2017 PNKCA Convention Preview
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The 2017 PNKCA Convention is just around the corner! On August 4th to 6th, clubs from around the northwest will gather in beautiful Mount Vernon, Washington. Our theme *Koi: Completing the Pond Puzzle* provides the backdrop to a number of wonderful presentations and activities.

Activities begin Friday afternoon on the grounds of Pan Intercorp, world renowned importer of the finest koi that Japan has to offer. The open house will provide ample opportunity to view thousands of koi in an exclusive setting. Light refreshments and socializing will be the order of the day, however, ZNA Koi Judges Larry Christensen and Pat Christensen will offer a short, live session to demonstrate the process of judging high quality koi. In addition to viewing and learning about these stunning koi, rumors of a live auction persist – more to be determined later!

As Friday progresses, attendees will head north to the relative tranquility of the lower Skagit River Valley. The Best Western Skagit Inn and Convention Center in Mount Vernon, Washington is a short block away from the river, and provides the backdrop for our main convention activities. While further refinement is still underway, an array of first class speakers will be presenting seminars tailored to inform PNKCA hobbyists. Leading off, we have Dr. Richard Strange, Professor of the Forestry Department at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Strange has been a fisheries professor for over 30 years, and has taught and researched multiple aspects of aquaculture in both the professional and hobbyist areas. Take good notes, because you are bound to learn many new facts about koi nutrition and 'things you don't need' that will help you solve your own pond puzzle.

Keeping with the theme of high caliber aquatic professionals, we have also been fortunate to arrange a seminar by Dr. Aimee Reed DVM., PhD and Certified Aquatic Veterinarian. Dr. Reed is one of the world authorities on viral disease in aquatic animals and was instrumental in unraveling the mystery of Koi Herpes Virus. Dr. Reed has transitioned from research into clinical practice and now runs Reed Aquatic Veterinary Services in Portland, Oregon.

Our landscape is more than just a tool for keeping koi alive, and our next speaker's mission is to teach us how to make that landscape gorgeous! Nita-Jo Roundtree is always in demand amongst the horticultural crowd, and never more so than right now, fresh off of publication of her book *Growing Roses in the Pacific Northwest*. Nita-Jo has a spellbinding presentation that will make you anxious to rework that corner garden, anchored by her deft listing of roses suitable for your PNW location. Nita-Jo will also have copies of her book available for purchase and signing!

Additional speakers are in the works to provide a jam-packed day of seminars on a variety of subjects – in fact, we just learned that Spike Cover, a founding member of

KOI has agreed to give us a presentation! If you want to take a break, we will have a vendor fair running all day Saturday. Skagitek will be there with much-lauded Kenzen koi food and information on filtration equipment. Expect to find art and plant items too. Saturday will conclude with social hour, buffet dinner banquet, dessert, all followed by an entertaining auction and super raffle (please see flyer for super raffle prizes).

On Sunday, attendees will board a bus to tour some fabulous ponds and gardens in the Skagit Valley area, including lunch at one of our stops. The bus should return attendees to the hotel in Mount Vernon by 3:00.

Registration information can be found at www.washingtonkoi.org. An early-bird discount will reward those who register by July 5th, though registration will be available until July 15th. Registration can be completed online or by mail. Additionally, the hotel has a block of discounted rooms reserved until July 4th. We are looking forward to seeing you at the 2017 PNKCA Convention!