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**IN THIS ISSUE**

**Great  
Midwest  
Balloon  
Fest 2011**

July 8-10, 2011

[www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org](http://www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org)

**Congratulations to**

Thomas Lin who had one  
of his KAP photos of  
Flights Of Fancy printed  
in the AKA Kiting  
Magazine

**EVENTS NOT TO MISS!!!!**

Yes! We have a new event!

**Great Midwest  
Balloon Fest 2011**

New Site Location Great Mall Of The  
Great Plains

July 8-10, 2011

[www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org](http://www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org)

What is the Great Midwest Balloon  
Fest? The Great Midwest Balloon  
Fest is a hot air balloon festival  
designed for kids of all ages  
launching July 8-10, 2011. This year,  
the second annual GMBF, will feature  
67 balloons, including Special Shape  
Balloons and Corporate Balloons  
almost double our inaugural year of

36 balloons. Also, 2011 will add KITES.

Whether you roll out of bed early and come for the beautiful morning launches, enticed not only by the balloons, but also by the FREE Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, or come for the Early Evening Balloon Launches and spectacular Balloon Glows, you'll witness magic happen. Thousands of people of all ages will be able to get up close and personal with the balloons and pilots. The Festival is located at the Great Mall of the Great Plains, Interstate 35 and Exit 215 (151st street) in Olathe, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City.

Tentative Schedule for Great Midwest Balloon Fest 2011

Friday, July 8

3:00pm - GATES OPEN

3:00pm - 5:00pm Kansas City Kite Club performances or

6:00pm - 8:00pm Kansas City Kite Club performances

Saturday, July 9

5:30am - GATES OPEN

2:00pm - 5:30pm Kansas City Kite Club performances

Sunday, July 10

5:30am - GATES OPEN

2:00pm - 4:00pm Kansas City Kite Club performances

This event benefits:

- Harvesters
- Hospice House of Olathe Medical Park
- Noble Cause U.S.A.
- Olathe Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund

## AKA NEWS

For 2012, convention will be in Enid OK. Wide open spaces, a city and convention center that are excited to host AKA's international gathering. The flying fields will be at the Autry Technology Center. Richard Dermer will be catering pizza from his restaurant for the Monday night opening reception.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 3-5 2011 Twisted Lines** Topeka KS  
(see ad below)

[www.topekakitefliers.com](http://www.topekakitefliers.com)

**June 4 2011 EcoFest** Independence MO [www.ci.independence.mo.us/parksandrec](http://www.ci.independence.mo.us/parksandrec)  
Ground display only--please contact Linda @ [airhead@kc.rr.com](mailto:airhead@kc.rr.com) or 816-509-3979  
if you can help with set up starting at 7 or 7:30 am, or can do tear down so others  
can go to Twisted Lines in Topeka. This is a great event for anyone with grade  
school age children.

**May 8, 2011 Second Sunday Fly** Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-  
4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)  
Weather and wind permitting....

**January 13-15<sup>th</sup> 2012 Upper Midwest Area Kitemaker Event** Des Moines,  
IA

[www.u-make.org](http://www.u-make.org) Reserve the date and learn from Martin Blais!  
[www.martinblaiskites.com](http://www.martinblaiskites.com) Martin has made such signature pieces as the air  
guitar, Butterfly Canopy, and many other unique items.

# **19th Annual Twisted Lines Kite Festival**

**June 3, 4 & 5 2011**



**Friday 5pm-? Night Fly, Kites with lights, weather permitting**

**Saturday 10-4 Fun Fly, Demo's, Candy Drops, Competition**

**6-9pm-Indoor Fly at Topeka West High School gym**

**Sunday 10-4 Fun Fly, Demo's, Candy Drop**

**Free to all. All proceeds go to American Diabetes  
Association**

# EVENTS IN REVIEW

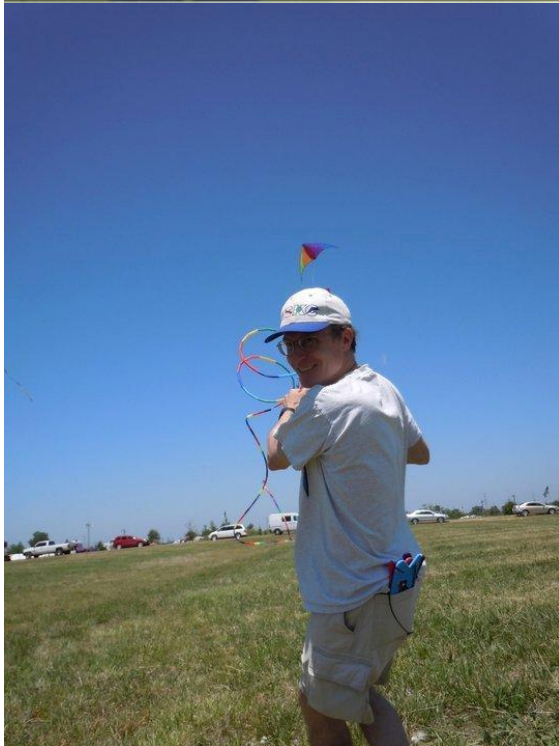
**May 7 2011 Elizabeth's Kite Graduation Party** Heritage Park No pictures and no wind, but a lot of fun. Congratulations to Lizzie Gilson on her High School Graduation, and best wishes for the future.

**May 14 2011 Spring Hill, KS Daffodil Days & Business Expo**

This is the second year for this city wide attraction—and the first year including kites. A family-oriented event featuring the KC Kite Club, Kansas City Zoo, local entertainment, activities for children, mobile shredding truck, and showcasing the Spring Hill businesses.

Located by the Spring Hill Intermediate School 300 E. South Street, Spring Hill, KS 66083 Photos by Chase Jordan





**May 21-22 2011 Kites Over Route 66**

Joplin MO          Greg Begey

[gbegey@hotmail.com](mailto:gbegey@hotmail.com)

Steve Batliner flies at Kites Over Route 66. The Festival was shortened due to storms on Sunday (more below). But the fields were good, and Saturday's sky was blue.

Kites Over Route 55 photos by **Catherine Gabrel—Thanks Cat!**



Above, two Spirit Men fly on Saturday, to the side.....advantages of being well connected at an event.....knowing who to call to come get your kite out of the light poles.....

Joplin was hit by a tornado Sunday eve at 7:00. The kite fest broke up and everyone departed at approx 4:00 pm and the last one to leave the site was the food vendor, and they just made it out before it hit.

Thanks to Cat Gabrel for getting the last few hold outs to get their kites down, packed up

and ready to hit the trail.



As of this time and date, know of only a couple in our kiting family that were hit and that is Scott & Judy McCoy (Virgil's son & D-I-L). Their house (Scott's) is gone, think that both cars were destroyed and lost both of the Golden Retrievers'.

Update.....Virg & Liz McCoy are OK. Scott McCoy only has a foundation left of his home, but **One of their Golden Retrievers did survive !!!** First responders found him under some rubble.

### May 21 2011 Merriam Turkey Creek Merriam KS

[www.merriam.org/park/Events/turkey-creek-festival.htm](http://www.merriam.org/park/Events/turkey-creek-festival.htm)



Wow! Thanks to Doug Hoffman, Dan Stitt, Ryan Larkey. Randy and Linda Larkey set up was accomplished in just over an hour. Thanks to event organizers who loaned us a utility cart for set up. Tear down was about an hour too.



**2011 KITE EVENTS** If you would like to plan a kite weekend for 2011, please keep these dates in mind. Remember dates/events may change closer to event time. Please check with event organizer for more information. Kite events are held world-wide. Be sure to experience an out-of-town event. All (local, or worldwide) are great fun, and educational.

## FLYS WITHIN KANSAS CITY

June 4, 2011 EcoFest Waterfall Park

June 12, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm

[www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)

July 8-10, 2011 Great Midwest Balloon Fest 2011 [www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org](http://www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org)

July 10, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)

August 14, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm

[www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)

Sept 11, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm

[www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)

Oct 15 2011 Family Fall Festival Pumpkin Fest Overland Park KS

[www.bluevalleyrec.org](http://www.bluevalleyrec.org)

Nov 13, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)

## FLYS WITHIN THE MIDWEST AREA (PARTIAL LISTING)

June 3-5 2011 Twisted Lines Topeka, KS [www.topekakitefliers.com](http://www.topekakitefliers.com)  
June 4, 2011 EcoFest Waterfall Park  
June 11-12 2011 Jamestown KiteFest Jamestown ND [www.wingsonstrings.org](http://www.wingsonstrings.org)  
June 12, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)  
June 24-26, 2011 Maria Stein Country Fest Maria Stein, OH [www.mscountryfest.com](http://www.mscountryfest.com)  
July 8-10, 2011 Great Midwest Balloon Fest 2011 [www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org](http://www.greatmidwestballoonfest.org)  
July 10, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)  
August 14, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)  
Sept 3-4th 2011 Kites Over Lake Michigan (KOLM) Two Rivers, WI [www.uniqueflyingobjects.com](http://www.uniqueflyingobjects.com)  
Sept 2-5 2011 Callaway Kite Flight Callaway, NE [www.callawaykiteflight.com](http://www.callawaykiteflight.com)  
Sept 11, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)  
Sept 26-Oct 1 2011 AKA Convention Wildwood, NJ [www.aka.kite.org](http://www.aka.kite.org)  
Oct 1, 2011 OSOW Omaha Kite Festival La-Vista, NE [www.midwestwindskitefliers.org](http://www.midwestwindskitefliers.org)  
Oct 9, 2011 Columbia Missouri Joint Fly Columbia, MO [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)  
Oct 15 2011 Family Fall Festival Pumpkin Fest Overland Park KS [www.bluevalleyrec.org](http://www.bluevalleyrec.org)  
Nov 13, 2011 Second Sunday Fly Heritage Park, Olathe, KS Shelter 1 1-4pm [www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)  
Nov 19-27, 2011 Dead Bird Buggy Bash and Kite Fly Galveston, TX [www.deadbirdbuggybash.com](http://www.deadbirdbuggybash.com)



Photo by Dave Keller Dave-Keller Photography

Imagination is the highest kite one can fly.

Join the FUN!

Kansas City Kite Club

[www.kckiteclub.org](http://www.kckiteclub.org)