



Splash

Santa Clara Valley Koi and Water Garden Club – Vol. 40, No. 11, November 2024

SCVKWG Holiday Social and Silent Auction Fundraiser Sunday, December 8th, 4 PM - 7 PM



Come celebrate this year's successful season of pond keeping, water gardening, and aquaponics at this year's Holiday Social and Silent Auction, Sunday, December 8th at 4-7 PM.

Members bring beverages and desserts to share. The club will provide for the meal. Don't forget to bring cash / checkbook for the silent auction items, if interested. We will have some nice items you may wish to bid on for a loved one or yourself.

If you have a donation for the fundraiser let us know ahead of time. We will also collect new, unwrapped toy donations for Toys for Tots. Questions / donations / other? Email info@sckoi.com.



Upcoming Events

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| Nov | No General Meeting this month – Holiday Social December 8th |
| Dec 8 | Annual Holiday Social and Fundraiser, 4 – 7 PM, Member's Residence, San Jose, Space is limited. RSVP to info@sckoi.com |
| Jan 21 | General Meeting, 7:30 PM via Zoom – Annual Business / Officer 2025 Installation |

Visit us on the web at: www.sckoi.com

Started in 1984, we are a non-profit organization that provides a community for koi keepers and water gardeners that fosters greater understanding and appreciation for these fine hobbies. Through our publications, pond tours, and meetings, we educate, support and share knowledge in a friendly, sociable environment. We assist with fish rescue, care, and development of aquatic animals and plants and are a resource to our community for these areas of interest. We have monthly meetings with interesting speakers and topics. Visit our website for the latest information about events and activities at www.sckoi.com.

Presidents Corner

Happy Thanksgiving,

We have no general meeting in November in preparation for the holidays. Our next event is the Holiday Social and Silent Auction fundraiser and collections for Toys for Tots. We welcome donations which are tax deductible, we are a 5013c non-profit organization.



HOLIDAY SOCIAL: Sunday, December 8th, 4 to 7 PM in San Jose. Space is limited, RSVP to info@sckoi.com no later than December 6th.

This month we are nominating our 2025 Board of Directors. Since we have not had any new volunteers step up to replace our awesome board we all have agreed to serve another term. Should any of our members like to participate at a more deep level in club planning, events, or programming, let me know.



SCVKWG provides regular meetings, events, and support for our membership and community year round since 1984! As always, if you have any questions about Koi, ponds, or water gardening we are available to help. Email info@sckoi.com or attend one of our meetings

Happy Koi Keeping,

Eve Bretzke

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SCVKWG Holiday Social

Sunday, December 8th, 2024: 4 to 7 PM

Come celebrate this year's successful season of pond keeping, water gardening, and aquaponics at our annual Holiday Social and Silent Auction Fundraiser, Sunday, December 8th at 4 PM. Bring beverages, and desserts to share. The club will provide the main dishes and fixings.

Bring donations for the fundraiser. Donations are tax deductible. We also will collect new, unwrapped donations for Toys for Tots.

RSVP by December 6th to info@sckoi.com.



Slate of Officers – 2025

And the nominees are:

President	Eve Bretzke
Vice President	Rita Hughes
Secretary	Mel Bretzke
Treasurer	Cece Stearns
Board Member	John Hughes
Board Member	Maus Stearns



If there are those in the membership who are able to take a larger role in 2025, reach out.

Pond Leaves, Bacteria, and Cold Water...

Natural bacteria will do a great job breaking down the fallen leaves in your pond or lake – but only when water temperatures are above 50° F. Take your pond's temperature with a pond thermometer; as long as your water is at or above that 50° F mark, keep using microorganisms in products that will continue to work hard to break down organic debris.

Bacteria slows in winter (cold water)

There are some things you can do to keep your pond looking its best as the cooler weather approaches.

Rake Up the Leaves: As powerful as natural bacteria are, they will still take a long time to break down fresh leaves that blow into your pond. Help those microorganisms out by raking up and disposing of as many leaves as possible.

Rake Out the Leaves: If they do float into your pond, use a rake to skim and rake leaves out of your pond. If an abundance of leaves remain in the pond, the leaves break down and will release toxic gases that edge out available oxygen – and that's bad news for your fish.

Aerate All Winter: Keep your aeration system running to circulate the water and keep your oxygen levels higher for better fish health and less sludge build up.

Maintain Your Landscape: In addition to raking up leaves around your pond, keep the foliage around your pond maintained. Prevent excess organic debris from getting into the pond and turn into algae and pond weed fertilizer. There's no way to fully prevent leaves from falling into your pond – but the fewer that do, the better

Source: Pond Guy newsletter, edited.



Common Koi Coloration Terms



Term	Meaning
Aka	Red base
Beni	Dark red/orange-red
Hi	Red
Ki	Yellow
Gin	Metallic silver
Kin	Metallic gold
Orenji	Orange
Ogon	Solid metallic
Shiro	White
Sumi	Black
Muji	Solid, uniform

Koi have a multitude of traits that make them special. Their bright colors and unique patterns are a big part of the reason why Koi are so popular. Today there are numerous breeds of koi, each with their categories of color, pattern and scalation. Common terms are easy to learn for koi (see above) while patterns are more complex. Koi patterning are either continuous or in step configurations. A pattern that has no breaks or separations from head to tail is considered continuous. If the pattern has one or more separations that form several color patches, it is called a step pattern. Scalation is more challenging when not the basic patterning which is called “Wagoi” or the basic scalation patterning. Doitsu refers to Koi that are scaleless or mostly scaleless. Gin Rin refers to scales that are sparkly. Hikarimuji is a metallic scaled pattern. Kawi Goi is a leather type patterning. Kagami goi has a uniform and unbroken scale pattern running from head to tail.

2024 Club Business

Happy 40th Anniversary! Can you believe we have been meeting for over 40 years and talking about Koi ponds and water gardens? Crazy... “Koi Kitchi” ... we just love our hobby.

In the meantime, we will continue to hold meetings and events per our club schedule. We appreciate our board members and are glad that the club is stable and happy. We look ahead to 2025. Our current slate of officers has graciously agreed to serve another term. Thank you.

Research shows people join koi clubs hoping to get more enjoyment from their hobby. With regard to club meetings, members generally like two things best: Learning about things that can improve their enjoyment of Koi and related topics and socializing with others who enjoy the hobby. If you have an idea or suggestion, let us know.



Our Sponsors

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THE SAN DIEGO KOI SHOW IS BACK!

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE
35th ANNUAL SAN DIEGO KOI SHOW

JANUARY 25 AND 26, 2025

DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS
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 2260 JIMMY DURANTE BLVD.
 DEL MAR, CA 92014-2216



Sponsorships Available:

Rates include advertisement in the monthly club newsletter The SPLASH, on club website, plus other publications that the club may produce for one year. Current advertising term runs July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. To begin or renew an existing sponsorship contact our newsletter editor at info@sckoi.com.

Business card size \$45 per year
Quarter page size \$95 per year