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July, 2018

By the Pond

by Diane Giangrande

Hi All,

The June meeting at Happy Koi of Greenville was well attended by AKC members. Thanks to everyone who attended. It was a fun day.

The big news in the koi community right now is KHV and it's very scary. For those of you on Facebook, you have probably seen many posts on the subject. Since December 2017 there have been 4 dealers (that have gone public) that have gotten KHV and countless hobbyists who have lost many, and in some cases, their entire collection of koi. It is very, very scary!!

It is much too much of a complex topic to get in to all the details here, but the most important thing you can do to protect yourself is to QUARANTINE your fish. Here is a link to a University of Florida article that you might find helpful: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vm113> There is a section on QT.

There are 2 tests for KHV – PCR and ELISA and each are used in different scenarios. A note from [Spike Cover](#) on testing:

Here's the skinny on KHV testing:

Exposed fish take a while to develop antibodies. I don't know the time but I presume sort of a ramp-up with very little at first and full antibodies at some later time, two weeks seems reasonable. So if new fish are kept for 2 weeks in Q, and then blood samples taken and sent for ELISA antibody testing, that should do it. An exception that may be possible is that a carrier fish was encouraged to start shedding after transport and the exposure to tank-mates came a bit later. Then the 2-weeks to develop antibodies might well be extended a bit. Based on this "thought experiment," 3 weeks in Q prior to blood sampling seems reasonable.

Obviously if any fish break with disease symptoms in Q, then a gill snip, gill swab or vent swab from that fish is appropriate. A PCR for KHV DNA (lots of abbreviations!) would then be done.

Conclusions regarding screening:

- *For carrier status:* testing blood after 3 weeks in Q with those tests showing no antibodies, is the best we can do now relative to screening for carriers. A negative ELISA test sort of rules out KHV carriers (again, this rule-out test is the best we can do given no commercially available PCR test for latent KHV DNA) . Apparently antibody titers (amounts) drop off after about a year so this test has it's limits.

For active KHV: any fish showing clinical signs of KHV, should be gill snipped, gill swabbed or vent swabbed and sent for PCR testing. A negative result rules out active KHV.

By the Pond (continued)

My last thoughts on KHV – JUST DO IT!! QT that is!!

What newsletter would be complete without me begging for volunteers? ☐ To that end, Ken and I could really use some help in soliciting donations for the show. If you would like to be on the committee, please contact one of us.

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. I know there are some crafters out there so don't be shy – let us know what you make!

The July social will be at Corey and Hailey Nibert's house on July 14th – hope to see you all there.

Thanks, Diane

NOMINATIONS

Melanie Onushko, Nominations Chairperson

As a club, we will soon start the Nomination process to elect a new President and Secretary for the term starting in January 2019. Diane is finishing her second term as President and will not be able to run again for that position. Chad is filling in the remainder of a 2 year term as Secretary and will be eligible to run again.

The way the process works is a nominations committee will be put together. Each person will recommend 5 names for each position. These names will be ranked by the 5 people in order of preference, a formula places them in numerical order. We call each candidate starting with #1 and answer any questions they may have about the position. Those who accept will have their name placed on the ballot. If you do not receive a call but are interested in being on the board, you can be nominated at a meeting and we will put you on the ballot.

We have 130 people in the club. Each term is 2 years. Please consider serving. A lot of our older members are getting tired of doing all the work. It's time for some new blood to step up and learn the ropes. This is a fun, social club and we need people to help carry it on. By the way, serving as President does not mean that you have to be in charge of the show. This is something extra Diane decided to take on and improve. So, please consider running for the board. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 770/315-5200.

MEMBERSHIP

Melanie Onushko,

We have some new members we would like to welcome. I hope you will all get to meet them at the July social. Cynthia Landon, Tab Beckum, Daniel Parker, Mel Barutha, and Sandy Lloyd. Welcome to the Atlanta Koi Club!

Vice President's Report

Ken Jett

We had a very good turnout at the Happy Koi Open House. Sixteen club members and their guests (by my count) made the trek to South Carolina to take part in the festivities. Three of our attendees were the only ones to complete the "You Be The Judge" event correctly, which resulted in winning boxes of Tomigai food. Congrats!

There are still grow-out fish available. Contact Kevin at Happy Koi -- <https://www.happykoigreenville.com> -- if you are interested. It sounds like the goromos will be brought to the Atlanta Koi Show to be judged and the go-shikis will be taken to the South Carolina show. Part of the cost of the koi goes toward Kevin housing and feeding them until then.

Upcoming July Summer Social

Our July Summer Social will be hosted by Corey & Hayley Nibert on Saturday, July 14th at 6 pm (4:30 pm executive meeting). Sounds like the entrée will be BBQ brisket and pork. Make sure that your delicious summery sides and desserts will live up to this grill master's legend. Please bring appetizer, side dishes or dessert, and bring portable chairs, if you have them. Their address will be forwarded as the date gets closer.

Upcoming Koi Show

We are less than 90 days from our annual koi show. We desperately need member involvement! We need help soliciting donations for our raffles and auctions, as well as, selling ad space in our first-ever program. Contact Diane or Ken for more information.

Remember that this year we are also offering a member craft table where member-made items will be sold with 75% of the proceeds to the member and 25% going to the club. Your items must not 'compete' with paid vendor offerings, must be pre-approved by show chairs, must be accompanied by pricing and inventory slips, and remaining items must be picked up at the close of the show. If you have items that you want to have considered for the member craft table, please contact Diane or Ken.

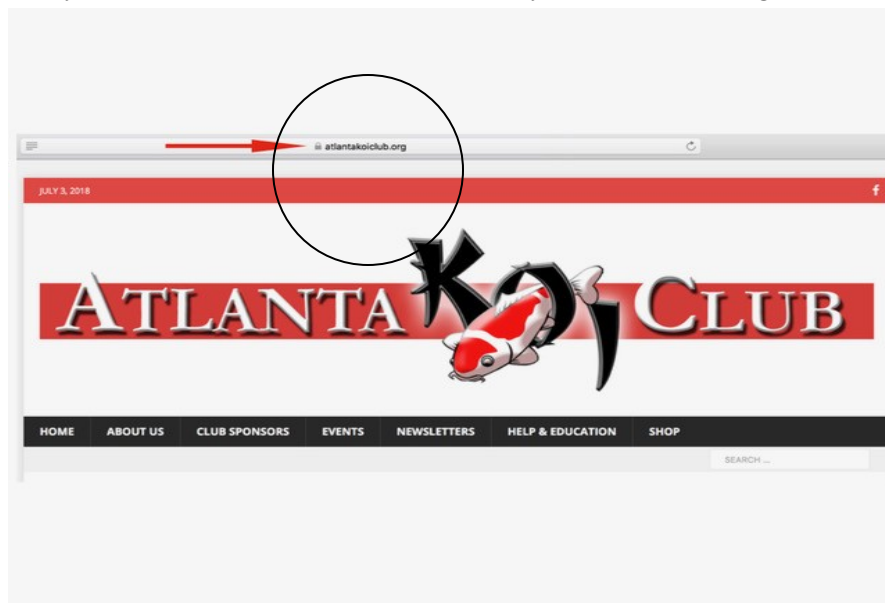
~Ken Jett

Website now has SSL Certificate by Michael Anderson

Have you ever noticed that some URLs start with "http://" while others start with "https://"? Perhaps you noticed that extra "s" when you were browsing websites that require giving over sensitive information, like when you were paying bills online. Another indication something extra is going on is the lock symbol in front of the name of the site. But where'd that extra "s", or lock symbol come from, and what does it mean?

To put it simply, the extra "s" or lock symbol means your connection to that website is secure and encrypted any data you enter is safely shared with that website. The technology that powers that little "s" and lock symbol is called SSL, which stands for Secure Sockets Layer. SSL is the standard security technology for establishing an encrypted link between a web server and a browser. This link ensures that all data passed between the web server and browser remain private.

To better serve our members and guests, Atlanta Koi Club has now upgraded our webserver with an SSL Certificate. This is the information needed by our computers to make the secure SSL link with the website server. No additional action is needed on your part to have the SSL protection. Your browser should now let you see the extra "s" and/or see a lock symbol when visiting the club website.



SPONSORSHIP

We have a new Atlanta Koi Club Sponsor! Kol Koi Pondscapes. They are located in Kennesaw and are well worth the trip. In addition to building ponds, their store is well equipped with food, chemicals, decorations, equipment, plants and beautiful koi and goldfish. Please make a point of visiting them.

If anyone is interested in being a sponsor, please contact melanie_o@comcast.net for details.



Shade canopies for your pond

Summer here in Georgia can be brutal...not only for your fish, but for your enjoyment as well. Nobody wants to hang around a pond in the blistering heat and humidity of August, and water temperatures can approach dangerously high levels. Cleaning the surface of falling leaves in a pain to all, and a roof helps to keep the pond clean.

Many Koi Club members have undertaken projects to shelter their ponds from the sun. However, enjoyment of the shade provided by a canopy must be tempered by the fact that, although summer seems to be eternal down here, it does end. And when winter comes, snow loading must be taken into account.

A canopy may consist of uprights, braces, and cross-members; and screen materials are available with shade readings of 30, 50, 70, and 90 percent shade (70% is really nice and semi-transparent, and 90% offers a very satisfactory deep shade).

Designs and costs vary considerably, from four hundred to several thousands of dollars. Important factors are cost, enjoyment, and strength.

Snow can be amazingly heavy. A rule of thumb is that 1 inch of snow weighs 1 pound per square foot. For example, a section of canopy 14 ft long by 8 feet wide is 112 square feet. A 1" snow thickness would make that portion weigh 112 pounds, but an 8" snowfall would load that canopy by 896 pounds!

So, if you want to build a beautiful canopy for your enjoyment, remember to consider all seasons. You have only two choices: build it strong enough to resist snow and wind, or build it to permit snow to pass through.

Pond "A"



Pond "B"



My neighbor is throwing away rocks. Free to anyone in the koi club. Call 404-909-1515.

Harvey Siskin



June Meeting Attendees at Happy Koi in Greenville, SC on June 16th

