

Winter 2010
Volume 32 Issue 4



Kiting

The Journal of the American Kitefliers Association

YOUTH
MOVEMENT
The Kids Are
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Seaside



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Best of KAP
Connor Doran
Dieppe + Dieppe

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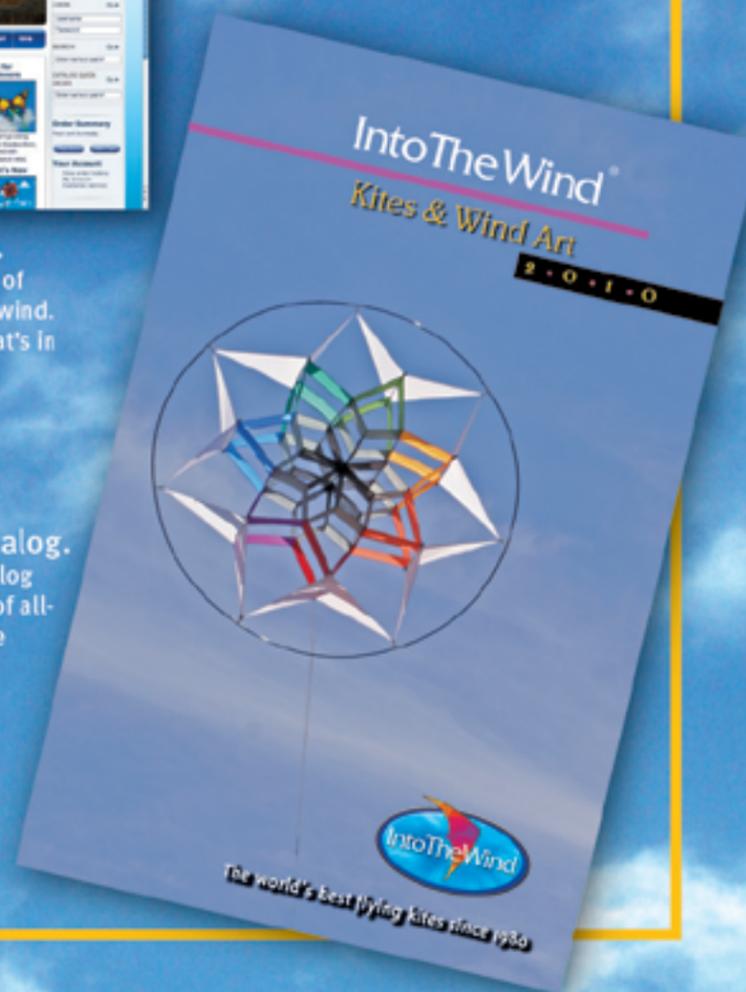
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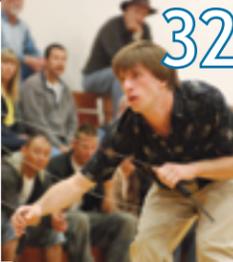
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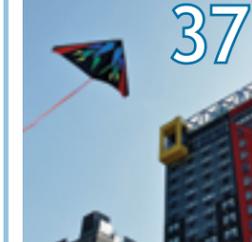
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Coming in the SPRING issue...

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Correction: on page 44 of the Autumn issue, a delta built by Eric Curtis and painted by Anne Sloboda was mistakenly identified as the work of Martin Blais.

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BOTH SIDES OF THE CHANNEL



BY JOHN POLLOCK

What an exciting adventure to fly kites in Portsmouth and Bristol, UK, and Dieppe, France. My wife Diana and I were fortunate enough to be invited to make this kite tour. Landing in London, we were rushed off to the quaint community of Portsmouth. The town has a very old history as a port and even some history that dates to Roman times. The festival is organized by Gill and Jon Bloom and featured kites big and small. We were reacquainted with many old friends and made many new ones.

Although the winds were difficult, the sun was shining. Not what I was expecting for English weather. We had a great three days of flying kites and visiting the town. Then we were off, headed in the direction of Bristol with our newfound friend, Bob Cruikshanks. Along the way, planned detours took us to Woodhenge, Stonehenge and Avebury Henge. Flying a kite at Stonehenge was one of the highlights of the trip. Then we were on to Bristol, which we found to be a wonderful city of old and new. Bristol has a long history of both naval and air production. The result was severe bombing during World War Two. Much of the city has a very modern appearance but many areas have the flavor of a

very old city. The kite festival was held on a plain high above the city and left us with fantastic views while flying. The festival is organized by Avril Baker and was one of the most on-time events that we have attended. Again we were reacquainted with old friends and made new ones. But this time after a sunny sky on the first day, we were introduced into English weather on the second day. We still flew between drizzles and put the kites away damp. Oh, that is what England is like. Great time nonetheless.

After a little more time in Bristol, we caught a train to Hereford to visit more kite friends, Karl and Sara Longbottom. Besides enjoying their home, a portion of which is over 500 hundred years old, we were taken to visit three ruins of castles in the area. After loading the vehicle with kites and luggage of five kites, we were off to cross the channel by ferry to Dieppe.

The festival at Dieppe is special by any standards. Ten days of kiteflying by kitemakers from at least 50 countries around the world. Each country had a tent to decorate with kites and elements from their country. The visuals were great and the friendships were very special. One of my highlights was an exhibition of painted kites by Claudio Capelli from Italy. Another was to fly my painted kites next to his. Still another was to see the wonderful creative kites from various places in the world. Some special ones came from Kadek Dwi Armika from Bali, who made kites from palm leaves. Another was a kite made from sticks and cellophane at the festival by two kitemakers from South America. The festival consisted of kiteflying, school kids, kiteflying, parades, kiteflying, school kids, kiteflying, more school kids, kiteflying, speeches, kiteflying, contests, kiteflying, even more school kids, kiteflying, banquet, kiteflying, and goodbyes. The bus to take us to the airport in Paris arrived at 1:00 AM, so no sleep that night nor for a while. I'm still tired from the trip, but what a great adventure, so many wonderful kites, so many wonderful people. K



PHOTOS BY BARRY BROWN, BERNHARD DINGWERTH, AND JOHN POLLOCK



DIEPPE DU JOUR

BY DAVE BUTLE

Dieppe: a small, picturesque town on the coast of Normandy, France. It has a long rocky beach which made its D-Day invasion by Canadians especially difficult, and the beach is bordered on the south by long beautiful white cliffs and a memorial to those Canadians. Overlooking the beach is a spectacular 15th century castle. The town is separated from the beach by a long grassy field, where the kite festival is held.

Every two years in September, this small town becomes a Mecca for kite flyers of all persuasions: single line artists, stunt kite flyers, fighter kite flyers, KAP flyers and more. There are bigger kite festivals in the world (in area, number of kites, and attendance). There are festivals with better flying fields. But there is no other kite festival that has the sheer variety of kites and national participants. They do not come because it is in France, or to be in Europe. They come because it is Dieppe

and they will see the widest collection of their kite friends from all over the world. It is a self-fulfilling prophecy: so many kite flyers come because they know it is true, that it actually becomes true.

In North America we are lucky when an international kite festival is represented by six countries. In Dieppe, there were many more than six Asian countries represented, many more than six European countries represented, more than six countries from the Americas represented and then there were those from Down Under, the Middle East and Africa. I would love to give you the flavor of Dieppe, but that is not possible, there are just too many flavors, and I did not taste them all.

So here are some of the highlights as a visual mosaic of my experiences. There were three different kite art exhibits at Dieppe: Claudio Capelli, Theresa Uguen and Claude Lea Comallonga. Each had its own distinct style. For those who wanted actual museums, the chalet is a museum, which included a section on carved ivory and a French Impressionism show (including Monet, Renoir, and Pissarro among others). There was the Thai dancing troupe that did traditional Thai music and dance for kite festival crowds, and again at the Friday dinner. There were the mummies and puppeteers



that paraded around the kite field. The Wind Garden was large and varied (we don't usually have wind gardens in the US and that is unfortunate). Wind gardens are groups of kinetic, wind powered sculptures (à la Robert Valkenburgh). Some are as simple as arranged strips of cloth and some are complicated Rube Goldberg contraptions that push colored golf balls through elaborate patterns or play music. There were beautiful big kites (Peter Lynn, Ralf Zimmerman, et al). There were the palm leaf sculpture from Indonesia (this may sound trivial, but they were quite complex and striking). The French tent had kite artists painting kites of beautiful and complex designs that would then be flown. There were always stunt kite demos going on and the fighter kites were flying in and out of the large kites when they were not having battles (it gave the kinetic feel to the single line field, but the flyers needed to be good). There were huge trains from several countries (e.g. Taiwan) and delicately shaped bamboo kites (e.g. China). The night fly was amazing. Usually in America, we get a few people to fly at night and a small crowd to watch. In Dieppe, in spite of the light wind, the sky was crowded, the audience was huge and there were banks of spotlights. One of my favorites from that night were the Colombian kites with long Mylar tails (made of sublimation dye printer ribbons); they moved like huge rainbow jellyfish across the sky. There was the parade, in which kilters and mummies and musicians marched around the town with banners, stilt walkers, etc. The Swedish presented their food and drink for all, and the Ukrainians brought a traditional liquor made of flowers. And the sky was painted by Robert Brasington, Robert Trepanier, Janneke Groen, Masaaki Modegi, the Shavits and too many others to list (I apologize to those I did not name).

The invited guests from the US were John Pollock and Don Mock, who brought some beautiful kites and were well received. All other Americans were associated with the AKA. This is important as one cannot fly on the main fields without a



country association or a club affiliation. Thus I'd like to give special thanks to Dave Gomberg and Marla Miller for getting the AKA marquee created in the first place, and to the Millers for organizing the AKA affiliations. This allowed Diane and me and many others to fly our kites at this event.

The AKA tent was manned by a lot of AKA members, including our president Barbara Meyer, but the ones most consistently present were Gary Good-enough, England's Dave and Janet Robinson, Cliff Quinn, the Millers, Ralph and Jean Gore and most especially Bernard and Marie Fourniere. Bernard was always there. He fielded all the questions from French visitors. He arranged for the AKA to go into schools and talk to teachers and students (which Kevin Sanders made memorable by acting goofy and, to the delight of the French students, getting himself sent to stand in the hall). Bernard and Marie made gifts of refreshments to the AKA tent and as need arose, acted as our hosts and ambassador to the French for us. He was as good an ambassador as the AKA could have hoped for.

Barbara Meyer with Brazil's Max DeFonseca Cardu.



In the end, there were over 750,000 visitors who came to see the Dieppe festival this year. This is one of those kite festivals that I would highly recommend to others. Put Dieppe on your calendar for 2012. k





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REGIONAL REPORTS

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End of term: 2013

[From outgoing Regional Director Greg Lamoureux...] Greetings Region One. As we transition to the new Regional Director, I would like to thank all the AKA members who have supported efforts over the past three years to bring the region into a family of kites in the larger community of the American Kitefliers Association. Individual members and kite clubs throughout the region have coordinated, sponsored and participated in events, workshops and fun flies. Please keep up the good work and help the new regional director continue the growth of the AKA within Region One. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as RD for Region One. To be able to meet new members, renew old friendships and to have so much fun at events throughout the region has been an extraordinary experience for me. My term as Regional Director has been an adventure I wouldn't trade for anything... and now on to new adventures! Although I will remain active in the AKA, it is time for me to hand over the position of Region One Director to your new director, Maggie Engvall. Thank you to all the members of Region One for the support and the opportunities that you have provided me during my term.

One Sky One World in Cazenovia.



[And now over to Maggie...] I am your new Region One Director. I have met or seen many of you on the kite field in the 25 years I have been in kiting.

We have had great flying in the region. Upstate New York has had many events this fall season, many with Region Thirteen fliers. The Maple Ridge Kite Festival, Lowville, NY, was a fun time. NYKE helped represent the Region in the One Sky One World Kite Fly at the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park in Cazenovia, NY. By the time you read this the 15th Annual Art In The Sky Kite Festival in Cazenovia will have been held. We had great One Sky One World flies at Savin Rock in West Haven, CT, and Bug Light in Portland, ME, and smaller flies around the region in addition to the NY flies.



One Sky One World at Bug Light.

Archie Stewart and Kites Over New England had an indoor fly at the Boston YMCA. It was a great event that introduced the public to indoor flying. This winter, when it is too cold and dark to go outside and play, look on the calendar for some indoor flies around the Region.

Now that the cold weather has arrived the fliers will turn to workshops. If you would like to make kites and don't know where to start come to the workshops. Please look at the kite calendar for dates and places. Let us make a showing at the 2011 Convention in Wildwood in Kitemaking. Let's make Region One #1 in Kitemaking.

See you on the fields and in the workshops.

Greetings everyone. We have had a lot of activity here with the weather being nice this year. Hope everyone is healthy and out flying something.

This came in from Paul Keeler with Lehigh Valley Kite Society. "Sunday, October 10th was One Sky One World. We had a great day, with a good turnout. The wind was light in the morning but

Region 2 ~ Northeast NJ-PA-(lower) NY



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End of term: 2013

got much better as the day went on. There were lots of kites in the sky. We flew at Louise Moore Park in Easton, PA, as we do most Sundays. Gary Kelly, Tony Reiser, Jim Ribar, Ron, Pauline and Sara Klopp and Paul and Tina Keeler attended the 33rd Annual Sunfest sponsored by the Kite Loft in September. The weather was gorgeous for the weekend, but a little chilly for the rest of the time we were there. We enjoy this festival because we get to catch up with our kite friends and enjoy the camaraderie. The sky is always filled with many varieties of kites. This year the big attraction was the 100' blue whale."

In the South Jersey Kite Flyers area there was the 2nd Kites Over the Cape event on September 11. It was a great success. Thanks go out SJKF member Phil Broder, Cabanas Beach Bar and Grill, and the Chamber of Commerce for the City of Cape May.

At the AKA convention, SJKF member Lisa Willoughby brought home the wood: a 1st place in experienced fighter line touch and a 3rd in experienced skills. To round out the single line events, a 2nd in the individual rok battle. In quad-line events she garnered a 2nd in Individual Masters Quad Ballet, and with partner Dennis Smith as Parkway South, a 1st place in Masters Pairs Quad. In dual line teaming again with Dennis they took a 2nd place in Experience Pairs ballet. She reports that Corey Jensen has set the bar high for hosting the fighter kite events.



One Sky One World in Pennsylvania.



This semi-aquatic egg-laying mammal of action from SJKF's Phil Broder took top honors for Flight in the Kitemaker's competition in Seaside.

The Keystone Kites had an enjoyable summer, hosting two picnic kite flies, and their summer retreat with Kevin Shannon teaching a transition serpent kite. October brought the annual make-and-take ghost/pumpkin kite. They are now looking forward to the winter retreat on Superbowl Sunday. A project is not yet decided at the time of this writing, but it's sure to be a fun day!

Region 3 ~ Mid-Atlantic DC-DE-MD-VA-WV



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End of term: 2013

The summer months are usually hot and still, and for the most part that was true in the Mid-Atlantic states. Labor Day weekend several Region Three members went to Beech Mountain, NC, for the Mile High Kite Festival where the temperatures were much cooler than back home and the spectators were more numerous than in past years. September brought activity back to the region, and outside as well. September 18 brought the Richmond Washington Regional Sport Kite Competition with at least nine fliers in Experienced or Masters class and four, yes four Novices. At least two of them had never competed before, but flew well. Marc Conklin paired up the Novices with a mentor before the first judged events and it really seemed to work well, and was well re-

ceived. At the same time as RWRKSC there were several AKA members travelling to Dieppe, France, including Charles (Stoney) and Laura Stonestreet. Laura reports, "On 15 September, Region Three was represented at Dieppe Festival International Cerf-Volant by Stoney and Laura Stonestreet. Because of very high winds, there were not many kites in the air. Ray Bethell was not flying at all that day because of the wind. There were a few foils and big kites in the air. One Rev team put on quite a show on the sport kite field. A number of individuals flying dual and multiline kites as well as a pairs team were entertaining the crowd. The kite fields are huge at Dieppe. They are grassy areas back from the beach because the beach is not sand. Tents from all the different countries where kites are flown line the area between the beach and the flying field. A highlight of the day was meeting Eli and Shula Shavit from Jerusalem who were the creators of the banner raffled by the AKA earlier this year."

The first weekend of October brought the Coyner Spring festival near Waynesboro, VA, and the OBSKC (Outer Banks Sport Kite Competition) where many Region Three fliers presented themselves well. The weather was quite cooperative Saturday and they ran a few extra events, particularly the Novice events and the last few events managed to end just as the rain started Sunday. There is something special about flying on the very spot where the Wright Brothers made their first powered flight, and spent all those years experimenting with kites. One of their designs for testing wing-warping looks like the first quad-line set-up.

Challenge the wind!

Finally there was Convention. Stoney sent this message to all of the Richmond Air Force members and I would like to share part of it with you. "The attendance at the Nationals was down somewhat this year but Richmond Air Force was well represented. Will Sturdy made a big splash when he edged out three time Grand Champion John Pollack by 1.5 points with a single line design, backed up by his first places in both the bowed and sport kite categories. That, in itself, was a notable accomplishment, but Will and dad Jim were also prominent in the flying competitions. Crepitas Et Incendo finished in 1st place in Experienced Pairs Precision and Ballet, Will placed 2nd in Open Indoor Unlimited, and Crash and Burn placed first in Experienced Team Precision and Ballet. (Jim and Will might appreciate a few donations to cover the freight charges for all the wood they collected.) There were several other RAF members who made the stage too. Dennis Smith earned 1st place in Masters Multiline Ballet and Lisa Willoughby took second in the event. Paul DeBakker placed third in Masters Individual Precision and first in Masters Individual Ballet and Karl Berg won Masters Multiline Precision." (Note about RAF membership: If you have ever flown at Dorey Park, or know someone who has, you are a member, for life. No dues, no refunds.)

I would like to thank you for your confidence in re-electing me. I want to hear from you and welcome your input in articles for the magazine, ideas for the Board of Directors, questions about how, who, when or where. With the advent of the new AKA website my official e-mail has changed to RD3@aka.kite.org.



David Gombert

Region 4 ~ Southeast
AL-FL-GA-KY-MS-PR-NC-SC-TN



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End of Term: 2013

Konnichi-wa, guten tag, ni hao, ola, salem, zravo, aloha, geia sou, shalom, buon giorno, servus, salut!, namaste, goddag, sabai dee roo, dobri den, hola, dag, u hali gani, zdrahstvooyteh, ahnnyung hahsay yo!, yo. Hello Region Four!

So you may be wondering, why did the new guy just start his inaugural report with the word "hello" in 23 languages? To tell the truth, I had to look most of them up. And my reason is pretty simple: Region Four may not be the largest region by square miles, but if you look at the list of states and one commonwealth (Puerto Rico), we here in Region Four are pretty diverse. Also, the AKA is international, irrespective of our name. So I guess this is the way to say hello to all of you.

I've sent out introductions to all the Region Four clubs asking for input, not only for this report, but to better understand what people's questions, com-

Rick Agar

Florida's Barbara Hall was the fighter champ in the Kitemaker's competition in Seaside.



ments, and concerns are and what they would like from the AKA, or better yet, what they can offer. I already have a few responses, some congratulatory, some with comments and concerns. I ask that anyone who has questions, or comments, or just wants to pass along information, please send me a note. Even if it's just to say hello. That is why you elected me and why the Regional Directors exist. As I've stated in some e-mails to the clubs, I'm not a politician, I'm a kiteflier just like you, so I'm not going to make a promise I can't keep. I will say that I will work to be your voice on the Board of Directors, and bring forth your questions, comments and concerns.

The region has had a few festivals since the last report. Over Labor Day weekend, the Mile High Kite Festival is actually arranged by our Region Three RD, Will Smoot. In attendance were members of WOW, RAF, and the WACKOS. Winds were high on Saturday with the request for big kites for photo shoots by the media, and Martin Blais and the Podlasek clan obliged. At one point gusts hit the high 20's and kept shifting, causing the fliers to move anchors. Kites being towed around by trucks and SUV's must've been quite the sight to the locals. Sunday was the complete opposite, with winds that would gust to about 3mph at times, then completely die. A couple of mid-size single line inflatables with artistic foils were up and down all day, with a bunch of UL stunt kites working to entertain the crowd. Even though the winds were challenging, a good time was had by all.

From Steve Cseplo, our exiting RD, we have this: "This marked the 20th anniversary of SAKE's involvement with JapanFest. JapanFest is one of the Top Ten such cultural events in the southeast and SAKE is happy to have been a small part of such a large event throughout the years. The Japanese consulate is the main organizer. SAKE hosts a kitemaking workshop every year where authentic Japanese fighter kites are made with the kits coming from the Japan kite museum. Even though the event moved indoors many years ago, we still made in excess of 100 kites this year. It is often a destination for repeat attendees to the festival who drop by and make a kite each year. In addition to the kitemaking, naturally we talk kites, spreading the gospel."

I'm currently getting ready for the Carolina Kite Fest in Atlantic Beach, NC, and then in a couple weeks the Cape Fear Kite Festival in Wrightsville Beach,

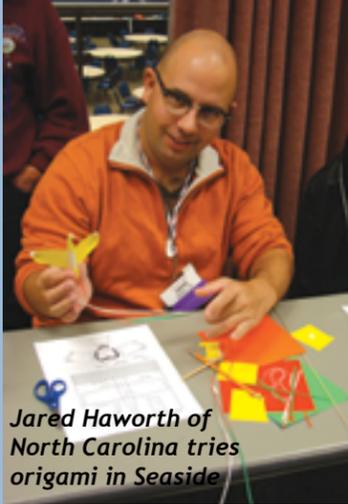
NC. These will be over by the time you read this, so I hope to have an update on those events for you next time.

As we head into the winter season, the winds get colder and the holidays take over. I hope each of you gets a new kite for the holiday. Look for the 15th Annual Treasure Island Kite Festival and the Treasure Island Sport Kite Competition, January 14-17, 2011. If you have an event coming up, please make sure to get AKA sanctioning, add it to the website, and drop me a note, so that I might attend.

I want to make sure to thank Steve Cseplo for his second term of service to the AKA as our Regional Director. He stepped up last time when the region needed him to represent us, and deserves a big thank you. Thanks Steve!

If I haven't met you or flown with you, I hope we can meet on a kite field so that I can say hello. But, down here in the Carolinas most people just say, "Hey!"

Keep the wind at your back.



Jared Haworth of North Carolina tries origami in Seaside

Region 5 ~ Great Lakes
MI-OH



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End of term: 2011

Hello everyone. What a great time I've had flying kites with everyone this year. I stopped in at the North Coast Stunt Kite Games and had fun flying kites and seeing friends from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and visited with Ken McNeill from North Carolina's Blue Moon Kites. We had great winds with a lot of kites flying all day. An awesome time with really great people.

Kites Over Branch County was another fun event I got to attend. The sky turned sunny after a brief rain passed through. The kite competition went well with one kite escaping its anchor and catching on a light pole inside the fence

at the Coldwater Correctional Facility. But don't worry, it was recovered safely and in one piece.

Next on my travels was the Flag City Kite and Balloon Festival in Findlay, OH. Spencer Schubbe and the Proudfoots packed a lot of fun times into the one day event.

Back 2 the Wind Kite Club celebrated One Sky One World with a great day of flying at our local park. We always have a blast when we get together.

I hope that your holidays are full of good food, great friends and plenty of kites!

Region 6 ~ Midwest
IA-IL-IN-MN-WI



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End of term: 2011

The summer and fall were very active in Region Six. There were the classic events like the 32nd annual Mots Festival at Veteran's Park in Milwaukee. This event was well organized by Scott Fisher and friends and began with some damp flying but ended with a beautiful day and a lot of memorable performances by iQuad, Josh, Zach and Elizabeth Gordon, 180 Go, Chicago Fire, Fire and Ice and numerous others.

The Heart of Wisconsin Fly was delayed from April to September due to weather. This turned out to be a wise move on the part of Dale and Pam Bowden and the other local organizers.

There were also some newer events like Apple Fest in Niagara, WI, that drew over 1000 people with its first experiment with adding kites to the festival. Another classic was back, Minnesota Kite Society's Flying Colors. This event

Region 7 ~ Great Plains
CO-KS-MO-ND-NE-SD-UT-WY



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End of term: 2011

Another year comes to an end. This has been one of the most challenging years I have seen in a long time. The weather has been tough all year. Wind, no wind, rain and even snow has really made it difficult to hold an event. Oh well, that's what happens when you play with Mother Nature.

We attended an event held in Thermopolis, WY, this year for the first time. Betty and I made the trip to the Hot Springs State Park Kite Festival. We

had everything except wind but the kids didn't seem to care and enjoyed making and running around with their kites.

Quad Cities was made for family fun at Centennial Park in Davenport, IA.

Kites Over Lake Michigan (Labor Day weekend) was a spectacular fly this year with over 200 sky lanterns being released on Saturday night along with fireworks and near perfect winds on Sunday afternoon. Chow Chong and the Two Rivers event committee do a wonderful job of organizing the two day fun fly. This has got to be one of the most welcoming and enthusiastic events in the Midwest.

The DeKalb fly in September was well attended with great weather. It was the third annual fly with growing audiences.

Fly 4 Life is an annual event benefitting the National Children's Cancer Society. Karen Hannon was busy making kites for kids while several members of the Hoosier Kitefliers Society including Clark Shute, Angie Chau, Peter and Jeannine Calderon, and Mark Jaeger entertained the crowd with their kites.

Of course One Sky One World events took place in many areas. While the traditional date is the

second Sunday of October, at least one event (Madison) was moved up to the first Sunday due to the conflict with the AKA convention.

I would be remiss if I did not call your attention to two events in February: Kites over the Bay in Fish Creek in the Door County peninsula of Wisconsin, followed two weeks later on February 19th by the Color the Wind festival in Clear Lake, Iowa. These two events are well worth putting your long underwear on for.

Keep looking up and hold on tight!

Zach Gordon gets into the spirit of Kites Over Lake Michigan.



On the beach in Seaside, Michigan's Marianne and Jon Trennepohl get ready to launch P Jazz, which took 3rd among bowed kites.

Rick Agar

Ben Dantonio



iQuad visits Denver's Fletcher School.

Robin McCracken

Awaiting there were the rangers who had cooked up hamburgers to serve everyone lunch.

Callaway Kite Festival was held this year on Labor Day weekend as usual. This was the 20th year for the event. We had some of the best winds of the year, for a welcome change. This event was well attended by members from all over the region. It has become a great end of the season event for Region Seven.

Prairie Winds Kite Festival had good weather for their event in Jackson, MN. Chrystal Dunker and the Prairie Ecology Bus set up the event to fly on the airport grounds all day. There was plenty of wind and nice skies keeping everything in the air.

One Sky One World events were held all over the region. One large event was held in Columbia MO. Sponsored by Columbia Parks and Recreation for more than five years, the OSOW Joint Fly serves as a central meeting point for kitefliers throughout Missouri, including members of the Kansas City Kite Club, the Gateway Kite Club, the River Breezes Kite Club of Jefferson City and the Columbia Kite Fliers. This year the Columbia Friends of China surprised the kitefliers by sponsoring a resident kite artist from the Weifang World Kite Museum, Qian Jianguo, and his artist wife, Lang Fenglian. Qian Jianguo is known for his eagle kites out of silk and bamboo. He

Rick Agar



Colorado's Bob Matteo's marconi took 4th in Seaside.

also presented a demonstration class on the art of splitting bamboo. The Friends of China also presented a traditional Chinese Waist Drum Performance during the event and held a series of workshops and demonstrations in area schools.

From Robin McCracken in Denver: "Team iQuad made their first appearance in Denver for the 25th anniversary of OSOW. After their arrival and lunch, John, TK, Steve, JD, and Bazzar visited two elementary schools, flying indoors and out. David Hathaway arrived on Saturday, along with Alan Sparling. They flew in heavier winds at Stapleton Airport. Sunday, OSOW was rainy and had only brief light winds. Alan flew a Trilobite for a few minutes. Team iQuad flew all day. Paul Glasspoole flew his green Prism Zephyr. George Peters adorned the field with banners."

The Midwest Winds Kite Club tried to hold an event on October 10. The wind didn't want to help out any. However, it was such a nice day nobody wanted to leave. We put out lots a banners and a few light wind stunts made the show. We handed out lots of candy and gave away some kites to the kids. Everyone went home happy and thanked us for a fun day.

Enjoy the sky.

Region 8 ~ South Central AR-LA-NM-OK-TX



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End of term: 2011

If you missed the AKA Convention at Seaside, you missed a great one! With the exception of one drizzly afternoon, the weather was spectacular. It was wonderful to reconnect with kite friends from all over the world! Region Eight was also represented by Marti and Richard Dermer, Cat Gabrel, Jean and Ralph Gore, Park Fleming, Brad Martin, Dorothy and Walt Mitchell, Rick Hawkins, Rob Cembalest, and others! The Dermers stationed their AKA information area on the Seaside auto turnaround and were visual ambassadors for the Association. Make your plans now to attend the 2011 AKA convention in Wildwood! Congratulations to Rick Hawkins for once again

being named to spearhead National Kite Month. The appointment also earned him a position as a new Director at Large to the AKA Board.

The Regional calendar for 2011 is still in the planning stages but will be more clear soon. As I receive confirmations and updates from regional organizers, I'll be sure to pass them along in my monthly and weekly e-mails. Be sure to always check the AKA website calendar for info and updates. Speaking of the AKA website, have you seen it? It's received a facelift and is stunning! There's even a place to post detailed information about regional calendar events. Cruise on over, log on, and wade in. I promise that you'll be impressed!

What I can tell you right now about the 2011 kiting year is that you can't miss the most spectacular event in the Region: the South Padre Island Kite Festival on February 4-6. South Padre Island is a barrier island on the very southernmost tip of Texas. It's a huge fun fly hosted by B&S Kites highlighting kites from many different areas of the country. It's incredible! There are inflatable fields, performance fields, buggy areas, and fighters; we've got it all at SPI! If you can only make one trip, this is the one to catch. Don't miss it. After Padre, keep an eye on the schedule for the Zilker Park Kite Fest in Austin which generally lands on the first Sunday in March.

As you might have noticed, the next regional election for Region Eight is to be held in 2011. As always, I highly suggest that anyone who may be interested in stepping up feel free to contact me directly so that I can offer some insight as to the travel requirements and the demands on your time. During an active season, which may be short but is intense in Region Eight, devoting a solid 20 hours a week to Regional correspondence is not at all unusual. I don't suggest that anyone walk into the position blindly!

Keep looking up!



Oklahoma's Cat Gabrel takes flight with José Sainz's banner wings in Seaside.

Rich Durant

Region 9 ~ Intermountain ID-MT-OR



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End of Term: 2012

I am writing this from a charming little room at Momma's house on Field 5 from the AKA Grand Nationals, looking out over Seaside as the mist gently drifts past my window. It is only Friday morning, and so much has happened in the past week.

First off I would like to thank all of you that made the journey to visit us here in this great beachside town. The flying has been fantastic, the kites are remarkable, but the most rewarding part of the week has been the people. It always amazes me how supportive this group is to all its members. When we are up, they are there to cheer you on, when we are down, they are there to cheer you up. What better family could one be a part of?

Rick Agar



Montana's John Pollock and his figure kite await the judges.

While I will not go into detail here, I would like to thank all of you that have supported Connor's journey this past year on *America's Got Talent*. Without your enthusiasm and encouragement, and of course the voting, we would not have gotten as far as we did. I would

also like to thank the "Friends of Connor" who graciously covered Connor's registration here at Nationals. While I am not privy to whom you all are, our heartfelt thanks go out to all of you. I am truly proud of Connor, and I am honored to be a part of a fantastic group of people at AKA. Connor's first Nationals has been incredible because of all of you.

By the time you get your copy of *Kiting*, the Camas Indoor Kite Festival will have taken place on November 6-7. For updates on that event go to www.nwskl.org/camas.htm.

It's time to get your sewing machines into the shop for the yearly check up. Just in time to get ready for the 18th Annual Oregon Kitemakers Retreat January 6 - 9! Mark this one on the calendars and make your reservations early! I have had the honor of attending this event twice now, and it's a fantastic melting pot of creativity, set in the scenic cozy town of Rockaway. For more information go to <http://kitemakersretreat.com/>.

We will be attending the 10th Anniversary Windless Kite Festival in Long Beach, January 15-16, for more indoor flying as Connor has been invited by the World Kite Museum. We hope you can make it. It's always a great time with great people. For more information go to <http://kitefestival.com/windless-kite-festival-2/>.

Wrapping up the week at Nationals was a blur. A long drive last night landed us safely home to a very happy border collie named Panda, a ton of sandy bags, sore muscles. . . and I cannot wait to do it again!

Greetings Region Ten! I hope everyone has enjoyed this past season as much as we have here. It seemed like we had one festival after the other and at times I had a hard time remembering where are we going next? All good! Connor Doran brought kiting into America's living rooms. After spending the day with Amy and Connor yesterday at a Food Service convention, I can still see and witness the amount of people he has continued to reach out and touch.

WSIKF was a whole week of kites,



Ron Bohart's grandkids can be proud of him for winning the prize as top Novice kite-maker in Seaside.

Rick Agar

camp, sand, vendors, banquet dinners, competitions, demos, awards, flying, mystery ballets and hot tricks. It was truly an international gathering at Long Beach this year. Two world records were attempted and set during the week: Ray Hertz launching his 115 Toy Story box kites, and a mega fly with 64 Revolution kites in a grid formation with a combined amount of 30,720' of fly line in the air. Congratulations!

Next was Up Your Wind Festival at Pacific Beach, the second weekend in September. A little rain did nothing to deter those out for a fun relaxed weekend of kiteflying on the beach, right next to the campground. September finished off with the monthly Westport Windriders Fun Fly at Grayland Beach and the annual Whidbey Island Festival at the Casey Conference Center. Speaking of the Westport Windriders, congratulations on your Award for AKA Kite Club of the Year!

AKAGN. Wow. What a fantastic week. You can never know what weather Mother Nature is going to give you on the OR/WA coasts. We got lucky! One day, Thursday, brought a heavy marine mist and rain for part of the day. Other

Region 10 ~ Northwest AK - WA



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End of Term: 2012



Washington's Cari King not only taught a workshop in Seaside, she also won an armload of kitemaking trophies.

than that, you had to have the sunscreen handy. The week was fantastic! I noticed we had over 40% registered attendees from Region Ten! Way to go guys! If you just couldn't be there, John Barresi posted daily updates on www.Kitelife.com with great photos and convention coverage. Check it out!

But wait! The season is not over! Let's move Indoors! Come December 4, PCKA will host their Annual Pot Luck and Indoor Fun Fly at Mountain View Lutheran Church in Edgewood, WA. Bring kites, fun, food and bag raffle items. Moving right along to January 15-17, we hope to see you all at the 10th Annual Windless Indoor Festival at Long Beach, WA. Again, bring kites, fun, food and raffle items for the Saturday night potluck at the World Kite Museum.



Seattle's Eli Patterson was part of the sport kiting youth movement in Seaside.

Be sure and check the AKA calendar regularly as more event information is added monthly. There is usually something happening in our upper NW corner! Weather permitting, hope to see you on the kite field! Have fun flying!

Family Fun Day at Marina Green in San Francisco drew families and fliers from throughout the Bay Area and across the country. Troy Gunn from Texas, Cat Gabrel from Oklahoma and Brian Bishop from North Carolina came out to celebrate the coming of fall. Rod Thrall from

Region 11 ~ N. California
Northern CA-NV



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End of Term: 2012

Portland put on a nice display of large kites. The festival's tireless organizer, Ron Young, kept the program running.

The Bay Area Sport Kite League had several new competitors this season, and several went on to compete in the AKA Grand National convention in Seaside. It's time to start planning for next year. I would love to see more pairs and teams from Region Eleven competing next year. Imagine joining your fellow kite fliers in Wildwood in 2011. If you start planning now, work up a routine, and practice during the winter months, you (and your new teammate) could earn an invitation.

The annual convention had a good Region Eleven turnout. Several first-time sport kite competitors (Steve Lewis, Dirk Meier, Ed Skow) participated in the Grand National competition, along with the seasoned BASKL members. Sharon Champie organized the fighter kite activities, put on a fighter kite workshop, and placed 1st in Experienced Fighter Kite Skills and 2nd in Experienced Fighter Kite Line Touch. Tom McAlister set up an art gallery of cellular kites and mobiles. Sue Skinner put on a miniature

Darril dela Torre gets tied up in knots during a Seaside workshop.



kite workshop. I held a workshop covering the new website. Aaron Champie placed second in Masters Individual Dual-Line Precision. Mark Quirmbach placed first in Masters Individual Multi-Line Precision, and Steve Lewis placed second in Experienced Individual Multi-Line Precision. Susies' Spouses (Darrin Skinner and David Gomberg) placed first in Open Team Train Ballet. Team AirZone (Darrin Skinner, Aaron Champie and I) took first place in Masters Team Ballet and second place in Masters Team Precision. Congratulations to all the participants, contributors, volunteers and winners. It was a fun week (and only one day of rain!)



Tom McAlister fights inflation with his \$8 box kite.

We're looking for affordable venues to hold indoor flying events. If you have access to a gymnasium or facility close to you that might be available, please contact me. BASKL would like to hold more indoor events, but the cost of the facilities we have been using in the East Bay have been prohibitive. Be creative!

I look forward to meeting you on the field soon. I'll be the one with the smile on my face and a kite in my hand.

So it's that time again and it has been a great season with lots of great events. Sunfest in Ocean City put on by the Kite Loft is always one of my favorite places to go. This year was really a "whale" of a time with the addition of the whale in Jeff King's bag. It really drew the people in because you couldn't help but stop and get a better look. Plus I got to play with the Rev Riders, and I just have fun with the East Coast crowd.

Family Day in San Francisco up at Marina Green, I had a ton of fun. This place is a hoot to fly at and the winds

Region 12 ~ Southwest
Southern CA-AZ-HI



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End of Term: 2012

are there so with the right folks I think this event has the makings to be huge.

The big one for me is WSIKF where the new Revolution mega fly took place. I'd like to thank everyone who shared the sky with me, especially John Barresi for doing all the ground work and manning the mike, Felix of the Decorators and his team for working all year to really make this happen, and Steven Hoath from the Flying Squad for whipping the line in shape. Sixty Rev pilots flying all at once was a thing to see and be a part of.

Seal Beach is not a big event but attracts big talent, and this year's superstar was Mikio Toki. David and Susan Gomberg made an appearance with their large show kites.

From there it was off to convention and the weather really was good with only one rain day. I have to say I was a terrible regional director because I really do not know who won what, but I'm sure others will speak of this. For me it was all about just flying and teaching others. I even did a class called "Rev 101" which was a hit for all. I'd also like to thank all the people who made "Ben's Island" a cool place to be. This was my best convention and not so much for the kites or the flying but for the people that attended, and I just have to smile and thank all my old friends and the new ones for sharing a magical convention with me. May all your travels take you full circle where once again we may share some sky together. Remember, it's just kites, no more, no less.

Region Thirteen now flavours the new AKA website, sharing kites with the world. Well, why not? Kites are everywhere, after all.

ONE SKY ONE WORLD was held on October 11, everywhere. I flew in Lincoln City Oregon. Denmark's Drageklub celebrated with refugee children, English White Horse Kite Fliers flew 44 kites by 26 fliers, and David Hathaway (Canada) flew in Denver, the home of OSOW. Happy 25th Anniversary OSOW.

AUSTRALIA — Kevin Sanders boosted the AKA fun in Dieppe, France, by misbehaving in class, while Rob Brasington and Michael Alvarez played it safe. Many baguettes later, Kevin returned home, and I left for Seaside, for my fourth AKA Convention, again seeing Tasmanian Rob. Region Thirteen rocked the Convention! Seventeen members attended, and no less than six talented makers returned home with trophies. Cooler weather than I'd hoped, but plenty of hot spots for talking, flying and workshoping. My workshop on banner design was a full-house. For the Auction, Trevor Reeves kindly donated a genki kite which now has a new home. Thank you.

JAPAN — Masami Takakuwa sent condolences for Margo Brown (past AKA President). Yes, we all share one sky as kitefliers. At AKA Convention, a large contingent from the Japanese Kitefliers Association showed kinetic kites by Yukio Akiyama (2nd place winner), while Mineichi Oguchi won 3rd.

Oguchi-san and Akiyama-san



TAHITI — Pierre Lesage went first to Dieppe, then to Seaside. Pierre, how did we not meet?!

ARGENTINA — In August, Luis Skoczopole displayed 100 of his Japanese mini kites in the Japanese Gardens in Buenos Aires. I have a Luis miniature watching me every day.

NEW ZEALAND — Fantastic announcement for Peter Lynn (self-declared "Master of Disaster"), recipient of the Steve Edeiken Memorial Kiteflier of the Year Award, though Peter wasn't present to hop on stage to accept it. Maybe still scouring for a lost kite bag? New member Jim Nicholls wanted his 10% AKA member discount, and begged for his member number so he could go shopping online that day! Sadly, within 24 hours, Christchurch suffered a massive earthquake with high winds, putting regular activities on hold.

CANADA — Met Mario di Lucca and Terry Wiggill in Lincoln City (Team Island Quad have eight 2010 festivals in only their second year together), and

Region 13 ~ International



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End of Term: 2012

Steve de Rooy and Willow Robin Demers in Seaside. When they team up with other Rev fliers, there's no shortage of lines or energy! BC kitefliers Ray and Dolores, Jeremy and Barbara Perceval, and award winners John and Marzlie Freeman, sprinkled their colour on the Seaside beach too. AKA had a special fly session for all Freeman-influenced kites. Thanks to John and Marzlie for all their teaching. In Burlington, ON, a two-day historical flight roundtable discussion covered Sir George Cayley and Mathew Sellers. www.kitemuseum.com/Kite_Symposium_1.htm But wait! A kite ban in Toronto? www.cbc.ca/canada/toronto/story/2010/08/17/toronto-kites.html Bob White and Niagara Windriders held their last 2010 fly on October 31. Time to hibernate?

ENGLAND — Martin Lester came for his twentieth(?) Convention. (I've lost count.) New members Sara and David Lyth say they're known as the "Crazy Brits". Not just kiting; you name it, they've done it. Recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary by ziplining down 30 lines of Colorado mountain scenery. Andy Rumming in Devon used KAP and a home-made Fled to snap crop circles at Windmill Hill. Totally invisible at ground level!

BERMUDA — Dennis Trott is learning to sew kites. Got any tips for him? On the AKA website, click Clubhouse, type in Bermuda for his contact details, see if you can help.

Until next time, less talk... more fly!

Andy Rumming KAPs crop circles.



The Sporting Life

EUROCUP 2010 BY KEITH GRIFFITHS

This event took place in Calais during some difficult weather on the first three days of October. This was the time that the Ryder Cup had a day's play postponed, EC10 only had to postpone half a day's competition, and that was for no wind. The UK was without its big hitters, no Chris, no Carl, no James, so we knew it would be difficult to challenge the French on their own soil.

In the end it was a French grand slam, not even Guido Maicchio in multi-line and Stephen Versteegh in dual-line could stem the tide.

Dual-line Individual

- 1 Richard Debray
- 2 Steff Ferme
- 3 Stephen Versteegh

Multi-line Individual

- 1 Steff Ferme
- 2 Guido Maicchio
- 3 Richard Debray

Dual-line Pair

- 1 Courant d'Air
- 2 In et Out
- 3 Axel'R

Dual-line Team

- 1 Start Air
- 2 Kisicol
- 3 Cream Team

To be fair, all of those first places were thoroughly deserved, particularly Steff Ferme's multi-line ballet. I had seen him flying in Dieppe a couple of weeks before and when it came to the competition he just flew it perfectly, including the catch at the end. k



Richard Debray

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Summer issue deadline: April 15
Autumn issue deadline: July 15
Winter issue deadline: October 15

Send address changes to
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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

What a difference a year makes! Last year, the general mood was doom and gloom. Would our association survive? Had monies been handled properly? What happened to the FUN?

The audit was successfully completed. Our fiscal year ends in the black, and we have a great start for 2011. Convention attendance exceeded all expectations. In Seaside, every face was smiling, the joy contagious.

Our first full scale audit in 15 years uncovered absolutely no financial improprieties after extensive investigations. The auditor has recommended four changes to the AKA accounting procedures to promote transparency. Three have already been adopted.

In the past, we used a combination of cash and accrual accounting. Now, everything is accrual based accounting. Each month, we will do a monthly computation of deferred membership income. In the past, this was done only once a year. Instead of keeping one set of books for convention and one for everything else, both have been combined.

Currently our fiscal year ends on October 31 each year

with the convention income/expense and auction income deferred to the next year. The Rochester convention that took place in October 2009 is included in the fiscal year that will end on October 31, 2010. The rationale for this system was to put our large fundraiser at the beginning of the year, but it is extremely difficult to explain. The recommendation of the auditor is to report all convention income/expense and auction income in the year they actually occur. If we keep our fiscal year end at October 31, our main fund raiser would come after the money has been spent, never a good idea. The board is considering a switch to a fiscal year ending August 31. In addition to simplifying convention reporting, it would allow the treasurer to close the books before the annual business meeting. Budgets would be based on 12 months of data, not 10. The membership would have a more accurate report of our financial status prior to approving the next budget.

Thanks to the efforts of many, expenses were cut, and income increased over this last year. At the close of the fiscal year, the AKA will show a profit of almost \$7000, helping to stabilize our cash flow. The *Kiting* Editor, Phil Broder reduced costs to print the magazine while selling more ads than expected. Our Executive Director, Mel Hickman, worked every month to reduce our office costs. We switched systems of printing ballots for the election. The current conference call system saves us \$100 a month. Cameo Management led by Maggie Vohs did a masterful job of holding down our convention expenses. Many members supported the *Insure our Future* plea with generous donations. The return of the Great Kite Raffle and eBay added much needed funds to the AKA bank account. Insurance costs will be lower next year since no claims were made. Auction income was almost \$3000 over budget. The raffles and eBay will continue.

OK, enough business. Have you explored the updated website? The website has always been a treasure trove of kite knowledge, but it was time to repackage. Wow, what a difference. John Gillespie and Susan Skinner have done a masterful transformation. All your old favorites are still present, just rearranged. The Club House and the KiteTalk Forum are now much easier to access. Each page can be bookmarked. The entire site is search engine friendly. Our goal is to have every issue of *Kiting* and the AKA newsletter scanned and available by the end of 2011 in the Club House for members to access. Here are a few things you need to remember. Access is gained by using your firstnamelastname as your user name. If your name is Robert and go by Bob, you'll need to remember which you used when joining. The password is your member number. If you need help signing in the first time, contact me at president@aka.kite.org or sitemaster@aka.kite.org

If you can't log in, it is probably because we don't have your e-mail address. Send your e-mail address and name to sitemaster@aka.kite.org. Once you have logged in, visit your profile page. As a default it contains your address, phone, and

e-mail. You can update that information, add a photo, add details about your club memberships, and more. If you have a household membership, each person must have their own unique e-mail in order to do any of these changes.

In the past, each member with an e-mail received messages from their regional director, the president, and the executive director. Now, you can choose what you want to receive. Again, go to your profile, and choose which newsletters you wish to receive. For example, if you live in Vancouver BC and want to know what it going on in Washington state, sign

up for the Region 10 newsletter. Hate messages filling up your e-mail inbox? Say "no" to all, and read online.

In the following pages, you'll read about and see pictures of all the exciting events in Seaside. The energy level was unbelievable on the sport kite field and indoor gym floor. You will be amazed at the exquisite creations entered in the kitemakers' competition. Congratulations to all the winners. Thanks to all the volunteers that made it happen. Next year we will be back in Wildwood, NJ, for the first time since 1997. Reserve your vacation time, and start saving money now!

Challenges remain. Membership has stabilized, but not grown. Convention sites are more expensive. With our talented members willing to help, the AKA will change and grow. Your ideas and volunteer efforts will make it happen.

Some like big kites, others miniatures; some use one line, others four; some stand still, others ride a buggy; some buy, others build; some travel around the world, others stay home. It's about flying kites, having fun, and most of all, having fun flying kites with our friends. 2011 will be a great year, let's go have some fun!

Time to fly!



Charlie Sotich and Barbara Meyer in Seaside.

Barbara Meyer

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VOICES FROM THE VAULT

CHARLIE SOTICH

BY PATTI GIBBONS

When the World Kite Museum set out to collect kiteflier oral histories, Charlie Sotich became an early and unanimous frontrunner on our essential must-have list. During exploratory planning we asked key AKA members who to include in the project and we got responses along the lines of, "Talk to Charlie," "Of course Charlie Sotich, he's a must," and "I'd make sure someone gets Charlie on tape." Soon it became very clear that Charlie's kite line crossed through many flying fields and his contributions to kiting were top flight.

"Born in the house I still live in," native Chicagoan Charlie Sotich has called the Windy City home for all of his life outside of his Navy tour of duty, yet he finds hometown comforts everywhere he and his kites travel. Intrigued and enamored with things that fly, kite flying is a natural interest for him. "I find it amazing that things are capable of flying" and Charlie enjoys looking up for inspiration and pleasure. Charlie is a born designer apt to pare plans down to essentials, a lesson from his professional training as an engineer that's left its mark on Charlie's success in his skyward hobbies.

Like many, Charlie flew paper dime store diamond kites in the springs of his youth. Extending his backyard across to an open field at the local grammar school, he and neighborhood friends took what fun they could and let out line in highflying contests until vernal winds inevitably guided their rag-tailed toys into budding trees. Frustrated by slippery bridles and lack of guidance with kiteflying, yet drawn to playing in the sky, Charlie joined his brother and devoted his energies to model airplanes. Kites drifted out of young Charlie's life but returned in 1973 when coworkers, impressed with his competitive model airplane building skills, approached him to try his hand at kitemaking. Interested in entering a kite contest sponsored by

WIND radio, Charlie's colleagues unknowingly hooked him into an adventure that would take Charlie around the world and back again. For the contest, he built small sled kites from patterns he found in books and, from there, he started dabbling with kitemaking on his own.

With a newfound interest in kitemaking, Charlie recalled seeing ads for the AKA that Bob Ingraham placed in model airplane magazines to promote the young kite club. Charlie reached out to Bob, and then others, to learn ways to build a better kite. With handshakes from a distance Charlie introduced him-



self to the kiting world. As time went on, Charlie began attending weekend kiting events in the Midwest and later roadtripping a little further out, where he met penpal friends in person. Nearly always first to say hello and comfortable with introductions, Charlie's keen interest in kites was the common ground that kicked off conversations with friendly fliers wherever he traveled and help start many long-lasting friendships.

New dabbler in kitemaking, Charlie cross-pollinated and looked to the materials he used in model airplane building for items with kitemaking potential. Preferring lightweight and lean building materials, Charlie's future hallmark love

of small tissue kites seemed like a logical destiny, but the road to his signature kite wasn't straight. Trying his hands and testing his patience, Charlie created precision-built star facet kites yet wasn't enchanted. "I could do it, but it took hours and it was a very stressful time." Charlie has also tried his hand at large rokkakus and there's even a Sotich 10' delta probably buried somewhere at the back of Charlie's closet.

Falling in love with the efficiency of simple small light kites, flier friends inspired Charlie to embrace whimsy and turn playful printed cocktail napkins into teeny kites. Up for fun, Charlie and kite club friends celebrated a Skyliner's birthday at a kiddy pizza parlor arcade and in the dining area, amid an animatronics concert of singing mice, someone handed Charlie a clown napkin and said, "Why don't you make a kite out of this?" Like Warhol finding his soup can, Charlie became a skilled mash-up artist breathing new life into ordinary items and punctuated his kitemaking career with his well-known and prodigious collection of cocktail napkin kites. Finding napkins more

forgiving than Mylar and easier overall for people to work with, Charlie ran with the idea to use napkins as canvasses for tiny kites. For spars Charlie initially turned to bottle rocket sticks that littered the ground after Independence Day, but later stopped sweeping the streets and turned to bamboo from wok brushes because they cut more uniformly.

Dazzling many with his playful kites that restfully glide on the gentlest of breezes, Charlie's sky-bound inspiration has coaxed even the shy into trying their hands at kitemaking. Thinking back over his time in kiting, Charlie has taught countless schoolchildren and interested adults but finds himself

"surprised that I enjoy doing this so much. I was an engineer in real life" and never thought about teaching others, outside a short stint as an electronics instructor when he was in the Navy. Unsure if he's the most qualified for the job, Charlie discloses, "It doesn't take much knowledge to become an expert among people who know absolutely nothing...so you are an expert even if you don't feel you are." Modesty aside, Charlie's kitemaking abilities and longtime involvement in kiting make him one of the most qualified teachers around. K



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Several chatty kitefliers let the tape spin and recorded their memories and thoughts about kites, kitefliers, and the great big sky for the World Kite Museum's oral history archive project. Interested in telling your stories? Would you like to hear what other fliers say? Got time to interview special people in your local clubs or friends in far away places? Feel free to contact the Museum if you'd like to learn more about the oral history tapes. Contact us at info@worldkitemuseum.com.

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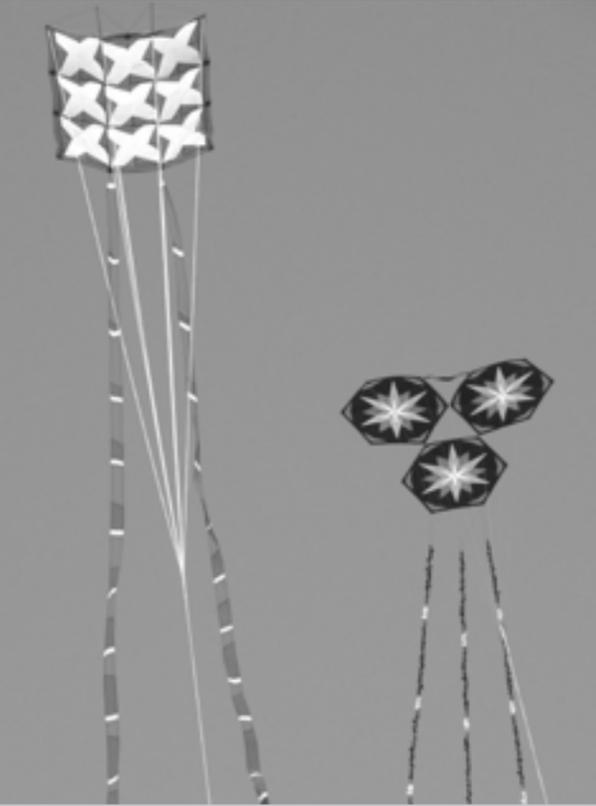
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JAPAN COMES TO SOCAL

BY ROD MILBURN



PHOTOS BY KERRY PERKINS FOR LIGHTSAVER IMAGES

Taking place right next to the Seal Beach City Pier, the annual Seal Beach Japan America Kite Festival has grown to become the largest kite festival in Southern California. Each year it attracts several thousand visitors. Held on October 3rd, this was the 14th annual edition of what has become known as a family friendly event. The co-sponsorship of the Japan America Society and the Up Up and Away Kite Club makes this a unique kiting and cultural experience. As part of the festival the Society brings in master kite builder Mikio Toki to teach kitemaking in some of the local area schools. Visitors to the festival are encouraged to experience hands-on fun. There was a free Japanese sode “kimono” kite workshop for children,

and in the kids game corner children could try their hand at origami, calligraphy, ring toss and other activities. There were booths selling traditional Japanese foods, and you could watch Candy Master Shawn Ichiyanagi create glass-like candy sculptures called Edo Ame Zaiku.

Throughout the afternoon we were treated to Taiko Drum performances by Myo Onji Daiko. Taiko drumming, a 1400-year-old Japanese art form, has become an annual tradition at this festival. This year we also saw traditional Naginata, “stick fighting,” performed by the Southern California Naginata Federation, and a Samurai sword fighting demonstration performed by members of the Utsutsu theatrical troop from Hollywood.

Members of the North American Fighter Kite Association demonstrated their skill at kite fighting during a round robin tournament. Staying within the fighter kite theme, Rakesh



Rakesh Bahdouhar



Bahdouhar flew a “catch the tail” contest for the kids. Kids catching the tail that Rakesh deftly kept just out of reach won a prize.

Alexander Herzog flew both

dual- and quad-line sport kite demonstrations throughout the day including his award-winning “Candy Man” routine. Mark and Jeanette Lummas of Bi-Dance thrilled the crowd with beautifully choreographed routines. During a break in the sport kite demonstrations Mikio Toki, wearing traditional Japanese costume, flew his beautiful hand-painted edo-dako kites.

Mikio Toki



Later in the day Rod and Marti Milburn and Goat Hill Gang members conducted candy drops for the kids. Looking up the beach over the top of the many ground displays and banners you saw the big show kites of Dave and Susan Gomberg and the patriotic big kite display of Lyle Walters.

At the Seal Beach Festival the kite performance area being adjacent to the pier adds to the visual experience. During the sport kite demonstrations the kites are often flying below the eye level of the folks on the pier. The flying areas are arranged so as to allow spectators to occupy a large area bracketed by the performance field on one side and the big show kite area on the other. Spectators are encouraged to fly their kites in this area and in so doing become a part of the festival.

Throughout the day, with the help of Janis Sabic of the Up Up and Away club, master of ceremonies Glen Rothstein of the AKA did an admirable job of keeping things coordinated and moving along. Not an easy task with such a packed schedule of activities. k

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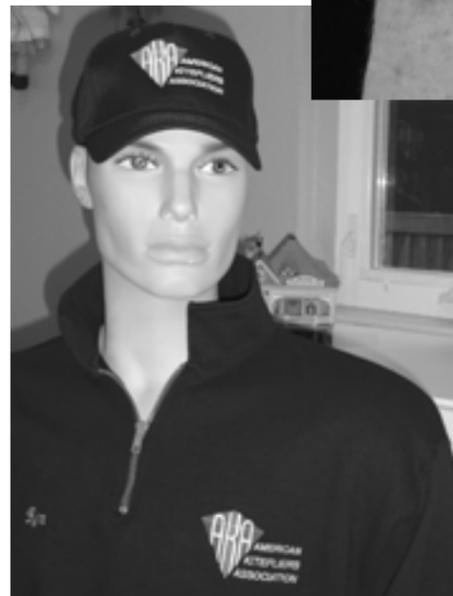
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AKA NEWS

New AKA Gear

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the ad below for details). But head to the AKA website for a look at new zip-up fleece jackets — embroidered with the AKA logo and your name — and logo ballcaps and fleece scarves for this winter’s flies. You’ll also find new charms for your bracelets. Dress like an AKA kiteflier, and take care of holiday gifts all at once.

Free Calls For All

Here’s a new membership benefit: free conference calls. The same system used by the Board of Directors for meetings is available at no charge to AKA members. Need to get the whole family together on the phone for the holidays? Want your entire kite fest planning committee to chat? Make a free conference call! Contact Mel Hickman at xd@aka.kite.org to find out how.

National Kite Month Giving Away Cash!

The National Kite Month Committee is requesting submissions for the poster to be displayed promoting events. This year NKM will be March 27 through May 1, 2011. The American Kitefliers Association and the Kite Trade Association International sponsor National Kite Month as a joint effort to promote kiting as a family friendly and environmentally sound way to have fun. This year’s winner takes home a \$50 gift certificate to the new AKA store and \$50 cash to assist with your next kiting project. The poster will be used by members around the world to promote events and kiting activities. The poster must contain the AKA, KTAI and NKM logos and include a space to note the name, date and location of the advertised event. Please check out www.NationalKiteMonth.org or follow the link on the AKA site for more information on the program. You may also contact Rick Hawkins at admin@nationalkitemonth.org for more information or assistance. Deadline for submissions is January 15 and the winning poster will be announced on January 30, 2011.



Lincoln City Fall Kite Festival,
Oregon
October 10, 2010

EMPTY SPACES IN THE SKY

Margo Brown

“Margo was one of the key people who got me into kiteflying” — so many of us can say that! Margo generously welcomed scores of people who hadn’t understood the joys of kites and converted us into passionate kitefliers. During one of my first tentative forays into organized kite flying, a Maryland Kite Society event at Baltimore’s Inner Harbor, Margo grabbed me and said “That’s a really wonderful kite. Now come have dinner with us.” I already liked kites for their artistic possibilities; now Margo was teaching me how wonderful kitefliers can be.

Margo was especially active in kiting organizations and passionate about promoting the sport. An early member of the Maryland Kite Society, she was on the first Executive Board of AKA. Margo and her husband Bevan were both AKA Presidents and life members of AKA. She was the first female President of AKA and a founding member of the Mama Sans Rokkaku Kite Fighting Team, participating in epic battles with the Rainbow Warriors, where the winner was the first one to the microphone. Margo volunteered at the Aeronautics Department of the National Air & Space Museum, where she worked with Dr. Paul Garber on the NASM kite collection. Margo and Bevan traveled to kite events all around the world and her friendships extended worldwide. Bevan jokes about her knack for connecting with people: he describes her as his very own “Secretary of State.”

Since the first Smithsonian Kite Festival in 1967, Margo and Bevan actively supported and participated in the Festival every year. After 1967, kiting (including a protest against the now-repealed law banning kiteflying in the District of Columbia) became the highlight of the Brown’s family springtime. Over many years, a highlight of the Festival has been the hospital-

ity of Bevan and Margo. The many kitefliers who slept in their basement or were treated to bountiful buffets after the festival can testify to the generosity they received. Kitefliers from other countries were welcomed, and several kitefliers needing months-long shelter at the Brown’s home were welcomed with open arms. Many of us benefited many times from Margo and Bevan’s hospitality and generosity.

Margo was a strong and passionate advocate for indoor kite flying. About 10 years ago, after a determined effort, she convinced the NASM Curators to allow indoor kite flying and coordinated the kite display and flying activities on NASM’s Kite Day - now greatly successful due to performances by talented indoor kite fliers.

A woman of many talents, Margo was an innovator in the teaching profession, encouraging what she termed “divergent thinking” among her students. She had a passion for antiques,

Bevan Brown and Paul Garber with Margo Brown



Native American jewelry, and hosting tea parties for her children. Given the opportunity, she was happy to tell you about the latest and greatest accomplishments of her grandchildren.

Bevan has written, “Some of our best and longest lasting friendships are with our fellow kite enthusiasts. Our lives together have been a wonderful adventure — with many of my best memories from being with you, our friends.”

Margo passed away as a result of complications associated with an extended illness on September 1 after being hospitalized since mid-July. A memorial service, attended by many family members, friends, and kitefliers from all over the East Coast, was held September 12. We will miss her terribly.

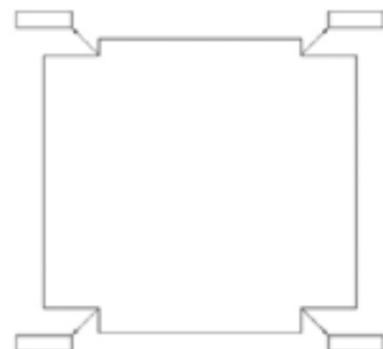
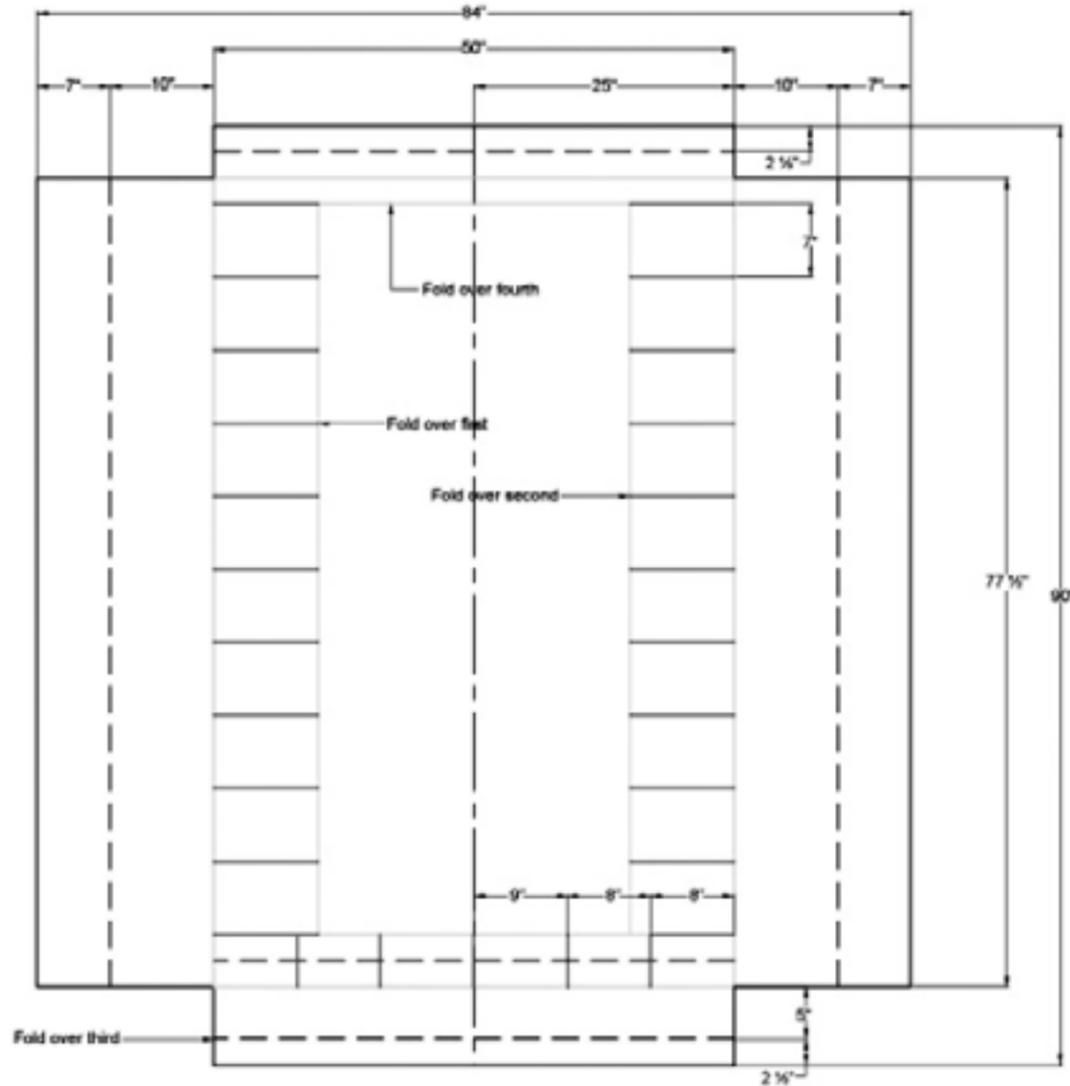
Jon Burkhardt

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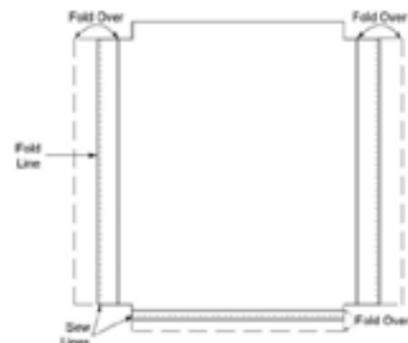
KITE PLAN

LARRY GREEN'S ROLL-UP BAG

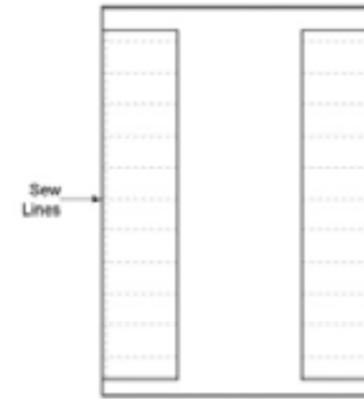
To build this simple roll-up bag, you can use coated "bag weight" nylon (from the discount bin at Wal-Mart), cordura nylon or even plastic tarps. The tarps work great, are cheap to obtain and are easy to sew but almost any hard-wearing and waterproof material should work fine. You will also need four luggage straps, the type designed to fit around suitcases. These can be bought at "dollar stores" for a buck each and normally include the snap buckle and an adjuster of some type. You will also need a sewing machine capable of sewing thick materials as at one stage in construction you will be sewing through five layers of bag material and two layers of webbing strap! Start with an 8' x 10' piece of fabric. This design will hold twenty 4' kites. For alternate plans to hold longer kites, see www.kites.org/esssexkites/kite_bag.html.



Step 1
Square up material to outside dimensions. Remove rectangles in corners. Remove any metal or plastic eyelets.

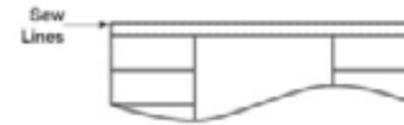
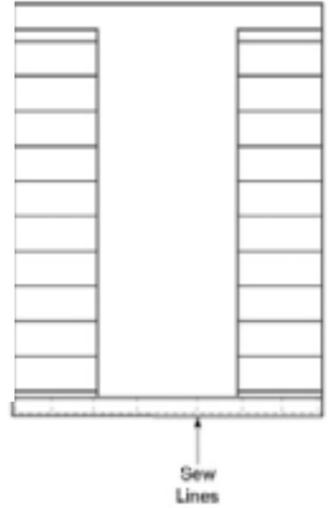


Step 2
Fold in sides and bottom at fold line.
Sew 1/8" in from folded edges to form firm edge to pockets.



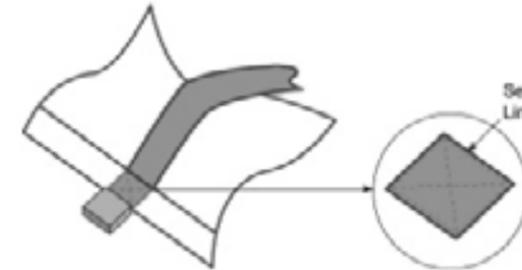
Step 3
Fold in left side, mark pockets at 7" centres allowing for 2 1/2" fold over at top.
Sew 1/8" from left side to form firm outside edge. Sew along lines to form pockets.
Repeat for right side.

Step 4
Fold up bottom, mark pockets at required spacing to fit winders.
Sew 1/8" in from bottom to form firm outside edge.
Sew along lines and outside edges to form pockets.



Step 5
Fold top flap in half and then fold over onto the top of the bag to form a triple thickness band to take the straps.

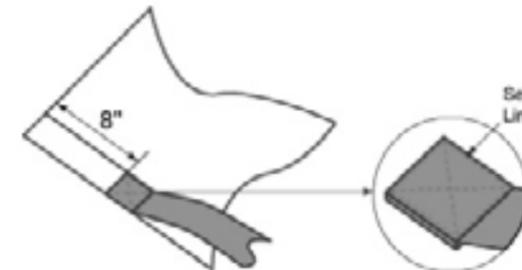
Sew 1/8" from edge all around.



Step 6
Turn bag over so pockets are underneath.

Position the female end of a strap in the middle of the top reinforced edge so that the buckle part just hangs over the edge.

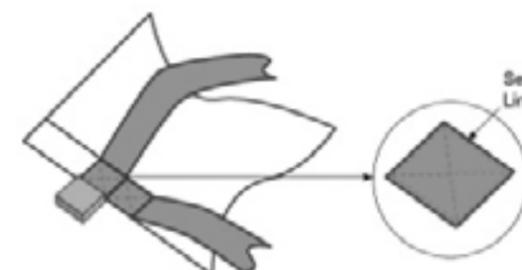
Sew the strap into position as shown.



Step 7
Measure 8" from each end of bag and make a mark. Remove all the fittings from one strap and fold one end under by 2". Sew onto top reinforced edge as shown.

Once sewn adjust length of strap to give a comfortable fit (I like the bag to sit at hip height when the strap is on my shoulder), mark required length at the 8" mark on the bag, add 2" and cut off excess. Fold end under by 2" and sew down as before.

NOTE: Make sure there are NO twists in the strap!



Step 8
Butt the end of a third strap against the end of the strap sewn in Step 7 as shown. Sew down as in Step 6.

Repeat at the other end with the fourth strap.

The bag is now complete, fill with kites/lines, roll up and adjust the straps to length and **GO FLY A KITE!**

CONNOR DORAN: NO X'S!

Unless you've been living under a rock, by now you know Oregon's Connor Doran, the world's most downloaded kiteflier. (Haven't seen it yet? Stop reading right now. Go to your computer, surf to www.youtube.com, and in the search box enter "Connor Doran America's Got Talent." Watch the video. We'll wait.... Okay, ready to continue?) After dazzling judges Howie Mandel, Sharon Osbourne, and Piers Morgan in the opening round, Connor was eliminated in the next round. But Howie brought Connor back as a wildcard choice, putting him into the Top 12. His performance there was good, but not good enough to continue onward. Here's the scoop, in the words of 17-year-old Connor and mother Amy.

How did Connor get the idea to go on AGT in the first place?

Connor: "I actually saw Scotty Weider go on the show, and I thought it would be a good thing to go on and try to spread the word about kite flying, and share it with more people. And I also thought it would be fun to do. I have liked the show and got hooked on it after Scott went on."

Amy: "I remember sitting in the hot tub with Theresa Norelius and Mary Farrell at WSIKF in 2009. Connor was there, talking about *America's Got Talent*. He loved watching the show by then. He looked right at me, and said 'Mom, this year I want to try out for the show.' I remember rolling my eyes at him, and saying, 'Sure ya do.' Mary is still giggling at me to this day. It certainly has taught me a lesson in believing in someone no matter how silly it may seem at the time."

What's the process? You don't just go right in front of Howie and Sharon and Piers... what did you have to do first?

Connor: "I went online and looked up how to preregister for the auditions. I had my mom send in a video to the show. Then I heard back from the show saying the video was stellar and they wanted me to come audition. I then went to Portland for the mass auditions. It was a whole new experience for me. So many people, cameras, contestants and interviewing going on all over. I was a little nervous but more excited than anything. Then when they asked me to stay for an interview on camera I was really excited."

Amy: "I think the first process for Connor was getting me to even agree to send in the application and video to the show. He kept bugging me about it, and I kept putting him off. I honestly didn't want him to feel disappointed if he didn't hear back from them. I think it's a mom thing. Connor is one of those people that just does not let something go. Often times, it can be annoying, but in this case, it worked. I finally gave in and sent in the video of him flying at the Camas Indoor Kite Festival. It was a mystery ballet that Toby Arndt played for him. It was a song from the Broadway show *Charlie Brown*, called *Happiness*. Connor flew to it like he had been flying it for years, yet had never heard it before. I didn't think too much about it after that. I just hoped he was not going to be down if he never heard a thing from then. I remember the day I got an e-mail. The subject line read **America's Got Talent IMPORTANT**. I think my heart skipped a few beats as I opened it and read 'Your video is stellar!' I think yelled to Connor down the hall to get out to the living room fast. I remember him saying, 'What did I do?' I asked him to come read the e-mail, without saying another word. I just watched his face start to light up like a candle, and then we both started smiling and laughing and jumping up and down. We didn't have much time to celebrate however, as the e-mail went on to say they needed a detailed bio written up and sent within 24 hours. It seems like life has been different from that point on."



Were you flying a practiced routine, or just "soul flying"?

Connor: "When I was in Portland at the mass audition, I did the same routine I have done at the NWSKL competitions indoors. When I went to fly at the first show in Portland, when I flew to Sarah McLachlan's *Angel*, I was soul flying. I don't really think when I fly. I hear the music, and I just get lost in it. Also the size of the stage was so small, and you don't get practice time on it, so you almost have to soul fly, to make adjustments."

Amy: "I can't really answer this, but I can say there is something that happens to Connor as soon as he picks up the handles to the Revolution kite and the music starts. It's like he leaves the present moment, and goes off into this place. Most people that have known Connor know he sometimes has trouble focusing, because of all the meds he is on. So to see him lock in is really sort of unexplainable. I am just so happy that it touches so many people to be a part of it."

After the first time Connor appeared on TV, there was a huge reaction. Tell us about it.

Connor: "I didn't really think there would be that much reaction. I thought maybe a few kitefliers might call and say good job. I never thought it would be this big. My facebook suddenly had 150 friend requests. The Youtube videos were suddenly being viewed by the hundreds. It surprised me. I heard from people in Kenya, Australia, New Zealand, and all over the world. I didn't know how people had even heard about it, or seen it."

Amy: "Gads, my phone started ringing as the kite landed, and didn't stop all night. I finally had to give up trying to answer it. Then my e-mail went overboard. I am talking about the first three hours after his audition aired. Not days, HOURS. Then the Youtube videos were posted by the show, and we were

just speechless. Thank goodness for John at KiteLife.com. He opened an e-mail for us to give out to the public. That was a lifesaver as I could not even use my regular one at that point. The e-mails have been incredible. People were moved to tears, and the letters have been emotional and heartfelt. People that had given up hope were inspired. Many want information on flying indoors now. There is a family that has a daughter who has autism, and had trouble falling asleep all the time. Now, they put on Connor's video to help her relax so she can rest, every night. He has become part of her nightly bedtime ritual. That to me is just overwhelming. We are still receiving e-mails daily like this. We try to answer as many as we can. I think it helps people to be able to hear back. It's more personal, more meaningful. Connor and I have not changed at all. The schedule is busier, but it's still just us, and the kites. We are doing what makes us happy. The cool thing is, that so many others are now discovering that kites do that for you."

What sort of opportunities have presented themselves? Spokesman for epilepsy? What else?

Connor: "I have been contacted by the National Epilepsy Foundation about flying for them in Washington DC in March for the Epilepsy Walk. I have been interviewed by the *Epilepsy Advocate Magazine* and will appear in the March 2011 issue. I have been invited to fly at conventions, and offered jobs to fly in shows. I have been invited to fly at kite festivals all over the United States, including being invited to the Windless Kite Festival in Long Beach. I will also be traveling to San Diego to fly at an event there."

Amy: "Sometimes answering e-mails can get a bit overwhelming. Scheduling is the biggest issue. Connor is a senior at Mountain View High School and is working hard to keep his grade average high. I work full time, plus now I am jokingly called Connor's Momager."

Tell us about the final episode. It seems like a lot happened behind the scenes, or got edited out of what we saw.

Connor: "Being in the semifinals was really exciting but nerve wracking. It was hard because I was not feeling well that second week. Everyone there was really nice, and supportive of each other. I met lifelong friends there, and we have all kept in touch. Originally my goal was to make one live show, but the dream just got bigger and better as time went on."

Amy: "What you saw at the semifinals was a kid that looked at me at WSIKF and told me he wanted to audition. What everyone saw was a kid that dared to dream, and didn't give



up. Nothing else really matters.

[Editor's note: for the semifinals, Connor planned to use a special kite that would glow under UV lighting. It didn't arrive in time. Instead, Amy used an innovative technique to achieve the same effect. Unfortunately, during the actual performance the UV lights weren't switched on. Other kitefliers built dozens of miniature kites, which the audience flew while Connor was flying. The cameras never showed them.]



Amy and Connor unveil their new line of "Dare To Dream" shirts.

What did you learn about kitemaking from this?

Amy: "Well, I learned that you can dye a kite using the core of a permanent highlighter like a prefilled sponge if you dissect them. I also learned that it's not so permanent. When I got home with the glow in the dark kites, I put them in a sink of warm water hoping I might get some of the color out, only to find out that the highlighter will not stick to Icarex! It all washed out, 100%! Very happy about that!"

Okay, roll the credits....

Connor: "I want to thank my family and friends for helping me. Scott Weider for inspiring me and teaching me. My Mom and Dad for supporting me every step of the way. Ben Dantonio and Revolution Kites for all the support and the fantastic kites. Ben gave me my first Revolution kite. It is a 1.5 EXP and we call it the Benny kite. Ron Despojado for coming to LA and helping us in the quarter- and semifinals. We would never have made it without you Ron! John Barresi and KiteLife for encouraging me and always believing in me. Theresa Norelius of The Kite Shoppe who was there from the beginning when I auditioned the very first time. She has supplied all my indoor line sets, thanks T! Thanks to Lisa, Ian, and Brielle Willoughby and the Yacht Club kids for making 175 miniature kites for the audience to fly in the semifinals. How they made that many kites in a day we will never know! To my great friend Christina, who helped me and my Mom make all this happen, thanks. I want to send out a special thank you to these people who came to be in the audience to give me support and encouragement. With you all there, it meant so much more. Thank you. My Dad, Tim Doran. And Mary Castillo, Eileen Regan, Dale Ray, Christina Roebuck, David Bradley, Dave Shattuck, David Hadzicki, Lisa Hadzicki, Jacklyn Hadzicki, Jake Hadzicki, John Patrick Doran, Suzanne Marie Bourbonnais, Alex Herzog, Mr. and Mrs. Herzog. Thanks to Tim Purcell and Harold Ames for sending square inch kites for the show! To Randy Tom, who worked his magic for us in the semifinals with a design that needed special glow-in-the-dark UV paints. Thanks so much Randy. Due to postal delivery issues, the kites did not get to be flown on the show, but you can bet they will be making a debut soon! K

HOLY ROLLERS (AND

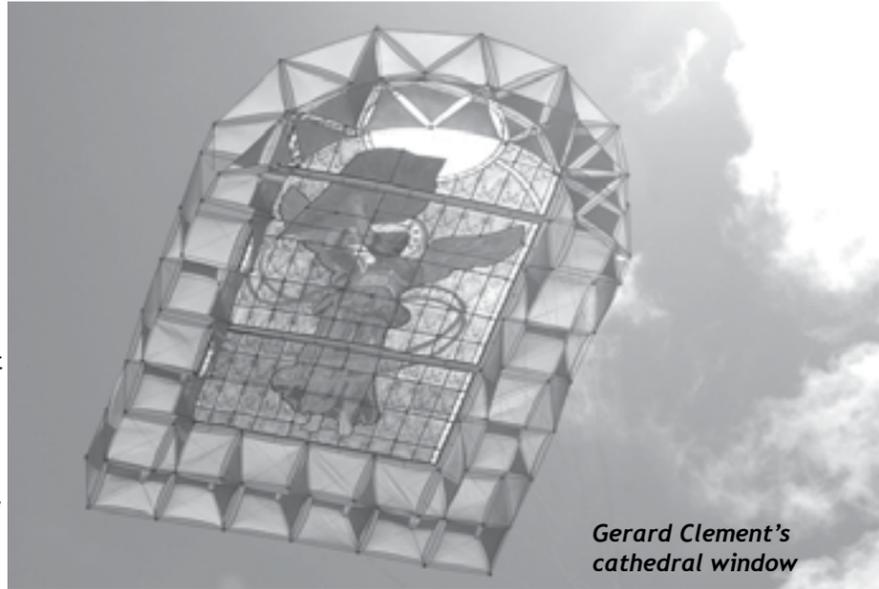
ROKKAKUS, DELTAS, FOILS, ETC.)

Thomas Jefferson called for a separation between church and state, but said nothing about separating religion from kiteflying. Is religious expression acceptable on a kite? Or should you keep your faith to yourself, and not fly it for all to see? Several kite-makers expressed their views....

Personally, I think that religious themes are fine. Some of the really interesting designs are religious. Religiousness (is that a word?) is OK, as long as one doesn't try to impose religious ideas on others.

One of my favorite designs is the ankh, which has a religious basis. But I still like it, not because of what it might signify, but because it is an interesting shape.

Let's try not to get too bent out of shape about this. Some of the world's greatest art is based on religion. Does this mean that classical composers who wrote to religious themes wrote bad music? Were they really trying to "convert" others? No, they were just expressing their art, most of which is incredible, with inspiration from their belief. — Bob Kelly



Gerard Clement's cathedral window

For the kiting community, any explicit or implicit discouragement of kites with religious themes would be detrimental to kiting as a whole. The art of kites is part of what defines and animates the kiting community. A healthy artistic environment, however, cannot exist if the passions and interests that inspire art are unduly restricted. Religion has always been and presumably always will be a subject for artistic expression. If kites are going to be canvasses of artistic expression, religious themes will appear in kites. To discourage religious themes in kites would be to discourage artistic expression. It would be like saying: "Because your kite will be seen in public, take your art to another medium." That eventually hurts the kiting community and the place of kiting in the world. Moreover, it would be discriminatory. Kites expressing a particular religious viewpoint should not be treated any differently than kites expressing political matters, social issues, corporate logos, or any other message.

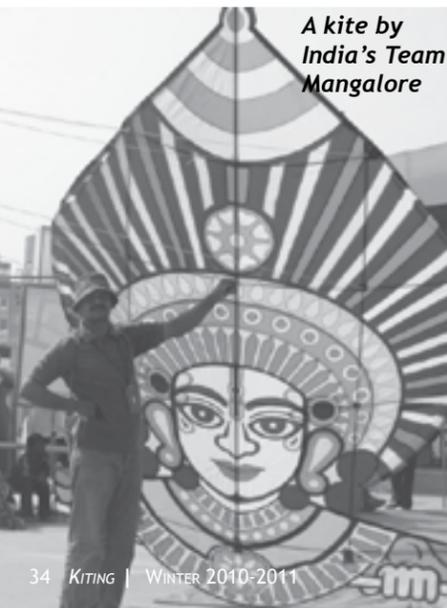
Finally, such restrictions would be unworkable. If I choose a minimalist design with just a few colors, but the colors, for me, represent the passion and resurrection of Christ, is it a religious theme? Deb Lenzen uses Native American motifs in her kites. Are they cultural patterns or religious art? I have a kite I threw together from many scrap pieces of ripstop. I connected the strips of random colors with black bars. When finished, I called it "Stained glass behind bars: Hope." To me it has spiritual significance, but to someone else it is just a colorful kite with black stripes. Is it a problem? — Christopher Dodson

I have and fly a rok with Ganesha painted on it. In my banner collection, I have several with Mayan birds and one with Ganesha. Then towards the end of the year, I pull out the delta in the shape of Santa's face and hat. Oh, and the witch and wizard come out at Halloween.

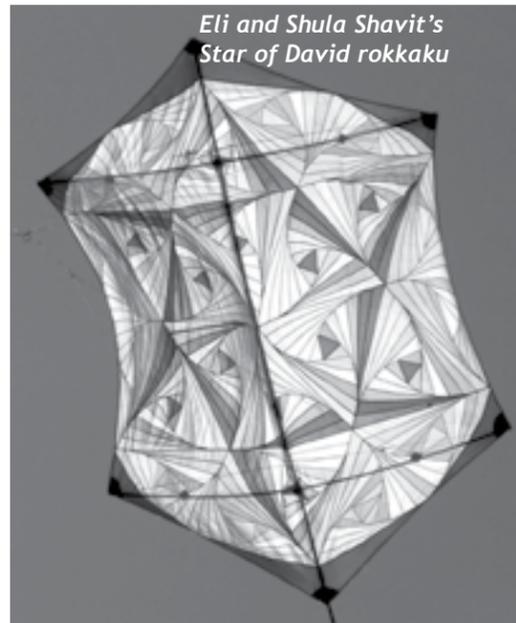
We may each have our personal opinions about the beauty of a particular item, may choose appropriate places to fly, but calling names and ridiculing someone else's choice is always out of line. — Barbara Meyer

It seems to me that passion does inspire and elicit great art. This is as true for religious passion as other types of passion. Agape' of all faiths, and the accompanying urge to glorify through paint, or sculpture or architecture or song can produce incredible fruits.

Even when I do not have the cultural background to understand the significance of what I am seeing or hearing, the awe that I feel in expe-



A kite by India's Team Mangalore



Eli and Shula Shavit's Star of David rokkaku

riencing them comes through. I do not need to know Latin to appreciate Carmina Burana or a Gregorian Chant. I do not need to understand Hinduism to be blown away by the art of Angkor Wat. I didn't have to understand the philosophy of the stone carvers in the isle of Islay to appreciate the incredibly beautiful, ancient Celtic Cross there. I will not need to understand Islamic philosophy to appreciate the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, or Catholic philosophy to appreciate the Sistine Chapel. And I definitely was not schooled in Zen when I was thrilled by the Zen monastery Kiyomizudera in Japan.

That is not to say that all religious passion produces great art, or even palatable art. Nor am I amenable to a condescending or insulting message, simply because it was produced by a great passion even if it was religious passion. There are innumerable times though when religious passion does produce great art, and I see no reason not to give it the awe it deserves regardless of whether religion inspired it. It definitely deserves no less respect than I give to art produced by other types of passion. If that great art, religious or otherwise, is located on a kite or banner, so much the better. I really really like kites and banners. — Dave Butler

I don't like it when someone affects me with their religion but having a religious themed kite or banner should not be an issue at all. It's expression of one's views. It's art. It's a statement. Telling me I need to fly a rok with a cross on it or I can't be in the rok battle is another thing. Some of the most beautiful art I've seen are stained glass windows in churches. They almost always have a religious theme to them. If someone does not agree with the religion, fine. But they should still be able to appreciate the art aspect of it. — Todd Copeland



A mosque quad-line by Turkey's Fevzi Kir

It's no different from, say, putting up Christmas lights on a house. Some are really nice and tastefully done, and some are gaudy and, well, dumb-looking. Lack of taste may reflect badly on the person displaying it, but it certainly doesn't affect me in a negative way. If anything, it makes me look good, because I'm not that guy.

Since Man & Woman walked the Earth we have made images that refer to our religious

beliefs. When an axe was made the handle was ornately carved as an offering to a deity. People covered themselves in paint to please their Gods. The church being the main patron of the arts for so long, is there any wonder why there are so many religious art works? A kite can be a conduit for the maker's intent, therefore taking on religious significance. I hope for a reaction good or bad... and hopefully not NO reaction! — John Rose k



Tasmania's Robert Brasington launches one of his cathedral window deltas.

kitebuilder.com
A website for kite builders

KITES OF THE YEAR:
2007 - "Cody" by John Whibley
2009 - "Andromeda" by Simon Crafts
2008 - "Nightfall" by Peter Ross

Steve Ferrel
phone: 360-RIPSTOP | 610-395-3560
email: steve@kitebuilder.com

BIG APPLE AIR

BY PHIL BRODER

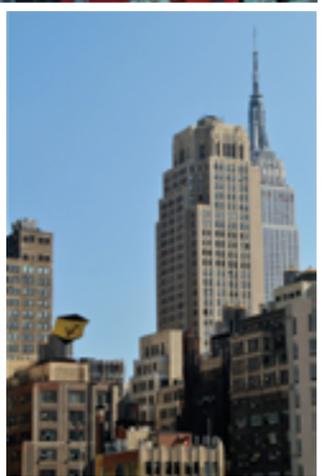
If you're the kind of kiter who likes having lots of people around so that you can show off (and you can't get to China), if a cow pasture isn't your idea of the beating heart of it all (no disrespect, Callaway), and you want to wake up in the city that never sleeps (and that ain't Dieppe), you could do worse than Manhattan. Now in its second year, FlyNY is bringing kite flying to America's biggest city, making it accessible to a huge number of people. The event takes place on pier jutting into the Hudson River, with pedestrian access from a busy bike path in Riverside Park. Thousands of families, cyclists, rollerskaters and the Parks & Recreation Department's Pearl the Squirrel came by to build kites and fly just upstream from the Statue of Liberty.

FlyNY benefits the New York office of Architecture For Humanity (AFHny), which sponsors a kitemaking competition. It takes place before the festival, and is judged by architects, so the kites' flight tends to be less important than their structural design. Winning kites are auctioned off to benefit the charity.

On August 21, Glenn Davison and Charles Stewart joined me in representing the AKA for FlyNY's second year. For next year, we'll be looking to have more kites to help match the enthusiasm New Yorkers have for kites.



FASHION WEEK FLY
NEW YORK PORT AUTHORITY, NYC
SEPTEMBER 19, 2010
PHOTOS BY KURTIS JONES



Ralph Reed roks the Port Authority



Glenn Davison works the camera

K-FILES

I did it because someone told me I couldn't." That's what really got me into making kites, especially the bigger ones. In the late 80's I would go to the beach in southern California with varying groups of friends to boogie board, if the surf was not good I would bring a surf rod and fish until the waves improved. Then one time a friend brought a stack of Crystal stunt kites, a progressive stack, 6' and 8' wing spans. He taught me the basics of flying it and I was hooked. Went out the next week and got my first stunt kite with line and handles, \$200. My wife, (who is still with me despite this major expenditure) said, "You spent how much on a what?!" I knew at that point that I would need to learn to make my own because she was never going to let me buy all the kites I knew I would want. So I guess what I should say is I did it because I knew I wouldn't be allowed to. I really need to hand it to my wife LynneRae; after almost 30 years of being with me, she still puts up with me.

Kiting for me is a release, a chance to forget whatever and fly; making my own kites makes it even more so. In the past 20 years kiting has led me to some of my longer term friendships, some beautiful locations to fly and some truly fun times. I have

always worked full time at a "regular" job and the kites have been something I do for myself. I have sold some kites over the years and all that money has gone back into more stuff to make more kites, sort of a self-supported hobby. One problem with that is selling something you really like. My patchwork design is probably what I am known best for and since they are all one of a kind, sometimes it is hard to let them go at times.

For me the patchwork lets me focus on the kite design instead of the design on the kite. It also is a way to recycle the scraps that I generate in making my stunt kites. I find it very hard to throw ripstop away!

Probably my favorite kite designs are parafoils and rokkakus, to make and to fly. My large foil is 15' x 20' and took three months to build. It did not start out as a 300 ft² kite but as I built the face skin for the kite, the patchwork just flowed and I kept going. The rok is a fun kite to fly; a really stable rok is really fun. Recently at an event in Utah, during the evening and a concert by a local band, I walked into the crowd with my patchwork battle rok on about 150' of line, in a good wind. I would hand the handle

to anyone who wanted to fly it and I handed it to some who were too shy to ask. What a blast; guys, girls, kids, parents and grandparents, they all held on so tight, looking up at the kite and smiling, always with the smile.

I have vivid memories of times when I have finished kites in my shop and then that first flight to tune it, these are the feelings that we all have felt. The thing is, most people remember flying kites as kids and the feeling is universal, and it comes back fast. Over the years I have been inspired by several kitemakers and kites, but it all boils down to one thing for me, flying something that I made. The sense of



KEVIN BAYLESS



pride, accomplishment and joy combine for moments of pleasure, create memories that last and lead me to meeting people who make my life feel good.

For the last two years I have been involved with a festival here in Utah that combines music, balloons and kites. I was invited to go fly kites on Antelope Island and went with two other fliers. It was the first time I had been to the island and I was amazed. Hard to think you are that close to civilization.

When we arrived at the site, it was windy, cloudy with scattered showers. It was a balloon festival but the weather had them grounded. We were told to fly wherever we wanted and I proceeded to set up my big foil. Once I started hammering in my stakes and setting out my line, we got the attention of some of the people there. When we launched the foil, with all the line laundry, we got the attention of the organizers. I tell this story because it is a story of how events are created and you never know what will happen when you go fly a kite. I was invited to join the planning committee and I am entering the third year for the kites and my position as kite chair. K



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Bernhard Dingwerth does repairs in the parking lot.



Rick White



WASHINGTON STATE INT'L KITE FESTIVAL
LONG BEACH, WASHINGTON
AUGUST 16-22, 2010

WSIKF is where kiting started for me ten or so years ago, so it holds a special place in my heart. There is absolutely nothing like that first sighting of brightly colored flying objects rising above the dune grass as you approach the beach at Long Beach. I was only able to enjoy the festivities for three of the seven days this year, but they were glorious. The weather had been gray and damp earlier in the week, but the sun was out in full force for my visit on Thursday through Saturday, and the wind genies were cooperative. I was anxious to reconnect with one of this year's festival features, the Windjammers kite performance team from Detroit. I knew the visit was off to a good start when they were the first folks I encountered on the beach. They were a huge hit

with the crowds all week long with their dazzling displays of skill flying their stacks with brilliant precision. These guys are good, and the nicest people you can imagine. When not out on the field flying, they could often be seen helping kids learn how to get their first kites up in the air.

Then it was on to the handmade competition, where I had an opportunity to be a shadow judge for the first time, and learned lots while getting an up-close view of some amazing creations. I'm looking forward to seeing these new kites decorating our skies for years to come. Farther down the beach the sky was filled with dozens of Revs, practicing their formations for their world record attempt. I'm sorry I didn't get down there for a closer look; that was one of the high points of the festival. In the opposite direction, the other featured flier was decorating the sky with his huge whimsical inflatables. Giant frogs, turtles and lighthouses gently bobbed in the wind, as Bernhard Dingwerth from Germany graciously visited with admirers amazed at his creations. Never-ending good humor with a world class smile was his hallmark, and he reinforced my belief that kite people are the nicest folks on the planet.

Bob Wendt did an outstanding job as the voice of the festival, keeping the many spectators informed about all the activities. And boy does WSIKF have activities: fighter kites, sport kites, kitemaking for kids, indoor flying, mass ascensions (four in all), rokkaku battles, a Cody fly, fireworks, teddy bear drops, lighted night flies, an awesome banner parade, banquets, the list goes on and on. Supporting all the kiting events were the many vendors lining the approach to the beach. Food was plentiful and varied. Spectators and kites alike took advantage of the well-stocked festival booth, brimming over with many colorful logo wear choices. The people were as colorful as the kites. The best part of the festival for me is the opportunity to hang out with friends I've made over the years on this beach. Often this is the only time of the year our paths cross, and there is nothing better than finding those friends, arms outstretched, ready for a hug. This year, like every year in the past, I met new friends, too. What could be better?

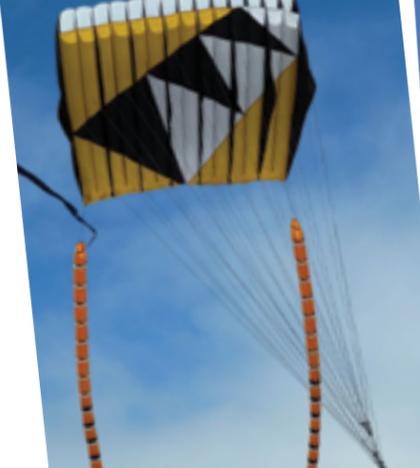
What a party, what a show, what a wonderful week for kites and those who love them. WSIKF is a winner in every way. K



Miek Schlenger



PHOTOS BY
KELEI WILLIAMS, BEN DANTONIO,
BERNHARD DINGWERTH, ALEXA
KING, CAT GABREL AND JIM DAY



33 BY THE SEA

You've probably already heard the buzz about the 33rd Annual Convention in Seaside, but if you weren't there, you really missed a show! I know you have heard me say that before because these conventions are so fun, but seriously, you missed a GREAT show.

The weather was incredible with only one rain day throughout the week. And if you've been to Seaside before, you know that the lodging, convention center and flying fields on the beach are all within walking distance. No matter what restaurant we walked into, or what street we walked down, we ran into fellow kitefliers all week, It was REALLY fun!

All the hype about Connor Doran's appearance on *America's Got Talent* drove dozens of people into the convention center to find out about kites, kiting and what we were doing in Seaside!

Each morning the workshops would spill over with people excited and energized by the quality of presenters and programs. There were plenty of make and take seminars, a fabulous origami class, and a cornucopia of topics and products for registrants to choose from.

Monday night the AKA opening reception was held at the Seaside Civic & Convention Center where everyone gathered for a huge selection of appetizers and time to reacquaint. As usual Marla Miller started digging into all our pockets immediately so the convention began making money on day one! Friends and new acquaintances used the time to reconnect and share their passion for kiting.

On Thursday night we had the opening of the Fly Market and Kite Galleries — yes, two of them! One featured the magnificent works of Tom McAlister and the other a showing of the Gloria Stewart collection. On Friday, the Great Kite Auction featured one of a kind items and treasures from all over the world. It was easily one of the week's highlights and is the largest fundraiser for the AKA.

The Saturday Awards Banquet recognized and honored the best of the best in the week-long flying events. Darrin Skinner did an amazing presentation that featured pictures from archives and the current week's events that played out during the entire evening.

By Sunday morning members were making their plans for departure and promising to be on the beaches of Wildwood, NJ, where the AKA will hold their 34th annual event, September 26 - October 1, 2011. Mark your calendar NOW!

— Maggie Vohs

What will you remember about a week on the Oregon coast? The tear-jerking indoor performance by Connor and Amy Doran? Being a cast-away on Benny's Island? The Grand Champion trophy going to a teenage upstart with a full head of hair? High wind rokkaku battles that ended in less than sixty seconds? The exuberant Japanese flying kites that shim-mied? The look on Susan Gomberg's face as she contemplated having the Star Farker hanging over her bed for the next year? Corey Jensen's gourmet spread for fighter kite flyers? Linda Sanders' warbling before the banquet? The Seaside shops that sold delicacies like chocolate-covered bacon? Asking someone how many Chilean miners had been rescued so far? \$3000 worth of miniature kites? Buying spars for a dollar at the Fly Market? Tying yourself up in knots in Ronda Brewer's workshop? Watching for Scott Slater to emerge from his camper on the beach every morning? The 200+ kitters who came to Seaside left with bags full of kites and heads full of memories.

Linda Sanders' banner won Best Banner in the Ground Display Challenge for the second straight year.



MINIATURE KITE CHALLENGE

Grand Champion
Susie Jo Skinner — 4 Bears Train

Flight

- 1 Susie Jo Skinner — 4 Bears Train
- 2 Susie Jo Skinner — Frank Lloyd Wright Tube
- 3 Susie Jo Skinner — Garfield the Cat

Beauty

- 1 Susie Jo Skinner — 4 Bears Train
- 2 Don Mock — X Marks The Spot
- 3 Susie Jo Skinner — Garfield the Cat

Originality

- 1 Susie Jo Skinner — 4 Bears Train
- 2 Barbara Meyer — Chula
- 3 Susie Jo Skinner — Garfield the Cat

Smallest

- 1 Barbara Meyer — Blue Daisy Diamond
- 2 Barbara Meyer — Crazy
- 3 Susie Jo Skinner — Garfield the Cat



all photos by Rich Durant

FIGHTER & ROKKAKU COMPETITION RESULTS

Novice Fighter Kite Skills

- 1 José Sainz
- 2 Scott Skinner
- 3 Sylvia Bernauer
- 4 Barbara Hall
- 5 Murray Prictor

Experienced Fighter Kite Skills

- 1 Sharon Champie
- 2 Gary Goodenough
- 3 Lisa Willoughby
- 4 Bruce Jarvie
- 5 Carol Jarvie

Individual Rokkaku Battles

- 1 Ronda Brewer
- 2 Lisa Willoughby
- 3 David Gomberg
- 4 Mike Mosman
- 5 Christian Slater
- 6 Gary Goodenough
- 6 Richard Hurd
- 8 Murray Prictor

Experienced Fighter Kite Line Touch

- 1 Lisa Willoughby
- 2 Sharon Champie
- 3 Gary Goodenough
- 4 Bruce Jarvie
- 5 Carol Jarvie

Novice Fighter Kite Line Touch

- 1 Scott Skinner
- 2 José Sainz
- 3 Barbara Hall
- 4 Murray Prictor
- 5 Corey Jensen
- 5 Catherine Gabrel
- 5 Sylvia Bernauer

Team Rokkaku Battles

- 1 Team Good Brew (Ronda Brewer, Gary Goodenough)
- 2 Team No Sense (Dan Haigh, Bud Hayes)
- 3 Team Gombird (David Gomberg, Jennifer Brown)
- 4 Team Confusion (Lisa Willoughby, Paul DeBakker)
- 5 Team Both Sides of the Pond (Murray Prictor, Kirstie Hayes)



CHAT WITH A CHAMPION

The stage was filled with past Grand Champions — who didn't have a dark hair among them (those who had hair) — when this year's winner was announced: 17-year-old Will Sturdy. The crowd went wild. The teenager remained placid, and then talked to Kiting....



Kiting: First, the name of your kite reflected that the idea for it came during his-tory class. That's the "when." How about the "where"? Where did you get the idea for this?
Will: The idea to make a single line kite came

from looking at a quilt my sister made. I kept thinking that there must be some way to incorporate the visual appeal of traditional kite squares into a kite. I started messing around with different patterns of squares trying to find one which would direct the focus visually to the panels themselves as opposed to the shape of the kite overall. Eventually I came up with the 4-5-4 layout and then worked out a way to get it structurally sound, reasonably light, and aerodynamically stable. That's when the idea to get the sail mostly divorced from direct contact with the frame took root. I figured that the sail pieces would be a lot more aerodynamically efficient if horizontally locked in but with enough give to give a somewhat flat surface to the wind. The bow gave it rolling stability by adding plenty of dihedral. Looking back I probably overdid it from an aerodynamic standpoint, but this was my first original single line kite design and I wanted to make sure it had enough. It looked so cool that I kept it that way. So basically it just sort of evolved from a set of objectives and a basic idea. I looked for a while when designing but never came across a kite style which fit my needs, so I tried doing something new, and somewhat surprisingly to me, it worked.

Kiting: Okay, that totally makes me look like a slacker. You say it was your first single liner. You've been building sport



kites up till now. What brought you into one-liners?

Will: I've made a single line kite before, but this was my first original design. Well, not including the little trash bag and drinking straw sleds that got me hooked on kites a while back. Sport kites are by their very nature utilitarian designs. The whole purpose of one of them is to fly well and do all sorts of cool tricks easily. That really limits the creativity that goes into the process. Basically all dual-line sport kites for the past decade or two have been slight variations upon the same basic theme. It's a very different design process to make a sport kite; basically make tons of sails with slight differences, spend hours and hours tweaking bridles, and then adding a sail graphic that looks passably decent without hurting performance. Having been caught up in doing that the past few years, I wanted a change of pace. Single line kites are pretty much unlimited in what works. So long as it's got a decent sail area to mass ratio, most stuff seems to fly alright. Now that I've started messing around with slk design, I'm realizing what a huge part of kiting I was dismissing as boring before. It's an area where I can really just be creative without much limit, which is way more interesting than designing sport kites.

Kiting: I think it was Ken McNeill who said, referring to sport kite design, "There's only so much you can do with a triangle." A lot of single line kitemaking seems to be about artwork. Some of the kites that finished right behind you — John Pollock's edo, Walt Mitchell's foil, et al — had big flashy original art. Do you see yourself dabbling in art in the future, or are you sticking with a more utilitarian approach?

Will: I might, certainly not going to rule that field of design out. I am really not that artistic though, so it would probably not be that great. Most of my favorite kites all find beauty in structure. Tom McAlister's box kites and Ken McNeill's single liners come to mind. I think playing around with structure and shape is going to be what I'll mostly be focusing on in future kites.

Kiting: And let's talk about the future. You're 17, so outside of kiteflying you've got some big changes coming soon. College? And if so, do you think that will cut into your kitemaking time?

Will: Right now I'm hoping to go into sail making or canvas work as a career. Hopefully once I graduate I'll be able to find an apprenticeship or otherwise get the hands-on training necessary. I love working with my hands and don't like all the advanced theoretical stuff so much, so whatever I end up doing it will have to be hands-on. That means that a college degree that's mostly focused on the theoretical would mostly be a waste of four years. I suspect that I'll never have as much time to work on kites as I do now. Keeping time for building kites is a very high priority for me though, so I'll find a way to make the time.



KITEMAKERS' COMPETITION RESULTS

GRAND CHAMPION Will Sturdy (Bowed)

HIGHEST SCORE

Visual Appeal	Walt Mitchell	8.67 (Soft)
Flight	Phil Broder	8.80 (Figure)
	Will Sturdy	8.80 (Sport)
	Jon Trennepohl	8.80 (Sport)
Craftsmanship	John Pollock	9.00 (Bowed)
Structural Design	Will Sturdy	9.07 (Bowed)

MOST INNOVATIVE Mark Engbaum

MIXED MEDIA Alexa King

TRADITIONAL MATERIALS Mineichi Oguchi

SPECIAL RECOGNITION Rick Agar

NOVICE

- 1 Ron Bohart
- 2 Alexa King
- 3 Donna Wendt

COOPERATIVE

- 1 Jon Trennepohl and Pam Kirk (Stunt)
- 2 Dave and Diane Butler (Bowed)
- 3 John and Marzlie Freeman (Flat)

TRAINS

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Mark Engbaum	8.40	7.97	8.17	7.30	31.83
J & M Freeman	8.57	7.67	7.90	7.60	31.73
2 David Colbert	8.00	7.33	7.63	6.93	29.90
3 Bill Rodriguez	7.77	6.97	7.63	6.17	28.53

ARCH

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Marzlie Freeman	8.23	7.60	8.20	7.67	31.70
D Hurd & P Gribbin	8.13	7.50	7.83	7.10	30.57
2 Jerald Graham	7.33	6.90	7.43	6.87	28.53

SKY DISPLAY

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Cari King	8.30	8.23	8.40	8.10	33.03
J & M Freeman	8.13	7.10	8.50	7.63	31.36
2 Phil Broder	7.63	7.03	8.07	7.20	29.93
3 David Colbert	7.93	6.50	7.73	7.13	29.30
4 Bill Rodriguez	7.37	6.53	7.67	6.80	28.37

SPORT KITE

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
J Trennepohl & P Kirk	8.80	7.57	8.80	8.40	33.57
1 Will Sturdy	8.80	7.63	8.43	7.97	32.83
2 Terry Boyd	7.63	7.47	7.50	7.27	29.87
3 David Colbert	7.57	6.90	7.20	6.77	28.43

FIGHTER

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
R Hurd & P Gribbin	8.73	7.30	6.87	6.67	29.57
1 Barbara Hall	7.53	7.30	6.83	6.53	28.20
2 Jerald Graham	5.60	6.60	7.00	5.77	24.97

ROKKAKU

	VISUAL	FLIGHT	CRAFT	STRUC	SUM
1 Alexa King	8.33	8.00	8.10	8.43	32.87
J & M Freeman	8.50	7.93	7.47	7.77	31.67
R Hurd & P Gribbin	8.57	8.10	7.10	7.37	31.13
2 Jerald Graham	8.37	7.83	7.20	6.90	30.30

FIGURE

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 John Pollock	8.67	8.33	8.70	8.63	34.33
2 Mark Engbaum	8.03	7.77	8.23	7.13	31.17
3 Phil Broder	8.80	8.10	7.47	6.67	31.03
4 Mineichi Oguchi	8.37	7.97	7.83	6.57	30.73
5 John Freeman	7.53	6.97	8.53	7.07	30.10
6 Bob Matteo	8.47	7.33	6.87	6.77	29.43
7 Alexa King	6.17	7.40	7.60	7.20	28.37
8 Miriam Schafler	8.33	6.63	6.13	6.00	27.10

DELTA

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Cari King	7.83	7.67	8.43	8.20	32.13
B & D Wendt	8.27	7.60	7.30	7.30	30.47
2 David Colbert	8.07	7.60	7.67	6.87	30.20
3 Heather Thomas	8.17	7.37	7.27	6.73	29.53
4 Bill Rodriguez	8.20	7.70	6.77	6.10	28.77
5 M Schafler & D Ellis	8.33	7.43	7.00	5.53	28.30
6 Doug LaRock	0.00	0.00	7.73	7.83	15.57

FLAT

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Sam King	8.47	8.33	8.27	8.63	33.70
J & M Freeman	8.20	8.30	8.10	7.60	32.20
3 Mark Engbaum	8.40	7.87	8.10	7.67	32.03
3 Jean Reed	8.23	7.70	7.10	6.77	29.80
4 John Thomas	7.68	7.00	7.60	6.90	29.18
5 David Colbert	0.00	5.70	7.77	7.60	21.07

SOFT/FLEXIBLE

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Walt Mitchell	8.63	8.67	8.13	8.63	34.06
2 Ron Bohart	8.23	8.20	8.20	8.57	33.20
R & C Thrall	8.53	7.57	7.80	7.57	31.47
D & D Butler	8.33	7.50	7.90	7.70	31.43
3 Bill Rodriguez	8.03	7.20	7.23	6.77	29.23
4 Jerald Graham	8.07	7.30	7.13	5.97	28.47

BOWED

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Will Sturdy	8.73	8.50	9.07	8.60	34.90
2 John Pollock	8.70	8.33	8.87	9.00	34.90
3 Jon Trennepohl	8.40	7.97	8.87	8.43	33.67
4 Sam King	8.43	8.03	8.23	8.63	33.33
D & D Butler	8.33	7.13	8.10	8.87	32.43
5 Donna Wendt	8.47	7.83	7.77	8.00	32.07
J & M Freeman	8.57	7.83	7.40	7.70	31.50
6 Bob Matteo	8.23	7.57	7.40	7.93	31.13
R Hurd & P Gribbin	8.03	7.67	7.17	7.50	30.37
7 Bill Rodriguez	8.30	7.43	7.60	6.43	29.77

CELLULAR/DIMENSIONAL

	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM	
1 Sam King	8.67	8.20	8.73	8.70	34.30
2 Jon Trennepohl	7.93	6.77	8.83	8.67	32.20
3 Tom McAlister	8.17	6.90	8.33	8.53	31.93
4 Bob Matteo	8.47	7.67	7.17	7.73	31.03
5 Mark Engbaum	7.93	7.40	8.10	7.57	31.00
6 John Freeman	8.20	7.67	8.00	7.13	31.00
R Hurd & P Gribbin	8.43	7.80	7.27	7.30	30.80
7 Phil Broder	8.30	7.67	7.23	7.47	30.67
8 Ron Bohart	8.10	7.00	8.20	7.17	30.47
9 David Colbert	7.73	6.53	7.47	6.73	28.47
10 Glenda Kleppin	7.83	6.93	7.03	6.37	28.17

UFO

	FLIGHT	VISUAL	STRUC	CRAFT	SUM
1 Mark Engbaum	8.50	7.73	8.60	7.33	32.17
2 Yukio Akiyama	8.67	7.97	8.10	7.17	31.90
3 Mineichi Oguchi	8.20	7.47	7.93	6.93	30.53
C & G Pennell	0.00	0.00	7.57	6.97	14.53



Affiliated Club of the Year
Westport Windriders



Edeiken Award
Peter Lynn

Lee Toy Award
Dave & Diane Butler

Ingraham Award
Mel Hickman



Volunteer of the Year
Bob Wendt

Regional Director of the Year
Greg Lamoureux



SPORT KITE COMPETITION RESULTS

Experienced Ind. Dual-line Ballet

1 John Farrell	61.680
2 Jim Landers	58.840
3 Amy Doran	54.720
4 James Sturdy	48.760

Experienced Ind. Dual-line Precision

1 Michael Dirk	62.800
2 John Farrell	56.980
3 Jim Landers	52.520
4 James Sturdy	49.620

Experienced Ind. Multi-line Ballet

1 Spencer Watson	73.600
2 Amy Doran	66.680
3 Connor Doran	62.000
4 Michael Dirk	61.760
5 Jim Landers	55.640
6 Steve Lewis	52.840
7 Francisco Navarro	52.520
8 Jeff Erzin	51.600
9 Dirk Meier	49.760

Experienced Ind. Multi-line Precision

1 Amy Doran	66.840
2 Steve Lewis	63.400
3 Michael Dirk	57.820
4 Connor Doran	56.340
5 Francisco Navarro	51.200
6 Jim Landers	49.560
7 Dirk Meier	36.600

Experienced Pairs Dual-line Ballet

1 Crepitas Et Incendo	67.160	(Mervine/W Sturdy)
2 Fusion	62.120	(Willoughby/de Bakker)

Experienced Pairs Dual-line Precision

1 Crepitas Et Incendo	51.333	(Mervine/Sturdy)
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Experienced Team Dual-line Ballet

1 Team Crash and Burn	31.733	(J Sturdy/Haworth/Mervine/W Sturdy)
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Experienced Team Dual-line Precision

1 Team Crash and Burn	11.700	(J Sturdy/Haworth/Mervine/W Sturdy)
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Masters Individual Dual-line Ballet

1 Paul de Bakker	84.280
2 Jennifer Brown	75.680
3 Wayne Turner	75.240
4 Aaron Champie	72.960
5 Francisco Navarro	71.320
6 Lisa Willoughby	70.160
7 William Sturdy	69.480
8 John Gillespie	63.160
9 Richard Mervine	31.120

Masters Individual Dual-line Precision

1 Daniel Haigh	76.180
2 Aaron Champie	72.740
3 Paul de Bakker	72.660
4 Wayne Turner	72.300
5 William Sturdy	69.820
6 Francisco Navarro	68.120
7 John Gillespie	62.440
8 Richard Mervine	61.080
9 Lisa Willoughby	54.420
10 Jennifer Brown	51.740
11 Douglas Coates	45.380

Masters Individual Multi-line Ballet

1 Dennis Smith	79.360
2 Lisa Willoughby	77.280
3 John Farrell	76.560
4 Mark Quirnbach	75.440
5 Karl Berg	70.320
6 Jennifer Brown	69.760
7 Wayne Turner	68.480
8 Douglas Coates	65.640

Masters Individual Multi-line Precision

1 Mark Quirnbach	81.440
2 Karl Berg	80.320
3 John Farrell	72.200
4 Jennifer Brown	71.380
5 Wayne Turner	68.100

Masters Pairs Dual-line Precision

1 Second Thought	73.833	(Haigh/Turner)
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Masters Team Dual-line Ballet

1 AirZone Flight Team	73.560	(A Champie/Skinner/Gillespie)
2 Sixth Sense	73.400	(Rogers/Haigh/Turner)

Masters Team Dual-line Precision

1 Sixth Sense	75.500	(Rogers/Haigh/Turner)
2 AirZone Flight Team	69.680	(A Champie/Skinner/Gillespie)

Novice Individual Dual-line Ballet

1 Eli Patterson	59.960
2 Jared Haworth	58.320
3 Toby Arndt	55.960
4 Kristian Slater	52.000
5 Ed Skow	46.840

Novice Individual Dual-line Precision

1 Jared Haworth	64.160
2 Toby Arndt	60.500
3 Eli Patterson	55.120
4 Kristian Slater	52.060
5 Ed Skow	33.500

Open Individual Indoor Unlimited Ballet

1 Toby Arndt	79.720
2 William Sturdy	76.260
3 Paul de Bakker	75.960
4 Wayne Turner	74.300
5 Amy Doran	72.160
6 Lisa Willoughby	67.240
7 Francisco Navarro	65.980

Open Individual Outdoor Unlimited

1 Amy Doran	76.200
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Open Pairs Multiline Ballet

1 Parkway South	73.480	(Smith/Willoughby)
2 Blondie & The Old Guy	62.520	(A Doran/Farrell)
3 Damn Yankee Quad	58.800	(Coates/Berg)

Open Pairs Multiline Precision

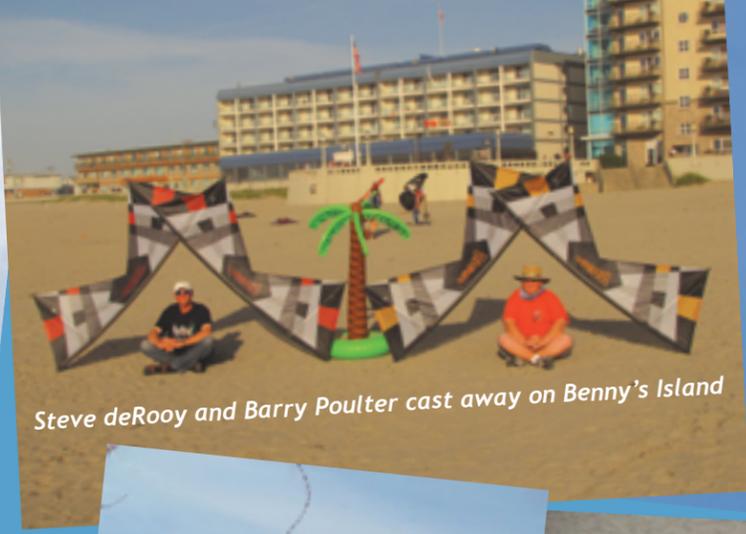
1 Damn Yankee Quad	56.420	(Coates/Berg)
2 Blondie & The Old Guy	54.580	(A Doran/Farrell)

Open Team Dual-line Train Ballet

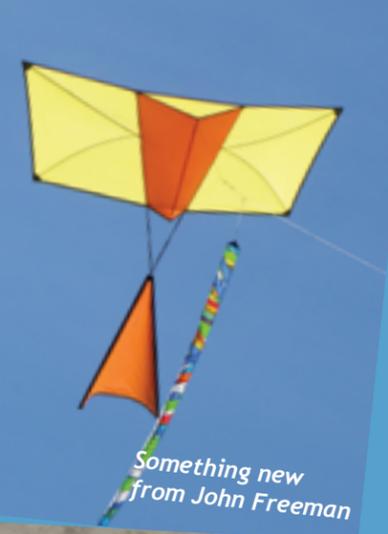
1 Susie's Spouses	68.280	(Skinner/Gomberg)
2 Heaven Help Us	64.760	(Coates/Berg)



Mark Engbaum's 2nd place figure kite



Steve deRooy and Barry Poulter cast away on Benny's Island



Something new from John Freeman



Billy Jones, Linda Sanders, and Maggie Vohs



Shelly Leavens
Sam King's sode



Everything must go at Uncle Ted Manekin's Crazy Cash & Carry!



PHOTOS BY RICK AGAR, PUL BRODER, TED MANEKIN, AND RICH DURANT



see more photos at www.flickr.com/photos/richdurant/sets/



Will Sturdy



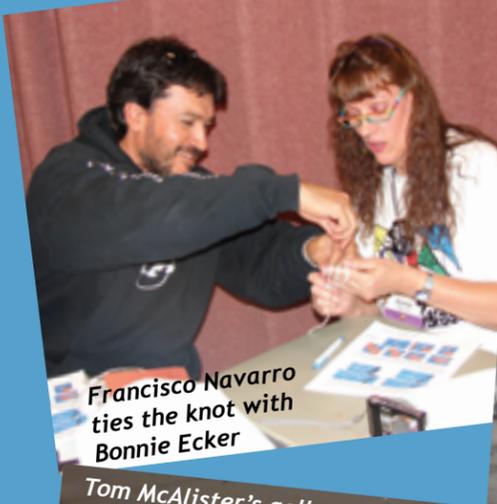
Sam King's 1st place rhomboid box kite



Ron Bohart's Retro Rocket



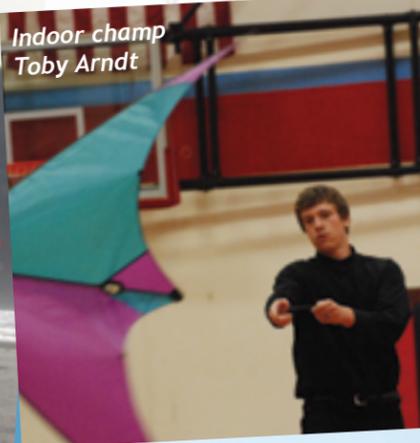
Paul deBakker



Francisco Navarro ties the knot with Bonnie Ecker



Indoor champ Toby Arndt



Sam and Cari King



Tahiti's Pierre Lesage



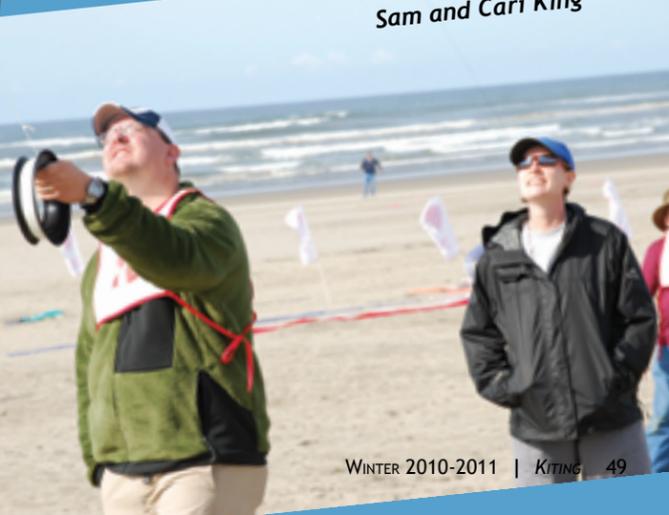
Jackie Lamoureux at Auction Central



Terry Boyd's 3rd place sport kite



Tom McAlister's gallery





Honu 4 by Tom Benedict

Wagon Wheel Gap Fall Forest by Doug Davlin

Golden Gate National Cemetery by Darrin Skinner



Dune Bloomers by Brooks Leffler



Washington Monument by Jim Powers

Eiffel Tower by Jim Powers



Boy And Kite by Tom Benedict



O Tahiti Nui Freedom by Pierre Lesage



Yellow Tree by Darrin Skinner

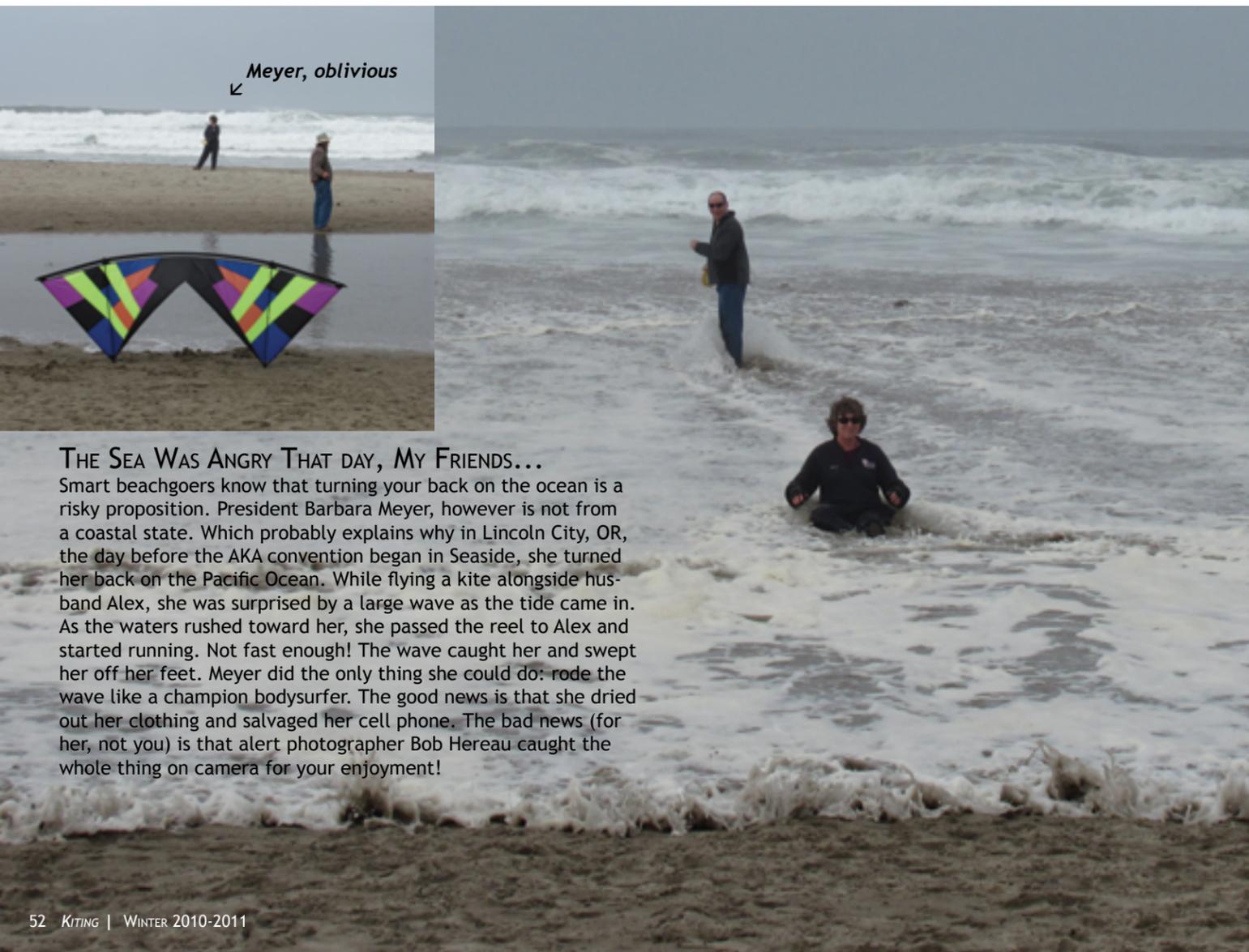
WORLD KITE: FOUND!

Rod Milburn of Region Twelve sent us this story. . . . “Some years ago, the then Director of AKA Region Thirteen Sharon Musto and I were flying together at WSIKF. We were both flying small parasleds at the time. Together we came up with the idea of making a little larger sled and sending it around the



world to various national and international kitefliers just to see how far and where it would go. I agreed to make the kite and send it to her in Canada. I made the kite all white with no graphics. The idea was to have flyers autograph the kite and send it on to the next bit of sky. Who knew how far or where this kite would travel? Hopefully we would be able to track the kite occasionally. We thought it would be nice if those flying the kite would take a picture and send it to us so we could track it and post pictures. It was anticipated that there might be gaps in the log but if all went well we would receive pictures of the kite flown in various locals throughout the world. Then one day, when we felt its travels were over, it was to be donated to the World Kite Museum in Long Beach, WA. For a while the gaps between sightings were rather short but then the kite went missing. The last info we had was that it was in France in 2006. We even had pictures. We heard that the then current caretaker was experiencing health problems. We heard nothing since but held out hope that the kite would reappear. Then just this year the kite was seen at Dieppe. It was in the possession of a couple from Italy. Apparently it had been in Colombia

for a while. The little kite is now moving on. Here’s a link to a site which contains the last known pictures of the kite. Just scroll down ‘til you get to Italia. <http://subvision.net/sky/osow/one.sky.2010/index.htm> It was flown for OSOW at the San Pelagio festival at the air museum in Italy. It’s still traveling and I have someone in France who is going to try and pick it up in Italy.”



THE SEA WAS ANGRY THAT DAY, MY FRIENDS...

Smart beachgoers know that turning your back on the ocean is a risky proposition. President Barbara Meyer, however is not from a coastal state. Which probably explains why in Lincoln City, OR, the day before the AKA convention began in Seaside, she turned her back on the Pacific Ocean. While flying a kite alongside husband Alex, she was surprised by a large wave as the tide came in. As the waters rushed toward her, she passed the reel to Alex and started running. Not fast enough! The wave caught her and swept her off her feet. Meyer did the only thing she could do: rode the wave like a champion bodysurfer. The good news is that she dried out her clothing and salvaged her cell phone. The bad news (for her, not you) is that alert photographer Bob Hereau caught the whole thing on camera for your enjoyment!

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 Saturday & Sunday, April 2 & 3 – 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
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Members' Choice Kite of 2010:
Rising Phoenix by Walt Mitchell



Members' Choice Kite Aerial Photo of 2010:
Ahu Tongariki, Easter Island by Pierre Lesage