



# Koi Ahoy

February 2007

## President's Message—*Ellen Evans*

This time of year, unless you have a greenhouse or are heating your pond, koi are simply not as fun to have as they are in the summer. More lazy than lively, they slowly browse the walls of the pond or even clamp their fins and sit motionless on the bottom. It is too cold for us to hang out in the backyard and enjoy the fish. Yet the filter still needs cleaning (brrrr, that water is oh so cold!), they still need to be monitored for signs of health problems, and if they have the energy to come beg from you, the water temperature is so low you can't even feed them. So I was terribly excited last weekend when I checked the water temperature and it had risen to 55 F, almost 10 degrees since the last time I checked. The week of rain we had finally gotten had reversed the low temps caused by several weeks of near-freezing

nights. "The water is 55 degrees!" I yelled. "We can feed them!!!" Of course, coming out of two months without food we do not want to bombard their innards, so they are only getting a handful of Cheerios every few days. But it marks an exciting turning point in the yearly cycle of koi keeping. We have cleaned out our trickle towers in anticipation of warmer water and increased feeding. (During the cold months of non-feeding when ammonia load would be at its lowest, we stopped the trickle towers and relied only on our vortex filter for any semblance of biology. The evaporative cooling caused by the water splashing through the towers would have cooled the pond temperatures lower than our normal 45F winter water temp.) Pretty soon we will start up our heated Q-tank and transfer some babies we bought at last year's koi show to it in hopes of giving them a jump on the growing season.



Jason Sargeant discussed the Evans' homemade trickle towers and protein skimmer at the July 2006 meeting.

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That reminds me that our March meeting will kick off CKC's 2007 Koi Growing Contest. Details are included in this issue of Koi Ahoy. Our February meeting will be held at Anthony Quintero's store, Koi Enterprise. Anthony broke ground at this site around two years ago and moved his business from South Land Park to more spacious facilities in West Sacramento. Every time I visit, he has built something new or added to his large display pond. Anthony can't wait to teach us about a new protein skimming device just out on the market that removes dissolved organic compounds (aka foam) from pond water. Kirk Evans, who has built his own experimental airstone driven protein skimmer (discussed very briefly at last July's meeting) will talk about traditional venturi and airstone protein skimmers and attempting to make your own. I encourage everyone to come and visit Koi Enterprise's new site if you haven't seen it already, and show your support for the Silver Level sponsor of last year's koi show. Finally, to anyone going to San Diego's Koi Show this weekend, Kirk and I hope to see you there!



## 2007 Club Calendar

Please note that these locations are subject to change. Be sure to check the newsletter or website each month for the most current meeting information.

DATE	TOPIC	LOCATION
January 28, 2007	"How to fix a leaky pond when all else fails and you don't have \$\$\$."	Marshall's (Auburn)
February 25, 2007	"Getting Rid of Foam!"	Koi Enterprise (W. Sac)
March 25, 2007	"Maximizing Koi Growth"/ KOI GROWTH CONTEST	Caruso's (Lincoln)
April TBA	SPRING BUYING TRIP	BAY AREA
May 27, 2007	Koi Health Q&A, KHV Update, scraping/ microscope	Tammy Nelsen (Roseville)
June 24, 2007	"The War on Algae"	Georgia Vonk (Lincoln)
July 29, 2007	"How to aerate the pond/ What happens when the power goes out?"	Diane Coit (Sacramento)
August 26, 2007	ANNUAL KOI AUCTION	Avila's (Rio Linda) *Potluck!
September 23-24	ANNUAL KOI SHOW (GROWTH CONTEST RESULTS)	PLACER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
October 28, 2007	"How to be your own General Contractor"	
November 18, 2007	"What should I look for when purchasing koi?"	Tim Bauer (Granite Bay)
December TBA	ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY	TBA

### CALL FOR HOSTS!

As you can see, we are still looking for one or two meeting hosts for 2007. Please contact Jason Sargeant (sarge@starstream.net) for more information if you are interested in hosting.

### Koi Store Chairperson still needed!

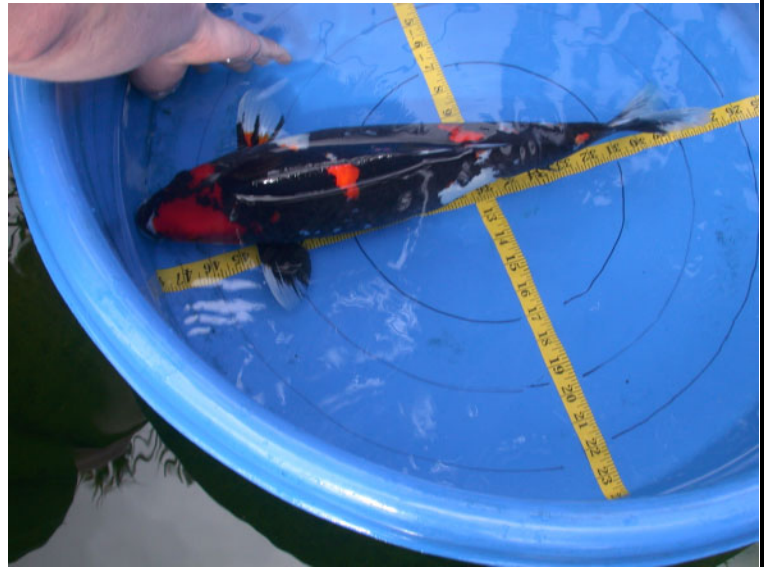
The club is still looking to someone to take over management of the store from Phyllis Kyle. We absolutely need someone to step up by the time of the koi show. Phyllis has another commitment this year and will not be able to man the club booth at our September show. Jerry Kyle will be able to assist and mentor the new chair.



## Koi Growth Contest

The object of the contest is to show your prowess at turning little koi into big koi. To eliminate variables such as age and bloodline, all fish will come from the same brood. Members can purchase an eligible fish at our March meeting.

Bob Caruso of West Coast Koi has bred some beautiful kohaku and will be generously allowing club members to purchase these fish for \$10, well below what he charges for wholesale. The babies are of such quality that 2006 Sacramento Koi Show judge Toshio Sakai was overheard asking which Japanese breeder Bob had purchased these fish from!



Official starting measurements will be taken at the March meeting. The meeting topic will be strategies for getting maximum growth out of your koi.

The day of final measurement will be Sept. 23 at the Sacramento Koi Show. Bring your koi to the show (you will have to pay the club for a tank, and as a bonus your fish will be judged in the show). The winner will be announced with much fanfare and a prize, to be determined, will be awarded.

### Treasurer's Report

Garry Chin is seeking a chairperson for the koi show's Saturday Night Banquet. A venue has already been secured, but Garry needs someone to coordinate ticket sales, decorations, etc. Please contact him at [scvkoi@yahoo.com](mailto:scvkoi@yahoo.com) if you can help.

Beginning Balance:	7,778.22
Income:	755.00
Expenses:	- 112.54
<b>Feb balance:</b>	<b>\$8,420.68</b>

At the January meeting the membership approved the allocation of \$5,000 from the club's budget for the purchase of a new mobile storage trailer. A second trailer is badly needed as the club acquires more tanks and equipment as our annual show expands. In early February, Jim Phillips, with approval from the board, located and purchased a trailer for the club. The trailer is a brand new 7X14 foot tandem axle Loadrunner trailer by Interstate Trailers. Total price was \$4,318. Jerry Kyle is looking for hitch components for it at a deep discount.



## Koi Show Update—*Garry Chin*

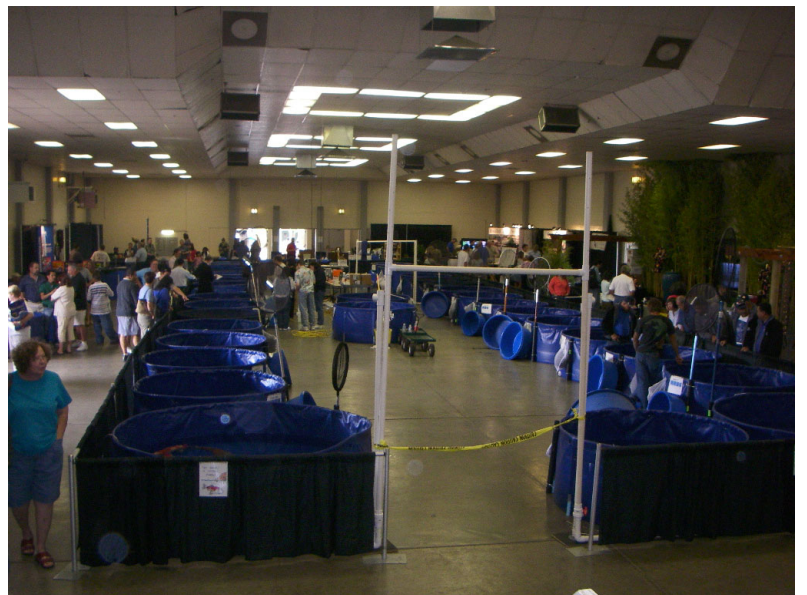
Well, planning is well under way for the upcoming Sacramento Combined Koi Show. Yes that's right, our event is now Sacramento Combined Koi Show and that is just a start of changes in stored for 2007. This year in addition to the Pond Builders, Garden Clubs as well a Vendor Faire we are making changes to the Venue, the Koi Show and adding Speakers. Many of the changes come in response to suggestions made by club members at the debriefing of the 2006 event.

This year's event will be held at Johnson Hall (across the street from Jones Hall) at the Placer County Fairgrounds on September 22 – September 23, 2007. The Combined Koi Show and Wet Vendors will be outdoors with Dry Vendor being indoors this year. Johnson Hall has a darken stage that we will used for lectures on topics related to Koi such as Koi Ponds, Koi, Koi Food, etc. In 2007 we look forward to having a Concessionaire to provide food for the Public during the event.

The largest number of changes will occur with the Combined Koi Show. The event is Combined with the addition of a Dealer's Division, a Novice Division, CKC Koi Growing Contest along with the Open Koi Show. The ultimate goal for the change is to bring out the BEST Koi no matter the affiliation of the Koi owner. The Dealers will nominate a Koi that will compete against other Koi Dealers Koi for Grand Champion and Runner-Up Grand Champion in the Dealer Division. The Novice Division is opened to any Koi Hobbyist who have never entered a Koi Show. Koi owned by a Novice will be judged in the Open Koi Show and then judged separately against other Koi entered by Novice Koi Hobbyist for Grand Champion, Runner-Up Grand Champion, Best Adult, and Best Young in the Novice Division. CKC members will have the opportunity to compete in two contests that are exclusively for CKC members only. In addition to the "Best Eye" Contest, you will be able to complete in the CKC Growing Contest with Koi purchased in March during the General Meeting at West Coast Koi Farm. Not to be left out is the addition of a Best Jumbo to the Open Division. All judging will be by the Koi Show Judges. The biggest changes for the Open and Novice Divisions comes in the cost, Entry fee is a flat \$40.00 for each 6' Koi Show Tank or a flat \$60.00 for each 8' Koi Show Tank. There is no fee for Koi this year!

Dry Vendors are not without a contest of their own, they will be competing for Best Booth Award voted by everyone. There are other surprises planned, stay tuned!

With all of these changes, there is a need for more people to assist in putting this event together. Steve Eckard has agreed to once again to be Co-Chair of the event, Kirk Evans and Heather Marshall will assist Jim Phillips with coordinating Water Quality. There will be more people heading various tasks for the event, stay tuned!



**Spring Buying Trip Update** — Gary Fabian

Attention shoppers.....your Club would like to take you on a "buying trip", to several Bay Area koi / equipment retailers. You'll be whisked away by skilled van drivers, for an all day event , including lunch----oh wow!. We're setting up this trip for one of the following dates:

Sat, 4-14

Sun, 4-15 (tax day)

Sat, 4-21

Sun, 4-22

If you're even mildly interested in going (no, prices are not set yet), vote your favorite 2 dates. Send your vote to Gary Fabian ([gary\\_fabian@SKWAIA.com](mailto:gary_fabian@SKWAIA.com)). We'll get to see recent Tosai acquisitions, and will get special pricing / offers, just for being club members, by the retailers. PLUS, we'll have space aboard to handle all those big things that you buy....like the time 2 of us each bought 100 gallon Q-tanks and tied them to the hood, for-----well, you know what we mean.....lots of space.

Vote for your favorite dates. Start your shopping lists. Get the pond ready for newcomers. Much more info to follow in March.

**Club Library** — Bob Sisson

Read a good koi book recently? Share it at the monthly meetings in the "Book of the Month Minute".

Club books and media ready to check out are at <http://www.camelliakoi.org/MEMBERS/library.htm> .

The library is set to grow. You approved a \$500 budget for us to add books this year. Bring your ideas for additions to the collection to the monthly meeting or email to [robert.sisson@gmail.com](mailto:robert.sisson@gmail.com) .

**UPCOMING REGIONAL KOI EVENTS**

**February 17-18:** Koi Club of San Diego's 20th Anniversary Koi Show. Del Mar Fairgrounds.  
[www.koiclubsandiego.org](http://www.koiclubsandiego.org)

**February 24-25:** Toshio Sakai Seminar on Judging Koi and Learning to Select Finished Koi vs. Future Koi. Martinez, CA. [www.pskoi.com](http://www.pskoi.com)

**March 24-25:** 33rd Annual ZNA SoCal Chapter Koi Show. Gardena Civic Center. [donkobash@aol.com](mailto:donkobash@aol.com)

**March 30-April 1:** Sierra Koi Club presents Greater Nevada Aquatic Ecology and Koi Health Academy. Rail City Garden Center, Reno, NV. Featuring Dr. Vickie Vaughn, CKC's own Bob Caruso, and others.  
[www.sierrakoiclub.org](http://www.sierrakoiclub.org), [justin@railcitygarden.net](mailto:justin@railcitygarden.net)

**Board of Directors Minutes**—*Diane Coit*

Date: Sunday, January 28, 2007

Location: Marilee's home, Auburn, CA

<u>Officers:</u>	<u>Directors:</u>	<u>Guests:</u>
Ellen Evans, President	Kirk Evans	Garry Chin, Koi Show Chairperson
Jason Sargeant, Vice President	Gary Fabian	Steve Eckard, Koi Show Co-Chair
Marilee Marshall, Treasurer	Jim Phillips	Dennis Marshall
Diane Coit, Secretary	Scott Salem	Bonnie Salem

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. The following items of business were discussed:

Treasurer's Report

Marilee distributed the 2006 CKC Financial Report detailing the financial activity for fiscal year 2006. The club experienced a positive cash flow for the year. Reconciliation of the ending cash balance is pending, so a vote to accept the financial reports was tabled for next month's meeting. Research is still being conducted by Marilee and Ellen in regards to switching from PayPal to a Shopping Cart on the club's website as a means to accept funds electronically into the bank account for such transactions as membership dues, koi show vendor sponsorships, and koi show entrance fees. Challenges with PayPal are the lack of documentation to identify the source and/or purpose of the monies and the manner in which fees are processed. Marilee pointed out to the new Board members that the club opened a VISA / ATM card this past December. It is linked to the club's bank account. It currently is used to process PayPal fees, but would be available for other transactions where cutting a check wouldn't be suitable. The new membership roster will be distributed at the general membership meeting today for feedback on errors or omissions.

2007 Budget

The 2007 budget was distributed for review, discussion and approval. Marilee provided details in the changes of this year's budget over prior. Although the koi show expense budget has increased, so has the revenue with a projected positive cash inflow. The capital outlay budget for purchase of a trailer to store and transport the koi show equipment was heavily and remained in the budget. Upon making some final changes, the revised budget was distributed. It was motioned and seconded to accept the 2007 CKC budget, approval was unanimous. During the general membership meeting immediately following the Board meeting, the budget was presented for vote and was unanimously accepted.

2007 Koi Show

The line item detail in the budget for the September 22-23 show evidences the growth. Garry explained his goal is to expand the show every year, but not necessarily increase the number of tanks. For example, this year the level of sponsorships has increased along with the awards to be presented. The program committee will seek more advertising revenue. A concessionaire is being considered so food is available to the general public.

**Board of Directors Minutes (continued) —Diane Coit**2007 Koi Show (cont.'d)

Resources constraints, both monetary and manpower are a concern. With Garry's knowledge and connections, and all the volunteers, the shows have been a success; great promotion of the hobby and outstanding recognition for the club. With Garry as his mentor, co-chair Steve, is quickly learning the ropes.

Koi Growth Contest

This contest was proposed by Jason. To explain simply, it commences in the spring with contestants purchasing the same type of fish from the same brood/breeder. The fish develops during the summer, and then the contestant enters their fish in the growth contest segment of the September koi show.

Spring Buying Trip

A volunteer is yet to be found to chair this event. The one-day trip, to vendors in the bay area, provides members both a social event and an opportunity to purchase koi related products at a discount exclusive to CKC members. Budget constraints were discussed, which may necessitate carpooling instead of renting a bus.

Club Library

Ellen reported that Bob Sisson, the new librarian, is assessing the library inventory. He is on the agenda for next month's meeting to report the inventory and potential purchases.

Club Store

Ellen stated the club store is seeking a new keeper. At today's general membership meeting she will pass around a sign-up list seeking a volunteer. The store's highest volume of activity is associated with the koi show.

T-Shirts

Ellen proposed running a contest on the website seeking a new design for our club t-shirt. The logo will remain unchanged. We need to come up with contest rules. This business items will carry forward to next month's meeting.

Club Bylaws

Ellen recommends reviewing the current bylaws for potential revisions. For example, consider giving Board member's buying authority to a set dollar limit, say \$100, without requiring membership approval prior to making the purchase, but without exceeding approved budget. Potential revisions will be an agenda item for next month's meeting. The bylaws will be posted on the club website.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned approximately 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Coit



## New T-Shirt Design Contest!

Last year we liquidated our Camellia Koi Club T-shirt supply. This year we would like to print some fresh, new shirts in new colors and potentially multiple styles (ie fitted women's crew neck as well as regular T-shirt). We could even have our design put on handbags or other items. While we are keeping the same logo for the club, we are looking for a new design for the T-shirt. The requirements for the design are that it should involve koi and somewhere should have the words Camellia Koi Club and Sacramento. E-mail your designs to [kde2@comcast.net](mailto:kde2@comcast.net) or snail mail them to Ellen Evans, 5932 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Sacramento, CA 95817. I will put an announcement on the website as well. Entries will be displayed in July newsletter and winner will be determined by a vote. T-shirts will be printed in time to sell at koi show in September.



## All About Goromo —From "Selecting Goromo" by Galen Hansen, originally printed in KOI USA magazine

Definition: "A Goromo is a white koi with a Kohaku *hi* pattern, with each *hi* scale outlined in either black or blue." The word Goromo actually means "robed" in Japanese, referring to the individual red scales being outlined or "robed" with blue or black. This results in a reticulated scale pattern on the red scales (Ai Goromo). If the *sumi* and *hi* blend to form purple/maroon, the result is Budo Goromo or Sumi Goromo.

Colors: "The white must be clean and uniform, as white as snow...If the edges of the red and white scales are blurred, ie not sharp, the quality suffers." "Each red scale should be free of any other specks of color [apart from the *ai* or *sumi*]." In a Budo or Sumi Goromo, "the net-like reticulated pattern which marks the beauty of the Ai Goromo may be eliminated. This...makes the Ai Goromo the more elegant of the two."

Pattern: "The criteria for the Goromo pattern is exactly the same as Kohaku...Ideal is a symmetrical but not monotonous pattern and not lopsided. A large pattern is preferred to a small one. Preferably the *hi* should not go to the nose or tail, not go below the lateral line, not touch the eyes or go into the fins, and have no windows. It is acceptable to have *hi* at the bases of the pectoral fins." Ai Goromo should have only red and white on the head; Sumi Goromo may have *sumi* on the head *hi*.



AKCA Certified Judge and club member Garry Chin discussed Goromo at the January meeting. He used this koi of Marilee's as a starting point.

Selection: "*Sumi* tends to grow larger as a koi grows (unlike *hi*). So if you acquire a perfectly marked small Ai Goromo with beautifully reticulated scales, as the koi grows the *sumi* tends to become overbearing. Thus it is better to buy a small Goromo with poorly developed reticulated scales because as the koi grows to four or five years old, the *sumi* on the scales may become more pronounced. This may result in ideal color and lacelike pattern to the *hi*...A male Goromo will finish before a female Goromo, usually by age four or five. Besides trying to predict how well the reticulated scales will develop, the white must be clean of specks and must be snow-white. As other koi, it is the head which will be the first white which will show yellowish or brownish discoloration. For the pattern, remember that the *hi* does not grow in proportion to the koi."

Judging: "It is the reticulated scales (of the Ai Goromo) or the deep uniform *sumi* on *hi* (of Sumi or Budo Goromo) which is of prime importance in judging the Goromo, together with the clean white; pattern is secondary."





## January 2007 Meeting Pictures —Ellen Evans & Diane Coit



Above: Dennis and Marilee Marshall's pond at the January 2007 meeting. How they could fix leaks was the meeting's main topic of discussion. Heather Marshall (far right) answered questions about the pond for visitors.



Marilee and Heather Marshall admire the koi in their Auburn pond.



Garry Chin spoke about some of the characteristics judges look for in a good Goromo and used Marilee's Ai Goromo as a prop.



Left: Jason Sargeant and Heather work to corral the Goromo used in Garry's talk.

**Board of Directors**

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**Next Meeting**

Sunday, February 25 at 1:00. Members are welcome to attend the Board of Directors' meeting at 12:00. *Please bring snacks to share!!!*

**Koi Enterprise**  
**3535 Partridge Ave.**  
**West Sacramento, CA**  
**(916) 373-0111**

**Topic:** "Getting Rid of Foam" (Protein Skimmers)

**Directions:**

From North: From I-80, I-5 exit towards Sacramento/Los Angeles, go 4 miles, take US-50 exit towards San Francisco, go 1 mile, take Jefferson Blvd. exit toward Rio Vista. Turn left on Jefferson Blvd, go 3 miles, turn left on Harmon Rd. Turn right on Partridge.

From South: Take I-5 North to US-50 exit towards San Francisco, go 1.5 miles. Take Jefferson Blvd. exit toward Rio Vista, go half mile. Turn left on Jefferson Blvd, go 3 miles, turn left on Harmon Rd. Turn right on Partridge.

Note: If you pass Harmon, you can turn a hard left on Davis, pass French, and turn left on Partridge.

# Koi Ahoy

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