

# ***POPULAR ROTORCRAFT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES***

## **Christine Toevs--**

Christine has been a PRA member since 2011 and a Board Member since 2018. She is an active gyro kit builder and a private pilot in a single and modern tandem machine. She has also served at several events as a gyro judge for awards. Christine is currently President of the BOD and has seen PRA through a difficult transition period. She is also trying to find relevance for PRA in an era of modern factory gyro pilots with no interest in belonging to PRA, and also low-budget wanna-bees trying to build or restore simple SAFE designs to fly safely on a shoestring budget.

Christine plans to serve one more term on the BOD to help guide new members with her experience and continuity. She assists with convention planning and activities, as well as writes event reports and interviews for the e-Zine content. She estimates she can spend ten hours a month on PRA.

Christine wishes to serve on the BOD as she believes she has gained some experience to help transition a new BOD forward to our re-vitalized future serving budget (legacy) gyro owners and attract modern gyro owners with value experiences. She still believes in and is enthusiastic for our national rotorcraft organization.

## **Brent Drake--**

Brent has been a PRA member since the early 2000's and a Board Member for the last several years, serving as a Past President and currently the Vice President. Brent also served as the chair of our raffles. He is currently an active gyroplane instructor with the capability to do inspections and repairs on gyros. Brent has been a contributor to the National Convention as well as promoting PRA with flight instruction. He states that he can contribute several hours a month to BOD activities. He states that he isn't sure he can improve anything, but is willing to try.

## **Jeff Flora--**

Jeff has been a PRA member since 2018 and is currently serving as the Treasurer. He has been a PRA Board Member as well as served on his local School Board. Jeff created and managed a small business for the last 32 years. He is a current gyro instructor and has provided discovery flights during the convention for the past few years. Jeff has also assisted with planning the annual convention.

Jeff plans to serve the PRA and the BOD with regular attendance, treasury, and assist with preparations for the convention. He states that he can provide several hours a month to dedicate to BOD activities.

Jeff wishes to serve on the BOD as he would like to see the group grow by exploring ways to add value to being a member. He also promotes local community involvement in the airport and additional runway improvements.

## **Jane Feldman--**

Jane has been a member of PRA since 2008, but has worked with PRA since 2004. For the past four years, she has served as BOD Secretary. She is also the current PRA Mentone Airport Manager and PRA Office Manager. Jane has served as Convention Chair for several conventions. By living close to the office and airport, she can keep them both functioning and do the preparations and legwork for the annual convention.

Jane states that she can provide secretarial and promotional ideas as well as continue to assist with planning the convention. She will provide services and assistance where needed. As many hours as needed is her commitment to PRA.

Jane wishes to continue to provide PRA with secretarial and organizational assistance. She doesn't fly but enjoys aircraft and wants to promote rotorcraft enthusiasm. Her desire is to see PRA and rotorcraft grow.

### **Denis Schoemaker--**

Denis has been a member of PRA since 2010 and a BOD member for the last few years. He is currently a mechanical designer and machinist whose skills are used for his gyroplane kit manufacturing at GyroTechnic. He has a large gyroplane display every year at the annual convention as well as other fly-ins.

Denis states that he has contributed to the BOD and will contribute by submitting customer build projects for PRA publications. He currently offers discounts to PRA members on his website. Denis has provided content for our runway project as well as a pilot briefing and seminar presenter. When asked how much a month he can contribute, he stated 10-20+ hours.

Denis wishes to serve on the PRA BOD as he has been a very strong supporter of the PRA, as it provided the contact needed to pursue the sport that he loves. As a gyroplane manufacturer, it is in his best interest to draw as many people into the club and to the conventions as possible for sales, promotion, safety and FUN.

### **Doug Smith--**

Doug has been a PRA member since 2008 and a member of the BOD since 2018. He started flying PPC in 2005 and then, in 2008, transitioned to flying gyroplanes. He has been coming to Mentone since 2008 and hasn't missed an event since. If re-elected to the BOD, Doug feels he can contribute his experience in planning and organizing the contests at Mentone. He creates YouTube and Facebook videos to promote PRA and PRA Mentone Airport. Doug travels to other gyro events for exhibitions and promoting PRA as well as the safety of gyroplanes.

Doug states that he can spend 3-5 hours a month doing BOD activities as he is still working full-time as an electrical contractor and equipment rental owner. He states that he wishes to serve on the BOD as he is very active in flying and promoting the safety and skill set of these aircraft. Doug has traveled and participated in airshows and promotions in PA, OH, NC, MI, IN, OR, and FL. He has flown in showcase demonstrations at Sun & Fun and Chopper Town. He currently owns three gyroplanes (Sportcopter, Xenon, and ELA).

### **Tyler Menzie--**

Tyler has been a PRA member since 2022 and a BOD member since 2024. He has practically grown up in the sport. He is currently a professional software engineer and helps manage high-level work at his job. Currently, he is giving insight into new technologies to leverage new systems to better provide services and support for members and staff.

If re-elected to the BOD, Tyler wishes to continue to provide tech knowledge and services, as well as videography and promotion through YouTube videos. He feels he can provide approximately 20 hours per month to PRA. Tyler feels that seeing the PRA's name and image pretty much his whole life and the sport being such a big part of his life, he feels like help keep the sport/PRA active. He has skills that can help them to continue to grow and start their growth in the future, and more into the digital world.

### **Brian Kopp--**

Brian has been a PRA member since the Fall of 2024. He is a retired podiatrist and writer. He doesn't have a longstanding history of working with or flying gyroplanes, but is actively helping to restore and build the grassroots community. Brian has been assisting with editing the Rotorcraft e-Zine. He is also

promoting gyro home builds and upgrading legacy barn finds. He has created the PRA Grassroots Facebook page.

Brian feels he could commit to providing home-built Gyrobee build log videos and creating content regarding gyro gliding for the website if elected to the BOD. He is retired, so he states that whatever is needed within the limits of his ability, he will provide to PRA each month. Brian states that he is already involved and will continue to be involved, so that would be an advantage to being on the BOD.

### **John Anderson--**

John has been a PRA member since 2005. He has been flying gyros since 2005 and building gyros since 2007. If elected to the BOD, he feels he can help to contribute to event planning and promotion ideas. When asked how many hours a month he can dedicate to BOD activities, he stated 5-10. John feels he can make a difference for the PRA.

### **Mitchel Jones--**

Mitchel had been a member previously and renewed again in 2024. He states that he has been a gyro enthusiast for over 15 years. He's an entrepreneur and has run his own business for 20 years. His background is in film-making and commercial videography as well as social media marketing. If elected to the BOD, Mitchel states he would love to bring his video production skills to the organization. He would also work to increase members and help promote gyroplanes within and outside of the aviation community.

Mitchel is self-employed and has a certain degree of flexibility in his schedule to dedicate to BOD activities. He states that a handful of hours each week, or as needed when events require more attention, could be committed. He believes his involvement on the PRA BOD will allow the organization to reach a broader audience through video and social media engagement, which is critical for growth. He also believes his skill set in videography will benefit the organization by providing a catalog of gyro-related videos that can help convey the mission of the organization and expand upon it while educating those who are new to gyros and aviation.