



KOI CLUB OF SAN DIEGO NEWSLETTER[©] September 2015



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Po Box 22833

San Diego, CA 92192

www.koiclubofsandiego.org

September 13th, 2015

Carol Costarakis

Rolf Haas

5524 Sandburg Ave.

San Diego 92122

Speaker Spike Cover

Koi Organisation International

The leader in "Koi Keeping"

DIRECTIONS

From I-5 take Rt. 52 East to Regents Road exit. Turn left at light onto Regents Rd.

**Turn left at Pennant Way,
left at Honors Drive and
left at Sandburg Avenue.**

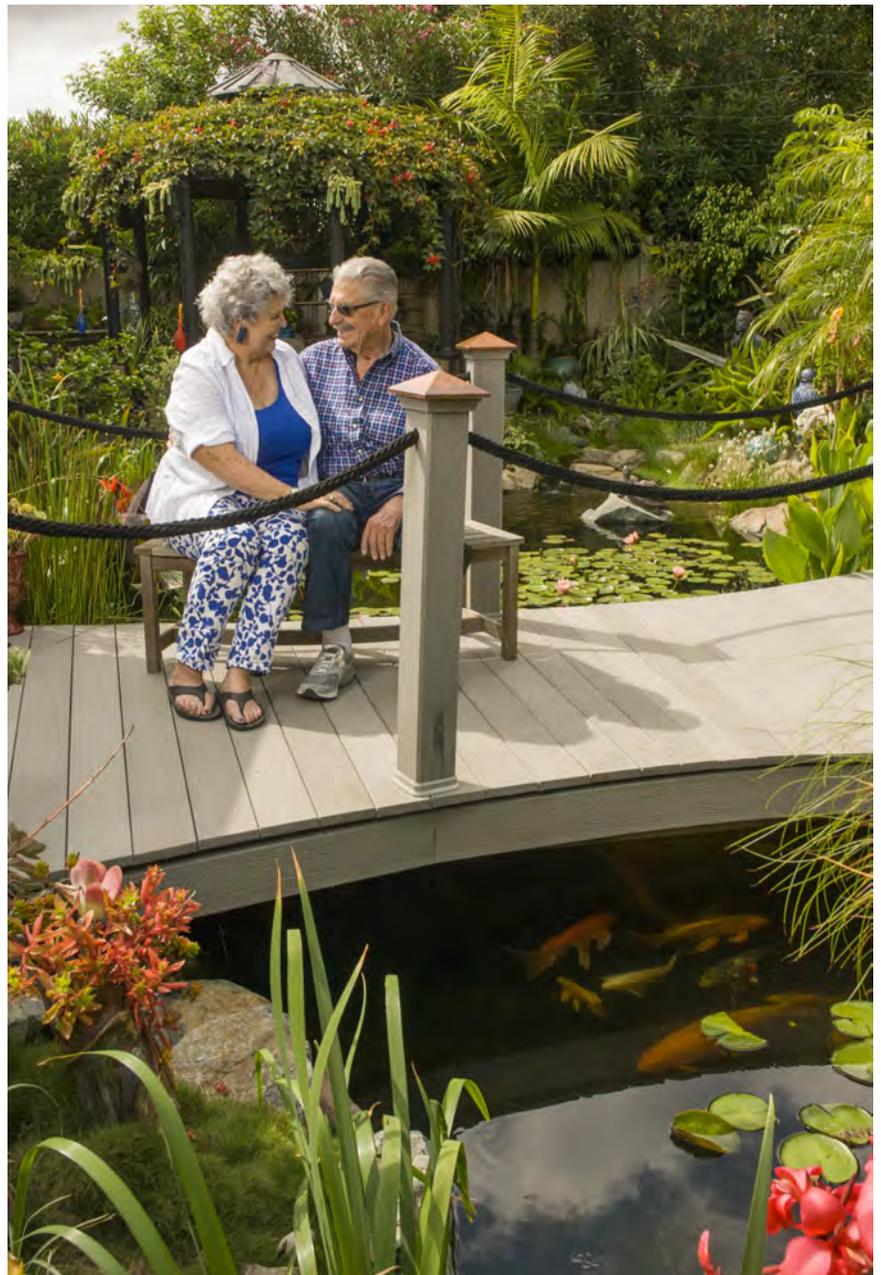
From 805 or 15 take Rt. 52 West to Regents Road exit.

**Turn right onto Regents Road.
Turn left at Pennant Way,
left at Honors Drive and
left at Sandburg Avenue.**

**POTLUCK: Please bring a dish you
would like to share.**

Please bring your chairs.

I hope she makes her yummy chili.



OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Tamsie Pierce	(619) 427-9008	president@koicsd.org
VICE PRESIDENT-PROGRAM: Scotty Yee	(714) 943-3906	program@koicsd.org
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Koi Person of The Year 2015– Steve “BukBuk” Buckles

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Norm Meck (858) 452-1132

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TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE: Linda Pluth	(619) 200-4146	input@koicsd.org
VAGABOND KOI/Re-home : Jerry Myers	(619) 405-8908	info@koicsd.org
WHITE BOARD—Advertise to Sell or Buy pond items here.		info@koicsd.org

Submit your article now to
input@koicsd.org

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Committee Meetings

September 2nd, 2015
 Time: 7:00 pm
 Place: Sizzler @
 I-15 and Aero Drive

**Become more involved.
 Attend a meeting !**
**MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL
 ACTIVE MEMBERS.**

October 7th, 2015
 Time: 7:00 pm
 Place: Sizzler @
 I-15 and Aero Drive

**Become more involved.
 Attend a meeting !**
**MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL
 ACTIVE MEMBERS.**

**2016
 Show Committee
 Meeting**
Wednesday, 7pm
September 30th
920 Washington
Street SD 92103



**Filter Stomp at the
 Japanese Friendship Garden**
September 19th @ 8am
**It may not be this much fun but it is
 fun**

**Inquiries concerning our
 Treasurer's report
 should be directed to:
 treasurer@koicsd.org**

General Meetings

September 13th, 2015
 Carol Costarakis & Rolf Haas
 5524 Sandburg Ave.
 San Diego 92122

Speaker: Spike Cover
Koi Organisation International
The Leader in "Koi Keeping"
**Please bring your entrant for
 the 2016 Show Pin Contest.**
**A simple sketch of your idea is
 all that is needed.**

October 11th, 2015
 Mickey and Sherry Goldman
 7176 Aviara Drive
 Carlsbad, CA 92011
Speaker: Ben Plonski - Laguna Koi
Buying Koi in Japan

November 8th, 2015
 Vito & Nathalee Adragna
 9016 Emerald Grove Ave.
 Lakeside, CA 92040
Speaker: Dr. Galen Hansen
**Judging Koi/ Tips on what koi to
 bring to the show**

Welcome New Members
Judie & Jeff Lincer
Jain Malkin

**Welcome Back
 Renewing Members**
Jamie Kanes & Jeannette Locking
David & Linda Stepp
Kristen Yee & Lois Yee
Roger Lai
Karen & John Connolly
Michael & Melissa Bartel
Augusto & Colleen Angelucci
Vivian Blackstone
Lynet Ferreira
Janet & Leo DeCastro
Marde & Lilian Smith
Dean Strasser
Mickey & Sherry Goldman

Upcoming Events 2015

**September
 2016 Show Pin Contest**

Central California Koi Society
37th Annual Koi Show
 Saturday and Sunday September 26 & 27, 2015
 Fig Garden Village 5082 N. Palm Ave., Palm & Shaw,
 Fresno, California

Fci competition and Judging
Food and Fci vendors
Caffles and auctions

Saturday, Sept 26: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(Judging starts at 10:00 a.m.)
 Sunday, Sept 27: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

2014 Grand Champion

**2015 Show Pin
 \$6.00 each**

KOI SHOW CHAIRPERSON:
 To Reserve Show Tanks/Vendor
 Booths or show information:
Contact- Rosmee Tran
Pin# 339-978-8308
 Email: cencalkoi@gmail.com

Website: cencalkoi.com

**September 2015
 Central California Koi Society
 36th Annual Koi Show
 Fresno, CA**

16th Annual Golden Empire Koi Show

BAKERSFIELD

The Bakersfield Koi & Water Garden Society

October 16-18, 2015
 Kern County Fairgrounds
 1142 So. P Street, Bakersfield, CA

Show Chairman: Ron Unruh
 ronunruh@bakerskoi.com
 (661) 619-6353

Vendor Coordinator: Malise Unruh
 maliseunruh@bakerskoi.com
 (661) 378-6137

Fish Check in:
 Friday noon to 7 pm
 Saturday 8 am - 9:30 am

For show
 forms visit:
www.bakerskoi.com

Exhibit Hours:
 Friday Noon to 7 pm
 Saturday 10 am to 7 pm
 Sunday 10 am to 5 pm

**October 16th-18th
 Golden Empire Koi
 &
 Water Garden Show
 Bakersfield**

**November 8th
 Annual Photo Contest**



The President's Corner

By Tamsie Pierce: September 2015

Perhaps it was one of the hottest days this summer when we all gathered at the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park - Koi Club of San Diego, Inland Koi Society and Southern California Water Garden Society. A great turnout, great company and, as always an abundant potluck.

A big thank you to Linda Pluth for arranging the location. She is our Liaison with the Garden and **dedicated pond filter cleaner, making sure that once a week the filter in the Garden's magnificent koi pond is maintained in order to keep the exhibition koi healthy and happy.**

Mike Kawamura from the Garden spoke to us about the history of the Garden itself, with a wonderful description of his experience to live through the bombing of Hiroshima. Thank you, Mike, for bringing history alive. Everyone was enthralled.

After Linda Pluth's history of the Koi Club of San Diego's part in the installation of the koi pond, we adjourned for a tour of the newly developed lower canyon. Wow!

We are now officially creeping closer and closer to the turn of the year and the final scramble up to our Annual Koi Show: March 5 & 6, 2016. Dr. Bob Adler has consented to be our Show Chair, coming to the job with extensive experience as **chairman of Horse Shows. We can't even say our fish are much less expensive, although a whole lot easier to catch and transport.** There will be ongoing meetings of the Show Committee. If you are interested in pitching in to help out, contact any member of the Steering Committee and or Bob, he is in the current membership roster.

Saturday, September 12 will be a Beta test for the proposed show computer program. If you have an interest in working at the show with the entrants, award and the computer system, mark your calendars with the date. The meeting will be at the **Pierces' home in Chula Vista, Saturday, September 12, at 1:00.**

At our **September General Meeting (September 13)** we will be discussing and/or voting on several issues. First of all, is the Show Pin Contest. Please bring your proposals for a show pin to the meeting. A pin design should be submitted drawn on an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of paper and feature a koi - **last year's Grand Champion. All the designs will be posted at the September meeting for the membership to vote and select the one to be used.** From there it will go to a graphic artist who will smooth out any rough spots — so artistic talent is not a requirement for you to have for your design to be included. What we need from you is inspiration and ideas.

We will also be taking questions for a "Koi 101" session to be incorporated in the meetings. This is aimed at answering questions for those new (or experienced) in the hobby. Everything from "How deep should a pond be?" to "What is the difference between Nitrates and Nitrites?" to "How do I know what fish to bring to a show?" Answers will be short, but then printed in the newsletter and posted on the website so those missing the meeting will have the information as well. Also, the steering committee wants to open a short discussion of the potluck meals at the meeting. Do we continue to bring potlucks or shall we go back to the host simply providing chips and dips and beverages? Please bring your thoughts on the subject.

In the late fall, early holiday season we are considering a bus trip to LA koi dealers. While this is still in the planning stage and no date has been set, a bus trip is always a great event - **someone else worries about the traffic and with luck we'll get to three or four dealers for some fabulous fish.**

With one more date to mark on your calendar (September is getting to be a busy month!): Saturday, September 19 from 8 AM – 10 AM will be the annual deep cleaning of the Japanese Friendship Garden Koi Pond bio-filter. If you do nothing but **come and cheer everyone on, it's an event not to miss. We will be opening one side of the filter, removing the bio (open cell foam), cleaning it (something like a grape stomp for those inclined to go barefoot), and then after replacing the UV lights, re-assembling the filter chamber.** It is a great way to see the mechanics of how the pond filter works as well as a serious amount of fun.

Remember the story :

Once there were four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did. Everybody thought that **Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.**

We'll see Everybody at Carol Costarakis and Rolf Haas' home on September 13.



Notes from the Board

August 2015
Phyllis Spoor

Happy Koi Show/Fun Filled Koing



What an exciting year of Koing so far; looking forward to upcoming meetings including the August 16th joint meeting with the Water Garden Society and Inland Koi Society at the Japanese Friendship Garden (JFG). There are plenty of opportunities to get more involved with the club from hosting a meeting or attending the monthly steering Committee meeting or getting involved with the 2016 Koi Show planning from the start. We have a brand new 2016 Koi Show Chairman, Dr. Bob Adler who is looking for show volunteers. There is plenty for everyone to do from very physical jobs to more office-type functions. Bill Thompson has stepped up to the plate to Chair the Financial Review Committee with Gerald Ellison assisting. Scotty Yee is our new AKCA Rep and we are still looking for somebody to fill the publicity spot. The August 16th meeting is at the Japanese Friendship Garden starting at noon. No need to bring chairs, the Garden is providing them. It is potluck. There will be an update on the Garden and a Garden docent-lead tour of the lower canyon.

Jerry's Vagabond Koi Rehoming/Rescue Program is running full steam ahead. He received a \$450 donation from Stone Brewing in Escondido for working on their pond water quality and \$1,000 for transporting a Koi for surgery to and from Dr. Cecil. Jerry is helping **Embassy Suites with their pond water quality. They will donate once he's through.**

Entering into fire season is a good time to review your emergency plan for your koi and pond. Have phone numbers - Vagabond Koi among others - ready to call for help.

To renew your membership, order name badges or request the snail mail newsletter version please contact our Membership Chairman, John Svelan, at membership@koicsd.org or 858 444-5669 for those without email. Note our website forms are temporary offline; but our webmaster Jerry is currently building the replacement forms with new software. Currently John reports we have 125 active families, 3 new members (we generally get some new members from Vagabond and community outreach activities), 8 delinquent and 4 renewals.

We have meeting/hosting opportunities available for January 2016. It is your choice if you want to have potluck, provide just the main dish or complete lunch. If you would like to host a meeting please contact Susi Woods at: venue@koicsd.org. Bonnie McIlvaine has graciously offered to again host our December Christmas meeting. We are also looking for speakers or program ideas starting June 12th, 2016 going forward. If you would like to speak/present or have suggestions for speakers or topics please contact Scotty Yee at program@koicsd.org.

Linda Pluth our JFG Liaison reported that the August 16th meeting is on track. Tables and chairs will be set up outside for us and inside for the food. The Potluck starts at noon. Remember to park in the lot behind the Organ Pavilion and enter through the back gate at the top of the service road behind the Organ Pavilion, which can also be used for a quick drop-off of food or people.

2016 Koi Show Is On! Bob Adler has stepped up to be the show chair with Greg Ruth as the vendor chairman. Matt Rhoades is the judge chairman again this year. Bob has scheduled the first Koi Show meeting for Thursday, August 13th at 6pm at his Hillcrest office at 920 Washington Street.

The Show Pin contest is on at the September meeting after being discussed at Bob's Committee Show Meeting.

Show Computer Program: Update – Al has set the first meeting at his house to test the new show program for September 12th at 1:00pm. Please bring laptop computers.

Webmaster, Jerry Meyers: Jerry has a new form service to replace Adobe Forms. He is busy learning the new software and replacing the forms. He will add a tab for KOI 101. Scotty Yee will be in charge of coordinating KOI 101 questions and answers. Questions can be submitted at the monthly meetings or by email.

Koi Auction 2016: The Koi Auction Chairman is Linda Pluth. A new Koi Auction location is needed. Tamsie has checked with David Curtright in Escondido and received a favorable response as a possible location.

Possible Pond Bus Tour to Several Koi Vendors: Shirley and Susi are proceeding with plans for a bus tour of Koi vendors timed for right after the Koi come out of quarantine in the fall. They are looking at about a \$24 cost per person if we fill the bus.

Koi Health Advisor, Jack Chapman: Some calls received regarding parasites and algae. Water temperature is up to about 74 degrees so feeding should be about 4 times per day, but when the hotter days and water temperature arrive remember to cut back on your feeding.

Please feel free to attend the Steering Committee meetings if you would like to have input on the many exciting activities under discussion including the 2016 Koi Show. Check our website for the next steering committee location. www.koiclubofsandiego.org (just to make sure we are still at The Sizzler off Aero Drive). The meeting starts at 7 PM but many of the members meet at 6 PM for dinner and socializing. All Active members are encouraged to attend.



KHA KORNER

by
"Koi" Jack Chapman

Oxygen

So what's the big deal about oxygen??? You have all seen many ponds and just about nobody ever says anything about oxygen or having oxygen problems – just that you need to have a waterfall or fountain or tower filter or air pump and run it 24/7. So get over it Koi Jack and move on – **Well no, I just can't and it is a significant issue in regards to your koi's general health and development** – BIG TIME. Yes, almost all ponds out there have sufficient oxygen levels to support koi survivability!!! They can live a few days in the 5ppm range and require at least 6ppm to maintain life sustaining functions. So you need to be at 6ppm or above or your koi would be dying. Again, what's the big deal? Well to quote Recirculating Aquaculture Systems "Of all the water quality parameters, dissolved oxygen is the most important and most critical parameter..." Now before you jump all over me for quoting the bible for raising fish for food and/or sale – their goal is to get the most growth and have the healthiest fish with the highest possible metabolism of food. If you want to achieve the best your koi have to offer – then I say the above quote is very relevant. To quote Christopher Neaves, L.R.S.M. "It is an undisputed fact that koi have better growth and better color in oxygen-rich environments." I know I'm just a name dropper LOL.

Some of the general informational facts affecting the available oxygen in your pond include:

As the temperature of the water goes up the water capability to hold oxygen goes down. Your koi's requirement for oxygen is just the opposite – needing more oxygen as temp goes up to support koi increased physiological demands. Translation – higher metabolism and larger food consumption.

At sea level dissolved oxygen in ppm at saturation are:

50F = 11.29ppm

59F = 10.1

68F = 9.11

77F = 8.27

86F = 7.56

You need 5 milligrams of oxygen for every milligram of ammonia converted to nitrate. (Chris Neaves) You also have the oxygen requirements for all the other living matter (plant, animal and all the other microbes) in your pond. So a lot of oxygen can and is required on any given day – even more with a heavy fish load and summer feeding schedules – but nobody has too many koi, right?

Algae makes a lot of oxygen during the day but just turns around at night and consumes a lot of oxygen.

Decomposing organic matter in your pond require oxygen in the process of rotting.

Your koi need oxygen to convert food into energy, growth, color and general health to include their immune system.

Don't forget the difference between 7% oxygen and 8% oxygen is a whopping 12% more oxygen. (Chris Neaves)

Ammonia is more toxic with reduced oxygen levels.

Salt in the pond will reduce the capacity of the water to hold oxygen.

More oxygen in the water means less carbon dioxide CO₂ (a good thing). It will also raise the pH slightly. The opposite is true for lower levels of oxygen due to the synergistic effects leading to increased incidents of illness, reduced growth, reduced color, languid behavior, resting behavior after eating and hanging out at the surface and at the waterfalls.

Super saturation of oxygen can lead to gas bubbles seen in the fins. Very dangerous to koi but I've never encountered it nor have I met anyone who said they have seen a case of it. Yes, just like humans – if one of these air bubbles gets to the heart or lungs it can and does cause death.

It is recommended for ponds below 8ppm of dissolved oxygen that the water be enriched with oxygen. To quote Dr. Johnson DMV "Levels over 8 ppm are desired, but 11 or better (up to 14 ppm) are glorious."

I better close the above list before I lose everyone, but for those of you that are still with me let's move on to my way of boiling down all the above. The hardest thing a koi does every day is osmoregulation mostly done by the gills. Put another way, this body function consumes more energy each day than any other function by far. **Add** to that my experiences pond side over the past 8 years in southern California have shown gill snips under a microscope to almost uniformly demonstrate a general low grade hyperplasia. To quote Dr. Saint-Erne, DVM "Hyperplasia, or thickening of the cell layers on the gill lamellae, often occurs secondarily to toxins in the water or pathogens on the gills. This results in decreased respiratory efficiency and can even cause death from hypoxia." Or as I like to say, from an anthropomorphic point of view, it's like the koi has pneumonia – it's got this extra buildup of crud covering the gill tissue or put more professionally, from Dr. Saint-Erne, excessive epithelial cells, white blood cells and "MUCUS" covering the pink gill tissue. Back to my way – It's harder to breathe and get the bad stuff out (ammonia and carbon dioxide) and the good stuff (oxygen) into the red blood cells that make up about 35% of total blood volume.

Oxygen cont...

To my way of thinking –A koi's normal daily breathing activities plus any additional gill action required to meet oxygen demand caused by low to mild effects of hyperplasia add up to a **tremendous** amount of energy expended by the koi on a daily basis. **That's energy it CAN NOT use for other body processes** – which is why I'm writing this article.

So what's a koi pond owner to do?

After reading this and the disclaimer at the end of this article, you can choose to do nothing and most likely not much will happen and your koi will continue to survive.

You could read up some more on this subject from a web search or review any of several basic books available on koi husbandry.

You could observe your koi for any of the signs of oxygen insufficiency.

You could get an oxygen test kit (titrate) low cost and see what your oxygen levels are (early AM and just before dark) and decide just **how far you want to go to improve your pond's dissolved oxygen content. A more serious approach would be to purchase an oxygen meter.** There are many to choose from – I currently use a Pinpoint Oxygen Monitor and really like it.

Now to the secondary list which holds a symposium of possibilities that individually or collectively can help improve oxygen levels in your pond:

Reduce your fish load.

Don't over feed.

Reduce your turnover rate. (less time to cycle total pond volume through filter system and over the waterfalls)

Add shade to your pond. (lower water temp increases oxygen-carrying capacity)

Add fountain(s). Even a water spitter will stir up the water at the surface.

Add air pump(s). (this can be a big help when done right)

Clean your prefilter more often. (reduce oxygen demand of decomposing organic matter) (maybe add a sludge buster)

Good UV system. (eliminate algae bloom)

Improve pond water circulation system. (Get the low oxygen water at the bottom of the pond to the filter or moved to the top of the water column by air column, venturi or mixing eductor. The more water atoms that come in contact with the surface – the more gas exchange and increased O2 level. No dead areas in pond circulation.

Increase the width of your waterfall weir. Or add a waterfall.

Consider a filter change or addition of a tower system. (Major improvement)

Any prefilter system that improves your particulate matter removal. (Think sieve or barrel system)

I'll end with R/O system and or Ozone.

Off the top of my head that about covers it – I know I forgot something for sure.

Only got two more things.

First: **Why do this** – I truly believe the less energy my koi expend meeting their daily oxygen demand the more energy they will have available to grow (length, girth and repair of body tissue), improve color and have a decreased incidence of illness and disease (healthier with less stress).

Last is sort of a disclaimer to keep in mind. As in most cases you can overdo it and be paying money for increased dissolved oxygen that is of NO consequence to the koi and at worst leads to gas bubbles. Other environmental conditions aside, oxygen levels above saturation in fresh water fish do not result in any additional oxygen carried by the blood. The gills can only transfer so much oxygen to the blood and each red blood cell can carry only so much oxygen.

My hypothesis is if they use less energy to get that max oxygen they are capable of carrying in their blood system then there is more energy available to fulfill to the maximum of what's in their gene pool in association with the environment you provide for them to achieve that big smile on your face and pride in your heart when you look at or show your koi to friends or other koi hobbyists or, better yet, bring them to the next koi show. See ya there!!!

r/koi jack



2015 Show

Tee Shirts & Pins

On sale- contact

Paul : treasurer@koicsd.org

Tee Shirts--\$15.00 each

Pins--\$5.00 each



August General Meeting @ Japanese Friendship Garden

Note: Complete set of pictures from the meeting are on our website at koiclubofsandiego.org



Koi Club of San Diego Ponder Profile

Carol Costarakis and Rolf Haas
San Diego, California

Carol and Rolf along with their dog Pandi reside in the quiet neighborhood of University City. Their home, yard and koi pond has been featured in local magazines. Rolf, originally from Munich, Germany, admits that Carol is the designer and **artist of the family and he enjoys supporting Carol's many interests. Carol is a successful interior designer who loves bright colors** and it shows in every corner of their home where she displays her unique ceramic artistry. Very unique one-of-a-kind creatures adorn every corner of their yard that Carol has created using glass mosaic and other crafting techniques.

When they first moved into their home 9 years ago they knew it would require a complete remodel and they were up for the challenge. They wanted a nice pond in the back that was low maintenance where they could raise koi and water plants. Carol said the goal was to turn a rectangular boring backyard into a rhythm of curves. They joined the Koi Club of San Diego in 2008 and were determined not to make the same mistakes others had made when building their first pond. **They succeeded in building a 'pretty much' maintenance free natural 5,000 gallon pond that is home for around 28 beautiful and colorful koi and an abundance of water plants that serve as the bio-filter.**

In this day and age where everyone is seeking out that latest and greatest state-of-the-art filter system, Rolf is quick **to point out that their pond is completely 'natural.'** The concrete pond with natural rock borders is filtered by plants of every species with a skimmer and bog and features an impressive waterfall that gently cascades into the pond. The waterfall is packed with bags of filtering media and four sump pumps that supply all the circulation needed. Rolf admits that the plant bog does require a thorough cleaning every eighteen months (by someone else of course) making it pretty much maintenance free.

Rolf and Carol are avid supporters of the Koi Club of San Diego and have hosted numerous meetings at their home. Thank you so much for sharing your home and your Ponder Profile!

John Svelan
Membership Chairman
Koi Club of San Diego



PONDER PROFILE
Photos by Bill Newell



Hear ye, Hear Ye!

Thank you Dr. Bob Adler for stepping up to be the Show Chairman for our 29th Annual KCSD Koi Show!

The position for Vendor Chairman for the 29th Annual KCSD Koi Show has been filled by Greg Ruth.

Thank you Greg!

Latamer P. Koi and I would like to thank all the members of the Inland Koi Society For their generous donation to the rehoming program. THANK YOU!

Again, let's not forget the PIN CONTEST at our September General Meeting! Bring your entrants to the meeting and you just may have the next pin design for our 29th Annual Koi Show!

They can be a rough sketch, we will have an artist create the final production drawing for the pin.

If you are interested in pitching in to help out, contact Bob at show@koicsd.org

As show time nears we will be adding more contact information as we build our show committee.



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Koi Club of San Diego Newsletter September 2015

Editor in Chief
Jerry Myers

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