

Vol.VII No.5

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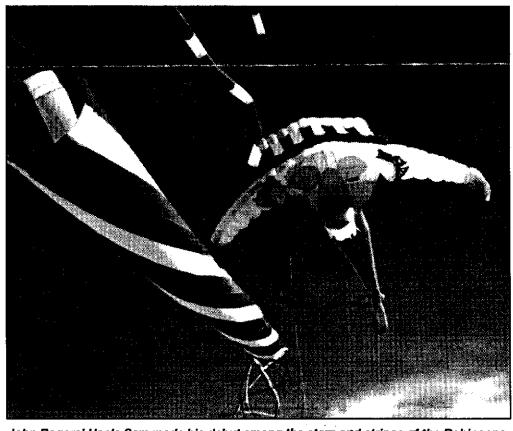
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NEW YEAR'S FLY A SUCCESS IN SPITE OF PREDICTED RAIN



John Rogers' Uncle Sam made his debut among the stars and stripes of the Robinsons from Washington (or Arizona, depending on what time of year it is).

Once again the San Diego New Year's Fly was enjoyed by everyone, especially the out-of-state visitors to whom a bright, sunny, warm New Year's day is a rare treat. It was especially nice to meet a couple of those rarely seen "kite widows" this year. Randy

Shannon's wife, Beth, and Scott Skinner's wife, Sheri, seemed to have a great time.

A great potluck, kite demos all day, a hotly contested fighter kite challenge and the long-awaited super raffle were the highlights.

SDKC Officers 1996-97

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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.

Deadline: 15th of oddnumbered months for publication in following issue.

San Diego Kite Club P.O. Box 7977 San Diego, CA 92167 USA Ph. (619) 685-2885 Magic in the Air



HOPE everyone got through the holidays with a minimum of stress, and that this new year is going well.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the New Year's Day raffle at Mariner's Point. It was a great success. Now it's time to think of that wonderful green item you'd like to donate to the St. Patrick's Day celebration.

Communication seems to be the order of the day; we need to do more of it. With spring around the corner, there's lots of kite activities going on and this is a great time to share the magic of kiting with the uninitiated. Bring someone to the next meeting or stop by the kite field any weekday. You could introduce your friend and future kite flyer to the members of the MBFFA — ask Virgil, Slim, or Harry what organization (and I use the term loosely) this is.

March 1, Saturday sees us in Ocean Beach helping the 49th Annual OB Kite Festival. This event is

* HOTLINE NUMBERS *

San Diego Kite Club (619) 685-2885 AKA Automated Information (408) SEE-4-AKA (733-4252) sponsored by the Kiwanis and is the 2nd oldest continuous kite festival in the nation. If you have any ideas on how to make the 50th a spectacular event please call or drop us a note. I'd like to see this get national coverage next year in '98. It's a terrific opportunity to put kites in the news everywhere — something that's good for all aspects of our sport.

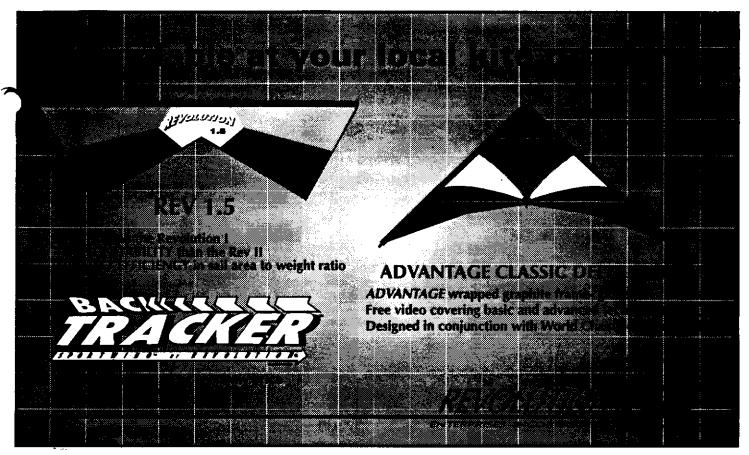
After several attempts to hold the board meetings at a convenient time for all, it's been decided that now the board of directors will meet after the general meetings at 3:00 p.m. Hopefully this will accommodate all those folks who drive quite a distance to help us keep this organization together.

You'll notice a plea from your newsletter editor in this issue. We need more of you who read this paper to contribute to it — even if it's just a thank-you note, an idea for future events, or jokes. Hey MBFFAs, this is right up your alleys — or lines, as the case may be. Write down those "bon mots," well, the G-rated ones anyway, and share them with a larger audience.

Spring is in the air, and hopefully so are our kites. See you on the field.

Hoping you have magic surrounding you,

Sovi



A Mæssage From The Editor

You've probably noticed

that your beloved Skylines has not arrived in your mailbox in its usual timely manner the past few months. I'd like to explain why this has happened and ask for your help so that it doesn't happen again.

Well, we know the October issue was late because we wanted to include the "late-breaking news" of the AKA convention. I think we've been forgiven for that.

The December issue, on the other hand, was printed but never mailed, due to lack of funds. The newsletters were handed out to members showing up at the December meeting and at New Year's. Of course it was impossible to know who got one and who didn't, so if you are one of those who has a hole in your otherwise perfect collection, let us know and we will send you a December issue with our next mailing.

You can see by the Treasurer's report at the end of this issue that the club started off the year with a negative balance, due in part to the expense of the AKA reception, but also due to a drop in paid memberships. It costs about \$300 an issue to print and mail the newsletter. Of course we can't expect that

much income from memberships alone, so we must rely on fundraising activities like raffles, auctions, food & product sales, etc., to make up the difference.

To help with the financial responsibilities, we just ask that you support our club by paying your membership dues on time and participating in the other fundraisers, whether by just buying tickets or donating items for raffles. It would be great if we could have a food sale at the regular meetings, but it would take someone willing to take on the responsibility that Virginia, Connie, Diana and others have done in the past. And thank you, Oggie, for surprising us with the January barbecue treat!

As for this issue — a bit thin and a lot late the main problem was lack of input. I am very grateful to Joanne M'Clary, Gina Hsiung, Torri Cable, John Rogers and others who have faithfully contributed articles in the past, but there is a definite need for people willing to pass on there experiences, talents, opinions, whatever. You don't have to be a great writer (that's why we have an editor), you just need a desire to share. After all, isn't that why you are in a club? And you don't have to create the great American novel. Kite fliers aren't known for their long attention spans. Just a couple paragraphs and/or photos will please us immensely. So what I'm asking for is a few people willing to be roving reporters, photographers, artists, poets, informers, or even complainers. If you would like to join the team, please write, call or email me soon so I can stop whining!

Joine

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 kiterelated 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@fia.net FAX: same as voice phone

SDKC QUESTIONNAIRE

After you answer these questions please mail this form to SDKC, P.O. Box 7977, San Diego, CA 92167, or bring it to the next general meeting. If you can't bear to cut up your beloved newsletter, you may photocopy this page without danger of copyright infringement. And feel free to add more pages if you really want to get something off your chest.

	· •
1.	Are you interested in attending the monthly meetings?
	a) not much b) a little (c) a lot
2.	Are you willing to participate in some of the organizing that is necessary to make this club continue?
(a sometimes b) never c) yes, call me
3.	Would you be willing to help on the food sale team?
	organizing b) serving/cooking c) shopping
4.	Would you be willing to help on the newsletter team?
	a) regular reporter b) photographer contributor
5.	What would you like to see more of in the newsletter?
6.	What would you like to see less of in the newsletter?
7.	What special games, competitions, activities would you like to see at the meetings or after hours?
8.	Are you interested in becoming a board member?
	a) yes b) not on a bet maybe
9.	Any other ideas, comments?

NAME_

PHONE 69/-

You don't need to sign this response unless you feel comfortable doing so.



Airplay





Mitch Anderson

THE San Diego Kite Club's equipment is in good hands — Mitch Anderson's hands as a matter of fact. To save us paying \$30 a month in storage fees, Mitch has constructed a shed in his mother's back yard to keep the sound system and other items that belong to the club. Mitch is also the man who makes sure our banners, tables, sound, and other necessary "stuff" is set up so our food has a place to sit, the banners tell us where to meet, and of course the sound so we can hear the music, messages and other important air waves.

Mitch saw me coming across the field and put his interviewee hat on. I said, "So Mitch, what are you flyin'?" and he replied, "The Wild Child." Kinda suits him, don't you think? Actually, Mitch is one of the nicest guys you'll ever meet — and he does a mean axle too, or three, and often four.

When I accused him of just messin' around, Mitch came back with, "That's the only thing to do with a kite. Mess around, that's what Charlie told me. He's the one who got me into kite flying about January of '95. A friend and I brought his kids down to the park to play and I saw Charlie flying his dragon kite. I thought that was awesome. The next day I went to All About Kites and bought a Rev II and flew that puppy every day for six months — without missing one day." The Charlie Mitch referred to is of course San Diego's own infamous Charlie M'Clary. Need I say more?

Mitch says he picked up two-lined kites after he and Charlie flew fighters. Now he seems to be the axle master of South of the Hilton, flying his Wild Child in the right wind. His favorite lightwind kite is the Sabre.

Mitch helped our treasurer, Carol Miles, learn how to fly just after the new year and he said, "If it wasn't for that, teaching someone how to fly kites, I wouldn't be flying." He said he'd competed once but helping somebody to fly was really special. Iitch's reaction to competing at the first Aire Affair event leaves me to believe that we won't see him flying against anyone else, only helping them. He says he's tired of seeing the same old routines. "I want some tricks. That's my big thing; I like the tricks. I think competitions will eventually have more tricks in them and

they'll be judged on that. I know I haven't been around kiting all that long, but that's what I bet. I think there should be a 'trick class'—something other than ballet."

Mitch's girlfriend Katie watches him fly, but it's her 12-yearold daughter who seems to enjoy learning from Mitch. Maybe she'd be willing to be part of a routine that showed how "tricky" Mitch can be with a two-line kite the way many folks control quad-lines.

He says the best times he has on the field are when he's flying and he gets to tease folks with his kite — making it shake when a little kid is about to touch it, doing axles right in front of them — and then they come over and ask questions. That's what it's all about. He just likes to make sure they're enjoying themselves watching and maybe getting a chance to fly.

When he's not on the kite field, Mitch is kept busy at Southwest Electric installing electrical systems at commercial enterprises. He says he'll be kept pretty busy for the next month or so. That's what happens when you work for yourself — you don't get out on the field as much as you'd like.

I guess we owe a big vote of thanks to Charlie for urging Mitch to get involved, So thanks, Charlie! Mitch is a great equipment manager, wonderful friend, and all 'round terrific kite flyer.



Always willing to lend a hand, here Mitch helps launch bird kites at the J.R. Tolman workshop last year.



The revelers were few but festive at the New Year's Eve reception.



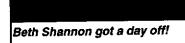
Grand vizier (alternate) Johnny Hsiung was unseated by young upstart Randy Shannon in the Fighter Kite challenge. Showdown at Avi is next.



Various kites seen on New Years included Gibian's new noodle (second from left, Randy Shannon's mask, Ron Reich's ghosts.



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The woman behind the man, Sheri Skinner.

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The group that stayed 'til the sun went down. Just havin' fun!

SKDC Members Make News!

Patty Browder, a free-lance reporter, wrote an article on our annual New Year's Day Fly. She says the write-up will be in the March issue of San Diego Family Magazine. Hopefully you can read this local periodical in your doctor or dentist office, or look for it at Long's or the library — it's a freebie!

Another publication that will feature kite flying is Senior World. Our senior club members - Virgil Dalton, Slim Warnke, and Harry French — were featured in an article that should be appearing soon. We'll save the reviews until after reading about these venerable kiters.

American Kite Features SDKC Mystery Member

Without mentioning any names (this one's shy) one of our most visible members is slated to be in the spring edition of American Kite. This reporter knows that pictures of said flyer were requested by AK editors, so grab the next issue hot off the presses and let this retiring, unassuming flyer know how much you enjoyed reading about (big clue) him!

SDKC Members Make Kites!

Big deal right? We have some of the most talented kite makers ever right here on our stage, I mean club. These particular kite makers though are producing in quantity — about 500 sled kites by March 1, 1997. Virginia and Slim Warnke, along with Virgil Dalton, are making their daily pilgrimage to Ocean Beach Elementary School to teach the children how to make the kites they will fly in the 49th Annual OB Kite Festival — the 2nd oldest continuous kite festival in the nation. These brave souls tackle this project each year after Marion Miller, the Kiwanis organizer, asks them to help each February. (They've had almost a year to forget by then.)

Celebrating the 50th next year gives us an excellent opportunity to give kiting and our club some national exposure. Have any ideas that will promote the sport, industry, club, or just the fact that we Celebrating the 50th next year gives us an excellent opportunity usually have so much fun? Please, get involved. We won't have an-



Virgil Dalton and Barbara Thompson help kids make sled kites at the January club meeting.

January Workshop Features Ed Lindsay



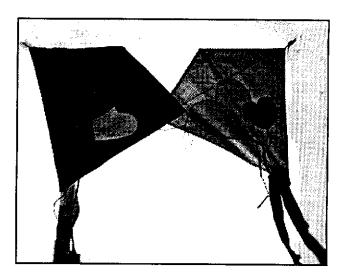
The two Steves (Davis and Bateman) ogled and fondled Ed Lindsay's custom fittings at the workshop Ed gave at the January meeting. In spite of the small turnout, a lot of good information was passed on. Ed's main message was that you can produce very nice looking and practical fittings using only common power tools that you might have in your garage and easy-to-work Delrin plastics.



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For The Love Of Kites

by Joyce Johnson-Davis

Joyce is one of our most prized members. We really enjoy her enthusiasm and elation over kites. In case you didn't know, she and Steve Davis became so caught up in the spirit at the Avi Kite Fest in November that they officially lark's-headed themselves in Laughlin. The kites above show their love of kiting and each other, so remember this when you see them flying in the club arch train.

I wanted to do my share to contribute to our SDKC's newsletter and felt stymied as to what to write about regarding kites. I'm just a beginner ... What do I know? I KNOW all you "kiters" love wind ... so, here goes!!

I am very grateful to the day I was brought to San Diego and introduced to the kite festival, and to you people here. The San Diego Kite Club — what wonderful people!! I mean that. At first, even though all the beautiful and unique kites had me mesmerized, I did feel very much overwhelmed with all the techniques, instructions and general info on kites. I didn't realize there was so much that was involved in "just flying a kite." I went home with a glaze over my eyes from being in awe, plus a neck ache. I doubt

that any of the rest of you have experienced the latter, have you?

Ironically enough, in spite of all the pain, I was happy, excited, elated, feeling full of pizzazz. A whole now world opened up for me. In the beginning, I didn't go as often as I wanted to due to my injury, but now I go into pouting sessions when and if Stephen mentions to me that we cannot go, such as in May when his Pool League's Banquet gets priority. The nerve! I guess I'm hooked for sure!!

I became aware of my excitement in the midst of the planning for and preparation of the third Saturday of each month, in spite of the early hour to leave and any other weekends when a kiting event was happening in another location and to learn that WE WERE going"

I'm in love, I'm in live, I'm in love (again). Stephen and I have found ourselves also taking time off to go to a park in Hemet to fly our kites. The wind there many times is nonexistent. However, the trip home is still one with elation due to the fact that we were able to do SOME flying. Certainly can't fly kites here among the tall pines in Idyllwild.

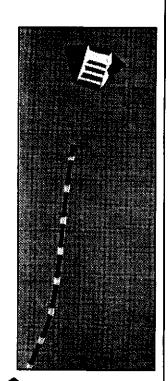
I can't believe the happiness kiting has brought into my world. Can you imagine, before I didn't like wind? Breezes, etc., yeah, but never prayed for wind.

Now, on the night before the third Saturday of each month, a prayer is given asking for wind for our kite outing:

After the AVI event in November, I could personally feel the elation and thrill Stephen felt from his excursions to and from the Long Beach, Washington, extravaganza each August. I'm looking forward to THAT this year. My thrill and excitement of and from kiting is such that I share my enthusiasm of it with all guests and relatives, either by sharing with them pictures Stephen has taken or inviting them to go to Hemet to the park and let them experience the thrill of flying a kite (of course, an easy one), and then Stephen will show them the neat things that can be done with different kites (I can't because he doesn't like them to be crashed), and then, of course, the "prides" are shown off - the seagull, the Canadian goose, Lilly the lifter pulling the Mt. King Snake. I, of courses am proud of anything Stephen makes! (He is now working on a new Cody)

Yes! These guests have all been also invited to the SDKC events. Maybe one day they will actually make the trip down and be bit by the spirit and "colors of the wind" — your (our) creations. I am very proud of my new friends in the SDKC.

The quality seems to be the same no matter where the kiting event is. When am I going to build my own kite? you know how in kiting one has to get the "feel"? The same with me in creating. I know I have some artistic talents, but in sewing I really have to have the "feel." Inspiration is starting to bite me some. One of these days I'll get bitten big time and that inspiration will "fly high." Until then I will continue sharing my love for kiting with whomever and you and Stephen (not in that order). I also thank each and every one of you for your contribution in making my kiting experience a pleasant and memorable one, and for your patience in teaching me. In the meantime, may the winds and Force be with us as we keep our hearts and eyes upward — skyward bound - with the accompaniment of our kites, dancing in the wind, assisting us to more easily dance through life.





Letters

Dear SDKC,

A note of thanks to all for my precious "purple star" and beautiful plaque.

The Santa Monica AKA Convention was wonderful. Winning FIRST PLACE for Group Ground Display was an added thrill. Receiving the award from fellow club members was an unexpected joy. I will treasure, always, both pin and plaque.

Thank you for your friendship and support.

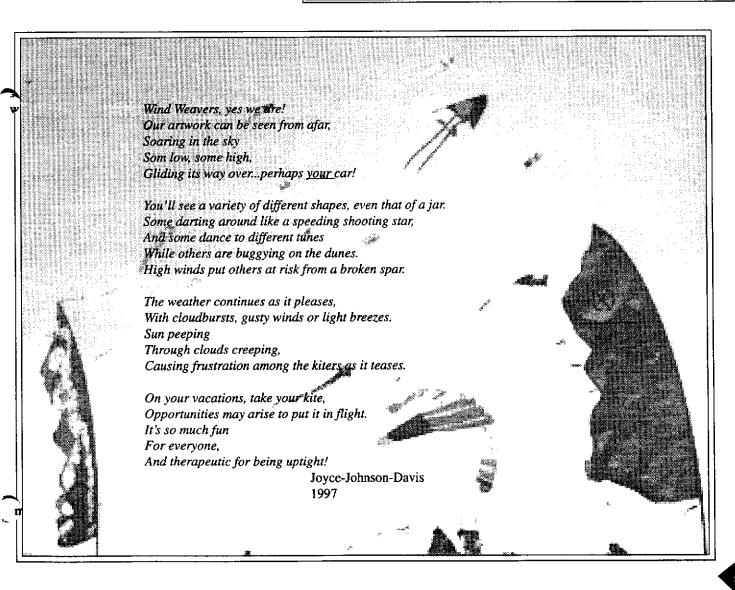
Lisa Schirmer

Welcome New Members...

Norm Rosen
Dick Hulett
Robert J. Suyehara
Earl Murphy
Al Bull
Mark Elliot
Ron Reich
Rod Milburn
John L. Fowler
Chuck Abney
Archie Stewart
Steve Murvine
Ellen Brown
Marshall Morgan

...And Thanks For Renewing

Neil Tuthill
Joe Corbella
Benjamin Messin
Julie Rogers
John Rogers
Howard Gordon
Steve Davis
Jesse Lawrence
Paul & Chrystal Eshelman
Johnny & Gina Hsiung
Frederick Richard
Larry Bush
Torri Cable



Calendar Of Events

49th Annual Ocean Beach Kite Festival

Contact: Torri Cable, 226

- 2nd Annual Belmont Shores Kite Tournament: Long Beach, Calif. Sport kite competition on Saturday, Fun Fly on Sunday. Contact: Neil Tuthill, (310) 696-
- Spring Break Buggy Blast: Ivanpah and Roach Dry Lakes, Calif./Nev. 13-18 racing on Mar. 15-16. Contact: Fritz/Fran Gramkowski, (609) 429-
 - Monthly General Meeting: South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00 Potluck: Green is the theme. Board meeting 3:00. Contact: Torri Cable, 226-
 - Santa Barbara Kite Festival, Shoreline Park, Santa Barbara
 - Contact: Come Fly A Kite, (805) 966
- 21-23 AVI Kite Fest: AVI Hotel and Casino, Laughlin, Nevada
 - Contact: Kathy Plummer, 1-800-752-^^^
 - Saturn Cycling Tour: Mariner's Point, 6:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Come decorate the sky! Contact: Torri Cable, 226-

- Windborne Kite Festival: Monterey, Calif. 12-13
 - More info: (408) 373-
 - Southern California Open: Fiesta Island. Reception/awards in evening at Kings Inn. Contact: Neil Tuthill (310) 696-7777
 - Monthly General Meeting, Fun Fly & Fighter Kite Competition: 1:00, South of the Hilton, East Mission Bay Drive. Contact: Torri Cable, 226

*Note change from regularly scheduled meeting. (Events subject to last-minute changes, Call (619) 685-2885 for latest updates.)



Tidbits

The San Diego Kite Club is finally flying in cyberspace thanks to Walt Thompson. The SDKC website, which is still under construction, can be seen at http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Field/ 5841/. Right now the site contains about one page of general info about the club, but Walt hopes to add photos and more on our talented kite makers and fliers. If you have any photos or ideas for the website, please pass them along to cyber-Walt.

A Carlsbad news agency has announced a new program called "Kidz-N-The News" and is looking for interesting stories concerning kids to pass along to the news media. It is a free community service and one that the SDKC might use for future activities. If you are involved in any "kites and kids" endeavor, let Torri know, or contact Newstory News Service directly at 1-888-KIDSNEWS (1-888-543-7639).

The Kings Inn has released their new special rates for San Diego Kite Club Members.

Thru March

\$39.00/night

April-May

\$49.00/night

June-Sept.

\$55.00/night

All rated are plus tax. Must be booked in advance, no walk-ins. Special rate for competition on April 26th will be \$39.00.

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
1 year of full-page ads (6 issues)	
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 Dorine Imbach at (714) 492for additional information and submission deadlines.

Advertisers should have camera-ready, blackand-white artwork.

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

Treasurer's Report January 18, 1997

Balance Forward	-\$23.91
Reciepts	
Memberships	187.00
Pins/shirt sales	135.00
Flea market	15.00
Raffle	318.00
Advertising	40.00
Total Receipts	695.00
Disbursements	
New Year's Party	86.11
Point Loma Villa Rental for Jan. 18th	25.00
Total Disbursements	111.11
Balance	559.98

Treasurer's Report February 15, 1997

Balance Forward	\$559.98	
Receipts		
Return of deposit from Bay Crest	125.00	
Memberships	135.00	
Total Receipts	260.00	
Disbursements		
D4	40.00	

Postage 40.00 10.00 Bank Fee Total Disbursements 50.00

Balance 769.98

Submitted by:

Carol Miles, Treasurer

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Upcoming events:

Mar. 8-9: Belmont Shores Kite Tournament and Fun Fly

Mar. 15: Club meeting at Mission Bay; Green is the theme

Mar. 16: Santa Barbara Kite Festival

Mar. 21-23: AVI Kite Fest

Apr. 26: Southern California Open, Fiesta Island

Apr. 27: Club meeting at Mission Bay, Fighter Kite Contest

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