FEBRUARY 28, 2010
IKS Sunday General Potluck Meeting
2:00-5:00 pm
at the home of
NANCY and DAVID LEWIS
4327 Cover Street
Riverside, CA 92508
(951) 788-5817
Hi Everybody,

We had a large turnout for our first meeting of the year. Thanks to our superior scheduling, the meeting was on one of the few days of the month that it didn’t rain. That gave us plenty of room outside to sit and eat, and enough room inside Inland Koi to roam around and view all the fish we wish we had. There was some great food in the pot luck, and thanks to Theo and Jeanne we had something to put our food on and utensils to eat it with. Thank you, Joe and Peter Cao, for hosting the event, and thank you for all the support you give our club.

IKS is going to establish a blood donor club. With this program, club members can donate blood to the blood bank and let them know that you are an IKS member. This will enable any IKS member to receive blood for free if they need a transfusion, if their insurance doesn’t pay for it. As long as our club continues to make the required number of blood donations per year—24 total, just two a month—all members will benefit, even if they don’t personally donate.

This is membership renewal time, so if you haven’t renewed your membership yet, please do so now. Just think of the value there is in being a club member:

- You meet other people who are just as obsessed about koi as you are.
- You make new friends.
- Five people will give you six ways to improve your pond’s water quality.
- Some of that advice actually works and you end up with crystal clear water.
- You get to enjoy our world famous potluck meals. (It’s the only time I can get my wife to make deviled eggs!)
- When there’s an IKS meeting, you don’t have to go to your in-law’s party.
- You can have fun with other IKS members at the AKCA convention (Where would we be without acronyms?) and get some great ideas for expanding your pond.
- You can be a volunteer at the IKS pond tour and have a good time talking about ponds with the tour visitors.
- We understand why you paid one thousand dollars for a fish.
- If that fish gets sick, an IKS health advisor can help you treat it.
- You can win a koi at our raffle.
- You can feed it with food you won at the raffle.
- You can raise it until it becomes a one-thousand-dollar fish.
- You can then sell it at the IKS auction for five hundred dollars.
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Our next meeting will be on Feb. 28 at the home of David and Nancy Lewis. Let’s hope that we have scheduled this meeting well and that it doesn’t rain. Remember to bring a picture of your fish for the Koi of the Year voting. Bring your chairs and something good for me to eat at the potluck. The speaker will be talking about how we can save money by getting solar panels and variable speed pumps. Maybe, if that saves you enough money, you can buy a one-thousand-dollar fish.

See you at the meeting,

Mark

Mark Krakower, IKS President
**David and Nancy Lewis Host the February Meeting**

The Lewis’s live in Riverside on a nice quiet street, but the remodeling they have done on their home makes it stand out on the block. Just driving up you can see the beauty and the care that they have added to this house.

They were married in 1982 and brought together two households. They had six kids between them in a small house with one bathroom, so David got to work and added extra rooms and more bathrooms. They have many grand-children and their backyard shows they care about them, as they have all kinds of swings and jungle gyms for them to play on. David often brings a grandchild to our meetings. You may remember Sofia at the last meeting. She won all the children’s prizes, with much enthusiasm!

David and Nancy had been on many of IKS’s pond tours and got the idea to build their own pond. Nancy said she wanted a small pond in the corner of the yard, but the pond took on a life of its own. It started in the corner, then a stream connects it to another pond, with a gazebo in the center. The pond is 5 feet at its deepest and the stream is 2 to 3 feet deep with a rubber liner. David has two Wave pumps; one pulls water from the skimmer and the other from a bottom drain. The water is pumped to an Answer Filter and is gravity fed through a 40-watt UV and then back to two waterfalls.

When the pond was first set up, the filter was in plain view; David didn’t like that, so he built a wooden filter house around it. Nancy does a lot of decorating and added her touches to create a beautiful addition to the yard. It is a really nice set up and complements an old fashioned wooden out-house which is used for gardening tools.

David has been interested in electrical components since he was 15 or 16 years old. Now he has an Electrical Contractor’s license and owns his own business. His latest interest is Solar Energy; he has taken classes with his oldest son who is also an Electrician, but nothing has developed yet. Nancy said it is because Dave never does anything small and when he moves forward, it will be ideal!

Nancy worked at the Press-Enterprise for four years, and when she quit she started selling Avon Products. Not only does she love the products, but she is a ‘people-person.’ She had many fun stories to share, as one would expect after 17 years as a successful Avon Lady. Nancy appears to be one who loves life and is interested in many things. She is a John Wayne fan and has many pictures and memorabilia. David says that Nancy has more articles than the John Wayne Museum and treasures all of them. Plus, her children call her a ‘holiday-holic’ because she likes to decorate for all holidays. David created some large attic space in the garage to store all her decorations. David built the big garage at the back of their property, which matches the design of the main house and resembles a separate ‘Mother-in-laws’ home. It looks so professional that UPS sometimes sends mail with a 4327½ address or ‘house in rear’ address. Nancy said she can’t convince them it isn’t a house, it’s just their garage.

David has his office for Lewis Electronics in one part the garage, and in another large area of it he keeps his newest acquisition, a vintage “Thunderbird,” which he is restoring.

David says he has about fifty koi. His favorite, which seems to be a Sanke, is the oldest koi in his pond at eight or nine years of age. They used to have gold fish, but got rid of them because they were so prolific. Plus, their interest and knowledge in koi grew and took priority over the goldfish. Their joy of koi is not simply personal: they share it with friends, family, and especially their grandchildren.

David and Nancy are excited to be hosting this meeting and want to extend a welcome to all members who come to share their home, garden, pond and koi.

Rain is not predicted, and the spring-like time of year should be a great day to picnic in the Lewis’ yard. Please bring something to share in the potluck, your chairs, maybe something for the raffle, a listening ear, and the desire to be with people who share your interests.

~Larry & Debby Leverett, Editors

**PROGRAM:** We are honored to have Todd Franzen, owner of Todd Solar Engineering, Inc. (TSE) in Norco, come talk with us about saving energy. He plans to speak on pump efficiency and solar power. He will also be bringing spec sheets and different things to share. Don’t miss this opportunity to hear about the latest developments.

**DIRECTIONS:**
- Exit the 91 Fwy at Central, going left if northbound, right if southbound.
- Turn right on Brockton.
- Turn left on Cover, the third street after you cross the train tracks, opposite the Elks Club on Brockton.
- 4327 Cover Street will be on your right.
From Mike & Carolyn Frady, IKS Members who live in Alexandria, VA 8:45pm EST, Tuesday, February 9: Well, we are surviving. I am so glad we live in the South where the weather is nice all year. RIGHT! We only live about 2 miles from Chuck and Doris and we had at least 24 inches from the last snow on Friday and Saturday; we already had 6 inches on the ground from the previous Tuesday. Now we are getting another storm tonight. Since 6:00 this evening (Tuesday) we already have 4 inches of new snow. The snow plow just did our street yesterday at noon; we had been socked in since Friday night.

We lost power twice for about 4.5 hours each time; we did not get the generator out, though I worried about the pipes and pumps. This has been a winter. The koi are like sardines on the bottom; we now have a layer of ice, so we cannot see them right now.

We are hoping for better weather starting Thursday as I am scheduled to fly out to San Diego for their show on Friday. All the airports have been closed or flights canceled from Friday night through this morning. Now everything is closed again tonight. Hopefully they will reopen on Thursday.

Attached are a couple of photos I took yesterday (2-08-10) of the pond and deck. Hope you enjoy.

Carolyn and I hope that you two are well and everything is going as expected. Say hi to all our friends in IKS, please. If you have nothing to do this weekend, the San Diego Show should be fun. I am going by myself as Carolyn does not want to travel until after our daughter has our grandchild. She is due next month. First one, we are excited.

Hope to see you all later this year. Are you coming to Nashville?

~Mike

From Chuck & Doris Poppe, also IKS Members who live in Alexandria, Virginia

Monday morning, February 8:

Hi! from Chuck and Doris. We have 30 inches of snow on our yard. We finally dug out to the roads yesterday afternoon. Our fish are fine under nursery plastic frames, with air and filters. They are in four ponds. We lost power for 4 hours Friday night, but the 13kw generator for the house and fish ponds came on. We were without power for 25 seconds. We had to dig a path to check the fish. More snow is expected on Tuesday. We also lost phone power on Saturday. ~Chuck
RENEWAL QUESTIONNAIRES

Congratulations to John and Kathy Taggart, whose names were drawn at the last IKS Board Meeting from among those of members who returned their membership renewal forms, with the questionnaire filled out, by the January 24 deadline. Entered in the drawing were 28 from the possible 110 members. John and Kathy will receive a gift certificate for $50 to the IKS Newsletter advertising sponsor of their choice.

GIVE LIFE

Are you a Blood Donor? Bob Henry is; every two weeks he takes time out to share this life-giving substance with those in the Inland Empire who need it. Sometimes he donates for a specific patient; other times his blood goes into the pool for whatever need arises.

As his first act as a new Director of IKS, he proposed we (the club) establish an IKS “Community,” a “Donor Club” that would benefit every member of IKS. Once a community is registered with LifeStream, formerly the blood donor program of the American Red Cross, the only requirement is that the club make 24 donations within every calendar year. That’s just two donations a month, given by any two members, and specifying the IKS community plan at the time of the donation so we would receive the credit.

In return, if we maintain the donations, all members of the club, including spouses and dependent children, whether they have donated personally or not, will be able to receive blood without charge (if their insurance doesn’t cover the cost of the blood products). “Blood products” does not include blood testing or other blood-related hospital charges; it includes only the cost of the product itself that is used.

Following a favorable vote, Bob was asked to begin the necessary paperwork to establish our donor group. The Board probably has enough donors that we could satisfy the requirements ourselves—Bob could do it on his own!—but we would hope that many members would get involved as new donors to help the community at large and to benefit the club. It’s a little thing with a huge pay-off, as anyone who has been in desperate need of transfusion can attest.

Whole blood donations can be made every 56 days, or platelets every two weeks. I usually give platelets, as Bob does, but I’m frequently asked to give double units of whole blood for a specific need, so I don’t get to give as often as I’d like. I already donate regularly to another community blood program, but I would be willing to share the credit with my IKS family. How about you?

We plan to have a blood bank representative speak at a future meeting; we could even have a mobile unit attend a meeting, but we would have to guarantee 40 donations on that day alone. Hmm... Pond Tour would be a great opportunity, wouldn’t it? Involve the public. Hmm... Let us know what you think. ~Peggy

“THERE IS NO REMEDY FOR LOVE BUT TO LOVE MORE.”
-HENRY DAVID THOREAU
Welcome to our newest Advertising Sponsor:
Rick Farag of Luxor Growers & Koi Fish

FEBRUARY 2010 / ISSUE 166

~ Electing the Koi Person(s) on Feb. 28th ~

It is a genuine “Thank you!” from IKS members. Is someone always stepping up to bat? Giving without thinking? Notice anyone quietly working “behind the scenes?” Nominate them this month, at the February meeting, for IKS Koi Person of the Year. Be prepared, however, to stand up and explain why you feel they deserve this honor so other members can learn what you’ve seen or know. And remember, this may be one individual or multiple individuals from the same family.*

Be sure to give your nominee’s name(s) to President Mark so he can be prepared to present your choice before the final club vote. The nominated club member should perceive the thank you from the club just by being nominated. The winning IKS Person of the Year will be eligible to receive $250 if they go to Tennessee to receive their plaque in person at the AKCA Seminar in May. Have someone in mind? Elect them to say “Thank you!” at this month’s General Meeting! —Debby

*A previous Koi Person of the Year selected by IKS cannot be elected again. These appreciated members from years past are: Bob Everett, Carole Hamilton, Jack Marrin, Nick Milfeld, Scott Zehm, Bob Walters, Larry & Debby Leverett, Chrisie Nobles, Peggy Milfeld, Norma Marrin, Kelly Houston, Gene Maingot, Theo & Jeanne Zoetemelk, and Mary Leever.
**NOW** is the time to take those photographs of your precious jewels and get those great photos published in the pages of Koi USA magazine. As you may or may not know, Koi USA can now accept digital images for the AKCA Koi of the Year pages, as well as for the Koi Show Review prints (with the negative) or slides for the Champion of Champion competition. Since there were many questions asked about exactly how to submit photos to the magazine, Tom Graham has put together these steps for you to follow.

- Use the blue rectangular photo tub. (If you do not have one, several IKS Board Members do, so call one of the numbers listed on page 2. If they don’t have one, they will know who to direct you to who does.)
- Find a shady spot to shoot.
- Use a flash, preferably an external flash, with a “Guide Number” of 130 or better.
- Put enough water in the tub to give at least an inch over the dorsal fin of the Koi to minimize the ripples as the Koi swims.
- Make sure the water is free of bubbles or debris floating on the top.
- Wait for the water to settle down so there are no ripples.
- Wait to take the photo until the Koi swims towards you. Because of the shutter delay on most digitals, you will need to shoot in advance of when you expect the Koi to be in position.
- Shoot at a 45 degree angle, so you get a good view of the face of the Koi.
- Watch your focus. Check your images before you turn the Koi.
- Wait to take the photo until the Koi swims towards you. Because of the shutter delay on most digitals, you will need to shoot in advance of when you expect the Koi to be in position.
- Shoot at a 45 degree angle, so you get a good view of the face of the Koi.
- Watch your focus. Check your images before you turn the Koi loose to be sure you got a good photo with no ripples or glare, the fish is centered in the tub with the pectoral fins extended on both sides, the lighting is right, and the fish is in focus, particularly the eyes. If the eyes are in focus, but the tip of the tail is slightly blurred, that is ok.
- If you are having a hard time getting the shot because of the delay between when you push the button and when the camera takes the shot, try turning off the auto focus and pre-set your focus on the area of the tub where you plan to shoot. Also, make sure you have fresh batteries in your flash for the fastest cycle time.

- Set your camera on its highest image quality and size settings. It is easy for us to reduce the size of an image, but if it is undersized to start, the photo won’t look good no matter what we do. A camera that is rated at 3 mega pixels, set at its highest image size and quality, will typically yield a photo that is around 1200 x 1800 pixels in size. This will yield an 8" x 10" photo at 300 dpi for us to work with.

**Now that you have “expert” advice on how to photograph your**
**favorite Koi, Don’t Delay!** In case you didn’t know, each year AKCA has a contest for each Koi Club belonging to their organization to pick one member’s Koi to represent their club as Koi of the Year. Our member’s winning photos go to the AKCA Seminar, is framed and displayed, and then is honored by being printed in Koi USA Magazine with the owner’s name and club.

Each Member family may present at this meeting (2-28-10) two (2) different photographs to be voted upon by members present. Photos will be secretly numbered on the back by one of the IKS Board members, so do not print your name anywhere on the picture! Please also bring a copy of your photograph(s) on a CD because time is short and, if your Koi is the winner, we will need to get the picture to AKCA as soon as possible.

One year since I’ve been the IKS Newsletter Editor (ten years now), we did not have anyone bring a photograph to be judged... and we were not able to participate in the fun or have the honor. I think everyone in the club realized we missed the chance to “wave our club’s logo” and have an Inland Koi Society member’s name and Koi honored.

**THIS month’s meeting is the vote, so get your pictures taken —**
**good or bad — and bring one along.** If you feel your photography is novice, that is alright because, if your Koi is chosen (or heaven forbid, the only one submitted), you will have completed an honorable challenge, and then it goes to Tennessee to compete with 104 other clubs for ‘The Best AKCA Koi of 2010.’ But we need at least one picture to vote on. Another plus is that you will have a photo of what your Koi looks like today, for comparison in years to come.

So... have some fun and try it! —Debby Leverett, IKS Editor

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### Past Inland Koi Society Winners for Koi of the Year

- **Dennis & Donna Keats - 2009**
- **Tom & Cindy Graham - 2008**
- **Tom & Zuma Ross - 2007**
- **Tom & Zuma Ross - 2006**
- **Phil & Rachel Hunter - 2005**

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To the left and below are some suggestions, courtesy of Randall, at Clarke Koi Ponds Inc. - www.clarkekoi.com

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**In terms of even lighting, this is the best photo. However, the fish’s pectoral fins and the tail are in awkward positions.**

**You can really see what this fish is about in this photo. Being dead straight-on, though, doesn’t look very good. Again, the pectoral fins, which need to be judged, are not readily visible.**

**With respect to framing and judging the fish, this is a good photo to go with, again with the exception of the pectorals.**

**I love the angle of this fish, and the pectoral fins are just about perfect. If the shot was taken a little more to the left we could see the other side of the face better. Surface debris really detracts.**

**I love this photo and the fish. Surface turbulence ruins it, though, and the reflections also hinder.**
Inland Koi has moved!!

On October 31, 2009 we filled our tanks with a new shipment of Koi from Japan. Come look!

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(951) 352-5128

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### Welcome to New Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Joined</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ann Brorsen</td>
<td>Menifee</td>
<td>11-09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stefanie Forhan</td>
<td>Moreno Valley</td>
<td>01-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark &amp; Sally Lawson</td>
<td>Lakeside</td>
<td>01-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward &amp; Lynn MacLaren</td>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>01-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Nguyen</td>
<td>Corona</td>
<td>01-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob &amp; Laurie Vance</td>
<td>Upland</td>
<td>10-09</td>
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IKS hopes you enjoy an informative and fun 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 new hobbyist members that you don’t feel you are the only one who is clueless on a subject. Ask questions!

Feel like a fish out of water and don’t know which way to turn? Come to a meeting and ask questions! Or call the Help Line on page 2.

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There is a great deal of information on parasites, bacterial pathogens, fungal infections, and viral infections. Primary and alternative treatment protocols are very well presented. Microscopy is well detailed.

Check out this book and many more in the IKS Library!

The Island Koi Connection is a publication of the Island 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. Laverett at 5349 Jasper Lane - Riverside, California 92506 Phone: (951) 781-3887 E-mail: jenniferdl1950@hotmail.com