

HOT AIR HIGHLIGHTS

The Monthly Publication of The Great Plains
Balloon Club of Topeka, KS.



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THE GREAT PLAINS BALLOON CLUB

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Treasurer

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Historian

Diane Moulden

Pilot Technical Advisor

Brian Carlson

Member At Large

Tim Rumpel

Michael Scott

Rally Coordinator

Lori Hutchinson

Balloonmeister

Tony Goodnow

Current Membership-100+

ADVERTISING RATES:

1 FULL PAGE - \$25.00 HALF PAGE - \$15.00

QUARTER PAGE - \$10.00 BUSINESS CARD - \$5.00

(A DISCOUNT WILL BE APPLIED FOR GPBC MEMBERS.)

COMING UP...

January 10th

Exec Meeting
6pm - Thru Zoom

January 13th

General Meeting
will be combined with
February General Meeting

February 7th

Exec Meeting
6pm - Thru Zoom

February 10th

General Meeting
11:30am - Wings, Etc.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS...

Benjamin Carlson - 7th
Evan Reed - 13th
Emily Carlson - 18th
Paul Costello - 25th
Lori Hutchinson - 27th

Edward Jones



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Join Now

GPBC CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

It is time once again for membership renewals. Please have your membership renewed by the February General Meeting in order to have your information in the 2023 Membership Directory that will be included in our Members-Only section on our club website. Dues are \$15.00 for a Single Membership, and \$30.00 for a Household Membership. You can pay your membership dues straight from our club website (with a service fee) or you can access the membership form, print it out, and mail it in with payment.

A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT...

Hi there! I hope that this letter finds everyone doing well!

Just a reminder, that your board made the decision to combine our January and February general meetings. That being said, our next general meeting will be Saturday, February 10th, 11:30 am at the Wings Etc. located at 2139 SW Fairlawn Plaza Drive,

The St. Patrick's Day Parade will be March 16th at Noon....we will be discussing if the club wants to do a float in this year's parade with our February meetings so stay tuned for more information on that.

Our 2023 Club Book has arrived and will be available at the February meeting for all to view. Thank you to our Historian Diane Moulden for once again doing a great job on the yearly book and for keeping out club history going!

Our FOURTY-NINTH edition of the Huff 'n Puff is already in the works. We have vendors coming in already, and sponsors in the works as well. We are in talks with our event hotel and some other important pieces of the event. We are also looking into our shirt company options this year, so if you or someone you know would like to work with us on this year's event tees, please let me know. Thank you.

If you would like to be a part of the event...speak up. Any and all help is much appreciated as it takes quite a bit to make everything work and work smoothly. New ideas are always welcome, as we've been at this a bit, and it's always good to have something fun and new if it works for the event. You all have a voice here...so reach out to myself or any board member and we will go from there...thanks!

We will also be getting a club shirt order form out to you all so that you can grab you a fun shirt if you'd like. Thank you to all who are working on getting us some new club shirts...it has been several years since we've had one.

Tis about all I have at the moment. I hope to see you all at the February Meeting...let's have a GREAT turnout! Wishing you all an amazing day...let's fly together soon!!

Lori D. Hutchinson

2024 GPBC President



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

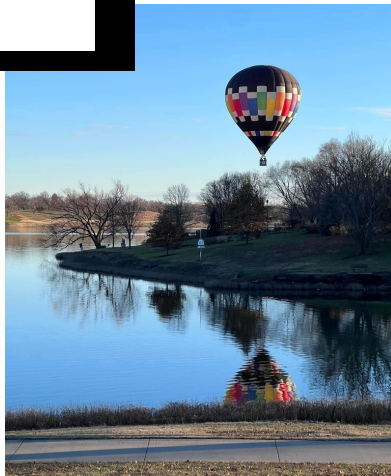
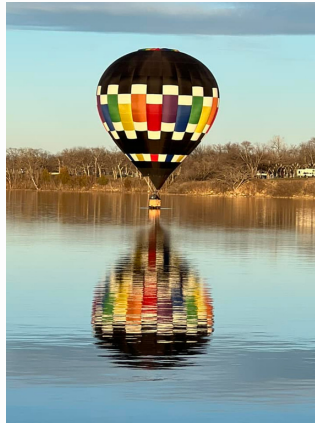
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*We did not have a January General Meeting....so
check back for our February Minutes in our
March newsletter.*



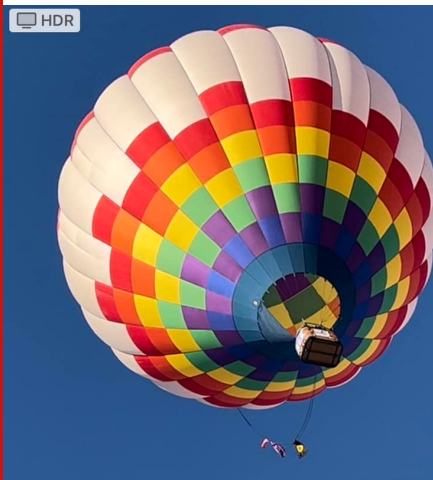
12.30.2023

The morning of December 30th you would find GPBC Pilot Michael Scott taking advantage of a flight window to close out the year over in Oklahoma. Meanwhile Pilot Brian Carlson snuck in an evening flight here in Topeka. A perfect way to end the year! (Photos courtesy of Laura Allen, Michele Harrison & Josie Scott.)



1.1.2024

Is there any better way to kick off a new year than with a balloon flight? We sure don't think so! GPBC Pilots Brian Carlson, Darrin Harrison & Lori Hutchinson all met up at Mount Hope along with a HUGE crowd of people. Pilots launched out of Mount Hope, over the zoo, over the river and had great flights! Meanwhile over in Oklahoma GPBC Pilot Michael Scott shared the skies with three other pilots to also ring in the new year! Looking great all! (Photos courtesy of Michele Harrison, Darcy Lang, Diane Moulden & Josie Scott.)



1.3.2024

On the afternoon of Wednesday, the 3rd, you would find a few of our GPBC Pilots taking advantage of a flight window to knock out their first flight of the year.

Chris Sabia along with student pilot Logan Reed took to the skies alongside fellow pilot Joel Sturdevant in the Re/Max Balloon. Logan trying to complete his flight training for his Private Lta license. Keep up the good work! (Photos courtesy of Brian Kaufman & Pam Miller-Dinwiddie.)



1.12.2024

The weekend of January 12th GPBC Pilot Michael Scott made the trek to Albuquerque, NM to help fellow pilot Stevie Gomez knock out some training flights! Albuquerque provided some great flying weather, that allowed long flights, lots of landing opportunities and lots of learning. Being able to help another pilot reach their goal...totally worth it! (Photos courtesy of Stevie Gomez.)

