

# More Events

## The Good News Is: We're Having a Hot Air Balloon Festival in Bluff!

Most often news reports begin with a litany of sad, bad, or outrageous stories about the goings on locally and globally. But not this time. We're leading off with the best news of all:

The Business Owners of Bluff (BOB) is bringing back the annual hot air balloon festival. The 23rd Annual Bluff International Balloon Festival will soar across the skies of southeastern Utah January 14, 15, 16, 2022.

We're scheduling 17 pilots for sailing their gorgeous globes early Friday and Saturday mornings over Bluff;



Photos by Jennifer Davila

we'll have the annual Glow-in on Saturday night with music by Neon Nativez and then the pilots will show their colors over Valley of the Gods Sunday morning. BOB is planning a little fund-raising fun with chili and ice cream for sale during the Glow-in. The festivities will be colorful and full of wonder as always.



The weekend's events are all weather dependent and will be held OUTSIDE of the Bluff Community Center on 3rd East Street so be sure to have layers of warm clothing. We look forward to being back together, but we take the world situation seriously. BOB has asked pilots and sponsors to submit recent covid test results or proof of vaccination. We're recommending guests who come to watch wear their masks when in close proximity to others. BOB will follow any covid protocols in place at the time of the event.

### 23rd Annual Bluff International Balloon Festival January 14, 15, & 16, 2022

8am Friday and Saturday ~

Balloons fly over Bluff

8am Sunday ~ Balloons fly over Valley of the Gods

5pm Saturday ~ The Glow-in lights up Bluff featuring music by Neon Nativez and a Chili & Ice Cream fund raiser from 4-6

All events are weather permitting and take place OUTSIDE in the Community Center Park ~ 3rd East St Dress Warmly and wear a MASK please!

So, join us for the good stuff: a festival of fun and scenic wonder in a world that needs a little more color right now! For more information contact Steve: [steve@twinrocks.com](mailto:steve@twinrocks.com) 435-672-2341

## "We're an American Band" - Grand Funk Railroad coming to Grand Junction by Sharon Sullivan

The songs of Grand Funk Railroad – including major hits like "We're an American Band", "I'm Your Captain/Closer to Home", or "Some Kind of Wonderful" – continue to be played over the radio – particularly classic rock stations.

Grand Funk Railroad is coming to Grand Junction's Avalon Theatre, Thursday, January 27 – where you'll hear some of those old favorites as well as new previously unrecorded songs.

Founding member Don Brewer, who plays drums, sings and writes songs, founded Jazz Masters in 1969 in the basement of his home in Flint, Michigan. The band evolved into Grand Funk Railroad, named in part for the Grand Trunk Railroad and Western train that passed through Brewer's hometown of Flint.

By the mid-1960s, music was changing from what was known as "pop" to a sound referred to as "funk" – thus, the play on words to reflect the era's music. The name captured a lot of attention, Brewer said. "It's representative of where we came from," he said.

While Grand Funk Railroad's music has continued to be included on playlists over the decades, the original group disbanded in 1983. In 1996, the band reunited for a "Reunion Tour" to perform a series of benefit concerts for children left orphaned from the Bosnia War.

After the Bosnian tour two of the original members, Brewer and bassist Mel Schacher, decided to keep the band going. Max Carl – who Brewer calls "the best blue-eyed soul singer on the planet," joined the band, along with guitarist Bruce Kulick, who performed with KISS for 12 years previously. Keyboardist and backup singer Tim Cashion round out the band.

"It's not a new band," Brewer said. "This band as it exists now has been touring for 22 years."

"Grand Funk laid the groundwork for such bands as Foreigner, Journey, Van Halen and Bon Jovi with its signature hard driving sound, soulful vocals, muscular instrumentation and forceful pop melodies," according to concert promoter Sandstone Entertainment in Grand Junction.



The band's mega-hit "We're an American Band" has been used for movie soundtracks and television and radio advertising.

For tickets or more information visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), or charge by phone: 970-263-5757. Reserved seating starts at \$35 (plus service charges). The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

# 2022 Moab Area Events

Jan 14-17...Bluff Balloon Festival

Jan 29 .....Arches Ultra (9K, 50K, Half Marathon & 50 mile)

Feb 19.....Moab's Red Hot 55K/33K (Endurance Running)

Mar 12-15 ..Moab Skinny Tire Festival (road bike event)

Mar 19 .....Canyonlands Half Marathon and 5 Mile Run

Mar 26 .....Behind the Rocks Ultra (long distance footraces)

Apr 1-3...Green River Rock & Mineral Festival

Apr 2-4.....Moab Rocks (mountain bike race)

Apr 9.....Amasa Trail Race (15k, 25k)

Apr 9-17 .....Easter Jeep Safari

Apr 14-15 ..Jeep Safari Expo

Apr 27-May 1...Cruise Moab, Toyota 4x4 event

Apr 30 .....Moab Rotary Car Show

May 3-7 .....Bronco Safari

May 7 .....Gran Fondo Moab (road cycling)

May 21 .....Thelma & Louise 15k, Half Marathon, Marathon

May 22-27 .....gone Moab Nissan Offroad

May 28-29....Moab Arts Festival

Jun 3, 4, 5 .Canyonlands PRCA Rodeo

Jun 10-11 ..Kokopelli Relay (road cycling from Moab to St. George)

Jun 19-25 ..Desert Rats Kokopelli 150 (footrace from Fruita to Moab)

Jun 24 .....Moab Free Concert Series

Jun 25 .....Bears Ears Ultra, (Monticello)

Jul 29.....Moab Free Concert Series

Aug 10-13 .Grand County Fair

Aug 26.....Moab Free Concert Series

Sep 1-15 .....Moab Music Festival

Sep 3-5 .....RR4W Labor Day Campout (four-wheel drive event)

Sep 12-18 ..Full Size Invasion (4x4 offroad)

Sep 17 .....Golden Bears Ears Ultra, (Monticello)

Sep 16-17...Green River Melon Festival

Sep 17-18....Moab Century Tour (road bicycling event)

Sep 17-18 ....Red Sand Powwow

Sept 23-24 Ut High School Mt Bike Race

Sep 24 .....Youth Garden Harvest Festival

Sep 30-Oct 2..Outerbike (Mountain Bike Expo)

Oct 6 - 8 .....Rock, Gem & Mineral Show

Oct 7-11 .....Moab 240 Endurance Run

Oct 8.....Arches Marathon & Half, 15k

Oct 14-16..'Scots on the Rocks' Moab Celtic Festival

Oct 27-29...Jeep Jamboree

Oct 27-30....Moab Ho Down (mountain bike festival)

Oct 29-30.... Madness in Moab 24 hour (running events)

Oct 30.....Day of the Dead Celebration (multicultural event)

Oct 30-Nov 4 .....Moab Folk Camp

Oct 31 .....Trunk or Treat

Nov 4-6 .....Moab Folk Festival

Nov 4-7..... Moab Craggin' Classic (rock climbing event)

Nov 5-6 .....Moab Trail Marathon, Half Marathon, 5K & Kids K

Nov 19 .....Dead Horse Ultra (footrace 30k, 50k, 50 mile)

Dec 3.....Christmas Lights Parade