

ATLANTA Koi CLUB



KOI CHRONICLES



January 2009
Volume 21, Issue 1

Dedicated to Sharing the Joy of Keeping Koi

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By the Pond



Mike Roach, President AKC

As I write this, it's December 14th, and we're right in the middle of the holiday season with cold temperatures outside, lots of gift shopping, and everywhere you look, holiday parties. Oh, did I mention cold? I just listened to the news the other night when they displayed the statistic that shows we've had double the number of nights below 32 degrees than last year. It definitely feels like it's much colder this year, and my bones only confirm it.



Ray Brock and his fish.



Back to the holidays. I love this time of year, because it's the time of year for giving. But, as I reflect over previous years, I know personally I have not done enough of this. Oh sure, I give gifts to my family and friends, and help where and when I can, but I want to do more.

At a recent event, I was able to do more, right along side many of you. As many of you are aware, we received a call from Ray and Polly Brock, sharing with us that after so many years of koi keeping, it was time to find a new home for their pet koi. After further discussion with Doug Tatz, it was determined that the koi would stay put until Spring, but removing the leaves and dirt from the pond was in order.

This is where many of you come into play. To summarize, we staged a surprise where 25-30 of our members showed up last Saturday to clean the Brock's pond and backyard. This was truly a wonderful event and it meant everything to Ray and Polly Brock and their family.

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.

I want to thank the many of you who offered your time and help. There were many more of you who wanted to help but could not. I know you were there in spirit, helping us along. A special thanks to Toni Anderson and Doug Tatz.

Atlanta Koi Club Officers 2009

President

Mike Roach
pres@atlantakoiclub.org

Vice President

Michael Anderson
vp@atlantakoiclub.org

Secretary

JoANN Elmore
scribe@atlantakoiclub.org

Treasurer

Steve Castel
money@atlantakoiclub.org

Property Manager

Bill Fricke
stuff@atlantakoiclub.org

Appointed officers

Membership

Phyllis Loudermilk &
Robin Scott
join@atlantakoiclub.org

Koi Show

David Pugh
koishow@atlantakoiclub.org

Koi Auction

Steve Castel
auction@atlantakoiclub.org

Pond Tour TBD

P.R. Director

Josh Bare
pr@atlantakoiclub.org

AKCA Director

Vicki Knill
rep@atlantakoiclub.org

Newsletter Editor

Toni Anderson
report@atlantakoiclub.org

Webmaster

Michael Anderson &
Adam Therrell
wizard@atlantakoiclub.org

AKC CALENDAR

I encourage all members to attend our monthly meetings and also consider hosting a regular meeting or one of the two socials. Meetings are usually held on the second Sunday of the month. Exceptions are Easter & Mother's Day...then we meet on the third Sunday. The auction in April is a Saturday meeting. If you want to host a meeting in **2009**, Please contact me vp@atlantakoiclub.org or 678-297-7926)

Michael

The currently planned meetings and events are:

January 11, 2009

Senior Center Alpharetta Hosts: Michael & Toni Anderson

February 8, 2009

Hosts: Steve & Laura Castel.



March 8, 2009

Splendor Koi

April 18, 2009 Auction @ Coastal Pond Need hosts to operate the concession stand

May 17, 2009 Flat Rock Koi

June 14, 2009 Summer Social —Mike & Phyllis Loudermilk

July 12, 2009



August 9, 2009

September 13, 2009 Work day for Koi Show @ Coastal Ponds Hosts: David Boyd & David Pugh

October 11, 2009 Elections

November 8, 2009 Winter Social



Koi Shows and Events

22nd Annual AKCA Seminar — February 11-15 2009— San Diego CA

March 13-15 2009 Central Florida Koi Show Orlando FL
www.cfks.org

May 1-3 2009 — Macon GA — First Annual Koi Show. Details soon.

Let's Celebrate!



This is AKC's 20th Anniversary year!
Let's plan a year long party !!

Got Signs???

When the trailer was inventoried... we noticed that almost all our club yard signs were missing. Are they hiding at your house? Please bring them to the next meeting. We really need them. Thanks!



Pond-ing Opinions....

It's Party Time!! Winter Social



These Koi Kichi really know how to put on a banquet. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the delicious fare. Thanks also to Bart & Kathy Atkinson for sharing their beautiful home with us. Thanks to the Middle Georgia Koi Society for sharing in the fun with us.



The Party Crowd at the winter social !!

*From the Desk of Polly Brock
2705 Kinnett Drive
Lilburn GA 30047*

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Dear Friends,

There is no way that Ray, Janet and I can express our heartfelt thanks for what happened at our house on Saturday the 6th of December.

When Doug Tatz called to say that he would be here on the 6th and that he might bring a "couple of friends" I was really happy for Ray. The decision to give up the fish was a difficult one for him, but a wise one, considering his health. I was so in tune with the idea of a "couple of friends," I baked an 8X8 inch pan of brownies...little did I know that a "couple" meant 30 plus.

We were touched by your willingness to help, not only with the ponds, but the yard. I bet our neighbors sent bazonkers trying to figure out what was going on.

In the true spirit of Christmas, you gave us a gift we will never forget. I was so proud of what you did for us, that on Sunday I spoke of your work and help and love to our congregation, others now share in our story. During the evening, Ray and I both dissolved into tears of joy for your friendship and caring work.

With grateful hearts for your friendship, may we wish you a blessed Christmas and a healthy and happy 2009!

Polly

P.S. I told our church family I felt like I was a recipient of an "Extreme Makeover".





Treasurer's Report

by Stephen Castel

		For:	September
	<u>Checking</u>		
	Beginning Balance:		\$6,114.56
Income Categories:			
		Total Income	\$1,832.17
Expense Categories:			
		Total Expense	\$2,059.50
NET			(\$227.33)
	Cleared Balance		\$5,887.23
	Uncleared Transactions		\$572.60
	Uncleared Deposits		\$0.00
	Register Ending Balance		\$5,314.63
	<u>Savings</u>		
	Beginning Balance:		\$ 12,367.31
Income Categories:			
		Total Income	\$ 2.03
Expense Categories:			
		Total Expense	\$ -
	Savings Ending Balance		\$12,369.34
	Uncleared Transactions		\$ -
	Register Ending Balance		\$12,369.34
Certificate Of Deposit			
	Beginning Balance:		\$ 6,124.59
	Payments		\$ -
	Register Ending Balance		\$ 6,124.59
Total Assets:			\$23,808.56

You have just arrived home from a hard day at the office. It's late evening and perfect time to sit down and watch your beautiful koi, relax, unwind and have a beverage, watch the sunset but, OH NO.....WHAT IS THAT ON MY SANKE. WHAT IS THAT? IT'S A CUT on your favorite Sanke's head? You Panic, run around your pond three times pulling your hair, and as you try to look closer it's beginning to get dark. Looking at your other fish, you notice they are acting funny too. They seem to be gasping for air and uh oh, one just flipped over to show her belly and she not even a dancer. Are you prepared for a Koi emergency?

Koi Emergencies? Are you prepared? (Deep voice from behind the hydrangeas)

If you do not have a first aid kit now is the perfect time to build your very own koi first aid kit. In my few short years of keeping koi, there is one thing I have learned and that is emergencies don't happen at convenient times, pond stores aren't open 24 hours a day and fish vets don't make house calls.

Let's take some time to put together a good basic care kit. You probably have some of the supplies already. Always, always start with the water quality. We have all heard the saying that "if you take care of the water the fish will take care of themselves". This is a Very True Statement.

First have the phone #s of your Koi Health Advisors (KHA). They are trained and ready to help.

Test kits - ammonia, pH, nitrite, nitrate and KH, at a minimum. (Please use them and log your results. A pond journal is a useful tool to ID trends plus the KHA will ask a lot of questions about your water quality).

The following are the preferred readings or ranges for the various important parameters:

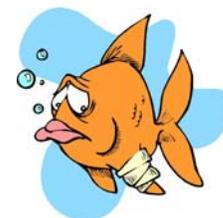
Ammonia - 0 ppm

pH- 7 - 9

Nitrite - 0 ppm

Nitrate - less than 50 ppm

KH - 80 -120 ppm (koi can live just fine in about 40 to 300. Bead filters need at least 200)



Have and use for all water changes a good dechlorinator. (Sodium Thiosulfate, or ST, is great and cheap). ClorAmX or declor/ammonia binder - An effective dechlorinator and ammonia binder for emergencies - AmQuel or ClorAmX (one scoop = 30 cc's and treats 235 gallons) and always have on hand enough to treat your whole pond at least twice. Have you ever come out and your pond is almost empty or heard of it happening to a friend? Murphy's Law? If it can happen it will and it will only happen after stores are closed.

Baking soda - 5 lbs. Arm & Hammer, to bring the pH and Kh up quickly in case of a pH crash - IF YOU HAVE ANY AMMONIA READING WE MUST BIND THE AMMONIA BEFORE BRINGING UP pH!! Very important that pH is stable and doesn't fluctuate.

A Thermometer for monitoring water temperature. (We feed by temp and certain meds are temp sensitive).

Items to have on hand for treating your fish for an injury, ulcer, or parasites.

A Good KOI Net (not a pool leaf skimmer) - have on hand to catch the fish - a flat, made for koi, net to guide the fish- never lift a koi bigger than 12 inches, in the net, guide the fish to the koi sock or koi tub or container.

2 Large containers or koi tubs, 10 gallons or more, one for a treatment and one for recovery - containers are available for a few bucks from the dollar store.

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November Meeting Minutes

There was not an officers meeting at the party.

(Continued from page 6)

A small portable air pump and air stones.

5 gallon bucket(s) and 2 gallon bucket(s) (volume measuring and chem. mixing)
Home Depot or Lowes

Clove oil and an eye dropper. Used for putting the fish to sleep. Count drops when you add clove oil - 16 drops to a gallon. Clove oil should be available at the health food store or on line. OR MS-222 (20 gr. 100 to 150 ppm) you will also need a teaspoon of baking soda to buffer with the MS-222. MS-222 is a little more expensive but very good and safe. (A small plastic bag to mix oil and pond water)

Iodine for disinfection - Betadine or providing-iodine – pint

Hydrogen peroxide for disinfection – pint (quarts if using to deactivate a PP treatment)

Denture powder – a good wound sealer

Potassium permanganate – ¼ pound (Know how to use and use only with safety gear)
Simple rock salt – 50# for every 1000 gallons of pond water – Home Depot or Lowes Solar Salt. (NO ADDITIVES).

Q-tips – box
A teaspoon and other measurement implements.

Measuring cup – ideally up to 2 liters, Volume measuring devices for tsp, ml, deciliter (1/10th liter), liter, etc. Several gallon plastic zip lock bags - I keep extra PP, ST and ClorAmX powder sealed and stored for emergency calls.

Plastic bags large enough to move fish or a large cooler with lid (some vets insist on seeing fish to treat)



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Tweezers, Scissors, rubber or latex gloves, protective eye-wear - wear whenever using meds, fish shake and your eyes are usually their unintended target.

Padded mat for placing your fish on for treatment (can also use sheets of bubble wrap, moist rolled up towels, or rolled up moist towels and a plastic bag cover to make a "cradle" for the fish).

Koi First Aid Book(s) – Koi Health and Disease, 2006 Re-load by DR. Erik Johnson, Step by Step Advanced Koi Diagnosis and Treatments by Duncan Griffith or Advance Koi Care by DR. Nick St. Erne

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Phone: 678.932.9277
Fax: 678.659.9904

Meds & Chemicals to keep on hand for fungus and parasites

Proform C (for most all parasites, fungus etc) If I had to choose one first, PF C would be on the top of the list – have enough to treat the pond 3 times. (Make sure it is in date)

Praziquantel (for flukes) can be used on Goldfish also. Prazi is not cheap but dry powder lasts a long time for storage. (Supaverm kills goldfish).

A small bottle vodka - great for dissolving prazi

(Continued on page 8)

Dimilin (for lice and anchor worm)
Chloramine-T – gill disease and flukes



Put all this stuff in a cheap tool box with your test kits. Store away from children and pets.

Next you should develop a relationship with your vet. If you don't have cats or dogs find a vet near by and make an appointment to go meet and visit before you have problems. Tell the vet you are a Koi keeper and need his or her support. Expect to pay for their time and services. Vets aren't normally koi hobbyist. Hopefully if you explain your situation in advance, when you need help, the vet will help with antibiotic injectables. The time to find out, is now, not when the fish is too sick.

Other Koi Keeper Nice-to-have Things you will eventually need.

A scale to weigh salt to the exact pound and a small scale (gram scale - \$5/6 on eBay) 50 gr. minimum capacity, 0.1 gr. resolution, to measure medicines.

A good Microscope with slides and cover slips

Extra water pump and air pump with air stone(s)

A sump pump to help with emergency water changes

A Koi Sock Net –for helping to safely transfer fish into tub for observation or to dip in premixed chemicals

Sanitizing/disinfecting liquid for tanks, nets and equipment

Large, heavy gauge plastic bags, and rubber bands for fish transport and/or bag therapy

An Oxygen tank

Possible items for your koi medicine chest may include one or more of the following:

- 1) Malachite Green
- 2) Formalin
- 3) Pro Form C or Terminate
- 4) Debride Medicated ointment
- 5) Antibiotics – many have a short shelf life which makes keeping them on hand not very viable but you should know where to obtain them quickly. A medicated food like Romet or MediKoi in a sealed container.
- 6) Tricide Neo - order it in advance, most stores don't carry it – it's powdered antibiotic, can be used for dips, paste or spray. Spray can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 18 months. No prescription required. A small cheap spray bottle to use for spraying Tricide-Neo. One Gallon of Distilled water to mix the Tricide- Neo.
- 7) Acriflavin – in water anti-bacterial
- 8) Iodine
- 9) Clove Oil or MS-222 (Sedation)
- 10) Salt
- 11) Amquill



(Continued on page 9)



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- 12) Sodium thiosulfate
- 13) Chloramine T – powdered product for treating gill disease
- 14) Syringes and extra needles for injectables
- 15) Q-tips
- 16) Tweezers and a magnifying glass
- 17) Scissors
- 18) Exacto (or similar) sharp knife set
- 19) Latex gloves
- 20) Protective eyewear
- 21) Measuring cups – ideally up to 2 liters
- 22) Padded mat for treating fish on
- 23) Proper Koi Nets, a seine large enough for your pond
- 24) Koi bowl or tubs (net covers to keep koi from jumping out)
- 25) Clear, strong plastic bags large enough to hold your largest fish
- 26) Salinity meter, pH meter, ORP meter, Oxygen meter.
- 27) Digital thermometer
- 28) A cylinder of pure oxygen.
- 29) Lots of reference materials on koi health and knowledge of where to find help quickly when needed.



Most of these items need to be stored away from children and other pets.

Many people do not keep all of these but it is good to know where you can get them in an emergency and how long it would take to get them. The longer it would take to get them, the more important it is to have them on hand. Everyone needs some type of dedicated quarantine system to isolate the sick fish with a buddy. A QT is required in today's koi world. The proper quarantine protocol will save a lot of heart ache if you have purchased new fish or if you need a hospital tank for that injured sanke.

This First Aid Kit should be part of every koi keepers must have's. What you put in it above and beyond the basics is up to you the individual. Keep the medications and test kits fresh and up to date. If you need help call your KHA.

Joe



More scenes from working at Ray & Polly Brock's ponds.

Hello everyone,

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We hope you are ready for the holidays; good for you, if you are. We certainly are not, but one thing we would like to do right now is wish each and everyone a wonderful holiday and healthy and happy 2009.

We expect more exciting AKC events occurring in 2009, including wonderful, informative and certainly fun meetings, good friends and food. Of course the Auction, a Pond Tour, and our Show, starting with the kick off party the night before the show opening. I hope you were able to make it to the 2008 show so you could see some of the beautiful, monstrous fish we had. WOW!

There are some really great people in the Atlanta Koi Club and that includes you. So, we certainly want you to continue your membership. How about the next time you sit down and pay bills, send the **ATLANTA KOI CLUB** a check for your 2009 and 2010 dues. That's right for two years. It's the best deal! You can also order the KOI USA Magazine or buy that name badge you have been meaning to order. One year or two we just don't want to miss you.

For your information and assistance, the costs are:

Type of Membership: Household: \$50 for 1 Yr. _____; \$90 for 2 Yrs. _____
Individual: \$30 for 1Yr. _____; \$54 for 2 Yrs. _____
Sponsor: \$150 for 1Yr. _____

Other Stuff: KOI USA Magazine Subscription: \$20 for 1
Yr. _____
Name Badges: \$5 each _____

Please make your **check payable** to: the **Atlanta Koi Club** and send to:

Atlanta Koi Club
C/O Ron and Robin Scott
4331 Flippen Trail
Norcross, Georgia 30092

If any of your personal information requires updating, please let us know immediately.

THANKS,
FRIENDS!

Thanks, *Susan*
Membership Chairperson (2008)
and Hal Brown

A heartfelt thanks to
Susan and Hal Brown for
all their dedication to AKC
and all their hard work!



Membership

Robin Scott

We have three new members. Please join me in welcoming Huey Chen, and Tom and Veronica Phan to the Atlanta Koi Club. We are looking forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting. Tom is an original member of our club and is rejoining us. Be sure and encourage him to write an article for the newsletter about the early days of our club.

Also want to thank Hal and Susan Brown for doing a wonderful job with the membership position and being a key to the club now having 182 members. It is taking two couples to replace them - Robin and Ron Scott and Phyllis and Mike Loudermilk.

If you have not paid your dues, please send them to Robin or Ron Scott.

Hope everyone had a joyous holiday and we are looking forward to seeing everyone at our January meeting.

2009
CLUB DUES ARE NOW DUE!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ATLANTA KOI CLUB

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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. _____

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:
Robin Scott, 4331 Filppen Trail, Norcross, GA 30092.

* 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.

January Meeting — 11 January 2009 —Alpharetta Senior Center ¹²

Officers meet at 1:00 P.M. Members meet at 2:00 P.M.

North Park has an entrance on Cogburn Road (West of Highway 9) and entrance on Bethany Bend Road (West of Highway 9). The January meeting is at the city of Alpharetta's North Park facility Senior Center.

Program: "How the East Was Won."

<http://www.alpharetta.ga.us/index.php?p=216>

13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004

Directions from GA 400.

Exit from **GA 400** at Exit 11 **Windward Parkway**
Travel West on **Windward Parkway** for 1.5 miles.

Continue straight ahead onto **Cogburn Road**
(road changes from 4 lanes to 2 lanes)

Travel West on **Cogburn Road** for 0.6 miles
Turn left into **North Park** facility and travel a few hundred feet.

Turn right into parking lot.

Meeting is in **the Senior Citizen Activity Center**

