



Wetwork News

A monthly publication of the Niagara Frontier Koi and Pond Club

September 2007

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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!

Greetings and Salutations Fellow Ponders,

As daylight decreases and winds begin to blow, we must embrace the start of fall. The leaves, they are a changing. Our summer is at an end. But, we still have a little time left to play with our gardens. Still need ideas for now or for next year –attend the East Aurora Garden Fest Sunday September 9th from 10 to 4pm.If Pond items are still in need mark your calendars for Saturday September 22nd Hahn's will be having a sale. Our own Walt Oldenburg will be speaking. And Saturday October 16th Masterson's in East Aurora will be having a special sale on all pond items.

I want to take the time now and on behalf of the club to thank the committee that made the Koi Show a great success: Mary, Lin, Walt, Ed and Don, who started months back planning this great event. The guest speakers: Loren, Helen, and Walt thank you for sharing your vast knowledge. To all that showed fish thank you for bringing and trusting us with them. I would like to say thank you to the vendors with their fish / pond related items, And the all-important labor, from manning a table to setting up or tearing down the tanks – a big THANK YOU to all the people that made set up and clean up run so smoothly.

The topic of this September meeting will be closing your pond. As the leaves start to fall now is the best time to prepare for old man winter. Our own Walt Oldenburg will be our speaker for the evening. Think of your questions now and write them down. This way you will be armed and ready for this winter

As the year slowly starts to come to a close start pondering the idea of - maybe I would like to run for an office. Feel free to contact or ask any of the officers or Board members on what their job entails and consider running in January.

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!).

Yours in ponding,

Chris

President



Editors Note

Mary O'Connor

Please remember that I am always on the look out for pictures and articles for the newsletter.

Articles can be mailed to my home at 23 Crystal Avenue, Buffalo 14220 or e-mailed to mary.oconnor@verizon.net. Articles are best if sent as an attachment and digital pictures are the easiest to use but I do have a scanner for regular pictures.

I hope that you will continue to give me idea's of what you want to see in your newsletter. It will help to share the load and prevent writers block.

Refreshments for 2007

Sept Pam Craig

October Mary O'Connor

November Beverly Wojtaszczyk & Jody Ferris

Please consider hosting a meeting in 2008. 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.

Koi & Goldfish Show 2007

Mary O'Connor

We did it! We couldn't do it without you. I don't know what Walt said at the last meeting to convince you to show your fish, but participation more than doubled. In fact, we had one late comer that we had to turn away. We hope that he will give us advance notice next time so that we will be ready for him.



We started the set-up on Thursday afternoon and we had a large amount of helpers. Menne's Nursery staff had the room cleaned out for us and all we had to do was figure out a lay out that would provide enough room for the tanks, vendors, and of course the public.



After much discussion we settled on a plan that would work for all involved.

Walt had done some research on other Koi Shows and discovered

that some are now providing dividers between the tanks to serve two purposes. The first is to prevent cross contamination between the tanks if the fish splash water into a neighboring tank. The other is the cross bar that prevents observers from putting their hands in the water. This was definitely effective and a necessary expense.

For the most part the Goldfish were in 10 gallon tanks on the opposite side of the room, except for the fish in tank #1. The goldfish and koi shared the same pond and the exhibitor wanted to keep them together.



The fish arrived on Friday and it was quite a production of checking them in, photographing them, and getting them situated in their respective tanks. I personally know what a job it is to catch and transport your fish and I thank you all for participating in the exhibition. There were a lot of people on hand to help us bring our fish in from our vehicles and this helped everything to run smoothly.

Saturday, the fun began. We were all busy from 7:30 till closing. We appreciate all that gave an hour or more of their time because we were very busy. It was good for the club and for Menne's Nursery. We started with water changes at 7:30 am. Their isn't filtration on the tanks, only aeration, so it is extremely important to monitor the tanks and do water changes as necessary all day long.

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I Was Pondering Lin & Walt Oldenburg

When should I stop feeding my koi and goldfish?

If water temperatures are:

60 – 85 degrees F 2 – 4 times daily
50 – 60 degrees F 2 – 4 times weekly

Less than 50 degrees F or over 85 degrees F . . . Do Not Feed

Fish are cold blooded, meaning their body is the same temperature as the water. Since they don't generate heat their metabolism is directly affected by water temperature. When they are cold, they have very slow metabolism. When they are hot, their metabolism is fast. *Did you know that for every ten degrees increase in temperature, the metabolism of a cold-blooded organism doubles?* (See, you do learn something new every day!)

Fish will eat in cold water, even down to the mid forties, however the enzymes needed for the digestion of most food will be lacking. The fish will eat, sometimes a lot, and then languor in the cold water as their metabolism slogs the food through. In very cold water, fish probably won't eat. If food is going to be processed by "cold" fish with impaired metabolism, it makes sense to offer foods which are easily and quickly digestible so they don't sit in the gut. Soluble plant proteins like wheat germ are a good choice. Some folks recommend Cheerio's. We make no recommendation for or against.

Happy Pondering!

Board Meeting

This month's Board Meeting will be on Sept 27, at 7:00pm at the home of Walt & Lin Oldenburg. They are located at 61 Richfield Road in Williamsville.

Please contact Walt or Lin if you will be attending and for driving directions. Walt can be reached at 912-4492 and Lin at 523-7944.

All members are welcome to attend Board Meetings. We value everyone's opinion.

The Auction's

Another fun and successful auction year has come to an end, and with it my time as auction chairperson. I've been running the auctions for many years, and feel it's time to pass the fish-paddles on to someone else, and just sit back and bid myself.

I'd like to thank the many people who have helped over the years. Most recently my "second", Diane Young, and in the past: Ann Herman, Marie Herman, Rose Shelp, and Marlene Hyden.

Obviously, we couldn't have operated without an auctioneer, so I'd like to thank Mike Curry, Ray Lucas, Ed McKee and my favorite other-half John. Also, the "runners" - Mike C., Bruce Herman, Ed McKee, John, and Roy Seiders.

If I left anyone out, blame it on a senior moment. It's been fun as well as stressful, and I wish my successor all the best.

Lorri

Election's for 2008

Turn on a TV and every other commercial is about the local primary on September 18, or the Presidential Candidates. It's not too early to decide about putting your self in the running for an Office or Board Member.

Because of term restrictions for officers we will be in need of a President, Vice President, Treasurer and some Board Members. Please see Nancy Wojnowski to place someone's name in nomination or to volunteer to be on the ballot for January. Nancy will be at the meetings or you can reach her at 675-3017.

Remember, this is for the benefit of **all** members of the club. Donate one extra night per month for the benefit of all. It is a nice relaxing night to discuss plans for the future of the club.



Sunshine Club

By Lorri Porter

Get well wishes go out to the son of Kristen and A. J. Sokolik who had his adenoids removed in mid-August.

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.

Mazuri Foods Promotion

Mazuri Foods is running a Koi Club Bonus Program. This program is available only to Koi Clubs recognized by the AKCA. The Program is a simple, easy way to earn money to support the activities and projects of our club. Just clip, save, and redeem Bonus Program Seals from specially marked packages of Mazuri Koi Diet.

Each Bonus Program Seal equals \$1.00, the minimum amount that the club can redeem is 25 seals but there isn't a limit on how many we can redeem.

There are two local dealers, Stapley Feed Center at 6447 Transit Rd, Depew or Clyde's Feed & Animal Center, 351 Union Street, Hamburg.

Remember, these can only be redeemed by the club, not by individuals.

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Continued from Page 2

The Judging came next. The judges this year were Tom Tower, Mick Masterson of Masterson's Water Garden Center and Kevin DiFranco from Menne's Nursery. We were unable to get an AKCA Judge this year, but our local Judges did a fine job. There were 43 Koi and approximately 20 Goldfish to be judged. Unfortunately it is not possible to know the size of a fish from a picture, but it was certainly amazing how large they can grow. We had some only a few inches that were spawned this summer to some 5 years older that were enormous.



As the people filtered in we gave each a ballot for the "People's Choice Award" and also showed them the items on the Auction Table. During the two days more than 300 ballots were turned in. We had 7 vendors, all with Pond related items. We were happy to have representatives of the Bonsai Society also. Club members manned our informational table where

we sold tickets for a Koi to be raffled off during the Auction on Sunday. We also had a drawing on Saturday and



Sunday for a free membership to the club. Since we are all about fish we also used fish to lure in the public to stop at our table, in this case it was goldfish crackers and swedish fish. It was a big hit.

We also had speakers from the club on Saturday and Sunday. Their talks were in the conference room in the office building of the Nursery. There could have been more in attendance but it was not advertised well enough. This is something that we need to fix for next year. I do thank our speakers, Dr. Helen Roberts, Loren Prucnal, and Walt Oldenburg, for the

fine job that they did.

Sunday was more of the same, water changes, meeting the public, vendors, informational table, but we also had the Auction and the presentation of the Trophy's. If you were at the show or checked out the website then you already know that Bonnie Wulf was the big winner of the show. Her lemon hariwake was the largest fish and strikingly beautiful. It received several awards.

The Auction was also a big success. We netted \$830.00. We couldn't have done it without all those who donated to the Auction. Many items were donated by our sponsors and by club members. Thank you all for your generosity.



After the auction everything began to slow down, so we started to catch fish and package them for the trip home. Next came the draining, dismantling of the tanks and drying them for storage. Thanks again for the many hands that pitched in to help. We couldn't have done it without you. I would like to especially thank the members who drove my fish home for me.

We did run over our budget of \$1,000 dollars due in part to the partitions and trophies but we did try to save some money by getting sponsors for the trophies. I would like to apologize again for omitting one of our Trophy Sponsors from the Board on Saturday. It was not intentional, only forgetful. Our total loss was \$186.24.

I know that we made mistakes and that we will have to do some changes. This was the first time that many of us were involved in such an undertaking, and we do feel that we worked hard and did a good job. Not perfect, but we are happy with the outcome. I hope that you enjoyed it also.

I know that I keep repeating myself with thanks to all that helped out and not mentioning anyone by name, but I am afraid that I may leave someone out and that is not my intention. I do however have to thank Ed and Bonnie for sharing their knowledge with me. Lin, Mary, and Chris for their questions and suggestions that kept me on my toes, and of course Walt for nagging me into action.

Pictures courtesy of Mary O'Connor & Lin Oldenburg



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!



To:

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



Niagara Frontier Koi & Pond Club - Upcoming Events

- Sept 14 Club Meeting - Walt Oldenburg - Speaker
Closing your Pond for Winter
- Sept 15 Tropical Fish Club of Erie County Auction
Gratwick Hose Fire Company
110 Ward Road, N. Tonawanda
triz316@verizon.net
- Sept 22 Picnic on the Plaza V - Oktoberfest
Buffalo Central Terminal 6pm to Midnight
www.buffalocentralterminal.org
- Sept 28 Party for the Parks - 7pm to 11pm
Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society
www.BuffaloOlmstedParks.org

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