

ARCHIVES: 1978

WANA

Washington Kitefliers Association

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

NEWSLETTER -- January, 1978 --

Our New Years Day fly-in at Golden Gardens Park was just gorgeous! Clear Skies, gentle breeze later in the day after stronger breeze when we first got there -- sailboats galore on the water and kites galore in the air. There WAS a little mud underfoot, BUT-- we all need a little something to gripe at. Anyone wanting to see some of the fun on movie film, the kite shop is now storing our Super-8mm movie projector and this film. They have it in a handy-dandy spot where they just pull down a bit of Tyvek from the roll to form a screen. Stop in - .

We've had several interesting letters and messages lately. Dale Fleasner, North Hollywood, CA, writes: "A small group of us Southern California Kitefliers are making tentative plans to drive up to catch a weekend of kiting in Seattle & Vancouver (if such a weekend will exist) and would like information -- We assured him that us WKAers like fun as much as anyone but that anyone who would drive some 1,500 miles to fly kites has got to be some kind of a nut; and that we would put on the gol'-dangdest kitefly they ever saw if they gave us a couple days notice!

It just so happened that Rob McCort was testing the Long Lines to Vancouver that day so was able to report that Marsha Madill, of the "High as a Kite" Shoppe, in Gastown section, is planning to head up another super kite contest again this year on April 9th. Nice, eh?

Wow, was it ever nice out at Magnuson Park at Sand Point this last Sunday afternoon! And it proved that our newspaper announcements and information given out by the Kite Shop is effective. One family had been out there waiting for us older crowd to show up since 11:30 am. Wish I had got their name. A nice young couple from Anchorage was there also - Jennifer Neff and Tom Spurlock. Jenn managed the Spenard Hobby Shop for a while for Dwight and Susan Olson and had a few kites along.

The Seattle Post Intelligencer newspaper isn't saying how they knew we were there, but their photographer showed up and as a result, we showed up in a photo in the P.I. Monday morning Jan. 23rd. Hope we get some good publicity the week of March 27th, right before our annual kite exhibition at the Pacific Science Center.

Other letters have included a Christmas card and nice greeting from Tom and Jean Dietz of "The Kite Farm" shop in Madison, Wisconsin. They are the ones who just happened to walk into Great Winds Kite Shop last year just as our club was having a housewarming ("shop-warming"?). By the way, our Open House party put on by the kite shop December 21st was just real nice! Thank you Ken and Tom and Bill and Ray! They served up real nice stuff: Tom Sigson served up some Real Nice Stuff too homemade wine -- good, too. Not vinegarish, like Van Gilder's attempt. One slide shown that evening is sure to make the cover of Kitefliers Magazine. It was of that outstandingly beautiful butterfly kite with its own-builder, J.C. Young.

Also, Pat and Len Victor took the Christmas Card occasion to announce that their new arrival, there in Lacey, Cyrus-Martin Victor, will be flying a kite soon too. Thank you!

Back to the party, remember we announced a contest? Entrants to be submitted at the Winter Equinox party at the kite shop for a WKA banner for Louise Crowley to sew? Well, the entrants were exactly one; the design illustrated upper left in our heading, done by Dave Checkley and suggested by Jack V.G. To be done in three compatible colors, like blue, green and orange. If no one comes forth with anything better within the next week, this is likely to win by default. That'll teach you to ignore announcements!

More correspondence: From faithful member Frank Waynwood: "Enclosed is a notice I received regarding the flying fish atop the Smith Tower. --" The announcement was from the Seattle Dept. of Buildings inviting letters-pro and letters-con about said "16 ft salmon-shaped, windsock - ". Their public hearing will be FEB 8 th at 1:30 pm in Room 304, Seattle Municipal Bldg, 600 4th Ave. So we wrote them a letter. Will anyone else go with us to the meeting? Please do.

Dennis Broderon reports that his efforts to get the correct forms from the State of

Washington so that we can get interest on our savings account, declaring that we are a very non-profit organization, have finally reached a climax. He has the forms. Thanks, Dennis!

Back to "Correspondence": Walter Hundley, Supt. of Parks, takes time to keep us informed on the latest developments concerning the possible banning of kiteflying at Gas works Park. Remember "Us and Our Big Mouths" last newsletter?

The two dangers of flying kites from The Mound at Gasworks were the police helicopter pad right next door and private float planes taking off from the lake-- Lake Union. Well, lo, and behold, the helicopters have been left out of the budget for 1978 so won't be flying and there is legislation in the offing restricting airplanes from flying from Lake Union! How about that? Hold your breath.

Had a letter from Our Southern Kiteflier, Henry Routwell, enclosing a sample of two different clear plastic materials glued to a piece of Tyvek. "Glued?", you say? "It'll never work", I say. But here they are, big as life and still stuck. He suggests "Plio Bond", made by Goodyear, a general purpose adhesive, for plain cellophane. Even contact cement hasn't worked for cellophane for me, previously. He recommends J-M "22", a spray adhesive, for polyethylene. Works, too. The samples will be at the kite shop if you want to see the living, breathing proof.

He's the one who wrote Val Goviz, of Kitefliers, that something was wrong with our diagram of the seagull kite in their last issue. So Ye Editor sent him the actual, full-scale plans -- and now he's got four of them!

Dave Checkley met Bill Hull at the Fishermens Wharf Travel Lodge in San Francisco this past week. The occasion was the Kite Retailers' Seminar put on by a kite wholesaler, Kite World. Asked for his greatest impression of the meeting, Bill answered, "Rain!" It rained the whole week. (The California Draught is officially over.) Otherwise, he was impressed by the geographic spread of the people attending: all over the U.S. Also by the fact that everyone knew of us before they met Bill there. They're working on a "National Kiteflying Day".

At the Great Winds shop, they want us to get in on their knock-down sale of Flags, Banners and Kites Calendars: \$2.50 until March 1st. They had been \$7.50. Actually, they are cal-

endar date-books with fifty-some beautiful kite and artwork photographs.

They also have about ten 15-disc Chinese centipede kites left -- \$60 each. Beauts.

Also on display at the kite shop will be a booklet published in connection with Pat Hammond's exhibition of kites at the Univ. of Texas Health Science Center Auditorium September, 1977. This is a very limited edition and is chained to the shop center support post so it won't walk off. It is one of the cutest things I've seen. She tells the story: "A boy asked his dad, 'What holds the kite up?' 'The string' his father answered. 'No, Dad, the string holds it down, not up'. 'Let go and see what happens'." How about that? A sermon in five sentences. Come in and look at it.

By the way -- if it sounds like this newsletter touts the Great Winds Kite Shop too much, chalk it up to friendship and common interests: That's all that exists between us. Nothing financial. W.K.A. was organized before Pat and Alice McCormack came down from Bellingham some years ago and opened the shop. Ken Conrad belonged to W.K.A. long before he even thought of buying out Walt McCullough, Pat's successor. But W.K.A. NEEDS a place like Great Winds. Therefore we will do most anything to help those boys succeed in survival.

Schedule of things to come:

Each Sunday afternoon at 1:30, W.K.A. invites all relatives and friends to fly at one of the following parks:

-----Clip and Save-----

Feb.	5th:	Gasworks Park
	12th:	Stan Sayers Pits Park
	19th:	Sand Point(Magnuson) Park
	26th:	Golden Gardens Park
March	5th:	Gasworks
	12th:	Stan Sayers
	19th:	Sand Point
	26th:	Seattle Center Coliseum - (Half-time at Seattle Sonic/Boston game)
----- Cut out and post (on <u>LINE TV</u>) -----		

March 20 to 25th: Edmonds Community College will be trying for the World's Record Largest Kite -- for Guinness Book of Records -- at Ocean Shores again. We would like to help. April 1st and 2nd: Our annual Kite Exhibition at the Pacific Science Center (more, later) April 9th: Pacific Rim Kite Contest, Vancouver, B.C. -- caravan with us! April 29 and 30th: Kite Contest at Westport, Washington. Will try to get their info to you.

DUES DUE - - ! Sorry; it's time to separate sheep from the goats -- allow me to rephrase that: separate you people from your money -- -- hmmm, let's try that again: separate the interested from the disinterested (that's better) again. If there is a W.K.A. application form in this newsletter, please send in your \$3 soon. No increase in rates. Those who just joined -- after November 1st, are forgiven for 1978. Sorry about you who are just getting six months good out of your 1977 dues, but this is about the only way we can figure it, being computerless and very non-profit. Hope you got your \$3-worth in a half-year!

Look for a new membership roster mid-March, so if you want to get in on this year's please send in your applications.

KITE CLUB MEETING: We have the prestigouesest meeting room at the Pacific Science Center, the "Board Room" (formerly, the employee lounge) right on the water -- 7:30 pm -- THURSDAY -- FEBRUARY 2nd -- planning for the Exhibition -- election of officers (fear not; it's a railroad job and takes five minutes)-- the Exhibition planning is well along --.

But -- Please come! Free kite plans and diagrams -- Movies -- and slide show -- and "Show and Tell" -- Your admission fee: a kite or kite-related object, like a reel, in hand.

We're sure going to miss J.C.! If I understand it correctly, he is returning to Taiwan for two weeks mid-February, returning just in time for our exhibition, April 1st. Then there is the possibility that he will be gone for a year or two. Mr. Young has certainly added a new dimension to kiting in Seattle. I know, MY eyes saucered in amazement at some of his handicraft. Unbelievable.

Mark the date -- early -- "September 9, 1978" Our W.K.A. kitetrain crew will be at the Udub Huskies football game vs U.C.L.A. -- on regional (for sure) and national (possibly) TV! It's all set up. Sorry, but the crew only needs five.

Phone news items to 938 0550 - please -

Jack Van Gilder

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION
Pacific Science Center
200 2nd Ave. No.
Seattle, WA 98109