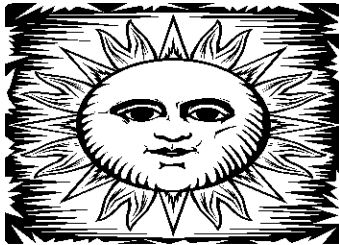
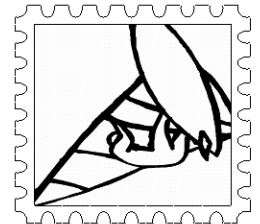


RVWA
SIKO
NEWS LETTER
SPRING 2004



TO:

A. WINDUSER
1 WINDY SPOT
PLANET EARTH 94639

DATES AND TIMES

As we head into the new season, we would like you to put some dates and times on your calendar. The official **opening day** at the sign is **Saturday May 15th**. May 15th is also the date for our **next board meeting** at the sign 11 a.m. We will have some people there before opening day to set things up and do some organizing. **Saturday May 29th 10:00 a. m.** is the big **clean up day**. We plan to have a dumpster on hand and stuff for sand bagging. Tools and pick up trucks will be needed. We had a good showing last year on our clean up day, and hope you all come out again. *Remember, if your favorite site isn't sand bagged, that's because you didn't get a group down to the sign to put together sand bags and set them in your sailing site.* The big week end holds more than clean up in store. **Sunday May 30th 10:00 a. m.** come on down to the sign and **swap** out all your old stuff. There is no charge to get in, but we will be asking for memberships at the time. A seasons membership is still only \$20 for a single and \$30 for a family. There are more details and an application form in this news letter.

The big **fund raising** week end is tentatively set for the full moon, **Sat. July 31st**. We will have food, music, a raffle, silent auction and other fun stuff. There will be more details on the big event in the next news letter so keep your eyes and ears open.

The season will wind down with our end of the season **clean up** on **Sunday September 5th**. We will pick all rugs and debris and put them in the dumpster one more time. Rakes, shovels and gloves will be the attire for the end of the season gathering.

Every day this summer is set aside for wind and water sports. All other dates are subject to change, so check for the next news letter and look on line at RVWA.COM
Make sure you get in as much time on the water as you can.
I'll be looking for you this summer! Cookie

Kite Korner By Camie

When I look back on when I began kiting in the summer of '99, little could I imagine what things would be like six seasons later. At first, people thought of kiting as a curiosity; looked like fun but not very practical, after all, you needed an entourage just to get launched, past the rocks and into the water; then you had to deal with the inevitable downwinder and subsequent walk of shame. Tales of horror spewed from the mouths of newbies. Scary things happened when you held your homemade control bar attached to the brand new powered up 2-line wipika bobbling overhead. Meanwhile, you struggled not to drop the converted surfboard tucked in your armpit while climbing down the rocks toward the water. After 18 years of windsurfing and a ho-hum attitude for anything less than epic conditions, kiting breathed new life into my existence in the Delta.

So here we are, the summer of '04 approaching, another great season about to begin. The number of kilters seems to be increasing exponentially with each passing year; however, the number of kite mishaps has proportionately diminished...significantly. The story of Sherman Island County Park is a successful one in that there has always been a super high level of cooperation between kilters and windsurfers. This is the result of the unyielding efforts of our park hosts, Bob and Mina, who constantly strive to make the park the safest, cleanest, and friendliest place it can possibly be. Coupled with the positive attitude of the core group that makes this spot their home away from home during the windy months, SI has developed an excellent reputation. Since more and more people are discovering the magic of Sherman Island, new and visiting kilters (as well as some semi-regulars) may need to be reminded that kiting at SI is a delicate privilege that must be respected at all times. Like any other site, the privilege could be taken away due to the inappropriate actions of even one Bozo. Some helpful hints for those kiting at SI:

- Launching a kite in the park requires advanced abilities. Most kitemares occur because someone gets dragged into the debris and berry bushes directly downwind. This is *NOT* a beginner site.
- Taking off from the park "beaches" requires riders to proceed immediately upwind in full control in order to avoid the shoreline and windsurfers that are just downwind of the launch.
- The river is BIG - there is no reason to crowd the shores or other riders (unless you have what's known as the "Look at-Me!" syndrome). Try to stay at least 200 feet offshore to allow others to safely enter and exit the water.
- Because of the other water users downwind, the use of a kite leash safety system is highly recommended. Those riders who do not use a safety system will not be looked upon favorably. *There is no excuse for a loose kite.*

For those who are learning spins or feel that their leash gets in the way, there are several well-designed aftermarket spinning safety setups, and it looks like many of the leading manufacturers will have an optional spinning leash available for this year. The ones I've seen so far on the beach or online are Naish's UDS system, Slingshot's Surefire Spreader Bar, NSI's Pro-Leash System and a very clean system that many of our locals are using is the s.k.r.u. (advancedkite.com). Or you can always do it the old fashioned way like I did - engineer your own with stuff from West Marine. Marine.

Be safe and see you on the water! Camie

BARBARA "BOO" CHIN

I regret that we had to say good-bye to another Delta windsurfer this winter. After a long and hard struggle, Boo died of cancer on Dec. 27th, 2003.

Boo was a joy to all the lives she touched. She is survived by her husband Cliff, two children, seven year old CJ and four year old Petie, extended family and to many friends to count.

Boo is well know in the windsurf community for introducing the hankie wave from the peanut gallery. She is also famous for windsurfing ballerinas on birthday cakes, reminding us to point our toes when we sail. Boo loved to find humor no matter how bad she felt. She always had a kind word and a caring nature.

Her cheerful voice still rings in my head as I hear her call out our names in greeting. Boo will live forever in the hearts of those lucky enough to have known her.

We miss you Boo.

MANY THANKS TO

BRIAN GEISA FOR GETTING THE TIDE CHARTS TOGETHER AND UPDATING THE WEB SITE (AMONG OTHER THINGS). WAYNE MAKABE AND ANDY SHOLL FOR PICKING UP THE MAIL ALL WINTER. BOB AND MYNA FOR ALL THE PREPERATIONS IN THE COUNTY PARK.

Rio Viento Windsurfing Resort
On Sherman Island
(one of the worlds most consistently windy places)
is now open

Please check out their website
www.rioviento.com

**MINI APPLICATION FOR
RVWA—
RIO VISTA WINDSURFING ASSOCIATION
SICO—
SHERMAN ISLAND KITE ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 547, RIO VISTA, CA. 94571
Make checks payable to RVWA**

RENEWAL__ NEW ADDRESS__ KITE__
WINDSURF__ KITE & WINDSURF__

**TO HELP AVOID INCORRECT INFORMATION
PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY**

FIRST NAME_____

LAST NAME_____

COMPANY NAME_____

MAILING ADDRESS_____

CITY_____

STATE_____ZIP_____

HOME PHONE_____

BUSINESS PHONE_____

EMAIL ADDRESS_____

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION
(APRIL 1 TO MARCH 30)**

- ___ INDIVIDUAL-\$20
- ___ FAMILY-\$30 OR MORE
- ___ SUSTAINING-\$50 OR MORE
- ___ CORPORATE-\$100 OR MORE

FAVORITE SAILING SITE_____

VOLUNTEER_____

REFERRED BY:_____

OCCUPATION:_____

Rio Vista Windsurfing/Kite Association would like to thank you for your generous support. Your contribution will help ensure that windsurfers and kites can continue to exercise our privileges as we do now. From the sandbags, information signs, Porta-potties, and beach cleanups at various sailing sites, to our political activity in local and state government - your contribution is hard at work.

BY LAWS

The new By-Laws are posted on the website (RVWA.com). Take a look at them because this is your chance to vote on accepting them. Please cast your vote and return it to:

RVWA/SICO
PO BOX 547
RIO VISTA, CA. 9 4571

You may also request a copy be emailed to you. Send your request to cookies@thegrid.net

Windcraft and Delta windsurf have a printed copy that you may look at.

OFFICIAL BALLOT**FOR****RVWA-SICO****BY-LAWS**

YES I APROVE THE NEW BY-LAWS

NO I DO NOT APROVE THE NEW BY-LAWS

BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 10 AM SATURDAY, MAY 15 2004. THEY MAY BE MAILED OR HAND DELIVERED AT THE MAY 15 MEETING

COMMENTS:

**WHAT WE'RE ABOUT**

The Rio Vista Windsurfing Assoc is dedicated to promoting the safe utilization of the Sacramento Delta Levee system for use by Windsurfers and Kite surfers. Pursuant to that goal certain donations are required to maintain levees of service at specific sites. In certain areas, a minimum mandatory donation is required. RVWA will begin to track usage of all areas and target improvements based on that usage as well as contributions from those areas. If you have recommendations that will enhance your particular area, contact an RVWA Board member to explain your recommendation. You are welcome to drop off written suggestions to the email through the Web Site or to a board member.

All Areas: Your donation of \$20 per year contributes to the maintenance of the sandbags, porta potties, and ongoing activities to insure continued access to the River. All vehicles, RV's, Trailers, Boats in those areas must display valid license and registration as well as maintain their respective state's insurance requirements.

The Sign: The Rio Vista Windsurfing Assoc. (RVWA/SICO) leases The Sign, The Access, The Powerlines, and Little Baja kite Launch areas on Sherman Island through a long-term lease granted by the California Water Resources Commission. Our lease of these areas is subject to the terms and conditions of that lease. RVWA/SICO provides improvements at these sites as well as in the County Park. RVWA/SICO is also required to maintain a certain level of liability insurance. Due to recent increases in those expenses, a minimum mandatory donation is required by anyone staying at "The Sign" for more than 8 days in one month. If you are on site for 9 consecutive days, a mandatory donation will be required. This minimum mandatory donation is required by anyone or family who leaves vehicles, RV's or equipment on that site. The minimum donation is \$100 per month or \$25 per week. Higher donations will be gladly appreciated. Checks or cash are accepted. Payment will be made to Lane Sykes or Cookie. If you have special circumstances, individuals may appeal to the board of directors for special consideration. We do not anticipate a charge for weekend use. "The Sign" area is not intended to be a storage facility – commercial storage containers will not be accepted. The Sign will remain open during the summer windsurfing season and will close for the winter season. A notice will be posed on the bulleting board when a closing date is determined. An attempt will be made to post a notice on the web site.

You need a "Fin to get in." Due to the limited number of available spaces, camping will be limited to RVWA members. Families and friends of RVWA members are welcome as space permits. Those visiting campers are limited to one week without written permission from the RVWA/SICO Board of Directors.