

## Minutes from 6/27/15 Monterey Bay Koi & Pond Club Meeting & Pond Social

### **Attendees:**

Rick Blazo	Phil & Tina Castle
Barbara Dietze	Ralph & Julie Kimball
Steve Lee	Jun & Carol Lee
Stephen & Carol Payne	Eric & Katie Payne
Erik & Deborah Peterson	Andy Pudan
Michael & Teresa Ready	Adra Ross
Diane Sleeter	Harolla Steiner
Josanne Virene	

We had another GREAT pond social at Stephen & Carol Payne's amazing "House Beautiful" (as stated by many) with beautiful waterfall and koi pond in June. Thanks to all of the great folks (noted above) who attended...and others that were very much missed. And a [special thank you to Eric & Katie Payne who made the most delicious pizzas in their special pizza oven for all of us.](#)

### **BRIEF MEETING NOTES:**

In Dan's absence, Rick hosted the meeting; following are the notes taken from the discussion:

#### **Fighting Algae:**

**UV Lights:** Ultra Violet lights are used to eliminate single cell algae and, as Rick stated, are basically a band aid for ponds that do not have adequate filtration & aeration. If your pond is set up with the right amount of filtration & aeration (not easy to do), you can achieve a biological balance and eliminate algae naturally.

**Barley Straw:** There is now a barley straw liquid enzyme that can be added to your pond to kill string algae. Barley straw has always been an effective tool for this as it slowly breaks down and releases an enzyme that kills the string algae. But the problem in the past was you then had straw in your pond. With the new liquid enzyme the latter problem is eliminated.

**Algae Fix:** Is always a good solution for elimination of string algae.

**Carpet Algae:** that grows on the sides of your ponds is a good thing and should not be scrubbed off.

**Stephen & Carol Payne's pond** is an Aquascape pond with no bottom drain. Per Rick, it is working pretty well because of the amount of plant life that eats the nutrients in the pond that algae require and the waterfall flow, which degasses the water. Their pond is a waterfall flowing down to a smaller pond which then flows into a larger pond which contains the koi and due to the lack of a bottom drain, the debris had been collecting on the pond bottom for 10-15 years and, thereby, creating the "meadow effect." This is due to the "gunk", anaerobic bacteria that

accumulated on the bottom of the pond. Carol asked for ideas of how to address this and was advised to:

1. Clean out the bottom of the larger pond; vacuum it at least once a year or preferably, more frequently.
2. The best solution would be to install a bottom drain and a new filter system

**Ralph & Julie Kimball are redoing their pond** to eliminate the larger pond by the Potash Trees (adding a new patio area and eliminating the need to put up the mesh cover every year to keep leaves from falling in the pond.). They are digging a large pad with a bottom drain and connecting into their existing biological filter. They are including a little ledge at one spot for their dog to get out in case it falls in.. 😊

**Barbara Dietze has a small autofeeder** that she doesn't need any more. If anyone is interested, please contact Barbara directly.

**ZNA NorCal Koi Show** will be held next April (2016). Our club will be contributing food as we did this year and many of our members will be volunteering to help with the show. Rick brought up the idea of having all of the bay area koi clubs (ZNA NorCal, Santa Clara, Monterey Bay, Silicon Valley) get together to put on one Koi Show and hold it at the Cherry Blossom Festival which has a large attendance.

**Upcoming Pond Socials & Koi Harvest:** Following is the schedule for this summer's Pond Socials and the annual Koi Harvest held at Rick & Adra's house:

July 18: Dawn Perchik & Maurice Barnum

August 22: Andy Pudan & Chris Dimaio

September: Diane Franzoia -- date/time TBA

September 26-27: Koi Harvest at Rick & Adra's—for folks who are interested in seeing how the koi are moved from the big pond.

October 3: Koi Harvest Celebration and sales: pot luck, live music

**END OF NOTES**