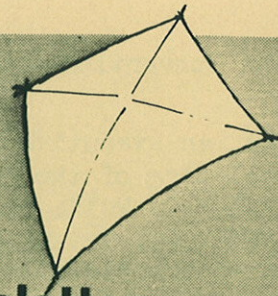


# Kite flyer™

The San Francisco Bay Area Kite Flying Newsletter



Vol.1 No. 3

Nov.-Dec. 1978

## family day kite festival

Under sunny and warm skies, Marina Green was the site of one of the most interesting kite flying events in recent history. Over 10,000 people benefitted from the efforts of Ron Young, Master of Ceremonies, (Solutions) and Dinesh Bahadur, Honorary Chairman, (Come Fly A Kite). An additional thanks goes to Martha Ziegler, who was instrumental in helping to organize this kite fly and for her assistance in obtaining information for this article.

A steady bay breeze accommodated the 115 registered kite flyers in competing for \$2,500 in prizes. Results:

HIGHEST - Tony Carpiet, Hillsborough, CA

- Indian Fighter Kite -

SMALLEST - Carl Brewer, Seattle, WA

- Less than 3/4" sq. -

MOST BEAUTIFUL - Steve Edeiken, Venice

Beach, CA - Six train rainbow stunter -

FUNNIEST - Monica Woodcock - Two kite

train of Snoopy vs. the Red Baron -

GIANT KITE - No winner to be found

INDIVIDUAL KITE FIGHTING - Steve Gekko,

Redondo Beach, CA

TEAM FIGHTING - Northern California Team

Captain: Sade U. Kahan

Rakesh Bahadur

Yogesh Bahadur

Nita Bahadur

Kite highlights of the day included a demonstration by Steve Edeiken of his 36 kite train of rainbow stunters, which was quite an amazing sight, and Neil Thordurn's owl kite that flies just as well upside down as it does downside up. I had my giant sled kite, Small Wonder, whose lifting surface measured 30' X 20'. It didn't fly, but was cheered on by spectators--my personal thanks for your support. A Dom Jalbert parafoil, called a Robin, was being flown. An incredible kite, it is a combination of a parafoil and a triangular boxed cell, at one time used for meteorological studies. Tom Henry had his fantastic inflated winged dragon in the air.

Slides from the fly will be shown at the Nov. 16 gathering, if you have any that you took, please bring them along.

But kites were not the only attraction of the day. There was literally a smorgasbord of activities to delight the eyes and ears of all. Opening ceremonies included the "San Francisco Gay Marching Band and Twirling Corp," an address by Mayor Moscone, and the indescribable launching of 1000 kites by Dinesh Bahadur. A hard act to follow indeed, but followed it was by the releasing of 5,000 balloons to signal the beginning of the contests. The contests ran smoothly, or at least on time, and ended with the "Dancing Dills," (giant pickels doing tap, if you can believe that number). But we can't stop here! The day was also punctuated with a blue grass band called the "Silicon Valley Boys" and Carl Payne, 1977-78 Champion Cable Car Bell Ringer. Leaving no room for dispute, this was uniquely a San Francisco Kite Festival!

But where was George? Absent from his ever present post on the Marina Green was George Ham. George, as always, with his parafoils in flight, arrived first and was recruited to guard the West Gate. He even turned away his kite flying buddies, much to his dismay--you just take your job to seriously!!!

## aka convention

September 22, 1978, was the date of the "first" National Meeting of the American Kiteflying Association. Ocean City, Maryland served as the location for assembling 105 representatives from all regions of the United States and abroad.

A Board of Directors was chosen and has a varied composure of kite flyers from throughout the U.S., with one each from England and New Zealand. (Cont. on page 2)

(AKA Convention--Continued from page 1)

Also, an Executive Board was elected, consisting of the following:

PRESIDENT, Welda D. (Red) Braswell,  
FIRST V.P., Ted Manekin, SECOND V.P.,  
Daniel Prentis (San Francisco, CA);  
THIRD V.P., Judy Neuger (Ohio Society  
for the Elevation of Kites, OSEK);  
SECRETARY, Margo Brown; TREASURER,  
Carla Simz.

Other activities during the convention included a mini-trade show and a kite fly. Valerie Govig, "Kite Lines" editor, said the fly was a bit marred by strong winds that tore apart some kites and was generally not conducive to flying. The following day, under calmer wind conditions, many more enthusiasts were able to demonstrate their kite flying prowess. Of the many sky sights, one of the most spectacular was Jack Van Gilder's delta train of over 100 kites. Jack is the Northwest representative who is very active in the Washington kite flyer's association and "Kite Lines" magazine. More details and photos will be published in a later issue of "Kite Lines."

Of special interest to us was the presence of three people from California at the convention. Daniel Prentis (Shanti Spools), Lynn O'Connor (Quicksilver Kites), and Steve Edeiken (Rainbow Stunter Kites) were in attendance representing their various businesses. Dan and Lynn, who both live and work in San Francisco, have agreed to come to our November 16 SLIDE SHOW AND SWAP to talk about what transpired in Maryland.

## kite sites

San Leandro's Marina Park is just south of the Oakland airport, off Highway 17, Marina Boulevard exit in San Leandro. As you head towards the Bay you'll enter fourteen of the nicest kite flying acres in this city's bay side park. There are two large sand playgrounds just for the kids (or sand freaks), and a golf course across the street. Picnic tables are plentiful and a running and/or bike path encircles the area. We'll be having our Dec. 3 kite fly here so pack a lunch and bring a friend. Consider rain as a cancellation, unless you enjoy flying umbrellas. See "coming up" for details.

## **ansel toney & his farmland delta**

Ninety-year-old Ansel Toney and his delta kites first became known to the world outside his tiny community of Farmland, Indiana a few years ago when Charles Kerault interviewed him for his television program. Since then Ansel has been interviewed many times about his hobby of kite making and flying.

Because we like delta kites, and because we want to be building kites when we are ninety, we thought it appropriate to feature one of Ansel's kites in KITEFLYER's first "How To Do It" column.

Before we start the directions a few observations are in order. Although one of the unique features of Ansel's delta kite is that you use the entire width of a roll of fabric, you could follow these directions and make the kite any size you desire. Ansel uses rather large pine spars for his kite which were broken in shipment of the sample. We could not find the same type of wood and plan to use fiberglass spars as replacements.

We will have Ansel's kite and a reel his father taught him to build 63 years ago at our next kite fly and at the SLIDE SHOW AND KITE SWAP for you to examine for details if you desire.

Finally, Ansel will be celebrating his ninety-first birthday December 12. We are sending Ansel and his wife of 68 years, Stella, a six foot, three-phase bullet kite as a thank-you for his kindness in sending us his kite and reel as an early birthday present. If you want to drop him a card of appreciation his address is:

Mr. and Mrs. Ansel Toney  
R.R. No. 1  
Farmland, Indiana 47340

## what's up

THE RAINBOW STUNTER KITE--the kite that won the "most beautiful kite category" of the Oct. 1 kite fly SHOULD now be available in local kite stores. If not, write to Rainbow Kite Company, 26 Park Avenue, Venice, CA 90291, or call, 213-396-8096. Kites retail for about \$20 and come in six colors--red, orange, yellow, green, blue or violet. Designer Steve Edeiken will be featured in our next issue.

## southern california

On my way home from the Grand Canyon, I had a great visit with Vic Heredia, head of the San Diego Kite Club. Another stop was made at Redondo Beach to see Tom and Randy Joe at the Sunshine Kite Co. (Steve Gekko, who is a member of the Redondo Beach kite fighting team, was the individual kite fighting winner at the Family Day Kite Festival on Oct. 1.)

All of these men are into kite fighting and are the best organized in regards to competitions. They have regularly scheduled kite flies, and offer kite clinics to introduce novice fighters to the art of kite fighting. These folks emphasize sportsmanship and fairness in competition, and above all, having a good time. We have a lot to learn about this unique aspect of kiting.

Vic has been developing rules for testing one's ability to maneuver his kite. Also, he is working on the idea of tail fighting in order to prevent the loss of valuable kites. Further information will be available at the November 16th meeting.

You can write or call Tom and Randy Joe at:  
Sunshine Kite Company  
233 B Fisherman's Wharf  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
213-372-0308

And, Vic Heredia can be contacted via:  
International Kite Company  
P.O. Box 3248  
San Diego, CA 92103  
714-239-1992

## coming up

November 11 is the date for the Second 1978 maneuverable kite contest sponsored by the San Diego Kite Club. The contest will be held at Ski Beach, across from the Vacation Village, just off of Ingraham St. (named after that famous kite flyer from New Mexico). Emphasis in on one's ability to maneuver kites (single line fighters) from the basis of launching and retrieving to knocking things off of poles. There is a fee for entering. Vic is working on establishing contest rules that will be fair to the flyers and easy to judge. For further information call Vic Heredia.

(By the way, the San Diego Kite Club meets every second Saturday for flying at Ski Beach, so keep that in mind if you travel down that way.)

## kite fly dec. 3

December 3 could be noteworthy because only 13 days remain before the birthday of Beethoven, but also because it is the day we'll be flying kites (if it doesn't rain) at San Leandro's Marina Park from 12 noon to 3 p.m. See "kite sites" for location and directions. This will be a non-competitive, free spirit kite fly, so bring a lunch and your kites. As this is a bay side location, winds can be fairly strong. Look for our Kite Flyer "A" frame display and we'll see you there.

Paul, Lee, Carol and Tom

## additions

KITEFLYER staff is growing...welcome to the salt mines...Carol and Tom Henry.

### LUNAstrand

LUNAstrand, makers of quality fiberglass rods has made their product available to KITEFLYER subscribers at a discount. Here is how it works:

1. We must have a cumulative order of \$50.00 or more to get the price.
2. Order in 6, 8, 10 or 12 foot lengths.
3. Payment must accompany order.
4. The group order will be picked-up by KITEFLYER NEWSLETTER and distributed at the next kite fly or can be picked-up by the purchaser with prior arrangement.
5. Minimum personal order is \$5.00
6. KITEFLYER is marking the fiberglass rods up 25% to help cover expenses of the newsletter--it's still a lot cheaper this way and helps support your newsletter.

Prices are as follows: 1/8 diameter--15¢ per foot, 3/16 diameter--17¢ per foot, 1/4 diameter--19¢ per foot, 5/16 diameter--29¢ per foot, 3/8 diameter--37¢ per foot.

Orders may be placed by mail, or at the SLIDE SHOW AND KITE SWAP on November 16, or at the next kite fly, December 3. Samples of the fiberglass will be available at both of the above events.

## announcements

An evening of kite information, what more could you ask for!?! It's happening November 16, Thursday night, from 7 to 10 p.m.

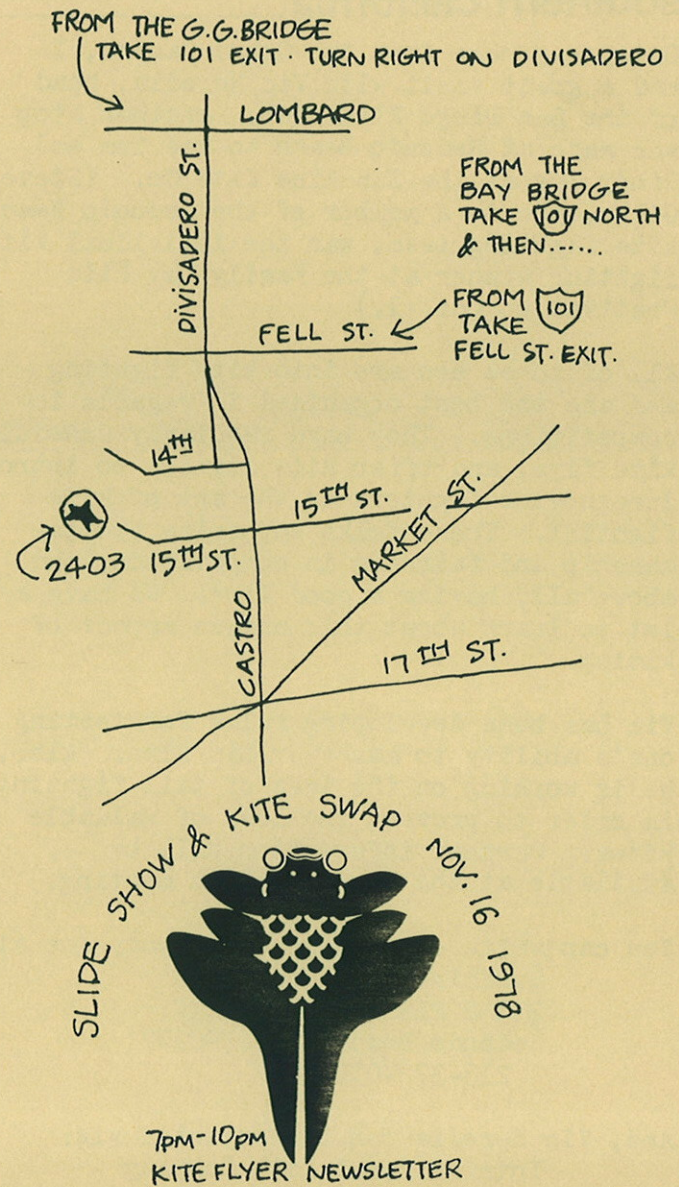
Officially titled SLIDE SHOW AND KITE SWAP, it will feature slides of the Family Day Kite Fly (Oct. 1), and the first KITEFLYER Kite Fly (July 30)--maybe you will see yourself. Bring any and all of your "extra" kites and kite related paraphernalia, materials, etc.--to trade for that other guys kite you always wanted to have. Make some extra kites to bring and swap.

An added attraction will be Lynn O'Connor of Quicksilver Kites and Dan Prentis of Shanti Spools, to tell us firsthand about the American Kitefliers Association national convention held last month.

By the way, we need more members. so bring a friend and broaden his or her horizons.

The location is at Tom and Carol Henry's house--2403 15th Street, San Francisco--call 431-8711 for more information, or if totally lost.

PLEASE R.S.V.P.  
TOM & CAROL 431-8711  
OR  
PAUL @ FROSTUNE KITS 845-5421



# Kite flyer

861 Clara Dr.  
Palo Alto, CA 94303