



Greater Mesilla Valley Aerostat Ascension Association

Who We Are: We are a social club with the goal of supporting and promoting the sport of flying hot air balloons in the Mesilla Valley and southern New Mexico. We are balloon pilots, their families, crew members, and most of all, good friends!

What We Do: We have monthly dinner meetings and ballooning events (fly-outs).

Monthly Meetings: The third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. We plan events, discuss new and old business, and enjoy each other's company.

Ballooning Events: Each month, we have a club fly-out on a Saturday or Sunday morning. We also participate in rallies in Las Cruces, Deming, Anthony, Artesia, Roswell, Gallup, and of course the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. The club conducts an annual safety seminar in April.

Why We Do It: Hot air ballooning is a team sport. It takes a crew and a pilot to set up, fly and land safely. If you like getting high legally, there is nothing like it. There is a mix of excitement, challenge, beauty, and fun with friends. When the balloon gently lifts off you don't know where it will land. All you know is that you will be amazed and awed when you touch the ground again. There is nothing like the feeling of floating hundreds of feet above the valley floating quietly (mostly) with the wind. And afterwards there is tailgating with food and champagne with friends; all before 9 or 10 in the morning.

How Do I Get Involved: Come out and crew for a balloon! Our very safe and experienced pilots and crews will help you get started by having you get your hands (gently) on a balloon, help inflate it, fly in it, and pack it up. Our pilots and crews have several hundred years of combined flying and crewing skills, so ask as many questions as you want, and know that we do our best to make everything as safe as possible. All flights are weather-permitting, but we try to fly as much as schedules and funding allow.

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