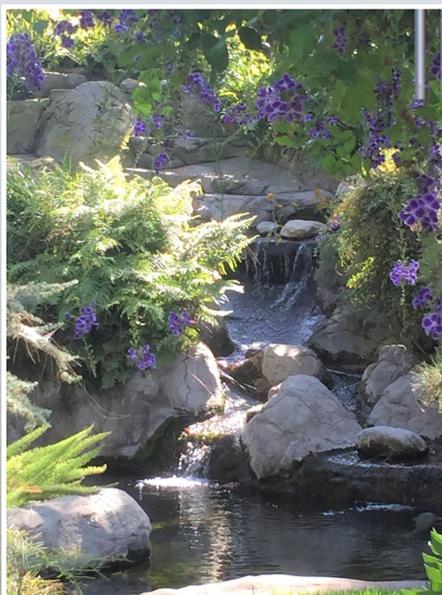


The Inland Koi Connection

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF IKS • ISSUE 269 • OCTOBER 2019



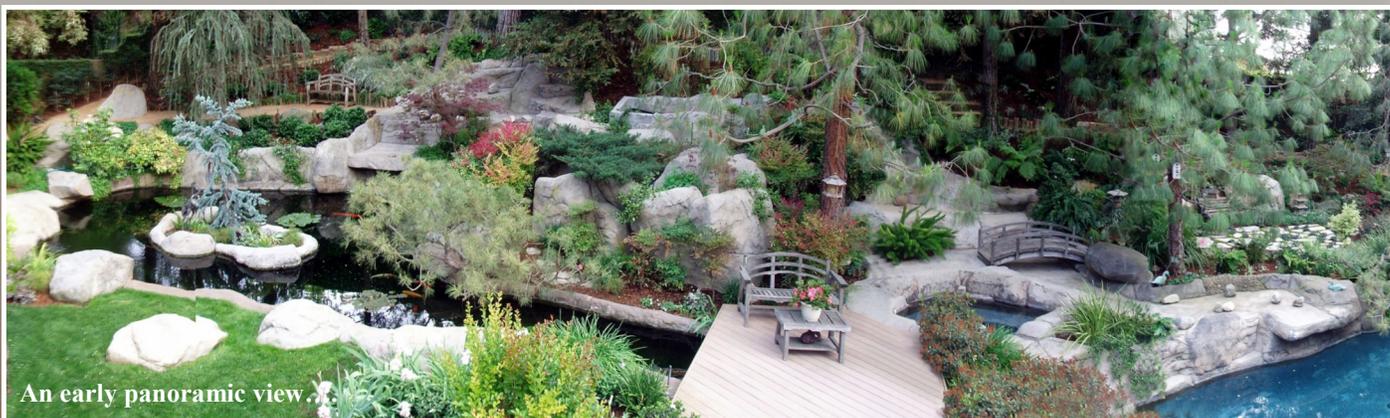
Sunday, 10/27 Potluck Meeting ~ Hosts: Nick & Peggy Milfeld ~ 2-5pm
1644 Northhampton Drive, Riverside 92506 ~ 951.780.7395



This month we will return to Riverside to visit the Milfelds' 30-year-old pond, a roughly 30' x 15' rebar and gunite construction with an island in the middle and two waterfalls. One waterfall runs 24/7 as part of the filter return, while the other, larger falls can be turned on from the house. The pond ranges in depth from two to four feet, with two low walls dividing it into two sections that can be drained separately if the bottom drains need attention. The full system holds 12,000 gallons and includes the original 3-chamber up-flow rock-gravel-silica sand filter above and behind the pond which polishes water after it passes through a UV light. By 2002, tree roots had cracked a corner of one of the chambers and a combination of three gravity-fed vortexes and a 120watt *Aqua UV* were added by the garage. The dividing walls served to contain the koi near the deck while the larger section was drained and drilled through on the lawn-side wall; two bottom drains were added as a retro-fit.

Some 72 trees – pines and redwoods, ginkgoes, Japanese maples, crape myrtles and liquid amber – were planted on Nick's half acre, all on drip irrigation, and every few years the yard gets a makeover with the trees trimmed and laced to allow more light. A dozen of the redwoods have fallen victim to our hot, dry inland climate. The front yard has the best sunlight, so the roses and vegetables are there.

Our speaker this month will be **Eric Triplett**; he will address "Prepping the Pond for Fall and Winter." This timely subject should have something for everyone, so bring your questions and concerns to add to the discussion. Remember your chairs and something tasty to add to the buffet. Handicap parking in the driveway; enter through the gate to the left.



An early panoramic view.

Last meeting we began sign-ups for our November meeting to be hosted again by **Jerry & Pat Mall** in Temecula. It's always *a week early*, the *Sunday before Thanksgiving*, and the club provides traditional turkey while we potluck all the sides. We sign up so Pat will know how many tables to set and how much meat to order. If you can't join us this month, consider calling the *Milfelds to RSVP for November 24*, and also let them know what dish you plan to bring for our Family Feast:

- Stuffing or Potatoes
- Salad
- Vegetable
- Breads, Rolls, Muffins
- Dessert
- Other Items

This meeting includes serious business and lots of fun. Membership **renewal forms** will be included with your November newsletter; make corrections and return the form with your dues at the meeting. We will also hold Elections that day. The Malls' is a marvelous place to explore before dinner, and afterwards we'll have fun with koi races.



A huge *Thank you!* to **Steve & Kelly McHan** for hosting our Sept. 29 meeting around their beautiful above-ground pond. Setting a date gave Steve the incentive to fine-tune the deck and stair details of the pond. Their large lawn area could have handled twice the 46 in attendance.



Our ‘panel of experts’ included Theo Zoetemelk, Nick Milfeld, Larry Leverett, and Ed Brown. Perhaps you’ve had some of the same questions that were posed to them....

1 What is a “shot-crete” pond?

That’s sort of shorthand for pumped-in concrete. The excavated pond, pre-plumbed, is lined with wire mesh, reinforcing rebar is tied to the mesh, and then concrete (laced with a waterproof agent and a curing accelerant) is pumped in, from the bottom to the top edge, and troweled into the mesh and smoothed out. The *AKCA Guide to Pond Construction* gives detailed guidance; the Leverett pond was built “by the book!”

2 As the air cools, when do I stop feeding?

Scale down gradually, stopping at 50-55°F. You might change to a lower protein formula; we recommend a floating type so you know how much is being eaten and how quickly. Real temperature is measured at the bottom of the pond where the koi rest and will hibernate.

3 What is green water? How do you get rid of it?

Basically, it’s an algae bloom: free-floating green algae. Adding an ultraviolet light (UV) to your filtration is the easiest solution.

4 How do you get rid of pond foam?

Foam is generally caused by excess dissolved organic solids (DOCs), often a sign of too much food or protein in the pond. Filtration alone usually cannot clear it. A protein skimmer or foam fractionator can be added to your system off the pump; it removes DOCs by absorbing them onto the surface of fine bubbles. K.O.I. offers a good discussion of this as well as a DIY design.

5 How many are “too many” fish?

One rule-of-thumb is “one inch of fish per 10 gallons of water,” aiming to stay at or under four koi per 1,000 gallons. You can find a calculator at www.russellwatergardens.com; see their Resources menu. Know that when a 6" koi doubles in size, its fish-load footprint quadruples! Extreme filtration, more aeration and more frequent 10% water changes can offer some relief, but care and culling will give best health options for the koi you retain.

6 Does salt treat hard water n the pond?

Salt is primarily used to treat for certain para-

sites and for bacteria, but it should be non-iodized, free from any additives; some say to use natural rock salt dried by the sun, NOT water-softener salt, which has ammonia in it. Salt is a skin irritant to the koi; their reaction will be to grow additional slime coat, their first line of defense against bacteria and parasites. Salt can be used in a dip for individual fish or it may be added to the pond at a 0.3% dose for parasites.

Salt is the first general step in treating bacteria after identifying and correcting the cause of the bacterial outbreak. The *AKCA Guide to Koi Health* offers specifics for treatments.

Larry noted that in Japan the reds are so vibrant because breeders pond water is pure water from snows, soaked into and filtered thru the ground to collect various minerals.

7 Chlorine vs. chloramines?

Chloramines are formed when chlorine is combined with small amounts of ammonia. Chlorine and ammonia are toxic to fish: water enters the gills and goes directly to the bloodstream. Chlorine evaporates quickly when water is sprayed into the pond; chloramines stay in the water for up to several weeks, so a dechloramination agent must be added. Call water provider to ask which treatment is used.

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OCTOBER	<p>13 ~ IKS BOARD MEETING: 5pm / Host Larry Leverett / 5349 Jasper Lane, Riverside 92506</p> <p>27 ~ KCSA Annual Friends of Koi Auction: 9am viewing; 10am-3pm Auction / Held at Matrix Enterprises, 12310 Stowe Drive, Poway 92065 / 7:30am check-in of pre-bagged koi, min 6" / Contact Tamsie Pierce at 619.427.9008 to request oxygen on arrival, or approval to bring more than 20 koi for sale, or approval to take purchased koi home before end of auction / \$5 bidder registration includes a lunch & drink ticket for one.</p> <p>27 ~ IKS POTLUCK MEETING: 2-5pm / Hosted by Nick & Peggy Milfeld / 1644 Northhampton Dr., Riverside 92506 / 951.780.7395 / Speaker Eric Triplett, “Prepping the Pond for Fall and Winter”</p>
NOVEMBER	<p>10 ~ IKS BOARD MEETING: 5pm / Host Rob & Deanna Fales / 760 La Cumbre St., Corona 92879 / Interested Members are welcome to attend, but please call to let the host know 951.279.0181</p> <p>24 ~ IKS POTLUCK MEETING & KOI RACES: 2-5pm / Hosted by Jerry & Pat Mall, 43024 Via Las Rocas, Temecula 92590 / 951.506.4814 / Our Annual Thanksgiving Feast: IKS will provide the turkey, Members sign up to provide the traditional sides! / Elections 2019 / Dues are due / Koi Races! / <i>*Note: this is the 3rd Sunday, one week early and the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Try out new recipes on us!</i></p>
DECEMBER	<p>08 ~ IKS BOARD MEETING: 5pm / Host Theo Zoetemelk / 1407 Second St., Norco 92860 / Interested Members are welcome to attend, but please call to let the host know 951.735.9896</p>



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It has been said that we don't keep Koi, we keep Water. Thus the most important aspect of your pond is the water quality you maintain for the koi you house.

You can take a sample of your tap water to any *Leslie's Pool Supply* store for a free assessment of the water quality.



INLAND KOI SOCIETY
5198 ARLINGTON AVE., #146
RIVERSIDE, CA 92504-2603

Return Service Requested

ELECTIONS 2020

Elections for the 2020 term will take place at the November meeting. Please consider what you want out of IKS and whether you have a few extra hours a month to keep us moving forward with the same level of success.

Taking an office means adding a two-hour meeting on a Sunday night to your schedule. And don't be scared by the thought of President: it's a one-year term (maybe a second) keeping the board meetings running smoothly, MCing regular meetings, and working with the other crazies on the board. Directors are elected for two-year terms. A couple can do it together to make it a once-a-month night out! Several of us do!

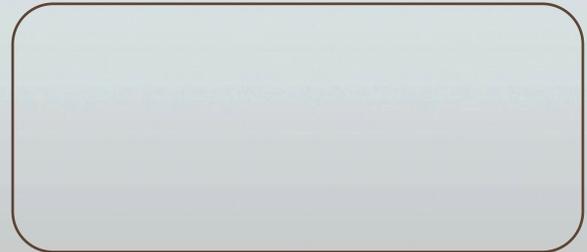
Remember: Once there were four people named *Everybody*, *Somebody*, *Anybody* and *Nobody*.

There was an important job to be done and *Everybody* was sure that *Somebody* would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but *Nobody* did.

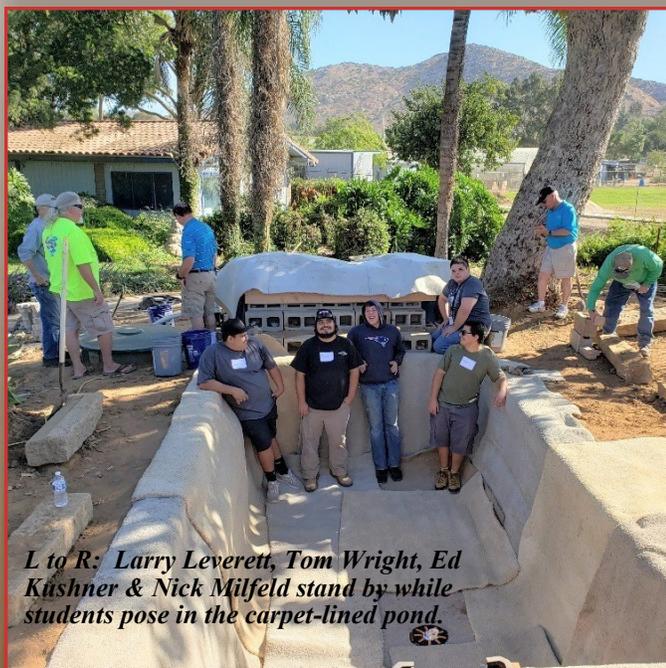
Everybody thought that *Anybody* could do it, but *Nobody* realized that *Everybody* wouldn't do it.

It ended up that *Everybody* blamed *Somebody* when *Nobody* did what *Anybody* could have done.

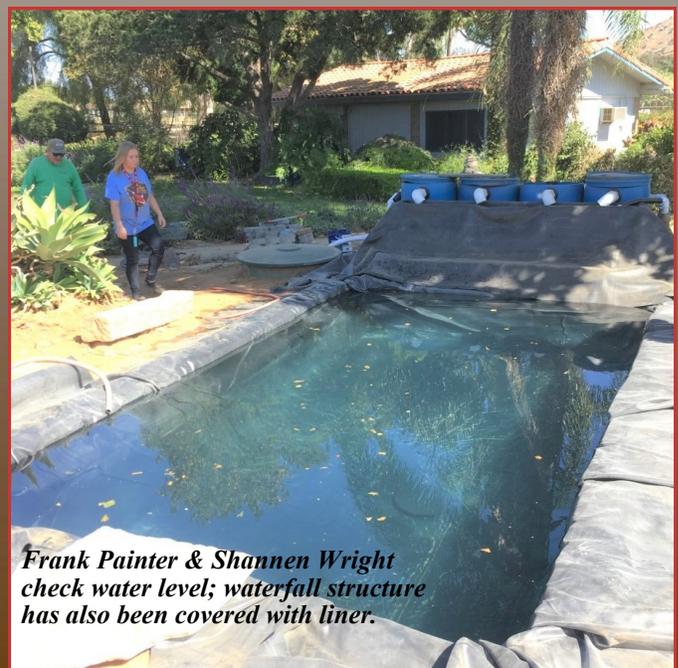


NORCO HIGH SCHOOL POND PROJECT ~ Saturday 12 October

By the end of a long AG DEPT workday, the floor and walls of the Norco pond had been smoothed out, covered carefully with clean carpet, and the liner had been stretched into place. Water-tight fittings around the bottom drain and skimmer were sealed and the long process of adding 2,993 gallons of water was finished. Four filter tanks will spill over to create a wide waterfall.



L to R: Larry Leverett, Tom Wright, Ed Kushner & Nick Milfeld stand by while students pose in the carpet-lined pond.



Frank Painter & Shannen Wright check water level; waterfall structure has also been covered with liner.

Visit our website: www.inlandkoi.org