

# Going With The Flow

**GRISWOLD™ PUMPS HAVE BEEN A CONSTANT IN THE EYE-CATCHING WATERFEATURES CREATED BY HEARTSONG WATERSCAPES**

*By Steven Cox*



Deb Roth, owner of Jupiter, FL, USA-based HeartSong WaterScapes, Inc., sits on one of the many waterfeatures constructed by the company throughout the state of Florida.

## Introduction

Jack Klein has a colorful, and apt, way of describing the topography of the East Coast of South Florida as it abuts the Atlantic Ocean: “We don’t have any rocks down here, we’re as flat as a pancake.” No rocks mean no hills, no valleys – and no waterfalls.

Enter Bob Heartsong. Originally from Naperville, IL, USA, a southwest suburb of Chicago, Heartsong moved to the Miami area nearly 30 years ago. In his search for work, he found employment as a construction-crew laborer for a company that renovated swimming pools so that they would look more like natural lagoons. In this line of work Heartsong found his muse and developed a knack for designing “rock-scapes,” lagoons, ponds, pools and waterfalls – commonly known in the business as

“waterfeatures” – so in 1985 he opened Heartsong Ponds & Waterfalls, Inc.

In that time, Heartsong – often with the assistance of Klein, who has owned and operated Jack Klein Associates (JKA) and its subsidiary, Klein Pump, for more than 30 years, developing into a leading supplier to South Florida’s domestic pump market – estimates that he has designed and constructed more than 800 waterfeatures. Heartsong’s work stretches across Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties, and includes everything from small backyard koi ponds to massive multi-waterfall entrances that are located at some of the area’s most desirous housing and golfing communities.

In 2004, Heartsong sold his company and then in December of 2009, Deb Roth, a former employee of Heartsong Ponds & Waterfalls, re-established the company as HeartSong WaterScapes, Inc., with the headquarters remaining in Jupiter, FL.

“Bob is back with us and working with us on a consulting basis and as a designer as we try to reestablish the business as HeartSong WaterScapes,” explained Roth.

## Genuine Works of Art

Building one of these waterfeatures is much, much more than digging a hole, piling up some rocks and turning on a garden hose. Weeks and months of preparation go into a process that consists of research, engineering and design, all of which must come together seamlessly to satisfy the unique vision of the customer. No two waterfeatures ever look the same, be they koi pond, exotic pool, waterfall, cave or walkway. When completed, however, these formations often have earned the right to be called “genuine works of art.”

“These are huge projects, very expensive,” said Klein. “They have to make all of the rocks and additional features; they bring all of that stuff in. It’s a big engineering job and Bob has done a great job with all of his projects.”

Heartsong began to make his mark on the landscape of South Florida 25 years ago when he was tabbed to construct the waterfalls at the entrance of the Frenchman’s Creek Beach & Country Club in Palm Beach Gardens, which was his company’s first big commercial job. Frenchman’s Creek is one of the most exclusive communities in the area and the success of Heartsong’s creation is spelled out on the home page of the community’s Web site, which states: “From the moment you drive past the gently flowing waterfalls at our entry gate, you will know you have entered a very special community.”

Since then, Heartsong has been responsible for the waterfeatures at many of South Florida’s most renowned properties, including:

- **Canyon Isles, Boynton Beach, FL.** Heartsong has completed three waterfall projects at this five-star single-family-home community, which is situated on 200 acres and has more than 500 homes.



HeartSong WaterScapes relies on Griswold E,F&G Series centrifugal pumps for all of its waterfeatures. The Griswold pumps pictured here have been performing perfectly for 14 years at the Canyon Isles housing development in Boynton Beach, FL.

- **Valencia Isles, Boynton Beach, FL.** Heartsong designed and constructed the entrance waterfalls at this active-adult community that consists of nearly 800 single-family residences. The Canyon Isles and Valencia Isles communities have been developed by G.L. Homes, one of the nation’s largest builders, with more than 60,000 people living in G.L. Homes properties throughout Florida.
- **Heron Bay, Parkland/Coral Springs, FL.** Heartsong has completed numerous waterfeature projects at this country-club community, which has been registered as a member of the Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary Program, thanks to its environmentally conscious building plan.
- **Sand Hill Cove, Palm City, FL.** Heartsong has created a series of ponds and waterfalls in this life-care retirement community that offers 200 private apartment homes and 28 villas on its 36 acres.
- **RiverStone, Davie, FL.** Billed as a community “where every home has a water view,” Heartsong has contributed to that motto by creating numerous waterfeatures, including a magnificent waterfall entry complete with a bridge and lush, tropical landscaping.



Griswold E,F&G pumps meet the needs of HeartSong WaterScapes because they are designed with enlarged suction and discharge nozzles that cut down on friction losses, making them ideal for water-pumping applications. The Griswold pump pictured is located at the Valencia Isles' waterfeature.

## Pump It Up

As mentioned, none of these developments came into being without hundreds of hours being devoted to their design and operation. A key component in designing and building a waterfeature is the unseen equipment that keeps it operating smoothly. In fact, the heart of any waterfeature are the pumps that keep the water flowing continuously and trouble-free.

For nearly three decades now, the pump of choice for Bob Heartsong – and, by extension, HeartSong WaterScapes – comes from Griswold™ Pump Company, Grand Terrace, CA, USA. Not surprisingly, Heartsong was introduced to Griswold pumps – specifically the E,F&G Series of centrifugal pumps – by Jack Klein.

“I got hooked up with Jack Klein years and years and years ago and he introduced me to the Griswold pump by talking about the quality and service,” said Heartsong. “What I wanted in a pump was a lot of volume, anywhere between 1,000 and 2,000 gallons per minute per pump, and when I sat down with Jack in the 1980s he took me right to the Griswold and said it’s a quality pump and it will give you the volume you’re looking for.”

Knowing the applications that Heartsong was going to use the pumps in, Klein had no hesitation in recommending the Griswolds.

“They were having trouble finding high-volume, low-head pumps that needed to be energy efficient because these things run 15 or 16 hours a day and they pump a lot of water – 1,000 gallons a minute for a small waterfall to two or three pumps pumping 2,000 gallons per minute for a large waterfall,” explained Klein. “He started using the Griswold pumps and he’s been using them ever since.”

In addition to providing the volume that Heartsong needs, the Griswolds also offer a second must-have feature for waterfall operation – reliability. A waterfeature loses its effect when the pumps fail and instead of seeing water cascading over rocks and settling into a pristine lagoon, passersby are treated to the site of repair crews removing a malfunctioning pump.

“I have some Griswold pumps out there that have been in service for 20-plus years,” said Heartsong. “The Griswolds last a very, very long time, even in saltwater situations. I’ve never had to go in there and pull a Griswold out and replace it with anything else.”

For example, the same Griswold pumps have been performing yeoman service at Valencia Isles for 14 years, for 12 years at Sand Hill Cove, for nine years at Heron Bay and for seven years at RiverStone, all with nary a worry.

Griswold E,F&G pumps meet the needs of HeartSong WaterScapes because they have been designed with enlarged suction and discharge nozzles that cut down on



friction losses and result in less fittings, making them ideal for most water-pumping applications. Other standard-setting features of the E,F&G pumps are:

- Bronze shaft sleeve that insulates the shaft from abrasion
- Renewable bronze wearing rings that are pressed into the casing and/or adaptor
- Mechanical shaft seals available in carbon, ceramic, Buna and stainless steel
- Enclosed single-piece impeller that is made of bronze, precision-balanced and keyed to the shaft
- 360-degree mounting capabilities that extend installation options

Additionally, the F Series pumps are certified by NSF® to ANSI/NSF standard 50 for water-circulation system components.

Another key for HeartSong WaterScapes is the fact that the Griswold pumps are also easily configurable to meet the needs of a specific project. The most common sizes used by HeartSong are 8x8s, 8x6s and 6x10s with motors that range between 10 and 25 horsepower. There are also smaller residential applications that use pumps that are powered by 5- and 7.5-horsepower motors.

In most instances, HeartSong has relied on the experts at Klein Pump to recommend and supply the right pump for the job. With that in mind, it's safe to say that HeartSong WaterScapes will continue to turn to Klein Pump for the bulk of its pumping needs.

“Our relationship with Jack Klein has been excellent,” said Roth. “The customer service is always outstanding and Jack is always there and ready to help us with any problems at all. There have been no problems, no issues, and that’s what I want with my supplier.”

## Conclusion

Although each HeartSong WaterScapes design is unique, after nearly 30 years in business Bob HeartSong knows that if a waterfeature is to operate reliably and efficiently one thing needs to be uniform – the pumps that are used, namely E,F&G Series pumps from Griswold.

“Griswold uses first-class motors and the castings are really perfect. I’ve never had any issues with bearing problems, never in all these years have I run into a bearing problem with a Griswold pump,” he said. “Griswold pumps give me what I expect and are definitely first-class pumps. In 20 years I have had no reason to go to any other pumps but Griswolds—and I have no intention of ever changing.”

For more information on HeartSong WaterScapes, Inc., please go to [www.heartsongwaterscapesonline.com](http://www.heartsongwaterscapesonline.com).

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