



Koi Chronicles

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You never know who you'll see on the pond tour !

Atlanta Koi Chronicles is a monthly publication of the **Atlanta Koi Club**. Material is selected for its interest to Koi and Pond enthusiasts. **AKC Koi Chronicles** accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the contents. Reproduction is permitted provided that this newsletter and/or the original source are credited. Articles may be submitted to the editor.

By the Pond

David Boyd, President AKC

AKC would like to thank Susan and Hal Brown for sharing their home and pond for the May meeting. There was plenty of food and talk. Next time everyone has to remember to eat three slices of pizza — each!

Vicki Vaughan gave an insightful talk on koi illnesses and what can be done to prevent or help cure. She brought currently available products for pond keepers, and compared their effectiveness. She also caught us up on the latest information about KHV. She is headed back to Japan in early June.

I will take this opportunity to say good-bye to Susan and Ed Reed. The May meeting was their last one before moving to North Carolina. They promised to come back in September for the koi show. Best Wishes.

The Spring Pond Tour is over, and it was an exhausting week preparing for it. I hopped on the riding mower on Wednesday so that the yard would look good. I was hoping that the grass would not grow too much so that it would need to be cut again during the tour. Thankfully it stayed nice looking. Making sure the pond and garden looked presentable was another chore that needed to be taken care of by Friday. Everything seemed to flow into place at the last minute. I am not sure about anyone else on the tour, but I was tired on Sunday night.

I want to thank Vicki Knill, for the work she did on pulling everything together for the tour. She worked hard and sacrificed vacation time for us. I also want to thank everyone that helped her to make the tour a success.



Special thanks go to Kim Hembree and the company she works for the banners they made for the tour. I am sure that everyone whose pond was on the tour, and who worked with Vicki, will be glad for the rest that we can enjoy until August.... Then the cleaning starts over again.

Actually, I look forward to working in my yard. It helps me after a stressful day and when I have something that needs to be thought out. It is when I need quiet to think that I get on the riding mower and think about things that are bothering me or need to be addressed. One thing that needed to be thought out was the problem that reared its ugly head the other day— *club politics*. We all know about it, but speak of it quietly in small groups. We divide into camps and try to outdo one another. It is a *love/hate* relationship.

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

One member wrote David and me last year that "The club was not about one person, but about us as a group." Unfortunately, that person didn't understand what he had written. It was not written to help teach us, but rather to intimidate. We were doing something he didn't like, and he wanted to put us in our place. Our club is composed of a diverse group of people. There is no one person that stands out above the rest.

When I was elected president, I knew I was not chosen because I was more qualified than my opponent, but because he was associated with a person other members mistrusted and disliked. I have been trying my best not to offend too many members, but I know that will happen now and then.

I was told early in the year that I didn't know what I was doing, and it was a mistake for me to be president. I even contemplated resigning, but quickly realized that was the point of telling me. I may not be the sharpest tool in the shed, but I am not the dullest either. I have pulled together many talented people to assist me in guiding the club. The president should be a guide, not a dictator.

At the last Executive Meeting, it was suggested that perhaps we should diversify. Maybe we should include goldfish and water gardening with koi as the focus of our club. Perhaps by diversifying we would increase our membership, and get new people to volunteer with the projects in the club. This is not to chide or embarrass our current members into volunteering, but to open up so all may benefit. Another officer suggested we needed to encourage the members we have to be more involved, and to keep our club focus on koi. Sometimes a closed door keeps out new ideas and interesting people.

At the June Executive Meeting, we will decide whether to bring this idea to a vote of the membership. If approved, then it will be presented to the membership to vote on in October. I am not telling anyone how to vote, just to think about how to help our club to grow.

It has also been suggested that if the officers make decisions which are unpopular with some members, the unhappy members would form their own club. My personal thought on this is that if a member of the club is unhappy with the way our club is going, and the problems cannot be resolved by talking to us— then perhaps it would be best if they did leave to form their own club. The Atlanta Koi Club does not need division, but UNITY.

All elected and appointed officers should plan to attend the Executive Meeting at the June social. The meeting is at the Hord's, and begins at 1:00 p.m. for all officers. The club social begins at 2.

KHV Alert!

Vicki Vaughan sent this information from her e-mail. On the surface it seems like a simple announcement about 4 fish that died of KHV. On closer inspection, however, the articles show how seriously the Japanese government takes this KHV outbreak.

(Chugoku News paper)

Hiroshima Prefecture announced on May 14 that 4 pcs (*fish*) of Kishikigoi from reservoir in Kumano-Town were found **Positive for KHV**. This was the first time for Hiroshima Prefecture.

According to the Prefecture Forestry and Fishery Division, the Nishikigoi infected by KHV were ornamental Koi Fish which were kept in the agricultural reservoir (about 2900M2) in Kumano Town. Owner of Koi found dead fish in the morning on May 14, and Prefecture staff checked them with instant method of test and confirmed. Hiroshima prefecture will send the fish to Governmental Authority Fishery Research Center in Mie Prefecture for the final confirmation.

Hiroshima Prefecture prohibited any move of about 30 pcs Koi that the owner keeps. And make alarm to about 60 breeders in Hiroshima. On May 15, prefecture will send the staff for the investigation of infection route. and make a necessary countermeasures to prevent the spread.

(Yomiuri News paper)

Hiroshima prefecture announced on May 14 that KHV was confirmed by the 1st Investigation from 4 dead Nishikigoi in western part of Kumano Town. This is the first time in Hiroshima Prefecture since the first discovery in November 2003 in Japan. Prefecture ordered this Koi keeper not to move and make a alarm to make sure the investigation result with other prefecture's business.

According to Prefecture Fishery department, the Koi were kept by the neighbor man as his hobby purpose, and he found fish were dead in the morning. And his friend made a call to Hiroshima prefecture Fisheries & Marine Technology Center. All 4 dead Koi was found Positive of KHV and they requested Fishery Research Center in Mie prefecture for the confirmation Investigation.

According to the Prefecture, this man released about 30 pcs of Koi into reservoir, and some are purchased from another prefectures through Internet.

After first found of KHV in 2003, prefecture has carried out Various tests to all of the Koi breeders in Hiroshima Prefecture and found all Negative. So there is a possibility of Koi from another Prefecture was infected. On 15, they will visit and investigate the infection Route.

(Asahi News Paper)

Prefecture announced on May 14 that Positive of KHV was confirmed from 4 Nishikigoi which were kept in Kokyobouike of Kumano Town. This is the first time to find Positive Fish in Hiroshima prefecture. Prefecture requested Fishery Research Center in Mie Prefecture for the further investigation. A man in Kumano Town found 4 dead Nishikigoi among total 30 pcs, and his friend called up Prefecture. And all 4 dead fish was found Positive sign of KHV. He purchased Koi from several prefectures through Internet.



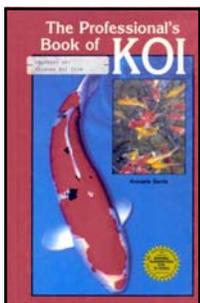
I am in constant communication with producers worldwide, therefore, I must continue to stress the need for quarantine. Until we have effective **vaccination protocols** — there is no such thing as a "safe" fish ! *Vicki*



Library

Jane Lu

The Professional's Book of Koi is an introduction to the world of colorful and fascinating Japanese carp. Illustrated with over 150 color photographs and drawings, this book covers koi care and maintenance, as well as information on the garden pond. Additionally, a glossary of koi colors identifies, describes, and clarifies the often confusing terminology of Japanese names. Contents include habitat, aeration and filtration, plants, anatomy and physiology, selection, feeding, breeding, exhibitions, and health.



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Welcome a New Webmaster !

First of all, I think we all owe Dave Marier a great deal of thanks for doing such a great job of taking care of the website in the past. He has turned over quite a solid foundation that makes my job a lot easier. I am sure that I will still call on his knowledge from time for future assistance, but hopefully not that often.

So please forward all information and suggestions on changes that should be made to the website to me and I will do my best to update and make changes as soon as possible. The websites success depends on all of us for the information posted and the sooner we get it posted the better.

I look forward to working with everyone. Thanks!

Mike Hutson

mikehutson@turner.com

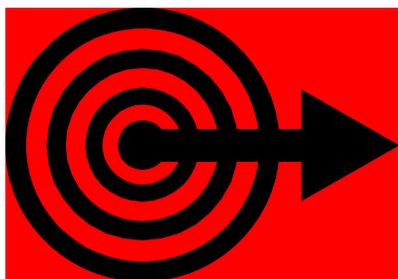


Unsung Heroes Award

Ed & ShiShi Sheren are my heroes. Why? They take the .PDF copy of *Koi Chronicles* and head out to have it copied. Next, they collate, staple, and fold it ... then, take it to the post office for mailing. My Heroes!!

TRA

Please welcome our newest club sponsor!



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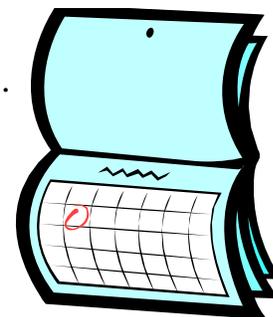
"Atlanta's Finest Landscapes."

MEETING LOCATION UPDATE!

If you are interested in hosting a meeting during the remainder of 2005 ... you need to contact V.P. Charlie Atwell immediately. Please contact him by telephone ...

678-455-2808

As of this newsletter ALL months are available.



At the May Meeting... Vicki showed us AmQuel & AmQuel+. Here is the comparison of these products. The information came from the company's web page.

From <http://www.novalek.com/kpds.htm>

A Comparison Between AmQuel and AmQuel+

The two products have similar names and are in the same family of chemicals. However, they are different chemical formulas and have major differences in what they do. Both AmQuel (see [KPD-51 <kpd51.htm>](#)) and AmQuel+ (see [KPD-79 <kpd79.htm>](#)) are reasonably priced considering what they accomplish, but AmQuel+ carries out more tasks and is slightly more expensive.

The Characteristics that both share

The similarities are that both AmQuel and AmQuel+ are fast acting in what they do, accomplishing their tasks within about five minutes after being added to water. Neither AmQuel nor AmQuel+ affect aquatic life, or interfere with the bacteria associated with the nitrogen cycle. Both AmQuel and AmQuel+ eliminate chlorine from the water, such as added by public water suppliers. Both AmQuel and AmQuel+ break down chloramines that come in to the aquarium or pond from having been added to the tap water by water suppliers. The ingredients of chloramines are chlorine and ammonia, both highly toxic to aquatic life. Both AmQuel and AmQuel+ in one dose will remove all chlorine and chloramines that are added by municipal and other water suppliers. AmQuel+ will remove over 30 ppm chlorine per dose (one teaspoon per 10 gallons of water), far beyond what any water supplier will use, which may be up to 3 ppm). Most chloramines contain less than 1.0 ppm ammonia. Both AmQuel and AmQuel+ remove all forms of ammonia that are natural in ponds and aquaria. At the dose of one teaspoon per 10 gallons of water AmQuel will remove one part per million ammonia, AmQuel+ will remove a greater amount, at least 1.2 ppm, and usually more than that. Both AmQuel and AmQuel+ remove some of the other nitrogenous organic compounds that are common in aquaria and ponds, with AmQuel+ removing a much greater amount per dose.

The Characteristics that are different between them

Odor: AmQuel has no odor. AmQuel+ does, which some consider to be acerbic. But the odor is harmless to aquatic life, pets and humans, etc., and quickly dissipates.

Removal of Nitrites, Nitrates, and other Organics: AmQuel removes (actually detoxifies) a slight amount of Nitrites and Nitrates and other related organics, but less than 1 ppm, and not enough to be significant. AmQuel+ removes (detoxifies) both Nitrites and Nitrates, and is very different from AmQuel in taking out hefty amounts of these toxic compounds per dose (see Product Data Sheet [KPD-79 <kpd79.htm>](#) for AmQuel+ for more information). Therefore, AmQuel+ can take care of the toxicity of the entire nitrogen cycle by detoxifying them - ammonia through nitrites through nitrates, yet still leave the remains available to the nitrifying and other beneficial bacteria to consume them. The beneficial bacteria do not know the difference and eat the nitrogenous compounds that AmQuel+ has provided. This is a major advantageous breakthrough in aquarium and pond keeping in being able to eliminate the toxicity of the entire nitrogen cycle to fishes and aquatic invertebrates. Also, AmQuel+ reduces or removes a range of toxic nitrogenous

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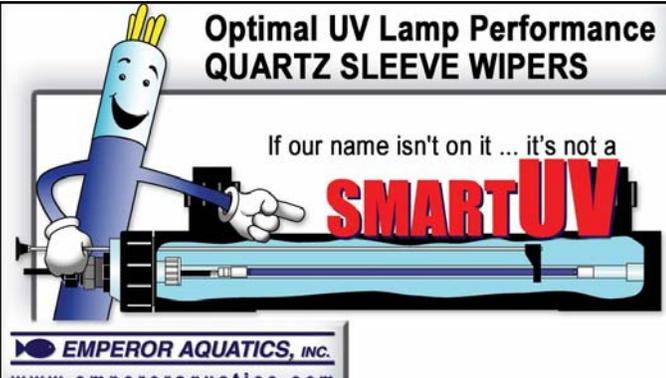
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compounds that otherwise build up in older aquariums and ponds. This allows the need for water changes to be less frequent, which can be a great saving in time and expense.

Affect on pH (Acidity/Alkalinity) of the Water: The AmQuel+ formula is not acidic and its chemical content when added to water does not affect pH. Conversely, the AmQuel formula is acidic. While adding a teaspoon of AmQuel per 10 gallons of water has slight affect on the pH of normal water, it can be an adverse problem, such as to fish in shipping bags in long distance shipments. Due to the excretions of the fish, the water becomes ever more acidic over time. For shipping, AmQuel needs a pH buffer to keep the pH from going more acidic than otherwise would happen. AmQuel+ does not affect the pH, and removes most of the excretions that would otherwise acidify the water in shipping bags, as well as normally in aquariums and ponds.

Any product that removes ammonia may have an adverse affect on aquatic life in exceptionally soft water (water with a very low level of mineralization). The reason is that the ammonia in the water is acting as a buffer to keep the pH in balance at a higher pH level than what it otherwise would be. When the ammonia is removed from the water lacking a buffer - the water quickly drops in pH, stressing and possibly killing the aquatic life. Therefore, care has to be taken in removing ammonia from aquaria and ponds with low mineralization (hardness) in the water. There are claims for some ammonia-removing products that they do not affect pH under any circumstances. However, if they remove ammonia, there is no way that very soft water with ammonia is not going to destabilize and quickly become more acidic.

Michael Anderson



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AKCA Report

Michael Anderson

AKCA (not-for-profit corporation) will spin off the wholly owned subsidiary KOIUSA as a for-profit corporation. The initial KOUSA Board of Directors would be: Ed Salinas - Editor; Brenda Atwell - Ass't. Editor; Doug Dahl - CFO; Secretary - Joyce Glenn; Director - Bill Thompson; Director - Bob Finnegan. The 2008 Seminar might be in NC or FL; we should find out next month.

The AKCA KHV Project needs contributions from individuals and clubs. All donations will be recognized in several ways.

- **Clubs and organizations:** Donations will receive a thank you letter along with a special certificate suitable for framing. We hope you will display your certificate to help us spread the word about our project and acknowledge your support.
- **Individual/family:** Donations will be receiving a thank you letter suitable for a tax deductible receipt. We are also designing a very special AKCA - PROJECT KHV donor pin for individual donations of \$5 or more. We hope you will want to wear these special pins to koi functions to help us spread the word about our project and acknowledge your support.
- **Corporate & professional:** Donations will receive a thank you letter along with a special certificate suitable for framing. We hope you will display your certificate to help us spread the word about our project and acknowledge your support.

Send donations to:

AKCA PROJECT KHV
Attn: Mr. Raymond Jordan
15514 Elm Park
San Antonio, Texas 78247



May Board Meeting Minutes Vicki Knill

The club President David Boyd called the meeting to order.

OLD BUSINESS

Shorty Hord stated a deposit has been made to secure the same building that was used last year for the Koi Show. Volunteers are needed for the show. Those interested can contact Ray Brock. There will be a special meeting held after the June social to discuss the koi show.

A special judging assignment will be arranged at the show for the judging of the clubs Butterfly Yamabuki growing participants. Winning categories to be awarded will be;

Longest fins Longest barbels Brightest color Lightest color Darkest color Gin Rin Fattest
Largest Smallest Ugliest Owner

Vicki Knill brought Pond Tour Books/Tickets for those who had their ponds on the tour. Anyone wishing to buy books is encouraged to purchase them from the stores supporting our club as we need people to go to these stores and ask for books. We got a terrific deal on 3 ft x 12 ft full color graphic banners which were hung at specific stores. These banners are not dated therefore can be used each year.

NEW BUSINESS

Vicki Knill presented the idea of the club considering the addition of goldfish and or water gardening to the club's field of membership. It was noted that a large number of koi clubs are not only koi, but include goldfish, water gardening or ponds in their club name. This inclusion would widen the spectrum of members. Final decision of this matter could be voted on at the elections in the fall after membership debate during the summer. Following some discussion it was decided to chair the topic for further investigation at the next executive meeting.

Susan Brown suggested the possibility of making access to *Koi Chronicles* on the club's website only if members use a password. This would encourage persons to join the club so they can read the newsletters. After reviewing the idea it was decided to leave the newsletter available to all since club events recorded in the newsletters might promote people to attend meetings to fully benefit the club functions and speakers.

Charlie Atwell informed the officers that some Florida koi clubs are thinking of the idea of providing a large koi show the equivalent of Koi America. This large scale show would be possibly be in Atlanta as it is the largest southeastern city. It would be held on the opposite years of Koi America. If this were to happen our club might have to consider hosting our own koi show on opposite years too. So far this is speculation.

There was some review of the koi auction which was held in April. It was agreed some changes with the process of the auction would need to be made. Two of these changes was the increased availability of reserved tanks for members and there is not to be any direct selling of koi, all koi are to be auctioned. These and other changes would be discussed with the auction chairperson.

The meeting closed and the members enjoyed the gracious hospitality and beautiful water gardens of Hal and Susan Brown. Vicki Vaughan presented a very informative presentation about quarantine tanks and pond chemicals.

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Thanks!

I'd like to thank all those pond owners who generously opened their garden gates to the public for the club's spring pond tour. The weather was terrific, not nearly as warm as it might have been. I heard many, many positive comments from the various pond tourists. All were so impressed with the ponds they saw and the wonderful, informative club members they met. Pat yourselves on the back for a job well done!

Next, we look forward to the summer tour.
~Vicki Knill Pond Tour Chairperson

It's Party Time!!!

★ The summer social is on June 12th at Katy & Jerry Hord's home.

★ The menu is sooooo yummy! The hosts are going to barbeque both beef and pork! Remember: **this is a covered dish lunch.**

★ Here are some suggestions for the "go withs" —

★ Cole slaw

Baked beans

★ Potato salad

Mac & cheese

★ Deviled eggs

Scalloped potatoes

★ Tossed salad

??? Your favorite picnic fare

★ Fruit salad

Desserts: Pies, cakes, cookies, brownies, watermelon, fresh fruit etc.



★ Please phone Katy & Jerry at **770-205-3981** and leave a message including your name and what you are planning to bring. Please do not send this info via e-mail. The computer is temporarily down.



NORFOLK VA — **Bank of the Commonwealth** in downtown Norfolk has been robbed - of fish, that is. The thief was captured on film by a security camera but remains at large. Authorities think he probably is feathering his nest somewhere on the nearby banks of the Elizabeth River.

According to the bank's surveillance tape, the culprit is not some hungry robber with a hankering for goldfish. Rather, it is a great egret. The elegant wading bird on Sunday morning wolfed down about 40 ornamental fish speared from a small, square pond outside the bank's corporate headquarters, at 403 Boush St. , next door to Freemason Abbey.

Leggy, large and white, the egret returned to the scene of the crime Friday morning - breakfast time, apparently - but this time bank officials were ready. They had spread mesh fencing atop the pond after Sunday's feast, to protect the few survivors, which include a prized, giant catfish. The egret attempted to penetrate their makeshift security device but failed. — He then flew the coop.

The incident has captivated bank employees, who on Friday kept popping into a security office to ask for the latest news about *him*, meaning the bird. But it initially chafed the bank's president, E.J. Woodard Jr., a fish lover, who at first assumed the thief was a human being, and was ready to offer a reward for the bandit's arrest.

On Monday morning, when the theft was discovered by maintenance staff, it went through here like wildfire, "Someone stole the fish! Someone stole the fish!" recalled Karen M. Wilson, a bank vice president. Then, after we reviewed the tape, we said, "You're not going to believe who stole the fish!"

Great egrets can be found year-round in southeastern Virginia and usually are nesting about now. They have black, matchstick legs; snowy white plumage; and a yellow, needlelike bill. They grow to about 39 inches tall .Egrets and herons are known to raid backyard ponds, and some bird enthusiasts stock their ponds with fish just to attract the graceful waders into view, said Robert Ake, a retired professor at Old Dominion University and a local birding expert. But this case is really quite odd, Ake said, noting the proximity of fast-moving cars and pedestrians to the bank's pond, human distractions that normally would spook an egret.

In addition, the Elizabeth River is several city blocks from Bank of the Commonwealth's downtown offices, meaning the bird traveled an unusually long distance to search for food. "Maybe he was just really hungry," Ake said.

On the surveillance tape, the egret flies to the edge of the pond and slips between wrought-iron fencing around the perimeter. It waddles in circles on concrete decking, craning its long neck to view the water's contents. Then, without ever getting its feet wet, the bird quickly jabs at the pond's surface, a fish suddenly visible in its bill. Within a few seconds, the fish is devoured whole and the egret flies off triumphantly, only to return about five minutes later for another helping. Then another, and another, for more than 90 minutes.

Wilson said she is not sure the bank will restock its little pond. Much of that depends on the thieving egret. "We're kind of in a wait-and-see mode," she said.

Submitted by a reader in Virginia — from a local newspaper.

Membership

Susan Brown



The following new members have joined Atlanta Koi Club: **Sandi Tax, Cherrie Bevers, David and Roberta Farmer**, and **Michael and Kathy Adkins**. Please join me in welcoming them into our club. We were so glad that some of them were able to attend the last meeting and hope to see you all at the AKC social in June. I also would like to thank a new Sponsor, **Mark Keightley of Homescapes**, for his support. Look for his ad in this newsletter and on our web page.

Thanks go to **Vicki Vaughan** for her interesting and informative presentation at the May meeting. We appreciate her taking the time and effort from her busy schedule to bring the beautiful Long Fin Yamabuki Ogon for our members. I believe she is responsible for the wonderful turn out we had at the May meeting. We had a Total of 75 people, 57 were members and 18 were guests. Our Total membership stands at 169 Members plus 5 Sponsors.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ATLANTA KOI CLUB

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www.AtlantaKoiClub.com



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(Check One) **Individual:** \$30 for 1 Yr. _____; \$54 for 2 Yrs. _____

Sponsor: \$150 for 1 Yr. _____
Other: KOI USA Magazine Subscription: \$20 for 1 Yr. _____
*Name Badges: \$5 each. _____
**ZNA International Koi Club: \$100 for 1 Yr. _____



Names: _____ & _____
 First Last First Last

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Best Phone: _____ Best Email: _____

AKC is a volunteer organization. We need as much help and support as you can provide, no matter how insignificant. In which of the following areas can you help?

Host Meeting ____, **Pond Tour** ____, **Auction** ____, **Koi Show** ____, **Hold Office** ____, **Flower Show** ____

To save money, we provide our newsletter in color via email several days earlier than mailed copies.

Would you like to receive your newsletter via email? Yes or No.

We try to publish a membership roster annually. It is given only to club members and AKCA, the Associated Koi Clubs of America. May we publish your address, phone number and email? Yes or No.

Make checks payable to **Atlanta Koi Club** and submit with application to:
Susan G. Brown, 191 Kings Row, Marietta, GA 30067.

* Please consider buying **Name Badges**. For only \$5, you will get to know and be known by everyone and also receive a free raffle ticket every time you wear your badge to a Club Meeting.

** Zen Nippon Airinkai (ZNA) is an international organization dedicated to the koi keeping hobby. Members receive the Nichirin magazine. Membership runs May through April of each year. There is no prorating of dues. Full dues are always paid.