



Newsletter

June - August 2011

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

WKA — a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people know how much fun it is to fly kites!
For the latest news check our website: wka-kiteflyers.org

The **Father's Day Fun Fly at Kite Hill in Magnuson Park** was great fun. There was wind (mostly) and there wasn't rain (at all). While there was a handful of multi-line fliers, it wasn't a "stake out the field and blare loud music" type of crowd. Kind of peaceful, actually. Several of the Rev fliers tried to fly together with varying results. Not quite ready for prime time, but they were having fun which is what I think it is all about.

If you don't like history you might skip the next few paragraphs...

We flew our **Bobby Stanfield Stone Mountain Variations**. The pair of them was the first kites we ever made. Remember, we discovered kiting in June 1999 and took a little time getting up to speed. People kept telling us we needed to get ourselves to Ft. Worden (whatever that was) and make our own kites. They lied, telling us it was cheaper. HA! They may have misstated the expense factor, but they were correct when they said we would end up with unique kites. Even when we tried, we couldn't make duplicate kites. There was always something that needed changing. The class Bobby held was too long (and too intense, although we had no way of knowing that, being absolute novices) for Ft. Worden so it was held early, in November, and used up a three day weekend.

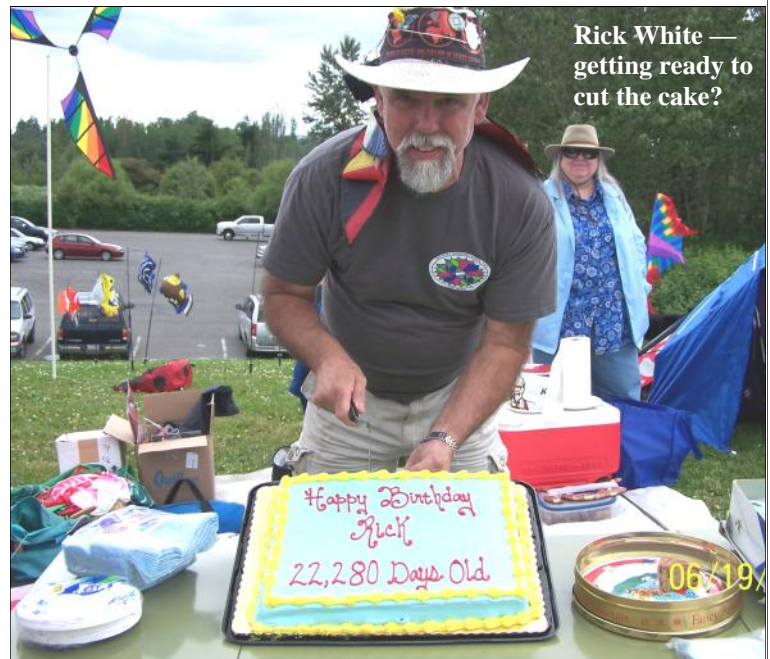
The location was interesting, too. It was held at the then unfinished Drachen Foundation building on Queen Anne Hill in Seattle. The place still had construction dust floating about, but it was a very nice venue for the project. There we were, with a sewing machine which hadn't been used in decades, and the look of a deer-in-the-headlights sort of panic.

Well, to make a long story short, despite having a sewing machine which fought us with every stitch, we ended the weekend with two kites, each with complementary colors to the other. When they are in the air it is obvious they are twins. I will say one thing about the class: by the time we were through, we weren't afraid to tackle **any** kite making project.

O.K., those of you who skipped the history lesson can resume reading here...

So these were the kites we flew this year on Father's Day. People would comment on their appearance and ask about them. I had a grand time telling them the long version of the saga of the construction. Such fun is probably illegal in some countries. Lots of things flew that normally don't get to fly.

When we're at a kite festival, there is usually a specific focus for whatever gets flown, so the odd-ball stuff never makes it out of the kite bag. For one example, late in the day **Rick White**,



Rick White — getting ready to cut the cake?

whose birthday celebration this fine day turned into, flew a wonderful Japanese carp that must have been four meters (about twelve feet) long. If only I had known. I'd have brought my own school of fish to fly. I'm not happy flying them on sandy beaches, but grass is great.

One delightful thing about a gathering of kites: you never know what will pop up. **Ken Conrad** has printed (using equipment and esoteric knowledge far beyond my ken (pun intended)) a beautiful thirty-foot tail for a window kite he made at Ft. Worden. (There it is again. Such a fountain of kites and kite lore) When I first noticed it, he and **Glenda Kleppin** were holding the ends in such a manner it made a rainbow arch. Quite striking and unique. They spent some time discussing how best to keep it from getting shredded when in use as a tail.

It wouldn't be a Kite Hill fly if no one tangled a line in a windmill. Fortunately that got taken care of with alacrity when

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a kite which had flown very nicely for hours decided to take a dip and snagged its' line on one of the smallest windmills in the area. It wasn't a major issue, no one ran around yelling out the best way to recover, and most people may not have noticed that it happened. But it fulfilled the requisite windmill snag.

After a long day of flying kites, braving a steady breeze for hours, and over indulging in birthday cake — Oh, did I mention that Rick White's birthday was being celebrated — **Sylvia Bernauer** came up with a sheet cake decorated in the colors of WKA and a huge number on it that was the number of days in the age that Rick is now. (I'll leave his specific age out of this. Suffice it to say he's not yet eligible for Social Security). The number was calculated by **Glenn Austin**, there was much said about the accuracy of the final result. (Did you include Leap Year Days? How did you count them? Did you use a Julian or Gregorian calendar? All sorts of irrelevant silliness. But all in fun.)

Anyway, as we left Magnuson Park, we saw the fruit seller at his usual stand, so we just had to stop and load up on fresh fruit. From there we wandered into downtown Seattle to the **Dragonfish** restaurant. Very intriguing cuisine, sort of Vietnam collides with China with a helping of Philippines and India thrown in for good measure. Very good stuff. As usual we over bought and got to take a bunch of it home with us for later. As a Father's Day it was a great success. Good kite flying, friendly people, and great food. Hard to beat that.

Jerry Graham

While the balloons are safely tethered to the ground, Rick is giving his Cody kite a workout.



Wonder what these guys have their eyes on?
Scott Slater, Casey Shearer and Glenn Austin



Well, even though he's asleep, at least he was spending the day at the fly with his dad—**Glenn Austin**. That's **Georean Curran** on the right. Knitting, I think.

Photos provided by **Marianne Austin**

Ocean Shores Kite Challenge 2011

This was my third year attending the Ocean Shores Kite Challenge, held June 4-5. Last year I assisted with field setup and tear down. This year, **Andy** and **Brenda Sias**, owners of **Ocean Shores Kites**, took over event coordination as Cutting Edge Kites had closed their doors. Gorgeous weather! Winds 20 mph or so on Saturday did not stop anyone from flying for pleasure or for competition. Northwest Sport Kite League fliers simply put on 300-pound line and a sort of air brake to slow down their kites. I watched **Jerry** and **Marcia Cannon** fly a duet to music. Oh my gosh, their routine was perfect! When they finished I felt like whooping and jumping up and down, but I was down the beach a bit and figured everyone would be shaking their heads at my antics. Jerry did a stunt where his delta sport kite piggybacked onto Marcia's lines and the two kites flew in tandem perfectly. It was **so cool** to watch. I want to do that!

Carl Williamson of Pacific Beach was a gem to loan Ocean Shores Kites his pop-up tent, tables, and all materials for kids to make their own kites, including line, tails, and tape. He had everything already cut, wound, and organized in Rubbermaid containers. Ocean Shores Kites provided the paper. I was parked close to the tent all day and saw many parents with their kids come over specifically just to make a kite as they had heard about the opportunity. Carl showed me how to make one so I could pass on the info to those staffing the tent. That very kite earned me a *special* collector's pin in the Mass Ascension for monochromatic kites. Whoever buys a single-colored kite? The kids' kites were white paper. I added white surveyors tape for tails and by having the same colored tails as the kite earned me the special pin. Creativity went a long way with the judges, Glenn and Marianne Austin. 😊

This year Ocean Shores Kites placed bleachers on the beach for spectators to relax and watch the Northwest Sport Kite League fliers perform their competition stunts, and to watch the always-spectacular **Ray Bethell** fly his three kestrel kites in tandem. Volunteers were treated to complimentary hot dogs

and chili for their efforts in assisting with the weekend. The beach was packed all day with flyers displaying their kites, inflatable kites, banners, and whirligigs. Everyone had a wonderful time. Dinner, awards, raffle, and auction were held at **Red Genie Pizza**. I won the Ocean Shores Kites rokkaku in the auction to "keep it in the state." Otherwise, it would have gone home with a woman from Montana. Can't have that now! Evening time brought out five of us for the night fly. Two kites had lights attached, two were just flying in the dark, and mine—whose rigging didn't quite work due to not being able to disconnect the 9v battery and shearing off one of the connections from the battery. I used a flashlight to light up my kite!

Sunday we saw more sunshine and 5-15 mph winds. We could not have asked for a better weekend. Given the amount of grey skies, rain, and cool temperatures we've all seen this year, it was a very "uplifting" weekend.

Bonnie Ecker



Sylvia Bernauer and **Bonnie Ecker** enjoying the wonderful weather and kiting winds.

Photo by **Marianne Austin**

Empty Places in the Kite Skies

Viola "Vi" Van Gilder

Vi was the widow of Founding Father and first Editor of the Newsletter, Jack Van Gilder. She passed away June 5. She helped Jack in the early years of the club. Club meetings were held at their home. Viola was a nurse and came to WKA events when she was able. In later years she occasionally came to the New Year's Day flies. A memorial service will be held in Seattle on June 25.

Margie Moore

Margie and her daughter Sari joined WKA in 1987. Margie passed away recently. Margie and Sari were WKA members and had special needs. Tom Sisson took an interest in them. He helped them quite a bit and they were very helpful in teaching the kite classes which Tom was always putting on for the underprivileged.

Quincy Kite Festival 2011

The Quincy kite festival is held at a sod farm south and east of the town of Quincy, Washington. They grow grass and sell you



rolls or flat pieces for you to make an instant lawn. Note the picture of the automatic machine that cuts the sod to thickness and width, then rolls it up and stacks it on a pallet. The pallets are then lowered by the

machine to the field. Note the second picture showing the rolls on a pallet. The owner is **Kent Bacon**, and he has only had a festival here a couple of years. He is still looking for ways to improve it. One good thing is you have the acreage of a circle pivot to fly on, with grass to walk on and no trees or power lines to worry about.



On the same weekend there is a gathering of fliers of ultra-light air planes. They fly off a circle pivot adjacent to ours. There are propeller driven parafoil and rigid wing airplanes. They fly mostly in the morning and evening when the air is calmer or in the day when the wind is low. They are very pleasant people to meet with and talk to. You can pay for a ride, and view the surrounding area from above. **Donna Wendt** enjoyed the ride she took.



Here are pictures of a parafoil in flight showing the fan driven buggy below the foil. Also, a picture of a pilot assembling the rigid wing. The wing is transported as a bundle that is opened and the spars locked, then curved battens are inserted into the cloth cover. When complete, the wing is attached

on the cart beside it. To fly, the rigid wing is moved fore and aft to climb or land and side to side to turn on a pivot above the cart.



We went there on Friday May 27, to test fly two kites we had worked on. When we got there in the afternoon **Barry** and

Susan Tislow were there and **Ray** and **Donna Hertz** had a train of Delta Conynes up. Later in the weekend they put up large inflatables. Note this picture looking down the throat of a large windsock and the pictures of several crowns.



Bob and **Donna Wendt** could only stay Saturday. Donna flew several single line kites. Bob got some air time with his quad line kite, flying with **Calvin Labelt** and several other local fliers. Note in all pictures and all three days there was blue sky, sunshine and beautiful fleecy clouds.

There was a very terrifying event that occurred on Saturday that I must tell you about. I would like **Rick White** to **just try and top this**. While we were trying

to put kites back in the air, behind my back, and with malice aforethought, the circle pivot sprinkler deliberately and ever so silently and stealthfully crept up behind me. Then, all of a sudden it pulled 3 of my kites out of the air onto the ground. Then it deliberately and maliciously tried to eat one of them. I have reputable witnesses and documented proof of this terrible event. See this picture taken by **Susan Tislow**.

We flew on Sunday, stayed overnight and went home on Monday. Sunday had its own "event". One of my kites



broke loose and disappeared behind a mobile home on the far side of the circle pivot. When I got there, it was nowhere to be seen. One of the ultra-light pilots came to our rescue. He took off and in a short time found it. It had gone further than I thought it could. It was several fields down wind.

On Monday before leaving the area we drove to and looked at a series of lakes carved out by the "scab land flood" on the east wall of the Columbia River. The native flowers were pretty and it was a big contrast between grass and the original prairie.

DickCurran

Photos by **Dick** and **Georgan Curran** and **Susan Tislow**

Libraries and Kid's Kites

The local library system (Pierce County) has been supportive of kiting in several ways. **First**, several of the libraries would allow us to set up kite related displays for National Kite Month. They would supplement our displays with displays of available kite related books.

Second, we were allowed to hang kites in some of the libraries. We had one display installed for several years. It only came down when they had to install overhead fans. Quite a few patrons asked where the kites went.

Third, whenever we felt the urge to have a Kid's Kitemaking Workshop we could hold it in the various meeting rooms in the libraries. From this third point came something that tickled me pink. One day in January we got a call from one of the managing librarians asking if we could put on a series of Kid's Kitemaking Workshops. She said at least three libraries were interested in the project and had been looking for something to do during a system-wide push to get more kids into the libraries. The final count was four libraries that could make the kitemaking workshops fit their schedules. The workshops were set up for the second Saturday of February, March, April, and May. We arranged for supplies (most of which were donated by **Carl Williamson**) and cut what seemed like a zillion tails from engineer flagging tape in all the colors we could find.

The first workshop was to be in Eatonville, and we were looking forward to going there. A sudden schedule conflict put paid to that notion so we scrambled around trying to come up with an alternative. The library was adamant that they couldn't change their schedule. Finally we thought to ask Pierce County Kitefliers Association if they could step in and do the honors. They did so and saved the day for everyone. Thank You PCKA! Eatonville was a success and the word went out to the rest of the libraries that this was going to be a Good Thing.

The Milton branch was next. They have a brand new facility. So new in fact, that the lights were under warranty and the one that malfunctioned in the meeting room we used was going to be replaced on the Monday after we used the room. I had requested that each branch try to supply a couple of volunteer Friends of the Library to learn how to make the kites and help the kids out. Two showed up at Milton and they had a great time, as did the kids who made kites.

Steilacoom was next. Due to some calendar confusion on my part I showed up a week early, ready to play. I went away, cheeks aflame, and returned the next week. As I was setting up, a local member of PCKA (and, I think, WKA), **John Thomas**, saw what was going on and stayed to help out. Since there was a dearth of volunteers from the Friends, his help made the day go much more smoothly than it could have, and he brought in some of his delightful kite creations.

The last scheduled workshop was to be in Tillicum, just outside the gate of Madigan Army Medical Center. Tillicum's library shares space with the Tillicum Community Center, an

arrangement I hadn't seen in decades.

When I arrived, there was a small crowd of families waiting patiently for something to happen. I was bemused to note that every father had a military haircut. We all had a grand time together as I relearned how to give a class to a group of what basically were soldiers, since all the kids there had been raised with discipline. They were delightfully attentive and did very well.

When the first batch of kids had completed their kites we sent them out to fly them. They were thrilled when every kite flew the way I'd told them it would. After a short break, the librarian and I went looking for more customers. There was a knitting class in the next room over, and several of those people came in and made kites, too. It was the first exposure to personal kites that some of them had ever had. Their kites flew nicely as well.

This was a wonderful experience. It took a little organizing, and no small amount of coordinating, but the result was another group of potential kite fliers. Give some thought to suggesting to your local libraries how they could benefit from such a Kid's Kitemaking Workshop. It might not be MAKR or Fort Worden, but the resulting pleasure is comparable.

Jerry Graham

WKA Board Members

President: Rick White
Sragtop@aol.com

Vice President: Ken Conrad
ken@greatwinds.com

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quillback@clearwire.net

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Safety Chairman: Scott Slater

Products Coordinator: Glenn Austin

Youth Liaison: Kristian Slater

Webmaster: Morrie Williams
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Newsletter Editor: Marzlie Freeman
marzlie@gmail.com

**WHIDBEY ISLAND KITE FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION - 2011**

Application for scholarship to:

- _____ Fort Worden Kitemakers= Conference (Port Townsend) March 16 - 18, 2012
(Registration fee/lodging/meals for one individual)
- _____ Oregon Kitemakers Retreat (RockawayBeach) January 12-15, 2012
(Registration fee/lodging/meals for one individual)
- _____ World Kite Museum Class Year: 2012
(Class registration fee plus \$75 per day lodging stipend - Friday and Saturday nights.)

Date of application: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please complete each of the following lines:

- I have _____ or have not _____ before attended the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference
- I have _____ or have not _____ before attended the Oregon Kitemakers Retreat
- I have _____ or have not _____ before attended a kite making class at the World Kite Museum

I have a sincere desire to learn about kite making and the history of kites, as well as a willingness to make the time commitment required. I understand this scholarship is non-transferrable. If I am awarded this scholarship and am unable to use it myself, I agree to notify WIKFA as soon as possible so that it may be awarded to the next eligible applicant.

Signature (Guardian if under 18)

Return completed form to: WIKFA PO Box 1320 Coupeville WA 98239-1320

Deadline for application receipt: September 30, 2011
Applications must be received by September 30 in order to be eligible for scholarship for the following calendar year. All applications will be drawn by the WIKFA board, and scholarships awarded in order of drawing until all scholarship funds are depleted (giving preference to those persons who have never attended any of the kitemaking events.) Scholarship recipients will be notified no later than October 15

**WHIDBEY ISLAND KITE FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2011**

Information: www.whidbeykites.org

We invite everyone in the Northwest kiting community to join us at the Whidbey Island Kite Festival. This event is known for its laid-back and friendly atmosphere. We will have two mass ascensions (pins for the first 40 to sign up), a sport kite competition, kids' kitemaking, beginners sport kite competition, and our big raffle tent.

This year we will be holding the **Jerry Fincher Memorial Teddy-bear Drop**, in memory of Jerry and the many years he organized and facilitated this popular event.

There is limited food and drink at the field. We expect return engagements by the Central Whidbey Lions and the latte stand. Field lunches and Saturday dinner tickets are available by pre-order through September 1 at our website.

If you want to guarantee pins or a t-shirt or sweatshirt in a particular color/size, please pre-order by September 1. This year's logo to be featured on the shirts and pins is on our website.

Parking near the single-line camp area is by reservation only, available on a first-come-first-served basis if you email **Allen Taylor** at allen@taylor635.com. Please do not hail him on the flying field requesting a parking spot if you want him to remember.

There will again be the special "Single-Line Challenges," two flies each day featuring a theme or specific requirement. A special-edition pin is awarded to the "two favorites" for each fly. The classes this year are: **John Freeman kite (designed, taught, or built by), 2011 Logo (3 of 4 of the WIKF logo colors), Land Animals, and Asian (Urals to Pacific)**. Please see our website for further details.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

Notes from the Prez



Hello everyone—

I was just told my birthday picture from the Father's Day Kite Fly was going to be on the front cover. Great. . . . If this isn't proof that I have absolutely NO CONTROL of what goes on in this newsletter, I don't know what is. These people just do what ever they want to. (Thankfully!) I love every one of them. The number on the cake, seemed to me, to be a bit high. But I was assured it was calculated from an "APP" off of one of those smart phones. (I think they should call them Smart-alec phones.) I was told it included computations regarding leap years, etc. Am I really over 22,000 days old? Oh my goodness.

Father's Day was a very good day. Besides being another year older, and wiser, it let us visit with a couple of new member's who joined WKA last year on Father's Day. We had a good turn out, and good weather. Still no sun, but it was warm enough to enjoy the day. We had a visitor from Berkeley, California. A photographer who was just having fun at the park that day, and so decided to take a few pictures, and post them on her web site. They are in our photos page of the WKA web site. Go take a look at them on line.

The new pin design has been created, thanks to **Glenn Austin**, and they will be ordered very soon. Glenn has also done an excellent job of getting pins into the hands of those who want them. There have been several who ordered them from Glenn on email. Alright Glenn! You Rock!

WSIKF is right around the corner. For those of you who are new to WSIKF, you should really go to the WSIKF official site and read through their schedule.

<http://kitefestival.com>

For this publication, I will mention only a few of the events. First, on Tuesday, we have the Lady Kiteflyer's.

(I am, proudly, an honorary member). They are the finest group of fliers I know. Every year they participate in the Terrific Territories, Club Camps and Totally Tubular festivities. They were actually quite wild last year. Someone should keep an eye on them. I think they should come and fight in the Rok Battle. They would show those kids a thing or two, and get rid of some of that energy they seem to have pent up.

Wednesday, **Glenda Kleppin** gets all the Foster Grandparents to come out and give out all the kites which have been donated to the Kids' Day Fly. Everyone has a great time with the relay races, kids' camps, top kids' award, competition and much, much more for the kids to do.

Wednesday at 5PM after the afternoon flying has worn everyone out, your WKA kite club has its annual Lasagna dinner, and our only fundraiser for the year, the great bag raffle! Yes, that's right. if you have a real cool kite you don't fly anymore, and you want to see people really go ape, buying a LOT of tickets, supporting the WKA, and at the same time, see that kite flying again, then PLEASE send it in to one of us on the Board, we will see to it that it gets to the raffle. Remember, ALL the people in our club would really LOVE to get hold of some of the kites made by other WKA Club members. I know I really enjoy flying my old **Harold Writer** kite I won 21 years ago at the WKA dinner and Raffle.

On Saturday, the Cody Fly is one of my personal favorites. We all come together usually at 11:00 AM, and fly Cody kites in Field A. And of course, there are pins given out! We usually have between 130 to 150 people flying those great Cody's. Someone said the picture on the cover looked a lot like that Cody feller. Hummmm? I don't know about that!

I am looking forward to my 23rd year at WSIKF this year. I am also looking forward to seeing all of you wonderful people who keep me coming back! I will see you there!

Rick White
WKA President

Editor's Note: Don't forget Monday at WSIKF is the trains and arches day. One fly day I personally look forward to.

Hopefully we will have great weather and great winds. Hope to be there, Marzlie

Kite Clubs

Associated Oregon Kites

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

Ben Franklin Kite Society

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

Lavender Winds Kite Club

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

Lilac City Wind Chasers

Contact Bill Cox
509-327-7974 or
email: cxbil@aol.com
Starting in June meet first Sunday of the month in Sky Prairie Park, W. Strong Rd, just east of N Five Mile Rd, Spokane, WA

NW Fighter Kite Association

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

Northwest Sport Kite League

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

Peninsula Breeze Blenders

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

Pierce County Kiteflyers Assn

President: Bob Wendt
Puyallup, WA 98374, 253-848-6325 (home)
staff@pcka.info Calendar at www.pcka.info (see pg 9)

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 5 issues per year 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 Apr - Oct usually at Fort Casey

American Kiteflyers Association

Contact Theresa Norelius - Regional Director

360-904-1424

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)

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www.bcka.bc.ca



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Accuracy of contents rests with the individual contributor, the WKA Newsletter being held harmless in the event of any error. The views presented in the WKA Newsletter are not necessarily the views of the editor, or the Washington Kiteflyers Association.



Empty Place in the Sky - David Julian

David was the WKA newsletter editor from 1987 to 1989. He had a lot of interests in computers and was the first person in WKA to write the newsletter and compile the membership list on a computer. As the newsletter stated: "He operates his own computer."

At his memorial service on Sunday, May 22 at his church in Tukwila, his wife **Beverly** told me about their first date, which was to have a picnic lunch and fly kites. David launched a kite, then tied it off to the picnic table and brought out the lunch basket and a bottle of wine. He said that was how he liked to fly kites.

A few years later, **Tom & Jean Sisson** talked about doing a lot of things with David & Beverly, and one day we compared notes and this was the same couple that I knew because of music in Lodges. Small world! He was a fabulous musician, and she also sang, both of them professionally. He will be greatly missed by those that knew him.

At the Lady Kiteflyer Fly at Rockaway Beach, I flew a musical note windsock in his honor and memory.

Sylvia Bernauer



Buried in kites! *Could you think of anything better to be so well hidden in?*



One good thing about the cold wet spring we had is I didn't want to work in the yard, so I worked on my project.

Several years ago **Glenda Kleppin** started "Kites for Kids" at WSIKF. This has turned out to be a tremendous success. I understand 250 kids turned out last year. For a long time I had been searching for something I might do to contribute in some small way to the kiting community. I chose to make this

winter's project (and perhaps next winter's also) making Kites for Kids for WSIKF.

The first year **Sam** and I went to WSIKF we bought a fringed delta from **Deb Cooley**. So that is what I decided to make. The kites themselves are very simple, but I wanted each one to be unique, so I put a simple design on each one which took longer than constructing the kite. If anyone is interested in decorating skins let me know. I have about 60 finished and may get a few more done before August.

I want to thank all of the people who contributed materials for this project. **Mike Woodring** made 10 kites this winter while he was recuperating from surgery. (Originally I wasn't going to make bags, but Mike set the standard when his kites arrived with bags.) **Carl Williamson** donated sticks. So many people donated fabric — hopefully I won't forget anyone. Thanks to **Kathy Goodwind, Bob Wendt, Sam and Cari**

King, Bary Crites, Suzanne Sadow, Don Ostey, Deb Cooley, Ron Miller, Al Fernandez and Drachen Foundation.

I will not be attending WSIKF this coming summer. If you are there on Kites for Kids day I would appreciate a picture or two.

Anne Huston

Lady Kiteflyers and Friends Fun Fly at Rockaway Beach, Oregon

Friday, May 20th, I set off very early in the morning to drive down to Rockaway. It had been since last October I had last flown a kite at the ocean, or had seen several of the Lady Kiteflyers at AKA convention in Seaside. Too long a time.

The Seattle newspaper had recently printed an article about Astoria and their 200th Anniversary Celebration scheduled for that weekend. As I approached the Maritime Museum on the Columbia River, I saw two sailing ships out in the river! I parked in the lot of the Museum and walked out to the end of the pier and took a few photos. One ship was the **Lady Washington**.



While standing there with another couple taking photos, we commented on how great it was to see them. They asked if I was with the cruise ship group walking around. I said “No, I am on my way to Rockaway Beach.” And then to my surprise, they replied they were also going to visit friends at Rockaway. It could have been any number of other towns on the coast, but what a coincidence — Rockaway! I told them I was going to fly kites with Lady Kiteflyer friends at the park on Saturday. And golly, Saturday afternoon the couple and their friends came to see our kites and watch the activity. They loved seeing everything we were doing and asked questions about other events, etc. You never know when you can make a connection and introduce kiting to those totally unaware of our fun activities.

Friday afternoon a lovely sport kite wind was blowing. I quickly set up one of my **Bary Crites** sport kites and sat in my chair and flew for a couple of hours, only stopping long enough to attached a 40 foot tail. Then **Miriam Schafler** arrived and joined me with her chair out on the beach. It was wonderful to feel that tug on the lines again!

On Saturday several of us set up banners. **Carl Williamson** was the first one to get a kite in the air. It was a beautiful colorful delta with bright yellow and other colors. It was great to see **Marzlie** and her family arrive! They set up banners that she flew at AKA. Miriam and I set out the Lady Kiteflyer Arch

and then she got out her line climber to try out parachuting animals. **Sally Kinash** and **Karen Highfield** also got out light wind kites. **Bob Serack** set up some banners. A bit later we were joined by **Bud** and **Lisa Root**. How great to see them at a single line fly. I had fun with my fighter kites and my bag of tiny kites. Another couple, the **Dawsons** whom we see at Long Beach every year with their lighthouse banners, also joined us for awhile on the beach.

All went well Saturday afternoon until the ocean started roaring which we heard because of the wind shifting totally around from the south to the north with very strong gusts, and the rains came! We scrambled to rescue some kites on the beach, and then I decided to start taking down since I was going to have to leave that afternoon. Lisa helped me pack away wet-sandy banners in my bags, etc. Then a bit later, the rain stopped and I was able to shake out water and sweep sand off of my gear before packing it all back into the car.

It was a short trip, but so worth the effort to see friends and fly kites at Rockaway!

Sylvia Bernauer



WKA/Sisson Fort Worden Scholarship Program

It is time to send in a postcard or note to enter the August 2011 drawing for the March 16-18, 2012 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference. This is a members-only drawing and is one of the benefits of membership in WKA. As of this writing only THREE entries have been received.

The scholarship was named for one of the club's Founding Fathers who wanted everyone to have the experience of attending this conference. The scholarship will cover registration, meal cost, dormitory room cost, and the annual

conference pin. Included is some extra intended to help cover the cost of classes.

Applicant must be a current member of WKA at the time of the drawing and conference.

One entry per member who would attend conference. This scholarship is non-transferable.

Mail to our mailing address, entries must be received before August 12. Drawing to be held at our annual Lasagna Dinner on Wednesday August 17, 2011.

If you have questions, please contact Sylvia Bernauer, dbrn1@earthlink.net or 425-822-4605.

Ocean Shores Mass Ascension Fly's or "Once in a Lifetime Experience"

First of all, kudos and many thanks to **Andy & Brenda** of **Ocean Shores Kites** who hosted and put on the events at the Ocean Shores Kite Festival June 4 & 5. We were blessed with beautiful weather and wind, and many fliers and sport kite competitors came to the festival.

There were four Mass Ascensions at Ocean Shores on Saturday and some not the usual categories. As I decided which kites to take, I did not really consider the Mass Ascensions categories. First was Handcrafted, there are always beautiful kites in that category. I flew "My Shadow" black Kite Guy windsock on a pole. Next was a really unusual category: "Worst Kite!" Then "Monochromatic" or one color or variation of one color, and then a "Night Fly" that evening.

I realized that what I might fly for Monochromatic had another color in the tail or on part of one side, but what was I going to select for Worst??? I brought kites that I enjoy flying, not ones I don't like! By definition "Worst" could mean you don't like it because you are embarrassed for others to see a sewing boo-boo in the pattern, or maybe it does not fly well, or maybe the color scheme was not your favorite.



After looking through all my kite bags, and another compartment where some extra gear is kept, I found one I detested and rarely fly!! This might work for the category of "Worst." I took it out onto the field.

Glenn & Marianne Austin were in charge of judging and giving out the Mass Ascensions pins and special award pins. They walked around the field and saw me out there, away from other fliers, because I would have knocked them out of the sky with my selection! The wind was blowing at least 15-20 mph and my UGLY parafoil was just circling and crashing to the sand! Up, circle, crash! Endlessly!!! Everyone else was flying smoothly, certainly according to my definition.

Glenn looked over at me and right away decided his vote for the winner, and shortly Marianne joined him in that decision. It was then announced that I was hands-down the winner of the UGLIEST colored and WORST flying kite. It is brown on the back side with orange sides and light blue and yellow and green for the other colors on this vintage Hong Kong made kite.

It was then that I realized that this was truly a once in a lifetime "win" for me for I am never a part of those "best" kites that win special award pins in Mass Ascensions flies, but now I have done this in my own way! Then the question came...: "Why do you keep it if it is so ugly, etc.?" The answer: "So I have a spare parafoil to loan out to another flier in a Mass Ascensions

fly!" Poor soul, it will never look "pretty" in the sky!

Sylvia Bernauer

Photo by **Marianne Austin**

White Rock Festival Report

Georgan and **I** went to the White Rock Kite festival held on May 20, 21, and 22. It is located just inside BC Canada from the Blaine, Washington Port of entry. You follow around the bay to the west. White Rock is a small town which has been surrounded by the city of Surrey. We have included some pictures with this write up to show what the festival looks like and what the flying area consists of.

The city of White Rock has one main street along the water and the rest of the town is built above on a steep hill. Look at this picture which shows part of the town. So, one problem is parking, at \$3 per hour. And there is no guarantee of a spot near the festival (which is at the east end of town). So, if you



stay in White Rock, make sure they have a place to park your car. You are allowed to unload your gear in the morning and then go park your car at your hotel, motel, or RV Park.

The festival is on a grass strip between high tide and a main line railroad that runs next to the main street. If you get to town at high tide, you will wonder how there can be a festival here. But look at this picture taken from the first street above main street



at low tide and you will see many sand bars exposed, providing lots of space to anchor kites.



Then, check this picture taken looking at the festival from several sand bars out in the bay.

We drove up on Friday to check out two kites. One was made at Ft. Worden and had never flown. The other, also built at Ft. Worden, was sparred again but had not been flown yet. The weather Friday was beautiful (blue sky and pretty clouds), but light wind, just enough to get a kite up.

We awoke Saturday to a light drizzle, with no wind until after lunch when it stopped raining. The wind was light, but enough to fly kites. It was even enough that I was able (with much pre meditation, planning and skill) to put our genki in a tree which was seen by several reputable witnesses. One of which was **Cliff Pennell**, who helped get it down with his banner pole. **Rick White**, please note that I am now so far ahead of you that you can never catch up.

Sunday we had overcast clouds, but good wind. In the afternoon the sun came out and the good winds continued the rest of the day. Note that Saturday night the kite fliers go somewhere to eat together. This year it was a different location than past years'. It was on the main street in town. The food was good, but the wait time was VERY long.

Dick Curran

WA State International Kite Festival WKA Lasagna Feed

Wednesday August 17, 2011
5715 Sandridge Rd, Long Beach, WA
Doors open at 5 PM Dinner at 6 PM
Dinner Price: Still just \$6.00 at the door

How to get there:

Go East out of downtown Long Beach, at the Go Carts on 10th St. Turn left. As you can see on the map, 10th becomes 60th St. Drive to the end of 60th St and turn south (right) and we are at just 1000 feet on the right. We will be dining and raffling in the Grange Hall.

We are in need of any and all kite related items to raffle off. Please bring them to WSIKF, or give them to any board member. Addresses and phone numbers are in this newsletter, or on the website. Thanks to all of you who make this happen! And, as usual, we are in need of volunteers to help with the setup of the raffle items and meal setup. Contact any board member if you can take the time out of a fun day at WSIKF to add your willing hands.



Important WKA Club Business—



Per our club by-laws, we are required to nominate for, and vote on, the positions of **Vice President**, and **Secretary** this year. No nominations have come in so far for these positions.. Send in your nominations to **Sylvia Bernauer** dbn1@earthlink.net

You can even send in your own name to be put on the ballot if you wish to volunteer for either position. Also, additional nominations for these two positions will be accepted from the floor during the annual membership meeting taking place following the WSIKF Lasagna Feed on the 17th of August. Voting on the positions would follow.



One more picture from the White Rock festival.

Glenn Austin with the wonderful loaded shopping basket

Photo by **Marianne Austin**



Here are some pictures from the Vancouver BC Pacific Rim Kite Festival. These were taken when working on the Teddy Bear drop.



Art Ross, Cathy Jung, and Glenn Austin setting up for the teddy bear drop.

Pretty nice skies that day, wish you could see the blue! Well, you can if you are a member looking at the newsletter on line. All in color. A very nice benefit of membership I think.

Joanne Lord getting the next bear ready for its fly.



Setting it up while a parent and child are patiently waiting. Kids really love the Teddy Bear drop and getting to take the flyer home too!! And the bear is flying safely too. No bears are harmed in this action.

Washington Kitefliers Association

An affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association

Join the WKA & share the fun! Benefits include our quarterly newsletter, a 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, & information about special events in the Northwest kiting community. Membership per household in U.S. is \$15.00/year, outside U.S. \$20.00/year. Fill out application, return it with a check or money order payable in US funds to WKA.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail to:

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

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

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

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

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

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

July 8-10 Westport Windriders Kite Festival Grayland WA
July 16-17 Parksville BC International Kite Festival

Hosted by Lions Club of Parksville BC
Vancouver Island, BC Canada

Aug 15-21 WSIKF Long Beach WA prepare for a fun week!!
Sep 9-11 Up Your Wind Kite Festival Pacific Beach WA

Oct 8-9 Lincoln City Oregon Fall Kite Festival

And don't forget **One Sky one World** wherever you may be

2012

Jan 12-15 Oregon Kitemakers Retreat,
Rockaway Beach Oregon

March 16-18 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference,
Port Townsend WA
www.kitemakers.org

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

Editor's Notes—

Well, I think maybe summer is getting here. It surely has been a cooler Spring than usual.

*I and my family went to the Lincoln City Summer Kite Festival. We had the pleasure of sharing a beach space with **Penny Lingenfelter**. Watching her as she prepared the kids for the Peter Pan skit. She is so good with the kids and I think they really get a kick out of playing kites with her. Great to get such a close-up view of it all. They also had iQuad and IslandQuad flyers, who, as usual put on a great show. It was a great day, and a lot of fun for my kids to see. And also we got to see a lot of the BIG kites hosted by Gomberg Kite Productions—thanks to all of you who were there working the large kites.*

Now we are getting ready for the Westport Windriders festival in Grayland WA. This is new to them and what a way to get indoctrinated into the joy of kiting.

Thank you to those who sent articles and pictures for this issue—you are greatly appreciated—without you there would be no newsletter.

Our next issue will be right after Pacific Beach in September. So remember to get pictures and write a bit about them—we all enjoy hearing about the fun of this hobby. Also send any info about upcoming events as well. And if you have plans for a kite or wind toy you want to share with us, that would really be great.

See you out there—

Marzlie

Email address marzlie@gmail.com



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



Printed Material Newsletter

The last page photo——



Photo shot by **Marianne Austin** of **Glenn Austin** and **Morrie Willians** during a scheduled kite buggy run at Pacific Beach, Washington



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