

WAKANA

Washington Kitefliers Association

affiliate of the AMERICAN KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION
PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER, 200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98108

NEWSLETTER OF OCTOBER, 1980 -
--- the A.K.A. Convention Special.



Dave Checkley opens the convention with greetings to the delegates.

Your editor asked Dave Checkley for comments on the AKA convention. He suggests one word: "Whew!" -- followed by:

"We did it. Joe Voellmeck had things well organized. Tom Sisson and early arrivals made the Edgewater Inn lobby beautiful, hanging kites Thursday morning. Pat Leza and her crew greeted the out-of-towners with coffee-and---. Suzanne Sadow had inscribed the badges and certificates and arranged housing.

With the help of guests, we put up a good trade show at the Science Center. The business meeting there went as smoothly as expected Friday morning. In the afternoon, Harry Osborne and his great kids from Edmonds Community College put up the world's largest kite at Magnuson Park. Don Jalbert and George Ham aided tremendously.

At the same time workshops were held at the Science Center by Dan Krahashi, Margaret Greger, Vic Heredia and Nishibayashi. That evening, Larry Chinn's transportation committee, including the ECC van, got everybody up to (Checkley's) for the buffet. Dorothea's cooking, Pete Ianuzzi's carving, Betty Eberharter's serving and John Dusenberry's bartending went smoothly. All were entertained by Millie Mullarky's videotapes.

Then it was back down to the Science Center for the auction. Thanks to the many contributions, Bob McCort's organization, and the auctioneering of Tom Sisson, Mel Govig and George Ham, over \$3,000 was raised for AKA funding.

Saturday, Gasworks Park never looked better - a large crowd on the big hill overlooking the view of the city and hundreds of kites under the Indian summer sun. We could have used another 3 MPH breeze, but it allowed the events to be flown without interference. Jack Van Gilder did a great job as announcer.

Thanks to people like George Ham, Curt Marshall, Lee Braswell, Peter Lynn, Nishi, Louise Crowley and many more, we had a spectacular show. Harry Osborne's bunch spread out their big parafoil - all 3640 square feet of it - on the hillside

That evening we had 40 more people than the room would hold at Ivar's Indian Salmon house for the banquet and awards. Many, many thanks to all the volunteers!"



Our new A.K.A. President: Bevan Brown



Parafoil, 52 by 70 feet, ready for ascent. Constructed by Needlecraft Dept. of Edmonds Community College.



Scene at Gasworks Park as field manager lined up contestants for "High Flier" event.



Kite in full flight, over 300 feet altitude. Harry Osborne, kite team captain, reports that they are sending full documentation to Guinness Book of Records to claim world record.

Kite was tied to a ten-wheeler, 20-ton dump truck loaded with gravel.

From Joe Voellmeck, Convention Chairman:
 "The 3rd Annual Convention of the American Kitefliers Association is now history. Among the 157 registrants were 32 from Washington, 23 from the Maryland Kite Society's area, 20 from California, 17 from Oregon and 14 from Canada. 27 states and countries were there.

Our final official count of the banquet was 179 and Ivar's Indian Salmon House staff handled the overflow crowd very well.

As Convention Chairman, I sincerely thank all of the WKA members who worked so hard to make the event a success. The Edmonds Kite Team and their leader, Harry Osborne, were very helpful and made a significant contribution with help in the printing of our posters, signs, typing and in providing the van and driver for transportation.

With so many nice people working -- who needs wind!"

Sincerely, - Joe Voellmeck

From Bob McCort, W.K.A. president:

"Well, it's all over and I am told that it was a success. This years convention was attended by many prominent kites. Our most honored guest would have to be Bob Ingraham, original founder of A.K.A.



Same scene as one to left, Gasworks Park, giving a look at crowd viewing kiting events.

Others were Domina Jalbert and George Ham who came expressly to assist lofting the world's largest Kite. Takeshi Nishibayashi ("Nishi") was here from Japan and Peter Lynn from New Zealand. Red Braswell, past-AKA-president, and wife, Bevan Brown, new AKA president, Sherie Govig and Mel, of Kitelines magazine, and many more that you have read about were here also.

Mother Nature was kind. I overheard, "I'd rather run up a kite in calm sunshine than huddle in a driving rain". But it would have been neat to see all of those beautiful kites in the air at one time.

I feel like the morning-after-the-night-before: I must have had a good time 'cuz I sure feel it now" - !

Contest Winners

"High-Flier" event for kites 625 sq. in. or smaller:

1st: Bill Lee - a perennial winner of high-flier events in Seattle, Bill displayed his versatility by trying out a new kite: an Australian trefoil.

2nd: (tie) Jim Greeno, WKA's high-school whizkid - and -

Mark Snyder, a newcomer to WKA, he has been flying airplane-type kites

for some months now at Gasworks Park.

4th: Mitch Poling, another newcomer to WKA but a veteran model airplane builder/flier. Mitch is contributing editor of "Model Builder" magazine. His strong interests are gliders and antique designs.

"High-flier event"- no size restrictions:

1st: Mitch Poling - again - same kite.

2nd: Carl Brewer - with another airplane type kite; well-known W.K.Aer.

3rd: Bill Lee - with the same trefoil.

(We were curious to see how many repeats there would be in these two events.)

"Most Beautiful" event -- probably the hottest contested:

1st: Pay Leong - with a "design-first, make-it-fly-second" kite of artistically-arranged 6-point stars.

2nd: Gary Woodcock, of Canada. Gary was a big winner in Detroit this summer also.

3rd: Nishi - Japan, with a colorfully-striped high-aspect-ratio delta.

4th: (Honorable Mentions follow):

Kathy Goodwin. (wish I could remember her kite -)

5th: Steve Edeiken and his six starters.

6th: Curtis Marshall's huge lobster.



Nishi brings kite contest to crashing climax with a show-stopping kite song.

"Members Choice" as selected in voting by AKA members at the banquet:

1st: Curt Marshall's huge, unbelievable lobster kite - a parafoil with lobster head and claws sewn it and tail flying behind - magnificent!

2nd: Lee Braswell's version of Richard Hewitt's Flexkite, gorgeous applique with a colorful goldfish drogue.

3rd: Diana Aurigemma's mountain scene delta, with Dianna all decked out in costume to match. Another triumph.

4th: Margaret Greger's masterpiece in nylon from Richland.

5th: Carolyn Staple's Cody kite, with the aid of a pulley on the hill it made the altitude record for big kites.

As there was little wind, we judged the "Most Beautiful" event by having the fliers pull up their kites with long lines, in heats of four, and bring them crashing down on the head of our distinguished painter-sculptor judge, George Tsutakawa - with protection by helpers Norm Smith and Mark Sclosser.



Domina Jalbert is thanked for his help by the E.C.C. kite team by the team's leader, Harry Osborne and Lynn Akriah at the banquet. Dom was enjoying himself - had many kind words for the Northwest.

Return to:
Washington Kitefliers Assn.
Pacific Science Center
200 2nd Ave. No.
Seattle, WA 98109

- to join W.K.A., send
\$3.00 yearly to above
address.

We ran clear out of room - - .

W.K.A. Executive Committee Meeting:
Tuesday, October 21st, at Science Center -- 7:00 pm -- IMPORTANT!

Contest: Issaquah - Security Savings and Loan Assn. parking lot - Oct. 25th, 10 am - prizes - near Issaquah off-ramp of I5.

Sunday flying: since no one came out to the varied parks listed last newsletter, we'll stick to Gasworks for the next two months. 1:00 pm each Sunday.

Please send news or comments to:
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1925 W alnut S.W., Seattle, WA 98116