



Koi Ahoy

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President's Message

By Jean Jahr



Another meeting, another learning experience. We had a wonderful time at the February meeting and I learned about the Young Koi Show. Anthony Quintero from Koi Enterprise made an excellent presentation and explained how it all works.

We will join Anthony on May 19 as we return to having a Koi Show after two dry years. We will start small this year and see what happens next year. Read more about the Young Koi Show starting on page 5.

I am pleased to introduce Michelle R. as the Club's new Editor. It is wonderful when folks step up and help the club with all of the tasks. Thanks to Marilee for all of the wonder work she has done over the years.

I want to remind all of the club members to nominate our Koi Person of the Year for 2013. We need to decide and let AKCA know our choice. Think about it. I feel there are a lot of good choices in this club. What do you think?

John G. was dissappointed because we were not going to see his pond in Folsom as he was the May 19th meeting location. Because we have all seen Betty's pond in Auburn she agreed to have John take her meeting date this month. This pleased us all because we live to see new and different ponds. While we are on the subject of this month, be aware that the normal last Sunday meeting day of the month falls on Easter. Therefore, we will meet at John G's a week earlier on Sunday, March 24. Join us by the side of John's pond this month. Let's see what we can learn.

That's what we do – learn and share the knowledge..

Jean

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Camellia Koi Club Report to AKCA

March 2013

We're back in the saddle again. After a two year abstention from having an annual Koi Show, the Camellia Koi Club has decided to have a Young Koi Show in May. Instead of the usual set up of show tanks with all the work involved in set up and tear down, the CKC will join a growing trend within our hobby. One day shows with entrants displayed in special bags displayed on blue tarps please many judges in that it allows Koi from different ponds to be set side by side for close comparison with little danger of potential contamination. The bags are a special clear material that lets the Koi show off well. A young Koi show will hopefully encourage more newcomers in our hobby to become involved as they show their best choices of tosaï.

CKC Club Dues

**CLUB DUES FOR 2013 ARE DUE @ \$30/family
Personalized ID pins are available at \$10/ea.**

Reminder! If you haven't renewed, now is the time. Send me a check or go to [PayPal](#) on our website, or pay at the next meeting, I'd appreciate it (Georgia). Let us know if you would like a personalized ID pin or two.

My address:

Georgia V.
881 Greenridge Ct.,
Lincoln, CA 95647



Michelle's Koi



Photos from the February meeting

Submitted by Bob Haugland

We had a fun time with Michelle. It was enjoyed by all. We hope you can make it to the March meeting.



"We wanna see the horsies"



President Jean



The usual "more than we can eat" buffet. Lasagna, salad, guacamole, desert, desert, desert



Anthony explains the Young Koi Show



Site for the proposed pond



Closer view of the pond site



Next Meeting

March 24, 2013

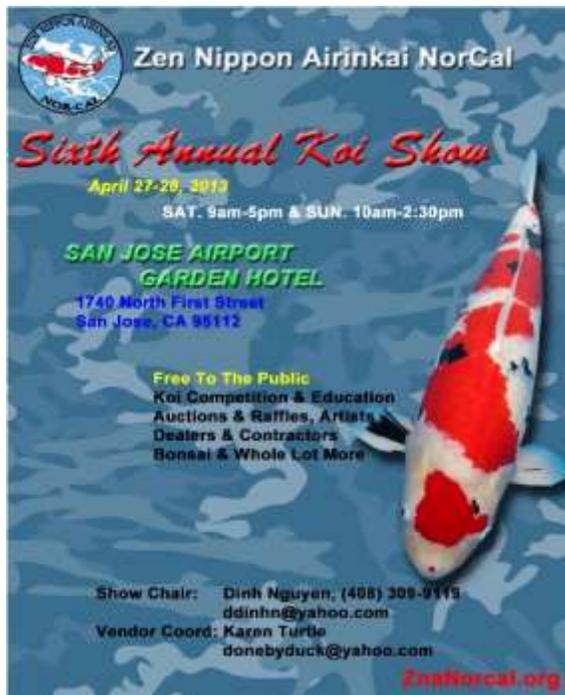
John G. hosting at:

218 Orange Blossom Circle
Folsom, CA 95630

Bring your munchies to share, a folding chair and a guest. If it is too wet or cold, we will be indoors.

12:00 noon Board of Director's Meeting
1:00 General Club Meeting

Everyone is welcome to join the Board of Director's Meeting. Come tell us your thoughts and ideas.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ZNA NOR CAL Koi Show April 27-28, 2013 at
San Jose Airport Garden Hotel

Anyone interested in carpooling contact
Michelle R. or John G. as we plan to attend
the show on Saturday, April 27.



Board of Directors and General Meeting Minutes

**February 24, 2013
CKC Board of Directors Meeting Notes**

Attendance:

Jean Jahr – President
Georgia Vonk – Treasurer
Bob Haugland – Director
Jerry Kyle – Director (Past President)
Jose Delgadillo –
Members attending Betty Martin, Michelle Reeser, and Janet Delgadillo.



Board meeting called to order at 12:15pm by President Jean Jahr

It was decided to continue having Board meetings prior to the regular meetings at Noon.

Jerry said we need to get our nominations for Koi Person of the Year to the AKCA prior to May 1st. Decided to accept nominations in person or via the internet to Jean with voting to be held at March meeting and presentation of club trophy at April meeting.

Board decided on list of questions to ask Anthony of Koi Enterprise during his presentation on responsibilities of club if we attend his "Young Koi Show". Labor and expenses were of the greatest concerns.

Meeting ended at 12:55pm

CKC General Meeting Notes

Regular meeting called at 1:30 pm after enjoying our host Michelle Reeser's great lasagna and other goodies. Michelle lives at a large horse farm whose owner has decided they needed some kind of water feature. The club was encouraged to come out and give their opinions.

Anthony gave his presentation for the Young Koi Show. Georgia made a motion and Jerry seconded and it was passed that the show be held on May 19th (in lieu of our regular meeting) at, hopefully, Whitey's parking lot (home of the best peach milkshakes in the



world) The cost of a city permit is a whole \$5 and there is plenty of free and very public parking. Obviously, food wouldn't be a problem that the club need worry about. People seem to stick around when they're not hungry or thirsty.

A Young Koi Show is based on the size of the Koi. It was decided to start with size 1 (3"-6") up to size 4 (14") Sizes can be adjusted if, for example, a majority of people wishing to show their fish are up to 15". Koi would be judged in very clear plastic bags placed on blue tarps under a 20x40 tent that Anthony has. To confirm the bags were safe for the fish, Anthony had his 3 year old nephew play kick the can, so to speak, and they held up very well. For those of us who don't have any smaller koi, Anthony volunteered to bring in some special koi for club members at affordable prices starting at \$20. Now there's no excuse that those of us with more mature ponds can't participate in the show.

This would be a closed show to CKC members only held only the one day. We would need 2 tanks for water and another for disinfectant. Perhaps we could consider a membership table. Set up and tear down is minimal. Labor needed would be "bag watchers" nice job sitting down too watch to see if fish are in distress and no one walks off with the wrong fish.

Garry Chin, our own certified judge, will head up the Judging team while Jim Phillips will do the same for the Water Quality team.

Anthony will get together the Benching committee. We will need someone with a digital camera to record the fish.

We need a clean up committee.

Awards need to be tangible, not ribbons, and would be for Champion, Reserve Champion, Adult, Young and Baby and one each for the 4 sizes. Betty Martin of Strictly Toy-ondas volunteered to sponsor \$200 towards up to 10 trophies at \$20 each. Thank you so much, Betty. Sponsorships for gift certificates, koi food or product would be welcomed. We can also apply for an award from the AKCA.

John Gillespie volunteered to be Show Chair with Bob Haugland assisting. Anthony and Garry will give them the necessary guidance.

Michelle Reeser agreed create the flyers and advertise on Facebook.

Expenses would be minimal including 4" air tubing to add oxygen to the bags, \$100 for the extra liability insurance from AKCA (this is in addition to Anthony's \$2 million dollar policy), cost of the bags, identification tags for the bags, flyers and any additional cost of trophies that exceed Betty's donation.



Entry fees were discussed and yet to be determined. \$5-\$10 range and maybe a multiple fish discount. Many people raised their hands when asked who was interested in showing their koi.

Save the date of May 19th and plan on bringing your small koi. A "how to prepare your koi for a show" will be included in the newsletter to show you just how easy it is to participate.

After Anthony's presentation, Jean discussed the "Koi Person of the Year" program. Jerry explained that it's nominating and voting for the person you felt did the most for the club in 2012. Jerry nominated Georgia. You can send any other nominations to Jean and we'll vote at the March meeting.

Since we voted to attend the Young Koi Show on May 19th, in lieu of a meeting, Betty asked that the April meeting be held at John Gillespie's since we hadn't been to his home to see his pond. Thanks to both John and Betty for being so flexible.

Marilee asked if someone would take over her duties as Newsletter Editor and Michelle Reeser was voted in as Newsletter Editor with Jerry offering to help as needed. Please send any contributions to Michelle at reiner0100@yahoo.com or Jerry at jeroldkyle@yahoo.com. Thanks to both of you for helping out.

Having no more business, the group all descended downstairs to give their opinions as to how best Michelle could design the water garden.

Koi Person of the Year

Georgia V. is the only member currently nominated for Koi Person of the Year. Nominations will be open again at the March meeting with final voting to follow. Attend and support your choice for this wonderful honor. The winner will be announced at the April meeting.





Financial Report End February 2013

Reminder - If you haven't renewed, please send me a check, go to [PayPal](#) or pay at the next meeting, I would appreciate it (Georgia). My address is:

Georgia V.
881 Greenridge Ct.,
Lincoln, CA 95647

Beginning Balance	\$8264.43
Income*	300.00
Expenses**	-781.61
Ending Balance	\$7782.82

* Membership renewals and badges ordered

** February host fee (\$40), PayPal fees (\$2.34), Yahoo website fee (\$35.85), 2 badges (\$21.42), Equipment and trailer insurance (\$682.00)



At home relaxing
with Jose and Janet's
Koi



Did You Know?

Bog Garden Part II - Garry Chin

TYPES of BOGS (Advantages, disadvantages and various considerations)

Natural Bog – Are inexpensive especially for larger bogs. However if the soil is porous it will be prone to seepage, with wild plants possibly becoming established. So for this type of bog to succeed the soil must have high clay content.

A naturally occurring bog may be formed in a couple of different ways. Sphagnum moss may creep over the surface of a lake or pond and slowly fill it over hundreds of years. Or moss can smother a low-lying area of dry land, preventing surface moisture from evaporating. No matter which way a naturally occurring bog forms, the end result is a very specialized type of wetland characterized by an extremely inhospitable soil that's highly acidic and nutrient-poor. Since true bogs have to be watered with either distilled water or rain water, and because their finicky pH levels must be maintained within narrow margins, only the most dedicated gardener or conservationist would attempt to recreate a natural bog in the garden. Therefore, the term "bog garden" refers more broadly to any marshy or soggy area whose soil is constantly moist, but never flooded.

In a water garden, plants grow in standing water. Bog-adapted plants, however, do best with moist roots and dry crowns, leaves and flowers. Many bog plants are also sun-loving. A bog garden can require up to six hours of good sunlight to really thrive. And while the proliferation of bogs in countries like Ireland and Finland may lead people to think of them as cold, damp places, bog gardens can also thrive in hot, humid climates. On the other hand, people in dry, arid climates might prefer to try their hands at bog gardening in containers, since the effort and expense of maintaining the water level in a larger bog garden will likely outweigh the pleasures of creating one.

Constructing the Natural Bog Garden





Dig out about two feet of the topsoil and introduce a little clay for a basis. Over this stretch a five-inch bed of rubble or large stones, and then a layer of coarse soil. Now fill the remainder, almost to the level of the surrounding land, with medium consisting of half loam and half leaf-mould or peat. Unless a natural flow of water is available, you need to provide an artificial trickle, just sufficient to keep the bog swampy. Sometimes in the summer, turn the hose on and let the bog flood. This process should last for several months depending on your climate. Bog plants should never suffer from drought, the marsh garden should be kept quite moist, but on the other hand must not become stagnant, and it is for this reason that slight bottom drainage is introduced. The bog should never be more than two feet in depth; its extent, of course, will depend on the space available and upon taste. Paths of rough stones or bricks should be made through the bog, and over these should be placed flat stepping stones, in order to make every part of the bog accessible. If these paths are made at varying heights, they may be used to divide the bog into shelving beds, the higher and better-drained of which will accommodate plants not requiring to much moisture, while in the lower-lying sites can be grown the real moisture-lovers.

Liner Bog – Are easier to construct. If a quality liner is not used then there is the possibility of it being punctured. Also if a bottom drain is not incorporated then the bog must be pumped or siphoned to remove water. Using a quality liner can result in the bogs lifetime being 10 to 20 years.

Liner Bog gardens require the least maintenance of bog gardens discussed in this article. Pruning, thinning, and dividing plants encourage vigorous growth. Pay attention to invasive marginal that strive to take over the bog. During long dry periods, natural bogs might require watering to prevent plant damage. Remember that bogs can be a mosquito breeding ground. Use an environmentally friendly aquatic insecticide to address this situation.

Pond liners come in many varieties. There are prefabricated plastic pools available in a variety of shapes and sizes, but most ponds are designed utilizing a flexible liner made of PVC or some other soft material. These types of liners allow the most flexibility with regard to size, shape and depth.

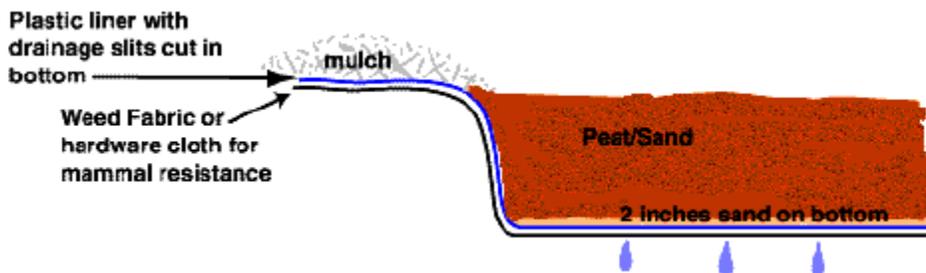
Of the flexible materials available, butyl rubber is the most suitable. Although initially more expensive than PVC liners, butyl does not degrade under ultraviolet light and will last approximately 40 years. Most butyl liners are around 3 mils in thickness, whereas PVC will usually come in 20 or 32 mil thickness. If you choose PVC make sure that it is fish grade.



Constructing the Liner Bog Garden



1. Dig the outlined bog to a depth of at a minimum of 2 ½ feet, removing soil to form a basin. The bottom should be mostly flat, level or slightly pitched. The sides should go mostly straight down.
2. If moles or tunneling rodents are a problem in your area, line the basin with galvanized hardware cloth, screening, or heavy, woven weed cloth/barrier. Use rot/rust resistant materials.
3. Line the bottom and sides of the basin with 4-6 mil plastic sheeting (on top of any mole/rodent protection.) Leave plenty of excess plastic along the edges; it can be trimmed away after the bog is filled and settled. Cut several ten-inch slits in the liner base, every foot or so. This will allow the bog to drain, while the liner holds most of the moisture in the bog.



4. Add 2-3 inches of moist sand to the bottom. Coarse sands are good to use. Do not use beach sand!
5. Fill the remaining basin with: 1 part sand + 3 parts peat moss, dampened and mixed well.



Tamp the mix in place using a bow rake; this will reduce settling of the mix. The bog should be filled until it is about an inch below surrounding, existing, soil level.

6. The lining materials can be trimmed as needed. It is wise to leave about 12 inches of liner/mammal guard exposed in case the bog settles further; this edge can be hidden with mulch, pine needles, rocks, etc.

7. Paths of rough stones or bricks should be made through the bog, and over these should be placed flat stepping stones, in order to make every part of the bog accessible. If these paths are made at varying heights, they may be used to divide the bog into shelving beds, the higher and better-drained of which will accommodate plants not requiring too much moisture, while in the lower-lying sites can be for the real moisture-lovers

Plant Shelf for either bog type



During construction of a pond, minimize the use of shelves for potted plants and instead, build planting pockets for bog plants right into the edges of the pond.

the edges of the pond.



Size of the planting areas can vary greatly, from a tiny sliver of space to large planting zones. You just need a way to hold back the soil from washing away into the pond.

The diagram at left illustrates an example of a bog gardening area with a deeper depth for moisture loving plants and shallower one for bog plants that need to be a bit higher and dryer. The diagram at right shows how to set up a bog.

Bog Gardens: Things to Consider

Here are just a few of the things you might want to consider before you undertake building a bog garden.

- **Cost** -- The biggest cost factor will be the bog's size. Material and plant costs vary, so check with your local hardware store or gardening center to determine the cost of building your bog. Some general materials you'll need in order to get organized are a pond liner, perforated PVC piping, a growth medium and bog plants.



- **Time** -- Ideally, plan for a month when building a bog garden. Digging the trench will be time consuming. Sources recommend filling it with soil and then flooding it, letting it settle for about a month to achieve a stable and ideal pH before installing plants. Of course, impatient gardeners can push up the timeline somewhat; however, if the aim is to create a specialized, true bog, it's especially important to wait about a month before planting.
- **Climate and Weather:** Technically, some form of a bog garden could be created and maintained in any climate. However, the constant watering that would be required would be extremely costly, time-consuming and ill-advised in an arid environment. Desert gardeners are advised to make due with a container bog. Weather is also a consideration. Drought is absolutely lethal to a bog garden, but flooding can be a concern, too. It's important to ensure adequate drainage by puncturing holes through the liner in the top 12 inches of the bog. Also, true bogs are filled with peat, which can catch fire and burn. If your bog is a true, specialized bog then you should be mindful of when lightning strikes.

Once you've selected an approach, it's time to grab a shovel and start digging.

To be continued next month.

Do you have any questions?

Contact Garry at: scvkoi@yahoo.com



Bridge over a pond



Our Pond Project

Leslie and Gus' Pond - Part III

By Leslie and Gus Cubillo

Last month, we highlighted a few pond details as we ripped out our small garden pond, dug a huge hole in the ground and installed the plumbing for our gravity-fed pre-filter, skimmer, supply lines for the in-pond venturi jets, air bubbler system, and all of the other parts to build a pond. This month, we finish the project and chat about a few of the details.



Carpet underlayment under the EPDM

We worked on the pond every weekend and most evenings for over a month. We took our time and checked everything several times. The koi did fine in the temporary tank and homemade filter, but the clarity slowly deteriorated and we worried about our wet pets. In early July, we laid our carpet and installed the liner. I previously



Scissors in the Pond. A dangerous situation in the wrong hands!

mentioned being worried about cutting the liner for the various drains, jets and lights. It was more like fear. A lot of studying and talking with knowledgeable folks took place before the scissors ever saw the EPDM. The first cut was a large hole for the bottom drain. Everything went smoothly on that warm July morning and water was slowly added as each successive incision was made. The EPDM does not stretch well and the compound curves of the pond creates folds. Long ago I saw the liner pond that CKC members Kirk and Ellen built. I was impressed with their workmanship and the alignment of their folds. My folds are not impressive. In fact, my folds are downright ugly. They are not too noticeable anymore (if they are, please don't tell me), so I haven't worried about it.



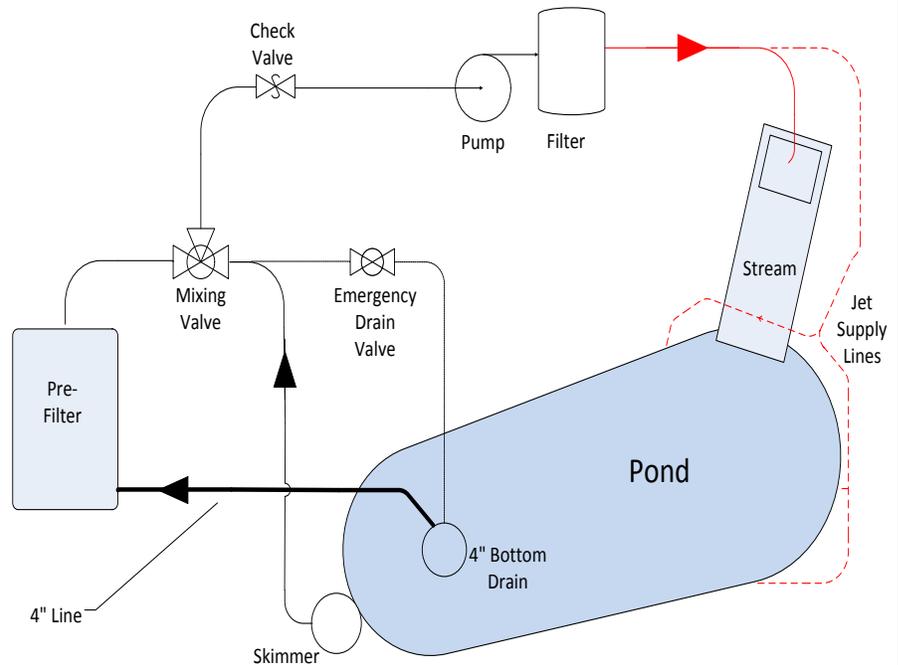
Finally, the water was up to the correct level. The pump was switched on and everyone checked for leaks. Everything looked good so starter bacteria was added. A few days later, we started moving fish back into the pond from their temporary home. We knew ammonia was going to be a problem for us so we monitored the water daily, changing water frequently and feeding lightly. After a few weeks, the chemistry settled down. We had a new pond.

Stream and Waterfalls

There are two waterfalls; one at the top of the stream and one at the bottom of the stream, falling into the pond. The stream portion of the EPDM extends beyond the upper waterfall. The upper waterfall is built on top of the stream, several inches from the end of the EPDM. This allowed us to setup the waterfall without having to seal anything. We don't care if it leaks because the water still enters the stream and flows to the pond. This flexibility allowed us to try waterfalls of different heights. The first one had a drop of nearly two feet. It kept me up the first night after building it. The next day we lowered the drop to about fifteen inches. The sound is pleasant and unobtrusive.

Filtration

It was clear to us that there can never be too much filtration, whether it is mechanical filtration or biological filtration. Our bead filter does much of the mechanical filtering. The pre-filter acts as our biological filter and has done a wonderful job for us. It has five rows of brushes and six rows of mats varying from coarse to fine mesh. The mixing valve is adjusted so water moves slowly through the pre-filter. We clean it out every few months. Our micro-environment has



supported as many as 21 koi of various sizes over the last few years. However, this was pushing the envelope. We quickly learned this was too many koi for our system. The overpopulation created additional work for us and increased stress on the fish and their owners. Leslie is "tuned-in" to the koi and detects changes very quickly. Both



the bead filter and the pre-filter required frequent cleaning and the water clarity and quality suffered. We reduced the load on the system down to 12 koi and two high-fin sharks. In our environment, this system works extremely well and the environment is stable.

Decisions and Thoughts

Good quality night lighting is a must-have item. The first version of the pond used small 20 watt lights. They were useless and had a short lifespan. We have never regretted cutting the holes for the three lights. At night, the koi look like angels floating in air, or in outer space. We always enjoy the pond at night, as do our guests. I wish the bulbs lasted longer and used less energy. New technologies will change this. LED lights are now available for pools. In fact Pentair makes an LED light that will work in our housings. The only limitation for us right now is the price of the unit. Maybe we can replace one light per year or just hope the price will come down to something more affordable.



Early test of the night lighting and air diffuser

The four-inch bottom drain has an air diffuser. The air pump provides more than enough air to create vertical circulation in the pond which helps move debris to the drain and creates water movement at the surface which facilitates air exchange. The air diffuser churns the water and produces small waves across the pond. When it is turned on, it looks like a giant mushroom cloud of bubbles in the water. Fast-moving water through the skimmer parallels the slow moving water from the bottom drain and pre-filter until they reach a valve which regulates the velocity of the water through each segment. The water is combined at the mixing valve and then travels to the pump.

The skimmer could be larger. During certain times of the year the skimmer is especially necessary because of falling leaves. During those times it can fill up quickly. It also collects a fair amount of loose floating algae, especially in the spring.

The original UV Light was a fairly low power unit. It was upgraded to a 56 watt canon. It is very helpful during the spring and summer growing months.

The jets performed okay but not great. We tried it with and without the jets over the past few years and did not see a difference. The flow over the waterfall was more

The jets performed okay but not great. We tried it with and without the jets over the past few years and did not see a difference. The flow over the waterfall was more



important to us so the jets are currently off. Now that I have retired and the pond is very stable, I want to go back to the jets and try them with a dedicated pump.



The backyard has a light Asian feel. The vertical structure behind the upper waterfall displays the Kanji symbol for *Tranquility*. The gate into the backyard has Kanji symbols for *Garden* as you enter the yard and *Peace* (our present to you) as you exit. There are other structures to support the light Asian feel and most of the structures are built light and airy.

We did not reach our goal of 4,000 gallons. The final pond size is 3,100 gallons but we are very happy with the final result. The decks went through a few changes and will continue to evolve in the future. We are all about constant change and improvement. Our home and yard are small but the pond scales nicely to our eyes. The overhead structure is an outgrowth of two separate structures, one on the left side of the pond and one on the right. The structure will change but will always be an integral part of the pond. Sun filters through the structure and provides incredible views. The summer water temperature rarely exceeds 80 degrees. At least 50% of the pond is always in shade.

There are many more DIY adventures to share but we will end this journey for now. In closing we would like to thank all of the CKC Club Members for all of their support and patience as we struggled to make our small Shangri La happen. A special thanks goes out to Jerry for holding our hands when we made a huge hole in the ground and also for loaning us his above ground tank and filter for several months. Jerry provide two parts inspiration and one part technical assistance. Leslie and I hope you have enjoyed our tale and hope you will visit us soon.



Moonlit night
in July



2013 Club Calendar (to date)

Date	Topic	Location
January 27	Jim Phillips – Water Quality	Leslie & Gus’
February 24	Anthony Quintero – Koi Show	Michelle’s
March 24 (3rd Sunday)		John G.’s
April 28		Pauline’s
May 19 (3rd Sunday)	Young Koi Show	
June 30	Neil Cutsinger- Novartis Animal Health KHV vaccine	Sharon & Gary
July 28		Janet & Jose
August 25	Annual Koi Auction / Ice Cream Social	Melody & Duane
September 29		Sam’s
October 27		
November 24		
December 8	Annual Holiday Dinner	

If you would like to host your pond and house in 2013, please let [Duane Carlson](#) know. We will be delighted to schedule you.



2013 Board of Directors & Staff

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Director: Gary Waldsmith gary@mountaincottagevineyard.com	(916) 933-5501
Director: Bob Haugland thenewmrbob@gmail.com	(916) 428-7640
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