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Pond Tour Chair	Melanie Onushko
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Volunteer Coordinator	JoAnn Elmore
Editor	Bob Chaffer
Webmaster	Michael Anderson

August 2016

By the Pond

by Diane Giangrande

Hi All,

It's hard to believe that it's August already. That means that the show is only 2 months away, but before I get into all that I want to thank Hal & Susan Brown for hosting the summer social. Despite the rain, I think everyone had a great time. It would be hard not to enjoy yourself in that beautiful yard.

OK, so now on to the show.... it's getting close and we are excited. First, I want to make sure everyone knows that any info you might need about the show is on our new and improved website, so please be sure to check it out often. As a reminder to all those who participated in the Showa Breedout at The Koi Store, we will have 3 awards specifically for these fish. They are Best, Biggest and Ugliest. The only rule is that the fish entered has to have come from one of the bags that were part of the Breedout pick. I know that there are varieties other than Showa and that's OK as long as the fish was in the bag.

This year has the potential to be our best show yet and I would encourage everyone to enter. One of the things that make a show more prestigious is the number of fish that are entered, and to help with that we are offering a free show tank to any member who has not shown before. We will also be offering free goldfish tanks to all club members. This is a great way to get your feet wet in showing, in addition to getting some additional education. On Sunday, the judges do a walk-around where they talk about the fish in each tank and why or why-not they won. It is very informative and I recommend that everyone attend even if you don't have fish entered. If you are thinking about entering and have questions, please feel free to ask.

Jerry and I are working non-stop on securing vendors and other details of the show, but as always, in order to make the show successful we need lots of help. That means we need volunteers to help with every aspect of the show from set-up to tear-down to everything in between (working the store and food court, etc.) Below are the links for this year's Sign-Up Genius. This year you will see not one link, but 2 because we are doing the Friday night dinner a little differently. The David's will be providing the main dish and we are asking everyone to bring an appetizer, side/salad or dessert. Here is a link to the show Sign Up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a48afae22a75-20161> and this is a link to the Friday Night Dinner Sign Up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a48afae22a75-vendor>

If you have any questions on the Sign Up or need help, please let me know. If it's easier you can email me and I will sign you up. Remember, in order to get a free T-shirt you need to sign up to volunteer. JoAnn Elmore is doing the t-shirts again this year, so they will be amazing!

By the Pond continued

I can't stress enough how important it is to have lots of help for the show. To that end we are going to try something that will hopefully encourage more people to volunteer. Melanie Onushko is working on getting a fish donated that will be raffled off to those who volunteer. We don't have a fish yet, but I am sure Melanie will work her magic and get it done. Once we have a fish, the guidelines will be sent out to everyone. Although not written in stone yet, it will be something like you will get 1 raffle ticket for each day that you volunteer.

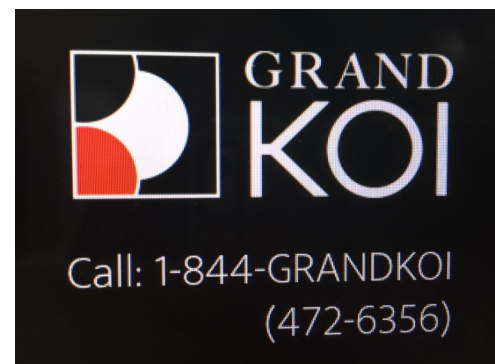
One last thing about the show...we are still looking for trophy sponsors. I will have the list at the next meeting, but you can also go to the website to purchase. Remember, for every \$100 in sponsorships, you get a free banquet ticket, which is a \$40 value. Any sponsorship is greatly appreciated.

Phyllis and Mike Loudermilk will host our meeting this month on August 13th. Officers meet at 5pm, and general meeting at 6pm. Everyone should have received a separate email with the Loudermilks address, etc. If you did not receive the email, please contact Jerry Johnson.

Hope to see everyone at the Loudermilks.

Diane

**Please remember our Sponsors:
Pondscapes of Atlanta
Koi Store, and
Grand Koi**



LIVING

Atlanta Koi Club is proof fish thrive here



Walter Reeves

Q: I have a friend from England who swears you can raise koi outdoors in Georgia, near Athens. I said it is too cold. He is usually right about everything, but is he is right about this? — Andrea Bradford, email

A: Your friend wins! The 150 members of the Atlanta Koi Club ("Sharing the joy of keeping koi," atlantakoiclub.org) would love to welcome you to their ranks. They have regular meetings and a big

koi show and sale in October.

Q: Do bumblebees make honey? They are all over my lavender, and I'm sure that would make good honey. — Arnold Richins, Cumming

A: Bumblebees don't make honey because they don't have perennial nests. Like yellow jackets and hornets, all the bumblebee workers die in early winter and a young queen finds a rotten log in which to hibernate. She starts a new colony in spring. Honeybee colonies survive from year to year by making and storing honey to feed the colony in winter.

Q: I have monkey grass growing next to my lawn and it is invading via underground runners. How deep should I bury a barrier to control this? — Art Geist, email



Distinctive koi are beautiful in a backyard pond.

CONTRIBUTED BY WALTER REEVES

A: I think a barrier buried 6 inches deep would be fine. I use landscape edging from a home improvement store. There are two kinds of

monkey grass found in landscapes. Spreading liriope, *Liriope spicata*, has spikes of inconspicuous white flowers in July. The more com-

mon kind, *Liriope muscari*, which spreads more slowly, has more obvious flowers, typically some shade of blue.

Q: We have a major invasion of ants. I have tried most ant remedies, but nothing seems to work. — Paul Schlitz, email

A: A friend had lots of ants crawling around the sink in her kitchen. She used a commercial ant bait applied by a syringe, placing little "dabs" in out-of-the-way corners underneath the sink and around the room. After about a week, there were few ants left. Ant baits are my favorite, but I admit they can be slow to show effect. An insect spray will kill a small percentage of the ants, but will repel others without killing them, so long-term control

with sprays is not as good.

Q: How can I prevent the massive leaf growth at the bottom of my crape myrtles? — Bob Barringer, McDonough

A: Severe winter pruning is almost always the problem. When you remove the top of a crape myrtle, it automatically tries to make new growth at the base. You have to choose whether to stop winter pruning or prune away the basal sprouts each year.

Listen to Walter Reeves Saturday mornings on News 95.5 FM and AM750 WWSB. Visit walterreeves.com, follow him on Twitter @walterreeves, on Pinterest, or join his Facebook fan page at bit.ly/georgiagardener for more garden tips.

Atlanta Koi Club 2016 Calendar of Events

Club Meetings and Events	Location	Speaker or Topics
January Meeting – January 17 th	Melanie Onushko	Gary Elmore – Koi in Winter Quiz
February Meeting – February 21 st	Coastal	Rich Carter – Pond Innovations; Coastal Spring Sale
March Meeting – March 20 th	Atlanta Water Gardens	Michael Anderson – the Pros and Cons of PP
April Meeting – No Meeting Due To Auction		
May Meeting – May 1 st	Randy's Nursery and Water Garden	Jerry Johnson and Diane Giangrande – Water Quality and Testing
June Meeting – June 12 th	Laurel and Dana Mason	Pond Automation
July Meeting – July 16 th Summer Social	Hal and Susan Brown	Eating, Drinking, Socializing
August Meeting – August 13 th (Saturday PM)	Mike and Phyllis Loudermilk	Ken Jett – Koi Illnesses, Parasites, and Medications Diane Giangrande – Koi Show Award Breakdown
September Meeting – September 18 th (Sunday PM)	Coastal	Diane Giangrande and Jerry Johnson – 2016 Koi and Goldfish Show Preparations Michael Anderson – How to build a Trickle Tower
October Meeting – No Meeting Due To Koi Show		
November Meeting – November 13 th (Winter Social)	Brendan Berg and Ken Jett	Eating, Drinking, Socializing
December Meeting – No Meeting		
Atlanta Koi Club Auction – April 16 th	Coastal	Chairman – Gary Elmore
Atlanta Koi Club Pond Tour – May 14 th	TBD – Various Locations	Chairwoman – Melanie Onushko
Atlanta Koi Club Koi and Goldfish Show – October 7 th , 8 th , and 9 th	Gwinnett County Fairgrounds	Chairpersons – Diane Giangrande and Jerry Johnson

Our next meeting will be Saturday, August 13th, at the home of Mike and Phyllis Loudermilk (see address list). The Executive Committee will meet at 5:00 PM and the General Meeting will begin at 6:00 PM. Phyllis and Mike will provide a light meal along with soft drinks and water - you will need to bring your favorite alcoholic beverage.

There will be two topics of conversation for the meeting. First, Ken Jett will lead a discussion on koi diseases, parasites, and medications. This has been a particular bad summer as I know a lot of you have had to become physicians and pharmacists for your pets - I myself have had a round of a bacterial infection and ick this year and have added to my koi first-aid kit. The second discussion will be led by Diane Giangrande as we will review all the categories of winners for the 2016 Atlanta Koi and Goldfish Show. Diane will also bring examples of the awards that will be given out at the Banquet. We had 144 koi and goldfish in the 2015 Show and we want to increase that number greatly for this year.

For the rest of the year, our meetings are as follows. More details on these meetings will be given as the event gets closer but update your calendars.

Our September meeting has been moved to Sunday, September 18th and will be held at Coastal Pond Supply in Tucker with Bill and Lynn Dowden as our hosts. The Executive Committee will meet at 1:00 PM and the General Meeting will begin at 2:00 PM. This will in part be a preparation meeting for the 2016 Show.

There is no October meeting as this is the month of our 2016 Show.

Our November meeting will be our Winter Social at the home of Brenden Berg and Ken Jett on Sunday, November 13th. The Executive Committee will meet at 2:00 PM and the General Meeting will begin at 3:00 PM.

See you at the Loudermilks.....

Jerry Johnson

Our Show Pin
Designed by JoAnn Elmore



Predatory Bird Control (Taken from January, 1996 Koi Club Newsletter)

Predatory Birds are common in our area. Most of us have seen a Kingfisher or Heron.

There are several things to understand. about these birds.

(Please accept the fact that I am not an ornithologist nor do I represent the Department of Natural Resources .)

First, understand that although they can be devastating to your operation, or pond. They are protected under the Migratory Bird Act, which provides severe, (and I mean SEVERE) penalties if you are reported and prosecuted for killing any of the birds protected under this act. This means that if you and your neighbor are not on great terms, he will really "have something on you" if he sees you plinking a Heron or Kingfisher. Just don't do that.

Let's talk a little bit about the lifestyles of these fish-eating birds.

First, they tend to be solitary except of course when they are interested in breeding. One bird will usually descend upon a pond, because, as I said, they don't travel in flocks.

Gut here is where it gets interesting: One bird by the pond occasionally calls out, as well, other passing Herons will see that solitary bird there, and they may fly in to take a look and find out about the fishing. The point is, that the longer you allow the first Heron to stay put, the more likely it is that another passing Heron may join in the fun.

Run 'em off quick.

Kingfishers travel alone as well, but they do not naturally draw other Kingfishers to a location.

Second, understand that these birds travel a circuit in search of good fishing. They may come in, eat a dozen or thirty fish, and fly away, only to come back several weeks later and clean you out again.

The point of this, is that if you put out a scare-crow, the bird may fly away, but not because you made some scary maneuver. Don't feel totally safe unless your pond is netted.

There are several ways to control fish eating birds.

1. Run criss crossing fishing wire across the pond surface. This may work for Herons, because they glide in and dive over the pond, but Kingfishers simply land and wade in under your wires. For Kingfishers, wires must cross at 12 inch intervals, for Herons, usually 18-30 inches is enough deterrent, when this method works (60% of the time).

2. Lights. Herons are usually dusk feeders. You can sometimes hook up motion detecting lights near the pond and scare 'em off with a blast from spotlights when they cruise in. Kingfishers couldn't care less.

3. Sounds. Professional fisheries often use pyrotechnics to repel birds. Every once in a while, depending on the losses the fisheryman is having, cannons at pond edge go off making a loud blast. This is very effective for repelling birds. These same fisherymen may even have a light show that comes on in strobes every few minutes to scare off predators. Your neighbors will not favor these two solutions.

4. Netting By far the best, but the least cosmetic solution is to cover the pond when unattended with black netting. Works like a charm.

5. Inflatable Snakes, Scary eyes, Owls. Please, give me a break. Herons are not entirely stupid. These do not work, for long. "They retreat to a safe distance, and watch. They watch a little longer. They *may* leave, with plans to return tomorrow when the owl has made an exit. They return the next day, and if the owl or snake is still there, they will come in and feed. (Like crazy). *Marginal* success is had by moving the alien object every evening or morning to keep the birds guessing.

The Koi Store - Corporate Sponsor for the 2016 Atlanta Koi and Goldfish Show - is offering a unique and educational opportunity to koi enthusiasts. This opportunity starts now and will culminate at our 2016 Atlanta Koi and Goldfish Show being held on October 8th and 9th at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds in Lawrenceville, Georgia. Thirty of the best imported Japanese tosai were put into a 200,000 gallon growout mud pond on July 31, 2016. This pond has massive aeration and is netted to protect from predators. Tosai are being fed 4 times per day by an automatic feeder and are being fed exclusively Nijikawa Growth Food supplemented with freeze-dried krill. These fish will remain in the mud pond until a few days before the Show. The ikeage (pond pull) is targeted to occur on October 1st, 2016 but may be earlier due to weather or other factors. This pull is open to the public so keep track of the pond pull date on The Koi Store Facebook page [facebook.com/TheKoiStoreLLC](https://www.facebook.com/TheKoiStoreLLC).

All fish will be brought to the Atlanta Koi and Goldfish Show, and those fish not pre-purchased will be available for sale. Any fish bought prior to the completion of benching early Saturday morning will be entered in a separate Vendor Tank and judged as part of the Show. On Sunday, the Show Judges will make comments on the before and after as well as potential of each fish.

Don't wait until it's too late - and waiting until the Show may be too late. The fish are available for sale now at a very fair price. All of these fish came out of the \$100 to \$250 tank. For more information please visit <https://www.thekoistore.com/blogs/news/tosai-grow-out>. Your first fish is \$100, second fish is \$90, and third fish (and any thereafter) is \$80. Please email sales@thekoistore.com or CALL 706-769-8951 to place your order as soon as possible. These fish will go fast.

People buying fish must attend the Show for their koi to be part of the judging process. However, if you can't attend the show and still wish to purchase these koi, your fish will be shipped to you at a very favorable overnight shipping rate.

On a side note, some top 3 and 4 year olds are also in a different mud pond growing. That pond will be pulled on the same day as the tosai. Check out the fish available for pre-purchase at <https://www.thekoistore.com/blogs/news/sansai-and-yansai-grow-out>. The same comments for the tosai apply to these fish as well - they'll be brought to the Show, put in a separate Vendor tank, judged as part of the show, etc. Place your orders today.

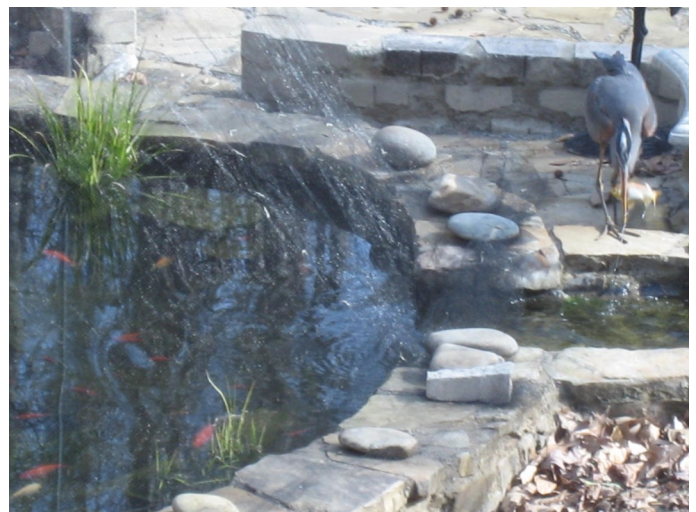
Feel free to make an appointment to come by and check out the mud ponds for yourself! (706) 769-8951.
**Warranty information- If koi dies in the mud, a replacement of equal price can be picked or store credit.
Jerry Johnson

Do Heron scarecrows work?



Hi there....
How's the fishing
going today?

→ Heron scarecrow



6

Mmmmm...Lunch! Good fishing here! Too bad they didn't net the entire pond....

July's Social Meeting

Hal and Susan Brown's pond was the featured event at our July Social meeting, featuring Hal's highly-praised smoked salmon and smoked pork. The usually-hot July temperature was tempered by an abundance of thunderstorms, making for a very cozy get-together, complemented by an abundance of delectable side-dishes, including deviled eggs.



Atlanta Koi Club
Financial Statement
Year to Date
As of July 31, 2016

BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:

\$4,212.88

INCOME STATEMENT

Income

2300 Koi Show		\$1,056.98
	Banquet Tick-	
2310	ets	\$140.00
	Vendor Par-	
2320	ticipation	\$350.00
	Koi Show	
2340	Sponsor	\$484.60
	8' Tank Rental	
2350	- Non Vendor	\$82.38
2500 Misc.		\$166.00
	Raffle -	
	Monthly	
2545	Meeting	\$166.00
2700 Membership		\$278.54
	2720 Name Badge	\$7.00
	Membership	
2730	Dues	\$247.57
	Koi USA Sub-	
2735	scriptions	\$23.97
Total Income		<u>\$1,501.52</u>

Expenses

400 Insurance		\$535.25
	Liability Ins.	
410	Premium	\$535.25
500 Koi Show		\$137.20
	510 Awards	\$137.20
	Koi Show Club Store Mer-	
592	chandise	\$282.00
	592c Koi	
	Show Pins	\$282.00
700 Misc.		\$250.00
	Monthly	
740	Meeting Food	\$250.00
800 Newsletter/Website		\$49.00
	Website Ex-	
840	penses	\$49.00
1000 Raffles		\$12.84
	Monthly Meeting Raffle	
1030	Items	\$12.84
1100 Rent		\$185.00
	Rent - June	
1101	2016	\$185.00

Total Expenses

\$1,451.29

Month Net Income/(Loss)

\$50.23

ENDING BALANCE:

\$4,263.11

Outstanding Checks:

05/13/16	EFT	\$342.00	7/18/2016	EFT	\$137.20
05/16/16	EFT	\$615.00	7/25/2016	EFT	\$185.00
05/16/16	EFT	\$612.50	7/25/2016	EFT	\$535.25
05/25/16	EFT	\$18.00	7/25/2016	EFT	\$282.00
07/15/16	EFT	\$12.84			