



Newsletter

May/June 2007

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

The **Fort Lewis Kids Fun Fest** was 5 April, and the attendance was astounding, both for the huge number of kids that were there, and for the paucity of volunteers that weren't there. **Glenda** and I were joined by our own Region 10 representative from the AKA, **Marla Miller**. She had a fabulous time. But by the end of the day, we were pooped!

home.

Eventually we were down to just copies of the WKA newsletter, so we sent those out! The Fest was due to end at 1600 (4:00 PM for you civilians) and there were still twenty or thirty parent/kid sets still in line.

One aspect of the event we all noticed was how well-behaved all of the kids were. No pushing, shouting, or crowding. There may be something positive to say about military discipline after all... (Actually, it is just an extension of accountability, but it works very well.)

We expect to be invited back next year. I really hope there will be more volunteers, though.

Jerry Graham



The kite making was supposed to start at 1200 and we finished laying out our supplies at 1159. We were at a dead run from then on. We took 103 of our standard 18 inch Conover-Eddy kits, 30 of the paper bag kites, and a pile of various supplies that we had no expectation of using. We got wiped out! After all the formal kites were assembled (and that was hectic!), we assembled kits from the rest of the supplies. We finally ran out of everything and wound up putting plans alone in a plastic bag and sending them out to make a kite at



—Hear Ye —Hear Ye—

Official Business and Short Business Meeting of the Membership at the Fathers' Day Fly

The Washington Kitefliers Association Board has authorized that the following addition/amendment be made to the Articles of Incorporation in order to bring the articles into compliance with current law, specifically RCW 24.03.025(4)(e).

Resolved, that the Articles of Incorporation be amended by adding

Article IX

This Article eliminates the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its members, if any, for monetary damages for conduct as a director: PROVIDED, That such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director for acts or omissions that involve intentional misconduct by a director or a knowing violation of law by a director, or for any transaction from which the director will personally receive a benefit in money, property, or services to which the director is not legally entitled. This provision does not eliminate or limit the liability of a director for any act or omission occurring before the date when such provision becomes effective.

Respectfully submitted for your information by the
Washington Kitefliers Association Board

WKA Board Members

President

Rick White

ssragtop@aol.com

Vice President

Ken Conrad

ken@greatwinds.com

Treasurer

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Secretary

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Membership

Sylvia Bernauer

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Education

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Position Available

Products

Position Available

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Jerry Graham

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■ Newsletter Editor

■ **Marzlie Freeman**

■ marzlie@shaw.ca

■ Webmaster

■ **Rick White**

■ ssragtop@aol.com

■ Safety

■ **Position Available**

Contact a member of the Board to let them know you would be happy to help out with the positions that are available, Your club needs **YOU**

Fathers' Day Fun Fly, June 17

Don't forget that WKA will be back at Kite Hill again on Father's Day. We will have the usual display of banners and single line kites, and hopefully some sport kite folk.

As always, we will be offering kite making for those interested.

We will also have a short meeting to vote on a needed addition to the WKA Articles of Incorporation.

Please join us, you know you want to—

WKA Member Featured in "City Arts" Magazine!!!

■ If you live in or near Pierce County, be sure to stop by a library to pick up your free copy of the May/June 2007 edition of the new "City Arts" magazine. Turn to page 27 and see the beautiful artwork they did with pictures taken of **Jerry Graham** demonstrating "How to make a Conover-Eddy Kite."

■ Jerry and Glenda met the photographer for this article at the Bonney Lake library and he took pictures while they had a kite-making workshop for the local kids. The star of the whole event was, of course, a small boy of about 2 1/2 who had been reading Dr. Seuss and loved the idea of Thing One and Thing Two flying their kites inside the house. He proceeded to run about the parking lot, flying his new kite, with the photographer trying to catch his expressions on film. Of course, the librarians also had to make their own kites. A great time was had by all.

■ **Glenda Kleppin**

My Wish

Sailboats on the bay. Blue skies. Rows of banners dotting the emerald green lawn lining the beach. Kites dancing on the wind. Friends calling greetings to each other. Who could ask for anything more?

This was the scene at the beautiful, coastal town of White Rock, British Columbia on April 28 and 29. For many of the flyers, this was the first festival of 2007 and again confirmed the strong bond between us folk who derive such unequalled pleasure from standing on a field or beach anywhere on this planet and holding on tightly to a string connected to a colorful piece of fabric in the sky.

Some time during the weekend I was told a story I want to share with you. In December the British Columbia Kitefliers Association, like many other kite clubs, held their annual Christmas party. Tony Tung, website coordinator for BCKA, had developed an interest in cake baking (obviously during a period of winter kite flying withdrawals) and offered to bake a special cake for the occasion.

He arrived at the party and placed the beautifully frosted cake on the dessert table. On the top he had written, "The wind blew us together." Wow!

Thank you, Tony, for the blessing of expressing so eloquently what we all know. If it weren't for the wind, I wouldn't know most of you. And that is not a happy thought.

So, my wish for you at the beginning of this new kite flying season is, "May the wind keep blowing and blowing. And every time you send a kite sailing into the wind may it bring you a new friend."

Ellen Pardee
Portland, Oregon

Editor's Note:

As requested by Ellen and others:

This article has been published in the Oregon Kiter newsletter and has also been submitted to the BCKA Windsox newsletter.

Kite Clubs

Associated Oregon Kiters

Contact: Deb Cooley
Email: tucoolkites@earthlink.net
PO Box 25616
Portland OR 97298
Membership includes bi-monthly newsletter

Basin Kitefliers Association

Contact: Rick White for now

Ben Franklin Kite Society

Contact Larry Zilar
509-627-6751 or email:
zilarlm@charter.net

Lilac City Wind Chasers

Contact Bill Cox
509-327-7974 or
email: cxbil@aol.com
April thru October meets every
Tuesday at 4pm in Sky Prairie Park,
W. Strong Rd, just east of N Five
Mile Rd, Spokane, WA

NW Fighter Kite Association

meets 3rd weekend of every month,
location varies.
More info: www.fighterkites.org

Northwest Sport Kite League

Contact Bud Hayes
email: bud@thehayesplace.com
Calendar at www.nwskl.org

Lavender Winds Kite Club

Brian Bradley
email: KiteBear@aol.com
meet 2nd Sunday, noon in
Long Beach, WA

Peninsula Breeze Blenders

Contact Bill Rogers or Lisa Ryan
email: lisaryan@mail.com or
billrogers@earthlink.net Meets 2nd
Wednesday every month at the Fire
Station on Loxie Egan Blvd.

Pierce County Kitefliers Assn

President: Bob Wendt
11208 133rd Ave. E.
Puyallup, WA 98374
253-848-6325 (home)
prez@pcka.org
Calendar at www.pcka.org

Squalicum Kite Flyers

Contact Mike Button
360-733-7380
email: kite102@aol.com
Fun fly every Wednesday and
Sunday afternoons during daylight
savings time until sunset
Zuanich Point Park, Squalicum
Harbor. Bellingham WA

Whidbey Island Kite Flyers

Contact Allen or Marjorie Taylor
360-678-9358
meets 3rd Saturday every month
call for location.

Westport Windriders

Contact Bary Crites
360-491-8605
email: bear_kites@aol.com
meets 4th Saturday every month at
Grayland Beach, followed by
potluck at Willapa Grange Hall

American Kitefliers Association

Contact Marla Miller - Regional
Director 253-752-7051
email: region10@aka.kite.org
Regional: www.aka.kite.org/
region10 or www.aka.kite.org

British Columbia Kite Fliers Assn.

PO Box 755
101-1001 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC Canada V6H 4E4
Membership: \$20 (CDN)
www.bcka.bc.ca

Jerry Graham
snapped this pic
at the White
Rock festival at
the end of April.
A literal forest of
banners!



Carol Lord prepared these two bookkeeping reports. So now you can know how your Club is doing financially.

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS BALANCE SHEET				WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS INCOME STMT			
		Dec 31, 06	Dec 31, 05			Jan - Dec 06	Jan - Dec 05
ASSETS				Income			
Current Assets				DONATIONS			
Checking/Savings				103.30			
	CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	6,346.95	6,178.43	1,725.00			
	SEAFIRST/REG	2,363.12	1,241.86	2,035.00			
	SEAFIRST/SAVING	2,174.68	3,164.53	178.67			
	Total Checking/Savings	10,884.75	10,584.82	12.64			
Other Current Assets				200.00			
	INVENTORY	147.90	147.90	150.00			
	Total Other Current Assets	147.90	147.90	1,935.00			
Total Current Assets				Total Income			
11,032.65				4,191.97			
Fixed Assets				Expense			
EQUIPMENT				AFFILIATION DUES			
773.58				0.00			
Total Fixed Assets				GIFTS/GRANTS			
773.58				321.54			
TOTAL ASSETS				INSURANCE			
11,806.23				387.00			
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				MISC EXP			
Equity				1,135.31			
Earnings				259.51			
865.24				POSTAGE			
EQUITY				620.92			
11,246.79				1,303.15			
Net Income				PRODUCTS			
299.93				-10.00			
Total Equity				SUPPLIES			
11,806.23				14.12			
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY				WEB SITE EXPENSES			
11,806.23				120.00			
				Total Expense			
				3,892.04			
				Net Income			
				299.93			
				-605.73			

WKA History

Washington Kitefliers Association was incorporated as a nonprofit corporation on March 19, 1986. The group was organized "To foster and encourage enthusiasm for kiteflying, interest in the aesthetics of kite design, the study of aerodynamics relating to the design of kites, the study of the history of kites, to promote safety in kite flying and to perpetuate the art and science of kite flying through education. The first Registered Agent of the corporation was **Thomas J. Sisson**. The original Board of Trustees were **Kathy Goodwind; Margaret Holzbauer; Virginia Knowles; Kevin A. Sanders; and Thomas J. Sisson**. The original incorporators were **Douglas A. Hagaman; Kevin Sanders, President; and Kathy Goodwind**.

Imagine Children's Museum

We recently received the following note from **Rainere**, the Creative Arts Manager at the **Imagine Children's Museum** in Everett. "It is that time of year again when I shall ask, 'Hey do you guys want to display some kites at Imagine Children's Museum?' I can not stand to look at the empty ceiling any longer. HELP!"

Last year, the board members spent most of a day hanging the exhibit at the museum. The kites were loaned to WKA by kitemakers from Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia.

This year, we were all feeling a bit overwhelmed by other responsibilities. Thankfully, **Erv Crosby** (who also put up part of the display last year) was willing to take over full responsibility for hanging a display this year. Thank you, Erv.

What we really need is a roster of WKA members who are willing to help put up and/or take down displays when they are requested. This is a great way to promote interest in kiting. If you would be willing to occasionally volunteer for such projects, please let **Jerry Graham** and **Glenda Kleppin** know and they will add your name to their volunteer list.

Empty Place in the Sky —Margaret Holzbauer—

There may not be many members around now who knew **Margaret Holzbauer**, but she was a very active member of WKA from August, 1979, up until about ten years ago. She passed away May 9, 2007 at the age of 90.

Margaret was a very soft spoken, sweet lady who loved to make kites and fly them. Her little home was filled with all kinds of wonderful creations, big and small — and “they all flew,” she said. Margaret and her long time friend **Bob Hanna** used to go to Fort Worden and Long Beach. They helped with kite classes at the Seattle Center, Puyallup Fair and the King County fair, according to an article by **Jean Sisson** in the June/July 1997 newsletter when Bob passed away.

Margaret was the Secretary for WKA from 1986 to February, 1988. During that time the Articles of Incorporation were drawn up, making WKA a nonprofit organization. As Secretary, Margaret was a member of the original Board of Trustees. She was named “WKA Secretary Emeritus” when she left office according to the February 1988 newsletter. Margaret wrote the

following: “I’ve enjoyed acting as your secretary. If all our members could know what a rewarding experience it is to serve WKA in some capacity, we would have people literally fighting to run for office!”

There was an ad in a 1987 newsletter for a new club pin. The original ad was for a pin that was 5/8" x 7/8". There was a typo in the ad which one member, **Charlie Sotich** (miniature kite maker from Chicago) saw. Charlie wrote to Margaret telling her that he wanted to buy one of the 78" pins. Margaret wrote that the supply of 78" pins was quickly snapped up by alert collectors, and there were problems packaging the pins for shipping. Charlie wrote back to Margaret to say that none of his local stationery or business office supply stores had any envelopes to fit, so Charlie made one and sent it to Margaret.

In her later years her eyesight was failing, and she could not get out to fly kites. But she loved to hear all about what was going on at the events we attended. Jean Sisson and I used to enjoy visiting with her. I will fly one of her kites in the Memorial Fly at WSIKF this year.

Sylvia Bernauer



Tom Sisson and Margaret Holzbauer are holding a 10" x 60" full color “AKA Superphoto” of kites and fliers at the 1987 AKA Convention.

Tom Sisson and Margaret Holzbauer holding 78 inch envelope provided by **Charlie Sotich** for the WKA pins.



Editor’s Note: these two photos were taken from the 1987 newsletter. Sylvia went the “extra mile” to get copies for this issue. Many thanks for her diligence!

Kites at Spring Valley Montessori School

Federal Way WA 98003

Glenn Austin, Al Councilman, Garth (Glenn's son), Pastor Doug White (a friend of Glenn and the Kamel's) came to Malena Kamel's school and taught the kids about kites and how to fly them. They showed many of Al's hand made kites and than helped each of the kids make their own kite. Al brought a presentation the kids got to watch from some of the kite festivals in the past and explained to the kids about the different kites they saw in the show. Then they took the kids out to fly their new kites. It was an

amazing experience for the kids and the school. They would love to have them back next year and Malena thought she was the luckiest girl in the world because her "Big Al" and her "Papa Glenn" came to her school and showed all her friends how to make and fly kites. I can't even begin to tell them how amazing they are.

Whittney Kamel



Above picture is Al Councilman showing some of his hand-made kites to the kids.

Al is shown here with kids who are now ready to "go fly a kite"



"Big Al" and "Papa Glenn".



Happy looking kids busy at decorating their new kites.



World Kite Museum & Hall of Fame
www.worldkitemuseum.com

P.O. Box 964 Phone: 360-642-4020
 112 3rd Street N.W. Fax: 360-642-4020
 Longbeach, WA 98631 info@worldkitemuseum.com

Gasworks Park Kite Shop
 3420 Stone Way N. Seattle, WA 98103
 Call for hours! Call (206)633-4780

Editor's Notes: this article appeared first in the BCKA Windsox newsletter last year—we are printing it here for those of you who didn't get to see it—since it is a how-to article on fighter kites

SINGLE LINE INTERACTIVE KITES or 'SLIK'S' for short.

For the past several years I have been experimenting with different styles of single line 'fighter' kites. Although I have been flying kites for more years than I care to count, I was introduced to the finer points of Indian Fighter kites when I was given a modern, or as they have come to be known, North American Fighter Kite during one of the Fort Worden kite conferences. Although this kite was very similar to the shape and style of a traditional Indian fighter kite, it was made from a material called Orcon and has a 0.05" carbon fibre rod for the bow and bamboo for the spine.

I have since experimented with various shapes and styles as my kites are made using 'western' style materials. I wanted to achieve a design that, when flying, was more reminiscent of a turn of the century Eddy or Malay bowed kite. As a result, it is a little taller and slightly narrower than a more traditional fighter kite. Although this style, whether constructed from Orcon or ripstop nylon is quite stable, it does offer the benefits and maneuverability of a more typical fighter kite. I use Orcon or ripstop nylon for the sail and carbon fibre rods for the bow and spine. Although Orcon is a material that resembles Mylar, it has a fine grid of nylon thread applied to it that makes it very strong and tear proof compared to the usual Mylar materials. It is manufactured for the airline industry and I believe it is used in the interior of passenger jets as a protective film between the outer skin and the interior plastic trim of the fuselage.

The kite begins as a piece of material that is 22" tall and 20" wide. A line drawn across the sail and linking the wing tips intersects the spine 8" down from the point of the nose. I use various diameter carbon fibre rods for the bow and spine depending upon the wind speed. Generally I use a 0.05" bow with a 0.06" spine or 0.06" for the bow and spine for low to medium winds and for stronger winds above 10 km/h, I have used 0.07" carbon fibre rods for both the bow and spine. For no wind and indoors, I use 0.05" for the spine and 0.04" for the bow. I measure and then cut the sail directly using a ruler and an Exacto type knife as I find this method results in a more 'accurate' sail than if I use a pre-cut cardboard 'half template' as a guide. The trailing edges are cut to a 30" radius curve in order to prevent flapping and to improve the flying and appearance of the sail when it is in the sky.

I use two pieces of Scotch 'Permanent' 1/2" wide double sided sticky tape along each of the two leading edges and fold them over the pre-bent bow and basically, stick the two tapes together so that I end up with a 1/2" folded seam with

the bow trapped in between the two pieces of tape. The spine has previously been glued to the centre of the sail using Elmer's contact cement. In order to add the small amount of bend that is required in the spine, I glue a 4 to 5 inch long piece of aluminium tubing over the end of the spine before it is glued to the sail. This will allow the appropriate bend that is made in the carbon fibre spine to remain in place. Unlike bamboo, a carbon fibre rod will not stay curved unless it is pushed into a piece of aluminium tube that is glued in place with crazy glue. Once completed, the sail is approximately 3/4" shorter due to the 1/2" fold along the leading edges to hold the bow.

The bridle is made from 20lb waxed Dacron line and is a standard 'three point' bridle that allows you to adjust the towing point along the direction of the spine and from left to right across the bow in order to fine tune the balance of the kite so that it flies straight. The top yoke portion of the bridle is attached to the bow 1 1/2" on either side of the spine and the bottom end is attached 7" up from the bottom tip of the spine. The yoke of the bridle is a loop which is approximately 9" long and the main part of the bridle is made long enough so that it will just reach the wing tips and not get tangled over the ends of them. The top yoke of the bridle is approximately 9" long and the main section if pulled, just reaches to and not over the wing tip, so it will not get tangled around the wing tips.

The carbon fibre rods and aluminium tubing are usually available at hobby stores and come in various diameters. There are two carbon rods to a package in 24" lengths that is perfect for one kite.

In order to protect the four tips of the sail, I attach small triangular shaped pieces of black duct tape on both sides of the sail and trim to the edge of the sail. The holes in the sail for the bridle are reinforced with small pieces of self-adhesive Dacron tape.

Please refer to the attached photographs which illustrate some of the foregoing details.

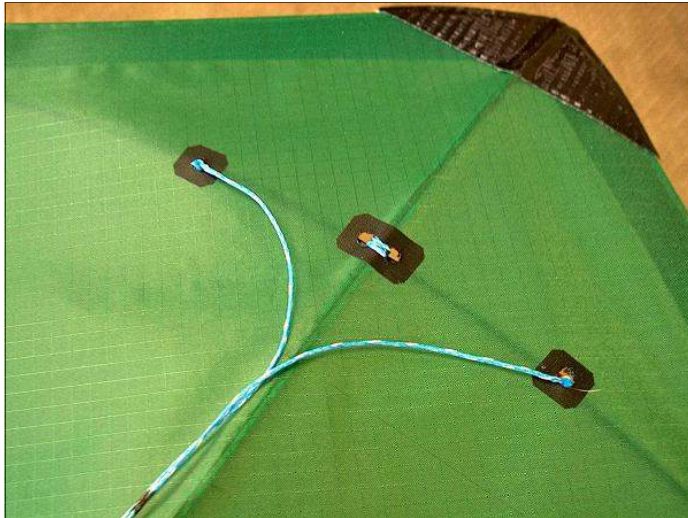
Happy Flying,

Douglas Cann
Vancouver BC

Three of a
kind fighter
kites



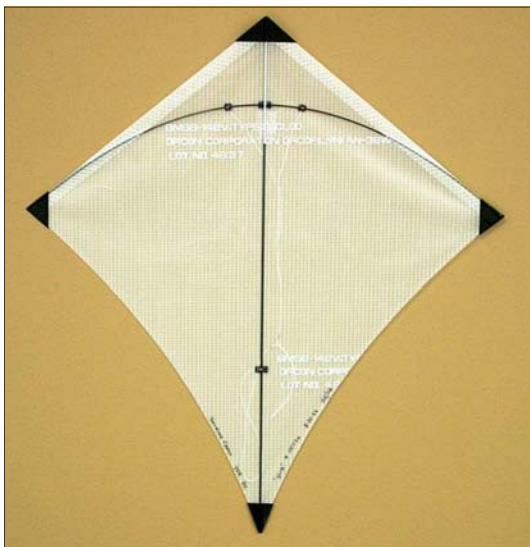
Continued on page 8



SLIK bridle



SLIK spine



White Orcon vertical

Washington Kitefliers Association Tom Sisson - Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference Scholarship

It is almost summer ...and that means... **WSIKF** (Long Beach, **W**ashington **S**tate **I**nternational **K**ite **F**estival) time will be here before we know it!!

WKA has held a special members-only drawing for one free scholarship to the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference. This three-day conference is a great place to learn all about making kites. The next conference will be March 13-16, 2008 at the Fort Worden Conference Center in Port Townsend, WA. The scholarship is worth at least \$250 plus \$50 toward class kit costs.

ONE scholarship entry has been received for this year's drawing!!! So mail your entries now and take advantage of this member benefit! Look at the WKA website for photos from the conference.

In Founding Father Tom Sisson's honor, the WKA will send one (1) member to the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference annually. The winner will receive a fully funded registration to the Kitemakers Conference to include: Registration, meals, room in the dorm, conference pin, and \$50.00 toward class fees. If other housing or meals are requested, the cost is not covered by WKA. The winner will be responsible for transportation to and from the conference and any remaining class fees or costs. This Scholarship is not transferable.

Must be a current member at the time of the August drawing and Conference.

To enter, mail a post card or note to WKA with name, address, phone, e-mail address.

Only one entry per person.

Entries must be received by August 15th, or entry will be held for the next year's drawing.

Drawing to be held at the WKA Spaghetti Feed, Wednesday, August 22 in Long Beach, WA. You do not need to be present to win.

Sylvia Bernauer

Ft. Worden 2007 Memories:

Did we all have a great time at Ft. Worden, or what?! Thanks again to all the great workers who helped put on such a wonderful Workshop. I know I had to finish a couple or three projects after we got home, but one was because the class time had been cut in half without warning, one was because I could not make it up the stairs to the class in the school room, and another was as back-up for my delightful bride, Glenda. So, no real excuses, it's just the way it came out.

One thing I need to mention: I was the fortunate winner of the WKA sponsored drawing for tuition and meals to this year's conference. I am very grateful to have this opportunity to learn more about kite making, and enjoy the company of such distinguished kite makers. All WKA members are eligible, but you have to send a postcard to Sylvia Bernauer so it can be drawn. If I understood this correctly, this year I was a "second-chance" candidate because the first person whose name was drawn couldn't go and had to refuse it.

So far we have finished Deb Cooley's Kite Bag and Rick White's Mini-Cody. Deb's bag design is great, with lots of room and a full-length zipper. Thank goodness Glenda installed the zipper. I'd have gotten it in, but I'm not sure it would have been functional.

Rick White's Mini-Cody is a cute little guy, and flies great. I

used our new antique Singer Featherweight to build it. (A Mini Machine for a Mini Kite!) The Featherweight saga is perhaps for a different venue, but suffice it to say it worked great and sews straighter than I usually do with the modern machines. I now have a new hobby, refurbishing antique sewing machines.

For some reason we still have **Paul Horner's** Genki, **Rod Beamguard's** Schlangen-Drachen, and **Brian Champie's** Sentinel to complete. (O.K., so we did all the easy little stuff first...) The graphic Glenda has planned for the Genki was just too much to finish before the class and it still intimidates me. The Sentinel will be different from every other one in the sky, but again, the graphic intimidates me. Rod's class was just unmanageable because the classroom was at the head of the longest flight of stairs I can ever remember having to pack a sewing machine up. The upper floor classrooms are essentially inaccessible to those of us with limited physical resources.

One of the things I like best about Ft. Worden is the amount of brainstorming that goes on, both in and outside of the various classes. Some of this year's extra ideas will be extremely fruitful in the next few months, I think. Great plans were made for projects to be produced for the AKA National Convention in Ocean Shores next October, some of which will certainly be made.

Jerry Graham



And another Note from Jerry regarding displays he has put up in stores, museums and other places::

Lots of people see the displays and most of them ask questions. We've gained a few club members, both locally and state-wide this way.

Give it a try. Someone in your neighborhood will enjoy seeing your kites where they can really look at them. We all benefit from the exposure.

Jerry Graham

L to R: **Holm Struck**, **Ralf Maserski** and **Don Lord**. Holm taught the historic replica Eddy kite shown here.

Photo by **Jerry Graham**

PRESIDENT'S SPACE

Hello again from the mind of the President straight to the keyboard—

I have had more kiting activity this quarter than I've ever had. It's been relentless. Kite fly here, Board meeting there, kite festival up there, email messages asking can you help kids make kites. I hope everyone likes helping kids make kites. There certainly is a growing need for volunteers, and I am getting way too busy. I'm not making excuses, (I have a boss who does that for me,) but I have so little time lately, I need a second life just to get my work done. Some of you may know I work at Boeing for a paying job. Yes, I said work. (*This is not your father's Boeing*) I help build those 737 airplane wings. It's been a record year for sales and we are moving to 31 planes out the door a month soon. I say all this because I've worked 4 hours overtime way too many days this month. So I don't get to fly kites as much as I would like. I know a lot of you are just as busy. Now, I empathize with you! I **have** to retire soon, because with everything I'm doing, I don't have time to go to work.

You should find more on the kites for kids topic in this newsletter. I hope we can make this work like a well oiled machine. The Board's idea is to put names and numbers on the web site, so people can go directly to the people who can help instead of going through the people who don't always have the time. We're always willing to help when we can, but often times there are too many things to do, and sometimes at the same time. Thanks to all of you who are already helping out!

Your WKA Board met this month for our rare meeting. We talked about a lot of things besides the kids kite making. A few of them were: the WKA's Memorial Kite Arch, The upcoming

Fathers Day Kite Fly and the Spaghetti Feed at WSIKF. We also discussed the old, outdated WKA Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation. There is more on this issue in this newsletter, on page 2. The meeting went well and we are making every attempt to get the minutes into this newsletter. If not this one, they will be in the next one for sure.

My wife and I had the honor of being invited to the White Rock Kite Festival and Sailboat Regatta the end of April. It was truly a great festival. To say it was different would be an understatement. Have you ever flown on a disappearing beach? In the morning when you wake up there is no beach. By 10 AM you can see it start to appear. By mid-day there are no less than 6 dunes to choose from to fly your kites on. A quarter mile worth of dunes. And in the afternoon, you better watch your feet. If they are wet, you are too far out. MOVE IN! If you haven't seen the photos on the WKA web site, you should go look at them. You will enjoy them. The BCKA (British Columbia Kitefliers Association) was there in force showing everyone how it is done. They were also showing the kids how to make and fly kites. This festival had everything. The perfect wind both days, the blue sky both days, the 70's temps both days. It was great. Even the Charlie Brown tree. Yes, Mr. Curran was in heaven. He is such a cheater. He goes clear up to Canada, just to add to his points total, to assure his victory with the Charlie Brown Award every year. Just to be fair we took pictures of "Richard's Genki Tree".

There was a good showing of Washington folks there. Must have been at least 15 of us. Way to show your support, Washington.

As the sun was going down over the west end of Semiahmoo Bay, we looked out and there was a kite (one of the kites for kids) still flying. Way out about 1/4 mile, tethered to the 6th sand dune. All you could see was the kite flying out there all by itself, coming out of the water. I couldn't help but wonder if it just didn't want to leave. I know how it felt. I didn't either.

We had a great time, and can't wait to go back next year. Thank you BCKA and White Rock for putting on such a fun fly, and thanks for inviting my wife and me.

I hope you all have a great summer and I will see you at WSIKF, if not before.

Rick White
WKA Prez
<http://wka-kiteflyers.com/>

This kite aerial photo was taken by **Rick White**

Editors note:
You really need to go to the web-site to see more of his pictures, including the Charlie Brown tree. Great photos.
<http://wka-kiteflyers.com/>



NATIONAL KITE MONTH REPORT

WKA and PCKA members and other Washington kite enthusiasts were very busy promoting kites during the month of April. There were more than 18 different events listed in Washington for the month.

Jerry Graham set up three kite month displays in Bonney Lake: at the Bonney Lake library; at Grocery Outlet and at Office Depot. **Jerry Fincher** set up a display at the Kitsap Regional Library in Bremerton and took part in the 2nd Annual Kitsap Youth Expo at the Kitsap Fairgrounds in Bremerton.

Herb Andrews organized several different kite flying events during the month. **Erv Crosby** had a kite fly each weekend in April at Tulip Town. **I Quad** even showed up for one of these events. The **Whidby Island Kite Fliers** had a fun fly as did the **Westport Windriders**. **Marla and Ron Miller** showed their kites at a winery opening in Richland.

There were two kite making workshops at the **World Kite Museum**. **Bob and Charmayne Umbowers** taught an Arno Haft Bird Kite Workshop. **Dan Kurahashi's** workshop class turned out 6 vary large rokkaku kites. They were not able to have their flying lessons due to rain—bummer!

Jerry, Glenda, and Marla Miller went to “Kids’ Day” at Fort Lewis. This was the first year for this event, and our booth was very popular. We ran out of everything. *See Jerry’s article on page one for more on this event.* Jerry appreciated receiving 10 new kite kits from one of the weekly drawings that were held as a part of the kite-month event. Jerry and I definitely plan to make this a part of our schedule for next year.

Glenda Kleppin

Frogs and lawn ornaments by the **Woodrings** on display at the White Rock end of April kite festival.

And if you look closely, you will see the genki in the “Charlie Brown tree”.

Photo by
Georgian Curran



URGENT CALL

**TO ALL WKA MEMBERS—
PLEASE MAKE AND DONATE A KITE
FOR THE 2007 AKA CONVENTION--**

Hopefully you remember, the AKA convention this year is in Ocean Shores. **Marla Miller** and **Rhonda Brewer** worked hard to get kite fabric donated to be used by any of you kite makers who are willing to make items to be donated for the AKA raffle and auction. Jerry and I have a good selection of the fabric, so all you need to do is let us know how many yards you need and what colors you want. Additionally, if you need financial aid to help cover the cost of hardware for whatever you make, WKA can even help you with that.

You don't have to be a master kite maker to get involved—just willing to put in some effort. Marla has emphasized she wants **everyone** to feel welcome to use some of the donated fabric to make kites or kite toys, **NOT** just by the **usual** master kite makers. Some of the items will be auctioned off, but the majority of the items will become a part of the bag raffle, giving even those without large pocketbooks a chance to own one-of-a-kind creations.

What you make is up to you: kites, banners, inflatables, line laundry, other? The only requirement is whatever you make must include at least a bit of the green color that was donated. Why is that? Marla points out Washington is the **Evergreen** State. However, the real reason is because there was a **LOT** of green fabric donated, but only small quantities of other colors: yellow, dark blue, light blue, orange and red. Of course, if you want to use colors that we don't have available, you can use some of the green fabric for yourself in trade for other colors from your stash. Just contact Jerry and Glenda to get your share of the fabric on a first-come; first-served basis. We live in Bonney Lake and our phone number is 253-863-7400 or we can bring fabric to you at any of the major kite festivals scheduled for this summer .

Let me emphasize—there is a large quantity of fabric, enough to provide nearly **ALL** of the nearby WKA members with fabric to create a special kite for this event. Please don't let Marla and Rhonda down on completing this project. Make a kite, even if it is just a small, simple one.

Glenda Kleppin

SEWING & STITCHERY EXPO

In case you haven't considered it, most kites are nothing more than quilt faces—made of ripstop nylon, rather than the usual cottons. Kite folk then simply take this most pleasant part of quilt making and hang them up on sticks to be viewed by hundreds in the most spectacular setting possible, **the sky**. Have you been wondering where people come up with their great ideas for making these kites? Or where they found all their great new sewing notions?

If you've never managed to go to the Sewing and Stitchery Expo at the Puyallup Fairgrounds, you've missed an excellent opportunity for meeting new people and getting new ideas for kite making. It is advertised as being the largest event of its kind in the country! It is always held the first weekend in March, which has often put it into conflict with the Fort Worden events. However, Fort Worden is later next year, so be sure to put this event on your calendars for next year. For more information, check their website at:

<http://www.sewexpo.com>

We've been going to this event for several years now, and have gotten to know several of the vendors. We like to go earlier in the event before the most popular new products have all been sold out, but we also like to go late on the afternoon of the last day as there are bargains to be found from vendors who do not want to pay to ship their products back home after the event.

We always talk up kite making to the vendors. We spent a lot of time this year talking up kites with **Sara Nephew** <http://www.sewandquilt.com/learn/workroom/04sara.html>, who has written some very spectacular quilt books, and her husband. They live near Snoqualmie and are both retired now. We also spent some time with **Kaye Wood** and her group www.kayewood.com/, as well as with Carol of **Carol's Zoo** fame, <http://carolszoo.com/>.

We know other kite folk attended this year. We ran into the **Osty's** and we heard of other kite folk who had been showing pictures of their kites to various vendors. Quilt folk are especially pleased when they learn you have used one of their patterns to make a kite or some other flying thing!

If you can't wait until next spring to attend, there is a smaller event held every fall at the fairgrounds. We actually enjoy that event more because it has lots of new vendors and new inventions that make sewing and creating designs easier.

Dates for fall festival:

Puyallup/Northwest Quilt, Craft & Sewing Festival
Nov. 15-17, 2007
Thursday through Saturday 10 am - 5 pm
Western Washington Fairgrounds
110 9th Avenue SW
Puyallup, WA 98371-6811

Glenda Kleppin

Here's an interesting website with directions to make your own **cheap** indoor sport kite:
<http://www.instructables.com/id/EX7JTVGF1U9XSYM/>

2007 Calendar of Events

JUNE

- 1-3 Ocean Shores Intl Kite Festival & Sport Kite Competition
Ocean Shores WA
- 9-10 27th Annual Pacific Rim Festival, Vanier Park, Vancouver BC
Ray Bethell will be there with his kites flying
- 17 WKA Fathers Day Kite Fly, Annual Seattle Celebration
of Kites on Kite Hill at Sandpoint, Magnuson Park
- 23-24 Spring Kite Festival, Lincoln City Oregon
www.oregoncoast.org or call 800-452-2151
- 23-24 Above it All Kites Fun Fly & Sport Kite Rodeo Long Beach WA

JULY

- 13-15 Westport Windriders Kite Festival and Sport Kite Competition,
Grayland Washington
- 21-22 Annual Southern Oregon Kite Festival, Brookings Oregon
- 21-22 Parksville BC 2nd Annual International Kite Festival
Website: <http://members.shaw.ca/lionsclub/home.htm>
- 28-29 Steveston Sport Kite Competition, Garry Point Pk, Richmond BC

AUGUST

- 4-5 PCKA - Orting WA Kite Fest, Orting Lions Community Park
Demonstrations/Mass Ascensions/Kite making for Kids
- 11-12 Cutting Edge Kites Summer Heat, Sport Kite Competition
Ocean Shores WA
- 20-26 Washington State International Kite Festival (WSIKF)
Long Beach Washington—website: www.kitefestival.com

SEPTEMBER

- 8-9 "Up Your Wind" Kite Festival Pacific Beach Washington
- 8-9 Lewis & Clark Expo Sport Kite Competition, Seaside Oregon
- 22-23 Whidbey Island Kite Festival and Sport Kite Competition
Coupeville WA, Website: www.whidbeykites.org

OCTOBER

- 1-6 American Kitefliers Association Convention
Ocean Shores, Washington, Website: www.aka.kite.org
- 13-14 One Sky, One World Kite Fly Celebration everywhere
<http://www.earthnet.net/~jpa/osow/>
- 13-14 Fall Kite Festival, Lincoln City, Oregon
www.oregoncoast.org or call 800-452-2151

For more calendar information: <http://wka-kiteflyers.org>

Editor's Note:

I do believe the summer season is upon us. We have had a few warm days recently and really enjoy the change from the cooler weather we had this past winter.

In April we were at the festival in White Rock and we had the best sun and wind ever this year. It was a very pleasant weekend. A few more kites from Washington came, making it a much more festive occasion. We are looking forward to a summer of kite festivals — that is how we mark our calendar around here — all around kiting events. Wish gas prices were not so astronomical.

I appreciate the faithful writers who help fill the pages of this newsletter, maybe a few more of you could try sending things in too. We only publish what we receive, and I always want more! I want to get the next issue out before WSIKF, therefore I will need items from you in EARLY July covering things happening at Long Beach, Pacific Beach and Whidbey Island in August and September.

Looking forward to hearing from you—

Marzlie

Washington Kitefliers Association
An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Join the WKA and share the fun! Benefits include our bi-monthly newsletter, membership card which entitles you to a 10% discount on kite related items at participating kite stores, entry to members-only drawing for a scholarship to the annual 3-day Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference, and information about special events in the Northwest kiting community.

Membership cost per household in the US or Canada is \$15.00 per year. Fill out this application and return it with a check or money order payable in US funds to WKA.

Mail to:

Membership Director
Washington Kitefliers Assn
Pacific Science Center
200 2nd Ave N
Seattle WA 98109-4816

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Visit us on the Web at
www.wka-kiteflyers.org

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Names of Other Household Members (Include different last names) _____



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