



WHY DID YOU JOIN OUR CLUB? - Jerry Kyle, Koi Health Advisor

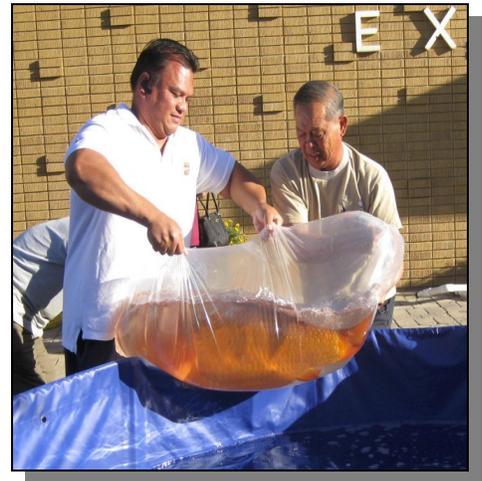


The Camellia Koi Club has two stated missions; to promote good Koi husbandry and show Koi. Joining a club where one can see what others have done has helped many learn to do it better. We teach and learn by showing what mistakes were made and what successes were achieved and altogether with the old timers and the newcomers, continue to learn. What was the latest and best information in 2000 is bad information today but, belonging to the CKC and sharing information helps keep us up to date. With a Koi Judge, a number of KHA, and many experienced Koi keepers as a source and available to lean on for advice club members have a huge advantage over others. To promote the first half of the mission we encourage others to join to learn, to figure out how to do it right, and to continue to help promote good Koi husbandry. The Koi Show encourages others to join us.

"I joined for the Koi and stayed for the people," is a common expression and explains the underlying warmth and camaraderie that helps define what is special in our club. Today the people need help in promoting what we do and the second half of our club mission – show Koi. Seeing our Koi at a show encourages others to want to join us. From the ashes of a faltering economy and planned cutbacks, the Sacramento Koi Show, this year, has developed beyond what was expected. The booth spaces for vendors have all been sold. Many old favorites along with new vendors will fill the building with excitement and new products. From Koi and Koi supplies we will see art, solar solutions to pond expense, chlorine removal systems for pond and home, new filter styles, pond and filter vacuum system, and garden needs. Also, spectacular fountains for the pond. An exciting list of something for everyone.

What is needed now is Koi. It is not a Koi Show without Koi. To promote the hobby, half of the mission is done and effort is now needed for the Koi Show half of the mission. With the economy what it is we may not have the Koi being brought from all around the country as in the past. We can expect to be more locally focused. Consequently, too few tanks are reserved. Club members are asked to support all the hard work that has been put in. Those who have never brought Koi to a show will have an advantage in that they compete in the Novice Class for those awards and recognition, as well as the overall awards. They have two chances to win something and usually do. Members needs to step up and show what we have out there in our ponds. It will help support the club's efforts and be a great learning experience for all as Koi Judges don't just judge. They teach what to look for at each tank. Those who win are often those who entered a Koi in the past and then listen and learned what the judges liked so better choices could be made in the future. Judges teach us to have a good "eye."

We joined to learn and it turned out to our advantage as we made friends. Now we need to give back a little and support those who have supported us. It's what we do. It is why the club was founded. To support good Koi husbandry and show Koi. Please consider showing a Koi this year. Chose one that looks nice and bring a couple of others along for company to reduce the stress on the nicer one. It will fill the tank and who knows? The public will love it and you will have contributed to our success. Please help the effort.



If Tommy Morisawa (assisted by Rob Barerras) can bring his jumbo chagoi, surely you can figure out a way to bring your koi!