



Talkin' bout Koi & Water Gardens

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

Shasta Koi and Water Garden Club

P.O. Box 493425
Redding, CA 96049

- www.shastakoiclub.com
- **2009 OFFICERS**
- President:
Cherie Kain
- Vice President:
Marilyn Swanson(temp)
- Secretary:
Tom Tranbarger
- Treasurer:
Connie Salazar
- Board Member:
Jill Jones

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Welcome February 2009

Next Meeting: *Saturday 21st 10 AM*

Wyntour Gardens

8026 Airport Road, Redding, CA

530-365-2256



Directions:

I-5

Exit Knighton Rd.

Go east towards Airport Road.

Turn right onto Airport Road.

Wyntour is on the right hand side of the road.



The President's Pad

Welcome fellow ponders. Our January meeting went really well. I shared some of my ideas for the New Year and asked for ideas for future meetings. I also run our website so I asked for criticism and advice for our website. We shared that we are doing shirt orders. We reminded everyone that we will have a Pond Tour this year. I am excited to be doing a Plant & Koi of the Month articles in the newsletter. I missed the January newsletter, so I handed out printouts of the January articles. We discussed Kohaku and Rushes. I am hoping that by the end of the year that we are a lot more schooled in what plants are good for our area and be able to tell one koi from another koi. We also went over some winter tips that I researched online. From that, I realized why being a member of the club is so helpful....some online tips for ponding and koi do not need to be done in our area. Members were helpful in sharing their advice and tips. We had three visitors who shared with us their pond or pond plans.

We are still in need of a Vice President. Marilyn is just standing in until someone steps forward or until she moves.....and we need to hurry because her house might just sell soon!

Koi you later,

Cherie

I found this article on the web and cut it down to share with you. Many of you may find some of these sound familiar!

You know you're addicted to Water Gardening and Koi when:

- >The only reason you go to other parts of your yard is to see how your pond looks from there.**
- >When you are more worried about someone falling in might hurt your fish and plants than care about the condition of the person falling in.**
- >You spend more money on treats for the Koi, than you do on treats for the kids.**
- >You can't wait for payday so you can go and buy more pond stuff.**
- >You threaten your 4 year old that you will chop off both arms if he throws one more rock in the pond - and you mean it!**
- >When there is one bowl of Cheerios left in the cupboards and you decide to feed your Koi instead of your Grandchild.**
- >When you eat bologna sandwiches but buy frozen shrimp for you Koi.**
- >When you manage to kill three lotus in three years, and you still buy another one for this year to see if you can finally make one grow.**
- >When you keep better track of your ponds water quality than you do your check book amounts.**
- >When you shout threats and shake your fist at the neighborhood cats as if they understood you.**
- >When you tell your spouse or kids they'll have to make their own dinner because otherwise it would cut into the time to spend time with the fish.**
- >When your best friend is no longer your spouse but that special Koi you just bought.**
- >When from a distance of 20 paces you notice the tinniest white spot on the back of your swift moving Koi, but then never even notice what your spouse did to their hair.**
- >When you have no problem touching and scooping out things that would make most people gag and hurl.**
- >You have actually spent an entire day in the water without doing a single stroke or kick.**
- >My biggest fear is when I die my hubby will sell my fish for what I told him I paid for them**
- >You count jumping Koi to fall asleep instead of sheep.**

Koi of the Month

Sanke

So, what do we look for and what do we need to know before selecting a Sanke for our collection?

First of all, as with any fish, you want to make sure that all of its body parts are there and in good shape. That means no torn fins or broken leading rays, either in the pectorals or dorsal. Next, you want to look for a koi that has a pleasant and well balanced kohaku pattern. Check to see if the red is consistent in hue. The red on the head plate will probably be darker than the red on the body, and in a young fish that's fine. As it ages, however, the red on the body should reach and achieve the same depth of color as that on the head. Keep in mind that many of the fish that get sent here for export are front heavy when it comes to red but light in the back. It's easy to miss this imbalance because we all tend to look at the head and shoulders of a koi first and not pay so much attention to the rear third. This is a habit that is best broken. Finally, make sure that the white is nice and bright. Now comes the hard part – sumi (black) placement and quality. Sumi is a very tricky thing, and it's made more complicated by the fact that it isn't as stable as red and white. What this means is that the black that you see on an 8" fish may be totally different on a 20" fish when it grows up. Also, on a young fish, you don't want all of the black to "be up," that is to say deep inky black in color. A young fish should have some light black showing underneath the white skin. This black will come up, or develop, as the fish ages. Hopefully, all three colors will peak at the same time somewhere in the fish's development. Unfortunately, this is almost impossible for us to predict, which means that your Sanke may peak when it's two or when it ten years of age.

www.mpks.org



Plant of the Month

Fairy Moss *Azolla caroliniana*



Fairy Moss is another plant that Koi love to eat. The tiny leaves can be green or reddish to dark reddish brown. Sunlight and water temperature determines the color of the plant.

ABOUT the color, fairy moss can vary in color from moss green to reddish brown. The color will change from time to time depending on the temperature and the amount of sun light. It is not uncommon to see both brownish red and moss green in a bunch or ONE solid color.

NOTE: most do not grow this in the pond but grow it outside of the pond in large containers to grow to feed it to their fish. If you have a skimmer this plants will very likely end up in the skimmer unless you have fish that eat it quickly.

I have to say that this is a favorite to my fish. But I do not have a skimmer to worry about. If you float it in containers, it will spread about and provide excellent shade for your water gardens. I love natural ways to help fight algae in our area.

Hardy zone 8 or higher.

CLUB SHIRT ORDER
ATTENTION EVERYONE WANTING
TO ORDER CLUB SHIRTS!!

Information was sent by e-mail to everyone who expressed an interest in the club shirts. Marilyn Swanson needs your order information before the club meeting in February.

Please e-mail it to her ASAP.

Remember if we don't get a minimum order we will not be able to get shirts. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.



Shasta Koi & Water Garden Club

Minutes for January 17, 2009

Meeting was called to order by Marilyn Swanson at 10:15 AM.

Marilyn welcomed everyone to the meeting .

Thanks were given to Terry & Karlene Stoker for hosting the meeting and to Swanson's for the refreshments.

New members were welcomed, Larry & Linda Gerard and Wendy Baskette.

Minutes from the November meeting were read and approved as read.

Connie Salazar our new Treasurer, gave our year end report and ending balance as of December 20th of \$ 2,279.05. Anyone interested in the koi show report or the auction report please see Connie.

Terry Stoker brought up the topic of our older show tanks and suggested that we sell them and replace them with the new solid tanks like we purchased for the koi show. This suggestion will be a topic for a future board meeting and presented to the club for discussion.

Terry was asked to tell us about his pond, an Aquascapes liner pond with a rock and filter media filter. He also uses barley and water hyacinths for filtration in his falls.

An announcement was made concerning a memorial service for Laura Valvatne at Shasta college on Saturday the 24th of January for those who knew her.

Old business: We voted on the club library issue and it was decided to let Loretta Haan place the library contents at her store in Anderson where she will provide a library room for study and research. A request was made by Karlene Stoker for Bob Hart who could not attend, that club members should check on the library contents periodically to be sure they are maintained in good condition and nothing is missing.

A question was brought up about the club microscope, whether it is part of the library or not. It was determined that it was not included in the library, and anyone needing to use the microscope and the accompanying book on koi health by Doc. Johnson should contact Kirk Hall who currently has possession of it.

Cherie our new President talked about some of the new ideas she had for the club such as having a classified section in the newsletter for those who have pond related items for sale, trade or give away.

We still need someone to take over the duties of the Vice President, anyone interested please contact Cherie or any of the new officers.

Cherie would like to have a dealer tour to the bay area, she was especially impressed with Champion Koi in San Jose. Tour would probably be in November.

Cherie reminded us that dues are due this month, if not paid today please try to pay them at the February meeting or mail them.

Cherie introduced a new item, each month she will highlight one kind of Koi and a couple of water plants to put in the newsletter and may be discussed at the meeting. This month's type of koi was the Kohaku, and the water plants were, something I forgot, sorry and corkscrew rush.

We didn't have anyone signed up to have the meeting at their home for February, so Cherie asked if we could possibly have it at Wyn-tour Gardens. She will check on that for us. Possibly even have Sherrie Weigel give a presentation on water plants or winter tips.

Cherie suggested a future topic for meeting about salting pros and cons.

A list of Library Contents will be provided to anyone interested.

A free drawing for a garden thermometer was won by Ross Salazar

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Swanson

Become a Member Today!



Our meetings are a time to socialize in good company about the Koi and Water Garden hobbies. Short programs about ponds, plants and Koi are a part of every meeting.

We make trips to various shows and pond tours around the state.

We hold our own Pond Tour in the Spring and Koi Auction in the Autumn.

Meetings are every 3rd Saturday of each month at 10am at various members homes.

We hope to see you there!

Newsletter Writings

We are hoping for articles and pictures from you, our members, to be submitted each month. If you each did one or two a year we would get to know each other better and share our knowledge with one another as well.

Please e-mail your articles and/or pictures to the editor Jill Jones at: dancingkoi@charter.net

Want to Join?

The membership application can be printed and you can mail your dues to:

Shasta Koi, P.O. Box 493425, Redding, CA 96049.

OR, Even Better 2007 Dues can be paid in person at the meeting.

Our Intrepid Treasurer will accept:

Checks or Cash (checks payable to: *Shasta Koi and Water Garden Club*)



Membership Application



New Member

Renewal

Dues enclosed - \$20.00 per household, two adults **(Please Do Not Mail Cash)**

Name/s: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Your e-mail address is important to us.

We prefer to send our newsletter out as an Adobe Acrobat pdf file. Adobe has a free reader available on their web site. Remember Please do not enclose cash if you mail your dues.*