

Washington Kitefliers Association -
Newsletter of September, 1975 --

First, a report on Bumbershoot Festival at the Seattle Center: "It was fun, but - - ". Frankly, I was a little disappointed at the turnout of club members. The second Sunday afternoon we had about eight fellows and gals out. We just had to have some black-and-white pictures to send in to Kite Tales Magazine for a report on our activities. So, some phoning was done. Guess that is the only way to get a good turnout-- the personal touch.

The wind was just a gentle breeze, so Bill Lee's 2 1/2-oz. tissue-and-balsa deltas did fine. He gave (traded) one to Van Gilder and VG promptly lost it in a high-limbed tree. Then, Bill tried to rescue it with another kite and lost that one to another tree! So we walked away from two kites. But when Bill came by an hour later, they were both gone! We figure that some enterprising kids risked their necks to get on the ends of those branches.

Ken Conrad ran a good booth at the art-and-rafts pavilion. Had four or five kites hanging from the ceiling and lots more on his workbench. You'll see him and the Harold Writers in the next issue of Kite Tales. Ken is going to head up a series of classes at a parochial school, starting in October. They are enthusiastic about his nice little kits.

At Bumbershoot, our kite club was supposed to surround the Space Needle with kites. Well, Jim Carnwath almost refused to believe our excuse for missing by a good half-mile: the wind was blowing from the West on the ground and from the South at 400 feet altitude!

KITE CLUB MEETING -- !

Our last meeting was in the spring, before our busy schedule of exhibitions, contests and fly-ins. So now comes time for a review of them. Sept. 30th, the last Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. at the Science Center. We'll have signs up on the pillars, leading the way to the Science Theater, downstairs.

We will have lots of slides and, hopefully, a film, showing all the different winners in the events of the summer. Also "Show and Tell". Even if we don't get around to phoning and asking in person, PLEASE BRING your favorite kite and/or a few slides. We really have most of the fun after the formal meeting is over -- chatting and visiting. Harold Writer has a new knot which showed up in a fishing and hunting magazine.

One thing that we'll discuss in more detail is a series of KITE CLASSES. We have hooked up with a group at the Science Center called "Can-Do". They are the ones who put on that very successful project of assembling pea-pod model sailing boats for kids, underprivileged and otherwise. More information on that later.

Scheduled Events:

Remember that there are two more fly-ins to go, as listed in our Summer Schedule: both at Discovery Park, at the south entrance at the end of W. Emerson St. This Sunday, the 21st and next, the 28th. These are the last of the season, so come on out!

The Port of Seattle would like to have us do a repeat of "our-thing", in meeting the first trip of the Princess Marguerite. The official business of dedicating the new Waterfront Park

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sometime around Thanksgiving Day weekend will go on at street level while we are scaring away the seagulls overhead. Weather permitting, it should be fun! We'll let you know more -- .

Speaking of scheduling: Valerie Govig, secretary of the Maryland Kite Society, is taking charge of the "events" page in each issue of Kite Tales mag, from now on. She also is having a wall calander printed for 1976, with kite pictures heading up each month and with events listed for the whole nation. The dates that have been firmed-up in our section of the nation are:

March 13 and 14th, 1976: Pacific Science Center Kite Exhibition, presented by W.K.A.
March 20th: Seattle Center Kite Contest -
May 8th: Seafair/Skippers' Seafood Kite Contest at Golden Gardens
July 31st: Seafair/Capital Hill Kite festival and contest at Volunteer Park.

O.K., back to the Kite Classes: They will be starting October 21st; that's a Tuesday evening, 7:00 to 9:00 pm -- at the Science Center. There's a fee: \$5.00 for the six classes, and this fee includes the material for the first kite. We'll be making about five different kites and will be having field trips to test our "homework" assignments. Children under age 12 need to be accompanied by an adult -- but there will be just one fee for each kite provided.

That's about it for this time: bring your "show and tell" material to the meeting Tuesday evening, the 31st of September at the Science Center - - and have fun!

Jack Van Gilder