

## CALENDAR

Nov.3 WKA Meeting PSC 7:00 pm,  
Jan.1 Kite Fly at Golden Gardens  
Regular Sunday afternoon kitefllys  
at Gassworks Park

Co-editors: Louise Crowley  
Milly Mullarky  
Nov/Dec Issue

### AND FROM THE EDITORS:

It's touch-and-go whether this issue of WKA News will reach you in time to announce the Nov. 3 meeting, hence, new policy on deadlines: hereafter, all articles and photos must be turned in to us by the 10th of the month in which the newsletter is to be mailed. For next issue, this means writers' and photographers' deadline is Dec. 10; our production deadline is Dec. 20; calendar items may be phoned in to us until the 15th. We'll try to keep you reminded with notices in each issue of the newsletter from now on, and if that works we'll be nagging you less on the telephone.

Milly (453-9698)  
and Louise (322-6360)

### TWO NEW RECORDS

Edmonds Community College Kite Team has done it again! They set a new endurance record by flying a parafoil at Long Beach between Aug.21 and Aug.29 for 180 hours and 17 min.!

Joe Valenti and Carol Johnston came to the Oregon Coast at the invitation of Steve Lamb and flew a Sutton Flow Form with a tail 5650 feet long! This surpassed their own record of 2280 feet long, set one month earlier in Mass.

Wash. Kitefliers Assn.  
c/o Pacific Science Center  
200 2nd Ave. North  
Seattle, WA 98109  
Dues: \$5.00 a year  
Co-editors: Louise Crowley  
Milly Mullarky  
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**WA**

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Michael & Susan Carroll  
P.O. Box 215  
10-15 Hunters Glen Drive  
Painsboro, N.J. 08536

October 1982



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi again! it was a long and busy summer with a lot of kite flying for me. It was nice to hear about the Edmonds Community College Kite Team setting an outdoor record of 8 1/2 days. Carl Brewer is still interested in setting a new altitude record maybe next summer! On to more important things, the 10th anniversary of the Annual Kite Show at the Pacific Science Center will be held March 12-13. The kite show will be the first event after the Science Center has been closed down for renovation, and we kilters are the big attraction! Your chance to help with the show will be at a meeting on November 3. You can come and claim the position where you excel. We need lots of help!

Think about what I can do to help the kite club in 1983, in addition to the 10th anniversary kite show!

Your President,  
Tom Sisson

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### NEW EDITION OF HART'S KITES AN HISTORICAL SURVEY

Little has been written in the last 15 years on kites and kiting that does not owe something to Clive Hart. Now publisher Paul Appel has performed a service for the rapidly expanded family of kite buffs by issuing a revised edition of Hart's authoritative study. The book has been out of print for several years.

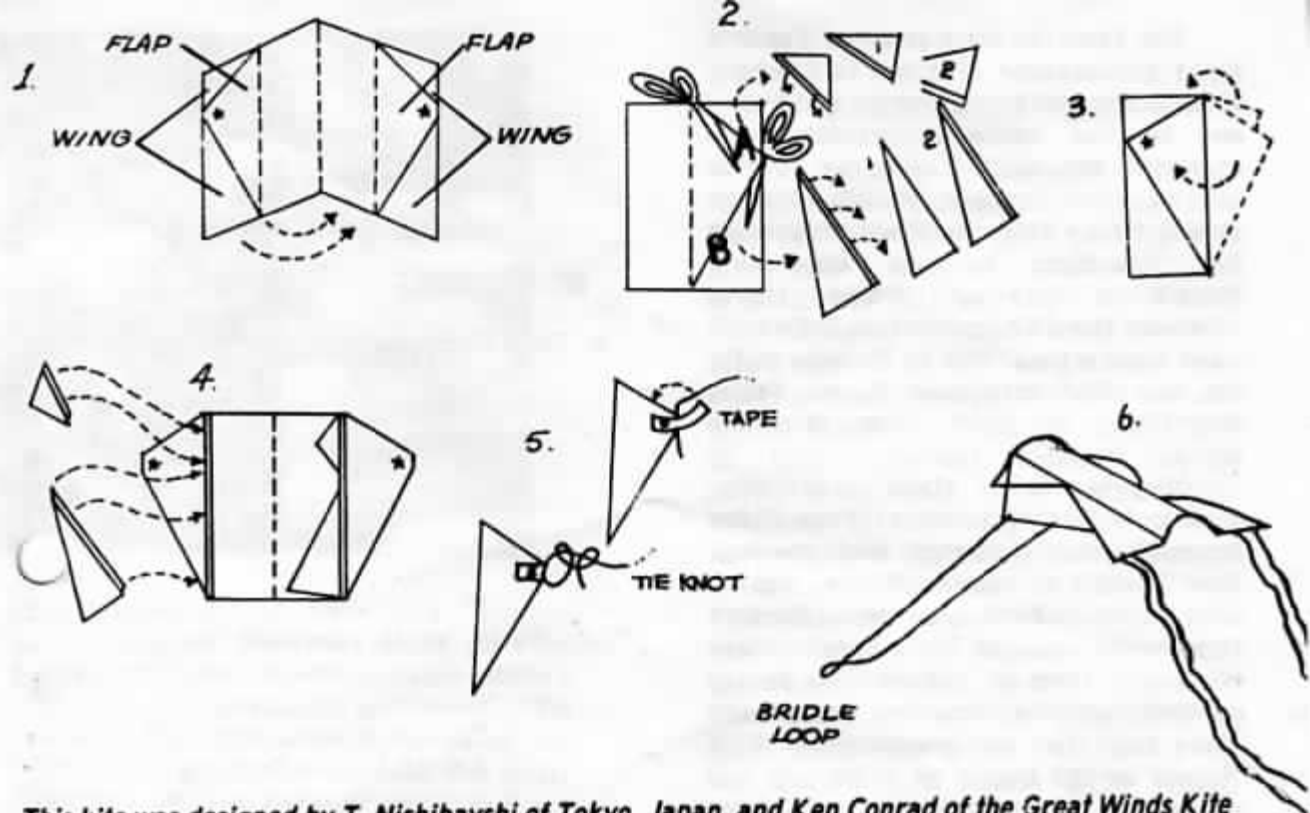
Hart has gone to real lengths to collect and analyze a wealth of data on the origin of the kite. He has developed interesting theories on the spread of kite technology from China thru Southeast Asia, the island cultures of Oceania, and eventually to Europe and the Western Hemisphere. In Hart's opinion, kite technology in

Europe evolved much later and from different roots than in the Orient. He cites considerable evidence to show the existence of kites in the Orient before the birth of Christ, but finds no credible evidence of the presence of kites in Europe prior to medieval times. Hart theorizes that European kites evolved from early military pennants, a different source from the ritualistic/religious origin attributed to kites in the East. Following the establishment of world trade routes in the mid 16th century, the influence of eastern kite technology began to appear in Europe.

Hart traces in detail and in readable style the uses of kites for meteorological and electrical experiments, for man-lifting capabilities and other uses which started around 1750. The book includes a section on how the important factors in kite design evolved from the western world's compulsion to find useful application for the kite. He describes the work of the early kite experimenters and discusses the history of the kite as a military device and as the forerunner of the airplane. The concluding chapter takes note of the fact that the kite appears to have recaptured the imaginations of modern aeronautical technologists such as Rogallo, Bryant, and Jalbert, and he foresees a whole new history in the making.

The author's intention is to present the history of kites, and he has accomplished this objective exceedingly well. The book's bibliography is worthy of the attention of any kite enthusiast.

Hart's Kites -- An Historical Survey is available in either hardcover or paperback from Paul P. Appel, 216 Washington St., Mt. Vernon, NY., 10553. List prices are \$30.00 and \$13.95, but contact WKA for member discounts.



*This kite was designed by T. Nishibayshi of Tokyo, Japan, and Ken Conrad of the Great Winds Kite Shop in Seattle.*

For the Paper Kite, one needs paper, glue, thread, tape and scissors.

- (1) Fold paper in half.
- (2) Cut out the wings by cutting along lines marked A & B.
- (3) Fold the kite in half on the center fold line.
- (4) Unfold the kite and lay it flat. Glue the wings in place as per the drawing.
- (5) Cut a 5' length of thread. Tape and tie each end of the thread at the kite's two corners.
- (6) Refold your kite in half with the wings on top. Pull the doubled line you just attached to the kite out straight to find the exact middle and tie a loop knot at that middle point.

Make two tails and attach them to the outer edge of the completed kite.(strips of plastic trash bag work well) ENJOY!!

The favorite occupation of Japan's No. 1 Ambassador of Kites is teaching kitemaking and kiteflying to children - and he had ample opportunities to exercise his skill during his Seattle sojourn from October 15-25. Before coming to our fair city Nishi stopped in San Francisco to see his many Tako-Kichi (kite nut) friends there, attended the AKA convention in Detroit, and made a brief trip to Toronto to fly his new fish kite over Niagra Falls, long-lining it right down into the rapids!

Nishi's first class was Mrs. Novikov's first-graders at View Ridge School, which included two children from Nishi's hometown, Tokyo, making sled kites. Next was Mrs. Burke's fifth grade class at View Ridge, where he taught them to make a new design created for the occasion, named the 'Tina kite' for our granddaughter Tina Morse, an old friend of Nishi who had requested something more sophisticated than a sled for her class. The 'Tina kite' will be the "plan of the Newsletter" in the next issue.

On Tuesday October 19 Nishi taught Bob McCort's daughter's class at her school in Lynnwood. On thursday and Friday Milly Mullarky took Nishi to several Bellevue schools, where he taught the paper kite in this issue to approximately 350 children and gave demonstrations of his kites to 150 more.

On Saturday afternoon Nishi was honored at a book-signing party at Great Winds Kite Shop, where he autographed copies of his latest book, Create-a-Kite No. 2 - a compendium of his most recent designs with easy-to-follow plans with metric dimensions and enough English descriptions so anyone can build them. For those who missed this event, additional signed copies are available at Great Winds or from the Kite Factory by mail.

## NISHI'S VISIT

by Dave Checkley



If you want to correspond with Nishi, or if you want to look him up when visiting Tokyo, you can contact him by writing or calling:

Takeshi Nishibayashi  
4-8-13 Minami Ogikuba  
Sugimani-ku, Tokyo 167  
Japan Telephone: (03)334-5432

As if Nishi's schedule wasn't busy enough, we have enlisted his help with the 1983 Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival. Thanks to Nishi's introduction a couple of years ago, Tsugaru kitemaker Gihei Fukushi and a group from Hirodaki are coming to Seattle in mid-April of 1983 to build two large Neputa, huge paper lantern sculptures used in their local festival, to display and perform with at Seattle's Cherry Blossom Festival. Fukushi will also bring a collection of his Tsugaru and will demonstrate kitemaking and kiteflying in Seattle.

Nishi will continue to perform liason with Fukushi and to help with other arrangements in Japan. Incidentally, we will be needing volunteer carpenters, electricians, and setup people to help build the Neputa and hang the kite exhibit next April 15-21, so mark your calendars now - lots of fun in store!



As usual for the latter part of October in Seattle, the weather wasn't always the best for kiteflying. On Sunday the 17th, a dozen or so of the hard-core WKA kites braved the chilly breezes at Gas Works Park with Nishi for a small but spectacular fly, and as this is being written at noon on Sunday the 24th it looks as if the sky is clearing, but the anemometer registers only four MPH - so we're praying for the wind to pick up for the scheduled Two PM kitefly at Gas Works. Even if it doesn't, Nishi will have some 'soft wind' kites to loft from his big bag of new creations made especially for this trip.

Seattle kitefliers extended lots of hospitality to Nishi, with special thanks to Bob McCort and Lynn, Milly Mullarky, Carl Brewer, Jack Van Gilder, Ken Conrad and Suzanne. Dorothea Checkley hosted more than 50

LA members and guests for a farewell supper to honor Nishi on Saturday evening the 23rd - where Nishi sang a spirited rendition of his kite song, 'Fuku Fuku Kaze' and invited everyone of his many friends to write in his ever-present 'Memory Book'.

## FIBERGLASS TUBING

In response to periodic requests for fiberglass tubing, Great Winds Kite Shop is now stocking good quality tubes in three sizes: 1/4"O.D.X32"L., 5/16O.D.X39"L., and 3/8"O.D.X54"L. This tubing is especially ideal for large kites, as it is lightweight and very stiff, and can be extended with ferrules and/or trimmed. Mylar (.5 mil.) is here in two different rainbow stripe patterns as well as in solids! Also available is super light, zero stretch kevlar line in 90, 150, and 300 lb. test. Kevlar is the line of choice for Flexifoils and tandem stunt kites. Some rare and delightful Japanese kite books are expected to arrive by early December. Among them: Beauty in the Wind (Goto's bird kite book) and plans for Goto's bird kites, Kite Train's Making, Sailing Ship Kites, and Magic Boxes (kites which change form).

### LEISURE TIME





FROM DETROIT  
by Jack Van Gilder

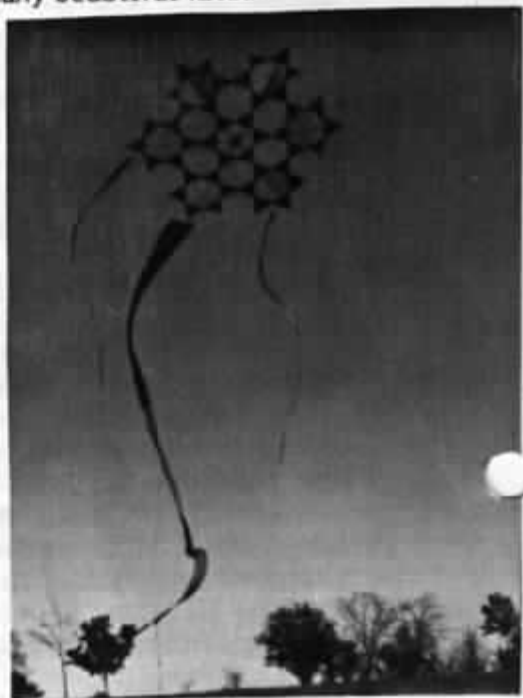
Five WKAers flew to Detroit for the 5th annual American Kitefliers Assn. convention Milly Mullarky, Dave Checkley, Bob McCort, Jack Van Gilder, and Doug Hagaman. Hugh and Marge Harrison were present flying their famous train of flags supported by at least six large deltas. Imagine the scene: five kite trains at once!! Van Gilder and Dusenberry aren't the only ones in the country any more.

Doug Hagaman took Third Place in parafoil type kites with a beautifully flying green and white creation.

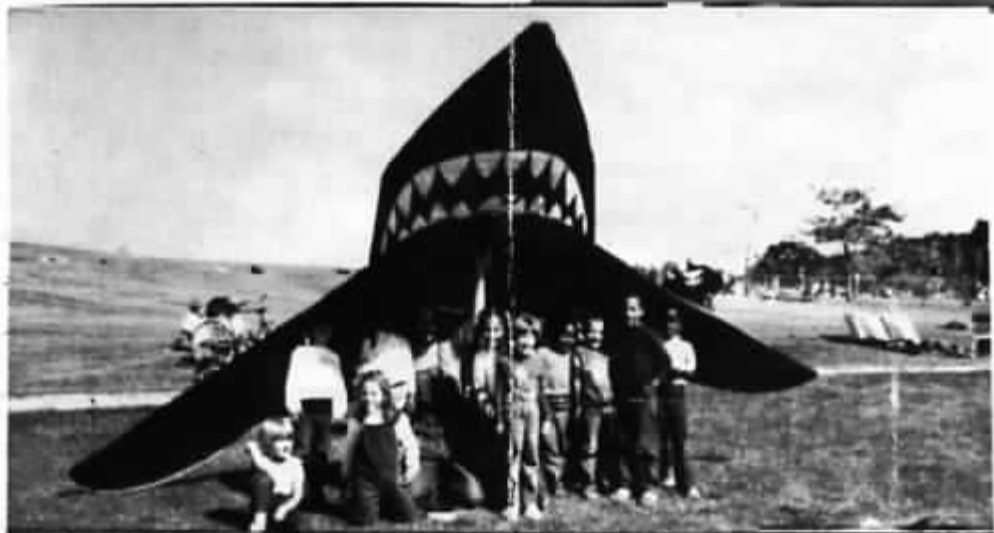
The convention was a complete success because of two factors: the organization by Hand and Nancy Szerlag of the host 5/20 Club, and by the flexible schedule. The weather was such that we went to fly kites and put off the business meeting until Saturday. Three records were set, all of which were formerly held by the Seattle convention, hosted by WKA in 1980: 1) 190 registrants, 2) over \$6,000 raised at the auction for the benefit of the AKA, and 3) The business meeting was reduced to 18 min., 30 sec. because the officers had done their homework and presented WRITTEN reports. Jack Van Gilder and the rest of the incumbant officers were re-elected, with the addition of WKA sec./tres. Bud Krafft as Reg ional Director. One significant change that took place at the convention was that "the trade" organized itself into a Trade Association independent of AKA, thru which it can help organize kite shops and provide information to assist them without endangering AKA's non-profit status.



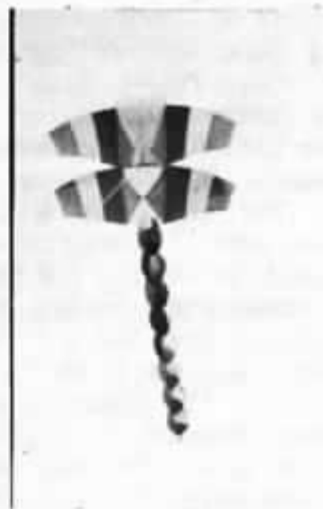
Two of Wayne and Jan Hoskings' many beautiful kites



One of the hits of the kitefly was the shark kite shown below. I'm sorry I didn't get the name of the maker, but think it was a shop owner in Maryland. You should have heard the squeals of delight as he brought it down right on the heads of the pre-school class seen below.



Leland Toy with his blossom parafoil being held up by Dom Jalbert.



Adrian Conn's combination winged flow form kite with inflatable tail.



Jon Burkhardt's work of art.

KITE SHOW  
PLANNING UNDER WAY!

WKA met Sept. 14 to establish a date and initiate planning for its 10th annual Kite Show at the Pacific Science Center. 14 members attended and the meeting was chaired by Secretary Treasurer Bud Krafft. Lisa Tranquada, Science Center co-ordinator, reported that the Center plans a shutdown for maintenance and renovation early in 1983. The kite show will be the reopening event. With no other exhibit immediately preceding our show, we'll have more time this year for preparation and setting up, and planning should be governed accordingly. The Science Center has confirmed dates of March 12-13. The length of time kites may remain on exhibit was not firmly resolved.

Several details that require advance planning were identified, and some specific events remain to be determined. The miniature display

program is progressing. Final committee assignments and responsibilities will be determined at the next meeting on Nov. 3. The PSC is prepared to support the show with personnel and equipment, and also to publicize the event in their Educator Password mail-out to schools, so that schoolchildren may provide kites for display.

It was voted that WKA pay registration fees, up to a total of \$400, for members (other than AKA officers) attending the National Convention, upon written application. However, no applications were received for the Detroit convention. There was discussion of a proposal to conduct a WKA-sponsored kite contest this fall, but there seems to be very little chance of holding a major kite event before the annual New Years Day fly at Golden Gardens. Carl Brewer reported on the status of the program he had proposed for training kite-contest judges.

Bud Krafft