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The Crownlines

Welcome to the New Look *Crownlines*

By David Lopushinsky

I have taken over as editor from Les Welsh. I would like to thank Les, on behalf of the Club, for the time and effort he put in last year as editor. In keeping with the fine tradition of *The Crownlines* started by Leslie Manion, I hope this year's look and timeliness meet with everyone's approval and enjoyment.

I will be attempting to produce *The Crownlines* before major events. Of course, this will require help from the members in the way of articles, pictures, and any other items you may want to see in your newsletter. Please give me articles or ideas whenever you see me and while they are still fresh in your mind. You can e-mail them to me at [REDACTED]

As agreed at the last AGM, we will not be publishing the minutes of meetings in *The Crownlines*. While the AGM minutes have been included, minutes from other regular meetings will be available on request from the secretary, Diane Casault, either by mail or e-mail [REDACTED]

This edition of *The Crownlines* has been mailed to everyone. The board would like to e-mail out as many future editions as possible in an attempt to reduce costs. If you would like to continue receiving a hard copy, please call me at 819-682-6546. You can e-mail me stating what word processing

package you are using. For Microsoft Word 6.0 or higher or WordPerfect Suite 6.0 or higher, all the articles will appear correct. Please let me know the format you would like to see this in. As well, we will place a *Crownlines* copy on our web site.



1999 NCBC Board of Directors

President:	Stephanie Glover
Vice-President:	Leslie Manion
Treasurer:	King Glover
Secretary:	Diane Casault
Directors:	Tina Daniels
	Dave Johns
	David Lopushinsky
	Sandra Shannon
	Debbie Wright
	Bill Whelan

NCBC WINTERLUDE FIESTA

Although the organizers of Winterlude were thrilled with the great weather for the festival, the organizers of the NCBC Annual Winterlude Balloon Fiesta would have preferred the great weather mean less wind. Despite that, the 15 or so pilots and their assorted crews had a wonderful time. We were only able to notch up one flight on Sunday morning, but what a beauty it was! Clear, cold, crisp, and relatively slow. Balloon Meister Bill Whelan called a long-distance flight with the only stipulation that pilots had to be on the ground by 10:53. Mark Schilling of New Jersey was last off and last down and the winner of Ed's Cup, the tarnished but coveted long-distance trophy. Mark made it almost to Kemptville about 30 miles due south of the Lebreton launch site. Seven local balloonists also had a wonderful flight on Sunday afternoon.

Since flying was not an option for most of the weekend, activities were focused around socializing. There was an all-you-can-eat pizza night at Lorenzo's on Thursday night. On Friday evening, NCBC pilot-turned-pool-king, Dave Roberts, welcomed everyone to his newly-opened billiard lounge, Dooly's. We were quite pleased and surprised to see our Florida club member Grant Aiello (of the famous Grant & Kenny duo) out for the evening.

After the Saturday afternoon flight was scrubbed, several of the teams headed off to the Green's Creek toboggan hill where they were undeterred by the "Closed Due To Poor Conditions" sign. Some of them had such a good time, they returned to the hill after the Hoodo McFiggins soiree. Derald Young, who arrived in Ottawa sans balloon and just came down for the fun of it all, slid down the icy hill on the inverted hood of a truck. Doesn't sound that hard; except he did it standing up! Meanwhile, the more sedate members of the crowd headed to the Museum of Civilization for the Imax showing of Everest.

The wrap-up brunch found everyone going home with a prize of some sort - coupons, Frisbees, or yo-yos from Subway; Glover Custom Broker pencils and rulers; CDs and videos from radio station Magic 100; Showboat pins; or Fiesta T-shirts.

Ron Cassidy was awarded the Spirit of Winterlude trophy for his generous donation of the daily muffins and doughnuts. He was feeling guilty about it, saying it looked like he "bought" the trophy. However, we appreciated his "spirit" of generosity.

Thanks to the out-of-town balloonists and crew who came a long way - John Outzen, Doug Shippee, Ron Cassidy, Steve Turner, Mike Lavoie, Ed Heltshe, Mark Schilling, Derald Young, Dave Wall, Ken Rolland, and Deborah Winslow-Hague. Thanks, too, to our local support - King and Stephanie Glover, Sandra Shannon, Leslie Manion. Dave Ryan, Bill Whelan, Liz Dowd, Diane Casault, and David Lopushinsky as well as our volunteer crew and members who came out for the socials. A good time was had by all, and we're looking forward to a great Fiesta in 2000.

Leslie Manion

NCBC CLUB BALLOON

With a quick glance through our membership list, it is easy to see that we have a lot of balloon pilots and want-to-be pilots in the national capital region who don't own or have access to a balloon.

The solution! Simple! A club balloon! The reality, however, is a bit more difficult. Having owned my own balloon and lent it out, only to have it returned damaged, has always left a bad taste in my mouth when it comes to a club balloon. However, discussions of late have shed a new light on the possibility of obtaining one.

Some things to consider -

- Is there interest from the members?
- How could it work?
- How would damage and repairs be handled?
- What do other clubs do?
- Would pilots be willing to contribute funds towards a club balloon?
- Could we find a sponsor to help pay for the costs?
- Could we obtain a grant from the Ontario Lottery Corporation?
- What kind of fund raising would work for this project?
- Who would sit on a balloon committee?
- Who would volunteer to lead this program?

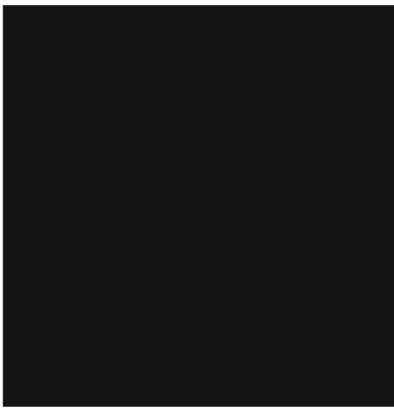
Your board would appreciate your comments by fax, e-mail, or phone call. The summer season is almost upon us! Please send us your feedback!

Stephanie Glover

Advertising Rates For The Crownlines

The Crownlines accepts advertisements at the following rates for fully prepared advertising copy:

Full Page	\$25
Half Page	\$15
Quarter Page	\$10
Business Card	\$ 5



THE TETHER SPOT (social notes & more)

Congratulations to Carolyn Connelly who is engaged to be married to future club member (we hope), Steve Mitrow. They met at Camp Fortune, became engaged at Camp Fortune, and will be married at - guess where? - Camp Fortune - on October 23.

While romance was blooming, so was its aftermath. A number of local pilots were busy adding new crew members and future pilots to their teams over the winter. Brigitte Johnston, Jim Sproule, and daughter Julie welcomed baby Christine on November 13. Chris Savard and his wife Shauna had a baby girl, Cassidy, on February 16. And, non-member Nim Moussa and Georgette had Dylan on February 19. Congratulations to all parents and newcomers!

The Quinlans, Todd, Stephanie, Averi, and Hannah, are awaiting the arrival of a baby boy on June 11. They are now in the name-game stage and have narrowed the choices down to Cameron, Colt, or Aerostar (just kidding)

Congratulations to our newest club pilot Nick Nickerson. As well, Transport Canada's Wayne Harper also got his pilot's license. Someone send him a membership form.

The Gatineau Festival balloon team of Carolyn Connelly and Gary Lockyer welcome Natasha Roberge to the team. Lorraine O'Farrell will be in the wings with her expertise.

A recent Discovery Channel documentary entitled **Inferno** featured the life and times of the busiest fire station in the Unites States - Orlando. Who could be seen clowning around and cooking up a storm in the firehall kitchen? Looked like NCBC pilot member, Grant Aiello.

CHEO FLY DAY

On May 16, with the organizational assistance of member Ron Eades, the NCBC will once again be attempting to provide tethered rides for the sick children of the CHEO Hospital. This event is being run in conjunction with CHEO's 25th anniversary. The hospital will be holding an open house in celebration of their birthday on the same afternoon. Let's hope for great weather this time around. Pilots and crew are asked to RSVP their participation to the Club Hotline.

BURLINGTON Balloon Festival

We have just received notice from the organizers of the Burlington Balloon Festival of the cancellation of this year's event. The festival has been postponed until 2000 due to lack of sponsorship and construction at the Burlington Airport. We wish them luck in securing a sponsor for 2000.



Upcoming Events

Fly Day

Sunday, May 2 - 6:00 pm
Carleton University

Charity Tether

Sunday, May 16 - 1-4 pm
Cheo 25th Anniversary

Fly Day

Sunday, May 30 - 6:00 am
Pineview Golf Course

Fly Day

Saturday, June 5
TBA
Osgoode Beautifying the Parks
(Contact Carolyn Spence)

Fly Day

Saturday, June 12
TBA
Renfrew - (contact Bill Whelan)

Fly Day

Saturday, June 19 - 6:30 pm
Navan Arena; Street Fest

Fly Day - CANADA DAY

Thursday, July 1 - 4:00 pm
Meet at Carleton to choose
launch site

Festivals

July 9-11 Cornwall, ON
July 15-18 Becancour, QC
July 23-25 Magog, QC
July 28 - Aug 1 St-Jean-
Chrysostome, QC

A REPORT OF A FLY DAY PAST

The last fly day of the 1998 season (September 19) was possibly the club's best to date with seven balloons and over 30 people in attendance. Although scheduled for Pineview, the winds dictated a Navan launch, so off we trotted to the arena. New and old crew appeared and were distributed out to the various pilots (Allan, Bill, Sandra, Caroline, Tina, Gilles & Janet, and Stephanie), the champagne was handed out (twice in some cases), the new Fly Day register was introduced, and a few new members were signed up. We unloaded and geared up without the usual hurry up and wait.

The club had two special guests this trip: David Lopushinsky's parents, visiting from Kamloops, B.C. Allan had generously offered to fly them both, and my father-in-law, Paul, was very keen. While he eagerly helped with the inflation, my mother-in-law, Pat, seemed somewhat suspicious of the whole thing and had no intention of flying. In fact, she had no intention of even getting near the balloon! Guess she was afraid someone was going to chuck her in when she wasn't looking. So, since Pat opted out, I got to go along for the ride and even a bit of burner time. Actually the flight turned into one big training session with Todd Quinlan continuing his pilot training with Bill, and Dave Johns, Todd Boucher, Neil Martyniuk, and I all getting some instruction and burner time with our respective pilots.

It was a lovely flight that kept us in the Navan area for one hour plus. We flew over the quarry, and though many tried to hit the water, Allan was the only one to do a successful splash and dash. Stephanie landed in a field then switched one of her passengers for the landowner's son who left his motorcycle and happily jumped in the basket. After we packed up, we went and helped the Glover team which is

no small feat since Oair just doesn't want to leave that new balloon.

We made a quick trip back to the arena then headed off to Louis' Steakhouse for breakfast. The afternoon found many of the same people at the attempted CHEO tether which was scrubbed due to weather. But, all in all, it was a great ballooning day!

We're looking forward to having the same excellent turnout as the 1999 Fly Days season begins. See you at the launch site!

Leslie Manion

New Canadian Record Holder from the NCBC

Ron Eades of Shawville set the Canadian hot air balloon duration record on Sunday, March 14 when he flew for six hours from Aylmer, Quebec to Elgin, Ontario. The distance was about 55 miles as the crow (or balloon) flies.

It was a lovely spring-like day though still quite wintery at 0500 when we began his launch from near the Loblaws parking lot in Aylmer. Crewing for Ron were Diane Casault, David Lopushinsky, Pat Zwicky, Les Welsh, and Leslie Manion. Bill Whelan served as flight director providing Ron with maps and advice and finding himself grounded and part of a chase crew for the first time in a long while. Liz Dowd was on hand to serve as official observer. Also present were two of Aylmer's boys in blue. The crew met them in the local Tim Horton's (no, really!), and they were invited to come along and watch the fun.

Ron's basket was laden with five propane tanks. As someone noted, he didn't have enough room to change his mind or anything else (in case Mother Nature called), let alone turn or reach around. He had a goody bag of sandwiches, water, and even a plastic

tube as his portable loo (male loo only).

After a few ground mishaps - flag caught in the fan, loose pin in burner - Ron was ready to launch. The police were put to work as photographers, and they even gave a little blast on their siren with lights flashing as Ron launched. With the sun already providing some light, official launch time was 0612.

Although a south east direction had originally been predicted, we looked up and saw Ron flying south west. Such is weather! The crew packed up and headed to town for breakfast as there was no great hurry to chase him. In fact, they had time for two breakfasts - they really weren't in a hurry.

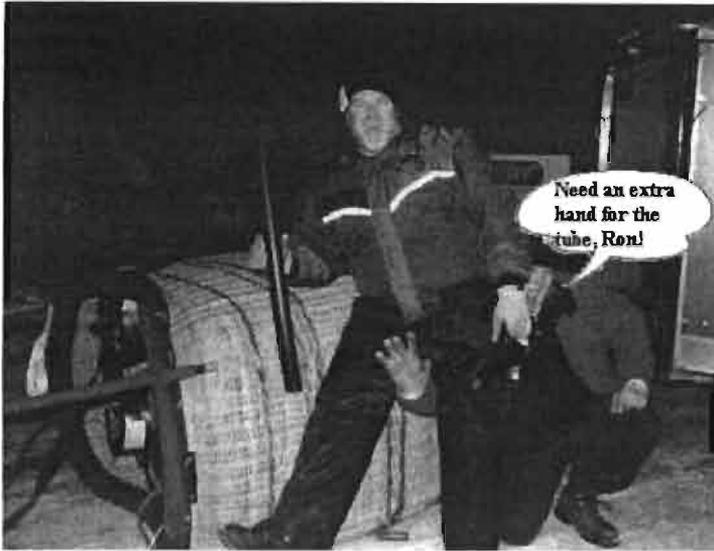
Mary Lalonde from Cornwall took over from Liz as official observer at mid-point. We were planning on going towards her home so she could easily join in. Unfortunately, for her, weather dictated a 30-mile trek in the opposite direction. Just what a good observer expects.

After six hours in the air, Ron landed in a farmer's field near Elgin, Ontario, a few miles from Gananoque. Thanks to a local farmer and his snowmobile, retrieval was made easy. The usual ground celebrations and official photographs were taken, and a happy, but weary, crew returned home.

Although Ron is still waiting for the official stamp of approval for the record, it looks promising.

We congratulate Ron for making the record books. Well done!

Leslie Manion



Ron and his merry crew near Elm



Winterlude 99 Liftoff from Lebreton Flats



Submissions to The Crowlines

The deadlines for submissions for 1999 are tentatively set as follows:

- Sunday, June 15, 1999
- Sunday, August 22, 1999
- Sunday, November 7, 1999



Minutes of the 1999 Annual General Meeting
National Capital Balloon Club

January 11, 1999
Baxter's Restaurant
Ottawa, Ontario

1. Registration of Proxies and Establishment of Quorum

There were no proxies noted. There were 43 paid memberships, and to achieve quorum it was determined that a minimum of 25% of the membership was present.

2. Call to Order

President Stephanie Glover called the meeting to order.

2.1 Moment of silence observed in memory of Leopold Richer

Stephanie asked the people present to observe a moment of silence in memory of Leopold Richer.

3. Approval of the agenda

Debbie Wright moved, seconded by Diane Casault, that the agenda as distributed be approved. **Carried.**

4. Minutes of the 1998 Annual General Meeting

A change was made to the 1998 AGM minutes. The date was corrected from February 12, 1997 to February 12, 1998.

4.1 Bill Whelan **moved**, seconded by Laurie Manion, that the minutes be approved. **Carried.**

4.2 Business Arising

Mary-Anne Stevens reported on the transponder issue from CARAC. It is still technically on the table but has not progressed further at this point.

5. Reports

5.1 President's Report

A written report was given by Stephanie Glover.
Stephanie Glover **moved**, seconded by Carolyn Connolly, acceptance of the President's report. **Carried.**

5.2 Secretary's Report

The secretary resigned during the year, so the board members shared the duties for the remainder of the year. There were 10 meetings this year. The board tried to set a specific day and time, but the schedules of individuals caused changes. The new board should establish a new meeting schedule for 1999.

5.3 Vice President's Report

Leslie Manion provided an oral report. Some things that were handled this year included:

- Monitoring of the NCBC phone line. Creating business cards with the NCBC phone line number.
- Helping Ron Eades with the CHEO tether.
- Overseeing donations of money for flowers for Leopold Richer

- Liaising with the Proud to be Canadian project

She noted that landowner relations are a concern - Carolyn Connolly and Bill Whelan helped with landowner issues from Gatineau. The board is looking for suggestions on how to improve landowner relationships. Some ideas to date include:

- a landowner appreciation program where each pilot donates a ride to be drawn for landowners
- champagne with our own label or attached card

Leslie Manion **moved**, seconded by Debbie Wright, acceptance of the Secretary's report and the Vice-President's report. **Carried**

5.4 Report of Membership Coordinator

The membership coordinator, Frank Bellatoni, was not present; if the board receives a report, it may be published in *The Crownlines*.

5.5 Treasurer's Report

5.5.1 Approval of the 1998 Financial Statement

A written report was provided. The main expense this year was office supplies (> \$500). The club will receive a refund from the insurance company which will be credited to our NCBC account.

Carolyn Connolly **moved**, seconded by Diane Casault, acceptance of the Treasury's report. **Carried**

5.5.2 Appointment of Auditor for 1998

Bill Whelan **moved**, seconded by Diane Casault, that the AGM sanctions that no auditor be appointed. **Carried**

5.6 Report from Fly Day Committee

Sandra Shannon reported that we had several fly days this past year and more will be planned for this year. The champagne was from Andre's wine, and they donated a matching number to what we bought. King also mentioned that it would be a good thing to support Andre's wine as a way to say thank you for their donation.

5.7 Report from Winterlude Committee

Report made by Liz Dowd

Approximately 35 e-mail or faxed invitations were sent out. There was no report from Dave Ryan. It was suggested that the board takes over to ensure it happens. We have had insufficient reports/sponsor negotiations. The board will try to salvage it for a fly weekend. There is no sponsor. We may have ice for tethers. The NCC wants \$1000 for Queen Juliana Park and tether spots. The club is looking to sell them. The propane is being negotiated with Superior. The Travelodge rate is \$45/night. Lorraine O'Farrell is trying for other sponsorship.

After giving the report, Liz resigned from the Winterlude committee but agreed to still work with the club.

5.8 Ratification of Executive action taken in previous year

Anny Tenbult **moved**, seconded by Laurie Manion, acceptance of executive action in the last 11 months. **Carried** (one opposed).

6. Elections for Executive Officers

6.1 Report of the Nomination Committee (Dave Johns and Les Welsh)

Dave conducted the elections. All nominees accepted the nomination.

6.2 Nomination from the floor

There were no nominations from the floor.

6.3 Motion from the floor to determine the number of directors

Mary-Anne Stevens **moved**, seconded by Laurie Manion, acceptance to retain the number of directors to six. **Carried** (one opposed).

6.4 Election

President: Stephanie Glover, no nomination from the floor. Madelaine Lussier **moved**, seconded by Carolyn Connolly. **Carried**. Stephanie Glover was acclaimed as President for 1999.

For the rest of the election, it was suggested that, since there were no other nominations from the floor and all positions had only one nominee, the rest of the board should be voted all together. Mary-Anne Stevens **moved**, seconded by Garry Moreau. **Carried**. All acclaimed as below:

- Vice-President: Leslie Manion
- Secretary: Diane Casault
- Treasurer: King Glover
- Directors: Tina Daniels
- David Lopushinsky
- Sandra Shannon

Three of the six directors are on their second year of their term: Debbie Wright, Dave Johns, Bill Whelan

7. New Business

Les Welsh **moved**:

“That the approved minutes of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, or portions of them, should regularly be published in *The Crownlines*, subject to the joint discretion of the Secretary of the NCBC and the Editor of *The Crownlines*, except for closed portion of meetings.” Seconded by Mary-Anne Stevens

Discussion ensued. It was argued that other clubs (CBA and Calgary) consider it essential for the democratic/harmonious functioning of the club. However, some felt, that with the *Crownlines* published four times a year, the newsletter would be full of minutes. The board might consider a condensed version or highlights. As well, e-mail distribution could be done to those interested in receiving the minutes. Many members were interested in a summary version only.

Votes: In favour - 2; Opposed - 8; Motion defeated. (with many abstentions)

8. Adjournment

Mary-Anne Stevens **moved** adjournment, seconded by Carolyn Connolly. **Carried**

1999 NCBC Fly Day and Festival Schedule

Date	Day	Fly Day/Festival	Meeting Time	Launch Site/Location
May 2	Sunday	Fly Day	6:00 pm	Carleton University
May 16	Sunday	Charity Tether	1 – 4 pm	CHEO 25 th Anniversary
May 30	Sunday	Fly Day	6:00 am	Pineview Golf Course
June 5	Saturday	Fly Day	TBA	Osgoode - Beautifying the Parks (Carolyn Spence)
June 12	Saturday	Fly Day	TBA	Renfrew (Bill Whelan)
June 19	Saturday	Fly Day	6:30 pm	Navan Arena; return to Navan for Street Fest
June 26	Sunday	Fly Day	4:00 pm	Shawville (Ron Eades)
July 1	Thursday	Fly Day	4:00 pm	Meet at Carleton to choose launch site
July 9 – 11		Festival		Cornwall, Ontario
July 15 – 18		Festival		Becancour, Quebec
July 23 – 25		Festival		Magaog, Quebec
July 28 – Aug 1		Festival		St-Jean-Chrysostome, Quebec
July 29 – Aug 2		Festival		London, Ontario
Aug 1	Sunday	Fly Day	6:00 am	Carleton University
Aug 7–15		Festival		St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec
Aug 22	Sunday	Fly Day	TBA	Marionville (Lorraine O'Farrell)
Sep 3 – 06		Festival		Gatineau, Quebec
Sep 10 – 13		Festival		Sussex, New Brunswick
Sep 18	Saturday	Fly Day	7:00 am	Pineview Golf Course
Oct 2	Sunday	Charity Tether	TBA	Great Pumpkin Caper RCMP grounds - St. Laurent Blvd.
Oct 1 – 10		Festival		Alberquerque, New Mexico, USA
Oct 16	Saturday	Fly Day	4:00 pm	Manotick Long Island
Oct 22 - 24		Festival		Hershey, Pennsylvania, USA

ATTITUDE

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact
Of attitude on life,
Attitude, to me, is more important than facts.
It is more important than the past
Than education, than money,
Than circumstances, than failures, than successes,
Than what other people think or say or do.
It is more important than appearance,
Giftedness, or skill.
It will make or break a company, a church a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day
Regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day.

We cannot change our past.
We cannot change the fact that people will act a certain way.

We cannot change the inevitable.
The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have
That is our ATTITUDE.

I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me
And 90 percent how I react to it.

Charles Swindall