



DOWNWIND CHASE

Official Newsletter of the Pacific Coast Aeronauts

◆ MAY 2025 ◆

View from the Board

Linda Walton, Treasurer

Have you paid your PCA dues?

I apologize for not sending out a reminder email to you. Even if you are not actively flying, please consider renewing your PCA membership. Please update your email address and postal address especially if you've made some changes. Your experiences whether you were a crew member, a pilot or spectator brings important facts to share. Consider joining the PCA membership meeting via Zoom. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7th at 7pm CA time.

I'm looking forward to the 2025 flying season. Last year, I managed to attend (you know, crew) the events in Ceres, Lincoln, Sonoma (Santa Rosa), Reno, Montague, Clovis and WHAMOBASS.

The board is working on the WHAMOBASS invitations, and you can expect to see them in your inbox soon. The dates are October 18 and 19 in Turlock. Yes, we are planning it now and hope to have the event denim shirts available in October. It doesn't seem possible that 2025 is the 61st WHAMOBASS. Please put the dates on your calendar. Either bring your balloon or come out and help keep the champagne cold for everyone. Last year, Saturday morn-



Photos by Linda at the Sonoma County Balloon Classic



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IMPORTANT INFO!

CLUB MEETINGS

HELD ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF ODD-NUMBERED MONTHS PLUS DECEMBER.

NEXT CLUB MEETING:

2ND MEETING

OF 2025

Wed. May 7

@ 7PM PDT



BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) MEETINGS

HELD QUARTERLY, 3RD THURSDAY

@ 7:00PM (AND AS NEEDED)

NEXT ONE IS APRIL 17, 2025

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ALL VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Current club members receive an email with a link to attend meetings for free. Dates are subject to change; in such rare cases, members are notified via email.

CONTACT US

Please see last page for officers, committee chairs, contacts and additional club information.

Email newsletter contributions to:

PCA: pca@pcaballoons.org

PCA Mailing Address:

14938 Camden Ave., Suite 76
San Jose, CA 95124



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
20th of each month

Spring will come soon!

*Safe Flights and
Softest of Landings!*

ing brought freshly baked pizza for everyone.

As we all get older, we lose more and more friends, acquaintances and relatives. But I don't know of any other family that is as close as the balloon community. Where else do you find close friends you only see once or twice a year? If you know of anyone who's passed, please send an email to the PCA email address. If you can include a paragraph or two with a picture, we can all share our memories. As for me, I have fond memories of Cricket and Vern. Vern, who drove from Petaluma to Albany and Montague to crew for his favorite pilots. Cricket who helped Alan Sanderson with the balloon annuals.

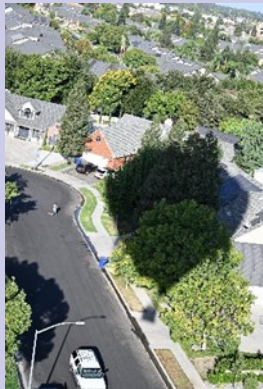
Finally, if you have an ideas you want to share, please email PCA or one of the board members. If you want to help with any of the club committees, please email PCA or one of the board members. If you have an idea for selling balloon paraphernalia, please email PCA or one of the board members. Thanks for reading my letter. Take care. Linda Wal-



Photos by Linda at the Montague Hot Air Balloon Fair



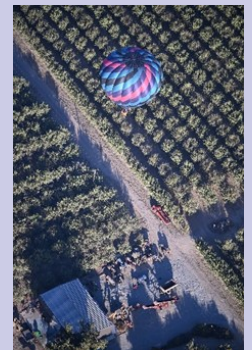
Above photos by Linda at the Great Reno Balloon Race



2 above photos by Linda at the Clovis Balloon Festival



Above photos by Linda at WHAMOBASS



WHAMOBASS 61
OCTOBER 18 & 19TH
Save the date



Passages

CRICKET CLARK

Cricket was a support team for ballooning community for many years. Her energy brought many people into ballooning. That smile of hers was so full of joy. She crewed for Dana Thornton for many years. She introduced us to Magic Bob and facilitated many adventures with him and his magic.

Her help with WHAMOBASS central was epic and Pixie Geesaman appreciated all her help with the Burrito Breakfasts! The PCA presented her with an award for her many years of dedication and help with WHAMOBASS and support over the years.

She served as one of Three Chief Judges in 2014, year 50 for WHAMOBASS. She traveled to many rallies around California and The Great Reno Balloon Race. She and her sister Donna assisted with Dawn Patrol.

Wishing you soft landings and peace at last.



*Above photos from Cricket's Facebook page
Below is a photo she sent to me.
Upper left from Claudia
Left photo from Linda Walton*



PCA BOARD of DIRECTOR'S Minutes

for April 24, 2025 By April Turner

2025 Board Members: ☒ Pat Moore (PM) ☒ [April Turner \(AT\)](#) ☒ [Tom Sharpee \(TS\)](#)
☒ Linda Walton (LW) ☒ Jeanne Anson (JA) Officer: VP ☒ Dave Wakefield (DW)

Chair of Board: Pat Moore (PM)

Club President: April Turner (AT)

Club Vice President: Dave Wakefield (DW) **Club Treasurer:** Linda Walton (LW)

BoD Mtg Secretary: April Turner (AT)

Membership Mtg Secretary: Jeanne Anson (JA)

Guests: None **called to order:** 7:05PM, Pacific

1. PCA Budget status/update – LW
 - a. *Two expenses from GoDaddy pending*
 - b. *Invoice from Ramin not yet filed*
2. Treasurer Report - LW \$10,553.14 with one cheddar deposit for dues of \$23.06
 - a. Quarterly summary report *Linda to send report week of 4/28*
 - b. Interest bearing account – status - LW *still in-process – updates next week by EOD 4/28*
3. New Business:
 - a. Email – Status of fix/functionality – TS / LW / DW
Dave – has not spoken to Ramin recently, but the last time we all worked on it together there was no change. David sent Newsletter and has not seen if there were any bounces. Dave verified that his personal gmail received the newsletter.
Linda – still recording bounces of gmail addresses. pca@pcaballoons.org remains blocked by Google, pcaballoons@gmail.com is our alternate used by Linda.
 - b. WHAMOBASS - Update
Pat – Pat has shared the draft invite. For October 18 & 19, 2025. Claire Lucas has volunteered to be Chief Judge. Shirts must be ordered by June 30. Pat will send to the board for final review. .
Linda to get us shipping costs by 4/27/25
Linda to set up cheddar feature for ordering shirts
ALL – review shirts costs and include feedback Board review required by May 5th
Plan to send 2 week reminder until June 30.
4. Continuing Business / Action Items:
 - a. Google Calendars, Best Practices – membership and BoD - Pat
There is no tracking for click rate or signups on the calendar
Pat to send calendar invite after Linda sends dues reminder. Linda to advise Pat of schedule.
Tom advised that there are very few people on the roster who are actively flying. Since they still pay their dues, we can still reach out to them.
 - b. Newsletter and website click rate – Dave Monthly summary? See below on next page.
20+ opens for the newsletter.

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Date	Time	URL
7 Apr	16:39:05	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	16:13:36	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	14:09:34	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	14:09:29	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	14:09:26	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	12:45:34	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	12:03:45	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	10:40:39	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	10:03:33	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:57:34	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:49:15	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:30:49	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:20:01	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:19:06	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:16:58	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:11:58	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	08:07:43	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
7 Apr	07:54:39	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_APR2020.pdf
2 Apr	17:39:11	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
2 Apr	17:38:43	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
2 Apr	17:37:40	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
2 Apr	17:35:54	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
31 Mar	19:15:33	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
28 Mar	15:19:06	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
13 Mar	19:25:03	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
11 Mar	09:51:17	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
7 Mar	07:54:34	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
7 Mar	07:54:30	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
6 Mar	12:14:51	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
2 Mar	16:48:24	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
2 Mar	14:26:26	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf
2 Mar	13:44:16	https://www.pcaballoons.org/images/NL_MAR2020.pdf

- c. Procedural storage on BoD secure web page
 - Dave remains the only one with write access to <https://www.pcaballoons.org/BOD-access.htm>*
 - i. Procedural /practices (proposals) *Pat will generate a document with the following procedures for review by board and posting by Dave.*
 - BoD Minutes approved / publishing process
 - Frequency/updating/make-up of the roster
 - Frequency of reporting budget status, quarterly reporting, yearly reporting

5. Committees:

- a. Newsletter – *Jeanne A. Jeanne’s access to Dropbox is not working. Login creds provided. Dave recommended to have a browser dedicated to PCA.*
 - Needs more content – Linda to add to the dues outreach.*
- b. Membership Development
 - i. Outreach—vacant
 - April to return to calling down the list*
 - ii. Communications – *Dave W. Dave has kept up with club only news on PCA Chat.*
 - Posting public events to the main page.*
- c. Education and Training – *April T./Pat M. pending...*
- d. Calendar based Events (not a committee)
 - i. BFA Youth Program *April will seek details from Melanee*
 - Look into starting a go-fund-me for the membership to make up the balance of what we cannot send.*
 - ii. Awards *Pat has some details from Magic Bob and will share with Board*
 - iii. WHAMOBASS *see above*
 - iv. PCA Christmas Party *April and Jana will connect in July*
- e. Larger question – *ideas to get membership more involved and participating on Committees and calendared events – discussion ALL*

6. Motion to close:

Moved: Tom, Seconded: Dave, Closed at: 8:03 PM Pacific



PACIFIC COAST AERONAUTS CLUB CONTACTS

2025 PCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CLUB OFFICERS

2025 PCA COMMITTEES

Names & Email Addresses	Board Term Expires at End of Year	2025 Officers
Patrick Moore pcamoore587@gmail.com	2026	Chair of BOD
April Turner pca.april@gmail.com	2026	President & Co-Secretary
Linda Walton pca.lindaw@gmail.com	2026	Treasurer
Jeanne Anson ansonlta2@gmail.com	2025	Co-Secretary
Tom Sharpee tomsharpee@gmail.com	2025	

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
Calendar Based Events	Not Committees	Start Dates
BFA Youth Program	Melanee Scarborough	On Going
Awards	Linda W & April	Later in the year
WHAMOBASS	?	Planning starts 3/25
Christmas Party	Jana Couch	Oct 2025 planning starts



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Balloon Aircraft and Equipment

Right-click on picture captions for more details





Raven S-55A



2001 Cameron 'Shoe 90



TBW AX-8B—Racer



TBW FF7 & Trailer