

AKCA Minutes of August 11, 2015

Officers Present:

Chair: Carole Elliott
Vice Chair:
Secretary: Don Chandler
CFO: Brenda Chandler

Directors Present:

Ally Cunningham
Gordon Chibana

Guests:

Ally Chibana

Board Highlights:

- ✚ Would current KHAs please contact Julie Miller at her new email address: juliemiller008@gmail.com; also those interested in signing up for the Wet Lab.
- ✚ Clubs may request boxes of past issues of KOI USA, not for resale, free except for reimbursing shipping costs.
- ✚ **We need assistance with fundraising for the KHA/Scientific Committee. Anyone interested, please contact Don Chandler!**
- ✚ Is there a club who would like to host the 2017 AKCA Wet Lab/Business meeting? Each year, the host club has made money for their club.
- ✚ **KOI USA magazine will now be distributed on major newsstands including Barnes & Noble!**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carole Elliott at 6:01 pm.

MINUTES: **Motion:** To approve the minutes of July 9th. Motion by Don, 2nd by Carole.
Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCIALS: We went over the July Statements at a Glance report; we had a net loss of \$4,009.04 in our checking account. Because we made the final payment to OSU for the KHV grant of \$13,172.31, we ended up having a total net loss of \$16,700.36. We also went over the Quick Books July Profit & Loss report.

SCIENTIFIC/KHA: Julie Miller congratulated KOI USA on a terrific cover/magazine as well as new distribution of the magazine on newsstands, i.e. Barnes & Noble. Discussed the problem with local clubs asking Dr. Nick Saint-Erne to put on Wet Labs at the club level.

PROJECT KHV: Jerry reports he has received verification from Dr. Ling Jin, DVM, at Oregon State University that the OSU Research Contract Dept. has processed and established an index number for the newest Research Grant that AKCA presented to their representative, Dr. Aimee Reed, DVM, at our June Meeting and Wet Lab in Sacramento, CA. The OSU Marine Lab

people are excited about the opportunity to continue this work. Dr. Ling Jin, who wrote the article about the OSU research that appears in the current KOI USA magazine, will continue to see that we are kept informed as they proceed so that we can all share in the pride of discovery. Check out the KHV article in the upcoming KOI USA magazine. **We need volunteers for fundraising for KHV!!**

PUBLICATION: Ron Nugent, our circulation manager, has forged a new partnership with a national distribution company where the magazine will be in major newsstands, i.e. Barnes & Noble. The magazine will be on schedule because of the addition of new distributors. The cost on newsstands will be \$6.95, higher than what club members pay. We have gotten a lot of raves for the cover of the last issue. Because of the article about koi in Israel in our last issue, a vendor in Israel wants to advertise with us ☺.

MEMBERSHIP: Don handed out new AKCA Rep contact sheets; Ally & Gordon Chibana, Jeff Fleischer and Ally Cunningham will take over some of the calls. Carole will be sending proxy forms to all the clubs. We currently have 77 member clubs.

JUDGING: No report.

RISK MANAGEMENT: We have enrolled 4 more clubs; we now have 23 clubs enrolled for 2015-16.

BOOKSTORE: For 2015 the bookstore sold \$18,948 worth of merchandise. For July, the bookstore sold \$430.59.

SPEAKER'S GRANT: Mel Barutha, of the South Carolina K&WGS, said that he will be submitting reimbursement for \$211.91 (\$250 is the maximum). We will be holding the next grant drawing in September.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS: None

SEMINAR REPORTS:

2015 Seminar: We reimbursed their \$100 fees nine KHA graduates and reimbursed Dr. Nick \$200 for travel expenses. We also paid half of the 50/50 raffle (with AKCA and Camellia Koi Club each receiving \$887.50).

2016 Seminar: This will be held in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Claude & Diane Head are doing a great job; there has been advertising in the Midwest, Chicago, Minneapolis, etc. Very organized!! On Sunday afternoon, there will be a tour of Kloubec Koi Farm.

2017 Seminar: Jerry Kyle agreed to contact the Mid-Atlantic club to see if they are interested in hosting the Annual Business Meeting/Wet Lab. We need to get confirmation by no later than October so that the chosen club can start working on acquiring a hotel site.

PROXY CALLS FOR SEPTEMBER

- ✚ Please send any pictures of club members, or others, reading KOI USA magazine.
- ✚ If your club has recently held a pond tour or koi show, has it been submitted for an article in KOI USA magazine?
- ✚ Is your club interested in hosting the 2017 AKCA Business Meeting/Wet Lab?

UPCOMING AKCA ANNUAL CALENDAR EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

OLD BUSINESS:

- ✚ **Bookstore:** We have completed sales tax report for the bookstore for a total of \$447 owed to the state for taxable sales in CA (there was a \$317 shortfall in collections because we don't charge sales tax for sales at CA koi shows as a benefit to hobbyists).

NEW BUSINESS: None

Motion to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. Motion by Carole, 2nd by Gordon. **Approved.**

Respectfully submitted by,
Don Chandler, Secretary

REPRESENTATIVE CONTACTS:

Written report submitted by Carole Elliott: Jackie Allsup, of **Eastern Iowa PS**, said they met at Kloubec Koi Farm. The Kloubecs are always so friendly. Everyone enjoyed a pot luck. Myron gave the group a tour of the farm's spawning shed as well as a sneak peak at the new filtration unit he is developing. They are expanding again and hopefully they'll get back next year to see the addition. Jackie Allsup, of **Northern Iowa P&KC**, said they held their last meeting at the home of Jackie & Harry Allsup. Everyone enjoyed a great BBQ meal put together by the host as well as many, many desserts brought to share by the members. They had special guest speaker, Jamie Beyer talk to them about bogs, with an emphasis on their plants and the many different styles of edges that they can have. What works and what not to do! Ralph Smith, of **Southwest K&PA**, said they had a great meeting at the home of Mark and Gail Nash; they discussed their 2015 pond tour in October and celebrated Don & Nell Harrawoods 65th Wedding Anniversary! **Congratulations to Don & Nell!!!** Jan Jordan, of **Mid-Columbia K&PC**, said they met at the home of Jisica & Randy Watkins for August. They were in the middle of another triple digit heat wave so the meeting was inside where it was nice and cool. Discussion was around nominations for new board members come fall and green ponds. Stephen Dumas, of **North Texas WGS**, said they are winding down from their busy spring. Their upcoming event will be

the fall clean out at the Texas Discovery Garden in Fair Park, Dallas in Sept. Date is yet to be determined. For more info about their club, please see their website at <http://ntwgs.org/>. Their next meeting is August 11th with Tony Reynolds talking about goldfish. The September meeting will be offsite at Universal Rock in Garland. Plant exchange is allowed near the rear loading dock before and after each meeting. Jerry Woodbury, of **Miami Valley WGS**, said that the weekend of August 7 through 9th some members from the club made the trip over to St. Louis. While there they visited the Jewel Box in the Forest Park, which is maintained by the St. Louis Water Garden Society. This was an amazingly well kept water garden display of lilies, lotus, and arrowhead plants. They also toured the Botanical Gardens with the Chinese Lantern display. This month they will be having a roundtable discussion about problems and solutions of members ponds. Gary & Debbie Floyd, of **Amarillo KS**, said they have not met as of this summer. Our condolences to Debbie who lost her mother July 22nd! Mel Barutha, of **South Carolina K&WGS**, said they had an active month in July and August. Their club had a joint field trip to the Koi Store in Watkinsville, GA with the Low Country Koi Club July 11th. It was extremely hot but it did not deaden their spirits. There were many beautiful fish to see and much discussion about filtration. Some nice fish went home with folks. Their regular meeting on July 18th was at the home of the Bradshaws who live atop Paris Mountain in Greenville. It is always a pleasure to visit their home. Their latest addition is a Japanese garden to their beautiful surroundings. They had a presentation by Dr. Alan Fudge, DVM on fish health. A number of their members attended the 3rd Annual Low Country Koi Club forum on August 8th. It was a surprisingly low humidity day for Charleston, SC. There were three speakers talking about pond building, filtration, medications, and plants. They had a low country boil for their lunch. Their regular meeting will be on August 18th with a discussion on UV lights for the pond. They are also working on their upcoming Koi Show Oct. 2-4th. They are working hard to get out plenty of advertising to inform folks from a large surrounding area to come to the show to see all the show fish and, of course, support the vendors that attend their show. For more info about the show and pictures from past shows to get an idea of their venue, please go to: www.sckwgs.com. Christine Wilkolaski, of **Niagara Frontier K&PC**, said that they just finished their Pond Tour of the north towns this month. The weather held off for the most part and it was very enjoyable. 6 pond stops and vendor stops ended with a great picnic and entertainment. They now are into their local fair season and the club will man the koi pond at the Erie County Fair. They have a permanent pond display and members answer questions from the fair visitors. Their meeting for August will have a presentation on the pond tour from earlier in the month. Teresa Zager, of **Canada KC of British Columbia**, said that two weeks ago the club members were invited to attend a community activity in a city called New Westminster. There is a section of the city that faces the Fraser River and has been repurposed over the years so that now there is a beautiful collection of condos and services along the quay. Within this waterfront community, there are about 6-7 koi ponds that are maintained by volunteers that live within the complex. The event was to welcome all people in the area to attend a "talk about." The volunteers invited them to see their ponds and Neil Boxrud, their President, gave two lectures on koi. Many residents know nothing about koi so his talk included many koi basics and Neil answered a lot of questions from the audience members. It was very well attended by the public and there were about 15-16 club members present as well. The day was warm and perfect and the scenery and backdrop of the

river made for a perfect setting. This weekend is their annual club BBQ which is one of their big events each year. Aside from mingling and spending time with friends, they always have activities like a silent auction, a 50-50 draw, and a koi auction. Some of the merchant members generously provide koi that they auction at the BBQ as a means to raise money for the club. This summer has been unusually hot and they now have strict water restrictions in place. It's been challenging for all of them to maintain their ponds as a consequence. They have been contacted because of concern for the low water levels in the community koi pond. She's not sure how things will turn out because the city has refused to add water. Club members are going to try contacting other agencies (like the SPCA) in the hope that an exception can be made for the community pond. They have also contacted the local newspapers and news agencies in the hope of creating public support. Mary Ann Penix, of **Piedmont K&WGS**, said they had their annual pond tour in July. Although they didn't have as many visitors as last year, they did increase their membership which was a good thing. Their club is planning a field trip in October. They are going to attend a koi show either in Atlanta or Greenville, S.C. Carole tried but was unable to reach: **Hawaii Goldfish & Carp**; **Puget Sound**; **WGC of South Texas**; **Central Alabama K&WGS**.

Written report submitted by Joan Finnegan: **So Cal Koi Club** held their August meeting at the Rainforest Flora, a place that sells exotic and unique plants that don't need soil. They also have a large koi pond with a great waterfall. They also discussed ideas for upcoming meetings, Many club members went home with some beautiful plants. One of the owners also discussed his "nursery." It was very informative. Next month they will be meeting at the home of Steve & Susie Brasch in Long Beach. Norm Call, of **Oregon K&WGS**, said there isn't much to report. They had a successful koi show in June and continue to have regular meetings at a members home on the first Saturday each month. At their last meeting, Donna Montoya was awarded the Ed Fujimoto Inspirational Award for her work, and dedication to the OK&WS throughout the year. Larry & Pat Christensen, of **Northwest K&GFC-ZNA Northwest**, said that this month is their annual club BBQ. September 25-27th they will be having their 35th Annual Koi Show in Beaverton at Uwajimaya's Parking lot. They did have it in conjunction with the Portland Japanese Festival but that event was cancelled. Their show will take place though as scheduled.

Written report submitted by Bob Finnegan: David Muraoka, of **Sierra KC**, said they have no current plans to meet. Marilyn Strange, of **Indiana K&WGC**, said the club has started plans for their 20th Anniversary Tour and Exhibit! They will feature 20 ponds on the tour and hope to secure several vendors. They are holding their next meeting at the home of members Chuck and Patti Wiley in Terre Haute on August 22nd. Chuck will be doing their presentation. They continue to grow and educate the members about koi keeping and pond building and maintenance for the love of their Koi. Ken Houtman, of **Great Ponds & KS of West Michigan**, said their August meeting is at Meijer Gardens where they will be taking a guided tour of the new Japanese Gardens. The Sept. meeting will be at Ron & Irene Buitt's. Everyone is to bring a nice, wrapped white elephant gift. At the Oct. meeting they will do their koi photo contest and

have a 50/50 auction. Their Christmas party will be on Nov. 21 at 5 p.m. They will do their annual white elephant gift exchange after dinner. That will be their last meeting for 2015.

Northern Nevada PC had their Pond Tour July 11th in Carson City & Douglas County with more than 100 people attending; 11 ponds. **North Florida KC** met August 9th. They will have their fall auction Saturday, Sept. 19th. They are also hosting their All Jacksonville Koi Show, with the assistance of First Coast KC, Oct. 16-18th. **ZNA Potomac Chapter KC** held their field trip to TripState ZNA Koi Show, held at Kodamas in New Jersey, on July 11th. On August 16th they will have a show planning meeting. Sept. 11-13 is their 20th Annual ZNA Potomac Koi Show at the Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. Bob was unable to reach: **Gulf Coast KS**; **Olympic KGF&WGC**.

Written report submitted by Don Chandler: William Williams, of **Bakersfield Koi & WGS**, reports the club is busy getting ready for their 16th Annual Golden Empire Koi Show, which will be held Oct 16-18 at the Kern County Fairgrounds. Show Chair is Ron Unruh. Check out the club's web site at <http://www.bkwgs.com/>. **Capital Area K&WGC**; no report. **Cascade Koi & GFC**; no report. Rosimeri Tran, of **Central California Koi Society**, reports the July meeting was held at the beautiful home of Tom & Elaine Callahan; members enjoyed viewing Tom's downsized koi pond. We welcomed back Mary Helen and her sister Jessie, as well as Dr. Gilbert Moran and son Ryan. Much to our surprise Greg and Gloria Mariano popped in to surprise the member; this was the best part of the meeting! Discussed were some topics covered at the Sacramento AKCA Wet Lab, such as using a salt meter, along with points that Steve Walker from Sacramento Koi discussed regarding how to handle the drought and water changes in the koi pond. Check out the club's web site at <http://www.cencalkoi.com>. **Deep South Koi & Pond Society**; no report. Doug Stuber, of the **First Coast Koi Club**, reports the club is joining with the North Florida club to put on an All Jacksonville Koi Show in October. Check out their website at <http://www.firstcoastkoiclub.com>. **Genesee Valley Pond & Koi Club**; no report. **Idaho Koi & WGS**; no report. **Inland Empire WG&KS**; no report. Mac McClain, from **Inland Koi Society**, reports the club traveled to the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park, San Diego, for a joint meeting with the Koi Club of San Diego. Check out their website at <http://www.inlandkoi.org>. Scotty Yee, of **Koi Club of San Diego**, reports the Aug general meeting will be a Pot Luck at the Japanese Friendship Gardens in Balboa Park. This will be a Joint Meeting with the Inland Koi Society and the SoCal Water Garden Society. Speaker will be Mike Kawamura, VP of the Japanese Friendship Garden, on their history followed by a tour. Check out their website at <https://www.koiclubofsandiego.org>. Dan Chevalier, of **Land of Lincoln WG&KS**, reports in Jul the club held a members only Pond Tour in the Springfield-Sangamon County area. In Aug, the club is planning a bus trip to the Garfield Park Conservatory in Chicago, IL. Check out their website at <http://www.llwgs.org>. Bernard Nesmith, of **Low Country Koi Club**, reports the club hosted their 3rd Annual Koi Forum on Sat, Aug 8th at Wescott Park. Guest speakers were: Chris Deer from Tideline Aquatics; Kevin Colopy from Happy Koi of Greenville; and Vicki Vaughan from The Koi Store. The \$25 fee included lunch and refreshments. Check out their website at <http://www.lowcountrykoiclub.com>. **Macon Water Garden & Koi Club**; no report. Dennis Long, of **Metro-Detroit Pond & Garden Club**, reports the club held their Pond Tour on July 25th.

Check out their website at <http://metrodetroitpondandgardenclub.org>. John Rae, of **Michigan Koi & Pond Club SE**, reports the club held their Annual Pond Tour on July 18th starting at the Pleasant Ridge Community Center. In August the club will hold their 4th Annual Koi Show at The Pond Place of Michigan in Milford. Check out their website at <http://www.mkpc-se.com/>. **Mid-Atlantic Koi Club**; no report. **Monterey Bay Koi & Pond Club**; no report. Judith Henderson, of **Mountain View Koi Club**, reports we held our first meeting of the season June 14th at the home of Leigh and Karin who have a beautiful indoor koi pond. A quiz sheet was handed out to each member to see if they could identify a number of the koi species in the pond. Results were a bit disappointing so we used the KOI USA poster to help us identify many of the fish. Discussions on the past winter on how most of our member's fish survived. We were surprised with the harsh winter that we had how many fish were not lost. A lot of our members bring their koi inside which helps. Subject of salt in the pond was brought up and what was the best way to apply and how much. Two of our members are taking an online course from AKCA to become Koi Health Advisors. We had a small Koi Auction and then a raffle took place with the prizes being shubunkins. Snacks then followed with a social get together. We went outside our comfort zone and took some koi to Montreal for a Koi Educational Seminar exposition. It was organized at the Japanese Gardens at the Great Montreal Botanical Gardens. The pavilion sat on a hill overlooking the Koi Pond where there used to be many koi, however over the years they have died off to only a few now remaining. We had set up Koi posters decorating the pavilion. It was a busy day with visitors from everywhere. Many wanna be koi owners as well as Koi owners. It was interesting to hear everyone's stories. We held our July meeting under the canopy of the pines until we were chased inside by a massive thunder bubble. We discussed how to go about selecting Koi for Show or for pond and how they are judged. The discussion was from an article published by Senior AKCA Koi judge Dr. Art Lemke. Koi are selected on Conformation, Color, Pattern, Quality and an imposing appearance. Having a grand champion koi somewhere around eight or nine years old starts out with a lot of guess work, hope and a prayer. Light refreshments were served after the meeting. Our next meeting will be in August. Check their website at <http://www.mountainviewkoiclub.com>. Carole Boozer, of **Nashville Pond Society**, reports their Parade of Ponds was held on August 1 – 2 featuring ponds in East Nashville, Inglewood & Madison. Check out their website at <http://www.nashvillepondsociety.org>. **Northern Midwest ZNA Koi Club**; no report. Phyllis Anderson, of **North Idaho Koi Keepers**, reports members were encouraged to attend the Idaho club's koi show in Boise in Aug. In Sep, the President's Barbecue will be held at the Andersons in Hayden Lake, ID. Check out their website at: <http://www.northidahokoikeepers.com/id8.html>. Lynn Eaton, of **Pioneer Valley Water Garden and Koi Club**, reports the Aug meeting was scheduled for the home of Paul and Helen Marasek in Florence, MA on the 9th; Speaker Laurie Brodeur's topic is "Koi for Ornamental Ponds." Check out their website at <http://www.pioneervalleypondclub.com/meetings.html>. **Rhode Island & Massachusetts Koi Club**; no report. Don Chamberlain, of **Santa Clara Valley K&WGC**, reports their Jul Pond Tour was cancelled. If they get some rain, they'll hold one next year. Check out their website at <http://www.sckoi.com>. Judy Nicholson, of **Santa Clarita Koi & WG Club**, reports the Aug meeting's venue has been changed to the 23rd at the home of Todd & Barbara Boswell. Check out their website at

http://www.scvkoilandwatergardenclub.com/SCV_Koi/Welcome.html. ***Shasta K&WGC***; no report. ***Siskiyou Koi & Pond Club***; no report. Rick Jokerst, of ***St. Louis Water Gardening Society***, reports the July meeting at the Missouri Botanical Garden featured Caleb Bauer, of Bauer Falls, LLC, speaking about the Millstadt Mega Project, a project almost 2 years in the making. The Annual Awards Banquet will be held at the Jewel Box in Forest Park on August 25th. Check out their website at <http://www.saintlouiswatergardeningsociety.org>. ***Tri-State ZNA Club***; no report. Dick Hadley, of ***Upper Midwest Koi Club***, reports it held its annual show July 31 Aug 1 and Aug 2. We benched a little over 100 fish. Troy Head and Kevin Pham were our judges. Ron Sterbenz and Bill and Jan Doyle took the Grand Chamjption A and B titles, respectively. The complete list of winners is on our website. Once again we could not do it without the assistance of John and Barb Flowers. We will hold elections for new (or same) officers at our next meeting in September. Check their website at www.uppermidwestkoiclub.org. Nancy J. Moore, of ***Washington Koi & WGS***, reports our July Road Trip Pond Tour North was a huge success. We had over 60 people trek to the three ponds, two in Anacortes and one in Mount Vernon. We had a lovely time, saw wonderful gardens and ponds, ate at interesting places (for me, the Brown Lantern pub, with a great Ruben sandwich). Some went on to Christensen's Nursery after the tour. In July, we also had our annual BBQ meeting at Pan Intercorp in Kenmore, WA. Operations Manager Zak Schmidt talked about preparing and bagging fish for shows or travel in general. Don Lyman was presented with his AKCA Koi Person of the Year 2014 Award. We have re-located our storeroom and downsized slightly, to a unit that has two doors, which will be helpful in getting to our equipment. Our August meeting and plant sale was called off at the last minute because the host's father died unexpectedly in Oregon Sunday and the family had to leave immediately for Astoria, OR. We are involved in gathering auction items for our show and encouraging people to show their fish in our new venue. The Nominating Committee has just been appointed to come up with a slate for our 2016 officers: Chair, Lucy Macneil and members Dan Forkan and Elizabeth Good. Check their website at <http://washingtonkoi.org>. ***ZNA NorCal***; no report. Judy Walker, of ***ZNA SoCal***, reports our July meeting at Jeff Fleischer's new house was really fun. Jeff definitely compensated for not having any koi to look at by providing a BBQ lunch that was worthy of being on the Food Network. To Jeff and his 'kitchen staff' (Dan, Richard, Murray, Nori and Chai) thank you so much for a wonderful picnic. But the meeting wasn't all eating. We had a chance to do somewhat of a modified swim-around to share ideas on considerations when designing a pond. Jeff has the luxury of designing his new pond from scratch, and as we all expected he has his design pretty much finished. There were some interesting points, or maybe I'll call them adjustments, on what we all may have heard for so long about pond design. Check their website at <http://znasocal.org>.

Written report submitted by Brenda Chandler: Jerry Kyle, of Camellia Koi Club, reports the club has scheduled their August meeting on the 30th at the home of Melody and Duane in Granite Bay. On tap will be an Ice Cream Social and the club's koi auction; only club members may sell but anyone can buy. Check out their website at <http://www.camelliakoi.org>. Wendell Ford, of ***Charleston Showa Koi Club***, reports the July meeting was held at the home of Wendell and Virginia Ford. Delicious smoked turkey was served. The majority of the meeting was finalizing

the details of the Pond Tour. The August meeting was a work meeting at the home of Robert and Linda Lewis. The location for the Pond Tour Grand Finale. Everyone is invited to attend our Pond Tour on September 12, 2015. Tickets are only available online at www.pondtour2015.com. For more info go to www.charlestonshowakoiclub.org. Ben Soedjono, of **Dallas Koi Kichi Group**, reports Attached are some photos of our meeting last Sunday at Jan & Ron Brown. We had an election of new officers, a koi show update, and great suggestions for the next "Spring Fling". Our education section was given by John Ames, on the different koi judging associations (AKCA, AKJA, ZNA and Shinkokai). We included discussion on the fancy goldfish judging too. Thank you Jan and Ron for hosting. The landscaping was beautiful, the home was comfortable, and the food was delicious and abundant. Great to see everybody survived our "Texas monsoon." Check out their website at <http://www.dallaskoikichi.org>. Mike Lane, of **High Desert Koi Fanciers**, reports the July meeting was canceled due to heavy rain and the Aug meeting was held at the home of Mike and Maarsha McNally in Lancaster. Weather was hot, hot, hot. In Sep the club will hold their Hawaiian Nights Party at the Haggai's. Check out their website at <http://www.hdkoifanciers.com>. Brenda Chandler, of **Nishiki Koi Club**, reports the club met in the Board Room at Seaside Aquatics in Placentia. After a pot luck lunch (sandwiches provided by the club), Tom Tran, owner and host, gave a short presentation and showed members around his warehouse. Check out their website at <http://www.nishikikoiclub.com>. Claude Head, of **North East Iowa Koi Association**, reports August found eight of our club members attending the UMKC Koi Show in Minneapolis. Hot time in the old town tonight, but so much fun. Once again our Showa placed Best in Variety and we also received the Friendship Award from the Greater Louisville Koi Club for our Doitsu Sanke. It's really becoming more than just about the koi, it's also the people you meet and the friendships you develop. Check out their website at <http://www.neikakoiassoc.com/index.html>, Vince Smith, of **Prairieland Koi & Pond Society**, reports the Aug meeting was scheduled for the Kruger's residence in Lincoln. Speaker will be Mike White from White Water Filters. The Kruger's pond is a new construction this year; Lori and Allen have out done themselves on their new pond and you don't want to miss it. Check out their website at http://prairieland_pond.tripod.com. Laura Lunsford, of **Rocky Mountain Koi Club**, reports the club held their Annual Koi Show on August 15th -16th at Country Fair Gardens in Arvada. In Sep the club will hold elections for Board Members. Check out their website at <http://www.rmkc.net>. Phil Goulding, of **Southern Colorado Koi Club**, reports the club had a wonderful time at Richard Brownfield's home and pond on July 11th. Richard put on a great lunch for us and described his pond and filtration system. We have our next club gathering August 22 for the members and guests pond tour. We will travel from pond to pond in a group, finishing with dinner at the Foster's home and pond. Check out their website at <http://www.socokoi.org>. **Valley of the Sun Koi Club, Inc.**; no report. Mary Oxman, of **Ventura County Koi Society**, reports the rescheduled Jul meeting was at the home of Gary & Denise Stouffer, who treated members to a most delightful afternoon at their home. Member Mike Przewoznik shared lots of valuable information from the AKCA Wet Lab he recently attended. The Aug meeting will be at the home of Bob & Andi Artz in Simi Valley. Check their website at <http://users.vcnet.com/rrenshaw/vcks.html>.