

## MOUNTAIN VIEW KOI CLUB

Minutes of the meeting of August 21<sup>st</sup> 2011

Present: Edna Morin, Mary and Bill Bodnarok, Verne and Paula Gilkes, Jean-Paul and Lucie Lupien, Colette and Norman Poulin, Jean-Marc and Nicole Menard, David and Christine Morris.

The meeting was held at Jean-Marc and Nicole's. After the rain cleared we had a chance to admire the lovely pond and surrounding area. Verne and Jean-Marc removed a koi that had an abrasion on its side from the pond for the 'Scrape and Scope' demonstration. The fish was placed in a small tank and given a chance to calm down after its capture.

The meeting then moved indoors, Verne thanked Nicole and Jean-Marc for hosting this month's meeting.

Verne asked Christine to act as secretary for the meeting.

Treasurer's report – Paula reported that we had a balance of \$ 895.34. The raffle tickets were discussed later in the meeting.

Club activity – Verne explained the process of Scrape and Scope. This is when slime and scum are scraped from the side of the fish and examined under a microscope to check for parasites.

September Pond Tour on September 22<sup>nd</sup> in conjunction with the International Plowing Match. There are six ponds on the tour all around Vankleek Hill. Paula showed us a copy of the ticket, a very attractive and informative guide to the tour ponds. Tickets are \$10 each – Tour times are from 10 am to 5 pm.

A sign-up sheet was passed around for those wishing to volunteer to assist hosting at the pond sites. **THOSE VOLUNTEERING NEED TO MEET AT VERNE AND PAULA'S AT 9.00am.** Volunteers should wear their club pins at the event. Extra pins were available at \$7.00 each.

Pond at International Plowing Match – Verne is building a pond in the foyer of the community centre between September 19<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. As Leigh is unable to help at this time, Verne is looking for volunteers to help with this task. Several people volunteered.

Upcoming events – Mid-Atlantic Koi Show, September 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> in Westminster, Maryland.

Quality Koi Farm, Pensgrove, New Jersey. This is a koi harvest, October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Verne and Paula are planning to attend this event, Verne explained the process of koi harvesting.

Question period –

*What is the latest date you can introduce koi to the pond?* Verne replied that September should be ok, but a lot depends on how much feeding they have had in order to prepare them for winter, and the temperature of the water. If the fish have not been fed during transportation they may not have enough reserves to survive the winter.

*Can a single koi be introduced to a pond with just gold fish?* Its best to have more than one as they prefer the company of other koi.

At this point a heron flew over Jean-Marc's garden. This lead to a discussion on herons and how they can empty a pond.

We went outside where Verne scraped the fish that had been captured for the demonstration. The scraping was transferred to a glass slide and placed under a microscope. We were all given the opportunity to view the slide. No parasites were found.

Raffle tickets – We were shown the beautiful glass painting that is being raffled. Books of 5 tickets are available. Tickets are \$6 each or 3 for \$15. The drawing will be held at the Christmas meeting.

Moad Mountain Enterprise has eight koi, 8 to 10 inches, one of which will donated for a raffle to be held on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The winner will have their choice of the koi. Tickets are \$5 each.

Today's raffle was for a lovely solar garden ornament, the winner was Edna.

Suggestions for the October meeting – Verne put forward the following suggestions:

- 1) Closing the pond for winter;
- 2) Verne and Paula's visit to Quality Koi (re harvesting);
- 3) Keeping your koi inside for the winter.

The meeting was then adjourned. Next meeting September 25<sup>th</sup> at Verne and Paula's.

After the meeting Nicole and Jean-Marc provided a delicious lunch.

Submitted by:

Christine Morris