

# Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference

Good morning friends,

It is with regret that I undertake the writing of this message. Based upon our very best guesses at what the future might hold, the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference Committee has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 conference.

I would like to take a moment to thank the members of the board for doing the work throughout the year to put us in a position to hold the conference if it were possible. Ordinarily, we would be opening registration and looking forward to seeing which class would be first to fill and the growing numbers of friends we could look forward to seeing come March. As COVID continues to expand its reach into all of our lives, looking at the best available information, it does not appear that safety restrictions would be in a place come March that would allow us to safely gather.

I would like to thank the teachers who were willing to go on the journey with us this year as there has always been uncertainty whether this day would come. The best part of that news is that we have the foundations for a wonderful slate of classes when we are again able to convene.

I would like to thank the Warm Beach Camp and Conference Center for continuing to be a wonderful partner. Our organization remains solvent in part because the Camp consistently meets us with empathy in situations beyond all of our control in order to find paths forward that work for all of us.

Your board is still at work. We are looking at ways to provide some type of kite activity to look forward to in March. I'm not sure what exactly that will look like; however, it remains our mission to promote kiting education, and we look forward to partnering with others who are like minded to provide a special opportunity. Stay tuned for more information. We are also required by our by-laws to hold an annual meeting. Your board is investigating the best methods for making that happen virtually. More details to follow on that as well.

In short, we will miss you. We all love the kites, but our gathering is about so much more: great times, shared with friends. It seems that those moments have become so much more important during these unsettled times. We will make the necessary adjustments and hope to be back, come March 2022, for a grand weekend of kites, learning, friends and fun. I hope that you will consider joining us when we are again able to gather. In the meantime, we wish you and yours good health and good times.

Yours sincerely,

Sam King  
President