



Splash

Volume 34, Number 02, February 2018

Happy February Koi Keepers!



What a warm February we have had so far. You might think it was May or June on some of the beautiful days these past weeks if it weren't for some of the trees not having any leaves!

This month's meeting will not be at the Willow Glen Library but rather at the residence of Maus and Cece Sterns (see below for address). There will be a special focus on planning for the 2018 Pond Tour. We need six ponds. If you have a pond or know of a pond that you would like to see on this

years tour send an email too president@sckoi.com.

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 and cold. 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.

NEXT MEETING – LOCATION CHANGE:

Tuesday, February 20th, 2018, 7:30PM. LOCATION CHANGE: Meeting will be held at the Stearns residence, 2580 Custer Drive, San Jose, CA 95124-1708. Special Focus – POND TOUR 2018 – ARE WE READY?

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

- Feb 20 General Meeting: LOCATION CHANGE: Stearns residence, 2580 Custer Drive, San Jose, CA 95124. Special Focus – POND TOUR 2018 – ARE WE READY?
- Mar 3 31st Annual San Diego Koi Club Koi Show, Del Mar Fairgrounds, San Diego, CA
- Mar 6 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Maus and Cece Stearns home. All members welcome
- Mar 20 General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Willow Glen Library Meeting Room.
- Apr 7-8 ZNA Koi Show, San Jose, CA – Wyndham Garden Hotel, San Jose, CA
- Apr 10 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Maus and Cece Stearns home. All members welcome.
- Apr 28-29 Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Park, Cupertino, CA. Volunteers Needed.
- Jun 23 - 24 AKCA and KCSD Wet Lab and Banquet, Four Seasons Hotel, San Diego, CA
-

Presidents Corner

To All members of our Illustrious Club, greetings and good tidings.

I am pleased to state that as of this writing the Mid-Winter report is rather, well, unremarkable. Aside from the lack of rain and the roller coaster temperatures it seems that the status quo remains just that. I am sure this dormancy is a gentle prelude to the coming of Spring (March 20th). However, this is a great time to prepare both mentally and actually for the oncoming temperatures increases, hungry fish, algae blooms, spawning frenzies, migrating birds and the host of other koi and pond “issue”. Now is also the time to step up to help the club with the Cherry Blossom Festival and, the main event, our Pond Tour.

While these events will unfold in short time, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge two of our club members who recently distinguished themselves and deserve a whole hearted “Thank You”. With the recent passing of Gregg Steed, owner of Cherry Hill Koi, Cal Hansen was involved on a daily basis in assisting the family with the maintenance of the facilities and koi during the transition period. Also, along with Don Chamberlain, invaluable assistance was provided to a young local Koi enthusiast, who contacted his friend Sue Edwards who reached out to Cal and Don who in turn diagnosed and treated the problems afflicting the young man’s koi. Once again, knowledge and experience along with a willingness to help another has proved gratifying to all. To Don and Cal, ‘Hats Off To You’.

Hope to see you at our house this Tuesday. Bring your ideas, enthusiasm and your willingness to participate in the Clubs upcoming events.

Maus

Water Plant of the Month – Trollius [Trollius europaeus]



Trollius europaeus grows up to 60 cm high with a bright yellow, globe-shaped flower up to 3 cm across. Each flower produces a large number of wrinkled follicles. The leaves are divided into 3–5 toothed lobes. Cultivars have glossy basal leaves, bowl –shaped orange and yellow flowers mid-spring to mid-summer. The common name of some species is globe flower.

Trollius usually grow in heavy, wet clay soils. They are mostly herbaceous perennials, produce numerous fibrous roots, with bright yellow flowers, though some have orange to lilac colored flowers. Some species are popular ornamental flowers in horticulture.

It grows in damp ground in shady areas, woodland and scrub, flowering between June and August. It is slightly poisonous and is [purgative](#) and [rubefacient](#) when used fresh.

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



“Remain in the world, act in the world, do whatsoever is needful, and yet remain transcendental, aloof, detached, a lotus flower in the pond.”



Osho, *The Secret of Secrets*

In Loving Memory – Greg Steed, Owner of Cherry Hill Water Gardens

Gregory Monroe Steed was born on December 15, 1954 in Redwood City, CA and passed away unexpectedly at the age of 63 on December 22, 2017.



Gregg lived a life full of beauty. Whether it was Rachmaninoff coming from his piano, lilies bursting from their bulbs, picturesque artwork of clouds hanging on his walls, or bright orange and yellow Koi dancing in the water, Gregg sought to find loveliness and bring it into his home and gardens. Simply walking into his gardens brought you into another world — one of beauty and simplicity. His assertiveness, loyalty, and sense of fairness brought to him the beauty of his thriving water garden business, Cherry Hill Koi & Water Gardens. His graciousness, kindness, and willingness to help brought to him the beauty of both customers and friends.

A Stanford University alumnus with a bachelor's degree in history, Gregg embraced the beauty of education and the opportunities it afforded. Traveling to Germany on an academic exchange program, he learned to love German culture. He carried his love of Germany throughout his life. If you ever had the chance to go to dinner with him, he probably took you to the German restaurant Teske's in San Jose. Gregg certainly loved good food, good beer, and good friends.

Gregg will be sorely missed by his customers, friends, and family. He is preceded in death by his father, Ernest Steed, and his eldest brother Donald Steed. He is survived by his mother, Inez Steed, sister Cherry Walsh, brother Gary Steed, and nieces Krysta Walsh-Diaz and Jennifer Knapp.

Barter, By Sara Teasdale

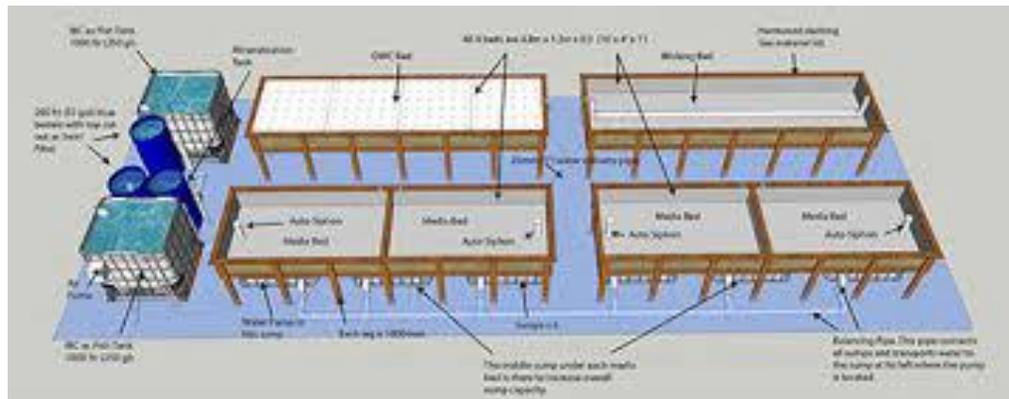
Life has loveliness to sell, All beautiful and splendid things,
Blue waves whitened on a cliff, Soaring fire that sways and sings,
And children's faces looking up, Holding wonder in a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell, Music like a curve of gold,
Scent of pine trees in the rain, Eyes that love you, arms that hold,
And for your spirit's still delight, Holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness, Buy it and never count the cost;
For one white singing hour of peace Count many a year of strife well lost,
And for a breath of ecstasy Give all you have been, or could be.

Do-It-Yourself Backyard Aquaponics Systems

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



A simple definition of Aquaponics is the combination of aquaculture (raising fish) and hydroponics (the soil-less growing of plants) that grows fish and plants together in one integrated system. The fish waste provides an organic food source for the plants, and the plants naturally filter the water for the fish.

The third participant is microbes (nitrifying bacteria). Bacteria converts ammonia from the fish waste first into nitrites, and then into nitrates. Nitrates are the form of nitrogen that plants can use to grow. Solid fish waste is turned into compost that also acts as food for the plants.

In combining both hydroponic and aquaculture systems, aquaponics capitalizes on their benefits, and eliminates the drawbacks of each.

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

Our monthly club meeting was held January 16, 2017. Our club President, Maus Stearns, opened our 1st meeting of 2018 with an overview of the calendar year ahead looking specifically at our two major events, the Cherry Blossom Festival in April and our Pond Tour in July. Pond problems were then addressed particularly predators especially the big birds reviewing habits/deterrents. We then collectively welcomed a new member who discovered the club via Facebook which was further brought to the table by our Treasurer Cece Stearns as to its addition to the club's community connection and how it is evolving nicely with the help of our Webmaster Plus, Eve Bretzke. Following was the installation of the club officers and board members. Lastly, was a brief overview by our Vice President, Mel Bretzke, of our response to the FEMA request for help to save the koi affected by the Northern Cal fires. This vital calling will be further addressed more completely at an as yet undetermined date. Closing was followed with refreshments and chat.

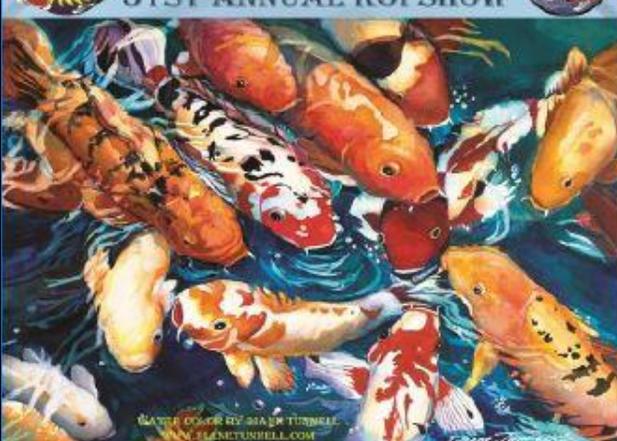
On a sad note, we shared the news of the passing of our long time member, supporter, and friend Gregg Steed, owner of Cherry Hill Water Gardens. Gregg passed away December 23rd, 2017. Gregg has been active in our club for many years and will be greatly missed by all of us. A memorial visit to Cherry Hill Water Gardens took place February 3rd, many of our members attended.

NOTE: The above report will be added to AKCA board Minutes and will be posted on AKCA website <http://www.akca.org> and click on Koi Clubs. Prepared by Diane Stelma.

Events 2018

These events are upcoming and in our general region. Happy Koi Keeping!

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June 23 & 24 **AKCA and KCSD**
Wet Lab Seminar and Banquet

- **Opportunity to learn, question and visit:**
Nick Saint-Eme, DVM
Terry Maxfield, ICHA Director
- **Banquet Speaker:**
Ben Plonski
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- **Register online:**
www.fourpointssandiegohotel.com
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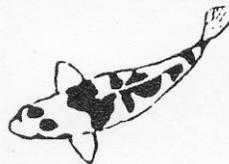
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