

## VOL 27, NO 5

Fellow guides,

*It's May! It's May, the lusty month of May!\**

I know a lot of you are getting busier and busier as temperatures warm and more visitors are arriving in our state. And what a terrific time to come! Are you prepared?

Rocky Mountain Guides Association is here for you. Part of the mission of RMGA is to help you be better tour guides. Many of our members are generous with information and guidance and I hope that you are all helping each other by recommending each other when there is appropriate work. For instance, if you do a walking tour, you might recommend a food tour or a bicycle tour, or the docents at the Capitol or Byers Evans Museum for instance. We all benefit from each other.

Do you want to *elevate* your career? Are you interested in honing your skills as tour guides? Do you want to improve your business practices? You need to attend RMGA Seminar on May 15. Even if you think you don't need improvement, you just might learn something that you had not considered before.

Our presenters will offer some of their knowledge, but we will be opening it up to discussions and sharing of ideas. The fee includes a really nice lunch while we share how to be successful as a guide. I would love to see you there. I would like to know more about how you work. Please plan on joining us.

See page 9 for complete details.

---Sherry Moon, President, RMGA

*\*From the musical Camelot*

May 2019



## CONTENTS

President's Letter	1
<u>From the Editor</u>	2
<u>Colorado Trivia</u>	2
<u>Committee Updates</u>	3,4
<u>Upcoming Industry Events</u>	5-7
<u>Board of Directors Meetings</u>	7
<u>May Program Meeting</u>	8
<u>RMGA May Seminar</u>	9
<u>April FAM ReCap</u>	10
<u>This and That</u>	11
<u>RMGA Purpose and Information</u>	12
<u>Officers and Chairpersons</u>	12

## FROM THE EDITOR

Deadline for submissions for the September 2019 *Guide Line* is **Tuesday, August 27**. Please note there will be no *Guide Line* published in June, July, or August.

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

## COLORADO TRIVIA

by Sherry Moon

Instead of questions this month, I thought I might share some interesting trivia of events that have made the region notable.

May 1, 2013 - An act of the Colorado General Assembly makes civil unions legal in Colorado for both conventional and same-sex couples, although same-sex marriage remains illegal for 17 months.

May 8, 1988 - Colorado U.S. Senator Gary Hart announces the end of his presidential campaign which began the previous month.

May 9, 2000 - The Denver Museum of Natural History changes its name to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

May 12, 1958 - Canada and the United States establish the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) to be headquartered at Ent Air Force Base.

May 12, 1969 - The International Olympic Committee selects Denver to host the XII Olympic Winter Games in 1976.

May 13, 1976 - The New York Nets defeat the Denver Nuggets 112 to 106 in the last American Basketball Association game ever played. The Denver Rockets/Nuggets finish their nine seasons in the ABA with a record of 474 wins and 432 losses.

May 13, 2006 - The Colorado Mammoth defeat the Buffalo Bandits 16 to 9 to win their first National Lacrosse League Champion's Cup.

May 17, 1983 - The United States Air Force begins construction of Falcon Air Force Station near Colorado Springs.

May 19, 1971 - The Denver Art Museum opens its Gio Ponti designed North Tower.

May 20, 2006 - The Denver Outlaws defeat the Chicago Machine 24 to 14 in their first Major League Lacrosse game.

May 21, 1976 - The final segment of I-225 is opened in Denver, completing the entire 11.959-mile (19.246 km) length of Interstate Highway I-225.

May 24, 1962 - Astronaut Scott Carpenter from Boulder becomes the fourth person to orbit the Earth.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Public Relations

Submitted by Tom Jensen

#### **SOCO Tourism Summit**

Two RMGA members, Steve Kaverman and Tom Jensen participated in the SOCO (Southern Colorado) Tourism 2019 Summit April 3rd to 5<sup>th</sup> hosted by the cities of La Junta and Trinidad.

For the third year the regional tourism groups Southern Rockies: Crossroads of Cultures and Canyon and Plains have come together to learn more about developing a regional tourist infrastructure, attracting more visitors to their regions, and to celebrate the successes of each other. Southern Rockies: Crossroads of Cultures represents communities in Southern Colorado such as Pueblo, Cañon City, Walsenburg, Trinidad, Westcliffe and Silver Cliff. Canyons & Plains represents the counties of Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers and eastern Las Animas.

These two lesser-known areas of Colorado are rich in Colorado and pre-Colorado history, wildlife, natural beauty, recreational activities, and local residents. As other parts of Colorado host more and more visitors, these largely undiscovered cities and counties provide a place to “Come to Life” as the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) describes it.

Rather than a day of workshops in a windowless conference center, the Summit took place on a motor coach driving from La Junta to Walsenburg to Trinidad to La Junta. This was a perfect way to experience the expanses of Southern Colorado while learning!

From La Junta to Walsenburg the speaker was Tony Gurzick of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife. As we discovered the beauty of the low mesas and gulches, Tony told us about the Plains wildlife we were passing – the Lark Bunting, the Pronghorn (not Antelope!), the Black-tailed Prairie Dog, the Black-footed Ferret, the Burrowing Owl, the American Badger, and Red-tailed Hawk. Alas, the only one we saw was the Pronghorn. In Walsenburg, Mother Jones, the Miners’ Angel, joined the motor coach, describing the life of the coal miners. With the magnificent snow covered Spanish Peaks or Wahatoya, as the Native Americans called them, as a backdrop we experienced “A Taste of Spanish Peaks Country” Lunch. Continuing on to Trinidad, Mother Jones described the events leading up to the 1913-1914 miners’ strike and the tragedy of the Ludlow Massacre.

In Trinidad, we learned how Trinidad is transforming its economy by attracting visitors. The downtown is a magnificent collection of late 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings, the locals are excited to have visitors, to share their community, and have many festivals planned throughout the year. Here you experience a part of Colorado that is not found in the Front Range or popular mountain communities. Trinidad’s key word was “patience” as they worked to get community support. Trinidad is a Creative Arts District. Dana Crawford is part of the team developing their Fox West Theater.

Returning to La Junta, Rick Wallner told the story of the Santa Fe Trail as we drove through towns that are only names on a map today.

The next day, Cathy Ritter, Director of the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) provided a high-level overview of the CTO, while discussing how her office is working with the non-urban, non-ski resort areas of Colorado to bring more visitor traffic to rural Colorado communities. A new trend in travel is “slow travel” – take a train, take a bus, ditch the electronics, visit the rural communities.

The Seminar was closed by Elizabeth O’Rear, Manager of Destination Development at the CTO. Elizabeth told of the training, support and funding that communities can receive to advance tourism-related goals or develop new tourism products in their communities.

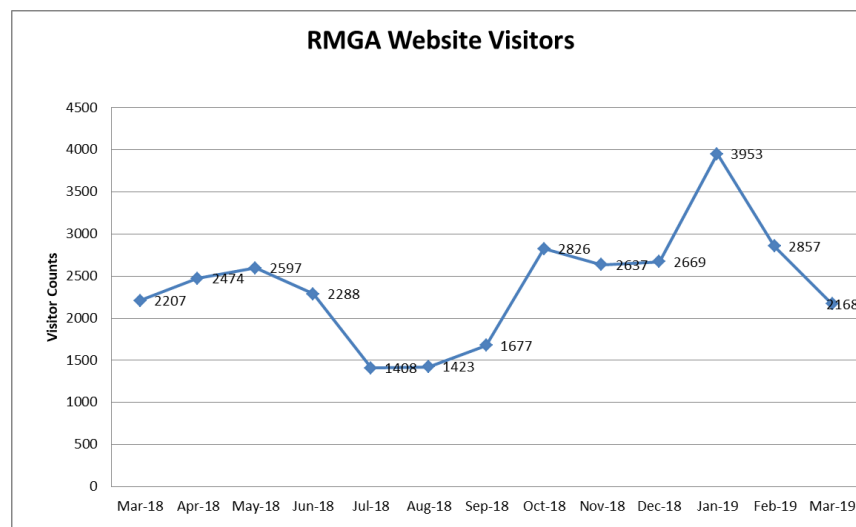
## Website Committee

Submitted by Tom Jensen

### What’s New on the Members Only Page?

**DMNS, Zoo and City Park FAM Photo Slide Show  
with photos taken by Michael Dulude**

### Visitors to the RMGA Website



There was a decrease of 39 visits to the RMGA website compared to March 2018. Overall the number of visitors to the website continues to increase.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Upcoming Industry Events

Submitted by Tom Jensen

**ROSÉ RELEASE PARTY**

A benefit for the: **VISIT DENVER** Foundation

**C·H·A·T** | CONNECTING HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

**THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019 | 4:00-5:30 PM**

**THE KITCHEN** | 1560 WAZEE ST., DENVER, CO 80202

Optional donation to benefit the **VISIT DENVER** Foundation

\$1 from each bottle of wine purchased through retail outlets will go directly to the **VISIT DENVER** Foundation, which awards scholarships to students in Colorado who are pursuing a degree in tourism and hospitality.

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS:

**THE KITCHEN** **5280** **90** **VISIT DENVER** Foundation

Join Visit Denver for C.H.A.T. (Connecting Hospitality & Tourism) for an opportunity to talk with fellow **VISIT DENVER** partners and meet our staff in a relaxed and casual atmosphere. You may pay in advance online or pay at the door with cash, check or credit card.

*This event is only open to **VISIT DENVER** partners. As a benefit of your membership in Rocky Mountain Guides Association and its partnership with Visit Denver you are eligible to attend.*

To RSVP Click on this link:

<https://www.denver.org/rsvp/?action=registrationForm&eventid=3740&sessionuuid=>



**2019 Colorado Governor's Tourism Conference**  
Sunday, September 29, 2019 to Tuesday, October 01, 2019  
Sheraton Hotel, Denver

Announced at the end of the 2018 Governor's Tourism are the dates and location of next year's event. Continue to check Guide Line for additional information.

---



NAI National Conference  
Denver Colorado  
November 12–16, 2019

National Association for Interpretation is hosting a National conference in Denver, November 12-16. NAI is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the profession of heritage interpretation. "If you help visitors learn about a place that's important to you, you're an interpreter." The conference traditionally was workshops and learning sessions. For more information <https://www.interpnet.com/>

If you are interested in learning more about Interpretation contact Sherry Moon.



---

# DOORS OPEN DENVER

---

PRESENTED BY  
**DENVER ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION**

## **September 21+22**

To Learn More about Volunteering: <https://denverarchitecture.org/volunteer/>

### **MAY and JUNE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

#### **Board of Directors Meetings**

Monday, May 6, 2019 2:00-4:00 pm

Monday, June 3, 2019 2:00-4:00 pm

Bear Valley Church, 10001 W Jewell Av, Lakewood, CO 80232

All Members are welcome to attend.



## **MAY PROGRAM MEETING**

**WHAT: RMGA MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Lt. Col. George Custer**

**WHEN: May 13, 2019, 6:00pm – Networking, 6:30pm – Short Meeting, 6:45pm – Lt. Col. George Custer**

**WHERE: Columbine Library 7706 West Bowles Ave, Littleton, CO 80123.**

**PROGRAM: George Koukeas is a freelance writer and speaker. He will present the history of Lt. Col. George Custer.** The presentation will reveal lesser-known facts about Custer - facts that often become obscured by political correctness. He will discuss who Custer really was, his achievements during the Civil War, Indian Wars and his importance to American history.

**FOOD: RMGA will provide water.**

**DIRECTIONS:** There are several ways to get to the Columbine Library. Take South Santa Fe Drive to West Bowles Ave and turn to the West. Proceed West on West Bowles Ave. When you see West Long Drive turn to the South, and you will see the library. Proceed to the library parking.

Take South Wadsworth Blvd to West Bowles Ave. Proceed East on West Bowles Ave. When you see West Long Drive turn to the South, and you will see the library. Proceed to the library parking.

**PARKING: The Columbine Library has ample parking.**

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

**GUEST FEES: 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> Time guest: Free, Third Through Fifth Time, Same Guest Visit is \$10 each time. SUCCEEDING TIMES, SAME GUEST MUST JOIN RMGA.**

**MEETING NIGHT CONTACT: Larry Foos – 720-581-3820**



## RMGA MAY SEMINAR

Submitted by Mike Pearl

### **RMGA Biennial Seminar – *Elevate your Guide Career***

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 15, 2019 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

**WHERE:** Auraria Faculty Staff Club by Vanilla Bean (on the Auraria Campus)  
1041 W 9th Ave, Denver, CO 80204

**FEE:** \$25.00 (Includes Lunch)

**REGISTRATION:** Forms available on the RMGA Website/Member Resource Page  
(Deadline – Wednesday, May 8, 2019)

Who wouldn't want to improve their guiding skills? Skill enrichment is the focus of the 2019 RMGA Biennial Seminar.

What ways would make your tourism career better? Are there neat ideas for guiding and tourism career efficiencies? How can you enhance your tourism career "footprint?"

How can you "refresh" something that's already working well? Learn from each other in sessions facilitated by these RMGA members:

- Nancy Brueggeman – RMGA Secretary; guiding since 1986. *The Business*  
Refresh your business skills: record keeping, job-seeking, self-promotion, managing research notes, pricing, and more. Bring your methods and questions to share.
- Sherry Moon – RMGA President; guiding since 2000. *Interpreting vs Guiding*  
Having recently earned certification as an interpretive guide, Sherry will facilitate a conversation comparing the two styles. Bring your notebook and questions.
- Mike Pearl – RMGA Director at Large; guiding since 2012. *Elevating the Narrative*  
From his career as a speech and drama teacher, Mike describes easy methods for creating an interesting narrative. Bring your notebook and dry facts (to turn into engaging anecdotes).

There is no better way to enrich skills than through an organized method of self-reflection and sharing. Attend the 2019 RMGA Biennial Seminar.

You're ready to *Elevate your Guide Career*! Register today! Materials available on the RMGA website Members Only page.

## **APRIL 3 FAM RECAP**

Submitted by Mike Pearl

### **City Park FAM**

On April 3, 2017 RMGA member Mike Pearl lead a Familiarization tour to City Park. Ten members participated. In their visit, the participants saw highlights of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science from the perspective of staff members. Maura O’Neal, Communications and Media Relations Manager for the Museum, arranged the experience. On one instance, participants viewed signage that showed the heights (at the shoulders) of elephant-like animals from modern-day elephants to woolly mammoths. Participants took lunch at the Museum’s cafeteria.

Dr. Phil Goodstein, Denver historian and author, led the participants on a walking tour of the east end of City Park. Among the various sites, he told about “Old Cronies Lane,” the Children’s Fountain, and the Pavilion.

Megan Deffner, Community Affairs Manager, and Andrew Rowan, External Relations Coordinator, met the participants at the Denver Zoo. Of the 3,500 animals housed at the Zoo, participants were treated to visits with keepers at the Toyota Elephant Passage and at the Edge, home to the Zoo’s Amur (Siberian) Tigers.

A full report of the FAM is available on the Member Resource page of the RMGA Website.

## THIS AND THAT

### **What's in Your Narrative?**

Submitted by Mike Pearl

#### **The “Rest of the Story” about Colorado’s State Flag**

Check out Colorado Public Radio’s [Colorado Matters](#) for an enlightening story on how our state’s unique flag came into being.

#### **Colorado’s Agriculture**

Colorado’s Weld County is one of the top 10 agricultural counties in the nation. Find more facts and information about Colorado’s \$41 billion agriculture industry at [COagriculture.com](#)

#### **U.S. Air Force Academy Chapel Restoration on Hold – Again**

Check out Colorado Public Radio’s [story](#) about why the Academy Chapel restoration project has been postponed. You may also find out how many miles of caulk is needed to seal the building.

#### **Denver 365**

Find out what’s hot in Metro Denver at [Denver365.com](#).

#### **Aurora – Gateway to the Rockies**

VISIT Aurora’s 2019 Visitors Guide is available. Order a paper copy or view it on line. You can keep up to date with all that Aurora has to offer visitors at [visitaaurora.com](#).

#### **Denver Public Library – Museum Passes**

Visit a local museum with your library card. Denver Public Library offers free admission to several Denver museums. All you need to do is go online, with our DPL library card number, to reserve your tickets. [denverlibrary.org/museum-passes](#). Not a resident of Metro Denver? Check your local library for similar offers in your area.

#### **Denver Zoo Docent Tours**

If the City Park FAM wasn’t enough zoo for you, take a docent tour. Jake announced this at the April meeting and program. Contact him to find out more about this 3-hour program.

## 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	<a href="#">Sherry Moon</a>	720-425-5931
Vice President		
Secretary	<a href="#">Nancy Brueggeman</a>	303-979-4852
Treasurer	<a href="#">Wendy Pickering</a>	217-621-1960
Director-at-Large	<a href="#">Mike Pearl</a>	303-868-0023

Committee Chairpersons		
Certification	<a href="#">Carol Carder</a>	303-777-9194
Education	<a href="#">Michael Dulude</a>	720-236-5345
Hospitality	<a href="#">Lily Ewing</a>	303-250-9679
Membership	<a href="#">Larry Foos</a>	303-979-7594
Newsletter Editor	<a href="#">Eileen Pearl</a>	303-868-0021
Program	<a href="#">Dawn Nelson</a>	303-898-6853
Public Relations	<a href="#">Tom Jensen</a>	303-968-0515
Email Blasts	<a href="#">Sherry Moon</a>	720-425-5931
Nominations	<a href="#">Larry Foos</a>	303-979-7594
Website	<a href="#">Tom Jensen</a>	303-968-0515
	<a href="#">Larry Foos</a>	303-979-7594