



General Meeting

May 8, 2006

*Tres Amigos Restaurant
[Southwest Corner of the US-183
and US-290 Intersection]*

*"Flying Memories: Photos
and Videos from Past Events."*

Finances

Upcoming Events

- May 8 CTBA Monthly Meeting
- May 6 Temple Air Show
- May 5-7 Inks Ranch Camp Out
- June 12 Zilker CTBA Meeting
- July 7,8 Lampassas Spring-Ho
- July Lake Travis Flight

Last but not least, please try to attend Monday night's meeting so we can discuss finances and vote on some initiatives. We're planning to show some of our favorite photos and videos, hope you'll bring yours to share.

*Best Regards,
Mike*

President's Letter

Mike Pryor

Dear CTBA Members,

Welcome to Spring! April was an interesting month but sadly I haven't heard of any balloon flying lately. So it's time to polish the burners (or at least dust them off) and make it out to the club flight on Saturday the 13th. Let's plan a task and try some target practice. Bed of the Chase Truck wins. If you would like to Balloonmeister, please let me know.

Cynthia and I had a great trip to Washington DC to attend the NAA awards featuring Greg Winker's Rozier flight - read her article in this edition. It was fascinating to hear of the many aviation adventures and reminded me why I enjoy getting up before the crack of dawn on a Saturday morning.

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Central Texas Ballooning Association Club News

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

"Sir, Your letter of the 15th is received, but Age has long since obliged me to withhold my mind from Speculations of the difficulty of those of your letter, that there are means of artificial buoyancy by which man may be supported in the Air, the balloon has proved, and that means of directing it may be discovered is against no law of Nature and is therefore possible as in the case of Birds, but to do this by mechanical means alone in a medium so rare and unassisting as Air must have the aid of some principal not yet generally known. However, I can really give no opinion understandingly on the subject and with more good will than confidence wish to you success."

*Thomas Jefferson,
April 27, 1822*

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



Club News cont.

BFA Youth Camp

CTBA has an opportunity to support the BFA Yough Balloon Camp. Cynthia has details. The camp is July 16-20 at Tyler Junior College [in Tyler Texas]. Donations are needed to defray the \$225 tuition for some needy kids.

Temple Air Show

The Temple Air Show is a fun event. It's the same weekend as Inks Ranch camp trip, but an alternative for those not into 'primitive' camping.

Contact: Jeff Jones



Member News

From Linda Christopherson:

Reader's Digest 2006 "America's Best - Top 100" lists the Albuquerque Balloon Museum at #37.

Best Place to Lighten Up

Gas and hot air are actually prized commodities at the Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum in Albuquerque, New Mexico, which celebrates the fine art of balloon travel through interactive exhibits, a ride simulator and a life-size balloon model. The \$20 million museum, designed by architect Marc Schiff, borders Balloon Fiesta Park, which every October hosts a festival that draws tens of thousands of people who don't mind looking up.

See the list at:

<http://www.rd.com/content/openContent.do?contentId=26667>

<p><u>CTBA PHONE LINE</u> (512) 479-9421</p> <p><u>CTBA WEB SITE</u> www.main.org/ctba</p> <p><u>CTBA EMAIL</u> ctba@austin.usa.com</p>

From Tim Baggett:

Gordon Bennett [like modern Steve Fossett] was involved in all kinds of races, not just balloons.

Tim has information about the first Gordon Bennett Automobile Endurance Race.

The name Gordon Bennett had a very special ring to it in the early years of the last century. Staged for the first time on June 14, 1900, it was the world's first major automotive competition – and always a most exciting event.

One of the rules was that the winning car's country of origin was to be the venue for the next race one year later. So Camille Jenatzy not only clinched a superior victory at the wheel of a 60 hp Mercedes in 1903 but also brought the race to Germany where it provided the go-ahead for motor sport activities in Germany.

Baron Pierre de Caters in his 90 hp Mercedes, 1904.



See the whole article at <http://www.pistonheads.com/doc.asp?c=103&i=8446>



Deadline Reminder

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



Greg Winker Montgolfier Award

Greg Winker has been selected by the FAI to receive this years Montgolfier Diploma award in recognition of his record distance rozier balloon flight last October from Moriarty, NM. Cynthia and Mike Pryor attended the ceremony Friday April 28

On April 28, Greg Winker received his Rosier world record award at the National Aeronautics Association Spring Ceremony in Washington, DC. Greg & Michelle invited Mike & me to join them for the weekend, and we accepted. Roland & Kimberly Escher were also in attendance. The ceremony was very interesting and we were honored to be there to applaud Greg's accomplishment. Along with the world record presentations, there was recognition for the NAA's Most Memorable Aviation Records of 2005, including Troy Bradley's endurance gas flight and an 85-parachutist diamond canopy formation. They also presented the winners of the youth Aviation Art Contest from the theme "Air Sports and Nature in Harmony." I'll pass along the information once the art contest winners are posted online – they were amazing, with several great balloon images.

Cynthia



Greg, Michelle and the Montgolfier Diploma



Michelle Winker, Kimberly Escher, Roland Escher, Greg, Winker and Cynthia Pryor

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 Paul and Rhonda Fellows.





Bellville Bluebonnets Flight

The Bellville 'Bluebonnets' flight was blown out again this year. Brett had the smarts to go back to sleep after getting a 4am weather brief.

Joe took the only CTBA balloon. He had crew from Austin, Houston and Clear Lake. Ground wind was calm and clouds were at 1500ft. A tether attempt got as far as hot inflation. When the balloon top cleared the trees the wind intervened. But the envelope got repacked and breakfast was good.

Greg Winker New Balloon

Here is a photo of "Alegria," my new homebuilt. Volume is 90K. The design is based on a T&C Series II pattern. The envelope is all soarcoat with a nomex base panel. Weighs in at 130 lbs. Certified, but still awaiting the first flight. Had it airborne with four at 147 degrees internal temp.

Good Floating!
Greg

CTBA Balloon Event?

It's been a while since CTBA participated in an Austin balloon event. The Harris Branch and Zilker events were really good for ballooning. Lots of people got interested after being at those shows.

I propose that the club look for ways to have a very public flying event. Something with activity morning and night over a weekend. Maybe we join-in with another event and offer to increase their publicity by having balloons fly and glow. I'd like to get back into Zilker, but Auditorium Shores or Festival Beach would do.

If anyone else wants to work on something like this let me know. My time horizon is 'next year'. The safety seminar moves back to Houston so we won't be using all our volunteer time on that. Maybe we'll have time for some publicity.

Joe Reynolds





Phil's Gas Adventure

Sadly, we did not get to fly in Bavaria, but we did have a great time with our hosts Josef "Bepperl" Hohl, Maryanne Hohl, Stefan Handl, and Sabrina Handl, all gas rated pilots. They treated us like royalty. These are the same folks that worked like slaves helping me haul my gas balloon out of the woods (in the rain) in Michigan last year.



Josef Hohl



Gas Pilots



Murano Glass in Venice.

You can buy a set of burners cheaper than one of their vases. I kept my hands in my pockets the entire time I was in the store. You know how much finesse I have...

We toured a famous castle near Bepperl's house, built by that whacky King Ludwig, the same nut that built Neuschwanstein castle. They are modeled after that famous Versailles joint outside of Paris.

I cannot say enough about Sabrina, Stefan, Bepperl, and Maryanne, they are the kindest people ever.

No gas flying, but otherwise a great visit.



Venice Canal



St Mark's Square (famous to some people)



Bonnie's Dog's Twin



How about a National Convention!?

At the last BFA Board Meeting held in Akron Ohio, an informal discussion arose about the possibility of a National Convention for balloonists. While a reception is not the best environment for strategic or operational planning, it frequently is the right place for fresh ideas. It has been a long time since we have had the opportunity to all get together and address the issues of the sport. The closest we have is the annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta and there we are often more focused on social affairs.

The Balloon Federation of America is happy to take the lead on this but, to be successful; it requires input and participation from a broad spectrum of us. This includes balloon clubs, manufacturers, repair stations, instructors and a variety of other areas. We are envisioning the convention to take place in the February-March time frame of 2008, two years from now. As a minimum it should include a trade show for products we all use or are interested in, educational seminars for pilots and crews, and discussions of key issues facing the sport. In addition it could include manufacturers' seminars for repair stations, specially targeted presentations to youth or specific subgroups, and hosting of the 2008 CIA (the ballooning commission for the FAI) meeting. There are many opportunities.

I would think we should hold this in a warm weather site such as Orlando Florida, Dallas or Houston Texas, or possibly southern California. Or some other site attractive for accommodations, logistics or travel conveniences.

To get this off the ground, please provide any input you may have: On the material, location, other content, pros and cons, what to avoid, etc. To have a central location to gather materials please send thoughts to

Glen Moyer (editor@bfa.net)
Bluebird Hill Airport
2858 Barron Rd.
Keithville, LA 71074
318 925-4908

Glen has agreed to coordinate responses and will report back findings. From there we can develop a working group to go from concept to convention. As part of your submittals please identify people with their credentials that you believe could/would serve on the organizing team, or help with specific tasks. You might include key people we should invite to participate. Please provide inputs by May 15th.

I hope I have provided just enough structure to stimulate ideas and encourage participation yet not so much to quash fresh and innovative ideas.

This could be the start of something big!

Yours truly,

Ray Bair

President, Balloon Federation of America

April 14, 2006,

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.

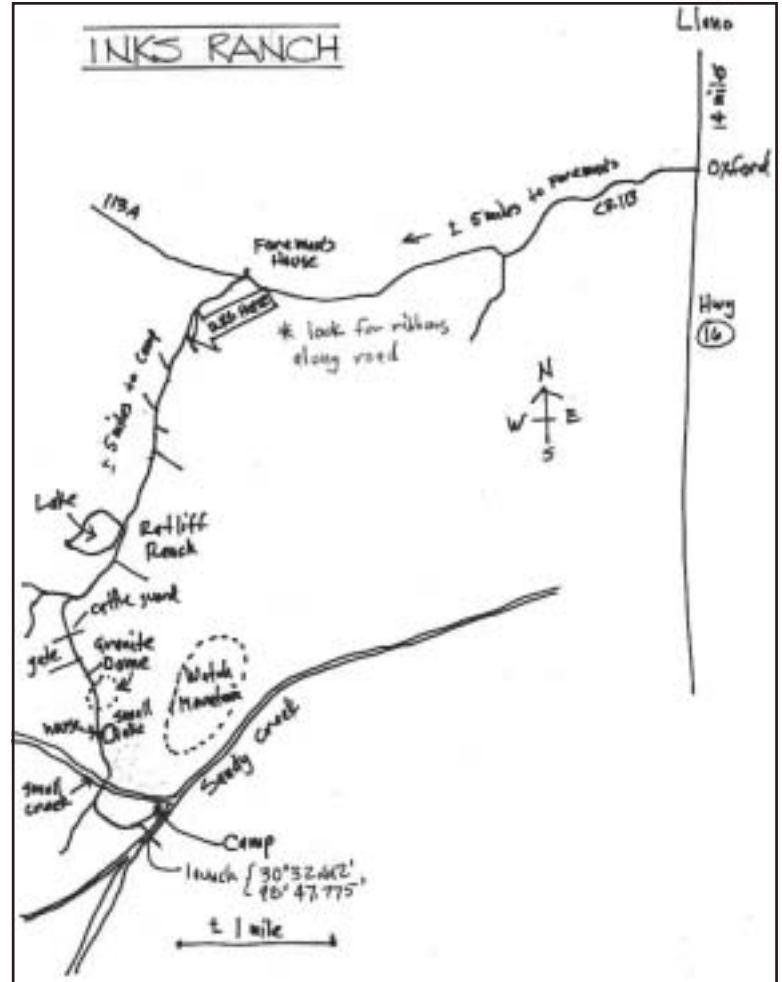


April 2006

Inks Ranch Camp-Out

It's time for the club's annual campout at Inks Ranch. This year it will be Friday and Saturday nights, May 5th-7th. Roy and Petey Inks have one of the most gorgeous ranches anywhere, just north of Enchanted Rock State Natural Area and with the same type of terrain. There's a large primitive camping area, hiking, swimming, relaxing, very unique flying opportunities, and of course the Saturday night bonfire. Don't miss it! If you have questions or want more information contact David Murphy at blueskies@austintexas.com. To download high resolution copies of these maps for printing, see the CTBA website.

Contact Brett Miller to coordinate food for shared meals - "Brett Miller" <bmillier@tspaustin.com>
Contact the Inks:
325-247-3475 Main house #
325-247-5011 Ranch business #
877-247-5011 (Toll Free #)





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

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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

4/30/06	5/1/06 Jim Rice	5/2/06	5/3/06	5/4/06	5/5/06 Inks Ranch	5/6/06 Inks Ranch Temple Air Show Sun: 0643 2012
5/7/06	5/8/06 Club Meeting	5/9/06	5/10/06	5/11/06	5/12/06	5/13/06 Club Flight Sun: 0638 2017
5/14/06	5/15/06	5/16/06	5/17/06	5/18/06	5/19/06	5/20/06 Sun: 0643 2012
5/21/06	5/22/06	5/23/06	5/24/06	5/25/06	5/26/06	5/27/06 Phil MacNutt Sun: 0631 2025
5/28/06	5/29/06	5/30/06	5/31/06	6/1/06	6/2/06	6/3/06 Sun: 0629 2029

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.