

# Touch and Go

BALL  NS  VER  IWA

September - October, 2008

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## 2008 National Balloon Classic

It was another great National Balloon Classic. We didn't fly as much as last year, but that's probably good. With the high price of propane, we'd have probably broken the bank if we'd flown that much. Balloonmeister Matt Fenster and his team did a great job of calling tasks and getting the scores up. There was a good mix of returning pilots, new pilots and pilots who hadn't been here for awhile who returned. Present were 3 World Champions, 3 National Champions and 2 members of the 2008 World Team – Johnny Petrehn & Joe Heartsil. The week started off muddy and got muddier with the rain we got Sunday & Monday. Rich Jaworski got stuck in the mud 5 times in the propane line on the first Friday (and still didn't get fuel)!

Friday evening the Balloonmeister called a FIT and the Don Kersten Memorial outhouse flight. Aaron Gebhart knocked over the outhouse – the first time it has been hit in probably 10 years. He also hit the target with a 0.04' throw. The flight was followed by a large night glow.

Saturday morning, they started us out easy – a 2 part task- JDG on Hamilton, FIT at the field. Most headed

(continued - page 3)

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## Warren Stone

Sympathy wishes to the family of Warren Stone who passed away Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup> at his home. Warren was moved home from the hospital Friday evening so he could spend his final days on the farm he loved. Randy inflated his balloon outside Warren's window just before his passing Saturday evening surrounded by his family. Larry and Margaret, Kelly and Maureen, Peg and Roger, Randy and Lisa and all their family are in our prayers. Warren will be deeply missed in the entire ballooning community. Warren's daughter Nan also passed away recently.

### Letter from President Meika

Hello to all my friends!

On top of all the other activities, we now have had the Olympics and the political conventions. This may be a short article because I'm dog tired. When you stay up until midnight watching the old TV, five AM comes awfully fast. Thank heaven Dad and I take a short nap every day at noon.

Dad is busy preparing for the SW Iowa Hot Air Balloon Days in Creston. I'm glad he has been the Balloonmeister for longer than I've been alive. President Gretchen told me about the early days when Dad and the other Founding Fathers would stay out late and spend many evenings on promotional activities.

The good news is that the last two BOI membership meetings have been postponed because the weather was flyable. Our next meeting should really be something. Please put September 21 on your calendar. Uncle Bill Griffin says he will present a platform for adoption – whatever that means. Hope to see you here at the Balloonport. As usual, someone has to guard the farm and I can't go to Creston.

Hope the hurricanes stay far from Iowa. Fall is the greatest time to get in the air so always remember to

Fly Safely,  
Meika

## BOI Halloween Party

Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

6:30 p.m.

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Chili Cook-off

Costume Judging



Theme "Roaring 20's/  
Mafia / Mob / Sopranos"



**Balloons Over Iowa President**  
Meika Bartholomew

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

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Terry Boettcher  
Bill Griffin  
Don Prine  
Jerry Riley

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

**Advertising Rates**

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Quarter Page .....	\$5.00
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**Letter from Vice-President Sandy**

Another chapter of the National Balloon Classic has come to a close. Normally I would say this was a “hot” event, but this year I have to say it was a bit wet and muddy for the first half. Mom and Dad were surprised more chase vehicles didn’t get buried in fields. This weather has just been plain crazy!

Meika and I were not able to attend the Classic this year, but we did get many updates from Rob and Linda and Mom and Dad. Mom stated this was a “crappy” year for one pilot - Aaron Gebhart hit the outhouse in the annual Don Kersten Outhouse tip over task. It’s been noted that the last time the outhouse was tipped over was about 10 years. So crappy is referring to the outhouse. Great job Aaron! Don Fenster and the teamsters from the BCFA were at it again. I guess I need to make sure my dues have been renewed. Despite the rain/muddy fields/ and later in the week warmer temps, the Classic was a success. So, is it true that the Septic Truck got stuck on the field? Great job to all the volunteers, balloonists, crews, and enthusiasts who made the event a success! Great Job to Matt Fenster and his team!

Many of you have just returned from the Great Pershing Balloon Derby, which is held in Brookfield, MO. For others who have returned from the BFA Nationals held in Anderson, SC, I will be anxious to read your event reviews and see photos.

Creston Balloon event is fast approaching. This is always a fun weekend, whether everyone flies or not, there are still plenty of things to do. I do expect a full report on the crappy beer contest!

The last big event fast approaching is the 2008 Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. I really enjoy reading the encounters of this group. It’s reported that there are many adventures going down, during the event, and coming home. Stay tuned. For the individuals that are going down to Balloon Fiesta for the first time, be sure to let Carol Harris know. (Newbies are required to write an article for the newsletter). I’m sure there will be plenty of photos, unfortunately we only see the selected photos. The Iowa group has a motto - “What’s happens in Albuquerque, stays in Albuquerque”. We only hear the clean stuff.

The Radcliff bank is about ready to close for the day. I need to help the day manager lock the bank up. I also like to have one last roll around in the money...Ha ha. Just kidding. The bank officials will not allow me to roll around in a pile of money. That would be a complete no-no.

Before I sign off, I do need to personally thank JJ and Patricia Johnson for helping Mom and Dad out during the Classic. These four individuals (Drakes and Johnson) always seem to have a great time!

I hope to see everyone at a BOI meeting and /or the upcoming Halloween party.

Until next time, soft landings  
**Sandy Drake**

## National Balloon Classic (continued)

out towards Palmyra. 48 pilots scored on the JDG, Ron Frusher won with a 1.1' drop. Scott Armstrong won the FIT with a 0.09' throw.

Saturday evening was a mass ascension/Hare & Hound. Kim Rosenboom won the task with a 1.01' throw. The evening ended with a great fireworks show.

Sunday morning the official competition began with a 3 part task - JDG at Zachary's yard, CRAT at the field, JDG north of town off Gear St. The winds were changing & picking up, so some pilots chose not to fly. Winners for the first two tasks were Bill Clemons - 19.06' & Holly Pfeifer - 75.07'. No one made it to the third target. Sunday afternoon storms were brewing to the north, heading our way. The skies got darker & darker & finally opened up. The pilot's meeting & flight were canceled. There were thunder storms & rain off & on all evening & part of the night. Warren county got 3-4" rain.

Due to the rain, the flight was canceled for Monday morning. A few balloons flew into the field Monday evening, followed by the Sports Page party.

Tuesday morning the flight was canceled due to wetness. Tuesday evening it was still very wet. The task was a target & pole grab on the field. About 20-30 balloons flew. Matt Grote (Mr. "I don't like competition") won the task.

Wednesday morning the competition was back on. They called a 4 part task - JDG southwest of the field, a Gordon Bennett Memorial at the field, followed by 2 JDG's NE of the field. The ground was still pretty soft. We chuckled at one crew that got stuck going up a hill that others had gotten stuck on, then God got us back for laughing - we got stuck on flat ground. Winners of the 4 targets were John Jensen, Rich Jaworski, Jason Jones & Steve Jones. Wednesday evening was Farmer Appreciation night. The pilots were split - even numbered pilots flying off the field with a Hare & Hound, odd numbers flying in for a FIT. The two winners were Rob Bartholomew & Grant Pfeifer. There was another night glow with a huge crowd. They let the spectators onto the field, so we had lots of admirers & questions.

Thursday morning Matt called 5 tasks, using all 7 baggies - a JDG SW of town, Maximum Distance Double Drop at the Middle School ball field, Minimum

Distance Double Drop at the field, FIT at the field, and a JDG on 170th. The landowner where we launched from gave us permission from the bathroom window. I think we caught him in the shower! Todd Isley won the first target, Johnny Petrehn won the next three & Carlos Zuniga won the last one with a .03' throw! Thursday morning the pilots were again split, odds flying off the field for Hare & Hound and evens flying in for FIT, \$5000 Pole grab & Dick Drake Duck Drop. Kirk Bloom won the Hare & Hound & Brad Craig won the FIT. No one got the pole grab or the Duck Drop.

Friday morning we were put on hold, the clouds were moving through quickly, and the winds were picking up. We were finally released with a 3 part task - a JDG on Harrison, a FIT at the field and a MJD goal south of the field. The winds calmed down a little and balloons filled the skies. 37 pilots scored on the first target, 9 within 10 feet. Gary Cass won with a 1.06' throw. Maury Petrehn won the 2nd target & Gary Haynes the 3rd. Friday night the Balloonmeister team gave Aaron Gebhart the "Shitter-hitter" award for hitting the outhouse last Friday night. John Jensen was awarded the "Balloonmeister of the Day" award for his work on the task sheets! All pilots were flying into the field for a FIT, attempting to drop baggies into 3 wading pools or going for a cash grab pole. Gary Cass grabbed the pole winning \$5000. Rob Nutting won the FIT.

Saturday morning Matt called another 5 part task - a JDG at Shady Oaks golf course, Maximum Distance Double Drop & FIT at the field, JDG at HS ball field, and JDG at McCord park. Johnny Petrehn won the first two tasks, Jason Jones won the FIT, Grant Pfeifer and Steve Jones won the next two JDGs. Saturday afternoon was the awards ceremony (see below). Saturday evening the winds were blowing & wouldn't settle down, so eventually the flight was canceled. No one would win the \$10,000 pole grab this year. Pilots, crews & volunteers enjoyed the final party - prime rib sandwiches. Tailgates continued throughout the evening.

### Awards:

**John Russell award:** Karin Riepe

**Crew of the Year:** All crews

**Landowner of the Year:** Jim Nichols

**Newcomer of the Year:** Ron Frusher

**BCFA Pilot of the Year:** #1 Kim Rosenboom, #2 Holly Pfeifer

## National Balloon Classic top 20

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Johnny Petrehn | 11. Bill Clemons  |
| 2. Maury Petrehn  | 12. Ron Frusher   |
| 3. Cory Bloom     | 13. Jason Jones   |
| 4. Joe Heartsil   | 14. John Jensen   |
| 5. Steve Jones    | 15. Grant Pfeifer |
| 6. Harold Graves  | 16. Gary Cass     |
| 7. Jeremy Rubin   | 17. Gary Heavin   |
| 8. Todd Isley     | 18. Gary Haynes   |
| 9. Brad Craig     | 19. Ron Nolan     |
| 10. Dan Corbin    | 20. Adam Boden    |

### Top 3 for the North Central Regional:

1. Johnny Petrehn
2. Cory Bloom
3. Jeremy Rubin

### Some of the great things for the week:


- ☺ Aaron Gebhart knocking over the outhouse & receiving the “shitter-hitter” award
- ☺ Balloonmeister team’s funnies on the task sheets
- ☺ BCFA Entertainment
- ☺ Bertsch's tailgate BBQ
- ☺ Catching up with old friends
- ☺ Crew of the Day
- ☺ Crews helping other crews
- ☺ Cottage Inn breakfast
- ☺ Crouse's breakfast; Crouse's onion rings
- ☺ Drying up at the end of the week
- ☺ Fresh sweet corn
- ☺ Gary Cass getting the \$5000 pole grab
- ☺ Getting some sleep early in the week
- ☺ Having a flight where we didn't get stuck, scored, and drove right to the balloon on landing
- ☺ Helpful friendly landowners
- ☺ Jerry & Rosa's margaritas
- ☺ Karin Riepe awarded the John Russell award
- ☺ Porta-pot truck getting stuck!
- ☺ Lunch at A & W
- ☺ Mark Weeks self portrait photo
- ☺ National Balloon Museum Hall of Fame
- ☺ Night Glows – letting the spectators on the field, it’s great to interact with them
- ☺ No 90 degree temps
- ☺ Pilot camaraderie - helping each other out & congratulating each other on a job well done
- ☺ Seeing kids & grandkids playing together while waiting for pilot meetings

- ☺ Simpson College – a great place to stay
- ☺ Slightly lower gas prices
- ☺ Visiting the Balloon Museum on a rainy day

The dates for the 2009 National Balloon Classic are July 31 - August 8. See you there!

### Mystic Moods Photography

Hot Air Balloons  
Landscapes Scenic Nature  
Ward & Diane Roscoe  
Photographers



515-360-0530 515-961-0644  
[www.mysticmoodsphotography.com](http://www.mysticmoodsphotography.com)

### Steve Palash Photography

[www.balloonsgalore.us](http://www.balloonsgalore.us)  
Hot Air Ballooning Merchandise  
**Steve Palash**  
2529 Rebecca St.  
Sioux City, Iowa 51103  
712-255-7068  
[Steve@balloonsgalore.us](mailto:Steve@balloonsgalore.us)



### Balloons Over Iowa Repair Station

**Rob & Linda Bartholomew**  
18999 Blue Pl., Carlisle, IA  
Phone: 515 989-3708  
Email: [balloonsoveriowa@wildblue.net](mailto:balloonsoveriowa@wildblue.net)



### Congratulations to BFA Nationals Winners:

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 1  | Joe Heartsill       |
| 2  | Owen Keown          |
| 3  | Steven Jones        |
| 4  | Nick Donner         |
| 5  | <b>Brad Craig</b>   |
| 6  | Johnny Petrehn      |
| 8  | <b>Cory Bloom</b>   |
| 11 | <b>Jeremy Rubin</b> |
| 31 | <b>Todd Isley</b>   |

## New Balloons



**Scott Armstrong**



**Christine Bertsch**



**Jeremy King**

### **National Balloon Museum**

#### **Ballooning Fashion Flair**

January is coming soon. If you haven't already picked up your sign-up sheet for the Ballooning Fashion Flair and Brunch yet, you can get them on line at [www.nationalballoonmuseum.com](http://www.nationalballoonmuseum.com) or at the National Balloon Museum in Indianola. Your choice of items must be made from actual balloon material or material with balloons on it. There are many choices to pick from. Come and join the fun!! The event will be on January 17th, 2009, at the museum. You can buy your tickets or make reservations after December 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Christmas in the Air**

Christmas in the Air at the National Balloon Museum will be held the same weekend as the Indianola Tour of Homes. So while you are viewing the Christmas Homes stop by and pick up your extra special Christmas presents for the friends in your life. The Museum will be decorated in their finest holiday flair with refreshments from 10:00-4:00 on Saturday

December 13th, 2008. There will be a 10% off sale for anyone coming in for a visit and 20% off for any member joining us that day. Come and check out a lot of our new exhibits and new Gift Shop items.

#### **National Balloon Museum Photo Contest**

Thanks to all the wonderful photographers who sent us their balloon photos for the annual National Balloon Museum Photo Contest. They were a very colorful bunch.

It was very hard to pick the best, but the winner for the 2008 National Balloon Museum Photo Contest is Barbara Van Wyngarden from Newton.

Her photo will be on the new postcard for the Museum for next year. She will receive an 8x10 copy of her winning photo as well as 2 dozen postcards. Congratulations Barb!

Hope to see new entrants for next year's contest!! Thanks to all who sent photos in. *Becky Wigeland*

## Great Pershing Balloon Derby

The 32nd Great Pershing Balloon Derby (GPBD) was held in Brookfield, MO over Labor Day weekend. 39 pilots registered at the Brookfield Elks Lodge on Friday, August 29.

The number of entries was down from the previous year (darn BFA Nationals, Harley Davidson's 105th anniversary celebration, semi-pro football and the economy!!) but that didn't stop those in attendance from having an absolutely terrific weekend.

The officials for the event were Balloonmeister Karin Riepe, Safety Official Jason Jones, Weather Official Matt Fenster and Scoring Official Doug Clark. Karin was back at the helm after taking a year off. The year sabbatical didn't dampen Karin's spark for calling competitive tasks in the mornings and fun flights in the evenings. The evening flights were not considered in the overall competition points but there were prizes given to the pilots winning those tasks. We also had 15 members for our Measuring Team which allowed Karin to run multiple competitive tasks.

The popular South Main Night Flame on Friday evening started off our event. Once again, the crowd was thrilled with the show. Thanks to Theron Riley, Andrew James, Rick Goosey and George Thomas for lighting up the night once again. This little glow seems to get the citizens of our small community fired up for the weekend.

Saturday morning brought gorgeous weather. The briefing was held at the Brookfield Elks Lodge and after all of the normal first briefing information was discussed Karin explained the scheduled tasks for the first morning of competition. A four part task was called. The first task was a Judge Declared Goal. As most of you are aware, the winner of the first task of our Event also wins the coveted John Petrehn Memorial Cup. Most pilots launched from the east/southeast side of Brookfield, some within the city limits. Of the 38 pilots flying (one pilot did not fly), 19 scored at the first target, which was a nicely manicured front yard just west of Brookfield. Adam Boden claimed the Cup with a drop of 0.05 feet, beating Jim Wolters by 1.95 feet. The second and third tasks were located at the Launch Site. The second task was a Minimum Distance Double Drop with 13 pilots scoring. Jon Thompson won the task with a drop of 104.15, 0.45 feet closer than Bill Clemons. The third task was a Fly-In with 12 pilots scoring. Jon Thompson also claimed this task with a 6.05 foot drop, just ahead of Bill Clemons' 8.15 foot drop. The final task for the Saturday morning competition was a Multiple Judge Declared Goal, 11 of the 39 pilots scored. And to sound like a broken record, the 1st and 2nd places in this task went to Jon Thompson (drop of 0.03 feet) and Bill Clemons (drop of 0.07 feet). Except for Task 1, it was the Jon and Bill show

Saturday morning.

The "one of a kind" Parade down Main Street of Brookfield was once again a blast. As pilots, crews and sponsors converged on the lineup for the parade, the excitement was already building. Absent were the numerous water soakers of years past however there were some creative things inserted in its place....of course there was the normal candy for the kids but there was also toilet paper, dog bones and other miscellaneous items being distributed to the crowd. Pilots and crews are just sometimes odd!! Chase vehicles were decorated with balloons and signs and pilots were decorated with unusual creations. John Esserman was awarded the Best Dressed Pilot award and his crew was given the Best Dressed Chase Vehicle award.

Sunday morning once again brought gorgeous weather. The competition for this morning would be a 3 part task. Pilots launched south of Brookfield and east of the old airport (for those familiar with the area). The first task of the morning or Task 5 overall was a Fly-In south of the Launch Site. Care had to be taken so that your baggie was not thrown in the "Treasures" area of that particular target as it was not part of the scoring area. Rick Goosey won this task with an 8.03 foot drop, beating Jim Wolters by 0.07 feet. 22 of the 36 pilots scored on this target. There were 3 pilots who did not fly. The final two tasks, Tasks 6 and 7, were both Multiple Judge Declare Goals and were not friendly ones for the pilots. Of the 36 pilots flying Sunday morning, Tasks 6 and 7 yielded no results.

The Saturday and Sunday evening briefings were held at the Launch Site. Saturday evening the field was split with the even numbered pilots flying in and the odd numbered pilots flying off. Karin called a Fly-In task for the even numbered pilots and the odd numbered pilots flew a Hare and Hound. The Saturday evening flight was won by Denis Sutter with Liz Magee coming in second. On Sunday evening after a brief weather hold a Double Hare and Hound task was called with all pilots flying off the field. John Esserman won the Sunday evening flight followed by Jon Shelton in second place. Following each evening flight, the pilots were asked to participate in the evening balloon glow, even numbered pilots on Saturday and odd numbered pilots on Sunday. A glow winner from each night was picked and the overall winner was selected from those two pilots. Kirk Bloom and Herb Heriford were the individual evening winners with Kirk Bloom being selected the overall winner of the Basil Downey Memorial Launch Site Nite trophy.

Monday morning appeared to be flyable until the pibal readings started coming in. The winds were a touch speedy about 300 feet off the ground so it was decided to call off the flight. The Awards Banquet start time was moved up to accommodate this change in the schedule. Before announcing the results of the GPBD, Scoring Official Doug

Clark presented a member of our scoring team with the prestigious BFA Spirit of Annie Award for Observing. Barb Davis was the recipient of this well deserved honor. The GPBD received great news from Ronnie and Carolee Hall, the landowners of the Launch Site. They were pleased to extend an invitation to us for the use of their property again next year. The 33rd GPBD will be held September 5 – 7, with registration on September 4 at the Brookfield Elks Lodge. See you then!!

Here is a list of the winners:

- |    |               |                    |
|----|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. | George Thomas | Columbia, MO       |
| 2. | Jim Wolters   | Jefferson City, MO |
| 3. | Bill Clemons  | Des Moines, IA     |
| 4. | Rick Goosey   | Pleasant Hill, MO  |
| 5. | Jon Thompson  | Kissimmee, FL      |
| 6. | Matt Riley    | Kansas City, MO    |
| 7. | Dan Corbin    | Des Moines, IA     |
| 8. | Andrew James  | St. Joseph, MO     |

John Petrehn Memorial Cup  
Adam Boden Oskaloosa, IA

Basil Downey Memorial Launch Site Nite Lite Kirk Bloom  
Indianola, IA

### Sympathy

- ▶ Sympathy wishes to Jim Phelan of Lincoln, IL. Jim's mother passed away recently.
- ▶ Sympathy wishes to the family of Bob Sandy who passed away last week.

### Get Well

- ▶ Get Well wishes to Ralph Rieck
- ▶ Get Well wishes to Terry Garrett

## Barb Davis Wins 2007 Spirit of Annie Award

On Monday, September 1, 2008 at the awards banquet for the 32nd Great Pershing Balloon Derby in Brookfield MO, the current US Chief Observer, Barb Davis, of Mexico MO, was presented by Doug Clark with ballooning's highest honor for Observers, the Spirit of Annie Award for 2007. Following a prolonged standing ovation, Barb humbly spoke to the crowd and expressed her surprise and honor in receiving the Award.

The Spirit of Annie Award was created by the Northeast Ohio Ballooning Pilots Association (NOBPA) in the mid-1990s to honor the memory of Annie Pryne. It is awarded to an Observer who best exemplifies Annie's spirit and personality. Annie, who came to ballooning around 1980, was not only an Observer, but also a hot air and gas balloon pilot. However, this award honors her Observing. Annie was very people-oriented and always tried to make everything work well for those around her. She was quick to help rookie Observers in learning and strengthening their skills. She always arrived at events early in order to help wherever she could. Pilots for whom she observed recall that she was always fair and that often they learned from her as she carried out her duties. Her work was always clear and well-done. After her passing, NOBPA named the Spirit of Annie Award in her honor.

The Spirit of Annie was first given out in the mid-1990s. The first recipient was Gil Pryne, Annie's husband. Other past recipients include Tom Tyler, Mike Tuten, Sally Shields, Josh Swallow, Jim Dieball and Kim Wilson.

Barb Davis has been involved in ballooning since the early 1990s. She lives for ballooning. As the current US Chief Observer and member of the Competition Division Board, she actively participates in trying to fight for all Observers in the United States. She readily helps others without question. She is extremely enthusiastic and loves to participate in events. She has wonderful people skills. She has traveled the world to observe. Clearly, Barb has demonstrated the Spirit of Annie and is well-deserving of the Award. *Doug Clark*



Photos from Battle Creek  
*Touch & Go*

# National Balloon



Landing at Green Acres



Wow, that shuttle is BIG!



Flying to a target at the ball fields



Mass ascension



Night Glow



Flying into the field



Target on the road through the field

Jim Thompson flies right over the X





# Classic 2008



"Here's Doc with weather"



Karin Riepe - John Russell award



1st place - Johnny Petrehn



Balloonmeister Matt Fenster & his team - Jason Jones, John Jensen, Todd Isley



Gary Cass got a \$5000 pole grab



Will Martha West stay on for another 30 years or will she retire from the Classic Board?



#3 - Cory Bloom, #2 - Maurey Petrehn, #1 - Johnny Petrehn

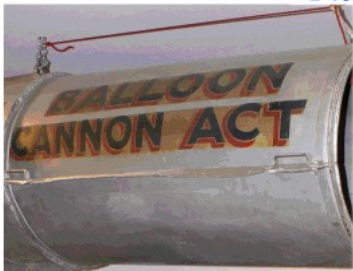


Rural Relations - Jody & Roger Woodruff



Jim Thompson with the top 3 in the North Central Regionals Johnny Petrehn, Cory Bloom, Jeremy Rubin

## National Balloon Museum Hall of Fame



Becky with Eddie Allen's Grandson Michael and son Eddie, Jr



Rich & Denny check out Tracy Barnes' plastic & styrofoam balloon



Jim Thompson, Ken Walter, Eddie Allen, Jr, Michael Allen, Gary Ruble



Beck with Brooks & Dunn

**More National Balloon Classic**



**Those early morning flights are hard on crew!**



**The BCFA Girls**



**Mark Weeks' self portrait**



**Getting stuck was part of the week**



**Carrying out one piece at a time**

**"Grandpa, if we launch from Woodruff's we can make all 5 targets."**



**Mark & friends**



**Does anyone have the keys? Yes - the pilot!**



**Kids playing**

*Classic photos by Melissa Boerner, Carol Harris, Brad Temeyer, and Mark Weeks*



**Rainy day trip to the museum**



**Watching the pibal**



**Jim Thompson taking back the BFA medalions (to have them engraved)**

## Calendar of Events

September 26-28 **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 18 - **Jill Rubin Memorial flight** Lake Darling. Contact Mike Hadley 319 456-6371

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

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

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

September 5 - 7, 2009 **Great Pershing Balloon Derby** Brookfield, MO. Contact Sherry Techau 660 258-5290 or rstechau@classicnet.net

*Race organizers - please send your dates, etc for 2009 to Carol - hotairflyn@aol.com*

## Happy Anniversary

John & Barbara Lewis	10-1
Ken & Shanda Bolton	10-5
Mark & Deanna Ziino	10-10
Dennis & Luana Shull	10-13
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
Dan & Katie Walker	11-27
Casey & Tamara Frame	11-28



## Happy Birthday

### October

Nazzle Jensen 10-1  
 Kierstin Keller 10-1  
 Dennis Shull 10-1  
 Scott Allsup 10-2  
 Trinity Keller 10-3  
 Pamela Winkenwerder 10-3  
 Rhonda Bishop 10-4  
 Alisa Lawrence 10-4  
 Mark Weeks 10-6  
 Dena Dittmer 10-7  
 Jerry Riley 10-8  
 Rhonda Thomm 10-8  
 BJ Anderson 10-10  
 Sean Carey 10-10  
 Allan Keller 10-10  
 Scott Moon 10-10  
 Alex Funaro 10-11  
 Caitlin Oponski 10-11  
 Mary Eagan 10-13  
 Jim E. Phelan 10-13  
 Russell Winkenwerder 10-13  
 Emily Fenster 10-14  
 Tracy Jensen 10-14  
 Hana Appenzeller 10-16  
 Gina Garrett 10-17  
 O'Brien Steve 10-17  
 Shanda Bolton 10-18  
 Jerry Bolton 10-19  
 Savannah Christian 10-20  
 Jim Thompson 10-20  
 Joe Thompson 10-20  
 Roger Woodruff 10-20  
 Esther Snyder 10-21  
 Ruth Holcomb 10-26  
 Brett Boerner 10-29  
 Kay Fee 10-29  
 Sara Pieper 10-29

### November

Kim Anderson 11-1  
 Avery Rubin 11-2  
 CJ Ong 11-3  
 Mackenzie Hermanson 11-4  
 Ken Bolton 11-5  
 Madison Frame 11-7  
 Ashlynn Williams 11-7  
 Kim Snyder 11-7  
 Reece Rubin 11-8  
 Madelyn Jones 11-10  
 Lexi Oponski 11-11  
 Andy Sponsler 11-11  
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## The Way It Was

### 25 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ September 1983 Altoona Balloona. Winners – 1st – Ed Bowles, 2nd – Jim Thompson, 3rd – Gary Ruble, 4th – Blair Lawson, 5th – Jerry Riley, 6th – Jim Oakes, 7th – Pat Fogue, 8th Sherry Allsup.
- ★ New balloon owners – Gary Ford, Des Moines; Henry Schick, Morrison; Norm Fee and Wayne Wasson.
- ★ 9-18-1983 Terry McGonegle received his Private license.
- ★ 9-25-1983 Donna Rieck received her Commercial license.
- ★ October 22-23, 1983 Ground School – Dennis Shelley was Ground Schoolmeister. 19 students participated – the largest class to date. Instructors were Bill Griffin, Lori Prine, Don Prine, Rob Bartholomew & Gary King. Sunday evening a “hands-on” training session with seven balloons inflating and flying completed the instruction. This provided some students with their first flight.
- ★ 10-23-1983 Ken Allbaugh received his Private license.

### 20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Sept 2-5, 1988 – Coors Great Iowa Balloon Race. #1 Bruce Lackey, #2 Jim Oakes, #3 Grady Davis, #4 Wynn Gustafson, #5 Gary Fouche & Jerry Riley, #7 Bill Woodman, #8 Charlie Ong, #9 Rob Bartholomew, 10# Bill Clemons. 1 flight flown – Monday morning. King of the Bathtub race is Jerry Riley.
- ★ Sept 16-18, 1988 – Creston. 1 flight flown – Saturday morning. Saturday evening & Sunday morning winded out. #1 Dennis Cox, #2 Dave Edmister, #3 Jim Thompson, #4 Dennis Firestone & Ted Mart, #6 Terry McGonegle, #7 J. J. Johnson, #8 Dick Drake, #9 Bruce Lackey, #10 Wayne Wasson
- ★ Altoona '88 – 3 flights flown. Pilots stayed at the Adventureland Inn. Friday evening was a Hare & Hound task out of the field with light & variable winds. Bill Griffin had an 11” drop. Saturday morning was a Watership Down. Saturday evening’s task was called, but the field was opened for fun flying. Sunday morning was another Hare & Hound off the field. #1 Jim Hansen, #2 J. J. Johnson, #3 Jim Thompson, #4 Dave Tallant, #5 Dennis Tiege, #6 Jeff Phillip, #7 Sherry Allsup, #8

Jerry Riley, #9 Don McMullen, #10 Bill Clemons, #11 Ralph Rieck, #12 Gary Ford, #13 Terry McGonegle, #14 Jim Gebhart, #15 Norm Dockstader.

- ★ The US Team of Rob Bartholomew, Bruce Comstock, David Levin, Jim Neill & Richard Rudlaff brought home the North American Cup at the North American Challenge. The event was held in St. Jean Sur Richelieu, Ontario, Canada. Tom Sheppard was Balloonmeister. 150 balloons competed. They flew 5 out of a possible 8 times.
- ★ 9-25-1988 Mike Reinert received his Private license.
- ★ October 29, 1988 Halloween Party. 80 characters in attendance. The Devil was present, but was kept in line by a Monk. There were also pirates, witches, goblins, Smurfs, & Clark Kent. A Hay rack ride started off the evening – across the old bridge, around the river bottoms & through the trees, past the spot where the haystack murder of 1924 occurred. At one point the kegmeister disappeared into the darkness. Father Griffin entertained all with a great tale of a lost pilot in the Louisiana Bayou

### 15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ September '93 - Storm Lake - 46 balloons; 4 flights; 1st Rob Bartholomew, 2nd Richard Schick 3rd John Kolba; it was determined that when balloonists come to town, the cumulative IQ of Storm Lake drops several points.
- ★ Altoona Balloona - 1 flight; 22 balloons
- ★ Creston - 40 balloons; pilot meetings at new airport hanger; no flights
- ★ September 18, 1993 BOI Meeting: Meeting held in the lobby of the Super 8 Motel in Creston; Motion made to purchase more chairs & tables; Halloween party to be kick-off for BOI membership drive; Mark Ziino moved for BOI to set aside money each year for members to travel to Bahamas in the year 2000 to celebrate NY Eve. Motion died.
- ★ October 3, 1993 BOI Meeting: Only 2 people have signed up for Ground school, so it will be postponed until Feb. More publicity to be arranged
- ★ Invite to the Halloween party - with live band "Big Al's Blues Busters". Costume party – non-Disney cartoon characters.
- ★ 10-16-93 Jeff Thompson married Colleen McGinnis
- ★ 10-24-1993 Brian Seymour received his Private license.

## 10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Brookfield review: 42 balloons registered from Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska & Kansas; Jim Thompson Balloonmeister; 5 out of 5 flights were flown. 1st place - Jim Wolters, 2nd - Rob Bartholomew, 3rd - Gary Tarter.
- ★ Balloon Works new Special Shape - representation of Jesus Christ rising out of a cloud. The balloon stands 110 feet tall & 100 feet wide. Total volume is 140,000 cu ft.
- ★ Creston Review: 43 balloons registered; Only 1 competitive flight completed; some witnessed the power of the winds & the "Gentle Giants" when one balloon lifted it's trailer up off the ground & dropped it back over onto the fan; 5 new pilots competing for Rookie of the year - award won by Dan Corbin; 1st place Ralph Rieck, 2nd Rob Bartholomew, 3rd Dan Corbin
- ★ Paul & Valerie Craven welcomed new crew member - Alyssa Joan Craven born 9-24-98
- ★ October '98 BOI Meeting: Meeting chaired by Brian Seymour; Jim Gebhart to be BOI representative to NBC; Article in DM register featuring Brian Seymour, Bill Griffin & Denny Anderson. Ground school mentioned.
- ★ Halloween Party: Costume theme - 70's/Leisure suits; special appearance by Bill Clinton; Costume winners - Ladies - Jodee Anderson, Men - Mike Oberman, Kids - Teresa MacDonald; Chili Cookoff judges were Gerald Knoll, Shirley Steel & Jim Gebhart and the winners were: 1st - Martha West, 2nd - Jill Rubin, 3rd - Michele Corbin; Pumpkin carving - 1st Darlene Seals, 2nd Linda Bartholomew, 3rd Jared Netley; Limbo contest winner - unknown - reporter "doesn't remember" (sounds like something our special guest Mr. Clinton would say).

## 5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Great Pershing Balloon Derby - no flights - entire weekend weathered out.
- ★ No official event in Storm Lake, but a few local pilots & guests did fly. It was flyable the whole weekend!
- ★ Creston - 3 flights & a short glow. 1st place - Christine Bertsch – the first woman to win Creston!! 2nd - Bret Christian; 3rd - Rob Bartholomew; 4th - Brad Craig; 5th Bill Clemons & Ryan Kintzel. Bret Christian was Rookie of the Year.

- ★ 9-21 BOI Meeting: 22 members present; Meeting chaired by Richard Pash
- ★ President Meika & VP Sandy attend Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta.
- ★ Nancy Griffin (BFA Board of Director and National Balloon Museum Liaison) presented a BFA Directors Award to Jim and Maxine Weinman for all their time and effort in making the museum what it has become today.
- ★ Jill Rubin Memorial flight. Fourteen balloons flew over Winterset & rural Madison County after a pot luck / picnic at Midwest Balloon Services.
- ★ 10-19 BOI Meeting: 22 members present; Meeting chaired by Wayne Wasson "Wayne's World"; WE HAVE NEW BEER HATS!!
- ★ Gerald Knoll resigned as Executive Director of the National Balloon Classic. Friends gathered at the Pilot compound to "Roast Gerald & Toast Barb".

## Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

July 20, 2008

**Present:** Bill Griffin, Jeremy King, Kirk Bloom, Max & Carol Harris. Meeting held on the deck of Bartholomew's pool.

**Meeting called to order** by Chair Kirk Bloom at 6:47:18.

**Secretary's report:** Minutes from May & June meetings presented. Max moved to approve secretary's report, Jeremy 2nd. Motion approved.

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

### Old Business:

- ★ He's not present
- ★ Jeremy & Kirk reported on Battle Creek. There were 11 Iowa pilots in attendance. Cory Bloom got 5th place, Kirk got 14th, Jeremy had a good time. They flew all but 1 morning & 1 evening flight.
- ★ Jeremy has a scanner to donate to BOI..
- ★ Discussion on the party on the final Saturday of the Classic.
- ★ Discussion on the cost of propane.

## **New Business:**

★ Flight over Des Moines – tentative schedule for Tuesday 7-22.

★ Classic starts Friday.

Bill moved to adjourn, Jeremy 2nd. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 7:22:37.

Respectfully submitted

Carol Harris, secretary.

## **Chuck Walz Balloon Accident**

Hello,

By now I am sure you have all heard about our friend and fellow competitor, Chuck Walz's balloon accident last Sunday, August 31st, while flying in the 2008 Nationals in Anderson, South Carolina.

At around 8:00 am that Sunday morning, Chuck's streamered balloon fell from a high altitude, and for those of us that witnessed this horrible sight, we could only say a prayer that he would survive such a fall. Our prayers were answered as his balloon landed in the top of a tree which slowed his impact speed. Chuck did receive some serious injuries; a broken pelvis, a badly injured leg and some burns to his right arm and hand. The Fire Department and EMS of Anderson did a fantastic job of providing care for Chuck on the scene and in transport to the local hospital. Chuck remained in the Anderson Hospital until Friday, September 5th, then was flown back home to Michigan where he entered the U of M Hospital in preparation for the pelvis surgery that was performed successfully today, Sept. 8th. Chuck will make a full recovery and is already planning his return to ballooning.

As in any traumatic injury, there are a lot of expenses for medical care that is not covered by insurance. Chuck is no different, although insured, there are items that the insurance company will not reimburse. A group of us have gotten together and worked out details for a fundraiser for Chuck. It will be called the Chuck L. Walz Miracle Fund. The funds will go to assist in paying his medical care and to help the family in this difficult time.

Thanks go out to those who helped get this fundraiser going such as Andy Baird (Cameron Balloons), Bank of America, Michelle Strange (Anderson County), and a special thanks to Derrick Jones who took care of all the paperwork for the account.

If you would like to contribute to this fundraiser, you can go to any Bank of America across the nation, and mention Chuck L. Walz, Munith, MI or Cindy A. Walz, Munith, MI. This will allow you to contribute to this "deposit only" account. The Walz family are the only ones able to make

withdrawals from this account. (By the way, this fundraiser is not going through a BFA bank account, I am only using the BFA HACD email list in order to get this information out.)

Thank you for your support and please keep Chuck, Cindy, and Brian in your thoughts and prayers as he continues with his recovery.

Respectfully,

Sam Parks  
Chairman BFA HACD

## **Columbia, Missouri**

Vicki Fogue and Gary Whitby did an awesome job putting together a great event in record time and with minimal resources! They also had the help of a great scoring crew...who were easily bribed! (Only kidding!)

The second annual Columbia Balloon Corp. Invitational balloon event, even with sponsorships suffering, was a very impressive show. The weather was semi cooperative...as long as you didn't pay attention to The Cancelator. He/She was perhaps a little quick on the trigger. Only kidding! They took their responsibilities seriously and did a great job. Some balloons flew on 4 of the 5 possible flights, including Remax and Pepsi inflating for static display for the media flight Friday morning. Dennis Sutter and Fred Schoening took some brave media folks up after windy inflations. They were both fortunate to have a vast amount of launch crew since all us other pilots were just standing there in awe of their intestinal fortitude/insanity. Unfortunately for their regular crews we all abandoned them after the launch to head for breakfast and work.

The official opening flight Friday evening saw all of us launch from the field by Corporate Lake and chase Pat Fogue in the Pepsi Can for a hare and hound. Jim Wolters and at least one other balloon managed to get sort of close to the hare landing spot. I don't know if Jim tossed his baggie but the other fool tossed it out from 2600 feet and watched it drift slooooooowly past the field and into the trees to the north. We won't mention said fool's name but due to the persistence of his darling wife Cheri the baggie was later retrieved.

The only problem was that, at the time of the toss the target had been pulled so said pilot was tossing at an empty field anyway.

The toss was followed by a search for a landing spot that would create a suitable picture for the front page of the local university newspaper (See ps). After such a

place presented itself and landing was secured the crew offered their help to land another balloon approaching the field but he decided landing on top of giant haybales and a row of combines was impractical. We finished packing up and performing proper rituals with the substitution of bottled spring water for champagne. (Low budget event!) But as we were leaving low and behold up walks the pilot that was afraid of a little combine requesting assistance retrieving his now torn balloon! We won't use his real name... How about we call him Tom Klitz. That sounds made up enough.

After a lesson for those unexperienced in passing through locked gates we finally managed to get "Tom" out and return to be refueled. The gas guys were very gracious about staying out an extra hour for us. Thanks Gas Guys!

Saturday mornings flight was called because of a raging storm that never raged...not here anyway. It did rage about 40 miles to the west so it was probably a good call.

Saturday night was perfect for a multi judge declared goal...three choices of target in this case...all of which avoided approach by any of the three pilots that didn't get the message that there was another storm raging to the south. Fred, who does his best to be the first balloon in the air in any circumstance, "Tom", and yours truly had wonderful flights even though the wind was from a horrible direction and landing spots were few and far between. "Tom" managed to land on a Zillion Dollar estate where they served him caviar and cold watermelon but yours truly landed in an unmarked red zone about 300 yards to the north where we had the great fortune to meet the landowners that were overjoyed at another balloon landing by their imaginary horses.

Halfway through the flight Gary called to say there were storms approaching and we should get on the ground ASAP. Unfortunately, there was nothing but the Sherwood Forest below us until we found the red zone. All part of life I guess. By the way...IT NEVER RAINED. Nah nah nay nah nah!

Sunday morning was breezier than expected but still doable...and there were no thunderstorms around. So we were sent on a two task judge declared goal flight to determine the rightful winner of the matching set of blow up lawn chairs. All 20 of us raced for the door but apparently the door led elsewhere for all but 7 of us. Or perhaps the other 13 just had more sense than the significant seven.

Of course you recall from many previous epistles that

morning winds are much more steerable than evening winds so it is usually only the very most unlucky or least talented pilots that miss the targets completely. And this case was ...one of those exceptions! The winds were light and variable minus the "light" We were scooting right along at a quick pace but the winds were just changing all over the place. At 500 feet you went one way. Drop to 400 feet and you turned...back up to 500 and you were going a completely different direction! Weird.

Well, my passenger, Nicole, who had religiously helped with crewing all weekend, and I managed to miss the first target since there was no left turn at the surface. As we worked feverishly to achieve target two we soon realized that our work was to be in vain because we needed to go SW and we were headed due west! So, I radioed the chase and said "Meet us in the field behind Kohls. We're not going to make it to the target". I had no sooner released the button on the radio when I felt the wind hit my back and we turned to the south! So I immediately radioed back and said "Never Mind!"

Somehow, we managed to fly directly over the target about 100 feet high and score one of only two scores on that target. That toss was good enough to give us the bronze medallion for the event! It really did help that so few flew. It also helps to get lucky on occasion!

Jim Wolters won the Gold, Maury Petrehn-Silver Herb Heriford Bronze...you know, I'm not sure who won 4th but 5, 6 and 7 all tied and split the leftover doughnuts for their prize!

All in all a fun weekend, to be followed next weekend (Yes, Labor Day Weekend already!) by Brookfield and finally...for me...Carbondale IL

If anyone that was at the event sees inaccuracies or things that I missed feel free to give us "The rest of the story". Otherwise, That's exactly how it happened sir!

Lots of Love!

Herb Heriford

ps - The photograph on the front page will undoubtedly win the journalist a Pulitzer prize. It is of the pilot at 2500 feet doing a burn on the burner with his face in a dashing pose. It will probably, however, set ballooning back two generations!

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**Thanks** to the following for their contributions to this newsletter: Meika Bartholomew, Brett Boerner, Melissa Boerner, Doug Clark, Sandy Drake, Herb Heriford, Jeremy King, John Jensen, Jen Nordhagen, Don Prine, Gerry Prine, Sherry Techau, Brad Temeyer, Mark Weeks, Becky Wigeland, Jody Woodruff

*Touch and Go*

*Balloons Over Iowa*

Carol Harris - Editor  
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 West Des Moines, IA 50265

### Newsletter Deadline

November 10

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

Carol Harris  
 2305 Hillside Ave  
 West Des Moines, IA 50265  
 email - hotairflyn@aol.com Phone 515 221-3193

### 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 19      November 16

## BOI Halloween Party

Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>  
 6:30 p.m.

