



# Who's Who of Ballooning

By Ecbert Eecks

NELS, Albert L.      USA      (1952-      (HB)  
 See APPENDIX-BK (6)/BO (7).      Semi-Professional Balloonist  
 b: 14 Aug.1952 Dayton, OH.  
 e: General Motors Institute, BME-1975.  
 p: Area Sales Manager (electronics) for Modicon Indus.Automation; Owner-Operator of "Aerostation-Balloons" FAA-Repair Station.  
 f: First Balloon flight 1974 with Greg Wilson; First Balloon solo 1974 from Flint, MI; B-License #287429619 issued 24 Oct.1974; More than 782 B-Hours by 1985.  
 l: 1976-79, Four-time balloonmeister of Pinckney B-Festival; 1977-79, Two-time balloonmeister of Adrian Air-Day B-Festival; 1977, Balloonmeister for Gr.Lakes B-Championships; 1978, Designated as FAA-Pilot Examiner; 1978, Balloon-meister for US-National B-Championships; 1979-85, Competitor in US-National B-Championships; Placed in the top 10, 6 times; 1980, Balloonmeister for Ohio Valley B-Club; 1981, Designated as FAA-Accident Prevention Counselor; 1981-82, Editor of "Balloon-Platoon" newsletter; 1981, Winner Of the US-Air Force Museum Race; 1981, Balloonmeister for Dayton (OH) Air-Fair; 1982, Presented BFA-Safety Seminar, Cincinnati, Ohio; 1984, Winner Of the US-National B-Championships; 1984, Winner Of the Fly-Ohio B-Rally; 1985, Winner Of the US-National B-Championships; 1985, Winner Of the Indiana State Fair B-Race; 1985, Editor of BFA-Pilot Examiner Newsletter; 1987, Winner Of the Battle Creek Int'l. Championships; 1987, Winner Of the World HB-Championships (Austria); 1988, Flew w/Walter Cronkite at Chateau de Balleroy in France; 1991, Winner Of the US-National B-Championships; Many unique/unusual balloon flights by 1993.  
 m: Member of BFA since 1975; Dayton L-T-A Society, Charter Member.  
 r: Bio-data 1985; BL-Dec.88p8.