



Newsletter

April/May 1998

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

"Indoor Insights"

by: Jeannette Mandanas
aka "Windless"

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

Come Fly with us! I have booked the local High School Gym & would love for any one interested to come join us.

Date: Friday Nights MAY 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 & JUNE 5

Time: 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Cost: The total gym fee is \$8.00/hr, for a total of \$32.00/night. Your donations will be appreciated.

Size: The gym held four flyers at one time this past Friday evening. So there is plenty of room for all to fly.

Location: Mt. Si High School
8651 Meadowbrook Way N.E.
Snoqualmie, WA 98065 (tel: 425-888-3173)

Contact: Jeannette Mandanas or David Jam
tel: 425-222-6779 or e-mail: (please note our
new e-mail address) jman@ncfweb.net

Directions: If coming out on I-90 take the exit #27 North Bend Way ...go left at the bottom of the exit and go down the hill, (you are on North Bend Way) about half way down there will be a left turn lane, this is Meadowbrook Way, it says Snoqualmie Falls
====> take this left and follow the road down another hill. You

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will come to an intersection with a stop light, (Railroad Ave.) on your left will be a mini mart called "the milk barn", go straight across the intersection, ahead on the left about 1/4 mile is the high school. If you have trouble finding it ask at the milk barn.....

We look forward to seeing you all again!

Presidents Letter

By Rob Pratt

Let Me Introduce Myself

Hi! My name is Rob Pratt, and I'm your new WKA President. I've been involved in kiting for about 7 years - primarily as a single line maker and flyer with occasional forays into dual line and fighter kites. I live in Olympia and work for the State of Washington in computer technical support (go ahead and get the "state worker" jokes out of your system now.)

My first duty as your new President, is to thank the out-going officers for the great job they did last year. I know we all appreciate their efforts. Second, I also want to thank the new members of the WKA board for their willingness to help out with this year's club activities.

One of the first things I heard after being elected is the desire for more WKA events. I would like to suggest is that we start up the summer fun flies at Magnuson Park in Seattle again. I suggest the third Saturday of the month, because this seems to be the least used weekend by kite organizations. We could start by meeting on the 20th of June. I'll be there, will you? Don't forget the Fun Fly at Lake Meridian Park in Kent on the 16th of May, call for details.

I will try to talk to as many of you as I can in the coming months and get your input as to what you want from the WKA. I have my own ideas, but we can't operate the WKA without your input.

If you have any suggestions or questions for me you can contact me by E-mail: robcp@worldnet.att.net or Phone 360-956-1513.

WKA Newsletter 1998

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

Primary Contact/Editor
Bill & Jeannette Rogers
(360) 697-2917

Mailing List
Sylvia Bernauer
(425) 822-4605

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:

Bill & Jeannette Rogers
PO Box 2393
Poulsbo WA 98370
email billrogers@earthlink.net

The deadline for all submissions is January 20th, March 20th, May 20th, July 20th, September 20th or November 20th. Materials received by these dates will be published in the following issue as space allows. All submissions will be considered for publication.

Great Winds Kite Shop Est. 1972

An outstanding collection of kites, kite building supplies, books, accessories and other flying things...

402 Occidental Ave S. Seattle, Wa 98104 (206)624-6886

Membership

To become a member of the WKA, send your name(s), address and telephone number, along with a check for \$15 per family (outside the U.S., please add \$5(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.

ATTENTION KITE AND PUZZLE NUTS

Starting with this newsletter there will be a contest to test your skill at finding kite related words. The contest will consist of a word search puzzle. The first person to correctly identify all the words and mail their response back to me will win a Mini Catherine's Wheel. The rules are simple. 1. You must identify all words correctly. 2. There is a MYSTERY WORD in each puzzle that must be correctly identified. 3. If more than 1 person submits the correct answers on the same day there will be a drawing among all the correct first day entries.

All entries must be mailed to:
Dave Christenson
7605 East D Street
Tacoma, WA 98445



**gas works
kite shop**

3333 wallingford no.
SEATTLE, WA. 98103

FAX (206) 633-0301
(206) 632-6151 (206) 633-4780

Words

aka	festival	rokkaku
arch	fighter	silk
bamboo	kaze	sled
box	kites	spars
buggy	knife	spine
butterfly	line	standoff
cody	parafoil	stunt
dacron	polyester	tyvek
delta	quad	windsock
diamond	ripstop	(mystery word)

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u k f o f d i a m o n d x l l a x n d h x u p n
z s j i i n l v z w t q a g i h s a h o t h x u
d r k f g v r g v t u v i y c m d u y s p c q x
d a g i v h x a t k i r d a e t a k a a o r m l
a p s q f h t n o t l z q v v f g q r k k a f b
u s f p h i u e s n g k d p w s i y o e a l o s
q u f f f t l e r h e v e l w h z n k v u g k j
v i o s s l f k l i s z o y g g u b k y k c g o
g b d h l m f c a e h s a t c o m w a t l w e e
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l n a n b r d u o r s p i n e o q f u n r p h a
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o k q u w a n e x s c c s i w a x a e p s b a e
f j q g c v q r o x o z l t n b h e j t e y p d
a k v r l j j f y d i i h d o v i a g s y e s b
r b o h v o k l y b n t o s m p m g p f l o k m
a n s a l k y y h e n l d m x z s n a e o o n a
p k c o s d n i w a k i i s e t i k t h p g o u
  
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Editor's Echo

Since we are one newsletter behind I am doing a "makeup" newsletter this month. There will still be a newsletter coming out at the end of next month and then we will be back on track, every other month.

I included a few pictures in this newsletter. I had wanted to put a few more in but again ran out of room. That is a good problem to have though. I am pretty impressed that we still had some good articles for a "makeup" newsletter. Thanks to all who contributed.

I have also included the promised interview with Chris Matheson. I want to thank Chris for taking the time to do this. I hope you all enjoy that too. Let me know if you would like to see some more of this in the future.

Personally, I have been flying kites! I have also started practicing for competition lately. June is coming up real fast. I am going to be flying the Tramontana 2000 in comp this year. I really like what Chris has done to it, it is a better kite than the Tramontana I used last year.

We hope to see many of you this summer at the festivals.

Bill and Jeannette Rogers

P.S. Please note the change of our email address:

billrogers@earthlink.net



Prism Ozone, KTA display



Mark Reed at the KTA

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Interview with Chris

This is an interview I did with Chris Matheson by email. He is a well known kite designer/maker from the UK. He now works as a designer for HQ kites out of Germany. HQ is best known for the Jam Session and the Tramontana. The kite Chris is best known for is the Midi Sandpiper, now just called the Midi this year. It is a very nice freestyle/trick kite. He has also re-designed the Tramontana for HQ (and did a very nice job in my opinion). It is now called the Tramontana 2000.

How long have you been into kiting?

I take it we're talking sport kites here, that would be back in 1990.

Who or what got you interested in kiting?

I was over the local common 'Nomans Land', just outside St Albans. There was very little wind and there was these two young lads with their kites pegged out. The wind picked up just enough so as you could feel it on the back of your neck and the guys said "we'll have that", got up and started flying their kites in pairs. Man I was stunned, I asked them where I could get kites like those (Sorry I don't know the kites). They told me about a festival up at Blackheath in London, so I made my way there a couple of weeks later.

The two boys were Alex and Marcus Mooresby. They went on to be UK National Pairs Champs'.

How long have you been making kites?

I started making kites right away, I had a need to make a kite.

How did you get started and what was your first kite?

My first kite was just the first kite I made. I didn't want to make copies of other peoples kites, I wanted to make my own.

I went down to 'The Kite Store' in Covent Garden and got myself lots of ripstop, carbon and the stuff to make the fittings. In those days, you couldn't get ready made vinyls. Then I got a sewing machine from a mail

order house. (Well you can take them back within 14 days and get your money back and I'd only want to make one kite, yeah right.) Then I tucked myself away and made a kite and an other and an other.

How did you get into making kites to sell?

I used to go out to fly my kites and people would ask me to make them one like it. I'd sell them the one I had for what it cost to make it and use that money to make an other. It was just a way to make new designs without R&D costs stopping me. Then it just grew from there.

What was your first "production kite"?

The K1. I think it had a production life of about one season and was only sold in my local shop.

How long have you been officially in the kiting "business"?

I've been at it since 93'.

What person has been the biggest influence on your kiting career?

On my kite flying career, I'd say Andy Preston, big UP to AP. I started flying with him not long after I started flying. We'd just hang out all day and kind of play at pairs, we had a great time just flying and chilling.

When did you start competing? Teams, Pairs, Individual? And how long for each?

I started competing as an indi' first. I think it was the Winter League down at Nomans land, well I know it was, I'm just not sure what year. I think it was 1990's Winter League. I went in the Novice and won, they gave me a little chrome plate with "Winner" on it. That was it, I was hooked. Even though AP and myself flew as a pair for over three years, we only ever competed once. We entered the Nationals in 92' and came in 3rd. I've not competed in team, though I've flown with a couple of teams. I joined the Dec's (Four line demo team) along with AP in 93' and flew with the guys till the end of 94'.

Continued on Page 6

Chris Interview
(continued from page 5)

Then I had a couple of years out of teams due to the berth of my son Alex in Aug' 94'. I joined 'Flair' in 96' for a year, again just doing demos, but this time with two line kites.

What is your most memorable competition?

Hmmm. Can't remember the year, maybe it was 95'. It was an indoor comp' in 'Koksijde' in Belgium. It's the only time I ever placed out of the top three as an indi', think I got a 7th. The people who were running the event showed us such a good time. I really enjoyed my first ever weekend in Belgium so much, by the end of the weekend I just didn't care where I'd placed. That weekend showed me that it was the taking part that counted and all the things that go with it, rather than the winning. Don't get me wrong, it's always nice to win.

What is your favorite kite that you make and why?

The "Midi", it's just me.

What is your favorite kite that you don't make and why?

I have two.

One just has to be the Rev', you can't fly with the Decs' and not be in love with that kite. "It's a CONTROL thang HA HA"

The other is a new kite that I got to fly before it came out this year, the "Passion" by Alex Hesse. It lets me just get in the groove and fly.

Your line of kites is now being made by HQ kites, how did that come about?

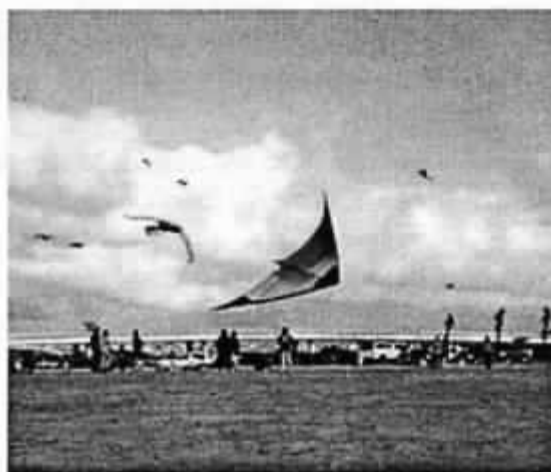
It's hard work trying to make a living as a small indi' kite maker. The lifestyle is great, going all over the world flying your kites, but the pay stinks. I looked around to see what could be done to help make the situation better. I was introduced to HQ by Dodd Gross, my distributor in the US. After talks with the company and a look at the quality of their kites, I decided that this was the way forwards.

You were very busy late last year getting the kites ready for this year. What have you been doing lately, now that you are finished for a bit doing the designing for the new season?

I've been over to the US for the KTAI. I've been showing some of the shops in the south of the UK the new kites we have and I've just got back from Europe doing the same kind of thing, lots of positive reactions. Now I'm looking forwards to the season kicking in and getting some flying done.



Chris Matheson at the KTA



Midi at the KTA

Kite Calendar

Event organizers, please contact Bill and Jeannette Rogers at (360) 697-2917 or billrogers@earthlink.net by the first of odd numbered months with Kite Calendar information. Please include as a minimum the date, time, place, contact person, phone number, and email address (if applicable).

MAY

May 2 & 3, 1998 - 10 am to 5 pm
Preston Winery Kite Festival,
Wine Tasting * Remote Control
Cars and Kite Fliers from the Pacific
Northwest.

Winery is located 5 miles north
of Pasco on Highway 395.

For information contact Linda
Garman 509-967-2823,
lindag52@hotmail.com.

May 16, 1998

Lake Meridian Park Fun Fly,
Co-sponsored with the WKA and
Kent Parks Dept., Kent.

Contact Rob Pratt for more
info: 360-956-1513 or
robcp@worldnet.att.net

JUNE

June 5-7, 1998

Ocean Shores International
Challenge, Ocean Shores, WA.

For more info contact Dee
Halverson (503) 537-0817.

June 14, 1998

Seattle Kite Festival. For more
info contact Kathy Goodwind (206)
362-6151 or goodwinds@aol.com.

June 20, 1998

WKA Fun Fly, Magnuson
Park, Seattle.

Contact Rob Pratt for more
info: 360-956-1513 or
robcp@worldnet.att.net

June 27-28, 1998

Northwest Stunt Kite Champi-
onships, Long Beach, WA

Contact Eric and Genny
Forsburg for more information: (503)
357-7557 gforsburg@msn.com

JULY

July 10-12, 1998

Westport Stunt Kite Champi-
onships, Westport, WA. For more info
contact Creda Axton (360) 491-
3229 Adere@aol.com or Rob Pratt
(360) 456-1513.

July 20, 1998

WKA Fun Fly, Magnuson
Park, Seattle.

Contact Rob Pratt for more
info: 360-956-1513 or
robcp@worldnet.att.net

AUGUST

August 17-23, 1998

Washington State International
Kite Festival, Long Beach WA.

SEPTEMBER

September 11-13, 1998

Lewis and Clark Kite Expositi-
on, Seaside OR.

Contact Bill Story for informa-
tion: 1-888-fly-4-fun or
windance@aone.com

September 19, 1998

WKA Fun Fly, Magnuson
Park, Seattle.

Contact Rob Pratt for more
info: 360-956-1513 or
robcp@worldnet.att.net

September 19-20, 1998

Washington State Sport Kite
Championships

OCTOBER

October 10-11, 1998

Showdown at Rockaway
Beach, Rockaway Beach OR.

October 13-17, 1998

AKA National Convention at
Ocean Shores.

REGIONAL CLUBS

ADVERTISEMENTS

For items relating to kites or kitefliers. Charge is 10 cents a word (\$3 minimum) per issue. Lost, Found, Stolen, or Free items will be listed free if under 30 words. Make checks payable to WKA, mail to Bill & Jeannette Rogers Editors, P.O. Box 2393, Poulsbo, WA 98370.

WKA Patch

Patches featuring the WKA logo are available for \$4 each. Make check payable to the WKA. Contact Susie Christenson, 7605 East D Street, Tacoma, WA 98445.

WKA 3-Pin Sets

The new WKA pins are a 3 pin set that, when put together, form a Rokkaku. The center pin lists all of the kite clubs in the WKA. The 3 pin set is priced at \$15 including postage (\$16 outside the US). Make check payable to the WKA. Contact Susie Christenson, 7605 East D Street, Tacoma, WA 98445.

ASSOCIATED OREGON KITERS

P.O. Box 25616, Portland, OR 97298. Membership includes bi-monthly newsletter.

BEN FRANKLIN KITE SOCIETY

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

BRITISH COLUMBIA KITE-FLYERS ASSOCIATION

Box 755, 101-1001 W. Broadway, Vancouver, BC, CANADA V6H4E4. Membership \$8.00 in a US money order only.

CAPITOL CITY FLYERS

Contact Leroy Peoples (360) 456-4156

kgb - KITE GROUP OF BOISE

Gary Self, 5403 Paulson Circle, Boise, ID 83704. Individual membership \$7.00 includes a quarterly (?) newsletter.

LILAC CITY WIND CHASERS

Meets every Tuesday (during daylight savings), 5:00 PM, Friendship Park, 7200 block of N Standard. Contact Bill or Connie Lester, 3524 W Kierman, Spokane, WA 99205 (509) 327-2829 blester@ix.netcom.com.

NORTH COAST SKY PAINTERS KITE CLUB

Contact Eric Halverson (503) 537-0817. Fun fly and potluck dinner on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

NORTHWEST BUGGY PILOTS ASSN.

Contact Morrie and Kelci Williams, P.O. Box 1358, Westport, WA 98595-1358 (360) 268-0318 williams@techline.com. Meetings on the 4th Saturday of each month, usually at Washaway Beach, Grayland. Check with Morrie and Kelci for current location.

PCKA - PIERCE COUNTY KITEFLYERS ASSN.

Contact Dick Curran (253) 927-8779. Meets on the 4th Thursday of each month. Call for details.

SCI-FI - SNOHOMISH COUNTY INCREDIBLE FLYING INDIVIDUALS

Contact Four Winds Kite Shop (425) 339-9334.

SQUALICUM KITE FLYERS

Contact Don or Shirley Allen (360) 733-3777. 505 West Bakerview #114, Bellingham, WA 98226.

YAKIMA VALLEY KITE FLYERS

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

WESTPORT WINDRIDERS

Contact Creda Axton (360) 491-3229 Aderc@aol.com or Rob Pratt (360) 456-1513. Funfly and meeting/potluck dinner on the 4th Saturday of each month. Call for location and details.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

GRAYLAND, Northwest Buggy Pilots Assoc. Fun flies 4th Saturday of every month at Wash-Away Beach. Verify location with Morrie and Kelci Williams, P.O. Box 1358, Westport, WA 98595-1358 (360) 268-0318
williams@techline.com

OCEAN SHORES, North Coast Sky Painters. Meet and fly the 2nd weekend of every month (except December). Fly at Illahee Beach. Potluck following on Saturday night at the VFW Hall at Hogan's Corner. Ask for directions at local kite shoppes or contact Dee/Eric Halverson (503) 537-0817.

SPOKANE, Lilac City Wind Chasers. Fun flies every Tuesday, 4:00 PM until dark, at Friendship Park, 7400 block of North Standard.

TACOMA, Pierce County Kitefliers Assoc. Meetings on the last Thursday of the month at Summit Branch of Pierce Co. Library, 7:00 PM. Contact Dick Curran (253) 927-8779.

Spring Fair Thanks

I owe an enormous THANK YOU to everyone who helped out at the Spring Fair in Puyallup, WA! Without your help it could not have been the great success that it was.

Special thanks to Barbara and Marlin Gilbert, Ken Forslund, Georgiane and Dick Curran Kay and Mike Woodring for their help in setting up and going beyond the call of duty to assist. Thank you's to Harry Mathis for his great problem solving abilities and willingness to make it a great day. Thank you to Tom Sisson, Sam Huston, Betty Smith, bamboo shaving dick, Robin Haas and Dale and Inga Morrison for their time and wonderful energy! And all the other kite makers to numerous to mention!

Thank you to Jeff Reed, Jon Huffman, Joey Cheetum, our Mark Davis, Even Schnell, and his father Ravon for bringing us an indoor synergy deca flyer all the way from eastern WA.

Thank you to our Kite Shop Sponsors for giving their time and money to help make this event happen. Those stores were: Gasworks Kites, Main Frame Kite Shop, Finchers Aire Force, Four Winds Kite Shop,

EVERETT, SCI-FI. Fun flies 2nd Sunday every month, 10th Street boat launch, Everett WA. Contact Four Winds Kite Shop (425) 339-9334.

WESTPORT, Westport Windriders. 4th Saturday every month. Fun fly and potluck. Contact Creda Axton (360) 491-3229 Aderc@aol.com or Rob Pratt (360) 456-1513.

DO ANY OTHER CLUBS HAVE REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS THEY WOULD LIKE TO LIST?

If so, send the information to the *WKA Newsletter* (address on page 2)

.....
Great Winds Kite Shop and of course WA best kite club PCKA.

The stores that sold made their sponsorship money back + more. Those that didn't sell, we give you all our thanks, and lots of business! :) Yeah, Support our kite stores!!

Thank you to all the outdoor flyers who tried their best to fly outside, even with night lights! You were a brave bunch, well deserving of the title Pilot.

Thank you to the spouse's, who put in their time at the fair.

Thank you to the many substitutes who filled in at the last minute. Christian, Clarisse, and Dakota keep on kite flying! It was fun.

Thank you to the Fair and their staff for the extra miles they went for us.

There are many more people I would like to thank.. but I guess I can do some in person. Thank you to Revolution Enterprises, and Laser Pro Line for their sponsorship, too!

I can't wait till next year. I've learned some.. Like lets go back to the old "d" words a little more.. You know... delegate and designate. I can still learn to share the work. :)

We certainly did what we set out to do. Promote kite flying. Next year will be even better! This year I just want to say THANK YOU ALL for a wonderful job!

Best breezes, Penny Lingenfelter
XOXOXO

Yes!

By becoming a member of the WKA you receive the WKA Newsletter every other month for a year, a membership card which entitles you to discounts at some area kite stores, and a wealth of information about special events and goings-on in the Northwest kiting community.

Join the WKA and share the fun! Find out more about the fastest growing popular pastime in the United States today. WKA meetings offer individuals and families the opportunity to participate in the administrative support and planning of local kite events and workshops. Fill in the application and return it with a check or money order for \$15 to:

Washington Kitefliers Association

Pacific Science Center

200 Second Avenue North

Seattle, WA 98109



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

(LIST NAMES/AGES OF ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER(S)) _____

Washington Kitefliers Association

an affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
Pacific Science Center
200 Second Avenue North
Seattle, Washington 98109

FIRST CLASS