

The Inland Koi Connection

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF IKS • ISSUE 272 • FEBRUARY 2020



Sunday, 2/23 Potluck Meeting ~ Host: Aiko Howo ~ 2 - 5pm 1335 Sterling Road, Redlands 95373 ~ 909.798.1436

We last visited Aiko Howo's lovely Redlands pond in June 2019, shortly after an extensive expansion project was completed. Part of the upgrade was to add a new Nexus filter, pictured below.

Aiko is a native Californian whose grandparents emigrated from Japan to the USA around 1900; her parents settled in Monrovia in the 1930's and became strawberry farmers. They spent WW II in a

Wyoming internment camp, then returned to LA, and saved to buy a home. A gardener by trade, her father created a beautiful yard with a bonsai tree and a Japanese garden.

Aiko earned a BS in Nursing from San Diego State, an MS in Education from Azusa Pacific, and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner certification from USC; she is retired after 30 years as a school nurse. Her husband retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 30 years in the Air Force. They have three accomplished children: Midori, a Chief Deputy DA in Fresno; Michael, CFO of a local microchip company; and Mitchell, a family practice physician for Kaiser. Life after military bases settled in Redlands on a "hilly lot filled with weeds interspersed with grass."

In 2005, Aiko began her Japanese garden and pond, losing her first koi to a hawk; she joined IKS in 2012, and built a new pond. She admits to using a maintenance service, but the new filter should be helping with that. I love exploring every corner of the garden and the kitchen, too:

Bring your chairs and something for our buffet. See you Sunday!



Aiko now has a 3,000-gallon pond, with no visible equipment, and extra deck space hiding the Nexus pressurized bead filter.



It's Spring and beautiful! If you're coming from the South, you may know and enjoy the scenic routes around Lake Perris and thru the hills via San Timoteo Canyon Rd; you can reach Crescent Ave by way of Alessandro Rd. Leave home early!

Directions to Aiko's:

Obviously, you should find your own best route to Redlands; these instructions take you to Aiko's from the north on the I-10.

- **From the West**, take I-10 east toward Redlands; exit to Tennessee St south.
- Tennessee becomes San Mateo St and angles SE, then ends at Highland Ave.
- Turn left on Highland, make the 1st right on San Jacinto St; go two blocks.
- Turn right on Crescent Ave, immediately turn left on Sterling Rd.
- 1335 Sterling is the 4th house on your left with the Japanese garden.
- **From the East**, take the I-10 west toward Redlands; exit to Ford St / Redlands Blvd; stay on Redlands Blvd until you turn left on Highland Ave.
- Turn left on San Jacinto, then right on Crescent, and immediately turn left on Sterling Rd. Aiko's is the 4th house on your left.



Keeping the Pond Clean

by Carolyn Weise



With Spring and warmer weather just around the corner, it's timely to review more of the basics of keeping your koi healthy. Most important is clean water!

The importance of keeping the pond clean, especially with koi, is something that cannot be stressed too much. The water should be "gin" clear. There should be no suspended particulate matter and the fish ought to look as if they are floating in air. The fish have to breathe and drink the water. To the extent the water is not clean, the fish will suffer. They literally have to live in their own toilet bowl.

In nature, the ecology takes care of this for them. But our ponds are not natural, no matter how nicely we landscape and build around them. They are large in-ground fish tanks. They need a lot of filtration. Koi in particular, need excessive filtration. Much like a toilet bowl, the largest dirt settles to the bottom, so a bottom drain is imperative.

Koi may be the single-most dirt-producing fish kept in backyard ponds. In part this is due to our feeding regimen. In nature, they wouldn't be fed fifty pounds of food a week or even a month. But this is not abnormal in a pond with three to six feedings daily throughout the summer months.

An important part of the Koi-Owner relationship is the feeding. We look forward to feeding almost as much as (or more than?) the fish. We love to see their open expectant mouths waiting for us at the edge of the pond. We enjoy hand-feeding. We like to get the close-up view that feeding time affords us. We like to make them grow fast...and large. So, we push the high protein foods. In many cases, we push it right through the fish — in one end and out the other. In effect, we feed the pond! And in turn, we contribute our part in fouling the water.

It doesn't really matter whether the fish or the owner fouls the water; the important thing is to clean it up — for the fish's health. A stressed fish is at risk of disease. High filtration will pay handsomely. Waterfalls, streams, venturi jets, bubblers, bubble bead filters, mechanical and biological filters, vegetable filters, are all aimed at one thing — fish health. More is better in this case.

Start at the bottom and work up. Bottom drain, water changes to eliminate phosphate build-up, and lots of water movement will keep the water clean. Less food, less fish, or more water are all ways to improve quality. Upgrade filtration or add microbial bacteria to boost the cleaning and break down any matter in the pond. You are the only help your fish have to living a good life. Give them clean water!

~CW

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS TO DATE

Members listed below have turned in their dues and renewal forms for 2020. The list will be

Aker	Hoffman	Painter
Atkiss	Hunter	Pollock
Blais	Hurley	Rein
Broomfield	James	Rhodes
Chandler	Kushner	Richardson
Coby	Leever	Ross
Dirac	Lei	Thompson
Fales	MacLaren	Walters
Fraday	Mall	Watson
Halterman	Marrin	Wright
Hamilton	McHan	Zoetemelk
Hanson	Milfeld	<i>Are YOU here?</i>
Henry (Bob)	Nyirady	

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Koi Re-Homing ~ Web Liaison
- Frank Painter** V.P.
619.576.1625

Meeting Sites & Speakers

- Monica Dirac** Secy
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- Nick Milfeld** Treas 951.780.7395
- Membership*
- Peggy Milfeld** Editor 951.780.7395

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FEBRUARY	<p>09 ~ IKS BOARD MEETING: 5pm / Hosted by Ed & Linda Kushner / 1556 Vandagriff Way, Corona 92883 / <i>Meeting was cancelled as Ed's mother was rushed to hospital; keep them in prayer.</i></p> <p>23 ~ IKS POTLUCK MEETING: 2-5pm / Hosted by Aiko Howo, 1335 Sterling Rd., Redlands 95373 /</p>
MARCH	<p>7-8 ~ SAN DIEGO KOI SHOW: 9am both days / Del Mar Fairgrounds / Free / koiclubofsandiego.org</p> <p>08 ~ IKS BOARD MEETING: 5pm / Hosted by Nick & Peggy Milfeld / 1644 Northhampton Dr., Riverside 92506 / Interested Members are welcome to attend, but please call to let the host know 951.780.7395</p> <p>14-15 ~ ZNA So.CAL. KOI SHOW: 10am both days / Gardena Civic Center / Auction / Free / znasocal.org</p> <p>22 ~ IKS POTLUCK MEETING: 2-5pm / Location to be determined. [<i>Maybe you could volunteer to host!</i>]</p>
APRIL	<p>05 ~ IKS BOARD MEETING: 5pm / Hosted by Brenda Aker / 2375 Chateaux way, Corona 92882 / Interested Members are welcome to attend, but please call to let the host know 951.316.0263</p> <p>26 ~ IKS POTLUCK MEETING: 2-5pm / Hosted by Aiko Howo, 1335 Sterling Rd., Redlands 95373 /</p>



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Thank you to Chien Lee of **NIJKAWA USA** and Sandy Caldwell of **ULTRA BALANCE** for so graciously supplying IKS with a nutritional food supply for the **KOI REHOMING PROGRAM**



Condolences and encouragement to **Terry & Koren Harrison** as they are recovering from the loss of most of their ponds and koi in a 10-31-19 fire that burned 300 acres in Jurupa Valley. Their home was spared, but smoke damaged. Power has recently been restored, but they are still drawing water from a neighbor's well.

Prayers for **Cynthia Fowler** as she fights a cancer that continually needs more surgery, either to remove tissue or plastic surgery to close the resulting gaps. We miss her!

And more prayers for **Spike Cover** as he stays pretty much in isolation at home, fighting leukemia. It's been a long battle and we miss him and Ginger.



Prayers and best wishes go to **Peggie McManigal** for rapid healing after unexpected surgery February 8 to insert a pacemaker. She's at home and Orville is taking good care of her.



INLAND KOI SOCIETY
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KOI SHOW

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For More Information:
 Alan Steins: alands@earthlink.net
 Chai Taevanitcharoen: tatekoi@aol.com
 Or go to: znasocal.org

Gardena Civic Center | 1700 West 162nd Street | Gardena, CA 90247

2020 ~ 73rd Annual Riverside Community

Flower Show & Garden Tour
 "Homegrown Harvest"

Saturday, May 2
 Gardens 10 am - 4 pm
 Show 1 - 5 pm
 (Garden tour maps available at Elks Lodge at 9 am Sat. • Flower Show opens at 1 pm)

Sunday, May 3
 Gardens and Show
 10 am - 4 pm

Garden Tour
 7 Local Gardens
 Tickets \$10
 Children under 16 Free with paying adult

FREE Flower Show & Fair!
 Elks Lodge, 6166 Brockton Ave., Riverside
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See our website for the 2020 Garden Tour Pre-sale Locations:
www.RiversideFlowerShow.com
 Facebook/RiversideFlowerShow ☎ 951-850-8277

Visit our website: www.inlandkoi.com