



# Newsletter

## September/October 2008

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

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

### Coming Up! - Annual PCKA/WKA Holiday Party and Indoor Fun Fly—Mark Your Calendars

**When:** Saturday December 6, 2008

**Where:** Mountain View Lutheran Church,  
3505 122nd Ave E  
Edgewood, WA 98372

**Indoor fun fly:** From about noon - 5:00 PM

**Break** to set up for dinner and bag raffle 5:00 PM

**Dinner** at 6:00 PM - Turkey, Ham, beverages and utensils provided. Bring a potluck side dish, salad or dessert.

There will be a **bag raffle** after dinner (bring your donations for the bag raffle!!). After expenses, the net proceeds will go to the Church Food Bank. **Note:** If you have any special items you wish to auction, the income from these items can be earmarked either for the World Kite Museum or the food bank.

The main idea is to have a good time, visit with friends, eat some good food and enjoy the holiday season.

Music will be provided by NWSK league as before.



Great food in the Holiday Spirit.  
Great instructions for indoor flying from the pros.  
Great Raffle items. How much better can it get?

Photos from the 2007 Annual Party  
By **Georgan Curran**

## Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference News

### WKA-Sisson Scholarship

Congratulations are in order for **Scott Slater** — winner of the WKA/Sisson scholarship to the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference in March 2009! Scott got his entry mailed in at the very last moment. There was RUSH written on the envelope! Maybe that helped get it delivered in time to make the Deadline.

Believe it or not – we have already received an entry for next year's drawing. If you are a WKA member and did not enter this year, you have another chance to enter now for next year's drawing.

### WSIKF Hand-Crafted Apprentice Category Drawing Winner

Congratulations also to Lady Kiteflyer member **Theresa Norelius** for winning the Handcrafted Kite Apprentice Category winners' drawing for a scholarship to the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference!

## WKA Board Members

### President

**Rick White**

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**Jerry Graham**

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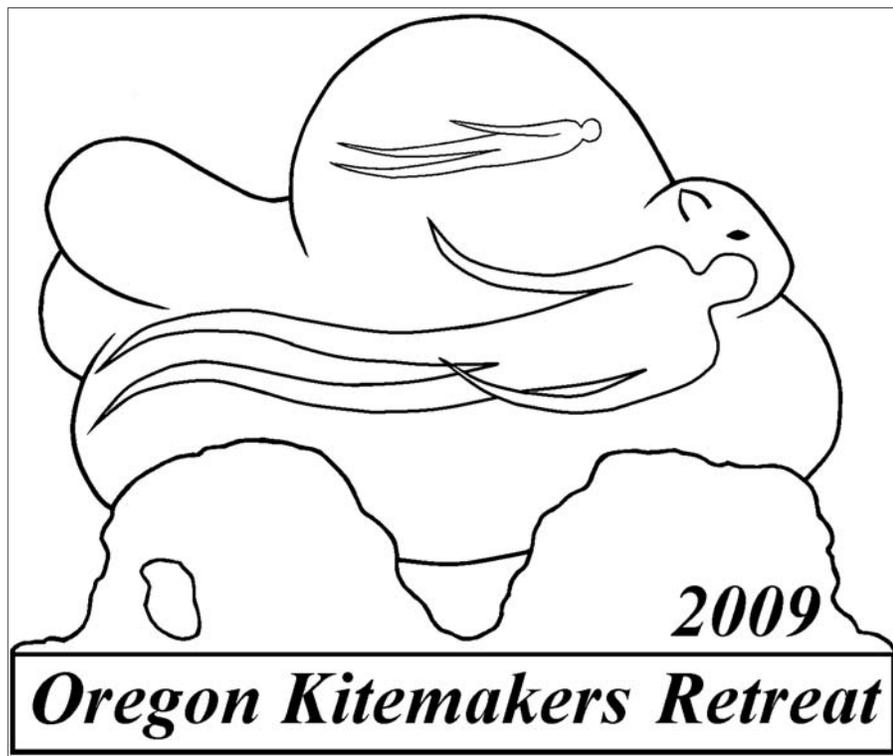
**Marzlie Freeman**

marzlie@shaw.ca

### Webmaster

**Rick White**

ssragtop@aol.com



**January 8-11, 2009**

**Registration has started for OKR 2009.**

Please go to the website [www.kitemakersretreat.com](http://www.kitemakersretreat.com) to download your registration form and mail it in today!

Class space is limited, and they fill on a first come, first serve basis.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact **Diane Weber** at [okr1@comcast.net](mailto:okr1@comcast.net)

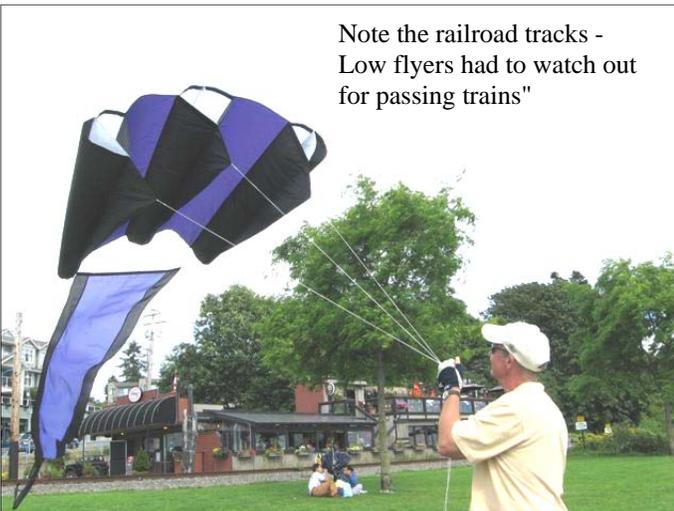


## Small is Beautiful Too——

With all the anticipation and preparation for WSIKF and, for some of us, Gettysburg, it's easy to overlook the opportunity to enjoy a smaller, more informal event. I was reminded of that fact when I joined the BCKA at their August 10 Fun Fly in White Rock, B.C.

I had business in the Bellingham area on Saturday, the 9th, so I decided to throw some kites in the car and drive on to White Rock for the Fly. The weather on the Saturday drive up wasn't promising. Dense gray clouds and heavy rain squalls put good odds to a cancellation. However, Sunday morning broke to sun with light partial clouds and a near perfect wind that lasted most of the day.

White Rock's East Beach is an interesting flying venue. Its ¾ mile of beach faces southwest to the Strait of Georgia. The high tide line is defined by raised rock embankment which is



Note the railroad tracks -  
Low flyers had to watch out  
for passing trains"

topped by a paved promenade, narrow grass park, and, awkwardly, railroad tracks. The beach and promenade are bordered the landward side by Marine Drive and its lively community of cafes, shops, and pubs. (For a mental picture, think of flying on a ½ scale version of Seattle's Alki Beach, minus that area's constant traffic and condos). At low tide, you have a broad expanse of sandy ground to work in. However, the rapidly rising tide during the afternoon required some hasty relocation of sand anchors and shortening of lines.

**Dianne O'Brien, Wayne Pattison, Sharon Williams** and BCKA president **Cal Yuen** played hosts for the event, greeting other BCKA members as they dropped by during the afternoon. They also went out of their way to make their visitor from the States feel welcome.

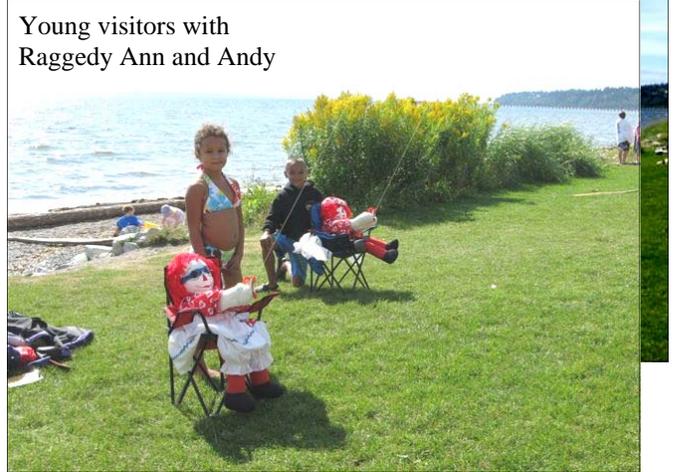
Because our kites were flying right over the beach front promenade, a lot of people stopped by to talk and take

pictures. Dianne's kite flying Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls were a special hit with young spectators.

These are the kites the dolls are flying



Young visitors with  
Raggedy Ann and Andy



I was particularly impressed with the time and care the BCKA folks spent with the public to describe the kites and answer questions. They really do a great job in communicating the joy of kiting!

The White Rock Fun Fly was a pleasant outing — with great weather, an interesting locale, and the good company of fellow kites — all going to prove, once again, that a small event can be beautiful too!

## Casey Shearer

The BCKA crew . . . and guest



All photos by **Casey Shearer**

## UP YOUR WIND KITE FESTIVAL

Pacific Beach! How do I love thee—let me count the ways (with apologies to the poet!)



1—Location, location, location. At how many festivals can you park your RV, or pitch your tent, right by the ocean beach? At how many festivals can you lie in your bed at night and be lulled to sleep by the soothing white noise of the surf? OK, so if you want a spot on the front row you had better be quick. Reservations for the State Park open nine months before the date you want to arrive. Be a day late in calling and you will get a spot somewhere in the back. Be two days late in calling and you may get a spot—or may not. Not that this is a popular event, or anything, but folks do plan way ahead for this one. Try it once—you'll understand why.

2—Weather. All right, I admit that Fall is my favorite time of year. Better than Summer. There is, of course, the matter of unreliability. Weather on our West Coast is not very reliable any time of year. We have seen warm, sunny days in January, and cold, pouring rainy days in August. No matter how hard festival organizers work at it they can't order up the desired weather. Pacific Beach is no exception—we may have truly glorious Indian Summer, or we may get a spot of dampness. Sometimes a big spot. I think we have had everything but snow, but we have never had a weekend without some truly lovely kite flying time.

3—The beach. It's big. I guess we have all flown on big beaches, and on small ones. Because this beach is big, and because fewer folks come to this festival, there is always lots of room to fly. Sure—even if you do sport kites. Some even go beyond the State Park and use a beach access to drive onto the sand and drive back to the festival area.

4—The food. No good food—no good festival. Well sure, mostly the quality of the food depends on how good the stuff is you brought with you, and how good your culinary capabilities are. But



then there is Saturday night. Always a fine meal for a very reasonable price. And the company is good too!

5—The raffle/auction. These days what's a festival without some sort of money raising event? This is not a complaint—somebody has to pay, and how many ways to pay are this much fun? This is a good one, with lots of goodies both great and small. Bring money!

6—Organized events. Here is a list of all the organized events at the Up Your Wind Kite Festival:

7—Competition. The competition at this festival is fierce. Well, it would be fierce if you knew what it was, and when it was, and who it was. Sometime during the day Saturday some folks you probably don't know may be seen wandering around with clipboards. We discovered this the fun way. Many years ago, the first time we attended this event, I was minimally mobile, having just had knee surgery. I put up one kite in the morning and took it down in the late afternoon. That was all I could handle. Knowing nothing of any competition, imagine our shock at the banquet Saturday night to discover we had won! And there was cash involved! Now that's my kind of pressure.



Up Your Wind this year was as good as it gets—and that's pretty good. We were mildly disappointed to not have any rain at all, but I guess if all you get is sunshine, you must settle for that. Scott and Laurel, owners of Hi-Flyer Kites in Pacific Beach, work hard to make this event a success, and it is. It has been on our "don't miss list" for many years now. It probably belongs on your list too.

**John Freeman**

Photos by **Arnold Authement**

Top: Love this line up of birds (like beach soldiers) created by **Mike and Kay Woodring**

Middle: **Freeman's** International flag banners

Bottom: **Scott and Darla Hartley's** beach arrangement of hand-crafted banners and birds

## Camp Casey Conference Center Cruisin'

The fourth item on the Sportkite competition calendar is Camp Casey, on Whidbey Island. This year it almost conflicted with the AKA National Convention so some of the expected competitors were heading to Gettysburg instead of here. That's all right, the competition here was fierce enough. Along with the competition, there is a Kid's Kites tent and lessons in flying sportkites are given each day.

I'm not a sportkiter and it occurs to me the sportkite people aren't particularly interested in our newsletter because it is written from a single-liner's point of view. That said, I'd like to thank the sportkiters of Whidbey Island for letting us (we who fly single line kites) hang out on the edge of their playing field. (We actually use more area than the sportkiters do.)

The Whidbey Island Kite Fliers Association (WIKFA) tolerates us so well they even had a total of what amounted to six mass ascensions. (O.K., you pinheads can relax. There were only two mass ascensions that earned pins for all participants who signed up.) Four were challenges by WIKFA to put up a kite that fit into very general classes. The four classes were Animal, Historical, Rokkaku, and Workshop. There were judges and the flier of the kite that met the approval of all the judges got a special pin.

The idea was to have four different kites in your bag that could be used, one in each class. Actually, there was a potential for quite a bit of overlap, such as a Rokkaku or Eddy with an animal on it and made in a workshop. Most of us played it straight and there was an amazing display of interesting stuff. The Rokkaku class was fairly straightforward with only a few oddly shaped six-sided kites up. Things got really interesting with the Historical class. Several kites designed over a century ago were flown, Eddys, a Brogden, two versions of artillery kites, Codys, and a Hargrave.

As can be expected with such creative people as kitemakers, the Workshop class was astounding. I've taken a number of classes, both at Long Beach and Ft. Worden, and even so I was not prepared for the variety of kites that went up. I don't think there was a single workshop that had more than one kite from it, but the sky was covered. WOW!

Last came the animals, and Noah would have been proud of the variety. Most were appliqued onto the kite, but some of the kites were actually the animal represented. A Brasington fish flown by **Sam King** was the winner of that class and it was well deserved. Since the winds were so light, Sam King took a "Victory Lap" around the field so everyone could see the kite, running like one of the kids with his kite.

There was a light rain Saturday, which put a damper on the single-line activities, but the sportkiters kept going. Even when the fog was too thick for us to see the kites, the judges were close enough so they could see, so everyone kept on flying. At least they said they could see the kites. I dunno...

Food is always a topic of interest at a kite festival, and WIKFA made every effort to get lunch to those who paid for it early enough to make the list. As one of the few vegetarians I was pleased to see the Mad Crab restaurant, which supplied the noon meals, did an excellent job. (We ate at the Mad Crab on Sunday night and the food at the restaurant was superb, as well.)

The Lion's Club booth had the usual suspects, hot dogs, coffee, chips and the like. The chili dogs were very popular 'cause the weather wasn't especially warm. Dinner was at the elementary school, and was good. Again, effort was made to accommodate the vegetarians in the crowd, and we thank you very much! The Vegi-burger was huge, and quite good.

Camping at Camp Casey is a nice experience. The campground is small, having only 22 spaces, but there is electricity and water to most of the sites. It is quiet, and the deer wander through it peacefully. You have to arrange camping with WIKFA 'cause they take it all over.

We tend to stay an extra day so we have Monday traffic instead of the Sunday end-of-the-weekend madhouse, and as we pulled out there was a single sportkiter flying on what had been a very crowded venue. I wondered if he was left over from the festival, or had just plain missed it. If so, he missed a good one.

### Jerry Graham



**Penny Lingenfelter** appears to be butterfly hunting at the indoor fly.



Due to the lack of wind when it was needed, here we have a Teddy Bear toss.  
Photos by **Arnold Authement**

## KIDS' DAY at WSIKF 2008

Wednesday has long been Kids and Seniors Day at WSIKF. This year, however, it was Wet Windy Wednesday and dawned dreary with darkened skies. As **Karen Highfield** headed toward the truck through the gloom, I made the decision that it was simply too wet and too windy to even think of having anybody set up their Kids' Camps. I went over to tell **Ryan King** my decision, and she was glad to hear it, as part of the camp she was trying to put up had already blown down again. The **Day Camp** people were still huddled in their rigs and glad to avoid getting their display even dirtier and more windblown than it had been the day before. People started pulling their cars and trucks back off the beach—unwilling to commit to spending the whole day getting rained on.

We decided to at least wait a while to see if any kids showed up as we did not want any of them to go away disappointed. **Mary Farrell** (again the first to sign up for the Foster Grandparent fly), **Jerry Graham**, **Karen Highfield** and I toted stuff down to the registration tent and sat down to wait in case any kids appeared. We were not expecting much of a turnout as it was already seriously sprinkling. To our surprise, families of kids trickled on to the beach. Jerry put kites together; Karen made sure that each of the kids got to pick out a prize; I gave each child a Kids' Day pin; and Karen and Mary took kids who could not come back Thursday morning out to the field for their kite lessons and new kites. At almost exactly 11:30, the skies finally opened wide and the rain and wind took over the field. We packed up and joined the exodus from the beach. However, we'd had at least 60 kids take part in the activities by that time.

Of course, that meant we had to work our Kids' Day activities into the Thrilling Thursday activities. Kids' camps sprang up on the beach and Karen set up her traveling animal show in the registration tent. We held the Foster Grandparent fun fly at 11:30, taking over Field A as soon as the morning's handcrafted competitions had finished and keeping the announcer, **Robin Haas**, from his lunch. **Sylvia Bernauer** and **Glenn Austin** again handled registration. **Larry** and **Pat Christensen**; **Debbie** and **Carl Fitzgerald**; **Joanne** and **Don Lord**; and others, were all putting together kites as fast as they could. By the time we finished, we had nearly 150 kids flying their new kites on the field. **Jack Judd**, **Kristian Slater**, and **Launny Herriges** helped out with the pins, as usual. We actually ran out of pins. Guess I'll have to order more next year.

Once more, there was a loaves and fishes approach to providing kites for the kids. I'd gotten several extra kites from the dollar store. **Carl Williamson** donated about 40 kids' kites, and **Rick White** brought nearly a dozen more kites that he'd picked up from the closeout sale at the former Ocean Kites location. Without those generous donations, I would have run out of kites long before I ran out of kids! Every year I worry and every year the miracle is repeated--thanks to the generosity of the kite community.

Giving awards for the Kids' Camps was a special challenge this year. Sylvia had gone out on the fields and encouraged folk to sign up their camps, so we had more entries than ever before. **Kristian Slater** especially enjoyed the bribes given to the judges. **Jennifer Brown** saw how much fun he was having and so tagged along. The final awards were: **1<sup>st</sup>: Karen Highfield**; **2<sup>nd</sup>: Day Camp**; **3<sup>rd</sup>: White-Austin Camp**. Thanks also to **Tisch** with the Pteradactyls, the faithful **Goat Hill Gang**, and to the **Tislow** camp of giant bugs for their great displays.

**Special Award and Hall of Fame for 14 and Under** went to **Ryan King**, for her African Refuge camp. She once again showed just how dedicated she is to her kid-sized camp. Her mother told me she is now learning to sew by herself, so I'm sure we can expect even more of her creativity to appear at future festivals. She is certainly in a class by herself. She has set up her camp every year since this particular activity was first announced, not just on Kids' Day but also on several other days of the festival. It's great to see the support her family gives her in making her dreams into reality.

**Top Kids** awards went to:

*Preschool:* **Seth** and **Dakota Hooper**; and **Bailey Herbertsen**  
*Grade School:* **Silas Dermer**, **Connor Ely**, and **Justina** and **Brianna Brown**

*Teens:* **Kristian Slater**, **Ryan King** and **Spencer Watson**

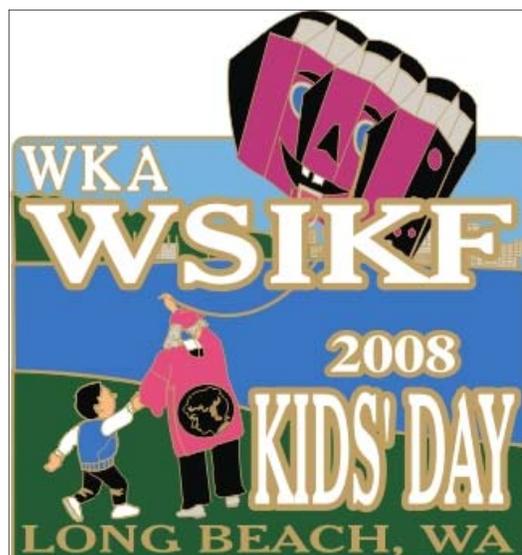
*Young Adults:* **Susan** and **Linda Howard**, **Scott Slater**

*Young Grandparents:* **Karen Highfield**, **Patti LaValley**, **Doug Lommel**

*Super Seniors:* **Mary Farrell**, **Miriam Schafler**, **Marti Dermer**

Thanks to everyone for being so flexible and for making these events successful beyond my wildest dreams. If any of you have the connections to get extra kid's kites donated for next year, please let me know.

**Glenda Kleppin**



## Notes from the Prez——



I want to start out with a BIG WELCOME to all of you new members this year! I don't usually remember to do that all the time. I hope the WKA has made you feel welcome, and met your kiting needs. We want to make this club the friendliest club in the state. Please feel free to send us your questions and or comments. We will do our best to answer every one. And again Welcome to the WKA!

This has been one of the busiest years I have seen in a long time. I can't remember a year when I went to so many kiting events and festivals. Two extra events in Bellevue this year and the Westport Festival. I was even ready to go to the Whidbey Island Festival last Saturday! Then it rained. Booooo!

Well, this has been a great year so far, and there is still more to come. Watch the WKA Calendar, I update it as I get information from people.

The drawing at the Lasagna Feed resulted in **Scott Slater** getting the free ride to Fort Worden. Congrats Scott! I can't think of a more deserving person. There are a lot of equally deserving people, but no one more deserving! If you don't remember anything else, remember this. Every year, we only have a handful of entries in the Fort Worden drawing. **This is the highest odds of winning a great prize worth a lot of money anywhere in kiting!** How's a 1 in 12 chance to win over \$250.00 sound? Come on, what's wrong with everyone? Let's get in early this year and get your name in the drawing next year. All you have to do is send a post card to us with your name, phone number and address on it. And say it's for the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference. That's it! Wow! What could be simpler? A winning name will be drawn at the WSIKF Lasagna Feed next year.

I have heard rumbles the WKA may have a few new kite flys coming up. What would you think of Monthly Kite Flys? It could be in your future. You never know.....

I have also heard no one reads these President Reports, So, if I stop and cut this one short, no one will notice, right?

I hope everyone has a great time this Fall and I hope to see you at the indoor fly in Renton, sometime in late October or early November. Keep your eye on our calendar on the website <http://wka-kiteflyers.com/>

Until then, keep your back to the wind, or keep backing up!

**Rick White**

## LASAGNA FEED!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who helped out this year at WSIKF. The Lasagna feed went off extremely well, thanks to a lot of people who are the life-blood of this event. First of all, those of you who were there most of the afternoon setting up and helping get things ready:

**Launny Herriges**, in the raffle room. WOW! I seriously think that the Energizer Bunny learned everything from Launny! **Sylvia Bernauer**, and **Glenn Austin**, at the counter, with Membership, Dinner and pin sales, year after year. You Rock!

**Scott Slater**, and **Kristian Slater** (Scott's Son), **Marianne Austin** and **Arnold** and **Aurora Authement**, in the Kitchen. You all were wonderful! Wasn't that easier than Spaghetti? I was told it was! I hope everyone liked it **Freida White**, My Mom, and **Joanne** and **Don Lord** on Raffle Ticket sales.

**Glenda Kleppin**, Although she was on the field until almost 5 PM, she was irreplaceable in getting the Bylaws amendments drawn up and ready for the membership to vote on. Thank You Glenda!

I would also like to thank the raffle runners; **Suzanne Sadow** was one of the older kids that helped. I wish I could remember the names of the others, but **thanks a lot** for helping out!

**Marla Miller**, Ticket Babe, **Barry Crites**, for being our auctioneer, **Ken Conrad**, who graciously took over for me when I was obviously out of control. I may have still been there today if it were not for that rescue! Thanks Ken!

**Ray Rheabohn** and **Peggy Taylor** who stored our stuff Monday and our food in their refrigerator on Tuesday! Thanks to everyone who gave donations to the raffle and auction, Way too many to mention here, **Dawg Dude**, you were terrific!

Thanks to the many clubs which support the WKA the way you do. Thanks to;

**DIVA Deb** and the **AOK**,

**Bob Wendt** and the **PCKA**,

**Marla Miller** (again), and the **Westport Windriders**,

**Rob Pratt** and the **Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference**,

**Richard Dermer** and **Susan Skinner**, from the **AKA**,

**Lilac City Windchasers**,

**Lady Kiteflyers**,

**BCKA**, (all the way from Canada),

## **Thanks to you all!**

We took in over \$1270 that week in tickets and pins. We also spent that much and just a little bit more. The goal next year is to cut spending just a little so we can start going the other direction, and stay in the green.

**Rick White**

President, WKA

## WKA Business at WSIKF 2008—

### By-Laws Amendment

At the short annual meeting at WSIKF on August 20, 2008, the WKA bylaws were amended as follows:

**First Amendment:** Article VI Elections, Section A.

The effect of this amendment was to increase the term of service of the four elected officers of the club from one to two years.

**Second Amendment:** Article VII Duties of Officers, Section 5 was amended.

The effect of this amendment was to specify that all other positions on the Board of Trustees shall be appointed positions AND that the Board of Trustees shall have the right to change the standing committees as needed for the efficient operation of the club. There shall be a minimum of 5 such appointed positions.

**Third Amendment:** Article VIII, Section D.

The effect of this amendment was to allow the board to meet by e-mail, conference calls, and whatever other modern electronic means become available. This amendment further states that a motion passed in such a meeting must be approved by a quorum of five trustees.

### and Election of New Officers

The results of the recent 2008 WKA elections and their terms of office were announced.

**Rick White**, President, shall serve a 2 year term.

**Carol Lord**, Treasurer, shall serve a 2 year term.

**Ken Conrad**, Vice-President, shall serve a 1 year term.

**Susan Tislow**, Secretary, shall serve a 1 year term.

## Kite Clubs

### Associated Oregon Kiters

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](http://www.fighterkites.org)

### Northwest Sport Kite League

Contact Bud Hayes

email: bud@thehayesplace.com

Calendar at [www.nwskl.org](http://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](mailto:prez@pcka.org)

Calendar at [www.pcka.org](http://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: ssragtop@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](http://www.aka.kite.org/region10) or [www.aka.kite.org](http://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](http://www.bcka.bc.ca)

## Favorite WSIKF 2008 Moments

This was such a small thing on my part, but it made a difference for how a couple enjoyed the week. After being encouraged, they decided to enter a camp competition and had a great time doing it and received many favorable comments for their display.

On Monday, after the festival, it was a really beautiful day! A friend asked me to teach him how to fly a fighter kite. I had been going through my kite box and giving many of them some air time.

We began with a long line launch and shouted instructions of when to pull on the line. After several tries – he got it! And the kite was flying beautifully. He had several successful flights until the kite came down. Then it was time for him to try to launch it himself. That was the hardest part for me to stand there and watch (or not watch) the failed attempts and let him try on his own. But he knows the basics now of how to get it flying and the grin on his face showed that the effort was well worth it!

**Sylvia Bernauer**

## Notes from a Fairy Godmother

You may have noticed some winged folk at WSIKF this year. **Penny Lingenfelter** was not the only Kite Fairy in evidence. Both **Evonne Miller** and I sported wings on Friday. Evonne said that she had to take hers off because “nobody would take me seriously” while she was roving the kite fields to try to keep order.

Little did I know, however, that one of my new fairy costumes would open a magical door that allowed me to become a real “fairy godmother” for a day. Saturday morning, after first flying in the Cody mass ascension, I put on my large pink fairy wings and my fairy tutu skirt. I took my lavender fairy wand, my bubble sword, and one of my fairy banners with me to join the parade of banners. I was pleased to find **Karen Highfield**--with her “Top Kid” banner—close to the front of the parade line, and I marched between her and **Marla Miller**. For some odd reason, my wings seemed to attract odd things, like spectators and cameras. Later, it seemed appropriate to fly my fairy kite in the mass ascension.

Then, I started wandering around near the kite making booth, blowing bubbles, scattering fairy dust from my wand, and handing out the few kids’ kites I had left over from the Foster Grandparent fly. **Richard Dermer** spotted me and told me someone had given him a bunch of Harry Potter magic wands to be handed out, and he thought that maybe I was the right person for the job. How could I turn down such an offer? What great wands they were. All you had to do was push a little button and the wand made a strange whirring noise and lit up at the tip. What fun.

The first wand went to a little boy sitting along the approach with his grandmother. He spotted my wings and I heard his grandmother say: “Well, ask her.” So he bravely marched up to me and asked me if I had been to Faerie Worlds (a festival in Eugene, Oregon). I told him that I hadn’t but that one of my friends had been there. Then, I asked him if he’d like a magic wand. You can imagine his excited response and the way his eyes lit up. As we parted, his grandmother assured me that I’d just made his day. Of course, it was making my day as well.

Handing out the wands led to more and more adventures, and even **Jerry Graham** got involved eventually as a few of the wands had technical difficulties like dead batteries. He told me about watching a young brother and sister who were each very seriously working at trying to make the other disappear. The boy finally brought his wand over to Jerry to ask if he could trade it as his wand was obviously defective!

A father of a teen came out of the kite making tent to tell me it was his daughter’s birthday and asked if I’d come in and give her some fairy dust. He did mention she’d probably kill him for asking. Of course, I went right in and scattered fairy dust and I also gave her a wand. I don’t know if she killed her dad, but she did seem to smile a lot.

Later on, **Marla Miller** wandered by and decided she’d join in the fun, so she started handing out wands with me. You can see a picture of the two of us in action as picture #19 in the WSIKF slideshow at: <http://www.funbeach.com/slideshows.html>

Apparently Marla tucked a couple of wands away to give to **Dave Gomberg**, because he came by a little later and pointed both of them at me. Let’s just say that my quick come-back to the wand waving made him blush. I even ended up putting one of the last of the magic wands into the basket of magic oils and potions I always make for the Kite Museum fundraising auction.

As I’m sure you may have guessed, this stint as a fairy godmother was such great fun that I’m now totally hooked on the idea and plan a repeat performance for next year. So, if any of you have any more magic wands or anything else laying around that I can give away, please feel free to get them to me before the festival.

Meanwhile, I’ll be carefully searching during the whole year for appropriate things to hand out. So, do look for me in full costume at a festival near you next year. I’ve already acquired a few new sets of wings, just in case.

**Glenda Kleppin**  
(Glenda the Good Witch)



P.O. Box 964 Phone: 360-642-4020  
303 Sid Snyder Drive Fax: 360-642-4020  
Longbeach, WA 98631 info@worldkitemuseum.com



## WSIKF 2008 Tuesday Was Almost Totally “Gone With the Wind”

If you were out on the festival beach at Long Beach on Tuesday (Team Day), you were either a really *Crazy Lady*, on another Tuesday team, or just nuts to be out in that windstorm!! Before the day was over we were all eating sand!

The wind was already blowing a steady 15 mph at 7:30 am Tuesday morning. (I checked it with my wind gauge several times that day.) The **Day Camp** tent almost blew over a few minutes later and their red/white/blue jet airplanes and tent were saved by the help of several flyers who jumped in and hung on! They quickly removed the back and sidewalls and restaked the tent.

It was more challenging than usual to get banners and other things set up for our Lady Kiteflyers “*Crazy Lady*” team camp. It was already blowing at 17-20 mph. We could not put up a display like usual, and one member of our team already had a broken pole and could not put out her big banners. We really missed **Ellen Pardee** this year — but Ellen could not have put out her big beautiful banners either.

After the morning Tubes events, the wind was clocking at 20 to 25 to 30 mph!! This was a major blow and the sand was running across the beach like you would not believe!! It was starting to pile up between cars — but also blowing away from behind the back tires!! It piled in furrows or was blown off of the beach road — leaving bare rocks showing. I went inside my truck and could not believe what I saw. I had left a vent open above the stove and the sand had blown around the leeward side of the camper and come down through the vent and onto the counter around the stove!!

As I ate some lunch, the camper was rocking like a boat!! And the sound of the aluminum roof undulating in the wind was freaky. I was wishing that I could move it at that point, but that was not possible. At least all my bags of kites, hats, fighter kite box, and many other items intended for the afternoon’s Pun Fun event had a safe place to wait to see what was going to happen that afternoon.

An announcement was made to cancel the afternoon team Rok battle because of the dangerous wind conditions, but Pun Fun would take place inside the black and white tent. **Miriam Schafler** talked with several members of our team and we decided to turn in the **Top Tuesday Team** banner. The new participants on our team would not have had the typical Pun Fun experience, but hopefully next year the weather will be “normal.” This kite flying season, we have had more than our share of abnormal weather!!

When we took down our club camp I discovered my WKA banner was completely missing from the pole. At that time the wind was clocking at 35 mph. The banner poles were bending over so far. The wind must have gotten inside the pole pocket,

loosening the tape at the bottom which is usually sufficient to hold it down, and totally blew it off the pole and took it far — far away. When I discovered that it was...**GONE**... I looked around and someone said a person way over on the far side of the International Field might have it. Yes, he did. Thank heavens for a little twig on the beach which stopped my WKA banner from traveling all the way up the peninsula!! Many thanks to **Kim Hancock** of Ferndale for returning my WKA club banner to me and something else to another person. It would have been not only a club banner loss, but a sentimental loss too because this was **Tom and Jean Sisson’s** banner. I told Kim who sewed this particular banner. It was made by **Pat Button**, wife of **Ron Button** who flies kites with their son **Mike** at the harbor in Bellingham. And Kim has flown kites there too! Small world, next time he is there hopefully he can connect with Ron or Pat. I am sure that Pat will thank him too for rescuing the banner.

A few of the 2008 “Crazy Ladies” are pictured here—



In the photo are from left – **Mary Farrell, Jean Gore, Theresa Norelius, Miriam Schafler, Sylvia Bernauer, and Penny Lingenfelter**. Photo taken in the beautiful weather on Friday

Many thanks for all the efforts put out that day by Lady Kiteflyer Team Leader **Miriam Schafler** of Eugene, OR; **Marianne Austin** of Tacoma; **Amy Doran** of Bend, OR; **Mary Farrell** of Colorado; **Jean Gore** of Texas; **Mary Jansma** of Kelso; **Penny Lingenfelter** of Port Orchard; **Theresa Norelius** of Vancouver, WA; **Becky Tisch** of Graham and I am from Kirkland.

Most of our team participated in the morning’s Tubes event and several of us won ribbons and points that went toward our total 150 points for the day. We also took 2nd place with our club camp that this year had several pink flamingos tied to the poles so they would not fly away! Many thanks to **Glenda Kleppin** for finding these at a garage sale!

**Sylvia Bernauer**

Photo provided by **Sylvia**

## World Kite Museum—Awards Night at WSIKF

One of the highlights of WSIKF is always the Kite Museum reception, awards, raffle, and auction. This is a major fundraising event for the museum as well as a chance for a whole lot of fun for WSIKF attendees. This year we were all asked to come wearing at least some item of “Western” attire and some essential items—like straw hats—were available for purchase at the door. For some, this requirement was somewhat bemusing. **David Gomberg** said something to the effect that it is hard to get much more western than we are in Washington and Oregon and maybe we should change the idea of what western dress is.

It was not a surprise to many in attendance that **Karen Highfield** once again received the award as the “**Top Kid on the Beach.**” Her Kids’ Day project was once again a special interactive camp for kids to tour—a traveling animal show. Each year Karen has set up a special Kids’ Camp, complete with activities and individual kites for at least 30 or more kids. We’ve almost come to expect that of her. However, what many people may not realize is that each year her camp is **totally different**. It is so great that she has chosen WSIKF Childrens’ Day as a place for some of her very creative output.

This year, however, Karen ended up working for two days to get her award. Due to the inclement weather on Wednesday, she did not put up her camp until Thursday. However, on Wednesday she ended up taking over handing out the prizes to kids who showed up for the separate “Children’s Day” events.

Karen and **Mary Farrell** also took several kids out on the beach to give them new kites and flying instruction—the usual Foster Grandparent activity. We asked anybody who was staying in Long Beach to come back the next day for the event, but several families were leaving Long Beach. Since we did not want any child to leave disappointed, these two stepped up and dealt with these families—in spite of sprinkles, erratic winds, etc. They both worked VERY hard doing this for an entire 1½ hours! And then they came back again the next morning and started all over again!

This is, of course, a good part of the reason that **Mary Farrell** was named as this year’s **Super Senior**. Of course, her hilarious antics on Tuesday with the Crazy Ladies had already made her stand out from the crowd, along with her determination to once again be the first to register for the Foster Grandparent event. It was obvious to everybody that Mary is making the most of her inner child and is encouraging everybody else to join her there.

For anybody who does not know Mary, she and her husband, **John**, travel from Colorado every year to attend WSIKF and other festivals. John flies sports kites, and Mary is one of his greatest supporters and fans. The two of them are working hard to make flying kites a much bigger sport in Colorado. (Don’t those mountains get in the way, Mary—and what about that **snow!**) Not to mention that lift at mile-high altitudes is considerably less than here at sea level. Obviously, these two enjoy challenges!

What are the perks of being **Top Kid on the Beach** and **Super Senior** besides getting an engraved chunk of wood? The Top Kid gets to fly a special banner made by **Jerry Graham** (kid-sized, of course) and the Super Senior gets to wear the Happ’i Coat that was made by **Ellen Pardee**. Mary promises to wear the coat in Colorado. This year the recipients of these two awards also marched near the head of the WSIKF Saturday parade. But, best of all, these people know their efforts to encourage spectators to have fun on the beach have been noticed and appreciated, and that’s really the greatest award of all.

And that brings me to the third award of the year—the **Susie’s Spirit Award**. Jerry and I have heard from so many of you this past year with kind words about Susie, and we want her to remain a part of the festival. So, we proposed this award to honor people who do a lot to further interest in kitemaking by working with kids but often remain unsung heroes.



There was absolutely NO doubt in our minds about who would receive the first award. This person has helped make thousands of kites, but seldom—if ever—shows them off or enters any competition. This person has been in charge of the kitemaking tent at WSIKF for about 23 years—encouraging kids, disabled adults, and seniors to make kites and is also responsible for the ongoing simple kitemaking projects available to visitors at the World Kite Museum. This person mends all of the flags for the City of Long Beach and crochets lap blankets for the Children’s Hospital. This person also takes in severely abused, disabled and terminally

ill animals from the local animal rescue and makes their last months, or years, happy and secure. This person also makes great Sushi. At that point, I asked the crowd to give me the name: “**Mary Yoshimi**” was the loud reply. Mary had been one of Susie’s first “kite aunties” and we knew Susie would have approved of our choice.

**Glenda Kleppin**



## Everett Four Winds Kite Shop Closes

WKA received a note in the mail from Gail and Erv Crosby of Four Winds Kite Shop.

“We will not be rejoining WKA. We’ve enjoyed our 16 year relationship with this organization and the many members we have gotten to know. Aug. 30, 2008 we close Four Winds Kite Shop. Sincerely, **Gail & Erv Crosby**”

There was also a nice article in the Everett Herald telling the public of the shop closing. The article states that they began their love of kites in Long Beach in 1991. They bought a kite and soon after Erv bought a kite as a birthday present for Gail as much as himself.

Over the years they shared their kite flying passion with kids at annual events on Jetty Island and held flies at Everett’s 10<sup>th</sup> Street boat launch. When WKA agreed to put on the kite display at the Everett Children’s Museum, Gail and Erv brought in many kites

and really helped to make that display a success.

On August 30, I was able to get to the shop and learned that they were happy that so many former customers and friends had visited their shop that last week. I also had a treat in seeing a long time friend there that I had not seen for several years.

Erv plans to continue to build kites and sell them on line. They also plan to sell kites at Tulip Town in Mount Vernon during the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival.

WKA thanks Gail and Erv for their friendship and support of our organization. We hope to continue to see you on the field at kite festivals.

In case anyone wants to write to them — or visit their website to order kites or Atomic Subs (yes he is into RC boats)..

[wahoo565@verizon.net](mailto:wahoo565@verizon.net) <http://fourwindskites.com>

**Sylvia Bernauer**

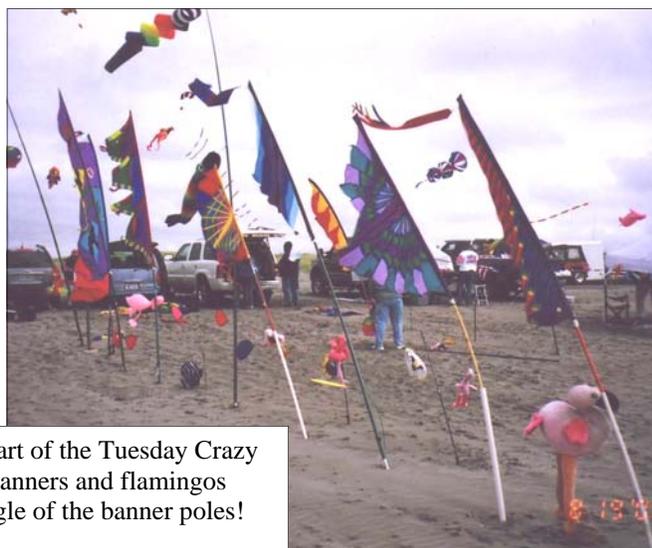
## More Pix from WSIKF 2008 By Sylvia Bernauer



**Amy Doran** leaning into the wind as “Charlie” with cane and black “Shadow” windsock in the Tuesday morning Tubes event. She earned extra points for her formal attire.



**Penny Lingenfelter** and her Cat In the Hat group on Friday at WSIKF. Our Prez **Rick White** and his Mom **Freida White** joined in this time.



These are a part of the Tuesday Crazy Lady Camp banners and flamingos. Check the angle of the banner poles!

## Empty Places in the Sky Sharon Torres - 6/26/47 to 7/31/08

I've been trying to get myself to write this post—

For those fliers from the Northwest who have been around a while, **Sharon Torres** Rev flier/buggie/ Camping Queen passed away in her sleep last night.

She and her husband Mark had just purchased a home in Ocean Shores. I spoke to her just a few days ago and she was looking forward to all the kids and grandkids coming down to stay for the weekend.

The last few months were the happiest I'd ever seen her. She said, "Penny, I have a sign on the door that says, "Gone to the Beach" and if I'm not here... it's True!!

She was our Sharon. My running mate for 10 years. She spoke her mind and made you laugh. She'll be deeply missed. Our hearts go out to the family.

**Penny Lingenfelter**

*Editor's Note: Sylvia Bernauer says Sharon was a WKA member since 1998.*



## Four on the Floor!

By Glenda Kleppin

Commonly heard at our house these days is "four on the floor." No, NOT a new car—just a 1/1/2 pound, 8 week old, black and white poodle puppy by the name of Panda, (middle name: monium). She has taken over our house, our lives, and our friends. Jerry and I are both suffering from "new parent" syndrome—lack of sleep; worrying about every little sneeze; spending too much money on toys for the baby; etc. You'd think that we'd never had a dog before. She is already setting down the rules by which she intends to run our household—much the same rules Susie had for us (did they plan this?)

We took Panda to Whidbey, a week after we got her. She ran around on the short grass, practicing her clown act. We soon discovered she loves people; chases anything that moves; and that it takes only a split second to wrap a dragging kite tail three times around a busy puppy's body (thanks to **Butch Harviston's** kite tail). The real purpose of dandelions is for playing tug of war—but what to do with the fuzzy remains in the mouth? Field boundary tape is lots of fun to sink your teeth into and pull—growling fiercely.

The Saturday night indoor competition had many highlights. To me, the most touching moments were when **Bud Hayes** flew his love song to his wife, **Linda**: "You Are So Beautiful to Me." She was surely the envy of all the women in attendance. The funniest spectacle was **Aurora Authement**, **Kirstie Hayes**, and Panda--playing on the floor. Small puppies have trouble running on slippery surfaces and they

really roll very nicely when they fall, especially when helped along by humans.

We won LOTS of Texlon white and are willing to trade straight across for almost any other color--in rather large quantities. We intend to use the winter to sew new stuff. Of course, we've gotten next to nothing done since the puppy arrived, so . . . .



Photo taken at Whidbey Kite Festival by **Arnold Authement**



## SAME OLD FORT WORDEN— SAME OLD PROBLEM

Those of you who have enjoyed The Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference before, know what the same old problem is—too many great teachers, too many intriguing projects, too many friends to visit with, too much to learn, and only three quick days to do it all. This coming year will not break the pattern. The often heard complaint is “there are too many projects to choose among! I want to do more than there is time for.”

In '09 we will have eighteen teachers picked from among the world's best. Besides the local favorites from Washington and Oregon we will have several teachers from foreign countries—Germany, England, Japan, Canada (sure it's foreign—just not very foreign) as well as foreign countries like Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania.

Besides our most used modern materials, ripstop fabric and epoxy spars, we will also work with string, Tyvek, Washi, tissue paper, and--coffee filters?!!!! Sewing, no sewing, painting, dying—you name it, we will be doing it. The folks lining up these teachers try to make sure there is a big variety of types of projects. If you are a raw beginner, or a kitemaker with years of experience, there is something here for you.

We even have a couple of kites that are not other kites. What—you don't understand? Most of us are familiar with the “Not a Peter Lynn” kite. This year we will be introduced also to the “Not a Cody Kite” and “The Uncorner Kite.” Add to that a kite that can be flown as a stable single liner, or

as a Buka fighter; a kite that can be flown with the rear segments either of two ways; a kite that can be flown vertically or horizontally, and a kite that can look totally different depending on how you slash the fabric. All this and two birds too!

I have heard folks say “it is an awful lot of money to attend Fort Worden.” Well, yes and no. Check out what it would cost to stay three nights in a motel. Add up nine meals in a restaurant. Check what your local fabric store charges for a sewing workshop. Add these all together, and Fort Worden comes out as a screaming bargain!

In case you haven't already done it, check us out at <http://www.kitemakers.org/> There you will find more details, pictures of many of the projects, with more to come, and pictures of the fun from past years. You will also find the information you will need to sign up, and what you need to know if you have not attended before.

See you in Port Townsend, March 26-29, 2009! Now—get that sewing machine out, take it to your local sewing machine service man for an oil change, lube job, and tune up. If you feel rusty, get out those fabric scraps and practice a little. Then start gathering together the things you will need to take with you—it is, after all, only five months away!

**John Freeman**

*Editor's Note: Photo from Wikipedia Site on Fort Worden*

Photo by: **Joe Mabel**

GFDL Use of Photo granted by photographer

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

**November**

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

**December**

**6** **Annual PCKA/WKA Holiday Party**, Mountain View Lutheran Church, Edgewood, WA  
See WKA website for map for driving directions

**2009**

**January**

**8-11** **Oregon Kitemakers Retreat**, Rockaway Beach, OR Info: [www.kitemakersretreat.com](http://www.kitemakersretreat.com)

**February**

**14-16** **World Kite Museum** Kite making workshop. John Freeman "Tic-Tac-Toe" original kite design [www.worldkitemuseum.com](http://www.worldkitemuseum.com)

**March**

**26-29** **Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference**, Port Townsend, WA Info [www.kitemakers.org](http://www.kitemakers.org)

**New Member Report**

<b>Mykael Anderson</b>	Seattle, WA
<b>Rae Bohn &amp; Peggy Taylorbohn</b>	Long Beach, WA
<b>Nick &amp; Denise Serfas and Tim</b>	Edmonds, WA

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

**Thank You, Carl**

Thank you to **Carl Williamson** for the thousands of Kids' kites he has helped make over the years; for sharing his unique kids' kite templates with the rest of us; and for cutting and donating all of the pieces used in the kite making tent at WSIKF this year.

Thank You just can't say enough!!! You are very much appreciated.



**Carl Williamson** doing what he likes to do best. This picture was taken during the "Hands On Children's Museum" in Olympia kite making workshop.

Photo provided by **Glenda Kleppin**

**Some Important Definitions for Kites:**

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

*Editor's Notes—*

*Here it is October already. Where has our summer gone? However, this is our favorite time of the year. John and I love the fall weather. But right now we are having some much needed rain, it was dry for quite awhile, so it's time.*

*We are working on making kites. Catching up after the long summer. I haven't been totally able to sit at the sewing machine for long hours, but I will get into the swing of it again soon.*

*As I have been assembling this issue of the newsletter, I get a very strong feeling of sadness. What makes me sad is the dearth of articles coming from you, the members. It does not have to be lots of words, but don't you enjoy it when your family members remember to keep in touch with you? Well, this is what this newsletter is. It is the club's way of keeping in touch with each other. Please take time to send something in for the November/December issue coming up pretty soon. This is the hardest issue of the year to do as it is a very busy season for all of you, but take time now before the stress of the holiday season gets to be too much for you to write. I will be most happy to hear from you. Don't leave it all to be done by the same faithful writers—you can chip in too, ok? Don't wait for my notice to come out requesting input, by then you will be too busy.*

*Cheerio, see you one of these days,  
Marzlie*

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

_____	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Spouse</b>
_____	
<b>Address</b>	
_____	
<b>City/State/Zip</b>	
_____	
<b>Phone</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
_____	
<b>Names of Other Household Members (Include different last names)</b>	

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION  
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