

Skylines

The official newsletter of the *San Diego Kite Club*

Vol. X No. 1

January 1999

In this issue

AKA Grand Nationals	1
Club Officers	
Wind of the Willows	2
Ron Gibian Seminar, Membership Promotion	3
AKA Grand Nationals	4,5 6,7
Pierfest '98	8
Avi Kite Festival	9,10
Calendar	10
Plea for editor	11



Mass ascensions were one of the popular events at the 1998 Convention

1998 AKA Grand National Convention: "Spirit of the Winds" Ocean Shores, WA

*All photos in story courtesy of KiteLife Online Magazine
(www.kitelife.com) unless noted otherwise.*

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A FEW YEARS, INSTEAD of hemming and hawing about whether I could afford to go, I decided early on to make the conscious decision to go, and to set aside the money. Budgeting my finances for a fun trip- what a novel concept.

The Nationals this year was held in the northwest, specifically Ocean Shores Washington. I arrived in Portland Oregon on Monday October 12 to typical northwest weather: rain. While I was making my way down the escalator in Portland I saw Louie and Linda Mixon. I called out to them and as soon as they saw me there was a burst of laughter. I left San Diego in a kite t-shirt and shorts, and it definitely wasn't the correct attire. We loaded up the Smart-Cart with luggage and kite bags overflowing the sides and top. During the trek to the rental car office we routinely pushed kite bags back onto the cart.



Linda & Lenny Mixon, and Ron Despojado at the Awards Banquet (photo: Jose Sainz)

Lester's long kite bag doubled as a joust for oncoming Smart-Carts. After we got the rental and shoe-horned everything into the mid-size, we were off for a three hour drive to Ocean Shores. But first- we have to load up on snack food. After a stop at the local supermarket for healthy doughnuts, chips, candy, cookies, and Pepsi we were finally all set.

continued on page 4

SDKC Officers 1998-99

President	Greg Lawrence (619) 275- glawren2@san...	Equipment Manager	Mitch Anderson (619) 273
Vice President	Jim Skryja (619) 272- jskryja@worldnet.att.net	Membership	Dorine Imbach (714) 492 skylines@tea.net
Secretary	Jane Skryja (619) 272-	Newsletter Editor	This could be you!!!
Treasurer	Steve Bateman (619) 287- geokite@sprimail.com	Archivist	Charlie M'Clary (619) 223- kytebum@.....world.net
PR/ Publicity	Greg Lawrence (619) 275- glawren2@san...r.com	Board Members	Joanne M'Clary (619) 223- Walt Thompson
Events Coordinator	John Rogers (619) 691- jrrogers@home.com	Past President	Marshall Morgan
		Founder	Dan Willan

WIND FROM THE WILLOWS

"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 odd numbered months for publication to following issue.

San Diego Kite Club
P.O. Box 7977
San Diego, CA 92167
USA
Ph. (619)275-6027

Over the years it has been my responsibility as a member of the club to sit by the bikepath and blow hot air, making sure there is enough wind for all you flyers. Now you've asked me to do it in print. I haven't really had that opportunity for a few months so this may be a bit wordy.

What I would like to see more than anything in the upcoming year is a greater attendance at the meetings. This will not be an easy task to accomplish. I realize we all have other obligations from time to time but if you can make it please do. Corey Jenson wrote an excellent article in the current issue of the AKA Kiting journal. It is especially good reading and it sums up my feelings (if you don't get the magazine borrow one from a friend and give it a read). When you have 2 events scheduled for the same day, I urge you to think about what is more important to kiting in general and our club specifically. Our club meetings are one of the best, and most visible, means of spreading the word that kiting is a wonderful activity. How many times have you seen Mitch land his kite and put the lines into the hands of a little kid. When the kid leaves doesn't it always look like Mitch fed him 2 Baby Ruths and a dozen sugar cookies? In addition, how many people stop and marvel at how pretty the sky can be with our colours gracing the heavens. As a LARGE group of exhibitionists we can be much more effective in spreading the word.

In order to entice you all to come, John Rogers has and is setting up some great activities for the membership. You only have to listen to me talk for 5 minutes or so then the real fun begins. We have had talks and demonstrations by many National Champions, several

who, by the way, are members of our club. Additionally, at the meetings we all get the chance to spend the afternoon with one of the nicest group of people to be found anywhere.

In the next couple of months we have a lot going on. At the December meeting we played Santy Claus and the little kid with droopy pajamas at the same time with the gift exchange. New Years Eve and Day has always been one of the best attended events the SDKC has had. On New Years Eve the fun begins with all the Kamikaze Fighter Kite pilots gathering for a mass destruction derby and fun fly. This event will be lead by that man among men Walt Thompson and judged by the Master Fighter Kite flyer Vic. On New Years day we will have auctions, the calling to be done by that man who could sell a used Garter snake skin to a Rattler, Chuck Abney. There will be a great Pot Luck and best of all we can make Mariners Point the prettiest venue in San Diego. On January 22-24th, two of the best kitemakers in the world, Ron and Sandy Gibian, will be teaching the first 25 lucky entrants how to construct a single line masterpiece.

I hope to see everyone in the club, not only at the special events, but at our regular club meetings. We are a great group of people and have much to offer, not only to ourselves but to the land, skies, community around us. So lets do it like the club should and have a mass ascension of the membership from this date on.

Greg Lawrence
President, SDKC

Join (or renew, or extend) membership to the San Diego Kite Club- Go To Vegas

Starting New Year's Day and continuing through to the end of January 1999, the SDKC will give away a travel certificate worth \$100 towards travel to any kiting event. One winner will be selected from new, renewal, or extension applications and will be drawn only if there is a minimum of 50 (that's fifty, FIVE-Oh) membership applications received. If a considerable number is received before the January club general meeting- over 100, an additional name will be drawn. In addition, the membership annual fee will be reduce to \$13- down from \$15- during this promotion. Those members already in good standing can extend their memberships another year.

To redeem certificate, the winner will need to submit a travel itenerary to the SDKC and at that point will receive \$100. At last checking, roundtrip airfare to Berkeley, Las Vegas, or Phoenix is around \$100.



- High flyers
- Stunt kites
- Fighter kites
- Accessories
- Flight lines
- Publications
- Windsocks

For price, selection, & service, come to
KITE COUNTRY
566 Horton Plaza San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 233-9495
(Top level opposite UA Theaters)

SDKC Retreat: Ron Gibian Seminar Set for January 22-24, 1999

by Jim Skryja

The details are finally coming together, and the long awaited January Weekend Kite Retreat is getting airborne. One of the countries most accomplished kite design and building couples, Ron and Sandy Gibian will be in San Diego January 22nd thru 24th explaining their techniques. Attendance is limited to 25 SDKC members in good standing on a first come first serve basis. It now looks like there will be a waiting list.

This great kite bargain will be held at the San Diego City MWWD Metropolitan Operations Center auditorium, 9192 Topaz Way. That's just east of I-163 and Clairmont Mesa Blvd.

Friday will be setup of your sewing machines and tools starting at 5 p.m. We recommend you bring a bedsheet to put under your table. Chairs and tables, glue and cutting TABLES will be provided. The pizza party starts at 6:30. Afterward will be introductions and fun till ?

Saturday starts in earnest at 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. with time out for meals.

Sunday continues about 9 a.m. with closure, cleanup, and fly at 3 p.m.

The weekend fee is \$55 which includes all the handouts, sticks, and fittings for an Astral Glide (low aspect eddy) kite. Only the kite skins are needed. Some meals will be provided at cost. Significant others, who are members, can attend for \$15. All monies must be in by January 2nd. Contact Jim or Jane Skryja, 619-272-XXXX, or jskryja@worldnet.att.net to get on the one and only list.

If your not a member, or your membership has lapsed, it's a great time to signup and enjoy one of the benefits of the SDKC. \$70 gets you the weekend retreat and a years full membership.

Do you have a small news article that we should know about? Let your fellow members know by sending it to us for the upcoming newsletter.

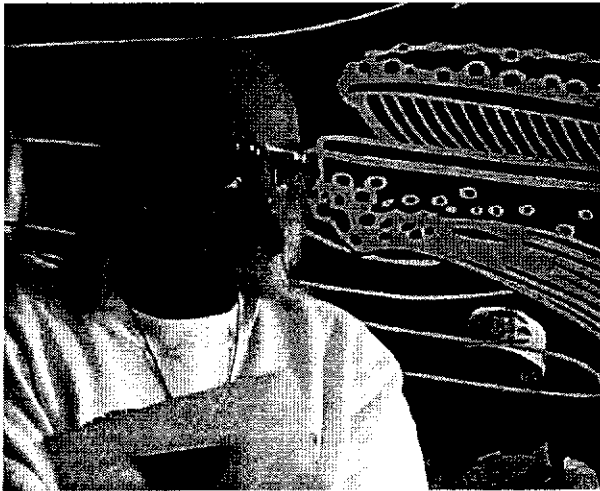
!! SDKC ONLINE !!

Visit SDKC on the web at
<http://ratzilla.com/sdkc/>

AKA Grand Nationals

continued from page 1

We arrived in Ocean Shores to cloudy skies and mild winds. One thing about the northwest, they sure have great salmon! I got my first serving at dinner time. That evening was the early bird reception. As usual I saw many familiar faces and many more unfamiliar ones. After all the raffles and socializing, I went to my room. I stayed at a little motel called the Gitchie Goomie Inn. At the time I believe I was only one of maybe 3 guests staying at the motel.



Luis Mixon leading his seminar

The first day of the convention consisted of registering, and dropping off the SDKC's donations to the Great Kite Auction: the Super Bowl Kite, and a framed pin set. That morning was also LeRoy Mixon's seminar on "Using Applique In Award Winning Kites". Leonardo's seminar was attended by over 50 aspiring kite artists. His seminar was given rave reviews. Later in

the afternoon I attended the AKA Board of Director's meeting as AKA Region 12 Director. This BOD is quite a cross section of fliers. There were sport kite fliers, kite builders, kite retailers, and even some folks whom I've never seen fly kites, but the interest was

there. For those of you not "fortunate" to sit in on one of these meetings, all I can say is DO NOT drink a large beverage before the meeting. One, two, and three hours will pass quickly. What exactly is discussed at these meetings? Well, as with any organization, decisions have to be

made, and in all fairness, all sides of an issue must be discussed. The AKA abides by Robert's Rules of Order - this guy "Robert" must have had too much time free time on his hands to compose these rules. They are fair, yet very comprehensive to say the least. The major issues this time were future AKA Convention site selection, bugging rules of conduct, and of course the budget.

The next day (Wednesday) was the start of sportkite competition. However in the morning I presented a seminar on "Choreographing a Quadline Ballet." It was attended by about 25 people, about half were veteran competitors. In fact, I was ready to dismiss a few that I knew I was competing against. But the seminar went well. In fact, I played a piece of music as an example of music selection, and one of the students later asked to purchase it, since I had said I



The AKA Bored Board Meeting

wasn't going to use it. My immediate answer was no, it wasn't for sale. But later in the afternoon I saw him again and handed him the tape, and if he could use it then he was welcome to it.

A few hours later I was scheduled to compete in Open Individual Freestyle. Among the heavy hitters in the slate of competitors was past OIF Champ Mel Edlund, heavy favorite Steve LaPorte, newcomer Brian Leonard, and the immortal Ray Bethell. Before my turn, I was speaking to Troy Gunn about my program. He laughed at the concept, and asked if I'd like someone to come out of the audience to participate, I said "Of course, it would be great". A

then*hhhhkkkkkt!*- that great invention velcro came into play

few minutes later he brings over Susan Thonstad from Portland. Well, it was finally my turn. I brought my 3 Rev kites and costume changes. The music started and I was flying to "Pretty Woman" by Roy Orbison. A minute goes by before the beat of "Billie Jean" by Michael Jackson fills the air. I grab the sequin vest (courtesy of Ellen Morgan) and slip my arm thru the WRONG OPENING!! What do I do? No time to think or readjust so I quickly pulled it off and threw it in the air. I grab the hat and sequin glove (thanks Ellen) and boogied a bit before I switched kites. "Pretty Woman" resumes and the second rev kite is in the air. Eventually the music fades and "Macho Man" by the Village People is heard. I grab and put on the hard hat, remove the long sleeve shirt to reveal the Chippendale collar ar cuffs, then*hhhhkkkkkt!*- that great invention velcro came into play. From that point Susan puts a dollar in my shorts (!) and then the third Rev kite is in the air along with the final portion of "Pretty Woman".



Steve LaPorte showing his best stuff during the Open Individual Freestyle competition



Some of the West Coast's premiere kite flyers and wanna-be line dancers. From left to right: Melinda Ellis, Paul DeHope, Kobi Eshun, Michael Weingand, Ron Despojado, and Alan Brooks

That was fun, and Susan didn't want her dollar back (can't imagine why?) In seeing all the other performances, it was basically anyone's call. Ray was flawless, Mel was very imaginative, Steve was pure entertainment, and Bryan was innovative.

On Thursday I was slated to judge two events. The first was Master's Team Precision. One of the hardest things to do besides flying in low or no wind is being a judge in no or low winds. Throughout the week the winds were up and down. At the AKA Nationals, you are among the best of the best, and that includes the judges as well. As the teams did their compulsaries and freestyle program, we judges

discussed and analyzed each fairly, with as much discussion as needed before the next contestant. On one of the teams was Susan (from my OIF routine). I told her that I remembered she did give me a dollar in my shorts the day before. The second was Experienced Quadline Ballet. In this event I was the head judge. We say about a dozen very good programs, and a few that still needed some polish. I saw one new contestant who I thought was "raw". He had very good techniques and execution, but tried to do too much. Later I spoke to him and said he had enormous potential, but needs to harness his energy, and to remember how much he paid for this advice. Nonetheless, there will be a good crop of new Master's Class quadfliers in the coming years (yikes!!)

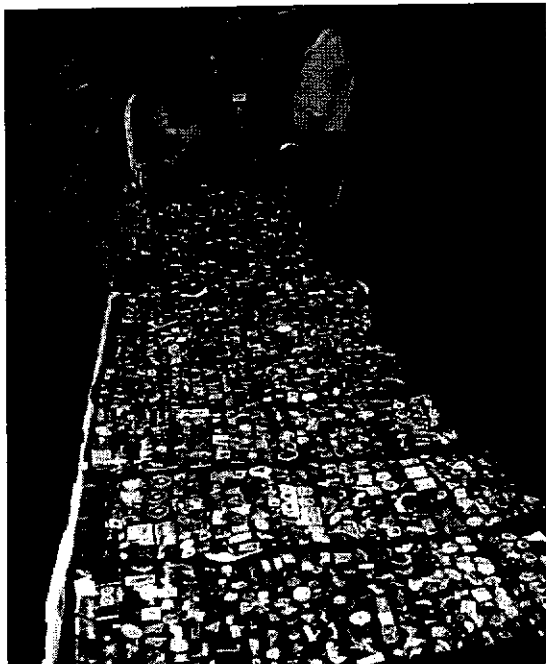
Up until this point, I had not practiced MY Master's Quadline Ballet program in almost two months. That evening was the only time I had to practice. The sun was going down, the temperature was very chilly, and the wind was a sweet 14 mph. I had what felt like

I had what felt like the entire beach to myself

the entire beach to myself. Yowza!! It was all coming back to me. Finally I feel confident in my program, the time would come in a little more than than 12 hours. I was ready, confident, and anxious. Since the wind was so good today, it will no doubt be good tomorrow, right?

Friday morning I woke to gray skies and light breezes. That's okay, in a few hours when I'm scheduled to fly the wind will pick up. After breakfast I take my

continued on page 6



The Pin Challenge: "Where are those NEW San Diego Kite Club Pins?"



Master's Pairs Ballet Winners: Team Papalotes, K-Fan, and Dos Avispas (featuring the final performance of Kobi Eshun and Miguel Rodriguez together)

AKA Grand Nationals

continued from page 5

kitebag out to the field and keep waiting for the wind to pick up. I keep waiting, and waiting, and waiting. Finally all of us in MIQB were called to our field. I was initially 5th on the flight order of about 12, but

a few scratches put me number 4 out of 10. Still very light winds. It was time for the Super Ultra-light and 75' of line. It was my turn. I set up all the way to the front of the field because I knew I would be backing up to create wind. The music started and there was no re-do's- it was now or

never. The wind was a token 3 mph, but felt like less. I ran back, left, right, any which way I could to generate wind. Why now? Why couldn't the wind be like last night? It seemed like everybody else had no problem but me. I was doomed. As usual, as the flight order progressed, the wind got better. By the time the last one to fly was done, the wind had more than doubled to a still minimal 7 mph. That's the luck of the draw. This will not be my year to win the Grand National title.

Friday night was the great auction, both loud and silent. I submitted SDKC's "Super Bowl Kite"- the kite flown before the Super Bowl XXXII party and signed by 5 NFL players, one of which had an actual legible signature. Also contributed by SDKC was a

framed pinset. At last observation the pinset garnered \$65 in the silent auction. The Super Bowl Kite, which went into the loud auction, was the second to the last item presented. Mr. Stiles from the SDKC decided the kite needed to stay in San Diego and gave the high bid.

Saturday was great wind, and great kite flying. All sport kite and kite making competitions were over, the only thing left was the Fighter Kites, who, ironically, were flying in excessive winds- the wind I could have used the day before. The last of the mass ascensions was also held, and I flew my invisible kite as usual. The rokkaku battles were held and most on the field got into the spirit of it all. The kites were identified by their markings, there was the Moe kite (from the three stooges), the cow kite complete with cow markings, and a few conservative looking kites denoting either Kite Clubs or else regions.

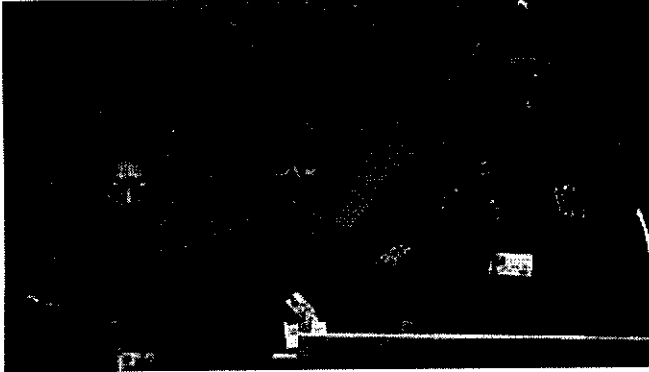
That evening was the dinner and awards ceremonies. At my table was Ray Bethell, whom most know is very hard of hearing. During several of the speeches, Ray would say out of nowhere "Did he win?" Gerri Adler, also at the table would tell Ray that no, no one won anything. Ray then returned with "Well then, who won?" This brought a chuckle to those seated.

"Is he done talking about me?"

- Ray Bethell

A few minutes would go by and again Ray would say "Is he done talking about me?" Obviously Ray was bored. Then he decided to predict the standings of the event he and I were in. He would pass me a note that would say #1 Macho Man, #2 Ray, #3 the Clown. We went back and forth on this. A complete and total surprise was my being selected as one of the Kite Loft Fellowships. The Kite Loft has dedicated \$1,000 each year for five years to be awarded to three members of AKA affiliated clubs. During the evening the winners of the kite making competition and images of the past few days were flashed on the screen at the front of the auditorium. This first-time multi-media presentation was assembled by Mike Gilliard of Captain Eddie's Flying Circus. Mike also has a website magazine called "Kite Life" which is located at www.kitelife.com. Mike has graciously permitted the use of these photos from his website. This was my fifth AKA convention, and what I feel has been the most enjoyable. I had very little idle time and found the more I was busy volunteering or else attending a meeting, the more fulfilling the entire experience was. I urge all of you to attend the next AKA Convention which will be in Muncie Indiana.

And in hindsight, I did make one mistake in judgement during this convention.



Jose Sainz (r) making a presentation at the Awards Banquet along with the family of Lee Toy

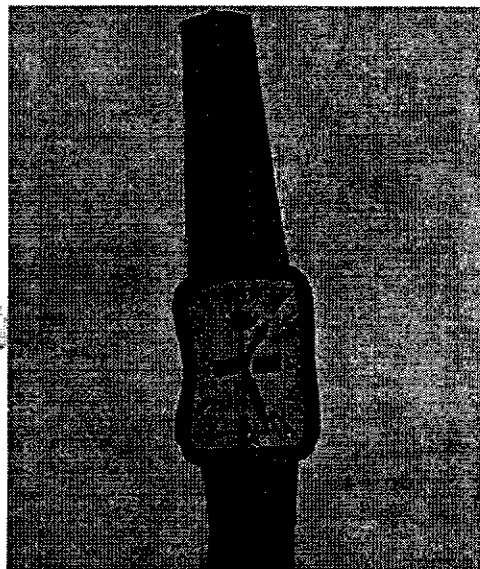
SDKC Members and friends at the Grand Nationals

Kitemaking results

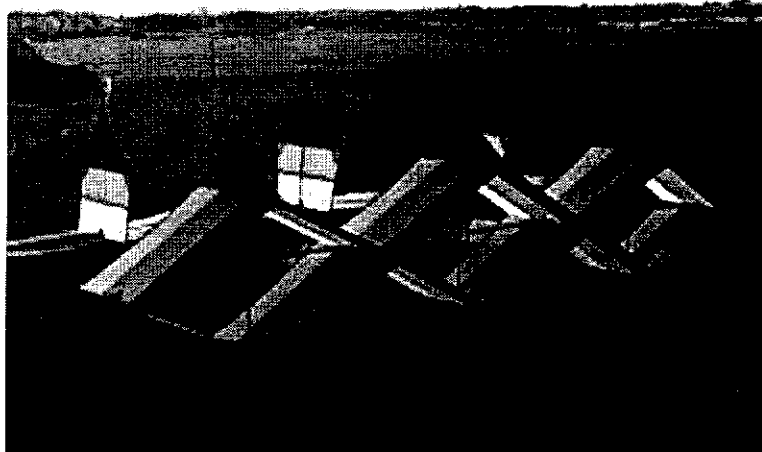
Cellular	Steve Davis	3rd Place
Flat & Bowed	Larry Mixon	3rd Place
Figure Kites	Larry Mixon	2nd Place

Sport Kite results

NIP	Susan Shampo	2nd. Place
NIB	Susan Shampo	1st Place
NIB	Jason Adame	3rd Place
IIP	Alan Brooks	1st Place
IIB	Alan Brooks	3rd Place
EIB	Steve LaPorte	3rd Place
EIQB	Steve LaPorte	1st Place
EIQB	Lionel Gibbons	2nd Place
MPB	Team Papalotes (Tom Stoner & Barbara Dockendorf)	2nd Place
MIQB	Ron Despojado	1st Place
OIF	Steve LaPorte	1st Place
OIF	Ron Despojado	2nd Place



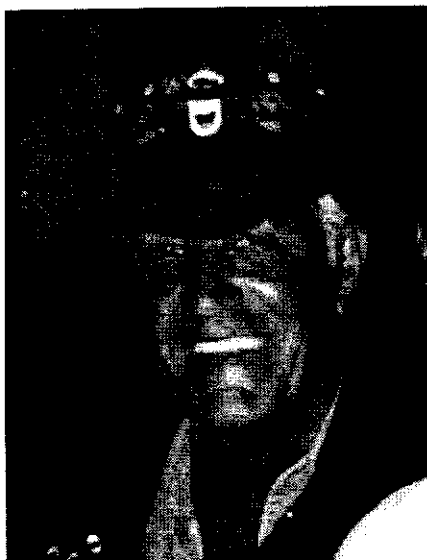
Lonnie Mixon's "Flying Time" (above) and "Minnie Mouse Queen of Hearts" (below)



Steve Davis's award winning creation



Open Freestyle Winners: "The Clown", Ray Bethell & "The Macho Man"



The 1998 Pierfest Sea and Air Show

by Ray Bethell

THIS was my third sponsored trip this kite season to sunny California, and if there is a favorite place in the kiting world for me, it has to be Belmont Shores Long Beach California, where 85% of the time the winds are a perfect 8-10 mph. I have said this many times to my kiting friends everytime I am in the UK and Europe, if they were to fly at Long Beach CA, they would think they had died and gone to heaven. The beach has well packed pure white sand 1,000 yard from the main road to the water's edge, and it runs as far as the eye can see in both directions, a 10 foot black top road runs the full length of the beach roughly 200 feet from the main road. This is used for jogging walking, running, bicycle riding and roller blading, and it never ceases to amaze me about the beautiful California girls in their lovely outfits that they wear while roller

blading- I can't figure out, if they are inside trying to get out.... or outside trying to get back in :)

I was sponsored to be part of the spectacular Sea & Air Show, I had my own 200x200 square foot arena to perform my all day multiple kite demonstrations. There were no shortage of spectators, in fact they turned out in the thousands for this two days of non stop entertainment. There was something for everybody: spectacular air show with aerobatics and military demonstrations including the B-2 Bomber, and the F-11A Stealth Fighter, water sports, and over 175 trade, sports, arts, crafts collectible exhibits, plus great children's entertainment- fun for the whole family right on the beach.

I had a great chance to show of my new Kestrels, new T-2's and new tails from "Windependent". The weather was super in the high 80's and awesome winds a steady 10mph, and what a thrill it was for me, while I was performing my multiple kite ballets, to have the Stealth Fighter doing his performance over my head at the same time. The festival was a huge success, it was a two day extravaganza.

Just beyond Belmont Beach but with in plain sight is docked the grandest ocean liner ever built: the Queen Mary. She is a legend steeped in history and tradition. During the 2nd World War she was a troopship known as "The Grey Ghost" she arrived at Long Beach in 1967 and was opened to the public in 1971. The Hotel Queen Mary, as she is now called, boasts 365 original staterooms spanning 3 decks, the last time I stood looking awe at this beautiful ship was on Southampton docks in England I was 22 years old. Who would have thought that 50 years later I would be touring this majestic piece of history from stem to stern, which when you think that in her hey-day only the rich and famous could do? I wish to thank my sponsor Neil Tuthill and ANCAL for arranging this tour as a special thank you for a job well done, it was indeed a great way to finish off yet another great sponsored trip to sunny California.

Thank you for listening,

KITE STUDIO

- Experienced and award winning kite builders
- Experienced AKA comprehensive kite building judge
- Over 2,375 ft² devoted to kites and kite building
- Free USA shipping on orders over \$50.00
- 10% off to all San Diego Kite Club members

**ORDER OUR NEW
60 PAGE KITE &
BANNER BUILDING
SUPPLY
CATALOG**



1-800-KITE-991
1-610-395-3560
kbiferri@fast.net

5555 Hamilton Blvd.
Wescosville, PA 18106

WEEKLY SPECIALS ON QUALITY RIPSTOP AS LOW AS \$2.00/yard

Avi Kite Festival 1998

(and getting there)

I've always said that half the fun is getting there. If you are fortunate (?) to travel with me, sometimes getting there is the most memorable part, whether a good memory or uneasy one.

This year I bought a mapping program and printed out a map and directional instructions to Laughlin from San Diego, going through Yuma as an intended stop. This printout gave time, direction, and mileage information with the ability to blow-up detailed areas. Okay we should be set, I had a rental car because my truck was in repair. On the way east out of San Diego, I noticed the gas very quickly drain as soon as the needle got past half. This is an important fact.

Out of Yuma and onto I-95- no problem. About 3 hours later we stop for gas at Quartzite, no problem. A few hours later we pull into Needles and look at the map, find out we are only 32 miles from Laughlin. I very confidently say "In about 30 to 40 minutes we will be in Laughlin." With a quarter tank of gas left, we head down the final stretch. Almost right out of Needles, Nicole sees a sign for a turn-off to Laughlin, but I say that we need to stay on I-95. The 30 minutes go by, then 40. I am desperately trying to convince myself that yes, this is the way, just like last year. It looks the same- pitch black, no lights, and hardly any signs. I start to sweat as that gas gauge needle is tickling the "E". Suddenly....."ding!" Nicole asks what that was. I tell her its the gas gauge telling us we are almost out of gas. We cannot turn back because there were no gas stations the last 30 or so miles. What if we run out of gas in the desert in the dark? By coincidence my PCS (Piece of Crud System) phone decided not to work that day. Who would stay with the car? Which one of us would risk getting a ride into the nearest town, if there was one? Do you think if we gave a passing motorist some money they would come back with some gas? What

*"...stay calm so that
I can stay calm..."*

about our kites? Is this an episode of the Twilight Zone, or better yet, the X-Files? Did I see some strange lights in the sky behaving unlike that found on conventional aircraft? Nicole comments or else asks me about our situation, I can't remember what it was but I do remember saying "stay calm so that I can stay calm." I remember going uphill behind a very slow semi and trailer but dare not risk passing for

fear of burning up the few drops of gas we have left. Suddenly I see a sign that says "Searchlight 10 miles." This was the longest and quietest 10 miles of my life. We pull into the closest gas station on the fringe of town- there was no way we could have gone another block- the gas vapors we had left were consumed, the tank was literally dry. Whew!- made it- barely. We get turn around and get explicit directions to Laughlin.

The next day, Friday, the wind was fair, about 7 mph at best. We practice in the front lawn that wasn't there last time. A man watches us and Nicole recognizes him. He was the singer in the house band, and the night before Nicole and her dad- Earl Conley had met him at the lounge. His name was John Encinio and coincidentally 20 years ago he stayed at Earl's Motel 6 in Barstow. John had won a certificate from Earl via the military for a free weekend stay. They both remembered the incident and who would have thought 20 years later they meet up again. Also, Marshall Morgan saw his aunt and uncle who coincidentally was the Building Inspector during the casino's construction. But we are here to fly kites!!

The first official day of the festival- Saturday- there was zero wind. But there was the grandest ground display of kites in the west. Some of the notable names were Scott Skinner, Ron Gibian, Don Mock, Leonard Mixon, Jose Sainz, and Steve Davis. At one point Scott has a kite tossing contest. There was no wind, we have to improvise. Then, Scott invites a few of us to grab one of his kites and run around doing a team ballet. San Diego's Flight Squadron need not worry about the competition. Ron Gibian and his works posed numerous times for photographs. The fighter kites were also having trouble staying in the air including Johnny Hsuing, Basir Beria, and Steve Bateman. Some of the west's premier stunt kites were there too- Susan Shampo, Brian Champie, Miguel Rodriguez, Flight Squadron featuring Pam Kirk, Mike Dennis, Eric Streed, & Paul Hodges; and the freestyle talents of Brian



*A sad sight: kites
and no wind*

continued on page 10

Calendar of Events

January

15 Board of Director's Meeting, Jimmy's Restaurant , 7:00 pm

16 Monthly General Meeting, South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00 pm.

22-24 SDKC Retreat, Ron & Sandy Gibian workshop, see details elsewhere, First-come-first-served basis

February

19 Board of Director's Meeting, Jimmy's Restaurant , 7:00 pm

20 Monthly General Meeting, South of the Hilton on East Mission Bay Drive, 1:00 pm.

Events are subject to last minute changes.

For more information contact Joanne M'Clary (619) 223-

Avi Kite Festival

continued from page 5

Leonard. And of course, there were those who new a good time when they saw it coming: Torri Cable and her husband Wally the hunk; Marshall and Ellen Morgan along with daughter Becca; Walt and Barbara Thompson, the M'CLary's, Larry & Sandee Bush, Neil Tuthill, and the one and only - Mister Stiles.

At night a few of us risked what little money kites usually have and a seat in the casino. Ellen and I met a dealer at a blackjack table and we start talking kites inbetween the shots of tequila. The dealer-Marguerite- tells us her and her boyfriend are also into kites, and remember if a dealer has an Ace showing, its a 90% chance they will "make" a good hand. A few weeks later Marguerite and her boyfriend Don in fact come down to San Diego and fly in Mission Bay Park. We were doing well, then dealers were changed on us. Suddenly everyone at the table was doing very poorly. The table emptied. Marguerite eventually came back. We told her what happened and she said "That other dealer musta opened a can of 'whoop-ass' on you guys."

The next day- Sunday the wind was no better. It was interesting listening to John Gabby on the mike trying his best to fill the airwaves with some kind of commentary. All in all, it was a great weekend which included a swap meet, a Chili Cook-off, and a Harley motorcycle show. Kathy Plummer of Dream Merchant again put together a great collection of

kiting personalities. This event has in the past few years been the "must go to" event of the west. I am sure I am not alone in looking forward to the next one. Maybe I'll take a bus or fly in.

getting there...

Some of my past travels:

Avi- Winter 98: Missed turnoff at Needles. Result: nearly ran out of gas in the desert.

Golden Gate Challenge 97: Got late start for return flight and took one wrong turn with the Bush's back to airport. Result- missed my flight by 2 minutes and stayed the night with friends.

Berkeley 97: Again, got late start for return flight with Joe Hadzicki. Result- Joe driving 90+ miles per hour on the freeway, missing a few freeway interchanges, run through airport and barely get the last two seats on the plane.

Avi- Spring 97: Headed east instead of north out of Yuma. Result: wasted 2 hours and missed the seafood buffet at Avi.

Golden Gate Challenge 96: Brian Champie's truck broke down on the freeway on the way to my return flight. Result: missed my flight and had to wait 3 hours for the next one.

Berkeley 96: Nicole and I try our hand at public transportation in San Francisco. Result: Approximately \$100 to get lunch in Chinatown.

Golden Gate Challenge 94: Shuttle I am riding rear-ends car in traffic. Result: My watch falls out of my jacket in the shuttle without my knowledge.



ADVERTISING RATES

The San Diego Kite Club is accepting ads for its newsletter "SKYLINES" to offset printing and mailing costs.

The following rates are now in effect per issue:

Quarter Page	(4"x4.5")	\$20
Half Page	(7.5"x4.5")	\$40
Full Page	(7.5"x10")	\$70
Half-Back cover		\$60
Full sheet insert		\$75

For full year (6 issues) prepaid you for only 5 issues

Interested parties should contact

San Diego Kite Club
P.O. Box 7977
San Diego, CA 92167
(619) 685-2885

Advertisers should have camera ready artwork or on computer disc in EPS or TIFF format.

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

HEY YOU!!!

We are looking for a responsible and creative person

Here we are again PLEADING for another newsletter editor. Its been a long time since the last one, and who knows when the next one will be. YOU can make it possible by becoming the editor of the newsletter.

Now I know with all those computers and scanners out there and all the publishing programs (Quark Xpress, Pagemaker, MS Publisher, My Newsletter, or even MS Word) there must be an individual brave enough to carry the torch as editor of one of the best newsletters in the AKA.

What?! You say you don't know how??

Try this- develop a page layout with columns. Then practice writing text to it. Next try importing photos and adding clever captions to them. And finally be creative. The masthead ("Skylines" on front page), advertisements, calendar, and address all take care of themselves. So start by reproducing what you see here and then develop your own style.

The newsletter needs someone who can give it all the attention it deserves.

San Diego MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



- New Membership
 Renewal
 Change of address

Membership dues per household (Check one)

	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.
Newsletter 3rd Class Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$29	<input type="checkbox"/> \$43
Newsletter 1st Class Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$67
Newsletter Overseas Air	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$59	<input type="checkbox"/> \$88

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____
(or country, if foreign)

Phone(h) _____ e-mail _____

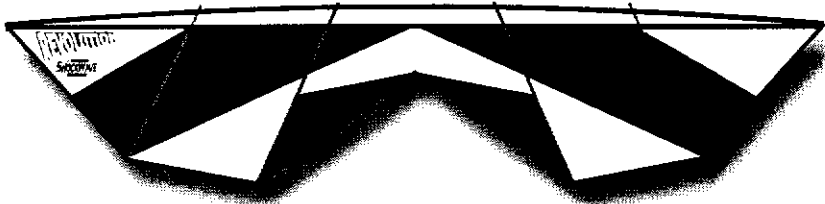
Other family members _____

Amount enclosed:
(U.S. funds only)

Send payment & application to:
SAN DIEGO KITE CLUB
P.O. Box 7977
San Diego, CA 92167 USA

Grab the handles of a...

Revolution Sportwing



and feel the ride!!

Featuring:

- ♦ Helicopter-like maneuverability
- ♦ 60-to-0 mph in less than 1 second
- ♦ Precision control
- ♦ Aerospace graphite structure

Revolution offers a line of products from the entry-level EXP to the cutting edge "Speed Series".

**SPEED
SHOCKWAVE
SERIES**

**SPEED
SUPERSONIC
SERIES**

**REV
1.5 SLE**

**EXP
EXPERIENCE**

Phase 2

Revolution Enterprises Inc. 12170 Dearborn Pl. Poway, CA 92064

Ph.: (619) 679-5785

1(800) 382-5132

Fax: (619) 679-5788

www.revkites.com



P.O. Box 7977
San Diego, CA 92167

Address Service Requested

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1837
SAN DIEGO, CA