

WAWAWA

Washington Kitefliers Association

an affiliate of the AMERICAN KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION
PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER, 200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109

NEWSLETTER
of
OCTOBER,
1979

As you can see, this is more of a picture scrap book than a newsletter.

The Shirone (pronounced "Shi-lloe-NAY") kite team arrived on Sep. 12th and immediately went to work at the Bon Marche (left) putting together their 16 x 23½ foot kite.

Here, the team is edging the rolled-up kite out the front door of the Bon. Tsutomu Hiroi, leader of the team, suggested rolling the kite tighter, so it would go through -- and it worked! (above)

The large kite had no additional bracing to make it assume its full shape, shown here. It's all in the bridling. Most of the 48 bridle lines can be seen (left) as it is pulled aloft.

Watching the team bridle

the large kite at Magnuson (Sand Point) Park made us who were lucky enough to be on hand at the time realize what a work of art this is. Technical, too

Here's the large kite flying, in all its glory! One impressive thing about the kite team in addition to its technical excellence, was its ability to recruit people to help launch it -- -- without benefit of the English language!

Actually, at both the test fly, Saturday, Sept. 15th, and the "Big Fly", Sunday the 16th, there wasn't enough wind to sustain the kite -- it was up-and-down each flight. But the crew, recruited from the crowd of on-lookers had a ball!

The Shirone kite team also flew their kites at three different picnics held in their honor at Gasworks Park and at the Univ. of Wash. Huskies football game on the 15th.

They stayed at the home of our W.K.A. "Board Chairman" David Checkley. How would like to have seven house-guests for ten days, two of whom spoke English?

On the right, the kite, complete with volunteer helpers, is brought back to the starting line to try again.

Every team, whether it be baseball, football or kite team, needs a "holler-guy". No doubt about it being Tazuo Tamura, in the lead, here.

Mr. Tamura, when not flying kites is a high school basketball coach and keeper of the rose garden.





(Left) Here's the smaller of the giant kites displayed from the three-story restroom at Sand Point Park. This was known as "The Children's Kite" and is used in Shirone to train youngsters in the bridling and flying of the giant kites. Besides the fact that it is a lot of fun, this trains the future generation of kitefliers.

The kite team attended several receptions and parties. Shown below is the team leader, Professor (of sculpture) Hiroi, instructing at the W.K.A. reception-and-dinner at Checkley's home. Jan Kloock, Ken Conrad and Louise Crowley were among the 75 guests. Note the hapi coat Ken is wearing. These are the W.K.A. hapi coats available.

(below) This is the scene from the top of the building, above. Our W.K.A. picnic table was well-loaded and well-attended. Dave Checkley is to the left and our club secretary-treasurer, Bob McCort is to the top, both in their WKA hapi coats. Ray Bird is to the right.



While a 10,000 meter race (running) was being run and a $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile dragon-boat (canoe) race was paddled, we held a kite contest. Most of the "Ol' Pros" from the western states were there: Dale Fleener from North Hollywood, Mr. & Mrs. Sam Urner from Sacramento, CA, Stormy Weathers from Portland, OR, Bernard Stewart and crew from Victoria, B.C.

Atsuko Brewer and Faye Leong won the "Novice Event"; the Most Interesting kite. They made a frame of four red and blue diamonds with precious little help from Carl Brewer. Larry Chinn helped his Francis win second place.

"Most Beautiful" event winners are seen (below) comparing club patches -- the new WKA patch and the Japan Kite Assn. Margaret Gregor, left, won First Place with a mind-blowing patch-work parafoil -- color-co-ordinated! Second place went to Louise Crowley, below, right, and third was won by Carl Brewer, below, center, with a scale model of the Eleriot Flier.

"Highest Flier" event went to young Jim Greeno with his double-keel delta, 2nd place to Jack Van Glider with his small tissue-paper deltas and 3rd to Carl Brewer with one of his glider kites. Bill Lee got aced out at the last second because his kite was -- as usual -- straight up. But the other three were back over the heads of the fliers!



(right) All kinds of souvenirs were taken home to Japan. Here is "Cowboy Tamura" with one of his. In fact, the word "souvenir" is the same in Japanese - !

Well, as you can see, it was two weeks of events that left us tired-but-happy around Seattle. Everybody won. Even those who were over-worked, like the Checkleys, are stronger for the exercise.

Our representative to the national convention of the American Kitefliers Association, David Checkley, is off now, making a big swing through the east. He'll be back with lots of news and color slides.



(above) There was much trading and present-exchanging. Here's one of our WKA t-shirts being tried on for size. HDMA

In our kite contest, the "Best Logo" event was won by Bill Lee, 2nd: Larry Chinn and 3rd: Margaret Gregor.

