


SJKF **WindWriters**

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The newsletter of the South Jersey Kite Flyers

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Sunfest 99!!!!

By Mike Dallmer

I'd like to thank our hosts, the good people at the Kite Loft, for again putting on one of the best festivals that the Dallmer's attend each year. What an event, even if Mother Nature didn't cooperate 100%.

When we arrived on Tuesday the first people we met were Hank and Mary Klienot telling us that we had just missed 3 water spouts and a tornado (Lucky us, if we'd been there it would have headed right for us) and that Nancy Spencer had a fall and was in a hospital getting sewn up!!! (Get well soon, hope the leg is feeling better as you read this.) The rest of the days turned out to be clear and sunny, the only other problem was that the wind didn't cooperate, it was always from the west and it was all or nothing!!! Gusts to 40 mph one day then the next day had nothing.

When Cel and I arrived Mike Van Mears asked us if we'd be willing to do some candy drops for the kids. We said "sure", however we had left all the bears and candy rigs at home (traveling light, the bears complained as this is one of their favorite beaches). Anyway, I looked through my bags and found a kite fishing release and hooked a bag up that turned out to work fine. I'd like to thank the kind folks at the Candy Kitchen for their generous donation of a large box of salt-water taffy, the kids just loved it!!!! Each time we had about 50 ready and willing candy catchers just waiting, no one went home empty handed.

This Sunfest also turned out to be the "Can Mike Stay Dry Sunfest".

ACT I, day 2: Wednesday I was trying out my new 8 foot diameter beach ball and knowing better than Cel and Hank I used ground stakes to hold it. The winds were blowing from the west (OUT) at about 10 mph with gusts to 20. Well, wouldn't you know it. One of those gust just happened to pull the 3 ground stakes out and the ball went lazily bouncing down the beach with me running after it.

But it had a good head start. I got within 100 feet of it when Dan, sorry forgot your last name, missed it by inches before it started bouncing **ONTOP OF THE OCEAN!!!!** Dan and I both went in for it but we were too late. We watched it go out about 2 blocks before a wave crashed on it, deflated it and blew a seam. Now partially filled with water the ball started coming in. A surfer was just walking past and was kind enough to go get it, thanks surfer dude!!! Cel went and helped recover the ball from this guy. I was sucking air on the beach. The only problem here was she had on brand new sneakers. It was the first time she wore them, and now they lost their bounce as well. Moral one of Act I; listen to your wife and friend and use sandbags. Moral two; make sure your pockets are empty when you go into the ocean!!!!

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Important Notice for Members



Vote!

Ballots for SJKF President and SJKF Directors at large are included in each member's newsletter. Ballots must be received by December 5th. Please make sure your voice is heard by returning your ballot quickly.