

President's Corner July 2009

Hi Everybody,

The summer flying season is in full swing. Folks are traveling to rallies not only here, but all over the southwest. Thank goodness fuel prices are a bit lower than they were last year!! I don't know about you but I'm looking at trips and measuring the number of tanks it takes to get there. (that's a new part of pre flight planning)

But, you know it's really about taking the time to enjoy the sport we all love. May have to prioritize a bit, but by golly we're gonna get in the air at some point each month!

July is also time for the Albuquerque Aerostat Ascension Association (AAAA) to open nominations for the 2009 Sid Cutter Award.

First awarded in 1975, this award is presented annually in Sid Cutter's name by the AAAA to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the sport of hot air ballooning. The nominee should be an individual whose extraordinary dedication has benefitted the hot air ballooning community as a whole and is someone whose actions and efforts are not otherwise widely or publically recognized. Recipients of the Sid Cutter Award are automatically granted an honorary membership in AAAA.

Written nominations must be submitted to the AAAA Board of Directors prior to the last day of August. Send nominations to: AAAA Board of Directors: PO Box 90160 Albuquerque, NM 87199-0169

Here's an update on the AAAA Membership drive that has been running from June 1st 2009 through July 31st. The goal is to increase our membership by inviting folks back to the club that have been previous members, and to add new members. We will do this by not only offering the reduced rate, but waiving the initiation fee. SO, for a regular member, for the remainder of 2009 the membership fee is \$12.50, and \$2.50 per family member. For this time period only, the initiation fee of \$10.00 is waived. YOU can save as much as \$22.50.

1st Prize: Dinner at a local Restaurant, 2 tickets to Cliffs, Family Balloon Museum Membership for a total value of \$160.00

2nd Prize: Dinner at a local Restaurant, 2 tickets to Cliffs, Single Balloon Museum Membership, for a total value of \$110.00

3rd Prize: Dinner at a local Restaurant, Single Balloon Museum Membership

The existing member that brings in the most new and renewals wins first prize, second most, 2nd prize, third most 3rd prize.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact myself or one of your Board Members.

Finally, a question. When did you last read the By Laws for AAAA? The last time they were revised was 2006. Is there an item that might need revisited in the future? If there is something you think needs discussion, please contact myself or one of your Board Members.

Fly Safe, Have Fun and Happy 4th of July!
Deb Fowler