



Newsletter

September/October 2005

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

WKA Travelogue
Charles M. Schultz Museum
Home of the "Kite Eating Tree"
By Sylvia Bernauer

Santa Rosa, CA is famous for being the home of Luther Burbank (botanist); Charles M. Schultz (creator of comic strip "Peanuts") and also recently divulged - the home of "Deep Throat." This last person created quite a bit of excitement in the town.

In June I visited with cousins living there and had the opportunity to visit the Charles M. Schultz Museum. It is a beautiful building, and is a really great museum, where one can learn all about "Peanuts."

There is a courtyard at the back of the building. Not knowing what was out there; I saw a sign "Charlie Brown's Kite" and immediately started looking around for it. There are two big trees out there, a redwood and a maple. Up high in the limbs of the tall maple tree is the Kite. Wow! This is "THE" Kite Eating Tree that Charlie and others have tried to avoid... Here it is! Since it was summer, it is not easy to spot or get pictures of because of the maple leaves.

The sign describes the kite as being 44" x 66" and made of acrylic. It is a red and blue diamond kite. It has a tail made of holographically embossed polyester film that shined brightly in the sunshine. Wound around many limbs of the tree is the "string" which is 1,000 feet long made of electroluminescent lime-green wire that looks like neon when turned "on" after sunset. That would be neat to see.

If you are visiting or traveling through Santa Rosa, it is well worth the time.

Editor's note: Please go to:
<http://www.wka-kiteflyers.org/wsikf/wsikf2005.htm>

There you will find pictures pertaining to this issue of the newsletter.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

New Members	2
Notes from WKM.....	2
Handcrafted Day Scholarship.....	2
WKA/Sisson Scholarship.....	2
Kite Clubs	3
Vintage Pins	3
Spaghetti Feed Thanks	3
Sisson Parafoil	4
WSIKF (by Glenda).....	4
WSIKF (by Jerry).....	7
Bolstad Street Poem ...	9
SPECIAL BALLOT	9

Please return the special ballot as we need your support.

Welcome to New WKA Members

Warren Binkley	Long Beach
Roger Nielsen	Seattle
Debbie Nordin	Everett
Larry & Susie Rhodes	Auburn
Makena Treichel (whose proud new parents are Chris & Mary Ann Treichel of Des Moines)	
Bob & Donna Wendt	Puyallup
Max and Mary Yoshikawa	University Place

Thanks for all the renewals and new memberships turned in at WSIKF. And a special thanks to Sylvester and Karis Polzin who sat out at the beach and gave out club and festival information.

Notes from the World Kite Museum and Hall of Fame

Notes were received from the World Kite Museum for contributions from WKA in memory of Jim Buesing who passed away June 15, 2005 in Long Beach, WA. Jim was the husband of museum director Kay Buesing. The checks went to the museum's Building Fund.

Handcrafted Day Scholarship

At WSIKF, the winners of Thursday's handcrafted kite competitions are eligible to win a scholarship to the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference. The winner of that drawing this year is John Thomas! The funding of this award comes from the Kite Festival.

2006 WKA/SISSON FORT WORDEN KITEMAKERS CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING

We had ten entries for the drawing this year at our spaghetti feed. Congratulations to SAM ZEILER! He was the Conference Registrar for several years and will certainly enjoy the 2006 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference.

WKA Board Members

President

Position Available

Vice President

Position Available

Treasurer

Carol Lord

carollord@comcast.net

Secretary

Position Available

Membership

Sylvia Bernauer

dbnrl@earthlink.net

Education

Ken Conrad

ken@greatwinds.com

Merchant Liaison

Position Available

Products

Susie Christenson

kitenut@comcast.net

Special Events Coordinators

Glenda Kleppin

gmakleppin@usa.net

Jerry Graham

jlgraham@usa.net

Newsletter

Dave Christenson (temp)

baysidetrader@comcast.net

Webmaster

Rick White

ssragtop@aol.com

Safety

Position Available

Kite Clubs

Associated Oregon Kites

Contact Judy Brown
Email: judyb7@mindspring.com
P.O. Box 25616
Portland, OR 97298
Membership includes bi-monthly newsletter

Basin Kitefliers Association

Contact Bill Walton
509-765-9111 at email:
BKA@mlfloral.com
Moses Lake Floral
115 W 3rd Ave.
Moses Lake, WA 98837-1930

Ben Franklin Kite Society

Contact Larry Zilar
509-545-6727 or email:
zilarm@charter.net

Lilac City Wind Chasers

Contact Bill Cox
509-327-7974 or email:
cxbil@aol.com
meets every Tuesday at 5pm in
Sky Prairie Park on W. Strong
Road, just east of N Five Mile Rd,
Spokane, WA

Northwest Fighter Kite Association

meets 3rd weekend of every month,
location varies. For more info:
www.fighterkites.org

Northwest Sport Kite League

Contact Bud Hayes email:
bud@thehayesplace.com Calendar
at www.nwskl.org

Peninsula Breeze Blenders

Contact Bill Rogers or Lisa Ryan
email: lisaryan@mail.com or
billrogers@earthlink.net meets the
2nd Wednesday every month at the
Fire Station on Loxie Egan Blvd.

Pierce County Kiteflyers Assn.

Contact Scott Davis email:
prez@pcka.org meets at Summit
Library in Tacoma, 7pm last
Thursday every month.
Calendar at www.pcka.org

Seattle Kitesurfing Association

Contact John Penxa
johnpenxa@seattlekitesurfing.org
www.seattlekitesurfing.org

Squalicum Kite Flyers

Contact Don or Shirley Allen
360-733-3777

Whidbey Island Kite Flyers

Contact Allen or Marjorie Taylor
360-678-9358 meets the 3rd
Saturday every month call for
location.

Westport Windriders

Contact Bary Crites
360-491-8605 or email:
bearkites@aol.com meets 4th
Saturday every month at Grayland
Beach, followed by potluck at
Willapa Grange Hall

American Kitefliers Association

Contact Marla Miller - Regional
Director 253-752-7051 or email:
region10@aka.kite.org Regional
www.aka.kite.org/region10 or
www.aka.kite.org

British Columbia Kite-Flyer Assn.

P.O. Box 755
101-1001 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC Canada V6H 4E4
Membership: \$20 (CDN)
www.bcka.bc.ca

VINTAGE KITE PINS AUCTIONED

Carla Fox, creator of the design of our WKA banner, donated some vintage kite pins to the club to be auctioned off at our annual event. We thank her for remembering us and putting these pins back in circulation. There were several Kitemakers Conference pins from the early 1990s, an early WKA pin, and pins for Leland Toy, George Peters, Don Mock and the Chicago Fire Sport Kite team. Thanks to Rick White for adding some of the special pins to bring the total up to 10.

WKA SPAGHETTI FEED

Thanks to all the helpers at this year's spaghetti feed. Sally Uhorchak took money at the door for the dinners. Her two children Max and Molly Yoshikawa sold raffle tickets and took care of the garbage cans. Sally's friend Trish did whatever job she could find. Members of the Lilac City Windchasers and others helped with the raffle items. Mary Ann Treichel and Sam (wife of Terry Lee) helped Dave and Susie in the kitchen. Big thanks also to Richard Dermer who stepped in as MC.

Thanks also to those who stopped by to drop off items for the raffle. They were very much appreciated.

Sisson Parafoil Kite Raffle

This special parafoil kite with the words "Kites 4 Kids", and dedicated to late Founding Father Tom Sisson who made thousands of kites with kids, was hung up on the wall at the Grange Hall. It was returned to us by last year's winner, Charlie M'Clary of San Diego, CA.

Charlie had a great time flying the kite at festivals in California this past year, but he said that along with the kite, our Washington rain came with it. So Charlie got washed away in the rain while we were drying up in our drought for several months. Thankfully, Mother Nature got it straightened out.

The winning ticket was drawn by our AKA Past President Richard Dermer who told stories about Tom and read from the kite's journal book. The kite will make a return trip to Spokane this year and will be flown again by Bill & Connie Lester and the Lilac City Windchasers. They were thrilled to take possession of it for the second time. As agreed, it will be flown by them for one year and returned for the 2006 WKA Spaghetti Feed to be raffled off again.

WSIKF Events 2005 by Glenda Kleppin

Disclaimer: This is not intended to be a complete summary of everything that happened at WSIKF! There is always too much happening for one person to see and/or report it all. This is just a few of my personal observations and a report on the results of activities in which I was personally involved.

MONDAY-ARCHES AND TRAINS

I'm sure that you've heard by now the Long Beach arch needs to be replaced, due to an accident that took place on a fitting day of WSIKF-Monday, the day designated for arches. Evidently the Pepsi truck wanted to join in the fun, but, instead of flying, the arch landed between the cab and the trailer of the truck, looking very much like the horseshoe wreath that goes around the neck of the horse that wins a race. Jokes about the incident multiplied during the week, culminating in the building of a new temporary arch. If you missed out on all of this excitement, be sure to ask your friends to fill you in on the details. Will this incident show up in some guise next year on the "Pun Fun" list?

TUESDAY

If you missed the 6 women doing a pole-dance during Totally Tubular, you missed one of the highlights of the festival. If you want to know more about this happening, you'll need to check with Penny Lingenfelter. She can give you all of the details.

Susie acted as a judge for Pun Fun, with me to carry her and act as her interpreter. What a blast! This event has to be seen to be believed. Another event to add to your "not to be missed" list. There were between 40 and 50 people on the field at any given time, many of them in very strange costumes, and all of them trying to convince the judges that they deserved extra points for one thing or another. I think that this is the funniest event of the week and an excellent example of the great sense of humor that underlies the kite community.

WEDNESDAY WAS KIDS' DAY

On Wednesday morning, the weather was both gloomy and wet, meaning that not as many people headed for the activities on the beach. That was really too bad as they missed some rather special events that were sponsored by WKA.

First, was the FOSTER-GRANDPARENT FUN FLY. The kite community gave a good turnout to meet the challenge of getting flyable kites into the hands of youngsters and teaching them important lessons on kite flying and kite safety. Thank goodness for the assistance provided by Sam and Ann Huston and their grandson who helped pair up kids with their "foster-grandparents" and put together kites. Their calm presence definitely helped!

As more and more kids came to the field, more and more grandparents responded to their presence. For instance, Doc Counce saw the worried looks on the face of some of the kids and stopped by to ask if more kites were needed. He was immediately put to work, of course. It was great to see Claudette (the ribbon lady) on the field flying kites with her two grandchildren. She so seldom gets to actually fly a kite during the festival.

This year we had enough kites to go around, thanks to the many members of the kite community who provided multiple kites for this event. But, I'm already looking forward to next year and worrying about what will happen if we have great weather on Kid's Day and lots more kids show up. So, please start sorting through your kites and setting aside the ones you can bring to this event next year OR plan when you can make a few extra kites that are appropriate.

The Top award for this event (Special Recognition) went to Karen Highfield, for the second year. She had so much fun last year with her birthday party for 54 kids, that she planned for 55 kids this year and enlisted help for the event. Due to the rain, her table for making party hats was moved inside the registration tent. Great fun was had by all.

Other awards were as follows: 1st Place, Miriam Schafner; 2nd Place, Barb Hall, all the way from Florida; and 3rd place to C & J Schwartzenhaur who showed up with two pop can kites to give away, in spite of the fact that they had already given away 8 other kites to kids on the beach at this event.

There is simply no word to describe the response of kids and adults to this event except AWESOME! The sight of a whole field of kids happily flying their new kites and being coached by experienced kite flyers is something I hope you all enjoyed. It was an inspirational sight.

KIDS' CAMPS.

This year, the highest "Special Recognition" award went Ryan King, a young girl with great ideas who is supported in her ideas by her mother's sewing abilities. Her kid-sized, eye-catching camp was up during most of the week and had doubled in size since last year. I'm sure that almost everybody at the festival noticed the bright purple, pink, and yellow tents, banners, etc. of this display.

The First Place Ribbon in this event went to the Lady Kiteflyers, who, for the second year, had a two-day kids' camp, complete with banners, clowns, bubbles, and other eye-catching things. The Second Place Ribbon went to Karen Highfield, who put up a delightful camp, in spite of that wet stuff that seemed to be falling from the sky.

BEST GROUP OF KIDS' KITES:

First place went to The Kiteflying Fool. Second Place to Barb Hall. Third Place went to Dennis Handel, who, for the 3rd year in a row flew his wonderful cartoon character arch.

Because of her incredible efforts this year, Karen Highfield was chosen as the "Top Kid" on the beach for the day. She was crowned with a red-trimmed straw hat at the WKA Spaghetti dinner. Keep an eye on that hat and see what she does to it as she plans to embellish it even further.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR:

Next year there will be a new crown and this new category will be added for judging on Kids' Day. I need suggestions for a great title for this award, but what I'm looking for is the person (or people) who best exemplify their first, second, or even third childhood on Kids' Day. Outrageous costumes and hats will be a part of this, along with anything that someone can talk the judges into considering. Let your imagination run free.

For inspiration, consider how Dick Curran was dressed for the festival. Also, in case you did not notice, consider the numerous times he generously went out on the flying field all week to help other people with their kites or other wind-toys.

The rest of the week was busy with Featured Flyers; handcrafted kites; mass ascensions; events to celebrate kites made at Fort Worden and the Kite Museum; The Amoeba and Cody events; Rokkaku Challenges; Special Demonstrations; a very inspirational Memorial fly; and an incredible Parade of Colors that was set against a background of nine huge crowns and Ray Bethell's kites.

Add

to that the street fair booths and the special evening events with food, raffles, and awards. It's amazing how much is packed into these seven days each year. If I'd had any more fun, I would have dropped dead from exhaustion.

A BIT OF HUMOROUS TRIVIA:

Susie, Empress of the Universe, again received many votes in the "People's Choice" ballot box. She enjoyed her 15 seconds of fame at the Kite Museum Awards Gala and was given a special recognition plaque. She will join Ray Bethell in the Hall of Fame, which means that nobody is supposed to vote for her any more! She got her picture taken with Ray on Sunday.

OTHER BITS OF INSPIRATION:

Larry Zilar brought the following information to my attention: Bonnie and Dan Killian, make it a practice to give their kites away after they fly them in the mass ascensions. For the past three years, Bonnie gave away one kite each year. This year, she gave away all four of her mass ascension kites. She files the kite long enough to get her pin, then walks over to the edge of the field and hands the kite string to a child in the audience. Bonnie and Dan have just joined the WKA.

More than one person told me about people remarking that this is the only big festival they have ever attended where they did not have to pay a large admission fee. These people were impressed, not only with the fact that the festival is free, but with the fact that the participants actually give free kites to kids, both during special flying events and kite-making activities, but also just out on the field. One mother remarked to me how much her son was enjoying flying a

kite given to him by an individual kiter. This was especially meaningful to her as this was his first outing after being hospitalized for 5 months.

Bottom line? Thank you all for the wonder visual display that you put on. But, thank you even more for the inspiration you provide by making this world a happier place for the kids who come to watch. Again, that single word pops up: AWESOME!

WSIKF 2005 by Jerry Graham

Arrived Sunday evening, too late to have dinner at the Sanctuary. Worked all night completing a Rokkaku to steady the Bee-Line and completing two of the Windsock Bees. Had half an hour of sleep (Ha!) then went into town to see what was going on.

I suppose a word or two of explanation is in order here. Last year at The AKA Convention in Seaside, OR, Mike Mosman introduced a kite he called the "Kichi Tako" or "Crazy Kite". It was a really cute little thing that he had decorated like a "between the world wars" fighter or pursuit plane. My first reaction when I saw it fly was "BUG!". It looked and flew like a bumble bee to my eye.

When he held a class at Fort Worden to make the Kichi Tako, I made the sails with Bee stripes. It came out real cute, so I made three more, just so I'd have a swarm of Bees. Then I finished the Bee windsocks that Glenda and I had started a few years earlier. Since I was planning to make the whole swarm into a train for Trains and Arches day at WSIKF I had to make a stabilizer for it and so I made a Rokkaku in Bee Stripes, with a Golden Crown to show it was the Queen Bee. (The Crown made her a Monarch, but not a butterfly.)

Found Dave at Above It All and obtained spars for the Rok from him. Stood around out front of his store and installed spars for the Rok and the Kichi Tako Bees. Someone came by and said the Bolstad Arch had been knocked down by a Pepsi truck. Chuckled, not really believing it, and kept working on the kites.

Finished all the sparring, dashed out to the beach and began rigging the bridles for the Rok. First time and I learned a lot. Forgot to put the bow lines on the spars so the first few tries to launch it were both disastrous and funny. Finally Barry Crites took pity on me and mentioned the need for bowing the spars. After I mounted spar bowing lines it flew wonderfully well and took the entire string up like it should have. I was elated. Not to mention exhausted. There were so many beautiful trains and arches that the Bee-line didn't win anything but it sure looked good and I got many favorable comments. Along with the comments came a deluge of "B" puns: "Gonna get a real buzz out of that one." "Before, Behind, Between, Benign" became the Bees names. They got sillier and sloppier as the week progressed.

While working on the bridles I found out that the rumor of the fallen arch was true. It has led to some really painful puns and situational humor. Of course, by Wednesday the Creative Kites among us had collected bunches of Pepsi memorabilia (read "trash") and replaced the fallen arch with something that can only be described as a political statement gone wild. I'm certain that Pepsi has managed to become the "Arch-Enemy" of kiting and I can imagine the sorts of things that will show up in next year's "Pun Fun" day.

I helped out with the Tuesday Top Team thing by getting scarce this year. After the judging took place I helped the bubbleheads make huge bubbles for the kids to play with. It is amazing how much energy can be spent just standing there and watching kids pop your bubbles. (Much of it was spent yelling "Get behind the line, please!")

Wednesday was soggy than Monday and Tuesday combined. Not raining, as such, just a mist heavier than fog but not falling as drops most of the morning. It was too soggy to get the big stuff into the air at first, but got better as the day went on. Glenda's Foster Grandparent Fly was a success. Sam and Ann Huston helped the kids match up with grandparents and it all was well orchestrated. Jack Judd provided several large bags of Bears and other stuffed toys. He gets them from Charity outlets and gives them away. The bears were a great addition to the kites that the kids got from their "Grandparents".

Thursday was hand-crafted judgement day and I had a *lot* of fun! I flew the BEE-line out to the field and just selected parts of it to fit the various categories being judged. I made sure that each event got a different Bee (I'd numbered them earlier.) But some of the judges got upset because it seemed like they were judging the same thing each time. They finally accepted that I was playing by the rules as we all understood them, but it was a little tense there for a while. (I didn't really care if they decided to disqualify me for some of the events because I was having too much fun just being there and flying the Bees.) I even got several ribbons and only a few of them were because I was the only person in the class.

As usual, we met one whale of a lot of people and can remember only a few. We parked beside one who had managed to drop the drive wheels of his vehicle into the sand only a few feet short of safety on the road. They spent the day right there, getting good-naturedly razzed about it. When the day ended a bunch of guys sort of picked up the front end of the car and heaved him toward the road. A few pushed, many clapped and cheered, and he was on his way. I noticed he didn't get off the solid road again all week.

Susie, Empress of the Universe, had her usual fan club. Since the word is derived from fanatic it certainly fits the crowd of kids and adults alike who gather around or ask about her every day. She takes a lot of petting and enjoys it. It tickles me to be known up and down the West Coast as Susie's daddy, but no one knows Glenda or me by name.

I ran into several people who commented that they had been coming to WSIKF for up to fifteen years and had never flown anything or otherwise participated. I sure felt sorry for them 'cause they are missing much of the fun of being there. Even the volunteers who don't get much chance to fly anything enjoy the show more than people who just sit there. And being confined to a wheel chair didn't stop a several people from getting out on the sand, although we had to push a couple of them when they bogged down.

Up coming kite events:

Whidbey Island Kite Festival, September 17-18, 2005. Camp Casey Conference Center. Contact: www.whidbeykites.org

PCKA Orting Kitefest, October 8 & 9, 2005, Orting Lion's Club Field. Contact: prez@pcka.org

One Sky One World, October 9, 2005



World Kite Museum & Hall of Fame
www.worldkitemuseum.com

P.O. Box 964 Phone: 360-642-4020
112 3rd Street N.W. Fax: 360-642-4020
Longbeach, WA 98631 info@worldkitemuseum.com



The Wreck of the Bolstad Street Archway

With apologies to Gordon Lightfoot
By Daniel Schwenk

The legend lives on from the Willapa on down
To the sand and the dunes by the Ocean.

Arched high out of reach, the sign "World's
Longest Beach"

Withstood earthquakes and storms without mo-
tion.

'Til one day there came, a truck bearing the name
Of a soft-drink we've all known forever.

The driver thought his rig wasn't really all that big
But wedged in, it became like a lever.

Cracked concrete appears as he searches the
gears

To escape this trap of his own making.

The arch tumbled down while the folks in the
town
Were alarmed when they felt the ground shak-
ing.

It seems the true cost of this landmark that's
lost
Is to learn good things can't last forever

But when the day nears that the new Arch ap-
pears
It'll be remade taller than ever.

We always will tell of the day the Arch fell
And how the truck was just a little bit too tall.

But out in Long Beach, Bolstad won't be com-
plete
'Til the Arch again welcomes us all.

SPECIAL BALLOT

BOARD POSITIONS

PRESIDENT:

- Courtney Hanson

TREASURER:

- Carol Lord

VICE PRESIDENT:

- _____

SECRETARY:

- _____

COMMITTEES

EDUCATION:

- Ken Conrad

MEMBERSHIP:

- Sylvia Bernauer

MERCHANT LIAISON:

- _____

SAFETY OFFICER:

- _____

PRODUCTS:

- Susie Christenson

NEWSLETTER:

- Dave Christenson (temp)

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Jerry Graham & Glenda Kleppin

WEBMASTER:

- Rick White

Please take the time to fill out this ballot and send it back to the return address on the back page
.If you know of a WKA member that would like to help out on the Board or on a Committee
Please write their name in the blank section (with their permission of course) Thank You

Washington Kitefliers Association
An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
Membership Application

By becoming a member of WKA, you receive the WKA Newsletter every other month for a year, a membership card which entitles you to discounts at some area kite stores, and a wealth of information about special events and goings-on in the Northwest kiting community.

Join the WKA and share the fun! Find out more about the fastest growing popular pastime in the United States today. WKA meetings offer individuals and families the opportunity to participate in the administrative support and planning of local kite events and workshops. Membership cost per household in the US or Canada is \$15.00. Fill out this application and return it with a check or money order payable in US funds.

Membership

Washington Kitefliers Association
C/O Pacific Science Center
200 Second Ave. North
Seattle, WA 98109

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone/E-Mail

Visit us on the web at
www.wka-kiteflyers.org

Names of additional family members

Washington Kitefliers Association
An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
C/O Pacific Science Center
200 Second Ave. North
Seattle, Washington 98109



EXPIRES
08/31/2006
Morrie & Kelci Williams
PO Box 1358
Westport WA 98595-1358

