



Charleston Showa Koi Club

Last meeting....

Our last meeting was at the home of Jim and Mary. We had a guest speaker, Steve Chalk who talked to us about water quality. We also voted to get a projector for the club to use when we have guest speakers.



Calendar of events...

March-Pond tour meeting 1:00 Carolina Koi Farm

March-Carolina koi Farm 2:00

April 19- Butch and Lorna

May 3 - Trish and Kathy....Grow out

May 03 – last grow out photo

June 13 is the pond Tour

June 14 Robert and Linda

July

August

September

September 18 – 20 Atlanta Show

October 11 Cindy and Charlie

October 16 - 18 NCKWS show in Cary, NC

November 6-8 Charlotte Show

December

Meeting times and places may be subject to change.

Dues are due, please pay Ralph at the next meeting or mail them to him.

Next meeting....

Our next meeting will be March 8 at 2:00 at Carolina Koi Farms in Hollywood. Please take note!!! We will have a “port-a-potty” there is no electricity, running water or seating. So please bring with you...hand sanitizer, lawn chairs, and “picnic finger foods”. We will have some tables set up to put the food on. Robert will also give a talk on clearing the property and building the ponds.



So don't forget hand sanitizer, lawn chairs and finger foods and drink. Remember the pond tour meeting at 1:00.

Dues....

Dues are due if you can't be at the meeting to pay Ralph you can mail payment to him. If you don't have his address please let me know and I will get it for you. Thanks!

Pond tour update....

We are moving along with the preparations. We are still in need of donations for the raffle and door prizes. The pond tour committee ask that each member try and get at least one donation. Anything from gift certificates, gift cards, bird houses, bird feeders, fish feeders, fish food anything pond or garden people would like. If anyone has a connection with a store they could get donations of food or paper goods please let me know and I can let you know what we need. Please try to bring your donation to this meeting.

We are also hoping to see all members helping at the finale. We need a set up crew, parking crew, food crew, welcome crew, "answer questions crew" and the all important clean up crew.

A Lesson from a Koi Keeper's Wife - Beginner Level

So, you are in love with your partner, be it husband, wife, girlfriend or boyfriend (and any other variation on the theme). But you have to consider sharing this with his/her other love, koi! He/she may praise you on your eyes, your coloring and even your body confirmation, but can you compete with the beautifully shaped fins, shiny scales and kuchi beni (lipstick is only temporary)?

If you were aware of your partner's attraction or even addiction before you were a couple, then you only have yourself to blame. If it developed over the years then you should have spotted the warning signs. Gazing at fish in aquariums or stores,

listening to the sound of water in the local pond, or buying and reading glossy magazines. In the latter case if he or she sighs longingly, muttering about the beautiful body shape, first check the magazine, and, assuming it is koi related, suggests maybe you could share it. This is a warning of things to come.

If your partner has been bitten by the koi bug (not treatable by any KHA) your life will change. He/she continues poring over the magazines and (oh horror) Internet sites. You may be thankful they are koi related, but they will lead to trouble. He/she may start by spending a long time pacing around the yard. Let's assume it is suitable for a pond. (Moving to a new house is a whole new problem to be covered in the Advance Level Class). He/she may show a new interest in the position of the trees, septic tank etc. A hosepipe may be found in various shapes to mark the possible site. Then the digging begins.....

Before this point it would have been a good idea to discuss the finances that will be involved. You should have carefully calculated and planned for the labor and materials required, then doubled or trebled it! If your partner refuses to discuss this with you or opens a separate bank account, you should proceed straight to the Advanced Level Course and/or find a new partner. If you stay you can say goodbye to vacations, home improvements or even maintenance. Weekends will be spent creating a wider and deeper hole in your yard. Your flowerbeds will disappear; your floor and carpets in your house will gradually be covered with sand or mud. Your washing machine will groan and finally die having battled with the

soil filled clothes. You will either not see your partner for months, or you may choose to share the experience. Then you may both suffer from aching backs and limbs. Together you will share the heatstroke, or the cold rain. Previously romantic times will disappear. You will be too tired, and suffer from too much pain for more than a kiss. If you are still talking, the conversation may be about pipefitting or the joys of concrete. Despite the additional exercise of carrying building blocks etc your waistline will expand. After a hard day's work you'll happily agree to take out meals, the bigger the better!

Assuming you are still together at this stage, one day your partner will proudly state, "The pond is finished"! This is a lie, maybe the biggest one he/she will ever tell you. You'll share the delight of filling the pond with water, then watching as it leaks (it will). Adjustments will be made (this could take a long time). The pond may be emptied and filled many times. If you are still together and can pay the water company's extreme bills, you are doing well. Finally, the day will come when the first fish is put in the pond. You can sit and watch hoping to see it again, sharing the anguish. Assuming it reappears and is still alive, you may enjoy the addition of other fish. This increases the concern. Your partner will spend hours monitoring the pond. He/she will be outside late at night with a flashlight and again at dawn. He/she will imagine fish jumping out, animals jumping in, and a flock of herons setting up camp round the pond. If you are still together, you will spend hours by the pond, pleasant at times but not in extreme weather.

On those warm sunny days you may find yourself gazing at your partner as he/she

looks lovingly at the koi. Then you resign yourself to taking second or third place in his/her heart, as he/she also looks lovingly at the pumps and filter chambers!

Then one evening, you sit pond side with your partner. The water sparkles under the stars, the moon reflects on the pond. You hear the music of the waterfall gently trickling. Your partner looks at you and smiles. This is the moment you think that makes it all worthwhile until he/she says, "Darling what do you think about making the pond bigger?" For advice on how to react, please join our Advanced Class.

Sue Owens

Can you find the Koi?

K	R	S	K	V	C	D	E	H	Y	Z	I	O	I	R
J	O	E	K	P	H	K	K	E	G	G	R	K	Q	L
W	W	H	C	H	A	E	K	N	A	S	O	K	Z	H
F	T	C	A	W	G	R	G	S	C	A	H	E	W	I
G	P	T	I	K	L	V	A	N	F	O	W	B	Y	U
W	N	R	S	C	U	J	V	P	A	X	M	O	F	Z
B	A	J	Z	P	Q	L	L	J	E	U	Q	G	H	H
H	E	Q	D	L	Q	M	T	B	P	M	O	S	W	S
I	J	Q	H	W	O	N	H	D	K	T	D	O	X	F
L	Q	A	W	Q	Y	U	A	U	F	A	O	G	S	Z
T	L	I	C	Y	L	T	J	S	M	N	Y	H	E	E
X	J	G	N	O	R	A	T	U	M	C	S	K	T	F
G	O	S	H	I	K	I	H	W	D	H	O	G	O	N
U	J	C	Z	U	X	M	X	Q	X	O	S	U	M	I
S	Y	N	S	K	V	N	I	C	J	E	O	Z	E	S

- ASAGI
- BEKKO
- GOSHIKI
- HARIWAKE
- KOHAKU
- KUJAKU
- OGON
- SANKE
- SHOWA
- TANCHO

Have fun, Sue