

Bill Smith's High Altitude Flight



After more than 6 months of preparation pilot Bill Smith of Louisville, KY completed a flight to nearly 32,000 ft. on Saturday June 16. Bill flew his brand new Lindstrand 105 named Phantom during a perfectly executed high altitude flight. The weather conditions were perfect, there wasn't a cloud in the sky and Bill actually covered more vertical distance (6 miles up, 6 miles down) than he did horizontally, landing less than 7 miles from where he took off! For this flight Bill was equipped with a transponder, specially modified burners, oxygen and cold weather gear as the ambient air was below zero when he reached his maximum altitude.

Bill is a very accomplished pilot. Within the last 2 years he has completed a duration flight of 12 hours, a distance flight of approximately 750 miles and now a high altitude flight to more than 31,000 feet. These feats are the result of Bill's constant tinkering, tireless planning, and awesome sense of adventure.

Left: Photo taken of Bill at approximately 27,000 ft with a high powered lens, Right: Close up of Bill in helmet; Photos courtesy of Michael Montgomery.



Award Season is Coming!



The BFA believes in recognizing the great efforts of its volunteers and members, and supports a number of award programs.

Nominations are due June 30 for the Shields-Trauger Award and August 15 for the National Crew Person Award and the Bill Murtorff Spirit of Ballooning Award.

For nominations, suggestions and contributions to the awards please visit the awards section of BFA website:

<https://bfa.net/index.php/information/awards>

EAA & BFA Announce Joint Effort



Balloon Federation of America
PO Box 400
Indianola, Iowa

May 31, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EAA, BALLOON FEDERATION OF AMERICA ANNOUNCE JOINT EFFORT TO BOOST AVIATION PARTICIPATION

Agreement updates joint efforts to introduce and support flying on all levels

EAA AVIATION CENTER, OSHKOSH, Wisconsin — (May 31, 2018) — The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and Balloon Federation of America (BFA) today announced a memorandum of understanding that expands the organizations' joint efforts to bring the possibilities of flight to more people.

The agreement formalizes a relationship between the organizations as they promote and encourage flying activities. It will also include initiatives ranging from membership growth and communications to advocacy and youth activities. "There is a common passion for flight that connects BFA and EAA, with our organizations sharing many goals and visions," said Jack J. Pelton, EAA CEO and Chairman of the Board. "This memo of understanding sets the stage of the next step of cooperation between our associations, as we must work together to sustain and grow interest in all forms of aviation."

The new memo of understanding also outlines specific areas where EAA and BFA will work together. That includes web and publications presence, and possibilities of joint activities between EAA chapters and BFA's local clubs. It also encompasses visibility at major events, including EAA AirVenture Oshkosh and the BFA convention.

"The BFA and its members are excited to explore a closer partnership with the EAA and begin work on how both organizations will, in a mutual way, promote and increase aviation participation across all age groups," said Cheri White, BFA President. "We share so many fundamental principles that working together will benefit all our members and recreational aviation overall. We're excited to build a close relationship with our friends within EAA."

EAA and BFA will create a joint working group to further explore possibilities for joint activities and programs that could inspire youth and adults to further explore ways to get involved in model aviation or recreational flying. The agreement also provides for increased visibility of each organization in the other's outreach and communications channels.

About BFA

The Balloon Federation of America is a 501c3 non-profit association dedicated to the advancement of the sport and science of lighter-than-air aviation, both hot air and gas balloons. Founded in 1961, membership in the BFA is open to anyone who shares a fascination with Lighter Than Air flight. More information is available at www.BFA.net.

About EAA

EAA embodies The Spirit of Aviation through the world's most engaged community of aviation enthusiasts. EAA's 210,000 members and 900 local chapters enjoy the fun and camaraderie of sharing their passion for flying, building and restoring recreational aircraft. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 800-JOIN-EAA (800-564-6322) or go to www.eaa.org. For continual news updates, connect with [www.twitter.com/EAA](https://twitter.com/EAA).

For additional Information contact Cheri White, BFA President at president@bfa.net

Legislative Update



Please remember to contact your US Senators to express your opinion on H.R.4 FAA Reauthorization Bill. Your BFA Board continues to work closely with the Federal Aviation Administration on this and several items affecting our sport.

For more information visit www.BFA.net

Communicate the Presence of Power Lines!



In a continued effort to improve safety in ballooning, the BFA is implementing a new initiative to implement at the landing phase of flight. This new ground crew communication gesture will be universally recognized by pilots of other types of aircraft as it fits into the FAA, Navy, ICAO-'Int'l-AIM' use of hand signals for reference and communication.

Alert pilots of a hidden powerlines using the new hand signaling procedure. The arm bent over the top of one's head will now be recognized as the universal indicator of a power/phone line. The other arm is used to get the pilot's attention and to point to the hazard. The pilot could even communicate back with the same gesture to crew that the warning was received. Please spread the word on this new safety initiative as it could no doubt prevent an accident in our ballooning community. Thanks to Mike Hance who first brought this idea to the BFA and balloon events in Texas.

Updated Logbooks!



Thank you, Matt Torgerson for updating our logbooks! Our newest logbooks have an updated endorsement section for pilots earning their private and commercial licenses, and still include space to document each flight, record Flight Reviews, and log ground school training. New logbooks are in the final stage of production and will be available in 6-8 weeks. To order logbooks and other pilot & crew essentials, visit the BFA Online Store at <https://bfa.net/index.php/information/bfa-temp-store2>

July 2018 Events

- 07/06 - 07/08 Angola Balloons Aloft
07/06 - 07/08 Hudson Valley Hot Air Balloon Festival
07/07 - 07/12 Rio Grande Balloon Camp
07/08 - 07/15 2018 BFA US National Hot Air Balloon Championship
07/12 - 07/15 Wausau Balloon Rally and Rib Fest
07/12 - 07/15 Hillsborough Balloon Festival and Fair
07/13 - 07/15 Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race
07/13 - 07/14 Balloons Over Vermilion
07/13 - 07/15 Green River Festival
07/18 - 07/22 2018 US Women's National Hot Air Balloon Championship
07/20 - 07/22 Elkhart County 4-H Fair Balloon Chase
07/20 - 07/22 The Ohio Challenge
07/20 - 07/22 RE/MAX The Group Balloon Roundup
07/20 - 07/22 The Great Wellsville Balloon Rally
07/20 - 07/22 Riverton Rendezvous Balloon Rally
07/20 - 07/21 Grand Rapids Balloon Festival
07/22/2018 Top Gun Monthly Flying Event
07/26 - 07/29 Ruby Mountain Balloon Festival
07/27 - 07/29 Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival Balloon Classic
07/27 - 07/29 Great Texas Balloon Race
07/27 - 07/29 Annual QuickChek NJ Festival of Ballooning
07/27 - 07/29 Big Sky International Balloon Rendezvous
07/27 - 07/29 The Great Balloon Race
07/29/2018 US Ballooning Hall of Fame



Don't see your event listed? Want more information on these events? Visit <https://bfa.net/index.php/events5/all-event-list?limitstart=0> for the calendar & <https://bfa.net/index.php/events5/submit-a-calendar-event> to submit your event.

Welcome our newest BFA Members!



Scott Allen
Allen Anderson
William Armstrong
Randy Ashton
David Bartsch
E.J. Bittner
Kelsey Bloom
Missy Bloom
Trenten Caldwell
Melissa Cowan
Pamela DeBerjeois
Mike DeBerjeois
Aaron DeVore
Alex Dupuis
James Eagle
Marianne Evans
Philip Folkman
Jennifer Garcia
Terry Garrett
Adam Gauthier
Edward Gordon

John Green
Mike Green
Marla Guzzo
Markus Haggeney
Robert Hahn
Diane Hamilton
Lucas Hess
Richard Hess
Jason Hunter
Tamara Jett
Kevin Jones
Alex Jordan
Elizabeth Junker
Sandy Kneeland
Brian Koch
Anthony Lard
Stephen LeMay
Sally Lidinsky
Joe Lorenz
Sol Lothe
Kyle Ludwick

Aimee Luhrs
Robert Lykins
William Manus
Nicholas Mazzocchi
Ann McAlpin
Royce Miller
Renee Miller
Emily Moroney
Jesse Newcomer
Jayme Pfeifer
Steve Philips
Kent Prepejchal
Jacob Biehle
Sara Robison
William Robison
Thomas Russo
Larry Salters
Kelly Sasser
Douglas Schmidt
Nancy Schwenkner
Michael Scudder

Joseph Seymour
Pedram Shawd
Michael Shelley
Chris Shelton
Steve Shute
Randy Sipe
Patrick Smith
Dave Stangeland
Gladys Stewart
Alexander Susko
Dee Thorell
Earl Tindle
Takahisa Tooyama
Mark Trujillo
Lynn Tucker
Ryan Walsh
Jeanette Ward Newkirk
Kathy Weaver
Kyle Weitzel
John Williams

