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June 2021

President's Message

Submitted by Mike Pearl, President

The number of group tours in Colorado is increasing, and RMGA members are getting back into the swing of leading motorcoach tours. And with motorcoaches comes the question of where to load and off-load the vehicles, especially in Denver. Check out the newly revised "Motor Coach Guidelines – Denver Central Business District: Parking Loading and Staging" for the latest information. You'll find it on the RMGA Website, Members Only page. Thanks to Vice President David White for preparing the update.

Since RMGA members lead groups to venues all over the area, such guidelines for other locations would be helpful. When you learn of requirements for motorcoaches anywhere you are guiding, please send them to David so that the information can be more inclusive.

Whenever you are out and about, stop by the venues and offices of those who have presented at meetings. Do say "hello" whether you're leading a tour or just passing by on your own journey. It's a very personal and direct way that we RMGA members can express our appreciation for their donation of time and expertise to us. A list of venues and presenters is located in the RMGA Website, Members Only page, Resources from Meetings, FAM Trips, and Seminars. This gesture is an effective way for you to develop your own network within the industry.

Thanks for attending the May RMGA meeting online. I appreciate your navigating the technology to join in. Ginger Hoolihan, Traffic Manager for the Broadmoor, Manitou and Pikes Peak Cog Railway, gave a very informative presentation on restoration of the historic BM&PP. She was appreciative of RMGA Members' interest and questions. Tom Jensen's computer skills kept us all connected. (Thanks, Tom!) J. Mark Blaising's outreach is resulting in some wonderful programs from around the state (Thanks, Mark!)

Like many businesses and organizations, the COVID-19 Pandemic has caused Rocky Mountain Guides Association to alter its means of operations. We are now gathering virtually via ZOOM for our monthly meetings. The Board of Directors has agreed to add "Meet and Greet" get-togethers during the summer months, a time when RMGA doesn't usually meet, for the opportunity for members to "check-in." An invitation for each meeting will be sent to members for meetings on the evening of the second Mondays of June, July, August, and September.

RMGA members need to determine in what ways the organization is beneficial to them, then join to actualize that vision. Please email your ideas and thoughts about the future direction of the organization to rmgapresident@rockymountaintourguides.com. -Mike Pearl, RMGA President

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FROM THE EDITOR

No regular *Guide Line* scheduled in July or August. Deadline for submissions for the September *Guide Line* is **Sunday, August 29**.

Future contributions should be emailed to *Guide Line* editor Eileen Pearl at rmgaeditor@rockymountaintourguides.com. If anyone has photos to share, please send them along with either a short description and/or names.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Membership Committee

Submitted by Mike Pearl, Membership Committee Chair

RMGA welcomes new Professional Member Ximena Pareja, and her Business Membership Xterra Tours. She and her husband Stan Markelov have retired to Colorado from New York state, but Ximena can't stop exploring the world around her. So, she's sharing her explorations of Colorado with her guests in her "next career." Welcome, Xterra, to RMGA!

<https://www.xerratours.com/>

Nominations Committee

No submission this month.

Program Committee

Next Membership Meeting Monday June 14. See June meeting information on page 12.

May Meeting recap – see page 13.

Public Relations Committee

Submitted by Tom Jensen.

Seventh in a Series on the history of RMGA written in preparation for the RMGA 20th Anniversary in 2013; originally published in April, 2013.

KUDOS!!!!...BARBARA FOOS!!! *RMGA is honored to have Barbara Foos serve as President of National Federation of Tourist Guide Associations [NFTGA]* for this year. She describes it as a humbling experience although she has held many leadership positions over time. Barbara has been involved in the **Molly Brown House Museum (MBHM)** Advisory Council (Chair), the MBHM Volunteer Council (President), Denver Area PanHellenic Council (President) as well as with the Alpha Gamma Delta Alumni Chapter. When her children were young, she was active in Youth Club Sports as well.

Growing up near LaSalle, Colorado, Barbara saw her mother's involvement in many community activities. Her mother and other women in the area were contributing to their community institutions in many vital ways. These women were her inspiration and service was going to be a way of life also for her.

As a young woman, armed with a degree in Mathematics and a minor in Home Economics, she set off to see the world with her husband **Larry Foos**, who made a career in the United States Air Force. During their 21 years in the military, Barbara participated in many and varied activities as an Officer's wife. She contributed, and she learned.

Returning home to Colorado when Larry retired from the Air Force, Barbara made a list of museums she was considering for volunteering. Her mother had served as a Governess on North Pennsylvania Street while she was attending CU School of Commerce. Barbara remembered her speaking of Margaret Brown as the stories about Margaret continued into the '40s along the Pennsylvania St. Corridor. So it made sense that Barbara's first choice for volunteer service would be at the Molly Brown House Museum. Like so many volunteers there, Barbara found Margaret Brown was an interesting and inspiring woman – and a kindred spirit. Katie, Barbara's granddaughter, is currently a page with her grandmother at the Molly Brown House Museum. Her great-grandmother would be proud.

Barbara relates that early RMGA member **Don Fox** recommended to her and others at the Museum to get involved in RMGA to better understand Tourism from another viewpoint. She liked what she found in RMGA—the organization and the members. She has served RMGA well: President for 6 years, Vice-President/Program Chair for 2 years, Director-at-Large for 4 years and Public Relations Chair for several years.

Her job as President of the NFTGA Board of Directors will continue the mission of bringing Association like ours from all over the country together to share in a way that all can network and to learn from each other. There are many commonalities amongst Associations, but each one is unique and has something important to share.

Barbara will continue what other Presidents and Boards have begun—to *improve communications*.

Written by Mary Thompson, 20th Anniversary Chair, RMGA President [Mary passed away in 2014.]

Historic Denver



Historic Denver asked the residents of Denver to nominate 50 places, spaces, or resources that represent important stories of our past and are in need of preservation attention. This is to commemorate Historic Denver's 50th anniversary. To see all those who have been nominated go to: <https://historicdenver.org/50actions-50places/?fbclid=IwAR3G1Q5Z0DLuPDzcybvHcjuHDIWYzHpXoDbvusEVB6G14AHGIA8Ba5610Lk>. The nominations closed May 15th. In late May Historic Denver will announce the final list of 50 sites

Member Nancy Brueggeman thought members would be interested in these lesser known nominations.

Lake Steam Baths



Did you know that Denver's West Colfax neighborhood is home to one of the oldest Russian bathhouses in the United States? Lake Steam Baths at 3540 W. Colfax Avenue, founded by Harry and Ethel Hyman in 1927, is still owned and operated by members of the Hyman family. The Hymans immigrated to the United States from Russia in 1906. Originally known as the Lake Russian Baths, early advertisements touted the business as the "Most Modern Russian Bath House in the West." Just as today, men and women used the facilities on different days of the week. In late-2019 our Discover Denver volunteers documented the buildings of the West Colfax neighborhood, including the Lake Steam Baths.

Julia Greeley Home



If you look carefully behind the modern facade of the PlanOmatic building, located at 2911 Walnut Street, you can see hints of its past. The structure was once a boarding house and home to Denver's "Angel of Charity," Julia Greeley. After she was freed from slavery by Missouri's Emancipation Act of 1865, she began earning money by serving white families in Missouri, New Mexico, and Wyoming, but spent most of her time here in Denver. Greeley would later be called a "one-person St. Vincent de Paul Society", because she began assisting poor families in her neighborhood, giving away whatever she didn't need.

Greeley would conduct most of her charity work under the cover of darkness, to help avoid embarrassment for those she assisted. She helped provide food, fuel, and clothing, even begging for these items for others if her own resources weren't enough. Greeley was an enthusiastic member of the Catholic Church, joining Denver's Sacred Heart Parish in 1880, followed by the Secular Franciscan Order in 1901. Because she lived in a boarding house when she died in 1918, her body was laid out in her church, where hundreds of people turned out to pay their respects. Greeley was canonized in 2016 and her remains were transferred to Denver's Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in 2017

Aztlan Theatre



First called the Santa Fe Theatre, this Mission Revival-style movie house first opened its doors in 1927, during the silent film era. It cost \$150,000 to construct, could seat over 1,100 people, and included a full stage for vaudeville shows. Driving past the theatre today, it is easy to see that the facade has faded from its former glory days. Though the original marquee is gone, the original Santa Fe Theatre signs remain,

one hanging vertically over the front entrance and the other displayed horizontally across the upper facade. The theatre served the La Alma Lincoln Park neighborhood, becoming a hub of

entertainment for the Chicano community, showing movies until the 1970s. In 1972, the theatre was purchased by Tim Correa, an activist in the Denver Chicano Movement. Correa changed the name to Aztlan, which is the mythical homeland of the Aztecs and reclaimed ancestral home by Chicanos. The theatre was only one of three in Denver to regularly show Spanish-language Mexican films during the 1970s and early 80s. In 1987, the Aztlan began hosting musical events featuring rock and Mexican bands.

Historic Denver Upcoming Events:

The Denver We Saved - June 3rd
Advocacy Update: Winona Court
Capitol Crossroads Scavenger Hunt - June 17th - 20th
Molly Brown House Museum Director's Tour - June 22nd
Our Summer Walking Tours are back. New Tours have been added.

See the Historic Denver website for more information <https://historicdenver.org/>

RMGA Facebook Group



The RMGA Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RMGAssoc> is active once again. Members can post an item of interest to share with the other members. Perhaps it is a photo from your last tour, fall colors in the Rockies, a shot of you quarantining at your kitchen table, or a pet that has become part of your family. This will be a quicker way to communicate among members.

Be sure to subscribe to our Facebook group. It is not limited to only Members. Invite your friends.

Website Committee

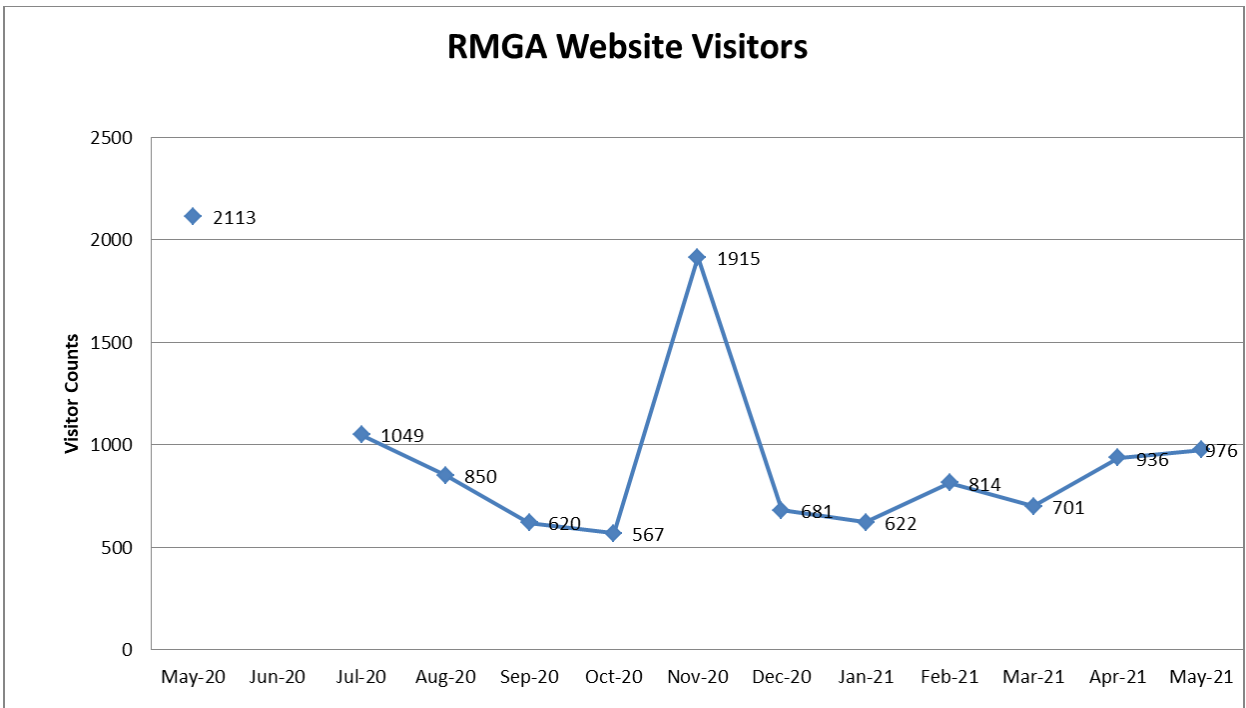
What's New on the Members Only Page?

These updates have been made to the website since the May report:

- *Verified and updated that Profile listings are the member's name*
- *Added May Program to Members Only page*

Monthly Visitors to the RMGA Website

The monthly visitor to our website remains constant. As of May 30th, the May count is 936, up 40 from the end of March.



YouTube Channels

The recordings of the Zoom monthly member meetings and programs are now available on YouTube. Because one of the benefits as a member is access to the research materials presented at the meetings, these recordings are only available if you have the link. The link is under 2020 or 2021 Program Reviews on the Member Only page. For many programs there is also a link to the PowerPoint slide deck or other reference material.

Now if you were not able to attend a program, you can view the business meeting and the program.

E-mail distribution

The distribution of e-mails continues to be done on a temporary basis. If anyone is interested in sending out the e-mail blasts, contact Mike Pearl at rmgapresident@rockymountaintourguides.com. The contact list is current with the membership roster. If you are not receiving e-mails please contact Tom Jensen @ rmgacommunications@rockymountaintourguides.com.

Upcoming Industry Events

Submitted by Tom Jensen

Upcoming Industry Events



Partner Spotlight

June 9, 2020
9:00AM

President Mike Pearl will be telling Visit Denver Partners the services provided by RMGA Members.

Additional details will be sent by e-mail



2021 Santa Fe Trail Bicentennial Symposium

2021 will mark the 200th year since William Becknell and his trading companions traveled from Franklin, Missouri, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, resulting in the opening of a route of commerce that would continue for the next sixty years.

The symposium will present living history at Bent's Old Fort NHS, speakers, tours of Southeast Colorado, social events. It is an opportunity to learn more about this part of Colorado.

For more information: <http://2021sfts.com/index.html>



2021 Colorado Governor's Tourism Conference

The 2021 Colorado Governor's Tourism Conference has moved! The conference will now be held at the Pueblo Convention Center Nov. 4–5, 2021

In order to accommodate the needs of the industry during this time, GovCon 2021 will be offered in a two-day format at a reduced rate. We can't wait to finally see you again and convene together for a fun-filled, information-packed conference.

The CTO has postponed its plans for GovCon in Snowmass as The Westin undergoes renovations, but save the date as GovCon will be in Snowmass Sept. 20–23, 2022, in a beautifully updated space. Keep an eye out for more GovCon information to come, and we will see you in Pueblo!



E-Bulletin May 18, 2021

- **Restart Destinations Program** – Jun 17, applications close - <https://oedit.colorado.gov/colorado-recovery-assistance-for-tourism>
- **Bike Travel Weekend** – Jun 4-6 - <https://www.adventurecycling.org/resources/bike-travel-weekend/>
- **Unintended Issues of Traffic Management Plans in Parks** – <https://js.sagamorepub.com/jpra/article/view/10746>
- **POEM: One Mile at a Time** – by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer <https://www.codot.gov/travel/scenic-byways/colorado-byways-2020-symposium>



Southern Colorado Tourism Summit

Tentative Date Oct 13th – Oct 15th, 2021

For the itinerary and additional information see <https://socotourismsummit.com/>

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

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Rocky Mountain Guides Association

Submitted by Mike Pearl, President

RMGA Facebook Page

Another way for members to communicate with each other is the RMGA Facebook page. Find it at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RMGAssoc>. It's a great place for members to post pictures and tidbits of information that we all can use.

RMGA Leadership Opportunities

Members are encouraged to volunteer to lead these committees:

- Certification (Must have the RMGA Colorado Certification)
- Email Blasts

The Board of Directors is seeking a Secretary. Contact any Board member with your interest.

NFTGA LEADERSHIP MEETINGS AND TOURISM

Submitted by Mike Pearl, President

RMGA is a member of the National Federation of Tourist Guides (NFTGA), a collective of local tourist guides associations and guilds across the US. From time to time, RMGA Members receive notices (including a member-written quarterly newsletter the *National Standard*) from NFTGA via our email Blast system.

President Ellen Malasky has been hosting monthly virtual meetings of representatives of the local associations because of the COVID-19 situation. I have been attending these virtual meetings to represent RMGA. The latest meeting occurred May 19, 2021:

- NFTGA is seeking local association members to run for election as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and (3) Director at Large. Email president Ellen Malasky president@nftga.com if you are willing to run or if you want to serve on the nominating committee.
- NFTGA will host its biennial conference January 26-28, 2022 in San Antonio, Texas. See <https://www.nftga.com/> for presenters, workshops, and registration information.

To see resources for tour guides, go to NFTGA's [Guide Resources](#).

JUNE MEMBERS MEETING June 14, 2021



WHAT: tripadvisor Opportunities

WHEN: June 14, 2021

6:00pm – Networking

6:30pm – Short Meeting

6:45pm – Program:

WHERE: Via Zoom: Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/92379898143>

PROGRAM: David Nesbitt will introduce and explore the opportunities for tour operators to connect with and interact with their customers on the TripAdvisor website. The importance of reviews, owner responses, photos, and answered questions will be highlighted. Finally, the ability to offer tours for sale on TripAdvisor and Viator will be discussed.

David Nesbitt is a software engineer that has spent a number of years working in the online travel industry with Virtual Tourist, Trippy, and over eight years with TripAdvisor. He is an avid traveller and guided tour enthusiast.

REFRESHMENT: Provide your own!

DIRECTIONS: To Join the Meeting click on link or copy it to your browser: . You may start to join the meeting at 5:50 pm. click on “Join” in the invitation, enter the necessary codes, and wait to be admitted.

PARKING: Your garage, driveway, or curbside.

GUESTS: Members are encouraged to invite potential members as a guest to the meeting.

CONTACT: J. Mark Blaising, Program Chair 303-830-8440 (voice) 303-263-8647 (text)

MAY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM REVIEW

Broadmoor Manitou and Pikes Peak Cog Railway”

On May 10th, Ginger Hoolahan, Traffic Manager, THE BROADMOOR Manitou & Pikes Peak Railway Co. and gave us a pre-opening update on the new Pikes Peak Cog Railroad. The Railroad opened on May 20th. The new Pikes Peak Summit Visitor Center is set to open in June.



Ginger’s Program is viewable on YouTube. For Members not able to attend the May meeting (or those who want to review the presentation), here is the recording:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hv57Q-4StKc>

The link of the Zoom recording is also available on the Members Only page of the RMGA website. Scroll down to the 2021 Program Review link. By clicking on it, you’ll have access to recordings of all programs this year.

Guest speaker Ginger Hoolahan's contact information:

Ginger Hoolahan
Traffic Manager
THE BROADMOOR Manitou & Pikes Peak Railway Co.
515 Ruxton Avenue 1 PO Box 351
Manitou Springs, CO 80829
O: (719) 476-6779 M: (719) 290-4130

Email: ghoolahan@broadmoor.com

Website: www.cograilway.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Board of Directors Meetings

Monday, June 7, 2021 (10:00 am)

Tuesday, September 7, 2021 (10:00 am)

(Meetings via ZOOM; email Webmaster Committee Co-Chair [Tom Jensen](#) for an invitation)

All Members are welcome and invited to attend.

MEMBERS MEETINGS

Member Meetings

Monday, June 14, 2021 (6:30 pm)

Monday, July 12, 2021 (6:30 pm)

Monday, August 9, 2021 (6:30 pm)

Monday, September 13, 2021 (6:30 pm)

(Meetings via ZOOM; an invitation to attend will be emailed to Members)

Additional Member Meetings

The RMGA Board of Directors has agreed to host monthly chat sessions during June, July, August, and September, when RMGA doesn't usually meet. The social events will be held via Zoom and are meant to keep members connected. Please invite possible guide/members to attend.

MEMBER BIOGRAPHY

Submitted by RMGA Member Terence O'Hare

RMGA Member Terence O'Hare, Certified ITMI Tour Director, Tour Guide, Concierge, and Event Coordinator and Planner is now also a Certified Travel Advisor working towards Certification as a Travel Agent. In the meantime, he has revamped his website, show-casing more of the skills and offerings he has for a more diversified clientele while serving in multiple languages. He has added to his sole-proprietorship company title, which now reads: Beyond the Destination Tours & Travel Services. In addition to building, marketing and selling his own tours, and subcontracting with tour operator (as always) he now offers highly discounted flights, rental cars, train transportation and train vacation packages across the globe, diverse and customizable vacation packages, cruises (big and small ships), and much more. Check out his website when you get the chance. Maybe he can help you find a more-affordable dream vacation or reduce cost on your basic travel plans.

www.beyondthdestination.com

PURPOSE of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN GUIDES ASSOCIATION

The nature of the business and activities of this Corporation is educational and the objects and purposes thereof to be transacted, promoted, or carried on are TO PROMOTE THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF COMPETENCE AND PROFESSIONALISM AMONG PERSONS WHO ACT AS TOUR GUIDES AND TOUR MANAGERS/ DIRECTORS, TO PROVIDE ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AGAINST WHICH ALL TOUR GUIDES AND TOUR MANAGERS/DIRECTORS ARE MEASURED, and, in pursuing said basic purposes,

1. To hold meetings and familiarization (“FAM”) trips for the improvement and continuing education of its members;
2. To provide opportunities for the exchange of experiences and opinions regarding tour guides and tour managers/directors and their profession;
3. To provide a forum for development and promotion of common professional interests and concerns of tour guides and tour managers/directors;
4. To cooperate with other related and non-related organizations in a common endeavor to promote the profession of tour guiding, tour management and tour directing and to promote the public awareness of said profession. – *Articles of Incorporation*, Rocky Mountain Guides Association

Officers		
President	Mike Pearl	303-868-0023
Vice President	J. Mark Blaising	303-830-8440
Secretary		
Treasurer	Wendy Pickering	217-621-1960
Director-at-Large	David White	303-868-0023

Committee Chairpersons		
Certification		
Education	David White	303-868-0023
Hospitality	Lily Ewing	303-250-9679
Membership	Mike Pearl	303-979-7594
Newsletter Editor	Eileen Pearl	303-868-0021
Program	J. Mark Blaising	303-830-8440
Public Relations	Tom Jensen	303-968-0515
Email Blasts	Tom Jensen	303-968-0515
Nominations	Mike Pearl	303-868-0023
Website	Tom Jensen	303-968-0515