

WAKANA

Washington Kitefliers Association

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

NEWSLETTER OF APRIL, 1980 - - -

First, our printer, the Washington Technical School, has apologized for the quality of our pictures in the last newsletter. That student flunked that one. Speaking of quality: did you see the last newsletter of the 5/20 Club of Detroit? Now that was quality!

The big news at this time:

PRESIDENT'S CORNER: "We are now entering our busy time of the year. The Science Center has asked us to leave our display up for June and July after our usual big weekend, May 31st - June 1st.

We have a much larger area this year so we are looking for more kites to display. This year's show will be international. We've already received kites from England and Australia with more promised from Japan and Taiwan.

As most of you know by now, Seattle has been picked for this year's American Kitefliers' Association national convention. This will be the weekend of October 3rd (Friday), 4th and 5th. We expect 100 or more people from around the world to attend. We will need people to help us organize the various activities. We also would like people in the area to open their homes to guests to help keep travel cost down."

There was a meeting at the Science Center of our kite club this past week, planning for both events. Bob McCort, our president, will coordinate the Science Center show. Joe Voellmeck, a retired Army officer, will be General Chairman of the K.A. convention. We expect the convention registration fee to be \$35 which will include a convention packet, two meals and will pay for the meeting rooms at the Science Center. More, later.

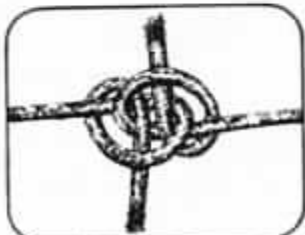
A loser! We announced a contest last newsletter for the "Meanest Workshop". Jack Van Gilder, below, looks happy that



he didn't win. Virtue must be its own reward -- note absence of halo.

Secretary's Corner: Carl Brewer wants to add a couple of items:

"This interesting knot will help deal with the perplexing problem of how to tie broken Ren nylon monofilament line. Try it."



New knot invented by Dr. Edward Hunter, a retired British physician

(Secretary-Treasurer's Corner: continued)
Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Lee have some surplus seasoned very high-quality Korean bamboo that is available at a nominal cost. Phone or write: 937-9339; 3902 41st S.W., Seattle, WA 98116

Commission operates an "Art-Mobile -- a large motor home in which is displayed arts and crafts. It is driven around the state for displays at schools, fairs and festivals. This year they are featuring KITES. Kites as art.

Dues due -- LAST CALL!

A new membership roster will be made up within a week of receiving this newsletter. Those who receive a membership application with their newsletter this time (for the third time); get them in quick."

Here's your chance to sell a kite -- or to rent a kite out for a year -- to be displayed. Completion date for the exhibit is June 1st. ROBERT HANDLETT is in charge for the state -- working with Ken Conrad. See Ken at the shop or write Great Winds, 166 So. Jackson, Seattle, WA 98104 -- 624 6886.

THE WINNER! - David Checkley -



- shown here in his basement workshop. Actually, it is the Research and Development Dept. for his "Kite Factory". We understand that he putters around in here for a while and out comes some of the most ingeniously-designed kite ideas - and good sellers - in America. He won over Tom Sisson only because of the sheer mass of his organized clutter.

Pat Hammond, came to town -- participated in a kite-fly at Gasworks Park. Joined us for a party/reception and was shown the town and Science Center by club members. We were charmed. Wish we had a picture of her eyes, glistening in awe and pleasure as she held tight to a Filipino Fighter Kite as it ascended rapidly. Youth revisited!

From Ken Conrad Great Winds Kite Shop will be stocking fibre-glass tubes. They will be 3/8" by 30" and will nest into each other for longer lengths. Also -

It seems that Pat is probably the foremost exhibitor of kites in America. She puts on shows of her collection of over 500 kites, properly labeled and cataloged, for universities and museums all over the Southwest.

Sale Possibility: The Washington Arts

COMING EVENTS:

April 6th: Sunday- Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival. Seattle Center at International Fountain; 2 to 6 pm. "Best Kite" chosen from those flying. 6 prizes

April 12th: Sunday afternoon; Gasworks Park; large gathering of Indian Guides wants to see our kites.

April 20th: Great Pacific Rim Kite Festival in Vancouver, B.C., Vanier Park by the Planetarium.

May 3rd: "Imagination Celebration"; fly kites at Seattle Center to help them during the afternoon - Saturday.

May 4th: Sunday; same - or Gasworks

May 18th: Regular fly; Gasworks

May 26th: Monday -- Memorial Day Fly at Gasworks -- informal contest.

May 31st-June 1st: Seventh Annual Pacific Science Center Kite Exhibition. 10 am to 6 pm each day.

July 4th: Ocean City, WA - kite contest

Mid-July: Port of Seattle contest at Elliott Bay Park -- and -- Seattle Sun Contest at Gasworks Park. (There will be no Seafair Contest at Volunteer Park this year, sponsored by the Capital Hill Chamber of Commerce)

October 1st: last day for submitting pictures to Cerf-Volant de France (Kite Club of France). Prizes for best pictures taken FROM a kite. Contact us for further information.

October 3, 4 and 5th: A.K.A. Convention: Meetings and information/instruction workshops Friday, big contest at Sand Point Park on Saturday, free flying Sun.

J. C. Young: one of our most famous kite-makers was the subject of a TV interview in his basement about March 8th. Showing later.

J. C. reports that negotiations and invitations are in the works to get a kite

team over here from Taiwan! They should be visiting us in early September and return, after visiting other cities, for the A.K.A. convention Oct. 3rd. Their kites will precede them -- in time for our Science Center Exhibition.

"Pablo Diablo" -- P. O. Armbruster -- was a visitor at Gasworks in March. He's a fighter-kiter from the Bay Area, a buddy of the Toy Boys and them down there.

Question: would you Seattle-area members like to have a revolving-site Sunday-fly format again? We get complaints about Gasworks getting too many kitters! But if you like kiting company, it can't be beat. Let Bob or Carl or me know, eh?

Louise Crowley: has been putting together a 7 ft. by 7ft. Eddy kite replica of our W.K.A. patch -- green with yellow covering. The covering, basted together, ready for final sewing by Jan Kloock, was on display at our club meeting this week. A work of art! Dave Checkley contributed the yellow rip-stop and Harold Writer put in the spars of solid spruce.

Bill Lee: had more luck with his Coryne bi-plane kite than Van Gilder did. His flew REAL good, maybe a little better than a regular Coryne, he says. He and V.G. got their plans from the last issue of "Kite Lines" magazine.

Kite Lines: Valerie Govig reports on the phone that the next issue is at the publishers and will be out any day. She also reports that she and Mel will be at the A.K.A. convention in Seattle come hallelujahwater.

Bill Bastendorff is back! -- in Vancouver, that is. He has retired from the Overseas School system for the U.S. armed forces.

British Columbia Kite Club: being formed in Vancouver. Marsha Madill is being facilitator to get it started. We know of several real active kitters up there in Vancouver and Victoria: Hugh Harrison, David Pinner, Dan Kurahashi, Les Varley, Bernard Stewart -- and the pretty girls they brought down with them last time! Contact: High-as-a-Kite Shop. (cont.)

201 - 131 Watertown
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4M3

\$2.00 yearly

Kite Club Shelf: Ken Conrad is putting up a shelf for our "library" and Great Winds Kite Shop. In this library will be kite club newsletters from other clubs that we trade newsletters with. If you really want an entertaining hour, read some of those British newsletters! There are two clubs over there now, the B.K.A. and the Northern B.K.A. Write them and see about trading patches -- theirs' are beautiful!

Japan Kite Society: Kazuo Tamura, who was "holler-guy" for the Shirone kites when they visited Seattle for the Orient Express last September, writes: "At the suggestion of Pui TV, we are going to fly a world-biggest kite --- 14 x 19 meters. The scene of flying will be shown on a Fuji TV program, 'Challenge the Guinness'. I do hope that the kite will fly up."

If anyone can make a kite that huge fly, it will be those fellows! Mastercraftsmen.

Well, let us hear from you. We need news. We also need pictures. Black and white. Have you priced black-and-white printing paper lately? Silver, you know. That's why there aren't more pictures this month, here.

Jack Van Gilder, 1925 Walnut S.W.
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