

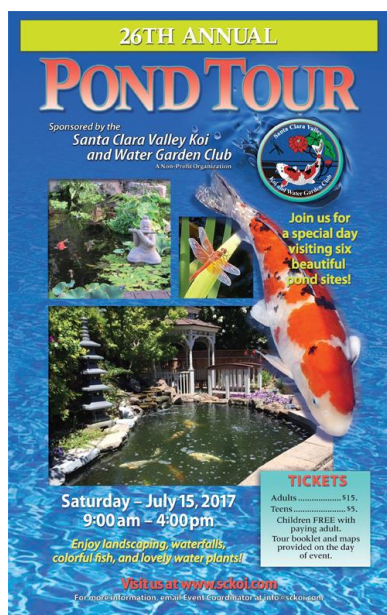


Splash

Volume 33, Number 07, July 2017

Next Meeting is Tuesday August 15th at 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose, CA 95125.

26th ANNUAL POND TOUR REVIEW – SIX BEAUTIFUL PONDS ON DISPLAY – WHAT A GREAT DAY WE HAD!



Last week the club held it's 26th Annual Pond Tour. Thank you to all of our sponsors, pond owners, volunteers, and attendees. Thank you to our President Maus Stearns, board members, and all those who spent many hours in preparation to make this pond tour happen.

We had another successful pond tour this year with lots of positive feedback. The ponds looked great. It was a beautiful day. We had attendees from all our sister clubs of Northern California, many folks who look forward to our event each year, and lots of children who went on the tour. The club's 27th Annual Pond Tour is planned for July 21, 2018. Save the date!

There will be a Thank You BBQ event Saturday, July 29th between 4 PM and 7 PM for all the volunteers.

We are now moving into our membership drive season. If you are interested in joining our club or would like to renew please contact us at info@sckoi.com, send in your dues, or better yet come to a meeting!

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.

Presidents Corner

Well, our 26th Annual Pond Tour is officially in the rear view mirror. Time to exhale. As this was my first “run with the torch” I can honestly say, without any doubt or hesitation, that putting this event together was truly a roller coaster ride. On your way up you’re holding hands with your sweetheart, on the drops you’re being embraced by “the Alien”. And up until the end of the day, on the day of the tour, there is this gnawing uncertainty as to whether or not the entire event, in spite of all the good intentions and efforts put forth, will just lay an egg. I am, however, extremely pleased to report that by all metrics, our 26th Annual Pond Tour was a GREAT success! We had over 200 sets of eyes looking at 6 beautiful ponds, koi and landscapes. Visitors came from far and wide, including members from the San Francisco Bay Area Koi Club, Monterey Bay Koi and Pond Club, and the Camellia Club. There was even one couple who said this was their 17th time on “the tour”. Revenues from advertising and ticket purchases exceeded costs (that’s always a good sign). However, for me, the most important measure of success came from the club members themselves who, as a team, volunteered as “spreaders of the word”, docents, ticket takers and providing a “what can I do to help” attitude. Without this support there would have been no Pond Tour and to those who participated “Hats Off to You”. In that vein I hope those who did volunteer have replied either Yea or Nay to the Thank You BBQ we are putting on this Saturday the 29th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at our home at 2580 Custer Drive, San Jose. If not, please RSVP either way by this Tuesday so we know how much food and drink to provide. RSVP by email to stearns.koi@gmail.com.

Again, Thanks to all.

Maus

President, SCKWGC

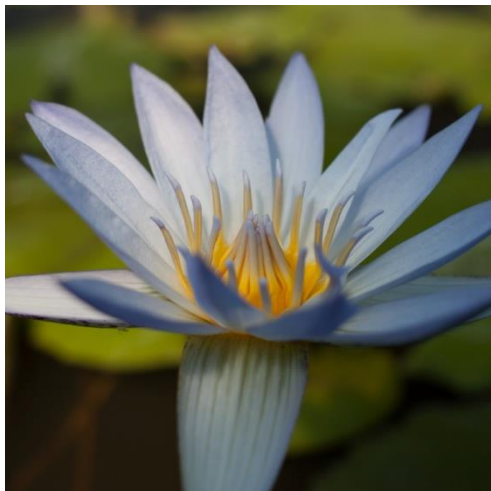
Upcoming Events

- | | |
|------------|--|
| July 29 | Pond Tour Volunteer BBQ , 4 – 7 PM, Maus and Cece Stearns Home, 2583 Custer Drive, San Jose, CA 95124. Please RSVP to Cece at treasurer@sckoi.com . |
| Aug 1 | Board Meeting, 7:30 PM |
| Aug 15 | General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room |
| Sept 2-3 | Camellia Koi Club’s Sacramento Koi Show ‘A Taste of Excellence’, Old Sugar Mill Wineries, Clarksburg, CA. For more info email sniebank69@gmail.com . |
| Sept 5 | Board Meeting, 7:30 PM |
| Sept 19 | General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room |
| Sept 22-24 | 39 th Annual Central California Koi Society Koi Show. Fresno, CA. For info call 559-970-8508 or email cencalkoi@gmail.com |
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Membership Drive – 2017/18 – Renew or Join Today

Our annual membership drive has begun. Club dues are \$30.00 per year (from July 1 to June 30). If you join after our annual membership drive your dues will be prorated at the rate of \$2.50 per month until the next membership term starts. To join, send your name, address, phone number and email address along with your check for dues to SCVKWG, PO Box 54368, San Jose, CA 95154 or bring your dues to the next meeting. Thank you for your ongoing support of our club. It is appreciated.

Plant of the Month - "Blue Beauty" [Nymphaea odorata]



The "Blue Beauty" water lily is a perennial plant that is large, very fragrant and has light blue flowers in the daytime. The leaves arise on flexible stalks from large thick rhizomes. The leaves are more round than heart-shaped, bright green, 6 to 12 inches in diameter with the slit about 1/3 the length of the leaf. Leaves usually float on the water's surface. Flowers arise on separate stalks, have brilliant yellow petals with yellow centers. The flowers may float or stick above the water and each opens in the morning and closes in the afternoon. The flowers are very fragrant. White water lily can spread from seeds or the rhizomes.

Submerged portions of all aquatic plants provide habitats for many micro and macro invertebrates. These invertebrates in turn are used as food by fish and other wildlife species (e.g. amphibians, reptiles, ducks, etc). After aquatic plants die, their decomposition by bacteria and fungi provides food (called "detritus") for many aquatic invertebrates.

Source: <http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/plant-identification/alphabetical-index>

Koi Persons of the Year – Santa Clara Koi and Water Garden Club

We are pleased to announce our club's Koi Person of the Year for 2017. This honor goes out to Maus and Cece Stearns. Maus and Cece have really stepped up to lead our club this year in their roles as Club President, Club Treasurer, and Pond Tour Chairman.

The club membership thanks you both for your time, patience, and support to the club for this year's leadership and event management.

Maus and Cece Stearns will represent our club in the Koi Person of the Year that will be listed in an upcoming KOI USA magazine article along with others from AKCA affiliated clubs. Thank you from all our members, supporters, and friends!

Board Meeting Review – July 2017

The monthly board meeting was held July 11, 2017 (meeting was postponed one week due to holiday), The board discussed regular club business and the pond tour. The main focus was planning for our 26th Annual Pond scheduled for July 15th. We have great line up of six ponds. Also we focused on our upcoming membership drive.

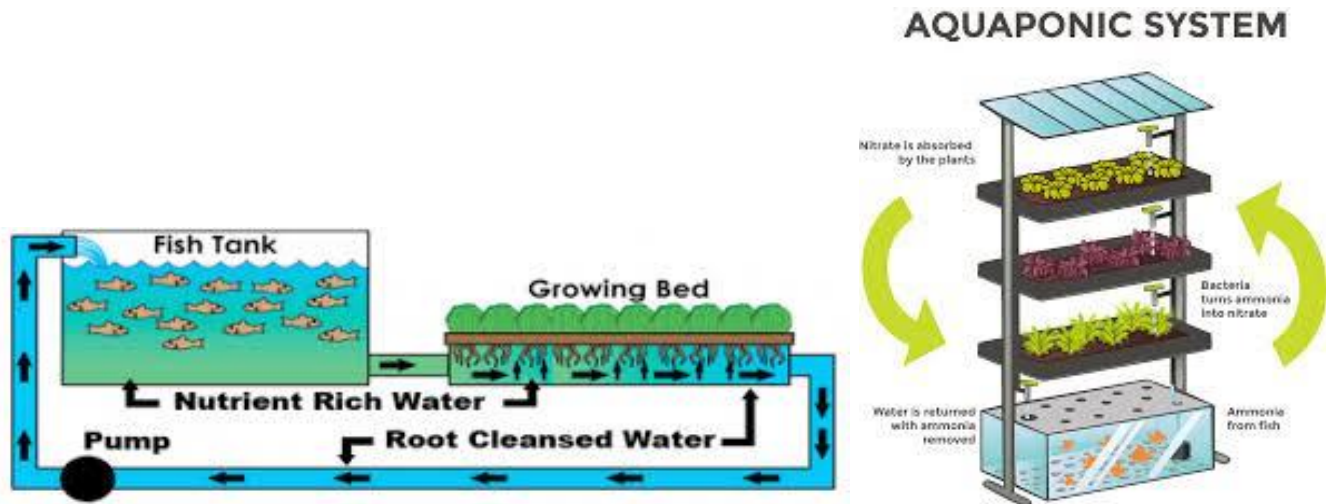
Monthly Club Report to Associated Koi Clubs of America (AKCA)

We had our regular meeting June 20th. This meeting featured a round table discussion on “Pond Critter Deterrents” lead by Cece Stearns. We had our usual reports and membership updates. Another item of interest is that our club president Maus Stearns attended a Time Capsule event at Hakone Gardens, a local authentic Japanese garden built in the early 1900’s in Saratoga, California. Hakone had a time capsule prepared in 1992 with lots of local groups putting contents into the time capsule. This event opened up the time capsule and marks the 100th year of the gardens. An upgrade is planned for this local gem and our club hopes to be as supportive as we can. We are busy planning and working on our annual pond tour to be held July 15, 2017.

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.

Do-It-Yourself Backyard Aquaponic Systems

Backyard aquaponics as a hobby is emerging as more people wish to experiment with it...



Aquaponics is a hybrid food growing technology that combines aquaculture (growing fish) and hydroponics (growing veggies in non-soil media and nutrient-laden water).

Aquaponics is intended to be a production system that incorporates principles of water conservation and sustainable vegetable production. Systems vary in size. The systems are usually fresh-water based.

Benefits of Backyard Ponds

By Eve Bretzke



Many Benefits can be obtained by having a backyard pond. Freshwater habitats are needed to sustain wildlife and provide a needed water source to creatures of all types such as insects, spiders, crustaceans, amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds and mammals.

Providing a home with clean water to sustain life is helpful to our environment. Birds, butterflies, bees, and other wildlife benefit from our ponds. Plants provide shade, food and cover for a wide diversity of pond life. Rocks, bark, and branches along the ponds edge provide protection for small animals and fish. Native

plants do well and often provide the better source of food and cover for native wildlife. A variety of colors and shades of plantings make the landscape interesting and varied with textures and shapes both for us and the animals.

Water storage is another benefit of backyard ponds. Having sources of clean fresh water provides protection from fire, rain runoff, flooding, and can prevent soggy spots in your landscape. Having a pond in your backyard also has cooling effects on the microclimate and be used to water plants in the nearby landscape.

Beauty is a big benefit of having a backyard pond. A pond adds to the look and feel of a backyard. All of us are instinctually drawn to the natural waterscape with lush plantings and the sounds and smells of moving water. We connect with the life cycle that the pond plays out in real time as we enjoy the changing seasons. One day a lily blooms. Another, a dragonfly emerges. Koi swim and grow and eat out of your hand. The backyard pond becomes a focal point, a de-stressing point, a curiosity point that draws us closer, with interest. Underwater lighting makes the pond even more appealing at night. Having a backyard pond is not only beneficial but they are fun.



Last but not least, a big benefit of having a pond is meeting up with other pond keepers and helping each other with common issues, socializing with each other, learning about ponds and Koi, and maybe showing off your pond on next year's pond tour!



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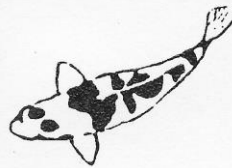
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