

Pattaya International Kite Festival 1990

by Kathy Goodwind

[WKA members Kathy Goodwind and Stan Swanson were part of a U.S. contingent to the recent Pattaya International Kite Festival in Thailand. What follows is Kathy's account of their trip. -Ed.]

Flying kites in Thailand was no different than flying kites anywhere else in the world, except that there, one saw grey elephants lumbering around the kite field and crate or cobra snakes slithering around and showing up next to your kite line.

People from 13 different countries attended this year's festival. The atmosphere of this international event hummed like high voltage wires charged with particles of national patriotism.

The U.S. contingency brought 12 guests led by Fran Gramowski and his wife Mary. Most of us had two weeks notice and had to scramble for passports. As we gathered at SeaTac airport, the hectic preparations were forgotten and unbridled excitement prevailed. Thai Airlines, one of the festival's sponsors made the 18 hour flight incredibly comfortable. As we settled into our plush purple seats, we were lulled to sleep by the soothing, breathless song of the Thai language.

Landing in Bangkok near midnight, we were herded through customs and hustled onto air-conditioned buses for the three hour ride to Pattaya. Our tour guide Anne told us to get some sleep because we had to be ready to board the same bus for the flying field at 8am in the morning.

The next morning we sluggishly climbed onto the bus only to be informed we were five minutes late. Was this a warning of how tight our schedule was going to be? Riding through Pattaya on the way to Jomtien Beach, we noticed evidence of a budding new tourist center and new construction everywhere. Finally, rolling past the beach, the first signs of kites could be seen in the form of little styrofoam jets floating above the heads of the sunbathers. Interestingly, this kite sighting seemed to perk up our groggy group.

Arriving at the huge flying field behind a resort, we were stunned by its immensity; 300 meters by 370 meters. Walls of brightly colored Thai kite stands and rows of quaint thatched huts surrounded the perimeter of the flying field. Stepping off of the air conditioned bus we slammed



into a wall of heat and realized we were in for a hot one!

As we picked up our ton o' kites, we noticed the huts were alphabetically arranged. The U.S. hut was a far piece down the road. At least we had a covered corridor to carry the kites down, way down to the second to the last hut. It was only 8:51am and the heat was reaching blast furnace temperatures. Our guide hastened us to get out kites aloft because the press was out to film us. Realizing that the Tourism Authority of Thailand had put this trip together for us and that we were here to work, up went the kites. Despite the heat, a good breeze was available and we were able to put on a show.

Scott Skinner, who had been to Pattaya before, loped across the field to tether his kites to far corner posts. Thinking how foolish to go so far, Kathy Goodwind and Stan Swanson opted to put the rooster and giant pink elephant up next to the booth. George Peters decorated the area with a stand of festively colored flags. We worked feverishly to fulfill the request of our sponsor. A deceptive breeze helped to fuel our efforts.

Not too long after launching the rooster and elephant, it occurred to us just why Scott Skinner had chosen the back forty to fly in. Our Singapore neighbors pulled out their long strings of butterfly and penguin kite trains, exquisite but not fun to get tangled in. The rooster came down quite easily and quite far out. After hiking our and retrieving the errant poultry, Kathy returned in close to sunstroke condition. At first she thought it was sunburn but it was only 10:00am and too early for a burn.

The heat was forgotten as the sky became a vision of international kites. The variety of kites was indescribable: deltas, diamonds, boxes but also Edos, Rokkakus, Pak Paus, Chulas, Wau Bulans, giant octopi, Malaysian birds and butterflies, and a hammerhead shark, a soft sculptured kite from the charming Rolf Sturm of Germany.

By the end of the day, Kathy took second place in the "dirtball award". The fields were burned off earlier to scare the snakes away. Some of us were not forewarned to wear tennis shoes and socks instead of sandals. Fritz Gramowski got first place because his legs were longer. We trudged back to the buses but didn't notice the festive scene quite as much because the air-conditioned bus was the object of our undivided attention.

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Editor: Andris Wollam (206)869-1387.

The WKA NEWSLETTER welcomes contributions pertaining to kiteflying. Those submissions in keeping with a resurrected mission of this newsletter—**helping people know how much it is to fly a kite**—will be given priority for publication. Mail typewritten manuscripts and standard black and white or color print photos (include the name, address, and daytime phone number of the source) first class (so they can be forwarded) along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size and postage for return to Andris Wollam, WKA Newsletter Editor, 5051-148th Ave. NE #J202, Bellevue, WA 98007-3033. The deadline for all submission is the 15th of the month prior to issue. (July 15th for the next issue.) All submissions will be considered for publication.

Washington Kitefliers Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people discover all the joys of kite flying. To become a WKA member, send your name, address, and telephone number, along with a check for \$10 (outside the U.S. please add \$2 for additional postage) to Washington Kitefliers Association, Pacific Science Center, 200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109. Membership will include an official WKA membership card entitling the bearer to discounts at certain kite shops and a one year free mail subscription to the WKA Newsletter.

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Kiona Winery Barrel Tasting and Kite Fly

by Darryl Stephison

On Saturday morning, I started out to find the Kiona Winery. Down a long bumpy gravel road, I found a large home surrounded on two sides by vineyards and on two sides by sage brush. "This can't be the place," I thought. But there was a man on a tractor, pulling a screen down the road trying to remove some of the bumps who assured me that this was indeed the place. "Just go down to that field behind the house," he said. It was the one with all the sprinklers sticking up. There was no one there and the man on the tractor had turned and gone back down the bumpy road. I got out to check out the field and decided that a few more layers of clothing were necessary to avoid freezing tender parts. I launched a double French military and hoped that I wouldn't be the only one to show up. Soon Ron Krebs and others from the Yakima area showed up. "This can't be the place," one of them said. I figured the place must have looked rather rough to him when he pulled out his cellular telephone and asked if I had Larry Zilar's number. After offering encouragement to Larry to come and join us, we settled in to make the best of it.

It turned out to be a very enjoyable day. We flew kites and visited with friends from the Tri-Cities, Yakima, Spokane, and Bellingham. We also watched the barrel tasters. That's fun. They come in cars and busses and limousines. The limo driver wears a tux. He walks around and opens the door. The barrel tasters wear blue jeans and plaid shirts. Very interesting. John Zilar provided loud music with sounds of the ocean. You forget about all the sage brush. Thanks John.

About midday, I went up to the house to try the sandwiches. The wind came up and the French military decided to go off on its own. It was rescued by Ron Button and someone from the winery. About a half mile away it came down between the sage brush in a horse pasture. He said they looked where the horses seemed to be running from. It broke right at the knot. That reminded me of a tip from Jack Van Gilder. Retie your lines every year. I guess he was right.

That night we pigged out on barbecued hamburgers at Zilar's. Not many people took advantage of the whirlpool - the air was still a bit cool. The food was good. The friends were good. We had a general meeting afterward in the living room. Most people didn't seem to mind sitting on the floor. Thanks a million to Larry and Marleen for letting us overrun their place for the evening. Their hospitality is the best.

On Sunday the winds were light and variable. Large deltas were popular. On the thermals they fly very high. Sometimes straight over your head. Sometimes they keep going behind you. "Oh _____, now what do I do?" It was hard to say good by but I left a bit early, bought a big box of fresh asparagus and made it back to Seattle before dark. I think I'll go again next year.

Pattaya Int'l Festival [Cont'd]

The plan was to meet in the pool where we suddenly realized the luxury we had been afforded by TAT. The hotel was something out of the "Rich and Famous". After cavorting in the "heated" pool, we went searching for Thai food. You know you've really had a hard day when you fall asleep in the middle of a bite of food.

Another day, higher temperatures at 8am. A visit by Her Royal Highness Princess Soamsawali was the highlight of the second day. A special field was set aside with an elegantly decorated pavilion. Flanked by heavily armed guards, each team representative presented her with a token from their country and she presented a beautiful pewter commemorative plate in return. The Royal Princess and her daughter were fascinated by Joel's train of parrots. Peter Lynn from New Zealand moved onto the field and many of us left.

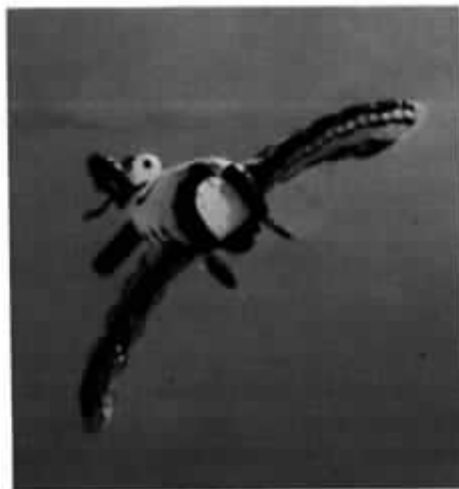
Back at the flying field, Rolf Sturm brought out his whimsical soft sculpture Snoopy in his airplane kite. This dual control kite harmlessly dive-bombed any and everything on the field. Shakib Gunn provided the sound effect and it seemed as though we were in a real life animated cartoon. By far the hit of the whole festival and new dimension in kite building, WSIKF you need this man as your next international guest.

The second day of the festival was the hottest, the relieving winds almost undetectable. One of the New Zealand red-heads succumbed to the heat and had to be carried off the field. Her energetic efforts to keep a show in the air proved to be too much. Mary Gramkowski, a registered nurse, took off to help. A stretcher made from Peter Lynn's high tech kite buggy came in handy.

Later in the afternoon the wind picked up and each country was asked to put on a show in the far field. The U.S. team put on quite an impressive show that included a train of Starflakes and Asteroids that had taken second place at the AKA convention, Kevin Shannon's Geisha Edo, Tom Casselman's Seven Sisters, Scott Skinner's turtle, Joel Sholtz's F-16 jet and George Peter's custom Thai Skybird. We were so exhausted by the effort and heat, we left our kites on the field and charged for watercoolers that never seemed to chill water, but was nonetheless welcome.

As we left the field for the buses, a young Thai kitemaker stood with his wares and a copy of a Starflake made out of taffeta. Kathy went to talk with the fellow and tell him how impressed she was with his effort. He and his whole family gratefully accepted her Starflake pins but wanted her to sell them dual-control kites. Regardless, it was still flattering to see a Starflake on the opposite side of the world.

The final day of the festival hardly seemed as hot and flyers seemed more accustomed to the weather and felt more comfortable. Peter Lynn put on a show with his custom-made, form-fitting, fiberglass kitebuggy. Powered by a train of dual-controlled wings, he went speeding across the field wiping out every kite in the sky.



The Japanese team kept flying their indescribable Edos with huge mythological gods and warriors painted on them. A German-made Edo utilized two controls to enable it to slowly rise and lower at its flyer's command. The Malaysian team flew mythological creatures in the form of highly detailed dimensional kites. The Thai team flew kites decorated with anti-drug slogans. George Peters tried to fly himself with a pair of hand tailored wings mounted on bamboo.

The biggest thrill came when one of the elephant mahouts brought his pachyderm close enough for all of us to touch and photograph. Stan Swanson brought his own award winning pink elephant over to see how the two would get along.

The day and festival ended as the parade of U.S. fliers marched across the field bearing the flags of George Peters like the parade of countries at the end of the Olympics. We felt as though we had participated in a truly international event but we were ready to pack it all up and relax. One last stop to purchase Thai kites at the stands and we wearily climbed aboard the buses to go back to the hotel and prepare for the banquet.

We were wined and dined with Thai cuisine and entertained with Elvis impersonators. Our group leaders presented gifts to the chairman of the festival, Mr. Dharmnoon Prachuabmoh and he in turn presented them with a beautiful book of Thailand. Each country gave an impromptu skit of their experience in Thailand. We managed to eke out a poor imitation of the previous group, Japan, in a rap beat. Egad how embarrassing! We were put to more shame when traditional Thai dancers came out and put on an incredible show. How did they do those hand movements?

The next day we were treated to a police escorted trip to the Nong Nooch Orchid village. We were entertained by folk dances like we had never seen before. The front rows were always kept open just for us so we could have an unobstructed view. Then onto the elephant show where we watched the mammoths do highly unlikely tricks like playing soccer. Before the program began, we were sold huge bunches of bananas. Some of us broke them up and made it easier for the cumbersome beasts to pick up and eat. A useless exercise, a bunch was merely a mouthful for them.

The evening was spent shopping and bargains were everywhere for the mere price of haggling. Street vendors had card tables to display their wares. Tom Casselman perfected the art of wheeling and dealing. If you wanted something for half the price you just needed to watch Tom. Our last night in Pattaya came to an uneventful but bountiful close.

We spent our last day in Thailand in the capital city of Bangkok. A far cry from resort life, it's a hustling city of millions. A hair-raising ride to the Grand Palace on a "tuk tuk" was one "tuk tuk" ride too much. A tour of the Grand Palace was like seeing Yul Brenner in the "King and I". An incredible work of art and devotion. Every piece was kept immaculate and the grounds well manicured. It won't be soon forgotten.

Half of the group flew kites in what seemed to be a central park which had many stands of festive Thai Kites. The U.S. fliers attracted an audience in no time. It was kiteflying time in Thailand one more time. More shopping and then back to the hotel to prepare for the flight home.

Our last early wake up and off to the airport where in a daze we wondered why we came three hours too early. We found out as hoards lined up to check in their baggage. Leaving a foreign country is almost harder than it is to get in. Before finally boarding, we bid a formal farewell to our tour guide Anne; without her aid we would never have fared well at all.

Once in the air we sank into our purple plush seats and readied ourselves for the long journey home. Just as our eyelids closed our pilot announced that we were on our way back to Bangkok due to engine failure.

Pacific Science Center Kite Exhibit

by Darryl Stephenson

On Friday evening March 30, WKA members including Kelci and Morris Williams, Tom Sisson, Steve Millspaugh, Bruno Friesen, Ron McBride, Sari and Margie Moore, Gene Smiley, Barbara Anne O'Neill, Stan Swanson, and guest Bobby Stansfield hung kites in Building 2 of the Pacific Science Center. About 100 kites were hung including two of Bobby Stansfield's large one-of-a-kind multi-cell creations. Bobby won a first place prize at the AKA Convention in Honolulu with one of these kites. After creating a wonderful profusion of color and artistry, the members retired to Chicago's for pizza and beer.

The kites were removed on Monday April 30. Yours truly completely forgot about this night. My kites were rescued by Tom Sisson and others who gave me a well deserved bad time about my memory loss. Many thanks to those who helped me and to everyone helped with this annual spectacular display.

Official Business

President's Letter

'The time has come,' the Walrus said,
'To talk of many things:
Of shoes - and ships - and sealing wax -
Of cabbages - and kings -
And why the sea is boiling hot -
And whether pigs have wings.'

Through the Looking Glass
Lewis Carroll, 1872

At the general membership meeting in Kennewick a few weeks ago, I made an attempt to report on discussions between WKA and people in Long Beach about the Washington State International Kite Festival. As a result of that report, several members were concerned about what would happen to this year's WSIKF. Relax! There will be a festival. It will be as big and exciting as any of the past festivals. The WKA will be there and all of our members are encouraged to come and participate and help make it the best WSIKF yet.

Still, I feel it is necessary to let you know some of what has happened in the last few months. Last year, at Fort Casey on Labor Day, we had a general membership meeting. I asked for comments and impressions about WSIKF. This kicked off a series of discussions with several interested members who told me what they liked and/or disliked about Long Beach and WSIKF. In October, I used the comments I had received to write a 23 page proposal for the 1990 WSIKF. The first two pages included general requirements of what WKA and Long Beach should be expected to provide and general suggestions which members had made to me. The remaining pages included a schedule of events, rules for each event, a field layout map, field use allocations for each day, and a tentative list of car pass recipients. This package was discussed at the November and December board meetings and was revised as a result. (The first two pages are printed below)

In January, at the WSIKF planning kick-off meeting, we gave these requirements and suggestions to Kay Buesing who is the Field Event Coordinator for the WSIKF Executive Committee. After a short and courteous discussion, Kay indicated that she would have give the whole thing to the Executive Committee for consideration. Additional meetings were held in February

at Centralia, March at Fort Worden, and April in Long Beach. WKA members were at each of these meetings hoping for a response. It seemed that some of our requirements and suggestions were acceptable and that some improvements were being made. Yet no definitive response was received. The situation was discussed at every board meeting and at general meetings in January, February, and March. Finally, at the suggestion of the WKA board, I wrote a letter to Jerry Zorich the chairman of the Executive Committee requesting a response. The letter we received from Jerry was short and seemed like a total rejection of our requirements and suggestions. After discussing it with the board, I called Jerry and asked for a clarification. Our requirements were written as if we would only participate if all of the requirements were met. Since there were some of these that could they not meet, they felt that a complete rejection was the only possible response. Further, they felt that our participation in the four planning meetings was as individuals not as WKA members and it seemed like they did not need WKA.

There will be some significant changes in WSIKF. I think that some of these are in part because of our request. The new boardwalk will change the layout of the festival and spread it out more between Bolstad and Tenth. A new sound system is being purchased and wiring will be included on the boardwalk. A new parking lot is being built and Bolstad will be closed to all vehicles. New security procedures are being planned and there will be additional security personnel. There will be some sort of shelter (probably a tent) on the beach for judges and officials to protect us from the sun. Because of these changes, we will continue to cooperate with Long Beach and participate in WSIKF as an organization.

The schedule of events for WSIKF will be similar to previous years:

Monday - Opening Day

Test the wind, tune your kite, visit with friends, no competition.

Tuesday - Handcrafted Kite Day

Most beautiful, smallest, highest angle, reel out, most unusual. Rick Talbott, Coordinator.

Wednesday - Children's & Senior's Day

Activities for kids. Lynn Lary, Coordinator. Junior stunt kite competition.

Yakima Valley Kite Flyers Senior activities - oldest kiteflier, beachcomber kites, big band stunt ballet, terrific territories. Jean Schwenk, Coordinator.

Thursday - Open Kite Competition

Longest train, comprehensive kite competition, best all-around kiteflier. Darryl Stephison, Coordinator.

Friday - Stunt Kite Competition

Limbo, slalom, tail grab, three-legged stunts. Eric Forsberg, Coordinator.

Saturday - Showtime

Welcoming ceremony, fighter kite competition, rokaku challenge, international demonstrations, professional demonstrations, peoples choice, wind art. Jean Schwenk, Coordinator.

Sunday - Record Breaking

Most kites in the air, longest stunt kite train.

1990 Washington State International Kite Festival Groundrules for Sanctioning and Participation by the Washington Kitefliers Association

The Washington Kitefliers Association (WKA) will cooperate with the City of Long Beach and the Long Beach Merchants Association to promote and operate the Washington State International Kite Festival (WSIKF) subject to the following terms and conditions.

General Requirements

WSIKF must be not-for-profit, and must not be limited by race, creed, sex, or national origin. Physical disabilities must not be excluded except in cases where the safety of participants or spectators is in jeopardy.

The WKA is expected to supply the following:

Publication of WSIKF in the WKA newsletter.

The use of the WKA name in promotion of WSIKF.

Consulting expertise for planning WSIKF.

Judges for kite contests.

Announcers.

Safety monitors.

The City of Long Beach and/or the Long Beach Merchants Association is expected to supply the following:

Advertising through newspapers, magazines, radio, and/or television as appropriate.

Printing of posters, brochures, and rules.

Public address systems.

Permits from state and local authorities as required.

Coordination with local police, fire, and emergency services.

Electrical power.

Registration and clerical personnel.

Ribbons and/or prizes for contests.

Liability insurance.

Operations tent.

Parking space for WKA senior members, officers, members with large or many kites, and WSIKF organizing and/or operating volunteers.

Lodging and/or gas as necessary to enable WKA members to participate in WSIKF planning meetings.

\$2500 donation to WKA.

Adequate and proper recognition of WKA and its volunteering members in promotional materials, announcements, banquets, and elsewhere as appropriate.

Suggestions

Although not specifically required for WKA involvement in WSIKF, the following items must be given thorough and serious consideration by the City of Long Beach and/or the Long Beach Merchants Association to show good faith in dealing with the WKA.

A paid, full time festival director is needed. WSIKF (in particular the field events) has gotten too big to rely solely on volunteer help. The director should have a support staff of part time personnel.

A field layout and schedule of field usage is included in the attached pages. We feel that it is important to have the field locations and uses defined well in advance of the event. These should be publicized and stuck to as diligently as possible.

The fields should be patrolled by personnel with the authority to require kitefliers and/or spectators to move if field rules are being violated. This requires that field rules be well defined and widely publicized. For example, stunt kites, fighter kites, and people with small kites (like mylar dragons) should not be allowed in the large kite show area. An area should be set aside for kids and casual single line flyers. They should not be relegated to the high grass area. Likewise casual single line flyers should not be allowed in areas designated for stunt kite

flying. The field locations should be clearly marked and the markings should be maintained.

The use of wet sand areas by "power stunters" is often a hazard to pedestrians. Such use should be limited to designated areas. Pedestrians should be warned of the hazard in those areas.

Parking restrictions should clearly defined and enforced without exception. No preferential treatment. All vehicles, including campers, should off the beach and access roads after 10 pm and should not be allowed back on before 6 am.

Field volunteers should be provided with food, liquid refreshment and shade.

The sound system should be designed to cover the entire area between Bolstad and Tenth plus a couple blocks north and south respectively. Adequate communications (field telephone) should be provided between the sound truck, operations tent, and information booth.

An area should be designated for vendors off the access road.

Kite anchors should be made. Blocks of concrete with a ring embedded should not be expensive and would be much preferable to burned stumps.

Minutes

Board Meeting, March 28, 1990

Submitted by Kelci Williams

Present: Darryl and Kathy Stephison, Steve Millsbaugh, Russell Ford, Gene Smiley, Kelci and Morrie Williams. (Tom Sisson came in at the end of the meeting.)

Darryl called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM and mentioned that we still need a Secretary. The secretarial duties have been reduced considerably and include taking the minutes at the Board and General meetings and reporting them to the newsletter.

Kelci gave the Treasurer's report of the account balances and the revenues and expenses for January and February.

Darryl then opened the floor to a discussion about Fort Worden. There was talk about how this year's event went and what the future of the conference should be. The new officers elected at Fort Worden for next year's conference are:

Mike Button - President

Kelci Williams - Vice President

Garth Westhoff - Treasurer

Ronda Brewer - Secretary

Gene and Kelci added their critiques and thoughts about the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference.

The proposed changes to the by-laws were passed at the WKA meeting held at Fort Worden. Darryl distributed copies of the old by-laws as well as the changes as voted upon.

Russell gave an update on the state of the membership renewals and it was decided that since there were still quite a few members that came due at year end who had not renewed yet, we would send a postcard reminder in place of the April/May newsletter.

As of this meeting, we still had not received the new pins and have no patches in stock. (Pins were received two days later.)

WSIKF was the next topic of discussion. Since we have not received any answer, either verbally or in writing, in response to our proposal to the 'powers-that-be' in Long Beach, we need to make a decision about whether or not the WKA should participate (as an organization) in this year's festival. This item was tabled until a later date.

Darryl reviewed the insurance renewal policy and will determine any changes to be made to update the information.

Hanging kites for the Pacific Science Center exhibit through the month of April took place on Friday, March 30th.

There was a brief discussion about filing taxes and about teacher's packets.

The next General Membership meeting is 4/7/90 and the next Board meeting is 4/28 in Kennewick, WA in conjunction with the Kiona Fly. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.



It will be another world record

Letters

To: WKA

From: Marie Oberg, Rainier Elementary School, Rainier, OR

Members of the Squaticum Kite Club of Bellingham, Washington traveled to Rainier, Oregon to participate in the Rainier Kite Day on March 30, 1990.



Marian and Bill Carter arrived Thursday with kites of all descriptions which they set up for a kite sharing program at the Rainier Elementary School. Students and staff watched as they showed the latest designs and homemade kites that they use. Kite safety and how to fly a kite were covered during the sharing time. They are available to travel to schools and share kites with kits and can be reached at (206)733-4103.

The students took lunches to the Rainier City Park and there they were joined by parents and citizens of Rainier for a kite flying show. The wind came up good about 1:00 and about 100 kites were in the air most of the afternoon. Older students and parents worked with younger children as kite flying techniques were

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taught to all. A contest was judged by the local Rainier city officials and the Parent Teacher Group.

Marian and Bill managed to get most of their large show kites in the air and the three sharks family group was the favorite of most of the kids. This is the third year in a row the Carters have helped with the Rainier show. Last year they were joined by the Allens, all of the Bellingham club, and the two couples have made two trips to Rainier to help encourage kite flying enthusiasm. Each year the kite show is bigger and better attended. Thanks to these dedicated people.

Kite flyers, remember, if you are in the Southwest Washington area, cross the bridge to the Rainier Beach and in the afternoon when the wind is up, you will be able to enjoy some of the best kite flying anywhere.

Thanks again to the kite club of Bellingham from Rainier Elementary School and the citizens of Rainier, Oregon.

To : Newsletter Editor

From: Valarie Govig, Publisher-Editor Kite Lines Magazine

"...[The December issue] was a real charmer and I meant to say so the day it came. Actually, I meant to add my thanks to you for doing a good job on the newsletter in general - not easy to do after Jack Van Gilder, but [David Julian] carried on the tradition very well, and it looks as if Andris is doing the same. Knowing it's not an easy job, I congratulate you both.

What I especially loved about the December issue was the photo, caption, and story by Julian Wolf about the "three old goats" of the WKA. It was such a delight, in fact, that I would like to reprint it in Kite Lines Almost never do we even think of using something from any newsletter, but this had to be an exception...."

To: The People Who Made Fort Worden '90 Happen

From: Representatives of the kite group of boise

Listen: We had a blast!

We saw our many friends. We met new ones. We flew some kites. We learned much. We were fed. We were warm and dry. And we left wishing it could have lasted just a little longer.

We'll be back.

Thank you for putting it all together.

We had a blast—a major blast.

To: WKA

From: Barbara Ann O'Neill, the "Kite Lady"

It's me...the "Kite Lady", again letting you know just how nice it was to be part of a wonderful fly (even with so little wind) on Kid's Day at Gasworks Park in Seattle, Saturday April 29th. Thanks to all the wonderful people who were there to help pass out the great kites provided by the folks of FLIGHT 22. We didn't miss anyone. Almost 3,000 kids of all ages were given a kite and even with the light breeze, many of the kites did get launched. Although quite a few got pulled around by the little folks. Everyone seemed to have fun and I saw a lot of smiles all day. The wind did come up just long enough to make some "big" folks happy, too.

Later in the afternoon we did get a downpour that sent everyone running for cover, but all in all it was a very successful day. Again thanks to all who helped - without you things would not have gone so smoothly. You all did a great job. I don't have a name list, but you know who you are. And FLIGHT 22...you're the greatest!! Hope we can do this again.

In the meantime, stay happy and keep kites flying.

Regional Reports

kite group boise

A report by David Bogie from the "Land of Minor Winds"

Dave Bogie, his parents from California, and his son, D.J. age 10, scooted down to Nevada to attend the Third Annual Reno International. Kitefreaks from all around the Northwest showed up to fly with locals and plenty of civilians. Lee Toy worked his butt off as Professional Consultant to the Reno Convention and Visitors Bureau, which furnished all facilities and staff. Appearing to be a well-tuned machine, the Festival organization was never actually tested in the two days of dead calm air.

The Reno souvenir booth was staffed by the advertising agency which handled the merchandising. The beautiful four-color festival logo, a Samurai rokkaku, was printed on hats, t-shirts, sweats, mugs and pins at reasonable prices that everyone could afford. No gouging in Reno. The pin is a terrific piece of cloisonne and if you didn't make arrangements to have someone buy one for you, you're out of luck. These beauties sold out early! An outline logo was available on octopus kites and unique "dragon robes."

The park where the festival was held was a new "Designated Kite Flying Area." I couldn't get the ugly details on exactly why air space controls have been legislated in Reno but take notice...the same thing could happen in your neighborhood.

On Saturday, April 7th, the Sixth Annual Boise Kite Festival was held in Ann Morrison Park. With full attendance by the kgb, the citizens of Boise were treated to a spectacular ground display supplemented by kites from the collections of four WKA's. Pat and Ron Button and Linda and John Zilar contributed their kites, knowledge, and boundless enthusiasm to help make this NO-WIND event enjoyable. Our visitors got aced out of most of the competition, however, because they could not hear the P.A. from where they had staked out their turf. We'll work on it for next year.

After the festival officially closed, we rolled up our kites and took our sunburns out to Jeanne and Don Mock's home for a pot-luck dinner. Located on a suburban bluff south of Boise, Don's backyard caught enough wind to loft his giant "Idaho Centennial" delta-conyne. After talking about kites (what else?) and fiddling with some night flight accessories, we tried to launch the

Buttons' new Hagaman parafoil but the breeze was not adequate.

We made plans to fly the next day before everyone set out for Washington but the weather skunked us again. Boise had a half inch of rain on Sunday...first precipitation in the Valley in six weeks.

The Boise Kite Festival is sponsored by Albertsons, the Air Quality Board, K-106 Radio, the Boise Parks Department and Idaho Power Company. People from Idaho Power handed out concrete kites for the second year in a row, ignoring the advice of the other sponsors and a kite enthusiast who works for Idaho Power. Teary-eyed toddlers and frustrated adults queued up at the Kite Hospital in vain attempts to get those miserable paper diamonds to rise.

Promoted as a decoration, these "kites" are foisted upon well-meaning, yet sadly ignorant, corporate P.R. types by a major chain of kite shops. Sold by the thousands, they are suitable only for the experienced kite person. Even under ideal conditions, a solid working knowledge of bridles, tails, and long launch technique is required to get these things to fly. Beaten, battered, and broken, the damnable diamonds were stuck in trees, stuffed into the garbage cans, or left where they dropped by their disheartened owners. They are a curious way to litter up a park.

See you in the skies, from non-member of the kgb, David Bogie.

For additional information about the kgb, contact David Bogie, kite group boise, 1411 W. 25th, Boise, ID 83702 (208)383-2463 or (208)336-2038 evenings.

Ben Franklin Kite Society

Contacts: Larry or Marlene Zilar (509) 586-2664

Greg or Margaret Greger (509) 943-3951

To get a BFKS Patch (and free BFKS Membership) send \$3.50 (US\$) to Larry Zilar, 1030 W. 14th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99337. Please make checks payable to Larry Zilar.

Pierce Co. Kitefliers Assoc.

Contact: Chuck Anderson

P.O. Box 98243, Tacoma, WA 98498-0243

Membership, currently free, is open to all kiting enthusiasts. Members will receive the club's *Kite Flites* newsletter. Recent newsletter articles included a kite review, discussion of kite in other languages, the cody box kite, and kite music.

According to PCKA and WKA member Margaret Holzbauer, PCKA meetings are well attended. Future meetings are scheduled for June 16, July 21, and August 18. Meetings are currently held at a MacDonalds at 10417 Pacific Highway SW in Tacoma but may move to the Mainframe Kite Shop at 3340 E. 11th St., Tacoma, WA 206/627-1653 if attendance warrants.

Squalicum Kite Flyers

Contacts: Don or Shirley Allen (206)733-3777.

505 Bakerview #114, Bellingham, WA.

Please see letter on opposite page about the Carters helping out in Rainier, OR.

Yakima Valley Kite Flyers

Contact: Rod Yarger (509) 453-4679
209 N. 24th Ave., Yakima, WA 98902.

Westport Windriders

Contact: Chuck Reese ((206) 875-6385-evenings

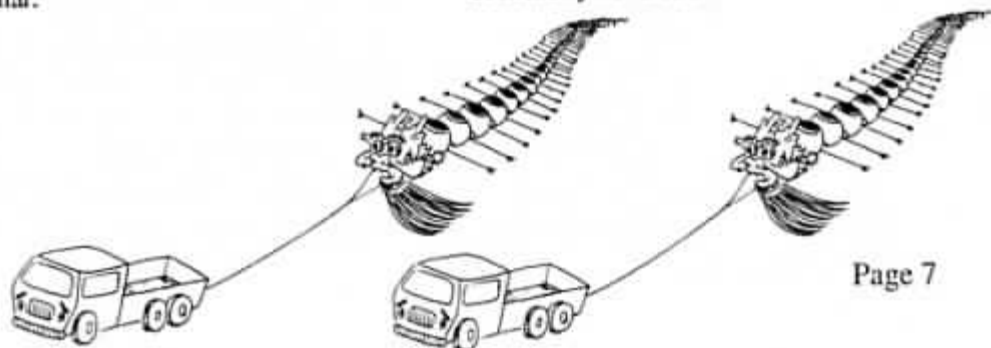
P.O. Box 233, South Bend, WA 98586.

Hosting kite festival June 28-July 1, 1990 and the May newsletter issue is packed with detailed information about Painting the Sky in Westport with the Windriders. See the In the Wind Section.

Associated Oregon Kitefliers

P.O. Box 25616, Portland, OR 97225.

Hosts of of the American Kitefliers Association (AKA) Convention October 10-14, 1990. Membership US\$7, includes bi-monthly newsletter.



Classified Ads

1990 WKA PINS! -Available now for US\$5 each or lots of 25 for \$75. Order pins from: WKA Membership Secretary, Pacific Science Center, 200-2nd Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109.

CLASSIFIED ADS - any items relating to kites or kites fliers only 10¢ a word (\$3US minimum) per issue. Send to: Andris Wollam, WKA Newsletter Editor, 18914-84th Avenue West, Edmonds, WA 98020 (206) 869-1387 or (206) 774-7109.

CALENDAR LISTINGS - Calendar listings in the WKA newsletter of kiting flies, events, and get-togethers are quite a bargain— absolutely FREE. (Due to space considerations, placements cannot be guaranteed.) Get a group together, plan to have some fun, and send pertinent information of your event (before May 15th for inclusion in the next issue) to Darryl Stephison, WKA President, Pacific Science Center, 200 2nd Ave, N., Seattle, WA 98109.

KITE RETAILERS - Do you honor a discount to WKA members? Be sure to be included in an upcoming article on the many benefits of WKA membership. Contact the newsletter editor to be listed.

RENEWALS - Renew your WKA membership and don't miss the next informative issue of this newsletter. Remember, too, that many local kite retailers honor a discount to members. Check the expiration date on your address label now and if due to renew it's \$10 for US members and US\$12 for others.

PHOTOGRAPHERS WANTED - Become a famous, published photographer by attending your favorite kiting events, snapping pictures of the people and kites, and sending them into the WKA Newsletter. Contact Andris Wollam, Newsletter Editor, 5051-148th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA 98007-3033 (206)869-1387 for details.

OFFICIAL WKA TEACHERS PACKETS Build seven kites and teach others how. Packet includes plans for an eddy kite, a cobra, a delta conyne, 2 sleds, and 2 deltas - \$2.00. Order packets from: WKA Secretary, Pacific Science Center, 200-2nd Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109.

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Member Notes

New or Renewing Members

John Anderson of Poulsbo, WA
P. Kip Anderson of Seattle, WA
Darilee and Martin Bednar, 3rd Street Book Exchange, of Marysville, WA
David and Debra Bogie of Boise, ID
David Colbert, Devotion to Motion Co., of Newberg, OR
Alvie and Donna Covington of Pasco, WA
Lorrie Crowell of Yakima, WA
Norm Davis of Auburn, WA
Frank Hagar of Bothell, WA
Bert Hammill of Benton City, WA
Don Kunkle of Issaquah, WA
William Mazzoncini of Tacoma, WA
Joe Mazzuca of Edmonds, WA
Linda Johnston Murosako of Seattle, WA
Ray Nagrin of Bellevue, WA
Mark Peters of Puyallup, WA
Melvin Retzlaff of Bremerton, WA
Don Ripley of Bellevue, WA
Thomas Ruotsi of Port Orchard, WA
Pat Teague of Yakima, WA
Augusto Terlaje, Jr. of Silverdale, WA
Charlotte Terrell of Seattle, WA
Mary Yoshime of Long Beach, WA

Member News

Kathy Goodwind recently judged at the East Coast Stunt Kite Festival in Wildwood, NJ. Kathy also recently participated in the Edmonds Waterfront Festival demonstrating the construction of a variety of kites to children as she has done for the last three years.

Francis Hall is teaching a *very basic* beginning kitemaking and kiteflying class at the University of Washington Experimental College. He will also be featured in late June on the television program Seattle Today, broadcast out of Seattle, WA from 9am-10am on KING-TV channel 5.

The newsletter of the Jewels Of The Sky Kiter's Association in Texas reprinted WKA member Julian Wolf's wonderful "Old Goats" article which first appeared here in December, 1989, as is *Kitelines* magazine.

Spring Has Sprung!

by Kelci Williams

Kite flying season is in full bloom. There are enough planned activities for even the most avid fliers. The nice thing about kite flying is that you can do it alone or with someone else ... practice solo during the week and then dazzle the crowds at the weekend festivals. All you need are rainless skies and a little WIND.

The outlook was a little gloomy for the Anacortes fly on April 22nd. That probably accounted for the low attendance. Actually there was some pretty decent flying from about 11:30 am until 2:30 pm. Soon after that, the rain put a damper on things. Three cheers to those stalwart few who braved (defied) the elements and drove the distance to attend.

No one could complain about a lack of wind on May 4th. Whether in the Seattle area or at the Ocean Shores "Festival of Colors", there was plenty to go around. Kite stores had a good day - they were packed with people coming in to replace broken spars. It was a perfect day for a soft stunter too. The Paraflex is a sparless stunt kite with lots of pull and good maneuverability. It sure proved its worth that day. It's a great kite to take along when traveling.

The Bayside Realty kite fly in Mukilteo appeared to be a smashing success. Despite (you guessed it) threatening clouds, there was a good turn out of young and old, amateur and expert alike. It was an up and down kind of day wind-wise but everyone had a chance to show their latest creations and enjoy the camaraderie. Hip-Hip-Hooray for Darryl Stephison the MC, Don Murphy the organizer and Tom Sisson the assistant, helper, teacher, etc.

Remember, there are many other events coming up and it takes volunteers to run them. If you're interested in helping out, call one of the officers. Their numbers are listed on the second page of the newsletter. It's FUN!!

Are You Just a Member?

Are you an active member,
The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented,
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the flock?
Or do you stay at home,
and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part,
to help the work along?
Or are you satisfied to be,
the kind who just belong?

Do you work on committees,
To see there is no trick?
Or leave the work to just a few,
And talk about the clique?

So come to meetings often,
And help with hand and heart.
Don't just be a member,
But take an active part.

Think this over brothers and sisters,
You know right from wrong,
Are you an active member,
Or do you just belong?
-Author Unknown

Membership Has Benefits

This newsletter is not the only benefit of WKA membership. The following retailers will honor a discount to members of the Washington Kitefliers Association. Please be prepared to show your membership card and present it before a sale is rung up.

Aerial Delights, Redmond, WA

Catch the Wind, OR

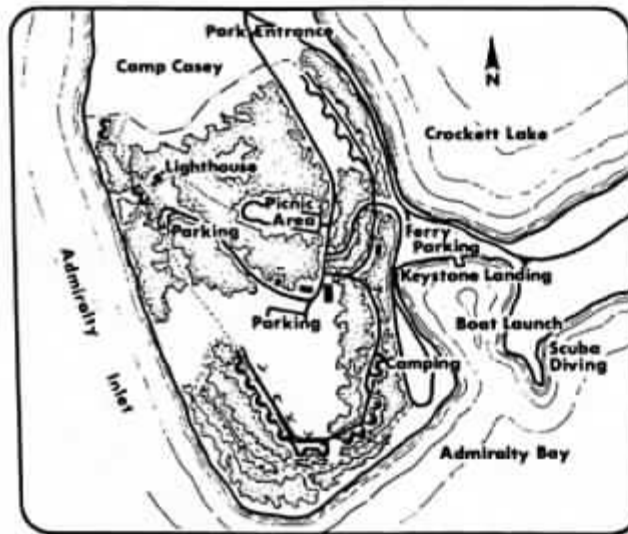
City Kites, Seattle, WA on kites and line only

Great Winds, Seattle, WA

Long Beach Kites, Long Beach, WA

Pic-A-Patch, Westport, WA

If your store is not on this list, please contact Andris Wollam, Newsletter Editor, (206)869-1387.



Fort Casey State Park is a kiting place that is rich in Washington State history as WKA member Sari Moore can tell you. The map of Fort Casey State Park above indicates the trees in the park. Have fun flying! Park hours are 6:30am to dusk. There's a 10-day camping limit until September 30th.

Bayside Kite Fly in Mukilteo

by Darryl Stephison

Driving 45 miles in the rain to fly kites makes you wonder about your sanity. We got there early and donned our rain gear to drive stakes in the ground to mark the demonstration field. "Do you think anyone will come?" We also set up a dining canopy for a rain shelter. "If anyone shows up it may be the most popular spot." Then we stretched out extension cords and plugged in the sound system. "Is this safe with all this water around it?"

We were ready an hour ahead of time so we decided to fly kites. "Do we have a rain kite?" Out came a 12 foot rainbow delta from Lincoln City - one of Kathy's favorites. We got it up about 300 feet to where the winds were good. Then another errant kite swooped around our line and cut it in an instant. The kite didn't come down. Joel Scholz says a good kite isn't a good glider. This must be a lousy kite. It glided lazily across the park, across the condos, and across the ferry - about 200 yards out into the Sound. I went to the boat livery. They only rent boats for fishing. I couldn't use a rowboat to go out and get a drowning kite. Fortunately a fisherman coming in for gas spotted the kite and fished it out. Many thanks and we were headed back to the field with our soggy kite.

We were a bit disorganized for the main activities having no agenda. Tom Sisson had made about 200 kites for the kids. That helps to keep people from getting angry. Everybody was asking me what to do. I didn't really have any good ideas. It was a half hour

after the advertised starting time and nothing had happened. So I hopped up on the truck with the microphone and started talking. Barbara Anne O'Neill rounded up some judges and we quickly picked some categories. Keep talking. The local radio station was there. The police were there with their D.A.R.E. van. Only a few people knew that we were so screwed up. Keep talking. The wind died down so I asked John Nilan to demonstrate his fighter kite. He did an excellent job. More talk. John followed with with a tumbling demonstration using one of Kathy Goodwind's Asteroids. Our local judges did an excellent job of picking the most beautiful and most unique kites and awarded the best of show to a ten year old boy who flew his kite continuously through the almost calm and the storm winds that came through. We had a quad line demonstration and four unidentified fellows did a short team stunt demonstration. Larry Chinn showed us some of his hand painted kites which are always impressive. Julian Wolf flew a large red, white, and blue delta at an unusually low altitude (for him). I gave him a little ribbing over the speaker so he got out his favorite Stan Swanson flair and put it up about 800 feet. Then the wind came up and his line broke. His kite went even farther out into the Sound and he didn't get it back. I'm sorry I teased him. Finally we had the D.A.R.E. raffle drawing for the bicycle, the Nintendo game, the \$200 cash prize, and other miscellaneous prizes. We were tired but glad that we had been able to pull the thing off.

In the Wind

WSIKF Handcrafted Day

from Rick Talbott

The ninth annual Washington State International Kite Festival will feature judging of handcrafted kites on Tuesday, August 21st.

All kites entered in the competition must be flown by the kitemaker.

Kitemakers can compete in the following categories: Most Beautiful, Smallest, Best Small, Highest Angle, Reel Out, and Most Unusual Design. The Most Beautiful and Most Unusual Design competitions feature Masters and Apprentice divisions. Apprentice competition is open to anyone who hasn't placed first in a nationally recognized competition. Anyone may compete in the Masters division.

Kites will be judged and awarded in categories of boxed, bowed, delta, and inflated (no stick) in the Most Beautiful and Best Small competitions. Best Small entries are to be no larger than 5 inches excluding tail.

1990 Northwest Regional Stunt Kite Championship

by Kathy Goodwind

Competitors are signing up for, and Long Beach, Washington is readying its new boardwalk for the 1990 Northwest's foremost Regional Stunt Kite competition, June 29-July 1, 1990.

A new twist has been added this year. Richard Peck of Knowledge Plus has been hired to computerize the competition scores. Richard will be using his laptop system to record and tally scores for a prompt return of a flyer's results and position in the ranks. Each contestant will be receiving their own copy of their scores by the end of the event. The new system is currently in use at all of the National events.

Special considerations will be given to volunteers who help at the event. Positions are available in registration, field crew, pit crew and safety. Give Kathy Goodwind, the event co-ordinator, a call if you want to show your support and help Northwest flyers show their stuff. Calling early will assure recognition in the program.

For further information call Gasworks Park Kite Shop at (206) 633-4780 or (206) 632-6151 or Long Beach Kites at (206) 642-2202.

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Weekend with Ron Reich July 28-29, 1990

by Kathy Goodwind

As part of Gasworks Park Kite Shop's continuing commitment to bringing local flyers the newest and safest flying techniques, we are now offering a series of kiteflying workshops. Special guests will be featured at each event.

Ron Reich, the most celebrated of national and international flyers will be our first guest. No other flyer has had a greater impact on stunt kite flying than Ron. As part of the Top of the Lines team, Ron has pioneered innovative flying techniques in both individual and team competition. He

has been voted Most Outstanding flyer two years in a row by his peers.

Saturday, July 28th, Ron will give a full day of lectures at the old Budweiser Building across from Gasworks Park Kite Shop. Sunday, July 29th, Magnuson Park's Kite Hill has been reserved for attendees to fly team with Ron.

Space is limited and a fee will be charged to defray expenses. Door prizes have been donated by Top of The Line Kites for those who attend. For more information call Gasworks Park Kite Shop at (209) 633-4780.

Westport Kite Festival June 28, 29, 30, July 1

This family-oriented event will have a shuttle bus to bring spectators to the beach, competitions with no entry fees and a fun-filled Saturday for children.

Handcrafted kite competition is on Thursday in the classes novice and master in the categories of most colorful, largest kite, smallest kite, most beautiful and unique design. There will also be judging of handcrafted stunt kites.

Friday: competitions of dual and quad line controlled stunt kites and fighter kites. Bonfire on the beach and a night fly, conditions permitting.

Saturday will be lots of fun for kids! Children will receive a free kite to decorate and fly in the childrens' program where they can compete in the games of sprint, reel out, touch me, or the categories most beautiful,

most colorful, or best original design. A teddy bear sky drop by Doug Hagaman will cap off the fun for kids.

Saturday will also feature single line competition in the categories most beautiful, unique design, longest train of kites, smallest kite, largest kite, and judge's choice. Paint the sky displays will be judged throughout the day. A supper with awards, a special drawing and a WKA meeting will end the day.

Sunday's events include a breakfast, demonstrations, a rokkaku challenge, and a record attempt.

Workers and registered participants are eligible for a drawing for your choice of a stack of six Cyborg Stunt Kites or a Hagaman 50 Parafoil.

For more information, please contact Pic A Patch Kite Shop at (206) 268-0877.

Kitemakers Conference 1991 - Questionnaire

We would like to make the 1991 Kitemakers Conference a fun and enjoyable learning experience for everyone. To help us accomplish this task, please answer the following questions and return your completed form to the address indicated below. REMEMBER!! this conference is for you and your input is important... please help us by responding today. Thanks.

- 1) I have / have not (circle one) attended the Fort Worden Conference before. The last time I attended was in 19____.
- 2) I would prefer that the conference be held at Fort Worden \ another location (circle one). If another location, do you have any suggestions? _____
- 3) I would not be willing to spend more than \$ _____ per person for the conference plus room and board.
- 4) I would like to see more hands-on classes / lectures / open discussions (circle one).
- 5) I would like to see classes offered in the following areas: _____
- 6) I would / would not (circle one) be willing to teach a class in the following: _____
- 7) I would / would not (circle one) be interested in assisting a teacher (for approximately 2-3 hours).
- 8) I would / would not (circle one) be willing to help in the pre-planning of the conference.
- 9) I would / would not (circle one) be available to help during the conference (for approximately 1 - 2 hours per day).
- 10) I would like to make the following suggestions for improving the conference: _____

Please return this form, a photocopy of it, or answer on a separate sheet of paper, and return to: Kelci Williams, 18030 NE 155th PL., Woodinville, WA 98072. If you have any questions, please call (206) 788-6355. Your prompt reply would be appreciated.

*Your Name _____ *Phone No. _____ (This information is not required but would be helpful. Thanks.)

Kite Calendar

JUNE

Jun 3, (Sun), Stunt Kite School, Magnuson Park, Seattle, contact Gasworks Kite Shop, 206/633-4780.

Jun 9, (Sat), Bainbridge Island Kite Fly, Battle Point Park, contact Richard Pearsall, 206/842-1472. (To get there, take SR 303 2.5 miles from the Winslow ferry dock to Koura Rd. Turn left 1 mile to Miller Rd. Turn left again about 200 yards to Arrow Point Rd. Turn right .5 mile to the park.)

Jun 9-10, (Sat-Sun), Yakima Valley Kite Festival, West Valley Community Park, Yakima, competition and demonstrations, for information call 509/965-3966.

Jun 9-10, (Sat-Sun), Red, White, and Blue Kite Festival, Agate Beach Wayside, Agate Beach, contact Catch the Wind, 800/227-7878.

Jun 16-17, (Sat-Sun), School's Out Kite Festival, Cannon Beach, contact Chamber of Commerce, 800/444-6740.

Jun 20, (Wed), WKA Board Meeting, Pacific Science Center, Seattle, contact Darryl Stephison, 206/657-5797.

Jun 23, (Sat), Seattle Times Kite Festival, Magnuson Park, Seattle, contact Barbara Anne O'Neill, 206/878-5772.

Jun 28 - Jul 1, (Thu-Sun), Westport Kite Festival, Twin Harbors State Park, contact Pic-A-Patch Kites, 206/268-0877.

Jun 30, (Sat), WKA General Membership Meeting, Lions Hall, Westport City Park, 8 pm, contact Darryl Stephison, 206/657-5797.

Jun 29 - Jul 1, (Fri-Sun), Northwest Regional Stunt Kite Championship, Bolstad Street Access, Long Beach, contact Kathy Goodwind, 206/632-6151.

JULY

Jul 14-15, (Sat-Sun), Oregon State Stunt Kite Championship, D River Wayside, Lincoln City, contact Lincoln City Chamber of Commerce, 800/452-2151.

Jul 15, (Sun), Vancouver Seafest Kite Festival, Vanier Park, Vancouver, BC, contact Art Ross, 604/321-6409.

Jul 15, (Sun), Squaleicum Picnic, Fort Casey State Park, Whidbey Island, contact Mike Button, 206/733-7380.

Jul 15, (Sun), WKA Newsletter Deadline

Jul 28, (Sat), Westport Windriders Fun Fly and Pot Luck, fly all day at Twin Harbors State Park, pot luck at 7 pm at Lions Hall, Westport City Park, contact Pic-A-Patch Kites, 206/268-0877.

Jul 28-29, (Sat-Sun), Winchester Bay Kite Festival, Reedsport, OR, contact Sonny Hamner, 509/271-2784.

AUGUST

Aug 6, (Mon), Sauvie Island Clothing Optional Fun Fly (SICOFF), nudists, near-nudists, and non-nudists welcome, contact Jill, 509/635-3906. (Reprinted from AOK newsletter)

Aug 20-26, (Mon-Sun), Washington State International Kite Festival, Bolstad and Tenth Street Accesses, Long Beach, contact Kay Buesing, 206/665-5744.

Aug 22, (Wed), WKA Board Meeting, Super 8 Motel, Long Beach, 7 pm, contact Darryl Stephison, 206/657-5797.

Aug 31, (Fri), Westport Windriders Fun Fly and Pot Luck, fly all day at Twin Harbors State Park, pot luck at 7 pm at Lions Hall, Westport City Park, contact Pic-A-Patch Kites, 206/268-0877. (Reprinted from Windriders newsletter)

SS These activities help raise money for the WKA. Please help.

Please send calendar information to Darryl Stephison, WKA, Pacific Science Center, 200 2nd Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98109.

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