



# DOWNWIND CHASE

Official Newsletter of the Pacific Coast Aeronauts

◆ MARCH 2026 ◆

## IMPORTANT INFO!

### CLUB MEETINGS

VIA ZOOM, HELD ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF ODD-NUMBERED MONTHS PLUS DECEMBER

### 2ND MEETING OF 2026

Wed. March 4 @ 7PM PDT

### ZOOM BOARD MEETINGS

### FIRST MEETING OF 2026

Thurs April 23 @ 7PM

Registration for the **two BFA Youth** camps scheduled this summer opens on **March 1st.**

**Has Your Teen Registered?**

**It's Time to pay your dues!** You may pay on-line or mail in your dues.

\$25 for individual, \$35 for family!

**Do it Now!**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**  
20<sup>th</sup> of each month

**BALLOON CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS TOMORROW!** **Now!**

Balloon Federation of America Youth Program

**SIGN UP FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURE IN HOT AIR BALLOONING!**

<b>BFA Southeastern Balloon Camp</b> ✨ 📍 Location: Cordele, Georgia 📅 Dates: June 22-28, 2026	<b>BFA High Sierra Balloon Camp</b> ✨ 📍 Location: Reno, Nevada 📅 Dates: June 23-28, 2026
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🌟 VISIT [WWW.BFA.NET](http://WWW.BFA.NET) FOR MORE DETAILS! 🌟

Hi Aeronauts,

Hope all went well in the short month of February. Not much flying in the mid west. It has been much colder than usual, and way too much wind. Now that March is here, we hope to get some flying in!

The General meeting is this Wednesday, hope you can call in!

Safety seminars are happening. The PCA website has a list and you can always attend an online seminar on the BFA site.

Soft Landings! Editor Jeanne Anson

### IN THIS ISSUE...

Passages Ginnie Kersey	2
Lovers Aloft Balloon Festival	3
Club Officers & Committees	4
Balloon & Equipment for Sale	4

# Passages

## Ginny Kersey



Virginia (Ginnie) Kersey, a pillar of the local arts community and a public lands advocate, passed away on Feb. 9, 2026

at the age of 85. Though she traveled the world, she loved Reno above every other city. She was jetting from jazz concerts to ballet performances to gatherings with her cherished friends until almost the very end.

Known to us as an adoring mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Ginnie was known to many as a champion for Reno's culture and beautification. As Budget Director Emeritus for the University of Nevada, Reno (retiring in 1991), she was a brilliant steward of campus resources and helped countless students pursue their goals. In the late 1970s, alongside Clark Santini, she led the campaign to purchase and transform Rancho San Rafael into a regional park. One of her greatest joys was returning to that park every September for the Great Reno Balloon Race. And in 1986, Ginnie helped found the UNR Balloon Race Scholarship with support from then-

President Joe Crowley. Students still receive this scholarship every year from the sale of raffle tickets and commemorative pins.

Ginnie generously gave her time to boards and commissions that continue bringing joy to the community. Her service began with public lands, when she was appointed for two terms to the Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission and became a leading member of the Nevada State Parks Advisory Commission. Later on, she championed local creatives through the Reno Arts & Culture Commission, the A.V.A. Ballet Theatre Board of Directors, and several jazz nonprofit boards. She was a longtime board member, sponsor, and trustee of the Great Reno Balloon Race.

Born in New Jersey to William and Grace Ryan, Ginnie moved throughout the United States as an "army brat" before attending Contra Costa College. She met her second husband, Robert (Bob) Kersey, while working at UNR, and they thoughtfully blended their families into one loving home. Ginnie and Bob enjoyed 48 years of happy marriage—exploring distant places, supporting the Democratic Party, and attending the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Nevada.

Ginnie is preceded in death by her husband, Bob; her brother, Bill Ryan; and her son, Lee Craig Kersey. She is survived by four children: Cindy Ceccarelli (m. Mike), Kelly Kersey (m. Susan), Ken Kersey (m. Lisa), and Linda Kersey. She is also survived by seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and many dear friends.

She will be deeply missed, but her legacy carries on across the parks, stages, and the city she loved so well.

A Celebration of Life is being planned, and details will be announced at a later date.

*(from her Facebook page)*

# Lovers Aloft

## Lovelock, NV

It was fun to watch all of our competitors trying to get to the target locations. We would like to congratulate our race winners:

- 1st Place: Karalyn Mumm**
- 2nd place: Ryan Evans**
- 3rd place: Will Vavra**



We would like to congratulate our Ribbon Race winners.  
**Russ James and Eric Dimond**

They were able to stay flying together for over 50 minutes longer than the second place team. This was Dimond's first time flying in the Ribbon Race. You guys did a great job. Russ has won this event in previous years. We love when the team is new pilot matched with a veteran pilot.

*(Text & pix from Lover's Aloft FB page except bottom right from Pat Irwin)*





# PACIFIC COAST AERONAUTS CLUB CONTACTS

## 2026 PCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CLUB OFFICERS

Names & Email Addresses	Board Term Expires at End of Year	2026 Officers
Patrick Moore <a href="mailto:pcamoore587@gmail.com">pcamoore587@gmail.com</a>	2026	Chair of BOD
April Turner <a href="mailto:pca.april@gmail.com">pca.april@gmail.com</a>	2026	President & Co-Secretary
Dave Wakefield <a href="mailto:pca.dwake@gmail.com">pca.dwake@gmail.com</a>	Volunteer	Vice President
Linda Walton <a href="mailto:pca.lindaw@gmail.com">pca.lindaw@gmail.com</a>	2026	Treasurer
Jeanne Anson <a href="mailto:ansonlta2@gmail.com">ansonlta2@gmail.com</a>	2027	Co-Secretary
Tom Sharpee <a href="mailto:tomsharpee@gmail.com">tomsharpee@gmail.com</a>	2027	

## 2026 PCA COMMITTEES

Committee	Chairperson	Members
Newsletter	Jeanne Anson	<i>And All Members!</i>
Membership Dev. Outreach	TBD	TBD
Membership Dev. Communications	Dave Wakefield	TBD
Education & Training	Pat Moore April Turner	Jeanne Anson Tom Sharpee
<b>Calendar Based Events</b>	<b>Not Committees</b>	<b>Start Dates</b>
<b>BFA Youth Program</b>	<b>Jeanne Anson</b>	<b>On Going</b>
<b>Awards</b>	<b>Linda W &amp; April</b>	<b>Later in the year</b>
<b>WHAMOBASS</b>	<b>Board</b>	<b>Planning starts 3/26</b>
<b>Christmas Party</b>	<b>Jana Couch</b>	<b>Oct 2026 planning starts</b>



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FOR SALE

## Balloon and Equipment

Right-click on picture captions for more details




Raven S-55A




2001 Cameron 'Shoe 90



TBW AX-8B—Racer



TBW FF7 & Trailer



Aerostar S49A