



WindWriters



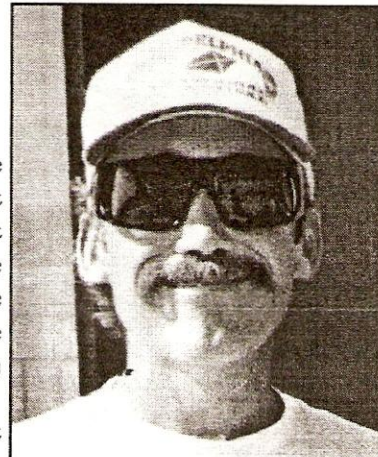
NUMBER 9

A newsletter for kiting enthusiasts everywhere

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MIKE DALLMER & ANDY SELZER:

DIRECTORS AT LARGE



In the last issue of WindWriters, we announced the creation of a new Executive Committee position, Director at Large, and solicited self-nominations to fill two seats at that position. The bad news is, we didn't get nearly the response we had hoped for — sadly, we only got two nominations. But the good news is that the two gentlemen who rose to the challenge couldn't be better suited for the job if they had been hand-picked.

Andy Selzer is one of the Founding Fathers of SJKF, there at the very first meetings when the club didn't even have a name

"I feel I should be elected Director at Large because of my active club participation and my attending most of the kite flies in the South Jersey/Pennsylvania area. My troop of parachuting Teddy Bears are an ice breaker which keeps me in touch with the kite fliers and people that attend the flies. Also, I'm a reader and participant of [rec.kites](#) and stay in touch with the kiting community through it.

"I've been flying kites all my life and have been making and competing in competitions for 10 years. Most of my kiting experience is in the single line category but I've been known to fly stunt kites from my collection and have even competed and placed 2nd in a local stunt kite competition in the pairs division."

- mike dallmer, sr.

yet. (SJKF Trivia: one of the first names being tossed around for the club was "Wind Riders". After some heated discussion, South Jersey Kite Flyers won out, but the other name was so popular, we eventually found a way to use it!) While Andy primarily flies stunt kites, both for fun and in competition, he has a true appreciation for the other side of our sport as well. Never one to shy away from a Rok battle or a fighter-kite duel, he's a great example of a well rounded flyer. His patience and guidance with less experienced flyers is to be envied. I know there are a lot of folks out there who are better flyers from just a few minutes on the field with Andy.

Mike Dallmer is one of those guys you feel immediately comfortable with, like you've known him for years. He's been quietly building spectacular kites for I-don't-know-how-many years, and never seems to tire of it. Roks, codys, flares, foils, stacks... if it flies, this consummate craftsman has made a great one. You can always spot him on the field by his distinctive sunburst banners, and if he's there, you know his intrepid P.A.W.S. crew can't be far away. As the Founder of the Philadelphia Area Wannabe Skydivers, Mike and his parachuting teddy bears are guaranteed to be the hit of any kite fest. He occasionally visits the dark side to fly stunt kites, (I have pictures from the Peanut Butter Fly to prove it!), but his real thrill seems to come from the sheer pleasure of entertaining the crowd. And if the crowd happens to consist of a bunch of school kids, as it did when I helped Mike do a sled kite workshop for about 100 kids 2 years ago, there's only one way to tell Mike apart from the other teddy bears: he's the one without a parachute.

It's been both a pleasure and a learning experience getting to know Andy and Mike on the flying fields over the last few years. We're fortunate to have them, and I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing them the best of luck as Directors at Large. - dcj2

"So, why do I want to be a Director at Large?"

"Why not? Actually, I believe my broad base of experience as a recreational and competition flyer (5 years) is a good foundation. While attending many of the ECSKC and club events, I get a lot of opportunities to talk with members of the kiting community. Also add the usual weekend flying excursion to a local park or the shore, meeting many non-kiting people.

"My interests in kiting include dual-line, fighters and single lines. Also, I recently started sewing some of my own kites.

"Thank you in advance for the chance to assist the club and kiting."

- andy selzer