

Touch and Go

BALLOONS OVER IOWA

January-February, 2007

BOI 2006 in Review

January

- ▶ BOI Meeting: 24 members present; Chair Joel Worthington; Todd Isley chosen as Balloonmeister for Ode

February:

- ▶ Puttin on the Ritz held Feb 11th at Embassy Suites
- ▶ Ground school - 26 students from eight states; Instructors were 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. Organizers for Ground School were Mike Oberman (Ground Schoolmeister), Joel Worthington & Al Appenzeller.
- ▶ Rich Jaworski completed a dual-record setting flight (AX-4 and AX-5) of 13 hrs 13 min 02 seconds on Saturday February 18 near Clearmont, MO
- ▶ February BOI meeting: 24 members present; chair Dick Drake; Don reports that Retirement Home Committee members may be able to come out of Witness Protection; treasurer's report - 85 ½ kegs; Rob cooked for members at the meeting

March:

- ▶ St. Patrick's party - Irish Stew cook-off was judged by Joe Patterson, Thad Bloom, and Rick Barnes. The winners were: 1. Helen Bartholomew 2. Lynn Craig 3. Linda Bartholomew 4. Darrel Nordhagen; new members - Denise Warner, Jeff & Marne Buzzell, Bob & Janice Shelton, Larry & Barb VanWyngharden, Thad Bloom, Kurt & Missy Bloom, Brandon Bloom, and Jamie Bishop; the keg ran out and the food ran out
- ▶ March BOI Meeting: 17 members present; chair Todd Isley; Treasurer's report 69 kegs; Sophie Williams be the Kidmeister - to protect the children at BOI Events; Joel was chosen as the BOI representative to the Classic Board
- ▶ Breiden Van Broekhuizen born to Kerrie & Anthony Van Broekhuizen on March 25th

April

- ▶ Gerald and Mary Conklin celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary
- ▶ BOI Meeting: 17 members present; Chair Amy Williams; treasurer's report - 68.69 kegs; Joel reported that he called the Classic office about being BOI Representative & was told "We don't do that any more".
- ▶ Ode to Spring, April 29 weathered out; Balloonmeister - Todd Isley, Assistant Balloonmeister - Johnny Jensen, Weathermeister - Bill Griffin, Assistant weathermeister - Tom Ricke; Crew of the Year - Bill Craig, Pilot of the Year - Denny Anderson, BOI Champion - Rob Bartholomew, Cleo Award - Gerald and Mary Conklin for all their years of work in the ballooning community; new board members - Linda Bartholomew, Cory Bloom, John Jensen, Sr., Ryan Kentzel, Linda Pickering; Indoor task - winners: 1. Tony Funaro - Bill Griffin's designee, 2. Ryan Kintzel.

May:

- ▶ The "Channel Champ", the first hot air balloon to fly across the English Channel, is part of a new exhibit opened Saturday May 20 at the National Balloon Museum
- ▶ May BOI Meeting: 10 members present; Chair Cory Bloom; Treasurer's report - 68 kegs
- ▶ Angelica Corbin graduated from Roosevelt High School with 13 years of Perfect Attendance!

June

- ▶ Brad Craig & Amy Williams were married June 3
- ▶ Balloons in June - Clinton - 2 flights & 1 glow.
- ▶ Ottumwa - 2 flights & 1 glow.
- ▶ June BOI Meeting held on the deck of the Bartholomew's pool; 13 members present; Chair Linda Bartholomew; Jen was having contractions during the meeting
- ▶ Caleb Robert Nordhagen, born June 19th to parents Jen & Derek Nordhagen.
- ▶ Balloonport gets a new floor.
- ▶ June 30 - New ownership of Firefly Balloons: George Hahn & Barry McGonigle

(continued on page 3)

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

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Linda Bartholomew
Cory Bloom
John Jensen, Sr.
Ryan Kentzel
Linda Pickering

Treasurer
Jen Nordhagen

Secretary
Carol Harris

Newsletter Editor
Carol Harris

BOI Web site
www.balloons-over-iowa-club.com

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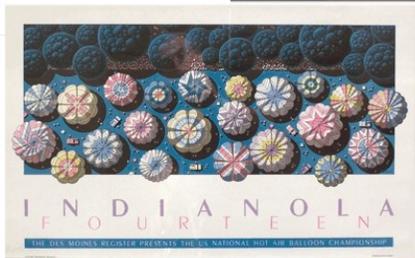
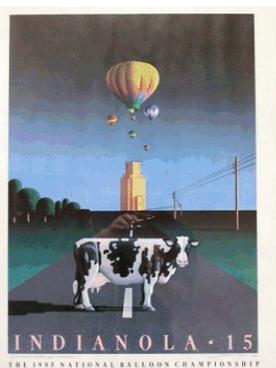
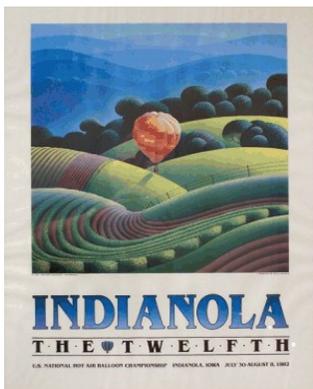
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Jim Buckles Posters

These Jim Buckles prints were the beginning of balloon posters for the Nationals. They started in 1982 and have been given many awards from the New York Art Society and many others. The first poster of the balloon flying over the countryside was such a hit, the first 500 sold out during the event. Then

the BFA asked to put it on the cover of Ballooning Magazine and it went world-wide and so did its popularity. Another 1000 were made and sold. The art world was watching and so the next 5 masterpieces were born.

Jim Buckles is an Iowa boy, still living here, but his gallery is in New York. If you Google his latest work you will see it is nothing like these unique posters that have so much history. They are all numbered, signed and framed. They have been on display at the National Balloon Museum for all to see. They are for sale as a set for \$600.00, but for you that have several of them and want just one or two, the single ones are for sale at \$140.00 each. The National Balloon Museum is closed the month of January so for you people that are interested before we reopen in February, please call Becky Wigeland at home 515-961-8144. Thanks



Congratulations to the USA pilots who competed in the Worlds in Japan:

1. John Petrehn
2. Joe Heartsill
5. Nick Donner
11. Paul Petrehn

BOI St. Patrick's Party
March 17, 2007 6:30 p.m.



- ♣ Irish Stew Cook-off
- ♣ Initiation of New members
- ♣ Appearance of the Giant Leprechauns



Letter from President Meika

Hello to all my friends !

Is this Heaven? No, it's Iowa. Holidays are over and 2007 arrived with unprecedented great weather. I'm amazed that I haven't had one call to put my crew skills into practice on a top rope. Pilots hanging around the Balloonport are complaining that landing sites are too wet and muddy for retrieval. Dad says the "old time pilots" used to fly when snowdrifts were ten feet high and you had to keep beer in the cooler so it wouldn't freeze. Dad says he would fly now if there wasn't so much to do on the farm.

I'm in the dog house for leaking. I didn't know it was supposed to be a secret that some of our more mature pilots are considering a return to high intensity competition and are trying to purchase a non-traditional balloon. Rumors have been flying through the ballooning community that the balloon is to be sponsored by Social Security, but plans are on hold until a fourth investor can be enlisted. Good luck to PR, DP and WW.

Don't pass up an opportunity to attend a BOI Meeting at 6:30 PM on the third Sunday of each month. If you're an aspiring balloonist, or need to brush up, our BOI Ground School from February 16th to the 18th is the place to be. The same holds true for the IBA Continuing Education Seminar on March 10th. On April 28th we celebrate Ode to Spring. Spring is almost here. In the meantime— get in the air and always remember to

Fly Safely,
Meika

Letter from Vice-President Sandy

Here it is the start of 2007. Can you believe it? And what about this weather?

I'm actually ready for at least one big snow. But, now that I have said that, I'm sure we will get a big snow by the time my article gets published.

It is that time again for the annual BOI ground school February 16-18, 2007. From the talk within the ballooning community, ground school could have an increased turn out compared to last year. That would be great news! It shows ballooning continues to grow in the state of Iowa, as well as the surrounding states. BOI has one of the top-notch ground schools in the country. If you are planning on attending it is best to get your application in as soon as possible. If you have questions, please contact Rob Bartholomew at 515-989-3708.

The IBA Continuing Education Seminar is fast approaching

as well. The seminar is scheduled for Saturday, March 10th at the Four Points Sheraton on Army Post Road. Looking at the line-up of speakers and topics, it should be another excellent seminar for Pilots/Crews/balloon enthusiasts. For more information regarding the IBA seminar contact Christine Bertsch (515) 953-4222 or Thad Bloom (515) 961-8543.

March 17th is the BOI St. Patrick's party at the Balloonport. This is always a good time and an event you will not want to miss out on. Some of the evening activities include an Irish stew contest, the initiation of new BOI members, and the appearance of the giant green leprechauns. If you have questions regarding the St. Patrick Party you can contact Meika at 515-989-3708.

Before I sign off, Dad, who is on the National Balloon Museum Board of Directors, asked that I inform everyone that the Museum will be closed the month of January. The January closing will give the museum staff the opportunity to do some routine maintenance to the museum building (inside/out), as well as rearrange exhibits and prepare for new exhibits. The museum will re-open in February. For more information on the National Balloon Museum or if you would like information regarding memberships or to volunteer please contact the museum at 515-961-3714.

On behalf of the Drake Family and myself, we hope everyone has a safe and Happy New Year!

Until next time, soft landings.

Sandy Drake

BOI 2006 in Review (continued)

July

- ▶ Near normality has returned to your BOIRHPSAC. All charges against committee members that were lodged as a consequence of our ill-fated fund raising partnership with Motorcyclists Over Road Kill (MORK) have now been dismissed. World Renowned Architect Phil Pash has been allowed re-entry into the United States
- ▶ Gary Ruble campaigns for the BFA Board for North-Central Region
- ▶ Balloons over the Mississippi - Fort Madison: 3 flights, 2 glows; 1st - Ray Wilson, Quincy Ill., 2nd - Scott Wooge, St.Louis MO., 3rd - Eldon Benus, Keokuk IA., 4th - Frank Hines, St.Louis MO.
- ▶ July BOI meeting: 10 members present; Chair Joel Worthington; Treasurer's report - 81 kegs; Carol Harris appointed BOI Secretary for life

August

- ▶ Aerostar announced it will discontinue manufacture of Hot Air Balloons
- ▶ Brad Temeyer purchased his first balloon
- ▶ No BOI meeting - it was flyable
- ▶ Brad Craig wins 2006 National Balloon Classic; Volunteers of the Year - John Holtz & Steve West - the weather guys; Crew of the year - Matt Fenster's crew; Jon Russell Award - Rich Jaworski; Newcomer of the year - Sam Blackburn

September

- ▶ Sandy lets it leak that Dick Drake is considering purchasing a football shaped balloon
- ▶ Creston - a perfect ballooning weekend - spending time with family & friends, participating in one of the greatest parades around, Friday night fish fry & Karaoke, parties with sponsors, ice cream party, watching the Iowa Hawkeyes beat the Iowa State Cyclones, supper at Windrow & Knotty Pine, bathtub races, and of course - the Crappy Beer Contest. Oh, wait, perfect except we didn't fly at all! Crappy Beer contest - Loren Pearson with Grolsch Beer in the can division & Don Fenster with Viking Hot Chocolate Beer in the bottle division. The overall winner was the Viking Hot Chocolate
- ▶ September BOI Meeting: 20 members present; chair John Jensen, Sr.; Treasurer's report - 82 kegs

October

- ▶ October BOI Meeting: 13 members & 2 guests present; Joel Worthington as Chair; Treasurer's report - 82 kegs; Don Prine showed up for the October Meeting - 1 week late! only used 1 keg
- ▶ BOI Halloween Party - Chili cook-off: 1st Georgia Oakes, 2nd Mike VanHamme, 3rd Jack & Linda Williams; Costume contest: Kids: 1st place Nick McCaughey - as a ghoul; 2nd place Tyler Pedersen - as the tin man; 3rd place Trinity Keller - as a pink fairy; Baby winner: Parker Patterson - as a pea pod; Adults: 1st place Mark Degan as a "reggae guy"; Most Original - the Fromm dinner table.

November

- ▶ 11-8-06 Reece Marie Rubin born to Macenzie and Jeremy Rubin
- ▶ 11-12-06 Colton James Craig born to Brad & Amy Craig
- ▶ New commercial pilot - Mark Harris
- ▶ November BOI Meeting: 18 members present; chair Linda Pickering

NTSB Reports

NTSB Identification: LAX05LA094.

Accident occurred February 09, 2005 in Cave Creek, AZ
Aircraft: Cameron Balloons A-250, registration: N3037V
Injuries: 1 Serious, 3 Uninjured.

A passenger fell while boarding the balloon, and broke her collarbone. Prior to the envelope's hot air inflation, the pilot had two passengers preboard the balloon due to one of the female passenger's physical limitations and speed of the surface wind. He estimated that the surface wind was 4-5 mph. As he started hot inflation of the balloon, the envelope started to stand upright. At that time, he instructed the third passenger to board. As she climbed into the basket, the side of the basket that she was on lifted slightly causing her to lose her balance and she fell into the basket. A medical examination revealed that she had a broken collarbone. The pilot stated that the balloon and heater had no mechanical failures or malfunctions during the flight.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows: the pilot's inadequate handling of the balloon during boarding resulting in a passenger falling and sustaining a serious injury.

NTSB Identification: LAX05LA143.

Accident occurred April 13, 2005 in Saint Helena, CA
Aircraft: Firefly Balloon, Inc. FF 11, registration: N15001
Injuries: 1 Serious, 8 Uninjured.

The balloon touched down hard at the conclusion of a sightseeing flight seriously injuring one of the eight fare-paying passengers. The pilot indicated that upon entering a wider area of the Napa Valley the winds aloft should have slowed, but they did not. Therefore, he decided to land as soon as possible, having the belief that the wind speed might increase if he continued the flight. During the descent to an open field, the balloon drifted over a row of estimated 30- to 40-foot-tall trees, and the wind speed suddenly increased to between 10 and 12 miles per hour. The pilot advised the passengers to prepare for a possible hard touchdown, and during the final seconds of the flight, he used both burners at maximum power to slow the descent rate. However, a windshear was encountered, and the balloon abruptly descended.

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause of this accident as follows: The pilot's encounter with wind shear during landing, which resulted in a hard touchdown.

November Pilot Relations Meeting

Attendees: John Jensen, Gary Haynes, Carol & Max Harris, Jim Fromm, Dick & Phyllis Drake.

- ◆ I emailed names (Shelton Family & Joel Worthington) to Greg to be added to the Classic Board for Pilot representation.
- ◆ The Jon Russell Awards have been updated.
- ◆ Jason Jones has decided not to be the 2007 Balloonmeister. Matt Fenster was asked to be Balloonmeister. Hope to have a decision by Dec 1st.
- ◆ Currently, no scoring person as of yet, but working on it.
- ◆ Working on a Registration Packet, will try to get something emailed by the end of November for corrections at the Dec. meeting.
- ◆ Rule Book - Dick Drake, Tom Ricke and John Jensen will be updating the Rule Book but are waiting for the 2007 BFA updates. If anyone is wanting to join this group, let me know.
- ◆ Curves organization is looking to add some 20 events around the U.S. -- FYI
- ◆ With the removal of NABA, the Classic might see some additional pilots, as well as new private pilots too. Greg has said only 100 pilots. Discussion on giving the past pilots from Jan 15 to Mar 15, then opening ALL registrations to first come/first serve.
- ◆ Need to have private pilots license and the 35 hr requirement prior to application. Copies of the log book must be sent by anyone with less than 50 hours. All pilots need to be current, have bi-ennial and annual prior to the Classic. A copy of the STC with need to also sent.
- ◆ Jim Thompson, has also stated the BFA - Iowa Championship and the BFA - North Central Region Championship is available.
- ◆ Working on JAN 15 for the registrations for the web site.

John Jensen

December Pilot Relations Meeting

Attendees: Todd Isley, Max & Carol Harris, Joel Worthington, Bob & Janice Shelton, Mark Weeks, Jim Gebhart, Crazy Al, Gary Ruble, Jim Fromm, Dick Drake, John Jensen

- ◆ Pilot Registrations Proofing - Completed and will update for another proofing.
- ◆ Balloonmeister - Matt has confirmed that he WILL be the Balloonmeister. He will not be able to make the registration process (due to work) but will make the first flight. Several voiced concern about the Assistants flying. Matt has yet to decide the Officials.
- ◆ 2007 Classic Rule Book - Waiting for the updates from

BFA. Dick Drake, Tom Ricke, Matt Fenster and John Jensen will be the committee

- ◆ Banner/Baggie Deposits - Recommend to the Classic Board, that the Board send a post card to the Pilots that have money in the Banner/Baggie Funds to declare what each Pilot would like - refund or donation.
- ◆ BFA North Central Regional Championship & Iowa Championship vote - 5 yes, 1 no and 6 doesn't matter - Recommend to the Classic Board to hold the BFA North Central Championship and the Iowa Championship for the 2007 Classic.
- ◆ Awards - Farmer, Crew, Newcomer of the Year - These awards will NOW be handled by the Pilot Relations Group. Committee: Jim Fromm, Bob Shelton & Mark Weeks
- ◆ Daily Pilot/Crew gift/drawing - This is bag/gift donated by the balloon manufactures up to 15 dollars of items - This will be a FUN - daily selection by the committee. This is used to get some interest the overall awards. National Balloon & Balloons Over Iowa are Yes - speaking with others. Committee: Jim Gebhart, Crazy Al, Jim Fromm
- ◆ Pilot Gift - \$30 in Chamber bucks and \$10 gift certificates for the Gift Shop.
- ◆ Interaction with Spectators - have the Awards Ceremony into front of the spectators at the stage. Also have daily introductions of pilots at the stage prior to the balloon flights - pilots can hand out balloon cards, do some Q & A. Announcer do some pilot scores. Consider a raffle for drawing to do a daily balloon flight.
- ◆ From Greg: Greg is recommending to have Night Glow every night except first Sat, Monday, last Sat. Also come up with a system to have a 15 pilots plus the commercial & special shapes each night. Everyone will be required to one night glow or penalty on the overall competition.
- ◆ Registrations will be available by Jan 15 (past pilots) and on the web on Feb 1st. This depending on Simpson housing costs.

John Jensen.

Interesting Web Site

<http://www.ballooninghistory.com/whoswho/> - a compilation of data on historically-significant aeronauts amassed over decades of research by American balloonist, balloon-builder, and general aviator Robert Rechs (n/k/a Robert Recks).

Congratulations to Ellis Benus, who graduated from Columbia College, Columbia, MO with a B.A. in Communications. (*Sounds like an upcoming Newsletter Editor*) Proud Dad - Eldon "Gomer" Benus

Calendar of Events

- February 18 5 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA (Note time change due to Ground School)
- February 16-18 **BOI Ground School**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA. Rob Bartholomew at (515) 989-3708, email: balloonsover Iowa@msn.com
- March 10 **IBA Continuing Education Seminar**
- March 18 6:30 p.m. **BOI meeting**, Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- April 28 **Ode to Spring** BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA
- June 22-24 **Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race**, Ottumwa Iowa. Contact Dale or Holly Dommer
- July 27-August 4 **National Balloon Classic** Contact Greg Marchant at 1-800-FLY IOWA or www.nationalballoonclassic.com
- October 27 **BOI Halloween Party** BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

2007 BOI meetings

Held at the BOI Balloonport, Carlisle, IA

Third Sunday of each month 6:30 p.m. (except Feb)

January 21	May 20	September 16
February 18 5 p.m.	June 17	October 21
March 18	July 15	November 18
April 15	August 19	

Race organizers - please send your dates, etc for 2007 to Carol - hotairflyn@aol.com

Happy Anniversary

Ralph & Donna Rieck	2-3
Ken & Meg Allbaugh	2-6
Travis Alexander & Dawn Hogan-Alexander	2-13
Jim Snipes & Donna Hill-Snipes	2-14
Mary Huntington & Don Trebbien	2-14
Patti Todden & Richard Swanson	3-15
Mark & Jennifer Delaney	3-25
Thad & Peggy Bloom	3-27

Introducing a new feature to the newsletter - cartoons by Carol Sherman - "Morning Coffee with Jack & Friends" featuring Jack the Weather Dog. Thanks, Carol

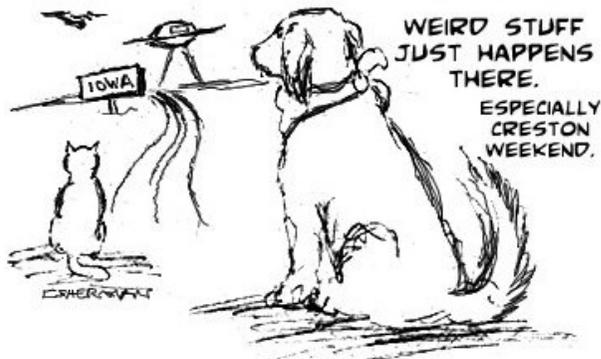
Happy Birthday

Tracy Urell	2-2	Jackson Bishop	3-1
Luana Shull	2-4	Chris Seymour	3-2
Max Harris	2-4	Austin Graham	3-2
Becky Sponsler	2-4	Gary Ruble	3-3
Alexis Clark	2-5	Danie Dobesh	3-4
Chris Oponski	2-7	Terry Foell	3-4
Todd Patterson	2-7	Jerri Hoover	3-7
Dan Harris	2-7	Deanna Ziino	3-7
Linn Hoskins	2-7	Louise Clemons	3-7
Dennis Firestone	2-8	Jim Oakes	3-7
Ellie Smith	2-8	Mary Huntington-Trebbien	3-8
Kelsey Konvalin	2-9	Adam Schulte	3-8
Joyce Blevins	2-9	Elaine Lawrence	3-9
Charles Winkenwerder	2-11	Jim Foell	3-9
Jacque Elsasser	2-12	Myah Jo Brinker	3-9
Richard Holland	2-15	Jennifer Winkenwerder	3-9
Marsha Hoskins	2-17	Mary Konvalin	3-10
Errin Patterson	2-17	Rob "B.J." Nutting	3-11
Marv Blevins	2-22	Gavin Pash	3-12
Denny Craig	2-22	Shelly Mitchell	3-14
Theodore Mueller	2-22	Fred Schoening	3-15
Richard Pash	2-24	Sherry Allsup	3-15
Michele Rubin	2-24	Erika Nutting	3-15
Bill Craig	2-25	Judy Schoening	3-16
Valerie Craven	2-25	Mason Fromm	3-16
Veronica Fisher	2-26	Steve Hoover	3-17
Randy Stone	2-27	Ronald Dobesh	3-17
Janet Mohring	2-27	Jim Snipes	3-18
Tom McCoy	2-28	Joel Foley	3-18
Andy Ogden	2-28	April Oberman	3-21
Nelle Bartholomew	2-28	Beth Pieper	3-24
		Ruby Pieper	3-25
		Brenda Reinert	3-26
		Bonnie Marhoun	3-26
		Rob Bartholomew	3-28
		Janice Shelton	3-30
		Meika Bartholomew	3-31



THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS THE IOWA TRIANGLE.

Morning COFFEE with Jack & FRIENDS



The Way It Was

25 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ February 1982 – 20 Iowans participated in a Balloon event in Mexico. The all-expenses paid trip was sponsored by the Mexican government. The crews consisted of Mexican Army recruits who didn't understand or speak a word of English. Over one million Mexicans gathered to view a Mass Ascension of 100 balloons. Warren County pilots included Gary Ruble, Rob Bartholomew, Denny Cattell, Bill Griffin, Jack Cole, Roy Godwin, Denny Cox and Father Burns.

20 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ January '87 – Gerald Conklin's retirement party

15 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ January BOI Meeting: Daniel Campbell in attendance!
- ★ Feb 1 - Puttin on the Ritz held at the State of Iowa Historical Museum
- ★ Feb 2 - Daniel Campbell did BFA long jump – 166 miles, landed near Albert Lea, MN
- ★ Feb 7-9 – 20 students at Ground school
- ★ February BOI Meeting: Treasurer's report - \$2,947.55; BOI has a new sound system & viewing screen; Jerry Riley chosen as Balloonmeister for Ode to Spring; Meeting name changed from BOI Board Meeting to BOI Membership meeting
- ★ New balloons for the season – Paul & LuAnn Randleman, Henry Schick, Alan Young, Garry Miklus, Jay & Juanita Holcomb.

10 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ Member directory – 69 members
- ★ Ellsworth One Day Race - Dennis Firestone's radio controlled balloon; Dennis Firestone received 1st place; Crew of the year - Paul Randleman, Bill Woodman, Carol Firestone, Denny Anderson, Mark Weeks!
- ★ January BOI Meeting: Dates set for '97 Ode – April 26-27, Bill Griffin to be in charge of festivities.
- ★ February BOI Meeting: Meeting chaired by Jim Thompson; Rich Jaworski spoke of his long jump from Blair, Nebraska to the Lake of the Ozarks; Ground school successful; the jukebox somehow started playing by itself; no one knows how to shut the music off or turn it down, so members sat and listened to the whole song, then Jim proceeded on with the meeting; Official meeting hats were distributed to Board members and guest, then the meeting ran smoother.

5 years ago in BOI History:

- ★ BOI Reflector: Reflector / Discussion list started for BOI Members.
- ★ Balloons Over Iowa Retirement Home Planning and Site Acquisition Committee announced that two

tentative sites for a BOI retirement home were identified. A recent committee meeting that adjourned in the wee hours of the morning, however, revealed that the committee is unable to make a recommendation. A secret ballot at 1:58 a.m. yielded one vote for each of the options, and 5 votes to continue our ambitious program of site visits.

- ★ NEW balloon event in central Iowa: Marshalltown will have the 1st annual Marshalltown Balloon Rally June 28th - 30th. Organizer – John Jensen.
- ★ New Members: Robin Hinshaw; Debbie Flinn & family; Becky & Bill Sponsler & family
- ★ January BOI Meeting: Chairperson – Tom Ricke; Treasures report - \$5,749.19.
- ★ Hudson Hot Air Affair was attended by several BOI members. Friday evening was a Torchlight parade with balloonists firing their burners to warm up the bystanders. Balloons flew Saturday morning with a glow Saturday afternoon. The colors of the balloons really stood out against the newly fallen snow.
- ★ Puttin on the Ritz held at the Embassy Suites on Feb 2, 2002. Brad Craig attended - in a suit.
- ★ Ground School 2002: 36 students from 5 states attended; Mike Oberman and Barb Knoll were Ground Schoolmeister & meistriss; instructors - Rob Bartholomew, Dick Drake, Bill Griffin, Jason Jones, Gerald Knoll, Mike Oberman, Don Prine, Donna Rieck.
- ★ Jim Thompson addressed the Classic Board of Directors with a proposal to bring the Nationals back to Indianola. The Board voted not to accept the proposal for this year
- ★ February BOI Meeting: Chair – Aaron Gebhart; Treasures report – approximately \$8,000; A report by the Craig brothers was presented as to which is a better economic buy for social events - to purchase beer by the case or buy keg beer. Retirement Home report – board members making tours for alternate site suggestions; Discussion on Ode to Spring - Brad Craig to be Balloonmeister. A new trophy by the Pash Family was donated for the event.

Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meeting

BOI Balloonport; Carlisle, IA

Sunday November 19, 2006

Present: Dick & Phyllis Drake, Sandy Drake, Don Prine, Linda Pickering, Michael VanHamme, Bill Griffin, Michelle Craig, Max & Carol Harris, Rob & Linda Bartholomew, Meika Bartholomew, Ellie Bartholomew, Denny Craig, Bill Craig, Joel Worthington, Jake Worthington.

Meeting called to order by chair Linda Pickering at 6:42:51. A meeting first - we sat in chairs in a circle - no table. Members discuss the pros & cons of this.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the October meeting presented. Dick moved to approve the minutes, Phyllis seconded. Don called for a Ponderance - pondering "siting vs. sighting". Discussion, discussion (you had to be there). Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer not present.

Old Business:

- ★ He's here!
- ★ Retirement report - there is a report in the newsletter. There is new blood in the committee. Younger members are participating and they have lots of enthusiasm. There have been & will continue to be a lot of site visits.
A ponderance was called. Dick read from his "Book of Imponderables" about cockroaches.
- ★ Halloween party - it was a good party - great decorations. Members are failing - we only used 1 keg.
- ★ Discussion on a keg refrigerator.
- ★ Discussion on the problems with the circuits on the north side of the Balloonport. The circuit blew that the crockpots were plugged into. Mike moved to have the club pay for an electrician to redo the circuits. Don 2nd. Rob voted "No" - he says he'll take care of it.

New Business:

- ★ There are 2 new babies - Brad & Amy Craig had a baby boy - Colton James & Jeremy & Macenzie Rubin had a baby girl - Reece Marie. Congratulations to both families!
- ★ Don moved to double the Instructors fee for Ground School. Linda 2nd. Discussion on forming a committee to research salary figures for the Ground School chefs and instructors.

Sandy the VP is fixated on the Virgin Sacrifice. Linda has lost all control of this meeting.

- ★ Jake Worthington introduced - Jake is a basset - 4 months old.
- ★ New commercial pilot - Mark Harris. Mark flew this afternoon with Rob. Congratulations Mark!
- ★ VanHamme's bottom has been well used - 5 times in 3 days. *You had to be there.*
- ★ Discussion on instructors for Ground School. Joel will be the coordinator. Forms are available on the club Web site - www.balloons-over-iowa-club.com

The Chair is gone - comforting Jake.

- ★ A photo of Bill's balloon is on a poster at the airport. Discussion.
- ★ More discussion on Ground School.
- ★ Discussion on having a Christmas party. Don volunteered to have a party at his house. It will be an open house on the night of "Light Up Carlisle". Phyllis moved to adjourn meeting, Rob seconded. Motion

approved.

Meeting adjourned 7:40:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, *Carol Harris.*

Leon, Mexico

by Brad Temeyer

Earlier this fall, Duane Waack, a local pilot in Sioux Falls gave me the opportunity to attend my first international event in Leon, Mexico as his crew chief. I was somewhat apprehensive since I didn't know a lick of Spanish and knew little to nothing about the Leon area, but decided to give it a shot. A few weeks prior to the event, I met three other pilots from the Sioux Falls area to get the balloons ready to be shipped through customs to Mexico. Once all the envelopes were packed inside the baskets and everything was secured on a pallet, we placed them on a long flatbed trailer. The following weekend we made a trip up to the Twin Cities, where we met up with many Minnesota pilots shipping their balloons to Mexico. After a few hours of shrink-wrapping balloons and loading them into an extended covered trailer, we had nine balloon systems ready to go to Mexico. A local balloon pilot trucked the systems down to Houston, where the event took over in getting the balloons down to Mexico.

The weekend after Thanksgiving, pilots and designated crew chiefs from all across the world converged on Leon, Mexico for the 5th Annual Festival del Globo. The group I was traveling with arrived in Leon around 11 pm. We quickly claimed our luggage, and made it through customs with no problems. Once past customs, we met one of the event organizers AnnaLaura in the airport who had a chartered bus waiting for us to take us to our hotel.

The next morning, all the pilots and crew chiefs boarded four chartered buses bound for the field. On the 20 minute bus ride, I met several pilots and crew from all across the United States. For some, it was their first year, but many were returning for another fun-filled year. Once we arrived at the field, the buses pulled into an archway that couldn't have been more than a foot wider than the buses themselves and only a few feet taller. We disembarked the buses and headed to unpack and get the balloons ready for the next morning's scheduled flight. Our local crew, who were all university students in the midst of final exams, met us by our balloon and helped us prep for the remainder of the weekend. After getting everything unpacked and fueled, we headed to the top of the hill for lunch and the opening ceremonies. The opening ceremonies, which were second only to the Opening Ceremonies for the Olympics, featured many local bands and costume dancers. The food, which was catered from local restaurants, featured authentic Mexican dishes including cactus, chicken, eggs, and fresh made tortillas made on site. For beverages the beer was free

flowing, but for those that don't enjoy an ice cold bottled beer at noon-thirty, there were a variety of Coke products. After we were filled, we all met in an adjacent building for an informal pilots meeting to discuss logistics of the event and answer any lingering questions. Once the meeting was completed, we all headed back to the hotel for an afternoon of relaxing by the pool in the 80 degree weather, or visiting one of the many local sites in Leon. Later that evening, many of pilots and crew from the Dakotas went out to dinner with several locals from the Louisville area. We walked from the hotel to a fancy Italian restaurant where we all enjoyed yet another wonderful meal. After returning to the hotel, Orv Olivier presented Mike Ehrler with a director's award from BFA. Thereafter, we continued to sit around the hotel lobby socializing till the late evening hours.

The first night was short (as were all the nights) and in what seemed like a few short hours we headed back to field on chartered buses. Since I was given the opportunity to do the weather for this event, I had gotten up even earlier to find as much data as was available. A month or so prior to the event, I had done some research to find out what was available for the area, and to my surprise RUC forecast soundings were available for all of North America. Although the surface observations are more sparsely populated down in Mexico, Leon (being a city of 1.5 million people) had an automated observation at the local airport. That morning, the forecast sounding matched the surface observation fairly well from the airport, so with a confident forecast in hand, I boarded the chartered buses and headed to the field. After eating a quick breakfast sponsored by McDonalds at the field, I headed into the pilot compound to relay to forecast information to the attendees. That morning there was an arctic high building into the southern US, so the synoptic conditions suggested we would have a predominant east wind. While models were not indicating box conditions (which I had been told are fairly typical), there appeared to be some steerage aloft. After the meeting we met our local crew, loaded the balloon in the back of a pick up truck and headed down to the launch field.

For those that have never been to Leon, the launch field sits on the north edge of the Palote Reservoir. Earlier in the season, the area around Leon had experienced heavy rains and the reservoir was quite full. Because of this the launch field had shrunk from previous years and because the number of balloons had grown to nearly 70, we were assigned launch spots that we shared with one other balloon. The trip from the storage area to the launch field was a mile or two long along a paved road (or bike path) that ran adjacent to the edge of the lake. Along the way, many of the locals who had come out to watch the event would stand along and wave at the numerous chase vehicles headed to the field in a parade-like fashion. When we reached the field,

a few of the local balloons from Mexico had begun to inflate and I noticed that the wind was out of the north and was much stronger than I anticipated (~8-10 mph). This was my first indication that my forecast may be inaccurate. We laid out Duane's balloon, and launched in the first wave of balloons. Within a few minutes, it became fairly evident that my forecast was vastly different than the information I had, as all the balloons were moving across the lake from north to south around 8 to 10 mph. The local crew guys and I headed out in pursuit, but since the balloons were headed towards town and the traffic was fairly heavy, I knew we would have a hard time getting to him before he landed. This turned out to be the case, and before long we were caught in rush hour traffic with Duane on the ground. Since Duane was on the ground, the radios had a hard time working effectively. We ended up driving around the portion of the city other balloons were landing while attempting to regain radio contact. Eventually we were able to get some broken reception, and found out he was in a local school yard. The local crew was wonderful and knew exactly where the school yard was. When we arrived, we saw nearly 200 kids crowded around the deflated balloon laughing and giggling. Many of them helped us pack up the balloon and then we were headed back to refuel. On the way back, I noticed several of the special shapes flying, yet they were just hanging over the lake. Where did the speed go that was there earlier?

After fueling and unloading the balloon in our storage area, we all headed to the top of the hill for some local cuisine and beer. Over lunch I caught quite a bit of well deserved heat for my botched forecast. In talking with locals and pilots and crew with years of experience down there, they said a north to south direction is fairly typical because of the drainage winds coming off the nearby mountains. In addition, the winds typically decrease throughout the morning hours and approach calm before picking up some in the afternoon hours. Fortunately, everyone that morning made it back on the ground with no major injuries.

That evening half of the pilots and crew headed back to the field for the first of three night glows. At the briefing that evening, I gave my outlook for the morning that it looked like there would be strong winds aloft (20 to 25 knots), and for the first time in the event's history, a flight was looking doubtful for the following morning. Once the briefing was finished, we headed back to the field for the glow. Winds were initially light, but as the glow continued on, the drainage winds off the mountains picked up and we ended up having to lay the balloon down. All in all, it was a good glow, lasting 35- 50 minutes. That evening, the crew wanted to go out to

(continued on page 12)



Mexico



Leon, Mexico (continued)

a local bar and just hang out. I was somewhat apprehensive knowing that 4:30 AM comes mighty early, but opted to do it anyway. When we got to the bar it was an Applebees' type place (called Lolo and Charles), we had a hard time finding a seat because of an ongoing soccer match. The atmosphere was incredible, with many of the locals screaming and cheering when their local team got close to scoring. Before I knew it, it was midnight. Normally it would have not been a big deal, but on this night, something special occurred, the new Mexican president was being sworn into office. I didn't know a lot about the new president, but I found out from our local crew that recent elections were highly contested and caused a lot of infighting amongst the houses of government. The candidate that lost was so mad that he declared himself the president anyway, and the infighting looked to continue. We stuck around in the bar to watch the swearing in of the new president, which carried just as much emotion for many of the bar patrons as the soccer game. Shortly thereafter, we returned to the hotel for what was another short night.

Before long, I was back aboard a bus with what appeared to be bad news. The models were suggesting 25 to 30 knots of wind around 500 – 1000 feet agl, and the prospects of a flight looked grim. Once we got the field, we all enjoyed another McDonald's breakfast and headed into the meeting. I relayed my concerns about the winds, and a supplemental weather briefing would be held on the field a few minutes after sunrise. In the mean time we located some pibals, and headed down to the field. When we got down there, we launched a balloon and the balloon went straight up. I figured the local effects were wreaking havoc with my forecast again, and any second the pibal would reach the strong winds and take off. After watching the pibal for 5-10 minutes (which was still floating over our heads), I realized the models were again out to lunch and a flight that morning would not be a problem. I briefly explained the localized wind conditions to the pilots, and before long they all took to the air for what was one of the most beautiful flights of the event. After a good flight of 30 to 45 minutes back and forth across the lake, Duane landed on the edge of the lake in an empty field. Before long, tons of the local kids had gathered around the basket and we gave tether rides until we were completely out of fuel.

After packing up the balloon and fueling, we again headed up the hill to enjoy some more Mexican food. That afternoon, I went to the local zoo with a few other local pilots before returning to the field to glow. That evening, the remaining pilots that didn't glow the first night returned to the field to glow. At the briefing, I arrived with a severely adjusted forecast from what the models were suggesting (I was learning). After explaining that the models were forecasting even stronger winds the following morning but that there was some reason to doubt this, all of the pilots went down and had a great glow.

The next morning came and after another yogurt and hot

apple pie breakfast, we went into the briefing. Because of the lack of sleep over the past several days, I had begun to lose my voice. After the two previous days of botched forecasts, I had figured that no one really wanted to hear what I had to say anyway. I was wrong yet again. I gave a much more climatology based forecast that morning which seemed to verify much better than the models. After the great flight and yet another wonderful lunch, I spent the afternoon with one of our local crew people experiencing everyday life in Mexico. Time flew that afternoon and before long I was needed back at the field for another briefing. The evening before, a few balloons had flown from the local Home Depot to the balloon field. This evening, 10 to 15 balloons hoped to perform the same feat before the final remaining balloons joined in a night glow. I briefed the pilots who planned to fly in, and ended up crewing for Gary and Janice Sines on the flight. Since there were more balloons than the parking lot at Home Depot would allow, we ended up launching from a local field two blocks away from Home Depot. When Janice launched, the balloons were moving toward the reservoir at around 3-5 mph. All the balloons made it to the lake, but some of them didn't have the right trajectory to the launch field and set down on the lake to be towed by a boat to the beach. Gary and the local crew dropped me off at the pilot compound where I met the remaining pilots to brief them for the night glow extravaganza. We all went back down to the launch field and had a wonderful glow.

The following morning was the same as the three other mornings, but there was a sense of sadness in the air knowing that this was the last flight of the event and that the week long party was coming to an end. One of our crew people met us, and told us that our chase vehicle and the other members of the crew were on the way. They were stuck in traffic with tens of thousands of locals converging on the balloon field for the final flight. After another great flight across the lake, we landed adjacent to several condominiums along the road. Again, hundreds of Mexican children crowded around the basket as it returned to earth and we passed out every piece of candy we had at our disposal. After the flight we prepped the balloons for the trip back home, and then returned for one last meal with our local crew. Over lunch, we shared many several fond memories that had been made throughout the week. After exchanging contact information, we boarded the buses and headed back to the hotel. However, this wasn't the end of the event. The event chartered the buses to take us all to the capital of the state we were in (Guanajuato). After a bus ride of nearly one hour, we arrived in the old Mexican mining town of Guanajuato. The town was incredibly rich in history, and had the appearance of a European city nestled in a valley with narrow cobblestone streets and tunnels. There we were given free reign to explore the city and eat dinner. While in Guanajuato, the winds that I had forecasted for days finally arrived. However, it didn't matter. For the fifth year in a row we flew all scheduled flights and performed all scheduled glows. In Guanajuato, I joined a

group comprised of pilots from New Mexico, Massachusetts, and Colorado. We explored the town for a while, and ended up dining in a restaurant that sat on top of a hillside that overlooked the entire town. We were seated in our own private room, which had bay windows with spectacular views of the entire city. There, we all shared more memories of the incredible week over a white table cloth dinner. Even though the food was great, the company was even better.

For me, this event was truly more than a ballooning event, it was a cultural experience that is nearly impossible to describe. All of the pilots and crew grew close throughout the event, treating each other like members of their own family. This was by far one of the most organized and incredible ballooning experiences I have ever been a part of. It not only brought cultures together from all around the world, but also fostered so many other friendships. Throughout the event I was trying to think of a way to describe the event when I returned to the states, and really struggled trying to find the right words to describe such an experience. The best way I can describe the event is by quoting the balloonmeister, Phil Bryant who said after one of the flights, "It's just another day in paradise."

Twass the Day Before Christmas 2006

Nah! I will spare you the poem. It always takes too long to write those and I have to leave out too much cause it doesn't rhyme.

It all started 60 plus years ago when Virgil was born. When he was one, he moved to the farm in St. Thomas, MO. Now, if you are thinking anything down the lines of St. Croix or St. Louis or anything like that, just get that thought right out of your mind. St. Thomas is a REAL town! Population about 200 maybe 300. It is a German Catholic community complete with the Cathedral dominating the skyline of the town...Wait, it IS the skyline. Most of the residents' last names begin with B or K. It is indeed an island in the middle of a vast array of farms passed down from 5 generations or more ago. It is in the very southern part of Cole County separated from Wardsville by 11 miles and the Osage River. The river makes a sharp bend and drifts parallel to Route B just to the west of town where the fertile river valley makes up the border of the township.

Then after 60 plus years on or about Wednesday, Dec. 20 I got a call from Sharon, Virgil's wife. She wanted to buy a balloon ride for her husband. Sure, said I. I'll sell you a gift certificate and he can take his ride as soon as the weather gets nice. That would be OK, says she, but what she really wanted was to do it on Christmas Eve. Well, normally this would have caused great strife amongst our family seeing as Christmas Eve is usually spent with the Heriford clan starting in the afternoon and lasting till we had eaten all of Marcia's food. However, this year both the outlaws and the in-laws had planned their party for 2:00 on the 23rd. That was very inconvenient for party going but was ideal for Sharon's plan. I had absolutely nothing to do Christmas Eve!

All I needed was crew! Cheri would be busy getting ready for Christmas Day and Josh was working that night from 2 - 8 so I called Mark, Diane and Ben to see what they were doing. Not only could they help but Virgil and Diane are related! They were actually the ones who gave them my name. Joel volunteered to help so that he could earn enough brownie points to get a free balloon ride someday and Julie, one of Virgil's 10 or so kids said that there would be plenty of them there to lend any assistance needed.

All of the ducks seemed to be lining up nicely!

Sunday morning I rose relatively early and plugged in the balloon heaters and woke everyone else that wasn't awake so we could do Christmas with Sara and Cliff on Christmas Eve. Lots of oooohhhs and aaaahhhhs were followed by lots of laughs as we watched the three grand dogs destroy their Christmas treats and we opened our gifts. It was all very Christmassy even on the 24th!

That afternoon I told Sara and Cliff good-bye and headed to Schulte's to meet the crew and we headed for St. Thomas at 2:04. It is a curvy, unfamiliar road so I didn't break any land speed records getting there. We pulled into Julie's drive about 2:30 just as planned. Now, the original idea was to launch at her house, fly down to her Dad's farm which is next door to hers and pick him up. IF the winds were just perfect that would have been entirely possible based on the forecast from Thursday. After climbing out of the vehicle I inflated a pi ball and introduced myself to Julie saying, "Now, watch this." It went straight up It never turned till it was about the size of a pinhole in the sky. Plan A is not going to work! Turns out these country folks are pretty flexible. Sharon simply took the truck to the farm as we inflated the balloon and brought Virgil back to Julie's with strong instructions to keep his eyes closed until she said to open them. He seemed rather beaming as he walked toward the balloon so I guess the surprise plan B worked anyway.

Of course, part of the beaming may have been a result of the fact that pretty much all of his 10 kids and 200 or 300 grandkids seemed to be out in the yard for the launch. I don't see how the entire population of the town seems to have known about this surprise balloon ride and still kept it a secret from him!

We got the balloon off almost expecting to hang over the yard for the next hour but as soon as we got buoyant we began heading straight for his farm! His current residence is about 1/2 mile up the gravel road but we managed to float just one field down the valley from the old home he had moved into when he was one. One of his sons was also riding along and had a video camera and got footage of everything...several times actually. Our top speed at 800 ft. was 4.4 mph.

We actually had a little bit of steerage which I was quite glad of since up there at 800 we were headed straight for the river and if we had crossed it two or three problems were going to occur. Number one was that the crew would have

to go back toward Wardsville to cross the river and then take a 20 mile tour of all the back roads to get to us. Secondly, I could see one field and nothing else but trees on the other side of the river and finally, everyone needed to be at church at 5 p.m. I floated down to about 450 ft and got a distinct turn to the left, more parallel to the river and straight toward Uncle David's farm. It is always good to fly in farm country with someone who knows all his neighbors!

After a couple of landings to check where the crew could best get to us, we finally loaded up in an empty pasture between Dave's barn and the river. As we were driving out we spotted Dave driving up on a four wheeler. We had tried to contact him but failed earlier, so I was glad to see him. He was rather surprised to see a trailer in his field and had missed the balloon but was totally unconcerned as soon as he saw Virgil with us. One reason he was unconcerned was that it wasn't his field anyway, but he would pass our thanks on to the proper farmer.

It was a beautiful ride, a wonderfully fun time with the whole family being there, and great to find someone else who appreciates the winter flying. He even said "I bet this wouldn't look nearly so neat in the summer with all the leaves in the way."

See, I told you!!! Lots of Love and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Herb Heriford

Civil Air Patrol to Honor Aviation and Space Legend Joe Kittinger

January 23, 2007

Civil Air Patrol
United States Air Force Auxiliary
Colonel Joseph W. Kittinger Phantom Senior Squadron
TX-352 Austin, Texas

Austin, TX -- Col. Joseph W. Kittinger, USAF retired, the man who holds the record for the highest parachute jump in history, will be honored by the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport on 23 January 2007 at 7 pm. The event will take place at TxDOT Flight Services, 10335 Golf Course Rd. Austin, TX. The public is invited to attend this free event.

On August 16, 1960, as a Captain in the US Air Force and the test director of a government research project named Project Excelsior, Joe piloted a gas balloon to an altitude of 102,800 feet into a hostile environment where the temperature hovered at 94 degrees below zero. Upon reaching altitude, he leaned forward and hurled himself from his open capsule toward the clouds churning above the New Mexico desert. The test was designed to develop equipment and escape procedures for high altitude flight. This was part

of the daily work of a handful of America's pre-astronauts who fathered manned space exploration.

Joe was dependent on a life support system and pressurized space suit. His body was connected to telemetry equipment which recorded his vital functions for later analysis. Col. Kittinger fell through the Stratosphere at the speed-of-sound. After a four minute thirty-seven second free-fall, he opened his parachute at 17,500 feet and continued safely to earth. His 15 minute journey, which became known as the Long Lonely Leap, began the 1960's manned space-race and was the precursor to NASA's Mercury, Gemini and Apollo programs.

The Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the United States Air Force, will honor the Colonel by renaming the Austin, TX based TX-352 squadron after this living legend. The ceremony will include film footage and several speeches by members of CAP highlighted by a patriotic lecture by Colonel Kittinger. The public is enthusiastically welcome to attend this event where refreshments will be served throughout the evening.

Joe Kittinger is the subject of many articles, documentaries and two books, *The Long Lonely Leap* and *The Pre-Astronauts*. In addition to his work on high altitude and space research, Joe served multiple tours in Vietnam as a jet fighter pilot where he flew the F-4D Phantom II. He was one of the few Air Commandos to score a victory over a MiG-21. Toward the war's end he was shot down and spent 11 months in the infamous prison camp dubbed the Hanoi Hilton. He holds many aviation and aeronautical records including the first solo crossing of the Atlantic in a balloon in 1984.

Test pilot, combat aviator, POW, and record holding sport-pilot, Joseph W. Kittinger is a genuine aerospace pioneer and American hero.

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with almost 60,000 members nationwide. CAP performs 95 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counterdrug missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members take a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to the almost 25,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. CAP has been performing missions for America for more than 60 years.

More information about Col Kittinger and the event can be found at: <http://www.caphantom.org/>

Media Contact: John S. Craparo, Capt, CAP
Public Affairs Officer
Civil Air Patrol – TX 352 512-740-2506

Iowa Balloonist Association Continuing Education Seminar

March 10, 2007

Best Western

(Formerly Four Points Sheraton)

Des Moines, Iowa

The basis for this one day seminar will be to satisfy the basic requirements by the Balloon Federation of America and qualify pilots for a possible insurance discount.

Speakers and Topics:

Dean Carlton--Commercial Pilot	Crewing
Jamie Hohman--Garmin Representative	Basic GPS Functions
Paul Petrehn--Past BFA U.S. National Champion	Competitive GPS Functions
Bill Zangs--Commercial Airline Pilot	FARs & Airport Altitude Restrictions
Brad Temeyer--National Weather Service Forecaster	Weather Websites
Pat Cannon-- BFA U.S. National Champion	Competitive Flying
Al Nels--Past BFA U.S. and World Champion	Pilot Decision Making
Chris Manthe / Roger Clark--FAA Representatives	Balloon Accidents / Jeopardy Game
George Hahn--FireFly Balloons	Balloon Maintenance & Repair

(**Speakers and topics subject to change)

Seminar Information:

Registration:	7:00 a.m. to 7:55 a.m.
Seminar:	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Lunch / IBA Meeting	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Seminar	1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Mixer / Cash Bar	6:00 p.m. to 7:00p.m.

Drawings for prizes will be held throughout the day. (** Note: Times subject to change)

Registration prior to February 18, 2007 - Pilot \$70.00; Crew \$40.00

Includes: Safety Seminar, snacks, lunch, certification of completion filing with the BFA, complimentary IBA membership, including newsletter, IBA Championship eligibility & more.

For non-attendees joining us for lunch there will be a \$15 fee.

Registration after February 18, 2007 - Pilot \$90.00; Crew \$50.00

(All fees are Non-refundable)

Hotel Information:

Hotel rooms are available at a rate of \$69.00 per night (plus taxes). Reservations must be made by March 1, 2007 and you must mention your attendance at the IBA Continuing Education Seminar for the guaranteed room rate. Reservations may be made by calling:

Best Western (Formerly Four Points Sheraton)
1810 Army Post Road
Des Moines, Iowa 50315
Phone: 515-287-6464
Fax: 515-287-5818

For more information please contact;
Christine Bertsch at 515-953-4222 or e-mail:
Oasisballoon@aol.com or
Thad Bloom at 515-961-8543 or e-mail
Grump961@aol.com

Sunrise and Sunset for 2007

Location: W093 34, N41 22

Indianola, IA

Day	Jan.		Feb.		Mar.		Apr.		May		June		July		Aug.		Sept.		Oct.		Nov.		Dec.		
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Day														
1	7:40	4:55	7:26	5:30	6:49	6:05	6:58	7:39	6:12	8:11	5:43	8:41	5:45	8:51	6:09	8:31	6:40	7:48	7:11	6:57	5:45	6:10	7:20	4:46	1
2	7:40	4:56	7:25	5:32	6:48	6:06	6:56	7:40	6:11	8:13	5:43	8:42	5:45	8:51	6:10	8:30	6:41	7:46	7:12	6:55	5:47	6:08	7:22	4:45	2
3	7:40	4:57	7:24	5:33	6:46	6:07	6:55	7:41	6:09	8:14	5:43	8:43	5:46	8:51	6:11	8:29	6:42	7:44	7:13	6:53	5:48	6:07	7:23	4:45	3
4	7:40	4:58	7:23	5:34	6:44	6:08	6:53	7:42	6:08	8:15	5:42	8:43	5:46	8:51	6:12	8:28	6:43	7:43	7:14	6:51	6:49	5:06	7:24	4:45	4
5	7:40	4:59	7:22	5:35	6:43	6:09	6:51	7:43	6:07	8:16	5:42	8:44	5:47	8:51	6:13	8:27	6:44	7:41	7:15	6:50	6:50	5:05	7:25	4:45	5
6	7:40	5:00	7:21	5:37	6:41	6:10	6:50	7:45	6:06	8:17	5:42	8:45	5:47	8:50	6:14	8:26	6:45	7:39	7:16	6:48	6:51	5:04	7:25	4:45	6
7	7:40	5:01	7:19	5:38	6:40	6:12	6:48	7:46	6:04	8:18	5:41	8:45	5:48	8:50	6:15	8:24	6:46	7:38	7:17	6:47	6:53	5:03	7:26	4:45	7
8	7:40	5:02	7:18	5:39	6:38	6:13	6:46	7:47	6:03	8:19	5:41	8:46	5:49	8:50	6:16	8:23	6:47	7:36	7:18	6:45	6:54	5:02	7:27	4:45	8
9	7:40	5:03	7:17	5:40	6:36	6:14	6:45	7:48	6:02	8:20	5:41	8:46	5:49	8:49	6:17	8:22	6:48	7:34	7:19	6:43	6:55	5:01	7:28	4:45	9
10	7:40	5:04	7:16	5:42	6:35	6:15	6:43	7:49	6:01	8:21	5:41	8:47	5:50	8:49	6:18	8:21	6:49	7:32	7:20	6:42	6:56	5:00	7:29	4:45	10
11	7:40	5:05	7:15	5:43	7:33	7:16	6:41	7:50	6:00	8:22	5:41	8:47	5:51	8:48	6:19	8:19	6:50	7:31	7:21	6:40	6:57	4:59	7:30	4:45	11
12	7:39	5:06	7:13	5:44	7:31	7:17	6:40	7:51	5:59	8:23	5:40	8:48	5:51	8:48	6:20	8:18	6:51	7:29	7:22	6:38	6:59	4:58	7:31	4:45	12
13	7:39	5:07	7:12	5:45	7:30	7:18	6:38	7:52	5:58	8:24	5:40	8:48	5:52	8:47	6:21	8:16	6:52	7:27	7:24	6:37	7:00	4:57	7:32	4:45	13
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Balloons Over Iowa Ground School 2007

February 16-18, 2007

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 16, 7:00 P.M.

Class: Saturday, February 17, 8:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Class: Sunday, February 18, 8:00A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Fees: Individual Enrollment Fee: \$195 for early Registration (prior to January 1, 2007)

\$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, 2007)

\$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 190th Ave (2nd 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 190th Ave (2nd 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 190th Ave (2nd 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 190th Ave (2nd 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 190th Ave (2nd 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 190th Ave. Balloonport is 1 mile north of Highway 5.

Note - be very cautious of the train tracks as you are turning onto 190th 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).



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Touch and Go
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Balloons Over Iowa Membership Meetings

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

February 18 (**5 pm, due to Ground School**)
 March 18 6:30 pm