



Newsletter

July/August 2007

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

Pacific Beach “Up Your Wind Kite Festival” September 8-9, 2007

Question: When is a kite festival MORE than a kite festival?

Answer: When it's at Pacific Beach, Washington, and kites take over the campground for the weekend. We all know how much work it is to leave our campsites early in the morning and rush to the beach to put up all of our ground display items in the morning and then to take them down at night, just to have to repeat the same process the very next morning. At Pacific Beach, those lucky (and wise) enough to reserve a campsite ahead of time can



decorate their campsite and leave the decorations up for the entire time they are there. That is, of course, if the weather cooperates by not pouring rain. Many even fly kites while sitting in their campsite. Sharing of campsites and/or displays is a common occurrence.



For those without a campsite, or those who prefer beach flying, it is possible to either walk down or drive down to the beach to set up day camps there. Or you can have it BOTH ways—set up a campsite AND then fly on the beach. There are few, if any rules and the competitions are low-key, with local judges visiting, unannounced, and giving cash prizes for categories that are not announced in advance. That way, all awards are surprises to those receiving them.

Added to this is a lovely, catered dinner at the Pacific Beach Conference Center, along with the usual bag raffle. There are also several auction items. The room gets a bit crowded and rowdy at times, but it is great fun and only a short drive back to “home” in the campground. This is probably the most relaxed kite festival of the season and a good chance to really visit with your friends in the kite community.

If you need more information on this event, or need help in finding a reasonably priced place to sleep near the campground, contact the local kite shop—Hi-Flyers. You can get their email address and phone number at the official Pacific Beach website: <http://www.pacificbeachwa.com/kiteshop.htm>

Glenda Kleppin





**MAIL YOUR ENTRIES NOW!
POSTCARDS OR NOTES MUST BE RECEIVED
BY AUGUST 15, 2007 FOR THIS YEAR'S DRAWING
WKA/Sisson Scholarship
Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference
March 14-15-16, 2008**

The deadline is almost here!! Entering this **FREE** drawing is one of the *benefits of membership* in the Washington Kitefliers Association. The prize is worth at least \$300.00. Limit one entry for each current member who would attend classes. Only **SIX** entries have been received at this time. Mail a note or postcard to:

Washington Kitefliers Association
Pacific Science Center
200 2nd Ave N
Seattle, WA 98109--4816

The drawing will be held at the WKA Spaghetti Feed on Wednesday, August 22, 2007 at the hall on Sandridge Road in Long Beach, Washington. You do not need to be present to win. If you have any questions about this scholarship program, please contact the Membership Director, Sylvia Bernauer, at (425) 822-4605 or dbnr1@earthlink.net. Full guidelines were listed in the May/June 2007 issue of the WKA newsletter.

Visit www.kitemakers.org for more information about the conference. The schedule of teachers with photos of many of the projects have been posted on the site.

Signs Of Spring

Wind and Waves and Water
Kites flying by the sea
Salt and sand and sailboats
There's the place for me.

Friends from different countries,
All gather to compare
How many shapes and colors
Can float upon the air.

Birds, butterflies, and bugs galore,
Fly next to creatures of the deep.
Dragons, mermaids, unicorns
Envisioned during someone's sleep.

Beach balls and twist-tubes-squiggly tails;
Pictures escaped from museums of art;
Intricate patterns; clever illusions
I can't list them all-it's only a start.

Curious critter creations
All tethered by string
Twirling, twisting, turning
It's honestly, truly, my favorite thing.

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Ssragtop@aol.com

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Position Available

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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**

**Washington State
International Kite Festival
August 20-26, 2007**

Museum-Sponsored Events

Monday Morning:

Kite Roundhouse in the Sky

- Depot (Kite Registration Tent) opens for registration at 8
- Pullman Breakfast 8:30 am for kite train engineers.
- Judging begins at 10 am or when the wind blows
- **Special recognition for a train of at least three rectangular Korean kites with the hole in the middle. This is to honor the Koga's donation of 30 Korean signal kites to the Museum.**



Monday Afternoon: Kite Train Making Workshop

- Begins at 1:30 in Registration Tent
- Cost is \$6 for materials and instructions for making three kites plus train lines and flying lines.

Come sign up to help. On the job training is easy.

**Museum Hall of Fame Featured Member
Bag of Fun Hand Out**

11 am at the Registration Tent

Here are some clues to his homeland. The moles have the bills and feet of ducks. The poll-parrots kill sheep, the natives throw sticks that come back to their owners hands... and this kite was not like anything else in the whole world (paraphrase from Dan Beard)

By now you've guessed it. **Lawrence Hargrave:** Inventor and Engineer of Australia is the man of the year. What you have to do to be part of this unique event and get "pinned" is listed below.

1. **You must build a box kite.** Two basic plans that we suggest are **Brooks Leffler's** "brooxes basic box" or **Wayne Hosking's** "vented box". Plans for both of these can be found on the Museum web page in the events section. **Brooxes basic box kite workshops will be held at the Kite Museum the first three Saturdays in August at 10 am.** You may use any other plans and decorate, adapt, create attachments to whatever plan you use.
2. **You need to fly it at least three times and keep a log** which includes:

- Approximate wind speed
- Approximate flying angle
- Comments about observations from at least three people

- who see it plus your own observations.
3. Hargrave's experimental years were from 1870-1906. **Research that time period and list eight other things that were happening worldwide** at that time. Can be from clothes people wore, discoveries, political events, etc.
 4. **Bring or send your kite, or a picture of it flying, the log and worldwide events list to the Museum Friday night (8-24-07).** It will be returned to you. Anyone who is in Long Beach for this year's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, please bring your box kite for display.

**Koga Presentation About Signal Kites
Tuesday Evening: 6:30 pm World Kite Museum**

- Note Day Change!
- Museum members free, non-members cost of tour admission. Museum open until 8:30 pm

For more information: 360-642-4020 or

info@worldkitemuseum.com

Children's Kite Making

Wednesday, 1:30 pm at the Kite Making Tent

Visit the Museum Tent on the Beach for Exhibits, Kite Needs & Gifts

Hall of Fame Induction Celebration

Friday, 6:30 pm at the Museum

Will display all the box kites made for Hall of Fame Fun Saturdays

Awards Banquet and Museum Auction

Saturday, Doors Open 5:30 Buffet at 6 pm

Early Bird Special \$12

At the Door \$15

Check your kite bags, make a kite-like item, help the Museum by donating to the Auction
Please leave all donations at the Museum before 3 pm Saturday, August 25, 2007

World Kite Museum

360-642-4020

303 Sid Snyder Drive • PO Box 964

Long Beach, WA 98631

www.worldkitemuseum.com

**Washington State
International Kite Festival**

PO Box 964

Long Beach, WA 98631

www.kitefestival.com



PARKSVILLE AND OTHER BC PLACES

I had the opportunity to go to the BCKA kite festival in Parksville, BC on Vancouver Island. It is always great to get away to a different festival or place one has not traveled to in many years!

It had been 20+ years since I last set foot on the Island...golly...we were not flying kites then — imagine their Long Beach, BC with a many miles long beach similar to our Long Beach — and not sending a kite into the ocean wind! What a missed opportunity that was!

But this time I was there in the thick of it — or the wet of it — keeping out of the single line kites that were in the air. Yes, I am different — being a sport and fighter kite flyer.

I found my way again to Parksville (many neat towns along the Oceanside Route up the east side of the Island). The Community Park was a great place to fly. Lovely big grassy fields — with Nature Sweepers cleaning up the grass from the honking web-footed residents. More parks should use those machines!

Friday morning I had the whole place to myself and flew most of the morning until the drizzle began. Then it seemed a good time to explore. I visited the World Parrot Refuge (and remembered to tell them about my favorite Joel Shultz Parrot kite), Butterfly World and Orchid Gardens, and saw the (live) Goats on the Roof in nearby Coombs, BC.

Saturday morning also started out ok, but later in the day we all got drenched! Sunday was a smaller crowd and we air-dried some kites, until the drizzle started again. The local **Lion's Club** and **Marzlie & John Freeman** did a great job with hosting, broadcasting some really great music (could not keep my feet or dancing legs still) and

they even awarded a few prizes. Most surprised was **Dick Curran** being voted Best Ground Display! You should have seen his purple/yellow Jester's hat...but maybe you will see it at WSIKF. Our **Anne Huston** won the Oldest Flyer award but wanted to give it to Canadian member **Don Lord**, who really did beat her by a few years. Kudos to Marzlie and John for getting their event printed on the calendars in the local tourist guide books!

After the festival I was able to hike the trails again around the waterfalls in Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park, and found my way up, UP to the Mount Washington ski resort and chair lift. (It is not so much up — but a very steep road!) Hope to visit there again and hike more of the trails through the alpine wild flowers in Paradise Meadows, Strathcona Provincial Park.

You never know when striking up a conversation with another park visitor. While on the trails at the Falls, I met a young couple from Berkeley, California. When I told them I was there for the kite festival, their faces fell and said they did not know there had been a kite festival that weekend! They were missing their own Berkeley Festival! Had they known, we would have had two more flyers in Parksville! So I made sure they had WKA website information and access to our calendar. Maybe they will check it for future events when visiting the Northwest again. Keep those WKA club info cards handy! If you don't have a supply, pick up some at WSIKF!

Sylvia Bernauer

Editor's Note: Sylvia left out the fact the Lions Club also treated the kilters to an indoor Saturday evening picnic dinner. It was very nice, and I know a few of us wanted the recipe for the German style potato salad. One of the members is an excellent chef. It was a great get-together, which kilters are famous for!!



A couple of pix during the rainy day from the Elizabeth Redington

The West Coast

That's us folks. Our turn to host the AKA Convention in our own yard, starting October 1 through the 6th. What a privilege!

This is a time to see kite friends, not just from the USA, but from other parts of the world. What an amazing experience. There will be sport kite competition for the grand nationals, indoor events, workshops, raffle, auction (great things are being made as you read this), banquet and awards and the premiere of the movie "The Kite Runner" which will be on Monday evening. It was **Phil Broder's** brain child to contact the movie people and talk them into this ground breaker.

Why should **you** go? Because it is **YOUR AKA** event and it is right here. If you have never been you are in for a great experience.

If you register before the 14th of August you will receive a discount. The AKA website can give you all the information, www.aka.kite.org or Maggie Vohs, www.cameomanagement.com or 541-994-4252.

Don't forget there is a raffle for registration at \$1.00 a chance. The drawing will be held at WSIKF. If you are interested, contact me at www.kytpepl2@aol.com or 253-752-7051.

What's left? Get with it! Take a kite friend and meet us at the movie Monday night. Any Questions? Give me call.

Marla Miller

Director, Region 10, AKA



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 Kiteflyers 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 Marla Miller
253-752-7051
email: kytpepl2@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 Kitefliers Assn.

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

Some Important Definitions for Kiters:

AKA: American Kitefliers Association
WKA: Washington Kitefliers Association
WSIKF: Washington State International Kite Festival
WIKF: Whidbey Island Kite Fliers
AOK: Associated Oregon Kiters
PCKA: Pierce County Kitefliers Association
BCKA: British Columbia Kitefliers Association

Let me know if there are others I need to add to this listing

Top Kid on the Beach and Super Senior

The Kids' Day events sponsored by WKA keep taking on new directions and lives of their own through the unexpected and enthusiastic responses of members of the kite community.

Last year, a trophy was awarded to the "Top Kid on the Beach", **Karen Highfield**, for her innovative birthday party and other antics on Kids' Day at WSIKF. **Ellen Pardee** earned the title of "Super Senior" and has made a happ'i coat to commemorate the occasion. This coat will be passed on this year to another "Super Senior."

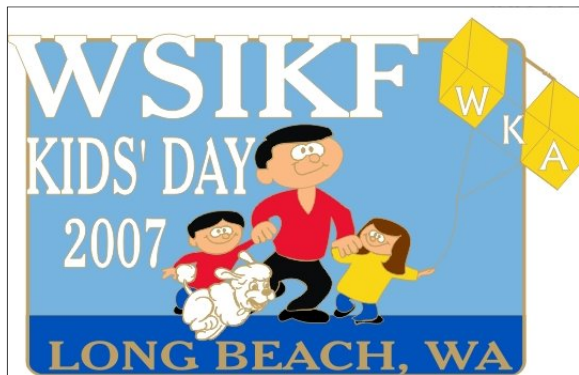
Since no group of judges can ever see everything that's going on, we are offering everybody the opportunity to make suggestions of people who should be considered for these honors this year. Please stop by the WKA headquarters and fill out a nomination form for either or both titles, along with a brief comment as to why you are nominating this person. Nominations will be accepted from Monday through Thursday, and can be based on kid-oriented activities that are either part of the Kids' Day celebration **and/or** that happen at some other time during the week. All nominations will receive thoughtful consideration. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Glenda Kleppin

CALLING ALL PINHEADS

Again, this year, there is only one easy way to collect **all** of the different colors of the WKA Kids' Day Pins at WSIKF. Two complete sets of these collector pins will be auctioned off at the WKA spaghetti feed. Last year the pin auction for these sets raised enough money so that we will be able to give pins to the kids participating in these events this year, not just to the adults. Several kids were very disappointed not to get one of the pins last year!

There are six different pin color combinations. There are equal numbers of five of the pins and they will be handed out randomly to people participating in the Foster Grandparent Fun Fly; the Kids' Camps competition; the Top Kid on the Beach Competition; and the Super Senior Competition. If you participate in **all** of these events, you could collect several



from the set. In addition, there is a limited edition pin with a gold kite which will be awarded **only** to the top 10 in the Foster Grandparent event and the top winners in the other categories and as a part of the 6 pin sets auctioned.

So, if you want one of the limited edition pins, you will either need to work hard to win one **or**, you can bid on the 2

full sets at the WKA auction. Again, the proceeds of this auction go to a worthy cause—pins for the kids who participate in next year's Kids' Day events. Please plan on making a generous bid. Your contribution will be acknowledged in the next newsletter.

Glenda Kleppin



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



WKA Board Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2007

Location: **Rick White's** House in Renton



Attendance: **Rick White**, President, **Ken Conrad**, Vice President, **Sylvia Bernauer**, Membership, **Susan Tislow**, Secretary, **Jerry Graham**, **Glenda Kleppin & Susie**, Events

Board Reports

Membership - Membership report handed out. Membership renewals at 76%

Website - Approx. 300 visitors per month

Treasurer - Financial Report was sent to meeting and reviewed

Products - No New Business

Events - See Business Section.

Business

Fathers Day Fly - **Glenda** will get the permit for the event. Will talk to the community center about future events.

Anyone interested in having a **Kite fly**, notify **Rick White** so he can put it in the WKA website.

Memorial Arch - **Rick White**, **Jerry Graham**, to do Graphics, **Ken Conrad** to print, **Barry Tislow** to sew Kites. Also to have people send in their example of Graphics, for Kite Arch.

New Business

Rick announced we need people to refer to as resources for kite making events and kite flying event requests. **Glenda** suggested that links to these people could be listed on the website. A few names were suggested. **Rick** will try to

contact these people.

Rick asked if we need to have regular fun flies somewhere. **Ken** stated that it would be nice if there were enough people to have regular flies in Seattle.

We discussed the fact that there are now several groups who have regular fun flies like the **Westport Windriders** and **Herb Andrews**, who has been organizing fun flies in the south sound and at the beach. No definite plans were made for holding any additional events at this time.

We discussed how to simplify the bylaws. This led to a discussion of the fact the Articles of Incorporation may also need to be amended. **Jerry** and **Glenda** will get a copy of the original Articles of Incorporation and **Glenda** will review both the AOI and the Bylaws, then suggest possible and/or needed changes.

This led to a discussion of whether we should change our corporation to a 504c(3) non-profit. **Ken** mentioned the person he was working with at the Magnuson Park Community Center had asked if we had that designation. **Rick** has someone from his church who has experience with both types of corporation and he will ask him about the pros and cons of making such a change.

Rick brought up the topic of the purpose and content of the web page and how that relates to the newsletter. The general consensus was the web page and the newsletter serve different purposes and both of them are very valuable. There was a discussion and the board members agreed the website should concentrate on pictures, both of kids and kites and these pictures should be selective and not duplicate pictures already available at other websites like Fort Worden. **Rick** told the board he is planning to add archive pictures of past WSIKF events.

Glenda reminded the board we collected \$165 from the sale of Kids' Day pins at the WSIKF spaghetti dinner last year and she will need that money to purchase more pins for this year's event.

Susan Tislow
Secretary

*Editor's note:
We know this is a bit late, but better late than never so you are "in the know" as to club business.*



July 26, 2007

A note to the Editor from Doug Cann—

Can you use the attached JPG's regarding a "kite eating tree" at Fort Worden? This occurred to one of my American style single line fighter kites when the wind suddenly dropped as I was flying above the trees next to the park office!!!

The making of these kites was written up in the May/June newsletter

Doug Cann.....

Editor's Response:

When were you flying the kite? I would put that info with the picture(s). We have to let **Dick Curran** know he has competition for the "Charlie Brown award for the most kites in a tree"

Doug's Reply

It was the weekend of the conference, so that would have been Sunday, February 25th, 2007 when I went down to Fort Worden for the day !! It was also a favorite for higher wind flying.....As it is green, I am sure that it is blending in with all of the leaves quite nicely.....

Thank you,

Doug.....

Doug sent these pictures so you can see where the kite is located. And has also provided a close-up of the kite eating tree.

Awwwww——



Here are a couple pictures taken at the Brookings, Oregon kite festival this July.

Editor's note: According to Ellen it rained at Brookings festival—a very rare occurrence. (so Parksville was not the only lucky festival to have rain)

Penny Lingenfelter as the Cat in the Hat

Photo by **Miriam Schafler**

Penny "Clowning Around". Photo by **Ellen Pardee**



PRESIDENT'S SPACE

This will be a tight schedule, to get this newsletter out to everyone before WSIKF, but I hope it makes it to you in time.

It will give you something to read on the beach while you are relaxing in your beach chair. Beach chair, what's that? If you haven't heard yet by now, I am not doing People's Choice this year. It is just too time consuming for me to print all those photos every night. I don't mind taking the photos. I actually like it, but if you know of anyone who just loves to spend Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights in their hotel room printing photos until 1 in the morning and then go out at 7 AM to put them on the board, let **Evonne** know. They are hired. We will continue to do the Cody Fly though. That is the best event on the festival, don't you think? OK, I may be a little prejudiced on this one. We will see you there!

Do you remember how it felt when they tied your hands to a long rope, and tied the other end to the bumper of a 56 Pontiac? Then it drug you all around the school football field? No? I don't either. But it had to feel a little like I feel after this month. I say all this to say . . . this has been an exceptionally tiring and busy month for me. I know of others also, who feel like that same Pontiac has had the same effect on them. (Jerry, I hope your back has healed up by now!) It is amazing how much damage a little bitty Bobcat can do in just 1 hour in your front yard. It is a mess. And a shovel is a lot harder to clean it all up with, than that Bobcat was to mess it up. I hope it is worth it all when it is done.

As for the rest of the month, **Terry** and I have been spending too much of that time at the hospital visiting my Mother **Freida**. She has been fighting water in the lungs

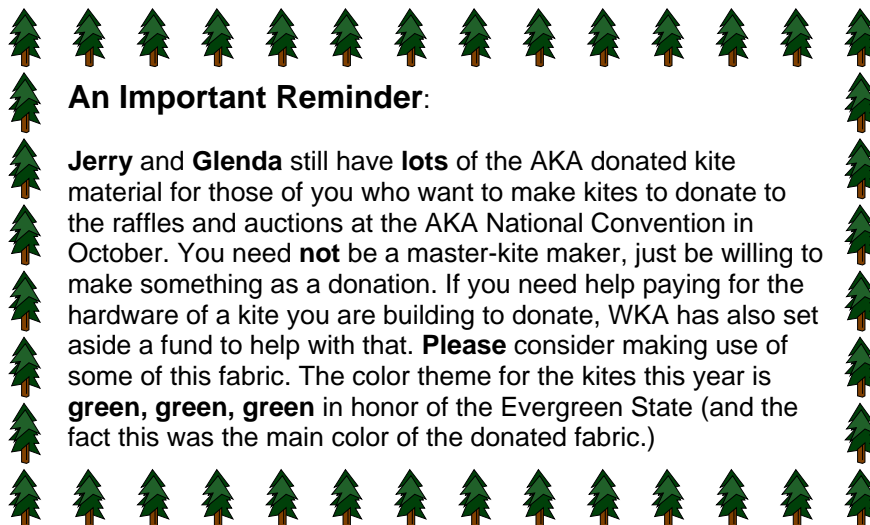
twice now in four weeks. She is well for now, but the doctors have to figure out the best meds for her to balance out this issue with the kidneys, lungs and heart. I hope and pray right now, that while you are reading this, she is with us at the beach again as usual at the good end of a kite string. To be honest, it hasn't been all bad, I did enjoy bothering the nurses while I was there.

Now to the Father's Day Kite Fly in Magnuson Park. This year was a little different because there was actually wind **all day**. The sun forgot to show up, as did several kite flyers. We had a slightly smaller group, but those who showed enjoyed **Glenda's** hot dogs and hamburgers as well as everyone else's dishes. I think we have found a new fun thing to do at the Father's Day Fly—**Eat!** Although the skies were cloudy all day, it turned out to be an amazingly relaxing afternoon. Just in case **Suzanne** doesn't get around to saying it, I will. (And if she did, double the fun!) Her Kites For Kids turned out to be a little more profitable (Dollar/person ratio) for the club than most years. It started with a runner who was passing by who found a 20 dollar bill on the jogging path. I guess she didn't have any place to put it, (hummmmm) so she put it in our donation jar. I think if I remember right, we made as much money this year as other years', but with about half the number of people actually making kites. And a very heart felt thanks to all of them who donated!

I haven't been able to get to any other events this quarter, but I would like to ask everyone who went to **any** event, even if it was just you at the park, **please** send photos! I would like to put them up on the web site.

With that, I would like to close by saying thanks to everyone for everything you do to help the WKA! I mean it! This club wouldn't exist without everyone's help. And . . . Have fun out there, and be safe!

Rick White
WKA President



The Tale (tail) of the Prairie

Dick and I went to the Windscape kite festival in Swift Current Saskatchewan, in June. It was a nice small town festival that is growing nicely. They had all kinds of things going on all day and music groups in the evening.

Team I-Quad was there flying almost constantly both days and evenings too. We were treated very well with food and a place to stay. But the winds are something else. You would think that with the land so flat they would be pretty steady. Wrong!!!! Saturday they were very strong and buffeting. We had to put **long** tails on all of our kites (even ones that don't need tails to fly) and then spent a lot of time trying to keep them up. No sitting back and watching them fly like you do at the ocean.

Sunday was totally different. No wind to **lots** of wind with rain squalls coming through. You could see them coming from a long way off. Even had a lightning storm once when we had four kites up. I was wondering if we should take them down when the wind did it for us. Instant drop. So fast it was almost like they were sucked down.

Anyone planning on prairie kite flying, be sure to take a lot of tails with you.

Georgian Curran



Like all the varying directions the kites are flying in?



This is a general view of Saturday's flying. As you can see, **Dave Gomberg** was also a "featured guest". You can read his reflections on flying in the wind of the prairies at his web-site weekly site updates <http://www.gombergkites.com/update/405.html>

His notes start with this comment: "At the edge of the flying field, the Canadian plains stretch out uninterrupted for as far as the eye can see. And when the winds come in, you definitely know you are kite flying. Check your anchors and hang on!!"

Editor's note:

John and I were there a couple years ago and we figured out we definitely need more high wind kites. Our banners did ok though, it was a real test of the poles and they came through it with flying colors. We had a grand time and did not mind the occasional showers.

Photos by **Georgian Curran**

KITER'S NIRVANA

Imagine getting up on a beautiful morning and driving your car a short way down onto a smooth sandy beach that stretches both ways as far as you can see. Imagine opening the back of your car and taking out your favorite kite of the moment and launching it right there into a perfect, smooth wind. Imagine it looks so fine you are inspired to get out more kites, and, having launched them, sit back with a cold or hot something to drink and enjoying the spectacle. Then imagine that many of your friends—the nicest people on earth, of course—join you and add their kites to the better and better looking sky. Well now, it's not necessary to just imagine this. All you need do is attend the Westport Windriders Kite Festival in Grayland, Washington.

This year's edition started out with a grand welcoming ceremony on Thursday evening—a fantastic lighting of the night sky by many lightning flashes along with their rolling choruses of thunder. OK, it was great to watch, but it sure didn't bode well for the weather of the next day. Especially when the rain started. Not to worry. Friday, Saturday and Sunday turned out to be glorious, with sunshine and mighty fine kite breezes. The sort of days to make you thankful that spelunking is not your main hobby.

The festival had all of its usual components—the mass ascensions, the handcrafted judging, the sport kite intense competition, the fighter kites fighting it out. And, of course, the big dinner on Saturday night including the presentation of awards and the raffle and auction of kite goodies. The dinner, by the way, was excellent. As much as we miss seeing **Eli** and **Bernice's** smiling faces presiding over their hours of hard work, it was about time they had a break, so catering the main meal was a good choice. Topped by desserts supplied by the **Windriders**, it took enormous amounts of self control to not eat until the point of misery.

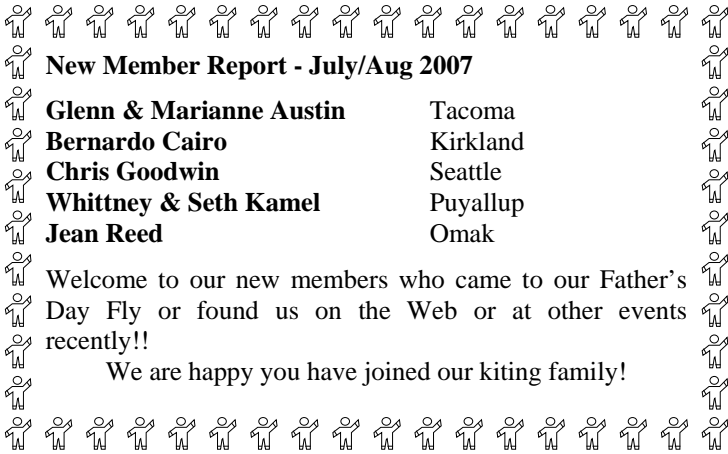
Sunday morning, after our previous evening of riotous living, we dragged ourselves to the beach again—perhaps not as early as other mornings. It was, after all, cold, and foggy, and looked like being another one of “those days” we all try to forget later when remembering a festival. Patience paid off this time, and it soon cleared off, turning into another perfect kite day. The hard part? Packing up and leaving, of course.

Ah, this is the life. Imagine yourself there next year. Better yet—be there!

John Freeman



Westport July 2007 Wish you could see the blue skies here
All photos by **Georgan Curran**

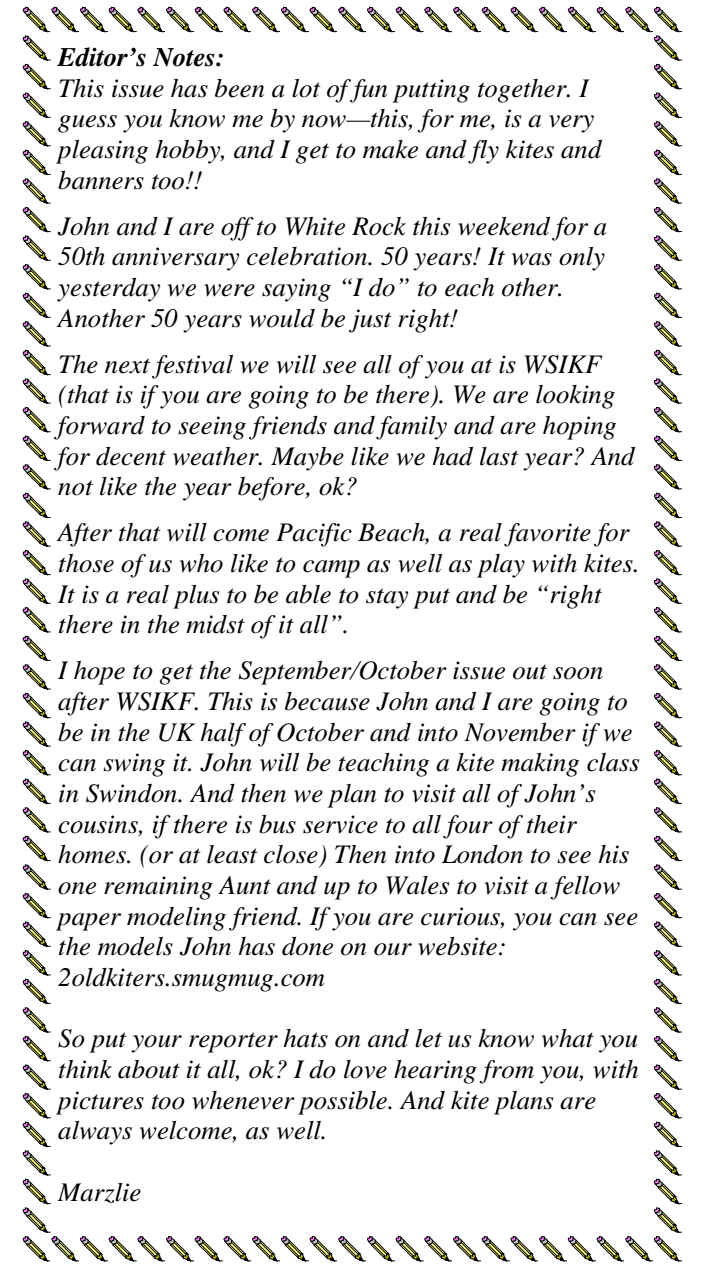


New Member Report - July/Aug 2007

Glenn & Marianne Austin	Tacoma
Bernardo Cairo	Kirkland
Chris Goodwin	Seattle
Whittney & Seth Kamel	Puyallup
Jean Reed	Omak

Welcome to our new members who came to our Father's Day Fly or found us on the Web or at other events recently!!

We are happy you have joined our kiting family!



Editor's Notes:

This issue has been a lot of fun putting together. I guess you know me by now—this, for me, is a very pleasing hobby, and I get to make and fly kites and banners too!!

John and I are off to White Rock this weekend for a 50th anniversary celebration. 50 years! It was only yesterday we were saying "I do" to each other. Another 50 years would be just right!

The next festival we will see all of you at is WSIKF (that is if you are going to be there). We are looking forward to seeing friends and family and are hoping for decent weather. Maybe like we had last year? And not like the year before, ok?

After that will come Pacific Beach, a real favorite for those of us who like to camp as well as play with kites. It is a real plus to be able to stay put and be "right there in the midst of it all".

I hope to get the September/October issue out soon after WSIKF. This is because John and I are going to be in the UK half of October and into November if we can swing it. John will be teaching a kite making class in Swindon. And then we plan to visit all of John's cousins, if there is bus service to all four of their homes. (or at least close) Then into London to see his one remaining Aunt and up to Wales to visit a fellow paper modeling friend. If you are curious, you can see the models John has done on our website: 2oldkites.smugmug.com

So put your reporter hats on and let us know what you think about it all, ok? I do love hearing from you, with pictures too whenever possible. And kite plans are always welcome, as well.

Marzlie

**Calendar of Events
2007**

AUGUST

- 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

2008

JANUARY

- 10-13 Oregon Kite Retreat, Rockaway Beach, Oregon

MARCH

- 13-16 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference, Port Townsend WA

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



A very rare picture of **Dick Curran**. Not flying kites into a tree, actually relaxing. Not even a kite string attached to his foot. How many of you have seen him like this? Not going to win the Charlie Brown award like that, right?

You can see in this picture why he took first place as a ground display at the Parksville BC kite festival.

Photo quietly taken by **Georgean Curran** at Westport Festival

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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