

The Inland Koi Connection



THE OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER
OF IKS
ISSUE 144
FEB. 2008



**Inland Koi Society
General Sunday Meeting
FEBRUARY 24, 2008**

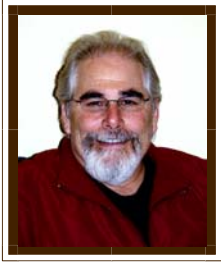


2:00 - 5:00 pm at the home of

**JOE & ANITA
ACEVEDO**

3592 Cashmere Circle
Perris, CA 92571
(951) 532-5169





Ask Kelly Houston how he feels about being a member of the IKS and then sit back and marvel. Kelly has been in the club for seven years and has held a variety of positions, but most of us know him best as our President over the past three years. Kelly's leadership has brought our club to a new level of recognition in the Koi community. Kelly's devotion to the club is phenomenal. The Board of Director's

want to honor him in a special way and have decided to rename an existing award after him. The Koi Person of the Year Award is now the **Kelly Houston Koi Person of the Year Award**. This cash award is given out annually to the individual chosen as Koi Person of the Year and is intended to help them pay for their attendance at the annual AKCA seminar. But don't worry; Kelly will continue to be an active member of the club as a Board Member, Meeting Location Chairman, and AKCA Representative; and as the Upcoming Events Announcer and Official Greeter at his request.

Our January meeting at the home of Ed and Kathy Rugh was attended by 32 IKS members and 7 guests. Guests Greg and Linda Fryling joined our club while at the meeting. Ed is a gifted craftsman and his home is proof of his talent. We were blessed to have a warm and very comfortable meeting inside of the Rugh's great room, which Ed happened to build, while the rain outside came and went. There was ample time between rain showers to view Ed's pond, gardens, and workshop. The guest speaker was Tom Ross and he spoke about how to prepare our ponds for spring. Tom, as always, relayed his helpful and relevant information in a clear and easy to understand style. A highlight of the presentation was when he found flukes on the goldfish he purchased for the meeting. Tom was relieved and happy to find these specimens and the crowd responded with equal fascination. I am always impressed by how hardy our club members are and that our meetings, rain or shine, are well attended.

I'm looking forward to the upcoming year and am very happy to have the opportunity to take my turn as president of the club. Earlier in my life I served as president of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Management Council, representing 70 people who managed 55 rehab departments throughout Southern California. I am excited about serving 130 Koi families who represent, I'm guessing, about 2000 Koi; seems like I'm going up in the world.

In closing, I want to invite everyone to mark your calendars and wholeheartedly encourage each of you to plan on attending the 27th Annual AKCA Seminar in Jacksonville, Florida this June 26 – 29. Cecilia and I regret that we did not attend an AKCA seminar until last year, when we traveled to Mesa, Arizona. We joined the club in 2002 and have regularly heard how much fun the seminars have been. The pictures people brought back from these events have been awesome. The most enjoyable part of attending the seminar for us last year was the unique blend of camaraderie and personal relaxation. Besides, it's always great spending time with koi people. Koi people are great people.

Wishing you all healthy ponds and fish; enjoy the hobby, and stay warm.

Hope to see everyone at Joe and Anita Acevedo's on February 24th.

Warmest Regards,

Gene Maingot,
IKS President

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Inland Koi Society
2008

PRESIDENT:
GENE MAINGOT
(951) 272-4450
gomaingo@sbcglobal.net

VICE PRESIDENT:
MARK KRAKOWER
(951) 371-2223
kraktronix@sbcglobal.net

SECRETARY:
ZUMA ROSS
(951) 354-6444
zumaross@charter.net

TREASURER:
NICK MILFELD
(951) 780-7395
milfeld@msn.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
DEBBY LEVERETT
(951) 781-3887
jenniferdl1950@hotmail.com

DIRECTOR: Web Liaison
MARY LEEVER
(909) 862-3028
mary@leeverelectronics.com

DIRECTOR:
KELLY HOUSTON
(909) 885-2503
vpkelly@earthlink.net

DIRECTOR:
JACK MARRIN
(909)792-3603
jack@marrin.com

DIRECTOR: Member Database
TOM ROSS
(951) 354-6444
tomzuma@charter.net

DIRECTOR:
TOM WRIGHT
(951) 637-5479
rookiekoiguy@earthlink.net

DIRECTOR:
DENNIS LYNAUGH
(951) 780-0123
dlynaugh@pacbell.net

DIRECTOR:
ED KUSHNER
(951)520-0092
edkushner@msn.com

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HELP LINE

References

• KOI DISEASE: <i>KHA Certified</i>	TOM ROSS	(951) 354-6444
• INFORMATION:	JACK MARRIN	(909) 792-3603
• LIBRARIAN: <i>Books, Videos</i>	TEE WRIGHT	(951) 637-5479
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Joe and Anita Acevedo have been IKS members since approximately 1995. Anita was the club's first newsletter editor. Using a black-and-white format, she Xeroxed copies for the 35 member families at that time. Since then, our club has flourished to as many as 150 families, and the Acevedos have continued their membership, made multiple friends, and continued to grow and share their love of koi. They were great supporters of our first Pond Tour in 1997, and proudly let us show their home on the 1998 Redlands/Riverside tour.

Joe was born in Porto Rico. His father was in the Army while Joe was young, so Joe attended first and second grades in Germany. Many years later, Joe joined the Army, too, and was stationed in Germany for four years. He met Anita in Mainz, Germany, home of Gutenberg, inventor of movable type, and site of a wonderful 2000-year old cathedral. They met at the yearly *Fastnacht* carnival, which is similar to New Orleans' Mardi Gras festival in the United States. Anita was born in Germany, married Joe there 31 years ago, and soon moved to the US. Since then, she has taken all the courses to become a US citizen—not wanting to be called an "alien" anymore—and her citizenship ceremonies were held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Anita's mother and sister are here in the States, yet even with lots of family still in Germany, she hasn't been back 'home' since the early 1980s.

Joe is employed in Reception Processing in the California State Prison system (and that can be a fascinating conversation to get into with him), and Anita has worked for twenty-eight years at UCR as a Professional Advisor. They have two adult children, three young grandchildren, a cat and a beautiful white Husky with haunting ice-blue eyes. Check him out: the Husky doesn't shed much and doesn't have the normal 'dog' smell. When not working or traveling, Joe's favorite relaxation is to barbeque while watching their 40 beautiful jewels floating in the pond.

While they lived in Riverside, Anita had a weakness for koi; it seemed every time she was out, she would bring home koi. Eventually she talked Joe into building a bigger pond to accommodate her weakness. He laid out a hose as a diagram of the position, shape and size of their new pond. Anita felt it should be bigger, so she would secretly go out and move the hose. Joe kept saying it was big enough, but she would inch it out a little more...and a little more...then, *just a little more*. Joe kept wondering why he couldn't seem to complete the digging; now they both just laugh at the memory!

When Joe and Anita moved to Perris, they discovered the nightmares of totally vacant land. It isn't just decorating a new home and settling in: it's designing a landscape and a pond to fit into it, dealing with all the construction issues, and figuring out what to do with the fish you want to keep. Having left some of their fish in Riverside, the first step was to build a 7' x 16' x 2' deep quarantine tank.

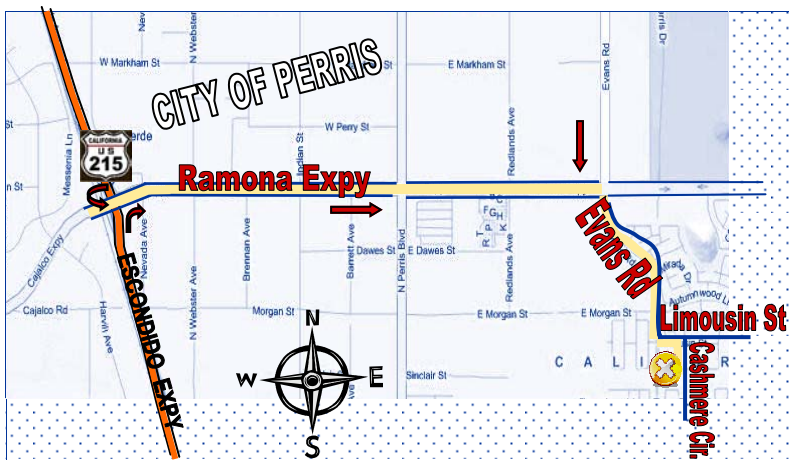
Joe designed the pond, but it took him about a year to build because he could only work on it during the weekends. Tony Simental, of TNT Koi in Moreno Valley, used a rented backhoe to dig the pond in one day (which didn't allow Anita time to change it!) And Joe insists he installed a concrete perimeter around the pond first, so there definitely wouldn't be any changing-of-the-size. Anita laughs loudly and easily at that statement.

The pond is lined with a 40-mil liner, holds 10,000 gallons of water, and is 3 to 4 ft deep. The filtration system starts with two 4-inch center drains (ABS pipes) and a skimmer. It uses 1/3 hp Dragon Pump, two 40-watt UVs, and a 1000-gallon up-flow gravel filter. Although they wanted it closer to the house, the pond ended up further back in the yard to be safer for the smaller grandchildren; it also opened up more area for patio living.

Joe and Anita have a beautiful motor home and enjoy traveling the country with it. And they travel often enough that feeding the koi could be a problem, but they don't worry about it. The fish are not fed daily—"more like once a week, and they have easily survived up to two weeks on algae. We've never had one die of starvation!" But with some longer trips planned for the future, they will have someone come in to keep tabs on the fish.

Their koi spawned three different times in the spring of 2007. Joe fished the eggs out of the skimmer and dumped them into his quarantine tank. They donated 138 little fry to the IKS Auction last June; they've given koi to businesses and to friends, but still have several hundred gorgeous young koi in every type and color, including long fin, to give away. So...come prepared with a container if you would like to take advantage of the Acevedo's free offer. At the close of the meeting we'll have netting practice...

Be sure to bring your chairs, jackets, something to share in the potluck and if you bring something to put in the raffle, you'll get an extra raffle ticket. It is going to be a great meeting. I'll see you there. *Debby Leverett*



DIRECTIONS:


- Exit off 215 Fwy onto **Ramona Expy** and head east.
- Turn right on **Evans Rd.**
- Turn short left on **Limousin St.**
- Make a quick right onto **Cashmere Circle.**

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2008 IKS GENERAL MEETING ~ JANUARY 27, 2008 ~ RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA

Our first meeting of the year was held at Ed and Kathy Rugh's home in Rancho Cucamonga. Our new president, Gene Maingot, introduced Ed Rugh to the group, and thanked him for hosting the meeting. Gene thanked Kelly for his contributions to the club and indicated Kelly would continue to be a person who got people together. Kelly will be finding places for meetings, helping to arrange speakers and working out the details, and he'll be our official greeter.

Kelly then introduced our two new Board members, Ed Kushner and Dennis Lynaugh. He called on Chrisie Nobles, who presented Gene with his official president's gavel, and the box to hold it.

Zuma Ross talked about progress on design work for the club T-shirt, which will be ready before the pond tour. She has requested Joyce Glenn to help her with artistic design. There will be three fish on this year's shirt; traditionally they are club members' fish. Zuma requested members to send in pictures of their fish, or to contact her about taking pictures of their fish.

Mark Krakower spoke about the upcoming pond tour. The tour will be June 1, 2008, and all the ponds are in the Corona-Norco area. There will be more updates and a future call for volunteers.

Tom Ross was the featured speaker. The presentation topic was "Winter and Spring in the Koi Pond." Tom started with an update on the Koi Herpes Virus (KHV), indicating the problem had not gone away. The government in Japan has closed down several breeders and dealers because of KHV outbreaks. The latest research still indicates fish that survive a KHV outbreak may still infect fish that have never been exposed to the virus. The best protection for the pond owner is still to buy only fish that have been 'lot tested' for KHV, and to quarantine all new fish before adding them to the pond.

Winter and Spring are times of cooler to cold temperatures, with fluctuations in temperature from day to day. Fish are cold-blooded animals; their metabolism, and in particular their immune system, slows down in cold water. If a fish gets a sore or other infection, it is harder to treat it, and a fish will not recover as quickly as it would if the water were warmer. Also, many parasite treatments cannot be used at colder temperatures.

Use a thermometer to monitor water tempera-

tures. Keep the water quality as good as possible by continued filter maintenance and regular water changes. One option is to keep the fish warmer with a pond cover, and possibly one or more heaters. Stock tank heaters or aquarium heaters can be used. The use of a cover—even a shade or nursery cloth cover—can help to keep the water slightly warmer.

When the minimum temperatures reach 58-60 degrees F, the fish go into "Springtime Mode." The fish will get more active and can be fed more. They can be fed once a day, as much as they will eat in about 5 minutes. How much the fish can safely eat will depend on the water temperature. Watch out for fish "flashing"—rubbing on the pond bottom or sides, or rocks. This could be a sign of parasite infestation. If a fish is flashing, the fish should be netted, and scraped and scoped for parasites.

Males may act aggressively toward the females and may cause them injury, or even cause fish to jump out of the pond. The aggressive behavior is part of mating. If spawning or overly aggressive behavior is observed, the keeper can separate the males from the females, or cover the pond to prevent them jumping out; then be prepared for a big water change and filter flush.

The presentation was followed by a scrape and scope session in the garage. The *sickies* were three goldfish from a local pet store. The results were very impressive! Some-times fish that just look bad aren't infested with parasites, but these poor goldfish were all very badly infested with flukes. Flukes are big and impressive and easy to see, and will kill a fish if not treated. Everybody had a chance to look at flukes doing their thing, wiggling about. Kelly was singing a little ditty "the worms go in, the worms go out..." You know the rest of that song. The lessons here are:

- Buy your fish from a reputable dealer.
- Look for signs of disease before buying.
- Do not buy a sick fish unless you want to do a scrape and scope demonstration.
- ALWAYS QUARANTINE NEW FISH.

After Tom's presentation, Mary Leever and Ed Rugh conducted the raffle, and the meeting was concluded.

Submitted by Zuma Ross,
IKS Secretary



*"The worms go
in...the worms
go out..."*



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Chai Taevanitcharoen - Show Chairman

tatekoi@aol.com

Don Kobashigawa - Club President

donkobash@aol.com

THE INLAND KOI SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Approximately 160 color copies are printed of the Inland Koi Connection and mailed eleven times per year.

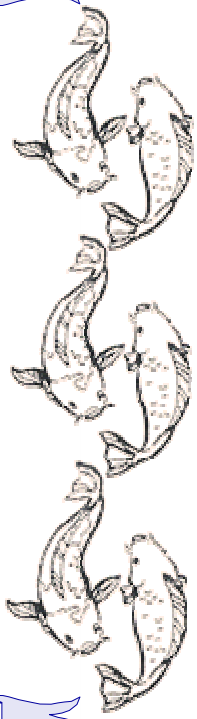
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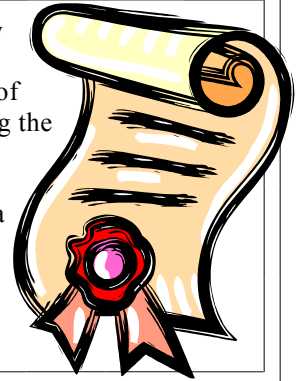
Contact Nick Milfeld, IKS Treasurer at 951 780-7395 or Debby Leverett, IKS Newsletter Editor at 951 781-3887 for additional information or questions you may have. Thank you.

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QUARTER-PAGE DISPLAY	\$140
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ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE YEAR 2008



In recognition of Kelly Houston doing and continuing to do a great job of representing and inspiring the Inland Koi Society, the Board of Directors has elected to annually give a "Kelly Houston Koi Person of The Year Award" starting in 2008. Congratulations Kelly!



CLUB AKCA DIR/REP

Please notify all club members, in your newsletter, that both the AKCA Seminar registration and AKCA Bookstore ordering thru www.akca.org website online with Visa or Master Card are now **secure thru PayPal**.

Doug Dahl, AKCA CFO

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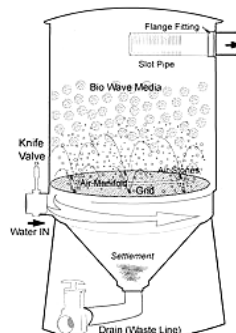
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~ ~ She Dances At Night ~ ~

So Cal Koi Club | Courtesy of Barbara Brooks

It all started because of Sushi. She didn't have that name then, she didn't have a name at all. Just a feeder comet, 8 for a buck at the local pet store. Bought her to feed to an albino Oscar named Ernie, who did have a name and also quite an appetite. Nothing was special about Sushi, except that Ernie didn't eat her like he did all the other comets. Perhaps Ernie wanted some company since he was all alone in his tank and suppressed his hunger to keep this not-so-special comet as a pet. Bigger and bigger grew Sushi over the next few seasons, so big that I worried that Ernie might change his mind about having her as a pet and kill her instead as a fair-sized rival. So to her own tank went Sushi, and a few other fish to keep her from being as lonely as her former master.

Sushi kept growing and I moved her in turn to larger and larger tanks. By now she was starting to become a little bit special to me, having been with me so long, though I still had no urge to name a fish of such humble heritage. Not quite a pet, but still something to be cared for and watched for signs of hunger or distress.

Something about Sushi kept calling to me at times, even though I had no idea what that might be. Over the next few years, as Sushi continued to flourish, and with only a few sad days when her former master, Ernie, passed away, her calling to me grew stronger. She transformed into a robust and elegantly finned beauty, nothing like I had ever had in one of my tanks before. Too large, I thought. Too large to live in four glass walls, in spite of all my rearranging to accommodate her as well as I could. And still she called to me; and still I felt her call, but did not understand.

A few months ago, while at a birthday party for my father at my childhood house, I went next door to give best wishes to an old neighbor. As we visited, he showed me some new exotic plants that he was growing in his backyard ponds. Ponds. Ponds. Ponds. As we approached the water, I saw lush hyacinths, lily

pads, water iris and parrot's feather. I knew the names of none of these, but how I marveled at their vivid waxy green and delicate fronds. And then among the bulbous green boats and lacy sails I saw the fish. They came and crowded and begged to be fed with little 'O' mouths and jumped and writhed and wiggled and looked so alive and bright and...happy.

Happy? Happy goldfish? How absurd! But there it was in front of me in one bright orange and white and calico wriggling ball of delight. I marveled aloud as my neighbor stooped with a handful of food and dipped into the water and fed and fussed and petted. "They love their pond," he said with a beaming smile. Their pond. Their pond. I have always had a great deal of pride in my tanks, and how well I attend to my scaly pets, but at that moment I felt a flush of shame. My fish didn't act like his, didn't act the way his did at all. Could they possibly be...unhappy? Just as absurd, but again, right there in front of me. I thought of Sushi at that moment and pictured her in my mind. A pond. A pond. A pond? Now, after patient years of calling out to me, I heard her! Now I understood! Now I knew what to do!

The summer break from teaching school came a few weeks later, and then it began. Digging by day and reading at night. Learning, digging, learning, planning, learning, digging. Every shovel full was a little closer to the answer for my silently calling Sushi. And she did...A Pond. A Pond. A Pond. I hear you now, little fish, and I'm working as fast as I can. A few weeks later and 5 cubic yards of earth were missing, and in their place were one thousand gallons of water and sweat surrounded by 10,000 pounds of rock. Not yet time for Sushi, though, for first the plants and then the 8-for-a-buck cheapies to cycle and then to see if it all would work the way I had learned it must. And still she called...A Pond. A Pond. A Pond.

A few weeks later it all looks good. Now. Net her, into the bowl of tank water, and then

to float the bowl in the pond. And now, the moment of truth. In she goes! A look around, a little wiggle of the fins, a longer look around, a longer wiggle of the fins, and then a trip around the edge to explore her new and non-rectangular world. A few days later I noticed that she was pushing the hyacinths around and coming to the top and splashing with her fins like a porpoise. I asked the mailman if his did that. See, he had started stopping by and eating his lunch in my front yard when he had a little time on his route...he has a pond. He said that his did that, too. I asked him if that meant that the fish was happy. He said he thought that's what it meant. Then, I gave her a name. *Sushi*. Former Oscar-food promised to Oscar-pet and gradually gliding into my heart so she could patiently, patiently call to me. She reached me. I did it. Happy fish.

Tonight, though, tonight made me cry. Stupid, silly me. "It's just a fish," I tell myself. But seeing what I saw her do, I just couldn't help but weep from some strong emotion I just can't quite name. You see, today I put some lights around the edge of her pond, partly so I could see the fish at night, which I told my wife, and partly to keep me from accidentally kicking some of the larger rocks in the dark, which I didn't tell my wife. In the box with the path lights was a little spotlight, so I stuck it in the rocks by the ripple going into her pond and turned it so the light was on the water. As night came on I washed and ate and took a nap and then went back out to see the lights, and there she was. Staying right in the flow of that little spotlight she swam, and circled, and looped and wriggled. I wondered that maybe she was hungry, so I tossed a few pellets on the water. No, not interested, not hungry. She just kept swimming and circling, and looping, and wriggling, staying in the glow of that light — then she called to me...Happy Dancing. Happy. Dancing. Then I cried.

In her pond, she dances at night.

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Ben Plonski

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**INLAND KOI SOCIETY
PROGRAM PLANNING CALENDAR 2008**

Regular Mtg 4th Sunday	HOSTS ADDRESS	PROPOSED Program Speakers	BOARD WED. AFTER
February 24	Joe & Anita Acevedo 3592 Cashmere Circle Perris 92571 (951) 532-5169		Feb. 27
March 30—?? <i>Palm Sunday</i> 3/16 <i>Easter</i> 3/23	Toi & Gregory Moore 32873 Lamtarra Loop Menifee 92584 (951) 246-7915		Apr. 2
April 27			April 30
May 25 <i>Memorial Day Weekend</i>			May 28
June 22 <i>Father's Day</i> 6/15; AKCA 7/26-29	No mtg. because of Pond Tour??? <i>AKCA Seminar, Jacksonville FL: Thurs. 6/26 - Sun. 6/29</i>	Sunday, June 1: Pond Tour —Norco-Corona area Mark Krakower, Chairman <i>Will most of Board be at AKCA? Move mtg. to 7/2-3?</i>	June 25...or after tour? I wonder on this; some of us will have left for Florida...

2008

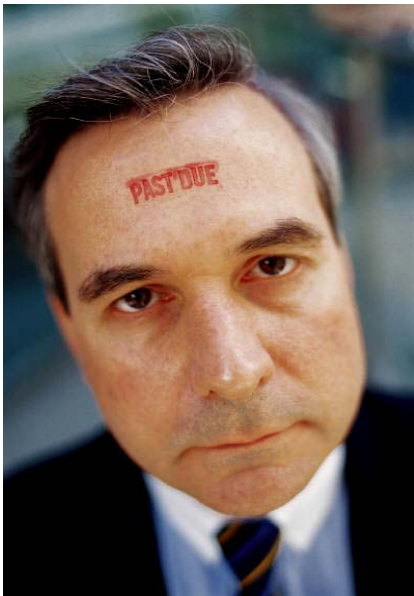
Coming Events

16-17	21ST ANNUAL KCSD KOI SHOW ~ 9am-3pm San Diego County Fairgrounds (previously called Del Mar Fairgrounds) Tom Graham (760) 451-1698 / Free Admission / See page 9 / www.koiclubsandiego.org
18	PRESIDENTS DAY OBSERVED ~ Lincoln's Birthday is February 12 and Washington's Birthday is February 22
21	RSBCOS ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION ~ 6-10 pm at the San Bernardino County Museum / 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands / www.rsbcos.org
24	IKS GENERAL MEETING & POTLUCK ~ 2-5 pm. in Perris. Hosts are Joe & Anita Acevedo. For info contact Kelly Houston (909) 885-2503.
28	IKS BUSINESS MEETING ~ 7 pm / All members of IKS welcome! 6531 Box Springs Blvd, Riverside / Gene Maingot at (951) 272-4450.
29	LEAP DAY ~ Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November. All the rest have thirty-one excepting February alone; which hath but twenty-eight, by fine, till leap year gives it twenty-nine.

FEBRUARY

09	DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS ~ ~Spring Forward~ 
14	AKCA BOARD MEETING ~ 7pm / 529 E. Blueridge Ave, Orange, CA 92867 / Call Larry Leverett at (951) 781-3887 for more information.
15-16	34TH ANNUAL ZNA SO CAL KOI SHOW & FEST. ~ 9:00 am -4:00 pm at the Gardena Civic Center. Don Kobashigawa at (818) 207-3238 or donkobash@aol.com .
17	SAINT PATRICK'S DAY ~ Irish Blessing: May the Good Lord take a liking to you... but not too soon!
20	SPRING BEGINS ~ Hurrah for the flowers of Spring, for Spring is here again. 
23	EASTER SUNDAY ~ Earth's saddest day and gladdest day were just three days apart! - Susan Coolidge 
30	IKS GENERAL MEETING & POTLUCK ~ 2-5 pm Hosts: Toi & Gregory Moore in Menifee. For further information contact Kelly Houston at (909) 885-2503
31	IKS BUSINESS MEETING ~ 7 pm / 6531 Box Springs Blvd, Riverside / Jack Marrin at (951) 653-6780 or Gene Maingot (951) 272-4450 for more info. 

MARCH



Inland Koi Society
Membership
renewals were
due by
January 1, 2008

Don't wear this
stamp on YOUR
head! If you've
not sent your
renewal in yet,
get it in the
mail today!!!



Inland Koi Society's 10th Annual Koi Pond Garden Tour

- ▶ Koi hobbyist and the public are invited to visit seven koi ponds in the Corona-Norco area of Riverside County on Sunday, June 1, 2008 from 10 AM – 4 PM.
- ▶ There will be various sizes of ponds and different filtration systems will be on display, come imagine which might fit in your yard or landscape. Tour book includes schematic drawings of each system and numerous educational articles relevant to keeping Koi.
- ▶ Knowledgeable Koi-keepers will be at each site to answer questions and our annual club T-shirt will be available for purchase.
- ▶ Contact Mark Krakower, Chairman, (951) 371-2223 / kraktronix@sbcglobal.net or Kelly Houston (909) 885-2503 / vpkelly@earthlink.net or see www.inlandkoiociety.org

The Inland Koi Connection is a publication of the Inland Koi Society. Material is selected for the club's interest in ponds, koi, gardening, and other activities. IKS Officers and Directors accept no responsibility for accuracy of content. Reproduction is permitted provided this newsletter is credited as the source. Deadline for newsletter items is the 5th day of each month and items should be submitted directly to Editor, Debby J. Leverett at 5349 Jasper Lane - Riverside, California 92506 Phone: (951) 781-3887 E-mail: jenniferdl1950@hotmail.com



INLAND KOI SOCIETY
5198 ARLINGTON AVE., #146
RIVERSIDE, CA 92504

Return Service Requested



**If you wish,
bring a
container to
the IKS
meeting this
month to see,
choose, and
practice net-
ting a chosen
koi to keep.**



With thanks to Joe and Anita Acevedo for their offer to give members the choice/choices of baby koi to take home...

Visit our website: www.inlandkoisociety.org