



# Lone Star Koi Club

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# Koi Chatter

The February 2013 publication of the Lone Star Koi Club – Houston Texas

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Do you subscribe to any Koi related magazines? KOIUSA is very good reading. If you are going to stay in the koi keeping hobby, this is a must have. We

get a discount with KOIUSA, twenty dollars for one year or thirty six for two years. KOIUSA supports the AKCA.

Officers for 2012 are as follows:

- President – Melanie Nau
- Secretary – Jamie Jameson
- Vice President – Don Bayer (1<sup>st</sup>)  
Paul Moss (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Treasurer – Buddy Bush
- Membership Director – Pat Bush

Newsletter Editor:  
Don Bayer  
[dgbayer@up.com](mailto:dgbayer@up.com)  
713-542-3345

See letter from editor on last page.

**Donnie Bayer**

**NEXT MEETING**

**February 17, 2013**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 2:00 p.m.**

**At the home of Linda and  
Scott Sartorius**

**LOCATION: 1650 Neptune Ln.  
Houston, Texas 77065  
(281) 250-3696**

DIRECTIONS: Below.

**Lone Star Koi Club Directory**

Melanie Nau: President

713-686-4608

[m.nau@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.nau@sbcglobal.net)

Don Bayer: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

713-542-3345

[dgbayer@up.com](mailto:dgbayer@up.com)

Paul Moss: 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

713-992-9939

[paulbkm@gmail.com](mailto:paulbkm@gmail.com)

Buddy Bush: Treasurer

281.257.8366

[buddybush@sbcglobal.net](mailto:buddybush@sbcglobal.net)

Pat Bush - Membership Director

281-257-8366

[buddybush@sbcglobal.net](mailto:buddybush@sbcglobal.net)

Jamie Jameson: Secretary

281-448-0924

[ssartorius@comcast.net](mailto:ssartorius@comcast.net)

Joel Anderson: Webmaster

713.868.9133

[janderson@tiburonsystem.com](mailto:janderson@tiburonsystem.com)

**JOIN THE LONE STAR KOI CLUB:**

To subscribe and/or to pay your 2013 dues, make check payable to **Lone Star Koi Club (LSKC)** and Mail To:

**Buddy Bush  
LSKC Treasurer**

**13619 Keneva Dr.  
Cypress, Texas 77429**

**Include with your chek made out to:  
Lone Star Koi Club (LSKC)**

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK  
LSKC**

Dear LSKC a-fish-a-nados,

I am so looking forward to our first meeting of 2013 at Scott and Linda Sartorius home (1650 Neptune Lane, 77062) at 2:00 on Sunday, Feb. 17.

As always, our hosts will provide the main course, wine, beer, and soft drinks. Please bring a side dish to round out the buffet.

The Feb. focus is koi stuff; gadgets and equipment that you like and that might be helpful for someone else. Maybe you would even share where you purchased it, on or off line, cost, and why you chose it.

Also on the agenda for discussion is your level of interest in participation in a koi growout contest: selecting a vendor, pricing, and rules. Think about it.

We will also confirm who among us will host either a monthly house meeting and/or participate in our May 4&5 pond tour.

Finally, let me know if there is anything you would like placed on our agenda as an announcement or for discussion.

And bring along a friend or neighbor as our guest.

Melanie Nau

## 2012 MEETING SCHEDULE

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<b>Month</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker/Topic</b>
January		20	NO MEETING
February	Sartorius	17	Gadgets and tools used to manage your pond.
March		17	To be announced.
April		12	To be announced.
May	Pond Tour	4 & 5	POND TOUR – NO MEETING
June		16	To be announced..
July		21	To be announced.
August	Cook	18	To be announced.
September		15	Nomination of Officers.
October		20	To be announced..
November		17	To be announced..
December		**	Christmas Party & Auction on January 1, 2014

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Please stop by the Welcome Table at each meeting, check in and pick up a nametag if you don't have one so new members can get to know you.

### **LKSC Membership News**

If you have anyone contact you about koi needing homes or homes needing koi, please contact Randy Martin, [xtremeflyr@yahoo.com](mailto:xtremeflyr@yahoo.com) or Paul Moss, [paulbkm@gmail.com](mailto:paulbkm@gmail.com).

Thanks to our rescue partners.

## **Invitations & News from Other Koi and Pond Clubs, Associations or Societies**

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**Dear Members and Pond Enthusiasts:**

**If you have not already joined the Houston Pond Society and paid your 2013 dues, now is the time. Dues for the entire year 2013 are only \$50.00. Come join in the fun and friendship of fellow pond enthusiasts.**

### **FEBRUARY 2, 2013**

The February meeting will be held February 2, 2013 at 12:00 noon. The meeting will be hosted by Dan and Andrea Cook at 218 Leyden Court in Katy. To get to their house take I-10 West to the Fry Road exit. Go south on Fry Road, a very short distance to Yorkway, turn right onto Yorkway and go to Houghton (Yorkway dead ends at Houghton). Turn right on Houghton to Braidwood, turn left on Braidwood and go to Leyden Court. Turn left, their house is at the end of the cul-de-sac.

They will be serving Smoked Brisket.

### **MARCH 2, 2013**

This month's meeting will be a field trip for brunch to [Brenardo's at the Galvez Hotel](#) in Galveston. We will meet at Bernardo's at 11:00 AM to enjoy their fabulous brunch.

### **APRIL 6, 2013**

Bill and Shirley Kielman will host this month's meeting at their home at 2222 West Lonesome Dove in Deer Park. There will be a speaker, Linda Gaye the former director of Mercer Arboretum. The meeting will start at 12:00 noon. More information later.

### **APRIL 13, 2013**

Nelson's Water Garden party

### **MAY 4 and 5, 2013**

The annual pond tour hosted jointly with the Lone Star Koi Club. More info to follow.

See you Saturday.

Dan Cook

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## **Texas Koi & Fancy Goldfish Society (TKFGS)**

**February:** No Event planned

**March 17, 2013:** Sunday at 1:30pm - March monthly meeting at Water Garden Gems, 3136 Bolton Rd., Marion, Texas. Topic to be determined. Refreshments will be served.

**April 13-14, 2013:** 19th annual Fish Sale and Spring Seminars. At Water Garden Gems, 3136 Bolton Rd., Marion, Texas

**October 12-13, 2013:** 21st annual Koi and Goldfish Show. At Water Garden Gems, 3136 Bolton Rd., Marion, Texas

**For a list of future TKFGS events go to [www.texaskoi.com](http://www.texaskoi.com)**

## Articles

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### Five Great Gadgets for Your Pond

Author: Dr Gareth Evans - Updated: 24 October 2012 | [Comment](#)



There's certainly no shortage of ingeniously effective gadgets available to help you get the most out of your pond – whether you're looking for something just as a bit of fun, or to make doing a serious job a bit easier. Here's a quick guide to five of our favorite, from the hundreds available by mail order, online and from garden centers.

#### **Solar Aerator**

Even the best aerated pond can do with a bit of help to keep those dissolved oxygen levels up when the weather's really hot and this little device makes a great way to do it. A photovoltaic solar cell powers the little air pump that drives the system and the more the sun shines, the faster the pump goes and the greater the aeration. It's clean, green and simple to use – and a godsend for gasping fish in a heat-wave!

#### **Solar-Powered Lily Pad Fountain**

Here's another solar gadget that's ideal for small ponds. This plastic molded device makes a surprisingly lifelike lily pad – provided you ignore the solar cells embedded in its surface and the fact that it squirts a jet of water a foot or two into the air whenever the sun shines, that is! A self contained unit that floats on the pond, it's the perfect way to get the moving water experience in your summer garden, without any of the fuss involved with wiring in a conventional pump. If you're looking for a fun and distinctly informal fountain, this could be just the thing for you.

#### **Novelty Ice Breakers**

Pond-keepers have been floating footballs and the like on the surface of their ponds to keep the winter ice at bay for years, but now the idea's been brought right up to date with a range of novelty ice breakers.

Whatever your garden's look, or your own sense of humor, there's probably something to suit, from your

favorite cartoon characters to gothic dragons and gruesome floating skulls, while the traditionalists amongst us can even choose lifelike waterfowl to do the job. It's a far cry from the days of old soccer balls and yellow plastic ducks!

### **Mini-Vacuum**

Owning your own pond vacuum is no longer prohibitively expensive and there are some excellent mini versions around that will do a good job, without breaking the bank. Most of the latest generation are fairly light and easy to use, being targeted principally at the small to medium sized pond owner and they undoubtedly make cleaning much quicker and easier to do. Although they can't be expected to handle really mucky ponds well without clogging, they are perfect tools for regular removal of fish excrement and light sediment, so if you routinely like to keep your pond clean and never let too much debris build up, one of these could be perfect for you.

### **Automatic Feeder**

If you've got a pond full of fish and no nearby family or friendly neighbors to call upon, going away for a fortnight can be a bit of a problem – unless you buy yourself an automatic feeder. There's no shortage of designs around, and most of the best come with an accurate quartz timer and the ability to dispense two or three weeks worth of daily meals in your absence. With an initial price tag of around £20, running costs are also typically low – a single AA battery, which lasts for over a year, even if you used it continuously! For peace of mind and the knowledge that you never have to bother anyone else again, this is one gadget no fish keeper should be without.

Whatever we do, we seem to love a gadget to help us do it – and fish keeping is certainly no exception to that general rule. Whether you're an out-and-out gadget fiend, or a bit more discerning in the gizmos you buy, it's worth taking a look in your favorite pond suppliers to see what's on offer to make things quicker, easier and a whole lot more fun.

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## Lone Star Koi Club Advertising

Rates are posted below. If you are interested in placing an ad, please email the editor at [texaskoiguy@comcast.net](mailto:texaskoiguy@comcast.net)

Ad Size	Newsletter & Website (w/link) Combined	
	6 mo	Per Yr
Business Card	\$60	\$100
1/4 page	\$80	\$150
1/2 page	\$100	\$185
Full Page	\$150	\$250
The Annual Pond Tour Booklet rate is \$200		

### CLASSIFIED ADS

We welcome ads for Koi, equipment, and other items from members. Members are requested to keep the ad Koi related and please donate a portion, (10%), of your proceeds back to the club.

## For Sale:

Need to list something?  
Let me know.

### CORPORATE SPONSORS

		Tim Hansen, ASLA 3131 Robinhood St Houston, TX 77005 713.664.5413 713.899.0898 <a href="mailto:timhansenasla@comcast.net">timhansenasla@comcast.net</a> Landscape Architecture
		

Some of my favorite Web Sites are [adamsaquatics.com](http://adamsaquatics.com), [aquabead.com](http://aquabead.com), [aquaticeco.com](http://aquaticeco.com), [koiofdistinction.com](http://koiofdistinction.com) and [underwaterwarehouse.com](http://underwaterwarehouse.com).

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## From the Editor

**Well friends and fellow koi keepers, this will be our first meeting for 2013. That is, if you don't count our January 1<sup>st</sup> meeting which technically belonged to last year (2012). First I want to say thank you to Pat and Buddy Bush for hosting the New Year's Day meeting. As usual Pat and Buddy were perfect hosts in a great setting (their home). The attendance was excellent and the food was outstanding. As usual, it was fit for a king.**

**The auction was more fun than usual thanks to the addition of Paul Moss' son and the assistance he gave Paul during the auction. He will definitely be invited back next year.**

**Given the success of the Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, I can see it becoming a new tradition. There are many advantages to holding the meeting during the day after the holidays are over.**

**The meeting this Sunday (Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>) will be held at the home of Linda and Scott Sartorius (1650 Neptune Ln. Houston, Texas 77062). Please bring a side to compliment their "seafood" meal.**

**Hope to see everyone there at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.**

Donnie Bayer  
(713) 542-3345



DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING

DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM DOWNTOWN HOUSTON

**Driving directions to 1650 Neptune Ln, Houston, TX 77062**

- |                                                                                |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>1. Take I-45 S</b> (Gulf Freeway) south toward Galveston.                   | 19.8 mi |
| <b>2. Take exit 27</b> toward <b>El Dorado Boulevard</b>                       | 331 ft  |
| <b>3. Turn left</b> onto <b>W El Dorado Blvd</b>                               | 2.1 mi  |
| <b>4. Turn right</b> onto <b>Torry Pines Rd</b>                                | 0.1 mi  |
| <b>5. Turn left</b> onto <b>Neptune Ln</b><br>Destination will be on the right | 0.5 mi  |