



Annual Report 2021

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

A nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people know how much fun it is to fly kites!

President's Message

This theme is a *Thank You*. In looking back a couple of years, through the COVID era, I *thank* ALL of the clubs and groups of people who organized and participated in informal Fun Flys during this time, both outdoors and, more challengingly, indoors. Even during the darkest days and most restrictive times, these small events promoted the joy and spirit of kiting and gave folks the ability to keep participating in the pastime.

I'd like to *thank* Scott Davis, Tobias Arndt and Amy Doran, organizers for the *Windless Virtual Kite Festival*, with Brett Marchell and Gary Maynard joining forces, for a successful event that raised \$650+ for the World Kite Museum. Their innovative and hard work transformed this beloved event into a virtual format. Such transformation allowed many of us to see acclaimed indoor experts from around the country and world perform their magic. BTW, Toby did all the video edits and does a major part of the work on this event. If you missed it, stand by for February 2023 when I'm sure the event will repeat—even bigger and better!

Thank you numerous WKA and other club members who donated time and talent to making the 2021 version of the *WSIKF* a

success. Even though it wasn't an "official" festival, your contributions and particular skills filled in program gaps that made the festival activity-filled and a gratifying experience for the many attendees.

Being involved in planning conversations for this year's *WSIKF*, it will be back as the Pacific Northwest's premier kite festival. A *special thanks* to Bob Wendt for heading up the planning from the kitefliers' side.

To my hardworking Board members... *thank you* for your efforts in keeping the Association's activities running smoothly last year. My own health crisis in early 2021 kept me out of the scene for most of the year, but business that had to be done, was done, promptly and well!

I'm back in-the-saddle for my prez responsibilities this last term year. New projects will improve communications and activities. Being president the past five years has been an interesting and rewarding experience. If you would like to share in that experience, please nominate yourself or someone you feel would be a good fit. Elections will be during this summer's annual dinner during the *WSIKF*.

Again, *Thank You!*

Casey Shearer, President

Hello WKA Members.

This Annual Report provides you with an account of the WKA treasury (what your dues are used for), WKA happenings during 2021 (and early 2022), and upcoming WKA events.

With COVID's ups and downs and two years of no annual dinner/raffle in Long Beach, the Board managed to meet two times last year—once during the WSIKF and once in October at Rick White's home.

Minutes are always available upon request.

Always, we encourage comments and suggestions to make the WKA *one of the best organizations you choose to support.*

THANK YOU for continuing your financial support in the Washington Kitefliers Association!

2021 Financial Report

Gross Income.....	\$1,305.12
Total Expenses	<u>\$2,144.49</u>
Net Loss	\$(839.37)

Income Sources

Memberships, including via PayPal.....	\$735.38
Sales & Donations	\$568.37
Bank interest.....	\$1.37

Expenses

Fort Worden Conference	\$542.20
Donations (WKM Jerry/Glenda, Dave/Susie) .	\$500.00
Printing, Supplies, Mail stuff, Filing fees ..	\$404.92
Webmaster	\$360.00
Domain & Hosting Fees	\$337.37
AKA Insurance	paid in 2022



WKA Purpose

To foster and encourage enthusiasm for kite flying.

To promote the study of kite design aesthetics,
aerodynamics, and the history of kites.

To promote kite flying safety, and
perpetuate the art and science of
kite flying through education.

Establishment

Washington Kitefliers Association was founded in 1973
and incorporated as a 501c7 non-profit organization in 1986.

WKA is the original and oldest kite club in the state of Washington.

2022 Board of Trustees

Officers (Elected 2-year Positions)

President (to Dec 31, 2022)	Casey Shearer
Vice President (to Dec 31, 2023)	Scott Slater
Secretary (to Dec 31, 2023)	Bonnie Ecker
Treasurer (to Dec 31, 2022)	Dan Ecker

Standing Committee Chairs

Membership	Sylvia Bernauer
Education	Ken Conrad
Products	Rick White
Security	vacant
Donations Coordinator	vacant
Annual Report	Bonnie Ecker
Social Media (Facebook)	Bonnie Ecker
Webmaster (paid position)	JJ Johnson

Mailing Address, Website and Email

Washington Kitefliers Association
6619 - 132nd Ave NE PMB 190
Kirkland WA 98033-8627

www.wka-kitefliers.org • info@wka-kitefliers.com



LOOKING BACK

When COVID came into full swing in early 2020, we all thought it would resolve itself in a few months, surely by May. Then SURELY by August for the WSIKF. Never did we think this could last two years! Despite all the lockdowns and facemask mandates, kites still flew and many still traveled to Long Beach for a week of informal flying and displays for the general public to enjoy. Fliers ARE resilient and stubborn; that's what makes us family.

In 2021, club flies were being scheduled, and the WSIKF was held in part. Part of the WKA Board met at a restaurant to draw the winning ticket for the 2022 *Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference* and Mr. Ron Miller was the lucky recipient. Whoop whoop.

Enter 2022 with facemask mandates being reduced, a robust WKA Calendar of events, and the WSIKF 99% scheduled (maybe no indoor fly). WKA and AOK will hold their annual dinners and raffles (Wednesday and Thursday respectively). We don't know yet if the World Kite Museum will hold their dinner, raffle and/or auction. Dan and I look forward to seeing everyone on the beach. Let's go fly a kite!

Bonnie Ecker, Secretary

Kite Videos

Take a break and enjoy kite event videos produced by member John Denlea. Look for him orbiting around with camera-in-hand. Check this one out on YouTube of the *Parade of Colors* at the 2021 WSIKF, www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uzt7dTvOnoQ

The **2020 AKA Convention** in Ocean City, MD, was postponed twice due to COVID. Even though it didn't occur in **2021**, AKA members were nominated and selected for annual awards with one winner from WKA:

Volunteer of the Year – Ron Miller.



Wife Marla says, "This truly deserving guy is ALWAYS helping the AKA, and not just in 2021. Many tasks he has taken on in the past are running the AKA general store by ordering clothing, and taking your suggestions for items to sell, as well as handling the

shipping of general store items. He helps with the conventions, orders convention kite pins, helps get donations for the auctions and raffles, and sets up the convention raffle."

Ever been to Dieppe, France, for their 10-day kite festival? Since 1996 when festival organizers recognized the AKA, Ron and Marla have been there to represent the AKA as volunteers. On arrival, Marla has a full task list, with Ron's help, setting up the AKA 10'x20' marquee, assisting American kitefliers with finding a hotel, setting up the travel info that adheres to the rules that Dieppe sets for attending their events, and anything else that needs attention.

Ron volunteers for the love of kites and helping to promote kiting. It's rare to see him on the field with kite-in-the-air. When volunteer time finally slows down, Ron enjoys making kites and enjoys giving them away to kids. Marla says, "I'm thrilled he was chosen as a recipient of this award, and it's about time."

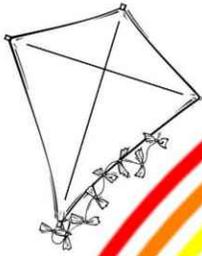
Steve Edeiken Memorial Kitefliers Award – Darrin & Susan Skinner.

Robert M. Ingraham Volunteer Award – Jon & Karen Burkhardt.

Lee Toy Kite Artist Award – Alexa & Sam King.

Regional Director of the Year – Glen Rothstein, Region 12 Southwest.

Kite Club of the Year – South Jersey Kite Club.



Memorials

We send up white kites as a
tribute to WKA members
that started cloud flying in 2021:

James Abbenhaus

Gerald Allen

Judy Brown

Kay Buesing

Jerry Graham

Glenda Kleppin

Gene Zemke

Carol Lord

Jean Reed

Catch a Rainbow between two Kites to Lift them High into the Sky.

2021 WSIKF Photos

Photos submitted by Membership Chair Sylvia Bernauer. Enjoy!



Ron Ortega



Heather Thomas



Debbie David &
Glenda Davenport



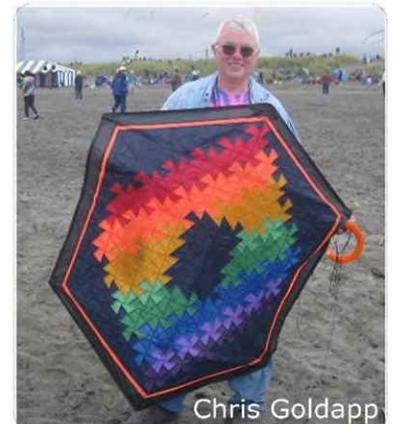
Kay Buesing
kite during
her tribute



Lori & Scott Slater



Donna Wendt



Chris Goldapp



Protest the Bowls 2022

Some didn't get the memo that this year's *Protest the Bowls* had been cancelled on January 1 due to extreme cold and a high chance of rain or snow. This is the FIRST time the event has officially been cancelled.

But, WKA has some dedicated flyers despite weather, and it usually ends up in their favor. Products Chair Rick White, along with Past President Butch Harviston and member Launny Herriges, made the trek to Golden Gardens in Ballard to be the WKA presence on January 1.

Rick remarked on Facebook that he "missed everyone this year, but because I defied the announcement that it was canceled, I went anyway!" The three of them enjoyed the day in the snow and flew kites most of the day...the four hours they stuck it out.

Protest the Bowls always has kites to give away to kids, and this year was no exception. A nice girl and her parents were given a "hanging thing" (Rick lost the photo). Here are some photos on January 1 that Rick posted on the WKA Facebook site.



The **40th Annual Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference** was held this March in full at the Warm Springs Camp & Conference Center in Stanwood. During the 2021 WSIKF, the WKA Board met for a quick meeting and to draw the winner of the *WKA/Tom Sisson Scholarship*. The lucky recipient was Mr. Ron Miller.

Instructor Chris Hanson taught a variation of the Dunton-Taylor Box Delta. Ron reported, "He had attendees sewing its bag; a warm-up that took 2 hours!"



Another class, taught by Barbara Meyer, was to make a Transition Della Porta. Before the class, she warned students that there would be a lot of sewing. Ron remarked, "She wasn't kidding!"



The WKA Board received a nice letter from Ron:

"Dear WKA Members, with great appreciation I wish to thank all of you for drawing my name for free attendance to the *Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference* at

Warm Beach. It was exciting to return to kitemaking after a short break, seeing longtime friends and making new ones.

The drawing package paid for virtually everything, except those raffle tickets, which in turn allows you to buy more tickets than you would normally.

All in all, both classes and the teachers were fun and a good learning experience too.

Again thank you to all,
Ron Miller"

You are very welcome Ron, and we thank YOU for your feedback and photos!

LOOKING FORWARD

The **WKA regional calendar** for 2022 events has been posted on the website (current is v.1 Feb 17; tap F5 to refresh the page for the most current version). It's your one-stop look-see for events covering WA, OR, BC and any other West Coast state wishing event advertising.

Do check the **WKA website** on occasion for an updated Calendar, Announcements, and Volunteer requests. We don't add a lot, but we do add items. BTW, there could be modern changes coming to the website pages, so *stayed tuned*.

JBLM's Kid's Fest April 30, noon-4:30pm. **Volunteers are vitally needed** on this day. Facemasks are not required, but proof of COVID vaccination is (and an enhanced driver's license if you are non-military). Volunteers are also needed for premaking kites for the little kids. Contact Rick White, (c/t) 206-819-4739. The Fest will be in the large white MWR Fest Tent (behind the Bowl Arena Lanes).



Father's Day Fun Fly June 19. Join us on Kite Hill at Seattle's Magnuson Park. Bring your kites, chair, hat, and a lunch. Get there early to get a parking slot.

WKA Dinner, Raffle, Auction August 17 at the Long Beach Grange Hall on Sandridge Road. We anticipate returning to normal so bring donations for the raffle/auction, and money for your meal, raffle tickets, auction, and if you need to renew your membership. **We'll also need volunteers.**

WKA/Tom Sisson Scholarship. Ticket drawing to attend the 2023 *Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference* will be drawn on August 17 at the WKA dinner. As a member benefit, current members are welcome to apply. It covers registration, meals, housing, a conference pin, and \$50 toward class fees. To be in the drawing, mail a postcard with your name and address to WKA. **It must reach Sylvia no later than August 11.** Info? Contact Sylvia at dbrn1@earthlink.net.

December 3 PCKA-WKA Christmas dinner, raffle and auction is back on. Bring donations for the raffle and auction.

Volunteer Opportunities

PLEASE, the WKA keeps functioning with the assistance of its members. Check the WKA website for Volunteer postings.

Kitchen and Grange Hall help is needed for the annual **WKA Dinner, Raffle & Auction August 17**—assembling/heating food and serving, setting up the hall and raffle tables, selling raffle tickets, and tear down/cleanup. Contact Bonnie Ecker, whrlwind@comcast.net.

President. Casey is stepping down the end of this year (end of his term). The Board is looking for a new president to move us forward. Term is two-years, Jan 1, 2023 thru Dec 31, 2024. Please consider joining a *wonderful* Board team. Election August 17 during the annual dinner.

Treasurer. Dan Ecker's term is up the end of this year. Let us know if you are interested. Term is two-years, Jan 1, 2023 thru Dec 31, 2024. Election August 17 during the annual dinner.

Calendar Chair. Casey needs to hand over the annual Calendar revising job and updates through the year. Let a Board member know of your interest.

Security and the *Special Events Chair* positions need volunteers. No election, just step up to the plate and you're in.

For Loan and Purchase

Festival Signs & Banners are a great way to advertise the WKA at your event. Some are generic to alert attendees.

Kites for Kids Kitemaking vinyl banner, 8.5'Lx1.5'H. You provide cord. Contact Casey Shearer to borrow, shear090@comcast.net.



Information vinyl banner, 8.5'Lx1.5'H. You provide cord. Contact Casey Shearer to borrow, shear090@comcast.net.



WKA banner, 10.5'h x 2'w. You provide pole. Finished \$150, Kit \$85. Contact Bonnie Ecker, whrlwind@comcast.net.



WKA ground sign. Graphic available, you take to sign maker. Contact Bonnie Ecker, whrlwind@comcast.net.

