

THE SCOOP



**Next CLAS Meeting—Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 7:30PM
Plainville Police Department, 19 Neal Court, Plainville
Across from the Plainville Municipal Building on Rt. 372**

CLAS Winter Dinner

A good time was had by all! Congratulations to our award winners, and thanks to our event planners!



Photos by Mike Bollea

Club Constitution and By-Laws

The CLAS Constitution and By-Laws are posted online in the Members Only section of the website. Feel free to reference these documents at any time using the club user name and password.

Ellen Dressel has provided the following info for review by the club:

Membership:

The CLAS constitution states that dues are due within 60 days of January 1st or by March 1st. After receiving one reminder from the Society, membership shall be terminated without a general vote. ARTICLE VIII #8.4 Anyone not a member will be unable to access the 'Scoop' or participate in prize awards.

Competition:

CLAS will hold two events during this year. One weekend in June, date to be decided. One during the Plainville Rally. First Place will be \$100; Second Place will be \$50; Third Place will be \$20. If it is a 'hare' event the hare will be compensated. (Possibly \$30-50)

Crew Award:

Individuals are to be nominated by a pilot for making a major contribution to a safe and successful season. (Normally a nominee should have a minimum of 3 years crewing experience.) Nominations are to be turned in to the Winter Dinner committee by Jan 15th. When the nominee is recommended by a committee member that member must excuse themselves from the selection process.

Shi*t Happens Award:

Sh*t Happens award nominations are to be sent to the previous year winner for selection. This nomination needs to be in by the 15th of Jan.

CLAS Meeting Minutes: January 17, 2008

- CLAS President Charlie Perreault called the meeting to order at the Plainville, CT Police Station Building at 7:30 PM. Members in attendance were: Charlie Perreault, Mark Sand, Tom Murphy, Mike Bollea, Garry Guertin, Rick Silva, Terry Rollinson, Tony Roswell, Erwin Dressel, Ellen Dressel, Penny Christy, Pam Bogart Macfarlane, Al Theodore, Juith Russell, & Rober Zirpolo.
- Old Business: None
- Secretary's Report: No minutes were available from the last meeting
- Treasure's Report: \$7,362 in checking and \$5,985 in CD. Treasure's audit needs to be completed to close out 2007. See committee report.
- New Business:
 - A motion was made and second to reduce the checking balance after the safety seminar, Via transfer to CD.
 - A motion was made and second to remove Santo Galatioto and Ellen Dressel from the checking and add Tom Murphy and Garry Guertin. Mark Sand to initiate the signature change process through the bank.
 - Winter Dinner Discussion: 49 people have signed up for the winter dinner to date.
 - Nominations for the S**t Happens Award were discussed. Anyone with nominations should contact Robert Zirpolo.
 - 2008 CLAS Safety Seminar: Penny Christy lead a discussion on potential speakers. It was agreed to have an open subject time frame to include updated red zones as well as open discussion. A picture of a new red zone is to be added to the next issue of the Scoop. Ellen Dressel to send Penny Christy a picture. A motion was made and second to have maps printed. Mark is to send an electronic copy (.ppt) to Garry, who will get maps printed at P&W print shop. Garry will contact Kane's Kitchen to reserve the date for food service at the seminar. The following Fees for the seminar were discussed and agreed to:
 - \$60 Pilot Members
 - \$80 Pilot Re-newing members
 - \$70 Pilot non-member + \$10 to join CLAS
 - \$30 Crew
 - \$40 Crew non-member +\$10 to join CLAS
 - Request for membership to sign up for CLAS Committees was passed around.
 - Sunshine: Tony Roswell
 - Education: Charlie Perreault, Ellen Dressel, Penny Christy
 - Winter Dinner: Jude Russell, Robert Zirpolo
 - Nominating:
 - FAA Liaison: Penny Christy
 - Audit: Charlie Perrault, Erwin Dressel, Mike Bollea
 - Competition:
 - Safety Seminar: Penny Christy, Mark Sand, Garry Guertin
- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. Tony Roswell will be bringing refreshments to the Feb. 21 CLAS meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Garry Guertin

*CLAS Winter Dinner Cake
Photo by Mike Bollea*



Passings

Stamford "Stan" Robertson, 99, Widower of Elizabeth "Betty" Robertson, of Plainville, passed away, Wednesday (January 2, 2008), after a brief illness. He was born in New London on September 17, 1908 and raised on the Family Farm on Camp Street. He was the son of the late John L. Robertson and Kathryn Stamford Robertson. Stan was a two time Veteran of the US Army having served in Panama from 1929-1933, where he was taught to fly and received his mechanics license. On April 1, 1941 after returning from Panama he purchased a large track of land off Johnson Avenue, to create an Airport. He then worked for New Departure in Bristol, as a Security Guard until he re-enlisted into the US Army Air Corp. He was assigned to the China/Burma/India Theater of Operation where he flew light aircraft for Enemy Spotting, Communications and Wounded Retrieval. He flew cover for the Worlds First Helicopter Rescue with a Sikorsky VS-44 Helicopter and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross Medal on July 25, 1944. Upon his return from the war is when he started Robertson Airport which he operated until his Semi-Retirement in the 1960's, then selling the Airport in 1977 but continued to live in the house he build right on the field until his death, continuing to fly his own aircraft until 2005. He often said he had the biggest name in Plainville because his name is painted on the runway and you can see it from 10,000 ft. He touched many people's lives including the many people he taught how to fly. He was quite a prankster and pulled a lot of tricks/jokes and embarrassing plots on friends on April Fools Day which he said was to commemorate the day he bought the field. He said nobody would have been so foolish to do this. He was the last surviving member of the Class of 1926, played on the first football team of Plainville High School and graduated with the Class of 2000. He was an excellent Pilot, Instructor, Member of the AOPA and Member of the World War II Veterans Association. He is survived by his daughter Roberta "Bobbi" Lake a granddaughter Kim Dinielli a grandson Ted Theriault and two great-granddaughters Elizabeth Jean and Dakota-Marie Cassidy Dinielli. His wishes were to have his body donated for medical study to John Dempsey Hospital at the UConn Health Center. A memorial Service will be held at a later date and an Announcement will be made by the family.

Shannon Rollins, brother of Tom and Mick Murphy, and aunt of Tom Murphy IV, passed away on 12/28/07 after an extended but courageous battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband, Dwight, her four children, Lauren, Christian, Connor and Matthew, three brothers, Tom, Mick and Sean Murphy and 13 nieces and nephews.

She was a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury for 23 years, served on numerous school activities at James Morris School in Bethlehem and Wamogo High School. She was a holistic practitioner for several years and was an avid animal lover, always willing to take in a stray, injured or lost animal. Shannon, Dwight and all four children enjoyed hot air ballooning and were often part of the large Murphy clan at many local balloon get-togethers.

Memorial donations may be made to the Rollins Children's Scholarship Fund payable to the Rollins Children's Scholarship Fund, c/o Casey O'Donnell Family Funeral Home, 1581 East Main Street, Waterbury, CT 06705.

Our thoughts are with you and your families.





Connecticut Lighter than Air Society

2008 BFA Safety Seminar

Registration Form

This year the club has organized its 5th Annual 1-day Safety Seminar on Saturday, March 15, 2008. This will be held at the New England Air Museum at 35 Perimeter Rd, Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks, CT 06096. (Take I-91 North or South to Exit 40 (Rte 20). Take second right exit off Rte 20 onto Rte 75 North for 2.8 miles. Take left at Museum sign onto Perimeter Rd for approximately 1.5 miles. The Museum will be on the right.) The sessions start at 8 a.m. and end at or before 6:30 p.m. Breakfast and Check-In at 7:30 a.m., mid-morning and mid-afternoon snacks, meeting the presenters after, and informal dinner out with those who are interested.

To qualify for this BFA Safety Seminar you must attend the following classes:

- Pilot and Crew Safety –**
- Aeronautical/Pilot Decision-Making –**
- Weather –**
- Open –**
- Federal Aviation Regulations –**
- Open –**
- Maintenance and Equipment Repair –**
- Balloon Accidents –**

NAME	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone	
E-mail	
BFA Member Number	
Balloon N#	
Insurance Company	
CLAS Member?	Current? Yes_____ No_____ New_____
Pilot Certificate Number	
Rating or Crew Designation (Circle only one)	CP - Commercial Pilot PP – Private Pilot SP – Student Pilot CR – Crew Person O - Observer

2008 BFA Safety Seminar (Continued)...

NOTES:

If you miss any of these classes you will not meet the BFA's education requirements to qualify as a safety seminar. Make-up classes may or may not be available. If you have any questions please contact Penny Christy, CLAS Safety Seminar Chairperson, at 860-857-8757 or by e-mail at pmchristy@earthlink.net

Your BFA #, Balloon N#, and Pilot Certificate # are required information that must be submitted with your application. Without this information your application can not be processed by the BFA. Please, look them up NOW and insert them above.

The cost of the club's BFA Safety seminar is \$60 Pilots (\$70 for non-members of CLAS), \$30 Crew (\$40 for non-members). Your seat will not be reserved until payment has been received.

2008 CLAS membership is \$20. Become a NEW first time member for an additional \$10 to the non-member price.

Registration Fee Options:

\$60 = Pilot CLAS Member

\$80 = Pilot CLAS Member \$60 + 2008 Individual Membership \$20
or Pilot Non-Member \$70 + NEW 2008 Individual Membership \$10

\$70 = Pilot Non-Member

\$30 = Crew CLAS Member

\$50 = Crew CLAS Member \$30 + 2008 Individual Membership \$20

\$40 = Crew Non-member

Invited Traveling Presenters are Guests

Make checks payable to CLAS and return with this application to:

CLAS
PO Box 53
Southbury, CT 06488-0053
Or
CLAS
C/O Penny Christy
12 Blue Grass Rd.
Middletown CT 06457

This application will also be accepted at the Jan. 17 and the Feb. 21 CLAS meetings. This registration form must be received by the education committee before the start of the FAA Safety Seminar on March 15, 2007.

If you have any questions please contact Penny Christy, CLAS Safety Seminar Chairperson, at 860-857-8757 (cell) or 860-638-3803 (home) or by e-mail at pmchristy@earthlink.net

More notes about the seminar:

- Contact me if you plan to stay overnight. We will look for economy accommodations for you near the museum.
- **Bring your pilot logbooks for endorsement for the ground school portion of the Wings Program.**
- More to follow.....

Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society

THE SCOOP

From the Editor, Libby Richardson

Thanks for your contributions for this month's Scoop: A late thanks to Jim O'Brien for his submission last month. Thanks this month to Penny Christy, Mike Bollea, Charlie Perreault, Bob Bernard, Ellen Dressel, Garry Guertin, Polly Lasher

An apology for those who keep losing pages when receiving the Scoop by mail. It worked for the first 4 months, who knows what happened in December! I'll keep working on it. In the meantime, feel free to receive the newsletter by email, and you won't have to worry about losing pages in the mail. Email Libby for more info.

Publishing Information

The Scoop is published on a monthly basis prior to the club's monthly meeting on the third Thursday of each month. Submissions for The Scoop are preferred by email to Editor Libby Richardson at libby_rich@yahoo.com. Photos, articles, and ideas are always welcome. Information may be mailed to 380 Hitchcock Road #258, Waterbury, CT 06705 or can be brought to any CLAS meeting. All materials should be to the Editor at least two weeks prior to the club meeting for inclusion.

The Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society publishes this newsletter for its members and interested parties. Portions of this newsletter may be reprinted 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. For more information contact Libby Richardson, CLAS, PO Box 53, Southbury, CT 06488-0053 Email: libby_rich@yahoo.com; Phone: 203-988-6577

Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society – 2008 Officers

President: Charlie Perreault	860-384-0592	bythefireplace@earthlink.net
Vice President: Mark Sand	860-536-7393	mdsand@snet.net
Secretary: Garry Guertin	860-919-4175	gguertin@cox.net
Treasurer: Tom Murphy	860-206-5972	tmurphyiv@gmail.com
Scoop Editor: Libby Richardson	203-988-6577	libby_rich@yahoo.com
Photo Historian: Mike Bollea	860-985-6508	mjbwindriders@webtv.net

First Aid and CPR Courses **Please join us!**



CPR by American Red Cross

Monday, April 21, 2008

OR

Monday, May 5, 2008

Certification is good for 1 year

Only 12 people allowed in this course

Standard First Aid by American Red Cross

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Certification is good for 3 years

Only 20 people allowed in this course

Details:

- CPR has to be taken before First Aid. If you have current certification from this or another agency, that is good and qualifies you as having the certification.
- Each class will begin at 6 p.m. and will end by 10 p.m.
- Classes will be held at the Waterbury Girl Scout Service Center, 171 Grandview Avenue, Suite 102, Waterbury, CT 06705
- \$12 per course for CLAS members (pilot, crew, etc.); \$6 will be reimbursed to each member who shows up for the course; \$12 fee for non-CLAS members with no reimbursement
- Indicate which course or courses you will be taking and who you are paying for if paying for more than one person; make check payable to CLAS and mail to:

Libby Richardson
380 Hitchcock Road #258
Waterbury, CT 06705



Photo Gallery

Hot air balloons of all shapes, colors and sizes ornamented the Swiss sky, marking the start of the Hot Air Balloon Week in Chateau-d'Oexu, Switzerland.



For Sale: 04 Ford F150, 5.4L V8, 4 door supercrew, 28,600 mi, exc cond. 2 whl dr with towing pkg. Pwr windows, locks, cd player, etc. \$19,800. 203-439-0201 after 7pm.

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In The News

Romney wins GOP straw poll

www.Myrecordjournal.com; 1/26/08

MIDDLETOWN - A concerted effort by supporters of underdog candidate Ron Paul to win him the Connecticut Republican Party presidential straw poll, including a floundering **hot air balloon**, were not enough bring him victory Friday night; first place went to Mitt Romney.

Republican voters gathered at the Elks Club to hear speeches by candidate supporters and cast votes in an unofficial poll of party sentiment. The final tally was Duncan Hunter (no longer in the race) 1 vote, Fred Thomson (no longer in the race) 2, Mike Huckabee 9, Rudy Giuliani 34, Paul 96, John McCain 104 and Romney 136 votes.

As for their shares of the vote, it was Romney 35.6 percent, McCain 27.2 percent, Paul 25.1 percent, Giuliani 8.9 percent. One hundred thirty-one of the votes came in through the Internet, and the rest were from voters at the Elks Club.

Before the convention, high winds kept a hot air balloon emblazoned with the message, "Ron Paul: Hope for America," on the ground. Frank Bart of Terryville, the owner of the balloon, and a group of supporters tried to wrestle it into the air.

Connecticut Republican Party Chairman Chris Healy said that he wasn't endorsing a candidate yet, but that the straw poll was great for the party.

Flight Time Radio

From Penny Christy

Here is an interesting website where radio shows about flying are broadcast around the world. There was a balloonist, Ben Burbidge, as a guest for the January 19th show. www.flighttimeradio.com/show_archive.htm

The sky's the limit for Virgin gig

www.radiotoday.co.uk

Singer-songwriter Newton Faulkner has recorded an exclusive session for Virgin Radio, above the Swiss Alps in a hot air balloon.

The singer played tracks including latest single Teardrop to an audience of just thirteen people, in the sky close to the town of Gruyère.

The gig was part of a one-off ballooning event hosted by the Virgin Balloon Flights and is the first time a radio session has ever been recorded in a hot air balloon. Virgin Radio presenter Ben Jones hosted the gig for competition winners and interviewed Newton while airborne.



Photo courtesy of Penny Christy

Albuquerque Timelapse Video

From Bob Bernard

It's not HiDef, but you'll like this one!

http://www.metacafe.com/watch/876437/time_lapse_albuquerque_international_balloon_fiesta_2007/

Set up a Google Alert at www.google.com

You'll hear all the latest news for any alert you create (ie. Hot air balloon, balloon accident). See Libby Richardson or Penny Christy for more info.

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 monthly on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Plainville Municipal Building (Route 372 at Whiting St.) at 7:30 PM. For more information, contact any of the officers listed in this newsletter.

CLAS DUES \$20 include membership privileges and newsletter.

Extra voting family member add \$5

Newsletter Subscription Only \$15 CLAS Member Pins \$5 (\$3 members)

Decals \$2 (\$1 members) Landowner Pins \$4 (\$3 members – limited quantity)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (Home) _____

(Work) _____

(Cell) _____

E-Mail _____

Will accept newsletter electronically? Yes ___ No ___

(Default will be electronically unless notified otherwise.)

CLAS Membership Info:

Single (\$20) ___ Family (\$20) ___ Extra Vote (\$5) Name: _____ Newsletter Only (\$15) ___

New ___ Renewing ___

Crew ___ Student Pilot ___ Private Pilot ___ Commercial Pilot ___ N# _____

BFA # _____ BFA CAAP Level _____ BFA PAAP Level _____

FAA Wings Level Completed _____

Pilot Certificate # _____ Type(s) of Certificate(s) _____

Make Checks payable to CLAS and mail to: CLAS PO Box 53, Southbury, CT 06488-0053



The Scoop/ CLAS
PO Box 53
Southbury, CT 06488-0053
www.lighterthanair.org

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