

Valley of the Sun Koi Club, Inc.

An Arizona Non-Profit Corporation

Newsletter: Feb 2010, Issue 2,

www.vskc.net Editor: Sue Beard

February 21st – 2:00 pm meeting

Lucy Ross's Home

President's Message

By Bryan McCleney

January's Koi health and wet lab was a wonderful experience for club members and friends. I really want to say thanks to Dr. Saint-Erne for teaching the course along with the behind the scene logistics by Dennis Beard and David Yee. The idea for having the lab was from club member Don Troutman last year. It took a year to prepare the course. Speaking of preparing, Arne and Ed are working with the Japanese Friendship Garden on our annual show the first weekend of April. Please mark your calendars to prepare your koi to show. We have two of the founding AKCA judges at our show this year. I want to make sure we make them work hard at viewing all the wonderful koi we have in Arizona. In order to continue to provide value to our club members and the community we need to raise money. We really need your help February 13th and 14th. Yes I know it is a three day weekend but it is our club's major fund raiser for the year. The auction supports the cost of the training, helps the club have the inventory of items required to put in a top notch show, and keeps our annual dues to a minimal cost. On Friday evening February 12th we will set up tanks at the COFCO Center off 44th Street and the 202. On Saturday the 13th we need club members to be at our both to answer questions about koi, koi ponds, and promote our club and show in April. On Sunday the 14th we need club members to promote the club and others to assist with the koi auction. The auction starts a noon. If you have koi to donate to the auction please bring them down Saturday or Sunday morning. April is just around the corner to buy new wet pets. In my own pond I have only so much space, and I love watching how koi and change as they get older. I have to let some go to others so that I can create the space required for new koi. I have learned to have a better eye for koi by attending shows, showing, visiting other ponds, and buying koi over many years. The years take care of themselves, showing and buying takes effort. But it is well worth the effort.

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 February 21st.

When contacting Koi USA magazine to renew your subscription or AKCA, please use the full name of the club "Valley of the Sun Koi Club, Inc." and not the abbreviation VSKC.

For all regardless of World Wide Web access.

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

Webmaster has added two new FAQs to the web site.
2010 Koi Show Tank and Banquet Reservation Form available:
http://www.vskc.net/annual_koi_show2010.htm

Questions? Contact webmaster@vskc.net

VSKC Officers

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ASK BRYAN

<http://www.vskc.net/askbryan.htm>

Question: What determines if a filter is "gravity" or "pressurized"?

Answer: There are different types of filters you can purchase or make for your koi pond. The question you need to determine is if you want to push or pull water?

Most ponds that push water have a pressurized filter, similar to a swimming pool filter. Between your pond (body of water) and your filter container is a pump that will take the water from your pond and push it through your filter and then back to your pond. If your filter was not a closed container, chances are the water would spill or pour out the top instead of going through a pipe back to your pond which would be a problem. Your filter would need to be a closed system, water tight, that would only allow the water to be pushed back to your pond through a pipe. In a closed system and you are pushing lots of water through a small container then through pipes. Pressure builds up in the container and the filters are designed to handle the pressure. These are often bead or other media biological filters.

In a gravity system you are pulling water. You have your pond (a body of water) followed by a pump that pulls the water. There may be a filter container (a second body of water), square or round, that holds water before the pump. In this first case, the water in the filter container is at the same height as the pond (not lower, or higher). When water is pulled from the filter by the pump it is replaced by the force of gravity from your pond. These are often vortex settlement filters. In the second case, there may be an open container after the pump (waterfall or trickle filter containers) that is above the pond level and uses gravity to flow the water back into your pond. The pump lifts the water to the higher level. You have to know the "liquid head lift" of the pump is larger than the height of your waterfall or trickle filter.

Both systems work. It is a matter of what you want, where you plan on placing your filter, and space. Pressurized systems are usually easier to install for a DIY project and provide flexibility. Gravity feed systems usually require less energy to operate but occupy more space.

I like both and use both. In my personal pond I have gravity filters, then my pumps, followed by pressurized filters. I had lots of space when building my pond.

Membership **Information**



**It is February, so time to renew memberships?
Contact Derek at:**

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

Membership dues \$20 are calendar year basis.

Future Events!

February 12-14 is the Chinese Cultural Center Festival and Koi Auction.

Lucy Ross will host the February 21st Meeting.

March 21st is at Corey and Cathy Garrett's.

April 2-4 Open Koi Show at Margaret T Hance Park.

April 18 meeting will be at Arne and Liz Grant's home.

The Stackhouse's will host May 16th meeting.

The 2010 AKCA Seminar May 19-23, 2010 - Millenium Maxwell House Hotel, Nashville, TN. The room rate is \$129, if reservation are made by 4/28/10. Call 800-457-4460

<http://www.vskc.net/2007-2008%20monthly%20meetings.htm>

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.cktponds.com>

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Chinese New Year's Festival and Fish Auction – H E L P needed

February 12 - Volunteers needed to help set up – fill tanks

February 13 - Booth monitors to answer questions 9:00 am to 5 pm

February 14 - Auction at 12:00 noon. Volunteers needed to help tear down and empty tanks after the auction. Contact Bryan or Robbi McCleney

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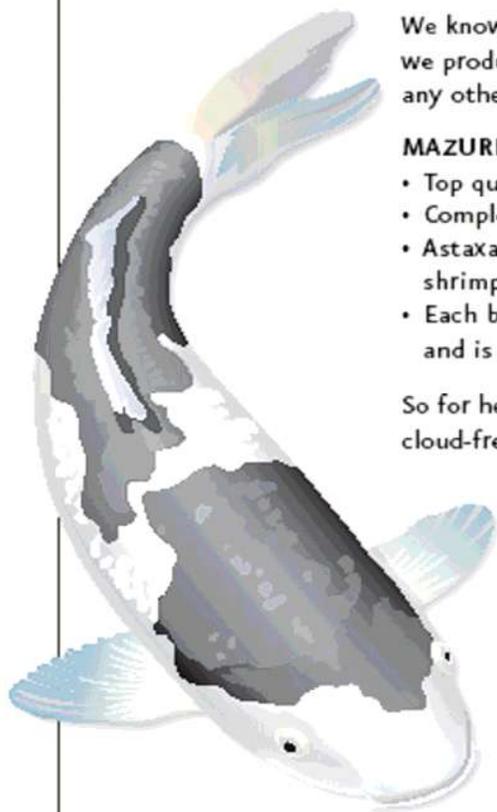


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To: