



General Meeting
Monday, January 9
"It's a New Year"

with Leon video

at

Tres Amigos

Social Hour - 6:30^{PM}

General Meeting - 7:30^{PM}

December



2005

Upcoming Events

December 16	Holiday Gathering
January 9	Club Meeting
January 14	Club Flight
January 23	Board Meeting

President's Letter

As I finish my tenure as President, I would like to thank you all for your participation in the CTBA. Any organization is only as strong as its members. This club is blessed to have many members with diverse talents who are willing to contribute. Remember that as we move forward. The sport of ballooning is facing challenges nationwide, so let's all put forth a little extra effort to preserve what we have.

Looking forward to 2006, the Safety Seminar is drawing near! This year's seminar will focus on crew safety and training. The date is February 18, so mark your calendars.

I have my fingers crossed that we will have a mild winter with many opportunities for flights - keep up with the email reflector and come out when you can.

Please remember to renew your membership in January. We will have the forms at the January meeting, and I'll also email an electronic copy to everyone (don't worry if you're on dialup - it's a small file).

Cynthia

Central Texas Ballooning Association Club News

Annual CTBA Party

Many thanks to Gary and Mel for hosting this year's holiday event. We certainly enjoyed the friendship and memories as we looked back over the year. There was Dancing a la Phil, a fun and fast gift exchange, and several awards to complete the evening. The CTBA Spirit award went to Joe Reynolds for organizing the safety seminar, board membership, and continued active support of the club. And he picked up extra honors for most entertaining Lake Flight. The Crew award went to Rhonda for all of her hard work this year. The winner of the stocking decorating contest was Linda Christopherson, with Bonnie McBride as runner-up. Both stockings were world class. Presents, money and stockings were contributed to our charity, the Angel Heart Shelter. This fun-filled evening was a great way to say farewell to 2005 and start getting excited about 2006.

Club Officers for 2006

The 2006 slate of officers was approved at the November Club Meeting. There were 14 members in attendance, a quorum based on 27 members in attendance at Jan '05 meeting.

President	Mike Pryor	Board:
Vice President	Phil MacNutt	Tim Baggett
Secretary	Lloyd Cates	Phil MacNutt
Treasurer	Cynthia Pryor	Lloyd Cates
Web and Newsletter:	Joe	Joe Reynolds

Safety Seminar Planning

We will be hosting the Central Texas Spring Safety Seminar on February 18, 2006 at the Central Christian Church (11th and Guadalupe). Our topic this year will be "Crewmanship" covering crew training and safety. We will use some of the topics from Hot Air Balloon Crewing Essentials, written by Gordon Schwontkowski who writes BFA Ballooning magazine 'Crew Zone.' Members are in the process of organizing topics, guest speakers, food, etc. and would really appreciate your input. And most especially appreciate volunteers to help set up the event. Please contact Joe or any officer if you want to sign up.

Membership

We look forward to 2006 and hope everyone will renew their membership. In fact, please try to recruit new members by inviting your friends and co-workers to club meetings and flights. As Phil Bryant writes in his letter on the next page, the sport of ballooning depends on you for its survival. This is true Nationally and on the local club level as well. Whether it's getting involved at club events, submitting photos and writing articles for the newsletter, or working on the Safety Seminar, there are many opportunities to share your interest in ballooning and to help motivate others. Plan to attend the January meeting to discuss how we can make this a better club for all.

Albuquerque Fiesta Site

If you haven't seen the photo gallery at www.aibf.org by now, what are you waiting for? There are many great ballooning web sites all over the country offering informative reading and beautiful viewing. Go surfing!

CTBA Electronic Newsletter and Web Site

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have information about a ballooning event, please contact editor Mike Pryor at wmpryor@austin.rr.com or 467-9274. The deadline for the newsletter is the same as the Board Meeting date. Your contributions make this a much better newsletter and help keep everyone interested in this excellent sport. We are still working on creating a more comprehensive web site and Joe has volunteered to host it - we'll keep you posted. Please send us your suggestions and let us know about problems so we can improve our communications.

From: Philip Bryant [mailto:pmbryant@houston.rr.com]

Subject: BFA Southwest Club Update

Southwest Balloon Club Representative:

It has been some time since I contacted the Southwest Clubs and I thought I would take a moment to revisit a point about why we are all in the sport of ballooning. The sport is a social activity that depends on being involved. The sport depends on you for its very survival. It is more than purchasing a balloon, it is about getting involved.

The BFA represents the Nations balloonists in all aspects of ballooning. This organization is one that requires membership support not only by membership dues but also by the time individuals are willing to serve others. By giving to the membership, the members may enjoy the benefits of collective skills and the various resources available for all balloonists. I ask that you simply investigate the BFA for the possibilities of growing your own skills and further the possibilities of giving to others.

The very essence of the BFA is presented below, please take a moment, and reflect on what we are trying to accomplish and see if you may be interested in joining our at least renewing your membership. Applications may be found on www.bfa.net

Mission Statement:

The Balloon Federation of America is a membership organization dedicated to the art, sport and science of Ballooning, and to providing a unified voice for the purpose of representing U.S. balloonists and ballooning enthusiasts across the United States of America, its territories and possessions, before the international ballooning community. The Balloon Federation of America will provide a national forum for the exchange of ideas to advance the cause of Ballooning as a safe activity that enriches not only the lives of those that directly participate, but the general public as well. In seeking to meet these objectives, the Balloon Federation of America will maintain the highest standards of excellence by promoting understanding and cooperation between ballooning disciplines, by establishing safety and training programs of value to all members, and by encouraging sporting activities that meet American values for fair and just competition.

Vision Statement:

The Balloon Federation of America is an open forum where all Balloonists may find support in achieving their dreams, excellence in their area of interest and assistance in reaching their goals. We envision all forms of Ballooning as a safe, family oriented sport where all members may come to enjoy the art of Aerostatica and the wonder of flight. We support those competitors that come to ballooning for the thrill of winning. We will serve as the Official Sanctioning body for America's Team to the World's Ballooning Competition. We support all members that come to ballooning seeking community with others of like interest. We will continually strive to provide an environment that espouses Safety, Skill, and Achievement. We will seek an organization that provides enjoyment of ballooning all the while valuing basic human values of ethics, honesty and respect for all.

Values Statement:

- Safety is most important.
- We value Human dignity.
- We support all common social values, respecting individuals and differing opinions.
- We seek all contributions to the sport of ballooning for the common good.
- We value education for all that seek knowledge in ballooning.
- We insist on fairness in all competitive events.
- We will recognize significant contributions to the sport and important achievements through individual endeavors.
- The affairs of the BFA will be administered in a Democratic Forum with fairness, trust, and integrity among the participants.

Sincerely,

Philip Bryant

Southwest Representative

Balloon Federation of America



Leon Guanajuato Mexico

Festival del Globo ~ December 1 - 4



Beautiful Balloons
+ Boxing Winds +
Excited Crowds
+ Great Friends =
LTA Magic





Greg (piloting Gary's Wild Goose) and Brian



Lloyd and Kaye's Corona Crew with Bonnie, Michelle and locals



Brett, Julie, Pedro and Adriana of Miller High Life





It was wonderful to see all the children come out to help recover the balloons (and collect some candy). We have many great memories of our Mexican friends and the fun we had in Leon. Keep this event in mind for next year!

For those a little more adventurous like Jeff, there was flying and chasing through Japan in the Honda Grand Prix (below).



Lynn, Rusty and Renee





There were trips to Guanajuato, beautiful sunsets, a sponsor party with bull "fights" and more. Fortunately, no one was hurt, except maybe that little calf that Brett wrestled.



Club Flight News

For those of us who ventured down to the state of Guanajuato in Central Mexico or off to Motegi Japan, late Fall provided some interesting flying opportunities. The Honda Grand Prix drew Jeff Jones (and dad Steve) across the Pacific while a few other CTBA pilots found themselves flying in Guanajuato (Dick, David, Sam, Tim and Winnie) and then Leon (Lloyd, Phil, Rusty, Sam, Tim and Winnie) the following week. I don't know about Japan, but we had good weather and boxing winds in Mexico. Too bad we didn't have a chance to fly in Austin but we'll look forward to favorable conditions in January.

Upcoming Balloon Events

No major flying events in the Northern hemisphere until Spring, as far as I can tell. Make sure to attend a Safety Seminar during this season - ours is planned for February 18 here in Austin.

Rozier Record Flight

Greg Winker's solo flight in his Rozier is detailed in the Nov/Dec issue of BFA Ballooning. This is a good issue with many interesting articles. We have copies in our library - just ask Mike or Cynthia if you would like to borrow one.

FAA Web Site Home page (<http://www.faa.gov>) has a list of links for pilots that lead to **graphic TFRs** (<http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr/list.jsp>), **NOTAMs** (<https://pilotweb.nas.faa.gov/distribution/atcsc.html>), **Weather** (http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/weather/), and a downloadable pilot certificate application. We encourage all pilots to use these resources and promote and support the Federal Aviation Administration.

CTBA Library - We have volumes of interesting and educational balloon literature. If you would like to read the latest newsletters from Albuquerque or Colorado, learn about weather or flash back to last century's news, we probably have a document to suit you. Send the editor an email or ask us at the next meeting

CTBA Marketplace

Get Your CTBA Spirit

Display a **CTBA Decal** on your car, truck, trailer, bike, or cooler. Offer them to friends or passengers. Blue, yellow and white, 3 inch diameter with adhesive back. Only \$2.

T-Shirts - Royal Blue with the same logo as decals. Small emblem on the chest and large one on back - \$10

Patches - Embroidered cloth - \$2

All available at club meetings and club flights.



Patches



Shirts and Decals

Buy, Sell, Trade

Classified ads are FREE to members. Buy, sell, trade or swap balloon or non-balloon related items. Submit copy to the editor no later than the first of the month.

For Sale or Trade

2000 Lindstrand 105A with less than 20 hours. Over Cameron bottom. Double burners, Rotation Vents, 1/3 Hyperlast. Contact Nick Stanko at (512) 251-4024.

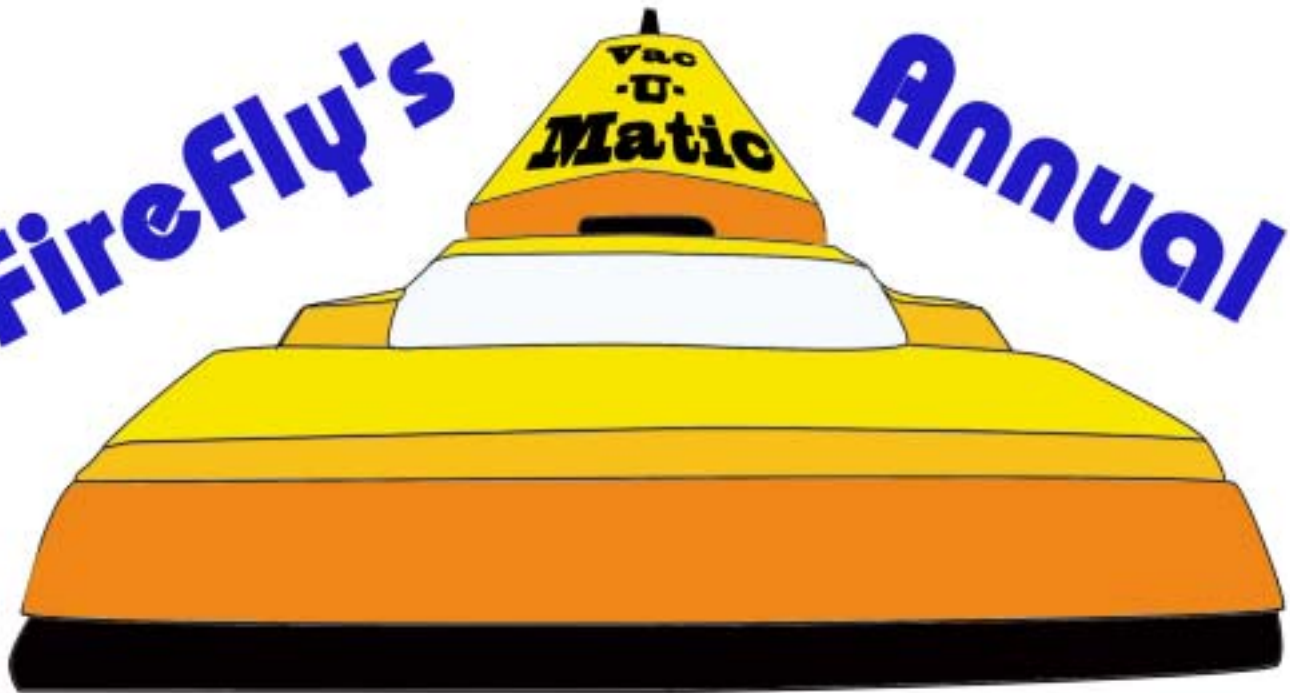
Pilot Seeking Envelope - Cameron or Lindstrand 90 with less than 200 hours (has Cameron bottom). Contact Dick Goss

Trade: anyone want to trade a 24" fan guard for my 30 inch? call phil. if your guard is all beat up, don't call.

DO IT YOURSELF Magnetic Sign Kit for Cars, Trucks or Vans. Kit comes complete with 2 12x18 White Magnetic Signs and 10 Full Sheets of: Red & Black Vinyl Letters, Numbers and Borders. Cuts with Scissors to make Custom Shapes. Regular Retail Price \$29.95. CTBA Member Special Price \$20.00. Contact Lowell 459-1339

FireFly's

Annual



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December 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 7:12 * 5:30 ○
4	5 Jeff Jones	6	7	8	9	10 7:17 * 5:31 ○
11	12	13	14	15	16 CLUB PARTY	17 7:21 * 5:33 ○
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Joe Reynolds 7:25 * 5:37 ○
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 7:27 * 5:41 ○

January 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6 Leah Linney	7 7:28 * 5:46 ○
8	9 CLUB MEETING	10	11	12	13	14 CLUB FLIGHT 7:28 * 5:52 ○
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 7:27 * 5:58 ○
22	23 BOARD MEETING	24	25 Tim Durham	26 Lloyd Cates	27	28 7:24 * 6:04 ○
29	30	31				7:20 * 6:10 ○