



Newsletter

July/August 2008

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

WKA — a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people know how much fun it is to fly kites!

—Ghost Kites in the Sky—

Westport Windriders Kite Festival this year had plenty of wind. We came home with many kites to repair spars and sails before taking off to Parksville the next weekend. In fact Friday the sand was blowing so hard there was no way to get out of it. It kept a lot of the more light-wind kites out of the air. But it was a beautiful **sunny** day. Saturday again was a beautiful **sunny** day and the winds were much more reasonable. Lots of kites in the air.

Then dawned Sunday.....Or did it dawn? Overcast and definitely cooler. Still, winds were good enough to keep a number of kites in the air.

The end of a kite festival is always a sad thing to see happen as kite after kite is put away and the sky becomes empty. That is except for the three rev kite fliers sitting in the fog and enjoying flying together.

Georgean Curran



Whidbey Island Kite Festival
September 20-21, 2008

★ We've had a bit of a date shuffle what with AKA being so early this year. Instead of the fourth weekend in September, the Whidbey Island Kite Festival will be September 20-21, 2008. We've decided to forego having a featured flyer this year in order to expand the single-line field and have a few more activities in that arena. In addition to the two formal mass ascensions, we're planning on some informal flies, a "people's choice" contest, and more showcases for everyone's handcrafted creations.

★ The dinner this year will be at a different location so that we can have our own cook and menu. Given the size of the town, "different location" isn't that far away---a couple of blocks away from the gym where we will again have an indoor competition on Saturday night. We encourage people to pre-order dinners and lunches from our website. This aids in our dinner planning, and guarantees your lunches, as we have a limited number available for sale. These orders are due by September 1.

★ We also encourage pre-orders of shirts so you can get the color and size you want. The sportkite competition will be expanded to include multiline pairs and teams.

★ We look forward to seeing you.


★ Questions? www.whidbeykites.org or allen.d.taylor@verizon.net

★ **Marjorie Taylor**

HELLPPPPP!!!

I have late breaking news.

Claudette the picture taker and ribbon lady who did the ribbons for us for the past 20 years, is quitting. She just gave notice, I am getting the word out this position is open and needs someone willing to take pictures and get the ribbons for WSIKF done.



Evonne Miller
 WSIKF Beach Director
 Please email me if you are interested — Cosmos1954@Centurytel.net



We're Back! It's time again for our annual: Amoeba Roundup at WSIKF

Jerry Graham, Event Director
 Friday, 4p.m., Field B



This event has been expanded to all "amoeba" kites, that is, single cell kites. This category includes the new Harlequin and Kichi Tako kites that many people have made at Ft. Worden, as well as the circoflex kites; pop can; triad; spinning jenny; and similar kites.



WKA Board Members

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Jerry Graham
jlgraham@usa.net

Newsletter Editor
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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**

“Kites Alive” – A Youth Sport Kite Event

People of all ages love kites. Youth like living “on the edge” and “speed”, which at this event spelled SPORT KITES. The story unfolds something like this. We were met at the beach by our son and his friends while flying kites. We got them on the end of sport kites including our stack of *Hawaiians* and *Adrenalins*. **Trevor** thought it was just great that he spun his kite around and around 52 times before it crashed. His kite was out of control! Do you think?

This birthed Glenn’s idea to have a sport kite clinic and get them some flying lessons, meet new friends and have some fun. **Jim Barber** of *Cutting Edge Kites* offered to round up some instructional help and a date at Ocean Shores was set. Invites to our church’s youth group, and three others including New Beginnings Open Bible in Aberdeen were made and they got excited. We put up kite displays in the church lobbies, provided a PowerPoint presentation, fliers and promoted the event in person. As the news traveled, adults were asking if they could come, and we said sure.

We provided kites, instruction, one on one, demos, a drawing for kites and hats, BBQ lunch and dinner with singing and S’mores around the bonfire on Saturday. **Penny Lingenfelter** put up a ground display, worked one on one with her kites,

performed and gave us so much of her time. The youth, their advisors, ourselves and the cooks spent the night at New Beginnings Open Bible in Aberdeen. We enjoyed a tasty breakfast, stayed for the morning service, gathered up the sack lunches and headed for the beach. The day was filled with new friendships, fun, and flying. We even celebrated an anniversary with a surprise gift of a kite given on the beach and a birthday with another surprise gift of a kite. **Jennifer Brown** and her dad **Mike** spent both days with us sharing all they know about kiting. Jennifer inspired us with a couple of her demos. The music she chose really encouraged us all.

Sunday it was too windy to fly some of the kites we brought but as it turned out the kites from the drawing could take it. Over 35 people joined together to set the cares of their lives aside for a moment to make high flying kite memories. Grateful thank you’s go to New Beginnings Open Bible for the use of their kitchen and utilities, providing us with overnight accommodations and being a part of their morning service, Jennifer Brown, her dad Mike, Penny Lingenfelter, Jim Barber & friends, our cooks, the **Kamel** family and friends, youth pastors, advisors, our adult guests some of which were our photographers, the kids, and our **Creator** who sent the wind for their help in making this such a fun and refreshing time.

Glenn & Marianne Austin



Aahhh, food, a warming fire, and setting up the kite for a fly. All wonderful things.

Photos provided by **Glenn and Marianne Austin**

Never Trust the Weatherman (Or is it WeatherPerson?)

The third annual **Parksville Lions International Kite Festival** is behind us now, so we can stop worrying about the weather. The first one, two years ago, was glorious, but last year we really got skunked with nasty winds and rain. You can see why we were skeptical this year when the weather people kept telling us the weekend would be lovely. What do they know anyhow? Fortunately, they were right—the weekend was wonderful, with temperatures in the Goldilocks range—not too hot and not too cold. At times the winds were less than perfect, but hey—you can't have it all! Most of the weekend we had flyable winds, and the sky was well decorated with color. It was only a problem on Saturday afternoon, when the winds were so light they wouldn't hold up the Teddy Bear drop lifter, so we had a Teddy Bear toss.

The kids' kite making tent kept busy all weekend. Well over 300 kids made kites, and they were much in evidence around the edges of the flying field. What really tickled me was arriving early Sunday morning, well before the crowds, and there were a couple of kids with their kites in the air already. I think I see the future!

We were happy to have quite a few kites from the WKA region joining us. These included **Cliff and Gerry Pennell** (who did the Teddy Bear drop/toss), **Anne Huston, Dick and Georgian Curran, Glenda Kleppin, and Jerry Graham**. We also had BCKA members from the Victoria area, and from the Vancouver area, as well as all the kites who live anywhere near Parksville—and some not so near.

Along with the sky full of single liners, quite a few sport kites spent both days doing their thing in the southeast corner of the field. The **islandQuad** folks put on a good show, with six or more kites in the air together. The local news printed a picture of the letter "P" they made for Parksville. Good coordination. There was also, of course, lots of ground display stuff scattered around to keep the color going when the wind dropped.

Parksville is a low pressure town, and we have a low pressure kite festival. No organization, no uptight contests, nothing but having a good time with kites. Sure, we have competitions. The Lions gave out medallions for the Youngest Flier (2!), the Oldest Flier (90!), Most Original, Most Colorful, and Largest kites, as well as for Ground Display. How many festivals can boast of an 88 year spread in ages of the fliers?

The most amazing thing about our festival is this—The Lions Club does all the hard work, we the kites have all the fun, so to even the score the Lions cook for us and feed us a great meal on Saturday night—complete with a free drink of just about anything you like. Life is good!

John Freeman



Don and Joanne Lord's "campsite". Wow! There are three clubs represented here in the banners: AOK, WKA and BCKA, Cool, eh?

Photo by **Glenda Kleppin**

Georgan Curran made home-made ice cream for a couple of meal desserts at the Freemans. John said it was the first time he ever felt it was worth eating home-made ice cream. It was great. And you can tell **Dick** really enjoyed the paddle!!
Yum!!

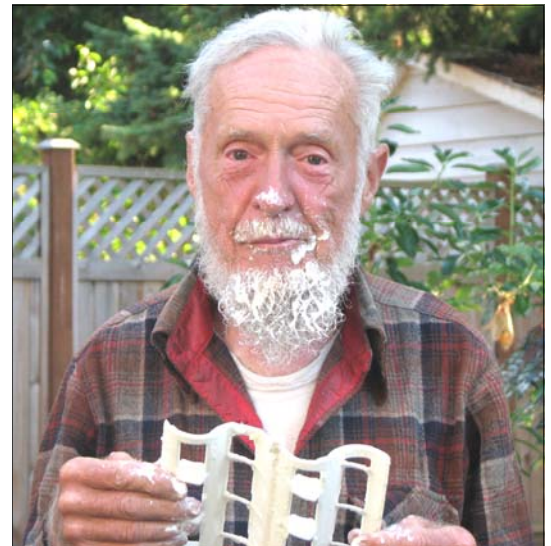


Photo by **Georgan**



A lot of kids were on hand for the teddy bear toss, which I think is evident in this picture. **Georgan** took this photo

July 14, 2008

**Kite Class
at
Silver Star Elementary School in Vancouver, WA**

Gary Goodenough, AKA member and fighter kite enthusiast and builder, with Masters Degree Student and friend **Kristy Filbin** conducted a kite making class with about 35 students at the school's gymnasium this morning.

Many questions were asked and children from ages six through twelve participated in the process of decorating their Japanese Doll kites with felt markers, and then assembling and flying them. Besides making and flying kites, an aim of the class was to show how easy it is to use items which could be recycled—from a bamboo window screen and a roll of polyester fabric from a wedding. The children obviously enjoyed the class and so did the teachers.

Gary Goodenough



Photos of some of the class kite makers are provided by **Gary Goodenough**



A Great Sewing Machine Tip

A couple of weeks ago I ran across a tip I got at Fort Worden this last spring. I was finally finishing my **Gail Lindsay** "Butterfly Girl" Hopi Indian design kite and ran across my notes for the class, which included this tip.

This tip works for some of the older Pfaff sewing machines. My Butterfly Girl kite has an intricate appliqué design, so there was lots of zigzag stitching. The narrowest zigzag stitch on my machine was 1/4 inch wide, which is produced by depressing the "D" button on the machine. There were some places on the kite where I would have liked an even narrower zigzag, say

1/8 inch wide, but my machine didn't have this feature. Or so I thought. Gail told the class that on some Pfaff machines, if you pushed down the "G" and the "D" buttons at the same time, you would get a narrower, 1/8 inch wide zigzag. (The "G" button is the one that makes a straight stitch, so go figure.) I tried it and it worked!

I looked through the manual for my machine, and this great piece of information wasn't listed anywhere. It is now—I wrote it in. So, if your older Pfaff won't do a narrow 1/8 inch zigzag, try this and see if it works for you too.

Peggy Daschbach-Martin

Notes from the Prez—



This is the busiest year I can remember. And the most kiting events I have ever been to in a year. But all is well with the world. I still have more events to go to! I wish I could go to more, but what we all have to remember is that our lives are just getting in the way of kite flying! No kidding. I can't wait to retire.

I was very much surprised to see the number of people who made it to the Father's Day Fly at **Warren G.**

Magnuson Park. There were a lot of us who didn't go to the Ocean Shores Festival. We even had one kiter, who came Sunday, that was at Ocean Shores on Saturday! Wow! We had a great day and the weather couldn't have been better, although Launny was in bed for two days after that, with a bad sunburn.

I don't know if you have noticed or not, but the big cities have been asking the WKA to help with their public relations at certain events. In the last newsletter we mentioned that the City of Bellevue invited us to Kelly Creek Park, and to the Cross Roads Park. Then this month the Seattle Parks department asked us to go to Victor Steinbrueck Park. I was very pleased to hear Glenda and Jerry were able to go to it, and that Ken supplied some kites for kids. *(See the article by Glenda on page 8 in this issue.)* This is an increasing trend that cities are realizing our effect on the public. Think about that, we do have an effect on people we come in contact with. And I like to think it is a positive effect. That is where things come full circle, right back to the WKA's creed. *"We are dedicated to educating people on how much fun it is to fly kites!"*

In conclusion I have several tidbits:

The Westport Windriders sure put on a great show. If you haven't gone to that kite festival yet, you need to go to it next year. I had a lot of fun with KAP, and the Teddy Bear Drop.



"Beary fun" at 18 MPH.

Our web page has been getting about 500 hits a month lately. Please feel free to send me your opinions of how it is going, and/or improvements I could make to it. I got one just the other day that asked me to remove those pesky little bees that kept hovering around the cursor. So I did. It was making him dizzy I guess.

WSIKF 2008 — At the lasagna feed, yes, you heard me right, we will have a short vote on three bylaws changes. If this sounds familiar, it's because it was in your last newsletter! We will also have something for the vegetarians in the crowd. Maybe ravioli. . . The price is still the same as last year, \$6.00 at the door.

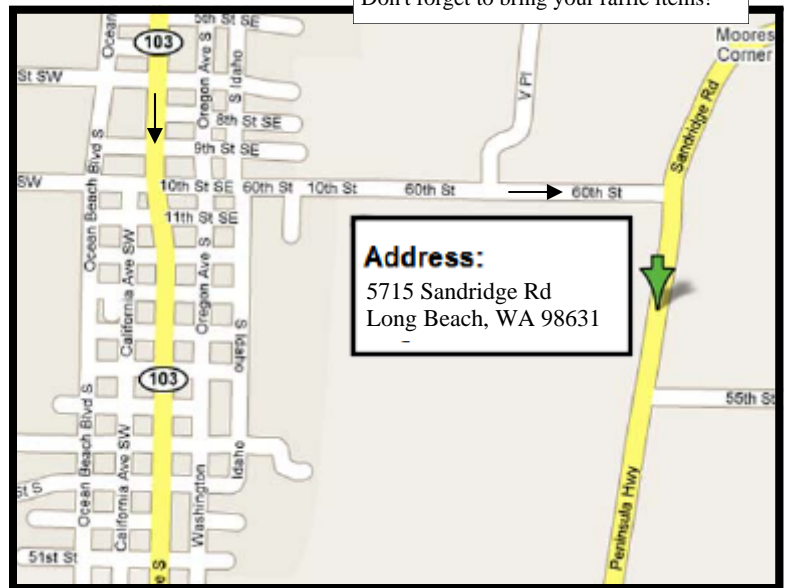
WSIKF 2008- Let's not forget to vote for your favorite "Top Kid on the Beach" and "Super Senior". Ballots are available Wednesday morning at the Kids' Day Registration Table and Wednesday afternoon through Saturday at the WKA headquarters tent (Somewhere between Field A and Bolstad Rd.)

WSIKF 2008 – Don't forget to bring your Cody kites! And we will see you there!

Rick White
WKA President

Directions and a map of where the WKA Wednesday night lasagna feed is happening

How to get there:
Go out of downtown Long Beach, at the Go Carts on 10th St. Turn Left. As you can see on the map, 10th becomes 60th St. Drive to end of 60th St and turn South (right) and we are just 1000 feet on the right. We will be dining and raffling upstairs in the Grange Hall.
Don't forget to bring your raffle items!



KAP view of the Teddy Bear Drop, sure was a fun one—too **much** wind sometimes!

KAP by **Rick White**

It Was a Happy Father's Day at Kite Hill

The morning dawned bright and sunny. The kites began gathering at Kite Hill. Even though events were going on at Ocean Shores and Vancouver BC, some kiting regulars showed up at the hill. The morning breeze was light and changed to a nice northerly afternoon wind. It was a beautiful day.

Ken Conrad and **Suzanne Sadow's** kite making booth was missed this year. We had more than one request for their great kites. Some parents said their kids enjoyed them for more than just that day. We hope to have the booth again next year.

Our displays on the hill looked great and drew comments from the public. Folks always ask about the **Jackite** birds. **Rick White** set up several this year. We had a real life bird experience that day when a Bald Eagle flew into the territory of a crow's nest. The crow was dive-bombing the eagle and chased it off more than once! Wow — Nature moment!

Thanks to **Butch Harviston** for coming to work at the kite making booth. He will do it next year. **Launny Herriges** set up his entire fish "aquarium" with several little Nemos which children always enjoy. **Freida White** flew her favorite red inflatable heart kite. Many other beautiful kites and a few Revs and sport kites were in the air. There was even some room on the top of the hill for me to give sport kite instructions to two friends that came.

To be different this year we gathered chairs together on the hill next to Rick's big shade umbrella and hung the WKA sign on it. That worked! We had a table there with newsletters and membership forms and kiting information brochures dropped off by **Kathy Goodwind**. A new member joined us that day too. He had read pages on our website and came to the hill! Welcome to **Mike Tracy**!

Later in the afternoon, as the front part of the hill cleared out a bit, **Scott** and **Kristian Slater** got out one of their crowns and set it up on the hill! Talk about a colorful and crowd drawing show that made! And the photo ops were fantastic!!! You just have to see



Photo by Rick White

Kite Clubs

Associated Oregon Kites

Contact: Deb Cooley
Email: tucoolkites@earthlink.net
PO Box 25616
Portland OR 97298
Membership includes 5 issues per year newsletter

Ben Franklin Kite Society

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

Lavender Winds Kite Club

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

Lilac City Wind Chasers

Contact Bill Cox
509-327-7974 or
email: cxbil@aol.com
Starting in June meet first Sunday of
the month 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

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
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

Washington Kiteflyers Assn.

Contact: Rick White
email: sragtop@aol.com
Address on back page of newsletter
Membership includes bi-monthly
newsletter

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

Whidbey Island Kite Flyers

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

American Kiteflyers 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 Kiteflyers Assn.

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

Mount Rainier and our WKA banners flying as viewed through the center of the crown! Wow! That beat any beach wave photo I have taken before! (See page 15 for a view)

We all had such a good time we were surprised when we discovered that it was almost 5:00 pm! Thanks to all who attended and shared a really good time on Kite Hill.

Sylvia Bernauer

Kite Making in Seattle

What a beautiful afternoon Jerry and I had on July 15th making kites at Victor Steinbrueck Park, a very small park just north of Pikes' Market. WKA had been invited by **Jennifer Delker**, who works for the Downtown Seattle Association as their Parks Activity Coordinator.

Suzanne Sadow, with the support of **Ken Conrad**, thoughtfully provided us with all of the supplies needed to make at least 50 simple "bumble bee" kites out of colorful 8 1/2" by 11" paper. They also provided 2' plastic straw wands with spools of string attached to the ends, which served as wands to allow the kids to fly the kites in little or no wind. If you're interested in looking at the plans for the kites, they can be found here:

<http://www.nationalkitemonth.org/teachers/plan1.shtml>

Suzanne had added thin crepe paper tails to this design, which made the kites prettier and more stable. The parks department provided us with two nice tents, tables, and chairs for the kite making.

We made about 30 kites, mostly with quite small children, but a few with teenagers and even one with an older adult. Even the youngest of these was able to draw some sort of design on the colored paper. The kite makers and their patiently-waiting families and friends all seemed to have a great time. We asked where people were from. They were mostly tourists--spread from Washington to Idaho to Pennsylvania to Texas, even to St. Louis, Missouri. It was a beautiful, sunny day with just a whisper of wind. The view of Mt. Rainier was spectacular with the arches of both of the new stadiums in the foreground—a view we'd never seen before—and a very clear day for viewing and picture taking. Unfortunately, we did not have a camera with the right lenses to properly record what we were seeing, nor did we have time to take many pictures during the event.

There wasn't quite enough wind for the kites to fly well

by themselves, although we did try to show the kids how to find out the direction of the wind so they had a better chance of launching them. I was amused by the number of kids who immediately wet their finger and held it up when I asked them which direction the wind was coming from, but then had absolutely **no** idea of how that trick actually worked! Nonetheless, the kids had a great time running, swooping, and twirling with their kites. The straw wand with a card of kite string attached at the end gave them an opportunity to do tricks with their kites, sometimes with humorous results. Notes for posterity: little girls with multiple braids on the tops of their heads, held together by the elastic bands with **big** balls on the ends, should **not** twirl round and round with their kite strings touching the tops of their heads. You get the picture. She did manage to get untangled, and the only casualty of her efforts was the kite tail, which somehow got stepped on during her enthusiastic gyrations, and was easily replaced.

This was the first activity Jennifer had put together, she was really pleased with the results. This gave us an "in" with folks at the Parks Department to start negotiating for the possibility of getting park fees waived for future kite events. Besides, every time someone puts in a good word for WKA, it is helpful. We really lucked out on parking. There is really no parking right next to the park, but we were able to park in the very front slot of the nearest street parking. As we were finishing up making kites, the guy from the nearby roasted corn stand came over and offered us free corn, which we promptly accepted, of course.

Before we went to the park, we stopped at **Gasworks Park Kite Shop** and picked up their donation for the WKA dinner at WSIKF, and spent the gift certificate from there we'd won at the Whidbey Island Kite Festival last fall. All in all, a great day. Wish you all had been there!

Glenda Kleppin



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303 Sid Snyder Drive Fax: 360-642-4020
Longbeach, WA 98631 info@worldkitemuseum.com

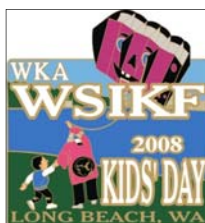


2009 WKA/SISSON KITEMAKERS CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING
For Kitemakers Conference March 26-29, 2009
Fort Worden State Park, Conference Center, Port Townsend, WA
ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 15, 2008

It's almost time for the scholarship drawing which takes place at the WKA dinner at the Grange Hall in Long Beach on Wednesday evening, August 20. So, if you are a current WKA member and want to take advantage of this **big** benefit of membership, mail in those cards, or letters, to enter your name

in the drawing to the WKA mailing address on this newsletter. (Only eight entries have been received as of this writing.) You do not have to be present to win the scholarship for one person to the 2009 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference. Full details are in the WKA May-June newsletter.

Pin collectors:
Just wait until you see the
2008 Kids' Day pins



Since no one sent me any suggestions for pin designs this year, I got to design the pin myself. It features our signature kite, which Jerry and I refer to variously as "The Face" or the "Raspberry Kite" or even "The High Mockety Mock." If there is sufficient wind, it is usually the first kite we put up when we hit the beach.

I was taking a last look at the artwork for the pins before placing the order and had a thought. Why should I be the only one to have my favorite kite on a Kids' Day pin? So, for the first time ever, we will be offering someone the opportunity of having their own personal, favorite kite featured on the 2009 Kids' Day pins. The winner will also receive a full set of the 2009 pins (6 different colors, including a limited edition pin). If the bid goes high enough, I'll even be glad to let you help pick out the final 6 background and other color variations for the pins! I'd like to **open** the bidding at \$100 since the pin sets **alone** have brought in an average of \$75 or more per set each year.

Warning to All: I'm offering an alternative "**Instant Buy**" Option: The first person who offers me at least \$175 for this honor, can do an "instant buy" and avoid the chance the bid will go higher in an open auction.

As it has been for the past two years, there will also be a raffle for two full sets of the 2008 pins--again a set of 6, including the limited edition pin (only 20 made). I'd like those bids to open at \$40.

For those interested only in the special, limited edition pin, (only 20 made) there will be a Dutch Raffle for 3 of these pins. Outside of the auctions, the only other way you can get a special pin will be to be a top winner at one of the WKA Kids Day events, or to become this year's "Top Kid on the Beach" or "Super Senior".

Remember, every penny of the money raised in this pin raffle goes toward buying pins to give to participating kids NEXT year, so please be generous. We don't want any child to leave disappointed!

Glenda Kleppin
WSIKF Kids for Today Events, Field Director

Here is the link to the activities that are going on all week at WSIKF: <http://www.kitefestival.com/>

And very important—————

Please remember to clean out your kite bags and bring all of your gently used, but flyable kites to give to the kids during the annual Foster Grandparent fly. Remember our challenge to make sure that no child who shows up for the event will leave without a new kite in his/her hands, thanks to the tremendous support we have received from all of you.

Volunteers URGENTLY Needed
for help with WKA dinner at WSIKF

Our WKA club is desperately in need of people to volunteer as cooks and set up crew for the WKA lasagna dinner at WSIKF. This dinner provides the only income source for the club other than dues, and so is VERY important to the fiscal health of the club.

Please support your club by volunteering to help at this event this year. Contact **Rick White** or **Sylvia Bernauer** as soon as possible so your WKA board can quit developing ulcers over this!



A Couple of Very Important WSIKF Notes

Please feel free to invite your friends and other kite fliers to the WKA dinner at WSIKF. They do not need to be members of WKA to attend. A good turnout will assure WKA of a sound financial basis for providing services to the membership for the next year.

The other important notice is this: the purpose of the dinner is to do more than feed you (although we do like to share our table with you)—a serious (but fun) part of the activity is the raffle that goes on after the dinner. What we are asking of you is that you please bring kites, wind toys and kite-related items to WSIKF to be raffled off on Wednesday night. If you haven't been able to find **Rick White** before the dinner, bring the items to the dinner.

Join the “Wild, Wild West” August 23, 2008

AWARDS BANQUET & AUCTION

Saturday Evening, August 23, 2008



- Be greeted by the Sheriff at the door.
 - Go to jail if you don't have some piece of the Wild, Wild West on you, in your pocket, or somewhere.
 - Make fun of your friend's Western garb.
 - Enjoy good food.
 - Laugh with and at the auctioneers.
 - Purchase kites and kite memorabilia.
- Be proud of how much fun you're having while helping the World Kite Museum.
<http://www.worldkitemuseum.com/index.html>



Kites Have Pull: Kite Technology Begins

Some of you will remember that the World Kite Museum began featuring a Hall of Fame member yearly after it moved into its new building. This includes an information wall, and an activity packet that participants can complete alone or with friends. When it's turned in they receive a cloisonné pin.

This year's featured Hall of Fame member is **George Pocock**. Pocock is known for developing carriages pulled with kites around 1827. His creation of a four-line kite rig of two arch top kites was a serious beginning of using kites for the technology of pulling.

As a boy Pocock entertained himself by attaching a stone to the string of his kite, which would drag it across the ground. So you can get started with the activity packet before August 19, play around with your kites and some stones. List two or more things you learned about the number of kites used in relation to the size of the stone, the rate of speed, etc. Keep some records so we can display your findings. Also, consider other things you might pull besides rocks.

See you Tuesday, at the museum, August 19 for more Pocock fun



“Charvolant”, a [kite-drawn carriage](#)

This drawing is from the internet. You can find it and more at:
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Pocock_\(inventor\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Pocock_(inventor))

We're Having Fun! Honest!

On the way home Monday following the festival in Grayland, we picked up most of the non-perishable items for the WKA dinner at WSIKF, and picked up the rest on Thursday, so our share of that chore is done. The next day, Friday, we headed north for the festival in Parksville, BC. I spent both days of that festival encouraging kids to play with the three bols Jerry staked out in front of the “campsite” we shared with **Don and Joanne Lord**. We spent the evenings eating with the “kite klan” gathering at the Freemans and at the Saturday banquet thrown for fliers by the Parksville Lion's Club. Got home from there the next Wednesday and went to the PCKA fun-fly on Thursday, the 24th. We have this weekend open to go to other festivals/activities closer to home; to finalize the pin order for Kids' Day at WSIKF; and to write for this newsletter. Next week, several of us will be making kites at the **Hands On Children's Museum** in Olympia with kite kits provided by **Carl Williamson**. The next two days will be at the PCKA “Orting Outdoor No Wind Kite Picnic” on August 2 and 3. And we thought we were retired! Forget the “re” part--we ARE tired, but somebody has to play with all of these little kids and it might as well be us.

Glenda

Want some relief from the rat race?

Try making and flying your own kite!
Fly kites with your kids!
Kites kids can make!
Anyone can do it!

Learn how at the Washington Kitefliers Association
web site.

<http://wka-kiteflyers.com>



Susie, Empress of the Universe, will be watching WSIKF from doggie heaven this year, but her spirit is still with us.

Jerry and I have long had a rating system that we felt was more definitive than the Ebert and Roper "Two Thumbs Up." We always measured things by how many paws Susie would award (four, of course, being the top score). She had dined in some of the finest restaurants in the country, and not all of them rated four paws. She never did make up her mind how many paws to award the

special treats of Bison and Whale she encountered in her travels.

However, there are several people who work quietly behind the scenes at WSIKF (and other places) to make everything work the way it should, with emphasis on doing things for kids. Susie knew and loved many of these people. This year, one of these special people will receive the **First Annual Susie Award** at the Kite Museum Awards Night. Jerry and I will sponsor this award annually to honor those quiet people who we have watched add joy to the lives of kids in the kite community--and to our lives as well. In this way, we hope to keep the "Spirit of Susie" alive in our hearts.

Glenda Kleppin and Jerry Graham

Lady Kiteflyers at Rockaway Beach, OR

The calendar must have gone nuts again, because this time it **heated up!** Unseasonably! But the prospect of going to the beach—any beach—gave one hope for cool ocean breezes, and beautiful and big kites in the air!

The **Lady Kiteflyers**, and the **Associated Oregon Kites**, were invited to put on the 5th annual Lady Kiteflyer Fly at Rockaway Beach Kite Festival on May 17-18. I traveled down the coast on Friday and it was **hot** when I arrived in Rockaway and heard reports that it was **over** 100 degrees in Tillamook! Unbelievable!! All thoughts of some early flying Friday afternoon went away as I decided to leave the hot air and hot sand for others. The hope of a few degrees cooler and maybe some light wind for Saturday was on everyone's mind.

We could not have been luckier!!! Saturday turned out to be absolutely beautiful, great wind for the flow forms and tubes and the Lady Kiteflyer Arch! It looked fabulous in the sky. Everything looked great with several new things to see too including a beautiful crown! **Bob** (also known as LKF "Roberta") **Serack**, set up several of his beautiful banners. I set up the WKA banner and other colorful things, my Shadow, etc. **Miriam Schafler** set up her banner, the Lady Kiteflyer and Top Tuesday (WSIKF) banners, etc.. Everything looked great and the total kite show in the air and on the ground looked good for the public that came to the beach, also looking for cooler weather on Saturday.

Deb Cooley and Karen Highfield

made over 120 kites with kids on Saturday. There was also a Teddy Bear "Toss" as the wind was too strong to set up for the "Drop." Lots of kids took home new stuffed friends. They made some more kites on Sunday but attendance was less because of fog. But there was still enough wind to set everything up again. We all had a great time visiting with friends, meeting new ones and talking with the public. I enjoyed visiting with new WKA members **Lance Ford** and **Mary Jansma**.

The Chamber of Commerce has really appreciated the show the kites have put on at Rockaway Beach Wayside Park. (There was also an arts & crafts fair in the same parking lot that brought a lot of public to the beach.) Hopefully the fly will take place again next year.

Sylvia Bernauer

Waiting for the teddy bear toss.
Photo by **Miriam Schafler**



*And how did you spend your kite season, daddy?
Well, mostly I worked on vehicles, child, when I
wasn't fixing blown out kites.*

We got some of the most annoying weather for a couple of the events we had looked forward to attending. WKA was offered the chance to put on a display of "anything you want, just so it is colorful" at the City of Bellevue's Grand Opening of their Waterpark. "Water" seems to be the theme at Bellevue. We got rained and snowed on for Earth/Arbor Day and we got "not quite rained" on toward the end of the Waterpark opening.

Yes, we went, and we put up a nice display of banners, flags, and fish. And it really didn't start to rain until nearly the end of the scheduled time for the event so I shouldn't complain, but the original invitation said "Bring your bathing suit." Ha! Washington in spring. Remember one definition of "spring" is "a place where water comes forth". And it is usually cool water. I went with such high hopes, but the only bare skin seen was one young lady who went barefoot for about ten minutes before she gave up and put her shoes back on. But **Glenn Austin's** American Flag banners, **Rick White's** eclectic banner collection, and **Launny Herriges'** two dozen fish did add a brave dash of color to an otherwise drab day. Except for **Ken Conrad** and **Suzanne Sadow's** Ohashis, there wasn't enough wind to fly kites. **Penny Lingenfelter** brought her bag of kid tricks and kept a goodly crowd of little ones entertained for a couple of hours.

The first weekend in June used to be the Ocean Shores festival, but the City of Ocean Shores asked that it be held on Flag Day/Father's Day weekend this year. Not one of the best ideas ever put forth by a festival arranger. It conflicted with the Pacific Rim Festival and the Canadians stayed home. Many WKA members went to Kite Hill for the regular Father's Day Fly and some, at least, were disappointed there was no **formal** event. But there was a festival at Ocean Shores and it was fun. Windy, but good winds, and fun.

When we got there on Friday the winds were blowing at twenty plus, gusting to thirty plus. Scary. Spar-breaking scary. The real fear was that it wouldn't slow down for the entire weekend. But it did. Saturday had eight to fourteen wind, which was right at the limit for me to think of as fun. That's the kind of wind where I get out all the Costco kites because they usually want more wind than sane people like to fly in.

But just down the beach from us were **Dave Gomberg**, **Barry** and **Susan Tislow**, and **Dale Ray**. They put up a display of big stuff, Sutton 252's, 454's, long tails, a Manta Ray, a huge penguin, octopuses (see the current AOK newsletter for the argument on what the plural of octopus is), and one of the huge caterpillars. Wonderful display.

I put on a show of my own for the entertainment of the troops. I managed to get the bus stuck in the sand. (Note to self: DON'T TOW THE PICKUP ON THE BEACH!) It was all very amusing to see. Shovel, shovel, shovel, move ahead six inches. Repeat. Finally people got laughed out and decided to help. It took several diggers and two tow pickups to get me through the soft spot. I thank you all very much. I was getting pooped. Then the

truck battery went dead. **Carl Williamson** jump started it and away we went.

Sunday was boring compared to that. I didn't get stuck and the wind wasn't as heavy. But the reason for the dead battery became apparent when the generator light came on. (There's a reason they are called "idiot lights". Only an idiot could ignore one.) Towed it home and replaced the alternator. Then replaced the battery. Then replaced the regulator. And again, 'cause the first regulator was faulty. But the little truck is finally in good working order.

After Ocean Shores, the next thing we did was have a No Wind Picnic on the 4th of July at Orting. Actually there was a little wind, but not enough for anything I fly. **Willy Hendrickson** and **Don Ostey** put on a sportkite demonstration of low wind technique that was awesome. Glenda made bubbles for the kids, and Penny entertained them, too. The fireworks display was great.

The weekend after Orting's picnic was Grayland Beach. The Westport Windriders put on a very nice festival, with huge kites, hand-crafted competition, sky-diving bears, and a sport kite competition that was very hard fought. And the usual suspects were there with the huge kites that suck all the wind for anyone down-wind of them. **Barry Tislow**, et al, put on another stupendous show with their big stuff. Again, I went over just in time to be put to work helping recover them at the end of the day. I have to respect the physical prowess of anyone who deals with the big stuff on a frequent basis. That is a job! As graceful as they are in the air, they are very dead weight on the ground.

It wasn't enough we had vehicle troubles, we also scheduled a kids kite making thing in Seattle on Wednesday just north of Pike Place Market. Great fun, but then we had to quickly reload the van for the trip to Parksville, BC. Once again, I proved my contention the Canadians can put on one whale of a party. We had a great time, despite Saturday's wind being a little "iffy". It only changed direction twice, requiring anchor movement both times. All the kites made like elevators in a busy building: Up, Down, Up, Down...You get the picture. Then the Lions club, sponsors of the event, invited us all to dinner. I may be the only kiter who really likes multi-bean salad, but I make up for all of you who don't.

Sunday's wind was a little steadier, and stronger, so I dug out the Wilson Wing I was given by someone who couldn't make it fly. It was missing a piece and after replacing the missing part and hanging a tail on it, the silly thing flew quite nicely. It always annoys me if a kite won't fly without a tail, especially if it looks as good as the Wilson Wing, but in this case I bow to the inevitable and fly it with a tail. Doesn't take much, one of Gomberg's 24 foot narrow transition tails is just right. We happen to have one with the right colors and they look made for each other.

Now we are looking forward to WSIKF, whoops, the Orting fest comes next on 2-3 August, then WSIKF. I don't know how it happened, but the summer just got awful full of events.

Jerry Graham

Landing a big bird at the Ocean Shores festival
 Photo by **Glenda Kleppin**



Glenda took this photo at Ocean Shores festival and has titled it
 “macramé” in the sky. Not a lot of fun to take apart on the ground!!



Little Event - Big Fun

Have you ever been to Brown’s Point, on the east side of Tacoma’s Commencement Bay? I had not before the PCKA meeting and fly of July 24, 2008. My calendar had an open space and I needed to take advantage of that little window of opportunity to see kite friends and fly a kite or two!

This is a little park with an unromantic looking lighthouse. Picturesque lighthouses are so cool! Well, this one is not, but is still fully functional including fog horn when needed. It is sad to see plywood over windows, but preserving Fresnel bevel glass lenses in lighthouses is so very expensive and most preservation groups just cannot do it. Sorry I did not take the time to look at the museum exhibits and learn more about this lighthouse. There is also a caretaker’s house which can be rented by the week. Gee, your own flying space in your front yard!!! How cool that would be!

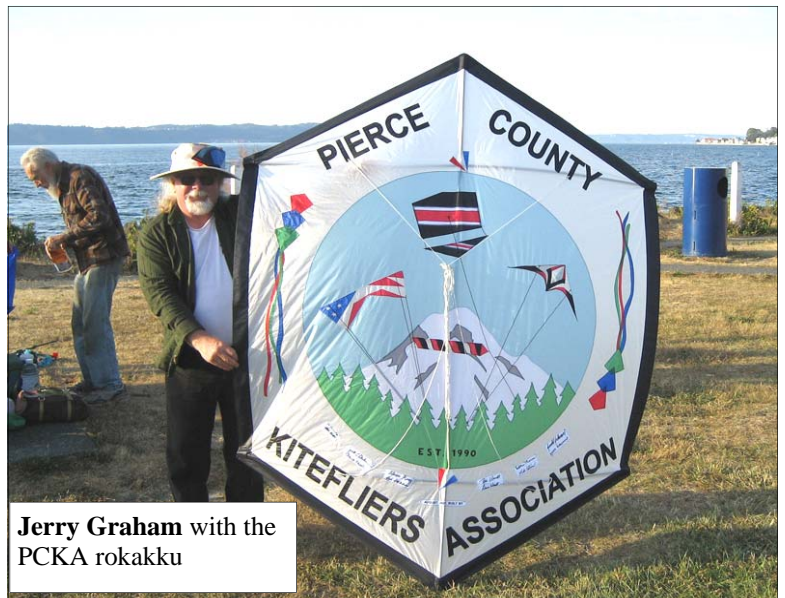
This little park is located on a point of land with open water all around. The view is terrific; across the water is Tacoma and the Olympic Mountains are beyond. And it was a beautiful day/evening with “good weather” north wind blowing directly across the grassy park. Several colorful kites filled the sky. Even a sport kite or two were flying.

We all had a wonderful time. And the sunset was terrific!! Great ending for a great little summer event.

Next time I go I will know a much faster way to get there from I-5 using the Weyerhaeuser/Federal Way exit and driving due west all the way to Brown’s Point area.

Sylvia Bernauer

Willy Hendrickson snapped these 2 photos at PCKA Brown’s Point fun fly.



Jerry Graham with the PCKA rokakku



Here is **Sylvia**, second from the right, enjoying spending time with kiting friends.

The Good Old Westport Windriders Kite Festival...

Yep, I'm takin' another trip to the wilds of Grayland, about 5 miles south of Westport, WA—to a kite festival in the middle of nowhere again. So I roll in just at dusk, set up camp, and go searching for **Jerry Graham**, my "host" for the weekend. I found Jerry, along with **John** and **Marzlie Freeman**, **Cliff** and **Gerry Pennell**, and **Tom** and **Di Thornton**—all excellent kite-builders and fliers. The campfire discussion centered around a kite trip to Fanoe, Denmark, along with the popular "weather" discussions (They'd had 35 MPH winds on the beach that day). Yep—I'd found the festival!

The next morning broke clear and crisp on the beach. Nope—no "big wind" today, but we'd have NW breezes from about 5 MPH early, climbing to the mid-to-high teens in the afternoon—fine weather for a kite festival. So after breakfast, with plenty of coffee, I took a hike down the beach. The Handcrafted and Sport Kite judges were busy with preparations for the day, and our lone food vendor was setting up too. The Sport Kites were busy building their own comp field. Indeed, nearly everyone was in set-up mode of one sort or another—except for the folks around the large Single Line Kite (SLK) field. They were just busy flying low-wind kites in the gentle breezes, and once those were aloft, **then** they'd see about organizing their camps.

My first stop was north to the Hand-Crafted area. Chief Judge **Rob Pratt** doesn't get anywhere **near** enough thanks for what he does! There are 14 separate judging categories, and four entrant experience levels in the AKA rulebook. Rob juggles all the possibilities, combining groups as much as possible, and gets a volunteer judging staff to judge each kite and its maker fairly and accurately. This is no **small undertaking!** But through the competition, Rob keeps everyone focused and they somehow get this done. So we'd hear the Event Announcer, **Robin Hass**, calling for the next class of kites to be judged—and then Rob and the judges would go to work and Make It Happen. Yep—results to be announced at the Banquet tonight.

A bit further south, the Sport Kites rule the beach, and the Northwest Sport Kite League (NWSKL) has things well in hand. Like those who put on Kite Making competitions, the NWSKL has some well-defined rules to follow, and the league provides all the necessities in terms of equipment and the people to run it to put on complete Sport Kite competition. Take a bare patch of ground, and 90 minutes later you can have a competition underway. And at the end, it all gets "undone" again and the only thing left is footprints. So **Mike Huff**, the Chief Judge this event, along with **Robin Hass** announcing, are well underway and all the Sport Kite comps come off as usual! Yes, the scores and awards for the top three fliers in each class are announced at the Awards Banquet tonight.

And down on the big SLK field further south, all manner of kites begin to fill the skies. Since there's no "organization" involved (and certainly no "judging"), the SLK pilots are somewhat more lackadaisical about things. Put a kite up...watch it for a while... Doing Okay? Maybe sit a spell...on to the next one...maybe a bit to eat? Oops—is the wind shifting? "Hi! How are ya? Care to sit a spell?" And so goes their day! But much more than the more "organized" portions of kiting, these folks can get **really** busy in

an instant, so they try to be constantly aware of what's going on up there. A single kite in trouble can bring down a half dozen nearby kites in a horrendous tangle—breaking lines and spars, tearing fabric, and causing danger to people, too. It may seem like a constant gab-fest to the casual onlooker, but the old pros out there keep an ever-wary eye on their kites and gear—and everybody else's too! But they sure love to talk to anyone who has a question or comment.

Yes, I managed to buy my Banquet Ticket early. Yeah, I feed and hydrate myself and sit a spell when that's indicated. And I wander the beach, talking to folks too. After all—it's kinda my job, and it's my favorite part of kiting. As far as I'm concerned—it's **not** about the kites at all; it's the **people** that make kiting so fascinating and enjoyable!

At the end of the day, I'll have talked to probably 30-40 folks on the beach, taken a few hundred shots (if I'm shooting photos that day), and covered the entire area at least a half dozen times. So I watched **Amy Doran** fly her Charlie Chaplin routine and **Jennifer Brown** fly a Little Orphan Annie in Sport Kites. I saw a **John Freeman** museum workshop Brogden up on the Hand-Crafted field, and **Richard Hurd's** lovely Square Diamond. And I marveled at some of the big stuff up in the SLK area, too—including several huge foils belonging to the **Tislows!** Pretty—no "glorious"—stuff. And I saw kids "playing" with kites with **Penny Lingenfelter**, and more than a few **flying bears** too—Teddy Bears dropped from kites in the sky for children to take home and love and care for!

At the end of the day, "The Banquet" saw a couple of hundred hardy souls gathering about 10 miles out in the middle of nowhere again, buying raffle tickets, eating a nice dinner together, watching Kite-Makers and Sport Kite Pilots be awarded their respective prizes, all followed by "The Raffle" and "The Auction." Sure—plenty of fine kites were given away, and there was wonderful camaraderie for everyone...Then it was back to our respective beds so we could do it all over again on the morrow.

Sunday is kind of a low-key day for everyone. Most of the comps are over, and a few folks were already leaving for home, having been on the Beach since Thursday. The Sport Kites hold their "fun" events on Sundays, including things like the "Mystery Ballet" where the pilots fly to music, but the announcer picks the tune, so you don't know what you're going to do until the music starts. But by and large, it's a "no pressure" day to **a)** just FLY what you want, **b)** then pack up, and **c)** get on home again before you have to go to work tomorrow.

What? You didn't go to Westport this year? Oh, **come on...** It's a fine, **fine** festival with something for everyone! The comps are among the best in the Northwest. The SLK display is excellent! And the caliber of people who attend is wonderful—a mixture of very experienced and just plain **fun**—and often in the same individuals. It really doesn't get any better than Westport (except maybe WSIKF) in the Northwest!

Like they say...next year—Be There, or Be Square!

geezer

Calendar of Events — For more calendar information: <http://wka-kiteflyers.org>

August

- 16-17 NWSKL 2008 Cutting Edge Kites Summer Heat Chance Approach
- 18-24 26th Annual Washington State International Kite Festival (WSIKF), Long Beach WA
- 28 PCKA meeting, 7:00 PM Summit Library, Puyallup WA

September

- 5-7 Pacific Beach, WA "Up Your Wind" Kite Festival
- 6-7 NWSKL 2008 Lewis and Clark Exposition Seaside Oregon
- 20-21 Whidbey Island Kite Festival Fort Casey, WA **this is a date change—see page two of this newsletter**
- 22-27 AKA National Convention, Gettysburg, PA

October

- 11-12 One Sky, One World—held around the world to promote protection of the planet, peace, friendship and understanding between all people.
- 11-12 30th Annual Lincoln City, OR Fall Kite Festival The theme for 2008 is Octopi Fly

November

- 1-2 NWSKL Tentative Camas WA Indoor Kite Festival Camas High School

Hello friends—

*We have been so busy since we returned from our trip to Denmark and Holland (The Netherlands). We had a very wonderful time in both countries. Did not get rained on in Holland, but we did have rain in Denmark. On Fanoe it came down in torrents!! But then it all dried away, the best thing was it plastered the sand down again. The day before it rained we had blowing sand—it got into everything, we probably even brought some home with us. (Hmm—should check the kite bag). Anyway, what a wonderful sight to see is the very large quantity of kites and people on the beach there. The beach road is even part of the local bus company route. Now where else does a bus drive on the beach as part of its daily route? I imagine if you know of a place you **will** let me know! There was **plenty** of room to park and fly, unimaginable, to say the least.*

Right after we got back we started preparing for our drive to Grayland for the Westport Windriders kite festival. The weather was certainly nice. Sunday morning was very foggy on the beach, so ethereal and magic too. Then the following weekend was the 3rd Parksville Lions Club International Kite Festival. The weather smiled on us here too. I am hoping the weather will be as nice at Long Beach, it would be nice to not get rained on again, as we have the last couple of years. So everyone please wish for sunny days the whole week. I know the organizers would be happy if that happened.

After WSIKF comes Pacific Beach campout kite festival, followed by Whidbey Island festival. I envy those of you who will be going to AKA Gettysburg, a wish I have always had is to see such a momentous place in our American history. In my grandfather's lineage are two men who fought in the Revolutionary War, on the correct "fighting for freedom side" of course!

*Until next time,
Marzlie*



Scott and Kristian Slater's crown. I wish Mt. Rainier showed up better, it is right behind the WKA banner
Photo by **Rick White**

New Member Report

Robin & Wayne Lindy	Algona, WA
Mike & Lori Tracy	Seattle, WA

A huge welcome from all of us. Thanks for joining our kite club. If you have any questions, we are here to help.

- Some Important Definitions for Kites:**
- AKA:** American Kitefliers Association
 - WKA:** Washington Kitefliers Association
 - PCKA:** Pierce County Kitefliers Association
 - WSIKF:** Washington State International Kite Festival
 - WIKF:** Whidbey Island Kite Fliers
 - AOK:** Associated Oregon Kites
 - BCKA:** British Columbia Kitefliers Association

Washington Kitefliers Association
An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association

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:

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

Visit us on the Web at
<http://wka-kiteflyers.com>



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name	Spouse

Address	

City/State/Zip	

Phone	E-Mail

Names of Other Household Members (Include different last names)	

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