

AeroStats



April 2024

**The Monthly Newsletter of the
Willamette Aerostat Society**

Volume 26, Number 4

Join us for the
April WAS meeting!

Saturday,
April 27, 2024
2:00 PM

The Nut Tree Ranch Activity Building
2902 E. 2nd St., Newberg, Oregon
(see page 6)



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Happenings

in the Pacific Northwest and beyond



Event information in this newsletter is *not* to be considered as an endorsement by WAS, its officers, or its members.

March 22 to May 5, 2024
Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival
Woodburn, Oregon

April 27 or April 28, 2024
No Host Fly-Out
Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival
Woodburn, Oregon

Saturday, April 27, 2024
2:00 PM
WAS General Meeting
Nut Tree Ranch Club House
Newberg, Oregon

May 10-12, 2024
Walla Walla Balloon Stampede
Walla Walla, WA
by invitation only
Contact: Laurie Spencer
laurie@scottspencer.net

May 17-19, 2024
Winnemucca Balloon Festival
Winnemucca, NV

June 18-23, 2024
2024 BFA Youth Camp
Cordele, Georgia

June 21-23, 2024
Tigard Festival of Balloons
Tigard, OR
Contact: Kristin Romelhardt
kristin@murcoproductions.com

July 13-18, 2024
2024 BFA Youth Camp
Lake Tahoe, Nevada

July 26-28, 2024
Balloons Over Bend
Bend, OR
<https://balloonsoverbend.com>

August 23-25, 2024
Northwest Art & Air Festival
Albany, Oregon
<https://www.albanyoregon.gov/nwaaf>

August 28-September 1, 2024
Spirit of Boise Balloon Classic
Boise, Idaho
by invitation only
Contact: Laurie Spencer
laurie@scottspencer.net

August 31, 2024
2024 BFA Youth Camp
Boise, Idaho

September 27-29, 2024
35th Annual Great Prosser Balloon Rally
Prosser, Washington
<http://www.prosserballoonrally.org>

April's WAS Meeting Agenda

For the April 27th meeting we have the following topics:

1. Announcing the Crew of the Year and Aeronaut of the Year awards
2. Vote on bylaw changes
3. Chris Whitfield will talk about his new balloon build



You Are Invited to Fly at the Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm!

The Festival Runs From March 22 to May 4, 2024

There will be tulips blooming in the fields. It's our privilege to put balloons in the sky above those flowers.

The Iverson family has once again generously offered their farm as a launch site during the Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival. The opening date was Friday, March 22, 2024. The festival is set to run until May 5th. The farm is located at 33814 S. Meridian Road, Woodburn, Oregon. (They are 15 minutes east of I-5.)

Pilots and crew will not be charged admission. Paid riders, however, do need to buy an admission ticket on line at: <https://www.woodenshoe.com/events/tulip-fest/ticket-information/>.

No Wooden Shoe waiver from is needed this year, unless you are taking up paid riders. If you do have paying passengers, then everyone needs to sign a waiver and the balloon owner needs to

add the Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm as an additional insured on his/her insurance policy.

Balloons and their chase vehicles will be allowed back on the farm property after the flight.

There is an updated red zone map on the WAS website: https://wasballoon.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Rose_Property-Red-Zone-290323.pdf

Besides the new red zone, there is a big piece of land east of the tulip farm. It is owned by the Rose family. They are not at all balloon friendly. Help keep peace in the neighborhood, and do not land there. Please make some extra copies of the red zone map to take to the field with you in the event someone has forgotten to bring theirs. As always, carry one map in the basket and have one in the chase vehicle. We all want to keep landowner relations as good as they can be in this area.



The Iverson family has been gracious in allowing balloons to launch from their fields for years and years. It's important for all of us to follow these requests.

If you have questions, you can reach Barb Iverson at her email address: Barb@woodenshoe.com or you can send her a text on her phone: 503-932-5817. (It is unlikely she will answer a call from an unidentified phone number, so texting is your best option.)

It will be a treat to fly from the tulip farm this spring. See you there!

This map was provided by Barb Iverson. Launch from the areas designated by the boxes. The tulips are in the area outlined in red. The blue box is for the tethered balloon operations. Please do not block the Emergency Entrances.

Easter Morning Flight From The Tulip Festival



Easter morning the Knight-N-Gale balloon team joined the Portland Rose Hot Air Balloons over the tulip fields in Woodburn. The fields were in full bloom. After floating over the flowers, Tim Gale, took a cruise the length of Ross Lake, which is also on the tulip farm property. While the flight was delightful, the landowner was even better. He begged us to come back again as often as we like.

Updated Red Zone Map Available For Area Near The Tulip Fields

The red zone map for the area surrounding the Tulip Festival has been updated. You can obtain the map by visiting the WAS website: https://wasballoon.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Rose_Property-Red-Zone-290323.pdf If you fly that area it is important to know where the red zones are located.

Proposed Bylaw Changes

by Sallie Loflin, WAS President

Bylaw changes have been suggested. The last time the bylaws were amended was back in 2018. Below you will find those recommendations. We will hold a vote during the April meeting on all of the points below. Please take the time to read through these ahead of the meeting.

Bylaws as stated in January WAS Minutes

- i. Access: password-protected in Members section
- ii. Approval: voting will take place after everyone has reviewed the suggestions in Jan. newsletter

i. Article I

- a. Section 1.2 lists WAS as a 501(c)(3) but WAS is a 501(c)(7)
 - i. Propose an update to reflect proper category

ii. Article II

- a. Section C
 - i. Family members—
 1. Propose limit to only 3 members of the same household
 2. Currently are allowing up to 5 and we have some where the additional members are not part of the same household
 - ii. Out of area non-voting members
 1. Recommend removing this category as we have members in multiple states

b. Section B

- i. Update to reflect changes in Section C above

c. Section D

- i. Propose strike out all mention of out of area non-voting members

d. Section H—Dues

- i. Single and Family memberships have historically been the same cost.
 1. Propose increasing family membership \$5.
 2. Remove charter membership category—but keep the designations in our records to memorialize those that are charter members
 3. Remove out of area memberships—no one has paid this in a long time and we have several people that are out of state

iii. Article III

- a. Section C.1.4—Treasurer duties
 - i. Bylaws state that the annual IRS filing is due February 1. Statutory(legal) due date is May 15. The IRS doesn't send out the post cards before February 1
 - ii. Need to include the Oregon Department of Justice filing that is also due by May 15. Need to include the Oregon SoS business license renewal that is due by September 10 each year

If anyone has any questions ahead of the vote please send me an email (prez@wasballoon.org). I'm happy to discuss.

Bylaw Changes will be voted on at the April 27th WAS Meeting

Directions to Nut Tree Ranch, 2902 E. 2nd Street, Newberg, Oregon

From the south, take I-5 to exit 278 Aurora/Donald. Turn left on Ehlen Rd. and go under the freeway overpass. Take Ehlen Rd NE and McKay Rd NE to OR-219 N 10 min (6.9 mi). Turn right onto OR-219 N. 5 min (3.8 mi). Turn right on E 2nd St. Go one block to Nut Tree Ranch Mobile Estates driveway and turn right. The recreation center building is straight ahead. Park in front or on either side.

From the west, use OR 18 or OR 99-W to Dundee and follow OR 18 (Newberg bypass—don't continue to Newberg) to OR 219. Turn left on OR 219 and Turn right on E 2nd St. Go one block to Nut Tree Ranch Mobile Estates driveway and turn right. The recreation center building is straight ahead. Park in front or on either side.

From the north or east, either follow I-5 to Exit 278 and use the instructions above, or use the following instructions. Use OR 99-W through Tigard and Sherwood. Enter Newberg and turn left on Springbrook Rd. In one mile, turn right on E. 2nd St. Go 1/2 block and turn left into the Nut Tree Ranch Mobile Estates at 2902. The recreation center building is straight ahead. Park in front or on either side.

Good news: The Safety Seminar PowerPoint presentations are available on the WAS website. WASballoon.org They are under the Members tab. You'll need to use your password to gain access. They will then be downloaded to your computer.

2024 BFA Youth Camps — A Hands-On Experience

Previous Ballooning Experience Is Not Required!

The Balloon Federation of America offers summer camps for teens interested in learning more about lighter than air experiences.

The Youth Camps are targeted to students aged 13-17. They will get an introductory hands-on experience and exposure to hot air ballooning.

The Basic Camp is a five to six day overnight camp set up for those who want to have a traditional summer camp experience. Topics will include an introduction to ballooning, safety, flight and pilot decision making skills. There will be field trips, time together for socialization and community building.

The Day Camp has all the usual components of the daytime activities held during the Basic Camp. The difference being that the campers will go home at the end of the day, saving the cost and logistics of overnight arrangements.

The campers will be mentored by FAA certified commercial pilots and staff who are focused on providing training and experiences in a safe environment. They will be working with various balloon sys-

tems including set-up, tethering and if weather permits, maybe even a flight. The focus will be to provide the campers with introductory level knowledge and skills to encourage them to expand their knowledge about hot air balloons and set them on a pathway to become crew members, educate them on how to become a pilot and encourage them to further participate in ballooning events and activities.

The BFA Basic Camp tuition covers all meals, housing, balloon activities, field trips and all the fun. The camp is staffed by volunteers who are subject to background checks and trained to provide a safe and rewarding camp experience.

A nonrefundable \$100 registration fee is due now and the remaining \$600 tuition balance will be due 35 days before start of camp for a total of \$700.

You can find more information at: <https://www.bfa.net/divisions/junior-balloonists>

If you have questions you can send an email to: YouthPrograms@BFA.net

Choices, Choices Pick the camp you want

June 18-23, 2024

2024 BFA Youth Camp

Cordele, Georgia

Director: Duncan Dunavent

drayd48@gmail.com

July 13-18, 2024

2024 BFA Youth Camp

Lake Tahoe, Nevada

Director: Karalyn Mumm

karalynmumm@yahoo.com

August 31, 2024

2024 BFA Youth Event Camp

Boise, Idaho

(This is a day camp. It will happen concurrently with the Spirit of Boise Balloon Classic.)

Director: Ron Cassidy

roncassidy@comcast.net

Registration is now open!



Don't Be Left Behind!

Join WAS Today

Either print out the application on page 11 and mail a check to the club treasurer

or join using the handy application on line at

<https://wasballoon.org/membership/>

2024 Pacific Northwest Safety Seminar Recap

The recent regional safety seminar is now in the books. The evaluation forms gave the seminar very high marks. John Saltenberger, our favorite meteorologist, got outstanding marks in presentation style and content knowledge. So did Jack Loflin who covered flight reviews and airport interaction. Sallie Loflin, who spoke on crew management, received high marks. Even the people who covered the depressing topics of aging balloon systems (Mandy Johnson) and aeronautical decision making with an emphasis on the aging pilot (Koh Murai) got high marks. Norma Ashley and her helpers, Susan Plummer and Delores La Reina, put on a dramatic skit which opened up the topic of crew interactions with bystanders. The audience had a lot of good stories to share.

The new location worked out well. There was room for 40 balloon enthusiasts. We, again, had Joe Mollahan, the local FAA Safety Team Program Manager stop in for part of the morning session. He is always impressed with the ballooning community for putting on safety seminars attended by so many people.

In all, the seminar was a success. The seminar is put together and financed solely by Tim and Shari Gale. Any profits from the seminar are then donated to the Willamette Aerostat Society (WAS). Come to the April meeting to find out how much was donated.



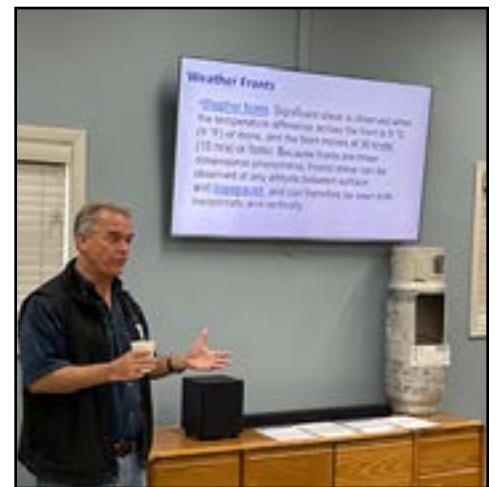
Here is a group photo of the presenters at the 2024 Pacific Northwest Safety Seminar (left to right) Tim Gale, Shari Gale (chief cook and bottle washer), Mandy Johnson, John Saltenberger, Devin White, Sallie Loflin, Koh Murai, Norma Ashley and Jack Loflin.



Attendance at the seminar was very high. The room could not really hold any more people.



Devin White spoke on accidents and our power to prevent them. He titled the talk "Doom and Gloom."



Meteorologist, John Saltenberger, always enjoys talking to our group. He finds the knowledge base of the participants is higher than his "usual" audience.



Jack Loflin combined two presentations. The first was on BFR's and second was on interaction with airports.

Kongregation 2024 - Pendleton Oregon; June 22/23

The Kongregation Rally is a tribute rally to longtime balloonist Jeff (Kong) Shields. It was Kong's wish to bring ballooning back to some of the areas we used to fly in the early years. Last year the event was in Ferndale, Washington, which had not seen a balloon rally in decades. This year the rally is set for Pendleton, Oregon on June 22nd and 23rd. There again, it has been many, many years since any balloons flew in Pendleton. Vic and Mandy Johnson are organizing the rally this year.

If you plan to make the trek – here are a few things you need to know... (Information supplied by Mandy Johnson.)

1) As a reminder, **this is a NO HOST event**. Meaning that while we will make arrangements to fly together and get together where we can, you are in charge of your travel to include a place to stay, food, and whatever else you might need while you are there. We will do what we can to support those coming from long distances and we will also be traveling there so some things you will need to handle on your own. We will put together general information to help

where we can. This event will be in the true spirit of Kongregation – going to a community that has not seen balloons in a while and we are all in charge of ourselves. This is going to be a fun weekend if you come with the right spirit and attitude to help make it that way!

2) **Lodging** – while I endeavored to find a place to do a block of rooms so I could see if those needing a hotel could stay at the same place, I was unsuccessful in making that happen. That said – here is what I know. There are rooms available. There are many hotels in town and most have several rooms available. None had enough that they were willing to do a block for me. ***So get on your computer and book a room at the place you think you want to stay.***

3) **Camping** – We will be making our Cowboy Camp at a private ranch near the Wildhorse Casino. Dry camping will be available at this ranch. If you would like to stay with us at the ranch, send an email to OhanaMaka@yahoo.com and tell me what you will be bringing to camp in (tent, car/truck, camper) and size and we will set space aside for you. Also please include how many will be in your party. Again – this is dry

camping so no power, sewer or water will be available on-site. You'll need to be self-contained. Once I have a count on people, we will be renting some porta potties to be out there but that's it for services. The ranch owners are super nice and agreed to host this crazy group when we have never met and they don't know us. We will work hard to make a good impression and will expect you to do the same.

If you need the amenities – the Wildhorse Resort and Casino has a very nice camp ground. They also have tipi sites. You can find them on the www.wildhorseresort.com/resort/rv-park-tipi-village/ website also with pictures of the area.

4) **Merchandise** – the final logo for this event is in the works and as soon as we have it finished, we can get pricing and merchandise orders started. Yes – the original year merchandise will also be available.

We are working out some food options and other plans. Check in for the event will be Friday night at our Cowboy Camp. More on that will also follow. And no – we do not plan to launch at this ranch at this time (more info on that later as well).

Go make your reservations now! We hope you plan to join us for what is sure to be a great weekend!!



BFA Recognizes Tim & Shari Gale with Safety Coins

Tim and Shari Gale were presented with a Balloon Federation of America Challenge Coin during the Pacific Northwest Safety Seminar by BFA Director, Larry Simberger. The coins recognized contributions to safety by individuals or organizations. It was made in their 20 years of promoting balloon safety with their involvement in this seminar.

Congratulations!

Winthrop Balloon Round-Up

Photos by Justin Anderson and John Philips



That's Justin Anderson tethering Stephanie Hughes's balloon Chair Lift One.



Please note the lack of snow on the ground this year!



RC balloons took flight, too. The one on the left was built by Justin Anderson. The one on the right was built by Stephanie Hughes



2024 WAS Membership Application



Name: _____

Pilot Crew Interested in hot air ballooning

Birthday: Month _____ Day _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Home Phone #: (____) _____

Cell Phone #: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____ @ _____

BFA Membership #: _____

Pilot/Crew Achievement Awards

BFA Crew Level: _____ BFA Pilot Level: _____

FAA Wings Level: _____ Other: _____

Family Member Information

Name: _____ Pilot Crew

Name: _____ Pilot Crew

Name: _____ Pilot Crew

Name: _____ Pilot Crew

Name: _____ Pilot Crew

Membership Type

Charter (\$20) Single or Family (\$20) Newsletter Only (\$10 outside Oregon & SW Washington)

Membership

The Willamette Aerostat Society communicates via e-mail, the WAS Facebook page and the website. We recognize and respect our member's privacy. If you do not wish personal information about you shared with other members, please indicate below. Your personal information will *never* be published on our website. It might be shared with other club members if a request is made unless you prefer to opt out.

- Do Not share name
- Do Not share address
- Do Not share phone number
- Do Not share cell phone number
- Do Not share e-mail

Please use a 2nd page if there are two pilots in the family, or if you have family members with additional information such as cell phone # and/or BFA #'s.

Mail completed form with fees to:
Willamette Aerostat Society
c/o Joy Sibayan
22834 SW Forest Crk Dr, Unit 202
Sherwood OR 97140

Electronic Payment Option:
<https://wasballoon.org/membership/>



Willamette Aerostat Society

Willamette Aerostat Society Mission Statement

- ➔ To promote the sport of Hot Air Ballooning
- ➔ To educate new balloonists and the public
- ➔ To embody safety in all aspects of Ballooning
- ➔ To do all we can to support and encourage land owner relations
- ➔ To support our fellow balloonists and crews personally and in our sport

To obtain Member Contact information, send an e-mail to the Secretary/Treasurer.

For Privacy reasons, *AeroStats* will not publish member contact information without their express permission.

Contact and Submissions

Submissions of articles and photographs are encouraged and welcome! The editorial staff reserves the right to determine the suitability of a submission for inclusion in the newsletter.

Please email your pictures, articles, and comments to:

sharigaleOR@gmail.com

Advertising Policy

Club member's ballooning related or event information is published on a space available basis at no charge.

Business Advertising by Club members is considered Commercial Advertising, subject to fees shown below.

Material must be submitted in computer word processing format with pictures in JPG format.

AeroStats reserves the right to decline publishing submitted information.

Commercial Advertisement Space Rates

Full Page — \$30	1/2 Page — \$20
1/4 Page — \$15	Business Card — \$10

Ads will be published for 3 consecutive months, or until withdrawn, for the fee shown above.

The publishing of advertising in *AeroStats* does not imply an endorsement of the ad or its contents.

Text and images will be printed as submitted by advertisers.

Front Cover:

On Easter Sunday Knight-N-Gale took off just after sunrise during the Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival. As always the setting was picture perfect.

Photo by Patty McCarter.

Waiver

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Material to be considered for publication should be mailed or e-mailed to the Newsletter Editor at sharigaleOR@gmail.com

Publication deadline is the 2nd Saturday of each month.

AeroStats reserves the right to deny publication of submitted material for any reason.

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