



# Water Garden & Koi Club

## August



### FALL IS ON THE WAY

Hello ponderers!

It's hard to believe the kids are back in school and fall is on its way. We've endured the record heat and drought, while loving what rain we've received. The temperatures (hopefully) are beginning to fall, and the evenings are so nice. September in Utah is wonderful.

We hope you all enjoyed the 2022 pond tour! Thanks to everyone who shared their yards and ponds. And thanks to all who attended. This is one of our favorite events of the year. We'll start planning for 2023 soon. If you'd like to participate, please let us know.

Our September meeting will be at the Maxfields in Farmington. You don't want to miss this pond; it's definitely worth the drive. It will be at 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 15. Their address is

1128 N 20 W in Farmington. Come and enjoy a great evening!

Our banquet will be on October 21 at Per Noi Tratoria, 3005 S. Highland Drive. Join us for great food and great company as we end our season. You can purchase tickets at the September club meeting.

Be safe, and enjoy the fall!



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## Utah Water Garden and Koi Club supports water conservation!

As we continue to live through unusually low water years, the Utah Water Garden and Koi Club promotes conservation of this valuable resource. In addition to the tips featured in our monthly newsletter, here are eleven ways to consider conserving the resource we all need and love: Water.

1. Incorporate **water wise plants**. Many of the public gardens and water-conservation demonstration gardens in Utah have compiled lists and databases of plants appropriate for our climate. Utah State University's Center for Water-Efficient Landscaping has a great website with lots of planting ideas. You can find it at <https://extension.usu.edu/cwel/>.
2. Visit Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District's **Conservation Garden Park** for design and other ideas. You can see water efficient plantings and get ideas. The Garden Park's website has a plant finder with more than 1,000 waterwise plants, together with events, classes, and landscaping help. Their website is <https://conservationgardenpark.org/>.
3. If you have a parking strip: (the area between a public sidewalk and the street), consider participating in the "**flip the strip**" program. It saves water and many of these flipped strips are stunning. Many cities and counties, together with the State, have programs to assist with this. Look for ideas at <https://utahwatersavers.com/Program/2/flip-your-strip>.
4. Consider **placement of your pond**. A pond that enjoys shade part of the day will need less water. Some sun is great, but many lilies will bloom with five or six hours of sun. Ten hours isn't necessary.
5. Consider adding **hardscape** around the pond which will require no water at all to maintain. This can offset the water needs of your pond, and serve as a great place for chairs, benches, and other items from which to enjoy your beautiful pond.
6. Remember that water lilies, water lettuce, water hyacinth, azolla and even duckweed can **reduce evaporation substantially** and result in a much lower water requirement. The goal is usually to cover around half to two-thirds of your pond with plants. This cover will also help stabilize the water temperature in your pond and benefit any fish, turtles, or other aquatic life.
7. Use **water absorption crystals** and similar products around plants such as roses which require more moisture to offset their greater water needs. Water crystals are tiny super-absorbent polymers (a long chain that's made up of identical repeating molecules), about the size of a sugar crystal. They are added to potting mix or added to soil in a garden bed to increase the water holding capacity of the soil. The crystals will absorb the water when it is available, and then slowly release it into the soil as needed. Less water used and less waste. These are available on Amazon and at many local nurseries. Water crystals usually last two or three years, and then become less absorbent and need to be replaced.
8. Remember to **water after sunset and before sunrise**, when far less evaporation will occur and when the water will better benefit your plants.
9. Consider using a **drip system** which delivers water directly to each of your plants but not to surrounding areas where it is not needed. These drip systems not only use water more effectively but also reduce unwanted vegetation (weeds) in your garden.
10. **Mulch!** Add between two and four inches of mulch to your garden beds to almost eliminate water just evaporating into the air. Keep that water in the soil where it is needed. Mulch will reduce the size of your water bill, keep your plants' roots cooler, and cut down on weeds.
11. **Reuse your pond water** to water your flower beds and lawn when doing water changes. It's also great fertilizer.

# KNOW YOUR KOI: DOITSU THE BEAUTY OF NO SCALES

Doitsu are Koi with few or no scales. It is an old, yet new group of varieties in Koi history. The first Doitsu Koi was developed more than 100 years ago, but new versions keep coming from this group because their scaleless characteristic can be crossed with almost any variety, like Ginrin (diamond scales) for example. Simply put Doitsu doubled the number of Koi varieties; for example, Kohaku and Doitsu Kohaku, Sanke and Doitsu Sanke, etc. Other varieties are Doitsu Showa, Kumonryu, Heisei Nishiki, and many more.

Koi are a kind of carp. Carp are a food source in many countries. Scaleless carp were originally developed in Germany for ease of cooking. In 1904, the scaleless carp was imported to Japan as a new food source. By the way, because scaleless carp were developed in and imported from Germany, they are called Doitsu. As you may imagine,

Doitsu comes from the word “Deutsche”.

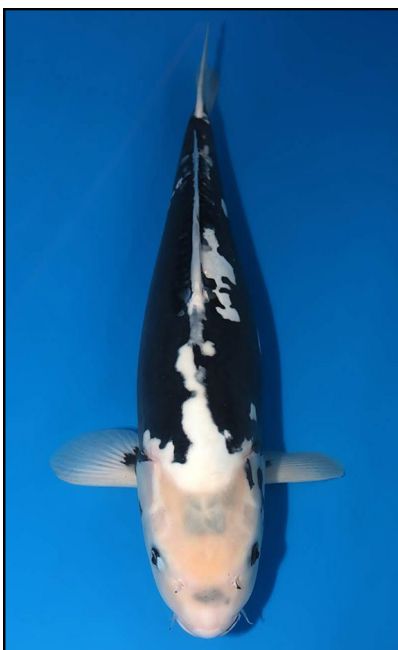
Mr. Kichigoro Akiyama came up with the idea to cross the scaleless food carp with Japanese scaled Koi.

To appreciate Doitsu, let’s pay attention to the following:

- Scales — It may sound strange to pay attention to scales when we look at a scaleless Koi. But because Doitsu has less scales, how those scales are laid out affects its total beauty. One irregular scale at a wrong place could ruin the beauty of perfect Koi.

Koi in Doitsu variety group can have scales on the back along the dorsal fin and on the lateral lines of the body. If there are scales, they should line up all the way in consistent size of scales.

If you think about it, it is such a challenge to have the perfect layout of scales in

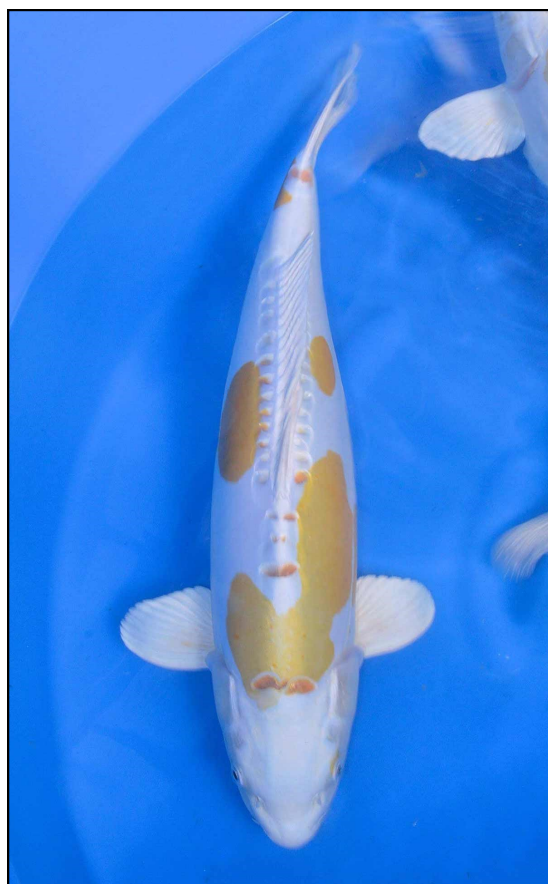


Doitsu. No matter how perfect everything else is, in Doitsu, one wrong scale can ruin the entire beauty. They call those offending scales “Muda goke”. Therefore, nowadays, it seems that breeders try to breed Doitsu with as few scales as possible. It is easier to breed Koi with fewer scales than to breed them with perfect scale layout.

- Excellence – After examining the quality of the Doitsu scalations, we now go back to the basics of each variety. For example, if

it were Doitsu Kohaku, after checking the Doitsu quality, you need to see the Koi as regular scaled Kohaku and check the quality of Hi and Shiroji and the balance of the two colors.

Any Doitsu is a scaleless version of a scaled Koi. So it is critical to appreciate the original scaled variety. This means you may need a little more knowledge and experience to fully appreciate Doitsu varieties.



## 2022 Meeting Schedule

- September 15 — Our final meeting of the year will be at 7:00 pm at the Maxfield pond – 1128 N 20 W in Farmington
- October 20 — Our Annual Banquet will be at Per Noi Trattoria, 3005 S. Highland Drive. Watch for details!

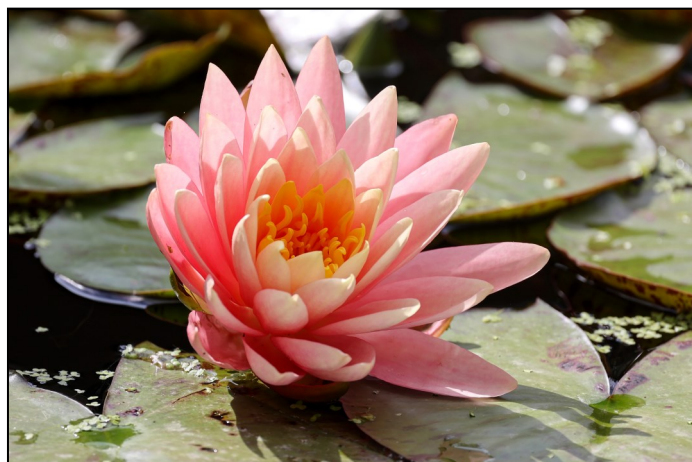
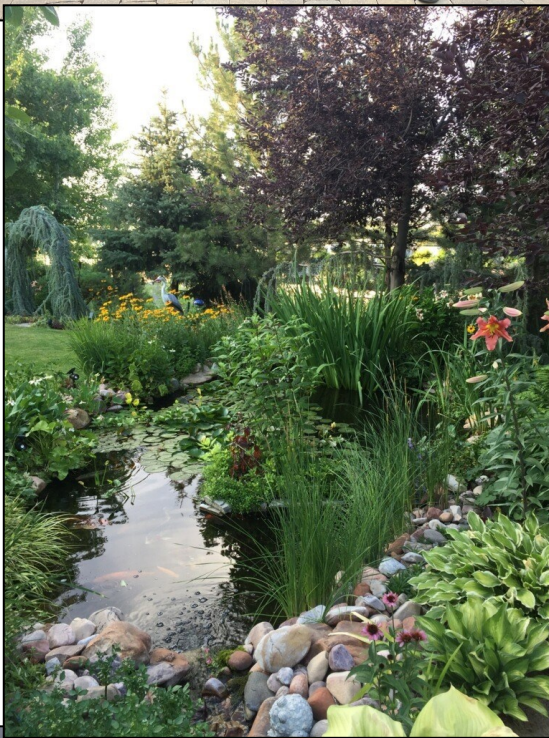
*Per Noi Trattoria*



# 2022 POND TOUR



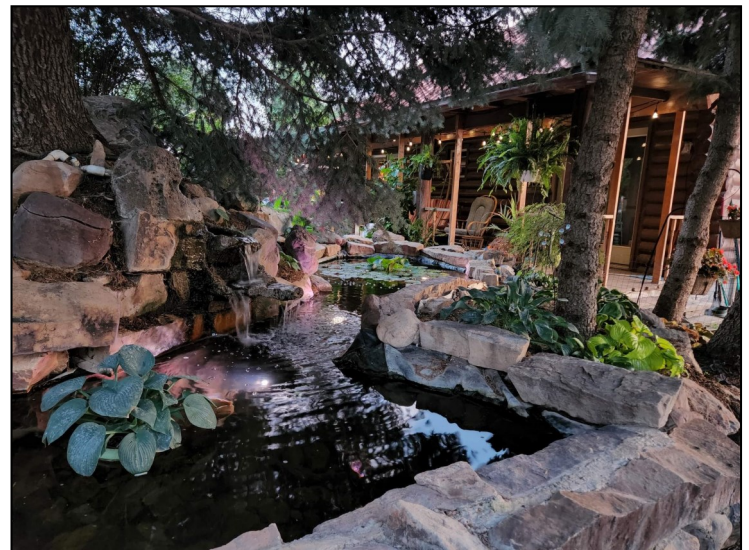
Our 2022 Pond Tour was a great success! Thanks to all who opened their yards and ponds, and to all who



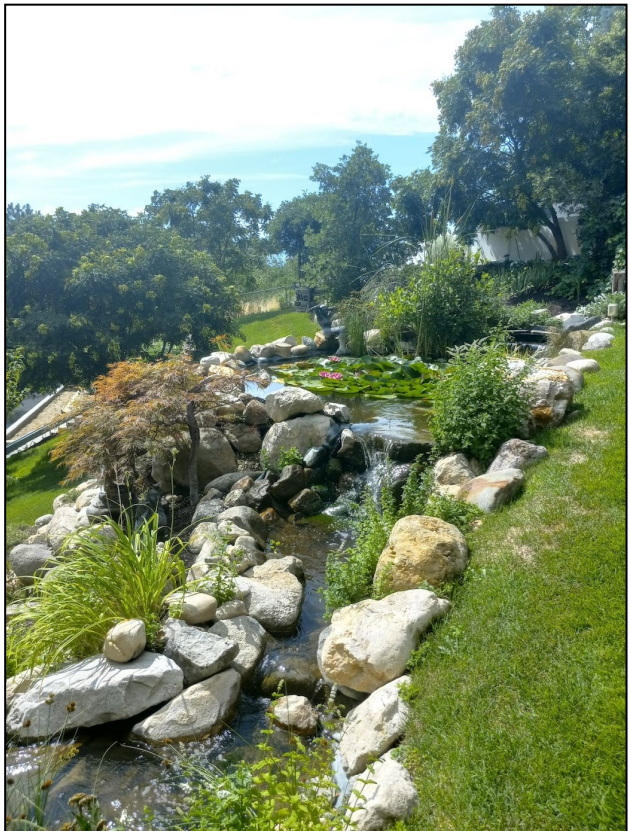
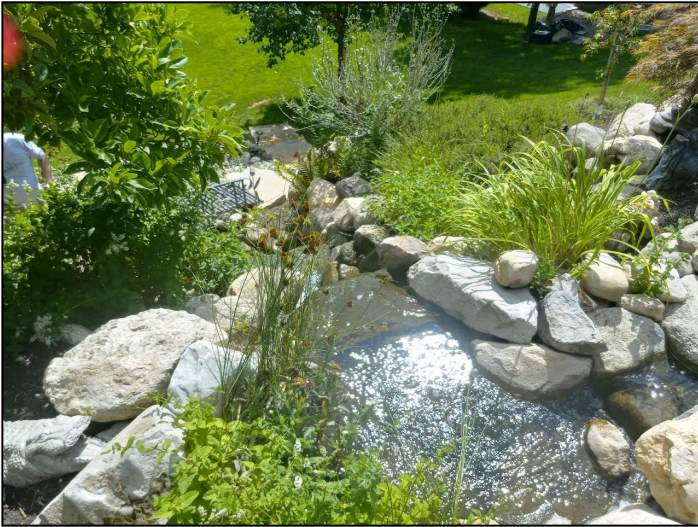
# 2022 POND TOUR



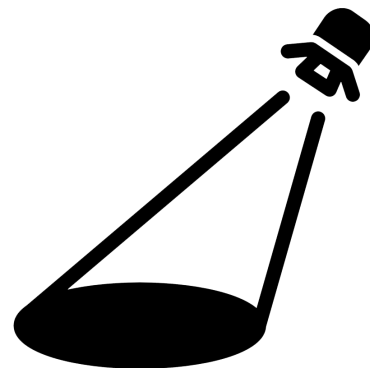
Harvey Barnhard won an award from West Valley City during the pond tour. He reported, "I had a gentleman by the name of Jim Versock stop by because he saw the signs. He is the chair of the Clean and Beautiful Committee for West Valley City. He like the pond and the landscaping we had done around the area so much he awarded us a Clean & Beautiful Landscape award."



# 2022 POND TOUR



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DAVID HALES



David is a wonderful supporter of the Utah Water Garden and Koi Club. He has been a member for about six years and comes to most all of the meetings. He is married and his wife's name is Gail. They live in the hills of Draper and have had a pond for about 11 years. He has put his pond on the pond tour twice.

Their pond was designed and built by an Englishman, Mr. Collin Grobecker, who had come to Utah to ski. Mr. Grobecker was raised in South Africa and later moved to England where he worked with his grandfather who was a well-known pond builder and knowledgeable about pond maintenance. The Hales' yard is quite steep so it was a challenge to design and required some rather large boulders brought in from Park City to construct.

The water feature actually consists of two ponds and three waterfalls positioned on the back side of the yard. The upper pond is about ten feet long and four feet wide. The lower pond is about thirty feet long and ten feet wide. The water is pumped up the hill from the lower pond and two streams release the water at the top of the hill where it eventually falls about 15 feet to the lower pond. He keeps both Koi and goldfish in his water feature.

David was raised on a farm in Delta, Utah so he has a love of agriculture. He is a fabulous gardener. He does confess that algae and leaks are his biggest problems with the pond, but other than that, he loves the peace and serenity the sound and image provide.



An interesting thing we learned speaking with David is that he spent 11 months in China teaching English to Chinese students, although David did not speak any Chinese at the time!

So next time you come to a meeting and see David, introduce yourself and say hi to him. He is a very interesting guy to talk to.

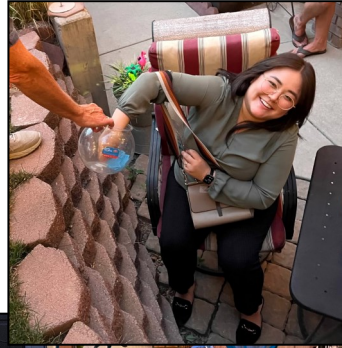
This is the first in a new series that we'll include in each month's newsletter. Know someone you'd like to spotlight? Let us know!



# JULY MEETING



# AUGUST MEETING



## Lost Keys

A set of keys were found in the road near the August meeting. If you lost your keys, please contact Michael Henrie at 435-565-1618.

# KNOW YOUR WATER LILIES: GONNERE

*Nymphaea* “Gonnere” is a day-blooming perennial (hardy) water lily boasting rounded, pea-green leaves. Floating on the surface of the water, they create a lovely backdrop for the heavily petalled, pure white flowers. Each pleasantly fragrant snowball blossom, up to six inches across, features 57-62 petals surrounding a conspicuous bouquet of golden stamens. Blooming from early summer to early fall, Gonnere is a good bloomer and produces spectacular flowers over a long season. They stay open later in the day than most water lilies. Use in medium to large ponds.

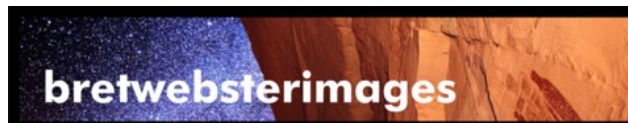
- Grows up to four inches tall and four to six feet wide.
- Depth of water: 6-30 inches.
- Performs best in full sun in loamy soil in undisturbed water. Plant in a basket with the crown just below the soil surface. Feed during the growing season with an aquatic fertilizer.
- Deadhead and remove yellow leaves regularly.
- Keep an eye out for water-lily beetle, water lily aphid, brown china-mark moth, false leaf-mining midge, crown rot, brown spot and water lily leaf spot.
- Propagate by dividing rhizomes or offsets in summer; place pots in shallow water until established.



# Thank you to our sponsors!



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The logo features the word "Utah" in a blue serif font with a red and white koi fish swimming through the letter "U". Below it, the word "Water Garden & Koi" is written in a blue serif font, and the word "Club" is written in a large, light green, stylized font behind the other text.

# Utah Water Garden & Koi Club

## Who we are

The Utah Water Garden Club is a non-profit organization serving the greater Wasatch Front. We strive to foster an appreciation for and interest in the use of water in the landscape, through monthly meetings, educational programs, an annual pond tour, and sharing our water gardening experiences. We are a group of volunteers dedicated to water gardening, pond keeping, and koi. Our members range from novices to commercial professionals.

Our annual Water Garden Tour is a self-guided tour of outstanding local gardens. We were excited to again hold our tour this year, and are looking forward to next year. See page 35 for photos from the tour, and check out the Club's website at [UtahWaterGardenClub.org](http://UtahWaterGardenClub.org).

## Club Officers & Directors

### Officers

**President:** Daniel Peel  
435-660-0784  
[danielpeel@me.com](mailto:danielpeel@me.com)

**Vice-President:** Kelly Flint  
801-274-3040  
[kflint3040@msn.com](mailto:kflint3040@msn.com)

**Secretary:** Zoe Godbois  
435-623-5100  
[zoecast@gmail.com](mailto:zoecast@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Lewis Wayman  
801-916-2500  
[lwayman@stylecraftframes.com](mailto:lwayman@stylecraftframes.com)

### Board of Directors

Ty Rosser  
801-995-8521  
[ty@utahlights.com](mailto:ty@utahlights.com)

Gil Avellar  
801-572-0853  
[trout42@hotmail.com](mailto:trout42@hotmail.com)

Michael Henrie  
435-565-1618  
[henrie.michael@gmail.com](mailto:henrie.michael@gmail.com)

Richard Cobbley  
Past President  
801-641-0179  
[randcobb@comcast.net](mailto:randcobb@comcast.net)



*Call Lewis Wayman at  
801-916-2500*