

# Utah Water Garden & Koi Club

April 2017 Issue



Our March meeting was dedicated to our finny friends the Koi Fish and how to keep them happy and healthy. Terry Maxfield was our guest speaker. Terry is the only certified Koi Health Adviser (KHA) in Utah and we were very fortunate to have him speak. We learned about water quality, testing and feeding. He explained the AKA certification program where Koi hobbyists learn the basic core principals of proper pond design, filtration and water quality. Along with these skills they learn disease prevention, good nutrition (Really, Cherrios???) and health basics to become better Koi keepers. Additional information on this program is

available on the Associated Koi Club Website at [www.akca.org](http://www.akca.org). His book recommendations were Koi Health and Disease by Dr Erik Johnson and Advanced Koi Care by Dr. Nicholas Saint-Erne. The club can buy both of these books at a discount if we get 5 orders for each book. Contact Shirley for more information. or to order. The beautiful Cactus and Tropicals shop was a serene backdrop for our meeting. The staff offered attendees a discount for items purchased that evening. Gift certificates were won by several members and a nice meal of sandwiches and cookies made everyone happy.

## What's New?

**Membership dues are now due for 2017. Dues are \$40 for a couple and \$30 for a single.**

**THE CLUB WANTS YOU! POND TOUR HOMES FOR 2017. Be thinking about being on the pond tour for this year. We need pictures and description of your pond by the end of April. The tour is August 5-6 this year. If you have any questions or you feel your pond is not ready for pictures by April, use an old picture or we can send someone out to get some good pictures for you. If you have any questions call Shirley at 702-302-6315.**

**As of 2017, the Utah Water Garden Club is now called the Utah Water Garden & Koi Club. Please support our sponsors (see end of newsletter).**

**Anyone have a suggestion for a newsletter topic, story or have a fish recipe you would like us to include in a future newsletter? If you do, email us at [trout42@hotmail.com](mailto:trout42@hotmail.com) – we'd love to hear from you!**



### April

April 20, 2017, 7:00 pm  
Utah Water Gardens, 3674 South 900 East Salt Lake City  
(Wheelchair accessible)  
Topic: Unique Marginal Plants  
Speaker: Botanist Sheida

### May

May 18, 2017, 7:00 pm  
Flint Home, 5310 Baywood Circle, Holliday  
Topic: Outdoor Lighting Design  
Speaker: Keith Rosser

### June

June 15, 2017, 7:00 pm  
Larsen Home, 1925 Spring Lane, Holladay  
Annual BBQ and Auction

### July

July 20, 2017, 7:00 pm  
Wagstaff Home, 2414 Granite Hills Circle, Sandy  
Topic: Bog Gardens and Bog Filters      Speaker: Jim Purcell,  
Oregon Aquatic Nursery

### August

August 5-6, 2017  
2017 Pond Tour  
Various Locations, see Pond Tour book for locations



## Upcoming Events in our Area

**May 20-21, 2017 , Camellia Koi Club North/South Pond and Garden Tour Northern and Southern Sacramento Area**

**June 10, 2017, Tooele County Master Gardener's Spring Garden Tour.** Hosted by the USU Extension (Tooele) and the Tooele County Master Gardeners Association. Tour and event proceeds are used to promote annual Arbor Day activities and programs. Utah State University Extension is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educational institution. **We will have a booth at the Summer Blast at Benson Grist Mill on Hwy 138 in Stansbury Park to promote our pond tour! WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MAN OUR BOOTH. Please call Shirley 702-302-6315 to help. It will be Friday, June 9.**

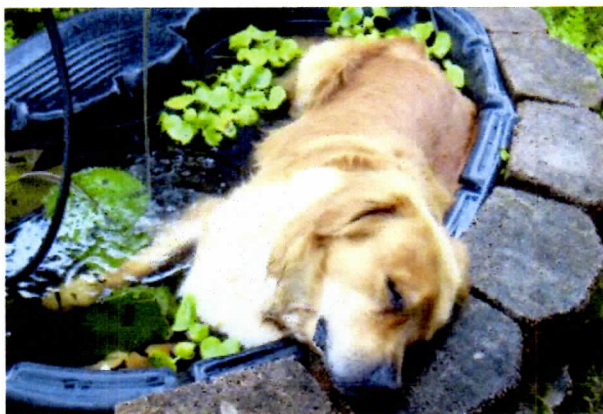
**June 17-18, 2017, Reno Nevada Water and Rails Pond Tour.** This is a unique tour that incorporates ponds and garden model railroads.

**June 24-25, 2017, The 11th Annual Purely Ponds Parade of Ponds, Colorado Springs, Colorado and the surrounding area.** Self-guided charity pond and waterfall tour with tour stops throughout. Tickets are \$5 and benefit the local Boys & Girls Club.

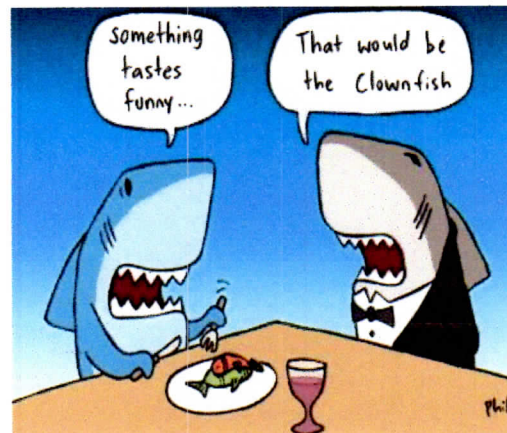
**July 29-30, 2017, Pikes Peak Water Garden Society Pond Tour in the Colorado Springs, Colorado area.**



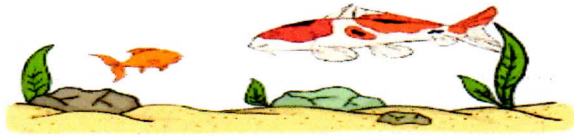
*Did you know that a school of goldfish is called a "troubling."*



*Eating goldfish makes me sleepy...*



## Are you just being Koi?



### Koi Facts

Their maximum life span is about 200 years in exceptional cases. Normal life span is more like 25 to 35 years if cared for properly.

Their maximum length is about 3 feet depending upon blood line and proper care.

Koi have no stomach, but have a straight gut. In warm water, koi will digest their food in about 4 hours. For maximum growth, they should be fed what they will eat at 4 hour intervals.

Koi will eat many things; however it is best to feed them a well-balanced koi food, containing at least 30% protein.

The value of a koi mostly depends upon size, pattern, and color. Realistically, a koi is only worth what someone is willing to pay.

Koi can withstand a wide range of temperatures and pH values; however a rapid change in either value can cause undue stress and many times will cause death. (Water temperatures from 45° F to 90° F, and pH from 6.5 to 9.0)

Koi ponds should have areas that are at least 3 feet deep for koi to hibernate in winter, and should have some shade so they will not sunburn (in very shallow water) in summer.

Koi are "schooling" type fish that desire to be with other koi. To keep your koi content, always have more than one koi in your pond or tank.

Koi continually excrete ammonia into their surrounding

water. If the ammonia level is allowed to become excessive, koi can no longer excrete their waste ammonia and can die from ammonia poisoning. Do not over crowd your pond with fish, and do not over feed. Either condition will add ammonia to the water. A good biological converter will absorb the ammonia and keep your fish healthy.

Koi get oxygen from the water through absorption in their gills, where oxygen is absorbed directly into their blood stream. Pond water should be kept well oxygenated all year by waterfalls or other forms of aeration.

Koi Produce thousands of eggs during spawning season. Male fish fertilize the eggs by spraying the eggs with milt. If the eggs are laid in an open area, they are quickly eaten by the other koi. Baby koi will hatch in 3 – 7 days depending upon water temperature. Less than 50 percent will survive.

Koi get along well with other species of fish, as long as the other fish are not aggressive. Koi will eat their young until the fry show some color on their bodies.

After transporting koi to another location, float their water bag in the new pond or tank about 30 minutes to equalize water temperature before releasing them. Do not pour water from the bag into the pond or tank. This is a bad practice and can spread disease and/or parasites.

Most koi have some parasites. Most parasites are microscopic and cannot be seen without the aid of a microscope. A trained specialist can examine your fish and determine if your pond or fish should be treated to eradicate parasites.

Know the water volume of your pond. Koi can be placed under undue stress and sometimes die because the pond owner over dosed their pond with medication algacides, or other additives. It is important to know the pond water volume when applying these additives. Proper concentrations will generally not cause undue stress to the fish.



## *Down in the Garden with Rosie*

By Rosie Cobbley

**Pond Algae!**- Wow, what a plant!- lovely shade of green, grows fast, what more could you want??.....



**A TREE FOR YOUR POND** -- This is not an April Fools joke.

Weeping Bald Cypress- *Taxodium distichum*  
'Cascade Falls' Zone 4-11.

This tree is one of a small number of deciduous conifers, typically growing in more southerly States in moist or swampy soil, and also thriving in standing water. It is hardy in our Zone, and is particularly suited to using as a pond plant as it is happy in water. How does it survive in our frigid Winters? What if your pond freezes over?

The Bald Cypress does best planted in a sturdy,



straight sided pot, at least a foot wide and deeper if possible. Place the top of the pot 6"-8" below the surface of the water- this way the crown of the tree will be under the ice layer in Winter, where the water is actually warmer than the outside temperature, and will tolerate the extreme heat in our summers.

**APRIL FOOLS!**



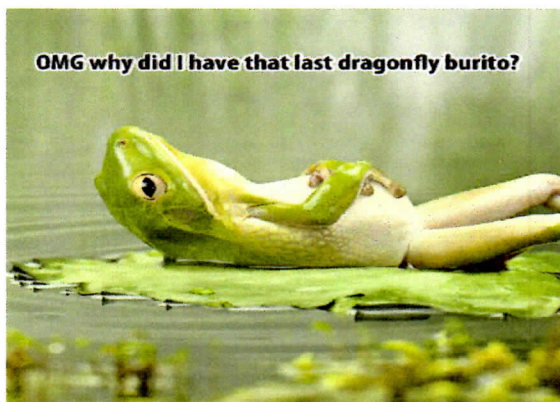
One of the latest trees to leaf out in the Spring, it's appearance is distinctive: the leaves are tiny, narrow, and arranged in 2 feathery rows along thin branch-lets, each main, pendulous branch holding multiple 'feathers'. The leaves are a fresh golden green, fading to a bright sage green in Summer, so with the sun behind it the tree seems to light up. The color and texture of the bark also add to it's beauty - reddish brown, and peeling off in thin, fibrous strips. In the Fall, you have the bonus of russet leaf color, before they fall gently into a soft carpet. No clean up!

The cultivar 'Cascade Falls' is particularly pretty in the pond, placed near a water fall, so that the branches seem to mimic the flow of the water.

Be brave and go for it!

## Ihop The Ponder Frog

*Ponders tidbits about and tips for attracting dagonflies*



Dragonflies, one of the oldest known insects, are

attracted to boggy, wet areas and are often found hanging around garden ponds and fountains. These beneficial creatures can be an asset to the garden, keeping menacing insects to a minimum. Keep reading to learn what plants attract dragonflies so you can invite these helpful insects to your garden area.

### Dragonfly 101

Dragonflies in the garden are harmless to people and do not sting or bite. They are elegant insects that keep the fly and mosquito population in check. They consume their own body weight in bugs each half-hour, so having a few of these beautiful winged creatures around is a great help to outdoor enthusiasts.

Attracting dragonflies to the garden can greatly decrease the number of pesky insects in the area. Able to fly at speeds up to thirty miles per hour, dragonflies can easily avoid predators like frogs and birds. Their large, compound eyes help them catch their prey in mid-air without missing a beat.

Female dragonflies lay their eggs in muddy or wet areas. Nymphs hatch in about three weeks and will live in the water for almost two years. Dragonflies are very sensitive to air pollution, so if you have a large number of dragonflies, it may be a good indication that your air quality is good.

### How to Attract Dragonflies

When attracting dragonflies to the garden, experts recommend installing a pond that is at least twenty feet in diameter. A pond of this size will support all stages of dragonfly development. A depth of 2 feet with shallow, sloping sides allows a place to plant water-loving vegetation. The pond is best if positioned in a sunny location. Don't put fish in your pond, as they feed on nymphs and will hinder your efforts to support the dragonfly population.

In addition to a pond, you can implement a small bog or rain garden, especially if you have areas of the yard with poor drainage that are prone to standing water. You can also install several 3-foot stakes, about 6 feet apart throughout your garden. The winged beauties will land on these stakes, using them as a perch. Avoid using any pesticides or bug zappers in your garden.

### **What Plants Attract Dragonflies?**

A wide variety of plants is best to support a thriving dragonfly population.

Submerged vegetation such as dwarf sagittaria, which grows well in hardiness zones 6 through 10, is a great option as it provides a place for nymphs to rest and seek food.

Floating plants that are not rooted under the water are also necessary for any dragonfly habitat. Females will lay their eggs on the underside of the plant or on the stems. The Western water lily is hardy in zones 10 and 11 and fanworts, which will grow in zones 6 through 11, are attractive options.

Emergent plants are those that are rooted on the bottom of ponds but have stems and leaves that rise out of the water. Dragonflies love these plants because they use them during both nymph and adult stages. Winter horsetail grows

well in zones 4 through 11 and is a lovely dark green emergent plant that has a hollow stem with a few branches.

Shoreline plants also provide adult dragonflies with a place to hide and hunt. Also known as marsh plants, shoreline plants thrive in moist soil and include such plants as arrowhead, in zones 4 through 10, and the popular cattail, which thrives in zones 2 through 11.





Submit a fishy recipe for our newsletter to [trout42@hotmail.com](mailto:trout42@hotmail.com)

## **Corn and Crab Chowder**

Submitted by Shirley Simmonds

Serves 4

- 1 16 oz bag frozen petite white corn, divided (do not thaw)
- 1 cup milk
- 1 8 oz bottle clam juice
- 4 tbs sliced green onions, divided
- 2 tsp minced fresh ginger, divided
- 4 1/2 tsp lemon juice, divided
- 2 tbs (1/4 stick) butter
- 4 oz cooked crabmeat, flaked (I like way more!)

Reserve 1/4 cup corn. Bring remaining corn and milk to boil in medium saucepan. Cover; remove from heat and let stand 10 minutes. Puree mixture in blender. Add clam juice, 3 tbs green onions, and 1 tsp ginger. Puree again until almost smooth. Return to pan and bring to a simmer. Mix in 1 1/2 tsp lemon juice. Season with salt and pepper.

Melt butter in small skillet. Add reserved 1/4 cup corn and saute 1 minute. Add crab, 1 tbs green onion, 1 tsp ginger and 3 tsp lemon juice. Stir until warm. Season with salt and pepper. Divide chowder into bowls, mound with crab mixture in center. ENJOY!



## THIS YEAR'S POND TOUR SPONSORS

Please visit our merchants who have been so generous in sponsoring this pond tour. Without their help we would not be able to provide the quality tour books and and put on as great a tour as people in the community have come to appreciate. Keep this book for future reference. If you are planning on building a pond, the sponsors listed here will be glad to offer help and advice along with the best prices in town. The pond tour book is also a handy phone book to many of the pond suppliers in Utah, as well as an address guide of your future friends, should you join our club!

Cactus and Tropicals	801-485-2542	2735 South 2000 East
Cactus and Tropicals	801-676-0935	12252 South Draper Gates Dr.
Glover Nursery	801-562-5496	9275 South 1300 West
Millcreek Gardens	801-487-4131	3500 South 900 East
Moving Water Landscapes	904-335-7656	
Pendleton Design Management	801-453-0067	
Printing Express	801-567-1888	9091 South 700 East
Steve Regan Company	801-268-4500	4215 South 500 West
Schmidt's Farm & Greenhouse	801-566-5735	9120 South Redwood Rd.
Utah Koi	800-270-4211	3494 West 6925 South
Utah Water Gardens	801-5908516	3674 South 900 East
Wasatch Koi & Water Gardens	801-487-1363	1890 East Millbrook Dr.
Wasatch Shadows Nursery	801-566-0608	9295 South 255 West

Special thanks to our other club sponsors:

Parker and Robert Bautner

Last but not least, thank-you to all of our members and pond tour homes. Without all of your help we would not be able to put on such nice tours.

### Club Officers

**President:** Shirley Simmonds 702-302-6315 ([shirjonevermore@gmail.com](mailto:shirjonevermore@gmail.com))

**Vice-President:** Julie Flint 801-274-3040 ([jam199@comcast.net](mailto:jam199@comcast.net))

**Secretary:** Connie Wagstaff 801-944-3911 ([idig15@aol.com](mailto:idig15@aol.com))

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