



Splash

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 11 November, 2014

Water Keeping



By now you've surely heard the old saw, "You're not a koi keeper, you're a water keeper". If you haven't heard this yet you should have attended the October meeting. Dr. Jessie Sanders led us in an in depth discussion of water care. If you missed this important talk you see the highlights...

Continued on Page 6

Visit our Web Site at: www.sckoi.com

Club Meetings:

The club meets on the third Tuesday of each month except July (Third Thursday) and December (No Meeting) in the Willow Glen Public Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose, CA 95125. Check the web site Calendar for updates and a map. At our meetings we get acquainted with any guests, address any pond issues from guests or members. We generally follow this with a presentation which is usually related to pond or water gardening. Finally, we enjoy refreshments and open discussion.

Officers		Phone	Email
President	Frank Mullaney	(408) 691-2656	rockyfiv@aol.com
Vice President	Cal Hansen	(408) 688-7143	koi.junky@gmail.com
Secretary	Don Chamberlain	(408) 594-4161	scvkwg@gmail.com
Treasurer	Eve Bretzke	(408) 559-7762	bretzko@netscape.net

Board of Directors
Cal Hansen
Don Chamberlain
Frank Mullaney
Jessie Sanders
Rita Hughes

Club Functions		Phone	Email
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Splash	Don Chamberlain	(408) 594-4161	scvkwg@gmail.com
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Koi Health Advisor	Sanjiv Kapoor	(408) 223-8776	saniv.kapoor@stanfordalumni.org
Club Equipment	Cal Hansen	(408) 394-4642	koi.junky@yahoo.com
Event Coordinators	Diane Stelma	(415) 235-5205	stella.viv92@gmail.com
	Paul Townsley	(408) 315-7216	pgtownsley@gmail.com
Dealer Relations	Cal Hansen	(408) 394-4642	koi.junky@yahoo.com
AKCA Representative	Don Chamberlain	(408) 594-4161	scvkwg@gmail.com

Membership

Club dues are \$30.00 per year. Our fiscal year starts July 1, so if you join before that date, your dues for the remainder of the current year will be prorated at the rate of \$2.50 per month.

To join, send your name, address, phone number and email address along with your check for dues to:

**SCVKWG
PO Box 9006
San Jose, CA 95157**

Treasurer's Report

Since the Splash is widely distributed and available online, the Treasurer's Report is no longer published.

The report is available from the club Treasurer.

October Steering Committee

The Steering Committee met at Frank's house on the evening of October 6. Cal, Diane, Don, Eve, Frank, Kay and Paul were in attendance.

We discussed the Holiday Party and agreed to hold it at the 3 Flames on Sunday, December 7. An open bar will be available at 6:00 PM and Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM.

This is a great opportunity for members to catch up with friends they may not have seen for a while and enjoy a great night out. Charge for dinner will only be \$30 and of course those that have worked our events during the year will enjoy a free dinner.

Invites will be going out soon, so be sure to look for it in your mail.

Also discussed were nominations for new officers. These will be put forward at the October meeting.

October Meeting

10/21/2014
Attendees

We had a pretty good turnout this month with 16 people showing up. Frank's son Lon was visiting from his post in Texas. A few of regulars were absent for one reason or another and were sorely missed, but hopefully November will not have so many conflicts.

Club Business

There was quite a bit of business to discuss as the year draws to a close. Frank presented nominations for new officers for 2015. They are:

- President - Calvin Hansen
- VP - Dr. Jessie Sanders
- Treasurer - Eve Bretzke
- Secretary - Don Chamberlain

Proposed board members are:

- Diane Stelma
- Frank Mullaney
- Paul Townsley
- Rita Hughes

The Steering Committee meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of each month. Initially at least, the meetings will be held at Frank's house.

Details of the Holiday Dinner were also revealed. The menu will include: Prime Rib, Greek Chicken, Salmon or Vegetarian.

Please bring an unwrapped gift suitable for a child. These will be donated to Toys for Tots.

Presentation

Once our business was out of the way the floor was turned over to Dr. Jessie. Her presentation will begin on page 6.

Dessert

As usual when the presentation concluded we adjourned to enjoy the Merrifield's delicious desserts and enjoy open discussion.

SF Bay Area Returns

Our friends in the SF Bar Area Koi Club are back in business after being very quiet for some time. You can check out their website to see a schedule of their events from a link on our website.

In October they met at Grant Fujita's pond. Grant has been keeping koi longer than most anyone else in the US. He founded the SF Bay Area club and held a koi study group for many years.

Grant has a large pond with some enormous high quality koi. It is always a treat and a privilege to visit.



Grant's Pond



SF Bay Area Members Admiring Grant's Pond

The SF Bay Area club is centered in Hayward and serves the NE Bay Area although several SCVKWG members are also members of the SF Bay Area club.



Sale and Judging Tanks

The event also included a judging contest. A selection of koi were placed in one of the tanks and the audience was invited to judge the koi and then compare their selections with the judgement handed down by Larry Gil.

Monterey Bay Koi Harvest

On Sept 28 the Monterey Bay Koi and Pond club held a very fun event at Rick and Adra's home in Ben Lomond. They have a 350,000 gal pond and each Fall harvest the koi from the pond and auction some of them off.



350,000 Gallon Pond



The Judging Tank



Rick and Adra Reviewing Results With Larry

The day was capped off with an excellent BBQ dinner. Terry and I ventured up to enjoy a wonderful koi experience in a beautiful mountain setting.



Chow Time

What Turns You On

Let us know what you'd like to hear about at our meetings or in the Splash. Just drop a line to scvkwg@gmail.com with your ideas.



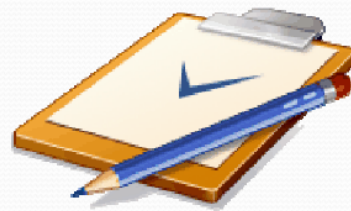
**It's Fall Now, But We Can Dream of Spring
When the Cherry Blossoms are in Bloom**

Koi Water Quality

Jessie Sanders, DVM, CertAqV
Aquatic Vet Services of N CA
Santa Clara Koi & Water Garden Club
October, 21 2014

What is “water quality?”

- Water quality = testing certain chemistry parameters
- Parameters for koi
 - Nitrogen cycle: ammonia, nitrite, nitrate
 - pH
 - Dissolved oxygen
 - Alkalinity (KH), hardness (GH)
 - Salinity
 - Copper, chlorine, hydrogen sulfide



How Do You Know It's Clean?

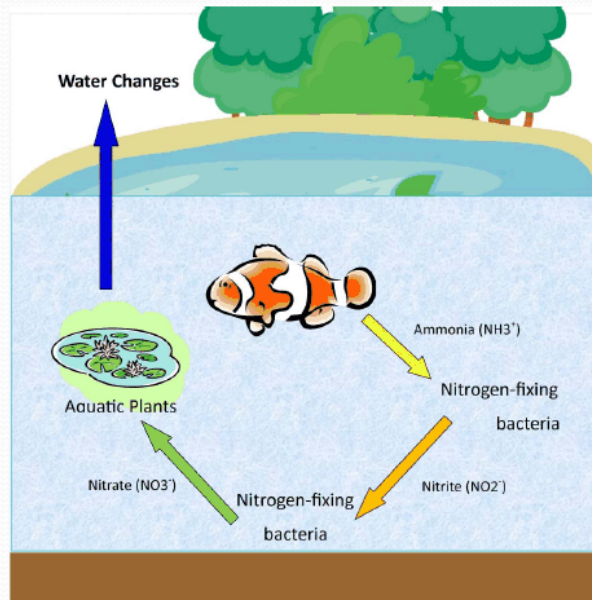
- “It looks clean.”
- “There’s never been a problem.”
- “The fish are sick, the water is fine.”
- **TEST THE WATER!**

How To Test

- Water quality test kit
- Drop-based >>> strips
- API or Nutrafin



Nitrogen Cycle



Nitrogen Cycle

- Ammonia
 - Primary fish waste, excreted through gills and urine
 - Low levels toxic to fish
- Nitrite
 - Primary product of ammonia breakdown
 - Low levels toxic to fish
- Nitrate
 - Secondary product of ammonia breakdown
 - High levels toxic to fish, low levels (<100) okay



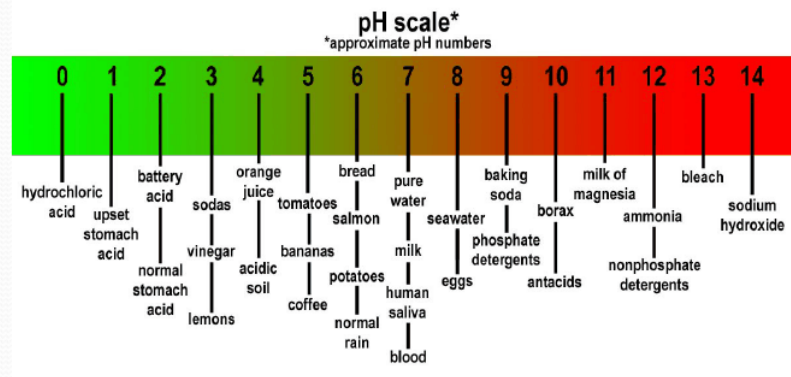
Nitrogen Cycle

- Removal of nitrogen products
 - Biological filtration
 - Ammonia → nitrite → nitrate
 - Affected by pond treatments
 - Water changes
 - Physical removal of water from system, not topping off
 - Use to water plants
 - Plants
 - Removal of small percentage
 - Aquaponic system – increase amount of plants for filtration



pH

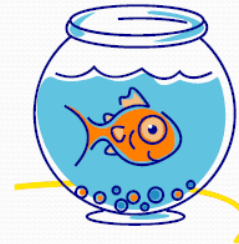
- Amount of hydrogen ions in solution



- Affect internal biological processes
 - Blood diffusion on *outside* of body = gills

pH

- Most important = CONSISTENCY
- Koi can tolerate pH between 6.5-9.0
 - Most in 7.5-8.5 range
 - 7.0 always = MYTH!
 - Should remain stable throughout day
- Stable levels most important
 - KH (alkalinity) = amount of buffers in water
 - GH (hardness) = calcium-related compounds (some buffering)



Dissolved Oxygen

- Oxygen in water – minimum 12 mg/L
- Incorporated through waterfall, filtration, aerator, fountain
- Must circulate throughout pond
 - Powerheads/outflow to direct water flow
- Algae can suck oxygen out of water *quickly*
- Signs of low oxygen: slow, lethargic fish



Salinity

- Adding non-iodinized salt can be used to treat different parasites
- Need to keep levels consistent for effective treatment
 - Add salt back after water changes
- Purchase salinity meter
- Do NOT need to add salt



Copper

- Can be used as treatment option for some parasites
- Toxic to invertebrates
- High levels can become toxic to fish
- Sources: building projects, piping
- Signs of illness: generalized (lethargic, ulcers, etc)



Chlorine

- City water purification
- Toxic to all fish
- Test your source water if you are unsure
- Add dechlorinator when changing water



Hydrogen Sulfide

- Created by pockets of waste and debris buried deep in bottom of pond
- Occurs when pond is not cleaned regularly
- Released into water when muck is stirred
- Causes death in less than 6 hours



How Often Do I Test?

- Stable, established system
 - Once every 2-4 weeks
- New system or new equipment
 - Once every 1-2 weeks
- Ongoing general illness
 - Once every 1-2 weeks

Not Testing Regularly?

- Signs of water quality problems
 - Generalized fish sickness
 - Ulcers
 - Inappetance
 - Sudden death
 - One fish acting “odd?”
 - #1 – test the water
- Rare to see actual change in water

General WQ Parameters

- Ammonia: 0 mg/L
- Nitrite: 0 mg/L
- Nitrate: <100 mg/L
- pH: stable levels
- Alkalinity: >100 mg/L
- Hardness: >100 mg/L
- Dissolved oxygen: >10 mg/L
- Copper: 0 mg/L
- Chlorine: 0 mg/L
- Hydrogen sulfide: 0 mg/L



What If There's a Problem?

- High ammonia, nitrite or nitrate
 - Immediate 50-60% water change
 - Can add temporary additive to bind ammonia
 - NOT PERMANENT FIX
 - Call pond professional
- Low alkalinity/irregular pH
 - Add buffers – pond products available
- Low dissolved oxygen
 - Add aerator IMMEDIATELY

What If There's a Problem?

- High copper
 - Find source and remove from system
- High chlorine
 - Add dechlorinator IMMEDIATELY
- Fish dying from unknown cause?
 - Call professional and water change

Clean Water = Happy Fish

- Good water quality is the #1 thing you can do to keep your fish happy and healthy
- Get a test kit (a new one if yours is older than 1 year)
- Test regularly!
- Address problems ASAP
 - Talk to pond professional or aquatic vet

A PDF of this presentation will be in the Library on our website. Check it out sometime. Lot's of the questions you have can be answered on our website.

We have contact information for all of the officers there and a schedule of our events. Also available is a Library with back issues of the Splash and several other newsletters from clubs around the state.

Links to other clubs and other useful websites including a very useful calculator that will help determine your pond load or make many conversions.

Upcoming Events




8th Annual ZNA NorCal Koi Show
Feb 28 and Mar 1, 2015
 SAT, 9am-5pm & SUN, 10am-2:30pm

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 Co-Show Chairs:
 Nathan Truong & Long Vo
 (ntruong27@yahoo.com, 408-595-7701
 babykoi30@yahoo.com, 408-416-7137)

ZnaNorcal.org




Koi Club
 of
San Diego
 Presents its
28th Annual Koi Show
 &
Water Garden Expo
March 7th & 8th, 2015
Del Mar Fairgrounds
Activity Center

Fish Check-in:
Friday 3pm-8pm
Saturday 8am appointment only



Exhibit Hours:
Saturday 9am-4pm
Sunday 9am-3pm

Judging Starts: Saturday @10am
Awards Banquet: Saturday @ 6pm in the Activity Center
Brazilian Steakhouse BBQ

Show Chair: Jack Chapman — show@koiesd.org
Vendor Chair: Linda Pluth — vendor@koiesd.org

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Please support our sponsors. They help make our club possible and provide valuable products and services to koi keepers and water gardeners.

While we love their ads and you depend on them to get the koi and supplies you need, SCVKWG does not endorse any business or product. Please use your best judgement when selecting a vendor or product.

Splash rates are per year (12 issues). All ads will also appear on our website and will be linked to your website if possible. Ads placed mid-year will be prorated based on the number of issues remaining before July.

Annual Pond Tour Guide rates are for the tour guide for our annual pond tour held in July. A special combo rate is available if you'd like to place the same ad in the Tour Guide and the Splash.

To place an ad, please send ad copy (pdf or jpg file) to scvkwg@gmail.com and we'll send you a bill. Your ad will appear in the next issue after we receive your check.

Advertising Rates	
Annual Pond Tour Guide	
Business Card	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$50.00
Half Page	\$100.00
Full Page	\$200.00
Back Cover	\$250
Splash 1 Year	
Business Card	\$35.00
Quarter Page	\$95.00
Half Page	\$175.00
Full Page	\$325.00
Combo Annual Pond Tour Guide/Splash 1 Year	
Business Card	\$50.00
Quarter Page	\$125.00
Half Page	\$250
Full Page	\$500.00
Back Cover Guide/Full Page Splash	\$525.00



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AKCA Club

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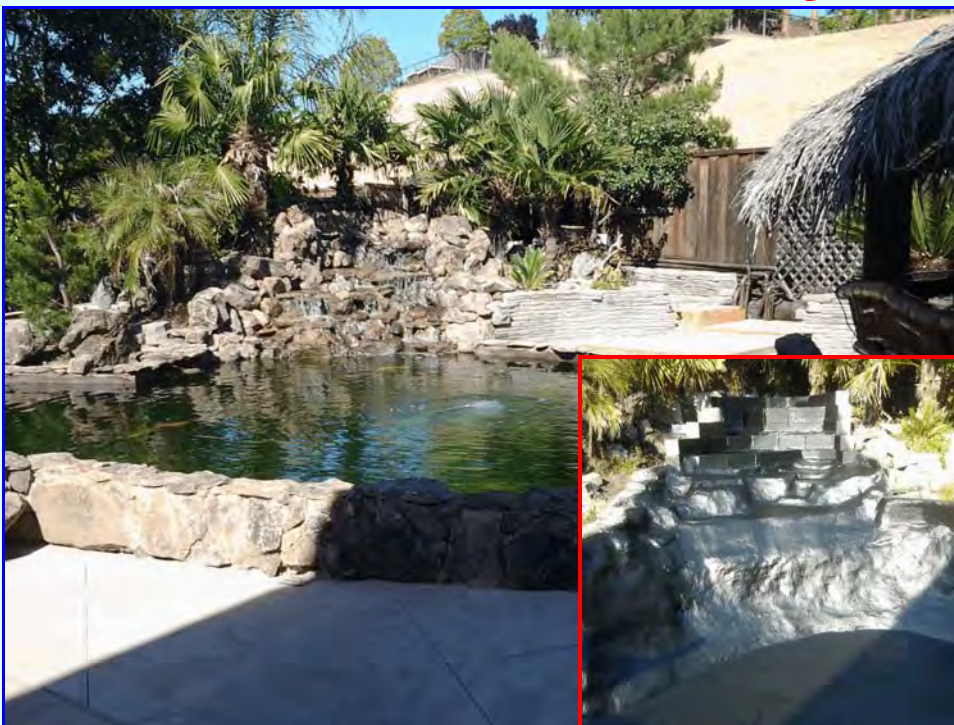
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