



May 2007

Wetwork News

A monthly publication of the Niagara Frontier Koi and Pond Club

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CLUB PURPOSE

Share ideas on building & maintaining ponds & filter systems

CLUB LIBRARY

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

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual.....\$15.00

Family.....\$21.00

Please contact Greg Young to join the club!

"No human being, however great, or powerful, was ever so free as a fish."

John Ruskin 1819-1900, British Critic, Social Theorist

Greetings and Salutations Fellow Ponders,

The weather is slowly warming. Please keep an eye on water temps. Soon all our finned friends will be out and giving us hours of enjoyment. Please remember the foundation of our club; some members need help in opening their ponds.

Please ask, we are willing to help we just need to know who needs a little assistance. On the same note if you are willing to volunteer and help a fellow ponder - please let the Board know. Thank you.

May I say, I did miss everyone and thought of you, as the April Meeting was in progress? But, I was on a "working vacation". I was touring London, Paris and Madrid with 14 High school students. But may I say I felt at home, almost every water fountain I saw had a Koi as a spitter. Even the streetlights had Koi on them.

Thank you, Lorri Porter, for running the program at the last meeting. I also heard wonderful remarks about Greg Young's presentation. Greg, I know eager ears listened to your words of wisdom,

As spring has entered the picture and summer will soon be knocking at our doors, we will start the season off this month with a mini Auction. Lorri Porter will again be in charge of the auctions this year. This mini auction will allow 2 items per person or 4 for a family. Please remember the mega auction will be next month in June. For complete details of the auction, please read further in the newsletter.

We will be having our Photo Contest this month. So back by popular demand is Mary Lou Frost. Ms Frost is part of the Camera Club at the Buffalo Museum of Science. She will serve as our judge for the contest and will do a small presentation on how to reduce glare when taking photos outside. So get those pictures out and join the competition. Prizes will be awarded

Many people have asked about Water Hyacinths and Water Lettuce. Les Wolf has offered again this year to get theses for our members. The cost will be \$2.50 for Water Hyacinths and \$2.00 for lettuce. Please call him with your order and they will be in for the June meeting.

If you ordered the Project plants, they will be in this month. Please have you money ready for Ed and Bob at pickup. Thank you all who purchased them.

Again feel free to call any of our elected officers and board members with ideas for future meetings. Let us all continue to lead this Club to great new heights (and depths).

Happy Spring!

Chris

President



Notes from the Editor

If you are like me, you have been suffering with "spring fever" for awhile. Now that it is May we can finally do something about it. I have visited some of our advertisers (and hopefully some new advertisers) to purchase pond and garden supply's.

Please remember that our advertisers are a major support to this newsletter and as a courtesy to us they offer a discount to our members. This is not negotiable, this is a courtesy. You have an option to purchase from anyone that you choose if you think you can get a better deal somewhere else. Do not try to take advantage of this courtesy and spoil it for the rest of the members.

We still have two months open for refreshments and I will be happy to help someone if they would like to volunteer with me.

Mary

Koi and Goldfish Show 2007

We picked a picture for the posters and they will be ready for distribution soon.

At our last meeting we were deciding on judges and the rules for the competition.. It is suggested that each entrant bring their own show bowl and nets for the safety of everyone's fish. If you do not have



a show bowl, please contact me because I have a few tubs that could be used as substitutes.

All fish that are entered should have been in the possession of the owner for at least 3 months, with no obvious injuries or illness. The class entries will be for Koi are over 12" and under 12" with a special prize for the largest. The

categories will be Kohaku, Sanke, Showa, Longfin, and all Other Varieties.

We still need some guidance on Goldfish categories, any volunteers?

Refreshments for 2007

April	Denise Moeller, Sandy Crawford, & Tracy Prucnal
May	Bonita Wulf
June	Nancy Wojnowski & Barb Weber
July	Kathy Arries
August	Pam Craig
Sept	Please Volunteer
October	Please Volunteer
November	Beverly Wojtaszczyk & Jody Ferris

Please consider hosting a meeting in 2007. 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.

We will have a sign up sheet at the next meeting or you may contact Barb Weber at 688-7924.



Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be at the home of John & Lorri Porter at 1312 Tanglewood Dr., North Tonawanda 14120. The meeting will be on Tuesday, May 22.

From Rt 290 get off at Colvin Blvd. Take Rt 425 north (Twin City Hwy/Colvin Ext). Twin City Hwy becomes Nash Rd, continue for 1.2 miles to Wurlitzer Rd. Turn right onto Wurlitzer and left onto Tanglewood.

If you are interested in attending, or require more specific driving instructions, please contact John & Lorri at 694-6652.

All members are welcome to attend Board Meetings. You may find it easier to express your feelings to the Officers and Board Members in a more intimate setting instead of at a regular club meeting. We value everyone's opinion.



Place your Order for Floating Plants

Once again Les Wolf is taking orders for Water Hyacinths (\$2.50) and Water Lettuce (\$2.00) plants. They are the same high quality, abundantly blooming and extremely healthy plants that he has provided over the years. If you are interested in ordering plants this year, be prepared to place your order and pay in full at the May meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting, you may call Les and Sue at 837-6349 no later than May 18.



The plants should be ready for pick up at our June meeting or you can make arrangements with Les to pick them up at his home.

I hope you will take advantage of this great offer!

Gardening Tip

If you see something growing in your garden and you can't remember what it is, give it a little tug.

If it comes out, it is a plant. If it doesn't come out it is a weed!

Club Project Plants

Ed Mckee and Bob Colling will have the plants that were ordered at the May meeting.

If you haven't yet paid, please do so when you receive your plants.



If you cannot be at the meeting, please make arrangements with another member to pick up your plants or you may call Ed at 876-0210 or Bob at 297-1514 to make other arrangements.

The Auctions are coming.... The Auctions are coming...

Lorri Porter

To start us off in the auctioning mood we will be having a mini auction at the May Meeting. Each member is allowed to bring 2 items to the auction or 4 per family. Do you have an abundance of summer bulbs left over from last year? Did some of your current perennials do more than double in size? Bring them to the auction. Share with your abundance with your club members.

We are always looking for volunteers for clean-up after the auction. If you don't have time to volunteer, don't bring messy plants with you. Do not water your plants the day of the auction. Place all pots in double plastic bags without holes. Plants that are leaking will not be accepted for the auction.

As always it is greatly appreciated if you can label your plants with the name of the plant, type of growing condition – sun or shade, height, spreading conditions, etc.



Please bring your plants as early as possible.

The MEGA Auction

The **MEGA** Auction will be at the June 8th meeting. As always there is no limit on the number of plants that a member may bring.

For the June auction only we will accept payment by check from any current members, but guests must pay in cash.

We will split the auction into two parts with the first group of people bringing in their plants, then a break, then more auction. This will give all party's concerned a chance to catch up.

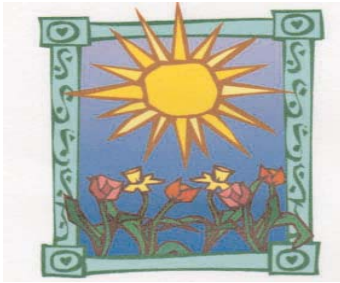


Sunshine Club

By Lorri Porter

Please help us to remember our members and bring a little sunshine in to their lives when they may need it most of all.

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.



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All Active Members Must Present Card Prior to Purchase

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Day of Learning

Saturday May 19th

At Ulbrich's Garden Center
11500 Broadway
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Several "Courses" are available – Call 937-7742 to Pre-register

Each Course Fee is \$10.00

Upon completion the registered participant will receive a coupon for \$10.00 towards that days purchases of \$50.00 or more.

9:00 am – Cy Farms "Batavia Turf" Installing, caring for and maintaining turf sod.

10:30 am – WNY Rose Society – Choosing the Right Rose and Caring for it.

11:30am – Ulbrich's Garden Coach – How to plant a tree.

12:30pm – Ulbrich's Garden Coach – What's a perennial? What's an Annual? Which one is right for me?

1:30pm – Ulbrich's GardenCoach & Scott's Product Rep. Mike Harris – Planting a patio planter with annuals, perennials, and more.

2:30pm – Ulbrich's Garden Coach – Introduction to patio water gardens.



Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens

- May 5-27 Coleus Show
- May 19-20 The Great Plant & Bulb Sale 9am – 5 pm
8,000 bulbs MUST GO! Choose from hundred of different Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths and more! New this year, there will be shrubs and trees to spruce up your garden, home or landscaping. Hanging plants will be available also. If you forgot to preorder plants from the plant sale you will still be able to purchase some of these also.
- June 2-3 Bonsai Show
Bonsai masters and novices display their prized trees at their peak. Do not miss this once a year opportunity to see these meticulously manicured trees in one place. This event is brought to you by the Buffalo Bonsai Society and the Botanical Gardens. Stop in and say hi to Don Butterworth.
- June 14 Herbs Under The Dome Fee: \$10.00 6pm – 9pm
The Western New York Herb study Group will put on fantastic herb demonstrations to unlock the many uses of herbs. Watch and learn form Curly's chefs as they disclose some interesting ways to cook with herbs. Tickets include samples of herb creations and herb dishes. Don't miss out on this flavorful event.
- June 27 Starry Night In The Garden 6pm-9pm Fee: TBD
Popular musical groups, local restaurants, wineries and breweries come together to party into the night to benefit The Gardens. This event is co-sponsored by Star 102.5. For more info go to www.mystar1025.com



The following is an excerpt from the book:

“Koi – A Complete Pet Owner’s Manual”

By George C. Biasiola II

Part 5 in a series – continuing with diseases

Cestodes, or tapeworms, are flattened worms whose body is composed of a head and a number of segments called *proglottids*. The head bears an organ called a *scolex*, with which the worm attaches to the inner wall of the intestine. Tapeworms have complex life cycles requiring several hosts. Koi can be the intermediate or final host, depending on the species of tapeworm. The final hosts of some species are either birds or mammals. Larval forms can encyst in the peritoneal cavity or other areas of the fish’s body. The most common cestode species parasitizing koi are *Bothriocephalus* and *Caryophyllaeus*.

Infestations are difficult to diagnose. Very few behavioral signs are observed. Severely infested fish can appear emaciated, though they appear to eat normally. The presence of tapeworms is usually confirmed only by necropsy,

Most of the medications recommended for treatment must be added to the food in order to kill these internal parasites effectively. Recent research using the drug called Paraziquantel has indicated that it rapidly eradicates tapeworms from the gut. The drug is simply added to the water for use in a bath treatment.

Nematodes

The nematodes are slender, unsegmented roundworms. In the larval form nematodes can be found in practically any organ or tissue of a fish. They are most common in the musculature, intestine, and liver.

Their life cycle involves intermediate hosts, the first usually being a copepod or insect. If a koi eats the intermediate hosts containing the larval nematodes, the worms will take up residence in the fish’s gut. If the worms use the fish as an intermediate host, they will be found coiled in small nodules in the tissues or organs.

Affected fish exhibit poor appetite and loss of color. There are few drugs which are totally effective in eradicating nematodes. The best treatment is addition of the drug Panacur at a concentration of 0.25 percent.

Annelids

The annelids are a group of worms containing both free-living and parasitic species. The best known of the free-living annelids is the common earth worm. The only type that is troublesome to koi are the leeches.

Leeches are external parasites with a segmented body and anterior and posterior suckers. The posterior sucker is larger, while the smaller anterior sucker contains the oral apparatus, with specialized organs and a mouth. Most of the species affecting koi are visible with the naked eye.

The parasites feed on the host’s blood, and when present in large enough numbers, especially in young fish, they can cause anemia. Leeches are more of an annoyance than a serious problem. They are, however, known to transmit bacterial diseases through the wounds they cut in the fish’s skin.

Leeches can be eradicated by using a variety of drugs sold on the market.

Tip: Always quarantine plants before placing them in the pond to prevent introduction of leeches or leech eggs.

Crustaceans

Crustaceans are arthropods. Among the family are such well-known animals as shrimps and lobsters, but they also include numerous parasitic species. They are capable of causing severe tissue damage.

Argulus, or fish lice, have flat bodies and can crawl freely over the fish’s skin. In appearance they resemble flattened scales. Eggs are laid on submerged vegetation and other objects in the pond.

Affected fish show damaged, reddened skin surfaces and pinpoint hemorrhages. Koi must be carefully examined for the presence of small, mottled, leaflike moving scales on their skin. Fish lice can also invade the gills, so increased and labored respiration are signs associated with infestation. Many species are large enough to see with the naked eye or with the aid of a low-power magnifier.

Treatment is with a variety of commercial medications containing one or more of the following active ingredients: formalin, organophosphates, or potassium permanganate.

Copepods are small crustaceans, many of which are parasitic on koi. Specialized holdfast organs are present and the mouth parts are adapted to piercing the fish’s body.

The anchorworm is a common copepod parasite of koi. Although referred to as anchorworms, they are not really worms. Mature females produce eggs in strings, and these, trailing from the body of the fish, are diagnostic. Newly hatched larvae are immediately capable of infecting fish.

The presence of a few parasites is not serious, but untreated fish are likely to develop secondary



bacterial infections.

These parasites can be controlled using various commercial medications containing formalin and organophosphates. The goal of treatment is the eradication of the free-swimming juvenile form. When only a few adult worms are present on the fish, they can be carefully removed using forceps.

Fungal Infections

Fungal Infections are frequently encountered in koi, usually appearing after transport or in association with other diseases, especially those involving parasites. Fungi are generally secondary invaders, typically developing on wounds. Though they get their start on the skin, they can progress internally and cause extensive damage.

There are many species of fungi, both the two most important types are Saprolegnia and Branchiomyces.

Saprolegniasis is a fairly common condition, characterized by the presence of whitish threads on the skin and fins of koi. It can be quite prevalent during the spawning season. The fungus is recognized by its cottony-white appearance., and is easily seen with the naked eye. The large, grayish-

white lesions sometimes have a reddish perimeter. Algae can sometimes be seen associated with the lesions. This fungus is usually found on the skin, but also occurs on damaged gill tissue. Infection of the gills is extremely serious and must be treated immediately to prevent mortality.


During early stages of the disease, the fungus can be eradicated quickly, but it is more difficult to cure as it progressively invades the fish's body. Commercial medications containing malachite green are particularly effective, and methylene blue, salt, and formalin are also useful.

Branchiomycosis is a disease of the gills. Unlike *Saprolegnia*, this fungus is partial to intravascular tissue and invades the gills directly. It is believed that infection is initiated by ingestion of fungal spores.


Affected fish show extreme respiratory distress and hemorrhages, and patches of dead gill tissue are seen. Fish can succumb to the disease within several days.

Currently there is no known treatment. It is important to isolate any suspected fish.

to be continued next month



I would like to quote a former columnist for
this month of May and Memorial Day.
"Say a prayer for our guys and gals over there"
Bob Curran



Niagara Frontier Koi & Pond Club

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (716) 823-8979.

Sincerely, Mary O'Connor, Editor of Wetwork News





To:



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 Keyser Buick) to Elgin. Everyone is welcome!



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

Niagara Frontier Koi & Pond Club - Upcoming Events

May 11	Club Photo Contest
May 30	Raffle for the Elephants
June 21-24	AKCA 26th Annual Seminar - Phoenix, AZ
July 21	NFKPC Annual Pond Tour Is your pond on the tour - Call Lin and Walt if you want to show your pond
July 28	Genesse Valley Pond Club Annual Pond Tour
Aug 25-26	Koi and Goldfish Show 2007 - Buffalo, NY

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