



## How To Self Diagnose and Treat Fish Health Problems

Jackie Allsup (Iowa) - has been a certified KHA (Koi Health Advisor) since 2004 and "ponder" for over 20 years. "My goal is to help other hobbyist realize they can address many simple fish health issues themselves. Because I've made every mistake



Jackie Allsup

in the books and killed more koi than most people will ever own, I'm coming to share my PPFPE (Personal Preferences From Previous Experience!!) I'll preach about causes, discuss symptoms, suggest treatments, and encourage you to handle your sick fish yourself."

### Don't Miss This!

**What:** How to Self Diagnose and Treat Fish Health Problems

**Where:** Missouri Botanical Garden,  
CBEC Building, Rm 125  
4651 Shaw Blvd  
Corner of Kingshighway & Shaw

**When:** Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m.

**Who:** Jackie Allsup,  
Koi Health Advisor

## Get your Pond-O-Rama tickets!

Pond-O-Rama tickets for our 2018 Pond and Garden Tour will be available to members at the May and June general meetings. Each member household is entitled to two free tickets. Each person 18 years of age or older visiting the gardens must have a ticket, but children under the age of 18 do not need one. Tickets will be delivered to retail outlets in mid-May. For a list of all retailers who are selling Pond-O-Rama tickets, see our website ([www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org)) on the Pond-O-Rama page or call 314-995-2988.

You can buy additional tickets at our May or June regular meeting for \$15 each, or you can order tickets from our website, [www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org), to be sent by mail for an additional \$3 per ticket, for mailing costs. Tickets will be mailed upon receipt of the order and the payment.

We are also offering a discount of \$2 off each ticket ordered in groups of 10 or more. For more information about the group ticket purchases, text Joan Ziskind at 636-448-5411, email her at

[joan.ziskind@yahoo.com](mailto:joan.ziskind@yahoo.com) (note the period between the names) or call and leave a message at 636-394-6342.

Don't know what this is all about? Our 18<sup>th</sup> annual Pond-O-Rama Pond and Garden tour will feature 33 beautiful water features and private gardens located throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area and in metro east. You can go north or south, east or west and find St. Louis Water Garden Society members ready to share their gardens and talk about their ponds. Each location is scheduled for one of the two days of the tour, either Saturday, June 23 or Sunday, June 24. The hours for this self-guided tour are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. One-third of the locations are new to the tour this year, so there will be lots to see. Plan to spend both days visiting with our members. Please be aware that there are some spectacular installations a bit further out that should not be missed.





## POND-O-RAMA VOTE ON SIGN CHANGES

The Pond-O-Rama signs that indicate stops on the Pond tour are needing constant maintenance and storage has been difficult. They have been wonderful, unique markers for the past 17 years, but the time has come for a change.

Our membership is being asked to approve the expenditure of up to \$4500 for the purchase of 50 8-foot feather flags to mark our POR host sites. Since they will only be used one day a year, they should

last for at least 10 years, they are tall enough to be seen over parked cars, and, fluttering in the wind, should attract the attention of those on tour. When the cost is prorated over 10 years, the cost of each is less than \$10 per flag per year. The banners come with a stake kit, poles and a carrying bag.

We'd appreciate your support of this next step.

### St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles are Sponsoring Pond-O-Rama again this year!

St Louis Homes and Lifestyles, has sponsored St Louis Water Garden Society Pond-O-Rama for a number of years. They promote our tour through social media, email blasts, and a Pond-O-Rama ad in the June issue. The editors and writers enjoy visiting our members water gardens each year with many of our members' gardens have been featured in the magazine throughout the years.

This year Dan and Carol Gravens' water garden is featured in the May 2018 issue of "St Louis Homes and Lifestyles" magazine!

What a great way to feature one of the best gardens tours in the area!

### A Few Ponds from Last years Tour...




(314) 831-0344



**LAND WORKS, INC.**  
Design • Ponds • Plants • Patios • Walls

**BARCLAY H. COMPTON**  
*President*

3295 Charbonier Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63031

[www.landworksnet.com](http://www.landworksnet.com)  
Email: [landworks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:landworks@sbcglobal.net)

"Water Garden and Landscape Paradise Creations"

*Ellen Kloubec*



**Kloubec Koi Farm**  
North America's Premier Breeder of Champion Koi

o (319) 846.2077  
f (319) 846.8099  
[ellen@kloubeckoi.com](mailto:ellen@kloubeckoi.com)

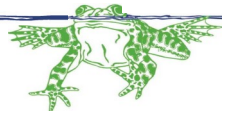
[kloubeckoi.com](http://kloubeckoi.com)







# Presidential Ponderings



Greetings, Folks!

Well, maybe this is Spring? While I'm writing this, it appears the Spring may FINALLY have arrived! It's been a long, strange, winter! Normally by mid-April I've divided my plants and biological activity is well underway, and I would have started feeding my fish, butnot this year!

Our annual plant auction went well. We made about \$480 with essentially zero expenses. We had fewer offerings this year (no doubt due to the climate) but some very high-quality ones, and the bidding went well.

In May we have Jackie Allsup, from a sister club in Iowa, coming to talk about diagnosing diseases in your fish. I'm sure many of you have had healthy fish just keel over. I'm sure Jackie will provide some insight into what may have happened. I'm looking forward to her presentation.

The annual koi auction is approaching. I hope your fish survived the winter well, but, in case they didn't, come on out and bid on some replacements!

Pond-O-Rama is progressing. We don't have quite as many ponds this year as in the past but that promises to allow a better opportunity to see them all! A side note: Our host signs have been subjected to years of rough use and are showing their age. We are looking at a replacement proposal with an eye to obtaining signs that are more durable, are more attractive, and that will do a better job of catching the eye of persons searching for host residences.

The Koi show is moving along. Timberwinds (the nursery where we'll be helping to sponsor the show) has provided us with additional space for vendors and we've had a LOT of interest from all over. Our club members will be provided the opportunity to enter

some of their fish in the show, if they wish, though space will be limited and reserving a place will require acting quickly. In addition to the show itself there will be a banquet at which the judging results from the show will be announced. This show is a first for St. Louis. Many thanks to Pam and Rick Jokerst, and Steve Metzler for their efforts and contribution on behalf of the show. It promises to be BIG!

Well folks, we've got a new dog residing with us. He's a young pointer and he's learning his way around. So far, he has shown a preference for drinking pond water rather than his intended source (the communal dog bowl). He has shown an interest in exploring. He climbs all over the waterfall and has fallen into the pond several times! Fortunately, the netting was still in place so extricating himself didn't involve having to swim, and he has displayed remarkable snake-hunting abilities much to Sherry's delight. Every time we let him out he makes a "beeline" for the last location where he'd spotted one of the legless reptiles. Fortunately, unlike "Big Boy's" early reaction to being introduced to koi, he hasn't shown any interest in trying catch any of them. Judging from his initial reaction to seeing them he appears to be confused as to what they are. I suspect the size of some of the fish intimidates him. I'm hoping that behavior continues and that his snake hunting instincts don't evolve into fish hunting also!

Dave Stahre

**HARTKE NURSERY**  
*"Good growing begins here"*



1030 N. Warson Rd.  
 St. Louis, MO 63132

**Cindy Collins**  
 Owner, Certified Nurseryman  
 Certified Arborist

(314) 997-6679  
 FAX: (314) 997-6778

E-mail: [hartke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hartke@sbcglobal.net)  
 Website: [www.hartkenursery.com](http://www.hartkenursery.com)



**Saul's Custom Designs**  
 Landscape Design

Unique Creations of . . .

Landscape Design • Installation • Maintenance  
 Water Gardens • Fountains • Lighting • Atriums  
 Stonework • Retaining Walls • Patios • Irrigation

10601 Trenton Ave.  
 St. Louis, MO 63132  
[scd-dr@charter.net](mailto:scd-dr@charter.net)

**John C. Saul**  
**636-300-1770**



**Wild Birds Unlimited®**  
Nature Shop in Florissant

2644 N. Highway 67 • Florissant, MO 63033 • 314-830-3533 • wbu.com/florissant  
BIRD FOOD • FEEDERS • GARDEN ACCENTS • UNIQUE GIFTS • PET FOOD

**Design Reflections**  
Reflections

*"THE AQUATIC SOURCE" • Unique Creations •*

Design – Installation – Maintenance ♦ Water Gardens / Features / Supplies  
Filtration Systems ♦ Ozone Systems ♦ Pondless ♦ Faux ♦ Fountains  
[scd-dr@charter.net](mailto:scd-dr@charter.net) **636.300.1770**  
10601 Trenton Ave. St. Louis, MO 63132-1208

Proud Supporter of the  
**Pond-O-Rama Tour**  
since 2005

Pick up your **FREE** copy at  
more than 400 locations  
throughout the Metro area  
or read it online at  
[GatewayGardener.com](http://GatewayGardener.com)

**THE GATEWAY GARDENER®**  
Your Guide to Enjoyable Gardening and Easy-Care Landscapes

**Need fish, fish food, pond equipment/supplies, landscape and/or pond designs or plants? All that and more is available from our advertisers. Drop by or call them when you need help.**

**Walter Knoll Florist**  
LANDSCAPES

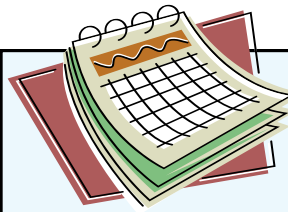
Your Personal Florist and Landscape Specialist Since 1883

Walter Knoll Florist is a full service landscaping company offering

- Plant Maintenance
- Landscaping
- Lawn Service
- Outdoor Lighting
- Walkways
- Driveways
- Paver Installation

And new for 2015  
• Complete line of grill stations and grill accessories

Give us a call to schedule your appointment.  
Walter Knoll Florist 314-633-8770



## St. Louis Water Garden Society Calendar of Events

Membership meetings in 2018 will be held on the dates and at the locations listed below between 7 and 9 p.m. Meetings will be held at the Missouri Botanical Garden Ridgway Center, Beaumont Room, on the third Tuesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

**May 15— Jackie Allsup, Koi Advisor, Howto Self Diagnosis and Treat Fish Health Problems, in the CBEC Building, 4651 Shaw Ave.**

**June 3 — Tosai Koi Auction at the Jokersts home — 11 a.m. viewing, auction at Noon**

**June 19—To be Determined, P-O-R Host Meeting at 6 p.m. before regular meeting**

**June 23-24 —Pond -O-Rama**

**July 17—To be Determined**

**August 21—Jewel Box, Annual Banquet 6p.m.-9p.m.**

**September 14-16 — St. Louis Koi Show with NMZNA**

**September 18—To be Determined, in the CBEC Building, 4651 Shaw Ave.**

**September 29th — 14th Annual Tiki Tour 6:30 p.m. –10:30 p.m.**

**October 16— To be Determined**

**November 13—Annual Potluck & Elections, in the CBEC Building, 4651 Shaw Ave.**

Pot luck dinner and election of officers. Nominations will be accepted for the positions of President and Secretary to serve two-year terms

**All great things begin with a plan.**

Creative Landscapes LTD goal is to give you the individual service you expect, the expertise you need. We have established ourselves as the Metro East's leader in landscape design, installation and the first to apply computer imaging technology to the design process.

Call us today for your custom computer image design!

**CREATIVE LANDSCAPES LTD**  
**618-632-9338**

Proudly serving Illinois & Missouri for over 20 years







# Koi Show Update

Our St. Louis Koi Show work continues. At our meetings, members are inquiring and asking to help. What a great club we have! Volunteer opportunities will be outlined in the next couple of months. There will be jobs for all! The date is September 14-16.

A few updates--we are taking vendor requests for show participation and because of the large response, have secured additional space from owner, Mike Curran, at Timberwinds Nursery, the show site in Ellisville. His cooperation and willingness to help has eased any anxiety to accommodate the overwhelming interest. I encourage our SLWGS members to visit his store to check things out. They have a wide variety of plants, trees and garden items to help get your pond and gardens looking their best for this season.

We are also trying to plan for show vat requests. NMZNA has a limited number available. We have made arrangements with both the Chicago and Louisville clubs to borrow extra vats. Please let Rick know if you are considering showing your koi. The space and vats are limited and will go fast. SLWGS members will receive a special reduced rate of \$40 for a 6-foot vat and \$60 for an 8-foot vat. These need to be reserved asap.

As mentioned in previous articles, a special show event is available for SLWGS members. You will have the opportunity to purchase a hand-selected jumbo tosaï show-quality koi for group entry into the show. This will be done on a lottery basis and is limited. The koi will be grown out for the summer at the Jokersts' pond and taken to the show for judging. The koi will be arriving in June for viewing and selection. Each purchase comes with a complimentary Saturday night awards banquet ticket. So far, 25 of these koi have already been spoken for.

Don't miss out on this exciting event.  
Get in on the fun!



*Rick Jokerst  
AKCA/KoiUSA Representative*

Out on a Limb and  
need some help?



Find resources at  
[www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org)!

**BAUER FALLS LLC.**  
636 357 3495  
RECREATING THE WONDERS OF NATURE

**PondMarket.com**  
500 South County Center Way  
St. Louis MO 63129

Toll Free: 800-577-5605  
Local: 314-894-2894  
Info@pondmarket.com

Water Features  
Fish & Plants  
Ponds & Waterfalls  
Knowledgeable Staff

**More than just Ponds...Since 1997**  
Retail/Wholesale, In-Store & Online Sales, Design, Maintenance & Installation  
Certified Installers and Nurserymen

Come see our **NEW** displays, feed our fish, and have some fun!





The St. Louis Water Garden Society is a member of the Associated Koi Clubs of America (AKCA). Visit the association's website at [www.akca.org](http://www.akca.org).



2541 LINK ROAD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63114  
314-426-4838, [www.mprsupply.com](http://www.mprsupply.com)





**COUPON**  
**Basket Bucks**  
**\$10 off** your purchase of \$60 or more

Take advantage of this great offer and you'll enjoy savings on top of our great service and selection. Offer expires April 25, 2015. This Basket Bucks discount applies to most prices only and is not valid with any other offer or discount. Excludes special orders. Stock on hand. While supplies last.

Proud retailer of quality EzPond aquatic plants





1700 East HWY 50 • O'Fallon, IL  
618.632.9055  
[www.joesmarketbasket.com](http://www.joesmarketbasket.com)

447 South Buchanan • Edwardsville, IL  
618.632.9055

Edwardsville and O'Fallon Locations only

**Looking for more information about pond building, plants or fish care? Visit our website,**

**[www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org)**  
**Check out our "Articles of Interest" section and "Links We Like" for help.**



618-234-4600  
[www.EffingerGarden.com](http://www.EffingerGarden.com)  
720 South 11th St.  
Belleville, IL 62220





**Water Word** is published by the St. Louis Water Gardening Society 10 times annually, and is distributed to all members. The newsletter contains information about water gardening and fish-keeping, as well as information about SLWGS meetings and activities. Contributions of articles and photos are welcome and should be sent to the Water Word editor listed below. Documents should be in common text formats, and photos should be in high resolution (300 dpi or higher) jpeg format. The deadline for submissions is the first of each month.

Information about the Society, including how to join, can be found at our website, [www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org) or from any of the officers and board members listed:

### 2018 SLWGS Officers and Board Members

- |                              |                |                |  |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| President                    | Dave Stahre    | (618) 623-9341 | <a href="mailto:dstahre@hotmail.com">dstahre@hotmail.com</a>         |
| Vice President               | Joe Summers    | (636) 527-2001 | <a href="mailto:chalilypond@aol.com">chalilypond@aol.com</a>         |
| Treasurer                    | Ginny Mueller  | (314) 831-3063 | <a href="mailto:vcmueller16@hotmail.com">vcmueller16@hotmail.com</a> |
| Recording Secretary          | Sherry Nelms   | (618) 365-1057 | <a href="mailto:sher200856@yahoo.com">sher200856@yahoo.com</a>       |
| Publicity Chairman           | Ginny Mueller  | (314) 831-3063 | <a href="mailto:vcmueller16@hotmail.com">vcmueller16@hotmail.com</a> |
| Special Events Chairman      | Pam Jokerst    | (314) 276-9461 | <a href="mailto:pamjokerst@gmail.com">pamjokerst@gmail.com</a>       |
| Society Shirt Sales Chairman | Ruth Mosley    | (314) 878-7281 | <a href="mailto:rgbmosley@aol.com">rgbmosley@aol.com</a>             |
| Librarian                    | Betsy Meier    | (636) 405-1120 | <a href="mailto:lidodeck@att.net">lidodeck@att.net</a>               |
| Membership/E-mail Chairman   | Gail Abernathy | (314) 427-7076 | <a href="mailto:abernat@swbell.net">abernat@swbell.net</a>           |
| Jewel Box Chairman           | Kay Miskell    | (618) 344-6216 | <a href="mailto:km99@att.net">km99@att.net</a>                       |
| Water Word Editor            | Gail Abernathy | (314) 427-7076 | <a href="mailto:abernat@swbell.net">abernat@swbell.net</a>           |
| Website Chairman             | Mary Nies      | (636) 458-2149 | <a href="mailto:marycnies@gmail.com">marycnies@gmail.com</a>         |
| AKCA/ Koi USA Representative | Rick Jokerst   | (314) 368-2652 | <a href="mailto:rickjokerst@gmail.com">rickjokerst@gmail.com</a>     |
| Pond-O-Rama Chairman         | Joan Ziskind   | (636) 394-6342 | <a href="mailto:joan.ziskind@yahoo.com">joan.ziskind@yahoo.com</a>   |
| Parliamentarian              | Jeanne Lehr    | (314) 432-2842 | <a href="mailto:jeannelehr@yahoo.com">jeannelehr@yahoo.com</a>       |
| Historian                    | Joe Summers    | (636) 527-2001 | <a href="mailto:chalilypond@aol.com">chalilypond@aol.com</a>         |
| Hospitality Chairman         | Tonya Summers  | (636) 527-2001 | <a href="mailto:chalilypond@aol.com">chalilypond@aol.com</a>         |
| Past President               | Joe Summers    | (636) 527-2001 | <a href="mailto:chalilypond@aol.com">chalilypond@aol.com</a>         |

### Members-at-Large

- |                    |                |  |
|--------------------|----------------|--|
| John Nies          | (636) 458-2149 | <a href="mailto:jtnees@gmail.com">jtnees@gmail.com</a>             |
| Dan Gravens        | (314) 821-1786 | <a href="mailto:dgravens@sbcglobal.net">dgravens@sbcglobal.net</a> |
| Cathy Schallenberg | (618) 920-9104 | <a href="mailto:iwschall52@aol.com">iwschall52@aol.com</a>         |





# KOI SHOW CALENDAR

Koi Show season has begun! Plan a trip with one of these events in mind. Information provided by Pam Jokerst, Special Events Coordinator. Contact her at [pamjokerst@gmail.com](mailto:pamjokerst@gmail.com) or cell/314-276-9461.

## UPCOMING KOI SHOWS FOR 2018

- May 25-27 23rd Greater Louisville Koi and Goldfish Society Show--[louisvillekoiclub.com](http://louisvillekoiclub.com)-- KY
- June 22-24 26th Midwest Pond & Koi Society Show--[mpks.org](http://mpks.org)--Chicago, IL
- July 27-29 7th Tri-State ZNA Koi Show--[tristatezna.com](http://tristatezna.com)--New York, N.Y.
- July 28-29 38th Northwest Koi & Goldfish Club Show--[nwkg.org](http://nwkg.org)--Portland, OR
- August 3-5 11th Upper Midwest Koi Club Show--[uppermidwestkoiclub.org](http://uppermidwestkoiclub.org)--Minneapolis, MN
- August 24-26 7th Michigan Koi & Pond Club Show--[mkpc-se.com](http://mkpc-se.com)--Detroit, MI
- September 7-9 25th ZNA Potomac Koi Show--[znapotomac.org](http://znapotomac.org)-- Washington, D.C.
- September 14-16 17th NMZNA Koi Show at SLWGS--[nmzna.net](http://nmzna.net)--St. Louis, MO



**Timberwinds**  
Nursery

Plants-Trees-Pottery-Gift-Décor & More

54 Clarkson Road, Ellisville, MO 63011  
636-227-0095 Open 7 Days

[timberwindsnursery.com](http://timberwindsnursery.com)

*For Free Plants*

visit [www.sugarcreekgardens.com](http://www.sugarcreekgardens.com)  
Here you will find a wealth of information on perennials, roses, annuals, vines, and shrubs, along with coupons for FREE PLANTS.



1011 N. Woodlawn,  
Kirkwood, Missouri 63122  
314-965-3070



**Chalily**  
pond & gardens

Free water hyacinths just for visiting our store!!!

**636.527.2001**

[chalilypond.com](http://chalilypond.com)

14430 Manchester Road  
Manchester, MO 63011  
owned by Joe & Tonya Summers



**Spectrum Brands** | Pet, Home & Garden



**Tetra Pond**

3001 Commerce Street, Blacksburg VA 25060-6671  
1.800.322.1266  
[www.tetra-fish.com/pond.aspx](http://www.tetra-fish.com/pond.aspx)  
[www.spectrumbrands.com](http://www.spectrumbrands.com)

## NOTE From Editor

\*\*\*Looking for articles. We'd love to have articles from members about their ponds or what we should be doing in our dirt gardens. Do not be afraid to write. Sharing your knowledge is what this club is all about. We learn from others who have the same interests.



## 8th Annual Tosai Koi Auction--June 3-- Come One, Come All

If you want some of the most premiere and unique koi to have in your pond...come to the auction!  
 If you want to sit six rows above the St. Louis Baseball Cardinal's dugout...come to the auction!  
 If you want a beautiful, handmade quilt...come to the auction!  
 If you want to win a tosai koi or butterfly koi...come to the auction!  
 If you want to meet other members and gain more knowledge about koi, lilies, and ponding...come to the auction!

The eighth annual St. Louis Water Gardening Society tosai koi auction will be held Sunday, June 3, 11am, at the home of Rick and Pam Jokerst in Town and Country. Jokerst and Steve Metzler have spearheaded the koi auction again this year, bringing to St. Louis koi buyers the “cream of the crop” of koi imported directly from top breeders in Japan, including Taniguchi, Marudo and Omosako. This introduction of one-of-a-kind koi is possible through relationships the Jokerst have built with several dealers. “We are very lucky to have made these connections,” Jokerst said. “Few clubs in the country have access to premium koi such as these.” Jokerst and his wife, Pam, make trips to personally choose the fish for the SLWGS auction. There will be many limited varieties available at the auction, such as Beni Kikukuryu, Gin Rin Saragoi, Kin Showa, and Yamato Nishiki (doitsu sanke), along with Showa, Sanke, Kohaku, Shiro Utsuri, Chagoi, Yamabuki and more.

Tosai koi are koi in the first year of life. In addition to the imported tosai, the auction will include tosai longfin (butterfly) koi for sale. There will also be several koi “grow outs” from previous auctions that Jokerst has cared for and grown to optimal size available for auction, and for viewing and educational purposes. In addition to the varied koi, there will be a number of tropical and hardy water lilies for auction. The varieties will be similar to those grown in the Jewel Box lily pools and will come from the same supplier, Florida

Aquatic Nurseries. And once again, Tomigai has donated koi food, which will be available for sale.

Fundraiser raffles will be held again this year. Jokerst has donated a pair of Diamond Box Cardinal tickets valued at over \$400. Several dates will be offered to choose from. Get your chances on a butterfly koi, a tosai koi and a beautiful handmade quilt by an SLWGS member. Door prize drawings will be held throughout the afternoon.

Complimentary hot dogs, snacks and beverages will be served. Viewing of the koi offered for sale and auction begins at 11am, with the auction beginning promptly at noon. You must be a member to bid or purchase. Membership forms will be available at the site or you can download the membership form at [www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org) or contact Pam at 314-276-9461 or [pamjokerst@gmail.com](mailto:pamjokerst@gmail.com). A SLWGS membership is \$25, plus you will receive two tickets for the 18th Pond-O-Rama Tour. Payment on auction bids are required at the time of purchase by either cash, check or credit card. The event will be held rain or shine. Covered seating is provided. All proceeds benefit SLWGS. Come and get to know fellow members. See you at the auction!

**Rick Jokerst**  
**AKCA/KoiUSA Representative**  
 cell/314-368-2652 [rickjokerst@gmail.com](mailto:rickjokerst@gmail.com)

Pond, Waterfall & Landscape Construction  
 Aquascape™ **2012 Artist of the Year**



**Nature's Re-Creations**  
 PONDS & FALLS

Chris Siewing      [www.Re-CreateNature.com](http://www.Re-CreateNature.com)  
 636. 223. 2330      [Facebook.com/NaturesReCreations](https://www.facebook.com/NaturesReCreations)

**PONDS PLUS** (636) 946-2242  
**Water Garden Center**  
[www.pondsplusstl.com](http://www.pondsplusstl.com)  
 1757 S. Old Hwy 94  
 St. Charles, MO 63303



**HOURS**  
 Mar-Oct (7 Days)  
 9 am - 6 pm  
 Nov-Feb (Fri, Sat, Sun)  
 10 am - 5 pm







Condo in Breckenridge, CO

## BROTHERS

There were three brothers. One brother was Adolph. He was a farmer and inherited the family farm. The other brothers, Crazy Ed and the third brother lived in a small house on the farm. These two brothers had no specific jobs, just helped out on the farm sometimes. They often carried burlap sacks, one for donated food and the other for loose coal, which they picked up to heat their pot-bellied stove. The third brother's name was not known, and folks always said, "Here comes Crazy Ed and his brother".

Adolph had a large pond on his land. One morning we noticed a bulldozer leveling the land around the pond. When asked about the work being done, Adolph said he was building a cemetery, as there were only small private cemeteries on some of the older farms. A few days later, the bulldozer was scooping out the land. It looked like Adolph was enlarging his farm pond. Adolph said he had changed his mind about the cemetery and was constructing a larger pond. He said he had negotiated a contract with the zoo and was going to raise sea lions for them. Our previous experience with Adolph's plans tended to be suspicious about anything he said. Sea lions were no exception. Yes, it was a large commercial fishing pond--one dollar per day to fish, beer 15 cents, soda five cents.

Obviously, our koi ponds are not commercial fishing ponds or habitat for sea lions; however, there are similarities to Adolph's fishing pond. Let's consider a few.

Adolph's pond did not leak; year after year it always

held water. This is always a concern for us since loss of water is a critical criterium. Adolph had to stock his pond. At least twice a year a tank truck with catfish, bluegill, and crappie would appear. We also are always buying or tempted to buy just one more koi, particularly at our June koi auction. Fishing tackle and equipment? Obviously, we don't need the old rod and reel. They are in poor condition after many years of slumber in the garage. We do need, however, a good quality net, maybe two, various pumps, air bubblers, thermometer, filters, water test equipment, fish food, etc., and someone to do all the fish pond maintenance. One time-consuming problem is algae, particularly in the spring. We don't use algacides; however, we add natural products to manage the algae. I consider them safer for the koi. Adolph, I suspect, did not consider algae a problem.

The name "Crazy Ed" may be offensive to many people. For whatever reasons, that was his name. Let's consider some background information about him. He had his own home, shared with the third brother. Family, friends and neighbors gave him food, and he had vegetables grown on the farm, donated clothing, and friendship. Crazy Ed didn't pay taxes, didn't owe money and did whatever he wanted to do. I must admit his dental care might have been limited. But just how crazy was "Crazy Ed"? I wonder.

*By Dan Gravens*



SLWGS *Water Word*  
 10922 Killdare Court  
 St. Ann, MO 63074  
[www.slwgs.org](http://www.slwgs.org)



**Inside this edition:**

How to Self Diagnose and treat fish Health Problems ..... Page 1  
 Get Your Pond-O-Rama Tickets .Page 1

**Also Inside:**

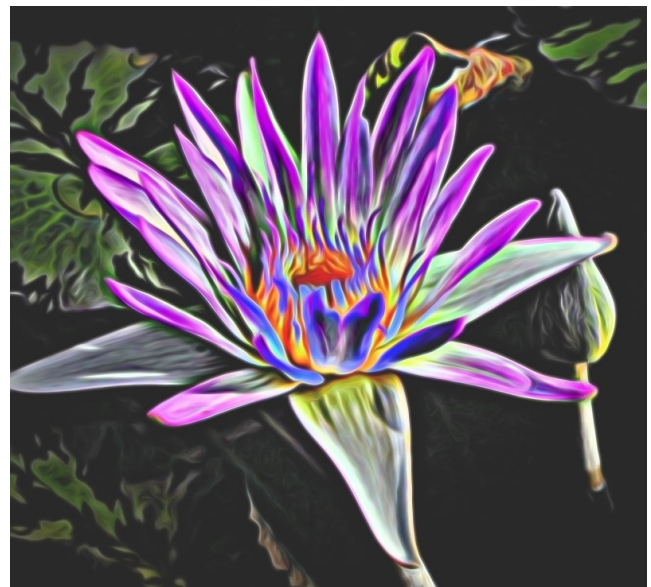
P-O-R Vote Signs Changes ..... Page 2  
 St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles..... Page 2

Presidential Ponderings ..... Page 3  
 SLWGS Calendar of Events..... Page 4  
 St. Louis Koi Show Update ..... Page 5

2018 SLWGS Officers and Board  
 Members.....Page 6  
 Koi Show Calendar .....Page 7  
 Note From Editor.....Page 7  
 8th Annual Tosai Koi Auction ..... Page 8  
 Brothers .....Page 9

Photo of the Month .....Page 10

**Photo of the Month**



A tropical Lily from the Jewel Box. A few clicks and look at the unique art you can create.