



The Quick Release

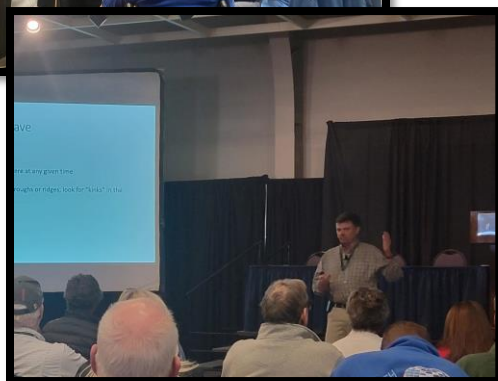
The Balloon Event Symposium and the BFA National Convention were remarkable successes with an amazing exchange of knowledge and the latest information. It was wonderful to see so many balloonists sharing and learning together.

The BFA appreciates the hard work of all involved in organizing and putting together these events, as well as all the presenters and the attendees who came from near and far.

Leftover untouched food from the BFA Convention was given to the Topeka Rescue Mission. This was done everyday food was leftover. We are glad to share our bounty with those in the local community who may be in need.



BALLOON
EVENT
SYMPOSIUM



AERONAUT

AEROstatic NAVigators Under Thirty



By Erin Bair

We are the AERONautical Navigators Under Thirty. We are here to offer a community of peers to young people in the sport of ballooning. This community development is important for the youth in ballooning; we need support and guidance, but we don't know where to look. We believe we can do this through on-going education. We will be using social media, from Facebook and Zoom to TikTok and Snapchat, to foster people learning about ballooning. One of our main goals is to create a strong online presence that caters to everyone interested in ballooning. Some of our plans include safety seminars about uncommon topics like rope safety and knots and social events that inspire young people to bring a friend.

The Aeronauts were also represented at the BFA Conference, 2022 in Topeka, Kansas. Erin Bair spoke on both the Aeronauts and youth in ballooning. We received so much great feedback about what our group can do for our community. Mentorship across the nation and working with local balloon clubs are ideas that were brought up. We are going to dive into both ideas. But we need your help! Below is an email where the Aeronauts can be reached. We want to hear from you! Who of you want to mentor a young person in our sport? What other ideas do you have for the Aeronauts program? How can we best benefit the ballooning community?

We welcome any and all feedback and guidance. We can't wait to hear from you!

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*Limited
Availability!*



CAMP DATES ANNOUNCED

Southeastern Balloon Camp in Cordele, GA

June 21-26, 2022

Rio Grande Balloon Camp in Albuquerque, NM

July 9-14, 2022

DinahSOAR BFA Youth Camp in Vernal, UT

August 26-28, 2022

Spots still available for campers ages 13-17. No balloon experience necessary, all campers will get firsthand experience with balloons, make new friends and learn about future opportunities in ballooning. Scholarships still available. Please follow link below for details, email for questions.

If you have any questions, please visit

<https://tinyurl.com/2p84yey7> or

Email: youthprograms@bfa.net

A FAR Question

Question: Where do you find the list of prohibited medications/pharmaceuticals?

HINT: 14CFR Part 61.53 Prohibition on operations during medical deficiencies

Last Month's Question & Answer:

Q: When planning a flight, using the graphical forecast for aviation (GFA) website, how many "tabs" are available to gather information for flight planning?

www.aviationweather.gov/gfa

HINT: AIM Chapter 7, Section 1, Part 4 (b)(1)

Answer: Eight



Photo Credit: Stephanie Juarez
Fleetville, PA



Recognizing BFA members!

It is time to consider submitting your fellow members of the BFA to recognize them for their efforts and accomplishments to our sport. Here is a quick summary of the nominations you can submit:

U.S. Ballooning Hall of Fame – This is our most prestigious award recognizing those who have dedicated much of their lives to promoting and contributing to the sport of ballooning. Nominations must be received by May 1st of each year. Any nominations received after that date will be held for consideration the following year.

Shields Trauger Award – This award may be given to as many as 3 individuals each year. It is based upon the following criteria:

- Notable flight
- Significant contribution(s) to the technology or science of ballooning
- Important long-standing contributions to safety in ballooning
- Exemplary long-term service to the BFA

Nomination must be received by August 15th of each year to be considered.

National Crew Person of the Year – We made a slight change in this award in that not only are we choosing the National Crew Person, but we will be choosing the Regional Crew Person of the Year for each of our 6 regions of the country. From those individuals, the National award will be chosen. This award can be given to individuals that are not members of the BFA.

Nomination must be received by August 15th of each year to be considered.

Bill Murtorff Spirit of Ballooning Award – This award is given to a BFA member who has contributed to youth programs or education in the sport of ballooning. The Award is open to all BFA members, pilots, crew, and others.

Nomination must be received by August 15th of each year to be considered.

Ed Yost Master Pilot Award – This nomination may be made any time during the year and may be awarded at any time that consideration has been completed. This award is similar to the FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award but specifically for LTA. Candidates must:

- Have 40 years of LTA piloting experience...
- Have been active in the sport of ballooning during most of those 40 years.
- The award may be presented to a nominee up to 2 years posthumously if the nominee has acquired 40 years of LTA piloting experience prior to passing away.

This is an abbreviation of the actual criteria, for all the specifics on the criteria please follow this link:

[Awards - Balloon Federation of America \(bfa.net\)](https://www.bfa.net/Awards)

There are many deserving people in our sport that will only be recognized if you make the effort. Also, please ensure that when you submit a nomination, you include your contact information to allow us to follow up with you during the selection process.

LATEST NEWS

BFA Hot Air Competition Division



US Team Championship Looking for Participants

By Maury Sullivan
Championship Director

Designed to provide pilots relatively new to competitive ballooning, the Team Championship offers a unique opportunity without all the pressure of attending a National Championship. There were many comments made during the HACD general meeting at Fiesta about the need for mentoring for less experienced pilots. Well, this is the event for you. Not only would you receive mentoring from teammates, but every flight is followed by a debriefing led by experienced A-players willing to share their thoughts on the mornings task.

We also recognize that travel costs are a challenge in this year of crazy gas prices. To help with the recruiting process and pilot's travel costs the organizer has upped the prize fund offering an additional \$5,000. The prize fund, including prepaid gift cards, now totals \$19,500. Better yet, **every pilot is guaranteed a minimum in prize money of \$525.**

Anyone can participate. You don't need to have an A-player on your team but if you would like to find one to join your less experienced group, we will help you find the perfect mentor for your team. We'd love to see a women's team or two as the Team Championship will be utilizing all the current features of the BalloonLive App and Sensor you will need if participating in the next Women's World Championship



The National Balloon Classic and BFA are beyond excited to announce their partnership for the 2022 US Women's National Hot Air Balloon Championship to be held July 29 – August 6, 2022.

For more details, please contact Sue Nutgrass, Event Manager
office@nationalballoonclassic.com (515) 961-8415





WELCOME

new members

Michael Kent	California	Brian Marquez	California	Michael Sallow	Iowa
Andrew Mains	Iowa	Gavin Koppmann	Michigan	Nick Riggan	Missouri
Geoffrey Jones	Mississippi	Pamela Scalco	New Mexico	Collin McClung	New Mexico
Wanda Helms	New Mexico	Keith Takach	New Mexico	Michael Mouser	Ohio
Melanie Cabaniss	Oklahoma	Brandon East	Oklahoma	Ross Bauschatz	Virginia
Nienke Bos	The Netherlands	Han Nabben	The Netherlands	Asha Gopalkrishn	United Kingdom
John Douglass	Florida	Jacob Hodara	Georgia	Michael Diekhoff	Indiana
Dennis Mize	Kansas	Diane Tomassetti	Massachusetts	Dawn McKenzie	Michigan
Joseph Huebner	Michigan	Theron Riley	Missouri	Brian Christianson	North Dakota
Robert Mueller	New Jersey	Andy Christophersen	New Mexico	Thomas Randall	New Mexico
Ray Iturralde	New Mexico	Alysha Lard	New Mexico	Gerald Candelaria	New Mexico
Anne Vondruska	Nevada	David Longelli	New York	Audrie Brese	Oklahoma
Sherry Rand	Texas	Christopher Behr	Virginia	Masood Ur Rehman	Pakistan
Marion Gail Behringer	Texas	Dylan Foca	New Jersey	Bjorn Hansson	Colorado
Gregg Hardman	New Mexico	Stephen Harrison	Utah	Tiffany Harrison	Utah
Aspen Harrison	Utah	Aaron Johnson	Vermont	Patricia Kort	Nebraska
Michael Lang	Colorado	James McConnell	Iowa	Rudolph Oppenheimer	West Virginia
Robert Sewell	Nevada	Jobe Skinner	Texas	Mick Ward	Illinois
Zac Womack	Tennessee				

*List is new members from December 2021, January, and February 2022.



Photo Credit: Dawn Chase
Fleetville, PA



Balloon Federation Of America

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