



Newsletter

November 2011 - January 2012

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

A Tale of Kite Tails

Kite tails—they can do so much to enhance the beauty of a kite, or give it drag to calm down a wildly fluctuating kite. But some other fun things can be achieved too with a kite tail. Over my 20+ years of flying kites, I encountered a memorable kite tail in trying to learn to fly dual line with a **Trlby Kite** sport kite. We don't see as many **Trlby** kites now, the matching color tail of the striped diamond shape kite could really fill the sky when flown in a stack. The 40 foot long tails could slice straight across the flying space or spin in fabulous arcs or circles, and the more of them, the greater show behind the kites. When one is learning to fly a **Trlby**, it's best to have a partner assist you as they had to be either held up, or propped against a pole, log, or other object. They won't stand on their own, unless flown in a stack. Before taking off, one has to untangle all the assorted colored tails and lay them out so they'll not be a bunch of tied up tails in the sky—before the wind tangles them on the field or the beach.

A few years ago I had a **Pyro** sport kite with several bright colors on it. One day I saw a package of fabric bow tails in a kite store and thought they'd be fun to use one day. Then I discovered the bows were exactly the same colors as on this kite, so went searching for more of the same colored bows. When **Erv & Gail Crosby** closed their shop in Everett, I found some packages of these tails. I'd been looking in other shops, but they'd been sold out long ago and were not stocking them at the time. I was delighted to find more packages of the right colors. By now I must have at least six sections of bow tails. A couple years ago at **WSIKF** I decided to use this kite with all the matching bow tails in one of the two sport kite ballet competitions I do for fun. My good friend **Cal Yuen** said he'd assist me on the field. He very carefully laid out the long clipped together tail sections on the beach so they wouldn't tangle as I was lifting off to fly. It was a sight to behold. About 50 feet of bow tails following my sport kite through the air, making lazy circles or wavy lines. It is so much fun to fly a kite with a tail. I got through the whole number, never stumbling or crashing. It was so much fun, I hope others enjoyed watching. I now have all the bows wound on a spool for when I attach the tail, without having an impossibly tied-up mess in a bag!

Now we can talk about another kind of tail design, called a "transition tail" because the color pattern changes down the tail from predominantly one color to another color. Again, I found something in a kite store which really caught my attention. A few years ago at the kite swap sale at the Whidbey Island Kite Festival, I purchased a sport kite from **Wayne Turner**. He'd enjoyed the kite; it flew well; but didn't use it in competitions; and was not

flying it much so decided to sell. I was sure glad about his decision because the bright magenta color on the kite is one of my favorite kite colors. After flying the kite a couple of seasons, I just happened to see a transition tail in a shop which looked like the same magenta and other colors as on Wayne's former kite. Bought it and found even the light blue on the kite was exactly the same. Wow! They are absolutely beautiful together, and look like they were made to fly together. At **WSIKF 2011** I decided to use this kite and tail in the Friday Mystery Ballet competition. There's always a large group of flyers, many experienced sport kite league members, and some others of us, but we're all doing this for fun and the challenge of flying to possibly unknown music. My assistant on the field this year was **Steve Irby**, who used to attend our festivals and also had taught sport kite flying. I remember at least one session with Steve when I was just starting out. He's now graduated to mostly flying landsailers, a step up from buggy kite flying. I'm glad he came; it was great to see him after so many years. He agreed to assist me on the field, and helped lay out the long tail behind the kite. I lifted off to a completely unheard of song, with a nice gentle rhythm, which I used to show off the kite and tail. About half way through, I decided to wind up to do a tight spin. (now it happened there was a relatively strong wind, at least 12-15 mph) doing the spin caused something totally unexpected. (Or as some later said "How did you get it to do that?") This particular kite has a leach line at the bottom edge, I don't know why, fastened at the spine by a loop of Velcro. I'd opened the Velcro and slipped the tail clip up the spine and refastened the Velcro. With the strong wind, and the pull from the tail, the Velcro opened, the clip just slipped off the spine, and the tail floated through the air the rest of the distance across Field A and on into Field B. My mouth was hanging open as I watched it sail away. Immediately, without the tail, the kite sped up, I decided to go for it, put on my "fast show" of loops and dives, and with the thought that the last time Steve saw me fly I was hardly keeping it up in the air. Then I settled back down into the rhythm of the music, enjoyed the rest of the number and landed on the last note. Wow, that was fun! I was still shaking my head over the lost tail! I knew someone would retrieve and return the tail, and I will fly it another day, maybe next season, but not during a competition! So that's my story of the tail that almost got away.

Recently, I saw **Wayne & Sonia** and told them my story. Wayne thought it would have been great if the music had been "The Stripper" as it would have been appropriate for what I could have also called a "wardrobe malfunction"! As I said, flying a kite with a tail can be so much fun!

Sylvia Bernauer

Attending Fort Worden's Kitemakers Conference?



themselves. I thoroughly enjoy the people who attend. I get to socialize with familiar and new (to me) fliers, or not, if I so choose (which doesn't work for me). Raffle items are dynamite, the Roundtable is extremely enlightening, and the food is acceptable. For me it is three days of no phone, virtually no cell phone or internet connection, no cooking or worrying about other tasks. It is getting **out** of the house and away from reality. Bliss!

If you are still undecided as to whether to attend the 2012 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference, think — why not? Be selfish and think of yourself. Join the camaraderie of kite fliers in a beautiful setting. It's a mini-vacation and not too far from home.

Why NOT?

Cost is not the only factor in deciding to attend the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference. You also need to consider if there are classes which suit your fancy. This was my dilemma in 2011. Back and forth I went with my decision. My husband wasn't coming; did I want to go alone? Should I take the RV or choose a dorm room? Were there enough classes for my beginner skill level? My decision was to not attend.

This verdict did not sit well; something kept

Bonnie Ecker, WKA Secretary



Photos provided by **Bonnie Ecker**

Scenes at the Fort.



nagging me. Over and over I reviewed the classes and the cost. I was no stranger to a sewing machine, so I could try an intermediate class for my second conference. I had a savings account and this would not break my bank. The light bulb lit up—I do not **have** to attend classes the entire three days. I could just go outside and fly kites! I did have an idea for sewing a bag to fit our stack of **Trlbys**. An empty room would work for that.

What really overturned my decision was the attendees



Kid's Day at WSKIF 2011

This is late for 2011, but it's never too late to talk about. Kid's Day is an event that a lot of us look forward to every year. Our sponsor this year was **The Kite Shoppe** and we thank **Theresa Norelius'** for her contribution. Every kid who comes down for the event wants to fly a kite. Most kids come kite-less when they arrive, but all have a kite and event pin in hand when they leave. We also want to thank all who have so generously donated their time to help make this event one of the annually awaited centerpieces for this week long festival.

We are so fortunate to have the support needed to put on this event. **Glenda Kleppin** recruited **Carl** and **Debbie Fitzgerald** and **Pat** and I about 5 years ago while at the PCKA Orting Kite Festival. It's been fun and rewarding to see smiles on the kid's faces as they get to select their kites and rush off with an adult to help get them into the air. I don't know exactly how many kids we had, but I'm assuming it was close to 200 this past year. That's a lot of kites needed to fill the demand. Our supporters were very generous with contributions from **The Kite Shoppe, Elmer's Flag and Banner, Ocean Shores Kite, Prism** and a number of other manufacturers. One supporter who really stood out was **Anne Huston**.

The first kids to register had a special treat this year as 64 kites were hand made by **Anne Huston** and some of her kite making helpers. The kids were in awe as every kite was different and each had its own bag. We had preassembled **all** the kites donated, so selections were made easily. But the best part was when Anne's kites were all finally in flight -- it was a sight to behold. The kids were so proud of their selections and how well their kites flew next to the other kids on the field. There were some **big** smiles out there, not only on the kid's faces but parents as well and the display was something I'll never forget. Our thanks goes to Anne and her helpers as you are very special members of the Kite World we all enjoy. If any of you have any extra ripstop laying around, or large scraps you'd like to see go to a worthy cause, please contact Anne or me as we'll put them to good use for the kids.

Another part of Kid's Day is the fund raisers we have to be able to purchase the kites and pins needed for the event. WKA has been so supportive on this and has backed the event for years. This economy has taken its toll on all organizations and we're all trying to help out as needed. Several years ago we looked for a Sponsor for this event to Sponsor the event Pin. We auctioned off the opportunity and had **The Kite Shoppe** step up, not just once, but twice now, since we introduced the sponsorship. We've also had **Elmer's Flag and Banner** and now this year **Revolution Kites**. These folks have

made a big difference in the program and in making this event continue on.



Dawgy Dude with **Glenn Austin** (left) and **Larry Christensen** (right)

Photo from the archives

We had a stuffed Dog donated (5 years ago) wearing a vest full of collectible pins on it. This dog has now become the Kid's Day mascot and he was named **Dawgy Dude**. Each year we have filled his vest with kite pins/patches and auction him off at the annual WKA Spaghetti/ Lasagna feed at WSKIF. We have raised several hundred dollars each year, which goes directly back to buying kites for the following year. Last year **Glenn** and **Marianne Austin** were the high bidders and won the auction. The Austins have been such great supporters over the years and we will miss Glenn's competitiveness in driving the bids up and laughing all the way! **But we need your help here as we're trying to fill the vest with more kite pins/patches for 2012.** We were fortunate to have pins donated last year by **Westport Wind Riders, Anne Huston, Lisa Root, Whidbey Island Kite Flyers, AOK, WKA, Kathy Goodwind, Drachen, Nancy Lockwood** of the **Windjammers** and I'm sure there were other's. We say 'Thank You All' for your contributions. So, if you find some pins or patches lying around you'd like to see go to a worthy cause, think of us. You can contact **Debbie Fitzgerald** at Carl.1221@comcast.net or me (Larry Christensen) at Lrconst@hevanet.com.

We're looking forward to fulfilling more kid's dreams for 2012 and putting some more smiles on a lot of faces as they once again get to fly their kite on Kid's Day at WSKIF. May we always have good winds, fair skies, a good kite and a Big Smile to make each day better!

Larry Christensen



Hello WKA Members!

Here is a little reminder for you all—
The Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference is coming up in March.

This means three things:

- ⇒ making kites
- ⇒ hanging out with good friends
- ⇒ and raffle time!

The raffle is a big part of keeping the conference going, and, of course, your attendance.

Now I know not everyone will be able to make it to the Fort this year, but that doesn't mean you can't donate to the raffle. I will take donations early as well, if you want to give them to me. That way we will have things labeled before we get there.

Just send me an email at rafflady@kitemakers.org and we can either meet up if you are close by, or I will give you my address.

Please make sure to have a list of your items and your name as the donor when donating.
Thanks!

I do hope to see your smiling face as you buy your raffle tickets at the Fort this March. There are a lot of great classes this year and as always a great raffle! See you soon!

Kara Zubal

Your New Raffle Lady!



Pierce County Parks PCKA Family Kites in the Park Day

Mark your calendars for July 28! Pierce County Parks and Recreation has teamed with the PCKA to sponsor a Family Fun Kite Day at the Chambers Bay Central Meadow.

In addition to widespread advertising, PC Parks will be bringing in food vendors, a bounce house for little kids and expanded parking areas. They will be supporting the kite fliers by inviting vendors and allowing us to mark off flying areas and allowing stakes for banners and kite anchors.

We will have kids kitemaking, a large kite display field, sport kite demonstrations and lessons throughout the day. This will be a huge expansion of the PCKA Fun Fly from past years. **We really need a lot of participation by all of the kiting community if this is to be an annual event.** More information and schedules will be posted in upcoming newsletters and by email as final details are worked out.

Bob Wendt
PCKA President

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This news came to us from Kathy Goodwind:

One Less Kite in the Sky

Wanted to let you know that we have lost another member of our kiting family—

Elizabeth Checkley Manfredini.

She was the daughter of **Dave Checkley**, one of the founding fathers of WKA and a great original promoter of AKA. Liz was always a wonderful supporter of all kitefliers. She passed away Oct 2, 2011 after a long illness.

Anyone who met Liz loved her eyes and would remember her one line zingers.

Memories of WSIKF 2011 by Glenda Kleppin

The Kids' Day events this summer were bittersweet for me as so many of the kids who have participated in these events over the years—both as participants and then as helpers—seemed to suddenly have grown up.

Special Kids

Kristian Slater came on Monday of 2011 WSIKF so he could still say he'd never missed a single WSIKF during his entire lifetime. Then he had to rush off to Montana where he is attending college, studying math. Kristian was a participant the very first year we had the Foster Grandparent Fly, and the ONLY kid who has ever NOT received a kite during the event (because he was so polite and kept letting other kids cut in front of him). We totally ran out of kites, leaving him the only kid who did not get one. (Lesson learned: buy lots of extra kites to have on hand, just in case.) But not to worry, he ended up with 4 new kites before the festival was over! As I remember it, **Larry Zilar** gave him a very nice kite after I told him of the problem and **Dave Gomberg** gave him a Rok after Kristian had soundly trounced him in the Rok Battle. Memory fails as to the source of the other two kites, but I was very grateful for all the kite folk who came through for me.

Kristian has been my helper for the event every year since. He has also been my most faithful judge for the Kids' Camps. I really missed him—no one to sneak up behind me and pick me up off the ground. Jerry and I had to show him the plaque we'd had made for him, the **Susie's Spirit Award** we present every year during the

World Kite Museum event on Saturday night to one who we've seen working quietly behind the scenes in the kite community without necessarily having their contributions adequately noticed and rewarded.



We'd actually announced the award two weeks ahead at the PCKA fun fly so Kristian and his family could all be together to enjoy the congratulations offered. At WSIKF Kristian's dad, the not-so-quiet **Scott Slater** accepted the official presentation of the award on Kristian's behalf as his proud mother, **Lori**, looked on.

There is our wonderful **Toby Arndt**, first brought to WSIKF by **Dick** and **Georgian Curran**. He got his very first kite from **Butch Harviston** during that first Foster Grandparent fly. Butch was so pleased to see it flying every day for the rest of the festival. As most of you probably know, Toby has since gone on to become the National Indoor Kite Champion at the 2010 AKA convention. We were privileged to be there to

watch him receive that award. Toby has since been taken under the wing of former 6th Sense flier and World Champion, **Scott Davis**, and is continuing to do great things in the kiting world, including being the Indoor Coordinator for NWSKL. Toby is attending college at Evergreen this year. I was thrilled when he gave me several kites he won at the Ocean Shores festival last summer to use for the Foster Grandparent fly.

There is the lovely and very grown-up **Kirstie Hayes**. How well I remember her playing with Susie at our campsite at the Whidbey Island festival and in recent years with Panda on Panda's very first outing to Whidbey. We don't always get to see a lot of the sport kite families at other festivals, but we did get to watch her competent help with the scoring process at indoor events in recent years. Kirstie is another of our college kids, a pre-med student at Clark College. She is the costume mistress there—and really, really, really knows how to lace a lady's bodice TIGHT—as I discovered on Saturday night at WSIKF when I asked for her help. Be sure to ask **Dave Gomberg** about that and about why Kristie posted his red-faced picture on Facebook.

There is our lovely **Aurora Authement**. It was so great to see at least one returning kid this year for the Foster Grandparent fly. She came with her entire Girl Scout troop and they each flew one of the beautiful kites made for us this year by **Anne Huston**. Her father, **Arnold**, graciously took over as the field



director for the Kids' Day games. Aurora is another one of our faithful puppy players. Panda always looks forward to seeing her.

Some of you still may not know the name of the beautiful young woman who has been putting up a real Kids' Day camp (kid sized) since the first year I started the event. I'm certain you've noticed her awesome camp over the years. Her name is **Ryan King** and she also is off to college and may not be able to attend the festival in future years. She has been such a faithful and entertaining part of Kids' Day and I'm really going to miss her. Thank goodness the **Dermer** grandkids are still young enough to take part in the Foster Grandparents events. At least there are a few kids I recognize who should be back again next year.

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Foster Grandparent Fly

People who need special recognition for their special help in the Foster Grandparent Fly are:

Sylvia Bernauer, who takes charge of registration for the event each year, including printing of the forms to be filled out by fliers. She keeps me on track.

Anne Huston, who made nearly 70 **Margaret Greger** delta kites to use in the fly. These were the first kites in the air and the sight of this squadron of kites happily flying was a true inspiration to all and especially to the picture-takers. The expressions on the faces of the kids were priceless.

Larry and Pat Christensen and **Carl and Debbie Fitzgerald** who have taken on the task of getting pins each year for **Dawgy Dude** who is auctioned off each year at the WKA dinner to raise money to buy kites for the next year. Dave also worked hard to get donated kites for us and helped design one of the Kids' Day pins. The last two years, the four of them have spent Tuesday evening assembling kites for the Foster Grandparent fly and they deliver them to the beach early the next morning so they are all ready to fly! Larry also handed out pins this year, which greatly helped.

Mary Farrell, who is always the first person to sign up to be a Foster Grandparent. And who has probably taken more kids out to fly over the years than anybody else. She puts together kites brought in at the last minute, fixes broken kites, and is my right hand in making things run smoothly.

Miriam Schafner, who was the original inspiration for the Foster Grandparent fly when she showed up for the very first Kids' Day events with kites she insisted needed to be flown by kids—not by her! I thought “what a great idea” and so a new event was born. Miriam has made kites to give away every year since and has usually been on the field herself to supervise the flying of those kites.

Rick White, Butch Harviston, Barb Hall, and the **Dermer Family** for their enthusiasm in providing kites and taking kids out to fly them every year.

Launny Herriges, thanks for passing out pins during the event each year.

The **NWSKL (North West Sport Kite League)** really stepped up to help with the Foster Grandparent fly this year. Several of them for the first time. So many of the older single line folk who have helped over the years simply no longer have the stamina to do it anymore and/or no longer even come to the festival. I can't thank the sport kite folk enough for their gracious support and also thanks to **Lisa Root** for passing along my plea for help to the league members. This event would not be possible without the many kites and the cash donated by kite folks each year, and I thank each of you for your generosity. Since the number of participants has grown too large to depend on last-minute donations, I now arrange for **lots** of kites to keep on hand. Free and/or low cost kites were also provided for the event through the following kite shops: **The Kite Shoppe; Elmer's Flag and Banners, Kites Too; and Ocean Shores Kites**. Several manufacturers provided us with free and/or reduced price kites: **New Tech Kites; Prism Kites; Premier Kites; and X-Kites**. I thank them for their generosity. **Revolution Kites** has generously volunteered to pay for the privilege of designing the pins to be given away at the 2012 WSIKF, so be prepared to participate in Kids' Day if you want one of these special pins. It is hard to keep track of how many children participate in this event each year. Not all of them manage to get signed up in spite of the efforts of many people to get them to do so. I've found one of the best ways of keeping track of numbers is to know how many pins I have to give away for the event and then counting how many are left at the end. This year I had 420 pins designated for this event. I'm certain there were fewer than 100 adults involved and I had only 20 pins left. You do the math! My original goal was to serve 100 kids with this event. In just these few years, that number has tripled. Is it any wonder each year, once the initial rush is over, I simply stand and watch the kites flying in the field with tears in my eyes? Thank you all for making this

dream come true. Each year, new special memories are made during this event. This year, a “newby” family with three kids really stood out. Mom and Dad had absolutely **no** idea of the different kinds of kites and/or how to fly them when they came. However, Mom really got into the spirit and kept coming back to the registration tent asking if she could fly a different kind of kite just to see how they flew. By the end of the hour, she enthusiastically started helping other fliers. She came back at the end of the fly practically crowing that she'd had a chance to be a foster grandparent herself. She'd seen a child trying to fly a kite she knew had already been returned to the tent once because it did not fly right. So she went over and made certain the child got a different kite which would fly. So, at least one new kite-flying family came into being!

Kids' Camps

I had new kid-helpers this year for judging camps—**Jakob** and **Nick Knight**. Jerry had met their mother, **Pam**, a couple of years ago at Shucks where he was buying car parts. He told her about the festival, so she brought the boys that summer and they all fell in love with kite flying. The three of them are now flying sport kites, the boys entered their first competition this year. So, of course, the

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boys volunteered to help us judge the camps. As always, although the kids are accompanied and somewhat guided by a couple of adults, they are the ones who make the final decisions as to who gets which ribbons!

Ryan King earned a ribbon, as she has every year. Ribbons also went to the **Cole** kids who were next to the **Pirates** camp and to “**Little Vic**”. The stand-out family, however, was the **Kirby** family, more newbies, who did not plan on setting up a camp, but jumped right in and set up their own little camp and then spent the next couple of days playing with kites on the beach. Speaking of the camps, I was sad to see several of the camps which have been regular favorites over the years were no longer set up this past year. I missed the lovely red, white and blue camp set up each year by the **Days**. Their health no longer allows them to put out the effort that went into setting up the camp and they even sold the items from their display. At least she was able to help me judge camps this year. Missing also, this year, was the wonderful camp usually set up by long-time attendees from the San Diego area: **Goathill Gang**. However, they were a lot of help to me during the Foster Grandparent fly, for which I thank them. Their group has been attending WSIKF for several more years than Jerry and I have.

Fairy Godmother

A few years ago, I started wandering around with my fairy wings after the Saturday Parade of Colors, just for fun. The first year I did it, **Richard Dermer** handed me a box of Harry Potter wands which had been donated. I had such a blast giving those away I’ve given out goodies every year since. This year I decided the Fairy Godmother should lead a bunch of kids into the Parade of Colors, gotta get these kids involved if we want new blood in the kite community. We had to change the route of the parade because of the wind, but **Robin Haas** just moved me around so we were out of the way of the main part of the parade. Thank goodness **Mary Farrell** came through again by helping. I kept track of the numbers for this event in a different way. Mary and I handed out small streamers to each child. I started out with 50 and had 1 left. We also gave each child Mardi Gras beads provided by the WSIKF committee. I was very pleased with my little band of kids! And, just to top things off, **Jakob Knight**, who had carried a banner in the parade, decided to join me and put beads on each of the participants as they came off the field. I so enjoyed watching all those tall kite folk bend down so 9 year old Jakob could put the beads over

their heads. Jakob had so much fun with the beads, he spent the rest of the afternoon with me near the kite-making booth putting beads on folk while I let kids reach into my magic bag and pull out a stuffed animal. I was exhausted by the end of the day, but I really think the Fairy Godmother has the very best job at WSIKF. A year ago, several people joined me in giving things away and I welcome anybody who wants to join me in years to come. I always have extra pairs of wings! I also welcome donations for my magic bag. (*hint-hint!*)

World Kite Museum Night Super Senior and Top Kid

It is my honor to present these awards each year at the museum event. The awards are based on many things, including things people do on the beach to encourage kids to enjoy kites, combined with a popular vote. Those who vote are also asked to state the reason for their vote and I give the ballots to those who received the votes so they will know what they are doing has been noticed and appreciated. This year’s **Super Senior** (over 60) was last year’s Top Kid (under 60), our beloved **Glenn Austin**. So glad we could send him off with a bang. I’ve given his wife, **Marianne**, permission to wear the Happi coat, which goes with the award, until next August—in his honor. The **Top Kid** award went to his good friend **Garrett Babst**, the grandson of **James Babst** who made Glenn a beautiful red, white, and blue kite last year.

Susie’s Spirit Award

As I stated above, the award this year went to **Kristian Slater** based on the many years he has helped with the Kids’ Day events and for just being a great all-around guy. Kids’ Day just would not have been the same without his input and I thank him for his efforts and humor.

Other Saturday night memories:

- **David Gomberg**—red faced and tongue tied.
- **Jerry Graham** and **Jeremy Perceval** bidding against each other for the two koi (donated by the **Barnes** family) for the second year. They both have a large school of these critters now, although I think Jerry may have more and some of his koi are larger. Now they both are ready for a major fish fly.
- Shenanigans with the gift basket donated each year by “Glenda the Good Witch”.
- Good food, good friends, and winning several items in the raffle, silent auction, and loud auction. What fun!

This photo shows it was a great kite flying day, it was good sky, full of kites.

All photos for this article were provided by **Jerry Graham**



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)
staff@pcka.info Calendar at www.pcka.info

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
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American Kiteflyers Association

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Whidbey Island Kite Festival September 2011

What a great festival this year!! We really lucked out on the weather, despite some pretty gloomy predictions. We did setup on a sunny Friday with temperatures in the 70's. It's remarkable to see a blank 3-acre field take shape with marked fields and the large raffle tent.

To understand the Whidbey kiting experience, it's helpful to know the field is wide open to Puget Sound from the southwest to the northwest. The south end of the field, however, is bordered by a large hill with a tall forest. So we get a bit nervous when hearing the wind will come from the south, which is the prevailing direction during fall and winter. Summer, it comes from the west and northwest. The festival is on the cusp between the two seasons.

We had good wind and weather on Saturday. Despite predictions for a SE wind, we had winds 5-10 mph from the NW. Sometimes a little light, but we'll gladly take it along with sun and temperatures in the high sixties. Teddy bears were parachuted in the **Jerry Fincher** memorial teddy bear drop, and even the large kites flew a good part of the day.

The Saturday indoor competition was a little light on competitors, but there were many who did demos, so the crowd was thrilled, as usual. **Dick Curran** was "in the zone" and took home first place.

For Sunday, the predictions were pretty threatening: SSE winds 20-25 mph and 90% chance of rain. The somewhat milder actual SE winds were pretty squirrely, burbling over the trees. So it was pretty challenging to fly kites, the wind would shift direction from minute to minute. Sport kite scores on Sunday reflected the conditions. We had no rain most of the day, until about 3 pm, when it just dumped on us as a system

went over. But 5 minutes and it was done. The sun came out and the winds were then steady from the west for the rest of the afternoon. So the raffle drawing was done during some of the best wind of the weekend!!

The single-line challenges (and attendant pins) were a hit again this year. Among the winners were **Donna Wendt, Dan & Bonnie Ecker, Debbie Fitzgerald, Robin Haas, Cari King, and Larry Christensen**. We were blessed to have **Marzlie Freeman** visiting us to be able to help judge the category held in memory of John.

The raffle tent held many goodies this year. Lots (and lots) of kite fabric donated by Texlon. Among the special items were a re-gifting by **Mary Fincher** of the 2009 Whidbey logo kite (made by **Sam** and **Cari King**) which had been in Jerry's personal collection; **John Freeman's** own **Lepidoptera Freemanicus** donated by Marzlie; and the square diamond 2011 Whidbey logo kite made by **Cari King**. Truly great kites, all.

Vic Espheter brought his pin collection and wowed a lot of people who'd never seen such a thing before. **Island Quad** came down from Canada and entertained the crowd all day Saturday and as best they could Sunday. Lots of used kites got sold.

We are appreciative of **Bob Wendt** and **Robin Haas**, who came to lend their announcing expertise; and for **Dan Haigh**, who stepped into the Chief Judge position for the sport kite competition.

All in all, a wonderful weekend, full of seeing our dear kiting friends. Thanks to all of you who support the Whidbey festival through your attendance, donations, service, or all of the above.

Marjorie Taylor

PCKA / WKA Christmas Party Highlights

Despite a last minute schedule adjustment this year's PCKA / WKA Christmas Party set new records in a number of areas. Over 70 kitefliers, friends and family got together for an evening of fun and friendship. This at least equaled the turnout last year as the largest in my experience over the last seven years. We were adding tables right up to the last minute. We also had a chance to meet some new fliers to the area. **Syn** and **Tak Omega** from Anchorage Alaska now live in the Auburn area. They had never flown indoor before but appeared to pick it up quickly. Tak is a past president of the Alaska Kitefliers so I expect to see a lot of them in the near future. **Brenda** and **Andy Sias** even closed their store for the day at Ocean Shores Kites so their family could join us.

As usual, the food was exceptional and abundant. If anyone went home hungry it was their own fault!! Special thanks go to **Heather Thomas** and **Al Fernandez** for doing the turkeys and to **Glenda Kleppin** for preparing both hams. This dinner is always an adventure in trying the huge variety of other dishes and desserts that everyone brings.

One of the goals of the party is to raise money for the local holiday food bank and the World Kite Museum. When we finally finished setting up we had six long tables and a bit of wall space packed with bag raffle items. All of the attendees were extremely generous with their donations. I also want to thank several corporate donors for their support. **Gomberg Kite Productions International, Revolution Kites, Prism Kites, Ocean Shore Kites** and **Texlon Corporation** were very generous. Look for a lot of new stuff in the air this year. **Donna** and I went crazy with the Gomberg coupon and if even a small fraction of the 540 yards of Texlon fabric gets made into kites it will be impressive. Also look for **Jerry** and **Marcia Cannon** to start flying indoor pairs since they now each have Prism 4-Ds. All together we raised \$1236 for the food bank, blowing away last year's \$840 and \$325 for the WKM, up from \$255 last year.

We will be doing this again next December, so keep it in mind for a great chance to fly, learn and just have fun with a lot of really neat people.

Bob Wendt
President, PCKA



Scott Davis and indoor flying



Dinner time and visiting.



Tak Omega with his pet duck in the pet carry bag.— it's not part of the dinner!!



Rick White
And
Dick Curran

Best head-dress at the party?

Northwest Sportkite League Annual Meeting
 Saturday March 31st, 2012
 Location: South Hill Library
 5420 Meridian
 Puyallup, WA 98374
 There will be two very informative and interesting seminars... whether you are a current competitor, want to be a competitor, want to learn more about competing, want to learn how to create and fly a ballet with your kite for your own enjoyment to make kite flying more interesting and fun, or to understand about how judging is done.
 "Ballet" - presented by **Wayne Turner**
 "Judging" - presented by **Scott Davis**
 More information will be forthcoming in the future..but for now. plan to join us at this event.
 New kite fliers, old kite fliers—come join us!!
 Questions? **Scott Davis** mirecat@comcast.net
Lisa Root, NWSKL Secretary

Glenn Austin's Memorial Service

Sylvia Bernauer was there and says the service was amazing, it was very comforting to those of his friends and family who were left behind.
Ed. Note: This is a very unique floral kite and I know he would have loved it.



Glenda Kleppin writes about something special to be done in his memory: She had purchased a couple of the **Karl Longbottom** Doves at WSIKF and **Marianne Austin** said she'd like to get some of Karl's doves to fly at the memorial. So, since Glenda said they had not flown them a lot yet that it would be great for Marianne to have them. They flew proudly at Glenn's memorial service and she is sure we will be seeing lots of them during the next year. Glenda continues on to say: "when Marianne showed up at Golden Gardens on January 1st to join us for the annual Up the Bowls fly, we started talking about possible ways of spreading Glenn's ashes at the beach—including a modified teddy bear drop. **Ken Conrad** had been



flying his radio controlled, motorized kite around and I made the comment that it would be a great vehicle for spreading the ashes. Marianne agreed, so I went to Ken and told him we'd come up with a special job for him. When I told him what we'd come up with, he said that he'd be honored to do it. So, keep an eye on the **Windrider's** news as this ceremony will probably take place at one of their monthly meetings at Grayland"

2011 AKA Convention by Ray Bojarski

After Diann and I moved 3000 miles to retire in Lewes, Delaware, it was extremely nice of the AKA to host the 2011 convention about 30 miles up the East Coast in Wildwood, NJ. We hopped the ferry from Lewes to Cape May then drove up the Garden State Parkway to the Wildwood exit. We got there early on Tuesday afternoon, early enough to register, but just missing the sport kite mass ascension. This is not my favorite ascension and wish AKA would consider some other kite like flat/bowed rather than the 20 minute long line tangle the sport kite ascension becomes. We also missed Wednesday and Thursday ascensions because of the hand crafted competitions. Many thanks to **Vic** for giving us the pins.

Attendance was somewhat down this year because of the economy. Likewise the entries for the hand crafted comps also were down. A total of 18 builders entered 50+ kites in the various handcrafted competitions. Indoor judging is a very nice way to see all the kites. I'm too busy watching my kites when flying and rarely have a chance to see any of the other competitor's kites. The indoor judging allows all the attendees to see all the hand crafter gems.

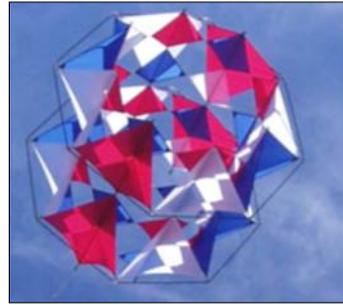
I entered a **Karl Longbottom** Swan kite I made from the 2008 Fort Worden Conference and managed to take 3rd in figure with it.



Next up was the delta category. I entered my **John Freeman** inspired Log Cabin delta kite. Thursday was an especially challenging day with periods of very high winds. The Flat kite category flew just before deltas. Many of the entries were all but bent in half because of the strong winds. My delta launched all too easily in the high winds and I could barely let line out fast enough. I fly this delta with two 70 foot fuzzy tails and my delta was rock steady in the extremely high winds (20+ mph).



My final kite was a red-white-blue Pefado kite.



It seemed to be a "fan favorite" when displayed prior to judging and it felt great to have so many people come up to ask about the kite. My cellular kite looked and flew **great**. However, **Simon Crafts** built an absolutely stunning cellular kite. There was little doubt who won cellular and most likely Grand Champion. I was more than happy to win 2nd in Cellular and also scored the highest single line flight score for my Pefado. However, **Will Sturdy's** sport kite took the top flight score.

The Workshop Committee put together an excellent set of presentations. Tops that I attended were the Pre-Competition Kite Building meeting, the Make and Take Fighter Kite, the wonderful applique techniques of **Olivier Raymond**, and **Will Sturdy's** presentation on his kite making techniques. I wish I understood more than about 50% of Will's presentation. Makes me sometimes wonder why my kites manage to ever fly.

The various AKA auctions and banquets were also nice events. **Marla Miller** did her normal job of making the whole bag raffle process look so totally effortless. The highlight of the auction was Marla's impromptu "strip tease" using about 18 kite t-shirts from her private collection. At least she kept it mostly PG rated. I hear she had many offers to switch careers to become a bikini barista!

Convention ended all too early on Sunday morning. Diann and I had a great time attending the workshops, mass ascensions, and banquets. It was great meeting so many previous and brand new kiting friends. We are seriously thinking of driving out to Enid for next year's convention. As far as I'm concerned the entire convention flowed smoothly and effortlessly. I'm sure all the volunteer staff may have a different behind the scenes opinion, but to me, the kite flier, everything was great. I could not pick a single thing under the AKA's control that I could criticize. We enjoyed the great 2011 convention and are looking forward to next year already. My only problem is I've not exhibited all the kites I'd enter into the AKA competitions. I have to get busy and start sewing several new kites for next September.

Too bad so many West Coast people could not attend the convention. That's more than understandable considering the economy and difficulty in transporting your kites across country. There are too many names to list of the folks I wish I had been able to talk to in Wildwood. Diann and I may have moved 3000 miles to Delaware, but I still miss all my kite flying friends from out west.

Notes from the Prez



There it was! Did you see it? Yep, the new year came and went so fast, it was kind of a blur. For those who didn't make the New Years Day, Protest the Bowls Kite Fly, you missed another great sunny day. It hovered around 50 All day. Unfortunately, no wind all day either. But that made it feel a lot better, and the windless kites were very happy. All in all, a great day! A big thanks to **Mr. Fang** and his daughter and grandson. He put on a great show with his bamboo eagle glider, made with hand painted Tyvek sails. **Butch** also did a great job as well with his 2 line windless kite. Way to go Butch! **Jerry Graham** and **Dick Curran**

seems like every year there are more and more events to fly kites at. Recently, the city of Bellevue Parks Department has agreed to open the Crossroads Gym to all indoor kite fliers. The schedule will be posted on the web site as it becomes available. Thanks to **Elliot Brogren** for working to make this happen. The address of the gym is: 16000 NE 10th St. Bellevue WA.

This year for me, will be getting ready for retirement. Hopefully I will be traveling around the US a bit, and attending



a few more Kite Festivals. Also I hope to get to a few over those big ponds. Who knows, I might even get to a China or Japan Festival. I know I want to see the Dieppe Festival, and a few others. It will be an adventure to see just how many I can get to.

I hope for you, that you get to go where you want to, and fly as much as you can.

Until then, I will see you at a kite field somewhere soon. For me, the first will be Fort Worden. Maybe we will see you there.

Rick White
President, WKA



Sanjiu Fang
readying his kite



Butch Harviston

both got their kites up for a couple of seconds, while the wind was teasing us. It was just long enough for Dick to win the Kite Eating Tree Award **again!** Or was that another kids kite? I don't know for sure. It was one of those kids for sure! I can't believe how crowded the park was this year. You had to get there early to get a parking spot. There were actually 100's of cars there. The Christmas tree burners were warming up the Polar Bears. It was truly a symbiotic relationship. Check out the photos on our website.

I was so very happy to see **Marianne Austin** at the fly. She was a blessing to all eyes. Thanks for the huge effort Marianne! I hope you enjoyed the red, white and blue decorations I put on the tent!

Looking forward to this year's Fort Worden, and also looking forward to the New Tacoma Kite Fest, or Fly, or Jamboree or whatever they are calling it, at Chamber's Bay in July. It



Sylvia says it was a lovely day in the sun. But no wind as you can tell from the banners.

Photos— **Georgean Curran, Susan Tislow, Bonnie Ecker**

The 7th Annual Borneo Kite Festival in Bintulu, Malaysia. Sept. 22 -25th, 2012

One of my first kiting goals was to go to Malaysia, “The Heart of Asia”. About 20 years ago I’d seen pictures of a kite festival there and heard almost everyone spoke English. While sitting in China Town in Kuala Lumpur, **David Hathaway** from **iQuad** asked if I was surprised we were there. I told him, “no, It was a kite goal”. Thank you everyone who helped make it possible!

My friend **Alexis Warne** from Brookings, OR accompanied me to beautiful tropical Malaysia, where we flew and met wonderful kite fliers from all over the world—Belgium, China, Malacca, New Zealand, Singapore, Japan, India, Russia, Germany, Taiwan. You get the idea-100 kite fliers from 30 different countries. Wow! Or “**WAU**”, which is Kuala Lumpur’s National Kite. It adorns their money, and welcomes you at the entrances to central market. The Wau is a kite as beautiful as any bird. Smile and Nod. Ever notice how when you are on vacation you can’t help but smile and nod at everyone you pass? Malaysia was full of smiles and nods. Friendly inquisitive people and the majority did speak excellent English, and most of the international kitefliers spoke English too. There were a few who didn’t, but I always enjoyed visiting with them. Our host shared many foods with us, and it was exceptionally good. Chinese, Malaysian, East Indian, and more. They eat pretty healthy there, and scrumptious food.

We visited a long house, which is a village in one very long house with a wide covered porch the whole length. They looked quite comfortable. The local Malaysian tribe performed for us and offered rice wine and treats. We danced with them and then danced individually around a palm tree hung with items such as saki, soda, pastry and other foods. After we individually circle danced, dropped an offering in the bowl and then took the hatchet to cut off an offering of our choice. What fun! We danced a lot in Malaysia. They did the pocha pocha everywhere which is much like the Macarena line dance done around here. Kitefliers and audience jumped in to dance under the kites at the close of each day. Pocha Pocha dancing at the banquets and foyers..all over!

We received special permission to fly inside the Batu Caves by Kuala Lumpur. 200+ stairs and that is just to the top entrance of the vast caves. They don’t tell you there are more stairs to go down to one cave floor, and another set going up to the other main floor. People working their way down said it was gruesome, but well worth it. Up we went! Flying inside the cave with Asian figurines around us, and monkeys flirting here and there was amazing. Some of us were blessed by a priest there and ash spots marked on our foreheads. We flew below the caves too, feeling very blessed to be able to fly there. We stopped on the way back to town at a school yard to fly. The winds were light, and there was a crowd of kids, so while **iQuad** practiced, I pulled out a short line Rev and UFO for the kids to fly. We were having such a good time, with lots of laughing, it was over in a twinkling of an eye. On to more places to eat and fly.

The festival officially started Saturday late morning, the opening ceremony was impressive. All flyers were dressed in the Bintulu shirt, or their team shirts. I was 2nd up, so I was dressed in a hot

pink, hot yellow fairy type outfit, ready to attach fairy wings. I’d tried to put on the Festival shirt, but thought I might pass out from the heat, so I had to have cooler clothes. I regret not having it on, but I guess I’ll accept I’m a little different. I actually made it through the heat in cool clothing quite well. **Rama Kristan** had a friend pick up a pump mister that cools you down so nicely, I bee bopped down the fliers tents passing through Vietnam and misting Hong and his wife, all the way down the line. Kitefliers from every country felt a little cooler, a great way to make friends. We saw kites we rarely see on our side of the planet, excluding the internet. Still, the statement I kept going back to when I returned home was: “**Everything was the same, but different.**” Big kites with a twist, quads with tails, single liners which flew like quads in the hands of a master and just fabulous pieces of kite art. I don’t think I could pick a favorite. Flyers and kite makers are too numerous to mention, but teams like 2008 World Champions “Team Airerex” **iQuad**, Multi mass Rev kite fly’s. Large kites included the Horse that galloped while it flew. Rok Battles and fighter kite competitions were flown with great seriousness and lots of laughing.

We were invited to one of the kite flier’s cousin’s wedding, to experience a Malaysian wedding. Young boys danced as entertainment before the couple arrived. Traditional Malaysian dress is a long dress top worn over a long matching skirt. The dresses were so colorful, varied and beautiful it was like a kite festival. My eyes watered as the couple entered the room, the music, the couple, and the love in the crowd who moved closer as they approached—after all, it was a wedding! Our names were called to come and bless the bride and groom as they sat palms up on a white bench surrounded by flowers and lights. I sprinkled water and flower petals on their palms and blessed them. They gave me a special gift in return. It was an extraordinary experience.

We hopped back on our bus and back to the hotel. We had a free day to shop the stores and pick up those gifts. I walked the town, yes alone, scouring little stores and 2 story malls. I found my

favorite stores and ended up having to buy a suitcase before I left for all the gifts I brought back to give, and the many I had received. The prices were great. Everything was 1/3 of US money, and of good craftsmanship.

We had a small celebration for **iQuad**’s 100th Kite Festival at a local Chinese Restaurant. The festival itself was a huge success with everything it takes to make a great kite festival. The organizers were amazing! They had every detail covered. Storage space for kites, comfortable accommodations and transportation, great people like **Bintulu Sia** to meet you at the airport, just in case you are blind and can’t find your gate in time! (Thank you so very much Sia!) The crew was top shelf! The crowd and more vendors than I could ever see in one day, even though I tried. The tours the organizers provided were the best! If you would like to travel to a great kite festival this is it! On a scale of one to 10, I give it a 15! Terima Kasih!

Thank you! To the **Bintulu Development Authority** and all the wonderful sponsors and participants. Malaysia, “The Heart of Asia’s ” people and culture have touched my heart! What wonderful memories of you all I’ll have. Terimea Kasih!
Penny Lingenfelter Indoor/Outdoor Revolution Kiteflier



Protest the Bowls, Past to Present
by **Bonnie Ecker**

Two years ago was our first venture to the WKA fly called *Protest the Bowls*. An e-mail to Sylvia Bernauer corrected her typo, "I thought it was spelled bols." Sylvia's reply was simply, "Football bowls." Ohhhh, duh. The newbie I was, *that* certainly had not entered my mind. As the new WKA secretary, Dan and I dutifully arrived at Golden Gardens beach on a cold wet morning, ready to fly a kite or three. It was overcast. Rain had come through earlier, but was now calm. Several members had already staked out the tiny wooden



picnic shelter on the north end, putting up a tarp along one side to block cold air. It was quite pleasant huddled in there with about eight fliers, munching on chili and drinking cocoa. **Georgan**

Curran looked the most comfortable, swathed in a fluffy down coat and blanket wrapped around her legs. She takes everything in such stride, accompanying **Dick** to parts here and there while he adds color with his costumes. Gradually, fliers



ground displays and pole banners put color across the lawn. Georgan was comfortable in her down coat, but this year we could see her hands working on a project. Dick was without costume, but brought out a



wonderful smile face kite and was very successful getting it to fly. **Rick White**



ventured into the open air to put up kites. The sun poked out a few times, the Polar Bear Club clambered to get into the water for their annual swim. Run in they did, and out just



as fast! What a hoot. **Launny Herriges** spun his bowl around on the beach, and Dan Ecker flew his alma



mater WSU diamond and Jose Sainz' Blue Feather kite. Many kids showed up and flew kites. And, as tradition continued, I do believe Rick White beat Dick Curran in getting a kite stuck in "the tree" first.

Transitioning to 2011 was a beautiful sunny day. The picnic shelter gave way to



was able to get his genki chess kite up and a train. I flew Dan's flo-tail delta kite. Winds varied. At times fliers would run from one end to the other to

(Continued on page 15)

a pop-up tent with the WKA banner across the front. Lots of



(Continued from page 14)

let out enough line in hopes of catching the winds up high. Around 4:00 p.m. the sun sank behind the Olympics. Temperatures dropped and it was our sign to pack up and head home.

Usher in 2012. Would it be frosty and cold, wet with gusty winds? Not. Overcast gave way to sunshine that had some warmth in it. The flying area of last year gave way to new, rather large, playground equipment for the kids. We had to set



up a bit further down the lawn. By 11:00 a.m. the parking lot was packed! The Polar Bear club was much larger this year and in they went. The rule is

you have to dunk to your neck. I saw only two that did this. Dick Curran captured some “interesting” photos, er, at least one scrupulous one.

“The kite eating tree” gave way to the new playground



equipment, but that did not stop Rick from having to unknot a tangle of knots with helping hands from Sylvia trying to figure out what line goes under, over, or through (you all know of this problem at times).

A new tradition—who has the most knots to unknot?

New WKA Member

Sanjiu Fang entertained us with his wonderful eagle and later, a plane fly to music. He has a most fascinating line winder.



Dick worked hard to put up his smile kite. The unfortunate part of the day were the winds; totally flat. For only brief 30 seconds or less did the air shift enough to ruffle some banner edges.

Fliers were up and then down, eventually resigned to enjoying conversations and munching on food. A time to relax and chat—**Bonnie Ecker, Casey Shearer, Rick White and Jerry**



Graham enjoying the day.



I talked with Dick and Georgean about the smile kite. It was given to them from a friend in China who did not want to pack it home on the airplane. The secret to its great flying ability is its flexibility. It is not a rigid, flat kite. The loose fabric captures the air in pockets and up she goes. But, with the flat winds, the smile kite continued to smile, just not in the air. We should all learn how to fly indoor kites so on no-wind days, we all can get color into the sky.

In the end, bubbles gave way to bubbles, bubbles, and more bubbles courtesy of

Glenda Kleppin and Jerry Graham's bubble machine.



What started as a questionable day

for wind, weather, and temperature still turned into another fun fly day with friends.

Photos by **Bonnie Ecker and Dick Curran**



New Possible Rules Concerning Oregon Beaches

I have read and tried to interpret for myself, what the Oregon Beach Permit Revision being drafted by the State Parks might mean for us as kite flyers, buggy operators, etc. I have no formal training, ability or special knowledge here; just a fellow kite flier looking at what these rules could mean for me and all of us. I have included the excerpts of the text of the proposed document. Note this is not yet final as of this writing, Jan 10, 2012. My comments are in italics.

DIVISION 21 GENERAL OCEAN SHORE STATE RECREATION AREA RULES

736-021-0065 Non-Motorized Vehicles, Cycles, Unpowered Aircraft, Sails and Other Similar Devices

(1) A person may operate a bicycle, skateboard, scooter, roller or inline skate, or other wheeled, operator-propelled equipment that transports the operator on land according to OAR 736-021-0065

(3). *Seems to apply to ATB and Buggies.*

(2) A person may operate a wind-powered aircraft or vehicle, such as a land sail, kite- buggy or other similar items on the ocean shore according to OAR 736-021-0065 (3).

(3) A person operating a non-motorized vehicle or wind-powered aircraft on the ocean shore must do the following:

(b) restrict speed and manner of operation to a reasonable and prudent practice relative to terrain, prevailing conditions, equipment, personal capabilities, personal safety and the safety of all other ocean shore users, natural resources, and wildlife.

(4) A person operating a non-motorized vehicle or wind-powered aircraft on the ocean shore may not do the following:

(a) disturb or harass wildlife or other natural resources as provided in OAR 736-021- 0090; or

(b) block access, use, or the safe and uninterrupted passage of others on the ocean shore.

736-021-0090 Other Activities that May Involve Product Removal

Although this speaks to personal prospecting and personal collection, an out of sort park official could perhaps apply this to kite anchors. But in general, I think we are OK on this.

(H) No person shall disturb more than one cubic yard of materials at any individual site and accumulatively, more than five cubic yards at sites within 1/4 mile. Disturbance of material may be restricted to individual beach areas, quantities of material, and time of year;

General rules that could apply to all beach use:

(a) **Occupied Sites:** In areas designated by the department as occupied sites for Western Snowy Plovers, the following apply: *This could be the biggie. Be careful that you are not operating stunt kites or flying rather large kites over nesting grounds of the Western Snowy Plovers. Just ask a ranger if in doubt.*

(d) Blocking, obstructing or interfering with pedestrian or vehicular traffic;

(f) Fighting or promoting, instigating or encouraging fighting or similar violent conduct that would threaten the physical well-being of any person;

OK, keep the Rokkaku Battles in the sky, no fighting, no biting, LOL

(g) Activities or conduct that constitutes a public nuisance or hazard.

Stunt kites flown over someone's heads, could be just such an activity. But none of you would ever do that.....right? We have all had people just walk into a fly zone and sit down, then get upset because that kite is flying overhead. Just move on to more remote beach. People just do not understand.

736-021-0130 Commercial and Other Special Activities

Now these apply to kite festivals. I do not interpret them to apply to an informal club fly.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this rule, no person shall conduct any commercial activity or special activity or event on the Ocean Shore Recreation Area without first obtaining a special-use permit issued by OPRD according to the provisions in OAR 736-016.

(2) Commercial activities require a permit if they meet any factor or characteristic including, but are not limited to the following: selling, renting, leasing or offering to sell, rent or lease any merchandise, food, beverage or service; operating a concession; advertising; monetary transactions or payments; and displaying or storing goods for sale or rent.

(a) It is an organized activity where the number of participants is more than 50 individuals;

(b) It uses a portion of the ocean shore recreation area at the exclusion of others;

(c) It is an activity or event that modifies or embellishes the natural ocean shore area, or places structures, such as tents, chairs, arches etc. on the ocean shore in a manner outside of normal recreational use as determined by a park manager, natural resource specialist or designated park employee;

(d) It uses public-address, amplification or lighting systems, other than those designed for personal use;

(e) Events charge money for participation or admission, or they sell products or services;

(e) Activities or events could potentially disturb the natural, cultural, scenic and recreational resources in the ocean shore area or in areas adjacent to the ocean shore;

(f) Activities or events could pose a safety or access concern for other ocean shore area users or for those involved in the activity.

(3) Persons who obtain a permit under OAR 736-016 must comply with all the provisions of OAR 736-016 and with park manager, natural resource specialist or designated park employee instructions.

736-021-0140 Signs and Promotional Materials

Maybe a stretch, but an ornery official could take issue with feather flags. Not the ones with pretty designs, but those, like mine with an email address, etc.

(1) Unless approved through a permit obtained from a park manager, natural resource specialist or designated park employee in accordance with OAR 736-016, the following apply:

(a) No sign, marker, advertisement, or inscription may of any kind shall be placed or displayed within the ocean shore recreation area with the sole purpose of advertising a business or soliciting customers; and without written permission from the park manager.

(b2) No person may place or distribute any circulars, notices, leaflets, pamphlets, or written or printed information, promotional materials, products or other similar items of any kind, within the ocean shore recreation area. , unless they have first obtained permission from a park manager and reported their name, address and number of leaflets to be distributed to the park manager

So unless you are holding a kite festival, keep flying those kites with no worries, and keep looking up! Be respectful of others, and local wildlife. And have fun.

See you on the beach.

Michael Hale

President Emeritus (retired old fart)

Elmer's Flag & Banner, Kites Too

kiteguy.hale@gmail.com

Kites and Kiting

This became a major part of my life suddenly. In 1998 I had finally graduated from University after a thirty-six year hit-or-miss education pattern. (More miss than hit, 'tis true.) I spent most of the next year getting all of Glenda's and my stuff together and moved from southern California to Washington. We combined a bunch of households worth of furniture and belongings; Hers, her parents', mine, my parents', and a whole lot of stuff I couldn't identify but it came along anyway. By the time it all got to Washington I was ready for a break. So we bought a campground membership, thinking to go relax somewhere.

It was sheer coincidence the campground near Ocean Shores was the first one we visited, and even more coincidental we showed up on the same weekend as 1999's **Ocean Shores Kite Festival**. We saw some notice somewhere there was a kite festival and out of curiosity we dropped by to see what went on at a kite festival. We hadn't a clue.

I think I'm going to produce a bumper sticker that says "**CAUTION, Kites Are Addictive! Ask me for a Fix**". These things should come with a warning label to that effect. By the end of that first week-end we had made "favored buyer" status at every kite shop in the area. (We didn't learn about Hi-fliers in Pacific Beach for several more years, or we'd have bought them out, too.)

We were awesomely ignorant about everything to do with kiting. We had no concept of protocol, rules of engagement, what to do when strings entangled—*Nothing*. Fortunately for us, the kiting family (first in the form of **Rich Miller**, then as we began to show we were in it for the long haul, many others) took pity and began showing us the ropes (lines?). When I find myself annoyed at something a "Newby" does in ignorance, I try to remind myself of how we were treated in our first days and act accordingly. I try to help the newby understand what they're doing wrong to cause all those people to yell at them. (Doesn't always work. Sometimes I forget about helping and yell too, other times the yellee just doesn't want to hear about it and rebuffs my efforts. Hey, life happens.)

At this point I'd like to say "Thank You!" to all of the kites who tried to help us, and promise to try to "Pay It Forward". I'd also like to apologize to all those who I inadvertently (or deliberately) insulted in my ignorance. Actually, you've all done very well.

After a few more festivals, at Grayland Beach and WSIKF, we recognized we couldn't go on buying everything which caught our eye. We had spent a startling amount of money on kites and the necessary things with which to fly them. And we realized we just plain didn't like a lot of the colors of the commercial kites. Despite the cost, most of them looked cheap and disappointingly constructed.

People started to tell us we should be making our own kites. What a scary concept. I certainly had no idea where to start. They started to tell us about the Oregon Kitemaker's Retreat and about Ft. Worden. Hmm...

So we sort of committed to Ft. Worden, mostly because the first part of it was going to be held in Seattle and we could get to it easily. The kite was **Bobby Stanfield's Stone Mountain Variation**. We went into the class with a sewing machine that would have made a good boat anchor. Despite that handicap and the fact the kite was very detailed and Bobby's building techniques were, at the very least, unique, we managed to build two of the beasts.

This was the biggest kite I ever flew and both of them flew beautifully. Kudos to Mr. Stanfield!



After the insane effort it took to build them and our success at it we were unafraid to attack any design. Of course, we started looking at ideas for a new sewing machine. We weren't looking forward to struggling that hard again...

But the saga of the sewing machines and why we now have something like eleven of them is another story entirely. Maybe later, eh?

Jerry Graham

This is Jerry and Glenda's **Mobile Kite Storage Unit**.



Latest on the Crossroad Gym Usage

Good Morning, All
1-29-12

As in the past, I'm emailing all who have voiced support for my efforts to obtain Crossroads Center gym time, as well as those nearby, who can take advantage of availability. Also, as in the past, I'm hoping that in keeping news of the access possibility out there, word-of-mouth contacts may yield additional interested participants.

Don't give up. Success appears very close! Rudy Thomas called and asked me to meet with him and his boss on February 9th at 2 PM. He encouraged me to invite any or all other kite fliers I'd like to join us. The purpose of the meeting is to go over usage rules and regulations for our use, and to set a schedule. He did not mention the previously suggested schedule of two Thursdays per month, at 4 to 6 PM. It may be that the specific times may still be open, and we may have some choices.

I don't think a mob would be appropriate for this meeting, and there's no possibility of that. I do think that having several enthusiasts there would help our cause, as well as providing an opportunity for suggestions and input. I know that the meeting time is not convenient or even possible for some. I'm hoping, however, that some of you nearby can attend. I'd like very much to know of any of you who can make the meeting. If you can't, but have any questions, suggestions, or other contributions, please let me know, and I'll try to look out for the interests of all.

These wheels have turned very slowly. To all, thanks for your expressions of support and patience. I look forward to hearing from you, and hoping to see familiar and new faces on the 9th.

Thanks,

Elliott Brogren

Hello fellow flyers,

For those of you who didn't hear, the **Ocean Shores International Kite Challenge** received an award for **Best Kite Festival 2011** from **The Kite Trade Association International** at this year's event.

Thank you all for your contribution in making it a successful, fun event.

Plans are in the works for the three upcoming events we have scheduled this year. The first being June 2-3, then August 11-12, and our new indoor event we are shooting for November 3-4.

As many of you know Ocean Shores does not have a local club to help us put these events on, and in the past you all have been a huge help in making the events work.

This is a formal request for assistance to aid in another great event.

We are looking into renting the Elks Lodge for a Saturday evening gathering with raffle/auction, for the June and August events and wanted some feedback on whether to have a potluck, or have dinner tickets to purchase and have the Elks cook something for us.

The November event worked out great using the cafeteria right next to the gym, so we plan on having the same set up as last time.

We are in need of volunteers for the following things:

- ⇒ Beach photographers/video
- ⇒ Kids kite making helpers
- ⇒ Mass ascension judges
- ⇒ Raffle/auction set up
- ⇒ Raffle ticket sales
- ⇒ Emcee for the auction/raffle

And if we have enough volunteers we would like to get the city volunteers to have some relay races for flyers and the general public to participate in.

I will be checking with the State Parks to see if any beach usage has changed this year. I'm sure the same rules will apply as in the past with a limited number of cars being allowed in the No Drive zone, as well as the times to be in and out of the area. Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to be in the no drive area and for which event so we can make arrangements with the parks department.

And a friendly reminder: these events are for all aspects of kiting whether you are a single liner, dual liner, quad liner, fighter flyer, or just want to watch, come join us and have some fun!

Excited to hear back from all of you,

Ocean Shores Kites
www.oceanshoreskites.com

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>

March 1-4	Puyallup Sew Expo, Western WA Fairgrounds
March 16-18	Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference Port Townsend WA www.kitemakers.org
April 3 - 8	N.Am. Buggy eXpo - Primm, NV Bring your Buggies, Boards & Blokarts to Ivanpah Dry Lake on CA/NV border for a week of kiting in the sun.
April 7	5th Annual Kites Over Kingston WA- Fun fly at Port of Kingston, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM Info: Linda Henry at (360) 509-7591
May 12 - 13	Rockaway OR Kite Festival Joint fun fly with AOK as part of the Rockaway celebration
May 19 - 20	White Rock, BC Festival of Wind, Waves & Water East Beach, Contact: festival@bcka.bc.ca
May 19 - 20	Lady Kitefliers Old Fashioned Fun Fly RockawayBeach, OR Contact: Miriam Schafler mirmate@aol.com
May 26 - 28	3rd Annual Quincy WA Kite Festival Fun Fly at Parties on the Green at Twin Firs Turf, 7727 Rd L. 5 NW, Quincy, WA. Info: Jeff Earl 206-713-2366 or jeff@bigkidkites.com
June 2 - 3	Ocean Shores, WA NWSKL Sport Kite Comp
June 2 - 3	Ocean Shores WA Kite Festival Sponsored by Ocean Shores Kites
June 9 - 10	Pacific Rim Kite Festival - Vancouver, BC Vanier Park, Vancouver, BC
June 17	WKA Fathers Day Kite Fly Seattle, WA Magnuson Park "Kite Hill"
June 23 - 24	Lincoln City, OR Summer Kite Festival
July 13 - 15	Grayland, WA Westport Windriders Kite Festival
July 14 - 15	Grayland, WA NWSKL Sport Kite Competition
July 14 - 15	Parksville, Lions International Kite Festival Vancouver Island, BC Contact: Clarence Esslinger cesslinger@shaw.ca (250) 248-3796
July 21 - 22	Brookings, OR Southern Oregon Kite Festival
July 28	Pierce County Parks/PCKA Family Kites in the Park Day, Chambers Bay Central Meadow

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

Editor's Notes—

Well, what a year so far. Went to OKR to catch up with kiting friends. Did not take any classes, I mostly went for the camaraderie. But I did bring something home—a frightful cold. I am still not completely out of the woods and in addition my daughters have gotten it from me. You know—the family that keeps on giving. There was a lot to cover in this issue. Thank you to all contributors. We even had coverage of coming events! Great for our planning of the kiting season. I would like to get the next issue out to get caught up with our usual schedule right after Fort Worden. I would like coverage of that event as I cannot get there myself. Pictures and reports galore please. And then don't forget to cover coming kiting events such as White Rock, the Quincy WA festival, and let us know more of what is going to be happening in Grayland in July. And report on anything else you know will be occurring. Nice to have the info so we can plan our kiting season. See you out there—Marzlie

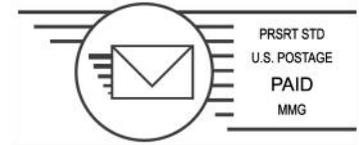


New Member Report

Jeff Bailey	Lacey, WA
Sanjiu Fang and Hongfang Ge	Kirkland, WA
Eddie & Tigger Haynes	Tacoma, WA
Barb & Jeremy Perceval	Delta, BC

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——



Great to see such a line of kids signing up to fly a kite on Kids Day at WSIKF.



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