



# SAKA News



[http:// www.sakoia.org](http://www.sakoia.org)  
February 2007

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## Southern Arizona Koi Association Business

### SAKA AIMS

- a) Organized by people with the interest of raising and improving the quality of Nishiki Koi, and its culture
- b) Through Nishiki Koi, promote better international and community relations and for public welfare and the better understanding of brother-hood among members through a common interest.
- c) To improve the technology of raising and keeping koi
- d) To promote Nishiki Koi

### BUSINESS

- a) To encourage the raising and better development of koi through public and private exhibition
- b) We will have monthly study discussions and make field trips to various members' ponds
- c) To carry out necessary business functions of the Club

### CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- a) A qualified member must be interested in pond culture
- b) Persons wishing to become a member must be first introduced by another member in good standing and have approval of the Officers - Dues are payable immediately
- c) Membership will be terminated by the Officers if a member is found guilty of negligence of his duty, is against the purposes of the southern Arizona Koi Association, and/or who disgraces or insults the Club.

### SAKA Club Officers

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>President</b>      | Bob Panter<br><a href="mailto:sakabob@yahoo.com">sakabob@yahoo.com</a><br>(520) 747-7278          |
| <b>Vice President</b> | David Young<br><a href="mailto:koiman@mindspring.com">koiman@mindspring.com</a><br>(520) 682-7697 |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | <b>OPEN</b>   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | Faye & Winton Hall<br>(520) 297-1253  |



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## *Committees/Points of Contact*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>2007 Pond Tour</b>                            | Debbie Shaw<br><a href="mailto:castlerockkings@cox.net">castlerockkings@cox.net</a><br>(520) 275-4510   |
| <b>28<sup>th</sup> Koi Show<br/>Chairpersons</b> | <b>OPEN</b>   |
| <b>AKCA Representative</b>                       | Debby Young<br><a href="mailto:debbyt@akca.org">debbyt@akca.org</a><br>(520) 682-7697                   |
| <b>Newsletter Editor</b>                         | Laurel Nason<br><a href="mailto:laurelnason@yahoo.com">laurelnason@yahoo.com</a><br>(520) 794-8695      |
| <b>Koi Health Advisor</b>                        | Noel Shaw<br><a href="mailto:koidoc@noelshawdc.com">koidoc@noelshawdc.com</a><br>(520) 400-0335         |
| <b>Membership<br/>Chairperson</b>                | Faye Hall<br>(520) 297-1253   |
| <b>Raffle Chairpersons</b>                       | Wanda & Bruce Triebel<br><a href="mailto:wandakarlik@aol.com">wandakarlik@aol.com</a><br>(520) 572-0060 |

## *President's Corner*

Where does a club go from here? We ask this question because we need feedback. Yes, from you the members. This is your club, not mine or any other individual members. It is all of us coming together, working, playing, learning, sharing, etc. This makes our club what it is. No one member is better than all the rest.

So I say to each of you, help your club. Let us know what you want and expect. This is the only way things can happen for the better, by your input. You are important. You are the Southern Arizona Koi Association.

**Robert Panter, President**



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## *Announcements*

### **Good News:**

Conci Richardson is home from the hospital. Glad you're feeling better Conci. Welcome home!

### **Have You Seen Me?**



We miss your membership, Brent!

## *Club News*

Please consider what you want our organization to focus on and accomplish in 2007 and the years ahead. We are always in need of our members to accept club leadership positions and volunteers for our various activities. Diversity in ideas and programs are an important component to any organizations success. **Please** help us make SAKA better meet the needs of our membership. Here are a few thoughts to consider and get the ball rolling for discussion at the next several meetings.

- Ideas for monthly speakers and presentation topics
- Club Pond tour (Have you hosted your pond yet?)
- Club website content (Are pictures of your pond on there?)
- Club field trips, projects, or parties?
- Advertisement ideas for promoting SAKA events
- Club Discounts? (Koi Food, pond supplies, etc)

Please bring your own ideas for our organization to any club meeting and especially to our February meeting.



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## *Don't Forget*

**Vice President and Secretary Elections:** In March we will be electing our VP and Secretary for the next 2 years.

**Annual Membership Dues:** Dues are collected March 1<sup>st</sup>. Please maintain your membership in the club by paying your dues. The money is used to provide this monthly newsletter and to support club events. We don't want to lose you! Renewal forms are included at the back of this newsletter.

**Phoenix AKCA Seminar:** The upcoming June 26<sup>th</sup> AKCA Seminar will be held in Phoenix. Please make your reservations soon. For those who have never attended a seminar previously, the club has some scholarship money available to help defray some of the costs for SAKA members. Apply today! Let's support the club and have a great time!

**SAKA Raffle:** The club will be raffling off a Lim ¼ HP Wave Pump and a 40 Watt UV filter at our annual potluck. Raffle tickets may be purchased at each monthly meeting for \$1/ticket or 6 tickets for \$5. The more raffle tickets you purchase, the better your odds are of winning!

**Hosting Meetings:** For those wishing to host an upcoming business/education meeting, the club will reimburse the host up to \$50 (with receipts) toward food/beverage for the meeting. We still need hosts for the June and September meetings. We'd like to see your pond!

**Editor's Note:** If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please contact me via email or regular mail. Let me know if you have specific requests for articles that can make this newsletter more informative.

## *January's Business Meeting Minutes*



**Date & Location:** January 28, 2007 at Noel and Debbie Shaw's Home

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:20pm by Club President Bob Panter. Motion made and seconded to accept minutes from December's meeting. Motion Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Current balance is \$14,211.12.

**Membership:** Current enrollment is 61 members.

**AKCA Report:** AKCA Representative, Debby Young was not present at the meeting. Tom Ayers reported that the 2008 seminar will be in Florida, and 2009 will be in San Diego.

**Correspondence:** Newsletters received from various clubs around the country.



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**Show Committee:** No show committee at this time. Looking for show chairman. Judges have been lined up.

**Pond Tour:** Tour will be May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Saturday will be in and around Tucson. Sunday will be Green Valley and Vail area. More ponds are needed. No hosting prizes will be given this year, but we will continue to give the "People's Choice Award".

**2007 AKCA Seminar:** Registration is now open. Only 4 people have registered so far. There will be 22 workshops. Tours are being confirmed. Baseball game on Friday night. Hotels will work with us getting people to and from the casinos for those who wish to gamble. Pins have been selected and will be handed out pin exchange. 12 vendors have committed. Scholarship monies are available. No one has applied to date. Scholarship requests are due at the March Meeting – registrations due by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications will be in the February newsletter.

**Nominating Committee:** Need nominations for Vice President and Secretary. Committee consists of Laurel Nason, Tom Ayers and Faye Hall.

**Budget Committee:** Committee will meet February 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm. Budgets need to be faxed to 748-8185 by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**New Business:** Our membership is not growing and we need members to host meetings. Noel Shaw will get some prices for placing ads about our club in various publications around the city. Motion made and seconded to spend \$300.00 for a three month advertising campaign to see if we can attract new members. More exposure is required. No one has the time to spend at the Home Show promoting our club. We might do an email survey and follow up with phone calls. Noel Shaw will be the contact person, and will have a link from our website.

**Old Business:** Trailer for the show tanks has been purchased, but Winton and Faye Hall can't insure it because they're not able to tow it. Since they can't insure it, they do not want their name on the title. Noel Shaw has agreed to tow the trailer to and from the show, and to have his name on the title. Discussion was held about securing a central meeting place for our monthly meetings. General consensus was that we prefer going to members' homes and seeing their ponds. Several members spoke of Jack Stone and his contributions to the club. His knowledge and presence will be missed.

**Adjournment:** Business meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

**Education:** Dave Young discussed the Koi variety Utsurimono with a few volunteers from the Shaw's pond.

## *Featured Articles*

It is hard to believe that spring is almost here. Soon our pond's water temperature will be staying above 60 degrees and our fish will become more active. Let's all hope that the mild winter will help



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our fishy friends have a happy and healthy 2007. Here are some suggestions that will help you get your pond off to a trouble free start this spring:

1. **Start with a clean pond:** Remove leaves and any sludge that might have accumulated this winter. **Never** stir up the muck in your pond with fish still in the same water. Use a holding tank. It is especially important to remove any seed pods or branches that may have dropped in the late fall/winter.
2. **Continue to do regular water testing and water changes:** Remember your ponds biological filtration will lag behind your feeding schedule. Also ammonia-fixing bacteria develop faster than the nitrite-fixing bacteria. Test your water for both ammonia and nitrites. Make water changes as often as necessary to keep tests within normal levels. It is better to feed smaller amounts of food several times a day than one large feeding.
3. **Watch your pond water temperature.** You can increase the number and amount of fish feedings as the water temperature rises. A suggestion would be to increase the amount of food very slowly watching your water testing and feed small amounts several times a day until the temperature stays above 75 degrees. Try to feed between 9:00am & 3:00pm so the fish have a better chance to digest the food before the pond temperature drops at night. Wide swings in temperature tend to stress our koi.
4. **You should be feeding a lower protein food such as wheat germ:** It is also a very good idea to add extra Vitamin C to your fish food. Buy Vitamin C powder at a health food store and dissolve a teaspoon in a small amount of warm water for every one to two pounds of food. Stir the powder into food until dry and then keep/store in a cool dry airtight container. Another option is to slice an orange/grapefruit into rings or sections and let the koi/goldfish enjoy playing "keep away". Just remember to remove the outer rind from the pond when the koi are finished. Cheerios and Oats often make great snacks at this time of year.
5. **Watch your fish carefully:** for any that do not swim or eat with the other fish or start flashing (rub themselves against the sides or bottom of the pond). On very cold days they will be very slow or inactive but they should act similar. Watch for cuts or sores that might develop. These will not heal well in water below 75 degrees and a few days of warmer temperatures the bad bugs can wake up and cause big problems. You should disinfect any significant scratches with iodine (7%) or other approved koi ulcer disinfectant. If your fish start flashing excessively find out what is happening and treat it. If high ammonia or nitrites are present, do a water change and reduce or stop feeding.
6. **Move sick or injured fish to heated/salted hospital tank:** Remember a fish's immune system is temperature dependent. After they recover from their ailment you can put them back in the pond. If possible, provide a sick koi with a buddy if the size of your quarantine tank can accommodate them.
7. **Salt Treatment:** A salt treatment is recommended for your fish/pond each spring especially if your fish had any problems with ulcers or fin rot the previous year. You will have to **remove any plants** to a separate container for 3-4 weeks. Add 5 lbs. of **non-iodized** salt per 100 gallons of water.



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This also equates to about 2 and ½ cups of salt per 100 gallons. Several garden centers carry salt in 50 lb bags. Split the treatment into three parts and add over three days. For example if you had a 1,000 gallon pond you would need to add 50# of salt (provided you had no residual salt in the pond during the winter). You would add it at a rate of approximately 16-17# per day for three days. You would maintain this salt concentration for two weeks, which means salt should be added with every water change. For example if you did a 100-gallon water change, you would need to add back 5# of salt. When performing a water change, it is best to put this salted water somewhere where you don't want to grow anything! After the two weeks you can increase your water changes to 20-30% per day. After one to two more weeks, the level of salt in your pond will be reduced to almost nothing and you can reintroduce your plants. Total time from start to finish is 3-4 weeks. It is best to do this right now as salt slows down the maturing of your biological filter and if you start feeding your fish a lot, its likely larger need to do bigger water changes and replace more salt. Remember though, that salt (somewhere greater than 0.05 - .15%) in combination with Pro-Form C or any other formalin based product is **TOXIC** to your fish and will likely result in mortality. Salt encourages a healthy slime coat so the koi can fend off the parasites and bacteria naturally. If you can't remove the plants from your pond, then use half the amount of salt recommended above.

8. **Other Spring Treatments:** Praziquantel is an expensive and safe, gentle treatment and works well if used early in the spring to control intestinal worms and flukes. Koi-Zyme works well to compete against the bad bacteria in your pond. For pond owners who use Koi clay, the clay will absorb the chemicals and will reduce/eliminate their effectiveness in your pond. If your water quality is not optimum, Pro-form C's effectiveness is reduced. Supaverm **KILLS** Goldfish. Potassium Permanganate can be used as a "pond cleaner". Water temperatures should be in the 65-85 degree range to effectively treat parasites. Below 65 degrees F, the life cycle of several parasites including Ich, costia and gill flukes is too long for the chemicals to be effective. Above 85 degrees F, the chemicals that reduce oxygen solubility may put the koi at further risk of inadequate oxygen, so supplemental aeration is required.

Before using any chemicals, know your pond volume to within 30%. Without knowing how many gallons your pond has, the dose of chemicals will not be accurate enough to provide for safe parasite control. Potassium permanganate needs to be used with caution. Of all the chemicals, I've used, potassium permanganate has caused me the most trouble but can be used safely if the pond owner is diligent. The pond owner should use 0.5 ppm of potassium permanganate treatments until the purple/pink color lasts more than 15 minutes. If the dose lasts more than 15 minutes, then the Dissolved Organic Carbon level in the pond is low enough for Pro-Form C or formalin to kill the parasites. Formalin has a negative effect on your filter and on sick/weak fish. Make sure when using Potassium Permanganate that you add supplemental aeration (not water circulation). If your fish start acting abnormally (clamped fins, fast swimming, jumping, flashing, gasping for air at the surface), immediately dose your pond with hydrogen peroxide. Hydrogen peroxide breaks down to water and oxygen immediately neutralizing potassium permanganate. Doses vary but I use a cup of hydrogen peroxide per 1000 gallons.



Prazi and Koi Zyme can be used in combination with salt. Further information on what medications/treatments can be used and in combination with each other, refer to Dr. Erik Johnson's website at [WWW.KOIVET.COM](http://WWW.KOIVET.COM).

## *Kawarigoi Korner – KHV Testing Q&A*



Symptoms of KHV (Dr. Erik Johnson's website):

Mortality. Pale white lesions may appear in the gills of affected fish. Excess slime, especially on the head and nape of the fish seems common. Body-color of the fish may become blotchy and the internal organs may be damaged or even liquefied.

### Most Frequently Asked Questions About Koi Herpes Virus (KHV)

(by Linda Montgomery and Vicky Vaughan – Partial Reprint from KOI USA Mar/April 2006)

To be effective in fighting any bacterial or viral infection, you must first be knowledgeable about it. The virus of the decade is Koi Herpes Virus (KHV) and the difficulty about this particular virus is that there are so many unknowns. The good thing is that the Associated Koi Clubs of America (AKCA), with the help of many koi hobbyists, have been motivated to help fund research so that we can find out more about this devastating virus. They are still a long way off from having enough money to fund the research to develop a vaccine for this deadly virus, but they have learned a lot to help us better understand and identify the virus to hopefully prevent many of our koi from being infected by it.

#### **Q1. What test should you have done if you suspect you are dealing with a KHV outbreak in your pond?**

A1. If you suspect an active KHV outbreak, the best test to have done, if the virus is actively shedding, is the PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test. This test looks for the DNA or genetic code of the virus and requires the necropsy of the fish. This test takes tissue samples from several organs of the koi and blends them into a "test cocktail".

#### **Q2. Do you need a live fish for PCR testing?**

A2. No, you can send in a fish that has recently died or been frozen. Both would need to be packed on ice and sent overnight.

#### **Q3. Do I need to send in more than one fish?**

A3. No but it would be better to send in more than one fish. It is possible to receive a false negative result so it is bet to send in a minimum of two if not three fish. The good news here is that there is just one fee for the PCR test no matter how many fish from a single pond are being tested. The reason for this is that they blend all of the samples into one "test cocktail" to determine if any of the fish have KHV. After all, it doesn't really matter which one had it, you just need to find out if the pond has been exposed to the virus.

#### **Q4. How could a false negative result happen?**

A4. After a fish has been exposed to the virus, it has an incubation period of 7-10 days at 75degrees F until the virus sheds. Before the virus starts shedding, the PCR test would read negative. So, if you sent a recently exposed fish, you could receive a negative result.



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**Q5. Could you ever get a false positive result for KHV?**

A5. No. However, Vicki mentions that there is an exception to this. If a technician handling the samples does not sterilize properly or handles the samples incorrectly, then a false reading is a possibility because of cross contamination.

**Q6. How long after a fish dies will the virus remain there to be found? (How soon do you need to send a fish after it dies?)**

A6. Depends on several factors, but mainly on how the fish is preserved after it dies. If a fish dies from KHV and is frozen soon after, then it could be tested years later and KHV could still be found in its genetic code. If the fish is fresh and kept cold (by packing it with ice packs) and sent in for testing, then the virus is detectible for at least one week. However, after approximately one week, enzymes in the body of the fish will start to break down the DNA.

**Q7. How long does it take before receiving a result?**

A7. 24-48 hours after receiving the sample fish.

**Q8. Will the test work on identifying the virus if the fish has survived an outbreak? In other words, is there a test to determine if a koi still harbors the virus after a KHV outbreak?**

A8. Yes, there is a test if you are dealing with survival fish after a KHV outbreak; it is called a serological blood test. This test has the ability to detect antibody production that is in response to exposure to the KHV virus. This test requires a blood draw and does not require the death of a fish.

**Q9. How much does the test cost?**

A9. Approximate cost is \$38.00 for the KHV test alone. There is a full list of costs for other tests and procedures on the [www.koilab.com](http://www.koilab.com) web site. For anyone interested in further training in koi health, there is a koi health maintenance course offered at the University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine. The website is [www.koiclass.com](http://www.koiclass.com).

## *Upcoming SAKA Business Meetings*

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>March 25, 2007</b>     | Host: Frances Case<br>(520) 886-7211   |
| <b>April 22, 2007</b>     | Hosts: David and Debby Young<br>520-682-7697   |
| <b>May 20, 2007</b>       | Hosts: Dan & Martha Cover<br>(520) 297-4071  |
| <b>June 17, 2007</b>      | Host: <b>Open</b>  |
| <b>July 22, 2007</b>      | Host: <b>Mountain View Koi Fish &amp; Aquatic Plants – Annual Potluck</b><br>Curt and Lisa Ogren<br>(520) 378-3710 |
| <b>August 26, 2007</b>    | Hosts: Cuong and Stella Le<br>(520) 733-3493   |
| <b>September 23, 2007</b> | Host: <b>Open</b>  |
| <b>October 28, 2007</b>   | Hosts: Winton and Faye Hall<br>(520) 297-1253  |
| <b>November</b>           | <b>NO MEETING: See you at the Show!</b>  |
| <b>December 2007</b>      | Hosts: Bruce & Wanda Triebel<br>(520) 572-0060   |



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|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| January 27, 2008 | Host: <b>Open</b> |
|------------------|-------------------|

## Upcoming KOI Shows and Seminars

| Event  | Dates/Location   |
|--|--|
| <br>SAKA Pond Tour  | <b>May 5th-6th</b><br><b>Contact: Debbie Shaw for Info</b>   |
| <br><b>26<sup>th</sup> Annual AKCA Seminar</b>                | <br><b>June 21-24, 2007</b><br><b>Phoenix Marriott Mesa</b><br><b>Mesa, Arizona</b><br><b>Hosted by SAKA &amp; VSKC</b><br> |
| <br><b>28<sup>th</sup> Annual SAKA Show and Koi Auction</b> | <b>November 9-11, 2007</b><br><b>Kino Sports Park</b><br><b>Tucson, Arizona</b>  |

## SAKA 10% Discount

With your SAKA Membership Card

**Boyd Equipment Center**  
 3625 S Country Club Road  
 Tucson, AZ  
 (520) 792-2244 or  
 1 (800) 844-2244

**Mountain View Koi Fish # Aquatic Plants**  
 3828 Keeling Road  
 Hereford, Az  
 (520) 378-3710



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Annual Membership  
Dues are \$25.00 per family from March 1 to February 28 or 29  
of the next year. If paid after August 1 \$17.50, September 1  
\$15.00, October \$12.50,  
November \$10.00, December \$7.50.

For 1 year subscription (6 issues)  
\_\_\_\_ \$24.95US for any person in US or Canada  
\_\_\_\_ \$20.00US special price for AKCA Koi Club  
members

**Membership Type**  
\_\_\_\_ Renewal  
\_\_\_\_ New Member

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

Club affiliation (for special price) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Subscribers' name \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribers mailing address  
\_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of payment**

\_\_\_\_ Check made out to "KOI USA"

\_\_\_\_ Visa or Master card  
\_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Koi \_\_\_\_\_

Years Keeping Koi: \_\_\_\_\_

Pond size: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to host a meeting?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
Month year

Would you like to serve on a committee?  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ If yes which one?  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Make Checks payable to: SAKA**

Mail to: Faye & Winton Hall  
6775 North Los Arboles Circle  
Tucson, AZ 85704-4110



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Southern Arizona Koi Association

Scholarship Application Form

To attend the 26th Annual AKCA Seminar

Due 3/25/07

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

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

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to attend the 26th Annual AKCA Seminar in Phoenix, Az?

What do you hope to gain and/or learn from the 26th Annual AKCA Seminar?

What will you hope to give back to the Southern Arizona Koi Association, if you are selected to receive some support to attend the 26th Annual AKCA Seminar?

Bring the completed for to the business meeting or mail to SAKA 3552 South Chesin Drive, Tucson AZ, 85730