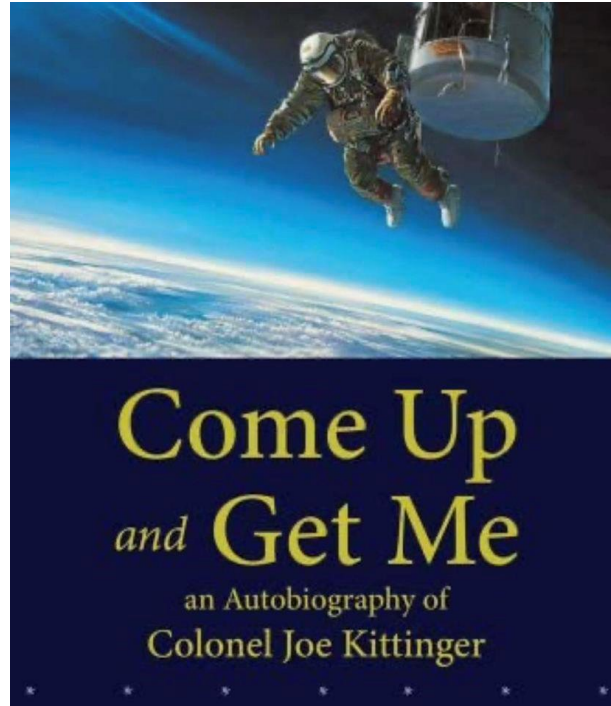


The Quick Release

December
2022
Issue 12



We are saddened to report Mr. Joe Kittinger died December 8, 2022, at the age of 94. Joe's book, called "Come Up and Get Me" tells of his long history in aviation. Joe was a great friend and supporter of the ballooning community and will be missed.



Happy Chanukah Balloon Menorah, Albuquerque, NM

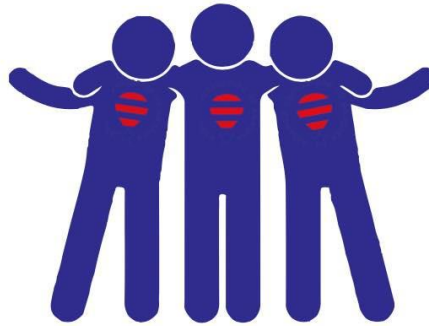
Photo credit: Chani Kaibetoney

Every year nine balloons come together to create a one-of-a-kind hot air balloon Menorah. This is the first year in several years the weather has allowed an actual glow to honor the Chanukah Holiday.

Happy Chanukah is celebrated with live music and fun for all ages at Balloon Fiesta Park.



Bring a Buddy Program!



Win! Win! Win!

A new **WIN, WIN, WIN** feature for you! Log into the BFA website (www.bfa.net), you will see a new "Invite" feature! This feature will provide you with a pathway to invite others to become BFA members. Once you click on "Invite", you can enter the emails of those friends and family that you would like to invite to the BFA. It is a WIN for them, as they will be learning more about the incredible sport of ballooning. They will be able to experience ballooning in all areas of the world through stories and photos delivered to their doorstep, or computer, through our BFA Ballooning magazine and the BFA's Quick Release publication.

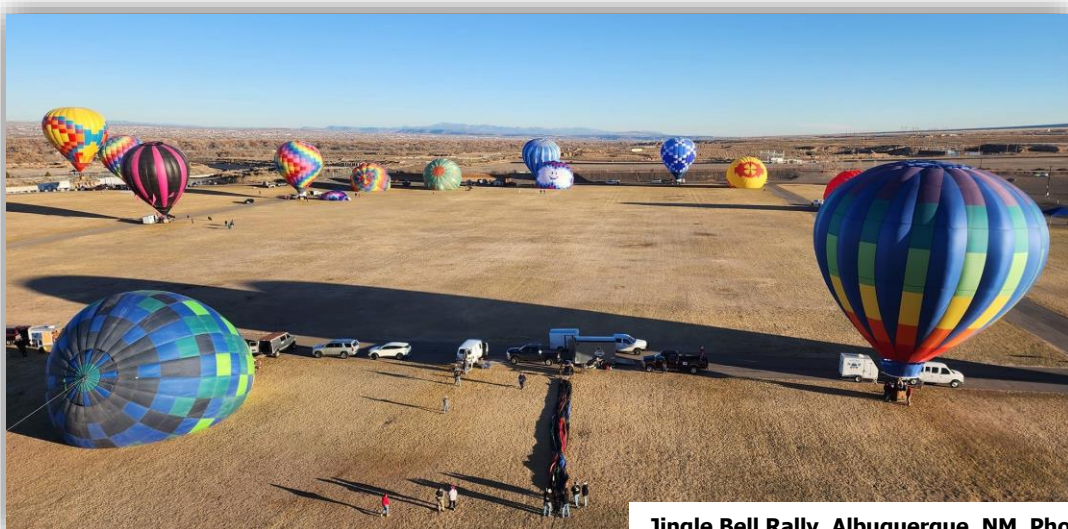
It is a WIN for you! Each time, one of your invites is accepted, and they register, you will earn \$10 to use for your next renewal or to purchase training products and logbooks from the BFA's store. You will earn an additional \$10 when each new member you invite joins the BFA. There is NO LIMIT!

It is a WIN for the Balloon Federation of America! With your help, we look forward to increasing our membership's voice. Safety and education remain the cornerstone of the BFA's mission. We continue to engage with local, state, and federal officials to create and protect policy that ensures safety for balloonists, crew members, and spectators across the globe. By increasing our membership, we will continue to serve as the largest voice in the LTA community. With more engaged members, we can learn faster, we can speak louder, and can continue to make an impact on the sport that we all love. Please consider sharing an invite with those who appreciate the sport of ballooning. Whether they are a pilot, crew member, your local repair station, adjacent businesses, or enthusiasts, we welcome them to join and engage in the future of ballooning and the Balloon Federation of America.

Additionally, if they join before the new year they will save! Membership fees will increase (\$10) on January 1, 2023. You can also renew your membership now to save!

Here is a video to show you how: [Bring a Buddy! - YouTube](#)

***REMINDER FOR MEMBERS:** please log into your account and review your contact information. Double check your email address is correct for up-to-date information. You are also able to choose that your information is not viewable to all members and only used for in-house



Jingle Bell Rally, Albuquerque, NM Photo Credit: Ron Sanchez



Helpful Information & Worksheet

With the new regulation for Class 2 Medicals going into effect on May 22, 2022, this worksheet, and information about over the counter medications may be extremely helpful.

https://www.faa.gov/sites/faa.gov/files/licenses_certificates/medical_certification/medications/OTCMedicationsforPilots.pdf



Interested in Balloon Repair and Repair Stations?

Have you ever wanted to know more about what it takes to be able to repair and maintain hot air balloon equipment? Did you know that there are only half of the repair stations now as there were in the 1990s?

The BFA is offering a document that will explain how the process works and where to find the information needed to work through the process of becoming qualified and certified as a Hot Air Balloon Repair person. This is not a "how to" document, it is an introduction to what is required and how to navigate through the process.

Our goal is not to train you to become a repair person or to open a repair station; this is a document with links to the important information of requirements and guidance. The process is not an easy one and requires a lot of time reading and researching to discover the proper course of action to achieve your goal. Whether you want to become a repair person and/or open a repair station, the requirements are covered in 14CFR in parts 43, 65, and 145. This guide will help you sort through the regulations to find the parts that you need.

Our Mission is to stimulate interest in Hot Air Balloon maintenance and repair. This document will provide an easy-to-follow training guideline for achieving the FAA Repairman Certificate. The BFA recognizes the importance of balloon repair and proper training by providing a structured outline of that activity. We hope bring interest to those who wish to learn more about balloons and their continued airworthiness requirements. We offer an essential resource to achieve your ambitions of becoming a certified Hot Air Balloon repair person. This document is posted on the BFA website at: <https://tinyurl.com/balloonrepair>

Look for a series of articles in the Ballooning Magazine in 2023 by Phil Bryant based on the Repairman Training Manual with additional information and opinions to help with this topic.



U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championship returns to Longview, Texas.

The championship dates are June 12-18, 2023. Click [here](#), to fill out the online form where you will submit your information and indicate your intent to participate in the 2023 U.S. Nationals. The 2023 prize money package is attached. [2023 Prize Money - US Nationals.pdf \(bfa.net\)](#)

The top 50 ranked pilots from the 2022 National Eligibility List (NEL) will be chosen to participate after the list is finalized, which is expected by January 13, 2023.

You will be notified the week of January 16-20 if you are eligible for the Championship and will be prompted to submit additional information and documentation to confirm your participation.

The Balloon Federation of America Hot Air Competition Division and the Great Texas Balloon Race, we hope to see you all in Longview in June.



Pilot: Eric Hodges
Balloon: KISSSES OF FIRE
Albuquerque, NM
Photo Credit: Eric Hodges

Pilot: Eric Hodges
Balloon: KISSSES OF FIRE
Albuquerque, NM
Photo Credit: Ron Sanchez

Announcing 2023 BFA Youth Balloon Camp Dates & Locations

Hot Air Balloon Traditional Overnight Summer Camps

Southeast Camp - Cordele, GA
June 20th – 25th, 2023

Rio Grande Camp - Albuquerque, NM
July 8th – 13th, 2023

High Sierra Camp - Reno, NV
Dates TBA

Hot Air Balloon Event Camps
DinahSoar Camp - Vernal, UT
Aug 24th – 25th, 2023

Spirit of Boise Classic Youth Camp - Boise, ID
September 1&2, 2023

All dates & details are subject to change

Preparation for the 2023 BFA Youth Camps has begun! We would like to thank all that have contributed to the program.

The future of ballooning lies with the new young balloonist we bring into the sport. The camps play a vital role in introducing and enticing our youth into this wonderful sport.

We hope the ballooning community will continue to be generous with their time, money, and other donations to support the Youth Camps.

To inquire about how you can contribute to the camp program, please contact Katie Griggs at youthprograms@bfa.net



UPCOMING *Events*

Organizers & Balloonmeisters



It is time to submit your event information to the BFA for publication on the website.

Go to www.bfa.net click on Event then to Submit Calendar Event. Once we receive the information, we will update your information and update you once it is complete. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Denise (515) 961-8809 or via email at bfaoffice@bfa.net



WELCOME

new members

Bryan Hill	Arizona	Jacob Denlinger	Arizona	Carl Sommer	Arizona
Cornelius van der Walt	Arizona	John Hennigan	California	Dominic Ramponi	California
Tina Ramponi	California	Jim Isler	Colorado	Faith Malec	Colorado
Scott Ryan McGrew	Colorado	Tina Rodriguez	Connecticut	Cody Justice	Florida
Katalin Watkins	Florida	Sy Bartlett	Florida	Karin Miller	Florida
Jesse Mitchell	Florida	Shawn Ashley	Georgia	Selah Sumner	Florida
Allison Sumner	Georgia	Emily Thompson	Georgia	Courtney Parker	Idaho
Eric Turner	Idaho	Devin Cesnik	Idaho	Kim Baird	Idaho
Brad Haege	Illinois	Aaron Anton	Illinois	Douglas Barnes	Illinois
Cooper Smith	Illinois	Alma Bergan-Guzman	Illinois	Richard Marshallsay	Illinois
Jack McGill	Indiana	Lillian Bickers	Kentucky	Ralenn Cecil	Kentucky
Micaiah Kelley	Kentucky	Brittney Young	Louisiana	Joey Strutz	Michigan
Scott Dennis	Michigan	Nissa Smith	Michigan	Hunter Thomas	Minnesota
Timothy Markert	Minnesota	Scott Mueller	Missouri	Greg Houdyshell	Missouri
Nickolaus Allen	North Carolina	Lauren Sawin	North Carolina	Jenna Litton	North Carolina
David Litton	North Carolina	Ryan Broadstone	Nebraska	Giulia Grotenhuis	New Jersey
Frank Gallegos	New Mexico	Stacy Woodrum	New Mexico	Zarah Medina	New Mexico
William Broemmer	New Mexico	Christian Speicher	New Mexico	Emma Sedillo	New Mexico
Callista Flythe	New Mexico	Kendra Garcia	New Mexico	Stacy Yeager	New Mexico
Armando Evaro	New Mexico	Chris van Dyck	New Mexico	David Steidley	New Mexico
Paul Rightley	New Mexico	Julia Wolfe	New Mexico	Crystal Wilson	New Mexico
Erielle Cushing	Nevada	Rowan Braik	Nevada	Mark Davis	Ohio
Anthony Petitti	Ohio	Mitchell Fights	Oklahoma	Kirstin Espinosa	Oklahoma
Charles Bolin	Oklahoma	Rose Falletta	Pennsylvania	Wayne O'Shields	South Carolina
Derrick O'Shields	South Carolina	Samuel Nicolai	South Dakota	Karen Murphy	Tennessee
Josh Cato	Texas	Leslie Cassidy	Texas	Frances Sarrat	Texas
Addison Duncan	Texas	Tyson Gosch	Texas	Jennifere Bullard	Texas
Shane Hale	Texas	Jayson Barnhill	Texas	Domini Turner	Utah
Davin Cloward	Utah	Brooke Millecam	Utah	Jacmen Whitmire	Utah
Marissa Fairbanks	Utah	William Jay Thomson	Utah	Timothy Cole II	Virginia
Cynthia Brittain	Virginia	Ryan Geib	Washington	Tanessa Burns	Washington
Keith Scharringhausen	Wisconsin	Brandon Korth	Wisconsin	Max Walter	Wisconsin
Kaden Hunter	Wisconsin	Petr Kubicek	Czech Republic	William McKee	



2022 RECIPIENTS

Pilot Achievement Award Program

Gary Brossett, Georgia, Pilot Level 4
Tony Condon, Kansas, Pilot Level 2
Kelly Hilberth, New Jersey, Pilot Level 3
Seth Hudson, Texas, Pilot Level 2
Scott Saxton, Pennsylvania, Pilot Level 3

Crew Achievement Award Program

Vivian Andersen, Apprentice Crew
Ruth Anderson, Apprentice Crew
Marcia Anderson, Apprentice Crew
Melanie Anderson, Apprentice Crew
Vivian Anderson, Apprentice Crew
Kenn Anderson JR., Apprentice Crew
Kenn Anderson SR., Apprentice Crew
Melanie Cabaniss, Apprentice Crew
Isabelle Cooke, Apprentice Crew
Trina Cooke, Senior Crew
Amelia-Ann Dickey, Senior Crew
Charles Haley, Apprentice Crew
Melody Haley, Apprentice Crew
Allyson Halleran, Apprentice Crew
Bruce Halleron, Apprentice Crew
John Holmes, Apprentice Crew
Ashton King, Apprentice Crew
Ken Klass, Apprentice Crew
Betsy Miller, Apprentice Crew
Deborah O'Conner, Apprentice Crew
John Puppo, Crew Chief
Pat Saxton, Apprentice Crew
Phil Saxton, Apprentice Crew
Joy Sibayan, Master Crew Chief
Jayna Stogner, Apprentice Crew
Alyssa Sullivan, Master Crew Chief
Mark Volk, Apprentice Crew
Lynn Volk, Apprentice Crew
Stacy Yeager, Crew Chief



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



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