



# Splash

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 10 October, 2015

## Getting Ready for 2016

2015 is drawing to a close so it's time to start thinking about 2016. Our bylaws call for a term limit of a maximum of two years for any one position.

It would certainly be wonderful if we could adhere to that, but we've haven't had enough member involvement for a number of years to make this possible. Nevertheless, we'll make an attempt to adhere to our rules as best we can.

We're already behind schedule. The Board was supposed to have presented a slate of new candidates at the September meeting. I guess we can consider the current officers with a few exceptions to be that slate.

In October, we are required to ask for nominations from the floor. We plan to do that.

Eve is hoping to step down as Treasurer. She stepped up to take on this task when Julaine passed away, Julaine, bless her heart held this job for many years and it is clearly a critical position so we are very hopeful that someone can take this over.

We did not hold any of the events we normally do in 2015. We've blamed it on the drought, but I have my doubts about that.

All of the pond builders and maintenance folks are reporting they are busier than ever. The SF Bay club that had been dormant for many years has roared back with a vengeance and is now holding monthly events.

[Continued on pg 6](#)

*Visit our Web Site at: [www.sckoi.com](http://www.sckoi.com)*

### Club Meetings:

**The club meets on the third Tuesday of each month except July (Third Friday) 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	Cal Hansen	(408) 688-7143	koi.junky@gmail.com
Vice President	Dr. Jessie Sanders	(831) 278-1081	ncfishvet@gmail.com
Secretary	Don Chamberlain	(408) 594-4161	scvkwg@gmail.com
Treasurer	Eve Bretzke	(408) 559-7762	bretzko@netscape.net

Board of Directors
Diane Stelma
Frank Mullaney
Rita Hughes

Club Functions		Phone	Email
Program Director	Cal Hansen	(408) 688-7143	koi.junky@yahoo.com
Email	Don Chamberlain	(408) 594-4161	scvkwg@gmail.com
Splash	Don Chamberlain	(408) 594-4161	scvkwg@gmail.com
Website	Don Chamberlain	(408) 594-4161	scvkwg@gmail.com
Koi Health Advisor	Zack Herlick	(650) 530-2030	zherlick@gmail.com
	Sanjiv Kapoor	(408) 223-8776	sanjiv.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
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.

The Monterey Bay club is also very active and ZNA NorCal is actively holding events and planning for another

<b>Refreshment Volunteers</b>	
<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>
October:	Linda and Alan Merrifield
November:	Open

**If you are unable to meet your commitment, please contact Linda Merrifield as soon as possible at: [lmerrifield@comcast.net](mailto:lmerrifield@comcast.net).**

## September Steering Committee

The September meeting was held Tuesday evening, 9/8. Frank, Cal, Eve, Diane, Kay and myself were in attendance.

The meeting was devoted to reviewing proposed changes to the bylaws. To make the job manageable we decided to concentrate on one section at a time.

The changes will be reviewed with and voted on by the membership as required. The first set of changes are listed later in this newsletter.

Please take a few minutes to review them so we can discuss at the next meeting.

We will be also calling for nominations for new officers.

## September Meeting

Our regular monthly meeting was held Tuesday, September 15.

### Guests and Attendance

Attendance was down a bit as we had no published program. 14 turned out, including a guest Jessica Friedman.

Jessica is a Park Ranger and was recently assigned to Kelley Park. She came to learn more about koi to help her take better care of the koi in their pond at the Friendship Garden.

### Pond Problems

The Munsons are planning an extended absence and asked for advice on maintaining their pond during the time they are away.

About all we could suggest was to arrange for a regular maintenance visit from one of the services that perform this type of work.

I'm having a big problem with small snails that foul my pump frequently. I've treated them with potassium permanganate and Dimlin. I'm hoping that will take care of it.

### Club Business

Cal called for members to start thinking about volunteering to serve as an officer or think about who could. Critical needs are Treasurer and Program Director.

Cal is hoping to arrange presentations 6 months in advance. He is also hoping we can resume the events we've traditionally done such as the Cherry Blossom Festival, the Pond Tour and possibly the County Fair.

He announced several upcoming events, the ZNA NorCal Koi Handling Seminar at Genki Koi and the Blazo Harvest Festival.

Eve and Mel attended the Koi Handling Seminar and Mel came away the winner of a very nice 12" Showa.

### Remember Dues are now past due!!

Eve announced that so far we've only had about 40 people renew their membership. We had about 65 members last year, so we really hope we'll get more members renewing as the year winds down.

Your check for \$30.00 covers your entire family for the year, 2015-16. Send your check to:

**SCVKWG  
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### Presentation

The local representative from API contacted us recently and offered to come to meet with the club. API is one of the major manufacturers of water testing and treatment supplies.

Unfortunately, we weren't able to finalize things in time for the September meeting, but he is on the schedule for October.

Instead we watched a couple of YouTube videos showing recent All Japan Koi Show winners. Some very lovely koi were on display.

We also watched a portion of the first ZNA NorCal Koi Handling seminar video.

### Desert

Dennis and Nadine Jacobson brought the goodies this month, including some especially delicious brownies.

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## 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.

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## Further Thoughts on Conserving Water

Last month we featured water saving ideas including one from new member Jim Boso about reusing water in his pond that had been flushed from his filter. Our friend Jerry Kyle from Sacramento saw this article and recognized that it might pose a problem to your koi's health and sent this alternative idea.

### Jerry's Take

This is a great idea to save water in these parched times and I applaud the idea but, there is a better use for the water than putting it back in the pond. If you put it back in the pond you will still have to buy water from the water company to water the roses and whatever else you have.

That water from the city is full of chlorine that plants can, if they have to, live with but, they would prefer not to have to deal with all that darn chlorine in there.

Does your water have chloramines? Plants would prefer not having that even more. The city water also has very little plant nutrients so we go to LOWES and buy products with nitrates for growth and plant health.

Darn stuff cost more each year. What if we take Jim's idea and modify it?

The waste water in the barrels has had the chlorine gassed off by the pond aeration system and wonderful nitrates added in an amount that will thrill the roses.

They do not necessarily like having a bunch of nitrates dumped on them from time to time but, just love a little at a time more consistently.

Yum. Happy plants grow bigger roses. The Koi will be happy helping the roses since the Koi will get first use of the water originally intended for the roses and by later passing it on to the garden the Koi will also be passing on the excess nitrates that if allowed to build up too much in the pond water will eventually suppress the Koi immune system.

A side benefit is that the pheromones (hormones?) build up that the Koi give off into the water and can effect growth gets diluted with more fresh water. That old fallacy that Koi can not grow big in small ponds is wrong.

Doc Johnson proved that years ago. Mother Nature has her Koi emit a hormone into the water that can be sensed by others and inhibits growth as a protection device to protect them from environmental disasters (getting so big there is not enough natural food supply?) caused by overcrowding.

Increased water changes to reduce the hormones promote bigger Koi and is another reason to use Jim's idea without returning the water to the pond. Consider taking these ideas to the next level and doing all the garden watering out of the pond.

Some of us have installed a hose valve on the line returning water to the pond from the filter and have an automatic refill valve (like on the toilet) to slowly refill the pond water level only as needed.

Those big regular water changes that raise the water bill (causing too many do not do it) are no longer needed. No more water purchased for the pond, less nitrates purchased for the roses, no buildup of pheromones to suppress growth make happy Koi keepers and saves money.

The idea of adding the barrels to save the back-flush water, raise it on a pedestal, and install a hose bib on the bottom in order to use gravity to feed the hose for that water will save even more water that is wasted by too many. Thanks to Jim for that idea. It is why we join a Koi & Garden Club. That and great food at the pot-lucks. Enjoy having bigger, healthier, happier Koi.....Jerold Kyle, KHA.

A few weeks ago Shell Rubenstein, a long time former member brought me their collection of Koi USA magazines from the 1990's. Some very interesting reading. I found this article that some of you may find interesting.

# The Ponds of Santa Clara Valley

by Bert Donlon

On Saturday, September 21, 1996 the Santa Clara Valley Koi and Water Garden Club held its 5th Annual Public Pond Tour. Six ponds were featured, ranging from a 1200 gallon liner pond to a 30,000 gallon pond at several levels with spectacular water falls. Here is information on the six ponds and photographs taken the day of the tour.

Thanks to the 50 volunteers, the tour was a tremendous success. Close to 500 people visited each of the six ponds between ten in the morning and four in the afternoon.

A special thanks to the pond owners—George and Betty Armes, Art and Noreen Christopher, Joe and Gaiter Plott, Casey and Debbie Roche, Roy and Marsha Rocklin, and Tom and Laura Tietz—for opening their gardens and lovely ponds to the public.

The Pond Committee invested five

months of hard work into making this event the success that it was. I have never been on such a hard working committee, so willing to do whatever it took to get the job done and done well. Thanks to Fred and Sharon Andres, George Armes, Carl Fridenstine, Jim Gate, John Hughes, Mary Jane Ishida, Bill and Linda Manausa, Jerry Putz, Chuck and Shell Rubenstein, and Bonnie Stewart for all their efforts on behalf of the club. Well done!



## Getting Ready for 2016 Continued

Listed below is the first section of bylaw changes we wish to discuss:

### Section B

The duties of the Officers shall be:

...

#### Secretary

1. To keep all records of the meetings, including meetings of the ~~Executive Committee~~ Board.
2. To send out all notices of regular or special meetings as deemed necessary by the President or ~~Executive Committee~~ Board. Meeting notices in the Club bulletin are deemed to comply with the bylaws.
3. To submit a summary of each general and executive meeting, including decisions, to be published in the Club newsletter.
4. To maintain a permanent written record of all General, ~~Executive Committee~~, Board of Directors, Committee, and Special Meeting minutes.
5. To maintain any official records generated by the Club's Officers and Directors.
6. To see that each member are aware of the Bylaws on the website.

#### ~~6. Treasurer~~

#### Treasurer

- 7 1. To collect and record all dues, special fees, etc., paid to the Club as a result of its activities plus any other moneys due the Club.
- ~~8. To send out all membership cards at the appropriate time. Note: such cards are not valid unless signed by the President and/or Secretary.~~
- ~~9. To see that each member receives a copy of the bylaws.~~
- ~~10~~ 2. To prepare and present at each regular meeting a report of the receipts and expenditures during the previous month. ~~That report will also be published in the monthly Newsletter.~~
- ~~11~~ 3. To pay predetermined accounts as may be authorized by the membership of the Club and to pay those bills presented and approved at each regular meeting.
- ~~12~~ 4. To prepare and submit all reports required by any governmental agency.
- ~~13~~ 5. To make available membership application forms to all that are interested at the regularly scheduled Club meetings.
- ~~14. To be sure that all club checks are signed by both the President or Vice President and the Treasurer.~~
- ~~15~~ 6. To verify that all expenditures over \$500 that have not been approved in the annual budget must be approved by the membership.
- ~~16~~ 7. To ~~submit~~ present the Treasurer's report for the year ~~to be published in at~~ the November newsletter meeting.

# Upcoming Events

## 2015 Koi Harvest



October 3, 2015

Come join us to celebrate this year's harvest of Blazo Koi.  
**11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Koi for Sale: Adults & Babies**

**Pot Luck: bring a dish to share**  
BBQ Available for Cooking

**Bring Your Beverage of Choice**

**Live Music from 1-5:00**

505 Coon Heights Road  
Ben Lomond, California  
831-234-1176



## The 9th Annual ZnaNorcal Koi Show

April 2-3, 2016 - Sat, 9am-5pm & Sun, 10am-2:30pm

**Four Points by Sheraton Hotel**

399 Silicon Valley Rd.  
San Jose, CA 95138  
(408) 972-7800

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ZnaNorcal.info

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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 pro-rated based on the number of issues remaining before July.

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

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### Time to Renew

A new year is starting July 1. To maintain your ad in the Splash and our website, please send your fee to:

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



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