

**EASTERN IOWA  
POND SOCIETY,  
INC**

Visit us at [www.eips.org](http://www.eips.org)

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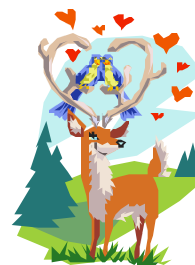
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# Beneath The Surface

A Compendium of Facts, Fancy, Tidbits, Tips



**February, 2009**

## 1st Meeting of the Year.... Saturday, February 24, 2009

Jeff Garner & Kerry Shaner  
1123 34th St SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA  
phone 550-6893

6:00 pm Dinner  
Meat BBO Pork and drink provided by host  
Please bring a dish to share  
7:00 pm meeting

### Open Discussion “What’s Going On With My Pond”

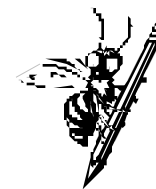
Committee/Project Reports  
Program  
Cookbook  
Pond Tour



***Hurry!!!  
E.I.P.S. Cookbook Deadline  
March 1st***

Don't be left out of the first E.I.P.S. Cookbook. Send your recipes to Monica Morley or bring them to the 1st meeting. Remember, this is your last chance to share your favorite recipes in print.

## “Keep It Real”



Erma and Larry Thompson’s koi, Bekko Mc Pea died on January 27th. Bekko McPea gave quite a effort to fight to recover from the injuries caused from the mink. (see last month’s newsletter)

A very special koi as this picture shows.....

Well, I lost another good sized koi. He dropped in my skimmer. So now we blocked the entrance to the skimmer with a net. So far so good. It is such a helpless feeling when you think there was something you could have done to prevent this.

Monica



Send in your stories, good or bad. This section is for you, members. Take the time and share with your fellow ponders. Every time you contribute to the newsletter your name goes in to a year-end drawing.

## Water-Conservation Tips Conserve Water While Growing a Beautiful Garden!

- **Water in the morning** so roots have time to **take up moisture before it evaporates** during the heat of the day.
  - **Install drip irrigation** or soaker hoses to put water right at plants' roots and prevent runoff.
  - **Frequently check irrigation systems**, sprinkler heads, etc. for leaks.
  - **Water deeply but infrequently**, causing roots to reach down into the soil **for moisture and strengthen growth**.
  - **Cover beds** with a 2-inch layer of organic mulch to **keep roots moist and cool**.
  - **Reuse household water** as much as possible (e.g. water from rinsing and cooking pasta and vegetables, cleaning aquariums, and emptying coolers, vases, etc.).
  - **Put up a rain gauge** to help manage your water needs.
  - **Clean decks, patios, sidewalks, etc. with a broom** instead of a hose.
  - **Install rain barrels, cisterns, or other water-catchment systems to take advantage of more natural rainfall** and save it for later use.
- Keep weeds out;** weeds steal water. ■

## Birthdays in February

Kacy Novak	4th
Rose Milden	6th
Ron Rife	13th
Robert Ward	14th
Edna Rife	15th
Tim Nolan	16th
Elena Murillo	16th
LouAnn Jayne	18th
Quinn Novak	21st
Pam Moore	21st



If you would like your birthday printed in the newsletter, e-mail us at [mespringcove@aol.com](mailto:mespringcove@aol.com) or sign in with the Hospitality Committee: Elena Murillo or Gil Morley .

## Are You A Koi Addict?

**\*You install an underwater cam so you can watch your fish sleep in the winter or when it's raining outside.**

**The first thing in the morning while going to the bathroom you look out the window to make sure that the pond is OK, that the water has not been accidentally drained during the night. Or that a pump has not malfunctioned.**

**You have actually spent an entire day in the water without doing a single stroke or kick.**

**You drive an old beat up 1976 Chevy, but have \$10,000 sitting in a hole in your backyard.**

[www.bonniesplants.com](http://www.bonniesplants.com)



**A.**  
**OGON**

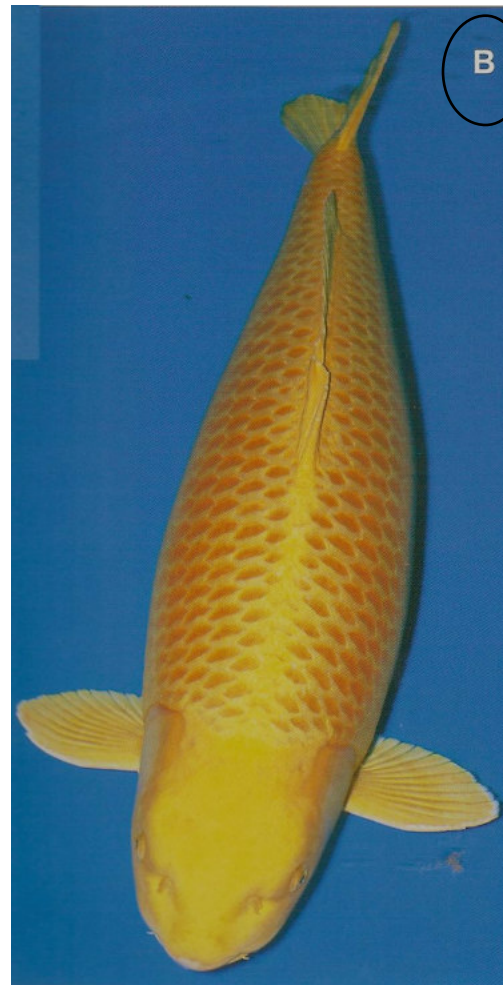
Since Mr Sawata Aoki produced the first Ogon in 1947, a number of breeders have produced various Hikarimono based on the Ogon.

Nishikigoi are often describes as the “living jewels” that capture the hearts of all the Koi lovers in the world. Hikarimono greatly contributes to this popularity. All Hikarimono originate from this Ogon.

Hikarimono: Koi of one color whose scales and skin shimmer. Referred to as metallic.

**B.**  
**YAMABUKI OGN**

This color is called Yamabuki color in Japan. Yamabuki is a Japanese rose that is bright yellow. Starting with Ogon (A), Yamabuki Ogon (B) is evolution of many generations of breeding. Based on the Yamabuki Ogon, breeders produced Kin Showa and Kin Ki Utsuri. As Nishikigoi lovers, we should appreciate the “great passion” of breeders to produce a succession of beautiful new varieties.



Visit [www.eips.org](http://www.eips.org) to view the koi in color.

## More information on the Ogon

By Mamoru Kodama

Page 5

**Q.** What is the difference between Hikarimono and Ogon?

**A.** Hikarimono indicates all the metallic varieties. Ogon is one variety of Hikarimono..About 50 years ago, Ogon was created. At first it had only gold metallic shine. Adding Platinum blood created Orange Ogon, and then Yamabuki Ogon. Yamato Nishiki, Kujyaku and Kin Showa were developed one after another. All originated from Ogon. Because there are so many varieties in Japanese Koi shows, they had to group the metallic varieties together, they called the class “Hikarimono (Shining Varieties in Japanese).”

**Q.** How many Ogon should I put in a Koi Pond?

**A.** There are many varieties of Koi. Collecting them is a fun part of this hobby. When attempting to maximize the total beauty of a school, I suggest Hikarimono including Ogon should be about 20-30% of the total.

**Q.** Are Ogon really friendly?

**A.** Each variety of Koi has a unique character. One of the biggest characteristic of Ogon is that they are not afraid of people because the bloodlines are very old and have not been created by crossing new bloodlines. They are really friendly. So 2 to 3 Ogon in a pond will make the entire school of Koi friendly.

**Q.** How many years does it take for a Koi to grow more than 80 cm (32 in.)?

**A.** Ogon can grow to that size in 8 years. However, if the pond is shallow and small, and it is not fed enough, it can only grow to fit its environment. Basically Ogon has a gene for large growth. So any Ogon can grow big. If the Ogon did not grow in a good pond, then lack of food would be the reason. If it were fed enough, we can suspect that the pond conditions are not good enough. Knowing this, we can correct the problem.



### Kodama Koi Farm

94-728 Lanikuhana Ave. Mililani HI 96789  
TEL 808-623-2997 / FAX 808-623-2993

### PRESS RELEASE

Email: [taro@kodamakoifarm.com](mailto:taro@kodamakoifarm.com)  
Web: <http://www.kodamakoifarm.com>

### Biggest Event of Japanese Koi in Hawaii

#### -The 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan Nishikigoi Expo and The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Aloha Koi Show

Honolulu, HI January 18, 2009 – On February 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, at McKinley High School, Kodama Koi Farm will be having The 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan Nishikigoi Expo in conjunction with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Aloha Koi Show by the Aloha Koi Appreciation Society for one purpose – to promote living jewels or Japanese Koi throughout Hawaii as well as the entire United States.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan Nishikigoi Expo is solely intended to promote the awareness of Nishikigoi and educate the public. This year, Mr. Seki, a top breeder in Niigata, Japan will make his first appearance in the US and provide us with a seminar. Mr. Taro Kodama, owner of Kodama Koi Farm, Mr. John Russell, owner of Russell Water Gardens and Koi, and Mr. Steve Walker, owner of Sacramento Koi will also be present to provide valuable Koi and Pond seminars. The 1<sup>st</sup> Expo was held at Hyatt Hotel and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Expo at Hilton Hawaiian Village.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Aloha Koi Show is expecting almost 300 entries of top quality Koi, not only from Hawaii but also from the US and Canada. This is one of the biggest Koi shows in the US.

Kodama Koi Farm is a subsidiary of Miyoshiike, a 40 year-experienced top Nishikigoi dealer in Japan. Miyoshiike opened Japan Koi Online as the service center of US in California in 2000. Recently, the company expanded to Hawaii in search of a better environment for raising Koi and is doing business as Kodama Koi Farm.



1. Feed your fish two to three times a day using high quality food that the koi enjoy. Typically this is a 35-45% protein food rich in fish products.
2. Stand by your pond for two to five minutes prior to adding the food to the water. This allows the fish to associate your presence with the addition of food. If you were to walk up throw the food in the pond and walk away immediately, the fish will not have a chance to associate you with their next meal.
3. Offer the fish a very tasty treat. Whole freeze-dried krill are absolutely gobbled up by koi.
4. Add one or two of the above-mentioned fish to the population. This can literally change the attitude of your group of fish within a few days. Be sure the fish you add are of similar size to the fish in the pond. A six inch fish will not lead thirty inch fish up to eat very easily.

If you wish to get the fish to eat out of your hands, you should hold a snack such as krill on the edge of the water and as the koi approach watch their reaction. If the koi come directly to your hand to eat the krill there's not much training needed. If the koi decide to come within a foot and then back off, you should release the food and allow it to float into the pond. After a few days to a week of this training the koi should come closer to your hand each day until one day they decide that your hand is not a threat and that it holds the goodies that they're looking for.

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### Check It Out!!

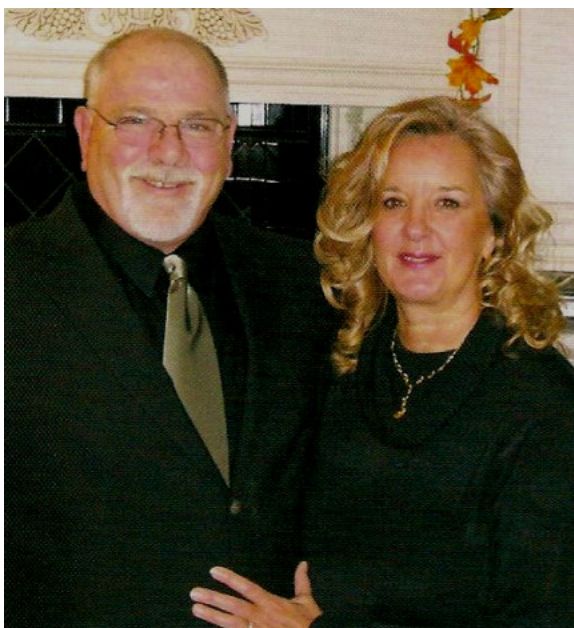
KOI USA JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009 ISSUE

#### Hobbyist Spotlight

Jackie Allsup—KHA, Eastern Iowa Pond Society

What a great article on club members: Jackie Allsup KHA - secretary and treasurer and husband Harry Allsup. Read how Jackie and Harry started in this hobby, how they care for their koi during the winter, how they treat a sick koi in winter, how Jackie goes on Koi Health Advisor visits and much more... Enjoy some great shots of their pond

Congratulations to you both on your feature article.



Harry & Jackie Allsup

### Sunterra is one of the companies that donates some great products to our club.

Sunterra has requested our membership list with the e-mails. As your president, I have **declined to re-lease that information** without the members authorization due to the privacy of our members. I wanted to give you the opportunity to reply voluntarily to Sunterra releasing your own e-mail address.

This is a good opportunity to show your appreciation to Sunterra and continue a good relationship with them.

Monica

#### Deadline is February 15th

SUNTERRA is brand of Pond products manufactured by Robert Bosch Tool Corporation. We have some proprietary concepts we would like to get feedback on regarding pond product, packaging and needs from the end-user perspective. If you have members interested in participating in this survey could you have them email their email addresses to Gregg Chamberlain at [gchamberlain@sunterrausa.com](mailto:gchamberlain@sunterrausa.com). Gregg's phone number is 309-690-2468.

There will be incentive for participation \$100 Gift Cards from Home Depot, Pond Product, Pumps and other prizes awarded. We will **NOT** be sending multiple surveys or bother your members with spam - this is not the purpose of our request. In fact, we will include 2 questions after the short survey:

1. "Would you like to participate in further SUNTERRA Water Gardening Surveys?"
2. "If SUNTERRA conducts product specific testing, would you be interested in participating?"

We would also like to support you in other ways as far as product donations, postings of Associations web links and possibly web-casting member photos and videos on our Website ([sunterrausa.com](http://sunterrausa.com)), YouTube site or Facebook website in the future as we develop relationships with you and your friends.

## Benefits of Oxygen in a Koi Pond

### KHA PROGRAM

The amount of dissolved oxygen in the pond water will be one of the limiting factors in achieving growth in a koi. Dissolved oxygen is critical for the growth and health of koi. For koi to remain healthy, adequate oxygen levels must be maintained (typically at least 5 - 6 ppm) The higher the oxygen levels in the water the healthier the koi will be and the more efficient the bioconverter will work.. Koi are extremely efficient at extracting O<sub>2</sub> from water and can do so at very low levels. However, koi do well in water with dissolved oxygen levels above 6ppm.

The life functions of koi are similar to those of other animals in that they have muscles, skeletons, skins and internal organs which function in approximately similar ways. There is, however, one great difference between fish and land animals - fish live in water. More importantly to our circumstances, koi living in a pond, live in a limited volume of water. There is not endless fresh water with endless oxygen and fresh food, only the water in the pond surrounding the fish.

The whole pond system from the koi to the bacteria in the filter is completely dependant on oxygen for survival. All the various forms of life in the pond are competing with, that is essentially a limited supply of oxygen. While the atmosphere has around 250 parts per million, water typically has less than 8 - 10 parts per million.

It is an undisputed fact that koi have better growth, live longer and their colours are brighter and more intense in oxygen rich environments. It is also an undisputed fact that biological filtration is more efficient and

# The Journey, Not The Destination

By Joe Olsen

An avid gardener moved from California to Iowa. He realized that shifting from zone 8 to zone 4 required some major adjustments in crops and methods. With years of experience he felt up to the task. Spring of year 1 was unusually warm but had several late frosts that wiped out the first batch of seedlings. Frost in May? What is up with that he wondered. The gardener persisted and at the end of the season had a reasonable crop which was supplemented by generous neighbors. He commented to one of his gardening buddies: "I think I have this Iowa gardening thing figured out." His friend smiled and nodded.



The second season was marked by a late, wet spring, followed by unseasonably hot and dry conditions that required frequent watering. Reminded of California summers, he had many tricks that produced better yields than the summer before. He began to plan for the next season including some warmer weather crops that he had enjoyed while living in California. Once again, he proclaimed to his friend: "I now have this Iowa gardening thing figured out." He was a bit surprised that his friend again smiled and remained silent.

Season 3 got off to a slow start with very windy, cold days followed by stretches of days in the 80s that fried his spinach, lettuce and beet crops shortly after they emerged from the ground. The wind knocked all the blossoms off his fruit trees before the bees could do their work; crop failure with only a few apples to eat that fall. However, he persisted and had the best tomato and pepper crop ever which made him think of selling the next year at the farmers' market where he could share the bounty and make a little cash to support his habit. This year, when reviewing the season with his friend he kept quiet about his successes. Finally, after 3 years he had indeed figured out gardening in Iowa.

Sound familiar? The water gardening experience is much the same. Flexibility, persistence and going with the flow of the whims of mother nature are watchwords for gardening in our wonderful state and contribute to the fascination of this hobby that is impossible to totally "figure out." Which reminds me, I better go check to see if the hole in the ice has frozen or drifted shut. It is 25 below today but the forecast is for temps in the 30's by the weekend. I wonder what spring will bring this time around. It will be interesting.

Join Joe and send in your article. It's fun, write on the subject of your choosing. Send it to the editor. Let's make this another great year for our newsletter. GET INVOLVED!

## Live Koi Galore

Live Koi is what every pond owner needs and finding the right one can be a difficult situation. This particular link we've found is going to be everything from Doitsu, Shusui, Sanke and even imported fish from Japan. But before buying remember to consider a few of these things from sellers. Ask lots of questions and check their credentials from previous purchases. Inquire if any of their fish have problems such as Carp pox (aka Lymphocystis) or Koi herpes. And how the fish will be shipped to your country or city.

Here are some sites we found that we're concerning the carp pox:

### Sick Koi Need Advice

### Lymphocystis Disease

[www.inforkoi.com](http://www.inforkoi.com)



## TENTATIVE 2009 Meeting Schedule

Times determined by the Host/Hostess

Programs will be updated as available along with the times of the meetings.

Inside home or garage is a possibility with Iowa weather during March & April Meetings

March 28th, Saturday	(inside home) <b>OPEN</b>
April 9th, Thursday	(inside home) <b>OPEN</b>
April 25th, Saturday	( inside home) <b>OPEN</b>
May 14th, Thursday	Erma & Larry Thompson
May 23rd, Saturday	Dorothy Helms
June 11th, Thursday	LouAnn & Larry Jayne
June 27th, Saturday	Pre Pond Tour
July 12th, Sunday	Pond Tour
July 25th, Saturday	Elena Murillo/Gil & Monica Morley " <u>4th Annual Photo Contest</u> "
August 13th, Thursday	Cecy & Bob Bisenius
August 22nd, Saturday	Jackie & Harry Allsup
September 10th, Thursday	Lavonne & Dick Isard
September 26th, Saturday	Pat & Wayne Beuter
October 24th, Saturday	<b>OPEN</b>
November	Recognition Night

Contact Monica [mespringcove@aol.com](mailto:mespringcove@aol.com) or 294-4866 if you would like to host in March or April or October

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## Eastern Iowa Pond Society—Membership Application 2009

To become a member of the Eastern Iowa Pond Society, complete this form and mail it along with your dues to :

Eastern Iowa Pond Society

206 n. 3rd ST

PO BOX 148

QUASQUETON IA

Dues are \$10.00 per calendar year. Make checks payable to: Eastern Iowa Pond Society

\_\_\_\_\_ New membership          \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

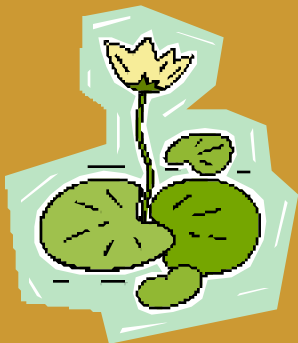
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues will be \$10.00 per family, payable November of previous year and delinquent April 1st of each year. These dues entitle a member to participation in all activities and receive a monthly newsletter.

**Eastern Iowa Pond  
Society Inc.**

[WWW.EIPS.ORG](http://WWW.EIPS.ORG)



## Visions

### Our Mission Statement

We are committed to providing a social atmosphere for members dedicated to sharing and learning the pleasure of water gardening. We are a non-profit organization.

Membership of this association shall be open to any individual without regard to race, creed, national origin or Sex, who shall render membership dues as specified in the governing documents.

### History

The Eastern Iowa Pond Society was established by Sharon Weiss in 1996 to encourage and promote water gardening and ponds.

### Meetings

Meetings are held at different members homes the second Thursday at 7:00PM and the fourth Saturday in April, May, June, July, August and September. During Feb., March, October and Nov.

meetings are held once a month on a Saturday. No meetings are held in Dec & Jan.

### Yearly Planning

A plan-the-year meeting is held on a February afternoon at a central location to hammer out strategies on how the club will conduct business and to plan activities for the upcoming year.

### Activities

A yearly Pond Tour event involves selected members opening their ponds to the public. Speakers, demonstrations, field trips, plant and fish swap, pot luck, and club projects are all activities that happen during the year.

### Dues

Dues will be \$10.00 per family, payable November of previous year and delinquent April 1st of each year. These dues entitle a member to participation in all activities and receive a monthly newsletter.



Non profit organization

Eastern Iowa Pond Society Inc.  
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Quasqueton, IA 52326