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By The Pond

Hope everyone is having a great Summer. Can't believe it is August already. That means it is only 4 weeks to the Show! Things are progressing nicely and as usual we always need more volunteers and exhibitors. For those wanting to show fish but, like me, don't get around to filling out the registration form till the last moment, please shoot me an e-mail at gelmores54@live.com and let me know how many tanks, both koi or goldfish, that you want.

At this month's meeting, at the request of a couple of members, we will talk a little about the different awards and categories at a koi show. I forget that not everyone automatically knows the ins and outs of a show. For the oldtimers you might pick up a thing or two and for the newer Koi Kichi's you will learn that everyone has a shot at winning in a koi show. You don't have to have the 30" gosanke to win a category. I encourage all the members to think about showing their favorite fish. Also it is not all about winning, this is a "Show" and sometimes it is just nice to show off your babies. JoAnn and I generally have a theme tank at the show. One year it was 6 colors of gin rin chagoi. One year it was a tank of Bekko in different colors, last year it was a tank of long fins- even though most were not of the winning type but still enjoyable. Still deciding on a theme for this year. The point is that it's part of the Show, and not geared towards winning anything. Of course we bring others that we hope can compete. It is just plain fun and that is what this hobby is all about.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Mike and Phyliss's this Saturday at 7pm. They have a lovely pond and home (note the order there) and I am sure everyone will have a great time. That's all for now.....Gary

KOI Show 2014

Every year the show seems to sneak up on us. September 12-14 will be our 20th anniversary. Two essential items are needed to make every show successful: volunteers and fish. Diane Giangrande is our volunteer chairperson, and, once again, has created a "sign-up genius" to make volunteering nearly effortless. To volunteer, follow this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a48afae22a75-20141> You can also contact Diane directly at dianewg@aol.com or 678/373-3011. Please consider helping to make this a rewarding and memorable event.

July's Social meeting

A good time was had by all of the 44 members at the Summer Social held at the house of the "Two Davids" (Pugh and Boyd, that is) on July 12th. The temperature was a balmy 90 degrees, but cooling was furnished by a brief sprinkle or two. A pot luck dinner satisfied the palates of every diner. Their pond contains 9,000 gallons, and is constructed of rubber-lined landscaping blocks, half above and half below grade. It is said to contain 16 KOI, with the oldest one obtained in 2007. Filtration is provided by two large vortex filters and one CETUS prefilter. Since the filtration system is above ground, and at water level, the total flow is handled by only two 1/8Hp pumps. This is awesomely efficient!!!! And thank you "Davids" for hosting this spectacular event.

Photos from our Summer Social held at David Pugh's and David Boyd's pond in Marietta.
July 12, 2014



A Hidden Cost of Maintaining a Pond

If a stockbroker offered you a fund that provides a steady 24% return each and every year, tax-free, wouldn't you buy it? Great deals like this are also available through good pond management, and a knowledge of how to calculate operating costs. Consider one of the hidden costs of pond management.....electricity.

Did you realize that even a high performance 1/2 Hp pump costs \$47.28/month to operate?

Or a 1/3 Hp pump costs \$35.09/month to operate?

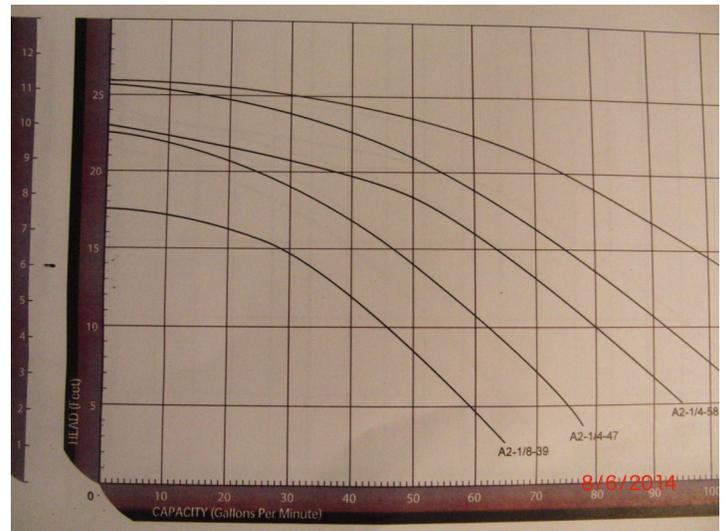
Or a 1/4 Hp pump costs \$28.20/month to operate?

Or a 1/8 Hp pump costs \$19.08/month to operate?

Most filter pumps are at least 1/3 Hp, with some exceeding 1 Hp. They may provide a lot of flow, but the proper adapting of pump curves might go a long way toward reducing the hidden cost of energy. There is a technical method and a "gut method" to determine the pump size that best fits your need:

Technical Method:

1. Determine the flow rate (gallons per hour) that you need (usually about 1-2 water changes per hour).
2. Determine the pump pressure needed to push the water through the system. A pressure gauge located at the present pump output will provide this.
3. Obtain a copy of the pump curve supplied with your pump. A typical pump curve will provide the flow versus the head (in feet or psi). For instance, for a 6,000 gallon pond will need a pump capacity of 50gpm to provide 1 water change per hour, or 100gpm for 2 water changes per hour (volume x (Number of water changes per hour desired)/60)
4. Decide what size of pump will fit your needs. You may be surprised that a smaller pump will suffice.



The other method is to do a "gut feel" a just choose a smaller pump. But beware that the cost of a new pump/strainer assembly will cost about \$700.

What are the savings?

- Electrical costs are \$0.106/kw-hr (Georgia Power)
- 1/3 Hp pump consumes 360kw-hr/month (kw x 24 x 30)
- 1/8 Hp pump consumes 225kw-hr/month
- Savings are 135kw-hr/month
- @\$0.106/kw-hr = \$14.31/month (or \$171.72/year) (a 4-year pay-back)

This is one example. Your situation may vary. Most systems employ larger pumps, but might not be able to reduce the capacity much.

How do we measure the power we are consuming?

If your pump has a plug, its power consumption may simply be measured by plugging in a KILL-A-WATT meter costing about \$28 (Amazon, FRY's, and others).

It reads voltage, watts, kilowatts, and even costs per hour on some models.



**Atlanta Koi Club
Financial Statement
Year to Date
As of July 31, 2014**

INCOME STATEMENT

Income			
	2500 Misc.		\$80.00
	Monthly		
	2545 Raffle	\$80.00	
	2700 Membership		\$100.00
	Membership		
	2730 Dues	\$100.00	
	Total Income		<u>\$180.00</u>
Expenses			
	400 Insurance		\$478.50
	410 Liability Ins.	\$478.50	
	700 Misc.		\$250.00
	Food For Monthly		
	740 Meeting	\$250.00	
	1100 Rent		\$185.00
	Rent		
	1101 @Coastal	\$185.00	
	Total Expenses		<u>\$913.50</u>
Month Net Income/(Loss)			<u>(\$733.50)</u>

BALANCE SHEET

Assets	(not including property in inventory)		\$19,131.20
	Checking Account (per Bank)	\$2,842.13	
	Savings Account (per Bank)	\$9,912.65	
	CD (for Koi Health Advisor Programs)	\$6,376.42	
Liabilities			
	Outstanding Checks		\$0.00
			\$19,131.20
			0

CLUB NET WORTH

FOR SALE

- CETUS Filter, gently used. Price is \$500.00 Call David Pugh (ed. Don't let David know, but this is a real steal from the retail price.)

Our next meeting will be held **Saturday, August 9th** at Mike's and Phyllis's house. Officers meet at 6pm, and members at 7pm.

From the Editor

We are always looking for members who have any exciting news to share. If you wish to see your name in print, with all of the honor and glory associated with it, please contact Bob Chaffer at rchaffer@comcast.net.