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May, 2015

By the Pond

by Diane Giangrande

Hi Everyone,

I'd like to thank the members who helped with the auction. We had a record year for club profit and couldn't have done it without all the volunteers! A special thanks goes to Bill and Lynn at Coastal – without them and their facility/guys we wouldn't be able to do this so successfully.

Due to Mother's Day our next meeting will be on Sunday, May 17th at The Koi Store (formerly known as Flat Rock). More information is in the newsletter.

On a personal note, I am multiple weeks (lost count) in to a pond expansion that will hopefully be finished this week. My poor fish have been living in a couple of show tanks and are as anxious as I am to see their new home. Now, if you all, or I should say ya'll, want to see the finished product you'll have to get your pond tour tickets. With all the delays I'm glad I started early so I will have plenty of time to get things looking nice for the tour. I will be thankful to have my backyard back! I still can't get used to this Georgia clay – my backyard is orange!

We still desperately need people for the following:

PR/Advertising

Show trophy sponsorship coordinator

Show donation coordinator

If you are interested in any of the positions, please let me know. Co-chairs are OK too and no experience is necessary .

Thanks, Diane

Membership

Congratulations on a very successful auction, both as a club fundraiser and also a source for new members. Our newest members are: Qasim Cheema; William McCormick; Felix Morales; Kipp and Melissa Orme and Rich and Jennie Pettigrew! Please introduce yourselves and make these new folks welcome. The response to the "Opt In" program has been overwhelmingly positive. For those of you, that have not responded, this will count as a "decline". Let me know if you would like to be added to this optional list.

David M

Membership Co-Chair

Opt-In List

The auction is over and from initial indications, this will be our most successful auction ever. Apparently we are learning lessons and getting better each year. The auction would not have been possible without all the volunteers that pitched in to help. Thanks to everyone that helped! Steve Castel, the auction chair will have totals shortly.

Now for some new business. At the last meeting, the executive board came up with the possibility of creating an "Opt In" list. As members, you get AKC membership rosters periodically for your personal use. This master list is also shared with the AKCA, our parent organization. Several times through out the year, we ask koi related businesses to donate items for the koi show, flower show, pond tour, etc. The most frequent response we get is "Can I get a list of your members, specifically email." Our policy is not to share this information. Sometimes this conversation ends up with no donation. In hopes of working with vendors and getting more donations, we're asking each member to consider Opting In. This means you allow your email address to be shared with koi related vendors. Sometimes this means you'll get special offers from them directly to you. We think it's a small price to pay for their generosity.

So this is what needs to happen. Each member must reply to this email, only one time; YES or NO. I will track the data on the membership roster and everyone that chooses to Opt In will have their information shared WHEN ASKED only.

Thanks for your consideration and cooperation. Nothing is written in stone and if you later want to change to Opt Out, that will be done for you.

We have received several new memberships, their information is highlighted in yellow on the membership roster. Please check to see if you have a new member close to you and make them welcome!

Information on the next meeting will be posted on the website shortly.

Start thinking about the Pond Tour 2015! Melanie Onushko has been hard at work and it looks like it's going to be a great tour.

Best regards,

David M

Membership Co-Chair

KHV Alert

Gary E

As some of you may have already heard, Tommy Hiu (one of our vendors at our last several shows) has been identified as selling a fish with KHV at the San Diego koi show at the first of March. The news came from the Show Chair and was preceded by testing and if there was any doubt at all then I doubt he would have made the knowledge public.

There has been some concern about the fish from our show in September. I doubt that the fish sold then were a part of the batch he had in March. Of more concern is that he was at the Middle Ga Koi show just two weeks after the San Diego Show. I don't think any of our people bought a koi from Tommy there but if you did then I would be very concerned. I would have any fish purchased there (from Tommy) tested for KHV. My water temps have remained below 70 so I assume most have not been warmer yet. Over 70 is the permissive temp for KHV so any problem might not have shown yet.

If you have any concerns or questions about KHV and this situation feel free to email me at gelmore54@live.com or if you can make it to the meeting, Vicki is well versed in KHV problems.

Every Pond Needs a Shusui

Melanie O

This is info from Kloubec Koi.

<http://www.kloubeckoi.com/blog/every-pond-needs-a-shusui-/#.VUOJa7FygHM.mailto>

May Meeting at Flatrock May 17th

Our May meeting will be on Sunday the 17th at Flatrock in Watkinsville. 1:00 for Officers and 2:00 for the general membership. The topic will be breeding for our Showa project and we will get to see all of the parents. I hear the females are absolutely amazing! Vicki will explain the process as it gets started. She will also touch on what to expect as the fry develop (with mother nature's blessing of course) and this will lead us into the culling down the road. This meeting is open to all members and you do not have to be a part of the Showa Breedout to attend!! They should also have new tosai in as well which is always fun. I do need a volunteer to bring food or order pizza if that is possible. Please let me know if anyone is willing (you get \$150 from Ron).

Flat Rock Koi – The Koi Store
3831 Flat Rock Rd
Watkinsville, GA 30677

We still need a host for our June meeting so if anyone is interested or has ideas please let me know.

Chase T

Koi Auction Financials

After playing with the auction numbers and getting a last minute bill from Bill Dowden for water I came up with the following:

Total Income: \$ 16,871.00

Total Expensive: \$ 12,780.07

Club Made: \$ 4,090.93

That beats last year by approximately \$370.00 and is the best we've done (for club profit) that I have records for all the way back to 1996.

Ron S

2015 Pond Tour

The 2015 Pond Tour is right around the corner! Get your tickets now! Tickets are available on our website for you to download at atlantakoiclub.org. They are also available at Splendor Koi, Atlanta Koi & Pond, the Koi Store, Randy's and Blossom and Bloom.

I really need some volunteers to keep up with sales at these stores. If you live near any of these and have time to stop by and collect funds and replenish their booklet supply, that would be a great help. Just call or email me 770-315-5200 melanie_o@comcast.net. Also, if you know the people at Atlanta Water Gardens, Kol Koi, Scottsdale Farms or any other garden center that may want to sell tickets, I welcome the help in making those arrangements to sell booklets.

I also need more volunteers to work a 2 hour shift at one of the ponds. You will act as a greeter, welcome people, check their book off and point them in the right direction for the tour. You can work 2 hours and still have time to go on the tour. You will also receive one of our Vendor Vouchers which are good for a discount at their store.

Don't delay....get your tickets today! Melanie

Up next in koi variety are the Asagi/Shusui.

Asagi are blue koi with scale reticulation in darker blue. Its head should be light blue, clear and unblemished. The abdomen, pectoral fins and cheeks should be deep orange or red.

Shusui are a doitsu version of the Asagi. They have a neatly arranged line of dark-blue scales along the dorsal line, on a pale-blue skin. The head should be light blue and it should have red on the cheeks. The abdomen is bright orange or red, like the Asagi, as are the fin joints. Shushi may have extensive red trim on body, fins, and head

Asagi



Shusui



Upcoming Koi Related Events

Greater Louisville Koi & Goldfish Society Show May 22-24
More info can be found at louisvillekoiclub.com

Open House and Koi Seminars
Happy Koi of Greenville, Mauldin SC
June 20th 10:00 AM

Do you have something interesting to share?

I'm sure that every one of us has bragging rights to something we did to our pond. How about sharing it with others? Or, perhaps you have a craving to understand some obscure aspect of Koi husbandry in a pond environment? If so, please share your information in our newsletter by contacting the editor.

Don't forget about the Ask a KHA section. Send your questions in!

Oxygen, Carbon Dioxide, and PH

In every pond or even the simplest recirculating water feature you will find all kinds of aquatic life. I will discuss Koi ponds since this is where the information is most important to us today. If a person understands these basics, it will go a long way in producing more enjoyment out of our hobby.

Let's think of our ponds as a collection of living creatures, fish, plants, algae, frogs, bacteria and tiny insects. All of these breathe like you and I and all need oxygen (well almost all). All the flora and fauna (green stuff) exhale carbon dioxide. Think of your pond as breathing-in oxygen during the day; breathing-out carbon dioxide at night.

Carbon dioxide problems in the pond can be controlled by aeration, by waterfalls, by using simple fountains and by UV lights which reduce those tiny suspended algae cells that make water go green and use oxygen.

Carbon dioxide in pond water results from a number of sources including:

1. Waste products decaying at the bottom of the pond. (*Keep your pond clean*)
2. Respiration by pond inhabitants.... fish, insects, plants, algae. (*Keep your pond clean*)

Of course all of us know first and foremost that oxygen in pond water is essential. Carbon dioxide is also of critical importance. Oxygen and carbon dioxide also work in concert with each other. In simple terms as carbon dioxide levels increase in a pond then oxygen levels tend to decrease. This follows a natural pattern from dawn to dusk (daytime) oxygen levels in the pond increase and decrease again from dusk to dawn (night). Carbon dioxide concentrations in water act in reverse - falling during daylight hours and rising during the night. Oxygen levels are at their highest at dusk and carbon dioxide levels are highest at dawn. This means You MUST Beware of algae blooms in ponds. Dawn is the critical time in a pond. If something is going to go wrong it is often just before first light because at this stage the oxygen level dissolved in the pond water will be at the minimum. Often people wake up to find dead fish... and ask what happened? Such deaths could be associated with very low oxygen levels coinciding with high carbon dioxide levels. When ponds are full of suspended algae, such problems can arise quickly. If there is a very small amount of algae bloom in the pond then you will find oxygen and carbon dioxide levels will not change significantly between early morning and late afternoon. On the other hand dense pea soup type water will show very significant variations.

Seasonal Impacts upon carbon dioxide problems.

The first thing to realize is that oxygen concentrations are highest in winter because water is cooler and cooler water can hold more oxygen. Because oxygen concentrations are high, the oxygen reserve is not depleted as quickly during the night. Plant and animal life has also slowed down significantly.

On occasions fish in ponds with no fountains or waterfalls may look listless in winter due to carbon dioxide levels being excessive but this is normally associated with a long run of calm dull days - in these circumstances there is no natural wave action to allow oxygen to be transferred to the water. The problem quickly sorts itself out when windy and bright weather returns.

In summer, the warmer water will hold much less oxygen and the animal and plant life (algae) is also thriving due to higher temperatures along with more nutrients in the water associated with feeding fish. The living organisms are therefore emitting more carbon dioxide in a situation of potentially disastrously low oxygen levels. Fish can suffocate and die from lack of oxygen.

PH and Carbon Dioxide

Carbon dioxide dissolves in water to form carbonic acid which has a pH of less than 7, so pH will tend to fall when carbon dioxide is high. This is what happens during the night and is a reversal of what happens during daylight hours.

There is some quite complex chemistry involved here which I will ignore and save to point out that when pond water pH levels fall below 7 then the potential for carbon dioxide problems increases. Pond pH should ideally be around 7.0 to 8 but don't panic if it is 8.5. What we are looking for is a very stable pH with very little swing from daylight to dusk.

In practice this means that measuring pH can give very erroneous results depending upon time the sample is taken. If you do like to measure water properties then do this on a continuous basis at the same time every day and keep a graph or log of results so you can monitor changes. Individual results can be quite misleading. Your pH readings will fluctuate from early AM readings to late evening readings. Do not get caught chasing your pH.

Aeration of ponds

Experts advise that all ponds should be aerated using either a simple fountain or waterfall. One of the best and most economical ways to aerate is the use of venturis. You can never have too much additional aeration.

Aeration of pond water achieves two things both of which are very good for pond water and your fish:

1. Oxygen levels increase.
2. Carbon dioxide is "blown" out of the water and this tends to push up and stabilize pH levels with proper buffering.
3. ORP and water quality increases.

Remember there should only be 3 things in your pond, water, fish and air. Oh yeah, you may add plants to this list too.

Aeration also protects against those algae blooms and their dying - when they die they rot and release carbon dioxide by using up the oxygen resource in the water. Last year there were many people in our local area without UVs utilizing so-called "safe chemical controls" to rid their ponds of the "green". Major fish kills took place due to oxygen starvation. They suffocated their little fishes to death. Not nice.

In conclusion please remember it is very difficult to over-aerate a pond and aeration has all round major advantages in a pond. The only downside is the minimal cost of a special aerating pump. All top Koi keepers' ponds bubble with air as do their filters.

Deeper ponds without waterfalls and/or fountains as the means of creating circulation or mixing during calm periods could be more prone to carbon dioxide problems.

Aeration and water mixing (waterfalls and venturis) are the MOST effective methods of controlling potential carbon dioxide problems.

Beware of algae blooms (green or brown cloudy water) especially in summer and especially during calm periods and when there is no waterfall, fountain or aeration. If you can not hear your water and if your water is not moving you are not adding enough oxygen.

Don't forget to do weekly water changes of no less than 10%, 15% to 25% is even better. Always use dechlorinator and test your water for ammonia, PH, nitrites, and nitrates and finally check your KH.

Koi Auction April 18, 2015



For sale: **GCTek Zapp Pure 40 UV Sterilizer. \$650**

For more info see: <http://www.aquabead.com/Zapp-Pure-UV-ZP-40-Zapp-Pure-UV-sc-20.html>

Contact:

Chase Tomkosky

Cell: 678.520.4297



Atlanta Koi Club Financial Statement
As of April 30, 2015

BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE: **\$628.20**

INCOME STATEMENT

Income

2400 Koi Auction	No Broken Down	\$15,007.00	\$16,903.00
	Fish Sold	\$1,840.00	
	Plants Sold	\$56.00	
2600 Pond Tour	Advertising	\$1,675.00	\$1,675.00
	Member Badges	\$45.00	\$573.00
2700 Membership	Membership Dues	\$478.00	
	Koi USA Subscriptions	\$50.00	
Total Income			<u>\$19,151.00</u>

Expenses

100 Dues	AKCA Annual Dues	\$100.00	\$200.00
	Koi Society Dues	\$100.00	
200 Club Store	Equipment - Club Owned	\$28.48	\$402.66
	Fish Bags	\$374.18	
400 Insurance	Liability Ins. Premiums Paid	\$486.50	
600 Koi Auction	Food & Drinks Cost	\$247.48	\$841.85
	Auction Printing Costs	\$304.31	
	Club Store Seed Money	\$50.00	
	Labor for Setup & Tear Down	\$150.00	
	Air & Air Supply Items	\$39.15	
	Misc. Auction Expenses	\$50.91	
900 Pond Tour	Postage	\$1.34	\$569.25
	Printing	\$567.91	
1100 Rent	Rent @Coastal	\$185.00	\$185.00
1300 Membership	Koi USA Subscriptions	\$50.00	\$50.00
	Misc. Banking - Credit Card		
1400 Bank Charges	Reader	\$5.00	\$5.00

Total Expenses

\$2,253.76

Month Net Income/(Loss)

\$16,897.24

ENDING BALANCE:

\$17,525.44

Outstanding Checks:

\$1,258.89

04/02/15	EFT	\$100.00	04/20/15	EFT	\$11.19
04/18/15	1265	\$236.29	04/22/15	1271	\$150.00
04/18/15	1266	\$374.18	04/24/15	EFT	\$185.00
04/18/15	1267	\$29.15			
04/18/15	1268	\$173.08			

Per Bank Statement

\$18,784.33