

WANAKA

Washington Kitefliers Association

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

NEWSLETTER - November, 1978 - -

First -- an apology -- for the lateness of this newsletter -- only two weeks! It was first one thing and then the other. Would you believe that Ye Editor misplaced three photos -- and had to print them again?

The First Convention of the American Kitefliers Association -- Ocean City, MD -- Sept. 22nd -- Impressions:

To meet in person all these Big Names we have been reading about all these years in Kite Tales and Kitelines magazine -- ! A real thrill. Wyatt Brummit -- a delightful gentleman -- author of the first of the modern wave of kite books. Paul Garver, retired head of the aerospace section of Smithsonian Institute -- gracious. Both men gave talks at the formal convening convention. Valerie Govig, deceptively quiet and small in person -- the wielder of a mighty pen -- a very deep person -- as shown in her Report To The Membership/Delegates -- trying to divest herself of some of the duties and responsibilities -- trying to be merely Executive Secretary instead of Miss Everything. Welca D. (Red) Braswell, our new president;

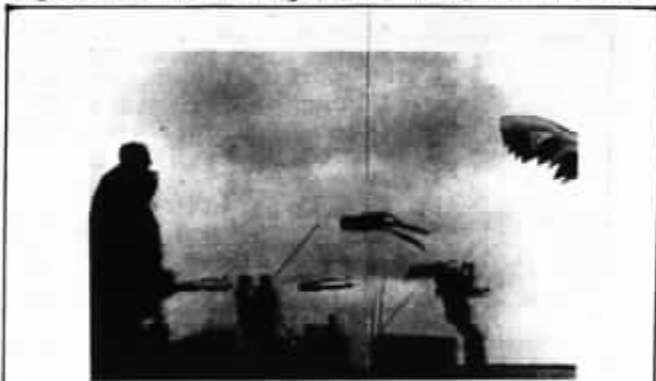


"Red" Braswell (right), AKA's first president, talks with Peter Powell, the jovial British developer of the Peter Powell kite. At the Grand National Kite Contest, Ocean City, Maryland, September, 1978.

an impressive Virginian with a twinkly eye -- and a heck of a kiteflier.

Bob Ingraham and wife, Hazel, were there. Ol' Bob hasn't aged a year since he visited us last about three years ago in Seattle. It is just a delightful thrill, the way the "passing of the mantle" has occurred. There were some very impressive younger people there, too: Ted Manekin, our new First Vice President from Baltimore; Dan Prentice, of "Shanti Reels", San Francisco, 2nd V.P.; Judy Neuger of "What's Up" kite shop, (Ohio); Carla Sing of "Kite Site", Maryland. And then delightful Margo Brown, our new Secretary, a teacher and member of the Bevan Brown family of kitefliers. These are all members of the Executive Committee.

And the Executive Committee has been meeting. Valerie reports that they have accomplished much and that all the committees are functioning. The rest of the Board of Directors represent their respective areas of the U.S.



The weather greeting kitefliers at the Grand National Kite Contest, Ocean City, MD, on Saturday, Sept. 23rd: 25 mph winds! All but the hardy were blown out of the sky. The weather front had blown on through by the next day and Sunday -- an open fly-in -- was just gorgeous -- everything flew, including the Seattle kite-train.

Ye Editor is on an important committee: The Committee on Chapter Development and Standard Now, if he can just find the time to do something with it - !

The country is beautiful in Maryland and nowhere near as crowded as expected. But as Mel Govig says, "When the smog lifts, you know that there is going to be no mountain there!" It was nice to get back home.



The Day They Had to Tie The Kites Down - ! Peter Lynn brought this monster box kite all the way from New Zealand. It flew. Took 1,000-lb. rope and three men but it flew. Judging, Registration and Announcing Headquarters were on the front porch of the old Plim Plaza Hotel in the background.

Speaking of "Chapter Development", they are springing up all over the country! If you want to see the newsletters some of the other clubs that we trade letters with, either come down to Great Winds Kite Shop and look at Ken Conrad's bulletin board -- or subscribe yourself:

"Kite Flyer": The San Francisco Bay Area Kite Flying Newsletter; 861 Clara Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94303 \$3.00. Do you remember the Toy brothers who visited us for our Waterfront Contest three years ago? It's them.

"5/20 Kite Group": 1961 Hunt Club Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich. 48236. Hank Szergel even includes COLOR xerox! \$3.00

"Wind Psalteries": P.O. Box 362, Holtsville, NY 11742. Jim Linnen says, "The title -- comes from a famous tenth century kite-maker who made musical kites by the attaching of metal strings across part of the structure". The first issue of the Long Island Kite Assn. (L.I.K.A.) says, "Free" up there in the right corner but that can't last long.

You wouldn't have to sign up for many of these new newsletters before the \$6.00 for Kitelines looks pretty good, eh?

The really big news of the winter:

VALERIE GOVIG IS COMING TO TOWN!

Yep, the Editor of Kitelines magazine and Executive Director of the American Kitefliers Association will be in Seattle December 10th, a Sunday, stay all day Monday and leave Tuesday the 12th. She is visiting her folks in Portland and they will drive her up. She won't be able to make it before about 4:30 or 5:30 pm, so we won't plan an especially big fly-in for that day but we do plan a nice reception for her.

Place: David and Dorothea Checkley's home, 678 West Prospect Street (nortop of Queen Anne Ave. , turn west on W.Highland Dr. and*

Time: Supper at 6:30 pm

What: Anyone who has sat at the Checkley table knows that it's gourmet all the way - including wine.

How much: \$5.00/person (\$12.50 at a restaurant)

How to: Reservations: first 50 people: phone VanGilders', 938 0550
*then south on Willard Ave. West, one block to Checkleys.

Oh, forgot: Larry and Francis Chinn also represented W.K.A. at the A.K.A. convention. Larry did better than Jack Van Gilder did; he came home with a prize -- 2nd in the Most Innovative Handcrafted event. Good work!

Your Board of Directors met Oct. 27th, along with some of the workers from the Science Center exhibit of April. About 23 people were there and viewed slides and discussed events for the coming year. We have picked another Bill Lee-patterned trash-bag delta and the Mel Govig-patterned sled for production at next spring's exhibition. Tentative date: March 31st and April 1st.

Also: GUINNESS WORLD RECORD TRY - I
Don't tell the San Francisco Indian Fighter Kite experts but Carl Brewer and Tom Sigson are set to try for the Indoor Duration record, presently held by Dinesh Bahadur. The start will be during half-time of the Seattle Super Sonics basketball game in the Kingdome on February 1st and will end, hopefully, during halftime of the game the next night in the same place. It's all arranged. The public relations person in charge of half-times, Nancy Welts, talked the Kingdome people into keeping the lights on overnight between games. They will be off on the floor in the Kingdome behind the basketball stands. And then they will make their triumphal entry the next night.

Our club will put on an exhibition during

halftime of the Feb. 1st game. More on that later. How about phoning ol' V.G. at 938 0550 and volunteering for free tickets, eh?

Carl Brewer and Ken Conrad, our club Secretary and President, respectively, flew to San Francisco Oct. 1st for the Family Day Kite Festival. They report a huge turnout. Carl came home with a First Place for his "Smallest" entry and Second Place for J. C. Young's Chinese Phoenix in "Most Beautiful" event. The committee worked all day on a special project: one man, Bahadur, to fly 1,000 kites on 1,000 strings! And it worked -- for about 3 seconds.

Pat Char, an attorney niece of Larry Chinn's, reports that, in her opinion, incorporation would not protect the kite club members from a liability suit. Filing fees and annual reporting forms and fees are a pain also. But it is nice to have that \$300,000 liability policy for comfort, eh? Just be sure to report any activities FIRST, to be covered.

Elliott Couden, Kite Book Distribution Committee, reports that he has had replies from ten (10) libraries so far, including school and one college library. This is Brummitt's "Kites" Little Golden Book, remember. We are giving away 500 of them and 20 subscriptions to Kitelines magazine.

	save	tack up
Nov. 26th:	Regular fly-in: Gasworks Park	
Dec. 3rd:	" " " "	
" 10th:	" " " "	
" "	Valerie Govig Reception; 6:30 pm at David Checkleys'	
" 17th:	Regular fly-in: Gasworks Park	
" 24th:	" " " "	
Jan. 1st:	Annual New Year's Day Big Special Whoop-de-Doo Fly-in at Golden Gardens	
Jan. 7th:	Regular fly-in: Gasworks Park	
" 9th:	Annual meeting: Science Center 7:30 pm, follow signs	

----- clip and save -----
Please pass this membership application on:

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

Name:
Street:
City:
State:
Phone:

ZIP:
Member of AKA?

\$3.00 annual membership fee.

AMERICAN KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION:
7106 Campfield Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

Name:
Street:
City:
State:

ZIP:

\$6.00 annual membership,
including subscription to quarterly "KITE LINES".

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200 2nd Ave. No.
Seattle, WA 98109