

*Kevin Black's House
May 23
Education Starts at 3:00*



4905 N Via Entrada
Tucson, AZ 85718
Address Service Requested

Important Notices: As of May 1st, annual dues will be \$30. If you have not already paid, your dues are past due. Please send your dues to Martha Cover ASAP so you can continue to get the newsletter. Going forward the newsletter will be distributed via e-mail only, unless requested otherwise. If you do not presently get the newsletter electronically, or if you wish to continue receiving it via snail mail, you must contact Brent VanKoevering at 780-3980 or bvankoevering@longrealty.com.

SAKA, Inc Club Officers

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

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<i>2010 Pond Tour</i>	Jeanmarie Schiller Tucsonpondtour@yahoo.com (520) 299-1876
<i>31st Koi Show Co-Chairperson(s)</i>	Bob Panter and Jeanmarie Schiller
<i>AKCA Representative</i>	Debby Young debbyt@akca.org (520) 682-7697
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Brent VanKoevering bvankoevering@longrealty.com (520) 780-3980
<i>Koi Health Advisor</i>	Noel Shaw koidoc@noelshawdc.com (520) 400-0335
<i>Membership Chairperson</i>	Faye Hall (520) 297-1253

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Education Committee	Erin Riley eriley@aol.com (520) 818-6490
Librarian	Jeanmarie Schiller crankyjean@msn.com (520) 299-1876

Editor's Note: Articles published herein are intended for the enjoyment of all 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.

Presidents Corner

5-17-10

Spring is closing fast. Summer temperatures are here to stay. How are your koi doing? How is the water temperature? Are your fish active? Are they ready to be fed all the time? What about your water and water quality? Is your pond covered in algae, or becoming that way?

All these questions do have answers. Come to a meeting for some education and find out what they are. Talk to club members and see what is working for them. You just might find the answers you are looking for. This is what SAKA, Inc. is all about. You and your koi.

A great big thanks to all who participated in Pond Tour 2010. A big thanks to Jeanmarie for organizing it as well as to the host ponds.

Don't forget about our Koi Show in November. A weekend of fun and excitement. Start checking out your koi. Do you have our next Grand Champion? Koi Show 2010 will be here before you know it.

See you all at our next meeting and have a great summer.

For the love of Koi,

Bob Panter, President SAKA, Inc.

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SAKA, Inc 10% Discount

With your SAKA, Inc Membership Card at:

Boyd Equipment Center

3625 S Country Club Road
Tucson, AZ
(520) 792-2244 or
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Mountain View Koi Fish & Aquatic Plants

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Hereford, AZ 85615
(520) 378-3710

Oasis Tropical Fish

3865 N. Oracle
Tucson, AZ
(520) 408-9700

Patty's Water Plants

By Appt Only
E. Benson Highway, Tucson AZ
(520) 294-0748

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

Club Announcements

March Business Meeting Minutes

Date& Location: April 25, 2010, at Debby and DaveYoung's in Tucson, AZ

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

Minutes: Motion made to accept and second the March 2010 Minutes as read.

Number of members in attendance: 18 members.

Treasurer's Report: Current checking account balance: \$7890.52 . CD is \$5117.96. Savings account amount is \$50.11. \$365 comes from new membership and renewals.

AKCA: Debby Young did not have a report.

Correspondence: No correspondence.

2010 Show and Auction Committee: The Pond Tour will occur on May 1 and May2nd between 9 AM to 5 PM. There will be a Koi Trivia Contest with magazine subscription for the prize. Jean-Marie is asking for more volunteers to help during the event. Jean-Marie also found many koi books and information that had been stored and the Club is beginning a lending library starting with these supplies. Contact Jean-Marie for more information.

Old Business: The subject of Koi tanks with see-through sides or windows for exhibition purposes was brought up. Bob Panter said that his inquiries showed it might cost up to \$5000 to have them made. Dave Young suggested we might just have lower sides on the tanks so that children could see the fish. This is being considered.

New Business: The Club has been asked to return to the Fairgrounds for next year. We thanked the people who helped with the exhibit and the Fairground people who did everything to help with the exhibit and make it easier for us.

The trailers at Doug Walls house have been asked to be removed. One of the trailers has been badly damaged and we are checking on making repairs. Martha and Dan Cover offered to store the trailers on their property and they will be moved.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:42 PM.

Educational Talk: Debby and Dave Young presented a talk with lots of prepared pictures and information on Buying and Selecting Koi.



2010 Parade of Ponds Round-up

SAKA WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A BIG "THANK YOU" TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS YEAR'S POND TOUR A SUCCESS, INCLUDING ALL THE POND OWNERS WHO PARTICIPATED, OUR TICKET VENDORS AND ATTENDEES. WE HOPE EVERYONE HAD FUN AND ENJOYED ALL THE PONDS. WE'LL ALL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR 2011 "PARADE OF PONDS" AND HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US AGAIN *next year.*

"People's Choice" Winner

THE WINNER OF THE 2010 "PARADE OF PONDS PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD" IS THE SHIFLET FAMILY POND. THIS BEAUTIFUL SAHUARITA POND WAS #11 ON THE TOUR AND WAS WELL-DESERVING OF THE HONOR HAVING RECEIVED THE MAJORITY OF VOTES FROM POND TOUR ATTENDEES. CHOOSING A FAVORITE MUST HAVE BEEN A DIFFICULT TASK WITH ALL THE LOVELY PONDS ON THE TOUR. WELL DONE!

Koi Trivia Answers

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T MAKE IT TO ALL THE PONDS TO CONFIRM YOUR ANSWERS TO THE KOI TRIVIA QUESTIONS, HERE ARE THE CORRECT ONES:

- #1. A #7. A
- #2. A #8. B
- #3. B #9. B
- #4. B #10. B
- #5. B #11. B
- #6. B

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE POND TOUR OR WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN A FUTURE "PARADE OF PONDS" PLEASE EMAIL TO:

TUCSONPONDTOUR@YAHOO.COM

Did You Know... SAKA has a LIBRARY? It's TRUE!

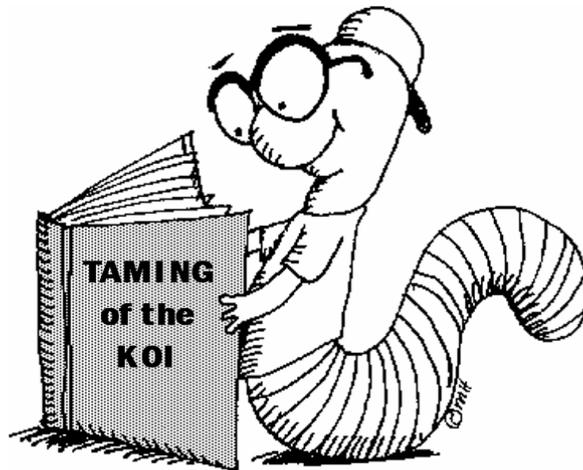
SAKA's library collection is full of great books, videos and magazines about Koi and Ponds. All are available to borrow by members in good standing at no cost.

The Library Collection is listed on our website. All you have to do is request a title 1 day before a club meeting and come to the meeting to pick it up. Then, return it at the next meeting.

It's that EASY!

To request a title
by phone:
299-1876

by email:
cran kyjean @ms n.com



Featured Articles



Mosquito Fish

From SKAPA Monthly Newsletter

Mosquito fish (Gambusia) are small guppy-like fish used to control mosquito populations by devouring mosquito larvae. According to U.S. Navy research, a pair of half-grown Gambusia can consume 5000 mosquito larvae in 11 weeks. An adult female can devour several hundred larvae per day. These voracious predators have upturned mouths specially designed for scooping up larvae prey, and represent one of the most environmentally friendly forms of mosquito control. They require virtually no maintenance, as they are self-feeding and self-sustaining. Their adaptability and effectiveness in mosquito control have made mosquito fish one of the most distributed freshwater fish in the world.

Ultra Violet Light: Sterilizer, Clarifier or Both?

by Ron James, Ph.D.

Reprinted from akca.org

As there is a multitude of misinformation and misunderstanding regarding the use of a UV system. It is the purpose of this two part article to help clarify the value and functions of ultraviolet light for the average Koi hobbyist.

UV light has two primary uses in fish culture: controlling green water and disinfecting the water supply.

The use of UV for disinfection is not new. Since the 1950's UV disinfection facilities have been implemented throughout the USA, as well as around the world, to disinfect a wide range of water sources; from waste water to aquaculture (fish farming), wherever a greater need to control waterborne pathogens exists. In some instances, without the use of UV, newly introduced pathogens (from infected fish) can create enormous problems which can cause the complete shutdown of a facility, thus creating a great loss of fish. A fish farm is virtually paralyzed and is forced to shut down until some means of disinfection can be found.

What the Koi hobbyist or fish farmer requires is a dependable means of controlling or eradicating the pathogens that are present. UV is a known effective and practical means of attaining this goal. By implementing a UV system, floating algae (green water) and the targeted pathogen can be effectively eradicated or controlled without producing any harmful effects. UV treated water has been proven to be completely safe for fish and humans.

A UV system is only one part of a filter system. A biological filter is a must in keeping Koi. Remember a single bacterium can produce a colony in excess of 25 million within 24 hours. Hence, a biological filter acts like a beehive by producing a swarm of bacteria, which then build colonies scattered throughout the pond, creating bad as well as good bacteria. Consequently, by running pond water through a UV system prior to reentering the pond, you greatly reduce the number of bad bacteria in the pond. While UV disinfection may be useful in preventing reinfection it is not a substitute for antibiotics or other chemotherapeutic agents after infectious or parasitic organisms have attached themselves to the host fish. As UV radiation may affect these methods of treatment the UV system should be turned off during treatment with either antibiotics and/or chemo-therapy.

Unfortunately, most data available from manufacturers is based on research relating either to drinking water or waste water with comparatively few experimental studies done with salt water. Therefore the data derived is based on studies using more powerful equipment. Consequently most UV systems manufactured should only be used as clarifiers to control low strains of algae. All the disinfection research carried out for this article has been done so in fish culture. As the two purposes of using UV radiation (sterilizing and clarifying) are important the industry is plagued by much misinformation, particularly regarding disease prevention and treatment. With Koi enthusiasts, the fear of killing good bacteria is a major concern. Studies have shown, without the use of UV treatment, bacteria will colonize in different areas of a pond and then compete to take it

over. There are some people who believe UV treatment will make the water too sterile for any micro-organisms to survive. However, our studies have shown, given the proper UV system, UV treated water provides an excellent well-balanced environment for Koi. Depending on several factors, e.g., fish load, filter system, etc., not all ponds without UV treatment will suffer with bacteria overpopulation. However, the elimination of green water is highly improbable. Many proponents of UV disinfection sometimes overlook the additional benefits relating to ornamental fish; those being that cleaner water reduces the stress on the fish by not having to fight off diseases, thus enhancing its immune system and leading to faster growth and more brilliant colors. It was also noted in some studies that several ponds not using UV had clear water. These ponds were thought to be in excellent condition. However, upon testing the water, *Aeromonas* were found. This again proves that clear water is not necessarily clean water.

Design Importance: the types of UV lamps and how they work.

Lamps that produce the greatest amounts of UV radiation contain mercury vapor. There are also high and low pressure lamps. The low pressure hot cathode lamp (TS) is the size of a fluorescent and is used most often in clarifiers as it is less expensive. The hot cathode germicidal lamp is similar in its operation to the standard fluorescent lamp as it operates from a ballast and requires a device such as a glow switch starter to preheat the electrodes located at the ends of the lamp. As the life of the electrodes is shortened by frequent starts, continual use (24 hours a day) is recommended. Hot cathode lamps are made from soft quartz, the major drawback of which is that solarization and the blackening of the lamp, decreases the UV output.

The slimline UV lamp is an instant-start lamp available in low, high and very high intensity. This lamp can also be produced in soft quartz and is often misrepresented as hard quartz. Because of their high initial ultraviolet emission and easy maintenance, slimline lamps are well adapted for sterilization and other applications that require high intensity. This lamp is designed to operate at currents ranging from 120 to 420 milliamperes, depending upon the type of ballast. Use of a higher milliamperage ballast increases the lamp's UV output. While the lamp may be energized with a lower milliamperage ballast, the lamp may then only be working at half or even less than half of its published rating. Therefore it is very important that the ballast is matched to the lamp. Remember it is not the visible light but the invisible rays that disinfect.

When considering a UV system for disinfection, there are parameters to be set, one of which is identification of the targeted pathogens in order to set the proper dwell time. Each micro-organism has a resistance to UV. The amount of energy required to destroy or disrupt the DNA of the targeted organism is defined in reports on UV dosage. This is commonly measured in microwatts per second of the ultraviolet energy within 254 nanograms.

SALT, The Koi Wonder Drug?

(and How To Measure How Much You Have)

by Norm Meck

reprinted from akca.org

Common Salt, Sodium Chloride, NaCl, has been termed "The Koi Wonder Drug". A misnomer perhaps, but salt is a proven staple in the health care and maintenance of Koi worldwide. Koi maintain an internal concentration of salt in their body fluids higher than that of their liquid environment. Osmosis causes water to transfer from the lower salinity of the pond water into the tissues of the fish. This additional water build up must be eliminated by the kidneys. Although salt in higher concentrations may slow some disease causing bacterial growth in the pond, the predominantly accepted theories ascribe the primary benefits of salt to lowering the osmotic pressure. This reduces the effort the fish must expend in eliminating the excess water. The saved

energy is then available for use by the fish's own immune system to take care of other potential problems. The presence of salt also helps counteract any nitrite toxicity. In some cold climate areas, it is added in the winter to lower the freezing point of the water.

Salt can cause pond plant damage as the concentration increases. Floating plants, (water hyacinth, water lettuce, etc.) are affected at lower concentrations than most bog plants. Related, salt may provide some partial control of algae in the higher concentrations.

The amount of salt dissolved in water is measured either as a per cent, in parts-per-thousand (ppt), or in parts-per-million (ppm) (where 10 ppt = 1% = 10000 ppm). The more common parts-per-thousand measurement is the weight of the salt in pounds per thousand pounds of water (about 125 gallons). Pond-keepers often talk about the pounds of salt per hundred gallons of water. Since 100 gallons of pure water weighs about 800 pounds, one pound of salt per hundred gallons equates to a salinity of 1.25 ppt (0.125% or 1250 ppm). (1 ppt = 0.8 pounds per hundred gallons)

[Note: Koi internal fluid salinity is on the order of 15 ppt (about the same as ours) Sea water is around 35 ppt to 70 ppt depending upon geographical location. The Great Salt Lake has a nominal concentration of about 250 ppt.

There is some disagreement about salt in Koi ponds. Our San Diego tap water often has a salinity of up to 0.5 ppt. This amount cannot be tasted but we drink it and we put it into our ponds. If our Koi were put into an absolutely pure (distilled) water environment, the osmotic pressure would be so high that some would be unable to eliminate the excess water and would die almost as if by drowning. On the other hand, if the salinity approaches that of the internal tissues of the fish, the osmosis process will decrease or even reverse. This can cause the fish to die, essentially of dehydration. Any discussions should therefore center not on should salt be in the pond but how much.

The addition of one to two pounds of salt per hundred gallons of water (1.25-2.5 ppt) is recommended for most ponds, especially in the spring and fall. This is a fairly conservative dosage but without having a reasonable quantitative measurement method, higher concentrations should be avoided. If nitrites are present, using three to four pounds per hundred gallons (3.75 to 5 ppt) is appropriate to reduce the nitrite toxicity. After the initial application, the dosage applies ONLY to the amount of water being taken out and replaced, NOT to the amount of water in the entire pond. and NOT to water being added to replace that lost by evaporation. Except the very short-term medicinal baths at concentrations often around 25 ppt (1 pound per 5 gallons), and administered under tightly controlled conditions, it is not recommended that Koi be subjected to a salinity exceeding 5 ppt (4 pounds per hundred gallons), especially for extended periods.

The salinity is normally maintained by the addition of salt to increase it and by water change outs to decrease it. Introduce the salt, if possible, at the discharge side of the bio-filter (not at the bio-filter inlet nor directly into the pond). If the addition must be made directly into the pond, dissolve the salt in a bucket of pond water and distribute it evenly around the edges of the pond. Inquisitive Koi will check if any new addition to the pond might be something to eat. Although they will probably not swallow the pieces of salt, direct contact of crystalline salt with the fish for more than a few seconds can cause injuries similar to burns. When making the initial or any large application, it is probably better to divide it into two to four daily partial additions rather than putting it in all at once.

(Note: Inexpensive and pure solar-dried or kiln-dried salt used in home water softeners is available at most supermarkets. Do not use pelletized water softener salt that has binding agents or any type of iodized salt.

I obviously am one of those who believe in adding salt to my Koi ponds. I am also one of those who do not like adding anything to the water unless I know what is already there. A pond-keeper can keep records of salt added, water removed, and water added. But, after a few water change outs, rain storms, and other water additions, the

resulting salinity is somewhere between questionable and unknown. For some time, I have been trying to find a way to measure the amount of salt in my ponds. A chemical laboratory can supply a quantitative analysis, but this is both expensive and not very timely. Other than very expensive reflectometers, the commercial salinity test kits and other devices, available seem to measure in only two ranges. The first is around 0-50 ppt, used for salt water systems and the second is around 0-100 ppm used for fresh water applications. Neither of these will provide the accuracy needed over the range of interest. I would like to maintain a concentration in the range from 2.0 to 4.0 ppt (I actually use a target of three ppt or 2.4 pounds of salt per hundred gallons).

In cooperation with the LaMotte Co., a leader in aquaculture testing products., a modified procedure was developed for use with one of their salinity test kits to provide a fast, inexpensive, and highly accurate measurement over the desired range. The "off-the-shelf" kit was designed to measure 0-20 ppt in 0.4 ppt increments. Substituting the modified test procedure provided below for the standard procedure, the range is changed to 0-5 ppt in 0.1 ppt increments. The titrator supplied with the kit reads 0-20 and the result is divided by four. An optional titrator, calibrated 0-50, can be purchased and the result divided by ten, which is a little easier. It probably makes little difference to the fish, but I feel better that I can now make an accurate salinity reading.

As an example of the accuracy of this test and as a secondary use of the test kit, a pond was found to have a 0.5 ppt salinity measurement. It was desired to bring the level to 2.5 ppt, an increase of 2 ppt. As the owner thought the pond contained about 3100 gallons, 50 pounds of salt was added (3100 divided by 125 times 2). The next day, the salinity actually measured 3.1 ppt, or an increase of 2.6 ppt. Working backwards, this showed that the pond actually contained only 2400 gallons (50 times 125 divided by 2.6). A later unfortunate incident required the pond to be drained. When it was refilled through a water meter, it was determined that the pond actually held just under 2500 gallons. The pond owner had been excessively medicating and chemically treating the pond by almost 25%! It has been found that the salinity test kit can be used to determine the amount of water in a pond with an accuracy of about 5%.

If you purchase the test kit for use in the 0-5 ppt range. use the following test procedure, (see insert) not the one included in the kit.

The salinity test kit (Part No. 7459; about \$35 for 50 tests), the refill kit (Part No. R7459; about \$15 for 50 tests), and the optional 0-50 direct reading titrator (Part No. 0380; about \$5), are available directly from LaMotte or, at an equal or slightly lower cost, from one of their distributors listed below (or others). Prices do not include shipping, and are, of course, subject to change. All will accept major credit cards.

- LaMotte Company
P0 Box 329
Chestertown, MD. 21620
(800)344-3100
- AquaCenter Inc.
166 Seven Oaks Road
Leland, MS. 38756
(800)748-8921
- Aquatic Eco-Systems, Inc.
1767 Benbow Court
Apopkav, FL. 32703
(800) 422-3939

Modified Test Procedure for LaMotte Salinity Test Kit Model 7459

1. Rinse and fill the titration tube to the 10 ml line with demineralized water from the demineralizer bottle.

2. Rinse and fill the 1.0 ml Direct Reading Titrator to the zero mark with the water to be tested. Wipe any excess water off the Titrator.
 3. Dispense the entire 1.0 ml of sample water into the titration tube. 4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add a second 1.0 ml of sample water into the titration tube.
 5. Add 3 drops of Salinity indicator Reagent A to the titration tube. Cap and gently swirl to mix. A light yellow color will develop.
 6. Fill the 0-20 (or optional 0-50) Direct Reading Titrator to the zero mark with Salinity Titration Reagent B. Insert Titrator in the hole of the cap of the titration tube.
 7. While gently swirling the tube, slowly depress the plunger until the yellow color changes to pink-brown. 8. Read the test result where the plunger tip meets the scale on the calibrated titrator.
 9. If using the 0-20 titrator supplied with the kit, divide the reading by four (i.e. if the titrator reading was 9.2, the result is 2.3 ppt). If using the optional 0-50 titrator, divide the reading by ten (i.e. if the titrator reading was 23, the result is 2.3 ppt).
- (Note: The demineralizer bottle can be refilled with tap water or even pond water but the deionizing resin bed will last longer if distilled water is used.

Kawarigoi Korner



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All varieties. Exotic colors and breeds.
10,000 gallon pond.
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Price varies on size and breed.
Come check out our gorgeous pond!
Magee/Oracle area.
Metallic, German Leather, Butterfly, Black&White, Kohaku...
Questions welcome!
hazardfishing@gmail.com

For those that are interested in water lilies, you should open the below link to discover parts of the most complete water lily collection in the world, and it is located right here in Texas at San Angelo. Ken Landon has

spent his life seeking water lily specimens from throughout the world and accumulating them in his collection, Ken also creates his own varieties by crossing various lilies in his laboratories.

The collection on display is just a small amount of his total collection, which is too numerous to display for the public. The display is located at the San Angelo, Texas city park and is free to the public. Lilies are displayed in a series of large concrete ponds at the park. This is worth seeing. I saw the display a few years ago and was completely impressed with the collection. You can visit the lily display anytime, it is not limited to any time of the year. It is probably most beautiful during late spring and summer when the lilies are in full bloom. If you can find your way to San Angelo, Texas, visit this display at the city park.

<http://www.internationalwaterlilycollection.com/>

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
May 23, 2010	Host: Kevin Black
June 27, 2010	Host: Karen Wilson
July 25, 2010	Host: Mountain View Koi
August 22, 2010	Host: Rick Schuck
September 26, 2010	Host: Bob and Darleen Panter
October 24, 2010	Host: Open
November	No Meeting See you at the Show
December	Host: Open

Shows, Pond Tours and Seminars

Event	Dates/Location/Links
Tucson Water Gardeners Annual Plant Sale	from 8am to 1 pm SW corner of Reid Park at 22 St.
 31st Annual SAKA, Inc. Koi Show and Auction	TBD



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 Month year



<http://www.sakoia.org>
 Annual Membership

Dues are \$30.00 per family from March 1 to February 28 or 29 of the next year.

Membership Type

___ Renewal
 ___ New Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail _____

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.

Mail to: Martha and Dan Cover
 2841 W. Puccini Place
 Tucson, AZ 85741