

VALLEY OF THE SUN



KOI CLUB



Newsletter: Dec 2009, Issue 8, www.vskc.net Editor: Sue Beard

Meeting Notice:

December 20th

Holiday Party @ Bryan and Robbi McCleney

2427 S Gaucho Dr, Mesa, AZ

Please RSVP with number and dish for six.
602-502-7125 or e-mail: rmccleney@cox.net

President's Message By Bryan McCleney

If you were not able to make it to the SAKA show in Tucson in November you missed a wonderful show with over 160 Koi on display. Many thanks to Karen Valenzuela, Tom and Harrison Darby, Tom Ayers as club members who were able to show their koi along with my wife and I in Tucson. We hope that you can put on your calendar our upcoming events. Our annual holiday meeting is in December, Koi Health Event and Wet Lab in January and the Chinese New Year Celebration and Koi Auction in February. You have only a short time left to order a microscope for the holiday. Please also support the vendors who support our club when asking Santa for those stocking stuffers.

Business Note:

If you want an item placed on the meeting or board agenda please contact Bryan McCleney at 602-989-3966 or bmccleney@pvesd.org prior to the meeting on December 20th.

Directions to McCleney's, 2427 S Gaucho Dr, Mesa, AZ

For those without World Wide Web access.

Travel south on Dobson Rd from US 60 in Mesa (in Dobson Ranch). Turn west on Keating to El Dorado (4 way stop) then turn right or North. Continue straight to Monte turn right or east. Monte turns left into Gaucho. They are the middle house on the curve. Roads start & stop in Dobson Ranch. You will pass a Gaucho before Monte. DO NOT TURN at this Gaucho turn at the second Gaucho.

Koi Trouble? Pond Trouble? Sick Fish?

Contact our VSKC Koi Health advisors:

Megan Yee: kha1@vskc.net or **Nikki Pritchard:** kha2@vskc.net

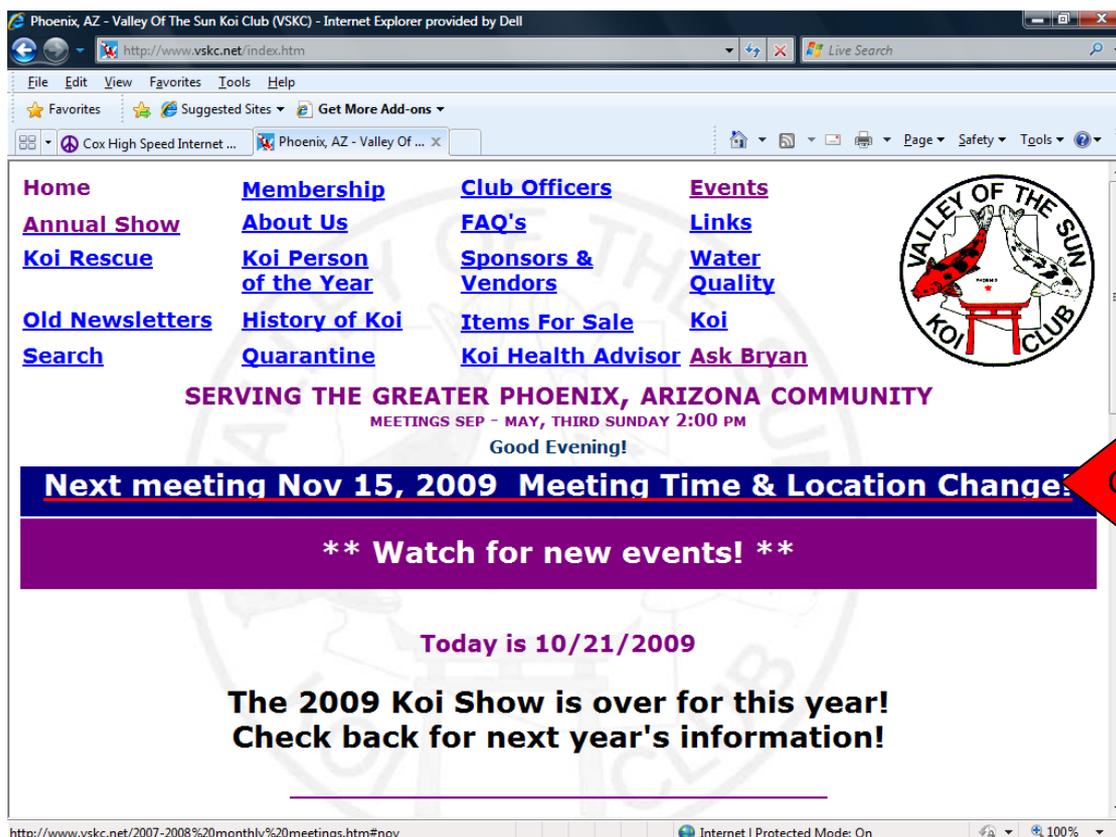
WWW.VSKC.NET 101

By Dennis Beard, Webmaster

MapQuest: Street, Aerial, and Traffic Maps

Webmaster provides coded links to addresses that are zoomed in for the best detail: MapQuest has a road network and an Aerial Map - satellite view. Sometimes a satellite view has more detail of the road network and features, but it may not have all of the street names. MapQuest also provides a tab "**Traffic**" that reveals construction sites AND delay information. You can zoom in or out and move around either road or aerial maps to determine how you would navigate to the location. Or, there is an option where you can obtain written directions from the MapQuest site by adding your home address. If the instructions are backwards there is a button that reverses the travel directions.

Questions? Contact webmaster@vskc.net



Want to know about the next meeting? Go to the www.vskc.net home page! Follow the link to the Monthly Meeting page – Date, Additional Info, Location. You can use the Events link also!

VSKC Officers

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VICE PRESIDENT	MICHAEL COX	vicepres@vskc.net
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MEMBERS AT LARGE	CORREY GARRETT	exoff2@vskc.net
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	SUE BEARD	editor@vskc.net

ASK BRYAN

Question: Now that we are having cooler weather, should I do anything different with my pond?

Answer: My thought process on winter koi care in Arizona is not much different than in most other places in the country and it also depends on where you live in Arizona. It is much cooler in Northern Arizona than the Southern portion. I recommend that you monitor your water temperature and observe your koi daily. Once your pond water drops below 50 degrees I would recommend stop feeding your koi. When the temperature drops below 43 degrees your koi they will stop eating entirely. As your water continues to cool Koi tend to gravitate to one another and lie huddled together at the bottom of the pond with all their fins clamped tightly against their bodies. This conserves body heat, which is important during the winter season. Once temperatures really drop, down in the 43 degree Fahrenheit range, Koi tend to go into what is described by some as minimal type state. Their senses such as smell and taste are completely inactive but they can still see and respond to some external stimulation, such as touch, or water movement below the surface. No matter where you live in Arizona I would not turn off your pumps and filters. Your filtration system will not work as effectively during the colder winter months, as the friendly bacteria in your filter will die off to some degree and will not reproduce so easily. However, your fish are still producing ammonia and it is vital that your filtration system is still functioning to keep your water quality in an ideal condition. If you have a water fall I would bypass the water fall and shut it down. Koi stay healthier and have less health issues in a stable environment, and the more stable the environment the better off your koi will be. Waterfalls have a tendency to act as a super cooler and will actually make your water colder and in addition will push the cooler water towards the bottom of your pond and may create, based on the ambient temperature, a larger shift in the water temperature during a one day cycle. While usually heat rises and cold stays low, the opposite happens when water freezes. The surface freezes, and warmer water settles to the bottom, which is what allows the Koi to survive. Shallow ponds have a more difficult time keeping the water temperature stable because when the weather changes water temperatures may fluctuate quickly. Finally you can choose to heat your pond in the winter and there are commercial heaters specifically designed for ponds that you can choose.

Membership **Information**



**Not sure what year your membership expires?
Contact Derek at:**

**Valley Of The Sun Koi Club
C/O Derek Tang
2331 W. Binner Drive
Chandler, AZ 85224
Phone Derek at (480) 699-7586
Email derekmtang@hotmail.com**

Membership dues are calendar year basis.

Future Events!

January is the Koi Health Wet Lab – DVM Nicholas Saint-Erne.

February is the Chinese Cultural Center Festival and Koi Auction.

Lucy Ross will host the February Meeting.

March is at Corey and Cathy Garrett's.

April Open Koi Show at Margaret T Hance Park.

April meeting will be at Arne and Liz Grant's home.

The Stackhouse's will host May.

Support our Supporters!



CTK Quality Pond Products, LLC, at 602-214-5135 or e-mail CTKqualityponds@cox.net is owned and operated by Brian Connelly. 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 advice on ill Koi. 10% club member discounts!

<http://www.ckkponds.com>

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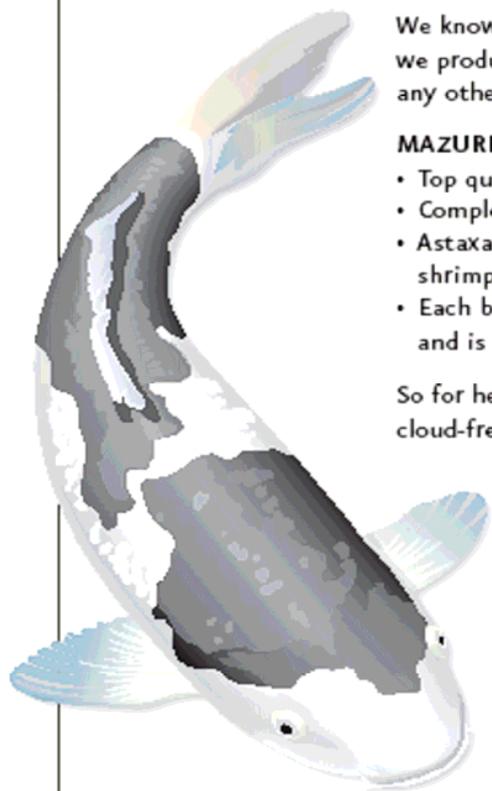


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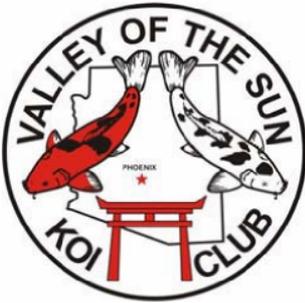
Koi Health Event and Wet Lab

January 17th will be the meeting for Valley of the Sun Koi Club, but it will be a four hour educational meeting. It will start at 12:30 pm at the **YEE-FUNG-TOY ASSOCIATION, 3040 North 16th Street, vicinity (16th Street & Thomas Rd), Phoenix, AZ.** The first hour will be about diseases. The second hour will be diagnosis. The last two will be a wet lab. Our principle instructor will be Nicholas Saint-Erne, DVM. His presentations will be similar to the Koi Health Advisor presentation.

We need to know if you will attend this meeting, so please e-mail webmaster@vskc.net of your desire to attend. We need to set up tables and chairs. Any volunteers to help with set up will be appreciated.

Some members will be purchasing a microscope for this event and others will bring their own. If you wish to purchase a microscope, we have secured a quality scope with four object lens with magnifications totaling 40x, 100x, 400x and 1000x. The scope will only have one eye piece, but it will have an adjustable stage. The stage is where the microscope slide is placed. It has halogen illumination and comes with an extra bulb. The scope carries a five year warranty. A group purchase has lowered the price of the scope to \$170.00 USD. The shipping, handling, and insurance is \$24.98 for the scope and will be shipped to the individual's home address. However there is one problem, the scope does not come with slides or coverslips. A separate purchase of a slide set is being made. The set has twelve standard slides, two concavity slides, a box of 100 slide coverslips and a plastic carrying case. The Beard's will have the slide sets sent to their home. Members making this purchase of microscope and slides need to make their checks totaling \$200.00 made payable to "Valley of the Sun Koi Club" and either pass their check or money to Derek Tang our Treasurer at the December meeting **or** mail it to his home address (see membership above) to arrive by December 30, 2009. Actual scope purchase will be on Jan 4, 2010.

Members need to provide their own food and drink as NO snacks will be provided at this Koi Health Event.



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

To: