



Newsletter

April/May 2009

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

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

What James and Tommye Ann Babst did for Kite Month!



Last year we were talking to the manager of **Ivar's in Kent** and he mentioned he was looking for a display of some kind. He knew we were kite flyers and we talked to him about displaying kites for Kite Month. He was not able to get permission in time last year, but this year he called us in February to let us know he had permission and would we be willing to put up a display. We told him we would be thrilled to share our hobby with others. We spent four hours one early morning directing the manager in putting up the kites. He told us his manager had come to see the display and was very impressed. In fact, he wanted to know if we would leave it up for at least two months. It was fine with us! Management said that customers really enjoyed the display and couldn't believe the different kinds of kites there are nowadays. They have asked us to do it again next year and we already have ideas for improvement.

Tommye Ann and James Babst

Ellensburg WA Kite Fly

On April 4, 2009, I traveled east — a direction I have not been for many years to fly kites. Most of you should have received messages that the big 3-day event planned for Ellensburg was not going to happen. Too bad it had to be cancelled for this year. Hopefully, it will take place next year.

Photo by **Sylvia Bernauer**



Marla Miller (Our AKA Region 10 Rep.) was concerned some people would not get the message and would arrive at an empty field, so she let folks know some flyers would be in Ellensburg. I was one who decided to try out this new location. With Marla was **Doug Jones** from England, and the **Slater's: Scott, Lori and Kristian**. A few other locals also were at the park.

Golly, it is a great open field with no trees nearby in an area named "Ellensburg Recreational Fields" on the Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce map. It has a big paved parking lot and indoor restroom facilities nearby. Best of all, there is frequently wind on this field. Saturday there was "no" wind in town, but out there west of town, there was some wind, enough to get Scott Slater's crown up as I arrived.

I was also able to introduce a couple of long time friends who live in town to this great activity. They brought a new butterfly kite with them that they had fun assembling and trying to fly but it kept flopping over (one of those 3-dimensional kites that looks great on display somewhere in your house!) They were very determined to get it to fly!! And later I thought they would have fun with a Prism Triad kite! Which they did.

Ellensburg also has a new kite store, the **Ellensburg Kite Company** located one block west of N Main Street on W 4th Avenue, Ellensburg WA 98926. (The store entrance is on N Water Street.) Stop in and visit with WKA member **Norma Jean**

Hansen. She had just opened the shop that weekend. Or you can find them at www.ellensburgkite.com or 509-925-5483. Norma Jean and **Robert Hansen** have also started the **Ellensburg Kitefliers Association** (5 members that weekend), and are having fun learning together about flying kites on their great field. This is all new to them, and they are having a great time. As a club motto, they chose "Embrace the Wind" and they are!

I sure hope to fly there again.

Sylvia Bernauer

This Photo of **Marla Miller's** "Face" kite taken that day and sent in via email from **Norma Jean**

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Empty Places in the Sky

WKA sends condolences to **Carolyn Green** of Cheney on the passing of her husband **Robert Green**. She has kept his over 100 kites, and hopefully will be flying them.

Frances Chinn (almost 90) passed away in early March, 2009. Frances was the widow of **Larry Chinn**, one of the early members of WKA. Frances had been living in a nursing home in Seattle and had such brittle bones she could not even stand any more. **Jean Sisson** and **Vi Van Gilder** kept in touch with her. Jean told me that Frances enjoyed reading our newsletters. Her husband Larry used to be very active with the club. He passed away several years ago.

Sylvia Bernauer

Sorta Kite Notes from Jerry—

Glenda and I spent a week in Vancouver, BC a while back. We were exposed to the BCKA's attitude toward inclement weather. You know how we WKAers spend New Years Day at Golden Gardens Park. Rain, shine, wind, and/or snow, we are there from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, with the pop-top shelter up, chili warming, and the coffee hot for everyone who shows up.

Not so in British Columbia. We went to Ambleside Park, hoping to fly with local flyers in an event that was scheduled in the BC newsletter. The weather was poor, with spitting snow and very cool temperatures. It took us a long time to figure out how to get to the parking lot for the park since there were no directions on how to find it. (That's fair, I guess, since we don't put maps in our newsletter either. For example, Kite Hill is really hard to find if you don't already know where it is.)

When we finally got there, it was around noon and there wasn't a kite flyer to be found. We asked several people if they'd seen anyone flying and we were told that none had been seen. We waited around for half an hour and finally gave up 'cause the weather was still not cooperating and no flyers had shown up.

We went to the local Whole Foods market and had a great time eating the "Senior Buffet" (all the samples of goods for sale). Their samples didn't go to waste 'cause we bought some of nearly everything we tried.

Later on, a few weeks or so, we saw in the BC newsletter that several people had shown up and gone away to eat while they waited for the weather to change.

THEN they went back to Ambleside Park and flew. Seems pretty wimpy to me. And I was looking forward to flying with them, too.

We couldn't find Ray Bethel, either. We couldn't even find his bench in Vanier Park... Maybe next time. We'll be back!

Glenda and I returned from BC, and then turned around and went back to White Rock, BC for the Wind, Waves, and Water celebration at the end of April. That is such a lot of fun. The **Currans, Richard and Georgan**, were there with some of their new kites as well as the old standbys like Richard's favorite Genki which is usually first up and last down.

Bob Serack was there with his

lovely collection of banners and an absolutely HUGE flow-form with which he was lifting the ninety foot spinsock he made years ago. It was a tremendous sight. **Ellen Pardee** was there with her Wild Life series of banners, just finished recently (or at least until she adds to the series), and her circus animal banners for the kids to handle. She's living in Spokane now and was taken into the Lilac City Wind Chasers. Her new jacket looks good on her. We had a great time teasing the parents of the children who wanted to touch the banners. Every time they'd say "Don't touch!", we'd countermand the instruction with suggestions that they were allowed, even encouraged, to handle them. Lots of fun.

One of the best features we like about White Rock is the number of really good restaurants we get to experience. On Friday night we like to eat at a Tapas place which used to be named "Senses" but had to change due to some place in Vancouver which felt it was too close in name to their own. Now it goes by the address of the building instead. On Saturday, the committee puts on a dinner at the Country ABC. They seem to have a new chef who put out some wonderful meals. Then, after everyone has left on Sunday, we get to dine at Sidharth Bistro, an outstandingly good Indian food eatery. If you get a chance, try their Kashmiri shrimp. Incredibly good. Plus, they remember us from year to year. Quite gratifying.

Next year, try to fit this one in your schedule. It's a lot of fun and the natives are really friendly.

Jerry Graham

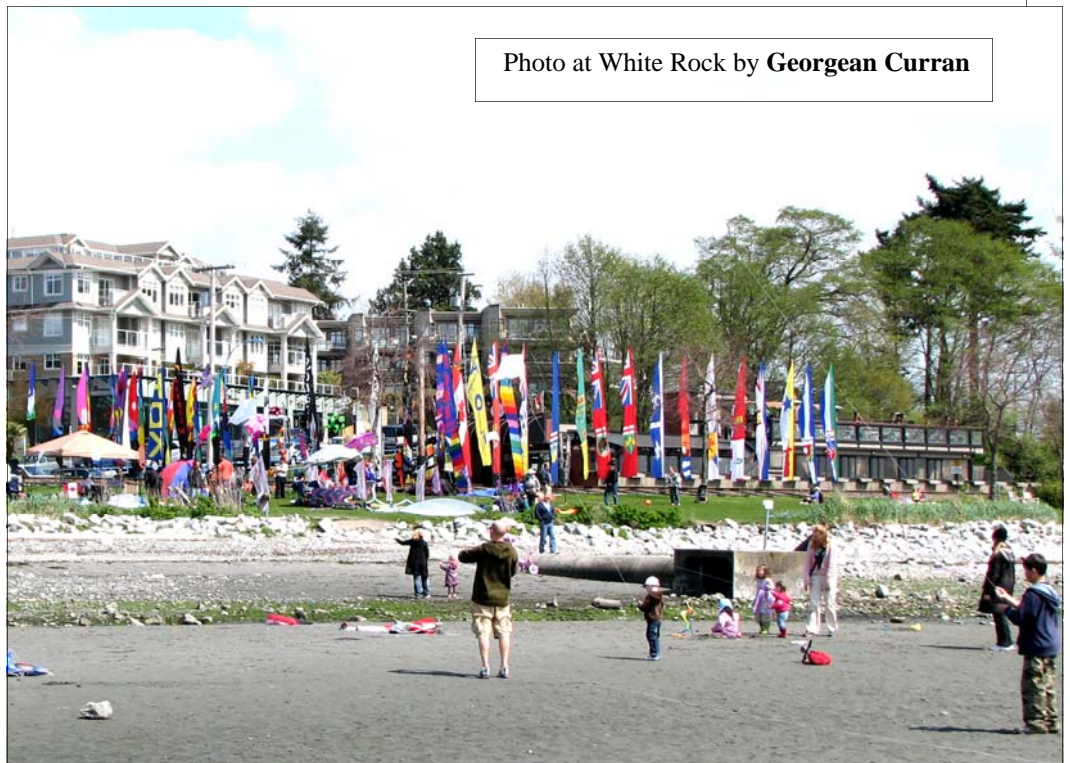


Photo at White Rock by **Georgan Curran**

When is a kite festival not a kite festival?

When it is a **Strawberry Celebration** first, then a **kite festival**. That's right, there will be a Kite and Strawberry Celebration in Enumclaw, WA. **Jenny and Andy Cunningham** of **V2 Farms** will host all the kite flyers that can make it Saturday, June 20. If you like both strawberries and kites, (and who among us doesn't?) this is your chance to enjoy both. There will be some RV parking available, although there is no electricity. Look for more details below—

Jerry Graham

Editor's note:

And according to the latest report—we are to have a potluck. Remember food safety here, since it will be June. Depending on the weather—we may do the restaurant thing.

And for June 21—here's the plan—

On Sunday following the Strawberry/Kite Festival, we will be hosting our annual **Father's Day kite fly**.

Time: 10 AM to 4 PM

Location: Seattle WA
Magnuson Park's Kite hill.

It'll be a "double-header weekend for us avid kites!!

Directions in Calendar on <http://wka-kiteflyers.com>



Sweet Strawberry & Kite Festival



V2 Farm

20613 SE 436th St
(Hwy 164)
Enumclaw WA 98022
cowboy@v2farm.com
<http://v2farm.com>



Live Music

10-12 Jazz by **Sciaticats**
1-3 Country by **Strandyd**

Join the Washington Kitefliers Association as they fly Stunt kites and BIG kites on the farm!

<http://wka-kiteflyers.com>

Join us for a Day on the Farm, Grease Pig Chase, Rooster Round-up, Egg Toss, Strawberry Pie Eating Contest, Horse Bounce, Hay Wagon Ride, Straw Maze, Strawberry Treasure Hunt, Farm Petting Animals, The Little Wild West Show and Free Kites for first 100 kids!



Admission \$7.00 Parking is FREE

Come Dressed like Strawberry Shortcake and receive FREE fresh strawberries!

“Give a Toy, Get a SMILE”.

Charles and **Dorothy Stewart** were the most wonderful hosts. They have been going down to Cancun for some years, and know the area quite well. It was great fun. “Navigator ON” (That’s Dorothy helping Charles with directions.) Why were we here? The first **Isla Blanca Festival de Papalotes** (Kite Festival) and it was fabulous to me.

Nancy Meyers and her husband **Andy** do quite a bit of charity work with friends. They worked with Charles, Dorothy and who knows who all, because I don’t. I just knew I was lucky enough to be part of “Give a Toy, Get a SMILE”. Our goal—to start an annual kite festival for a good cause.

Ron Jakubowicz brought big kites. Charles and Dorothy brought their menagerie of kites; large, small and kids kites. I brought kites for hands on fun. We took time to check out our fly area and I was impressed. I’d never experienced white sands that didn’t get hot to the touch. Nevertheless, it’s true. It was white, cool, velvety soft sand that felt so refreshing, even in the 80-degree salt air. It is a spectacular beach, with the ocean on one side and a large lagoon on the other. (Ed. Note: *jealous yet?*)

The first day the Stewarts toured us around, taking us on a foot ferry to Isla Mujeres. Their favorite Restaurant on the island was “Miramar,” It had a “Mermaid” as their logo. Of course, I liked it right away since mermaids are in my kite skit this year. Besides, what was not to like? The blue skies, shimmering dancing ocean waves, warm sea breeze and live Mexican music. We walked part of the island, and the two pointed out the changes over the years. Progress and weather have made themselves known. It will be interesting to see how it changes in the next few decades as, like most of our beaches, they are shifting.

On Saturday, we loaded up our vehicles with the help of **Sylvia** and **Jesus** to carry our gear to Isla Blanca. Restaurant Acapulco’s owner, **Senor Ramon Navarro**, hosted the event. He provided the beach, delicious food, and even free food for one of the local orphanages. Thank you Senor for your generosity.

It was only the 1st festival, so it only had a few kites—you know, a few soccer balls, a few large deltas, a few small deltas, a few large flow forms, butterflies, UFO’s, spin sock, gecko, and of course... a Revolution kite. However, I screwed up big time. I waited till the last minute to grab my Rev II for high wind only to find it was not in it’s spot. I had forgotten friends had carried it home wet and muddy for me. It was too late to retrieve it now and what a shame, it would have been well used in the high winds we experienced. I was so embarrassed, but the Rev standard in my bag had quite the work out.

Oh, we met wonderful local kitefliers. I wanted to bring them all home with me! **Ceri** and her husband **Roberto** especially. Roberto makes and repairs kites. He had a powerful dual liner for the strong winds. Roberto also built his buggy. I wish I had taken time to go and see it.

We had the pleasure of meeting the owners of the Icarus Kiteboarding School right up the road from our beach. He flew my Rev and we discussed the differences in our kites. The kiteboarders were out in the lagoon on both days. By the end of the weekend,

Oscar and **Augustine**, two local kitefliers, were all smiles when they told me they had decided to return and take kiteboarding lessons.

Dorothy had taken a Spanish speaking class. She was so patient with me trying to learn. I practiced my Spanish, while some practiced their English with me. It was a blast and the important thing is I learned izquierdo - left. derecha - right, arriba - up, or forward, debecho - down. And most importantly - alto! - STOP! A wonderful word to know when giving a Rev lesson.

The little ones didn’t know left and right, so I said.. Aqui - alli, here - there ~ simply flying side to side. I’m serious when I say that even though I had some good flyers of all ages try my Rev kite, little 5 or 6 year old **Rosita** did the best job. The local kids and the local orphanage came to fly, enjoy a day at the beach, and the opportunity to decorate and fly their kites. They reached in a box and chose a toy, Not a bike, or a game-boy, but inexpensive hand toys. They were so appreciative.

The Restaurant Acapulco fed us all with wonderful fresh food, guacamole and beverages. Rumor has it if you wanted a fresh fish meal, it would take 1½ hours. I’m not sure if they actually caught the fish at that time, but the platters they brought out for those who ordered it looked spectacular and it was agreed the food was good.

On Sunday night, Charles and Dorothy took us to their favorite restaurant “Pericos” (Parrot?) for a last meal. Delicious food, bucking saddle bar stools, banditos, pirates, fireman, senioritas, balancing acts, conga lines, lots of jokes and audience participation. It was easy to understand why this would be their favorite restaurant.

Then “Como un Sueno” ~ like a dream ~ it was over. Dorothy, Charles, Ron, Sylvia, Jesus, Mexico, and everyone involved, gracias for the winter holiday. Isla Blanca is a wonderful winter vacation.

If you want to stay in an all inclusive hotel, fine. Cancun has those and even though they are great fun, they are pretty much the same everywhere. But, if you would like to experience the beauty, the art, and the people of Mexico, contact Charles Stewart. He’ll steer you in the right direction. I guarantee you would have a fantastic time. Adios

Best Breezes, **Penny Lingenfelter**



The “Other” Broder

Although I live 3,000 miles from Washington, you might have noticed I usually have a good idea of what’s going on out there. My secret is that among my network of spies I can count my big sister, **Gail**. While I don’t think I can call her a “kite flying Broder,” she’s certainly a “kite appreciating Broder,” so you’ll probably run into her from time to time.

Gail got dragged into kiting simply by her relationship to me. She listened to me talking about kites, saw my pictures of them, and finally came to a festival or two. For most of the years I lived in Iowa, she was just downriver in St. Louis, so more than once we went to the Great St. Louis Kite Festival. And that always meant bringing along a half-dozen of her friends, so she became sort of a kite missionary, helping to spread the gospel. On my lone trip to Fort Worden, Gail and I drove out together, and since then she’s gone back several times to visit Port Townsend. And I’ve no doubt that she’s directed dozens of other people to kite festivals up and down the coast.

She moved to Seattle at about the same time I moved to the Wildwood area of New Jersey six years ago, so between us we’ve got America’s two biggest kite festivals covered. In fact, I’m ashamed to admit that Gail’s been to WSIKF, but I never have. To my unending dismay, the first time Gail went to Long Beach, the first kiter she introduced herself to was **Marla Miller**. Worlds collided! Marla adopted Gail immediately; Gail told Marla embarrassing stories about my childhood, and Marla told Gail embarrassing stories about my kiting adventures, and now I’m not safe from either of them.

Gail’s job involves vaccine trials for AIDS/HIV, and she gets to travel the world meeting with colleagues. Last fall, when I was in South Africa, a man walked up to me at the Cape Town Kite Festival, introduced himself in broken English, and said, “I work with your sister. She said you would be here flying kites.” Incredible! I’m on the other side of the planet, and my big sister is keeping tabs on me.

But Gail seems more content to sit and watch, instead of flying. So y’all have to help me out. I know that she’ll be visiting WSIKF again this summer. If you bump into her, please hand her the string to whatever you’re flying, and tell her that her little brother told her to go fly a kite.

Phil Broder



Introducing our New WKA Webmaster

My name is **Morrie Williams** and I am the WKA Webmaster as of April 2009. The following is a little background information about me and my experience both in web building and in kiting.

I have worked in the computer industry since 1964 and began building websites for fun in 1994. I retired from the 9 to 5 work world in 1999 and joined my wife **Kelci’s** small home business (Seescapes Productions, Inc.) in 2000 at which point we began concentrating on building web sites.

My wife and I were reintroduced to the world of kites in 1986 when we purchased a ripstop delta kite in Seaside, Oregon, just because we wanted something to do on the beach. In 1988, we attended the Washington State International Kite Festival (WSIKF) for the first time and were fascinated with the maneuverability of dual line kites. We were hooked. While checking everything out at the festival, Kelci picked up a WKA flyer and slipped it into her jacket pocket. Several months later, she found the flyer and contacted someone in the WKA to get more information about upcoming events and meetings. She was told about the next meeting taking place at the Boeing Museum of Flight. We attended that meeting and joined that day. Kelci was recruited right away to help out with the club minutes as the Secretary was unable to be there. That began our long and varied relationship with the WKA. Over the next several years, Kelci held various positions including secretary, membership and treasurer and I was vice president in 1991. Both Kelci and I helped out with the annual pizza/spaghetti feed from 1990 until 1998.

We began attending the Fort Worden Kitemaker’s Conference in 1990 where Kelci also held several positions including registration, treasurer and vice president.

We have been members of the American Kitefliers Association (AKA) since 1990 and attended the annual conventions in 1990, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1998 and 2004. It was during the 1993 convention in Seaside, Oregon that we discovered kite buggies.

In 1995 we helped start the North West Buggy Pilots Association (NWBPA). I was president from 1995-2000 and we were the newsletter editors from 1996-2000. Kelci was head of the women’s buggy contingency called Babes On Our Buggies Society (BOOBS). Since 1994, we’ve attended numerous buggy events in the USA including those at Ivanpah Dry Lake, CA; El Mirage Dry Lake, CA; Alvord Dry Lake, OR; Wildwood, NJ and Sunset Beach, OR. We were even lucky enough to attend an event in Australia as well as visit the buggy mastermind himself, Peter Lynn, in his home country of New Zealand.

My hope is that the WKA website will provide informative and interesting information about kiting and kite events both to those new to the sport and those of you who have been around for a while. If you have any comments, questions or items that you’d like to see on our website, please send me an email or give me a call at (360) 268-0318.

Good Winds,
Morrie

<http://wka-kiteflyers.com>

Notes from the Prez—



Greetings fellow kite junkies!

This Spring has certainly had its ups and downs weather wise. Yesterday it was sunny and 70 degrees, and today it is a hurricane and 48 degrees. I hope this spring makes up its mind and decides to get here once and for all. I won't complain very loudly though, the Earth Day/Arbor Day went off very well and with great temperatures. The wind didn't get the memo that we were

flying kites that weekend, but it was still fun decorating the landscape with a lot of color and giving the kids a break from planting trees by letting them fly **Penny Lingenfelter's** bag of kites. **Ken Conrad** brought his RC kite plane, with the camera on the front. That was a very cool demonstration of Hi Tech gadgetry. He had it hooked up to his GPS, laptop, telemetry, cyber stuff! WOW!, was it impressive to see a live video on the laptop of its flight! We were waving at it and everything. After it landed, he played it back for us. Thanks Ken for putting on that show!

For those of you who don't know what Earth Day Arbor Day is, it is an annual event the City of Bellevue puts on to support the national Earth Day/Arbor Day. It is a day that 300 to 400 volunteers go forth and plant trees along the city's highways and byways, parks, hills and meadows. They have a big ceremony, the Mayor shows up for his obligatory shovel of dirt, and they give out awards to school kids for their efforts in raising the funds to buy the trees. This year's event was on April 18. I think this event is proving to be a kid's day thing, and we should start planning for next year's event by getting kite kits together, and let them make kites for themselves. There are plenty of kids, and therefore plenty of opportunities to teach them to make kites!

As you will read, if you haven't already, there are several events coming up soon your WKA is putting together. A new one this year is the Strawberry/Kite Festival. It will be in the windy city of Enumclaw, WA. It will be at the V2 Farm, located just 3 miles west of downtown on Hwy 164. It's shaping up to be an exciting event you won't want to miss! Please see the ad in this newsletter for more!

The Bellevue Earth Day Arbor Day and the Strawberry/Kite Festival in Enumclaw were both put on our WKA schedule because the people who were putting on these events contacted us and asked if we would help out. We have been getting more and more contacts from people like these for the past couple of years. The Seattle Center is another one. There have been at least 2 or 3 others we couldn't do because we didn't have the available manpower. Those of us who go to these events are usually the same 15 people. And we are staying busy. If you would like to help out, please contact one of us, and we'll be happy to contact you when they do come up.

Until then I hope you all have fun out there, and keep the wind to your back. That is unless you are hang gliding.

Rick White



The WKA gang at the Bellevue Earth Day/Arbor Day festival
Photo by **Christina Krueger**
Park Ranger, Natural Resource Division
City of Bellevue- Parks & Community Services



This character is known as
“**Carbon Footprint**”

Photo by **Sylvia Bernauer**



Kids having fun with **Penny's** kites.
Photo by **Sylvia Bernauer**

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

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, Fire Station, 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 & 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 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



This time it isn't a kite in a tree

Only thing I can really say is **Jerry Graham** is trying to compete with **Dick Curran** and **Rick White** for most kites in a tree.

Actually it was tethered wind things that kept tangling with a tree.

Georgan Curran

Who also took this photo at White Rock festival

Editor's note: At least he has the benefit of them being on the poles, which makes it a lot easier to extract them from the tree, doesn't it? Or does it?



L to R: Scott, Glenda, Kristian keeping pretty busy.
Photo by Jerry Graham

Kids' Day at Fort Lewis

We did it again. **Carl Williamson, Scott and Kristian Slater, and Jerry** and I helped 236 kids make kites during the annual Kids' Day celebration on base.

The first couple of hours of the event are reserved for kids from on-base schools. They are bussed to the event and closely supervised by their teachers. Scott had forgotten that we had a relatively easy time keeping up with kite making with these groups. Within 5 minutes of him saying "We're not as busy as last year" we were inundated with kids accompanied by moms pushing battleship sized baby carriers. We hardly had time to take a deep breath for the rest of the afternoon.

Great fun was had by all, and especially by the oversized Curious George as he happily flew the kite I handed to him.

Glenda Kleppin



Curious George with the kite Glenda gave him to fly.
Photo provided by **Glenda**

WORLD KITE MUSEUM
www.worldkitemuseum.com

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

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

Fort Worden Recap

Phew.....The 2009 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference is now history. Once again the Kitemakers committee put together an excellent program hosted by some of the greatest kite builders in the world. What can you say when you have the choice of making kites with the likes of **Cliff Quinn** former AKA Grand Champion, **Tom McAllister** who's architecture inspired kites and mini kites have been exhibited in numerous museums, **Rainer Hoffman** and his gorgeous So-So kite, **Karl Longbottom** and his beautiful swan, etc., etc.. It's too bad the economy affected the attendance at this year's conference. Attendance was down to what seemed to me to be about one-half of the normal attendees. (*Ed. Note: it was about 75% of the 2008 attendance*) However, those who did attend had every opportunity to work with the masters and come home with some beautiful kites and banners.

I attended **Paul Horner's** "Not-a-Cody" class, and **Cliff Quinn's** Marconi class. Paul's kite could possibly be more accurately named the "not-an-ichiban" kite because this cellular masterpiece has been heavily influenced by **Ken McNeill's** Ichiban, and Paul contacted Ken for permission to heavily borrow from Ken's kite. If you have never attended one of Paul's classes, try to sign up for the next one available. The kit was well organized, all the sail pieces accurately precut, necessary edge binding pre-folded, and had some very simple but unique techniques for tensioning out the sails. Paul also provided all attendees with a great small cigar box for holding all the other little pieces needed for assembly. By the way, Paul also provided some great instructions and illustrations for completing the kite. About the only thing missing was getting Paul to do all the necessary sewing and piecing together all the fine details. Many thanks Paul for a great class and a truly unique kite. I even managed to get the kite finished by 5:00 pm, quite an accomplishment for me, as I am not a fast sewer.

Cliff Quinn presented his modern Marconi kite in response to many requests by conference attendees. This was another great class. Whatever Cliff may have missed with his printed instructions, he more than made up with his constant hands-on assistance to all the attendees. I had made my own rather crude version of a Marconi many years ago, but it was good enough for a ribbon at WSIKF. Shortly after that, I became friendly with Cliff through the kitebuilders forum. Here is a perfect example of how two kitemakers, 3000 miles apart, can become great friends by having a common interest, and having access to online forums dedicated to our common interest....building kites. Cliff's Marconi was much more complex than I had thought prior to the conference. There were so many kite makers walking back and forth to view the sample kite, I think some permanent paths may have been walked into room 20 in building 204. After deciphering all the fuzzy areas, Cliff's kit got assembled, mostly as Cliff had intended. I ran into some technical difficulties because of a missing forward keel, but Cliff provided the necessary replacement so I could continue the project. I got all my sewing done Saturday by dinner time and really did intend to finish framing on Sunday. Really, I did. Anyway, Sunday came and I decided that this was my day to socialize. I mostly spent the day wandering the 204 building and dining areas visiting with too many people I only get a chance to see a couple times a year. The unfinished Marconi is now laying on my work table, waiting to

get finished.

Once again, the kite raffle was awesome. Because of some unexpected (unwelcome??) donations to Marla by some former kite makers, there were tons of prizes just waiting for winning tickets. Some most excellent books were up for raffling, including an excellent book on appliqué sewing that was won by **Dave Ellis**, but hopefully will soon grace my kite making book shelves. Thanks Dave! My first born should arrive at your house shortly. He's a teenager, but doesn't eat all THAT much! Maybe one of these days I'll talk to **Carol Raymond** again, as soon as I forgive her for winning the Marconi Cliff donated. Again, **many, many, many** thanks to **Marla** and her crew for giving up all their time to manage the kitemakers' raffle. I wish I had a fraction of the energy Marla has. We all joke about her being the raffle ticket queen, but we all should be **thanking** her for making just about every raffle in the area a success. Go up to her sometime, give her a hug and a great big **thank you**. She deserves it from everyone in Region 10.

I managed to pick up a couple extra kite kit projects while wandering around on Sunday. **Karl Longbottom** had a couple extra swan kites and I managed to pick up a white swan to add to my pile of projects. I also managed to pick up the last So-So kit that **Rainer Hoffman** had available. This is circular kite which seems to have been more than a little influenced by the Madonna cone shaped bra costumes. The kite can be flown with either the face of the kite, or with the edge, into the wind, depending on wind conditions. The sample kite looked great. Can't wait to get started on this project. Wonder where it will end up on my list of kites to make?

That's about all. We also stopped at the art supply store in down town Port Townsend. This is an awesome store at Pearl and Water (I think). Unfortunately, **Diann** and I asked to see the Pilot Parallel pens. This is a unique set of calligraphy pens with steel nibs that come in 5 different sizes. What makes the pens unique is that you can touch the nibs from two different pens, with different colored inks, together to flow the color from one pen to the other. Now the pen will 'write' in two colors until the transferred ink is used up. A truly unique design that my credit cards wish we didn't find! (well they weren't that much individually, but the \$\$ add up when you get multiple pens and inks, etc.) Too bad the default inks are water soluble and won't stick to ripstop. Oh well, at least we'll have fun playing with all the colors, even if we never end up writing in calligraphy.

About the food.....We all came here to make kites, not to dine like gourmards. Plus we have to do something to kill 45 minutes before the raffles start. At least the veggies in the salad bar all seemed quite fresh and crispy. The entrees were at least creative, even though the chefs managed to add something to every meal that some of our friends could not eat, because of severe food allergies. At least they had ice cream at almost every meal. Maybe next year the conference could ask the attendees about food allergies and maybe the chefs could cook around the stuff some of us can not eat.

That's it till next year. Too bad we all have to wait another 11+ months.

Ray Bojarski



A Huge Empty Space in the Sky and in our hearts

This is Margaret Greger's obituary as developed by all of her family. Also included is a poem in tribute by her oldest child, the poet, **Debora Greger** who teaches poetry at U of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Margaret (Haun) Greger, 85, passed away peacefully in her home March 11, 2009. She was born on Dec. 6, 1923, to parents Henry and Elizabeth

Haun in Harrisburg, Nebraska. After graduating from the county high school as valedictorian, she began working for a regional newspaper, eventually becoming a member of the Typographical Union. While attending the University of Nebraska after World War II, she met George (Greg) Greger, a GI Bill student who had returned from service overseas. They were married on April 4, 1947. In 1950, they moved to the Tri-Cities, where her husband worked at the Hanford Project, and where they raised their seven children. Neighbor kids enjoyed the Greger backyard playhouses and the reliable supply of homemade root beer. They knew that if they wanted to drag 53 tumbleweeds into the backyard to construct an igloo, Margaret Greger would be fine with it. Once, anyway.

Attention to family, kites and wild flowers were foremost in her life. She was active in both the Catholic Church affairs and the Democratic Party. In the 1960s she fought for civil rights in the Tri-Cities. She served the Audubon Society as its librarian for many years. As her children grew up and left home, she devoted herself to kite flying, kite making, teaching kite classes, and writing the five kite making books she published. Her books "Kites for Everyone" and "More Kites for Everyone" are prized by kite makers and teachers worldwide. In the Tri-Cities, she was known as "The Kite Lady".

In 1996, she was named American Kite Magazine's Kite Person of the Year. The tribute article stated that she had taught thousands of adults and kids how to make and fly kites in over forty years of dedication to the craft. In 2002, Margaret was inducted into the World Kite Museum's Hall of Fame. Kindness toward friend and stranger alike, love for her family, and a sense of humor rounded out her life.

Margaret Greger is survived by husband George, brothers Jim, Larry and Joe Haun, and sister Loretta Peterson; children Debora, Miriam, Joel, Jan, Amelie, Del and Evan; and grandchildren Thomas, Avalon and Brennan.

As a remembrance, we suggest readers fly a kite in that empty space in the sky. In lieu of flowers, a donation in her honor may be made to a group she supported: McNary Wildlife Refuge Education Center, 311 Lake Road, Burbank, WA 99323. Thoughts and memories may be expressed in the online guest book at www.einansfuneralhome.com

Editor's note: The above photo of Margaret was displayed at the Richland memorial kite fly.

Greg's daughter Debora sent this poem, which he wants to share with others who knew Margaret.

THE AZALEA JUSTIFIES ITS EXISTENCE
by Debora Greger
(in memory of Margaret Greger, 1923-2009)

Dream of yourself or stay awake,
Martial says, and the azalea agrees:
fifty weeks it dreams,

not the greater green of Florida
the rest of us do, but a pink that goes past red
to a shade I'd forgotten for thirty years:

a coat marked down and down again,
coat in a color not from the desert
of subtleties my mother favored

but somewhere between magenta and mauve—
but coat in her size, and so she bought it.
Fiercely, she wore it. Those were the years

when, finding her in a crowd, you found yourself
facing spring come before its time.
Yesterday she died.

She couldn't walk or speak at the end,
she couldn't lift a spoon to the watery winter light
of eastern Washington. Azalea,

if only she could see you now,
the pink of your magnificence
like some ruffled thing thrown on

in your rush to extend a sympathy
so far beyond the pink of flushed and fevered,
it's—what is the word for such ragged,

joy-riddled gauds of grief?



This kite by **Margaret** is one of my favorite kites she made. I still remember her showing it to us while at WSIKF a few years back. A lovely creation.

Photo by **Sylvia Bernauer**

WKA Income Statement	Jan - Dec 2008
Income	
DONATIONS	
DONATIONS - Other	10.00
Total DONATIONS	10.00
DUES INCOME	1,795.00
INTEREST INCOME	3.00
PRODUCT SALES	
2008 PINS	387.00
KIDS DAY PINS	275.00
Total PRODUCT SALES	662.00
WSIKF	
WSIKF LASAGNA FEED	
AUCTION	125.00
RAFFLE	1,135.00
WSIKF LASAGNA FEED - Other	896.00
Total WSIKF LASAGNA FEED	2,156.00
Total WSIKF	2,156.00
Total Income	4,626.00
Expense	
INSURANCE	369.00
MISC EXP	
CHRISTMAS PARTY	161.21
WKA WSIKF PARTY	797.00
MISC EXP - Other	10.00
Total MISC EXP	968.21
OFF SUPPLIES	108.86
POSTAGE	
MISCELLANEOUS	135.80
NEWSLETTER	910.95
Total POSTAGE	1,046.75
PRINTING	
MISCELLANEOUS	98.19
NEWSLETTER	1,735.47
Total PRINTING	1,833.66
PRODUCTS	
Kids Day PINS	178.00
PINS	
2008 Lasagna Feed	339.30
PINS-2008 35th Anniversary	291.30
PINS - Other	-5.00
Total PINS	625.60
Total PRODUCTS	803.60
SUPPLIES	
SUPPLIES - Other	9.20
Total SUPPLIES	9.20
TAX PREP	45.00
WEB SITE EXPENSES	148.00
Total Expense	5,332.28
Net Income	-706.28

WKA Balance Sheet	Dec 31, 08
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Certificates of Deposit	
NUMBER 1	2,604.31
NUMBER 2	3,989.40
Total Certificates of Deposit	6,593.71
SEAFIRST/REG	2,800.98
SEAFIRST/SAVING	433.26
Total Checking/Savings	9,827.95
Other Current Assets	
INVENTORY	
SPAGHETTI PINS	147.90
Total INVENTORY	147.90
Total Other Current Assets	147.90
Total Current Assets	9,975.85
Fixed Assets	
EQUIPMENT	
COMPUTER SOFTWARE	134.30
EQUIPMENT - Other	639.28
Total EQUIPMENT	773.58
Total Fixed Assets	773.58
TOTAL ASSETS	10,749.43
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Earnings	208.92
EQUITY	11,246.79
Net Income	-706.28
Total Equity	10,749.43
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	10,749.43
Prepared by Carol Lord, Treasurer	



John Freeman ready to help as needed while **Scott Slater** is completing his DYOB kite.
Another photo from **Georgan Curran**



Rick White busy working on one of his projects at the Fort this year. I put this in because I thought you might like to see him sans hat!
Georgan Curran did this photo

Bellevue Earth/Arbor Day

 It did not rain this year at Bellevue's Lewis Creek Park celebration! And they had a raffle, free munchies, and heated restrooms. They could have ordered up a bit more wind, but our banners were happy with what was provided. Panda and I buzzed around in our bee costumes, keeping the crowd amused. I thought it was appropriate dress for a day that emphasizes our commitment to improving the environment.

Glenda Kleppin



The banners were happy as shown in this picture by **Sylvia Bernauer**

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

 by **Angie Chau, AKA Director-at-Large**

 The AKA is asking for the help of any and all kite flyers! Many of us are beginning to feel the first signs of spring which might mean it's time to clean out those kite bags. Do you have something that is just taking up precious room or hasn't seen the light of day for a very long time? Would donating something mean you can browse for something NEW to take it's place?

 Here's the perfect opportunity to see that your treasures go to a good home by donating them to the AKA's convention auction in Rochester..

 While the collection point has yet to be decided, this will give everyone time to decide which items are "keepers" and which can be recycled to another deserving kite person. Those items that require shipping prior to convention will need to arrive at the collection point no later than September 15 so it can be listed in the inventory. If there are any questions, please contact me (dal5@aka.kite.org) or [Greg Lamoureux \(region1@aka.kite.org\)](mailto:Greg.Lamoureux@aka.kite.org).

 Thank you.....



A Note from the World Kite Museum



Washington Kitefliers,



The Board of Directors, employees, and volunteers of the World Kite Museum are pleased to announce that we have paid off the debt on our building.



We are very appreciative of the independent foundations and State arts and history funds for recognizing our Capital Campaign as worth their investment. Their confidence called attention to more local interests for consideration. Local and regional businesses, individuals and organizations generously added to the granting organizations.



As the Board of Directors realized the capital possibilities of the above, they developed a giving strategy called "Grand Friends and Masters of Flight." Through a series of building tours and question and answer sessions, local and kite people, companies, clubs and families generously invested a thousand dollars apiece.



The building was purchased the end of August 2005, with a debt of \$78,000. The Board proceeded to pay off this money by acquiring a foundation grant for one third of the amount. The remaining amount was paid off by donation campaigns and investment of general funds.



The names of donors are proudly displayed on the Museum's glass etched Recognition Wall. All of us here at the Museum thank you over and over for your generous help in providing this marvelous building to more effectively accomplish our mission.



Respectfully,
Kay Buesing
Museum Director



My Calendar is Stuck on March

I know April was the National Kite Month, but everyone in the world does not know that!



Several months ago I was asked if I had a kite to loan for a photo shoot for a local charity's annual fund raising calendar. I felt that was a huge honor and the one I loaned was absolutely perfect, according to the organization founder, a friend of mine from school. The organization is a breast cancer patient support group named Angel Care Breast Cancer Foundation.

The models in the calendar are all breast cancer survivors who hold items strategically placed to cover themselves. But to fly a kite, the kite had to be "in the air", so the model was otherwise covered. But what is so perfect is the fact all the models wear feathered wings, and the angel on my kite wears a halo and the necessary wings. The photo used for the March calendar page came out great and it was a favorite photo, according to the photographer. The words above the model are "Angels fly higher and higher." So, I have not turned the page from March. www.angelcarefoundation.org for more information.

Sylvia Bernauer (she is shown displaying the March page)

Honoring Margaret Greger

The **Ben Franklin Kite Society** held their annual Spring Fly in Richland, WA on Sunday, April 5 and also held a special remembrance ceremony for **Margaret Greger**.

The local newspaper printed an article about Margaret, along with a photo of Greg Greger with two of Margaret's favorite kites to have on display and fly that sunny day. One was her rainbow barn door kite with about 400 panels.

Several local residents and visiting flyers gathered to fly kites and to honor Margaret in a special memorial ceremony. **Larry Zilar** read the article about Margaret and also the memorial poem about losing a kite flyer. There was a light breeze blowing as the white kite was sent aloft and it went up and up and up until we could not see it because of the bright sun, and then was cut free.

Earlier, several kites and local families were flying their kites, and banners lined the field. During the memorial all the banners were lowered except one which said "Kite Lady" as Margaret was

known to her friends. It was nice to see **Rod & Ginny Beamguard** who drove up from Vancouver WA for the day. Of course, **Marla Miller**, the **Slater family** and **Doug Jones** from England flew their kites too. Other local kites were **Marlene and Larry Hazen, Vi and Elmo Weeks** who have not crossed the mountains the past few years to Westport and other events like they used to do in their younger days, **Mary Zilar**, and others.

Scott and Kristian Slater added some big color to the field that afternoon when they brought out their "monster" 2000 sq. ft. parafoil. They spread it out and there was actually enough wind to get it off the ground for a short time. It was tied to soccer goal posts so that it would not get away and wipe everyone off of the field!

A tip - if you go to Leslie Groves Park to fly kites - they gather in the parking lot and south field off of Saint Street. I discovered there were at least three entrances to the park. There is also a nice walking trail through the park along the Columbia River.

Sylvia Bernauer

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

June 6-7	Ocean Shores WA International Kite Festival
June 13-14	Pacific Rim Kite Festival, Vanier Park, Vancouver, BC
June 20`	Strawberry/Kite Festival Enumclaw, WA (see details page 4)
June 21	Fathers Day kite fly Seattle WA Magnuson Park's Kite hill (more details Page 4).
June 27-28	Lincoln City OR Summer Kite Festival Theme this year for the letter P is Pacific Wonderland
July 10-12	Grayland Beach WA Annual Westport Windriders Kite Festival
July 18-19	Lion's Club 4th Annual International Kite Festival, Parksville, BC
August 17-23	Washington State International Kite Festival, Long Beach, WA
September 11-13	Pacific Beach, WA "Up Your Wind" Kite Festival
September 26-27	Whidbey Island WA Kite Festival, NOTE THIS IS A CORRECTION OF THE DATE!!!!!!
October 5-10	AKA National Convention, Rochester, MN
October 17-18	World Kite Museum One Sky, One World Celebration

Please drop us a line if you have events that need adding to the calendar. Then we all will be in the know!



Greg Greger is holding the Kite Lady banner, which was flying at the Richland memorial. Photo by **Sylvia Bernauer**

**New Member Report
WELCOME TO NEW WKA MEMBERS!**

Charles & Susan Ackerman	Federal Way, WA
Bonnie & Dan Ecker	Everett, WA

We welcome both of these new memberships who printed their application forms from our Web page. We are glad that they visited our site.

<http://wka-kiteflyers.com>

*Hello to all you kites out there—
John and I have been staying in the hot country in Nevada. We are helping his sister in her recuperation from replacement knee surgery. She lives in Henderson which is basically Las Vegas. We are really missing our heavenly coastal breezes and realize we are coastal wimps and extremely spoiled with the coolness of where we live. We started our journey south by going east to Spokane. While there we got together with the Lilac City Windchasers to fly a memorial fly for Margaret at the same time they were doing that in Richland. We got to fly the flowform I made in a kite class she taught. Lots of wonderful memories. Thanks to all of you who have taken time out of your busy lives to send items for the newsletter. You just can't realize how much I appreciate you all. I expect the next newsletter to be sent out before WSIKF, so that means I will need any information you want out to the WKAers by the middle of July—OK? Here's hoping I will hear from you early in July. I'll be seeing you, out on the flying fields, or wherever, 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

Name	Spouse

Address	

City/State/Zip	

Phone	E-Mail

Names of Other Household Members (Include different last names)	

**WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION
An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER
200 2ND AVE N
SEATTLE WA 98109-4816**

**Printed Material
Newsletter**