



General Meeting

Monday January 8

*Business Meeting
and Video Reviews*

*Meeting: 6:30pm
Tres Amigos Resturaunt
US 183 & US 290*

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| January 8 | Meeting |
| January 13 | Club Flight |
| January 23 | Joe Kittinger |
| February 17 | Safety Seminar |

President's Letter

Gary Sertich

Happy New Year!

Now is a good time to reflect on the past and make future plans with the CTBA. Building on the excellent progress made by Mike, I encourage everyone to continue participating in our club events this year, and also help bring new members to our group and the sport. We can do this by sharing information and experiences in the social and supportive atmosphere, otherwise known as a monthly club meeting. While these meetings provide a useful forum for exchanging ideas and swapping stories, it is our flying events that demonstrate our love of ballooning, and provide the public with the beauty of the sport. We need our "old timers" and newcomers alike to help us keep the CTBA enjoyable and safe for all. Working together, we can make 2007 the year we increase our visibility through new public events, which will lead to greater understanding and participation in ballooning.



Bye Bye 2006

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Central Texas Ballooning Association Club News

CTBA Holiday Party

This year's party was at Gary & Mellissa's. Friday December 8. See Report Page 6.

2006 Spirit and Crew Awards

Philip and Renee score a sweep. See Report Page 3.

2007 Club Officials

- o President: Gary Sertich
 - o Vice-Pres: Mike Pryor
 - o Treasurer: Cynthia Pryor
 - o Secretary: Lisa Giguere
 - o Board: Joe Reynolds, Lloyd Cates, Phil MacNutt, Brett Miller
- Joe will continue as Newsletter Editor, Mike as Webmeister

New Year Eve Flight

Four balloons flew to end 2006 in style. See Report Page 9.

Mike Pryor Gets New Body Parts

CTBA President [in charge of Vice] Mike Pryor is now partially bionic. See Report Page 3.

Membership

Please renew your membership. Pay at the Party, but at least by the January meeting. The number of paid members attending the January meeting sets the voting quorum for the year. Pilots, if you have crew who are not CTBA members, please encourage them to attend meetings and to join CTBA.

CTBA PHONE LINE

(512) 479-9421

CTBA WEB SITE

www.main.org/ctba

CTBA EMAIL

ctba@austin.usa.com

Quotation

The best way to travel, however, if you aren't in any hurry at all, if you don't care where you are going, if you don't like to use your legs, if you don't want to be annoyed at all by any choice of directions, is in a balloon. In a balloon, you can decide only when to start, and usually when to stop. The rest is left entirely to nature.

William Pene du Bois,
The Twenty-one Balloons

LSHABA Safety Seminar

This year the Safety seminar is in Houston on February 17. LSHABA has the lead with CTBA support. See Report and Forms Page 4-5.

CTBA Electronic Newsletter and Web Site

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have information about a ballooning event, please contact the editor, Joe Reynolds. 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. Please send us your suggestions and let us know about problems so we can improve our communications.

CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

The CTBA has an account, Any CTBA member is guaranteed blood and will receive a discount on the cost of blood in the unfortunate event it is needed.

Please take time to donate.

Central Texas Regional Blood Center
4500 North Lamar Blvd.
206-1266



2006 Spirit of CTBA & 2006 Crew Award

Philip & Renee were selected for the CTBA 2006 Spirit of CTBA and Crew awards. With the America's Challenge and Gordon Bennett, Philip flew further than any other pilot and Renee chased further than any other crew. The awards were made at the December Party meeting.



Mike Pryor, Bionic Man

Mike received a partial hip replacement Dec 14. The technique used is relatively new. The traditional method involves sawing off the old joint, drilling out the bones, and pounding in a metal part. Mike got a cap on the ball of the joint and avoided the major mechanic work. We don't know if he needs batteries now or if he's 'EverReady'. See if your cell phone will make him dance.

Activity Plans

The CTBA Board and Officers met for brunch Jan 7 and considered some new activity for 2007.

We'll continue to work with the Austin PARD for balloon access to city parks. This, with an eye to get more visibility by the public from more urban flights. In that same vein, there is a desire to have an urban event, like the Lake Flight, but over [or inside] the town. Park access will be important for this. We have good relations with the Parks Dept. of Round Rock and Lakeway, why not Austin?

BFA Nationals will be in Waco this summer. CTBA ought to be involved.

Joe raised the idea of a Balloon Camp for teens this summer. It'd be work but have a big pay-off. There are materials available from other clubs.

Extra support for the Lake Flight is needed. Out of town pilots need a better social connection. In the past we've had more organized parties. Let's do something bigger this year.

Deadline Reminder

All ads, articles, tidbits, photos, cartoons and classified ads are due **NO LATER** than end of the month prior.



January 2007

**The Lone Star Hot Air Balloon Association &
The Central Texas Balloon Association**

Present

The 2007 LTA Safety Seminar

February 17, 2007

7:30 am-5:30 pm

Aramco Services Company

9009 West Loop South

Houston, TX 77096

This is a core safety seminar focusing on enhanced pilot & crew safety.

Crew members learn how to improve their effectiveness.

Pilots will learn how to improve their own and their team effectiveness.

| |
|---|
| Breakfast & Sign-In, Introduction |
| Pilot Decision Making |
| Weather - Don Day |
| FAR's |
| Near Misses / Balloon Accidents |
| Maintenance and Safety |
| Propane Safety |
| Powerline Safety |
| Disabled Pilot – Landing the Balloon |
| Fabric Handling |
| Gordon Bennett 2006 Video by Phil MacNutt |
| Proper Clothing for Ballooning |
| |
| |
| |

Pilots \$50.00 Crew \$25.00

Fee Includes: Continental Breakfast, On-Site Lunch, Seminar Materials

Registration must be postmarked by Feb. 05, 2007 – no late registrations

Pilot and Crew fees are non-refundable.

Fill out legibly and mail with your check to:

January 2007



LSHABA/CTBA Safety Seminar
P.O. Box 57568
Webster, TX 77598

Include check for fee [Pilot \$50 / Crew \$25] payable to Lone Star Hot Air Balloon Association.

All fields are required. Please fill in all blanks.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE: H _____ W _____

E-MAIL _____

CERTIFICATION TYPE: ___ COMMERCIAL ___ PRIVATE ___ CREW ___ STUDENT ___

CERTIFICATE # _____ BFA# _____

N # _____

PRIMARY BALLOON MAKE/SIZE _____

Please use one form per person. Amount Enclosed _____

Check No. _____

Questions: Email BrianCritelli@houston.rr.com
Phone 281-482-8490



CTBA December Holiday Party

The Party was again at Gary and Mel's house. There was lots of food and drink. There was a Gift Exchange and Tree Ornament Contest. Philip supplied music and a show of the Gordon Bennett flight.







January 2007





End of Year Flight

CTBA pilots and crew celebrated the end of 2006 with a flight the morning of New Year Eve. Four Balloons: Nick, Rusty, Sam and Joe. Launch was from the parking lot of Fry's Electronics, at Parmer and MoPac. Landings were between Manor and Elgin. Launch turned windy but all were safely air borne. Fields were very wet, Nic reported seeing his reflection from a green field while at 4000'; there was enough standing water to cast the image. Some balloons came back muddy, but clean-up and drying wet envelopes was accomplished during tail-gate.





January 2007







Patches

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.



Shirts and Decals

CREW BOOKS and VIDEOS

The CTBA has copies of Gordon Schwontkowski's book on crewing balloons; "HotAir Balloon Crewing Essentials" Regular price is \$30 plus shipping.

"From the Ground Up" DVD for crew training. \$20 each phantom@austin.rr.com

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.

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

BALLOONING STUFF!!!

Collectibles, Decos, Ornaments, Gifts, Puzzles, Toys, Books, Art, Tins, Stamps, Mugs, You-Name-It! Lifetime collection of balloon stuff!

Will sell entire collection to right offer or 1x1.

Jim Main Houston, TX

832-321-4683 or jballoon@houston.rr.com



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

ADVERTISING

All ads are due on or before the board meeting date.

| <u>Size</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Image Area</u> | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Full Page | \$ 20.00 | 71 x 10 | |
| 2/3 Page | \$ 16.00 | V 5 x 10 | H 71 x 6H |
| Half Page | \$ 11.00 | V 3H x 10 | H 71 x 5 |
| 1/3 Page | \$ 8.00 | V 2I x 10 | H 71 x 31 |
| 1/4 Page | \$ 6.50 | V 3H x 5 | H 71 x 21 |
| 1/6 Page | \$ 5.00 | V 2I x 5 | H 3H x 31 |

Submit copy to: CTBA - Attn.: Editor
P O Box 2675
Austin, Texas 78767-2675

Disclaimer

The CTBA Newsletter, *Hill Country Hot Air*, is published monthly by the Central Texas Ballooning Association in Austin, Texas. All facts and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the CTBA. Original material may be reproduced without permission as long as proper credit is given. The acceptance of advertising by this publication does not imply endorsement of that product or manufacturer.

Equipment For Sale

Contact Rusty

1. Delcom aircraft radio (needs new battery)
2. refueling adapter, for two tanks at one time
3. rope tie off with quick release

Memberships

The CTBA is non-profit corporation founded in 1984. We welcome new members. Dues are \$20 per year for an individual and \$30 for a family. To receive only the newsletter without voting rights is \$12 annually. Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at Tres Amigos Restaurant, Hwys 290 & 183. Anyone interested in the sport of ballooning is invited to attend.



Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| 12/31/06 | 1/1/07 | 1/2/07 Larry Boatner | 1/3/07 | 1/4/07 | 1/5/07 | 1/6/07 Leah Linney 07:28 17:45 |
| 1/7/07 | 1/8/07 Club Meeting | 1/9/07 | 1/10/07 | 1/11/07 | 1/12/07 | 1/13/07 Club Flight 07:28 17:51 |
| 1/14/07 | 1/15/07 | 1/16/07 | 1/17/07 | 1/18/07 | 1/19/07 | 1/20/07 07:27 17:57 |
| 1/21/07 | 1/22/07 | 1/23/07 | 1/24/07 Wayne Lohmeyer | 1/25/07 Tim Durham | 1/26/07 Lloyd Cates | 1/27/07 07:24 18:03 |
| 1/28/07 | 1/29/07 | 1/30/07 | 1/31/07 | 2/1/07 | 2/2/07 | 2/3/07 07:21 18:09 |

CTBA PHONE LINE

(512) 479-9421

CTBA WEB SITE

www.main.org/ctba

CTBA EMAIL

ctba@austin.usa.com

Officers / Board Members

| | |
|------------|---|
| President: | Mike Pryor |
| Vice Pres: | Phil MacNutt |
| Treasurer: | Cynthia Pryor |
| Secretary: | Lloyd Cates |
| Board: | Joe Reynolds Tim Baggett Gary Sertich |

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Librarian: | Jim Rice |
| Editor: | joe Reynolds |

Committee Chairpersons

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Safety Seminar | Joe Reynolds |
| Lake Flight: | vacant |
| Web Page: | Mike Pryor |

The primary purposes of the **Central Texas Ballooning Association (CTBA)** are to promote, develop and aid the art and science and awareness of ballooning in Central Texas. CTBA provides its members friendship and camaraderie in group ballooning activities. Through this association, members who are student pilots are able to obtain instruction in preparing for the examinations for pilot licenses. Seminars are conducted for all members on ballooning regulations, safety, first aid and landowner relations. Facilities for training and broadening of skills concerning ballooning are provided for members.