

A photograph of three hot air balloons floating over a lush green landscape. The balloons are: a black and white checkered one on the left, a yellow one with a red flame-like pattern at the bottom in the center, and a blue and black checkered one on the right. The background shows rolling green hills, cornfields, and scattered houses under a clear sky.

Balloons Over Iowa

Ode to Spring
April 29, 2006

Ode to Spring

April 29, 2006

Please join Balloons Over Iowa in the celebration of Ode to Spring. Because this Celebration has traditionally signified the arrival of Spring and the start of the flying season, the event will include much merriment & joyous behavior.

Serious business will also take place. The Board of Directors chosen to lead this great club for the next year will be announced. One lucky pilot will be named "Pilot of the Year". Crew of the year and the famous Cleo award will also be announced. Don't miss this wonderful occasion!

Schedule:

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Registration at the National Balloon Museum, Indianola, IA.

5:30 p.m. Pilot briefing at the museum

6:00 p.m. Flight (weather permitting). Festivities to be moved to the Balloonport if flight is called off.

Pot luck will be held at the Balloonport after the flight. The club will provide meat & beer. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or dessert & your own table service. After dining will be the announcement of the annual club awards and the crowning of the 2006-2007 Board.

Ode Officials:

Balloonmeister - Todd Isley

Assistant Balloonmeister - Johnny Jensen

Weathermeister - Bill Griffin

Assistant weathermeister - Tom Ricke

Pilot registrationmeister - Jennifer Nordhagen & Carol Harris

Pilot packmeister - Mark Weeks

Safetymeister - Leroy Clair

Launchmeister - Bret Christian

Scoremeister - Conklins

Balloonportmeisters - Rob & Linda Bartholomew

Prizemeister - Mark Weeks

Kegmeister - Brad Craig

Barbequemeister - Dwight Freitag

Keeper of the purse - Jennifer Nordhagen

Finder of the virgin sacrifice - Derek Nordhagen

Keeper of the virgin sacrifice - Rob Bartholomew

Virgin sacrifice - Opal

Protest jury - Meika Bartholomew

Cleanup committee - Anybody with beer in hand

Kidmeisters - Amy Williams & Michelle Craig & Jennifer Nordhagen

Touch and Go

BALLONS OVER IOWA

March-April, 2006

Letter from President Meika

Hello to all my friends !

BOI Ground School was a great success. Twenty six students and we have such an experienced faculty it "went off without a hitch". It does seem like the meals and desserts just get better every year. BOI membership is included in the tuition and even the students from other states were talking about attending our BOI St. Patrick's Day Party on March 18th.

I hope the St. Patty's Day Party is well attended. Ground School weekend gave Vice President Sandy and me a great opportunity to polish the fine points of our BOI program. Additionally, we spent a considerable amount of time practicing our duet for the karaoke contest.

The rumor that Vice President Sandy bit the hand of Balloonschoolmeister Oberman in a hunting accident is completely without merit. The incident occurred when both reached for a food scrap on the floor. VP Sandy was interviewed by FOX TV and said, "It was my teeth that did it and I accept full responsibility." Oberman is resting comfortably.

Lots of annuals are being done at the Balloonport, so it appears that Spring flights are just around the corner. Always remember to

Fly Safely,
Meika

Front cover: 2005 BOI Champions 1. Rob Bartholomew, 2. Ryan Kintzel 3. Benji Clemons

Ground School

Thanks to the great effort of many BOI members, we have completed another successful Ground school. There were 26 students from eight states. Students attending were: Sue Anthony, Eldon Benus, Jamie Bishop, Clifford Clark, Spencer Conlin, Jon Danielson, Ronald Dobesh, Rod Drexler, Rod Evans, Casey Frame, Gene Frame, Tamara Frame, Tarah Graham, Michael Gritton, Dawn Hogan-Alexander, Scott Konvalin, Stephanie Lawrence, John Lewis, Heather Mell, Shane Mell, Kelley Morgan, Annette Niedere, Tom Ricke, Randy Schmidt, Nolan Schuler, Marvin Wenzel. Welcome all to BOI!

A huge thanks to all the instructors: Dick Drake - Sectionals, Don Prine - (Commercial) Instruction Techniques & Teaching Process, Jason Jones - Balloon Systems & Balloon Health, Bill Griffin - Weather, Matt Fenster - Instruments, Donna Rieck - FAR's and Rob Bartholomew.

Another huge thanks to everyone who helped with food - Linda Bartholomew, Phyllis Drake, Jen Nordhagen, and especially Donna Rieck for all the delicious goodies that Ground School is famous for.

Organizers for Ground School were Mike Oberman (Ground Schoolmeister), Joel Worthington & Al Appenzeller.



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

2004-2005 Balloons Over Iowa

Board Members
Al Appenzeller
Dick Drake
Todd Isley
Amy Williams
Joel Worthington

Treasurer
Jen Nordhagen

Secretary
Tom Ricke

Editor
Carol Harris

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

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Letter from Vice-President Sandy

Here it is the first part of March. The girls state tournament is currently going on so that will mean a winter storm will be approaching soon. But on the good side, spring is just around the corner and that means more flying!

Ground School was a huge success. I would like to say thank-you to all the instructors for taking the time out of your busy schedules to help with Ground School. Also, I would like to say Thank-you to everyone who worked behind the scenes in making this a very successful ground school.

The Iowa Balloonist Association just completed their Continuing Education Seminar. From comments I have heard, it was very successful and the speakers did an outstanding job.

The St. Patrick's Day/BOI Initiation is fast approaching. I hope everyone will be able to attend. If you know someone who has not been initiated in our prestigious club, please have them attend on March 18th. It will be an evening they will not forget.

Dad wanted me to make sure I put in a plug for the National Balloon Museum in Indianola. If you have not had the opportunity to stop by since the museum has re-opened for the season, be sure to do so. The museum has some new exhibits in the works, one which will feature Ed Yost's Channel Champ. An open house is being planned, with Ed Yost making an appearance, so stay tuned for more information regarding the open house. Did you know that the museum does not charge an admission? The National Balloon Museum is just one of few museums that do not charge an admission. With the help of donations and memberships, the museum has been able to keep going strong. So, please consider a membership to the museum. If we didn't have this treasure, how we would be able to show case the history of ballooning for future generations. Be sure to check updates at the museum web-site at www.nationalballoonmuseum.com. If you have any questions about the museum, memberships or making contributions please do not hesitate to contact the Museum President Gary Ruble.

Another exciting event coming up is Ode to spring. A good time is always had by all at the end of April event. Watch for more details on Ode to Spring or contact Carol Harris.

In closing, I hope this finds everyone in BOI doing well. I hope to see everyone at the next BOI meeting, St. Patricks Party, and/or Ode to Spring.

Until next time, keep looking up!

Sandy Drake



CARING BALLOON PILOTS WANTED!



6TH ANNUAL

CMN BALLOON RALLY & MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 25th, 26th & 27th 2006
Alexander Field Airport, Wisconsin Rapids

Go to www.cmnballoonrally.com
for pilot application & details

Congratulations

Rich Jaworski completed a dual-record setting flight (AX-4 and AX-5) of 13 hrs 13 min 02 seconds on Saturday February 18, 2006 near Clearmont, MO. For more information see: <http://www.huntel.net/Adventure/>

Congratulations, Rich!!

Student Pilot's Model Code of Conduct

The BFA Skylines, December 2005 announced the availability of AVEMCO Insurance Company's "Student Pilot's Model Code of Conduct" by Michael S. Baum. It is available on-line at: <http://www.avemco/>

Most of the Code is applicable to Hot Air Balloon students and instructors.

Email Address Change

Jim & Connie Thompson - Jim@ThompsonAire.com

Do You Think You Know Your Airspace?

The AOPA Air Safety Foundation has created new airspace flash cards that cover everything from the different classes of airspace to special conservation areas. Each of the 20 cards provides a color depiction followed by descriptions with references to the regulations. Each card also contains a single-question quiz.

<http://download.aopa.org/asf/airspacecards.pdf> (2MB)

Also, check out the supplemental online questions

New Web Site

The Nebraska Balloon Club proudly announces our new home on the Web:

www.NebraskaBalloonClub.org

Retirement Center Update

March 2006

Rob Bartholomew, Keid Ekard, Jim Fromm, Llib Niffing, Mike Oberman, Nod Enirp and Enyaw Nassaw, members of the Balloons Over Iowa Retirement Home Planning and Site Acquisition Committee (BOIRHPSAC), submitted the following report:

Clear communication is a top priority of every well functioning committee. Despite the complicated overlapping sub-committee structure of your BOIRHPSAC, our objective has always been clearly defined and our communication direct and concise. It has been previously reported that many BOI members have needed to be placed in a Federal Witness Protection Program as a consequence of our ill-fated fund raising partnership with Motorcyclist Over Road Kill (MORK). Federal security requirements are now seriously impinging on the great communication we have always experienced. The simple request” Get me a beer Aigroeg” is falling on deaf ears. The flow of nightly meetings has been disrupted.

Our budget requests are mired in delay. Confusion related to funding of a recent site visit to Arizona resulted in full airfare for Gerry Prine, but Nod Enirp made the round trip by car when requested funds were not authorized. Assurance has been given by Nej Negahdron, Treasurer, that new computer programs are being written that will quickly resolve this problem.

On a more positive note, intervention by a Federal Agency has resulted in the release of World Renowned Architect Phil Pash from his incarceration in a Tijuana, Mexico jail. Pash, having established residence on an undisclosed Caribbean island, continues to serve as a paid BOIRHPSAC consultant and is scheduled to host committee meetings throughout January 2007.

Despite monetary problems, BOIRHPSAC continues to function. Expenses will be submitted in the usual manner.

Respectfully submitted.

Jim Oaks called from Arizona to report that the Arizona branch of BOIRHPSAC was thriving and mentioned that he has never had the opportunity to visit a Caribbean island. Todd Isley said some of his fondest memories were associated with experiences on a Caribbean island. Rob said it was possible that he might be coaxed away from the farm in January. Nej Negahdorn called for a ponderance.

Gary Fouche called and requested a point of personal privilege to make a motion concerning BOIRHPSAC. Unfortunately, cell phone transmission was lost. A ponderance was called. Red Allsup called to express Sherry’s opinion that January in the Caribbean was a great idea, and wanted to review the BOIRHPSAC/ Arizona budget request procedures. A ponderance was called.

Linda B. made the observation that things were busy year round at the farm and it would be impossible for Rob to get away. The Chair seemed to lose any remaining grasp of control when Ryan Kintzel distributed Caribbean island travel brochures. Amid a chorus of requests for more information about meetings, BOIRHPSAC members and prospective members retired to the refrigerator. In the absence of a quorum, the meeting was adjourned.

Classic Info

The 2006 National Balloon Classic Pilot Registration Packets have been EMAILED or MAILED. If any Pilot needs a registration packet, please contact Eileen @ 1-800-fly-Iowa or email her @ assist@nationalballoonclassic.com., or you can download the forms at the National Balloon Classic Website: www.nationalballoonclassic.com

The National Balloon Classic will be accepting 100 pilots (20 Commercial Balloons - able to fly banners and 80 Non-commercial balloons), with 35 Pilot-in-command hours required.

Deadline for the Pilot Registration Packets is June 1st, 2006.

Pilots will receive confirmation when the registration packet is received. The Deadline of June 1st, is to allow the National Balloon Classic to notify the pilots of their Housing in a timely manner.

The 2006 National Balloon Classic Officials will be Balloonmeister Jason Jones from Overland Park, Kansas. Assistant Balloonmeister will be Matt Fenster from Council Bluffs, Iowa, John Jensen from Indianola, Iowa and Todd Isley from Des Moines, Iowa

The National Balloon Classic website: www.nationalballoonclassic.com. If anyone has any comments for the 2006 National Balloon Classic event, please contact Greg Marchant @ 1-800-fly-Iowa or email: info@nationalballoonclassic.com

Remember these dates for Classic activities:

Balloons & Toons - July 13th (2nd Thursday of July)

Flight Over Des Moines - July 24th (Monday prior to the start of the Classic)

Balloon for Sale

2000 TBW 77,000 with 111 TT hrs.

4.5 basket, needs repair, could be a option for 4.0.

3 10 gal worthington tanks

T 3 burner, new fuel lines in 03

Call BJ Anderson at 515-681-3089 or e-mail BJ@weinmaninsurance.com or Tym2flyhotair@aol.com with questions.

Happy Anniversary

Gary & Elaine Lawrence	4-5
John & Carla Brinker	4-6
Keith & Cathy Williams	4-8
Jim & Cheryl Gebhart	4-9
Wayne & Janet Mohring	4-11
Gene & Evelyn Frame	4-12
Mike & Pam Hadley	4-13
Brent & Amy Williams	4-16
Jamie & Rhonda Bishop	4-24
Steve & Elane Lacroix	4-26
Brian & Chris Seymour	4-28
Gerald & Mary Conklin	4-29
Jeff & Jennifer Reid	4-30
BJ & Wendi Anderson	5-1
Mike & Shelly Mitchell	5-8
Terry & Gina Garrett	5-12
David & Lysa Holmes	5-15
Terry & Karin Riepe	5-18
Rob & Wendie Spence	5-28
David & LaVerna Edmister	5-31





John & Tracy Jensen's new balloon "Air Addiction"

New Weather Web sites:

www.blastvalve.com/weather/

<http://www.dodgenet.com/~weavers/weather.htm> - John Holtz

Contributed by Jim Fromm

BOI Reflector

The BOI Reflector / Discussion list is similar to the International Balloon Reflector, but much less emails. Any message sent into the group will be sent out to all who subscribe. It can be used to make announcements, discuss events, discuss weather, tell about a recent flight, gather others for a flight, or just to say "Howdy".

There are currently 45 members and it is a great communication tool. To Subscribe - go to the web site: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BalloonsOverIowa> or email: BalloonsOverIowa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com Then to send messages to the list - email BalloonsOverIowa@yahoogroups.com Contact me (hotairflyn@aol.com) with any questions or for more information. *Carol*



New Balloon from Cameron

This 600 thousand cubic foot (volume) hot-air balloon, towers at 38metres (125feet). It can carry up to 46 people, who stand in eight special compartments – four compartments either side of the central pilot compartment. The all-cane woven basket dimensions are 6.05metres in length and 1.48metres in width and 1.15metres in height. The basket even has its own unique trailer and winch system to assist the crew to manage it while on the ground, as it alone weighs nearly half a ton.

Happy Birthday

Keonna Kintzel	4-1	Rosa Tierman	5-2
Jeremy King	4-1	Jessica Stone	5-2
Emma Thompson	4-1	Larene Fisher	5-3
Mike Mitchell	4-1	Dean Ann Netley	5-3
Mark Delaney	4-2	Amber Clark	5-5
Carol Harris	4-3	Bill Marhoun	5-6
Regan Bishop	4-4	Barbara Jones	5-6
Kim Hemmingsen	4-4	John Lewis	5-7
Angelica Corbin	4-4	Heather Mell	5-7
James Mueller	4-4	Scott Konvalin	5-8
James Mueller	4-4	T.J. Konvalin	5-10
Ryan Stone	4-5	Jensen Bishop	5-10
Bandit Brown	4-5	Paige Erger	5-14
Andy Clark	4-6	Donna Rieck	5-15
Mike Herman	4-7	T.J. Appenzeller	5-15
Jennifer Hermanson	4-8	Crystal Nollen	5-16
Joseph Seymour	4-9	Daisy Pieper	5-18
Rick McCubbin	4-10	Don Prine	5-18
Casey Frame	4-11	Holly Pfeifer	5-19
Barb Knoll	4-11	Melissa Coe	5-22
Gavin Pash	4-12	Karen Worthington	5-23
Lisa Stone	4-12	Jeff Lawrence	5-25
Peggy Bloom	4-13	Nathan Dobesh	5-25
Ron Dalby	4-13	Tarah Graham	5-26
Jim Gebhart	4-14	Jeanne Wiley	5-29
Kathi Pfeifer	4-14	Amy Foelske	5-31
Steve Pfeifer	4-14	Sherry Techau	5-31
Brad Craig	4-15		
Dixie Ruble	4-17		
Gary Lawrence	4-21		
Barbara Lewis	4-21		
Tony Oberman	4-21		
Ralph Rieck	4-22		
Kelley Morgan	4-22		
Kimberly Jones	4-22		
Rhonda Gritton	4-23		
Michael Wilhelm	4-23		
John Brinker	4-24		
Jacob Hermanson	4-24		
Christopher Reinert	4-25		
Patti Todden	4-25		
Cathy Williams	4-26		
Ashley Jensen	4-26		
Donna Hill-Snipes	4-27		
Kelly Danielson	4-30		



Calendar of Events

- March 19 **BOI membership meeting** 6:30 p.m., Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- April 16 **BOI membership meeting** 6:30 p.m., Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- April 29 **BOI Ode to Spring**
- May 20 **Channel Champ Reception** with Ed Yost attending 1:00-4:00 at the Museum.
- May 21 **BOI membership meeting** 6:30 p.m., Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- June 10 **Holmes Lake Park**, Lincoln, NE afternoon flight. 5 Balloons. Contact Tom Peterson 402 391-0068 or tpeterson@alltel.net
- June 18 6:30 p.m. **BOI membership meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- June 23-25 **Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race**, Ottumwa, IA. Contact Phil Gray 515 961-6113
- July 13th **Balloons & Toons** Indianola, IA. Contact John Jensen 515 961-3154 or email IFDDMFD59@aol.com
- July 14-16 **Columbus, NE** – New Event. 15-20 Balloons. Contact Jennifer Delaney 402-563-8102 or jehender@hotmail.com
- July 16 **BOI membership meeting** 6:30 p.m., Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- July 24 **Flight Over Des Moines**. Contact John Jensen 515 961-3154 or email IFDDMFD59@aol.com
- July 28-August 5 **National Balloon Classic** Contact Greg Marchant at 1-800-FLY IOWA or www.nationalballoonclassic.com
- August 20 6:30 p.m. **BOI membership meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- August 25-26 **IWCC** Council Bluffs. New date.
- Sept 1-4 **Great Pershing Balloon Derby** Brookfield, MO. Contact Sherry Techau 660 258-5290 or rstechau@shighway.com
- September 15-17 **SW Iowa Pro Balloon Race** Creston, IA. Contact Rob Bartholomew 515 989-3708
- September 17 6:30 p.m. **BOI membership meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

(continued on page 10)

October 15 6:30 p.m. **BOI membership meeting**,
Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

October 21-22 **Wakefield, NE** – 15+ Balloons??!! Contact
Alan Paul 712 527-2896 or
alan.paul@conagrafoods.com

October 21 **Jill Rubin Memorial Flight**

October 28 **BOI Halloween Party**

November 19 6:30 p.m. **BOI membership meeting**,
Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

**Race organizers - please send your dates, etc for
2006 to Carol - hotairflyn@aol.com**

The Way It Was

20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Ode to Spring: Watusi winds and weepy morning skies forced cancellation of the flight; A good time was had by all at the VFW Hall in Indianola for the hog roast, potluck & kegger; 1986 Pilot of the Year – Steve Hoover; Crew of the Year – Darlene Terry, Tom Harbey & Jim Love; 1986-87 Board: Linda Bartholomew, Dave Edmister, Norm Fee, Paul Randleman, Wayne Wasson
- ★ April '86 – BFA voted to go ahead with the National Balloon Museum in Indianola. Ground has been acquired on Highway 65-69 on the north edge of Indianola.

15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ 3-91 newsletter – membership directory printed - 66 members of BOI
- ★ 3-16-91 BOI St. Patrick's Day party & BOI Member Initiation; Becky Riley won the Irish Stew cook-off; Corvette & Porche given away, Playboy Bunny & Batmobile present. Ran out of green beer.
- ★ April BOI Meeting: \$2,295.92 in Treasury; Ralph Rieck reported that 3,434 people were present at the St. Pat's party; Plans continue for the 1999 Bahama trip
- ★ 4-27-91 Ode to Spring. Not flyable; Balloonmeister Steve Hoover; Assistant Balloonmeister Mark Ziino; Cleo Award – Wayne Wasson; Pilot of the Year – Jim Thompson; Crew of the Year – Georgia Oakes

10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ 1996 St. Pat's Party: Irish Stew Cookoff judges were Julie Frueh, Denny Craig & Jim Fromm; Louise Clemons received 1st place in Irish Stew Cookoff #2 - Barb Thompson #3 - Helen Bartholomew; New

members included Dan, Michele & Angelica Corbin; Edel From; and Eric & Dena Young; Leprechauns were again rowdy

- ★ April 14, 1996 BOI Meeting: Treasurers Gary & Merrie Fouche resigned, Mike Oberman chosen as new treasurer
- ★ Ode to Spring: Weather wins Ode - too windy; Mark Weeks awarded Crew of the Year; Pilot of the Year - Sherry Allsup; Cleo Award - Gary Ford; Outgoing Board - Julie Frueh, Mike O, Todd Netley, Jim Pearson, Mike Wildung; New Board: Denny Anderson, Connie Boettcher, Dick Drake, Carol Firestone, Jim Thompson; Plaque presented to Gary & Merrie Fouche for 10 years of service as Club Treasurers; "Opposable Thumbs" performed– great entertainment.
- ★ Gerald & Mark Conklin celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ March / April, 2001 - Retirement Center – an agreement has been reached with World-renowned architect Phil Pash. Preliminary architectural drawing presented.
- ★ St. Pat's party: 21 new members initiated; Irish stew cookoff - 5th - a tie between Mike Babcock & Darrell Nordhagen. 4th - LuAnn Randleman. 3rd - Michelle Craig with her first entry in the Stew Cook-off. 2nd - Donna Rieck. 1st - Helen Bartholomew; The Giant Leprechauns were on amazingly good behavior, but the same couldn't be said for membership!; Barley pop ran out at 9:15.
- ★ Ode to Spring: Balloonmeister – Scott Moon; Asst. Balloonmeister – Brad Craig; Weathermeister – Bill Griffin; It was a beautiful spring day, but too windy; Balloonmeister Scott Moon & his assistant Brad Craig called a non-flying competition - knocking over a pyramid of cans with a frisbee. 1st - Mike VanHamme 2nd - Paul Randleman 3rd - Tyler Thompson; Crew of the Year was given to Bill & Becky Sponsler. Last years winners – Scott Moon's crew added a meat thermometer (temp gauge) to the trophy. It was placed next to the beer can as a reminder to keep the beer cold; Pilot of the Year was bestowed on Dan Corbin; The Cleo Award was awarded to Carol Harris; New board named: Aaron Gebhart, Tom Ricke, Jeremy Rubin, Lori Schmidt, Chris Stefani.
- ★ Veisha flight weathered out. Barbie flew a short solo flight as PIC of her very own Hot Air Balloon.

Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

Sunday, January 15, 2006

BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

Present: Joel Worthington, Maggie Worthington, Mary Eagan, Rick McCubbin, Meika Bartholomew, Ellie Bartholomew, Dick & Phyllis Drake, Sandy Drake, Amy Williams, Ashlynn Williams, Ariel Williams, Madison Williams, Michelle Craig, Jen Nordhagen, Riley & Josie Nordhagen, Elmo Nordhagen, Rob & Linda Bartholomew, Brad Craig, Bill Craig, Max & Carol Harris

Meeting called to order by Chair Joel Worthington at 6:38:22.

Jen is on the phone harassing Todd for missing the meeting - he's painting his basement.

Secretary's report: Minutes from November meeting presented. Max moved to approve secretary's report, Carol 2nd. Motion approved.

Old Business:

- ★ He's not here. He's in Phoenix checking out Retirement Home prospects. Members voted to deny all expenses.

New Business:

- ★ Max reported on Pilot Relations Meeting. There has been work on the revision of the Rule Book - additions, deletions & rewording. No major changes.
- ★ Rob spoke about Ground School. So far 8 signed up. Dick's salary has been doubled from last year. Jason Jones, Matt Fenster, Don Prine & Bill Griffin will be returning as instructors.

Dog fight ensues. There are almost more dogs here than people. Maggie doesn't like Meika.

Dick is seen trying to steal ice cream from a little girl. He got caught.

- ★ Discussion on Ode to Spring. Jen moved to have Todd Isley as Balloonmeister for Ode. Max 2nd. All voted "Okey Dokey", except one "Not a Chance" - Dick Drake.

- ★ Rob will take care of meat for Ode.

Dick got some ice cream. There is a little girl crying in the corner!

- ★ Dick moved to have Bill Griffin in charge of Clean up committee for St. Pat's party & for Ode to Spring. Max 2nd. Vote was unanimous. See what happens when you miss a meeting!

Max moved to adjourn, Phyllis 2nd. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 7:15:46.

Respectfully submitted

Carol Harris, temporary secretary.

Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

BOI Balloonport; Carlisle, IA

Sunday February 19, 2006

Meeting called to order at 5:24:55 p.m. by chair Dick Drake

Present: Joel Worthington, Mike Oberman, Rob Bartholomew, Meika Bartholomew, Ellie Bartholomew, Jen & Derek Nordhagen, Elmo Nordhagen, Riley Nordhagen, Amy Williams, Ariel Williams, Madison Williams, Ashlynn Williams, Brad Craig, Michelle Craig, Jamie Bishop, Phyllis & Dick Drake, Sandy Drake, Bill Griffin, Don Prine, Bill Craig, Tony Oberman & Whitney Oberman

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the January meeting presented. Discussion. Did Dick really steal a little girl's ice cream and why was Maggie attacking the President. Max moved to accept the minutes as presented. Joel 2nd. Motion carried with one "Not a Chance".

Old Business arrived. He's been in Arizona. Welcome back.

Old Business:

- ★ Don reports that Retirement Home Committee members may be able to come out of Witness Protection. There are sites for the Retirement Home in Arizona. Someone pointed out to him that expenses were denied last month. He is appalled! The Retirement Home Committee's work will be seriously hampered by the absence of finances.

- ★ Mike & Joel reported on Ground School. 26 students attended. They ate well. Thanks to the Cooks - Linda Bartholomew, Jen Nordhagen, Phyllis Drake and Donna Rieck. Reports from Todd's Flying Service is that 9 out of 10 that took a test this afternoon have passed. We don't know if all of those were our Ground School students, though. The instructors were excellent. Thanks to all the instructors. Discussion about questions on the test that are not Hot Air related. Jen reported on expenses & Income:

Expenses - \$917 - books, food, beverages.

Income - \$3512 - Profit of \$2595

Next year we will have to purchase more books (there were some left over from last year) and new software. Discussion on including a good quality Plotter and

adding that to the cost of ground school. Discussion, discussion, discussion. Bill Griffin moved to have Ground School 2007 be February 17 & 18, 2007. The pricing for 2007 Ground School be as follows: Early Bird registration (up to Jan 1, 2007) - \$180; Regular registration - Jan 1 to Feb 10 - \$190; Late registration – Feb 11-17 - \$200. Bill made a friendly amendment that the fee would be determined pending the cost of plotters. Brad 2nd, Max 3rd.

Don called for a Ponderance

More discussion. The main concern is the ability to get books after Feb 1st. Bill withdrew the above motion. Brad & Max approved. Bill makes a new motion. Regular fee – up to February 1st. Late fee after February 1st. The dates will be Feb 17-18, 2007. The date would be the date that the registration was received by BOI – by email, mail or fax. Brad 2nd, Max 3rd. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion on limiting the number of students to 30. Brad was volunteered to check the price of Plotters.

Joel requests someone check Don's pulse. He almost always votes "Not a Chance".

During the discussion, Rob made the statement "I don't know anything, Jen & Linda know it all". Some members felt this statement should be in writing.

Treasurer's Report:

Before Ground School, we had 38 ½ kegs. After Ground School, we will have 85 ½ kegs. The keg factor is a closely guarded secret. Question raised about the new laws on keg registration. How will that affect BOI? Elmo will put a paw print on the registration.

New Business:

- ★ Max moved that Don donate a microwave to BOI. Bill 2nd. Motion carried. Don has an extra Microwave at home, he will donate.
- ★ Round of applause for Rob – he cooked for tonight's meeting – what a host!.
- ★ Don reports on an issue of great sensitivity. There is a rumor that the Vice President of our club bit the Ground Schoolmeister. We need to make an immediate press release – we want NO SECRETS in BOI. There will be no VP cover-up in our club! The Ground Schoolmeister is resting comfortably (he actually denies injury). Sandy is acting naturally – he says the gun followed the quail.
- ★ Jen moved we rent a Kybo for Ode and for the Halloween

party. Phyllis & Bill 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Max moved to adjourn. Bill 2nd. Dick called for the vote. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 6:30:16. Members dined on chicken, potatoes, beef burgers, beans, chips and a variety of sweet treats.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Harris, temporary Secretary

BFA Competition Committee Update

by Jim Thompson
03/15/2006

The BFA Competition Committee met in Houston, Texas in February. A number of important decisions were made. The Committee approached the tasks at hand with a great deal of dedication and enthusiasm. The Committee discussed the subjects of improving BFA competition, increasing the number of pilots in the National Ranking list, and conveying to the general population of balloon pilots that BFA competition is for EVERYONE. Not just for the pilots that have a desire to attend the World Championships, but also for the weekend rally pilots who want to learn more about competition, and possibly improve their flying skills. With the failed attempt to unify NABA and BFA competition behind us, the Committee looked inward to see what can be done to improve the product offered to BFA hot air balloon competitors.

The following is a summary of some of the new ideas that will be implemented this year, as well as some traditional benefits to our members.

- A fund of \$15,000 has been set-aside for the 2006 World Team and manager, to be used to help offset expenses in Japan.
- A fund of \$2,000 has been set-aside for the USA observers attending the 2006 World Championships.
- For this year, anyone that has never purchased, or has not purchased a competition task card within the last 5 years can purchase his or her competition card for \$10.00. This also includes a FREE CD of all the competition articles written in Ballooning by Pat Cannon.
- Everyone purchasing a 2006 BFA competition card will receive the free CD.
- In 2006, new awards will be given out relating to the National Ranking list; they will include, Points Champion, Highest Ranking Rookie, Highest Ranking Female, Highest Ranking Senior Pilot (over 55), and the

Most Improved Pilot.

These awards will be in the form of wall plaques, and will be presented at the awards ceremony at Fiesta in October. These awards will start now, and are for the 2005 competition year.

- Starting in 2007, for the 2006 competition year, a cash award system will be in place. All of the above-mentioned awards will receive \$300.00, except for the points champion; he or she will be receiving \$500. Additional monetary awards will go all the way down to 20th place on the National Ranking list. In addition, the top 10 places will also receive wall plaques. To date, the points fund for 2006 is based on \$5,000
- A press release will be issued for each State Champion to their local newspaper, and each will receive a State Championship Certificate from the BFA.
- The BFA web site will establish a competition page for rally results with photos, articles, news, year to date point totals for all BFA competitors, etc.
- More space will be dedicated to both Skylines and Ballooning magazine, with more rally reporting.
- A Competition Education Program will be developed that can be used at safety seminars. Trained education speakers could be provided to teach the program.
- A “mentor program” will be developed that will allow less experienced competitors to crew with “veteran” competitors to learn the trade. In addition, they will coordinate debriefings at balloon rallies to openly discuss tasks, flight profiles and to critique flight mistakes.
- A new user-friendly Windows based scoring program is under development. It will be on a CD, and shared with any balloon rally wishing to host balloon competition.
- The 2006 US Nationals in Anderson, SC, will have \$20,000 in prize money. Prize money will be paid to all 40 competitors. In addition, \$7,500 will be set-aside in an escrow account that will assist the 2008 World Championship Team.
- The 2006 US Nationals will use pre-selected map goals, and a list of coordinates will be issued to each pilot. This will greatly reduce the amount of pre-event work required on the maps.
- A new rule was established that would make it easier for any BFA competition pilot to acquire points at any competition rally. In the past at least 6 BFA competition pilots were required in order to turn in scores to the office

for tabulation. The new rule will read in part; if there are more than 6 BFA pilots and they want to have their points count in the National Ranking list, the points are based on how each pilot finished against the “6”. If there are less than six pilots with BFA task cards, and they want to have their points count toward the National system, the entire pilot list is to be submitted and the points for the BFA pilots will be based on their finish against the entire field. This new rule, for BFA sanctioned events, will allow pilots who are in an area with few BFA competition pilots to still obtain national points and be counted toward the BFA National Ranking list and the awards program.

- There will be NO COST to weekend rallies for a BFA sanction. A sanction includes non-owned aircraft insurance coverage for the balloon officials acting on behalf of BFA.
- The BFA CC will be purchasing more GPS trackers this year to increase our inventory, and will be working on software to use these trackers in our competition. The 2008 Worlds Hot Air Balloon Championship in Austria will not be using observers, so we must be ready to use our trackers in our 2007 Nationals. The Committee feels that we must prepare our Worlds team for the type of flying they will encounter when they compete at the World level.

The Competition Committee is serious about increasing and improving competition ballooning in the USA. If you have any questions regarding any of these issues or would like to volunteer for any of the programs, please contact a Competition Committee member in your Region.

Next-Generation GPS Launched in Europe

The European Space Agency launched their first test satellite for the Galileo project, which will comprise a constellation of 30 satellites to rival the U.S. GPS system.

Galileo is expected to be complete by 2010, with some services starting as soon as 2008. Its global positioning capabilities will be more accurate than the current GPS system, which is controlled by the U.S. military, and will even work indoors. Its signals should be compatible with current GPS hardware. It will have a basic signal that will be available free to everyone, and a more precise signal which will be encrypted. The system is meant for commercial, not military use, but concerns have been raised about its future applications. The first signals were reported to have been successfully received from the new satellite.

BFA Hot Air Balloon Camp

Hello All!

I am so pleased to announce the dates for the 2006 BFA HOT AIR BALLOON CAMP! Texas will again host a camp on the Tyler Junior College campus in Tyler, Texas. TJC is an exceptional facility in a key location. Tyler is located 10 miles South of I-20, 80 miles East of Dallas, Texas and 80 miles West of Shreveport, Louisiana. The campers will arrive July 16th at noon and enjoy a fun-filled week of activities with departure planned for July 20th at 2 pm. The focus of the camp is ballooning safety and fun!

Campers will stay in Vaughn Hall throughout the 5 days under the supervision of a wonderful group of BFA volunteers. Computer labs, the pool, and other college facilities provide a host of opportunities for the kids to explore different facets of ballooning. Some of the activities planned include:

Tether time

Introduction to Balloon Flight

An FAA speaker

A visit to the television station for weather info

A weather segment of ground school

Flight planning

Crew basics

Fire safety

A visit to the Hudnall Planetarium

A visit to the National Scientific Balloon Facility

Propane safety

Preflight of equipment

Internet Ballooning 101

Fabric basics

An EAA speaker and a visit to the aviation museum and airport tower

Mapping

GPS How-to

Sectional Exploration

Other activities include:

Swimming at the college pool

Computer lab time

Scavenger hunts using GPS and map reading skills

Attending camp may be cost prohibitive for some. If you would like to contribute to camp scholarships, please feel free to do so. Just contact the BFA office and make a tax deductible donation that can be charged to a credit card. The cost of this fun-filled week will be \$225 for BFA youth program members and \$250 for non-members. Families with more than one child attending will receive a 20% discount for each additional attendee.

Adults are needed to act as volunteers for the week and each will be responsible for a group of three youths. Come relive your college days in beautiful East Texas while mentoring the future of ballooning. If you would like additional info, I may be reached at 903/986-0933 email - balloonist@peoplepc.com.

I look forward to spending this time with our volunteers and youth!

Shelley Caraway

Contact Carol Harris (221-3193 / hotairflyn@aol.com) or Becky Wigeland (961-3714 / flamingbecky@aol.com) for registration forms.



60th Anniversary

In honor of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Gerald and Mary Beth Conklin, their children and grandson request the pleasure of your company at an Open House on Sunday, April 9, 2006 from one o'clock until three o'clock in the afternoon at the La Vida Loca Winery, located 4 miles west on Highway 92 (Spring Hill), turn north on R-57 (Jersey Street) to first gravel road, west half a mile. No gifts please.

Balloons Over Iowa Membership Application

Dues: \$20/ yr

Name:	_____	Birthday:	_____
Address:	_____	Spouse Name:	_____
City	_____	Spouse BD:	_____
State / Zip	_____	Anniversary:	_____
Home Phone #	_____	Family:	Birthdays:
Email Address:	_____		
Balloon Name:	_____		
List any other Birthdays, special occasions or Events:	_____		

Balloon Name	_____		

Commercial Pilot Private Pilot Student Pilot Crew Balloon Enthusiast

Mail to:	Balloons Over Iowa Attn: Carol Harris 2305 Hillside Ave West Des Moines, IA 50265	Would you like to receive the Newsletter by: <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Email with link to Newsletter posted on a Web site - you can then read, save or print the newsletter. The benefit of this over the attached file is that the large file doesn't clog up your email server. <input type="checkbox"/> Both
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Thanks to the following for their contributions to this newsletter: **BJ Anderson, Meika Bartholomew, Shelley Caraway, Mary Conklin, Sandy Drake, Jim Fromm, Todd Isley, John Jensen, Pacific Coast Aeronauts, Steve Palash, Don Prine, John Symonds, Jim Thompson, Mark Weeks, Becky Wigeland**

Touch and Go

Balloons Over Iowa

Carol Harris - Editor

2305 Hillside Ave.

West Des Moines, IA 50265

Newsletter Deadline

May 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

Dues!

If your label does not say 06-07, your dues are due. Complete the membership form (page 15) & bring to Ode or send it & \$20/family to:

Carol Harris

2305 Hillside Ave

West Des Moines, IA 50265

If you attended 2006 BOI Ground School your dues are complimentary up to April 2007.

