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## January, 2022

### By the Pond

Happy New Year everyone - I hope you all had a wonderful, safe and happy holiday season. First off, I would like to thank Brad and Diana Mohs for hosting the winter social. As always, they do a phenomenal job. There were tons of amazing food and plenty to drink. Melanie rounded up some cool raffle items - a fun time was had by all who attended.

As we head in to 2022 we are in desperate need of help - yes already! We need a Membership Chair and Pond Tour Chair. After many years of dedicated and amazing work Melanie Onushko is stepping out of these roles. The Atlanta Koi Club has a very large membership group - one of the largest in the country, but we won't be able to continue unless more people are willing to get involved. We used to joke about how the 80/20 rule (80% of the work is done by 20% of the people) is really the 95/5 rule in the club. While it's funny in the moment, it really means that the work (and therefore the club) is not sustainable as people get burned out. We have had some new folks take on Board roles, which is encouraging, but I am seriously concerned about the future of the club. That's a very long way of saying that we really need some folks to step up on take on the roles of Membership Chair and Pond Tour Chair - they are 2 separate roles and can be different people. The Pond Tour Chair can be split between people and Melanie will be available to answer any questions. Please let me know if you are interested in one or both of these positions.

I would like to welcome Neal Phelps to the board in his role as Equipment Manager. He has already been a tremendous help to the club and I am sure he will continue to be. In addition, Marlon Tiller has moved from Equipment Manager to Vice President and I am confident that he will do an amazing job. Thank you both for volunteering your time.

Due to COVID, we are looking at the first few meetings being virtual via Zoom. If you have topic ideas or are willing to speak please reach out to Marlon.

In the newsletter you will find a flyer for an event at The Koi Store in February. This is going to be an amazing learning opportunity and everyone is welcome. Please note that you need to RSVP to Vicki ASAP- instructions are on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter.

Thanks,  
Diane

## List of Meeting dates for 2022

January - 23th @3 PM Board meets at 2 PM - ZOOM Meeting

February – 13th @3 PM Board meets at 2 PM

March - 20th @3 PM Board meets at 2 PM

April – 10<sup>th</sup> @3PM Board meets @ 2 PM

May -14th – Auction @ Furkids

June - 11th @6 PM Board meets @ 5 PM

July - Summer Social - July 16th @6 PM Board meets @ 5 PM

August - 13th @6 PM Board meets @ 5 PM

Sept - 10th @3PM Board meets @ 2 PM

Oct - Show - Oct 14-16

Nov - Winter Social 12th @6 PM

Dec - no meeting

We will do a virtual meeting for January and probably February and watch how things go with COVID after that.

## MEMBERSHIP

Melanie Onushko

The Atlanta Koi Club would like to welcome new members Livia Rossi and Gilberto Vaughan. We would also like to welcome Alison Zavodny back to the membership. Thank you for joining and we look forward to getting to know you when we return to in person meetings. Until then, please feel free to reach out to me for any information. I'll try to steer you in the right direction.

Invoices have gone out to those of you who need to renew. Please make sure to pay no later than 1/31/22. This is one of the criteria to make you eligible for the 75% of your sales at the auction.

Cant wait to train the new membership person.....all you need is a computer and a few minutes here and there to keep everything updated! Happy ponding!

# WINTER KOI MADNESS

February 5 & 6, 2022

## Friday – Saturday Event Schedule

### Friday

Come any time, we may put you to work though!

- 6:00 pm - ? Sushi and Cocktails
- 7:00 pm - ? Skype with Ryuichi Yoshida from JPD

### Saturday

- 8:00 am - 9:30 am Gathering time • Coffee, donuts and ???
- 9:30 am -10:00 am Opening remarks by Carl and Vicki
- 10:00 am to 12:00 pm First Koi Judging exercise Koda Koi

We will have 2 show tanks that each will have 6 koi from Koda Koi Farm selected by Masato. They will be set up as T-1 and T-2. Each of the koi will have a photo with a letter assigned to it for identification.

The main purpose of this exercise is to not only teach differences in quality, but to teach the difference between a koi's value today and the future. At this point one of our esteemed judges will give you a guide to help in your selection process by explaining the difference in judging for today and gamble of the future koi or "tategoi".

Step 1: Each participant will have 20 minutes to judge each individual tank. 10 minutes to decide on the ranking (1-6) for "Rank based on the koi as it is today" and 10 minutes to decide on the "Rank (1-6) based on the koi's future potential" Note! Today's top ranked koi may not be the best future fish. Group one will be 2 sets of five participants who will switch tanks after 20 minutes. We will rotate thru groups until all participants have had a chance to make their selections.

Step 2: We will reveal Masato's ranking for both tanks based on the future value and potential of the koi. We will also give his explanations and reasoning as to why he has made his selections.

Step 3: Our US Koi Judges will now rank the koi based on how they "show today".

Step 4: We will have a question and answer period.

We will tabulate the results to establish which participant was closest to Masato's "future" ranking and which participant came closest to the Judges "today" ranking. The winners will be announced at dinner with the winner in each category getting a \$100.00 koi gift certificate.

- 12:00 to 1:30 • light lunch and preparation for the afternoon judging exercise.
- 2:00 to 4:00 We will now repeat the morning's agenda using 12 Marudo Koi.
- 5:00 to 6:00 Cocktails and vet school presentations
- 6:00 to 7:00 Vicki's famous low country boil (it's a Cajun thing, a one pot meal with potatoes, corn, seafood, and sausage for the masses! Once it's ready, it gets dumped on a table and it's everyone for themselves)

### Sunday:

10:00 -??? No formal program, just relax and talk with the breeders.

1:00pm Pull the names on the 6 lucky draw koi.



“Lucky Draws” – Runs all day Saturday and ends Sunday at 1:00pm. 6 koi, 3 Koda and 3 Marudo will be selected. You can put your name in a bowl for any of the 6 koi you might be interested in. At 1:00pm on Sunday we will draw the winners

\*Note! This is NOT an auction, as the price is preset. This is very popular in Japan. If 5 people put their name in the bowl for a particular koi they have a 1 in 5 chance to win. If only 1 person puts their name in a bowl, they are automatically the winner.\*

**General Notes:**

Hotel information – Spring Hill Suites by Marriott Athens West  
3500 Daniels Bridge Road Athens, GA 30606

Phone # (706) – 353 – 8484

Group is called: The Koi Store

Deadline for reserving at the group rate is January 1, 2022

Group rate is \$124.00/night plus tax

**Please RSVP to either**

**vicki@thekoistore.com or call (706) – 769 – 8951**

**We need this to determine how much food to buy**

**The Koi Store Information –**

Carl Forss and Vicki Burnley

3831 Flat Rock Road Watkinsville, GA 30677

We have a large selection of Koda and Marudo Tosai, Nisai, Sansai, and Yonsai in stock.

We also have close to 3000 koi in stock from:

Dianichi

Isa Hajime

Otsuka

Koda

Marudo

Suda

Kase

Aokiya

Ikarashi

Marusei

Izumiya

Hoshikin

And MANY more!

## Adequate Flow through a Bioconverter

By Ken Austin  
Certified Koi Keeper – Koi Organisation International

**BIOCONVERTER TYPES**

		
<b>Bead Filter</b>	<b>Fluid Bed Filter</b>	<b>Matting Filter</b>
Maximum O <sub>2</sub> level possible: 9 ppm	Maximum O <sub>2</sub> level possible: 9 ppm	Maximum O <sub>2</sub> level possible: 9 ppm

The DO concentration for 100% air saturated water at sea level is 8.6 mg O<sub>2</sub>/L at 25°C (77°F) and increases to 14.6 mg O<sub>2</sub>/L at 0°C.

Moore, M.L. 1989. NALMS management guide for lakes and reservoirs. North American Lake Management Society, P.O. Box 3443, Madison, WI 53703-3443, USA.

Bioconverters are the components in the circulation system of your pond where ammonia conversion takes place. The bacteria that perform the ammonia conversion function reside in a film that coats the filter media in the bioconverter. This concept is important because it means the ammonia has to be removed from the pond and brought into contact with the filter media where the bacteria can have access to it. The bacteria will not go chasing after the ammonia. The circulation system of your pond brings ammonia laden water from the pond through the bioconverter, thus feeding the bacteria.

So how much circulation do you need? A good rule of thumb for adequate water flow through bioconverters is 60 gpm per each pound of food fed per day. This can be ratioed for any feeding rate. For example if you only feed ¼ pound of food per day, then 15 gpm (60/4) is adequate flow. This is actual measured flow through the bioconverter, not some manufacturers claim on a pump label.

This rule of thumb is based on the following assumptions:

- The filtration/bioconversion system runs at a constant rate all the time,
- The average targeted ammonia level applies over a 24 hour period. It takes multiple ammonia readings over a 24 hour period to calculate an average.

At various times over a 24 hour period a dramatic increase in the pond water ammonia level will occur. These are called ammonia spikes.

- There will be an ammonia spike starting about an hour after each feeding,
- If only one feeding per day occurs, the ammonia spike will exceed that for the same amount of feed divided into multiple feeds over the course of a day,
- The ammonia spike will be effected in the following ways:
  - Rises as amount fed rises,
  - Lowers as pond water volume rises,
  - Lowers as efficiency of bioconverters rises, and
  - Lowers as flow rate thru bioconverters rises.



Testing the pond water's ammonia level a few times is an easy way to confirm that there is adequate flow through your bioconverter. If there is no measurable ammonia the flow is adequate. The presence of ammonia can indicate various things such as inadequate flow, bioconverter too small, new bioconverter (not fully cycled), bioconverter needs cleaning or maintenance, pond overstocked, or fish overfed.

Flow through the bioconverter of a Koi pond is also called the turnover rate. The term turnover comes from the concept that when the entire volume of water in the pond is pumped through the bioconverter, the pond is said to have been turned over. The number of turnovers per hour refers to how many times the volume of the pond is pumped through the bioconverter per hour.

Turnover rate determines the speed at which various pollutants are removed from the pond water. Since water through the bioconverter is also then aerated (e.g. waterfall), the turnover rate determines the speed cleaned/aerated water is returned to the pond.

If your pond suffers from high ammonia levels, a higher turnover rate will reduce the ammonia. That is because the bacteria in the bioconverter will come in contact with a higher volume of water each day and thus have the opportunity to remove more ammonia.

If your pond suffers from cloudy water, a higher turnover rate will remove the particulates that are causing the cloudiness at a faster rate. This also means the mechanical filtration (pond system components that trap solids, algae and debris) will clog faster and need more frequent cleaning. Yes, it does take a little bit of work to have clear water.

If your pond suffers from low oxygen levels, a higher turnover rate will expose more water to the atmosphere each day and that will increase the oxygen level. On hot summer days this is important because oxygen levels will be lowest when the water is at its warmest temperature.

Smaller ponds require a higher turnover rate than larger ponds. That is because the pollutants are concentrated in a smaller volume of water. In a small pond, a chemical like ammonia can easily rise to highly toxic levels in a short amount of time. Adequate flow through the bioconverter keeps the levels of ammonia and other pollutants in check.

Increasing the turnover rate can be achieved by replacing existing pump(s) with larger pump(s) or by adding another pump to the system. This additional flow can then have potentially bad effects in the circulation system, such as:

- Enclosed filters may be over-pressured
- Gravity flow systems may exceed their operating capability
- Mechanical filters may lose efficiency at the higher flow rates.

Treat a low turnover rate as a system problem. You can learn how to calculate and design your pond systems and bioconverters in the Construction course:

<https://koiorganisationinternational.org/course/pond-construction>

And you can learn about every aspect of bioconverters in the Filtration course:

<https://koiorganisationinternational.org/course/koi-pond-filtration>.

## Equipment for sale by club members

We have a used skimmer for sale 16" faceplate asking \$300 obo (exactly like the one in the photo).

Contact me at [barefootlisa@hotmail.com](mailto:barefootlisa@hotmail.com) if you are interested.

Thank you.

Lisa McCalla



Savio Skimmerfilter with 16" Faceplate



♥ Add To Wish List    📺 Add To Gift Registry

### Savio Skimmerfilter with 16" Faceplate

☆☆☆☆☆ 0 Review    💬 0 Question |

[Write a review](#)

**Price: \$462.00**

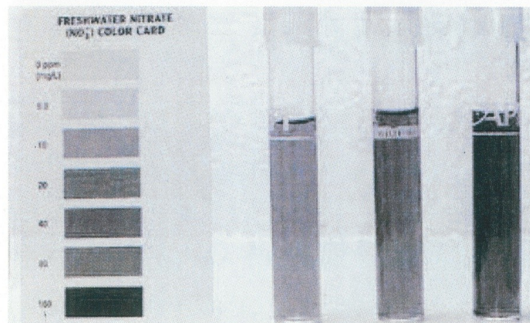


## Nitrate Test Procedure

### How to Better Test for Nitrate: Shake It Up!

Reprinted with permission of the Washington Koi & Water Garden Society. THANK YOU!

by Nancy Moore



A few days ago I was given a great tip by Spike Cover, K.O.I. director, who gave credit to Monte McQuade for the idea, so I thought I would pass it along. This is especially relevant to me because I've always had trouble decoding the colors on the API Nitrate test card.

For this nitrate drop test, it is crucial to extensively shake the two nitrate bottles so that the liquid mixes evenly throughout the bottle, prior to dispersing the drops into the test tube. Then follow the directions on number of drops, timing, etc. The nitrate test already involves a timed shaking of 30 seconds of bottle # 2 before it is added to the first reagent in the test tube.

However, if the liquid in both bottles is not shaken in advance, according to pike/Monte, it is possible to get an inappropriate mix of each reagent, and thus the results are not accurate (or not sufficiently accurate).

In addition, they say, the next time you test for nitrate, assuming you haven't ever shaken it hard, and disperse the required 10 drops from each, the chemistry of the reagent has already been altered, and will not work the way API has intended it to work. So even if we do the shaking the second time around (or months after we started using this kit), the product has changed and we may not get accurate results. In my case, I need to buy a new nitrate kit, as I am guilty of not shaking both bottles prior to doing the test. Bottle # 2 did get the required 30 seconds always, but bottle # 1 just got turned over a few times.

Perhaps that is why the color in the test tube did not match the color printed on my nitrate API chart. So the solution to the solution is to shake those test kit bottles like crazy.

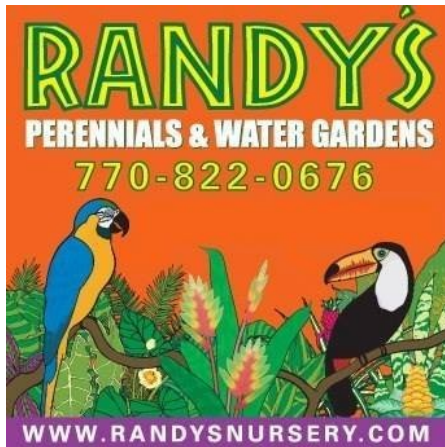
**Thank you, Spike and Monte!**





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**Atlanta Koi Club**  
**Financial Statement**  
**As of November 30, 2021**

**BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:** **\$12,639.49**

**INCOME STATEMENT**

<b>Income</b>		\$0.00
2300 Koi Show		
2310 Banquet Tickets		\$80.00
2320 Vendor Participation		\$350.00
2350 Tank Rental, non-vendor		\$180.00
<b>Total Income</b>		<b><u>\$610.00</u></b>

**Expenses**

200 Club Store Expenses		
240 Equipment		\$32.58
500 Koi Show Expenses		
520 Banquet Costs		\$12.93
535 Labor		\$70.00
540 Food and Drink		\$411.18
541 Food for Judges		\$47.84
543 Hospitality Suite expenses		\$65.36
590 Water Quality		\$195.92
595 Misc.		\$32.74
700 Misc. Expenses		
740 Monthly Club Meetings		\$250.00
795 Miscellaneous Items		\$63.15
1030 Monthly Raffle Items Expense		\$317.00
1110 Storage Expenses:		\$380.00
1400 Bank Charges		
1466 PayPal Charge		\$7.46
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b><u>\$1,886.16</u></b>

**Month Net Income/(Loss)** **(\$1,276.16)**

**ENDING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:** **\$11,363.33**      11/30/2021

**Atlanta Koi Club  
Financial Statement  
As of December 31, 2021**

<b><u>BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:</u></b>	<b>\$11,363.3 3</b>
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**INCOME STATEMENT**

<b>Income</b>	\$0.00
 <b>Total Income</b>	 <b><u>\$0.00</u></b>
 <b>Expenses</b>	
2300 Koi Show Income	
2310 Banquet Tickets      REFUND	\$80.00
2350 Tank Rental - Non-	
Vendor                      REFUND	\$75.00
 500 Koi Show Expenses	
540 Food and Drink	\$26.89
1110 Storage Expenses:	\$190.00
 <b>Total Expenses</b>	 <b><u>\$371.89</u></b>
 <b>Month Net Income/ (Loss)</b>	 <b><u>(\$371.89)</u></b>