



3661 N Campbell PMB 242
Tucson, AZ 85719
Address Service Requested

David and Debby Young's Home, April 26th

Education Meeting begins at 3pm. Business meeting to follow

There will be a discussion on Longfins for education.

SAKA 2009-2010 Dues are past due as of March 1st.

Dave and Debby Young

11355 W Picture Rocks Rd Tucson, AZ 85743
Phone/Fax: (520) 237-5249 or (520) 682-7697



From I-10:

West on Ina, Left on Wade Rd, Right on Picture Rocks to Address.

President's Corner

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our new members for the support they give our club. Welcome to the Southern Arizona Koi Association, Inc. your club to promote Koi and its aquaculture.

I would like to give a great big thanks to **all** of our members for their continued support of our club and all of its activities, and educational opportunities. Keep up the good work.

Pond Tour 2009 is right around the corner. I hope everyone can make it. The tour is one of our best ever. If you can help out please do so. We need all the volunteers we can get, even if it is just for a couple of hours. There are many great ponds on the tour waiting for all to enjoy. Tell everyone you know about our pond tour, and may all have fun.

With the pond tour fast approaching a good water quality test for the health of your koi is the thing to do. Not only check the water but also how your koi are doing. You can see them swim around your pond. Are they doing anything out of the ordinary, flashing, jumping out of the water, or just isolating them selves? These are just some of the signs that can tell you things are not quite right in your pond. Please take care of these things. Your koi will love you for it.

For the love of Koi,

Bob Panter, President SAKA, Inc.
Southern Arizona Koi Association Inc. Club Contacts

SAKA, Inc Club Officers

President	Bob Panter sakabob@yahoo.com (520) 747-7278
Vice President	David Young koiman@mindspring.com (520) 682-7697
Secretary	Lynn Riley (520) 825-9066
Treasurer	Dan and Martha Cover mardan79@msn.com (520) 297-4071

Committees/Points of Contact

2009 Pond Tour	Debbie Shaw castlerockkings@cox.net (520) 275-4510
30th Koi Show Co-Chairperson(s)	Bob and Darleen Panter dpanteraz@cox.net (520) 747-7278
AKCA Representative	Debby Young debbyt@akca.org (520) 682-7697
Newsletter Editor	Brent VanKoevinger
Koi Health Advisor	Noel Shaw koidoc@noelshawdc.com (520) 400-0335
Membership Chairperson	Faye Hall (520) 297-1253
Raffle Chairpersons	Wanda & Bruce Triebel wkt56@comcast.net (520) 572-0060
Scholarship Committee	Erin Riley eriley@aol.com (520) 818-6490

Editor's Note: Articles published herein are intended for the enjoyment of our club members and come from a variety of sources. The articles are not intended to replace veterinary advice. Pond owners, and not the club, are responsible for the health of their koi, water changes, what to do, and how to treat their pond. Reasonable effort is made to review these articles for accuracy before including them in the newsletter.

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Club Meetings

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 meetings in 2009. We would like to see your pond!** Please contact Bob Panter if you are interested in hosting a meeting.

Club Announcements

2009 Pond Tour – We are still in need of a few ponds:

Please contact Debbie Shaw (castlerockkings@cox.net) (520) 275-4510 if you are interested in putting your pond on the Tucson Area Pond Tour for May 2nd or May 3rd. If you were not on last year's pond tour or if you have made significant upgrades or redesigns and would like to share your backyard oasis with us, we would love to see it. Proceeds from the pond tour help us put on our annual Koi Show and this is our 30th year (Nov 13-15th). We are one of only 3 clubs in the USA that has held that many consecutive shows.

Mountain View Koi Fish and Aquatic Plants Anniversary Sale (April 25th), Hereford, Az:

Lisa and Curt will be holding a one day business anniversary Sale on Saturday April 25th from 9am-5pm. 10% off everything and free drawing for fish, plants and some pond products. There is no Sierra Vista/Hereford Pond Tour this year.

March Business Meeting Minutes

Date & Location: Tom Ayers' Home, March 29, 2009

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Bob Panter at 5:10 PM.

Feb. Minutes: Motion made to accept and second the Feb. Minutes; motion passed.

Number of memberships in attendance: 16 and 4 guests

Treasurer's Report: Current checking account balance: \$5666.18

2009 Membership: 28 paid members for 2009-2010

Correspondence: Several organizations contacted Debby Shaw: Tucson Japanese Speaking Contest, International Professional Pond Contractors, and a Chicago based pond contractor who is interested in possibly starting a business in Tucson.

AKCA: Nominations for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Chief Financial Officer were brought forward and approved.

2009 Pond Tour Committee: The SAKA 2009 Pond Tour is in its final preparations. Posters are completed and several were handed out for disbursement by members around the city. There are 14 new ponds on this year's tour. Only 3 vendors will be selling the tickets for the tour, which will be available about mid-April. Awards have been ordered but will be distributed in a different manner than last year.

New Business: There was a discussion regarding how rescued fish should be handled. A committee was set-up to determine a policy for rescue fish.

The Tucson Japanese Speaking Contest will be held at Pima Community College West Campus on April 11 from 12-5 PM. SAKA will have a display with live fish, Debby and Noel Shaw agreed to organize this.

The Tucson Water Gardeners will hold their annual water plant sale at Reid Park on Sunday May 17.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:51 PM.

Education: Larry and Pat Christenson were our guest speakers; they are from the Northwest Koi and Goldfish Club. They gave a power-point presentation on the construction of their 27,000 gallon pond. Because of the location (near wetlands) and the homeowner's association concerns their pond had to be constructed using much more reinforcement and materials than most pond builders have to deal with. They also inserted a large viewing window into their construction. Anyone wanting to put in a viewing window or build a bomb-proof pond should contact Larry and Pat for advice.

Featured Articles

Koi Health Advisors (KHA) are not Koi EMT's It Is Time To Join The KHA Program!by Jerold Kyle, KHA

Thinking about being a Koi Health Advisors (KHA)? It is definitely something to consider, a way to learn to be a better keeper of your own Koi, a way to support the AKCA, your local Koi club, your Koi, your friends, and the community. The primary value of a KHA is not to be available at 10:00 pm when someone calls in a panic and says, "Help, my Koi is lying on its side and hardly moving - What should I do?" It may sound harsh, but one Fish Veterinarian said to me the reality is that the best thing for the pond owner at that moment is to take two aspirins and go to bed. What! ?? The point is that by the time one got that call it was probably already too late. The whole purpose of becoming a KHA is not to be a Koi EMT but to learn and teach good preventative koi husbandry principals in order to help prevent this kind of situation.

There is no silver bullet and there is no magic wonder drug to learn about so you can always be a heroic Koi EMT and run around saving lives. Koi health is much like people health in that prevention is the best medicine. It is a lot less stressful on both the patient and the KHA. It is about the environment we live in and the air we breathe for both people and Koi. People that eat right, exercise right, get proper rest at night, drink plenty of liquids are generally healthier than those who don't. How does a Koi eat right, you ask? KHA people know. Exercise? Do Koi exercise? The healthy ones do and a KHA knows how. Proper rest and plenty of liquids? I must be kidding with the plenty of liquids, right? Nope, it's called osmoregulation and is just one of the things a KHA learns about. There may be no silver bullets but there is a ton of information in the KHA Program that when put together will make someone much more knowledgeable than the average pond owner. Their Koi will be more healthy and comfortable too.

There is a greater personal comfort level when one understands the ins and outs of water quality and good Koi health along with knowing there is a support group to turn to when one does not have the answers. We don't all have all the answers but KHAs all have the Veterinarians and qualified teachers along with more advanced KHA members who want to help and are part of the KHA support group. It is gratifying to be involved with such a dedicated group of people. Every club needs and prizes the KHA that is part of their group but they need more. Unfortunately, there are still too few KHAs with some clubs doing without altogether. It is an honor and a privilege to be in a position to help other club members by sharing knowledge. It also feels good to be respected. KHA is at the forefront striving to keep up with the newest, ever changing, Koi husbandry information, new meds, and new technology. The KHA Continuing Education Program helps make being and/or having a KHA in a club invaluable.

KHA Classes begin in July and you can sign up from then until the end of November. However, the sooner you get started the more time you have and the easier it may be. It is time to think about being involved in improving your knowledge and value to your club. Except for the final Lab portion of the class, which will be held at the AKCA Annual Seminar May 19-23, 2010, in Nashville TN, everything is handled on line at your own pace. The quizzes are "open book." If you do not know the answer you are directed where to look. There is so much information that the greatest lesson may be in the learning where to look. The admission fee of \$100 will be refunded if one completes the course within two years, which means if you stick with it; the course is free as AKCA picks up the tab for you. The KHA Class Coordinator is Tim Czech who can be reached by e-mail at tim.czech@wel-design.com. Interested? You should be. Let Tim know if you are considering joining this dedicated group and he will send you the details.

Kohaku

reprinted from www.akca.org

One of the most quoted phrases in koi keeping is that the hobbyist begins with Kohaku and ends with Kohaku. In fact, many new hobbyists overlook the Kohaku in preference for the brightly colored Ogon and other metallic koi because they feel that Kohaku look too much like goldfish! However, as they begin to appreciate the colors and patterns of koi, hobbyists often turn to Kohaku because of their simplicity and elegance.

History

Red and white koi appeared in Japan between 1804 and 1829, when the offspring of a black carp was found to have red cheeks. She was called Hookazuki and her white offspring were bred with a Higo, a red fish, to produce koi with red stomachs. By 1829, a koi with red gill plates called Hoo Aka had been produced, and between 1830 and 1849 several different patterns appeared, including Zukinkaburi (red forehead), Menkaburi (red head), Kuchibeni (red lips) and Sarasa (red spot on back). The breeding of Kohaku continued and varieties were improved, especially in Niigata region, now considered the birthplace of koi keeping. In about 1888, a gentleman called Gosuke bought a Hachi Hi, a red headed female, and bred it with his Sokura Kana, a cherry blossom patterned male. It is believed that the modern Kohaku was developed from the offspring of these koi.

Colors

Kohakus are white koi with red (hi) markings. Ideally, the hi should have a good depth of color but, more importantly, the color should be of a uniform shade and the edge of the hi pattern should be well defined. This definition between white and hi markings is known as "kiwa". There appear to be two types of coloration. The purplish red hi is dark and does not fade easily. This color is considered to lack elegance and tends to splatter over the koi. Brownish red hi can produce a very fine, almost translucent, color but tends to fade easily. The white should be the color of fresh snow and free from blemishes. A poor white, which can be dirty yellow in appearance, will spoil an otherwise good Kohaku because the hi pattern will not stand out. The unity and balance of color and pattern on a Kohaku are of the utmost importance. As a general guideline, the hi should cover between 50 and 70 percent of the koi.

Patterns

Because Kohaku appears as such a simple koi in terms of coloration, the criteria by which they are judged is severe. The pattern is the last thing to consider when the koi is being judged but is probably the most discussed. Balance over the whole of the koi's body is the key to any pattern.

Head

On any Kohaku the hi pattern begins on the head. The traditional head pattern for the hi is a large U shape, which should reach down as far as the eyes. If the hi does not reach the eyes, the pattern can be balanced by "kuchibeni" or lipstick like markings. A hi marking that reaches the mouth is know as "hanatsuki" and a pattern that spreads over the face is called "menkaburi". Recently, koi keepers have begun to appreciate Kohaku with interesting or irregular shaped marking on the head.

Body

Large hi markings are preferred to small hi markings. A break in the pattern is preferred between the back of the head and the shoulder. Variation is also important. Koi grow from the abdomen, so when selecting a young Kohaku, look for a large pattern of hi. Balance of pattern over the body of the koi is most important. A Kohaku that has most of its hi pattern at the front of its body lacks balance and elegance.

Patterns

Inazuma: This is a continuous pattern, extending from the head to the tail, but with a zig zag look. Inazuma literally means lightning.

Nidan: Nidan means two and this koi has two hi markings.

Sandan This Koi has three hi markings.

Yondan: This Kohaku has four hi markings.

Goten-zakura: This koi has a cherry-blossom pattern. The hi is dappled and looks like clusters of grapes.

Kanoko: This fish actually is classified in the Kawarimono class and not Kohaku in shows. The head hi is solid but the body hi is dappled.

Tail

The end of the pattern is as important as the beginning. On a perfectly marked Kohaku, the hi pattern ends just before the tail joint.

Fins

Snow white fins are the perfect accompaniment to the red on white pattern of a large koi. As a general rule, hi extending into the fins is considered detrimental to the koi's markings. Hi in the pelvic fins is not a problem because it cannot be seen when the koi is judged.

Scalation

Scalation should be even all over the body of the koi. The Japanese prefer hi that is strong enough to disguise the individual scales. Scales that are visible because the hi is thin are known as "kokesuki". A Kohaku of any pattern with scales only along the dorsal and lateral lines is known as a Doitsu Kohaku.

Selecting a Young Kohaku

reprinted from www.akca.org

Many people have asked me to help choose fish for them that I think will become a show winner. For this reason, I am writing some articles on what I think people should look for in small koi if they plan on showing them someday. I wanted to write about the kohaku first, because I believe that is the most important fish if you are looking for a future grand champion and it is the basis for other varieties. When looking at a large number of kohakus, perhaps hundreds at a time, the first thing I look for is a white tip at the front and back of the fish. It is preferable to have the red on the head of a kohaku to only go down about as far as the nostrils. Also, the head must have red on it. Don't pick a kohaku with an all white head. Red over the eyes of the koi used to be looked down upon, but in modern times it may come down over the eye. However, I think it is better if the red only comes down over one eye, not both eyes at the same time.

The head is generally one of the most important parts in an early koi. Now that you have several koi with acceptable head patterns, I look at the rest of the body. As I said earlier, I also look to see if there is a white patch right before the tail. If at all possible, I would like one there, but if all the rest of the koi has positive characteristics, this is not as important as the head.

For the body, I look for red that is balanced side to side and covers 70% of the body. This is so that as the koi grows up, and the white comes up, there is still adequate red on the body. The red on the body can be in a zig_zag pattern (inazuma), a three or four step pattern, or anything else that looks eye catching. If the red is straight with no signs of breaking, the pattern may be uninteresting as the koi grows. I also look for koi that are broad at the shoulders, have a large skull, and have relatively large pectoral fins. This generally means the koi will grow larger to compete in shows.

When buying young kohakus, don't worry too much about the color. The white should preferably be snow white but may also be pink if it was color fed before shipping. Avoid kohakus with a dirty grayish_white. As for the red, it may be either bright red or orange_red. Many orange_red young kohakus turn a pretty red as they grow. Next make sure there are no red or black marks on any of the fins. A small red patch at the base of the pectorals may be okay. Also, make sure there are no black marks on the body. All red on the body should also be in sizeable patches, not in single scale areas (ie. small red spots).

Last, but not least, take the koi out in a show tub and check for any body defects or any signs of disease. If these exist, do not buy the fish no matter how nice it looks. I hope this information can give you some help in selecting kohakus. Who knows? In 7 years, you may have a grand champion.

Kawarigo Koi Korner



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*Please never wait. The 1st Tategoi program (Seki Shiro Utsuri) was gone within only two weeks.

If you have suggestions for the newsletter or items to be included in Karawagoi Corner or the Calendar, Please contact Brent VanKoeving at 520.780.3980 or bvankoeving@longrealty.com.

Upcoming SAKA Education and Business Meetings

Date	Location
April 26, 2009	Host: David and Debby Young
May 31, 2009	Host: Dan and Martha Cover
June 28, 2009	Host: Mountain View Koi – Annual Potluck
July 26, 2009	Host: Chuck and Phyllis Tampio
August 23, 2009	Host: Noel and Debbie Shaw
September 27, 2009	Host: Dave and Terry Johnson
October 25, 2009	Host: Bob and Darleen Panter
November 2009	NO MEETING: See you at the Show
December 13, 2009	Host: The Slonakers
January 2010	Host: Open
February 2010	Host: Open
March 2010	Host: Open
April 2010	Host: Open

Shows, Pond Tours and Seminars

Event	Dates/Location
Tucson Area Pond Tour	May 2nd-3rd 2009 Contact Debbie Shaw castlerockkings@cox.net (520) 275-4510
Tucson Watergardeners' Annual Water Plant Sale	May 17, 2009 SW Corner of Reid Park at 22nd Street, 8AM to 1 PM
 30th Annual SAKA, Inc. Koi Show and Auction	November 13-15, 2009 Kino Veterans Memorial Park (To be confirmed) Tucson, Az. Contact: Bob and Darlene Panter (520) 747-7278



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<http://www.sakoi.org>
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 29 of the next year.

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Name: _____

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Today's Date: _____

of Koi _____

Years Keeping Koi: _____

Pond size: _____

Would you like to host a meeting?

Would you like to serve on a committee?

_____ If yes which one?

Make Checks payable to: SAKA , Inc.

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 2891 W. Ribera Place
 Tucson, AZ 85742