



# Southern Arizona Koi Association

Organized by those with the interest of raising and improving the quality of Nishiki Koi, and its culture. Promote better community and international relations for the better understanding of brotherhood among members through a common interest. To improve and promote the technology and education of Aquaculture

June 2014

## GARDEN PONDS ARE NOT FOR KOI

A typical pond in most areas, is known as a "Garden Pond". These ponds are generally of rubber liner construction with a waterfall on one end and a skimmer on the other. A submersible pump is located inside the skimmer. It pulls water from the top layer of the pond into the skimmer and pushes this water to the waterfall. In order to enhance the pond's beauty, and to hide the wrinkles in the liner, the pond is lined entirely with stones along the sides and bottom. In some cases, shelves are made along the pond bank to hold potted plants to make the pond more attractive.

These ponds, known as Aquascapes Ponds, are said to become balanced, and natural, and will need little or no maintenance in the future. The pond, when new, will look

### **Lilly's Pad**

Cheri & Yifan P are building a new pond. Maybe they'd be willing to host the Oct meeting and show off the pond.

Alan & Karen J just celebrated their 6th Wedding Anniversary—  
Congratulations guys.

Jim & Jann did a fantastic trip to the Panama Canal.

How many Hummingbirds are in your yard?

Many thanks to Bob P for rescuing Tom A's fish and closing down his pond. Bob is giving the fish a home until Tom A's health is more stable.

Laurel N — NEW TRUCK ?????

*Doug Wahl, a long time past SAKA member and friend, has passed away. Doug and his wife Deb, stored the SAKA equipment at their home for many many years. Doug was a longtime active member of SAKA.*

wonderful for the first couple years, then the problems begin to appear. First, there is a lot of muck settled between the rocks in the bottom as result of stagnant water, decaying plant matter, fish feces, and other matter that has found its way to the pond bottom. Second, we see the water is no longer clear like it was in the beginning. This lack of clearness of the water is generally a result of impurities in the water and/or green algae that caused green water. The filter in the pond is generally only a fiber pad inside the skimmer that catches some of the big stuff in the water, and only from the surface of the pond. It is the small particles that cause murky water. The water in the pond bottom is stagnant and nothing is removed from the bottom, causing the accumulation of decayed materials.

In order to keep these ponds looking nice, they must be cleaned at least yearly. When cleaning this type pond, it is recommended to remove all the rocks from the bottom and do a thorough cleaning of the liner, and then discard the rocks. If you go two years between cleaning, you will discover "crude oil" between and below the rocks. This black muck is a result of decaying materials that is left for a couple years. A few large rocks on the bottom are acceptable as long as water on the bottom can flow around them to carry muck to the drains.

There is a solution to the problem; however one must invest some money to make the

## PONDERING

**June 29th 2014 3:00 P.M.**

Duane and Lorna Kenny  
12595 N New Reflection Dr Marana

**July 27th 2014 12:00 P.M. noon**

Mt View Koi Fish & Pond  
3828 Keeling Rd Hereford

**Aug 24th 2014 3:00 P.M.**

Dan and Martha Cover  
2841 W Puccini, Tucson

**Sept 28th 2014 3:00 P.M.**

Debbie and Noel Shaw  
17407 S Purple Mesa Trail, Vail

**Oct 26th 2014**

**OPEN - reply to this email if you are willing to host a meeting**

**Nov 7,8 & 9 2014**

SAKA 35th Koi Show & Auction

# Pond Treatments

By Noel Shaw KHA

Continued from May Newsletter

**FORMALIN / MALACHITE GREEN (F/MG)** –“PRO-FORM C” &/or “RID-ICH” INDICATION: Flukes, protozoa, fungi, some bacteria; disinfect new plants SAFE FOR BC AT 25ppm. Toxic to fish under 45° F. <http://www.koicarekennel.com> is best online source.

EFFECTIVE DOSAGE RANGE: **15 - 25ppm**

Proprietary formalin / malachite green products (Pro-Form C, Rid-Ich) recommend a dose rate of 10 ml per 100 gal that only yields 15 ppm of formalin. I adjust the manufacturer's dosage rate to achieve 25 ppm of formalin. Use a correction factor of 1.66 (25 ppm divided by 15 ppm) to yield 25 ppm with these products: 16.6 ml per 100 gallons. That is 166 ml (2/3 cup) per 1000 gallons of pond to achieve 25 ppm of formalin. (16.6 ml per 100 gal X 10 hundred gal). A 2000 gallon pond would dose at about 330 ml, or 1 1/3 cups of F/MG. 250 ml is about a cup.

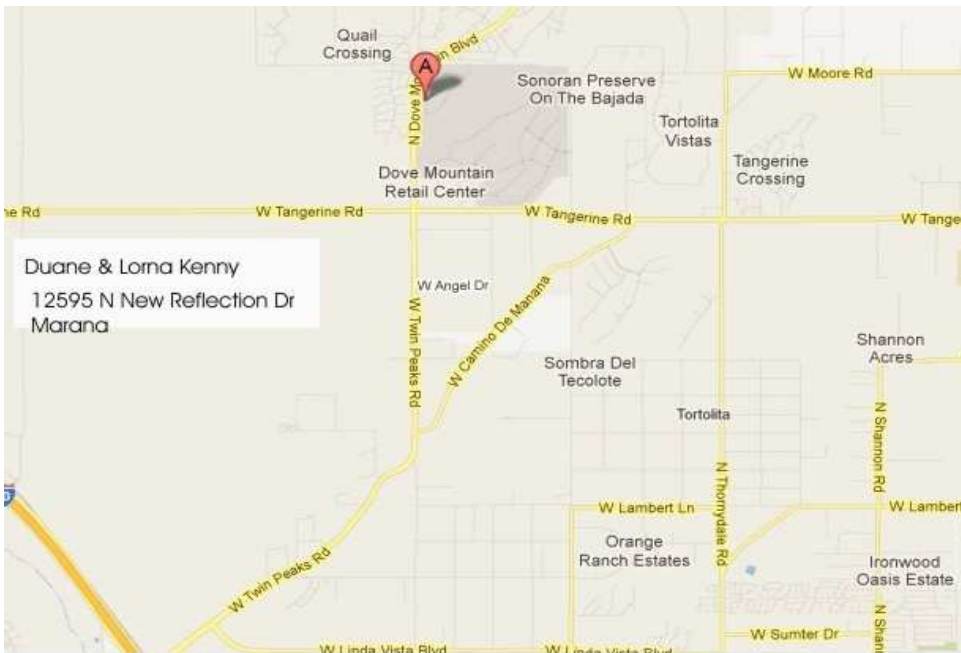
**DISINFECT NEW PLANTS** - 125 ppm (5 ml (1 tsp) per 10 gallons) for 8 hours. NOT to be used for fish at this dosage, but used to disinfect plants.

**POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE (PP, KMnO4)** - INDICATION: Flukes, protozoa, fungi, sometimes helps bacterial infections. Have 3% drugstore hydrogen peroxide or sodium thiosulfate (chlorine neutralizer as well) on hand as an antidote. LETHAL TO BIOCONVERTER FILTER BACTERIA. You **MUST** bypass your BC to use permanganate at these dose levels. Potassium permanganate, a dark purple-grey granular powder, becomes vivid purple in water, stains skin dark brown for a couple of days, and clothing permanently. **EFFECTIVE DOSAGE:** 2.5 ppm to 4ppm.

1 tsp (6g) per 600 gal doses a pond at between 2.6 and 4 ppm (depending on your teaspoon – some hold 8g- both ends of the range are OK).

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) bypass BC (bioconverter), maintain full aeration and circulation
- 2) pre-dissolve permanganate crystals (1 gram of per 100 gallons of pond = 2.6 ppm ≈ 1 tsp per 600 gal) and disperse mix evenly around pond.
- 3) Goal is pink for 4 hours. If turns tan in less than two hours, add ½ more of 1<sup>st</sup> dose quantity. May repeat this additional ½ dose a second time if necessary, *can't next pg*



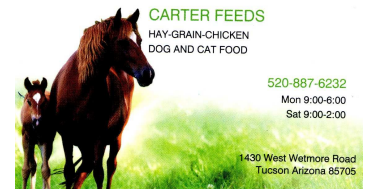
From Tangerine, North on Dove Mountain Blvd, East on White Dove Rd, South on New Reflection Dr to 12595. GATE CODE is 6047.

## Just think'n

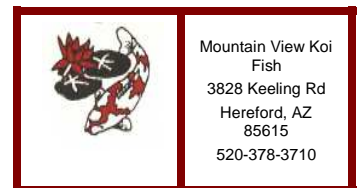
If you have any type of roof or overhang that will allow the monsoon rains to drip into your pond, you need to start washing it off. Do just a very light washing every 3 to 4 days until the dripping water runs clear.

A build up of dust, bird feces and toxic pollutants on an overhang, roof, shade cloth or even a tree should not be allowed to wash into your pond all at once. I have seen 3 ppm nitrite spikes in ponds after the first monsoon rains come. Even great bio-converters will not be able to handle a sudden high load of any toxin.

The ammonia from your koi is naturally converted into nitrites and then into nitrates. But an overload of nitrites from a rain storm, will take time to convert into non toxic nitrate, so clean that overhang over several days.



Desert Rainbow Koi Farm  
Laurel Nason



*Pond Treatments cont. from previous page*

for a total of double the initial dose. When pond water viewed in a white cup appears tan, NOT pink, resume BC filtration. Always restart BC with a flush to waste.

• IF WATER TURNS TO "CHOCOLATE MILK", FISH ARE GASPING, OR ACCIDENTALLY OVERDOSED, IMMEDIATELY ADD 16 oz OF HYDROGEN PEROXIDE (drugstore variety) PER 1000 GAL TO NEUTRALIZE THE PERMANGANATE, THEN PERFORM A 30-50% WATER CHANGE.

## What Koi Variety?

Name this Variety of Koi (2 words) and win a bag of Ultra Balance Koi Food. Just be 1st to email the correct answer to [info@sakoia.org](mailto:info@sakoia.org) to win. You will be notified if you win. You can collect your winnings at any SAKA meeting up until the Nov 2014 Koi Show. You can only win once in the next 6 months.



*Garden Ponds... cont. from page 1*

necessary improvements. Many types of ponds can be made much more maintenance free with clear water year around by adding a bottom drain, a bead filter, a pump, and an ultraviolet light to the system. Bottom drains can be placed on top of the liner without cutting the liner. Bead filters can be buried in the ground up to the control valve head in order to remove them from view. This system removes water from the bottom of the pond as well as the top layer, and filters out the impurities. The filtered water passes through the Ultraviolet light which kills bacteria and prevents green water algae.

Good pond water requires good maintenance and absence of heavy accumulation of muck on the pond bottom. Even though pond water tests ok for ammonia, nitrites, and nitrates, the deterioration and accumulation of muck on the pond bottom produces hydrogen sulfide gas in the bottom layer of water. This gas is poisonous to fish and can cause illness and even death if fish are constantly exposed to it. For best results in keeping the pond clean, remove the rocks and gravel from the pond bottom and use bottom drains and a good filtration system.

*Don Harrawood*, Koi Health Advisor El Paso

## Minutes of May 25, 2014

Called to Order by David Young in the absence of Bob Panter.

April Minutes Approved.

**Treasurer Report** \$9,484.55 checking \$5209.40 savings

**Old Business:** Motion approved to rejoin AKCA

Tax form 990-N has been submitted and accepted by the IRS for year ended 2/28/14

**New Business:** We need to build shelving for the new trailer. Deb Y to contact Alan and Bob to design and make a shopping list.

We need a By Laws committee, Our bylaws are 8 yrs old. Will email out bylaws to all members for input. Carol H and Laurel N will help put ideas for changes together.

Bob suggested a partially sponsored trip to Calif for fish buying next Nov. It was thought that although Nov. provides the best selection for Koi it is also a very busy month for the club.

2015 Pond Tour will be chaired by Bob P. All members in attendance said that they would be glad to help.

Facebook will be revamped by Dan C and Duane K will help. It was suggested that the SAKA page be set up as an individual user so that it would have its own ID and password and could be accessed by different members as needed.

Commercial/Mutual Aids memberships were discussed and it was decided that their yearly dues would increase. They receive 1/2 price booth at the Koi Show, Free Adv. in the newsletter, and the Web Site, and any time they have a flyer/sale, the notice is emailed out to all of our database.

Education: Indiscriminately adding chemicals to the Pond. Know what the problem is, then take action.

Adjourned