

# VALLEY OF THE SUN



## KOI CLUB



NEWSLETTER

April 2008

Issue 4

[www.VSKC.net](http://www.VSKC.net)

**Meeting Notice: April 20<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm**

**John & Donna Kovacich**

## Presidents Message

By Corey Garrett

It's springtime and although our Koi are acting hungry, please feed with caution because our filters are not yet up to full speed. It is also a very important time to observe very carefully for any sores or any other sign of illness as the Koi become more active and so do the bacteria and parasites that have been hibernating all winter.

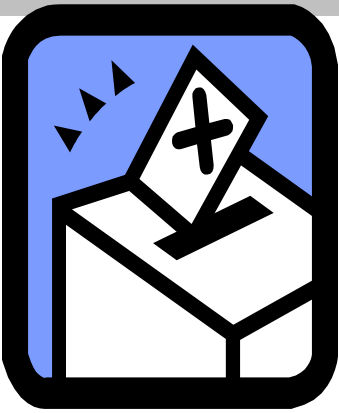
We were very busy as a club this past weekend with two big events. Thanks to everyone who came out to man the booth at the Japanese Garden this past weekend, it was a good time. And yes springtime brings out the need to the Koi Rescue team. We went out to a property in Gilbert and rescued about 60 Koi from a mud pond that was being drained.

**It's Election time, so we need all members to attend the meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup> so that we have a quorum.** We have several positions up for grabs. Hope to see you all there.

## Ask Bryan:

**Question:** Why is Koi pond water quality so important?

**Answer:** Koi are big fish. They are easily the biggest fish that can be kept as a hobby. They are also ravenous and fast growing fish. Koi eat just about anything and everything. And they excrete a lot of ammonia. In fact, produce more waste material Koi (ammonia) than other fish of equivalent size. But just because they're 'water pigs' doesn't mean that Koi can live in the equivalent of a pigsty. Yes, they are tough as far as fish go, but you must understand that 'tough' is relative. Fish are "open systems". This means that they are composed of the same water that they swim in. Nutrients, chemical compounds, oxygen, water; mineral salts, trace elements, ammonia, nitrites and so forth are all as integral a part of the pond as they are the Koi themselves. In other words Koi are constantly, continuously exchanging substances all the time with their pond water. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. You get the picture. Good Water equals healthy koi.



# IT IS ELECTION TIME

At the meeting in April we need to elect\* several positions.

**Open for nominations are:**

- President
- Secretary
- Member at large
- EX –Officco Member at Large (up to 3 positions)
- AKCA 2007-2008 Koi Person Of The Year.

•\*Our bylaws state: Section B – A Board of Directors must be dually qualified member and maintain a paid membership for twelve (12) consecutive months prior to the election or appointment. Except, the Member At Large must be dually qualified. Except the EX –Officco Member at Large must have held a minimum of three (3) positions on the BODs or as an Officer, must be dually qualified member, and maintain paid membership for ten (10) years (need not be consecutive) prior to election.

•See [www.VSKC.net](http://www.VSKC.net) for a complete set of By Laws.

•Contact Donna \_\_\_\_\_ , Robbi \_\_\_\_\_ or Bryan for nominations.

You can nominate yourself or someone else. The nominee must agree to go on the ballot.

## Club Officers and Points of Contact:

PRESIDENT – COREY GARRETT	480-837-8078
SECRETARY - DONNA KOVACICH	
FINANCE & NEW MEMBERSHIP - DEREK TANG	DEREKMTANG@HOTMAIL.COM
AKCA REPRESENTATIVE - DAVID YEE	DAVID.YEE@GDC4S.COM
WEBMASTER- DENNIS BEARD	VSKC_CODER@COX.NET
NEWSLETTER EDITOR – MEYA COX	MEYACOX@COX.NET
ASK BRYAN - BRYAN MCCLENEY	BMCCLENEY@MCAZSCHOOLS.ORG

## The Mission Statement:

"To educate, inform and promote the hobby of keeping, appreciating, breeding and exhibiting Koi"

For all of the members, the club is an experienced resource that will allow each and every member to learn, understand and enjoy the hobby. Our focus is educational with a strong orientation toward information sharing, problem solving, and fellowship.

## About the Club:

The Valley of the Sun Koi is an educational group of Koi enthusiasts serving the greater Phoenix area. The club has approximately 75 active members from throughout the Valley of the Sun and the surrounding areas.

Our meetings are normally held the third Sunday of each month, September through May with no meetings scheduled during the Summer Season. The monthly meetings begin at 1:30 PM at a different member's home to view their pond(s). The formal business and educational meeting begins at 2:00 PM with a brief club business review followed by an educational session where both in club and out of club topic specialists discuss the various aspects of Koi; from pond construction, to health maintenance, to disease prevention and treatment, to algae control, to...well, you name it!

# Upcoming Events:

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA KOI ASSOCIATION**  
**POND TOUR 2008**

VISIT WATER GARDENS, KOI PONDS & WATER FEATURES  
**MAY 3rd and 4th**  
SATURDAY 10AM - 5PM  
Saturday Evening 7PM - 10PM  
SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM

**17 PONDS IN THE Greater TUCSON AREA**  
Visit These Ponds and Vote for the Peoples Choice Award

**TICKETS AVAILABLE HERE**  
**TICKETS ADULT \$5.00**  
CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

Information call Debbie: (520) 275-4510  
or  
[www.sakoia.org](http://www.sakoia.org)

Thinking of building a pond? Do you have one already and want to learn more? Become a member of the Southern Arizona Koi Association when you are on the tour.

  
www.akca.org

## 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SEMINAR

JUNE 26-29, 2008

*Begin your summer vacation in Jacksonville*  
Where Florida Begins.

AKCA • Florida Style • A River of Koi 2008



  
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville  
(904) 588-1234  
[www.jacksonville.hyatt.com](http://www.jacksonville.hyatt.com)

  
Hosted by the North Florida Koi Club  
[www.nfkc.info](http://www.nfkc.info)  
contact Jan Brown (904) 269-2504  
[davisbrown1@juno.com](mailto:davisbrown1@juno.com)

# March 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes:

Valley of the Sun Koi Club Minutes  
Minutes for March 16, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm by President Corey Garrett and we were the guest of Karen Venezuela. We did not have a very good showing. We hope more of you will come to the meetings. We did have a new member join us.

Derek Tang gave us the Treasurer's report. It was quite a bit of information because of the Koi and Goldfish Show. Derek informed us we did not lose money on our yearly endeavor. The Treasurer's report was 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and accepted.

Dennis Beard our web master, reported we were running out of space on our web site. He asked to increase the space for less than double what we are paying now. His request was 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and accepted.

Donna Kovacich gave a very short report on the meeting we had at the Koi and Goldfish show. We really didn't have a formal meeting but we were all there.

The Minutes were 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and accepted.

Bryan McCleney brought up again the need to purchase a trailer for our fish tanks that are located in Tucson. We would also need a bigger area to store the trailer. We asked Corey to check into the cost of a trailer and Donna to check into the cost of getting a storage unit at 15 feet x 10 feet. We talked about the need for more fishnets. We were using the same nets for all fish and even through we were dipping in cleaning solution, we really should have a fish net for each tub. We discuss the loss of fish (stolen) we are going to need more members to guard the fish 24 hours a day. Just be more diligent. We also need a more structure security for the children who come through on Friday at the show. We had a lot of children trying to touch the fish and throwing items into the water. Donna asked that a committee be put together to do a debriefing and start on plans for next year. Corey said he would give it some thought and we would discuss next meeting.

Bryan McCleney asked for volunteers to man our booth at the Japanese Friendship Garden on April 5, 2008. Frank and Ursula will take the early morning and setup, Karen and Donna will take the middle of the day and Bryan and Robbi will take the end and close down.

The meeting ended around 3:30.

Submitted by: Donna Kovacich, Secretary

# Friends of the Club: Support our Supporters!



**Arizona Specialty Coatings** at 623-780-3336 or [www.azpolyurea.com](http://www.azpolyurea.com) does spray on pond liners. This can be used for new builds or repairs. This product can be used in many non-pond applications. Think outside the pond!



**CTK Quality Pond Products** at 623-907-5505 or [CTKqualityponds@cox.net](mailto:CTKqualityponds@cox.net) is owned and operated by Brain, manufactures filters and pumps, builds, designs and performs pond repair. He and his father also manufacture Koi food sold at about \$3 a pound in bulk. You can customer order Koi from Japan and he can provide advise on ill Koi.



**At Pond Perfecter**, we know that our customers want their experience to be convenient and efficient. Our goal has always been to provide our customers with the highest quality workmanship. They also require a wide selection of services and knowledge about all aspects of water features, fish and aquatic plants from us. To meet these needs, we provide our customers with the following:

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- Supplies Maintenance & Repair Service



**Koi Nations** at [www.koinations.com](http://www.koinations.com) is the newest magazine on the hobby of Koi. Club members receive a subscription discount. It's like nothing you have ever seen... don't miss out! If you have not subscribed, you can get all 6 of the first issues of Koi Nations for a special VSCK price of \$30.00 (But don't tell Michael I gave you that price ☺)

## Interesting Art:



The club members get a 25% discount on any Water Lily sculpture. The metal in my sculptures are sealed with a clear coat that is heat set. This will prevent leaching or oxidizing of the copper into the water. It will also prevent the metal from tarnishing.

Water Lilly Art by Robert Howard  
Colorado Wind Sculptures  
Ph: 970-225-0083

[www.coloradowindsulptures.com](http://www.coloradowindsulptures.com)

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**For Sale:** Get your **2008 Valley of the Sun Koi Club Shirt**- Limited Edition – very few left from the show: Black with VSKS logo. \$20.00 each Contact Donna at before they are all gone!

***FORMER CLUB member is leaving the hobby,*** Don Wolf 480-643-9071

1) Set up for 10,000 gallon pond (Aqua Bead (up graded beads) filter, pump, UV and air pump \$2,000

2) 400 gallon quarantine tank with pump & UV \$400

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**www.Mazuri.com**

# Membership Information:

Listed are the dues current memberships. *After May all dues must be current to continue to receive the newsletter and membership benefits.* Please contact Derek Tang if you have any questions. Many memberships will expire in June 2008. Remember? We started January 1 to December 31<sup>st</sup> membership and allowed overlap this year to keep everyone even.

Valley Of The Sun Koi Club  
C/O Derek Tang

Chandler , AZ 85224

Or you may phone Derek at or email

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- Ayers Tom
- Beard Dennis
- Beloat Bradley
- Campisi Marty
- Chantemerle Don
- Chin Glen
- Cox Michael Meya
- Darby Tom
- Dickinson Jennifer Simon
- Dudgeon David Dorothy
- Grant Arne
- Garrett Cathy Corey
- Kovacich John Donna
- Labounty Ed
- Lo Anna Shik
- McCleney Bryan, Robbi
- Nestlerode Barry
- Pritchard Steve Nikki
- Shaw Noel
- Shelper Bob
- Stackhouse Jim Gena
- Still Patrick
- Tang Derek
- Tang John Tellyen
- Tarasova Olga
- Troutman Don
- Yee David Stephanie
- Valdez Frank Ursula
- Valenzuela Karen
- Ures Gary
- Long Gary
- Parekh Sameer
- Huntington Zach Iwalani
- David Russell
- Del Carlo Steven



# Japanese Friendship Garden's Kids Day

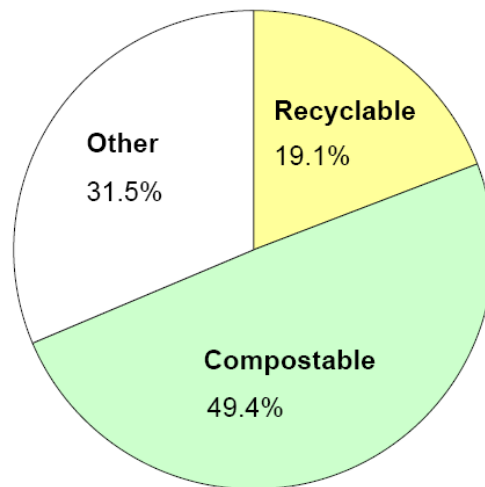
Donna, Karan, Bryan, Frank, Ursula and Robbi spent their Saturday manning our booth in support of the Japanese Gardens. We always need volunteers to help out. Contact any of us to sign up for any of our events.



Karstan flying a kite she made and clog racing. Her team made it to the finals. Their clog got stuck in the grass and they came in second.

**REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE** The City of Phoenix is asking us to stop using the plastic bags we commonly use when shopping. They CAN NOT be recycled. Instead use a **reusable** bag! They have provided us reusable canvas tote bags! *The first 24 families that come to the April meeting will receive this tote bag*

Phoenix homes still put over 19% of recyclable material and over 49% compostable material in the waste can.



## PLASTIC DON'TS

No plastic bags of any kind with or without a recycling symbol.

**No pool chemical/household hazardous waste containers.**

No foam peanuts or bubble wrap. To find out where to drop-off used packing peanuts for reuse [www.phoenix.gov](http://www.phoenix.gov)

No plastics with code symbols of:

#3 V=vinyl such as candy containers, PVC piping or shoes

#4 LDPE = low density polyethylene such as plastic lids or tubs like those for whipped cream or butter

#5 PP = polypropylene such as plastic utensils and straws

#7 Other- such as toys, envelopes, candy wrappers, etc

**REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE-lets us use our land for more than a land fill!**





**Valley Of The Sun Koi Club**  
**2427 S. Gaucho Drive**  
**Mesa, AZ 85202**

To: