

# Touch and Go

BALLONS VER I WA

May-June, 2006

## Ode to Spring

Despite all the positive thoughts and a new Balloonmeister, the weather again did not cooperate for us to have an Ode to Spring flight. But BOI is famous for its parties and party we did! Members gathered at the Balloonport for the famous BOI potluck, BBQ pork and the new "BloomBurgers". Thanks to Cory's family for helping out in his absence.

After a great meal, Founding Fathers Bill Griffin and Rob Bartholomew announced the annual club awards:

- ★ **Crew of the Year** - Bill Craig. Last year's winners - Jim Thompson's crew - added a BFA membership card complete with the Balloonist Prayer to the traveling trophy.
- ★ **Pilot of the Year** - Denny Anderson
- ★ **BOI Champion** - Rob Bartholomew
- ★ **Cleo Award** - Gerald and Mary Conklin for all their years of work in the ballooning community - work at the museum, the Classic, crewing, etc, etc. Mary & Conk also celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary April 29th.

Plaques were given to the **2005-2006 BOI Board of Directors**:

- ✧ Al Appenzeller
- ✧ Dick Drake
- ✧ Todd Isley
- ✧ Amy Williams
- ✧ Joel Worthington

The **2006-2007 BOI Board of Directors** was announced:

- ✧ Linda Bartholomew
- ✧ Cory Bloom
- ✧ John Jensen, Sr.
- ✧ Ryan Kentzel
- ✧ Linda Pickering

Balloonmeister Todd Isley and his assistants started the indoor Pilot Competition - pilots had to throw a baggie at a balloon basket hidden behind a screen. How appropriate - pilots throwing a baggie without seeing the target! Congratulations to the winners: 1. Tony Funaro - Bill

Griffin's designee, 2. Ryan Kintzel. See photos on page 9.

## Thank you to all who donated to the Pilot packs:

Jim and Connie Thompson  
Iowa Health System  
WHO-TV  
National Pork Board  
Mary and Gerald Conklin

Thanks again to Jim and Connie Thompson, who donated the Pilot prizes.

## St. Pat's party 2006

A good time was had by all at the annual St. Patrick's party and new member initiation. The Irish Stew cook-off was judged by Joe Patterson, Thad Bloom, and Rick Barnes. The winners were:

1. Helen Bartholomew
2. Lynn Craig
3. Linda Bartholomew
4. Darrel Nordhagen

After a great meal of Irish Stew and other great food, the initiation of new members was held. Welcome to BOI: Denise Warner, Jeff & Marne Buzzell, Bob & Janice Shelton, Larry & Barb VanWyngharden, Thad Bloom, Kurt & Missy Bloom, Brandon Bloom, and Jamie Bishop. The members and Giant Leprechauns were up to their usual misbehavior. See photos on page 8.

## Dues!

If your label does not say 06-07, your dues are due. Complete the membership form and send it and \$20/family to:

Carol Harris  
2305 Hillside Ave  
West Des Moines, IA 50265



If you attended 2006 BOI Ground School your dues are complimentary up to April 2007. Pilots - If you wish to compete in the BOI Championship, send an additional \$5.

**Balloons Over Iowa President**  
Meika Bartholomew

**Balloons Over Iowa Vice-President**  
Sandy Drake

**Founding Fathers**  
Rob Bartholomew  
Terry Boettcher  
Bill Griffin  
Don Prine  
Jerry Riley

**2006-2007 Balloons Over Iowa**

**Board Members**  
Linda Bartholomew  
Cory Bloom  
John Jensen, Sr.  
Ryan Kentzel  
Linda Pickering

**Treasurer**  
Jen Nordhagen

**Secretary**  
Tom Ricke

**Editor**  
Carol Harris

**Advertising Rates**  
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Half Page - - - - - \$10.00  
Quarter Page - - - - - \$5.00  
Business Cards - - - - - \$3.50

Please send all ads to:  
Carol Harris  
2305 Hillside Ave  
West Des Moines, IA 50265  
e-mail: hotairflyn@aol.com  
Phone 515 221-3193

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## Letter from President Meika

Hello to all my friends !

I love Spring. I'm not sure which is sprouting more voluminously, balloons or mushrooms. Dad says the weather has been ideal for both. In addition to encouraging me to learn one new word a week, he has taken me on numerous trips to collect mushrooms at his highly secret locations. The first person that contacts Editor Carol to correctly identify this week's word will win the first President's Contest, and receive the coordinates of Dad's top 3 mushroom sites.

Some things never change. Ode to Spring was weathered out again. I don't want to sound irreverent, but I wasn't born the last time we had an actual Ode to Spring flight. We had a great party and potluck, with over a hundred in attendance. Balloonmeister Todd Isley and his staff conducted an interesting competition for the pilots. They had to throw a baggie at a target they couldn't see. Bill Griffin hired a ringer to take his place. When challenged about the legality of this substitution, Bill explained that he felt he had an unfair advantage because he had thrown more baggies at targets he couldn't see than anyone else in the room.

Lots of annual inspections at the Balloonport, and our Calendar of Events shows many opportunities for camaraderie during the next few months. When you get to fly, Always remember to

Fly Safely,  
*Meika*

## Letter from Vice-President Sandy

*Sandy is currently in Newton, consulting with Maggie and Charlie Worthington about setting up a CIETC office to aid the displaced Maytag workers, and maybe doing some undercover work for the retirement home, using Maytag facilities as retirement home! I'm sure Sandy, Maggie and Charlie will be donating a portion of their \$300,000 salaries to the Retirement Home fund.*



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## CARING BALLOON PILOTS WANTED!



6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# CMN BALLOON RALLY & MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> 2006  
Alexander Field Airport, Wisconsin Rapids

Go to [www.cmnballoonrally.com](http://www.cmnballoonrally.com)  
for pilot application & details

*Reprinted from the May/June '96 BOI Newsletter:*

### **Balloons, Trains & Automobiles**

by Gerry Prine

Every year about this time, the traffic to the Balloonport outside Carlisle increases tremendously. Also, every year about this time is a good time to remind everyone of the hazard which is present at the end of 190th Ave. as you turn onto Highway 5.

On April 14th, Don and I were leaving the Balloonport (8:20 p.m.) after a rousing monthly BOI membership meeting. I was driving our van because Don had enjoyed the meeting so much he didn't want to be distracted by the responsibility of being driver in command. We were intensely discussing the brilliant movement made by Bill Griffin. I was looking to my right toward my husband, when he suddenly shouted "Stop!" I put the brakes on but without enough force to throw us forward in our seatbelts. We stopped approximately 30 feet from the railroad tracks as a train crossed the road. The headlight of the train looked exactly like a headlight of a car on the curve of the road. The near darkness added to the concealment of the train. The train sounded its horn about 20 yards before it crossed the road. No help to me.

Needless to say, Don and I sat there at the railroad crossing, looked at each other and looked at the heaven and thanked the Lord that Don saw the train in time. From now on, I'll be extra careful to slow down and look both ways at the railroad crossing and I ask you to do the same.

### **For Sale:**

1998 Ford E350 15-passenger van, V10, with 89,000 miles used for ballooning. New tires, brakes, shockes and running boards. Security alarm, Tommy lift, New Hitch. \$9,900. Contact: John Jensen 515-371-3682

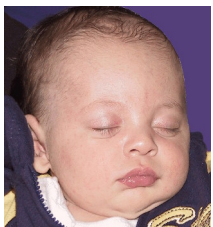
## New weather site

Former BFA President Rick Jones has added a Weather Briefing to his web site. An Iowa page has recently been added - [www.blastvalve.com/weather/ia/](http://www.blastvalve.com/weather/ia/)

Select your area, then choose when you would like the forecast for - this a.m, this evening or tomorrow morning. The forecast then gives Current conditions - Wind direction, Wind speed, Visibility, Clouds, Temp, Dewpoint, Altimeter, etc.

It will also give a forecast for the remainder of the day, winds aloft, local and national radar, surface wind forecast and a link to AOPA for NOTAMS and TFRs.

## Congratulations



**Breiden Van  
Broekhuizen**

Baby boy born to Parents Kerrie & Anthony Van Broekhuizen  
Breiden Van Broekhuizen  
Born March 25th, 2006  
6 lbs, 6 oz; 19 inches long  
Grandparents - Rob & Linda  
Bartholomew, Great  
grandmother - Helen  
Bartholomew

Nathan Ryan Delaney was welcomed by Mom and Dad, Jennifer and Mark Delaney, and big Sister Sabrina on November 29, 2005

## National Championship Pin Available

This year will very likely be the last year that the US National Hot Air Balloon Championships will be held in Anderson, SC. This year will be the sixth year that Anderson County has hosted the event. This is the second longest



time that the event has been held in one community. Indianola still holds the distinguished honor of holding the event for eighteen continuous years from 1971 through 1988.

The Balloon Federation of America has commissioned a limited edition (500) balloon pin to honor Anderson County and the 2006 National Championship. The pin is available for sale for \$5 each or 5 for \$20 by contacting the BFA Office in Indianola.

## 91.119 Effort Moves to Albuquerque

The project to lower minimum safe altitudes for balloon flight has been sent to the FAA's Albuquerque Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), which has been tasked with preparing the Notice For Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). Following the Albuquerque FSDO's document preparation, the effort will enter the official NPRM process, will be assigned a docket number, and will move toward a final resolution.

Following the conclusion of the BFA's Minimum Safe Altitude Study in 2004, the FAA notified the BFA that its study had proven without doubt the justification and necessity of lowering the minimum safe altitudes mandated for balloon flight by FAR 91.119. Data received from a similar study conducted by the Albuquerque Aerostat Ascension Association also contributed to the recommendation. New wording suggested by the FAA would add the words, "and balloons," to the current exemption for helicopters to the restrictions of the current rule.

While the FAA's concurrence with the findings of the two studies was most welcome, it was countered by the agency's tabling the project indefinitely in February of last year. Budget cuts and other priorities were given as reasons for lack of further action toward changing the rule.

Upon receiving notification of this setback, the BFA and AAAA formed a joint committee dedicated to moving the effort forward. After preparing a legislative action package that balloonists could use to enlist the assistance of their states' federal representatives, the committee was notified that the project would be sent to the Albuquerque FSDO for the next step in the rulemaking process. After a few more months of document preparation toward that end, the committee received notification on March 16 that the package had been sent.

The effort to lower minimum safe altitudes for balloons is now in the hands of the Albuquerque FSDO. Once personnel there have prepared the NPRM, it will return to Washington to enter the next phase of rulemaking. While the Albuquerque FSDO is doing its work, the 91.119 committee will be preparing extensive documentation that balloonists can use in writing their letters to the FAA to support the change. Instructions for submitting the letters, as well as a lengthy list of points balloonists may cite in their support, will be found

on the BFA web site and in the BFA and AAAA publications when the time has come to write letters. This information will also be sent to all balloon clubs currently registered with the BFA.

While the rule has not yet been changed, we feel that this step marks significant progress, and look forward to the day when balloon flight will be legal in the manner that it has always been safest.

### **Local Hot Air Balloon Pilot Named 2005 State Champion**

John Jensen of Indianola, Iowa has been named the 2005 Iowa State Champion Hot Air Balloon Pilot by the Balloon Federation of America. Jensen won this honor through competition with balloon pilots at the 2005 National balloon Classic sanctioned by the BFA. State Champions are crowned on the basis of either being the highest ranked pilot in their home state on the BFA's year end National Rankings List or by winning the title outright in a sanctioned State Championship Event held in their home state.



The BFA sanctions balloon competitions throughout the United States and pilots are ranked according to their cumulative scoring average. The top pilots are then invited to participate each year in the US National Championship. This year 40 competitors will participate in the National Championship to be held July 18-23, 2006 in Anderson County, South Carolina. More than 100 balloonists participated in BFA sanctioned competitions in 2005.

As State Champion, Jensen will receive an opportunity for entry into the US National Championship and success there could lead to a spot on the US Team at the upcoming 18<sup>th</sup> World Championship to be held in Hofkirchen, Styria, Austria, September 13-20, 2008. World Championships are held every 2 years.

The Balloon Federation of America congratulates Jensen on this outstanding achievement and he will receive a certificate to commemorate this honor.

For more information, contact Jim Thompson (BFA Competition Committee Chairman) or Glen Moyer (BFA Public Relations) and/or log on to [www. BFA.net](http://www.BFA.net)

### **"Channel Champ" Exhibit Opens at the National Balloon Museum**

Saturday May 20, 2006

The "Channel Champ", the first hot air balloon to fly across the English Channel, will be part of a new exhibit opening Saturday May 20, 2006 at the National Balloon Museum in Indianola, Iowa. To celebrate the opening of the Channel Champ exhibit pilot Ed Yost will be present on Saturday as part of a special open house from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

The balloon was launched from Rye, England on April 13, 1963 and landed in Gravelines, France in a flight lasting 3 hours and 17 minutes. It was made by Raven Industries in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and it carried two Raven company representatives, Yost and Don Piccard. Yost piloted the balloon on its historic flight and Piccard photographed the flight. Yost and Piccard demonstrated their adventurous spirit as well as their confidence in Yost's invention by riding, without benefit of parachute, on nothing more than a wooden board along with two 30 gallon propane tanks and a few instruments to an altitude of 13,500 feet. The balloon held 60,930 cubic feet of air and was 50 feet in diameter.

Yost invented the modern hot air balloon in 1960 and was a co-founder of Raven. The flight successfully demonstrated the range and endurance of Yost's new aircraft, and it also called world-wide attention to the fact this new hot air ballooning technology was practical. As a result, this single flight served to give a jump start toward making ballooning the popular sport it is today.

#### **Classic Info:**

2006 National Balloon Classic Registration DUE June 1st

By the time everyone gets the newsletter the deadline for the 2006 National Balloon Classic will be near. The Entry Deadline is June 1st, 2006 for the \$100 registration fee. After June 1st, registration fee is \$150 and subject to space availability.

If any Pilot needs a registration packet, please contact Eileen @ 1-800-fly-iowa or email her @ [assist@nationalballoonclassic.com](mailto:assist@nationalballoonclassic.com)., Or you can download the forms at the National Balloon Classic Website: [www.nationalballoonclassic.com](http://www.nationalballoonclassic.com) . 35 Pilot-in-command hours is required to register. Pilots will receive confirmation when the registration packet is received.

The 2006 National Balloon Classic has 70 pilots register. If any pilot is wanting to fly a commercial banner please contact Greg Marchant @ 515-961-8415

For those out of town pilots, the Classic Office will be emailing the housing confirmation Mid-June.

The 2006 National Balloon Classic Officials will be

Balloonmeister Jason Jones from Overland Park, Kansas. Assistant Balloonmeister will be Matt Fenster from Council Bluffs, Iowa, John Jensen from Indianola, Iowa and Todd Isley from Des Moines, Iowa

The National Balloon Classic website: [www.nationalballoonclassic.com](http://www.nationalballoonclassic.com)

If anyone has any questions or comments for the 2006 National Balloon Classic event, please contact Greg Marchant @ 1-800-fly-iowa or email: [info@nationalballoonclassic.com](mailto:info@nationalballoonclassic.com)

### Calendar of Events

June 10 **Holmes Lake Park**, Lincoln, NE afternoon flight. 5 Balloons. Contact Tom Peterson 402 391-0068 or [tpeterson@alltel.net](mailto:tpeterson@alltel.net)

June 18 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

June 23-25 **Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race**, Ottumwa, IA. Contact Phil Gray 515 961-6113

July 13<sup>th</sup> **Balloons & Toons** Indianola, IA. Contact John Jensen 515 961-3154 or email [IFDDMFD59@aol.com](mailto:IFDDMFD59@aol.com)

July 14-16 **Columbus, NE** – New Event. 15-20 Balloons. Contact Jennifer Delaney 402-563-8102 or [jehender@hotmail.com](mailto:jehender@hotmail.com)

July 16 **BOI meeting** 6:30 p.m. , Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

July 24 **Flight Over Des Moines**. Contact John Jensen 515 961-3154 or email [IFDDMFD59@aol.com](mailto:IFDDMFD59@aol.com)

July 28-August 5 **National Balloon Classic** Contact Greg Marchant at 1-800-FLYIOWA or [www.nationalballoonclassic.com](http://www.nationalballoonclassic.com)

August 20 **BOI meeting** 6:30 p.m. , Balloonport, Carlisle

August 25-26 **IWCC** Council Bluffs. New date.

Sept 1-4 **Great Pershing Balloon Derby** Brookfield, MO. Contact Sherry Techau 660 258-5290 or [rstechau@shighway.com](mailto:rstechau@shighway.com)

September 15-17 **SW Iowa Pro Balloon Race** Creston, IA. Contact Rob Bartholomew 515 989-3708

September 17 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle

October 15 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle

October 21-22 **Wakefield, NE** – 15+ Balloons??!! Contact Alan Paul 712 527-2896 or [alan.paul@conagrafoods.com](mailto:alan.paul@conagrafoods.com)

October 21 **Jill Rubin Memorial Flight**

October 28 **BOI Halloween Party**

November 19 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle

*Race organizers - please send your dates, etc for 2006 to Carol - [hotairflyn@aol.com](mailto:hotairflyn@aol.com)*

## Happy Birthday

### June

Jacob Ricke  
Lee Trebbien  
Amy Smith  
Mike Wildung  
Mya Foelske  
Barbara Ross  
Jim Norris  
Ben Clark  
Wynne Clark  
Paula Boe  
Richard Swanson  
Loretta Taylor  
Brandon Pedersen  
Don Wiley  
Melissa Harris  
Blair Brody  
Don Trebbien  
Jodi DeZurik  
Macenzie Rubin  
Aaron Gebhart  
Terry Riepe  
Charlie Ong  
Edel Fromm  
Ellis Benus  
Mallori Adams  
Nicholas Pash  
Mark Mohring  
Jerry Tierman  
Bob Shelton  
Ashley Oakes  
Thomas Hemmingsen  
Meghan Taylor  
Michael Dunnick  
Eldon Benus  
Beth Oberman  
Kristie Wildung

### July

6-2 Riley Nordhagen 7-1  
6-4 Dustin Herman 7-2  
6-4 Whitney Oberman 7-2  
6-4 Gerry Prine 7-2  
6-5 Penny Pieper 7-3  
6-6 Sheri Clark 7-4  
6-7 Mary Conklin 7-4  
6-7 Meg Allbaugh 7-5  
6-8 Alexandra Adams 7-5  
6-9 Randy Kochheiser 7-7  
6-10 Pat Tierney 7-7  
6-10 David Edmister 7-7  
6-10 Jody Woodruff 7-7  
6-12 Matthew Grote 7-8  
6-12 Courtney Clark 7-8  
6-13 Cory Bloom 7-8  
6-14 Julie Herman 7-8  
6-14 Doug Purdy 7-9  
6-14 Anthony VanBroekhuizen 7-9  
6-14 Benji Clemons 7-10  
6-16 Bret Christian 7-11  
6-18 Keith Williams 7-13  
6-19 Tom Ricke 7-13  
6-20 Phil Smith 7-13  
6-20 Abigail Jensen 7-15  
6-22 Michael VanHamme 7-15  
6-22 John Jensen 7-15  
6-23 Aaron (AJ) Foelske 7-15  
6-23 Nathan Smith 7-15  
6-26 Kristy Pash 7-16  
6-27 Tony Funaro 7-17  
6-27 Christina Sponsler 7-17  
6-28 Emmy Konvalin 7-21  
6-29 Bloom Kirk 7-21  
6-29 Laurie Allbaugh 7-23  
6-29 Lynn Craig 7-23  
Steven Ross 7-24  
Jodi Erger 7-24  
Ken Allbaugh 7-26  
Dan Ricke 7-26  
Todd Isley 7-26  
Gene Elsasser 7-27  
Sue Anthony 7-29  
Chad Anthony 7-30  
Bloom Brandon 7-30  
Misty Dobesh 7-31  
Brad Temeyer 7-31  
Jennifer Anthony 7-31  
Linda Bartholomew 7-31



## Happy Anniversary

Steve & Jerri Hoover	6-1
Randy & Rochelle Kochheiser	6-6
Kathy & Tom McCoy	6-7
Jeff & Deb Bridgewater	6-10
Gerald & Barb Knoll	6-11
Gil & Becky Wigeland	6-12
Steve & Barbara Jones	6-21
Rod & Maureen Drexler	6-21
Jim & Rita Fromm	6-22
Mike & Beth Oberman	6-22
Nate & Amy Smith	6-24
Bill & Becky Sponsler	6-29
Jeremy & Macenzie Rubin	6-30
Mary Eagan & Rick McCubbin	7-1
Ronald & Misty Dobesh	7-1
Norm & Kay Fee	7-3
Kirk & Melissa Bloom	7-3
Mason & Heather Fromm	7-4
Linn & Marsha Hoskins	7-16
Randy & Lisa Stone	7-22
Joe & Monica Thompson	7-22
Dan & Michele Corbin	7-22

## The Way It Was

### 20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ May 18, 1986 BOI Board of Directors Meeting: Treasurer's report \$1236.63; Members to fly the Crouse family & all interested DM Weather Service Forecasters.

### 15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ May 19, 1991 BOI Meeting: \$2682.82 in Treasury
- ★ Dr. West passed away May 16.
- ★ Retirement party June 22 for the Great Pumpkin balloon
- ★ 6-91 – For sale – “Whispering Blue” by Jim Fromm – complete vintage size 7 system including fan, fresh annual - \$2500.
- ★ 6-16-1991 Mark Ziino received his Commercial license.

### 10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ May 19, 1996 BOI Meeting: New Board and Founding Fathers donned new beer hats at their first meeting; BOI donated \$100 to purchase Teddy Bears for Warren Co. Sheriff's department; Julie Frueh chosen as BOI Secretary; BOI looking into

having NY Eve Party 1999/2000 in the Bahamas – Jim & Rita Fromm to be in charge and to research.

- ★ Waterloo – all flights canceled due to low ceiling and rain.
- ★ Grinnell - 2 flights, 1 glow.
- ★ June '96 BOI Meeting: Joel Blom will be going to Switzerland to fly passenger balloons in the Alps

### 5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ The British Balloon & Airship Club has voluntarily suspended ballooning in England due to the outbreak of Foot & Mouth disease. The suspension will continue for at least one month after the outbreak is over.
- ★ BFA Nationals in Anderson, South Carolina. Winner is Nick Donner, 17 year old pilot from Kentucky.
- ★ Circus came to the National Balloon Classic field
- ★ 5-16-2001 John Jensen received his private license
- ★ On May 20th, Founding Father Don Prine retired from his real job with the DM school system and is now working full-time on the Retirement Center project.
- ★ Mark Weeks resigns as Balloons Over Iowa Secretary, Dena Young new Balloons Over Iowa Secretary.
- ★ May 20, 2001 BOI Meeting: Bill Griffin asked Don Prine if he had any old business, Don replied “Just me.” Brad Craig nominated as Balloonmeister for 2002 Ode with Scott Moon as his assistant.
- ★ Congratulations graduates: Michelle Craig, Aaron Gebhart, April Oberman, Dan Harris.
- ★ Brad Temeyer graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Meteorology
- ★ New Special Shape Balloon – Mr. Potato Head. It was build by Cameron Balloons.
- ★ June: Barbara Thompson & Steve Jones married.
- ★ June 17, 2001 BOI Meeting: The office of the Retirement Center Committee has burnt down. Coal Dunford is named Chief of Security for the Presidential and Vice-Presidential detail.
- ★ Ames Summer Breeze - 25 Pilots (or Ballooners as they were called in the Iowa State Daily); 1 - Maury Petrehn 2 - Phil Gray 3 - Paul Randleman
- ★ Great Plains Balloon Race, Sioux Falls: no flights
- ★ The World Honda Grand Prix and Monroe Balloon Rally: sixty pilots, Jeremy Rubin, Suzan and Peter Stamats flew in the 1st Round of the World Honda Grand Prix. Dick Drake placed 9th, Tom Ricke 6th and Brad Craig placed 5th in the Monroe race.
- ★ Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race: 38 pilots, 4 flights. 1 - Maury Petrehn 2 - Rich Jaworski 3 -Matt Fenster. No rain this year!
- ★ Balloons in June (Clinton, IA): 4 flights, 2 glows
- ★ Salute to Mark Weeks for his many years as BOI Secretary.
- ★ Jeremy Rubin and Macenzie Pollitt were married June 30.



# St. Patrick's Day Party



*Love those pants*



*Irish Stew Cook-off Judges & Winners*



*Giant Leprechauns*



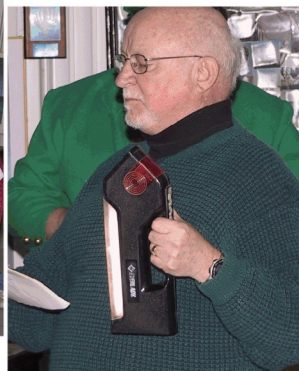
*New members anxiously await initiation*



*Members & Leprechauns misbehaving!*



*New members take the BOI Oath*



*Founding Fathers Prine, Griffin & Bartholomew*



# Ode to Spring



*Kidmeisters lead the kids in their decorating*



*Connie awards the "Crew of the Year" trophy to Bill*



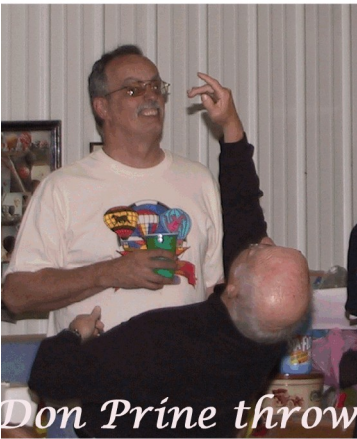
*Mary & Gerald - Cleo Award*



*2005-2006 BOI Board*



*2006-2007 BOI Board (missing - Cory Bloom)*



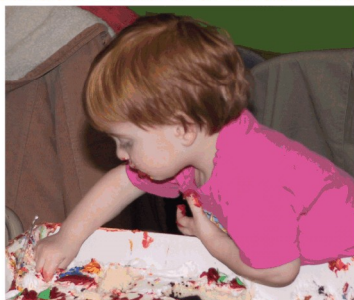
*Don Prine throws his baggie, as Todd & his assistants move the target*



*Ryan & Tony*



*Todd & John announce the winners!*



*Abigail enjoys the cake*



*4 Generations - Breiden, Kerrie, Rob & Helen*

## Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

Sunday March 19, 2006

BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

Meeting called to order at 6:45:10 p.m. by chair Todd Isley

**Present:** Sophie Williams, Amy Williams, Ariel Williams, Madison Williams, Ashlynn Williams, Brad Craig, Michelle Craig, Bill Craig, Linda & Rob Bartholomew, Joel Worthington, Bill Griffin, Jen Nordhagen, Cory Bloom, Max & Carol Harris, Todd Isley

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of the February meeting presented. Cory moved to accept the minutes as presented. Rob 2nd. Motion carried.

Joel put forth an apology to Meika for Maggie's attack at the January meeting. Maggie was coming down with an ear infection. There was no contact – she was restrained.

Members ask why the President isn't here. Rob reports "She's grounded". The President was out of line and attacked the kegmeister. Her approval rating has dropped.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jen reports that the keg factor has risen. The cost of the keg for the St. Pat's party was higher than the previous keg, so we have to raise the keg factor. We now only have 69 kegs. Members discuss deflation. With party expenses, newsletter expenses, etc, our treasury is dwindling. We may need an audit.

### Old Business:

- He's not here.
- Discussion on St. Pat's Party – the keg ran out and the food ran out. Discussion on club providing beef burgers or some other food for major parties. Chef Cory offered to make Bloomburgers. Bill moved to have Cory provide Bloomburgers for BOI Parties and BOI will pay for the meat. Joel 2nd. Motion carried with one "Not a Chance" (Joel, since Old Business isn't here to vote). Cory will now be the BOI Burgermeister.

### New Business:

- April 16 is the next BOI meeting. That is Easter Sunday. Discussion on whether or not to have a meeting. Members decided to have meeting as regularly scheduled.
- Bill moved to have Sophie Williams be the Kidmeister – to protect the children at BOI Events. Max 2nd. Motion carried. BOI is going to the dogs!
- Motion made (secretary doesn't know by whom) to add Maggie and Charlie to the protest committee. Joel states that if asked, they will serve. Members discuss the conflict between Meika and Maggie. Joel again voted "Not a Chance" in place of Old Business. Motion approved.

- Carol brought up the request to work with IBA to write a Hold Harmless agreement for flights for insurance purpose. Todd showed the release that Tom Ricke uses, Joel provided his release. The representative from IMC said that attending Ground School (not for a change in license, but as a refresher) can count the same as Safety Seminar for insurance discount. Rob moved to table the issue of releases, Bill 2nd. Motion approved. Bill requested that next meeting, people bring copies of Hold Harmless agreements.
- Discussion on co-sponsoring the Classic Crew, Pilot, Volunteer party. We have not been asked by the Classic staff at this point. Bill moved to match \$300 that IBA donated for the Saturday party. He would like the concern expressed about the quality and quantity of the food in previous years. Many times the food is gone by the time pilots return from flying. Request that the food line remain open until pilots return from flights. Cory 2nd. Motion carried unanimously.
- Discussion on National Balloon Classic. Bill moved that Joel Worthington be the BOI Representative to the NBC board. Motion carried.

*The President and Security Chief arrive at the meeting. The president is going after the Kidmeister. President Meika is getting very aggressive.*

Max moved to adjourn. Joel 2nd. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:48:20. Members honored Todd with a round of applause for his first meeting chaired!

Respectfully submitted

Carol Harris, temporary secretary

## Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

BOI Balloonport; Carlisle, IA

April 16, 2006

Meeting called to order by Chair Amy Williams at 6:52:17

**Present:** Brad Craig, Michelle Craig, Bill Craig, Amy Williams, Ariel Williams, Ashlynn Williams, Madison Williams, Sue Anthony, Joel Worthington, Charlie Worthington, Max & Carol Harris, Jen Nordhagen, Bill Griffin, Rob Bartholomew, Cory Bloom, Meika Bartholomew.

**Secretary's report:** Minutes of the March meeting presented. Max moved to approve, Joel 2nd. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer's report:** We have 68.69 kegs

### Old Business:

- He's not here. He and Joel flew Friday evening.
- At the last meeting, Joel was chosen as the BOI representative to the Classic Board. Joel reported that he

called the Classic office and was told “We don’t do that any more”. Joel is consoled on his rejection. Discussion, discussion.

- Discussion on donation to Classic for Pilot, Crew, Sponsor party.

*Bucket of Easter candy passed. Members thanked Jen for sharing her children’s candy.*

#### **New business:**

- Cory reported on the tornado that hit Iowa City. “A big cloud was coming at me – I ran”. He moved his car to the parking ramp. Cars were blowing off the top of the ramp, down to the street. He went inside the pedestrian mall for the sake of his underwear. Cars on the ground level of the ramp were destroyed. Later he saw 2x4’s speared into buildings. It was rated a strong F-2 tornado.
- Carol presented an email from Glen Moyer and Ray Bair concerning a Balloon National Convention. Discussion, discussion. Members thought having something in the afternoons and evenings at Albuquerque would probably be the best attended.
- Carol passed around the News Release for the “Channel Champ” Exhibit at the National Balloon Museum. The exhibit opens May 20 with an open house featuring Ed Yost.
- Cory reports he will not be here for Ode. Members taken aback – he is our Burgermeister! He is flying Derbyfest. He has sold out to Commercial interest! He reports that he has made arrangements for the Bloomburgers.

Max moved to adjourn, Joel 2nd. Motion failed approval.

Madison entertained members with riddles:

- ☺ Why was the cat scared of the tree? (Because of the bark!)
- ☺ What do you call Lassie with a rose in his mouth? (Collie flower)
- ☺ Why do you have bells on cows necks? (Their horns don’t work)
- ☺ How do you get a squirrel to be your friend? (Climb up a tree and act like a nut)
- ☺ What did the bee say to his wife? (Hi, honey)
- ☺ From Bill: What did the rooster do when he saw the colored Easter eggs? (Killed the peacock)

*The meeting is totally out of control.*

Max moved to adjourn. Joel seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Carol Harris, temporary secretary

## **World Record Flight Follow-up**

by Rich Jaworski

"It gets late early out there." - Yogi Berra

Yes, winter ended too early in the Midwest this year. After two years of planning, designing, and preparing the Adventure of the Heart balloon, an AX-4 duration record challenger, I was able to make a maiden flight and only one challenge flight before Nebraska temperatures moderated and ended the winter season’s opportunities. But one flight of 13 hours 13 minutes was enough to overtake the existing duration records held by Dr. Coy Foster, AX-4 of 8 hours 39 minutes set in 1986, and Bill Cloninger, AX-5 of 12 hours 21 minutes set in 2001. The 93 miles flight from Blair, Nebraska to Tarkio, Missouri began at about 3:25 A.M. under the headlights of a dedicated chase crew and the national television cameras. Like all balloon flights, this was an adventure with many stories and highlights. Unlike the typical hot air balloon flight, the balloon flew for a long, long time, well beyond the usual hour or two. The preparations were an adventure in ballooning history, engineering, and technology.

### **The Beginning of the Adventure**

The story of this adventure really began at the end of my successful BFA Long Jump flight of 333 miles in April, 2000 (see “2000 Long Jump Report”, Ballooning, July, 2000). I sought a new set of ballooning challenges and experiences to satisfy the need to continue improving my “personal best” and keep ballooning an exciting personal growth activity. During 34 years and about 2,000 hours as pilot in command in ballooning, I have maintained my interest by continually changing my challenges and types of involvement in the sport. Ballooning for beauty, competition, camaraderie, profit, and contribution have all been in the mix of activities. The challenge in this project was to apply 40 years of engineering skills acquired in the nuclear power industry to develop a balloon system capable of world record achievement. An interesting and satisfying study of and experience in “World Record Ballooning” began. It has been a wonderful journey! The process engaged friends and peers in hot air ballooning and experts in many fields of science and engineering.

In November 2003, I met with the project’s meteorologist Lou Billones, of Windsong Weather Services. He reviewed the current technical and metrological issues associated with his many experiences gained during his support of over 50 world records. The learning process then continued as I assembled articles and publications on previous world record successes, interviewed record holding pilots and their support staffs, helped with and observed other world record challenge flights. Record holders Andy Cayton and Bill Cloninger taught me well, in Bill’s mind, I suspect, too well. I was able to engage in discussions with engineers,

metallurgists, chemists, and even hang glider enthusiasts. Many experts and leaders in today's balloon industry gladly contributed their time and advice.

In the winter of 2004-5, I realized it was time to make actual design decisions. This need led to lengthy discussions with Bruce Comstock, balloonist extraordinaire, formerly an associate and friend, now a very good friend and associate. From the beginning, Bruce's avid interest in the project inspired and sustained the project at times when some in the balloon community were "too busy." In committing to this project we agreed to minimize compromise in order to achieve the very best duration possible for a small balloon. Our discussions resulted in selection of the concepts, configuration, and components to be used. In July of 2005, when I unexpectedly found myself without a designer or builder for the balloon, Bruce stepped in and designed the envelope based on the criteria we had developed in collaboration. Cameron Balloons US agreed to build the envelope for delivery in October. Bruce even managed to put a little "red" fabric into the parachute to accommodate the Polish pilot from Nebraska who had only previously flown "red and white" balloons.

### **The Aerostat**

The system is composed of: 1) two separate concentric envelopes; 2) an Aerostar Zone Five single burner modified to incorporate redundant and isolatable blast valves and a solenoid valve controlled by a Comstock Autopilot; 3) a heated instrument package containing the autopilot, DigiTool instrument package, temperature sensors, clock, and GPS, 4) a paraglider harness extended to accept head and foot rests for the pilot, who is protected from the cold by Mountain Hardwear down suit and sleeping bag, arctic mitts, and, if needed, snowmobile helmet, and 5) three 20-gallon fuel tanks suspended beneath the harness from the two-point suspension spreader bar.

### **Handicaps**

Although we did break two world duration records on this first attempt, several things caused this flight to be shortened by three or four hours. Unavailability of fabric delayed completion of the envelope from late October to early December, resulting in the loss of an opportunity to perform test and learning flights in the late fall and early winter of 2005-6. After a mid-December delivery of the envelope, record high temperatures in Nebraska and/or low level nocturnal jets allowed only one test/learning flight. This limited flying experience resulted in me making the challenge flight without being fully knowledgeable in the operation of the balloon or completely prepared to optimize system performance. Further, unexpected adverse weather conditions the morning prior to the Nebraska launch aborted a planned 2 A.M. launch from Bismarck, North Dakota, necessitating another twelve hour drive back home to Blair,

Nebraska in pursuit of flyable weather. This cost both pilot and crew two nights' sleep before the 3:25 A.M. launch of the record flight from Blair, Nebraska. Fatigue definitely affected pilot decision making and reduced my tolerance for continuing to deal with the pesky thermals in the last six hours of the flight.

### **Challenges**

During the flight I encountered many first-time experiences. I had never: 1) flown at night, 2) set down emptied fuel tanks, 3) flown more than five continuous hours, or 4) flown in the afternoon's continuous thermals. My preference would have been to have met these new conditions one or two at a time during test or practice flights. However, all of these first-time challenges were considered prior to the flight and successfully overcome during the flight without consequence. Two nights without sleep was a first time experience for the pilot and most of the crew which, as previously mentioned, did result in early termination of the flight when almost two hours more fuel and sunlight were available.

The most distracting, and embarrassing, equipment failure was the loss of the catheter at 8 hours into the flight. The several layers of clothing and sub-zero ambient temperatures necessitated the use of a catheter, the failure of which resulted in the wetting of the down insulation and threatened termination of the flight. The chase crew, after enjoying a few giggles and remarks, obtained the medical advice that I should apply heat to the wetted equipment. Exothermic chemical hand warmers were liberally applied, which allowed continuation of the flight. My thanks to my daughter, Dr. Pam Jaworski, for the advice and to Mr. Bell, no relation, for the cell phone!

### **The Bases for Success**

A very successful part of the project were the communications orchestrated by Adventure's Communications Center, which posted flight status on the *A d v e n t u r e o f t h e H e a r t w e b s i t e*, [www.HunTel.net/Adventure](http://www.HunTel.net/Adventure), and by the Media Center coordinated by the American Heart Association. Two individuals, Tom Peterson, Dreamtime Balloon Adventures, and Joanne Ragle, 34 year friend and crew chief, both worked around the clock to update the web page, notify the International Aeronauts League of flight status, fulfill information requests from the media, and handle information and requests made in incoming emails from around the world. The web space, provided by HunTel Communications, allowed the flight to be followed worldwide in real time. Maybe our little AX-4 site was not as fancy as other major league aviation record sites, but it was certainly as effective.

After finding the personal funds to finance the world record challenge project, a search was made to find an organization

that could benefit from the possible media attention the flight would generate. Brook Matthews, Nebraska Communications Director – American Heart Association (AHA), volunteered to coordinate all media for the project flights. I was happy to facilitate press coverage and interviews in a way that would not interfere with flight preparations or execution. The American Heart Association motto, “Learn and Live” fit well with the aspirations of a 63 year old balloonist aspiring to set a world record while dangling from a hot air balloon in a sleeping bag at -20 °F. Hence, one of the aims of Adventure of the Heart was to enhance public awareness of heart research and science education. My science and engineering background, along with a family history of heart disease, resulted in a natural interest in raising funds and increasing public awareness about heart disease and heart research in Nebraska and Iowa. The American Heart Association programs and research funding were included in press releases Brook prepared and distributed. Subsequent news stories about flight preparation and execution carried the AHA message too. It was indeed surprising and rewarding to have over half a dozen media representatives at a 2:30 A.M., -8 °F launch on a Saturday A.M. without the pilot making a single call to the press. The local TV stations carried flight status updates during hourly news breaks. The flight was also featured on national TV as an item in a news break during the Olympics. And what was even better, the chase crew had “celebrity” status at every Iowa snack shop and gas station they visited during the chase.

The contribution by the crew was more than what is usually connotated in the term “balloon crew.” They were all involved in the planning and preparations for the adventure over the last two years. Pat Ragle, Crew Chief, provided a willing spirit and hands to lead the tasks of preparing for flights and operated the hot inflation burner. Sean Kelly, Logistics Coordinator, developed the lightweight position indication lighting system for night flight, interfaced with the FAA and the Omaha aviation community. He also planned transportation for many trips that didn’t happen. Matthew Grote, Attitude Coordinator and Traveling Photographer, maintained the crew’s spirit and provided pictures for the web page. Dr. Jane Jaworski, Envelope Preparations Specialist and Pharmaceutical Consultant, assured the complicated systems for envelope deflation and landing were properly installed. Other chasers were Wayne Mohring, Chase Navigator, Duane Waack, Backup Photographer, and Pam James, Assistant Observer. Orv Olivier, the official NAA Observer, provided counsel, critiques, and inspiration throughout preparations, during, and after the flight. Orv is a person whose capabilities are unbounded.

Others also helped in unique ways to make the flight possible. Area meat and ice cream processors allowed the use of their cold storage facilities for equipment testing. The

Blair Public Schools, Blair Fire Department, and St. Francis Borgia Church let us use their buildings to prepare and pre-stage equipment when we needed to escape the cold outdoors. Various FAA folks provided timely advice and support so that regulations never became show stoppers. Flight Surgeon, Dr. Michael Haller, medical advisor Dr. K.C. Baby, and “frozen husker” Brad Anderson, Nebraska’s ice fisherman, all provided sound advice and warnings on cold weather physiology.

### **Future Plans**

Yes, winter ended too early this year. A balloon with only two flights on it is not yet ready for the museum. Hopefully the Adventure of the Heart will make a couple more flights and will achieve its best possible duration. (To be continued)

### **Pilot’s Flight Report**

It was indeed surprising to drive into my church’s parking lot in Blair, Nebraska, 30 miles north of Omaha, at 2:00 A.M. February 18, 2006 to find about a dozen crew and press waiting the launch of Adventure of the Heart for her first attempt and challenge of the AX-4 duration record. The ambient temperature was about -8 °F, but this was a pleasant relief and much warmer than the -25 °F we had faced at Bismarck, North Dakota the morning before. As we assembled the system and did the preflight checks, we all forgot the fatigue from having been up all night preparing the equipment and tending the fuel for the flight. The forecast winds of 350 at 6 knots overestimated the light drainage flow of air out of the south we had across the parking lot. As the cold inflation increased the size of the balloon so did the number of people at the launch site, probably numbering over fifty by launch.

After the press briefing, I harnessed myself to the balloon. The crew hot inflated the balloon and attached the instrument pod and foot rest. All progressed well despite the cold and the hour. After Adventure reached buoyancy, I used Adventure’s burner to maintain neutral buoyancy while the autopilot performed its brief engagement routine.

That completed, Adventure ascended to join the moon and Jupiter as a bright light in the winter sky. It was a scene from a Disney Christmas movie -- peace and beauty.

Frequent radio communication with the crew let me know they were enjoying the flight as much as I was.

As the balloon approached Omaha, I increased my altitude from 500 feet AGL to 1700 feet AGL to assure minimum clearance over Omaha TV towers. The crew confirmed permission from Omaha Approach Control for crossing the city. The lit but deserted streets below were a fairytale painting. I noted the intermittent wispy plumes of moisture condensation coming from the mouth of the inner envelope and watched them disappear up the outside of the outer envelope. These plumes were not visible after the sun rose.

After crossing Omaha, and in response to an email prompt from Bruce Comstock in Australia, I descended to less than 500 feet AGL. The first fuel tank expired and was gently lowered by rope, slid across the ground, and the rope released without incident. The second tank was easier to jettison but, because I inadvertently dropped the lowering rope, the tank was dropped from about ten feet AGL into a dusty picked bean field. The ascent after releasing that tank was 1,000 feet per minute to 5,000 feet AGL.

As I munched on a Danish roll I crossed the Missouri River into Iowa and watched the sun rise behind a high cloud. Time for a little apple juice - - no malts on this flight. The balloon was traveling nearly due east at speeds of 6 mph. The crew was easily able to keep up with the balloon and we could talk during the frequent road crossings. What a lovely morning! There was no snow on the ground in southwest Iowa. The sun felt nice and warm, but the apple juice would still freeze if left out.

At about 11:30 A.M. the first wisp of thermal activity announced itself.

Thermals then continued to increase in frequency and strength throughout the afternoon. They were a real nuisance. Their continual interaction and effect forced me to put away the MP3 music. Well, so much for the rose garden! 1000 feet per minute ascents were followed five minutes later by 800 feet per minute descents. Guess that's why we don't normally fly in the when the sun is high in the sky.

After I crossed into Missouri, the thermals continued causing rapid ascents to even higher altitudes. The maximum attitude during the flight, 5,500 feet AGL, occurred about 45 minutes before landing.

After the flight duration passed Bill Cloninger's AX-5 duration Mark, the second world record of this flight, the chase crew, most of whom had got out of bed 39 hours and 700 miles before, was anxious for me to land. Expecting to make another flight and hoping to have crew in March of 2006, I decided to land.

The previous and only landing in this balloon had been against my left side at 12 mph in a tilled frozen field, tearing the down suit and releasing feathers, blowing like snow in the wind. Today's landing, facing forward at 4 mph, would not be as exciting. The free floating burner and tank have no rigid separation or support. Neither the harness or envelope has a means of rotating or changing the direction faced by the pilot. This landing, however, was another snarl of suspension cables and control lines which again pinned me to the ground like Gulliver. I deliberately waited, engulfed in the snarl, and posed for pictures before trying to get untangled and get up to join the landing celebration.

Needless to say, I slept well on the 70 mile return trip to the hot shower and pizza party celebration at the Command Center.

*Rich Jaworski*

## **Balloon Federation of America**

### **Youth Programs**

#### **Who we are -**

Junior Balloonists and Hi-Flyers are the youth groups of the Balloon Federation of America. Both are organizations designed for youth aged 5-21. Their purposes are to serve the younger members of the ballooning community.

#### **Our mission -**

Junior Balloonists introduce youngsters aged 5 to 12 to the fun of ballooning. Basic knowledge of hot air balloons is gained from this group and prepares JB's to advance to Hi-Flyers.

Hi Flyers, for those aged 13-21, is designed to promote educational excellence, friendship, leadership and drug-free lifestyles through preservation of aeronautical pursuits for our membership. Two divisions exist in this group. The

category of membership is based on scholastic level. The first serves school-aged youth while the second is geared for those who wish to stay active after starting college.

#### **What we do -**

Junior Balloonists learn about the aspects of ballooning while joining the crew in the chase. JB's form friendships, assist the crew, and become participating crewmembers who share hot air ballooning with others. Social events at rallies give opportunities to meet other JB's.

Hi-Flyers opens doors for its members by providing exceptional learning experiences and knowledge of the skills needed to attain crew levels and pilot status while giving insight into career paths available to its members. Hi-Flyers forge lasting friendships through ballooning. Activities specifically for Hi-Flyers build leadership skills. Responsibility for ones actions and healthy lifestyles are necessary for Hi-Flyers to successfully participate in the sport of hot air ballooning.

#### **Where we are headed -**

Youth involvement in the sport of hot air ballooning is vital for growth of the sport. The knowledge acquired, friendships made and leadership skills gained while ballooning guide Junior Balloonists and Hi-Flyers on a fantastic adventure. The Balloon Federation of America's vision for its youth members includes knowledgeable membership, loyal friendships, and responsible leadership for the future.

## **Balloon for Rent**



I have a 1993 Balloon Works 65,000 cu ft envelope with 420 hours and no plans to use it this season except for a few flights in the late fall. I would like to see someone (preferably someone in Iowa or nearby) get some use out of it instead of it sitting and deteriorating. It will be out of annual at the end of May and I do not plan to renew at this time (has two panels that need replaced, possibly more). I would be open to discussions if someone would like to borrow it (training, tethers, etc) and we can talk about details if someone is interested. My only concern is that the balloon be taken care of and that I get it back at some later date.

Jeremy Rubin  
515-556-6889

If you are 5 to 21, you may **JOIN** the BFA Youth Program. Complete the following form and mail your member payment of \$15 to:

**BFA Youth Program**  
**PO BOX 400**  
**Indianola, IA 50125**

Please make checks payable to the Balloon Federation of America

Youth Information

Mentor Information

_____	Name	_____
_____	Address	_____
_____	City, ST, Zip	_____
_____	Phone	_____
_____	Birth Date (Youth only)	_____
(Mentor Only)	BFA #	_____
_____	E-Mail Addr.	_____
_____	Pilot/Crew Achievement Level	_____



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## Balloon Federation of America Youth Programs

*Hi-Flyers*

*Junior Balloonists*

**Shelley Caraway, Chairperson**  
Kilgore, TX 75662

322 Knowles St.

[balloonist@peoplepc.com](mailto:balloonist@peoplepc.com)

March 12, 2006

Hello BFA Youth Supporters!

We are so excited to announce our upcoming BFA youth camp for 2006. Plans are in place for the July 16-20<sup>th</sup> Balloon Federation of America youth camp to again occur on the Tyler Junior College campus in Tyler, TX. Applications are already coming in for camp and that is where we need the help of our ballooning family.

The cost for a BFA teen to attend camp in Texas runs \$225 for the week. This does not include the travel associated with getting there. For families with more than one child attending, it is very cost prohibitive. The 2005 campers came from South Dakota, Florida, California, New Mexico, Louisiana, and South Texas. As you can see, travel is a very real consideration for this group. Our adult volunteers also incur expenses for the week and we cover the housing and meals for these volunteers as well.

We are seeking your help in establishing scholarships for our campers. These would be tax deductible contributions made payable to the BFA but would be earmarked for camp use. Our goal is to have a Welcome Wall available with balloon cards and photos from all the sponsors who contributed to make camp possible. Please include your personal greeting for the campers on the Welcome Wall for only \$25 each. We also provide a camp t-shirt to our campers and volunteers. The sponsorships on the back of the t-shirt are \$50 each. We would love to fill the back of the t-shirt with balloon clubs and teams! If you would like to purchase one of these shirts for \$28, we would be happy to ship it to you postage paid. Please don't worry if you are unable to assist with one of the projects above. Any contribution, no matter how small, is appreciated and will be put to good use in providing a quality camp experience for our youth.

You can make a credit card donation by calling the BFA office at 515/961-8809 or mail checks made payable to the BFA with a note stating the purpose of the funds to BFA youth program chairperson, Shelley Caraway at 322 Knowles, Kilgore, TX 75662. If you would like more information about the camp, please don't hesitate to contact me at [balloonist@peoplepc.com](mailto:balloonist@peoplepc.com) and I will happily answer any questions.

Thank you for supporting the future of ballooning!

Shelley Caraway  
Youth Chairperson,  
Balloon Federation of America

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**Thanks to the following for their contributions to this newsletter: Balloons Galore, Meika Bartholomew, Brett Boerner, CMN Balloon Rally & Music Festival, John Jensen, Rich Jaworski, Jim Fromm, Rick Jones, Jen Nordhagen, Don Prine, Gerry Prine, Jeremy Rubin, Jim Thompson, and Mark Weeks**

*Touch and Go*

*Balloons Over Iowa*

Carol Harris - Editor

2305 Hillside Ave.

West Des Moines, IA 50265

### **Newsletter Deadline**

July 10

Send articles, pictures, birthdays, anniversaries, announcements, events, funny balloon stories, etc. to:

Carol Harris

2305 Hillside Ave

West Des Moines, IA 50265

email - hotairflyn@aol.com Phone 515 221-3193

### **Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meetings**

Meetings are held every third Sunday of the month 6:30 p.m. at the Balloonport. Schedule of meetings:

June 18

July 16

### **Note from Jim & Rita Fromm**

We have somebody's good lid, and somebody has our less than nice one. It's from a 6 qt oval pot with a black handle. If it's you please let us know and we'll figure out where to swap back. *This was sent after the St. Pat's Party.*