

General Meeting

Leon Video

de Phil

Monday, February 14

“Happy Hour” at 6:30^{PM}

General Meeting at 7:30^{PM}

February



Upcoming Events

February 14	Monthly Meeting
February 19	Monthly Club Flight
March 12	Safety Seminar
March 14	Monthly Meeting



2005

President's Notes

I've spent a good deal of time pondering an interesting question: What does 2005 hold for the CTBA? I'm hoping that it is a year of growth for us, and that's where all of you come in! Spread the word about ballooning!! There was a good article in the current issue of *Ballooning* about promoting our sport. These suggestions come from Kevin Cloney, president of the AAAA:

1. Wear something 'ballooning' - T-shirt, jacket, sweatshirt, club pin or balloon pin.
2. In discussions with others about ballooning, remind them that ballooning supports the community.
3. Seek out ways to show that ballooning is a positive influence on our youth and adults alike. Look for opportunities to give back to the community.

I know there was an effort in recent years to reach out to former members, and we had quite a few show up for the Anniversary party in July. If you come across any previous members, try to get them involved again. Invite friends and co-workers to club events. I feel that the club has a solid base of core members and we can build on that and keep the club moving onward and upward!

Cynthia

NASA Research Balloon Makes Record-Breaking Flight

AvWeb Newswire 30 Jan 2005

A huge, unmanned NASA balloon carrying two tons of scientific gear floated near the edge of space for nearly 42 days and made three orbits around the South Pole, breaking flight records for duration and distance, NASA said on Friday. The balloon landed Thursday, 410 miles from its launch site at the McMurdo research station in Antarctica. The huge helium-filled balloon, constructed of a thin polyethylene envelope 0.0008 inches thick and 450 feet in diameter, had ascended to 125,000 feet. NASA hopes to eventually extend flights up to 100 days using the Ultra-Long Duration Balloon system, which uses a “superpressure pumpkin balloon” that was developed at the National Scientific Balloon Facility in Texas. The pumpkin-shaped balloon envelope is completely sealed and pressurized in order to maintain constant altitude night and day. The previous duration record was just under 32 days. The scientific equipment carried on the record flight collected data on cosmic rays.



<http://www.avweb.com/eletter/archives/avflash/344-full.html#189065>

World's Largest Helium Balloon Completed

The Golden Palace.com Space Program, Powered by the da Vinci Project, has completed construction and flight qualification of the “World’s Largest Reusable Helium Balloon” for its planned manned flights to space. The balloon will carry the project’s Wild Fire MK VI manned spacecraft to its launch altitude of 70,000 feet (21,340). The Balloon was built by the team throughout the late summer and fall of this year. “It’s an incredible achievement” said Brian Feeney, Team Leader. “It follows years of research and development by the team with input from some of the most talented balloon design and fabrication people on the planet.”

“It’s like everything else in this project” added Feeney. “We’ve overcome barrier after barrier driving toward our goal of private manned space flight. ”We’re definitely moving toward a first flight as early as feasible in 2005.” The project’s goal of putting the first Canadian manned spacecraft into space and only the second private team ever is sound. Getting down to it and engineering, testing and building the largest reusable balloon ever is typical of the day to day tasks faced by the team.

The two-ton balloon is made from 4.5 mil custom extruded polyethylene sheets, measures 152.7 feet in diameter and is 200 feet long when fully inflated. The volume is 3,698,167 cubic feet (104,615 cubic meters), with a near-record gross lift capacity of 15,270 lbs (6,922 Kgs).

During the summer, the project successfully built and flew a smaller balloon to 40,000 feet, scaled to simulate all the flight stresses. In the lab test, sections of the final balloon were stress tested to 1,200 psi, twice the expected maximum stress loads. Balloon section stress tests were carried out over 12 to 24 hour periods, greatly exceeding the actual balloon float time of 2 hours per launch attempt.

“We didn’t stop there,” Feeney continued. “As a precursor to building the final balloon, we constructed a second 100,000 cubic foot test balloon. This enabled us to perfect the manufacturing process as well as provide an additional large balloon for field launch testing. We even micrometer tested the thickness of every 400 foot gore, every 12 inches, to be sure the material was within specification.”

Several additional elements are engineered into the balloon design and recover system to achieve the full reusability needed for multiple flights to space.

Club News

January Meeting and Quorum

The first meeting of 2005 was attended by 27 paying members so our Quorum for the year is 14. Many thanks to Joe for an interesting presentation on his mid-air incident at Albuquerque. We all learned that flying in high traffic and landing with an envelope failure is challenging yet survivable.

Club Officers for 2005

2005 officers are as follows: President – Cynthia, Vice-President – Lynn, Co-Treasurers – Shari and Charlotte and Secretary – Joe R. The Board consists of the officers plus Rusty, Phil, and Mike

Spring Safety Seminar

CTBA and LSHBA will be hosting the 2005 Safety Seminar on March 12 here in Austin. The program has been approved by BFA and an application is available at the club website. The seminar will be held at the Footworks Dance Studio in Oak Hill and expenses will be covered by deposits in early registration. Joe is spearheading the committee so if you're interested in helping out, let him know.

January Meeting Minutes

1. Date 1/10/05
2. General Meeting
3. Call to order at 7:30
4. Request Sign-up and pay dues
5. Discuss last weekend's flights; Joe, Dick Goss, David Smuck
6. Need volunteers for 'Competition' Chair; discussion, to be month-month and informal, volunteers [Cynthia has list] up to July
7. Need volunteers for phone; Linda takes for year, with help. Jim keeps e-mail monitor.
8. Board meeting 24th 6pm at Cynthia's
9. Discuss 'CTBAPILOTS' e-mail account management. David Pinckney is now doing this manually and there may be need for training so new listings can be done by users.
10. Discuss Safety Seminar status and budget.
11. Finances: Start '04 with 2371.64; start '05 with 1708.41 Details available.
12. Door prize drawings: Charlotte wins puzzle, Linda wins puzzle
13. Quorum count; 27 paid members present so Quorum is 14 [half +1]
14. Adjourn for Program – Joe talks about ABQ 04 mid-air incident 8:05
15. Re-convene to approve checks for Safety Seminar
16. Adjourn 8:30

Central Texas Ballooning Association 2004 Financial Statement December 31, 2004

2004 Beginning Balance		\$ 2,371.64	
Deposits			
	YTD Interest	\$ 4.74	
	Pins/Patches/Stickers, etc	\$ 35.00	
	Ads	\$ 80.00	
	Memberships	\$ 850.00	
Total Deposits			
Withdrawals			
	2003 Christmas Party	\$ 254.44	\$982.44 w/ Clubhouse - pd in 2003)
	Sales Tax for 2003	\$ 30.86	
	BFA Membership	\$ 55.00	
	Post Office Box	\$ 38.00	
	Kwik Kopy	\$ 525.00	
	Hastings Communications	\$ 176.93	
	Savings Bond for Landowner	\$ 25.00	
	20th Anniversary Party	\$ 155.75	
	2004 Christmas Party	\$ 299.40	
	Miscellaneous	\$ 62.59	
Total Withdrawals		\$ 1,632.97	
2004 Ending Balance		\$ 1,078.41	



Remember this?

In case you have forgotten, This is how we launch Balloons



Briefing

We didn't pace long before the pilots decided to fly.



Weather

Oh what a beautiful morning for our first flight of 2005.



We're all in anticipation as we

Layout



(Those commercial guys don't waste much daylight.)

Inflate





Jeff fires up Airhorn1



David is off first



Skinny and Phil discuss finer points of Russian engineering

Launch! Into 2005





*Great
Shots
from
Linda*

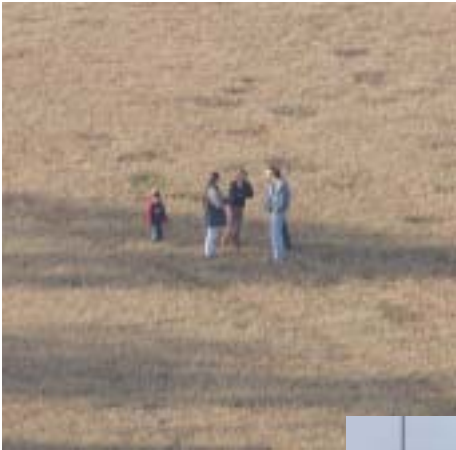




Over the park, Joe and Dick ...



Carrie and Cynthia providing the target



Jeff's crew reserving a landing spot

C
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...and Dick and Joe



Owen just can't wait for doughnuts!



Joe flies on...

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While the rest of us packed up for a post-flight

Club Flight News

CTBA Club Flights in 2005 will be mastered on a rotational basis. We plan to organize events around the Central Texas area and several members have proposed some interesting venues. We'll discuss this at the next meeting. March, May and the rest of the year are open so we really need volunteers. The schedule for the next 6 months is:

- February - Brett Miller
- March - TBD
- April - Ronda Comer
- May - TBD
- June - Lloyd Cates
- July - Lake Flight - Joe Reynolds

Recent Balloon Events

Predictably, we had a great flight the weekend *before* the scheduled monthly club flight. See the photos in this edition.

CTBA Electronic Newsletter

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have information about a ballooning event, please contact Mike Pryor at wmpryor@austin.rr.com or 467-9274. The deadline for the newsletter is the same as the Board Meeting date.

Editor

CTBA Marketplace



Get Your CTBA Decals and T-Shirts

Available Now! Proudly display your CTBA decal on your car, truck, trailer, bike, or cooler. Offer them to friends or passengers. Blue, yellow and white, 3 inch diameter and adhesive backed. Only \$2.

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

Available at club meetings and club flights. See Rusty. Checks or correct change please.



CTBA patches

\$2 each - see Lynn

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

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.

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 Board meeting date (4th Monday of the month).

FOR SALE, ENVELOPES:

* Lindstrand 60A "AIRHORN 1" Texas Longhorn Design. (1998), 170 hours total time. Top 1/3 + Hyperlife Full nomex base panel and scoop. Excellent Condition (enough spare custom burn-orange cloth for a complete rebuild)

* Thunder and Colt 69A "Lisa's Diamonds" . (1991), 225 hours total time. Top 1/3 Hyperlife. Fair condition.

BOTTOM:

* Lindstrand 1998 42 X 48 Ascot Basket with smooth Brown leather. Jetstream Double Burners (Series II) Excellent Condition

* Thunder and Colt 1991 42" x 48" Basket with smooth Black leather. Double Burners in great shape. Set up for "flexible system only" but can be converted.

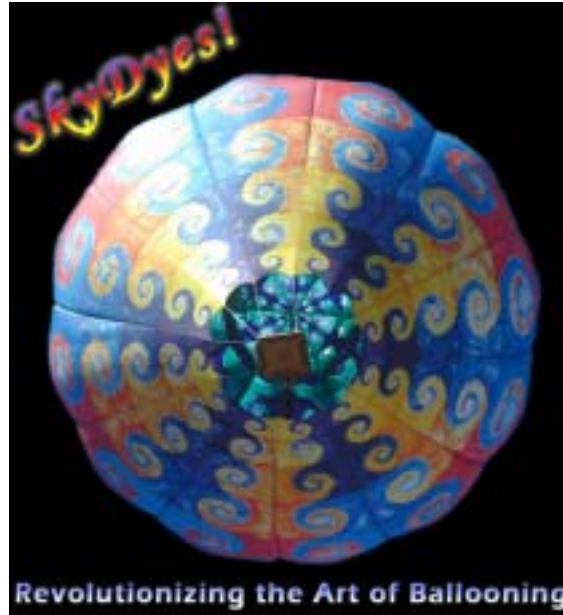
MISC

3- Stainless 15 Gallon tanks with quick shut off valves. (must go with one of the systems or not at all)

Contact Jeff Jones for more details, pictures or pricing jeff@texasmagicballoons.com



Central Texas Ballooning Association
 P O Box 2675
 Austin, Texas 78767-2675



February 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 7:19 * 6:11 ○
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 7:14 * 6:17 ○
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 CLUB FLIGHT 7:07 * 6:23 ○
20	21 CLUB MEETING	22 Michelle Winker	23 Ronda Comer	24 Sandra Ferguson Dick Goss	25	26
						7:00 * 6:28 ○
27	28 BOARD MEETING					