

Genesee Valley Pond & Koi Club Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 6

June 2004

New Watergarden Plants for 2004



Carla's Sonshine - a rare tropical yellow viviparous water lily. It has deep yellow flowers which are displayed above beautifully mottled foliage.

Gigantea "Albert de Lestang" - large topical. Flowers up to 10" in diameter, are white, edged with blue. Blossoms stand 10" above the water's surface.

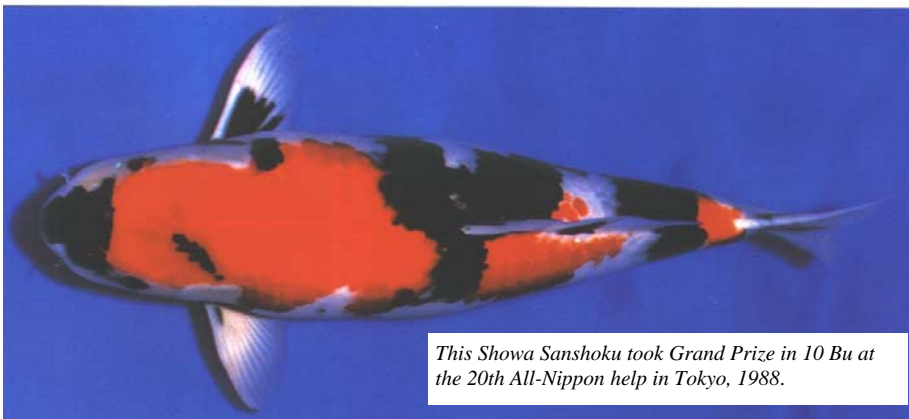


Key Largo - a tropical lavender lily. It has cupped shaped flowers and speckled leaves. It has a compact growth habit and a slight cold tolerance.

Dwarf Giant Papyrus - grows to a height of 24 inches. It has heads similar to the giant Egyptian papyrus. Hardy to zone 9. Grows in full sun to medium shade.



Fish of the Month The SHOWA SANKE



This Showa Sanshoku took Grand Prize in 10 Bu at the 20th All-Nippon help in Tokyo, 1988.

The Showa Sanke make its debut during 1927. It was developed by Jukichi Hoshino, who paired a Koshaku with a Ki-Utsuri. Other breeders refined the Showa, after which it became firmly established as one of the big three in Japan.

Ashowa Sanke is essentially a black koi on which white and Hi are imposed; another way of looking at it would be to imagine a Taisho in which the Sumi area are much enlarged so they at least equate.

The desirable points are as follows:

- It must have Sumi at the base of the pectoral fins—no stripes as in the Taisho.
- It should not have plain white pectorals nor should they be all Sumi.
- There should be no Hi in the fin or tail.
- In the Showa, the Sumi may extend down past the lateral line, but this is not so in the Taisho.
- The Showa should have Sumi on the head forward of the eyes.

A few varieties of the Showa:

- Boka Showa—The Sumi must be coal black, but in the Boke it is blurred and bluish in places as though the black had not made it to the surface of the koi.
- Hi Showa—This is a Showa with a large Hi patch which runs from head to tail.

Genesee Valley Pond And Koi Club Newsletter
Volume 8 Issue 6 June, 2004

It was a nice coincidence to welcome spring and our guest speaker Carol Southby for our May meeting. Her photos and explanations of the various plants, scenes and wildlife were well received by everyone. The details, colors and combinations in her photos gave us a good indication of what we can accomplish in some of our wetter sites even in early spring. She also stressed that we do not have to limit ourselves to just the suggested site conditions that are recommended for the various plant materials. But, if the plants are readily available or reasonably priced, we should experiment by gradually introducing them to the locations and conditions in which we would prefer them to grow. They will let us know if they are unhappy and, hopefully, we can relocate them to an alternate site to save them for a later date and trial. Carol also suggested that we could create containers or pocket areas within various garden sites to provide the special soil conditions that the plant materials may require. This would help them establish themselves in otherwise unfavorable soils. Another point that she highlighted, was that some plants have

evolved with and may require certain bacteria, fungi and other specific elements in the soil in order to adapt successfully. This may require a little extra effort on our part to learn about the native plants so that we can successfully grow them and contribute to their survival.

As you hopefully noticed from the calendar page, the next few months have a full schedule of interesting events.

You could start with the Proud Market plant sale at RCGC on Saturday, May 29th. The sale starts at 8:00 am and continues until all plants are sold (usually around 11:30-noon).

At our June 4th meeting our guest speaker will be Paula Biles. Her topic will be All About Water Lilies-- Tropical and Hardy. Paula is well qualified on this topic since she has built several ponds of her own and in the process she became enthralled with tropical water lilies. She has taught classes for botanical gardens and pond businesses as well as being managing editor for *Pondkeeper* magazine. She has been very active in the International Water Gardening and Water Lily Society (IWGS) and is the

current executive director of that organization. In that capacity, she will also discuss the IWGS meeting in Toronto and share with us the informational and educational programs that will be available to participants and the benefits that individuals and clubs can derive from their participation in this event. Through the generosity of Larry and Sherry Nau and Bergen Water Garden and Nursery, we will be drawing the name of one lucky member to receive a round trip to Toronto on the Fast Ferry, overnight accommodations at the *Inn on the Park* on Friday, July 23rd and admission to the educational sessions on Saturday July 24th. This is a special donation that is open only to club members. All you have to do is notify us that you would like to have your name entered for the drawing. Please call me at 473-6276 before June 3rd or let us know before the start of the meeting. The drawing will be made after the break in the presentations. LilyFest is also important for us, since it provides us with an opportunity to answer questions about the club and water gardens and hopefully recruit new members. If you could spare an hour or so of your

Genesee Valley Pond And Koi Club Newsletter
Volume 8 Issue 6 June, 2004

time to help us promote the club, please let us know in advance or just volunteer while you are there participating in this great water gardening fest.

To help you plan on expanding your water gardening knowledge the schedule for informational presentations for Saturday, June 5th at LilyFest is: 1:00-2:00 Paula Biles--Water Gardening in containers. 2:00-3:00 Steve Miller--Dealing with nuisance wildlife around the pond. 3:00-4:00 Paula Biles--Water plant repotting and propagation.

You can also meet, ask questions and learn from the manufacturing representatives who will be available from 10:00am-5:00pm. They are:

-Ray Lucas of Kingfish Services representing Supreme, Python, Aquarium Pharmaceuticals and other pond and aquarium products. -Jeremy O'Neil of Tetra Pond Products.

- Kent Lobdell providing information and responding to questions regarding Savio products and Black River Nursery.

While all of these representatives are not only helpful with information about their product lines, they really enjoy talking

about the hobby in general and would welcome your visit and input on your successes and troubles.

We would appreciate the loan of some more mature specimen plants to position around the club area on that Saturday and Sunday to show how the plants can develop over time. This may help draw more people to our area and generate more interest in water gardening and the club. LilyFest is also our yearly fundraiser. We rely on donation of plant materials from our members for the auction on Sunday, June 6th at 1:00 pm. If you have any plants or divisions that you can donate to the auction please let me know or bring them to the meeting. Ray 'Kingfish' Lucas will be donating many of his display items to the auction and will also be our auctioneer for the event. The proceeds from the auction help to defray expenses for speakers, educational materials and registration/membership in support organizations. Your participation in any or all of the events of LilyFest weekend would be greatly appreciated. It would also show that we are an active, friendly and helpful group for the hobby in general and especially for our area.

John Kesel a representative from Rowe Photo will discuss garden photography with us at Bergen Water Garden and Nursery on Sunday, June 13th at 3:00pm. John will review the various techniques using the various display ponds as subjects. He will also delve into the pros and cons of using film versus digital photography.

NFKPC will hold their Koi show June 26th and 27th at Masterson's Garden Center in East Aurora. They will conclude this event with their plant and product auction at 2:00 pm on Sunday.

They have also advised us that due to unforeseen events, they have rescheduled their pond tour to Saturday, July 17th. I hope that anyone who had planned on joining in their tour this year, will be able to work the new date into their schedule.

We would like to start planning our pond tour now. It will be on Saturday, July 31st. If you would like to have your pond included in the tour or would be willing to host the picnic at the end of the tour please call Brian Nagel at 385-0495 or Larry Hursh at 473-6276 by the end of June.

Genesee Valley Pond And Koi Club Newsletter
Volume 8 Issue 6 June, 2004

We have talked many times about the necessity of quarantining fish before adding them to the pond. We have also advised that a cleaning and quarantine period for plants would also be helpful to minimize bringing unwanted plant materials into the pond. The newest issue of MAKC magazine has even better reasons for fish lovers to implement some type of cleaning and monitoring program for their plants. The following information was extracted from that article referring to the questions an answers section by Sarah Jane Brady and Betty Roemer

Q: What should I do with/to new plants to sanitize them before I add them to the pond?

A by Sarah Jane: Although the plants that we bring home may look healthy and clean, they may be carrying diseased eggs from fish or other inhabitants of the pond. They may possibly contain parasites and bacteria that may have worked their way into the soil.

As a minimum, the plants should be washed down thoroughly and, if possible, transplant them into a new batch of your favorite pond planting

soil. After this, I keep the water plants in a separate pool or water container for up to a week. Then I take the plants out and wash them and the pots down again before adding them to the pond. It is also recommended that you follow a similar procedure even with floating or unpotted plants. Plants can also be treated with a soak in a weak bleach and water solution to further sanitize them. This of course would require a very thorough rinsing to remove all traces of bleach before the plants are added to the pond. (A rinse in a dechlorinator may also be helpful to neutralize any residuals--Larry H.)

A by Betty: (This is a more intense treatment) What you want to kill or control the most at this stage is the bacteria or parasites that can be harmful to your fish. So it is best to use those chemicals and doses (adjusted for the volume of your treatment container) that you would use in the pond if the fish were infected.

Ideally, you can cleanse the plants with a soak in a salt or a Potassium Permanganate solution to control most parasites and bacteria. This can be very hard on some of the plants. What she thinks is the ideal pretreatment of the plants is: Wash away all of the soil. Soak the plant in a formalin/malachite green

solution for 3-4 hours. (This should not harm the plants). Rinse the plants well. Replant them in a sterilized clay type soil. Add water plant fertilizer tablets to help them recover from the extra handling and stimulate new growth. Top off the pot with your normal gravel or stone topping.

Betty also mentions that you can make your own plant fertilizer pouches by using 20-10-5 fertilizer or a similar equivalent wrapped in kleenex type tissue or toilet paper. Feed at a rate of approximately 2 teaspoons per gallon of soil in the pot. Sarah Jane also suggests that you can stimulate your water hyacinths by adding flower growth tablets or fertilizer to a temporary pool to encourage flower growth. After several days they can be removed, rinsed well and returned to the pond. This sounds like a worth while experiment for those [me] who have trouble getting their hyacinths to bloom.

I hope that the suggestions for the quarantine of plants as well as those supplied previously for treating new fish purchases will help to keep our charges well and enable all of us to have a great and trouble free pond season.

Genesee Valley Pond And Koi Club Newsletter
Volume 8 Issue 6 June, 2004

Board Members 2004

President: Larry Hursh
Vice President: Jere McQueen
Secretary: Kathy Hursh
Treasurer: John Roguski
Membership Secretary: Linda McQueen
Pond Tour Chairperson: Brian Nagel
Refreshments: Yvonne Wheeler and Kathy Hursh
Newsletter Editors: Hursh, James and Nau families
Mentor and Technical Adviser: Larry Nau

Purpose of the Club

To promote, create and enlarge the hobby of keeping, breeding, appreciating and exhibiting Koi.

To promote and appreciate the hobby of Water Gardening. To disseminate information about Koi and Water Gardening.

To socialize and have fun.

We meet at 7:00 pm on the first Friday of the month at the Rochester Civic Garden Center, 5 Castle Rd. off of Reservoir Rd. in Highland Park. Anyone interested in water gardening/koi is welcome to join us. We ask that you consider joining the club after your third visit.

For more information call Larry H. 473-6276 or Larry N. 293-1639 or e-mail lkhursh@aol.com.

Calendar of Events

May 29, 2004: RCGC Proud Market Plant Sale

June 4, 2004: Paula Biles from IWGS will be a guest speaker. Special drawing for a club member to win a trip to IWGS educational seminar in Toronto. Details inside.

June 4-6, 2004: LilyFest at Bergen Water Garden And Nursery. The club plant and product auction with Ray 'Kingfish' Lucas will be that Sunday afternoon @ 1pm. June 11, 2004: NFKPC meeting

June 13, 2004: Garden photography with John Kesel June 24-27, 2004: AKCA show and seminar "Adventures In Paradise" Honolulu, Hawaii

June 26-27, 2004: NFKPC Koi show and auction

July 9, 2004 : _Off_ site meeting to visit the gardens of Gerald Kral.

July 10, 2004: RCGC Garden Tour of Artful Gardens Date change -X& 17, 2004: NFKPC Pond Tour.

July 21-26: International Water Gardening And Waterlily Society (IWGS) Symposium in Toronto

July 31, 2004: GVPAKC pond tour.

"Naturally Green"- A live gardening show every Saturday from 9-10am on WYSL 1040 AM.

**Genesee Valley Pond And Koi Club 58
Azalea Rd.
Rochester, NY 14620**