



# THE SCOOP

**Next CLAS Meeting: Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.  
Plainville Municipal Building, Plainville, CT**

## Reflections of the CLAS Flyout on April 24th

Thanks to all who participated in our "Free Fly, Eat Free" flyout this past Saturday! It was a resounding success. Twenty-nine CLAS members, including three new members, showed up, along with many family and crew. We look forward to our next flyout, date TBD. Mark Eisenberg, a local free-lance photographer, took some great pictures at the Aqua Turf. You can view his shots at: [www.digipicsnewengland.com](http://www.digipicsnewengland.com). Just enter the web site, click on photo galleries, and click on the picture of the balloon titled "Lighter Than Air."

Mark Sand



I did not fly, but I did start a new Private Pilot student during the Aqua Turf flyout. I spent the time on the ground going over the complete preflight of the basket and envelope system in preparation of a first flight that should happen each good flying weekend we have going forward. John is a Fixed Wing Private Pilot that wants to transition to LTD and plans on having his family participate with him in the sport and plans on buying a balloon in the future. He has flown and crewed with Daryl Long so he is no stranger to the gentler side of aviation. I'll introduce him around the next time we are all together and will work to get him to the next CLAS meeting.

Daryl Smith



*Photos by Libby Richardson*

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

## **Paper Pilot Certificate Policy**

From the April 22, 2010 FAA "FASST Blast" E-mail Newsletter

Did you meet the March 31, 2010, deadline for the expiration of paper pilot certificates? If not, the FAA's Civil Aviation Registry Airmen Certification Branch says that an airman can call or contact the Registry to request a temporary authority so they can have more time to send in for or request an on-line replacement (plastic) certificate. The temporary authority is valid for 60 days. Here is how to contact the Airmen Certification Branch:

**By telephone:** (866) 878-2498 or (405) 954-3261

**By e-mail:** Go to <http://registry.faa.gov/Airmenemail/Airmenemail.asp>

**By fax:** (405) 954-4105

**By U.S. Mail:** Federal Aviation Administration, Airmen Certification Branch, AFS-760, P.O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0082.

Replacement (plastic) airmen certificates may be requested from the FAA Airman Certification Website at: [www.faa.gov/licenses\\_certificates/airmen\\_certification/certificate\\_replacement/](http://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/airmen_certification/certificate_replacement/).

## **Obituary: Ann Dunleavy (Edwards) Hubbell, wife of Harvey Hubbell IV**

Ann (Edwards) Dunleavy Charlton Hubbell, age 66 of North Palm Beach, Fla., passed away early Sunday morning, May 2, at Danbury Hospital after her courageous battle with cancer. Ann was predeceased by her husband of 22 years, Harvey Hubbell IV. Born on July 3, 1943 in Danbury to Helen Grace (Lamphere) and William John Edwards, Ann grew up in Stepney, graduating from Masuk High School. In her younger years, she enjoyed competing in roller dancing competitions. Ann married and raised two children, later divorcing and enjoying a successful real estate career, owning Dunleavy's Real Estate in Newtown. She served on the Board of Realtors, serving as the president at one time. She enjoyed snow skiing with her children, and was also a member of Newtown's ski club in the mid 70s. She was a resident of Florida since 1980, maintaining a summer residence in Newtown. Ann is survived by a brother, Ronald Edwards and wife, Barbara of Huntington; a brother, William Edwards and wife, Emma of West Palm, Fla.; and a sister, Helen Godderis of Lakeworth, Fla. Ann leaves behind two children from her first marriage to Harold Dunleavy, her daughter, Mary Ann Haslob of Fuquay Varina, N.C. and son, Douglas V. Dunleavy of Bridgewater. From her marriage to Peter Charlton, she leaves behind her children, Jeffrey Charlton of Monroe; Karen Wilde of Lakeside, Clif.; and Cathy Tobin of Hamburg, N.Y.. From her marriage to Harvey, she leaves behind her children, Lisa Lugovich of Harrisburg, Pa.; Harvey Hubbell, V of Litchfield; Linda Peterson of Rocky Hill; Nancy Hislop of Newtown; and Gayle Cole of Southbury. She leaves behind her immediate grandchildren, Christian Haslob, Spencer Haslob, Sharon Dunleavy, Douglas Dunleavy Jr., Danyl Dunleavy, Alex Hubbell, Stephen Lugovich, and John Lugovich. She also leaves behind numerous other grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and extended family members—all of whom she loved equally. Ann was artistic and loved to sketch and paint. She loved the ocean, fishing, and sharing adventures of hot air ballooning and traveling with her late husband Harvey. It was very important to her to spend time with her family and friends. Ann walked with integrity, grace and dignity, even putting others before herself through her last days. She shared her wisdom with many, and was instrumental in helping many in learning to live life by "keeping it simple" and living "one day at a time". She was the miracle that people looked for and will truly be missed by so many whose lives she has touched. Calling hours will be at Honan Funeral Home, 58 Main Street, Newtown, on Wednesday, May 5th from 3 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. A Memorial Service will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Trinity Episcopal Church on Main Street in Newtown. In lieu of flowers, do-nations in honor of Ann can be made to the following organizations, Fidelco Guide Dogs, 103 Old Iron Ore Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002 ([www.fidelco.org](http://www.fidelco.org)) and the New England Air Museum, 36 Perimeter Road, Windsor Locks, CT 06096.

**Minutes – CLAS Meeting of April 15, 2010**

CLAS President Mark Sand called the meeting to order at the Plainville Municipal Building, at 7:50PM. Members in attendance were: Garry Guertin, Tom Murphy, Libby Richardson, Rick Silva, & Mark Sand. Last meeting minutes were distributed in the Scoop and accepted as written.

**Sunshine Committee:** Libby reported that Charlie has hurt his back and is in the hospital. Garry will contact Tony to send out a get well card.

**Winter Dinner Committee:** N/A

**BFA/FAA Committee:** No Report

**Competition Committee:** No Report

**Education Committee:** Garry reported that the Southington Fire Department has been contacted regarding a possible weekend equipment demonstration. They will discuss it and contact Garry to arrange an event in the summer. Additional surrounding town Fire Departments will also be contacted to participate.

**Nomination Committee:** N/A, Note: Need members to sign up for this committee

**Audit Committee:** No Report

**Safety Seminar Committee:** N/A

**Treasurer Report:** (submitted by e-mail) \$5,952.89 reported in the checking and updated information is pending for the CD's.

**Old Business:**

- The ballot results for the proposed change to the By-Laws, sections 12.3 and 13.2 was discussed reviewed.
  - Ballot vote for Section 12.3 - allowing officers to hold the same office for a maximum of three years instead of two was approved with a vote of 21 in favor and 2 against.
  - Ballot vote for Section 13.2 - changing the duties of the vice-president, to include being the leader of the Education Committee was approved with a vote of 20 in favor and 3 against.
  - Garry will make the edits to the CLAS By-laws as proposed and approved and send to Mark Sand for review.
- Next month's meeting is targeted to be an education meeting field trip to Oxford Airport. Mark to contact Mick to request that Mick set up the time. The date should be Thur 5/20/10, next CLAS meeting.
- Mark Sand reported that it looks like a rain-out for the Saturday CLAS fly out on 4/17 & 4/18 with the chance of rain with windy conditions.

**New Business: No new business**

Unless otherwise announced to be at Oxford Airport, next month's meeting will be 7:30 PM on Thur. May 20, 2010 at the Plainville Municipal Building. Refreshments will be brought by Mark Sand.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05

Respectfully submitted by Garry Guertin, CLAS Secretary

## **BFA Announces Formation of Festival Guidelines Committee**

In response to the current hot air balloon insurance environment and the history of balloon incidents and accidents occurring at organized balloon events across the United States over the past five years, the BFA Board has established an ad hoc committee to develop a publication aimed at encouraging safer balloon events by providing guidance for event organizers, officials and pilots.

Event safety is the result of many working together with common goals and objectives. Balloon events involve complex dynamics involving many individuals; the creation of a comprehensive guideline publication prepared by those knowledgeable and experienced in these dynamics is a necessary first step to improve safety at balloon events of all sizes and for all purposes.

Members of the Festival Guidelines Committee selected by the BFA Board have an enormous amount of experience organizing, directing and officiating at fiesta, competitive and ride-based events from the largest of events to small weekend gatherings. Members of the committee are

Maury Sullivan, Canton, Ohio	Chairman
Bill Hughes, Beacon, New York	BFA Board Liaison
Bill Whidden, Tavares, Florida	Member
Sam Parks, Statesville, North Carolina	Member
Ray Bair, Albuquerque, New Mexico	Member
Gene Burnstein, Brick, New Jersey	Member

At its first meeting the committee established the following Mission Statement.

### ***MISSION STATEMENT*** ***Festival Guidelines Committee***

*The Mission of The Festival Guidelines Committee is to **update, develop and publish** a comprehensive reference source containing detailed information enabling Event Organizers to properly organize, plan and execute a balloon event with the safety of pilots, sponsors and the general public as the top priority.*

*The publication will be developed and written with pilots and organizers in mind and will be prepared in a manner pertinent to sport, ride and competitive based events.*

It is the committee's plan to submit a draft of the publication to the BFA Board in September so that the document can be presented to the BFA membership in October at its annual meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The general membership will have an opportunity to comment on the publication before it is finalized.

## **CELEBRATE IN THE HEARTLAND**

### **The Balloon Federation of America National Convention**

The Iowa Balloonist Association is hosting the 2011 Balloon Federation of America Convention in the Heartland of Iowa, the historic location of the origin of the organization and the 18 year home of the U.S. National Hot Air National Hot Air Balloon Championship.

“Celebrate in the Heartland” will be held on April 7-10 in Downtown Des Moines. The **History of Modern Day Ballooning** will be the theme of the proposed program and it will include the latest innovations in the sport, including the newest development in the technologies and safety of the design and construction of balloons as well as the newest changes in the area of balloon competition, including both hot air and gas balloons.

We are developing the program and want to include the best subjects and presenters from the entire country to make the event exciting and attractive to all balloon enthusiasts. Your assistance in this effort is needed and would be appreciated. As a balloon club, you have members that would make this event special. Please have them provide us with suggestions on both topics and speakers that we could consider as we put together the convention program.

Thanks for your help on this matter. If any of your members have suggestions or are interested in participating, please have them respond to the undersigned at [bloomindianola@aol.com](mailto:bloomindianola@aol.com).

Soft landings  
Kirk Bloom, Chair  
Program Committee  
2011 BFA Convention

## **From The Scoop Editor, Libby Richardson**

**Here's to a summer of safe flights and soft landings!**

**Thanks for your contributions for this month's Scoop: Daryl Smith, Mark Sand, Dave Lasher, Penny Christy, and Garry Guertin.**

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:libby_rich@yahoo.com); Phone: 203-988-6577*

## **The Spirit Cluster Sets 'Longest Flight' Record**

www.eaa.org, April 29, 2010

On April 10, Jonathan Trappe, EAA 879217, accomplished what no other cluster balloonist has been able to accomplish since the first cluster balloon took to the sky in 1937; complete an overnight flight. Trappe lifted off in *The Spirit Cluster* under daylight, floated through hours of darkness, and greeted the sunrise while setting Guinness World Records for the longest flight in a cluster balloon and first overnight flight.

Launching from near Raleigh, North Carolina, posed many challenges, including choosing the right time of day to launch to take advantage of winds that would keep him from drifting over the Atlantic Ocean...or into restricted airspace over Pope Air Force Base...or the proper altitude to stay away from transmission towers. The 14-hour journey would include meeting enterprising and helpful HAM radio operators, and talking with RDU (Raleigh-Durham) air traffic control via his handheld radio, as well as hearing the sounds of frogs below and geese above in the still of the night.



Jonathan is a proud EAA member and his pride is evident throughout every aspect of the project. “As you’ve seen, the name of the system we flew that day is *The Spirit Cluster*; it was named in honor of the EAA and its motto, “The Spirit of Aviation,” Trappe wrote on his [website](#). “I am an EAA member, and I was tremendously proud to have friends from EAA Chapter 1114 on the airfield, and friends from the national organization out to capture this flight. Thank you to the amazing team of (EAA Chief Photographer) Jim Koepnick and (Photo 1 Pilot) Bruce Moore, and to the Experimental Aircraft Association.”

A feature story about Jonathan’s flight will appear in the June issue of *Sport Aviation*. Jonathan and his balloon will also be at AirVenture 2010 where he plans to make at least one flight during the week. The award-winning Pixar movie, *UP*, which simulates floating a house with cluster balloons, will be shown during AirVenture on Saturday night, July 31, at the [Fly-in Theater](#), presented by Ford Motor Company and supported by Hamilton Watches.

## **Two killed in hot air balloon crash**

T. Ramavarman, Silvia Radan and Anwar Ahmad (With inputs from Asif Zaidi)  
25 April 2010

A French and Indian national were killed and 11 others suffered moderate to serious injuries when the hot air balloon in which they were on a tourist trip crashed as it was trying to make an emergency landing. The incident took place at Nahel, near Suwaihan in Al Ain, on Sunday morning.

The police, the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), the embassies of India and France and the balloon operating company did not give out the names of the two killed in the accident. The 24-person capacity balloon had 14 people on board, including the captain. Officials of the Balloon Adventures Emirates (BAE) which organised the trip, said one of their ground crew members from Tanzania was among those injured. The seriously injured are being treated at Al Tawam Hospital, Al Ain.

“The pilot and 13 passengers took off early in light winds. But the wind picked up significantly and the pilot decided to make an emergency landing,” the BAE said in a statement. “Police and GCAA authorities are currently investigating the accident and BAE has suspended operations for the next few days pending the outcome of the investigation,” the statement said. “It was a freak wind which changed suddenly during landing,” Captain Peter Kollar, the managing director of BAE, told *Khaleej Times*. “Most of the people on board were tourists and are now back in their hotel rooms.”

Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi, Director General of the GCAA, said the cause of accident would be known soon. "Our team is already there to investigate the accident, and we should be able to know the reasons very soon. This is only a balloon and not a complicated vehicle."

Alain Azouaou, the French Ambassador in Abu Dhabi, said the body of the French tourist, would be repatriated home for the funeral. "We are in contact with the relevant authorities in the UAE and France, and also with the family of the French tourist to provide assistance," read a statement issued by the French Embassy.

Indian Embassy officials said they would render support to the family of the Indian who died in the accident. "We understand the Indian who had died had come here on a tourist trip along with his family. The family members were also on board the balloon. We are told the body is being brought to Abu Dhabi from Al Ain tonight," Indian Ambassador to the UAE M. K. Lokesh, said.

### **Second fatal crash for Kiwi's balloon firm (Editor's Note: the same company in the article above!)**

By TOM FITZSIMONS - The Dominion Post

A hot-air balloon pilot whose crash-landing into the sea near Christchurch left three people dead has links to another fatal balloon accident in the Middle East. Peter Kollar took his Balloon Adventures company to the United Arab Emirates about five years ago after a string of complaints about his New Zealand firm. One of the company's balloons crashed in desert near the city of Al Ain, killing two tourists, at the weekend. Mr Kollar, the company's director, was not on board. The crash, which happened in high winds, also left a crew member seriously injured.

Witnesses said the balloon's gondola was dragged 300 metres along the ground and two people had to be dug out of the sand, The National newspaper reported. The fatal crash revived memories of the 1995 Balloon Adventures flight. Mr Kollar was piloting a balloon that ditched in the sea off Waimairi Beach in Christchurch. Three tourists drowned. After an initial sentence was quashed, he pleaded guilty to flying the balloon in circumstances where avoidable danger to life or property was likely. He was fined \$900, disqualified from flying for two months, and ordered to pay \$1000 reparation for emotional harm to three of his passengers.

Mr Kollar's New Zealand company was also the subject of 15 official complaints throughout a 12-year period to 2003, according to the Civil Aviation Authority. He told UAE media last year that he was the victim of a "vendetta" by New Zealand aviation authorities. Mr Kollar told The Dominion Post from Dubai yesterday that he felt "shock and horror" about the weekend's crash, and his heart went out to the victims' families. However, he bristled at suggestions his company had a poor safety record.

"I have an unbroken safety record since [the 1995 crash]. No accidents, no incidents and I've done thousands of flights." He was not the pilot in the weekend crash and had not made the decision to fly, he said. A South African passenger on the fatal flight told The National newspaper everyone on the balloon was injured. Survivors noticed three people buried in the sand.

"We ran over to check on them. It was obvious that two were dead. The third man, a member of the crew, was conscious but had terrible wounds to his head. "We just sat there in shock and horror until help arrived." A UAE aviation official said it was too early to say what had caused the crash. The dead passengers were from India and France. Balloon Adventures is described as "the world's most experienced balloon company" on its website.

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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Default will be electronic newsletter 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**  
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