



THE
SCOOOP
P

Next CLAS Meeting
Thursday, April 16 at 7:30PM
Please note the new meeting location!

Due to a parking problem at the Plainville Police Dept Building, our CLAS meetings will now be held in the Plainville Municipal Building, where they used to be held. The room has changed, however. Our meetings will be held in Room 302. Our June meeting will be held in another room which will be listed on the bulletin board on the night of that meeting (June 18). Hope to see you at our next meeting on April 16.

Liberty Balloon School, April 18-19

There are still a number of slots remaining for Bill Hughes' Liberty Balloon School ground school on April 18-19. The cost is \$40. Bill is doing us a great favor by reducing the price by almost 90%! Both students and experienced pilots who attend will get a lot out of the course, which has been taken by over 2300 satisfied balloonists. Lunch and snacks are not included in the price. Coffee and donuts will be supplied in the AM (donations welcome!) and we will send out for lunch (Subway or pizza). The course location is being firmed up and attendees will be informed soon. The course is limited to 25 attendees. RSVP to Mark Sand, mdsand@snet.net or 860-536-7393.

CLAS Committee Update

We are looking for more CLAS members to sign up for the 2009 CLAS Committees. If you know of a committee that you would like to join, please contact Garry Guertin either at one of the monthly CLAS meetings or send an e-mail to Garry Guertin at gguertin@cox.net indicating which committee you would like to join. Thank you.

2009 CLAS Committee Members:

Audit Committee: Mark Sand, Penny Christy, Tom Murphy & Garry Guertin

Competition Committee: Mark Sand & Tom Murphy

Education Committee: Charlie Perreault & Erwin Dressel

FAA Liaison:

Nominating Committee: Erwin Dressel

Safety Seminar: Penny Christy, Mark Sand, & Garry Guertin

Sunshine Committee: Tony Roswell & Terri Rollinson

Winter Dinner Committee: Robert Zirpolo, Jude Russell & Ellen Dressel

Ode to Mike

By Randy Riley

Could it be that simple;
Just not waking up?
How lucky is that?
Well, no one can know.
A soul could do worse.
But where, or how
Now past.
All flying, now past
Unless the soul remains alive.
I'm guessing.
A life of fortune
Very well lived
Seems to deserve to go on,
But what it would have gone on to
Again, no one can know.
In one way I'm happy;
In another I'm sad.
But I prefer to believe
He will always fly.
Except now there are no limits.
I think he'll miss the burners
And the feeling of lift;
That sweet little bump
Of a perfect landing.
Not necessarily the champagne.
He never cared much for that;
But the stories at breakfast!
And more so the pictures!
Oh, the pictures!
If a soul has memories
He'll be happy.

Part 2

I will go on, Mike.
Where is this that you are?
For it is this.
It seems unified in my mind.
Others are skeptical.
And I can't blame them.
If it weren't for my upbringing
I would be one of them.
I've studied enough to understand
Other points of view
But eternity exists.
It seems there must be something
Beyond space and time.
No limits today.
No today, no tomorrow;
Just now.
I think I heard you.
But I'm thinking too loud.
I'll listen then.
Turn down the radio,
Look away from the screen.
My computer glows.
But it doesn't get any messages
From you anymore.
I'll miss that.
Can you hear me now?
For the winds have truly welcomed you.
Softly you have left the bounds of Mother Earth.
You have lived so well
That God wants you to join in His laughter
And has called you home to your reward.
Well done, sir.
Amen.

We will miss you and always remember you Mike Bollea.



Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society, PO Box 53, Southbury, CT 06488-0053

American Red Cross Blood Drive in Memory Of Mike Bollea

By Erik Albrycht

In memory of Mike, I would like to hold a blood drive. We need 60 names to begin to secure a date, location and time frame. So far we have around 28 names, those that were added the night of Mike's dinner in March. The most important thing people need to remember is not to count themselves out because of some medication they might be on. With new technology, the American Red Cross is able to filter most out; we even are able to take certain diabetics, etc. Any questions should be forwarded to their doctor or 1-800-give-life. Once we have enough names we will also be looking for volunteers for registration and canteen.

Please also remember, Mike was a long time donor several gallons under his credit. Let his dream continue to touch peoples lives he never knew and asked nothing of...change theirs with this generous donation. I am also looking to make this an annual event. Thanks.

In Memory

Provided by Dave Lasher

Former CLAS member and balloonist Ray Cole of New Milford died in a house fire at his home on Friday, March 13. He was in his early 70's.

Ray was a retired pilot for TWA. He became involved in ballooning through a fellow pilot and balloonist Harry Repak. Ray flew in Western Connecticut in the 1980's and into the early 1990's. He and Clayton Thomas and few other balloonists flew for the opening the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, NY in 1980.

Those who knew Ray will not easily forget him.

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From The Scoop Editor, Libby Richardson

Thanks for your contributions for this month's Scoop: Mark Sand, Penny Christy, Dave Lasher, Garry Guertin, Jim Regan, Ellen Dressel, Erwin Dressel, Erik Albrycht, Randy Riley

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

Pilot Certificate Update

From Jim Regan

If someone has a paper certificate they may request a free issue of the plastic card if they have moved or for \$2.00 may request a replacement certificate which will be plastic.

§ 61.19 Duration of pilot and instructor certificates.

(h) Duration of pilot certificates. Except for a temporary certificate issued under §61.17 or a student pilot certificate issued under paragraph (b) of this section, the holder of a paper pilot certificate issued under this part may not exercise the privileges of that certificate after March 31, 2010.

Classifieds

For Sale: 40"x48" Galaxy basket in excellent condition. 3 10-gal worthington tanks and TBW T-3 burner. No instruments. Call for more info.

Looking for: 42"x52" or larger basket. Lindstrand, Cameron or T&C only. Must have dual burners and minimum of 30 galloon fuel capacity.

Please contact Jim Regan at (860) 209-0351.

Update on Keith Sproul

Provided by Penny Christy, but in Keith's own words...

List of injuries

Somebody asked for me to give a full list of my injuries so you have a better idea what I am going thru. How they asked the question was very well written

"...There is absolutely no doubt that you are indeed a medical miracle, but to get a better idea of where you were just 4+ months ago from wound vacs, to the braces and the unknown reasons for muscle spasms to where you are today could be inspiring to others!"



After reading this, you will realize that I went thru a LOT. Fortunately, I don't remember anything of the flight and accident. I don't remember most of the week before the accident either. And I don't remember the month of ICU after the accident. The accident was Oct 10th. I remember from Nov 10th on. I was not the pilot in command, my friend was flying. The FAA inspector has explained to me what did happen, so I know what went on, but I just don't remember any of it. There was a cop running a speed trap on the road right next to where the accident was. The firetrucks and ambulances where on the way even before the accident was over. I was transported to the hospital by helicopter. The Hospital was the University of New Mexico Hospital (UNMH), which is one of the best trauma centers in the southwest.

I landed on my right foot and right side. I broke the following:

Broke my right foot pretty bad. (Cast for 3 months)

Broke right lower leg, there is a rod in my lower leg. Broke right upper leg, there is a rod in my upper leg

Broke right hip. This was broken two years ago, they removed the screws that were there and put in new screws.

Broke my pelvis. Broke L2 and L4, damaged my spinal cord a little. Broke SEVEN ribs on my right side.

Collapsed both lungs. Punctured both lungs

They put a bracket in my back around L2 and L4, along with a device that looks like a bottle jack.

SERIOUSLY, it looks like a screw activated bottle jack used in car shops. This 'jack' is to keep the vertebra spaced properly as they heal. They cut a small piece of bone from one of my good ribs to help repair my spine.

I did not damage any internal organs. I did not damage my head and I did not damage my arms. My arms have some nerve issues. Possibly from a bruise on my spinal cord in my neck. This is unknown because if there was a bruise it was too small to be detected by MRI. What is ironic is that my spinal cord injury makes my LEFT leg all messed up nerve wise. Lots of spasms in my left leg and hip. I have lots of weird feelings, or lack of feelings in my left leg, my hips and pelvis area. I can move everything, just the feelings aren't what they should be.

These feelings are coming back slowly, but may take a long while. My current issue is to increase the strength in my legs, hips and torso so I can get standing better and longer. Once standing better, with more strength, I will be able to walk.

Thanks for the question.

Keith

Keith can be reached at:

Ladera Nursing Center, 5901 Ouray Rd NW, Room 142, Albuquerque , NM 87120
(505) 836-0023

Minutes – CLAS Meeting of February 19, 2009

CLAS President Mark Sand called the meeting to order at the Plainville, CT Police Station Building at 7:36 PM.

Members in attendance were: Charlie Perreault, Mark Sand, Mike Bollea, Garry Guertin, Rick Silva, Tony Roswell, Kevin Brielman, Tom Murphy, Erwin Dressel, Ellen Dressel, & Penny Christy.

A motion was made and second to accept the Jan. meeting minutes as published in the Scoop.

Sunshine Committee: No new items reported

Education Committee: No report

Nomination Committee: No report

Audit Committee: The 2009 audit was successfully completed. Those participating in the audit were Mike Bollea, Tom Murphy, Mark Sand & Nancy Russell.

Competition Committee: Tom Murphy will write up a description of the recommendation for “Open Competition” events for next meeting.

BFA/FAA Committee: Pilots were reminded to replace their paper licenses with new plastic license. A note was made that the date of issue will reflect the date that you get the new plastic license.

Old Business:

The Winter Dinner was a success! All had a great time. Thank you to Robert Zirpolo and Jude Russell for pulling off another great winter dinner event. The income for the dinner was \$1,585 plus \$140 for the raffle. The total bill was \$2,273.74. As previously agreed the CLAS will pay for the balance which came to \$548.74. Garry will write a note of appreciation to Avon Old Farms Hotel.

CLAS Safety Seminar - The current attendance count is approaching at 60 and more attendees are expected. Garry will contact the caterer with an initial serving count of 70. Penny will contact Garry by 2/25/09 to make any last minute changes to the head count. Mark noted that the AX1 envelop cannot be accessed for display during the Safety Seminar. In the event of bad weather, the backup date will be 3/1/09. Garry will look for new membership forms that can be brought to the seminar. Garry will contact Lisa Huck to ask that she bring any CLAS pins and decals that she might have for new members joining at the seminar. Penny asked that members bring possible door prizes. Ellen will bring the tickets for a 50/50 prize.

New Business:

- It was noted that the Schantz Insurance Agency will be going out of business.
- A recommendation was made to have a plaque created for Cathy Wadsworth for the use of her airport/field.
- A motion was made and second to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Tony Roswell will bring refreshments to the next meeting on March 19, 2009

Respectfully submitted, Garry Guertin, CLAS Secretary

Yes, this is a reminder again to pay your dues.

Tear off this page today.

Yes today.

**Use the form on the back of this page to update your information and
send in your dues.**

Yes, your CLAS dues.

Because they're due now.

Thank you!

Dues for 2009 are now due. Please send in your dues money now. Thank you!

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 Police Department, 19 Neal Court, Plainville, 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)

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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
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