



Charleston Showa Koi Club

Last meeting...

Linda Lewis

Our last meeting was held at the home of Debbie and Richard Gallagher. We had a great time and the pot luck spread was fantastic. There were a lot of new members present with lots of fellowship among the club members.

Thanks Debbie and Richard.



Min. from the 7/11/10 meeting....

Rudy Lutge

Cindy called the meeting to order at 2:45. Cindy then thanked Debbie and Richard for having us at their house. She then welcomed all new members. Cindy then mentioned that since the minutes were in the news letter that the secretary not read the

minutes. Ralph said that he wants to add to the minutes from last month, he made the motion that we not include the \$20 increase to the dues of life time members. Linda second and all said "aye".

Cindy then asked for a financial report from Ralph but he did not have it at the time but stated that we made about \$3000 from the pond tour and that we would be able to give the SPCA \$1750.

Cindy then talked about the club going to Lotus Land in September. It was mentioned that we rent a bus to take everyone. Wendy will look into the cost of renting a bus. Cindy then talked about having another grow out contest but with good quality fish. With this the fish will cost more and the club member will have to buy the fish. After a long discussion the club voted not to have the contest.

Cindy then said that we need to start planning for our next pond tour meeting. Kathy and Richard are going to co-chair the committee. We are to have our first pond tour meeting next month. Those interested in helping need to be at the meeting by 1:00pm.

Robert had a presentation on KHV. After the presentation Cindy ask if everyone could bring their favorite koi book to the next meeting and tell why you like it so much.

Cindy then adjourned the meeting at 4:05



Library Notes

Ralph Owens

You may know that Cindy has asked me to take over the running of the clubs library. I now have possession of a lot of the books etc but there are a number of things that are not with me and the records of who has them are not complete. I would really like to trace them so as they are available for all members of the club.

Therefore if you have any items from the library could you just send me a short email telling me what you have in your possession. Ralph also has the club microscope. It is yours to use. If interested please contact him.

Thanks for your help.

Ralph's e-mail address is:

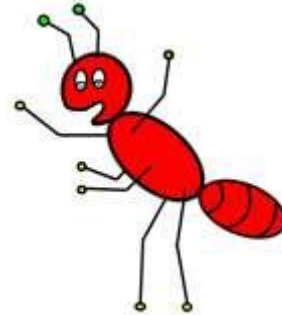
Ralph.owens@earthlink.net

Pond Tour 2011

Linda Lewis

The first meeting to start planning the 2011 pond tour will be at the home of Greg and Barbara Nicholas on August 8, 2010. Anyone interested should plan to attend. It will be held at 1:00 prior to the regular koi club meeting for August. Please bring any

new ideas and let's get started. Thanks in advance to Kathy Over and Richard Gallagher for agreeing to co-chair the pond tour committee.



What Bugs our Fish

Robert Lewis

Now that we have had a talk about KHV, we should go back to some of the small stuff that bugs our fish. There are seven main parasites that koi keepers should know about. The largest two you can see with the necked eye, Lernaeidae (anchor worms) and Argulidae (fish lice). The next five you will need a microscope to see, the Flukes: Gyrodactylidae (skin flukes) and Dactylogyridae (gill flukes) are the largest of the microscopic parasites. The most well known microscopic parasites is Ichthyophthirius (ich). Then comes the small stuff, Trichodina (tric), Chilodonella and Costa.

Most of these bugs don't kill our fish. What they do is brake the skin of the fish and let bacteria do the dirty work. That is not to say that they can't kill your Koi, they can and will. Let me try to put this in prospective. The fastest killer is Ich. Although Ich is not as common on pond fish as on an aquarium fish it is capable of killing a large percentage of your fish in three to four days if not treated. Costa is far more common and can also kill a large portion of your pond in just days. Chilodonella is much slower with a lower kill rate of a week to ten days. Tric can be around for weeks and weeks as well as the flukes, anchorworms and fish lice

without killing any fish. The reproduction rate and temperature is the issue; the warmer the water the faster things happen.

So lets talk a little about each bug, one at the time, biggest to smallest.

Anchorworms; as adults they look like a white piece of thread coming out from under the scale of the fish. As juveniles they look like a pimple on the fish's skin. They only take a day or two to mature. Anchorworms have hooks that they bury under the scale into the fish's skin to hang on while it feeds.

Fish Lice; this parasite looks like a tick walking around the fish. Yep, you can see it moving around on the fish. Fish Lice work much like a tick on a dog they just hang on and bite into the fish, eating the skin.

Flukes; this is a worm like parasite that inches along in the slime coat or gills of the fish. Both the Skin Flukes and the Gill Flukes have hooks, much like the Anchorworm, that they use to hold on with while feeding. The Skin Flukes are live bearers while the Gill Flukes are egglayers.

Ich; this is the most well known of all the seven and is most commonly known as white spot. The salt looking spots that you can see on the fish are in fact not the parasite. They are cysts that the parasite has left behind. You can't see the bug with the necked eye.

Tric; This is one of the coolest parasites to look at under the microscope. It is slow moving and looks like a flying saucer or dinner plate. Tric is most commonly found in ponds that are dirty with slow moving water and or filtration problems.

Chilodonella; this one is ear or bean shaped, it is also a slow mover flipping and rolling as it feeds.

Costa; now Costa is the smallest and fastest of then all and that is the reason it is hard for the novice to find. It will be a small oval that is moving across the slide very fast.

Knowing what you have is the biggest problem given that you need a microscope to see five of the seven parasites and that the two you can see aren't that common. I could go into more detail on each of the bugs but I don't feel that at this time it is called for with the fact that there is only a hand full of members that would know one of them if they saw it. Also those of us that could find them know what to do about it. This is the point I would like to make again to all club members “ **I will teach anyone of you any time you like, what the bugs look like, how to find them and what to do when you do find them**” all you need do is ask! The more of us there are that have the knowledge the better it is for the club. The club has a good microscope and there are plenty of fish around to look at.

Calendar of events...

Aug. 8 – Greg and Barb Nicholas

Sept. 12 – Lotus Land Koi Farm

Oct. 10 – Ralph **Photo for grow out**

Nov. 14 - Open

Dec. - 14th – Carlos and Terri Gould

Meeting times and places may be subject to change.