

The Quick Release

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We will not be holding in-person camps this year. Our two camp directors, Roger Clark and Neida Bueno have been working with their teams to come up with a unique experience for our balloon kids. We are happy to announce the first ever virtual balloon camp, or as we have been calling it, a Campinar.

For more information and to register please follow this link:

www.bfa.net/campinar

Support for Event Organizers

We are reaching out to balloon event planners and Executive Directors to offer resources, information, and assistance to help you navigate through these unprecedented times. If you are a BFA member, BFA sanctioned event or not, we are here to help you.

We encourage you to join the **Hot Air Balloon Event Planners** Facebook page and connect with others who are facing many of the same challenges and decisions regarding their local ballooning events. To ensure the page remains true to its intended purpose, and benefits everyone, this is a closed group and you must be invited to join. Please contact Jason Jones jnsy588@aol.com to be invited to the group.



Please follow one of our many Facebook pages to get the most current information.

Balloon Federation of America
FLY GAS
Balloon Federation of America Youth Program
Rio Grande Balloon Camp
Southeast Balloon Camp
BFA Convention
BFA Hot Air Competition Division
US Woman Balloon Championship
Professional Ride Operators

FAA Special Federal Aviation Regulations Update

Dated May 4, 2020

We have finally received the requested interpretation of the Special FAA regulations as they relate to ballooning. Chris Roth, General Aviation and Commercial Division, Airman Training and Certification Branch, provided the following information:

Commercial pilots may take advantage of the relief provided where their Flight Review would expire between March and June of 2020 for the purpose of exercising their privileges of their Commercial rating for commercial flights conducted under FAR Part 91. What Commercial pilots cannot do while exercising this relief is anything that is not considered "commercial", i.e. sport and pleasure.

The portion regarding Private ratings remains as outlined previously for the specific purposes listed in the SFAR. The language for both appears below. As a reminder, to take advantage of this relief, you must complete 3 units under the Wings program.

One remaining question that has surfaced is the issue of getting current if you are not and your Flight Review has lapsed during this period. There is no relief currently. The FAA is considering that issue and is also planning to issue an amendment to this SFAR for several issues.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/05/04/2020-09472/relief-for-certain-persons-and-operations-during-the-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-outbreak>

The Relief regarding the Flight review is limited in scope to the following:

Relief granted in this section to certain eligible pilots and crewmembers applies only to persons conducting specific operations for which the FAA has determined relief is appropriate.

The relief applies to any operation that requires the pilot to hold at least a commercial pilot certificate. This provision will support the continuity of essential commercial operations, which include aerial observation of critical infrastructure, aerial applications (e.g., crops), and private carriage of medical supplies and equipment, which are conducted under part 91, subpart K, and parts 125, 133, and 137.^[25]

Additionally, this relief applies to some operations conducted by pilots exercising private pilot privileges, provided the pilot has at least 500 hours of total time as a pilot of which 400 hours is as PIC and 50 of the PIC hours were accrued in the last 12 calendar months. The kinds of operations permitted are those that are:

- *Incidental to business or employment,*
- *in support of family medical needs or to transport essential goods for personal use,*
- *necessary to fly an aircraft to a location in order to meet a requirement of this chapter, or*
- *a flight to transport essential goods and/or medical supplies to support public health needs.*

Pilots whose Flight Reviews are current may fly for any purpose, unless limited by local or state restriction due to the coronavirus. Also, Flight Reviews can be conducted for anyone at this time, again unless there are local or state restrictions.

I am sorry that it took this long to get down to that answer, but a huge thanks to Pat Cannon for his persistence in this endeavor.

Please stay safe,
Mark West
President
president@bfa.net

Let's Show We Care

As states and communities across American begin to re-open in the continuing face of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the BFA wants to assure that ballooning and balloonists are welcomed back in a positive way. To accomplish this, we are urging our member pilots to "Show We Care."

A number of our members, some significant ride operations in the USA, along with other individual pilots across the country have already begun doing so. We would like to take this effort nationwide. We would like to put in place programs to give back to the many workers who have put themselves on the frontline in our defense against Covid-19 by awarding balloon rides, as a way to say thank you. The BFA is encouraging all member pilots to consider this idea when you decide to return to flying.

For more information please click on the link: www.bfa.net/ShowWeCare

How did this get started?

In early March with no ballooning activity going on Chip Fisher, Matthew and Scott McClinton with SkyCab Balloon Promotions wanted to have a way to give back to the front line medical workers and first responders working long hours during the COVID-19 pandemic. They decided to have a Facebook and social media campaign asking for names of these workers, their title and facility where they work, submitted for a weekly drawing for a balloon ride in the future. They did not have to like the SkyCab page or register, just a quick email or message and the person was registered.

SkyCab drew the names of winners for five weeks in a row from over 500 submissions, with nurses winning four weeks and a police officer winning the fifth. Two of the winners were submitted by relatives so it was a complete surprise to them. SkyCab started the thought process and numerous other balloon companies have followed the example and started programs of their own, demonstrating the gratitude we all have for those on the frontlines.

It is important that we not only thank these extremely valuable members of our community for their efforts during the pandemic but remember when COVID-19 is gone those same heroes will be back at work facing the next crisis.

Thanks to all our frontline medical workers and first responders for keeping America safe.



WELCOME NEW BFA MEMBERS



Dave Norris
Angela McGraw
William Grubb
Todd Burk
Grant Gillian
Linda Nelson
Joseph Pluck
Mary Holtschneider
Josh Saiz
Jodi Johnson
Ronald Grose

New Zealand
Indiana
Iowa
Iowa
Iowa
Iowa
Iowa
New Jersey
North Carolina
New Mexico
Oregon
Oregon

Andrew Brindley
Matt Forss
Lawrence Sadowski
Kendall Arkema
Randall Ottinger
Rich Olstad
Robert Thomas
David Holtschneider
Sharki Kontra
Demi Boysen

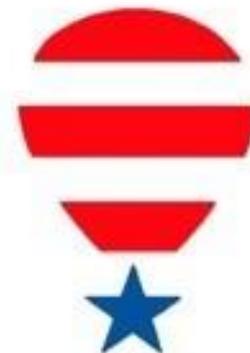
Indiana
Wisconsin
Iowa
Iowa
Iowa
Iowa
South Dakota
North Carolina
North Carolina
Idaho
Oregon



The next step in the new list format update is *Balloon Schools & Training*. To view examples, see the BFA Roster listing, Repair Station lists, PAAP Participants or Past President list. This is all made possible because of the new and improved web site infrastructure we have.

If you represent a Part 141 School, Ground School Provider or other companies and organizations that offer balloon training on a regular basis you can be included in the new *Balloon School & Training list*, please email Scott Wooge at scott.wooge@gmail.com with the following information:

Company Name
Contact Name
BFA Member ?
Address
Phone #'s
email address
web site address
Part 141?
Ground School?
Online Ground School?
Flight Instruction?



If you see any other sections which need updating, please let us know. This is an all-Volunteer Organization. You get out of it what you put in. Please contact Scott Wooge or any BFA Director to help make things better!



Fireside Chats are a weekly video live chats about interesting balloon topics where balloonists ask questions, hear applicable and interesting stories, with fascinating balloon folks. Get connected to your balloon community and learn some things you would not otherwise. Each segment will feature different balloonists from around the world.

View past Fireside Chats here: www.bfa.net/fireside

Look forward to more chats coming weekly!

A New Normal for Ballooning



Pilot Achievement Award Program 2020

Congratulations!!



Cheri White
Dean Carlton
Ryan Carlton

Completed Level 8 PAAP
Completed Levels 1-8 PAAP
Completed Levels 1-5 PAAP



For more information in participating in the PAAP or the CAAP please go to: www.bfa.net under the education tab.



We are pleased to announce that our office manager Jill married her best friend & love. Introducing:
Jake and Jill Jacobsen!



FAR/AIM QUIZ

Question: Where does it say a pilot is required to hand over their pilot certificate to a law enforcement agent, if requested to do so?

Hint: 14 CFR 61.3(I)(3)
(Look for answer in June's QR)

LAST MONTHS QUIZ & ANSWER

Question: How long must a flight instructor keep records for a person they instructed?

Answer: FAR 61.189

Must retain records required in this section for at least 3 years.



Balloon Federation
Of America

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