



Welcome to the newsletter for the Ballooning Society of Pikes Peak (BSOPP)! This monthly publication of the balloon club is to inform and educate club members and others about ballooning in the area. Learn more at [www.FlyBSOPP.com](http://www.FlyBSOPP.com).

**General Meeting – Tues 4/19/2011, 6p Social Hour, 7pm Meeting –  
Hatch Cover – 252 E. Cheyenne Mountain Boulevard, Colorado Springs, CO 80906**

### **President's Note – Chuck Danley**

The elections to pick board members and what positions they hold in the board have occurred. Congratulations to David Bair and Frank Hunter as the new members of the board. David is also the new vice-president on the board. We decided as a board to not specifically withhold the specific numbers of the elections, but also to not publish them either. Those that have requested the results should have received them by now. The weather should start to improve soon to let everyone start to fully participate in our favorite hobby of getting high. Those that haven't been able to fly in awhile be careful as you get out for the first time. Review your checklists, and double check your equipment before that first flight. Another idea might be to ask your crew to do the same, and even provide suggestions on improved procedures or safety checks. There is a request from the ARC to volunteer a ride for their silent auction fund raiser. I have also approached the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind to do a demonstration on the prospective dates of 4 or 5 May. The program for the next board meeting is Crime Stoppers.

### **Membership Coordinator / Newsletter Editor Note:**

Greetings All,

There is a note from Barbi Hann in the newsletter offering ½ price membership in the Colorado Balloon Club for current BSOPP members

I am going to be sending out our list of current members to our current members. Once again if you do not receive the current list I don't have you as a current member. Please contact me with any concerns. For renewals this year I am going to be making a new form and will be sending it out in the next Tetherlines. If at all humanly possible I am going to ask that you fill out the form not just give Stephen or any board member money. I am asking this for the purpose of making sure that we get everyone included in the current list and don't lose any information in the process.

I was also given this article by our new VP Dave Bair. It is an interesting look at a balloon accident analysis.

The latest edition (2/2011) of Transport Canada's Aviation Safety Letter includes an article summarizing the final report of the Transportation Safety Board of Canada investigation of the 2007 accident in Surrey BC.

[http://www.tc.gc.ca/Publications/en/TP185/PDF/HR/TP185E\\_2\\_2011.pdf](http://www.tc.gc.ca/Publications/en/TP185/PDF/HR/TP185E_2_2011.pdf)

The article begins on page 27 and I recommend it as worthwhile reading.

If anyone has pictures of recent flights, tailgate, talks or educational events please email them to me if you would like them in the Tetherlines.

## Club Contact Information

President	Chuck Danley	(719) 963-1092	veggiewizard@earthlink.net
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Community Relations	Frank Hunter	(719) 339-2602	fhunter4139@msn.com
Membership	Kimberly Barnett	(719) 649-9187	barnettkim@yahoo.com

## Treasurer's Report

Savings     \$1,060.77  
 Checking   \$1,432.76  
 Petty Cash     \$26.59





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## Sunrise / Sunset

Location: W104 48, N38 51 (Colorado Springs CO) All times Mountain Time

### April 2011

Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m
1	0644	1923	8	0634	1929	15	0623	1936	22	613	1943	29	0604	1950
2	0643	1924	9	0632	1930	16	0622	1937	23	612	1944	30	0603	1951
3	0641	1925	10	0631	1931	17	0620	1938	24	611	1945			
4	0640	1925	11	0629	1932	18	0619	1939	25	609	1946			
5	0638	1926	12	0628	1933	19	0617	1940	26	608	1947			
6	0637	1927	13	0626	1934	20	0616	1941	27	607	1948			
7	0635	1928	14	0625	1935	21	0615	1942	28	605	1949			

### May 2011

Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m	Day	Rise h m	Set h m
1	0602	1952	8	0554	1958	15	0547	2005	22	0541	2011	29	0537	2016
2	0601	1952	9	0553	1959	16	0546	2006	23	0541	2012	30	0537	2017
3	0559	1953	10	0552	2000	17	0545	2006	24	0540	2012	31	0536	2018
4	0558	1954	11	0551	2001	18	0545	2007	25	0540	2013			
5	0557	1955	12	0550	2002	19	0544	2008	26	0539	2014			
6	0556	1956	13	0549	2003	20	0543	2009	27	0538	2015			
7	0555	1957	14	0548	2004	21	0542	2010	28	0538	2016			

## Upcoming Events Calendar

### BSOPP Membership Meetings/Events

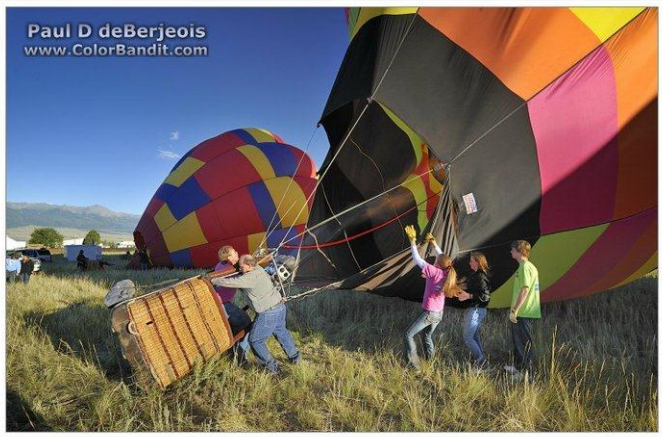
Date	Event	Location/Details
4/19	General Meeting	6pm - Social hour, 7pm - Meeting/program Hatch Cover - 252 E. Cheyenne Mountain Blvd
4/23	Club Fly	Field by Holiday Inn's - Pilot Brief – approx 7:15am
5/2	Board Meeting – All members are invited	6:30pm – Location: 3 Margaritas Corner of Powers & S. Carefree
5/17	General Meeting	6pm - Social hour, 7pm - Meeting/program Hatch Cover - 252 E. Cheyenne Mountain Blvd
5/21	Club Fly	TBD

### Flights, Rallies and Related Events (Tell them you saw it in BSOPP's Tetherlines!)

Date	Event	Location / Details
5/6 – 5/8	Balloons & Varooms Festival	Ridgway, CO- Chamber of Commerce 970-626-5181
5/20 – 5/22	Erie Town Fair Balloon Festival	Erie, CO - <a href="mailto:michael@lifecycleballoons.com">michael@lifecycleballoons.com</a>
5/20 – 5/22	Wild Wild West Balloon Festival	Pueblo, CO – Barbi Hann 303-912-2050
6/3 – 6/5	Telluride Annual Balloon Rally	Telluride, CO- <a href="http://www.tellurideballoonfestival.com">www.tellurideballoonfestival.com</a>
6/11	Craig Hospital 'Rite of Flight'	Chatfield State Park, CO - Al Luksik <a href="mailto:hotairalan@msn.com">hotairalan@msn.com</a>
6/19	CBC & BSOPP Fly & Breakfast	South Park – Fathers Day Flight

Look for more events at <http://www.BFA.net>

Paul D deBerjeois  
www.ColorBandit.com



## Message from Barbi Hann

### CBC Club President:

#### **We are all Family!**

Hi! My name is Barbi Hann and I am president of the Colorado Balloon Club. I am troubled! (I hear you all laughing!) What I am troubled about is the CBC and the BSOPP only do one event together; South Park Father's Day Fly! We are a mere 70 miles apart but it feels as though we are separated by 1000s of miles! To my thinking, we are all one big family but have you noticed our family is shrinking? The sad state of economics and our age coupled with a lack of new pilots are the primary factors for our shrinking sport.

I had to ask myself, "Self, how can we band together as 'one balloon family' but retain our individual club identities". What would be the best way to bring the club members closer together, have the advantage of more places to fly, have more camaraderie, make new friends and have even more fun? You know, I am all about fun! How can we make this happen? How can we make this work? How do we start? Perhaps an Invitation! Yep, we need an invitation! So, to that end....

The Colorado Balloon Club Board of Directors would like to extend an invitation to all BSOPP members, who are not currently CBC members, a one year membership to the CBC at half price! There will be no decrease in club benefits. You will be given all the same benefits of a full paying member. Whatever the members get, you also get! You can attend our club flies, our general meetings, you can join in and share at our CBC sponsored club fly tailgates, picnics and parties, and you even get to vote at our annual election! Our only rule is that you must agree to receive our newsletter electronically via email. That's not so hard now is it? The pricing structure is as follows:

#### Regular CBC member price

#### BSOPP Special Invitation Price

\$35 Pilot – family	only	<b>\$17.50</b>
\$25 Pilot - individual	only	<b>\$12.50</b>
\$30 Associate/Crew – family	only	<b>\$15.00</b>
\$20 Associate/Crew - individual	only	<b>\$10.00</b>
\$15 Newsletter only ( <b>no club benefits</b> )	only	<b>\$ 7.50</b>

**Individual** memberships provide only the one member appropriate club privileges.

**Family** memberships provide all residing at listed address the appropriate club privileges.

All memberships include the monthly newsletter and club directory and all **new** members receive a Colorado Balloon Club pin.

Please see the enclosed BSOPP special sign up form or go to [coloradoballoonclub.net](http://coloradoballoonclub.net) for our standard membership form. Will the BSOPP come out to play? C'mon, come out and play with us! Please join us for some fun and camaraderie! I promise you will have fun, honest!



## ***FAR out – Stephen Blucher***

Interpretation can mean the difference between flying “legally” or not. The question is whose interpretation of the rules is the correct one...the pilot’s...the FAA’s?

The FAR that seems to get a great deal of scrutiny is 91.119...the altitude rule. It has been discussed in this column before; each time from a slightly different angle. The very first words state clearly, “except when necessary for takeoff or landing...” The rule goes on to specify flight restrictions over “congested area” and “other than congested area”.

Here we run into the dreaded *interpretation*. If a pilot is going to switch passengers, it is necessary to land and take off. However, according to one FAA representative it is “not necessary for a balloon pilot to switch passengers”. According to another, it is not only necessary; it is legal, and saying a balloon pilot cannot change passengers is like telling a 747 captain he cannot do the same. It is terribly discriminatory.

The regulation does not distinguish between a balloon, a single engine plane or a jumbo jet. The rule says, “no person may operate an *aircraft* below the following altitudes:”.

And what exactly is a “congested area”? There is no official definition in FAR 1.1, the place where such information is found. It is not referred to in the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM). A discussion with a Flight Standards District Office inspector shed no specific light on the subject, suffice to say according to information available, there is no precise definition, and it is determined on a case-by-case basis.

A large group of people gathered for an outdoor meeting in a field might be considered a congested area. A group of buildings might not be considered a congested area if there are no people in them. The “definition” attached by a FAA inspector could vary with the “need to protect life and property”.

Knowing the rules is one thing. Interpreting them to keep oneself on a legal flight scenario takes a whole different discipline. If a pilot is cited by an inspector for a rule infraction the pilot does not believe he did, often times a conversation with the inspector or the section manager will alleviate the problem for both sides. In a worst case scenario, a Federal Law Judge may decide the outcome. The former fix is best as it saves a great deal of time, paperwork and money.

As a reminder...over a congested area...the rule is not 1000 feet above ground level, it is “above the *highest* obstacle within 2000 feet horizontally”. Watch for radio towers and tall buildings. This part of the FAR can also mean the difference between legal or not legal flight depending on the cloud deck (ceiling), but FAR 91.155 is for another column.

Since the events of September 11, pilots are having confrontations with areas covered by a TFR...temporary flight restriction. They can be activated anywhere, so before each flight, pilots should read NOTAMS for their area which contain flight/TFR information.



## **BSOPP February Board Meeting**

Balloon Society of Pikes Peak  
Board of Directors Meeting  
04/04/11

The meeting was held at Old Chicago's and called to order by Chuck Danley at 6:47PM.

Board Members and Club Members attending:

Stephen Blucher  
Chuck Danley  
Kim Barnett  
Nolan Schuler  
Greg Littlejohn  
Connie Mooreland  
Dave Bair  
Paul deBerjeois Sr.

1. Stephen reported the following for the Treasure's Report:

Savings	\$1,060.77
Checking	\$1,432.76
Petty Cash	\$ 26.59

2. The Club fly will be the Saturday before Easter this month. Nolan suggested that we play the Hare & Hound. The winner would be the one to land closest to the hare.
3. The next Board Meeting will be held at 3 Margaritas at the corner of Powers & So. Carefree.
4. We discussed the club contacting Jackie Peterson again to see if we can help with the Celebration of Honor Fly. Also, Chuck mentioned the fact that Cheyenne Mountain School would like to have a basket and possibly a balloon stood up. Frank Hunter would supply the basket. Then the Colorado School for the Deaf & Blind would like for BSOPP to have a cold & hot inflate on April 22. If weather prevents that date then the backup dates are May 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. The cold inflate will be for show and tell for the students.
5. Kimberly is working on a new roster to be published showing the Name's, Balloon Name, Email Address and other information.
6. The elections results were discussed. The board agreed that the results are open to the public, but we would not publish them in the Tetherlines. You are more than welcome to ask for the results at the club meeting. The positions and the person holding that position follows:
  - a. Chuck Danley – President
  - b. Dave Bair – Vice President
  - c. Stephen Blucher – Treasurer
  - d. Peggy Sansom – Secretary
  - e. Greg Littlejohn, Frank Hunter & Paul deBerjeois are members at large
7. Departing gifts were discussed for the board members that were leaving.
8. The Father's Day fly was discussed. It was suggested that one crew member from each balloon work with one of the crews with the Denver Club for cross training. We need to work towards breaking down the barriers between the clubs. It was decided that we would offer the CBC the same membership stipulations that they have offered us which is ½ price membership providing that the newsletter be emailed. If mailed parcel post, then a \$10.00 fee will be charged. Members of either club can run for the board. Chuck is going to talk to Barb about our plans.
9. Nolan Schuler suggested, along with Dave Bair, that BSOPP have a contest per year amount the pilots. The idea accumulative points per year sounded like a lot of fun. The way it would work is that each month pilots would be given points for different things; at the end of the month whoever had the most points would get to attach a magnetic sign on their automobile stating that they were the top pilot for 2011. At the end of each month, depending on who had the most points, the sign would be passed on to the new winner. At the end of the year the person with the most points would keep the sign and a new one would be purchased for the next year.
10. Crime stoppers will be the speakers for the April Club Meeting. It really sounds like an interesting topic and full of information.
11. Meeting adjourned approximately 7:09 pm.

Peggy Sansom  
BSOPP Secretary

## ***Tetherlines Ad Rates***

### **Per Issue:**

Full Page	\$10
Half Page	\$6
Quarter Page	\$3
Bus. Card	\$1

## ***Article Submission Guidelines***

- Please limit articles to 750 words
- Deadline is first Tuesday of each month
- Publication by second Tuesday of each month
- 12 Months for the price of 10 if paid in advance
- 12 Mo ads include ad & link on BSOPP.com

**Next General Meeting is Tuesday, April 19th  
6p Dinner, 7p Program**

**Club Website – [FlyBSOPP.com](http://FlyBSOPP.com)  
Facebook – [Ballooning Society of Pikes Peak](#)**



## **Tetherlines**

Official Newsletter of the  
Ballooning Society of Pikes Peak  
**PO Box 75033**  
**Colorado Springs CO 80970**