

# Touch and Go

BALL  NS  VER  WA

May - June, 2008

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## Ode to Spring

It seems like maybe Ode to Spring should be re-named "Ode to Wind" or "Ode to Rain". It was probably good that it was too windy to fly, because the fields would have been too wet to land in and everyone would have felt really bad sitting on the ground on a perfect flyable day!

Balloonists in Iowa are good at flying and Balloons Over Iowa is good at partying - and party they did. Members dined on great food - meat catered by Kearney's restaurant and potluck provided by BOI members. Balloonmeister Scott Armstrong called an outdoor non-flying task - won by Don Prine!

MC Bill Griffin then announced the BOI yearly awards:

**Crew of the Year** - Steve & Kathi Pfeifer. Last year's crew of the year (Diamond Jake crew) added a cooler of Mt. Dew, a miniture fan, and a spider to the traveling trophy.

**Pilot of the Year** - Jeremy King

**Cleo Award** - Jim Fromm for his years of dedication to ballooning.

**2008-2009 Board of Directors** - Kirk Bloom, Jeremy King, Todd Patterson, Ken Bolton & Caitlin Oponski.

## IRS Rebate

Help America - spend your rebate wisely. The federal government is sending each and every one of us a \$300 to \$600 rebate. If we spend that money at Wal-Mart, the money will go to China. If we spend it on gasoline it will go to the Arabs. If we purchase a computer it will go to India. If we purchase fruit and vegetables it will go to Mexico, Honduras, and Guatemala. If we purchase a car it will go to Japan. If we purchase useless crap it will go to Taiwan and none of it will help the American economy.

The only way to keep that money here at home is to buy beer since this is the only product still produced in the US.

Thank you for your help.

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## St. Patrick's Day party

The fine BOI cooks were at it again - with Irish stew for the St. Patty's Irish Stew cook-off. First place was awarded to Jeremy King, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Lynn Craig & 3<sup>rd</sup> - Amy Craig. Thanks to judges Andy Warren, Mike McCaughey and Jerry Bolton.

Members dined then prepared for the solemn & moving initiation ceremony. The Giant Leprechauns escorted the new members to the front of the Balloonport as members greeted them along the way. Founding Fathers Bill Griffin and Rob Bartholomew spoke and lead the new members of BOI in a solemn, moving pledge. Welcome the following new members to BOI!

Tim Cloyd	Ken Bolton
Elsie Cloyd	Jerry Bolton
Patrick Cloyd	Shanda Bolton
Brayden Murray	Shelby Bolton
Shelly Deskin	Jenni Hirschman
Linda Guffey	Matt Trumper
Brad Curtis	Mallory Parson
Andy Warren	Mike McCaughey
Cindy Warren	James Cahill
Haley Warren	Brendon Cahill
Carrie Simerly	Caitlin Oponski
Steve O'Brien	Josie Nordhagen

## 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:

June 15      July 20      August 17

**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

**2008-2009 Balloons Over Iowa Board Members**  
Kirk Bloom  
Ken Bolton  
Jeremy King  
Caitlin Oponski  
Todd Patterson

**Treasurer**                      **Secretary**  
Jen Nordhagen                  Carol Harris

**Newsletter Editor**              **Webmeister**  
Carol Harris                      Joel Worthington

**BOI Web site**  
[www.balloons-over-iowa-club.com](http://www.balloons-over-iowa-club.com)

**Advertising Rates**

Insert .....	\$30.00
Full Page .....	\$20.00
Half Page .....	\$10.00
Quarter Page .....	\$5.00
Business Cards .....	\$3.50

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

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**Letter from President Meika**

Hello to all my friends!

The good news is that there are so many “annuals” being conducted at the Balloonport that you have a wide choice of envelopes for a nap. (Older, more experienced envelopes seem to be softer and more forgiving.) The bad news is it doesn’t seem like many balloons are getting in the air.

Ode to Spring was a nice party, but true to form, we had another Ode without any flights. Balloonmeister Scott Armstrong did a great job, however, and the alternative competition event was won by Founding Father Don Prine. Some younger pilots complained that Prine didn’t exhibit much skill, but was the only pilot that could interpret the task sheet.

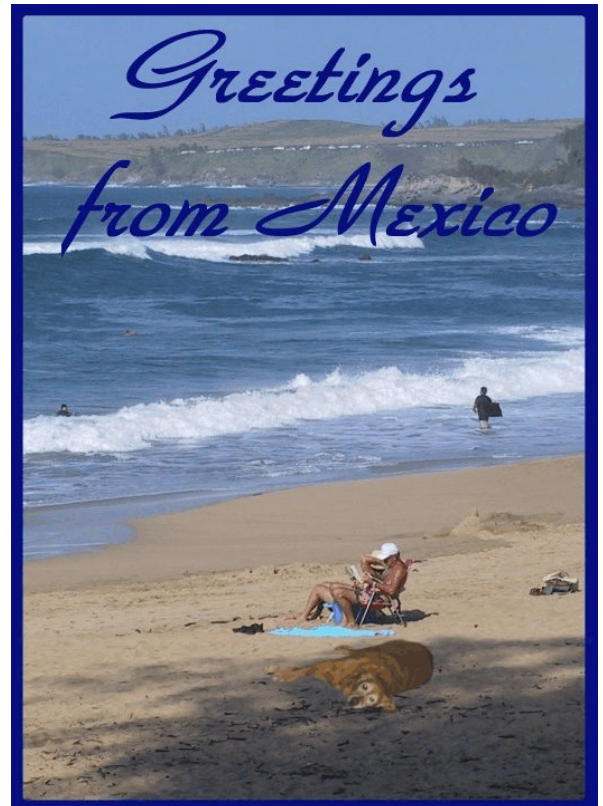
Awards were distributed, the 2007 – 2008 Board Members were recognized, and the new Board Members introduced. New Board Members Kirk Bloom, Jeremy King, Caitlin Oponski, Todd Patterson and Ken Bolton have big shoes to fill. I trust they will all honor the tradition of meeting with their President to discuss BOI practices, procedures and policy, and bring treats.

Dad has most of the crop planted. Now he is hoping it doesn’t rain enough to flood the lowlands. When I talk with pilots at the Balloonport, they express the same concern. Some claim that flying is the easy part. It’s getting a chase crew safely through Warren County roads that is difficult. Being an old dog, I know that this too shall pass. Soon we will be in the air again, so always remember to:

Fly Safely,  
Meika

**Letter from Vice-President Sandy**

Sandy is currently out of town - at a B a n k i n g convention. We recently received this postcard from the Drake family.



## National Balloon Museum

National Balloon Museum is looking for volunteers to help out at the museum during the week and on the weekend. You will be trained and work with someone until you feel comfortable to handle it yourself. We ask that you give at least 4 hours or more a month. Call Becky 961-8144 or the museum 961-3714 to let us know of your interest and availability. We are open Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00, Saturday 10:00-4:00, and Sunday 1:00-4:00. Come help us out and learn about Ballooning History.

The National Balloon Museum in Indianola, IA is in need of photos from 1970, 1971, 1972, and 1973 when the early US Nationals were held in Indianola Iowa. It doesn't matter if they are color or black/white. We are trying to do several early exhibits and our photos from that era are very lean. We need to know the year, who is in the picture, name of balloon if shown in the photo. We are hoping that maybe some of the original pilots or crew might have some of flying out of the Iowa State Fair ground as well as from Simpson. Thanks for your help. Please send your photos ASAP.

Becky Wigeland  
National Balloon Museum  
PO Box 149  
1601 North Jefferson Way  
Indianola, IA 50125  
flamingbecky@aol.com  
www.nationalballoonmuseum.com

Hello to Balloons over Iowa!

I am inquiring to see if any of your club members go to local events for hot air balloon rides (tethered)? I am from Colo, Iowa a small town of approx. 700, and each year, the 2nd weekend in July, we have the Colo Crossroads Festival. We are always looking for something new each year for Friday evening, and/or Saturday. Hope to hear from you!

Thanks for your time.

My name is Lisa Whitaker  
Phone: 641-377-2643 evenings  
Home e-mail: rdnalisa@netins.net

## National Balloon Museum Fashion Flare!

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:

Soundless	Shorts Outfit	Skirts
Pajamas or Nightwear	Formal Dress	Totes
Children's Play Outfit	Boxer Shorts	Howdies
Wall hanging	Blouse	Quilt
Hat or Caps	Purses	Blanket
Pillow		

You may enter several 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 fund-raiser.

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 Ballooning Fashion Flare will be Saturday January 17, 2009 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 12th, 2008.

These are two items from 2007 Fashion Flare:



## Calendar of Events

May 23-26 – **The Great American Barbeque And Balloon Rally** Kansas City, Missouri

June 6-8 **Manitowoc Air Show** WI  
WIWindDancer@cs.com

June 12-15 **Monroe WI Rally** urban@tds.net

June 15, 2008 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

June 20-22 **Balloons in June** Clinton IA  
www.balloonsinjune.us

June 27-29, 2008 **Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race**. Contact Holly or Dale Dommer 614 684-8999

July 2 - 6 **Battle Creek Field of Flight**, Battle Creek, MI  
Contact: Barb Haluszka, 269.962.0592,  
www.bcballoons.com; or Derrick Jones,  
269.209.1792

July 3-6 **Lisle Eyes to the Skies**, IL  
www.eyestotheskiesfestival.com

July 11-13 **Wausau Balloon Rally**, WI  
www.wausauareaevents.org

July 11-13 Wentzville MO gswi@mchsi.com

July 11-12 **Peoria Balloon Fest** Becky Riojas 309-686-0101

July 18-20 **Waukesha WI Skyfest** WIWindDancer@cs.com

July 20, 2008 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

July 25- August 2, 2008 **National Balloon Classic** Contact Greg Marchant - 515-961-8415 or info@nationalballoonclassic.com

August 8-10 **Seymour Hamburger Balloon Rally**  
www.homeofthehamburger.org

August 8-10 Hartford WI WIWindDancer@cs.com

August 15-17 **Centralia IL Balloon Fest**  
www.centraliail.com

August 17, 2008 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

August 22-24 – **Garden City Hot Air Balloon Classic**  
Garden City, Kansas

August 22-24 Wisconsin Rapids, WI  
www.cmnballoonrally.com

August 22-24 **Lincoln IL Art & Balloon Fest**  
www.lincolnilinois.com/balloonfest

August 22-24 Columbia MO gsw1@mchsi.com

August 27 - September 1 **US National Hot Air Balloon Championship**, Anderson, SC Contact: BFA Office, 515.961.8809

August 29-31 **Danville IL Non-Event**  
dean@heritagedevelop.com

September 5-6 **Macomb IL Balloon Rally**  
balloons@macomb.com

September 5-7 – **Huff 'n Puff Rally** Lake Shawnee, Topeka, KS  
http://greatplainsballoonclub.googlepages.com  
E-mail: greatplainsballoonclub@gmail.com

September 12-13 Eagle Creek-Shelbyville IL  
bdenhart@insightbb.com

September 12-13 Forest Park, St. Louis  
www.greatforestparkballoonrace.com

September 13 - 21 **18th World Hot Air Balloon Championship**, Hofkirchen, Austria Contact: http://www.balloon2008.com/

September 19-21, 2008 **SW Iowa Hot Air Balloon Days**, Creston, IA Contact Rob Bartholomew

September 21, 2008 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

Sep 26, 27, & 28 – 2008. **NKT Hot Air Balloon Rally** East Moline, IL Contact Stan Pasley 309 792-3000 home; stanpcs@mchsi.com or stan.pasley@yahoo.com

October 4-12 – **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta** Albuquerque, New Mexico

October 10-12 – **Hot Air Balloon Regatta** Columbus, Kansas

October 19, 2008 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

October 25, 2008 **BOI Halloween Party** BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

November 16, 2008 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

*Race organizers - please send your dates, etc for 2008 to Carol - hotairflyn@aol.com*

### Available crew:

Steve Goff - 763 533-8291; QWESTY@USFAMILY.com  
James Cahill - 515 334-0791, jimmyjul@juno.com  
Craig D. Stephens 515 256-5009, cdstephens@dsairport.com

## Happy Anniversary

Brad & Amy Craig	6-3
Randy & Rochelle Kochheiser	6-6
Kathy & Tom McCoy	6-7
Jeff & Deb Bridgewater	6-10
Gerald & Barb Knoll	6-11
Gil & Becky Wigeland	6-12
Charlie & Debbie Thorman	6-17
Steve & Barbara Jones	6-21
Jim & Rita Fromm	6-22
Mike & Beth Oberman	6-22
Nate & Amy Smith	6-24
Bill & Becky Sponsler	6-29
Jeremy & Macenzie Rubin	6-30



Mary Eagan & Rick McCubbin	7-1
Ronald & Misty Dobesh	7-1
Norm & Kay Fee	7-3
Kirk & Melissa Bloom	7-3
Mason & Heather Fromm	7-4
Larry & Tesha Huffaker	7-5
Jake & Paula Hamlin	7-11
Linn & Marsha Hoskins	7-16
Randy & Lisa Stone	7-22
Dan & Michele Corbin	7-22
Joe & Monica Thompson	7-22
Ron & Esther Snyder	7-23
Matt & Emily Fenster	7-26



## Congratulations

Jennifer and Maury Petrehn on the birth of their baby girl, Danielle Elizabeth Petrehn (Elle)  
Born in Kansas on April 29th 2008  
6 lbs 14 ounces 19 inches long



Danielle Elizabeth Petrehn



July	
Riley Nordhagen	7-1
Whitney Oberman	7-2
Gerry Prine	7-2
Penny Pieper	7-3
Brenda Rohr	7-3

## Happy Birthday

June	
Jacob Ricke	6-2
Lee Trebbien	6-4
Mike Wildung	6-4
Mya Foelske	6-5
Barbara Ross	6-6
Jim Norris	6-7
Paula Boe	6-9
Brandon Pedersen	6-10
Richard Swanson	6-10
Loretta Taylor	6-10
Jake Hamlin	6-11
Melissa Boerner	6-12
Gretchen Ryan	6-12
Don Wiley	6-12
Blair Brody	6-13
Jodi DeZurik	6-14
Aaron Gebhart	6-14
Macenzie Rubin	6-14
Terry Riepe	6-16
Charlie Ong	6-18
Edel Fromm	6-19
Caleb Nordhagen	6-19
Mallori Adams	6-20
Ellis Benus	6-20
Nicholas Pash	6-22
Hunter Nutting	6-22
Bob Shelton	6-23
Jerry Tierman	6-23
Ashley Oakes	6-26
Sharon Goff	6-26
Meghan Taylor	6-27
Michael Dunnick	6-28
Eldon Benus	6-29
Beth Oberman	6-29
Kristie Wildung	6-29

Sheri Clark	7-4
Mary Conklin	7-4
Scott Armstrong	7-4
Alexandra Adams	7-5
Meg Allbaugh	7-5
David Edmister	7-7
Randy Kochheiser	7-7
Jody Woodruff	7-7
Cory Bloom	7-8
Matthew Grote	7-8
Courtney Schulte	7-8
Doug Purdy	7-9
Anthony VanBroekhuizen	7-9
Benji Clemons	7-10
Bret Christian	7-11
Tom Ricke	7-13
Keith Williams	7-13
Aaron (AJ) Foelske	7-15
Abigail Jensen	7-15
John Jensen	7-15
Deb Jensen	7-15
Michael VanHamme	7-15
Kristy Pash	7-16
Tony Funaro	7-17
Christina Sponsler	7-17
Ron Snyder	7-18
Jaden Clair	7-19
Kirk Bloom	7-20
Laurie Allbaugh	7-23
Lynn Craig	7-23
Jodi Erger	7-23
Collin Oponski	7-23
Steven Ross	7-24
Ken Allbaugh	7-26
Todd Isley	7-26
Dan Ricke	7-26
Gene Elsasser	7-27
Brendan Cahill	7-28
Sue Anthony	7-29
Chad Anthony	7-30
Branden Bloom	7-30
Ruth Montague	7-30
Jennifer Anthony	7-31
Linda Bartholomew	7-31
Misty Dobesh	7-31
Brad Temeyer	7-31

## The Way It Was

### 25 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ 6-4-1983 Steve Hoover received his Private license.
- ★ 6-5-1983 Gary Fouche received his Private license.

### 20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ 6-5-1988 Andy Ogden received his Private license.
- ★ May '88 – the BFA voted 6 - 2 to move the US Nationals to Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1989 for 3 years. Indianola has hosted the event since 1970. Many pilots are not pleased with the decision. Indianola's National Balloon Championship Ltd are planning a larger event to replace the BFA event.
- ★ Ottumwa '88 – 2 flights. #1 Denny Cox, #2 John Johnson, #3 Norm Dockstader, #4 Dick Drake
- ★ June '88, Waterloo – 3 flights. #1 – Rich Jaworski, #2 – Gary Cass, #3 – Henry Schick. Jaworski flew for 3 hours Saturday morning to make several passes over the target. It paid off with a first place drop.

### 15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Waterloo Days Balloon Rally - Elvis sighting; Jim Thompson got his baggie in a bucket - won \$500 gift certificate to jewelers - Connie went home with necklace; 1st place - Carl Young, 2nd Rob Bartholomew, 3rd - Mike Reinert.

### 10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ May 17, 1998 BOI Meeting: 14 members present; Meeting chaired by Cheryl Gebhart; BOI purchasing 30-60 more chairs - parties getting too big; Meika Bartholomew introduced - Gretchen's new sister. Meika voted in as BOI vice president
- ★ Kathy Williams celebrating 50th BD
- ★ Jodi DeZurik has a new balloon
- ★ Chuck Schrader has a new envelope
- ★ Ottumwa results - 1st - Dale Dommer, 2nd Rob Bartholomew - 3rd Maury Petrehn

### 5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ BOI Members across the country mourned the loss of our beloved President Gretchen. Gretchen passed away May 5, 2003 after a short illness. She gave 11 wonderful years to this organization and the ballooning community in general. Her attendance at BOI activities and appreciation for all balloonist and their families will be truly missed. Vice President Meika Bartholomew has taken over the duties of President of BOI.
- ★ 5-18 BOI Meeting: Meeting chaired by Carol Harris; 21 members present

- ★ The Arizona Chapter of BOI has been enlisted in both the search for a BOI Retirement Complex site and a perfect BOI Beer Hat.
- ★ Sioux Falls race - 1 flight. Tom Ricke finished in first place; 2nd - Duane Waack; 3rd - Rich Jaworski; 4th - Mike Reinert & 5th - Matt Fenster
- ★ Ames Summer Breeze - 3 flights & a glow. 1st - Alan Yost; 2nd - Nick Donner & 3rd - Bill Baker. NABA Iowa Champ - 1st - Matt Fenster; 2nd - Benji Clemons & 3rd - Brad Craig
- ★ 6-15 BOI Meeting: 15 members present; Meeting chaired by Derek Nordhagen; Monthly meeting held on the deck around Bartholomew's pool. The chair led the meeting from in the pool – a first for BOI; Jennifer Nordhagen is the new BOI Treasurer; Nominations taken for BOI Vice President.
- ★ Great Galena Balloon Race - 3 flights & 1 glow. 1st - Brian Bennett; 2nd - Mike Benson; 3rd - Scott Christensen & 4th - Mike Hadley.
- ★ Marshalltown - 3 flights & 1 glow. Overall winner was Tom Ricke. Tied for 2nd was Brad Craig & Jay Holcomb. 4th - Chris Reinert, 5th - Rob Bartholomew.

## Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

BOI Balloonport; Carlisle, IA

March 16, 2008

**Present:** Bill Griffin, Don Prine, Scott Armstrong, Brad Craig, Rob Bartholomew, Michelle Craig, Jen Nordhagen, Bill Craig, James & Julie Cahill, Brendon Cahill, Thad Bloom, Max & Carol Harris

Meeting called to order by Chair Thad Bloom at 6:51:55.

**Secretary's report:** Minutes from February meeting presented. Bill G. moved to approve secretary's report, Max 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's report:** We have 357 ½ cases. We cleared \$1956 after expenses for Ground School. Bill G. moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Thad 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

### Old Business:

- ★ He's here!
- ★ Ground School was a success. 15 students with 98% on the written test. There were 6 students for commercial, 9 for private. The instructors all returned from last year.
- ★ Ode to Spring. This is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BOI. Balloonmeister Scott Armstrong is 30 years old. Ode officials listed in the March newsletter.
- ★ Carol brought up possible donation to the museum that was tabled last month. We last donated to the museum in June of 2004. Bill G. moved to donate \$500 to the

National Balloon Museum for flashing the outer walls prior to painting. Thad 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried

- ★ Don reported on the Retirement Home. Some members of the committee remain under government protection. Site selection continues. Rob & Linda will be visiting Mexico this spring & Prines recently visited Key Largo. On Key Largo, you can fly a balloon from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic - 1 mile!

#### **New Business:**

- ★ Thad brought up the party on the final night of the Classic. BOI & IBA have traditionally donated money to sponsor this party. There is a proposal from Sheri Clark & her brother to cook the meat, etc and they are asking for \$500 from each club. Thad Bloom & Sheri are on a committee from IBA & they are asking for representatives from BOI to approach Greg for a discussion on this matter. There are concerns from past parties as to quality & quantity of food served. John Jensen was nominated to serve on this committee & James Cahill volunteered to join also. Bill moved that BOI contribute \$500 for the final party of the Classic, pending the joint IBA/BOI committee acceptance of food selection. Don called for a Ponderance. Motion approved.

Max moved to adjourn, Brad 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were several "Not a Chance" votes, but the "Okay, Dokeys" won on a show of hands. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 7:24:51

Respectfully submitted  
Carol Harris, secretary.

### **Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting**

Sunday, April 20, 2008

BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

**Present:** Bill Griffin, Ken Bolton, Jerry Bolton, Joel Worthington, Charlie Worthington, Max Harris, Rob and Linda Bartholomew, Michelle Craig, Meika Bartholomew, Ellie Bartholomew

Meeting called to order by Chair Joel Worthington at 6:54 pm.

**Secretary's report:** Minutes from March meeting presented. Bill Griffin moved to approve the secretary's report, the Boltions 2nd. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Treasurer not present

#### **Old Business:**

- ★ He's not here
- ★ Joel noted that the March meeting chair seconded two

motions.

- ★ Discussion on charging to fly Ode.
- ★ A donation was made to the museum.

#### **New Business:**

- ★ Discussion on the food to be served at Ode. Linda talked to Kearney's Restaurant in Carlisle about catering the 30th anniversary. Linda made the motion to have Kearney's cater. Bill 2nd the motion. Motion approved.

Jerry moved to adjourn the meeting, Ken 2nd. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted  
Michelle Craig, temporary secretary.

### **Pilot Relations Meeting**

The April Pilot Relations met on Thursday, April 10, 2008, at the Balloon Museum.

Attendees: John Jensen, Dick & Phyllis Drake, Jeremy King, Ken Bolton, Bob & Janice Shelton, Scott Armstrong, Crazy Al, Gary Haynes and Gary Ruble.

- ▶ Local Indianola business owner, Michelle Hendrichs, is looking to beautify the Indianola Square and wanted to ask the local balloon pilots to have their balloon banners hanging around the Indianola Square. I believe I sent the information about the banners. If you didn't receive the info, please contact Michelle.
- ▶ The Relations group looked at ALL of the classic baggies for damage and to verify all of the baggies are present. Will contact Esther Synder about the Pilot Banners.
- ▶ Balloonmeister Matt Fenster wanted to discuss the use of GPS during the national balloon classic.

**2.6.2** All pilots will be required to provide, register, carry, and operate a hand held GPS unit that logs the track and altitude of their balloon. Track points of the log must be capable of specifying the position (latitude/longitude), the altitude (barometric or GPS altitude), and a time stamp. If a pilot doesn't use a GPS, they will be required. If the pilot doesn't have a GPS, the pilot will be issued a GPS borrowed from the BFA.

*The GPS units will ONLY be used to track PZ Zones and violations. NO TASK will be called with the GPS units.*

*(continued - page 10)*

# St. Patty's Day Party



Dick, Gary, Merrie, LuAnn



Rob, Ralph, Donna



The Giant Leprechauns



New members gather for initiation



Elsie Cloyd



Pat Cloyd



Caitlin Oponski



Ken Bolton



Jerry Bolton



Bill Griffin starts the formal ceremony



New members recite the BOI Oath



Irish Stew Cook-off Winners - Lynn Craig, Amy Craig, Jeremy King (also seated - Helen Bartholomew)



Members share their thoughts and feelings on this moving ceremony



# Ode to Spring



**Balloonmeister  
Scott Armstrong**



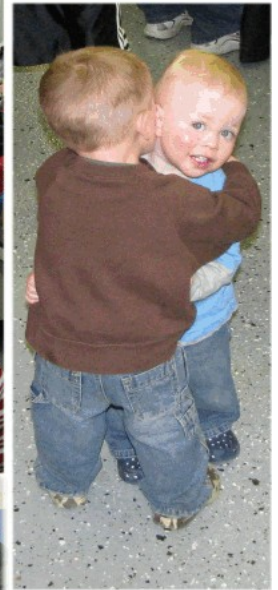
**Crew of the Year trophy**



**Paul & LuAnn - 40th Anniversary**



**2008-2009 Board - Kaitlin Oponski, Kirk Bloom, Ken Bolton, Todd Patterson. Missing - Jeremy King**



**Dancing cousins!**



**Dick & Phyllis**



**Ode to Spring  
Non-flying task winner  
Don Prine**



**Bill & Paul**



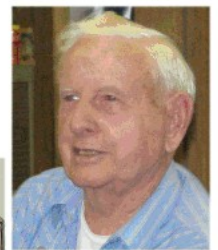
**Colton - reading balloon magazines at an early age!**



**Jim Fromm - winner of the prestigious Cleo Award, with wife Rita**



**YMCA!**



**Conk**



**Linda**



**James, Leroy & Joel**

1978-2008  
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS  
ODE TO SPRING  
BALLOONS OVER IOWA LTD.

Photos by Max Harris

**2.6.3** By entering the event, all pilots agree to have their flight profile reviewed and, where necessary, printed. This flight profile will only be used for penalty assessments and other related purposes.

**12.7.4** When race officials ask for a pilot's GPS for the propose of reviewing their track, the pilot must turn their registered GPS into an official within 4 hours. In the company of the pilot, the track of the flight in question will be reviewed. In the case of the pilot's GPS not providing the necessary information to establish the true flight path of the balloon (track, altitude, time, date) the pilot will receive no result for the task in which the alleged violation occurred. It is therefore in the pilot's interest to equip himself with a reliable GPS unit with sufficient battery life.

- ▶ The pilot relations group discussed the use of GPS units and decided the use of GPS would be useful for the balloon classic.
- ▶ The other discussion was about the penalty for the PZ zone violations in the evening. Passed onto the balloonmeister.
- ▶ Lastly, discussion about a new classic map. Currently, the classic pays about \$800 -- \$1,000 to have about 225 maps printed. Examples were given to the pilot relations group. Continued discussions about getting a new map maybe for this year but probably next year. Estimated cost \$1,500. This would have topo, same accurate, use of UTM, more ground features. Pilot relations decided to continue looking into this style of map.

John Jensen

## **BFA**

I know that Jim Thompson has made some comments regarding the convention, and I would like to add my thoughts and endorsement as well, that it was very well done and very educational. The sport of ballooning increased in stature and professionalism with this convention. Many comments have been made to the extent that the next balloon convention should be sooner.

The National Balloon Museum now has the capability to allow the order of gift shop and ballooning related items online. As you have time, please check out our site at [www.nationalballommuseum.com](http://www.nationalballommuseum.com).

Balloon pilots or folks familiar with ballooning are needed at the museum to help staff the museum, work in the gift shop and to give tours. Help of a different nature is also needed at the museum, we are in need of a webmaster or someone to handle the online orders and keep the site up to date. If you have any spare time, and would volunteer to assist the museum, please contact either Becky at the

museum, Mark Weeks or myself.

Gary Ruble

## **FAA Ballooning Handbook**

Below is information on the new FAA Ballooning Handbook. I obtained a copy at the BFA Convention and must say that it is an excellent publication. It was authored by Dave Sullivan, a long time balloonner and repair station operator. Jim Thompson

### **FAA issues new Ballooning Handbook** from BFA member Dave Sullivan

I'm pleased to announce that the new Balloon Flying Handbook, FAA-H-8083-11A, has been posted to the [faa.gov](http://faa.gov) website, and is available for download. A link is at the bottom of this e-mail.

This was an 12 month project of Safety Research Corporation of America (SRCA), the prime contractor to the FAA for the rewrite of most of the FAA's training and general knowledge handbooks. This work was characterized by an incredibly cooperative and helpful group of people who gave their time and effort to produce the best reference possible for not only aspiring aeronauts, but for already certificated pilots.

For a comparison, the previous edition had a little over 100 pages. The new book has 247. The old book had about 70 graphics, as best I remember; the new book, over 160 graphics and illustrations in color. Not a black and white picture, or line drawing, in the book. It's a nice improvement.

In my experience, and as a general rule, few people read the acknowledgments page of any these handbooks; I'd like to give credit where credit is due, and publicly extend my personal thanks and appreciation to those who made a significant contribution, in many ways, to the production of this text. They are, in no particular order; Ray Bair, Phil Bryant, Gordon Schwontkowski, Steve Turner, Jim Barnett, Kay West, Marian Deeney, Laura Hoeve, Tom Hamilton, Pat Cannon, Mike Bauwens, Andrew and Barbara Ziolo, Chris Krowchuck, and Stuart Enloe. Corporate contributors included Aerostar international, Lindstrand Balloons, and FireFly Balloons. Photographic contributions include Sky Guide (Art Rangno), J. Neils Enterprises, Lindan Service Center, Jane English, Candy Ecker, and C. Tina Orvin.

Chapter 11, The Gas Balloon, was a collaborative effort of Peter Cuneo and Barbara Fricke, Andy Cayton, and Kevin Knapp.

Special credit to Kenny Chou, of SRCA, for his graphic work, which is featured throughout the book. His graphics make this handbook come alive.

A special thanks to Brent Stockwell and the late Christine

Kalakuka, who authored “How To Fly A Balloon”, the text on which the original Balloon Flying Handbook was based.

Lastly, the contributions of the Balloon Federation of America for technical support and input are acknowledged and appreciated.

Your feedback is encouraged. Comments may be sent to AFS630comments@faa.gov , and I would appreciate a copy of those, at dsullivan@srca.net. I look forward to hearing from you – we have a mid-cycle review in two years.

Have a good read. It’s not New York Times bestseller stuff, but it’s not bad:

<http://www.faa.gov/library/manuals/aircraft/media/Balloon%20Flying%20Handbook.pdf>

## **Balloon Federation of America National Convention**

Louisville, KY  
by Jim Thompson

Connie and I attended the BFA National Convention held in Louisville, KY on April 4, 5 & 6, 2008. There were approximately 450 attendees from all over the country.

The program was excellent with the topics ranging from very technical to informative and humorous. Some of the sessions that we attended included:

A Computer in the Cockpit	Al Nels
Release of Liability	Gary Eaton
A Look at the FAR’s	Kent Yoest
Balloon Event Organization & Marketing	Tom Sheppard, Debby Spaeth, Etc.
Crew and Pilot Training	Gordon Schwontkowski
Balloon Club Roundtable	Kathy Thompson
Pioneers in Ballooning	Orv Olivier
Commercial and Ride Operations	Scott Appelman
Extreme Ballooning and Record Setting	Troy Bradley, Rich Jaworski & Andy Cayton
Internet Weather Sources	Don Day

One of the highlights of the convention was the keynote speech by Don Cameron. He provided information and a PowerPoint presentation on his long and distinguished career in ballooning and many of the special events that he has participated such as his attempt at crossing the Atlantic in 1978 which ended with him ditching the balloon within sight of Great Britain, and the successful Chrysler Challenge (the crossing of the Atlantic). He also showed pictures of

the many large balloons that his company has produced as well as many of the special shapes.

Another highlight was the segment on pioneers in ballooning which Orv Olivier renamed “Legends in Ballooning”. Participating in the panel included Lucy Stefan, Troy Bradley, Don Cameron, Jim Winker, Mike Ehrler and Tom Sheppard. Their discussions were truly inspiring and they all can well be identified as legends. Orv provided a slide show showing each of the participants throughout their careers. So much history all in one place at the same time.

I certainly would encourage all balloonists to attend the next convention which will likely be held within the next 3 to 5 years. It was an experience that both Connie and I will never forget.

## **Warren County Leadership Institute**

As part of the 2008 Warren County Leadership Institute bus tour of Warren County, one of the stops was to Balloons Over Iowa.

Rob talked to the 2008 Leadership Class about hot air ballooning, how to get into ballooning, what all is involved with maintenance/repairs as well as the impact of ballooning in Warren County.

The class is made up of people who live and/or work in Warren county. The bus tour started at 8:30a.m. and ended at 4:30p.m. Attached is a class photo with Rob.

If you would like to know more about the leadership Institute let me know and I can provide more information.  
Mark Weeks



## Indianola Town Square Beautification Banner Project

I am Michelle Hinrichs, an Indianola resident for the last 7 years. I am a community-minded individual and would like to suggest a project for the beautification of the Indianola Town Square and our city. Several ideas for beautification projects - such as flower pots in front of store fronts, updating painting on buildings, and power washing of sidewalks - have been discussed among organizations such as the Downtown Development Group and Keep Indianola Beautiful. My idea is to fly banners on the new black antique light poles around the Square.

These colorful banners would serve a dual purpose, as they would brighten and enhance our downtown core area and attract visitors to enjoy walking our square while shopping our unique stores and downtown restaurants. My idea for the banners would not be in a clip art format; they would be actual photos of balloons from local hot air balloon owners. Each banner would be a different balloon photograph. The banner would be personalized with the name of the balloon and the name of the pilot at the bottom of the banner, plus the NEW Indianola Logo at the top of the banners. Each photo will be placed on both sides of the banner to be viewed from either side.

Here is the completed breakdown of the banners for this project. I have compiled the information based on 5 years of posted banners. After 5 years I will (or a decided committee) will evaluate the banners and revisit another 5 year term.

### COST PER BANNER

- A) 1 Time Banner Cost \$120.00
- B) 1 Time Design Cost \$10.00
- C) Yearly hang up/ take down fee \$5.00
- D) Yearly Maintenance / Storage fee \$10.00
- E) Yearly City Fee \$1.00
- F) 4 Additional years of C, D, E \$64.00
- G) Total Per Banner \$210.00

If you decide you would like your family's Hot Air Balloon on a banner you will need to email me (mmnnmemories@aol.com) the following:

- 1) High resolution JPEG or PDF of your photographed hot air balloon (THE BIGGER IMAGE THE BETTER IT WILL BE)
- 2) Hot air balloon should be large in the photo and centered.
- 3) The brighter the photo the better
- 4) Name of the balloon
- 5) Name of pilot (we will only fit 1 full name or 1 couple: example: Bill Hinrichs or Bill and Shelly Hinrichs)

Please call or email me (Michelle Hinrichs) for any questions you have, this is a long time coming but I am

proud to be an Indianola resident and provide my time to make it a beautiful community. mmnnmemories@aol.com, 515-961-3952 or cell 249-5359

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU !!!!!!!

Indianola Town Square Beautification Banner Project

I would like to donate for Indianola's Town Square Banner Beautification Project 2008.

Donation Company/Individual Information:

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: (needed) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate

\_\_\_\_\_ Entire banner(s) at \$210.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Other donation amount toward project

\_\_\_\_\_ total enclosed or cc information (\$1.00 fee for credit card processing)

Any person/company donating to this project will be given recognition in the local paper

Indicate name of Hot Air Balloon/Pilot to put donation toward their banner \_\_\_\_\_ only if you know this information

Check payable to : Indianola Community Foundation

Mailed to/stop by at:

Attn: Michelle Hinrichs

104 N Howard; Indianola, IA 50125

or email info/credit card info to mmnnmemories@aol.com

Or phone 515-961-3952

Credit Card information: (\$1.00 processing fee)

Visa or Mastercard (circle one) Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CC number: \_\_\_\_\_

*5-13 - update from Michelle Hinrichs: At this time the banners are now all completed. However, we may have a couple banner locations available. If you are interested, please send me your balloon photo via email image and a completed application. Include balloon name, pilot, and donating party. I will then let you know if we are able to get your banner made and placed with the others. Once I know we can do an additional banner, I will ask for your donation amount of 210.00. 515-961-3952*

# 2008 BFA – Iowa State Championship

[www.ia-championship.com](http://www.ia-championship.com)

## Requirements:

- Current - BFA Member
- Current - BFA Sanction Card holder
- Iowa Pilot

## Registration Fee - \$50 per pilot

- Expenses of \$250 for the BFA State Championship fee
- Expenses of Mailings/web site fees

**DEADLINE** for registration of entry into the BFA – Iowa State Championship is **May 24th, 2008** (Prior to Emmetsburg Balloon Race).

Once a pilot has registered for the BFA – Iowa State Championship, the pilot will NOT be able to remove them self from an event competition. If at an event, not an open sanction, each pilot that has registered will be automatically be entered into the BFA – Iowa State Championship sanction.

## Qualify for the Iowa State Championship:

Each Pilot needs to fly a minimum of 4 BFA – Iowa State Championship task.

Each Pilot must compete in minimum of 2 BFA –Iowa State sanction events throughout the 2008-year.

## Payout:

Remaining Funds will be distributed at the end of the year:

- 1st place – 38%
- 2nd place – 26%
- 3rd place – 19%
- 4th place – 12%
- 5th place – 5%

Use of percentages, due to unknown number of pilots wanting to join the BFA – Iowa State Championship.

## Scoring:

Scoring Avg. – Calculated by the total sum of points divided by the total number of task flown.

Exp: total of 10,000 points/14 task = 714.3 scoring avg.

BEST overall scoring avg. will be crowned the BFA – Iowa Champion.

ALL scoring will be published in both of the Iowa Newsletters & the Championship website.

## Schedule:

Emmetsburg: May 24 – 25 ----- AM flights

Open Sanction: June 14th (Sat) ----- AM flight    Rain date: June 15th (Sun) --- AM flight

Ottumwa: June 27 – 28th -----AM flight

Open Sanction: July 12th (Sat) ----- AM flight    Rain date: July 13th (Sun) --- AM flight

National Balloon Classic: July 27 (Sun) – Aug 2 (Sat) ----- AM flights

Open Sanction: Aug 16th (Sat) ----- AM flight    Rain date: Aug 17th (Sun) --- AM flight

Creston: September 19 – 20th --- AM flight

If a group of Iowa pilots that chooses to organize a date for competition, they can do so.

Required – BFA – Open Sanction filed, fee paid by the funds.

Date – Published in both of the Iowa Balloon Club's Newsletter

\*Per BFA rules – a Sanction event has to have a minimum of 6 pilots. If at an event sanction, there needs to be 6 pilots for the BFA – Iowa State Championship.

If at an open sanction, need to have a minimum 6 pilots to count. If there are 5 Iowa State Championship and 1 non – Iowa State Championship. The open sanction will count, but will NOT count for the Iowa State Championship, since there will NOT be 6 Iowa State Championship.

ALL BFA rules apply for task scoring, jury and penalties.

[www.ia-championship.com](http://www.ia-championship.com)

Organizers:	John Jensen 515-961-3154	Bill Clemons 515-287-6934	Gary Haynes 515-961-4560
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Enclosed is some history of the discussion of the BFA – Iowa Championship:

With the BFA moving the BFA - U.S. Nationals to Anderson, S.C. for the 2008 year, several pilots from Iowa wanted to get more Iowa pilots the availability to compete in this National competition.

In past years, the National Balloon Classic has hosted the North Central and the State of Iowa Championship. For the past 4 years, the same pilots that had won the North Central Championship also won the Iowa State Championship.

With some discussion of the Iowa pilots that competed in BFA – competition division, wanted to make a series of events compared to having just one event. With the series of hot air balloon events will award the true Iowa Champion.

Bill Clemons, Gary Haynes and I (John Jensen) volunteered to offer and hold the 2007 BFA – Iowa Championship. The enclosed format is above. We formed a proposal and forwarded the proposal to the BFA – Competition Committee at the end of March. The Competition committee voted and awarded the BFA – Iowa Championship to the above format.


Currently, have sent the format to every current member (Iowa pilot) of the BFA. This is a Voluntary to join the BFA – Iowa Championship. If any pilot joins that is great, if any pilot chooses not to join that is great, too. But I encourage to take a look at this proposal and to view the BFA – Iowa Championship web site: [www.ia-championship.com](http://www.ia-championship.com)

Thank you,

Bill Clemons, Gary Haynes & John Jensen



**Steve Palash Photography**  
[www.balloonsgalore.us](http://www.balloonsgalore.us)  
Hot Air Ballooning Merchandise  
**Steve Palash**  
2529 Rebecca St.  
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**Mystic Moods Photography**  
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Ward & Diane Roscoe  
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515-360-0530 515-961-0644  
[www.mysticmoodsphotography.com](http://www.mysticmoodsphotography.com)

**2008**  
**BFA – Iowa State Championship**  
[www.ia-championship.com](http://www.ia-championship.com)

**Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

BFA Competition #: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: \$50 Check

Make checks payable to: John Jensen and return to the address below.

**Organization:**

John Jensen  
515-961-3154 (H)

Bill Clemons  
515-287-6934 (H)

Gary Haynes  
515-961-4560 (H)

John Jensen  
708 South 'N' Street  
Indianola, Iowa 50125  
[www.ia-championship.com](http://www.ia-championship.com)

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**Thanks** to the following for their contributions to this newsletter: Meika Bartholomew, Brett Boerner, Melissa Boerner, Michelle Craig, Sandy Drake, Bill Griffin, Max Harris, John Jensen, Don Prine, Gerry Prine, Gary Ruble, Jim Thompson, Mark Weeks, and Becky Wigeland

*Touch and Go*

*Balloons Over Iowa*

Carol Harris - Editor

2305 Hillside Ave.

West Des Moines, IA 50265

### Newsletter Deadline

July 10

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

Carol Harris

2305 Hillside Ave

West Des Moines, IA 50265

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