

**VOL 28, No 6**

**August 2020**

## From the President

Hi everyone,

I hope this finds you well, and that you’re all staying as safe and sane as possible.

Back in early June, Sherry Moon resigned as President of the RMGA. The same day, I was appointed President, and then interim general manager at my restaurant, Mezcal, quite literally 20 minutes later.

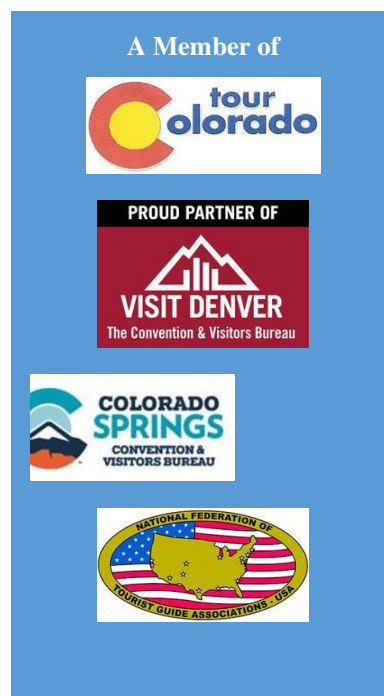
This workload, coupled with the COVID-19 quarantine, has become a psychologically exhausting exercise that neither myself, nor my partner, are equipped for. After some time discussing the matter, we’ve decided that it’s in our best interests that we move closer to her family in Omaha (which puts us significantly closer to my people in Detroit, too).

This is just another one of those things that’s happening “because of COVID.” I don’t like to do it, but I will be resigning my appointment as President of the Rocky Mountain Guides Association, effective at the adjournment of the Board meeting that is scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2020.

My Mezcal workload will be dropping a bit over the next few weeks, thankfully allowing more time to finally finish what projects I’ve started for RMGA. I’m going to miss Denver, but will be back to visit, snowboard, and drink amazing beer as often as possible. I might even go on a tour or two! If you have any questions for me, feel free to call or text at 734.502.7307.

Cheers.

Ethan Magusin  
President, RMGA



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## FROM THE EDITOR

Deadline for submissions for the September *Guide Line* is **Friday, August 28.**

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

## LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Submitted by Mike Pearl, Director-at-large

The COVID-19 Pandemic has affected the leadership of RMGA. For various reasons, three members of the Board of Directors have or will resign their positions.

Sherry Moon resigned as President effective June 1, 2020. She cited her move Santa Fe, NM as her primary reason for resignation.

Nancy Brueggeman resigned as Secretary effective August 1, 2020. She has retired from leading tours and is moving to South Carolina.

Ethan Magusin, having recently assumed office as President upon the resignation of Sherry Moon, has announced his resignation from the RMGA Board of Directors. He is planning a move to Omaha, NE.

The combination of resignations places RMGA into an unusual situation. The ideal resolution is for members to step into these offices and serve out the terms. The term-of-office for these elected officers runs to June 1. Regular elections for the Board of Directors will occur in April 2021. (The terms of office for elected officers of RMGA is June 1 of a current year to May 31 of the next year, as adjusted by a recent amendment to the RMGA Bylaws.)

Current officers Past President Mike Pearl and Treasurer Wendy Pickering promise to assist incoming appointed officers with the operation of RMGA. Public Relations Chair Tom Jensen, Newsletter Editor Eileen Pearl, and Website Co-Chair Larry Foos are also on hand to support those interim officers.

Additional vacancies of Committee Chairs have occurred. Members are encouraged to volunteer to lead these committees:

- Certification
- Education
- Program
- Email Blasts

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 will likely retire 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 [rngaeditor@rockymountaintourguides.com](mailto:rngaeditor@rockymountaintourguides.com).

## MEET 'n GREET MEMBERS ZOOM CALL -- Hold the date and time

Submitted by Tom Jensen.

Let's do a Zoom Call to check in on each other!

Normally we do not have Member programs during the summer because so many are leading tours.

But...! You know the summer we are having!

So we can stay in touch, a Meet 'n Greet Zoom call is scheduled for August 10th at 10:30am.

There is no program. It will be a time to catch up with everyone.

Watch your e-mails for the link information.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Membership Committee

Submitted by Mike Pearl, Membership Committee Chair

As of July 1, 2020, the Board of Directors has not been informed of the poor health of any RMGA members due to COVID-19. At the same time, the Board has not been informed of members who are in need of emotional support or others who might have other needs.

If you are in distress, or if you know of a fellow member who might appreciate assistance, please contact [Mike Pearl](#).

Members wanting to provide assistance to fellow members should contact [Mike Pearl](#).

### Nominations Committee

Submitted by Mike Pearl, Nominations Committee Chair

With the resignation of Sherry Moon as President of RMGA, Vice President Ethan Magusin has stepped into the role of president, in accordance with the RMGA Bylaws. A Vice President needs to be appointed.

With the resignation of Nancy Brueggeman as Secretary of RMGA, a Secretary needs to be appointed, in accordance with the RMGA Bylaws.

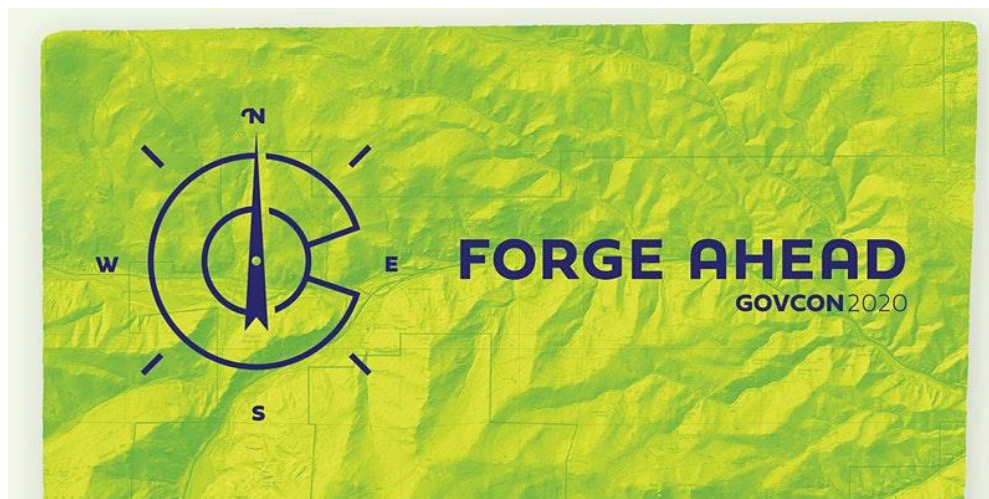
With the impending resignation of Ethan Magusin as President of RMGA, the newly appointed Vice President will step into the role of President, in accordance with the RMGA Bylaws. A Vice President needs to be appointed.

Any RMGA member desiring to fill the remainder of the Vice President's or Secretary's term of office should contact Nominations Committee Chair [Mike Pearl](#) or any member of the Board of Directors. The Membership Committee will also begin contacting RMGA members to fill the positions.

For more information, contact Nominations Committee Chair [Mike Pearl](#).

## Public Relations Committee

Submitted by Tom Jensen



### **2020 Virtual Colorado Governor's Tourism Conference Wednesday, September 17, 2020 at 9:00AM**

True to our Colorado spirit, The Colorado Tourism Office invite us to join them as we FORGE AHEAD, re-imagining our 2020 Gov. Con as a virtual experience on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020.

More information may be found at: <https://industry.colorado.com/colorado-governors-tourism-conference>

True to our industry, rather than cancel our plan to bring Gov. Con to Snowmass, we will postpone. Mark your calendars. The 2021 Gov. Con is set to take place Sept. 22–24, 2021, at The Westin Snowmass Resort.

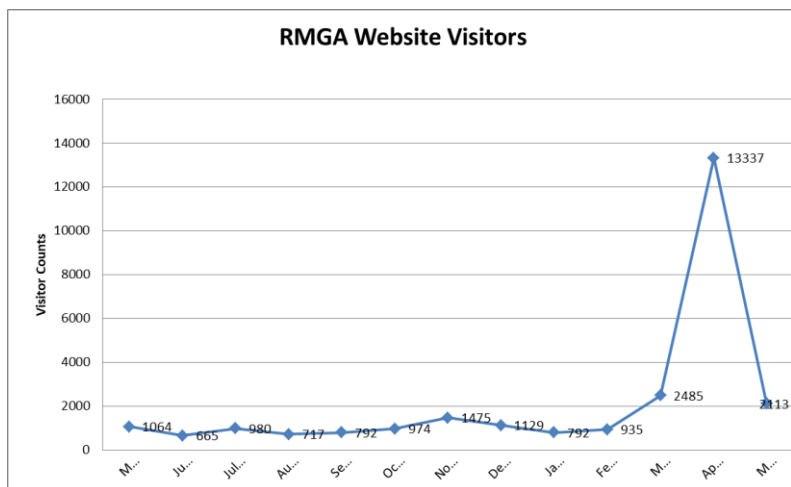
## Website Committee

Submitted by Tom Jensen

### ***What's New on the Member's Only Page?***

- 2020 Individual Membership Application
- • 2020 Business Membership Application
- • Links updated as necessary to point to current officers.
- • Added "Retired - \$30.00 to the Dues page
- • RMGA Bylaws (May 6, 2020 Version)
- • RMGA Policies (May 6, 2020 Version)
- Current membership roster (June 24 th )
- • Inquiries to know more about Programs, FAMs, and Seminars goes to [rmgapresident@rockymountaintourguides.com](mailto:rmgapresident@rockymountaintourguides.com)
- • The contact information for Jim Watson
- • The May Program PowerPoint presentation, Geology Rocks

The number of visitors to the website in April was 13,337 hits and May was 2,112. April's visitors count was most likely an anomaly and not a true reflection of people interested in RMGA.



### Instructions to Access Program Documents from Google Docs

Steve Kaverman has granted access to his PowerPoint, Geology Rocks. Those of you who were able to attend\* the virtual May meeting know how very informative this presentation is. ***This PowerPoint Presentation is copyrighted, and may be used for personal reference only. It may not be published or presented publicly without written permission from Steve Kaverman.***

Because of the size of the document it was necessary to use Google Docs to make it accessible to members. In the future other documents for Members Only may be added to Google Docs.

These are the steps to access the presentation. These instructions are also available on the 2020 Program Review page of Members Only.

1. To access the PowerPoint, copy the link provided via e-mail or on the Program Review Page and paste it in your browser:
  2. In the upper right hand corner you'll see a box with the word "Present" and a downward pointing arrow. Click on the down arrow.
  3. Two options will be displayed:
    - a. Presenter View – slides with notes
    - b. Present from Beginning
  4. Select "Present from Beginning." This will give you a full screen display of the presentation. Go to the next slides by hitting "Enter."
  5. To exit the full screen hit "ESC" (escape)
  6. To exit the PowerPoint close your browser.
- If you have questions contact Tom Jensen at 303-968-0515.

\*For those unable to attend you may watch the entire presentation on YouTube using the link

<https://youtu.be/TscGb7IEci8>

All this is on the "Members Only" Page. Check it out.

## What's in Your Narrative?

Submitted by Mike Pearl

Even though we don't have any tours going right now, we have an opportunity to work through "hypotheticals" in dealing with racial instances on tour. Examples include:

- Addressing the protests as seen on TV during the unrest in Denver and Aurora.
- What is being done to address police procedures in Colorado?
- What is being done to address systemic racism in Colorado?
- What will you do to address racist remarks or behavior on you tour?

Guides need to speak up on tours. Silence is not good. In fact, silence is violence. Guides would do well to educate themselves about racism in the US and Colorado. There are many books, articles, and podcasts available. A quick Google search will help you determine your research.

## Board of Directors Meetings

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 9:00-11:00 am

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

All Members are welcome 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	<a href="#">Ethan Magusin</a>	734-502-7307
Vice President		
Secretary		
Treasurer	<a href="#">Wendy Pickering</a>	217-621-1960
Director-at-Large	<a href="#">Mike Pearl</a>	303-868-0023

Committee Chairpersons		
Certification		
Education		
Hospitality	<a href="#">Lily Ewing</a>	303-250-9679
Membership	<a href="#">Mike Pearl</a>	303-979-7594
Newsletter Editor	<a href="#">Eileen Pearl</a>	303-868-0021
Program		734-502-7307
Public Relations	<a href="#">Tom Jensen</a>	303-968-0515
Email Blasts		720-425-5931
Nominations	<a href="#">Mike Pearl</a>	303-868-0023
Website	<a href="#">Tom Jensen</a>	303-968-0515
	<a href="#">Larry Foos</a>	303-979-7594