

## **Welcome to Tacoma and the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Pacific Northwest Koi Clubs Association**

The Puget Sound Koi Club again takes great pride in welcoming the Pacific Northwest Koi Clubs Association to beautiful Tacoma for the 2019 PNKCA Convention! It's been several years since the PSKC has hosted the annual convention and if you haven't spent any time here since then, you are in for a real treat. The recent changes in this city and surrounding communities are remarkable and we hope you'll be able to take in some of the attractions during your stay (<http://www.traveltacoma.com/#>).

We have a wide variety of excellent speakers and interesting presentations for you this year to help you get the most from your convention.

Friday workshops include a painting class conducted by local watercolor artist Mary Schumaker. This 4 hour workshop will have attendees creating their own masterpiece of landscaping with a pond.

The second workshop is a live judging demonstration by renowned ZNA judge Chai Taevanitcharoen who will evaluate 5 beautiful fish provided by Pan Intercorp. Chai will discuss the relevant features of the fish but leave the ranking up to the participants, who will turn in their selected finish order. Chai will reveal his winning order at the banquet and the participant who comes closest to matching will receive a valuable prize. The fish will be auctioned off at the end of the evening. This workshop is free to registrants and runs from 2 – 4 pm.

Friday evening includes convention registration and the customary meet and greet in the hotel lounge. Come and catch up with old friends and meet some new ones.

Saturday starts early with registration at 8 am followed by the convention kick-off at 8:45. Presentation topics will cover many aspects of koi keeping. We plan to include health, disease prevention and treatment, pond design and construction, innovative water treatment, options for cold weather, pond plants, and possibly an enlightening session on incorporation of bonsai with your pond. Lunch will be on your own while your reps conduct their regular meeting.

The banquet will start with a social hour and no host bar followed by a special buffet created by our host hotel. The excitement builds as awards are presented for the Ed Fujimoto, Bronze Koi, and other well deserved awards. The evening will culminate with the raffle and auction conducted by our own Larry Christensen.

Sunday is full of optional activities.

We will not have a formal, guided pond tour this year. A number of PSKC club members have agreed to open their ponds to a self-guided no-cost tour. Directions to these ponds will be included in your registration, feel free to stop by as many as you wish. Cold refreshments and sandwiches will be provided to anyone that stops by the Post pond.

For those that do not wish to visit ponds or that have extra time, Tacoma has some outstanding local attractions. The first is America's Car Museum (<http://www.lemaymuseum.org/>) featuring Harold Lemay's private collection. This is a world class car museum that is among the best in the country. The second is the Tacoma Museum of Glass (<http://museumofglass.org/>) featuring the works of world renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly. Another option is the Point Defiance

Zoo and Aquarium (<https://www.pdza.org/>) with an outstanding new aquarium just opened to the public.

Regardless of your tastes, I'm certain you'll find something that will make this an enjoyable and memorable experience.

So welcome to Tacoma and let's embrace the **JOI of KOI!!**