

# THE SCOOP



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**Next CLAS Meeting—Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM**  
**Plainville Police Department, 19 Neal Court, Plainville**  
**Across from the Plainville Municipal Building on Rt. 372**

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## **CLAS Meeting Minutes - July 17, 2008**

CLAS President Charlie Perreault called the meeting to order at the Plainville, CT Police Station Building at 7:37 p.m.

**Members in attendance were :** Charlie Perreault, Mark Sand, Tom, Mike Bollea, Garry Guertin, Rick Silva, Tony Roswell, Terri Rollinson, Erwin Dressel, Ellen Dressel, Libby Richardson, & Tom Murphy.

**Education Meeting:** Erwin Dressel was successful in getting Dennis Bradley to speak at the meeting regarding Power Line Safety.

Dennis outlined three main types of lines.

1. High Wires (large towers) that can be recognized by having up to 18 “bells” at the line to tower connection and carry from 115K volts to 345K volts.
2. Large poles (Hummers) that are at the outskirts of residential areas and carry 27K volts and 650-750 amps.
3. Regular poles, found in residential areas and may have transformers. Dennis described the type of wire found on these poles. Top wire – 13K volts is the primary, Second wire just under the top cross bar is the secondary and carries 120 & 240 volts. These are usually two wires wound around each other. The next wires are the phone wires, large thick black lines. The lowest line is the Cable line.

A motion was made and second to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Garry Guertin



Congratulations to Pilot Garry Guertin who completed his first solo flight on August 1, 2008.

*Photo by Mike Bollea*

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Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society

# THE SCOOP

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**From the Editor, Libby Richardson**

You may have noticed advertisements from Lindstrand Balloons in the August online issue of The Scoop and in this issue of The Scoop. I negotiated the two-ad deal with their advertising rep in July which brought in a little money for the club to pay for printing The Scoop. In August I decided not to publish The Scoop due to challenges in my schedule, so the ad was put online and advertised to members who receive The Scoop online. The September ad is published here in print and online.

**Thanks for your contributions for this month's Scoop: Ellen and Erwin Dressel, Mike Bollea, Garry Guertin, Bruce Richardson**

**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*

**Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society – 2008 Officers**

President: Charlie Perreault	860-384-0592	<a href="mailto:bythefireplace@earthlink.net">bythefireplace@earthlink.net</a>
Vice President: Mark Sand	860-536-7393	<a href="mailto:mksand@snet.net">mksand@snet.net</a>
Secretary: Garry Guertin	860-919-4175	<a href="mailto:gguertin@cox.net">gguertin@cox.net</a>
Treasurer: Tom Murphy	860-206-5972	<a href="mailto:tmurphyiv@gmail.com">tmurphyiv@gmail.com</a>
Scoop Editor: Libby Richardson	203-988-6577	<a href="mailto:libby_rich@yahoo.com">libby_rich@yahoo.com</a>
Photo Historian: Mike Bollea	860-985-6508	<a href="mailto:mjwindriders@webtv.net">mjwindriders@webtv.net</a>

## Positive Return on Yet Another Chore

By Erwin & Ellen Dressel

Have you ever moaned and groaned when yet another task was added to your things to do list? Well I've gotten pretty good at it but this time the chore turned real positive.

First, let me mention that I have been real irritated and maybe even yelled a few times when someone carelessly stepped on our envelope during the deflation and pack-up procedure. One day several years ago my student, Andrew, pointed out that last minute instructions, instructions given only once, or no instructions at all are not very effective. He suggested giving verbal instructions about the landing and pack-up before the ride. To test his theory, we started giving verbal instructions to the passengers before our inflation on what to do and expect after we landed. Here's where you teachers can smile, much to my amazement the balloon pack-up went much better eliminating my exasperation and giving the passengers a real sense of being part of the team.

Now our insurance people, IMC, are making a similar claim, but in my case they knocked \$300.00 off my insurance bill if I incorporated their request. IMC has requested a **written** briefing that the passengers are to read and sign before stepping foot in the basket.

About this time we learned of an incident where someone got hurt because a passenger was not hanging on as instructed. Has this ever happened to you, where the passenger wants to take pictures up to the last minute and then fiddles around storing their camera instead of hanging on for the landing? Usually, this is the 200 lb plus passenger. We have included this little **secure your camera** bit to our Pre-Flight Briefing.

Our written pre-flight briefing is available upon request. E-mail [castleviewballoons@cox.net](mailto:castleviewballoons@cox.net). You can view IMC's suggested pre-flight briefing on their web site. [www.imcins.com/](http://www.imcins.com/)

Since incorporating this latest change, six flights ago, the results have been very positive. In fact, when we mention that this written preflight briefing was required by our insurer the passengers tend to get serious. We normally have one of our crew people hand out the forms, answer the questions, and file the signed paperwork all while we proceed with the set-up.

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Falls Balloon Festival

August 15-17, 2008

Lewiston-Auburn, Maine



*Photos by Bruce Richardson*



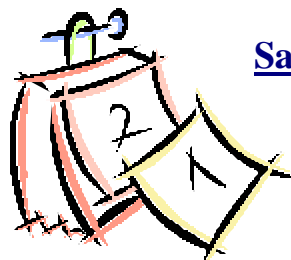
## Party! Party! Party!

Thanks to the CLAS members and their families who joined us at Ellen and Erwin Dressels' on August 2<sup>nd</sup> for our first annual summer cookout. The weather held out and the afternoon was a great time to get together. We look forward to having our second annual summer cookout next summer.

### POP QUIZ

Estimate within five (5) years when the first aircraft was launched from a navel ship.

Email your answer to Mark Sand at [mdsand@snet.net](mailto:mdsand@snet.net). The respondents with the winning answer will be announced in the next issue of The Scoop.



**Save the Date!!**

**CLAS Safety Seminar at the New England Air Museum**  
**February 28, 2009**

### **Ballooning in the News**

**Crash will not push balloons from Anderson skies**

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2008/aug/31/crash-will-not-push-balloons-anderson-skies/>

**Life on high for hot air balloon innovator: Vermonter builds a better hot air balloon for art's sake**

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080831/NEWS02/80830015/1009/NEWS01>

**16th Annual Great Falls Balloon Festival draws 145,000**

[http://www.sunjournal.com/story/279071-3/LewistonAuburn/Festival\\_draws\\_145000/](http://www.sunjournal.com/story/279071-3/LewistonAuburn/Festival_draws_145000/)

# We've Gone Green!



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- FREE TOP 1/3 HYPERLIFE™ - OR-
- FREE TURNING VENTS AND A NOMEX SCOOP- OR-
- FREE FLYTEC 3040 INSTRUMENT PACKAGE - OR
- TALK TO US ABOUT A TRADE-IN OF YOUR EXISTING AIRWORTHY ENVELOPE

IF YOU NEED A FULL SYSTEM, CONSIDER ONE OF THESE FOLLOWING FREE OPTIONS:

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- FREE TOP 1/3 HYPERLIFE™ & TURNING VENTS- OR-
- FREE BASKET SIZE UPGRADE & DOWN STYLE COVER- OR-
- FREE ADDITIONAL 15 GAL. STANDARD STAINLESS FUEL TANK- OR
- TALK TO US ABOUT A TRADE-IN OF YOUR CURRENT AIRWORTHY SYSTEM

ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF THESE OFFERS ARE AVAILABLE, SO DON'T DELAY. IF A NEW BALLOON IS IN YOUR FUTURE, DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY SPECTACULAR SAVINGS BEFORE OUR PRICES INCREASE AT THE END OF THIS EVENT.

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Numerous CLAS pilots enjoyed the Stoweflake Balloon Festival from July 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Stowe, Vermont. Among the pilots and their families and crews in attendance were the Murphys, Dressels, Garry Guertin, and Amy Goodyear. CLAS members were greeted by former Connecticut resident and crew member Lina Balcom who is now crewing for a Vermont pilot.



*Photos by Libby Richardson*



CLAS President Charlie Perreault had his picture featured in the Plainville Citizen, as did many others during the course of the Plainville Balloon Festival. Visit the link below for many photos from the weekend's events.



*Charlie Perreault provides preflight instructions to new pilot Garry Guertin.  
Photo by Libby Richardson*

**Plainville Balloon Festival Photos from the Plainville Citizen**  
<http://rjpubs.mycapture.com/mycapture/category.asp?eventID=578192&CategoryID=0>

**РЕВОЛЮЦІОНАРИ!**

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**Have you paid your dues yet this year? You will not receive this for much longer. Pay now!**

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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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  
PO Box 53  
Southbury, CT 06488-0053  
[www.lighterthanair.org](http://www.lighterthanair.org)

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