



Koi Ahoy

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President's Message

By Jean Jahr



Our last meeting was wonderful! We got together at the lovely home of Kami and Sam in Roseville. Aside from learning about the process of creating another really nice pond full of beautiful fish we enjoyed socializing and eating with wonderful friends.

Our speaker was our very own Duane Carlson who talked to us about how he tests his pond water to keep his fish health and thriving. He was assisted from time to time by member Jim Phillips. Jim had given us a water keeping presentation last winter from a little different perspective. Put together, these guys were doubly informative. I, for one, had a couple of "ah ha!" moments. Looking around the group, it appeared we were all rapt.

Jim wrote an article that shared his January presentation. It appears in the February issue of Koi Ahoy. This time of the year water quality is especially critical as it can again change so rapidly. I encourage you to read Jim's article again.

We are always looking for new members for our group. We would love to have you join us for one of our monthly get togethers and see if this club is for your family. Pond not required. It is a good way to learn how others have created theirs.

Usually the club meets the last Sunday of the month. Our October meeting will be at the home of Dan and Cheryl Alarid in Elk Grove on October 27th at 1pm. The agenda will include a discussion of our upcoming Pond Tour in 2014.

Save the date! Sunday, December 8 will be our holiday meeting at Umeko's Chinese Buffet on Folsom Bl. Wonderful buffet plus fantastic door prizes, year-end festivities...you pay \$10 per person and CKC pays the rest of the tab. More info will be available at the meeting.

Jean

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Camellia Koi Club Report to AKCA

by Jerold Kyle, Club Rep

It's official. Last month the CKC voted to have a Pond Tour in 2014 that will be open to the public to invite people to see what we do and enjoy the beauty of our jewels of the garden. Anticipated date will be spring before the heat of summer. Past experience has shown that a public tour is an effective way to introduce people as to who, what, and why we are and to display the social aspects of belonging. They will learn that joining has the advantages of belonging to a club with AKCA Certified Koi Health Advisors, AKCA Certified Koi Judge, what nice discounts we get from supporting dealers, how diversified members are, and what good cooks they are to provide the kind or repast we enjoy at meetings. Belonging to CKC can be a joy.

It's All About Me

By Bob Haugland



I'm your new editor, Bob Haugland. I sometimes talk like I'm an expert on almost everything, but I assure you that I'm not. My pond is only two years old so I'm fairly new to koi keeping. As editor, I'll have the opportunity to add my two cents. Sometimes it'll be spot on, other times, who knows?

Having said that, I do have a few ideas about topics for both the newsletter and meetings. Koi are very photogenic and pretty much everyone has a digital camera. So I hope to encourage more pictures from everyone. So then you say that you can't take a good picture, or you don't know how to operate your camera. Well then, how about a class (or two) on digital photography? Or a photo contest? Revive the photo gallery on the web site?

I also want to begin spotlighting club members and their ponds. Who are you guys? How long have you been koi kichi? How many fish do you have? What's your favorite? Do they have names?



You can also expect me to be unconventional. Below is a picture of some of my "Boys". Most folks have pictures of their fish from above, where you can see the pretty colors and shapes and stuff. This photo was taken from underneath. I was trying to get a good view of their vents to determine their sex. You can see that I failed, the vents aren't visible at all. I also can't hold my breath long enough. But it's an interesting shot.



I was able to manipulate the exposure and get the vents to show a little better, but that's another picture and another story for another day.

Send me some of your photos...thenewmrBob@gmail.com

pH For Dummies

by Bob Haugland

At our January meeting Jim Phillips gave us a great presentation about pond water quality. The readable version was published in the February Koi Ahoy. It was, for some, detailed and technical enough to occasionally go "WOOSH!", right over our heads. Someone asked him to give us a simpler Readers Digest version. He thought for a while, but couldn't do it. At last month's meeting Jim and Duane teamed up and cleared up some items for us Readers Digest kind of ponderers.

I'd like to offer my interpretation. Jim or Duane can correct me if I have this wrong. One very important reason for monitoring pH in the first place is to prevent a pH crash. What's a pH crash? It's when the pH changes, or falls so much in a short time that it can kill your koi. Your koi are going to like a pH of 7.5, but they are very resilient and can survive in a pH range of 6.0 to 9.0. pH is said to go up when it goes from a low number (ie: 6.0) to a higher number (ie: 9.0). So it's logical that a pH crash means that the pH is going from a high number to a lower number, fast. If your pond is at 7.5 and that number falls to 5.5 overnight, that's a pH crash and you'll have some dead fish. If your pond is 8.5 and falls quickly to 6.5, that is also a pH crash.

Chances are that the water you buy from your water company is about 8.0. If you live out in the sticks and your water comes from your own well, it's probably closer to 7.0. It's important to know what it is as it comes out of your hose. So you put this stuff in



that hole in the ground and watch the pretty fish swim around and beg for food. So why would the pH change? Stuff happens. The sun comes out and warms the pond, algae grows, fish grow, fish pee and poop in your pond. Stuff attempts to change the pH in your pond.

So we recommend maintaining a "buffer" for the pH. My Webster dictionary says that a buffer is something used to deaden a shock. Like the space you leave between you and the driver in front of you on the freeway so that when that idiot slams on his brakes because he saw a spider on the dashboard, you don't crash into him. (There's that word again.) The buffer for pond pH is Total Alkalinity. Don't confuse Total Alkalinity with the word "alkaline" that refers to the general range of pH that is above 7.0. The abbreviation for Total Alkalinity is KH. A good Total Alkalinity number would be 100. The number is ppm, Parts Per Million, and the 100 we just pulled out of our hats to allow us to sleep at night without worrying about a pH crash. If you tested your pond's KH and find it's 200, that's okay. The 200 might have some other small effect on the fish but nothing to lose sleep over. If your test is 50 or less, don't go to bed.



Ordinary baking soda, aka: Arm & Hammer, can raise your KH to a safer buffer level. One pound of baking soda per 1,000 gallons will raise your KH about 50 points. It's pretty harmless to the fish so you can just dump it into the waterfall or some other fast moving water and it will dissolve quickly. Some of you buy your water from a company that draws it from Folsom Lake and the KH comes out of your tap at 30 parts per million. If your tap water is in this range you need to add a buffer and continually add a buffer. You can get a pound or two of crushed oyster shells at your koi dealer or feed store and keep a porous bag of it in your pond. Hardened (cured) plaster eggs can help too. Just pour plaster into an empty egg carton and allow the eggs to harden.

You can also Google your water company's web site and look for their annual water quality report. This will tell you what's coming out of your tap without even getting your hands wet. My water company is California American Water. They say my average pH is 8.1 and my KH is 114. Our October meeting is at Dan and Cheryl house in Elk Grove. I Googled around and found the web site for the Elk Grove Water District. The 2012 Water Quality Report on that site says that their water averages a pH of 7.7 and a KH (Total Alkalinity) of 59.2. We'll ask Dan and see what he says.



Photos from the September meeting by Melody and Gus

We had a fun time with Melody and Duane at the Koi Auction and Ice Cream Social. It was enjoyed by all.









Next Meeting

October 27, 2013
Home of Cheryl and Dan

Our next meeting is Sunday, October 27 at the home of Dan and Cheryl, 9442 Sierra River Dr., Elk Grove. Dan: 690-6800 Cheryl: 690-7400 senior70@gmail.com The board meets at 12 noon and all may attend. The general membership meets at 1pm. Bring a snack to share, a folding chair and your camera.

Our speaker will be Anthony Quintero from Koi Enterprise in West Sacramento. He'll be advising us on preparing our ponds for winter.

9442 Sierra River Dr.
Elk Grove, CA 95624
Dan: 916.690.6800
Cheryl: 916.690.7400

[Click for Map](#)

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.



Board of Directors and General Meeting Minutes

CKC Board of Directors Meeting Notes

September 29, 2013

Jean Jahr – President
Duane Carlson – Vice President
Georgia Vonk – Treasurer
Sam Niebank – Secretary
Bob Hagland - Director
Jose Delgadillo - Director



Meeting not called to order –12:07 PM

1. Pond Tour

- a. Votes were for a Public Tour
- b. The board has an instruction book for how to coordinate a Pond Tour
- c. Sam Niebank and Bob Haugland working on overall schedule
- d. The tentative date for the Pond Tour is Saturday Sept 20th, 2014.
- e. Will advertise on GroupOn
- f. Will ask for volunteers at meetings leading up to event.

2. GroupOn Update – Sam

- a. Account is being developed by GroupOn
- b. Used for Membership Drives and other club public events
- c. Need to offer 50% off on first event. We split 50/50 with GroupOn – we will get \$7.50 per new member family
- d. Board Voted to take it to the general membership for a vote.

3. Discussion on advising membership

- a. We should limit our advising to those who have been certified
- b. We should not give a Yes or No as there are many ways of doing things
- c. We should limit advise to pros and cons of a question, situation, and/or issue

4. Items to cover with General Membership

- a. Announce Pond Tour Date Sept 20th 2014
 - Need for volunteers
- b. GroupOn Update –
 - Sam to cover the GroupOn details
 - General membership to vote on using GroupOn for membership drives and other Club activities like the upcoming pond tour.
- c. Upcoming election for Board Positions – VP, Secretary, and 2 Directors
- d. X-Mas Party – Umekos – Members pay \$10 per person

5. Items for next Agenda

- a. Pond Tour - Who is interested in hosting or volunteering – Just as a preliminary look at club support for the event.
- b. Future Speakers



Finished Discussion at 12:55PM

**CKC General Membership Meeting Notes
September 29, 2013**

Called to order at 1:32PM – Prior to the meeting we enjoyed BBQ TriTip and Chicken with all the Fixin's

1. Pond Tour
 - a. Majority of the votes were for a Public Tour
 - b. Sam Niebank and Bob Haugland volunteered to coordinate the event
 - c. The tentative date for the Pond Tour is Saturday Sept 20th, 2014.
 - d. Will need to coordinate ponds, docents, paperwork, maps, activities, volunteers, etc...
 - e. Will need volunteers for tours and docents.
2. GroupOn
 - a. Covered details with membership
 - b. Would be used for Membership drives and Pond Tour Ticket sales
 - c. Membership voted unanimously to use GroupOn
3. X-Mas Party – SAVE THE DATE
 - a. Dec 8th at Umeko's Japanese & Chinese Buffet
 - b. Members Pay \$10 per person
 - c. Club will cover the rest
 - d. Will need party gifts – Do you have anything to donate?
4. October Meeting will be at the home of Dan and Cheryl
 - a. 9442 Sierra River Dr.
 - b. Elk Grove, CA 95624
 - c. 916.690.6800
 - d. senior70@gmail.com
5. Upcoming elections for Board Positions – VP, Secretary, and 2 Directors
6. Duane Carlson discussed the importance of water testing and shared several ways to test your water using different techniques.
7. Sam and Kami shared some of the details of their pond.
 - a. 2 years old
 - b. 800 gallons
 - c. Bead Filter
 - d. Liner Pond
 - e. 2 ft deep Kidney Shaped
 - f. No Bottom Drain
 - g. Skimmer with ½ Horse pump in skimmer basket

Adjourn at 3:45PM



Financial Report End of September 2013

Beginning Balance	\$7,515.78
Expenses	\$40.00 (host fee)
Income	\$50.00 (2014 renewal and 2 name badges)
Ending Balance	\$7,525.78

BTW, if you are holding club checks, please cash them. It seems we have \$90 more in the bank then I show and not one check cleared the bank last month. Thanks!

Do You Name Your Koi?



The Sanke in the middle that's begging profusely is "Sinatra", because of his blue eyes.

The Yamabuki to Sinatra's right is "Princess Buttercup", from the movie "Princess Bride".

The Benegoi at the bottom is "Willie", just because...



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	West Sacramento
June 30	Penn Martin- Plan It Solar	Sharon & Gary
July 28	Iva Gaglione- Ultra Balance Koi Food	Janet & Jose
August 25	Annual Koi Auction / Ice Cream Social	Melody & Duane
September 29	Duane Carlson – Water Forum	Kami & Sam
October 27	Anthony Quintero – Winter Prep	Cheryl & Dan
November 24	Sue Golden – Pond Plants	Carol & Doug
December 8	Annual Holiday Dinner	Umeko Chinese

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

President: Jean Jahr jjahr@surewest.net	(916) 735-8830
Vice President: Duane Carlson ducC@surewest.net	(916) 791-7607
Secretary: Sam Niebank the_niebanks@surewest.net	(916) 826-9709
Treasurer: Georgia Vonk georgiav@earthlink.net	(916) 408-0573
Director: Gary Waldsmith gary@mountaincottagevineyard.com	(916) 933-5501
Director: Bob Haugland thenewmrbob@gmail.com	(916) 428-7640
Director: Jose Delgadillo raiders-fan@comcast.net	(916) 683-6446
Director: Sharon Oswald sharon@mountaincottagevineyard.com	(916) 933-5501
Immediate Past President: Jerry Kyle jeroldkyle@yahoo.com	(209) 368-9411
Koi Ahoy Editor: Bob Haugland thenewmrbob@gmail.com	(916) 428-7640
Club Photographer: Pauline Sakai sakaip@surewest.net	(916) 786-3769
Webmaster: Gus Cubillo acubillo@gmail.com	(916) 956-0598

Send us your pictures and stories
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