

ZNA Potomac News

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Kujaku

Presidents Message

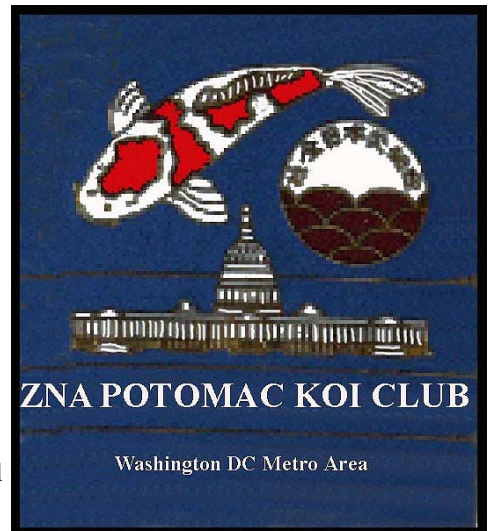
President's Notes

The next big event is the Koi Auction coming up on May 18, 2008 at Smitty's Lumber Yard on Richmond Highway (US 1) in the Mount Vernon area. We could use some help with set up and take down, give me a call. If you want to bring or donate Koi to the club to auction, please let me know by May 11, so I can have tanks available. Tell your friends and even strangers about the auction and come look, buy, and join with your club members in discussion about this wonderful hobby.

The AKCA Seminar is coming in June. It is in Jacksonville, Florida this year which is close and not a bad spot to visit. It should be a great Seminar and full of information and activities. Everyone should consider and sign-up to join us. The Fradys and Poppes have already signed up and hopefully Jim North (last year's Koi Person of the Year) and Terri and Pat Janas will be able to make it again. Every time Terri goes she gets some kind of award, so if I were her I would not stop going. Everyone consider going and sign up at the AKCA web site.

The Show is coming fast. We had a productive meeting to discuss the show and some of the activities. We have arranged for Hotel rooms at the Embassy Suites again, and there will be a Friday night "Meet the Judges Reception" again at the Hotel. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens is ready and have already placed us on their web site calendar and in their newsletters. People are calling and emailing for information about showing. It looks like the makings of a great show. But we need your help. Set up on Thursday is more than 3 of us can handle and so is take down on Monday. This is your club and your show, please volunteer to help.

Well the fish are calling, they like the warmer weather. Just be careful of the big swings in the temperatures and watch for problems with the koi. They will tell you how they are doing if you will watch for the signs. Continue to feed sparingly as the weather dictates.



Come to the Auction and bring money. There are going to be some very nice fish that members just do not have room for any more. They would look great in your pond. If you are looking for some very nice young koi, I have 70 beauties in the Q Tank in the back yard as I write this. Come see and I am sure you will agree, this is the best crop of koi we have ever auctioned.

See you 5/18 at Smitty's

Mike

Next Meeting: MAY 18th!!! ZNA Potomac Koi Auction in Alexandria. See page 4!!!!

Let's Talk Ulcers!

There are many causes of ulcers and wounds in Koi. They can come from the environment like sharp objects, rough handling, flashing from water quality (lost scales), heavy metals and parasites. The good news is early intervention usually has a positive outcome. As I always say, "Koi heal amazingly well in good water" so the very first thing we focus on are husbandry issues and water quality. We also need to take into account any stress they have gone through lately. Cumulative and/or repeated stressors weakens their immunity just like it does in humans.

Ulcers are almost always bacterial in nature and most importantly, secondary to an underlying issue. A common cause of ulcers are parasites which attach to the skin or gills creating an opening for bacteria to take hold. Every pond has bacteria and generally our Koi's immune system is healthy enough to fight it off. Once in a while, this isn't the case.

Lymozyme/Koizyme are one of my favorite products. I recommend using it monthly. They keep the bacteria levels in the pond lower by starving out dangerous bacteria (aeromonas/ psuedomonas) for nutrients. There are common triggers that cause a wound or ulcer to become bacterial and they are: poor water quality, debris build up, PH swings, handling, overcrowding, parasites or viral. We tend to think antibiotics are the next step and this is not always true if caught early. Koi can become resistant to antibiotics, so before ever using them, it's important to evaluate the water, environment, scrape, scope, inspect gills and treat those issues first.

To disinfect the ulcerated area, it is best to anesthetize the Koi. Check the gill color first, and then inspect the entire body, turning them upside down too. Gills should be a nice dark red meat color. If pale in color, don't sedate them because they are not receiving much oxygen exchange and may not recover from being sedated. Remember to place a net over them in case of jumping. 8-10 drops of clove oil in a gallon of water is enough to sedate most Koi. Shake the drops of oil vigorously in a jar of pond water first to emulsify, then add to the tub and mix with an air stone. The Koi should lay over in about 4 minutes. If not, add a couple emulsified drops at a time. Place Koi on a wet towel. They will still be breathing, but work quickly. Clean the area using Iodine, peroxide or tricide spray/ paste, about 1 minute then rinse well. Do not let any get in the eyes, nose, gills or mouth. Pull any loose scales with tweezers and clean under scales in the area as best you can. For Doitsu clean gently on scale less areas. Then place them in an aerated wake up tub of clean pond water. Move them forward until they wake up, not back and forth.

When there is an opening to the body like in an ulcer, the influx of water is greater and stressful to their system regulating it. This is where salt helps. Assuming the bacterial count is high, do a nice large water change and then add salt to the pond at .3%. Salt also acts as a mild antiseptic. Then we wait and observe daily to see if they can heal on their own. Often if caught early, that is all that is needed unless it's a virus like KHV. Good quality medicated food can also be used if not abused.

Let me add that warm water is needed for healing, around 75 deg. if at all possible. If an ulcer occurs during winter, they must be brought inside and warmed up slowly @ 5 degrees a day. Bring a buddy along and cover QT to reduce stress. Antibiotics if needed won't work below 50-55 degs. and very little healing occurs below that either. At this time it is important to reduce all stress, maintain excellent water quality, raise salt and feed good food. Oranges are good because the Vit C aids in healing. I have also used baby vitamin drops on the regular feed.

You are looking for the ulcerated area/wound to turn clear or white in a couple days, that denotes healing. If it stays angry red, worsens or chronic, then time to consider having a vet intervene. The wrong antibiotic loses time and only a vet can determine which antibiotic to use. A deep or large ulcer can lead to Septicemia (blood poisoning from the toxins the bacteria release). The clinical signs of Septicemia from a bacterial infection to watch out for are: lethargy, abnormal swimming, red under belly or swelling, gill necrosis, pop eye, red fins, streaking, clamped or eroded fins. These can also be signs of other issues, but if an ulcer is involved, the most likely reason is Septicemia. Watch for changes in behavior too and always know your ponds volume in case you need to treat the water. Luckily most of us feed and check on our Koi daily so we become pretty good at noticing changes which helps to catch things early on. The good news is Koi are strong creatures and ulcers are not common, but it is good to know what to do because time can be critical. Fortunately because ulcers are secondary to an underlying cause, redness or a sign of an ulcer can give us a wake up call that encourages us to look deeper as to why so we can fix it. The unfortunate part is it can sometimes cause us to lose sleep from worrying! Prevention and early recognition are key. Happy ponding!



Ulcers

As always, call or e-mail me with any questions. Wishing you a safe and healthy spring start-up!

Terri Janas

Certified AKCA Koi Health Advisor

Member of ZNA Potomac & MAKC

1-703-729-2988

Another Successful Quality Koi Trip

Twelve members made the trip to New Jersey for our annual visit to Quality Koi. For those of you who could not join us, you missed a very nice event. We all started out from our various locations and met at the Maryland House Service Center on I-95. After a short rest and a break for refreshments and conversation, we started out to the farm.

When we arrived the staff at Quality was as gracious as usual and went out of the way to ensure that we came away with a good understanding of what it takes to run a Koi Farm. We toured the mud ponds as Mat discussed the set-up required before the koi can go back into the ponds for the summer. Some koi have already been returned to their summer homes. There was even talk of additional ponds someday. With the increases in koi each year, the workload is ever increasing. Some small koi spent the winter in the mud ponds due to lack of space in the greenhouses. They looked none the worse in the ponds as we marched by to see the ponds that were being refilled.

After touring the mud ponds, we got a look at the large concrete pond in the greenhouse which houses the larger koi during the winter. Since some of us have koi at Quality waiting to go back into the mud, it was a nice opportunity to see how much they had grown and to brag about how nice they are and what a nice job we did selecting. About this time we were starting to feel the pangs of hunger and retreated to the greenhouse that had been set-up for lunch. As a special treat, the photos of the 555 fish were on display and we could preview our next great koi. Everyone made their decisions as to which was the best, I am the only one with the right answers (don't tell the others).

We spent the afternoon looking at koi Mat had selected to go to mud on Sunday. We had the opportunity to select from those, which some of us did. Matt talked about each of the koi and discussed the points which made him think it to be Tategoi grade. Everyone came away with greater respect for what a breeder must consider when grading koi. As Matt said, each koi that is kept cost money to feed.

Some of the group picked up koi from previous visits and some just made mental notes about what they want next time. All in all it was a great trip with cooperating weather – NO RAIN. The group left to come home late afternoon. Another great day looking at thousands of koi, it doesn't get much better than that.

See you next trip,

Mike



Koi feeding in one of the mud ponds



Enjoying lunch in one of the greenhouses.



Joe Z watching Mat sorting tosai



Kidai showa getting ready to go in the mud



Just a few of the two year olds for sale

ZNA Potomac 2007 Public Koi Auction May 18th!!!

Don't miss the Annual ZNA Potomac Public Koi Auction on May 18th 2008!

ZNA Potomac will once again be holding a Spring koi auction. This event is open to the public and encourage all koi lovers to attend. Up for auction will be 100 smaller koi as well as some larger koi being auctioned by ZNA Potomac members.

When: May 18, 2008

Where: Smitty's Lumber Yard
8457 Richmond Highway
Alexandria, VA 22309

Time: 11am

For more information contact Mike Frady at 703-360-9142

***ZNA Potomac Members only– If you would like to auction off donate some of your koi at the auction please contact Mike Frady so we can have a tank available for your koi on the day of the auction. Cost for members is 25% of what your koi sells for unless you donate them to the club in which case its free. You will be able to set a minimum price.**



Working the booth at the last auction



Some of last years auction koi

ZNA Potomac Website News!!!

Site News

Great news for the website this month!!!!!!!!!!
Included now on the website are show results.
Now you can see highlight photos from the show
and download a ZNA Potomac 2007 Show
screensaver for your computer!

Website/Newsletter Editorial

Welcome to the 2008 koi season. Spring is finally in sight and it's time to get outside again and enjoy our koi. It's also time to renew our membership to ZNA Potomac. For most of you I'm sure the choice to renew is a no brainer. The cost is minimal, in fact we have the cheapest membership of ANY ZNA club in the USA. Some of you may be thinking well what exactly does ZNA Potomac offer for the money? That's not exactly the way I look at it. A club is made up of it's members and they set the tone of the club. Basically you only get out of it what you put into it. For me I really try and put a lot into it and therefore I feel if the membership cost were quadrupled it would still be a bargain. But that's just me. Still not convinced? Well then I offer up this last bit then. This year I hope to grow the newsletter even more as I have done in the past. I also will continue to make sure that the newsletter only contains original articles and not repeats or articles lifted from other clubs or magazines. Speaking of the newsletter articles did you know that one of the articles from year appeared in Koi USA as a feature article? At least two others were used in other clubs newsletters and many of the photos seen first here have been used in Koi USA and Koi Nations. Now that's the best I can do for the club...how about you? See you all at the next meeting :-) !

~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

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)



Upcoming Events

May Meeting– May 18 The May meeting will be at the same time we hold our annual koi auction in Alexandria.

ZNA Potomac Koi Show The dates have been announced and this year it will be Sept 12-14. If you would like to be involved in planning the show please contact Jim North at 703-330-2002.

More meetings and events are being planned and will be announced in upcoming newsletters



Don't miss out on our upcoming events!!!!

Koi Quiz

1. Photo A is a _____
 - a. Kohaku
 - b. Sanke
 - c. Shiro utsuri
 - d. Showa

2. At what water temp can you resume feeding your koi?
 - a. 31 degrees
 - b. When it comes to a boil
 - c. 65 degrees
 - d. 50 degrees

3. The gentleman in photo b is _____
 - a. Dale Earnhart
 - b. Club member Turelle Holmes.
 - c. My Uncle Louie
 - d. Club president Mike Frady.

4. What kind of koi food should you be feeding in Spring?
 - a. High growth
 - b. McDonald's Happy Meals
 - c. Spring/Autumn Mix or Wheat germ based food
 - d. raw steak with a slice of lime

5. If a koi measured 23" at the ZNA Potomac Show it would be in what size category?
 - a. Size 12
 - b. Size 11
 - c. Size 2
 - d. Size 5



Photo A



Photo B

Extra credit: What is the event that the gentleman in Photo B is attending?

2008 ZNA Potomac Memberships past due!!

All ZNA Potomac memberships are now past due! Please fill out the form on the next page and return it with your check to ZNA Potomac. Thanks for being a ZNA Potomac member and we look forward to another great year!

Sick Koi or Pond? Call our KHA

Spring is here and with it sometimes cause problems for our friends. Don't despair you can call Terri Janas for help. This is a free service and the KHA course is an AKCA class if you are interested in becoming a KHA.

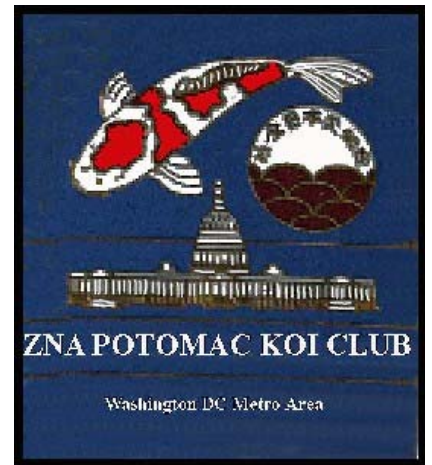
Terri Janas
Certified AKCA Koi Health Advisor
Member of ZNA Potomac & MAKC
1-703-729-2988
PJanas1962@aol.com



If your koi look like this then get some help quick!



ZNA Potomac Koi Club Membership Application



Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Phone Number _____

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 _____

I have koi I'd like to sell in the May koi auction Yes _____ No _____

I want to show my koi at the ZNA Potomac Koi Show in September Yes _____ No _____

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



Mess' o' koi

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!*

GENKI NISHIKIGOI  錦鯉
Direct Importer & Distributor of Quality Japanese Koi

 
Call us: (408) 239-1018
Email Us: 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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ZNA Potomac
C/o Mike Frady
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Koi Auction May 18th!! See inside for details!!