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MARCH 2006 NEWS www.kckiteclub.org

Making Positive Changes

In last month's newsletter we wrote about our holiday party, upcoming yearly schedule, special guest Suzanne Wright at our first board meeting, and even recapped our trip to San Diego. If you were unable to attend last month's meeting I am happy to report that progress has been made in many areas that will have lasting effects on the success of the club's direction. A special club thanks is in order for Suzanne Wright who helped us for the first time in many years navigate through some very tough, emotional, and expensive issues. Her expertise was clear, and our board will continue to maintain a positive relationship with her in the future for advice.

After establishing the club's new direction of applying for a formal 501 c (3) non-profit corporation status we are happy to report that things are progressing well. The KCKC made a formal request to have UMKC's Entrepreneurial Legal Services Clinic at UMKC's School of Law assist KCKC in our process. Thanks to all of you for your support in helping the club define its direction while at our open meeting. Frankly, we could not have done it without you all.

This week we applied for, and were granted approval for assistance both legally and from a strategic sense. Many classes and expert advice have been made available for members of our club to help us in realizing the challenges and opportunities that the new status of our club will provide. While the applications and legal road we will travel will take some time to get finalized, the process is started and we expect to have much of this work completed by the third quarter of this year. We will be sure to provide updates as they surface. For more information about the clinic go to: www.1.law.umkc.edu/clinics/els/about.htm

Some of our goals in this process are to take care of:

- Helping KCKC generate a surplus / profit from our activities and a means to legally do this as needed so that we can give more to the community we serve.
- Helping KCKC attract tax deductible donations/contributions from donors legally
- Give KCKC the ability to apply for private, public grant monies legally
- Provide legal protection for members of the club from legal liability

Why all of this?

Our organization needed to evaluate its current operational environment. In order to make changes that will positively affect the club, you need a snapshot of the KCKC today. This provided a starting point for developing strategy, implementing change and measuring results. Here are some basic questions we asked as an organization.

- What do you do well / poorly?
- How do we grow and serve our community?
- How do we earn funds necessary to operate and how do donors view us?
- How are you viewed by the constituency / community you serve?
- How effective are staff, volunteers and board members in their respective roles?
- What motivates people to help your organization?
- Are you wasting funds / time on ineffective or outdated operations?
- Do you need to invest in new ideas or seek other professional help?

We decided that we needed to help our organization by taking action. The most important thing is to do something to identify the areas where the KCKC may need to make changes in order to be more successful in providing service, raising funds, retaining members and volunteers and becoming better known for our work throughout the communities that we serve. We have made our objective evaluation and we have started planning the strategy to improve.

The good news?

Well for the first time our club goal is clear and has the best chance of sustaining, and growing over many decades to come. We have literally **given** the club a long-term strategy and ability to survive through the times ahead.

In the coming weeks **many new kite events** that will partner with key community groups, non-profit organizations, and corporations will be in the planning (and flying) stages. Many of these organizations donate to the club because they see the value in our partnership to help promote various community events that **they are putting together**. We help their cause and ours all at once! I really encourage all of you to show your love for our club and support for our passion by attending the events **to fly kites**. After all, that is the reason we do what we do. We provide great family enjoyment, education, safety, and history in the wonderful sky we like to fill with kites.

Imagination is the highest kite one can fly.

Sean Beaver

President

Kansas City Kite Club

Sean is available by email at seanbeaver@hotmail.com or you may call him at 913-238-9333 for comments or questions.



PRESIDENTIAL TRAVELS.....

Last month it was San Diego to meet flyers, this month Sean and Stephany managed to take 5 days in Vegas to get a little "R & R". It helped that Sean won some money at the casino. He was able to visit with Kent Kingston of the retail kite store "A

Wind of Change" located just off the Las Vegas Strip. Kent is a very active kite flyer and owner of the store. Look for Sean's new giant kites on a field near you very soon compliments of Las Vegas casinos.....



If you want to have a great time celebrating the arrival of spring in April, you're invited to join the biggest kite happening ever planned in North America. The AKA (American Kitefliers Association), in cooperation with the KTAI (Kite Trade Association International) has declared April to be National Kite Month.

Our goal is to have 600 kite events worldwide during National Kite Month. An event doesn't have to be a big festival; we encourage local fun flies, kitemaking workshops, indoor flies, buggy races, kite displays in public libraries and malls, and school demonstrations.

Anyone who organizes and registers an event will be entered into weekly drawings. Also, register an event, and receive free bumper stickers. 2006 Event Registration Closes On April 25th. Register an event at

<http://www.nationalkitemonth.org/events/> or learn more about National Kite Month here <http://www.nationalkitemonth.org/>



UPCOMING LOCAL FLYS AND DEMOS

Spring is HERE! And with it National Kite Month and lots of requests for demos and flies. Here are the ones KCKC has already committed to. These flies are only in the Kansas City area. For events in a wider area, please check our events page at <http://www.kckiteclub.org/events.htm>

*Please
contact
Sean Beaver
at
913-238-9333
or
seanbeaver@hotmail.com
if you can
attend one or
more of these
demos. Your
commitment
will help with
planning a
great event.*

Saturday April 8, 2006 9:30 am to 11 am

Winterset Park Community Kite Flying Event at

Longview Mansion (by Longview Community College) set up not before 9:30-leave by 11 am. (Time dependent on rental agreement with Longview Mansion.) EVENT: Easter Egg hunt for affluentsSubdivision expecting 80 to 100 children. For this demo we need three or four kite flyers to demonstrate to the kids and adults how great kite flying can be, and "that there are other kinds of kites besides the ones we buy at Wal-Mart." Let's wow this subdivision and then quickly move on to the Shawnee Library Demo after lunch.

Winterset Park information <http://www.wintersetpark.com/wsetpark.htm>
Longview Mansion 3361 SW Longview Road Lee's Summit, MO 64081
<http://www.longviewmansion.com/home.htm>

The best way to get to the Longview Mansion: 291/470 HWY E to View High Drive exit. Right (going South) on View High Dr to 4 way stop @ 3rd and View High. Continue South thru 4 way to Longview Rd (you will go thru 1 round about and stay right thru the 2nd. On the left hand side of Longview Rd is the Longview Mansion Entrance (there should be signs).

Saturday April 8, 2006, The Shawnee Library, 2-4 pm. Johnson Dr. & Pflumm Shawnee, KS

Informal demo for the Shawnee Library. We will be flying in Veteran's Park 13599 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, KS, and fielding informal questions. Doug Hoffman will be hanging some display kites in the library. If you have

some kites that you can part with for a week or two, please give Doug a call. Work (cell) phone 913-261-2309. Doug will be setting up beginning March 25, and updating the display April 1. The day of the demo we have permission to fill the Shawnee Library Meeting room with display kites. Veteran's Park usually has light winds.

Veteran's Park 13599 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, KS

Shawnee Library 13811 Johnson Drive Shawnee, Kan. 66216

(913) 962-3800 <http://www.jocolibrary.org/index.asp?DisplayPageID=326>

Sunday April 9, 2006 National Kite Month Fly Second Sunday Even Month Fly, 1-4 pm Heritage Park 16050 Pflumm Olathe, KS

http://jcprd.com/parks_facilities/map_heritage_park.cfm National Kite Month is dedicated to the promotion and support of kiting. National Kite Month is a not-for-profit venture co-founded by the American Kitefliers Association and the Kite Trade Association International. Kite



events around the world will help introduce people to the fun of kiteflying, the rich history of kites, the stunning artistry of kitemakers, and how kites can be used as educational tools. More info can be found at

<http://www.nationalkitemonth.org/>

Saturday April 22, 2006—Demo for School for the Deaf in Olathe, KS

450 E. Park Street Olathe, Kansas 66061 <http://ksdeaf.org/> Family, Fun and Facts, a parent workshop with children's activities Time is morning, 8:45 to 11:30. The theme is "Taking Flight" This event is for families of children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing and professionals in the field. Demo with about 60-80 kids in three groups of about 25 kids each, aged 6-17. Indoor facilities available. At this time plans are to have three different camps—one for paper kite making, one for a talk, and one for kite demos. The demo can be in the gym, or on the athletic field, decision will be made that morning on wind conditions and enrollment figures. Map

http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result?name=&ed=f_RFDep_0TpsaJ_4BS_G2QEci.yevZfyJChI03Gj70oGjihxyqlwFkk7a2GtJ6DtIQPBihFhijtRv3KxRqMXNx9YO.3v8_4w4FzyiRMKpNFqSPa9LW7z3Xu7Tknc-&csz=Olathe%2C+KS+66061-5410&desc=&mag=8&ds=n&state=KS&uzip=66061&country=US&BFKey=&cat=&resize=1&trf=0

Saturday April 22, 2006—Second Annual Kite Fest at Southside Baptist Church

Spring Hill 2-6 pm. Kite flying will start around 2 pm, and kites are invited to stay to enjoy a cookout and live music. [Southside Baptist Church](http://www.littlechurchbiggod.org) (913) 592-2028 800 S Webster St, Spring Hill Cross Street: Between W Sycamore Dr and S Victory Rd www.littlechurchbiggod.org Want to try for a night fly after the cookout? Those members who flew this last year say the area is very nice, and the people wonderful. They had a good time last year.

Sunday April 23, 2006 Fourth Sunday Even Month Fly 1-4 pm—New Mark

Middle School 515 NE 106 Street Kansas City, MO 64155

<http://www.nkcsd.k12.mo.us/schools/newmark.shtml?s> Our regularly scheduled Fun Fly.

Saturday May 13, 2006 Second Saturday Odd Month Fly—Location to be announced. Some exciting locations are being scouted. Give your suggestion to a board member!

Saturday May 20, 2006 Walk for Life Cook Center, Mid-America Nazarene University 8:30 to 10:30 am http://www.adviceandaid.com/docs/fund_rasiers.asp This is a non-profit pro-life walk benefiting Advice & Aid <http://www.adviceandaid.com/index.asp> Advice & Aid reaches out to women and families who are looking for options for their unplanned pregnancy. Services include crisis intervention counseling, and support services, including adoption. Map of Cook Center, Mid America Nazarene University <http://www.manc.edu/about/map/index.php> Address 2030 E. College Way Olathe, KS 66062 phone 913-782-3750

Saturday May 27, 2006 Smithville Kite Festival 12-5 pm. Smithville Lake, Little Platte Marina. Directions: Take 169 North to NE 180th Street Near Bauman Park. Sponsors: Kansas City Kite Club, Red Bull, Wind Wizards Online Kite Store, and 105.1 JACK fm Radio. Join Kansas City, Topeka, Lawrence, and area kite enthusiasts for a fun filled day of Kite flying for all ages and witness the fastest growing water sport kite boarding! Also giant kites, moonwalk, great parking, swimming, volleyball, and lots of kids' activities. Kites are not required, just come and join the fun. Map http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/smithville/smithville_home.htm Additional (Better) map <http://www.claycogov.com/county/county.php?section=PR&page=5>



WORKSHOPS IN REVIEW.....

Out-of-town KCKC member Sharyn V recently requested a special workshop on Fan Bans. The day she was able to return to the KC area ended up being Linda L's birthday, so after a quick look at the calendar (where does the time go?!?) the Fan Ban Workshop Birthday Bash was organized. Participants learned theory, and applied that theory to a solid red,

white and blue banner kit. Why those colors? Sharyn V, Shawn R, and Dave E. were the first to sign up. As most of you know, these three members favor those colors.

All kits started out the same, but Team Larkey presented several different ways to make each banner unique. Dave E took his banner home to insert an appliqué, look for it this summer. Bill and Cathy T made two identical banners, looking similar to Shawn's 6-foot banner and John R. patterned his banner on Sharyn's elongated banner.

Don L and Sean B came to visit. Don brought two different types of kites for possible future workshops. A small low-wind disk kite may be presented this July as a summer workshop.

If you would like to request a special workshop please let KCKC know @ webmaster@kckiteclub.org

Steve Farrel, owner of Kite Studio, recently posted this request on his Kitebuilder.com Forum:

Eden Maxwell, author of the best selling book, [Magnificent Book of Kites](#) is working on a new project and asked me to post the following request:

I'm writing a book about the healing and transformative power of kites that will include profiles of those whose lives have been enriched by kites.

These profiles will include children, men, women, or groups who shared a spiritual, religious, or even a political transformation with these soaring marvels that connect us to the natural world.

If you know anyone who would fit within this theme, please let me know.

Best regards, Eden

I thought it would be interesting to hear thoughts from members of our forum. Post your response in this thread or if you would like to contact him privately, he permitted me to post his email address: eden@edensart.com Who knows, you might end up in his book! 😊Eden's got a pretty cool website too: <http://www.edensart.com/>

CONGRATULATIONS to Dave E.

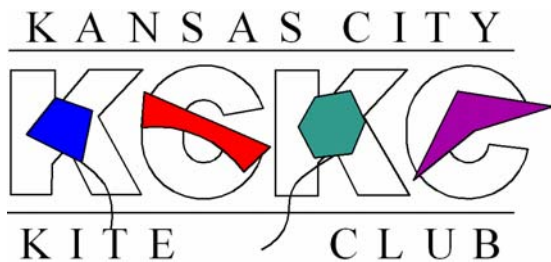
on being named **2005 KITEBUILDER OF THE YEAR** at Kite Studio's Online Forum www.kitebuilder.com. Dave won a \$50 gift certificate, and his picture will be at the bottom of each forum page for 2006. Proving what a small world it is with kitebuilders, when Dave presented the Doggie Chew Toy class at MAKR 2006, the person who nominated Dave was in his class, and she LOVES her line toy. Another first time MAKR attendee had this to say about Dave, "I can't tell you how much I enjoyed your class! It was my first successful MAKR project and you will forever be engraved in my favorite kite memories. You are a dear and brilliant man. I too am huge fan of the KISS method. It takes pure genius to create something simple. MAKR greatly expanded my horizons as



a budding kite maker, and you gave me the confidence to explore them. What a blessing! Thank you so much. Hugs, Draftnik”

Here is a photo of some of the members of the kitebuilder.com forum members at MAKR. Dave and Glorious W are holding the Doggie Chew Toy Line Laundry project. After each participant finished the Toy in class, Dave

inflated them with a leaf blower and the class would applaud for each. The other project pictured here is the Pilot Kite, presented by Jerry McGuire from P.I.G.S. Aloft kite club. That stands for People Interested in Getting Stuff Aloft. Attendees from the AKA’s convention a few years ago may remember P.I.G.S. Aloft built a squadron of soft quad fighter planes—each with a pig in the cockpit!



**Join the
Kansas City Kite Club!**
www.kckiteclub.org
Membership Dues (Jan-Dec)
\$15 Individual: \$20 Family