



# Newsletter

June - August 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](http://wka-kiteflyers.org)

## *It's the End of an Era*



Hello Windophiles from all over the world—

For thirty-three years we have been in the business of making and selling kites. Our business officially started in 1979. We had a small loft in the University District where we made kites. After the 1980 AKA convention in Seattle we moved close to Gasworks Park where **Mayor Royer** had just dedicated Kite Hill at the park.

Through the years we played roles in starting the Fort Worden Kitemakers Retreat along with **Doug Hagaman** and **Jack Van Gilder**. For a while we traveled in one day down and back to work with the Washington State International Kite Festival riding with **Tom Sisson** in his shockless Chevy. We started Demo Day at Magnuson Park which turned into the Seattle Kite Festival for 12 years; served as V.P. of the American Kite Flyers Association; on the Board of Directors of The Kite Trade Association; and worked with the City of Long Beach to produce the Northwest Stunt Kite Championships. It all seems like yesterday but in reality took a long time to do it all.

We never thought it would all come to an end, but in hindsight all good things come to an end. Our current site

building is being demolished to support a more modern up to date complex that will provide jobs for 300 people. It is all progress. This is the perfect way for us to exit the retail kite scene. That does not mean we will not be attending kite events, it just means it will make it easier for us to do.

Although we are the last of the specialty kite shops to



close in the Seattle area, we feel there will be new and better ways to merchandise these products in the near future. The new kids coming onto the scene will come up with more clever ways to do it. It is inevitable.

We will miss all of you and hope you always stand with your backs to the wind. Remember:

Don't try to explain why you love to fly,  
For those who understand  
No explanation is needed.  
For those who don't understand  
No explanation is possible.

See you somewhere in the sand.

**Kathy Goodwind**

**Cold? Rainy? Stormy?  
Fly Kites Indoors at Crossroads**



**Second and Fourth Thursdays, 6-7:45 PM  
18 Years and Older, but Kids Welcome  
With Adults  
Come, Watch, Learn, Fly**

In May a few of us indoor kite fliers in the Bellevue-Redmond area began enjoying the fruits of several month's efforts to obtain a gym schedule at the Bellevue Community Center. The Center staff has been very helpful and enthusiastic in providing access for us. Our evening sessions so far have seen from three to five fliers and a number of spectators.

In keeping with the Center's emphasis on kids programs, several of us were asked to register as volunteers and to assist any interested kids who show up, but access is available to all drop-ins, with the only requirement just a sign-in. There is no charge. The gym is available to us on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, from 6 to 7:45 PM. The Center is at

16000 NE 10th, just east of the Crossroads Shopping Center. You may be interested in seeing and commenting upon a segment recently broadcast by Bellevue TV, following their visit on two of our flying nights. The link copied below will lead you to a YouTube record of the program, with the kite segment beginning near the middle of the program.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-UVSpts3A4&list=UUW22suSoHWumwarCbu3NkOg&index=1&feature=plcp>



**Elliott Brogren**  
Volunteer Site Contact  
ewbnmb@centurylink.net

**Ocean Shores Color On The Wind Kite Festival**

Many thanks again this year to **Andy, Brenda and Tom of Ocean Shores Kites** for putting on their June 2nd and 3rd kite festival at Ocean Shores.

We had rain showers both Saturday and Sunday mornings, but wind and blue skies and sunshine both afternoons.

The Northwest Sport Kite League held their competitions and there were single line beach displays down at the south end of the usually closed-off beach area.

**Carl Williamson** coordinated the kid's kitemaking tent with the **Fly Me paper bag kite**. It is a flat sack and you cut it open. 50 kites were built and happily flown on Saturday. **Bonnie Ecker, Sylvia Bernauer** and other festival attendees helped in the tent.

An overwhelming feast of fried chicken, baked beans, potato, macaroni, and cole slaw salads and cookies was served for dinner. There was plenty left over and most of us took food for Sunday. Many great kites and other items were raffled or auctioned off to support the festival.

**Sylvia Bernauer**



Never too young to fall in love with kites!

Sylvia says: "I helped this little girl and another family member with her kite. She loved it! She stole my heart."

More from Sylvia:

"Marianne at the raffle. She knew what would probably happen when she saw me approaching with my camera!"



## Reports and Photos from Westport Windriders Festival 2012

### First from Penny Lingenfelter——

My first kite festival was the **Westport Windriders** and I've always loved going there. This year the festival at Grayland was almost balmy. A warm breeze, cloudy overhead, and we even witnessed steam rising off the beach. Yup, fog above and below. It misted a touch once or twice, but not enough to dampen anyone's spirits. The sky was full of kites, with sleds and long tails, frogs, and pterodactyls. All sorts of kites flying in the mass ascension. I saw **Richard Hurd** and **Phyllis Gribbin's** new owl train and **Scott Hampton's** delightfully fun kite art. **Scott** and his wife, **Marylyn**, were the invited guests from Utah and added great color to the festival.

The turnout was good. I said hello to single liners on Saturday, and dual liners on Sunday. **George** from Vancouver pulled up some sand next to me and flew his Rev and Nirvana. An old high school friend, **Jim Romo**, lives in Westport and he tried both kites. He did pretty good but decided to take a lesson another day after coming down with the nirvana on his very pretty silver Cadillac. Ouch! He was thankful he had just put on a hard coat, so it didn't leave a mark. Uh, huh... that's why we don't play in the road. ☺ I'm sure he'll try again at Long Beach.

I stayed a little too long on the beach Saturday and just had to have a shower, so I missed the banquet. I heard it was good food and lots of auction items. It sounded like a successful auction. I did make it to the Westport Windriders trailer on the beach and picked up several sweatshirts. They are nice and have a **Scott Hampton** Design on it.

Everyone looked like they were having a good time. I had gone to the end of the competition field and found some firm enough sand to park my van and flew to my delight. I gave a few lessons, saw some old friends, received a few kisses on the cheek and lots of hugs.

It was a nice weekend and just the wonderful get-a-way I needed from the hard work I'd been putting in. You know, I met several new people on the beach who told me the same thing. ☺ Westport has always put on a great show at their kite festival and they did it again. Kudos and many thanks to the event organizers and staff.

### Second from Lisa Root—NWSKL

Although the weather was gray  
there was wind every day  
There were so many beautiful, colorful kites in the air  
all competitions went well - each one done with care  
There were lots of people lining the beach  
enjoying all kinds of kites within their reach  
It was a great Festival and lots of fun.  
we were all tired but happy when the weekend was done!!

Thank you **Westport Windriders** for a great event!!

The NWSKL had a large field of fliers — with competitions, demos and just a great good time. It was wonderful to see some of our old friends competing and doing demos. There were fliers from out of state who came to participate and do some demos for all to enjoy. Here are some photos to show a great display of events:



Opening fly -  
remembrance of  
those who are  
flying free!!

Wow - look at all the kites



Pilots meeting

All photos  
and captions  
by **Lisa Root**



**More from Westport—Lisa Root**

Let the competition begin



No.....Look the other way !!! Judge the kite.... not the camera!!

**WKA Board Members**

**President: Rick White**  
Sragtop@aol.com

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

**Treasurer: Marianne Austin**  
quillback@juno.com

**Secretary: Bonnie Ecker**  
whrlwind@comcast.net

**Membership: Sylvia Bernauer**  
dbrn1@earthlink.net

**Education: Ken Conrad**  
ken@greatwinds.com

**Special Events Coordinators:**  
**Glenda Kleppin Jerry Graham**  
gmakleppin@usa.net /  
jlgraham1@usa.net

**Safety Chairman: Scott Slater**

**Products Coordinator:**

**Youth Liaison: Kristian Slater**

**Webmaster: Morrie Williams**  
mmawilliams@comcast.net

**Newsletter Editor: Marzlie Freeman**  
marzlie@centurylink.net

Let's eat and get on with the award and raffle/auction!!



## Flyer's Day / Lady Kite Flyers May 19th - Long Beach Washington

Morning, Saturday, May 19th, Long Beach. So there we were, the Flyer's Day group was scheduled to fly off the end of Sid Snyder Avenue and the Lady Kite Flyers were set up at end of the Bolstad Avenue beach approach. It didn't take long for the



"Casey doesn't have much career potential as a sign painter."

Flyer's Day crowd to figure out the Lady Kite Flyers had a better answer. Bolstad had drive-in access to the beach, the restroom facilities were in place,

We had a small, but lively crowd at the Saturday evening dinner at the Lost Roo restaurant.

A nasty drizzle put the quits on any flying on Sunday.

When we originally conceived the idea of Flyer's Day, our intent was to provide fliers an opportunity to test out and tune up their winter projects in a relaxed setting. Based on peoples' comments, it sounds like the event hit the mark. Pairing up with the Lady Kite Flyers made the day even more fun.

Our thanks to **Kay** and **Sharon** at the **World Kite Museum** and **Tanya** at the **Lost Roo** for helping us put the event together. We'll do it again next year!

**Casey Shearer**

Our Editor - **Marzlie!**

and, the Long Beach Lion's Club had a breakfast tent going at the end of the approach. Coffee and pancakes — Yes!

The combination proved fortunate. All through the day we flew a wonderful collection of the artistic kites and banners of the Ladies and impressive big kites of the Flyer's. Many visitors



Looking at the beach on mid-Saturday from Bolstad



**Marla** wearing 'the Hat'



**Rod Thrall's** impressive 400 Airform



came by the beach to see the "spaceships in the sky" and stayed to view the beautiful banners and kites the Ladies were flying. At times during the day, the kites and ground displays on the beach looked like a mini-WSIKF.

**Sylvia, Dave and Doc** Prepare to launch the LKF signature kite made by **Ellen Pardee**



Some of the "old hands" at lunch



Photos and captions by **Casey**

## Kite Clubs

### Associated Oregon Kites (AOK)

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

### Ben Franklin Kite Society (BFKS)

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 (LCWC)

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

### Northwest Sport Kite League (NWSKL)

Contact Bud Hayes  
email: bud@thehayesplace.com Calendar at [www.nwskl.org](http://www.nwskl.org)

### Peninsula Breeze Blenders

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

### Pierce County Kiteflyers Assn (PCKA)

President: Bob Wendt  
Puyallup, WA 98374, 253-848-6325 (home)  
[staff@pcka.info](mailto:staff@pcka.info) Calendar at [www.pcka.info](http://www.pcka.info)

### Squalicum Kite Flyers (SKF)

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. (WKA)

Contact: Rick White  
email: sragtop@aol.com

Address on back page of newsletter  
Membership includes 5 issues per year newsletter

### Westport Windriders (WW)

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 (WIKF)

Contact Allen or Marjorie Taylor  
360-678-9358

Meets 3rd Saturday Apr - Oct usually at Fort Casey

### American Kiteflyers Association (AKA)

Contact Theresa Norelius - Regional Director  
360-904-1424  
email: region10@aka.kite.org Regional: [www.aka.kite.org/region10](http://www.aka.kite.org/region10) or [www.aka.kite.org](http://www.aka.kite.org)

### British Columbia Kiteflyers Assn (BCKA)

PO Box 755  
101-1001 W. Broadway  
Vancouver, BC Canada V6H 4E4  
Membership: \$20 (CDN)  
Includes quarterly newsletter  
[www.bcka.bc.ca](http://www.bcka.bc.ca)



**WORLD  
KITE  
MUSEUM**  
[www.worldkitemuseum.com](http://www.worldkitemuseum.com)

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



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



The Newsletter of the **Washington Kiteflyers Association** is published four times yearly. Subscriptions are part of membership in the WKA.

The WKA Mailing Address is:

**Washington Kiteflyers Association  
Pacific Science Center  
200 2nd Ave N  
Seattle, WA 98109-4816**

Editor: Marzlie Freeman  
[marzlie@centurylink.net](mailto: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.

## Notes from the Prez



It is with excitement I write this article. Not because it is my last, but because a new president will be writing them from now on. New blood is starting to course through your WKA's veins. For the past eight years we have gone through a lot of great changes, and continued a lot of good traditions. I won't go through all that detail, for fear of losing you to sleep, but I really look forward to the new changes the new Prez will bring to the transfusion. I have no intention of leaving the group. I will remain close by, and help in every way I can.

I am hoping everyone reading this will make a great effort to share what fun it is to make and fly kites with all your friends. And bring them in to the WKA as members, so the efforts and work we do together as a club will continue for a long, long time. I think what we do on an ongoing basis for the community is very worthwhile, and exciting. It is likely I will continue as long as I have the breath to do so. Yes, I am tired of leading it, but I am supposed to be. New ideas and leadership will come in many different packages, and as long as you all stay in there and help, the new leader will succeed and the club will grow.

These past seven or eight years, we have gone through a downturn in the economy which has been felt through all the clubs. Yes, even AKA. I firmly believe things are turning around for all of us. This year has been better for renewals, and new memberships. We have received many times more e-mails and phone calls than the past years. We have been asked to help with painting the sky with color, and for kite building activities. This increase is largely due to the WKA web site which **Morrie** has been doing such a great job and is so faithful doing it. A **big** thank you to Morrie. We have had so many requests we have had to pass on, and in some cases, regrettably decline all together. Calls have been from east of the mountains, Seattle, Bellingham, Sumner, and all over. Last week **Bonnie** and **Dan Ecker** along with **Sylvia Bernauer** graciously handled the grand opening celebration of Jefferson Park on Beacon Hill. Even the **Drachen Foundation** was at that one. You will see an article on it in this newsletter. Next Saturday, I go to a Boy Scout troop in Sumner, to help them earn their kite making badges. We have been asked to decorate wine tasting events in Woodinville, Ellensburg and Tri Cities. This year I finally bought enough plastic, to keep me for my lifetime, in kids kite making material. We brought on

**McLendon's** as sponsors for the rest of the kiting materials. Thank you McLendon's! I know **Glenda Kleppin** and **Jerry Graham** have been busy as usual with the kids kite making at Joint Base L&M for the past several years. **Butch Harviston**, **Sylvia Bernauer** and **Bonnie Ecker** have also helped out with various events for kids kite making. There have been many more folks who have helped. Forgive me if I missed you. It takes all of us in the WKA, to spread the joy around. The more the merrier. I look forward to the next round of events to help make kites for anyone who wants, or needs it.

I want to thank all the Board members for all of their support and cooperation for the last eight years. Without them I would have given up long ago. **Marianne Austin** for her never ending job as Treasurer, **Marzlie Freeman** for doing the newsletter so perfectly every time, **Scott** and **Kristian Slater**, for all their support with vendors and kite shops and Scott's hard work in the WSIKF Lasagna dinner, **Sylvia Bernauer** for her passing on information to and from all the other clubs and events, (and for correcting me so very often, because I so desperately need it. You all would know what a complete bumbling, forgetful goof I am, if it weren't for her) **Glenda Kleppin**, and **Jerry Graham** for always being at the events and helping me stay on track, both physically and legally, **Ken Conrad** for his wisdom and help with the really tough details and decisions. **Butch** and **Bonnie** are both so new, it amazes me they are so active. It must be their youth which keeps them going, and helping us out so much. Thanks to both of you for your energy and new blood I was talking about earlier. Doesn't matter if you are retired already Butch, you are the new blood! Certainly **not** least, thanks again to **Morrie Williams** for the fantastic web page he keeps up constantly, and his support on the board with his ideas and wisdom. Thanks to you all!

I could talk more about lots of stuff, but instead, I will try to make an impression on you, by keeping my last President Notes short.

You're welcome! ☺

Have fun out there!

**Rick White**



## Annual WKA Lasagna Dinner at WSIKF

WSIKF week is coming soon. WKA hopes you are getting together some items to donate to the raffle or to be auctioned off at our annual dinner on Wednesday, August 22. Same place, the Grange Hall, 5715 Sandridge Road. Drive east from the World Kite Museum on Sid Snyder Drive (also known as 10th St.) until you come to Sandridge Road and turn right. The hall is just a couple of blocks away. We'll have our banner out.

Dinner price this year is \$8.00 for lasagna, garlic bread, salad and cake, still a good value for the price. **Helpers will be needed to help with prep in the kitchen and serving dinner.** Come about 2:30 PM to help with dinner. Call **Scott Slater** 253-732-3758. He'll take your call even on the beach on Monday or Tuesday. It's never too late to volunteer. **Helpers are also needed in raffle room and selling raffle tickets.** Come to the hall at 3:00 PM. Doors open for dinner at 5 pm, Dinner at 6pm.

## WKA-Sisson Scholarship

The deadline will be August 15 for receipt of postcard or note entries for the members-only drawing for a scholarship to the 2013 Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference. If you have any questions about the program, write to [dbrnl@earthlink.net](mailto:dbrnl@earthlink.net).

## WSIKF Notice from Robin Haas

The Washington State International Kite Festival (WSIKF) is just a few short weeks away! It is shaping up to be another great year with the international guests of **Mikio Toki** from Japan and **Ralf Maserski** from Germany. Both flyers have unique and interesting kites.

A new tradition was started at last year's festival. A **Tribute Fly** was added to the line up on Thursday to honor a kitemaker, living or dead, who has made an impact through teaching others. A tribute was paid to **John Freeman** last year. This year a tribute to **Deb Cooley** will be held. Kite flyers who have kites, windsocks or banners made by Deb or created in one of her many classes are encouraged to come out at 12:30 and fill the field for a half hour. It would be really fun if all those great banners Deb has made for Fort Worden and OKR over the years would show up on display!

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed to help with the events. Opportunities for volunteering include helping in the Operations Tent by distributing wrist bands and parking passes to flyers, Safety Marshalls, helping with kids events and keeping score during rokkaku battles. Another opportunity being brought back this year is to help with the international guests. The person(s) would help the guests get to and from the field (if needed), assist them on the kite field, and escort (or make arrangements) to any after hours activities. One to three people or couples are being sought. If anyone is interested in volunteering for any of these opportunities please send an email to [robin@kitefestival.com](mailto:robin@kitefestival.com). For those who are slow to commit you can also sign up at the Operations Tent when you arrive at the festival.

## Kids Day etc. at WSIKF

We're up here in Sequim—lavender festival was this weekend. Wonderful to see all the beautiful fields of lavender! And the smell is glorious. I'm worn out from all the walking but wanted to get this information in to the newsletter:

Plan to take part in all of the **Kids' Day** activities planned for Wednesday at WSIKF. **Foster Grandparent** fun fly officially begins at 10:00 a.m. Registration opens at 9:00 am and I hope to have volunteer grandparents there early so they can take kids out to the field as soon as they have registered. We need more volunteers than ever this year. The original hope was to have 100 kids take part in this event, but we had around 300 kids participate last year, so we need to have a lot of adult help for this event. We'll have a **lot** of extra kites, plan to come and help out even if you don't

have your own kites to give away. All participants will receive a really great red/white and blue Rev shaped kite pin. And don't forget to enter for special ribbons for various age categories and to set up your special **Kids' Day Camps**. It's a great day for all of us to celebrate our own inner child.

Calling all would-be apprentice fairy godmothers: come and be a part of the parade activities on Saturday at WSIKF. Bring your own wings or I can loan you a pair of mine. We will be leading kids out onto the field to become a part of the banner parade and will be giving out small gifts to kids after the parade. If you can't join us (or even if you can), remember we can always use inexpensive toys for the kids to receive from their fairy godmothers on that day. Being a fairy godmother is one of the best and most rewarding jobs at WSIKF!

**Glenda Kleppin**

## WSIKF Monday — Kite Trains, Arches, and Stunt Stacks

Monday morning at WSIKF there will be many beautiful trains, arches, and stunt stacks filling the sky. The theme this year is Birds. So let's fill the sky and let them FLY!

**Amy (Forsberg) Curry**

## Whidbey Island Kite Festival 2012

September 22-23, 2012  
Casey Conference Center  
Coupeville, Whidbey Island, WA

**Whidbey Island Kite Fliers** would like to welcome the northwest kiting community for our lucky thirteenth year. We have some fun events planned, but not so many you can't hang back, relax, and fly kites.

New this year, we'll have an award or two for best-decorated camp. Our four single-line challenges this year are: 2012 logo colors (visit our website), quilting designs, workshop, and mythology (where creativity counts).

In the sport kite arena, we'll have an AKA competition as fliers try to qualify to go to Nationals in Seaside in 2013. **Island Quad** will be our Featured Fliers, gracing us with their creative routines.

Two mass ascensions, kids' kite making, sport kite lessons, indoor competition, used kite mart, and our large raffle tent help round out the activities. Above all, Whidbey gives us all a chance to connect with our kiting friends before the fall sets in. Come join us this year! Visit our website [www.whidbeykites.org](http://www.whidbeykites.org) to check out the schedule, get directions, and pre-order shirts, pins, field lunches, and banquet dinners. Deadline for pre-orders is September 1.

**Marjorie Taylor**

**News From the World Kite Museum—  
2012 WSIKF – Just Around the Corner**

From the very beginning, the Washington State International Kite Festival has been a joint effort of the **Washington Kitefliers Association** and the **Associated Oregon Kites**. **Don and Lynn Lary, Genny and Eric Forsberg, Rick Talbot and Kate Talbot** were the kite brains and worker-bees behind the four women festival instigators of the Long Beach Merchant Association. Soon many more Washington and Oregon kite fliers joined as specific event chair folks or safety folks or many other event helpers.

WSIKF begins on Monday, August 20 with the Museum Kite Trains, Arches, Multi-line Stacks and Kite Train Making Workshop. The amazing thing about these events is that they “paint the sky” with color from the beach sand past the boardwalk with homemade kites. Bring a kite train and join others for fruit, coffee and a sweet at 9 am and sit back and watch the fun. If you want to promote kite trains come help us in the tent in the afternoon.

Tuesday is an Oregon promoted day. **Debbie Cooley & Ken Tuminia**, organize the **Top Team** events, the **Totally Tubular** fun and the schedule of the other day’s events. **Ronda Brewer** is the organizer and cheerleader for the **Individual and Team**

**Rokkaku Battles**. She has a knack for getting curious observers involved in the games. Ronda’s enthusiasm has gotten many “newbees” into kite flying after they’ve joined a rokkaku battle.

On Thursday, August 24, the Museum has organized a **Mega Bird Kite Fly** to honor the end of its “**Birds at Play**” exhibit. Here’s how it works. You need to fly a kite with birds painted or sewn on it or a kite shaped like a bird. Both Washington and Oregon kite making events have included several bird kite workshops. This year at Fort Worden **Rod Beamguard** taught the “**Bird on a Wire**” kite which was designed by Oregon’s **John Freeman**. To get the pin you register outside the registration tent recording when you will start flying. Then when you’ve flown an hour return to the sign up place and collect your pin.

Two more things to remember, get your Awards Banquet Ticket in the Museum or at the Museum Store Tent at the Beach. Also buy raffle tickets at the Store Tent for a Ken Conrad “3 kite train” with his computer designs. We hope you have a donation for the Saturday night Museum Auction. And very important, Please turn auction items in to the Museum before Saturday.

**See you at the Festival  
August 20 - 26, 2012**

**Say Hello and  
Thank You!**

When you arrive at the Washington State International Kite Festival in Long Beach, say Hello and Thank You! You will undoubtedly walk or drive past the parking and working crew at the junction of the pedestrian walkway (aka Bolstad Street) and the parking lot access road. You can’t miss them in their neon orange suits that scream, “Slow down, look up, and don’t hit me!”



Every year this team keeps you honest. You are not going “there” unless you have a hall, er, vehicle pass. They stand at

that junction **all day long** in all the weather the ocean has to dowse upon them and they love it! Doing it for many years, the team’s captian Sue and her crew keep you coming and going in an organized and careful fashion. So next time you spot them, say Hello and Thank You!

**Bonnie Ecker, WKA Secretary**



**CORRECTION!**  
**Please take Note**  
**WKM Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony**  
**Friday, August 24**

## Jefferson Park, Seattle WA History

Saturday, July 14, marked the dedication of the completed constructed park on the top of Beacon Hill in Seattle, named to honor **President Thomas Jefferson**. WKA was invited to bring color to the sky.

A bit of history first... this site was formerly home to side-by-side water reservoirs. I remember it as a kid being a very barren piece of dirt which was fenced. I do not remember the reservoirs. The land transferred to several landlords, starting with the state for a state university. Before it was sold to the city of Seattle in 1898 for a cemetery and reservoir, it housed a pesthouse (isolation hospital for smallpox patients), a city stockade for short-term jail inmates, a park nursery, and a greenhouse. Two drinking water reservoirs were completed in 1911 and the cemetery idea was abandoned. By 1915, an 18-hole golf course across the street opened, designed by the **Olmsted Brothers** who also designed the park, labor provided by the inmates. The community center of 1929 expanded over

time as the U.S. Army requisitioned it for a G.I. recreation center, tent housing for soldiers and visiting family during WWII, and anti-aircraft batteries to protect the now completed Boeing Field down on the flats. A V.A. hospital was constructed at its south end and remains active today. Part of the park transferred to the city's water department for the reservoir in 1935, who also developed a playground and lawn bowling on the unused portion of land. The land remained obscured behind barbed-wire fence until the 1990's when community advocacy campaigned for a pro-parks levy. By this time one reservoir had already been drained and had remained unused for years.

Beacon Hill has a fascinating history and a very diverse population. You can read more about it on the Internet at [http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&file\\_id=3004](http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&file_id=3004). Read about the park's Jubilee elsewhere in this newsletter.

**Bonnie Ecker**, WKA Secretary

### Jefferson Park Jubilee

In April, WKA was contacted to see if members would like to bring their kite flying skill and add color for the grand dedication of the completed park on the top of Beacon Hill in Seattle. To the tune of \$8M, Jefferson Park "metamorphosized" into a beautiful butterfly with kite flyers in mind as one of the users (see Jefferson Park history article above). By removing and filling in the unused reservoir and capping the second reservoir, today's 52.4-acre park is home to lawn bowling and cricket, a driving range and skate park, a playground and Beacon Mountain Playground, a staffed community center with a gymnasium, walking paths with reservoir elevation and history messages embedded, a seven-acre forest gardening project, and vast lawns with a view.

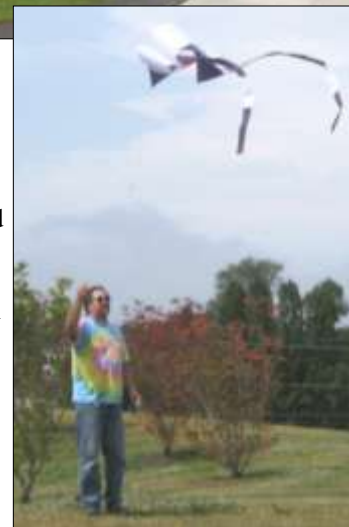
**Dan** and I were joined by WKA's membership chair **Sylvia Bernauer** for the day. The Jubilee committee had graciously provided us with a pop-up tent, table, and



chairs. Up went the WKA vinyl banner onto the pop-up, up went the WKA pole banner, up went a multiple number of colorful ground banners, and out came the kites we brought. Unfortunately, the day only provided us with



some very short bursts of wind that ruffled the banners and allowed us to fly a kite or two for about 30 seconds at a time. I had persuaded the committee to allow us to setup along the walkway instead of on the hill by the gatehouse, knowing visitors would pass our booth and stop. Many did and several asked about places to buy and fly kites. It is sad when we hear about



*(Continued on page 11)*

(Continued from page 10)

another kite shop closing and now losing the last shop in Seattle the end of this month — **Kathy Goodwind's Gasworks Park Kite Shop**. A New Orleans visitor stopped and one from Massachusetts, "where nobody flies kites!" We were humbled when a gentleman from the Japanese Consulate to Seattle handed us three beautiful hand fans, of which we proudly displayed on the booth, and a donated kite kit that will be put in the WSIKF banquet raffle. Kids came by asking about kite making and we directed them to the **Drachen Foundation's** table across



the lawn. They were doing small koi paper kites which the



kids colored and cut out, along with a larger square kite for the teenagers which had a simple looking, but complicated, three-point bridle that I and another kid could never figure out, even after asking someone from Drachen.

Sylvia conversed with **Mr. Yataka Sasaki** of the Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival Committee and with **Mr. Kiyokazu Ota**, Consul General of Japan. They were at the park for a ceremony of dedication of 25 cherry trees which were planted in Jefferson Park to

**Mr. Yutaka Sasaki**



commemorate the centennial anniversary of the gift of cherry trees from Japan to the United States. Mr. Ota knew WKA founder **David Checkley** and of his collection of Japanese kites which were donated to the World Kite Museum. One of David's kites is still on display at Bush Garden, a Japanese restaurant in Seattle's International District.

An overview of the park



We were blessed with good weather that day except for the lack of wind. We had a wonderful time chatting with each other and those who stopped at the booth. Dan even got a bit sunburned (huh, what's that about in this city?!). Around 7 p.m. park vendors were beginning their tear-down and we followed suit. Two kite flyers appeared with a Rev and, wouldn't you know it, the wind started picking up more consistently! Performers and bands on the stage were scheduled to continue to 9:00. The day was complete with a sunset sending us home and a middle-of-the-night Aurora Borealis display (of which we forgot to look for).

**Bonnie Ecker**, WKA Secretary

Photos by **Sylvia Bernauer**, **Bonnie** and **Dan Ecker**

## Kites for Kids at Maple Valley Christian Elementary - June 7

Maple Valley Christian Elementary School reached out to our kiting community with a request. Could our clubs support a Kites for Kids event as part of their June 7th Creative Days event? Their request found me.

There were a lot of questions and not a lot of time to prepare. Luckily, some of the Pros stepped in to help. **Rick White** assured us that ample AKA kite kits were available and offered to assist as a kite builder. Unfortunately, the Thursday date didn't work with Rick's schedule. (737 Production ramp-up wins again!) **Marla Miller** went into her "Organizer" mode and collected her materials for the Windriders' kite kits. She also proceeded to put together a stellar team of volunteers consisting of **Alexa King**, **Kristian Slater**, my daughter, **Laura Shearer**, herself, and me. We were



The ever cool,  
Mr. Kristian Slater"



Alexa starts off another one



Laura at work and Marla on the move!"



Kids and Kites at the end of the day

ready to go.

When we arrived and set up at Creative Days, we found it was a nice little event. In addition to our kite building activity, the school had organized a Book Fair, a guided nature walk through the surrounding undeveloped properties, a couple of art projects, and a kid-friendly food tent manned by parents and volunteers.

Once the first class rolled in and we got going, it was obvious we were going to build **a lot** of kites. We had been told we would be holding sessions for grades K through Five — about 135 kids in total. An additional 25 sixth graders showed up during the afternoon and a steady stream of young siblings and guests added to the pace. By the end of the day, we were pooped, but feeling good.

Horrible rain squalls drove everyone indoors at mid-day, but when the sky finally cleared a bit in the late afternoon, there were a lot of happy kids flying their kites in the school parking lot and sports fields.

**Casey Shearer**

Photos and Captions by **Casey**

## Fathers Day 2012

A short note from **Rick** and Photos by **Rick** and **Sylvia**

**Launny Herriges** supplied the Bols, and the father's and son's provided the fun. Maybe a few Mother's too. We had all the regulars, and some of the new members showed up as well. Light winds, but it was usable, most of the day long. No rain, but one hungry tree did find **Ken Conrad's** kite. Sorry no pictures of it. He was way too fast making sure we didn't get any. He still wins the **Tree Eating Award** this Father's Day! Congratulations Ken!



**Rick White** in the far left, **Sylvia** snapped this one.



**Casey Shearer** working on the bridles



## Lady Kiteflyers & Surf Perch at Long Beach

Since **Casey Shearer** and **Scott Slater** and other flyers (including **Rae Bohn**, **Ron & Marla Miller**, and many others) planned a fun fly on May 19 at Long Beach, the **Lady Kiteflyers** decided to move the location of our annual fly from Rockaway Beach Oregon to Long Beach so we could visit with other kite friends. Who knew there was also another event planned for the same day at Long Beach?? **Surf Perch Derby** — never heard of it before.

**Miriam Schafler** and I arrived on Friday. She flew her Circoflex kite and I flew sport kites all afternoon in the sunshine. We met other Lady Kiteflyers on the beach or later at Doogers for a birthday party dinner for **Sally Kinash**. We all enjoyed the great food and visiting with **Kay Buesing**, **Mary Yoshimi**, **Marianne Austin**, **Anne Huston**, and **Marzlie Freeman** with her two daughters, **Chani** and **Cheri** and her youngest grand-daughter, **Katie**. Marianne put a birthday hat on Sally and Anne gave Sally a delta kite which she made from



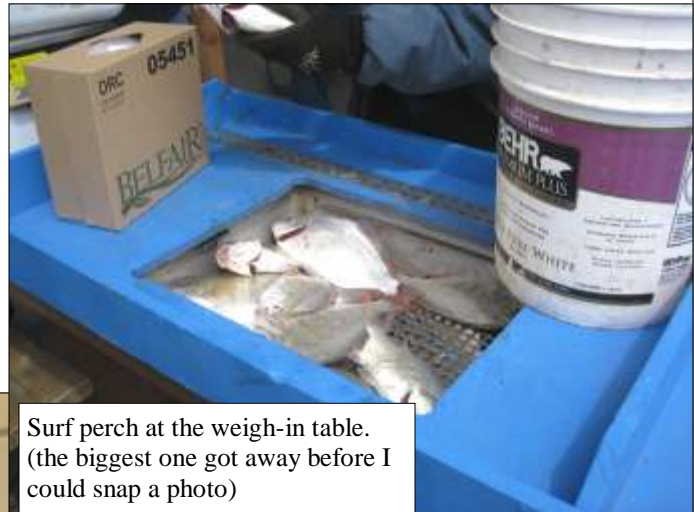
material won in a raffle. Birthday cake was enjoyed by all after dinner.

The beach from Bolstad south is usually closed in May, but lucky for us — it was open on Saturday for the surf fisherman who drove down to the beach and waded into the water to cast lines for the perch. It was great we were joined by others who came for the Flyer's Day fun fly.

Saturday was a beautiful day as we flew kites, including the "official" **Lady Kiteflyer Baden Powell Manlifter** kite which was made by **Ellen Pardee** and shipped to us so we could fly it at our event. Thanks go to **Doc Counce** and **Dave Colbert** for

assembling it for us. It flew absolutely beautifully all afternoon!

The surf perch weigh-in took place at 2:00 p.m. I had never seen salt water perch before either. They are bigger than the 6-inch ones I caught in a lake years ago. Many of these fishermen had been doing this event for several years.



Surf perch at the weigh-in table. (the biggest one got away before I could snap a photo)

That evening we held a potluck dinner and ukulele sing-along with Miriam at her cabin in the RV park. We had a great time. **Karen Highfield** was not able to be with us until Saturday evening, then it rained on Sunday so she did not get to fly, but maybe we will do that location again next year.



And as a reminder to get your mail sent in for a chance to win a Fort Worden Scholarship— here is the happy 2012 WKA scholarship winner **Larry Schroder** with the kite he made at Fort Worden. It was good to see him at our fun fly. He and his wife **Pam** had come down for the Flyers' Day event.

**Sylvia Bernauer**  
All photos by **Sylvia**

## Ralph Stockbridge Memorial Service

The ceremony included military honors, gun salute, taps, flag ceremony, and grandsons in military uniforms. I did not know he was a career military man who had served in the Middle East and other places years ago. I saw a photo of him with one of the pyramids in the background. Ralph's favorite kites were in the room.

Story goes the only time Ralph cried in talking with a friend shortly before passing was about the illness of his close friend **John Thomas**. John presented some shell casings to three family members who Ralph wanted them to go to. John, also of

military background, did that presentation very well but it must have been so tough for him!

Ralph was a very sweet and caring man who will be missed by many friends and family.

This note came to me from Harriet Stockbridge:

*"In large part, it was the kiting people who truly helped make the Memorial take place, and we think Ralph somehow knows about his kiting friends who came to help.*

*Love, Harriet Stockbridge"*

**Sylvia Bernauer**

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

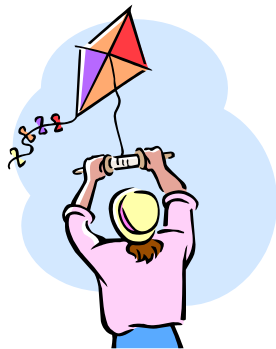
Names of Other Household Members (Include different last names):

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

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>July 28</b>       | Pierce County Parks/PCKA Family Kites in the Park Day, Chambers Bay Central Meadow                 |
| <b>Aug 20-26</b>     | WSIKF WA State Int'l Kite Festival<br>Long Beach Washington<br>See Page 9 for information          |
| <b>Sept 7-9</b>      | Up Your Wind Kite Festival<br>Pacific Beach WA   |
| <b>Sept 9</b>        | Portland Kite Festival, Blue Lake Park<br>11 am-6 pm — off Hwy 84, exit 14<br>and follow the signs |
| <b>Sept 22-23</b>    | Whidbey Island Kite Festival #13<br>See page 8 for information                                     |
| <b>Sept 30-Oct 7</b> | American Kitefliers Association Conference<br>Enid, Oklahoma                                       |
| <b>Oct 13-14</b>     | One Sky, One World – Long Beach, WA<br>and always the second Sunday in October                     |

Additional calendar information at the WKA website.  
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!

***The WKA board encourages everyone to please check the WKA website for needed help by volunteers at WSIKF***



### Editor's Notes—

*Hello there, everyone! We had a pretty good amount of input for this issue. Thank you to those who so willingly gave of their time to write the articles and snap the photos. And special thanks also to those who have taken the time to teach kite making to others. What a great introduction to kite making for the kids. You are highly appreciated.*

*I plan to put the next newsletter together in the middle of September. I know you all will have plenty of things to talk about and photos to share. Just be sure to remember your WKA Newsletter. It is a good place to share the kiting goings-on. So let me hear from you after the Pacific Beach get-together. I am trying to get the newsletter back on schedule. So let me hear from you — don't forget.*

*See you on the flying field, wherever that may be,  
Marzlie*

  
**New Member Report**

<b>Carol &amp; Ray Bechard</b>	Snohomish
<b>Joe Lecher</b>	Bellevue
<b>Dick &amp; Linda Starck</b>	Port Angeles
<b>Erik &amp; Linda Vaubel</b>	Belfair

We are glad you have joined us  
Welcome aboard!!

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——



A few of **Scott Hampton's** friends seen at the Westport Windriders kite festival.

Spotted by **Jeremy and Barb Perceval**



**More Than Your Average  
Kite Store**

*Single, Dual & Quadline Kites  
for all Skill Levels. Repairs,  
Parts, Excellent Lessons,  
Flying Toys, Rubberband Guns.*



Andy, Brenda & Tom  
360-289-4103  
P.O. Box 181  
172 W. Chance A La Mer  
Ocean Shores, WA 98569  
[www.oceanshoreskites.com](http://www.oceanshoreskites.com)