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## February, 2018

### By the Pond

by Diane Giangrande

Hi All,

We are in the home stretch of winter - I hope! I don't know about the rest of you, but I am so ready for Spring.....and so are my fish. I keep telling them it will be a few more weeks before they can eat, but they're not listening :).

I hope everyone has been doing water changes this winter. It's important to help ease the transition to Spring which can be rough. In case you are not aware, there are some great articles on the web site - everything from water quality to parasites. There are 2 articles on coming out of cold weather that I recommend you read. The articles can be found here: <http://atlantakoiclub.org/club-articles/>

Koi show season will be kicking off next month with the show in Orlando. It's a great show and definitely worth the trip. I'll be heading down and can't wait. If you want info on the show it can be found here: <http://cfks.org/>

Hope to see everyone at Atlanta Water Gardens for the meeting on the 11th.

Diane

### MEMBERSHIP

by Melanie Onushko

We are down to 117 members at the beginning of 2018. This is common to lose around 30 families per year. Many people were added to our roster at The Pond Tour and The Koi Show where they get to be members for the remainder of the year as a courtesy.

*Melanie*

### MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

As we add new members this year, be prepared, to be paired with a new member. You are just a point of reference for them. This is a way for us to make people feel welcome to the club and if you can share some of your knowledge or tricks of the trade, great! You don't have to be an expert in anything. Just engage them in conversation and guide them as best as you can.

*Melanie*

## **AUCTION TIME**

by Gary Elmore

This year's auction is only 2 months away! Seems like a long way off, but it will be here before you can blink. Already have registered 25% of the tanks reserved. Ran out totally last year. Go to the Auction site on our club's website and register now. Need to know :

1. Name and address
2. Number of tanks needed (limit of two unless some are left near show date)
3. Number of fish for auction in both koi and goldfish.

Number of tanks assigned will be based on total fish sold. For example: You are bringing 8 fish and request two tanks. 8 will be assigned 1 tank, Space is worth too much and we need to maximize what we have.

Auctions are great fun. Koi events are even better and the two together are more fun than you are allowed on any given day. We have had a fair number of show-quality fish auctioned off in the last couple of years. Great fish at a great price.

They are also a ton of work and we will start set up starting up early that Thursday. I know we will get many volunteers, as we always seem to come thru. If you want a specific job, sign up now as they go on first come-first served.

If you have any questions just shoot me an email at [gelmores54@live.com](mailto:gelmores54@live.com) or [auktion@atlantakoiclub.org](mailto:auktion@atlantakoiclub.org).

## **Reminder!!!**

The February meeting will be held on Sunday, February 11th, 2018 at 2 pm (Executive Committee meets at 1 pm). Atlanta Water Gardens at [2165 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, GA 30324](#) has graciously offered us space as well as a discount on the day of the meeting.

The topics will be: 1) to vote on proposed changes to the bylaws and 2) an "Ask the Member Expert" Panel.

Please remember to bring chairs if you have them. Sounds like pizza will win out as the food because Dominos is close.

Atlanta Water Gardens has a vast selection of pond supplies, statuary, fountains, decor, wind chimes, and even koi! It's always easy to find something that will bring excitement to your yard or home. Remember to thank them for their support and encourage them to become more involved with the club.

Hope to see you there!

Ken Jett, vice president  
Atlanta Koi Club

## Upcoming...

The February meeting will be held on Sunday, February 11th, 2018 at 2 pm (Executive Committee meets at 1 pm). Atlanta Water Gardens at [2165 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, GA 30324](#) has graciously offered us space as well as a discount on the day of the meeting.

The topics will be: 1) to vote on proposed changes to the bylaws and 2) an "Ask the Member Expert" Panel. The proposed bylaw changes were forwarded via email to members on January 31<sup>st</sup> to ensure compliance with notification requirements.

For "Ask the Member Expert", Joe Hatfield (koi health, pond chemistry, etc), Gary Elmore (koi health, chemistry, judging and selection, etc), Jim Dricker (photography), Michael Anderson (filtration, electrical, etc), Bob Chaffer (pond construction, design, etc), Brad Mohs (filtration, electrical, plumbing, etc), and Diana Mohs (landscaping, design, etc) will answer member questions as a panel based on their areas of expertise or knowledge.

The panel is in response to suggestions brought up in the January meeting while reviewing the survey results. While there was eagerness to have outside speakers, there was also acknowledgement of the vast experience that we have within the group. This is a way for you to have some knowledgeable hobbyists with years of experience provide feedback to your burning questions. Some of their skill sets overlap so we hope to provide provocative, deep consideration of your topic of concern.

Three or four members have provided questions as requested despite much consensus that access to member experts was desired. If time permits, we will allow questions from the floor at the time of the meeting, but this puts panel feedback at a disadvantage given a lack of time to provide a thoughtful response.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Food and drink of some sort will be provided. Please bring folding chairs if you have them!

Thank you for your trust in electing me to serve as vice president of the club. I've quickly come to appreciate Jerry in a new light. Finding locations, hosts, and speakers is not an easy task. If you would like to host a monthly meeting at your home, please contact me. If you have access to a skilled lecturer in a topic area germane to the club mission, please contact me. As a collective of hobbyists, our success is as amazing as our member involvement.

I look forward to an exciting auction and show, along with traveling to regional koi shows. If you have any interest in going to surrounding koi shows, be sure to let us know – it's always more fun to carpool and caravan. Maybe we can help get the word out so that we can encourage some of you who haven't been to one to take the plunge. It will likely give you more hometown pride in our annual show.

Over the next few weeks, we will also create the sign up roster for the upcoming auction. If you need to make room for new or improved wet pets, be sure to visit the club website and reserve your auction tanks to re-home your fish, plants, or equipment. Making space, making money, and helping the club is always a good thing.

I look forward to partnering with members and friends to help make YOUR club a success. Feel free to reach out to me as needed.

Ken Jett, vice president



## Meeting of January 14th at the home of Ken Jett and Brendan Berg

Wow! What a back yard view, with a neat stream and pond! The view from their back yard was stupendous. Rumor has it that there might be the Chattahoochee river somewhere in the dense underbrush below, and maybe a lost Inca civilization somewhere out there.. Although it was a frigid day, a good number of faithful members attended, with the thought that there might be some ice-fishing available. But alas, there was no ice on the water, but it was certainly warm and cozy inside. Ken and Brendan always put on a great spread of munchies. They had more wine, cheese and candy than Trader Joes has.



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## Does adding salt to your pond prevent ice?

by Bob Chaffer

With the cold winter temperatures experienced recently, we all probably had worries about whether or not our piping systems might freeze and rupture, or...could my fish survive under an ice blanket? For me, my critical point was an overnight low of 8 degrees, preceded by a full week of sub-freezing temperatures. One PVC pipe with a shut valve ruptured, and the next morning, my Koi were swimming in 3 inches of water, with more still draining out! To boot, all of my garden hoses were plugged with ice, and I had to refill the pond using vacuum-cleaner hoses, and anything else shaped like a 30-foot long tube. Well, anyway, if a 10% water change per week is recommended, I compensated for a whole year's worth of water changes in just one night!

Although I don't normally use salt, I had a brilliant idea of "Why don't I add salt to my pond in the winter to keep the pipes from freezing.?" If it worked for roads...why not for ponds?

The prime difference between salt (brine) on roads and my pond is a matter of concentration. Road brine is a totally saturated solution, and, as may be seen on this chart, the freezing point of a salt solution only slightly changes for the low concentration (up to 3%) that we're interested in. Remember, also, that the water could then be 29 degrees instead of 32. Would Koi even survive at this lower temperature?

**So, is 3 degrees worth the trouble? I think not!!!!**

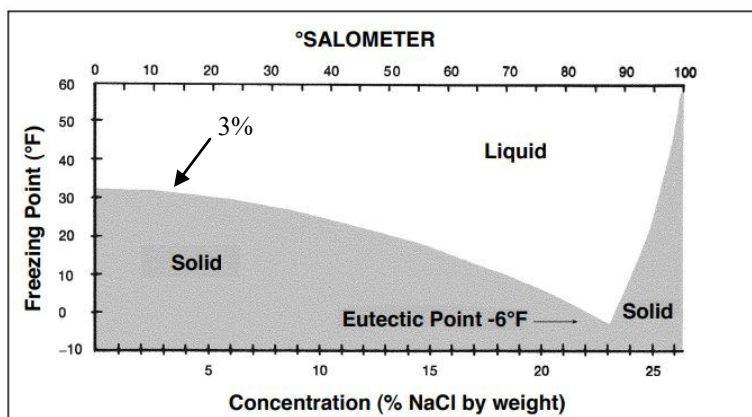


Figure 1. Freezing point of salt brine mixtures

Table 1. Sodium Chloride Brine Tables for Brine at 60°F

(1) Salo- meter Degrees	(2) Freezing Point Deg. F.*	(3) Percent Sodium Chloride by Wt.	(4) Pounds Salt Per Gallon of Water	(5) Pounds per Gallon of Brine		(6) Gallon Water Per Gal. of Brine	(7) Specific Gravity	(8) Salo- meter Degrees
				NaCl	Water			
0	+32.0	.000	.000	.000	8.328	1.000	1.000	0
2	+31.5	.528	.044	.044	8.318	.999	1.004	2
4	+31.1	1.056	.089	.089	8.297	.996	1.007	4
6	+30.5	1.586	.134	.133	8.287	.995	1.011	6
8	+30.0	2.112	.179	.178	8.275	.993	1.015	8
10	+29.3	2.640	.226	.224	8.262	.992	1.019	10
12	+28.8	3.167	.273	.270	8.250	.990	1.023	12
14*	+28.2	3.695	.320	.316	8.229	.988	1.026	14*
16	+27.6	4.223	.367	.362	8.216	.987	1.030	16
18	+27.0	4.751	.415	.409	8.202	.985	1.034	18
20	+26.4	5.279	.464	.456	8.188	.983	1.038	20
22	+25.7	5.807	.512	.503	8.175	.982	1.042	22
24	+25.1	6.335	.563	.552	8.159	.980	1.046	24
26	+24.4	6.863	.614	.600	8.144	.978	1.050	26
28	+23.7	7.391	.665	.649	8.129	.976	1.054	28
30	+23.0	7.919	.716	.698	8.113	.974	1.058	30
32	+22.3	8.446	.768	.747	8.097	.972	1.062	32
34	+21.6	8.974	.821	.797	8.081	.970	1.066	34
36	+20.9	9.502	.875	.847	8.064	.968	1.070	36
38	+20.2	10.030	.928	.897	8.047	.966	1.074	38
40	+19.4	10.558	.983	.948	8.030	.964	1.078	40
42	+18.7	11.086	1.039	.999	8.012	.962	1.082	42
44	+17.9	11.614	1.094	1.050	7.994	.960	1.086	44
46	+17.1	12.142	1.151	1.103	7.976	.958	1.090	46

**Atlanta Koi Club**  
**Financial Statement**  
**Year to Date**  
**As of January 31, 2017**

**BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:** **\$8,902.61**

**INCOME STATEMENT**

**Income**

2300 Koi Show			\$158.00
2380b Club Store Sales - Koi Show	\$158.00		
2500 Misc.			\$153.00
2510 Donations	\$120.00		
Raffle - Monthly Meet-			
2545 ing	\$33.00		
2700 Membership			\$1,954.00
2720 Membership	\$21.00		
2730 Membership	\$1,781.00		
2735 Koi USA Sub-	\$52.00		
2745 Sponsorship	\$100.00		

**Total Income** **\$2,265.00**

**Expenses**

400 Insurance			\$553.50
410 Liability Ins.	\$553.50		
700 Misc.			\$180.00
710 Registration with GA. Sec. of Food for Monthly Meet-	\$30.00		
740 ing	\$150.00		
1100 Rent			\$185.00
1101 Rent @ Coastal	\$185.00		
1300 Membership			\$50.00
1325 Koi USA Sub-	\$50.00		
1400 Bank			\$57.33
1466 PayPal	\$57.33		

**Total Expenses** **\$1,025.83**

**Month Net Income/(Loss)** **\$1,239.17**

**ENDING BALANCE:** **\$10,141.78**

**Outstanding Checks:**

09/07/16	EFT	\$65.00	12/31/18	EFT	\$262.05	\$902.07
10/08/16	1311	\$16.85	6 01/23/18	1353	\$25.00	
10/24/16	EFT	\$216.00	01/25/18	EFT	\$185.00	
10/03/17	EFT	\$107.17	01/28/18	1354	\$25.00	