



Director Candidates: 2024-2025 Term

Candidates are presented alphabetically by last name – (I) Incumbent.

Candidate statements are printed as received and may contain typographical or factual errors. Statements by candidates are not checked for accuracy.

Ric Caylor (I)



Takeo Eda



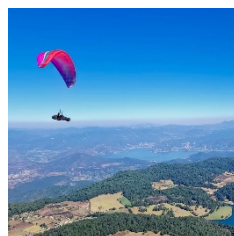
Pamela Kinnaird (I)



Julia Knowles (I)




Nelissa Milfeld (I)





USHPA Director Candidate Questionnaire

NAME	Ric Caylor	
USHPA #	93917	
Flying		
WHICH REGION DO YOU LIVE IN?	5 CT, DE, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, WI	
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING THERE (AS A PILOT)?	11 years	
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN FLYING?	13 years	
HOW MANY HOURS DID YOU FLY LAST YEAR?	0, I have been recovering from a neck breaking accident.	
HAVE YOU HAD ANY USHPA SUSPENSIONS OR REVOCATIONS?	No	
WHICH WING TYPE IS YOUR PRIMARY?	Hang Glider	
WHAT FLYING SITE DO YOU CALL HOME AND WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT IT?	Despite living in Pennsylvania, I call Paradise Airports in Groveland, Florida, my home flying site. When I'm not competing, Florida is where I love to fly. Its excellent conditions make it ideal for cross-country flights. Moreover, what I love most about Paradise Airports is the tight-knit community that feels like family. The camaraderie and support from fellow pilots further enhance the joy of flying at this superb flight park.	
WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE SPORT OF FREE FLIGHT?	<p>I have a strong passion for free flight and the community of its special people. I am actively involved in various initiatives and events through my business, "Wolfpack Hang Gliding, LLC." One notable undertaking is my participation in the Green Swamp Sport Klassic (GSSK), which is a mentoring hang-gliding competition. In 2021, I organized and continued this successful event with the support of my buddies. The GSSK is a vital event where eager-to-learn pilots go to enhance their cross-country skills and have lots of fun.</p> <p>Additionally, we brought to fruition the inaugural Red Rocks Hang Gliding Nationals, a CAT. 2 competition this year at Monroe, Utah. This event brought together hang gliding pilots worldwide and received</p>	



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enthusiastic feedback. As part of our commitment to safety, we conducted a series of eight webinars prior to the event, focusing on promoting safety and mitigating risks. The event was a huge success.

Furthermore, we worked with the Foundation for Free Flight (FFF) to significantly improve the Monroe Canyon View landing zone for hang gliders. The FFF was a critical key component to our success.

These experiences showcase my dedication to the sport and commitment to building a safe, thriving, free-flight community. I approach each project with unwavering enthusiasm and determination, constantly striving to provide valuable experiences and contribute to the advancement of free flight.

Experience

1. WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON USHPA'S BOARD?

My passion for free-flight hang gliding drives me. This sport has profoundly enriched my life and surpassed my wildest dreams. It saddens me to witness the declining state of this cherished activity. However, I firmly believe that I can make a significant difference in reversing this trend and rejuvenating the sport that means so much to me.

My track record speaks for itself regarding achieving positive outcomes through collaboration with fellow pilots and established organizations. We have accomplished remarkable feats together, and I am dedicated to continuing this momentum. I want to be a force for positive change within the USHPA as a board member, leveraging my experience and skills to contribute to revitalizing our beloved sport.

I am committed to working with fellow board members, volunteers, and members to drive initiatives that bolster the growth, visibility, and accessibility of hang gliding. Through my active involvement, I hope to inspire others and create lasting impacts to ensure a vibrant future for free-flight hang gliding.

2. PLEASE LIST ANY PRIOR EXPERIENCE SERVING ON THE USHPA BOARD OR COMMITTEES.

I am currently an active member of the USHPA board, where I serve alongside fellow board members to contribute to the development and direction of the organization. Additionally, I am proud to be part of two important committees within USHPA: the Hang Gliding Renaissance Committee



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and the Competition Committee. These committee roles provide me with valuable opportunities to collaborate with experienced leaders and fellow enthusiasts to address specific issues and work towards improving our organization. My involvement in these capacities has enriched my understanding of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. I am excited to continue serving in these roles to impact the future of free flight positively.

3. IF YOU AREN'T CURRENTLY SERVING ON A COMMITTEE, WHICH ONE(S) WOULD YOU SEE YOURSELF SERVING ON AS A DIRECTOR, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, AND WHAT RELEVANT PRIOR EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE?

I currently serve on two (2) committees: the Hang Gliding Renaissance and the Competition. I am committed to engaging with our members to understand their perspectives and ensure a positive change occurs. Through open and transparent communication channels, such as surveys, interviews, and regular meetings, I will actively seek feedback and input from our members. By actively listening to their ideas and concerns, I can identify areas for improvement and work towards implementing effective solutions. Together with our members, we can create a meaningful impact and foster a positive change within our organization.

4. HAVE YOU SERVED ON OTHER BOARDS, OR VOLUNTEERED FOR OTHER NONPROFITS, BEFORE?

Yes, I have served on various boards and volunteered for different nonprofit organizations in the past. Specifically, I have been actively involved in multiple churches, taking on roles such as teaching and serving as an elder, all with the purpose of supporting and advancing their mission. These experiences were driven by my strong sense of commitment to a greater purpose.

5. USHPA IS A UNIQUE NONPROFIT, WITH HIGHLY INVESTED VOLUNTEERS PLAYING KEY ROLES IN ADVANCING THE ORGANIZATION OVER THE YEARS. WHAT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE CAN YOU OFFER TO STEER OUR ORG? EXAMPLES MIGHT INCLUDE STRATEGIC PLANNING, OPERATIONAL, OR PR/COMMUNICATIONS FROM CAREER OR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS.

As a seasoned small business owner for over 25 years, I possess valuable expertise that can greatly contribute to steering the USHPA organization. I have successfully launched and managed multiple businesses, emphasizing the importance of focusing on the fundamental principles that drive success. I firmly believe that the purpose of any organization is to fulfill its mission statement by prioritizing the needs of its constituents and serving them effectively. Drawing from my experience, I can bring strategic planning skills, operational knowledge, and PR/communications expertise gained through various career and volunteer positions.

6. COLLABORATION IS CRUCIAL TO BE AN EFFECTIVE DIRECTOR: TASKS OFTEN INVOLVE STAFF, COMMITTEE

Yes, I can certainly provide an example of collaborating with others on a goal that took at least



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CHAIRS, USHPA MEMBERS AND MORE. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE WHEN YOU HAVE COLLABORATED WITH OTHERS TO ACCOMPLISH A GOAL THAT TOOK AT LEAST SIX MONTHS TO FINISH? HOW DID YOU HANDLE CHALLENGES WITH REACHING CONSENSUS ALONG THE WAY?

six months to accomplish. Despite sustaining a serious injury that left me uncertain about my ability to fly again, I was determined to bring a new foot-launching competition to fruition in the United States. Working alongside my friends who shared the same dream, we faced the challenge of being unfamiliar with the area and lacking local connections in Utah where the competition was to be held.

However, through effective collaboration, we were able to overcome these obstacles. We engaged with various stakeholders, including the local USHPA chapter, Central Utah Airsports Association (CUASA), Monroe City, landowners, contractors, influential USHPA members, the Foundation for Free Flight (FFF), and the Recreation Risk Retention Group (RRRG). Over the course of less than a year, we persisted in working together, and on the anniversary of my accident, we successfully organized the first-ever Red Rocks Hang Gliding Nationals.


Open and transparent communication was the key to handling challenges and reaching consensus throughout this collaborative process. We held regular meetings to ensure everyone's voices and concerns were heard, and we encouraged constructive dialogue to address any conflicts that arose. We could realize our dream by fostering a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect.

7. WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE USHPA'S MEMBERS TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

In addition to my qualifications and experiences, there is something else I would like USHPA's members to know about me. I have taken the initiative to start a podcast called the Rogallo Radio Podcast, Adventures in Hang Gliding and More. My belief is that effective communication and awareness are fundamental in promoting and expanding our community of free flight enthusiasts. Through this podcast, I am dedicated to sharing the exhilarating experiences and joys of hang gliding, aiming to inspire and engage both existing and potential members of the USHPA.



USHPA Director Candidate Questionnaire

NAME	Takeo Eda	
USHPA #	93987	
Flying		
WHICH REGION DO YOU LIVE IN?	2 No-CA, NV, UT	
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING THERE (AS A PILOT)?	10 years	
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN FLYING?	10 years	
HOW MANY HOURS DID YOU FLY LAST YEAR?	55	
HAVE YOU HAD ANY USHPA SUSPENSIONS OR REVOCATIONS?	No	
WHICH WING TYPE IS YOUR PRIMARY?	Hang Glider	
WHAT FLYING SITE DO YOU CALL HOME AND WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT IT?	Fort Funston, the best ridge soaring site in the US	
WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE SPORT OF FREE FLIGHT?	I admin 4 beginner hang gliding groups based around the country that have been very successful in improving pilot retention and promotion. Go Fledglings!	

Experience

1. WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON USHPA'S BOARD?	Because I want to see some programs developed.
2. PLEASE LIST ANY PRIOR EXPERIENCE SERVING ON THE USHPA BOARD OR COMMITTEES.	None
3. IF YOU AREN'T CURRENTLY SERVING ON A COMMITTEE, WHICH ONE(S) WOULD YOU SEE YOURSELF SERVING ON AS A DIRECTOR, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, AND WHAT RELEVANT PRIOR EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE?	I'm a retired Air Force Reserve Non-Commissioned officer where in the course of my service I oversaw a training program that saved my service 12 million dollars in personnel retention over 5 years. Our program won two service level awards and became a model for others around the country (Development and Training Flight). I've also served as a USHPA observer/Mentor where I have supervised/assisted in hundreds of safe launches across the broad spectrum of Northern California Training Sites
4. HAVE YOU SERVED ON OTHER BOARDS, OR VOLUNTEERED FOR OTHER NONPROFITS, BEFORE?	I have done volunteer work for USHPA, Civil Air Patrol and the Academy of Model Aeronautics as well as the International Aerobatic Club.
5. USHPA IS A UNIQUE NONPROFIT, WITH HIGHLY INVESTED VOLUNTEERS PLAYING KEY ROLES IN ADVANCING THE ORGANIZATION OVER THE YEARS.	I have 14 years experience in various leadership roles in military service to include Instructor Administrator, First level skills training, development



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WHAT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE CAN YOU OFFER TO STEER OUR ORG? EXAMPLES MIGHT INCLUDE STRATEGIC PLANNING, OPERATIONAL, OR PR/COMMUNICATIONS FROM CAREER OR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS.

and training plans, I have led multiple operations in the field and at home, such as deployments/redeployments of equipment and personnel. I have had to justify resources in both reports and stats, and successfully lead transformation of non compliant training programs to service-leading ones. References available upon request.

6. COLLABORATION IS CRUCIAL TO BE AN EFFECTIVE DIRECTOR: TASKS OFTEN INVOLVE STAFF, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, USHPA MEMBERS AND MORE. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE WHEN YOU HAVE COLLABORATED WITH OTHERS TO ACCOMPLISH A GOAL THAT TOOK AT LEAST SIX MONTHS TO FINISH? HOW DID YOU HANDLE CHALLENGES WITH REACHING CONSENSUS ALONG THE WAY?

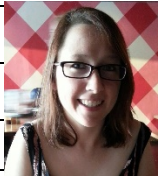
I've been fortunate to have a key part in a new pilot incubator that has been dubbed "the fledglings". Over 5 years our local Hang-2 to Hang-3 retention rate has gone from a dismal 2% to 44-64%. We've been successful in replicating this incubator model across the country to include Northern California, Southern California, South East US and the Great Lakes region. This program has not only upped retention but we've been able to recruit senior pilots and subject matter expert to give talks, do webinars, produce both written and other media content to help cover the knowledge and mentoring gap that many new pilots experience upon graduating their respective training programs.

7. WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE USHPA'S MEMBERS TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I love flying things! Been involved in Model Aviation for over 30 years, also fly as a private pilot, and as a new competitor in Aerobatic competition, and worked on and around large airplanes in the Air Force Reserve. I also have a ham radio technician class license (KJ6CBZ).



USHPA Director Candidate Questionnaire

NAME	Pam Kinnaird	
USHPA #	101090	
Flying		
WHICH REGION DO YOU LIVE IN?	2 No-CA, NV, UT	
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING THERE (AS A PILOT)?	5 years	
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN FLYING?	5 years	
HOW MANY HOURS DID YOU FLY LAST YEAR?	180	
HAVE YOU HAD ANY USHPA SUSPENSIONS OR REVOCATIONS?	No	
WHICH WING TYPE IS YOUR PRIMARY?	Paraglider	
WHAT FLYING SITE DO YOU CALL HOME AND WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT IT?	In the Bay Area, we are blessed to have a number of flying sites, so it's tough for me to pick just one that I call home. I love to hike and fly at Ed Levin, Mission Peak, Mt. Diablo and Mt. Vaca. Flying our coastal sites is always such a joy too, especially when the whales are feeding offshore.	
WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE SPORT OF FREE FLIGHT?	Earlier this year I had the honor to serve as team lead for the US National Team at the FAI Paragliding World Championships. This opportunity gave me unique perspective on how other nations are organized around free flight, which I hope to leverage in my work on the USHPA BoD.	
Experience		
1. WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON USHPA'S BOARD?	My work here is not done.	
2. PLEASE LIST ANY PRIOR EXPERIENCE SERVING ON THE USHPA BOARD OR COMMITTEES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Director since 2022- Treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee for 2023- Committee member - Insurance Sub-committee (2022-2023), Technology & Innovation (2023), Awards (2023)- Project lead for Electronic Logbook, Investment Policy refresh- Work to represent the needs of USHPA members to the RRRG	



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3. IF YOU AREN'T CURRENTLY SERVING ON A COMMITTEE, WHICH ONE(S) WOULD YOU SEE YOURSELF SERVING ON AS A DIRECTOR, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, AND WHAT RELEVANT PRIOR EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE?

I plan to continue serving on my current committees - Finance, Insurance, Technology, Awards.

4. HAVE YOU SERVED ON OTHER BOARDS, OR VOLUNTEERED FOR OTHER NONPROFITS, BEFORE?

I served as a board member of the Penn State Master Gardeners in 2012 - 2013. I served as Vice President of the Bay Area Paragliding Association (BAPA) in 2020 and in 2021 as Vice President of Wings of Rogallo (WOR), one of the largest free-flight clubs in the country.

5. USHPA IS A UNIQUE NONPROFIT, WITH HIGHLY INVESTED VOLUNTEERS PLAYING KEY ROLES IN ADVANCING THE ORGANIZATION OVER THE YEARS. WHAT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE CAN YOU OFFER TO STEER OUR ORG? EXAMPLES MIGHT INCLUDE STRATEGIC PLANNING, OPERATIONAL, OR PR/COMMUNICATIONS FROM CAREER OR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS.

Prior to my work with USHPA, I ran fundraising events for non-profit orgs which included recruiting and managing volunteers, proposing and reporting on budget, sourcing materials, site selection & layouts and advertising.

Over the course of my career, I've driven quarterly and yearly strategic planning for many of my software engineering teams. I managed budgets and scheduling of internal staff and 3rd party contractors for multiple \$1M+ projects during my time in software consulting.

6. COLLABORATION IS CRUCIAL TO BE AN EFFECTIVE DIRECTOR: TASKS OFTEN INVOLVE STAFF, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, USHPA MEMBERS AND MORE. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE WHEN YOU HAVE COLLABORATED WITH OTHERS TO ACCOMPLISH A GOAL THAT TOOK AT LEAST SIX MONTHS TO FINISH? HOW DID YOU HANDLE CHALLENGES WITH REACHING CONSENSUS ALONG THE WAY?

Setting up co-housing communities, founding companies, multi-year long enterprise resource planning software projects.

7. WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE USHPA'S MEMBERS TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns or ideas.



USHPA Director Candidate Questionnaire

NAME	Julia Knowles
USHPA #	93917
Flying	
WHICH REGION DO YOU LIVE IN?	1 AK, HI, IA, ID, MN, MT, ND, NE, OR, SD, WA, WY
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING THERE (AS A PILOT)?	9 years
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN FLYING?	9 years
HOW MANY HOURS DID YOU FLY LAST YEAR?	Not Enough!
HAVE YOU HAD ANY USHPA SUSPENSIONS OR REVOCATIONS?	No
WHICH WING TYPE IS YOUR PRIMARY?	Paraglider
WHAT FLYING SITE DO YOU CALL HOME AND WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT IT?	Jackson, WY. I love flying in this beautiful, rugged high alpine environment. It's a joy to thermal up over terrain I ski in the winter. Honorable mention for Point of the Mountain, my "second home" and ideal spot to knock the rust off each spring!
WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE SPORT OF FREE FLIGHT?	I love this sport and community deeply; I appreciate the obscure and beautiful nooks and crannies of the American West it has brought me to so far. I look forward to remaining involved in my local and national communities for many years to come and encourage pilots everywhere to share their stoke while helping each other progress in a safe and informed way. There's always more to learn, and always something to learn from those around you!
Experience	
1. WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON USHPA'S BOARD?	I'm wrapping up my first two-year term and have learned lots about the org and our membership. I'd like to continue serving now that I have gotten oriented and feel I can be more impactful with work that directly benefits members.
2. PLEASE LIST ANY PRIOR EXPERIENCE SERVING ON THE USHPA BOARD OR COMMITTEES.	Board Secretary: January 2023-present Board Member: January 2022-present Women's Ad-Hoc Committee: founding member, early 2023-present





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3. IF YOU AREN'T CURRENTLY SERVING ON A COMMITTEE, WHICH ONE(S) WOULD YOU SEE YOURSELF SERVING ON AS A DIRECTOR, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, AND WHAT RELEVANT PRIOR EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE?

I'd like to contribute more to the chapter support committee, having volunteered for my local chapter for 5 years now. Chapters are a really important way to reach members, set a positive culture, share knowledge, and ensure continued access to sites..

4. HAVE YOU SERVED ON OTHER BOARDS, OR VOLUNTEERED FOR OTHER NONPROFITS, BEFORE?

Yes! I have served as President of the Jackson Hole Free Flight Club for 5 years now, and have worked a bit with local nonprofit Teton Adaptive as well.

5. USHPA IS A UNIQUE NONPROFIT, WITH HIGHLY INVESTED VOLUNTEERS PLAYING KEY ROLES IN ADVANCING THE ORGANIZATION OVER THE YEARS. WHAT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE CAN YOU OFFER TO STEER OUR ORG? EXAMPLES MIGHT INCLUDE STRATEGIC PLANNING, OPERATIONAL, OR PR/COMMUNICATIONS FROM CAREER OR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS.

My professional background is in administrative management, handling employee communications as well as strategic planning, recruiting, hiring, and onboarding a huge seasonal staff. Doing so successfully requires an eye to the future, anticipating how we expect our product line to change and how that might impact our staffing needs next year, for example.

Asking the right questions is a powerful tool for steering a successful org: Is this still the most effective way to communicate with our 700 staff? How to we best update our training program to reflect changes in the candidate pool we observe over time? As USHPA grows and the needs of our members change, it is important to apply a similar approach to ensure we remain relevant and apply our time and resources effectively to directly ensure the future of free flight in the U.S.

6. COLLABORATION IS CRUCIAL TO BE AN EFFECTIVE DIRECTOR: TASKS OFTEN INVOLVE STAFF, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, USHPA MEMBERS AND MORE. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE WHEN YOU HAVE COLLABORATED WITH OTHERS TO ACCOMPLISH A GOAL THAT TOOK AT LEAST SIX MONTHS TO FINISH? HOW DID YOU HANDLE CHALLENGES WITH REACHING CONSENSUS ALONG THE WAY?

Sure! I developed an entirely new process to get our staff of 700 ski school employees interviewed, hired, fitted for uniforms, and trained at the start of each winter ski season. Doing so involved lots of moving pieces, including managers of 12 different product zones, our corporate HR department, and our marketing team who transitioned us to a new brand of uniform supplier. The process I developed incorporated a new scheduling platform and e-signature software, moving us away from old paper hire packets and 3-hour wait times to complete the onboarding process. Staff now enjoy 10-minute appointments where they can complete many items in advance from home, saving time and frustration and ensuring a higher level of accuracy of our record-keeping too.

Pulling this off was a challenge! I worked with our marketing and HR teams for close to a year to talk



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through workflows, seek buy-in and understand their needs as I went. The back-and-forth was crucial to success, helping me avoid hiccups that were easier to anticipate as a team. To succeed, I needed buy-in from the impacted staff, too: some have worked this job for decades, and were accustomed to the same routine for many years. I began communicating out the simplest overview of the new process many months in advance, adding more detail to the basic outline as we approached hiring season, and provided numerous opportunities for feedback along the way.

Challenges certainly came up along the way with reaching consensus. My approach to such is to return to the basics: what do we absolutely know we need to accomplish here? What are the various paths we can take to get there? Which paths can we obviously eliminate? From there, sometimes it can be best to let things percolate before moving forward. Have all involved parties take a step back to reflect, and oftentimes consensus can become easier to identify. Sometimes, the more we drag on the debate, the more entrenched we become in our own opinions. Debriefing afterwards is also helpful: was this the best way to solve the challenge? What can we tweak to improve it for next time? Not only does this make for better outcomes; it also keeps all involved parties engaged by building in a chance to share perspective.

7. WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE USHPA'S MEMBERS TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I'm thrilled to be back out flying after some big health issues last year! This season, I have really enjoyed reconnecting with old friends and meeting some new ones at launch and in the LZ. It's been a real pleasure to return to some old haunts and explore some new sites, too. I hope to share some flights with many of you still this year, and am optimistic about the work currently happening behind the scenes at USHPA to better serve our membership into the future.



USHPA Director Candidate Questionnaire

NAME	Nelissa Milfeld	
USHPA #	104273	
Flying		
WHICH REGION DO YOU LIVE IN?	3 So-CA, AZ, CO, NM	
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING THERE (AS A PILOT)?	2.5 years	
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN FLYING?	2.5 years	
HOW MANY HOURS DID YOU FLY LAST YEAR?	250	
HAVE YOU HAD ANY USHPA SUSPENSIONS OR REVOCATIONS?	No	
WHICH WING TYPE IS YOUR PRIMARY?	Paraglider	
WHAT FLYING SITE DO YOU CALL HOME AND WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT IT?	I am very lucky to call Boulder, Colorado, my home site. Our site is special because of the incredible community of pilots who live here. The pilots are equally passionate about the sport as they are supporting each other. I have not come across a community as awesome as we have here!	
WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE SPORT OF FREE FLIGHT?	I love free flight and am grateful for having discovered this incredible sport. I am very active pilot who travels nationally and internationally to chase paragliding adventures.	
Experience		
1. WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON USHPA'S BOARD?	I hope to continue to serve as a voice to members and to help our sport grow.	
2. PLEASE LIST ANY PRIOR EXPERIENCE SERVING ON THE USHPA BOARD OR COMMITTEES.	I have been on the Board for the past 2 years.	
3. IF YOU AREN'T CURRENTLY SERVING ON A COMMITTEE, WHICH ONE(S) WOULD YOU SEE YOURSELF SERVING ON AS A DIRECTOR, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, AND WHAT RELEVANT PRIOR EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE?	I am currently the Director of Communications. In this role, I manage the communications between USHPA and the public. As a criminal defense and divorce lawyer, I have extensive experience in communicating with people from a variety of backgrounds and addressing difficult issues. This role is important because how we communicate with others impacts how our organization is viewed.	



4. HAVE YOU SERVED ON OTHER BOARDS, OR VOLUNTEERED FOR OTHER NONPROFITS, BEFORE?

Yes, I have served on the Community Corrections Board. I have also worked for the Ronald McDonald House and United Way.

5. USHPA IS A UNIQUE NONPROFIT, WITH HIGHLY INVESTED VOLUNTEERS PLAYING KEY ROLES IN ADVANCING THE ORGANIZATION OVER THE YEARS. WHAT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE CAN YOU OFFER TO STEER OUR ORG? EXAMPLES MIGHT INCLUDE STRATEGIC PLANNING, OPERATIONAL, OR PR/COMMUNICATIONS FROM CAREER OR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS.

My job as an attorney involves research, writing, and communicating on complex issues. I am most useful in a PR/communications role.

6. COLLABORATION IS CRUCIAL TO BE AN EFFECTIVE DIRECTOR: TASKS OFTEN INVOLVE STAFF, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, USHPA MEMBERS AND MORE. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE WHEN YOU HAVE COLLABORATED WITH OTHERS TO ACCOMPLISH A GOAL THAT TOOK AT LEAST SIX MONTHS TO FINISH? HOW DID YOU HANDLE CHALLENGES WITH REACHING CONSENSUS ALONG THE WAY?

I regularly collaborate with large teams on cases. These teams include investigators, attorneys, paralegals, and experts. While we always share the goal of best representing our clients, we often have different ideas on how to get to this goal. Collaborating with others is absolutely necessary.

7. WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE USHPA'S MEMBERS TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

Above all, I LOVE to fly. I am passionate about paragliding and the community.
