

November / December



The

Scoops



MEMBERSHIP RECORDS

As we get ready to renew our CLAS Membership, can everyone please complete a new membership application to ensure we have updated mailing address, phone numbers and most importantly your current e-mail address on file.

- Please complete the application and provide to Ellen Dressel so we may update the CLAS Membership Database!

http://www.lighterthanair.org/clas/application_form.htm#form

November / December Contributing Editors

Beverly Theodore	Ellen Dressel
Jack Perry	Bill & Patty Coyer / Anderson
Libby Richardson	Mark Sand
Penny Christy	Larry Nelson
Rick Silva	Carol Conroy
Katie L. Morris	James Regan
John Bond	Jonathan Niccum

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This newsletter is published by The Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society for its members and interested parties. Portions of this publication may be reproduced if credit is given to the writer and to CLAS.

The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the organization or members of this organization (but if they were they'd be damn good ones!!!).

Mick Murphy temporary Minister of Propaganda!!

Cover photo: I am not sure who took the photos (SORRY) not to provide proper correct ! Mark Sand took lower left photo.

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CLAS Minutes 10/20/2011

Call to order at 7:45 pm by Mick Murphy, President

Members in attendance signed in on sheet. 22 total

Minutes of last month's meeting were read in the 'Scoop' and accepted

Officer's reports:

Treasurer, Penny gave a report that the Club is now doing business with TD Bank North. The tax exempt status is still being considered. Filing a tax form could be cheaper than applying for tax exempt. The primary address for the Club must be the P.O. Box 53 in Southbury, CT

Committee Reports:

Sunshine: Rodney Watts, a charter member has passed and a card was sent.

BFA/FAA: BFA to give every club \$10 for every member that attends an on-line seminar FAR section 91.119 about balloons still under discussion.

The BFA is considering establishing new BFA Chapters to try introduce new members and activity in ballooning..

There will be a new "Ride Operators" division of the BFA to focus on the needs of this segment of the market..

Education:

TBA: Fire extinguisher practice TBA.

Competition:

Nomination committee:

Mick Murphy is resigning as President, He needs the time for the BFA.

Treasurer and "Scoop" editor needed.

Winter Dinner: Preliminary report given

Safety seminar:

CLAS seminar will be Feb 25th, 2012.

Change in format is being considered.

Old Business: Tax exempt status

New Business: Calendar photo competition was the remainder of the meeting.

Attendance: Erwin & Ellen Dressel, Carlos Kebe. Darrel & Cindy Smith, Dan Decker, Doug Sherman, Jack Perry, Tom Whelan, Carol & Rick Silva, Garry Guertin, Penny Christy, Steve Ushchak, Tom & Mick Murphy, Bill Costen, Al Theodore, Charlie Perreault Nemic, Rob & Pam MacFarland, Larry Nelson and Libby Richardson.

Respectively submitted,



Seventh: Penny Christy Solberg-Hunterdon Airport, NJ



Tenth Place:
Carol Conroy Hudson, MA



Eleventh Place:
Libby Richardson
Plainville Balloon Fest.



Twelfth Place:
Katie L. Morris
Plainville Balloon Fest.

Your invited to A Holiday Party!

Date: December 17, 2011
Time: 5PM--Till the old farts start snoring in their beer.
Where: 120 Flax Rd. Fairfield, CT. 06824
Food: Bring your favorite dish
Entertainment: Bring your instrument of choice and get Jamming.
Costumes: Why Not!
RSVP: We do believe in miracles! Tel--203--255-1929 or ayankeeballoon@aol.com
Directions: 95 south to exit 21 Mill Plain Rd. Turn left, Go under highway, under railroad bridge to Post Rd..
Turn right at light, next light is South Pine Creek, turn left, take the 5th right, which is Flax Rd, red house at bend.
Hope you all can join us to celebrate the Holidays, Bill & Patty

Sixth Place: Mark Sand Glens Falls, NY



Third Place: Beverly Theodore Avon, CT



Ninth Place: Rick Silva Glens Falls, NY



Eighth Place: Larry Nelson Chambley World Record



Balloonist set world record but was prone to accidents by Joe Callahan

(Joe Callahan is a former fire chief of Salisbury who is interested in historical accounts of the area.)

No doubt, many of the area's senior citizens might recall hearing about a local daredevil by the name of "Pickles" Cates. Harold "Pickles" Cates was born in Newburyport in 1890. He lived his entire life in the Boardman and Olive streets area. After watching a balloon ascension in 1909 at the Storey Avenue Fairground, he decided he would like to become an aeronaut, and he signed up that very day to begin his training for a career that made him famous, enabled him to perform before thousands of spectators and set a world record, but also left him involved in several serious accidents.

In June of 1912, he made a triple parachute jump from his balloon from 2,000 feet at Nahant. That meant that he wore three parachutes, opened one, then cut it away, then opened the second, cut it away and opened the third before landing.

In October of 1912 at the Brockton Fair, "Pickles" made a seven-parachute jump from 8,000 feet, witnessed by several thousand people. This was a world-record jump that still stood 20 years later at the time of his death.

However, two tragic accidents, neither his fault, marred his career.

In September of 1913 at the Woodstock, Conn., Fair, a 13-year-old boy was killed when he fell 500 feet after becoming entangled in one of the many ropes used to hold down the balloon while it was being filled with hot air. It was common for spectators to hold these ropes, and when a signal was given, the ropes were let go and the balloon would swiftly rise skyward. The boy had wrapped the rope around his arm and was unable to free himself when the signal was given. Cates was completely unaware of the situation until after the fall.

On Aug. 8, his balloon pressurized End Boat Newburyden change direction balloon to quickly to-clubhouse, holding the ropes were control it. struck and flagpole ling, struck of 11-George was in-killed.



Fourth Place: Jack Perry Plainville Balloon Fest.

1914, while being at the North Club in port, a sud-in the wind caused the move ward the and those balloon unable to The balloon broke a that, in fal-the carriage month-old Pray, who stantly George's ola Pray,

mother, Vi-

was seriously injured but did make a complete recovery. One other spectator was less seriously injured. This was to be Cates' first ascension in his native city.

One month later, Cates nearly drowned after his parachute landed in the middle of a lake in Reading. He was seized with cramps and rescued by occupants of a motorboat.

Cates again escaped death on March 29, 1915, but it was not balloon-related. He and his brother, Willard, were in the printing business, and they occupied a space in the large three-story factory, then located at the corner of Water and Fair streets where the Salvation Army is located today. The brothers had a contract to print advertising on large kites. Cates was on the roof at noontime running back and forth, getting the kite in the air so he could judge how the ad looked. When the kite was airborne, he stepped back a bit to observe the ad. When he did, he was closer to the edge than he realized, and he fell 35 feet to the ground on Water Street. Fortunately for him, he suffered only a broken ankle. This incident was witnessed by a startled group of workers of Swift's Meat Packing Company sitting in front of that business across Water Street having their lunch.

Cates made his first jump from an airplane at Hampton Beach from 8,000 feet in August 1920, witnessed by a crowd of 10,000 people. He also performed regularly at Salisbury Beach for many summers.

As the Roaring '20s went on, he began to limit his performances. One of his last acts was in August 1927 at a gigantic clambake and carnival at Parker River in Newbury, attended by several hundred persons.

Pickles Cates died at the young age of 42 in Boston on Sept. 20, 1932.

MIKE "SANTA" BOLLEA XMAS FLIGHT

Based on last year's success, I am once again throwing out this challenge to everyone to honor the memory of Mike "Santa" Bollea and keep his tradition of flying at Christmas time dressed as Santa & handing out candy canes.

The challenging is for everyone to go out flying on Saturday 12/17 and/or Sunday 12/18. Get dressed up, decorate your baskets, bring along goodies to pass out, etc.....do whatever you think will put a smile on people's faces and spread some holiday cheer.

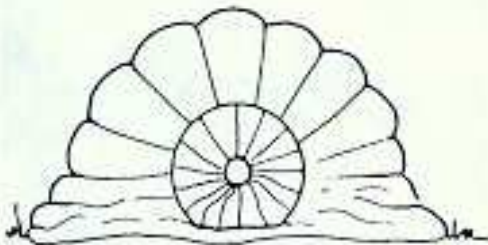
Breakfast will be at the Truck Stop in Southington. Free Breakfast for CLAS members. New members that day will also have free breakfast. Family membership has free breakfast for family.

Meeting time will be just before sunrise at the Aqua Turf in Southington!

Hope to see everyone in the air in December!!!

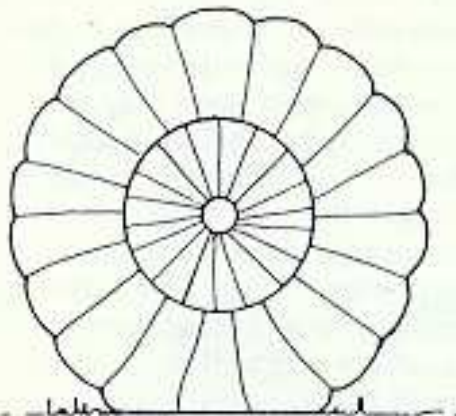


CORRECT PRESSURIZATION BEFORE INFLATION BURN



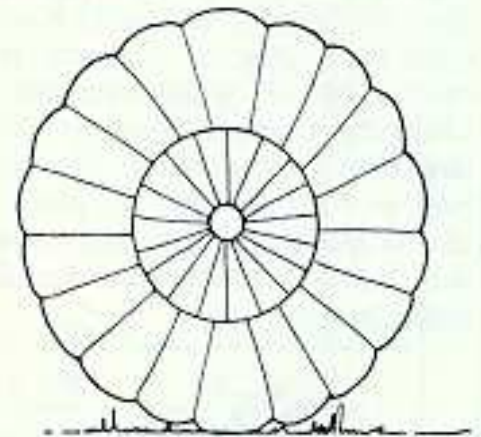
UNDER PACKED ENVELOPE

Inflation at this point will result in the envelope collapsing inward. Chance of burn damage is high if this occurs.



CORRECTLY PACKED ENVELOPE

Note that the footprint is large enough to allow the envelope to roll slightly but controllably if there is a wind. This action, although undesirable, will result in very little fabric abrasion.



OVER PACKED ENVELOPE

The footprint is small and even a light wind or solar heating may allow the balloon to roll or 'skid'. This skidding action may produce a lot of abrasion on a very small area of the envelope.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society seeks excellence in volunteer leadership. We are grateful for the interest of every person who is prepared to support our mission:

Mission: The purpose and objectives shall be to advance and promote a professional attitude in the sport of ballooning. The Society shall be dedicated to safety, education, communication and consideration among its members and the general public.

We ask that you please contact the Nominating Committee and express your interest!



NEW ARRIVALS IN THE NEIGHBOOD

Congratulations to John Bond and Jonathan Niccum on delivery of their new Firefly AX-77's.



CLAS Holiday Party

December 15, 2011

Bring your favorite dish and a story to share!

BYOB! Mixers, soda, ice, glasses, cups, plates and "silverware" there.

The CLAS Holiday Party is scheduled to be at the Plainville Police Department because there was another event at Penny's Barn.

We will send out an all members e-mail to confirm location and post on Facebook.



2011 CLAS Photo Contest Winners

Prizes

1	Beverly Theodore	Letchworth State Park
2	Jack Perry	Amherst, MA
3	Beverly Theodore	Avon, CT
4	Jack Perry	Plainville Balloon Fest.
5	Libby Richardson	Meriden, CT
6	Mark Sand	Glens Falls, NY
7	Penny Christy	Solberg-Hunterdon Airport, NJ
8	Larry Nelson	Chambley World Record
9	Rick Silva	Glens Falls, NY
10	Carol Conroy	Hudson, MA
11	Libby Richardson	Plainville Balloon Fest.
12	Katie L. Morris	Plainville Balloon Fest.

- (2) Tickets to the 2012 CLAS Winter Dinner
- (1) Ticket to the 2012 CLAS Safety Seminar
- (1) 2011 CLAS Membership



First Place: Beverly Theodore Letchworth State Park

Balloon Museum Sets Attendance Record During Balloon Fiesta®

Visitors Experienced Fun Activities Along With Three New Exhibits

Albuquerque, NM-Sparked by fascinating new exhibits, exciting activities, and with a little help from Mother Nature, the Anderson-Abuzz Albuquerque International Balloon Museum hosted more than **27,000** visitors during this year's Balloon Fiesta. Overall attendance figures during the week of Fiesta more than doubled last year's visitor total. The Balloon Museum notes that 12,350 visitors experienced the museum during the nine-day Fiesta run last year, compared with 17,700 in 2009

This year the Balloon Museum and its Foundation pulled out all the stops to attract crowds by creating the overall theme of "Celebrating New Mexico's Centennial," to go along with a new exhibit, *A Century of High Flying: Science, Space and Sport*. Each of the nine days of Balloon Fiesta carried a different theme. An outdoor *Lighter Than Air Fair* featured a large tent with vendors selling a variety of popular items, as well as non-profits disseminating information to the attendees. Two other new exhibits created interest, as well. *Celebrating Sid!* honors Sid Cutter, the "Father of Balloon Fiesta" with displays on his ballooning career. Also, the new Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) Ballooning Commission Hall of Fame opened on Oct. 1st. The FAI is the world governing body for air sports and aeronautics and astronautics world records



"The Balloon Museum is one of Albuquerque's treasures," Mayor Richard J. Berry said. "In fact, it's really one of the world's treasures because there's nothing like it anywhere else. To see it flourish shows the dedication of the staff in creating a great place to learn while having fun."

The Balloon Museum has eight full-time employees who were assisted during Balloon Fiesta by more than 100 volunteers. Live music and dance, pet adoptions, exhibits on public transportation, new high-tech police vehicles, antique and new fire trucks, antique cars, daily live radio broadcasts by Jenni Radio and many more activities kept the energy flowing each day, and Museum visitors responded with enthusiasm. A total of 56 drawings for prizes that included high-value Fiesta posters, spa treatments and a champagne balloon ride attracted hundreds of entrants. The U.S. Navy in New Mexico chose the Balloon Museum as their center for celebrating Navy Week with the presence of uniformed personnel acting as volunteers, a flight simulator and other displays, and a live chat between kids and the crew of a Navy helicopter stationed in San Diego. The Museum Shoppe, which features a large variety of balloon- and flight-themed items, was at times so packed with shoppers that it was almost impossible to get through the aisles.



Second Place: Jack Perry Amherst, MA



Fifth Place: Libby Richardson Meriden, CT



CONNECTICUT LIGHTER THAN AIR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society is a club for anyone interested in learning about, participating in and improving the sport of ballooning. Pilots, crew, and enthusiasts alike are welcome and ALL can contribute to the safety, enjoyment and education of the sport. Meetings are scheduled during the months of Jan, Feb, Mar, April, May, June, July, Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec on the third Thursday of the month at the Plainville Municipal building at 7:30 pm. For more information, contact any of the officers listed inside this newsletter.

CLAS 2011 dues are \$20.00 for new and renewing members.

- Newsletter Subscription \$ 15
- Pins \$ 5. (\$3 for members)
- Decals \$ 2 (\$1 for members)
- Landowner pins (members only) \$ 21.90 (15 pins)
- CLAS T-Shirts \$ 12. And up-Various Styles (Add \$3.00 for shipping)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE Home _____ Work _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

New member Renewing members

Single \$20 _____ Single \$20 _____

Crew _____ Student Pilot _____ Private Pilot _____ Commercial Pilot _____

BFA CAAP: Level _____ BFA PAAP Level _____ FAA WINGS Level _____

Newsletter only _____ Pin _____ Decal _____ Landowner pins _____ T-Shirts. (S) ____ (M) ____ (L) ____ (XL) ____

BFA# _____ Pilot Certificate # _____ E-Mail _____

Make checks payable to and Mail to: **CLAS**, PO Box 53, Southbury, CT 06488-0053

The Scoop / CLAS

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Photo Credit Jack Perry, 2011



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