



Koi Ahoy

September, 2021

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This month we visit the Garbero's Pond, Sunday, September 26. Noon is the board meeting and people begin to gather because there's lots to see. General meeting around 1pm. George built 100% of this pond himself. Concrete sculpted rock surround and a homemade filter that is the best thought out design I've ever seen.

The address is **5865 Shepard Lane, Sacramento 95818**

2021 Ice Cream Social and Koi Auction

Our Hosts, Duane and Melody Carlson



Duane and Melody offered up three flavors of homemade ice cream; Chocolate, Vanilla, and Peach. The potluck was excellent, as usual.





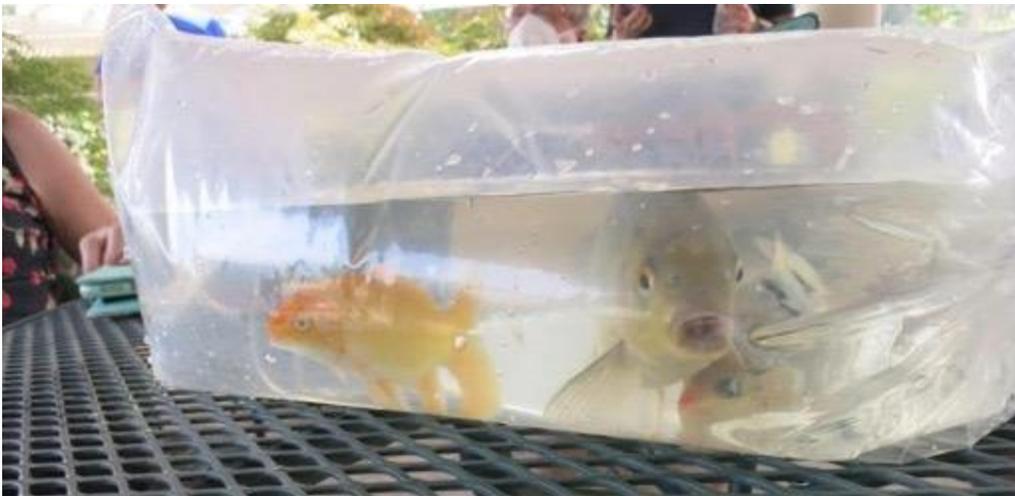
The 10,600 gallon pond houses about 50 koi. Most of them readily eat watermelon and koi pellets from your hand. From the other end of the rose garden only the covering is visible. The solar panels on the top are not visible.

Which one should we get?

All of them!



Picking out fish is **hard**. Just ask Beverly & Kevin Akin or Mike Moore with Gus Cubillo.



Think picking out fish is hard? Look at the terrified faces of these bagged up finny friends.
"Help me. Help me."

Eventually Carl will strong arm payment from you.
(I think that's Jose Chua)





The Name Game

Here we have Michelle, modeling the 2022 Gardening Guide and Calendar. This calendar is produced every year by the UC Master Gardeners of Placer County as a fund raiser. Tips and advice for every month of the year. Although it's based on the climate zone for Placer County, it still can be applied to gardening in the whole Sacramento area. If you didn't buy one at the auction, you can contact Pauline Sakai for your copy. 916-616-4098



Michelle also brought a tub of water lettuce to share.



This other guy...is a victim of my mental incapacity with names. Those of you who know me know that I have trouble remembering names. Laziness, disrespect, clown syndrome, are all poor excuses and I apologize. I met this guy a couple of months ago on a KHA call. We talked for almost two hours. By the time I'd gotten into my truck and drove off, I'd forgotten his name. Even when I got email updates on his fish, I still didn't register his name into my cranium cavity. I remembered that he owns a restaurant; "Something" Kitchen, in Carmichael. My mental process kept going back to 'Kitchen'. That's it. Jim Kitchen! Nope; that's the name of a koi dealer from Auburn. It's also not the name of the restaurant in Carmichael.

Embarrassed as always I was dreading meeting him face to face at the auction. "Hi...'guy', how are your fish doing?" Fortunately, he wore a name tag: *Skip! Skip Kitchen!* Nope. That ain't it either. His last name's not Kitchen, that's the restaurant, dumpkoff! Skip's Kitchen is the name of the restaurant. Somehow I came home with the meeting's sign in sheet. There he is, #20 on the list: Skip Wattc, or maybe it's Wah, or it could be Wath, or Wahl. I'll never know because his handwriting is worse than my midget memory.

Skip's Kitchen, 4717 El Camino Ave., Burgers, Salads etc., opens at 11am.

Drop by and say hi to Skip What's-his-face, he'll be there.

August 29 minutes

Brief meetings due to poor air quality from fires

Board Meeting 12:30pm

Carl out of town 10/10-1231

Michelle C. provided Bob with form to get picnic area permit for Fall Koi Festival

General Meeting 1pm

Minutes and finances from July approved

Lyn brought business cards of our sponsors/vendors as well as KHV (Koi Herpes Virus) research collection jar for donations to send to research at OSU

Pauline brought new 2022 Placer County Master Gardner calendars for sale \$10 each

Introduced new member, Skip W., and a new guest, Michelle H.

News: Gary Chin-- now chair of American Koi Judges Association Certification committee

Jerry spoke about KHV research back on at OSU labs

Guest, Michelle H., brought water lettuce for club members

August CKC Financials

Starting Balance - \$ 5,235.31

Expenses - \$2.57 (PayPal Fee)

Revenues - \$245.00 (membership and koi auction)

Ending Bank Balance - \$ 5,477.74

CKC Report to AKCA Sept 2021by Jerold Kyle, CKC Club Rep

Camellia Koi Club is growing again as it attracts new members each month to see fantastic ponds with exceptional Koi. August meeting was a success as we had our annual Ice Cream Social and Koi Auction. This annual meeting allows members to bring their excess Koi to be auctioned off to those desiring more and is a great opportunity for newcomers or those needing more to acquire beautiful Koi at lower prices. Reducing pond overcrowding and adding needed Koi helps all. Sept meeting will be at another, new to most of us, pond to see for the first time and learn what can be accomplished by a do it yourselfer. A large backyard and space works well for our socially active members as attendance continues to grow. Seeing different Koi ponds each month is a great attraction and learning experience.

What Else is in Your Pond?

by Bob Haugland

Water! We look out over our beautiful koi and that's usually all that we see. There's other stuff we can't see, or take for granted, or just don't realize. I'm going to attempt to do a few articles on this issue, starting with the smallest stuff and leading to the largest stuff.

The hydrologic cycle is where water evaporates, accumulates usually as clouds, then gets heavy and falls back on us. H₂O is pure water but even as it forms clouds in the sky it can begin to collect stuff. Did you know that rain from an electrical storm can have nitrogen in it? Or that all rain is acid rain? Maybe not the dangerously acidic stuff, it's just that rain collects carbon atoms as it falls and it will always have a pH lower than 7.0.

Your water company collects this stuff, cleans it and treats it, and then ships it to you via tubes and pipes. By this time it has collected trace elements; minute quantities of stuff. Radium, Arsenic, Manganese, Iron, Sulfate, Lead, Copper or Chromium, etc. They get rid of all of the bad stuff and add (what they think is) good stuff. Fluoride, Chlorine, and they adjust the alkalinity and pH. Are you bored yet? We're going to skip Turbidity, Conductivity, TDS, TOC's, and OMG!

Without all of that boring stuff in your water, life couldn't exist in your pond. Plankton is microscopic biology in water. We usually think of plankton as ocean stuff that manta rays and whale sharks feed on, but we have plankton in our ponds too. Plankton breaks down into two groups; zooplankton are the animal variety and phytoplankton are the plant variety.

The phytoplankton in your pond is algae. Without delving into the thousands of specific types of algae, we can generally classify them as we see them. The ones that grow on the surfaces in our ponds we call blanket weed or velvet algae. Although you may think it's ugly, it's a necessary contributor to a biologically balanced pond environment. Through photosynthesis it helps oxygenate your pond during the day while also absorbing carbon dioxide. At night photosynthesis reverses and plants use oxygen and emit carbon dioxide. Don't panic. Plants give off about 10 times as much oxygen as they use. Velvet algae is also home to most of the zooplankton in the pond; those delicious little bugs that our koi love to slurp and munch on.

Then there's string algae. It looks like angel hair, if angels had green hair. Nobody likes it. It can grow to be 5-6 feet long and can clog filters. Koi generally won't swim through it so it in essence makes your pond smaller. It's as tough as fishing line and as such koi generally don't eat it. If they do manage to eat some it poops out as little green pellets of string algae like an owl pellet.

Green water is actually a misnomer. The water itself isn't green but it looks that way because of all of the free-floating green algae cells in the water. Besides being ugly it also can prevent us from seeing our beautiful koi. Like all green algae it's generally beneficial to the pond, in modest amounts. When semi-transparent you can still see the fish, it oxygenates during the day, provides nutrition for zooplankton, and helps filter the water. When it's allowed to get pea soup green it has the potential to suffocate the koi. Remember that at night algae absorbs oxygen and emits carbon dioxide. If you have a high fish load and no supplemental oxygen pea soup water can kill the whole pond over night. This is not likely, and I've never seen it happen, but the potential is there.

Next month we'll look at zooplankton; the microscopic animals that live in our ponds. Then we'll progress to stuff we can see like bug larvae and such. Then what?

Here's my disclaimer: Some of what I write might be wrong, fluff, BS, or whatever. If you disagree or have something to add, I welcome your input. Could there actually be BS in your pond?

2021 Calendar...new updates are in red

September 26...George & Denise Garbero, Sacramento

George built this pond himself. Concrete formed rocks around the pond that George formed, carved and colored himself. So realistic that you won't believe it's only concrete. George also designed and built the filter. Two 55 gallon drums that are well hidden behind the patio.

October 31...Michelle Cardenas, Carmichael...Koi Costume Party

Michelle is a Pharmacy Tech at the small animal building at the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine. ie: That's where our fish doctors are! Besides hauling tiny koi to our koi shows in zip lock bags, Michelle is also our temporary secretary, facebook lady, and web site re-organizer. Her and Fabian, Dion, moved into their new home almost two years ago and have finally started to dig a big hole in the backyard. Since it will be completed by Halloween, it's only logical that we have a **Costume Party Club Meeting**. Start planning and making your costume now.

November 13...Camellia Koi Festival, McKinley Park, 11am-3pm. We have secured a site reservation as a "Picnic". Not only will we have a picnic, we will Festive as well. Festive-ities will be planned at the next few meetings. Maybe you want to be Chairperson? This Saturday event will be in lieu of our usual Sunday November meeting.

December 5...Christmas Party...Looking for a site...If you may know of a restaurant that will cater 30-40 koi kitchies, speak up.

Accepting volunteers to host 2022 meetings. There will be a sign-up sheet at meetings.

Jan 30

Feb 27

Mar 27

Apr 24

May 22

Jun 26

Jul 31

Aug 28-Koi Auction

Sep 25

Oct 30

Nov 20

