

# Touch and Go

BALLOONS OVER IOWA

November-December, 2008

---

---

## BOI & IBA given BFA Directors Award

Each year the Balloon Federation of America Board of Directors can give "Director's Awards" to an individual or group of deserving balloonist. These awards are presented at the BFA Annual Meeting. This year I presented two awards, one each to the two Iowa balloon clubs, the "Iowa Balloonist Association" and "Balloons Over Iowa". In the presentation I made the following points:

### BALLOONS OVER IOWA

- ! Membership – Over 100
- ! Officers
  - ! Founding Fathers – five Iowa balloonist started organization in 1970's
  - ! President – Meika - Beagle
  - ! Vice President – Sandy - Golden Retriever
- ! Activities
  - ! Newsletter
  - ! Ode to Spring Balloon Event
  - ! Socials
    - ! Halloween Party
    - ! Saint Patrick's Day Party
  - ! Ground School
    - ! Average attendance over 20/year
    - ! Participants from 6 or more states
- ! State Championship

### IOWA BALLOONIST ASSOCIATION

- Membership – Over 100
- Organization Started in 1970's
- ! Activities
  - ! Newsletter
    - ! October
    - ! Different small town location in Iowa each year
  - ! Safety Seminar
    - ! March each year
    - ! Averaged 150 to 200 participants each year
    - ! World and Nationally known speakers
      - ! Ed Yost
      - ! Joe Kittinger
      - ! Lou Billonnes
      - ! Karl Stefan
    - ! Participants from 7 or more states
  - ! State Championship

It was also pointed out that both organizations were very supportive of BFA and BFA competition.

Jim Thompson

### BOI Halloween Party

The words for the night were chili & gangsters. There were 9 entries in the Chili cookoff and many gangsters running amok. After judges Bill Griffin, Dick Drake & Paul Randleman tasted all the chili entries, the members & guests dined on chili & all the other food brought by members. As usual the food was plentiful & tasty! After dining, Jim Thompson came forward and awarded BOI the BFA Directors award from the annual BFA meeting. He mentioned many of the strong points of BOI - support of the museum & of BFA, as well as the varied activities. Since President Meika & VP Sandy were not yet present, accepting the award were Founding Fathers Rob Bartholomew & Bill Griffin. They recounted the story of the founding of BOI - it was too windy to fly, so they and 3 others went to the bar & started a balloon club. Then, party organizer extraordinaire, Jen Nordhagen called for all the kids in costume to come to the front. There were several

mini-gangsters as well as cheerleaders, a kitty cat, super-heros & a pirate. The trophy winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> place - Hana Appenzeller, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Abbie Curtis, Scariest - Batman, Most original - Josie & Riley Nordhagen, Cutest - Caleb Nordhagen, Silliest - clown.

Then the adults came forward. There were several shifty looking hoodlums and their floozy flappers. The winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> place - Dick & Phyllis Drake, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Brad & Lori Curtis, Best group - Drakes and granddaughter & friend. Scott Armstrong won the pumpkin carving contest.

The chili contest winners were then announced:

1. Carol Patterson 3. Stacey Dinnen
2. Lynn Craig 4. Jim & Connie Thompson

Music & Karaoke topped off the night. See photos on page 8.

**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  
Phone 515 221-3193

Touch And Go is a bi-monthly publication of the Balloons over Iowa Balloon Club. Opinions expressed and advertising appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views or endorsements of the BOI Club or its members. The BOI Club or its members can not be held liable for the failure of any advertised product.

We authorize the reprinting of any original work in this newsletter, please credit Balloons Over Iowa Touch & Go as the source.

**Letter from President Meika**

Hello to all my friends!

I'm lying on our living room couch and taking pen in paw to reflect on Fall. It's wet and cold outside, but at least we are not getting blizzards like the ones being reported to our west. Dad says this weather makes his joints ache.

We had a great Halloween Party. On behalf of the BFA, Jim Thompson presented an award to BOI in recognition of our large number of members and all the young pilots we have. Founding Fathers Bartholomew and Griffin accepted on behalf of our club. Vice President Sandy and I were available but Dad explained that it was more important for us to participate in security and clean up.

We are, of course, proud of the support that BOI and the Iowa Balloonist Association provide to ballooning. I think any success is a result of our emphasis on sharing relationships, friendships and the joy of ballooning. Based on the number of little kids that attend our parties, there is a lot of joy being spread around and the growth of young pilots appears inevitable. Our emphasis on ballooning as a family sport is successful beyond our wildest dreams.

Speaking of family activities, Christmas is just around the corner. Crisp, clear weather and open fields also make this a wonderful time of year to fun fly. I encourage all active pilots to find a crew member or child or stranger that has a dream of flying in a balloon to take them on a flight this Holiday Season. Ballooning is the most fun when it is shared. During your Holiday flights, always remember to:

Fly Safely,  
Meika

**Letter from Vice-President Sandy**

I'm not one who likes to discuss politics, but I will say I'm glad the elections are over with. It was neat to see history being made, but it seemed to be a long process, especially with the negative ad campaigning. I do wish the best for the new administration.

There are many rumors circulating that Meika may be a 2012 running mate for either Sarah Palin or Hillary Clinton. Now Meika will not confirm or deny this rumor, so I guess we shall see when 2012 elections come about. I think Meika would be a great Vice President for our country. She has a great track recording for running our club.

Several of you have just returned from the big event in Albuquerque, NM. I'll be anxious to read the first timer Fiesta review and check out photos. I've always heard there's never a dull moment down there.

As I'm writing this article, I'm looking out the bank window watching the weather slowly changing from great to worse (warm temps, then rain, drop in temps, and now possibly snow). I just hope the blizzard that is predicted for South Dakota doesn't make its trek down to Iowa. I'm not ready for winter quite yet.

With winter fast approaching many of you have or will begin to winterize your balloon systems and crews. Others will hold off as long as possible. Yes, there are still some die hards that love winter flying. If anyone should attempt a long jump this winter, be sure to let Carol Harris know.

Dad just informed me that the National Balloon Museum will be selling 2009 calendars. There have been many requests for the calendars that feature balloon photos from Iowa events. A request went out for photos and the response was overwhelming. For more information on the calendars please contact the National Balloon Museum.

Since the next newsletter will not come out until after the New Year, I would like to take this time to wish you and your family Happy Holidays! I hope you get to spend time with loved ones during the holiday season. I always remind myself life is too short, so enjoy every moment you can. Please, do not forget those who are serving our country.

I'm being summoned to the bank vault so I need to finish pawing this article up.

Until next time keep looking up!

Sandy Drake

### **Kingsley, Iowa 125<sup>th</sup> celebration**

Sheryl Koch wrote:

We are having a 125th celebration in our town of Kingsley, IA in mid-June of 2009. Do any members of your club ever travel to different towns during celebrations to have some sort of "exhibition" of some sort? Or maybe rides? Members of our planning committee think that this would be very interesting and intriguing event to watch for both young and old!

Thanks for any information you can give me.

Sheryl Koch (koch@evertek.net)  
Kingsley, IA

### **Museum News**

- ★ Jim and Connie Thompson donated their collection of "Balloon Life" magazines (over 200 copies) to the National Balloon Museum. Additionally they also donated copies of the BFA "Pilot News" and "Skylines" dated 1977 to 2006 to the Museum. The magazines and newsletters will be available in the Museum Library for anyone wanting to view past articles or to do research on ballooning activities.
- ★ The winner of the 2008 Balloon Photo contest of the National Balloon Museum was Barb Van Wyngarden from Newton, Ia. Her photo will be shown on the new 2009 postcard as well as the new 2009 Iowa Ballooning Calendar.

- ★ The National Balloon Museum has made an Iowa Ballooning calendar. It will be available mid November at a cost of \$15.00. If you are interested in ordering one, please call the museum and be put on the list as well as how many you'd like to order. This will give us an idea as to how many to order.

### **National Balloon Museum's Ballooning Fashion Flare and Brunch**

Date: January 17, 2009

Time: 10:30AM-12:30PM

Location: First United Methodist Church  
307 W. Ashland Ave.  
Indianola, IA 50125

Tickets on sale Dec.1, 2008 at

National Balloon Museum,  
Indianola Chamber of Commerce,  
( 515 N. Jefferson)  
Michelle's Maternity & Nursery Nook  
(104 N. Howard).

Cost: Brunch \$20 and bring Money (25 cents --\$1.00) for voting for the winning designs. Reservations necessary. All proceeds benefit the Museum.

Website: [www.nationalballoonmuseum.com](http://www.nationalballoonmuseum.com) or call 515-961-3714. Copy the entry forms from the website and send to:

National Balloon Museum  
PO Box 149  
Indianola, IA 50125

Due: December 1, 2008

Description: Fashions will be designed from actual balloon fabric or fabric decorated with balloons will be modeled at the brunch. Two divisions Youth (under 16) and Adult (16 and older). All featured items will be voted on by the attending audience. Check the entry form for all the available choices of fashion.

### **Shop for Museums.com**

With the holidays (or any day) coming quickly and so many people buying on-line I'm sending this e-mail out to you explaining how you can help the National Balloon Museum (or any museum signed up of your choice) make some needed money in this tight times. I signed the museum up for this win-win situation and it doesn't cost you anything and it doesn't cost us anything (harrah!!) You just read all the stores as well as Ebay that are on the list at [ShopforMuseums.com](http://ShopforMuseums.com) then go to your store and order away. Then the museum of your choice gets a small stipend

from the store. It's not anything you pay, it's totally from the store!! The list of stores, explanation of how it works, and the list of the organizations signed up from all over the USA, are below. If you don't shop on line, please pass this on to your friends and family who do or might. Thanks for your help.

Happy Shopping!

Becky Wigeland  
National Balloon Museum  
PO Box 149 1601 North Jefferson Way  
Indianola, IA 50125  
515-961-3714 [www.nationalballoonmuseum.com](http://www.nationalballoonmuseum.com)

### **Raise Funds for the National Balloon Museum at No Extra Cost to You!**

The National Balloon Museum is excited to announce its involvement as a Museum Partner with ShopforMuseums.com. As a Museum Partner, anyone shopping online with their favorite national retailers can have a portion of their purchase directed to the National Balloon Museum at no additional cost. ShopforMuseums.com is nationally recognized with hundreds of Museum Partners across the country. Whether you are in the market for books, office supplies, apparel, gifts, travel reservations, home improvement, school supplies, toys, electronics, flowers or gourmet food... You name it, the place to start is at ShopforMuseums.com!

Participation is simple and secure. To designate a portion of your next online purchase to the National Balloon Museum, simply:

- ▶ Go to [www.ShopforMuseums.com](http://www.ShopforMuseums.com).
- ▶ Log in.
- ▶ Click on the National Balloon Museum.
- ▶ Then just click on the link of the store you want to visit and go about your shopping. Stores are organized by categories.

The percentage of your purchase will be tracked automatically as long as you begin each time at ShopforMuseums.com.

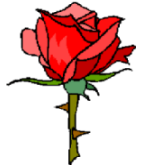
Please use ShopforMuseums.com each time you shop online and spread the word to friends and family. The National Balloon Museum appreciates your support.

### **Balloons Over Iowa Repair Station**

Rob & Linda Bartholomew  
18999 Blue Pl., Carlisle, IA  
Phone: 515 989-3708  
email: [balloonsoveriowa@msn.com](mailto:balloonsoveriowa@msn.com)



Sympathy to Marsha Hopkins. Her mother Lena Downey passed away Saturday, September 13th.



Sympathy to Derek Nordhagen & family. Derek's father, Darrell passed away

Hello Everyone,

Here is a link to Mystic Moods Photography, operated by Diane & Ward Roscoe from Indianola. They are the official Photographers of the Classic and a sponsor. Diane & Ward Roscoe are TRUE supporters of the area Pilots. There are a lot of pictures from 2008, as well as 2007.

<http://mysticmoodsphotography.com/dianesphotos/dianes.HTML>

John Jensen

### **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)

Congratulations to Jim & Connie Thompson. They will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in December.



Congratulations to Tim Cloyd on receiving his Commercial License.

Congratulations to Teresa Phalen who received her private license 9/27.



Congratulations to Preston Gebhart on the purchase of a balloon.

## NTSB Reports

### **NTSB Identification: LAX07CA028.**

Sunday, November 05, 2006 in Page, AZ

Aircraft: Strategie Balloon Co. Amazon, registration: PPXKY

Injuries: 2 Minor, 3 Uninjured.

The balloon's envelope caught fire during the takeoff initial climb and the pilot made a hard landing during efforts to get it on the ground as quickly as possible. During a pre-departure inflation, dry grass cuttings were accidentally blown into the balloon's envelope by a fan used to blow air into the balloon during the cold inflation phase. When departing, the pilot turned on the burners until the balloon started to ascend from the launch field. As the balloon continued through 300 feet above ground level (agl), he noticed that grass cuttings were inside the balloon envelope, and had become engulfed in flames. Shortly thereafter, the fabric on the envelope's throat started to burn, and the pilot pulled the vent line in an effort to descend. The suspension cables began to disconnect from the throat of the balloon as a result of the fire. The basket contacted the ground and two passengers were ejected. The absence of the passengers' weight resulted in the balloon starting an ascent. The fire continued to burn the fabric comprising the balloon's throat and seven additional suspension cables disconnected. The pilot manipulated the balloon back to the surface and the ground crew secured the basket. The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The pilot's failure to identify grass clippings in the balloon envelope during preflight inspection, which resulted in the balloon catching fire in flight.

### **NTSB Identification: LAX07CA071.**

Wednesday, January 17, 2007 in Peoria, AZ

Aircraft: Balloon Works Firefly 9B-15, registration: N9087Z

Injuries: 1 Serious, 4 Uninjured.

A passenger was injured during a hard landing. The balloon pilot stated that he had selected a landing area on the west side of a highway, notified his ground crew of the location, and briefed the four passengers for landing. He was at an altitude of 200 feet agl with a descent rate of 200 fpm when the balloon encountered a downdraft. The pilot stated that he lit both burners in an attempt to arrest the rate of descent, notified the passengers to be prepared for a rough landing, and began to vent hot air from the balloon envelope to prevent a bounced landing. Upon contact with the ground, the basket tipped over and one of the passengers was tossed out. The balloon was now lighter without the passenger, rose back into the air, and drifted beyond intended landing zone. The pilot continued to the next closest suitable landing area

and successfully landed the balloon. The ground crew located the passenger that had been tossed out of the basket. The passenger, who had sustained serious injuries, received medical attention and was transported to the hospital. The pilot reported that the local winds in the landing area were 180 degrees at 18 knots, and that there had been no mechanical failures or malfunctions during the flight. The METAR at the closest airport, approximately 20 miles southeast of the accident location, recorded the wind as calm for the local time of 0853. The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The balloon's inadvertent encounter with a downdraft, which resulted in a hard landing.

### **NTSB Identification: LAX07CA094.**

Sunday, January 21, 2007 in San Martin, CA

Aircraft: General Balloon Corp. AX-6, registration: N2447Z

Injuries: 2 Uninjured.

The hot air balloon collided with power lines during cruise flight. The pilot stated while en route to his destination he was unable to arrest a descent and the wind blew the balloon into the power lines. The skirts and suspension cables were scorched as a result of the contact. He applied sufficient heat in the balloon's envelope and the balloon ascended to about 300 feet above ground level (agl). Shortly thereafter, he performed a landing in an open field without mishap. The pilot reported no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the balloon prior to impact. The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The pilot's failure to maintain adequate altitude/clearance from power lines.

### **NTSB Identification: LAX07LA126.**

Friday, April 13, 2007 in Mecca, CA

Aircraft: ARBC Inc 150A, registration: N156LB

Injuries: 1 Fatal, 1 Serious, 4 Uninjured.

The balloon pilot was conducting a for-hire sightseeing balloon ride to five tourists. The pilot had received a weather briefing that stated winds at the closest airport, 7 miles away, were 310 degrees at 11 knots. The next closest airport, about 20 miles away was reporting winds 310 degrees at 12 knots gusting to 18 knots. The forecast for the area had occasional gusty surface winds up to 25 knots. Winds aloft, up to 9,000 feet, were from the north between 15 and 29 knots. The balloon flight manual states that the maximum surface wind speed for takeoff and landing is 15 knots. The pilot determined that the winds at the first takeoff location were not favorable, and took the balloon party to a second location. At the second takeoff location the pilot noted the winds by looking at treetop and had the balloon inflated. He had the passengers load into the basket. Once airborne he

stated that the flight will be shorter than usual because of the winds. In fact the balloon had covered the distance that usually takes 1 hour in about 20 minutes. The pilot gave a prelanding briefing to the passengers, and prepared them for a faster than normal landing. The winds in the landing area were 10 knots with gusts between 15 and 20 knots, which were above the balloon's recommended landing wind limit. As the pilot directed the balloon into the selected landing zone, the balloon began to descend more rapidly than the pilot could compensate for and headed directly for a row of electrical power lines. During the landing approach the basket overhead structure struck and broke through a section of electrical power lines. The balloon basket continued its descent, impacted the ground hard, bounced up, impacted the ground a second time, and ejected two passengers in the direction the balloon was traveling. The basket landed on one of the ejected passengers and then was dragged along the ground a few feet further before coming to a complete stop. The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The pilot's decision to fly in forecasted unfavorable wind conditions that exceeded the balloon's capabilities.

**NTSB Identification: NYC07LA114**

Saturday, May 05, 2007 in New Holland, PA  
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons A-250, registration: N5312X  
Injuries: 2 Serious, 2 Minor, 8 Uninjured.

On May 5, 2007, at 1900 eastern daylight time, a Cameron Balloons A-250, N5312X operated by The United States Hot Air Balloon Team, received minor damage when it contacted a tree near New Holland, Pennsylvania. The certificated commercial pilot and seven passengers were not injured, two passengers received minor injuries, and two passengers received serious injuries. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan was filed for the commercial sightseeing flight conducted under 14 CFR Part 91. According to the pilot, another balloon had departed just prior to his balloon, and was headed south at approximately 3,000 feet msl. The pilot then initiated an ascent with his 11 passengers and climbed to 3,000 feet msl. He noticed that instead of his balloon going in the same direction, it started to drift to the northeast. His balloon then climbed about 500 feet higher than the other balloon, however; the direction of travel did not change, and his balloon began to descend, and eventually leveled at 1,200 feet msl. He then passed over a town and made a low pass over an open field approximately 30 minutes into his flight. His ground speed showed 12 mph. Using field glasses he then started looking for a landing area. The balloon then slowed "considerably" and he considered attempting a landing; however, his balloon was over some "farm buildings and powerlines." As the balloon approached a hilly wooded area the winds increased to 18 mph. He then noticed a grass field and made an approach for an attempted

landing. The balloon struck a tree, which turned the rectangular shaped, portioned basket, long end forward. The basket then struck the ground, and a passenger fell out, striking other passengers as he fell, before finally coming to rest beneath the basket. The balloon was manufactured in 1998. The balloon's most recent annual inspection was completed on April 20, 2007, and at the time of the inspection, it had accumulated 484 total hours of operation. The pilot held a commercial pilot certificate with a rating for lighter-than-air free balloon. According to records provided by the pilot, he reported a total flight time of 1,970 hours, with 1,700 hours in balloons, and 100 hours in the Cameron Balloons A-250. A weather observation taken 7 minutes prior to the accident at Lancaster Airport (LNS), Lancaster Pennsylvania, located approximately 11 nautical miles southwest of the accident site, included winds from 260 degrees at 6 knots, visibility 10 miles, sky clear, temperature 66 degrees Fahrenheit, dew point 45 degrees Fahrenheit, and an altimeter setting of 30.02 inches of mercury.

**NTSB Identification: CHI07CA189.**

Monday, July 02, 2007 in Battle Creek, MI  
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons Z-77, registration: N4021M  
Injuries: 1 Minor, 1 Uninjured.

The balloon caught fire after landing during the Battle Creek Field of Flight Hot Air Balloon Festival. The pilot stated that after approximately one hour in the air, the balloon landed safely in a yard. When the pilot looked up inside the top of the balloon envelope, the "parachute top did not reseat." He attempted to reseat the top by using a "blast of heat" from the burners but it did not work. The pilot "knew the balloon would quickly sink down on top of the basket" so he turned the burners to their horizontal position and prepared to push the envelope fabric away. When the balloon envelope began to descend towards the ground the pilot reported that "we suddenly had a fire in the basket." Both the pilot and passenger were able to exit the basket. The pilot "determined the fire was coming from the burners" so he returned to the basket and turned off the fuel tanks. The fire was subsequently extinguished by the passenger and bystanders. An examination of the balloon after the accident revealed the fuel valve for the whisper burners was in the "on" position. The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: The whisper burner's fuel valve opening for undetermined reasons, which resulted in a fire after landing. A factor in the accident was the balloon envelope's parachute top not reseating.

## Calendar of Events

January 18, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 February 15, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 February 21-22 BOI Ground School BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 March 14, 2009 **St. Patty's Day party** BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 March 15, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 April 25, 2009 **Ode to Spring** BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 April 19, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 May 17, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 June 21, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 July 19, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 August 16, 2009 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  
 September 20, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 October 18, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 October 31, 2009 6:00pm **BOI Halloween Party** BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA  
 November 15, 2009 6:30 p.m. **BOI Membership Meeting**, BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

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

### Happy Anniversary

Doug & Teresa Purdy	12-10
Derek & Jen Nordhagen	12-10
Steven & Sharon Goff	12-11
Richard & Sherry Techau	12-15
Roger & Jody Woodruff	12-16
Richard & Kristy Pash	12-19
Gary & Dixie Ruble	12-22
Dan & Irene Bertsch	12-26
Charles & Jane Winkenwerder	12-26
Jim & Connie Thompson	12-27
John & Patrice Winkel	12-29
Jason & Kimberly Jones	12-30
Bill & Louise Clemons	1-21
Charlie & Judy Ong	1-26



## Happy Birthday

Kim Bridgewater	12-2	Steve Davidson	1-1
Mike Oberman	12-2	Jason Anderson	1-4
Dawn Foelske	12-2	Norm Fee	1-4
Paul Randleman	12-3	Steve Van Wyngarden	1-4
Lyle Taylor	12-3	Ryan Kintzel	1-5
Jackson Garrett	12-4	Mel Appenzeller	1-7
Merrie Fouche	12-5	LuAnn Randleman	1-7
Sean Smith	12-5	Connie Thompson	1-8
Jamie Bishop	12-6	Henry Borts	1-9
Mandy Keller	12-8	Julia Winkel	1-18
Juaquetta Holcomb	12-9	Kathy McCoy	1-19
Carolanne Norris	12-10	Derek Pieper	1-19
Stephanie Lawrence	12-11	Stevan Ryan	1-20
Richard Techau	12-15	Jane Winkenwerder	1-20
Allison Kochheiser	12-16	Irene Bertsch	1-21
Madison Williams	12-17	Wyman Borts	1-21
Gerald Knoll	12-21	Bill Clemons	1-21
Judy Ong	12-21	Allison Garrett	1-21
Derek Nordhagan	12-22	Malinda Patch-Gray	1-21
Nick McCaughey	12-24	Monica Winkel	1-21
Allie Hatcher	12-26	Elijah Fenster	1-23
Morgan Clark	12-28	Shawn Erger	1-26
Red Allsup	12-30	Joszua Wichelt	1-26
Rochelle Kochheiser	12-30	Terrie	
Bob Pieper	12-30	VanBroekhuizen	1-27
Cheryl Gebhart	12-31	Jocelyn Marhoun	1-28
		Brody Hermanson	1-29
		Josie Lin Nordhagen	1-29
		Shelby Bolton	1-29
		Bill Griffin	1-31



Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year



*Fiesta 2008*



*Bret Christian - Mass Ascension*



*Brian Seymour during Mass Ascension*



*Scott Allsup in the air*



*Tailgating*



*Pork tour*



*Special shapes*



*Skiing? in Albuquerque?*



*Carol Sherman & Chris Seymour*



*Roadie*



*Checking out nice chase vehicle*



*More tailgating*



*Gas balloons*

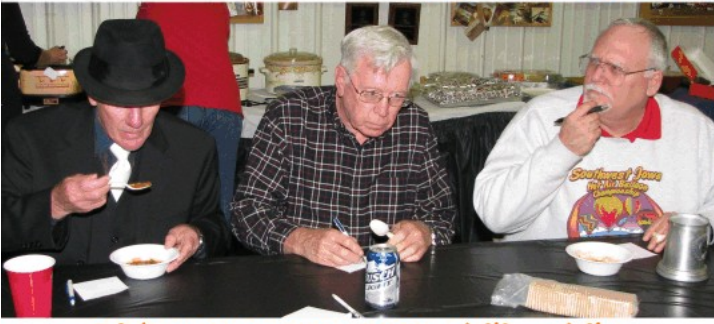


*Twins separated at birth?*

*Photos by Mark Weeks*



# BOI Halloween Party



Dick prepares to taste chili, while Paul & Bill ponder their choices



Rob Bartholomew accepts the BFA Directors Award from Jim Thompson



Kids in costume



Drake family & Brad and Lori Curtis



Chili cook-off winners: Carol Patterson, Lynn Craig, Connie Thompson, & Stacey Dinnen



← Almost every guy there was thankful he didn't have to wear this costume!



Jen



Dick firing on innocent victims



Caitlin & Scott



Linda & Rob

# Creston 2008



*Pilots' meeting*



*Weatherman Bill Griffin & Race Director Rob Bartholomew*



*The wind is NEVER this calm at Creston*



*Flying over the airport*



*Brad & Gary launching from a hay field*



*Darcy & Al*

*Hazy morning*



## Creston 08



Cory Bloom, Brett Wiltse, #1 - Dale Dommer, Al Appenzeller, Gary Fouche



Rookie of the Year - Darcy Hoch

## Crappy Beer Contest



Bill pours one of the can entries



Can division winner - Dan Bertsch with Camo Black Ice



"Do the people who brew this ever taste it?"



Bottle division and overall winner - Bob Shelton with Harvest beer - ask him what he paid for it!

## The Way It Was

### 25 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ December 3, 1983 – Norm (Doc) Dockstader’s North field Fly out. Fly from North field, then chili at Doc’s afterward. 7 balloons flew
- ★ December BOI Board meeting: Lucy & Cleo were asked to fill in for missing board members, so a quorum could be obtained; Jacob Best Beer was voted on as being the Official Beer of the B.O.I. for 1984; Jerry Riley placed on 6 months probation; Contest for designs of BOI T-shirts.
- ★ New Years Eve party at the Oakes’ “It’s a good thing this extravaganza wasn’t in town, or the funny wagon would still be making runs to the pokey”.

### 20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ December 2, 1988 – Jim Thompson’s garage catches fire. The fire started in the balloon basket from an electrical short – in the heat tapes or extension cord. Shazam Destroyed.
- ★ 12-31-88 NY Eve Party at Oakes’. 80 people attended to enjoy friends, food, drink & bring in the New Year. Jim barbecued ribs – delicious as usual. The party ended at about 3 a.m.
- ★ 1988 Alvin Ford & Myron Smith passed away. The “Alvin & Myron Memorial Ballooning Brotherhood Award” established.
- ★ Balloon museum completed & opens to the public

### 15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ November 21, 1993 BOI Meeting: 17 members present; Meeting chaired by Joel Blom; \$700 in BOI account; No Christmas party this year due to lack of funds & short on time.

### 10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ November 15, 1998 BOI Meeting: 16 members present; Meeting chaired by Cheryl Gebhart; Gary Ford has stepped down as Ground Schoolmeister. Mike Oberman to be Ground Schoolmeister; Pres & VP had to be escorted out of the building due to a heated discussion; Jill Rubin chosen as Balloonmeistress for Ode ’99; Jill is expecting her new balloon in December or January; Brad Craig has purchased a balloon. For now it is referred to as Charlie Brown's brother; New member - Scott Moon. Scott ordered a new balloon which will be delivered in December; New members - Dave Banks & family
- ★ Max & Carol Harris are grandparents again. Tyler Pedersen born 11-16-98
- ★ Dockstader Memorial Flight & Chili Supper was held Dec 6th. Five balloons flew (Carl Young, Brad Craig, Jim Thompson, Paul Randleman & Rob Bartholomew), then everyone gathered for food & liquid refreshments.

A surprise 40th BD party was held for Mike Oberman.

- ★ Maxine & Jim Weinman were presented the BFA North Central Regional Directors award for their dedication to the National Balloon Museum.

### 5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ BOI Halloween party. Chili cookoff winners: 1st place - Darrell Nordhagen with his first entry in the cook-off! 2nd - Helen Bartholomew & 3rd - Steve Jones. Pumpkin carving: Mackensie Hermanson & Andy Sponsler. Costumes: Best boy – Andy Sponsler as Harry Potter; Best girl – Celsey Clair as a cowgirl; Cutest costume – Ashley Jensen as a witch; Best man & woman – Dick & Phyllis Drake as Sponge Bob Square pants; Most original - Meika Bartholomew as Tinkerbelle!
- ★ Avery Joella Rubin born to Jeremy & Macenzie Rubin on November 6, 2003
- ★ Scott Armstrong received his private license November 16, 2003
- ★ 11-16 BOI Meeting: Meeting chaired by Wayne Wasson; 27 members present including William Shakespeare & Daffy Duck
- ★ Rob Bartholomew won the 2003 BOI Championship
- ★ BOI, Ltd has a web page – [www.BalloonsOverIowa.com](http://www.BalloonsOverIowa.com)
- ★ Hilleary Lockard chosen as new Executive Director of the National Balloon Classic.
- ★ Peter Stamats, 74 died December 15 after a courageous battle with cancer.
- ★ Allan Keller received his private license December 24, 2003
- ★ Elton Freeman, 88 died December 26 of pneumonia.
- ★ Jacob Hermanson received his private license December 31, 2003

### Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

BOI Balloonport; Carlisle, IA  
September 21, 2008

**Present:** Bill Griffin, Scott Armstrong, Caitlin Oponski, Ken & Shanda Bolton, Jerry Bolton, Rob Bartholomew, Brad & Amy Craig, Madison Williams, Ariel Williams, Ashlynn Williams, Colton Craig, Joel Worthington, Charlie Worthington, Kirk Bloom, Darcy Hoch, Dick & Phyllis Drake, Sandy Drake, Max & Carol Harris, Jen Nordhagen, Josie Nordhagen, James & Brendon Cahill, Michelle Craig, Bill Craig.

**Meeting called to order** by Chair Caitlin Oponski at 6:36:20.

**Secretary’s report:** Minutes from July meeting presented. Bill G. moved to approve secretary’s report, Joel 2<sup>nd</sup>. Dick & Rob voted not a chance. Motion approved. Carol suggested whomever votes not a chance should take minutes at the next meeting!

**Treasurer's report:** We have 250.66 cases. Bill G. questioned the treasurer "Are we being hurt by the current financial crisis". The secretary reported that we aren't, because we haven't had a party lately.

**Old Business:**

- ★ He's not here.
- ★ Joel reported on purchasing technical equipment for Ground School. He suggests we wait until after the first of the year - prices usually go down. Projected costs: Almo - \$500-\$3000, Projector - \$500-600, Notebook - \$500-600.
- ★ Rob reported on Creston Balloon Days. 3 flights were flown. Saturday a.m., there were balloons in the air for 1 ½-2 hrs. Organizers were very happy with the weekend. It has been a long time since anyone flew or glowed on Saturday night. There was a large crowd at the field Saturday night. Sunday a.m. was canceled due to fog. The winds all weekend were unusually calm for Creston. All congratulated Darcy Hoch for receiving Rookie of the Year for Creston. The top 5 were all young pilots except for Gary Fouche. The parade was large with a big crowd.
- ★ Joel reported on the Classic. Matt Fenster is not returning as Balloonmeister. Jason Jones has also turned down the offer. The search is ongoing for a new Balloonmeister.
- ★ Brad placed 5<sup>th</sup> at Nationals. He was given a round of applause. The weather was bad in Anderson.

**New Business:**

- ★ Ground school dates set - February 21-22. Cost will remain the same.
- ★ Other dates for 2009 set:
  - St. Patty's Day party - March 14
  - Ode to Spring - April 25
  - Halloween - October 31
- ★ Rob reported that a National 4 wheeler race will be held on his property November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. He is trying to organize a small balloon flight over the event.
- ★ IBA continuing education seminar is March 7.
- ★ Scott discussed the new mapping program. More info to come in the future. It could be used for more events around Iowa.

*Old Business arrives. Members give him a round of applause!*

- ★ Don reported on the Retirement Center. Many site visits are planned. He & Gerry just returned from Spain. Dick spoke recently with Todd Isley about a Trailer park - there may be spots available for BOI retirement center. The questions were raised - "How far is it from Sandyville?" "How about using old FEMA trailers".

*The chair has lost total control of the meeting!*

- ★ France won the Worlds. USA pilots - Paul placed 4<sup>th</sup>, Joe Zvada placed 6<sup>th</sup>, Johnny Petrehn placed 30<sup>th</sup>, Nick Donner placed 50<sup>th</sup>. David Levin was balloonmeister. They only flew 14 tasks.

Rob moved to adjourn, Joel 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 7:38:37.

Respectfully submitted  
Carol Harris, secretary

**Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting**

BOI Balloonport; Carlisle, IA

October 19, 2008

**Present:** Joel Worthington, Charlie Worthington, Mary & Gerald Conklin, Bill Griffin, Jen Nordhagen, James & Brendan Cahill, Michelle Craig, Max & Carol Harris,

*The meeting was out of control before it even started.*

**Meeting called to order** by Founding Father Bill Griffin at 6:40:17. There were no board members present.

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

**Treasurer's report:** We have 250.66 cases. Members questioned how our finances are in this tumultuous time. Have we made any loans to precarious companies? The treasurer answered that our only investment is in beer. Members commend Jen for making wise investments.

**Old Business:**

- ★ He's not here.
- ★ There will be a national 4-wheeler race at the Bartholomew property November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. There will be riders from many states. They have said that this is the best track around. Discussion on a balloon flight over the track.
- ★ Last night was the Jill Rubin Memorial flight. 5 balloons flew over Lake Darling.
- ★ Discussion on Albuquerque.

**New Business:**

- ★ Mary Conklin spoke on behalf of the National Balloon Museum. They are planning on putting out a 2009 Calendar featuring Iowa Ballooning. They are asking photographers to submit photos to be included in this or future calendars. Send them to Mary Conklin, %National Balloon Museum, Box 149, Indianola, IA 50125.
- ★ Carol passed around an email from Jim Thompson concerning the Directors Award given to BOI & IBA at the BFA Annual meeting. Jim will present this award at the Halloween party.

- ★ Derek Nordhagen's father passed away recently.
- ★ Jen requested that Elmo be retired from the Kegmeister job. He's getting too old to follow through on his duties. She moved that Lucy Nordhagen take over the responsibilities. Lucy will be known as the Beermeister, AKA Beer B\_ \_ \_ . Michelle Craig second the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Lucy arrived, members gave her a round of applause.
- ★ Jen Nordhagen is the new Carlisle HS Cheerleading coach. Ariel Williams is one of her competitive cheerleaders. Good luck to all in the State Competition

Joel moved to adjourn, Jen 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed, with 2 "Not a chance" votes. Meeting adjourned 7:17:44.

Respectfully submitted  
Carol Harris, secretary

worse, so the flight was canceled. The time was put to good use, though - pilots gathered at the motel for the annual Crappy Beer contest. Again, there were many entries from all over the country. It was a tough job to judge all these beers, but pilots & crews persevered and finally picked two - the can division - won by Dan Bertsch with Camo Black Ice and the bottle division and overall winner - Bob Shelton with Harvest Beer.

At the brunch, the sponsors were thanked & given their "hangy down things", then Rob announced the winners.

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Dale Dommer    | 6. Mark Harris     |
| 2. Brett Wiltse   | 7. Brian Bennett   |
| 3. Cory Bloom     | 8. Terry McGonegle |
| 4. Al Appenzeller | 9. Grant Pfeifer   |
| 5. Gary Fouche    | 10. Brad Craig     |

Rookie of the year was Darcy Hoch.

### 31<sup>st</sup> Annual SW Iowa Hot Air Balloon Days

Creston, Iowa  
September 19-21, 2008

It was amazing weather for Creston - beautiful sunny skies & not windy! Pilots, crews & sponsors gathered at the Elks Lodge for registration, then moved out to the airport for the Friday evening fun flight. The target was a grade school north of downtown. 14 pilots scored on the target. The winner of the Friday evening flight was Grant Pfeifer with a 7'2" score. 2<sup>nd</sup> place was John Jensen, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Dale Dommer.

Saturday morning balloonmeister Rob Bartholomew called a 4 part task - X at the airport, a minimum distance double drop on the runway, another X on a grass runway & a judge declared goal at the cemetery. 11 pilots scored on the first X, 1<sup>st</sup> - Cory Bloom with 0.03' drop, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Bennett, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Brett Wiltse. 34 pilots scored on the MNDD 1<sup>st</sup> - Brett Wiltse, 2<sup>nd</sup> place tie - Alan Paul & Grant Pfeifer. 26 scored on the 2<sup>nd</sup> X - 1<sup>st</sup> - Scott Armstrong with a 0.0' drop, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Mark Harris, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Brett Wiltse. 10 pilots scored on the JDG, 1<sup>st</sup> - Jim Gunhus with a 1.06' drop, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Bill Smith, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Dale Dommer. Max's average speed on his GPS was 2.7 mph, top speed 5 mph - unheard of for Creston. Many pilots headed for town after the flight to participate in the huge parade. This wasn't the weekend for the annual IA - ISU football game, so for many, naps were on the agenda.

Saturday evening Rob called a task - score on the X on the runway, baggies would be measured on the entire length of the runway. Many pilots launched from a hay field SE of the field. 17 pilots scored on the runway. Al Appenzeller was 1<sup>st</sup> place with a 4'9" drop, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Steve Lacroix, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Gary Fouche. It was a beautiful evening for ballooning! Many landed at the field & were able to walk the balloons up to the area by the crowds for a night glow. The crowd was huge.

Sunday morning it was a little foggy, so the pilots were put on hold to wait for clearing. Instead of clearing, the fog got

### Albuquerque 2008

by Brad Temeyer

After wanting to make the trip to Albuquerque for the past several years, I decided to make 2008 the year. I was presented with the opportunity to crew for Rich Jaworski for the week, so on October 1st I drove down to Omaha so we could get an early start the next day on the 16 hour drive to Albuquerque. Mike Reinert joined us for the drive down, and his wife Brenda would be flying down to joining us later in the week. The drive down was fairly uneventful, except for a thunderstorm that we ran into near Dalhart, TX. The thunderstorm was high based, and with the air being relatively dry, much of the rain was evaporating before reaching the ground. However, the storm was still able to produce strong winds, reducing visibility in blowing dust to near zero for brief periods of time. Despite this minor setback, we made it into the Albuquerque area shortly after 10 pm local time.

The next morning we made our way out to the balloon field to register and mingle with some of the early arrivals. After getting all the pilot pack goodies, we headed to the Mule Barn for lunch. For those of you that have never been to Albuquerque, this is a must stop. It is a local diner located just to the west of the balloon field with VERY generous portions of good food for the price. I think we ate there three times throughout the week. Thereafter we drove around a bit scoping out potential landing spots before heading back to the hotel to get a little rest and relaxation.

Saturday morning came quite quickly with a wakeup call around 4:30 am. Even though sunrise wasn't for nearly another three hours, we needed to leave early to beat the traffic. Unfortunately, we joined the bumper to bumper traffic on the hour and a half car ride to the field (normally the trip takes 20 minutes). I have never seen that much

traffic that early in the morning! We made it in time for the briefing, which is held on the west edge of the field underneath a large black and white tower. While the briefing was going on, dawn patrol took off and we were able to watch twinkling pibals, quite an amazing sight! That morning a mass ascension was called with a predominant drift to the northwest. Given we did not have the typical drainage winds (light north to south flow at the surface); the north end of the field would take off first. With Rich's launch spot at the far north end of the field and being in the first wave, Rich was one of the first balloons of the 651 balloons in attendance in the air. The track off to the northwest meant that they were going to cross the Rio Grande, so the crew headed south to cross the bridge to get to the other side of the river. Given the winds were only 5-6 mph, the crew was able to catch up to Rich prior to landing in an empty lot in Rio Rancho. Despite the pleasant weather for flying, the weather was expected to deteriorate as a large storm system moved into the four corners region keeping everyone grounded for the next few days. This resulted in the delay of the gas balloon launch till early in the week. On Sunday morning, we awoke to the sound of rain (and partying Polish in the hotel room next door). The system moved out late in the day, but with over an inch of rain left in the system's wake, everything was a muddy mess! We went out to the swamp (otherwise known as the balloon field Sunday night) to watch a hundred or so balloons set up for night glow. Because the field was so wet, parts of the field were roped off in hopes of letting the field dry. After the glow, we met a group of balloonist back at the hotel for pizza and margaritas from Carol Weimer's world famous margarita machine.

On Monday morning, the wind was blowing a steady 10-12 mph out of north two hours before sunrise. With low expectations of flying, we headed out to the field. Traffic was much easier this morning, with many of the locals returning to their regular work routine. Surface winds once we arrived out at the field had switched out of the northwest but were still quite brisk. The decision was made to put the balloons on hold till 7:15 am. While on hold, the surface winds began to drop and we could see a few ride balloons (not associated with the fiesta) flying in the distant hills. Even though they were several miles away, you could see they were moving at a fairly good clip off to the southeast. After reconvening, the decision was made to go ahead with the task as scheduled with half the balloons taking off from the field while the other half was scheduled to fly in. Pilots and crews were reminded to review procedures for recovery off Air Force base grounds since the winds were taking the balloons towards town and the Air Force base. The ride balloons were cancelled for the morning due to the uncertainty in the winds. Before long, a Dr Pepper balloon inflated on the south end of the field and took to the air with a large American Flag hanging below the basket. The balloon hovered over the field, but once he climbed to ~150

feet agl, he began to clip off to the southeast towards town. As the other balloons began inflating, the typical drainage winds temporarily took over providing a northeast wind in the lowest 100 feet or so. This allowed pilots that got off relatively early to travel to the southwest before getting wrapped up in the prevailing northwest to southeast flow and make a roundabout track to the target that was located south of the field. It wasn't long before the stronger winds from aloft mixed down and the surface winds were blowing at a steady 10 to 15 mph. Only four balloons made an attempt to fly in to the field before the task was called due to the increasing winds. Of the four, only one made the field.

The decision was made that the large storm system that had brought all the rain to the Albuquerque metro area was far enough to the east that the gas balloon launch would be held Monday night. Because the area of high pressure behind the storm system was still building in, it appeared as though the gas balloons would head south throughout the night before heading back to the north toward the Central Plains on Tuesday. The gas balloon launch was delayed till slightly after sunset, and one by one the balloons were brought to the stage to begin their journey. As some of the balloons lifted off, they threw post cards and Swiss chocolates.

After what was a VERY short night, we found ourselves back out at the field on Tuesday morning for what appeared to be a very pleasant morning to fly. As the dawn patrol took to the skies, you could see there was a predominant light east to west flow through the atmosphere. As the sun came up, we began to spot gas balloons off on the horizon to the west. Because of the marginal conditions on the day before, the decision was made to have everyone fly into the field. We followed a line of chase vehicles out to the north to launch from the gravel pit. Other pilots elected to play the synoptic flow and found launch spots west of the field. Shortly after sunrise, we began seeing ride balloons take to the sky. Before long, it was 8 am and a steady stream of balloons began taking off from the gravel pit. We played the drainage winds that developed around sunrise, and followed the field of fabric in the air right to the target. There were so many balloons clustered around the first target that Rich threw his baggie on top of another balloon, where it sat for a second or two prior to sliding off. Past the first target there were enlarged cards sporadically placed about the field and pilots were tasked to play Texas Hold'em. Rich did quite well with this, just missing a flush by a matter of feet. Rich landed just southwest of the museum after being in the air for nearly 40 minutes. I had the opportunity to fly that morning, and I can honestly say I have never flown around that many balloons that close together before! After we packed up, we went back to the field and fueled before heading to Sandia Peak and Tinker Town. For those of you that have never been, Tinker Town is one man's self collection of Americana, which is located near the base of the road to Sandia Peak. While at both Tinker Town and at

the summit, we saw additional gas balloons pass through the Albuquerque area.

Conditions were ripe for flying again on Wednesday morning, with a prevailing flow from north to south. Rich took off at the field with a target on the old fiesta grounds, and landed in an Office Max parking lot. A few other balloons were able to navigate their aircraft into the parking lot as well. A red bull car pulled up as we were packing the balloon away and gave us all free samples of Red Bull. After the flight, Rich and Mike went to fuel the balloon while I stayed back and watched a few special shapes inflate on the field. After spending some time talking to the mounted police officers on the field, we headed back to the hotel to change quick before heading to the zoo for the big pilot and crew party. Brenda Reinert flew in late that afternoon.

Thursday and Friday morning were the special shapes rodeo, so all balloons except for the shapes and ride balloons were tasked to fly in. Rich took off at the gravel pit and landed at the old balloon field south of Fiesta Park. After the flight Rich and Mike went to fuel while we watched other pilot play the box winds. This was the first time throughout the week we had these type of conditions, and pilots like Paul Petrehn made multiple passes at the key grab prior to time expiring. We then headed to the hotel to change quick prior to riding the Tram. Once we reached the summit, some members of our group elected to ride the ski lift down on the back side. The ski lift ride takes nearly an hour, but is a great way to spend a peaceful afternoon and take in the fall colors. We then returned back to the field for the special shapes rodeo that night. Seeing over 80 special shape balloons is a sight in itself, but seeing them all glow brings out the kid in all of us. Friday morning winds were expected to become quite brisk throughout the day as a storm system was expected to move into the Albuquerque region for the second weekend in a row. The special shapes took off at the field and were in the air by 8 am. Shortly thereafter, balloons began appearing on the southern horizon. After watching many of the special shapes take off, we quickly went out and found a launch spot to make a quick pass at the field. Rich missed the field to the east, but was able to land in gravel pit to the north. Because of the storm system moving in, this was the last flight of Fiesta' 08.

Overall, Albuquerque is an amazing experience and I would highly recommend it to anyone involved in ballooning. Here are some random final thoughts regarding the event.

- ◆ Even though flights are only scheduled in the morning, you are still busy many evenings with balloon related activities.
- ◆ There are great places to eat down there! Some of my favorites included (but were not limited to): Dion's (pizza), a barbeque place just at the base of the entrance to the tram, and Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen.

- ◆ Light is nice luxury to have in a hotel room, especially when taking a shower!
- ◆ There are lots of things to do down there in the few moments of down time: Old Town, Acoma (an Indian Pueblo), Tinker Town, Sandia Peak, the Tram, the zoo, and the Aquarium (just to name a few).

◆

### Member Directory Corrections:

Mary Eagan & Rick McCubbin  
515 224-1831

Ronald & Misty Dobesh  
718 N Aberdeen Dr  
Papillion, NE 68046

Wyman Borts  
911 Scott Felton Rd  
Indianola, IA 50125

### Balloon Christmas Tree

There will be a silent auction of 3' mini Christmas trees at Indianola's Holiday Extravaganza on Dec. 5th. Trees provided by Farmers Chapel and wreaths provided the Indianola Chamber of Commerce will be displayed in the Arcade of Regions Bank on the East side of the square. Auction time is 5 - 7:45 p.m.

There will be about 30 trees. Themes include: Angels, Snowmen, Fishing, Indianola Spirit, Horses, Irish, Baseball (w/ Casey Blake signatures), Softball, **Hot Air Balloons**, Music, and many others. (\$30 minimum bid) Proceeds from the Farmers Chapel trees will go to a local mission project.

If you'd like to leave a bid, we'll watch the tree for you and increase bids in \$5 increments up to your maximum. Call Jody at 515/669-4063 to leave a bid.

Jody Woodruff



**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)



# Christmas in the Air

December 13, 2008

10 am to 4 pm

At the National Balloon Museum



## PRE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE & SALE

- Christmas Gifts for Sale 10% off (members 20%)

Ornaments

2009 Balloon Calendar

Balloon books for children & adults

Many other new ballooning related items

- Free Gift Wrap
- Refreshments
- New Exhibits
- Activities for Children



National Balloon Museum, 1601 North Jefferson Way, Indianola, Iowa  
For more information call: 515 961 3714

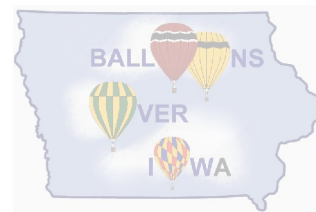
# Balloons Over Iowa Ground School 2009

## February 21-22, 2009

Want to know more about flying a Hot Air Balloon? Attend Balloons Over Iowa Ground School this winter and learn how. We teach you how to take the FAA written tests and give you valuable instructions on how to be a safe and competent Hot Air Balloon Pilot. We will be giving up to 20 hours of instruction in Private and Commercial Operations.

**Where:** BOI Balloonport, 18999 Blue Place, Carlisle, IA 50047

**When:** Registration: Friday, February 20, 7:00 P.M.  
Class: Saturday, February 21, 8:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.  
Class: Sunday, February 22, 8:00A.M. - 4:00 P.M.



**Fees:** Individual Enrollment Fee: \$195 for early Registration (prior to January 1, 2009)  
\$205 for regular Registration (January 1-February 10)  
\$215 for late Registration (February 11-17)  
Registration fee includes one set of books and a one year membership to BOI

Family Enrollment Fee: Full price for 1st family member (based on date of registration), half price per person for any other family member. Registration fee includes one set of books per family and a one year membership to BOI for each student. Extra sets of books may be purchased.

Refresher Fee: \$97.50 for early Registration (prior to January 1, 2009)  
\$102.50 for regular Registration (January 1-February 10)  
\$107.50 for late Registration (February 11-17)  
Includes one year membership to BOI, no books included.

NOTE: Food and snacks will be provided as well as any handout materials and sample tests.

Please complete the following application form if you would like to attend:

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

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

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

Phone: Daytime (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening:(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Which section are you interested in? Private \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Balloons Over Iowa** and mail to: BOI, 18999 Blue Place, Carlisle, IA 50047. For more information contact Rob Bartholomew at (515) 989-3708, email: balloonsover Iowa@msn.com

## Directions to BOI Balloonport:

**From East** on I-80 go south on Highway 65 Bypass (exit 141). Continue south on Highway 65 to the Highway 5 east exit (exit 72) - about 11 miles. Go southeast into Carlisle - 1 ½ - 2 miles. Go through Carlisle - continue on Highway 5 about 2 miles - turn north on 190<sup>th</sup> Ave (2<sup>nd</sup> left after Carlisle). Go north about 1 mile. The Balloonport is on the east side of the road (if the road curves west, you've gone too far).

**From north** on I-35 - at the north mixmaster, go east on I-80 (exit 87). Go east to the Highway 65 bypass (exit 141). Go south on Highway 65 to the Highway 5 east exit (exit 72) - about 11 miles. Go southeast into Carlisle - 1 ½ - 2 miles. Go through Carlisle - continue on Highway 5 about 2 miles - turn north on 190<sup>th</sup> Ave (2<sup>nd</sup> left after Carlisle). Go north about 1 mile. The Balloonport is on the east side of the road (if the road curves west, you've gone too far).

**From west** on I-80 - at the west mixmaster, go south on I-35 (exit 123B) about 4 miles to the Highway 5 bypass (exit 68). Go east on Highway 5 - 13-14 miles to the Carlisle exit (exit 72). Go southeast into Carlisle - 1 ½ - 2 miles. Go through Carlisle - continue on Highway 5 about 2 miles - turn north on 190<sup>th</sup> Ave (2<sup>nd</sup> left after Carlisle). Go north about 1 mile. The Balloonport is on the east side of the road (if the road curves west, you've gone too far).

**From south** on I-35 - take the Highway 5 bypass (exit 68). Go east on Highway 5 - 13-14 miles to the Carlisle exit (exit 72). Go southeast into Carlisle - 1 ½ - 2 miles. Go through Carlisle - continue on Highway 5 about 2 miles - turn north on 190<sup>th</sup> Ave (2<sup>nd</sup> left after Carlisle). Go north about 1 mile. The Balloonport is on the east side of the road (if the road curves west, you've gone too far).

**From Indianola to the Balloonport** - go north on Highway 65-69. Turn east on Scotch Ridge Rd. Follow that to Carlisle. Go east (Rt) on Highway 5 through Carlisle - continue on Highway 5 about 2 miles. Turn north on 190<sup>th</sup> Ave (2<sup>nd</sup> left after Carlisle). Go north about 1 mi. **Or** Go east on Highway 92. Turn north on SR23. Follow that to Highway 5 (7-8 miles). Continue north across Highway 5 to 190<sup>th</sup> Ave. Balloonport is 1 mile north of Highway 5.

**Note** - be very cautious of the train tracks as you are turning onto 190<sup>th</sup> Ave. This is a very busy train track.

## Area Motels:

Apple Tree Inn - Highway 65/69 Indianola 1-800-961-0551 (on the north edge of Indianola - just south of the Balloon Museum)

Super 8 - Highway 65/69 Indianola (on the north edge of Indianola - just north of the Balloon Museum) 515-961-0058

Sleep Inn - 5850 Morning Star Court, Des Moines, IA 515 299-9922. Take Highway 65 to the University Ave. (Highway 163) exit - go east, motel on south side of Highway 163

Four Points Sheraton - 1810 Army Post Rd 515-287-6464 (take Highway 5 to the Fleur Dr. exit - go north to Army Post Rd., then east)

Holiday Inn Airport - 6111 Fleur Dr. 515-287-2400 (take Highway 5 to the Fleur Dr. exit - go north past Army Post Rd.)

Motel 6 - 4814 Fleur Dr. 515-287-6364 (take Highway 5 to the Fleur Dr. exit - go north past Army Post to corner of Fleur & McKinley)

Radisson - 6800 Fleur Dr. 515 285-7777 (take Highway 5 to the Fleur Dr. exit - Radisson is just south of Army Post Rd., on the west side of Fleur).



## Table of Contents

BFA Directors Award .....	1	Happy Anniversary .....	7
BOI Halloween Party .....	1	Happy Birthday .....	7
Letter from President Meika .....	2	The Way It Was .....	12
Letter from Vice-President Sandy .....	2	BOI Meeting Minutes .....	12
Kingsley celebration .....	3	SW Iowa Hot Air Balloon Days .....	14
Museum News .....	3	Albuquerque 2008 .....	14
Balloon Museum's Fashion Flare and Brunch .....	3	Member Directory Corrections .....	16
Shop for Museums.com .....	3	Balloon Christmas Tree .....	16
Congratulations .....	4	Ground School 2009 .....	18
NTSB Reports .....	5	Directions to BOI Balloonport .....	19
Calendar of Events .....	7	Area Motels .....	19

**Thanks** to the following for their contributions to this newsletter: Meika Bartholomew, Brett Boerner, John Jense, Dennis Nicholson, Don Prine, Gerry Prine, Brad Temeyer, Jim Thompson, 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**  
 January 5  
 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:  
 January 18                      February 15