



# Charleston Showa Koi Club

## Last meeting...

### Linda Lewis

I can honestly say that this pond helped me fall in love with Koi and Koi husbandry. The first meeting I attended was at Mary and Jim's home. The atmosphere surrounding the pond and the open arms of the club members all contributed to my decision to join this club. Every time we have a meeting at Jim and Mary's, I am reminded of that first meeting several years ago. I hope all who attended the March meeting walked away with the same feelings that I did. The food as usual was fantastic and the fellowship was great.



## Club Minutes for 3/20/2011

### Rudy Lutge

Cindy started the meeting at 2:45. She thanked Jim and Mary for having the meeting at their home.

She then welcomed Jim's neighbor Steve and Martha and all new members. Cindy then reminded everyone that membership dues are due at the end of March. Cindy then proposed that we accept the minutes that were in the newsletter. Kathy then gave a pond tour report. Cathy asked for volunteers for the finale and passed out a signup sheet. She also mentioned about the different raffle items that have been donated. Cindy then talked about the Koi show in Perry, GA. Ralph said that he had the library with him. There was no old business to discuss. Before the meeting, Cindy had passed out a questionnaire about Koi, water quality and different diseases. The purpose of the test is to see what our club knows and what topics we need to improve on. Next Steve from the Chas. Water Systems talked about the water quality of well water and city water and answered all our questions. Next Cindy talked about having Mr. Kodama and his son Taro from the Kodama Koi Academy to come here to talk about how to choose a Koi. Bernard gave us the details of the seminar dates and price. The dates are July 23rd and 24th. The cost is \$150 for singles and \$250 for couples (club member rates). If you sign up and pay before the end of April, the club will pay half of your tuition. The place has not been decided but the SPCA has been discussed. Any questions call Cindy, Robert or Johnna. Also you can go to <http://kodamakoiacademy.com/index.html>

for more info is see what the seminar is all about. At this time Cindy adjourned the meeting at 3:45



## Kodama's Koi Academy Cindy Coombs

<http://kodamakoiacademy.com/index.html>

We are pleased to announce that on July 23 & 24, our club we will be hosting Kodama's Koi Academy. Please go to the link provided above and you can see what the Academy is all about and what other clubs have said about it. Last March, several from our club attended and it was a wonderful learning experience. Mr. Kodama will not teach you how to pick a fish that will win a show today, he will teach you how to select a fish for long term enjoyment and for the future. Lunch will be provided both days.

Normally the cost of this seminar is \$150 for singles and \$250 for couples (club member rate) but we voted at the meeting yesterday to extend an offer to all current club members. If you sign up and pay before the end of April, the club will pay half of your tuition! So the amount you would need to send to hold your spot is \$75 for singles and

\$125 for couples. Please send your check to Ralph Owens (930 Muirfield Ct, Sumter, SC 29150) prior to the end of April in order to insure your spot. On May 1st, we will be letting other koi clubs in the area know about our seminar and give them an opportunity to attend at the non club member rate of \$200 per person. Because space is limited, we wanted to make sure that our club members all have adequate opportunity to reserve their space before offering these spots to the public.

We have not decided on a venue for certain; however we did discuss holding this event at the SPCA in their conference room. It is convenient, well equipt and large enough for a nice sized group. More on the venue later.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact either me (803-788-0882), Robert (843-559-9484), or Johnna (843-874-9718) since we have all attended in the past.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at this wonderful event.



## Orlando Koi Show Richard Gallagher

The Charleston Showa Koi Club was well represented at the annual Orlando, FL Koi show from March 11-13<sup>th</sup>. The weather was sunny

and a little cool but spirits were high and a few of us even purchased some Koi and also enjoyed various attractions around Orlando. It really is a great venue for a show and I highly recommend going to see it. The attendees from our club were: Kathy Over, Ralph Owens, Johnna Hansen, Cindy & Charlie Coombs, Linda & Robert Lewis, Gwen & Bob Lowe, Mary & Jim Leard, Bernard & Erine Nesmith, Mimi & Antoine Pham, Joy & Dan Newlin, Lorna & Butch Abrams, and Debi & Richard Gallagher, and Cindy Coombs won for best Longfin Koi under 16 inches.

## Trivia Section

### Number 1

Where did the Charleston Showa Koi Club's name come from?

Originally it was known as the Koi Club. Raymond Kenerty's wife Judy got the inspiration for the name from the Hirohito Emperor. The club members all liked it and adopted the name. Raymond holds a life time membership to our club. Thanks for the hard work you and your family put into making this club what it is today.

### Number 2

Who is Gene Ewy and what is his claim to fame?

Gene is another life time member of our club who now lives in Tucson, Arizona. He was President of the club and his wife Viola was secretary. Gene was also a well known Koi enthusiast along the East coast as well as a Koi judge. He entered some fish in the All Japan Koi Show in Japan. He did not win Grand Champion, however his fish took two first place

trophies. This feat had never before been done by an American. One of our club members made history.

He and his wife Viola remain Koi enthusiasts are also members of the Tucson Koi Club. Thanks to the two of you for your many contributions to our club and to the Koi world in general.

## Let's talk Kohaku

By Robert Lewis

Now I know many of you don't care much about a Kohaku at this point. Just as all of us when we start out in the hobby we tend to like the flashier fish first. In time however just like green beans as you mature the Kohaku will start to look better.

The Kohaku is not the first established variety of koi but over the years it has become the standard that most others are based on. What this means is when the breeder is looking at his fish, Showa, Sanke, Goromo or any fish that has a pattern he first looks at the Kohaku pattern. If the fish has no pattern then it will be culled first. Let's take a Sanke as a subject. The, first thing you should look for is, without the sumi would this be a good Kohaku. The same goes for the Showa, with, no black would this be a good Kohaku. If so then you would look at the placement of the sumi and other attributes of the particular variety to judge the worth of the fish at hand.

Now with Kohaku as all Koi the body conformation is the #1 thing to look for but that is not what we are going to be talking about at this time. For now we will be talking about pattern. In the world today the three step or sandan Kohaku is the most popular. Among the newer members to the hobby the Tancho Kohaku is the fish that will catch their eye. Whichever, the same rules apply; the pattern should be clean and balanced. The Tancho Kohaku only has the Hi on the head for you to look at. So what should you be looking for?

The tancho should be placed evenly between the eyes and should not leave the head, it also should be round as possible and not be too far down on the face. A good tancho should start at the back of the head and be as wide as the eyes (but not over the eyes) then come down as far as the nose of the fish leaving a nice space before the mouth. There are no scales on the head so the edges of the tancho should be clean and crisp all the way around. With the kohaku that has a pattern on its body, you will now be looking for balance. The perfect pattern is the one that has the best balance of white to red. Remember nothing is carved in stone. All fish are different therefore all rules are to be broken. Given that a good kohaku pattern starts with white it should also end in white. The hi pattern should be placed evenly between the nose and the tail, if the pattern starts ½ inch from the mouth the pattern should end ½ inch from the tail. In the event we are looking at a 2 step, 3 step or 4 step it would be preferable for the space between the hi plates to be about the same. Again I say there is no perfect koi we just do the best we can. The hi plate should be balanced and go down the sides of the fish to or past the lateral line but not to the belly. This is called the rap on a younger fish. The rap should go further down on the body than an older fish. As the fish gets older the pattern will come up as it gets larger. Let us not forget that this all applies to other varieties as well.

To be continued.

## Calendar of events...

**2011**

April 1, 2, and 3 Middle Georgia Koi and Water Garden Society

**Apr. 10 Grant and Penny Patton**

**May 14 Charleston Showa Koi Club  
Pond Tour**

May 26-29 Louisville Kentucky Koi Show

**June 12**

**July 10**

July 23-24 Mr. Kodama and son Taro Class

**Aug. 14**

**Sept. Guest speaker-Bill McGurt  
Purdin Koi Farm**

Sept. 23-25 Carolina Classic Koi Show  
In Rockhill, NC

**Oct. 9**

Nov. 4-6 Gainesville Koi Show Fla.  
Greenville Koi Show SC.

**Nov. 13**

**Dec. 11**

Meeting times and places may be subject to change.