

Skylines

The official newsletter of the *San Diego Kite Club*

Vol. IV No. 1

January- February 1993

In this issue

- Armani-La Jolla Opening 1
- Club Officers
Lines from the president 2
- Miscellaneous
happenings 3
- Sewing tips 4
- OB Kite Festival
New Year's 1993 5
- Brittain in San Diego 6
- St. Patrick's Day 7
- Airplay: featured member 8
- Letters 9
- Calender of events 10

**February
meeting
change in
location:
See page 3**

ANOTHER ARMANI EXCHANGE OPENING -
DECEMBER 5, 1992, LA JOLLA - at least
according to the T-shirts. Yup, it opened, but with
some extrastuff you won't find written about on
any shirts.

Kites, Cops,

& the

Colony Inn

by Torri
Cable

Now Armani is
a rather
s w a n k y
store- I

know I can't afford anything in it-
anyway, it's the kind of place that
probably doesn't want
confrontations with the San Diego
police. Luckily Ar-
mani didn't have to
hassle the cops- we
(the SDKC) got
to have all the
fun.

It all started after 20 or so rokkaku kites with the
Armani logo were up in the air at La Jolla Shores.
They were attended to by Jim Nettles, Chuck Brooks,
Steve Kent, Rod Milburn, Jim O'Bryant, Virgil
Dalton, Harry French, Steve and Stevie Johannesen,
Ron Despojado, Ed and Gail Lindsay, Courtney
Johnson, Walt Thompson, Charlie M'Clary, the
Ocheltrees, Larry Hill, Sharon Lai, John Rogers,
and several other kite flying folks from points north
whose names I didn't get. Sorry guys, but your help
was definitely appreciated.

SHE showed up

Lot's of running around, (it's essential for keeping
rokkaku kites in the air, isn't it?) lots of socializing,
and then SHE showed up - the long arm of the Park
and Recreation department. SHE said we had to take
down the kites, and Steve Kent from Kites Etc. in
Newport, California said we didn't. Words were

exchanged, and SHE left, vowing to return with
THE LAW!

More kite flying, more socializing, and some anxiety
as to the anticipated arrival of THE LAW. Guess
what? Two cop cars drove up-WOW! We must be
heavy stuff to warrant two, not just one officer. They
turned out to be pleasant young men, who didn't
really come out and say it, but seemed to give the
impression that we weren't hardened enough

two cop cars showed up

criminals for them to waste their time on. Actually,
SHE said there was an ordinance we were breaking,
but the police had to see it written down before they
would act upon it-(that is kick us out, or at least the
kites.)

Someone from the Park and Recreation department
finally showed up with the written evidence that we
were breaking the law. Yes folks, the story is now
out-we were advertising without a license! Now if
you've seen the T-shirts you've seen more than was
on the kites, but that was considered advertising by
the powers that be. For those of you unaware of the
Armani kites and how they looked, imagine an
"AX" on a very large, white rokkaku. That's all, but
I guess that all it took

Rooftop renegade kite flyers.

So now we have nothing to do but hang out at La Jolla
Shores and fly our own kites. Rough huh? Enter
Steve Kent. Betcha' didn't even know he was gone.
Steve talked the nice people at the Colony Inn on
Prospect St. to allow us to climb up to their roof and
fly the kites from there.

After relocating about 15 people from the shores to
See "Cops" Page 8

SDKC Officers 1992-93

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Ron Despojado

Equipment Manager

Charles W. Brooks

Vice President

Jim O'Bryant

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Larry Morgan

Archivist

Charlie M'Clary

Secretary

Diana Martin

Events Coordinators

Diana Martin

Connie Morgan

Founder

Dan Willan

Lines from the president

Now that 1993 is here we have a fresh start for another full year of kiting activities.

At our first Board of Directors Meeting, January 13, 1993, I posed a few questions.

What kind of kite club do we want to be? The past year, 1992 was a major turning point in many different ways - theme flies, increased public involvement by us and bringing in the public through their events, moving away from mostly stunt kite competing to a more inclusive arena for all kite flying and kite making and much more. Do we want to be a club dedicated to a few certain members and their interests or be open to risk taking and trying new venues and adventures? We have started this dialogue and if you want to participate come to a Board Meeting or pass on your ideas to a Board Member.

Another question was what level of major activity should we start this year? A giant involvement similar to a major convention or something else. We continued to come back to the local and regional big activities and keep the fun in what we do. Many ideas ranging from a regional to having kite festivals in conjunction with festivals of other groups, to a Valentine's Day fly. Other groups have festivals near the beach and we can have a joint festival with kiting on the beach for example. We can introduce kiting pleasures to groups that are unfamiliar with

this thing that we do. Many more ideas are coming and plans are being formulated.

On a different note can you keep up with all those new kites coming out? I can't but we have a new products watch with Jim O'Bryant attending and reporting back on the Kite Trade Association (KTA) bash in Florida this year.

New materials also are impacting kitemaking by some of us. We'll try to get more on this later.

Next month the February Meeting will move North (the Board voted on this) to join the Whale Festival at Dana Point. Our meeting will be Saturday February 20th. The Kite Festival will be both Saturday and Sunday. The Whale Festival is a week long activity with many fun events. Call Jim Nettles at 224- for more details.

Happy New Year and Good Winds,



"SKYLINES" is published bi-monthly by the San Diego Kite Club. All articles related to the sport of kiting are encouraged. Unless specifically marked "Not for republication" all submissions are available to other kiting publications without compensation. The "SKYLINES" staff reserves the right to edit all material.

Deadline: 15th of odd numbered months for publication to following issue.

Miscellaneous happenings

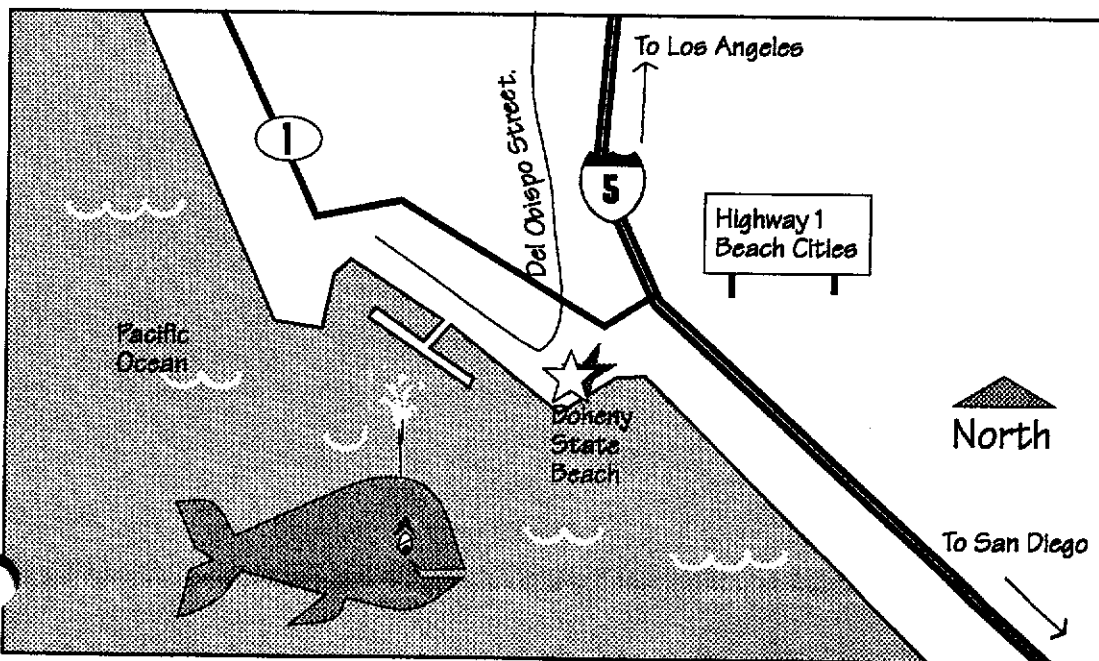
"Vogue!- Strike a pose"

The t-shirts have arrived. For only \$15 (\$17 for XXL), you can get the first official SDKC t-shirt. The shirts have a six color logo on back and small logo on front. All shirts are short sleeve 100% cotton Hanes Beefy T's with pocket on front. You will be helping out the club in addition to making a *simply faaaabulous* fashion statement. Madonna is still undecided as to whether she will actually wear one or just drape it across her shoulders in her next music video.

Festival of Whales & SDKC February meeting

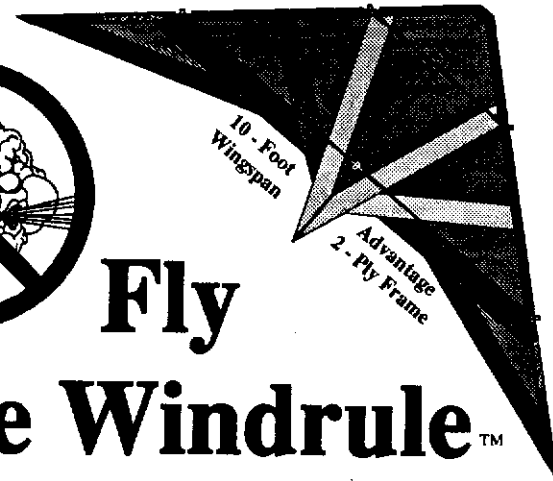
The San Diego Kite Club February meeting will be held at Doheny State Park in Dana Point (see map below) in conjunction with the Festival of the Whales. Not only can we enjoy seeing some great kites but also there will be some very interesting people to talk to. Bring a dish (hopefully with something to eat in it) and we will enjoy a picnic at a great park. There

will be a small fee to park your vehicle since this is a State Park, but it will be well worth it to see some of the best looking kites around (at least it was great last year, no wind but great kites and great people) Come join us! The Festival of Whales is scheduled for the weekend of February 20-21. Any questions ask Jim Nettles @ (619) 224-.--Diana Martin



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Do you have a small news article that we should know about? Please send it to us for the upcoming newsletter.

Fix-it tips: General sewing

FIX IT TIPS : GENERAL

TIPS was written by Nancy Lockwood for the Ohio Society for the Elevation of Kites (OSEK) newsletter "Down the Line" January 1993. She lives in Ohio and does great work. We lifted this because the material is good and Nancy did our beautiful Club Banner. Jose took it with him to India this past week and it has been at Long Beach (WA), Sun Fest (MA) and many other places. Nancy created the original concept for our banner based on our logo, faxed the designs to us, and did the actual sewing of the beautiful, custom artpiece.

Walt



ABOUT SEWING MACHINE NEEDLES: ALWAYS USE SHARP NEEDLES. WHEN BEGINNING ANY PROJECT, CHECK YOUR NEEDLE.

Dull needles or ones that have a "burr" on them should be thrown out. If your machine is also used to make clothing, be sure you have SHARPS, not ball-point needles (used only for stretch fabrics). Use the smallest size needle you can. Ideally a #9 or #10 if work will involve sewing heavy 3.5 oz. Dacron or webbing. For areas where you are likely to be sewing through several thicknesses, its best to use a #11 rather a #9.

Needles snap when they run into resistances, when the fabric is too heavy, and when you force the machine to sew faster than it can handle, also when you pull the fabric, rather than let it ride at the machine's pace.

When you know you are going to sew through heavier layers, as the ends of an area where rolled

seams make four or five pieces of fabric, turn the sewing machine wheel by hand, one stitch at a time. This takes the stress off your machine motor and the needle. It may be a nuisance, but it saves your hardware!

The FUZZ must go!

Your machine-- Clean and oil it regularly. Always have an owner's manual. Never use a sewing machine like you do your tape player. Treat it with respect and it will repay you with treasures!

Some newer machines have sealed motors and you don't have to oil them, but ALL machines collect thread and fabric fuzz that MUST be removed regularly. A pipe cleaner with one end bent in (so its's not sharp) is a great cleaning tool. IF you do not use your machine often, take it in to a dealer or repair shop where they handle your brand to be lubricated before you begin a major project or you'll end up with a major disaster


It's a sewing machine, not a fiddle.

NEVER FIDDLE WITH THE KNOBS WHILE YOU SEW!! Use your machine according to the manufacturer's instructions as outlined in the owner's manual (see why you need one?)

If the top and bottom stitch adjustments are out of sync and you can't get them aligned, take it to a good repair shop and have them do it. Ask them how to change the adjustment. If you use regular sewing thread (regular is cotton wrapped polyester on spools) you should not need to adjust anything. If you get Sailmakers's thread on cones, you need to crank UP the top adjustment. On average, the top adjustment is about 5-6. My machines need 8 for Sailmaker's thread. If you buy, get #46 Dabond. It's also called "Spinnaker weight", and what we make is the same as a spinnaker sail.

Best tool: Buy a sewing book. Be sure the book you buy has very good pictures. These things are written for the novice sewer, and they do a fine job of showing how to do seams, etc.

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Ode to the OB Kite Festival

I just received my Peninsula Beacon, the local newspaper in Ocean Beach. Included in a nostalgia piece on events from the '50s was the following bit: "Thousands Will Watch Kids Send 'Em Aloft," March 11, 1954: That's right, the Ocean Beach Kite Festival. "Several thousand spectators are expected to line the parade route and watch the spectacle as the kites catch the ocean breeze- weatherman permitting- and soar aloft in a symphony of grace and color."

Host for over 4 decades

Incredible to think that Ocean Beach has been hosting the festival for over 40 years, isn't it? For the past 2 years, we, the SDKC have been actively involved- some of us have even had our cars involved- sorry David!

This year John Rogers is coordinating with the OB Rec Center and Eileen Histen to put on another fun filled, sky filled day of kite making, parading, and flying. We're going to focus on high-flyers to allow the children easier access to the kites. Seems that last year many kids were bummed because they couldn't get close to the stunt and quadlines most of us were using. So on March 6, Saturday, bring your favorite single line, (or two or three) and help us show the people of Ocean Beach that grownup kites have lots to share with little OB-ceans.

Remember, this is one of the oldest kite festivals in the country and we are invited to take part- don't miss this unique opportunity. See you at 4726 Santa Monica Blvd. in Ocean Beach on Saturday, March 6, 1993.

New Year's 1993

With more wind this year than we had in '92 lot's of us had a great day flying in the new year. My mom, Norma Riddell made friends with Larry Bragdon before I even got to the field. Thanks, Larry for setting mom up with potential tenants. When I arrived the grill had been set up by Jim and Paula O'Bryant, and Ron Theriot and Eric Aalto had some

Larry's beans were a welcome addition

wonderful smelling fajitas smoking over the flames. Charlie M'Clary accompanied by his lovely wife Joanne set up a terrific spread with the help of

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Doreen Imbach. Sorry about the meatballs, Doreen. (She forgot 'em, but remembered the sweet and sour sauce.) Larry and Connie Morgan arrived a little late, but Larry's beans were a welcome addition.

Enough about food- it was all great though!

Lots of good company showed up to lift a kite face to the new year. Paul Imbach was flying a beautiful kite made by Carl Crowell, who was there with his wife Kathryn. Johnny and Gina Hsuing drove down to join in the celebration, and Ed and Gail came up from Chula Vista. Virgil Dalton made it all the way from up the hill in Clairemont. John Rogers went all out flying some of his huge single liners while Jim Nettles and Chuck Brooks flew a variety of kites. John Perusse brought his crew and they set up camp down the field from most of the commotion- smart guy.

The best part, for me, was the arrival of Jose Sainz with his daughter Ilena. Jose set up his prize winning Aztec calendar and then handed the lines to me. I was told I looked like a cat who'd just swallowed a canary- heaven forbid- were those feathers sticking out of my mouth? It was a truly beautiful, art filled sky in Mission Bay, January 1, 1993. Ah well, another year in paradise starts out auspiciously.

Thanks to Torri Cable- a consistent contributor to the newsletter- for these two stories

David Brittain comes to town

Welcome to San Diego David, we all hope to see you soon. And you will be joining our club, right?

Two interviews by Walt Thompson

What DOES AN AVID KITEFLYER DO WHEN IT HAS BEEN RAINING FOR WEEKS AND NO KITE FIX IN THREE WEEKS?

While daydreaming about flying my Revolution I and II an interview idea came into mind. How about David Brittain that quad line magician? That would be instructive and fun.

ME: David, why did you come to San Diego?
DAVID: To get away from that Oregon rain.
ME: What do you plan to do here?
DAVID: Lay on the beach and fly Revs with my feet.
ME: What do you think of our Kite Club?
DAVID: Grrrrrrrrrrrrrrreat!
ME: We all thank you.
ME: Now that you are here can you show me a few tips to improve my flying?

DAVID: Would love to but I need to help out a few of the members.
ME: Who?
DAVID: Ron Despojado, Charlie M'Clary, Roger McComb and Bill Paul to start with.
ME: Will there ever be time for me?
DAVID: Maybe, but these guys really need help.
ME: This 3-D and HOOP stuff looks real cool. Any tips?
DAVID: You know what you're doing. Don't worry about it.

It is now Sunday January 17th and between light rain showers THAT really is David Brittain pulling in with his VW Van. The silly, make-believe discussion above could be replaced with a real one. I let David get his gear set up and nod to him. I'm still flying my kite and I feel the tensions soaking

"I need to help out a few of the members...Ron Despojado, Charlie M'Clary, Roger McComb, and Bill Paul ...those guys really need help"

--David Brittain via Walt's fantasy interview

into the ground like the rain. David is doing some cool 3-D stunts and I saunter over.

"Hi David how are you?"

"Fine" comes back through the 18 mph wind. "Nice day to be flying a Rev II" says he.

"Yeah, nice day to be flying anything" says me. Now some real questions and answers and I'd better be cool because Ron just drove up in his white truck.

WALT: Nice to have you in San Diego, can I do a mini interview on the field?

DAVID: Sure.

WALT: What do you want to accomplish here?

DAVID: Well, besides being rained out for the quadline day fly yesterday, more flying.



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WALT: Yesterday was the first time the SDKC General Meeting was rained out. Only 2 people showed and I was one of them. You know it hardly rains in San Diego.

DAVID: Really.

WALT: What do you want to accomplish here?

DAVID: Basically three goals that may or may not work out: One is to fly indoors during entertainment activities, such as basketball games. In fact I'd like to fly in all the (NBA) Arenas during halftimes. Any indoor activity. Another goal is to fly outdoors during any activity that will work out. Monster Truck rallies are a good example. My third goal is to present events at schools during assemblies and other times. Discussing the history of kiting and if there is space- doing demos.

"I'd like to fly in all the (NBA) arenas during halftime"

WALT: Find a place to stay?

DAVID: Staying with a friend for now and Revolution has given me deskspace and I'm working with a promoter.

WALT: Will you join the club next month at Dana Point for the Whale Festival? We are moving our next general meeting there for February then we will meet back here in March as usual.

DAVID: Sounds like fun. Of course I'll be there.

WALT: First time I've seen you flying a QuadraFoil. It really pulls. Is this something new? (As he skis on the rain slick grass for about 30 feet)

DAVID: Actually I got this because I have a Buggy on order and will use this to pull me around.

WALT: While we're here I was wondering if you could show me something.

DAVID: Anytime but right now Ron is here and I want to show him something...

Yes David Brittain is really here. He set the record for flying indoors in Portland just recently. He flew a modified Rev for 4 hours, 4 minutes and 4 seconds. If you want details ask him. David is an enthusiastic, friendly guy with a great imagination for kite innovation. He came in First Place in the Innovation category at Lubbock. What a beautifully trophy-plaque he received and deserves.

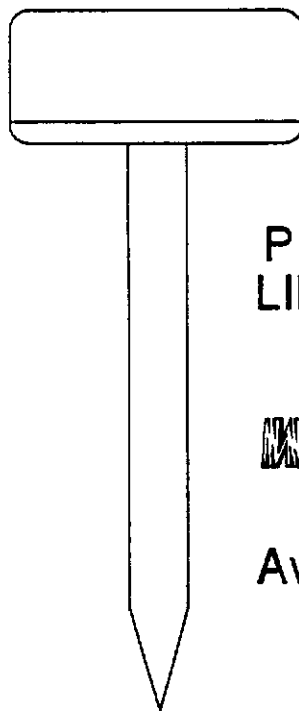
Color me green? St. Patrick's Day March Fun Fly

Coming soon at your local Mission bay Park is San Diego's own SDKC St. Patrick's Day Fun Fly. Green is the color of the day. Wear something green, fly something green, and yes, use your imagination and bring a side dish or dessert that is GREEN! (Please-not green and fuzzy, just green) Just think of some gourmet treat for us all to share! It is amazing what a little food coloring can do. Festivities begin at 11:00. Hamburgers will be provided but please bring your own beverages. Let's all have a great time celebrating the day of the Irish. See you at the fields.

Food Drive recipients

I want to thank all who contributed to the food drive. Proceeds were given to a family in Escondido and also to a community church whom distributed it to the local shelters. Thank you once again, you made someone's Christmas a little bit better.

Another in a series of "Theme Fly's" from the creative mind of Diana Martin.



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Airplay: Gail Lindsay

by *Jorri Cable*

flying field-with enough time to devote to this lovely woman who makes extraordinary, and gorgeous kites.

Gail is tall and quiet with a great sense of fun-you should have seen her on New Years day flying her kite while lying on her back with one leg crossed over the other knee. Her husband, Ed and I conspired to take a picture of her, and did, but it wasn't developed in time for this edition-too bad, you know what they say about a picture worth a thousand words.

"It's not flying, but watching kites and getting to go to so many pretty places"

--Gail Lindsay

When asked the most important aspect of kiting for her, Gail replied, "It's not flying, but watching kites, and getting to go to so many pretty places." Since she and Ed are retired (which is hard to believe since they both look so young,) they've gone to several competitions and of course the AKA convention in Lubbock, Texas where Gail won second place in what was called the most competitive class of the competition, the multiple line entry. Gail's kite is a turquoise blue

I consider this the elusive interview as Gail and I kept missing each other. But January 30, 1993 finally found us both in the same spot-where else but the

hummingbird quadline and it not only looks beautiful, it flies very well. What's even more remarkable is that she started making kites in June of 1992. That's barely six months ago!

All in the family

With excitement in her voice Gail informed me that her newest acquisition is a Phaff sewing machine. "It makes sewing a pleasant experience. Let's see if it improves my work." As if improvement was necessary. I asked if Ed got to use the new machine since he's recently started sewing. Her answer, "No!" But I'm pretty sure she's kidding. She started sewing clothes for her children about 25 years ago,

but left that up to her mother when she went to

it will definitely scare the local prey

work. At this point Guy Lindsay, Ed's son, stopped by to laughingly inform me that he had taught Gail all she knew. I still don't believe him.

Gail's latest kite is based on a bald eagle with brown and black wings and body, white head and tail, and yellow/gold for the beak and feet. If she flies it at South of the Hilton I guarantee no seagulls or pigeons in the air around us. As authentic as it sounds, it will definitely scare the local prey.

Ed bought Gail her first kite for her birthday in October of '91, and though she flies very little, being concerned with the safety of those around her, she is looking forward to getting into single lines. For the AKA at Seaside, Oregon in '93, and the Nationals Gail is thinking of a monarch butterfly or dragonfly-something that flies, and perhaps a 40 or 50 square foot parafoil. Whatever she makes I'm sure it will be stunning.

"Cops: Armani fly II"

Continued from page 1

downtown La Jolla, finding parking spaces, climbing the stairs, setting up 8 kites, the BIG ADVERTISING BLITZ was on again. This time there were kids on bright red scooters buzzing around the streets, wearing the T-shirts and drawing attention to the store's opening in a noisier way than the very quiet kites. Funny how the quiet, peaceful sort of commercialism got the bad rap here while those scooters became more obnoxious the longer you had to listen to them. Oh well, go figure, or better yet, go fly a kite.

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Letters-

A helping hand

Dear Club Members:

You should be proud of the quality of the members associated in your organization. Recently I was visiting the San Diego area during a business trip and had the distinct pleasure of meeting Jim O'Bryant.

After explaining to Jim I was a novice kite flyer he was quick to offer a helping hand and was more than generous with his expertise as well as his kites. It wasn't very long when Harry showed up to offer his assistance too! Well between the three of us we had my kite in tip-top flying condition. Then to my amazement Virgil showed up with his Cockatoo kite of his own creation and after some gentle prodding he modestly explained his innovation to me. I was thoroughly impressed.

I came back to Sacramento full of new knowledge and appreciation of the fine art of kite flying. I am sure business will bring me back to San Diego although I'm not sure when but hopefully during the 3rd Saturday of the month. So until then, a warm hearted thank you to my new friends and to quote Virgil "hope we can pull strings together soon."

Sincerely,

Amy A. Marion

Keep those cards and letters coming

Mr. Bill remembered

Dear Walt Thompson,

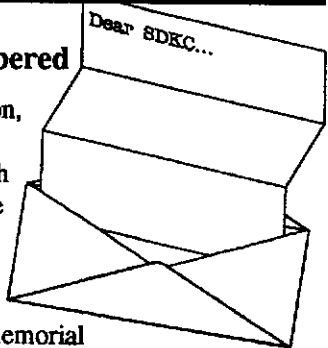
Thank you for "With The Wind" in the current issue of SKYLINES (November-December). The memorial kitefly is a very eloquent tribute to Bill Johnson who delighted in everything to do with kite flying.

Because I am going to visit my family on December 18th, Bill's 83rd birthday, I will miss the SDKC meeting and memorial kitefly.

All of us in the family will be there in spirit.

Sincerely,

Liz Johnson
(Mrs. William Weber Johnson)



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Calendar of Events

February

Events are subject to last minute changes. Call (619) 222-9300 for latest updates

- 10- Board of Director's Meeting, O.B. Recreation Center, 7:00 p.m.,
- 13-14- President's Day Kite Fly, 8th Annual Del Monte Beach, Monterey CA. Contact Windborne Kites (408) 373-
- 14- Valentine's Day- Buy your sweetheart a new kite, something that *you've* always wanted, and be prepared to sleep on the couch tonight
- 20- Monthly General Meeting, ~~Doheny State Beach; Dana Point~~ (see page 3)
- 20-21- Doheny Festival of the Whales; Doheny State Beach, Dana Point. Contact All about Kites (619) 224-

March

- 5-7- Fort Warden Kitemakers Conference, 10th Annual, Port Townsend, WA. Contact: Bob Alford (206) 888-
- 6- Ocean Beach Kite Festival, 46th Annual, Ocean Beach Elementary School. Contact: (619) 531-
- 6- Las Vegas Kite Karnival, 21st Annual, Freedom Park, Las Vegas, NV. Contact: Tona Taylor (701) 229-
- 10- Board of Director's Meeting, O.B. Recreation Center, 7:00 p.m.
- 13- SDKC 1st Annual St. Patrick's Day Fun Fly, South of the Hilton, 11:00 (page 7)
- 14- Samuel F. Cody Birthday Kite Fly, 3rd Annual, Blue Lake Park, Portland, OR. Contact: Jim Duncan (503) 222-
- 15- Deadline for summittals for "SKYLINES" Newsletter
- 17- St. Patrick's Day- Take a leprechaun kite flying
- 20- Monthly General Meeting- South of the Hilton.
- 21- Santa Barbara Kite Festival, 11th Annual, Shoreline Park, Santa Barbara, CA. Contact: Neeta Khare (805) 966-
- 27- Fun Fly & Expo, Lancaster, CA. Contact: Jon & Patty Small (805) 943-

April

- 12- Flagstaff Kite Festival 3rd Annual, Flagstaff AZ. Contact Randy Shannon (602) 779-
- 14- Board of Director's Meeting, O. B. Recreation Center, 7:00 pm
- 17- Monthly General Meeting, South of the Hilton 1:00 pm
- 24- Quartz Hill Kite Festival, Lancaster, CA. Contact Jon & Patty Small (805) 943-

ADVERTISING RATES

The *San Diego Kite Club* is accepting ads for its newsletter "SKYLINES" to offset printing and mailing costs.

The following rates are now in effect per issue:

Quarter page (4" x 4.5")	\$20
Half page (7.5" x 4.5")	\$40
Full page (7.5" x 10")	\$70
Half-back cover	\$60
Full sheet insert	\$75

Interested parties should contact:

San Diego Kite Club
 P.O. Box 7977
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or call 232-9300 for additional information and submission dates

Advertisers should have camera ready art for submission. Inquires welcome for multi-issue rates.

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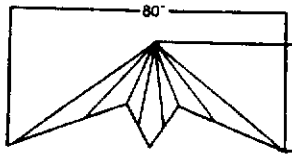
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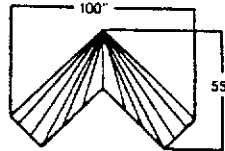
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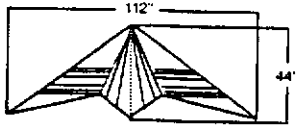


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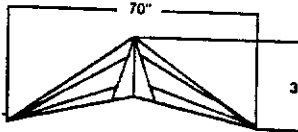
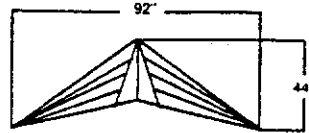


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Why mess with perfection? This mainstay of our company has been in production for years and is still going strong. The award-winning PHOENIX 20 is a real performer in light to moderate winds. Its large size and bold graphics are a sight to behold.

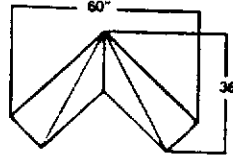
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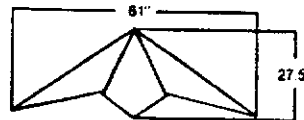


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