

Camellia Koi Club
Newsletter
Volume 29 – No. 3, March, 2018

**SAM NIEBANK,
PRESIDENT**

**BOB HAUGLAND,
EDITOR**

**PAULINE SAKAI,
PHOTOS**

Koi Ahoy

It's all about the fish



The March 25 Meeting is at the home of Michelle Cardenas in Carmichael.

The address is 4131 Valiant St., 95608.

The board meets at noon and you may sit in on that if you like. The general meeting starts at 1pm. You may bring a pot luck dish or snack, if you like, and your folding chair.

Michelle is the pharmacy lady at UCD, or to put it another way:
Michelle Cardenas, BS, CPhT, RLAT, RVT
Pharmacy Technician III, Center for Companion Animal Health
UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital

All those fancy letters after her name means that the Vets have to ask her for the Rx. Michelle will speak to us about koi meds.

Here's a google maps link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/4131+Valiant+W,+Carmichael,+CA+95608/@38.6394478,-121.3135694,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x809ade81d4e659df:0xf778260383fa833d!8m2!3d38.6394436!4d-121.3113807>

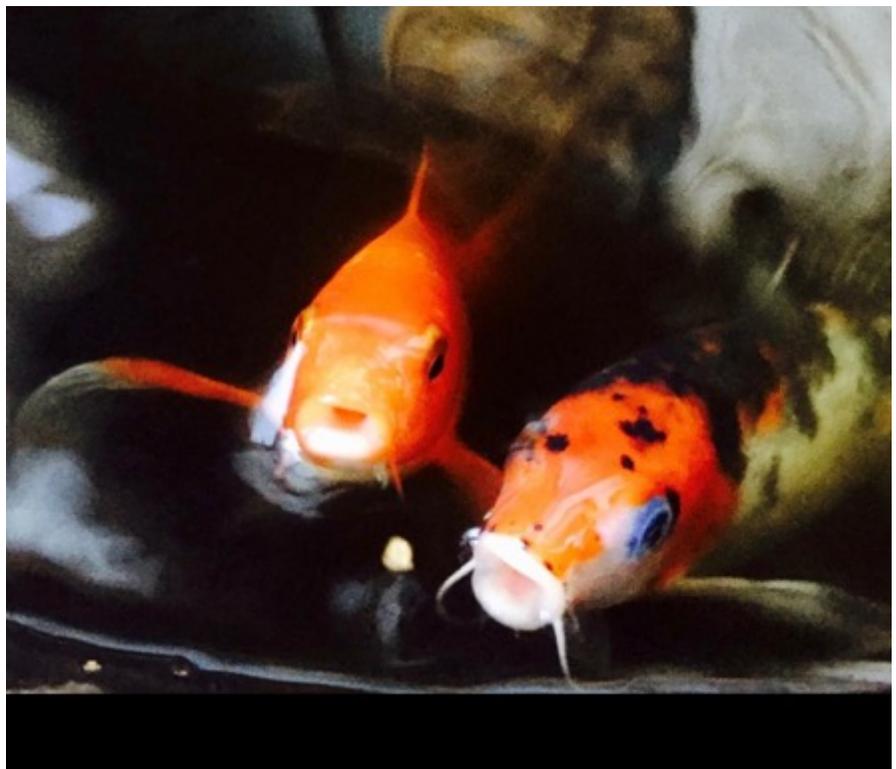
Dues due: *This is March, yet almost half of the membership has not paid their \$30. It's not that we can't afford it, we just forget. So put \$30 in your wallet or purse right now to give or mail to Georgia. Anyone not up to date by March 31 will be dropped from the roster and won't receive the newsletter.*

This Month in the Pond

Spring is in the air. The equinox was March 20 and things are beginning to warm, but very slowly. You should have a pond thermometer and use it. Even if you never stopped feeding, you slowed it down. When you resume feeding, do it gradually. When you feed the fish you also feed the filter. Too much too soon will over load the filter and cause an ammonia spike.

How old is your koi kibble? If it's more than a year old you should consider replacing it. If it doesn't smell like fish food then it probably isn't. If it smells sour or bitter, it's spoiled.

This is Tom 'n' Jerry Cardenas.

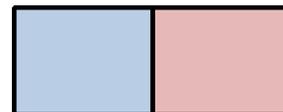


How 'AT RISK' is Your Pond?

Take the survey to see if there are some areas in your koi husbandry protocol that you can improve on. It's simply a list of koi husbandry concepts. If you feel unsure about some of your answers, get your pond buddy to help you decide.

Do you do regular water changes?	Yes	No
Do you regularly backwash the filter?	Yes	No
Have you tested the water in the last 30 days?	Yes	No
Do you know the exact volume of your pond?	Yes	No
Do you know your pond's turn over rate?	Yes	No
Do you have a test kit for:		
pH?	Yes	No
Ammonia?	Yes	No
KH?	Yes	No
Nitrites?	Yes	No
Do you usually know the pond temperature?	Yes	No
Are you comfortable with the oxygen in your pond?	Yes	No
Is the pond over crowded? (Fish load)	No	Yes
Is your pond designed to be a koi pond?	Yes	No
Or is your pond a garden pond?	No	Yes
Do you have more goldfish than koi?	No	Yes
Do you have any skinny koi?	No	Yes
Do you occasionally see any of the following?		
Flashing, Jumping, Clamped fins, Injuries?	No	Yes
Has the pond ever smelled like rotten eggs?	No	Yes
Have you found a dead fish in the last 6 months?	No	Yes

Total your answers into the blue & red boxes.
There are no magic numbers but the more red answers you have, the more *AT RISK* your pond could be.



Eliminating any red answer is the best way to reduce stress in any pond. Eliminating multiple red answers defines the best and healthiest ponds. Koi have a surprisingly robust immune system that can contain and overcome the stress caused by more than many realize. It is well known that many pathogens are out there (including KHV) that may simply be carried in "B" cells without any outward signs. This is normal and can go on for years without an outbreak of anything until a stress level is triggered that overcomes the immune system. Red answers may not be immediate killers but, may silently hold immune systems on the precipice where very little takes it over the cliff. Adding new koi to a red pond may be all it takes. Let's find easy ways to eliminate red answers so we can have more, bigger, beautiful babies to be proud of.

Take the Survey on the previous page. This is just a random thing that a few of us came up with to help us all evaluate the big picture when it comes to the health of our koi ponds. You can do the survey now and bring it to our meetings and we'll discuss some of the pond issues. I will also have printed copies at the meeting available. I (Bob) got four red answers so now I have made plans to solve those problem areas.

The survey can also be a useful tool to help you decide whether or not to add more koi to your pond. Spring is right around the corner, the latest Japanese imports will be coming out of quarantine, and the temptation to buy them is great. If your pond survey shows a lot of red answers, it could be a warning that merely adding new fish would be dangerous.

Yearly dues are due.

Georgia has simplified the annual dues problem by making everyone's anniversary date January 1. If you are unsure if you've paid the \$30 for 2018, you can always ask Georgia via email ...

georgiav@earthlink.net or you can just come to the next meeting and speak to Georgia personally.



Dues
are
due?

Yup.
Look at
that.
Dues are
due.

ZNZ NorCal National Koi Show (aka the San Jose Koi Show)

April 7-8 Again at the Wyndam Garden San Jose Silicon Valley Hotel, 399 Silicon Valley Blvd., San Jose. 408-972-7800

Reed Rodriguez Has Fish to Sell

Reed has sold all of his koi stock and is now selling his personal collection. These are show quality, adult fish, at very reasonable prices. Call Reed at 916-897-1975.

Recommended Viewing: Dr. Johnson's Video series

Now admittedly, the good doctor can be a little monotone sometimes, but the information gleaned from watching this series will help you save fish. You don't have to watch the 20 videos in order. You can select to view the ones most important to your current situation. Hit the subscribe tab and you'll be reminded to watch all 20.

Here's a link..... [Twenty Steps to Fish Health / Disease Assessment](#)

Vivian Holabird, Koi Portraits

Vivian takes a photograph of your koi, or anything for that matter, and transforms it into a painting. Prices vary according to size and complexity. 916-220-1372

Ciao ciao!

Here is all the information needed to follow our **CKC Instagram page....**

Download the Instagram app from Apple App Store for Iphone or Google Play for Android phones. Open the app once downloaded to your device and create your profile following the prompts. Search (hourglass icon) for camelliakoiclub user name and select "follow"

This will allow you to view posts from the CKC Instagram page.

You can also follow dealer pages (Koi Enterprise, Majestic Koi), koi food companies, veterinarians, and other koi enthusiasts by searching names or hashtags (#) such as #koi #koiponds. These hashtags link all posts from people who have added that hashtag to their photo.

The app is a neat way to share photos and video directly from your phone of your koi and anything else you like similar to Facebook but without all the other extra stuff. Instagram is all photos and video posts.

Let me know if you have any questions! I am happy to help set you up at the next meeting as well if you want step by step instruction :)

Cheers, *Michelle*

February's Meeting at Bob's Pond

The wet lab at Bob's didn't produce any parasites for us to see so we scraped some algae from the side of the pond and looked for 'critters'. Only found a worm thing that was munching on the algae. The 1250 gallon pond has four adult and three adolescent koi, making it borderline crowded.

Over-crowding should be avoided as it creates an environment that can be overwhelmed with contaminants, bacteria, and parasites, but the overcrowded African Daisies looked good.



KP 101, Aeromonas Alley

Aeromonas is the Latin term for just one of the many bacteria that plague our ponds and cause the infamous bacterial infections. Aeromonas Alley refers to pond temperatures between 39° and 68°F. It was thought that Aeromonas flourished and multiplied at those temperatures. Research has shown that while that's true, it's also not 100% accurate. Aeromonas, and other bacteria, are always there.

If you become victim of a bacterial infection, the first thing 'they'll' tell you is it's caused by a dirty pond, and yes, it is. Don't beat yourself up too bad though. Remember, koi live in their toilet, and there's no such thing as a pond that's clean enough to not be susceptible to all sorts of microorganisms. On the other hand, don't let your pond ever look like anyone could come in and say that it's dirty. This is why we stress things like filter maintenance, water change outs, cleaning out leaves, etc.

The 'AT RISK' survey on p.2 is just our little attempt to inform and motivate you toward keeping your koi as healthy as possible, ie: koi husbandry. Since our babies pee, poop, and burp in their home, it's up to us to keep them as healthy as possible. Didn't your mom always nag you to wash your hands and eat your vegetables before she sent you off to do battle with all those germs in school?

Prevention is always the best medicine, especially in our koi ponds. In addition to keeping the pond clean, we can fight those bad bacteria on their own turf with other/good bacteria. There's a product called KoiZyme that can help do this. Rather than endorse this product, or even go into the details and theories of how it works, I'm going to refer you to our own web site www.CamelliaKoi.org Find the archives and go to the January, 2016 *Koi Ahoy*. Under the guise of KP 101 you'll find a reprint of Tom Harding's article, "Healthy Water & Healthy Koi. It's well worth the read.

What about right now? If you've read this far it means you're concerned. Keep it up. Continue to research and ask questions. Network with the people sitting next to you at the next meeting. Take some advice and also reject some advice. If it's important and factual, more than one person will give you the same advice. (That's my advice)

Back to the bacterial infection...Your pond is coming out of its' winter state. It's going from cold to a little bit warmer and the koi, the filter and the bacteria are all trying to thrive. As you begin to feed, try to inspect each fish thoroughly. Look at the belly as it swims up to get the kibble. Look for any little wound or blemish on the body, head, or fins. Aeromonas don't cause a wound, they infect it. If you can catch an infection early, you can usually solve the problem. If you don't see it until it's out of control, there's a tough road ahead for you and the fish. You'll need Veterinary help, expensive prescriptions, and quarantine or hospitalization.



At the February meeting we showed how to anesthetize a koi and scrape for parasites. This is also a good time to inspect the entire fish for wounds, missing scales, even bruises. All are potential opportunities for bacterial infection.

Pictured here we are opening the gill plate to look at the gills themselves.

Camellia Koi Club 2018 Calendar

January 28.....Sacramento Winter Care.....Lorenzo’s, Loomis
 February 25.....Wet Lab & Fish Handling.....Bob Haugland, Sacramento
 March 25.....Koi Medications.....Michelle Cardenas, **BS, CPHT, RLAT, RVT**, Carmichael
 April 29.....Dennis & Victoria Tran, Sacramento
 May 20?????.....(27 is Memorial Day Weekend).....Jean Jahr, Antelope
 June 24.....Open
 July 29.....Open
 August 26.....Koi Auction & Ice Cream Social.....Duane & Melody Carlson, Granite Bay
 September 1-2.....Koi Show.....Old Sugar Mill, Clarksburg
 September 30.....Chuck Cottam& Nita Blauch, Lincoln
 October 28.....Mark & Sharon Wichmann, Rancho Cordova
 November 11.....George & Denise Garbero, Sacramento
 December 2.....Christmas Party TBD

Koi Health Advisors (KHA)

Problems with your Pond? Fish? Both? These guys are here to help.

Bob Haugland, Sacramento, 916-428-7640, c. 916-224-8233 thenewmrbob@gmail.com
Jean Jahr, Antelope, 707-621-2229, jkjahr@gmail.com
Jerry Kyle, Lodi, 209-368-9411, jeroldkyle@yahoo.com
Sandy & Bob Mascadri, Cameron Park, 530-676-7667, koigardens@comcast.net
Pauline Sakai, Roseville, 916-786-3769, sakaip@surewest.net

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 Jack Lockhoff.....925-458-2222.....koilvrs@att.net
 Juliet Lockhoff.....925-458-2222...koilvrs@att.net
 AKCA Rep: **Jerold Kyle**.....209-368-9411.....jeroldkyle@yahoo.com
 CKC Photographer, **Pauline Sakai**.....916-786-3769....sakaip@surewest.net

Treasurer's Report, Georgia Vonk

Beginning Balance: \$7645.46

Income: 96.00 \$24, Gabero's donation, \$12 name badge, \$60 renewals

Expenses: 778.86 \$725.62 equipment insurance, \$40 host fee, \$13.24 badge ID tags

Ending Balance: \$6962.60

Minutes, January 28, 2018

Board Meeting

Called to order at 12:04pm

Approved minutes and finances from January as written in the Koi Ahoy

Openings for meetings for June and July - need to get new homes and ponds to visit

Old Business: Koi Show

-Worksheets with job functions listed for each area of Show -Bob met with Julie Riggs, Old Sugar Mill facilities coordinator, still do not have a written contract. Negotiations underway as increase in rental fee from \$1500 to \$1700 and would like to be able to use grassy area for the show tanks. Also would like porti potty fee included in rental increase. Facility not wanting grass ruined by tanks, but Bob offered to set up 3 tanks over 72 hour period to see if grass will remain ok- should hear result and have written contract soon. Verbal contract established as the OSM loved having us last year.

- Pauline has entrant packet ready and working on vendor packet

- Need to inventory trailers around April and sell things we don't need, will have extra expenses this year because trailer needs tires and possible service

- Pauline mentioned offering incentive for vendors registering and paying early. Georgia stated we lost money in past reserving spaces for vendors and never receiving payment. All vendors will pay ahead of time. All those wanting advertising is show premium will pay up front as well.

- Sam will email sister club presidents the flier and info for our show

- Decision on T-shirts and logo/design will happen when we have committees

- Old Business: New Member Packet

- Juliet has emailed ideas to board. We will discuss this at March meeting

New Business: By-laws review

- Discussed changes to by-laws as follows: Under Article IX Section A of president duties moving designate location of meetings down to Section B of Vice President duties. Change number 7 of Section A to "designate a member" to serve on board of directors of AKCA. Remove number 4 of Section B for Vice President to serve as AKCA board member. Under Article XII Section A change amount president can spend without permission from \$250 to \$300.

-Gus will look for PDF of bylaws and convert to word doc. Michelle to type up changes. Will go over proposed changes at March meeting. Finalize and send out to membership for vote at April meeting

-New Business: Koi Person of the Year

-Nominations at March meeting, vote in April, trophy changes hands in May

- Gus brought beautiful koi print for sale \$175 by Vivian H

General Meeting

Meeting called to order at 1:20pm

Introduced new member Steve and Gail Cunningham

Approved January minutes and finances as written in Koi Ahoy

Need meeting places for months of June and July - need new ponds to see and would also like members to step up and host - \$40 stipend given to purchase drinks etc for the meeting. Sam asked everyone to think of incentive that would make members want to host meeting. Also considering other places for field trips or restaurants that have ponds, etc.

Old Business: Koi Show

- Passed around sign up sheet for different areas needed for pre show prep work (advertising, trophies, vendors, participants, judges helpers, setup/tear down, raffle item collection, raffle booth coordinator). Passed around worksheets with details outlining everything needed to do each job.

- Asked members to start collecting items for raffle prizes that may have at home already

Old Business: Dues! Pay Georgia if haven't paid for 2018 yet. Will drop off email list April 1 if payment not received

Discussed for the future sending cards to members who maybe sick or having surgery. Please all members communicate when something of that nature is known so the club can send well wishes as soon as possible

New Business: By-laws

- Last update on paper was in 2007. Will send out proposed changes to members and allow discussion of other ideas for updates

- New Business: Koi Person of the Year

-Nominations at March meeting, vote in April, trophy changes hands in May

Michelle let members know that Instagram page is up. Will email instructions on how to follow it. Will be taking over Facebook posting as well.

Gus told members about the Koi print for sale by Vivian

Opened for questions- long fins getting pink fins during stress, proper temp for koi keeping

Pulled winner for raffle prize- Sam will bring prize to next meeting

Bob spoke about his pond and began demonstration of koi anesthesia, specimen collection, and viewing samples under microscopes

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- C.V. Lincoln, GA

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- J.R. Corvello, OR

20+ year member of the Corvallis Koi Club. I can help you find that perfect pond with a fountain attached or find a buyer that can be educated how best to care for your weeps when it's time for you to sell your home.

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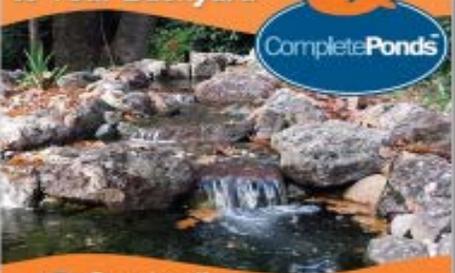
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