

Midwest Safety
Seminar –
February 19,
2005
Madison, WI

Holiday Inn
West



WISCONSIN BALLOON
GROUP

28TH ANNUAL MIDWEST BALLOON SAFETY SEMINAR

Registration
Form
Included
in this Issue

February 19th, 2005

Holiday Inn & Suites
Madison, WI

Join us for a mid-winter ballooning
retreat at Madison's premier indoor
water park, hotel and convention
center.

(Discounted Weekend Rates Available)

The Wisconsin Balloon Group is
proud to again offer a full day of
“back-to-basics” as well as “special
subjects” presentations in
accordance with the BFA Continuing
Education Program. (Pending)



Presenting Speakers to include:

- **Andy Baird – Cameron Balloons**
- **Beth Miller – IMC Insurance**
- **Brad Temeyer – National Weather Service**
- **Pete Asp – Wisconsin Aerostation**

For More Information Contact:

Ken Walter 262-522-6675

or

wiwinddancer@cs.com

SEMINAR REGISTRATION FEES

\$70.00—Pilot-owner

\$40.00— Crew

Registration Includes:

– Continental Breakfast

– Buffet Lunch

– WBG Membership

– Certificate of Attendance

**Advertise your business in *The Ventline* and support
The Wisconsin Balloon Group**

Classified Ads - \$10.00 (members free)

Business Card Size Ads - \$7.50

¼ Page Ad - \$10.00

½ Page Ad - \$15.00

Full Page Ad - \$25.00

Upcoming Dates.....

- February 19, 2005** Midwest Safety Seminar, Madison, WI (Application in this edition of *The Ventline*)
- March 5, 2005** NE WI Safety Seminar, Appleton WI (Contact: Susan Binder at Susan28@execpc.com)
- January 29, 2005** Fly Off Lake Winnebago; Waverly Beach, Menasha, WI (contact foxvalleyballooning.com)
- June 15 – 19, 2005** 8th Annual Hot Air Balloon Honda World Grand Prix; Monroe, WI (contact Debbie Spaeth at dasdeb@sbcglobal.net)
- June 17 – 19, 2005** 20th Annual Monroe Area Chamber of Commerce Hot Air Balloon Rally; Monroe, WI (contact Debbie Spaeth at dasdeb@sbcglobal.net)
- July 22-24, 2005** Skyfest Balloon Rally; Waukesha, WI (contact Ken Walter at Wiwinddancer@cs.com)
- August 12-14, 2005** Hartford Balloon Rally; Hartford, WI (contact Ken Walter at Wiwinddancer@cs.com)
- August 26-28, 2005** 5th Annual Children's Miracle Network Balloon Rally; Wisconsin Rapids, WI (contact John Symonds at Johnjsymonds@nashpodvinlaw.com)

Go Fly Off the Lake

Date: January 29th , 2005

Place: Waverly Beach, N8770 Fire Lane # 1, Menasha WI.

What: Fly off Lake Winnebago

When: Approximately 10am

Who: Any interested Pilots and Crew

Specific details and directions may be found at www.foxvalleyballooning.com

We are looking forward to seeing many of our friends and having a fun day of flying.

Wisconsin Balloon Group Current Leadership Members

WBG Executive Director

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Waukesha, WI 53189

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Hartland, WI 53029

Original Member Advisor

Phone: 262.338.2300
E-Mail: dasdeb@sbcglobal.net

Debbie Spaeth
PO Box 674
West Bend, WI 53095

WBG Honors Peter Stamats Long-time Supporter of Wisconsin Ballooning

By Debbie Spaeth

Earlier this year, the Wisconsin Balloon Group chose, as their memorial for Peter Stamats, to purchase a plate with a design of balloons. The plate is from a collection of Arita porcelain designed by Japanese Artist, Mr. Mon'ya Kajiyama.

Peter Stamats was from Cedar Rapids, Iowa but he was an active supporter of Wisconsin Balloon events. He had participated in the Great Wisconsin Dells Balloon Rally beginning in the "early days". He flew in all the Monroe Balloon Rally events, including the World HONDA Grand Prix events. Peter and his wife, Susan Stamats, also an active supporter of Wisconsin events, were often seen with John Cook and the Union Jack crew.

Arita, a city in the Saga Prefecture of Southern Japan, has 400 years of history, and is world famous for the manufacture of pottery and porcelain. The artist of the ballooning plate, Mr. Mon'ya Kajiyama (1952) was born in Arita and is a famous artisan. Since the 1989 World Hot Air Ballooning Championships were held in Saga, Mr. Kajiyama has been specializing in porcelain and pottery pieces with themes of wind and balloons.

Explaining the relationship between his pottery and his ballooning themes, Mr. Kajiyama said his feelings, from the viewpoint from the sky, are a feature of the work. This viewpoint puts you high up in the sky completely with nature.

The plate was presented by Tom Sheppard and Debbie Spaeth, on behalf of the Wisconsin Balloon Group, to Mrs. Susan Stamats during the 2004 Motegi Balloon Championship in Japan. Plans are that it will be displayed for all to share in the Art Gallery in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



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Madison, WI**

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Registration Includes:

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— Certificate of Attendance

Check One:

Student Pilot: _____ Private Pilot: _____

Commercial Pilot: _____ Crew/Observer: _____

Please Print:

Name _____

Additional Pilot or Crew Names _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Pilot Certificate # _____

E-mail _____

Send Attendance Confirmation to the BFA? Yes / No
BFA # _____ Balloon N#: _____

Fee Schedule:

PILOT REGISTRATION

_____ \$ 70.00 -- Includes Discounted WBG Pilot Membership

_____ \$ 55.00 -- I am a 2005 WBG Pilot member in good standing

CREW REGISTRATION

_____ \$ 40.00 -- Includes Discounted WBG Crew Membership

_____ \$ 30.00 -- I am a 2005 WBG Crew/Observer member in good standing

SEMINAR REGISTRATION DUE BY FEBRUARY 5, 2005

Make Checks Payable to:

Wisconsin Balloon Group

Mail Check along with Completed
Registration to:

Ken Walter

W241 S4115 Pine Hollow Ct.

Waukesha, WI 53189

Madison, Wisconsin's Only Indoor Waterpark!




**Holiday
Inn**

HOTEL & SUITES

MADISON WEST

1109 Fourier Drive

Madison, WI 53717

Phone: 608-826-0500

Fax: 608-826-0550

ACCOMMODATIONS

- 158 elegant guest rooms, 69 deluxe suites; kidsuites, whirlpool suites, poolside rooms, etc.
- Fourth Level Executive Club Floor with special amenities and services.
- All rooms feature a microwave, refrigerator, 2 phone lines, data ports, web TV, FREE High Speed Internet Access.

DINING/ENTERTAINMENT

- Elegant Grand Piano Lobby Bar.
- George's Chop House Restaurant & Lounge serving breakfast, lunch & dinner.
- Room Services available.
- Wharf Raw Pool Bar.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- Crawdaddy Cove Indoor Waterpark!
- Large State of the Art Fitness Center.
- Video Game Room.




**Holiday
Inn**

HOTEL & SUITES

MADISON WEST



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Fox Valley Balloon Group Parade Entry Captures Trophy – by John Ross

At one of our Fox Valley Ballooning Group monthly meetings last spring, we discussed possibly participating in the midwest's largest evening Christmas Parade hosted here in Appleton each year. It is always held the Tuesday before Thanksgiving and is sort of the unofficial start of the holiday season here.

The application process was easy, but the approval process was long and interesting. We were fortunate that our Fire Marshall had seen something like this before and calmed all of the organizers fears. We spent a whole Saturday decorating each basket with flags from different countries and the usual lights and boughs. They put us at the end of the parade close to Santa's float. By the time we turned onto College Avenue, the crowd had been sitting for three hours or so in about a 28 degree temperature. We decided to "warm them up".

What we did not quite calculate was what the effect would be when the heat from six baskets on a semi-trailer reflected off of the storefront windows. The crowd went nuts! It sounded like a Lambeau Field crowd yelling and cheering as we proceeded up College Avenue. With Channel Five broadcasting live and a huge crowd filling the eight blocks or so, we definitely made a ballooning presence known.

The next morning, we found that we had won the outstanding float award. Now the challenge will be how to do as well or better next year.

Here is a website link that shows some great shots of our float:

<http://www.jefflindsay.com/aplshots10.shtml>

For those that have high speed access, we have posted some short video clips to appreciate the crowd and the noise from their cheering. You can find that on our www.foxvalleyballooning.com website in the photos section.

Finally, here is a copy of the article that ran the next day in the Appleton Post Crescent. We not only made the front page, but there was a large color photo insert included as well.

"Holiday parade brings world to Appleton
Floats and flames entertain the crowd
By Steve Wideman
Post Crescent staff writer

APPLETON - Watching triple pillars of flames reach 40 feet above College Avenue, Megan White instantly knew which entry deserved a trophy Tuesday night in the 34th annual Appleton Downtown Christmas Parade. "It was a wall of fire. It was cool," said White, 11, a sixth-grade student at Kimberly's J.R. Gerritts Middle School and one of several Fox Cities children picked as judges for the hour-long parade. Like many in the estimated crowd of 50,000 that lined College Avenue between State and Drew streets, White was wowed by huge flames shooting from the tanks of hot air balloon baskets mounted on a passing semitrailer in an entry sponsored by Fox Valley Ballooning.

The ballooning entry, one of 80 units in the parade, earned the Bernie Pearlman Memorial Trophy, named after one of the parade's founders and one of three trophies awarded during the parade, the largest nighttime Christmas parade in the Midwest. "My favorite was the hot air balloon entry. The flames warmed us all up, but it was cool," said Mary Ellen Green of Appleton, who attended the parade with her husband, a daughter and several grandchildren."





From The Directors Desk

Wisconsin Balloon Group Director – Ken Walter

As I sit in my office, the Holiday decorations are up, the Christmas tree is surrounded by presents, I've had plenty of cookies and hot cocoa, its 3 degrees outside. Man, that's cold. The Holiday season is right upon us, and the PACKERS are in the playoffs. Barely.... But that's a whole 'nother story.

Even with the cold weather, the WBG wheels are turning, keeping things warm. As you have already read in this issue, the Annual Safety Seminar is right around the corner. We have put together a great line-up of presenters for what hopes to be a great day of ballooning knowledge and information. The Holiday Inn in Madison is providing us with a wintertime playground for the whole family. The waterpark is a great spot for the kids and the conference center is a spacious venue for our day of continuing education. The Holiday Inn is providing us with discounted room rates and free wristbands for the water park, just be sure to mention the WBG when you make your reservations.

As you will notice, the fee structure for the Seminar has changed slightly. We have enhanced the benefits of attending the seminar, which will bolster our membership. It's a simple structure. As a due paying member of the WBG, pilots and crew will receive a discount on the seminar registration. For those registering who are not members, the WBG membership is included with registration. If you are a WBG member whom has not yet renewed for 2005, the membership fee is discounted. By adjusting the registration fee structure, and combining membership with registration, members save \$5.00, and the WBG membership grows stronger. This translates to a bonus for the WBG and its members. The WBG "is" its members.

If anyone has a question about the registration or membership, feel free to contact myself or anyone of the leadership members and we should be able to clear up any questions.

Remember this is YOUR Wisconsin Balloon Group. Each member is a vital part of making our group successful. Volunteer, help out and get involved.

Happy Holidays to all!!



Pulling the Line

Chris Fitzsimmons – (Past) Ventline Editor

BeeeDeeee, BeeeDeeee, That's all folks! It is time for me to pass The Ventline duties off to a new editor. Mary Jo O'Brien has agreed to take one the incredible responsibility of pulling together The Ventline. Her contact information is in the Leadership Members section of this newsletter. Thanks to everyone that has contributed to this newsletter during my tenure as editor, thank you for reading the dribble that I put together on a semi timely manner. See you in the sky, or at a hockey rink soon!!

Wisconsin Balloon Group – Membership Application

() Renewal () New Member

- ___ Pilot - \$20.00
- ___ Crew - \$15.00
- ___ Family – add \$10.00 (one newsletter/household)
- ___ Business/Corporate Member – add \$50.00
- ___ Life Membership - \$200.00

Street Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
E-Mail address: _____
Home Phone: _____ **Business Phone:** _____

[] Please check box if you would like your information withheld from a printed membership roster.

BFA Member Yes / No Membership # _____
NABA Member Yes / No Membership # _____

Please complete all appropriate information

<input type="checkbox"/> Pilot	<input type="checkbox"/> Crew	<input type="checkbox"/> Observer
Student () Private () Commercial () <input type="checkbox"/> Sport <input type="checkbox"/> Competition <input type="checkbox"/> Ride / Promo <input type="checkbox"/> Instruction (will take new students) BFA Pilot Achievement level: _____ Balloon Owner N# _____	Primary Pilot you crew for: _____ - _____ - _____ BFA Crew Achievement level: _____	BFA Observer Achievement level: _____ _____

Please mark any areas you would consider volunteering for based on specific needs of the WBG:

- [] *Ventline Reporter* [] **Special Events** [] **Social events**
[] **Membership** [] **Land Owner Relations / Drawing**

Mail Application to:
Jeff Trzebiatowski
W5801 Skippers Lane
Appleton WI 54915

Wisconsin balloonists dedicated to safety and education in the sport of ballooning, who encourage communications and fellowship among the ballooning community

The Ventline (A publication of the Wisconsin Balloon Group)
124 Harvest Circle
Mt. Horeb, WI 53572

The Ventline

November - December 2004

The Ventline is the official newsletter of the Wisconsin Balloon Group.

The Ventline welcomes the sharing of its contents when permission to reprint is sought and WBG authorship is acknowledged.

The deadline for the next issue of *The Ventline* is **January 20, 2005**.

WBG MAILING LIST POLICY

By policy, the Wisconsin Balloon Group will not publish the names and addresses of its members. If an officer of another established balloon group requests the WBG's mailing list for safety seminar use, mailing labels will be provided. However, any other persons requesting mailing lists will be encouraged to place their information in *The Ventline*.