

*San Francisco Bay Area
Koi Club
October 2009 Volume 16 Issue
10*

"N ews F rom A round T he Pond"

"Pond"er This!

Reminder !!!

- Nominations for the club's Officers take place at the October meeting.
- Elections for the Officers take place at the November meeting
- Installation of the Officers occur at the December Luncheon

If undeliverable please return to:

Bill Edwards
686 Canterbury Place
Milpitas, Ca 95035

[HTTP://WWW.SFBAKC.ORG](http://www.sfbakc.org)

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The SFBKAC is a non-profit EDUCATIONAL club for koi enthusiasts. Anyone who requires help or advice should feel free to request it from our membership.

We encourage anyone interested in koi or currently involved with koi to become a member.

Guests are always welcome to come and check us out at our monthly general meetings.

Meeting Schedule

Please join us at the next get-together on 24 October, 2009 at:

The home of
Sheila Jackson
2536 Brandt Ct
Pinole, Ca. 95464
(510) 724-4428
(See directions on page 6)

Board meeting Starts at 11:00 AM

Social hour starts at 12:00 Noon - Please bring munchies & finger food!

General meeting 1 PM

Topic of open discussion: Pond Construction

Note:

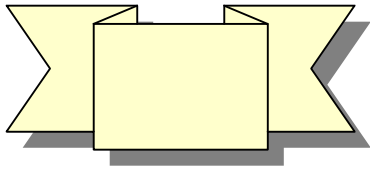
Meetings are always the 4th Saturday of every month - unless otherwise changed by prior notification (rare).

The KHA is cadre of highly trained Koi club members who have graduated from the KHA Academy. They are trained in all aspects of Koi keeping, including pond building, water quality, koi health and disease prevention. If you need help you can download a questionnaire from our website. Your answers will help them evaluate the situation.

Some Northern CA KHAs:

- Bobbie Cervantes, Pacifica
(650) 738-1935
Bobbiecervantes@hotmail.com
- Stephan J. Eckard, Redding
(530) 223-0784
Eckard@snowcrest.net
- Sheila Jackson, Pinole
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- Rich Little, Fremont
(510) 659-0267
rgn111@aol.com
- Bill Manausa, Livermore
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manausa@aol.com
- Ed Thomas, Advanced KHA
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Club Officers 2009

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510-659-0267

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707-745-4631

Secretary: Lynn Miller

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510-661-9931

AKCA Representative: Tim Biglow

timbiglow@gmail.com
925-759-1306

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ladyja6@aol.com
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mjnielsen@mindspring.com
415-479-8749

Public Relations: Open

Down the Stretch
Labor:

Webmaster: Open

Newsletter: Bill Edwards

billedwards@comcast.net



President's Corner

Our last meeting, at Harley's was wonderful. His yard was immaculate and his system was getting everyone's attention. Shiela talked about preparing ponds for winter. She told us how important it is to remove all waste, even under the rocks - for you folks that haven't removed them yet.

The next meeting will be in San Francisco so we will get to visit a pond new to us.

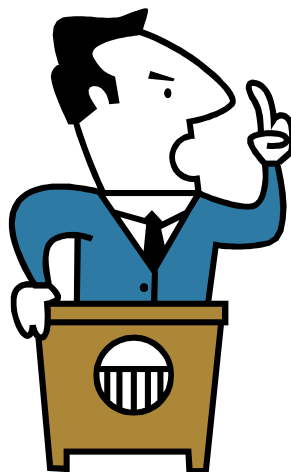
My back's out from working with my step son. We're going to finish my pond. After that I will be experimenting to see what components I will use in the filter system. It will be using airlifts rather than conventional pumps and there are quite a few novelties to allow me to make major changes when I want to try something new. Hope to invite you all over in the Spring.

Grant Fugita will be starting another class after the first of the year. Sheila, Lucia and I have taken it the last two years and get so much out of it that we plan to take it again. Think about joining us.

See you at the next meeting,

Rich

P.S. If you have anything planned in 09, you better get to it.



Reminder -
Nomination for Officers for
2010 take place at the Octo-
ber meeting!

Treasurer's Report

September 2009

Submitted by Greg Bequette

Beginning balance, August 31, 2009	\$4,444.43
Income	
Tank rental	\$75.00
Expenses	
Picnic food and table	\$147.78
Ending balance, October 5, 2009	\$4,371.65

Meeting Minutes

- There are no September meeting minutes to report.

More "Bill's Babbling"

It seems that winter is right around the corner - from <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/winter>:

"*n.* **1.** The usually coldest season of the year, occurring between autumn and spring, extending in the Northern Hemisphere from the winter solstice to the vernal equinox, and popularly considered to be constituted by December, January, and February. **2.** A year as expressed through the recurrence of the winter season. **3.** A period of time characterized by coldness, misery, barrenness, or death."

Winter (*ing, ize, ...*) is also a verb roughly meaning to "tough it out" during the, essentially, dormant, cold time of the year.

We're lucky to live in a climate where winter usually only means preparing our rain gutters for a lot of water, removing the leaves that fall from the deciduous trees, picking the remaining fruit from the trees & vines, etc.. For us koi-keepers, however, winter has an added meaning. We must prepare for the care of our fish during our cold season.

Granted, we usually don't have to worry about ice forming on our ponds, or keeping a clear path through the snow to our ponds! Here is an excerpt from a web page,

["http://www.nishikigoi-info.com/koi-care/winter.html"](http://www.nishikigoi-info.com/koi-care/winter.html)

"You will probably notice your Koi sitting on the bottom of your pond. This is normal, Koi are Poikilothermic (cold-blooded), so their activity level coincides with the water temperature. In the winter, Koi will go to the warmest area. Since water is at it's densest at 39.2°F, the warmer water will be at the bottom of your pond.

Make sure your water temperature doesn't drop below 34°F. If it does, ice crystals will start to form on your Koi's gills. Ice crystals can kill a Koi. Don't add any salt to your pond in the winter either. Salt lowers the freezing point of water, so if you add some to your pond, it could possible kill your Koi because the water temperature could drop below even 30°F.

It is also a good idea to shut off any waterfall. The only thing a waterfall will do in the winter is lower the water

temperature. A waterfall could even freeze up, causing all of the water to pump out of your pond."

I didn't know that about a waterfall! But, as we are reminded again & again, we need to prepare our ponds for winter. Remove dead leaves, clean the bottom of the ponds ESPECIALLY under rocks.

I tend to leave my UVs on all year as in the south bay the sun is quite strong even in the winter and the algae seems to love the sun and cold weather.

I can't remember many times that the temperature went below 55 Fahrenheit for extended periods here at my home. So when our fish are swimming at the surface and giving us the "Feed me!" look, well, they get fed! So I don't feel too guilty about letting them eat.

How about you? What are your winter koi-related habits?

Email me with your stories to: blledwards@comcast.net.

As I was browsing through other club's web sites I came across this link:

<http://www.koi.tv/KoiTV.aspx>

Here is the "About Us" content:

"Koi TV™ or www.koi.tv is the world's first free online koi video website that contains nishikigoi(koi) related videos targeted at nishikigoi(koi) hobbyist. This website is the effort of a family towards the love of koi. We started this effort by publishing <http://www.KoiFish.tv> and collecting videos and links. Now we have a short name website which is <http://www.koi.tv>. All of this started because we wanted to learn more about nishikigoi.

We live in Portland, Oregon and are members of [Northwest Koi and Goldfish Club](#). We are thankful for the members at [NWKG Club](#) who has been helping us learn more about koi."

The only negative I have about this web site are the annoying pop-up ads on each video. A simple click removes them but they still tend to distract from the video's purpose. The web site is new and I believe it will improve. Nevertheless I think it is a useful and entertaining site. There is even a short video of Russ Peters at the "West Coast Ikeage" on the site's home page! Check it out ;-}

To UV or Not To UV

That is the question...

By Ben Plonski

Reprinted from [Koi USA](#)

Pond keeping should be enjoyable and relaxing not a frustrating battle with green water. Ultraviolet sterilizers are here to stay. If you are thinking of purchasing a unit you will need to consider the capabilities and the limitations.

U/V sterilizers will keep your water clear of planktonic algae. This means that a new pond does not have to go through the green water stage. If you already have an established pond an ultraviolet system will clear an algae bloom within one to two weeks. The unit will only work, provided it is of good quality and is sized properly for the water volume in your pond and it is properly installed.

U/V sterilizers will not affect the hairy stringy types of filamentous algae that adhere to the walls of the pond. The ultraviolet rays only kill the algae which passes through the unit.

U/V sterilizers will allow a new pond to become established and balanced sooner than without such a device. New ponds need to become established with beneficial bacteria in the biofilter, **and a smooth coat of dark algae about 1/4 inch thick on the walls and floor of your pond.** These two types of organisms are necessary for a healthy pond. The bacteria and smooth algae are slow growers especially in cold water The plank-

tonic algae on the other hand can bloom in two days. The planktonic algae in full bloom inhibits the bacteria and wall algae by competing for nutrients and blocking out sunlight. This makes the planktonic algae "king of the pond" and can dominate indefinitely. Shallow ponds in full sunlight and overcrowded ponds can be subject to quite lengthy bouts of "pea soup". The ultraviolet rays kill the planktonic algae. By removing the planktonic algae, your pond is able to become balanced more quickly.

Ultraviolet sterilizers will not be very effective at controlling disease within the pond. These units are more capable of controlling disease within a smaller aquarium. **To control disease with a ultraviolet system the water must pass through the unit very slowly. Microscopic bacteria and parasites may need a fifteen second exposure time to affect a kill.** The planktonic algae is very light sensitive and can be inhibited at much faster flow rates. To effectively control diseases within a large body of water with a ultraviolet unit the entire volume of water must be passed through at a slow rate. The trouble with this method is that the pathogens are reproducing within the pond faster than an ultraviolet system can kill them. An ultraviolet system will not kill any pathogens on the skin of the fish. A very large and expensive system would be required to control disease within a pond.

Good quality ultraviolet sterilizers will be constructed with an external housing made of PVC or other inert material and hued with

waterproofed caps. When used outside, a waterproof housing should cover the ballast. The unit like all electrical parts used on your pond should be UL listed.

Ultraviolet rays are in the extremely short wavelength of the light spectrum and can only penetrate a few inches into the water chamber. Ultraviolet units for ponds are only about three inches in diameter The bulb itself needs to function at a certain temperature to produce the peak amount of ultraviolet rays and penetration into the surrounding water area. A quartz sleeve between the water and the bulb, keeps the bulb at the proper temperature and does not interfere with the light penetration.

Proper installation of the unit consists simply of adding a bypass line to an existing pressurized water line from your pond pump or allow better light penetration. Add two PVC tees and a ball valve to your existing line and connect the unit to the assembly. Use the ball valve to control the flow through the unit. Do not exceed the manufacturers suggested flow rate.

Ultraviolet sterilizers have their advantages but are not without limitations. New ponds as well as ponds that have a persistent problem with green water will benefit from a ultraviolet system. Older more established ponds with adequate filtration may not see a noticeable difference. Use ultraviolet systems to complement a good filtration system. A unit will assist in achieving maximum results and appreciation of your pond.



Why did the chicken cross the road?

- KARL MARX: It was a historical inevitability.
- RONALD REAGAN: I forget
- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.: I envision a world where all chickens will be free to cross roads without having their motives called into question.
- DARWIN: Chickens, over great periods of time, have been naturally selected in such a way that they are now genetically disposed to cross roads.
- BUDDHA: Asking this question denies your own chicken nature
- ROSS REBAGLIATI: To get the marijuana on the other side
- FREUD: The fact that you are at all concerned that the chicken crossed the road reveals your underlying sexual insecurity.
- BILL GATES: I have just released the new Chicken Office 2000, which will not only cross roads, but will lay eggs, file your important documents, and balance your checkbooks.

Bumper Stickers

- Where there's a will ... I want to be in it
- A day without sunshine is, like, night
- Honk if you love peace and quiet
- I took an IQ test and the results were negative
- It said 'Insert disk #3', but only two will fit
- As long as there are tests, there will be prayer in public schools

Redneck Boat



Driving Directions to Sheila Jackson's home at:
 2536 Brandt Ct
 Pinole, Ca. 95464
 (510) 724-4428

From the south bay:

- Take **I-880 N**,
 - Take Right fork onto **I-980 E** toward **WALNUT CREEK/CA-24** - go **1.52.4** mikm
 - Take the **SAN FRANCISCO/HAYWARD** exit onto **I-580 W** toward **SAN FRANCISCO** - go **2.03.3** mikm
 - ** Merge onto **I-80 E** - go **13.020.9** mikm
 - Take exit **#22/PINOLE VALLEY ROAD** - go **0.30.5** mikm
 - Turn Left on **PINOLE VALLEY RD** - go **0.40.7** mikm
 - Bear Right on **PINOLE VALLEY RD** - go **0.10.2** mikm
 - Turn Right on **BRANDT CT**
- Arrive at **2536 BRANDT CT, PINOLE**, on the Left

** From points WEST of Pinole, pick up directions above from I-80 E



From Vallejo

- Take **I-80 W**
 - Take exit **#22/PINOLE VALLEY ROAD** - go **0.30.6** mikm
 - Turn Right on **PINOLE VALLEY RD** - go **0.30.6** mikm
 - Bear Right on **PINOLE VALLEY RD** - go **0.10.2** mikm
 - Turn Right on **BRANDT CT**
- Arrive at **2536 BRANDT CT, PINOLE**, on the Left

From Concord

- Take **CA-4 W** toward **RICHMOND/MARTINEZ** - go **14.623.4** mikm
 - Bear Right on **JOHN MUIR PKY(CA-4)**
 - Turn Left on **SAN PABLO AVE** - go **1.21.9** mikm
 - Turn Left on **PINOLE VALLEY RD** - go **0.20.3** mikm
 - Turn Left on **BRANDT CT**
- Arrive at **2536 BRANDT CT, PINOLE**, on the Left

The Mission Statement of the SFBKAC -

“The San Francisco Bay Area Koi Club wants people to do it right the first time, helping to create a dream instead of a nightmare”

To encourage, promote, and educate others in the art of keeping Koi and building ponds through quality guidance and care for show, breeding, aesthetics, sales, or just for pleasure.

To build a “Koi keeping” network among the members.

Projects:

Sponsor Koi shows and pond tours.

Study and research all areas of Nishikigoi, including pond and water garden design, construction, development, and support.

Encourage and promote the development and presentation of show Koi.