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October, 2016

By the Pond

by Diane Giangrande

Hi All,

Well – it's show time! But first I want to thank Bill and Lynn Dowden for letting us host the September meeting at Coastal and thank you to Michael Anderson for his talk about foam fractionators. For those of you that missed the meeting, you missed a good one. We put the finishing touches on 4 fractionators that Michael built. We sold 2 at the meeting and have 2 more left. They will be for sale at the club store at the show.

Now, back to the show...

Please make sure that you show up for the spots you volunteered for on Sign Up Genius. There are still some spots available if you want to volunteer. Remember, for every spot you sign up for (up to 5), you will get a raffle ticket to win a Marusei Kohaku. There are still some food items needed for the Friday night dinner.

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.

If you want to go to the banquet, I suggest getting your tickets now. We have already had to increase the numbers for the caterer once and are very close to selling out.

The November social and elections will be held at Ken Jett and Brenden Berg's.

Hope to see everyone at the show! It's going to be amazing! It's going to be huge! We doubled the number of show tanks and there has been a huge increase in banquet ticket sales.

Diane

Cetus for Sale by club members

I have two Cetus Sieves for sale. The original cost was \$1800 each, but I will sell them for \$800 each. I also have a Pond Doc bead filter for a 6000 gal pond that I will sell for \$500 used, including the beads. - Larry Sheets

Fractionators for Sale

We have 2 units remaining that will be for sale at the club booth at the koi show.

The design had modifications I made to a design that had been handed down and modified for many years. (See photos on page-6)

BR, Michael

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



Koi Transportation

(How to Move Koi from here to there)

by H. Gene Ewy, MD
Reprinted from the AKCA 17th Annual Seminar

Koi Isolation and Handling

When a koi hobbyist wishes to closely inspect or move koi from a pond, the specific koi must be isolated and guided to a specific container. A good quality koi net with knotless fine mesh and the circular frame totally covered is commended to minimize the risk of damage to the koi. The bay depth should be shallow. The koi net should be as large as possible (depending on the size of the koi) though large nets are more difficult to move through the pond water, particularly if the net has a telescopic handle and it is extended.

Take it easy, don't get the koi or yourself agitated. Don't agitate or stress the remaining koi. It's risky to approach the koi from the tail, as the caudal fin may be damaged while the koi responds vigorously to the net touching its tail. Minimize the net contact with the koi. Ideally approach the koi from the front, getting the net under its head and gently guiding it into a floating tub or tank.

One advantage of the koi net is that a single person can guide the koi into a floating tank. The rim of a large koi net (guiding a koi to the floating tank) is used to submerge an end of the floating tank. The koi is then guided into the floating tank. This maneuver is easier if a second person appropriately submerges the floating tub or tank. A single person can also bring the koi in the net adjacent to a floating tub or tank. The net is controlled by one hand which has been advanced on the pole to a position near the net. The floating tank or tub is submerged with the other hand and the koi is gently guided into the container. Don't lift the koi from the water with the net, particularly larger koi.

Koi can be collected from a smaller pond readily in the manner described with a koi net. A telescopic pole will allow the net to isolate koi in a larger pond. If this is not practical consider PTTN - patience, time and two nets. The second koi net handler gently guides the selected koi into the koi net of the primary handler, who guides the koi into the tub floating tank.

If your pond doesn't lend itself to any of the above methods, a seine may be used to partition the pond into areas from which the koi may be collected. The mesh of the seine should be knotless. The seine should be longer than the width of your pond. The width of your seine should be greater than the depth of your pond. The seine should have floats the top and weights at the bottom. Koi are not lifted with the seine.

Koi Handling - Short Distance Moves

The koi that have been isolated and guided to a container are ready to be moved. This can be accomplished in a number of ways. If the koi is in a tub in the pond with enough water in the tub to cover the koi, the tub containing the koi can be lifted from the pond. The tub or other container in which a koi is being carried should be covered. A mesh cover, a solid cover or plastic bags on the surface of the water can be used. The container with the koi can be carried by hand, placed on a cart and wheeled, or the container itself may be on wheels. The koi should be transferred promptly to the destination water isolation tank, show tank, etc.).

Koi sock nets are open ended fine mesh nets attached to a circular covered frame with a relatively short handle. The net is much longer than the diameter of the opening (42 inch sock net with an 11 inch diameter opening as an example). The koi is brought through the opening of the net head first by carefully advancing the net over the head of the koi or by manipulating the head of the koi into the net with your free hand. the koi is positioned in the body of the net, the end of the net is closed by one and of the holder, the other end of the net is folded over) retain the koi, the hands are held tightly tautly apart as the koi is lifted from the water and transferred for hopefully only a short distance. A head first exit of then koi from the sock is preferred to avoid unlikely, but perhaps possible, fin or scale damage. Some mucous may be lost from the skin. This is a safe method to distance move koi short distances.

I prefer to use plastic bags for most short moves. Double plastic bags (one bag inside another) should be considered particularly for larger koi for safety. Three mil and four mil bags are quite strong. Bag size depends upon the size of the koi. Fish should be carried horizontally. Small fish may be carried in the small end of the plastic bag with the bag held upright. Large koi may need to be carried with the bag horizontal and held tautly between both hands. The largest koi may need to be carried by two handlers.

The top edge of the plastic bags should be rolled over. This results in a large relatively fixed orifice which frees one hand that can be used to direct the koi head first into the bag. Some pond water should

be in the bag when the koi is gently introduced. There should be enough water in the bag to cover the gills of the koi as the bag is carried to its destination. A head first exit from the bag is ideal but I think the smooth plastic surface allows a tail first exit with negligible risk if done carefully. If the opening into the bag is large enough the koi can be lifted out by hand. For a short move without adding transfer water to the destination tank consider transferring in a plastic bag with a corner cut out to drain the water.

I have noted from a UK publication (Koi Health Quarterly) an instance of torn plastic bag from the dorsal fin of a koi. From both a UK publication (Koi Kichi) and a Japanese publication (Rinko) recommendations are made to remove a palpable 'hook' on anal fins of larger koi which may tear a plastic bag. If this could happen it would be an added reason to double or triple bag larger koi.

Moving koi by hand is best reserved to transfer koi from one container to an immediately adjacent container. Koi have a slick slime coat, they may be quite active, and they can be dropped. Dropping koi is not recommended. The handler's hands should be thoroughly wet. No hand-held jewelry should be worn. The koi may resist movement in a direction that it is not going and become agitated.

If it is difficult to place your hands under a larger koi in the proper position for support of the koi during transfer, considering taking advantage of the temporary disorientation produced when rotated in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction for a few turns. If going clockwise, the handler should place his right hand across the left hand and shoulder area and support the under surface of the Koi just back of the head with his right hand when the Koi is facing at eleven or twelve o'clock. Continue the clockwise rotation with the right hand, place the left hand under the posterior aspect of the Koi when the head is at four to six o'clock. Lift the Koi from the water. Bring the head close to your body for control, move your hand with the Koi if it moves as you deliberately and promptly transfer the Koi into the adjacent container.

Preparing Koi for Transportation

Stress during Koi transportation should be minimized as much as possible. Stress may lessen the effectiveness of the Koi's immune system. The possibility of infection or other health related problems which could be transmitted to other Koi in you pond is enhanced.

Koi should not be fed at least three days and possibly seven days before transport. The production of ammonia during transport is reduced and the transport water is not polluted to the extent that it would if the Koi had been fed during the fasting period. Koi may be eating algae from the pond wall during the fasting period when they are not fed. If an isolation tank with an adequate water volume and an active biological filter is available the Koi could be in this tank at least during the last part of the fasting period.

Additives to the isolation tank water could be salt, mineral salt or various medications. Be accurate and do not over-medicate.

There will be less stress when the Koi is in a dark environment during transport. Transport water can be cooled to reduce metabolism. Mild sedation should be considered.

Long Distance Transport

In general, Koi may be transported for many hours safely in plastic bags or rigid containers. The development of the plastic bag had an immense impact allowing safe worldwide Koi transportation.

Transporting Koi in Plastic Bags

It's time to get physical again. We're going to put our Koi in plastic bags for transport. There is a wide choice bag size and thickness. The bag should be longer than the rectangular corrugated Koi box or any other container into which the bag will be placed. This allows secure closure of the bag, using most of the length of the box.

Double plastic bags should be used placing one bag inside the other. Large Koi transported long distances by air- lane within the USA or from overseas may be within the inner bag of three to five bags. It is helpful to roll the mouth of the bag down before placing the Koi into the plastic bag. This produces a relatively fixed opening and keeps water from going between the bags. Put some water from the pond, or water prepared specifically for the transport, into the bag.

The Koi is put into the bag by hand transfer or by using your free hand to direct the Koi into the bag. Usually one koi 18 to 20 inches in length is placed in a bag, perhaps two 5 to 18 inch Koi are placed in the same bag, etc. The gills should be covered with water, I prefer to add enough water so that the Koi can float, and not rest on the bottom of the box.

Some hobbyists and dealers put additives in the transport water. This includes such things as salt, mineral salt, antiparasitic medication, antibacterial medication, etc. If you choose to do so, do not overdose. Prepare the transport water accurately and add it to the bag. Transfer the fish into the bag by hand, sock net, or bag with a corner cut out to drain the pond water from the bag so that the mineral water will not be added to the transport water. The transport water will not be significantly diluted.

The bagged Koi is placed in a corrugated rectangular Koi box, Styrofoam box, polystyrene box, ice chest, etc. The length of the box is usually two times the width or height. The width and height are normally similar.

Newspapers are often placed in the bottom of the Koi box for insulation. I won't say that Japanese newspapers are best, but the Koi I have received directly from Japan have been calm and happy.

Look closely at the bagged Koi in the transportation box. If water needs to be added or removed, do so. Remove all air from the bag by carefully compressing the bag down to the water level. Pleat the plastic bag near the mouth of the bag so no air reenters the bag. Insert the hose from the regulator (attached to an oxygen cylinder) through the mouth of the bag. Slowly fill the bag with the pure oxygen to about three fourths full and withdraw the hose. Twist the neck of the bag closed so that no oxygen escapes. Fold the neck of the inner bag over and secure it with rubber bands tightly placed over the folded neck. Use two rubber bands for safety. Seal the outer bags in sequence in the same manner. Insulating material (usually newspapers) is placed over the bag in the box and the box is sealed.

If one wishes to gradually lower the water temperatures in the bag during transit, place frozen reusable freeze packs on top of the bags before the newspaper insulation, support the bottom of the cardboard box when it is being cared.

Place the transport box or other container holding the bagged Koi in transport vehicle sideways to the travel direction. Braking during transit would then move larger Koi sideways and would not bang their nose or tail against the end of the box.

Moving Koi in Transport Tanks

The other common method of moving Koi long distances is in transport tanks. Many varieties are used: 1) flexible liners such as vinyl coated industrial fabric liners in a rigid frame made from PVC, tubular steel or other material, 2) polyethylene tanks, 3) fiberglass tanks, etc. The tank must have a secure cover to retain water and the Koi. The zippered covers with vinyl tanks allow easy closure and access. The size of the tank is determined by the type of vehicle and the amount of weight that can be safely carried in the vehicle. Water weighs over eight pounds per gallon and there are seven and a half gallons in a cubic foot of water.

My transport tank for a station wagon measures 3 foot by 4 foot wide, and is just over 18 inches high. Usually we carry 10 inches of water, which is 75 gallons weighing 625 pounds. Obviously transport tanks in trucks can be much larger, carrying more water and fish. All tanks must be stabilized so they will not shift during transport.

The transport tank water should be oxygenated before Koi are added and the dissolved oxygen in the water should be maintained at about 8 parts per million, or over. Pure oxygen can be diffused into the water easily using an oxygen tank with a regulator through an air stone or a fine pore diffuser for pure oxygen. The advantage of a fine-pore oxygen diffuser would be a smaller bubble size (approximately 0.5 to 2 mm diameter) which would increase the total surface area per unit of oxygen. Oxygen saturation is maintained with a slow flow rate. This system is used worldwide with great success.

Air, which is 21% oxygen, can be introduced into the water through an air stone (approximately 1 to 3 mm diameter bubble size). The flow rate would have to be significantly higher than the flow rate of pure oxygen to maintain the same oxygen level in the water. The source of air could be from a 12 volt portable piston or diaphragm compressor operating from the car or truck battery during transit. An adapter from the cigarette lighter socket is used. If the tank is to be aerated for some time when the power source is not from the vehicle's 12 volt battery, a 12 volt marine or deep cycle battery (larger capacity) could be used as the power source.

At our September 18th meeting at Coastal Pond, the highlight of the meeting was preceded with a delicious sandwich spread proffered by Bill and Lynn Dowden. Afterward, an interactive presentation was made by Michael Anderson. His theme was construction of a FRACTIONATOR. During the meeting, Mike assisted in fabricating 4 of these units.

The design separates organics from pond water by heavily aerating the water through a cascading tower of filter beads. Organic materials adhere to the resulting bubbles, and rise to the surface and skimmed off. Mike distributed the plans during his presentation (included in last month's newsletter).

Installation is tedious and can cost a bit in piping, etc, but the photos here show that it really works!!! The foam was generated in only 6 hours.

Mike has 2 units left (\$250 each), and will have them for sale at the Koi show this weekend.



Atlanta Koi Club**Financial Statement****Year to Date****As of September 30, 2016****BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:****\$3,927.38****INCOME STATEMENT****Income**

2100 Club Store		\$500.00
	Sale of Items Bought for Re-	
2015 sale	\$500.00	
2300 Koi Show		\$3,504.20
	Banquet Tick-	
2310 ets	\$1,074.46	
	Vendor Par-	
2320 ticipation	\$1,732.00	
	Koi Show	
2340 Sponsor	\$417.13	
	8' Koi Tank Rental - Non	
2350 Vendor	\$276.06	
	Gold Fish Tank Rental - Non	
2362 Vendor	\$4.55	
2500 Misc.		\$126.70
	2510 Donations	\$16.70
	Monthly Raffle - (Aug \$50 &	
	2545 Sept \$60)	\$110.00
2700 Membership		\$62.81
	Membership	
2730 Dues	\$37.81	
	Koi USA Sub-	
2735 scriptions	\$25.00	

Total Income**\$4,193.71****Expenses**

200 Club Store		\$175.98
	Equipment -	
240 Club Owned	\$175.98	
500 Koi Show		\$1,328.71
	510 Show Awards	\$65.00
	Hospitaaloty Suite/Vendor	
543 Nite	\$45.47	
	Koi Show Club Store Mer-	
592 chandise (T Shirts)	\$1,218.24	
700 Misc.		\$150.00
	Monthly	
740 Meeting Food	\$150.00	
1000 Raffle		\$14.45
	1030 Monthly Meeting Raffle Item	\$14.45

Total Expenses**\$1,669.14****Month Net Income/(Loss)****\$2,524.57****ENDING BALANCE:****\$6,451.95****Outstanding Checks:****\$2,715.87**

05/13/16	EFT	\$342.00		9/7/2016	EFT	\$45.00
05/16/16	EFT	\$615.00		9/26/2016	EFT	\$175.98
05/25/16	EFT	\$18.00	7	9/26/2016	1303	\$1,218.24
7/18/2016	EFT	\$137.20		9/27/2016	EFT	\$14.45
8/23/2016	EFT	\$150.00				