

# WAKA

## Washington Kitefliers Association

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

NEWSLETTER OF OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, 1981 - -

"LARRY CUTTITTA", remember that name - -  
and remember this date: July/August,  
1981.



Larry got a ticket for flying this kite in July and won his case in August. The case got so much publicity that a new kite club was born: the Brooklyn Kite Club. We don't especially recommend this method of morming a kite club -- but it worked.

Now, Brooklyn is a Long, Long way from Seattle, WA, so what's the connection? Well, here's what happened:

Ye Editor noticed a two-inch squib in our newspaper to the effect that a Larry Cuttitta was going to have to appear in criminal court August 24th for flying a kite. The president of L&G Paper Supply was flying an 8-ft. delta about 1,000 ft. over Brooklyn park when a police helicopter landed alongside him and cited him for flying higher than 150 ft. without notifying Kennedy Airport.

Our very efficient Seattle Public Library

Director's Dept. came up with the address and we wrote Larry, telling him of our own brushes with Seattle cops and the F.A.A. "Rule of Five" (Sec. 101.13(a)). It states: " - if it weighs more than five lbs., no person may operate a moored balloon or kite:

- (1) less than 500 ft. from the base of any cloud;
- (2) more than 500 ft. from the surface of the earth;
- (3) from an area where ground visibility is less than three miles;
- (4) within five miles of the boundary of any airport."

Then comes the "Catch-22" clause: " - nor in such a manner as to create a hazard to other persons or their property".

In the meantime, practically every newspaper in the East had picked up the story. Art DiLeva became president of the instantly-formed Brooklyn Kite Club, with Larry as Secretary. A protest fly-in at the same park drew big-wigs from the borough and the city. The trial was a sell-out.

Apparently Larry's lawyer, Mike Santangelo, didn't need advice from Seattle; he already knew of the "Rule of Five". Judge Jerome Becker agreed with him that the "five-pound" section of the FAA code dominated the "catch-22" section. He ruled that Larry's 13 oz. kite did not present a hazard and that " - this case is for the birds". According to Santangelo, this sets a legal precedent and all us other kitefliers won't have to worry too much about our less-than-5 lb. kites.

WKA now has an inch-thick file of news clippings on the case for any interested members to study, thanks to Larry Cuttitta.

So what else has been going on? Lots!

Elliott Couder and Jack Van Gilder were big winners in the "Identify the Plane & Pilot" in last issue of WKA news, sponsored by Guy Aydlett's Piney Mountain Air Force Data Letter. Guy sent us the price, one-year subscriptions to WKA News, but he failed to mention who the pilot and what was the plane. It will be worth a nickel to either Elliott or Jack because they differed in their answers. They bet.

We've had a couple of parties! The first, a picnic at Gasworks Park on August 21st.



drew a crew like this. Beautiful weather, good fellowship, nice kites.

Then, just the other day, Sunday evening, Sept. 26th, Suzanne and Ken put one on for a couple of J. C. Young's friends from Taiwan, Y. Y. Chen and Chang Quinn, who is president of the Taiwan Kite Club. We got on the hot-line for this one, it came up so suddenly. Want to get on the Hot Line? Phone Tom Sisson: 725 3615.

Delegates to A.K.A. Convention: the three official slots have been filled now: David Checkley, Ken Conrad and Tom Sisson will represent W.K.A. at the convention in Houston, TX, Oct. 16 - 18. Ye Editor, Jack Van Gilder, is nominated for A.K.A. president but couldn't go because of a sudden business emergency. He has good representation, anyway.

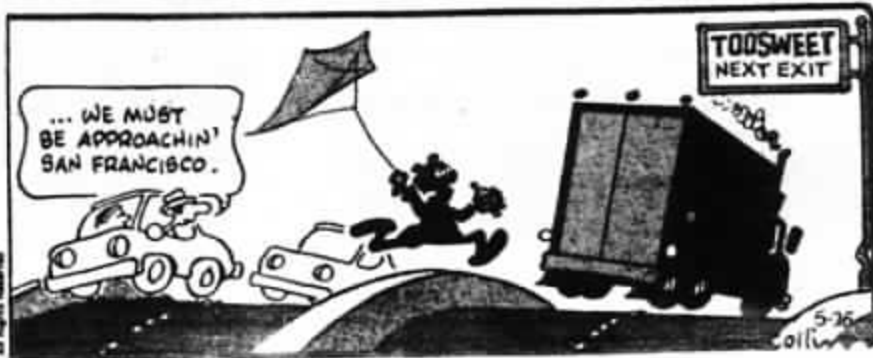
**CECIL AND DIPSTICK**

**KITE FLYING  
RULE TWO:**

NEVER TRY OUT  
A NEW KITE ON  
A BUSY FREEWAY.



... WE MUST  
BE APPROACHIN'  
SAN FRANCISCO.



Harbor Tours boat kitefly: Capt. and Mrs Campbell sponsored ("paid for") about 100 people from Childrens' Orthopedic Hospital to cruise around Seattle's Elliott Bay for the afternoon, flying kites, Aug. 31st.

Eight WKAers went along as kite experts to help kids fly kites. As shown below,



it rained! How do you fly kites from a boat in the rain? You duck outside, as Julian Wolf is doing (left) put up your kite quickly, like Larry Chinn (center) and then duck back under cover, as shown here by Ken Conrad (right).

**PICNIC:** Kevin Sanders will host a picnic at Fort Casey State Park, on Whidbey Island, Oct. 17th, - a Saturday - noonish. Kevin's bringing his charcoal grill. If you haven't flown from a parade ground like this, you just haven't lived. How to get there? Look at your map or call Kevin at 524 7005. See ya - !

We got  
 up at a  
 time off  
 the  
 boat.  
 That  
 didn't  
 leave  
 much  
 room for  
 tangles.



- and tangle lines we did! Here is



Bill Spesia helping one of the fathers un-  
 tangle a three-way "wow!"

ADVANCED MASTER KITE CLASSES: seventeen  
 of the nineteen "starters" made it through  
 the five sessions. We then had a fly-in  
 at Gasworks Park to test out the new kites

Millie Mullarky coordinated the classes.  
 Tom Sisson, our club secretary/treasurer

was Chief Ramrod/Master of Ceremonies.  
 Here's Tom, helping our parafoil ex-



pert instructor, Doug Hagamon. Doug was  
 amazing. Julian Wolf tells an amazing  
 story about Doug: they were out at Sand  
 Point (Magnuson) Park, trying out one of  
 Doug's new parafoils. It was 'way out  
 there when the line broke. It folded and  
 fell, like it should, but not suddenly e-  
 nough, landing in Lake Washington. Not a  
 pleasure-boat in sight, so Doug stripped  
 down to shorts and swam out and rescued  
 the kite. Julian couldn't believe it.

Here's Millie, finishing up her tissue-



paper cobra while Paul Stappenbeck looks

quizzically on.

Tom Sisson and John Dusenberry led off the first class with sleds and deltas. Louise Crowley and Harold Writer came next with Eddys and reels. Carl Brewer and Bill Lee came within 90% of completing an airplane-type kit of their own design. (The whole class came within 10% of completing everything, is what I am trying to say)(hmmm). Larry Chinn and Dave Checkley talked Oriental kites and Jack Van Gilder helped the class build cobra kites. (Dave showed his color slides of his trip to China with the Japan Kite Assn. He will be showing them again at the A.K.A. Convention in Houston next week.)

Doug Hagamon, as I said, came on strong Saturday morning, with Tom and Jack rounding it out.

NEXT CLASS, January, 1982. Watch for further announcements.

We got a letter:

"As organizer of these classes, I would like to announce through the newsletter that EVERY SINGLE PERSON I called agreed to help!! All the instructors did a lot of work and made for a fantastic series of classes.

There were many requests that could not be accomodated this time, so, hopefully, we can do this again after Christmas. I feel proud to be associated with such generous people!

Milly Mullarky"

Hey, that's nice, eh?

SCHEDULE OF THINGS TO COME:

Well, not much. We'll probably have a hot-line party when some visiting kiter comes to town, which they do with some regularity. Keep in touch.

Regular Sunday afternoon fly-ins at Gasworks Park -- 1:30 and on.

Plan for the EIGHTH ANNUAL "Protest the Bowls" Kitefly at Golden Gardens Park on New Years Day. I hope we will, but doubt if we will have to hurry home to see our Huskies in the Rose Bowl.

SALUTE: to Katey Jensen; she loaded up her van with kites and peddled her way to Southern Cal along the coast.

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**Kites**

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