



Newsletter

August - October 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

PCKA / WKA Holiday Party

December 3, 2011

Mountain View Lutheran Church

3505 – 122nd Ave E

Edgewood, WA 98372

Another summer kiting season has come and gone. The days are shorter and the weather getting cooler and wetter. Now is the time to start thinking about our winter activities – indoor flying, kite making and a few other fun events. Leading the list of great events is the annual PCKA / WKA Holiday Party.

Again this year the PCKA and WKA are getting together for some holiday fun, friendship and food. The day starts at **12:00 PM noon** with indoor flying.



Carol and Cass working with the Rev

All comers are welcome. You will see and have the chance to try single, dual and quad line kites. Everyone takes turns on the floor, lessons are common and some of the best indoor fliers in the country are there to show how it is done. A lot of socializing and storytelling takes place when not flying.

At **5:00 PM** we put the kites away and start setting up for dinner and the bag raffle / auction. Dinner is at **6:00 PM**. For dinner PCKA and WKA provide turkeys and hams.

Everyone else brings whatever side dishes, salads and desserts they want. The variety is always incredible and nobody leaves hungry. Coffee, water and pop as well as all the cups, plates and silverware are also provided.

Keeping the holiday spirit alive we have a bag raffle that helps support the local holiday food bank. Last year over \$800 was given to the food bank. Remember to bring donation items for the raffle! If you have a special item to donate you can ask that it be live auctioned. You can also specify whether the proceeds will go to the food bank or the World Kite Museum.

Last year we had over 70 participants. Can we beat that this year?

Bob Wendt (PCKA) – (253) 848-6325

Rick White (WKA) – (206) 819-4739



Kristian Slater having a fun time with a dual line kite

*2010 Party
Photos
by Rick White*

A good time is had sharing a table with kiter friends.





2011 WSIKF – A Spectator’s View

As usual the 2011 Long Beach Washington State International Kite festival was a big highlight of the year. The outdoor events were possibly not quite as well attended by spectators or performers as in some previous years, but it was a fascinating week, just the same. Weather was quite variable, some days with almost too much wind, some with very light wind, and some with a cold fog. Thankfully, there was no rain. The high wind prohibited the display of the big inflatables and spinners some of the time and limited some of the trains.

The movement of the quad field back nearer the center of activities was welcome, particularly from a spectator’s standpoint. The **iQuad** and **Island Quad** people put on great shows, in spite of less than ideal wind conditions much of the



time. It appeared the wind and the number of fliers available prevented setting any mass ascension records. **Ray Bethell** was tremendously entertaining, as usual, flying almost continuously



every day. Fighter and Rokkaku battles were intense, with the high winds giving many competitors cross-country exercise chasing their cut loose kites.

The indoor competition on Friday night saw record attendance, possibly as spectators sought refuge from the wind and cold fog. That event and the demos on Wednesday and Thursday evenings were highly entertaining. Many of the fliers we’ve come to know as regulars at indoor festivals, among them, **Connor** and **Amy Doran**, **Lisa Willoughby**, **Paul de Bakker**, **Toby Arndt**, **Scott Davis**, **Wayne Turner**, **Scott Weider**, and others, plus some new- comers, captivated us, as usual. **Lisa** and **Paul’s** “Fusion” act gets better with each performance. The audience will not soon forget **Spence Watson’s** “Sleep Walking” performance,



flying a little single line glider, strolling around with one hand in his pocket, often not even looking at the kite, and at one point sitting down with the spectators on the bleachers while still flying. The music was, of course, the old hit, “Sleep Walk” by Santo and Johnny. That

performance can be seen at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARIW_y7n8Ik courtesy of “Watty” himself. Another highlight of the night was the competitive performance, flying a Revolution, of 11-year old **Laurel Koenig** who came all the way from Tennessee.

Elliott Brogren

Photos by **Elliott Brogren**

Intergenerational Kite Making in Eastern Washington



Kite making is a natural for intergenerational activity. Beginning during spring school break, sessions of kite making were offered to kids in the Tri-Cities area, provided that they brought along a parent or grand parent. The entire session was designed so the kids and adults worked together as a team to achieve a "guaranteed to fly" **Conover Eddy** kite, as shown in my wife, **Margaret Greger's** *Kites For Everyone* book. The sessions went as follows:

The long history of kites in the world was laid out to attendees. *Why kites fly* was explained, along with emphasis on the easy to build kite, the Conover Eddy. I built a kite from materials I brought. Then I explained the best sequence of laying out the pattern on tall kitchen trash bags. Next I showed cutting it out and fixing it on the two-part frame (with the critical pre-bent cross bar), plus attaching the tail and flying line.

I then demonstrated, for all to see, the kite's flight capability to fly well at walking speed. The attendees were told they would work as teams to obtain materials

from the supplies I had brought. One team member of each team obtained kite making materials and tools to trace the pattern, cut it out, attach the frame, tail and flying line.

Decoration of the white plastic kite material can best be done with color marking pens when it has been cut from the bag. It can also be done when the kite material has been fastened on to the frame by laying each half on a flat surface to support the decoration.

As teams completed the kites, each was brought to me for flying quality assurance review.

During spring school break, these kite making sessions were offered in Richland's Community Center, CREHST museum and at McNary's Education Center. Eighty-five families participated in these three successful kite making sessions. Most sessions were at full capacity of families wanting to make kites.

Similarly, family kite sessions were offered in

Wapato, Washington. (This agricultural city is composed with more than half of Mexican heritage.) **Sister Mary Ellen Robinson** has, for several years, worked to improve the activities of students there and increase their awareness of their Mexican heritage. This has been expanded by her successful effort to invite and bring high school teachers from the Mexican school system for this month long summer program.

Kite making was introduced by teaching these teachers how to make the Conover Eddy kite and how they could take this skill back to Mexico. The local Wapato children in the day classes were sent notes home to bring their parents to a kite making session at the city park. It worked, more than fifty families came to work as teams to make their kites, using materials brought by Greg to the event.

Plans are to continue this effort in the next year to expand the intergenerational kite making effort.

Greg Greger

An Important Announcement

Gomberg Kites Productions is pleased to announce that their retail division, **Northwest Winds**, will be opening in Seaside, Oregon, in September. The 2500 sq. ft. Seaside store is located in a prime kite flying location. **Northwest Winds Kites and Toys** will be at 19 Broadway Street, just 100 feet from the famous Seaside turn-around and the beach. The **Turnaround at Seaside** is the official end of the **Lewis and Clark Trail**. This location has been used for four AKA National Conventions. Check this amazing link! It's a 360 view of the beach, promenade, and storefront.

http://www.yourworld360.com/master/USA/Oregon/Seaside/seaside_turnaround.html

Our store is visible just to the right of the statue by the small white street sign. We plan to open for business in late September with our general Managers, **Jackie and Mike Oswald** on site. *And we're looking for good employees!*

GKPI now has the two best kite retail locations in Oregon. Our primary location is at the D-River Wayside in Lincoln City. In two short years, Northwest Winds has grown into the largest "bricks and mortar" retailer of kites on the west coast. Our products, of course, specialize in the Gomberg-made G-Kites brand. We carry a broad selection of garden art and wind spinners and the largest selection of Revolution products in the Pacific Northwest

Gomberg Kite Productions International
www.GombergKites.com / www.GKites.com

WKA Has a New Member of the Board

Congratulations to our new
Vice President!!

Butch Harviston

Butch has been elected Vice President of WKA. He is a newly retired school teacher. Every year he taught his students about kites and kitemaking. Butch has often helped at the kids' kite making events at WSIKF, Whidbey Island, and other festivals. We are very happy he has joined the WKA board.



Thanks

Thanks to everyone who helped out or brought items for the WKA club raffle and auction. And **Glenn Austin** certainly added to his pin collection with the successful bid for the pins from **Dawgy Dude!**

Many hands make light work — and helpers this year in the kitchen were **Scott and Lori Slater**, along with **Casey Shearer**. **Launny Herriges** always does a great job getting the raffle room ready, assembling and hanging kites, etc. as needed. **Bonnie** and **Dan Ecker** were busy in the raffle room too. Selling raffle tickets this year were **Marzlie Freeman** and **Freida White**. Thanks to Marzlie for stepping in when **Joanne** and **Don Lord** were not able to attend this year. And of course, **Glenn Austin** sold dinner tickets and club pins. **Rick White** and his family purchased all the food items and picked up the great decorated cakes. **Marianne Austin** provided the checks for the rental of the Grange Hall too. I know there must have been others helping too...and of course I picked up dues renewals and gladly welcomed some members we have not seen in a while.

Jerry Graham and **Glenda Kleppin** will be flying the **Sisson Parafoil Kite** again this year. Congratulations to them.

Sylvia Bernauer

WKA Board Members

President: Rick White
Ssragtop@aol.com

Vice President: Butch Harviston
harviston.west@comcast.net

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quillback@clearwire.net

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gmakleppin@usa.net / jlgraham1@usa.net

Safety Chairman: Scott Slater

Products Coordinator: Glenn Austin

Youth Liaison: Kristian Slater

Webmaster: Morrie Williams
mmawilliams@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Marzlie Freeman
marzlie@centurylink.net

Westport Windriders Festival Report and Pictures

Can you believe it?

A weekend at the beach, three days in a row with sunshine, and sunshine with beautiful clouds. And it was a kite festival, there was even good wind all three days to get a lot of kites into the air.

Take a look at the single line kites and the spectacular display of the big kites with their line art.

Dick Curran



All photos by **Dick Curran**

Editor's note:

What a sky full of color, and getting to park where you fly the kites is pretty cool!!



Is your vehicle in this line-up? Another view of the Westport Windriders July festival. 2011
 Photo by **Sylvia Bernauer**

WSIKF Day 1 2011

Photos and Comments By Sylvia Bernauer

Here is a great photo of **Tommye Ann** and **James Babst** in the registration tent on Monday. *Kite Trains and Arches* were being registered.



Notice the vintage **Joel Scholz Parrot kites** and the **DynaKites** that decorated the tent. They and other kites were hung from his collection by **Eric Forsberg**, whose daughter **Amy** helped **Kay Buesing** by being in charge of this event.



WSIKF Day 2 2011

Taken during the "Tubes" event on Tuesday, Team Day - Crazy Ladies team

Left to right -- **Bonnie Ecker, Sylvia Bernauer, Becky Tisch, Miriam Schafler, Barb Hall**

Comments and Photos by **Sylvia**

Lady Kitefliers “Crazy Ladies” — More from Sylvia about Tuesday WSIKF 2011

Barb Hall from Florida was able to join us again this year. She brought her parachuting animals. **Bonnie Ecker**, a mushroom club member, increased the number of spinning mushrooms we had in our garden this year. She also found some fish with spinners in the center of the body. As we were setting up our camp, we even had help from one of the **Sky Pirates** who offered to pound poles for us. Glad we took him up on that because of pretty strong winds that started the dust flying that afternoon. We were awarded 3rd place for our **Children’s Garden**.

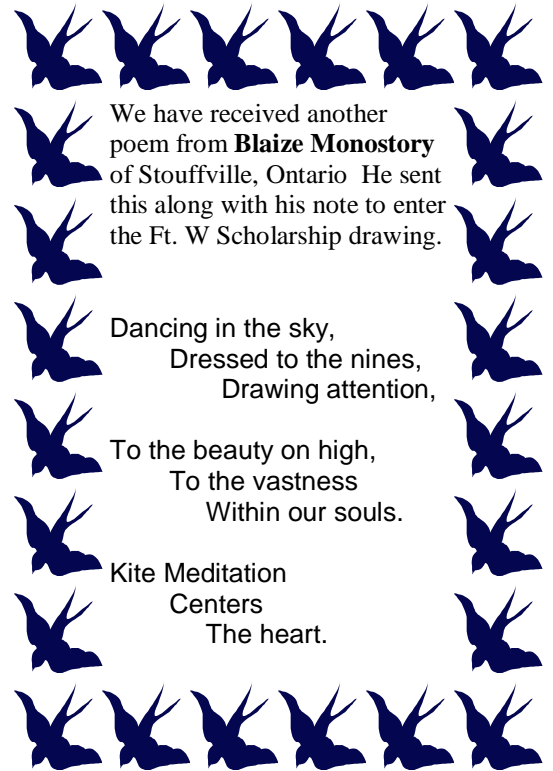


Other members of our team again this year were **Becky Tisch**, **Jean Reed** (mom) and her daughter **Donna Wendt**. In the morning’s *Tubes (windsocks)* event, we earned points: **Totally Tubular** - 1st **Miriam**; 2nd Tie **Donna**; 3rd **Jean** **Spin Me Around** - 2nd **Bonnie**, 3rd Tie **Becky** **Trick Tubes** - 1st Tie **Barb** and **Donna**; 2nd Tie **Becky**; 4th Tie **Miriam**, **Sylvia** and **Bonnie** And **Best of Show** to **Miriam!** One category did not get down on the scoreboard but **Jean** and **Bonnie** heard they had won points. Donna went the extra mile for us this year by entering the rok battles. Her Crazy Ladies team of **Kelly Bruland** and others earned 4th Place so that overall the Crazy Ladies Team came in 2nd place in the Team Standings. Way to go, Crazy Ladies!!



L to R: **Miriam Schafler**, **Becky Tisch**, **Barb Hall**, **Sylvia Bernauer**, **Bonnie Ecker**

We are standing at our team camp. This banner, which originally belonged to **Ellen Pardee** - I am now the proud owner! Members of the **Crazy Ladies** Team, who were available for a photo op at the moment:



We have received another poem from **Blaize Monostory** of Stouffville, Ontario He sent this along with his note to enter the Ft. W Scholarship drawing.

Dancing in the sky,
Dressed to the nines,
Drawing attention,

To the beauty on high,
To the vastness
Within our souls.

Kite Meditation
Centers
The heart.



**We have a Winner
of the
WKA/Sisson Scholarship
to the
Fort Worden Kitemaker’s Conference**

Congratulations to **Larry Schroder!!**

Larry has not attended the conference for several years.

But he’s certainly been busy. On Thursday at WSIKF as he entered several kites in the handcrafted competition and won some ribbons.

We know he will get a lot out of next year’s conference.

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)
Includes quarterly newsletter
www.bcka.bc.ca



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marzlie@centurylink.net

Non-solicited articles are always encouraged. Notification is required if contribution is submitted to any other publication. Return of materials must be requested along with a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Advertising rates and information sheets are available upon request.

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.





Introducing **Leslie** and **Marianne** of **Winddriven**, a kite, garden art, and toy store in Lincoln City, Oregon, plus a whole lot more. **Dan** and I toured the upper half of Oregon in our RV for vacation this year and looked for the kite shops in Newport and Lincoln City. We didn't find the **Kite Company** in Newport after eating at **Mo's** (yumm!) and due to our running late, we couldn't turn around. Be sure to look for it when visiting Newport.

Lincoln City, however, is host to two kite shops—**Winddriven** (formerly *Flying Things*), and **Michael and Jackie Oswald's Northwest Winds Kites & Toys**. We purchased items in both shops. **Winddriven** is owned by **Marianne Borchardt**. They don't have a website, which may or may not be a blessing because there is **so** much to look at you could spend an hour, or even two or three, in the place. I would hate to be their webmaster, with all their inventory. They are on Facebook. I'm sure after Dan went outside to sit and check his website, I was in the store another hour. Women...we simply were born to **shop!**

Winddriven technically isn't a kite shop. Sure, they have a wonderful assortment of kites, banners, tails and ground spinners. But, they also have garden art, beautiful metal art, stuffed animals, and toys. Just look at the background in the photo. Then there's the outside displays which takes Leslie's husband, **Bruce**, an hour to set up, so don't overlook them. Leslie was

awesome serving her customers. It got busy around noon and she was a one-woman program, but helped everyone that needed assistance. We left around 1:00 with purchases in hand. Be sure to look up both **Winddriven** and **Northwest Winds** when visiting Lincoln City.

Bonnie Ecker, whirlwind@comcast.net



Bonnie took this picture of Leslie while in the store. The above picture of Leslie and Marianne is from their Facebook page.

News from the World Kite Museum Upcoming Events 2011

November 6, 2011 Bob Milne Concert



Premier ragtime performer, known for his energetic piano style, entertaining stories about this music's history, and master of making one piano sound so fun.

World Kite Museum & Hall of Fame Benefit Event Sunday, November 6, 2011

Doors Open 1:00 pm – Tour the Museum · Performance
Begins 2:00 pm

Light Refreshments included with Ticket · \$25 each
Wine & non-alcoholic beverages available; Donations
gratefully accepted!

Seating Is Limited; CALL NOW to reserve yours!
360-642-4020

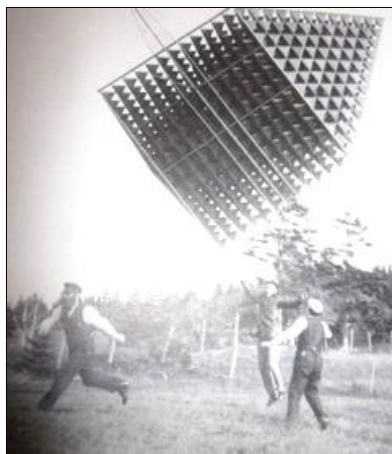
303 Sid Snyder Drive in Long Beach

Special Exhibit for Concert

The first kite competition in the United States took place at the Lewis & Clark Exposition in St. Louis in 1904. Over 24 individuals participated to win competitions and to show off their style of kites.

While the piano jazz and banjo and guitar music filled the air people like Alexander Graham Bell, Major Baden-Powell, Octave Chanute, William Eddy, Silas Conyne, Samuel Cody and more demonstrated and flew kites regularly. Many of these kites were new inventions almost never seen before. They made the outside as much of a demonstration area as the exhibition buildings presented indoors.

Add this special exhibit to the other exhibits that are included in your ticket price.



Coming Events, 2012

Jan 14-15, Windless Kite Festival (Indoor Kite Flying)

Indoor kite flying extravaganza, features kites choreographed to music. Some perform solos; others work in pairs while still others create group performance. "Hot Tricks Shoot Out" matches 2 flyers in nearly acrobatic flying.

Feb 4-5, Asian New Year Celebration

Each year, the World Kite Museum features the kites and cultures of a different Asian country. Uniquely shaped and decorated kites and other folk arts are displayed. Videos, demonstrations and hands-on activities are part of both days' events.

President's Day Weekend Kite Making Workshop Feb 18, 19 & 20, 2012

Rod Beaumgard, an experienced kite-making instructor of Fort Worden, has chosen a German kite, the Schlangendrachen, for this event. He is perfecting the written directions.

Visually this kite makes a dramatic statement in the sky. While the kite is not in the beginner's category, someone with sewing experience will be able to make it.

If you register with the Museum, we will be sure he gets your information and if you register with Rod, he will be sure we get the information.



Put this on your calendar.

World Kite Museum 360-642-4020
303 Sid Snyder Drive • PO Box 964 • Long Beach, WA
98631

www.worldkitemuseum.com
Washington State International Kite Festival
PO Box 964 • Long Beach, WA 98631
www.kitefestival.com



September 2011 at Pacific Beach “Up Your Wind” Kite Festival

I think you can tell, even in grayscale, we had perfect weather a good share of the time. Sunday we left around noon since it is such a long drive home. I hear we lucked out as the weather changed from the glorious blue sky into something else entirely.

As usual, it was a wonderful way to spend a weekend. Good skies, good wind and good friends. What more could you ask for?

Marzlie

Photo by **Cliff Pennell**

See more about Pacific Beach fest on page 13 by **Dick Curran**

“FRIENDS OF” PIN

The “**Friends Of**” Glenn Austin pins were a resounding success. So much so, I had to order more. I will have them at Whidbey so those who asked for them will have them. While I am at it, I would like to express the reason I started this “Friends Of” pin thing. First of all, obviously I like pins. (Maybe you could tell by the shape of the top of my head — ie. Pin-Head?) But most of all I wanted to reach out to some of my friends, and tell them how much I thought of them. **This** is the reason I did it. It started out to be **me** making them, and the “Friends” **I** picked, would be all mine to decide. Rick’s friends! But then I decided to give all the proceeds to the WKA so everyone would know I was not in this for the profit of the pins. Hence giving more credibility to, and reinforcing the “Friends” aspect. That moved into letting WKA sponsor them, and letting the board decide who my “Friends” were. Hummmm. Okay, Now it’s “Friends Of” WKA”??? Or is it “Friends Of” the board of WKA”??? Anyhow, I think you understand this isn’t without it’s problems. For example, I am getting requests to be our next “Friend”. I am soooo flattered! Obviously most people would be happy to be the subject of the next “Friend Of”. And some of you might even be picked. I just want to **STAY** friends with **everyone**. Even if **you** don’t get picked. Promise me you will stay friends with me! The criteria for this has brought on a whole new significance. We now have to consider who is friends with the most people, so folks will want a pin? **What?** **Now** it’s getting into the realm I never intended. A popularity pin. Get out-o-here. I ain’t goin’ that way. I **promise**, **that** isn’t going to happen. So the future of this pin is in the balance. I have 2 more recipients of this pin, then, I am not sure if there will be any more or not. The next pin will be “**Friends Of**” **John Freeman**. Anyone getting the idea here yet? For the third “Friends of” pin, I still have to talk to them and get permission. Then I will let everyone know. The only thing we have decided is, that as a result of the sponsorship, the “Friend” will be WKA oriented, and as such will stay in the WKA family. Please remember I am going to do my best to keep this as close as

possible to the original intent of the original Friend Of pin, and every aspect which surrounds it. I will have nothing to do with a popularity contest. Any resemblance to a “Popular” person, will be purely coincidental! Your thoughts are welcome. Send them to me at ssragtop@aol.com.

Rick White



Marianne Austion sent in this photo **Rick White** presenting **Glenn** with the “**Friends of**” Glenn Austin pin at the WKA Wednesday night Lasagna Dinner during WSIKF 2010.

Glenn is the one dressed as “Mr. U.S.A.” Check for the colors on the WKA website.

Notes from the Prez



As I was getting ready for Whidbey Island Kite Festival, I was remembering the great weather we had at WSIKF. I was hoping Whidbey would be even half as good! About 10 MPH is half. That should do it!

I also realized recently there were no pictures of the Seaside AKA Convention 2010 on our WKA site. That has been corrected. I just went ahead and put my personal pictures up.

Morrie has done such a great job on the web site, I would like everyone to shoot him a note and tell him what you think! You can get his email address here in the newsletter or on the WKA site. He is the webmaster! Morrie has been sending to those of us on the board, a Demographic, or analytics of our WKA site. The data is remarkable. The traffic has really gone up on the site. It dawned on me, that some of them are going to see pictures of events that just happened. Then it occurred to me I forgot to give them to him. Thankfully some of you, including Morrie, have put up your own pictures. **THAT IS GREAT!** That's what it's there for. Not just for my photo's, but for everyone's. But, I will try and get mine up as soon as possible so the visitors to the site won't be disappointed when there is nothing to look at. Lets all try and help the WKA website out, and send your pictures in. Even of an out of town fun fly! We would all like to see how the other town lives! Or at least flies!

I would like to welcome our new Vice President **Butch Harviston!** Butch has recently retired from the teacher's ranks. He is going to be a real good addition to our board. Thanks, Butch, for joining us! And thanks to **Conrad** for serving as the WKA's Vice President for as long as I have been President. Some of you may not know this, but I accepted the President job only with the stipulation that Ken agreed to be my VP. He did **not** disappoint! Thanks again Ken! I mean it! Ken will stay on the board, as our **Education Director.** I hope you had the chance to see Ken out at the Dragon Fly, that **Kay Buesing** directed, at WSIKF. Ken had his beautiful 75-100 foot (About) Dragon centipede flying out on field B on Thursday. The pictures are on the WKA photo's page. Check all the dragons out.



Another thing I would like to point out is the success of **Dawgy Dude** this year. Some "nut" bid a lot of money for that Dawg, I'm not saying who it is, but his initials are Glenn! I say "nut" because he out bid me and several others. I wanted that Dawg. There were a lot of rare pins on that vest! Thanks to **Glenda Kleppin** and **Larry Christensen** for training that Dawg to do that! Okay, . . . Thanks go to Glenn for helping out the WKA, and bidding that much!

An interesting thing happened this year too. After the dinner, and **after** the pins were removed, (by the pin-head who won them,) Dawgy Dude went on a little vacation. He traveled around Long Beach, (because that is as far as he could walk He doesn't have a driver's license, silly!) I was lucky enough to see him several times, and lucky enough to have my camera with me at the time! Check it out on the WKA photo's page. About a quarter of the way down the WSIKF picture's page. I think Dawgy Dude had a great time by the looks of it!



While you're there, those of you who flew in the Cody Fly, that picture is at the bottom for your pleasure. If anyone would like a larger copy of it, let me know, and I will send it to you!

Last but certainly not least, let's all remember to send Kristian Slater a note to tell him how much we all miss him. He is on that long difficult road to an education in Montana. He is most likely bored with all those books and nobody to talk to. Awaaaaah! Maybe he will stop talking to all those Montana girls long enough to read your note!

Have fun out there and until Winter, we will see you at one of the many kite events that is going on here in Washington, Oregon, or Canada!

Rick White

The 3 day **Pacific Beach Kite Festival** this year was a meteorological smorgasbord. There was a day with a first class kite fly and banner camp display and Clydesdale sand pull. The other two days were something different.

Friday was foggy. It started out with no wind, but by noon we had a north wind of 4-5 mph so you could let a kite fly and watch it disappear into the fog. Then you could watch water run down the line and create an ever enlarging hole in the sand where it dripped off. There were very few people flying.

Saturday was a complete turnabout. Clear, blue sky, sunshine, steady north wind of 5-6 mph with gusts to 7.5 all day. You could get anything up, and there were a lot of people there who did put up a lot of things. See the pictures of the sky painted by rip stop.

Pacific Beach used to have a sports kite competition, but when it left; it was pleasant to just come and fly kites. Then they



offered prize money and people tried to outdo each other in banner camps. Kiting on the beach remains pleasant and low key because you just continue to fly your kites unknowing that a group, or team, of people are circulating throughout the festival selecting their own preferences of kites in various categories they had set. Every now and then you might see someone walking around with no kite string in their hand, but a clipboard instead. It is a pleasant surprise at the Saturday night banquet, when your name is called out as a winner in some kite category. I got a second place in a category of “unique kite” with a train of 5 diamond shaped women’s head-scarves, each with three 30 ft. long 6” wide tails. Up in the parking lot where the banner duels take place, one thing stood out: **Bob Serack’s** unselfish, manly act of leaving his banners home which allowed **Marzlie** a clear chance to win 1st place. I give credit to **Barry Tislow** and **Ray Hertz** for making a wonderful contribution to the kite festival. I want to thank them for the effort they go to in order to put up all the large inflatable art objects. There **were** other fliers who also did the same, but I don’t know their names.

Now for the “Clydesdale” sand pull event Saturday. There was one first thing in the morning and one the last thing at night.

Think of Budweiser Beer. Think of the long string of the horses with the funny feet pulling a very heavy wagon full of beer. At a kite festival the wagon is a truck and a very heavy trailer full of kites. The horses are 4WD vehicles with funny tires. So a Clydesdale sand pull is done by one 4WD attached to the stuck truck on one side, and another 4WD attached to the other side of the stuck truck and a third 4WD attached to one of the 4WD, and all feet (wheels) churn up the sand into a deep rut as well as any farmer could with a plow.

Sunday weather was strange, difficult to fly and a disaster. Start with no wind, then a slight wind off shore (from the east) , followed by a light wind (4 mph) from the north, but a kite which can fly in 2 mph would stay about 5-10 feet off the sand. A long launch (let out a lot of line) with a run against the wind would get the kite up, but would settle down and fly 5-10 feet off the sand. It was like having a high pressure down draft around you, striking the sand making a 4 mph wind, but only along the sand. About 10-11 AM, an onshore wind came up (west wind) and you could get kites into the air. But low flying kites flew towards the east and higher kites would fly towards the south. Then **all** kites flew towards the south, nice and steady. So now I put up 6 kites real high and my head-scarf train. I sat down, relaxed, and smiled, and thought about lunch. However, Murphy’s laws of kite flying has a saying “never turn your back on a kite” for something bad will happen, and it did. So now we are at the disastrous event. About 1:30 PM the wind suddenly and with malice in its intent, changed its mind. Within a minute the wind went from 4 mph to 20 mph but also changed from a north wind to a south wind (180 degrees turnabout). I watched my three low-flying kites hit the sand and the three high kites swing about, but when the 5 scarf train swung about they bunched up a little and when they came to the end of the fly line the lead kite bridle suddenly broke and the whole mess went tumbling downwind like they were in a clothes dryer. Fifteen thirty foot long tails, bridle lines and kites being crocheted, knit and woven in the air. This disaster took one and a half hours to untangle the mess and put them away. Needless to say, this weather change cleared the beach of all fliers, and thus ended the festival very abruptly.

Dick Curran

Whidbey Island Kite Festival September 2011

The Weather Gods are out to get us. Pacific Beach weather went from good to bad (Saturday, then Sunday). See my report in this newsletter. So, just to show they are still in command, they made Whidbey weather bad on Saturday and much worse on Sunday.

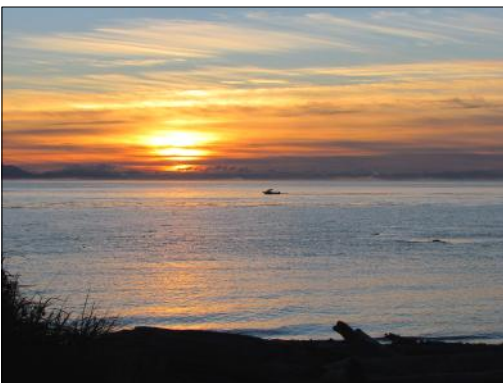
Saturday the Weather Gods added some variety to challenge you. You could fly a kite—some times. The wind blew, the wind did not blow, the wind changed directions and then blew or did not. So if you got a kite up, it may not be there for long. See this picture of one of the times where the north wind blew long enough.



Saturday the GODS also played with us in other ways. You could look at the banners when you were out in the field to launch a kite, but when you tried, you found your wind was at a different direction. You could launch a kite and before you got it up (or out) very far, the wind blew it back at you. I launched the Freeman Moth and without changing flight angle it came back at me so fast that I had to put my arm up to protect my face.

This gleeful sadistic humor of the Gods was especially hard on the stunt kite competition fliers. **Bob Wendt** said he had never seen a score lower than 15, but one pair of rev fliers had 11. They did their 3 minute warm up OK, then set down and had the music start and the kites were blown down to the ground. Re-launch and they came towards them, re-launch and the wind died.

Saturday night there was a beautiful sunset Now, the



expression I always heard was, “Red sun at night Sailors delight, red sun in the morning sailors take warning.”

The banquet (with good food) and the windless fly on

Saturday night went off okay. I flew the conard glider, which I built, in competition and a box kite as a demo and finished the night with a demo of probably the largest kite ever flown indoors. But, in the middle of the night in my tent in the camp grounds, I woke to the sound of strong wind in the top of the tall trees. It was pleasant to be snug and entertained.

However, down on the field at night, our night watchman, **Dick Barnes**, and his wife were having a horrible time as the wind was **very, very strong**. The Gods were

making kites, then soccer balls out of the EZ up type shelters, and he was trying to save them. When I got on the field in the morning about a half dozen were scattered along the beach with the logs. I walked north on the beach about a ½ mile to retrieve one. Most were reduced to a pile of twisted, bent and broken metal structural members. We spent 1½ hours with tools taking members apart to salvage enough pieces to put a couple back in service. The **Lyons** started with two shelters, but got one back together to serve food on Sunday.

Sunday the weather GODS said, “if you think things are bad now, we can take misery to new heights.” They did this with the weirdest wind I have ever tried to fly in. To the variable wind direction and speed parallel to the ground, they added a gusty vertical wind. Sunday it was blowing faster than on Saturday as I measured gust to 19 mph. This meant the vertical gusts came on quicker and blew harder. It was almost impossible to launch and fly, so most fliers gave up by mid-day and there were dead bodies (kites) laying



everywhere on the ground. With great mental effort I analyzed this gusty down draft was caused by the south wind coming over the hill south of the field (the gun emplacements). So “I could cut a fat hog” by climbing up on the first gun fortification and launch the kite real high in good clean air. I would then walk it down to the parade ground, anchor it, and settle into a chair and relax in smug satisfaction as I would be the only one with a kite in the sky. Wrong! The kite flew for only 5-10 minutes, then, with the same tension on the line, the kite looked like it was in an elevator and within a minute it landed on the grass along side the road. I repeated this two more times before I smartened up enough to admit I am no match for the *Weather Gods*.

Now the Gods were not through laughing at us. Black clouds formed, the sun vanished, the temperature dropped about 10 degrees F, and it started to rain. Just like Pacific Beach on Sunday, people evaporated. Most packed it in and left except for the hardy souls. Well, they are not actually hardy, just were waiting for the raffle.

The rain only lasted about a half hour, but the Gods felt they made their point, took pity on us, and changed the wind from South to West. It was clean and steady at 6-8 mph and you could put anything up and it was anchored there.

So the festival ended at 4:00 pm with only a couple of kites in the air and small area of the field covered with a group of raffle hopefuls.

Dick Curran

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>

2012

Jan 12-15 Oregon Kitemakers Retreat,
Rockaway Beach Oregon
www.kitemakersretreat.com

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—

Whew, I had so much come in for this newsletter issue that some of it is going to be in the last newsletter of our year. Thank you to everyone who sent in pictures and articles. You are all very much appreciated. The fact that I have things already on hand for our December issue, does not mean you get to sit back in your easy chair thinking well, I guess I don't need to do anything this time. That is not the case!! Please continue to send your submittals, as we all like to hear from you and see what is going on in your part of the WKA family. And for sure remember to send in information about upcoming events so we can plan our calendars for 2012.

This is the time to be getting ready for one or both of the West Coast kite making get-togethers. They both offer a great line-up of classes, so if your are having a hard time to decide which one to do—make it easy on yourself—do both!!

*See you somewhere flying or kite making,
Marzlie*

One Windrider Member Has left Our Flying Field

Bernice Williams passed away on Sunday Oct. 9, 2011. She was a long time member of the Westport Windriders, and was a well-loved member of our "kiting family".

Eli—we send you our heartfelt condolences on your loss.

New Member Report

Elliott & Nell Brogren	Bellevue, WA
Deb Young	Naches, WA
Sharon Head	Woodinville, WA
Kathy La Plante	Woodinville, WA
Kathryn & Steve Kern	Redmond, WA
Brad Paulson & Beth Goudy	Steilacoom, WA
Diane & Dennis Sellinger	Everett, WA
Mark & Kim Williams	Marysville, WA

Welcome to our kiting family.
<http://wka-kiteflyers.org>



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——



This is just a short way from where the WSIKF vendors were winding down on Sunday. What a shot!!
Photo by **Sylvia Bernauer**



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