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## September, 2021

### By the Pond

Hello Koi and goldfish friends!

Amidst the graces of cooler weather, I hope this message finds all of you well and safe. With the cooler weather, hopefully your NH<sub>3</sub> levels are on the downward trend!

A big “Thank you” and sincere appreciation to David and the entire team at Randy’s Nursery. Randy’s Nursery is not only a valued AKC sponsor, but they were such a great host during our most recent August meeting.. For those of you who weren’t able to attend, and if it’s within your schedule, please visit our friends at Randy’s Nursery. They have a great and helpful team and a fantastic selection of plants, and anything pond and water-feature related!

OKAY folks, our next AKC meeting is as follows:

When: September 12th (Sunday) @ 3PM

Where: Kol Koi Pondscapes, 2731 Summers St, Kennesaw, GA 30144

Kol Koi will be discussing Koi ponds vs. goldfish ponds and everything in between!

About Kol Koi: Between the owners Kristie, Richard, and Brett, they bring a combined experience of 30+ years in Koi and goldfish sales, commercial and residential pond design/construction. Kol Koi is your full service pond and water feature store.

\*Special note during the meeting: We will be spending much of the time outside, in the shade, and walking the grounds. Plan to bring a chair and mosquito repellant— just in case!

Prepare to ask questions and also remember to support Kol Koi— They are a continued and very important sponsor of AKC!

Hope to see all of you Sunday, September 12th at Kol Koi Pondscapes in Kennesaw.

Stay safe and healthy  
Kevin

## K.O.I. 101 is FREE!

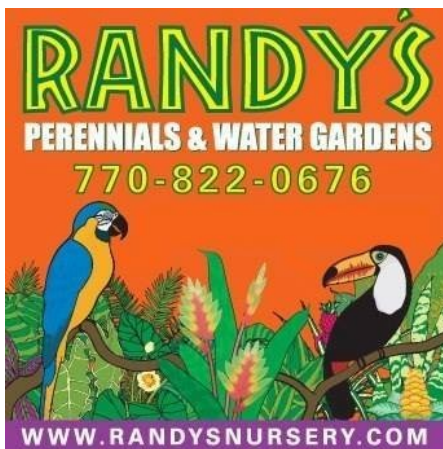
The Best Single Document about Koi Keeping!! Over 30 International Authors, 43 Pages Understand the demands of a Koi Pond:

□ Maintenance □ Water Testing □ Filtration □ Costs Learn basic Koi health management □ Good Water Quality □ Managing Stress Download, or copy and give to new Koi Keepers:

<https://koiorganisationinternational.org/koi-101>

### Please remember our Sponsors:

Randy's Perennials, Kol Koi Pondscapes, Coastal Pond Supply, T&T Uniforms, The Koi Store, and Paradise Ponds



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## Bottom Drain

So you want a deep pond. A place where your finned friends can disappear into the depths only to reappear somewhere else. Did you know your finned friends aerobic exercise occurs when they move from one depth to another, not like us mere humans who swim laps.

Think of it, there is quite a lure, a mystery, to a pool of deep still water: but, with this new deep exercise pool a few of the rules will change.

It will definitely be more than 2' deep, so to keep from voiding home owners insurance (claims) the pond will need to be inside a fence. (A fence around the property will usually suffice.)

The added depth will minimize temperature change, but may increase the need to add oxygen especially if you live where summers are hot. Let us assume for a moment that your current pond is only foot deep. Every cubic foot of water will have 1 square foot of water surface from which to draw oxygen. If your new pond is two feet deep, each cubic foot of water will only have 6 square inches of water surface from which to draw oxygen. So as your pond becomes deeper your need to add oxygen will increase. This can be done by adding oxygenating plants (which produce oxygen only by day), fountains and waterfalls (my favorite), venturis, and air blowers.

When your ponds go down to 3', 4', 5' or more, bottom maintenance (cleaning) becomes a real chore. If you think the muck piles up on the bottom now, just wait till you need scuba gear to reach it and you feel you are on an underwater archaeology expedition.

Now if you have already reached these depths of archeological exasperation you may want to do a retrofit (shudder), but hopefully you are in planning stages, and what I'm about to suggest will keep you from purchasing the scuba gear.

Think about it. You may never need to empty your pond again. Muck will not pile up on the bottom. Just install the bottom drain, pipe, and a sump and in just a few minutes all the muck can be removed from your finned friends pool, and you can go back to relaxing beside the pool: but wait, isn't that a patch of lawn over by the fence? Humm, yes I could put a goldfish pond there and then I could sell the lawn mower to the guy down the block and then I could...

From Pond Internet Society



### TIP OF THE MONTH

#### DID YOU KNOW ?

Don't skip your weekly water changes as this routine will keep your fish healthy and stronger.

Large ponds – over 5,000 gals (20,000 liters) change out at least 5 to 10%.

Small ponds – under 5,000 gals, change 10% or more.

Use a water meter to measure instead of guessing. There are many types of meters available.



## MEMBERSHIP

Hi fellow club members! Just a quick note to let you know that we are now up to 133 members. We would like to welcome our 3 newest members, Laura Rencher, Eric Ireland and Michael Gokey. We hope to see everyone at the next meeting and get to know you better when you volunteer at the show! WELCOME!

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

I'd like to thank this year's nominations committee for putting together a great slate of potential prospects for the open positions of Vice President and Treasurer. Chad Bishop, Rhonda Eubanks, Angie Jones, Alan Puch, Steve Schreimen. You have gone above and beyond to come up with a slate of 18 names for VP and 17 for Treasurer! Several of you will be getting calls soon, and I strongly suggest you run! I mean, run for the positions!

The positions are not too time consuming, say an hour per week. All positions and requirements

of the positions are listed in the By-Laws. They are as follows:

Section B – The duties, responsibilities, and authority of the

### **Vice President**

shall be:

1. To assume all duties of the President during his or her absence, or upon his/her resignation or other departure from office, or upon request by the President, in addition to other duties which may be assigned.
2. To assist the President as requested.
3. To secure the location for regular monthly Club meetings and to establish meeting dates and times for the coming year.
4. To secure programs for regular monthly Club meetings.
5. To provide information to the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster regarding monthly programs and meetings.

Section D – The, duties, responsibilities, and authority of the

### **Treasurer**

shall be:

1. To receive funds for deposit from various sources and advice of deposits made by the Membership Chairperson for dues collected, name badges ordered, and any magazine subscriptions ordered; said funds to be deposited into the Club's account(s) with its primary financial institution ("Bank").
2. To recommend to the Executive Committee the Club's Bank which will have, at a minimum, federal insurance in an amount at least equal to the highest balance held by the Club in the preceding 12 months or the highest amount carried in the current year's budget, whichever is greater.
3. To be prepared, if asked, to report to the Executive Committee at its meetings, or to the Membership at Club meetings, the financial condition of the Club at any given time.
4. To pay bills and reimburse Members' expenses in accord with the Club's approved annual budget or, if over-budget, unbudgeted, or greater than the established limits set for Committee Chairpersons, to obtain approval from the President, Executive Committee, or Membership in accord with the Bylaws.
5. To request a financial accounting from any Chairperson at the conclusion of any major Club project.

So if you get an email or phone call from me, please respond promptly. I continue to work down the committees list until I have at least 3 people willing to run.

Talk to you soon!

Melanie

## For Sale

The following items are for cash sale. If you have questions or want to make a purchase, contact me: [mcasan@ourimages.net](mailto:mcasan@ourimages.net). I will meet buyers at the Alpharetta Police Department parking lot. They are located at 2565 Old Milton Parkway. Their parking lot entrance is around the corner on Westside Parkway.

Qty.	Description	Price
4	Used sheets (each 24x33) of Matala gray fine matting. There are many bonus pieces that would add up to at least a 5th sheet.	\$60 for 4 sheets plus bonus pieces
3	New sheets (each 24x39) of Matala black coarse matting. There all additional bonus pieces included.	\$60 for 3 sheets plus bonus pieces
1	Wave Model 67 1/2HP water pump. Latest version lists for over \$900. Great pump for pushing through a bead filter or supplying a waterfall or shower. Used outside for approximately 1 year. Motor spins up. No known problems. Includes new pipe unions.	\$200
1	Advantage Evolution 1/4HP water pump. New ones list for over \$400. Great low pressure pump for pushing pushing water through static or fluid beds, matting chambers, or similar. Used outside for approximately 2 years. That is why the label is sun faded. Motor spins up. No known problems. Includes new pipe unions.	\$60
2	Foam fractionator approximate ly 7' tall. Designed for max 1,800gph flow rate. Several are already in service at club members' ponds.	\$400 each

Words matter. Just ask any doctor, lawyer, engineer or other professional that needs to be precise.

UV light is a water treatment, not a filter. A filter is something that separates and traps/blocks something. Think of a colander/sieve in the kitchen sink. You pour in the hot water and pasta. The device keeps the solids and lets the water go down the drain. That is a filter. It does not try to change or convert the pasta into something else. UV light units do not separate or trap debris so it is not a filter. It does not convert ammonia to other nitrogen compounds, so not a bio-converter. It should simply provide enough UV band light energy to cripple or kill anything living that passes through. On Aquaultraviolet's sizing chart you can see the difference in energy levels needed to just kill algae or try to kill everything that passes through. Words matter.

Michael Anderson



## Some shots taken at our August meeting at Randy's Nursery in Lawrenceville on August 14th

The weather gods threatened to deliver torrential rain, but finally relented until after our meeting. The folks at Randy's took us on a tour of their garden center, and conducted a question and answer session surrounding one of their ponds. The sandwiches served were more than ample.



## Easy ways to add nitrification to your pond By Monte McQuade, K.O.I. Instructor

The crazy weather across the nation that has occurred lately has challenged many pond keepers. These extremes present more than just a couple of problems: Rapid temperature changes cause stress in our fish. Higher temperatures make the ratio of  $\text{NH}_3$  to  $\text{NH}_4$  greater, often being stated as the ammonia is “more toxic.” Warmer water temperature lowers the ability of the water to hold dissolved oxygen (DO). Some ponds do not have enough biological conversion capacity (bio-filtration) to start with and hot weather makes that more of a concern. We cannot do much to overcome the weather but a shade cloth goes a long way to keep the sun off of the pond. Shade moderates the water temperature swings. Shade reduces the sunlight and limits an algae bloom, and the cooler water helps keep the ammonia less toxic (a higher ratio of  $\text{NH}_4$  to  $\text{NH}_3$ ). Cooler water can also maintain more oxygen. Higher Dissolved Oxygen levels are not only good for the Koi, but more oxygen allows the Bio-converters to convert more Ammonia to Nitrate. A reliable way to add oxygen to the pond and keep DO levels as high as possible is to add a few air stones to the pond itself. Aeration will aid plant growth and help to off-gas the Carbon Dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ). But the biggest benefit is that it improves circulation within the pond.

All surfaces of the pond can do some bioconversion. However the water must pass over the bacteria that live on the walls and surfaces of the pond to do this. Aeration moves the water within the pond and improves the environment for the fish. This leads us to our last concern, the lack of sufficient bioconversion capacity of some ponds to begin with. This can easily be remedied by adding more surface area for the nitrifying bacteria to colonize. Doing it yourself is extremely cost effective and it will greatly benefit your fish. Adding additional media to an existing filter is the fastest and easiest way to “enlarge” your filter surface. This can be done by adding more strapping, matting or even a laundry bag of bio-balls. Or a new unit can be added to an existing circuit. Both shower units and barrel filters can be built quickly with common hardware found at most of the Big Box stores or other local sources. Static barrel filters can use inexpensive strapping (spring flow or pallet strapping) as its media. The strapping provides lots of surface area and requires very few parts. Mesh pad media such as Matala (do not use furnace filter media as it may have chemicals to inhibit fungus and bacteria growth and these can kill fish) can be used in the same barrel filter design, but the pad filter media costs more. Pads do provide more surface area per cubic foot of media than strapping. It is important to use the coarsest media near the filter inlet, and graduate to the finest media near the outlet to assure best water flow. All static filters need to be cleaned often, at least weekly in the summer. These filters do both mechanical and biological filtration in one container. K-1 or similar media can be used as a filter media with the proper design.

Moving bed filters (usually with K-1 media) require a few more parts to add aeration to the bottom of the barrel that circulates the floating media around. The amount of media surface area is highest in these types of filters. Another advantage is that moving bed filters are self-cleaning and need very little maintenance.

It is suggested that some pre-filtering occur before a moving bed in order to remove both large and fine particles, as a moving bed filter is specifically a bio-converter. Showers are another option. They may require a little more plumbing to install as they usually sit above the pond’s surface level. Again they require pre-filtering, but they not only provide a massive amount of bioconversion, but they also improve aeration. Showers can be made using storage totes and other local supplies. Showers and barrels may be installed remotely for aesthetic purposes. I have one shower unit that sits next to my pond that “costs” 148 watts or about 25 cents a day to run. It pumps well over 100,000 gallons of water per day over the media. That is very cost effective!

Your fish may have grown, or the pond lacked nitrification capacity to begin with. In addition, Mother Nature frequently throws us a curve ball. All of these are reasons to consider adding more “bio-filtration” to your fish's environment. There are many great build threads and videos on the internet to help you get project ideas. I am happy to talk with people about this topic but everyone’s pond is different, and many solutions are unique.

Courtesy of Koi Organisation International



# Easy ways to add nitrification to your pond

By Monte McQuade, K.O.I. Instructor

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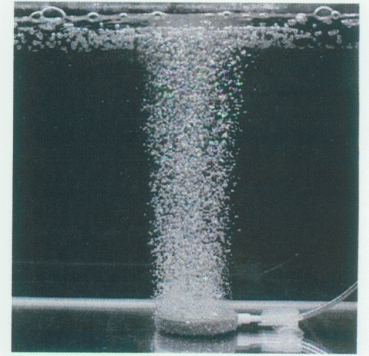
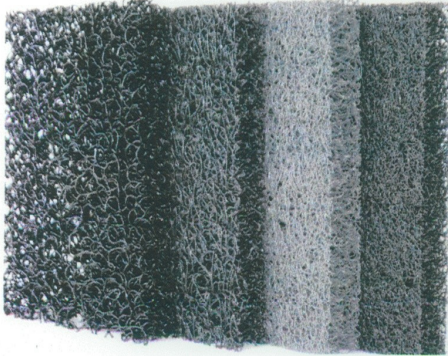


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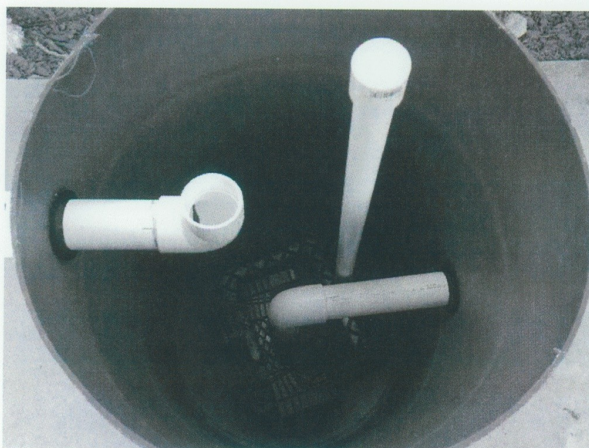
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**Atlanta Koi Club**  
**Financial Statement**  
**As of July 31, 2021**

**BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:** **\$23,772.64**

**INCOME STATEMENT**

**Income** \$0.00

**Total Income** **\$0.00**

**Expenses**

200 Club Store Expenses  
240 Equipment dip tank from Cheryl Jacobs \$150.00

400 Insurance Expense  
Liability Insurance  
410 \$2,407.00

600 Koi Auction Expenses  
620 Paide to Fish Seller \$4,391.25

700 Miscellaneous Expenses  
Miscellaneous  
795 Items Trademark fee for logo \$275.00

1100 Rent Expense  
1110 Storage Building \$340.00

**Total Expenses** **\$7,563.25**

**Month Net Income/(Loss)** **(\$7,563.25)**

**ENDING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:** **\$16,209.39**

7/31/2021

**Outstanding Checks:**

**\$245.00**

03/11/21 1545 \$60.00  
05/31/21 auto \$185.00 11