

Minutes from 2009

March 5, through March 8, 2008  
Home & Garden show at DeVoss Hall

March 21

General meeting at Michael and Jerry's home- **Thanks, you are great hosts and it was fun.**

Agenda:

- Feedback regarding the Home and Garden Show  
**Seemed to be well received, lot of good comments. Many expressed interested in coming to our next meeting, we will plan on additional attendees. Signed up for who is going to bring what and the club will provide the main course for the meeting Mary is coordinating efforts.**  
**Apol – Ham,**  
**Kebless – Meat dish,**  
**Michael/Jerry – Salad,**  
**Rancour – Veggie dish,**  
**Cindy – Desert,**  
**Stitt – Potato salad**  
**Toni – Eggs**  
**Houtman – Beans**  
**Joyce and Laura are working on the list of interested people and will send out invitations to the April meeting.**
- Possible field trip to seminar:

*The Michigan Koi and Pond Club - Southeast Chapter, would like to invite everyone interested in a one day koi seminar, called A Koi Symposium. Key note speaker: Taro Kodama, from Kodama Koi Farm. Attached is a registration form. Please pass it on to anyone interested. Thanks, Ray Alexander, President - Mkpc-se*

**Conflicts with our spring auction/sign up.**

- Koi show this year? **We can do photos from members and pick one entry for the AKCA show for next year's seminar in Tennessee. Toni wants to help with getting this going. I agree it would be a fun thing to do and great experience.**
- Pond tour this year? **Logistics present a problem; we need some one to champion on this if it is ever going to happen. Any ideas?**
- Any other event this year? **Nothing mentioned.**
- Sign up for meeting hosts and programs for this year. **A list was started and there are still some openings (see the calendar), but, we need people to also sign up for programs! We need speakers. I am working on one for "curious things that fish do" Don Apol is going to do "10 most popular questions regarding pond keeping" and Karen was going to see if she could get a speaker (Mike Teeno [sp]) for one of the meetings- Aug. or Sept.**

- Extension office could be a good meeting place: **Only on Thursdays- Joyce will get more information and might work for the May meeting.**
- Scrapbook turned out beautifully! **It should travel with the meeting sign to the next host's house so that it can be updated and added to as needed.**
- Koi person of the year: **Shall be voted on and selected at the end of the calendar year so that we can have time for it without being rushed, as happened this year.**
- Waterscapes publication: **Anyone interested in helping out?**

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Meeting at Apol's greenhouse

Agenda:

Pot luck dinner, the society provided a couple of hams and they were prepared beautifully by Mary and Cindy. Thank you both.

Don Apol will present the "top ten questions regarding pond keeping." Don had answers to many questions and our thanks to him for the fine presentation.

General meeting. Minutes read, treasurer's report, door prizes (Thank you Joyce!), old, and new business.

Annual auction event, Many donations. Michael helped with the auction and I think many people got some good buys. Thanks Michael!

Annual membership dues collected. New members from our spring kick off meeting: Bill & Kathy Heys, Paul Irish, Jim & Kathy Zeller, Art Modderman, Robert P. & Leah Chelone, Sr. Welcome all!

Thirty-three in attendance.

Thursday, May 21, 2009

General Meeting at Michigan State Extension Office and Gardens Center at 6:00pm.

Agenda:

Gather, whenever you want to get there, beautiful gardens.

Pot luck dinner, eat at 6:30 sharp. –Bring dish to pass (Society will not be providing Ham this time!)

Short business meeting.

There was active discussion on name badges. It was decided that we will abandon the current tags and replace them with new tags and provide lanyards with pockets so that tags can be inserted. It was also decided that everybody will be responsible for remembering to bring their own badge (keep in car maybe). Anyone who forgets will be fined a nominal amount, which will be collected by our treasure and used for the party at the end of the year. Toni will work up some design ideas for the tags and Ken will get pricing on some lanyards with pockets.

We also had active discussion on shirts with logos. Some of the ideas were to hire Vicky (or hire a place) to sew on logos onto clothing supplied by individuals, or buy similar matching shirts, or have the logos screen printed in a larger format. Please research options and consider what you would like to have for next meeting.

Next topic of discussion was on selecting “koi of the year” from our society. I will check on and bring the AKCA rules for the next meeting and please bring a picture of your best fish to the next meeting, we will work on criteria for selection of the best koi as a group, and the group will determine a plan. We should select this fish before it gets too cold so that we can get a good photo to send in to the AKCA.

One of our new members Bill Heys and Dan Davis, who was host for the evening, provided a guided tour of the center. The pond and waterfall are new and arranged beautifully. The gardens were fantastic, many plants and bushes coming into bloom. Joyce Kebless is affiliated with the organization, and helped put the meeting together.

Misc. Notes:

John Savara mentioned that Meijer Gardens doesn't have any koi left and if anyone would be interested in donating some fish they would appreciate it. (Be aware that the life expectancy may be a little short due to the Herons and a marauding mink.)

Please consider the programs to be presented at any of the coming meetings all ideas are appreciated.

I spoke with Mike Tiano and he offered to host a meeting at his place in Allendale. Our next open spot is October, more planning to be done on that.

Lexie Wagoner joined the society and is looking forward to seeing some of the groups' ponds. Welcome!

Twenty were in attendance in perfect summer weather.

**June 27, Meeting at Houtman's house.**

**Eighteen were in attendance in another perfect summer weather day.**

Agenda

Minutes.

Old business.

Lansing pond tour – Need date/times – rent a van for group outing? **Not happening this year.**

Badges - lanyards/tags, **Tim was going to see if he could get some, a couple dollars each was approved.**

Logos – clothing, **Vicky can do these at a reasonable fee, talk with her about material requirements.**

Koi of the year – dates for picking the entry – prize? – rules for AKCA, **The rules were passed out and we decided that we would have the final judging at the August meeting at Chaney’s house. Bring photos soon, more than one entry per household IS acceptable.**

New business. **Toni was going to look for a roll around suitcase for the library, she is approved to buy one.**

Program: “The Curious Things Koi Do” recap from meeting at the AKCA seminar 2009.

Saturday, July 18, 2009

General Meeting at Rancour’s home

Agenda:

- We had four new members joined our group and (approximately) 24 in attendance. The weather was threatening but worked out well.
- Old business issues discussed. All the members were issued a lanyard and name badge. If anyone is found not wearing it at a future meeting they will be fined a quarter dollar to be collected by our treasure. (Money to be used toward the year end party expenses.) Everyone is responsible to remember to bring their own name badge. (No one will be collecting them each meeting.) Toni is still looking for a suitcase on rollers for the library.
- New Business issues brought up regarding our Koi picture show for the August meeting. Don Apol will be the lead judge and his decision will be final. The winner will be voted on at the meeting and the criteria for voting will be discussed beforehand. Bring photos of your best fish for entry, Any one can enter and your fish do not have to be perfect. Any size fish can be entered. The photos do not have to be perfect, maybe the winning fish could get a special photo shoot for entry into the AKCA Koi of the Year contest next year. Please look through the current issue of KoiUSA. There are a few articles regarding fish quality. If you don’t have the magazine get it. All members of our Society get a subscription discount, ask an officer at any meeting.
- There are still a couple of members attending meetings regularly and have not paid dues. Do so soon please.
- The program, How To Create a Wildlife Habitat by Laura Rancour was well thought out and informative. She had pictures setup and also is hosting a website, <http://naturephotos.imagekind.com>. Thank you Laura for a great discussion.
- We then had a 50/50 Auction with many hand made gifts and plants.

Saturday, August 15, 2009

General Meeting at Chaney’s home, 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Agenda:

Old business was briefly discussed and the main feature and new business was the first annual GPKSWM Koi picture show for the year.

The entry photos were lined up and numbered.  
The criteria for voting was discussed beforehand the winner was voted on.  
Don Apol was the lead judge and his decision was final.  
There were 8 entries and the selection was tough.  
The winning fish is our Societies one entry into the AKCA "Koi of the Year" contest.  
Toni Houtman had the wining fish! Congratulations!

Saturday, September 26, 2009

General Meeting at Kebless's home.

Agenda:

We had a brief pond and garden tour outdoors upon arriving, we then moved inside for a potluck followed by a business meeting.

Mary Dykstra told everyone about the meeting at the Tiano's Allendale Aquatics on October 17th at 4:00, he is planning to speak about how to set up an indoor water garden/aquarium.

Mary Apol asked if anyone had cleaned out their ponds yet (no), and there was a brief conversation about Blue Herons.

We decided that the November meeting will be on the 7th, but the place is yet to be determined.

At the last meeting we talked about possibly having it at a restaurant. Everyone was open to that as long as it is centrally located.

No volunteers for the nominating committee. We will be electing a new President and Secretary at the Nov. meeting.

After the meeting, Joyce presented an interesting slideshow on herbs

The meeting turnout was light-14.

Saturday, October 17, 2009

General Meeting at Mike Tiano's Allendale Aquatics. (12205 84<sup>th</sup> Avenue)

Minutes:

- After a great dinner we discussed the selection of Uccello's for the year end meeting place for the end of the year party (Nov. 7 meeting). Bring wrapped 'white elephant' gift for exchange. RSVP a must! \$10 each, Door prizes.
- Don has been contacted for the Home and Garden Show for March 2010. We will participate. Don will head the project.
- Our group has received a speakers award for next year from the AKCA -\$400 toward travel expenses.
- Because there were no volunteers for an election committee at either of the last two meetings we had open nominations for new officers for next year.
  - o President: Bill Heys- declined
  - o Secretary: Karen Stitt, Cindy Broadhurst, Joyce Kebless-declined
  - o Also, Jerry resigned his office, Vice President -1 year term: Toni Houtman

- Program: Mike led a discussion on maintaining Koi health and preparing for winter and then also showed how to set up an indoor water garden/aquarium. He also showed off some of the gardens he has made and the frogs he has living in them.
- We had a 50/50 auction of several plants after the presentation.

Mike offered a fish for a raffle and Art Modderman won.