

The Quick Release

March
2023
Issue 3



ADS-B Update

Scott Appleman, President and CEO of Rainbow Ryders Ballooning Company shared good news on March 17, 2023.

I am happy to share the findings and procedures for Hot Air Balloons flying in Class C airspace without ADS-B.

From the FAA

Attention balloon operators, balloon festival representatives, and balloon associations:

Balloon operators with a Letter of Agreement (LOA) to fly in Class C airspace without ADS-B installed can continue to fly while the FAA reviews the safety risk panel report.

No balloon pilot will have their operations interrupted while the FAA reviews the safety risk panel report.

If an LOA is nearing expiration or an operator does not have one, please contact the closest air traffic control tower to renew or apply. If you are not familiar with the process or need assistance, please contact

Linda.A.McCray@faa.gov

For other information about balloon events in your area, contact the local FSDO.

Thank you everyone to all that supported this major issue for ballooning! It could not have been done without everyone helping this effort!



Photo Credit: Scott Appleman in Albuquerque, NM



Photo Credit: Kat Pattyn at Fiesta Field 2015



BFA Camp

SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE!!

Balloon Experience not required.

We have five camps this year, offering plenty of opportunity for children 13-17 years old to learn all aspects of ballooning safely, including what is required to become a pilot!

REGISTER NOW!!!!

Please go to [Junior Balloonists - Balloon Federation of America \(bfa.net\)](http://Junior Balloonists - Balloon Federation of America (bfa.net)) for details.



BFA On-line seminar will be released on April 15, 2023.

Registration begins that day as well. You will be able to purchase and view at your convenience.

Speakers and Topics

Shannon Rote: Flight Operations

Dr. Alan Kozarski: Class Two Medicals

Scott Wooge: Preparing yourself or a student for a check ride.

Ed DeVore: Pilot Decision Making

Ryan Carlton: Weather

Tony Sandlin: Crew and Passenger Management

Gordon Schwontkowski: Accidents

News in Gas Ballooning



The FAI flag was presented to Sam Parks, Executive Director of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, while attending the FAI Ballooning Commission in Hasle-Ruegsau, Switzerland. The flag will remain in Albuquerque until the conclusion of the 66th Coupe Aéronautique Gordon Bennett Gas Balloon Race, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th from Balloon Fiesta Park. In 2024 the balloon race will be held in Germany.

The FAI is part of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the Ballooning Commission sanctions all International ballooning competitions.



Inc.



BFA President, Pat Cannon was recently interviewed by Melissa Angell with Inc. Magazine. You can find the article [here](#).

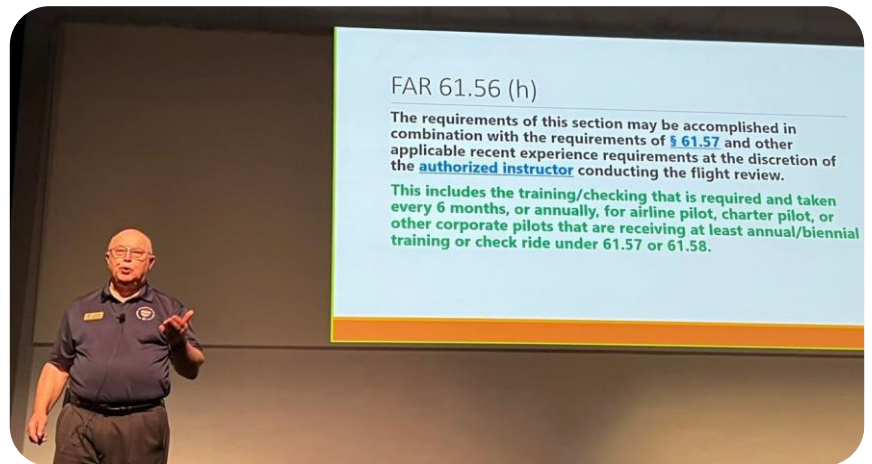


Blaser invited a large group of customers and wonderful pilots to fly the Blaser US fleet of five balloons in picturesque St. George, UT
Photo Credit: Michael Bauwens
March 13, 2023

Director's Corner



Tony Saxton
Northeast Region Director



The BFA Sanctioned Continuing Education Seminar put on by The Great Eastern Balloon Association on March 4th in Pennsylvania was very successful. In attendance were 222 balloonists in person or watching on zoom.

Photo: BFA President presenting at the CES.



The Adirondack Balloon Festival will celebrate their 50th anniversary in September.

As part of their celebration, they are putting together a 50 Anniversary commemorative book. Any pilots that have ever flown there in the last 49 years can be included in the book. If you would like to be included in this part of the events history please contact Amy Lapoint at amylapoint112@gmail.com **April 15th is the deadline.**

WELCOME new members



Robert Watkins	Lamar, AZ	William Cary	Brentwood, CA
Justin Timothy	Greeley, CO	Brian Ferrall	Lawrenceville, GA
Gator Caswell	Pearl City, IL	Mike Smith	Centralia, IL
Nicholas Abrams	Albuquerque, NM	Shane Shipman	Rio Rancho, NM
Zackery Maxwell-Griego	Albuquerque, NM	Kristi Melone	Tulsa, OK
Corey Gwin	Hot Springs, SD	Pat DeSmet	Hot Springs, SD
David Woodland	Washington, UT		

Renew Your Membership

The BFA's membership renewal just got easier! You can now sign up for Auto renewal when you are renewing your membership.

Log on to [BFA Home - Balloon Federation of America](#) and choose **Edit Membership** in the top right corner to renew and set to automatically renewal.

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OR

Pay \$ 65.00 for the first one year, then \$ 65.00 each one year

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