

Westport Windriders

Summer 1998

THE FESTIVAL ISSUE

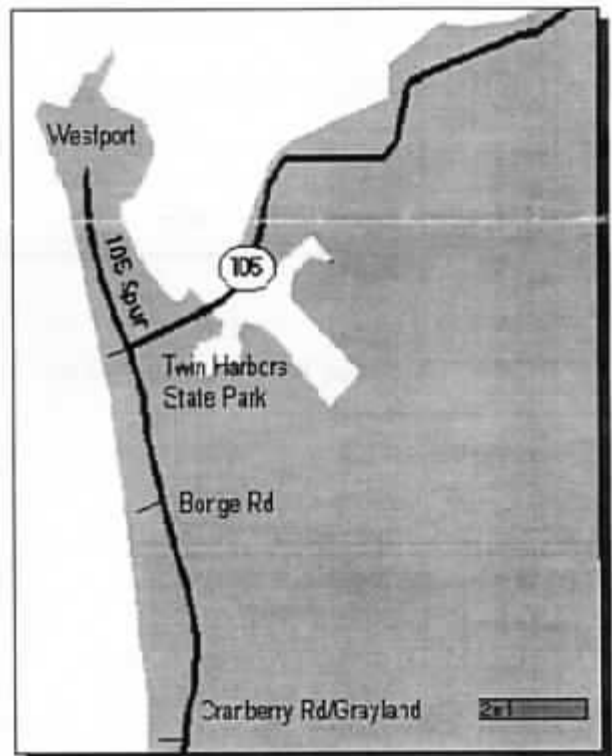


Welcome to the 1998 Westport Windrider's Kite Festival. This year's festival is July 10, 11 and 12 at the Grayland approach road.

First here's a list of scheduled events.

- Handcrafted Kite Competition
- Stunt Kite Competitions
- Fighter Kite Battles
- 3 Kite Mass Ascensions
- Kid's Kite Activities
- Buggy Events
- Red White And Blue Displays
- Pin Challenge
- Teddy Bear Drops
- Mystery Ballet
- Kite Demonstrations

Awards Potluck
Raffle and Kite Auction
Reserved Fields for Jumbo Kites
And
Windy's World Balloons
We hope to see you all on the beach at Grayland.



Here's a map to show the general location of the festival. Inside there is a map of the Festival lay out on the beach and a preliminary schedule of events. So turn the Page and see what we have in store for your kiting pleasure!

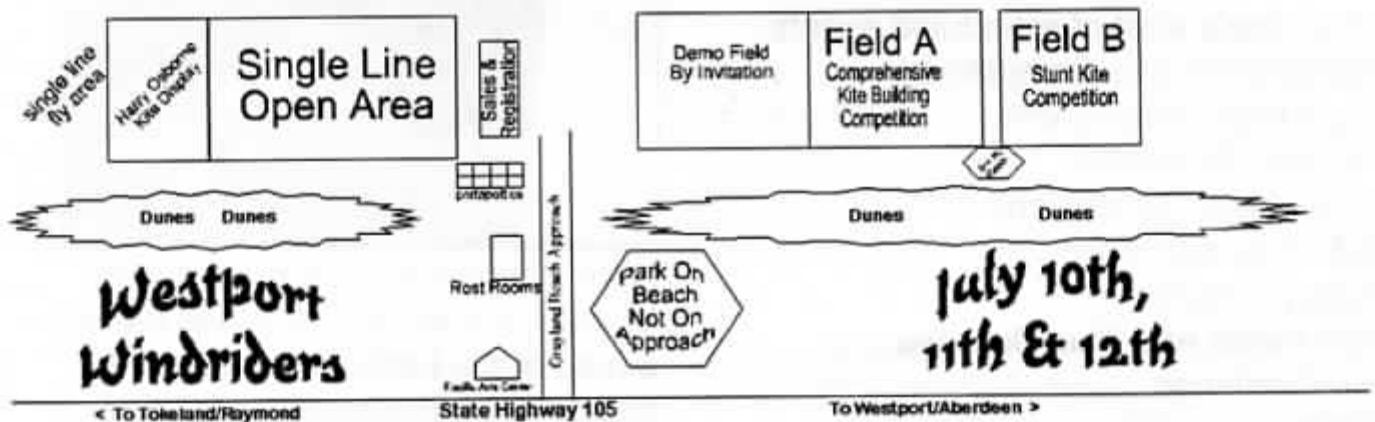
Festival Tides

	time	high	time	low	time	high	time	low
10 Friday	150am	10.1	839am	-2.1	319pm	8.6	843pm	2
11 Saturday	232am	10	919am	-2.2	400pm	8.8	928pm	1.8
12 Sunday	316am	9.9	959am	-2	441pm	8.9	1015pm	1.7

As you can see the tides are not the best of the year so keep track of the tides and the wind while you are on the beach.

Festival Schedule of Events

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10:00 AM	Final Set up	Handcrafted competition, fighter kite competition and Sport Kite Competition all day	Mystery Ballet
11:00 AM			Stunt Kite Games
12:00 PM	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM	Mass Accession	Mass Accession	Mass Accession
2:00 PM	Kid's Kite Games	Kid's Kites Games	Teddy Bear Drop
3:00 PM		Teddy Bear Drop	Rok Challenge
4:00 PM		Rok Challenge	Beach clean-up
5:00 PM		People's Choice Voting Closes	Field take down
6:00 PM			
7:00 PM	Bonfire and Lighted Kite Fly	Awards Potluck, Raffle, Auction and Pin Challenge	



Reaching for the sky

by **Joe Heim**

Seattle Times staff reporter

In Japan the kite has been an integral part of the culture for centuries. Used to herald births, spring plantings and harvests, kites also provided an outlet for artistic expression. With each city developing kites with unique characteristics, they also have become a great source of civic pride.

"Paper Wings Over Japan," an exhibit that opens today at the Museum of Flight, captures both the imaginative beauty and the scientific and structural know-how that has gone into producing these remarkable flying works of art. Though fashioned from the most rudimentary of materials - bamboo, paper, string and glue - the kites in this collection are ornate and fascinatingly detailed creations.

The more than 60 kites on display vary dramatically in shape and size. It's hard to believe that these bulky-looking objects actually stay aloft, but Steve Skinner, the exhibit's curator, says don't worry: The kites' symmetrical qualities, as well as their tails and the curvature of the bent bamboo, provide the stabilization required for flight.

Skinner, president of the Drachen Foundation, a Seattle-based association for kite research and education, contributed most of the exhibit's kites from his personal collection of more than 600. Kites were introduced to Japan from China about 1,000 years ago, says Skinner, but it wasn't until 350 years ago that they really took off as a fad. Enormously popular, especially with peasants who couldn't afford much else in the way of art or entertainment, the kites began to take on the peculiarities and personalities of master craftsmen.

Soon each region became known for its specialties. Thus the tombo (or hawk) kites were traditionally made in Tokyo, while the semi-dako, a kite made to resemble cicadas in both look and sound, was made in Nagoya. The hata

designs, familiar diamond-shaped fighter kites, were the pride of Nagasaki.

As important as the Kites' structural design is the artistry that went into decorating them. Many feature heroes or mythical figures from Japanese legends. Others look like an entire Kabuki theater performance exploded onto a flying canvas. There are also the amazing bird kites: accurate, life-size replicas of eagles, cranes and vultures.

Because kites have themes that have value in so many worlds, they are the perfect vehicle for education, says Ali Fujino, of the Drachen foundation.

"Sports, science, history, culture, art, it's all there," she says.

Scheduled Events

- | | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| June | 5-7 | Ocean Shores Kite Challenge Festival. |
| | 20 | WKA Fun Fly at Magnuson Park, Seattle |
| | 21 | Seattle Kite Festival, Gas Works Park, Seattle |
| | 27 | Westport Windriders Fun Fly at Grayland and potluck at Museum in Westport 7:00pm |
| July | 10-12 | Westport Windriders Kite Festival at Grayland. |
| | 18 | WKA Fun Fly at Magnuson Park in Seattle |
| | 25 | Westport Windriders Funfly at Grayland potluck at the museum 7:00PM |
| August 8 | | North Coast Sky Painters fun fly potluck at Ocean City Lions club 7:00pm |
| | 17-23 | Washington State International Kite Festival at Long Beach |
| | 19 | WKA Spaghetti feed at Long Beach. See Rob Pratt for details. |
| | 20 | AOK Pot luck at Museum in Ilwaco. |

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c/o Creda Axton
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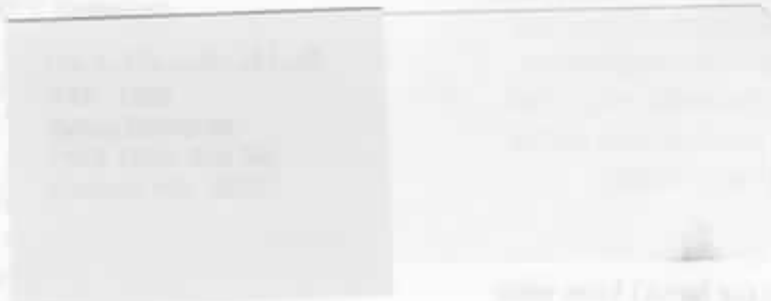
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