



Splash

Volume 34, Number 01, January 2018

SCVKWG New Year's Kick Off!



Happy New Years! We are starting another great year of koi keeping. Thank you to all our incoming officers. Thank you to all members who voted in our recent election that closed December 15th. All votes were in favor of the nominated slate of officers. We will install our officers at our January meeting.

Please plan on attending the meeting and bring any questions about ponds, Koi, water gardening, or aquaponics that you may have. The weather has been cold and the rain has been here causing issues for many of us. Don't forget to take time to check over your pond's filtration, water quality, and Koi and be sure your pond's water quality is in good shape.

In December the club held its Annual Holiday Dinner Social December 3rd. Thank you to our hosts Maus and Cece. We all had an enjoyable evening wrapping up the 2017 Koi season with a great dinner, a fun gift exchange, and collection of toys for Toys for Tots.

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, January 16th, 2018, 7:30PM, Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose, CA 95125.

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

- Jan 16 General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room.
Topic: Installation of Officers and Roadmap for 2018
- Feb 6 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Maus and Cece Stearns home. All members welcome
- Feb 20 General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room.
- Mar 3 31st Annual San Diego Koi Club Koi Show, Del Mar Fairgrounds, San Diego, CA
- Apr 7-8 ZNA Koi Show, San Jose, CA – Wyndham Garden Hotel, San Jose, CA
- Apr 28-29 Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Park, Cupertino, CA
- Jun 23 - 24 AKCA and KCSD Wet Lab and Banquet, Four Seasons Hotel, San Diego, CA
-

Club Business

Election of 2018 Club Officers:

We had our election for 2018 officers this month. Voting materials were available at the holiday potluck social and sent to members not in attendance. We are pleased to present the following slate of officers: President: Maus Stearns; Vice President: Mel Bretzke; Secretary: Diane Stelma; Treasurer: Cece Stearns. Board Member: Rita Hughes; Board Member: Carl Heiney. Thank you to the Nominating Committee for your assistance with this process.

As we wind up another great year of koi keeping and club activities we also want to thank all of our members, sponsors, and board members. If you are interested in getting more involved in 2018 with the club or would like to show your pond, or know someone who would, let President Maus Stearns know at the next meeting or drop him an email at president@sckoi.org.

Did You Know?

From Irrigation and Green Industry Newsletter

Any parasites in your pond, on your fish, before winter (Argulus, etc.) can overwinter and rise again in spring when fish are at their weakest.

Koi are continually changing color throughout their lives, unless they are the solid yellow or white color fish (Ogon).

It is easier to find a new home for koi when small rather than wait until they outgrow your pond. Something to consider.

Sonoma Fire Koi Rescue Project Update – January 2018

Santa Clara Valley Koi and Water Garden Club was called to assist FEMA / ASPCA with aiding in the rescue of displaced Koi due to the Sonoma / Santa Rosa Fires October 23rd. Mel and Eve Bretzke represented our club and worked with the disaster response authorities over the past several months. Over 160 Koi were rescued from the wildfire burn zone, many have been reunited with their owners, others have been adopted.



Our club members donated time and resources to assist in the rescue efforts. We provided temporary holding tanks, equipment, supplies, and expertise to help rescue, house, and care for many displaced Koi. The project closed December 4th at the Sonoma Animal Shelter site along with other aspects of the disaster response efforts. Clean up and rebuilding efforts are now underway. Hopefully the communities impacted by these terrible fires will be able to move forward quickly to return things to normal.

Since the disaster that started October 8th, many of the Koi fire survivors were temporarily housed and cared for at the Sonoma County Animal Shelter. All the Koi moved out of the burn zones have been rescued and re-homed. Some of the rescued Koi

were adopted because the home owner's ponds were damaged or destroyed in the wildfires and they could no longer care for them. There are a few Koi in quarantine now and that will be available for adoption.

If you would like to help support efforts like these please send donations to: SCVKWG, Koi Rescue Project, PO Box 54368, San Jose, CA 95154. Donations are tax-deductible.

Plant of the Month – Water Chestnut [*Trapa natans*]



The species are floating annual aquatic plants, growing in slow-moving water up to 5 m deep, native to warm temperate parts of Eurasia and Africa. They bear ornately shaped fruits, which in the case of *T. bicornis* resemble the head of a bull or the silhouette of a flying bat. Each fruit contains a single very large, starchy seed. *T. natans* and *T. bicornis* have been cultivated in China and the Indian subcontinent for the edible seeds for at least 3,000 years.

Classified as invasive in certain areas where large grow areas, involve waterways. The water chestnut was first introduced to North America in the 1870s, where it is known to have been grown in a botanical garden at Harvard University in 1877. The plant had escaped cultivation and was found growing in the Charles River by 1879. The plant was introduced into Collins Lake near Scotia, NY (in the Hudson River-Mohawk River drainage) around 1884, possibly as an intentional introduction for waterfowl food or as a water garden escapee (Countryman 1970).

Reference: www.wikipedia.com ; [Practical Rock and Water Garden by Peter Robinson](#)

Water Feature Pumps – What You Should Look For When They Stop

By Eve Bretzke



If you ever find yourself in the situation that your water feature pump has stopped working here are some things you should look for. Make sure that the pump has power, and that it is not plugged with debris. See if you can get the pump to start working again. Sometimes this works for a while, sometimes not.

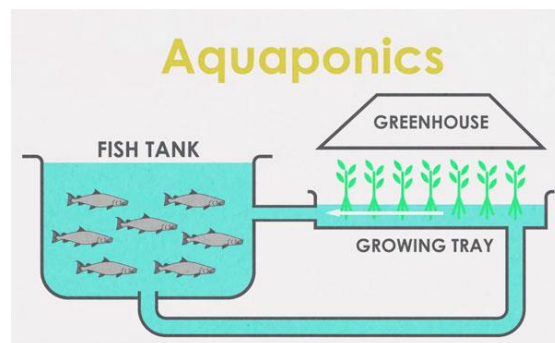
Next step is to identify the type of pump that you have. Most water feature pumps are electric submersible pumps and need a simple 110 plug to operate. Other than solar units, all pumps run on electricity either on mains voltage or on reduced low voltage through a transformer. Low voltage pumps are restricted in their output and are suitable only for small fountains or waterfalls. There are two basic types of submersible pumps. A standard submersible pump will operate a waterfall or fountain with a strainer on the intake to sieve solid debris. The other type of submersible pump can handle solids, which is needed when there is a bio-filter in the pond or water feature. Another class of pumps is external pumps or surface-running which are situated above the water in a housing chamber. These are mainly used by fish keepers because of running costs and capacity for handling large volumes of water. When you are selecting a pump ask yourself:

- What will the pump be used for?
- What will be the bore of the delivery pipe?
- What is the wattage of the pump?
- What is the height of the header pool / distance that water needs to travel to header pool?
- What is the width of the water curtain (at waterfall) that you want?
- What is the water capacity of the pond? Important for filtration needs also...The flow rate per hour should not exceed the volume of water in the pool...
- What style of fountain and height do you want spray?

As you can see there are many things to look for in a water feature pump. If you have answered some of the questions above it will be easier to select an appropriate replacement for your water feature should it be needed.

Do-It-Yourself Backyard Aquaponics Systems

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



Board Meeting Review – January 2018

There was no board meeting in January due to the holiday. The club held elections for the 2018 slate and will install officers on January 16th. All votes cast were in favor of all nominees.

Moving forward, we will hold board meetings at the home of Maus and Cece Stearns. Thank you Frank Mullaney for your hospitality and service to the club over these past years for being our Past President as well as hosting our board meetings.

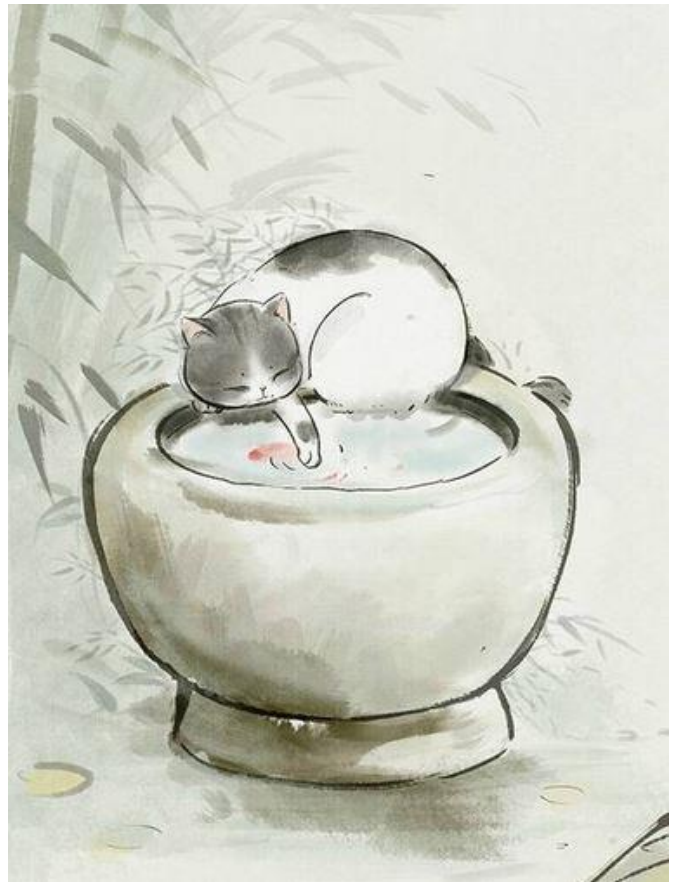
Monthly Club Report to Associated Koi Clubs of America (AKCA)

We had our annual Holiday Potluck Social at the Stearn's home where we enjoyed a nice dinner, a gift exchange, and collected donated toys for Toys for Tots which is our annual tradition. Next general meeting will be January 16, 2018. No board meeting in January due to holiday. We elected and will install our slate of officers for 2018 at our upcoming meeting.

NOTE: The above report will be added to AKCA board Minutes. Prepared by Eve Bretzke



The poster features a circular logo in the top left corner with a koi fish and the text 'ZNA NORCAL'. The main title '2018 ZNA NorCal National Koi Show' is written in a red, cursive font. Below the title is a photograph of a large, colorful koi fish (Sanke variety) swimming in blue water. Underneath the photo, it says '2017 Grand Champion Size 9 Sanke Dr. David Tran'. The dates 'April 7-8, 2018' are prominently displayed in red. The location 'Wyndham Garden Hotel Silicon Valley, 399 Silicon Valley Blvd, San Jose, CA 95138' is listed in red. At the bottom, there is a blue section with white text: 'Reservations: sales@wyndhamsiliconvalley.com', 'Free to the Public', and details about the event including 'Koi Competition, Education, Sales, Raffles, Vendors, and More', and the schedule: 'Saturday: 9:00 - 5:00, Sunday: 9:00 - 2:30'. It also provides a website for more information: 'http://znanorcal.info'.



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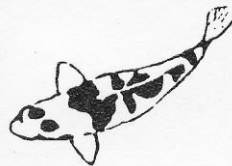
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