

# The Quick Release

Published Monthly

Issue No. 6

JULY 2017

## Petrehn wins 2017 U.S. Nationals



A familiar name rose to the top of a competitive field two weeks ago as Texas pilot John Petrehn earned the title of champion at the 2017 BFA U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championship.

The championship was held July 10 - July 16th in Shreveport-Bossier area of Louisiana.

2017 Runner up was Joe Zvada and third place went to Chase Donner.

Kelli Keller was named Top Female Pilot and Rookie of the Year.

The Kinnie Gibson Fellowship Award winner for 2017 is Ken Draughn.

The Duane Cark Senior Division Champion for 2017 is Joe Heartsill.

Henry Rosenbaum won the DuMont Safety Award.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW FINAL STANDINGS](#)



### TOP 10 FINAL STANDINGS U.S. NATIONALS

1. John Petrehn
2. Joe Zvada
3. Chase Donner
4. Nick Donner
5. Rhett Heartsill
6. Jeff Gilles
7. Harold "Bubba" Cliver
8. Jonathan Wright
9. Joe Heartsill
10. Paul Petrehn



## Elections are now open for online voting!

You will need your BFA email address and your BFA number. You can find your BFA number by logging into the BFA website. It will be in the top right of the screen. All BFA members as of **July 3, 2017** are eligible to vote except Associate members and Junior Balloonists. All seats are for 3 year terms.

*All eligible voters can vote for BFA "At Large" Director.*

*You must reside in the region to vote for regional directors.*

*You must be a member of HACD, PRO, or GAS divisions to vote for those candidates.*

*For those members without an email address, a paper ballot will be mailed.*

*Voting will end on August 19, 2017 at 5:00pm Central Standard Time*

*Ballots were mailed July 21, 2017*

*Office to mail to all valid voters without email*

*Ballots returned*

**no later than August 19, 2017**

*Office will coordinate a review committee of all paper ballots*

*Announce results of election by email and website*

**by August 31, 2017**

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**BALLOTS  
MUST BE  
RETURNED BY  
8/19/17**

# 2017 BFA Election Candidates

## BFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### *Northeast Region Director*

Dwight Cramer – Munnsville, NY  
Mark MacSkimming – Harrisburg, PA

### *At Large*

Ted Watts – Meadville, PA - Incumbent  
Ron Sanchez - Albuquerque, NM  
Brian Hoyle - Raleigh, NC

### *Western Region*

Katie Griggs – Dayton, NV - Incumbent  
Mike England – Phoenix, AZ

## HOT AIR COMPETITION DIVISION

### *Great Lakes Region*

Gary Britton – Slinger, WI -Incumbent  
Paul Dale – Alliance, OH  
Paul Suttle – Strasburg, OH

### *At Large*

Aaron Foelske – Channahon, IL  
Drew Egerton – Statesville, NC

### *Southwest Region*

Harold Bubba Cliver – Lewisville, TX  
Richard Sabin – Henderson, TX

## GAS DIVISION

**(Vote for 2)**

Andy Baird - Dexter, MI  
Andrew Nels - Smyrna, GA

## PRO DIVISION

### *Northeast Region*

Jeff Snyder – Jericho, VT  
Tony Saxton – Nicholson, PA

### *Great Lakes Region*

Tony Sandlin – Fishers, IN



**CLICK HERE TO VOTE  
ONLINE**



# FAVIA 225/2018 BFA Convention Commemorative Program Book

BY JENN GOLDBLOOM

Will your state be represented in the Gallery of 225 Balloons?

In 1793 the flag of the United States had fifteen stars. Will all fifteen states symbolized by those stars be represented in the Gallery of 225 Balloons? GA, MA, MD, SC, NH, VA, NY, NC, RI, VT, and KY are missing.



Be the first from your state to showcase your balloon in the Gallery of 225 Balloons in the FAVIA 225/2018 BFA Convention Commemorative Program Book!

**Go to:**

[FAVIA Gallery of  
225 Balloons](#)

**and then scroll to the bottom of the page to add your balloon to the Gallery.**



## National Crew Person Award Nominations are due

The BFA National Crew Person Award is an annual award presented recognizing an outstanding crew person who is diligent, reliable, organized, responsible and always puts safety first.

### Award Criteria

- The award is open to all BFA members, pilots, crew and others.
- Nominations can be up to, but not longer than one-page long.
- Nominations must include name, address, years of experience in ballooning, the candidates contributions to the sport of hot air ballooning while serving as a crew member and the reason why the candidate should get the award.

### Procedure

Written nominations must be sent to BFA Office via email or by mail.

The BFA will then send all nominations to the Awards Chair.

The award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting by the current BFA President.

## Nominations due before August 15

### Past Recipients

2011	Vern Hodapp
2012	Steve Sumner
2013	Rob Mullis
2014	None awarded
2015	Dominic Padilla
2016	Jim Doerer
2016	Duncan Dunavent

## Board votes to join opposition to ATC privatization

At its July meeting the Board of Directors of the Balloon Federation of America voted to join other aviation-related groups in opposition in a proposed plan to privatize the Air Traffic Control System (ATC).



In part, the statement by these groups reads: "After a thorough and detailed review of Chairman Bill Shuster's (R-PA) proposal, HR 2997, the AIRR Act of 2017, which would remove our nation's air traffic control operations from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), we have concluded that these reforms will produce uncertainty and unintended consequences without achieving the desired outcomes."

Additionally the statement reads: "We have concluded that any structural and governance reforms that require protections for an important sector of users is fundamentally flawed."

In addition, the billions of dollars and time that would be spent transitioning our nation's air traffic control system to a not-for-profit entity can be better applied to the continuing progress to update and modernize our air traffic control system – including meeting the FAA's mandate to equip the general aviation fleet with see and-avoid (ADS-B) technology by 2020.

Moreover, with strong bipartisan opposition in both the House and Senate to remove air traffic control operations from the FAA, we believe efforts should focus on developing a long-term FAA Reauthorization that creates the stability and funding necessary and that can reach the President's desk for signature."



**JOIN US TODAY!**

**BFA Membership Application for Mailing**



WRITTEN BY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2013 13:21

Join or renew your membership here or online at: [BFA Online Shop](#)

New Membership ( ) Renew My Membership ( )

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**Flying Status (choose one for all personal memberships)**

- ( ) Commerical Pilot ( ) Private Pilot ( ) Student Pilot ( ) Crew ( ) Observer

**Personal Memberships (all voting except Juniors)**

- ( ) With US delivered magazine (\$55/yr) ( ) With Int'l delivered magazine (\$65/yr)
- ( ) With Digital Magazine (\$35/yr) ( ) Life membership with magazine (\$1000 once)
- ( ) Family membership for two or more memberships in one family (Digital) (\$20/yr)
- ( ) Junior Balloonist (aged 5-18 with Digital Magazine) (\$15/yr)

**Non-Personal Memberships**

- ( ) Corporate (\$250/yr) -Send business name/address/contact person/email logo to: [bfaoffice@bfa.net](mailto:bfaoffice@bfa.net)
- Associate Member (non-voting, for balloon clubs, libraries, balloon event organizations)
- ( ) US delivered magazine (\$55/yr) ( ) Int'l with magazine (\$65/yr)
- ( ) With Digital Magazine (\$35/yr)
- Professional Ride Operator Companies
- ( ) Large Operator (4 pilots-\$250/yr) ( ) Small Operator (2 pilots-\$125/yr)

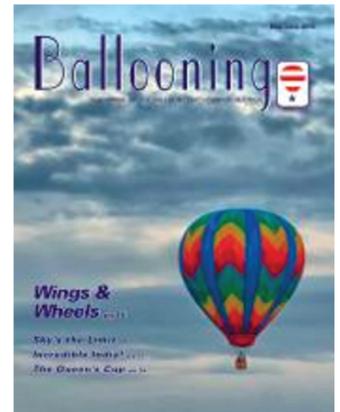
*PAYMENT INFORMATION - All International memberships & subscriptions must be in US funds.*

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check - Master Card - VISA - Discover - AMEX  
CC Account# \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_/\_\_\_ CVC Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please print application, complete and mail with payment to this address:

Balloon Federation of America  
P.O. Box 400, Indianola, IA. 50125 e-mail [bfaoffice@bfa.net](mailto:bfaoffice@bfa.net)

LAST UPDATED ON MONDAY, 04 APRIL 2016 17:47



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**BFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT	- Dean Carlton
VICE-PRESIDENT	- Cheri White
SECRETARY	- Tim Cloyd
TREASURER	- Maury Sullivan
NAA REPRESENTATIVE	- Troy Bradley
MEMBERS	- David Tanzer
	- Katie Griggs
	- Scott Woogee
	- Ted Watts
	- Sam Parks

**BFA OFFICE**

OFFICE MANAGER  
**JILL MCCONNELL**  
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