

2025-d

WASHINGTON KITEFLIERS ASSOCIATION

Pacific Science Center  
200 Second Avenue North  
Seattle, Washington 98109

The WKA fared well in the last issue of AKA's KITE TALES, thanks to the group's hospitality to Bob Ingraham during his visit to Seattle last August, and Bob Follett's excellent photography. The American Kitefliers Association still needs new members, so we should all do our share of recruiting. Even more important is prompt renewal of present memberships, so be sure to heed Bob's notice when yours comes up.

As mentioned in the KITE TALES and in last Sunday's P-1 travel section, Dave Checkely is organizing another Kitefliers Tour of the Orient for 1974, scheduled to leave Seattle on Sunday, April 28 and returning on Tuesday, May 14. The itinerary includes Tokyo to meet with Tsutomu Hiroi, the big kite festival at Hamamatsu (401st anniversary), and a day at Hojubana, where they fly the really big kites - reported to be up to 1,800 square feet. Thanks to arrangements by Hiroi, we will also meet with the Japan Kite Society for a joint fly-in. From Japan the group will go to Taipei to fly kites with the Chinese kitemaker Guin Tyh Choa, and then on to Hong Kong to shop for kites from Mainland China. There is also an optional two day excursion to Bangkok from Hong Kong. You can also stop over in Honolulu for up to 35 days on the way back, with no extra air fare. The all inclusive cost is \$998 double occupancy from the West Coast, via Northwest Orient Airlines. Call or write Dave for details.

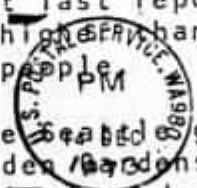
Dave is also working with Intermediate School District No. 110 (King County and environs) on a series of kitemaking and kiteflying courses for elementary and secondary schools, following an initial workshop for teachers at the Pacific Science Center on November 20. As indicated overleaf, there is a need for volunteer instructors in kitesmanship to teach evening or weekend courses for kids and parents.

The Pacific Science Center gift shop expects to have a half-dozen copies of Hiroi's big book just before Christmas. At last report three of those were spoken for. The price will probably be higher than first estimated, however it's a real collectors item for kite people.

For those who can't make it to Bellingham, the Seattle group of WKA will also have a kite fly on New Year's day at Golden Gardens in the afternoon. In case of bad weather the alternate date is Sunday, January 6. Dress warmly, wear gloves, and bring a thermos of coffee.

The next evening meeting at the Science Center will probably be held in February to discuss plans for next Spring's program. Meanwhile, try to line up some new members for the WKA and the AKA.

Merry Christmas and good flying!



From the Secretary's File

Slip this piece of paper in your membership directory, will you? New names to be added:

GOVIG, Valerie, Exec. Secy., Maryland Kite Soc.,  
7106 Campfield Rd., Baltimore, Md., 21207

1-301-484-4861

GANGWER, Audrey M., 815 N.E. 89th St., Seattle,  
Wa., 98105

LA2-5126

GOE, Bert M., 13505 138th S.E., Renton, Wa.,  
98055

255-9995

HANELL, Robert, E., Star Route, Box 28A,  
Montesano, Wa., 98563

KEENE, Richard L., Rt. 1, Box 298, Poulsbo, Wa.,  
98370

779-2829

SHORT, Nancy, 3267 Hunts Point Road,  
Bellevue, Wa., 98004

GL4-3766

SCHEYER, Wm. J., Jr., Crow's Nest Rd., Port  
Townsend, Wa., 98369

385-2328

WHITE, David C., 410 Occidental So., Seattle,  
Wa., 98104

MA2- 3794

WHITMAN, David F., 4417 Evanston Ave. N.,  
Seattle, Wa., 98103

632-8649

According to my records, this makes a membership of 39. Note that we are contacting the Maryland Kite Society. It sounds as though we should trade some of our photographs for some of their expertise in putting on kite contests and fly-ins. It would be worth your \$1 to get on Val's mailing list. She writes a real neat paper.

Losing Tony Toledo was a real blow. He left many things behind--friendships, memories, a segment of movie film taken by Elliott Couden of him doing a ballet while flying his fighter kite, and--twenty kites! There are 18 of them hanging in the basement of your Secretary. Eight of them are spoken for--reserved--sold. That leaves ten for sale, with us Washington Kitters at the head of the line: \$6 each. Proceeds to Tony's widow, Shirley, naturally. And that's ALL THERE WILL BE. Ever.

Pat McCormick of the Fairhaven Kite Co., Bellingham, phoned the other morning. They are doing well in Bellingham's version of our Pioneer Square. Says they are planning a fly-in on New Years day--weather and gas-pinch permitting. He has promised a mailer/brochure which we will forward to all of you. Also, we can expect a branch shop in Seattle, come spring. Maybe we will have a source of Tyvek and Mylar then.

One of the members of the recently-completed kite building/flying class at Lincoln High ran off several copies of the pattern for the Brazilian Falcon kite. Dave Whitman is a copier salesman so gave them to us for demonstrators. Let me know if you would like a free copy.

Your club library has eight kite-bibles, "Kites" by Will Brummitt. If you would like one for \$1.50 let me know. Making one of each of the kites in that book is a real challenge.

Our club has a couple of kites which are available for use by members: a 21-ft delta put together for the "Largest" contest at the Seafair fly-in. Also, Tony Toledo left a 1/3 built 40 section Chinese Dragon kite. I have been tinkering with it but need help. If a member has some special occasion to fly them, feel free to check them out of the library.

Dave and I are getting calls from schools, libraries and other organizations for instructional demonstrations. We have done some ourselves but it is so much fun and so time-consuming that we want to spread it around. Let us know if you would be willing to take an evening, would you? The final session on November 19 featured Jim Karwath, Boeing engineer and expert kitemaker in an extraordinarily good program. Several WKA members were present, and we hope to persuade him to talk to the entire group at one of our future meetings.

Jack Van Gilder