ATLANTACLUB



Koi Chronicles



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Dedicated to Sharing the Joy of Keeping Koi

By the Pond



David Boyd, President AKC

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It was a cold and blustery day when the Atlanta Koi Club met at *Just Add Water* rare plant Nursery. We were happy to be able to hold the meeting indoors and to get a number of things accomplished. The membership chose "Koi Person of the year" and decided whether we should remain part of the ZNA.

Jody Karlin owner of *Just Add Water* was our speaker for the meeting. He delivered an interesting dialogue about the differences between the North and South — his wife is a Southerner and there are many mysteries about the South he still hasn't figured out. He spoke about his business installing commercial water features and aquariums. He described the different filter systems he uses. He showed us his turtle collection of which a number are endangered. Many thanks to Jody and his family for being our hosts.

Our meeting was fruitful and we finished a number of things. David Pugh gave a brief description of the *Pond Tour* and Jay Drew spoke about the *Auction* on May 19th. The Auction will be in place of our normal meeting for May. I hope to see a good number of members there, as you could be dragooned into working as a volunteer.

We also decided for the AKC not to remain as a ZNA friendship club. There are not enough interested members, so it was voted to demit our membership in ZNA. If a member wishes to join ZNA, contact Michael Anderson for information.

Congratulations to Ron Scott for being chosen our *Koi Person of the Year*. Ron has worked hard to help make our club what it is today. Many thanks for all the work you did to get our non-profit status.

A number of our members are going to be attending Southern Koi Expothe first weekend in May. This is the first show in Winston-Salem and Susan Reed needs to be congratulated for getting it off the ground. Ed and Susan worked at our show last year to "learn the ropes."

Atlanta Koi Club **Officers** 2007

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AKC CALENDAR

May 19— Annual Auction at Coastal Ponds. No official meeting, any business will be conducted at the auction.

June 10— Summer Social, hosts Steve and Laura Castel in Woodstock

July 7— Hosts Mihoko Chambers & Larry Sheets, **night meeting on** Saturday

August:12— ???

September 9— ??? Show prep meeting

October 14— ??? Election of Officers

November 11: Winter Social, Hosts — Michael and Kathy Adkins in Cumming

> To host a meeting contact David Marier (770) 995-8984





Upcoming Koi Shows

Here's the skinny on upcoming koi shows. Be sure to mark your calendar.

> May 4-6 2007 Southern Koi Expo Winston Salem NC www.southern-koi-expo.com

September 28-30, 2007 Koi America 2007 **Carroll County Shirley Arena** Westminster, MD.

http://www.carrollcountyagcenter.com/

If you go on the pond tour please take pictures of our members' ponds and share them with us. We'd love to see your views of the ponds & gardens.



At our April meeting we welcomed three new sponsors to the AKC family. Thank you so

much for joining us in learning about koi. We hope you will enjoy being part of our club.



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AKCA Seminar

June 21-24 2007

Phoenix, Arizona



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SEMINAR

WWW.VSKC.NET WWW.AKCA.ORG

WWW.PHOENIXMARRIOTTMESA.COM

RESERVATION CODE: KCAKCAA



Web Changes Alert !!

The following changes have been made to the club website....

Koi Auction & Plant Sale Information

This month's meeting is at Coastal Pond Supply in Tucker for our Annual Koi Auction. Saturday May 19th is the date and 11am is our start time. Not only do we auction off the koi of individual members, members sell plants and unwanted equipment too! If you want to sell your koi, goldfish, plants or equipment, please mail me a registration form. Forms can be found online along with all the details on all the auction rules on our website: www.atlantakoiclub.org.

We also need a great number of volunteers to pull of an auction so please sign up. Our volunteer chair, Peggy Fricke has our list of volunteers and is working hard to try and fill those empty slots. If she hasn't contacted you already, please volunteer by sending her an email at bpfricke@yahoo.com. Our needs range from Set up Wednesday, Thursday and Friday before the auction and include working the registration desk and check-out, working the plant and equipment tables, numbering bags and transporting fish, bowling teams, and clean up. If you are not sure about how to do one job or another, we have several people that can help. Don't be afraid to sign up, we need your help. Saturday morning we will need volunteers to arrive at 8am to get the final details of the auction ready for starting on time.

Coastal Pond Supply is located at: 2101 Tucker Industrial Road, Tucker, GA 30084 And can be found on the web at: http://www.coastalpond.com/

Contact the auction chairman, Jay Drew, if you have questions at auction@atlantakoiclub.org.

The guestbook has been deleted. The guestbook was getting hundreds of spam entries each month. It took hours to remove them each month. The guestbook simply became more trouble than it is worth.

The summary report of the 2006 membership survey can now be accessed. Look at the bottom of the main page were the guestbook entry form was located. You will find a link to a PDF version of the report.

The 2007 Pond Tour page is up and running. As soon as the details are sorted out, we will post information on when/where/how to obtain tour booklets.

The 2007 Koi Show page is up and running. It will updated with the names of vendors and award sponsors and other information as we get closer to show time.

Information and applications for the **2007 Auction** are up and running and downloadable.

Why and How We Should Quarantine

Spring is in the air, birds are chirping, and the fishies are up. As every red blooded Koi Kichi person is contemplating, "What fish should I get next"? We have an Auction and Sale coming up very soon and there will be some keepers there for us to add to our collections.

Before you take that new Hi Utsuri home we need to talk about the **Big Q**. That's right **Quarantine**. Quarantine is the best known method to reduce disease introductions. You gotta do it. There are several reasons to quarantine "ALL" new fish. Here are a few for consideration:

- The new fish "WILL BE STRESSED" and very susceptible to disease and parasite attack.
- Second, you do not want to subject your collection to and outbreak of any kind that the new guy may bring to your pond.
- Third, even though your pond is very clean of what you think are all those bugs you don't have, the new little fishie has not been subjected to what ever you have living there. On top of the stress of the auction, the ride home in a plastic critter receptacle, the new surroundings, and if you just float the bag and drop it in, utsuri will not be given the best chance for survival. We want the best chance to survive.

What is a Quarantine Tank?

Ideally, you want a tiny little version of your pond. You will need to have a pump, filtration, aeration, a net to cover the tank, a small aquarium heater, and do not forget to conduct water changes often, along with religious daily testing. Things you utilize for you Q tank "SHOULD NOT BE USED" in your regular pond. (Cross Contamination and stuff). What size tank you say. That depends on how many fish you buy at the auction and how big they are. In a pinch, a 50 gallon garbage can will do (cleaned and disinfected of course). Most feed and seed stores here in the south sell Rubbermaid 100 gal feed tanks fairly cheap (\$73). Larger containers of course are better depending on the size of your new fish. You can even put small fish into a 30 to 40 gallon aquarium. What ever works. The Important thing is that you have near-perfect H2O conditions all the time.

What Kind of Filtration?

The filtration need not be sophisticated. Small filters can be obtained from most pond supply dealers. It should have a mechanical section to filter solids, and a biological section to clear ammonia, and convert nitrites and nitrates. The tricky and time consuming part is to have a cycled filter before your fish get home. Think about adding some filter medium from your existing pond. Many hobbyists run their Q tank all the time to keep the filter cycled just in case they just can not live with out that sanke in the window.

Adding a pond fish to the Q Tank.

It has been proven that a good practice is to place one or two small koi from your pond into your Q tank to help cycle the filter and to introduce your pond conditions to the new fish. Use one that you would not mind losing just in case.

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For information on advertising or to become a Sponsor of the Atlanta Koi Club please contact **Kathy Scales** at kscales77@bellsouth.net or call 770-605-0689

