

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSN.

Oct./Nov. 1984

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Doug Hagaman

I was happy to see Gas Works Park reopened on August 18th with not only a ceremony but a successful kitefly as well. Thank you Kathy and Tom for all your hard work.

The W.K.A. showing at the Long Beach Festival was less than anticipated. A 3rd place out of three teams, two years in a row, doesn't do justice to the talent and spirit we have in this club. So next year let's not settle for anything less than the winner's circle! Excluding our poor showing, it was great to see many members of the W.K.A. down there enjoying the festivities at Long Beach. I would like to thank everyone who helped get my kites down and put away (in a 25mph wind not an easy task). Also, I would like to congratulate Walt Sharp for the inspired performance on winning the team stunt competition. With all the talent from Victoria there, it was truly an amazing feat! A.O.K. and B.C.K.A. better prepare early for next year's Long Beach Festival because WKA IS COMING ALIVE IN '85!

My old friend and kite buddy, Julian Wolf, underwent open heart surgery this past Sept. and is doing fine in his recovery. His campsite is always the hub of activities at any kiting event whether just a few people or a large festival. I'm looking forward to seeing him out on the flying field and tangling in his lines again. Hurry and get well Julian. To send him a letter, write to: Julian Wolf 2505 127th Ave. S.E. Bellevue, WA. 98005 or call (206) 747 - 1347.

I'm having a very enjoyable time on the Oregon Coast, working for Catch the Wind. It's a very beautiful place with plenty of wind and wide open beaches. I miss all my kite flying friends very much, so if you have some free time this fall or winter, come down and see me. I will be at their Newport store on the bay front. Phone # (503) 265-9500 (after 11/1)

There are a couple of big festivals coming up on the Oregon Coast. The Yachats Kite Festival on Nov. 3rd (Saturday) and Lincoln City on Nov. 4th. It's always a good time down in Lincoln City! There will be two professional kite fighters demonstrating their skills, a full slate of kite contest and prizes. Best of all, a sky full of show kites of every description possible. With two festivals in one weekend, I can't imagine being anywhere else!

KITE RETREAT WEEKEND

by Jack Van Gilder

Fort Worden, Port Townsend, Wa. Plans are being hatched for a replay of this most successful activity. We have put in a request for the weekend of March 8,9 and 10. If you have ideas or enthusiasm for this retreat please call Jack Van Gilder at 938-0550. This weekend can only happen with support from interested participants. The last retreat was a resounding success!

FROM THE NORTH
by Doug Hagaman

The B.C.K.A. had a very successful night fly on Sept. 26 with a large turnout and plenty of wind. They also elected a new slate of officers: President Clive Kitchner (604) 382-5539, Vice Pres. Nigel Spaxman, Sec./Tres. Hugh Harrison and Tom Kowalchuk editor of the newsletter. Clive is a disc jockey at a local radio station and has a great interest in kites. He did a fantastic job on the mike for the Father's Day Fly. He ought to stir up a lot of excitement in the Victoria/Vancouver kite community.

The B.C.K.A. thought Julian's heart troubles were from sending him a bill for their newsletter. So to make it nice and easy for Julian so he won't go to the hospital again, they gave him a life membership. (Les Varley probably forced Tom to do it, he's tired of winning all the oldest kite flier awards and this will get Julian out on the flying field sooner) Thanks B.C.K.A.

For the rest of us, the B.C.K.A. newsletter costs \$8 Canadian or about \$6 U.S. and can be ordered at P.O. Box 35653, Stn. E; Vancouver, B.C. V6M CANADA.



25 ft. carp kites on line with Canadian flag suspended by a beautiful box kite (Long Beach)



First test flight of new ^T m
Mallard design

SATURDAY came the real fun: Team competitions between the AOK, BCKA, and WKA. The WKA team consisted of Jack Van Gilder, Doug Hagaman, Tom Sisson, Bill Armstrong, Walt Sharp, Randy Rouse and Greg Greger. The "Fill-the-Bucket" event consisted of a relay race, each team of five having a bucket imbedded in the sand about 100 ft. from the waves. Identical deltas were launched and each participant was to hang on to the kite at the end of about 200 ft. of string while racing to the ocean for a cup for water. After depositing water in bucket, the kiter handed cup and kiteline to the next team member. WELL, wouldn't you know, after about ten trips to the ocean, our cup fell to pieces. "Touch - me" contest began in the midst of 30mph winds. Van Gilder found a box kite and represented the team. Just as he was well ahead and about to score, his line broke! "Launch and retrieval" we were ready for with our snatch-block pulley, courtesy of Julian Wolf. We were to launch a large, 15 by 20 ft. parafoil tied to a jeep 300ft. away, bring it down again and run to the jeep, being timed. AOK went first, launching the parafoil in creditable time. BUT, when they came to take it down, (remember that 30 mph wind) THEY COULDN'T. They climbed the rope. They tried everything. When the kite started moving the jeep through the sand someone remembered to pull the emergency brake. Event cancelled!



Control stunters ready to go at Long Beach '84



Flying rubber chicken doesn't make too good a tail! (Long Beach '84)

"Flying tarpaulin" event was just our meat. We had practiced this one at Sand Point and Gasworks parks. The festival committee provided each team with a 9 X 12 plastic tarp. We were to make it fly. Our team each had pocket-sized rolls of 1 in. duct tape, reputed to stick to anything. But, when we were in the heat of the contest, we found that it WOULDN'T STICK to this particular plastic! Our kite popped to pieces! For the "Teddy-bear drop" we had an expert of national repute on our team, Doug Hagaman. His kite was ready, his line ready, his dropper-trigger ready, his teddy-bear all decked out in goggles and top hat. But remember that 30 mph wind: it gusted to 40 mph at the moment of release and Doug's poor bear went rolling down the beach. AOK won this one, dropping ONLY 63 feet from the target. The "Stunt Kite" event was not really our specialty. And what happened? Walt Sharp, printer of this newsletter, won it, saving us from ignominy! THANK YOU WALT!



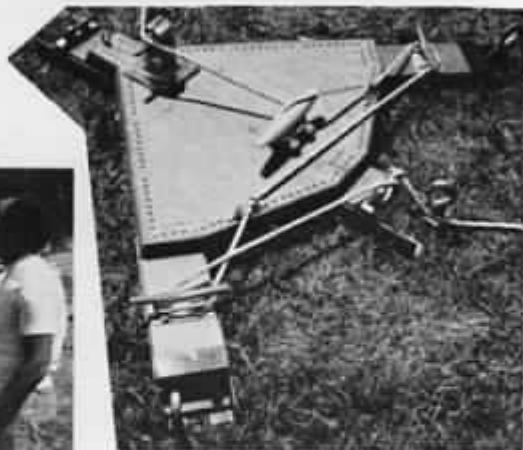
J.C. Young with one of his centipede masterpieces



Jim Carnwath with Lee Toy and Conrad at Gasworks reopening



Tom Kowalchuk and Randy Rouse talk with Weifang Kilters.

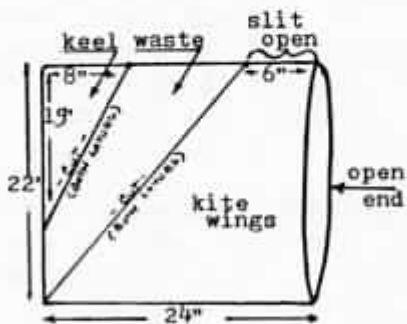


TRASH BAG "DELTA" KITE - -

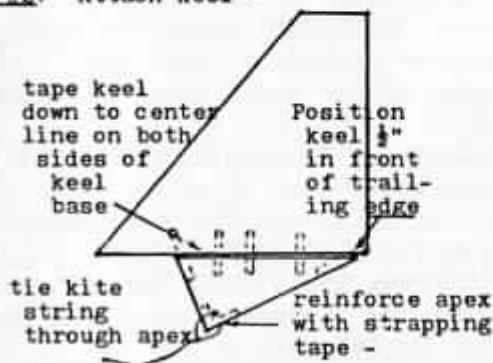
- plan by Bill Lee,
Washington Kitefliers Association -

Materials: 4 1/8th-by-24 inch
dowels -
1 plastic trash bag -
(22 x 24" (8 gal.)- tape ad-
heres better to "Hefty" brand)

STEP #1: Cut out -

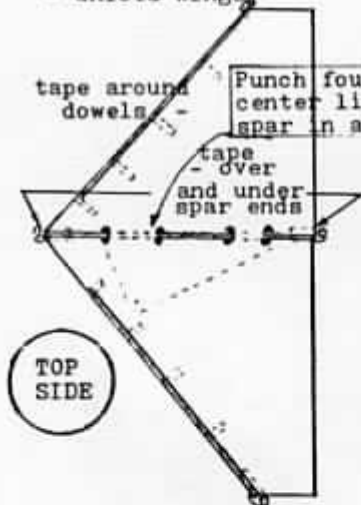


STEP #2: Attach keel -

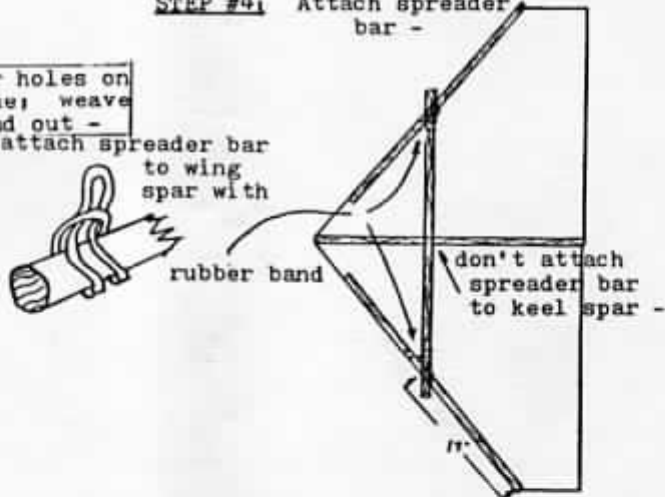


STEP #3: Tape down spars -

- unfold wings -



STEP #4: Attach spreader bar -



Suggestions --

- spreader bar may be made demountable with rubber bands -
- decorate kite with colored marking pens -
- use waste material for tail or fringe -
- if kite pulls off to left, cut slots into right wingtip -- and vice versa -
- this is a very forgiving kite plan -- change dimensions for seagull or arrowhead shapes -
- in brisker breeze, adjust rubber bands to force a "Deep-V" shape in hull

WASH. INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL
by Jack Van Gilder

"We had a ball!...and W.K.A. came home \$200 richer". Sound familiar? Now all we need to do is come in 1st instead of 3rd.

"BCKA" is the British Columbia Kitefliers Association of Vancouver/Victoria, B.C. "AOK" is the Association of Oregon Kitefliers, headquartered in Portland. "Longest Train" consists of a string of kites, usually all the same type, all tied to one long line. "Highest Angle" means the kite flying the nearest to straight up, not necessarily at the highest altitude. "Reel Out" means the kite farthest away from the flier at the end of the time period allowed. The "Touch Me" event consists of a target suspended in air which must be touched by your kite in the shortest time period.

TUESDAY was Handcrafted Kite Day. Our own Ray McConnell got a First for "Most Colorful" and also for "Most Unique Design". "Smallest" went to Ray Schwarz of Bellevue. Tom Kowalchuk got "Highest Angle", "Most Humorous" and "Longest Tail". Barry Heibert (B.C.K.A.) won the "Reel Out" event.

FRIDAY was Individual Competition Day. Amongst the winners were Tom Kowalchuk for "Longest Train" and "Reel Out". WKA's Jack Van Gilder won "Highest Angle" with a Tony Toledo Filipino Fighter kite and AOK's Don Lary took "Longest Tail" and "Touch Me".



Ray McConnell (WKA member from Kent) with his Cody box kite



Doug Hagaman with his red 1,000 ft. parafoil lofting two 40 ft. spinning windsocks, with mouths 6 ft. in diameter (Long Beach)

WEIFANG WOWS WKA
By David Checkley

I don't know who had more fun - the kitefliers from Weifang or their Seattle hosts and hostesses.

For those of you who weren't in Seattle this summer, WKA hosted six kitefliers and kitemakers from Weifang, Shandong Province, Peoples Republic of China for 3 weeks, from July 13 until August 3, as our first such cultural exchange, and to reciprocate for the hospitality shown to WKA at the Weifang International Kite Festival in April. The Chinese and Shangdong Provincial governments sent them and their kites to San Francisco, and we took over from there.

The guests were Song X-Huan, Chief of Foreign Affairs for Weifang City and leader of the group, Zhou Li-Gui, President of the Weifang Kite Association and ex-Mayor of Weifang, noted for his calligraphy, Sun Li-Rong, Manager of the Weifang Kite Factory and a skilled painter, Sun Yong-Chun, master kitemaker (3rd of 4 generations), and Sun Shi-Shan of Shangdong Tourism Corporation and interpreter.

High spots of their visit were participation in the opening of the King County Fair at Enumclaw, luncheons at Seafirst, First- Interstate Bank, Weyerhauser and by Seafair and the Port of Seattle, exhibiting and demonstrating kitemaking at the Pacific Science Center, a big reception at the Sheraton Hotel and a dinner at the Checkley's, a kite festival at Golden Gardens on July 22, a trip to Yakima on July 29, and an overnight visit to Hood Canal for clamming, oystering and kiteflying on the beach - with lots of press and TV coverage.

The success of their visit was due to lots of volunteer effort by WKA members and contributions by business and community organizations. Among those who gave so generously of their time were Dianna Aurigemma (arranged the contact with Weyerhauser, which offered a corporate jet to bring them from San Francisco, but which was declined in favor of a most generous donation of round-trip transportation by Alaska Airlines), Mike Aurigemma and Ken Conrad, who co-sponsored the kite festival, Heyward Chow, President of National Association of Chinese Americans which hosted a banquet in their honor, Susan Albertson at Pacific Science Center, and many others including Kathy Goodwind, Jack Van Gilder, Larry Chinn, Duane Davis, Joe Voellmeck, Randy Rouse and Doug Hagaman - who helped set up and take down kite exhibitions at the Sheraton Hotel and Pacific Science Center, and provided transportation and other hosting.

NEW YEARS DAY "PROTEST THE BOWLS" KITE FLY

In twelve years we have never been blown out, froze out or rained out on this most unlikely of days. Plan on it again! Golden Gardens Park, 1pm January 1, 1985.

CALENDAR



- Nov. 3....Yachats, on the beach noon on, kite-fighting prizes, annual event Doug (503)265-6928
- Nov. 4....Lincoln City, Or. 11am, prizes, Call Steve Lamb or Doug 1-800-227-7878
- Dec. 26...Boxing Day Fly, Victoria Clover Point, 12 noon Tom (604)381-5377
- Jan. 1....Golden Gardens, 1pm 12th "Protest the Bowl" Jack 938-0550
- Jan. 12...Singapore International Kite Festival
- Mar. 8-10...2nd Annual Ft. Worden Kite Retreat
- Mar. 30-31..12th Annual Kite Fair Pacific Science Center
- Apr. 1-7..2nd Annual Weifang International Kite Conf. Weifang China
- May 9-10..Special Arts Festival Tom Sisson 725-3615



Michael Carrol
 10-15 Hunters Glen Dr.
 Plainsboro, N.J. 08532

NEEDED: editorial person for WKA newsletter. Be on top of what's happening! This position means collecting material from various rather consistent contributors, typing & organizing material and turning it over to Walt Sharp for printing. Milly Mullarky has to retire from this position due to other responsibilities. She will put together the Dec./Jan. issue but we will need someone for the Feb./March issue. This position really keeps one current on club activities! Call Jack Van Gilder 938-0550 or Milly Mullarky 453-9698 for further information.

WAWAKAMA

Washington Kitefliers Association

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

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