

# AeroStats



**January 2011**

**The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Willamette Aeostat Society**  
Volume 13, Number 1

# WAS President's Letter



Let me be one of the first to wish you a Happy New Year. I am looking forward to another great year of ballooning and hanging out with

some of my favorite people — my ballooning buddies! Although I don't get the chance to see many of you except during our ballooning season, it always seems like we just talked yesterday when we meet again during our first flying event of the season. That is what makes this club and its members so special — the long term and ongoing friendships formed. It is because of this, that I am again privileged to hold the office of WAS President for another year. I am looking forward to working with my Executive Staff (sounds official, doesn't it?), and WAS members to make this next year a great one in terms of ballooning. At this point, I would like to recognize Justin Luber, Jason Fast, Shari Gale and Cory Miller for their willingness to step up to fill WAS Board Positions for 2011. Thank you all. I also would like to thank Laura Hancock for volunteering to be our Activities Director.

#### Editor's Confession:

Since the flying season is over here in the Pacific Northwest I resorted to doing a little Photoshop work for the cover photo. The truth is tulips don't bloom in the winter and Justin & Pasha were no where near the fields when that photo was taken. However, that's Mt. Hood in the background. Since Justin & Pasha have started up the Mt. Hood Ice Cream Company composition of the photo just seemed appropriate.

What a great team we have in place, and I'm excited to be working with such great people.

It was good to see many of you at our Christmas Party last month. The food was great, the setting was wonderful and the company was superb. Thank you Edie for opening up your home again and making us feel right at home. Thank you Sandy for all the work you did as well in coordinating this event.

Looking forward into 2011, I am ready and eager for another flying season to begin. Our ballooning calendar is already filling up. Kicking things off in February will be the BFA Online Seminar (Feb 5th) and the local Safety Seminar (Feb 26th) in Salem. Hopefully, you have already registered to take advantage

of the discounted rates. In April, there is the BFA Convention, which Cory and I will be attending. Let me know if you have plans to attend, as it would be great to see you there. Then the fun really starts, as "our" flying season kicks off in May with the Walla Walla event. Take a look at the event calendar, and let Shari know if there is an event that you would like added. In terms of WAS meetings, I am planning on inviting more guest speakers this year, so we can mix it up a bit. If you have any topics that you would like to discuss at the meetings, let me know.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Here's to gentle breezes, awesome crew, hospitable landowners and great friendships!

Mark

## 2010 WAS Officers

### President

Mark Trujillo

### Vice President

Justin Luber

### Secretary / Treasurer

Jason Fast

### Newsletter Editor

Shari Gale

### Youth Programs

Cory Miller

### Activities

Sandy Grove

### Community Relations

Jim Smith

### Webmaster

Cory Miller

### WAS Web Site

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

### FORUM Information

subscribe email:

[downwindsubscribe@yahoo.groups.com](mailto:downwindsubscribe@yahoo.groups.com)

# What's Coming Up?

## Ballooning Events in the Pacific Northwest & Beyond

### March 2011

March 4-6  
Winthrop Balloon Roundup  
Winthrop, WA  
Contact:  
events@winthropwashington.com  
1-888-463-8469

### May 2011

May 13, 14 & 15  
37th Annual Walla Walla Balloon  
Stampede  
Walla Walla, WA  
Contact: Susan Hall, WW Chamber  
509-525-0850

### June 2011

June 24-26  
Festival of Balloons in Tigard  
Tigard, OR  
Contact: info@tigardballoon.org  
503-612-8213

### July 2011

July 23  
Jefferson Mint Festival Fly-Out  
Jefferson, OR  
Contact: The LeDoux's  
541-327-2907

July 22-24, 2011  
Balloons Over Bend  
Bend, OR  
Contact: 541-323-0964  
www.balloonsoverbend.com

### August 2011

August 20-21  
Loose Goose IV  
McMinnville, OR  
Contact: Laura Hancock,  
dayshancock@aol.com

August 26, 27, & 28  
Wah Chang NW Art & Air Festival  
Albany, OR  
Contact: Rebecca or Cathy, Albany  
Visitors Association  
800-526-2256 or 541-926-0911  
www.cityofalbany.net/parks/nwaaf/

### September 2011

September 5 (Labor Day)  
Jefferson Fly-Out  
Jefferson, OR  
Contact: Marianne LeDoux,  
541-327-2907

September 9-11  
4th Annual Quincy Valley Balloon &  
Wine Festival  
Quincy, Washington  
[Invitation Only Event]  
Contact: Kent/Kim Bacon,  
509-787-3795

September 9-11  
The Great Reno Balloon Race  
Reno, NV  
Contact: Dixie Craig, 775-826-1181  
http://www.renoballoon.com

September 23-25  
Great Prosser Balloon Rally  
Contact: Morgan  
morgan@prosserballoonrally.org

### October 2011

October 22-24  
Grant County Hot Air Balloon  
Festival  
John Day, OR  
Contact: Grant County Chamber of  
Commerce  
541-575-0547

*To my WAS "family,"*

*I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation as the recipient of the Crew Person of the Year Award. The presentation caught me totally unaware since I had not read the October or November newsletter due to traveling back East.*

*It's always been a joy to host the Christmas party but I will happily relinquish it to someone else at any time. My greatest passion of course is crewing for my friends in and out of town.*

*Again thank you to each and everyone for this honor.*

*Edie Stoaks*

# Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Willamette Aerostat Society Christmas Party and Meeting minutes  
December 12, 2010

Attending executive officers:

Mark Trujillo, President.

Justin Lubber, Vice President.

Jason Fast, Sec. Treas.

Cory Miller, Web Master and Past President

Sandy Grove, Activities Coordinator

Activities Director Sandy Grove is retiring this year.

Laura Hancock questioned about the Activities Director position and volunteered for the role. She was swiftly appointed by President Mark.

Then Justin made the presentation for Crew Person of the Year to EDIE STOAKS for her crewing efforts and most of all for hosting the Christmas party for many years, clapping and cheering followed. Then Justin made the presentation of Aeronaut of the Year to MARK TRUJILLO for his Leadership of the club and his continuing efforts in landowner relationship and support for ballooning in general, more clapping and cheering.

Laura then Discussed the McMinnville Food and wine festival at Evergreen Aviation. This event is March 11,12,13 of 2011 (Fri., Sat., Sun.) We as a club now have the opportunity to have a ballooning booth at the festival. This is for the promotion of Ballooning to the public and we will be looking for volunteers to man the booth in short intervals or as long as you wish. I'm sure more detailed information will follow and Laura Hancock would be a good contact if you have questions.

Remember the Salem Safety Seminar on February 26, 2011. I hope you all got signed up at the discounted rate by the end of December!!

Jim encouraged winter preparation for student pilots and pilot upgrades to avoid the end of the year rush. It sounds like he may have good amount of activity this coming year. Thank you Jim for your efforts in our sport!

Sandy moved to adjourn the meeting. Jim second.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm

*By Jason Fast  
WAS Secretary Treasurer*

## Treasurers report:

Beginning Balance	+\$1179.60
	-130.00 Awards
	-38.53 Food
	-10.99 Host gift
	-30.86 Food
Ending Balance	<u>+\$969.22</u>
Encumbered amounts	
	\$195.00 BFA convention delegate
	100.00 BFA Balloon camp from one donation
	<u>+\$674.22 Estimated total after encumbered amounts</u>

First item on the agenda was FOOD, DRINK and SOCIALIZATION. It was great food and a great time.

Meeting called to order by President Mark at 3:00pm

Kris motioned to approve minutes as posted, Justin second. Passed.

Then the new Newsletter subscription, Non-member by-laws change was read one last time.

Motion by Sandy to amend bylaws as stated. Second by Justin.

There was some discussion on the change and then the vote. Passed unanimously. Below is the change voted on:

Add 5 to read: Newsletter Subscription non member

Newsletter Subscription non members shall only have access to the newsletter in electronic format. They shall not attend WAS meetings nor will have a vote for official WAS business.

e. Newsletter subscription non member \$10.00 per year and can only be a single membership. This membership is limited to those that reside outside Oregon and SW Washington outside Clark County Washington.

Then the election of officer was completed.

All current officer reinstated as they ran unopposed.

President, Mark Trujillo

Vice president, Justin Lubber

Secretary Treasurer, Jason Fast

## Jason Fast Non-minutes Editorial Section:

Gift exchange followed with conversation until all were dispersed. Activities Director Sandy Grove. Thank you so much for your contributions as Activities Director and Secretary Treasurer over the Years. We are forever grateful of your contributions to the Club and the sport of Ballooning. We know you will still have a positive impact in the future. Laura, we look forward to your new roll as activities director in addition to all you do in other capacities for our Club and sport of Ballooning.

Hope all had a Blessed Holiday season with Family and Friends

*Jason*

# 2011 WAS Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date/Type	Location	Topic
January 11, 2011 Executive Board Meeting	TBD	WAS Business Meeting
February 8, 2011 General Member Meeting	Bullwinkle's in Wilsonville	TBD
March 8, 2011 Executive Board Meeting	TBD	WAS Business Meeting
April 12, 2011 General Member Meeting	FBO at Salem Airport	TBD
May 10, 2011 Executive Board Meeting	TBD	WAS Business Meeting
June 14, 2011 General Member Meeting	3rd Street Pizza Company, McMinnville	TBD
July 12, 2011 Executive Board Meeting	TBD	WAS Business Meeting
August 9, 2011 General Member Meeting	Albany	TBD
September 13, 2011 Executive Board Meeting	TBD	WAS Business Meeting
October 11, 2011 General Member Meeting	TBD	TBD
November 8, 2011 Executive Board Meeting	TBD	WAS Business Meeting
December Christmas Party! General Member Meeting	TBD	Have fun!



**Rocket Into the New Year...**  
**Renew Your WAS Membership!**

**A membership form can be found on page 15.**  
**Now your distant friends/family can sign up for the Newsletter only.**  
**(See December meeting minutes on page 4 for details.)**

# FAA Proposes Rule to Require Pilot Certificate Photos

On Nov. 18, 2010, the FAA issued a proposed rule that would require all pilot certificates to include a photo of the certificate holder. This action follows a requirement of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act that all pilot certificates be made of plastic and contain a photo, a hologram, and an ultraviolet-sensitive layer, to prevent tampering, altering, and counterfeiting.

The proposed change includes both a phased-in and trigger-based implementation approach. Trigger events would leverage times when a pilot would normally need to interact with the FAA, such as applying for a new certificate or rating. Because not all pilots will have a triggering event during the implementation period, the FAA also proposes a phased approach for requiring photo certifi-

ates. Commercial pilot certificate holders would have four years after the effective date of the final rule to comply, while a private, recreational, or sport-pilot certificate holder would have five years to get a new photo certificate.

New certificates would have a photo expiration date of eight years, after which pilots must resubmit a photo and receive a new certificate. FAA also proposes to charge a \$22

processing fee for the new photo certificate, which is comparable to drivers' license fees in many states. For more details, reference the NPRM on page 70871 in the Federal Register, vol. 75, No. 223 at [www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/](http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/).

Comments will be accepted until Feb. 17, 2011.

*FAAST Blast — Week of November 29, 2010  
Biweekly FAA Safety Briefing News Update*

## Happy Birthday

<b>Judy Ell</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>Chris Whitfield</b>	<b>1/5</b>
<b>Ron Grove</b>	<b>1/10</b>	<b>Janice Fast</b>	<b>1/30</b>
<b>Alan Sanderson</b>	<b>1/30</b>		

## Sign Up For The Local Balloon Safety Seminar!

Salem, Oregon Balloon Safety Seminar — Saturday, February 26, 2011

There will be a terrific lineup of speakers at this seminar:

**Jim Smith - FARS**

**Andy Baird - Maintenance**

**Greg Winker - Home Building**

**Koh Murai - Weather**

**Ken Walter - Pilot Decision Making**

**Troy Bradley - Flight Reviews**

**Gordon Schwontoski - two different crew topics**

**Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity!**

If you are with IMC, they have stated that every other year they will not give full discount for attending the online seminar so this is a great time to attend a live seminar to receive your full discount

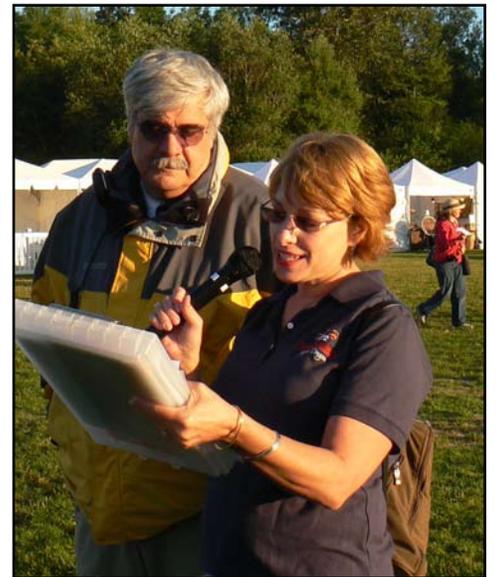
Gordon's books will be available for purchase during lunch, before and after the seminar.

With the two separate crew topics, this is an excellent learning forum for hot air balloon crew members.

(Pilots: IMC gives additional discounts if one of your crew members attends a safety seminar!)

**Contact: Cory Miller — 503-510-1215**

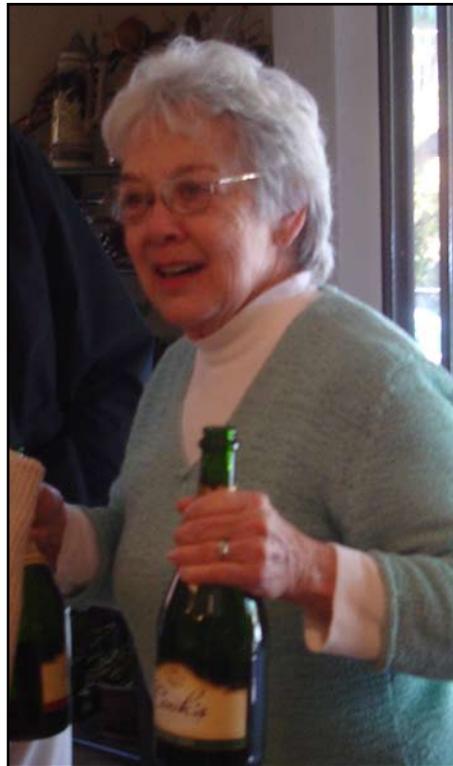
# Faces of Ballooning: 2010



# Faces

continued from page 6

All photos by Shari Gale





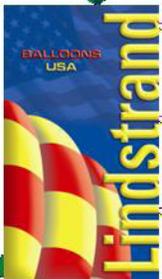
# Happy New Year! Is your resolution to upgrade your equipment? We can help!

When it's time for your next balloon, resolve to do something different! Here are a few things to consider....

- Are fabrics like DIAMONDWEAVE™ with it's proven 500+ hour performance, and Hyperlife™ available?
- Does it include standard features like a Nomex scoop and throat?
- Does it include complete freedom of choice in color and pattern design?
- Are the burners powerful, reliable and yet easy to maintain?
- Does it include these basket options as standard equipment: upgraded size, cushion floor, leather trim and nylon skid protectors?
- Does the manufacturer have a proven track record of world class performance and customer service before and after the sale?

Call your local Lindstrand Dealer today for the latest offers and deals! Get yourself the gift you know you REALLY wanted for the holidays!

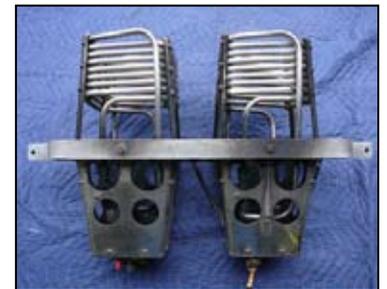
Kong 503-819-5664, Vic 206-915-2002, Mandy 253-638-9696



## Basket/Burners for Sale:

1986 Aerostar CWS "stretch" basket w/485 hrs, poly skid liners, stainless steel corners & wicker is in GOOD condition.

- 4 point aluminum uprights w/suede covers.
- HP2-D burners w/liquid pilots.
- 2 - 20 gallon stainless steel lay down tanks w/heated tank covers. Tanks will be inspected inside and out and recertified.
- Fuel hoses will be new.
- Instruments - BALL 655-A
- Also included: Basket log book, drop line (strap type), document holder & tool pouch, rain cover (down type) & fire extinguisher.



Price has been reduced to \$6,000.00.  
Reasonable offers will be considered.

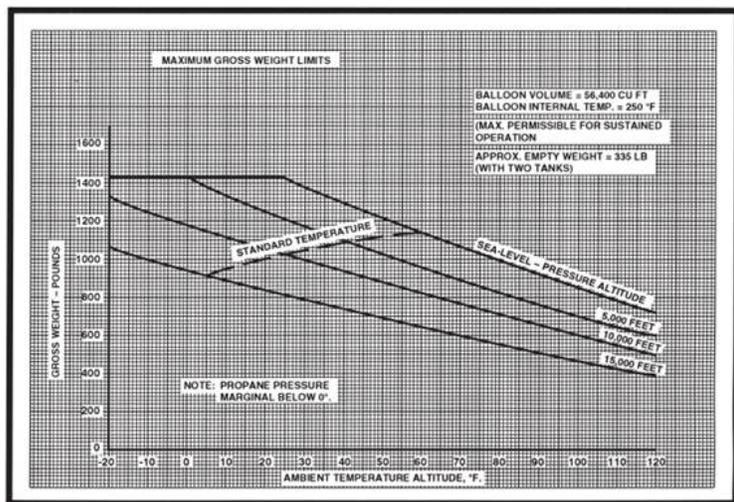
*Ron*

[Rs7thvnn@comcast.net](mailto:Rs7thvnn@comcast.net)

# Test Yourself with the WAS Quick Quiz

The topic of this month's quiz is "Ballooning 101." For further reading, one can refer to the Balloon Flying Handbook, FAA-H-8083-11.

- 1) The lifting forces which act on a hot air balloon are primarily the result of the interior air temperature being
  - A) greater than ambient temperature.
  - B) less than ambient temperature.
  - C) equal to ambient temperature.
- 2) In a balloon, best fuel economy in level flight can be accomplished by
  - A) riding the haze line in a temperature inversion.
  - B) short blasts of heat at high frequency.
  - C) long blasts of heat at low frequency.
- 3) All fuel tanks should be fired during preflight to determine
  - A) that the pilot light functions properly on each tank.
  - B) if there are any leaks in the tank.
  - C) the burner pressure and condition of the valves.
- 4) (Refer to figure below.) What is the maximum altitude for the balloon if the gross weight is 1,000 pounds and standard temperature exists at all altitudes?
  - A) 11,000 feet.
  - B) 4,000 feet.
  - C) 5,500 feet.
- 7) How should a roundout from a moderate-rate ascent to level flight be made?
  - A) Vent at altitude and add heat upon settling back down to altitude.
  - B) Reduce the amount of heat gradually as the balloon is approaching altitude.
  - C) Cool the envelope by venting and add heat just before arriving at altitude.
- 8) Why should propane tanks not be refueled in a closed trailer or truck?
  - A) The propane vapor is odorless and the refuelers may be overcome by the fumes.
  - B) Propane is very cold and could cause damage to the truck or trailer.
  - C) Propane vapor is one and one-half times heavier than air and will linger in the floor of the truck or trailer.
- 9) The valve located on the top of the propane tank which opens automatically when the pressure in the tank exceeds maximum allowable pressure is the
  - A) pressure relief valve.
  - B) metering valve.
  - C) blast valve.



- 5) What is a hazard of rapid descents?
  - A) Aerodynamic forces may collapse the envelope.
  - B) Wind shear can cavitate one side of the envelope, forcing air out of the mouth.
  - C) The pilot light cannot remain lit with the turbulent air over the basket.
- 6) What is a potential hazard when climbing at maximum rate?
  - A) The rapid flow of air may extinguish the burner and pilot light.
  - B) The envelope may collapse.
  - C) Deflation ports may be forced open.
- 10) Why should special precautions be taken when filling the propane bottles?
  - A) During transfer, propane reaches a high temperature and can cause severe burns.
  - B) Propane vapor is super-cold and may cause severe freeze burns.
  - C) Propane is transferred from the storage tanks to the propane bottles under high pressure.
- 11) On cold days, it may be necessary to preheat the propane tanks because
  - A) there may be ice in the lines to the burner.
  - B) the temperature of the liquid propane controls the burner pressure during combustion.
  - C) the propane needs to be thawed from a solid to a liquid state.
- 12) In addition to the required documents, what carry-on equipment should be accounted for during preflight?
  - A) Flotation gear.
  - B) Two means of burner ignition.
  - C) Emergency locator transmitter.

*Answers can be found on the following page.  
(No peaking is allowed before you complete the quiz!)*

# BFA National Convention Announces Speaker Lineup

**Des Moines, IA (Dec. 10, 2010)** Planners have released a full slate of speakers scheduled to appear at the Balloon Federation of America's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention in April.

The event, held April 7-10, 2011, in Des Moines, IA, will offer ballooning enthusiasts the opportunity to hear from some of the best, most experienced balloonists in the world and have some fun, too!

Covering topics ranging from competitive ballooning and event planning to the history of ballooning and building your own aircraft, the program list includes such presenters as Tom Couch, Senior Curator of the Division of Aeronautics at the National Air and Space Museum; gas ballooning expert Peter Cuneo; several national champions and record setters:

## Convention Speakers And Topics

**BALLOON HISTORY IN AMERICA – Tom Crouch**  
**THE HISTORY OF THE MODERN HOT AIR BALLOON – Orv Olivier**

**SAFETY FIRST – THE BFA'S BALLOON EVENT GUIDELINES – Maury Sullivan**

**BALLOON MAINTENANCE – Mark West**

**CREW TRAINING AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION – Gordon Schwontkowski**

**NAVIGATING THE ALPHABET AIRSPACE – Randy Coller**

**RACER VS STANDARD SHAPE – FRIENDS OR FOES? – Pat Cannon**

**LOWER IS BETTER – FAR 91.119 – Kevin Knapp, Ken Yoest, J D Huss**

**BALLOON ACCIDENTS – WHAT HAPPENED? – Pat Cannon**

**RIDE OPERATORS FORUM – Scott Appleman**

**BLIMPS AND AIRSHIPS – Rick Wallace**

**PASSENGER MANAGEMENT AND LIABILITY WAIVERS – Scott Appleman**

**COMPUTER IN THE COCKPIT – TAKE 2 – Al Nels**

**PRIMER FOR GAS BALLOONS – Peter Cuneo**

**DIY BALLOONING – HOME BUILT AND EXPERIMENTAL – Paul Stumph**

**FLIGHT RISK MANAGEMENT – Bill Hughes**

**BALLOON PONG – Chase Donner and Joe Zvada**

**MEET THE EDITOR – Glen Moyer**

**WWW.BFA.NET - WHAT DO YOU WANT AND WHAT CAN IT DO FOR YOU – Rick Jones**

**BALLOONING IN BUDDY BOMBARD'S EUROPE – Buddy Bombard**

## Other Sessions And Roundtables

- **COMPETITORS FORUM** and other sessions on competitive ballooning
- **2012 WORLD HOT AIR CHAMPIONSHIP** – event planning and observer Training
- **BALLOON INSURANCE ROUNDTABLE**
- **BALLOON MANUFACTURERS** – separate sessions for each
- **THE WAY IT WAS** – panel discussion by Indianola national hot air balloon champions
- **BFA HISTORY ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENTS** – forum by early BFA presidents
- **BALLOON PHOTOGRAPHY**

Program sessions start April 8. The convention programming has been developed to fulfill the continuing education requirements for a BFA sanctioned safety seminar. A complete list of topics and speakers will soon be available at [BFA50.com](http://BFA50.com).

Follow us on Twitter ([twitter.com/bfa50](http://twitter.com/bfa50)), or join our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/bfa50](http://www.facebook.com/bfa50)).

### About the Balloon Federation of America

is a 501c3 non-profit association dedicated to the advancement of the sport and science of lighter-than-air aviation, both hot air and gas balloons. Founded in 1961, membership in the BFA is open to anyone who shares a fascination with lighter-than-air flight. For more information, go to [bfa.net](http://bfa.net).

### Answers to the WAS Quick Quiz:

on Page 9

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. C
7. B
8. B
9. A
10. B
11. B
12. B

**Everything you ever  
wanted to know about  
ballooning—all in one place!**



**Join us for the BFA's  
50th Anniversary Convention!**

**April 7-10, 2011**

**Des Moines, IA**

**Keynote speaker: Joe Kittinger**

*Best known for his record-setting parachute jump from a high-altitude balloon at over 102,000 feet, Kittinger was also first to cross the Atlantic Ocean solo by balloon.*

Whether you're interested in getting the competitive edge, running a successful ride business, exploring the history of ballooning or simply attending a top-notch safety seminar, this convention is for you. You'll have the opportunity to hear from some of the best, most experienced balloonists and have some fun, too!

**Go to [bfa50.com](http://bfa50.com) to register  
and get info on accommodations and sponsorships**



# Crew Chief Corner

by Gordon Schwontoski

## First Aid and Injury Prevention

Injuries have been part of ballooning since Day One in 1783 when the Montgolfiers' demonstration flight ended with a rough landing that broke the rooster's beak. Nothing darkens a flight's mood more quickly than an injury and its related cost, time, and inconvenience. They can happen anywhere anytime to anyone — pilots, crew, passengers, or spectators. All crew will encounter minor cuts and burns while many others will face managing more serious accident injuries or pre-existing conditions. Prevention will keep most away, but knowing how to provide first aid is essential for every crew. You don't need to be a paramedic, but providing care until the pros arrive can keep a bad day from getting much worse.

Who gets hurt when is highly predictable. Pilots are least likely to get injured. Passengers are most likely; sprains, breaks, and cuts — especially with the elderly — on landing or shortly afterwards are fairly common. No data exists on crew injuries, but burns and bruises are fairly common from handling equipment as well. These trends offer valuable safety guidance. Passengers need extra briefings on landings. Crew need to exercise caution on launch fields and landing sites. Pilots can teach valuable lessons: be prepared, know what to expect, and act accordingly.

Consider the overall health status of your pilot, self, crew, and passengers before every flight. Who's older or younger? Who's in or out

of shape? Does someone have pre-existing neck or back injuries or heart conditions? Anyone had recent surgery? Is someone pregnant? Has anyone been drinking or on drugs (prescribed, OTC, illegal)? Are allergies an issue? Is anyone tired, sleep-deprived, hungry, or thirsty? Heavy work in cold, heat, or humidity will exaggerate all of these. Crewing demands able bodies and clear minds. A discerning glance or quick "Is everyone feeling strong?" often prompts admissions of physical limits. Ask directly if you have questions, tell your pilot if you have concerns, and act accordingly. Options include assigning less strenuous tasks, working in tandem, or sitting this one out. Monitor everyone's fitness level constantly as anyone falling short for any reason predisposes themselves to injury.

The most common crew injuries fall into seven main categories. They include:

**Bleeding:** cuts from vehicles, trailer doors, lift-gates, barbed wire, fencing, gates, etc.

**Bruising:** caught between basket and vehicle, tie-off recoil, run over on landing, hard landings

**Blisters:** mainly from bare-handed line handling or friction against immovable objects

**Bites:** insect bites, stings, dog bites or scratches

**Breaks:** twists; sprains; fractures from falls, curbs, uneven terrain, vehicle loading or unloading

**Burns:** heat from fan engines/exhaust, burners, sunburn, windburn,

cold burns from fuel

**Balances:** dehydration, low salt/potassium/blood sugar levels from heavy work in extreme weather or eating too much/too little

Some simple precautions will minimize or prevent your encounters with these types of injuries:

**Protect yourself first.** Look out for your own safety; no one does it better than you, and you can't help anyone else if you're injured yourself.

**Be aware of everything around you.** When things go bad, they go bad very quickly. Don't fall prey to the "it-won't-happen-to-me" syndrome.

**Learn basic first aid and keep a first aid kit in your truck.** Imagine how you'd improvise if needed: drop line around a flexi pole to splint a leg, tank strap for an arm sling, empty envelope bag with flexi poles through handles for a stretcher, etc.

**Keep water, pop/juice, salted crackers, and sweets in your truck at all times.** Hot days and missed meals zap strength and cloud judgment. Watch everyone for nausea or dizziness.

**Crew chiefs: brief your crews and ride-alongs on safety before inflation and landing.** Be very clear on what they can expect and what is expected.

**Never leave the ground outside the basket.** Such falls have paralyzed and killed crew. Never wrap a rope around any part of your body you plan to keep either.

*continued on page 16*

# First Aid

*continued from page 15*

## **Fan crew: no loose clothing!**

Fans eat neckties, scarves, and long t-shirts with you inside. If it's loose or baggy, tuck it in!

**Wear lightweight hiking boots for ankle support and traction;** open-toe footwear is out.

**Dress for safety first, then comfort.** Leather gloves on inflation and refueling prevent rope/burner burns and blisters. Long sleeves and pants protect you from burners and crew-hungry vegetation. Choose organic fabrics over synthetics.

**Always watch your step** — no running if you can't see your feet and the ground.

After observing these, some general guidelines will help you look out for other's safety or provide care:

**Stay calm:** panic creates secondary problems, not the solution to the first one.

**Do no harm;** the person most qualified or skilled should take charge of the situation.

**Do not move a seriously injured person** unless a greater hazard (like fire) exists.

**Your goals** are stopping life-threatening dangers, protecting victims from further harm, and getting help.

**Check the ABC's:** is the airway open, is the victim breathing, check for circulation.

**Call for help.** Keep a cell phone and/or radio in your truck and basket along with your emergency contact list. Stay on the line with emergency services or 911 unless they tell you to hang up. Always know where you are.

As many flights take place over rural areas, you'll likely be the first responder to an accident with injuries. Treatments given during the "golden hour" after an injury occurs often determine how well recovery proceeds or even if a victim lives. This article and these guidelines

won't replace recognized first aid training — register for that course today! Do this for yourself as much as others; you'll never know that help-less feeling and regret of standing by not knowing how to help someone in need.

The most common injuries you'll encounter will be relatively minor if handled properly: blisters, cuts, insect bites, first-degree burns, dehydration, and sunburn. If you don't know how to administer first aid for an injury or condition, defer to someone who does or get outside help. But knowing how to handle more critical care situations like shock, choking, heart attack, severe bleeding, severe burns, hypothermia, heatstroke, or unconsciousness can save a life. Make sure someone on your crew knows the basics or can follow instructions from medical professionals.

The worst-case scenario a crew could encounter would be a power line strike. You face the risk of electrocution even 100' away from the basket. Your pilot could be unconscious, forcing your crew chief to take command of the scene. Lines could be down, and your basket and tanks could be on fire. Passengers would most likely suffer serious burns and internal injuries/multiple fractures from jumping or falling from the basket. Emergency services could take more than a few minutes to respond. You must make multiple decisions and actions immediately to protect the lives of those onboard and nearby. And it all happens so fast, there's no time to think — there's only time for training to kick in. Discuss and rehearse strategies with your pilot and crew!

You should also be aware of two legal issues regarding first aid. First, "Good Samaritan" laws prohibit an accident victim from suing a first responder for further injuries if the Samaritan's actions were reasonable, prudent, in good faith, and after consent is given. Check your state's laws for what applies to you. Second, showing an injured passenger com-

passion — no matter how slight their injury — may more effectively defuse a lawsuit than the quality of care you deliver. The perception of indifference or neglect — even after a minor injury — can prompt a passenger to "lawyer up." Don't give an injured person any extra reasons to get litigious. Providing care says you care, makes first aid efforts more effective, and tips the legal scales in your favor as well.

Face it — YOU will be providing first aid for someone at some point, so learn it and keep those skills sharp. Schedule that training or refresher course right now. Plan ahead to prevent or minimize any injuries around your flights. Doing this not only lets you handle whatever may arise, it gives you peace of mind which lets you enjoy crewing and the flight even more.

*Based on the book "Hot Air Balloon Crewing Essentials" available through the author. Send check or money order to:  
Gordon Schwontkowski,  
82 Silver Tree Circle,  
Cary, IL 60013.*

## **Hang On! Did You Renew Your Membership?**



**If not, there's a membership form on the very next page.**

# 2011 WAS Membership Application



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
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: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ JB  Yes  No  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ JB  Yes  No  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ JB  Yes  No  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ JB  Yes  No

## Membership Type

- Charter (\$15)    Individual (\$15)    Family (\$20)    Junior Balloonist (\$15 per JB)  
*Enroll or new JB Membership. We will forward to the BFA Office. Be sure to include JB's name above.*  
 Newsletter Only/Non-voting member (\$10)

## Membership

*WAS publishes an annual Membership Roster, acknowledges Member's Birthdays monthly in AeroStats & communicates via email and our website. We recognize and respect our member's privacy. If you do not wish personal information about you published, please indicate so below. Information published on our web site is public domain and subject to retrieval via Internet connection. Unless otherwise indicated, yes is assumed:*

Publish Name in Annual Directory:  Yes  No  
Publish Phone # in Directory:  Yes  No  
Publish Cell Phone # in Directory:  Yes  No  
Publish Family Member Names in Directory:  Yes  No  
Publish Address in Directory:  Yes  No  
Publish E-Mail Address in Directory:  Yes  No  
Publish Birthday in AeroStats:  Yes  No

**Mail completed form with fees to:**

**Willamette Aerostat Society  
155 Oak Villa Road  
Dallas, Oregon 97338**



# 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 other than e-mail addresses.

## 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:

[newsletter@wasballoon.com](mailto:newsletter@wasballoon.com)

## Advertising Policy

Club members ballooning related or event information published on a space available basis at no charge.

Business Advertising by Club members is considered Commercial Advertising, subject to fee's 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 Ad Space Rates

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

Ad's 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:

A flight of fantasy — Background photo taken at Wooden Shoe Bulb Company in the spring of 2010. Autumn Daybreak's photo taken at Grant County balloon rally in the fall of 2009. Photos and Photoshop work by Shari Gale.

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**Publication deadline is the 2nd Saturday of each month.**

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

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