

Albuquerque Aerostat Ascension Association





OUR HISTORY

PROMOTING HOT-AIR BALLOONING THROUGH EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

Founded in November 1971, the Albuquerque Aerostat Ascension Association (AAAA or "Quad-A") emerged from a collective passion for hot air ballooning. Initially conceived by a group of local enthusiasts eager to explore the sport, AAAA swiftly grew into the largest community ballooning organization globally. With its headquarters nestled in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the club played a pivotal role in propelling the city to international acclaim as the esteemed "Balloon Capital of the World."

As the ballooning community flourished, AAAA remained steadfast in its commitment to nurturing the sport's growth and fostering a supportive environment for enthusiasts. In 1991, recognizing the need for ongoing education and development, a spin-off organization, originally known as the Albuquerque Lighter Than Air Association (ALTAA), was established. Dedicated to providing educational resources and ground schools for both certified pilots and aspiring adventurers, ALTAA later rebranded as the AAAA Education Foundation, aligning itself with its parent organization's mission.

Today, the AAAA Education Foundation operates as a nonprofit 501(c)3 charity, working hand in hand with the 501(c)7 AAAA Social Organization to advance the collective interests of hot air ballooning enthusiasts worldwide. At AAAA, we inform, encourage, and support our members, empowering them to take flight and embrace the exhilarating world of hot air ballooning.





AAAA ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY

WHAT WE DO

Members of AAAA participate actively in the ballooning community and in cities throughout the state of New Mexico, including Albuquerque & Rio Rancho. These are just a few examples of our involvement:

- Balloon ride donations to various local charities
- · Providing Youth Balloon Camp Scholarships
- Monthly Flying Events in Rio Rancho and Albuquerque -Public is always welcome!
- Volunteers from AAAA help with activities at the Balloon Museum, the Balloon Explorium, during Fiesta, and at other ballooning events & rallies throughout the state
- Hot-Air Balloon appearances at local business grand openings, non-profit fundraisers, educational events
- Periodic canned goods and school supply drives during our monthly events
- Albuquerque Aloft visiting / inflating at various schools and educating students the day before Fiesta begins
- Private & Commercial Pilot Ground Schools
- · Continuing Education for Pilots
- Balloon Crew Development Classes
- Safety Seminars (including the full-day seminar with 300+ international participants during Balloon Fiesta week)
- Online Courses for Pilots & Crew
- ...and more!

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOUR ORGANIZATION INVOLVED WITH AAAA AS A SPONSOR...

Let's Chat About Which Sponsorship Package Fits with Your Business Objectives!

Please Contact Cynthia at:

Ways-Means@HotAirBallooning.org or (505) 382-6700

"When once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward. For there you have been, and there you will always long to return."

Leonardo da Vinci