

*Shasta Koi and  
Water Garden Club*  
P.O. Box 493425  
Redding, CA 96049  
[www.shastakoiclub.com](http://www.shastakoiclub.com)



Volume 11, Issue 4

**APRIL  
2014**

# Talk'n bout Koi & Water Gardens

## 2014 Officers

**President:**  
Armando Mejorado

**Vice President:**  
Gary Desmond

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Tammy Cole

**Treasurer:**  
Eda Eggeman

**Member at Large:**  
Marveen Moore

**Webmaster:**  
Armando Mejorado

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Renee Ottzman

*Shasta Koi & Water Garden Club's  
next meeting will be held on  
Saturday, April 19, 2014  
at 10 a.m.*

*Kirk and Sue Hall  
11791 State Highway 99W  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
529-0845*

*Directions:*

*Take I-5 to the S. Main Street exit in Red Bluff.  
Turn right (south) onto County Rt. A8/S. Main Street.  
Continue 1 mile past Saint Elizabeth's hospital.  
The first cross street is Riverside next to Solar St.*

*Look for the **Kirk's Body Shop** sign  
on the west side of the highway just north of  
Solar Street.*

*The koi pond is located on the property at  
Kirk's Body Shop.*

*We still need someone to bring refreshments to this  
meeting. Please volunteer! Call Armando at  
242-8804....Thanks.*

# *President's Message*

April 2014

Dear Shasta Koi and Water Garden Club Members,

I would like to start by updating you on our upcoming Koi Show in May. Since our last newsletter, no one has stepped forward to chair this event. I have decided to volunteer and be this year's chairperson. I've already e-mailed several club members to ask for assistance. I've created a page on the clubs' website for the koi show with a list of events and time slots needing to be filled. Please take a few minutes to review the koi show web page.

If you have not signed up to volunteer and have some time to help, please e-mail me and let me know. We still need people to help on Sunday, May 11 during the show and during set up on Friday, May 10 and take down on Sunday after the show. Club members planning to attend the Awards/Pizza dinner on Saturday afternoon need to RSVP by April 30 to have a head count for the pizza dinner. Judging will start between noon and 3 pm on Saturday and dinner will be around 5 o'clock.

We are now taking sign-ups for showing koi. If you would like to show your fish, please e-mail me and let me know. We have eight tanks and the option to borrow a couple more if needed. The tanks will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis, so if you plan to have fish in the show, please let me know as soon as possible. These are the details for entering koi in the show:

\$25.00 fee per club member showing

Five (5) koi limit

Size limits: 8" and larger

8" - 12"

12" - 16"

16" - 20"

20" and over



Schedule of Trophies

GRAND CHAMPION (any size)

RUNNER-UP GRAND CHAMPION (any size)

MATURE CHAMPION

ADULT CHAMPION

YOUNG CHAMPION

BABY CHAMPION

**Best Tategoi (any size)**

**Best in size 1,2,3 and 4**

**Best Variety**

**Best Jumbo**

**Best Long Fin (any size)**

**Judge's Award**

**Members Choice / Koi of the Year**

## KOI HEALTH

Continuing with koi health, I'd like to share some information on pond plants and the benefits and disadvantages of having plants in and around our ponds.

Pond plants can be roughly divided into four categories: **submerged, emergent, floating and plants around the pond.**

Which plants are best for your pond? Certain species of pond plants provide more functions and benefits than others. For instance, some plants provide food, cover, nesting for wildlife as well as adding oxygen into the water; however, for me to say what plants are best for your pond, I can't say. Plants are going to be a personal choice. What I can do is share information which can help you decide if pond plants will benefit your water garden.

I've listed a few pond plants but there are many other varieties and choices. With all plants, putting them in containers will help you control them so they don't take over your pond.

Happy Water Gardening and Koi Keeping!

### Bamboo

Bamboo and other plants can be planted around the outside of your pond. They can be a beautiful part of your water garden, however some varieties of bamboo can become invasive. A helpful tip with bamboo is to plant it in a container which will keep it in check.

Something to keep in mind with all plants outside of your pond, is their root systems. Consideration should be given to how deep they grow, how they spread and will they break your concrete or puncture your liner. Also, find out how big the plant or tree will grow and be aware you may have to remove it later.

### Water Lilies

Water lilies are hardy and can remain in the pond year round. The lily will die off in the winter and produce new leaves and flowers in the spring. They generally flower from May through September and come in a variety of colors, opening in the early morning and closing in the late afternoon. Some lilies change color shades over the life of the bloom.

### Duckweed (*Spirodela*)

Duckweed is a tiny, free-floating plant composed of a single leaf with tiny roots beneath. This species provides shade in the pond and home for tiny creatures.

### Fairy Moss or Water Fern

Water fern (*Azolla sp.*) is a group of tiny, free-floating aquatic ferns. Like Duckweed, they provide cover for many small animals.

### Hyacinth

Water hyacinth is a free-floating perennial plant that can grow to a height of 3 feet. The dark green leaf blades are circular to elliptical in shape attached to a spongy, inflated petiole. Underneath the water is a thick, heavily branched, dark fibrous root system.

### **Hyacinth (continued)**

The water hyacinth has striking light blue to violet flowers located on a terminal spike. Water hyacinth is a very aggressive invader and can form thick mats. If these mats cover the entire pond surface, they can cause oxygen depletion.

### **Lotus**

Lotuses are found in white and pink colors. In general they grow in shallow and murky waters. Lotus flowers enjoy warm sunlight and are intolerant of cold weather. This is why the lotus is not seen blooming in the winter. The floating leaves and lotus flowers have long stems which contain air spaces to maintain buoyancy. The lotus is native to Asia and flourishes in a wide range of climates from India to China.

### **Papyrus**

Papyrus sends out sprays of leaves that jut out from the stems like a fireworks display. The leafy clusters may form plant-lets which can be separated to be grown individually. Grow papyrus in a weighted pot so the stems can rise above the water surface in the pond or grow it in moist soil at the water's edge.

### **Corkscrew Rush**

This is a favorite because the stems grow in a corkscrew fashion. The flowers are light green and insignificant as they are very small and are sometimes missed when the plant

blooms. This plant grows in a "mound" and is a great specimen plant. It requires full sun and is hardy in Zones 5 and higher.

### **Cattails (*Typha sp*)**

Cattails are an excellent choice of plants for large ponds. They provide an incredible range of possible functions and uses including shelter and nesting for fish.

### **Pickerel-weed (*Pontederia cordata*)**

Pickerel-weed is a good choice to provide large, broad leaves to help shade shallow water, provide cover and it has edible seeds and beautiful purple flowers. It grows three to four feet tall but usually you only see one or two feet of it as the rest is under water. The leaves can grow up to 10 inches and are heart-shaped. These plants do best on pond edges and in shallow water.

### **Wapato (*Sagittaria sp*)**

Wapato is a wonderful emergent plant that has a long tradition of uses by various Native American tribes as food as its tubers are edible. The broad-leaf arrowhead is variable-sized between two to 10 meters in length. This perennial grows in colonies that can cover large areas.





### **Watercress**

*(Nasturtium officinale)*

Watercress is a member of the mustard family with edible leaves and flowers. It prefers slow-moving, shallow, clear water and can be good habitat for small fish.

### **Submerged Plants**

Submerged plants have stems and leaves that grow entirely under water, although some may have floating leaves. Flowers and seeds on short stems extend above the water surface and may also be present. Submerged plants grow from near shore to the deepest levels.

### **Horn-wort**

*(Ceratophyllum sp)*

Horn-wort is a feathery, floating species which provides excellent cover for baby fish, amphibians and a wide range of small to microscopic invertebrates. Be careful with certain varieties as they can grow and take over a pond.

### **Elodea (Elodea sp)**

Elodea is a common genus of submerged plants that is also an excellent home and nursery for many small fish, amphibians and other small creatures. This group of plants will root and can also spread by floating and rooting in a new location. Some species can be invasive so please be careful with them.

I hope this information is helpful in your search for the perfect pond plants for your water garden.

Thank you,

Armando Mejorado, President  
Shasta Koi & Water Garden Club

# Club News....

Hi Everyone,

## April 19th Meeting Presentation

Kirk Hall will be giving a talk on “the nitrogen cycle and filters.” Please bring a chair...if the weather is nice, the meeting will be held outside by the pond. If not, the meeting will be inside Kirk's shop. Also, please bring a pen and pad to take notes as Kirk's presentation will be very informative, especially for someone new to the hobby and for those of us needing a refresher course. **Refreshments** – no one has signed up so far.

## Club T-Shirts

Our new club T-shirts are ready to be picked up and will be available at the April meeting.

## Wine Tasting – April 26

Tickets are available for the wine tasting event and Armando will update us about the ongoing plans.

## Koi Show in May

Thank you Armando for volunteering to chair the koi show and providing the update on your progress.

If you plan to show your favorite koi, please get your fish registered soon! The entry form is attached to the e-mail sent with this newsletter.

We are looking for the following items to help with setting up the show. If you have any of the following items and are willing to lend them to us for a few days during the show, we would really appreciate it. Contact Armando at 242-8804.

- A water hose to fill the tanks
- A pump to empty the tanks after the show
- Eight 4x4 folding card tables
- Eight-white table cloths
- Blue measuring bowl for the benching process.

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# FYI...

*Dear Fellow Koi Keepers,*

*Our hobby is intensely involved with water quality and aqua health so we need to be aware of water usage issues in our area. I'm on Bella Vista Water and am always thinking about the cost of water because I have a pond, a swimming pool and a very mature yard. Because of the very dry conditions we've experienced this winter, it was only a matter of time before water rationing became a reality.*

*Just the other day, my husband mentioned he read an article on the Internet which talked about severe cutbacks in water usage to homeowners throughout California. It also talked about the fines associated with over-limit usages which sounded pretty ominous. To pin down exactly what he was talking about, I went to the Bella Vista Water District website and found the following article. I thought you would be interested in reading a little of what I found. I'm sure my next water bill will be very informative as well...more on this later.*

## **Governor Brown Declares Drought State of Emergency**

*On March 18, 2014, Bella Vista Water District activated its Supplemental Water Program as a result of the "worst water supply allocation" in the history of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and have declared a **Water Shortage Emergency**. Given the dire hydrology and water storage conditions combined with regulatory requirements that have reduced the yield for the CVP, the BVWD is preparing for historically low water allocations. It is likely that zero water will be made available for agricultural irrigation and only a minimal quantity available for **all other purposes** in order to meet basic public **health and safety** needs. The announcement and related CVP allocation information is posted on the **Central Valley Project Water Supply website**.*

*We are all faced with upcoming allocations, so if you have information or suggestions on water-saving ideas, please share them with us.*

*Renee Ottzman  
Newsletter Editor*



<i><b>MONTH</b></i>	<i><b>HOST 2014</b></i>	<i><b>REFRESHMENTS</b></i>
JAN		
FEB	Stoker	Tammy Cole
MAR	SKIP-----	
APR	Kirk & Sue Hall	Refreshment host needed
MAY	Koi Show	Mt. Shasta Mall
JUN	Jon & Erlinda Laubin	Refreshment host needed
JUL	SKIP-----	
AUG	Terry & Lori Stewart	Tami Gerhard
SEP	HART'S (BBQ)	potluck
OCT	(AUCTION)	Karen Wing
NOV	SKIP-----	
DEC	Christmas Party	

## Hosting

If you are interested in providing the refreshments for any upcoming meetings that have not been filled, please e-mail Renee Ottzman.

[ROttzman@ymail.com](mailto:ROttzman@ymail.com)

## 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 every other Spring and Koi Auction in the Autumn. Meetings are every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at 10am at various members homes. We hope to see you there!



### Want to Join?

Membership application can be printed and you can mail your dues to:

***Shasta Koi, PO Box, 493425, Redding, CA 96049***

OR. Ever Better, your 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 per household, two adults (please do not mail cash)

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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.