

# Washington Kitefliers Association

an affiliate of the AMERICAN KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION  
PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER, 200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109

NEWSLETTER -

- of -

SEPTEMBER, 1985



WASHINGTON STATE INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL, Long Beach, Washington:  
This is the scene that met the eye on approaching the beach, August 19th - 25th, 1985. Keep in mind that the large spin-sox in the center of this picture are sixty (60) feet long! Doug Hagaman, immediate past-president of W.K.A., builds and flies the huge parafoils holding all those carp windsox, spin-sox and flags on their lines.

Like we warned you last issue of WKANewsletter, this WSIKF was a real BIGGIE. With an international presence of Peter Lynn, New Zealand, and Shakib Gunn leading a team of five from Singapore, the sky was full. Doug Hagaman seems to fill the sky with his "Lincoln City (OR) Display" whether the wind is 30 mph or three. The "display" part of it is all the things that Doug hangs onto the kitelines of his huge parafoil. Doug is recognized internationally (now) as just about the best parafoil

tuner extant. He makes them sit up in the air there like, well, flagpoles!

Peter Lynn crafts strange-shaped creatures which he tunes to sit up there rock-steady also. For all his engineering skill, Peter has a vivid imagination only expected of crazy-artists. The mind-boggler, besides the sheer size of his various shaped kites, is that they all break down into packages about 36 inches or less, to fit onto airplanes.

The Singapore team, consisting of Shakib Gunn, Michael Seet, Low Chin Ng-hee, Chua Wing Chuan and Sharon Wong Low flew more-traditional oriental kites:



Shakib Gunn and the Singapore kite team lay out and assemble their gear amidst a gaggle of photographers on the beach at Long Beach, WA. Lower right in photo above includes their 120-disc dragon kite. It will remain in the U.S.

Kiteflying is at the entire mercy of the weather, y'know. Our north-west drought continued but the wind was up one day and down the next. This is why WKA recommends that every kite kit contain a windless kite, like a tissue-paper delta. But on the whole we couldn't have asked for better weather.



Contrasts: Their modern "stacked delta" flies with their "Wau Bulan". The Wau Bulan is a distant cousin to the Filipino fighter kite, somewhat familiar in Seattle because of one of WKA's founding fathers, Tony Toledo. The wau bulan usually has a hummer attached and flies in a figure-8.



Hizzonnor the Mayor of Long Beach presents the key to the city to Shakib, Peter Lynn, (N.Z.) and Sharon Low. The Long Beach merchants' association came through with a nice big budget, helping the foreign flyers to get there. This also made decent cash prizes possible. For instance, \$150 to each kite club.



Peter Lynn here finds that his giant dragonfly kite does not fly to his satisfaction so he adjusts the bridle. With a 30-ft. kite, you accomplish this very carefully, with help from a couple of friends. It also helps to lay flat on your back, feet firmly planted in the sand.

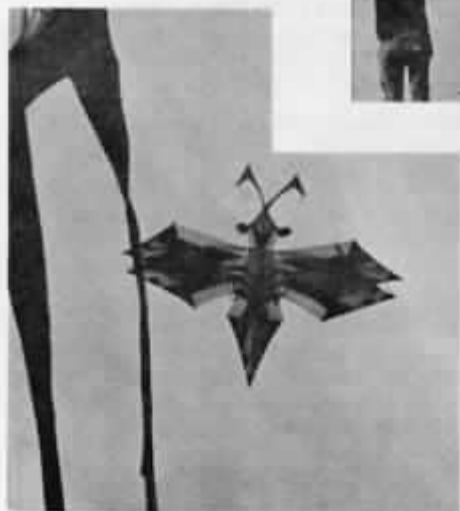
Ah, that's a little better! Peter passed up the AKA convention, Oct. 2nd to 6th, in favor of the W.S.I.K. Festival. We had invited him to instruct us in the use of fiber-wrapped fiberglass spars at the convention; to tell -



- us how he gets the amazing strength into those spars that he can break his kites down to 36-inch packages. The joints of those 25-ft. spars must be tremendously strong. It will take five other experts to take his place at the convention.

Here's his bug in the air -- a 30-ft bi-plane.

One piece of good news is that this kite will remain in Seattle! Randy Rouse bought it to add to his great collection.



Here's a closeup of the scene seen on the first page. The 30-ft. dragonfly, upper right; a 36-in. flat kite by Kathy Goodwind below that; Doug Hagaman's delta supports a string of 30-ft. carp-kite windsox to the left. In the center is another of Peter Lynn's 30-ft. deltas supporting on its kiteline a non-flying centipede, also by Peter. The small legs on the centipede wiggle realistically. The carp windsox were picked up in Japan for Randy Rouse by Doug Hagaman.

Below is seen The Bug with new owner Randy Rouse in the distance on the kiteline, in the distance. This scene is at Seattle's Magnuson/Sand Point Park, where WKA hosted a kitefly/picnic for Peter Lynn after W.S.I.K.F.



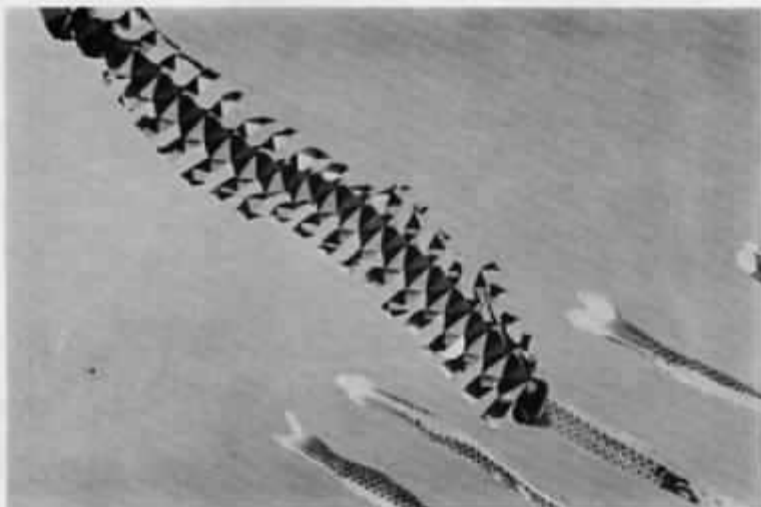
Left. Walt Sharp and Ken Conrad of WKA and Peter Lynn, New Zealand, at Mag./Sand Pt. Park, Seattle, ready a launch of The Bug for the first time in its new home: Seattle.

Some WKA winners at Long Bch: Larry Zilar, Most Colorful; Molly McConnell, High Angle; Julian Wolf, Reel Out (naturally! Can this be Julian's first?) Ray McConnell, Most Unique. All on Tuesday.

Wed. Children's Day saw about 100 children participate Molly McConnell, Ray's 13-yr-old, placed in both "Most Beautiful" and "Touch Me", for her age bracket.

Fri. Stunt Kite Day was taken over pretty much by Don Tabor of San Diego.

Right: Close-up of Randy Rouse's carp kites (30ft) and Peter Lynn's wiggly-waggly centipede wind-sock-type fabric sculpture, all hanging from kitelines.



More winners:

Thursday:

Molly McConnell

also placed in the adult division of "High Angle"; Ray McConnell placed in "Long Tail" and "Most Beautiful".

- and - - AND! -

Saturday: for the first time in three years, we WKAers did NOT finish last in the Team Competition! In fact, we came in second to those upstarts, the California Kite Club, built/organized from scratch by Lee Toy (San Francisco) from Callyforneyeayans who happened to be on the spot. After dismal showings the past two years, Jack Van Gilder turned over the leadership reins to Doug Hagaman and Doug certainly improved things. The Oregonians happily turned

over the epithet "upstarts" to CKC. They and our Canadian friends had both been named that in past years when they dared upset the more-senior WKA.



LEFT: David Checkley proves that he also deserves recognition as a kitebuilder and flyer, showing off a 60-disc centipede that he made. Dave is already world-widely known as leader of tours to kite festivals in Japan and China and, with goodwife, Dorothea, as host to the Pacific Rim, feeding and housing hundreds of kites in the past few years.

## LONG BEACH (con'd)

Friday Night: Night Flight was fantastic -- perfect weather, hundreds of twinkling lights. There are getting to be many more electronic blinkers at affordable prices in light weights for kites.

Saturday Night: The banquet was much better this year. It was held again in the Chatauqua Hotel, but in a different room and they must have had a new chef. Master-of-Ceremonies Rick Kinnaid, Bethesda, MD, did his usual witty job. He had also done most of the announcing for the contests during the festival. He coined a new phrase: " - flown by Bob -- "OUR FOUNDER" -- Ingraham -- ". As the days wore on, hundreds of people would join in with "OUR FOUNDER" every time the phrase came up.

Inside Stuff: Bob Ingraham founded A.K.A. twenty one years ago. He is still very-well liked, otherwise Rick wouldn't have picked on him so outrageously. Van Gilder was glad that Rick shifted targets. When Jack was A.K.A. president, he couldn't fall on his face in the sand, crash his kite or break his kiteline without Rick pointing out that " - and Jack Van Gilder, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION, has just goofed again!" Rick didn't bring his poorwife, Eileen, this trip. She's the only one who can match him, mouth for Mouth. (!)

Sunday: Van Gilder goofed again: he left early, Sunday. Ken Conrad says that there were kites as far as the eye could see, up and down the beach. It was "Festival Of Kites" day and a record attempt was to be made for "Most Kites In The Air At One Time In One Place". Informed sources say that some 640 were counted. Conditions were perfect for everything and everybody to fly. And, did they ever!

Sidelight: The Long Beach committee was so well organized that they had artificial driftwood. Those huge kites of Doug Hagaman and others are usually tied to large beach logs. A lack of winter storms caused unusually clean beaches. So the city of Long Beach scattered 12" diameter cement pipes along the beach, filled with sand, for tie-downs. Worked perfectly.

KITING JOINS 4-H: A great combination of kites and kids won lots of blue ribbons at the Seattle Center Urban 4-H Fair in August. The kids from the 4-H Club, which is located in the Yesler Terrace Housing Project, constructed plastic sled kites from the design in Margaret Greger's book. Each of the nine kids enrolled in the Club won an individual blue ribbon for their project and the Club won ribbons for best demonstration and Best Club display.

At the next stop, mid-September, the club came in 2nd at the Western Washington Fair in Puyallup, with much stiffer competition. Washington Kitefliers Association (WKA) member Paul Stappenbeck advises the club on their kite project.

The Yesler Club's project has interested other 4-H kids in kiting and they need our help. A few hours of your time, working with young people building kites, or teaching adult leaders about kiting, would be appreciated. If you are already working with 9 to 19 year old youth building kites, 4-H Washington State University Cooperative Extension is a fine way for young people to be

recognized for their work.  
Paul Stappenbeck, at 322-8129,  
can tell you more about how 4-H  
and kiting work together.



Yesler Urban 4-H Club members  
at Seattle Center Fair. From  
left: Denise Fuller, 4-H  
staff, San Fevy Saephan and  
Hugo Madrigal, club members.

BUMBERSHOOT, Labor Day weekend.  
Editorial comment: Boy, I just  
can't understand it. Here was a  
chance for a real challenging  
and fun fly. It was at the Sea-  
ttle Center's International Fo-  
untain, surrounded by trees,  
buildings and other obstruct-  
ions for a challenge and by a-  
bout 1,000 people for fun and  
admiration. Those few of us who  
showed up got lots of each. Con-  
gratulations to Marge and Sari  
Moore, Bob Hanna, Margaret Holz-  
bauer and especially to Paul

Stappenbeck, who flew a couple of  
real prize-winning kites amidst  
that dangerous terrain with me.  
My wife, Vi, and I had two trains  
of deltas out over the fountain  
when something let loose and ab-  
out 20 kites went floating off.  
A big kite-eater of a maple rea-  
ched up, got them about a block a-  
way, on Mercer St.

What I can't understand is what  
you consider fun. We try to set  
up situations that will give you  
a feeling of satisfaction by sh-  
aring your kiting with others.  
I would really appreciate hearing  
from you as to what you consider  
fun with kites. Call me at 938  
0550 and blast me if you want.

HARBOR TOUR FLY, Labor Day Mon-  
day. Wow! Was this ever a fun



experience! Labor Day Monday was flat calm over Seattle. But we had a perfect kiteflying breeze, out on Elliott Bay, a perfect view of the city, a great party, a boatload of great kids and lots of volunteer helpers. Where were you?

The same crew that flew at Bumber Shoot was on the "Goodtime II", one of Seattle Harbor Tours' boats. We had kiteflying breeze when no one else did because we told the skipper which way to turn and how fast to go to create exactly the right breeze. We had about 20 kites in the air at a time and -- WHAT A SIGHT!

Be sure to take note of this next year, eh?

Coming up: Well, not much, to tell the truth -- except --

How would you like to go to a University of Washington, Huskies football game? Free? Fly kites beforehand in front of 57,000 people?

Watch the game Sept. 28th on national TV? Did you see us?

Phone Jack at 938 0550 (pm) or 937 3050 (am) to go along. Schedule:

Oct. 19th: Ore.State - 1:00 pm  
Nov. 2nd: Stanford --12:30 pm  
Nov. 16th: U.S.C. - 12:30 pm  
Nov. 23rd: Wash.St. - 12:30 pm

Next Issue of WKANewsletter:

Right after we get back from the AKA convention in San Diego, Oct. 2nd - 6th, we'll get out another one. Hopefully we'll have a different, newer, better editor. It will have stories and pictures of the Thai kite team's visit to Seattle Sept. 25th. The Japanese kite team, also headed for the AKA convention, will help fly kites at the Husky game on Sept. 28th (the hated U.C.L.A.). And, of course, the AKA convention.

FOR MEMBERSHIP IN WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION, Send name, address and phone number to our address below, with your check for \$5.00. This will get you six newsletters during the next year, letting you in on the fun of kiteflying with other enthusiasts.



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**WAWAWA**  
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TO: