

Newsletter

January/February 2007

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

COMMEMORATIVE BENCH CEREMONY HONORING RAY BETHELL

Many of us know **Ray Bethell** from seeing him fly his kites at the kite festival in Long Beach each year. Ray, a resident of Vancouver, B.C. has been flying kites for 26 years. He is one of only a few individuals that can fly more than one sport kite at the same time. One set of lines are in each hand, and the third hooked to rings on his belt. It took a very long time to perfect his skill — and perfect it he has! Ray is the only sport kite flyer that has been inducted into the World Kite Museum's Hall of Fame in Long Beach, WA.

When Ray is home, he is often flying his kites in Vanier Park in beautiful Vancouver, BC. The open park area is behind a museum building, and is surrounded by water. On

a clear day, this setting is just magnificent! The buildings and hotels of downtown Vancouver are across the water with mountains in the background, and open water to the west.

up signal to him for his "Good Stuff." The inscription on the bench reads: "In honour of Ray Bethell, master multiple kiteflier from your friends & fellow kitefliers worldwide. May the wind remain beneath your wings."

The afternoon concluded with refreshments and kite flying because it was also One Sky One World day of flying kites for peace. A young boy was introduced to the thrills of flying a sport kite. He was tutored by **Glenn Austin**.

Many thanks to **Glenn** and **Marianne Austin** for the great photos of the occasion on our website. It truly was a stupendous day! And I was so lucky to have been there.

Sylvia Bernauer



Many people visiting the

park often stop to watch Ray fly his kites. The BCKA (British Columbia Kitefliers Association) decided to honor Ray with a bench which would be a place for visitors to sit in a perfect spot to watch him fly.

The club planned to raise the money for a park bench with a plaque and planned an unveiling ceremony for Sunday, October 8, 2006. WKA made a donation to this special project.

It was a beautiful day, many long time friends came to visit Ray on his home field, including **Bill** and **Verla Rayburn** and **Delores Taylor** of his Ground Crew/Support Team from Long Beach, WA. Special speeches were given; the cover pulled off of the bench; and Ray was invited to sit on his special bench. Even a cake was decorated with his Kestral kites for the occasion. We gathered around for photos, and after Ray flew to "The Wind Beneath My Wings" we all saluted him with the thumbs-

A rare moment's rest for Ray. Usually he is flying his kites as shown on the right—



Photo by Sylvia Bernauer



Thanks to **Glenn** and **Marianne Austin** for the rest of the photos

2007 WKA/SISSON FT WORDEN KITEMAKERS CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING By Sylvia Bernauer, Membership

The annual drawing for the scholarship took place at the club Spaghetti Feed at Long Beach. But unfortunately the person who won that drawing will not be able to attend the conference, so another drawing was held. All the entries had been saved in the event that another drawing would need to take place.

The second drawing took place on October 9th at the Imagine Children's Museum in Everett. That day we took down the 100+ kites that were on display at the museum. **Raniere**, of the museum staff, drew the ticket -- and it was won by **Jerry Graham** who was part of our crew that day. Congratulations to Jerry! He is looking forward to attending the conference again this year.

Reminder that this drawing is open to all members of WKA with dues paid-up at the time of the drawing and the conference. If you send in your note or card now, I will hold it until next August for the next drawing.

Letter From the Imagine Children's Museum

1502 Wall Street, Everett, WA 98201 www.ImagineCM.org

October 18, 2006

Dear Members of Washington Kitefliers Association:

What a thrill and honor it was for us to be able to display your unique and beautiful kites this past summer! Hundreds of Museum visitors saw them and were mesmerized by their design. We're sure the exhibit inspired many new kite enthusiasts!

Thank you for the time you took to help select just the right kites and to carefully hang them in our facility. It was a big job to attach them to our high ceilings, and another big job to take them all down. What we appreciate most, though, is your willingness to share your passion and your special kites with children and families.

We appreciate your interest in Imagine Children's Museum. Best wishes for blue skies and gentle kite flying winds, and please visit us again soon!

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Johnson

Executive Director

Additional note, we received a Christmas Card from the museum which included this note:

Hello All -

Thank you so much for creating such a terrific atmosphere at the Imagine Children's Museum with a spectacular kite display. We look forward to doing another display in '07.

Happy Holidays to All

Raniere

WKA Board Members

President

Rick White

Ssragtop@aol.com

Vice President

Ken Conrad

ken@greatwinds.com

Treasurer

Carol Lord

carollord@comcast.net

Secretary

Susan Tislow

tiskru@aol.com

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dbrn1@earthlink.net

Education

Ken Conrad

ken@greatwinds.com

Merchant Liaison

Position Available

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ilgraham@usa.net

Newsletter Editor

Marzlie Freeman

marzlie@shaw.ca

Webmaster

Rick White

ssragtop@aol.com

Safety

Position Available

Contact a member of the Board to let them know you would be happy to help out with the positions that are available, Your club needs **YOU**

Kite Clubs

Associated Oregon Kiters

Contact: Deb Coolev Email: tucoolkites@earthlink.net

PO Box 25616 Portland OR 97298

Membership includes bi-monthly

newsletter

Basin Kitefliers Association

Contact: Rick White for now

Ben Franklin Kite Society

Contact Larry Zilar 509-627-6751 or email: zilarlm@charter.net

Lilac City Wind Chasers

Contact Bill Cox 509-327-7974 or email: cxbil@aol.com April thru October meets every Tuesday at 4pm in Sky Prairie Park, W. Strong Rd. just east of N Five Mile Rd, Spokane, WA

NW Fighter Kite Association

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

Northwest Sport Kite League

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

Lavender Winds Kite Club

Brian Bradley email: KiteBear@aol.com meet 2nd Sunday, noon in Long Beach, WA

Peninsula Breeze Blenders

Contact Bill Rogers or Lisa Ryan email: lisaryan@mail.com or billrogers@earthlink.net meets 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

Squalicum Kite Flyers

Contact Mike Button 360-733-7380 email: kite102@aol.com Fun fly every Wednesday and Sunday afternoons during daylight savings time until sunset Zuanich Point Park, Squalicum Harbor. Bellingham WA

Whidbey Island Kite Flyers

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

Westport Windriders

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

American KitefliersAssociation

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

British Columbia Kite Fliers Assn.

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



There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it. Edith Wharton

Editor's Note: the same principle applies to kiting, doncha think???? In other words you volunteer or you wait for someone else to do it.

A Little History-

About 20 years ago, the Button family Ron, Pat, Mike, Diane and Sarah, celebrating her 3rd Birthday that week, went to Fort Worden for the first time. We announced we had a kite group flying in Bellingham down at Squalicum Harbor. At that time there weren't any other groups and we were dubbed a Sub-Group of the Washington Kite fliers. Among people at this Fort Worden were Jack VanGelder, Dave Checkly, Tom Sisson, Doug Hagaman, Kathy Goodwind, Smiley, and a host of others. We were quite offended at being called Sub!

At that time we had about 15 to 20 people who flew every time they got a chance -- weekends for sure. The group has changed, except for Mike, Diane, Ron and Pat who are the only charter members still flying. We have never been an organized group with officers. The rule is when someone asks who is president, we answer "who ever you are talking to at the time".

Now we fly for sure every Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons during day light saving time until the sun goes down. If one gets into a conversation, or the "guy group" gets together to share lies, it could go on way after dark. We have become a group of about 15 people who never miss and many who come several times a month, or those who just come to watch. We say anyone who has a kite line in their hand is a member of the group. Ron and Mike fly trains of 65 and 63 kites (very impressive when they fly shoulder to shoulder) which can be seen from miles away, so they get quite a crowd. People from nearly every State and many countries come by to see what is going on. One afternoon when they had the "PERFECT DAY" they had 600 kites in the sky at one time. One of the advantages, or disadvantages, is that the Port sold our big flying field to a big hotel and at least two restaurants. We lost our flying field, but gained an audience.

Justin Redington, a young man who started flying with us when he was about 14 is there practicing. Keep a watch for him. He is making a name for himself in the sports kite field. He has been flying with "i Quad", a group of guys from BC, Oregon and Washington. They are a very impressive group. Justin hopes to go to Nationals in 07. We are all very proud of him. We tease him about having more Moms and Dads than one kid needs, but he doesn't seem to mind.

We would love to have you join us to fly with us, or just come to visit. You will have the opportunity to fly the train of 65. It has been flown by 4 or 5 year olds on up to where one does not want to tell how old they are. Our contact is Mike at 360-733-7380. Come see us. The Squalicum Kiteflyers at Zuanich Point Park, Squalicum Harbor. Bellingham Washington

Pat Button

Washington Kitefliers Association Meeting Minutes

Seattle, Washington, November 18, 2006

Location: Seattle Revival Center, Newcastle, WA

Attendance:

Rick White, President; Ken Conrad, Vice President; Sylvia Bernauer, Membership; Susan Tislow, Secretary; Jerry Graham, Glenda Kleppin & Susie, Events; And ten other WKA Members were present

Board Reports

Membership - Membership report handed out. Membership renewals at 75%

Website - Approximately 400 visitors per month

Products - No New Business

Events - See Business Section.

Business -

Counted the votes, **Rick White** is now officially the President, **Ken Conrad** is Vice President.

Elections will be done by Ballots only in future elections. **Rewrite Bylaws** - Looking into having a meeting in Westport, to discuss the bylaws and to have a day of Kite Flying.

Ray Bethell Bench - WKA donated \$150.00 towards bench. Sylvia attended the Bench ceremony and gave a report WKA/PCKA holiday dinner – Glenda will bring the hams; Donna and Bob Wendt from PCKA to bring a turkey and Susan and Barry Tislow will bring a Turkey, WKA will donate \$100.00 to go to the Food Drive. Indoor fly will be from 12:00 noon, Dinner 6:00, and then raffle, which all proceeds go to the food drive.

WKA Memorial Kite Arch Committee - Ken Conrad and Barry Tislow and anyone who wants to volunteer. The kite arch list has been maintained by Ken and Sylvia.

January 1st, Golden Gardens – Beat the Bowls Fly (aka New Year's Fly) – Rick White to do Poster, Ken Conrad looking into Press Release.

Groundhog Fly- looking into having an annual indoor kite fly every year around Groundhogs day.

Armed Forces Day— will be held again at Fort Lewis. We will once again have a kid's kite making booth.

Father's day Fly - Was moved back to Father's day at Magnuson Park (kite hill)

Issaquah Farmers Market - wants us to do a Booth. **Monthly Fun Flys**- If you plan on going out to fly a kite or two, let Rick know so he can put on our website.

Submitted by

Susan Tislow, Secretary

WKA/PCKA Holiday Potluck

The WKA/PCKA Holiday Potluck was attended by 50-60 people. We started the day after noon with indoor flying. It was open to all who wanted to show off a new (or old) routine, practice up on a new one, do tricks, or teach new indoor fliers.

About 5 we cleaned up and set up for dinner at 6. Lots of food as usual, and plenty of raffle items. After all expenses and room fee (\$100) there was \$377 for the local food bank. This is a great place to hold the party and indoor fly.

Hope to see more there next year. Plenty of room. **Georgean Curran**

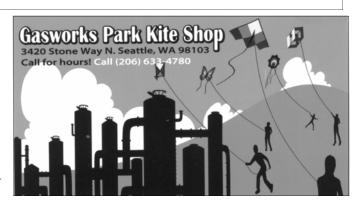




Penny Lingenfelter—AKA Cat in the Hat—doing a routine



Photos by Georgean Curran



Comments from the "Beat the Bowls Fly on January 1, 2007

The WKA Beat the Bowls fly started like most on a gray, threatening, cold day. But the rains held off long enough to fly dry with light squirrelly winds most of the day. We were pretty well picked up before it began to rain. We had the usual competition between **Rick White** and **Dick Curran** to see who could get the most kites in a tree. Dick won this year with one hung up on the roof, one tail in a tree, and just before we left, a kite with tail well tangled in a tree. This one had the help of someone else's kite wrapping the line and pulling the kite into the tree. Rick's long banner pole with a walking stick attached to the end and some tape rescued a number of kites. Including his own. All kites were safely brought down. The last one, Dick climbed the tree and sawed off a couple of branches to help.

Plenty of hot chili and hot cocoa and other goodies were enjoyed by all. Talked to a number of potential new kite fliers. All in all it was a good day.

Georgean Curran

Greetings everyone,

It has been a long time since I wrote many of you. I hope this New Year is bringing with it all of your hopes and dreams. I personally didn't make any New Year resolutions, but if you did, I hope you stick to them.

I just got home for a day at Golden Gardens Park where a lot of our friends spent the day flying kites. Yes, that's right, we celebrated the New Year by protesting the Bowls, and flying our bols and many other kites together. Also the WKA Web site has the latest photos of our NEW YEAR'S DAY Kite Fly. Even though for the second year in a row, the forecast was for rain, we had a great time with NO RAIN! And 45 degree temps too. WOW what a great time we had. There was a good turnout, lots of chili, hot dogs, hot cocoa, and a lot of kites in the air. The clouds started coming in at around 3 PM so we packed up and got out without a drop. I hope we can see the rest of you next year when we celebrate New Years together doing what we all love to do,

From the board of your Washington Kitefliers Association, we all wish you and yours, a happy and safe NEW YEAR!

Rick White WKA President http://wka-

Bols spinning at the Protest the Bowls fly.

This photo by **Rick White**

Our first kite fly with WKA on New Year's Day

My wife **Marilyn** and I attended our first WKA fly on New Year's Day for the "bowl protest." **Sylvia Bernauer** kindly introduced us to the other kiters and warmed us up with hot chocolate. We were delighted everyone was so friendly and fun loving. The costumes and nicknames were great. Suzie, the little poodle was a perfect little mascot.

My daughter and her boyfriend are expert kite flyers in the San Francisco East Bay area. They gave me a dual line kite for my birthday last summer and also gave me a few flying lessons. The wind coming off the bay down there is great for kite flying. I've only flown it a few times up here in Seattle since they gave it to me. When it won't stay up, I blame it on the wind not being as good as the Bay Area wind.

They tell us of all the fun they have at kite meets, so we decided to join the WKA. We are looking forward to more outings in the fresh

air, and learning to fly my kite better. The problem I'm having is trying to hold the camera while flying the dual line kite. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

Thanks for having us.

Bob and Marilyn Gianetto

Jerry Graham to the rescue with the long pole getting Dick Curran's kite out of the tree and off the roof. That kite had quite the experiences!! Photos by Georgean Curran





Home Sweet Home" at the park.
Photo by **Rick White**

2007 Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

17-19 John Freeman's "Not a Peter Lynn" Kite Workshop See website: www.worldkitemuseum.com for details call 360-642-4020, or email info@worldkitemuseum.com Long Beach, Washington

22-25 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference Port Townsend, Washingotn www.kitemakers.org

MARCH

10-11 Mick Dahm's "Scrap Bag" Wave Train Workshop See World Kite Museum web site for details!

30-Apr 1 Indoor Kite Festival, Taft High School, Lincoln City, OR www.oregoncoast.org or call 800-452-2151.

31-Apr 1 Bob & Charmayne Umbowers Arno Haft Bird Kite Workshop See World Kite Museum web site for details!

APRIL

14-15 Don Mock's Painting on Ripstop Workshop See World Kite Museum web site for details!

21 Annual Puffin Kite Festival, Cannon Beach, Oregon

28-29 Kathy Goodwind's Astrofighter workshop See World Kite Museum web site for details!

28-29 Annual Festival Winds/Waves/Water White Rock, BC Canada www.whiterockonline.com

MAY

19-20 Dan Kurahashi's Giant Rokkaku Workshop See World Kite Museum web site for details!

JUNE

1-3 Ocean Shores, Washington Kite Festival

WKA Fathers Day Kite Fly, Annual Seattle Celebration of Kites on Kite Hill at Sandpoint, Magnuson Park.

23-24 Spring Kite Festival, Lincoln City, Oregon www.oregoncoast.org or call 800-452-2151

JULY

13-15 Westport Windriders Kite Festival Grayland, Washington

21-22 Annual Southern Oregon Kite Festival, Brookings, Oregon

21-22 Parksville, BC 2nd Annual International Kite Festival http://members.shaw.ca/lionsclub/home.htm

AUGUST

4-5 PCKA - Orting, Washington Kite Fest
At the Orting Lions Community Park
Demonstrations/Mass Ascensions/Kite making for Kids

20-26 Washington State International Kite Festival (WSIKF)
Long Beach, Washington
www.kitefestival.com

SEPTEMBER

8-9 "Up Your Wind" Kite Festival Pacific Beach, Washington 22-23 Whidbey Island Kite Festival

www.whidbeykites.org

OCTOBER

1-6 American Kitefliers Association Convention Ocean Shores, Washington www.aka.kite.org

13-14 One Sky, One World Kite Fly Celebration everywhere http://www.earthnet.net/~jpa/osow/

13-14 Fall Kite Festival, Lincoln City, Oregon www.oregoncoast.org or call 800-452-2151

For more calendar information: http://wka-kiteflyers.org

. Hi to all of you -

I am pleased to be your editor. This is one of my favorite things to do -- desktop publishing, and it is tied with two of my other favorite things to do - kite flying and kite and banner making.

This week we are leaving for the Oregon Kitemakers Retreat. John is teaching a class there, and we will be making kites as well. I have always enjoyed sewing from the time I was five years old when I made a doll's dress on my mother's treadle sewing machine. Now we have electronics, right up my alley - I love gadgets, and that is what a modern sewing machine is - a sophisticated gadget. I will need submittals for the March/April issue no later than March 10. I will get together with the Board so we can create a real publishing schedule. This is so you will know when things are needed so that what comes out is timely and you are not finding out about an event after the fact - oooh I hate that.

Submittal items can include information about upcoming events, events you have been to, your favorite place to fly, a favorite recipe (especially potluck ones), kite plans, flying experiences, kite making, and so on. You can send them to me at my email address. Snail mail too, if you don't have email, but then allow at least two weeks for it to get to me. If you have pictures you want to share and don't have them in digital form, you can mail the pictures to me, I can scan them and will return them to you if you so require. My snail mail address is 1606 Marine Circle, Parksville, BC V9P 1Y7 Canada. We live on Vancouver Island, we retired to the Island at the end of the year 2000. We are only a 1/2 mile from the water, so we do enjoy clean air and the temperate climate as a result of being at sea level.

We are looking forward to the kite flying season, and I hope to see many of you on the flying fields/beaches. Unti then, keep your spirits up, don't let the rain/snow/foggy days dampen your spirits. Spring will be here before you know it. Honest!!

Marzlie Marzlie

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello WKA members and friends of members who are reading this newsletter. (I know you are sharing it with everyone you know!) I hope everyone had a great Christmas, and a Happy New year. According to reports from those who went, the Christmas party went well. I want to thank those who contributed to the raffle—both for bringing items and by purchasing tickets. I am sure I speak for both the WKA and the PCKA when I say. Thank You to all who attended. Besides you were able to have a lot of good eats and fun, and fellowship to boot! What a deal! I figure if I didn't go to the dinner, I should give you all a detailed explanation of what I was doing. I spent that week end relaxing in Birch bay with my bride of 35 years to celebrate our anniversary. We took in the sights up there. . . . Both of them. Let's see, there was Blaine, the portal to Canada, (cool place) and Lynden the Dutch food capital of at least Northern Washington. (Also a cool place.) I guess to be fair, there was also a Santa Train there in Birch Bay to ride, except the power went out that day, so I couldn't ride it. Boo hoooo. All in all, I had a great time, and I highly recommend the place. But try to go when there isn't 6 inches of ice on the roads. That was very challenging. You all know how I like photos, so here is a link to a few I took while there. One of the photos is of the best sunset I think I have EVER seen anywhere. (And I have seen a few.) Here is the link:

http://home.comcast.net/~ssragtop/ptbkf07.htm

Back to business. Our New Year's Day fly went better than usual this year. The wind was present most of the day, the cold was tempered to a delightful 45 degrees, and the kite eating trees ate more than usual this year. They kept my 31 foot Jackite pole very busy most of the day.

I would like to take this time to announce this year's winner of the coveted **Charlie Brown Award**, for the most kites eaten by trees. Won again this year, by none other than our own beloved **Richard Curran**. Congratulations Richard. You all have to realize this award is very

important to those of us who covet it! Because we know that if you win this award, it means you were most likely flying the most kites! Either that, or you have no idea how to fly them! I don't know which. In Richard's case he is right up there in the top two or three in kites flown, I am pretty sure. Thanks Richard for giving us all a great show up there in the sky. (And trees.) We will have to get a traveling trophy for this award. I will work on that. I am the President you know, I should be able to do this.

There are a few new kite fly's coming up this spring. One of them looks like it could be in Orting. Keep your eyes peeled for announcements on this one. I hope you get this newsletter before the event happens.

Also the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference is coming at the end of February. It will be cool as always. For all of you out there who haven't made your own kite, I highly recommend this conference. My first 20 kites were made there. (Yes, by me.) It and WSIKF (Washington State International Kite Festival) have been the two most influential events in my kiting life. The Oregon Kite Retreat is very good as well! I see some very nice kites coming out of there a lot too.

For a guy who doesn't like to write, I sure jabber a lot. Thanks for supporting your WKA and we will see you out in a field somewhere soon! Please, if you haven't lately, check out our web site

http://wka-kiteflyers.org

We try to keep it up to date with a calendar, news and photos of the latest events. A big thanks to all of you who send me your photos. Especially **Glenn** and **Marianne Austin**, who have sent me photos several times, thanks!

Rick White President

Welcome to our new members!

Patricia & Dennis Conlon
Stanton Koch
Healey and Mason

Seattle, WA
Seattle, WA

Lee & Ellie MasonVancouver, WAJohn & Michiko PerrizoSpanaway, WACasey & Laura ShearerSeattle, WA

We are happy you have joined our kiting family!

A special note from Jerry and Glenda—

Remember, the newsletter belongs to **ALL** of the WKA members, not just to board members. Please, please, submit your articles for publication in the newsletter.

Jerry and I have enjoyed writing articles over the years, but we really think you'd like to hear about events from different viewpoints.

We know we always see just a small sample of any particular event. Please help out by making sure everybody hears about the kite events and specific happenings that you most enjoyed and/or think were important.

Glenda Kleppin and Jerry Graham

W

Washington Kitefliers Association An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Join the WKA and share the fun! Benefits include our bi-monthly newsletter, membership card which entitles you to a 10% discount on kite related items at participating kite stores, entry to members-only drawing for a scholarship to the annual 3-day Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference, and information about special events in the Northwest kiting community.

Membership cost per household in the US or Canada is \$15.00 per year. Fill out this application and return it with a check or money order payable in US funds to WKA.

Mail to:

	Name	Spouse	
Membership Director			
Washington Kitefliers Assn Pacific Science Center 200 2nd Ave N Seattle WA 98109-4816	Address		
	City/State/Zip		
Visit us on the Web at www.wka-kiteflyers.org	Phone	E-Mail	
	Names of Other Household Members (Include different last names)		

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION
An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER
200 2ND AVE N
SEATTLE WA 98109-4816

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