

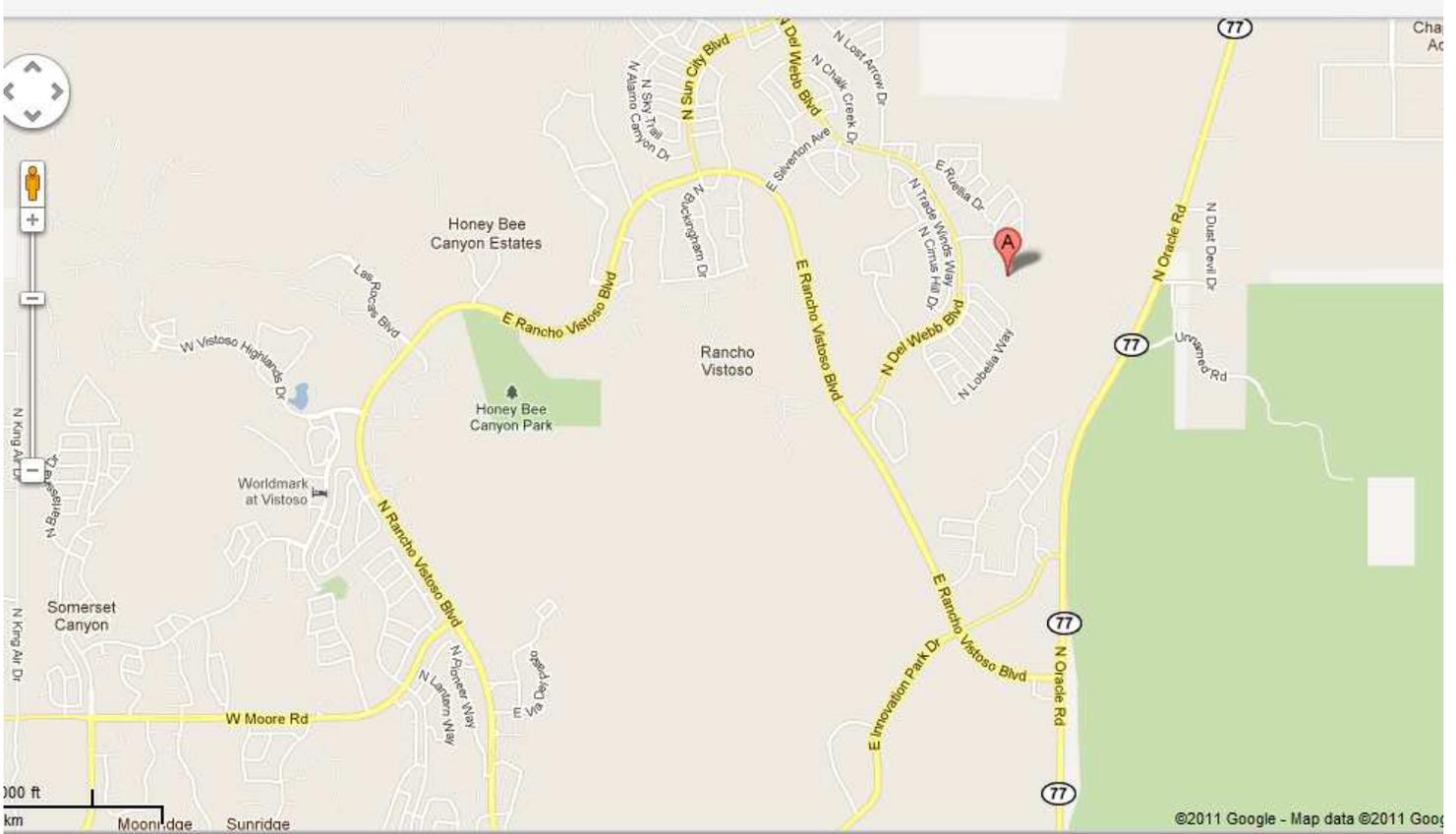
# Roland & Elaine Deeter

13992 N. Alyssum Way  
*Meeting begins at 3:00*



4905 N Via Entrada  
Tucson, AZ 85718  
Address Service Requested

**Roland and Elaine Deeter**  
 13992 N. Alyssum Way, Oro Valley  
 Phone: 520-825-5388



## **Roland & Elaine Deeter**

13992 N. Alyssum Way

*Meeting begins at 3:00*

From Oracle, Northwest on Rancho Vistoso Blvd, Northeast on Del Webb Blvd, East on Chrysanthemum, South on Lobelia, West on Alyssum to address.

### **SAKA, Inc Club Officers**

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

## Committees/Points of Contact

<b>2011 Pond Tour</b>	
<b>31<sup>st</sup> Koi Show Co-Chairperson(s)</b>	Brent VanKoevering <a href="mailto:bvankoevering@longrealty.com">bvankoevering@longrealty.com</a> (520) 780-3980
<b>AKCA Representative</b>	Debby Young <a href="mailto:debbyt@akca.org">debbyt@akca.org</a> (520) 682-7697
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Brent VanKoevering <a href="mailto:bvankoevering@longrealty.com">bvankoevering@longrealty.com</a> (520) 780-3980
<b>Koi Health Advisor</b>	Noel Shaw <a href="mailto:koidoc@noelshawdc.com">koidoc@noelshawdc.com</a> (520) 400-0335
<b>Membership Chairperson</b>	Faye Hall (520) 297-1253
<b>Raffle Chairpersons</b>	Wanda & Bruce Triebel <a href="mailto:wkt56@comcast.net">wkt56@comcast.net</a> (520) 572-0060
<b>Education Committee</b>	Erin Riley <a href="mailto:elriley@aol.com">elriley@aol.com</a> (520) 818-6490

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

**Bob Panter**, President SAKA, Inc.

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

## Club Announcements

We are looking for hosts for our monthly meetings in 2012. Please contact Brent VanKoevering if you are interested.

The venue for the Judges' Dinner on the Friday of the show weekend may change. More to come.

## Business Meeting Minutes

Lynn Riley  
Secretary

## Featured Articles

### What Determines a "Quality" koi?

Some breeders sell koi in three or four different categories; these categories are pond run, selects, premium, and show quality. Other breeders sell koi in only two classifications, these are premium and show quality. Everything that does not meet this breeder's standards is destroyed, resulting in about a 10 percent yield. The various classifications are determined through a constant culling process, done at regular intervals as the koi get larger, where each koi is inspected for quality features and for future possibilities.

Young koi are very difficult for the layman to determine whether it will be a good or bad choice, since the pattern on young koi change with age, maybe several times. As koi grow older, their physical shape, pattern and coloration tend to become more predictable. Koi judges look for definite characteristics when judging the koi for quality. Some of these characteristics are:

- **Body Shape and Conformation** – A fully developed female will possess a fuller, rounded body than the male. The male will have a slender and tapered body.
- **Color** – The quality of the color in a koi is important. The colors should be very bright and distinct with well defined separation lines between colors.
- **Pattern** – The color patterns should be well balanced across the body of the koi and from side to side.
- **Fins** – The fins should be well balanced with each other, with no splits or tears. No tears or splits in the tail.
- **Scars** – Needless to say, scars on the body as a result of ulcers or physical injury can take away from a koi's value. Other defects, such as crooked mouth, crooked spine, and missing scales are also negatives.

Quality koi generally come from quality breeders who are very selective in their breeding process; however, in general a "quality koi" is one that meets the buyer/owner's approval. A koi's true value is determined by the amount that a buyer is willing to pay.

## Should Your Koi Be Eating This Food? or Food for Thought!

*by Robert Cirillo*

from akca.org

I saw a gentleman throwing stones into a pond. When I questioned his actions, he said he was feeding his fish. He was serious. He was feeding pebble hard pellets to Koi and assumed that because it was sold as premium food he was doing the right thing. WRONG!

Let's start by asking ourselves where Koi in nature (since the only means of digestion is an intestinal tract and they do not have stomachs) consume this substance? I can't think of any. Can you? Where in nature would a Koi

swallow a gritty rough, extremely dry substance to sustain life? Just imagine what damage is taking place on both ends of this equation, not withstanding scarring the intestinal walls. All food should be moistened before feeding if they are hard and dehydrated. Improper digestion of foods can lead to disastrous results.

Let's now ask ourselves exactly what goes into these foods. How are they manufactured? What are the ingredients? Does the label give a realistic picture of contents? Can I feel good about my Koi's diet?

## **Manufacturing**

Ingredients are either heated, irradiated, cooked homogenized, hydrogenated, sterilized mummified, fortified, with color enhancers and preservatives added and then packaged. Many manufacturers use several of the above processes along with the flattening or rounding or extruding of the ingredients to obtain a uniform shape. All of the above steps destroy most nutrients and add unwanted saturated fats or dangerous carcinogens. The hydrogenation process and preservatives alone bring many negative side effects. When you add vitamin destruction, there really isn't much left. Tossing all of this into a clear container adds insult to injury since light destroys water soluble vitamins. Look to see how many manufacturers package their foods incorrectly.

## **Ingredients**

First consideration should be whether or not ingredients are pharmaceutical grade or animal grade. The former must pass standards for human consumption. The latter has standards less strict and imposing. The former takes into consideration purity and negative substances. The latter passes on many negative compounds. The manufacturer decides which road to take.

Proper protein (with all amino acids, which are their building blocks), proper lipids (which are fats that must be unsaturated), proper carbohydrates (derived from plant material) and proper fiber (which should be water soluble) must be fundamentally correct if any Koi are to exist or flourish.

**A)** Protein from insects, earthworms larvae, etc. is desire for Koi. Our fish do not consume crab by-products or meat by-products laced with preservatives in their natural habitat. We are dealing with a fish, without a stomach. From the beginning to the end, digestion of food is quick and should be easily absorbed and manufactured into new cells. If the feces sinks proper absorption is not occurring. If hydrogen is added to protein, a saturated negative altered by-product, which prevents cells from absorbing nutrients, occurs. PLEASE READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY BEFORE FEEDING.

**B)** Lipids, fats that are unsaturated are the only fats Koi should obtain. Fats not only supply needed energy, but are the catalyst by which all nutrients are distributed to cells. Hydrogenated fat becomes super saturated, causing cell damage, mutation and total blockage of nutrients. The only reason to add hydrogen to a fat is to extend shelf life. It does not benefit the Koi's life in any way. Fats from animal sources are harmful, unless they are omega 3 essential fatty acids. None of the labels, to my knowledge mention omega 3. Fat, from plant material, as long as they are not saturated due to processing are fine. AGAIN, PLEASE READ THE LABEL.

**C)** Carbohydrates all convert into sugar. This is how all animals, including fish, derive their major source of energy for movement and mental functions. Excessive carbohydrates or improper carbohydrates become fat. Excessive fat, however, when going into a dormant winter cycle may be helpful. During an active cycle, excessive carbohydrates leading to excessive fat are not warranted. Carbohydrates derived from basic plant forms are preferred. They break down quickly, aiding digestion and place less demand on the liver. Grain carbohydrates break down slower, have a tendency to convert to unnecessary fat, and place an unwanted load on the liver. Feeding Koi cereals was never a good idea. In a natural environment a Koi would eat plant material e.g. algae, pond grass. etc. There is not much grain here. Most, if not all, carbohydrates in manufactured foods are derived solely from wheat, which is inexpensive and readily available. Grain must be balanced with green vegetation to be acceptable. Does any food manufacturer balance its carbohydrate mix? PLEASE READ LABEL CAREFULLY.

**D)** Fiber should only be derived from undigested plant material occurring naturally in the digestive tract and never intentionally added to increase fiber content. Plant material contains a water soluble fiber and is the only type acceptable for Koi. Gritty, fibrous materials are dangerous and not warranted. PLEASE READ LABEL.

An aspect that has not been mentioned is electrolytes. Electrolytes are simply minerals. Minerals are essential for all electrical nerve functions, formation of skeletal material and maintenance of a proper immune system. An imbalance of any mineral leads to negative results. Simply adding minerals to food is not enough. If one mineral is not balanced properly with all the others, a lack of absorption of one or several can occur, and this leads to poor health; even death. Minerals are as essential to life as water. Without food many creatures can exist, but dwindle away over a long period of time. Without water death is guaranteed and without minerals death is also guaranteed.

### **Finally the Label**

Unfortunately, the label and complete packaging of the manufactured product receives most of the manufacturer's budget. Yes, the outside costs more than the inside! More time is focused on the look, appeal and image than anything else. One manufacturer can come out with many different labels boosting different results but the contents are basically the same.

They will add selling point remarks on the label such as: fortified with stabilized vitamin C (even though stabilized vitamin C is not absorbed by fish); contains synthetic vitamin E, (except only 20%, if that much, of the synthetic vitamin C is utilized); contains color enhancers, which is fine as long as your fish have red or orange, if they contain any white pigmentation this becomes muted gray and less intense. PLEASE READ LABEL CAREFULLY.

What then would be the best approach when purchasing food for Koi. Mix and match. Do not become locked into one company, one food, or one set of ingredients. This assures, no matter what, a balance can be obtained. But, never, never, obtain a food that contains negative substances, e.g. hydrogenated ingredients saturated fats, synthetic substances, high fiber content, unnecessary coloring and preservatives. Remember to moisten foods that are hard and dehydrated. Preventing a problem is easier than fixing one.

If proteins, fats, carbohydrates, and fiber are all correct, then adding vitamins and minerals at our own discretion at the time of feeding assures proper nutritional balance. We spend more time with the technological end of Koi keeping, such as complicated filters, vortexes, oxygenators and bottom drains, then we do with the most important aspect - feeding. Many of us pick up a bowl of Koi food, empty it into a pond on our way to work and never consider what the ramifications are to this simple task. Not only should we maintain the best diet, but we should also watch while they are feeding to inspect closely for unnatural habits. You know your fish. Remember they do communicate! You simply have to know how to "read" them.

Please read labels carefully. Your Koi's future is in your hands. You are what you eat. It's that simple.

**FACT:** Whether human, bird, dog or fish, the more a food is touched by man, processed by man, and handled by man, the more dangerous, negative and non beneficial it becomes.

**FACT:** The lower we all eat of the food chain, the healthier we all become.

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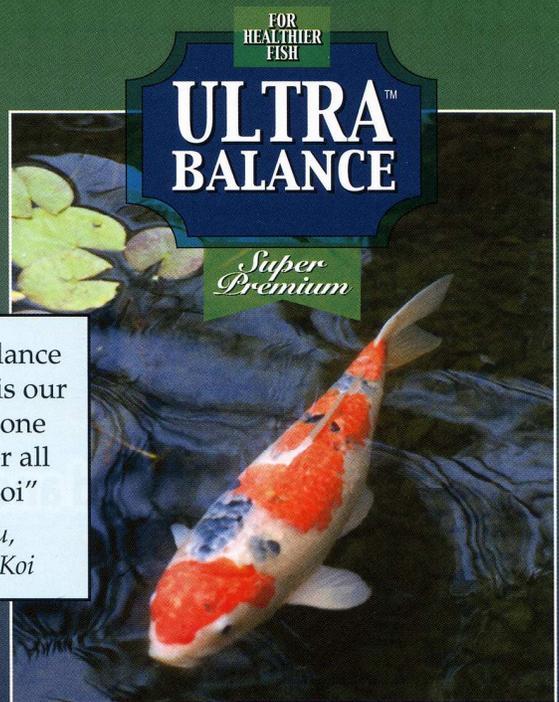
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*Ken Liu,  
Barstow Koi*



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## Kawarigo Komer



[Click Here](#) to see new items for sale on the SAKA Website.

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](mailto:bvankoeving@longrealty.com).

## Upcoming SAKA Education and Business Meetings

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>September 25, 2011</b>	Elaine and Roland Deeter
<b>October 23, 2011</b>	Bob and Darleen Panter
<b>November</b>	No Meeting. See you at the Show.
<b>December</b>	Brent VanKoevering & Lucinda SMedley

## Shows, Pond Tours and Seminars

<b>Event</b>	<b>Dates/Location/Links</b>
<b>November 11-13, 2011</b>	<b>Annual SAKA Koi Show Sam Lena Park</b>



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<http://www.sakoia.org>  
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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