

WAKAWAKA

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS
ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1992

Dedicated to helping
people know how much
fun it is to fly kites!

Washington State International Kite Festival 1992

by Steve Millspaugh

As we get August underway, the kiting community in Washington is gearing up for the largest kite festival in the Western Hemisphere. The Eleventh Annual Washington State International Kite Festival will get underway on Monday, August 17th, and last until Sunday, August 23rd.

The schedule for 1992 has undergone some adjustment, with the primary change for competitors being that Handcrafted day will now be on Thursday. Taking its place on Tuesday will be a new event, being coordinated by Rick Brown of the Cody Kite Society. Pioneer kites will be flown and displayed, and everyone is urged to recreate an historic kite design, with awards for the most authentic efforts. Adding to the atmosphere, participants are urged to wear period costumes to match their pioneer (genuine or reproduction) kite and its era. Those in costume will be awarded a picture of themselves in costume with one of the genuine pioneer kites on display.

Also changed for this year, some of the competitions will be multi-day events. You may enter your campsite in Terrific Territories on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. You may enter your Wind Art on either Friday or Saturday. Peoples Choice voting will take place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Of course, one of the highlights of this festival is it's truly international flavor. International guests this year will include Team Detlev Bannier and Michael Steltzer from Berlin, Michel Gressier from France, Rolf Sturm from Germany, Adrian Conn of Ontario, Canada, Selko Nakamura and Katsutaka Marooka from Japan. The WKA will do its part by hosting these guests at our Pizza Feed on Wednesday.

All the usual fun will be on hand this year, including Senior's and Children's day on Wednesday, Stunt Kites and Night Fly (including fireworks) on Friday, and Saturday's full plate with Rokkaku Challenge, Fighter Kite competition, and professional demonstrations. As usual, Sunday will be the attempt to set a new Western Hemisphere record for most kites in the air simultaneously.

For a set of competition rules, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to W.S.I.K.F., P.O. Box 387, Long Beach, WA, 98631.

HELP WANTED; IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

by Dave Christenson

Before you know it, '92 will come to an end. That means it's time to choose new Officers and Board members for '93. This is a chance for you to become more involved in the WKA and the kiting community. If you have the urge to get involved with a great group of people, meet interesting folks like yourself, and can spare a few hours a month, contact the WKA NOW!! Call Dave Christenson at (206) 471-9103, or any of the officers or board members with your name and phone number.

IT'S TIME TO GET INVOLVED.

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The next WKA General Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 6, 1992, at Fort Casey State Park on Whidbey Island at 10:00 a.m. Contact Dave Christenson at (206) 471-9103.

Festivals

by Dave and Susie Christenson

How about all of the great festivals and events in the last couple of months? The Yakima Valley Kite Festival was fantastic! There wasn't a lot of wind, but I think everybody had fun. When the wind stopped, the super soakers and water balloon cannons came out. When the Yakima Club advertises something for everyone, believe them. This was the first time we had been to their festival, and we thought it was great, and we plan to go back next year.

Westport's 7th Annual Festival of Kites, put on by Jeri and Richard of Pic-a-Patch Kites and the Westport Windriders did their usual thing—put on a Great Festival. I don't know how they do it, but every year it gets better. Visiting from Swindon, England, was the White Horse Kite Flyers. How do you say it, "They were a jolly good group of flyers."

PCKA/Crystal Mountain Fun Fly '92—what can I say? The wind gods weren't cooperating too well Saturday morning. There was a good ground display going on until the winds started coming up about 3 p.m.

Our own Tom Sisson won the First Place trophy for The Prettiest Kite in the Sky. While we were waiting for wind, there were about ten people with parasails jumping off the top of the mountain. They put on a good show 'till we got to fly kites. I'm still trying to figure out how to bridle it and fly it like a flexi.

Warren Callahan put on a great 3-D slide show Saturday evening.

On Sunday, July 12th, we attended the First Annual Jetty Island Days Kite Festival in Everett. After a short free ferry ride to the island, we sat down and waited for the fog to lift. It started lifting about 11 a.m., and the wind slowly started to blow.

Several of the local stunt kite teams put on demos for everybody. There was also kite making for kids, face painting, and hands-on demonstrations for anybody who wanted to try their hand at a different kite.

The weather turned out great. There was a large crowd, and a lot of kites from other areas who showed up to meet old and new friends. It was kind of nice to lay on the sand and lean against a log and relax while flying a kite overhead.

Handcrafted Kite Competition at Puyallup Fair

by Jessica Palmer

The Western Washington Fair in Puyallup will host a competition open to all amateur kitemakers. The categories are as follows:

Flat or bowed (example: delta, rokkaku, eddy, etc.; kites with an essentially flat or bowed frame)

Cellular (example: box and box variations, snowflake, Cody, etc.; kites with a three-dimensional shape)

Dual line, controllable (any dual line stunt kite)

Miscellaneous

Champion - Best of Division

All winners will receive a ribbon and cash prize. The Grand Champion will also receive a Turbojet stunt kite, donated by Ramjet Kites, and Spectra line with handles and winder, donated by Mainframe Kite Shop.

A full list of rules is available from the Puyallup Fair (206) 845-1771, or Mainframe Kite Shop (206) 627-1653. Entries can be left at Mainframe, 3340 East 11th Street in Tacoma. Deadline for entries is Wednesday, August 26th, at 9 p.m.

WKA Newsletter

August-September 1992

The Washington Kitefliers Association Newsletter is published six times a year by the Washington Kitefliers Association.

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The Editor encourages your participation in your newsletter, and requests that you send your contributions pertaining to kiteflying. Submissions that illustrate how much fun it is to fly a kite will be given priority for publication. Mail submissions and photographs (include the name, address and telephone number of the source) along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size and postage for return (if you want your photographs back) to Judy Millspaugh, 7573 Old Redmond Road, No. 5, Redmond, Washington 98052. The deadline for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the issue — September 15th for the next issue. All submissions will be considered for publication.

Membership

To become a member of the WKA, send your name(s), address and telephone number, along with a check for \$10 per family (outside the U.S., please add \$2(US) additional for postage) to Washington Kitefliers Association, Pacific Science Center, 200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, Washington 98109. Membership includes an official WKA membership card entitling the bearer to discounts at certain kite shops and a one-year subscription to the WKA Newsletter.

Yakima Kite Festival

by Debbie Rodgers

On June 13th and 14th at Fulbright Park in Union Gap, Washington kites from all over assembled to attend the Third Annual Yakima Valley Kite Festival. The creek was packed with many happy campers enjoying evening fun, as well as the days' activities. The park was truly a sight to see, lined with 150 American flags. Kites had their flying creations floating high in the gorgeous cloudy Yakima sky. Team ballet demonstrations were provided by Wingz, The Cutting Edge, Team Ramjet, Team OGO Fly a Kite, Team Cyborg, Total Eclipse, Pacific Flyers and Team Peregrine. Harold Writer, Rick Talbott, Dave Brittain, Larry Zilar and Mr. and Mrs. Kite (AKA Lewis and Patrica Lewandowski—the kite downs) were just a few of our special honored guests.

Fifty gold event pins were awarded to winners of kite games, single line competitions and flier recognition awards.

The Saturday evening annual barbecue served 300 or so hungry kite fliers. Hamburgers were cooked to perfection by chefs Roy Willson and Perry Skipton, armed with spatulas and goggles. The tables were loaded with many wonderful dishes.

Candy drops, Frisbee contests, storytelling, food and craft vendors, stage performances and kite give-aways also entertained the six to seven thousand people who visited the festival.

Yakima's '92 festival was a complete success, thanks to all of you who attended! Much admiration and thanks goes to Pat Teague for all his hard work and time coordinating this year's festival.



Hungry festival attendees at Yakima load up their plates with goodies, pot luck style, after first getting their barbecued hamburger provided by Yakima Valley Kitefliers at the head of the line.

Jetty Island Days Kite Festival

by Robin Haas

The week preceding July 12, 1992, was spent worrying, as many SCI-FI members kept an eye on the weather reports. Everything was set for the First Jetty Island Days Kite Festival. Contradictory weather reports kept us holding our breath. Would it continue to rain, or would the weather turn nice?

Sunday, July 12th, rolled around, and Everett was foggy. All around the city the sun was shining, so we knew it would eventually clear (it did, later in the morning). In order to get SCI-FI members to the island to help with the event, the Everett Parks Department ran a boat about 9:30 a.m. They also brought over the occupants of seven recreational vehicles from the Westport Windriders.

The first scheduled boat arrived about 10:15, and it was loaded with people. The boat left and came back a half hour later with another load. That routine continued until eventually almost 700 people visited the island.

The wind started out very light, so time was spent helping children build kites out of garbage bags, face painting and giving away Tree Top Apple Juice kites. Tree Top donated 300 promotional kites (we saw them first in Yakima), which were greatly appreciated.

After the wind picked up a little, Team Ramjet gave a demonstration of their award-winning precision routine. Team OGO Fly a Kite joined them for a little while for an impromptu mini "mega" fly. While Team OGO flew their routine, the wind died and they were unable to finish before having to move on to take care of other duties.

When the wind started again, other activities took place. Several people gave individual demonstrations. A "hands on" field was busy all day teaching people how to fly dual and quad line kites. A small stunt kite competition for six- to twelve-year olds was held. There was a kite race in the mud for kids, and Mike Eason ran a fighter kite contest that he developed. As the afternoon wore on, the wind picked up and numerous large kites filled the air.

We would like to thank all of you who showed your support and attended our festival. I hope you weren't disappointed. We are interested in receiving any feedback you can give us to make it better. The Everett Parks Department had already invited us back by noon. At the end of day, they were insisting that we do it again. Their fear was that it would get bigger. They had reached the capacity for their boat, so we'll have to see what can be done.

Thanks again, and we hope you had fun.

PCKA/Crystal Mountain Fun Fly

by Jessica Palmer

The Pierce County Kitefliers Association held their 2nd Annual Crystal Mountain Fun Fly at Crystal Mountain Ski Resort at the base of Mount Rainier on July 11th and 12th. The alpine setting is always beautiful, so fliers didn't seem too disappointed that the wind was light on Saturday. Well, "light" is an understatement. Most of the time the only kite flying was Tom Sisson's famous patchwork single-line delta. We had a lot of entries for the People's Choice Awards, so we had a gorgeous ground display. Tom's delta was the only kite entered that actually flew, so it won the "Prettiest Kite in the Sky" award, not because it was necessarily the prettiest (no offense, Tom), but because it was the only kite in the sky!

Other winners included WKA President Dave Christenson for the "Most Outrageous Kite" award with his handmade patchwork rokkaku, and the "Best Sky Laundry" award. Eric Halverson won the "Longest Train" award with his stack of Hyperkites. Despite the lack of wind, the sun was shining, the weather was great, and the food was plentiful. A local paragliding club was flying off the top of the mountain that weekend, so we all enjoyed watching them maneuver their oversized parafoils down through the valleys and past our kites as they landed on the opposite side of the slopes. We had a lot in common with the paragliders, and had a good time swapping stories while we waited for the wind.

Warren Callahan's 3-D slide show Saturday night was fantastic, as usual. He had some breathtaking shots of the Long Beach Kite Festivals over past years that were a lot of fun to see.

Sunday dawned hot and sunny—and WINDY! Everyone had their kites going in their own little corner of the mountain meadows between the lifts. (Nobody got their kites stuck in the lifts this year.) We had perfect breezes for our Indian Fighter Kite Competition. Rush Ward of Lakewood won First Place by knocking the cup off the pole with his kite in a mere 26 seconds. Second Place went to Ed Alden,

WKA's own Steve Millsbaugh took Third Place, and Fourth Place went to Glenn Salisbury.

Any of you who took pictures at the fly are invited to enter them in the Crystal Fun Fly Photography Contest. Photos must be of the Crystal Fun Fly. Bring them in to Mainframe Kite Shop in Tacoma by Wednesday, August 26th. The prize is a \$50 gift certificate at Mainframe. For information, call (206) 627-1653.

PCKA/Crystal Mountain Fun Fly cloisonné pins are still available in limited quantities for \$5 each.



WKA President Dave Christenson and WKA Founder Tom Sisson with their Crystal Mountain Awards.

CALL NOW!! IT'S ALMOST HERE!

WKA's annual summer party is fast approaching, and I still haven't heard from very many of you. The fun is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19, 1992, at the Super 8 Motel in Long Beach, Washington. Pizza and salad by Chico's, and soft drinks to wash it down with. For only \$5, you will get three slices of pizza, a salad and two drinks (diet or regular).

Door prizes promise to be a highlight again this year. Anyone who is interested in making a contribution, please contact Dave Weigand at (206) 948-4560. We would certainly appreciate it.

To help us plan this feast, please let us know if you and your family or friends are coming and which of the following choices you prefer:

Pizza: Combination, Pepperoni, Vegetarian

Drinks: Diet or Regular

Call Dave Christenson (206) 471-9103, with your choices.

WKA Fun Fly

The Washington Kitefliers Association will be hosting a Fun Fly on **Sunday, August 9th**. Come out to Kite Hill at Magnuson Park in Seattle, and join the WKA for a day of flying and socializing. With the big festival coming up at Long Beach, many flyers will be fine tuning their latest and greatest kites. This is an opportunity for a sneak preview of some of these beautiful creations.

For further information, contact Ken Conrad at Great Winds Kite Shop (206) 624-6886.

Westport '92

by Steve Millsbaugh

Well, the Westport Kite Festival for 1992 (the 7th annual) has come and gone, and a great time was had by all who were fortunate enough to attend! I believe that the kiting community owes a hearty congratulations and thank you to the folks at Pic-a-Patch Kites and the Westport Windriders for yet another job well done. This festival manages to grow and become more spectacular every year, yet retain the personal and friendly atmosphere that Westport and the Windriders are known for. Following is a list of this year's winners of the competitions at Westport, courtesy of the *Westport Windriders Newsletter*.

Handcrafted Competition

Cellular, Combined Effort, Unique Design: Cliff and Jerry Pennell

Parafoil, Novice, Most Beautiful: Bill Deatherage

Fighter Kite, Novice, Unique Design: LeRoy Peoples

Bowed Kite-Rokkaku, Masters, Most Beautiful: 1st Place Don Mock, 2nd Place Sonny Hamner; Most Beautiful Combined Effort: Tie Judy and Rick Brown and Greg and Sue Clark

Trains and Centipedes, Novice, Unique Design: Marleen Zilar

Boxed, Novice, Most Beautiful: Paula Wood; Masters, Most Beautiful: 1st Place Richard Vaughn, 2nd Place Richard Krog; Commercial, Most Beautiful: Rick Brown

Banners, Novice, Most Beautiful: Douglas Bowers; Commercial, Most Beautiful: Debra Cooley

Figure-Novelty, Masters, Unique Design: Don Mock

Stunt-Multi Line, Novice, Unique Design: 1st Place Francis Smith, 2nd Place Mike Chandler; Masters, Most Beautiful: 1st Place Marlene DaRos, 2nd Place Leanne Overmier; Masters, Unique Design: John Overmier; Commercial, Most Beautiful: 1st Place Ralph Tubbs, 2nd Place Dave Coltan; Combined Effort, Unique Design: Marland and Dana Guinn

Delta and Derivatives, Combined Effort, Unique Design: Richard and Judy Krog

Largest, Novice, Stunt, Multi Line: 1st Place Jim McSparran, 2nd Place Douglas Bowers; Masters, Parafoil: Art Ross

Smallest, Masters, Most Beautiful: Leonard Hogg; Masters, Unique Design: Leonard Hogg

Wind Art, Kite Line Art: Marla Miller; Pole Wind Art: 1st Place Darryl Stephison, 2nd Place Judy Millsbaugh, 3rd Place Francis Hall and Doug Graza; Camp Display: 1st Place Ken Mark Family, 2nd Place Richard Maestas, 3rd Place Francis Hall and Doug Graza

Trophies

Judges' Choice, Best Handcrafted: Marlene DaRos

Peoples' Choice, "Larry Chinn Trophy": Debra Cooley

Ben Franklin Kite Society: The Ken Mark Family

Best Red, White and Blue Display: Ken, Audrey and Eric

Hagaman Paint the Sky Award: Chuck Reese

Stunt Kite Competition

Individual Ballet, Novice: Richard Hurd

Individual Ballet, Experienced: 1st Place Gary Hanson, 2nd Place Robin Haas, 3rd Place Mike Pederson

Team Precision, Novice: Team Swift Sure; Team Precision, Experienced: 1st Place OGO Minus 1, 2nd Place Wingz

Team Ballet, Experienced: 1st Place Wind Dancers, 2nd Place Wingz

Junior Precision, Novice: 1st Place Arlund Hurd, 2nd Place Mike Karl, 3rd Place Kara Hale

Individual Precision, Novice: 1st Place David Minzel, 2nd Place David Colton, 3rd Place Mike Chandler

Individual Precision, Intermediate: 1st Place Richard Maestas, 2nd Place Richard Hurd, 3rd Place Joe Flores

Individual Precision, Experienced: 1st Place Robin Haas, 2nd Place Jim Miller, 3rd Place Dave Sweet



Don Mock's award-winning Rokkaku kite of Al Axton's "Mad Mouse" design.



Judges perform up-close examination of Rick and Judy Brown's entry during handcrafted kite competition.

Make This Simple Kite-Fighting Tail Release

by Jim Fulton

I am somewhat reticent to write an article, especially a how to article, for stunt kite enthusiasts when I have only been stunt-kiting for several months. However, my brashness in offering a solution for a kite problem I encountered comes from significant experience gained in another recreational pursuit...salt water salmon fishing. I have done considerable salmon fishing with down riggers and have discovered some of the down rigger components also have application for stunt kites...especially if you are interested in kite fighting.

My first stunt kite was a Skynosaur Aerobat. My son, Brent, also got an Aerobat. Those tough, forgiving kites taught us how to stay in the air and survived many nasty beginners crashes. Since then, Brent and I have gotten higher performing kites, but we have been using the Aerobats for some basic team maneuvers, and I must admit, uncouth as it may be, when we first got the Aerobats, we also had an eye on possible kite fighting.

For kite fighting, we investigated various ways of getting a tail to disconnect from the kite when an opponent was fortunate to maneuver close to and strike his opponents tail. We found commercially manufactured releases too expensive, about \$20 each, or ineffective. There's one that is sold that asks you to connect the kite tail to a cotter pin which is then slid under the main spar strings where the cotter pin forks are spread slightly. It does not hold with consistent pressure, and one is always losing the tail on take-off or the cotter pin fails to release.

I discovered a solution for a tail release that anyone with a couple of drill bits, or a round file (not the trash can round file), can build.

I am using a Jettison Tripper™, originally designed for fishing, down rigger release to release my kite tail. I have modified it by drilling a hole in the release body a few thousandths smaller than the outside diameter of the vertical spar of the Skynosaur. This allows me to remove the vertical spar from the kite pocket, remove the rubber end tip from the vertical spar, and slide the Jettison Tripper up the spar next to the bridle strings. (If you happen to make the hole too large, a piece of masking tape wrapped around the main spar above and below the release body will hold the release body in place.) I then replace the rubber tip on the vertical spar and slide it back into the kite pocket. Instead of attaching fishing line to the down rigger release as one would when salmon fishing, I slip a piece of string which is attached to a kite tail into the release pin. The release pin is then pushed into the release body. The farther the release pin is pushed into the release body, the more pressure it requires to get the assembly to release. It does take a few tries to get the pressure adjusted accurately so a light hit from another kite will release the tail but will not release it on take-off or evasive maneuvers. Now, when my tail is hit by an opponents kite, the tail releases every time. I can quickly land, re-attach the tail, and be ready to fly for the next sortie.

The Jettison Tripper can be purchased for less than \$5. It is lightweight and it affords a consistent reliable way to have a kite-fighting tail release. At most, it takes about 10 minutes to adapt its use for kites.

See illustration on opposite page for details on modification.

To use this release in kite fighting, merely tie a piece of kite line to the kite tail you have prepared, and lay the line in the forked end of the release pin. Gently push this into the down rigger release body until it fits snugly. Release the kite tail by manually pulling it loose a couple of times until you can gauge exactly how far it is necessary to push the release pin

into the release body to create the release tension desired. It is infinitely adjustable. It can be set lightly so a few ounces of pressure will release it, or it can be set so it would take several pounds pressure to release it.

Brent and I hope you enjoy this adaptation, and that it increases your kite flying time by adding a new aspect to kite flying.

Jim Fulton

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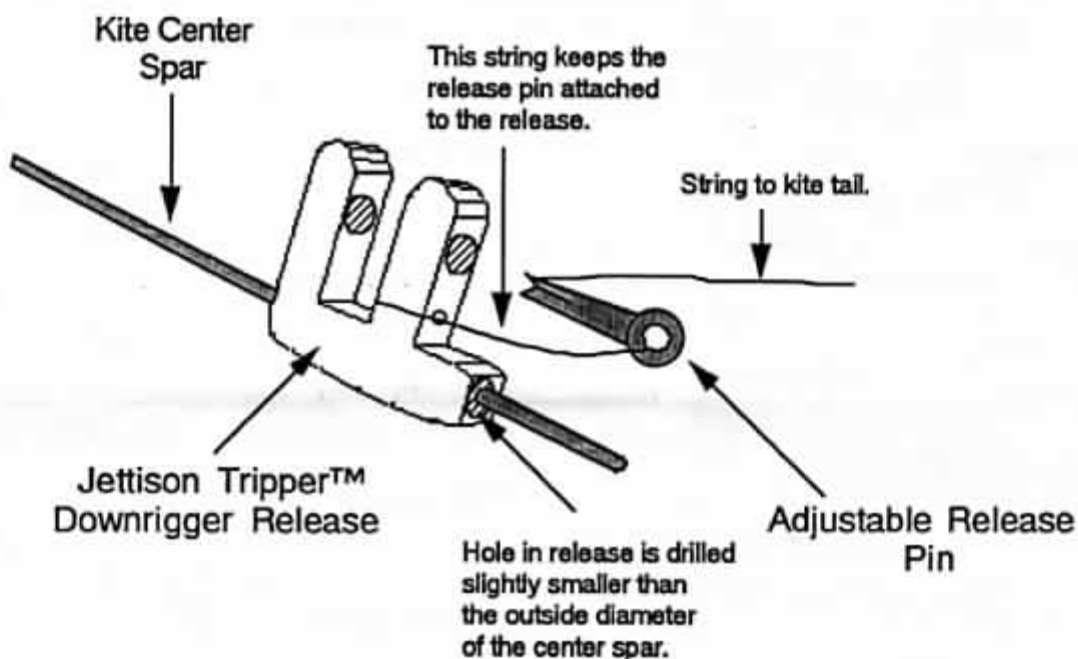
How to Modify the Downrigger Release

1. Remove the monofilament fishing line from the bottom portion of the downrigger release body by pulling it out with some pliers. Cut the fishing line from the oval shaped release pin and discard the fishing line. Save both the oval peg (release pin) and the main body of the downrigger release.

2. In the hole from where the fishing line was removed, not in the release pin hole, drill a hole the full length of the release. It should be a few thousandths smaller diameter than the outside diameter of the vertical spar on to which it will slide. (For the Skynosaur Aerobat, a No. 14 drill bit does the job nicely.)

3. With a 1/16 inch drill, drill a hole adjacent to the hole into which the release pin fits. This hole will be used to tie a ten inch piece of #50 kite string to the release body. The other end of the string will be tied to the hole that's already in the release pin. This allows the release mechanism to release but keeps the release pin attached to the downrigger release body (and to the kite) for easy re-use.

4. In those applications where the outside diameter of the main spar exceeds the diameter of the hole that can be drilled in the release body, use a round file to form a concave groove in the bottom of the release body. It then can be laid on the kite main spar where rubber bands or nylon wire ties will attach it to that main spar.



The Good, The Bad, and The Inevitable

by Kelci Williams

THE GOOD: WKA is recognized as one of the most prestigious kite clubs in America and in the international arena. One reason for this acknowledgment is the quality newsletter that we produce and distribute to members and reciprocal clubs throughout the world.

THE BAD: As with most things, the price of printing, postage and other supplies necessary to generate the newsletter have increased notably over the past several years. However, membership dues have remained the same.

THE INEVITABLE: The WKA board and the members present at the July 11, 1992, General Membership Meeting at Crystal Mountain have voted on and approved a dues increase to become effective January 1, 1993.

Dues for an Individual or Family within the U.S. will be \$15 per year, while the International dues will increase to \$20 a year. Members will receive a newsletter and a membership card entitling them to discounts at participating kite stores in the Pacific Northwest. (The cost of the membership could be more than compensated for by the savings derived from these discounts.)

Members who are due for renewal between now and December 31, 1992, should take care of business now and avoid the higher cost which will be due after that date. Also, please note that funds received for memberships that will expire beyond December 31, 1993, will be apportioned at the new rate.

Regional Reports

Yakima Valley Kite Flyers

Contact Rod Yarger (509) 453-4679, 209 North 24th Avenue, Yakima, Washington 98902. A few of the '92 Yakima Festival pins are left at \$5 each, post paid. Yakima Valley Kite Flyer's Club pins at \$4 each. Club memberships are \$5 single and \$10 family. Send order to Pat Teague, 608 South 54th Avenue, Yakima, Washington 98908.

Snohomish County Incredible Flying Individuals (SCI-FI)

Contact Robin Haas at (206) 670-3963, or Dawn Clark at (206) 339-9334.

Members of SCI-FI are taking a brief rest after holding the Jetty Island Days Kite Festival (see related article). A few of our more ambitious members are trying to plan another bus trip before the weather turns bad. Details are sketchy, but we are tentatively looking at September 19, 1992, as the date. Call the contact number (206-339-9334) if you want more information.

We will be breaking from tradition in August. We are not going to meet at Alf's for lunch on August 2, 1992. We will have a potluck dinner and meeting on our flying field at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Pierce County Kitefliers Association

Contact Mainframe Kite Shop (206) 627-1653, 3340 East 11th Street, Tacoma, Washington 98421, or Dave Christenson at (206) 471-9103.

Now that we've gotten the PCKA/Crystal Mountain Fun Fly behind us, we're gearing up for the Puyallup Fair. Last year the club had a booth in the Hobby Hall, handing out brochures, answering questions, and setting up kite displays. A lot of new people got involved in kiting at the fair, and we'd like to make this year bigger and better. We invite you to loan your kites for display at this year's Puyallup Fair. They don't even have to be flyable, just something that looks good hanging from the ceiling. The kites will be safe and out of reach, and will be returned after the fair ends in September.

If you really want to get involved, you can volunteer at the booth. This requires four hours of free time and a friendly smile. We have divided the fair dates from September 11-27 into four-hour shifts: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 2 p.m.-6 p.m., 6 p.m.-10 p.m. One or two people watch each shift, and will receive free admission to the fair for the day they volunteer. Please call Mainframe if you are interested in helping out or loaning a kite. For those of you who have a talent for kite making, you can enter your handmade kites for judging at the fair. The deadline for any kites loaned or entered for the fair is Wednesday, August 26th at the PCKA meeting at 7 p.m.

The Pierce County Kitefliers Association meets at Mainframe Kite Shop at 7 p.m. on the last Wednesday of every month. Everyone is invited to attend the meetings, eat some junk food, and share some kiting stories. If you have any special kites you'd like to show off, bring them to the meeting. Five-color enamel pins of the club logo are available for \$5. A NEW PIN OF THE CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN FUN FLY IS NOW ON SALE. Individual or family membership is \$5 a year. This includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, free use of the club library, access to the club copier, and discounts at local kite shops.

Capitol City Flyers

Contact Cool Rain Kites (206) 943-5700, 222 North Capitol Way, Olympia, WA 98501.

Westport Windriders

Contact Chuck Reese (206) 875-6385, P.O. Box 233 South Bend, WA 98586. The Westport Windriders host a fun fly and a meeting featuring potluck dinner on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Ben Franklin Kite Society

Contact Greg or Margaret Greger (509) 943-3951.

Squalicum Kite Flyers

Contact Don or Shirley Allen (206) 733-3777, 505 West Bakerview, No. 114, Bellingham, WA 98226.

Lavender Winds Kite Club

Contact Brian Bradley (206) 896-6190, P.O. Box 5396, Vancouver, WA 98668.

S. F. Cody Kite Society

Contact Rick Brown (503) 689-8175, 1082 Bethesda Street, Eugene, OR 97402. Membership \$10 for one year, or \$17 for two years, includes quarterly newsletter.

Associated Oregon Kitefliers

P.O. Box 25616, Portland, OR 97225. Membership \$7, includes bimonthly newsletter.

British Columbia Kitefliers Association

P.O. Box 35653, Station E, Vancouver, BC V6M 4G9, Canada. Membership \$8 (US—money orders only, please).

Kite Group of Boise (kgb)

Contact David Bogie, kgb (208) 336-2038, 1411 North 25th Street, Boise, Idaho 83702.

Classifieds

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Classified Ads

Any items relating to kites or kitefliers, only 10 cents a word (\$3 minimum) per issue. Lost, found, free or stolen items will be listed free of charge, if under 30 words. Send to Judy Millsbaugh, Editor, 7573 Old Redmond Road, #5, Redmond, WA 98052.

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KITE CALENDAR



AUGUST

August 2 (Sunday), SCI-FI Fun Fly and Potluck, 10 AM, Marine Park, Everett. Contact Dawn Clark, OGO Fly a Kite (206)339-9334.

August 9 (Sunday), WKA Fun Fly, Magnuson Park, Seattle. Contact Ken Conrad, Great Winds Kites (206)624-6886.

August 9 (Sunday), BFKS Fun Fly, 12 Noon, Columbia Point Marina Park, Richland. Contact Greg Greger (509)943-3951 or Marleen Zilar (509)586-2264.

August 17-23 (Monday-Sunday), 11th Annual Washington State International Kite Festival, Bolstad Street Access, Long Beach. Contact Kay Buesing (206)665-5744.

August 19 (Wednesday), WKA Picnic, 5:30 PM, Super 8 Motel, Long Beach. Contact Dave Christenson (206)471-9103.

August 22 (Saturday), Westport Windriders Fun Fly and Potluck, 10 AM, Twin Harbors State Park, Westport. Contact Pic-A-Patch Kites (206)268-0877.

August 26 (Wednesday), WKA Board Meeting, 7 PM, Softcheck, Kirkland. Contact Dave Christenson (206)471-9103.

August 26 (Wednesday), PCKA Meeting, 7 PM, Mainframe Kite Shop, Tacoma. Contact Matt or Jessica Palmer (206)627-1653. Deadline for Puyallup Fair entries.

SEPTEMBER

September 6 (Sunday), WKA General Membership Meeting, 10 AM, Fort Casey State Park, Whidbey Island. Contact Dave Christenson (206)471-9103.

September 6 (Sunday), Squallicum Picnic, after the WKA General Membership Meeting, Fort Casey State Park, Whidbey Island. Contact Mike Button (206)733-7380.

September 6 (Sunday), SCI-FI Fun Fly and Potluck, 10 AM, Marine Park, Everett. Contact Dawn Clark, OGO Fly a Kite (206)339-9334.

September 11-27 (Friday-Sunday), PCKA Kite Exhibit, Hobby Hall, Western Washington State Fair, Puyallup. Contact Matt or Jessica Palmer (206)627-1653.

September 12 (Saturday), 3rd Annual Bainbridge Island Kite Fly, 1 PM, Battle Point Park, Bainbridge Island, fun fly. Contact Darryl Stephenson (509)432-1931.

September 13 (Sunday), BFKS Fun Fly, 12 Noon, Columbia Point Marina Park, Richland. Contact Greg Greger (509)943-3951 or Marleen Zilar (509)586-2264.

September 26 (Saturday), Westport Windriders Fun Fly and Potluck, 10 AM, Twin Harbors State Park, Westport. Contact Pic-A-Patch Kites (206)268-0877.

September 26-27 (Saturday-Sunday), North Coast Challenge, Seaside, Oregon, national points competition. Contacts Comprehensive: Kathy Goodwind (206)784-8053; Dual Line: Eric and Genney Forsberg (503)357-7557; General Information: Dave Gomberg (503)996-3083.

September 26-27 (Saturday-Sunday), 14th Annual Fall International Kite Festival, D River Wayside, Lincoln City, Oregon. Contact Lincoln City Chamber of Commerce (800)452-2151.

September 30 (Wednesday), PCKA Meeting, 7 PM, Mainframe Kite Shop, Tacoma. Contact Matt or Jessica Palmer (206)627-1653.

September 30-October 4 (Wednesday-Sunday), 15th Annual American Kitefliers Association Convention, Texas Technological University, Lubock, Texas. Contact Gary King (806)762-8553 or Brooks Leffler (800)AKA-2550.

OCTOBER

October 3 (Saturday), 7th Annual Manzanita Kite Festival, Manzanita Beach at Laneda Avenue, Manzanita, Oregon. Contact Vicki Strang, Manzanita Merchants Association (503)368-6606.

October 4 (Sunday), SCI-FI Fun Fly and Potluck, 10 AM, Marine Park, Everett. Contact Dawn Clark, OGO Fly a Kite (206)339-9334.

October 9-11 (Friday-Sunday), 5th Annual October Kite Festival, 9 AM, On the Beach, Ocean Shores, competition. Contact Mike Brown, Ocean Shores Kites (206)289-4103.

October 10 (Saturday), 14th Annual Yachats Kite Festival, On the Beach, Yachats, Oregon. Contact Yachats Chamber of Commerce (503)547-3530.

October 10-12 (Saturday-Monday), 14th International Fall Festival, Lincoln City Oregon, Columbus Day Celebration (500 years). Columbus Ships as kites, period and international costumes. Contact (800)452-2151.

October 11 (Sunday), One-Sky-One World, Gasworks Park, Seattle.

October 11 (Sunday), One Sky One World, 12 Noon, Columbia Point Marina Park, Richland. Contact Marleen Zilar (509)586-2664.

October 17-18 (Saturday-Sunday), Cranberry Festival Kite Fly, Bolstad Street Access, Long Beach, fun fly. Contact Long Beach Kites (206)642-2202.

October 24 (Saturday), Westport Windriders Fun Fly and Potluck, 10 AM, Twin Harbors State Park, Westport. Contact Pic-A-Patch Kites (206)268-0877.

October 28 (Wednesday), WKA Board Meeting, 7 PM, Softcheck, Kirkland. Contact Dave Christenson (206)471-9103.

October 28 (Wednesday), PCKA Meeting, 7 PM, Mainframe Kite Shop, Tacoma. Contact Matt or Jessica Palmer (206)627-1653.

HAVE FUN FLYING WHEREVER YOU ARE!

Kite Calendar by Darryl Stephenson (206) 432-1931.

Calendar Writer's Remorse

by GIGO*

Kiting calendar writers all share a single, finely-tuned skill—plagiarism. Each month we desperately paw through every other newsletter we can get our hands on hoping to find every obscure kiting event that might be of interest to the kilters in our area. We believe that the-more-information-the-better when it comes to kiting. We want you to have many choices so you can pick the kind of events you like best.

The down side of this is that errors are multiplied as quickly as the "copy" command on the word processor. With some remorse and admittedly a little humor, I have noticed that some of my mistakes have been passed on by some of the best kiting publications in the country. My apologies to them for feeding them such rubbish, but more importantly, my apologies to you, the kilters of the Northwest, for any inconvenience these errors may have caused.

Please keep me informed if you hear of any changes in an event. I will try to keep the rubbish to a minimum. Thanks.

* GIGO = Garbage In Garbage Out

President's Letter

by Dave Christenson

You know, whoever said "Time sure flies when you're having fun" was right. It seemed like it was just yesterday that I wrote my last President's Letter.

As you read in the last letter, the Board of Directors has been discussing monetary issues (talk about boring, I'd rather go fly a kite). After much deliberation and recommendation by the Board, and voting by the club members present at the last general membership meeting, dues will be \$15 per year effective January 1, 1993. Here's some background information for you. With approximately 400 memberships, we have been getting about \$4,000 annual income. Cost for printing and mailing our newsletter (\$3,100 printing and \$900 postage) is \$4,000, and our annual insurance policy is about \$600. As you can see, we are not gaining ground. What keeps us going is the club pin sales and donations from other organizations. That is why the membership voted on the increase, so that the club can keep putting out this great newsletter and stay as one of the best clubs around. We are also looking at other ways to increase revenues and cut costs.

We hung kites at the King County Fairgrounds the other day. I think it was a beautiful display. I would like to say "Thanks" to everybody that loaned us their kites and those who did the hanging.

Don't forget that Long Beach is coming up fast. If you are going to the WKA Pizza Party on Wednesday, August 19th, give me a call at (206) 471-9103 so that we can order enough pizza.

A brief reminder that nominations and elections are coming up at the end of the year. I am announcing now that I will be running for President again next year. If anyone is interested in any of the positions in the WKA, please let me or any of the Officers know.

Has anybody come up with some good ideas yet for club banners or anything else? We still need something to be recognized by. Are we going to let that state club to the south of us have banners to rally around, and not us? Let's hear some suggestions.

Board Meeting Notes

by Bob Alford

A board meeting was held on June 24, 1992, in Kirkland. The meeting was called to order with thirteen members present. The meeting began with a report by TJ about the logo contest. We had entries from thirteen members. After some discussion concerning how to choose the winner, we decided to vote on the top three, then pick the winner from those entries. The winning entry was submitted by Jeffrey Reed.

Tom Sisson asked for the loan of some large kites to be displayed for the month of August at the Seattle Convention Center. Dave asked if a Force 10 was large enough to qualify. Tom thinks it would work.

After the minutes and a financial report were read and approved, we got down to serious business.

We have now reached the point at which postage, printing and other costs associated with our club have outpaced our ability to produce sufficient revenue to support the services we want to provide to our members. After a lengthy discussion about the budget and expenses, we decided to recommend to the membership that, effective January 1, 1993, we increase our annual dues to \$15 (\$20 outside the U.S.). The discussion also included setting prices for mailing lists and mailing labels (\$.03 and \$.05 per member, respectively).

We decided to keep the price for the WSIKF WKA Pizza Feed the same as last year (\$5).

We discussed at length the need for a way to identify ourselves as a kite flying organization. Banners, badges, kites, patches, shirts, caps—we need something. Got any ideas or suggestions?

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.



The Joy of Kiting

by Darryl Stephison

It's a beautiful day at the beach. I look one way and hundreds of kites stand at attention, saluting the wind. Dressed in their finest regalia, they stand like victorious warriors at a moment of glory. I look the other way and hundreds of kites dive, spin, and dart across the sky. Some dance as gracefully as prima ballerinas. Others move together like precision drill teams, with every corner sharply cut and every movement perfectly synchronized. Below this display, in all directions, thousands of people move along a thousand paths each of which can only be seen by one person alone.

In the middle of all of this, there is only one kite, "The Kite" (my kite). The sky is blue. The sun is bright. The wind is good. The Kite is happy and I am happy. Although its colors are clear and bright, The Kite is not the most beautiful in the sky. It does not matter. Although it flies exactly the way it should and when it should, the movements of The Kite do not attract crowds of spectators. It does not matter. I am not aware of most of the people. Occasionally one may tell me, "That's a pretty good looking kite" or "I like the way it flies." These are my friends, the best of friends. The Kite is happy and I am happy.

Only an instant later (whatever happened in between, I can hardly remember), The Kite flies gently above the rolling wheat fields. From the top of just a little hill, I can see forever. Surely everyone in the world can see The Kite. It is the most beautiful, the most unique. Its movements hold the audience rapt. The Kite is happy and I am happy.

In another instant, I sit in a little room with the smell of hot nylon and sewing machine oil. I have painstakingly repaired a small hole in The Kite. It is a job well done, neat, clean, strong. I am proud. Some might be sad, for The Kite has been hurt but, forgive me if I boast; the repair is so skillfully done that no one will ever notice. It is still the most beautiful. It will fly as true as ever. The Kite is happy and I am happy.

The joy of kiting bubbles up like a spring from such instances. It doesn't take long to fill our cup with fond memories. Visions that we see clearly when we close our eyes.

WAKANA

Washington Kitefliers Association

an affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
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