

# Touch and Go

BALLONS OVER IOWA

September - October, 2006

## National Balloon Classic

Indianola, Iowa

July 28 - August 5, 2006

If you had to use one word to describe the 2006 Classic, it would be **HOT!** The temps were in the mid to high 90's most of the week along with high humidity levels.

Balloonmeister Jason Jones & his assistants started off Friday night with a Fly-in-task. 1<sup>st</sup> place was Terry McGonegle. Then Saturday morning there was a fly in task and Watership down with Jason flying Derek Nordhagen's Thunder & Colt. Jeremy Rubin was #1 on the FIT and Grant Pfeifer #1 on the Watership Down. Saturday night was a beautiful mass ascension from the field, with all the pilots flying out to the north. 1<sup>st</sup> place on the judge declared goal was Brian Seymour.

Sunday morning the winds aloft were too strong, so everyone got to go to breakfast or back to bed. Sunday evening the field was split with half flying in & half flying out. 1<sup>st</sup> place for the odd # pilots was Jeremy Rubin, 1<sup>st</sup> place for the even # pilots was Tom Ricke. See the photo on page 8 of Jodi Woodruff in a canoe - retrieving a baggie from her pond. That's a dedicated Rural Relations moment!

Monday morning the competition was supposed to begin. At the pilot meeting the officials gave out the weather sheet & task sheet with a 3-part task. The weather sheet said winds at 1000 feet were 50 mph - "gulp". Then they canceled the flight! Monday evening there were several weather holds, but eventually everyone flew out from the field. Brad Craig was #1 for that task. After the flight was the Sports Page party.

Tuesday morning there were storms in the area, so again no flight. Tuesday evening was similar to Monday - several holds & finally a flight off the field. Gary Haynes was 1<sup>st</sup> place. The glow was canceled due to increasing winds.

We woke up again Wednesday morning to storms, so back to bed. Wednesday evening was windy with storms in the area, so again, no flight or glow. The one bright spot in the day was that it was slightly cooler.

Thursday morning - "Let the games begin!" Jason & his crew called a four part task - 3 judge-declared goals & a CRAT at the field. 70 pilots scored on the first JDG, Al Muir won with a 2.04 ft drop. 56 scored on the 2<sup>nd</sup> JDG with Matt Fenster nailing it - .01 ft! 23 pilots were within 10 feet. 49 pilots scored on the CRAT, won by Jim Gebhart with 7.06

ft. 55 scored on the 3<sup>rd</sup> JDG, won by Cory Bloom with 1.07 ft drop. Thursday evening had the even-numbered pilots flying off the field & the odd-numbered pilots flying in for a \$5000 pole grab. Unfortunately, no one got the pole. Mike Reinert won for the even-numbered pilots & Henry Schick for the odd-numbered pilots. The spectators were allowed to come out to the field for the night glow - it was a large & happy crowd.

Friday morning the balloonmeister called a 3 part task - FIT at the field, minimum distance double drop, then a pilot declared goal after the field. 45 pilots scored on the FIT, won by Ryan Kintzel with a .07 ft drop. Only 4 pilots scored on the MDDD, won by Adam Boden. Harold Graves won the pilot declared goal with a 1 foot drop. Friday evening was a reverse of Thursday night - odd-numbered pilots flying off the field & even-numbered pilots trying unsuccessfully for the \$5000 pole grab.

Saturday would be another no fly day - storms in the area in the morning and windy in the evening. Saturday afternoon was the awards ceremony and a party in the evening, sponsored by Iowa Balloonist Association & Balloons Over Iowa. No one got to try for the \$10,000 pole grab that was scheduled for Saturday evening! :(

### Top 20:

- |     |                 |     |                  |
|-----|-----------------|-----|------------------|
| 1.  | Brad Craig      | 11. | Jim Christiansen |
| 2.  | Maurey Petrehn  | 12. | Tom Ricke        |
| 3.  | Scott Armstrong | 13. | Ryan Kintzel     |
| 4.  | Harold Graves   | 14. | Ron Nollen       |
| 5.  | Cory Bloom      | 15. | Jim Gebhart      |
| 6.  | Adam Boden      | 16. | Jeremy Rubin     |
| 7.  | Matt Fenster    | 17. | Ken Schroeder    |
| 8.  | Todd Isley      | 18. | Chris Reinert    |
| 9.  | Rob Bartholomew | 19. | Ralph Rieck      |
| 10. | Steve Lacroix   | 20. | Randy Stone      |

### Other awards presented:

Farmer of the Year - Ed Butler

Volunteers of the Year - John Holtz & Steve West - the weather guys

Crew of the year - Matt Fenster's crew

Jon Russell Award - Rich Jaworski

Newcomer of the year - Sam Blackburn

## 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

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Cory Bloom

John Jensen, Sr.

Ryan Kintzel

Linda Pickering

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Carol Harris

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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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## Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

Sunday July 16, 2006

BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

**Present:** Jen Nordhagen, Josie Nordhagen, Riley Nordhagen, Caleb Nordhagen, Joel Worthington, Charlie Worthington, Sue Anthony, Don Prine, Max & Carol Harris

No Board Members present. Founding Father Don Prine designated Joel as the chair for the meeting. Meeting called to order by Chair Joel Worthington at 7:11:36

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the June meeting presented. Max moved to approve the minutes, Sue seconded. Motion carried. Carol voted "Not a Chance".

**Treasurer's report:** We have 81 kegs. Members question "How many kegs did it cost for the new floor in the Balloonport". Treasurer replies "We don't have that many". Don moved to approve Treasurer's report, Max 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Don voted "Not a Chance".

## Old Business:

- ★ He's here!
- ★ Discussion on the Classic party. Carol presented a reply from Greg at the Classic office.
- ★ Caleb Robert Nordhagen introduced - this is his first BOI Meeting. He was born June 19, 2006 - the morning after the June meeting. Rob calls him "Robert".

*Rob & Linda Bartholomew and Kay Fee arrive.*

## New Business:

- ★ Nebraska pilots have expressed an interest in the Retirement home.
- ★ Carol suggested that Meika & Sandy should represent BOI in the NBC parade, maybe even in Rob's Corvette. Rob says "No Way, maybe in the Mule".
- ★ Firefly Balloons was sold again - one of the new owners is George Hahn. Rob has spoken with him, he will be coming to the Classic to meet pilots.
- ★ Flight over DM scheduled for Monday morning.
- ★ Gomer placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Ft. Madison.
- ★ Balloons & Toons was weathered out.
- ★ Don moved to have Carol be appointed BOI Secretary for life. Motion passed by wide margin - 4-2 (Carol & Max voting "Not a Chance"). Tom's fired.

Max moved to adjourn meeting, Rob seconded. Motion approved. Don voted "Not a Chance". Meeting adjourned 7:42:15.

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary, Carol Harris

**No meeting in August  
- it was flyable!**

## BOI Halloween Party

Saturday, October 28th 6:30 p.m.

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Chili Cook-off

Costume Judging



**Theme: Come dressed as: "What I want to be when I grow up"**

## Letter from President Meika

Hello to all my friends !

Fall is the best time of year to fly. I love the color and the cool weather. I have heard lots of pilots say they appreciate all the added landing sites and find many farmers are happier to host after their crops are in.

Around here things are really getting busy as our family prepares for the harvest. I think the crops look good this year. I sure hope so because that's when Dad gets generous, and I'm in line for a new car. In addition to harvest, we continue to see lots of balloons in the sky and Dad is preparing for the Iowa Pro Balloon Race in Creston. I am told that Creston is always festive, with great flights, numerous vendors, and a parade. Once again, I'm expected to stay home and guard the farm. If anyone needs a Wiz on your top line, call me and I'll be glad to join your crew.

Don't forget to check our Calendar of Events. There are always numerous activities for the ballooning community. Make a special effort to get to a BOI meeting and the BOI Halloween Party, October 28th. It will be great to visit.

Fly as much as you can before the days become too short and the nights become too cold, and always remember to

Fly Safely,  
Meika

### Pilot Relations Reflector

At the August Pilot Relations meeting, Jim Fromm suggested starting a Reflector for communicating about issues relevant to Pilot Relations for the National Balloon Classic.

Jim is the moderator of the group, contact him if interested - Frommyworld @crosspaths.net

### Also remember the BOI Reflector:

There is now a Reflector / Discussion list for BOI Members. Any message sent into the group will be sent out to all who subscribe. It can be used to make announcements, discuss events, discuss weather, tell about a recent flight, gather others for a flight, or just to say "Howdy". A few have tried it out & it works great. To Subscribe - go to the web site: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BalloonsOverIowa> or email: [BalloonsOverIowa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BalloonsOverIowa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) Then to send messages to the list - email [BalloonsOverIowa@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BalloonsOverIowa@yahoogroups.com) Contact me ([hotairflyn@aol.com](mailto:hotairflyn@aol.com)) with any questions or for more information. Carol

## Letter from Vice-President Sandy

Another chapter of the National Balloon Classic has come to a close. One could probably say this was a "HOT" event. I was not able to attend the event this year due to the fact that someone needed to stay at home and watch over the Bank and the City of Radcliff. According to Dad, the evening flights were a bit warm and the morning flights, well he stated they caught up on a lot of sleep. Congratulations go out to the many volunteers, Pilots, crews, and balloon enthusiasts for making this years Classic another success. Without the volunteers, where would the Classic and any other events be?

Dad commented the other night that there should be a rule that states non-traditional balloons can not fly competition. Dad and I talked for a bit and decided that maybe what Dad needs is a football shaped balloon of his own. Ok, there is a design being worked on (see below). What do you think? Mom commented to Dad, "Dick, do you really think a football balloon will help you during competition?" But, I explained to her how much easier the balloon packing up would be. Mom pretty much shook her head and laughed. So, stay tuned on this one.

As of this writing the Great Pershing Balloon derby is just finishing up their event in Brookfield, MO. Congratulations go out to Green Hills Ballooning, Inc. (Great Pershing Balloon Derby) for celebrating 30 years of being the longest running, continually sanctioned BFA event. Jim Thompson, BFA Competition committee Chair, and the BFA President Ray Bair signed a proclamation stating the balloon event achievements.

The Creston Balloon event is fast approaching. This is always a fun weekend, whether if everyone flies or not, there are still plenty of things to do. The Sponsors for this event go out of their way to make the balloonists/crews feel right at home.

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta is fast approaching as well. What wild adventures will the Iowa Bunch encounter during the trip down to Fiesta, during Fiesta, or the trip back from Fiesta? Stay tuned!

Well, the bank is getting ready to open for business. Hope to see everyone at Creston, a BOI meeting, or the upcoming Halloween Party.

Until next time, soft landings.

*Sandy Drake*



**Will this be Dick's new balloon?**

## Aerostar Announcement

For Release August 1, 2006

### AEROSTAR TO CONTINUE SUPPORT OF PRODUCT LINE WHILE DISCONTINUING MANUFACTURE OF HOT AIR BALLOONS

For Further Information: At Aerostar International:

Mark West      Martin Harms;  
President      Product Manager  
(605) 331-3500 (605) 331-3500

Sioux Falls, SD - August 1, 2006 - Aerostar International, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Raven Industries, Inc. announced that January 31st, 2007 will be the last day it will accept orders for hot air balloon systems or major components. The company makes this strategic move to exit the hot air balloon manufacturing portion of the business which currently represents less than 4% of Aerostar's overall sales. Aerostar is committed to support the safety and maintenance of existing Aerostar and Raven aircraft in service.

Raven Industries is credited with beginning the sport of hot air ballooning. This ending of an era is a result of the steady decline of the hot air balloon industry. Aerostar's President and Chief Engineer Mark West commented, "The entire General Aviation Industry took a marked decline after 9/11 and the hot air balloon industry has never recovered. This coupled with significant increases in liability insurance costs has made for a business model that is no longer feasible. Unfortunately we cannot afford to stay in a business which is not profitable, even though it is the product line that founded Aerostar."

As in the past, Aerostar will provide technical and product support for hot air balloons and components manufactured by Aerostar and Raven. The company will also continue to sell repair parts for those aircraft. Aerostar will remain active within the hot air balloon community promoting safety through education safety programs and continuous airworthiness seminars. Additionally, their web-site [www.aerostar.com](http://www.aerostar.com), has complete service information for hot air balloon owners reference as well as access to all Service Letters, Service Bulletins, Maintenance Bulletins, Airworthiness Directives and ACAI (Aerostar Continued Airworthiness Instructions). These documents are available to be downloaded, free of charge, by all aircraft owners and repair stations.

Aerostar management emphasized that this move will have no impact on its high-altitude research balloon operations,

located in Sulphur Springs, Texas, or other product lines.

About Aerostar International: Aerostar International, Inc. is an industrial manufacturer that provides Aerospace products, Military Products, Protective Wear and Advertising Inflatables to various markets.

### Classic Basket Banners

The National Balloon Classic will be selling the old Classic basket banners for \$5.00 for the pair. Enclosed is a list of numbers that are still available. Please contact John Jensen @ 515-371-3682 or [airaddictionride@aol.com](mailto:airaddictionride@aol.com) and he can bring the banners to Creston.

02	17	25	43	54	71	82	94
03	18	29	44	59	72	84	95
04	19	34	48	62	73	85	95
05	20	38	49	64	75	87	96
06	22	39	51	68	78	88	96
10	23	41	53	70	79	91	97

Thank you,  
Air Addiction Balloon Company  
John Jensen, Pilot  
708 South 'N' Street  
Indianola, Iowa 50125  
Ph. (515) 371-3682

### New E-mail address:

Derek & Jen Nordhagen - [djjrcnordhagen@peoplepc.com](mailto:djjrcnordhagen@peoplepc.com)

**New address:** Brian & Chris Seymour  
706 N S. Ct  
Indianola, IA 50125

### Congratulations

- ★ Congratulations to Angelica Corbin, who graduated from Roosevelt High School May 27, 2006. Angelica had **13 years of Perfect Attendance!**
- ★ Congratulations to Brad Temeyer on the purchase of his first balloon.

### Balloons Over Iowa Repair Station

Rob & Linda Bartholomew  
18999 Blue Pl., Carlisle, IA  
Phone: 515 989-3708

email: [balloonsoveriaowa@msn.com](mailto:balloonsoveriaowa@msn.com)



## NTSB Reports

### **NTSB Identification: CHI04LA204.**

Wednesday, July 07, 2004 in Sioux Falls, SD  
Aircraft: Aerostar S53H, registration: N5001J  
Injuries: 2 Uninjured.

The balloon was substantially damaged when it contacted power transmission lines during landing. The pilot reported that after lift off the flight proceeded on a westerly heading approximately 9 knots ground speed for 17 minutes. He then selected an alfalfa field with 3 scattered hay bales as a landing site and began a descent. The pilot stated he activated the burner to slow the descent as the balloon neared the field. He noted that as the basket contacted the ground, it bounced and "skidded" toward one of the hay bales. After it "bounced off" the bale, the pilot reported that he heard the crew chief warn of power lines ahead. He stated: "I 'ripped-out' the top of the balloon to its maximum, in order to let the air out." He reported that the basket settled on a roadway and slid down a ditch. The balloon envelope subsequently contacted the power lines adjacent to the road. Concerning safety recommendations, the pilot noted "awareness of surface conditions and location of power lines." The pilot reported that there were no malfunctions associated with the balloon. The Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) at the Joe Foss Field Airport (FSD) in Sioux Falls, at 1956, recorded winds from 080 degrees at 7 knots. The pilot reported winds from 090 degrees at 9 knots.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The pilot's selection of an unsuitable landing area for the balloon and his failure to maintain clearance with the transmission line. A contributing factor was the presence of the transmission line.

### **NTSB Identification: ATL04LA198.**

Saturday, July 10, 2004 in Huntersville, NC  
Aircraft: Thunder & Colt LTD 210A, registration: N91101  
Injuries: 1 Serious, 7 Minor.

According to the pilot, he had obtained a weather briefing and had departed from a field. The balloon had drifted east at about two miles per hour. He stated that after about 30 minutes the wind began increasing to a speed of around 15 to 18 miles per hour, and he began looking for a place to land. He stated he bypassed several fields before he found a large open construction site. He started a descent towards the field and instructed his passengers to get down and brace for a hard landing. He said that just at touchdown the balloon

caught a gust of wind and hit a small mound of dirt causing the basket to overturn and the pilot and passengers to tumble out. The basket was dragged several feet before it came to a complete stop. The balloon and basket were not damaged.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: Gusty weather conditions which resulted in an in-flight collision with terrain during touchdown.

### **NTSB Identification: DEN04CA103.**

Sunday, July 11, 2004 in Albuquerque, NM  
Aircraft: Lindstrand Balloons 120A, registration: N410LB  
Injuries: 2 Serious, 2 Minor, 1 Uninjured.

During the landing, the balloon impacted the ground hard and tipped over. Two passengers from one side of the balloon fell on top of two passengers on the other side of the balloon causing serious injury to two passengers.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the pilot's failure to maintain/obtain the proper descent rate.

### **NTSB Identification: FTW04CA234.**

Sunday, July 18, 2004 in Allen, TX  
Aircraft: Lindstrand Balloons 90A, registration: N6036F  
Injuries: 3 Uninjured.

A 190-hour balloon pilot carrying two first-time balloon passengers landed in an open field and realized that the grass there was very tall. To aid the recovery of his balloon, the pilot elected to reposition the balloon closer a road where the grass was shorter. While repositioning the balloon, the pilot noticed power lines located along the road. Subsequently, the pilot shut-off the fuel and pilot light on the burner and opened the deflation port to deflate the envelope. During the deflation process, a gust of wind blew the balloon along the ground at a 45-degree angle toward the power lines. The pilot and the two passengers exited the basket before the envelope collided with the power lines. After approximately 30 to 45 seconds, the envelope was blown off the power lines and on to the nearby road.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this incident as follows: The pilot's failure to maintain clearance with the power lines. A contributing factor was the gusty wind conditions.

**NTSB Identification: NYC04CA177.**

Saturday, July 24, 2004 in Middletown, OH  
Aircraft: Avian Falcon II, registration: N15053  
Injuries: 1 Serious, 1 Uninjured.

After about a 1 hour flight, the pilot elected to land the balloon in an open field. He noticed that the surface winds had increased to about 11 to 12 knots, and briefed the passenger prior to landing. The balloon touched down in the field, and began to drag along the ground. The basket tipped forward, and the passenger fell out of the basket. The balloon became airborne again, cleared a tree line, and touched down in an adjacent field. The balloon envelope came to rest draped over a power line. The passenger stated she was briefed by the pilot prior to landing; however, she was unable to hold on. Winds reported at an airport located about 16 miles northeast of the accident site, were from 050 degrees at 10 knots.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows:  
The passenger's inadvertent fall from the basket, during landing. A factor in this accident was the windy conditions.

**NTSB Identification: FTW04CA193.**

Monday, August 09, 2004 in Baton Rouge, LA  
Aircraft: Head Balloons Inc. AX8-88, registration: N83063  
Injuries: 1 Serious, 1 Minor, 1 Uninjured.

The 784-hour balloon pilot reported that while attempting a landing to a field with tall grass, the basket of the balloon impacted a concrete culvert. The pilot stated that one of the two passengers was ejected from the basket and the balloon started to ascend. After regaining control of the balloon, the pilot made an uneventful landing in an adjacent field. The pilot added that the wind was observed at 6 knots, gusting to 10 knots, prior to takeoff.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The pilot's selection of an unsuitable area for landing. A contributing factor was the high vegetation.

**NTSB Identification: IAD04CA045.**

Wednesday, August 25, 2004 in Dover, PA  
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons Z-90, registration: N1032B  
Injuries: 1 Serious, 2 Uninjured.

The pilot briefed both passengers for the commercial balloon flight prior to takeoff, and specifically briefed them on landing procedures, which included bending their knees, facing the direction of travel, holding on, and remaining standing. About the time the balloon was launched, the wind speed was 8 miles per hour (mph). About 30 minutes into the flight, the winds had increased to 16 mph. The pilot

advised his passengers and the ground crew that they would be landing as soon as possible. The pilot lowered the drop line to the ground crew and they subsequently slowed the balloon from 12 mph to 8 mph. He then repeated the landing instructions to the passengers, and indicated that they should brace themselves for a very hard landing. The pilot pulled the vent line to release some of the heat from the envelope, and ensure the balloon did not bounce. The basket "hit the ground" and tipped over. One of the passengers incurred a back injury during the landing. The pilot did not claim that the passenger failed to follow his landing instructions.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The pilot's failure to arrest an excessive descent rate prior to ground contact, which resulted in a hard landing. A factor was the relatively high winds (for balloon flight.)

**NTSB Identification: DEN04CA132.**

Sunday, August 29, 2004 in Albuquerque, NM  
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons A-210, registration: N4503V  
Injuries: 1 Serious, 6 Uninjured.

According to the pilot, the flight had been uneventful; however, the winds had increased in velocity. The winds according to the pilot, at the time of landing, were between 8 and 9 knots. During the landing, the ground crew grabbed the basket and assisted it down to the ground. One passenger fell forward during the landing, twisting her ankle and breaking it. No other anomalies were noted.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the passenger losing her balance during the landing. Contributing to the accident was the increased wind velocity.

**NTSB Identification: NYC04LA217.**

Saturday, September 25, 2004 in Lewisburg, WV  
Aircraft: Firefly Galaxy 9, registration: N2200Z  
Injuries: 1 Fatal, 6 Uninjured.

After landing in a field, six passengers and the pilot exited the hot-air balloon. Shortly after, an airplane flew "very low" over the top of the balloon, and the balloon began to ascend. The pilot stated that he "knew a trick," and proceeded to wrap a rope around his leg, as the balloon continued to ascend. As it reached an altitude of about 80 feet, the pilot fell from the rope, which was hanging from the basket.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The pilot's improper decision to attempt to board the balloon while it was ascending.

## Pilot Relations Committee Minutes

The National Balloon Classic Pilot Relations Committee met August 10<sup>th</sup> at the Sports Page Bar & Grill for about 2 hours. There was great discussion about the 2006 Classic.

In Attendance: Terry McGonegle, Dick & Phyllis Drake, Jim & Rita Fromm, Dan & Michelle Corbin, Max & Carol Harris, Jim Gebhart, Joel Worthington, Todd Isley, Jim Norris, Brad & Amy Craig, Crazy Al Appenzeller, and John Jensen. Thank you for attending. Remember everyone is welcome.

- ▶ Good turnout for the Pilot Relations Meeting but only 6 pilot evals. Need to get the Pilot Evaluation form email and hopefully pilots will return by next pilot relations meeting.
- ▶ Al Appenzeller announced that after 9 years of assisting the Classic Office doing the Classic scoring, that he will NOT be scoring for a while. BFA & NABA both have scoring software to make it easier on who might be willing to help with the event. Anyone wanting to do scoring, please let Al know.
- ▶ Also Al Appenzeller has decided not be the Pilot Relations Chairperson, John Jensen will be the Pilot Relations Chairperson and will communicate via email.
- ▶ Jim Fromm has set up a group email system, similar to the Balloons Over Iowa group email. Anyone can be a part of the group email, you just have to join. Any questions can be emailed once to the whole group, same as the replies.
- ▶ Pilot Relations discussed and wanted to ask Jason Jones back as the 2007 Classic Balloonmeister. I called Jason Jones on Friday and requested a reply by Sept 15, 2006, so the Pilot Relations group can speak about it at the next meeting.
- ▶ Concern about having all the Asst Balloonmeisters flying, consider having one help the Balloonmeister.
- ▶ Sound system in the Pilots meeting was TERRIBLE. Needs improvement.
- ▶ Need to add a Pilot schedule of events to the Rule Book.
- ▶ The Classic Rule Book needs to be available via email, the web or mailed PRIOR to the start of the event.
- ▶ Use the Classic Rule book or the BFA or NABA rule book.
- ▶ Change in the Gravity drop with BFA compared to the classic rule book.
- ▶ Possible Scoring meeting prior to the event with the scoring officials.
- ▶ Registration Paperwork needs to be updated.
- ▶ Consider the FAA, or official, or non-flying pilots be a part of the day of registration checking the flight review,

annual, currentance, pilot license.

- ▶ Chamber bucks were good but maybe chamber bucks and a shirt since the shirt advertises with the Classic year round.
- ▶ Pilot Packs - good idea but need to improve. Speak with Greg about acquiring the items during the sponsorship meetings, since it feels like the event is double dipping, asking for more items after the business has paid money for the sponsorship.
- ▶ Prize Money - it is the same as 1988, with the cost of gas and lodging, consider possible increase.
- ▶ Consider paying for Pilot housing. What is the cost of the this expense?
- ▶ Great idea for road treatment on Jewell, 150th and Jersey street. Keeps the dust down.
- ▶ What is the description for the PILOT RELATIONS GROUP?
- ▶ Vehicle stickers were great idea but maybe too large and numbers too small.
- ▶ Rural relations likes the stickers a lot.
- ▶ The Volunteer party & sponsor party food was the BEST in years.
- ▶ Consider returning to cookies, fruit prior to the pilot's meeting.
- ▶ Pilots were getting some negative feedback about Farmers Appreciation Night being held prior to the event. Some Pilots would like Farmers Appreciation Night held during the event to have the pilots and farmers interact.
- ▶ Is the Classic still doing prizes (gift cards) for the landowners?
- ▶ Dick Drake wanted to outlaw the non-standard looking balloons.
- ▶ Containers for the Beer/Pop Cans --- Boy or Girl Scouts
- ▶ Pilot Group would like to invite Greg Marchant to attend the Pilot Relations Meeting for discussion.
- ▶ Possible arm bands for the kid rides (day usage or even week long usage).
- ▶ Bring back the "Pilot/Crew of the Day" idea - maybe get a sponsor.
- ▶ John Russell award is discussed and recommended by the Pilot Relations and past winners of the award. Need to meet on Wednesday or Thursday of the Classic Event.

NEXT Pilot Relations Meeting will be at Creston Balloon Race - Saturday about NOON.

# National Balloon Classic



Where would we be without Scorers & Rural Relations?



Parking ladies - Martha & Becky



Humpty & Burgess holding hands







**BFA Candidates Nancy Griffin & Gary Ruble**



**Dick & his new chase vehicle**

**Crew of the year - Matt Fenster's crew**



*Classic photos by Mark Weeks, Carol Harris & Max Harris*



**Rich Jaworski - Jon Russell award**



**Newcomer of the Year - Sam Blackburn (Sam who?)**



**NBC Champion - Brad Craig**

# Eldon, Mo



Casey on the crown line!

Carol Sherman



Sandy Drake's summer home on the Lake of the Ozarks (similar to Camp David for the president)



Photos by Mark Weeks



Dennis & Carol Firestone's house on the Lake



Jim on the lake tour

## Calendar of Events

- September 17 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle
- October 7th - 15th **Albq. International Balloon Fiesta**, Albuquerque, NM. Contact: Pat Brake: 505 821-1000 or pjb@balloonfiesta.com
- October 14 **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bridges & Balloons**, Winterset, IA. Contact Bill Clemons 515 287-6934 or email hotairrepair@aol.com
- 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
- October 21 **Jill Rubin Memorial Flight**, Newton, IA.  
Contact Joel Worthington 641 831-3034 or email joel@diamondjake.com
- October 28 **BOI Halloween Party**
- November 19 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle
- December 1st - 3rd **2006 Holiday Balloon Fest**, Battle Creek, MI. Contact Derrick Jones 269 209-1792 or derrickjjones@comcast.net
- March 3, 2007 **IBA Continuing Education Seminar**
- July 27-August 4, 2007 **National Balloon Classic**

***Race organizers - please send your dates and details for 2007 to Carol - hotairflyn@aol.com***

## Happy Anniversary

- John & Barbara Lewis 10-1
- Mark & Deanna Ziino 10-10
- Dennis & Carol Firestone 10-13
- Chris & Angie Reinert 10-19
- Denny & Lynn Craig 10-20
- Terry & Jeanettee Montaque 11-3
- Anthony & Kerrie VanBroekhuizen 11-7
- John & Tracy Jensen 11-8
- Jacob & Jennifer Hermanson 11-11
- Max & Carol Harris 11-11
- Robert & Cynthia Nutting 11-19
- Alex & Chris Oponski 11-20
- Stephen & Sharon Foltz 11-25
- Casey & Tamara Frame 11-28

## Happy Birthday

- Nazzle Jensen 10-1 Kim Anderson 11-1
- Kierstin Keller 10-1 Avery Rubin 11-2
- Dennis Shull 10-1 Clifford Clark 11-3
- Scott Allsup 10-2 Mackenzie Hermanson 11-4
- Trinity Keller 10-3 Jill Maxfield 11-5
- Pamela Winkenwerder 10-3 Madison Frame 11-7
- Rhonda Bishop 10-4 Ashlynn Williams 11-7
- Alisa Lawrence 10-4 Janis Carlton 11-10
- Mark Weeks 10-6 Mindy Foell 11-10
- Dena King 10-7 Madelyn Jones 11-10
- Jerry Riley 10-8 Mark Ziino 11-11
- Rob Spence 10-10 Jennifer Reid 11-11
- Sean Carey 10-10 Carol Firestone 11-11
- Allan Keller 10-10 Andy Sponsler 11-11
- BJ Anderson 10-10 Lexi Oponski 11-11
- Scott Moon 10-10 Paul Craven 11-12
- Caitlin Oponski 10-11 Sage Patterson 11-12
- Alex Funaro 10-11 Shawnlee Drexler 11-15
- Mary Eagan 10-13 Tyler Pedersen 11-16
- Russell Winkenwerder 10-13 Leonard Taylor 11-17
- Tracy Jensen 10-14 Kennedy Dalby 11-19
- Emily Williams 10-14 Tamara Frame 11-20
- Hana Appenzeller 10-16 Boyd Tyler 11-20
- Gina Garrett 10-17 Allison Jensen 11-21
- Dawn Hogan-Alexander 10-17 Stephen Foltz 11-21
- Lori Schmidt 10-19 Ben Smith 11-22
- Jim Thompson 10-20 Becca Bridgewater 11-22
- Joe Thompson 10-20 Suzy Van Wyngarden 11-22
- Jacob Mitchell 10-20 Jim Fromm 11-25
- Roger Woodruff 10-20 Warren Stone 11-26
- Jeanettee Montague 10-23 Carol Firestone 11-27
- Spencer Conlin 10-25 Charlie Thorman 11-27
- Ruth Holcomb 10-26 Deb Bridgewater 11-27
- Kay Fee 10-29 Allison Fisher 11-27
- Sara Pieper 10-29 Jared Netley 11-28
- Kaitlin Wiley 11-29
- Shane Mell 11-29
- Nathan Delaney 11-29



## The Way It Was

### 20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ 9-86 Storm Lake – flew 3 out of 5 possible flights. The beginning of the “Bathtub Race” – after several heats & eliminations, Gary Ford was the winner. 1st Doug Crouser, 2nd Rich Jaworski
- ★ 9-86 Great Pershing Balloon Derby – 1st David Rapp, 2nd David Levin, 3rd Dave Edmister
- ★ 9-86 Altoona Balloona – 1st Rob Bartholomew, 2nd Jerry Riley, 3rd Al Boston
- ★ 9-86 Burlington – 1st Darrel Day, 2nd Bob Cook, 3rd Dave McCreight
- ★ 9-86 – Farmer Appreciation flight held – flew 25 farmers from Woodruff’s farm. Following the flight was a BBQ at Woodruff’s farm. Dave Edmister was recognized for being the “Most Improved Pilot”. 1st Wayne Wasson, 2nd Rob Bartholomew.
- ★ 9-86 Creston -1st Dick Drake, 2nd Dave Edmister, 3rd Rob Bartholomew. Site of the first recorded incident involving a car leaving the ground to seize a balloon in flight. A violent struggle unfolded with the balloon flying on, leaving the car with a broken windshield. The pilot – “Windshield Willie”, returned to the site after the flight & reluctantly agreed to replace the windshield. Higher than predicted winds on Saturday morning flight - Joyce Blevins broke her ankle on landing.
- ★ 9-86 Mason City – 1st Brian Freeman, 2nd Tie – Jim Thompson & Al Boston, 4th Pat Fogue
- ★ 9-27-86 13 pilots flew 6 weathermen & families. The flight was followed by a cook-out. Winners were – 1st Bill Griffin, 2nd Jerry Riley, 3rd Sherry Allsup.
- ★ BOI Halloween party – Chili provided by Linda Bartholomew, Georgia Oakes, Kay Fee & Becky Riley. Those present – Rambo, a nun, a little devil, Sylvester the cat, Daffy Duck (or was it Tweety Bird), Kenny Rogers, two politicians, the Statue of Liberty, Car-Nac, a Sears Salesman, Air Ace, Minnie & Micky Mouse, Raggedy Ann, Lavern & Shirley, Laurel & Hardy, & twin Dolly Partons.

### 15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ September 15, 1991 BOI Meeting: \$2,105.99 in treasury; Motion to have Balloonport renamed (for parties) as the Okeedokee Corral with the “Not a Chance Saloon” and the “Atta Boy Potty” passed; Garry Miklus introduced – Jim Gebhart’s crew & student pilot.
- ★ Oct 26, 1991 – Halloween Party

### 10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Gerald Knoll named Executive Director of the National Balloon Classic, taking over the director’s position vacated by Kristie Wildung.
- ★ Storm Lake winner - Tom Fitzpatrick
- ★ 9-6 Tom Hemmingsen received Commercial license.

- ★ 9-13 Dale Dommer received Commercial license.
- ★ 9-14 Stephen Foltz received his Private license.
- ★ Fromm family celebrated a 4 generation flight - Jim, his mother Edel, his daughter Monica & her son James (3 weeks old)
- ★ Brookfield report: 20th Annual Great Pershing Balloon Race; Balloonmeister – Mark Enholm; 31 balloons; 6 flights & 2 glows!; a wedding in Black Diamond, piloted by Mike Oberman; Jim Thompson winner, 2nd Theron Riley, 3rd Andy Petrehn. Maurey Petrehn won the Petrehn Cup Trophy. Gary Tarter won the Night Glow.
- ★ Creston report: 2 flights, 1 glow; Dave Edmister winner, #2 Terry McGonegle, #3 Ralph Rieck
- ★ September 15, 1996 BOI Meeting: President Gretchen’s presence has been requested as our BOI representative in Albuquerque, NM during Fiesta at a special meeting for all balloon clubs; motion made and approved to send Gretchen to Albuquerque, all expenses paid.
- ★ Long time Iowa Balloonist Dave Beukelman died October 23, 1996. Dave flew the “Iowa” Balloon for a number of years. He was instrumental in organizing the Iowa Balloon championships which were held in Ft Dodge from 1974-1985. He was one of the founders of the Iowa Balloonist Association.
- ★ Halloween Party: Theme – Dress as your favorite “Wizard of Oz” character, costumes included Scarecrow, Yellow Brick Road, Tin Man, Glenda the Good Witch, Miss Elmira Gulch, & the Tornado; Pumpkin Carving contest – winner Tony Oberman; Costume Winners were: #1 Louise Clemons - Miss Gulch #2 Dick Drake - the Tornado #3 Phyllis Drake - Yellow Brick Road; The limbo contest was close between Rob Bartholomew, Gretchen & Mike Oberman with Mike emerging as the winner.

### 5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ 25th Great Pershing Balloon Derby (Brookfield, MO): 38 pilots, 6 flights, one glow. Memorial flight for pilot Ron Cordray who died recently. John Petrehn Cup was awarded to Maury Petrehn. 1. Maury Petrehn 2. Jeremy Rubin 3. Mark Harris
- ★ Storm Lake: 2 flights (3 by a few). 1. Brad Craig
- ★ Nathan Robert Ziino born 9-4-01.
- ★ 9-8-01 Farewell party at the Balloonport for Lori Schmidt, Tim Dunford & Coal.
- ★ 9-11-01 Terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center & Pentagon. Balloons grounded for several days, limited for weeks after. Creston cancelled due to the grounding.
- ★ 9-19-2001 Tom Klitz received his Commercial license.

- ★ 9-24-01 Tom Ricke received his Commercial license.
- ★ Halloween Party: Funniest costume was Eric Brown; the scariest - Paul Wiedmann; the cutest - Jenny Nordhagen and the overall best costume was Linda Bartholomew; Pumpkin contest: #1 - the Kochheiser family with a "God Bless America" pumpkin; #2 the Sponsler family & #3 Lori Schmidt; 7 chili entries: #1 Lynn Craig with her first entry in the cook-off. #2 Donna Rieck #3 Michael Van Hamme with Grandpa's 5 bean Chili.

## Event Reviews

### 4th Annual Balloons over the Mississippi

July 14th – 15th 2006

Fort Madison, Iowa Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Rodeo Park Soccer field, south of the Airport

Friday night's flight from the soccer field found 15 pilots from Iowa, Missouri, and Illinois preparing to take to the air. It was 95 degrees with high humidity earlier in the day and we were all trying to stay cool and hydrated. After a meal at the V.I.P. tent with pilots and sponsors, Bob Corey, Balloonmeister from Kentucky and long time pilot, repair station owner, and organizer of many ballooning events briefed us. The task was one target south of the Bangkok Papercon building and the other was to be a roving target somewhere in the countryside with Bob and his Kentucky Ford Expedition. However, the variable winds found only one baggie in the target scoring area, by none other than Art Beck, of St. Louis. The other baggie that came from another un-named St. Louis pilot came close, however the scoring team decided they were not going on top of the building to get the measurement.

After most of the balloons made it to Highway 61 North, they started coming down, except one who decided to go down by the riverside to find the missing Bob and his "X". He did manage to find him but did not get to score. Seven pilots came back for a fantastic glow for the very large crowd in attendance. It was a cooler evening and other than soaked clothes the crowd got a real privilege by coming out onto the field and getting a first hand experience with the balloons. Many young and young at heart were able to get in the baskets to have their photographs taken. The Fort Madison Democrat made up programs with space for pilots' information and places for them to sign. From the pilots' point of view they did a great job with the layout of the location, vendors and ease of access to the field, then quick access to propane after the glow at the Airport parking lot. Thanks to all the sponsors and the guys at ProGas for allowing us to get high and glow for the crowd.

Sat. a.m. was called by Mr. Bob as a "FIT", Fly-in Task, to the soccer field. The "X" was in the middle of the field and you had to be a minimum of ½ mile away from the target so it took out the option of using the back of the airport. Most

pilots went out northwest. If you were first off or east of the pibal readings you had a shot at the soccer field. Many pilots got close but ended up just off the airport runway. Scott Wooge, STL and Ray Wilson, Quincy; found the winds to get in for a score and one other pilot decided after missing it the first time to go back and do it again as the target did not close until 9:00 am. At 8:50 here came the Good-n-plenty, Greg Saul, floating over the field for a score. Old proverb said; "If at first you don't succeed, just fly fly again". Tom Klitz, Quincy and Jim G. from STL decided to make the name, "Balloons over the Mississippi", a reality ending up on the Illinois side in Niota just north of Nauvoo. One balloon passenger reported her flight was too short, too slow and not exciting. However, when you have had a previous windy, fast and exciting landing; 6 mph winds and ½ mph over the corn are just not as fun for some passengers / crew members.

Saturday p.m. found the heat to be almost 100 degrees and the winds now coming out of the South. Mr. Bob called a Hare-n-hound task with his long time friend Al Rousch of Macomb, IL as the Hare. Pilots started inflating after Al was hot inflated. He was to fly for at least 20 minutes at 1,000 feet A.G.L. (Above-ground-level). Nanette Griffin of Griffin Mufflers "4-Year Sponsor" was to put out the "X" to the right of Al's balloon. The winds for the evening allowed for 90 degree steering. Noted: we had the same kind of steering Friday night but only a right turn to the south on Saturday a.m. Very strange as it is usually the other way around, however you have to consider the heating, jet streams, high heat and the river is over a mile wide just only 4 miles from the airport. Al was off going up and down, left and right and several combinations. A couple of pilots were high and actually passed him up before he got down and Nanette got the "X" out. Eldon "Gomer" Benus, Keokuk, IA, with a lucky 12 y.o. passenger/crew Aaron Sessions were keeping a close eye on Mr. Al and got lucky with the winds to float just to the east of the "X". With about 50 feet to get to the center a hearty wind up was in order. No I did not wrap the baggie in the load ropes or put it up into the envelope like an unnamed pilot at the Eldon, Mo. race with the initials HH, and then drop it 1-mile later when it fell out. I did actually get it close enough to score first on this target with Frank Hines, STL in Sailors Delight a very close second. One other pilot did an "oops" and he reported that the scoring crew refused to climb a tree to get his baggie out.

Saturday p.m. glow found all 15 pilots on the soccer field preparing to glow after the AirEvac Chopper left the grounds. Another night of cooler temperatures and a nice cool breeze coming off the river made for a great and climactic end to a good and safe weekend of ballooning. The public was again allowed to get out on the field after Mr. Bob gave his approval to come out with no smoking allowed. It was reported there were over two thousand people in attendance, this being the largest number reported

ever for this event.

We would like to thank all the Fort Madison Convention & Visitors Bureau Committee, all the event sponsors, vendors, radio, TV, and support people for helping to bring in the folks for another very good event this year. A special thanks to Mr. Bob Corey and Mr. Al Reusch for putting on a fun and very challenging event this year and more to come.

The final results were:

- 1st - Ray Wilson, Quincy Ill.
- 2nd - Scott Wooge, St.Louis MO.
- 3rd - Eldon Benus, Keokuk IA.
- 4th - Frank Hines, St.Louis MO.

From the digital desk of: Eldon "Gomer" Benus, Pilot  
1201 High Street Keokuk, Iowa 52632  
319-795-7911 hotairballoonist2003@hotmail.com  
www.tristategolfcars.com

### **Eldon, Missouri**

This was quite a weekend! Quite a HOT weekend to be exact. I canceled a flight tonight because it was 97 degrees at 6 o'clock. Wouldn't have been any fun for the pax or the crew!

But, it wasn't hot enough to stop the balloons in Eldon!

Cheri and I arrived a little late but it made no difference since only one balloon flew. We set up on the west end of the field and glowed for an hour while more people than I thought actually lived in Eldon came by to pick up cards and jump back whenever we hit the burner. I think there were 20 balloons set up in a field made for about 10 but all went well.

Saturday morning the fog dissipated quickly but the high pressure and high temps made the wind almost nonexistent so Jerry Tierman, balloon meister and event organizer opted to send us on a hare and hound from the field. Mark and Ben were there to help so I asked Mark if he could drive the chase so Cheri could ride along with me for the race. An uneventful if crowded launch after the hare left (Carol in the CMSU balloon with the Mule on the side) sent us inching along behind several others in hot pursuit. She set it down on the south/east side of the highway a few fields in and the winds somehow managed to push us to just the right spot where we could toss our baggie down 9 inches from center. Not bad for an amateur! After we flew on, we called the crew and I asked Cheri to take over the controls while I looked at the map to try to figure out where we were. We set down in a field with several other balloons and after a bit the crew drove up and assisted walking it over into the next field which was a little more fabric friendly. Cheri discovered what effect one burn too many can have as we shoved her

over the fence but managed to get it all under control before floating into the next field.

An uneventful day followed except that Carl Edwards won the Busch race. I went down to visit Elaine, Mark and Paul at their cabin on the lake for an hour or so. Denis and friends went tractor hunting and a group of ladies went shopping at the lake. What excitement we balloonists have on Saturday afternoons!

That night another Hare and Hound sent us chasing Jim in the Lottery balloon to the northwest of town. Ben and I managed to work the balloon into the correct field but were far enough away that a serious windup and toss was the only thing that would get us into the scoring area. Unfortunately, the windup worked to perfection but the toss went straight up into the balloon and fell helplessly suspended on the top of the skirt inside the balloon. Disgusting out of reach and stubbornly hanging on despite shaking of the load tapes. It turned into a record breaking toss because it finally came free about a mile past the field!

Sunday morning sent us straight north, following the CMSU Mule again. Despite calm winds on the surface the winds at even a few hundred feet were moving quickly. The fastest I noticed on the GPS was 23 MPH. This always makes for some neat looking scenes because we notice we are headed a little to far to the right so we drop down to get some left in the slower winds only to hear the balloon that had been behind us fly past us overhead. First Layne and I and then Andrew and I played hopscotch a few times during this flight. At one point it looked like the mule was never going to stop but I feared catching up too soon to take advantage of surface steerage so Jacob (Son of Rick and Karmen Goosey) and I dropped into this valley that had a dead end to the left. I figured that may keep the winds from moving us too much that way but still slow us down so she could find a place to land. Sure enough, we first slowed to a near stop then slowly began drifting to the south! Cool! Hung around there for a few minutes as several other balloons flew past. When we finally came up out of the valley we were still in line with the mule as she set down among a field of big bales. Most of the balloons were right on her tail but she got the X out quickly and deflated so we could have a shot at it. Those light slightly variable winds slowly drifted us toward, away from then back toward the X where we finally dropped it maybe 15-20 inches off the center. Never found out exactly how close it was but it was only about 2-3 inches closer than Gary Whitby's marker. Close call!

A new record for me! I scored on more than one target in a balloon event! And even though I missed the Saturday night target by literally a mile it was still enough to get us the First Place Trophy! Never had one of those before either!! Way Cool!

The event went off very well. Loads of people showed up for the glows on Friday and Saturday. One older fellow told us that there were more there than usually shows up for the county fair.

Thanks to Jerry and Rosa and the Lion's club for putting us up and feeding our balloons propane. It was a fun event and we hope you will do it again next year!

Lots of Love!  
Herb

### **IWCC Concludes with Another Successful Event** by Luckie Lawrence

And another successful LIGHTER THAN AIR AFFAIR has come to a close at IWCC. The event took place on Aug, 25th 26th and 27th this year. Forty balloons were entered in the 3 day blast and about 25 saw some flying action at some point during the weekend.

Weather as always played a significant role in the activities. Friday's event the popular Balloon Glow was attempted but winds prevented many from inflating. Both Saturday morning and evening saw several balloons fly and Sunday was the best in number of launches. "It was spectacular" said one observer. Nearly all the balloons were in the air at one point and the crowd was not disappointed.

Other specialties were our own Gene Elsasser and the REMAX balloon offering tethered rides to the public and again this year we were blessed to have Serena Song for handicapped persons. However winds kept her from taking many up this year. They said they are approaching their 16,000th handicap or elderly rider in this equipment.

This year the event was scheduled 2 weeks later in the month than in past. This was done to gain more student participation in the activities. This led to 4 more concession stands being offered. About 100 volunteers helped with the outing including several students for the first time. Many are ready to come back and help again next year.

Pam Beale from IWCC said crowds were estimated at 14,000 like last year and she expects the funds raised also to be very good however final numbers haven't been completed as of yet.

Thirty-three corporate sponsors lead by Council Bluffs' own Ameristar, donated to the event or made significant contributions in other forms.

The Nebraska Balloon Club was very well represented as nearly all of our pilots attended and most if not all flew.

After Sunday's flight pilots and crew were invited to a wonderful buffet brunch at Ameristar Casino. Emcee-meister Don Fenster led the event and introduced key people that made the event run so well. He also attempted some Fenster humor. If anyone has a joke for him next year

he is interested.

Balloonmeister Rich Jaworski presented the awards to the winning pilots and everyone adjourned to begin planning next year's event.

*Reprinted with permission of Rich Jaworski, from the Nebraska Balloon Club newsletter.*

## **Great Pershing Balloon Derby**

Brookfield, Missouri

As everyone knows, this year's events have been plagued with poor weather. After arriving to Brookfield, Missouri during the Labor Day Weekend, the weather appeared to be in the Balloonist favor.

Once again, the Elks Lodge was the site of the pilot registration with 48 registered Balloon pilots. Brad Craig & Bill Clemons flew over Brookfield while the 8 balloon pilots were getting ready for the main street glow.

Saturday morning, Balloonmistress Karin Riepe called a 4 part task - FOT, FIT, Gordon Bennett and MJDG.

- ◆ 1st Task (FOT) - was the Pethren Cup - 1st - Brad Craig, 2nd - Paul Petrehn, and 3rd - Jeremy Rubin. 17 pilots were able to score.
- ◆ 2nd Task (FIT) at the Balloon Field - 1st - Benji Clemons, 2nd - Bill Clemons, 3rd - Dan Corbin. Only 6 pilots scored on the field.
- ◆ 3rd Task (GMB) - only 2 pilots scored - 1st - Bill Clemons, 2nd - Benji Clemons.
- ◆ 4th Task (MJDG) - no pilots were able to score.

Saturday evening, the weather cooperated very well. The odd pilots flew from the field with the Hare Balloon being Terry Reipe. The even pilots were given the opportunity to field into the balloon field for the crowd. Nite Glow followed.

Sunday a.m. - the rained cancelled the morning activity but gave the crews a chance to catch up on sleep, except for a few who played football in the rain.

Sunday p.m., the rain moved out and the balloons were able to fly. Once again, the even pilots flew from the field with the Hare Balloon being Rick Goosey. The odd pilots flew into the balloon field with great success. Tom Ricke was able to get a duck in the pond (which hasn't happened in 5 plus years).

Monday a.m. brought poor weather with FOG.

Overall Results - 1st Bill Clemons, 2nd Benji Clemons, 3rd Brad Craig, 4th Paul Petrehn, 5th Jeremy Rubin.

Thanks to the Staff of Green Hills Ballooning for another Great Pershing Balloon Derby and we look forward to next year's event.

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**Thanks** to the following for their contributions: Meika Bartholomew, Eldon Benus, Brett Boerner, Sandy Drake, Jim Fromm, Max Harris, Herb Heriford, Rich Jaworski, John & Tracy Jensen, Luckie Lawrence, Don Prine, Gerry Prine, and Mark Weeks

### BOI Halloween Party

Saturday, October 28th 6:30 p.m.

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Chili Cook-off

Costume Judging



**Theme: Come dressed as: "What I want to be when I grow up"**

#### Newsletter Deadline

November 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

#### Balloon Federation of America Pay BFA Dues Online

Online BFA members can renew their BFA membership directly on line at the BFA web site by going to [www.bfa.net](http://www.bfa.net) and select "Join the BFA" in the upper corner of the front page. Pilots, Student pilots and crew who wish to join the Balloon Federation of America can join on line as well, at [www.bfa.net](http://www.bfa.net) or call the Balloon Federation of America office, 515 961-8809.