

The Inland Koi Connection



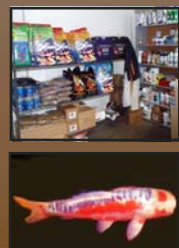
THE OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER
OF IKS
ISSUE 165
JANUARY 2010



JANUARY 24, 2010

INLAND KOI
10000 Indiana Ave., Ste #7
Riverside, Calif 92503

-SUNDAY, 2-5 pm-
FIRST IKS General Meeting of 2010.
Members Sharing Potluck Meal.
(951) 352-5128





Happy New Year!

We ended our year with our annual Thanksgiving feast at the home of Lily and Steve Rhodes. Seventy eight people attended, and enjoyed the last IKS feast of the year. I ate enough to tide me over until our January meeting. After we finished eating, Steve talked about the trials and tribulations he had in digging a pond out of solid granite. It took a lot of work but the pond looks great, and his filtration system keeps the water clear.

We then had our election for the 2010 club officers and board. The election went off without a hitch (I don't think there was any ballot stuffing). I'd like to thank the 2009 officers and board for all the work they did to make this year a great success; I'm looking forward to another great year in 2010, providing we still have water.

Shawn McHenry from Mystic Koi was our speaker, and he spoke about his buying trip to Japan. It's an interesting trip and I wouldn't mind going to Japan with him this year.

Here are some other things I would like to see happen this year:

- California has record rainfalls as reservoirs overflow.
- Snail Darter taken off endangered species list.
- Tiger Woods takes a vow of chastity and then goes on to win four majors.
- Angels and Dodgers play in the World Series.
- Corona gets an NFL football team.
- Cure found for Koi Herpes Virus.
- AKCA enters float in 2011 Rose Parade.
- Koi are named the state fish.
- Six hundred people attend the IKS pond tour. Many of them join the club.
- Guinness Beer becomes an IKS sponsor. Donates a keg for each meeting.
- Gas drops to \$1.50 a gallon.
- California ends the year with a budget surplus.

If any of these things happen, let me know. I'll be busy keeping my New Year's resolutions.

The AKCA Seminar in Nashville, Tennessee, is coming soon. This means we will soon be voting for the IKS entries in the AKCA Koi of the Year and Koi Person of the Year contests. Now is the time to take a picture of your favorite koi and get ready to enter it.*

Our first meeting of the year will be on January 24, at Inland Koi's new facility. There will be plenty of fish to see, and bring your food for the pot luck so that there will be plenty of food to eat, because I haven't had a good meal since our Thanksgiving feast. Also bring your chairs so that you will have something to sit on while you eat.

See you at the meeting,

Mark

Mark Krakower, IKS President

*Remember to use a high resolution for your photo. See the article on Koi Photography in the Nov/Dec Koi USA, page 64.

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Inland Koi Society
2010**

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~HELP LINE~ REFERENCES

• KOI DISEASE:	TOM ROSS	(951) 354-6444
• INFORMATION:	JACK MARRIN	(909) 792-3603
• LIBRARIAN: Books, Videos	BONNIE HENRY	(909) 783-2373
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• RAFFLE MANAGER:	MARY LEEVER	(909) 862-3028

Have you ever had a hobby you loved so dearly and were able to do so well that you decided to turn it into a professional business?

If so, come meet Joe Cao at Inland Koi this month during our January General Meeting. His older brother, Peter, says, "Joe always had so many hobbies—turtles, reptiles, plants, birds, spiders, comic books and cards—but mostly fish." Of all the hobbies, fish continued to be his biggest love and Joe started the business at his Riverside home in 2002. He was inspired by a friend who had fish in a tank, and Joe built one just like it. He feels a close connection to koi because he can pet and teach them. He says each koi has its own personality and you soon find out which trait develops. One of the favorite places Joe and brother Peter buy koi is in the city of Niigata, Japan, and will go so they can personally choose which koi to bring home.

The Cao family, father, mother and four boys, came from Vietnam, arriving in the U.S. around 1985. They settled in Amarillo, Texas, first, but a year later moved here to Riverside and settled in an uncle's house. All six in the family jubilantly celebrated receiving their United States citizenship in 1989.

The four brothers all went to school here and graduated with honors. They've each branched out a little, with Peter now living in Orange County, lovingly married to Van; they have 6½-year-old twin boys. Peter has suffered from the economy recently by being laid off work. He has a degree in Computer Science, but work is scarce so he has lined up with Joe's interest in koi and is helping full-time at Inland Koi.

Their father and mother live with Joe and take care of the plants, cooking and housekeeping. They keep an eye on this two quarantine tanks and are maintaining the 10,000-gallon pond—originally a swimming pool—that Joe still uses to grow his koi out more.

Joe is single, available, and the youngest of the four Cao boys. He follows his love of fish and the sound of moving water because it relaxes him. Joe is going to school part-time to try to finish his AA degree, and no matter how cramped or stressful his time is, he never gives up what interests him.

In June, 2009, the City of Riverside gave Inland Koi one month to move out of the residential area, so they have been under a lot of stress. But to shop here, the customers would never know it. Joe and Peter are very professional, courteous and have great customer (and friend) skills.

The business is now located in a 2,500-sq.ft. building with an office, a lobby, and a shop. Joe moved all the tanks he had at the house into the shop along with two new 3,400-gallon pools (the largest ponds) and some 400-gallon show tanks (smallest ponds). These tanks run 24/7, primarily with Sequence Pumps and Wave Pumps. The main problems with the move were the loss of good bacterial elements every pond acquires over time, and having to change to an inside environment. Without sun, koi lose the brilliant colors. Their fish began to fade, so Joe and Peter are currently installing lighting over the tanks to simulate sunlight. They've also incorporated a lot of beautiful, natural plants and greenery around the shop.

Inland Koi recently added teak outdoor furniture to

their inventory, along with koi food and health products, and a small amount of pond equipment. They are very experienced in koi health, so if you have questions, they will help in any way they can!

Joe says the best thing about being in the koi business is that he gets to do (work in) his favorite hobby ALL the time!

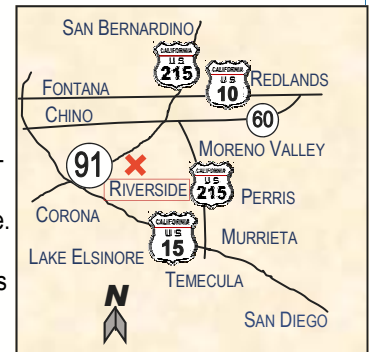
Joe and Peter are donating hand-painted koi magnets from Japan to our monthly raffle as well as offering a **25%** discount on all fish sold to IKS members during this meeting. A **10%** discount on any supplies bought by members will also apply on this day.

There will be plenty of parking and space for our meeting. You might want to bring an umbrella to shield you from sun or rain, depending on the weather, because we probably will gather in the back parking lot. Dress accordingly, and please bring your delicious addition to share in the potluck. Members are always encouraged to donate raffle prizes and don't forget to get a free ticket at the registration table for each prize donated. I'll see you there!

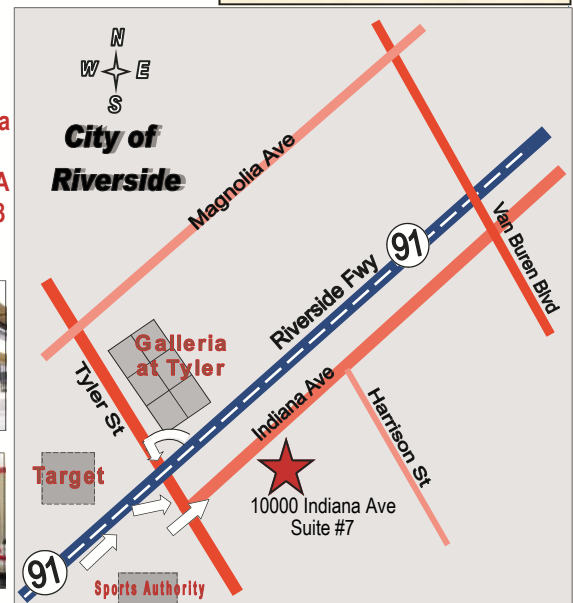
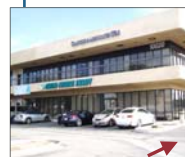
~Debby Leverett, IKS Newsletter Editor

DIRECTIONS:

- ♦ Follow the 91 / Riverside Fwy toward Riverside.
- ♦ Exit **TYLER STREET**: turn right if coming from the west, or turn left and go back under the freeway, if coming from the east.
- ♦ **Immediately** turn left on **INDIANA AVE.**, passing the Tyler Village shops on the right. You will see Piano Gallery, Roger Dunn Golf Shop, and Smile-Care Dental Group on the left, and across the street is the 10020 Crabtree & Associates building. Turn right into that driveway. Inland Koi is located in the building complex behind Crabtree. Park in front and come on in (Look for the koi on the windows under the stairs.)



Inland Koi
 10000 Indiana Ave., Ste #7
 Riverside, CA
 951 352-5128



Something to think about

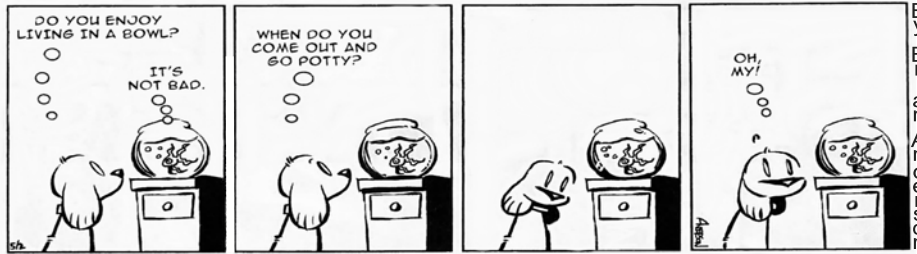
Time to get back on the old treadmill! Hope the holidays were beautiful for you. Now is the time to prepare your pond for the abbreviated winter—in Florida, Texas and South California, we can stop feeding our fish for a month, even though the water temperatures are still above 55F. That will give the fish a chance to reabsorb eggs, not to become egg-bound if they did not drop them last summer. The month rest is healthful to the fish. It's time to check our pond equipment, too. If you buy the UV bulbs now, you will have them when needed. If you do the little things you didn't have time for in summer, the fish will thank you. Autumn Winter Prep isn't just for northern ponds and leaves. It contains good bacteria to work in colder water. If you have a vegetable filter (even the Tropical Lilies!) it will help biodegrade the dead leaves and stems before they begin to sprout again. "A clean pond is next to Godliness..." or something like that. When you resume feeding, feed the lower protein, Legacy Cold Weather Wheat Germ food. In spring, the fish will put all their energy and reserves into reproduction. Unless you want a big spawn, feed lightly until after that's all over. Once they have spawned, it's time to pile on the protein! If your pond water remains above 45F in your area, you can continue adding PL all year!

IKS does not necessarily endorse specific products to use, but I felt Carolyn Weise is mentioning a product of Microbelift which is good for thought. If you want to do more research on the product, compare the information on www.microbelift.com web site.

Ecological Labs - 2525 N.E. 9th Ave, Cape Coral, 33909, United States



Meet **Sandy Hanson.** You've elected her to be a Director of the IKS, so be sure to stop and introduce yourself and get to know her better...



BY BRIAN ALBERTSON

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IKS GENERAL MEETING ~ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2009

This was a meeting not to be missed. The day was a little chilly, but clear and sunny. The setting was beautiful. The house was beautiful. The pond and the fish...very nice fish! There were 78 people at the meeting, and it seemed like everyone brought food. The hosts provided the turkey breast, and the members provided all the rest. After all of us ate as much as we could, Steve talked about the pond and the building process.

Steve and Lily Rhodes live in the Temecula hills in the middle of an avocado orchard. Steve and Lily have done most if not all of the hardscape and landscape work themselves. There was no access for any heavy equipment, so they jackhammered their pond out of the granite bedrock. It took them a year to do it, six inches at a time, and Lily jackhammered also. My hat is off to her! Steve said she was really good at it, but he had to help her get the hammer up and down the ladder. Oh, and the ladder... it got tougher to go up and down the ladder with the jackhammer as the pond got deeper. That's determination.

Did you notice the show screening in the family room? Steve installed a Lurex under-water camera—great for low-light applications—with a feed to the house. Besides being entertaining it has been useful: he was able to detect otherwise unseen belly tumors on his koi. There is a quarantine tank in the garage for new or sick fish.

The guest speaker was Shawn McHenry from Mystic Koi. He was home just three weeks from Japan and spoke poignantly about being in Niigata during the fifth-year anniversary festival of the huge earthquake that destroyed many breeders' koi ponds and killed a number of people. That was Oct. 25, 2004, and Shawn was in the middle of it, trapped in Niigata where he had visited breeders. He told of having to walk out seven miles to escape the area, and of the destroyed golf course that has been turned into a memorial park. It was filled with hundreds of special candles set out to read "If you can read this, Niigata is smiling" (translated). The meaning was clear: *We're okay; we're moving on.* The Japanese have erected a memorial both to the victims of the earthquake and to the survivors. Some of the breeders were wiped out, but their customers helped them to reconstruct their breeding stock from fish that were pur-

chased prior to the quake. Each koi represents a breeder, and each breeder has his own story. So many of them breed only one variety and lost their parent stock in the quake; for some recovery has meant drastic change.

Shawn explained that pairing one male and one female may yield 250-300,000 babies, which will be cut by up to 80% in the first couple of weeks. A few weeks later that will be trimmed to 20,000, and then reduced to only 2000, most culled for poor color development. A breeder can raise up, feed and care for 2000, keeping only 100-200 to grow out for the next season. At one farm there were only five 3-year-olds left from 100 tosa. Shawn talked of a *chagoi* breeder whose day started at 3AM and ended at 8PM; he's 33 years old with already silvered hair. He has local 'grannies' picked up to do his feeding; it would take one man all day to feed the fish twice, and nothing else would get done.

Shawn will be in Niigata again in late January for the All Japan Show and indicated this would be a good trip to make. Winter is one of the best times to visit breeders in Japan because they are not so busy then. He talked to us his trips to Japan, getting to know and establishing relationships with the dealers and breeders; he had to cultivate these over a period of years. The breeders work to make the dealers successful, too; one will even acclimate his fish to Mystic Koi's water temperature before shipping them. Strong relationships make everything work out, and every American dealer who goes to Japan has to build that rapport. It takes time to develop an atmosphere of trust and respect. This may be because of cultural and language differences, but the relationship between supplier and customer is also very important for us. All of us need to build a relationship with the people who supply our hobby. We need to have confidence that we are getting quality, disease-free Koi, and quality food and equipment.

Koi keeping is about fish, but it is also about people. We love the fish, but our success as koi keepers is dependent on our skills, knowledge, and plain hard work. We get help and information from each other. Also, we have fun getting to know each other. The meeting was informative and just plain fun. Come join us at the next meeting! ~ Zuma Ross, IKS Secretary



"We are all connected by the inevitability of adversity and universality of suffering, The isolation of loneliness of struggle are illusions. If we band together, tethering ourselves to family, friends and fellow survivors, we bolster our chances of overcoming."

-Ben Sherwood, Author



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Meet one of the IKS new volunteers, Bonnie Henry. She will be taking over the Library. We will miss you Tee Wright! Thank you for doing such a reliable and worthy job!!!

Meet one of the new IKS Directors, Bob Henry. You voted him in last November and his term starts this month. We are proud and honored to have you both as members in our Inland Koi Society!

Origami is the traditional Japanese art of paper folding. The goal of this art is to create a representation of an object using geometric folds and crease patterns preferably without the use of gluing or cutting the paper, and using only one piece of paper.

Won Park is the master of Origami. He is also called the "money folder", a practitioner of origami whose canvas is the United States One Dollar Bill. Bending, twisting, and folding, he creates life-like shapes in stunning detail.

One Dollar



If you brought an oval crock pot to the November General IKS Thanksgiving Meeting, please check to make sure you have the **right** glass lid. One member is missing the large oval glass lid to a Tramontina crock pot and was left with a large Hamilton Beach glass lid which is too small for the Tramontina. Please check your pots to see if the fit is good. If you find an error, please bring the lid to the January meeting to exchange. The Zoetemelks will be forever grateful!!

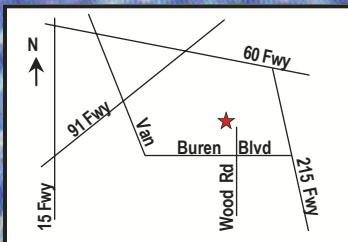
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IS IT TIME TO FEED YET?

Be conservative about beginning to feed. Once the temperature stabilizes for several days, at 55° or higher, you can begin feeding very lightly once or twice a week, all the time watching for when the next cold front will show up and the cycle repeats. If in doubt, do not feed. I would also recommend not feeding if it appears another strong cold front is due within the next 72 hours. If you are going out of town do not have your fish fed. It is better not to feed at all, than to overfeed. In general, most years I do not feed my koi at all for six to eight weeks during the winter.

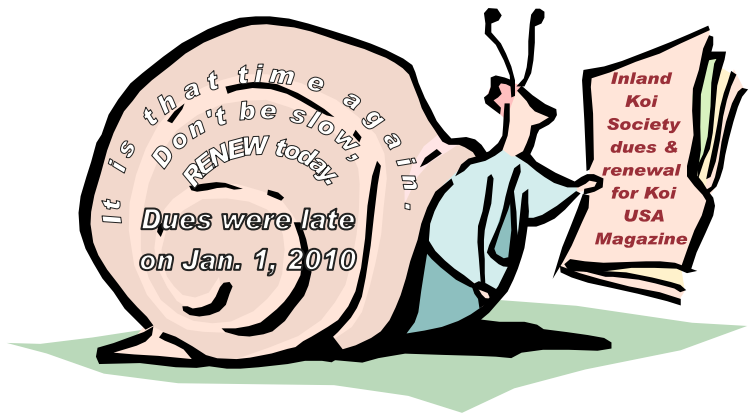
This is not usually a continuous fast but one that lasts a week or two, interrupted by one or two light feedings, followed by another week or two of fasting, as the cold fronts march through our area. When I say *feed lightly*, I mean only 2-3 pellets per small- to medium-sized koi once or twice a week. It is worth repeating: *It is better to underfeed or not feed at all than to overfeed.*

Continue to watch your fish carefully for any that do not swim or act like the other fish. On very cold days they will all move slowly or even be inactive, but they should all act similarly. Watch carefully any fish that swims funny or sits on the bottom when others are starting to swim around.

Watch for cuts or sores that might develop. Injuries will not heal well in cold water and when we get a few days of warmer temperatures the bad bugs can wake up and cause big problems. If you test and find ammonia or nitrite present, do a major water change (20%-40%) and stop feeding.

If the signs and symptoms point to parasites, catch and scrape a few of your koi and look at the sample with a microscope. IKS has several microscopes available in our inventory; if you need to use one, call Tom Ross or Jack Marrin (phone numbers on page 2). If parasites are discovered, use appropriate treatment for the current water temperature in your pond.

Thanks to Mid-Atlantic Koi Club and Ray Jordan for allowing republication of part of Ray's wise article of advice. If you wish to read the whole article, please go to the January 2010 Newsletter publication of the Lone Star Koi Club, Houston, Texas, at <http://www.makc.com> ~ djl



If you turn your renewal form over (which was included in the November newsletter), you'll find a questionnaire on the back. Mail or turn your form in at the meeting to the IKS Treasurer; your membership in the Inland Koi Society and your discounted subscription to Koi USA (as indicated) will be renewed.

*If you have completed the questionnaire, it will be entered into a drawing to be held at the January 24, 2010 IKS General Meeting. A \$50 gift certificate to any Advertiser in the Newsletter will be presented. *One completed form per family and winner need not be present.*

BASIC NEEDS FOR KOI HEALTH, COLORATION & GROWTH

- Good water source!
- Good filtration system with regular cleanouts
- Water alkalinity control (KH) to maintain biofiltration
- Water hardness (GH) and trace minerals in preferred range
- Control of green water and string algae
- Control of fish parasites
- Quarantine of new (or returning) fish for viruses, parasites, and bacteria
- Rapid repair of any ulcers, mouth rot, fin rot
- Protection from the hazards of winter weather
- Back-up power system of some kind
- Reasonable stocking density and pond depth.

From *PRACTICAL KOI POND MAINTENANCE*
Listing from Roddy Conrad, AKCA Seminar, June, 2006.

Come to a general IKS monthly meeting to hear more on these subjects. Learn, experience and understand. Talk with other interested koi people. Get ideas, get facts and suggestions. Find help when you need it. Get in-the-know! Join the Inland Koi Society.

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EDWARD & LYNN MACLAREN	RIVERSIDE	01 - 10
ROB & LAURIE VANCE	UPLAND	10 - 09

IKS hopes you enjoy a fun and informative association with our club! As a member, you get the advantage of having years of experience (mistakes and lessons) available to you, while at the same time there are enough newer hobbyist members that you don't feel you are the only one who is clueless on a subject. Ask questions!



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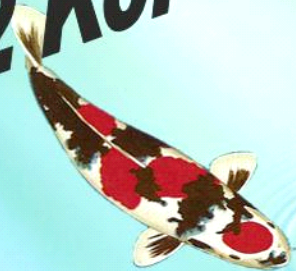
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23rd Annual KCSD Koi Show ~ February 12-14, 2010 The show Hotel will be the Hilton Del Mar, San Diego. Show room rates will be \$119 for February 12 & 13. The same rate applies if you also book additional contiguous nights. Internet is complimentary.



2010

JANUARY

Coming Events

18	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY ~ the chief spokesman for <u>nonviolent</u> activism in the civil rights movement, which successfully protested racial discrimination in federal and state law 
24	IKS GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK ~2-5 pm / Inland Koi Dealer in Riverside. Hosts are Joe and Peter Cao For more information, contact Mark Krakower at (951) 371-2223
22-24	GO GREEN EXPO ~ Los Angeles Convention Center / One of the nation's most invigorating and diverse eco-friendly events, Sponsored by CBS Television / http://www.gogreenexpo.com
27	IKS BUSINESS MEETING ~ 7 pm / <i>All members of IKS welcome!</i> 6531 Box Springs Blvd, Riverside / Contact Mark Krakower at (951) 371-2223
30-31	SO. CAL CAMELLIA SOCIETY SHOW ~ 9:30 am / Glorious camellia displays, and experts to talk about them, dazzle visitors from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at Van de Kamp Hall / (818) 949-4290



AKCA 2010 Seminar
May 19-23, 2010
Nashville, TN 37219
615-259-4343



WHAT OR WHO IS AKCA?

AKCA is a non profit organization created to promote, the hobby of keeping, breeding, appreciating koi.

There are 104 individual clubs across North America now registered to AKCA.

Over 32 clubs hold Koi Shows during the year.

Many clubs hold Pond Tours and Events that are open to the public.

An Annual Seminar is held in different locations around the country. It includes a Trade Show, lectures, tours of the area, and a Pond Tour.

We at AKCA hope you will visit our Web Site soon. www.akca.org

AKCA Board

Koi Person of the year 2010

Each year, prior to the annual AKCA Seminar, each AKCA-affiliated club is asked to select a **Koi Person of the Year** to represent the club at the AKCA level. The Koi Person of the Year may be an individual or multiple persons from the same household, but is someone who has made a significant contribution to Koi keeping and or to their club during the past year.



Inland Koi Society will select our Koi Person of the Year at the General Meeting on February 28, so the winner's name(s) can be submitted by the March 1 deadline. Start thinking of whom you might nominate for this honor. At the meeting, nominations will be heard and all members will have the chance to vote.

At the same meeting, we will vote for **Koi of the Year**. You may nominate your favorite koi by bringing a color photograph of it, with no identifying marks as to its owner, to the meeting. Photos will be numbered only and voted upon, by the number, by everyone in attendance.

At the AKCA Seminar, May 19-23, 2010, in Nashville, TN, each Koi Person of the Year in attendance will be recognized and presented with a framed award certificate during the Saturday night banquet. If the recipient is not in attendance, a member from their club may receive the award, or it will be mailed

~ Reported Respectfully through Kelly Houston

FEBRUARY

05-06-07	RIVERSIDE DICKENS FESTIVAL ~ Downtown Riverside, CA 92502 / Exciting activities and events for all ages are planned. Plays, street performers, food vendors, educational workshops, musical performances and exhibits are just a few of the 8,000 attendees. www.dickensfest.com / (951) 781-3168
12	AKCA BOARD MEETING ~ 6pm 529 W. Blueridge Ave, Orange, CA 92865 / Call Kelly Houston for more information (909) 885-2503
12-14	KCSD KOI SHOW ~ at Del Mar Fairgrounds in San Diego. www.koiclubsandiego.org See more information on the left at the top.
14	VALENTINES DAY ~  Oh My! Sigh-h-h...
28	IKS GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK ~2-5 pm / Hosts will be David & Nancy Lewis in Riverside. For more information, contact Mark Krakower at (951) 371-2223
Mar 3	IKS BUSINESS MEETING ~ 7 pm / <i>All members of IKS welcome!</i> 6531 Box Springs Blvd, Riverside / Contact Mark Krakower at (951) 371-2223



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Joe Cao

Visit our website: www.inlandkoi.org