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### **FEBRUARY 2009 Issue**

New members, existing members and visitors are welcome at all meetings.

General Meetings are held at

Rotary Hall, Sandgate Street, South Perth 7:30pm, on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except Dec)

Northern Branch Meetings are held at

Wanneroo Recreation Centre, Scenic Road, Wanneroo 7:30pm, on the second Tuesday of each month.

## NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2009

NEXT NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING IS TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2009

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#### Koi Society of Western Australia

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#### Committee of 2008-2009

#### President

Bill Passev 9535 7732, 0438 357 732, bpassey@bigpond.com **Vice President** Rod Strang 9375 9878 **Secretary** VACANT Assis. Secretary Allan Bennett 9405 9331, 0419 907 973 Treasurer Josie Giorgio 9457 1517 **Newsletter Editor (Acting)** Shona Whaite 0428 746 620, me@shona.org Librarian Tim LeRov 9306 2844, 0437 511 644 Sales Table 9453 6509, 0417 959 009 Kerry Cross **Membership Officer** Phil Lehmann 9310 3368

#### **Committee Members**

Stuart Rowley94906190, 0437 203 976Phong Ta0409405698Charlie Giorgio0408 911 964

#### **Other Positions**

Show ChairmanRod StrangWebmasterLuke Bray, webmaster@koiclubwa.comTrophy StewardPhong TaDoor/Tea PersonTable Show Helper



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## **KSWA SALES TABLE**

All proceeds from your sales table are used as a fund raiser for your clubs needs. Please support your club by purchasing your requirements through the sales table.



#### Call KERRY CROSS on 9453 6509

Items listed are a sample of what can be supplied

Keeping Koi In Australia \$20- Illustrated bible on koi keeping.

Water conditioners- Dechlorinator 2.5 litre \$37 Dechlorinator 5 litre \$64 Bionatural conditioner (concentrate) \$18 Bacteria Aqua \$10

Water treatments- Koi anti parasite 250ml \$22.45 Koi anti ulcer 250mL \$24, 1 litre \$65 Koi anti bacteria 250mL \$22.45 Virkon S 100g \$15 Ammonia remover 250ml \$21.70

Test kits- Master test kit \$44 PH test kit \$10 GH & KH test kit \$12 Ammonia test kit \$22

**Air pumps-** Alita- 40 litre \$225, 80 litre \$350 & 120litre \$550 **Air stones-** Ceramic 50mm \$5 & 40mm \$4

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Koi food per 1kg- Fry powder \$13.20 Ocra Baby food sizes 1, 2, 3, & 4 \$13.20 Sekirin Japanese food \$17 Quick grow—small \$7.80, medium \$7.45 Koi King 500gm Growth Formula 5mm \$5.50 Koi King 500gm Excel Formula \$8 Koi king 500gm Wheat germ \$7 Koi King 500gm Colour Enhancing Formula \$8.50

#### Also supplied in 10kg bags

Miscellaneous- Koi 66 Variety poster \$20 UV lights and pumps Welcome to the February issue of the KSWA Newsletter.

The next General Meeting in South Perth will be held on Wednesday 25th February.

On the agenda at the next Northern Branch Meeting in Wanneroo on Tuesday 10th March is a great talk by Fred Sharp on basic & unique koi varieties—we need members to bring along photos of unidentified koi to the meeting.

As usual both meetings will have a Question & Answer session if you want to get some advice & opinions from other members; and tea, coffee & biscuits. See the newsletter cover for venues and times.

A Pond Tour and Member Auction are coming up in the next couple of months—see dates below. Thanks to the members who were involved in organising these. Our Annual Koi Show is also just around the corner on Sunday 24 May—if you've never entered before but would like to know more, come along to any of our meetings and have a chat to a committee member.

Welcome to all our new members—we hope you and your families enjoy your time with the club.

#### Shona

## **Events Calendar**



Wednesday 25 February—General Meeting, South Perth

Sunday 8 March—Member Auction, Bedford (near Morley) See page 8

Tuesday 10 March — Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Wednesday 25 March—General Meeting, South Perth

Sunday 5 April-Northern Branch Pond Tour. See page 4

Tuesday 14 April — Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Wednesday 22 April-General Meeting, South Perth

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## WELCOME & NEWS

# NORTHERN BRANCH POND TOUR

#### WHEN? Sunday 5 April 2009

New members, existing members, visitors, Northern & Central branch members, family & friends are all welcome to come along.



10amPhong Ta11:30amTim Leroy1:00pmAllan Bennett

Allan & Julie will be hosting a BBQ for all visitors. BYO drinks. Hot dogs & burgers will be supplied.

Please RSVP to Fred Sharp on 0422992955 or 93053240 by 29 March 2009.

A big thanks to Fred for organising this event.

## NORAN FISH FARMS



## NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS

Feb's raffle (a prize of three ginrin shiro utsuri fish with great potential) was won by Tony Cornwall. Well done Tony!

**Table Show:** Winners for the January meeting table show were as follows. (There were no entrants for Feb's show.) Judges were Tony and Graham.

| Category A— | Place | Class           | Bin | Owner         |
|-------------|-------|-----------------|-----|---------------|
|             | 1     | Sanke           | 1   | Allan Bennet  |
|             | 2     | Large Kohaku    | 4   | Phong Ta      |
|             | 3     | Sanke 3 step    | 1   | Allan Bennet  |
| Category B— | Place | Class           | Bin | Owner         |
|             | 1     | Large Goshiki   | 4   | Phong Ta      |
|             | 2     | 4 step Goshiki  | 3   | Allan Bennett |
|             | 3     | Smaller Goshiki | 4   | Phong Ta      |

Congratulations to the winners!

#### March Meeting:

- Fred Sharp will be talking about Koi other than the Go Sanke varieties.
- We plan to continue with the "Ultimate Koi Pond" design workshops

See you there!

#### March Northern Branch meeting-we need your photos

Fred Sharp will be giving a talk on basic & unique koi varieties. We need photos of member's koi so we can identify those hard to classify koi, with an aim to boost numbers in the Annual Show this year.

No matter how ugly or unusual your koi are we need to identify them and encourage newer members to show—you never know, you may have a rare or unique koi in your pond!

Start photographing today and bring them along to the March meeting on Tuesday 10 March.



## NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS

#### **KSWA Northern Branch News**

In January's meeting we acknowledged Rod Strang for his service to the club over many years since 1992. Rod is now a life member of the club, an honour indeed. Thanks Rod for all your advice, help and input into the love of Koi over the years.

The last couple of meetings at the Northern Branch have been really busy planning for the year ahead. This year we're planning a number of initiatives. Among them:

**Designing the Ultimate Koi Pond.** A series of design workshops being run from February's meeting for probably 3 months. The kick off in Feb's meeting was very informative. We hope to present the "Ultimate Koi Pond" design on the club's website when we're done so please come along and provide all the input you can.

**Pond Tour:** Fred Sharp has organised a pond tour for 5 April (see page 4). 10am at Phong Ta's place; 11:30am at Tim Leroy's and 1pm at Allan Bennett's with a BBQ.

**Best of 4 Koi Competition:** In April we're planning to have a Koi competition with a difference. Bring your best 4 fish of any variety that have been bred this season to the meeting. A guest judge (not from the Northern Branch) will judge the entrants.

**New Member Drive:** We're aiming to get 10 new members regularly attending the meetings. We will try to achieve this by:

- advertising monthly in the Wanneroo/Stirling Times
- advertising monthly in the Quokka
- inviting friends to the April pond tour
- placing flyers at pet and aquarium shops in the northern suburbs.

**Club Auction Dates:** The KSWA's planning to have auctions for club members on the following dates:

- 26 April Northern Branch will run it
- 25 October Northern Branch will run it
- Barry volunteered to organise the auctions and hold them at his home. Details to come soon—thanks Barry! (footnote: now not required as KSWA has secured premises for the Auctions at a venue in Bedford. See page 8)

**Monthly Raffle:** Julie C and Julie B will organise a monthly raffle at the meetings.

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#### **General Minutes 26th January 2009**

The president Bill Passey declared the meeting opened at 19h50

Apologies: Allan Bennett & Phong Ta

New Members: Nil

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes: : There were no points arising Confirmation of Previous Minutes. Moved: Tim L. Seconded: Kerry C. Carried by ALL as a true record.

**Correspondence In:** Invoice from insurers to cover replacement of dry goods and container in event of disaster.

#### Correspondence Out: Nil.

#### Treasurers Report: as at 26th January

KSWA Closing Balance: - \$. Deposits for the month \$ Withdrawals for the month \$ Moved by: - . Seconded: - . Carried by -

Library: Nothing to report

Sales Table: No new products to report.

Table Show Results:No table show fish were entered

#### General discussion:-

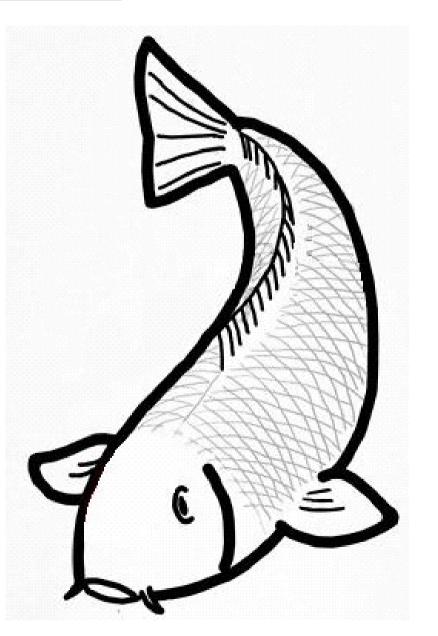
Again an excellent turn out at 26 people at the Meeting and good to see some well earned support for our Prezzi and Committee. Members keep up the good work

- Bill advised that a new centrally located Auction site for club auctions had been identified in Bayswater. Roughly half way between Geraldton and Albany.
- Rod Strang gave an update on the planning for the Annual Show to again be held at Cannington Greyhounds on the 24<sup>th</sup> May this year. There was a bit of discussion on the use of the small blue bins as well as the baby fish prizes and classifications. This year it is proposed that there will be a Gin Rin A & B prize in addition to the existing A & B.
- Main topic of the evening was identifying and culling deformities of baby koi. Bill brought in a number of babies, many that had a variety of deformities. These were then highlighted and discussed. Another informative and interesting presentation. Big thank's to the "Old Man of the Sea" for taking the time to put the presentation together.



If you are 12 or under, enter our colouring competition! Colour in the drawing below and send it to 5 Houghton Close, South Guildford WA 6055.

The best entry will win a koi poster from the KSWA Sales Table. You can colour it like a real koi, or design your own unique pattern & colours.



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WE WISH YOU GOOD KOI KEEPING IN 09

Lots of good information and comments again. We now have over 50 plus members attending monthly meetings. Well done to all who contribute and turn up and support your Club.

Meeting closed 2200hrs

**Large V's Small**, it has been the matter of debate on a number of occasions between us koi hobbyists. At our level, I believe it is better to have as many members as possible showing, and if this means the smaller size classes are attracting larger entries at the Annual Show ... then great. On the other hand anyone who has bred koi appreciates it is much more difficult to get a good large fish > 65cms than a good small fish. I was reading a book recently and I came across this translated quote from a Japanese master breeder, maybe this explains it best.

"Size and body form are the two main criteria in Nishikigoi, and small faults with color, pattern and fins are of lesser importance. I regard the expression "absolute quality" as well suited for the enthusiast to apply; everyone likes an attractive and boldly patterned koi, but size and the associated impressive appearance are inseparatable from absolute quality! Thus by 'absolute quality' is meant primary the form and presence of a koi. An impressive large body is the basic canvas on which the pattern can manifest itself"

Don't agree then think about our current 3 years x Grand Champ! She has no hi pattern on 2/5ths or her body towards the tale. I have heard lots of people at auctions and when buying, make statements that a fish does not have hi towards the tail. I have said it myself. As a result the fish is dismissed. Phong's Grand Champ was also sold 3 times before she won Grand Champ! Could it be that the body and presence had not developed but when it did the lack of hi pattern toward the tail was not a pre requisite for absolute quality? Oh yes size matters, or does it ...something worth thinking about "JJ"

## **MEMBER AUCTION-8 MARCH 2009**

#### WHERE:

#### WHEN: 10:30am, Sunday 8 March 2009

#### SELLERS: Book your bin by Sunday 1 March 2009

As bins and airlines need to be organised in advance, no late entries (or entries on the day) can be accepted.

This Auction is just for club members—you need to be a financial member to buy or sell koi at this event.

#### SELLERS

- You need to be a current member of KSWA
- You need to BOOK your bin by Sunday 1 March 2009
- To book please contact Bill Passey—phone 0438 357 732, fax 9535 7011 or email bpassey@bigpond.com
- Seller fees: 10% of your total sales goes to the club

#### **BUYERS**

- You need to be a current member (bring your membership card)
- You don't need to register, just show up on the day and bid!
- Buyer fees: extra 5% on final bid is payable to the club

Members are welcome to come along to the Auction even if they are not planning on Buying or Selling fish—there is no entry fee or obligation to purchase.

**WANTED TO BUY:** Gavin is looking for large sandstone or terracotta koi statues. If you know where he might be able to buy these, please phone him on 9417 3778.



*FOR SALE*: David Gibson is looking to sell approximately 1000 litres of Hydroponic Clay Beads, previously used as bio-filter media. Can be used to construct a cheap high efficiency trickle-down biological filter or just use for growing hydroponic plants. The average price for a new 50L bag is \$50, David would like \$20 for this bag. Phone David on 9276 6957.

*FOR SALE*: David Becker has several years worth of Japanese Nichirin magazines for sale. Phone him after hours on 9527 7568.

## **EUTHANASIA**

Euthanising a fish is something we may all need to do one day, and having a bit of knowledge before that day comes can makes it a lot less stressful for you & the koi.

Before euthanasia is considered it is worth noting that there are circumstances where a fish may appear to be beyond help, but with a little perseverance may survive and go on to live many years. It is not unusual to hear members tell of fish that survived after jumping out of a pond for half an hour or more, and thanks to their dedicated owner holding them above well oxygenated water for several hours, they have made a full recovery.

Fish vet services are also available in Perth, so if you aren't sure what a particular problem is, or if it is treatable, give them a call.

If you are in the unfortunate position of needing to humanely euthanise a fish which is beyond help, here are some guidelines

One of the most effective ways to humanely kill a fish is to hit it very hard on the head, or cut it's head off. This will kill it instantly. The downside is that you need to be fairly experienced at this and make sure you have the strength and accuracy to kill them on the first hit.

Understandably, some koi keepers aren't comfortable with this method, but we have included it just to let everyone know that if done properly, it is a humane way to go.

**Oil of Cloves** is an effective anesthetic which can be used for euthanasia. Remove the fish from the pond and place in a container (make it small so you don't need to use lots of oil, but large enough for the

koi to move comfortably.

Add a few drops at a time and gently stir. The fish will slowly go to sleep. Keep adding drops & gently stirring until there is no gill movement or reflex when touched. At this point it is sometimes difficult to judge whether the fish is unconscious or dead, so after this, bag the fish in water and place it in your freezer.

Oil of Cloves can be bought from most chemists.

