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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

Elizabeth Wright-Smith Earns Elite Balloon Instructor Accreditation!

5/1/2020 The Elite Balloon Instructor Committee is proud to announce Ms. Elizabeth Wright-Smith as an Elite Balloon Instructor!



Wright-Smith, from Albuquerque, NM, is owner and currently serves as Chief Flight and Ground Instructor for Airborne Heat, LLC a Part 141 flight school and full-service hot air balloon company. Wright-Smith has been a pilot for over 40 years and has accumulated over 4,700 hours.

As an instructor, Wright-Smith began giving pilot training in 1985 and has trained more than 400 students while accumulating over 2,000 hours of flight instruction given. Michael Heenan, Airline Transport Pilot- Multiengine land - DC9, BE-1900,

EMB-120, BE-300, Commercial Pilot- Single Engine Land and LTA Balloon, Flight Instructor- Single and Multiengine, and Instrument, writes that, “after training hundreds of airplane pilots with over 2,000 hours as a flight instructor and receiving training to obtain multiple pilot ratings, I can say that Beth Wright-Smith was one of the best instructors that I have had in my 30+ years of flying.”

As an educator, Wright-Smith has developed private and commercial curriculums as well as teaches a yearly private and commercial ground school in Albuquerque. She also speaks at numerous safety seminars every year.

Wright-Smith has provided great service to the aviation community and has kept her own professional education up to date. She currently serves the ballooning community as a Designated Pilot Examiner and volunteers as a FAA Team Representative. She has served on the board of directors of the Albuquerque Aerostat Ascension Association, Balloon Federation of America, and Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum.

Elite Balloon Instructor

The Elite Balloon Instructor Program fueled by the National Association of Flight Instructors (NAFI) was created to differentiate between commercial balloon pilots. In the ballooning community, all commercial pilots are considered flight instructors. The Elite Balloon Instructor Program will separate those who provide flight instruction and are raising and maintaining the professional standing of the flight instructor in the ballooning community.

To learn more about the program visit: <https://www.theballoontrainingacademy.com/ebi/> or email theballoontrainingacademy@gmail.com

The Balloon Training Academy

The Balloon Training Academy is a 501c3 nonprofit organization with a mission to bring the launch field to students across the USA. Through online ground schools, flight instructor refresher courses, continuing education courses, and flight training syllabus we make quality hot air balloon education readily available. To learn more visit: www.theballoontrainingacademy.com

National Association of Flight instructors

Since 1967, NAFI dedicates its efforts exclusively to “raising and maintaining the professional standing of the flight instructor in the aviation community.” NAFI’s renowned Master Flight Instructor program is recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration and showcases CFIs who are raising the bar on flight instruction. NAFI is proud to fuel the Elite Balloon Instructor program! To learn more about NAFI visit www.nafinet.org