

Koi Ahoy

Camellia Koi Club
Sacramento
September 2005

A Note From Koi Ahoy's New Editor

I am very excited to be assuming the duties of Koi Ahoy editor, with Sandy's help, in the next month or two. I had recently become interested in increasing my involvement with the club, and the offer to take over production of this newsletter presented the perfect opportunity. In last month's newsletter Sandy hoped that a new editor would bring a fresh point of view and enliven a publication she feared was growing stale. I always found the Koi Ahoy to be informative and entertaining and looked forward to receiving our copy every month, and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Sandy for all the effort she has put into a great newsletter over the past few years. She is a very active club member and resigning as Koi Ahoy editor will give her more time to contribute to the club in other ways. For now I am concentrating on learning the newsletter software and process, but hopefully by winter I will be comfortable enough to consider tinkering with format and content. I welcome ideas and suggestions from anyone. Please send them to kde2@comcast.net.

I'm sure in future issues of the newsletter I will find opportunities to write about my various pond-building and koi-keeping experiences as they become relevant. For those members who do not know my husband Kirk or me, I will briefly share a bit about our pond and fish. We built our pond during the summer of 2003 with some invaluable consulting and assistance from Oh So Koi's Bill Swearingen. It is a 4,300 gallon, in-ground, liner pond with a gravity-fed Nexus filter, 2 57 watt UV lights and a 500 gal veggie filter/Q-Tank we added in spring 2004. Maintenance and gadgetry is completely Kirk's milieu. I specialize in feeding and petting our koi, am capable of doing water tests, and reluctantly added the role of amateur vet the first time our fish got sick. We currently have 8 fish, and that number seems to fluctuate every season--unfortunately not always in the upward direction. What is the average period of time other club members enjoy problem-free fish and ponds before something goes wrong? We got into this hobby because it was supposed to be "relaxing"—sitting in the backyard watching our "living jewels" swim peacefully—yet so far we have seemingly endlessly had something to fret

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about: *Aeromonas* ulcers, string algae, flukes, high ammonia, pea-soup algae, and koi who do not know they are supposed to stay in their pond. At the very least it has been educational. We did reach a few rewarding milestones this summer: purchasing our first “big” fish (24”), having some fish become social enough to suck on fingers, fish visibly gaining length and girth, and a young kohaku decided he’d rather be an ai goromo. In October we will achieve another milestone—showing koi in our first koi show. When I got into the hobby I never thought a show would appeal to me—it seemed like an unnecessary stress on a fish. But the desire to show off our beautiful fish, the opportunity to participate in a club event, and the safety of an English-format show have convinced me that it’s something I’d like to try. I look forward to seeing everyone and their fish at Camellia Koi Club’s October show.

President’s Message by Jerry Kyle

WE NEED YOU!

It’s time! This is why you joined the Camellia Koi Club. Perhaps it was to show off your beautiful koi. Perhaps it was to learn more about koi and their care. Perhaps it was to be part of something important – the promotion of this great hobby of ours. Perhaps it was to meet and make new friends. And then again, perhaps it was just to have fun. By now we all know the Sacramento Koi Show & Vendors Fair is fast approaching and it is time for all of us to be part of why we joined.

Garry Chin is our chairman and has put in many hours planning the show along with the Board of Directors and other key helpers. At the last Board Meeting he reported he had seven vendors needing ten booths paid for and more pending. Vendors are coming from as far as New Jersey to present their wares and services. Duane Carlson is Hotel Coordinator and has obtained a host hotel for our out of town guests and vendors.

Helping with the show is Ken Gray who is justifiably proud of the benching team he has put together. Larry Gill is Lead Bencher supported by Rob Barrera, Rick Blazo, Tony Quitarano, and Erwin Santos. Joe Devera will handle getting entry photos of each koi. Jeanenne Pershing is Benching Recorder assisted by Ellen Ragasa. Jolene Nunes is Judging Recorder and Bob Pershing will coordinate judging results with computer team. Computer team is led by Jason Sargeant. koi tubber for the judges is John Jones. You are right Ken, this is a fine team.

The CKC will feed all volunteers and entrants lunch Friday, Saturday, and Sunday thanks to Cheryl Alarid volunteering to do her part by organizing this. Remember the fine job of feeding us she did at the last Seminar? Special thanks to Anthony Quintero of Koi Enterprise for supplying the food each day. Jason Sargeant is the Pizza Party Coordinator. All workers and exhibitors are invited to a Pizza Party Saturday night paid for by Rob Barrera of Majestic Koi.

Mary Beth Avila and Jim Phillips will see to it that the equipment needed for the show is on site. Bob Caruso and Jerry Kyle designed the ad for KOI USA and Sandy Sylvester designed the show program booklet which is even nicer than last year.

Phyllis Kyle will coordinate the club booth and raffle and has purchased the latest AKCA publications and will have them available for you to see or purchase. Pauline and Lily Sakai and Tom and Judy Nishi-

mura have volunteered to help people the booth which will also be the club information center.

Steve Eckard will be working with our Vendors to ensure that their needs are taken care of and that they are in their location at the show site.

Jim Phillips who is our “Mr. Water Quality” will be the Set-up Coordinator and Tear-down Coordinator. There will be thirty six-foot diameter show tanks to set up, fill with water, and install an air pump and air lines. Jim MUST have help! Last year he was very pleased that many hands made light work. This needs to happen again.

Please call Garry or Jerry and let us know how you can help. Phyllis needs more help at the Club booth Saturday and Sunday to sell Raffle tickets and direct people, Cheryl definitely will need some help serving lunch, and we need many hands Friday to help Jim set up.

There will be expert supervision Friday to teach how you can help set things up and Sunday the tanks need to be emptied, dried, and folded. As you can see, a lot of work has already been done by a few to make this show happen. Now a little work has to be done by many to make it successful. We see who has stepped up already to make this show a success. Is your name on the list? If not, please call. Jerry's phone number is 209/368-9411 or e-mail at jeroldkyle@yahoo.com. Garry's phone number is 916/922-2525 or e-mail him at scvkoi@yahoo.com to tell us how you can help. Be part of the fun and get fed too. Bring the family. Our success depends on many hands making light work. Our success depends on you. Thanks for being part of this great organization. You all make me very proud.

KOI CLASSIFICATION & JUDGING CRITERIA

The following excerpt from an AKCA article written by koi judge Douglas Dahl is intended to explain what judges will be looking for in the fish at the show. The full text, which includes more detailed judging points for the most popular types of koi is available at <http://www.akca.org/library/koiiclass.htm>

“Koi are judged as a whole or holistically and are not judged on a positive or negative point system. Negative points can come into play in close contests. Koi are judged side by side based on what we see today and not what may be there next week or next year....Koi may lose today only to come back to win tomorrow based on the competition tomorrow.

1. First, the koi cannot be missing anything like a fin or have any abnormalities like a pushed in mouth all of which will disqualify the koi from judging. The exception is the second set of barbels.
2. Second the koi must be healthy and not show signs of disease or parasites, which could disqualify the koi from judging. An exception is made for split fins or bruises judged to be caused during transportation.
3. Third, is the importance of body conformation. Broad, thick body shape of female koi is preferred giving an imposing appearance when compared to the thin trout shaped body of a male koi. Shape and size of the fins are important to be in proportion to the body. The head shape is important that it not be too short or too long or turn to one side. The koi when viewed from above should be symmetrical on both sides and not have one side flatter than the other. Even the way a koi swims is taken into account on conformation. Not all female koi hold their eggs well, which could affect conformation.
4. Fourth, in my opinion is quality of skin and deep, vibrant colors, which makes koi “living jewels”. This also includes how well the koi is “finished”, are all of the colors up, and is there a good sheen on the skin. It is conformation and quality that will catch a Judges eye from a distance.
5. Fifth is pattern that is artistically balanced and not front, tail or side heavy. Pattern must also be proportional to the size of the koi and not have a small pattern on a huge body or a huge pattern on a small body.
6. Last is uniqueness or character usually of the pattern on the head that makes this koi special.”



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Club Calendar

**October 1-2, 2005 Camellia Koi Club Koi Show
 Green Acres Nursery
 901 Galleria Blvd., Roseville**

Saturday, October 1, 2005

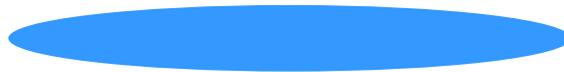
7:00 - 9:00am Exhibitor koi registration.
9:00 - 5:30pm Open to the public
 9:00 - 9:30am Opening ceremonies
 9:30 - 12:30 Koi Show Judging
 12:30 - 1:30pm Lunch
 1:30 - 3:30pm Koi Show Judging
 6:00 - 9:00pm Pizza Party (location to be determined)
 (for koi show participants)

Sunday, October 2, 2005

9:00 - 2:00pm Open to the public
 9:30 - 11:00 Koi Show Tours by the Show Judges.
 11:00 - 12:00 Koi Show Awards Ceremony
 12:00- 1:00 Lunch
 2:00 - 3:00 Exhibit fish removed from show grounds
 3:00- 7:00 Show Tank breakdown and clean-up

November: To be announced

**December 4: Holiday Luncheon at Del Webb Ballroom
1:00 PM**



Koi Ahoy

**4840 T Street
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