



Koi Ahoy

September
2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Jerry Kyle

September 2011

Who is Jose? Well, first off he and his wife Janet are members of our club. He is the newest member of the Board of Directors. He is not “ordinary” in the things he does. Want a bird? Jose has a parrot. Want more birds? Jose built an aviary and filled it with finches in the back yard. Want a Koi pond? Jose built his own. A nice one with an arbor and everything. Want it to be better? Jose joined our club and learned more about filters and water quality and made improvements in order to have nicer fish. Nice home, nice centralized location (Elk Grove), nice yard, nice patio, nice dogs, nice parrot (when he is not being bossy) nice finches, very nice pond, and some nice Koi. Also a nice wife to let him do all this.



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Got the message? This is going to be a nice meeting. Bring a chair and a snack if you wish (not required), and bring a friend if you want to show off what a nice club you belong to. The “Bring a Guest contest is still on and Pauline is still in the lead but anyone can stack the deck with a carload of guests at any time and take the lead. Another contest we have going is the “Koi Grow Out Contest” begun at our meeting last February at Koi Enterprise in West Sacramento. The contest ends at this September meeting. Anthony will not be available to present the prize of a large bag of Koi food to whoever has the most growth on their Koi as he will be in Japan looking for some nice Koi for fall. I have the prize and will present it for him. This will be a nice meeting. I love nice.

Who Will Win The Grow out Contest?

If you are one of those who got a Koi from Anthony for the Grow Out Contest and you think you got some good growth results, let Jerry know. Call 209-368-9411 or email jeroldkyle@yahoo.com. We know of one that was 6” long and is now 13” long. That is a doubling in length and is common in good water with a good food rich in protein. How did you do? Did you do better? It will be interesting to learn what people did differently from others, what they fed, and how results differed. We can all learn from each other. That is what we do. We learn and we share stories. Together we all improve. We will ask the winner to bring his/her koi to the meeting or bring a picture of it so we can see the differences. Come see the winner.



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August 28th meeting at the Carlson's Pond:

August's meeting with Camellia Koi Club is always special. The annual club auction gives us a venue to make room in our pond for new fish to change our collection, or allow more room for our current collection to breathe and grow. Or, for newer collectors to acquire mature quality fish from seasoned private ponds. This years auction was no exception. Duane and Melody have a gorgeous pond, an impressive collection of koi, and their prize rose garden. Melody had a lovely ham prepared for us, and we all brought goodies to share – delish!



Carlson's
pond o the
right.



View of the
pond to the
right.



Trellised
entry to the
pond



Their koi
collection on
parade.



Georgia is in
her
auctioneer
best fom



Some club
members
candidates for
adoption on
display.



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Start of the meeting.



Standing room only.



Lunch among the roses



NEXT MEETING IS...

CKC Annual Koi Auction

Don't miss this bird and koi paradise. There is a lot to share. Friends to meet, and discuss our favorite pets.

Jose & Janet are making some neat Mexican food to share. Bring something to go with it, plus a chair, plus at least one guest.

September 25 at 1:00 p.m.

Board of Directors meeting 12:00

at

Jose & Janet's house
3805 Glacier Park Ct.
Elk Grove, CA



Here is an interesting article:

How to Buy a Microscope

By Lois Salaun, CCK, KHA
Written for Koi Organization International

It is highly recommended that all Koi hobbyists purchase their own microscope. A good microscope is an invaluable tool to help us diagnose parasites on our fish and is money well spent. This brief article will explain the basics of a scope and the minimum needed to view parasites on our Koi. Keep in mind that each added feature will increase the cost. The object is to buy a good quality scope for a reasonable price that will get the job done.

Thanks to Great Scopes for the picture.

First off, buy a sturdy, metal scope with metal parts. Pass on the plastic toy or children's models. The lenses or optics (objectives) are the most important and most costly part of a scope. A quality scope will have **optics** (lenses) that conform to the DIN standard for threading and length. Lenses with this standard are interchangeable between scopes. In addition, the lenses should be glass, not plastic and be listed as being achromatic, another industry standard. By spending slightly more up front and staying with industry standards, you will find it easier to locate replacement parts when needed in the future.

Things to consider about the **eyepiece(s)**. We don't spend hours looking into a scope, so if you don't mind squinting, then get a monocular eyepiece. If you can't wink or squint, then pay a little extra for binocular (two eyepieces). I find it easy to focus with one eye, but it's a personal preference.

The eyepiece should swivel or rotate – most do. This makes it easy for two people to sit side by side and share. Look for one that has a pointer in it.

What about **objectives** (lenses)? A basic scope has three lenses of different magnifications. These are fixed on the nose piece or head which allows the user to rotate the lenses. For our purposes, lenses of 4x, 10x and 40x are adequate to find the smallest parasites. Combined with the eyepiece of 10x this will give you magnification of 40, 100 and 400 times. More expensive scopes will have a fourth objective of 100x which is an oil immersion lens and in my opinion, really more than we need.

You will need a **light source**. Older style scopes relied on a mirror to reflect outdoor light. Fortunately, good scopes come with an internal light source – battery powered, electric or both. Batteries need to be charged or replaced. I have always been able to find an electric outlet near the pond to plug in a scope. More important is the type of light. You'll find one of four different types of lighting. The tungsten light bulb is the least expensive. It generates heat and can cook your sample if you leave it on too long. Fluorescent lights are available, don't generate heat, are cheaper to use, but cost a little more. LED and Halogen lights are the most





expensive. Fluorescent is nice, but if you are trying to save pennies, the tungsten is fine. Make sure you buy an extra bulb or that the bulb has a standard base and can be purchased elsewhere.

Adjusting the amount of light or brightness is a consideration. This is done with a **diaphragm** – either a disk or iris. The disk is the cheapest and is mounted beneath the stage. It usually has six holes in it, each one progressively larger which allows more light. An iris diaphragm is constructed with several flaps in a circle (like a camera lens) that can be adjusted with a simple lever to an infinite number of settings. Again, if trying to save pennies, the disk diaphragm is adequate.

A **mechanical stage** is a nice convenience and highly recommended. The slide - with your sample - is locked into the mechanical stage under the lenses. It has two knobs, one of which moves the slide from left to right. The other knob moves the slide forward and back. This makes it easy to scan the entire slide quickly and efficiently. Without this feature, you must move the slide by hand under the lens.

Now we need to focus on **focusing**. A good scope will have both a course and a fine focus with metal gears. Make sure your scope has a “slip clutch” or stop. A microscope with a slip clutch will allow the focus knob to turn in place without damaging the scope's focus gear system. The stop prevents the lens from crashing onto the slide on the stage and damaging the lens.

A simple **filter holder** is built into some microscopes for color filters. Filters can be useful in providing enhanced contrast and light color correction, and can be a simple substitute for staining, which would kill live specimens. You have to buy different color filters. It's a nice feature, but not necessary.

A few final comments...If you follow the above guidelines, your scope should be more than adequate for the Koi hobby. Some folks recommend getting the 100x lens which will give a magnification of 1000x with a 10x eyepiece. This is an oil immersion lens. I don't have this lens and haven't missed it, but it is useful for examining culture samples. Some microscopes do not support 1000x magnification. If you think you might want to add it later, buy a scope with the fourth location in the head that will accommodate it. Confirm that the condenser will work with a 100x lens.

If you will be traveling a lot with your scope, buy a case for it. If you don't purchase a case, at least buy a plastic cover to keep it clean. Don't forget to buy slides and cover slips. I recommend glass cover slips for the least distortion, but they break easily. Use plastic cover slips when working with children.

There are many additional options available to fancy up your microscope. You can buy a camera attachment to take pictures or videos of your slide samples. These can be uploaded to a computer, and in some cases, the slides can be viewed on your computer screen. If you think you might want these features later, just make sure the scope you buy will accommodate them.

To learn more about this new koi health organization visit their website <http://koiorganisationinternational.org/>



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Board of Director Meeting for 8/28/11 by Marilee Patterson

Present: Patterson, Martin, Carlson, Oswald, Vonk, Alarid

Treasurer Report:

Our financials as of July 31st are:

Beginning Balance	\$8070.91
Expenses	390.00
<i>\$125 AKCA additional public event insurance & 1/2 of koi auction income to owners</i>	
Income	<u>530.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$8210.91
<i>Koi Auction Income \$440 with \$52.50 paid to the Kyles, \$117.50 paid to the Cubillo's and \$50 to the Cuomo's</i>	

Old Business:

Review of AKCA's additional insurance premium for special events that was discussed via e-mail over the past month, approved, and paid for. The thinking was the likelihood of a spring pond tour requiring this coverage would meet our club needs at an affordable rate. Emphasis was made that this special coverage would not cover member claims (should there be an injury), but would cover any guests from outside the membership.

New Business:

Discussion possible pond tour next year. Considering a club participation event, not open to the general public. Would therefore not require the expense for publicity, nor manpower to staff. Dan agreed to chair or co-chair the tour since he has experience from past tours, and would be happy to train in another person as well. We had a lively discussion on ideas for the tour including a "progressive" tour with food (much like a progressive dinner), and have a poker run contest. Duane will invite anyone in the membership to volunteer.

Camellia Koi Club - Monthly Report to AKCA Sept 2011

Members saw a fine Annual Koi Auction last month. While newer members find this a good time to add some new Koi to their ponds at a very good price, this year there were some unexpected larger nice offerings that interested even long time members. With bidding from \$10 to around the \$100 level, there were some excellent values to be had at all levels and everyone was pleased. September meeting will see who will win the Grow Out Contest begun last February. This has been an active and particularly good year for the club.

FREE KOI AND GOLDFISH

A home for sale in Pollock Pines has a pond with koi and goldfish that need to be adopted. They are free.

Contact Denise Long at 720.440.9397
email: denise@survivorkid.com



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Garry's Did You Know?

by Garry Chin

Well we had a very mild summer compared to our norm. However, as I type this article it seems that we now have to deal with "Indian" summer. Well it won't last long and before you know it the leaves will display their autumn colors and the day time temperature will take a dramatic drop and the rains will be upon us. If your Koi pond is in an area that drops a large amount of leaves this time of year, once the leaves begin displaying their autumn colors is the time to cover the pond with a net. This will help to keep the leaves out of the pond so it doesn't foul the water.

Early autumn is the last time to consider a complete pond clean-out as the biological filter dramatically slows down. If a good cleaning of the filter is done, care should be taken not to completely wash away all of the active bacteria. Otherwise only a 20% partial water change should be completed to keep the pond fresh.

This time of the year the Koi should be strong and healthy, but time should be taken to inspect the Koi for health issues as it becomes harder to treat them in the colder weather. Continue to feed your Koi while they show interest and in accordance to the feeding guidelines I previously published.

If you have a Koi related topic you would like me to write about e-mail me at scvkoi@yahoo.com.





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2011 Club Calendar (to date)

Date	Topic	Location
February 27	Feeding for color & growth Tosai grow-out contest Picnic lunch - Bring a guest contest	Koi Enterprise West Sacramento
March 27	Q&A Health issues and concerns of coming out of winter Bring a guest contest	Betty & John Auburn
April 17 (3 rd Sunday)	Pot Luck Meeting Bring a guest contest	Pauline Roseville
May 22 (4 th Sunday)	Party Time - BBQ - talk on plants with ponds. Bring a guest contest	FloraTropicana Elk Grove
June 26		Gus & Leslie Antelope
July 31	Seminar-- Slide presentation /talk Building the perfect pond Common Koi health issues Bring a guest contest	Sacramento Koi Rocklin
August 28	Annual club koi auction	Duane & Melody
September 25		Janet & Jose
October 23		TBA
November 20 (3 rd Sunday)		Dan & Cheryl
December 4	Christmas Party 2:00 p.m.	Umeko Buffet 8353 Folsom, Sacramento 95826

We need an October host home. So check your calendar. If you think you'd like us to admire your creation, or help you with any pond problems, give Duane a call and we'll be delighted to add your house for October or November. Any suggestions for topics you'd like to see covered let him know, he's open for fresh suggestions.



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