



Friends of the Smokey Bear Balloon

1144 Forest Rd NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

FAX 505.839.7153

February 11-12, 2012

To all my friends and volunteers with the Friends of the Smokey Bear Balloon;

Valentine "Friends and Lover's Rally" was my last balloon rally--a fitting occasion to remember! Alan Wynn was there to officially take over, even though we didn't fly either day! Sad to say--Saturday, the winds were a bit "iffy" and worse yet, we were short of crew. Sunday was canceled due to snow--see photos! Not surprisingly, not a sole except Gwen and Alan Wynn, Wade Lee, his daughter Michelle and I were there. We knew the weather was going to be bad anyhow. At least the AAAA coffee was hot and we had a chance to visit with some of the "old timers" at the briefing.

As I sign off, I want to say to you all THANK YOU for a truly GRAND RIDE. I will stick around, help where and when I can. I am truly pleased with all we have accomplished and what seems to be ahead.

I love you all,

Bill Chapel