

## VOL 28, NO 4

April 2020

Dear Membership,

I know that these are trying times for all of us. And many of you, like me, have had their tours cancelled, dropped, postponed, etc. And, not only are we anxious about no income, we are concerned about our health. This is very real, even though I have felt a bit of surreal moments.

Staying safe and positive will help us through these tough times. I feel confident that when we come out the other side, tourism will rise fast. Everyone who has spent all those weeks of self-isolation will be more than eager to get out and experience the world again. If we are ready to take on the challenge, we should be able to make up for those things we sacrificed during the emergency.

So while you are confining yourself to your home, it's a great opportunity for you to read a little more about our state, develop new stories, consider new tours, and prepare yourself for a return to your chosen profession.

I am on a group Facebook page with other tour directors, and I find comfort in sharing stories with them. If you would like to share stories with your fellow RMGA members, join our Facebook Group: Rocky Mountain Guides Association. Perhaps we can share ways to help one another.

Stay safe and protect yourself and loved ones.

Sherry Moon,  
RMGA President



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## FROM THE EDITOR

Deadline for submissions for the May 2020 *Guide Line* is **Saturday, April 25.**

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.

## COLORADO TRIVIA

by Sherry Moon

### April Trivia (Answers on Page 5)

1. What Colorado highway has the steepest grade?
2. Ute Chief Colorow was known, mostly in the Glenwood Springs area, for going from homestead to homestead begging for biscuits and honey. So much so, he gained a great deal of weight. What was his weight when he died?
3. There are 40 species of bats in the United States. How many species are in the State of Colorado?
4. Where was the world's largest silver nugget found?
5. What is Colorado's oldest still operating hotel and saloon?
6. Where is Colorado's biggest hot dog?
7. Who first promoted Colorado as a tourism target for the masses?
8. Are there Jackalopes in Colorado?

### 1918 Influenza Trivia

- A. How many people in Denver died from the 1918 pandemic?
- B. What months did most succumb from their sickness?
- C. What were the recommendations by medical people to combat the spread?
- D. Did Denver close businesses?
- E. Were Colorado towns equipped to handle the spread of the disease?
- F. Name the writer who wrote a semi-autobiographical tale of a young woman who survives the 1918 influenza epidemic.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Membership Committee

Submitted by Mike Pearl

#### RMGA Welcomes New Members:

**J. Mark Blaising**, Associate Member, volunteers as a docent at the Byers-Evans House Museum where he has been enthusiastically introducing visitors to the Museum and Denver for four years. After 30 years in the financial services industry, Mark is transitioning into the tourism industry. Having received his undergraduate degree in Political Science/History, he is keenly aware of the historical and political influences on contemporary Denver and Colorado. He is developing a walking tour of Cheesman Park Neighborhood. The tour is the outgrowth of a well-received program he has developed for his financial services clients that describes the Tears-McFarland House and Cheesman Park. Mark expects that being a member of RMGA will aid in his professional growth in the tourism industry.

**Amy Rohrer**, Associate Member, has lived in Colorado for nine years. She has gladly watched the full legalization of cannabis in Colorado, an event that has changed her life. Amy now specializes in cannabis tours. Amy is a Certified International Tour Manager from IGA, and she has been leading tours for 5 years. She knows an impressive amount of Colorado's history. Amy has traveled to over 60 countries. And you are guaranteed to have an unforgettable time with her as your guide.

Members are encouraged to invite prospects into Rocky Mountain Guides Association and "share the wealth" of the association. Membership information rack cards are available for you to hand out. Contact President [Sherry Moon](#).

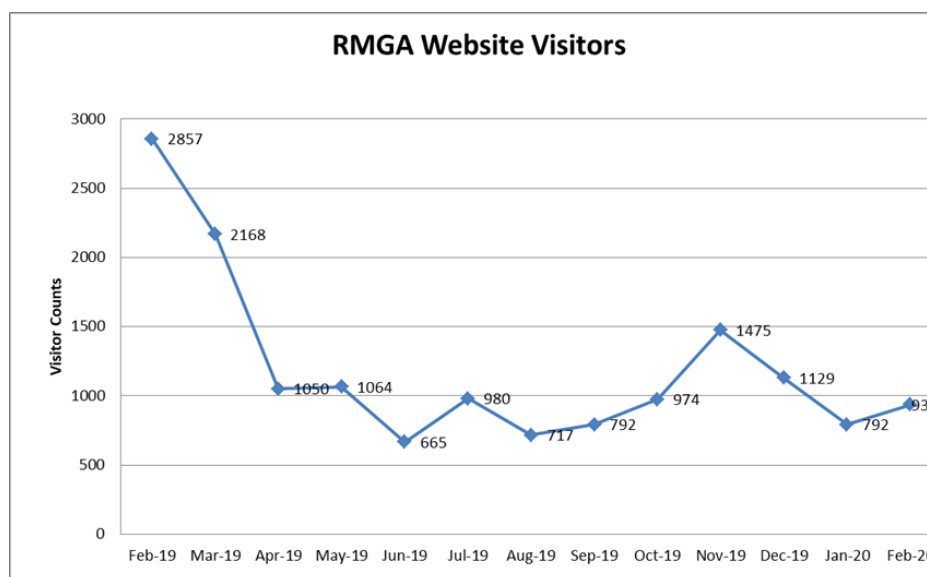
### Website Committee

Submitted by Tom Jensen.

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

- March Guide Line
- Changed Links to New Membership Chairman
- March Program Information
- February CPW Program Review

## Monthly Visitors to the RMGA Website



## Upcoming Industry Events

Submitted by Tom Jensen

**STAY TUNED.**

### RMGA Coronavirus Tour Cancellation Registry and Survey

Submitted by Mike Pearl

RMGA sent a survey for members on March 13, 2020. The purpose of the survey is to register how many members have lost work due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Results of the survey will be reported to the RMGA members themselves. Results will also be reported to the Colorado Tourism Organization (CTO) for inclusion in data CTO is collecting on behalf of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade. As of March 27, 2020:

Question	Totals
Number of Respondents	4
Number of tours cancelled due to Coronavirus	17
Number of days of work lost due to cancellations	58
Number of people (guests) affected due to cancellations	820
Approximate earnings lost due to cancellations	\$19,950

While only four members have reported, their experience would indicate a substantial financial loss for all RMGA members. Members may continue to submit survey responses. Those who have already submitted may submit additional data as the situation evolves.

### Upcoming FAMs Information

Postponed until further notice – Clear Creek County East ([Mike Pearl](#))

Postponed until further notice – Clear Creek County West ([Mike Pearl](#))

### Clear Creek County FAMs

The Familiarization tours to Clear Creek County have been postponed until further notice due to travel restrictions put in place by Governor Jared Polis in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information, contact FAM Coordinator [Mike Pearl](#).

### APRIL and MAY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS INFORMATION

#### Board of Directors Meetings

Monday, April 6, 2020 9:00-11:00 am

(Virtual meeting via ZOOM; email President [Sherry Moon](#) for information)

Monday, May 4, 2020 9:00-11:00 am

Capital One Café, 1550 Wewatta Street, Denver, CO 80202

All Members are welcome to attend.

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#### Trivia Answers

1. Mount Evans Highway: 10 percent to 15 percent above Summit Lake: 5 percent to 9 percent between Echo Lake and Summit Lake.
2. 300 pounds
3. 18
4. The world's largest silver nugget, said to have weighed between 1,800 and 2,000 pounds, was found in 1894 in Smuggler Mine near Aspen. The nugget was 93 percent pure silver.
5. The Peck House on U.S. 40 in Empire.
6. The Coney Island Diner on U.S. 285 in Conifer. The building has been called "the best example of roadside architecture in the state."
7. General William Jackson Palmer, Civil War hero and railroad builder, hired William Henry Jackson and a literary department to crank out thousands of postcards, brochures, calendars, and even books and poems extolling Colorado as America's playground.
8. Yes, Jackalopes (*lepus antilocprai*) are a cross between the jack rabbit and the antelope, which is technically a pronghorn. It is difficult to be precise as the species is so rare that even the Denver Museum of Nature and Science lacks specimens or information. (*Editor's note: If you have a different answer, please direct your comments to Sherry.*)

#### 1918 Influenza Trivia Answers

- A. Nearly 1500 Denverites and 7,783 Coloradans.
- B. October, November, and December
- C. Most medical people incorrectly attributed the illness to bacteria but correctly deduced the it was airborne. They warned people to follow the three Cs: clean mouth, clean heart and clean clothes.
- D. Partially. The Denver Board of Health told schools, churches, theaters, and places of amusement to close, but shops, restaurants and similar types of businesses were permitted to stay open, and outdoor gatherings were allowed. Indoor meetings were banned.
- E. No, the epidemic overwhelmed doctors, nurses and hospitals. Some towns had no doctors while others had sent them off to war.
- F. Katherine Anne Porter wrote *Pale Horse, Pale Rider*, originally published in a collection with two other short novels.

## 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	<a href="#">Ethan Magusin</a>	734-502-7307
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		
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	<a href="#">Ethan Magusin</a>	734-502-7307
Public Relations	<a href="#">Tom Jensen</a>	303-968-0515
Email Blasts	<a href="#">Sherry Moon</a>	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