

*Shasta Koi and
Water Garden Club*
P.O. Box 493425
Redding, CA 96049
ShastaKoiClub.com



Volume 11, Issue 2.

FEBRUARY
2014

Talk'n bout Koi & Water Gardens

2014 Officers

President:
Armando Mejorado

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Gary Desmond

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Tammy Cole

Treasurer:
Eda Eggeman

Board Member:
Marveen Moore

Webmaster:
Armando Mejorado

Newsletter Editor:
Renee Ottzman

*Shasta Koi & Water Garden Club's
Next Meeting:*

*Saturday - February 15, 2014
at 10 a.m.*

*Terry & Karlene Stoker
19540 Broadhurst Road
Cottonwood, CA 96022
347-1678*

Refreshments by Tammy Cole

Directions:

*From I-5 in Cottonwood:
Take the Bowman Road exit. Proceed on Bowman approx.
1.2 miles to Broadhurst Road. Turn Left onto Broadhurst,
go up the hill, take the first right to stay on Broadhurst.
Continue approx. 0.3 mile to the end of the road cul-de-sac.
19540 will be on your right.*

President's Message

FEBRUARY 2014

Dear Shasta Koi and Water Garden Club Members,

In 2013, my president's postings were about koi and koi history. In 2014, I plan to focus on koi health. This will be a learning experience for me as well. I will share with you what I find in my research throughout the year. The more we learn about our beloved koi, the happier and healthier they will become.

In this president's posting I would like to start by pointing out the basic things to look for, both in your ponds and in the way your koi are behaving. Understanding these simple things and addressing them early will let you know whether your koi are just reacting to water conditions or if their health is at risk.

Flashing/Rubbing

Flashing is the most common koi behavior seen in our ponds. Flashing is when one or more of your koi are darting near the bottom or anywhere in your pond and turning on their side where the sun will reflect off their scales creating a flash (hence the word "flashing"). This is perhaps the first sign that something is wrong with your koi and a behavior that we should watch for in our school of koi.

Jumping

Are your koi jumping and coming out of the water? I think at some point most of us have seen one or more of our koi jump, and even though we think it might be cute or a sign of a happy koi, your koi might be trying to tell you something. Often jumping is a sign that your koi may have parasites or a bacterial infection.

Sitting on the bottom

This symptom points to poor water quality, parasites or fright. If multiple fish exhibit this behavior and it comes on suddenly, the most common problem is usually the water quality and you should check all water parameters including ammonia, nitrite, nitrate, pH and kH.

Fins Clamping to Body/Fin Twitching

These symptoms are most recognized in the pectoral fins (front fins just behind the gills) and the dorsal fin (top fin on the back). The fish will clamp their fins so tightly against their bodies that it appears as if the fins are not even there.

(Continued)

Koi Health (continued)

Gasping

If your koi are coming up to the surface and gasping for air, or if you see one or more koi hanging out near your water falls or where your water is coming into the pond, this may be a sign that your koi are lacking oxygen. Take note during the spring and summer months when you have plants growing and blooming in the pond. Koi gasping could be due to lack of oxygen in the water because plants and algae consume oxygen at night. It is possible that by morning there is not enough oxygen remaining to support the fish during the day. Plants release oxygen back into the water during the daylight hours, so gasping may cease during this time. Also, the warmer the water the less oxygen it may hold.

Hanging at the Surface

Fish that stay or appear stranded at the surface usually fall into one of four categories or sub-symptoms:

- 1 – Head down and tail at the surface, but the body is still upright, acting lethargic and unresponsive.*
- 2 - Heading pointing up at the surface, but the body is still upright, acting lethargic and semi-responsive.*
- 3 - Sitting normally and horizontal but physically unable to swim below the surface when disturbed, even when they try.*
- 4 – Floating belly up or partially rolled over and unable to swim upright or swim below the surface.*

These are signs your fish are in danger and you should seek professional help.

Isolation

When you have a fish that permanently isolates itself from the rest of the school, when normally it would be with them, this is a sign something is wrong with it. In most cases, this will not be a water issue. It will most likely be a parasitic attack or a viral or bacterial infection.

There are other behaviors to look for in your koi and pond and I will address these throughout 2014 in my postings.

Take NOTE with all of the above, the most common things that stress koi are poor water quality, parasites, bacterial infections and viral infections. If one or more koi are showing symptoms, START by testing your water. By understanding your water parameters, you can prevent much of the discomfort and stress that koi will go through in a man-made environment. Remember, if you are not comfortable treating your pond, seek a professional.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting. Some of the topics we will be discussing will be the koi show, koi auction, koi club trip, club t-shirts, a new club brochure as well as membership dues and our club card.

Armando Mejorado, Shasta Koi & Water Garden President

*Let it snow...Let it snow...Let it snow*****

It snowed in Redding on December 6, 2013, noteworthy because it doesn't snow here very often. We don't get to see our ponds covered with the white stuff so pictures to document the event are a perfect addition to our February 2014 newsletter. Let's all keep our fingers crossed for some RAIN soon!



Gary Desmond and Armando Mejorado's pond in Redding.



Renee & Guy Ottsman's pond in Redding



Kevin & Natalia Garvey's pond in Redding



Steve & Joy Garvey's pond in Bella Vista



Terry & Lori Stewart's pond in Redding



Terry & Karlene Stoker's pond in Cottonwood



Tammy Cole's pond in Anderson



Eda Eggeman's pond in Redding



Connie & Ross Salazar's pond in Cottonwood

FYI:

www.ShastaKoiClub.com

Check out our NEW club website. Armando Mejorado is our new webmaster and has been working to get it up and running online again. Thank you!!

7th Annual ZNA Norcal Koi Show – April 12 – 13, 2014

This show will be held at the Matrix Casino, 1887 Matrix Avenue, San Jose, California.

30th Annual Santa Clara Valley Koi Club Pond Tour

The date is set for July 19, 2014. Tickets can be purchased at any one of the ponds on the tour. A full map will be made available at the club's website: www.sckoi.com. Please keep an eye out for more information in “Splash” or contact Don Chamberlain at scvkwg@gmail.com

KOI USA Magazine

Subscriptions to Koi USA are \$25 for one year (six issues) with special rates for AKCA club members. Be sure to mention our club name to get this discount.

Renee Ottzman, Newsletter Editor

223-4274

ROttzman@ymail.com

<i>MONTH</i>	<i>HOST 2014</i>	<i>REFRESHMENTS</i>
JAN		
FEB	Terry & Karlene Stoker	Tammy Cole
MAR	SKIP-----	
APR	Kirk & Sue Hall	Refreshment host needed
MAY	Koi Show	Chairpersons (2) needed
JUN	Jon & Erlinda Laubin	Refreshment host needed
JUL	SKIP-----	
AUG	Terry & Lori Stewart	Refreshment host needed
SEP	Club BBQ	Potluck dinner
OCT	Auction - Stoker	Refreshment host needed
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.

RLottzman@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 3rd 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.