



General Meeting

June 12, 2006

Zilker Park

Social: 6:30pm

Meeting: 7:30pm

Balloon Crew Demonstrations

Polo Grounds

See Map and Article

Upcoming Events

- June 12 CTBA Monthly Meeting
- June 17 Club Flight 1st Attempt
- July 7,8 Lampassas Spring-Ho
- July 10 CTBA Monthly Meeting
- August 5 Lake Travis Flight

President's Letter

Mike Pryor

Starting off the first weekend in June, we were really pleased to finally see ballooning activity. Some folks flew locally this past weekend while others went off to Palestine to be part of the Heritage Flight. And we had the unique opportunity to crew for John Ninomiya flying his cluster balloon as he accomplished the Texas leg of his 50 state quest. See the article inside.

Joe has acquired a permit for Zilker Park and will bring his Balloon to the meeting on Monday night, located at the south polo grounds. We'll post a spot on Austin360 and everyone please tell your friends and co-workers. Let's get the word out and make this a fun event!

We hope to have a club flight next weekend but will watch the weather and slip to the following week if pilots are interested. Look forward to the Lampasas Spring Ho flight on July 8-9th and the

Lake Flight on August 5th. And expect to have the July meeting at a new location to be announced soon.

Hope you all have a great weekend and can make it to the park on Monday.

*Best Regards,
Mike*

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**Central Texas Ballooning Association
Club News**

Inks Ranch

The camp-out was stormed away. The Millers and Smucks got to the Ink's house but there was no flying. Reports are that "Sandy Creek was bank-to-bank." We'll try again next Spring.

Membership

Please renew your membership by paying your dues for 2006. Pilots, if you have crew whop are not CTBA members, please encourage them to attend meetings and to join CTBA.

Albuquerque Fiesta Pilot Registration

Fiesta pilot and crew registration is open. Visit <http://www.balloonfiesta.com/>

Ballunar Pilot Registration

NASA Ballunar pilot and crew registration is open. Visit <http://www.ballunarfestival.com/>

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. We are still working on creating a more comprehensive web site; Philip has registered a better URL 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.

CREW Training

The CTBA has copies of Gordon Schwontkowski's book on crewing balloons; "HotAir Balloon Crewing Essentials" which is an excellent book covering crew attitude, involvement and techniques.

Also Available are copies of the DVD "From the Ground Up" by CTBA members Chris and Martin Theophilus. This video was shot during Dan Sherrill's crew classes. Contact phantom@austin.rr.com to order.

To reorder Gordon's book,
1-3 copies: \$30 each (add \$5 S&H total)
4 copies for \$100 (add \$10 S&H)
10 Copies for \$200 (add \$20 S&H)
Send name, address, city,state, zip code, phone number, and e-mail address with each order.
Gordon Schwontkowski
82 Silver Tree Circle
Cary, IL 60013

Quotation

"Anyone who should see in the sky such a globe should be aware that, far from being an alarming phenomenon, it is only a machine made of taffetas or light canvas covered with paper, that cannot possibly cause any harm, and which will someday prove serviceable to the wants of society."

French government proclamation to allay public alarm about balloon flights, 1784

Deadline Reminder

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

**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



Oskosh Experimental Aircraft Fly-In

This year as in past years, the BFA is going to support a booth in Oshkosh, WI. During the famous airshow. This is a call for someone interested in going to Oshkosh to support the BFA tent and help sell balloons to the aviation enthusiast. You will find lots of interest and have a great time.

Please let me know if you have any interest. Sorry, but as is the case with many other things in life, the trip will be because you want to. There is no financial aid available. We are simply trying to help ballooning.

Philip Bryant,
Southwest Regional Director
Balloon Federation of America

BFA Board Approves Sweeping Communications Changes for Future

BFA members will see significant changes in the way the organization communicates and delivers services in the near future. Meeting in Akron, Ohio over the weekend of April 1-2, 2006 the board approved:

- the construction of a new highly interactive web site that will include an exclusive member's only area and an online Member Roster
- an end to the publication of SKYLINES with most of its content moving either onto the web site or into BALLOONING
- expansion of each issue of BALLOONING to 52 or 56 pages

CTBA PHONE LINE

(512) 479-9421

CTBA WEB SITE

www.main.org/ctba

CTBA EMAIL

ctba@austin.usa.com

All of these changes are keyed to evolve together with the website to debut on September 1st. SKYLINES' final issue will be in September while the expanded BALLOONING will also begin with the September/October '06 issue.

Phil Bryant and BFA Webmaster Fred Dinkler are already at work on this new site. You'll be reading and hearing more about it in the coming weeks and months, but here, briefly, are a few of the highlights

In the public area of the website you can expect to find:

- general news and announcements posted in real time
- news updates for BFA Youth, competition, Gas

Division

- an online membership application
- listings of repair stations and safety seminars
- events listings
- listing of balloon clubs and links to their websites
- online store to purchase BFA products
- general information about the BFA .

In the new 'Member's Only' section planned features include:

- an online registration center where members set up user names & passwords then log in to update personal data, select if this data should be published or not, opt in or out for other 'to be announced' member services
- searchable online BFA Member Roster that is current in real time
- Skylines – the former newsletter will now be a monthly news summary sent via email to members who 'opt in'
- online universal event application form
- Competition pages with news, updated rankings, sanction applications, etc.
- Awards programs criteria and deadlines for nominations
- Safety seminar listings, approvals and eventually available speakers and turn-key subject programs
- Legal issues and news
- resource links to online weather brief services
- classified ads with photo capability and keyword searchable
- Ballooning archive – online repository of past issues
- BFA Achievement programs
- online polling capability for opinion polls, elections, etc.



Spring Ho

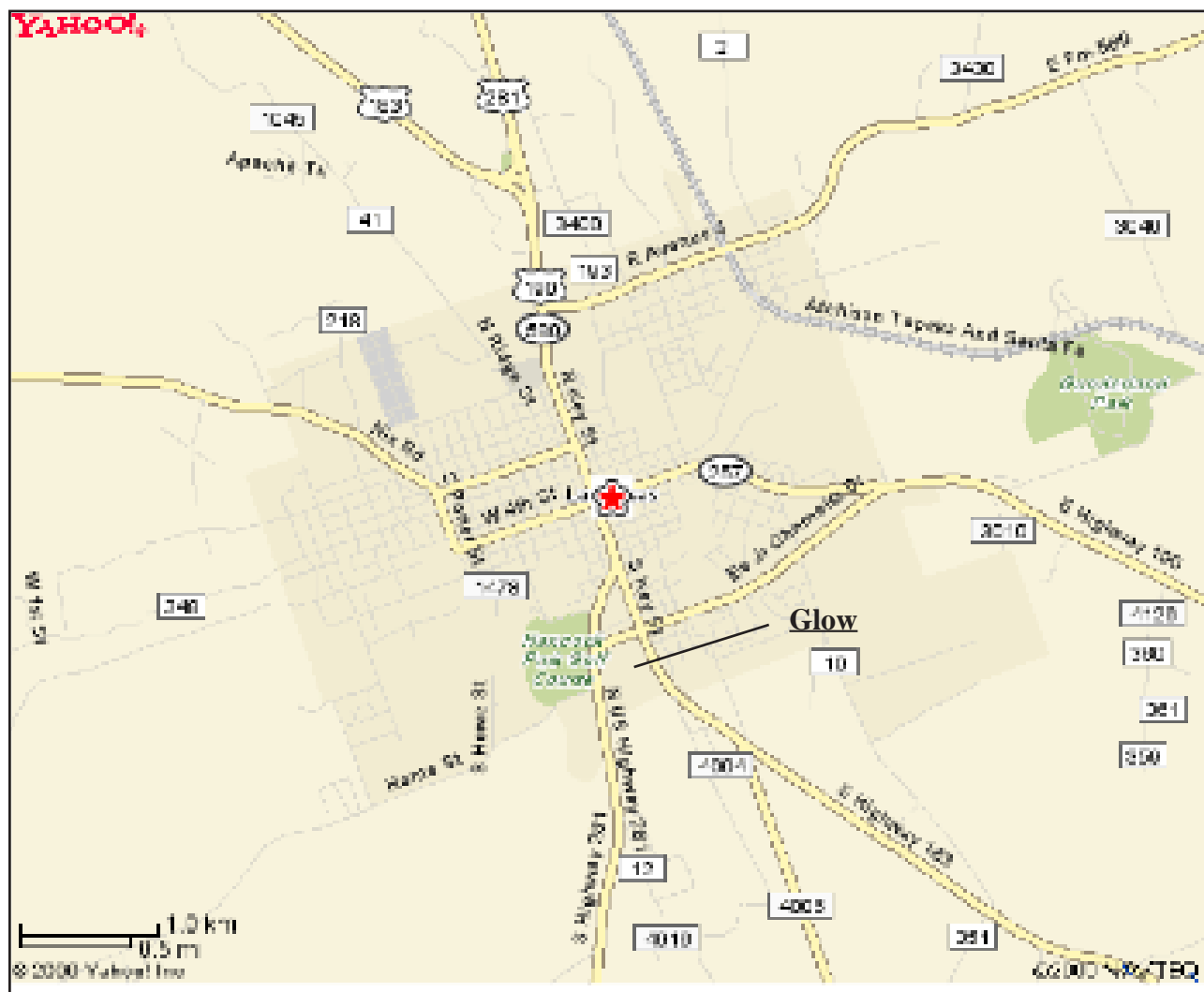
CTBA pilots are invited again to Lampasas Texas July 7 & 8 for a fun celebration. Last year's flight carried directly over town, over the BBQ Cook-Off and past the Court House, ending at the airport.

Like last year, there's a Glow Friday night - this is the BIG event for the night! Needless to say a 70' tall balloon is the biggest thing in Lampassas. We'll Fly Saturday morning. (NO parade this year - it was way too hot. Burners in July were not a good idea.) This year meals, propane and four rooms are budgeted. Contact Joe Reynolds and Paul and Rhonda Fellows and watch the CTBA web site.



Sprin Ho Glow, 2005

Lampasas





June Club Meeting

The CTBA Monthly Meeting will be at Zilker Park as a publicity effort in response to a continuing theme at CTBA Board Meetings: the dwindling membership. Notice has been posted in Austin360 of free public balloon crew instruction. We have reserved picnic tables under shady trees next to the open space of the 'Polo Grounds' which is the large field just west of the Moonlight Tower [used for the Zilker 'Tree']. This space is visible from all the roads. We'll be prepared to demonstrate safe assembly and handling to all the interested public. We can also party and shake out the equipment stored during a wet and windy spring.

Come to help with instruction and to join the party. Bring picnic food to share. With the table reservation it's ok to bring champagne and coolers. As usual social time is about 6:30pm and we'll start lifting and hauling about 7:30 or as the sun sets.

For access it is not necessary to pass through the ticket boots on the road going to Barton Springs. Take the entrance just west of that one, and stay to the right. You'll find parking just west of the Moonlight Tower and the tables there.

**CTBA June Meeting
Hot Air Balloon Crew Training
Zilker Park 7:30pm Start
Polo Ground Area**





Palestine Heritage Flight 2006

Mike Pryor

For all you folks that stayed here for the ROT Rally, wish you had traveled to Palestine for a great flying weekend. This was the third year of this East Texas Heritage Festival that features a Balloon Rally. With about 30 balloons, it's just big enough to be exciting yet sociable. While the past two years yielded limited flying opportunity, we were really pleased to be able to participate in 3 flights and 2 glows this year. Brett Miller, Rusty Kaim and new member Jim Mercier made up the CTBA pilot contingent. Phil and Jeff Jones had planned to attend but had to deal with the infamous Murphy in the closing hours.

So we had the fortune of calm winds, starting Friday night, allowing a nice glow with 20 or so balloons at the Palestine Municipal Airport. Unlike last year, it only took 1 or 2 of us to keep the aircraft grounded, so we didn't sweat nearly as much. And the hospitality room was a very nice place to refuel and catch up with the other teams after the event. No Lloyd, there wasn't swimming this year.



Brett and Julie Miller and Cynthia Pryor Friday Night

One of the most interesting events of the weekend was John Ninomiya's cluster balloon flight on Saturday morning. He had tried to accomplish the Texas flight for the past two years but was winded out, so this third time was a charm. Brett chased the cluster for a while with a local photographer (www.poohphoto.com for great shots of the event) but at some point the flight characteristics of hot air and helium diverged. This was John's 21st on his quest to fly a cluster from each

state. Go to his "States of Enlightenment" tour site by visiting www.clusterballoon.org for more information.



Volunteers assemble the helium balloons for John's cluster flight.

Saturday evening turned out to be an excellent flying opportunity as the winds were light and about half of the pilots we were able to fly into the field. Many great landings in front of the spectators followed by a very nice glow made this event a real crowd pleaser. But wait, it wasn't over. Sunday morning was another wonderfully cooperative weather day, so a dozen or so balloons flew into the field again.



Sunday morning fly-in to the airfield

Having spent the past two years watching the wind sock swirl, everyone was really happy there was so much flying this year. And we all enjoyed being part of this great group of balloonists that we hope to see again next year!



Sunday Palestine Newspaper Article

As hot air balloons approached Palestine Municipal Airport from the southeast fingers from spectators gathered at the airport began going up as all eyes turned skyward to watch the pilots bring their balloons in for a landing.

First it was one, then two, then four and then the sky was full as balloon after balloon began arriving at the airport with their chase teams in tow.

People from all around East Texas and beyond watched as the pilots showed off their skills as they slowly brought their brightly colored crafts to the ground.

“I’ve come to this all three years they’ve had it,” said Callie Porras of Fort Worth, and formerly of Palestine. “I grew up here and graduated from here and I come back to Palestine every chance I get and see how the town has changed over the years.

“This (Heritage Balloon Festival) is something definitely worth coming for,” Porras added.

Thousands must have felt the same way as Porras as car after car poured into the airport grounds to get a glimpse of the balloons and to find the best seat for the spectacle of the balloon glow held about dusk on Saturday.

Before the balloon glow ever happened, the people at the balloon festival were treated to quite a show — all at the hands of balloon pilot Sandy Graf of Flower Mound.

With a deft touch and a finger to the wind, Graf was able to guide her balloon through a tiny pass in the trees and to within just a few feet of her service vehicle and her ground crew parked at the airport.

The skill it took for her landing wasn’t lost on the crowd.

Within minutes of her touching down throngs of people had gathered around Graf asking her questions and getting an up close look at her balloon.

At one point, as Graf gave her balloon a short burn to keep it inflated, a group of children grabbed their ears and started to back away from the giant balloon.

Graf eased their fears, though, and told them, “that’s a good sound.

“If you hear that blast then everything’s fine.”

Everything must have been fine and dandy then at the airport and the Heritage Balloon Festival.

SOUTH PLAINS BALLOON ROUND UP

September 9th and 10th
Wolfforth/Lubbock Texas

In conjunction with Wolfforth Harvest Festival

For information contact:

Tony M. Poteet

Mary Ann Slagle-Poteet

Southwest Regional Balloon Club

8820 Woodrow Rd

Wolfforth, Texas 79382

806-863-2856

email:

<<mailto:doctortpoteet@yahoo.com>>doctortpoteet@yahoo.com

website: <<http://www.swrbc.com>>www.swrbc.com

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.



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.

Size	Rate	Image Area	
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		

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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

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.

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



Calendar

5/28/06	5/29/06	5/30/06	5/31/06	6/1/06	6/2/06	6/3/06 Sun: 6:29am 8:29pm
6/4/06	6/5/06	6/6/06	6/7/06	6/8/06	6/9/06	6/10/06 Sun: 6:29am 8:32pm
6/11/06	6/12/06	6/13/06 Richard Law	6/14/06	6/15/06	6/16/06 Fred Edmiston	6/17/06 Sun: 6:29am 8:35pm
6/18/06	6/19/06	6/20/06 Nick Stanko	6/21/06 Charlotte Thompson	6/22/06	6/23/06	6/24/06 Sun: 6:30am 8:36pm
6/25/06	6/26/06	6/27/06	6/28/06	6/29/06	6/30/06	7/1/06 Sun: 6:33am 8:37pm

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.