it's time will come. Your consideration of putting in a few hours to help will ensure that the St. Louis Water Garden Society continues to fulfill our commitment to the City of St. Louis by maintaining the Jewel Box water lily display. Please consider joining us on any Saturday at 9:00 am.

Don't forget the July Auction, the SLWGS banquet in August, and Officer elections in November; mark your calendars.

Enjoy your ponds!

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.

**July 18th — Annual Auction— Come one, come all.**

**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**

**\*\*\*\* Meeting Location \*\*\*\***

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







## What's for Dinner? Part 2 by Greg Heck

This summer, in addition to the beautiful tropical and hardy waterlilies at the Jewel Box, we are experimenting with a display of aquatic plants that have edible parts. The plants are in the main display pond and growing in the summer warmth.

*What you will see in the display:*

### Water Mimosa (*Neptunia oleracea*)

A water mimosa is a floating legume with leaves that close upon touching. The shoot tips and pods are eaten raw (e.g., Lao papaya salad) and cooked (e.g., Yam phak crochet, a Thai salad with cooked shoots) in Southeast Asia. The flavor is similar to cabbage.

Water mimosa information and recipe video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1lXe\\_6LHQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1lXe_6LHQ)



### Gorgon Lily (*Euryale ferox*)

It's essentially a unique spiny waterlily native to Asia. The seeds of the gorgon lily are popped and consumed in India under the name fox nuts or makhana.

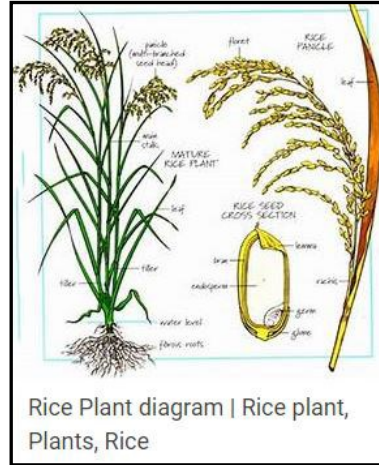
The process to prepare makhana (not in English, but the video is self-explanatory): [https://youtu.be/fFg6BDCdB\\_I](https://youtu.be/fFg6BDCdB_I)

Makhana snack recipes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61QsFagn03w>



### What about rice?

This is an obvious edible aquatic and the only one that is truly a staple in many diets. I've attempted to start an ornamental variety called 'Black Madras', known for its dark purple leaves. However, this variety has been terribly slow growing – perhaps it will debut later in the season.



Rice Plant diagram | Rice plant, Plants, Rice

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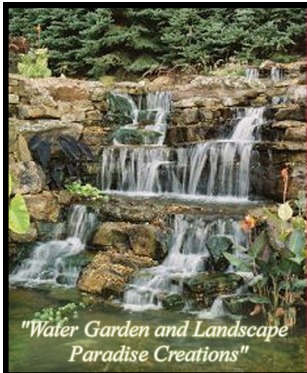


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# Water Word

**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](http://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](mailto:hatt8v92@aol.com)

### Vice President

Greg Heck (314) 302-0273 [taraxacum44@gmail.com](mailto:taraxacum44@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Jerre Baynes (314) 775-5453 [baynes\\_j@swbell.net](mailto:baynes_j@swbell.net)

### Recording Secretary

Sophia Cluck (636) 530-1726 [rodie0415@gmail.com](mailto:rodie0415@gmail.com)

## 2023 Board Members

### Publicity Chairman

Ginny Mueller (314) 808-7000 [vcmueller16@gmail.com](mailto:vcmueller16@gmail.com)

### Special Events Chair

Laurel Walle (314) 898-7216 [lollysnorkels@gmail.com](mailto:lollysnorkels@gmail.com)

Kathie Soehngen (314) 894-0981 [kasoehng@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kasoehng@sbcglobal.net)

### Society Shirt Sales Chairman

Gail Abernathy (314) 427-7076 [abernat@swbell.net](mailto:abernat@swbell.net)

### Membership/E-mail Chairman

Gail Abernathy (314) 427-7076 [abernat@swbell.net](mailto:abernat@swbell.net)

### Jewel Box Chairman

Kay Miskell (618) 344-6216 [km99@att.net](mailto:km99@att.net)

### Water Word Editor

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### Website Chairman

Ginny Mueller (314) 808-7000 [vcmueller16@gmail.com](mailto:vcmueller16@gmail.com)

### Pond-O-Rama Chairman

Ginny Mueller (314) 808-7000 [vcmueller16@gmail.com](mailto:vcmueller16@gmail.com)

### Parliamentarian

Carol Greminger (314) 487-9119 [carolnron@att.net](mailto:carolnron@att.net)

### Historian

Betsy Meier (636) 405-1120 [lidodeck@att.net](mailto:lidodeck@att.net)

### Hospitality Chairman

Bev Maschek (314) 954-8616 [maschek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maschek@sbcglobal.net)

### Member-at-Large

Carolyn Haus (314) 993-0985 [chaus2016@gmail.com](mailto:chaus2016@gmail.com)

Keith Haus (314) 993-0985 [keithhaus33@gmail.com](mailto:keithhaus33@gmail.com)

Jim Haegele (636) 349-5511 [jimhaegele@gmail.com](mailto:jimhaegele@gmail.com)



## HELP NEEDED!

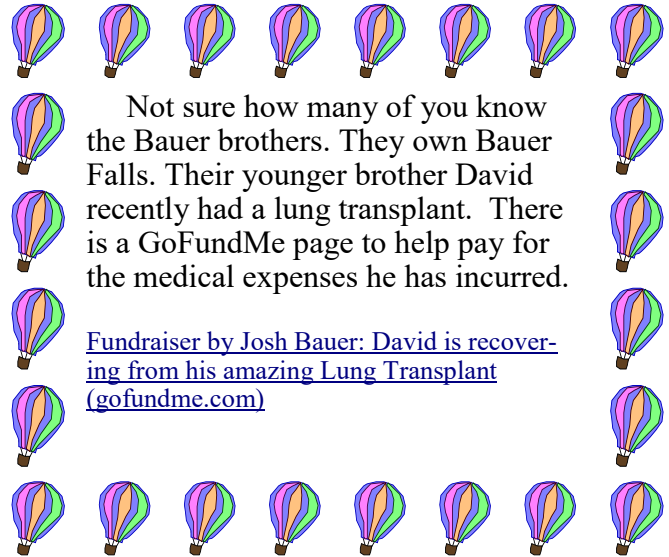
The Jewel Box Lily Pools. This is our civic project for the club. Could any of you spare two hours on a Saturday morning? It doesn't have to be every Saturday but come and help out in the water pulling spent blooms and bad leaves off the lilies. If you could only spare an hour, that would be helpful. 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

## Did any one find these?

Hi, I went on the tour last weekend, and somewhere along the way, I lost my sunglasses. They are lite green and prescription. If anyone has found them, please let me know. By text at 314-267-4606 or call Bob Henson at 314-495-4233. The ponds and gardens were fabulous.

Thanks, God Bless!

Terri Rell



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)

## Members' Corner:

**Happy Birthday to All July Members below and 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](http://www.iwgs.org)

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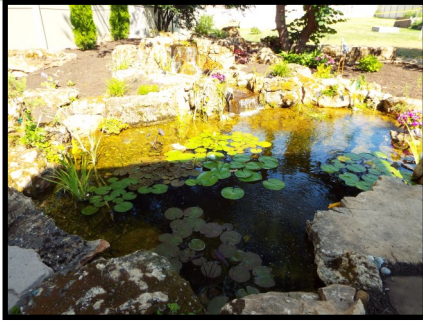
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As many of you have probably heard by now, our dear friend and long-time member, Alice Gibson, passed away. Those of you who knew Alice know how full of life she was. She took over the newsletter in

2005 when an editor was needed as she had a background in the field. She also took the reins on Pond-O-Rama 2008 after Howard Nies gave it up. She headed it for many years. She and her husband, Wayne, volunteered at the Jewel Box every Saturday until her health no longer permitted it. She had not been an active club member lately but was never forgotten. She will be missed.

[Alice Gibson Obituary \(1942 - 2023\) - Granite City, IL - Belleville News-Democrat \(legacy.com\)](#)

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**Photo of the Month**



Received this lily from one of the hosts on Pond-O-Rama. Planted it on June 28th and it is already sending up these beautiful blooms.