

First, a fill-in on our April 15th meeting: about 30 in attendance at Science Center. Liability insurance: members covered for \$100,000 while flying kites at club functions. "Functions": it's in writing, either published in newsletter or letter from one of Board of Directors. BEFOREHAND. -- Hour's worth slides viewed. Recent activities. Bulk of that time taken by excellent show put together by the Maryland Kite Society. Two 80-slide carousels with sprightly dialog on cassette tapes. Even included a couple WKA slides! -- Jim Carnwath, dean of local kitefliers, made one of his usual interesting and scholarly presentations with slides and examples of his high-fliers. Interesting thing about Jim is that he KNOWS why they fly straight up! -- Bill Lee gave some of the secrets of his 90' flying French Military kites. His idea of Northwest Native art is his Boeing 727 kite. Great! --

It was decided to publish a schedule of informal fly-in's for the whole summer. The idea is that "- if you were going to go fly kites anyway, why not here?" - and, "You would most likely find other club members here on any given Sunday afternoon about 1:30".

A group of a dozen or so members met with some members of Dave Whitman's class at the Gas Works park last Sunday afternoon. Nice thing about that place is that you can climb the old gas works towers and take photos of your kites from the top and side. Wonderful shots.

Club projects coming up: "weightlifting" Whitman and VanGilder are going to put up a train of kites - probably 5 or 6 - lifting a movie camera which is grinding away. Next fly-in with decent weather.

After that comes the BIG DEAL. We've been challenged to Lift Hardwick - the KVI diskjock -- and he weighs in at some 200 lbs.! We're going to need about 50 4- to 6-foot Coyne/French Military kites plus lots of manpower. Plans are now that KVI will pay for the material if we build them. Volunteers needed! Phone Jack, Checkley or Dusanberry, will you? Here's your chance for some free tyvek and dowels - - . And fun!

All this is to take place June 1st at the KVI/Lealie's Dept.Store Kite Fair at Green Lake on June 1st - Sunday PM. There will be lots of prizes. Listen for details on KVI. We'll try to set up some banter with them jocks.

Speaking of banter, you should have heard our surprisingly-loquacious club-secretary, John Dusanberry, on KJR about 10 pm one Sunday recently during the Southcenter exhibit and contest. John taped it and has an extra cassette. Dave Whitman has it at the moment. Phone him to borrow.

New Directory -- April 31st - some of you will be getting your Second Notice to renew your dues.

Another club project: Virginia Brookbush, who works with people in wheelchairs, wants to video-tape some old folks flying kites from wheelchairs. It has to be done during the day and may mean a ferryboat ride to Retsil. We need a couple of people to provide about four kites for an afternoon and help her get them up into the air. Any volunteers, phone her at 324-5677. Especially teachers and/or students who might be out on strike before school lets out.

"A.-O.-K." -- how's that for a name? Association of Oregon Kitefliers. Walt McCullough is off to Portland to open his THIRD kite shop! He's got a place in the Oldtown (?) section and will be trying to recruit members. Bob Kjallin, Mrs. Severtson of Portland and Walt West of Vancouver, you run right over and see what you can do!

Walt reported on his trip to Rockaway Beach to set up his booth. Seems they have a big festival every year down there which includes a kitefly and he had a ball. Sold lots of kites. In fact, he sold a 40' red mylar cebrakite before he even had his booth up which won two First-Places for a 9-year-old girl. Talk about thrilled! We'll try to get on their mailing list so we can warn you when it comes up next year.

Walt and Checkley are planning to collaborate on designing and building a news kiosk for the middle of his floor at the kite shop. This way, we'll have a central place to post notices and to phone for information.

Bert Goe and wife, Louise, are back from Arizona, finally. Bert's one of the most act-

FLY-IN SCHEDULE FOR SUMMER OF '75 --

--Clip and pin up --
April 27th - East Green Lake -
May: 4th - University of Washington parking lot off N.E. 45th at 29th N.E. --
11th - Discovery Park (south gate off W.Emerson St. & Magnolia)
18th - Golden Gardens - Seafair Affair
25th - " " "
June - 1st - Green Lake - Lealie's Dept. Store Contest -
8th - Parking Pier behind Ye Olde Curiosity Shoppe, waterfront
15th - " " "
22nd - Green Lake
29th - " " "
July: 6th - Carkeek Park (Loop Road, at bluff)
13th - " " "
20th - Gas Works Park -
27th - Bellevue Arts & Crafts Fair
August 3rd - Stan Sayres Pits Parking Lot
10th - Golden Gardens Park
17th - " " "
24th - Seattle Center: Bumbershoot -
31st - " " "
Sept: 7th - Gasworks Park -
14th - " " "
21st - Discovery Park - same place -
28th - " " "
Sunday afternoons at about 1:30 -
Subject to change - check Kite Shop: 624 6886
-----clip and pin up -----

tive kitefliers around here. We really missed him during our "active season". He sez desert winds are a lot different from N.W. breezes. They seem to get stronger the higher you are. He bought a Gayla "Sky-Raider" delta and got it up about two miles: 10,000 feet. Had the same experience Bob Ingraham, president of American Kitefliers, has in New Mexico: not many other kites in the great Southwest. Even the hawks shunned his kites. He saw several, out in the desert. He would quick, stop the car, and put up his black delta and the hawks would run the other way, right now.

Report on Southcenter Exhibition/Demonstration: "More work than worth" might sum it up. Southcenter didn't think we had enough kites up -- we didn't think we got anything out of it -- except publicity. And that, ^{as usual} we have, in huge jobs. Doubt very much if we get mixed up with another exhibition except for our once-a-year nice deal with our own Science Center. -- Only 34 entrants in the contest. Only about 100 spectators. This despite all the publicity in the world and an embarrassing overflowing of prizes.

This contest might go down in history as "Linda Lee's Thing". She won FOUR first-places, a 2nd and a 3rd (I think). And do you know, this 15-year-old out-foxed her ol' dad? In the "Open"-age High-Flyer class event, she let out string for about 2½ minutes from a banged-up tube around her arm instead of a nice, new fishing reel. Then, with about 30 seconds to go, she started holding tight and pulling in a little. This brought her little tissue-and-balsa triangular box kite straight up overhead, and higher than the other kites. She won one of the "All-the-icecream-you-can-eat, once-a-month, for-a-year" certificates from Farrell's, a pair of shoe skates, 25 record albums, among other things. --

This-and-that Space Fillers:

Dave Whitman, our go-gettin' teacher at the evening kite classes at Lincoln High, challenged the Wisdom of Van Gilder some weeks ago. VG sed the eagle pattern handed out at the January WKA meeting needed clear plastic at the head of it, making for a clean aerodynamic flow of air from the leading edge, back over the wings. Dave disagreed, so sewed up his own version without the plastic. At the Gasworks Park fly-in April 20th, Dave's eagle flew like -- you guessed it -- an eagle! Phooie. -- Ken Conrad is on a trip to the East. Checking out the Go-Fly-A-Kite Shop in N.Y.C. and, hopefully, contacting the Maryland Kiter. Should see him in about three weeks. -- John Dusenberry is enthusiastic about a couple of kites he has made of mylar. One is a larger version of the kite shop's four-winged box kite and the other is a blunt-nose delta patterned in the March issue of Popular Mechanics. He doubled the size to take full advantage of 48" dowels and sez it flies in NO wind. We'll have to check that out and rise to that challenge. -- We're looking for people (note the absence of the word, "men") to head up Special Projects. Fun things. Like trying to life Hardwick (oooftah!). Or greeting a visiting football team at the Udub with a barrage of kites. Anyone with ideas and gumption, please contact us. -- Say, People, watch-it with the litter, eh? Polyethylene kites are designed to last - and last - and last - but not hanging from trees, telephone poles and in the lake. We were turned down by the Park Dept. for a Kite Contest at Discovery Park because of this.

Bill Spezia is his usual busy, enthusiastic, out-going self. Seems every kid in town and in the next seven counties knows his "Hermie-the-Friendly-Bat". I gave a demonstration at a 4th grade up around the corner and one of them asked if Hermie was going to be there. He has spoken at the Ballard Branch public library last month. And then, this last week he headed up a small crew at the Mercer Island public art festival at the high school. The weather was absolutely the worst possible -- lots of rain -- straight down. So they just gave away a couple hundred of Dave Checkley's bag kites. Bill must have made off with one because it was flying higher than most everybody else at the Gasworks Park fly-in last Sunday. -- Bill wants you, Bob Ingraham, to note with interest and possibly put it in Kite Tales, that the WKA chapter of the AKA put on 22 seminars with attendance of about 636 from Jan. 18th to July 10th of 1974. How 'bout that? -- This little demonstration I gave last week was fun. I still have 40 of the little sleds-on-one-line that Spezia Bert Goe, John Dusenberry, Jim Michels, Shirley Hikagawa made and put up at last year's Bellevue Arts and Crafts Fair. We had a cooperative effort on that one of 72 on one line. This time, each kid took one of the little sleds on its 10' bridle line, attached to the main line, out in a long string. At the shout of "Go!", they all let go and -- up she went! Filled the sky with 31 kites instantly. Quite a sight -- .

Well, watch for further developments. Anyone with interesting Tid-bits, be sure to phone 938 0550. It's not too easy filling all this space. --

Jack Van Gilder
President-for-
This-Year --

WASH. STATE UNIV.
PAC. SCIENCE CTR.
200 3rd AVE.
SEATTLE, WA 98109