

Washington Kitefliers Association

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

NEWSLETTER of April, 1986

**KITE
"RETREAT"?**
no --
**KITE
"CHARGE"!**

There was nothing vaguely resembling a retreat about the 1986 Ft. Worden 3-day kite extravaganza.

From the most knowledgeable to the rankest amateur, kite flyers, kite makers, kite inventors, kite teachers and kite lovers, 68-strong assembled

Friday, March 7th. A state park facility, the old fort has a wonderful parade ground right at the doorstep, ideal for flying. Located at the seashore, the winds are usually great, the vista lovely.

Kitefliers were put up in either dormitories or in gracious old officers' housing. A food concession provided a gargantuan buffet for a modest fee at the door or were included in the price of the weekend. The officers' quarters also had an option of cooking in excellent kitchens.

But the big show took place in a building, once the USO, where 31 sewing machines were set up and kept buzzing from early morn 'til late night. Eager novitiates and experienced kitemakers kept busy making kites from plans provided by the experts.

Ken Conrad of Great Winds Kite Shop again provided hard-to-find materials at marked-down prices. Manning the store in a corner of the USO Bldg., he made it unnecessary for the committee to volunteer for this chore. Thanks again, Ken!

A browsing table in another corner



Sixty-eight kite enthusiasts assembled at Fort Worden for their Third Annual Kite Retreat Weekend hooting at . . .

displayed kite plans (5¢ ea.), photo albums, books, etc.

During the three-day affair, participants would take their newly finished kites to the test field across the street or run out for a quick fly when they "felt the urge" overpowering them.

Throughout this heady weekend there was the camaraderie --the joy of meeting old friends and making new ones. Interesting people all. . .Van Gilder

We thank leaders Kathy Goodwind, Jack Van Gilder, and Margaret Holzbauer of WKA, the Larvs and Forsbergs of AOK, the Zilars and the Davises of BFKS and also the presenters from the BCKA also.



-- by Dorothea Checkley,
interested observer

Dorothea Checkley, →
minding the store, after
initial registrations.
Larry and Marleen Zilar,
Kennewick, WA, of the Ben Franklin
Kiders did the heavy work of
checking people in on Friday
afternoon.

Note the Schedule board,
so we'd know what was going
on. Lynn Lary, Assn. of
Oregon Kiders was responsible
for that. Note also the T-shirts



on the table. There are
about 11 of them left at
\$8.98 each (\$7.98 for WKA
members), tax included,
announcing "Ft. Worden
Retreat Weekend, 1986".
Available at Suspended
Elevations Kite Shop,
1915 N. 34th, Seattle, WA
98103 (206) 633-4780.

Bob Hanna and Margaret
Holzbauer (WKA Secretary)
set up their sewing
machines Friday p.m.

Our workshop, the →
large USO Building.
Note the good lighting,
about 31 sewing machines
and all the seamsters and
seamstresses. Behind the
folding wall to the right
was another smaller room
where classes and demon-
strations were held
separately. This is also
the room in which were
shown slides, movies, and
videos.





← Kathy Goodwind's class on "Fabric Integrity", an update of the same class she held at the A.K.A. convention in San Diego; very popular both places. It told us what kite-making fabric to use, where and why. Among faces in the crowd is that of Lee Toy, nationally renowned kiter from San Francisco.

Note how perky Kathy looks here. After all her leadership activities, she showed signs of strain, later.

Tom Mallard, Kathy's partner, (second from left) lead a class on fabric fighter kites on the stage of the USO room. Tom, in addition to being knowledgeable in aerodynamics, was a very dynamic speaker. He explained WHY various shapes of fighter kites fly the way they do -- using body language lithely.



← Margaret Greger, an Old Hand at instructing, showed us how she does it. She was well-organized, buzzing through THREE kites in about an hour. Just try that speed in a classroom!

She showed how to put together her Vietnamese Kite -- and told the story of how she learned it from a little refugee boy -- a "One-Piece Delta" [Hey! that one will fly right over your head -- Ed] and a "Conover Eddy" [I could be wrong on that last one].

Dave Tuttle,

president of the British Columbia Kite Assn., did himself proud in Lynn Lary's class. He's holding his delta-coyne made from her kit and instructions. The pieces were all pre-cut so it took the class anywhere from three to seven hours to finish. The old adage, "As ye sew, so shall ye rip" accounted for the time differential in large part.



← Lynn Lary makes a pointy point with Doug Hagaman during Doug's "Large Kite Safety" class down by the lighthouse.

What a beautiful day! What a beautiful place! → Doug Hagaman used his class time to test fly a new kite he bridled a few hours previously. Doug is internationally known for his high flying parafoils, faultlessly bridled.

His method of retrieving a hard-pulling parafoil was to hang a line to the back (rear) end of the 'foil, much like a tail. This line was of about 200-lb. test strength and reached the ground.

To bring the kite down, all one need do is to pull this line off-center -- to one side or the other. This causes the kite to crash silently, easily and gently.



Tom Sisson, distributing free nylon from Diana Aurigenma's shop. Happy Sari Moore (left) waits; Lee Toy (in rear) presented a slide show of his trips around the U.S., visiting various kite festivals; Greg Greger (right) led a class in a new-type Hip Pocket Soft Sled. This plan won Margaret Greger a prize at the A.K.A. convention in San Diego this year. It seems to be able to stand a heavier wind than some of the other versions of this popular kite.



Many thought that the ultimate kite class was presented by Ed Pfeiffer. Billed as "Pfeiffer's Phantastic rple Peril Boxes", 12 lucky early gner-uppers snapped up the available kits at \$10 each. Ed had grossly underestimated the popularity of his class.

His neatly packaged kits had to be seen to be believed! In addition to pre-cut purple plastic (Boeing surplus machine coverings for volcano ash, a la Mt. St. Helens), dowels, etc. There were such little necessities as a small paper bag to be taped to the end of each kite-maker's work table to catch scraps; the precise length of tape needed was there too, PLUS a paper towel with which to wipe the plastic to improve adherence of tape!



Larry Zilar, who with Goodwife Marleen presided at the registration desk, can't seem to believe his luck, or skill, or results -- or something. Larry almost has himself a manlifter here!



Ken Conrad's mini kite supply shop, set up in a corner of the USO room. Gene Smiley of "Boka Boka" fame (one piece of typewriter paper) considers a purchase while Margaret Greger looks on.

Note the ID buttons, provided by the Zilars of BFKS. They were numbered, eliminating the need for door prize tickets. This year at the Saturday night banquet, everybody won: In addition to the kiteshop donations for doorprizes, each individual brought something for a "surPrize".

Nigel Spaxman, BCKA, repeated his popular class on homemade four-foot flexifoils.

Ah, the Afterparty: Van Gilder had no trouble sleeping, even though his room was right next to the noise. It was such a steady dull roar that he was taken back to his youth, sleeping next to a fishboat's diesel engine.

This is the special time when friendships are made and renewed; where new information fills in old friends.

-- Margaret Holzbauer,
Reporter



Dave Checkley spent most of his time happily making discs for a centipede-type kite. It will amaze the skies next summer with each disc painted to be a slice of watermelon, the head a watermelon eater.



SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER --

-- copies of the group photograph on the cover of this newsletter. Taken by Dean Davis on his larger-negative camera, it is needle sharp. Dean is sure that he can get us the good price of \$5.00 if about 20 of us sign up. Send check to him at: 2401 S. Tacoma St., Kennewick, WA 99336, or phone (509) 586-2242 for more information. One piece of information is that it will be a first-class job, including a mailer and a cardboard frame.

Time Limit: May 15, 1986

ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT --

As much work as they did and as tired as they were at the end of the Fort Worden retreat, the committee was surprisingly enthusiastic about next year. They met in the dining hall immediately after lunch on Sunday and hashed things over.

Although we have increased attendance from 47 in 1984 to 59 last year to 68 this year, we think that the Law of Diminishing Returns will set in soon. Therefore we plan to publicize the event as much as possible to hold our own in the future. The A.O.K. and B.F.K.A. members were firm in their resolve to help again next year, long distance or not. We felt that B.C.K.A. really couldn't be expected to help with scheduling or registering because they face a 5-hour trip coming and going. Besides, they have contributed almost more than their share of workshops.

We actually had volunteers to clean up so we wouldn't get socked with a cleanup bill by the park, another encouraging sign. We wrote to the Washington Parks Dept. expressing concern over the fact that the porch of the dormitory we use, No. 225, was still not reconstructed from August 1985. They wrote a nice letter back, explaining that they had to order a special cut of lumber for the porch flooring, matching the original. They wrote: "Your kind remark that in your estimation Fort Worden provides the best facilities available to any of the numerous kite clubs in the United States is appreciated."

THE BOTTOM LINE --

We broke even financially this year, even reimbursing personal expenses of the committee, like long distance telephoning, postage, etc. We didn't forget to figure in sales tax and didn't have refunds to make.

THIS 'N' THAT --

Succinct Book Reviews:

Kite Photography. Katsutaka Murooka has come out with a really neat 64-page book of pictures taken from his kitelines -- looking down. It is in Japanese except for subtitles. Send 2,200 yen (look up the exchange rate in the business section of the newspaper -- \$12.34) to him at: 2-42-7 Shirasagi Nakano-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

The Klutz Book of Knots. John Cassidy includes actual cord and holes in heavy duty cardboard pages with nearly hands-on instructions. \$6.95 at the Great Winds shop.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS --

Bill Eaton
Carol Leigh (from CA)
Dusty Olson
Frank, Joan, and Tami Posthuma
Jeffrey Reed
Ruth Stephens
The Tokeland-Northcove Chamber of Commerce
Dusty, Bill, and Frank all more-or-less STARTED their kiteflying careers at our Ft. Worden retreat.

WELCOME BACK OLD MEMBERS --

Hope this doesn't sound snide but it took a mailing of some 60 reminder postcards by our Secretary, Margaret Holzbauer, to get some of you old timers to get up your dues this year! We won't embarrass you by listing you. On the other hand, a couple of you old timers sent back proof of payments that had been unrecorded. Sorry 'bout that!

REMEMBER LOUISE CROWLEY?

Time does fly -- memories do fade -- but there was certainly a vacant space in the sky three years ago when she died. We swore to remember her yearly on May Day (because of her old time "Wobbly" sympathies).

USEFUL INFORMATION:

Profit from others' experience!

For the past two issues, we have been exploring the different details of delta kites -- their aspect ratios, proportions, methods of correcting their flying off to one side, etc. This issue, let's take a look at tails.

"Tails on a Delta? Sacrilege!" you say? Well, actually anything that adds drag for stability to the trailing edge of a kite can be defined as a tail: a fringe, a drogue, slots, etc. Remember the memorable treatise on slots by Bob Ingraham in the last issue.

With fringes in mind I wrote Charlie Sotich, President of the Chicagoland Skyliners Kite Club to the following effect:

"Someone, somewhere, some time ago told me the General Theory on Kite Tails:

One 30-foot tail --



-- does as much stabilizing as two 15-footers --



-- or as much as three 10-foot tails --

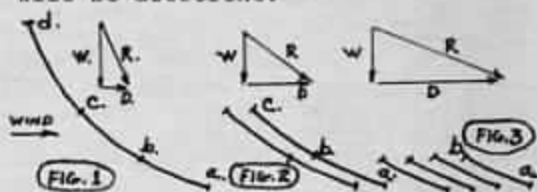


-- or as much as thirty 1-footers (a fringe).



What do you think?

He wrote back: "Now in regards to dividing a long tail into two half length tails or four quarter length tails, etc: The weight of the tail will have an effect on this question. If the tail is very heavy so that it sags, I think the results will be different:



"The three tail systems illustrated here will all have the same total length and weight. This means that the vector "W" (representing Weight) will be the same in all three cases and will act vertically. [vector: a quantity that has magnitude and direction -- ed.] The Resultant vector ("R") must be in the direction the tail is pulling from where it is attached to the kite. The Drag ("D") makes up the third side of the vector triangle and must be horizontal. Most kite tails will not hang as shown in Fig. 1 but probably more horizontally, as in Fig. 2 & 3. The Drag of configuration #3 would therefore be slightly greater than Fig. 2.

"This result I didn't really expect. I am going to write Bill Bigge and see what he has to say about this."

In other words, as I read Charlie, he almost agrees with the General Theory on Kite Tails -- but not quite.

Another thing to notice here is Charlie's reference to Bill Bigge. Charlie and Bill, along with our own WKA past-president, Carl Brewer, are all members of the American Model Airplane club ("the AMA" means different things to different people). As such they are all aeronautical engineers on a small scale. This stuff might be hard to read at first glance but READ IT CAREFULLY. Your editor had to run to the dictionary but it made sense after a while. It would seem that the AMAers THINK differently than you and I.

The gossip column of the most recent issue of Sky Lines, newsletter of the Chicagoland Skyliners, gives us an insight into the content and conduct of Maryland Kite Society retreat weekends. Len Conover, himself the high muckety-muck of the Greater Delaware Valley Kite Society, leaked a discussion subject.

It seems that Bill Bigge is sponsoring a kite contest named "International Indoor Kite Efficiency Challenge". The MKSers were brainstorming methods of keeping Charlie from winning it: break his leg, his arm, his kite; shoot his horse. Val Govig, Kitelines editor, even tried

to trick Charlie into being a judge, but he declined the honor and made a generous contribution to the prize pool instead.

Some years ago, y'r ob't ed'r made a kite shaped thusly. Note that the kiteline attachment point is at a point 73% up the center spar (spine) instead of the more traditional 54 to 60%. This was necessary because the wingtip was 66% forward of the trailing edge. This moved the center of lift well forward also. Note also the aspect ratio: 1-to-.85 instead of the more conventional 1-to-1.

None of this explains why the thing flies so well; like a bird, brisk breeze or light. I had shaped it after the top figure on the Alaska Sun-Raven totem pole, thinking nothing of aerodynamics.

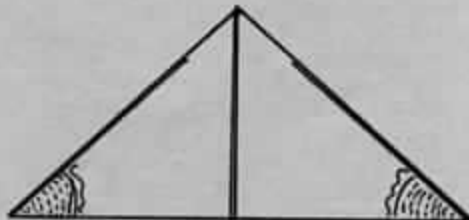
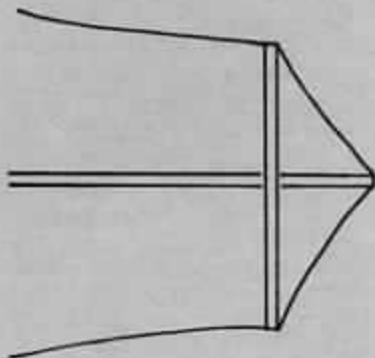
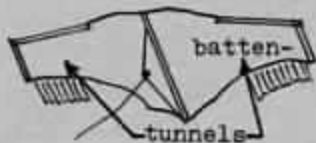
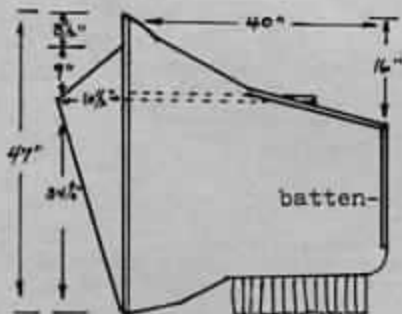
I have asked Jim Carnwath, my ol' mentor, if maybe it was because of the battens on each wingtip. It seemed to me that there was a certain tunnel effect near the wingtips that gave added lift and stability.

Jim claimed that he didn't know, Boeing aeronautical engineer or not. But I would like some of you readers to doodle around with several versions of this basic wingtip treatment on deltas, and report back.

One reason that this wingtip has resurfaced to my attention is a chance remark by Tom Mallard of Suspended Elevations kite shop. He and Kathy Goodwind pointed out that the wingtips of their high-performance Starflake kites were a key to their success. They both said that they studied it in pictures and diagrams of Charles Lamson's Aero-Curve (1896) and, of course, modern full-batten sails. "The real benefit is to the wing, giving it more parallel leading and trailing edges," says Tom.

Tom went on to espouse the fact that the wingtips of the standard delta add nothing to lift. Something about "vortex formation" that Your Resident Expert didn't really understand. Tom says to look up a book by Morwood, Sailing Aerodynamics (1953).

Bottom line: I haven't had a chance to experiment with these ideas. Why don't you?



I turned to another authority: Guy Ayclatt, Charlottesville, VA, he of the Piney Mountain Air Force Data Letter, no longer being published. [sob, sob! -- ed.] Guy writes:

"Flaunting absolutes before the gin-reddened eyes of Hornbeam Hall [Guy has named his small-estate-sized retirement abode thusly -- ed.] goad them into making efforts to point out that absolutes are nearly never thus. You recently said, 'Airplane kites won't fit into a kite kit. [Guy then proceeds to list a couple that we hope to publish in the near future -- ed.]

"But then, I'm both cross-grained and prejudiced. I used to get on the back of my Rochester, NY, friend, Wyatt Brummitt, about his regrettable tendency to sully his kite writing with said absolutes. Accurate and sufficient experimental research is necessary. When Wyatt and I were not clawing one another, we tried to housebreak Ed Grouel. [Older kilters will recognize both as pedestal-perched pioneers of kite design that we take for granted now. To have actually FLOWN with both of these names means that Guy must be approaching age 99! -- ed.]

"Favorite tricks for correcting yaw in a delta -- or any other kite for that matter? Before everything else, I think a good-flying kite happens when five good characteristics occur in good order:

- (1) Good DESIGN
- (2) Good MATERIALS
- (3) Good WORKMANSHIP
- (4) Good RIGGING
- (5) Good LUCK

"I am tempted to elaborate but leave that to you. For example, nothing is said about flying skills, judgment, weather, or how much sleep the flier had the previous night. Maybe item (5) would embrace all these variables.

"If we go back to the subject of your yawing delta, and not having the hypothetical kite in hand for direct tests, I'd call the roll of the list shown above and first satisfy myself that the DESIGN was worthy of future effort. Next I'd see if the MATERIALS were of the proper gauge, texture, strength, and

distribution. P'rinstance, a bent or heavy delta spar can raise all kinds of hell. If WORKMANSHIP is crummy, the flight characteristics may also be crummy -- especially if asymmetries creep into the structure (especially likely to happen in sewn fabrications). Bad RIGGING, including bridling, can make an otherwise excellent kite act like a bummer. Good LUCK? We must have it!

"Bending, twisting, or inflicting other asymmetric corrections to improve a kite's flight under one set of conditions may have to be repeated as frequently as those conditions significantly change.

"Your Ol' Mentor, Jim Carnwath, aeronautical engineer or not, is wolf-wise not to pretend to have any comprehensive knowledge of low Reynolds number aircraft. [Try to find 'Reynolds Number' in the dictionary, or even an encyclopedia! We'll report back on that one. -- ed.] The best engineers, including Jim, have had a rough enough time sorting out the nastiness of high-speed, heavy, man carriers. They have a very devil of a time matching mathematical models to observed performance -- or vice versa.

"I'd stick my neck out this far and question the 'fact' that 'the wing tips of the standard delta add nothing to lift.' I'd have to measure pressures at the tips of many 'standard' deltas -- in many sizes -- before I'd accept that 'add nothing to lift' absolute.

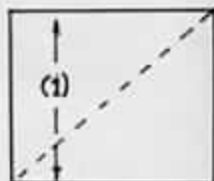
"As I see it, kite designing continues to have its peculiar resistance to working its way into aerodynamics as a science. (Look up the word 'science' in a good dictionary.) One of the charms of kiting is that resistance. In many ways, the cellar scientist and the pasture philosopher can do as well in kite design as an aerospace engineer. Empiricism [hands-on, observed experimentation" -- ed.] does have its place; a little witchcraft too.

"We don't harbor trolls at Piney Mountain for nuthin'!

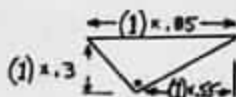
"--fly good thoughts; hang loose,"
-- Guy --

For three issues of WKA Newsletter you have been urged to make a delta. If you sew, a ripstop nylon delta would be duck soup. If you have a soldering iron, try one using any kind of plastic trash or shopping bag. Just remember to put a "pressing cloth" of wax paper or somesuch between iron and plastic. If you have neither, tissue paper deltas will outfly either material for a short time.

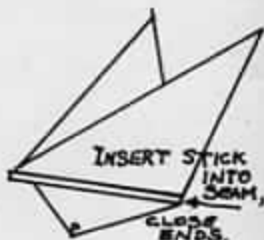
(a) just cut a square or oblong piece of material diagonally for the wings, then



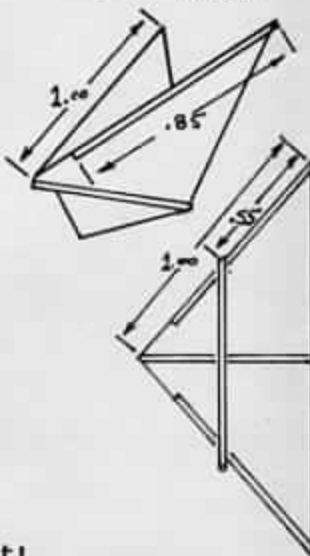
(b) cut a keel from a separate piece to the proportions of the dimension marked "1". Be sure to allow for seams and hems, and



(c) assemble by using one of the three methods above



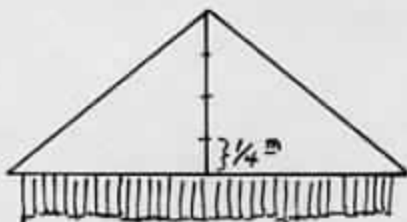
(d) cut three sticks (wooden dowels are the easiest) to the right proportions and attach



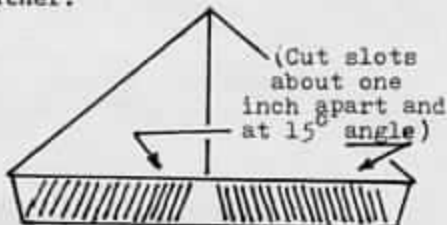
(e) keep the wings spread by attaching a 4th stick (spreader bar) at its two ends to the wings like this

-- then go fly it!

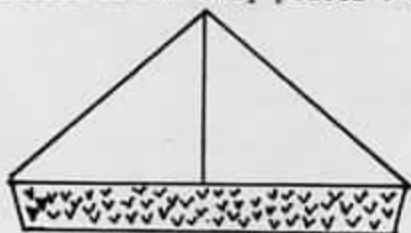
Now, the fun begins. Make three more exactly the same -- except for the trailing edge. Leave one kite the same but on another put a fringe, whatever length FEELS right; 1/4 or 1/3 of the length.



Put a slotted skirt on another kite, a la Bob Ingraham, AKA's Founding Father:



On the fourth kite, put a skirt with a series of randomly placed V-slots:



Tom Sisson passed it from Carl Brewer that these V-slots affect the "LAMINAR FLOW" of the air over the surface of the kite:



The way it was explained to me, laminar flow is the air RIGHT NEXT to the surface of a wing, a car, or whatever. The smoother this flow of air right close to the surface, the better the plane, kite, whatever, will slip through the air.

Fly all your kites side by side and see if you don't have MORE FUN! And please REPORT BACK, eh?

WE GET LETTERS:

--from Malcolm Goodman, 44 Hunt-cliffe Drive, Brotton, Saltburn-by-Sea, Cleveland, England TS122QL [Don't those English addresses just REEK of Old World charm? -- ed.] He writes:

"-- enclosed copy of a JAPANESE FESTIVAL that Washington Art Centre are holding in Sept. The opening celebration will include a "Festival of the Air" which will include mass kiteflying, etc. -- invite you and any other kitefliers from Washington to fly with us. The village of Washington is the birthplace of George Washington so we thought it would be great to have fliers from Washington State join us.

"We've been very lucky in getting the Japanese Foundation to sponsor NISHI and EIJI OHASHI who will spend three months with us --. We can offer free accommodation for one week and sightseeing and anybody wanting to stay longer I or friends will look after them. -- P/S have written to Doug Hagaman who has other dates of festivals in England if anybody wants to come over earlier."

They want to make this a world-class event so anyone going to the East Coast anyway write him, eh? Date: Sept. 14, 1986, open flying exhibition; Japanese arts festival continues to Oct. 18.

-- from Jackie Hirsch, Kite Festival Committee, Parksville, B.C.:

"Do you plan on attending Expo '86 World's Fair in Vancouver? How about slipping over to Vancouver Island June 8th (a Sunday) and joining other kite enthusiasts? We have attracted some very prestigious kites to our festival the last couple of years and would love to have you join us. Any questions, phone us at (604) 248-2072." [or phone 938-0550 for brochure -- ed.]

-- from Kenny Hogg, Reedsport, OR:

"Kite Fly/Festival and Fleet Days Festival, Winchester Bay, OR, will be July 25-27 this year. We'll like to see some WKA people join their friends in A.O.K. Phone me at (503) 271-3931." [Lenny and wife were at Ft. Worden. Phone 938-0550 for brochure]

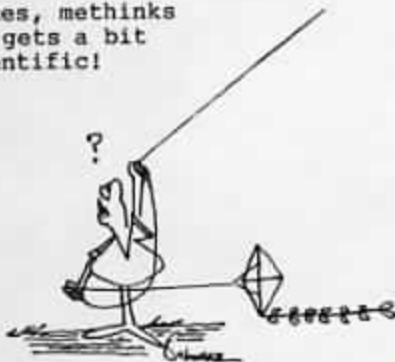
--from Charlie Sotich (President of Chicagoland Skyliners kite club):

"-- I enjoy reading the WKA Newsletter and keeping up with the many activities your club is involved with. Jack Van Gilder's 'Useful Information Column' has some real good useful tips. [Maybe that's because we quote you so often, Chas. -- ed.]

[Sometimes, methinks Charlie gets a bit TOO scientific! -- ed.]



*Forget the kite in THIS wind - Fly the
Anchor!*



(Charlie also wrote) "Nishi's multi-bridle line with adjustable knot is a real gem. I disagree with Bob Ingraham's "main difference between kites and airplanes." I'll write both of you about that later. Heard from Gerry Osborne. His letters are unique!" [Apropos we're using his stuff to illustrate you, eh, Charlie? -- ed.]

--from Dorothy L. Allen

"Enjoy belonging and read the newsletter every time it comes out. Here's my check for membership and a new patch." [Thank you -- especially for the prompt check. Some of our old-timers had to be prompted. -- ed.]

--from Andahazy Laszlo, Budapest, Hungary, Dec. 16, 1985:

"Dear Hobby-Friend! In order to get connections we should like to introduce ourselves by the description of our latest programmes.

"We do not know any other addresses of clubs so we are sending you enclosed some more copies of this letter and we should like to ask you to distribute these among your kite-hobby friends -- Awaiting your kind reply -- [WKA Sec. Margaret Holzbauer answered. -- ed.]

"This antique play almost forgotten now is becoming more and more popular abroad and in Hungary as well. In regular times in different spots of the town children and parents are to be thought for creative plays by the assistance of experts. Their aim is the renaissance of folk plays and to get acquainted of natural materials. -- We prepared the plaques ["programs"? -- ed.] so that the other side we have drawn the form of an owl-kite for cutting out-- On the last day -- we helped children prepare owl-kite -- tried out the kites immediately in the park of the Culture Centre. -- but the enemy kiteing calm and raining prevented us from doing it.--



"--exhibited original arched Japanese and Chinese kites. -- many flying strange structures too, like a sailing catamaran, eagle, mini-kites, tiny planes, birds, and documents about demonstrating our meeting with foreign clubs - books. -- open a whole week -- guest-book it had 1,600 visitors.

"As an influence of the exhibition arised the possibility of foundation of a local kite-club."

Laszlo Andahazy Laszlo Szikla
Constructor of Industrial
Kite Artist

1094 Budapest 1126 Budapest
Pava u.24, Hungary Galzntai u.4

[Think they had trouble with the English language? Try writing them in Hungarian! I mean it: how about some of you starting a correspondence? But before you invite anyone from Hungary to visit you, check with Dave Checkley on the ill-fated trip of our Rumanian kiter. -- ed.]

from "Hobbitt" Mike Carroll, Plainsboro, NJ (March, 1986):

"Thanks for the loan of the sleeping bag and pillow. Had a great time -- the entire retreat crew is to be congratulated. Might see you @ Long Beach in August - I'm saving my pennies. Good Winds-!" [Len Conover wrote that Mike ALMOST talked him into coming also -- ed.]

from Lee Toy, San Francisco: (March 17, 1986) "Thanks so much for the kind hospitality -- the retreat was grand. I'm happy I went. I think it was well worth every cent! Although I'll sleep UP-stairs next year. [Whatzamatta, Lee? The dull roar of the afterparty didn't lose me any sleep! -- ed.] I made it back safe & sound [Lee came on his 2-wheeled Winnebago y'know -- ed.] so I can get back to work making ends meet. See you in August.

-- from Tokeland, WA -- wanting help with kite festival August 8 & 9th -- from Westport, WA -- wanting help with kite festival June 21 - July 4. [We sent material but haven't heard back. Will keep you posted -- ed.] -- from member David Crocker, Clarkston, WA (March 12, 1986):

"Hello Friends in Flight. Thought you would enjoy this news clipping so I'm sending it." [SASE for copy]

TRAGIC KITE ACCIDENT -- as reported in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Feb. 20.

A six year old boy drowned and his grandmother was critically injured [she died about two weeks later -- ed.] about 4:30 pm after a kite-flying trip turned into tragedy in the freezing waters of Lake Washington.

Joann Wrenn, 55, was flying a kite with her grandson Jarad Tinkerton, 6, off the dock ringing the Lakeside apartment complex. Despite strict rules, Jarad was wearing no life-jacket.

Jarad fell in. Grandmother Joann jumped in after him, screaming. Her son-in-law, Greg Peterson, was walking nearby with the apartment manager, Jerry Willard. He jumped in after her. A police officer, Al Thompson, just a block away, ran to the dock and jumped into the 39° water. Joann Wrenn lost consciousness before making it clear that Jarad was under the water (under the dock, as it turned out).

Peterson and Thompson kept her above the water next to a rubber raft thrown down by a neighbor until firemen arrived to pull them up.

"It just seemed like forever," Thompson said. "I was losing it. My muscles were going quick. I didn't even stop to think," he added. "I just knew someone was in trouble and I had to go in."

It was only after Wrenn was brought ashore that rescuers realized that Jarad also was missing. Police divers arrived at 5:30 pm and they found the boy's body just a few minutes after they went into the water.

[this is where I start bawling each time I read this story -- ed.] Police diver Cory Ness said he located the body after spotting the red kite spool still clasped in the boy's hand. (1)

Each of us kiteflying grandparent types must be looking within ourselves after reading this tragic story. We have GOT to look around us for dangerous conditions: cliffs, water, power lines, busy streets, etc. BE CAREFUL -- !

ANOTHER SERIOUS NOTE:

-- a letter from the Pacific Science Center, without which the WKA would be nothing -- Well, hardly anything:

"The Pacific Science Center is a private non-profit organization that depends upon contributions to support it's many exhibits and programs. We hope that members and friends of your organization will help us by volunteering a few hours for these fund raising efforts.

"In May, we need callers and support staff for our fund raising PHONATHON. Join in the fun and help the P.S.C. reach its campaign goal for 1986. We will be calling our membership in the evening; dinner and special prizes will be offered. Help is also needed with paperwork, during the day. [I tried this one in Feb. It was tough duty -- but very satisfying -- ed.]

"The Fourth Annual Northwest Aviation and Space Expo will be held June 14 and 15, Father's Day, at Boeing Field, to benefit the P.S.C. Many individuals, interested in flight and space technology, are needed for a variety of assignments during the event. Each volunteer will receive four guest passes for the Northwest Aviation and Space Expo. [Remember the photo of our participation in this last year? -- ed.]

"For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities, call Jo Perkins, Pacific Science Center, 443-2936. [PLEASE! Our connection with PSC over the years is a large reason for our continued existence. -- ed.]



TOUR OF DIANA'S --

"High Flying", Diana Auragemma's kite and bannermaking shop, was toured by a group of about a dozen WKAers, Saturday, Feb. 15th, 10:30 am to noon. We warned you in our last newsletter that this would be a Big Deal and it was. Diana showed us around her spacious second-floor work space, and we picked up several pointers that we can use with our own sewing machines. She also had a short slide show. It's nice to know that one of Seattle's Own is gaining national repute.

An added bonus: We got first whack at surplus fabric. The balance was taken to the Fort Worden Retreat for disposal at no cost to the participants there.

LEGAL UPDATE --

Our club Secretary, Margaret Holz-bauer, submitted a nice long article detailing the trials and vicissitudes of the long, convoluted trail to our "tax-exempt" status.

Interim Report: We now have our E.I.N. (Employee Identification Number) so we won't have to pay personal income tax on the interest earned on our club bank account.

We have a Washington State docu-

KITE HANGING --

It was thrilling to see about 30 people show up at the Pacific Science Center, March 28th, to help Tom Sisson hang kites for our annual



Among the group: Gene Smiley, Bob Hanna (hidden), Diana Auragemma, Chris Morrison, Vera Smiley, Milly Mularkey, and Enid Havens, as Diana explains fabrics and patterns

Diana urged us all to explore the use of kite tails -- mostly for their artistic, flowing beauty.

ment attesting to the fact that we are a "non-profit corporation". We have a receipted bill from an attorney for \$30. (It would have been \$200 if said attorney had filled in all the forms instead of Margaret.) We have applied to the IRS for "tax-exempt status" and are waiting.

For a copy of our WKA By-laws and/or Margaret's nice long article, send us a SASE.

exhibition. Tom seems to be our "Official Hanger-Upper", year after year. It would really be tough around WKA without Tom on duty in so many roles. Our Appreciation, Tom Sisson!



SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1: Louise Crowley Memorial Kite-fly; Gasworks Park (where she loved to fly); 4:30 pm to dark. (Bring a snack then go out for her favorite libation)

May 5: Omak, WA; Children's Day Kite Festival; (509) 422-2888

May 7-9: "Very Special Arts Festival, Puyallup Fairgrounds; (Tom Sisson says they will send us a van/bus if we can come up with 8 or more people. This is one of the most satisfying events of the year, folks! PLEASE phone Tom at 725-3615 -- don't make us phone you. And besides, it means a \$150 donation to WKA!)

May 10: Ben Franklin club, Reston Wine Cellars, Pasco, WA; 11 am to 5 pm; contact Greg Greger, (509) 943-3951

May 18: Pacific Rim Kitefly; Vanier Park in Vancouver, B.C.

May 26: Memorial Day Kite Festival at Gasworks Park

June 1: Ben Franklin club's "Sun-fest" International Day; Show-n-tell; Richland, WA; contact Greg Greger, (509) 943-3951

June 8: Parksville B.C. Kite Festival (see page 12)

June 28-29: Westport WA Kite Festival; contact Richard (206) 268-0877

July 25-27: Fleet Days Kite Festival; Reedsport, OR; contact Lenny Hogg, (503) 271-3931

Aug. 19-24: Long Beach International Kite Festival (A BIGGIE); team competitions too; contact Kay Buessing, (206) 665-5744

Sunday afternoons: Gasworks Park on the WKA hip of Kite Hill

Between times: Look for sudden postcards and phone calls of special events during the summer months

FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION:

-- Send name, address, and phone number to our address below, along with your check for \$8.50. This will get you six newsletters during the next year, letting you in on the fun of kiteflying with other enthusiasts,

Special Attraction...

Fly High With the PNR CCCA/RROC!

Saturday, May 24, 1986

Fort Casey State Park for kite-flying and a picnic lunch



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

01-01-87
Michael Carroli
P.O. Box 215
Plainsboro, NJ 08536

TO: