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June, 2018

By the Pond

by Diane Giangrande

Hi All,

Thanks go out to Ron and Robin Scott for hosting the May meeting. We gave some suggestions for DIY improvements that they could make to their filtration system and scrapped a couple of fish. Unfortunately for them, we found flukes – both gill and skin, but it was a good opportunity for everyone to see them under the microscope. The infected fish were in their quarantine system, which makes it much easier to treat.

With the auction behind us, our next big event is the show. Ken and I have been working to secure vendors among other things. One of the most important parts of the show is the store raffle and banquet raffle and auction. However, in order to have those things, we need lots of donations. We have a list of past donors that need contacting and we would like to put a committee together to solicit these donations. Later in June we will have a get together for those volunteering to discuss and give out info. If you can help, please call Ken or me. Our numbers are in the membership list. Any help that you can give is greatly appreciated.

Also, please don't forget the member-made booth (or section of the store) for the show. As a reminder, if you make something that you want to sell you will get 75% of the selling price and the club will get 25%. Please let Ken and I know what you have so we can make sure it does not directly compete with any of our vendors.

Congratulations to Gary & JoAnn Elmore for winning Best in Variety Bekko (that fish should have been mine, but he stole it from me at the auction last year 😊) and to James Story for Best in Variety Hikari Mujimono at the Louisville show.

The June meeting will be at Happy Koi of Greenville. You all received a link to the Sign Up Genius – please sign up (by the 8th) if you plan to attend so we can give a head count. Right now it looks like there is one ride spot available if you want to go, but can't drive. Here is the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090445a5a629abf49-happy> It will be a fun day – hope to see lots of you there.

From the VP's Desktop

Special thanks to Ron & Robin Scott for hosting the May meeting where they allowed us to offer some suggestions for enhancing their current systems. Many were able to view the microscopic samples taken from the quarantine tank. Hopefully the input will help to inform the Scotts as they move forward with some repair work and treatment.

Upcoming June Meeting

Our June meeting will be a field trip to Happy Koi of Greenville (214 Hyde Circle, Mauldin, SC 29662) on June 16th, which is their annual open house. The open house begins at 10 am with lunch at noon, 2 pm grow-out lottery, and a 3 pm auction – see info below.

We've created a Sign Up Genius so we can give a head count to Happy Koi to let them know how many people will be attending so they can plan accordingly for food. It will also allow for some to carpool. If you have room for passengers or need a ride, please designate that as indicated in the signup.

The link to the Sign Up is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090445a5a629abf49-happy>

The deadline for signing up is June 8th.

It will be a fun day! Hope lots of you can make it!

**Please remember our Sponsors:
The Koi Store and Koi Koi Pondscapes**



A few pictures from the Louisville show

Submitted by Diane Giangrande





Koi Herpes Virus

Article provided by Melanie Onushko

Georgia Department of Agriculture would like to remind Georgia koi and common carp producers/importers to be vigilant in protecting their livestock and pets from the introduction or exposure to Koi Herpes Virus (KHV). KHV is a highly contagious viral pathogen affecting common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), including koi carp.

KHV is known to occur in the U.S. both in wild and farm-raised susceptible species but may still cause high mortality and morbidity in naïve (unexposed) susceptible populations. Producers and importers should know the health and vaccination status of the animals they are raising or importing, respectively. To know the health status, producers and importers are encouraged to ask for health testing documentation specific for KHV from their animal suppliers.

KHV is a significant disease of koi carp and common carp caused by *cyprinid herpesvirus 3* (CyHV-3). It has caused mass die-offs of both common carp and koi. Mortality rates of 80%-100% are typical for affected koi ponds. Goldfish and grass carp do not exhibit signs of disease but can act as carriers of the virus and contribute to the spread of the disease to naïve populations of koi and grass carp. Due to its continued spread in Asia and Europe, and its endemic status in the United States, confirmed cases must be reported to the USDA-APHIS Assistant Director. The disease is not reportable in the state of Georgia.

KHV is transmitted in water, feces, contaminated equipment, and by direct contact. Temperature is the most important factor determining disease development. Outbreaks are most severe at 64° F - 82° F with epidemics typically occurring in spring or summer. The disease does not develop <55° F or >86° F. The permissive temperature range is generally considered to be 73° F to 82° F. Koi which survive clinical disease often become carriers. Carriers that are held in cool water (<68° F) can harbor the virus for lengthy periods and shed the virus once the water temperature is in the low seventies.

Several diagnostic tests can be used when clinical signs of KHV are observed. PCR or virus isolation and identification can be used to confirm the infection in dead fish. Blood, gill tissue, feces, or mucus samples may be used to assess the status of very ill fish. However, using these samples to test clinical normal fish can result in a misdiagnosis and are not appropriate screening methods for carrier fish.

If the infection is confirmed in a population of koi carp, depopulation is strongly recommended. Prevention of KHV infection is best accomplished with careful quarantine protocols. A minimum quarantine of 30 days at 75° F is recommended to minimize the chance of introducing KHV to an established koi population. After the initial quarantine period and additional testing, if necessary, a fish known to be free of KHV may be placed in the established group. This fish can increase the likelihood of detecting the virus by demonstrating clinical signs of disease because asymptomatic carriers in the test group may only shed virus and not display clinical signs at the permissive temperature.

Our May 20th meeting was held at Ron and Robin Scott's house. Their back yard landscaping is something to die for! We all had a chance to observe how to use a microscope to examine fish for parasites. The Scotts have a good-sized pond protected by a gazebo. It appeared to have weathered last December's snow storm better than others (more about that next month). Ron entertained suggestions on how to improve his filtration system, with a tour of his facilities.

