

# Skylines

The official newsletter of the *San Diego Kite Club*

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August 1995

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# JAPANESE CONQUER LA (SKC)

## Visiting Guests Sweep Top Prizes in All Events, But One SDKC Member Manages To Bring Home Some Wood!

SANTA MONICA, CA—This year's L.A. Sport Kite Classic produced many surprises, mainly the talents of several Japanese fliers who made the long trip to compete against California's finest. Although the event brought disappointment to many local competitors, a couple of SDKC members had a lot of fun and made a good showing in their events.

One of those first-time competitors was **Larry Mixon** of Riverside. Here is his story in his own words:

Standing at the sign-in booth, I was beginning to wonder what I was doing here. Then it came to me. Some guy, who shall remain nameless (he's the president of the SDKC and flies Revs), called me one night at home. He was telling me all about the LASKC competition that was coming up that weekend in Santa Monica. I told this guy I had no routine and no music. "That's OK," he told me, "there are

only four people in the class."

I gave it some thought and told him I'd give it a try. After I hung up, it dawned on me that I had been conned into flying in my first competition.

I quickly found some music, the soundtrack to Jurassic Park. Then I listened and listened to the music until I was dreaming it. I drew up my routine and flew for the next three evenings after work until dark.

So, three days later, I'm standing here at Santa Monica beach, looking at a list of not four, but 12 of the best quad-line fliers around. I'm now wondering, "What am I doing here?"

To make things worse, I decided to sign up for novice ballet and precision in dual-line. Now I'm beginning to think I've been in the sun too long. I've never even competed before, but I'm in now, boy, I'm really going to fly in this competition.

*Continued on page 4*

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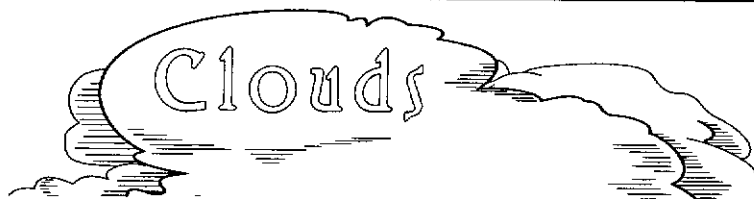
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## Head in the



*SKYLINES is published bi-monthly by the San Diego Kite Club. All articles related to the sport of kiting are encouraged.*

*All opinions expressed are solely those of the individual author and not necessarily those of the San Diego Kite Club.*

*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.*

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As we mark an anniversary for the club, it's time to ponder the club's future.

Initially the club was formed simply to have fun and to promote the sport of kiting. However, in order to have fun and not be chaotic, a structure was formed to keep the interests of the club members satisfied.

Our recent elections once again proved there is a strong core of members. Many of these have been with the club since it began and are a dedicated bunch. Some of our newer members also show plenty of drive. I would like to thank Larry Morgan for heading the Membership duties for the past few years and Diana Martin for the Events Coordinator position she has filled. Slim Warnke has stepped in to the Membership position and Paul Eiler the Events Coordinator.

My biggest concern is both attendance and membership has been low. But there is something maybe all of us haven't realized: Do we want really large numbers?

It is my understanding that our approximately 90 fully paid members make up one of the AKA's

largest kite clubs. That's fine, but numbers do not necessarily mean quality. It's not that we want to be the largest, best, most decorated, best event organizers, or anything of the kind. These are nice goals and something to take pride in. If we serve the needs of the members, then the accolades most likely will come. And if not, that's okay too.

**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:** Come on out to the field the 3rd Saturday of the month! We really do miss you.

Then there's the "Chicken and the Egg" syndrome. Unless we put on a special event, some people won't show up. On the flipside, why should we schedule an event if attendance has been off? As club officers, all we can do is try.

On to other topics, it appears San Diego has been bypassed for the 1996 AKA Convention. The recent LASKC is the last LASKC, unless new sponsorship is found. There are a number of people in Southern California interested in taking over the event. Where it will be held is as much a mystery as whether or not it will be held—anybody's guess right now. It's too bad that such an event depends highly on money.

It's a few months away, but we are putting together our New Year's Day Fly. It looks to be the best yet.

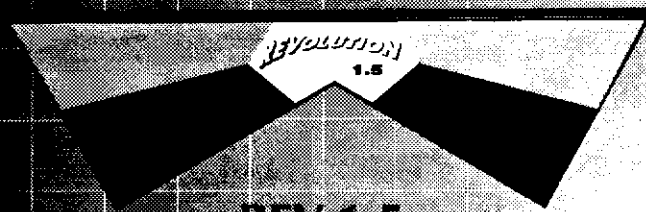
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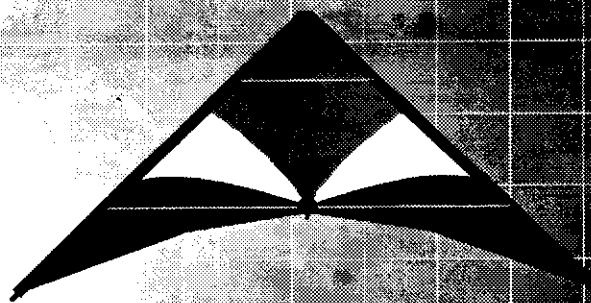


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## BOARD MEETING Highlights

July 14, 1995

**Hall of Fame**—At the Anniversary meeting we will announce the first members to be installed in our Hall of Fame. Honorees will receive a framed certificate and a lifetime membership in the SDKC. The board voted to install Virgil Dalton, Walt Thompson, Diana Martin, Jim O'Bryant and Ron Despojado as the Hall of Famers for 1995.

**Newsletter Mailing**—Our newsletter mailing is currently about 230 to 240. It was decided to cut the number to 200, eliminating those whose membership dues are longest overdue.

**Future Competition**—We decided to pursue the possibility of putting on a sport kite event in 1996 on a regional level, but not taking over the LASKC. Neil Tuthill helped with many suggestions on how to obtain sponsorship and organize an event. Fiesta Island would be the most likely location to hold the competition.

**New Years T-Shirts**—We would like to have T-Shirts made for this year's New Years Fly, but decided against taking orders in advance, as people probably wouldn't want to order a shirt without seeing the design first. As this event draws visitors from all over, we need to come up with a nice design.

**Cultural Event**—We will again participate in the Art and Music Festival at the Broadway St. Pier put on by the San Diego, Tijuana, Yokahama Art Exchange. Walt feels this is a good opportunity for the club to show its presence in the community. We are currently listed as sponsors of the event (in service, not monetarily) and our club's name appears on all the programs and publicity, right up there with SDG&E, banks and such.

*We are always looking for contributions to the newsletter. If you have an article, photos, kite tips, kite making plans, artwork, poetry, words of wisdom or anything kite-related you'd like to see in the newsletter, please forward to:*

*Dorine Imbach  
14 W. Ave. San Gabriel  
San Clemente, CA 92672  
(714) 492-  
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To make things real fun, I'm first up to fly. The field director introduced himself and the judges. Everybody smiled and waved at me. The director gave me the thumbs up to start when ready.

It seemed like the world stopped between the time I said "in" and the music started. To my surprise, I was doing it — the music was playing and I was flying, somewhat in time. All I had to do now was stay on my feet (which at one point became a challenge) and remember to breathe.

As my music neared the end, I thought to myself, "This isn't so bad, I'm really having fun!" I felt good and I was actually breathing. My music ended, I yelled "out!" and the world began to move once more. People started to cheer (my wife the loudest).

I cleared the field and retired to my chair for a rest and to regroup for things to come (the open quad-line competition).

The day moved on and different classes came and went. It was getting late. The wind was ideal for the quad-line competition. However, as things sometimes go, the quad-line class didn't — postponed until the next morning. This didn't go over well with the fliers and there were some words exchanged with the event organizers, but the fliers lost out.

Oh, by the way, they posted the results for Saturday and I received a second place in novice ballet.

Day Two in the sand — and deep sand it is. I started the day at 5'11" and went home 6'3". I think I brought half the beach home in my tennis shoes.

As we all gathered around and started talking, our worst fear was realized — NO WIND! Then the conversation turned to how fantastic the wind had been Saturday afternoon. This reminded me of my surfing days — "You guys shoulda been here yesterday."



*I think I brought half  
the beach home in my  
tennis shoes.*



My time had come to enter the field and the wind was clocked at four (I think they were blowing on the wind meter). My music started and off I went. I was fighting as hard as I could to keep my kite in the air and fly to my music. Backed up against the tape, I dropped out of the sky and called "out."

I looked at the judges. They looked at their



*Proud Larry displays his second- and third-place trophies earned in his first competition.*

watches and, to my relief, I had flown the minimum required two minutes. I did manage to get a score, which wasn't too great, but again I had a good time just doing it.

Back to my chair again to regroup — one more event to go, the precision two-line class. This I was ready for, feeling very confident with two events under my belt.

Precision, I discovered, is a very interesting class. It sounded easy enough — just fly a simple pattern that they show you; now what could be so hard about that? Well, let me tell you, when three people are standing behind you holding pencils in the air to make sure you start, cross and turn all at the same place, this becomes nerve-racking real fast. You look at your target and, out of the corner of your eye, you look at the judges' faces to see if you have hit your mark. All you see are three expressionless faces.

Everyone is standing around saying, "You did it!" "No, I didn't do it." "No, you did!" No one knows for sure who did it right, so, again, you wait.

The air was starting to cool off and so was the sand. We all sat around, sharing flying stories and waiting for the awards to be given out. All in all, I had a very good day, and to my surprise, I placed third in the precision class and eighth in quad line.

I learned a lot over the weekend about flying in a competition. Most of all I learned that one must be prepared for the unexpected when flying kites.



# KITE KID MAKES GOOD

Jesse Lawrence had quite a debut in the world of competitive kite flying at LASKC. He flew in both the dual and quad competitions. Though he did not medal, he made quite a good impression on both the judges and the crowd. Jesse's music was cut off during the middle of the dual-line ballet, so he had to continue without background music. The manner in which he handled himself after this disappointment drew raves from everybody at the contest.

On Sunday, Jesse, standing 4'2", weighing 45 pounds, competing against 11 30-year-old men standing 6' 2" weighing 180 pounds with 28-inch waists, 20-inch biceps, and long flowing hair [Charlie and Larry didn't realize they looked that good!], took a legitimate fourth place. The San Diego Kite Club can truly be proud of the way their youngest member represented them.

—Submitted by "Kite Dad" Greg Lawrence

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# 10th Annual East Coast Stunt Kite Championship & International Kite Festival

By John Rogers

**S**EVERAL MONTHS AGO, I was asked by Andy Gelinis, president of the Lehigh Valley Kite Society (LVKS), if I could come to Wildwood, New Jersey, with some of my large kites. After a milli-second to consider, I said YES, since this is large festival and it would be the first year they'd feature single-line kites. Of course I didn't notice that the Memorial Day holiday was also my birthday weekend (the big five-0) and I had to convince my wife Rosie that we could celebrate when I returned!

I had to finish my 85-foot-diameter ring (another story) and managed to get it done and 10 large, inflatable kites with associated sky junk were packed in one large bag. I carried some of my heavy line and fittings, since no one on the east coast has anything this large.

The flight over was nice and I arrived in Allen-

town and immediately caused a sensation when my kite bags would not come down the baggage conveyor. We managed to get the kites, lines and even some clothes in Andy's car and went to meet his family. His cats thought Einstein the Ape was okay.

We left for Wildwood Thursday evening and drove through some pretty hard rain, but traffic was light and there were no accidents. Everyone on the east coast drives more casual that we do here. Made it to the RIO Motel about 9 p.m. or so, and yes, the burro is still there. We walked around and I was introduced as the "Guest Flyer" from California! Whew, pretty heady stuff for a beginner. I got a program and my name was even in it!


After helping with registration stuff until 1:30 or so, we went to bed.

Friday dawned bright and windy, but by the time my kite bags arrived, we had about 12 knots or so and the sun was peeking out. I decided to put up the bol and see what attention it got — it got a lot. It was anchored to two of the wood pilings that were sprinkled all over the beach, and it was making them groan!

The 9x12 parafoil and some snakes were next, and I kept busy telling people about my stuff and how to make it. Baby Larry amazed lots of people as they couldn't figure out how something like that could fly. I said it only took two months to make him work.

I met my roommate, Joe Perron, a stunt kite master that can fly multiple kites easier than I can fly one! We hit it off well and, even though my kites filled up the room, we could still watch the kite videos he brought with him. I got my official registration and then we had a hot-dog cookout on the roof of the RIO where I met a lot of other people. I just wish I could remember all their names, but I can't, so I'll have to apologize now.

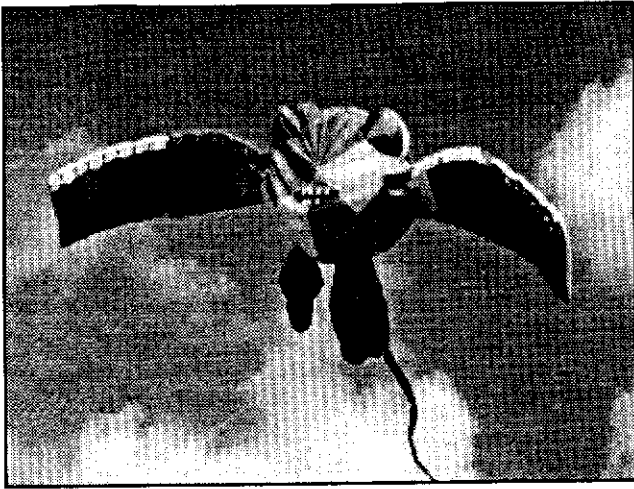
Saturday, the sun was out and, even with 30-rated lotion, I got cooked. The bol, parafoil, snakes, Larry, Walter, Lucy and the big stunter were in the air. I decided to let the bol go to Savannah, Georgia, with Pat Robinson of Savannah Sails & Rails, and I know she'll have a lot of fun with it. I couldn't bring myself to let Walter and Lucy go, but lots of people wanted to take them home.



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**Baby Larry amazed lots of people. They couldn't figure out how something like that could fly.**

The only other inflatable kites were some of Peter Lynn's creations and lots of flowforms. I met Jerry and his wife who now are the U.S. manufacturers of the Sutton flowforms and they were great. I even brought one of the small ones back with me as a swapping prize. I managed to get a little time away to video some of the competitions while volunteers watched my stuff.

About dusk we all went to the Morey's Wild Wheels Pier for a beach party and had burgers, chicken, potato salad and sodas while hashing over the days excitement. I met lots more neat kite flyers — Ralph, Jim (who sure doesn't look like a policeman) Tony Sr. and Jr. and lots of others I still can't remember.

The night fly was neat. I was asked to be a judge and there were a couple of standouts — first Lee Sedgwick's train of reflective mylar kites with a searchlight, then watching Joe Perron fly two kites at once with lights. He almost did a docking while we watched, all in about three knots of wind! I let Jim fly Lucy with a strobe light I had, and he got a real workout as the winds were pretty light.

Sunday featured the finals and I put up the big stuff, but with the sky filled with 30 252-sized flowforms, it was crowded. It was funny to see two or three wrap together and float to the ground, then watch the excitement of untangling everything. Later in the afternoon, the sky filled with Rokkakus — there were about 75 or so. About 4 p.m. I went to shower, but the hot water was turned off for some maintenance, so it was pretty exciting!

The trolley ride to the Seasons Restaurant was neat, especially when the driver told Dave Gomborg to be quiet so he could hear the directions to the restaurant. I guess she just didn't know he was the past-honcho.

The awards banquet was fantastic; I videotaped the presentation of the awards. Roger Chewning was having a birthday on Monday and somehow (Judy?) he found out mine was too, so everyone sang Happy Birthday to me as a cake was brought out. What a surprise that was! When Andy drove back to the RIO, I videotaped some of crazy people and their encounters with the Wildwood police.

Monday dawned cold, rainy and really windy, so lots of people were leaving and it caused them to miss the Louie-Louie fly. What is that, you ask? It is a mega-stunt-kite-fly with all known versions of "Louie-Louie" playing on the sound system. It took about 1 1/2 hours to finish, but the pin I got for flying Walter was worth it! Actually I flew him at the edge of the boardwalk and let the kids shake hands with him; he was a big hit.

The last thing we watched was the indoor competition — amazing to say the least! I saw several kites made from space blankets, including a full-size Quadrifoil that flew most excellent!

Then it was time to leave and we had an eventful ride until we hit a big storm in Pennsylvania. Wow! They sure have thunder and lightning, rain, hail and wind! I videotaped some and it is scary to look at.

That is about it! I'll never forget the hospitality of Andy, Judy, Julie and Geriann and how welcome they made me feel at their home. All the kite fliers I met were great and gave a lot of help to a stranger from the west coast, especially Paul and Tony Sr., who carried my kite bags to and from Wildwood. Thanks Roger and Corky for inviting me. And last of all, I was taught a completely new and unique way to disassemble a cellular kite by a member of the LVKS and his wife, who shall remain nameless!

Thanks everyone!

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# The Junction Experience

A Sampling Of The Magic That Is Junction, As Experienced By Those Who Attended

*The Junction Kite Retreat takes place in Junction, Texas, on Memorial Day Weekend each year. It is four days of kitemaking workshops, presentations and just plain fun!*

The Junction Kite Retreat is like "Kite Camp" for grown-ups. We get to see old friends and make new ones. We learn new skills from some of the best kitemakers around. We sleep in dormitory-style rooms (thankfully air-conditioned), we stay up way too late and get up waaayyyy too early.

Junction is as intense or as laid-back as you want it to be. You could be truly industrious and sign up for two sewing classes and sit glued to your machine (with occasional food and sleep breaks) until you finish both projects (especially impressive if you sign up for Martin Lester's course!) or you could spend quality time under the shade of a large tree at the side of the flying field, schmoozing with other like-minded folks (with the occasional Dairy Queen break, of course). I think most of us fall in between those extremes.

It isn't just kitemaking. There are usually impromptu slide shows from some of our more-traveled attendees. We get to see demonstrations of various sorts; in the past it was Japanese cooking (pass the wasabe!), and this year it was glass-blowing demonstrated by some of the Texas Tech art students.

One of this year's enduring memories was an excursion to a bat cave. We loaded up about five TTU vans and Bill Lockhart's Suburban (which is the size of a small house) and headed out for about a 1.5-hour drive from Junction. It wasn't quite what we expected; we were caught in a real Texas-sized rainstorm, but we all seemed to be eager to give it another try next year (armed with mosquito repellent and rain gear!). At least we found a new Dairy Queen, which closes later than the one in Junction (hey, this is important!).

The hardest part about Junction is deciding which classes to take. It's really difficult narrowing the selection down to just four.

Junction is our "can't miss" event; if we can go only one place, that is it.—**Joanne Petithory**

One of my favorite experiences from Junction this year was the "No-Sew" roller class given by Sam Huston, which culminated in a "roller fly," kind of a graduation ceremony. In the class, Sam showed his no-sew technique, and the participants produced

really beautiful Icarex rollers.

The great thing about this class was that people who were not experienced sewers were able to produce a really nice, good-flying kite over the course of the retreat. Over a dozen finished Icarex rollers were in the sky for the roller fly, the Icarex cloth glowing in the Texas sunshine.—**Lee Thrall**

Every year, one of the highlights of my Junction Experience is the "tube trip." The weather can get pretty hot and sticky in Texas, and a leisurely afternoon drift down the Llano River in an inner tube is just the ticket.

This year's tubing excursion was a little differ-



*Now, doesn't this look relaxing?*

ent in that a canoe trip was concurrently planned. The canoers put in far upriver and prior to the tubers' departure, and since they traveled at a faster pace, a confrontation was inevitable.

We tubers (no potato jokes, please) were about two-thirds of the way into our lovely, quiet, relaxing cruise when we heard the unmistakable grating noise of aluminum scraping against rock. The canoe-people were close behind, portaging the recently passed shallows. George Peters began blowing up small balloons, scattering them in the water—a harmless mine field.

Soon, Marian and Richard Robertson glided by, politely steering around us and offering sweet smiles and greetings. Well, that wasn't so bad. Next appeared Stretch Tucker and Carol Kimberly. They



were a little less cautious, caused a bit of splashing and got sideways once or twice. Next came Robert Trepanier, looking very much like a French explorer/trapper from the last century. He went for every little ripple in the current, every log snag, milking the river for all the excitement he could get.

A couple more passed through and then came the pirates! The obnoxious crew of Randy Shannon and Kathy Nixie came blasting through, oars flailing. But their simple craft was no match for our multitude and they soon were surrounded. Our troops started the canoe rocking and, despite the pirates' desperate defense, they succumbed to the depths of the mighty Llano.

Come Monday afternoon at Junction, you can always find me wedged in a big black doughnut, floating down the river.—**Dorine Imbach**

The Junction International Kite Retreat is like kite college and summer camp all squeezed into a few short days each May. Kite makers from around the world bring kites and construction supplies, workshops are always open, and the flying field is huge. The presenters and workshop leaders do a great job helping everyone grow in their abilities. Techniques and tips are shared freely, and the inspired results can be seen on the field.

The environment created when 150 kite enthusiasts converge on the Junction campus is incredible. Local folks come out to see the kites on Sunday afternoon, and over the years they have seen some great ones.

Every kite I make contains elements learned at Junction. Meeting new people, and visiting with old friends makes each year special.—**Karen Gustavson**

On our last night at Junction, we had a field trip to the bat cave. George Peters and his creative cronies showed up donning bat masks made in George's Playshop. Everyone piled into five vans for our voyage to the cave. Although Betty had cautioned us about flash floods, no one warned us about the Texas-size mosquitoes. As we listened to the bat guide (who obviously had on a heavy coating of repellent), we slapped the bloodsuckers off each other. We patiently watched the twirling bats inside the cave and listened to the guide as we waited. Finally the first bats exited the cave, and as hundreds began to follow, large drops of rain started to fall, soon turning to large bucketfuls. The bats made a hasty retreat to the cave and we began running back to the vans.

With everyone thoroughly soaked and loaded back in the vans, ours began pulling out when the driver noticed the last van was stuck; most of the guys got out of our van to help. There was something very definitely wrong with this picture. All these men were pushing the completely full van. Very soon after, they decided to empty some weight out of the van and then had no problem moving the vehicle.

The race was on to get back before the water rose. We suddenly knew firsthand the meaning of the phrase,



*Bat seekers, before the deluge.*

"if the good Lord's willing and the creek don't rise." I had visions of camping out in the rain with the huge mosquitoes.

Suddenly the van stopped and moans rang out in the front of the van. We looked up to see cows grazing in the middle of the road. The driver honked until they finally moved. (Later we would learn from Bill Lockhart that you should never honk a horn at cows, as this is how they are called for dinner.)

Well, we got back over the two creeks and made it to Dairy Queen to laugh at the evening's events. Someone joked that the driver's knuckles were finally beginning to get some color back in them after gripping the steering wheel so tightly.—**Janet Meyers**

Here are my Eight Great Junction Highlights for '95.

The Bat Cave—If you've never seen one, it's hard to believe! My favorite part is when the raccoon stalks around collecting and devouring the unlucky bats that drop out of the swarm from mid-air collisions. "To the Bat Cave, Robin!"

Pet Tarantula for a Day—On our way back from the bat cave [Joe visited the bat cave on a different day from the rest of us], we picked up our hairy little friend hitch-hiking along the road side. I tried using Harriet as a prop to scare little girls back at the retreat, but the girls don't seem to scare as easily as they did when I was younger.

Bill's Mechanical Lobster Kite—Now we're talking real creative technology. I must have spent two hours marveling at this contraption!

Jane's 6-Foot Unicycle—I look forward to mounting this death trap every year! You never know when you might get lucky and break your neck.

Glass Blowing Exhibition—A fascinating pastime for late evening summer nights.

The Auction—Betty and Bill are just fun to watch, especially at this event.

Relaxation—The Junction Kite Retreat is the most relaxing trip I do all year!

The People, The Projects—Spending time with all the interesting people and watching the projects emerge is a lot of fun!—**Joe Hadzicki**



There are many ways that the Junction Kite Retreat can bring joy and indelible memories.

One of my most treasured moments in kiting was a warm late afternoon on an empty flying field. I launched a beautiful rokkaku, knowing that Paul Imbach would be drawn to the field with the other half of a mirror-imaged pair of kites by Carl Crowell. Paul soon joined me, and we began playing with space and dancing the kites around each other. With the wind at our backs and the early signs of a cloud-lined sunset in front of us, we were joined by Tony Wolfenden, Janneke Gröen and Kathy Nixie flying a matched trio of Tony's rokkakus. They joined the dance silently, and five really fine kites moved in and out and around each other in what appeared to be a choreographed routine backlit by a Texas sunset. Joe Vaughn put the finishing touch on the remaining minutes of daylight by flying one of his fighter kites around each of the rokkakus, lightly touching and moving to the next one.

As daylight faded and we brought our kites to earth, I heard applause, and looked and saw that we had gathered an audience who seemed as appreciative as we had been engrossed. Pictures were taken and hugs exchanged, and I locked in my heart one very special hour.—**Ed Lindsay**

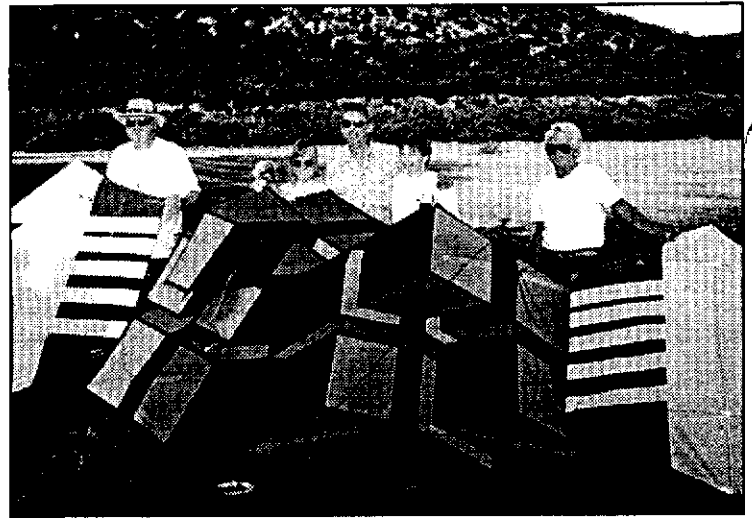
If I could attend only one kiting function during the year, Junction would be my choice.

In addition to the wonderful classes and great people associations, each year seems to bring unscheduled happenings, such as one of Charlie Sotich's impromptu ribbon-weaving sessions. He makes exquisite little fish and birds.

I had the good fortune of sitting in on one of Charlie's sessions along with Carol Kimberly. Carol has since collaborated with Charlie and came up with some written instructions for the fish, complete with diagrams (see page 13). Charlie and Carol gave their permission to share the information with our newsletter readers, so give it a try — it's fun!. (I have found that metallic-type ribbon is extremely difficult to work with.)—**Gail Lindsay**

I have been sitting here going over all the wonderful, exciting and unusual experiences I had at Junction. Memories such as leading a workshop, sharing a room with two crazy Germans, seeing old friends, Scott Skinner's outrageous kite boots, the language lessons and last, who could forget that splashing trip to the bat cave?

In all these memories there is one moment that



*The end of another perfect day and the birth of a memory.*

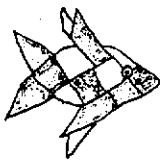
stands alone above the rest. On a warm summer afternoon, unbeknownst to all, a newcomer, Chuck Meyers, had begun to mastermind one of the most shocking and daring stunts ever attempted at Junction.

Mr. Meyers, on that warm summer afternoon, decided to play a friendly joke on the honorable Scott Skinner, 1995 Kite Person Of The Year. "Fearless Chuck" took advantage of Mr. Skinner's absence and promptly relocated Mr. Skinner's valuable red Cody kite to the far side of the field (out where the antelopes roam). I will confess and tell you that I was tricked into helping him. He told me the kite was his and that he wanted to take a good picture of it out there on that beautiful spot across the field. He even had me stand next to the kite for a picture. What a nice guy, I thought. Well, I'll never trust newcomers again! Chuck, I would like you to know that Mr. Skinner was not amused. Mr. Skinner is known for not getting mad, but eventually getting even.—**Jose Sainz**

What I liked the most about Junction was the friendliness of all of the participants. We all wore name tags; no one felt bad about looking at the tags while talking to refresh their memory. You never had to feel that the person you spoke to, ate with or had class with did not know your name.

The free-fly time provided a great chance to meet some of the top fliers and builders. There was this guy from Canada, he made some beautifully painted kites; a couple from Portland, who makes these incredible genkis, great fliers they are; then there was a couple from Washington named Houston or from Houston named Washington, but a really nice couple, but did things oddly — they glued their kites together. I guess they don't have a sewing machine. Boy those name tags would come in handy right about now.

The big treat on Monday afternoon was to fly with Jose Sainz. He told me he would show me the



ways of Junction, Shortly after this conversation, a group of participants including Scott Skinner were off to Dairy Queen. Scott told Jose he was in charge of watching his Cody. Jose said with pride, "Don't worry, I will guard your kite, O Kite Person of the Year," or something to that effect. Well, no sooner was the car out of the gate when Jose said to me, "This is an important part of the retreat." Eager to learn, as this was my first Junction trip, I helped Jose and another unnamed person carry the Cody to the farthest point across the immense field, Jose was giggling the entire way. After we reached the other side, we anchored the giant Cody and I took a picture. I thought that this would be a good idea to commemorate the occasion — little did I know that I would have to use this as evidence to prove my innocence (or ignorance). On this day I learned the most important lessons of Junction: Cover thy ass, take plenty of pictures, and you don't make many friends when you follow Jose's instructions.

This is one event I will not miss from now on!—  
**Chuck Meyers**



**Exhibit A**

My 1995 Junction Experience had many aspects. Renewing old friendships and starting new ones (you never know who you'll be standing next to in the chow line) is always a special part of the Experience for me.

Texas Bar-B-Que seasoned with just the right amount of live fiddle music is standard favorite fare. This year "The Long Tall Texan" (from Monument, Colorado) made a special guest appearance. And yes, this year, even I succumbed to the lilting call of the Snoot Flute Orchestra.

Of course there is always the auction with an array of treasures, the workshops with some of the most talented kite makers in the world and last, but not least, all those amazing and beautiful kites!

There is always something that makes each year a unique and distinct experience. For instance, an intense electrical storm passed directly over the Texas Tech campus Friday night, reminding us in no uncertain terms that, while we might be frequent fliers, we are by no means masters of the sky. A trip to the Bat Cave was a unique experience, where the thick and pungent odor of guano was instantly flushed from the air by a deluge (unfortunately, so were the bats).

There was also the mysterious relocation of a certain Cody to the far side of the flying field. It appeared as a mere speck of red on the horizon, partially obscured by the curvature of the earth (Junction has a "Texas size" flying field). While most people were seeking cool relief from that warm summer afternoon, either playing in the river or searching out Blizzards at the local Dairy Queen, I was hiding in the wind garden (yet another offspring of the genius that is George) comfortably shaded by a spectacular cumulo-nimbus. From my vantage point I was able to quietly witness the events surrounding that mysterious relocation. Should it ever become necessary, my expert testimony could be made available... for the appropriate fee of course. Hmmm...Chuck Meyers works in the media, I wonder if he has any connections over at Hard Copy?—**Paul Imbach**

*I would especially like to thank all the Junction alumni who contributed to this article. Lots of never-before-seen writing talent has surfaced and I hope we will be hearing from you again.*

*If you think that the Junction Kite Retreat sounds like your kind of event and you'd like to add it to your "kite-itinerary" for next year, contact Betty Street at 2121 65th St., Lubbock, TX 79412. The Retreat brochure usually comes out in October, and classes fill up fast, so don't delay! Hope to see you there next May.*

# KBI

presents....

**Kite Workshop #1**

## VIDEO

"Discussing types of fabric & how to sew them"

*"When doing anything as labor intensive as kite making, any reduction in the learning curve is beneficial. Steve Ferrel (KBI) has done a great service to the novice builder with this video."*

Bob McGilvray, BAINBRIDGE/  
AQUABATTEN

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**Subscribe to and learn  
from "The Kite Builders  
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# KITE STUDIO

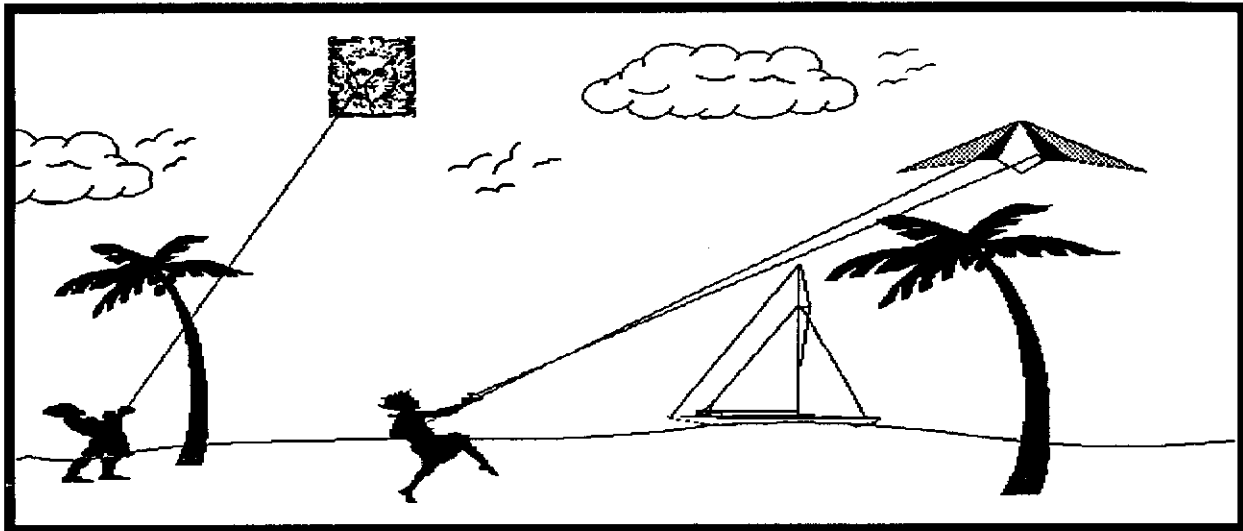
5555 Hamilton Boulevard M,W,F 9:00-5:00, Tu, Th 12:00-8:00  
Wescosville, PA 18106 Phone & FAX: 610/395-3560

## SUPPLIER OF ALL YOUR KITE BUILDING NEEDS

Bainbridge, Icarex, North, and Orion fabrics; AFC, Glasforms, Skyshark, and Windsport Spars; Sewing Notions, Design Master Paints, Glues, Spray Adhesives, Screening, Velcro, Tools, Nylon Bonded Thread, Oak Tag, Spectra, and much more!

# FOURTH ANNUAL NEW YEARS DAY FUN FLY

JANUARY FIRST, 1996



**LOCATION:** MARINER'S COVE, MISSION BAY PARK, SAN DIEGO, CA

**TIME:** 10:00 TO 4:00 (or whenever we get tired)

**REASON:** HAVE A GOOD TIME AND EAT SOME GOOD FOOD, (what else?)!

**SCHEDULED EVENTS:** TAIL GRAB, FIGHTER KITE CHALLENGE,  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE, DEMONSTRATIONS,  
POTLUCK *EXTRAVAGANZA*. (please bring a dish)

(We will have our sound system up and running this time so be sure and bring your tapes and CDs.)

**WE WILL HAVE AN EVENT T-SHIRT!**

#### LOCAL HOTELS AND RV PARKS

FABULOUS INN (619)291-7700  
HYATT ISLANDIA (619)224-1234  
DANA INN (619)222-6440  
CATAMARAN (619)488-1081  
HILTON(MISSION BAY) (619)276-4010  
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS (619)226-8000



COMFORT INN (619)225-1295  
TRAVELODGE (619)226-3711  
THE BAHIA (619)488-0551

#### RV PARKS

CAMPLAND ON THE BAY (619)581-4200  
SANTA FE RV PARK (619)272-4051

PLEASE CALL THE HOTLINE FOR INFORMATION.

# MAKE A

# RIBBON FISH

Instructions by Carol Kimberly

**STEP 1:** Cut two different-colored pieces of ribbon to length. Cut one end of each ribbon at an angle.

**STEP 2:** Crease each ribbon in half, with the square end shorter than the angled end by approximately 1 1/2 inches. The angled end will be referred to as the weaver from now on.

**STEP 3:** Interweave the two ribbons perpendicular to make an upside-down L, with the shorter blunt ends on the outside (or in front and behind the angled weavers).

**STEP 4:** Take the top horizontal weaver and loop between the vertical ribbons, then over the top vertical ribbon.

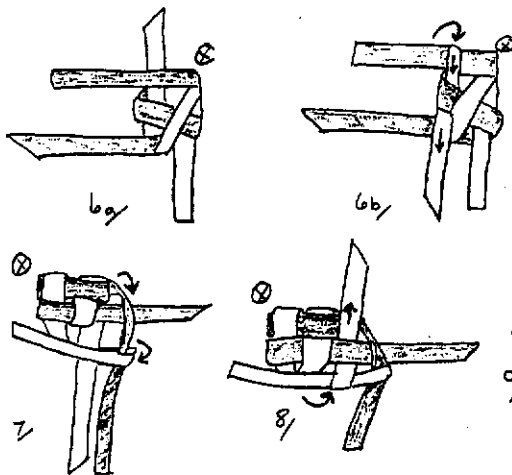
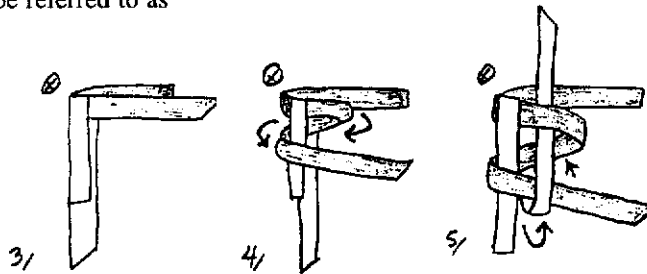
**STEP 5:** Next take the long vertical weaver and go up over and weave through the loop and over the top horizontal ribbon.

For a **JUMBO** fish, use one-inch ribbon, approx. 30 inches long.

For a **LARGE** fish, use 3/4-inch ribbon, approx. 22 1/2 inches long.

For a **MEDIUM** fish, use 1/2-inch ribbon, approx. 15 inches long.

For a **SMALL** fish, use 1/4-inch ribbon, approx. 8 inches long.



**STEP 6a/b:** Turn the ribbon over to the back and use the vertical weaver to weave down, over and through the other side, forming a loose square. **NOTE:** Hold point X firmly with fingers, paper clip or clothes pin.

**STEP 7:** Take the horizontal blunt end and fold down beside the bottom weaver. Next loop the vertical blunt end behind and around those two ribbons.

**STEP 8:** Next take the lower vertical weaver up across loop and weave across the blunt end and under the horizontal weaver. Then pull to tighten up the body somewhat.

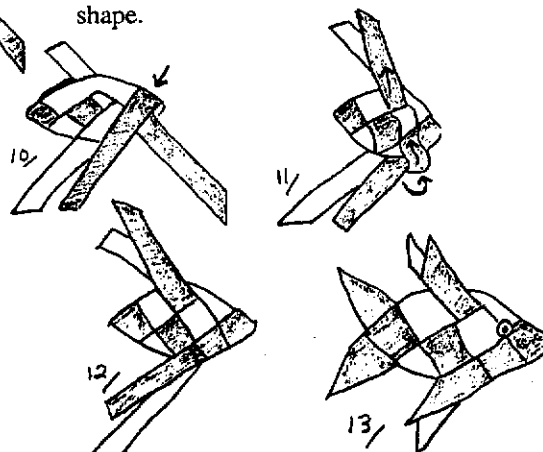
**STEP 9:** Flip to the back side of the fish, which looks like a body with the blunt ends up and the angled ends (weavers) down, forming an X shape.

**STEP 10:** Bring the top blunt end down by the bottom weaver.

**STEP 11:** Next fold the bottom weaver over the top of the blunt end and weave under the next square and up to form the top fin.

**STEP 12:** Now pull the ends tighter and use a toothpick to help form the body without deforming the fish. Pinch both the head and tail sections.

**STEP 13:** Use your imagination when trimming the top and bottom fins and use the cut-offs (or other pieces) to make an unusual tail. Glue on tails and eyes and your fish is complete.



# LOG OF THE KYTE BUM

## 9th Annual Color In The Sky Festival, Ventura, May 28

It took a very early start to get all the gear and grandchildren loaded to make it to Ventura by 9:30 a.m. from San Diego for the festival sponsored by Village Kite & Toy at Ventura's Harbor Village. This has become almost a tradition for us to attend, and again we were joined by fellow club members, **Larry & Linda Mixon**. Larry Mixon again came home with kites as trophies for his flying abilities, and "you know who" came home with the kite for senior flyer again!

Music over loudspeakers and an announcer were new additions. The announcer made several mentions of the San Diego Kite Club, which we hope will generate interest in clubs in general and SDKC in particular. The event received good press coverage in the *Ventura Star* newspaper, which **Dan Rubesh** was kind enough to send to us. One of the pictures was of the Kyte Bum flying his "Beautiful Evil" drachen kite and the Double Rose delta was quite visible in the second picture that accompanied the article. It was long past dark when we got home that evening, but it had been a good day and we had all enjoyed it and hope to continue the tradition of attending the Ventura festival next year.

## LA Sport Kite Classic, Santa Monica, June 11-12

This festival had been advertised, and previously held, in El Segundo, but was changed to the beach in Santa Monica. As this is the same location as we fly on the fourth Saturday of the month whenever possible, it seemed like it was our home field. Quad ballet was scheduled for 3:30 on Saturday. At that time the wind was setting steady at +/- 8 mph, nearly perfect for quads. But Murphy's law kicked in. Pacific daylight saving time said 3:30, but kite time had us at about 2 p.m. The chief judge decided to move quad ballet to the first event on Sunday, with the Kyte Bum listed as first flyer.

After two miscues of his music, he was moved to last. Great break, but not enough to place well. **Jessie Lawrence** did an excellent job and the club should be very proud of how he placed in the open competition. We were disappointed for Ron when his spar broke less than a minute into his performance, thus he was not scored. **Larry Mixon** also did well in the competition, showing that he not only can make winning kites, he also can fly multi-line

kites. His two-line flying was better than quad for this performance, but he is showing good versatility.

## Northwest Nationals, Long Beach, Washington, June 24-25

After attending a 50th anniversary/family reunion-type function in Vancouver, Washington, on June 17, the lure of a fighter-kite making and flying event sponsored by the Long Beach World Kite Museum could not be resisted, so the Kyte Bum drove to Long Beach on Sunday, June 18, only to find the wind to be too strong for fighter kites. It was still a good day for flying other kites and renewing friendships in Long Beach before heading back to Vancouver that night.

During the week between the 17/18 and the 25/26, we were in Maple Valley and therefore flew in the Kent, Washington, area (suburbs of Seattle) before heading to Long Beach for the Northwest National Sport Kite event on the 24th and 25th. As our son and daughter-in-law are now hooked on kites too and are active in a kite club in their area, they also attended the festival in Long Beach.

As usual, we thoroughly enjoyed Long Beach; however, we could have done with considerably less wind. The day of the quad-line competition, the wind was clocked at 14 mph at breakfast time and continued to gain momentum throughout the day. By competition time it was 27 and gusting to 33.

Being spoiled by our winds in Southern California, perhaps this was too much for the Kyte Bum to even attempt, therefore he voluntarily DQ'd before even taking the field and merely was a spectator. The **Sundowners** team flew their usually spectacular routine, but even they were forced to use vented hyperkites rather than the rose kites they had planned to fly.

The festival drew a good crowd of both competitors and spectators. The trophies for the events were wooden and in the shape of sport kites. It was jokingly said that if harnessed right, they would be flown at Berkeley later. However, some thought they could have been flown in Long Beach.

We'll have ample opportunity to fly and check the prevailing winds in Long Beach over a longer period of time as we will be staying there for the whole month of August this year. We do hope to see many of our club members there the third week of August and you'll all be able to judge for yourselves

*On the road with Charlie  
and Joanne M'Clary*



*The Kyte Bum attempts a launch at Lincoln City. Photo downloaded from the Internet.*

if our love affair with WSIKF is justified.

### North Coast Challenge, Lincoln City, Oregon, July 1-2

Just as the winds of Long Beach were too strong, the winds at Lincoln City were too weak! There is no justice! We had arrived in Lincoln City a couple of days early and the winds had been very good. Then came Saturday and surprisingly there was no wind to be found. Sport Kite competition ran two to three hours behind schedule, just waiting for the wind. The most spectacular ballet in our opinion was done by **John Barresi** when he did 360s out over the water, including running through the water, as the beach was relatively narrow.

There also was a single-line competition at the same time, but we (and others) were unaware of it and there were very few entries. Of course, part of the lack of one-liners was due to the lack of wind. Even the most stable of kites could not stay up, so judging was difficult.

After Lincoln City, we made our way down the coast in a leisurely fashion. We did stop in Bodega Bay and flew with "Rotten Ron" (the yo-yo man) **Barron**. We visited the Candy & Kites store when passing through the town. We just can't seem to pass a kite store without visiting a few minutes.

It was good to be home for a while before we take off on another road trip, which will include the West Coast SKC at Berkeley on July 29 and 30, and WSIKF at Long Beach, Washington, August 21-27. We hope to see many of you at one or the other, or both!

## Do you want to be famous—or at least your kites? Here is your chance.

This September Walt Disney World will be presenting Epcot World Festival Of Kites. Disney World and Epcot Center has contracted Bruce Flora of Kiteman Productions (Bruce has done kite shows for Disney and Cypress Gardens for the past six years) to produce the largest and most ambitious kite event in America. This 16-day event will consist of turning Epcot Center into a world of kites. There will be famous kite artists from across the globe flying and demonstrating their kite skills, 16 watercraft pulling kite fliers around the lake flying stacks and all sorts of other creations. Kite classes and shows will be presented all day, everyday. Spectators will be greeted in the parking lot by Peter Lynn's World's Largest Kite.

So, here is where you come in. We will have display areas throughout the park for kites of all shapes and sizes. They will be displayed with a name plaque with the designer and builder's name and info. There will be a chance to fly some of these creations if you specify in your agreement. We will be responsible for all kites loaned to us. This is not a kite festival, so only our trained pilots will be flying in the park.

If you would like your kites on display or you need more info, please contact: Mike Simmons, (305) 572- , FAX (305) 748- , E-Mail, skywardmfg@aol.com; or David Gomberg, (503) 996- , FAX (503) 994-9692; or Bruce Flora, (407) 352- , FAX (407) 363- .

All kites must be received by Sept. 1, 1995. Please contact one of us before shipping your kites.

*(The preceding was downloaded from rec.kites on the internet.)*

ARE YOU  
**PAST DUE**

PLEASE  
RENEW TODAY!

# West Coast SKC, Berkeley, CA July 29-30, 1995 Results

## Masters Individual Precision

1. John Barresi
2. Darrin Skinner
3. Akira Suzuki
4. Melinda Ellis

## Masters Individual Ballet

1. John Barresi
2. John Morrison
3. Steve Thomas
4. Miguel Rodriguez

## Masters Individual Quad Ballet

1. Akira Suzuki
2. John Barresi
3. Dustin Tackett
4. **Ron Despojado**

## Masters Pairs Ballet

1. Dos Avispas
2. Team Wind Dancers
3. Team Papalotes
4. Cannon Ball

## Masters Team Precision

1. Team Invisible Wind
2. Legend West
3. Bay Area Sundowners
4. Team Avispa

## Masters Team Ballet

1. Team Invisible Wind
2. Bay Area Sundowners
3. Legend West

## Open Train Ballet

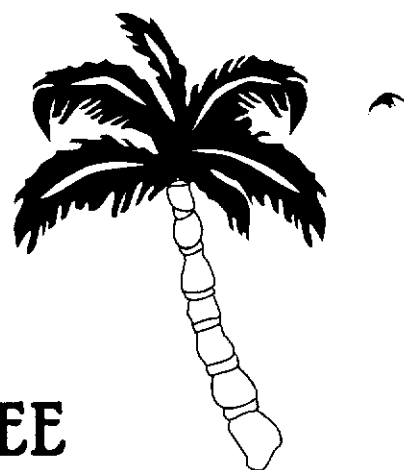
1. Bay Area Sundowners
2. Wind Dancer

## Experienced Quad Ballet

1. Edmond Allmond
2. **Charlie M'Clary**
3. **Jesse Lawrence**

**Jesse Lawrence** placed third in Novice Individual Ballet and sixth in Novice Individual Precision.

**Steve Bateman** placed first in Experienced Individual Precision and fourth in Experienced Individual Ballet.



# MAUI WOWEE

*By Gina Hsiung*

Well, we made it back to L.A. from a week in Maui safe and sound. Many Thanks to Bert Tanaka and Chuck Meyers for the info and hints about Maui.

The tradewinds were quite strong on Maui, so Johnny wasn't able to fly his stunt kites, but he did take out a "Black Feather" fighter (made by Dale Vanderhoof) from his bag and flew it off the upper deck of the 65-foot powered catamaran on our snorkeling trip to Molokini.

On another day when we were enjoying the beach by the Westin Maui Hotel in Kaanapali, Johnny flew that same fighter on the beach. The winds were just right for it. Unfortunately, he wasn't paying attention to the kite (must have been that "thong" bikini one girl was wearing) and his kite got stuck in a coconut palm tree. So what does he do? Well he climbs up the tree to get it. One of his sisters out in the surf yelled to me "Look, some crazy guy is trying to climb that palm tree!" Then we realized who it was!

When Johnny got to the top, he realized that maybe it wasn't such a good idea after all, because he couldn't reach his kite, so down he came, scraping his chest and arms in the process. Once he was down, the wind picked up and the kite came down all by itself.

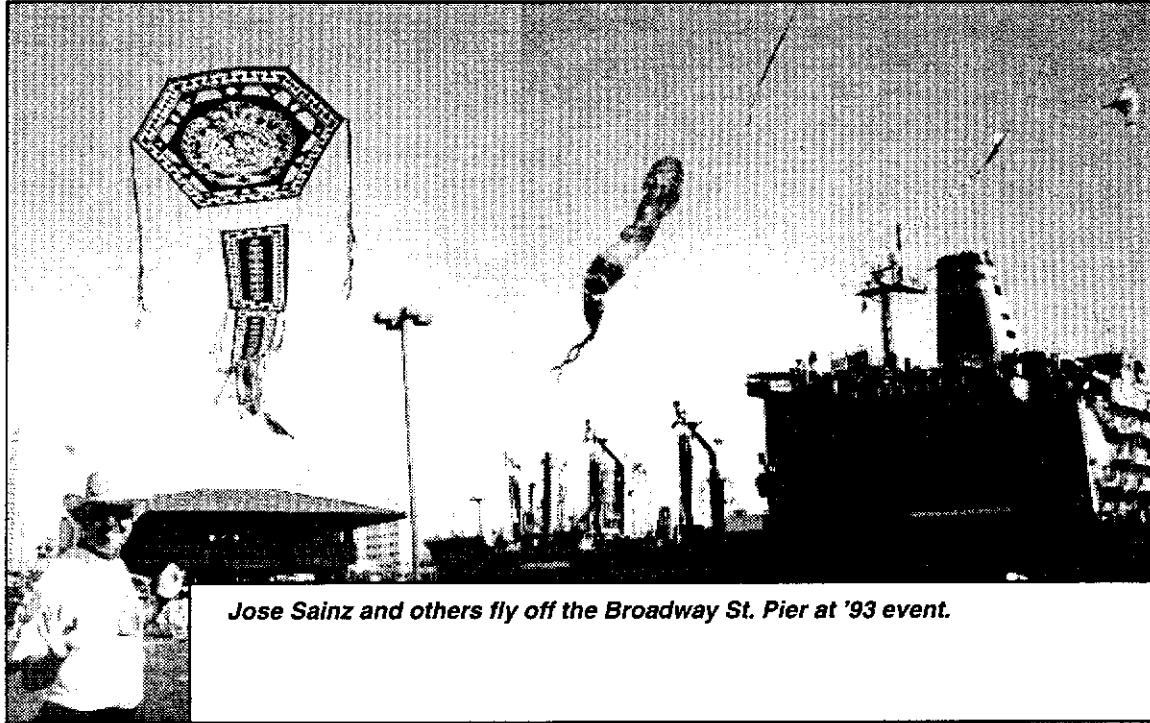
We also had a chance to visit with Ron and Nancy, owners of the Wings on the Wind kite store in Kihei. We met them last year at WSIKF and they are planning to go again this year, they have reservations in Long Beach, but they are having a difficult time getting plane reservations to get off the island of Maui — go figure!

One of the best souvenirs we brought back was the 6-foot-long bamboo that we found on the beach. It will make some great spars for several fighters.





# COME FLY ON THE PIER



*Jose Sainz and others fly off the Broadway St. Pier at '93 event.*

**C**YBERFEST '95 is a Global Promotional Information SuperHighway and MultiMedia Event to be held at the Port of San Diego Exhibition Gallery September 17-24, 1995.

Two years ago, we, the SDKC, were at the first event and helped kicked off the festivities on the Broadway Pier with a beautiful display of single-line kites showing off the San Diego city skyline and an informative static display, while an art and music festival also happened on that same pier. Last year also at the B Street Pier Exhibition Hall, the computer stuff was happening.

This year the event not only wants us back, but we are considered a sponsor by virtue of bringing all the outdoor color to the event. Other sponsors include the San Diego Port Authority, City of San Diego, Saturn (the car company not the planet), Hughes Satellite, UCSD and right after the San Diego Convention/Visitors Bureau is the San Diego Kite Club. There are also a few others that have their names painted on a sponsor wall. The SDKC logo will be on the event T-Shirt and programs as well as being on all the press releases and other publicity.

Please come with your cool single-line kites on Sunday, September 17 from 10 a.m. to about 5 or later, depending on wind, to the Broadway Pier at the foot of Broadway Street in downtown San Diego.

This event is truly a global one and there will be concurrent festivals in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Tijuana and across the Internet.

That Sunday should be a lot of fun for us as well as interesting. The Broadway Pier will be featuring internationally and nationally known artists such as Stephen Bishop, Anthony Ortega, Charles McPhearson, Gregory Page plus the Greyboy Allstars, Burning Bridges, Modern Rhythm, B-side Players, Libido, McAnany's, the San Diego Children's Symphony and more, including surprise guests.

Now, I admit that I don't know some of these names, but a lot of people are getting excited about their being here. There will also be an Arts & Crafts show, International food booths and, of course, an international beer garden with an evening light show.

The Port Exhibition Gallery on the B Street Pier will showcase multimedia presentations, computer art, demonstrations, lectures, interactive digital/online interactivity, live radio simulcast and a bunch more.

Please call me, Walt Thompson, at (619) 748- or email me [walter@cts.com](mailto:walter@cts.com) if you have any questions or need information. Or just talk to me on the kite field and we can fly and talk.

# Calendar Of Events

AUG

- 18 Board of Directors Meeting, Fabulous Inn, Mission Valley, 7:30 p.m.  
Contact: Ron Despojado, 587-
- 19 Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00
- 21-27 Washington State International Kite Festival, Long Beach, Washington.  
Contact: Kay Buesing, (360) 642-

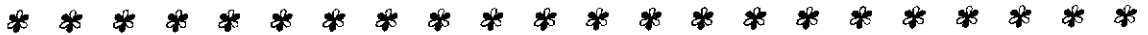
SEPT

- 15 Board of Directors Meeting, Fabulous Inn, Mission Valley, 7:30 p.m.  
Contact: Ron Despojado, 587-
- 16 Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00
- 17 CyberFest '95; San Diego, Tijuana, Yokohama Art & Music Festival, Broadway St. Pier, San Diego; Contact: Walt Thompson, 748-

OCT

- 20 Board of Directors Meeting, Fabulous Inn, Mission Valley, 7:30 p.m.  
Contact: Ron Despojado, 587-
- 21 Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00

(Events subject to last-minute changes, Call (619) 685-2885 for latest updates.)



## Tidbits



*Ron Presents Virgil Dalton with Hall of Fame Award. Others so recognized were Diana Martin, Jim O'Bryant, Walter Thompson and Ron Despojado.*



*Hans and Yves share their wonderful Brazilian fighter kites with Ed Lindsay.*

## ***Announcing:***

Jacob Ray Ditto  
Born July 28, 1995; 7 lb 8 oz; 18 1/2 in.  
Grandparents: Larry and Linda Mixon

Hannah Elizabeth Bailey  
Born August 5, 1995; 7 lb 6 oz; 19 1/2 in.  
Grandparents: Paul and Dorine Imbach

**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"x4.5")	\$20
Half Page	(7.5"x4.5")	\$40
Full Page	(7.5"x10")	\$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  
 (619) 685-2885

or call Roger McComb at (619) 483- for additional information and submission dates.

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

**ARMANI ? FOR SALE !**

**A/X ARMANI EXCHANGE KITES**  
**10 X 9 FT. ROKAKUU PROMOTIONAL**  
**KITES, FIBERGLASS #505 SPINES**  
**W/ GRAPHITE PRO-SPAR SPREADERS**  
**\$75. ARMANI EXCHANGE GRAPHICS**  
**\$100. NUT & BOLT GRAPHICS**  
**CALL: 714-673 or 619-224**

**San Diego MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**



**KITE CLUB**  
 New Membership  
 Renewal  
 Change of address

**Membership dues per household (Check one)**

	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.
Newsletter			
3rd Class Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$29	<input type="checkbox"/> \$43
Newsletter			
1st Class Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$67
Newsletter			
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