

necessary, and I'm all for it—but some people can't come down to earth. My definition of a professor is someone who goes to school and never leaves. Unfortunately, there are too many phonies. I'm snubbed by many people, but when they fail, I go around and pick up their marbles. I understand the mechanics of things—it's a part of me."

One year ago, Jalbert moved his laboratory from Twentieth Street to a smaller facility just around the corner, a change in keeping with his desire to scale things down. "This part of the city was just wide-open space when I first arrived," says Jalbert. "The breezes here, slightly inland, were perfect."

Things have grown so much since then that he just can't walk out his door and fly a kite anymore. So Jalbert heads to the public parks, finding the City of Boca Raton to be most supportive.

Jalbert is currently a consultant for Sanyo Company and is called upon by study groups all over the world for his advice. His newest project is the redesign of a tow target, a 12-foot long by two-foot wide banner, to be used for target practice as it trails behind a high-speed plane. "It's an old idea that needs to be reworked," he says. "That's progress."

Most of his time now is spent enjoying a game of golf or a conversation with friends. He can't fly his plane anymore due to a heart condition and hasn't been giving talks at local schools the way he used to. "I'm getting older, but I'll never get crabby," declares Jalbert. "I'm quite a happy man. It's been a joy bringing joy into the world."

Go Fly A Kite

ORGANIZATIONS:

American Kitefliers Association, 1559 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, 301/421-9620.

EVENTS:

The City of Boca Raton and Harper's Bizarre sponsor two kite festivals every year. For information: 997-0791 (Patch Reef) or 392-9297 (Harper's Bizarre).

Kite Day at Red Reef Park is scheduled for August, during Boca Festival Days.

KITE SHOPS:

Harper's Bizarre, 22191 Powerline Road, Boca Raton, 392-9297.

Gayla Industries, P.O. Box 920800, Houston, Texas 77292-0800, 1-800-231-7508.

A wholesale company, Gayla can refer you to stores that supply the Jalbert Parafoil. ♦

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