



Return address
c/o KSWA Editor
5 Houghton Close
SOUTH GUILDFORD WA 6055

KOI SOCIETY OF WA



AUGUST 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 26 AUGUST 2009**

**NEXT NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING IS
TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2009**

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Koi Society of Western Australia

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Committee of 2009-2010

President	Bill Passey	9535 7732, 0438 357 732 bpassey@bigpond.com
Vice President	Allan Bennett	9405 9331, 0419 907 973
Secretary	Fred Sharp	9305 3240
Assis. Secretary	VACANT	
Treasurer	VACANT	
Newsletter Editor	Shona Whaite	9274 8535 editor@koiclubwa.com
Librarian	Tim Leroy	9306 2844, 0437 511 644
Sales Table	Kerry Cross	9453 6509, 0417 959 009
Membership Officer	Phil Lehmann	9310 3368
Committee Member 1	Phong Ta	0409405698
Committee Member 2	Stuart Rowley	94906190, 0437 203 976

Other Positions

Table Show organiser:	Stewart Rowley
Trophy Steward:	Phong Ta
Auction Master:	Tim Leroy
Logistics officer	Tim Leroy
Tea and Coffee	Kylie Wall (General Meetings)
Show Chairman	Yet to be appointed.
Webmaster	Luke Bray, webmaster@koiclubwa.com

WE ARE IN URGENT NEED OF A TREASURER

We cannot continue to operate as a club without one! The main jobs involved are collecting money at General Meetings & Auctions, attending committee meeting (monthly, but we understand people are not available to attend every meeting), keeping the financial books up to date & writing cheques to pay bills.

You don't need to have any book-keeping experience (we will teach you that). If you want to have a trial with the position, or even if you think you could help with PART of the job, please call any Committee Member (phone numbers on page 2)



This beautiful blue koi was photographed by Dan Savage (www.japanphotojournal.com) in the large koi pond at Maruoka Castle, Japan.

(Photos like this are a great reason to sign up for newsletters by email rather than post!)



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WELCOME & NEWS

Welcome to the August issue of the KSWA Newsletter.

Our next General Meeting will be held in South Perth on Wednesday 26 August. All the usual Q&A and discussions will also be happening, and you can browse the library or buy from the Sales Table.

Tea, coffee, biscuits & advice are available at all our meetings (General & Northern Branch). See the newsletter cover for venues and times.

The next Northern Branch meeting will be on Tuesday 8 September. We will finally be finishing our Pond Building Workshop at this meeting, as well as filling the Northern Branch positions.

We're planning a Pond Tour later in the year—if you would like to share your pond with other members, please contact me (Shona, contact details on page 2). All pond types & sizes are very welcome!

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

Shona

Events Calendar



Sunday 23 August—PUBLIC AUCTION, Bedford (near Morley)—pg 7

Wednesday 26 August— General Meeting, South Perth

Tuesday 8 September—Northern Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Wednesday 23 September—General Meeting, South Perth

Tuesday 13 October—Northern Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Wednesday 28 October—General Meeting, South Perth

Sunday 25 October—Member Auction, Bedford (near Morley)

October/November—Pond Tour?

General Meeting Minutes - Wednesday 22 July 2009

The meeting opened at 7:50pm. Number of members attending – 17

Apologies: Bill Passey, Barry Ambler, Alan Peck.

New Members: Nil.

Points Arising from Previous Minutes: None.

Confirmation of previous minutes: Moved: Allan Bennet, Seconded: Allan Bennett

Treasurers Report as at 22 July 2009—not available

Correspondence In: None.

Correspondence Out: None

Library: Nothing new, **Sales Table:** Nothing new.

Table Show.

<i>Place</i>	<i>Variety</i>	<i>Owner</i>
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Table Show A

1st	Showa (classic)	Allan
2nd	Showa (modern)	Allan
3rd	Kohaku	Allan

Table Show B

1st	Bekko	Allan
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Table Show Ginrin A

1st	Gin Rin Shiro Utsuri	Allan
2nd	Gin Rin Showa	Allan

Table Show Ginrin B

No entries

Congratulations Allan Bennett on winning all classes in this month's Table Show.

General business

- Rod Strang noted that Winter feeds for your koi should only be 10% of normal feeds during the warmer Summer months

NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS

Monthly Raffle: Two bags of beautiful 10cm koi kindly donated by Allan. One bag won by Tony Cornwall and the other by <todo shone please ask Des Howlett>. Congratulations!

Table Show: As usual there were some beautiful fish in this month's table show. Thanks to Allan and Brad for bringing them in.

<i>Place</i>	<i>Variety</i>	<i>Bin #</i>	<i>Owner</i>
Table Show A			
1st	Tancho showa	2	Allan
2nd	Showa	1	Allan
Table Show B			
1st	Goshiki	1	Allan
2nd	Sanke	3	Brad
3rd	Yamato nishiki	3	Brad
Table Show Ginrin A			
1st	Gin Rin Shiro Utsuri	2	Allan
2nd	Gin Rin yamato nishiki	2	Allan
Table Show Ginrin B			
No entries			



NOW HEAR THIS: Next month Allan can't make the meeting so it will be the perfect time for you to bring in your koi babies to the table show and snatch first prize!

Next month's meeting:

The next Northern Branch meeting will be on 8 Sept 2009. Topics are still up for grabs but will include:

- Election of chairman, secretary and treasurer for the Northern Branch
- the final (hopefully) chapter of our "Building the Perfect Koi Pond" series.

Re the election, we welcome members who want to "have a go" in these roles so if you're interested come along and show your support. You must have a nominator (could be yourself) and seconder. Allan Bennett will not be present at the meeting but I have a written nomination from him for Chairman.

See you there! Richard

NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS

KSWA Northern Branch News

August's NB meeting came with lots of sunshine and new life. Let me explain! Sheldon and Dominic from SolarGain kindly visited us to explain the benefits of solar power for reducing those pesky-pond-pump-propelled-powerbills. Following that Allan gave a fascinating presentation on breeding showa (in response last month to a request from one of the members). More info later.

A special welcome this month to visitors Paul and Ilda, another Paul; and welcome back Mark.

Committee Meeting wrap up

A position is still vacant for KSWA treasurer so we'd love you hear from you if think you can help. Without a treasurer the KSWA cannot function.

Public Auction

A KSWA public auction will be held on 23 Aug 09. See www.koiclubwa.com for details. If you want to sell fish at the auction you must call Bill Passey well in advance to book a sales bin.

Solar Power

Sheldon and Dominic (www.solargain.com.au) gave a detailed presentation about the benefits of grid-connected, roof-mounted photovoltaic solar power systems. With government rebates on the installation of these systems the up-front capital cost can be significantly reduced. Interestingly these industry experts reckon solar power might be grid-competitive by 2014 because solar power systems are coming down in price while electricity prices in WA are rising substantially. For now you have to dig into your back pocket a bit to do the "green" thing but these guys are really excited about the future.

Spawning Showa

Once again Allan discussed more fascinating aspects about koi, this time: showa breeding. Supported by "Attenborough-style" nature photography Allan showed all the steps and gear required to tackle this most challenging part of koi keeping. Thanks Allan.



- Stuart raised problems with controlling blanket weed in his pond, ideas on the control and eventual elimination were given.
- Phong Ta had highlighted that some of his fish have a slight white film on their skins. Some members opinions on this mainly related to some of the koi had caught a cold or chill from cold-warm or warm-cold fluctuations in water temperature
- Rod Hansen had a bit of trivia for us all—do koi flash for no reason? Yes they do! They like to play and are copycats, but do not take this behaviour for granted—you still have to check your fish for any signs of sickness (flashing is when they rub their side on the side of the pond) Do koi have a pecking order? Yes they do—it is always the same koi that take food first, before others follow. Have a close look and observe.
- Allan Bennett highlighted the need for a Treasurer. We cannot operate as a club under the Associations Act without an elected Treasurer.
- Allan also gave us a brief report on Dept of Fisheries—no reply yet, they maybe waiting for a reply from NSW on their thoughts—perhaps looking for some form of uniformity Australia wide.
- Lastly, Allan gave a powerpoint presentation on the development of Showa and Kohaku. Allan pointed out various points to look for when culling fry. The presentation also showed us photos of koi several months apart, highlighting where they have developed (and perhaps not developed). A very enjoyable presentation was seen, thanks Allan.

Due to less than favourable weather tonight, member attendance was low and the meeting concluded earlier than normal.

The next General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 26 August 2009.

Meeting closed: 9:40pm. Fred Sharp

DID YOU KNOW ...The colours of koi are a function of the type and distribution of pigments within the fish's skin. Within certain of the dermal cells are tiny sacs of pigment called *chromatophores*. These pigment sacs can contain several types of pigment, including *melanin* (black) and the *carotenoids* that give the beautiful and well-known red and orange colours. In addition to these pigments, koi also have cells called *iridocytes*, which contain guanine crystals, It is these crystals that give the silver or gold metallic appearance to the koi's skin.

From "Koi: A Complete Pet Owner's Manual" book

3 MONTH FREE TRIAL MEMBERSHIP



We now have available a free 3 month trial membership to encourage koi hobbyists to become members of KSWA.

"Trial" members wont be official members, but will receive 3 month's worth of newsletters before they need to decide whether to pay the membership fee. This gives them an opportunity to see what the club is all about.

Anyone wishing to sign up for a Trial membership can fill in the form on our website www.koiclubwa.com (see under Become a Member)

We will also have a sheet at our events where people can write down their name & email.

NORAN FISH FARMS

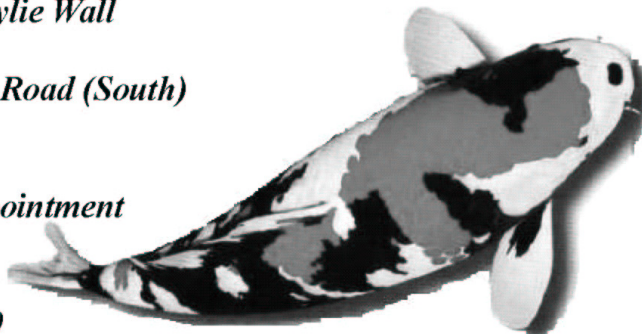
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KSWA SALES TABLE

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** or **0417 959 009**

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
Dechlorinator 5 litre
Bionatural conditioner (concentrate)
Bacteria Aqua

Water treatments- Koi anti parasite 250ml
Koi anti ulcer 250mL , 1 litre
Koi anti bacteria 250mL
Virkon S 100g
Ammonia remover 250ml

Test kits- Master test kit
PH test kit
GH & KH test kit
Ammonia test kit

Air pumps- Alita- 40 litre , 80 litre & 120litre

Air stones- Ceramic 50mm & 40mm

Koi Handling- 60cm dia fine super mesh net -excellent for sml koi
Culling net 30cm dia
Koi sock 30cm dia – water proof

Filtration- Filter brushes- 60cm , 75cm & 90cm

Koi food per 1kg- Fry powder
Ocra Baby food sizes 1, 2, 3, & 4
Sekirin Japanese food
Quick grow—small , medium
Koi King 500gm Growth Formula 5mm
Koi King 500gm Excel Formula
Koi king 500gm Wheat germ
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Also supplied in 10kg bags

Miscellaneous- Koi 66 Variety poster
UV lights and pumps



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PUBLIC AUCTION—SUNDAY 23 AUGUST

**WHERE: Beaufort Park Hall
corner Beaufort & Drummond Street
BEDFORD (near Morley)**



**WHEN: Sunday 23 August 2009
Viewing from 10:30am, Auction at 11am**

**SELLERS: Must have booked a bin already
Fish to be in bins by 10am on Auction Day**

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

SELLERS

- Deadline for booking bins was last Sunday (16 August) - sellers if you have any enquiries before Auction Day please contact Bill Passey phone 0438 357 732 or email bpassey@bigpond.com
- Seller fees: 10% of your total sales goes to the club

BUYERS

- You don't need to register, just show up on the day and get a bidding ticket!
- Buyer fees: extra 5% on final bid is payable to the club

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

This is our biggest auction of the year, so we hope to see you there!

Koi USA magazine Ponds of the Year—Honourable Mention

Honourable Mention goes to this Large Division Pond of the Year entered by Stephen and Mary Height of north Florida. This pond, better known as the "Varsity Mudpond," was created by the Height family from 6.5 acres of swampland that became available across the street from their home.



This pond is 11 feet deep on average and is 113 feet long by 125 feet wide. The pond contains 1,036,000 metered gallons (almost 4 million litres).

SCOLIOSIS (BROKEN OR BENT SPINES)

Scoliosis is caused by a variety of causes, none of which is infectious.

1) The most common cause of scoliosis is Vitamin C deficiency. But there are 3 other causes:

2) Tryptophan deficiency: An amino acid protein building block that may be absent in foods due to improper formulation, hyper extended storage, excess heat in processing, or because no variation was permitted in the diet. To avoid this, always use two different high quality staple diets, and supplement periodically with earthworms or other bait worms. Mealworms and crickets may also be accepted, especially if partially crushed.

3) Trauma: The muscles of Koi and other teleost fish are assorted in bands called 'somites'. When a somite is damaged, by Intra Muscular injection technique, for example, or a sharp blow, the somite may die, which then shrinks, and kinks the fish, especially when swimming. It may straighten at rest.

It is EXTREMELY common to see a group of young fish with several "broken back" fish in the group. People worry since it's several fish that there's a dietary deficiency. Better chances that some jerk netted up fifty fish at a time and carried them to packing IN the net, all piled up. Koi skeletons are NOT weight bearing structures and are rather fragile to damage, especially when your at the BOTTOM of the pile in a nicely loaded netful of your friends.

4) Organophosphate drugs, like Fenthion, Trichlorfon, or Malathion to name but a few, can cause kinking of the body due to hyper contraction of the muscles. (A side effect of these drugs on the fish is to prevent relaxation of muscles) and this may kink, or break the fishes back.

This article is from koivet.com

Right: a fish x-ray showing bent spine



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