

## What's All the Buzz About Bees?

Well, in February, we had a speaker talk about the Birds. This month we have, a speaker on the local Bee population.



Jane Sueme

Jane Sueme started beekeeping in 2004 when she noticed the lack of pollinators in her garden. Five years later, she opened our area's first beekeeping supply business. Since 2006 when the phenomenon known as colony collapse disorder escalated.

Honeybees have been disappearing. She will share her vast knowledge about the phenomenon of colony collapse disorder and how we can help to reverse it.

Jane Sueme and Scott Klein opened Isabee's Beekeeping Supplies in 2009 and currently engage in a wide range of activities including retail equipment sales, education, consulting, and caring for their own honeybees.

Jane became hobbyist beekeepers in 2004 and have been actively involved in building the local beekeeping community ever since. Jane served as a board member of the Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association from 2004 to 2012 and as Communications Coordinator for the Heartland Apicultural Society in 2012 and 2013. Scott designs and manufactures native bee nesting blocks and provides education about native bees and honeybees. You can learn more about native bees at [NativePollinator.com](http://NativePollinator.com)

Jane and Scott are founding members of the St. Louis Beekeepers Association and BeeSpeakSTL.

### Don't Miss This!

**What: What's All the Buzz About Bees?**

**Who: Jane Sueme, Beekeeper**

**When: Tuesday, June 20th, 7p.m. —9 p.m.**

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







# Pictures of the May Chihuly Outing



May 18th was the perfect night to go see the beautiful Chihuly exhibit. Everything from the food at the restaurant to the evening temperature could not have been better. A few more photos are on page 7.



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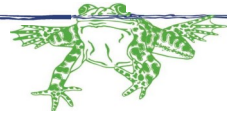
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# SLWGS President's Corner

Hopefully, your ponds and gardens fully display their late spring and early summer color and performance. My weeding, is a bit behind since I'm not on the POR tour this year. I find this causes one to put off garden work! I'm confident that the 23 hosts for POR 2023 are finding things a bit different. Several new gardens are on tour this year. Much hard work has gone into each garden on display, as well as the time and effort on the part of the POR committee members. As chairperson of POR, Ginny Mueller has done a fantastic job this year in promoting the event and dealing with the myriad of details in making a successful event. A grateful thanks go to each person who volunteers their time and talents for our society. Members of the SLWGS can pick up their POR tickets either at this month's board meeting or at the membership meeting, on June 13 and June 20 respectively. The Jewel Box ponds have been planted with the help of fellow SLWGS volunteers and with the direction of Greg Heck. Several new plantings are going to be on display. I have asked Greg to prepare a description of what new features will be added to the ponds and included it in this Water

Word issue. Hopefully, you will attend the annual August banquet and see the display at its peak of color and growth.

I received a request from fellow member Jim Haegele to ask the individual who wanted a start of bamboo shoots to contact him at 636-349-5511. He regrets misplacing the contact information and is more than happy to share.

As always, please feel free to join us on Saturday mornings to deadhead and fertilize the lilies at the Jewel Box. We usually start around 9:00 AM.

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.

**June 20th— What's all the Buzz about Bees?**

**By Jane Sueme**

**June 24-25— Pond-O-Rama Tour**

**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 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







# What's for Dinner? Part 1 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:*

## Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*)

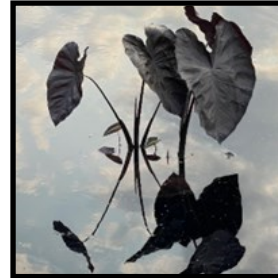
Also known as “elephant ears”, taro has a starchy corm (bulb-like base) and leaves that are edible once cooked. Several ornamental varieties are planted: ‘Black Coral,’ ‘Mojito,’ ‘Waikiki,’ and ‘Teacup.’

Taro leaf recipes: <https://www.yummly.com/recipes/taro-leaves>

Taro “root” recipes: <https://yummyaddiction.com/taro-root-recipes/>



These are pictures of taro, its root, and what it looks like when you slice it open.



## Lotus (*Nelumbo* species/hybrids)

Their edible starchy rhizomes are filled with chambers allowing air to penetrate the rhizome, which grows shallowly in the mud. The ornamental variety, ‘Decorated Lantern,’ is planted.

Lotus root recipes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHpjJH2pSRY>



Above are pictures of a Lotus root, the leaf and slices of the root.

## Chinese Water Chestnut (*Eleocharis dulcis*)

The edible corms (technically not bulbs but corms like gladiolus) send up reed-like leaves and then spread rhizomes in the mud, forming new starchy corms harvested at the end of the growing season.

Chinese water chestnut recipes: <https://www.yummly.com/recipes/chinese-water-chestnut>



Pictured above is Chinese water chestnut.

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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

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#### Society Shirt Sales Chairman

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#### Water Word Editor

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#### Website Chairman

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#### Pond-O-Rama Chairman

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

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#### Historian

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#### Hospitality Chairman

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#### Member-at-Large

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

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





# July Meeting it's Auction Time

July is our annual auction. We always have some interesting items at our auctions; from handmade items to plants from your garden or pond. Remember our president, Bob Henson, said he would be putting in some of his beautiful Orchids this year. So don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime sale. Who knows what you will find this year. So please bring what ever you have lying around that is not being used. One man's junk is another's treasure.

## Pictures of the May Chihuly Outing



## 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](http://www.iwgs.org)

**Login: SLWGS**

**Password: slwgs20**

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# POND-O-RAMA

The St. Louis Water Garden Society proudly presents the **23rd Annual POND-O-RAMA** POND & WATER GARDEN TOUR **JUNE 24-25, 2023**

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Individual - \$20 each  
Groups 10+ - \$10 each

Please visit [SLWGS.org](http://SLWGS.org) or scan the code to purchase tickets.

### MEMBER TICKETS:

Pond-O-Rama Tickets will be available for pick-up by members at the **June 13<sup>th</sup>** SLWGS Board Meeting at the Kirkwood Community Center, Room 202, which begins at **7:00-9:00 pm**. Member Tickets will also be available at the General Meeting on **June 20<sup>th</sup>** at **7:00 -9:00 pm**. **Join us for the meeting and an exciting speaker.**

### POND-O-RAMA HOSTS:

Thank you to all twenty-three members who will welcome visitors to their beautiful water features this year.

POND-O-RAMA HOST MEETING will be held **JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM**

AT THE KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOM 200 A/B prior to the General Meeting.  
THE GENERAL MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 PM.

We encourage all our hosts to attend the host meeting to receive the necessary information, signage for the tour, feather flags, and host gifts. Our hosts will be welcoming and knowledgeable as the public visits your beautiful gardens. We look forward to visiting your water features. Thank you for being on the tour!

### A FEW POND-O-RAMA UPDATES:

Our Pond-O-Rama tour is the society's premier event of the year. We encourage all our members to participate and promote this wonderful event. **June 15<sup>th</sup>** will be the last day to order tickets to be mailed.

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## Let's Get Techy....

We are using QR Codes on our posters, membership sign-up cards, and at the Jewel Box. What is that QR code? QR stands for "Quick Response." The code is a unique design that will enable you to link directly to a website when scanned by your smartphone. It takes you to the Pond-O-Rama page on the posters and brochures, to the membership sign-up page on the membership cards, and to the Jewel Box page on the signage at the Jewel Box.

To scan a QR code:

1. Open the camera app on your phone
2. Center the QR code on your phone screen (You may need to move the phone closer or further from the code)
3. Tap the link that pops up
4. Pat yourself on the back for being so tech-savvy!

**Brochures** - We printed 1500 brochures that have been redesigned to attract more interest in our Society and the tour itself. Our Ticket seller information and locations are all still included. Those have all been distributed around the metro area.

**Social Media** – Are you following the St. Louis Water Garden Society on FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM? Online, nothing draws a crowd like a crowd. Whenever you "Like," comment, or share content from one of our accounts, you promote SLWGS to new audiences. So please do it! Social media is a cost-effective way to share information and grow our membership. We have hundreds of followers and likes every month on FACEBOOK. Check us out.

**Website** – We are working on the website to ensure site security and provide exciting content and information. We would love to have more of our members participate and share their knowledge. Share your expertise in whatever skill you have. Contact us.

Our online ticket sales are skyrocketing! This year we printed 800 tickets. We expect a great tour!

## Events Around Town

**June 10th– 9am-5pm—St Louis Carnivorous Plant Society**-Annual Sale at Missouri Botanical Garden Jack C Taylor Visitor Center

**June 11th**—The Sustainable Backyard Garden Tour, St. Louis

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

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**Photo of the Month**

