

DESERT BREEZES



Hot Air Balloons Fly the Salsa Trail Safford, Arizona

For the fourth year in a row the Salsa and Balloon Fest in Safford, Arizona took place on September 23, 24 and 25th. Pilots Sally Bartsch, Gary Bishman, Gene Clewley, Tom Connolly, Tim Kuller and their crews enjoyed the hospitality of the Safford community.



Tim Kuller in front of Safford City Hall

On Friday night all the pilots, crew, and sponsors were treated to a delectable Mexican dinner from the Main Street Café, an organization that trains and supports young adults. Then the annual glow

transpired down Main Street and in front of City Hall. This year's balloons were able to stay aglow for about 2 hours. Hundreds of children climbed into the baskets for a quick snapshot or to request a balloon card for their collection.



continued on page 2 *Morning Glory*

IN THIS ISSUE

Meeting	Pg. 1 & 8
Commander's Column	Pg. 2
Birthdays	Pg. 3
Member Update	Pg. 4
Sunset/Sunrise	Pg. 6
Classifieds	Pg. 10
Recipes	Pg. 24-25
Balloon Events	Pg. 15, 16 & 28, 29
Links	Pg. 20
Minutes	Pg. 24-26
Fuel Report	Pg. 26
Disclaimer	Pg. 26
Membership Fees	Pg. 27
Advertising Fees	Pg. 27
Officers	Pg. 27

Board Meeting

LaFitte's at Embassy Suites Phoenix-North, 2577 West Greenway Rd
Tuesday, November 15th, at 5:45 PM

General Meeting: Planning Dawn Patrol Flights by Bill Armstrong
Tuesday, November 15th, at 7:00 PM

LaFitte's at Embassy Suites Phoenix-North, 2577 West Greenway Rd

The next morning the balloons were scheduled to take off from the Fairgrounds, 4 miles south of the previous years' launch site, in an attempt this year to create longer flights. While most balloons on Saturday traveled quickly, Tom Connolly showed all of us how to have a soft and gentle landing in Thatcher, Arizona.

One of the Bartsch's passengers **Arizona Governor Pro Tem, Ken Bennett**, who was a guest of the Salsa Fest, was not at all afraid to roll up his sleeves and participate in hot air ballooning. His involvement allowed several pilots the opportunity to discuss the current issues that face hot air ballooning in Maricopa County.

*Arizona
Governor
Pro Tem and
Secretary of
State, Ken
Bennett,
Pilot S.
Bartsch &
Rob Price*



That evening the pilots, crew, the "Sisters of the Fly" and sponsors were treated to a wonderful cowboy steak dinner at Discovery Point Park Barn followed by a star gazing night at the observatory. The Mayor of Safford was on hand to give the pilots and crew a warm welcoming to the city.

Sunday began with another flight. While Gene Clewley was tethering at the hotels the balloons flew over the city of Safford, Arizona. As Tom Connolly's flew over the city his passenger did say "yes" to her surprise marriage proposal. It appears that the Connollys will be attending a wedding next year. More excellent food followed the flights at the wonderful Salsa Trail's, Manor House restaurant. Sincere thanks goes to Bill Brandau and the Salsa Fest balloon sponsors who all together made this an exciting successful event.

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Thanks so much to Ken Tocker ,Molly Jurhill Karlovec, Philip and Sally Heinrich for making our Octoberfest so great.

Thanks too to Bill Armstrong for his presentation about Fiesta and White Sands. And to Judy Holt for pictures and Fiesta merchandise for our Raffle. Great raffle by Alan Hilty.

At our board meeting we voted on a recipient to a safety recognition award to be presented at the Arizona Aviation Safety Group. They invited us on short notice to include the balloon community in their program. We nominated Pell Wadleigh for his quick thinking in the face of disaster in Cottonwood last fall. We'll be presenting that award to Pell at the group's banquet on Nov. 5.

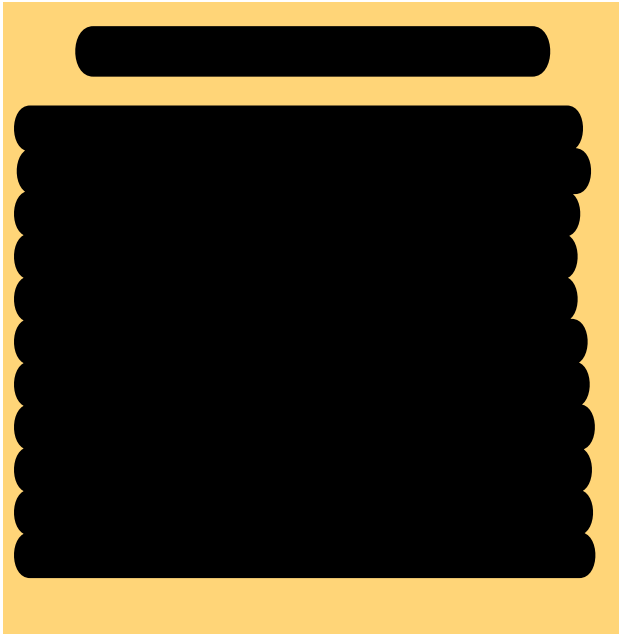
We're looking forward to hearing from Bill Armstrong again at November meeting regarding flying dawn patrol.

Don't forget your dues are up as of October 1.

Congratulations to all Fiesta pilots for a very safe year, even though it was wet.

I went to the balloon glow at Salt River Fields, great crowds and glow. Scottsdale will have a smaller on Nov. 5th. Most will be in Page, so be safe there and in Yuma

**Mike England,
Commander**



FIESTA

*By Stan Debber
Photos by Max Debber*

It was called "The Greatest Show Off Earth."
The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta (AIBF) celebrated its 40th year.

The founder of the event passed away in May 2001 at the young age of 77. He was Mr. Balloon, Sid Cutter. A series of events were planned to honor Sid. One, in his memory, was dropping a marker onto a boat, as at one time, Sid landed his balloon on an island and needed a boat to bring him back to the main land.

*The
"Target"
boat.*



On the first day of the ballooning there was a flyover by Beechcraft Bonanzas, doing the missing man formation. Sid did a lot for the sport of balloon flying. He founded and started the balloon club, Albuquerque Aerostat Ascension Association (Quad A). Quad A's highest award is named in honor of Sid Cutter.

A few of Sid's accomplishments and awards are:

- Founder of the AIBF; \
- organizing the first and second World Hot Air Ballooning Championships;
- FAA designated examiner;
- U. S. Hot Air Balloon Champion in 1978 and 1986;
- 2nd place in the world Hot Air Balloon championship in 1979;
- Diplome Montgolfier, ballooning's highest award.

Sid is honored in the following - Hall Of Fame: Federation Aeronautique Internationale (World Air sports Federation); Albuquerque Sports Hall of Fame; BFA Hall of Fame; AIBF Hall of Fame. Sid will be greatly missed in the world of hot air ballooning.



*Joelly Bee, Spiderpig and
George Brazil Thermal Airship in flight.*



Member Update

[REDACTED]

More ABQ Photos from Judy Holt

The Zebras were returning after scoring the day's competition.



Members Molly Jurhill Karlovec, Stan Debber, Sally Heinrich, Judy Holt, and Hubert Van Tuijl - Hubert traveled the farthest!

Andy Baird scoring in competition.



ABC member Ted Hunsaker in competition.



Mass Ascension.

<George Hahn's solution for old balloon baskets

continued on page 5



*ABC members
Dave and
Kathey Reineke
(above, from
Illinois) were
there with their
special shape,
Bud E. Beaver*



*One
of the Dawn Patrol pilots is Bill Armstrong, who
will speak about planning dawn patrol flights at
the November meeting*

The FAA updated the Balloon Flying Handbook in 2008. Since the FAA published a handbook on how to fly a balloon, we cover part monthly. Continuing with Chapter 4 on Weather.

Temperature/Dewpoint Relationship

The relationship between dew point and temperature defines the concept of relative humidity. The dew point, given in degrees, is the temperature at which the air can hold no more moisture. When the temperature of the air is reduced to the dew point, the air is completely saturated and moisture begins to condense out of the air in the form of fog, dew, clouds, rain, hail, or snow.

As moist, unstable air rises, clouds often form at the altitude where the temperature and dew point reach the same value. When lifted, unsaturated air cools at a rate of 5.4 degrees Fahrenheit per 1,000 feet and the dew point temperature decreases at a rate of 1 degree Fahrenheit per 1,000 feet. This results in a convergence of temperature and dew point at a rate of 4.4 degrees Fahrenheit. A pilot can determine the height of the cloud base by applying the convergence rate to the reported temperature and dew point in the following manner:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Temperature (T)} &= 85 \text{ degrees Fahrenheit} \\ \text{Dew point (DP)} &= 71 \text{ degrees Fahrenheit} \\ \text{Convergence Rate (CR)} &= 4.4 \text{ degrees} \\ \text{T-DP} &= \text{Temperature Dew Point Spread (TDS)} \\ \text{TDS divided by CR} &= X \\ X \text{ times } 1,000 \text{ feet} &= \text{height of cloud base AGL} \end{aligned}$$

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} 85^\circ \text{ F minus } 71^\circ \text{ F} &= 14^\circ \text{ F} \\ 14^\circ \text{ F divided by } 4.4^\circ \text{ F} &= 3.18 \\ 3.18 \text{ times } 1,000 &= 3,180 \text{ feet AGL} \\ \text{The height of the cloud base is } &3,180 \text{ AGL} \end{aligned}$$

Explanation: With an outside air temperature (OAT) of 85 degrees Fahrenheit at the surface,

continued on page 6

and dew point at the surface of 71 degrees Fahrenheit, the spread is 14 degrees Fahrenheit. Divide the temperature dew point spread by the convergence rate of 4.4 degrees Fahrenheit, and multiply by 1,000 to determine the approximate height of the cloud base.

This relationship is useful in determining the height of the overlying cloud base when completing preflight preparations.

Salt River Fields Balloon Spooktacular

Last year, the weather did not cooperate. This year more than made up for it! The **Salt River Fields Balloon Spooktacular** glow at Talking Stick drew a huge crowd Friday and an even bigger crowd Saturday. Balloon crews passed out a LOT of candy! Many pilots and crew were in costume, in the spirit of Halloween.

Balloons were able to glow for 2 or more hours both nights. Three balloons glowed by the 101 freeway each night to draw attention to the event.

In addition to the regular balloons, there were seven special shapes and three tethered balloons giving rides throughout the evening. Costume contests, live music, parachutists with fireworks glowing behind were part of the festivities. ABC member Peter Kennedy also flew his little “model” hot air balloon.

While having pizza, after the glow, we saw clips of the glow on the evening news.

Many thanks to the sponsor- Sanderson Ford, Lincoln, and Volvo for a great event.

SUNRISE / SUNSET

November 2011 for Phoenix

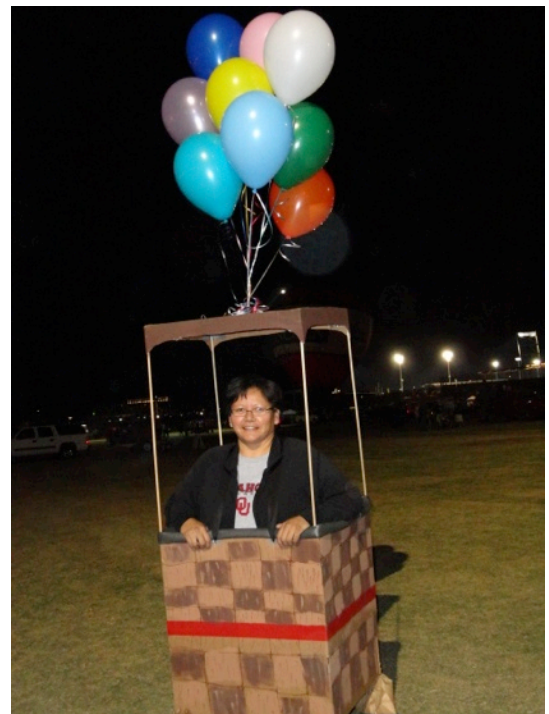
Sat.	Nov. 5th	6:50 AM / 5:34 PM
Sat.	Nov. 12th	6:56 AM / 5:28 PM
Sat.	Nov. 19th	7:02 AM / 5:24 PM
Sat.	Nov. 26th	7:09 AM / 5:22 PM

Mountain Standard Time

<http://www.sunrisesunset.com/calendar.asp>



Judy Holt and crew had Giraffe themed costumes



Balloon themed costume- from the movie “Up”

Chapter 4 of the BFA's Event Guidelines discusses officials and their assigned jobs

Chapter 4

Weather Considerations

4.1 Chapter Overview

The requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR's) are clear in §91.103, Preflight Action. In part it states: *"Each pilot in command shall, before beginning a flight, become familiar with all available information concerning that flight. This information must include . . . weather reports and forecasts, fuel requirements, alternatives available if the planned flight cannot be completed..."*

The responsibility to obtain a complete and thorough preflight weather briefing rests entirely on the pilot in command. However, to assist pilots in this regard, balloon events have accepted the task of gathering the necessary weather information. There is an expectation among participating pilots that events will provide a thorough weather briefing as part of each pre-flight briefing. It is important that event officials, particularly the weather officer, are experienced at gathering the necessary information and evaluating its potential impact on balloon flight operations.

This chapter provides important considerations for event organizers, officials and pilots. Well run, safety-conscious events have built a reputation of recruiting experienced officials and allowing them to operate in an independent manner to

continued on page 8

BFA

The Balloon Federation of America is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the Online Safety Seminar scheduled for February 4, 2012. A full speaker list will be available on the BFA web site as soon as it is confirmed. Watch for updates.

New for 2012 - When you register for the online safety seminar the BFA will send \$10.00 of your registration fee to your local Balloon Club. The club name and information must be a part of your original registration form. Checks will be sent to Balloon Clubs the second or third week of February 2012. Please use the form below to register.

If you register and pay before Dec 31, 2011 the price is \$35.00. After Jan 1, 2012 the price increases to \$45.00. After you have completed and sent the registration form you will receive a confirmation that it was received. You will also receive an email with instructions on how to complete your registration by paying with a credit card or by calling the BFA office.

If you have any questions please contact Cory Miller via email at cmiller@bfa.net or by phone at 503-510-1215.

In coordination with the BFA online safety seminar, the club is working on reserving a site and setup so that club members can come to one location and "attend" together. This will include one laptop connected to a large flat screen and another with internet connection to send questions for discussion.

Last time several members met informally to try this out and it was nice to have the ability to discuss presentations. The BFA had a method for a group to sign in together.

Email Address Updates!

The BFA and the Quick Release have been receiving quite a few bounced back emails. To ensure you receive your information, please visit www.bfa.net and sign into your profile to make sure we have your correct email address and other contact information. If you are a BFA member and have not been receiving this eBlast, please send us an email to update your address as well. *Thank you!*

ensure that pilots and crews receive the best and most current weather information to assist them in their responsibilities.

4.2 Expectations

Balloon events are, by their very nature, a fair weather activity. While pilots and event officials are well aware of this, it is important to establish this expectation with the organizer and sponsors early in the planning and coordination process. Expectations need to be consistent with the potential that events may be limited or cancelled due to weather conditions. These reality-based expectations should be fully understood by the event organizer and all sponsors. All contracts, verbal or written, should contain language explaining the fair weather nature of hot air balloon events. See Chapter 2.2 Sponsor Relations as well as Appendix A Letter of Understanding.

4.3 Impact of Weather

Uncooperative weather can have a major impact on the safety of operations, on sponsor reactions and on the overall success of the event. Balloons are simply “bubbles in the air” and are vulnerable to winds, moisture and turbulence. Studies have shown that most accidents will include some aspect of weather as a cause or as a contributing factor. For this reason, it is critically important to understand the weather, share all information about the weather, and to respect even marginal conditions that might endanger

the pilots, passengers and spectators. Sponsors are commonly promised, even contracted, that their logos will be displayed, their personnel will receive rides or some other event visibility, in exchange for their contributions to the event. In the case where poor weather intercedes or interrupts the event, the promised sponsor benefit may not be completed and the sponsor can be upset. Effective communication in advance between the event staff and the sponsors regarding the possibility of adverse weather can go a long way to preventing ill-will. In fact the overall success of the event can be jeopardized by adverse weather.

The impact of the weather should be considered early in the event planning. Using climatological information (historical statistics) can help the organizers establish the season or month that optimizes the best chance for success. Climatological information for many locations throughout the United States is available from the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) and the local National Weather Service (NWS) Office.

Referring back to the “bubbles” analogy above, hot air balloons are certainly susceptible to surface and winds aloft conditions, but other variables influence, or are influenced by, the wind. For example, localized temperature gradients (due to

continued on page 9

Coming up!

**ABC Holiday Party at the University Club (where else!)
39 E. Monte Vista Road, Phoenix, Az (602) 254-5408
menu includes pasta, carving station, chicken cordon bleu and more
no host bar at 6:00 PM, Dinner at 7:00
Tuesday, December 20th
\$33 per member or guest, payable to Arizona Balloon Club
Mail to: Frank Karlovec,**

RSVP before December 10th to Frank Karlovec

Tip from AAAA Safety Seminar:

When ever the balloon is within 100 feet of the ground, the crew should realize a landing is possible and advise the pilot of any and all obstacles at potential landings sites ahead.

For example, "Field ahead has a barb wire fence through the middle and powerlines at south end."

weather fronts or "micrometeorology" and terrain) can influence the general wind direction and speed, and also wind gusts. Above the surface the vertical temperature profile or temperature lapse rate and temperature inversions can cause changes in the wind characteristics throughout the flight time. Large-scale cloudiness can certainly impact a balloon event, but large-scale patterns are usually fairly predictable. Localized small-scale convection will often contribute to cloud and rain showers and other abrupt weather challenges that may not be captured well in forecast models, if at all. Therefore, the Weather Officer of an event needs to stay abreast of the latest information and alert necessary officials if unexpected conditions arise.

4.4 The "Weatherman"

One of the important steps organizers need to take is to select a competent meteorologist or Weather Officer, familiarly called "the weatherman". The individual chosen should have substantial meteorological knowledge and experience to aid with decision support and to help the organizers anticipate and capitalize on the conditions for the event keeping in mind safety, planned flight and spectator activities. This situational awareness and experience is important because it provides understanding of the "big picture", and helps the other officials interpret many of the formal sources and terminology found within the discipline.

Further, the individual should have experience with the sport of ballooning. The effect that a certain weather condition may have on balloons may not be appreciated by someone skilled only in weather phenomenon but unfamiliar with balloon systems and flight characteristics. For example, a 10 mile

per hour surface wind is a pleasant breeze, but for balloonists it is toward the upper threshold of what is tolerable for a flight. In addition, it is important that the individual have an appreciation of the local area. Understanding broad weather patterns is not adequate for properly defining conditions at a launch site or within the local flying area. Knowing the local area and relating the broad conditions to the time and place of the ballooning activities is referred to as micrometeorology and is the mark of a skilled weather official. Additional discussion of important aspects of the Weather Officer is included in Chapter 3.

4.5 Weather information

It is important to realize that a balloon event is a very local and time limited activity. The balloons will commonly fly twice a day; first, soon after sunrise and then again before sunset to minimize the effects of thermals. The balloons will fly within a radius of 10 - 15 miles from the event headquarters and a flight usually takes no more than two hours. While meteorologists need to focus on the synoptic-scale to get the general trend in the forecast, they also need to focus on the micro-scale capturing the small scale events that will impact the flying area through the flight window. This includes the knowledge of local effects from orographic phenomenon.

When preparing the weather briefing, the Weather Officer should only give a short reference to the general weather situation and then concentrate on providing the data for the area and time of the flight. For balloon pilots, the most important variable is the wind (direction and speed). The objective in competition and to a large extent in fun-flights and ride-based events is for pilots to make best use of the different wind directions with altitude to reach a certain target or appropriate landing areas.

There are numerous sources of weather information; some are official aviation sources, most are not. The degree of valid information varies dramatically from very useful to dangerously incorrect. The availability of information also varies dramatically depending on the location of

continued on page 10

the proposed flying area. Sites near a large city are more likely to have several sources of reliable and representative information. Rural events usually rely on nearby (sometimes at a considerable distance) stations and usually require considerable interpolation among a variety of potentially non-representative sources. The changing nature of weather requires continuous updates and a significant dependence on forecasts.

The most common official aviation weather sources, Flight Service Stations, are available via the telephone. These are based out of Ashburn, VA, Ft. Worth, TX, and Prescott, AZ and can easily be reached at 1-800-WX-BRIEF. The service is operated by Lockheed Martin Corporation and can provide up-to-date conditions and forecasts for most areas. The second common official source is the

continued on page 11

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.

For more information email WhatTheHeckProductions@hotmail.com



Now that I am getting older and sold my balloon, I would like to sell my collection of balloon books, some of which are collector's items. All are hardbacks and in excellent condition. Please add \$4.95 to sale cost to cover postage/shipping.

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. The Eagle Aloft - Two Centuries of the Balloon in America (1983) 733 pages | \$60 |
| 2. Double Eagle | \$15 |
| 3. The Romance of Ballooning | \$40 |
| 4. The Great Balloon Festival (Abq. 1989) a coffee table picture book | \$30 |
| 5. Non-Scheduled Flights by Rolla Hinkle (2001) | \$20 |
| 6. The Aeronauts (1980) Time-Life picture story of ballooning | \$20 |
| 7. Joy of Ballooning (1999) coffee table picture book | \$20 |
| 8. Lunardi (1984) pioneer balloonist Vincent Lunardi | \$20 |
| 9. Balloon Pins w/ Pictures Vol. 1 (1985) | \$12 |
| 10. Hot Air Balloons (1999) coffee table picture book | \$12 |
| 11. The Challengers (1989) by Diane Thomas, a former Phoenix balloonist | \$15 |
| 12. Nazca (1980) Pre-Inca ballooning in Peru | \$20 |
| 13. Ballooning - Riding the Wind (1980) a coffee table picture book book | \$15 |
| 14. The First Air Voyage in America (1943) no book cover on this one | 40 |

Buy the entire collection and get a 10 percent discount plus a few extra books.

Steve Shluker, former owner of Mariah Balloon, now living in Henderson, NV. [REDACTED]

Email: sshluker@cox.net

Internet- accessible Direct User Access Terminal Service, DUATS (<http://www.duats.com>). This source allows for identifying aircraft numbers or event particulars and provides in-depth information and expected conditions.

In addition to the official sources, a myriad of alternatives are available via the telephone and Internet. Weather underground (www.wunderground.com) has a significant amount of weather information including information from personal weather stations.

There are also web sites that are dedicated to the sport of hot air ballooning including USAirnet (www.usairnet.com) and Blastvalve (www.blastvalve.com). While these are useful sources, they must be treated with care; experience and knowledge will help you understand the strengths and weaknesses of the “unofficial sources”. It is important to distinguish between “reports” which define observed conditions and “forecasts” which provide predictions of future conditions. It is also important to understand “valid periods” for forecasts in order to interpret conditions over the expected period of flight. Weather is very dynamic and conditions can change very quickly. It is important to continuously monitor the situation throughout the flight period and be on the alert for significant changes.

An “official” weather briefing should be provided to all participants prior to any flight or related activity. The event briefing should include all pertinent weather information available from flight service. As a minimum, the briefing should include:

- The weather synopsis or large scale overview of the weather
- Current wind conditions on the surface
- Forecast wind conditions on the surface
- Forecast winds aloft
- Rapid Update Cycle Model Winds (<http://rucsoundings.noaa.gov/>).

Dues are due!

OCTOBER was time to re-up your membership. If no changes, just send your check (\$30 individual, \$35 family) to:

Judy Holt

ABC Membership Chair

Reminder:

Holiday party is in December. After the 31st of December, you get dropped from the roster.

- Real time analysis of winds aloft using VAD winds, if available/applicable for the flight area
- Temperature and dew points
- Cloud layers and ceilings
- Probabilities of precipitation
- Real time radar and analysis of the potential for thunderstorms
- Any pertinent SIGMETs, PIREP's, NOTAM's, weather advisories and TFR's

4.6 Time Schedule

The ED usually starts preparing the flight one and one-half to two hours before the scheduled briefing time.

At this time the ED will need a rough briefing from the Weather Officer telling him the expected weather situation and anticipated wind direction and speed at various altitudes. Thereafter, the ED will think about flight details, tasks, etc. and will begin to organize and prepare the Flight (Task) Data Sheet. In the mean time the Weather Officer should refine the forecast, establish a wind reading, and prepare the Weather Information Sheet. The Weather Information Sheet should be finished and ready to be duplicated not later than fifteen minutes before briefing time. The Weather Information Sheet should be provided to the ED before duplication.

4.7 Equipment

The Weather Officer should have at his disposal several tools to best take advantage of the various sources discussed above, as well as make specific observations at the launch area. He must have telephone capability. With the extensive use of cell phones this is generally not a problem except in the most remote areas. Internet access is also important. The Internet provides current aviation observations, forecasts, weather radar and meteorological satellite images, weather watches and warnings, AIRMETS, SIGMETs, and local —unofficial|| observations. It is useful to have a theodolite and attendant computer and software capability in order to utilize pibals and

continued on page 12

CHECK ALL TFRS!

During Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, I stayed with friends who are in the Air Force. Saturday afternoon we heard and saw the Thunderbirds practicing on for Kirtland Air Force Base's open house on Sunday. Being familiar with air traffic near the base and curious about this, Dave turn on a website that monitored the conversation at Albuquerque's Sunport (the main airline airport in Albuquerque).

Two Southwest Airlines and one FedEx flight were prevented from landing at Albuquerque's Sunport because of the Thunderbird's practice. One of the Southwest flights had to divert to El Paso. We double checked TFR's, and of course there was the notice about Fiesta. But, there was also a second and more recent notice about the Thunderbirds. We couldn't help but wonder if someone had missed looking into the second TFR. Lesson learned...Don't assume you know what the TFR is for. Verify it!

Sally Heinrich

get accurate readings of observed wind speeds and direction recorded at 200 foot increments. Finally, it is important to monitor automatic reporting stations in the area in order to detect possibly changing conditions. At large events it may be helpful to invest in one or more local weather stations to provide real-time surface temperature, humidity, pressure and wind observations for areas likely to be included in the flying and landing operations areas. If this type of sophisticated equipment is not available to the officials, the use of RUC model wind profiles and VAD winds (if applicable) are essential to any weather analysis.

4.8 Chain of Command

The Weather Officer must have direct communication with the Event Director and Safety

Officer. Changes in weather conditions need to be relayed and reacted to in a timely manner. Events may be modified or even cancelled on the basis of weather situations. It is important that the Weather Officer have a high degree of self-confidence and the ability to inform the Event Director and/or the Safety Officer of impending adverse conditions.

As discussed throughout this publication, event officials must report to the event organizer but the decision making process regarding balloon flight must remain independent and the decision to open the flight window belongs solely to the event director acting in concert with the weather and safety officer. All individual go/no-go decisions are made by the pilot in command.

4.9 Weather and Its Relation to Accidents

High surface winds are probably the most prevalent weather condition that leads to or contributes to accidents. Launches in winds of nine to ten knots (about twelve miles per hour) are difficult requiring an advanced pilot skill level. The probability of balloon system damage increases significantly with these higher launch surface winds. Similarly, landings in winds above ten knots require extra care and larger landing areas. While balloon manufacturers permit launches and landings with demonstrated surface winds up to fifteen knots, winds at this level or greater are cause for concern.

Oddly enough "light and variable" wind conditions also create unique hazards of their own. If the event is competition-based, it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to call meaningful tasks and remove the luck factor, as much as possible. But, for all flights, light and variable can be a risk because the balloon pilots have no ability to steer away from ground hazards toward suitable landing locations.

Winds are not always what they seem to the casual observer. It is important to know the wind conditions at all levels of anticipated flight. High winds at 200 feet above the surface can create problems to the pilot who is searching for a landing site. Major changes in wind speed or direction at various levels create shears which increase risks related to changing altitudes. Wind shear typically accompanies temperature inversions where the wind speed and direction can be very different at the top

continued on page 13

THANK YOU from Alan Hilty if you brought a raffle item! Contributions were good at the last meeting. The Holiday raffle is our big (and special) one - please consider a bringing one nice item to the University Club for the party. Half the proceeds go to St. Mary's Food Bank.

of the inversion. The temperature inversion also impacts the balloon performance and flight characteristics. Surface winds can be very misleading. It is not uncommon to have virtually calm conditions on the surface yet have 10 to 20 knot winds just 200 to 500 feet above the surface. Further, the winds at 3000 to 6000 feet above the surface are usually much stronger and likely in different directions than those observed at the surface.

Low clouds can produce "ceilings" which add to the hazards of flight. Unless an event has a waiver in place to allow lower flying, the Federal Aviation Regulations require that aircraft stay more than 1000 feet above the highest obstacle in a congested area. Fog and low ceilings present problems with doing that. In addition, the threat of low clouds or fog forming during flight present the special case of trapping aircraft in the air unable to land because of poor visibility and the threat of hitting obstacles.

Besides high winds, the presence or potential of thunderstorms is probably the most ominous threat to safe flight. They create strong winds, substantial turbulence, and the possibility of severe precipitation and lightning. Their effect can be pronounced at distances even exceeding fifty miles. They may be preceded by convective SIGMETS issued by the National Weather Service or they may be identified by visual observations. In any event, they cannot be ignored and generally will result in cancellation of all flying activities.

Thunderstorms can produce outflows that can surge hundreds of miles away. Thunderstorm outflows can travel in any direction, but will be environmentally supported in the direction of the prevailing wind direction near the surface. This is one of the reasons it is imperative to pay close attention to nearby observations, especially upstream observations, based on the overall prevailing synoptic flow.

Three ingredients are needed for thunderstorm development: moisture, instability and lift. Moisture is naturally found across center sections of the country under the influence of a southerly wind originating in the Gulf of Mexico. Lift can

come in all sorts of forms from a front to a disturbance in the upper sections of the atmosphere. Instability is measured in a variety of forms, but the most inclusive is called "CAPE", or Convective Available Potential Energy. CAPE is a measure of the instability in the vertical, ranging from 0 (completely stable) to over 5000 J/kg (extremely unstable). Many times in the summer months, the atmosphere may be unstable but yet it is still flyable because there is a warm layer in the atmosphere (referred to as an inversion) that keeps thunderstorms from developing. The strength of this capping inversion is referred to as "cin". For values of cin less than 50 J/kg, it would take relatively little additional lift in the atmosphere to produce showers and/or thunderstorms. Values of cin between 50 and 100 would need some sort of strong forcing to allow thunderstorms to develop, while values of cin over 100 will likely keep thunderstorms suppressed. Typically, lift will originate near the surface in the late afternoon/early evening hours, where overnight thunderstorms may originate at some level aloft based on winds and moisture. This is why it is important to look at lift from many levels of the atmosphere and not just the surface, especially when preparing for a morning flight.

There are differences related to morning versus evening flights. The most pronounced of these is the variability of wind patterns. Early morning hours just after sunrise is the most stable time for flying. In many areas winds will increase as the morning goes on. And in the summer, thermals, resulting in mild to significant turbulence, can arise two to three hours after sunrise depending on local terrain

continued on page 14

Tip from ABQ FAA Safety Seminar:

You know you need to log battery changes as preventive maintenance, but ALSO sticky patches and replacement poles!

variables. For evening flights, the event is often faced with breezes until an hour or two before sunset. Participants need to be cautioned to avoid long flights and to be aware of the likely potential of becoming becalmed just as sunset occurs.

4.10 Problematic Weather Situations

Everyone can see when the weather is good or very bad, but the situations in between are where a good Weather Officer is most important. It is the Weather Officer's responsibility to always inform the Event Director candidly and objectively about the situation and he will then decide to fly, cancel or postpone.

Sometimes the Event Director will move the competitors to the launch field and will call for an extra (supplemental) briefing there. The Weather Officer's presence is necessary at these supplemental briefings to update the Event Director with the latest developments. Try to make arrangements to have access to your information sources by telephone or otherwise when attending these supplemental briefings at the launch field. Internet connections are now readily available with the widespread use of cell phones with browser capabilities as well as laptops and I-Pads with Internet connectivity.

4.11 Weather Information – Event Briefing Template

Reporting of weather for balloon events takes on many looks depending on the Weather Officer, local conditions, Event Director needs, and technology available. It is recommended that weather briefings be in a written format. If the event size or available equipment does not permit providing each pilot with a written report, a standardized presentation format is still helpful for organizing the verbal briefing.

In an effort to provide a “standardized” look to the weather briefing, a suggested format is provided in Appendix C. The Appendix also includes detailed information on how to gather and locate the needed weather information included in the weather template. All the information should fit on one page. The information should include:

- ☒ A small synoptic chart showing the general weather information. Try to illustrate the location of the Event on the chart.
- ☒ A short description of the weather situation and outlook including the time of the start of convection

in the morning and the end of convection in the evening.

☒ Tables for wind readings and forecasts including altitude, direction, speed and observation or forecast time.

- * The altitudes should be in rounded figures (100, 250, 500, etc.) and include the reference AGL (Above Ground Level) or MSL (Mean Sea Level).

- * The direction should be in full degrees “To” or “From” and include the reference (G=Grid North, M=Magnetic North or T=True North).

- * The speed should be in full figures including knots (nautical miles per hour), m/s (meters/second) or km/h (kilometers/hour).

☒ If a change of direction is likely during the envisaged flight time, include this information.

☒ The barometric pressure information

4.12 The Weather Briefing

During the task briefings the Event Director will ask the Weather Officer to explain the weather situation. When providing this information, the presentation should be brief and non technical. There is no need to read the information from the Weather Information Sheet as the pilots can read that themselves. When the weather is not good and the flight is postponed or cancelled the Weather Officer should take some more time to explain why and provide a general outlook on when conditions are expected to improve.

When the event has the ability to present weather maps showing frontal zones, radar plots, etc. with a projector (preferably 'live' from the Internet) that's fine and appreciated, but again try to keep the presentation brief. A weather briefing should not take much longer than five minutes.

ABC members Chad & Julie Heinrich are forming a team for the Hemophilia Walk on Nov. 6th at the Phoenix Zoo. They both suffer from Von Willibrands, a bleeding disorder. Here is the link to Julie's website for the walk as well as to our team <http://my.e2rm.com/personalPage.aspx?SID=3203866&langPref=en-CA>. If anyone has any questions they can contact me, Paul Heinrich, via email at balloonerst@gmail.com. (We paid the club “ad price” to put this notice in, but your gift is tax deductible)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2011-2012

November

- 4-6 Page-Lake Powell Balloon Regatta Page, AZ bryan@pageazpower.com
- 5-6 Scottsdale Air Fair (glow only) Scottsdale, AZ Valory Rowan (480) 980-2174 Marketing@ScottsdaleAirFair.com
- 18-20 Arizona Balloon Classic Wildhorse Pass/ Rawhide Chandler, Arizona net@azballoonclassic.com www.azballoonclassic.com Tim Matykiewicz Nanette Duncan C 480.600.4743 or F 877.324.4876 toll free
- 18-20 Colorado River Crossing Yuma, AZ Jerry Paulin balloon@caballeros.org
- 18-20 Festival de Globo de Leon Leon, Mexico www.festivaldelglobo.com.mx

December

- 2-4 Red Rock Balloon Rally Gallup, New Mexico www.redrockballoonrally.com

January 2012

- 19-22 Havasu Island Balloon Festival and Fair Lake Havasu, AZ Mary Barriault (310) 892-4669 mary.barriault@gmail.com

June

- 30 - Battle Creek Field of Flight Battle Creek Debbie LeClear
- July 4 Air Show and Balloon Festival Michigan Debbie@bcballoons.com or Barb Haluszka barb@bcballoons.com 269-962-0592

July

- 23-29 2012 BFA National Championship Longview, Texas BFA Office 515-961-8809 www.bfa.net
- 27- Aug. 4 National Balloon Classic Indianola, Iowa Greg Marchant 515-961-8415 info@nationalballoonclassic.com

September

- 7-9 The Great Reno Balloon Race Reno, Nevada www.renoballoon.com

October

- 6-14 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Albuquerque, NM Not yet available

A World Premier Balloon Event at Monument Valley in 2012

*19 October 2011 Geri Hongeva, Media Representative,
Navajo Parks & Recreation.*

Navajo Parks & Recreation announces its Hot Air Balloon Event at Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park on February 24-26, 2012. There will be three launches, one on Friday morning, Saturday morning and the other on Sunday morning. The two night glows are scheduled on Friday & Saturday evening at dusk.

There will be various launch sites down the Monument Valley road. Twenty pilots have been invited to this unique World Premier Balloon Event, each pilot have met all expectations needed to fly over the Navajo Tribal Park land. Fifteen of these pilots flew at Monument Valley in April 2011, they are all very aware of the cultural sensitivity that surrounds Monument Valley and the fragile environment, which composes such beautiful landscape. Currently, five international pilots are being pursued for this event.

Hot Air Ballooning has emerged into a spectacular sport and has not dramatically changed since the first flight in 1783 by the Montgolfier brothers in Paris, France. In the scientific arena of studying the weather and atmosphere, hot air balloons have helped scientists study different atmospheres and collecting data.

The balloons only fly in near perfect weather conditions with minimal wind. They all use propane to fuel their craft and fly in the morning when the wind is most stable. Most people assume that these balloons are very quiet but it is quite the opposite, the burners are very noisy when applying the hot air.

The hot air balloon pilots have to be very experienced and requires them to achieve: over 35 hours of flight instruction, have a commercial pilot's license, complete ground school for basic

aviation training, pass a written test for hot-air balloons and obtain a flight check issued from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Twenty pilots total. The fifteen pilots selected thus far to fly at the World Premier Balloon Event in Monument Valley are: Don Edwards (Albuquerque, NM), Judith Holt (Phoenix, Az), William Lee (Gallup, NM), Glen See (Albuquerque, NM), Donald Stockley (Murray, UT), Jeffery Johnson (Flagstaff, AZ), Dorothy Harrison (Phoenix, AZ), Sally Bartsch (New River, AZ), Sally Heinrich (Phoenix, AZ), Gary Woods (Ridgeway, CO), Kent Barnes (Murray, UT), Doug Lenberg (Farmington, NM), Phil Cambell (Bayfield, CO), Phred McAllaster (Santa Fe, NM) and Bryan Hill (Page, AZ). These pilots will once again bring the excitement of ballooning to Navajo country and the Navajo people.

This is an event hosted by Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park, which will include a variety of entertainment. Youth Day will be Friday, February 24, 2012, the surrounding schools will be invited to participate in a unique hands on experience in preparing a hot air balloon to launch. Pilots will also talk about the scientific background of hot air ballooning.

To add excitement for students in grade levels K-12, ARTSCO, Inc and Navajo Parks & Recreation will have an Art Contest and an Essay Contest. Each grade level will have a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winner. One Grand Prize Essay Contest Winner, whom will receive an iPad and one hot air balloon ride with one guest. The Grand Prize Art Contest Winner will receive \$500 and the Poster Contest Winner will also receive \$500. The contest begins 10/17/11 and ends 12/19/11.

Booths and vending areas will be available for local artists will be on site displaying their work of art, as well as proud sponsors of this event. Balloon events are a very social and casual sport, bring your family and friends for free entertainment. For more information call 928-871-6647 or go to www.navajonationparks.org

ARIZONA BALLOON CLUB

B.R.A.V.O.

BALLOONIST RECOGNIZED AS VERY OUTSTANDING

The Arizona Balloon Club shall select an annual “Outstanding Balloonist” from the ranks of the membership. This document will lay down the rules to be followed in selecting this person.

The intention of the 1989/1990 Board of Directors decision to establish this award is to generate a feeling of pride in our membership and to acknowledge to some degree the Balloonists that are members of the Arizona Balloon Club and who have throughout the years contributed their time and effort to ballooning.

The rules for selection are as follows:

1. This person shall be a member in good standing of the Arizona Balloon Club at the time of his/her nomination.
2. This person shall be recognized as having made a substantial contribution to Ballooning, as a contribution to the Arizona Balloon Club and/or to Ballooning in general.
3. There is no time limit on when this contribution to ballooning was made. This may be one single contribution, or a number of contributions made throughout the person's life.
4. There may be a number of contributing factors that may be considered for that person's nomination. All of those factors shall, however, be directly related to Ballooning and must be conveyed to the Board at the time of the person's nomination.
5. The nominated person need not be a pilot.
6. *Any member of the Arizona Balloon Club may submit his/her nomination, in writing, for the outstanding balloonist of the year to any member of the present Board of Directors or any officer of the Club.*
7. The Board of Directors will select the balloonist to receive the annual award, by secret ballot, at the November meeting.
8. The award will be presented to the recipient at the regular club meeting in December.
9. The recipient of the annual award will not be eligible for nomination in subsequent years. The annual award will only be presented once in a lifetime to each recipient. *The winner will be entitled to a free Club Membership for the year following the presentation of the award.*

FAA

New ARC Looks to Improve Pilot Testing

In front of more than a thousand pilots and industry experts gathered at this year's Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Aviation Summit in September, FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt announced the establishment of an Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) that will seek to address concerns about the relevance of the FAA's airman testing and training standards. This initiative is part of the agency's five-year plan to improve GA safety and, like other parts of the plan, will be accomplished in partnership with the GA community.

The ARC will provide a forum for key players in the general aviation training community to offer their experience and expertise and recommend ways to improve airman testing and training policies.

"We don't have all the answers for GA safety, so we need your help," said Babbitt. "Together we're going to work to find ways to improve the system."

Be on the lookout for progress with the ARC in the coming year.

International Balloon Fiesta Lifts Off

In addition to the start of cooler weather, early October also signals a significant event in the aviation world: the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. Known as the world's premier balloon event, the Balloon Fiesta attracts thousands of spectators and balloon pilots from around the world. This year's event kicked off on Oct. 1 and runs through Sunday, Oct. 9. The Fiesta offers

both morning and evening sessions that include mass ascensions, balloon glows as well as several competitions where balloon pilots face off in events like the ring toss and target drop.

If you're at the Fiesta, be sure stop by the Balloon Discovery Center (at the north end of the park) and say hello to FAASTeam Program Managers J.D. Huss and Bruce Jeffcoat. Both will be hosting safety seminars eligible for WINGS credit. For more information, go to: <http://www.balloonfiesta.com/>.

"39th Annual Aviation Safety Awards' / ASAG Banquet & Safety Seminar"

Topic: AZ FAASTeam Reps & ASAG members discuss Aviation Safety Topics, Pilot Deviations, faasafety.gov & Wings Program. On Saturday, November 5, 2011 at 5:30 PM

Location:

DoubleTree Guest Suites
320 North 44th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85008

Select Number: WP0741215

Description: 39th Annual ASAG Awards Banquet begins at 5:30pm with bids on silent auction items, safety presentation by FAASTeam Reps, FPM's, Guest speakers, award presentations, Dinner and door prize drawing. For Ticket cost see <http://www.aviationsafetyadvisorygroup.org/> To view further details and registration information for this seminar, [click here](#). The sponsor for this seminar is: **AWP-204 AZ FAASTeam**. The following credit(s) are available for the WINGS/AMT Programs: **Basic Knowledge 3 - 1 credit**

From the Insurance Companies:

Schantz

Things Are Slowing Down

In our business, our busiest months are April through September, as you might guess. During this slower time of year, we try to develop new products, product enhancements, etc. As an example, we will be working on a couple of ideas for festivals.

If you have any ideas, let us know, we're always interested in growing.

We have another thought for the various balloon clubs around the country. You probably start planning your winter/spring safety seminars now. Both Rob & John are available to make presentations to your club. Our presentation covers underwriting criteria, pricing methods, coverages available and a look at the 20 year history of [NTSB](#) reports plus some claims we have seen. Contact either [Rob](#) or [John](#) to discuss.

Something New! As Jetta Schantz becomes more involved in our insurance business, she is also available for Safety Seminars. In addition to being a Shields-Trauger Award winner, as is Rob, a Montgolfiere Diplome holder and The Explorers Club member; Jetta has set or broken 27 world records in Hot Air Balloons and you'll hear of her exploits. Jetta's presentation is a video and narrative exploration of her successful world record altitude flight in a Hot Air Balloon peaking at 32,657 feet. Her decision making process, when events don't go as planned, will be helpful to all. Contact [Jetta](#) for more info.

We'd really like to attend some seminars that might be new to us!

Thanks for all your support and thanks for your business.

INSURANCE FOR BALLOONISTS BY BALLOONISTS!

AIBF THIS YEAR



Congratulations to all participants at the [Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta](#). We are only aware of two minor incidents which must be a new record!

Quite a few pilots walked away a little richer after making a Pole Toss on Monday & Tuesday.

As usual, the AIBF staff put on a very professional and well attended event. Great hospitality.

John also attended the well organized AAAA Safety Seminar on Tuesday of Fiesta week which featured some top speakers. Would guess attendance was about 300. Great to see so many of our clients and meet some new ones too! We handed out mini-

continued on page 20

notepads with attached pen which many seemed to like. There are some left. If you'd like one just [click here](#), put "notepad" in the subject line and let us have your name and mailing address. Supply limited.



Linda Liguore in White Sands National Monument.

**** Balloon of the Month. Linda Liguore of Chandler, AZ submitted** has this stunning shot of her balloon at White Sands, NM. Very good!

Check out her [website](#) for electronic components for military, aerospace and industrial customers.

Additionally, we have added a page to our [website](#) to add the most recent **Balloons of the Month**. Obviously, a very high honor!

**** Reminder.** If you change your address, notify the FAA. Also, be sure you have renewed your FAA registration. Some were turned away in ABQ as they had not done this. Tsk-tsk!

LINKS!

from AOPA

New Mexico will host largest balloon festival this weekend

The Huffington Post (9/30)

N.M. Balloon Fiesta celebrates original pilots from first year

KOB-TV (Albuquerque, N.M.) (9/30)

Balloonists share love of "peaceful" sport

Mary and Don Bragg enjoy flying hot-air balloons as a couple in San Antonio. "It's a weightless sensation, very peaceful," said Don Bragg. The Braggs visited Albuquerque, N.M., for the 40th annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. [San Antonio Express-News](#) (10/10)

Hot air balloon pilot flies high despite fear of heights

Despite a fear of heights, hot air balloon pilot Bob Pulaski continues to fly his aircraft. "I get close to about 1,000 feet and start shaking a bit, hanging on tighter to things in the basket -- the handles in basket, not the passengers," he said. Pulaski purchased his first hot air balloon in 1991. [The Natchez Democrat \(Miss.\)](#) (10/12)

Pilot repeats win in Great Mississippi River Balloon Race

Ohio hot-air balloon pilot Jim Birk won the Great Mississippi River Balloon Race for the second time over the weekend in Natchez. "It always feels great," Birk said. "I always enjoy coming to Natchez and flying, and I enjoy the people there and the reception they give pilots and balloonists, in general." [The Natchez Democrat \(Miss.\)](#) (10/17)

Anonymous donor gives aircraft to Veterans Airlift Command

AOPA Online (10/17)



CHEF FRANK-O'S RECIPES

Thanksgiving Dinner

Good Eats Roast Turkey

Ingredients

- 1 (14 to 16 pound) frozen young turkey

For the brine:

- 1 cup kosher salt
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1 gallon vegetable stock
- 1 tablespoon black peppercorns
- 1 1/2 teaspoons allspice berries
- 1 1/2 teaspoons chopped candied ginger
- 1 gallon heavily iced water

For the aromatics:

- 1 red apple, sliced
- 1/2 onion, sliced
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 cup water
- 4 sprigs rosemary
- 6 leaves sage
- Canola oil

Directions

2 to 3 days before roasting: Begin thawing the

turkey in the refrigerator or in a cooler kept at 38 degrees F.

Combine the vegetable stock, salt, brown sugar, peppercorns, allspice berries, and candied ginger in a large stockpot over medium-high heat. Stir occasionally to dissolve solids and bring to a boil. Then remove the brine from the heat, cool to room temperature, and refrigerate.

Early on the day or the night before you'd like to eat: Combine the brine, water and ice in the 5-gallon bucket. Place the thawed turkey (with innards removed) breast side down in brine. If necessary, weigh down the bird to ensure it is fully immersed, cover, and refrigerate or set in cool area for 8 to 16 hours, turning the bird once half way through brining.

Preheat the oven to 500 degrees F. Remove the bird from brine and rinse inside and out with cold water. Discard the brine. Place the bird on roasting rack inside a half sheet pan and pat dry with paper towels. Combine the apple, onion, cinnamon stick, and 1 cup of water in a microwave safe dish and microwave on high for 5 minutes. Add steeped aromatics to the turkey's cavity along with the rosemary and sage. Tuck the wings underneath the bird and coat the skin liberally with canola oil.

Roast the turkey on lowest level of the oven at 500 degrees F for 30 minutes. Insert a probe thermometer into thickest part of the breast and reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees F. Set the thermometer alarm (if available) to 161 degrees F. A 14 to 16 pound bird should require a total of 2 to 2 1/2 hours of roasting. Let the turkey rest, loosely covered with foil or a large mixing bowl for 15 minutes before carving.

Sausage Cornbread Stuffing

Ingredients

- extra virgin olive oil
- 1 large onion, small dice
- 3 ribs celery, small dice
- Kosher salt

continued on page 22

- 1 pound spicy sausage, casing removed, broken into bite-size chunks
- 3 cloves garlic smashed and finely diced
- 3/4 cup coarsely chopped walnuts
- 10 sage leaves, finely chopped
- 3 sprigs rosemary leaves finely chopped
- 10 cups stale cornbread cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 cups dried cranberries
- 3 to 4 cups chicken stock

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Coat a large saute pan with olive oil, add the onions and celery and saute over to medium heat. Season with salt and cook until the vegetables start to become soft and are very aromatic. Add the sausage and cook until the sausage begins to brown. Stir in the garlic and saute for another 1 to 2 minutes. Add the walnuts, sage and rosemary and cook for another minute, then remove from heat.

In a large bowl mix together the cornbread, cranberries and the sausage mixture. Add chicken stock and knead with your hands until the bread is very moist, actually wet. Taste to check for seasoning and season with salt, if needed and transfer to an ovenproof dish. Bake the stuffing until it is hot all the way through and is crusty on top, about 30 to 35 minutes.

Honey Glazed Carrots

Ingredients

- Salt
- 1 pound baby carrots
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped flat leaf parsley

Directions

In a medium saucepan, bring water to a boil. Add salt and then carrots and cook until tender, 5 to 6 minutes. Drain the carrots and add back to pan with butter, honey and lemon juice. Cook until a

glaze coats the carrots, 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper and garnish with parsley.

Mashed Potatoes With Roasted Garlic and Mascarpone Cheese

Ingredients

- 3 pounds Idaho potatoes peeled and cut into large dice
- Kosher salt
- 1 1/2 cups whole milk
- 6 cloves roasted garlic cloves, pureed
- 1/2 stick unsalted butter
- 8 ounces mascarpone cheese
- Freshly ground black pepper

Directions

Place potatoes in a large saucepan, add cold water just to cover and 1 tablespoon of salt. Bring to a boil over high heat and cook until tender. Drain well and run through a food mill set over a large bowl.

While the potatoes are cooking, combine the milk, garlic puree and butter in a small saucepan and bring to a simmer over low heat. Stir the milk mixture into the potatoes until combined. Fold in the mascarpone and season well with salt and pepper. Keep warm over in a bain marie or double boiler until serving.

Orange Rosemary Cupcakes

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup coconut flour
- 1/2 cup blanched almond flour
- 1/2 tsp. sea salt
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 4 large eggs
- 1/2 cup grapeseed oil
- 1/2 cup agave nectar
- 2 Tbs. orange zest, firmly packed
- 1 Tbs. fresh rosemary, finely chopped

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line 11 muffin cups with paper liners.

continued on page 23

In a large bowl, combine the coconut flour, almond flour, salt and baking soda. In a medium bowl, whisk together the eggs, grapeseed oil, agave nectar and orange zest. Blend the wet ingredients into the coconut flour mixture with a handheld mixer until thoroughly combined, then stir in the rosemary.

Scoop 1/4 cup of batter into each prepared muffin cup. Bake for 18-22 minutes. Let the cupcakes cool in the pan for 1 hour, then frost and serve

Refrigerator Pie

Ingredients

- 1 cup heavy cream or half-and-half
- 2 eggs
- 2 pinches kosher salt
- Freshly grated nutmeg

For 1 Refrigerator Pie:

- 1 frozen 9-inch pie crust

Any one of the following combinations:

- Cooked spinach, cheddar cheese, cubed cooked ham
- Bacon, Sauteed leeks, and Gruyere cheese
- Cooked spinach, canned artichoke hearts, and Parmesan cheese
- Roasted chicken, goat cheese, and sun-dried tomatoes
- Blanched asparagus and smoked salmon
- Port Salut and Spam

Directions

In a nonreactive, stainless steel bowl, combine the cream or half-and-half and the eggs. Whisk until combined thoroughly. Add the salt and the nutmeg. Whisk to combine.

Refrigerator Pie Rules: Heat oven to 350 degrees F. Evenly distribute the pie fillings in the pie crust. Do not overfill the crust with the filling ingredients. Do not pour too much royale into the crust. The eggs will expand upon cooking. Bake the pie until it is firm to the touch like set Jell-O, about 45 minutes. Cool the pie for at least 15 minutes before slicing.

Not Your Mama's Green Bean Casserole

Ingredients

For the topping:

- 2 medium onions, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup all purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons panko bread crumbs
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- Nonstick spray

For beans:

- 1 pound fresh green beans, rinsed and trimmed
- 1 gallon water
- 2 tablespoons kosher salt

For sauce:

- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 12 ounces mushrooms, trimmed and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1 cup half-and-half

Directions

Preheat the oven to 475 degrees F.

Combine the onions, flour, panko and salt in a large mixing bowl and toss to combine. Coat a sheet pan with nonstick spray and evenly spread the onions on the pan. Bake in the oven until golden brown, tossing every 10 minutes, for approximately 30 minutes. Once done, remove from the oven and set aside until ready to use.

Turn the oven down to 400 degrees F. While the onions are cooking, prepare the beans. Bring a gallon of water and 2 tablespoons of salt to a boil in an 8-quart saucepan. Blanch for 5 minutes. Drain in a colander and immediately plunge the beans into a large bowl of ice water to stop the cooking. Drain and set aside. Melt the butter in a 12-inch cast iron skillet set over medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms, salt

continued on page 24

and pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, until the mushrooms begin to give up some of their liquid, approximately 4 to 5 minutes. Add the garlic and nutmeg and continue to cook for another 1 to 2 minutes. Sprinkle the flour over the mixture and stir to combine. Cook for 1 minute. Add the broth and simmer for 1 minute.

Add the half-and-half and cook until the mixture thickens, approximately 6 to 8 minutes.

Remove from the heat and stir in 1/4 of the onions and all of the green beans. Top with the remaining onions. Place into the oven and bake until bubbly, approximately 15 minutes. Remove and serve immediately.

**Arizona Balloon Club
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 20, 2011**

Commander Mike England called the September 2011 Board Meeting to order at 5:55 PM, at the Embassy Suites, LaFitte's, 2577 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix AZ 85023.

Members Present: Commander Mike England, Past Commander Sally Heinrich, , Keeper of the Fuel Philip Heinrich, Keeper of the Log Sally Bartsch, Board Members: Bill Armstrong, Frank Karlovec, Molly Jurhill, Gene Clewley, and Ken Tocker

Board Members Absent: Vice Commander Bob Romaneschi. A Quorum was met.

Guest in attendance: none

After review of the July Board Meeting Minutes, Ken Tocker presented a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Gene Clewley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Philip Heinrich, Keeper of the Fuel presented the following report for July and August 2011:

[REDACTED]

Molly Jurhill gave a report with regard to the finances of the recent Baseball Game Event. Income of \$146.00 will be deposited this month as profit.

A motion to accept the Fuel Report with several minor corrections as identified was made by Gene Clewley. Bill Armstrong seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Old Business

Club Pins: No Report was given but a discussion of support and the advantages of keeping the pins that the Club presently uses occurred.

Safety/Seminar: This will be explored to see if an online seminar can be arranged through the Balloon Federation of America.

Committee Reports:

Memberships: Judy Holt discussed making membership from January to January. A discussion followed and it was in general concurrence that the membership year should remain as is with no changes. There did not appear to be any benefit in changing the current October to October timeline. Also presented by Judy Holt was a proposal to raise household from \$35 to \$40 and leave the single membership at \$30. Discussion occurred noting that most applications are household memberships and not single. Concern that household memberships cost more to sustain financially was communicated by Sally Heinrich. The majority of dues are paid at the Safety Seminar and Holiday Party which means the majority of the members receive a full or almost full year of benefits for their payment. Michael England noted that this is not the time, with the

continued on page 25

poor economy, to raise membership costs. It was noted that it is a benefit to the ballooning community to favorably inform as many people as possible, which membership in the Club accomplishes. The Board Members agreed that until the Club finances could no longer meet the expenses of the members and Club activities, the membership dues and prorated system now in place would remain unchanged. The Commander thanked Judy Holt for her report and all the great work that she does to keep membership on track.

Picnics & Parties:

Holiday (Christmas) Party: Frank Karlovec reported that the party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at the University Club. The cost for the Holiday Party has not changed from last year at \$33.00 per member. An email announcing the event will go out along with the announcement in the Club newsletter. Sally Heinrich made a motion that half of the proceeds of the party raffle go to the St. Mary's Food Bank, and that the Board Members commit to two special raffle prizes as in the past years. Ken Tocker seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Baseball Event: Molly Jurhill reported that there were 21 persons in attendance, all had a favorable experience and the Diamondbacks won! It was suggested for next year that the unsold tickets (must purchase 30 promotional tickets to receive the discount) should be offered to some of the younger members of the Club to fill the vacant seats. The seats are paid for and are wasted if empty. This suggestion will be considered for next year.

Oktoberfest Picnic at the Park – The next meeting, “Oktoberfest” is scheduled for October 18, 2011 at the Glendale Sahuaro Park. Sally Bartsch will ask Steve MacNamara to reserve the pavilions for this event.

Raffle for Oktoberfest: Traditionally, raffle items are from the Fiesta event in Albuquerque. Judy Holt will purchase the needed items as budgeted. A slide show will be prepared and presented on the Fiesta's dawn patrol and special events that take place this year at Fiesta. Bill Armstrong will coordinate this presentation. Judy Holt agreed to help with pictures.

New Business:

Insurance: The Club insurance is paid for another year. This matter was tabled for another date.

Events: Three scheduled fall hot air balloon events continue to require hot air balloons; Scottsdale Air Show, Wild Horse Pass and Safford. Announcements were available for the general meeting and Sally Bartsch stated that if anyone was interested in the Safford event to contact her and she will forward the information.

The Commander requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sally Heinrich made the motion and Gene Clewley seconded the motion. A unanimous vote officially adjourned the meeting. The Board Meeting concluded at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Bartsch, Keeper of the Log

**Arizona Balloon Club
General Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2011**

Commander Mike England called the September 2011 Board Meeting to order at 7:10 PM, at the Embassy Suites, LaFitte's, 2577 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix AZ 85023.

There were 22 members and 0 guests present.

The Commander called for the Fuel Report. Philip Heinrich, Keeper of the Fuel presented the following:



Committee Reports:

continued on page 26

Memberships: Judy Holt reminded members that membership dues are collected in October. Applications were available at tonight’s meeting and she is accepting dues now.

Picnics & Parties: Holiday (Christmas)

Party: Frank Karlovec announced that the party is scheduled for December 20, 2011 at the University Club. The cost for the Holiday Party should be the same as last year and more information will be sent out to the members. The Commander announced that the Board approved half of the proceeds of this event’s raffle is to be donated to St. Mary’s Food Bank.

Ballooning Events: Three scheduled fall events continue to require hot air balloons; Scottsdale Air Show, Wild Horse Pass and Safford. Announcements were available and Sally Bartsch stated that if anyone was interested in the Safford event to contact her and she will forward the information.

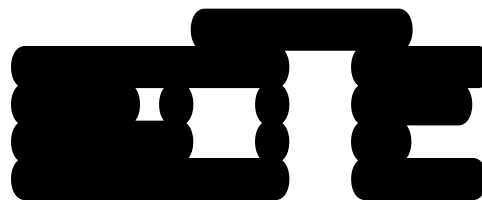
Alamogordo, New Mexico Event: Presented by Bill Armstrong, Bill stated that the event was held last weekend with 54 balloons. Alamogordo has a designated launch field in the town. The White Sands Park continues to be restricted and balloons could only fly from parking lot to parking lot due to the direction of the winds and other official restrictions. Bill was pleased with the unique flying event.

Illinois Event: The Commander Michael England took first place in this summer’s competition races in his hometown in Illinois. Congratulations Mike!

Speaker: Austyn Knorr presented a slide presentation detailing his attendance at the Balloon Federation of America (BFA), Junior Balloon Camp. Patrick Nilz, Jr., Club member, also was able to attend and successfully complete this seminar. While at camp, Austyn and Pat, daily assisted their teams in setting up three different types of hot air balloons and received 2-3 hours of instructional training each day. Austyn discussed his tethering instructions logging a half hour of successful blast time. Balloon cards were collected at camp. Questions and answers were entertained. Michael England congratulated Austyn Knorr for successfully competing for the sponsorship, attending the seminar and presenting tonight.

Next meeting scheduled at the Glendale Sahuaro Park. Raffle ticket sales were reported by Glen Hilty and Phil Heinrich in the amount of \$ 85.00. A motion was made by Phil Heinrich and seconded by Michael England, to adjourn the meeting at the end of the raffle. The meeting concluded at 8 PM.

FUEL REPORT



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

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]

Publication deadline for all advertisements is the 15th of the month prior to publication. All other submissions are due by the 23rd. Unidentified submissions may not be published. The acceptance or publication of any advertising in no way implies endorsement of the services or products. All photos or illustrations of various aerostats are included for interest and are in no way meant to endorse a particular model or manufacturer.



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
Renewal after April (before October) is half price.
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.

Arizona Balloon Classic

Dear Pilots & Crew,

We invite you to join us as Action Entertainment Group proudly presents the 2011 Arizona Balloon Classic. In its inaugural year, this event is sure to become one of the top ballooning events in the Southwest. This three day festival event will be held at Wild Horse Pass in Chandler, Arizona on Friday through Sunday, November 18th, 19th, and 20th. We trust that you will also want to participate in the "Desert Glows" on Friday and Saturday evenings and the hot air balloon competition each morning.

All registered, primary pilots will receive:

- Propane (come in full/leave full)
- Hotel accommodations ** (pilots receive complimentary if traveling more than 50 miles)
- Discounted hotel accommodations for crew & family
- A custom-designed event wearable
- Meals for entire balloon team including crew
- Social event tickets
- Pilot prizes
- A chance to win cash prizes (\$2,500 purse)

For a complete pilot pack & forms, contact: Nanette Duncan, Pilot Coordinator
480.600.4743 – net@azballoonclassic.com

Visit: www.azballoonclassic.com for event information.

Action Entertainment Group, L.L.C.

P.O. Box 94501

Phoenix, AZ 85070

Fellow Balloonists:

The committee for the CRC Balloon Festival has been hard at work getting ready for the 21st annual event. The event is held in Yuma, AZ on the weekend before Thanksgiving, November 18 - 20, 2011. Attached is a Pilot Application form. Please fill it out and return as soon as possible.

As always the event will provide one hotel room for two nights, a \$50 Yuma gas card, propane for the flights and glow (come full leave full), outstanding hospitality Friday evening, Saturday evening and Sunday morning, pilot bag full of goodies, t shirt and a special pilot gift.

You can follow our event on Facebook, CRC Balloon Festival <http://www.facebook.com/pages/CRC-Balloon-Festival/101521113250182>, and get more information on our web site: http://www.caballeros.org/balloon_main.htm. We look forward to hearing from you.--

Jerry Paulin, Caballeros de Yuma
928-627-5500 or 928-627-5505 fax

scottsdaleairfair.com 480.980.2174

Scottsdale Air Fair Balloon Glow

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2011

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

ABOUT THE EVENT

Become part of history and signup to participate in the 2011 Scottsdale Air Fair Balloon Glow! The City of Scottsdale is proud to host the 15th Scottsdale Air Fair on November 5 and 6, 2011. The Scottsdale Air Fair will showcase the best of military, experimental, vintage, warbird and civilian displays and demonstrations. In addition to aircraft, the event will feature the Children's FunZone, an aviation learning pavilion and live entertainment. We invite the Arizona Balloon Club to become part of this exciting event. By participating in an evening balloon glow, you will be helping to enrich the local Scottsdale Community through an entertaining and educational display. Join us in connecting with 20,000 aviation enthusiasts and display your balloon in this year's premier event!

The balloon glow will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2011 from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Setup will begin at 5:00 pm.

BENEFITS FOR YOU

Participating balloonists will receive a pilot package valued at over \$500. Package includes:

- Complimentary Propane for the Balloon Glow
- 2 VIP Admission Tickets (Valid for both Event Days)
 - ★ Includes complimentary meals and access to VIP Tent
- 1 VIP Parking Pass
- 2 Pilot Gift Bags
- 2 Tickets to the Burgers, Brats and Blues Event on Friday, November 4
- 5 General Admission Tickets for Crew

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW

Please contact the Scottsdale Air Fair at (480) 980-2174 or Marketing@ScottsdaleAirFair.com to get more information on how to participate in the balloon glow.

An application is included at the end of the newsletter