



Newsletter

June / July 1997
WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

BEACH PARTY 97 ARRIVES!

The beach between Grayland and Westport will be the site for the 1997 edition of the Westport Kite Festival, Beach Party 97. Hosted by the Westport Windriders, this event is one of the really enjoyable and relaxing ones in the Northwest.

While the really relaxing part is just plain flying, there are many scheduled events. These include handcrafted and stunt kite competitions, fighter kite battles, mass ascensions, kids activities, buggy events, pin challenges, teddy bear drops, mystery ballet, kite demos, and an awards potluck with a raffle and auction. Red, white and blue displays are a recurring theme at this event, usually held near the Fourth of July. There will also be a reserved field for jumbo kites.

The Festival flying field is farther south this year, located just north of the Cranberry Road access in Grayland. Fliers can spread out to the north from Cranberry Road. An attempt is being made to organize traffic by using Cranberry Road as the entrance and Bonge Road to the north as an exit point from the beach flying areas.

Bring your red, white, and blue and come out for a great time at Beach Party 97. For more information contact Creda Axton at (360) 491-3229. ♪

Dedicated to helping
people know how much
fun it is to fly kites!

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GOODBYE TO A KITEFLIER

by Jean Sisson

Bob Hanna held the distinction of being the WKA's oldest kiteflier! Bob passed away on May 4th due to pneumonia at the age of 89. He had suffered a massive stroke in 1996 and never really recovered. Services were held in Puyallup on May 9.

Bob joined the WKA in 1979 and helped at the convention in Seattle that year. He enjoyed flying single line kites and when stunters came on the scene, even tried his hand at that. He enjoyed going to Fort Worden and Long Beach with his longtime friend Margaret Holzbauer. These two helped with kite classes at the Seattle Center, the Puyallup Fair, and the King County Fair, and were always willing to help when asked. He will be greatly missed by the members of the WKA. ♪



Long Beach, Aug. 1985. Les Varley (L) and Bob Hanna (R).
Photo by Margaret Holzbauer

W.K.A. WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Brian Baker	Seattle	David Julian	Kent
Steffan Bumala	Seattle	Beverly Julian	Kent
Tom Bumala	Seattle	Fred Marchand	Bellingham
John Burke	Bellingham	Robert Stone	Seattle
Marilyn Burke	Bellingham	Pamela Stone	Seattle
Aaron Hightower	Seattle	Rachel Stone	Seattle
Linda Johannessen	Seattle		

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PRESTON WINERY KITE FESTIVAL

by Jean Sisson

Every May the Preston Winery north of Pasco has an open house and celebrates with kiteflying on their property in an effort to draw people from the Highway 397 traffic. The weather for this May 3rd and 4th event was more like western Washington - wind, rain, and then sun.

Marlene Zilar of the Ben Franklin Kite Society in the Tri-Cities devotes much time to this event. Tom and I always have a good time. Creda and Al Axton were there along with Eli and Bernice Williams, Al and Joan Councilman, Nadine and Tom Walker, Sonny Kersh, and Bonnie. The Westport Windriders were well represented.

Bill Preston and family always put on a great barbeque for us Saturday night, doing the hamburgers. The rest of us bring salad, hot dishes, and dessert.

The wind was really strong Saturday evening and it decided to rain so we ate in one of the winery buildings. It was fun and everyone had a good time.

Sunday was beautiful and we got some kites up. There were lots of visitors and questions about kiting. Lucky we had so many experts to answer the questions.

This is a really fun event. We hope more people will try to attend next year. ☺

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THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL INDOOR KITE CONTEST

Long Beach will be the site of the First International Indoor Kite Contest. This event will be held in conjunction with the 1997 World Cup of Sport Kiting on September 26-28 and is being sponsored by The Drachen Foundation and Revolution Enterprises.

This event promises to be rather unusual in that the kites will be flown by the judges, not their creators. In a no-wind environment, kites must have 10 feet minimum of flying line, maintain at least a 15 degree ling angle, and may be either single or multi-line kites.

Kites may be submitted either personally or by mail/UPS delivery to The Drachen Foundation by August 15, 1997. At the conclusion of this event, all kites submitted become the property of The Drachen Foundation unless accompanied by return postage and instructions. All winning kites must be loaned to The Drachen Foundation for two years for use in a travelling exhibit centered on this under-appreciated area of kiteflying.

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WKA Newsletter 1997

The Washington Kitefliers Association Newsletter is published six times a year by the Washington Kitefliers Association.

Primary Contact Editor

Rod Beamguard
(360) 574-8050 FAX (360) 735-1613

Mailing List

Sylvia Bernauer
(425) 822-4605

The Editor encourages your participation in your newsletter, and requests that you send your contributions pertaining to kiteflying. Submissions that illustrate how much fun it is to fly a kite will be given priority for publication. Mail submissions and photographs (include the name, address and telephone number of the source) along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size and postage for return (if you want your photographs back) to:

Rod Beamguard
4104 N. W. 112th Way
Vancouver, WA 98685

The deadline for all submissions is January 20, March 20, May 20, July 20, September 20, or November 20. Material received by these dates will be published in the following issue as space allows. All submissions will be considered for publication.

Membership

To become a member of the WKA, send your name(s), address and telephone number, along with a check for \$15 per family (outside the U.S., please add \$5(US) additional for postage) to Washington Kitefliers Association, Pacific Science Center, 200 Second Avenue North, Seattle, Washington 98109. Membership includes an official WKA membership card entitling the bearer to discounts at certain kite shops and a one-year subscription to the WKA Newsletter.

THE JAPANESE KITES OF FORT WORDEN



THE EDITOR'S ECHO

I have been just as busy as ever over the last two months. Too bad it didn't include more kitemaking and flying. I keep thinking about all those projects which we all seem to have lying dormant in our minds or on our tables. There never seems to be enough time to do all the daily tasks, the home projects, family activities, and KITES KITES KITES.

Last month the WKA held its first board meeting under new President Mike Benedict. Previous commitments prevented me from attending but a summary is given below. Mike has been able to recruit two new officers for the club: Marc Pignatelli for Vice President and Dawn Benedict for Secretary. I am sure we will all appreciate their efforts on behalf of the club.

I am really looking forward to Westport and Long Beach this summer. It will be good to get out in the wind and catch up on what other people are doing. Have a great summer. See you on the beach!



Rod

WKA Board Meeting Held

On May 10, 1997, the WKA Board of Directors met at Gasworks Kite Shop in Seattle. This was the first meeting held under the new administration of Mike Benedict. In attendance were Mike Benedict, Ken Conrad, Sylvia Bernauer, and Tom Sisson as well as several club members.

Mike has recruited Marc Pignatelli to serve as Vice President. Marc is a strong participant in the SCI-FI club. Dawn Benedict has also volunteered to serve as Secretary. The Board readily accepted their offers for filling these two open positions on the Board of Directors.

The Treasurer's Report was FAXed to Mike by the absent Carol Lord. Both inventory and club membership are down. While cash flow is not a problem at this time, membership revenue needs to be improved. Total checking balance is \$3,694.45, savings are \$5,390.15, inventory total is \$806.20, and total assets for WKA as of May 9, 1997 are \$9,890.80.

The problem with lapsing memberships was discussed again. Members need to be notified prior to the expiration of their membership. Ideas for promotion of WKA included notification by letter, banners at festivals, and banners with the entire "Washington Kitefliers Association", not just "WKA". A new membership registration form should reflect the new membership prices and WKA logo.

The publication of the newsletter also raised comment. Rod Beamguard is having a difficult time finding time to put the newsletter together due to demands of his new business. Mike suggested that an outside source for composition is a possibility. Pros and cons were discussed. The publication of more articles from members is desired. (Hint: You gotta have them before you can publish them! - Ed.)

Tom reported that his teaching schedule has been very full. He can use some help filling all the requests. His wife Jean stated that Tom really needs help with all the requests he receives.

Ken noted that all the back issues of the WKA Newsletter are compiled into books at Great Winds Kites in Seattle. Many other newsletters have also been gathered there. Ken's biggest task is to solicit donations for the WKA dinner at Long Beach during WSIKF and the WKA/PCKA dinner in December. He also ensures that every kite shop has WKA membership forms. He would like to create a "Point of Purchase" with forms and newsletters for the shops.

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WKA OFFICERS

President

Mike Benedict
(360) 435-3325

Vice President

Marc Pignatelli

Secretary

Dawn Benedict
(360) 435-3325

Treasurer

Carol Lord
(360) 268-1537

BOARD MEMBERS

Education

Tom Sisson
(206) 725-3615

Membership

Sylvia Bernauer
(425) 822-4605

Merchant Liason

Ken Conrad
(206) 624-6886

Newsletter

Rod Beamguard
(360) 574-8050

Past President

Dave Christenson
(253) 471-9103

Products

Susie Christenson
(253) 471-9103

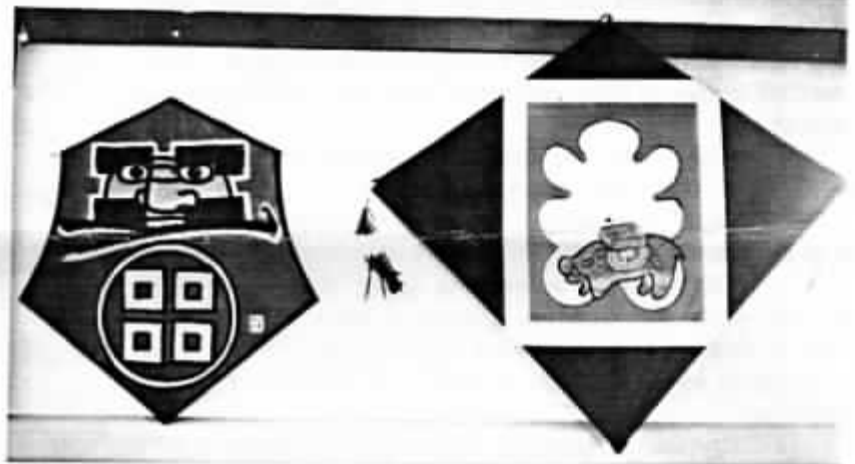


MORE FROM FORT WORDEN

Top right: Brian Johnson discusses fighters. Bottom left: Gerry Pennell leads class in introductory sewing techniques. Middle Left: Masaaki Modegi during discussion of Japanese kites on display. Other photos are of the kites displayed by Modegi-san.



All photos of Fort Worden kites taken by Rod Beamguard.



HOW I GOT INVOLVED WITH PARABEARS

by Pierre Dance

I was sitting at my work table, the dining room table with a sheet of 3/16 masonite on it to keep my sister from going ballistic, when I was interrupted by the arrival of the "Dynamic Duo", they being the ladies who come in each Thursday morning to knock down the worst of the previous week's dust and to terrorize the cats with vacuum cleaners and other demonic devices.

Jennie, the elder of the Duo, noticed a new project in the works and asked what it was. I replied that I was making a parachute for Fred.

"Fred?" she asked.

"That's right," I responded. "You've seen Fred around but you've never been introduced. That's Fred D. Bear over there," pointing to Fred's handsome blue-gray figure sitting in an easy chair off to one side of the room.

"You're making a parachute for a Teddie Bear?" she asked in disbelief.

"Well, it happened like this," I replied. "Fred and I were sitting around last Saturday talking and having some of Kentucky's finest chicken when he asked me if I would give him an honest answer to a personal question. Sure, I replied, knowing that Fred and I were close enough to be honest with each other."

"What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think of me?" he asked.

"Well, I ventured. 'I suppose the first thing I think of is cute and cuddly.'"

"That's what everyone says,' Fred said with obvious emotion, 'and I'm getting a little tired of it. I want to do something different, something exciting.' Here he paused for a second or two. 'I want to take up skydiving!'"

"Skydiving" I gasped. 'Isn't that a bit dangerous?'"

"But that's the point, isn't it?" he replied."

"I could tell that this was something that was very important to Fred, so I thought the matter over for a bit.

Finally I answered him with the best advise I could come up with."

"If you really want to do this, get the best equipment and instruction that you can,' I advised sagely."

"Here he brightened. 'I've almost completed ground school. My problem is the parachute. I can't afford to buy one,' he said wistfully. 'I was wondering if you would make one for me? They don't make sewing machines to be operated by bears. I have all the instructions in a book from England.'"

"I couldn't resist him, so here I am making a parachute for him," I said as I finished telling the story to Jeannie.

She looked at me for a while. Then she asked "Does ripstop nylon give off fumes or something? You really need to get out more often!" She then turned and chased one of the cats down the hall with a vacuum cleaner.

Glancing at Freddie I said "She didn't seem to believe my story."

Fred shrugged slightly and replied "People! Maybe you should have made something up."

Both Pierre and Fred live and play in Kennewick.

Great Winds Kite Shop

Est. 1972

An outstanding collection of kites, kite building supplies, books, accessories and other flying things...

402 Occidental Ave S. Seattle, Wa 98104 (206)624-6886

Garfield

By Jim Davis



Board Meeting


- from page 4

Mike also noted that we do not have a club liaison. No action was taken.

Susie Christenson will continue as director in charge of products.

In open discussion, Ken asked for WKA support in his efforts to leash dogs in Magnuson Park. It was agreed that Ken would write the appropriate letter on behalf of the WKA to Seattle Parks.

Mike, speaking on behalf of the absent Past President Dave Christenson, asked the members to donate \$200 each to the Westport Kite Festival and to the Ocean Shores International. Mike suggested also donating \$200 to support the Seattle Kite Festival. Motion passed.

No future date was set for the next meeting. 

**HELP ME!
HELP ME!
HELP ME!**

As you, the reader of this newsletter, can see, once again I am about a month late in getting this put together and out to you. It's not from being lazy. I just don't have the time to do the job I feel should be done in my position as newsletter editor. For this reason I am once again appealing to the membership of the WKA.

In one month, I will put together the August/September issue of the newsletter. **It will be my last!**

At the end of July, after the next issue of the newsletter has been sent to the printer, I will box up all my materials and send everything to our club President, Mike Benedict. I will be at Westport and Long Beach. If you are considering becoming Newsletter Editor and need any information about this position, I will be happy to talk with you.

SEE YOU ON THE BEACH!

Rod

REGIONAL CLUBS

ASSOCIATED OREGON KITERS

P.O. Box 25616, Portland, OR 97225. Membership includes bi-monthly newsletter.

BEN FRANKLIN KITE SOCIETY

Contact Greg or Margaret Greger at (509) 943-3951.

BRITISH COLUMBIA KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

Box 755, 810 W. Broadway, Vancouver, BC, CANADA V5Z-4C9. Membership \$8.00 in a US money order only.

CAPITOL CITY FLYERS

Contact Leroy Peoples ((360) 456-4156.

kgb - KITE GROUP of BOISE

Gary Self, 5403 Paulson Circle, Boise, ID 83704. Individual membership \$7.00 includes a quarterly (?) newsletter.

LILAC CITY WIND CHASERS

Meets every Tuesday, 5:00 PM, Friendship Park, 7200 block of N. Standard. Contact Bill or Connie Lester, 3524 W Kiernan, Spokane, WA 99205 or (509) 327-2829.

NORTH BEACH SKY PAINTERS KITE CLUB

Contact Eric Halverson (503) 537-0817. Fun fly and potluck dinner on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

NORTHWEST BUGGY PILOTS ASSN.

Contact Morrie Williams (206) 788-6355. Meetings on the 4th Saturday of each month, usually at Washaway Beach, Grayland. Check with Morrie for current location.

PCKA - PIERCE COUNTY KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

Contact Rob Ford (206) 572-8761. Meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. Call for details.

SCI-FI - SNOHOMISH COUNTY INCREDIBLE FLYING INDIVIDUALS

Contact Mike Eason (206) 334-0362 or Four Winds Kite Shop (206) 339-9334.

SQUALICUM KITE FLYERS

Contact Don or Shirley Allen (360) 733-3777. 505 West Bakerview #114, Bellingham, WA 98226.

YAKIMA VALLEY KITE FLYERS

Contact Rod Yarger (509) 453-4679. 209 N 24th Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902.

WESTPORT WINDRIDERS

Contact Bary Crites ??????. Funfly and meeting/potluck dinner on the fourth Sunday of each month. Call for location and details.



3333 wallingford no.
SEATTLE, WA 98103

FAX (206) 633-0301
(206) 632-6151 (206) 633-4780



EVENT CALENDAR

JUNE

JUNE 28 - 29, 1997

Northwest Stunt Kite Championships, Long Beach, WA. Contact Genny Forsberg (503) 357-7557.

JULY

JULY 5 - 6, 1997

North Coast Challenge, Lincoln City, OR. Contact Dave Gomberg (503) 996-3083.

JULY 11 - 13, 1997

Westport Kite Festival, Westport, WA. Contact Creda Axton (360) 491-3229.

JULY 11 - 13, 1997

WSummer Buggy Blitz, Washaway Beach, Grayland. Contact Morrie or Kelcie Williams (425) 788-6355.

JULY 13, 1997

Jetty Island Days Kite Festival, Everett, WA. Contact (206) 339-9334.

JULY 28, 1997

Fun Fly on Kite Hill in Magnuson Park, Seattle. 10:00 AM to 7

AUGUST

AUGUST 2-3, 1997

1st Northwest Clubs Super Fun Fly, Ocean City, WA. Beach access just north of Ocean Shores. The PCKA and NCSP invite all Northwest clubs. Contact Rob Ford (206) 572-8761 or Eric Halverson (503) 537-0817.

AUGUST 10, 1997

SCF-FI Fun Fly and Hot Dog Feed. Dogs supplied, bring all else. 10 AM - 6 PM, Ft Casey State Park on Whidbey Island, WA. Contact (206) 339-9334.

AUGUST 10, 1997

Fun Fly on Kite Hill in Magnuson Park, Seattle. 10:00 AM to 7

AUGUST 17-24, 1997

16th Annual Washington State International Kite Festival at Long Beach. Contact (800) 451-2542.

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 5-7, 1997

Up Your Winds Kite Festival, Pacific Beach State Park, Pacific Beach, WA.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1997

Fun Fly on Kite Hill in Magnuson Park, Seattle. 10:00 AM to 7

SEPTEMBER 14, 1997

Asian Kite Festival. 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Hillyard Community Center, 2580 Hillyard St., Eugene, OR. Contact (541) 687-9600.

SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1997

5th Annual Washington State Sport Kite Championship, Ocean Shores, WA. Contact (206) 339-9334.

SEPTEMBER 22-28, 1997

WORLD CUP VIII, Long Beach, WA. Only the best by invitation. Contact Terry Yunker (360) 642-2229.



Phone your info to

Rod Beamguard at

(360) 574-8050 or

FAX to (360) 735-1613.

Please include, as a minimum, the date, time, place, and the contact person's name and phone number.

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 1997

First International Indoor Kite Contest, Long Beach. Contact (206) 282-4349.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 11-12, 1997

THE SHOWDOWN, sport kite and single line competition at Rockaway Beach, OR., Contact (503) 335-2225. NEW EVENT!

OCTOBER 15-19, 1997

AKA National Convention, Wildwood, NJ. Contact (619) 770-0405

MAGNUSON PARK:
There is a fun fly every month, usually with 15-20 kitefliers. Try to make one of YOUR fun flies, especially the new members. Please come and introduce yourself. -Jean Sisson

The WKA attempts to provide accurate and timely kite calendar information for its members. However, all listings are subject to change. We recommend that you call the contact listed to verify details.

Indoor Kites

-from page 2

There will be three first prizes given, one each for the categories of:


- Aesthetics
- Best Technical Design
- Best Flight.

One winner will be named in each category with the judges recognizing honorable achievement in each category. The prize for each category consists of a \$500 gift certificate redeemable for the merchandise of your choice at your local kite store.

A stellar cast of judges has been assembled for this event. They include:

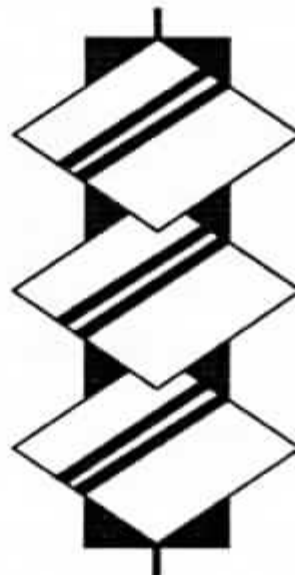
- Ms. Kay Beusing, Director
World Kite Museum and Hall of Fame, Long Beach

- Mr. Ron Reich, author and international sport kite champion
San Diego, CA
- Mr. Robert Trepanier, artist and kite designer,
Montreal, Canada
- Mr. Masaaki Modegi, Director
Tokyo Kite Museum
Tokyo, Japan
- Mr. Peter Lynn, kite inventor
and aerodynamicist
Ashburton, New Zealand

For more information about this great opportunity, contact The Drachen Foundation at 206-282-4349. 



GET INVOLVED!



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

GRAYLAND, Northwest Buggy Pilots Association. Fun flies 4th Saturday of every month at Wash-Away Beach. Verify location with Morrie Williams (206) 788-6355.

OCEAN SHORES, North Coast Sky Painters. Meet and fly the 2nd weekend of every month (except December). Fly at Illahee Beach. Potluck following on Saturday night at the VFW Hall at Hogan's Corner. Ask for directions at local kite shops or contact Dee/Eric Halverson (503) 537-0817.

SPOKANE, Lilac City Wind Chasers. Fun flies every Tuesday, 4:00 PM until dark, at Friendship Park, 7400 block of North Standard.

TACOMA, Pierce County Kitefliers Assoc. Meetings on the last Thursday of the month at Summit Branch of Pierce Co. Library, 7:00 PM. Contact Rob Ford (206) 572-8761.

EVERETT, SCI-FI. 2nd Saturday every month. Fun flies or other events. General meetings often at 1 PM. Contact (206) 339-9334.

WESTPORT, Westport Windriders. 4th Saturday every month. Fun fly and potluck. Contact (360) 268-0877.

DO ANY OTHER CLUBS HAVE REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS THEY WOULD LIKE TO LIST?

If so, send the information to the WKA Newsletter (address on page 2).

ADVERTISEMENTS

For items relating to kites or kitefliers. Charge is 10 cents a word (\$3 minimum) per issue. Lost, Found, Stolen, or Free items will be listed free if under 30 words. Make checks payable to WKA.

WKA Patch

Patches featuring the WKA logo are available for \$4 each. Make check payable to the WKA. Contact Susie Christenson, 3594 East E Street, Tacoma, WA 98404.

WKA Banners

Banner kits by Carla Fox containing precut material and instructions to sew a 12' WKA banner. \$35 each. Make check payable to the WKA. Contact Susie Christenson, 3594 East E St, Tacoma, WA 98404.

WKA 3-Pin Sets

The new WKA pins are a 3 pin set that, when put together, form a rokkaku. The center pin lists all of the kite clubs in the WKA. The three pin set is priced at \$15 including postage (\$16 outside the US). Make check payable to the WKA. Contact Susie Christenson, 3594 East E Street, Tacoma, WA 98404.

Yes!

By becoming a member of the WKA you receive the *WKA Newsletter* every other month for a year, a membership card which entitles you to discounts at some area kite stores, and a wealth of information about special events and goings-on in the Northwest kiting community.

Join the WKA and share the fun! Find out more about the fastest growing popular pastime in the United States today. WKA meetings offer individuals and families the opportunity to participate in the administrative support and planning of local kite events and workshops. Fill out this application and return it with a check or money order for \$15.00 (US) to: (Outside the U.S. please add \$5 (US) additional for postage.)

Washington Kitefliers Association
Pacific Science Center
200 Second Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

LIST NAMES / AGES OF ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER(S) _____

Washington Kitefliers Association

an affiliate of the American Kitefliers Association
Pacific Science Center
200 Second Avenue North
Seattle, Washington 98109



FIRST CLASS

EXPIRES:
03/31/1997

Morrie Williams
18030 NE 155th Pl
Woodinville WA 98072

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP
ABOUT TO EXPIRE?
CHECK THE DATE
ON YOUR LABEL!

