

# Skylines

The official newsletter of the *San Diego Kite Club*

Vol. VII No. 4

December 1996

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## LET 'EM FLY, BY DAY...



Linda Mixon launches the SDKC arch train at the Avi Aerial Kite Fest in Laughlin, Nevada.

## ...And Let It Ride, At Night

A CASINO may seem like a strange place to hold a kite festival, but the Avi Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, Nevada, has once again pulled off a very successful kite happening. This November's Fest featured such names as Scott Skinner, Betty Street, Bill Lockhart, Don Mock, Spencer Chun, Scott Hampton, Ron & Sandy Gibian, Bob Harris & Jennifer Snyder, Dale Vanderhoof, Randy Shannon, Dawn Williams, Dan Proebstel, Dodd Gross, Roger Maddy, David Brittain, not to mention our local talent, Flight Squadron, Randy Tom, Jose Sainz, the Lindsays, Larry Mixon, Johnny Hsiung and Basir Beria. Of course there were many new or lesser known kitemakers with no less impressive kites. I especially enjoyed meeting Mike Shaw from Colorado who had some great-looking Indian motif kites, and Tom Dice

from Arizona, who had an ingenious line-runner/ teddy-drop device.

The Nevada skies produced some awesome backdrops for the kites. Friday night's show included an *Arizona Highways* sunset followed by a terrific lightning display in the distance. After gorging ourselves on crab legs, shrimp and other shelly things at the casino buffet, the kites were treated to a reception in the casino's banquet room. Ed Lindsay got a birthday hat and everyone enjoyed looking at Jose's pictures from the AKA convention (especially the "up-the-kilt" shot).

After Friday's strong, post-storm winds, Saturday started off without a breath. By 11 a.m. things started moving and increased throughout the day.

*Continued on page 3*

# SDKC Officers 1996-97

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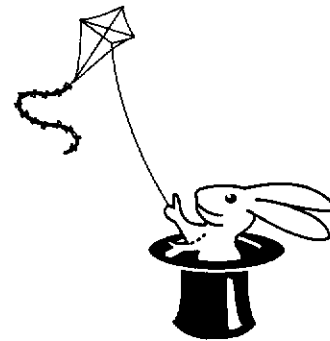
Bowdy Aggers

Neil Tuthill

**Advertising Coordinator (int.)**  
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## Magic in the Air



*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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USA  
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**T**HIS TIME of year makes me realize that each of us "brings different gifts to the table." As the holiday gift exchange occurs at our December 21st meeting, let's try to remember that not all our "presents" are tangible. We have so many members that donate time, energy, talent, kites, and support; it's time to acknowledge those who've contributed to help make us a continuing organization.

Ron Despojado gets my heartfelt thanks for keeping things together for the past two years. I truly appreciate NOW what a rough spot this can be. Roger McComb has done an outstanding job as the treasurer. Unless you really enjoy calling the local bureaucrats, filling out confusing forms, and being held very accountable for all the dimes and dollars you must count, then you wouldn't want to be the treasurer, but Roger did an outstanding job, always getting our forms and permits in order and on time. We will truly miss his efforts on behalf of the club's funds.

Larry and Linda Mixon have been such a mainstay and support to SDKC; we're lucky to have them as friends. Joanne M'Clary has done a wonderful job as the vice-president, and she's also the one who sits at most functions and sells tickets, as well as her main job of keeping Charlie in line. Kathy Aggers, as the new secretary, is terrific; she also makes gorgeous sweatshirts for our raffles.

John Rogers is at every event, flying his big, fun kites and making us very visible to the locals. We know what a sacrifice this is for John; he's so shy you know! Sorry, I'm trying to be serious, but this is also fun stuff.

Lisa Schirmer has carted her glyphs to many events and made us look good wherever we were. Heck, we won the display event at the AKA — way to go, Lisa!

Virgil Dalton gives us a spinsock for every raffle, he teaches the kids in OB how to make kites (along with Slim and Virginia), and his support of this club is constant. Slim Warnke has been handling the membership and providing us with labels for the newsletters; many thanks.

A very special thank you to Carol Miles. She volunteered to be the interim treasurer at the 11th hour and then came through with a place to hold our New Year's Eve bash. Now, that's a friend indeed.

### \* HOTLINE NUMBERS \*

**San Diego Kite Club**  
(619) 685-2885  
**AKA Automated Information**  
(408) SEE-4-AKA (733-4252)

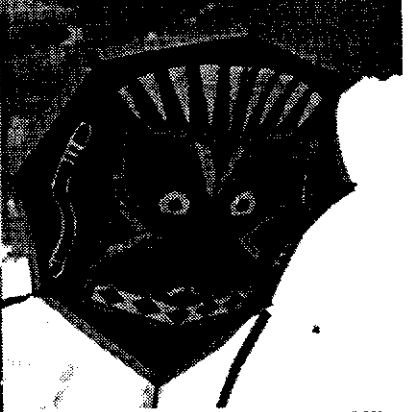
*Continued on page 12*



*This man was caught trying to hide this card up his sleeve and was banished to this 6x6-foot room.*



*David Brittain finds yet another crazy thing to do while strapped to a kite.*



*Nice octagonal kite made by Mike Shaw of Denver.*

### **AVI** (contd.)

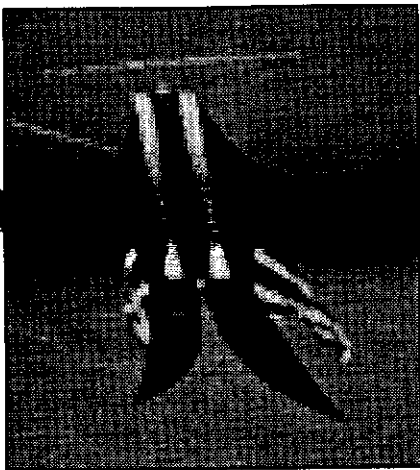
At dusk the kites were upstaged by the wedding of festival organizer Kathy Plummer's daughter, after which all were invited to the reception. Those who attended enjoyed plenty of food and free-flowing champagne.

Besides the organized after-dark activities, there was always the casino. A game called "Let It Ride" seemed to be very popular. It was reported that Bill Lockhart won two large jackpots on dollar slot machines and I saw Don Mock walking around with a couple trays of silver dollars. I'm sure others weren't as lucky, but I didn't see anyone leaving without their shirt.

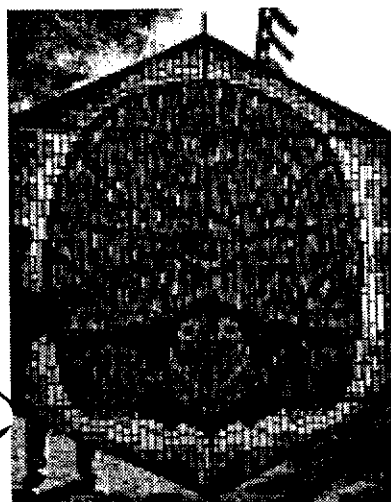
Latest word is that they plan to have another festival in March next year as well as in November. We'll keep you updated on that. — DI



*Steve Bateman finally got to fly a copter kite. What more could there be to life? Except maybe a watch that tells you how high you are.*



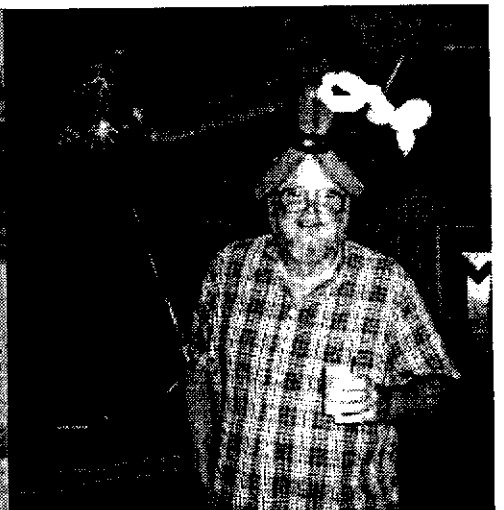
*Bob Harris & Jennifer Snyder brought this Bebean kite back from Bali. It has two giant hummers (male and female) and is said to bring harmony to the bed. Humm-mm-mm-mmm-m.*



*Betty Street's patchwork turtle.*



*Walt actually seems to be enjoying having his forearms lengthened.*



*Happy Birthday, Ed.*

# Airplay

by *Juri Cable*



*Kathy displays one of her beautiful painted rokkakus.*

## KATHY AGGERS

### THE EYE OF THE TYGER

according to Kathy, "I never knew you could do so much with Icarex and bridle material."

We both laughed, the ROTFLMAO kind; this lady has a great sense of humor!

The first Aggers kite — a Spectra kite bought at K-Mart in 1989 — Kathy and Bowdy found "very disenchanting. It didn't go anywhere." In the early '90s they went to Venice Beach and saw John Barresi flying. He and Neil Tuthill encouraged them to try buying through a catalog and they wound up with a Rocket. Now Bowdy's true purpose would come to light. You see, he didn't fly. "He was the launcher, the fetcher, the crash maintenance guy," said Kathy. Bowdy was inspired to fly after the '93 Berkeley festival. He really liked competition, and as Kathy admitted, "He got hooked and we went from one end of the state to the other following the festivals — Santa Barbara, UP and Ventura Fun Festivals."

With both the Aggers now enthusiastic kites, they planned to fly a pairs ballet routine. Kathy worked out choreography and they chose the music together. It was 1994 and their routine would be ready by 1995. That was before the trip to Hawaii where Kathy fell on tidepool rocks and ruined her foot. The irony of the accident is that she was turning around to warn Sharaya to be careful. The orthopedist wouldn't release her to fly home until some of the swelling went down, so the five-day vacation was extended several days. She now walks with a cane, faces more surgeries, and can only fly on grass. Kathy says, "I live through Bowdy vicariously, because I would do anything to be out there flying." Let's hope she gets to realize her dream in the very near future.

**K**ATHY AND I chatted while the rest of the "engineers" created the train of kites to be flown at the Avi festival. Since Kathy and her husband, Bowdy, with their daughter, Sharaya, live in Los Angeles, it's been hard to hook up with her. I've admired Kathy while she recovered from orthopedic surgery on her once-shattered ankle, as she didn't let it interfere with her sense of humor. It stops her from flying though!!

Kathy is generous with her time and her talents. She officiates as the San Diego Kite Club vice president and she makes and donates really beautiful sweatshirts to our auctions and raffles, besides making a home for her family. Oh, and she spends a few minutes online each day. (Make that a few hours!)

Kathy "speaks" with folks from all over the world about kiting. When she first started using the internet she went under her father's name as a shield on the IRC (Internet Relay Chat). She slowly introduced herself as a female, calling herself "Elo" for eloquent. After about six months she was chatting in "real time" with Team Lobotomy, the British buggy boys, flyers in the Netherlands about colors and ducks, and kites in Australia, and as she puts it, laughs on the internet,

"I wind up R-O-T-F-L-M-A-O (rolling on the floor laughing my --- off). And everyone has nicknames they use as handles."

When asked what her nickname is, she replied, "Opal Tyger, and tiger is spelled with a Y." Then she giggled — a lot. Opal Tyger has a rep, it seems, for turning on the new kids. She then went on to explain that she and several others "spend a lot of time helping new flyers pick out the right kites for their needs, how to do certain maneuvers, and refer them to shops."

Apparently the conversations can turn very interesting, as



*What do you mean, sense of humor?*



# ON THE ROAD WITH THE California Wind Weavers

By Kathy Aggers

**WSIKF  
Long Beach, Wa.  
August 1996**

The early hours of Monday morning found us wandering the streets looking for breakfast and running into more kite folk than we have ever seen in one place. How do you tell a kite person from a non-kiter you may ask. Well, the cars for one — the backs of trucks and vans are packed to the roof with bundles and long bags that only kilters carry, and the bumper stickers and personalized license plates are another clue. Then there is the absolute giveaway kite pins and patches on every hat, jacket and vest worn by just about everyone there. The friendly smiles, but with an eye on the flowing spinsocks and flags, the slightly distracted look as the flags stretch out. Those are telltale signs, and we saw much of it there.

We made our way to the Kite Museum where we found Joanne M'Clary manning the front desk. She ushered us in for our first look at the new fighter display. As we had never been there before she gave us a docents verbal guide to the museum's history and personal anecdotes. Having finished our tour, we took in the sights on Main Street. We had already decided not to try to brave the beach the first day. We spent several happy hours poking into the kite-related knickknacks that seemed to abound in every shop.

Tuesday found us setting up at the crack of dawn. We met up with SDKC members Larry Mixon and Wayne Faulkner, having left their spouses warm in their beds while they braved the chill winds to set up the site and prepare for the second day's events.

Things became pretty much a blur for me from that day on. I entered my hand-painted rok in the painted and glued category and was told, very kindly, that it needed to be bigger in the future so it could be seen in the sky. I was just glad I had even tried to enter it, considering some of the more lovely pieces I saw. The kites in the sky and the wind animals on the ground left me in awe. We were there to set up every morning at the same time to make certain we had our little camp site. I found out later from a local Washington kiter I met over the computer chat line

#kites, he thought our crew looked like a bunch of bikers.

The items of note were that Larry Mixon took home several ribbons, Ray Bethell flew his three kites out of the sun roof of a car driving down Main Street, I now know what 600# line sounds like when it snaps in heavy winds, and, yes, you can bring an entire beach home in several unexpected places.

The SDKC was well represented this year with the Lindsays, Mixons, Faulkners, M'Clarys, Hsiungs, Warnkes, and ourselves making a splash with our kites in the skies over Long Beach, Washington.

**San Pedro, Ca.  
October 20, 1996**

There is something to be said for being an active kite flying family, we don't pass up a chance to show off, and we are always asked to do so. Neil Tuthill asked us and a few of the kite club members if they would come and display their skills at the Harbor Days Festival in San Pedro, the proceeds of the fest going to benefit the Cabrillo Sea Aquarium. We all arrived to find a grassy area to set up our banners overlooking a beach we would perform our demos in. Larry and Sandee Bush, Walt and Barbara Thompson, Ron Despojado, Tom Stoner and Barbara Dockendorf, and ourselves prepared for what looked to be a fair crowd. Several times the masses swarmed over the field threatening kite lines, but only because a treasure map had been given out by the festival organizers, and the kids and parents were looking for "buried treasure" in the sand. Walt gave a few pointers on fighter kites, Tom and Barbara flew a pairs routine, Ron flew his AKA National winning Rev routine, Larry flew his dual-line routine and Bowdy flew his quad-lined delta for the enthralled crowd.

The fun truly began when they announced kite flying lessons; adults and kids alike lined up patiently for a chance to try their hands on the kite handles. Sandee Bush and Neil had their hands full, but soon the others and Sharaya joined in to help. Two kites

*Kathy continues her report she began last issue and adds a couple more recent events. Thanks for sharing them with us!*

Continued on page 12

# LONG- LOST LOG OF THE KYTE BUM

*On the road with Charlie  
and Joanne M'Clary,  
as reported by Joanne*

**SORRY** to have missed writing lately, but literally being on the road much of the time didn't allow the time to write. Immediately after the AKA convention in Santa Monica, which we greatly enjoyed and were happy to be a part of, we set out on a vacation. Some might ask, "vacation from what, since every day is vacation when retired." We therefore thought we should just call it a trip. However, since the winds and conditions were such that the kites rarely got out of their bags, we decided it was really a "vacation from kite flying" and therefore could legitimately be called a vacation.

We traveled first to Albuquerque where we got up while it was still dark (really something different for us) to drive out to where the hot air balloons were being launched at dawn on the last day of the Hot Air Balloon Festival. We were told about 800 balloons were launched and the sky was really filled with beauty. Our favorite balloon must have been made by the same German person that brought the huge dragon inflatables to the Washington State International Kite Festival a few years back. It was a beautiful open-mouthed raspberry-colored dragon. It was a wonderful sight to see that particular balloon being launched and sail on up. Other balloons that were fantastic were shaped like a tennis shoe, a cow, a dog, the old lady who lived in a shoe, a champagne bottle, a beer can and many other unusual shapes in addition to the usual beautifully colored conventional balloons. We had previously seen the festival in Temecula, but the Albuquerque event would compare to a WSIKF versus a local festival.

We had originally planned to locate New Mexico kite flyers and fly with them that day, since it fell on the One Sky One World Sunday, but were not successful in locating any fliers, so we proceeded on with the trip which then took us to my home town in South Dakota to visit my mother and other relatives. While there, we woke up on the morning of Oct. 20 and the car had about two to three inches of snow on it. That was not a welcome sight, but it did melt by the end of the day and we left there in order to make other stops before winter really set in. The only flying in South Dakota was a little fighter kite

flying and assembling and helping an aunt and uncle in North Dakota fly some big one-liners that we had previously given them. The wind was so unusually light that it was difficult to keep the kites up.

We proceeded across South Dakota, visited the Badlands after going through the Black Hills and then drove down the entire state of Nebraska. This was an especially tiresome drive as the mile after mile of corn fields had not been harvested and were standing in the fields, the dull yellow plants drying and waiting to be harvested.

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*...it looked like  
the Who's Who  
in the  
kitemaking  
world.*

---

We then went to Wichita, Kansas, to visit an aunt. While in Wichita we called a member of the TKO team, whom we had met at the AKA convention, to find out where their flying field was. We were able to find the field and fly a little bit, but the wind was a little stronger than Berkeley so didn't fly long. They do have a big beautiful place to fly though if anyone gets back there when the wind is not gusting.

After Wichita we went to Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas to visit relatives primarily. While in Oklahoma we were treated to a true midwestern electrical storm and rain — again, not weather for flying. We did very much enjoy a brief journey into the Ozarks where the trees were in their brilliant fall best — the colors rivaled the eastern autumns as there were many maples and large-leafed oaks among other trees.

We managed to keep ahead of or just behind,

winter weather on the road home. The snow was on the ground in parts of New Mexico making for pretty scenery on nice sunny days. We went to see Canyon de Chelly in Arizona and the time went by so fast that we didn't get to make the planned stop in Flagstaff to visit Randy Shannon as we had originally planned. After a drive through Sedona, Arizona (that has always been one of our favorite places), we drove straight home. Our vacation had lasted a little over three weeks and we and our cat were glad to get home where we could count on the sun and a good breeze.



The SDKC arch gets "baptized" in the Colorado River on its maiden flight.

We were sorry to miss the Santa Cruz Festival and also Port Hueneme, but were delighted to be home in time to attend the Avi festival.

The Avi festival was an extremely enjoyable one with a proper balance of absolutely fantastic one-line creations and entertainment by the sport kites. The art in the kites showed the beauty, skill and workmanship of many of the really Big Leaguers in kite making, and I won't attempt to name them as I'm sure I wouldn't be able to mention them all. Needless to say, it looked like the Who's Who in the kitemaking world without any competition, just kitemakers proudly and happily flying their creations.

David Brittain (who happens to be a house guest of ours at present) did a great job of entertaining with his stack of revolutions, then his unicycling and flying simultaneously, not to mention his body surfing with his kite in the river and buggying. It was a welcome sight to see The Flight Squadron (Pam Kirk, Mike Dennis, Eric Streed and Paul Hodges) back performing, and it brought back pleasant memories to those of us that have been around for a few years to see them perform to their signature piece of "Battle Hymn of The Republic."

Johnny Hsiung performed as the wolf for a game of sheep and wolf with a number of fighter kites. There were others performing as well, but as you can tell, it was just a casual and beautiful festival. Our San Diego Kite Club arch was baptized in the Colorado River and was injured by a wayward kite, but survived the weekend. Randy Tom's arches made a spectacular background for many of the sport kite shows. Since Avi was held on the grounds of the casino, the evenings had some planned social functions, but besides that, there was the gambling. I understand there were at least two club members that won enough to more than cover their expenses for the event while the rest of us didn't have that good

of luck — or should we say enough sense to quit while ahead?

We understand that wedding vows were exchanged by a couple of club members, which may be the biggest gamble of them all. I'll leave you guessing on who the newlyweds are, as I don't know how public they wish the news to be, but I am happy for the couple and extend our congratulations.

See you at the meeting — if not then, for our New Year's celebration.



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# ARCH YOU PROUD



On November 16, club members gathered at Torri's condo clubhouse to assemble the now-famous San Diego Kite Club kite arch. 84 individual kites were made by about 20 members prior to the workshop. John Rogers and Larry Mixon manned the sewing machines attaching the kites to the main line, and others took turns at tasks such as gap measuring, thread snipping, spar cutting, tail making, pizza fetching and general kibbitzing. Some tried their hands at sewing for the first time, including Ron Despojado and Wayne Faulkner. Desiree Beddoes was the youngest kitemaker, getting her lesson from Virgil Dalton.

Special thanks go to Jim Nettles for donating the flying line and wood dowels for the spars and also to Virgil Dalton for making scrap material available to use for the kites and tails.



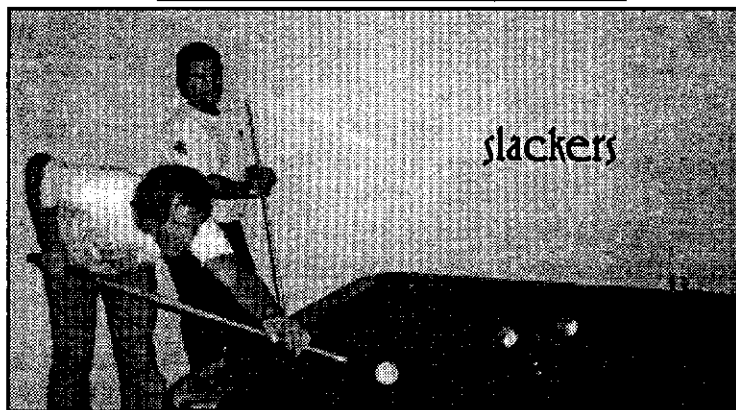
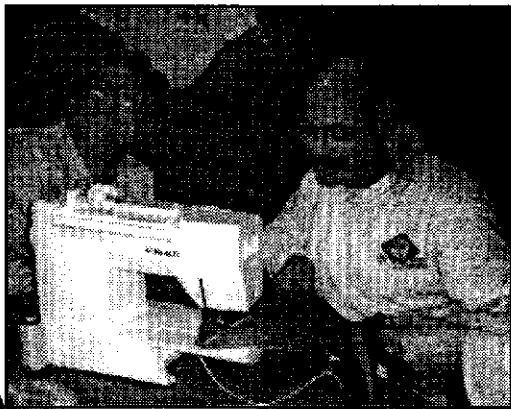
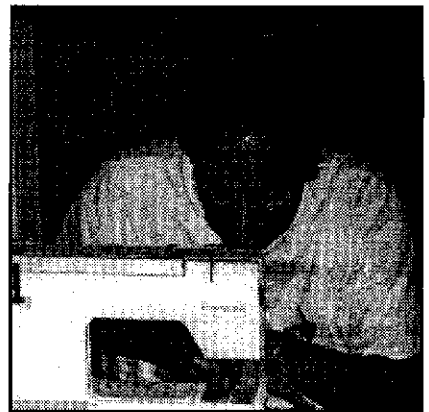




# OF YOURSELVES?

The kite arch made its flying debut at the Avi Festival in Laughlin the following weekend and looked great. The first day it flew in one long arch spanning the hotel's harbor. When the wind died it became evident that the kites floated well too! But when the wind picked up, the freshly cleaned kites relaunched, ready for the drying week. One day the kites were blown away from the beach, where they managed to stay out of trouble.

If you haven't made a kite for the train, it isn't too late. We will be adding kites to the train in groups of 12 or so indefinitely. We hope to have over 100 by the New Year's Fly. Refer to the last newsletter for instructions or contact me (see p. 12) and I'll send you a copy. You can just fold up the kite, slip it in an envelope and mail it if you'd like, or bring it to the club meeting.



# San Diego Kite Club's Fifth Annual New Year's Day Fun Fly

**Food**  
**+ Flying**  
**+ Friends**  

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**= Fun**

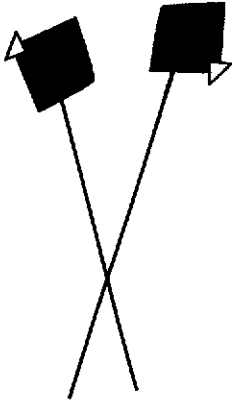
**Mariner's Point, Mission Bay**  
**January 1, 1977**

**RAFFLE**  
Many terrific items up for grabs this year

**POTLUCK**  
Mexican food theme  
A-G: salad or side dish  
H-M: dessert  
N-Z: main dish



**FIGHTER CONTEST**  
Just as last year, a fighter kite contest will take place on December 31st at Mission Bay, south of the Hilton, at approximately 1:00 p.m.



**FLEW MARKET**  
New this year — sale of previously flown kites. Here's an opportunity for you to spend the cash you received for Christmas to upgrade or add to your kite collection.

— OR —

Here's an opportunity to replace some of that cash you spent on Christmas and make room in your kite bag for more new goodies. Booth will be attended by club members and tags will be furnished. There will be 10% facilitator's fee charger to sellers and a 5% finder's fee charged to buyers.

***New Year's Eve Reception***  
Eureka! A great place has been found where we can hold our New Year's Eve reception. The clubhouse is at 3100 Groton Way. If you park in the Barons' parking lot at the corner of 4000 W. Pt. Loma Blvd. and Groton St. (one block west of Midway), you'll find ample space. The festivities will be happening one block south. Please bring the drink of your choice. Sodas will be provided along with snacks. There is a pool and jacuzzi should you be brave enough to be a polar bear. Call 226-7777 for further information.



Once again the Kings Inn is offering reduced rate rooms on New Year's Eve for out-of-town visitors. The special rate is \$39 for up to four persons. The Kings Inn is located at 1333 Hotel Circle South, just off Interstate 8. Call (619) 297-2231 for reservations.

# November Meeting and Workshop



*The SDKC gathers on the bluff overlooking Pacific Beach for the November meeting. Not the most convenient location, but it was a gorgeous day, nonetheless.*

*by Terri Cable*

**NOODLES RULE!**  
Gail Lindsay  
unveiled her new  
kachina low-  
aspect kite —  
beautiful to look  
at and a rock-  
steady flier.



On Saturday, November 16, 1996, the SDKC met at the foot of Emerald St. in Pacific Beach, definitely not our usual sort of place. It was a special occasion to help Ride the Wind celebrate their grand opening. It's nice to have a new kite shop, especially on the beach area. Stop by at 4651 Mission Blvd.; they're great folks.

While our raffle didn't go quite as planned — a nameless past president (his initials are Ron Despojado) forgot to bring the tickets — we had a great turnout and Harry French and the Imbach family won items. The rest of the prizes will go back into the "pot" to be used for New Year's Day. We now have a brunch-for-two certificate at the Hilton, autographed books by Ron Reich, Sea World tickets, and lots of kites. Hope that whets your appetite to all the possibilities you could win.

Since the flying field was down a l-o-n-g flight of stairs to the sand, there were several of us who set up camp on the grass and walkway. Kathy Aggers and Joanne M'Clary, Virgil Dalton and Harry French all held down the "upper fort." Fred Frederick, Ron Despojado, Connie Morgan, Jim Campbell, and John Rogers were quite visible on the path — and of course John had Rosie flying overhead.

Bowdy Aggers danced his kite up and down the cliff wall and teased his wife by flipping her hair, to the amusement of us all. Several passersby were heard to exclaim as they looked up, "Now that's entertainment." Really, I heard that from two girls with red hair!

Other members seen on the sand and climbing up and down the cliff were Steve Bateman, Charlie M'Clary, Benjamin Messin and Jesse Lawrence, along with Sharaya Aggers, Ashley Smith and Desiree Beddoes. Paul Imbach debuted his kite arch containing his "happy kiting" message and Gail

Lindsay had a new kachina "noodle" (low-aspect ratio) kite.

Several folks made homemade cards to toss in for the drawing of the door prize. Hey, we didn't have any doors! Robert Buckman, Jim Nettles, Roger McComb, Larry and Sandy Bush, Steve Davis, and Mitch Anderson had all forgotten their cards. Neil Tuthill and Wayne and Jenett Faulkner made it to the meeting, or the "sew in." It was great to see Ed and Gail Lindsay after all their travels. Larry and Linda Mixon, and Walt Thompson almost missed the meeting when the parking hung them up a bit. An extra added bonus was getting a visit from Pam Kirk and Mike Dennis when they brought Dave Brittain by on their way to the "buggy field."

After a quick board meeting in the back room at Ride the Wind we found our way to the clubhouse at 4444 W. Pt. Loma Blvd. to put together



*Eight — count 'em, 7 — pizzas were devoured by hungry workshopers*

got his coffee, but you had to be really fast to get some of that pizza.

My thanks to all who made the "kite bee" such a great time. Special thanks to Dorine for coming up with the idea. If I didn't get your name in, my apologies. Give me a hard time about it; I'll be sure to remember you for the next article — in a nice way, of course. Right!

the club arch train to fly at future festivals. About 25 of us sewed, snipped and strung to put together 84 kites. Lisa Schirmer ran in to add her punctuation marks. She missed the meeting because she sewed all day. Everyone had a great time and between us we ordered pizza TWICE! that's right, eight — count 'em, 8 — pizzas were devoured by the hungry crowd. At least Charlie M'Clary

## Wind Weavers

from page 5

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  
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soared and crashed to delighted shouts of triumph, shrieks of laughter and groans. The lifeguard shack became the target of choice by our new and eager students, and a light pole upwind of the field sprouted wings and tangled lines for a brief time.

The highlight I think was to learn that among our budding new flyers was a group of Girl Scouts. They had come just to see the Aquarium and would leave with the extra bonus of having earned their kite merit badges — something the Scout Leaders said they had not been able to earn before this event. I would like to acknowledge Sandee Bush for her calm handling of the kids and to thank Neil for a marvelous experience.

**Santa Cruz, Ca.  
October 26, 1996**

The Santa Ana winds followed us; I swear I never invited them to come! Uninvited, though they might have been, the bane of our San Fernando Valley home showed up anyway. They almost blew the first annual Santa Cruz Kite Festival into the ocean. I have known the strength of those nasty winds every year for most of my life in California. I have never consciously tried to fly in them, and I don't recommend it for events. In fact I don't recommend flying in them AT ALL! Combine these

winds with sand and you have an uncomfortable situation.

The event went off anyway with the Northern California Kite Club and the Bay Area Sport Kite League battling these two forces of nature to get things going. I would have said "off the ground," but keeping things ON the ground was the order of the day and next to impossible. Though competitors moved on and off the field in an awesome display of perseverance, being able to keep your kite in the air was the winning routine, in my opinion.

I kept pretty much to the shelter of the Santa Cruz Boardwalk Arcade patio area to watch the men and women duel with Mother Nature. Incredible as it may sound, under these adverse conditions there were quite a few smiling if not outright grinning faces out there. Jim Campbell and his sons Danny and Tim, Scott Hicks and Dawn, Ron Gibian, Mark Brownton, Larry and Sandee Bush, Neil Tuthill and ourselves were there for the SDKC group. The other notables were Scott Skinner, who had a small and impromptu talk about his "log cabin" style of kite sail making, and J.R. Tolman with his paper kites for the kids.

Sunday was almost dead calm, the extreme opposite of Saturday, and I met a new kiter from my computer chat group, who flew and was helped with the bridle adjustments of her new rokkaku by Ron Gibian during the mass ascension that day. She sat with J.R. and myself to help put together his paper and bamboo kites for the kids that came down from The Boardwalk. It was such joy to watch these paper creations fly in the gentle breeze, as to almost make me forget the sand-salted fries in my lunch the day before — note I said almost.

I truly enjoyed Sunday and wished we might have been able to switch off the wind for the day before. Enough with the griping already, it was Mother Nature's fault and the organizers and volunteers deserve to know we did enjoy ourselves. Being able to help J.R., to learn how to sew the wonderful patterns Scott uses, and to meet and make a new friend was worth the gritty experience.

## Magic

from page 2

Neil Tuthill sends out the meeting notification cards and he too gives his services and products to the club. Mitch Anderson hauls and sets up the necessary equipment, and he always seems to remember what I've forgotten; gracias.

We've had many show their support for kiting and the San Diego Kite Club — among them, Connie Morgan, Mark Brownton, Fred Fredrick, Ron and Sandy Gibian, Steve Bateman, Jim Nettles, Jose Sainz, the Imbachs, and all of you who show up to each meeting. The club is all of us.

Remember the magic...  
and happy holidays

*Jorri*

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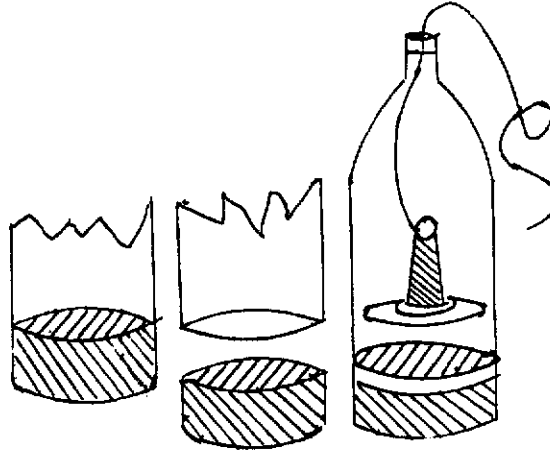
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## Tech Tips

# A THREAD CADDY FOR SEW AND SO'S

1. Obtain a 2-liter beverage bottle.
2. Carefully cut the colored bottom section from the bottle.
3. Cut a 4.25-inch disk from stiff cardboard or 1/8-inch masonite.
4. Cut a small hole in the bottle cap.
5. Run the thread through the upper section of the bottle, then the cap.
6. Replace the cap.
7. Place the disk on the upturned bottle bottom.
8. Place the cone of thread on the disk.
9. Place the upper section of the bottle firmly over the bottom.
10. Put in a convenient place, thread the machine and sew away.

This is especially helpful if your machine is set up on a patio or in a garage.



*This tip was submitted by Virgil Dalton.*

*If you have a handy hint to share, please send it in to Skylines at the address listed on page 3.*

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# Calendar Of Events

DEC  
JAN  
FEB

- 21** Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00 Christmas Gift Exchange; Board of Directors Meeting, on the field at 10:00 a.m.  
Contact: Torri Cable, 226-
- 31** New Years' Eve Fighter Kite Challenge, South of the Hilton, 1:00 p.m.  
New Years' Reception, 3100 Groton Way, Pt. Loma, 8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.
- 1** New Year's Day Fly, Mariners Point, 10:00 a.m.  
Potluck, Raffle, "Flew Market," Demos
- 18** Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00 Board of Directors Meeting, on the field at 10:00 a.m.  
Evening workshop: Ed Lindsay, Make Your Own Custom Fittings; 6:00 p.m., Pt. Loma Villas Clubhouse, 4444 W. Pt. Loma Blvd.; Contact: Torri Cable, 226-
- 15** Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00 Board of Directors meeting, on the field at 10:00 a.m.; Contact: Torri Cable, 226-

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



## Tidbits

Brochures are now available for the **Ninth Junction International Kite Retreat**. It will be held May 23-26, 1997, in Junction, Texas. A fee of \$178 includes room and board, four workshops and more fun than you can imagine. Presenters include: **Peter Lynn, George Peters, Spencer Chun, Stretch Tucker, Scott Skinner, Robert Trepanier, Michael Alvares, Jose Sainz, Ed Lindsay** and special guests from Germany, Japan and Great Britain.

To obtain a brochure, contact Betty Street, 2121 65th St., Lubbock, TX 79412; (806) 745 ; FAX (806) 748

Once again we will be having a **Christmas Gift Exchange** at the December meeting. If you would

like to participate, bring a wrapped gift, value not to exceed \$10. Also, bring your own lunch and some Christmas goodies to share. Soft drinks will be available.

The club still has **T shirts** and sweatshirts available for you last-minute Christmas shoppers. Contact Ron Despojado at 221- or see him at the field.

The **January meeting** will showcase single-line kites, so finish up any kites you've been working on and/or bring out your Christmas presents to show off. After the meeting we will be having a workshop on "Making your own custom fittings" presented by **Ed Lindsay**. Ed gave this workshop at Junction last year and has been invited back again this year by popular demand, so you won't want to miss this opportunity. The workshop will be at the Pt. Loma Villas clubhouse at 4444 W. Pt. Loma Blvd. at 6:00. A small fee will be charged.



## 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:

<b>Quarter Page (4"x4.5")</b>	<b>\$20</b>
1 year of quarter-page ads (6 issues)	
PREPAID (you save \$20)	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Half Page (7.5"x4.5")</b>	<b>\$40</b>
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<b>Full Page (7.5"x10")</b>	<b>\$70</b>
1 year of full-page ads (6 issues)	
PREPAID (you save \$70)	<b>\$350</b>
<b>Half Page, Back Cover</b>	<b>\$60</b>
1 year of half-page back covers	
PREPAID (you save \$60)	<b>\$300</b>
<b>Full sheet insert</b>	<b>\$75</b>

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.

## San Diego MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone(h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_

Other family members \_\_\_\_\_

### 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 Overseas Air	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$59	<input type="checkbox"/> \$88

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(619) 685-2885

SDKC USE ONLY      MEMBERSHIP NO.      PAID      RENEWAL DATE

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## Upcoming events:

Dec. 20: Christmas gift exchange and potluck

Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Reception

Jan. 1: 5th annual New Year's Day Festival, Mariner's Point

Jan. 20: Monthly meeting followed by workshop on custom fittings by Ed Lindsay



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