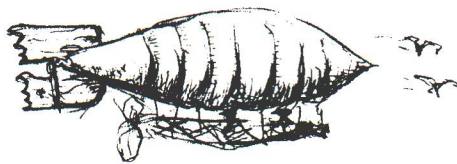


Redline



FAA award, new company, company sale, company move, new balloon, new developments

Ballooning July 1998

Rapp named Friend of FAA

Former BFA President David Rapp has received the "Good Friend" award from the FAA. The award honors a non-Flight Standards member of the public who has significantly promoted, enhanced or supported the Flight Standards mission. Only one such award is given on the national level.

According to Tom Russell of the St. Louis Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), Rapp was recognized for his extremely proactive approach to aviation safety and education within the aviation community.

Rapp has been the founder and coordinator for an annual balloon instructor refresher clinic. Seeing a need to keep the commercial balloon instructor up to date on instructional techniques and responsibilities, and benchmarking on the seminars held annually for the Designated Pilot Examiners and other aircraft instructors, he

developed a course for the commercial balloonist who provides flight instruction. The course, says the FAA, rivals the best refresher clinics held anywhere in the district.

Personnel from the local FSDO are always invited to attend, which has fostered a closer relationship between the FSDO and local balloonists.

Rapp speaks at numerous balloon safety seminars around the country, and serves the BFA as Legal Counsel.

In addition, he has authored several safety and instruction publications for the BFA, including *A Case Study of Legal Requirements for Hot Air Balloon Flight* for use in the Fly Neighborly program.

He serves as a Designated Examiner for the St. Louis, Missouri and Springfield, Illinois districts. According to Russell, his performance sets the standard for others.