

DESERT BREEZES



Pilots, crowd blown away by MV fest



*(Special to the Times - Donovan Quintero)
Hot air balloons ascend over Monument Valley Tribal Park last Saturday morning. Fifteen balloons went into the air for the first-ever balloon rally at the park.*

By Cindy Yurth, Tséyi' Bureau

MONUMENT VALLEY TRIBAL PARK, Utah, April 7, 2011. The casual observer might say last weekend's first-ever Monument Valley Balloon Festival was about one-third successful.

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NEW LOCATION:

Board Meeting

***LaFitte's: Embassy Suites Phoenix-North, 2577 West Greenway Rd
Tuesday, May 17th, at 5:45 PM***

General Meeting

***LaFitte's: Embassy Suites Phoenix-North, 2577 West Greenway Rd
Tuesday, May 17th, at 7:00 PM***

May 17th ABC Club meeting at: LaFitte's

Location is on East side of I-17 on south side of Greenway Road (at Embassy Suites Phoenix-North, 2577 West Greenway Rd.) Entrance is on the East Side of the building. The club meeting is located on the left after entering the main door of the restaurant in the upper area of the restaurant. Please eat and drink in this area so that the club receives credit.

LaFitte's is casual dining specializing in New Orleans and American cuisine (\$6 meals to \$25 full course meals). *La Fitte's has full bar service available.* Join us prior to or even after the 7 PM meeting time for drinks and food. Please encourage former members to attend. Pilots invite your crew and interested parties and share your ballooning experience.



*(Special to the Times -
Donovan Quintero)
Crews prepare their
balloons to fly as
another begins to ascend
in this view from a
balloon's gondola last
Saturday at Monument
Valley Tribal Park.*

Of the three events planned - two launches and a night glow - only one launch was held before horrendous winds kicked up and derailed the rest of the event.

Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation spokeswoman Geri Hongeva, however, would disagree with that assessment. "From our point of view, it was a success," she said. "We accomplished our goal, which was to introduce something new and different to the park, and have a nice, free event that the local community could participate in. I myself heard nothing but positive comments." No one got hurt, all the VIPs on the guest list and several members of the media got a ride, and the 15 pilots, rather than being disappointed, were ecstatic at the opportunity to float among the iconic rock formations even for a day.

"Balloonists are pretty used to events being cancelled because of weather," Hongeva said. "It's a very weather-dependent sport."

Saturday morning dawned cool and sunny, absolutely perfect for a jaunt among the spires. About 400 people turned out to take the shuttle down to the launch area near Rain God Mesa or watch through binoculars from the balcony of their motel rooms. The View motel was full, and the restaurant and gift shop were teeming with tourists and locals. This reporter heard at least four foreign languages.

In the visitor center, the Navajo Code Talkers were doing brisk business autographing and selling books. The proceeds will go to the planned \$16 million code talker museum and veterans' center in Tse Bonito, N.M. (reprinted with permission)



*Desert Drifter
accentuates the
valley view*

CREW APPRECIATION

Thank you, crew!! On Saturday, the 23rd, the Balloon Club hosted the Crew Appreciation breakfast. Turnout was pretty good- Frank had 50 RSVPs, and that's about what the size of crowd appeared to be.

Frank, our Picnics and Parties Chair cooked a wonderful breakfast, with Ken Tocker assisting. We are fortunate to have someone who enjoys cooking so much in charge of this! Colleen McNamara brought a delicious crumb cake, too.



Frank Karlovec and Ken Tocker cooked breakfast for all

Judy Holt contributed a balloon cake (looking a lot like her balloon, *Desert Drifter*).



Judy brought a balloon cake for everyone and her crew, Carol Hurlburt, Mike Silsbee, and his two daughters, Ashley and Courtney



Bill and Judy Perkins and Eileen Bewley enjoy breakfast.

Sally and Tom Bartsch with crew Steve and Colleen McNamara, Diane and Dave



Membership Chair, Judy Holt, did her job, too. She signed up four new members during the party.

New club members Joe Guzman and Kyle Hartman



New members also include Bill Armstrong (in red shirt) and his wife, Susan, below talking with Sally Heinrich

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Feasting outdoors.



Renee and Kevin Uliassi, with their sons, Joel and Adam. Kevin was a speaker at the recent BFA convention.

Roe Tocker meets a very young ABC member, with her dad, Jerry Knorr.



P.S. The kids and Molly got to jump on the trampoline.

Tom Connolly, Ken Tocker, and Philip Heinrich set up their equipment for crew to compare Balloon Works, Aerostar, and Cameron balloon baskets, respectively. Later in the morning, Commander Mike England used Ken's basket to demonstrate the difference between a quick release and a controlled release tie off mechanism for about 15 interested pilots and crew. Meanwhile, Philip was running the few balloon shots from the movie "The Ugly Truth," and two laptops were running photos of various balloon related events.

Jim Newman announced that his backyard was subject to a burglary with tanks, fans and other balloon equipment stolen. Please notify him if you find any suspicious items for sale.



Commander Mike England doing a tie-off demonstration later.

MAY BIRTHDAYS



FROM SCBA, via Judy Holt

Hi, Judy,

The SCBA Safety Seminar is coming up May 7th (the date was changed due to conflicts with other balloon events). I would appreciate it if you could forward this email to your club members. I have attached a flyer with all the pertinent information. Thanks so much!

Warmest Regards,
Wendy Walsh

From: Wendy Walsh
<wendym1530@roadrunner.com>

(Editor's note- No attached flyer came through with the forwarding, but I am sure you can email Wendy and get a copy quickly)

BFA Jr. Balloonist Summer Camp

Editor's Note: The Board approved paying tuition to help one camper to attend the BFA summer camp to encourage ballooning among our youth. The Commander was authorized to make a decision, which was very tough. There were several excellent applications. Here is the winning application.

Hi my name is Austyn and my dad is Jerry Knorr. He is new to your club and someday would like to become a balloon pilot himself and own his own balloon. We have been crewing for Gene Clewley for the past couple of months, helping and learning as much as we can.

When I went on my first balloon ride, I knew that would be something I would want to do too. Out of all the activities I have done in my 13 years, I thought that ballooning was the most peaceful, exciting, and interesting thing to do. I was anxious before I went on my first ride, and as I ascended up I got even more scared. But after a while, I was relaxed and as I looked around it felt like an elevator floating up in heaven. When I got on the ground I was so excited to continue to fly and someday become a pilot. But I want to learn how to from a variety of people who actually know what they are doing and discover different ways to fly. My goal is to be the youngest pilot in the club someday. I want to have all the fun I can, but I don't want to put anyone or myself in danger. So I want to learn everything that I can about safe ballooning. So please consider me for this opportunity.

Thank you for considering me for sponsorship to the BFA Jr. Balloonist Camp.

Be Safe,
Austyn Knorr

After being notified of his selection:

Thank you for this amazing opportunity to learn more about ballooning. I am very excited to go. All I can think about is the camp.

Thank You,
Austyn Knorr

FROM THE BFA CONVENTION

Iowa Ballooning Pioneers and United States Ballooning Hall of Fame Members

Iowa has long ties to the modern sport of hot air ballooning including the inventor of the modern hot air balloon, Ed Yost and one of the founding fathers and second president of the Balloon Federation of America, Don Kersten. Following are the biographies of these two ballooning pioneers, both born in the State of Iowa.

Paul Edward Yost

1919 - 2007

Paul Edward Yost was born in Bristow, Iowa, about 130 miles from Indianola in 1919. In 1934, when he was 15 years old, Ed and his father set out to watch the first Explorer flight from the Stratobowl in Rapid City, South Dakota. He was interested in balloons for a long time.

Yost was employed by the US Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1945; he flew airplanes in Alaska from 1946 to 1948.

Ed Yost is best known as the inventor of the modern hot-air balloon, however in his long and fruitful life he has done many things using and creating balloons. In 1949 Yost started work as Senior Engineer and Tracking Pilot for the High Altitude Research Division of General Mills in Minneapolis, where he worked on many scientific high altitude balloon projects. In 1952 they sent a 3.2 million cubic foot balloon, carrying US Navy instruments, into the stratosphere to study cosmic rays, as part of a scientific project that spanned many years. (Compare that to the first Yost hot-air balloon which had a volume of 30,000 cubic feet!)

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COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Wow, what a great convention the Balloon Federation of America put on. We not only had a lot of interesting sessions to choose from to attend, but the opportunity to meet and greet some of the most notable pioneers of ballooning was awesome.

Hall of Famers Bruce Comstock, Tracey Barnes, Joe Kittinger, Jim Winker were all present. Remarkable people with fantastic accomplishments, they profess themselves as regular people that happened to be at the right place at the right time. While that may be true, they were willing to put their lives on the line and are true heroes.

If you've not seen the images of Kittinger jumping at 102800 feet, we'll be linking you to the opportunities in the upcoming issues of this newsletter. To meet him and listen to his stories was really a fantastic experience.

It was also encouraging to see young people there looking forward to their opportunity to make their mark on history.

We'll be talking more about the convention and the BFA. They have established a new crew membership, also.

Thanks to the club for helping me attend and represent you

Mike England, Commander

If it weren't for Ed Yost, we wouldn't have hot air balloons to fly, and we wouldn't be flying them in Indianola, Iowa.

Yost and 3 others from General Mills formed Raven Industries in 1956. They received a contract from the Office of Naval Research to create an aircraft that would carry one man and enough fuel to fly for three hours, carry a load to 10,000 feet, and be reusable. Thus the modern hot air balloon was born.

In 1960 Yost made the first free flight of a modern hot-air balloon. In 1962 the first balloon was sold to an individual, and the sport of ballooning was created. In late 1969, Yost started looking for a site to hold a national championship. He wanted a central US location, plenty of space for inflations and landings, in an area of friendly folks. Yost's neighbors were graduates of Simpson College... they thought it would be a good place. Yost and Don Kersten from Fort Dodge, Iowa, who was president of the Balloon Federation of America, talked to the president of Simpson College who thought it was a great idea. And that's how balloons first came to Indianola.

During the cold war, Yost invented a small, lightweight, disposable, cheap balloon that was used to send US leaflets behind the Iron Curtain. He also developed a balloon that carried a camera to take photographs from hostile territory.

For the Vietnam conflict, Yost developed and constructed thousands of fast deploying parachutes to deliver supplies to the troops. In 1963, Ed Yost made the first hot-air balloon crossing of the English Channel, flying from Rye, Sussex, England to Gravelines Nord, France, in 3 hours and 17 minutes in a 56,000 cubic foot Raven balloon named "Channel Champ". This flight gained worldwide attention and generated a great deal of interest in this new sport of hot-air ballooning.

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale:
Arizona
Superstar

Aerostar S57A
N91362 AX-8
(90,000 cu. ft.)
180 hours total
time (needs
annual).
Excellent
condition!



Wells Cargo trailer. 2 inflation fans.
Inflation tank. Lots of extras.



On October 6, 1976, with no fanfare and little media attendance, Ed Yost departed Milbridge, Maine to attempt a crossing of the Atlantic Ocean in a helium balloon named Silver Fox that he designed and built. On October 10, after a flight of 107 hours and 37 minutes, covering a distance of 2,740 miles, the balloon touched down in the Atlantic 200 miles east of the Azores and only 700 miles from the coast of Portugal. In that flight Yost set distance and duration records that still stand. In 1978 Ben Abruzzo, Maxie Anderson, and Larry Newman made the first complete crossing of the Atlantic in a balloon designed, built, and launched by Ed Yost.

In 1979, Dr. Thomas Heinsheimer almost single-handedly revived the first and greatest of balloon races, the Gordon Bennett Balloon Race. When the first postwar contest was held in Long Beach, California on May 26, 1979, three of the 18 gas balloons were designed by Ed Yost and built by his newly-formed gas balloon manufacturing company, Skypower. By

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1985 Skypower had built and sold 16 balloons, in the American-driven re-birth of gas balloon competition.

Ed Yost holds 21 patents on balloons and lighter-than-air mechanisms, and has received many awards from organizations such as the Balloon Federation of America, The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, the Wingfoot Lighter-Than-Air Society, the National Aeronautic Association and the Aero Club of New England.

This biographical statement prepared for the National Balloon Museum by Christine Kalakuka

Don Kersten

1925 – 1998

Don was born and raised in Fort Dodge, Iowa, the son of E. M. and Anne Kersten. He was married to Merope Mitchell who preceded him in death in 1984. They had four children: Anne Kersten, Steve Kersten, Mary Kersten Crandall and Margie Kersten Green. Don married Bonnie Wiewel in 1987. He was educated in Fort Dodge, Iowa grades 1-12, had a BA degree from the University of Notre Dame and a Law degree from Drake University.

Don Kersten was one of the originals in the sport of ballooning in the early days of the modern hot air balloon invented by Ed Yost in 1960. His name is found right alongside those of Yost, Piccard, Pellegrino, Sonnichsen, Barnes and others. It was in 1965 when Kersten, already a near 20-year aviation veteran who had flown fixed wing, gliders and done some parachuting as well as sky-diving, first discovered ballooning. "I'd never seen one (balloon) but I read about this fellow [Don] Piccard who had built one. I called him up and I said, 'OK, I'll buy it if you come to town and teach me to fly and get me a license.'" In July of 1965 Piccard went to Fort Dodge, Iowa

"and after the third flight he got out and said 'OK-you've got a commercial license. In

September of 1965 Kersten competed in the U. S. National Championship in Reno, Nevada where he took third place. In the late 1960's Kersten was one of about a dozen active hot air balloonists in the U.S.

As a founding father of the Balloon Federation of America, Don served first as vice president and then as the second president of the organization from 1967 to 1971. The BFA had been organized as a gas balloon federation but Don Kersten, Ed Yost and Peter Pellegrino proposed to the National Aeronautic Association a new constitution which changed the BFA into a hot air ballooning federation. BFA prospered under his leadership and attracted membership totaling 127 by the end of his first term as President, an increase of 747% in four years. He served on the board of directors of the BFA and again served as president 1975 to 1977. In that capacity he was one of the key leaders for establishing the National Balloon Museum in Indianola, Iowa.

Don entered his majestic balloon, "Merope" in the official National Championships, held in Reno in 1965 and 1966. It was largely through the efforts of Don, together with Ed Yost and community leaders in Indianola, Iowa that another U. S. National Championship was organized in 1970. Seventeen balloons were assembled under the sponsorship of the Iowa State Fair to choose the fifth National Champion. The preliminaries were held at Indianola and the final event was at the Iowa State Fair Grounds in Des Moines. This gathering not only proved to be a financial success, but exposed aeronauts to the idyllic community of Indianola, Iowa, which beginning in 1971, became the home of the U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championships for 18 years.

Don's organizational and diplomatic talents extended further, into the realization of the

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First World Championship Balloon Races, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In 1971, he secured approval from the C.I.A. for United States sponsorship of the event and helped solicit adequate financial sponsorship to produce the First World Championship for Hot-Air Balloons in February of 1973. He also served as an International Judge at the 1975 World Championships in Albuquerque and as Chairman of the International Jury for the World Championships in York. As further service to the advancement of ballooning, Don represented the U.S. on the World Ballooning Committee (C.I.A.) at Paris in 1970, in Oosterwick, Holland in 1971 and Paris again in 1972, 1976 and 1977.

In addition to flying in every National Championship from 1965 through 1977, Don participated in meets of the St. Paul, Minnesota Winter Carnival, the Columbus, Ohio International Races and Albuquerque Fiestas. He participated with some notoriety in all years of the Indianapolis Speedway Balloon Race, placing first in 1968. He traveled extensively to attend various non-competitive rallies, including California's inimitable WHAMOBASS balloon rally. Don founded the All Iowa Rally, held for several years in the mid to late 1970's in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Don's aviation accomplishments extended beyond hot-air ballooning, having served in the U.S. Air Force from 1948 to 1952. He held F.A.A. private certificates in single and multi-engine land and gliders, plus an unlimited commercial license for free balloons. He was an experienced, certificated skydiver and member of the Quiet Birdmen. He had flown in gas balloons as the U.S. representative in the Sint Niklaas, Belgium Balloon Race (1970); in Tilburg, Holland Gas Balloon Event (1971); during the Swiss High Alpine Balloon Week (1972) and in Arhem, Holland (1976).

Apart from his ballooning exploits, Don was the senior member of Kersten, Opheim, Carlson & Estes, a prominent law firm from

Fort Dodge, Iowa. His legal experience and volunteer time supported the BFA through past litigation and he personally contributed opinions and advice relevant to important Federal and State statutes affecting balloon operations. In consideration of his central role in the reorganization of the BFA and over 11 years service to ballooning at large, the Balloon Federation of America proudly nominated Don N. Kersten for the 1977 Montgolfier Diploma in the category of Service and Contribution to the Development of Sport Ballooning.

In 1966 he accidentally knocked over an outhouse with his balloon at the Indianapolis 500. It was occupied by 2 women at the time. Due to injuries suffered by the women he was sued. The event earned him wide notoriety and started a special "Don's Outhouse" event at the Nationals which has been continued in the National Balloon Classic as the "Don Kersten Memorial Outhouse Race".

In 1983 Don flew in Annonay, France during the bicentennial anniversary celebration of man's first flight which took place in 1783.

Don was a member of the Explorers Club, in existence since 1903. He was induced into it in New York City at the Waldorf Astoria in March of 1992. Members of this group have traversed the earth, the seas, the skies, and even the moon. Its membership includes such notables as the famed Paleoanthropologist Leakey family, Arctic Explorer, Robert Peary, Sir Edmund Hillary, Jacques Piccard, and astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins.

Don was widely known for his active participation and support of the sport of ballooning 1965-1998. Don remained a sport pilot all those years, but never ventured into a commercial ballooning enterprise. Indeed he was quite proud of the fact that he "never charged anybody a nickel" for a balloon ride.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2011

May

28-30 KLAQ Balloon Fest 2011 El Paso, TX(& NM) Joni - KLAQ
jsuperville@regentcomm.com
sheri@ravemarketing.com

June

17-19 Prescott Valley Days Prescott Valley, AZ Kim Rosenlof
Balloon Rally kim@aeroink.com
24-26 Panguitch Valley Balloon Panguitch, UT bryan@pageelectric.org
Rally

July

29-31 Cody's Wild West Balloon Fest Cody, WY Jack or Pink Way
307.527.7424 (H) 307.899.7000 (C)
jack.way@bresnan.net

29-31 Citrus Classic Santa Clara, CA <http://www.citrusclassicballoons.com>
Balloon Festival Steve & Cindy Wilkinson
760-568-0997
Email: hotballoo@aol.com

Septemeber

17-18 White Sands Invitational Alamagordo, N.M. David Chegren
dchel@beyondbb.com.

October

1-9 ABQ. International Fiesta Albuquerque, N.M. <http://www.balloonfiesta.com/>
Kathie Leyendecker
(888) 422-7277
balloons@balloonfiesta.com

Ballooning Turns 50

The original hot air balloon flew more than 200 years ago, but the sport is just now reaching middle age.

by Glen Moyer

It is Saturday morning, October 22, 1960 in Bruning, Nebraska. The air is crisp and clear, temperature 44° F. There is a slight breeze

blowing from the west. It is one of those bright, sunny days that heralds the changing of the seasons from summer to fall.

At a nearby abandoned WWII bomber training base a team of seven men prepare to make history. Five of them, Ed Yost, Jim Winker, Gino Mancuso, Bobby Owen and Darrel Rupp are from little-known Raven Industries of Sioux Falls, SD. The last two are observers from the U.S. Office of Naval Research (ONR). The object of their attention

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Saguaro Aerostat Association Information

**Crew Appreciation Rally to be held on
Saturday, May 7, 2011**

**Pilot briefing will be at 5:00 a.m.
Lots of crew prizes, fun, laughter and friendship**

MUST have RSVP's because this rally is being catered, this means if you are coming you need to email us back with how many in your group will be attending. Please respond to tucsonballoonclub25@gmail.com. Please do not respond back to the email address this was sent from as it is no longer in existence for the Tucson Balloon Club and you will not be counted as an RSVP.

Location still to be determined. This will be held in Tucson. We will do a follow up email with location once the location has been decided.

is the world's first modern hot air balloon.

Constructed of nylon with a Mylar film laminated to the interior, the balloon—the Mark I—is 40 feet in diameter containing 30,000 cubic feet of air. Liquid propane is the fuel of choice because of its capability to deliver itself to the burner overhead via its own pressure. To fire the burner the pilot has only a needle valve, requiring 22 turns to fully open or close. There is no basket. Instead the pilot will sit on a canvas covered wood frame bosun's seat connected to the balloon's mouth (a 28" bicycle wheel rim used as a load ring) by four lengths of 1/8 inch aircraft cable.

The inflation is proceeding slowly, much more slowly than expected. A Herman Nelson aircraft engine heater is blowing warm air into the balloon. The plan called for two heaters to be used, but one unit has failed. Looking like a box four feet high, two feet wide, five feet long and open at both ends, inside the heater a gasoline engine drives a fan which blows air past a burner housing. The resultant warm air was originally used to help start cold aircraft engines, but has been adapted for this project

using a cylindrical duct to channel air into the balloon.

Jim Winker, former Vice-President of Raven Industries' Applied Technology Division, remembers the air filled with anticipation. "When you do something like this for the first time," he says, "there's a whole lot of anticipation, anxiousness and if anything at all goes wrong, frustration. There was all of that."

Finally, according to Yost, after 30 minutes "of feverish activity," the balloon was filled with warm air. Then the burner was lit, and the fuel valve was laboriously turned twenty-two complete revolutions to full open. The air inside the envelope became still warmer, but the balloon would not take off. So they walked the system downwind, with Ed Yost strapped to the seat. Before they had gone 50 feet, the balloon and its pilot became airborne.

Although the first hot air balloon had been invented and flown November 21, 1783, this brief flight on October 22, 1960 (it lasted just 25 minutes and covered 3 miles) is considered the birth of the modern era of hot air ballooning.

*The FAA updated the **Balloon Flying Handbook** in 2008. Small excerpts are included monthly. We are continuing with Chapter 4 on Weather.*

predominate over continental areas in the summer. General airflow in a low pressure
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Pressure Systems

The differences that occur with heating and cooling the atmosphere in the lowest levels also cause density variations. These variations cause small horizontal pressure differences that are only about one ten-thousandth of the magnitude of the normal change of pressure with altitude, but they significantly impact atmospheric circulation and most weather phenomena.

A low or cyclone is a pressure system in which the barometric pressure decreases towards the center and the wind flow around the system is counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere. Unfavorable flying conditions in the form of low clouds, restricted visibility by precipitation and fog, strong and gusty winds, and turbulence are common in low pressure systems. Thermal low pressure systems caused by intense surface heating and resulting low air density over barren continental areas are relatively dry with few clouds and practically no precipitation. Thermal lows are stationary and

Requests for Balloons

(Sent to Commander, Michael England)

Hello,

We, at Foothills Elementary School, are working to organize a "Careers on Wheels" experience for our Kindergarten -Sixth Grade students. The hope is that students could rotate through outside exhibits to see various occupations involving transportation, hear of training/education requirements, and view transportation vehicles (ie hot air balloon)

This event is planned from 8:30-10:30am on Friday, May 6th. Would you have time in your schedule to join us for this event? Or could you advise me of who to contact that may be able to join us?

Thanks for considering. I look forward to hearing from you !

Denise Pryde
Foothills Intervention
623.412.4641

Hi,

My name is Jean Sullivan and I'm a high school teacher at Verrado High School in Buckeye, AZ. My # is 480 213-1925. We were inquiring if you gave presentations for students on how a hot air balloon works. My students are making their own balloons and we thought it would be cool if you folks could come out to share what you do! Thank you for your time!

Jean Spratt-Sullivan
Verrado High School
Art Club Sponsor
AP Art Instructor
jspratt-sullivan@AguaFria.Org

system, since the atmosphere is attempting to achieve equilibrium, is in (towards the center of the low pressure system), and up. This tendency can affect the overall dynamic of the low pressure system.

A high is a pressure system in which the barometric pressure increases toward the center and the wind flow around the system is clockwise in the Northern Hemisphere. Flying conditions are generally more favorable in highs than in lows because of fewer clouds, light or calm winds, and less concentrated turbulent areas. But, in some situations, visibility may be reduced due to early morning fog, smog, or haze at flight levels. High pressure systems predominate over cold surface areas where the air is dense. General airflow in a high pressure system, in reverse of the low pressure dynamic, is out (away from the center of the pressure system) and down. Again, these airflow tendencies can affect the dynamic of the high pressure system, much like the low.

In the Northern Hemisphere, a general cycle of highs and lows moves through the temperate zones from west to east. The movement of the pressure systems is more rapid in the winter season when the low pressure systems are most intense and the high pressure systems extend farthest to the south.

A trough is an elongated area of low pressure, with the lowest pressure along the trough line. The weather in a trough is commonly violent. Also, troughs can be slow moving.

A ridge is an elongated area of high pressure with the highest pressure along the ridge line. The weather in a ridge is generally favorable for flying.

FRONTS

Fronts are the boundaries between two air masses and are classified as to which type of air mass (cold or warm) is replacing the other. For

SUNRISE / SUNSET

May 2011 for Phoenix

Sat. May 7th	5:35 AM / 7:15 PM
Sat. May 14th	5:29 AM / 7:20 PM
Sat. May 21st	5:25 AM / 7:25 PM
Sat. May 28th	5:21 AM / 7:30 PM

Mountain Standard Time

[http://www.sunrisesunset.com/
calendar.asp](http://www.sunrisesunset.com/calendar.asp)

example, a cold front demarcates the leading edge of a cold air mass displacing a warmer air mass. A warm front is the leading edge of a warmer air mass replacing a colder air mass. Fronts are also transition zones (boundaries) between air masses that have different densities. The density of air is controlled primarily by the temperature of the air. Therefore, fronts in temperate zones usually form between tropical and polar air masses, but they may also form between arctic and polar air masses. A typical surface weather map shows air mass boundary zones at ground level. Designs on the boundary lines indicate the type of front and its direction of movement. On weather maps in local weather stations, fronts may also be indicated by colored lines. A working knowledge of fronts and their accompanying weather hazards is important to pilots.

Types of Fronts

The four major frontal types are:

- Cold,
- Warm,
- Stationary, and
- Occluded.

A front type is determined from the movement of the air masses involved.

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Cold Front.

A cold front is the leading edge of an advancing mass of cold air. A cold front occurs when a mass of cold, dense, and stable air advances and replaces a body of warmer air. Cold fronts move more rapidly than warm fronts, generally progressing at a rate of 25 to 30 miles per hour (mph). However, extreme cold fronts have been recorded moving at speeds of up to 60 mph. A typical cold front moves in a manner opposite that of a warm front. Because it is so dense, it stays close to the ground and acts like a snowplow, sliding under the warmer air and forcing less dense air aloft. The rapidly ascending air causes the temperature to decrease suddenly, forcing the creation of clouds. The type of clouds that form depends on the stability of the warmer air mass. A cold front in the Northern Hemisphere is normally oriented in a northeast to southwest manner and can extend for several hundred miles, encompassing a large area of land. Prior to the passage of a typical cold front, cirriform or towering cumulus clouds are present, and cumulonimbus clouds are possible. Rain showers and haze are possible due to the rapid development of clouds. The south-southwest helps to replace the warm temperatures with the relative colder air. A high dew point and falling barometer pressure are indicative of imminent cold front passage.

As the cold front passes, towering cumulus or cumulonimbus clouds continue to dominate the sky. Depending on the intensity of the cold front, heavy rain showers form and might be accompanied by lightning, thunder, and/or hail. More severe cold fronts can also produce tornadoes. During cold front passage, the visibility is poor, with winds variable and gusty, and the temperature and dew point drop rapidly. A quickly falling barometric pressure bottoms out during frontal passage, then begins a gradual increase. After frontal passage, the towering cumulus and cumulonimbus clouds begin to dissipate to cumulus clouds, with a corresponding decrease in precipitation. Good visibility eventually prevails with the winds from

the west-northwest. Temperatures remain cooler and the barometric pressure continues to rise.

Fast-Moving Cold Front.

Fast-moving cold fronts are pushed by intense pressure systems far behind the actual front. The friction between the ground and the cold front retards the movement of the front and creates a steeper frontal surface. This results in a very narrow band of weather concentrated along the leading edge of the front. If the warm air being overtaken by the cold front is relatively stable, overcast skies and rain may occur for some distance ahead of the front. If the warm air is unstable, scattered thunderstorms and rain showers may form. A continuous line of thunderstorms, or squall line, may form along or ahead of the front. Squall lines present a serious hazard to pilots as squall type thunderstorms are intense and move quickly. Behind a fast-moving cold front, the skies usually clear rapidly and the front leaves behind gusty, turbulent winds and colder temperatures.

Elections are coming up!

Candidates will be announced at the May meeting, but it's not too late to sign up. If you would like to run for an office or for the Board, please contact Mike England or Sue Farley.

The Board is a good place to start if you haven't held office before. If you have, we do need other candidates, too. It is highly preferable to have more than one candidate run for each office. Being a club officer does take some time, but you will gain a better idea of how the club functions and the issues we face.

New candidates with fresh ideas and experienced members with historical knowledge all have something to contribute.

Please give it serious consideration.-Editor

First Annual Cinco de Mayo Balloon Festival

Photos by Alan Hilty

From April 29 to May 1, the Cochise County Fairgrounds in Douglas, AZ., hosted what they hope to be the first of an annual balloon festival. They started out small, with just five balloons. But since they didn't really know what to expect, this was OK.

The organizers not only provided rooms for pilots, but additional rooms at the historic Gadsden Hotel for crew.



Pancho Villa rode his horse up the steps in the Gadsden.



All five of the balloons in Douglas

Ron Aros, flying "Concho," also served as balloonmeister for the event. There was some joking about the colors of the pibals (white is NOT good).

Launching on Saturday

The weather forecasts were not promising, with high winds forecast for most of the weekend. But local conditions were better than expected, and by



launching right after dawn, pilots were able to safely fly both mornings before winds were forecast to pick up...which they did.

On Saturday morning, the fairgrounds were the launch site, with winds taking the balloons to the north. The glow on Saturday night was limited to "candlesticks" because of the wind, but pilots timed the burns with music of a band playing to the best of their abilities.

Pilots tried to time burns with band music



Sunday morning, the winds were going south..and

with the Mexican border about a mile away, pilot went north, off site, to launch. One balloon stayed and tethered for the onlookers while the others were setting up and flying. Two made it back to land in the fairgrounds, and two landed just to the east. The Remax balloon joined in tethering after landing back on the field.



Tethering on Sunday

Thanks to Ron Aros, Balloonmeister, and to Carlos Valenzuela (Public Relations) and Karen Strongin (Cochise County

Fairgrounds) of Douglas for organizing the event.



CHEF FRANK-O'S RECIPES

Cinco de Mayo is this week, and next Saturday is Kentucky Derby Day, Sunday is Mother's Day. A few of these recipes might be good for a fiesta or a brunch!

The food...

RASPBERRY FILLED CREPES

Ingredients

Crepes:

- 4 eggs
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into 12 cubes
- 1 cup raspberry jam
- 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

Whipped cream:

- 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 1/2 teaspoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions

Fresh raspberries and vanilla sugar, recipe follows. For the crepes: Preheat the oven to 150 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. In a blender, add the eggs, milk, flour, sugar, and salt. Blend until the mixture forms a smooth batter.

Preheat a 10-inch nonstick crepe pan or skillet over medium-low heat. Add 1 cube of butter to the pan. When the butter has melted, add 1/4 cup of batter and quickly tilt the pan to form an even coating of batter on the bottom of the pan. Cook for 1 minute until set and slightly browned. Using a heat-resistant spatula, carefully loosen the sides and gently flip the crepe over. Cook for 1 minute. Repeat with the remaining butter and batter.

In a small bowl, mix together the jam and vanilla extract. Using a 1-teaspoon measuring spoon, spoon 2 teaspoons of the jam mixture into the center of each crepe. Using the back of the spoon, spread the jam evenly over the crepes leaving a 1/2-inch border. Starting at the nearest edge, roll the crepes into tube shapes. Arrange the crepes on the prepared baking sheet and place in a warm oven, for up to 20 minutes, until ready to serve.

For the whipped cream: In a large mixing bowl, beat the heavy cream until it forms soft peaks. Add the powdered sugar and vanilla. Continue to beat until the cream holds stiff peaks.

Transfer the crepes to a serving platter and sprinkle with vanilla sugar. Serve with whipped cream and fresh raspberries.

Vanilla Sugar:

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 vanilla bean

Add the sugar to the bowl of a food processor. Using a paring knife, slice the vanilla bean in half, lengthwise, and scrape out the seeds. Add the vanilla seeds to the sugar. Pulse 10 to 15 times until the vanilla and sugar are combined. Cut the

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empty vanilla pod into 1-inch pieces and add to a glass mason jar. Add the vanilla sugar to the jar and seal. Shake the jar before using.

Yield: 2 cups

HEART-SHAPED WHOLE-WHEAT PANCAKES WITH STRAWBERRY SAUCE

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup lowfat buttermilk
- 1/2 cup nonfat milk
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- strawberry sauce, recipe follows
- confectioners' sugar, optional

Directions

Pre-heat the oven to 200 degrees F. In a medium bowl, whisk together the dry ingredients (flour through salt). In another medium bowl, beat together the eggs, nonfat milk, buttermilk, honey and vanilla.

Preheat a large nonstick griddle or skillet over a medium-low flame. Stir the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients, mixing only enough to combine them. The batter will be somewhat lumpy. Use a 1/3 cup measuring cup pour the batter onto the griddle or skillet. Flip the pancake when the top is bubbling and it is golden brown on the bottom. Then cook until the other side is golden brown. Hold on an oven proof plate in the oven until the entire batch is ready.

When all the pancakes are ready, cut them into heart shapes with a heart shaped cookie cutter. Ladle about 1/3 cup of the strawberry sauce onto each plate, place pancakes on top and sprinkle with confectioners' sugar, if using.

Strawberry Sauce:

- 16 ounces strawberries, fresh or frozen (unsweetened, thawed)

- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup

Puree strawberries in to a chunky puree. Heat them in a small saucepan over a low flame, until they are just warm. Stir in lemon juice and maple syrup.

Yield: 4 servings, serving size about 1/3 cup

CREAM CHEESE FILLED BISQUITS

Ingredients

- 2 cups biscuit mix (suggested: Bisquick)
- 3 ounces cream cheese
- Milk, to moisten
- Flour

Directions

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

In a mixing bowl, cut cream cheese into biscuit mix until cornmeal consistency. Add enough milk to moisten. Place dough-like mixture onto floured surface and knead 2 or 3 times. Don't knead too much or your biscuits will be tough. Roll dough to desired thickness using a rolling pin and cut out with round cookie cutter. Place biscuits on a greased cookie sheet and bake until golden brown, approximately 15 minutes

STRAWBERRY AND MOZZARELLA SALAD

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 1 heart romaine lettuce, torn or cut into bite-sized pieces (3 cups lightly packed)
- 1 8-ounce container of strawberries, hulled and sliced
- 3 ounces part-skim mozzarella cheese, diced (about 3/4 cup)
- 1/4 cup fresh basil leaves, cut into ribbons

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Directions

In a small bowl whisk together the oil, vinegar salt and pepper. Place the lettuce in a large bowl and toss with half the dressing. Place the lettuce onto 4 salad plates.

Toss the strawberries with the remaining dressing and place 1/4 of the berries on top of each mound of lettuce. Top each with cheese and sprinkle with the basil.

ROASTED CAULIFLOWER

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 tablespoon cumin seeds, coarsely ground in a mortar and pestle
- 1 head cauliflower, cut into florets
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon butter, quartered
- 1/4 cup panko (Japanese bread crumbs)

Directions

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F.

In a bowl, toss the oil, garlic, cumin, cauliflower and toss to incorporate. Adjust the seasonings with salt and black pepper. Transfer the mixture to a baking dish, and dollop the top with little pats of the butter. Sprinkle the panko bread crumbs over the cauliflower. Roast the baking dish in the oven for approximately 20 to 30 minutes, or until the cauliflower is golden brown, and tender.

BROILED ZUCCHINI AND POTATOES WITH PARMESAN CRUST

Ingredients

- 4 small new potatoes (red or white, about 1 1/2 inches in diameter)
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme leaves
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh rosemary leaves
- 2 small zucchini, cut in 1/2 lengthwise (about 1-inch wide by 5 inches long)
- Pinch kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan

Directions

Bring a medium pot of water to a boil over high heat. Add the potatoes and cook until just tender, about 8 to 10 minutes. Drain the potatoes and let cool. When cool, cut the potatoes in half.

Place a medium saute pan over medium heat. Add the butter, garlic, thyme and rosemary and let cook until the butter melts, about 2 minutes. Meanwhile, season the cut sides of the zucchini and potatoes with salt and pepper. Carefully place the zucchini and potatoes cut side down in the melted butter. Let them cook until golden brown, about 12 to 15 minutes.

Preheat the broiler. Line a baking sheet with foil. Place the browned zucchini and potatoes on the baking sheet cut side up. Sprinkle the tops with the Parmesan. Place in the broiler until the cheese is golden brown, about 4 minutes. Transfer to a plate and serve.

The drinks...

BEESTING

Ingredients

- Dark beer
- Freshly-squeezed orange juice
- Orange slices

Directions

In a glass, add 1/2 beer and 1/2 orange juice. Float the orange slice on top of the drink

CONCUSSION

Ingredients

- 1-ounce lime juice
- 1-ounce agave nectar
- Dash orange bitters
- 2 ounces reposado tequila
- Sparkling wine

Directions

Combine the lime juice, agave nectar, bitters, and tequila in a mixing glass or shaker and shake well. Pour into an old fashioned glass and top with sparkling wine.

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MARGARITA

Ingredients

- 2 ounces 100 percent agave silver/blanco tequila, divided
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 4 limes, divided
- 1/2 small Hamlin or Valencia orange
- 2 tablespoons light agave nectar
- 3/4 cup ice cubes, about 3 to 4

Directions

Pour 1/2-ounce of the tequila into a small saucer. Spread the kosher salt in a separate small saucer. Dip the rim of a martini or other wide rimmed glass into the tequila. Lift out of the tequila and hold upside down for 10 seconds to allow for slight evaporation. Next, dip the glass into the salt to coat the rim. Set aside.

Halve 2 of the limes, cut a thin slice for garnish from 1, and set aside. Juice the halved limes into the bottom of a Boston-style cocktail shaker. Cut the remaining 2 limes and the orange into quarters and add them to the juice in the shaker. Add the agave nectar to and muddle for 2 minutes until the juices are release. Strain the juice mixture through a cocktail strainer into the top of the shaker and discard the solids.

Return the juice to the bottom of the shaker, add the remaining 1 1/2 ounces of tequila and any remaining on the saucer. Add the ice to the shaker, cover and shake for 30 seconds. Strain the mixture through a cocktail strainer into the prepared glass, garnish with reserved lime slice, and serve immediately.

WHOLE CITRUS MARGARITAS

Ingredients

- 4 navel oranges, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 2 lemons, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 2 limes, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 1/2 cup superfine sugar
- 1/4 cup Cointreau
- 1/4 cup Triple Sec

- 1 1/2 cups good quality tequila (recommended: 100 percent agave)

TO SERVE:

- 10 cups ice
- Fine salt, for the rims of the glasses
- 10 lime wedges

Directions

Put the oranges, lemons, and limes through a juicer. Pour the juice into a large pitcher. Add the sugar and stir to dissolve. Then stir in the Cointreau, Triple Sec, and tequila.

To serve: Pour salt onto a small plate. Run a lime wedge around the top of each glass and dip the glass in the salt. Fill each glass halfway with ice and pour in the juice mixture. Garnish with a lime wedge and serve.

Chef's note: Farm freshness is the key here. Look for the citrus that is mostly in season and adjust the recipe. Tangerines, Meyer lemons, and key limes all have amazing flavor if you can find them.

MINT JULEP MARTINI

Ingredients

- 24 to 32 fresh mint leaves
- 4 tablespoons simple syrup, (equal amounts sugar and water heated until sugar dissolves)
- Crushed ice
- 8 ounces Belvedere Vodka
- 4 sprigs mint, for garnish
- 4 martini glasses, cold

Directions

For one drink: Put 6 to 8 mint leaves, 1 tablespoon simple syrup and crushed ice in the bottom of a tall glass. With the handle of a wooden spoon, crush and mash the leaves to extract the flavor. Add 2 ounces vodka and shake several times. Strain into a chilled martini glasse and garnish with a small mint sprig

**Arizona Balloon Club
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

Commander Mike England called the March 2011 Board Meeting to order at 5:50 pm, at the Deer Valley Airport, 702 W. Deer Valley Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85027-2137.

Members Present: Commander Mike England, Past Commander Sally Heinrich, Keeper of the Fuel Allen Baron, Keeper of the Log Sally Bartsch, Board Members: Frank Karlovec, Tom Connolly, Gene Clewley, and Linda Jorgensen

Board Members Absent: Vice Commander Bob Romaneschi, Gary Bishman

A Quorum was met.

Guest in attendance: Molly Karlovec

After review of the February Board and General Meeting Minutes, minor changes were identified and will be corrected. Sally Heinrich presented a motion to accept both documents as amended. Gene Clewley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Allen Baron, Keeper of the Fuel presented the following report for February 2011:

[REDACTED]

A motion to accept the report was made by Mike England. Sally Heinrich seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Old Business

Committee Reports:

Memberships: Judy Holt reported later that there are approximately 100 members.

Picnics & Parties:

Crew Appreciation: April 23, 2011 is Crew Appreciation Day and Sally Heinrich will contact Bob Romaneschi for an information update. Updated information will appear in the next Newsletter.

Replacement of Keeper of Fuel: Allen made a motion to accept the appointment of Philip Heinrich to the position until elections. The motion was seconded by Mike England and the motion passed.

Baseball Event: Discussion regarding this annual event occurred resulting with a motion by Linda Jorgensen and seconded by Frank Karlovec to purchase 30 tickets for \$20 each for the Saturday, August 13, 2011 game scheduled for 5:10 pm, with the club subsidizing \$5 per ticket if all 30 tickets are sold. Molly Karlovec will make the arrangements for this event.

Projector: No further information.

BFA Conference: Both the Commander and Vice Commander continue to plan to attend.

The General Meeting Presentation scheduled for tonight will be presented at the April meeting.

New Business:

Meeting location(s): Linda Jorgensen reported that the Church location is available but higher compensation is expected. Alcohol would not be allowed. Other ideas such as Mimi's, Crescent Inn, Marie Calendars and Paradise Valley Mall, Coco's were discussed as possible alternate locations. These locations serve alcohol, have meeting rooms, may not

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require fees and are in good locations. Molly Karlovec, Linda Jorgensen and Sally Bartsch were appointed to explore these and other possible locations and report for the next meeting.

Nominating Committee: Linda Jorgensen volunteered to assist and Mike England will contact previous volunteers to take on this responsibility.

Name Tags: Molly Karlovec will check with H J Trophies for cost of new tags for new members and members who would like their tags replaced due to loss or other reasons.

Annual Report to State of Arizona: Allen requested that a required affidavit form be completed by each of the Board Members for the State's annual report.

Gene Clewley made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting and Sally Bartsch seconded the motion at 6:45 pm. A unanimous vote officially adjourned the meeting.

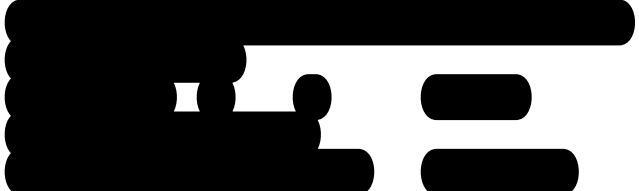
Respectfully submitted,

Sally Bartsch,
Keeper of the Log

**Arizona Balloon Club
General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

The General Meeting was called to order by Commander Mike England at 7:05 pm. The meeting location was at Deer Valley Airport, 702 W. Deer Valley Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85027-2137. There were 23 members and 2 guests present.

Allen Baron, Keeper of the Fuel presented the following report for February 2011:



Committee Reports:

Memberships: Judy Holt stated there are approximately 100 members.

Picnics & Parties:

Crew Appreciation: The Commander announced again that Crew Appreciation Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2011 and reminded members to RSVP. Details will appear in the Newsletter.

Baseball Event: Molly Karlovec announced the Diamondback baseball game event is scheduled for August 13, 2011, explaining that more information will be in the next Newsletter.

Nomination Committee: Mike England announced that Linda Jorgensen is on the Nominating Committee and requested volunteers. He will be recruiting last year's committee members to assist.

Appointment of Keeper of the Fuel: The Commander announced the appointment, with the Boards approval, of Philip Heinrich. Mike England thanked Allen Barron for his many years of service and wished his wife and him a successful move to California.

Meeting Locations: The Commander announced that Molly Karlovec, Linda Jorgensen and Sally Bartsch will explore meeting locations and report at the next meeting. He encouraged any suggestions to be given to the committee. The next meeting will be at the Deer Valley Airport location.

New Student Pilot Soloed: Sally Heinrich announced that Phillip Hilty soloed this month.

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BFA Conference: Articles and information will appear in the Newsletter benefiting all members due to the Commander and Vice Commander's attendance at the Conference in April.

The Club's speaker, Bob Romaneschi, was unable to attend as he is in Seattle. Long time member Stanley Debber was honored for his birthday as part of the evening's events.

Ticket sales were reported by Linda Jorgensen in the amount of \$85.00. The meeting adjourned at the end of the raffle at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Bartsch,
Keeper of the Log

FUEL REPORT

March 15, 2011

	●	
	●	

These are summaries of the treasury report. A detailed itemization of this or any past approved "Fuel Report" is available by request.

BFA

EAA AirVenture is looking for BFA member participants in the Oshkosh air show July 25-31, 2011. <http://www.airventure.org/>

The schedule of balloon activity is: Monday through Friday tether operations at the ultralight area from 6:00 to 7:00 AM and from 5:00 to 7:00 PM each day. Saturday morning at 6:00 AM a free flight out of the ultralight runway. Monday through Saturday - manning of the BFA display tent in the ultralight area from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Each balloon will receive up to four day passes to the event for the days they participate. EAA will provide propane for tethers and free flight. There are no accommodations, meals, or any other perks provided. There is a very comfortable campground on site at reasonable rates.

The tether site will only accommodate 3 balloons at a time and we would like to have a mix of experimental and normal category balloons at each session. If you are interested send an email to Bill Hughes, bhughes@bfa.net, outlining what you would like to commit to for the event.

The Balloon Event Guidelines v2.3 is now available for download at the BFA web site. The current version includes all edits as a result of comments received before and during the recent BFA Convention in Des Moines. All changes since v2.1 are highlighted in yellow to make the review more convenient.

This version will be available for comment until May 9, 2011. At the close of the comment period a final version will be submitted to the BFA Board for approval. Please submit your comments with any specific recommendations to Committee Chairman, Maury Sullivan, at tequilatom@aol.com.

LINKS!

The Lake Havasu balloon event raised a lot of smiles and \$60,000 dollars that went to 16 community organizations:
<http://www.havasunews.com/articles/2011/04/08/news/doc4d9e7cfd3b28f241288898.txt>

Balloon pilots attempt to break world record for Channel crossing

Balloon pilot Andrew Holly joined an attempt to break into the Guinness Book of World Records for the most balloons crossing the English Channel at one time. About 50 balloons traveled across the Channel, eventually landing in a village in France. "We've taken balloons to Buckingham Palace, underneath Tower Bridge and over the Alps, but this really is going to be right up there with the very best I'll ever remember," said Holly. [BBC](#) (4/7)

Sun 'n Fun launches 20 hot-air balloons at Fly-In

Twenty hot-air balloons participated in the Sun 'n Fun Fly-In on Saturday. "There were thousands of people here to enjoy it early in the morning, and they came out because they love to see this beautiful sight," said Pat Hill, chairman of balloon activities at the Fly-In. "There's something magical about that." [The Ledger \(Lakeland, Fla.\)](#) (4/2)

Australian hot-air balloon pilot holds champion title

Australian hot-air balloon pilot Peter Dutneall is modest about holding the title of Victoria's hot-air ballooning champion. "It's a title I have, but it's not necessarily a big

deal," he said. "There are about 10 active private balloonists in Victoria." Dutneall, 52, has been flying hot-air balloons since 1990. [The Weekly Times \(Australia\)](#) (4/1)

Kentucky balloon festival relocates to GA airport

The Great BalloonFest in Louisville, Ky., is relocating to Bowman Field, the city's general aviation airport. The Derby Festival's hot-air balloon festival had spent 37 years at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds, but Bowman Field offers additional parking and room for expansion. "This allows us to continue to grow as our world continues to move forward," said James Hillebrand, the Derby Festival chairman. [WAVE-TV \(Louisville, Ky.\)](#) (3/30)

Commonsense changes could improve aviation regs

Streamlining the federal aviation regulations and striking unnecessary requirements could save pilots and aircraft owners time, money and headaches. AOPA submitted a list of recommended improvements to the Department of Transportation (DOT) April 1 as part of a government-wide regulatory review. [AOPA Online](#).

Industry, FAA seek fix for knowledge tests

The FAA, responding to an outpouring of criticism from AOPA and others for unannounced changes to the knowledge testing system, has promised better coordination with the flight training industry on future reforms. [AOPA Online](#).

**Temecula balloonists try to smooth
rifts with land owners**

[http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/
PE_News_Local_D_balloons20.12e2196.html](http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/PE_News_Local_D_balloons20.12e2196.html)

**9-year-old pilot to fly
ultra-light hot air balloon**

Bobby Bradley, 9, plans to become the youngest solo pilot to fly an ultra-light hot air balloon. "He's grown up around it so he understands the dangers that are involved," said his father, balloonist Troy Bradley of Albuquerque, N.M. The Bradley family, with help from other balloonists, built a custom balloon with a light-weight gondola for Bobby. [Google/The Associated Press](#) (4/17)

**Arizona airport attracts 4,500 to
Airport Dayz**

Airport Dayz at Chandler Municipal Airport in Chandler, Ariz., attracted about 4,500 visitors over the weekend. "It was probably one of the biggest turnouts we've had for this," said John Walkup of Chandler Air Service. "We had a lot of new people come out who hadn't been to the airport before."

Chandler Air Service partnered with the Airport Alliance to host the event at the general aviation airport on Saturday and Sunday. [The Arizona Republic \(Phoenix\)](#) (4/18)

FAA reducing re-registration backlog

With the FAA's mandatory aircraft re-registration program now under way, AOPA is urging owners to check their registration status and avoid becoming grounded due to processing delays or failure to comply with the rule. [AOPA Online](#).

Member Update

New members:

Bill & Susan Armstrong

Joe Guzman
joe.guzman@live.com

Kyle Hartman

Contact Judy Holt for an updated roster.

Kudos to JUDY! Membership now at 125!

Disclaimer

The DESERT BREEZES is published by the Gila & Salt River Base & Meridian Hot Air Balloon & Airship Ascension Social Society, Inc..., (the Arizona Balloon Club - "ABC"). Opinions expressed are solely those of the authors, and do not necessarily express the official views of the "ABC," it's editors, officers, or board members. With proper credit to the author or source, the editors of the Desert Breezes authorize the reprinting of any original work in this newsletter. All correspondence should be directed to Sally Heinrich [REDACTED]

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Club Officers & Board of Directors

Commander:	Michael England	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Vice-Commander:	Bob Romaneschi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Keeper of the Log:	Sally Bartsch	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Keeper of the Fuel:	Allen Baron	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Immediate Past-Commander:	Sally Heinrich	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Board Members:			
Gary Bishman	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Tom Connolly	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Gene Clewley	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Linda Jorgensen	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Frank Karlovec	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Appointed Positions & Committee Chairpersons

Awards & Trophies	Dorothy Harrison	[REDACTED]
Community Relations Director	Michael England	[REDACTED]
Competition Director	Vacant	
Government Liaison Director	Philip Heinrich	[REDACTED]
Historian	Molly Karlovec	[REDACTED]
Membership	Judy Holt	[REDACTED]
Newsletter Editor	Sally Heinrich	[REDACTED]
Picnics & Parties	Frank Karlovec	[REDACTED]
Raffle Chairperson	Linda Jorgensen & Molly Karlovec	[REDACTED]
Safety Director	Fred Gorrell	[REDACTED]
Webmaster	Bill Heck	[REDACTED]

Arizona Balloon Club Website:

www.arizonaballoonclub.org

Newsletter Advertising Rates:

Appropriate fees required with camera ready art or electronic files.
1/8 page (business card size): \$7.50
1/4 page: \$12.50
1/2 page: \$20.00
Full page: \$30.00
Inserts (submitted): \$40.00

Memberships:

New Individual: \$30; Family: \$35
Renewal Individual: \$30; Family \$35

Classified ads are FREE to members! Renew or update quarterly. Aerostat systems for sale require N# and total time in ad. Non-members rate: \$5 for four lines per month, prepaid.