



**FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE
INTERNATIONALE
Ballooning Commission**

Hall of Fame

**JACQUES W SOUKUP &
KIRK S THOMAS
INDUCTED 2006**



JACQUES W. SOUKUP

Virgin Islands
Sport balloonist
Inducted 2006
16 Oct. 1950, Tyndall, SD

KIRK S. THOMAS

Virgin Islands
Sport balloonist
Inducted 2006

Jacques Soukup and Kirk Thomas have been avid balloon pilots, supporters of ballooning and collectors of ballooning memorabilia for decades. Both pilots flew hot air balloons, gas balloons and hot air airships. In their most active ballooning years they were owners of the world's largest fleet of privately owned balloons.

Jacques Soukup has competed in British and US national championships as well as many gas ballooning competitions. He is past President of the CIA and has served on the BFA Gas Events Committee. Soukup was awarded the Tissandier Diploma in 1990.

Kirk Thomas served as a Vice President of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), then in Paris, in the 1990s. He also served as Secretary of the FAI Aviation and Space Education Commission for 10 years and is an FAI Companion of Honour.

The ballooning memorabilia that Soukup and Thomas collected is now a major part of the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum.