



**Mike Gilligan**

**Notable – Accomplishments/ Contributions**

- **Spirit of Annie Award 2013**
  - **BFA HACD Board member**
  - **BFA Director's Award 2015**
  - Introduction to ballooning was crewing for two student pilots in 1989
  - Introduction to high-level competition ballooning was in 1993 crewing for Cheri White (it's her fault) at the U.S. Nationals in Middletown, OH.
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- BFA HACD At Large Director Officials 2007 – Current
  - Author/Developer of the BFA Scoring Program (immeasurable help from Risto Jalava)
  - Author/Developer of the BFA Declarations App (Android and iPhone)
  - Author/Developer of the Teams Scoring Program
  - Chief Scorer World Air Games 2009 – Mondovi, Italy
  - Chief Scorer World Hot Air Balloon Championship 2010 – Debrecen, Hungary
  - Chief Scorer World Hot Air Balloon Championship 2012 – Battle Creek, MI
  - Chief Scorer U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championship 2007 – 2011, 2016 – 2017
  - Chief Scorer U.S. National Women's Hot Air Balloon Championship 2016
  - Jury Member Tochigi, Japan 2013
  - Assistant to the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Scoring Officer - 2014 – current

The journey began when a co-worker asked if I might be interested in crewing for her and the co-owner of their balloon (Helen and Janice). Who knew? For me, the propane was addictive. OK, it was really the people. Steve, Leonard, Stan, Debbie, all the members of the (then) LSBA. The LSBA club (now the LSHABA) wanted to do competition once a month and needed someone to measure, score, and submit scores. Oh no, I raised my hand. From club events to a real live event – Ballunar Liftoff. Thank you, Steve Lombardi. The first step of a long journey. Battle Creek, MI, Park City, UT, San Angelo, TX, Mesquite, TX, Plano, TX, Middletown, OH, Columbia, MO, Monterrey, MX and many more as crew. Puerto Rico, Italy, Hungary, South Carolina, Texas, Michigan, and more as Scoring Officer. Ohio and New Mexico to assist the Scoring Officer. My heart felt THANK YOU to David Levin (I miss you), Risto Jalava, Lynn Sullivan, Maury Sullivan, Steve Lombardi, Sam Parks, Paul Petrehn, and Mathijs DeBruijn for your guidance, support, and trust. I realize this sounds a bit like a tribute to others, but, other than the Event Director (and maybe the weather officer), officials are truly doing their jobs if no one remembers their names.

**WHAT's TRULY NOTABLE**, are the friends made during this journey! Awards, being asked to serve at an event, and some recognition is good for the ego. But, it's the friends! **It's**

**the friends!!** David Levin, Maury Sullivan, Lynn Sullivan, Patty Cramer, Gary Britton, Mike Meinl, Sanne Haarhuis, Steve Lombardi, Sam Parks, Jim Thompson, Al Nels, Andy Baird, Dr. Bill Bussey, Bill Baker, Dottie Humbert, Bob Humbert, Brad Temeyer, Cheri White, Cindy Petrehn (miss you so much), Georgene Voutila, Jim Dieball, Joe Heartsill, Nancy Heartsill, Kate Heartsill, Johnny Petrehn, Mark Clegg, Paul Petrehn, Ken Draughn, Kim Magee, Pat Cannon, Debbie Spaeth, Tammy Luna, Jay Luna, Rita Brennan, Rose Selman, Mathis DeBruijn, and so many more (many more, sorry for the omissions). These people are my All-Stars! You have changed my life! I am so very, very fortunate to call

