

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION --
Newsletter of May, 1976

Calendar of Events:

- Weekly fly-ins: Each Sunday afternoon
at 1:30 --
- May 9th: Univ. Wash. parking lot off N.E.
45th St. across from University Village
(Bring your mother!)
- May 16th: Stan Savers Park
- May 23rd: Luther Burbank Park, Mercer
Island (northeast tip of island)
- May 30th: Pier 59 - next to Alaska Fer-
ry dock.
- June 5th: (Saturday): Swan Creek Park,
Tacoma - guests of WKAer Thelma Gilmur
and her Audubon Society -- off Portland
Ave. at E. 44th St. to Grandview.
- June 6th: Univ. Wash parking lot --
- June 13th: Stan Savers Park
- June 20th: Pier 70 parking lot/Bayview
Park, north of there. (Bring your Father!)
- June 27th: Golden Gardens Park
- July 4th: Fort Warden, Port Townsend --
artistic-type contest

Things You Might Have Missed:

Pier 70 Fly-in on the 25th: nice light
breeze, beautiful sunshine. Bruce Kimball
brought a couple of beauties down: one was
a Bermuda headstick kite; absolutely flat,
that, according to aerodynamics, shouldn't
have flown, but did fly, and almost straight
up. He also had a real cute girlfriend al-
ong to hold it. Some knots in his kiteline
are suspected as the cause of the Bermuda
floating off, rising instead of descending
when last in view. Harold Writer's "Li'l
Nothing" two-sticker Eddie kite kept go-
ing higher and higher, caught in a therm-
al on-shore, and took at least 1800 ft. of
4-lb. monofilament line straight overhead.
VanGilder had to test three different line-
limbers. He found that Astro-zoomers don't
work too well in a light wind.

Stan Savers Park fly-in on the 18th: a
good, stiff breeze allowed Harold Writer
to display his heavy duty mail pickup kite.
He found that it was tree-proof -- to the
extent that he got it back out of the top
of one, breaking branches but not the kite.

Kite Club Meeting on April 27th: an im-
portant meeting in that we did a lot of
business. 1.- backed up the Executive
Boards recommendation that we see how
much movie we can accumulate for \$100.
A committee appointed to find a movie class

or club to put something together. Tom
Sisson's son had the outline of a script
that was really SOMETHING.

2.- Voted to purchase two sound slide
shows of the Maryland Kite Assn. from
Dave Checkley for our club library.
Shows will be at the Science Center of-
fice. Contact Dusenberry, Whitman, Van
Gilder or Checkley for secret password
which will spring them.

3.- Voted to authorize officers to put
together Articles of Incorporation by
copying boilerplate from another club.

4.- Voted to go ahead with the Tony
Toledo Award. You oldtimers will re-
member Tony as one of the most fanatic-
al kitefliers in the history of the
Northwest. Anyone who would travel to
Hawaii just to enter a kite contest or
travel to Silver City, New Mexico, just
to visit with Bob Ingraham, President
of the American Kitefliers, has to be
classified as an enthusiast, at least.
He was one of our Founding Fathers.
For the award, we will probably have
a nice plaque for the "Kiteflier Of The
Year", properly inscribed.

5.- Voted to establish a Club Library.
Did you realize that there are \$25 and
\$36 kite books? Recommended that they
be placed in the Reserve Section of
the Seattle Public Library, suitably
inscribed. President Dusenberry will
ramrod this one.

6.- Discussed our contact with the Domed
Stadium people. They asked if we could
come up with a 6-minute skit. A kite
"skit"? Brainstorming that one, we came
up with (a) formation flying, like the
Air Force Thunderbirds, (b) floating
kites out over the audience, (c) send up
a Red Baron to attack, having other
kites go in to a defensive circle -- one
of the kites and then Red Baron collapse
and crash (d) attempt a Guinness World
Record for indoor endurance flying. We
understand that this is now held by Den-
ish Bahadur, owner of "Come Fly A Kite"
shop in San Francisco, at 45 minutes.

Ideas: anyone with more, phone 938 0550.

Dave Checkley is now in Japan leading a
tour to kite festivals there. He is at-
tempting to photograph the famous Hama-
matsu kite fighting festival FROM THE
TOP -- via one of his giant parafoils.
He tried this rig out at our fly-in at
the the Univ. Of Wash. parking lot on
April 4th. You should have seen the in-
genious rig!

Things that came up at the recently-com-
pleted Kite Class at the Science Center:

Ever placed your approximate too far to the rear of a delta? The wing will dip and the kite will go in to fluttering spin.

Have you seen Harold Writer's small-loop adjustable bridling system? It's one of those "why didn't I think of that" ideas. Come out to a fly-in to see it.

Did you see the plans for the winged box kite in the March issue of Popular Mechanics? We used it at the kite class. We'll try to have some along at the Sunday fly-ins for members.

Ever used too-flexible spars on sleds or box kites? "Weight is everything". But a stiff breeze will send a sled with too flexible spars in to a tizzie. The same with boxes.

Have you tried a train of kites yet? After the first experience, you'll be hooked. Really simple, but what a display!

Ever had your bridle lines twist on a sled so badly that it balls up and comes down? Tom Sisson now lets out the secret of waxing the string with parafin -- or a candle -- or anything. Wonderful!

The 1976 WESTPORT SALTWATER FESTIVAL at Grayland State Park

A few of our members went down and came home with some Prizes. Bill and Linda Lee took 1st and 2nd in the Smallest Kite contest. They also took 2nd and 3rd in the best looking kite in flight.

Our President took 1st place in the best looking in flight.

Members of the club also took 1st and 2nd for the best looking home built kite on the ground.

Bruce Kimble took 1st place for the largest kite with Jack Van Gilders big delta. Bruce also took first place with the highest flyer. The report is that there was no wind for the contest, so the contestants had to run down the beach while the judges followed in a car to judge the highest flyer.

CONGRATULATIONS to all the winners and those that went down to make it a Successful Fly-In.

ALSO, NO SKIPPERS CONTEST THIS YEAR.