



August 2009

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RAFFLES & PROMOTIONS

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CLUB PURPOSE

Share ideas on building & maintaining ponds & filter systems

CLUB LIBRARY

Mary McKee 876-0210

Pond related books & tapes available for loan to members

PROGRAMS

Guest speakers; Raffle of pond related goods; Auction of pond related goods; Member sharing pond experience

ACTIVITIES

Pond tour; Koi show; Photo contest; Hands on hobby related projects

Wetwork News

A monthly publication of the Niagara Frontier Koi and Pond Club

Greetings everyone,

First Lin and I would like to thank you all for making our last monthly meeting a memorable one. If you missed it, we had a great time here at our house. It went so well that I've had people come up to me and offer their home for the next meeting. I mentioned this to the board and I think we will make this a yearly event having the meeting at someone's home.



We have been meeting for the last 13 or so years in the North Towns. I mentioned I have too much on my plate so I asked Chris to check out some locations and suggestions we've received. She will present her findings at the next meeting.

This years Pond Tour was a great success and I have to give many thanks to my wife Lin who did all the work. Many of you came up to me for the great job I did; so in an effort to share the glory I cannot tell a lie. She took the bull by the horn and took on all the responsibility organizing every detail all for you. If you missed the tour you missed some pretty interesting ponds

and a great meal. Bev Jarvis made up all the side dishes and in her professional standard, they were superb. When you get a chance, make sure to thank Lin and Bev.

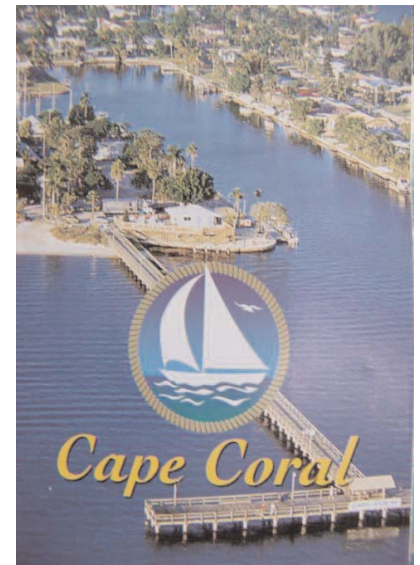
August 13th to the 16th, be prepared for a full weekend. We begin with setup on the 13th for the koi show at noon at Menne's (all welcome). Friday we will be checking in the koi which leads us to our meeting where Akca Judge Joe White will be our guest speaker. NOTE: There **will not** be an auction at the meeting. It didn't make sense to have an auction on Friday and take away from our big auction on Sunday at 1pm.

I can't get over the generosity of companies supporting this years Koi show. Starting with Ray Lucas (Kingfish) Bringing in product from the Mars company, Pond Master, and Pond Care. Emperor Aquatics donated an 18 watt UV light; ShoKoi donated over \$800.00 in food, and a new company has entered the fray, Ultra Balance Premium Koi Food has donated Koi food and 100 samples. Koi USA magazine donated 50 copies of magazines, 2 free one year subscriptions and donated \$100.00 for advertising.

Gary from Menne's has offered up a 1 week stay at his 3 bedroom Condo at Cape Coral Florida. With a starting bid of \$600.00 you could be well on your way to winning the bid. Kodama Koi Farm has once again donated 6 Japanese imports and the list goes on.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,

Walt



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REFRESHMENTS FOR 2009

January	Bob Colling & Mary Waddington
February	Bev Jarmuz
March	Tracy Prucnal & Sandy Crawford
April	Ann Marshall & Chris Wilkolaski
May	Lin Oldenburg & Carol Krajewski
June	Bev Jarmuz
July	Pot Luck - bring a dish to pass. The July Meeting is at 61 Richfield Rd, Williamsville
August	Felicia & Tom Kolacz
September	Jenny Kaeselau & Mary O'Connor
October	Lorri & John Porter
November	
December	Christmas Party

As you can see many of our members have already offered to host a meeting for 2009. Are you on the List? We have **one more month** to fill. Please contact Barb Weber at 688-7924 if you are interested or sign-up at the next meeting.

The club will reimburse you up to **\$45.00** each month for expenses. You can do it alone or with a friend or two. This is always an enjoyable part of the meeting when we are able to visit with each other.

Also, please remember to make a donation when partaking of the refreshments to help the club break even for the evening.

Pond Squad in Action

Hank and Elaine Sitarek wish to thank the Pond Squad, Chris and Dennis Wilkolaski, for their assistance this spring with the opening of their pond. Here is a picture of them on the job.



2009 KOI SHOW

By Lin Oldenburg

August 15 and 16 are the dates you **NEED** to put on your calendar for the 2009 Koi Show at Menne Nursery. This years show will include 12 tanks of some of the most astounding Koi and other pond fish you have seen. This years schedule is as follows:

Saturday, Aug. 15 9:00am to 5:00pm

10:00am Judging begins

1:00pm AKCA Judge Joe White will do a tank Walk-Around. Everyone welcome. He will discuss what qualities make a winning koi and answer your questions.

Sunday, Aug. 16 9:00am to 3:00pm

1:00 pm Auction and Raffle basket drawings

Make sure you put aside some time on Saturday and Sunday to come out and visit the show. The Koi are a sight to behold. We are also having a Chinese Raffle on several very neat gift baskets. Tickets will be on sale Saturday and Sunday with the drawings on Sunday at the auction. You don't need to be present on Sunday to win.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!!!!

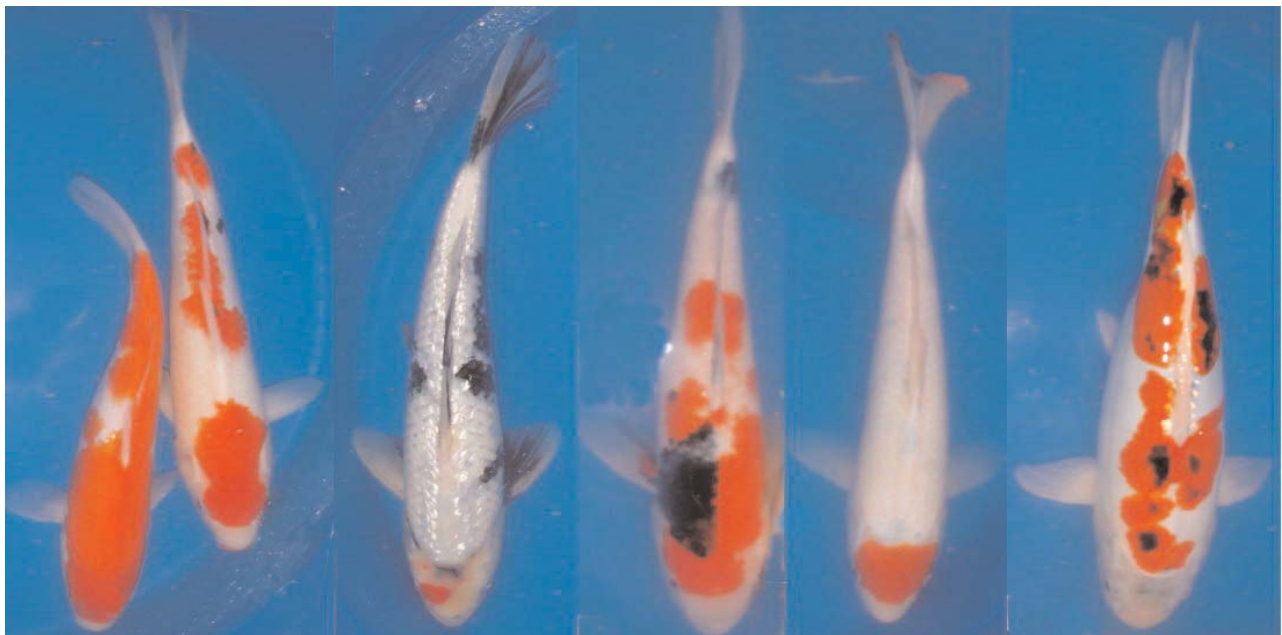


Kodama Koi Farm supports Koi Clubs all across America

If you happen to follow ponding news or peruse through the forums you will find Kodama mentioned time and time again. They have become a powerful supporter in promoting clubs all across this country; and why not? They recognize the beauty in Japanese bred koi and do their part in making their quality known.

Earlier this year Bonita and I went and bid on some of their koi so we could share the shipping cost. You will get a chance to see them at this year's Koi Show.

Once again Kodama has reached out to us and sent us 6 koi for our Koi Show auction. It could be your opportunity to own one of your very own Japanese Koi.



An Invitation from the Western NY Garden Railroad Society

Just a reminder about our summer open houses, only two more on the schedule for this year. If you need a brochure, please contact Gary Tebo at 675-4856 or you can email Gary at: grtebo@verizon.net. The club website is: www.WNYGRS.com

WNYGRS SUMMER OPEN HOUSES 2009

August 29th - B-Line 180 Goundry St in North Tonawanda

September 5th - Gary & Judy Ludwig 7480 Michael Rd in Orchard Park

Reprinted with permission of the Buffalo News and Louise Continelli

Yard therapy to the rescue

By Louise Continelli
NEWS STAFF REPORTER

Call them Lucy and Ricky —like Lucille Ball and Ricky Ricardo on the TV comedy “I Love Lucy.”

“Yes—that’s ‘Lucy and Ricky,’ ” confirms Richard Groblewski, married for more than 36 years to his Depew High School sweetheart, the former Lucy Schmidt.

Groblewski, founder of the recent Lancaster Garden Walk, knows how to keep the good cheer going at his job at Bristol Village, an assisted-living center in Clarence. There, Groblewski knows about the therapeutic value of nature as he serves as landscaper and plant care specialist.

Gardening has worked its magic on Groblewski himself, as it’s kept his spirits up through several challenging life changes.

After the Groblewskis purchased their first home in December 1987, a flood the following spring forced him into the garden. “I had to pull everything out, and rototilled the whole front yard,” Groblewski recounts.

Groblewski, a former Erie County sheriff’s deputy assigned to the Holding Center, found that “gardening in my backyard became therapy. The stress of working in the jail disappeared as I got my hands dirty in the earth.”

With a growing family, this father of three left the department for a well-paying job in a local janitorial distributorship. But in the late 1990s, the business collapsed.

He was then recruited by chemical manufacturers and worked for a company in North Carolina. He traveled across the U. S. and Canada for two years.

He took another job in Toledo for yet another company, commuting for a year “each weekend to come back home to my family and my garden. My wife and I moved to Toledo on a one-year trial.”

Then the Ohio company cut its work force. “I lost my job— and moved back into my home, and have stayed there ever since,” said Groblewski

Groblewski started the Lancaster Garden Walk about six years ago.

“I was working a difficult job and was looking for a change,” he said. “I asked a local nursery for a chance at my dream job. To my great delight, I was offered a position as general manager, based on the owners seeing and judging my garden in the first Garden Walk. The business was then sold. After working there for one year, I was out of work once more.”

At last weekend’s Lancaster walk, with nearly 50 gardens, hundreds of visitors found his “thoroughly planted” garden in top shape, featuring a “Japanese Escape” with a tea house, and a waterfall built from Depew’s old Main Street granite sidewalk.

Have an idea about a local person whose life would make a good profile or a neighborhood issue worth exploring? e-mail lcontinelli@buffnews.com

Sunshine Club


By Lorri Porter

Debbie Foe missed the Pond Tour due to a back problem. We hope that she is back on her feet by now. Tom Kolacz had a mishap and is on his way to a complete recovery at this time.

If you are aware of a member experiencing a "Life Event" in their family such as weddings, birth announcements, illness, surgery or death, please contact me at 694-6652 with the details.

HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 11-8.
Sat. 10-8 pm. Sun. 12-4:30

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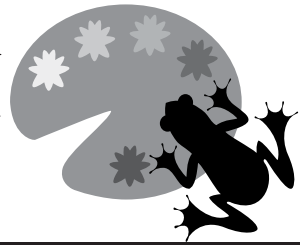


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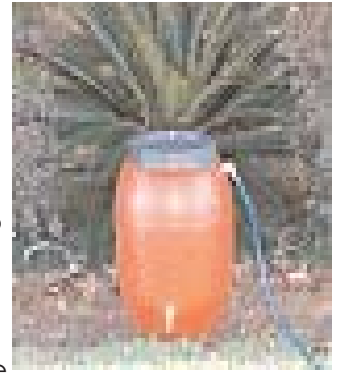
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Rain Barrels

By Mary O'Connor

In the past year many of us have been looking for ways to cut corners in order to save a little cash. Well my great idea was to use rain barrels in the garden. Mind you the thought of lugging water from a barrel to water plants at the far end of the garden did not have any appeal to me, but with a 50 foot hose I would be able to top off the pond for free and with chemical free water to boot.



So the first step was to Google it. I found directions on how to make them. If you are mechanically inclined it will be a cinch. Unfortunately for me the directions mentioned parts by their proper name, not in my vocabulary; for example the white part goes through the rubber thingy. They always look at me cross-eyed when I walk into the local hardware store for assistance.

Well, if the directions won't work for you, then back to Google. Where can I buy it? Thanks to the internet, being a bargain shopper is easy. You can find many different styles at the larger hardware chains. You may still have to order it on line. The more versatile gardening catalogs on line will also carry some rain barrels. Then there is e-bay and Craigslist. I don't like to play around with auctions; I prefer to use the Buy It Now option. Craigslist had many barrels that you could pick up at a reasonable price and make your own, but I opted for e-bay. You will find a wide assortment of rain barrels, from collapsible ones to hand painted ones. They come in all sizes and colors to blend in with your home and garden.

I found my barrels for \$45 each, plus shipping, from a dealer in Louisiana. Steve Delk, aka Cajunsteve, is the person that got me started on water conservation. They came complete with a screen at the top to keep mosquitoes and gutter litter out of the water. There is an overflow valve on each and a faucet near the bottom that is threaded for a garden hose. There was some assembly required for the screen, overflow, and faucet, but the directions were very clear and easy. It took less than 15 minutes to assemble each. Each barrel holds approximately 50 gallons. You can reach Steve at jammer777@hotmail.com for more information or to purchase your own rain barrel.

The hardest part, you know there had to be one, and that is to cut the downspout of the gutter and reroute the water into the barrel. This was handled with my handy Sawsall, because it saws all. I removed about 18 inches of the downspout so that I could attach some elbows, purchased at the hardware store, to divert the water to the top of the first barrel. I also purchased some flexible down spouts to reconnect the two parts of the downspout for the winter and they come in handy to divert the water back into the downspout when the barrels are full.

I have a small home and my barrels will be full to the top with slightly more than ½ inch of rain. With all the rain that we are experiencing I have decided to hook up two more barrels so that not a drop of rain will go to waste. I use the water to water my bonsai, and with the aid of a 50 foot hose I can reach my pond. I should also mention that I placed the barrels on 3 sets of stacked concrete cinder blocks to raise the barrel so that the faucet is not too low.



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Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be at the home of John & Lorrie Porter on August 26th at 7pm. They are located at 1312 Tanglewood Dr, North Tonawanda. If you are planning on attending or require driving directions you may contact them at 694-6652.

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KODAMA KOI FARM

Fish Health: External Parasites -Critters on our critters!

Helen E. Roberts, DVM

nyfishdoc@aol.com

[Modified from Roberts H, BP Palmeiro, and EP Weber. (2009) Bacterial and Parasitic Diseases of Pet Fish, Vet Clin Exot Anim. Elsevier. In Press. Expected pub date Sept 2009]

Itchy fish? Gaping fish? Floating fish? Listless fish? And—GASP—Dead fish???? Could it be a bacterial disease???? Viral disease? Chances are if you bought or were given fish and did not quarantine the new fish, they probably have parasites. Parasitic diseases are the most common infectious diseases (diseases that can be spread from fish to fish) seen in pet fish. Parasites come in all shapes and sizes but most are very small (microscopic) and cannot be seen with the naked eye.

How are parasites introduced? Our ponds are considered closed systems. The only way some disease causing agents (pathogens) are introduced or added, is by us, the owners. The most common way is by adding an infected fish to a naïve (uninfected/unexposed) population of fish, but there are other ways. Live plants that we add may harbor parasites. Fomites, inanimate objects such as nets and other equipment, can become contaminated from other sources and spread parasites and other disease causing agents (viruses) to an uninfected pond. Aerosol water droplet transmission of parasites has also been documented for several species of parasites—one good reason for the plastic barriers between show tanks at the koi show (KHV being the primary reason however). Owners that divert natural waters from streams, lakes, and rivers put their fish at risk not only for parasite infestations but many other potential problems.



Fish in the wild frequently get and harbor parasites but don't die off in large numbers, so why do our fish get so sick? Are they wimps? Not at all! Remember the closed system? Fish in the wild don't live so close together and live in an open environment where water is refreshed continuously. Parasites in a closed system can multiply very rapidly, often becoming a severe infestation in a short time. Add this problem to another pre-existing issue such as poor water quality and you have a recipe for disaster—and a potentially really sick or dead fish.

How do you know your fish have parasites? There are no specific clinical signs (symptoms) of parasitic disease! Let's repeat that—THERE ARE NO SPECIFIC SIGNS OF PARASITIC DISEASE IN FISH! However, there are a group of symptoms that may be suggestive of an external parasitic infestation. Parasites can cause itchiness so fish will often rub or "flash". Flashing is when a fish rubs against the bottom of the pond or against an object and exposes the (usually) pale underbelly so you see a "flash" of light colored skin. Scale loss, increased slime production (sometimes giving a hazy appearance), and skin ulcers are other common symptoms. When the gills are affected, you may also see gasping or piping at the water surface, "yawning", exaggerated opening of the opercula (gill plates), and rapid gill movements (increased "gilling"). But again, these are not specific. You can see these clinical signs with some poor water conditions, some viral diseases, and other diseases.

THE BEST WAY TO DIAGNOSE MOST EXTERNAL PARASITES IN FISH IS WITH A SKIN SCRAPE AND / OR A GILL BIOPSY. Samples are evaluated under a microscope. These procedures are best performed on sedated or anesthetized fish in order to get reliable and accurate results. Many fish will have more than one parasite and it is easy to overlook or miss parasites, especially when they are in small numbers if the procedure is not performed correctly or performed by inexperienced people. There are specific areas on the fish that should be sampled with a skin scrape in order to get the highest possible yield of external parasites if they are present.

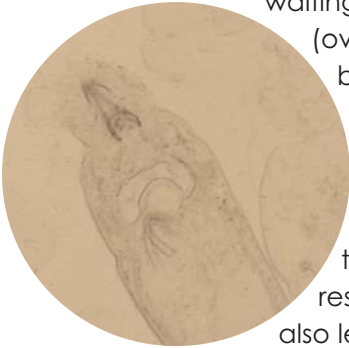
Macroscopic parasites are those seen with the naked eye. Anchor worm and fish lice fall into this category. Obviously, you won't need fancy equipment to see these, although sometimes they may not be detected until they have caused secondary diseases such as skin ulcers and bacterial infections.

The most common parasites I have been seeing in practice this year (2009) are the monogenean flukes. There are two main species on our koi and goldfish- *Dactylogyrus* sp. and *Gyrodactylus* sp. Gyrodactylids are often called the "skin" fluke but they can be found on the gills also. There are the live bearing flukes or "viviparous". They release live larvae that are immediately parasitic to our fish!! On a skin scrape or gill biopsy, you can sometimes see the larvae inside the fluke, just waiting.... The Dactylogyrids are the egg-laying flukes



(oviparous), also known as the "gill" fluke, but also are found on both the skin and gills. These are more problematic for treatment.

No treatment penetrates the eggs that are deposited in the pond's environment. This means the treatment for egg laying flukes MUST be longer than for live bearing flukes. Flukes attach to koi skin and gills, creating an opening point for bacteria to enter. This can lead to the development of ulcers, and bacterial infections unless they are treated. Flukes located in the gills can cause damage that can lead to respiratory issues-gasping, piping, gill infections. Severe skin and/ or gill damage can also lead to a loss of the ability to regulate fluid balance (osmoregulate), which can



lead to "dropsy" and death.

The most common treatment used for flukes is praziquantel. Be warned that the commonly recommended dose of ONE time is inaccurate. It depends on the type of fluke that the koi have-egg laying or live bearing? Water temperature? Worst case scenario is an infestation with an egg laying fluke in cooler temperatures. Because the eggs are NOT susceptible to ANY medication, and hatching rate depends on water temperature- treatment needs to be applied at regular intervals over a prolonged period of time. Even the live bearing flukes require more than one treatment. Other treatments are available and may be more cost effective for larger ponds but are generally not as safe.

Other commonly occurring external parasites in koi and goldfish include *Ichthyophthirius*, *Chilodonella*, *Ichthyobodo* (previously known as *Costia*), and *Trichodina*. Most of these parasites are easily cleared with treatments, including non-iodized salt. Some, such as the Trichodinids, are associated with poor water quality and overcrowding. *Ichthyobodo* is commonly found in association with Koi Herpes Virus infections. It is a tiny parasite, about the size of a red blood cell, but can cause severe respiratory distress, depression, flashing, and deaths. *Ichthyophthirius*, also known as "Ich", is seen in koi but does not cause the classic white spots as it does in other fish, including goldfish.

Parasitic diseases are very common in fish. Quarantining new fish can help prevent the introduction of disease outbreaks into an established population. Shotgun treatments are risky and should not be used without sound scientific, rationale behind them. Many diseases have symptoms that can resemble parasitic diseases, including poor water quality, viral diseases, and bacterial diseases making treatment without a diagnosis potentially harmful to the fish and the water quality, expensive, and inadequate.

Rose Workshop - The Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy is pleased to host a free, weekly workshop on the selection, planting, and care of roses every Wednesday beginning August 19th through October. The workshops will be held at the historic Delaware Park Rose Garden (199 Lincoln Pkwy) from 10 am - 11 am and 12pm - 1 pm. Dave Swanka, the Conservancy's rosarian, will guide you through selecting, planting, fertilizing, and caring for your roses with an emphasis on using environmentally friendly procedures and products. For further information or to RSVP please contact snagowski@buffaloolmstedparks.org or telephone 838-1249 ext 15.

Pond Tour 2009 - Photos by Mary O'Connor, Walt Oldenburg, & Greg Young



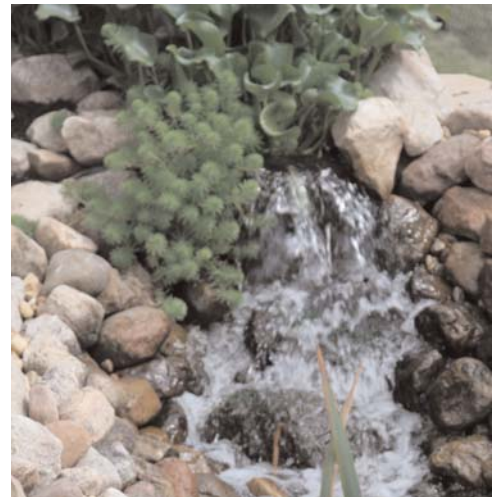
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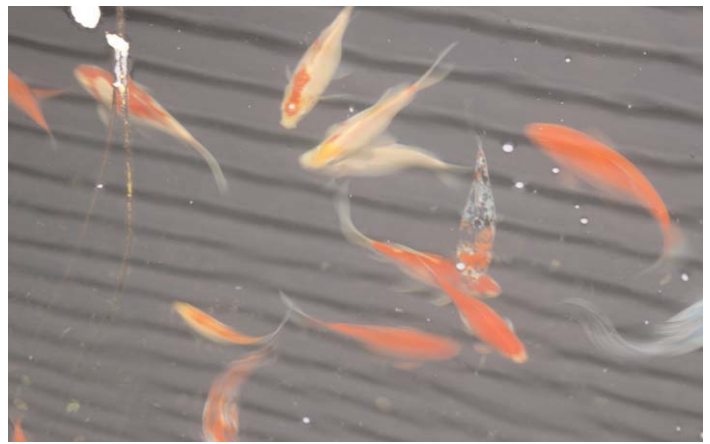
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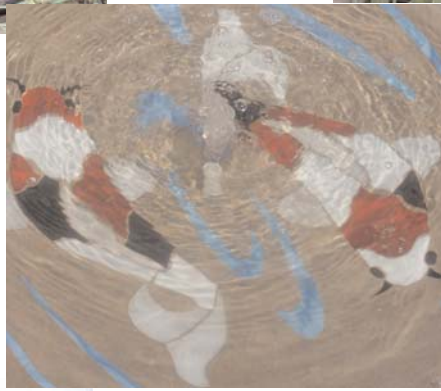
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The NFKPC meets the 2nd Friday of every month at 7:00 PM, at the VFW Post on Elgin St. in Tonawanda. Take Delaware north from I-290, 1.5 miles to right on York (at the old Keyser Buick location) to Elgin. Everyone is welcome!



Niagara Frontier Koi & Pond Club
23 Crystal Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14220



Up-Coming Events

August 14 Club Meeting

**August 15-16 Koi Show and Auction
at Menne Nursery**

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