

VALLEY OF THE SUN KOI CLUB



NEWSLETTER
Feb 2009
Issue 2

www.vskc.net

Editor:
Sue Beard

Meeting Notice: Feb 15th
Tom Darby's House

President's Message

By Bryan McCleney

February is a busy month and you have many activities to choose from. Our main fund raiser for this year is the koi auction on Sunday February 8th at the Chinese New Year Festival. The auction starts at noon, and we really use your support from 11:00 to the end of the auction and tear down. We will set up Friday night and have a booth there Saturday to discuss koi, our club, and in addition we will be selling koi prior to the auction for those that would rather pay a set price as opposed to competing for the koi on Sunday. AKCA has the national seminar in San Diego 12-15 and we have a special treat by having Tom Darby open his home for us on Sunday the 15th of February for our monthly koi club meeting. I have had the opportunity to see Tom's pond a few times, and it is an amazing pond with a viewing window and a fully automated operation. Do not miss viewing his pond. Remember as discussed at last month's meeting you need to start paying really close attention to your koi, and make sure your pond is as clean as possible. Your bio filter starts to have difficulty kicking in with the koi load as the weather goes from cold to hot to warm to cool etc. Remember if you have issues with your pond please contact our Koi Health Advisor through our web site. We hope to see you this weekend. Please join us.

Business Note:

If you want an item placed on the meeting or board agenda please contact Bryan McCleney at 602-989-3966 or president@vskc.net prior to the meeting on January 18th.

Directions to Tom Darby's House

Instructions for those without World Wide Web access.

WWW.VSKC.NET 101

- Do you have any suggestions?

Below in the club officer table, you will see that our Board of Directors and Club Officers now have vskc.net domain e-mail addresses. These are alias accounts, in that they do not have to log in to get any mail that you may send to their e-mail alias accounts. The message is automatically forwarded on to their actual e-mail accounts with you as the sender.

Questions or comments about the website:

webmaster@vskc.net (Yep, webmaster is an alias account!)

VSKC Officers

PRESIDENT	BRYAN McCLENNEY	president@vskc.net
SECRETARY	NIKKI PRITCHARD	secretary@vskc.net
FINANCE & NEW MEMBERSHIP	DEREK TANG	treasurer@vskc.net
AKCA REPRESENTATIVE	DAVID YEE	akcarep@vskc.net
WEBMASTER	DENNIS BEARD	webmaster@vskc.net
MEMBER AT LARGE	TOM AYERS	mal@vskc.net
EX-OFFICCO MEMBERS AT LARGE	ROBBIE McCLENNEY CORREY GARRETT	exoff1@vskc.net exoff2@vskc.net
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	SUE BEARD	editor@vskc.net

Membership Information



It is a new year. Please renew your membership. Contact Derek at:

**Valley Of The Sun Koi Club
Derek Tang**

**Phone Derek at (480) 699-7586
Email treasurer@vskc.net**

Membership dues are calendar year basis.

Support our Supporters!



CTK Quality Pond Products, at 623-907-5505 or e-mail CTKqualityponds@cox.net, is owned by Brian Connelly. He 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. 10% club member discounts!

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Future Events!

AKCA National Seminar will be in San Diego February 11-15, 2009.

For those of you who like to see ponds, Southern Arizona Koi Association (SAKA) has an annual pond tour the first weekend in May. They have a \$5 per person charge to cover printing the maps. Debbie Shaw is the tour coordinator.

The September meeting is going to be up North. Take a trip up to Sedona and see the great mountain views. We will be meeting at Don Troutman's home and place of business. Look forward to a MapQuest link in August to help you find his place. It will start from I-17 & 101.

ASK BRYAN

Question: I would like to buy some koi at the auction and I am a club member, can I do that?

Answer: Yes you can buy koi at the auction. My advice is to show up Saturday and look carefully at all the koi and decide what koi you would like to bid on. If you feel that there is a particular koi you just absolutely want in your collection then buy it Saturday. During the auction you can purchase koi as you are working. As the koi you want comes up for bid just stop working and start bidding on your fish. The most important advice I can give you is quarantine your new koi with about 0.3% salt (Non-iodized salt at 3 teaspoons per gallon). Most of the koi have been in our rescue tank from 4-10 months and we recently took in some koi from Corey and Tom. All koi have "bugs" but not all koi have the same "bugs". You will want to quarantine the koi to make sure that they are healthy and that your pond is prepared to handle the additional koi load. When your water is consistently around 70 degrees chances are your filter is running full max. However if the koi in the quarantine tank are acting funny or have a problem do not mix them with your other koi.

In the future if you are purchasing Koi at an on-line auction, I would identify the koi you would like and look as closely as possible for its strengths, weaknesses, and what I imagine it will look like in the future. Then formulize a price you are willing to pay before bidding. Be careful, the thrill of winning can overshadow the true value of the koi. Remember there is always another koi for sale on another day.

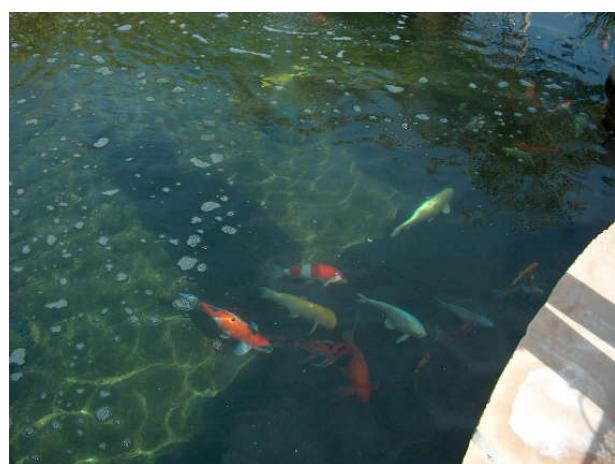
I would follow this up with a diet of cheerios and Mandu-Fu. If your water is consistently below 50 degrees you should stop feeding unless you decide to feed Manda-Fu. Most koi hobbyists stop feeding their koi or feed once or twice a week at the most.

Of course you can beat Mother Nature by bringing your koi inside or by heating your pond. The good news is if you live in the Phoenix area, our winters are not very long, and you don't have to shovel snow or break the ice on top of your pond.

Pictures!



Jim, Gena, & Jessica Stackhouse



Have you been to Koi Nations web site recently? They have changed the layout and have added a sign in forum!

The image shows a promotional graphic for Koi Nations. At the top, the word "KOI" is written in large, gold-colored letters with a drop shadow. Below it, "NATIONS" is written in a smaller, gold-colored sans-serif font. Underneath "NATIONS", the words "NORTH", "SOUTH", "EAST", and "WEST" are separated by small white dots. In the center, the word "A" is positioned above "NEW" in a large, gold-colored serif font. To the right of "NEW", there is a vertical strip containing a close-up photograph of a koi fish's scales, transitioning from white to orange. To the left of "NEW", there is another vertical strip showing a person holding a large, patterned koi fish. Below the main text, the website "www.KOINATIONS.COM" and phone number "(480) 987-8600" are displayed in a smaller, gold-colored font. At the bottom left, the text "SUBSCRIBE TODAY!" is written in a gold-colored, italicized serif font. The background of the entire graphic is black.

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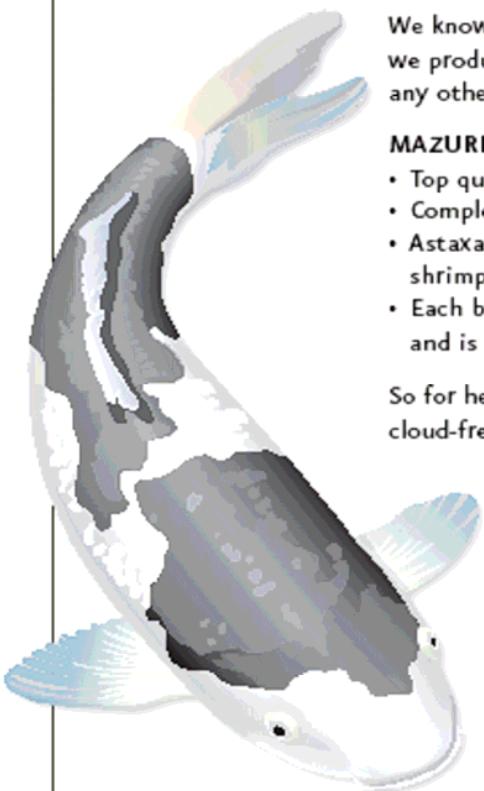
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**Valley Of The Sun Koi
Club 2427 S. Gaucho
Drive Mesa, AZ 85202**

To: