

Skylines

The official newsletter of the *San Diego Kite Club*

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Inside...

President's
Ponderings 2

New Members 3

Airplay:
Nicole Meinhardt 4

Gina's Fighter Kite
Survey 5

Log of the
Kyte Bum 6

Ye Olde Kite
Workshop 8

Back To
Wildwood 9

Air Affair Fun
Fly 10

Berkeley Results 11

Letters 12

Treasurer's
Report 12

Tech Tips 13

Calendar,
Tidbits 14

SDKC AUCTION DRAWS A CROWD



Record crowd attends the July meeting for our first local kite auction. Some members went home with some nice kites they didn't have when they arrived, and the club padded its floundering treasury by \$710!

THE JULY meeting, our annual anniversary meeting, featured club elections, Hall of Fame installations, a great potluck lunch, the unveiling of two of John Rogers' newest creations, but what drew the crowd this time was the "Ultimate Kite Auction."

The San Diego Kite Club raised \$710 through the club's first ever kite auction. Contributing artists were club members, all well recognized in the kiting community. Their donations were much appreciated and helped the club out of a financial crunch.

Here are the high bidders who won out:

- *Torri Cable purchased Gail Lindsay's "Sol" fighter for \$65.
- *Steve Davis paid \$155 for a Ron Gibian "Wave" hata.
- *Ellen (no last name received) got a hot Catherine's Wheel by John Rogers for \$40.



One of the highest bids of the day was registered for Larry Mixon's "facetnating" rokkaku.

Continued on page 3

SDKC Officers 1995-96

President
Torri Cable

Membership
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Joann M'Clary

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

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President's Ponderings



This is a very exciting time to become the San Diego Kite Club president; thank you for electing me, I think. First thing on the agenda is to name this column. Ron had "Head in the Clouds," Fred had "Whispers on the Wind." Great titles, but already used, so if you have a good idea for a column name please help me out. See, right off the bat I'm delegating.

Seriously, I have quite an agenda for the next year, but I will always take time out to enjoy Virgil's jokes, chat with the "old men of the kite field," and occasionally even fly a kite.

I firmly believe that kiting is a great way to help heal the planet, and anything we as an organization can do to further that healing is a positive move. Hopefully our membership will increase, and our fund raising will reach new heights. I'm looking into corporate sponsorship for local events and opportunities to get help from various agencies and busi-

nesses in the Southern California area.

One of the most important things to me is communication, and I will try to always get your input for decisions that affect the club as a whole. Come to board meetings and give your two (or three) cents worth.

As president I have an obligation to all of you, and I will work hard on your behalf. Remember you have an obligation also: Got an idea? A complaint? A solution to a problem? If you don't share your abilities, knowledge or concerns with someone on the board, then no one has a chance to correct or improve a plan, or just give you a chance to vent. So speak up, get involved — this is an opportunity to have more fun than you can imagine.

Our club is the welcoming group for the AKA convention at Santa Monica. Let's throw a really great party (or Tuesday Tea as Roger calls it) on October 1, and have a wonderful week at the Olympics of kiting. Hey, kiting at the Olympics???

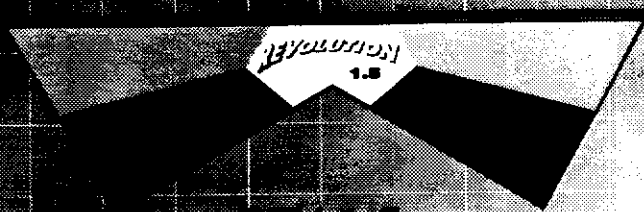
Stay in touch with the magic that surrounds you,

Torri

* HOTLINE NUMBERS *

San Diego Kite Club
(619) 685-2885
AKA Automated Information
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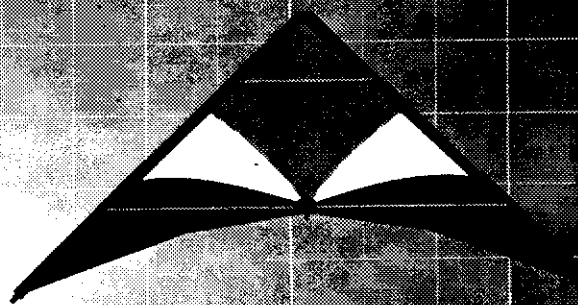
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REVOLUTION

Auction

from page 1



The high bidders and their "spoils of war."

- *Linda Mixon spent \$100 for Dorine Imbach's "Dogfish" della porta. [I wonder if Larry is still bugging her about raising his \$70 bid.]
- *Paul & Chrystal Eshelman received a priceless kite poem book donated by J.R. Tolman for \$120.
- *Paul Imbach is the proud new owner of a Jose Sainz original, his new "CG" rokkaku, for a bargain at \$70.
- *Wayne Faulkner will receive a custom Virgil windsock in his choice of colors for \$40.
- *And Connie Morgan was very happy to get Larry Mixon's beautiful rokkaku for \$120.

Another highlight of the day was the installation of the Mixons and Joanne M'Clary into the SDKC Hall of Fame for their ongoing service to the club. The honor includes a certificate and complimentary lifetime membership in the club.

New officers elected at the meeting are: Torri Cable, President; Joanne M'Clary, Vice President; Kathy Aggers, Secretary; Mitch Anderson, Equipment Manager; new board members, Wayne

Faulkner and Bowdy Aggers; and Connie Morgan in a new office called Communications Coordinator, the main duty of which is to man (woman?) the hotline.

But perhaps the most decadently enjoyable highlight of the day was the luscious dessert brought by Chrystal Eshelman. She promised us the recipe, but I haven't received it yet.

New Members

We would like to welcome our new members who have joined the club in the last two months.

- Terry Love
- Carol Miles
- Peggy Lipscomb
- Robert Buckman
- Terry, Desiree & Tiffany Beddoes
- Carol Smith
- Stephen & Lyn Church
- Don Brown
- Edward Scott Garcia

And thank you for renewing:

- Mitchell D. Anderson
- Jim & Kathy Welfin
- Randy Shannon
- Connie Morgan

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-
email: skylines@speed.net
FAX: same as voice phone

Airplay

by *Jurri Cable*



Nicole Meinhardt

YOU MAY HAVE missed Nicole on the flying field if you weren't out there around sunset. She's very fond of watching kites fly as the sun goes down as she listens to some favorite music on her headphones. Of course that was two years ago, now she is one of the kite flyers, and a pretty good one too!

Nicole grew up in Los Angeles and up until recently worked as a surgical assistant for an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, often times performing work at the George Bailey, Donovan, and Las Colinas Correctional Facilities. An incident last year helped her make a decision to leave her career of 12 years and strike out in a different direction. After a couple of promotions at Staples in just a year, it seems she made the right move.

Nicole's enthusiasm for kiting can be contagious, and her joy at this new found love in her life is infectious. She admits, "I'm usually a very quiet person, but flying has been so rewarding. It works for me, and I want to share it with everyone."

Nicole said that when she watched kites and sunsets and heard music, "I thought how neat it would be to fly to what I heard." That inspiration sent her to Kite Country to try to rent a kite. When that idea didn't pan out, she borrowed a delta kite from a friend while saving money to get her own. Late in the summer of '95 after buying a Revolution, some really bad luck hit her. A borrowed kite from Ron Despojado, lines from Walt Thompson, and

her new kite were stolen from the trunk of her car. With a little help from her friends she got another kite and then, as they say, the rest is history. "I talked Ron into playing follow the leader, and something came of it, but only after he'd told me he didn't think he wanted to fly with anyone," said Nicole with a giggle. She feels she's been taught by the best.

"I've had a great teacher. Ron is very patient and kind — and we never argue. That's why he didn't want to fly with anyone, because of disagreements, but we don't have any. He's taught me great technical qualities and made me feel very special. We both fly alike in that we feel the music and translate that feeling into flight."

The most important thing to Nicole is "having fun! It's such a good feeling to find something where you can escape and express yourself at the same time.

"I think it's cool. I'm thrilled I get to represent our region in the Grand Nationals. I'm having such a good time."

Nicole is thrilled with good reason. Earlier this year she competed in her first event at the Belmont Shores Kite Festival and placed fifth. Her next event gave her third place at the Southern California Open at San Diego. A second place was won at the Air Affair Fun Fly at Belmont Shores, and most recently at the Berkeley Kite Festival, she brought home first place. Not bad for someone who just a year ago had only flown a two-line kite on infrequent occasions.

Nicole's children, Sarah, 12 years old, and William, aged 8, have become kite fliers and are very supportive of their mom's rocket-like career. "They get excited for me and are understanding of my need to go to the kite field sometimes when I get home from work."

The awards banquet at Berkeley made Nicole realize that she was involved in something very special. "I've never been a part of anything so neat as this group," she said.

Nicole attributes her gift to God and tries to give it back by blessing everyone who watches her fly. "He's allowed me to express myself, and I always thank Him. I want people to feel like I do when I fly. I want to share that joy I feel — and it seems to have happened. People have said I look like I'm dancing when I fly, but it's not me, it's my kite. It does what I feel, and it works."

Watch for Nicole at Santa Monica at the AKA and root for another great San Diego kiter!



3, 2, 1...Nicole blasts her way to the top in four months!

Gina's Unabridged (almost) Fighter Kite Survey



This survey was compiled by Gina Hsiung via the Internet this past spring/early summer. Gina maintains the most excellent fighter kite web page at <http://www.csun.edu/~hfoao033/fighter>. She agreed to share the results with us, which will be printed in two parts. Enjoy! And be sure to watch for the fighter kite contests at WSIKF on Saturday and at the AKA convention on Thursday.

The survey responses I received ranged from the beginning fighter kite flier to the advanced; from fliers who enjoy the thrill of competition to the ones who just enjoy flying. It was really quite interesting to read all of the answers, and I'm sure that you will enjoy the information too. So read on!

Favorite Fighter Kite

Paper Indian Fighters (10 votes)

- The paper kites are sooooo light and responsive.
- The excellent spin characteristics is what sets these kites apart. They will spin anywhere in the window with very little loss of altitude.
- Good spin control at extreme low altitudes. Quick response, solid tracking and a soft and lazy patience off-wind.
- Ability to fly in a wide range of wind.
- The best fighter for the price (so inexpensive, one can own tons of them!), especially important when you are involved in "Line Cutting" competitions.
- A well made, well tuned bamboo-and-tissue (or mylar) fighter is good for a mellow fly.

Vic's Fighter (5 votes)

- Most fun per buck and consistent quality.
- Very stable and controllable.
- The Vic's can be positioned well and is capable of fast directional changes, both characteristics are vital in "AKA type" touching competitions.

The fighters made by Kevin Shannon, George Peters, or Carl Crowell (3 votes)

- These kites are attractive, slow, well balanced, and easy to handle.
- The GA lives up to its Good All-around name. Relatively quick, handles well in a crowd.

Randy Shannon's Swallow Tail and Z-Fighter (1 vote); Cicada (2 votes)

- The Swallow Tail has a super-tight spin with no altitude loss and laser straight tracking all the way across the sky. Predictable. The Z-Fighter cobras like a pro, really fast, blazing spins, good tracking, solid, predictable feel.
- The Cicada is unique.
- The Cicada is great for serious one-on one flying. Very fast, spins like a demon, quick recoveries.

BlackFeather (4 votes)

- The BlackFeather has straight, long tracks and a quick spin, but the most important characteristic is the ability to pull line out in a neutral flight mode giving the most opportunity for positional advantage.

Mighty Mite Fighter (3 votes)

- Speed of turn, precise tracking, and of course, that it can be adjusted.

Spencer Chun's Fighters (1 vote)

- Spencer's fighter is beautiful to look at.

Tyke (Martin Laurence) (1 vote)

- Handles high wind and is fast.

Peter Lee's Indoor Fighter (1 vote)

- Easy spins, good balance and tracking.

Peter Lloyd Indian Fighter (1 vote)

- Flies consistently well with very good control and response in all wind conditions.

Grandmaster (2 votes)

- For goofing-off flying. Wide wind range; doesn't require a lot of attention; bright colors and noisy sail attract lots of spectators; great for giving beginners lessons, and the plastic sail makes field repairs a

snap.

Mac's Fighter (Malcolm McLeod) (1 vote)

- This kite is fast and responsive. It turns quickly without letting out too much line. Another advantage is this kite is that because of the synthetic bow and the fact they are completely glued together, it does not need to have the bow frequently re-shaped, like a fighter with a traditional bamboo bow.

Self-Made (5 votes)

- [Brian Johnsen, Wash.]: Mine don't melt in the rain. Very low frontal area. Give it a tug, then give it slack and it will glide for an amazing distance in any direction, then very delicate control will bring it into a tight spin ready for it's next instruction.
- [Robin Levick, Calif.]: I'm developing an orcon and carbon fighter for super light wind. So far it flies on wind you can't feel, it spins nice, and it tracks pretty well.
- [Ed Alden, Wash.]: By building one's own kites, it is possible to have fun of investigation and design; produce a kite superior to the commercial models in performance, i.e., faster, straighter flight, fly in lighter winds, fly higher overhead, more stable hovering characteristics. The ability to build a "Family" of kites, each suited to a different wind speed, so that one gets the best performance in each wind.
- [Johnny Hsiung]: I enjoy the challenge of making the perfect "Combat" kite. I like my kites to be fast and responsive.
- [Christophe Salome]: I like the JM Favourite because of its manageability, speed and precision.

Reels And Line Used

[NOTE: It seems that the majority of fliers

Continued on page 7

Log O' De

KYTE BUM

THE LOG really hasn't been terribly full this year, but I will expound on some of it. The events we attended in addition to board and regular club meetings since the last report are:

- April 20-21, San Diego Open, Fiesta Island
- April 27, Fourth Saturday fly, Santa Monica — Tom Van Sant flew his HUGE centipede kite.
- May 25, Fourth Saturday, good big group of people, enjoyable day
- June 15-16, Air Affair Fun Fly, Belmont Shores, Long Beach, Ca.,
- June 29-30, Northwest Stunt Kite Championship, Long Beach, Wash.
- July 27-28, West Coast Stunt Kite Championships/ Berkeley Kite Festival

On the road with Charlie and Joanne M'Clary

San Diego has been the destination of many people from other countries and other parts of the United States for many years, but it seems more of them are now bringing their kites with them. As the Kyte Bum has never been known to be the least bit reticent when meeting newcomers, it has greatly increased the number of international flying friends as well as increased his knowledge and familiarity of many kites flown in other places. The common interest in kites bridges cultural gaps and is another good dimension of kite flying as a hobby.

Some visits from out-of-town AKA members and friends have been the incentive to have a few impromptu fly-ins, the most recent being the visit from Randy Shannon, his wife and small son, Ramsay, who were staying at the Lindsays. Randy

brought several of his newer kites that he had made. Although he is noted for his fighter kites, he also applies beautifully and the subjects he seems to favor most recently have an African influence. He honored the Kyte Bum by presenting him with #1 of his newest 3/4-size split-tail fighter kite.

Because of the change in parking coupled with the large number of people who use the parks in the summer, it has been necessary at times to find other places to fly other than south of the Hilton — namely Dusty Rhodes Park and Mariners Point, so keep these places in mind if you want to fly and there is no place to park.

Since it is extremely difficult to fly (in an airplane) when using oxygen, only the Kyte Bum made the trip to Long Beach, Washington, via Seattle with my son. When he recently flew to Hawaii for vacation, my son did not reinforce his kite bag and consequently had a number of spars broken, since he too was a novice at traveling with kites. We knew about the use of PVC irrigation pipe (which comes in various sizes) but couldn't find any at any place we had checked. Dorine Imbach recommended a place, which I will mention here in case anyone else is looking for them. It is WhiteCap Wholesale Contractor Supply. The pipe, cutting and caps all cost less than \$20.

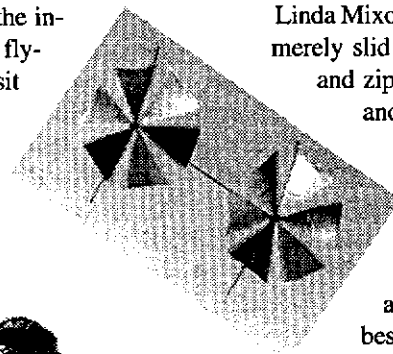
Linda Mixon stated that when they traveled they merely slid the pipe into their regular kite bag and zipped it up! This all seems so logical and simple, but I'm sure there are many people like us that just didn't know about this, so am sharing the information here.

Back to the festival. Long Beach had good weather, nice winds and other than San Diego is really the best of all places to fly, even though they only give ribbons instead of trophies there!

The final festival of the season was Berkeley and it truly is the Grand Finale, since they feature so many aspects of kiting. The skies were filled with fantastic single-line kites, which draws huge crowds. The winds were well behaved all day Saturday and part of Sunday before they started gusting to over 20 mph. One of the gusts pulled the tent stake (anchoring Charlie's Tako Kichi rokkaku) out of the



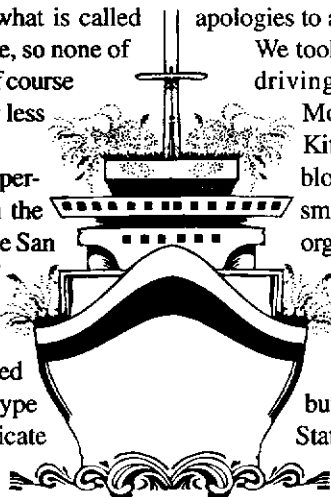
The Kyte Bum is chomping at the bit to try this unique quad-line "windmill" kite brought by German Rüdiger Gröning.



ground, which was next to my chair so I could watch it. Well, I watched it all right; it sailed right over my head with the big wooden winder and the tent stake still attached. The stake still had the knot around it, which kept any more line from being let out, but it headed up and straight for the bay. Fortunately it caught on some line and stopped just short of the water.

Karen Gustavson had been busy persuading Dorine's King Tut to quit dancing a jig, and when it had settled to a smooth soft shoe instead, she rescued Charlie's kite. Fortunately, no one was hurt and no kites damaged. Charlie was there to wind it up and bring it back. This all occurred while the Imbachs and Lindsays were showing kites in what is called Mass Ascension of a certain type of kite, so none of them were around at the moment, and of course I can do no chasing since I'm more or less tethered myself.

The highlight of the festival was perhaps the 3 1/2-hour banquet cruise on the Empress Hornblower Dining Yacht. The San Diego Kite Club received a number of awards. I believe there were nine members or families from the club that regularly attend the meetings that participated in the festival, and all received some type of award. Neil Tuthill received a certificate of appreciation also. Steve Bateman



took home trophies for flying and buggying, while Gail Lindsay received the trophy for the best single-line kite — the Kachina. Dorine Imbach received an award for the best display of single-line kites during the festival, including her Magic Carpet, King Tut and the Peacock.

Ron Despojado and Nicole Meinhardt received an award for their beautiful Quad pairs routine and it is hoped that this will now be included as a regular event. Those who received trophies for ballet and precision were Bowdie Aggers, Steve Bateman, Paul Eiler, Ron Despojado, Jesse Lawrence, Nicole Meinhardt, Larry Bush and Charlie M'Clary. My apologies to anyone that I may have missed.

We took the long way home from Berkeley, driving down the coast and stopping in Monterey to visit the new Windborne Kite store. The store is located about a block from the old location. Although smaller than the old store, it appears well organized and well stocked. Corey Jensen was not at the store and we were told he was home packing to go to the World Cup in Japan.

Well, we don't get to go to Japan, but we will be going to the Washington State International Kite Festival in Long Beach, which is the next best thing!

Fighter Survey

from page 5

use a Halo spool, but there were many different preferences in what line was used...so I've listed all the variations]

- Plastic hyperbola with cotton thread from Brazil
- Halo spool with extended lip and waxed linen (7 votes)
- Halo with light (3-lb) Indian cotton, unwaxed for light winds; heavier thread for medium winds; waxed 18-lb linen for high winds.
- Halo with Johnson & Johnson waxed dental floss (lying all over the floor).
- Halo with 30-lb braided Dacron line.
- Light cotton thread waxed with paraffin on a small YOYO Gator spool, dumped on the floor.
- Sloped yoyo spool with thin cotton line (2 votes).
- Paraffin coated cotton, #12 thread, on a Gator reel.
- Large wooden Indian-style reel (heavily weighted) with Manjha.
- Indian cotton line with a big traditional reel.
- Indian manjha No.3

Of those responding to the survey, 11 had experienced the thrill of "line-cutting"; 13 had not...yet!

Tips (or Secrets) on Flying Fighters in Competitions

- Stay calm!!
- Watch the other competitors for tricks, moves, and wind conditions.
- Try to make the opponent come get you and make the mistakes.

- Learn from someone who is really awesome, then kick their a*# in a competition.
- Don't fly against Johnny (just kidding).
- Get Gomberg talking (not kidding).
- Being too aggressive can cause you to make mistakes and lose points; slow down, wait, be in the sky at the end.
- Practice, be able to position your kite anywhere in the sky when ever you want.
- Patience off-wind and ambush when possible.
- Practice in close quarters, around trees, banners, etc. Helps deaden the nerves.
- Don't just stand and admire the experts (grin). Patience is the key. Wait for your opportunity, then strike. Don't try to force it; let the other guy provide you with the means to his defeat. Watch out for the line at your feet. Don't make the mistake of getting tangled-up.
- Lose to anyone named "Joel P." (grin).
- Make sure you use the appropriate spinning direction. If you standing to the right of your opponent and needing to touch from under, use the clockwise spin, picking up tension at about the 6-7 o'clock position. If needing to touch them from over, then use the counterclockwise spin with tension being applied to the line at about the 1-12 o'clock position. Obviously, the reverse will apply for your opponent being on your right.

Next issue we will continue the survey with comments from fighter flyers and fans from all over the world.

De Olde Kite Work Shop

By Chuck and Janet Meyers

Chuck and Janet Meyers are SDKC members who live in Valencia. You may remember them as the couple who were married at the Washington State International Kite Festival in 1993.

IN DECEMBER, we moved into a new house, complete with a three-car garage. Since we only have two cars, the third space became my kite workshop, of course.

At the end of the block is a vacant lot, where I can frequently be found experimenting with my newest kite. Several of the other neighborhood kids (there are 25 in all) asked if I could help them make kites. So we set up a date on a Saturday for all the kids to make sled kites.

On previous occasions when helping kids make kites, I realized that they seem to have trouble deciding what to draw on their kites. So I took some clip art (butterfly, fish, flower, etc.) and drew them on cardboard for the kids to place under their plastic trash-bag kites

I had three banquet
tables of
kids

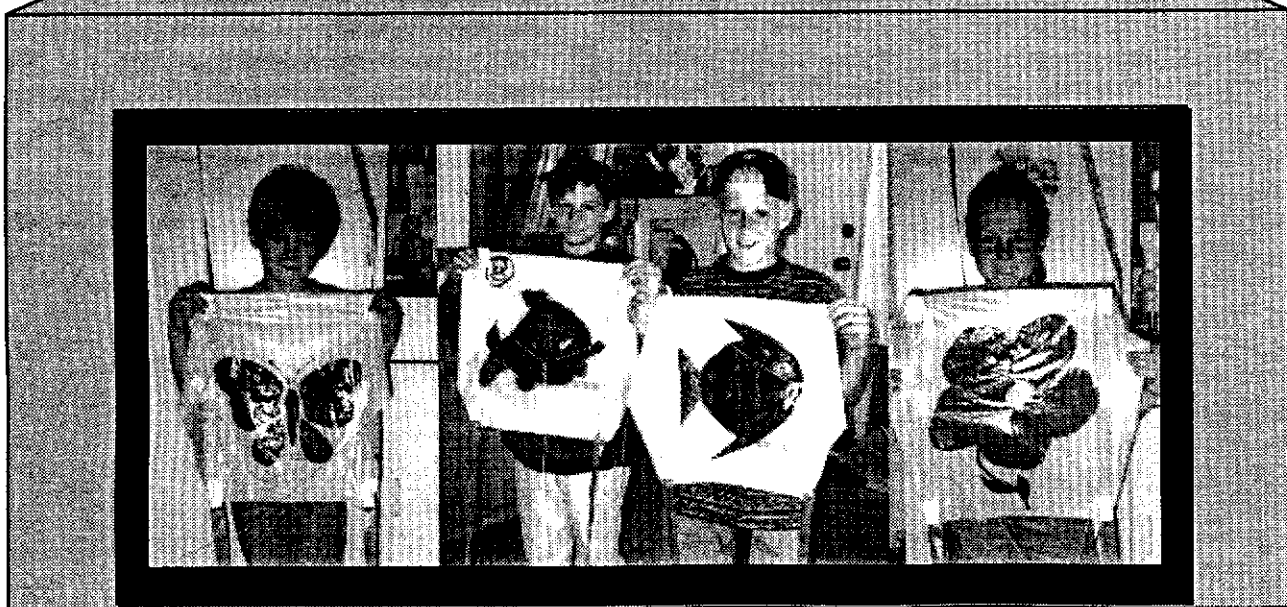
and parents working at a time. I felt like a one-armed paper hanger.

As soon as the kids finished their kites I took their pictures and sent them to my wife, Janet, at the end of the block to fly their creations. We made kites for two hours. I had no idea how many kites we had made. When the last kite was completed, I walked out of the garage to see the sky full of the kites we had made. It felt great to see the smiling faces on the kids and parents. There were two kids from the next block who had plastic deltas from the drug store. They were having trouble flying these. So we were off to the garage to make two more — a total of 27 kites.

This was one of the most enjoyable days I have experienced in kiting.

Now the parents want to make kites.

I'm thinking maybe a small box kite. I hope the kids will be around to help the parents!



MY SECOND TRIP TO WILDWOOD

(or how to survive bad weather)

BY JOHN ROGERS

I WAS HONORED again this year to be asked to come to the 11th annual Wildwood International Kite Festival and East Coast Stunt Kite Championship (wow, what a name). I took several large sparred kites this time, not just inflatables like last year, and shipped the poles by UPS. I arrived in PA, home of the Lehigh Valley Kite Society, and was a house guest to Tony and BJ Reiser. They were so nice I seriously considered letting them adopt me! Tony is a woodworker by trade, and his kites show the craftsmanship of a perfectionist. He has won awards at all the major festivals including the famous Smithsonian Festival in D.C.

We left for the "Shore" early Friday and had a scenic ride through PA and NJ. Finally I could smell the marsh and view the motels lining the beach strip at Wildwood, N.J. At the end of the road was one of the giant Peter Lynn Octopus kites. You could see it over a mile away! I got to know the owners, the Lewandowskis from Ohio, real well over the next few days. They also have a set of giant Legs from Martin Lester. These two are a really relaxed pair of flyers. They use king-size pillow cases filled with sand for anchors on the beach, which worked great! In high winds, just add another one; they weigh around 175 pounds and empty out and fold up real nice when finished!

I got the giant snake out and the 9x12 parafoil to hoist up some sky-junk and went off to meet some of the others in the single-line fields. The Gleckners were there with their flowforms, inflatable frogs and sea creatures. Several others had 252 flowforms out, and Pete Dolphin was launching a Peter Lynn Dolphin.

On Saturday, the day started cold and windy, over 25 knots worth of wind. I got the 9x12 parafoil up after several tries and having three people hold it as well as the 13-ft French Military with a collection of snakes and tubes to wow the kids. At the other end of the field (over 1/2-mile away) the Gleckners, Goodwinds, Reisers, Quinns, Pete Dolphin and others were getting kites in the air. After lunch, the sun came out and we warmed up and the wind dropped to less than five knots. By 4:00 p.m. the wind was

dead, so Joe Peron (of flying multiple kites fame) and I went to have some real Italian food. The night fly went smoothly, with Lee Sedgewick winning with a train of Mylar kites in the single-line category, and Joe Peron won the stunt kite category.

Sunday was clear but cool, and after lunch I helped launch the world-record box kite train of over 110 box kites. It was risky, since the wind was dropping, but they made it up fine. Sure looked impressive with 121 on a line. That evening we had a great banquet and a great auction with a lot of great stunt kites going for really low prices.

On Monday, we awoke to rain and cold winds, so we left and went back to PA and a day of rest before I came back to San Diego. The trip was great and I sure hope I will get to do it again in the future.

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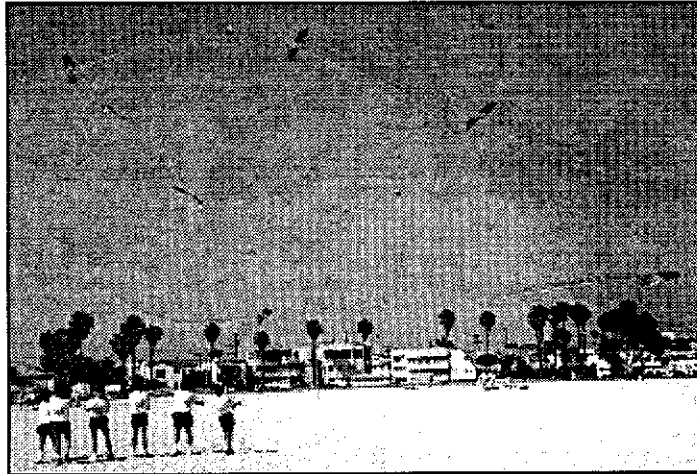
Aire Affair Fun Fly & Competition

Belmont Shores, Long Beach, CA

June 15 & 16, 1996



Incredibly, Ray Bethell is able to nest his triple-triple stack.



The Bay Area Sundowners are always a spectacular sight, here performing in "The Big Picture."

Aire Affair Kite Productions continued the tradition of sport kiting in Southern California, which began three years ago with Randy Joe's L.A. Sport Kite Classic, by organizing the Aire Affair Fun Fly & Competition. The major highlights of the weekend's events were great performances by Ray Bethell and the Bay Area Sundowners.

On Saturday morning, in his first performance in California, Ray Bethell set an official world record by flying three stacks of three Ride the Wind Big Dippers simultaneously. Ray has a way of dazzling spectators with his multi-kite flying abilities! And audiences on both days were

awed by the beauty and spectacle from performances by the Bay Area Sundowners.

And with the setting of the sun, the Aire Affair Fun Fly & Competition marked the last competitive sport kiting event in Southern California for 1996. Look for events with innovative ideas from Aire Affair Kite Productions in Southern California in 1997! — *Larry Bush*

Novice Individual Precision

1. Lionel Gibbons	68.23
2. Chad Morrison	66.20
3. Michael Sanchez	65.67
4. Steve Giron	60.33
5. Jimmy Kepler	46.00
6. Ryan Knauss	46.00

Intermediate Individual Precision

1. John Shara	65.53
2. Paul Eiler	63.43
3. Larry Mixon	54.63
4. Gerri Adler	51.83
5. Mitchell D. Anderson	51.23
6. Paul T. Eshelman	50.87
7. Charly M'Clary	42.73
8. Jessie Lawrence	29.97

Experienced Individual Precision

1. Larry Bush	77.13
2. Bowdy Aggers	75.27
3. Norm Awill	37.87

Masters Individual Precision

1. Kobi Eshun	85.73
2. Miguel A. Rodriguez	80.63
3. Brian Champie	79.87
4. Stephen Bateman	76.63
5. Paul DeHope	73.10
6. Melinda Ellis	71.70
7. Akira Suzuki	62.87

Masters Team Precision

1. Air West	83.85
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Experienced Pairs

1. Zipp Zapp	62.73
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Masters Pairs Ballet

1. Dos Avispas	79.53
2. Gone With the Wind	77.00
3. Wind Dancers	76.73
4. Papalotes	67.67

Individual Quadline Ballet

1. Ron Despojado	92.40
2. Nicole Meinhardt	83.80
3. Akira Suzuki	82.53
4. Jessie Lawrence	76.53
5. Slim Warnke	75.67
6. Bowdy Aggers	75.07
7. John Lippold	75.00
8. Larry Mixon	74.40
9. Paul T. Eshelman	69.33
10. Charly M'Clary	62.13
11. Joe Corbella	62.67

Novice Individual Ballet

1. Lionel Gibbons	73.40
2. Scott Hicks	72.93
3. Chad Morrison	64.47
4. Jimmy Kepler	52.40
5. Jessica Morrison	52.33
6. Ryan Knauss	49.93

Intermediate Individual Ballet

1. John Shara	78.33
2. Gerri Adler	71.80
3. Paul T. Eshelman	68.33
4. Larry Mixon	65.80
5. Jessie Lawrence	62.60
6. Mitchell D. Anderson	60.07
7. Charly M'Clary	54.60

Experienced Individual Ballet

1. Larry Bush	78.67
2. Norm Awill	77.60
3. Bowdy Aggers	71.40

Masters Individual Ballet

1. Michael Weingand	95.53
2. John Morrison	94.47
3. Kobi Eshun	93.53
4. Miguel A. Rodriguez	93.47
5. Akira Suzuki	92.67
6. Paul DeHope	89.67
7. Brian Champie	89.90
8. Melinda Ellis	86.33
9. John Lippold	84.00
10. Steven Bateman	82.13
11. Burnett Lee	76.73
12. Dan Whitney	76.07

Berkeley '96



Ron's Limo Service.



"I can't believe it," says AKA president Pete Dolphin. "Ron Despojado is wearing long pants."

Unusually pleasant weather, mild winds — this can't be Berkeley! But it was, and it made for an excellent competition. SDKC members made quite a showing, bringing home enough tiles to pave a walkway around Mission Bay! (well, almost)

A great time was had by all, except for a few painful (for Ron) and stressful (for the rest of us) hours wondering if our past president would ever fly again. But he looked much better the next day, especially when he and Nicole accepted their awards at the banquet aboard the Empress Hornblower Dining Yacht. Pass the pepper!

Novice Individual Ballet

- 1 Michael Sanchez
- 2 Lionel Gibbons
- 3 Chad Morrison
- 4 Cassie Skinner
- 5 Mary Baier
- 6 Jessica Morrison

Novice Individual Precision

- 1 Cassie Skinner
- 2 Chad Morrison
- 3 Lionel Gibbons
- 4 Michael Sanchez
- 5 Mary Baier

Experienced Individual Ballet

- 1 Larry Bush
- 2 John Gabby Jr.
- 3 Bowdy Aggers
- 4 Marlene Slichter
- 5 B.C. Shelby
- 6 Joy Block
- 7 Kelly Jay Reed
- 8 George Currea
- 9 Frank (Tiny) Rosas
- 10 Jeff Cornett
- 11 Cal Yuen

Experienced Individual Precision

- 1 Jim Barber
- 2 Kelly Jay Reed
- 3 Bowdy Aggers
- 4 Larry Bush
- 5 Cal Yuen
- 6 Frank (Tiny) Rosas
- 7 B.C. Shelby
- 8 Jeff Cornett
- 9 George Currea
- 10 Marlene Slichter
- 11 Joy Block

Experienced Individ. Quadline Ballet

- 1 Nicole Meinhardt
 - 2 Jesse Lawrence
 - 3 Charlie M'Clary
 - 4 Dawn L. Dimanno
 - 5 Bowdy Aggers
- ## Experienced Pairs Ballet
- 1 X-Terminator
 - 2 Zipp Zapp
 - 3 Star Flight
 - 4 Avisbuddies
 - 5 Flyn' Fools
 - 6 T.G.T.W
 - DQ Windependent

Experienced Team Ballet

- 1 Don't Panic
- 2 Air Traffic Control

Experienced Team Precision

- 1 Don't Panic
- 2 Air Traffic Control

Intermediate Individual Ballet

- 1 Scott Hicks
- 2 Ray Kroeger
- 3 John Shara
- 4 Gerri Adler
- 5 Flora Thompson
- 6 Monica Barber
- 7 Steve La Porte
- 8 Zoe Salloom
- 9 Jesse Lawrence
- 10 Charlie M'Clary
- 11 Brett Kilekas
- 12 Randy McKiernan
- 13 Joey Bacon
- 14 John Datlen
- 15 Mary Bos
- 16 Alex Krawchyk
- 17 Joey Chetham

Intermediate Individual Precision

- 1 Ray Kroeger
 - 2 Brett Kilekas
 - 3 Paul M. Eiler Jr
 - 4 Joey Chetham
 - 5 Gerri Adler
 - 6 Dan Rubesh
 - 7 Steve La Porte
 - 8 Mel Edlund
 - 9 Scott Hicks
 - 10 Joey Bacon
 - 11 John Shara
 - 12 Zoe Salloom
 - 13 Mary Bos
 - 14 Alex Krawchyk
 - 15 Flora Thompson
- ## Masters Individual Ballet
- 1 Akira Suzuki
 - 2 Curtiss Mitchell
 - 3 John Morrison
 - 4 Michael Weingand
 - 5 Greg Aronson
 - 6 Miguel A. Rodriguez
 - 7 Kobi Eshun
 - 8 Paul Dehope
 - 9 Melinda Ellis
 - 10 Jim Soellner
 - 11 Brian Champie
 - 12 Peter Betancourt
 - 13 Stephen C. Bateman
 - 14 Steve Thomas
 - 15 Burnett Lee
 - 16 Darrin Skinner
 - 17 Dan Whitney
 - 18 Peter Dolphin

Masters Individual Precision

- 1 John Morrison
- 2 Stephen C. Bateman
- 3 Kobi Eshun
- 4 Miguel A. Rodriguez
- 5 Michael Weingand
- 6 Greg Aronson
- 7 Mike Huff
- 8 Darrin Skinner
- 9 Peter Betancourt
- 10 Jim Soellner
- 11 Melinda Ellis
- 12 Paul Dehope
- 13 Akira Suzuki
- 14 Brian Champie

Masters Indiv. Quadline Ballet

- 1 Ron Despojado
 - 2 Akira Suzuki
 - 3 Penny Anderson
 - 4 Darrin Skinner
 - 5 Curtiss Mitchell
 - 6 John Frazier
- ## Masters Pairs Ballet
- 1 Dos Avispas
 - 2 Team Gone With The Wind
 - 3 Wind Dancers
 - 4 Team Papalotes
- ## Open Individual Innovative
- 1 Ray Bethell
 - 2 Mel Edlund
 - 3 Joey Chetham
 - 4 Jesse Lawrence
- ## Kite Buggy Races Pursuit
- 1 John Frasier
 - 2 John Morrison
 - 3 Stephen C. Bateman
- ## Cross Country
- 1 Stephen C. Bateman
 - 2 Kevin Lahey
 - 3 John Frasier

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Letters

A good time was had by all at the Windrose Service Unit Bridging event sponsored by Troop 1248. Girl Scouts ranging from Daisies to Seniors moved up to the next level in Girl Scouting.

The theme was "Flying High" and was accented by a wonderful demonstration of kites and their flying ability by Larry and Linda Mixon. The Mixons graced us with their knowledge of kites and some of their special kites they had handmade.


We would like to thank the Mixons and those at the American Kitefliers Association for helping us make our bridging event extra special.

Troop leaders Sandi Daniels & Donna Serling



Photo by Linda Mixon

Girl Scouts listen attentively as Larry Mixon shares his kitemaking knowhow.



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Dear Linda & Larry:

The results are in! The inaugural Relay for Life in San Diego county raised over \$150,000 and donations are still coming in!

The American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives from cancer and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education and service. We would not be in existence today if it were not for the dedication of volunteers in the business and community arena like you.

Money raised at Relay for Life will be used for patient services, educational programs and to fund the many research and fellowship programs right here in the San Diego area. The entertainment provided by the San Diego Kite Club helped to fuel the efforts of the participants to not only meet the goal at the UCSD location, but to exceed it by over \$15,000!

We wholeheartedly thank you for your generous support of the American Cancer Society and the community. Your participation in Relay for Life not only contributed to the success of the event in 1996, but will help to make next year's event even bigger due to the enthusiasm, camaraderie and fun had by all this year.

Thanks again for your contributions.

Susan R. West

Bob Scabia

Volunteer Co-Chairs

Treasurer's Report

Balance from May 17	\$656.85
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EXPENSES

Printing May/June newsletter	\$284.46
Mailing May/June newsletter	56.29
P.O. Box renewal	58.00
Bank Fees (May/June)	20.00
Sodas for July meeting	36.93
Total Expenses	455.68

INCOME

New Memberships	\$15.00
Renewed memberships	58.00
Ads	80.00
Total Income	153.00

Balance as of July 20, 1996	\$354.17
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Tech Tips

Invisible Ripstop Repair

A little while ago, I posted a request on rec.kites for information on the possibility of making self adhesive patches from Icarex and received quite a number of helpful suggestions. I thought I'd share what I ended up doing in case some of you might need to do a similar repair.

The nature of my repair was a kite that had a hole punched through the sail by a broken wing spreader. This puncture removed part of the fabric so it was not possible just to tape it. I measured the damaged area and it was about 3/4" in diameter (one heck of a puncture).

Materials:

- 1) One steel washer 3/4" ID, 1 1/2" OD (Cost \$.35)
- 2) One steel washer 3/4" OD (Cost \$.25)
- 3) One piece of self adhesive mylar (courtesy of Dean Jordan)
- 4) One piece of matching Icarex fabric

Procedure:

- 1) Place the larger washer over the punctured part of the sail and clean the hole with a hot cutter. This will result in a perfect 3/4" edge-sealed hole.
- 2) Place the piece of matching patching fabric behind the sail and align the fabric bias.

- 3) Use a temporary marking pencil to trace the outline of the hole to the patching material.
- 4) Remove the patching fabric from behind the sail and place the 3/4" OD washer over the lines and hot cut the patch.
- 5) Place the large washer over the self adhesive mylar and trace a 1 1/2" circle on the paper backing material and cut it out.
- 6) Remove the paper backing from the adhesive mylar and place the 3/4"-diameter Icarex patch in the middle of the 1 1/2"-diameter mylar material. This will allow for a border of 3/8" of adhesive mylar all around the Icarex patch.
- 7) Carefully align the bias of the completed patch on the back of the kite and press firmly into place.

The patch is nearly invisible from the front of the kite. The mylar patching material is slightly glossy when seen from the back. I was expecting some major color variations due to the patching adhesive, much like what you can see on some seams using double sided tape. This was not the case. Now, let's see how it holds up. This particular repair job may not be a good test of the technique because the hole was located in a low-stress area, but my finger-poking test indicated that the patch was quite secure.

I'd like to thank Dean Jordan for sending out a sample of the adhesive mylar film. I'd also like to thank Steve Ferrel at KBI and the numerous other folks who took the time to respond to my post.

Skylines would like to feature kitemaking, repair or any kite related tips.

This article appeared on the rec.kites newsgroup and was written by SDKC member Jim Campbell of Leading Edge Kites.

If you have a tip to share please forward it on to us at the addresses given on page 3.

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Calendar Of Events

AUG
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OCT

- 16 Board of Directors Meeting, 4444 W. Pt. Loma Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
Contact: Torri Cable, (619) 226-
- 17 Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00
- 19-25 Washington State International Kite Festival, Long Beach, Washington
Contact: Long Beach Peninsula Visitor's Bureau, 1-800-451-2542
- 20 Board of Directors Meeting, 4444 W. Pt. Loma Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
Contact: Torri Cable, 226-
- 21 Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00
- 1 Reception Party for AKA Convention (Tuesday Tea) hosted by SDKC;
Location to be announced. Contact: TorriCable (619) 226-
- 2-6 AKA Convention, Santa Monica
Contact: Jim Miller, (500) 447-
- 16 Board of Directors Meeting, 4444 W. Pt. Loma Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
Contact: Torri Cable, 226-
- 17 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

The San Diego Kite Club is making plans to host the Earlybird Welcoming Reception for the AKA Convention. At the time of this writing, plans are to try to secure Rusty's Restaurant on the Santa Monica Pier for the event. We would provide appetizers and a limited number of free drinks, to be followed by a no-host bar. There is also talk of holding a raffle or auction at the event to offset the cost. We hope to make it fun for all attending.

The AVI Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, Nevada, is holding its 2nd (seniannual?) kite festival Nov. 22-24. Those who attended the first festival in April raved about it and plan to return for the fall version. They will feature both stunt kite demos and single-line flying, as well as live music and fireworks if you need further entertainment.

A partial list of those planning to attend includes: Spencer Chun, Scott Skinner, Ron Gibian, Bob Anderson, Randy Shannon, Roger Maddy, Scott Hampton, Dodd Gross, Bay Area Sundowners, Jose Sainz, Randy Tom, Ed & Gail Lindsay and Walt Thompson. So be there or be square. I, personally, plan to be there.

For more info on the AVI Festival, contact Kathy Plummer at the Dream Merchants, (520) 565-2116.

It seems kitefliers are getting younger and younger (or am I just getting older and older). Recently seen on the field at Mission Bay were Ricky Buckman, 19 mos., trying out his dad's stunt kite, and Linda Mixon's grandson, Jacob, just under a year, grabbing the line on Grandma's kite.



JACOB



RICKY

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
1 year of quarter-page ads (6 issues)	
PREPAID (you save \$20)	\$100
Half Page (7.5"x4.5")	\$40
1 year of half-page ads (6 issues)	
PREPAID (you save \$40)	\$200
Full Page (7.5"x10")	\$70
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PREPAID (you save \$70)	\$350
Half Page, Back Cover	\$60
1 year of half-page back covers	
PREPAID (you save \$60)	\$300
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 A. McComb at (619) 483- for additional information and submission deadlines.

Advertisers should have camera-ready, black-and-white artwork.

We may accept payment in the form of kiting products in lieu of cash payments.

Subject: Heart Attack @ Berkeley... Kiter Cardiac Arrest?

Does anyone know the condition of the kiter with cardiac arrest who collapsed at the Berkeley kite festival? Did he survive? Will he fly again?

The above notice was recently seen on the Internet. The reports of Ron Despojado's collapse at Berkeley have been greatly exaggerated! It's true he did grab his chest and have difficulty moving for almost half an hour after the end of his award-winning routine. Although the paramedics were summoned, there didn't seem to be anything wrong with his heart, but indications of a pulled chest muscle did exist.

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