

ATLANTA Koi CLUB



KOI CHRONICLES



Dedicated to Sharing the Joy of Keeping Koi

April 2008
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By the Pond



David Boyd, President AKC

The Atlanta Koi Club would like to thank Chuck Crisp of Splendor Koi for allowing us to hold our meeting at his store.

Our March meeting was held at Splendor Koi where we were able to see the newest shipment of koi brought up from Blackwater Creek. It was a pleasure to hear Jay Shelton speak and answer questions about water quality from a holistic approach. It was also a great pleasure to see a number of old members whom we don't see often enough. I had a great time speaking with them as well as some of our newer members.

I wish to address the issue of updating our by-laws and let members know there is a cut off -date. Occasionally our club needs to review the by-laws and update them to keep current with any issues that arise. I am letting our membership know that after the month of April the work will begin on looking at any by-laws that have been brought to my attention for review. I also want to let everyone know that I am not planning on trying to change the length of term for officers. I have been threatened with bodily harm if I do (just joking).

It is also the time of year when our ponds are coming out of winter conditions. I hope everyone is having their water tested for heavy metals and checking water quality. Be sure to read Joe's article about bringing your pond safely into spring.



Steve Childers gives Bart Atkins the Judges Award at CFKS



Lastly, I want to congratulate Hal and Susan Brown for winning this year's "Koi Persons of the Year". They have worked hard for our club and deserve the honor. I am looking forward to seeing them in Jacksonville this year to receive their award.

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.

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AKC CALENDAR



I encourage all members to attend our monthly meetings and also consider hosting a regular meeting or one of the two socials. The currently planned meetings and events are:

March 16: Meeting at Splendor Koi (<http://www.splendorkoi.com/>) in Marietta, GA.

April 19: (Saturday) Auction at Coastal Pond Supply (<http://www.coastalfountain.com/>) in Tucker, GA.

May 18: Carl Forss & Vicki Vaughan

June 8: Summer Social, Harvey Siskin

July 13: Terri Foruta & Kathy Rifkin

August 10: Hal & Susan Brown

September 14: on site hosts needed Koi Show Planning and Set-up @ Coastal Ponds

October 12: Ev Garrin — Election of Officers

November 9: Winter social, hosts needed

Please contact me (vp@atlantakoiclub.org or 678-297-7926) if you are interested in hosting one of the July, August meetings, or host @ Coastal Ponds for show set-up in September, or November social. Please share your pond and koi with other members of our club.

A Quick Update on Herve's Pond

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Pond update: we're making progress and might actually have a functional pond by the end of April (fingers crossed!).



Finally got one of the Cetus sieves hooked up (temporarily) - both for testing and to clean/circulate the pond water:



I'm using flexible 2" PVC so that I can reposition the sieve as water levels change in the pond. The

pump is able to run at almost its max rate of 4500 gph. Debris removal is excellent. It will be awesome when I have all 3 sieves permanently installed & running.



The pond is 1/2 full with all the rains we've had (approx 14000 gal). The flexible black PVC hose you see is output from the sieve. In the middle I'm running one of the air-domes for additional circulation. My plan is to rig the other 2 bottom drains so that I can alternate daily which bottom drain to temporarily hook up to the sieve, and thus clean different areas of the

(Continued on page 6)



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I continue to be surprised, amazed, and tickled when all my children follow me around the pond in the spring when I begin feeding them again. The kaleidoscope of colors and the orderly chaos reminds me of rush hour in China on a busy afternoon. As with all children, I carefully scrutinize who has grown and how much, who has medical needs, and what I can do to create the best environment for health and comfort. As with the newly blossomed flowers, the trees, and other wildlife bursting forth this time of year, I realize more than ever what a blessing these "swimming jewels" are that enrich my life so much. From my second story window I love to sit and watch them tirelessly eat, frolic, and chase each other with complete abandon. If

you've never experienced the pure joy of caring for koi, you are missing out on a wonderful opportunity to experience and get to know the most fascinating, beautiful creatures but also meeting some the nicest, friendliest people in the world, too.

Auction Notice

Thanks for all the support and volunteers for the auction on the 19th of April. The deadline is approaching for registration. Please e-mail me direct if you would like to reserve a tank for your auction koi. We currently have 10 tanks reserved so there is still space available. The original cut-off was April 1st. We decided to extend that through the second week in April so if you would like to have your koi in the auction, please send in your request. The details are on the website with all the forms, rules and regulations.



Koi Auction & Plant Sale

Doors open @ 10 A.M. auction @ 11 A.M.

Saturday April 19, 2008

Public Welcome Free Admission



For more information visit our website:
www.atlantakoiclub.org

Coastal Pond Supply

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Coming out of Cold Weather

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Part deux

The last time we looked at the use of Potassium Permanganate. It's cheap, does a great job, but as with any treatment you must be very careful. In discussions with Harold, what we are decided to try and accomplish here is a way to help your fish critters come out of cold weather and winter conditions effectively. Then, kill as many of the bad bugs as we can to help our fish come out of winter water safely. Conduct some preventive maintenance if you would. Remember, as the water temperature warms those bad bugs begin to get active, moving around looking for a spring snack, and begin munching on your fishes. We want to prevent the ulcers, mouth and fin rot before it happens. We discussed the importance of cleaning your pond and how important that is at all times. We provided one proven regiment by Doc Johnson in the use of Potassium Permanganate and how it helps prevent bad bugs from getting started.

In this article we are going to talk about an alternative treatment with the use of Proform-C and Praziquantel. Most of this information in this article comes from various articles and specific writings by Dr. Erik Johnson and proven methods conducted by Bonnie E. Hale, An American Koi breeder and owner of www.bonniesplants.com fame.

Proform-C

Proform-C is a Formaldehyde and Malachite Green combination over-the-counter product that is perhaps the best choice as far as a Formalin product to kill parasites. FMG is effective on most microscopic parasites without killing the host. Proform C kills Ich, Costia, Trichodina, and Chilodonella. It DOES NOT kill flukes. That's why we later treat with Prazi. Used as directed, Proform-C will not harm the biological filter. Proform-C is a commercial mix of the two products that is a bit weaker then mixing specific 37% Formaldehyde and Malachite Green at pond side. Proform-C allows the average pond owner to perform a simple measurement of a premixed product to a known pond water volume and gives the user a good margin of error protecting the fish and still killing bad bugs. Part of the reason for this product is that since 9-11 the shipping industry and the Federal government has tightened shipping restrictions which make pure Formalin illegal to ship without stringent Hazmat labeling and fees. A gallon of Formalin which once cost \$16 now costs \$64 and requires a ream of paperwork.

There are a few drawbacks that should be of concern. Formalin and Salt don't do well together. Do not use with salinity *greater* than 0.1 %. Lower is better here. Do not use with any other drugs or chemicals. ProForm-C is poisonous to humans and pets and may be fatal if swallowed or may cause blindness if it comes in contact with eyes; can prove harmful if inhaled or absorbed through skin. Personal protection is paramount. You may want to remove your plants if treating with this product because formalin is an active ingredient in herbicides! Plants may not die but will turn yellow if left in the pond during treatment.

The treatment is safe at low temperatures (50 F). This is some what of a drawback. We know that Aeromonas and Pseudomonas become active at 42 F or the beginning of the dreaded Aeromonas Alley. The Proform-C labeling calls for three treatments, three days in a row. The last treatment is conducted by combining the Praziquantel to complete the process. Proform C is becoming more and more popular as more Formalin/Malachite compounds get sidelined by hazmat shipping problems. Proform C is relative new on the market. It's readily available, easy to use and legal for shipping. Since Proform C is not a proprietary 37% Formalin solution, you should use and labeled guidelines which are shipped with it. We have been discussing the brand name of Proform-C. There are several FMG products on the market that are the same compounds but go by another name. Check the label for the contents always. Prices vary a little.

Praziquantel

Praziquantel is a bitter tasting powder which shows good absorption directly from the treated water, and then admirable clearance of various surface and internal flukes (trematodes) and internal worms in fish. Because it's gentle, Praziquantel is, and always has been, the "treatment of choice" for Flukes (trematodes) in fish. Praziquantel does not require water changes, praziquantel is harmless to fish of *all* species including Koi and goldfish fry, and is non toxic to plants, and; (unlike pure Formalin); praziquantel has no negative filter impact.

Praziquantel has been known to the hobby for many years. The drug is simply put in the water and within just a few hours the infected fish shed the adult parasites from their body and intestines. Long tapeworms are sometimes found on the bottom of the treatment tank. It was determined also that the Praziquantel was effective at killing and stopping Fluke (monogenetic trematode) infections. It is entirely conceivable that the flukes can be eradicated with only one treatment. The real bonus with Praziquantel is that when you treat for flukes, it also rids the fish of any internal parasites or worms.

Praziquantel was traditionally available from your vet in the form of branded Droncit tablets, for oral administration in dogs and cats. The average retail (vet) price was something on the order of four dollars per tablet which only contained thirty four milligrams. Considering the proper dosing of praziquantel, the cost of treating a thousand gallons of water would normally be \$908.23. That's not very good.

Lately; the drug has become available such that it can be deployed for about \$30 per thousand gallons to be treated. There are powder and liquid products. The premixed liquid product is costly.

The recommended dose of Praziquantel is 2 milligrams per liter of water. This means that in 100 gallons of pond water you would need about seven hundred milli-grams. In a thousand gallons you would need about seven grams of Praziquantel. The drug is simply stirred vigorously into a liter of clean water and, when mostly dissolved, the white colored suspension is deposited into a high-flow area of the pond. If the fish ingest some of the medicine as it settles out, it's not a problem. Discontinue carbon and UV during treatment to avoid inactivation of the Praziquantel. You do not need to bypass the filter nor worry about oxygen levels during treatment. The most successful treatments are deployed in cleaner ponds, so any excess leaf litter or debris should be removed. Clearance of the flukes can be determined by microscopy or the overall improvement of signs of flashing and scratching. On occasion, segments or ribbons of worms may be passed in the fish stools and are generally of no concern to human health. No side effects as far as fish behavior or health have been reported or expected.

If you're treating a **Fluke** infestation only, traditional wisdom suggests a single repeat treatment in four to five days after the first treatment to kill emerging larvae which may have been shielded from treatment by the mother-fluke or the egg.

The advantages are that Praziquantel is entirely benign to plants, fish and filter while clearing the Flukes and intestinal worms out rapidly and completely, even with fry.

Now, it can be considered that praziquantel is the least-expensive specific aquaculture Fluke treatment for ornamental ponds. When you consider that it requires only one or two doses and does NOT require water changes, nor plant removal, nor increased water agitation, this remedy is even superior to the "once king" Fluke Tab which contained a potentially damaging organophosphate and has enjoyed, at best, spotty availability during the summer months.

Still not cost effective for large applications such as lakes and natural ponds. Praziquantel is [commercially available](#). At retail, a Google keyword search of Praziquantel and/or Koi should probably turn it up or [PondRx.com](#) has it in stock and ready to ship, even overnight.

Do not use on food fish or fish intended to be used as food. Keep out of reach of children. Do not take internally except by or on the order of your physician.

Proform-C and Praziquantel can be used together on the last treatment of the pond to conquer all parasites that affect our fish. A recommended treatment regiment is listed below.

Treatment

DAY 1

Do a large water change, at least 30% or so, preferably by vacuuming off the bottom of the pond to remove as much crud as you can. Formalin is bound out by organics so it is important to have a clean pond to start treatment with. Treat new water as always with declor. Day 1 is done.

DAY 2

Treat the pond with ProForm C using 10 ml per 100 gallons of water (100ml per 1,000 gallons). Follow the bottles and manufactures recommended procedure.

DAY 3

Treat the pond with ProForm C using 10 ml per 100 gallons of water (100ml per 1,000 gallons). Follow the bottles and manufactures recommended procedure.

DAY 4

Treat the pond with ProForm C using 10 ml per 100 gallons of water (100ml per 1,000 gallons). Mix the exact amount of Prazi with the last full dose of Proform-C or it has been discovered that if you mix the Prazi with a little vodka it helps dis-

(Continued from page 5)

solve the Prazi a bit better. Pour the mixture around your pond edge. You're done. Do not do any water changes for the next 7 days. This allows the Prazi to knock off any eggs that may hatch.

Well that's it. A few good ways to bring our Koi out of Winter water. Call if you need Help.



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Koi-Kichi

Mary O'Connor and Bonnie Wulf NFKPC



Are you looking for that special something that shows everyone that you are dedicated to your "wet pets"? T-shirts and club shirts are fine. We have found flags, stepping stones and paintings, but with a little imagination and a computer you can find most anything.

Did you ever want to show your dedication on everyday items? Looking in some catalogs, they seem to have items for everyone except the koi and goldfish enthusiast. Not so anymore. Some



fancy footwear was found at www.viamoda.com/category.php?id=3

We are sure that you have seen checks and return address labels with other pets, nature scenes, gardens, bugs and tropical fish but you never see ponds and koi. Well for a few bucks more you can have custom labels and checks with any picture of your choice. A few of the sites that offer this are www.4checks.com, www.uniquechecks.com, and www.everythingchecks.com.



www.splendorkoiandpond.com

770 • 321 • FISH
1552 Rosewood Circle • Marietta, Georgia 30067

(Continued from page 2)
pond.

Next steps:

- Fluidbeds ... I'm actively sourcing 800 liters of K1/K3/BioChip (40%, 40%, 20%). Holy-moly, that stuff is expensive!!!!
- Filter Pit
- Pond Coping & flagstone veneer.

So much yet to do, but I'm seeing light at the end of the tunnel ...

Herve



Executive members present were: David Boyd, Michael Anderson, Steve Castel, Herve Rijnveld, and Peggy Fricke.

Club President David Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed the club members to Chuck Crisp's Splendor Koi. David then noted that a committee that was selected at last month's meeting will meet to review the club's bylaws. As mentioned, the committee members are Susan Brown, Bill Dowden, David Boyd and Peggy Fricke. If you have any questions or concerns about our bylaws, please send your questions to bylaws@atlantaloiclub.org.

The executive committee decided that the club will not be purchasing water for the Koi Auction. A decision to purchase water for the Koi Show will be made closer to the show.

Steve Castel, Auction Chairperson, then updated the membership on the upcoming Auction. The date of the Koi Auction is April 19th at Coastal Pond Supply. Again this year, Bill Dowden has graciously offered the use of Coastal. THANK YOU BILL AND LYNN!!!! Steve reported that he sent out over 500 postcards and sent 120 emails to prior attendees. Steve also encouraged the members to take postcards and post them in their neighborhood pet and garden centers. Harvey Siskin, Advertising Chair, is putting in articles about the Auction in several publications as well.

Several members will assist Steve in the logistics of the auction. Their responsibilities are as follows:
Michael Anderson will purchase the sodium thiosulfate and virkon for water quality and fish bags.
David Boyd will purchase the bleach for clean-up.
Bill Fricke will fill the oxygen tank.
Herve Rijnveld and Bill Fricke will move the air lines at Coastal.
Bill Dowden will provide the PA system.

 ***Bring your Koi Bucks!! They are as good as cash for that special fish!***

Set-up for the Auction will begin on Wednesday, April 16th, at around 5:00 PM and will continue Thursday and Friday at 5:00 PM. Everyone is encouraged to volunteer!! Auction Volunteers should arrive at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning and doors will be open to the general public at 10:00 AM. The Auction will begin at 11:00 AM.

Bill Fricke is working on the Volunteer list. Please call Bill if you are interested in helping. Be ready for a call to action!!!!

David introduced Dr. Jay Shelton. Dr. Shelton is a professor at the University of Georgia. The members were then treated to a very informative lecture on water quality.

David then asked for nominations for "Koi Person(s) of the Year." The nominees were David Pugh and David Boyd, Hal and Susan Brown, Vicki and Carl Knill, Bart and Kathy Atkins, and the Fricke clan. Hal and Susan Brown were voted as the Koi Persons of the Year.

Congratulations Hal and Susan!!!! Thanks for all your hard work!

The 27th Annual AKCA Seminar will be held in Jacksonville, Florida, on June 26th – 29th, 2008. There will be a St. John's River tour, St. Augustine tour, Friday evening beach tour, and pond tour on Sunday. For additional information, see the March-April issue of KOI USA or call Marilyn Carroll.

The club members then enjoyed a very tasty Mexican barbecue and the beautiful pond and gardens of Splendor Koi.



Treasurer's Report

by Stephen Castel		For:	March 2008
Checking			
Beginning Balance:			\$5,561.90
Income Categories:			
		Total Income	\$530.00
Expense Categories:			
		Total Expense	-\$838.37
NET			(\$308.37)
Cleared Balance			\$5,253.53
Uncleared Transactions			-\$82.60
Register Ending Balance			\$5,170.93
Savings			
Beginning Balance:			\$ 12,346.65
Income Categories:			
		Total Income	\$ -
Expense Categories:			
		Total Expense	\$ -
Savings Ending Balance			\$12,346.65
Uncleared Transactions			\$ -
Register Ending Balance			\$12,346.65
Certificate Of Deposit			
Beginning Balance:			\$ 8,000.00
Register Ending Balance			\$ 8,000.00
Total Assets:			\$25,517.58

COASTAL POND SUPPLY

10

2101 Tucker Industrial Road, Tucker, GA 30084
(770) 496-5740 / Toll Free (888) PONDH2O / Fax (770) 270-1959

Directions to Coastal: Auction Saturday 19 April 2008 SALE @ 11.

From Atlanta/I-285: take route 78 (Stn-Mtn Expressway) East from I-285 to the second exit = Mountain Industrial Blvd. Turn left onto it. Go North over 78 and turn left in 2 – 3 blocks just after SAM'S CLUB on your left. Go one short block, turn right, we are ½ block up Tucker Industrial Road on your right.

From Norcross, Lilburn, Lawrenceville: Find Jimmy Carter Blvd and take it South (It changes its name to Mountain Industrial Blvd. at highway 29 by Home Depot), cross over the railroad bridge and go past Sears warehouse (on the left) and turn right onto Hugh Howell Rd. Take the first left, at Bruster's Ice Cream = Tucker Industrial Rd. We are ½ block on the left, four buildings behind Bruster's.

From Stone Mountain, Snellville, Athens: Take 78 West past Stone Mountain Park and exit at, and turn right onto, Mountain Industrial Blvd. Go +/- 2 blocks and turn left just after SAM'S CLUB on your left. Go one short block, turn right, we are ½ block up Tucker Industrial Road on your right.

From Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson Airport:

Exit the airport on I-85 South. Follow signs towards Macon or I-285 East. Continue on I-285 East (forget about Macon.) You will have gotten on I-285 at exit #61. Continue East (exit numbers go down) about 20 miles to exit #39 = Highway 78 East towards Stone Mountain. Take route 78 (Stone-Mtn Expressway) East from I-285 to the second exit = Mountain Industrial Blvd. Turn left onto it. Go North over 78 and turn left in 2



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