



The Quick Release

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From the President

There seems to be a lot of confusion regarding ADS-B requirements and lighter-than-air aircraft. This has led to much speculation that in some way, lighter than air aircraft were going to need to be equipped with ADS-B equipment to be able to operate near either Class B or C airspace. So, let's look at the rules (14 CFR 91.225) that have been in place since the required installation of ADS-B took place in 2020.

Who is required to have ADS-B?

Since ADS-B has a constant power requirement and requires interaction with a WAAS enabled GPS, an electrical system must be employed, which by rule must have been installed by the manufacturer as a part of the type certification of the aircraft. Aircraft that were not manufactured with an electrical system are not required to install ADS-B. That includes hot air and gas balloons. Installation in balloons is currently not available. In addition, these systems are installed under an STC specifically directed at each aircraft manufacturer. This relates to things like antenna stability and placement, which would need to be fixed and permanent. Each installation must display the aircraft N number and must contain the internal ICAO code, which is installed by the avionics installer. Most of this could not be accomplished in balloons.

Where can you fly without the requirement for ADS-B to be installed?

You can fly under the shelf of any Class C and under the shelf of any Class B and that includes the airspace within the Mode C veil. You may not operate within either the Class C or B airspace that is within the wedding cake shelves or in the area that goes to the surface without ADS-B. In other words, you may not fly within the wedding cake. Flight within this airspace would require a waiver issued for a particular operation for non-ADS-B equipped aircraft.

What about non-permanent ADS-B installations?

They are not likely to be approved for many reasons and rules have not yet been proposed for temporary installations for the purpose of special flight operations such as record flights or gas balloon events. There have been waivers issued for these operations in the past, but the future of these waivers is in question. There are flying areas around the country that conflict with ADS-B required Class C airspace, so waivers will likely be needed to continue to operate in this airspace, or if not available, the flying area modified to avoid these areas.

So how does ADS-B affect me?

For most balloon operations, the ADS-B requirement will not apply. We encourage you to read the language as listed in 14 CFR 91.225.

LINK: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-14/chapter-I/subchapter-F/part-91/subpart-C/section-91.225>.

How is the BFA involved?

The BFA Government Relations committee has engaged the FAA in ongoing conversations regarding the ADS-B requirements, the future of waived operations in Class C and the issue of portable ADS-B units. We will continue to provide our members with information in this regard.

Sincerely,
Pat Cannon, President
Balloon Federation of America
president@bfa.net





Less than 30 days left to comment!

Let the FAA hear your voice regarding the NPRM for medicals of balloonists.

Find the full NPRM here:

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/FAA-2021-1040-0001>

The last day to comment is January 18, 2022. Please be sure to put your comments in your own voice, copy-paste or cookie cutter comments may be combined or rejected.



Red Rock Balloon Rally Gallup, NM

Photo Credit:

Above: Matthew McClinton

Left: Ron Sanchez

Below: Matthew McClinton



BALLOON EVENT SYMPOSIUM



Remember, the ending was worth the journey

Balloon Event Symposium For Event Planners, Organizers and Senior Officials

By Maury Sullivan

One hundred seventy-five enjoyed the first ever Balloon Event Symposium hosted in Plano, TX in 2019 and the BFA now offers the second installment as a prelude to the BFA Convention in Topeka, KS. The Symposium is scheduled for **April 6-7, 2022, and** has been redesigned to emphasize the needs of those planning and organizing a hot air balloon event. The cost of attending has been kept to a minimum with early registration just \$200. In addition to a fact and fun-filled event the pricing includes daily continental breakfast, refreshment breaks and a hosted happy hour with hors d' oeuvres.

While Topeka may not have been on your Spring Break calendar for 2022 the Symposium and Convention only occur every three to four years and affords the BFA and those interested in our sport an opportunity to come together and exchange ideas to help us grow our sport. You can arrive by plane, train or automobile and the event organizers promise the pilgrimage worth the investment of time and money.

As for the Symposium, here is what organizers have to look forward to:

What Works for Us: a discussion of what two successful events, big and small, have found to work best

Crisis management: a discussion of the critical elements of emergency response and the media frenzy that follows

Canceling or Postponing an Event: considerations and consequences

Working with the FAA: Certificates of Authorization and Waiver – do I need one and who prepares?

Event Insurance: what's needed vs recommended and how safe do I feel?

Sponsorships and the Selling of a Title Sponsor: how to attract sponsors at all levels and how to land the big one

Pilot Recruitment: a discussion of recruitment methods and screening

Event Officials and Staffing: review of key roles and why they are important to the organizer

Risk Management and Mitigation: a review of legal issues, pilot, and passenger waivers

Finances and Budget: sample budgets, cost per balloon and in-kind support

Turnkey Operators: presentations by three operators

Event Timing, Logistics, Volunteers, and Infrastructure: a review and discussion of major planning considerations

Two sessions for experienced and aspiring **Balloonmeisters and Safety Officers** will also be available as breakout sessions

Be sure to follow us on Face Book and the BFA web site as speakers and other information will be coming in the following weeks and months. You can also recommend this event to your local balloon event organizer as a way to make your event even better run and safe. Registration link to the BFA web site is:

[Event Symposium - Balloon Federation of America \(bfa.net\)](http://bfa.net)



Don't Be Late!
The Countdown to Launch has Begun!

- Celebrate 60(+1) years of ballooning excellence
- Continuing Education
- Presentations by Industry Leaders
- Fun and Fellowship (remember that?)

Register TODAY and \$ave!
www.bfa.net

Early Registration Ends January 31st!
Join us! • April 7-9, 2022 • Topeka, Kansas

Balloon Federation of America National Convention

By Tim Cloyd

On March 26, 1961, the BFA was founded and will celebrate its Diamond Anniversary (plus 1 year) at the 2022 National Convention in Topeka, Kansas April 7-9 in conjunction with the Balloon Event Symposium. The BFA National Conventions are held once every three or four years, for balloonists, by balloonists and includes World Class Speakers, a Trade Show with Industry leaders, Receptions, Breakfasts, and a Banquet. The Convention is your opportunity to exchange ideas, gain valuable knowledge with fellow ballooning enthusiasts and explore visions for the future of the sport of hot-air ballooning. In this regard, education and enrichment programs play an important part. Renew acquaintances and make new ones.

The Convention Committee has developed a varied educational program, which is sure to be of interest to balloon enthusiasts of all types. Sessions are scheduled multiple times to include Weather, Training, Pre-Flight Planning, Landing Safety, Pilot Decision Making, Tips to Compete, Technology Practices, Manufacturers and many more topics.

There will be a trade show during the convention where you can see the latest equipment and technologies for hot-air balloons. The Convention is sure to be exciting, fun, and educational. Please help spread the word to the ballooning community by sharing this invitation with your friends and everyone interested in ballooning.

We are providing Shuttle transportation for \$75 round trip between the Kansas City International Airport and the Host Hotel for those who do not have their own transportation. Also, if you are wanting to venture out and visit Topeka for meals or sightseeing, transportation will be available.

While Topeka may not have been on your usual travel destination, the city offers several tourist locations such as: Kansas State Capital, Brown vs Board of Education National Park, Mulvane Art Museum, Old Prairie Town, Topeka Zoological Park, The Kansas Children's Discover Center, Evel Knievel Museum, Combat Air Museum, Kansas Museum of History, Heartland Motorsports Park Topeka, and Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and the BFA web site as speakers and other information will be coming in the following weeks and months.

BFA Director's Corner

**Northeast Region
Director Tony Saxton**



As we enter the winter months flying slows down for many in the northeast. This is when we take the time to think about safety. I hope that everyone in the BFA considers attending a continuing education event, either face to face, virtual or both. If everyone takes one tidbit of information from a seminar you are each doing your share in making our sport safer.

If you have not done so yet, I encourage each one of you to submit your comments to the FAA pertaining to the NPRM pertaining to medicals. Your voice will matter, and they will look at all your comments.

Balloon festivals are over in the northeast for the year, however there will be some educational opportunities in the future.

The Great Eastern Balloon Association will host their annual continuing education seminar on March 5th in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Everyone is welcome. For more information you can contact Dawn Chase at gebaseminar@gebaballoon.org or their website at gebaballoon.org

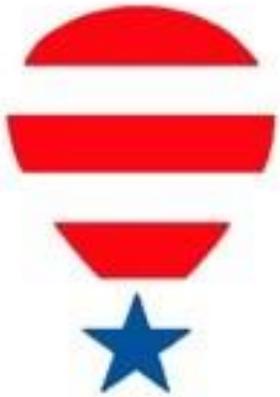
The New York State Balloon Association is also in the early planning for their seminar. Keep your eye open for further info on this seminar.

Finally, the BFA National Convention is April 8 and 9, 2002 in Topeka, Kansas. Leading into the convention is the Balloon Event Symposium on April 6 and 7.



Tony Saxton in Lancaster, PA

WELCOME NEW BFA MEMBERS



Masa-Aki Asaumi
Thomas Gering
Nicholas Mezinis
Mike Shrum
Todd Griggs
Karen Thompson
Steven Jones

Matsudo, Japan
Colorado Springs, CO
St Louis, MO
Box Elder, SD
Melbourne, FL
Charlottesville, VA
Vernal, UT

Desmet Charles
Lori Greenstein
J. Rick Cipot
Alan Farnham
Matthew Swartling
Cary Heard

Brussels, Belgium
Apple Valley, MN
Bethel, CT
New York, NY
Atlanta, GA
Winnemucca, NV

Crew Achievement Award Program



Anthony Petitti, Ohio	Level 1
Adam Hranka, Colorado	Level 1
Dianna Nelson, Utah	Level 2
Jennifer Davis, Texas	Level 1-4 MASTER CREW CHIEF
Cory Davis, Texas	Level 1-4 MASTER CREW CHIEF

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

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



Are you interested in donating to the Youth Program? In Memorial of someone or in general please follow this link below. All donations qualify as a tax-deduction as the BFA is a 501c3 Not for profit organization. [Memorial Contributions - Balloon Federation of America \(bfa.net\)](https://www.bfa.net/memorial-contributions)

If you have any questions, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/2p84yey7> or email youthprograms@bfa.net

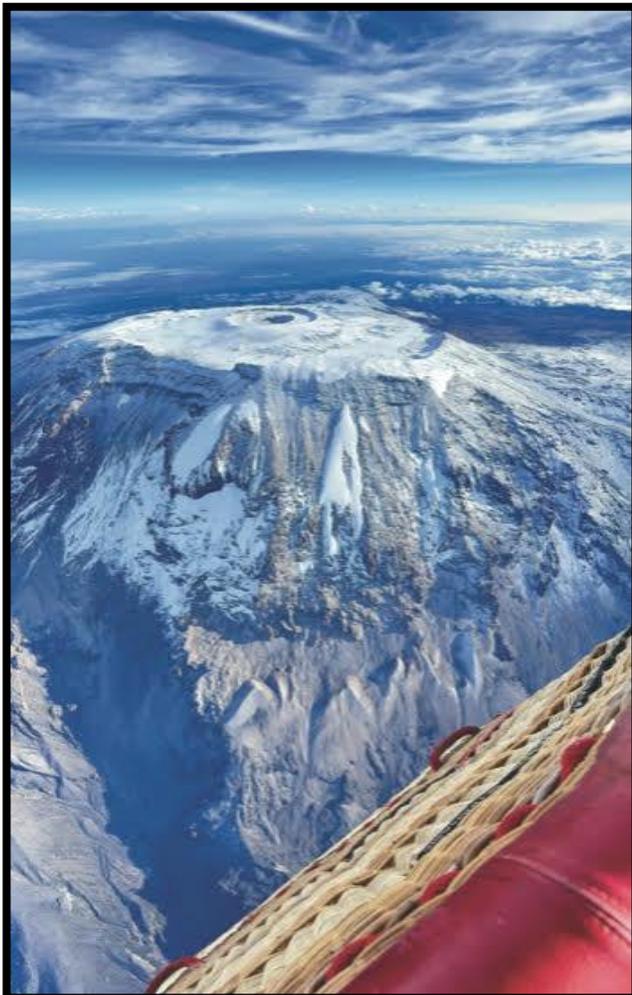
What is coming in Ballooning?

Journal of the Balloon Federation of America

a bi-monthly publication of Balloon Federation of America.

In the January 2022 Edition, look forward to a "Behind the Seams" story about the 50th Fiesta balloon.

Right: AIBF 50th Balloon
Photo Credit Cameron Balloons U.S.



In March 2022, a full report from one of the pilots that participated in the Ultra Magic Mt. Kilimanjaro flight!

Left: Mt. Kilimanjaro
Photo Credit: John Petrehn



Winter Apparel is Here!

Visit the link below for BFA apparel

<https://tinyurl.com/muyazuae>

A FAR Question

No Question this month.

Last Month's Question & Answer: 61.56

Except as provided in paragraph (b) and (f) of this section, a FLIGHT REVIEW consists of a minimum of 1 hour of flight training and 1 hour of ground training.

What must the review include?

Answer: *A review of the current general operating and flight rules of Part 91 of this chapter and a review of those maneuvers and procedures that, at the discretion of the person giving the review are necessary for the pilot to demonstrate the safe exercise of the privileges of the pilot certificate.*



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Of America

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