



# M A Y 2 0 1 0 N E W S L E T T E R

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

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Charles Phelps



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### May 6th - Meeting

Nunnlea House  
1940 S. Hurstbourne Pkwy  
7:00 Refreshments  
7:30 Meeting

### May 29 & 30th - Show

6806 Briscoe Lane  
Memorial Day Weekend

June - No Activity Planned

## SHOW ME THE ~~MONEY~~ FISH!

### The 15th Annual GLK&GS Show is Memorial Day Weekend (May 29, 30th)

The location will again be at the estate of Charles & Carolyn Phelps located at 6806 Briscoe Lane. Parking available at Moore High School on the Outer Loop. (4 miles east of Jefferson Mall)

**Koi and Goldfish Judging will be Saturday at 10:00 am**  
**Awards Banquet will be Saturday at 7:30 pm (RSVP needed)**  
**Exhibits and Vendors open Saturday 9 - 4, Sunday 9 - 3**  
**Pond Merchandise Ruffled all Day Sat. & Sun.**  
**Judges Walk Sunday Morning (Hear why they Won)**  
**Koi/Goldfish Auction is Sunday at 2:30 pm**

We Hope to see All of You at the Show !!!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Please join us at the next meeting , May 6th . Besides covering Club Business we will finish up the details of this years show . Charles Phelps will finally get to cover the Koi Class Kararimono. Last month's meeting ran long and he agreed to come back to this month's meeting (LOL). Mike Pfeffer and I will give a presentation on selecting quality koi. Set up for this year's show will begin on Wednesday, May 26th at noon and will continue on Thursday into Friday. Anyone able to help is welcome to join us. It is always greatly appreciated. Besides the work, we have lots of fun and great food for the workers.

Last month's President message, I commented about being a little nervous. My nerves are much better as I have received updates from Tom Gladney about the progress on the vendors attending and from Carolyn Phelps on how many hobbyists are traveling to bring fish to this year's show. Sounds like our 15th Annual Show is on the right track and on schedule.

*Happy Koi Keeping!*  
Troy

## NEXT MEETING: MAY 6TH

At our final meeting before our Annual Show, the agenda will involve putting the final details together for the show. Charles Phelps will discuss the Koi Class of Kararimono. Also, Mike Pfeffer and Troy Head will give a presentation on selecting Tosai (baby koi). This will be perfect timing, since there will be 100's if not 1000's of koi to purchase. We will also have set aside time to answer any pond or fish related questions. Hope to see as many club members and guests there.

*Which one would you choose?*



## SHOWING FISH

Although, many of you have reserved show tanks for your koi and goldfish, we still have a few show tanks available. For those still "on the fence", please contact Carolyn Phelps at 502-239-1323 to reserve your spot.



**Note: For those bringing fish, please try to bring 1 or 2 extra koi or goldfish to help make things more challenging for the judges.**

## PhD - Pond Health Directors

This program gives all club members a list of contacts for pond or fish related issues.

Cindy Badder - 502-538-3240

Mike Pfeffer - 502-254-7432

Carrie Albert - 502-637-7957

Troy Head - 502-243-6152

*Please place calls between 9 am - 9 pm*

## KOI 101 - May Lesson

Quarantining - When purchasing new fish, we caution against ever placing these new purchases directly in your pond or fish tank without proper quarantine measures of at least 30 days. You could jeopardize the health of existing fish as well as your new ones.

## SUPPORT THE SHOW VENDORS

If you are a pond hobbyist, there is a good chance that this spring/summer you will need to buy fish food, water quality test kits or dechlorinator, etc. You'll probably even want to buy a new plant or a fish or two. Why not buy from the vendors during the show. Many vendors have come a long distance to support our club. Please try to return the support by purchasing from them during the show and even afterwards.

## 2010 CLUB ANNUAL DUES

The 2010 Annual Dues are the same as last year.

**\$20.00**

You can send your payment to:  
GLK&GS c/o Charles Phelps,  
6806 Briscoe Ln., Louisville, KY 40228

Note: If you have not renewed your membership, this will be the second to last newsletter you will receive. Please send your renewal in before the show, if possible, because of the hectic pace during the show weekend.

*Thank You*



## APRIL MEETING

At the April meeting, Tom McCurry and Earl Eckman educated us about Bonsai. Part of the education was the sculpting of a tree. It was amazing to see the transformation of an ordinary evergreen into a beautiful sculpted bonsai. At the end of the evening, Don Davis was announced the lucky winner from the raffle for the newly sculpted bonsai. Also at the meeting, Mike Pfeffer showed us proper filter design as well as the importance it has on fish and pond health. Thanks to Tom, Earl and Mike for their presentations.

## TROPHY SPONSORSHIP

Many of our club members have stepped up and sponsored a trophy for the show. We still have more available. For as little as \$25 for a Goldfish trophy or \$50 for a Koi trophy. You or your company can sponsor your favorite variety of fish. Help spread the word and ask your employer to support their local non-profit Koi & Goldfish Club. Your name will be displayed with the trophies as well as printed in the program that is given out to all who attend the show. Attendance to the awards banquet is not necessary but many do choose to attend to present their sponsored award. *Please contact Carolyn Phelps at 502-239-1323. **The club thanks you for the support.***

## GO PAPERLESS

We are still being contacted by members who want to receive their monthly newsletters by email. Please consider this option. Simply give us your email address. You can email a message to Headache6@bellsouth.net stating your name and that you would like to receive your newsletter by email instead of snail mail.

### 2010 GLK&GS AGENDA

May 29th & 30th - 15th Annual Koi & Goldfish Show

June - No GLK&GS Activity Planned

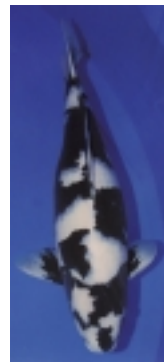
July 10th - Annual Club Pond Tour  
Time & Locations TBA

August 14th - Picnic or TBA

September 4th - Roadtrip to Ikona Koi Show

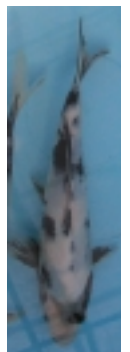
October - Mud Pond Harvest  
Date & Time TBA

December - Annual Christmas Party  
Time & Location TBA



So, you want a magnificent fish like this in your pond?

Don't forget, it started out as this tosai!



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# Hand Taming Fish

by Sandee Hennessy

As far as hand taming fish. Hm-m-m. It helps to have at least **one** in the tank that likes people, but it is not necessary if you are patient. My sister's fish were really wild when she got them and would dash around and slam into the end of the tank if you even walked in the room. At feedingtime, they would huddle at the other end of the tank and wait till you left the room before they would eat. I watched them for a while. I told her to let them get a little hungry (not ravenous) and then just put one or two pellets in the end away from them and step back a couple of feet. Eventually one becomes brave enough to come for the food. Let him get it and swim away. Then do the whole process again. Next go ahead and feed them normally. They do have little pea brains you know. Within a few days the other fish figure out that the guy who goes to the person gets fed first and you are on your way. I personally feel it's very important not to let them get so hungry that they frenzy, because then they aren't thinking. Think about **yourself**. It is really hard to enjoy some little gourmet delight if you are so hungry you could eat the wall paper. She now has a fish that will take food from her mouth are we nuts or what? Once they are comfortable in coming to you for food, put a few pellets in and trail your hand in the water. At first they may be a little afraid to come for food with your hand there, but again, one will be brave and take a chance. ***Don't even think about touching them yet.***

More time passes and you put your hand in with no food. They aren't afraid of the hand now and associate it with food. When they approach the hand really closely give them a pellet or two. Eventually they will pluck at your hand, when they do that give them a little food. I make the little koi give me "fishy kisses" before they get food. Sometimes they feel like they are going to tear off my hide, but as they get bigger their mouths get softer and they are lots less aggressive. Once you get fishy kisses it's an easy matter to just lightly brush your hand along them while they are eating—pretend it's an accident. They may kind of quiver at first—like you do when a bug is crawling on you. Over time you will be able to cradle them in your hand or stroke them gently. I try to avoid touching along the lateral line. I just feel this is a really sensitive area. Tummies and backs and mouths seem fine. I don't put my fist in the water with food in it. I have seen people do this and the fish come up and suck it out, but again I feel when they do that the fish are not really thinking they are just frenzied. I would rather have them come to me of their own accord with the hopes that they will get food. It's sort of like training a mammal with food rewards and gradually removing the food until they forget about it. Not all fish will respond to this. For example, Savannah will not come to me. It's just her nature and she probably never forgave me for Ernst. Just kidding. She just never has been a **people** fish. She likes to look at me through her magnifying glass that hangs on the tank, but touching and hand feeding is out. Then on rare occasions you run into one like Ernst and Little Ernie who just crave touching with no food reward at all. Those are both ends of the spectrum and most fish fall somewhere in the middle. Because Ernst and Little Ernie are so exceptional I hadn't really thought much about all the others in this regard, but the vast majority of my fish will allow some touching and will approach to nibble at me or brush against me. It has one draw back. When I am cleaning tanks I have to be careful that I don't accidentally smack one when I am concentration on the siphon. Smaller groups of fish are easier to work with than say a couple of dozen in a tank. No more than six at a time seems pretty ideal. That way you can observe and evaluate each fish's response and behavior. Younger is better, but older is not impossible. When you move them to a new location, sometimes they sort of freak out for a while, but then they settle down again. That's all I have been able to figure out on the subject. Do I get in the Guinness Book of Records as fish trainer? Maybe I'll teach them to swim through hoops.