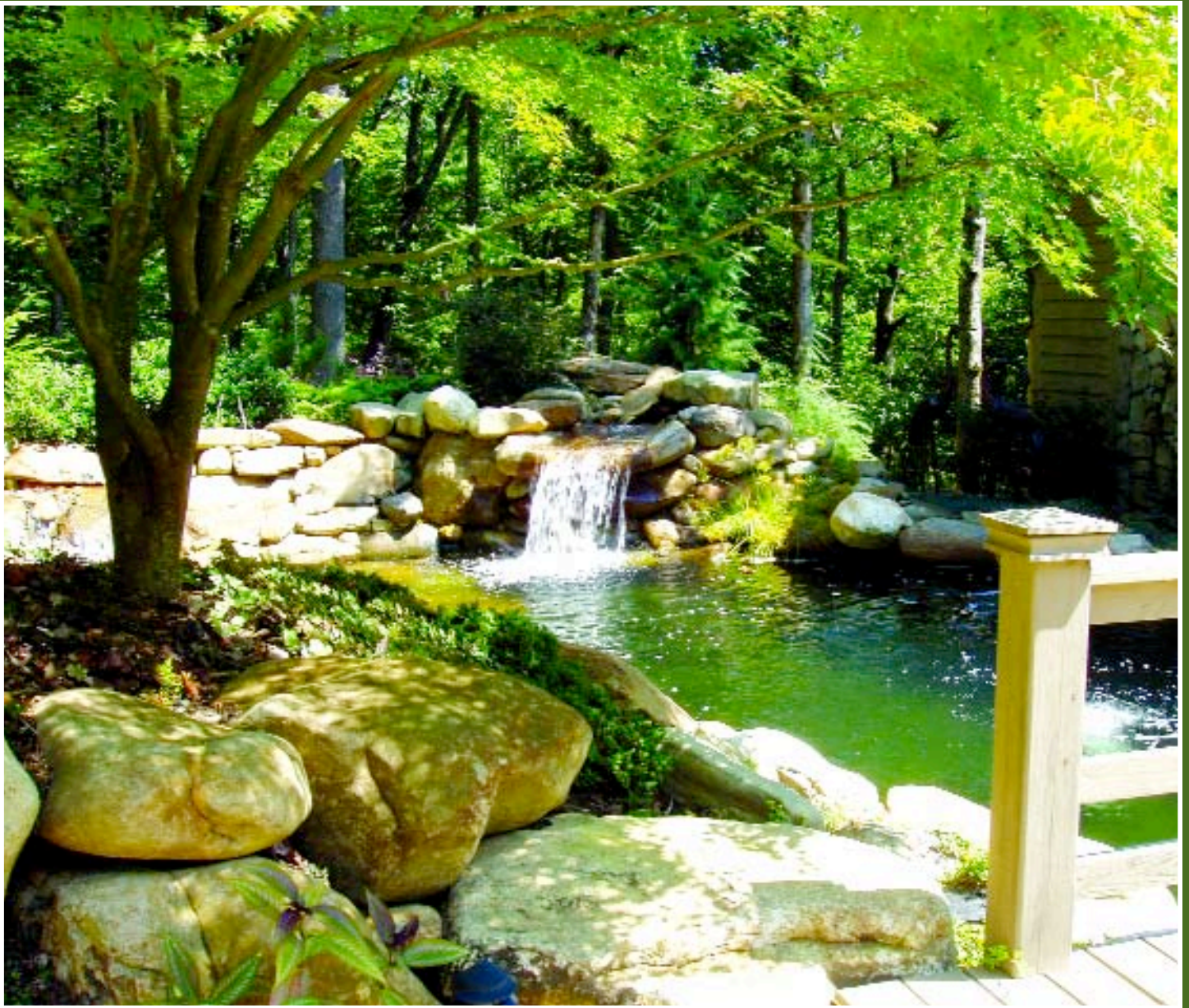


# *Mid-Atlantic Koi*

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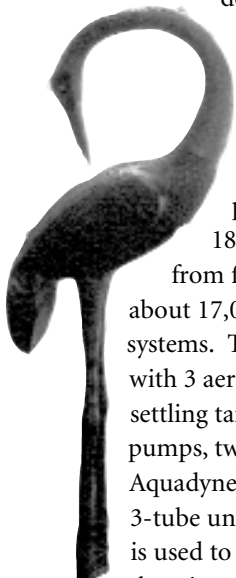
A LITTLE BIT OF PARADISE IN NORTH CAROLINA

# Ponds of Dick & Betty Roemer

by Dick Roemer, North Carolina

**W**e have three ponds around our house to house Betty's collection of Koi and goldfish (the fish are Betty's, the filters are Dick's). We brought about 80 Koi down here to the mountains of North Carolina when we moved from Virginia almost four years ago. The Koi lived in an above ground swimming pool in the garage for the first nine months we were here, while their pond was being built in the back yard. The swimming pool was 16 feet in diameter and about 4 1/2 feet high and was supposed to hold about 8,000 gallons when filled to overflowing. The Koi were moved down here in three trips in December and January plus two more after the first pond was built to retrieve our six biggest Koi who had spent the nine months in Wayne Orchard and Susan Boland's pond back in Virginia. The Koi didn't seem to mind being transported in the winter, in fact they hardly seemed to even notice, although we almost froze (along with Floyd Broussard) when we bagged them up on one of the coldest days of the winter. A much larger crowd of helpers worked to bag the last batch on a slightly warmer day.

The back yard pond is the largest and was designed for large Koi to have plenty of space for swimming and lots of clean water. There are no rocks or plants or even a waterfall and it doesn't appear as part of a beautiful landscape. However, with the large deck around it, and to a Koi lover, the large beautiful Koi make it very attractive. The pond is now home to about 70 Koi ranging from two to 20 plus years of age. It is 25 feet long by 18 feet wide, constructed of shotcrete, and from four and a half to six feet deep and holds about 17,000 gallons including the filtration systems. There are three separate systems, starting with 3 aerating 4" bottom drains, 3 "Twister" settling tanks from Patio Ponds, 3 Sequence 1000 pumps, two Bubble Bead BBF4s and one Aquadyne 4.4-C filter. There are two AquaUV 3-tube units and a Raypak 155,000 BTU heater is used to keep the chill off of the water in the winter.



The other two ponds are in the front yard, a goldfish pond with water plants and a Koi pond that is used as a quarantine pond. The gold fish pond is separated from the Koi pond by a wall under a foot bridge that leads to the front door. The appearance is of one large pond across the front of the house. Both of the front ponds are liner ponds with large boulders around the sides and forming the waterfalls. These ponds were designed for beauty at the front of the house and are used mostly for smaller fish.

The front yard Koi pond is about 10,000 gallons, up to six feet deep with two waterfalls and two 4" bottom drains (one aerating), a settling tank, a Sequence 750 pump, Aquadyne 4.4-C filter and a single tube AquaUV unit providing the filtration. The two waterfalls have separate water intakes and are powered by 2hp and 3hp swimming pool pumps.

The goldfish pond is about 5,000 gallons, with a waterfall that runs under the flagstone walk and is powered by a 1/2 hp sump pump. The pond is filtered by a settling tank, a Sequence PRO pump, a Bubble Bead BBF5 and a single tube AquaUV unit.

Since we have been here, Betty has been working to infect a new population of Koi lovers with her enthusiasm for Koi (see the article by Bob Bransfield on *Koi Mania* in the October 1987 issue of the MAKC Newsletter – on your CD/DVD of past MAKC magazines). She has been helped in this spreading of the Koi word by long-time MAKC members Jay and Linda Fitzpatrick and Mike and Alice Bentivegna who have also picked this area for retirement. ❖

