



Splash

Volume 33, Number 03, March 2017

The next General Meeting is March 21st, 2017, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose, CA 95125.

The next General Meeting is March 21st, 2017, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose, CA 95125.



Our speaker will be Mel Bretzke, owner of Advanced Landscape Systems. His topic will be "Tales of a Pond Builder". Mel will also have a Q&A Session on pond building and general pond care. Mel has over 30 years of experience in landscape design-build with a special focus on water features and Koi ponds. Mel is also an expert on pond repairs, maintenance, and pond keeping.

Mel has built many ponds and has lots of insight on pond building techniques and styles. Over the years he has come across all sorts of ponds and has many stories to share.

We look forward to hearing his talk. Bring a friend.

Save the Dates:

10th Annual ZNA NorCal Koi Show, April 1-2, 2017: Sat. 9am-5pm & Sun. 10am-2, Four Wyndham Garden Silicon Valley Hotel, 399 Silicon Valley Road, San Jose, CA 95138. This is a very nice local show. Plan to attend and support this great event.

Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival, April 29 – 30: The club plans to have a booth - volunteers needed. This is a nice festival with many other Japanese themed displays and activities.

26th Annual Pond Tour, July 15, 2017: Our Pond Tour committee is looking for ponds to showcase on the tour. If you have a recommendation please send us an email to along with a photo if possible. scvkwg@sckoi.com. Please consider volunteering for the club's biggest event of the year July 15th! There are lots of preparation and many ways to help with this annual event.

Visit us on the web at: www.sckoi.com

Club Meetings:

The club meets on the third Tuesday of each month except July (Third Friday) and December (No Meeting). At meetings we get acquainted with members and guests, address any pond issues that people may have then enjoy a pond or water gardening related presentation. Afterwards we enjoy refreshments and open discussion.

Upcoming Events

- Mar 21 General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room
- Apr 1-2 ZNA Koi Show, Wyndham Silicon Valley Hotel, 399 Silicon Valley Rd., San Jose, CA 95138
- Apr 18 General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room
- Apr 29-30 Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival
- May 2 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM
- July 15 26th Annual SCVKWG Pond Tour
- Sept 23-34 39th Annual Central California Koi Society Koi Show
-

Master Gardener Tips for Spring....

Careful With Wet Soil



Most of the soil in our area is wetter than it's been in many years. And most of our soil is clay so it can easily be compacted. Those air spaces in the soil are important for the roots and for beneficial organisms that live in the soil. Try to avoid walking on, digging, or rototilling saturated soil.

Prepare your soil - winter weeds probably will be poking their heads up in your garden soil already, so pull them as soon as possible and move them far away. If you leave them too long, they will flower, produce seeds, and multiply. After you've waded through the weeds, add some fertilizer and mix it into the soil

Water Plant of the Month – Dana's Delight Pitcher Plant [Sarracenia 'Dana's Delight']



'Dana's Delight' is a lovely carnivorous creature with traps that are stained deep blood red. To about 16" tall and forming clumps from a plant that is best potted in pure peat moss with just a bit of gritty sand. Great in a bog or sitting in a container of shallow water. Fantastical, whimsical drooping green flowers...

Dana's Delight' is a hybrid based on species leucophylla with white hoods accented with much bolder dramatic red veins than other cultivars and, in fullest sun, a pink flush through the white. Pitcher plants are best grown in moist, peaty, acid soil in full, hot sun. They are most easily grown in pots sitting in a saucer...

Credit: <http://www.sarracenia.com/faq/faq5520.html>

Kin Gin Rin Koi

By Rosimeri Tran, Central California Koi Society



I am sure we have all seen that sparkling koi that shimmers and shines in the sun, and thought what kind of koi is that. Let me share some information that can better define the different types of Kin Gin Rin (pronounced: keen geen deen) available, so that you can understand more about these beautiful diamond scaled koi.

What do the words “Kin Gin Rin” mean? Well it literally means Gold and Silver scales in Japanese. “Gin Rin” is the sparkling effect, which in some koi looks like crushed aluminum foil on their scales. It is caused by a chemical deposit on each of the Koi’s scales.

A koi needs to have at least 2 complete rows of gin rin scales, preferably 3 or more, to be classified as Gin Rin variety to be entered into any koi show. Symmetry is very important when evaluating Gin Rin. Ideally scales should start at the base of the head and continue down the body of the koi, to the tail and including both sides of the dorsal fin. The rows of scales should be neatly aligned with no random or mismatched scales. When choosing a Gin Rin koi, first look at the Koi’s body conformation, pattern, and now look at the Gin Rin scales; look for 2 or more rows that are neatly lined up in straight rows. Those with missing, random or jumbo sized scales should be avoided. Remember that the layout of the scales will not change as this koi grows. Finally pick the Gin Rin koi that sparkles and shines the most as these koi are judged on the quality of their scales.

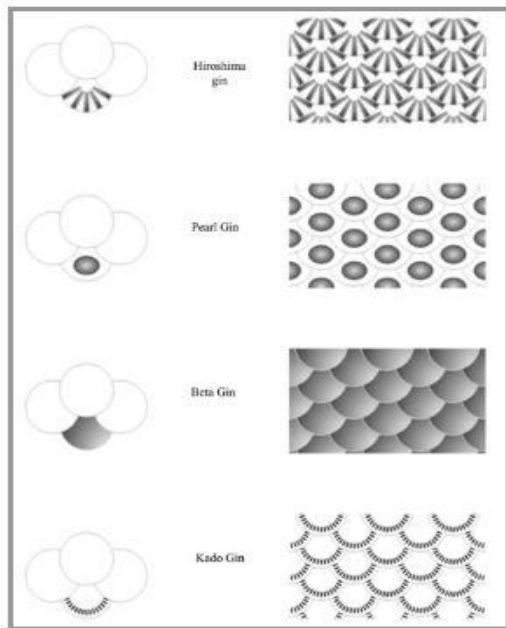
Different types of Kin Gin Rin [see images on next page]:

- Pearl Gin Rin: The only raised one. Quite uncommon. It has a sparkle deposit in the center of each scale, making it look like a pearl.
- Diamond Gin Rin: Most common in U.S.A., not popular in Japan. Looks like brushed aluminum sparkle. Also known as Hiroshima Gin.
- Beta – Gin most prized in Japan, but least common. This is where the whole scale sparkles and is most valued type.
- Kado – Gin least appealing. Most common. Has only the aft edge of each scale covered with this sparkling deposit.

Japanese Koi Terminology

- Menware: Black lightning shaped pattern on the head of a koi.
- Motoguro: Black markings on base of pectoral fins on a Showa
- Sashi: Blurred line caused by white scales overlapping red ones on leading edge of Hi (red) scales
- Kiwa: Sharpness of edge of color on koi scale

Gin Rin koi can come in any variety of koi, as such, you would add Gin Rin before the variety’s names, such as Gin Rin Showa, Gin Rin Kohaku, and Gin Rin Sanke, just to name a few. Gin Rin Showa are my favorite as I love how the red, black and white pattern are intensified with the glitter of the gin rin scales. Watching this koi swim around in the pond, and when the sun catches those shiny scales, is something I could watch all day. As they say, “diamonds are a girl’s best friend”, and when it is on a koi, even better.



DIAMOND SCALE KOI



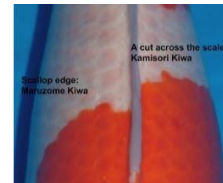
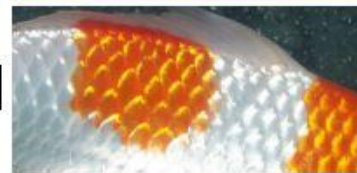
PEARL GIN RIN KOI



BETA GIN RIN KOI



KADO GIN RIN KOI



Credit: Rosemari Tran, CCSK February 2017Newsletter; Koi Classification, Part 3 By Douglas Dahl KOI USA-July/August 2002.

Do-It-Yourself Backyard Aquaponic Systems

Backyard aquaponics as a hobby is emerging as more people wish to experiment with growing their own food and promoting environmental sustainability in their own homes. Here are some samples...



AKCA KHV Fundraising Drive 2017

From the Associated Koi Clubs of America

Help the Associated Koi Clubs of America (AKCA) sponsor research to stamp out KHV and protect our koi from this killer disease. All funds go to KHV Research & Education- donations are tax deductible [Federal TAX ID# 95-3612512]



Make checks payable to and mail to:
AKCA Project KHV
P.O. Box 10879
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Include that you are a member of Santa Clara Valley Koi and Water Garden club and are supporting AKCA's efforts to stamp out KHV and protect Koi. Thank You!

Board Meeting Review – March 2017

The March board meeting was held March 7th. Our president Maus Stearns led the meeting. The board discussed regular club business, upcoming events, and discussed the 2017 program calendar for the club. We will be having a booth at the Annual Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival April 29 -30, 2017 and moving forward with Pond Tour planning and preparations. We are focusing on attracting volunteers to assist with both the Cherry Blossom Festival and the upcoming Pond Tour July 15th, 2017. New business was discussed – the club is looking to move its storage locker contents to another more affordable location due to a sharp increase in storage fees paid by the club at our current provider.

Monthly Club Report to Associated Koi Clubs of America (AKCA)

We did not have our regular meeting February 21; we had a club social instead at the home of our president Maus Stearns. We will be having a booth at the Annual Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival April 29 -30, 2017 and are working on other club events for 2017 including our annual pond tour to be held July 15, 2017. We reviewed our membership – we have 40+ members and welcome new members anytime. The club is assisting with the AKCA KHV Fundraising Drive. We encourage our membership to support this initiative by the AKCA [see information above]

NOTE: The above report will be added to AKCA board Minutes and will be posted on AKCA website for all to see under our name as Santa Clara Valley Koi and Water Garden Club. Check <http://www.akca.org> and click on Koi Clubs.

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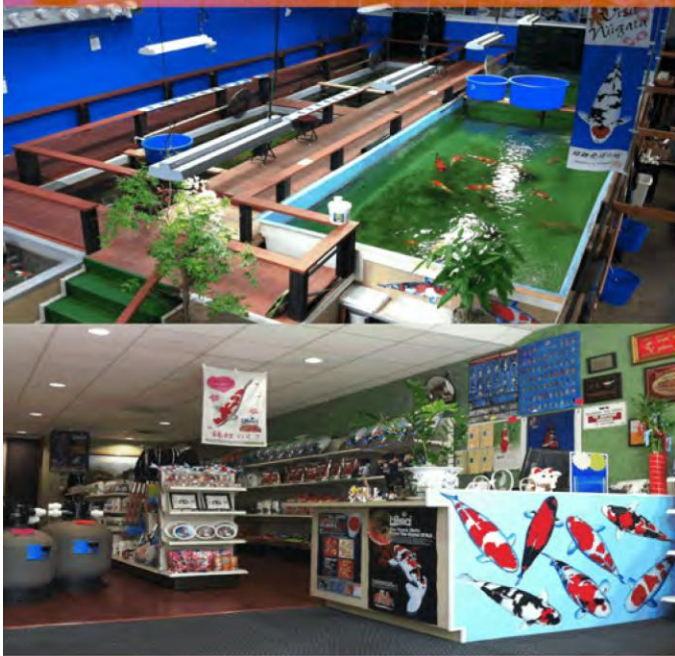
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