

# WEBSITE Symposium Pamphlet

**2018 IWGS Symposium**

**San Angelo, Texas**

**September 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>**

Howdy Y'all! Are you ready to experience a wonderful Waterlily Extravaganza served up with friendly West Texan Hospitality? The City of San Angelo, their Lilyfest Committee, Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center are thrilled that the IWGS is visiting their city.

You're in for a treat as you join the IWGS to see the incredible collection of waterlilies Ken Landon has amassed over thirty-five years. Ken's passion for waterlilies is expressed (along with the City of San Angelo) in freely sharing his collection with the rest of the world. The International Waterlily Collection (IWC) is certainly a site to behold here in San Angelo, Texas, but first you need to get there!

## **If you are flying:**

### **San Angelo Regional Airport Mathis Field (SJT)**

There are only 4 flights into the San Angelo Airport each day serviced by American Airlines, you may want to book your flight early. If you contact us ahead of time (email; [rolf77466@gmail.com](mailto:rolf77466@gmail.com) or 281-960-7905) a member of the host committee will be happy to pick you up from the airport and transport you to Staybridge Suites, our host hotel. (The hotel is 15 minutes away from their airport.) Should you decide to rent a car there are several car rental companies available in the terminal.

## **If you are flying and plan to rent a car**

### **Midland/Odessa (MAF)**

This airport is the closest airport serviced by multiple airlines. It takes approximately 2 hours to drive from Midland, Texas to San Angelo.

### **Austin Bergstrom International Airport(AUS)**

From the Austin-Bergstrom Airport (AUS) it will take you approximately 3 hours and 45 minutes to drive to San Angelo. On the way, be sure to stop at Coopers Old Time Pit Bar-B-Que in Llano for the most amazing Bar-B-Que ever! If you are taking a leisurely drive consider driving an hour out of your way and visiting Hill Country Water Gardens; [www.hillcountrywatergardens.com](http://www.hillcountrywatergardens.com).

### **Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW)**

It will take you just under 4 hours to drive from Dallas Fort Worth. Along the way you may wish to stop at the Fort Worth Arboretum and visit the Japanese Gardens. The garden is just minutes off the freeway. It's a 40 minutes commute from the Airport

### **Houston International Airport (IAH) and Houston Hobby (HOU)**

Flying into either one of these airports will not affect your travel time to San Angelo (approximately 6 hours). On the way we invite you to stop in at Nelson Water Gardens, ([www.nelsonwatergardens.com](http://www.nelsonwatergardens.com)) owned by hosts Anita and Rolf Nelson. It is just minutes off the interstate on your drive to San Angelo. As you drive further west you will skirt Austin and you may wish to go a little out of your way to visit Hill Country Water Gardens. On the way, you will pass Coopers Old Time Pit Bar-B-Que in Llano Texas, be sure to stop for amazing Bar-B-Que.

### **San Antonio International Airport(SAT)**

It's a 3 hour and 15-minute drive from San Antonio to San Angelo. San Antonio is a beautiful city and if you plan to stay overnight be sure to stay in a hotel on the Riverwalk and visit The Alamo (within walking distance).

# General Information

## The City

San Angelo located in Central Texas is a dry rugged land with long vistas. The dry climate and high-altitude result in hot days (we could reach the 100's while here) but the nights cool off pleasantly. Get ready for three days of friendly Texans, fantastic photo ops, great speakers and waterlily fellowship!

## The Region

For those of you on an extended trip plan to visit: The Texas Hill Country, (home of hundreds of wineries), San Antonio Riverwalk, The Alamo, Enchanted Rock State Park, the Caverns of Sonora and a plethora of Texas Barbeque joints offer the driver wonderful opportunities for the true Texas experience.

## What to pack

Texas is hot! Most folks will wear shorts, T-shirts, sandals/sneakers and hats to all venues. The Hall of Fame Banquet is dressy casual, but it really is up to you. First and foremost, we want you to be comfortable (as long as you are wearing cowboy boots 😊). Pack a water bottle. Although water will be provided it's nice to have it handy. Bring a hat, sunscreen, lip balm and moisturizer. If you are planning to get INTO the ponds Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> be sure to pack old sneakers or sturdy water shoes (no flip flops or open toed shoes of any kind will be allowed). Despite the heat, the evenings can be cool so pack a light sweater or jacket.

## Our Host Hotel:

Staybridge Suites, San Angelo, 1355 Knickerbocker Rd San Angelo, TX 76903

Phone: 325-653-1500

Staybridge Suites offers a complimentary breakfast Mon-Fri starting at 6:30am and 7:30 am on Sat-Sun. On either side of the hotel are restaurants with lunch and dinner offerings. (Thursday September 13<sup>th</sup> is the only night you are responsible for dinner on your own.) The Hotel is located less than 10 minutes by car from all venues. For those of you getting around on your own, all the addresses of the venues are embedded in the schedule below. Uber is also available. We recommend booking early to ensure getting into the IWGS room block. Our code is **WGS** to get our discounted rates.

[https://www.ihg.com/staybridge/hotels/us/en/san-angelo/sjtsb/hoteldetail?cm\\_mmc=GoogleMaps- -SB- -US- -SJTSB](https://www.ihg.com/staybridge/hotels/us/en/san-angelo/sjtsb/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps- -SB- -US- -SJTSB)

## Our Hospitality Room

For the past several years the IWGS has sponsored a Hospitality Room. Join us each night in the Concho Room, upstairs just off the elevator. Drinks, snacks and fellowship compliments of the IWGS.

## Weather

San Angelo is dry and hot during the day but cools off nicely in the evenings. As a reminder, be sure to bring your sunglasses, hat, and sunscreen. Bottled Water will be available on all the buses, but you may also want to bring your own water bottle. Moisturizer and lip balm are also recommended.

## Symposium Transit

We will be traveling to all the venues on air-conditioned school buses. No trip will take more than 10-15 minutes to arrive at the destination. If you have your own transportation, the addresses for each venue are embedded (and in bold typeface) in the itinerary

## Our Auctions

Each year our members donate their time and treasures to raise money for the Society. You will have plenty of opportunity to bid up the items all day Friday and Saturday afternoon at the Silent Auction and then bid on items in the Live Auction at the Hall of Fame Banquet. Be sure to overpay for items because it all goes to support the Society! Feel free to bring an item to donate to the auction.

**One other thing:**

If you are planning to get into the ponds at the International Water Lily Collection on Sunday September 16<sup>th</sup> you MUST wear closed toe water shoes or sneakers, NO bare feet, NO flip flops and NO open toed footwear. —**non-negotiable!**