



AeroStats

July 2021

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Willamette Aerostat Society
Volume 23, Number 7

**Won't you join us for the first in-person WAS meeting in over a year!
You are invited to Tim & Shari Gale's Albany home.**

Saturday, July 10 at 1:00 PM



It's a potluck. Please bring a dish to share!

**The address will be sent to all current members via email.
There will be no Zoom link for the July meeting.**

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2021 WAS Officers

President:
Shari Gale

Activities Director:
Pasha Luber

Vice President:
Marianne LeDoux

Web Master:
Cory Miller

Secretary/Treasurer:
Dale Justice

WAS website:
<http://www.wasballoon.info>

Others:

Newsletter Editor:
Shari Gale

Email: ExecComm@wasballoon.info



Willamette Aerostat Society Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Willamette Aerostat Society General Meeting on ZOOM

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Present:

Shari Gale, President & Newsletter Editor
Marianne LeDoux, Vice President
Dale Justice, Secretary/Treasurer
Pasha Luber, Activities Director
and 11 additional members.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p. m. by Shari using Zoom on the internet.

2. Moved by Carmen Blakely, seconded by Bob LeDoux, to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting as printed in the June 2021 newsletter. Motion passed.

3. **Treasurer's report** — from Dale, as of May 12, 2021.

2020-2021 Members	73 (42 memberships paid)
Checking	\$512.47
Savings	105.00
Cash	7.00
Total	<u>\$ 624.47</u>

4. **Correspondence** –

1. DreamHost (web site host) needs \$73 to continue our site. Dale will send them a check.
2. Angela Moore and Mary Heath have been in (different) hospitals. They are recovering.

5. **Events** –

1. Virtual BFA safety seminar is still available on the internet.
2. The memorial for Charitie Faith Lansing in Madras was held on May 22, 2021.
3. Dirggs, ID, Teton Valley Balloon Rally – July 1-4.
4. Elko, NV, Ruby Mountain Balloon Festival – July 23-25.
5. Albany, OR Art and Air Festival is set for August 27-29.

6. Spirit of Boise Balloon Classic dates are September 1-5, with no flight on Labor Day. They are planning a kids day.
7. Prosser, WA Great Prosser Balloon Rally is scheduled for September 24-26.
8. Walla Walla Balloon Stampede has been set for October 14-17.
9. Other updates and rally information will be in the next newsletter and on wasballoon.info website.

6. **Old Business** –

1. PayPal for memberships is on hold.
2. A vote was held about whether to create a members only section. The vote was no=15, yes=13, "give it a try"=3. Moved by Shari to not create a members section. Seconded by Edie Stoaks, Motion passed.

7. **New Business** –

1. None

8. **The next meeting, no host, will be held on July 10, 2021 at 1:00 p. m. at Tim and Shari Gale's house.** It will be a potluck. The information to attend will be sent by email.

9. Shari adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p. m. Tonight's Zoom meeting was then continued for open discussions. Tim and Shari told about a demonstration at an Albany grade school. It was difficult to set up, but rewarding.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale T. Justice
/signed/dtj/6-21-2021

Happenings

in the Pacific Northwest and beyond



Event information in this newsletter is not to be considered as an endorsement by WAS, its officers, or its members.

Saturday, July 10, 2021

WAS General Meeting - In-Person

1:00 PM

Tim & Shari Gale's home
(See article below.)

July 23-25, 2021

**Big Sky International Balloon
Rendezvous**

Billings, Montana

[https://www.facebook.com/
bigskyballoonrally/](https://www.facebook.com/bigskyballoonrally/)

July 23-25, 2021

Ruby Mountain Balloon Festival

Elko, Nevada

[http://rubymountainballoonfestival.
com](http://rubymountainballoonfestival.com)

July 23-25, 2021

**2021 Balloons Over Bend Balloon
Festival**

Bend, OR

[http://www.balloonsoverbend.
com/](http://www.balloonsoverbend.com/)

This is a tentative date. Stay tuned.

August 27-29, 2021

Northwest Art & Air Festival

Albany, OR

<http://nwartandair.org>

September 1-5, 2021

Spirit of Boise Balloon Classic

Boise, Idaho

<https://spiritofboise.com/>

September 10-12, 2021

The Great Reno Balloon Race

Reno, NV

For more information:

<http://www.renoballoon.com>

September 24-26, 2021

The Great Prosser Balloon Rally

Prosser, WA

For more information:

[http://www.prosserballoonrally.
org](http://www.prosserballoonrally.org)

September 24-26, 2021

Winnemucca Balloon Festival

Winnemucca, NV

[https://winnemuccaballoonswixsite.com/winnemucca-
balloons](https://winnemuccaballoonswixsite.com/winnemucca-balloons)

It's About Time for an In-Person WAS Meeting!

It was decided during the last WAS Zoom meeting that it is time for us all to get together in-person. The meeting will be held outside on the deck of Tim and Shari's home in Albany, on **Saturday, July 10th**.

They had intended to hold an open house after they moved to Albany in February 2020. The pandemic put a halt to those plans. They are anxious to invite you to visit them.

There will be no Zoom meeting. It's strictly an in-person meeting.

The meeting will be brief. The camaraderie will last a lot longer. It will be a potluck, so please bring a dish to share.

An address will be shared with all current WAS members via e-mail.

June has taken too many balloonists from us!

Veteran balloonist Brent Stockwell passed away on June 15, 2021. He was from Manteca, California.

Brent taught hundreds of pilots from around the world over a remarkable 50 year career in the sport. He co-wrote a book called "Hot Air Balloons" in 1998 along with his friend, Christine Kalakuka. He flew in a number of Gordon Bennett gas balloon events and was one of the original 13 AIBF pilots.

Husband and wife Wanda and Greg Szymanski, Boise, Idaho both passed away recently. Wanda passed away in January and Greg on June 3rd.

Greg was the owner of a repair station called Boise Aerostat Service Exchange. He was a steady presence in the Idaho ballooning community.

His friend, Bryce Boehler, recently wrote: "When I was 15 years old, I rode my bike down to Ann Morrison Park to help crew for a hot air balloon. Little did I know that day that I would meet a man that would have such an impact on my life. There is not a thing Greg wouldn't do for anyone. Chocolate ice cream, golf, and hot air balloons are what he lived for and I am pretty sure he could show all of us how to enjoy each of them even more. You will be missed my friend and it was an honor to be in the basket with you the last time you were able to take the balloon off of the ground. Farewell my friend."

That leads us to the very recent passing of Kong (Jeff Shields). He is profiled in the following pages.

There is a Kong sized hole in this corner of our universe.

Kong, aka: Jeff Shields, was an integral part of the Pacific Northwest ballooning community. He practically grew up in it. As a 14-year old Kong saw a hot air balloon, piloted by Chauncey Dunn, take off in Walla Walla, Washington as part of the homecoming celebration for Whitman College. He chased the balloon on his bicycle out into the surrounding countryside. Chauncey asked him to crew for him during the rest of the week. That's all it took to get started.

Chauncey Dunn also got other locals interested in ballooning that fateful week. Both Nat Vale and Bill Lloyd bought new balloons. Kong became regular crew for both of them.

Kong learned to fly in 1973. He received his training from Gladys Buroker who owned a Semco, which she'd brought to Walla Walla in order to train several pilots.

He traveled extensively, going from rally to rally. His first trip to the Nationals in Indianola was in 1976. Over the years, he flew several different commercial balloons, including Grab On, a manufacturer of foam grips for motorcycles and bicycles that was based in Walla Walla. He also flew for Budweiser, 7-Up, Kool cigarettes, Wendy's and Cal Gas to name a few.

Ultimately, he flew in all 50 states and several different countries.

For years he was the Safety Officer for the Walla Walla Balloon Stampede.

On top of his ballooning career Kong often took gigs as

a sound man for popular bands such as Taj Mahal. He joined them for their world tours. Through those connections he met many famous musicians and gave them balloon rides, including Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, David Bowie, Annie Lennox and Keith Richards to name a few. Taj Mahal paid tribute to their "tour manager extraordinaire" on their Facebook page.

In 2019 Kong was presented with the Ed Yost Master Pilot Award from the Balloon Federation of America for demonstrating professionalism, skill and aviation expertise by maintaining safe operations for 40 or more consecutive years as an active pilot.

On Saturday morning, June 19, 2021, Kong collapsed on a launch field in the Seattle area. He had just given a big hug (he knew no other kind of hug) to a long-time friend. He was given CPR immediately, and paramedics arrived quickly. Yet, no one was able to revive him.

Kong passed away doing what he loved most — flying and hanging out with friends. He will leave a Kong sized hole in our ballooning community. Everyone who knew him cherished their friendship with him.

On the following two pages you will find tributes to Kong and more photographs. Lots of people



Tracy Shrouf and Kong



In 2019 Kong presented the Ed Yost Award to his younger brother, Scott Shields, during Albany's Art and Air Festival.

contributed pictures: McKenna Secrist, Tracy Shrouf, Chase Shields, Greg Ashton, and Shauna Spencer Stonehocker.

Tributes to Kong

Once the word spread that Kong had passed away the local ballooning community started to grieve and to reminisce. His nephew, Chase Shields, shared this: Thank you everyone for the kind words and support the past few days. It's been comforting to see how many lives Kong touched. We have seen a lot of stories and photos circulating on social media and wanted to collect as many of these as possible for our family. We created the email: rememberingkong@gmail.com

Here are some stories that were either shared by WAS members or were gleaned from Facebook.

Hollie Hemenway: Kong was a part of my experience "growing up" in ballooning. I don't recall when we first met but it seemed he was a part of my life, close or distant, for the past 40+ years. He was a loyal friend in times of trauma and sorrow who was always present in the moment. He was also a fun and cantankerous personality whose smile and hugs would warm up any launch field, even in Winthrop in the winter time.

My favorite memory is from the Walla Walla balloon rally in 1984 when I went up to crew for him. He played match maker and maneuvered an introduction to a cute pilot I had asked him about. He knew that we would all be at the Walla Walla Country Club to go dancing that night and true to his plans made sure that we bumped into the pilot in question, Rod Purdum. Rod and I have been together since and have been married for 27 years. Thanks Kong!

It's hard for me to imagine not seeing him again. I am so grateful to have experienced his friendship.

Cheryl Isaacs: Michael and I went to an Oregon Zoo concert in

the summer one year and we found a great spot to set up our chairs not far back from the stage so we were able to see everything. As we were sitting sipping our drinks we were watching the stage crew set up for the oncoming band to start the show. We were just sitting there when we looked up and saw this very tall large man on stage in khakis and a black shirt setting up some equipment and then he walked off stage. We looked at each other and said, "That's Kong!" We knew he did that sort of work but we weren't prepared to see him in Portland. We watched as he and his crew set everything up and wanted to yell to him but of course we are both too shy for that sort of thing, so we just watched him and his crew do their thing.

We both remember seeing him and both saying at the same time, "That's Kong."

He was a great friend and he will be missed by many. In the ballooning world he was a great mentor, teacher, and always willing to help others.

I am happy to have met him.

Phil Archey: I'd given up ballooning entirely. Kong invited me to go on a flight with him. Once we were up in the air, Kong turned his back to me and started messing around with things in the basket. The balloon started to descend. Eventually, it became obvious that we were going to fall out of the sky. I grabbed the burner and added heat. At that point Kong turned around and said, "Gotcha." He intended all along to get me hooked back on flying. He said, "Even with rusty skills, you are a better pilot than most people. You need to keep flying."

John Kent: He was well loved. He was willing to help anyone anytime he could. Always had a friendly smile and demeanor, at least that was my experience. He will

be missed, that's for sure. I know Brittney Henderson, his student thought the world of him.

Bob Romaneschi: Kong was one of a kind. Always a friend, always supportive, always there if you needed him. May we all rejoice in his memory.

Taj Mahal: It is with heavy hearts that we share the very sad news of the passing of our dear friend and "tour manager extraordinaire" Kong. We are all in shock and devastated by this tremendous loss, he will be greatly missed.
R.I.P. Kong



Kong and Shauna Spencer (now Stonehocker) in 1979. Shauna was six months old.



This is a more recent photo of Kong, along with his friend, Jesse Rafn, his nephew Chase Shields and his brother, Scott Shields.

Photos of Kong



Kong hosted his life long friend, Greg Ashton, at a Taj Mahal concert in Boise a couple of years ago.



Kong congratulated his most recent student pilot, Brittany Shrouf-Biddescombe, on a great landing.



Many years ago Kong tried to become a fashion influencer. Cow pie hats just were not a hit. He decided to stick with ballooning and being a roady.



McKenna Secrist and Kong



Kong liked to let the balloon kids learn to drive chase vehicles early! Above that's a young Andrew Johnson behind the wheel with Kong in the back seat. Below is Tracy Shrouf's grandson Cameron on Kong's lap. It seems Cameron was not quite tall enough to reach the peddles so Kong had to sit in the front seat.



Vic Johnson, Kong and Mandy Johnson



From driving lessons to flight lessons — is it any wonder that the younger generation loved this guy?

Meet Shari Gale

By Shari Gale, who else?!

From your editor: I've taken the hint. This month I'm sharing my story with you. This means I will not feel one bit guilty in the months to come when I ask you to share your story with our ballooning community.

I'm Oregon born through and through. I was born in Salem a long, long time ago. I started school in a two-room school in Shaw, Oregon. That building is now a private residence and the Shaw area is now part of the Aumsville School District. I was the only one in first grade. By the time I was in second grade there were two other kids. They were both boys, but I didn't care. I was just happy not to be the only little kid in the room. By the time I entered third grade we'd moved to West Stayton and there were at least 12 kids in my grade. I was happy as a clam. I'm still friends with one of those kids. I moved again my Sophomore year in high school to Stayton.

I went to college at Oregon State. That's where I met Tim. We met via my roommate who introduced us while we were all checking out vinyl records at the OSU bookstore. (That's a clue if you are trying to figure out how old I am.)

Tim and I dated for more than three years, and got married the year following our graduation. By then Tim had a job in Utah, so I joined him there. I spent my time trying to find him a job on the West Coast. Neither of us appreciated the desert climate. (Who knew that snow could squeak when you walk on it?)

In 1978 we were introduced to hot air ballooning. Tim and I were visiting his aunt and uncle who lived in Bend. Their home was just a few houses south of Harmon Park. By pure luck, there was going to be a balloon rally there the same weekend. I worked with a guy who

owned a balloon and he invited us to crew, he also asked Tim to go up with him. Neither Tim nor I had even seen a balloon at that point in our lives. We said, "We'll be there."

It was extremely cold in Bend that year. Mirror Pond was frozen over! The pilot, Chris Kirby, did not have tank heaters so he took his propane tanks into his motel room to keep them warm. I'm sure the motel owner and the fire marshal were not consulted.

When we got to the park we discovered Chris's other rider was a no-show, so he asked me to climb in the basket. As we lifted off I watched a VW Bug drive across Mirror Pond. Meanwhile, our only crew, the pilot's sister-in-law, was chatting up a cute, single pilot. She was not paying attention to our direction of flight. Fuel pressure became an issue only 30 minutes into the flight, which was not surprising. Chris put the balloon down behind a saw mill.

With no chase vehicle in sight, we all debated if we'd get in trouble by lighting some discarded wood to make a fire. After all, the balloon burner could get even frozen wood burning quickly, and we desperately needed to get warm.

Luckily, two teenaged boys in a pickup truck showed up. They offered to drive us back to the launch site. We did not debate the answer to that question. They helped us load the balloon into the back of the pickup, Tim and Chris climbed into the basket and squatted down to get out of the wind, while I climbed into the cab with the boys. As we drove out of the mill site, one of the



Tim and I took delivery of our first balloon in March of 1980.



Forty years later we are still at it.

boys pointed out a back alley they could take. I said, "Well, the main road through town is right over there." That's when the driver told me, "I'm afraid to take it. My dad doesn't know I've got the truck." My thought was, "Great! Now we are going to get arrested for contributing to the delinquency of a

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Meet Shari Gale

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minor.”

That was my introduction to hot air ballooning.

Tim and I crewed for about a year. Eventually, we decided it was time to either get out or buy our own balloon. We ended up designing and ordering our first balloon, BasketCase. We decided on that name while we were on our morning walk, and one of us said, “If we buy a balloon we will just become a couple of basket cases.” Since we had the name for the balloon, we decided we might as well buy one. BasketCase was born on February 14, 1980. We received it not long after that.

We jumped into ballooning fast. Who knew I’d be getting up well before dawn for the next 40 years?

In 1981 I took over the newsletter for the local balloon club, the 45th Parallel Aerostat Squadron. Later, I took on the newsletter duties for the regional balloon club, the Northwest Balloon Association (NBA). I created those newsletters the hard way – on a typewriter with no photos and a very few hand-drawn graphics. The finished product was then photocopied and mailed out.

I’d sit on the floor in front of the TV, watching any show that did not require my full attention while collating, stapling, addressing and stamping the newsletters. If someone was a member of both the 45th and the NBA they’d get the entire newsletter. If they only belonged to one club or the other they’d get only certain pages, so the collating was not a totally mindless activity.

I kept up both newsletters for many years. I burned out in the early 1990’s. Eventually, the 45th fell apart, and the Willamette Aerostat Society (WAS) was born. Several years later I volunteered to take on this newsletter. I think I got started

in 2010. So far, I’m still going strong.

I do enjoy using modern technology to produce this newsletter. I get to use Adobe InDesign and Photoshop. They make the finished product look so much better than what I produced back in 1981.

I started electronic layout back when Adobe’s program was called PageMaker. I started with version 1.1 on an early Apple MacIntosh. A few years after we bought our home system I landed a job with the marketing department at Willamette Falls Hospital in Oregon City. They chose me over other candidates because I already knew how to operate the computer and the program. So you can say that ballooning, the hole in the air into which we poured a lot of money, created a chance for me to pay the bills.

I have been the president of WAS for four years. It’s not usually a hard job. The demands of the newsletter are much greater.

In the early 1980’s I organized a balloon rally for several years which was a fund raiser for the Portland Opera Association. No, I do not really like opera. I’m more of a Clapton fan. The Country Classic did make it possible for me to meet some fascinating people I never would have met any other way. For one thing, the rally was held in conjunction with a hunter jumper horse competition. Who else would mix Olympic quality horses and riders with hot air balloons? (It worked, we just kept the balloons away from the horse barns. Far away.) For another, the Opera Association supporters included a lot of the movers and shakers in the Portland business community – including one guy who is now in prison for fraud. But that’s another story.

I do have a life outside of ballooning. Tim and I adopted our son, Andrew. I ended up joining



At the Country Classic I met the Meyer family, who hosted a party for the balloon club. When they found out it was going to be on my birthday, they turned it into a birthday party for me. It was the first and only time I had a live band play the birthday song for me.

the board of Northwest Adoptive Families Association (NAFA). It is a support group for kids and their parents who have been touched by adoption. I was president of the board for four years. (Do you see a theme here?) To this day I regularly meet with over a dozen of my fellow board members for a Mom’s Night Out. It’s a dynamic group with whom I love hanging out.

I volunteered to do the newsletter for The Boys and Girls Aid Society for many years. There again, I met some incredible people through that organization.

I, also, did a lot of volunteering at Andrew’s school. First, grade school and middle school, and then on to the counseling office at the high school. There’s no better way to keep tabs on your kid than to volunteer in the counseling office! He couldn’t get away with anything. (Poor kid.)

The part of ballooning I enjoy

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Meet Shari Gale

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the most are the people we meet. I have a theory: Only positive people are willing to get up so early in the morning.

We've made life-long friends here, there and everywhere. We've taken up three generations of several families. We've had three generations crewing for us over the years. (That's another hint as to how old I am.) But maybe the best crew members we ever had were my parents. They really got into the whole ballooning experience. It was wonderful to share it with them. When it came time to land, I always gave the task of seeking landowner permission to my mother. I had one farmer tell me that she was my secret weapon. He would never turn her down because she reminded him of his own mother.

We feel at home in towns such as Walla Walla and Boise even though we've never lived there. We've just visited so often we know our way around. I'm not going to try to pick which rally we've enjoyed the most over the years. There have been so many. Each one is unique. Each one has redeeming features and room for improvement. Having organized a rally in the past, I'm not about to find fault with an organizer's decisions. After all, I don't know what challenges they've faced. As long as the organizer does not compromise safe flight, and recognizes the inherent limitations of hot air balloons, then I am good with it all.

We've only flown in Europe once. We went to France in 2019. It was an amazing experience on so many levels. We had planned to go again this year. COVID took that option away from us. Now we are hoping to go in 2023.

This year I'm just happy to have several balloon rallies on my

calendar. It's been way too long since we all got together.



Tim and I adopted Andrew through the State of Oregon. He was placed with us the winter of 1992. He was three at the time.



In 2007 Tim and I hosted a foreign exchange student from Germany named Jennifer Ritz. Jenny has become a forever member of our family. She has visited us almost yearly, and we have traveled to Germany to visit her four different times.



Years ago Tim and I took up Estelle deMontgolfier in our balloon while she was on a teaching exchange with Portland State University. Estelle hosted us in Paris in 2011 and 2013 for a total of 10 days. We could not have asked for a better tour guide. She actually got us into a closed wing of the Musée Carnavalet so we could see the hot air balloon exhibits.



I flew over the Mondial area of France in 2019. I flew in Fred and Christel Dinkler's balloon. The pilot was Phil Bryant. His wife, Linda, went up along with me.

Photo left: I have the delightful task of often spending time with my two granddaughters. What could be more fun than that?

High Sierra Balloon Camp Is Under Way

June 21-25, 2021

WAS is a proud supporter of the High Sierra Balloon Camp. It is heartening to see the camp getting off to such a great start.

It's like a week long safety seminar for teens between the ages 13-17, with a big fun factor added in.

Oregonian Kearney Davis is a staff member again this year.



A pre-camp flight over Prosser Lake was a success.



"Bad wind direction means campers got to listen to six pilots' decision making process of go — no go decision. Then, what we do to make lemonade out of lemons. Tether and hopper day. Everyone had a chance to do both." said Karalyn Mumm the camp director.



On another day every camper received fire extinguisher training. A lot more will happen in the following days.

2021 WAS Membership Application



Name: _____

Pilot Crew Interested in hot air ballooning

Birthday: Month _____ Day _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Home Phone #: (____) _____

Cell Phone #: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____ @ _____

BFA Membership #: _____

Pilot/Crew Achievement Awards

BFA Crew Level: _____ BFA Pilot Level: _____

FAA Wings Level: _____ Other: _____

Family Member Information

Name: _____ Pilot Crew

Membership Type

Charter (\$20) Single or Family (\$20) Newsletter Only (\$10 outside Oregon & SW Washington)

Membership

The Willamette Aerostat Society communicates via e-mail, the WAS Facebook page and the website. We recognize and respect our member's privacy. If you do not wish personal information about you shared with other members, please indicate below. Your personal information will *never* be published on our website. It might be shared with other club members if a request is made unless you prefer to opt out.

- Do Not share name
- Do Not share address
- Do Not share phone number
- Do Not share cell phone number
- Do Not share e-mail

Please use a 2nd page if there are two pilots in the family, or if you have family members with additional information such as cell phone # and/or BFA #'s.

Mail completed form with fees to:
Willamette Aerostat Society
c/o Dale Justice
2902 E. 2nd St. Unit 76
Newberg, OR 97132



Willamette Aerostat Society

Willamette Aerostat Society Mission Statement

- ➔ To promote the sport of Hot Air Ballooning
- ➔ To educate new balloonists and the public
- ➔ To embody safety in all aspects of Ballooning
- ➔ To do all we can to support and encourage land owner relations
- ➔ To support our fellow balloonists and crews personally and in our sport

To obtain Member Contact information, send an e-mail to the Secretary/Treasurer.

For Privacy reasons, *AeroStats* will not publish member contact information without their express permission.

Contact and Submissions

Submissions of articles and photographs are encouraged and welcome! The editorial staff reserves the right to determine the suitability of a submission for inclusion in the newsletter.

Please email your pictures, articles, and comments to:

sharigaleOR@gmail.com

Advertising Policy

Club member's ballooning related or event information is published on a space available basis at no charge.

Business Advertising by Club members is considered Commercial Advertising, subject to fees shown below.

Material must be submitted in computer word processing format with pictures in JPG format.

AeroStats reserves the right to decline publishing submitted information.

Commercial Advertisement Space Rates

Full Page — \$30 1/2 Page — \$20
1/4 Page — \$15 Business Card — \$10

Ads will be published for 3 consecutive months, or until withdrawn, for the fee shown above.

The publishing of advertising in *AeroStats* does not imply an endorsement of the ad or its contents.

Text and images will be printed as submitted by advertisers.

Front Cover Photo:

Kong (Jeff Shields) was a regular at Albany's Art and Air Festival. This photo was taken in 2019 as Kong lifted off. Photo by Shari Gale.

Waiver

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We ask that you credit WAS, AeroStats and the author in any reuse of newsletter material.

Commercial use of material (articles or images) for any reason is prohibited without the express written consent from the Willamette Aerostat Society.

Material to be considered for publication should be mailed or e-mailed to the Newsletter Editor at sharigaleOR@gmail.com

Publication deadline is the 2nd Saturday of each month.

AeroStats reserves the right to deny publication of submitted material for any reason.

Material published in AeroStats does not imply endorsement by WAS, its officers, newsletter editor, or its members of an event.

Nor does it imply agreement with opinions, comments, or endorsement of any product.