



Santa Clara Valley Koi & Water Garden Club Newsletter – Volume 41, Number 7, September 2025

September Newsletter 2025

General Meeting September 16th, 7:30 PM

ZNA NorCal Koi Show 2026 – Are we down? We will have a lively discussion on the upcoming 2026 Spring Koi Show season and if we want to run our own NorCal based Koi Show. Hope everyone has had a good summer season as we move into autumn.

We will have our Q&A should anyone have issues or comments about Koi Keeping, Water Gardening, or DIY aquaponics. Email info@sckoi.com at least one hour prior to meeting for Zoom meeting access. All local and regional Koi club members and friends are welcome to join us to discuss the possibilities for a 2026 Spring Koi Show in the San Jose area.



Pond Social September 20th, 1 PM - 4 PM at Sharon & Doug's in Livermore, CA.

Sharon and Doug look forward to hosting the club's Pond Social September 20th at their pond in Livermore, CA. Sharon's passion is gardening and koi. She has been gardening since very young and has had a pond of some kind for 35 years because of her interest in water lilies. She became interested in koi 12 years ago and wants to learn from the pros about basic koi care.

Their updated pond is 20 feet long and 9 feet wide and 4 feet deep with straight sides after many incidents with raccoons, every kind of heron imaginable and even a king fisher bird. Come by and check out Sharon and Doug's Pond and relax with your fellow SCVKWG members.

RSVP to <mailto:info@sckoi.com> by September 18th, space is limited.

Upcoming Events

Sep 16	General Meeting: 7:30 PM (via Zoom) - Program: ZNA NorCal Show 2026
Sep 20	Pond Social: Saturday September 20 th , 1 PM to 4 PM. Livermore, CA.
Sep 27-28	Fresno Koi Show – 2 days / Free Admission / Open to Public
Oct 21	General Meeting: 7:30 PM (via Zoom) - Program: TBA

Santa Clara Valley Koi and Watergarden Club: Started in 1984, we are a non-profit organization that provides a community for koi keepers, water gardeners, and DIY aquaponics hobbyists. We foster greater understanding and appreciation for these hobbies through our publications, community education, and regular meetups. We share knowledge in a friendly, sociable environment. We assist with Koi and pond fish rescue, care, and development of aquatic environments and are an active resource to our community. Visit our website for the latest information about events and activities at www.sckoi.com.

Presidents Corner

Hello Autumn!

Stay tuned for upcoming news for our local Koi Show in 2026 – there is an effort to bring it back and we, as a club, have been asked to assist.

We will discuss at our September 16th general meeting. This is a Zoom meeting at 7:30 PM. Email info@sckoi.com at least one hour prior to meeting time for the login credential link. We encourage local koi club members to join us if they are interested in helping organize and run the ZNA NorCal Koi show here in San Jose next year.

Annual membership drive has ended – we are updating our roster now and will share with members via email once complete. Dues help the club provide regular meetings, events, and Koi community support. Thank you to those who have renewed or are new members.

Welcome Club Members. If you are not receiving emails from the club, send your email to info@sckoi.com so we can update your current information and make sure you are getting messages about upcoming events and club activities.

The next club pond social is planned for September 20th, 1 – 4 PM in Livermore. Our hosts will be Sharon and Doug. We are looking forward to attending and enjoying the event with the membership. Thank you to those members who host events for the membership.

As always, if you have any questions about Koi, ponds, or water gardening we are available to help. Email info@sckoi.com or attend one of our meetings

Happy Koi Keeping

Eve Bretzke

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Pond 911: Keep Your Pond Oxygenated

If your koi appear sluggish, are gasping at the surface, or are experiencing unexplained deaths, low dissolved oxygen—particularly during hot weather—may be to blame. Warmer water holds less oxygen, and as temperatures rise, the demand for oxygen increases due to heightened fish activity and bacterial growth.

Maintaining healthy oxygen levels is essential for koi well-being. Adequate aeration not only supports respiration but also promotes overall water quality, creating a stable and balanced pond environment.



The Japanese proverb "Koi no taki nobori" (鯉の滝登り) literally translated as the "Koi's ascent up a waterfall", refers to overcoming seemingly impossible obstacles. Japanese carp are a symbol of "fighting spirit", and indicate perseverance, accomplishment and courage.

Koi Appreciation

There are over a hundred different varieties of Koi, each with their own unique name that describes the fish by its colors, patterns and body conformation.

Here are some Nishigoi samples; can you name some of their characteristics?



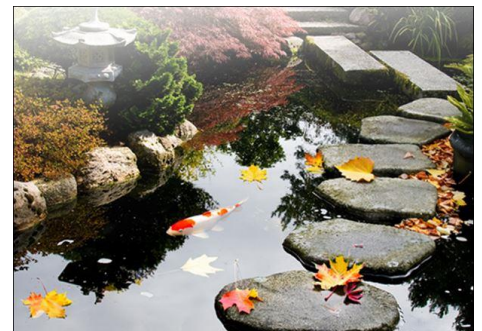
Sumi	black
Karasu	black background
Shiro	white
Hi	red
Ki	yellow
Yamabuki	pale yellow
Midori	green
Kin	gold metallic sparkle in fishes scales
Gin rin	silver metallic sparkle in fishes scales
Hikari	overall metallic luster
Nezumi	grey
Doitsu	mirror-like appearance on both sides of dorsal fin but otherwise appears scale less

Today there are millions of Koi enthusiasts around the world that share the common goal to raise happy and healthy Koi. What Nishigoi is your favorite?

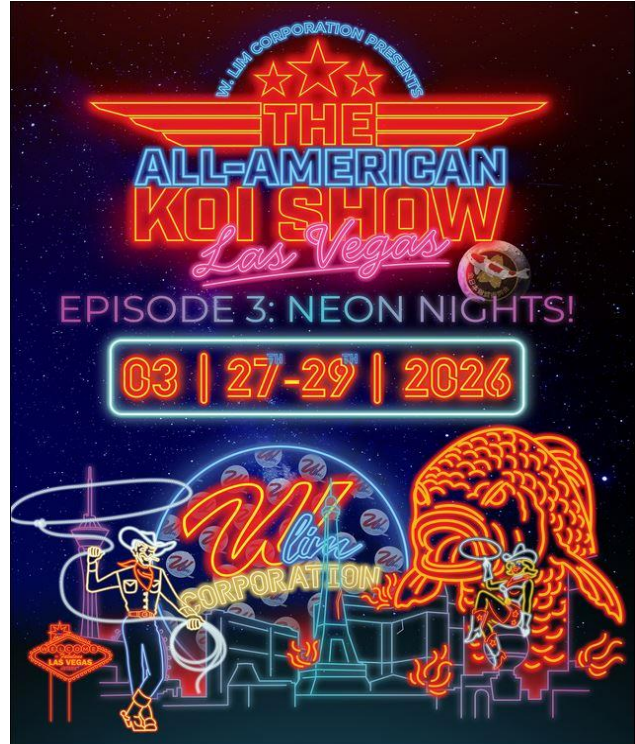
Did You Know?

As the fall season approaches, fallen leaves can quickly make their way to the bottom of the pond. Make sure to use a good pond cover net to prevent this from happening.

The fall is a great time to add aeration to your pond. It serves as additional aeration for the beneficial bacteria for enhanced gas exchange. Switch over to a wheat germ based Koi food to help build up fat reserves on your fish.



Koi Shows / Events of Interest



IWGS Members Benefits for Club Members



The IWGS international fellowship of water gardeners includes new water gardeners keen to learn, experienced water gardeners eager to share, commercial growers, hybridizers, botanical garden and university professionals, hobbyists with wide ranging experience, aquatic plant specialists, fish specialists, manufacturers of water garden products, installers and retailers, and others who appreciate the delights of water in the landscape.

The IWGS database currently comprises over 3,000 plant names, and more than 1,000 photographs, continues to grow, with new varieties being added constantly.

IWGS documents and shares knowledge of waterlilies, lotuses and other aquatic plants.

Visit www.iwgs.org for more information and images of waterlilies and water gardening.



SCVKWG club's login ID is sckoi and our login password is sanke.

Backyard Aquaponics Systems

DIY small projects / systems

Backyard aquaponics as a hobby is emerging as more people wish to experiment with it... and grow fresh food.

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

***Got an aquaponics system you want to show off?
Email info@sckoi.com.***



2025 Club Business

Can you believe we have been meeting for over 40+ years and talking about Koi ponds and water gardens? Crazy... "Koi Kitchi" ... we just love our hobby.

The club has concluded its busy summer season. Shout out to all our pond social hosts. Next scheduled events are a general meeting September 16th and Sharon & Doug's pond social Saturday, September 20th. RSVP soon... space is limited.

At our next meeting, September 16th via Zoom at 7:30 PM, we will discuss the opportunity to host a ZNA sponsored Koi Show in San Jose next March / April. The show was put on hiatus for 2025 due to organizational challenges. The regional clubs would like to support each other in our region and host a quality, adjudicated Koi show. Join us for a lively discussion, all club members of SF Bay Koi Club, ZNA NorCal, and Monterey Bay Koi Club are invited to attend. Email info@sckoi.com at least one hour prior to meeting time for login credentials.

The club's membership drive has ended. We have met our goal for membership. If you haven't sent in your dues yet, get them soon. Past members will be removed from member mailing list. To renew membership, send name with current contact email / phone # and \$50 dues to: **SCVKWG, PO Box 54368, San Jose, CA 95154**. Alternatively, you can pay dues online using Zelle. Email treasurer@sckoi.com for instructions and Zelle identifier.

We are a 501c3 Non-profit organization.

Research shows people join koi clubs hoping to get more enjoyment from their hobby. With regard to club meetings, members generally like two things best: Learning about things that can improve their enjoyment of Koi and related topics and socializing with others who enjoy the hobby.

Our Sponsors

Please support our sponsors who provide valuable products and services to our membership. While we love our sponsors SCVKWG does not endorse any business, service, or product.



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Sponsorships Available:

Rates include advertisement in the monthly club newsletter The SPLASH, on club website, plus other publications that the club may produce for one year. Current advertising term runs July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. To begin or renew an existing sponsorship contact our newsletter editor at info@sckoi.com.

Business card size	\$45 per year
Quarter page size	\$95 per year