

# ZNA Potomac News

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## Presidents Message

All,

The show is approaching and volunteers are still needed. Many of you have already offered to help or to chair various committees, however, we still have areas where your assistance is needed. Please call me to volunteer for either Thursday set-up; Friday benching, registering, or vendor assistance; Saturday raffle assistance, seminar set-ups, club booth management, helping with bowling fish for the judges, or reception set-up/decorations; Sunday tank discussions; or Monday tear downs and packing. As you can see there is plenty of room for every member and friends.

We are already receiving reservations for tanks, so send yours in early. I will be assigning tanks as I receive the forms and when the tanks are gone I will close the registration. Do not be left out of what looks to be a very nice show.

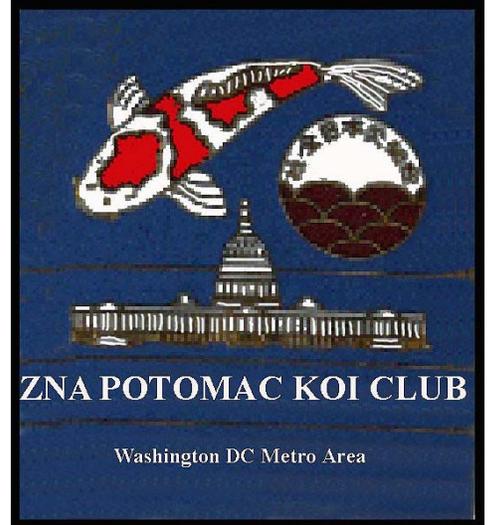
The vendors are also confirming their participation at the show. Make sure that you visit the vendor displays and support them. We could not have a successful show without there continued support. Come early on Friday and purchase fish from the vendors for the show, so you only have to transport home. This eliminates the worry of catching and bagging the fish in your ponds.

We had a very productive meeting on July 15. Many items were discussed and decisions made about the show. A very informative discussion was held about advertising for the show. If you are a member of a Home Owners Association, civic club, or church which generates a newsletter, please see if they will include an announcement about the show for free. The more we let people know about the show, the better the attendance.

I may have mentioned before, but the trophies for the show are available for sponsors. Consider donating to the club by sponsoring a trophy for your favorite category, size, or champion. You can do this honoring someone, in memory of someone, or for your favorite fish. Every little bit helps the club and the hobby. Thanks again to everyone who has and intends to volunteer.

See you at the Poppe's on August 26th!

Together we make a difference!  
Mike



Feed 'em by hand.



Hand feeding with a spoon!!  
Photo by Joe Devera



Koi can easily be trained to hand feed.

**NEXT Meeting is August 26, 2007 2pm at the Poppe's house! See page 7 for directions.**

## How to: Picking up a shipment of koi

Ok so you searched all the koi shops in the area and you just can't find the koi you want. What to do? Well there are other options. One of them is to wait until your local koi shop has more koi to choose from *or* you could go online and buy koi from eBay (not recommended) or many of the regular koi shops that have photos of koi you can buy online. This is not an article to help you choose koi on online but an article to help you along after you have done so. Here is a few pointers anyway: Photos can be manipulated so it's a good idea to know what to look for. It's a good idea to only buy from dealers you have purchased from in the past (at shows etc). Generally they know if you are a repeat customer (let them know just to be sure) so they will not want to risk your business by not being upfront with you on your koi selections. I have koi friends all over the world so if I am buying from a dealer I have never done business with before I usually can find someone that has. Better yet sometimes I will have them go take a look at the koi I want to buy in person so I get an unbiased review. So lets say you've done all that and you've made the deal and bought the koi. Now they need to get shipped. Most dealers will NOT ship the koi directly to your door. Too many chances of Fedex or UPS messing up and your koi get lost in the mail and die. Generally they use something like Delta Dash. They will take your box to the airport near them and put it on a plane and it will then arrive at an airport near you where you will pick it up. This IS in my opinion the best way to do it! So lets go over the steps to successfully picking up your new koi from the airport.

1. Get your quarantine tank ready well in advance. Yes all koi come with parasites free of charge so it is important to QT them before releasing them into your pond (even if you buy them locally!)
2. When you buy your koi be sure to pay for shipping in ADVANCE. You do not want to mess with paying for shipping at the airport.
3. Check what time the shipping office closes. The Delta office at Dulles closes at 9pm. It generally takes 30 minutes to an hour for your koi to get there from the time the plane actually lands so make sure your flight comes in well before 8pm. Direct flights are always the best.
4. Plan the route beforehand. We all know what traffic is like around here so give yourself some time to get there and back.
5. Shipping day: Items to bring with you. Hand truck (only needed if you can't carry a 30 or more pound box), you might bring an o2 tank, bags and water but quite frankly if the bag leaked that much they are already dead. Bring a camera just in case the box is damaged. Airlines don't generally insure live animals but dealers will usually do you right if there is a problem.
6. Getting there: At Dulles you park right at the shipping building so don't worry about paying for parking or having to walk.
7. Tip: Many of the airlines share buildings with other airlines so you might want to call and see what it says on the building. They also move pretty often so always check.
8. Tip: Bring the waybill number! I already mentioned that but just in case you missed it.
9. Inspect the box when you get it. The bottom is usually slightly damp. If the box has holes insist on opening it while you are still there.
10. Resist the urge to open the box unless it is really necessary. Usually when you move the box you'll hear them inside and know they are ok.
11. Put the box in your car or truck sideways so that they don't slam their noses or tails when you speed up or put on the brakes.
12. At home: Do NOT use a razor to cut open the box. Pry the tape off the old fashioned way with your hands. A razor may puncture the bag and you do not want that at this point of the game. Open the box slowly as the light will scare the koi if you are too fast.
13. Float the bag in your Q-tank for 30 minutes or so to equalize the water temperature (yes Q-tank, not pond).
14. Open the bag and lift the koi out into your Q-tank. Or you can gently pour them and the water from the bag into a bowl and then quickly lift them into the Q-tank. Whatever you do, do NOT dump the water from the bag into your Q-tank. It is full of ammonia.
15. Follow regular QT procedures and then release them into your pond.



Delta Dash building at Dulles (notice its at Virgin Atlantic)



The box should be sideways when traveling.



Open the box carefully to avoid bag damage.



Always float the bag in your Q-Tank.

## Show Time!! Transporting Your Koi to a Show

So you've given it some thought and you made the decision to show your koi. Now you need to figure out how to get them there! Hopefully this article will make it a little easier for you. Before I get into that please remember that there are other club members that have been showing koi for years so don't hesitate to ask for help. We were all new to showing koi at some point. Below is a list of items you will need:

- Blue viewing tub (needed at the show so the judges can view your koi)
- Net (to catch your koi in your pond and also to be used at the show for judging and benching)
- Boxes or coolers and some newspaper (for carrying the bags of koi, they should be at least 6" longer than the koi and half as wide as the box is long)
- Bags (the same type of bags you brought your koi home in, try your local koi dealer and get twice what you need)
- Rubber bands (you'll need these to seal the bags)
- Oxygen tank w/regulator (this can usually be borrowed from another club member)
- Sock net (optional, but I wouldn't bag koi without one)
- Ice packs (if the weather is hot you will want to keep the bags cool while transporting)
- Pond water or dechlorinated water (just in case a bag leaks etc you may want to have a few gallons on hand or at the very least carry some dechlor)
- Hand truck (unless you want to carry all those heavy boxes you may want to use one)
- A/C (I'm not a big fan of air conditioning but if its hot then you need to use it to keep the koi from cooking!)
- Koi (duh, it is a koi show after all, be very careful when choosing, do NOT bring any that are sick or weak)



So you should gather up all these supplies to have on hand for show day. Don't wait until the last minute to get them. Traveling with your koi can be stressful enough without having to hunt down items at the last minute. You should stop feeding your koi for about a week before show time. This is important! They will make a big mess in your show tank if you don't! About the same time you stop feeding you should be planning out your route to get to the show. You need to see when koi check-in is and plan accordingly. Give yourself plenty of time to get there but not so much that you will be waiting for tanks to get filled! On the day you leave you want to pack your car with clothes etc. (if you are staying at hotel for the show) BEFORE you bag your koi. The last thing you want to do before leaving is to bag the koi, load them in your car (boxes sideways) and then leave. If it's a long ride bring drinks and food or go through a drive-thru but do not stop and risk the inside of the car heating up. It's not worth the stress on you or the koi.

You've made it to the show so now what? All shows are slightly different but normally you will bring your koi in and stop by the show check-in desk. They will tell you your tank number assignment. Find your tank and start floating your koi bags. After about a half hour go ahead and take them out of the bags and into the show tank being very careful not to release any of the bag water into the tank. Take your bags with water to an area where you can dump them without it being in an area where people walk. Most shows have an area set aside for dumping water so check with the show desk if you are uncertain. Leave your net and blue tub at your show tank. If you want to mark your tub or net with your name then do it in a place that is not obvious. You do not want the judges to know who owns your koi before judging. Its not fair to you or them. Put your boxes and bags back in your car and relax and enjoy the show!

The show is over and you've gathered up your trophies and its time to go home. Break out the bags and boxes and rubber bands. Most shows will have an oxygen tank for you to use. They also will supply you with a piece of hose to

Continued on page 4

## Transporting Koi to a Show cont.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5 wrong way

put on the air nozzle so that it doesn't contaminate your bag. If you use someone else's tube be sure to disinfect it in the disinfecting tank. You can avoid all of that by having your own air tank. Same as with going to the show: You should have checked out of the hotel and you should have everything packed but the koi. Follow the same instructions. Net, bowl, bag and then leave. Make sure you do a box count before you go. I know a certain ZNA Potomac President that left one at Allentown last year (yes it can happen to anyone!!). One of the best things about bagging at the end of the show is that there is no shortage of other koi hobbyist around that can lend a helping hand. Once you arrive at home you may want to QT them for a while. Either way you want to float them for a while and then release always making sure the bag water does not get into the pond.

### Bagging koi:

1. Have your net, boxes, bags, blue tub, rubber bands and oxygen tank at the pond before beginning. Bags should be doubled and for ease of use roll down lip so it stays open.
2. Use your net gently to catch the koi you want to bag. Try hard not to stress the koi out with jerky, quick movements of the net.
3. Bowl the koi in your blue tub. Do this by sinking one side of the tub and guiding the koi in. Do NOT lift koi out of the water with your net. Photo 1
4. Using the bag (or a sock net) scoop up the koi into the bag. The bag should only end up with enough water in it to just cover the koi dorsal fin when the bag is lying on its side and has been inflated with oxygen. It's a bit tricky but the more you do it the better you'll get. Photo 2
5. Now that the koi is in the bag you want to get all the air out of the bag. Photo 3
6. Insert the air line from the oxygen tank and inflate the inner bag. Photo 4
7. Seal the inner bag with a couple rubber bands and then seal the outer bag with rubber bands.
8. Put the bag on its side in the box making sure you pull the corners in so there isn't a corner the koi can get stuck in. Photos 5 and 6
9. Put some newspaper on top of the bag and then seal the box with some tape so that it doesn't open while you are driving. Your koi will travel calmer in the darkness of a closed box or cooler.

**Tips:** Multiple koi in one bag– This is fine as long as you don't over do it. These are your koi we're talking about so the most I ever pack in one bag is 3. These would be koi that are smaller than 15". 15" to 20" I might do two. Larger than 20" probably one per bag. You don't want them packed in tight where they could injure themselves on the way to the show or back. So how do you get more than one koi in a bag? With smaller koi you can simply bowl them all at the same time. With larger koi you will want to use multiple bowls and a sock net to move them from the bowl to the bag. My last tip is the same as the one I started out with. Showing your koi should be fun and not stressful. Get help from other club members if you aren't sure of yourself.



Photo 6 right way

## ZNA Potomac Website News!!!

### Site News

Great news for the website this month!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
Included now on the website are the show forms. Now you can simply download them, print them and send them in! Get them in as soon as possible to reserve your tank for the upcoming show at Meadow Lark Botanical Gardens on September 8-9 2007! Auction photos are now up. Phoenix photos coming soon. Please remember the newsletter will not be available on the website until at least 3 months after it is emailed or mailed out. Please make sure I have a current email address for you so you can get it on time.

### Newsletter Web Extras

Since this newsletter is printed it would be difficult for you to use the links so go to [www.znapotomac.org](http://www.znapotomac.org) The links will be found by clicking on the month of the newsletter under the newsletter section on our site. For each newsletter I will comb a couple of the koi web forums and post links to various topics of discussion on koi. The first two links deal with koi health/water related issues and the second two discuss koi appreciation matters, water quality or show matters.

*Sorry but no web extras this month. I'm taking a little vacation from the boards. Writing the rest of the newsletter is hard enough. It is summer you know. Don't worry though, they will be back next month.*

. A couple tips on using forums. None of the links I post will be to spam sites or anything like that so please go ahead and create an account at these sites as they are free and it is the only way to view many of the photos at these sites. If you are an AOL user I recommend you use Internet Explorer when visiting koi sites as many of the features on these sites do not work with the AOL browser. Thanks and I'll see you on the web!

~Jim North

Would you like your pond listed at our clubs website? Please email me the information below with three digital photos of your pond and koi and I will list them for you on our website.

### Bio

Keeping koi since:  
Introduction to koi:  
Favorite Variety:  
Why:

### Pond Info

Size:  
Number of koi:  
Plants:  
Liner:  
Filtration:  
Future Plans:  
Personal Koi web page:  
Email submissions to [jnorth@znapotomac.org](mailto:jnorth@znapotomac.org)

**Would you like to write an article for the newsletter? Is there a topic you would like to see an article on? Do you have any general questions or comments on the newsletter or website? If so, then please email me at:**

**[Jnorth@znapotomac.org](mailto:jnorth@znapotomac.org)**



## ZNA Potomac 2007 Koi Show September 8-9

**Don't miss the ZNA Potomac Koi Show September 8-9 2007!**

As you all know the 2006 ZNA Potomac Koi Show was cancelled due to circumstances not under our control. This year we are back!!! Thanks to our new show location the 2007 show promises to be bigger and better than ever before! We will have multiple vendors at this show including Vienna Aquarium, Mystic Koi and Quality Koi. Please see our website for the updated vendor list as it is available. Seminars are also being planned including a seminar by Mat McCann of Quality Koi. We will have many items to be raffled and to auction.

**When:** September 8-9 2007

**Where:** Meadowlark Botanical Gardens  
9750 Meadowlark Gardens Ct  
Vienna VA 22182

**Host Hotel:** Embassy Suites Tysons  
8517 Leesburg Pike  
Vienna, Virginia, USA 22182  
Tel: +1-703-883-0707 Fax: +1-703-760-9842

Rate is \$99 per night. Ask for the ZNA Potomac rate when reserving your room.

**Head Judge** Kunizo Narita from Japan  
**2nd Judge** Bob Brudd from USA  
**3rd Judge** Richard Thomas from USA (ZNA candidate judge)

Rules and sign-up available on the ZNA Potomac website [Http://www.znapotomac.org](http://www.znapotomac.org)

Sign up soon before all the tanks are gone!!!

For more information contact Show Chairman Mike Frady at 703-360-9142 or [mfrady@znapotomac.org](mailto:mfrady@znapotomac.org)



## Koi Quiz

1. Photo A is a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Ochiba
  - b. Ogon
  - c. Chagoi
  - d. Kin Ki Utsuri
  
2. A transport bag for koi should filled with?
  - a. all the way to the top with water
  - b. Kool-aid (grape)
  - c. a little bit of water and some air
  - d. pure oxygen and just enough water to cover the dorsal
  
3. The common minimum amount of water per pond koi is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. 5 gallons per koi
  - b. 250 gallons per koi
  - c. there is no minimum
  - d. 5000 gallons per koi
  
4. What is the gentleman doing in Photo B?
  - a. preparing to make sushi
  - b. he is giving the koi a bath
  - c. benching or measuring the koi to see what size it will be in for a show while looking for defects and classifying the koi's variety
  - d. none of the above
  
5. To catch a koi with a net you should \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Move it as fast as possible to wear them out
  - b. Who needs a net? I use my teeth.
  - c. Move it smoothly and slowly. Once netted you should guide them into a bowl without actually lifting them with the net.
  - d. None of the above.



Photo A



Photo B

**Extra credit: Name the gentleman in Photo B?**

# ZNA Potomac Membership re- newals are now past due!!!!

Please remind any of your koi kichi friends that they will not be receiving the newsletter anymore without filling out the attached application. It's going to be a great year and we hope everyone renews their membership!

Thanks to you our fantastic members!

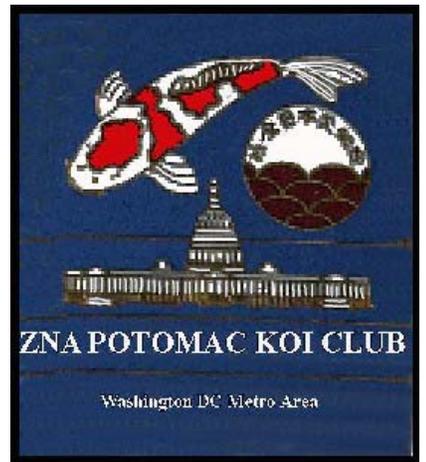
ZNA Potomac Board

**ZNA Potomac August Meeting**  
**Join us pondside for an afternoon**  
**of fun and information at the Poppe's**  
**August 26 2007 2pm**  
**4502 Carlby Lane, Alexandria 22309.**

Please use <http://www.mapquest.com> to find directions to the Poppe's house from your house.



**ZNA Potomac Koi Club**  
**Membership Application**  
[Http://www.znapotomac.org](http://www.znapotomac.org)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Included is my check for \$25 for a one year membership \_\_\_\_\_

Included is my check for \$85 for a one year membership  
WITH a subscription to Nichrin Magazine \_\_\_\_\_

Save a stamp and email my newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Please send my newsletter via USPS \_\_\_\_\_

**Information for website photo album (optional)**

Keeping koi since: \_\_\_\_\_ Favorite Variety: \_\_\_\_\_

First Introduction to koi: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you keep koi: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pond Size: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

Number of koi: \_\_\_\_\_ Plants: Yes / No Liner type: \_\_\_\_\_

Filtration, pump etc: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Future Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Koi web page: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make Checks payable to: ZNA Potomac*



Send Application and check to: ZNA Potomac  
c/o Doris Poppe  
4502 Carlby Lane  
Alexandria VA 22309



Dianichi bred kohaku that was featured in the June 2007 Nichirin

**Classified Section**

Do you have something pond or koi related you would like to sell? List it here for the low price of \$5. Ads for free items are free. Ad will run until it sells! For ZNA Potomac Members only. *Thanks!*

Photos for the show announcement were taken by David Smothers with the exception of the 2005 GC. Photographer unknown.

**GENKI NISHIKIGOI**  錦鯉  
Direct Importer & Distributor of Quality Japanese Koi

   
Call us: (408) 239-1018  
Email Us: [ktnp@hotmail.com](mailto:ktnp@hotmail.com)

Store Hours: Wed-Fri 11AM-5PM  
Sat-Sun 10AM-5PM  
Mon-Tue Closed!

 **Vienna Aquarium & Pets**  
*Northern Virginia's Home for Koi*  
303 Mill St. NE, Vienna, VA 22180 Phone: 703-242-0553

**Blue Ribbon Koi**  
*For all your koi and pond needs!*  
5003 Sudley Road, Catharpin VA 20143  
703-753-7566

 **Mystic Koi**  
Authorized dealer for E.A.  
& direct importer of quality nishikigoi

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