

Touch and Go

BALLONS OVER IOWA

September - October, 2007

2007 National Balloon Classic

*Pilots Fly Record Number of Flights - 16 out of 17 possible
Indianola Pilot Grabs the \$10,000 Pole Grab*

The adjectives to describe the 2007 Classic are endless - awesome, beautiful, incredible, picturesque, amazing, exciting, hot, exhausting, grueling; but the word boring definitely could not be used. There were not enough hours in the day for sleep. We flew every morning, except one, and we flew **every** evening.

Pilots and crews arrived Friday ready to fly. Balloonmeister Matt Fenster and his assistants Todd Isley, John Jensen and Jeremy Rubin called the first task - a Fly-in task. Scott Armstrong started off strong with a 0.0 ft drop on the target. Only 9 pilots scored, as most missed the field to the west.

Saturday am was a pre-competition flight - only 2 tasks - a FIT and a JDG at the Middle School. Maury Petrehn had a 0.5 ft drop on the FIT and Layne Wolters had a 0.6 ft drop on the JDG. After the mandatory pilot briefing, Don Fenster spoke about the BCFA (Balloon Crew Federation of America). His speech got mixed reviews - of course the pilots were none too pleased with some of the crew rights. At the Pilots' meeting before the evening flight, the FAA presented Dick Drake with the "Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award" for 50 years of dedication to Aviation Safety. Phyllis was presented with a Spouse Recognition pin. Congratulations Dick & Phyllis. The flight was a Hare & Hound mass ascension from the field with the 3 assistant balloonmeisters flying as the Hares. Only 20 pilots were able to score on the Hares. Rich Jaworski had the best throw at 3.11 ft.

Sunday morning, the competition began with Matt calling 4 tasks. On the first task, a JDG, 74 out of the 87 pilots scored. Ken Schroeder got first with a 1 ft drop. Next was a Maximum Distance Double Drop with 27 pilots scoring. Dick Drake was able to place his baggies 561 feet apart. The third task was a JDG at Simpson College. Steve Jones placed his baggie at 1.0 feet. Lastly was a MJDG west of town. 39 pilots made those targets, with Grant Pfeifer dropping his baggie dead center. Sunday evening the field was split - even pilots flying in with Grant Pfeifer in first with a 12.09 ft drop. The odd numbered pilots flew out to a MJDG with Ralph Rieck in first with a 10 ft drop.

Monday morning the winds had switched to the south. Matt & company called 3 tasks. The first target was a JDG on a dike on a pond. 35 pilots were able to drop in on the narrow target. Paul Quandee dropped .03 feet. The second target of the morning was a FIT with a donut and donut hole at the balloonfield. Dan Corbin got first with a .05 ft drop. At the MJDG northwest of the field, Aaron Foelske dropped his baggie in the center of the X. Monday evening all pilots flew into the field with Gary Haynes in first with a 4.02 ft drop.

Tuesday morning was again a 4 part task. First was a maximum distance double drop. Then a JDG at Mikklus's, a CRAT at the balloon field & a JDG on Harrison St. 21 pilots made it to the first target. John Shelton placed his 2 baggies 295 ft apart. No one made it to the other 3 targets. Matt later said he wouldn't let John Jensen help pick targets again! Tuesday evening the field was again split. Jay Holcomb (3.08 ft) & Brad Craig (29.06 ft) got first place on the FIT & MJDG. Ken Wolters grabbed a \$250 pole.

The BCFA controversy continued throughout the week. Terry Riepe & other pilots formed the Anti-BCFA and the BCFA called for a crew strike. Maury Petrehn was heard to say "Can't we just all get along". Several crews filed grievances against their pilots. Joel Worthington's crew filed a grievance that he hadn't scored yet and then provided him with a GPS guided baggie - it worked, he started scoring after that. Rob Bartholomew's crew filed a grievance when he forgot to ice down the cooler.

Wednesday morning we were still flying - this was the 10th flight in a row. The officials called 4 tasks - JDG south of the field, JDG at the field, JDG on Harrison, MJDG just off Summerset Rd. Scott Armstrong had a 1.03' drop at the first JDG. Todd Isley dropped his baggie .04' at the second JDG and went directly to the third JDG & dropped .06'. Gary Haynes threw 3.02ft to win the MJDG. Wednesday evening Holly Pfeifer was the only pilot to score on the MJDG and Aaron Gebhart was the top score on the FIT, with only 5

(continued - page 4)

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Letter from President Meika

Hello to all my friends!

The Classic is over and it has been reported that a good time was had by all. Lots of flights, cooperating weather, good competition, and the usual great camaraderie. Vice President Sandy and I had a wonderful time at the balloonport. We were left in charge and in Dad's absence had a lot of political activists stop to solicit our support. Somehow, the young politicians concluded we are party animals.

The good news is we have a new source of revenue for BOI and we don't have to wait until October 27 for the next party. Dad is a bit concerned about the tentatively scheduled Bash at the Balloonport during the weekend of the Southwest Iowa Pro Balloon Race at Creston. I told him we are just trying to resurrect those times when parties at the balloon port went way past midnight.

Sandy and I remember that we always have frost on the pumpkins by Creston. We don't understand much about global warming, but it sure seems hotter and wetter than it used to be. The Arizona branch of BOI reports a record number of triple digit days this summer. As part of our platform for pending BOI presidential selections, we are considering establishment of a task force to study the effects of global warming on hot air ballooning. The task force will probably be modeled like our highly successful Retirement Home Planning and Site Acquisition Committee.

I hope all BOI members support our political activity on your behalf. We pledge to continue to work behind the scenes to support your opportunities.

Always remember to fly often and to:

Fly Safely,
Meika

BOI Halloween Party

Saturday, October 27th
6:30 p.m.

Pumpkin Carving Contest
Chili Cook-off
Costume Judging

Theme "Pirates of the Caribbean"




Letter from Vice-President Sandy

Greetings from Radcliff, IA! Can you believe this weather we have been having?

It was another great year for the 2007 Community State Bank National Balloon Classic. I can not recall when the last time was that everyone flew all morning and evening flights with the exception for the last morning of the event. I am so proud of Dad for the honor bestowed on him during the Classic. He was presented with the "Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award" for 50 years of dedication to Aviation Safety. Mom was presented with a Spouse Recognition pin. This seemed to be the year of the poll grabs with pilots cashing in on \$250 and \$500. Those pilots winning pole grabs included Brian Seymour, Ken Walters, and Adam Boden. The big \$10,000 pole grab winner was Kirk Bloom. Herb Heriford's crew was crowned the 2007 Crew of the Year! Scott Armstrong was crowned the 2007 National Balloon Classic Champion! Congratulations to all. This year the Classic recorded the largest evening crowds on hand. Great job to all the officials, volunteers, and sponsors!

Meika and I managed to sign up for the BCFA (Balloon Crew Federation of America). We are now proud members of this prestigious club for crew members. Hey Eric Brown and Don Fenster, any chance of getting specials shirts for us? I know Dad and Rob are disappointed in our signing up for the BCFA, but as Mom and Linda says we must do what is best for the crew. Now, I did hear that Dad and Rob signed up for the Anti-BCFA so they're working against us, and the rights of all crew members. If you are interested in joining the BCFA or the Anti BCFA you can contact one of the following BCFA officials: Eric Brown (BCFA President), Don Fenster (BCFA Vice-President), Julie Ricke (BCFA Secretary of State), and Bill Craig (BCFA Chief of Security). For those interested in the Anti-BCFA you can contact Terry Riepe (Anti-BCFA President). What it all boils down to is everyone is having fun! For those of you that were not at the classic to part take in the BCFA vs. Anti BCFA I'm sure the minutes from the week will be published.

In talking with representatives from the Brookfield Balloon Derby, they stated this was one of the best events for Brookfield with great flying weather and the best crowd attendance. The representatives stated the other activity such as the parade was a success and the Ugly shoe contest, well, it had some unbelievable shoes being showcased. Great job to the Brookfield Balloon committee, officials and volunteers! For more updates on the Brookfield derby and the Classic check out the full articles and photos inside this newsletter!

Dad has decided, at this time, not to go forward in purchasing a non-standard balloon. He told me the other

night I have a tendency to talk too much and dream a lot. Dad explained that he would prove that regular shapes are the way to go.

The Creston Balloon rally is fast approaching. With the great weather the other events have had maybe Creston will get lucky this year, weather wise, and all flights will happen!

Several Iowans will be making the annual venture down to Albuquerque, NM the first part of the October to participate in the 36th annual Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. I will be anxious to read all about their journey. They always seem to have an adventure down there!

Don't forget that the Balloons over Iowa meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each month. The Balloons over Iowa Halloween Bash is being planning as I paw this article out. More information on the Halloween party will be published inside the newsletter

Before I sign off I would like to thank JJ and Patricia Johnson for helping my folks about during the Classic. I'm going to say the Drakes and Johnson group had way too much fun this year! And thanks to Carol Harris and her team for doing an awesome job with the newsletter! Great work!

Until next time keep looking up!

Sandy Drake

Balloons Over Iowa Repair Station

Rob & Linda Bartholomew

18999 Blue Pl., Carlisle, IA

Phone: 515 989-3708

email: balloonsoveriowa@msn.com



Pilot Relations Meeting

Thursday, August 30, 2007

Attendees: Crazy Al, John Jensen, Jim & Cheryl Gebhart, Max & Carol Harris, Sheri Clark

Thank you for everyone's feedback. Roughly 20 comment forms were submitted and discussed. I will have ALL the comment sheets available during Brookfield and until the next meeting.

Pilot Relations next meeting Sept 13th (Thursday) 7:00 p.m. Pilot Compound. Agenda: Comment forms & discussion; Baggies.

Thank you,
John Jensen

National Balloon Classic (continued)

pilots scoring. Brian Seymour grabbed a pole for \$250. Thursday morning Matt called a JDG east of the cemetery, a CRAT at the field, and a Watership down with Jim Norris flying from the field. The initial weather report said winds were out of the SW, so everyone headed to the southwest part of town. Only Becky Petrehn scored on the first target and then the winds started switching. We moved 4 or 5 times, getting further north each time, finally launching from the far northwest part of town. Only 15 pilots scored on the CRAT, Todd Isley with top honor at 57 feet. 24 pilots followed Jim to Milo with Leroy Clair dropping 1.03 feet. Thursday evening was a Hare & Hound from the field. Cory Bloom zoomed right in on the X with a .03 ft drop.

Friday morning the winds were back around from the north. The 5 tasks were: a Max distance double drop north of the field, a JDG at Woodruff's farm, a Gordon Bennett Memorial with a boat & a road target at the balloon field, a Minimum distance double drop SW of field, and a JDG SW of the field. Jeff Jones had the best score on the MXDD - 348.11 ft. Brian Seymour got first place on the JDG - 6.03 ft. No one scored on the boat, but a few got their baggies wet trying. David Rapp got the best drop on the road by the pond - 1.01 feet. John Jensen placed his baggies 10.06 feet apart on the MNDD and Steve Jones had a 1.07 ft drop on the JDG. Friday evening the field was again split with Dan Corbin & Al Muir taking the top spots. Adam Boden grabbed a \$250 pole.

Saturday morning the weather finally caught up with us. This would be the only flight canceled for the whole week - ending with flying 16 out of 17 possible flights - a record for the National Balloon Classic.

Saturday afternoon was the Awards Ceremony. Scott Armstrong was named the winner of the 2007 National Balloon Classic. The top 20:

1	Scott Armstrong	11	Bill Clemons
2	Brad Craig	12	Dick Drake
3	Jeremy Rubin	13	Todd Isley
4	Rob Bartholomew	14	Ken Schroeder
5	Ryan Kintzel	15	Bret Christian
6	Maury Petrehn	16	John Jensen
7	Steve Jones	17	Paul Quandee
8	Harold Graves	18	Jeff Jones
9	Cory Bloom	19	Dan Corbin
10	Aaron Foelske	20	Jon Shelton

Crew of the Year - Herb Heriford's crew

John Russell award - Jim Fromm.

Landowner of the Year - Gwen Hodson

Newcomer of the Year - Jeff Jones of Texas

Another highlight of the evening was that the leaders of the BCFA & Anti-BCFA shook hands and agreed to donate the money raised from dues to the 2008 Classic. Jim Thompson of the BFA announced that BFA is filing a Cease & desist order to the BCFA - to change their name to BSCFA.

Saturday evening all pilots flew into the field. For the 4th time this week, someone grabbed a pole, but this time it was the BIG ONE - Kirk Bloom grabbed the tennis ball from the pole to win the \$10,000 prize! He was also able to throw his baggie for a 3.05 ft drop. What a fantastic end to a fantastic week!

A photographer for CNN was assigned to cover southern California's Wildfires. He wanted pictures of the heroic work the firefighters were doing as they battled the blazes. When the photographer arrived on the scene, he realized that the smoke was so thick it would seriously impede, or even make impossible, his getting good photographs from the ground level.

He requested permission from his boss to rent a plane and take photos from the air. His request was approved and he used his cell phone to call the local County airport to charter a flight. He was told a single engine plane would be waiting for him at the airport. Arriving at the airfield, he spotted a plane warming up outside a hanger. He jumped in with his bag, slammed the door shut, and shouted, "Let's go". The pilot taxied out, swung the plane into the wind and roared down the runway.

Once in the air, the photographer instructed the pilot, "Fly over the valley and make two or three low passes so I can take some pictures of the fires on the hillsides."

"Why?" asked the pilot.

"Because I'm a photographer for CNN," he responded. "And I need to get some close-up shots."

The pilot was strangely silent for a moment, finally he stammered, "So, what you're telling me, is...you're NOT my flight instructor?"...

Terry Garrett has competition tape measures he will loan out for competition flights. Contact him - 515 961-2835 or email tgjagarrett@mchsi.com

Congratulations

*Jaden Rose Clair
born July 19
to Leroy & Cathy Clair
7lbs, 9oz, 19½" long*



*Hunter Robert Nutting
born June 22, 6:34 a.m.
to Robert, Jr & Erika Nutting
8lbs, 7oz, 21½" long*



Congratulations to Pat Cloyd who graduated from Johnston High School in May. Pat is currently in Air Force Basic Training for the Air National Guard.

Congratulations to Tim Cloyd who received his Private license August 25th.



Christmas in the Aire

The National Balloon Museum is celebrating the season with an Open House on December 8th from 10:00-4:00. Come and view the Christmas Ballooning exhibits and the other historical ballooning displays. Our gift shop is full of unusual and exquisite ballooning items for that unique person on your Christmas list. All purchases will receive 10% off and our members will receive 20% off the price. Refreshments will be served.

BFA News

BFA 2007 National Championship:

- 1 - Joe Heartsill of TX
- 2 - Johnny Petrehn from KS
- 3 - Nick Donner from KY

Jeremy Rubin - Rookie of the Year

BFA National Convention will be held in Louisville, KY April 3-6, 2008

BFA Election results

Great Lakes - Ken Walter At Large - Troy Bradley
Southwest - Shelley Caraway

Japan to USA Flight

Pilots Troy Bradley and Peter Cuneo are planning a flight that will launch from Japan with the goal of reaching the continental U.S. The balloon is named "The Celestial Eagle". The goals of the flight are to break the World Distance Record for gas balloons, and possibly exceeding the World Duration Record for gas balloons. They are planning to launch between November 2007 and January

2008 from Saga, Japan. Crossing the North Pacific, they will make landfall either in the United States or Canada, but could end up landing as far south as Mexico. Web site: www.pacificballoon.com

National Balloon Museum Fashion Fundraiser

Come and share your fashion flare with a ballooning twist!

We are going to be having an exhibit of fashion that is made out of the actual balloon fabric or fabric decorated with balloons. We will have two divisions—Youth (under 16) and Adult (16 and older). The different categories are:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Sundress | Totes |
| Pajamas or nightwear | Children's play outfit |
| Hat or caps | Shorts outfit |
| Blouse | Formal dress |
| Purses | Skirts |
| Hoodies | Boxer shorts |
| Quilt | Pillow |
| Wall hanging | Blanket |

You may enter two categories. Any clothing item must be worn during the show. If you need help in finding a model, we will help you find one. The audience will do the voting on each category during the fundraiser.

Actual balloon fabric may be found at;

- ▶ Balloons Over Iowa Repair Station (Linda Bartholomew) 515-989-3708 in Carlisle, IA
- ▶ Midwest Balloon Services (Louise Clemons) 515-462-2771 Patterson, IA
- ▶ National Ballooning Ltd. (Phil Gray) 515-462-4718 Patterson. IA

The Fashion Fundraiser will be Saturday, January 26th, 2008 at the National Balloon Museum 1601 North Jefferson Way Indianola, IA 50125. There will a brunch served during the show from 10:00-12:00.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Category(ies) _____

Entry deadline is December 15th, 2007.

**NATIONAL BALLOON MUSEUM
2008 Photo Contest
Official Entry Form**

Complete the information below and then attach it to the back of your photograph entry.
One form must be filled out for each photograph submitted.

Entrant Name:
Address:
City, State, Zip Code:
Home Phone Number:
Work Phone Number:
Email Address:
Photo Description:

Publicity Release/Permission to Reprint Form

By signing below I, the entrant of this contest and photographer of the photo(s) submitted, give permission to the National Balloon Museum to reprint the photo(s), which I have entered into this contest, in various media formats for an unlimited amount of time and at no cost to the National Balloon Museum.

Indemnity

By signing below I, the entrant of the 2008 National Balloon Museum Photo Contest and the photographer of the photo(s) submitted, indemnify the National Balloon Museum, the Judging committee and hold these parties harmless from and against any and all claims, actions, proceedings, judgment, damages, injuries, orders, losses, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees), arising from or related to the entrant's infringement of the intellectual property rights, or other rights of third parties by the entrant.

Property Rights

By signing below, I the entrant of the 2008 National Balloon Museum Photo Contest and the photographer of the photo(s) submitted do hereby release the photo to become the property of the National Balloon Museum.

Entrant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Form must be signed to be considered a valid entry.

Submissions should be received by **August 29, 2008**

Mail entries to:

National Balloon Museum Photo Contest
%Becky Wigeland, Curator
P.O. Box 149, Indianola, IA 50125-0149

Calendar of Events

- Oct. 6-7 **Milton Historical Society Heritage Days & Balloon Event** Milton, WI. Contact Jim Bushelle: n1965n@ticon.net
- October 21 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- October 27 **BOI Halloween Party** BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- Oct. 27-28 **John Symonds Memorial Challenge** LaCrosse, WI. Contact Tom Wittman BumsInParadise@new.rr.com
- October 6-14 **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta** Albuquerque, NM www.aibf.org
- October 13 **Winterset flight**. Contact Bill Clemons
- October 20 **Jill Rubin memorial flight** Newton, IA. Contact Joel Worthington
- November 18 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- November 30-December 2 **Battle Creek, MI Holiday Fest** www.holidayballoonfest.com
- December 1-2 **Bluff's and Valley Balloon Race** Caledonia, MN
- December 8 **Christmas in the Aire** National Balloon Museum
- January 26th, 2008 **Fashion Fundraiser** at the National Balloon Museum
- July 25- August 2, 2008 **National Balloon Classic** Contact Greg Marchant - 515-961-8415 or info@nationalballoonclassic.com
- Race organizers - please send your dates, etc for 2008 to Carol - hotairflyn@aol.com*

Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| John & Barbara Lewis | 10-1 |
| Mark & Deanna Ziino | 10-10 |
| Shawn & Jodi Erger | 10-15 |
| Chris & Angie Reinert | 10-19 |
| Denny & Lynn Craig | 10-20 |
| Tim & Elsie Cloyd | 10-23 |
|  | |
| 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

- | | October | | November |
|----------------------|---------|---------------------|----------|
| Nazzle Jensen | 10-1 | Kim Anderson | 11-1 |
| Kierstin Keller | 10-1 | Avery Rubin | 11-2 |
| Dennis Shull | 10-1 | CJ Ong | 11-3 |
| Scott Allsup | 10-2 | Mackenzie Hermanson | 11-4 |
| Trinity Keller | 10-3 | Madison Frame | 11-7 |
| Pamela Winkenwerder | 10-3 | Ashlynn Williams | 11-7 |
| Rhonda Bishop | 10-4 | Kim Snyder | 11-7 |
| Alisa Lawrence | 10-4 | Reece Rubin | 11-8 |
| Mark Weeks | 10-6 | Madelyn Jones | 11-10 |
| Dena Dittmer | 10-7 | Lexi Oponski | 11-11 |
| Jerry Riley | 10-8 | Andy Sponsler | 11-11 |
| Rhonda Thomm | 10-8 | Mark Ziino | 11-11 |
| BJ Anderson | 10-10 | Colton Craig | 11-12 |
| Sean Carey | 10-10 | Sage Patterson | 11-12 |
| Allan Keller | 10-10 | Tyler Pedersen | 11-16 |
| Scott Moon | 10-10 | Leonard Taylor | 11-17 |
| Alex Funaro | 10-11 | Kennedy Dalby | 11-19 |
| Caitlin Oponski | 10-11 | Tamara Frame | 11-20 |
| Mary Eagan | 10-13 | Boyd Tyler | 11-20 |
| Jim E. Phelan | 10-13 | Stephen Foltz | 11-21 |
| Russell Winkenwerder | 10-13 | Allison Jensen | 11-21 |
| Emily Fenster | 10-14 | Becca Bridgewater | 11-22 |
| Tracy Jensen | 10-14 | Ben Smith | 11-22 |
| Hana Appenzeller | 10-16 | Suzy Foley | 11-22 |
| Gina Garrett | 10-17 | Jim Fromm | 11-25 |
| Savannah Christian | 10-20 | Warren Stone | 11-26 |
| Savannah Christian | 10-20 | Deb Bridgewater | 11-27 |
| Jim Thompson | 10-20 | Charlie Thorman | 11-27 |
| Joe Thompson | 10-20 | Kaitlin Wiley | 11-29 |
| Roger Woodruff | 10-20 | | |
| Esther Snyder | 10-21 | | |
| Ruth Holcomb | 10-26 | | |
| Brett Boerner | 10-29 | | |
| Kay Fee | 10-29 | | |
| Sara Pieper | 10-29 | | |



2007 National Balloon Classic



Dick Drake was presented with the Wright Brothers Award from the FAA



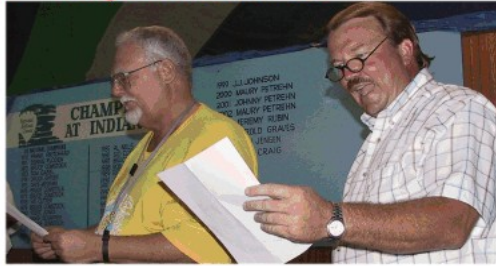
A big smile for the camera!



Jim Thompson, Deke Sonnichsen, Wally Forbes & Gary Ruble. Mr. Sonnichsen and Mr. Forbes' brother Malcom were inducted into the Ballooning Hall of Fame.



Don Fenster & Julie Ricke of the BCFA



Bill Griffin & Terry Riepe of the Anti-BCFA



Don & Gerry Prine



Thanks to the Launch Directors & the Scorers



The Bear balloon launches from the newly re-built Farmers Chapel



Target on the Dike



Jerry Tierman flies over the X



Flying over the Iowa corn

Thompsons relax on the envelope bag



Classic photos by Dan Harris, Max Harris, Donna Mason, Mark Weeks, Jody Woodruff, & Carol Harris



BCFA & Anit-BCFA put aside their differences & shake hands



Bob Shelton presents Jim & Rita Fromm with the Jon Russell Spirit of Ballooning Award



Top 20 - John Shelton, Dan Corbin, Todd Isley, Bret Christian, Dick Drake, Bill Clemons, Cory Bloom, Harold Graves, Rob Bartholomew, Ryan Kintzel, Aaron Foelske, Jeremy Rubin, Brad Craig, Scott Armstrong



Race Directors: Jeremy Rubin, Todd Isley, Matt Fenster & John Jensen



#2 - Brad Craig, #1 - Scott Armstrong, #3 - Jeremy Rubin



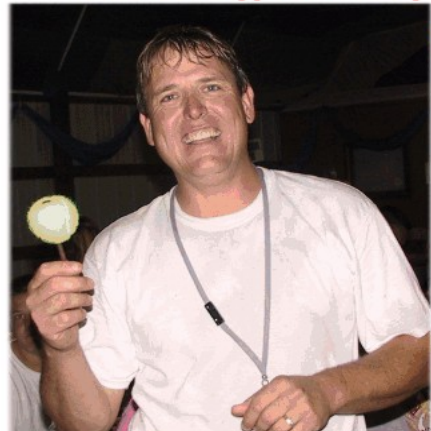
Touch & Go



Spectating at the Cemetary?



Kirk Bloom approaches the pole!



Kirk grabbed the tennis ball for \$10,000



Brookfield



Jon Shelton watches his baggie. He got 2nd place in the task with a 3.35 meter drop



Brookfield parade - coming & going!



Kirk Bloom over the target



Paul Petrehn & Jason Jones



Pilots drop in for the target over the creek



Paul Petrehn presents the Petrehn Cup to Jim Thompson



Jeremy King



#2 - Paul Petrehn #1 Cory Bloom #3 - Todd Isley



Grandpa & Colton help with pack up



Photos by Sherry Teschau & Carol Harris



NTSB Reports

NTSB Identification: IAD05CA141.

Saturday, September 24, 2005 in Louisville, KY
Aircraft: Lindstrand Balloons 77A, registration: N4024P
Injuries: 1 Serious, 2 Uninjured.

The ground crewman grabbed onto the basket of the balloon upon landing. As she did so, her feet slipped from under her on the wet grass, and the balloon lifted into the air. When the basket of the balloon reached about 8 feet above the ground, the crewman lost her grip, fell to the ground, and was seriously injured. The crewman stated that she held onto the basket only because she had lost her footing.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The ground crewman's failure to release the basket of the balloon when it resumed flight during the landing phase. A factor in the accident was the wet grass at the landing site.

NTSB Identification: DEN06LA016.

Sunday, October 02, 2005 in Kendall, KS
Aircraft: Abruzzo Grom-1, registration: N96YD
Injuries: 1 Serious, 1 Uninjured.

The balloon, USA-1, was participating in the Gordon Bennett race. It had been aloft for 22 hours and had traveled some 350 to 400 miles. Cruising about 35 mph in "smooth air" at 7,000 feet msl, it encountered "mid-afternoon dry thermals" and a "sudden and unexpected downdraft." The dry thermals forced the balloon into an "extreme" and uncontrolled descent. The variometer "pegged" at 1,500 feet per minute descent. The crew attempted to arrest the descent rate by throwing ballast overboard, but was unsuccessful and the balloon collided with power lines. The entangled gondola severed the power lines and the balloon ascended rapidly. As it ascended, the gondola "pitched violently as much as 60 degrees" and the pilot fell out at a height approximately 30 to 40 feet. The balloon ascended with the copilot still on board. Using a satellite telephone, she notified the chase crew and gave them the location of the accident. The balloon ascended to 14,000 feet msl before the copilot was able to "[execute] a controlled descent." The balloon hit the ground hard approximately 8 miles from the accident site.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the downdraft forcing the balloon into the power lines. A contributing factor was the clear air turbulence and the power lines.

NTSB Identification: DEN06CA009.

Friday, October 07, 2005 in Albuquerque, NM
Aircraft: Lindstrand Balloons 210S, registration: N211LB
Injuries: 1 Serious, 10 Uninjured.

According to the pilot, the winds had increased prior to landing. During the landing, "the basket bounced on contact once and came to rest upright." One passenger complained of a sore wrist and 3 days later, x-rays revealed a broken bone in her arm. According to the passenger, the landing was rough and it was windy. She stated the basket bounced twice and she came forward, crushing her arm and hand between her body and the basket of the balloon.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the improper decision by the pilot to continue with the landing and the hard landing encountered by the pilot. Contributing to the accident were the high winds and the proper descent rate not being possible.

NTSB Identification: LAX06CA012.

Saturday, October 08, 2005 in Globe, AZ
Aircraft: Aerostar RX-8, registration: N5161Y
Injuries: 1 Serious.

The balloon was damaged and the pilot injured after encountering a wind gust during a landing. After receiving a weather report with no notation of adverse conditions, the pilot launched the balloon for a pleasure flight in the desert landscape. After several hours he opted to touchdown below a ridge located next to a road. After the basket contacted the surface, a gust of wind dragged the balloon over the ridge, resulting in substantial damage to the foot well and broomstick; the pilot sustained a broken ankle. The pilot reported no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures with the balloon.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the pilot's encounter with a wind gust during landing.

NTSB Identification: DEN06LA002.

Saturday, October 08, 2005 in Albuquerque, NM
Aircraft: Aerostar S57-A, registration: N3635U
Injuries: 3 Uninjured.

The pilot stated that after briefing the crew on a "splash and dash" (touching down in the water and lifting off again) on a sand bar in the middle of the Rio Grande River, he took off

NTSB Reports (continued)

again, and climbed up and cleared a tree at the edge of the water, allowing the balloon to cool and descend towards the river. The crown line and vent line caught a tree branch and he was continuing to burn while the vent line was being held open." A crew from the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) arrived within 1-2 minutes and "they were able to free the crown line first but the vent line was being held open and once the crown line was freed, the balloon continued to vent and the basket descended into the water. The balloon's throat collapsed and the envelope started to deflate. I evacuated the crewmembers to the APD personnel while the envelope and basket were drawn into the water. The current was too swift to recover the balloon system despite the assistance of 2 APD personnel and 5 bystanders."

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the pilot's improper in flight planning decision to takeoff and land (splash and dash) in close proximity to trees. Contributing factors are the trees and the water.

NTSB Identification: NYC06CA022.

Sunday, October 30, 2005 in Bethlehem Twp., NJ
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons O-90, registration: N4066X
Injuries: 1 Serious.

A ground crewmember was assisting in the inflation and launch of a hot air balloon. Just prior to lift-off, as the pilot was adding heat for the climb out, the crewmember became entangled in the two vent lines that were draped outside of the balloon's basket. When the balloon lifted off, the crewmember was lifted approximately 75 feet above ground level. The pilot attempted to lose altitude by venting hot air from the envelope, but was unable, as both vent lines were wrapped about the crewmember's right ankle. The pilot then attempted to get the crewmember closer to the ground by aiming at a small tree. The balloon struck the tree at a downward angle, the crewman became untangled, fell through a barn roof, and sustained serious injuries.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The ground crewmember's inadvertent entanglement in the balloon's vent lines.

NTSB Identification: LAX06CA046.

Friday, November 25, 2005 in Rancho Santa Fe, CA
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons -180, registration: N4506B
Injuries: 12 Uninjured.

The balloon collided with a tree while attempting to land during a revenue sightseeing flight. The pilot said that he was descending to land in a golf course at the time of the accident and collided with a tree short of the intended

landing zone after inadvertently shutting off the number 2 burner. The crossover valve for that burner is in close proximity to the burner handle. About 30 feet above the ground, the balloon collided with an eucalyptus tree. The balloon envelope tore slowly enough to safely drop the basket to the ground. None of the 11 passengers and crew onboard were injured.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the pilot's inadvertent deactivation of the number 2 burner, which resulted in an increased rate of descent and a collision with a tree short of the intended landing zone.

NTSB Identification: DEN06CA069.

Saturday, April 22, 2006 in Albuquerque, NM
Aircraft: Aerostar International RX 8, registration: N7142S
Injuries: 1 Serious, 2 Uninjured.

According to the pilot and the passengers, the flight was uneventful. The pilot stated that he elected to perform a "high wind landing." The basket tipped over during the landing and the passenger stated that she lost her balance, resulting in serious injury to her ankle. There was no damage to the balloon and no further injuries reported by the pilot or remaining passenger. The pilot reported the winds as 010 degrees at 7 knots. The pilot reported no anomalies with the balloon's systems.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the pilot's inability to maintain a proper descent rate due to the high winds, resulting in a hard landing. A contributing factor was the high wind conditions.

NTSB Identification: NYC06CA117.

Monday, May 22, 2006 in Montvale, VA
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons Z-120, registration: N1072S
Injuries: 1 Serious, 4 Uninjured.

According to the pilot, while attempting to land a hot air balloon, the winds became "gusty" at 10 to 15 knots and he initiated a "high wind landing." According to a passenger, the pilot had told him that it was supposed to "calm." The passenger estimated, however; that the wind was probably around 20 knots. He stated that during the landing the balloon "hit pretty hard" and the basket tipped over horizontally and dragged to a stop. He recalled that when the basket tipped over, another passenger stated that it "felt like something was on her feet" and he later realized that both of her ankles were broken.

The Way It Was

25 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ September 25-26, 1982 Ground School. 11 students present
- ★ October 1982 – First BOI Newsletter. Editor was Ed Bowles. “Welcome to the new Balloons Over Iowa monthly newsletter. We hope to be able to make this publication a monthly report of things that have happened, things scheduled to happen, miscellaneous notes and comments, and a special section devoted to buy, sell and swap. We will be soliciting items for inclusion into this simple newsletter from YOU! We are in hopes that we can fill a current void in our communications and establish a better means to accomplish our desired result: Fun in Ballooning!”
- ★ October 1982 – Tom Link reports on a near collision at 6000 feet. He was flying near Stuart at 6000 feet when his daughter heard the sound of an motor. “Instant panic! To my disbelief, a twin engine green and white plane was coming at us just above basket height. The pilot, like most fixed wingers, was IFR (I Follow Roads), following the Interstate west and not looking ahead. He never saw the balloon and missed us by less than 50 feet. We were waving everything we had but as he passed he was looking in the right seat of his plane. By the way, he parts his hair on the left side. After checking our laundry for stains and making a few gestures to the pilot we descended to 500 ft.”

20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ September '87 Altoona. 3 flights. 1st Bill Clemons 2nd Ralph Rieck, 3rd Jim Thompson
- ★ September '87 Creston 1 flight. 1st Jim Thompson, 2nd Dave Stimpson, 3rd Carol Sherman
- ★ September 1987 Newsletter: Important New Committee formed: Events chairman Wm. Griffin appointed a Blue Ribbon Committee to develop and study a series of important events that will be occurring over the next twenty or so years to the membership of BOI. The committee is to be known as the SHPIC. The SHPIC was charged with the task of planning and developing a site for the BOI Retirement Village.
- ★ September 20, 1987 BOI Board of Directors Meeting. Meeting chaired by Jerry Riley; 29 members present; Discussion on Safety Seminar & a fund raiser for NBC
- ★ Sept 1987 – Wayne Wasson’s 50th BD party – Founding Fathers dressed as women (with bras & dresses) and mooned everyone.
- ★ October 1987 Halloween party – Those present – Daffy Duck, Sylvester, 2 pigs, spider people with cobwebs, a punk rocker, Dennis the Menace, Barbie the clown. Members bobbed for apples – Terry Boettcher got an apple & Jerry Riley almost drowned trying.

15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ 10-18-92 BOI Meeting: 17 members present; Meeting chaired by Marv Blevins; \$1,918.82 in treasury; Motion made to not allow Bill Griffin to have any more beer for the rest of the meeting due to his unruly manner
- ★ 1992 Halloween party: Theme – come as your favorite Disney character. About 75 members were present – Beauty & the Beast, Minnie Mouse, The Little Mermaid, Snow White, 13 of the 101 Dalmatians, Mary Poppins & Bert the Chimney Sweep, Cinderella, Sorcerer & Sorcerer’s Apprentice, a Pirate & several assorted Witches; Steve Matthews & Mason Fromm provided DJ music; Jim Oakes & family roasted pork; Pumpkin carving contest winners – 1st – Tom Harvey, 2nd – Linda Bartholomew, 3rd – Benji Clemons; Costume winners – Children’s – Jim & Georgia Oakes’ granddaughter Katie, Adult – Gary & Marna Ford as Bert the Chimney Sweep & Mary Poppins.

10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Brookfield '97: 37 balloons registered, Balloonmeister Mark Enholm. Winner Maury Petrehn #2 Gary Tarter #3 John Esserman; Maurey Petrehn won the Petrehn cup, Gary Tartar won the Night glow award.
- ★ Jim Thompson & Tina Reeves elected to BFA Board
- ★ National Balloon Museum working on a crew display
- ★ Ester & Ron Snyder are grandparents again - Steve & Carol had a baby boy
- ★ Jim & Georgia Oakes are grandparents again - Jim & Julie had a baby girl
- ★ 9-6-1997 Julie Frueh received her Commercial license
- ★ 9-13-1997 Paul Schneider received his Private license.
- ★ Creston review - 40+ balloons registered. 2 flights, one glow. Winner - Gordy Accuff #2 Ralph Rieck #3 Rich Jaworski
- ★ September 21, 1997 BOI Meeting: 22 members present; Meeting chaired by Dean Ann Netley
- ★ Des Moines's newest Skywalk bridge dedicated to Jim Thompson. The James A. Thompson Skywalk Bridge connects the 3rd & Court parking garage, the Federal Building & the DM Civic Center. Jim is the former director of the DM Traffic & Transportation Department. He retired after working for the city since 1969.
- ★ October 19, 1997 BOI Meeting: 20 members present; Meeting chaired by Gerald Knoll; Ground School to be Feb 20-22; Dan & Michele Corbin are proud owners of a balloon; Gerald lost total control of the meeting, Dean Ann tried to take over; Don Prine to be calling ESPN to cover Ode-to-Spring.
- ★ Halloween Party: Harvest 500 weathered out; Kids Costumes - they were all too cute, so all were winners; Adult costumes - 1st place - Dick & Phyllis Drake - Dick pedaled around a big wheel while Phyllis

followed behind with a gas can, 2nd place - Greg Oakes as a pit crew member, 3rd place - Aaron Gebhart - the "Beer Dude"; Pumpkin Carving - 1st Linda Bartholomew, 2nd Kay Fee, 3rd Angelica Corbin; 7 entries in the Chili Cook-off - 1st Jim Oakes, 2nd Louise Clemons, 3rd LuAnn Randleman; Kids participated in the Kiddy 300; Pilot competition - pilots earned points by throwing baggies at a tire - 1st place - Jeremy Rubin, 2nd Denny Anderson, 3rd Michele Corbin

5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Great Iowa Balloon Race, Storm Lake - 30 balloons. Balloonmeister - Mike Reinert; Weather Official, Bill Griffin. No competition flights (a few flew Sat evening).
- ★ 26th Great Pershing Balloon Derby, Brookfield, Missouri - Balloonmeister Karin Riepe. 4 flights, 1 glow. Final standings: 1 - Gary Tarter, 2 - Matt Riley 3 - Benji Clemons. Of the four father-son Pilots - 3 out of the 4 sons placed higher than the fathers
- ★ Southwest Iowa Professional Hot Air Balloon Race Creston, IA - 2 flights. Balloonists joined Carol Sherman for a ceremony for Captain the Weather Dog who passed away last year. Carol sprinkled Captain's ashes over the airport. John Jensen was awarded the Rookie trophy Top 3 - #1 Gary Fouche, #2 Benji Clemons #3 Mike Hadley
- ★ September 15, 2002 BOI Meeting: 12 members present; Meeting chaired by Don Prine; Detailed report on Retirement Center; Eric Brown had his first training flight
- ★ Chris & Angie Reinert were married October 19
- ★ October 20, 2002 BOI meeting: 10 members present; Chair - Michelle Craig; Jim Gebhart has been laid up, so has not been able to get the new beer hats; Discussion on "Polka da pumpkin" - you had to be there!
- ★ 11-1-02 BOI Halloween Party: Jack-o-lanterns: 1. Jensen Family 2. Kochheiser family 3. Jared Netley; Kids Costumes: 1. Sammie Nordhagen 2. Brianna Ellis 3. Ashley Jensen; Adult Costumes 1. Matt Fenster 2. Dick & Phyllis Drake 3. Paul Randleman; Chili cookoff winners: 1. Lynn Craig - for the 2nd year in a row 2. Jenny Nordhagen 3. Jack Williams; Magician Allen Roen entertained with his great magic show. There were people from six states attending.

Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

BOI Balloonport; Carlisle, IA

August 19, 2007

Present: Joel & Charlie Worthington, Bill Griffin, Jeremy King, Bret Christian, Brad Temeyer, Max & Carol Harris. Guests - Tom Hatcher, Diane Jones, and Karl Kaiser

Meeting called to order by Chair Bret Christian at 6:42 p.m.

Secretary's report: Minutes from June meeting presented and approved. No meeting in July - it was flyable.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer not present. Members noticed a supply of Busch Light on a cart at the Balloonport. Is this part of our Treasury? Discussion on whether our money should now be reported in cases rather than in Kegs since we are now purchasing cans for the parties. Members decided to await the Treasurer's input.

Brad called for a Ponderance - members pondering the can vs keg question.

Old Business:

- ★ He's not here.
- ★ Members questioned the discussion from last month on changes in things for the Designated Examiners. Discussion.
- ★ Jeremy reported on "Light the Night". Some pilots have expressed interest. It is the weekend after Creston.
- ★ Discussion on flying over Bike Night on the Square. In August 6 or 7 balloons flew over.
- ★ There was to have been a sanctioned flight Sat 8-18 - canceled due to weather.

New Business:

- ★ Bill Griffin predicts we will fly 3 or 4 flights at Creston. Brad Temeyer says we will fly less than that. You read it here first!
- ★ Jack the Weather dog died. There will be a ceremony at the Creston Airport during the Creston balloons. Carol Sherman has a new weather dong "Kirk the weather dog". Spock the cat passed away also.
- ★ Members welcomed the guests present. Tom Hatcher and his nephew Karl Kaiser and Karl's girlfriend Diane Jones. Tom is planning on taking Ground School. He has crewed for Don Prine, Carol Sherman, Bill Griffin, Al Muir.
- ★ Brad Temeyer soloed 8-17. Congratulations, Brad!

Rob arrived. He spoke of the FAA changes & possible Users fee. License applications will be on-line and will be sent to instructors.

- ★ Halloween party. Max moved and Jeremy 2nd to have Jen Nordhagen, Michelle Craig & Linda Bartholomew in charge of the party. Motion passed unanimously.

There will be costume contests, chili cook off & pumpkin carving contests.

- ★ Discussion on the Pilot, Crew, Volunteer party at the Classic
- ★ Jeremy, Bill & Benji Clemons & Phil Gray are attending Columbia next weekend.
- ★ Ground School will be the 3rd weekend in February - Feb 16-17.
- ★ Over 19,000 gallons of fuel was used during the Classic.
- ★ Creston is Sept14-16 it is their 30th year. Rob & Bill have attended every year!
- ★ Joel reported on the IBA Continuing Education Seminar. It will be moving - several spots being looked into.
- ★ Jill Rubin flight in Newton October 20th. Contact Joel Worthington
- ★ Winterset flight October 13th. Contact Bill Clemons

Jeremy moved to adjourn, Joel 2nd. Motion passed with 2 voting "Not a Chance". Meeting adjourned 7:33:59.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Harris, secretary.

Great Pershing Balloon Derby

Brookfield, Missouri
September 1-3, 2007

The event at Brookfield holds so many fond memories for us over the years... The wind change that convinced me to launch in the perfect field and ended up sending me off in a direction that would have required a complete circumference of the earth if I ever wanted to see the target again; the following tether ride and burned out panel that resulted; the faulty fuel pump that required a miracle performed by Terry Milford (Sainthood?) along with the assistance of his fellow saints Terry and Rick; 3 days of playing cards with the Sutters and their proliferation of relatives in 2003 while we watched 3 days of rain...Yes, lots of memories. But this year's event will hold a few memories too!

I will always recall how Jim Wolters surged into first place after the first flight by actually scoring! Most of us knew there were targets down there somewhere but were unable to solve the riddle of how to make our balloons go north in a east wind. We will all recall how Tim managed to win the Sunday night glow by bribing the judges and flirting with the queens...no, not THOSE queens, the crowned queens of the event. We'll think back in wonder how three young upstarts barely old enough to drive themselves to the field finished in 1st, 2nd and 3rd even though they probably have less hours in balloons than Jim Christensen has in writing down coordinates backwards.

Another thing that made headlines at the awards banquet was the announcement that the winner of the Petrehn

Cup...the award given to the winner of the first sanctioned task of each event...for the first time in all the years he has been coming to this event since he and the Montgolfier brothers first started it back in France, Jim Thompson from some little town up in Iowa! That was way cool! Congratulations Jim!

Surprisingly, this writer actually placed in this race for the first time in...EVER. I won't bore you with all the details but will just sum it up by saying I flew BRILLIANTLY!!!...for me. I actually scored on nearly every target. The first flight being the exception. But then hardly anyone scored more than one target on that one. I think I had a 30th, a 21st, an 8th, a sixth and a second. Of course this would have been impossible if George hadn't pawned off some of his overflow of crew on me. They turned out to be both entertaining and excellent at their jobs! Marcia and Annette, a mother/ daughter team joined with Cheri and our sponsor Bruce to make up a crew that worked itself into a crew machine by the end of that weekend! Now I see why Dennis keeps so many of his relatives around! I didn't have to do anything but climb in the balloon when they told me it was time to go and pull out the top when it was time to land. Then I could just schmooze with the fans while they packed it up and refueled! Of course, Terry Riepe and the NO TO BCFA group should probably look into writing that into the pilots' Bill of Rights!

I finished eighth in the overall standings which isn't that bad considering that after the first flight I was 19th or something like that. Unlike a previously mentioned pilot that went from first to...7th!

Thanks to all the sponsors and organizers of the 31st Pershing Balloon Derby. Without them, the volunteers and the officials that volunteer all that time to run this event and all of pilots would have to stay home, sell rides and actually make money on Labor day weekend! What fun would that be?!!!

Next week is on to Carbondale, IL and then off to Creston, IA for my final event of the year. I think there may be another event going on down in Arizona or Mexico or somewhere down there in the southwest in early October. If anyone hears any more about that event let me know!

Thanks bunches!
Herb



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Thanks to the following for their contributions to this newsletter: Meika Bartholomew, Brett Boerner, Missy Boerner, Leroy Clair, Tim Cloyd, Sandy Drake, Jim Fromm, Dan Harris, Max Harris, Herb Heriford, John Jensen, Donna Mason, Jen Nordhagen, Robert Nutting, Don Prine, Gerry Prine, Mark Weeks, Becky Wigeland, and Jody Woodruff

Touch and Go

Balloons Over Iowa

Carol Harris - Editor

2305 Hillside Ave.

West Des Moines, IA 50265

Newsletter Deadline

November 10

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

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Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meetings

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

October 21 November 18



BOI Halloween Party

Saturday, October 27th

6:30 p.m.

Theme "Pirates of the Caribbean"

Available to crew: Brian Allen has crewed during the Classic for some years. His home phone number is 515 961-1952 and his cell number is 515 238-0654. Email is fulspedahead@yahoo.com.