

## October 2008 Edition

### OCTOBER MEETING

Saturday, October 18th at 6pm  
 Malley Senior Recreation Center  
 3380 South Lincoln Street, Englewood 80113

### MEETING AGENDA:

6:00pm – Setup, sign-in  
 6:30pm – Potluck Dinner  
 A-M please bring a Main Dish,  
 N-Z please bring a Salad, Side Dish or Dessert.  
 Please bring a dish to feed at least 12 people.  
 7:00 pm –Main Program

### PROGRAM: Koi DVD

#### ”Hands On Health Care for Koi“

This DVD features sections on filtration,  
 water testing, water quality and wound care.

## MAP TO MALLEYS CENTER



Malley Senior Recreation Center  
 3380 South Lincoln Street, Englewood 80113

## 2008 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



### OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>

**REGULAR MEETING & POT LUCK  
 AT MALLEY SR. REC CENTER**

**DVD: “Hands On Health Care for  
 Koi”**



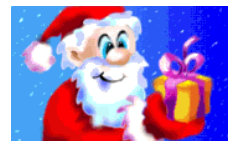
### NOVEMBER

**NO MEETING  
 HAPPY  
 THANKSGIVING**



### DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>

**POT LUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY AND GIFT  
 EXCHANGE AT  
 MALLEY SR. REC  
 CENTER**



Unless otherwise noted, all of the Rocky Mountain Koi Club meetings are held at the Malley Senior Recreation Center, 3380 South Lincoln Street, Englewood Colorado 80113. Sign-In for the meetings begins at 6:00 p.m. with the Pot Luck Dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Please refer to the Club’s web page [www.rmkc.org](http://www.rmkc.org), for the most current information.

# The Pond President's Message

This is my final message to the membership as president. To say the least it has been a very busy year for me & Barb. I feel it's time for us to back off some and just enjoy being club members. Our main function for the upcoming year is to be co-chairs for the 2009 Koi Show in August. By the way, it's the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary show. We'll do our best to put on a good show.

I want to thank all of my board members for their hard work over the past year. Like Barb & I they are also backing away for awhile. They have been great people to work with and without them it would not have been as much fun.

I also want to thank all of you volunteers who have stepped up and helped out when it was necessary. It has been greatly appreciated by the board and myself. My personal thanks to all of you.

The new board will do a tremendous job for the club. They are all dedicated koi people and after discussions with them it's obvious they have many outstanding ideas to improve your club. As I have always said, participate in your club and help the board every chance you get.

Thanks for your support!  
John Flowers  
Prez



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## RMKC COMMITTEE POSITIONS

The 2009 RMKC Board is in place and ready to get started on the new year. October will be the last meeting headed by the current board members.

Although the new board has volunteered, they are going to require assistance from the membership. We still have committee positions that need to be filled. Please consider serving on one of the **committees** listed below:

**Membership Committee** – We know that the members are the backbone of this club and we need to keep them involved and informed. This committee would have two to three members and would be primarily responsible for 1) retaining current membership 2) following up with members who have lapsed 3) recruiting new members.

**Education Committee** – Organizes programs and speakers at our monthly meetings at the Malley Center.

**Pond Tour Committee** – Responsible for organizing ponds and a picnic for our annual pond tour in July.

**Auction Committee** – There are many people needed each year for the auction, however if someone could head up the event and manage the volunteers, it would help out the board a great deal.

**Show Committee** – Our show is the biggest event of the year. Don't let that be a deterrent, it is also loads of fun and a great learning experience. We need a committee to keep the show on an even keel.

If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Dave Fifield.

email: [dcf@brenkosz-fifield.com](mailto:dcf@brenkosz-fifield.com)

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**KHA Korner**

By Mike Anger

There are several viral diseases that may affect Koi, some quite lethal (such as Koi Herpesvirus and Spring Viremia of Carp) while others are more benign. One of the more "harmless" ones is Carp Pox. This is caused by Herpesvirus cyprini, resulting in significant growth of the epidermis, or skin, resulting in white waxy lumps. These tend to appear more often in colder weather, and gets better in warmer temperatures. As with other herpesviruses, the infection usually never leaves the fish. The disease is not fatal, but may be disfiguring. The lesions feel soft and waxy, as opposed to the smaller warty and rough feel of lymphocystis. Do not mix it up with much more dangerous (and common) Ich.

Though fish to fish transmission is low, it may occur by direct contact. The virus may enter the skin wherever an abrasion has occurred thus the reason it is seen more often on the lips, pectoral fins, ventral fins, anal fins and on the back area under the dorsal fins. An overcrowded pond may increase the prevalence of the disease, though in general it is not very common.

Treatment is not usually needed, as scarping off the Pox will cause spread of the virus. This also may predispose the fish to bacterial infections at the site of the scarping. If, however the lesions affect the mouth so that eating is impaired, consider isolating the Koi and removing those lesions. In addition to clearing in the warmer weather, some of these may spontaneously go away after several seasons.

(Continued on page 5)

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(Continued from page 4)



Carp Pox



Carp Pox

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Carp Pox

(Continued on page 6)



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(Continued from page 5)



Carp Pox

If you want to contact Mike Anger regarding advice on Koi health, water quality, pond building, etc. or if you would like him to write an article on a specific topic; you can email him at

[MAnger4963@aol.com](mailto:MAnger4963@aol.com).

## RMKC HAS A NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This is my last issue as newsletter editor for the RMKC. I have been the newsletter editor for 4 years and it has been a wonderful experience. It has given me the opportunity to meet many members and learn much about our club first hand. My final goal as editor was to take our newsletter to an email version. Having accomplished this and many other goals, it is time to pass this adventure on. I want to thank each of you for your support and for submitting so many excellent articles and photographs. Please keep it all coming, we are always interested to see how our fellow club members are doing and can always learn something from each other.

Bryan Buus has volunteered to be our next newsletter editor. I look forward to the upcoming year and all that it will bring to our club.

See you at the RMKC meetings and functions.

Jennifer Trueblood

FYI: This will be the last newsletter of 2008.



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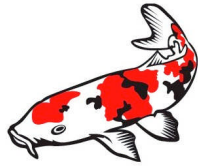
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## ASK THE VET

### ► *Tips for preparing a pond for winter:*

Most folks with a healthy investment in their koi ponds will have a general idea of how to prepare their pond for winter by now, but it's always worth going through quick overview.

- 1) Do a 50% water change in the fall, and use a leaf net or clean your skimmer daily in order to minimize an overabundance of decomposing organic debris on the bottom of the pond during the winter. Healthy water quality now will help maintain the fish so they have a healthier immune system when they become more active again in the spring.
- 2) Once the temperature begins to drop, it's time to switch to a lower protein, easier to digest wheat germ based Koi fish food. Many good quality products are available. Only feed the fish as much as they will eat in five minutes. Their metabolisms are already beginning to slow down and it's more difficult for them to digest. Slowly begin to decrease the amount and frequency of feedings, and when the water temperature (measure the temperature of the water itself, not the ambient air) drops below 55F don't feed them anymore at all. Fish may still act hungry and want to eat, but at lower temperatures the bacteria in the gut is no longer capable of properly digesting the food, so then the food sits undigested in the digestive tract, fermenting and making the fish ill.
- 3) Clean your filters, but leave the pond running over the winter. This will provide aeration and minimize ice freezing completely over the pond. This of course assumes that you will be home most of the time to catch any problems if the electricity goes out. If you choose to clean, dismantle, and store your pump, then be sure to provide additional aeration and/or a pond heater so the water does not completely freeze. Freezing over can be ok for a couple of days, but the fish do require some oxygen exchange all the time. Also, decomposing

*(Continued on page 8)*

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(Continued from page 7)

material in the pond releases noxious gases which need to be expelled or they become toxic to the fish. Aeration should be added to the side, not the bottom of the pond, as too much water movement at the bottom of the pond is disruptive to the fish, causing them to expend energy, and also interferes with the temperature which is usually warmer at the bottom but may cool down with too much movement. The water temperature at the bottom of the pond tends to always be just a little warmer, which insulates the fish and helps them overwinter without expending too much energy at a time when they are not consuming any calories to compensate for their output.

- 4) If the surface of the pond does entirely freeze, do not use a hammer or other tool to pound a hole into the ice. Fish hear very well, and the trauma and shock of such maneuvers when the fish are dormant, nearly hibernating, is extremely disruptive to them, decreasing their immune system, and if it doesn't kill them, they will certainly be weaker when they recover in the spring.
- 5) Spring time is the most common time to have fish losses, as the fish are struggling to recover from near hibernation and 'rev up their engines' again so to speak. Spending the time now to properly prepare the pond with proper fish feeding, and meticulous water care, will go a long way to ensure that the fish recover in the spring with a healthy immune system and increased disease resistance.

If you're like me you're probably a little sad to see the leaves falling and knowing that this will be the last few days of the season you get to spend with your finned friends. But winter is also a good time to really evaluate the size of your pond, the size and number of your fish, and start making plans for that probably much needed spring expansion!

Dr. Jena Questen is a highly qualified koi vet in Colorado. She invites RMKC members to email questions to her regarding koi diseases, conditions, something you heard through the grapevine or saw in your pond. You can email your questions to [jena@rman.com](mailto:jena@rman.com)

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**Welcome**  
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Welcome to the newest members of the Rocky Mountain Koi Club

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**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE RMKC HOLIDAY PARTY AND GIFT EXCHANGE**

When: Saturday, December 6th

Where: Malley Senior Recreation Center  
 3380 South Lincoln Street  
 Englewood, CO

Time: **6:00 pm** –Setup, sign-in  
**6:30 pm** –Potluck Dinner

**A-M** please bring a Salad, Side Dish or Dessert,  
**N-Z** please bring a Main Dish.

Please bring a dish to feed at least 12.

**7:00 pm –9:00 pm** – GIFT EXCHANGE

If you want to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift. Nobody should know which gift you bring, so don't put your name on it. It should be an item with a koi or pond related theme that someone would want or use (or you could make it interesting and bring something totally off the wall). You can bring one gift as a couple/family, or one gift per person. The recommended price range per gift is \$10 - \$20. The rules of the gift exchange will be reviewed at the party. We hope to see you there!!




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**Vice President**-Wayne Harris

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[wkharris@msn.com](mailto:wkharris@msn.com)

**Secretary**-Shannon Langeberg

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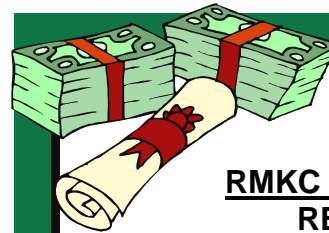
**Member at Large**-Katie Harris

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[wkharris@msn.com](mailto:wkharris@msn.com)

**Webmaster**-Steve Johnson

[Stevej46@comcast.net](mailto:Stevej46@comcast.net)



## RMKC FINANCIAL REPORT

**Beginning Balance**  
as of 8/31/08:

\$6,774.42

**Deposits:**

\$413.36

**Withdrawals:**

\$2,375.77

**Ending Balance as of**  
8/31/08:

\$4,812.01

A detailed report is available  
upon request.

*Jeff Langeberg*  
RMKC Treasurer



## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Jennifer Trueblood	720-320-1332	jenntrue1@aol.com
<b>AKCA Representative:</b>	Barb Flowers	303-283-9113	bjfnjbf@yahoo.com
<b>Education:</b>	RMKC Board (John Flowers)	303-283-9113	bjfnjbf@yahoo.com
<b>Membership:</b>	Mark Bussinger	303-893-0019	MBussinger@hotmail.com
<b>Expos:</b>	Katie Harris	303-932-9921	wnkharris@msn.com
<b>Auction:</b>	RMKC Board (John Flowers)	303-283-9113	bjfnjbf@yahoo.com
<b>Pond Tour:</b>	Wayne Harris Juergen Schreiber	303-932-9921 303-337-2455	wnkharris@msn.com splasherpond@yahoo.com
<b>Show:</b>	RMKC Board (John Flowers)	303-283-9113	bjfnjbf@yahoo.com
<b>Koi Rescue:</b>	Larry Hutchinson	303-781-4511	klhutch@mac.com

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