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WASHINGTON KITEFLYERS -

NEWSLETTER -

March 20, 1974

This weekend of March 23 is a big one. TWO places are vying for our attentions. We are hoping that they are both honorable. You all received a nice handwritten note from the Pier 70 people. What they have in mind, the way that I understand it, is that after we do some flying at the Seattle Center and collect all the prizes they're giving there, we come down to the waterfront and just have fun competing with the sailboats for attention. So take your choice -- or have your cake and eat it too by attending both.

Lots of things coming up. Enclosed is the brochure from the Daffidil Festival people in Tacoma. Bob Follett tells me that it is one of the biggest that he has ever seen -- and he's seen a few.

We'll be starting kite classes again for six sessions at Lincoln High School here in Seattle. It is an evening adult course thing headed up by Dick Erdman. Phone him at Lincoln High in the afternoons if you are not on their mailing list. I'll give him our directory and see if he will mail his catalog to all of you.

We had fun at Gig Harbor two weekends ago despite the rain. Have you ever flown a kite in a school gymnasium? Eight or nine people did, including me, and we ran off the whole contest inside. Worked, too. We eyeballed the ceiling at 20 feet, had the kids reel out 20 feet of line, one held the kite and the other ran to the other end of the gym, scraping the ceiling every step of the way. 17 shops in town had been exhibiting about 50 of our members' kites all week. Very hospitable people, those fishermen's families.

Bill Spezia had a phone call from Tacoma from a fellow who wanted to buy "Hermie The Friendly Bat", who was hanging from the ceiling of a beer tavern. Must have made quite an impression.

Bill and I will be holding an instruction class at the Main Branch of the Seattle Public Library on two Saturdays, the 6th and 13th of April. We will be publicizing the big Seafair Kite Contest in Golden Gardens set for May 4th. That's a Biggie. Lots of prizes. With money.

My boy, Roger, and I will be publicizing the Main Library classes on TV. If you can hang around the house until about 8 a.m. Thursday morning, April 4th, you might see us on J.P. Patches. Y'all look, now. And drop by the library on those Saturdays too; we need all the help we can get.

More and more schools are asking for Kite Experts to help them. Please let me know if you would be willing to help.

I hope that we will work ourselves into a position where we won't have to serve as judges at various contests and fly-ins. We are being asked to do that when we want to be out there flying. We have a little kit of suggestions on how to run an affair. Guess we will just drop that in the mail for those wanting to get something together.

Dave Checkley, our President, is representing us on the board of the Washington Aerospace Assn. at their meeting at Boeing Field this afternoon. And how 'bout THAT for scientific prestige?

See you all Saturday - - - Jack Van Gilder