



# Koi Chronicles



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Guess what's in a tank at the Tennessee Aquarium....

**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

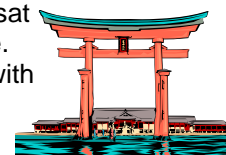
It was a cold and windy morning while we were waiting for the bus to appear for the Tennessee Aquarium trip. People began to slowly arrive and gather in groups to talk and discuss what we would see on the tour. Vicki Vaughan had managed to get permission for us to go behind the scenes to see the filters and how things were run.

The bus was running late because of an accident, so we hoped we would make it in time. When it finally arrived two hours late, we boarded and quickly got onto the interstate. As luck would have it, traffic was terrible the first hour. Everyone else wanted to head north that day.

While we were riding north, everyone filled out questionnaires and played a word find game. The questionnaires were to see in what order people would chose their Yamabuki Ogons.

The bus arrived at the time our tour was to start, so we had to miss lunch. We were divided into two groups and embarked on our tour. One group started on one side of the aquarium and the other group on the other side. After being shown the filters and holding tanks for the different varieties of sea horses, sea dragons and other aquatic life, we were allowed to head off on our own.

An hour later, we were returning to the bus to get ready for the second part of the trip. Then we were heading to the Cohutta Fish Hatchery. Vicki Vaughan sat by the driver and gave him directions. A quick trip, and we were there. We were met by the people that worked there and taken to the shed with the baby koi. Everyone was pointed to a net, the 20 tanks and told to catch what they wanted. It was like letting children loose in a candy store. Everyone went to the different tanks and could not decide what variety of koi they wanted. There was almost every variety of koi there. There was no limit on what we could take — \$15 each.



A special *thank you* to the people at Cohutta for allowing us to visit and chose our koi. They served supper, too. They were extremely hospitable.

The following weekend the weather was beautiful as we drove to Susan and Ed Reed's house for the monthly meeting. The members that made it for the meeting had a great time. Thanks for having us!!

This past weekend was the Koi Auction. Although the weather was overcast and windy, (it seemed like a repeat of the first weekend of April) about 300 koi were brought to be sold. Almost all found new homes with only a few having to go back to the home they came from. Thanks to all who helped with this endeavor.

**ATLANTA KOI  
CLUB  
OFFICERS  
2005**

**President**

David Boyd  
(770) 937-0864  
dvmarietta@aol.com

**Vice President**

Charlie Atwell  
(678) 455-2808  
atwells@BellSouth.net

**Secretary**

Vicki Knill  
(770) 424-0622  
dragonkoi2@cs.com

**Treasurer**

Ronald Scott  
(770) 446-1733  
rsonald@comcast.net

**Property Manager**

Jerry Hord  
(770) 205-3981  
shortyskoi farm&beveragesupply@  
hotmail.com

Appointed Officers

**Membership**

Susan Brown  
(770) 973-2092  
Hands191@msn.com

**Newsletter Editor**

Toni Anderson  
(678) 297-7926  
xanxan@comcast.net

**ZNA Representative**

**AKCA Director**

Michael Anderson  
(678) -297-7926  
mcasan@comcast.net

**Librarian**

Jane Lu  
(678) 380-5285  
jkl3@msn.com

**Web Master**

David Marier  
(770) 995-8984  
dmarier56@msn.com



**Auction Wrap-up**

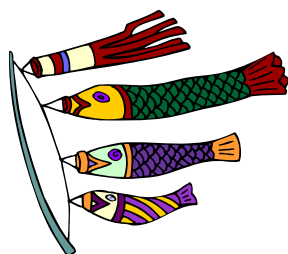
**Doug Tatz**

**Another Great Koi Auction.**

Special thanks to Bill and Lynn Dowden for the use of their warehouse, and all the extra effort they put into setting up more than 35 tanks. Bill & Lynn, you are some great koi club members.

We were a success because of the dedication of our members.

I would also like to thank all the members who helped in various ways. I would like to especially thank the following club members: Shorty, Herve, Ev, Jay, Morris, Bill, Billy, Josh, Ron, Charlie, Michael, Toni, David, David, David.



**Festival of Ponds**

May 14, 2005 10:00 A.M. until 8: P.M..

A total of 9 ponds located in the central Georgia area will be featured.

\$6.00 per person & children under 12 admitted free.

Ticket outlets are: **Majestic Stone & Landscaping Supply 4860 Raley Rd., Macon, McNair Realty 2424 Riverside Dr., Macon, Shear Expressions 100 Gunn Road, Bld A, Suite 1 Centerville, or Phone 478-825-0505, 478-757-0881** or visit our web site



**Looking for Koi ID or Pronunciation?**

These sites have a lot of info for novice and skilled koi keepers.

<http://www.cnykoi.com/koiid/main.asp>

<http://koicd.thegingerichs.net/pg2.htm>



**Wanted:**

Ki (yellow) or kin (gold) kikokuryu (black koi with platinum on top) butterfly (long finned) koi to buy or trade.

Would like a yellow or gold pattern on the head. One that looks like the koi in this photo. Jane Lu (404) 803-8408, jkl3@msn.com.



Vicki & Jessie (and the otter) listen while we try to sing "Happy Birthday". Guess we'd better keep our day jobs.

**Best Wishes,  
Vicki.**



## Getting into Koi Keeping ... from a post on NI Bulletin Board by J.R. Riley

Most beginners go through this sort of transition- see if you can relate to any as you progressed in the hobby:

- 1) **Wow, a koi pond!** Colorful lively fish, clean water and the sound of a water fall! What a relaxing hobby! **How hard could it be?!**
- 2) **I never realized there were so many different kinds of koi !** I think I will collect two of every one! How many kinds are there anyway?
- 3) OK I have my TFH koi book out and I want this one, that one- O, and three of these ----. **Funny my garden center doesn't have fish that look like this picture????**
- 4) Yips! \$65 each!!! O well, the book says they will live 100 years anyway. **Reminder, redo my will and leave the koi to my sister's youngest son.**
- 5) **I REALLY like ginrins and doitsu fish. And Hi Utsuri!! Don't know what all the fuss is about the red and white ones?** Ill never be into those- well maybe one or two just to round out the collection- ooo, here's one with those sparkling scales!
- 6) **My GOD! I never realized how BIG the hole would be for a 1500 gallon pond!** It's a monster!!! Hope I haven't over done it? I'll never be able to fill this baby up with koi!
- 7) **That green machine is really nice but pretty expensive.** I'd rather spend the money on more fish. I'll get a Rubbermaid tub and make my own filter. I can fill it with driveway gravel!
- 8) **My fish LOVE Little Friskies cat food!** I love feeding the fish, I heard some hobbyists feed then ten times a day- I'm already up to twelve times a day! I love it!
- 9) **Now I wish I had put in the bottom drain.** Here's an after market one - and here is an in-pond filter that the guy at the store said will help my home made filter work better.
- 10) **Why is my water GREEN???**
- 11) **Ten of my sixty fish died this weekend!** They must have that virus I've read about on the Internet! **Its all the fault of that rotten koi dealer! He sold me fish with a virus!**
- 12) **I used the algicide and now I bought a UV light.** That should solve all my problems! The man at the store said the light will also kill parasites!
- 13) **Fish get parasites???** **Yuck!** Gotta get something for that today!! Can't take any more chances or any more loses! What does PP mean anyway?
- 14) **What NOW?! All the koi are sitting on the bottom?** I paid \$120 for that ginrin chagoi, it is very rare I'm told, it better not die-
- 15) Damned, **I KNEW that ginrin chagoi would die! That guy I bought it from had shifty eyes!** I'm going back to the first two dealers I bought from.
- 16) **I came home today and all the water was drained from my pond!** Ten more fish were dead! I'll do a PP treatment and replace them in the morning!
- 17) **The BB which I paid a fortune for keeps clogging.** This was supposed to be maintenance free! That big vet said it was the bomb?! Why would he steer me wrong? He's a man of God practically?!
- 18) **Dear Journal, I have now purchased 80 koi, lost 27 and my wife is getting pissed!** The fish are not eating all

*(Continued on page 4)*



Ron Abe, PHD  
drabe@trojankoi farms.com

Vernard L. Hodges, DVM  
drhodges@criterfixersvet.com

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FAX 770-509-5648

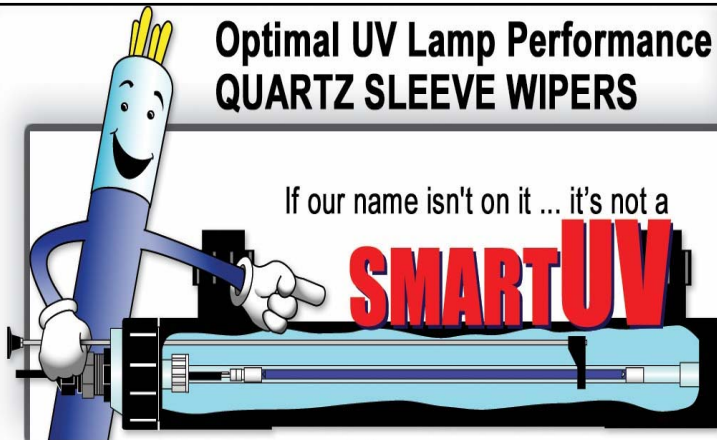
Atlanta's newest dealer of imported Japanese koi

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### Optimal UV Lamp Performance QUARTZ SLEEVE WIPERS

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[www.emperoraquatics.com](http://www.emperoraquatics.com)

(Continued from page 3)

12 meals a day now and no matter how many chemicals I add, and its getting expensive, the water gets cloudy in a day or two. Now most of the koi have torn fins and red spots??

19) **The water is green again!!!** I think the bulb is broken. The in-pond pump to the water fall may be leaking as three of the koi are now bent and swimming crooked?

20) Four of the koi are now blowing up like balloons and the scales are standing straight out! **THIS can't be normal!** I'll try some more PP and baking soda.

21) Damned, **the after market strainer/ drain keeps clogging with dead algae and the BB is very clogged** with the same dead algae! I'm buying a second UV!

22) **The water fall is starting to look like 'cousin IT'!** Soon this green stringy stuff will cover the waterway completely!

23) OK here's a new book- *Koi Kichi*. This guy says, koi keeping is an expensive hobby- man he isn't kidding!

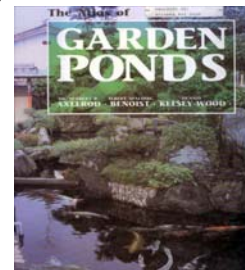
Finally someone who tells it like it is -what's this---- He says- " The cheapest way to build a koi pond is to build it once, but build it properly" Where the hell was this guy when I needed him!



## Library

Jane Lu

*The Atlas of Garden Ponds*, (Dr. Herbert R. Axelrod is one of the authors), details techniques, filters and layouts for ponds with the distinct purpose of keeping the pond water crystal clear. These filtering devices and layouts plus the techniques for making the pond itself has been the contribution of an architect who specializes in garden ponds. Not only have the ponds themselves been carefully explained with full color engineering-type drawings, but filtering systems, the fishes and plants that go into the pond, have also been covered in this book.



Please welcome  
our newest  
sponsor.  
Welcome to our  
AKC family!





## Treasurer's Report

by Ron Scott

For March 2005

Beginning balance \$6,647.78

### Income:

Flower Show \$ 2,000.00

Newsletter Advertising \$ 150.00

Membership \$ 370.00

Name Badges \$ 15.00

KOI USA Subscription \$ 20.00

Misc. \$ 320.00

Aquarium Bus Tickets \$300.00

Canceled Check #985 \$ 20.00

Checking Account Interest \$0.59

**Total Income \$2,875.59**

### Expenses:

Flower Show \$481.00

KOI USA Subscription \$ 20.00

Meeting Expense \$100.00

Newsletter Postage \$ 28.12

Newsletter Printing \$ 62.26

Misc. Club Expenses \$860.00

Bus for Aquarium trip \$860.00

**Total Expenses \$1,551.38**

**NET \$1,324.21**

Bank Statement \$8,071.99

Uncleared Transactions \$ 120.00

Checks #993 and #994

Checkbook Ending Balance \$7,951.99

## Raffle ! Raffle! Raffle!



This wonderful sign is the raffle prize for May. You've got to be at the meeting to win.

**ATTENTION  
POND TOUR  
PARTICIPANTS**  
Be sure to pick up your Pond Tour signs at the May meeting. You should get two signs — one for the street and one for your yard.

### Auction Up-date Ron Scott (figures do not show deduction of expenses)

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,752.14</b>	<b>Deposit</b>
Equipment	\$ 15.00	
Fish	\$10,010.00	
Plants	\$ 10.00	
Drinks/Food	\$ 549.38	
Misc. Money Received	\$ 167.76	
	<hr/>	
	\$10,752.14	



\$7,526.25 due the sellers  
\$3,076.88 due the club



Robin, Jerry, David P. & David B. check out the foam fractionator at the Aquarium.

**Attention fish sellers:** Your check is in the mail. Checks were paid on May 4th and should arrive about May 11th.

### Pond Tour Books Are Ready!



The 2005 Pond Tour books will be on sale at various pond related centers the second week of May. A list of stores is on the club's website. Same as last year, each book costs \$10.00 and is the ticket to go on the tour.

Therefore, each person needs a book to take the tour. That means \$20.00 per couple for 4 days worth of entertainment. What a deal! How much does it cost for 2 people to see a movie for only 2 hours? How much would it cost 2 people at Six Flags for only 1 day? The book is good for 2 days in May and 2 days in August, can't beat that.

This year's book contains koi and pond related information, coupons and discounts making it useful after the tours too. I will have some books available at the May meeting. Bring yer money.....

**Come and get it!**



### AKCA Report

Michael Anderson, Director

Subscribe to KoiUSA — \$17 a year for members. See Susan Brown.

Big plans for the next AKCA Seminar in Tulsa, OK. Plan to attend.

Smokey Sullins' fish won Grand Champion & Reserve Champion in our show, and their photos have been sent to AKCA for participation in Champion of Champions and Koi of the year. Michael & Toni Anderson were elected "Koi Persons of the Year".

## Something's Fishy — More Variety Information ....

*Beautiful, beautiful Bekko, (sing to tune of "Beautiful Blue Eyes")  
 Beautiful, beautiful Bekko,  
 Beautiful, beautiful Bekko,  
 I'll never love Utsuris again....*

The koi fashionistas have struck again. The once wildly popular Bekko has lost favor in the eyes of "THOSE" experts who decide which fish are most important. The Utsuri has taken its place. Bekkos were once so popular that they even have a class in koi shows named for them! It's rather sparsely populated now. Sad, but true.

Bekkos come in three body color combinations: white with black (Shiro Bekko), red with black (aka Bekko), and the rarest lemon yellow with black (Ki Bekko). Bekkos differ from Utsuris in that Utsuris are BLACK fish with different color trim... while Bekkos are one of the solid colors with black trim. The black (sumi) should resemble tortoiseshell, and be on the back and above the lateral line. Sumi should not be on the head — though a touch of it is often overlooked. Shiro Bekkos should also have a "color" space (which ever color the fish is) between the last sumi marking and the beginning of the tail. This gives the eye a rest.

Bekkos come in scaled, doitsu, gin-rin, and etc. They are judged — as are all koi — on the quality of the skin and the confirmation of the fish. Many of them have blue eyes. Bekkos— try them, you'll like them.



### Hikarimuji — a solid choice.....

*Hikari* means shining in Japanese. Hikarimuji fish are one-color fish with a dull all-over metallic glow. The most common fish from this group is the *ogon*. Matsubas are another branch of this group. — in spite of what looks to us to be two colors .

Ogons as we know them were developed beginning in 1921. The original breed pair were a Magoi with gold stripes on its back and a Magoi. Only fish with yellow scales were kept and bred. The first true ogons were produced in 1946. Early Ogons were golden, but often turned blackish in warm water. This trait was bred out by 1957.

Most ponds have a Yamabuki Ogon. The sunshine yellow brightens the pond and gives a rest from the now favored go sanke group.

How do you choose a good Yamabuki Ogon? Look for a fish with "presence". If you can get a jumbo — do so. Often the ones with broad shoulders and thick tails even when young — are good choices. Look for flawless skin and a head that is helmet shaped. Any flecks of color other than yellow lowers their value. Be sure to check for all fins — sometimes over breeding

*(Continued on page 8)*

## CHECK IT OUT !!



Our next meeting, on Sunday, May 15th, is at the home of Susan and Hal Brown. Here are a few pictures of their pond. If you haven't visited this spectacular pond — or if you have — you are in for a big treat.

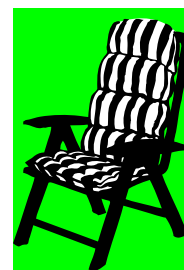


Vicki Vaughan will be bringing some more of the long-fin Yamabuki Ogons for our contest. If you missed the Aquarium/ Cohutta trip this is your last chance to buy these fish. They are \$15 each.

Vicki is also presenting the program about quarantining procedures for your fish. Included in the program will be some "fish tales".



**Don't forget  
to bring  
your lawn  
chairs!!!**



*(Continued from page 7)*

eliminates the pelvic fins — and that's a major flaw. Well developed pectoral fins are a must.

Platinum Ogons have a dull luster coupled with a metallic shine. This characteristic is known as Fukurin — gives the Ogon a 3-D effect. These are white fish with the luster of precious metal.

Ogons may be scaled or doitsu. Both types are put together for judging purposes in shows. These fish may have the large "German" scales down their back or be totally scale less leather carp.

Ok, if you've hung in this far ... just a bit more won't hurt. Here's where things get confusing. Matsubas are solid color fish. Yes, they have black tipped scales, but the Japanese call this a single color. Are you with me? Now, if a Matsuba is metallic — then it's a Hikarimuji. If it's a matt-scaled fish, it's a Kawarimono. Don't ask. I don't know why.

This information comes from a book called *KOI Living Jewels of the Orient* — edited by Steve Hickling and others. Published by Barron's Press 2002.





## Membership

Susan Brown

We would like to welcome the following new members into our club: Alice Kuzniak, Carolyn Gable, Stephen Kruse, Joe Marcus, Joy Maszor, Dale Nizholson, Ernie and Sandra Hoffman, and John and Joan McGinnis. We hope you will be able to join us at the next meeting on May 15.

At the April meeting 21 AKC members attended and 25 members of the Middle Georgia Water Garden's Club attended. A good time was had by all.

AKC 's membership is now 163 members plus 4 Sponsors.

Badges will be available for pick up at the May meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ATLANTA KOI CLUB

"Dedicated to Sharing the Joy of Keeping Koi"  
www.AtlantaKoiClub.com

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: **Household:** \$50 for 1 Yr. \_\_\_\_\_; \$90 for 2 Yrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
**(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.