

Guide Line

VOL 29, No 4

President's Message Submitted by Mike Pearl, President

Under the newly revised Bylaws, the officer year runs from June 1 to the following May 31. This revision means that the RMGA calendar shifts. The Annual Meeting, where the officers for the following year are elected, now occurs as part of the April members meeting. All members are urged to attend the April meeting so that a quorum of members will be present for voting.

Rocky Mountain Guides Association extends it condolences and sympathies to the families of the victims of the mass shooting at the King Soopers in Boulder, as well as to the citizens of Boulder. If you are in crisis or are looking for mental health services for you or someone you know, call the <u>Colorado Crisis</u> <u>Services hotline</u>. Call 1-844-493-8255 or text "TALK" to 38255 to speak with a trained counselor or professional.

Membership renewals are down significantly this year – by almost 40%. Check out the Membership Committee Report elsewhere in the *Guide Line* for details. Thank YOU for your continued membership!

Thanks for attending the April RMGA meeting online. I appreciate your navigating the technology to join in. Linda Lutz, Tourism Group Sales Coordinator at VISIT Pueblo, gave a "steely" presentation on the "Pittsburgh of the West." She was appreciative of RMGA Members' interest and questions. I now view the city from a different perspective, and I am ready to revisit. 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 is negatively affecting Rocky Mountain Guides Association. Methods of operation that were successful in the past are no longer viable. Long-time members are retiring or otherwise exiting from the industry due to the lack of business, leaving more recent members to take up the leadership mantle. RMGA members need to determine in what ways the organization is beneficial to them, then join to actualize that vision.

RMGA Members, 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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A Member of

April 2021



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FROM THE EDITOR

Deadline for submissions for the May *Guide Line* is Wednesday, April 28. 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 or names.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Membership Committee

Submitted by Mike Pearl, Membership Committee Chair

Membership Update RMGA Membership as of April 1, 2021

2020 Membership Professional – 33 Associate -8Friend - 6 Retired - 6 Business - 16 Total - 69

2021 Membership Professional – 24 Associate -0Friend - 2Retired -10

Business - 11

Total - 47

Percent of Change

Professional – -27 Associate --100%Friend --67%Retired - 67% Business – -31% Total - -32%

Nominations Committee

Submitted by Mike Pearl, Nominations Committee Chair

Elections for officers will be held at the regularly scheduled Annual Meeting of Members, April 12, 2021. These elected Officers will begin their terms June 1, 2121. RMGA Bylaws specify "a number equal to twenty percent (20%) of the total number of Members entitled to vote shall constitute a Quorum at any Annual, Regular, or Special Meeting of the Members." Therefore, 7 members eligible to vote need to attend the meeting. Of course, more than 7 voting members attending would be better.

For more information, contact Nominations Committee Chair Mike Pearl.

Program Committee

Next Membership Meeting Monday April 12. See April meeting information on Page 16.

Public Relations Committee

Submitted by Tom Jensen.

Fifth in a Series on the history of RMGA written for the RMGA 20th Anniversary in 2013; <u>originally</u> published in February, 2013

THE PAST 20 YEARS

Continuing our written celebration of RMGA's 20th-Year Anniversary, we are beginning to include biographies of original members. The best reason to start our Original Member Bios with **Sid Wilson**, **Business Member and Owner, A Private Guide**, is that he was chosen to be **inducted** into the **Colorado Tourism Hall of Fame this year at the 14th Annual Denver and Colorado Tourism Hall of Fame this year at the 14th Annual Denver and Colorado Tourism Hall of Fame March 6, 2013 at Sewell Grand Ballroom, Denver Center/Performing Arts! What an amazing achievement for one of RMGA's longest serving members. We are proud** *of and for* **you, Sid! RMGA members have many reasons to thank you for your contributions, not the least of which is that you bring positive attention to the Association you helped to form.**

I am sure we think of Sid as a permanent Colorado fixture, but would you guess he is a New York Brooklynite? He left Brooklyn for Colorado in 1978, but it was a crooked path along the way. His education in life causes him to pause and say, "*Transition can be exciting* ! "

Sid followed in his father's footsteps by serving in the military early on. His father, who passed just a few weeks ago in December, 2012, **served as a World War II Tuskegee Airman**. Drafted into the military in 1965, Sid served one year in Viet Nam as an Advanced Communications Radio Operator. On return, he had a nice amount of leave and was presented with his dream list of where he wanted to be transferred to serve the remainder of his military career. The Presidio was number one followed by other places far from Colorado—but; you might guess, Colorado is where he was sent! He'd never been in the West and was sure he wouldn't like it. He was P____off that he was sent to Fort Carson, Colorado Springs. That changed the minute he got off the plane when he saw the blue Colorado sky and felt the kiss of the February weather there.

On discharge, would you believe he returned to Brooklyn. It was another 11 years before he realized that he belonged in Colorado. Here he got a good job with Martin Marietta (MM) as IT, Manager, Data Systems, Aerospace Division, for 14 years, and he met his **wife Claudia** of 30 years. They became parents of 2 children. Life was good until defense contracts diminished. In 1989, he took the Tour Manager Class at International Guide Academy – "just in case" his job was terminated as so many of his friends' jobs were. He began to volunteer as a docent, often at the **Black America West Museum**. He paid it back by serving 10 years on the Board of the Museum, 4 as Chair. He continues to serve on the Advisory Board.

In 1992, his job at MM ended, but he was prepared, already working as a tour guide. Sid said he and wife Claudia, took a "vow of poverty" while he got his business **A Private Guide** started. Meanwhile he found there were "alternative forms of compensation" and life satisfaction by starting his business Copyright © April 2021 Rocky Mountain Guides Association

out of his home. His wife had a good job at US West; and as an entrepreneur he had access to skiing and rafting, enjoying those activities with his family, even though they didn't have a lot of money. Perhaps the biggest perk was being able to be there to greet his children when they came home from school. When Claudia lost her job in the transition from US West to Qwest, she worked for Sid for two years—her corporate skills helped their business really take off.

Sid became aware of the group that eventually became RMGA when they were known as Rocky Mountain Chapter/Professional Guides Association of America. He attended the national convention of tour guides in Denver hosted by RMC/PGAA. Then member Ruby Ellen Hale was the person who encouraged him to participate in the new Association, RMGA.

On a trip to Aspen, February, 1992, as a tour guide, the same year he was laid-off at MM, he was socializing at the bar with a motorcoach driver. They hit it off, finding they had the same goals. Within a few days, they became partners and started A Private Guide. The following year, he bought out his partner.

Sid has had a varied and interesting life. After years of working hard, he said he is kicking back a little and letting others take some of the responsibility. He says he still has the *passion* for what he has done for so many years. "*You have to have the passion to succeed*. You are working all the time—learning, thinking about what needs to be done, what new things can be done."

Sid says RMGA, to him, is an incredible pool of resources. The RMGA newsletter Guide Line has been an immeasurable resource; he has kept every one of them from the last 20 years! He also appreciates the dedicated people that keep the consistency and relevance of the Association

Once again, "**Congratulations, Sid**" on the award you are receiving for your years of contributions to Colorado tourism. We are honored to have you as a member and appreciate your contributions.

Mary Thompson, 20th Anniversary Chair [Mary passed away in 2014]

The Rest of the Story -- A follow-up interview with Sid Wilson

As Mary wrote, it took 11 years for Sid to return to Colorado, although he never forgot what a special place Colorado was. After he finally made it to Colorado, Sid spent winter waiting for summer. He was yet to become a Coloradoan.

He was over 40 when a non-skiing co-worker suggested a long weekend in Breckenridge where they'd both learn to ski. The first morning it was the bunny hill. It was a beautiful warm spring day and envisioning themselves as part of skiing lifestyle, they had several drinks at lunch. Sid said, they got "hammered!" After lunch, the plan was to walk up the bunny hill once more, ski down, and then take the chairlift to a more advanced slope – Peak 8.

About two-thirds of the way down Peak 8, Sid's skis crossed, he became airborne and landed on his shoulder. Crack! He didn't break it, but he was in severe pain. With two more days prepaid, they stuck it out. Sid's first experience at skiing was a disaster.

The following November, Sid was talking to his favorite bartender. She suggested he try again. This time he took lessons, didn't drink at lunch and had a fabulous experience. He was hooked.

Getting into winter sports expanded Sid's appreciation for Colorado. He no longer waited for summer. This is when he felt he became a true Coloradoan."

Sid skied for 13 years; boarded for another 13 years. An injury he sustained while boarding ended his boarding, leaving him heartbroken. He still enjoys the winter sports even using the park across the street from his home for snowshoeing.

Sid shared his love of winter sports with his two children who became expert skiers. As a skiing family, Sid learned of the National Brotherhood of Skiers, an organization of Black Ski Clubs. He soon became involved with the Denver chapter, Slippers and Sliders.

One of Sid's first clients after starting A Private Guide was Slippers and Sliders. The motor coaches the company had been chartering were "gassers" – old equipment with only a bathroom. Envisioning a company delivering quality service, Sid provided the best coaches with all the amenities. The club looked good and Sid had a source of revenue.

A Private Guide continues to operate. However, Sid describes 2020 as a "wipeout" year. Like most of the travel industry, Sid describes his situation as being in a twilight zone -- not knowing what the future will be. He thinks about the size limitation of groups, health issues for both guides and passengers, the willingness of people to gather in groups. Sid sees the present as a watershed time.

Sid sees the economy struggling. The same as if it was the result of a war, bubonic plague, or a natural disaster, but today the infrastructure remains. Utilizing the infrastructure, there are opportunities for young people and those with a vision. "Don't force it; it will come," he says.

Sid is optimistic about the future. But what is it? He is asking himself does he have the energy to reinvent himself.

When asked if his children were interested in assuming operation of A Private Guide, Sid said "No." They both graduated from college and moved out of state. Sid is the proud grandpa of his first grandchild, now about 1 year old.

There is a philosophical component to Sid's thinking. He reflects on how to live life -- where dreams meet reality. Life is an epic journey – we must have a certain amount of checks to engage with. The work/life mix is important to Sid which has become more apparent during the pandemic. He's thankful A Private Guide has carried him around the world, provided a life style, and has given him freedom on how he lives his life. He has learned to be patient. Thinking back on the corporations he's worked for, they do not always provide a quality of work/life balance.

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As Sid wonders about the future, he still shows the entrepreneurial spirit he had when he started A Private Guide 30 years ago. He compares himself to the original Colorado miners -- he panned gold, discovered the main vein and is looking for the next vein. Not one to quit dreaming, Sid studies the trade press for insight into the future of travel and A Private Guide. Will it be as we know it today or will it be in cyberspace? He's looking for a thread; a model to follow. He shares his thought in a blog.

Sid feels the world is closer now; the pandemic has brought us together. Best of luck, Sid as you seek answers to your questions.



Travel Trends

Visit Denver released latest travel trends compiled by Destination Analysts, a global research firm serving the travel industry. Key takeaways the week of March 29th:

- Despite a bit of softening in the past week, sentiment remains headed in a positive direction that has been matched by a corresponding uptick in actual planning behavior.
- More than 64% of people are in a "travel state of mind", a slight drop from the previous week, but part of a steady, rapid climb since January.
- Only 18% of people expect the situation to get worse in the next month, a slight increase, while more than 52% expect it to get better, just off the record peak.
- Excitement to travel continues its upward climb, hitting 60% this week.
- Nearly 75% of people have engaged in some form of travel planning behavior in the past week, with a sharp increase in online travel research.

Other firms reported similar optimism about people showing an interest for future travel.

RMGA Facebook Group



The RMGA Facebook group at <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/RMGAssoc</u> 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 <u>not</u> limited to only Members. Invite your friends.

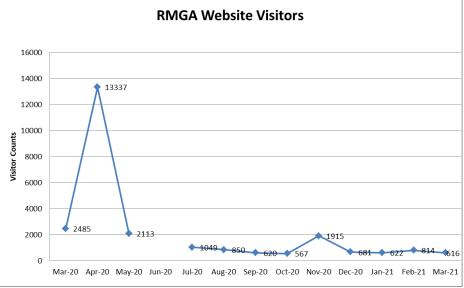
Website Committee



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Monthly Visitors to the RMGA Website

The monthly visitor to our website remains constant. As of March 29th, the March count is 616, down 198 from end of month February.



Profile Updates

The indexing of Members with Profiles listed on the Website under "Find a Guide" has been updated. Links to members who are no longer Professional, Associates or Business Members have been deleted. The indexed names have been re-scrambled.

One year of experience has been added to the "Years' Experience" on the current Profiles.

Check your profile to make sure they are current and accurate. Send any changes to <u>rmgawebsite@rockymountaintourguides.com</u>. This is also the address to request information about creating a Profile.

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 <u>rmgapresident@rockyountaintourguides.com</u>. The contact list is current with the membership roster. If you are not receiving e-mails please contact Tom Jensen @ rmgacommunications@rockymountaintourguides.com.

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Upcoming Industry Events

Submitted by Tom Jensen



VISIT DENVER Industry Update & Outlook- WEBINAR

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Apr 27, 2021 (

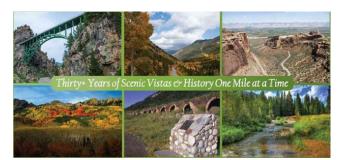
Hear from President & CEO, Richard Scharf, and VISIT DENVER's Leadership Team to learn about current updates, conditions, travel research, programs and other ways VISIT DENVER is supporting our partners and our destination.

REGISTER HERE



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Colorado Byways Symposium 2021



The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byway are celebrating thirty+ years of preserving, conserving, and supporting economic development in rural Colorado with a Symposium.

We invite you to register for the style of event, either in-person or virtually, that you feel most comfortable with during this unusual time.

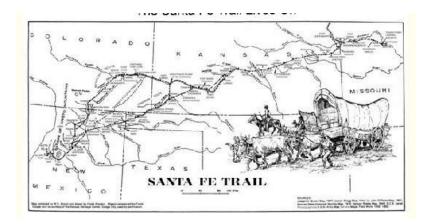
May 5, 2021 Sustainable Settings, Carbondale - Opening Reception (West Elk Loop)

> May 6, 2021 Morgridge Commons, Glenwood Springs - Symposium

May 4-5 & 7-8, 2021 West Elk Loop & Grand Mesa Pre/Post-Tours (On-Your-Own & Limited Guided)

Registration In-Person \$175 (limited seating, includes full Symposium, plus meals) Virtual \$50 (attend sessions via provided link) <u>www.ColoradoByways.org</u>

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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: <u>http://2021sfts.com/index.html</u>



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!





 Revitalizing Main Streets Grants – Apr 6, 2021, 2p Pre-App Workshop for #1 Infrastructure up to \$2M, #2 Economic/Multi-Modal \$250K www.codot.gov/programs/revitalizingmainstreets

• **Pandemic Visitor Use/Data Review Webinar(s)**– Apr 7 Responsible Recreation -<u>www.recpro.org/webinars</u>

• **Cultural Landscapes On-Demand Learning** – \$100 – Nancy Brown, FASLA - <u>https://training.npi.org/courses/cultural-landscapes-an-overview</u>

 Apply for CO Lottery Starburst Awards – Apr 1, extended deadline – Parks, outdoor rec, open space... -

www.coloradolottery.com/en/about/starburst-award/

• **Earth Day 2021 ~ Restore Our Earth**– Apr 22, 2021 – Toolkit, Organize Cleanup & Events -<u>https://www.earthday.org/toolkit-earth-day-2021-</u> <u>restore-our-earth/</u>

• **OEDIT Rural Technical Assistance** – Phase I: Education & Sign Up Today! https://oedit.colorado.gov/rural-technical-assistance-program

• National Park Week 2021 – Apr 17-25 – Explore, Discover, #FindYourPark https://www.nps.gov/subjects/npscelebrates/national-park-week.htm

• **Gold Belt Gravel: Ride the Rockies Getaways**– Jul 8-11, 2021 – Limit 200 cyclists -<u>www.ridetherockies.com/rtr-getaways/gold-belt-gravel/</u>

Colorado Parks Installing EV Charging Stations-

https://coloradosun.com/2021/03/18/colorado-gets-electric-car-chargesfor-all-parks/



Southern Colorado Tourism Summit

Tentative Date Oct 13th - Oct 15th, 2021

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

Organization Activities

Submitted by Mike Pearl, President

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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 <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/RMGAssoc</u>.

Mentoring

Tourism entrepreneurial students of Britt Mathwich, Associate Professor of Business and Hospitality, at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction are eager to interview RMGA members about career and business opportunities in guiding. The conversations occur remotely. Mr. Mathwich will be reaching out to members as possible contacts for the students. If you want to be involved, please contact me.

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

NFTGA Leadership Meetings

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 March 18, 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 <u>president@nftga.com</u> if you are willing to run or if you want to serve on the nominating committee.
- Destination Capitol Hill, sponsored by the US Travel Association, occurred March 17, 2021 as a virtual event. All RMGA members are now encouraged to follow-up on the event by writing to their members of the Colorado Delegation to promote tourism. See: https://www.ustravel.org/events/DCH "Resources and Briefing Materials" to find Talking Points, newly released State and District-level Economic Impact Data, and a PowerPoint slide deck that explores our issues in depth and was presented to each congressional office.

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• 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.

Employment Opportunity

From Wendy Pickering, Treasurer

Colorado Covid Connect with Go Highline Events needs admins for the vaccine lines.

Duties: Check in people, traffic movement, directing traffic, check out people. Some locations, you will have to work a tablet to check people in and out, stand for 7-9 hours.

Locations are all over the city, but these are the sites that have been coming up: Echo Park, Aurora, Westminster, Dick's Sporting Goods, Lone Tree, and many other places.

*Lone Tree and Aurora sites require a drug screen and background check, and they will tell you about getting that.

Pay is \$200 for the full day and is a 1099 form.

Anyone can reach out to me for more information from when I worked.

laurel@gohighline.com is the email to contact.

April Members Meeting April 12, 2021

Submitted by Carol Carder and J Mark Blaising

Carol Carder became interested in Colorado's history in 1976 when she began working part time for the Colorado Prospector. She later used bits of Colorado History in volunteer tour guiding on Amtrak between Union Station and Grand Junction. A couple years ago she wrote and led two tours for Brookdale residents one on the Speer Legacy and another on Denver's art districts showcasing outdoor murals and sculptures. Art lover Sherry Moon helped Carol with sources for the stories on the artists.

For our April program she will share a sampling of outdoor art and sculpture, some historic and some modern, for a virtual urban art tour with the stories of this art. Included will be Wynken, Blynken, and Nod, the articulated wall, RTD stations art, and selections from the Denver's districts: 40 D west, Santa Fe, Golden Triangle, downtown, and RiNO.





March Membership Program Review

"Explore Pueblo"

On March 8th, Linda Lutz, Community Outreach Manager, Visit Pueblo Convention & Visitor's Bureau, presented an informative program on activities, attractions, and events in Pueblo. This is another in the series of programs Mark Blaising, Program Chairman, is organizing to educate us on locations outside of the Denver Metro area.

For Members not able to attend the March meeting (or those who want to review the presentation), here is the recording. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3QR446IQU8</u>. 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.

Linda has provided follow-up notes and links to her presentation. These can be accessed by clicking on the Visit Pueblo logo.

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One of the events Linda mentioned was the annual Free Day at the Museum usually held in April. Linda writes, "I just found out yesterday that the Free Day at the Museum will not be held in April. They are considering joining with the National Smithsonian Day at the Museum on September 18th. Nothing firm on that yet."

Regarding the possibilities of a FAM to Pueblo, Linda also writes, "We are possibly coming up with our own plan to invite event planners, tour guides, city and state officials, and other welcome centers across the state to come for their own tour or our museums! As soon as we have the details worked out, we will let you know!"

<image>

Our members listening to Linda Lutz at the March 8th Program:

Historic Denver Molly Brown House Museum

Submitted by Nancy Brueggeman

50 years ago, on March 6th, 1971, Historic Denver opened the doors of the Molly Brown House Museum for the very first time. Excited Denverites were eager to visit our city's most famous home. By the end of March over 4,500 people had visited, with one Saturday seeing a line down the block and 1,350 visitors!

New Museum Exhibit at the Molly Brown House

Join in marking this tremendous milestone with the opening of *Looking Forward / Looking Back*, a 50th anniversary exhibit at the Molly Brown House Museum which runs March 19-September 19. Learn about the grassroots effort that saved this important Denver home and be inspired to take part in their "50 Actions for 50 Places" campaign to identify another 50 places that make Denver, Denver. Click **HERE** to reserve your museum tickets today!

Titanic Trivia Nite – April 15

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Board of Directors Meetings

Monday, April 5, 2021 (10:00 am)

Monday, May 3, 2021 (10:00 am)

(Meetings via ZOOM; email Webmaster Committee Co-Chair <u>Tom Jensen</u> for an invitation) All Members are welcome and invited to attend.

MEMBERS MEETINGS

Member Meetings

Monday, April 12, 2021 (6:30 pm) Monday, May 10, 2021 (6:30 pm) (Meetings via ZOOM; an invitation to attend will be emailed to Members)

Additional Member Meetings

Molly Keech, Marketing and Tourism Specialist at the Cherry Creek Shopping Center, has a tentative plan for RMGA members and Colorado Concierge Association members to gather for a combined presentation. The event would be held on a morning during the first week in June. She is planning for the presentation to accommodate both in-person guests and virtual guests. Watch this space for details.

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.

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