



# Lone Star Koi Club

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## Koi Chatter

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

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK LSKC

Greetings a-fish-a-nados,

Before May closes, I want to thank Denise and Robert Wall for hosting April's meeting. Their gracious hospitality in their beautiful home deserves our thumbs up. Not only were their delicious brisket, sausage, and tater salad scrumptious, but once again, you attendees brought lots of goodies to share. We were entertained by Robert's 'catwalk' engineering feat and enlightened by his pond plumbing configuration. His pre-filter, bottom-drain HydroSieve is awesome.

Our 2013 pond tour was a real treat and opportunity to not only ooh and aaah at the creativity and variety of ponds in our area, but to meet fellow travelers. Just one of the many commonalities I celebrate with you all is our vision. All of those touring appreciate beauty in nature and have the audacity to attempt to capture and shape it in our yards for own enjoyment. Dream on. Thanks to Dan and Andrea Cook for their years of leadership in this event.

Our June 16th meeting at 2:00 pm will be at Pat and Buddy Bush's home in Cypress at 13619 Keneva Drive, Houston, 77429. For you members, you know how delightful this will be: beautiful home, great pond, wonderful koi. But this meeting will be really special for the newcomers-those that we met on the pond tour and invited to join us as our guests. We're going to be talking about some of the experiences that we koi folk have encountered in trying to keep a pond. It's going to be truth-telling time, because I hope that we will 'fess up and share some of the things that we can do better, and some of the mistakes that we have made that are just real heartbreakers. If we can help the newbies avoid some of these dangers, it'll be a great meeting. Call it "Cautionary Tails."

I'd like to let y'all know that after years of wonderful editing of our newsletter Don Bayer has offered to pass the torch to Paul Moss, who is going to take on these responsibilities. Change brings new ways of doing things, so the officers of LSKC value your input. Come with your ideas to make this club better and better.

Melanie Nau

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**NEXT MEETING**  
**June 16, 2013**  
**Sunday 2:00 p.m.**

**LOCATION: Pat & Buddy Bush**  
**13619 Keneva Dr.**  
**Cypress, TX 77429**  
**(281) 257-6366**

### DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING

#### DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM DOWNTOWN HOUSTON

**Take I-45 toward Dallas**

**To Sam Houston Tollway West**

**Approaching from the East, take the exit East to TX-249 toward Tomball**

**Take the exit toward Louetta Rd/Jones Rd**

**Merge onto Frontage Road 249**

**Turn Left onto Louetta Rd**

**Turn Right onto Longwood Bend**

**Take first left onto Kavanaugh Ln.**

**Take the first right onto Keneva, house is on left.**

**Should all else fail, call Buddy and Pat**

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**Lone Star Koi Club Directory**

Melanie Nau: President

713-686-4608

m.nau@sbcglobal.net

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

713-542-3345

dgbayer@up.com

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

713-992-9939

paulbkm@gmail.com

Buddy Bush: Treasurer

281.257.8366

buddybush@sbcglobal.net

Pat Bush - Membership Director

281-257-8366

buddybush@sbcglobal.net

Jamie Jameson: Secretary

281-448-0924

Joel Anderson: Webmaster

713.868.9133

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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Dues Level: Individual \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2013 MEETING SCHEDULE

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<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Speaker/Topic</b>
January	20th	Bush	January 1st
February	17 <sup>th</sup>	Sartorius	Gadgets and tools used to manage your pond.
March	17 <sup>th</sup>	Nau/Green	Pond transition from Winter to Spring.
April	21 <sup>st</sup>	Wall	Feeding your koi.
May	4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup>	Pond Tour	POND TOUR – NO MEETING
June	16 <sup>th</sup>	Bush	Cautionary “Tails”
July	21 <sup>st</sup>	Joiner	To be announced.
August	18 <sup>th</sup>	Cook	To be announced.
September	15 <sup>th</sup>	?	Nomination of Officers.
October	20 <sup>th</sup>	?	To be announced.
November			Combined with early December meeting.
December	14 <sup>th</sup>	Bush	Christmas Party & Auction

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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 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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### Highlights from the AKCA Minutes of April 12, 2013

- ❖ **AKCA-PROJECT KHV**: No report.
- ❖ **PUBLICATION**: Don reported that the magazine has been sent out and should have been received by now. He is waiting for photos for an article on the All Japan Shinkokai Koi Show from Mike Hernandez. Brenda will maintain the KOI USA Article Index in the future. Larry sent an article on the Aloha Koi Show; he also had a great column in the current issue complimenting James Reilly as did Kristine (James Reilly really deserves kudos!). Don stated that we are a week out from uploading the “dirty copy” for the next issue. We have ironed out a contract for Debye Payne who will be taking over from Connie (who resigned as Accounts Receivable Manager). April 5<sup>th</sup> was Connie’s official last day after 10 years with KOI USA; Thank you, Connie! She handed a number of items off to Debye but we still need a few items (the insertion orders, postage meter, etc). Debye is working with Kristine who will help us out on the QuickBooks handover.
- ❖ **INSURANCE/RISK MANAGEMENT**: Brenda stated that 17 clubs have paid for a total of \$2125. She has received a lot of inquiries re: next year (which she is checking on with our broker). Brenda reported that a club asked whether carpooling for club events was covered by our liability insurance; she checked with our carrier and the answer was “no.” If you have a question re: our coverage, please contact Brenda.

### **SEMINAR REPORTS:**

- ❖ **2013 Seminar**: Carole reported the restaurant that was scheduled for the Saturday night banquet lost their lease. Bonnie is working on two other options at the same cost and we should have this finalized soon.
- ❖ **2014 Seminar**: The Lone Star KC in Houston, Texas wants to host the 2014 Wet Lab. Thank you, Houston! If any other clubs are interested in hosting the Wet Lab/AKCA Annual Business Meeting,
  - 
  - Paul Moss, of **Lone Star KC**, said that Taro Kodama made his annual trip to Houston on April 6<sup>th</sup> with one of their members and brought quite a selection of higher quality koi from breeders like Dainichi, Isa, etc. The event was well attended. April’s meeting will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> at Robert & Denise Wall’s home. Meanwhile, preparations are underway for the 2013 Annual Pond Tour they hold in cooperation with the Houston Pond Society. This is a two day event on the weekend of May 4-5. Details are available for those interested at their website [www.lonestarkoi.com](http://www.lonestarkoi.com)

# Articles

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## Foamy Water and Stinky Pond

In the spring, several pond owners may find that their pond water is all of a sudden very foamy, the water is discolored, and the pond stinks to high heaven. Most will find that their ammonia level went off the chart. Unaware to the pond owner, their fish could have been spawning.

Koi generally spawn in early spring during the months of March through June; however, they may spawn anytime during the year. Often times occurrences such as a water change, back washing a pressure filter, or a spring rain will initiate a spawn. Most any small change in the pond during this period could spark the spawn.

Prior to the spawning one may notice several koi chasing another koi throughout the pond. The one being chased is a female that is ready to lay her eggs. The chasers are males and occasionally a female will join in the chase. The males will sometimes bump the female and force her against the wall of the pond or against a hard surface in order to induce her to lay her eggs. The spawning process often times gets very violent.

The female will generally find a plant or some other protective area in which to deposit her eggs. When the eggs are deposited, the male koi will spray them with milt, which fertilizes the eggs. These deposits of eggs and milt causes foam on the water surface, a discoloration of the water, and a very strong fishy odor. This process also greatly increases the ammonia level in the pond water. Water changes may be called for if the biological filtration is not adequate enough to dispose of the added ammonia. An immediate testing for ammonia is recommended, since a high concentration of this chemical may result in high stress or death of koi.

Immediately after the spawn, the other koi will start devouring all the eggs that they can find. These eggs are food for them to enjoy. The eggs are covered with a sticky substance and will attach to any solid surface they touch. Eggs that are attached inside plant growth and hidden out of sight of the other koi have a reasonable chance to hatch. Hatch time is determined by water temperature, and generally is about 5 days. After hatching, there is still danger the hatched fry will be eaten by the adult koi. Koi will eat their young until they get a certain size. It is thought that when the fry start getting some color on their bodies, the other koi will no longer bother them. This takes several weeks of survival.

Don Harrawood, SKAPA, Koi Health Advisor

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

<b>Ad Size</b>	<b>Newsletter &amp; Website (w/link) Combined</b>	
	<b>6 mo</b>	<b>Per Yr</b>
<b>Business Card</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>¼ page</b>	<b>\$80</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>½ page</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$185</b>
<b>Full Page</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>The Annual Pond Tour Booklet rate is \$200</b>		

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

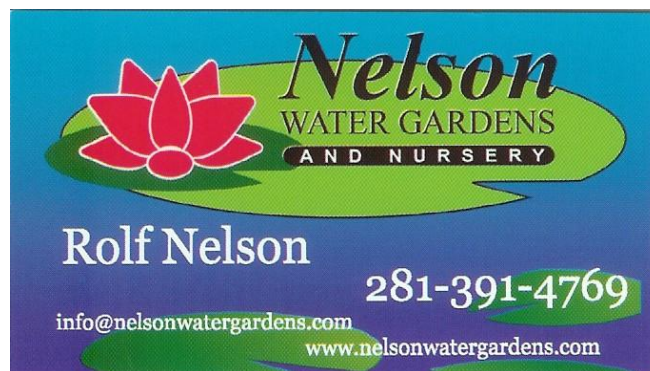


We welcome ads for Koi, equipment, and other items from members. Members are requested to keep the ad Koi related and please donate a portion, (10%), of your proceeds back to the club.

**For Sale:**

Need to list something? Let me know.

**CORPORATE SPONSORS**





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## 2013 EVENT SCHEDULE



- Feb 14-17: Japan Nishikigoi Expo & Aloha Koi Show (HI)
- April: Kodama Koi Food Grow-Out Contest (NJ)
- May 4-5: Koi and Pond Party (Season-Opening Event) (NJ)
- July: Anniversary Event (NJ)
- August: Kodama Koi Academy (NJ)
- Oct 11-28: Niigata Tour
- Nov: Harvest Event (NJ)



Monthly Open House in Hawaii  
Farm Tour Welcome!

## KODAMA KOI ACADEMY

If your Koi club is interested in hosting the Koi Academy,  
please contact us at [info@kodamakoifarm.com](mailto:info@kodamakoifarm.com)

## Always Exciting Events Online

To find out details about the events,  
check our websites: [kodamakoifarm.com](http://kodamakoifarm.com) • [kodamakoigarden.com](http://kodamakoigarden.com)



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## From the Editor

Thanks to Robert and Denise Wall for opening their home for the April meeting. Their house was remarkable in the restoration/modernization of the interior. The craftsmanship was nothing short of amazing. This meeting was well attended, several new faces/members and as usual, the array of food was splendid. The discussion on food was interesting and as usual, everyone had something to share. As usual, this type of conversation is where we all have something to learn.

For the June meeting we are going to discuss “Cautionary Tales”, in other words, we’ll have an opportunity to share with your fellow koi keepers some of the blunders and mistakes we’ve made over the years and what we can do to avoid or prevent them from happening in the future. I’ll be leading off the discussion having had an utter catastrophe at the beginning of May.

This is the season for romance in the pond and I have included an article above concerning this subject.

See you all on Sunday, June 16th at 2:00 p.m. Please make every effort to attend and let’s have a great time

Paul Moss  
(713) 992-9939

