

on SUNDAY, THE TWENTY-FIFTH OF APRIL, Two Thousand Ten 12 Noon-2PM: Tour Gardens and Koi Ponds 2-5 PM: Potluck and General Meeting Program (909) 792-3603

























MARRIN HOUSE & GARDENS

#### THE OVAL POND...

Mark Krakower, 2009 IKS President



## Hello IKS,

**There** were sixty five members and guests who attended last month's meeting at the Edward Dean Museum. We had the opportunity to tour the museum and see their koi pond. The fish looked good, but the pond water was a little murky. Patricia Hurley, a new club member, has volunteered to

help the museum improve the water quality of the pond. Thank you, Patricia!

*Spike* Cover gave us an information-loaded talk on how to improve our koi keeping. Since that meeting, I have spent a lot of time cleaning dead leaves out of my pond and settling chamber. Thanks Spike, for increasing my workload...

**Reserve** Saturday, October 30, for our annual IKS field trip. This year we will be going to Little Tokyo in L.A, where we can see their koi pond and visit the shops and restaurants in the area. This is not an IKS ploy to whet our appetites for a trip to Japan next year, but then again...

**Speaking** of trips, Fran and I spent a week in Jamaica last month. There was some good snorkeling with plenty of colorful fish, and lots of ocean swimming to help me get ready for this summer's ocean races. We stayed at a Sandals resort that had all the jerk chicken you could eat, but no koi ponds. I didn't have to worry about my pond, though, because I had "Two Koi Guys" taking care of it. Who knows? Maybe next year we can get to Japan.

*I* love this time of the year. Not only are the koi getting more active, but more important, the baseball season has started. Now I can look forward to going to a few games, eating some overpriced hot dogs, and seeing the rally monkey. Judging by the way the Angels started the season; they are really going to need the rally monkey!

**This** month's meeting will be at the home of Jack and Norma Marrin. Jack Chapman will be the speaker and his talk will be about "The Spring Puzzle." I am not sure what that entails, but I'm sure that it will mean more pond work for me! So, bring some good food to the potluck because I'll need some more energy.

See you at the meeting, Mark. Mark Krakower, IKS President

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APRIL HOSTS & POND PROFILE

#### Jack and Norma Marrin - Redlands

e have a special treat this month because Jack and Norma Marrin are hosting our April meeting at their historic awarded Heritage Home in the beautiful city of Redlands. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the Marrins' home or gardens, you'll find sheer amazement at how the whole five acres is slowly being landscaped, one themed section at a time. For more details, please read the enclosed sheet of history I was lucky to acquire from Jack.

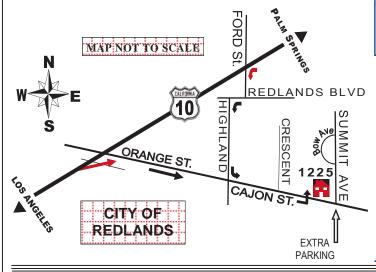
When purchasing this house as a fixer-upper in 1986, the grounds were covered in waist-high weeds, the 90-year-old oak trees were massive and much landscaping was neglected. The Marrins started refurbishing the home and creating gardens. The garage was falling apart, so plans were made to tear it down and build a new one; however, zoning laws wouldn't let them build a new building on the same spot, so Jack ended up leaving the walls of the old garage, but encasing them inside the walls of the new garage.

Jack and Norma's research, knowledge and creativity are obvious in each of the planned and completed theme gardens. The Roman Garden comprises the whole back yard, with the swimming pool, reflecting pool, two 2,500-gallon koi ponds, columns and life-size marble statues. The two koi ponds in this area are made of concrete with waterproof liners. Both have bottom drains and flow to sand filters converted to Bead filters. Two-speed pumps pull water from the pond, through the filters and UV lights, and back to the pond. Be sure to notice the ancient Roman design tile floor in the dome-topped gazebo where they've hosted many civic and private events.

If you go straight out from their front yard, you will see the rough grading of the Italian Garden. Here sat the big old oak trees which had to be moved to a different area of the garden, along with several other trees. Also under construction is the Tropical Garden, on the west side of their elongated, beautifully designed driveway.

The whole front yard was torn out about two years ago; they built a four-foot-wide formal stream running from the front door to the edge of their front yard, through what Norma and Jack call the front terrace. Norma chooses the plants and has a fine eye for detail. The terrace is ringed in roses from family birth years and it weaves a beautiful tapestry of plants and flowers, including "Little John," a small version of bottle-brush, but with colors that are more intense.

Next, take a walk to the southeast side of the Marrins' home where Norma designed and has worked extensively with a series of raised beds, with plants and colors to resemble a French Garden. This garden,



with its multi-level terraces, elaborate system of raised planter boxes, and the hand-carved marble wellhead, is reminiscent of the Gardens of Versailles.

**Future** garden plans include a Japanese Garden in the lower western area of property. There will be two large koi ponds cascading down the hill and an authentic Japanese Teahouse.

There is so much to see here that you just have to come to experience it. If you do not usually come to meetings and just read the newsletter, as a member, I urge you to try to make <u>this</u> meeting. You won't be disappointed!

Jack and Norma joined IKS about 1995. Since that time, Jack has been President of IKS and an AKCA Rep.; he has shown championship koi and has won the Champion of Champions trophy for having the best champion koi in the USA. Norma was the artist-designer for our T-shirts for several years and has done many designs for AKCA and Koi Club of San Diego to name a few. They own one of the few companies that make smog. Actually, they make and bottle gases, smog being one of them. Smog stations use this bottled gas to calibrate their smog-testing machines. They make many other gases for universities and companies that need a pure type of gas for research and product development. If you have ever been on one of our field trips, you have visited their business for breakfast and to board the bus, leaving your car in their lot.

When you arrive, if you park in the driveway, as you come up be sure to <u>park on the left (west) side of the driveway only</u>. That will leave room for exiting drivers to pass by your vehicle. Be sure to bring your potluck item to share with everyone, please! Items can be stored in the Marrin's kitchen if you come at 12 noon for the two-hour tour of the gardens and koi ponds, prior to our general meeting from 2-5pm. Don't forget to bring your chairs because we will probably be on the terrace for the meeting. Volunteered raffle items are always appreciated and we especially thank Inland Koi of Riverside for their abundant donation of small fry. We will see you there to linger in the beautiful spring flower setting with friends!

#### Debby & Larry Leverett, IKS Newsletter Editors

**Program:** This month our guest speaker will be Jack Chapman, Librarian and Koi Health Advisor for the Koi Club of San Diego, talking about the "Spring Puzzle." He will discuss the things that are happening to your pond during spring - the most dangerous time for koi in a pond - and they are all based on temperature.

Jack is asking members coming to the meeting to make notes of just how cold their ponds got this last winter and what their current temperatures are in the AM and PM; what their Ammonia, Nitrite and especially Nitrate levels currently are in their ponds. Perhaps you could log this information and bring it with you to the meeting.

Jack Chapman got interested in koi while stationed at the Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan, some 20 years ago, but built his first koi pond

#### DIRECTIONS:

- Exit 10 Freeway, coming from the West at ORANGE STREET and go East; <u>OR</u>
- Exit 10 Freeway, coming from the East at FORD ST and follow map.

1225 Cajon Street is on the corner of Cajon and Summit on the left side. If you park on Summit, walk along BOW AVE to enter the Marrin's back yard.

20 years ago, but built his first kol pond (12,500 gallons) after retiring 4½ years ago.

He states his favorite koi classification changes every couple of years depending on what he is trying to add or improve within his collection or for the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park - but he never tires of just looking at all of them. He really enjoys being an active Koi Health Advisor and helping club members with their koi and pond problems. Come listen to Jack Chapman and enjoy the facts.

THE INLAND KOI CONNECTION

2010 IKS KOI POND AND GARDEN TOUR

Harrison's Koi Farm



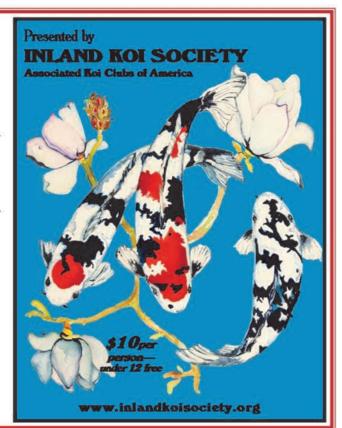
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- 1250 West Arrow Hwy, Upland (909) 920-3767 • Inland Koi
- 10000 Indiana, Ste 7, Riverside (951) 352-5128
- Our Annual T-shirts, in the approximate color and with the design at right, will be available in limited quantities during the Tour. Men's & Ladies' styles • \$20 [2x-3x slightly higher]
- [Addresses are revealed closer to the tour to protect our members' ponds.]





**APRIL 2010 / ISSUE 168** 

# PAST MONTH GENERAL MEETING Secretarial Notes & Events of The Day

# IKS GENERAL MEETING ~ SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2010 ~ CHERRY VALLEY

We had a really nice meeting at Edward Dean. The museum grounds have been recently updated. The day was pleasant and sunny. The facilities at the museum were really appreciated. The meeting room is equipped with a large kitchen, restrooms, and adequate room for several hundred people to gather. Thank you, Edward Dean staff. We had an excellent potluck, and the speaker was very interesting. We had 65 people at the meeting. This included 21 visitors. The visitors included, Gladys and John Baker, B.J., and Jeff Streeby, Darlene Coleman, Georgia Gentry, Ralana, the manager of Edward Dean, and her husband, Rob, Max, and Tony Krause, Amy and Kirk Taylor, Bud Matheson, and several helpers who were not named. New members present were: Ann Brorsen, Patricia and Steve Hurley, and Ed and Lynn MacLaren. Mary Leever was also present. She has been very ill, and it was really good to see her.

After the potluck, Mark welcomed the visitors and the new members. Then Dennis talked a little about the upcoming pond tour. The tour will be in the Riverside area. The ponds on the tour include the ponds at the home of Tom and Zuma Ross, Dennis and Dorothy Lynaugh, Mac and Jill McClain, Nick and Peggy Milfeld, Rick and Marlys Whipple, David and Nancy Lewis, and Larry and Debby Leverett. The pond tour will be on June 6, from 10 AM to 4 PM. The next pond tour meeting will be held at the Lynaugh's on 4/14/2010, at 7 PM. All volunteers and homeowners are required, if possible, to attend.

The presentation was given by Spike Cover. The subject was "How to Be a Better Koi Keeper". Spike did a Powerpoint presentation, supplied a handout, and had examples of some of the equipment and the chemicals needed on hand for the audience to see. The main points of the presentation

were: Keep the water as clean as possible, clean the filters frequently, do frequent water changes, from about 10% a day, to about 10% a week at a minimum; keep the oxygen levels up with a waterfall, or an air stone with air pump, keep the Koi as warm as possible, feed a good balanced Koi food, and keep a quarantine system available for any new or sick fish. He suggested chemicals, and equipment that should always be on hand. These include: ClorAm-X, or other ammonia binder, salt, baking soda, a Koi net, potassium permanganate, a Koi tub, a thermometer, and a water test kit that can measure ammonia, pH, and nitrates. Spike strongly recommended equipment including a microscope, sock nets, and fish anesthesia. He strongly recommended retrofits for the pond if it doesn't have one such as: a filter, bottom drain, skimmer, and perhaps another pump, and an automatic feeder. Spike strongly recommended we know our Koi dealers, and know about their quarantine procedures, and what tests they do before offering the fish for sale. He recommended getting to know other fish keeperstalk to other club members. We can consult IKS members for advice. These members include Tom Ross, Tom Wright, Bob Walters, and Scott Zehm. All of us should get to know a fish friendly veterinarian if we can. Spike then talked about a new Koi organization that will be on the web with current, accurate, and useful information. The organization will be called KOI, which stands for Koi Organization International. The web site will be ready in about 1 month. The presentation concluded with a question and answer period.



After Spike's excellent presentation, the raffle was held with Mark Krakower reading the numbers, and Mary Leever handing out the prizes to the winners.

Zuma Ross, secretary.



## Confucius Says:

Man who fart in church sit in own pew.
 When you are laboring for others let it be with the same zeal as if it were for yourself.
 It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.



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#### WELCOME LUXOR GROWERS & KOI FISH Koi Friendly Vets



WHAT IF A FISH DIES? Ponds USA & Water Gardens 2006

Unfortunately, most fish owners will have to deal with the death of a fish. In the midst of a disease outbreak or other pond health concern, a recently dead fish can be very valuable in diagnosing the problem and treating the remainder of the fish. Frequently, dead fish are mishandled, rendering them of little value to your veterinarian or veterinary pathologist. The following tips help provide a diagnostician with appropriate samples:

- 1. Once a fish dies, immediately remove it from the water and place it in a sealed plastic bag with a moist towel or paper towel.
- 2. The fish should then be either placed in the refrigerator (not the freezer) or on crushed/cubed ice (ideally in a cooler).
- 3. The chilled fish should then be taken or shipped to a veterinarian or diagnostic laboratory as soon as possible (ideally within several hours and not more than 24 hours).
- 4. A thorough history and as much information as possible about the fish should accompany it to the diagnostic laboratory. This might include any treatments that were initiated, approximate age of the fish, diet, condition of the remaining pond fish, etd.
- 5. In most cases submit a fresh water sample from the affected pond or aquarium. This should be separate from the fish in a sealed container (normally a pint will be adequate).

#### Ponds USA Directory / Koi-Friendly Vets

#### All Creatures Care Cottage

W. Joel Pasco, DVM / 1912 Harbor Blvd / Costa Mesa, CA 92627 www.allcreaturescarecottage.com / (949) 642-7151

#### Long Beach Animal Hospital

Lance Adams, DVM; Michelle Baccaro, DVM; Carl Palazzolo, DVM; William Ridgeway, DVM; Claudine Seto, DVM / 3816 E. Anaheim St. / Long Beach, CA 90804 / www.ibah.com / (562) 434-9966

#### **Aquatic Veterinary Services**

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#### Serrano Animal & Bird Hospital

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Editors Note\* Notice the date of this reference and be aware that the tending DVM may not be with that particular veterinary office any more. You will be able to get references from these facilities for any emergency.



# IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER <u>Seasonal Care for Koi</u> Multiple Spring and Summer in the Pond Multiple Multiple Summer in the Pond Multiple Summer Summer in the Pond Multiple Summer Summer in the Pond Multiple Summer Sum Summer Sum Summer Summer Summer Summer Summer Summer Summer Sum

As our weather and ponds warm up we face the usual springtime issues – algae, slow startup of filtration, and bacterial problems (sores, dropsy). I've had several calls about these problems already, and here is what works for us.

One of the most important things to remember is that even though the fish may be begging, their digestive, immune and other systems have not caught up with their appetite until minimum water temps get into at least the upper 50's. You should be checking this every morning and late afternoon. This is the surest way to determine the readiness of their metabolisms. Once the temps stay above 60 F. you can start feeding them once per day, but at a reduced level. Our weather can be quite variable, so you need to anticipate sudden cold snaps. It's much better to underfeed at this time of year than the opposite, as semidigested food will build up in the pond and filter. This harbors "bad" bacteria.

This buildup of waste is the cause of most bacterial problems. It is especially bad in water gardens with rock/gravel bottoms, which must be cleaned thoroughly at least once per year. The water garden suppliers will tell you that their products will promote a "natural" pond environment, but this is nearly impossible to achieve in a small volume. In fact, it is still tough when the volume is large, just look at Lake Elsinore! It has the same problem as many water gardens – not enough water changes, poor filtration, and too many fish.

The other problem most of us face this time of year is algae - either green water or string algae. Last year our patio pond had a string algae bloom that stopped its <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> HP pump! We had to clear the leaf trap twice a day for a couple of weeks. But as usual, a guart of peroxide on the edges started the die-off, and the enzymes released by the dead algae promoted the rest to follow suit. We temporarily lowered the water level a bit to dry out the algae and help the peroxide work. This is much safer for your fish than using a commercial algaecide like Algae-fix, it just takes patience. This year, there was no repeat of the string algae problem and the water stayed clear.

Green water, caused by floating algae, can be handled similarly. Our garden pond suffered pea soup conditions for more than three months last year, and the only time we could see our fish was when they came up to eat. Since this happened in the summer, I was not worried about sores or other bacterial problems, and it is well known that the fish like green water. When this finished its cycle and cleared up we found two pond spawn babies and another in the prefilter! But all were healthy and the colors were excellent. This pond is finishing its string algae cycle right now, and the water has been crystal clear since last year. I even blew apart a leaf trap when removing the decaying algae, a bit of a hassle but again, the fish are in great shape. This pond is in full sun so we expect a bit of an algae bloom each year.

" The only time we could see our fish is when they came up to eat."

The other common problems we see are sores and dropsy (pine-coning) caused by bacterial infections. Dropsy is especially deadly as it is caused by kidney failure – the internal pressure buildup makes the scales stand out. Many ponders reach for antibiotics to try to cure this but the most important thing is to address the cause. Which is...water quality, of course. Get your test kit out!

First, the fish have much less chance against the bacteria when the water is cold. I have cured damaged fish by simply putting them in our heated quarantine tank at 70+ F., one of several reasons to have one. Salt in the water helps reduce the osmotic pressure that pushes water into the fish and lowers the stress on the kidneys.

Since water quality depends on filtration efficiency, many of these cases also show a build up of ammonia. You need a liquid test kit to accurately measure ammonia and nitrite, the dip strips are not accurate and have a very short shelf life. We don't use ours very often any more, but any time we have a power outage or a pump or filter problem I check ammonia and nitrite for a few days to make sure the filters are working. We measure salt levels with an electronic meter, as the test kit procedure requires counting drops and I always lose track. But using salt is not rocket science, as long as you have a pretty good idea of the pond volume. Anything above 0.15% (by weight) is sufficient to protect your fish from nitrite, and 0.3% is a typical therapeutic level for sores, etc. Higher levels are not needed unless you are treating for parasites (I've used up to 0.5%) but their (and our!) internal salt level is only 0.9% and once you get close to that it interferes with all kinds of metabolic processes.

As a last resort, if you have a large, valuable fish, you can call a Vet and start the process to obtain antibiotics. In California, this requires the Vet to see a fish, take a swab and have it tested to see what kind of bacteria are present and what antibiotics work the best. Then he can prescribe antibiotics. If this sounds like a hassle, be glad you don't live in New York, where pet owners can't even deworm their dogs and cats themselves! Start by asking your regular dog and cat Vet if they can help - but don't just ask for antibiotics. Follow the rules and you can get what you need. You might lose a fish or two but you will be ready for the next time. Or you can take a different approach.

Over the years we have injected many of our fish with antibiotics, most have survived but many did not. Fish vary considerably in their immune responses. Given a choice, I would rather have healthy fish than ones that get sick, wouldn't you? Like the T-shirt says, "one fish, two fish, dead fish, new fish..." Think of it as Ma Nature telling you something. It's best to listen!

Tom Ross

Coming next month – parasites and the "new fish" syndrome.



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E	TOM NGUYEN	Corona	01 - 10

IKS hopes you enjoy an informative and fun association with our club! Members get the advantage of having years of experience (mistakes and lessons) available to them, while at the same time there are enough new hobbyist members that no one feels they are the only one who is clueless on a subject. Ask questions!

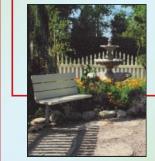


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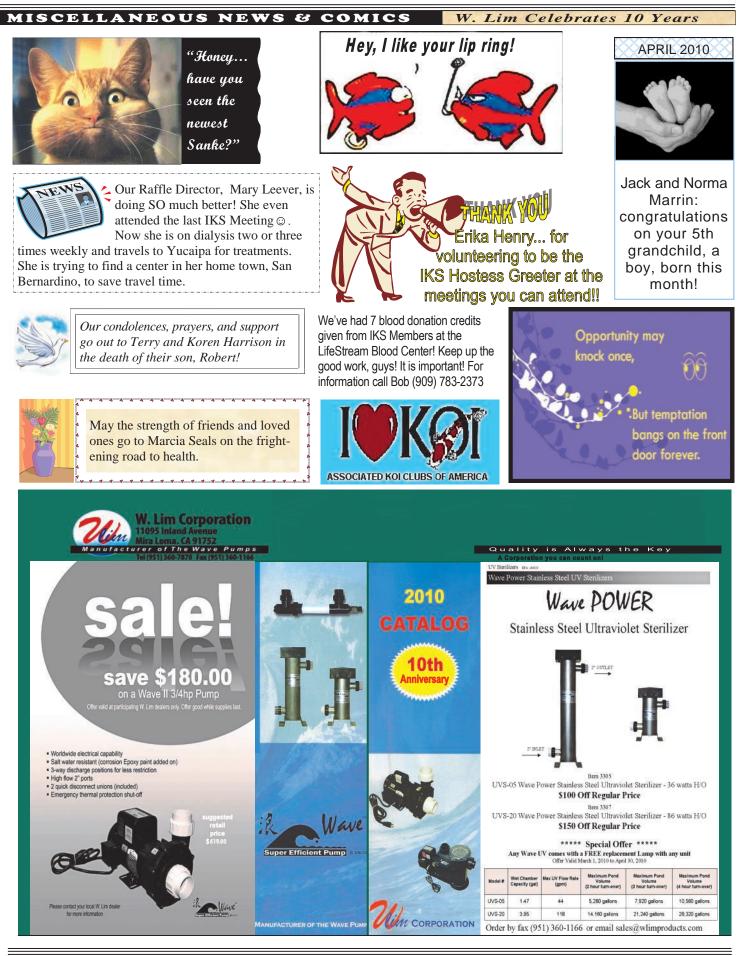
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THE INLAND KOI CONNECTION 9



**10 APRIL 2010 / ISSUE 168** 

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INLAND KOI SOCIETY Program Planning Calendar 2010					ബി	0	Coming Events	
LEGULAR MTG	Hosts			BOARD MEETING	GA	22	EARTH DAY ~ www.earthday.net	
th Sunday	Address	Speakers		Wed. after Mtg	P	23-	ORCHIDS AT THE FLOWER FIELDS ~ 9am-6pm /	
April 25	Spring, W		SD - he Spring Dangers of			25	Carlsbad/(760) 431-0352/ www.theflowerfields.co	
						<u>25</u>	<b>IKS GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK</b> ~2-5 pm Hosts will be Jack & Norma Marrin in Redlands More info? Mark Krakower at (951) 371-2223	
		About It	un no Do			01	GARDENS OF HISTORIC HOMES TOUR ~ 10am 3pm / Presented by the Art Alliance of the	
May 23 Mother's Day 5/9 Memorial Day 5/31	NO MEETING: Pond Tour 2010 on Sunday, June 6	[AKCA Semi ville, TN: :		Wed., May 26	\$		Riverside Art Museum - \$35 Seven homeowne have opened their homes to this spring time too http://www.riversideartalliance.org	
une 27	Orville & Sandy Hanson			Wed., June 30	3to	01	TENTH ANNUAL KOI GROWING CONTEST, KOI SALE AND LUNCH ~10:00 am /Andrew's Koi Intu	
ather's Day 6/20	5710 Via Cervantes Riverside 92506	Technolog (Specifics) determined	to be				SALE AND LUNCH ~10.00 am / Andrew's Kol International / 1650 South Brookhurst St, Anaheim, C 92804 / (714) 778-888 / www.andrewskoi.com	
Colorful Fish for		CLUB O	<b>Friends</b>	*	05	JAPANESE CHILDREN'S DAY ~ Celebrate by maing a koi of your own ~ Free! See to the left		
1000	Children's	Day				09	Mother's Day ~ "Gotta' Love-em!"	
	By Annette G. Zahn		of Koi		$\mathbb{N}$	09	MOTHER'S DAY VICTORIAN TEA ~ 11 am / Ed- ward-Dean Museum & Gardens / 9401 Oak Glen Road, Cherry Valley www.edward-deanmuseum.o	
		Will hold their Annual Koi Auction on <b>May 1, 2010</b> at California Koi Farm 3360 Grid Road Fallbrook, CA 92028 (619) 427-9008			14	AKCA BOARD MEETING ~ 6 pm 529 W. Blue- ridge Ave, Orange, CA 92865 / Contact Kelly Houston for more information (909) 885-2503		
					16	<b><u>36TH ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE</u> ~ Huntingtu</b> Library 10:30 a.m4:30 pm / 1151 Oxford Road San Marino, CA 91108 / www.huntington.org (626) 405.2100		
families	On May 5, many Japanese families celebrate Children's Day. Koi fish made from brightly colored paper or		www.k	www.koiclubsandiego.org		22- 23	<b><u>R&amp;F RAILROAD OPEN HOUSE</u></b> ~ See invitation the bottom, on the left. www.rfrailroad.com	
<ul> <li>cloth are hung from the rooftops as a symbol of children's determination and strength.</li> <li>1. Draw identical fish shapes on two pieces of paper. Cut them out. Staple them together,</li> </ul>			(760) 789-4493 (858) 452-1132 Viewing of fish 9:00 am Auction Starts 10:00 am			19- 23	AKCA KOI CONVENTION ~ Nashville, TN / Se advertisement at bottom of page.	
					*	<u>28</u>	NO IKS GENERAL MEETING IN THE MONTI OF MAY BECAUSE OF JUNE 6TH IKS POND TOUR	
leaving the tail open. 2. For scales, cut circles from aluminum foil,		Koi 6" and up will be		5	30-	MEMORIAL DAY LIVING HISTORY CAMPS ~ Ed		
<ul> <li>old magazines, and other scrap paper. Glue the scales to both sides of the fish.</li> <li>3. Decorate the head, fins, and tail.</li> <li>4. Stuff the fish with crumpled paper, and staple the fish closed.</li> <li>5. Punch a hole in the fish, and hang</li> </ul>		seeking new homes at bargain prices. Cash or Check Accepted.			31	ward-Dean Museum & Gardens / 9401 Oak Glen Road, Cherry Valley www.edward-deanmuseum.c		
				*	31	MEMORIAL DAY ~ 5 Honor the Memories		
					31	<b>IKS BUSINESS MEETING</b> ~ 7 pm / <i>All IKS</i> <i>members welcome</i> ! 6531 Box Springs Blv Riverside / Contact Mark Krakower at (95		
	h string.	ung	Cor	ne and join us!			371-2223	
ou are cordia oor (G Scale)	Railroad Open House Ily invited to visit one o garden railroad and ind n documented by CNN	f SoCal's la oor (HO) ra	urgest pri uilroad. T	vately owned out- hese fantastic rail-			AKCA Seminar ~ May 19-23, 2010 <b>N, MUSIC, KOI &amp; MORE</b>	
<ul> <li>boads have been documented by CNN, NBC, Australian TV, as well as cable</li> <li>V. If you love trains, this exhibit is not to be missed. Your Hosts: Roger &amp;</li> <li>Faith Clarkson, 1463 Rim Road, Riverside, CA</li> <li>92506 (951) 780-1040. You will see 1/3 of an</li> </ul>				Hosted by the Koi Club of Middle Tenness Millennium Maxwell House Hotel Rooms \$129 if reserved by April 28				
acre G Scale Trains, running on over 3000 ft of track. Up to seventeen trains operate simultane- ously over bridges, across waterfalls, through scenic towns, and through numerous tunnels.					Call 800-457-4460 Nashville, TN 37219 615-259-4343			

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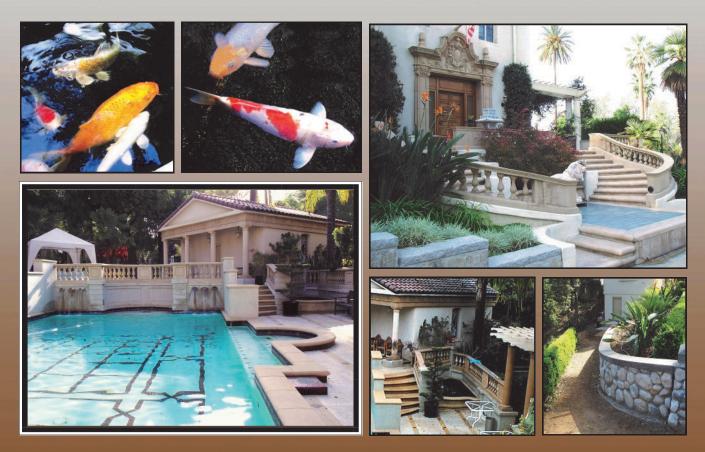
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