

S K Y L I N E S

The official newsletter of the *San Diego Kite Club*

Vol. III No. 2

May-June 1992

In this issue

Highfliers in the sky 1

Board of Directors
Lines From The President 2

Rosarito Beach festival
Control Challenge 3

Taste of Competition II
4&5

Tako Kichi 5

Airplay: Featured member
6

3-D Flying
Strange Noises...? 7

Everett Poppy Tour 8

"How I started" 9

Calender of events 10

Final Word 11

Highfliers fill Mission Bay sky

SDKC's May general meeting another success

By Torri Cable

Idrove along Sea World drive on May 16, 1992, for my first club meeting since changing my days off to resemble a normal persons life. I knew it was going to be a good meeting when I saw all the single line kites in the air from a mile away. Our sky looked fantastic, and as I rounded the curve in front of "south of the Hilton" the whole field was breathtaking.

The cast of characters

Paul and Dorine Imbach had their gorgeous, prizewinning kites in the air, while Leo and Marian Eyman had award winning spinner banners on the ground. Marian also has tiny little kites that deserve a really closeup look.

**the whole
field was
breathtaking**

John Werner and his wife Kate came down from Sunland so that John could give us a seminar on kite building with bamboo and other "conventional" kiting materials. Thanks to people like John and Kate our meetings are quite varied and everyone's interests get addressed.

Larry and Connie Morgan not only put up kites but also helped Fred and Diana Martin cook and sell hot dogs on the grill provided by Jim and Paula O'Bryant.

Jose Sainz brought his son, who became our official ticket picker, as well as putting up his spectacular kites with his dad. Also in evidence were Freda and Virgil Dalton - amazing to see Virgil out and about when a week earlier he'd had neurosurgery. Our "beloved founder" Dan Willan brought his kids and his kites. Tommy and Steve Johannesen joined Jim Nettles, Chuck Brooks, Steve Coates, Dennis Erwin, Don Johnston with Kendra, Chip Spect and his daughters, Rayna and Maya, as well as Roger McComb, Tom Huntley, and Ed and Gail Lindsey.

Local enthusiast Mr. Bill

Mr. Bill set up his huge kite and spinners next to sidewalk and many of us had a chance to stop by and say hello to this well known, local kiting enthusiast.

Lee Hobby and Ray Poirier, Abe Fishman, Jim Bonnardel, Mike Moore, and Roger Carlson flew or helped out, or spectated depending on their inclination at the time. Walt Thompson and Ron Despojado officiated at the meeting then had a chance to fly. Bill Paul flew his Rev, Ray Miller and Eric Olaes brought their stacks, and Randy Tom had his also. Don Studebaker brings up the list of all the members and fliers who helped make this such a great day. We should do this more often, right?

Also, congratulations to Diana Martin for winning Jose Sainz's beautiful original rokkaku. We're all jealous!

Board of Directors

President

Walter Thompson

Treasurer

Ron Despojado

Equipment Manager

Charles W. Brooks

Vice President

Ron Despojado

Membership

Kelly Flynn

Liason

Jim O'Bryant

Secretary

Joanne M'Clary

Events Coordinator

Torri Cable

Founder

Dan Willan

Lines from the President...

What a year! We started out 1992 with a New Year's Day Fly and potluck. No real wind but those of us there had a great time getting to know each other better. Kite talk with friends was the best way to begin this year.

Randy Thom's workshop added a new dimension to kiting for so many of us. I even started sewing and trying to applique. Randy made it look so easy. Then Jose Sainz's easy going manner made the process doable and still look easy. Personally I'm still struggling with that sewing machine but I have a cool kite bag that I made.

Having the Revolution brothers at a general meeting turned many toward quadlining. Mike Sterling and his Cyborgs was almost as exciting as Mike and his enthusiasm for the sport we enjoy. Skip Parks showing us at another meeting about his Banshees and how to fly them backwards extended our horizons. Top of The Line with Don Tabor, Dom and gang not only showed their new products (love that Kona) but spent the afternoon with us showing us how they do their magic. There was more but you get the drift.

Each general meeting was better attended than the previous and we had skyloads of fun. Could it get better? The May general meeting was devoted to single line kites. The high flyers practically covered the sky and drew spectators from all around. John Werner's brief workshop in the foreground about traditional Chinese kites and kitemaking was impressive. While he was showing us how to split bamboo I could see the carnival of color in the background. What a juxtaposition - John (from Walt Disney Imagineer-

ing) wielding ancient tools while thousands of yards or ripstop sparred in AFC to Graphite danced in the sky beyond.

The San Diego Kite Club is still here and doing well despite some rumors to the contrary. If you have any questions then call our KITELINE at (619)222-9300. Outgoing messages are updated frequently and you can leave a message. You should receive a reply in 24-48 hours at the most or minutes at the best.

During our June General Meeting we'll have an afternoon with Ron Reich. Bring your best stunters. In July Team Zephyrus will be down and Chuck Bradford (our AKA regional rep) will answer any questions you can throw at him. July is also our anniversary month and we will have elections. You want to become more involved? Send the Board of Directors Nominating Committee a line. Have someone in mind who is too shy to volunteer? You can send in a nomination (check with that person first please). So far my basic rule of not forcing anyone to go beyond their comfort level of involvement has worked and I will continue with it. Ok sometimes I'm a little pushy, but you and all of us are here to enjoy this sport of kiting in as many ways as WE want. If you want to sit at home and sometimes come to a meeting that's ok. If you want to be a real sparkplug and get immersed in many details that's ok too.

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 even numbered months for publication to following issue.

Rosarito Beach Festival cancelled

Promoter cites sponsorship problems force cancellation at last minute

By Joe Fisher--Due to problems that I could not help, I'm forced to cancel the Rosarito Beach Kite Festival and Competition, just one month from the event date and over one year of planning. I'm sure you would like to know the reasons, I'll try to keep it short.

all of a sudden I started having sponsorship problems

The check has been cut, trust me

First of all the hotel told us that the 13-14 of June had no programs so it was clear. That became the date. Next- about a month ago I found out that they set the same date for their Seafood Fair. All of a sudden I started having sponsor problems. For example, they dropped the amount of their commitments. They made out a check, so they say, that I never saw. The Seafood Fair did not bother the Kite Festival and Competition, it only made the event more desirable. The problem was that they needed sponsors for the Seafood Fair as well. Well, I'm sure you can guess. Suddenly they were expressing to me their preference on sponsors, and at the same time a \$20,000 commitment became \$5,000. Put two and two together and the answer is- less money.

"..he's not in at the moment.."

Why pay more when the Kite Festival is going to be there anyway? Okay, I thought, I'll just go with their minimum and get another sponsor, and let the Festival pay for itself. Here I go again. One month

I'm already working on the next one

more of Hugo Torres, owner of the hotel telling me, "I just

talked to them, your check is ready". I call the sponsor and got one month of being told "He is not in but I'll have him call you" or "he got your message". But never did they return any of my calls. Time was running out. With deep regret it

became necessary to cancel the Rosarito Kite Festival and Competition.

But I never quit. I'm already working on the next one and this time everyone pays up front.

Again, I apologize to all and I'm very committed to the San Diego Kite Club. Thank you Jim O' Bryant and his friends. If the festival were to be, it could never happen without Jim and the San Diego Kite Club. Also thanks to the manufacturers- Top of the Line, Hyperkites, and Revolution.

In speaking with Joe Fisher, it was evident that dreams do die hard, but life goes on. Kiting is a wonderful sport: freedom, fresh air, comraderie, all of these plus other positive feelings. However, the hard facts of reality- specifically "the bottom line", does unfortunately factor into all of this. We definitely commend Joe for all his efforts and wish him all the best for the next one. SDKC will again welcome the opportunity to assist as is possible.

-Editor

Control Challenge Series

By L. E. Funt--San Diego kite flyers, clamoring for a competitive event to replace the now defunct Belmont Competition, have been seen gathering at the east end of Dusty Rhodes Park. The reason: a Control Challenge, organized and sponsored by All About Kites in Point Loma.

What is a Control Challenge? It is a timed, obstacle course, compulsory figure eight event that challenges a flyer's ability to command the kite. Competition is geared to three levels. Event organizers Jim Nettles and Chuck Brooks say a quadline challenge is in the works. The event is scheduled for the first Saturday of each month, excepting Saturday July 4, which will be postponed to Sunday July 5.

Winners for the May 2 competition are Larry Hill, with a lightning fast time of 16:91 seconds in Level I. Fred Martin took Level II with a time of 23:69 seconds. Only one person attempted Level III, and competitors and spectators all had a great time.

Please come to help us build this into a friendly competitive kite flying arena for the aspiring stunt kite flyer. Starting time is between noon and 1 pm, depending on wind.

For more information call 224-

Taste of competition - Part 2

This is part two and conclusion of Dan Willan's competition experiences

By Dan Willan--The next day I went against Richard Van Mechelen. He had taken 3rd place at the AKA convention in 1989. He had also learned his fighter kite skills from Victor Heredia, so I knew I was in store for a challenge. Van brought out a "Fireball Vic's Fighter" that I had watched him fly earlier in practice. As the judge called "ready, set, go!", I had a knot in my stomach the size of a beach ball. We battled back and forth. I would again and again try to get him in a position for a kill and Van would return the favor. I don't know how I did it but I eventually eliminated him from the competition. It wasn't easy, that's for sure.

My next challenger would be Charlie M'Clary. I had flown against him in earlier competitions that were held by the San Diego Kite Club. We knew each other's strong and weak points. I thought to myself I needed an edge over him. As we got ready, I was to Charles' left on the field of battle. I looked at the way the wind was blowing and saw that it had

he was more concerned with me than fighting

slightly changed direction. So as we started to fly I picked up my spool and stood next to him. This was a major change how everyone was flying. Before most flyers we staying as far away as possible. Well I felt I needed to change the scheme of things. It worked pretty well- I shook his confidence. He was more concerned about me than fighting. We exchanged points with each other. After quite a battle I won the match.

The battle for bragging rights

As I waited for the outcome of the battle that raged in front of me, I was treated to watching Johnny and David battle for bragging rights. As luck has it they ended up getting matched against each other in the competition. While watching them fly against each other I was remembering an earlier conversation I had with David Tan. He mentioned as boys they used to rule the skies above the town they lived in. They would use glass cutting line and fly from a spot that overlooked the city, sometimes finding their victims up to a mile away. They grew up in India. They had been flying since they were six years old. Watching their kites streak across the sky, I could almost imagine them as children doing the same thing that they are now doing as adults. The points were accumulating in David's favor. As the families of each man cheered them on, the outcome would not change. David won the challenge between these two childhood friends.

as boys they used to rule the skies above the town they lived in

Body Tremors

Well it became my turn to step up to the challenge of David Tan. As the announcer jeered me as I walked onto the field, I was trying to collect my thoughts that were scattered across the field. By now, not only did I have that butterfly feeling in my stomach, I also had a full blown case of the body tremors. As I tried to straighten out my line it just got more tangled. So I took a series of deep breaths and handed my kite to Jim O'Bryant.

I laid out the line as he walked away. I tried to remember some of the strategy that I thought of

HYPERKITES



NEW HOT WING

For information on our complete line of High Performance Stunt Kites, please write or call for our free catalog.

720-C Gateway Center Dr.
San Diego, CA 92102

Tel (619) 262-4712
Fax (619) 262-4714



while watching David and Johnny's battle. At that very moment my mind went blank- I started to breathe faster and my hands started to sweat. It was not a good sign when your about to start in a competition. The next thing I heard was "ready, set, go!" As the two kites climbed together, I suddenly

"what a bizarre place to be flossing my teeth"

noticed David's kite change direction and dive toward the ground. It stopped and hovered in a perfect circle about 2 feet from the

ground. Well not to be outdone, I felt with all the practice I had, I could do the same. I changed direction and put my kite about 3 feet above the ground in a tight circle. Well we did this for a few minutes until one of us decided to challenge the other. I snuck my kite into a position to get David's line. Yeah! I got a point on him. Then I got another one. Then I got one of those nasty knots from hell in my line. A time out was called while I sorted this mess out. I then cut away the affected part of the line and tied it back together. As I was trimming the knots with my teeth. George the announcer, was commenting on what a bizarre place to be flossing my teeth. The crowd was amused by the announcer's comments.

Suicidal Kite

The kites took flight to the air again. Unfortunately my kite decided it was time to be a bad kite. It threw itself on the ground, well at least that what it looked like to me. All I was trying to do was hover in a tight turn a foot above the ground. The kite had it own mind to what it wanted to do. So now I am one down on points. All David needed to do was score one more point to win. As the kites took off again, I watched David's kite go to the right of the field then hover in a tight turn about two feet above the ground. I took my kite and placed it about five feet from his in a hover about the same height. I was trying to time the turn of my kite to the upward swing of his string. About the time I was ready to go for the kill, I pulled on the string and, wouldn't you know it, my kite was pointed down, not to the proper angle and crashed ungracefully to the ground.

Set and match David Tan.

This competition taught me one thing. You can never practice enough at something that you want to excel at. I would like to thank everyone who was involved with the above mentioned events. Without their enthusiasm and love of kiting, events like these would not happen.

"Tako Kichi"



This letter is courtesy of our archivist Charlie M' Clary written to him from Paul Imbach, one of our members from San Clemente.

Hello Charlie,

Was hoping to see you last Saturday at Santa Monica. We managed to have fun without you anyway.

Here is the info you wanted. Sorry it took so long, but I had to do some "Imbachen" around to verify a few things. The Japanese have three systems for writing. The first, borrowed from Chinese, is "Kanji". Each symbol stands for an entire word. In the second and third methods each symbol stands for a syllable. "Kana" is one of these.

I'm not sure where the term "Tako Kichi" came from or its translation. It seems the literal translation of "Kichi" is wit, and "Kichi gai" would be "crazy". Perhaps the expression is some what of a misnomer. Maybe "kite fever"- "Tako Netsu"- (as in "Gold Fever") would be more appropriate, or as in your case "Tako Hambun Kichi".

Well I hope that's about all you ever wanted to know about "Tako Kichi", sufficiently shadowed in an oriental veil of mystery and doubt. Till next time- have fun & happy kiting.

Paul

Airplay: Interview with Ron Despojado

by Terri
Cable

Watch Ron Despojado's hands when he's flying his Revolution and you see a master at work, or play, depending on how serious

Not only is Ron the Vice-President, newsletter editor, and Treasurer of our kite club, he designed the club cloisome pins, holds 004 member number, and spends a majority of his time devoted to club activities.

he is at that moment. Ron flies so well that he won second place at the California Open 1991, coming in one tenth of a point behind Scott Aughenbaugh of World Cup Championship Team High Performance.

Radical and revolutionary

Lately, Ron has tried something new. He's been flying a North Shore Radical from his hips and a Revolution from his hands. Definitely radical and revolutionary, also fun to watch because Ron has such a great sense of humor that all the mistakes become comic relief sessions. He always seems to have this incredible grin on his face, and his puns will keep you in stitches. Harry, Virgil and I look forward to Ron spending his lunchtimes on the kite field because we get free entertainment. No wind? No problem! Ron does 360's until he's out of breath, and we're gasping with laughter. I guess you'd have to be there, and luckily we were!

this incredible
grin on his face

Stabbed and left for dead

Ron's next competition was at Berkeley in July. He attended while recovering from a brutal attack on his life five weeks earlier. He had been stabbed and left for dead after being robbed, and when you see the resulting scars from the surgery that saved his life you realize what miracle it is that he's alive. "To compete at Berkeley was the major drive for me to recuperate physically as well as mentally and emotionally" he states. Ron also said "Regaining my hand/eye coordination, as well as my strength, was the most frustrating part of the recovery."

I'm sure glad he made it! Not only has Ron become one of

my kiting teachers, but he's also one of my best friends. Being the generous guy that he is, I'm getting turned on to 3-

"Regaining my hand/eye coordination, as well as my strength was the most frustrating part of the recovery"

D flying as well as "regular" quad-line stuff. (Note: there's nothing regular in the way Ron flies.) What's 3-D you ask? Try making a Rev II fall out of the sky. You catch it, (maybe, if you're me- for sure if you're Ron,) then with the grace of a javelin thrower you toss the kite into the wind, it flutters momentarily, the wind picks it up, and you do a couple of spectacular propeller spins. Easy, right? It seems to be when Ron does it-I just keep hitting myself on the head.

Ron is presently getting together a team to fly at the SDKC and Children's Hospital benefit to be held on July 12th at the Del Mar Polo Grounds. The event will feature Rita Coolidge and the club is being asked to fill about a half an hour of entertainment.

Knowing that Ron is sponsored by, and flies with the Hadzicki brothers of Revolution Kites, I'm confident that we'll see some spectacular airplay that Sunday in July.

His heart is his pilot

All in all, this article is my thanks to a charter member of SDKC, a terrific kite flier, and an exceptionally great guy. What's really funny is that Ron now has to put this in the newsletter since he became our designated editor in March. Maybe he'll think of a great quote to end with.

No, I will: "He flies with his heart, not just with his head and his hands!"

3-D flying with a Rev II: Made easy

I have yet to see anyone "javelin" a Rev I but it can be done with a Rev II. The problem with the Rev I is that the lines are so long- 100', you'd have to have one hell of a pitching arm to throw it and have it catch wind before it hits the ground. However, it can be done with a Rev II, its sometimes called "3-D" flying. The way I've done it is with 35' to 40' lines.

First you must hold both handles in the left hand (assuming you're right handed) and hold the kite in the other. The best way I've found to hold the kite is at the leading edge, logo side down, right at the top of the right side strut cap. The leading edge should lay across your upturned palm with your thumb pivoting the kite slightly upward and pointed in the direction your going to throw it. Another way of holding it is at the right top end cap with the leading edge in your palm and the end cap between your index finger and thumb. Next you have to toss the Rev up and out, but mostly up.

The reason for this is that gravity will naturally pull the kite down so if its up high the wind will catch it and it will sail away from you and the lines will fully extend before it hits the ground. The main concern is that the kite should have its edge cutting the wind. When the wind fills the sail, it will naturally pivot up- then you must put the other handle in your right hand right away. Usually the kite will be upside down when the lines fully extend. One

Strange noises on the phone?!

If you should call the SDKC message phone and hear strange noises in the background you should know that the phone is in Ocean Beach, under the flight path. The phone also lives with a large, (very large) cockatoo, and a Burman cat. The bird yells at the planes and the cat, and the cat thinks she should "speak" when she hears her mistress' voice. Both animals have become escape artists when shut in another room, so you may continue to hear weird sounds when you call 222-9300, but at least now you'll know what's going on.

problem that reoccurs is getting the bridle wrapped around the bottom right strut cap as the kite is being thrown. This happens about half the time and all I can figure out about this is that you must make real sure that the bridle is clear of the bottom strut cap prior to throwing. One way of reducing this problem is to eliminate the clips and use knots & lark's heads.

The most fun I found in doing this is when the kite is directly overhead- or as high as it will climb- and pulling it out of the sky and catching it. The method I use is, like I mentioned, have the kite as high as it will go, quickly put both handles in one hand, and sharply pulling on both top lines with the other. If the kite is positioned level then it should fall towards you and within a step or two you should be able to catch it. If the kite is slightly turned to the right or left, it will zoom toward the side it is turned to. In fact, you can almost "aim" the kite to where you want it to land.

I hope this answers your question about throwing a Rev. If you have been able to throw a Rev I full length, then we want to hear about it.

"aim"
the kite
to
where
you
want it
to land

This article was sent via computer network from someone responding to a flier wanting to know how to "javelin" a Rev I

REVOLUTION

KITES



MADE IN CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

U.S. PATENT 4,081,377

The Bill Everett Memorial Poppy Tour, wandering picnic, & kite flying expedition

By Paul Imbach

*Paul Imbach has some
adventurous tales to tell.*

*I guess we should ask
about the "mandatory
clothing" requirement, if
there was any.*

At 9:45 on April 26 a small impromptu/come as you are/no impostors permitted group left the Stone Store in Lake Hughes to set out on a kiting adventure.

We went up a steep winding dirt road past the San Andreas fault. We weren't sure if the shaking we felt was the fault's fault or just the washboard road. Up past the Sky Haven Ranch (what a place!). About time some of the group wondered if we were going to memorialize Bill Everett or visit him. At any rate, we decided Sky Haven Ranch was about halfway to heaven.

Near the top we paused to stop, let our engines cool & enjoy the spectacular overview of Antelope Valley in bloom. From our vantage point we picked our destination & decided it was all downhill from there. We proceeded slowly, mindful of wrong turns and road washouts.

We arrived at an intensely orange field of poppies

(Popeye?) and began flying an assortment of bird kites in the light morning breeze. Joanne and I flew redwing blackbirds (by Leo Eymann) while humming appropriate old Beatle tunes. Dorine flew a double bird of paradise (by Donald Collado). And Jim flew a Chinese pheasant kite, which was rather appropriate since we were on a pheasant hunting ranch between Fairmont Reservoir and the aqueduct. Luckily it wasn't hunting season. Eight-year-old Adrian (the High Desert Reel Out

**clothing was
mostly mandatory**

Champion for the past two years) flew her yellow delta so high and wild that she may never have to fly another. Good thing Uncle Buck was there to help reel in all that line. Charlie lassooed a dust devil with his Joel Scholz Butterfighter and went for a thrilling ride for a few moments. Jim brought the shade and kept it well positioned all day for our brief rest periods.

After lunch the Antelope Valley Express started blowin' through. It was time to break out the stunt kites and hang on! Around four o'clock the poppies started closing up for the day and it was time to head down the road. Even though clothing was mostly mandatory during the outing, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Southern California wildlife. And there are already notions of a sequel to the Bill Everett Memorial Poppy Tour, Wandering Picnic, And Kite Flying Expedition.



For
Price,
Selection,
& Service
Come to

KITE COUNTRY

566 Horton Plaza San Diego, CA 92101
(Top level opposite UA Theater) (619) 233-9495

Exhilaration on two strings

by Laurence Gonzales

It involves physics, metaphysics, and the weather of the human heart. Yet it is a sport; my sore arms attest to that. When I fly the kite that has two strings, I am making a spectacle of myself, yet I am hidden from view. It is not uncommon for people to come out onto the field, saying, "We came over because we could see your kite. But we couldn't see you." That is because when I fly the kite that has two strings, my soul leaves my body, flies through my fingertips, up along the hard fiber lines, and from there my kite and I look down upon all creation as we go winging around like a barn swallow.

How I started flying kites

By John Rogers--I bought a Hot Wing on the 4th of July, 1991. On a whim, really, because the fireworks at Seaport Village were not very good and the construction and colors of the stunt kites had fascinated me for a long time. The first several times I tried, the Hot Wing didn't do very well, finally crashing hard enough to break the spine into 4 pieces! I bought a replacement tube and while repairing the kite I noted how simple the construction seemed and decided that if I ever learned to keep the kite in the air, maybe I would try to make one.

Pry the information out

Over the next several times at 'J' Street Marina Park, I got so the crashes were less and less frequent. I also talked to several other kite flyers and I noted you had to pry the information out, unless of course you had the same brand of kite they had.. Seems as though there is a lot of very set opinions with which kite flies better, etc, but racing bicycles professionally for 10 years readied me for equipment opinions, good and bad.

So I figured the answer was to make one myself. I had made radio controlled model planes and a kite should be a breeze. I guess I was lucky, because my first home made kite actually flew. It was a copy of a "Fire Dart" type of kite and I felt pretty good about it. The next two stunters didn't fly too well, actually one would barely get off the ground, so I made cases from the skins. The next was a "Team" style kite and it flew pretty well and by now I was hooked! I had figured where to get ripstop nylon, gotten some magazines and was driving my wife batty using her sewing machine. I learned quickly, the fabric at UFO and other fabric stores is NOT suitable for kite skins, but it makes nice cheap cases. I had found where to get fiberglass and carbon spars and all the other little fittings and parts you need to put together a kite.

Bigger kites

By October, I had made 6 or so stunt kites and my kids wanted me to make some single line or High Flyers, so I made a 6 foot span DC out of some pieces of ripstop I had left over. Surprise, it flew great. I decided that high flyers were a bigger challenge. I wasn't sure how they were constructed, so I bought a few: 14 ft. DC, 10 ft. parrot, crystal and box kite. My mother gave me a parafoil for Christmas, so I could see how they were built

Another great design



New this year



Free style was never so free! Coming to your dealers soon

too. The only problem with the large kite was the lack of information about construction, but the Kite Photography book provided the plans for my 6 ft. by 5 ft. parafoil and the 10 ft. by 10 ft. Tri-D box kite. I made a big box kite and was overjoyed when it flew the first time.

The family went to our first kite festival at Doheny Beach and had a great time. Flying my big box was a highlight of the weekend it turned out and I was really proud of it and the help my wife and children gave me. Liz videotaped the big box and we will probably look at the tape for a long time to come.

I had to get my own sewing machine when I broke my wife's while sewing the big bow kite and now we fight for space in the sewing room. When I was working on Orville the Octopus, it proved to be so big, she wouldn't even come in the sewing room until I was done. I guess that meant the honeymoon is finally over!

I guess we'll keep making kites, the bigger the better it seems. Why? We enjoy the comments and smiles from young and old alike when I fly Jose' the stunt kite and the big High Flyers and it sure is relaxing.

John Rogers has made some beautiful homemade kites.

Here is his story.

the honeymoon is finally over!

Calendar of events

June

6- Control Challenge, Dusty Rhodes Park

10- Board of director's meeting, Ocean Beach Recreation Center, 7 pm

20- General meeting, South of the Hilton flying field (you know, the usual place) 1 pm. featuring Ron Reich and stunt kite techniques.

The menu for the "catered lunch" courtesy of Diana Martin & Connie Morgan will include polish sausage & potato salad for a small donation- such a deal!

27- Santa Monica Beach monthly kite fly, north of the pier

July

5- (Sunday) Control Challenge, Dust Rhodes Park

12- Children's Hospital Benefit, Del Mar Polo Grounds. SDKC is currently looking for teams or individuals to audition to perform.

18- Ocean Beach Picnic at Dusty Rhodes Park- this is our mothly meeting and anniversary. Featured guests will be Team Zephyrus and AKA rep

25 & 26- Berkeley National Kite Competiton, Berkeley California



**ALL ABOUT
KITES**

SAN DIEGO'S PREMIER KITE STORE

Open Mon.-Sat. 10-7
Sun. 10-6

3689 B Midway Drive
San Diego, CA
Ph. 224-1610

Purveyor of fine kites, windsocks, and accessories for your every need. Unsurpassed quality in single line and stunt kites. Demonstrated by a friendly, knowledgable staff. Conveniently located in Point Loma Plaza, near the Sports Arena.

ADVERTISING RATES

The San Diego Kite Club is accepting ads for its newsletter "Skylines" due to increased 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
San Diego, CA 92167

or call 222-9300 for additional information and submission dates

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

Message to all members...

After our last issue, we received great response from those we haven't heard from in a long time.

We feel there's a resurgence of interest in the club. We also hope that your participation isn't limited to just receiving the newsletter. Come on out every third Saturday of the month. The club has a lot of activities scheduled for the summer and to see only about one eighth of our large membership participate is somewhat of a disappointment.

Elections are coming up and some of you probably would like to see some changes in the club. Great! Run for office, or volunteer for one of our other positions.

Great results are born of simple ideas, take for example the serving of lunch during our general meetings (Thanks Fred & Diana Martin!!). This was a major convenience for those of us who didn't pack a lunch plus it netted the club some well needed funds. It was a "win-win" situation.

Thanks,

The Newsletter Staff
& *The Board of Directors*

*The final word
plus
the fine print.*