



# The Crownlines

The Newsletter of the / Le journal du  
National Capital Balloon Club  
Club de montgolfières de la Capitale nationale

Volume 19 Number 3

December 2009

## Annual General Meeting



Please join us for the National Capital Balloon Club's 2009 Annual General Meeting on Thursday, January 21 at Louis' Steak House, (1682 Cyrville Road, Ottawa).

For those interested, the dinner menu will be in effect from 5 p.m. on. Membership registration will begin at 6:00 with the meeting at 6:30.

A vibrant club requires participation from an active membership. We look forward to having you join us and have a say in the running of your balloon club.

## Proxy



## Vote

If you cannot attend the AGM but would like to have your say, you can appoint someone to vote on your behalf.

Please fill in the enclosed Proxy Vote form and fax it to Debbie Wright at 613-727-7737 by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20.



## Time to Renew Your NCBC Membership

Your 2010 NCBC membership fees are now due. Rates remain the same:

Crew - \$20  
Pilot - \$30  
Family - \$40  
Corporate - \$100

If you joined at Gatineau, your membership is paid through 2010. **N-10** and **R-10** on the attached membership list indicates who is already a new or renewed member for 2010. Everyone else is due.

Please fill out the enclosed membership form in **full** (i.e. don't write "same" for all the info). Please print clearly and ensure you have included your postal code and e-mail address. You can bring it with you to the AGM or mail it to:

National Capital Balloon Club  
P.O. Box 78084  
1547 Meriline RPO  
Ottawa, ON K2E 1B1



## End-of-Season Fly Day and Social

*Leslie Manion*



On October 24, about 25 people met out in Sandown at Bill Whelan's Balloon Port, Warehouse, and Pot Luck Emporium for an end-of-season Fly Day and Social.

Sadly, yet not surprisingly, the weather did not cooperate so there was no flight. Instead, pilots, crews, family members, and neighbours partook in the social and pot luck portion of the event.

Club members in attendance included Anne Benoit, Jean Bjornson, Dave Johns, Brie Johstone, Dave Lopushinsky, Leslie Manion, Lynne O'Flaherty, Janet Power, Francoise Proulx, Sandra Rolfe, Carolyn Spence, and Gilles Tremblay. Two of our newest members, Nicole Giroux and Andy Fortin, also attended as did two of our American members, Dale Pelky from Massena, NY, and Ron Cassidy from Candia, NH.

Thanks to everyone for coming out and providing excellent and ample amounts of food. Special thanks to Bill for hosting the event.



## Christmas Spirit

*Bill Whelan*



A few of us got an early start towards some Christmas spirit in late November and early December.

Some of you may know that I have had a student apprentice for several months. Keelan O'Flaherty, a student from one of the local high schools and son of NCBC member Lynn O'Flaherty, asked during the late summer if he could do his Co-op placement with me.

When he asked if we could participate in his local Santa Clause parade, the Festival of Lights, and I agreed, he went about collecting all the things needed to make a small float: 1 pick-up truck, 1 flat-bed trailer, 2 balloon basket systems, a generator, and lots of tie downs, garland, and Christmas lights along with many friends. Keelan arranged with the local kids and a few adults to decorate the float, hook up the generator set, and drive the truck - my job.

We went to his home town, Maxville, where the parade ended at the arena with coffee, hot chocolate, hot dogs, chilli, and, of course, a visit from Santa (I sat on his lap, and the one thing the big guy told me was he only remembered BAD things about me. Go figure, eh?!!!)

There is a local deal for who gets to have bragging rights for the best float in the parade. While many folks went BIG, we kept it simple



but with a lot of FIRE POWER. Our apprentice took 1<sup>st</sup> Place - way to go, Keelan!! His efforts won him a \$25 Gift Certificate from the

merchants (we spent \$40 in propane.... LOL, but a good time was had by all).



But, this is not the end of this story.... Some of the crew members who helped decorate and participate in the parade were from Vankleek Hill, my local town.

They asked if we could participate in their parade the following Friday night. As I always have a soft spot in my heart for young crew, I said, "Let's do it again." Everything had already been assembled, but the only difference was the addition of one of my super glow burners that I use during Winterlude.

This parade float was also a big, big hit with even more fire power. Vankleek Hill makes arrangements with Hydro to turn off the street lights during the parade, so the effect is even better. Once again, we took 1<sup>st</sup> Place. The parade is longer in Vankleek Hill, and fuel consumption was 2 1/2 times more, but the smiling faces were worth the effort.



So, with all these lights and decorations, we are in a festive mood. All the best to everyone during this Christmas season. Be safe!

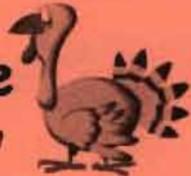


## Board Positions Open

Please consider putting your name forward to sit on the 2010 NCBC Board of Directors.

Positions available are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary as well as one Director position. You are needed! If you would like to run for a position, please send an e-mail to Dave Lopushinsky at [REDACTED]

## Turkeylude 2009

Leslie Manion 

Every November, a bunch of pilots and their crews convene during American Thanksgiving to go flying in beautiful Sussex, NB. It's a casual gathering with pilots staying with their local crews and no official balloonmeister. We meet at the local Tim's around 7 a.m. and 2 p.m., talk weather and rehash old stories, put up pibals, decide where to go, and proceed to a launch site, then meet for breakfast, lunch, or dinner depending on the hour. That's what usually happens. This year, the rainy weather of the summer followed us into November so flying was curtailed – yet again.

In attendance were NCBC members Dave Lopushinsky, Leslie Manion, Keelan O'Flaherty, Janet Power, Sandra Rolfe, Gilles Tremblay, Bill Whelan, and Derald Young. Other pilots included Mike and Tammie Lavoie and Rick Jones from New Hampshire, Joel Jones from Alabama, and Nina ZiGante from the Mirimischi.

The extent of the ballooning for the week occurred on Monday and Tuesday when Mike and Tammie flew three flights, and Gilles tethered Bill's Patriotic All-Sew balloon for Sussex's Torch Relay Celebration. It was a great hit in the back-ground, and the official photographer got some excellent shots of the event from the air.



Since we couldn't fly, we maintained the socializing portion of the event and met over coffee and donuts, breakfast, a turkey dinner at Adair's Wilderness Lodge, and a lobster pot luck at John and Lisa Clarke's.

It is always great to go to Sussex to catch up with old friends – maybe next year we will be able to do that AND fly.

## The Editor Speaks - one last time



As you consider joining the NCBC board, I hope that the position of *Crownlines* Editor is of interest to someone out there. With this edition, I take my final bow. Really.

There were only 3 issues this year as I had neither enough material nor the energy to badger, beseech, appeal, cajole, beg, implore, gripe, whine, pester, threaten, plead, whinge, bully, coax, press, entreat, hassle, sweet talk, wheedle, entice, and nag any further.

I reviewed my portfolio the other day and noted that I have been the editor since May 1996 (with a 1 or 2 year hiatus). That's 23 editions in 12 years, so it's time.

One of my mottos, in so much of my life, is "if I don't do it, it won't get done." That still may be the case, though I hope I'm wrong – whether right or wrong, it's time to move on. I have enjoyed my role as editor despite the many hours it's taken to fix membership lists, find the right clip art, verify fonts, write, edit, adjust margins, etc. I feel the product has been a good one, and I am proud of it. Thanks to those who have contributed and supported me over the years; I hope you continue your support for the next editor as well. I believe that the club newsletter is an important connection for the membership, and I hope that someone will step forward to keep the tradition going.



Please review the following minutes from last year's meeting  
and **BRING** them with you to the **AGM**

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## Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting

January 16, 2009  
Louis' Restaurant

### 1. Membership Renewal

Members in attendance paid their dues: Leslie Manion, David Lopushinsky, Bill Whelan, Diane Casault, Sandra Rolfe, Bryan Tepper, Alison Tepper, Mary Anne Stevens, Dale Pelky, Rick Smith, Laurie Manion, Gary Moreau, Francoise Proulx, Carole Brassard, Lynne O'Flaherty, Carolyn Spence, Michel Fromment, Brie Johnstone, Bernard Gervais, Lina Vermette, Brian Kirk

### 2. Registration of Proxies and Establishment of Quorum

19 voting members were in attendance. Five (5) proxies were registered. As meeting chair, David Lopushinsky declared that a quorum was present.

### 3. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### 4. Approval of the Agenda

Mary Anne Stevens moved, seconded by Bryan Tepper that the agenda be approved as proposed. Carried.

### 5. Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting

#### 5.1 Approval

Laurie Manion moved, seconded by Diane Casault that the minutes be approved. Carried.

#### 5.2 Business Arising

There was no business arising.

### 6. Reports

#### 6.1 President's Report

David Lopushinsky tendered a written report in which he thanked everyone on the Board for a great effort over the last year. He noted that the board met several times. A Safety Seminar was organized and well attended, and the Club continued to work with Transport Canada regarding propane issues. There were more Club members flying together, and a great end-of-year party was held at Bill Whelan's. Membership has increased, and a new Club website is up and running. Each board member was singled out for his/ her involvement.

Mary Anne Stevens moved, seconded by Brie Johnstone that the Presidents' Report be accepted. Carried.

#### 6.2 Vice-President's Report

Leslie Manion provided an oral report. As VP, she handled the membership list as well as took on the editorship of the *Crownlines* of which there were 4 issues – February, June, August, December.

In addition, she oversaw the membership and raffle table during the Gatineau Balloon Festival. Francoise Proulx was thanked for her help. It was noted that the time and effort required for finding decent raffle items and maintaining the table are making the raffle a harder task to coordinate each year – especially since it is pretty much just Leslie and Francoise operating the table and selling tickets. With effort, the cost of the item is covered and a small amount of money is made, but she did not feel it was enough to merit continuation.

As of the end of December, the Club has 50 members. The breakdown is as follows:

26 Pilots - 20 Crew - 4 Family memberships

Of those, 37 members are local and 13 are out-of-towners

Gary Moreau moved, seconded by Mary Anne Stevens that the Vice Presidents' Report be accepted. Carried.

### 6.3 Secretary's Report

Lynne Deachman was not in attendance.

### 6.4 Treasurer's Report

Carole Brassard tendered a draft 2008 Financial Statement. She reported \$780.38 in Expenses and \$491.54 in Revenue. It was noted that revenue was down since membership dues were not collected in 2008.

There was discussion on the Canada Post mail box charge. It was generally agreed that having a regular mailing address provided continuity despite the cost (\$151.63).

#### 6.4.1 Approval of the 2008

Mary Anne Stevens moved, seconded by Diane Casault that the Financial Statement be accepted. Carried.

#### 6.4.2 Appointment of Auditor for 2007

Mary Anne Stevens moved, seconded by Bryan Tepper, that the Annual General Meeting approve there be no appointment of an auditor. Carried.

### 6.5 Ratification of Executive Action Taken in Previous Year

Leslie Manion moved, seconded by Mary Anne Stevens that all actions taken by the Executive during the past year's term of office be approved by the Annual General Meeting. Carried.

## 7. Elections

### 7.1 Nominations from the Floor

As there was no Nomination Committee, the existing board members were asked if they would let their names stand for another year. Everyone, with the exception of Carole Brassard, agreed to continue. Lynne Deachman had expressed her interest in continuing as Secretary.

Gary Moreau moved, seconded by Bryan Tepper that Laurie Manion's name be put forward as Treasurer. As there were no further nominations, nominations were closed and the following executive was acclaimed:

President:	David Lopushinsky
Vice-President:	Leslie Manion
Secretary:	Lynne Deachman
Treasurer:	Laurie Manion

### 7.2 Election of Directors

King Glover has another year on his Directorship. Two other Director's positions were up for renewal. Bill Whelan and Debbie Wright offered to continue. As well, Gary Moreau expressed an interest in serving as Director.

Laurie Manion moved, seconded by Mary Anne Stevens that Gary Moreau's name be put forward as Director. Carried.

The membership agreed that there would be four Directors this year.

Bryan Tepper moved, seconded by Laurie Manion that elections be closed.

## 8. New Business

Sandra Rolfe announced her intention to break altitude, speed, and distance records. She and Bill Whelan have built a 31,000 cu. ft. balloon intended to go to 10,000 feet. She will be looking for crew to help her.

Another Safety Seminar will be organized for March or April. Dave Lopushinsky, Mary Anne Stevens, and Bill Whelan will help organize it.

There was some discussion about charity work and whether the club could get back involved as it has in the past (with CHEO or others).

Mary Anne Stevens thanked the board members for their work on behalf of the Club.

## 9. Adjournment

Bill Whelan moved, seconded by Diane Casault, adjournment. Carried. The Chair declared the meeting to be adjourned.