

VOL 30, No 6

President's Message

Submitted by Mike Pearl, President

The April program was our first in-person meeting and program since March 2020 and the beginning of the COVID pandemic. What a joy it was to be in the same room with colleagues. We're going to have another in-person meeting and program! This time at the Byers-Evans House and Center for Colorado Women's History on Monday evening, September 12. For members away from Denver, the event will be available via computer, tablet, or smartphone.

I brought a box of books and pamphlets to share with those in attendance at the April program and meeting, as did other members in attendance. The swap was very popular. So popular that we are hosting another swap at the September in-person meeting. Bring books and pamphlets that you would like to share with other members. Leave one, take one. Talking about research and swapping materials is a great way to bond during any of our meetings.

The National Federation of Tour Guides (NFTGA) has a new president, Michael Dillinger from the Guides Association of New York City (GANYC). His goals for his two-year term include increasing the "visibility" of tour guides within the US Tourism Industry. The RMGA Board of Directors fully supports Dillinger in this endeavor. As you know, in discussions of tourism in the US, the destinations, sites, and modes of transportation receive attention, while tour guides are often ignored. By coordinating efforts among the local guides associations of NFTGA, Dillinger expects to establish a strategy that can raise the profile of tour guides within the industry.

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 in person and online for our monthly meetings. To join in on the meetings without using a video connection, you can use your smartphone, tablet, or computer connection. You will first need to have the Zoom mobile app installed on your tablet or smartphone. Check out the easy directions <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-joining-a-meeting>

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

September 2022

A Member of



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FROM THE EDITOR

Deadline for submissions for the October, 2022 *Guide Line* is **Wednesday, September 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 and/or names.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Communications Committee

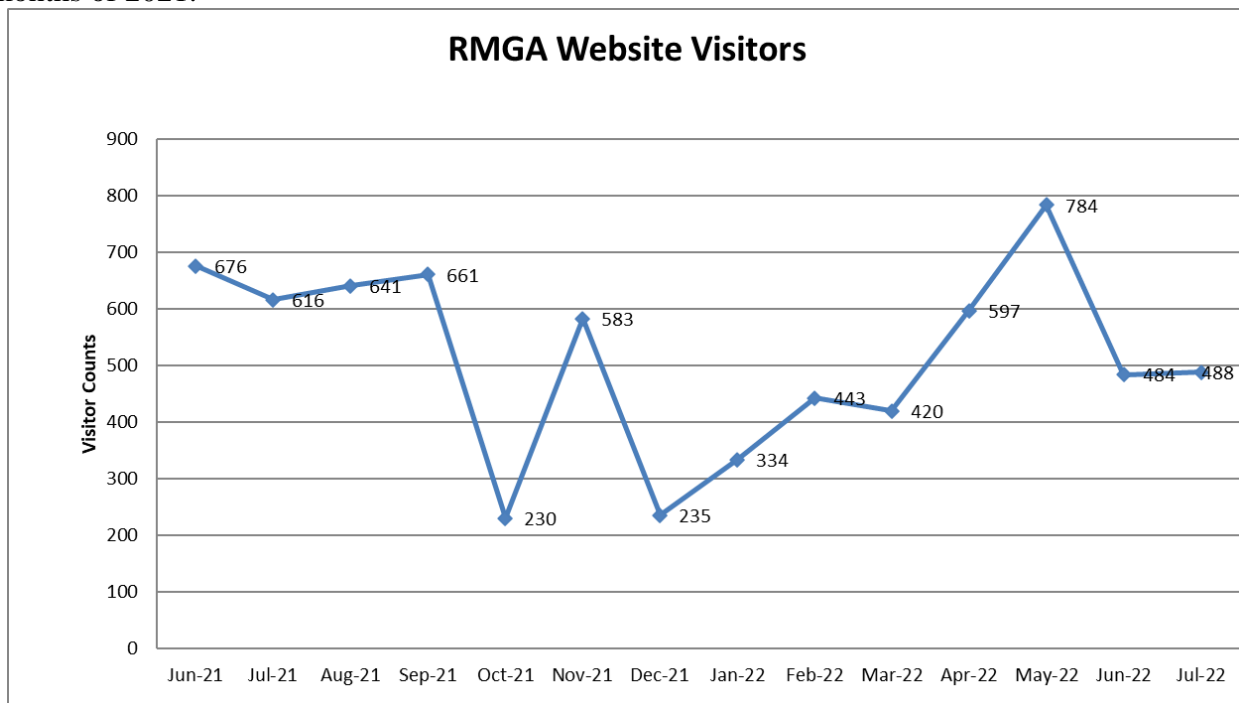
Submitted by Tom Jensen, Communications Committee Chair

What's New on the Website?

- *Added Contact Information for Argo Mill and Tunnel*
- *Added August 17th version of Membership Roster*
- *Uploaded May Guideline*

Monthly Visitors to the RMGA Website

The monthly visitor to our website remains constant. Here is a comparison with the Summer months of 2021.



Profile Update

Profiles from people who did not renew have been removed. For members with profiles, a year was added to the Years Experience category.

If you have changes to your Profile, send them to rmgawebsite@rockymountaintourguides.com.

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

Facebook

Be sure to join the RMGA Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RMGAssoc>. You'll find postings of upcoming events, industry happenings, and photos. All members are welcome send in their pictures or posting.

Membership Committee

Submitted by Mike Pearl, Membership Committee Chair

Rocky Mountain Guides Association welcomes new professional member Allen Steele of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Allen is a published author (most recently *Santa Fe's Fonda, The Story of the Old Hotel at the End of the Trail*, from The History Press), a former university professor, and a history enthusiast.

Allen says he conducts tours in Santa Fe "for the fun of it." His tour specialties are Santa Fe History and Old Santa Fe Trail/Rt 66 City. His tours are most helpful to people who are on their first day in town, "then they will know how to experience the real Santa Fe!" Check out his internet presence at santafediscoverywalkingtours.com. Welcome to Allen Steel, whose membership helps to make RMGA a truly Rocky Mountain endeavor!

The RMGA Board of Directors thanks you for your membership. The latest membership directory is posted on the Members Only page of the RMGA Website.

RMGA welcomes new members! Do your part to improve and expand RMGA's knowledge base by increasing our membership roster. Invite tour guides to RMGA's next meeting in-person or on Zoom. Send their contact information to Membership Committee Chair [Mike Pearl](#) so that they can be included on the Zoom Meeting Invitation.

Nominations Committee

No submission this month.

Program Committee

Submitted by J. Mark Blaising, Program Committee Chair

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM (More information on next page (page 5)).

Members are welcome to attend an evening at the Center for Colorado Women's History on Monday September 12th from 6-8pm. The event will be hosted by Cat Jensen, the Guest Services Coordinator and Educator at the Center for Colorado Women's History. A Folklorist and performer who has worked in museums across the country for ten years, Cat loves giving tours, creating educational materials and telling the stories of the inspiring women of the museum's beautiful historic home. Cat's presentation will provide information on the museum, the families who lived there and the legacy of Anne Evans, an inductee of the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

The cost is \$5.00 per person. Please RSVP to Blaising303@gmail.com

Public Relations Committee

Submitted by Tom Jensen, Public Relations Committee Chair



Register and Book Your Room Now! Gov Con 2022 will take place September 21-23, 2022 in Snowmass, Colorado! Join us for our annual tourism conference, full of networking opportunities and educational panels. Check out the links below to get more involved.

[More Conference Information Here](#)

Representing RMGA this year will be Mark Blaising and Tom Jensen

[Register Here](#)

SEPTEMBER MEMBERS PROGRAM



-Submitted by J. Mark Blaising, Program Committee Chair

Situated in the heart of today's thriving museum and cultural district is a unique historic gem that connects Denver's past and present. The Byers-Evans House is now the Center for Colorado's Women's History. Built in 1883 for Denver Pioneer and founder of the Rocky Mountain news William Newton Byers and his wife Elizabeth, this Italianate style Mansion has been home to two of early Denver's most prominent families. In 1888, the son of the former Territorial Governor and future head of the Denver Tramway Monopoly, William Evans and his wife Cornelia along with their two young children John and Josephine purchased and took residence in the house. Two additional children Margaret and Katherine were born in the home and a member of the family resided in the home for 90 years before being deeded to the state for use as a museum.

It has gone through multiple renovations and a major expansion in 1897 to accommodate William's mother Margaret and sister Anne after the death of the former Governor. Anne Evans was a pioneer in her own right as she championed the arts and cultural institutions of the fledgling metropolis. She was a founding member of the Denver Arts Society precursor to the Denver Art Museum as well as the library and a guiding force in the renovation and restoration of the Central City Opera House.

The museum is based on an interpretive period between 1912-1924. The beginning year is that of the last major renovation and the end year marks the death of William Evans. Unique to house museums is the overwhelming percentage of original family furnishings and pieces from that period. Ninety percent of the objects on display are from the family. Other objects include a Tiffany Lamp contributed by the family of Mamie Doud Eisenhower.

More recently the House and the Carriage House Gallery have become the home of the Center for Colorado's Women's History. The Center for Colorado Women's History focuses on scholarship, research, lectures, tours and exhibits that expand the understanding and collective memory of the history of women in Colorado. Most importantly, the Center is connecting local stories to the broader stories of women's history worldwide.

The Rocky Mountain Guides Association is pleased to announce that its members are welcome to attend an evening at the Center for Colorado Women's History on **Monday September 12th from 6-8pm**. The event will be hosted by Cat Jensen, the Guest Services Coordinator and Educator at the Center for Colorado Women's History. A Folklorist and performer who has worked in museums across the country for ten years, Cat loves giving tours, creating educational materials and telling the stories of the inspiring women of the museum's beautiful historic home. Cat's presentation will provide information on the museum, the families who lived there and the legacy of Anne Evans, an inductee of the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

The cost is \$5.00 per person. Please RSVP to Blaising303@gmail.com

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Submitted by Mike Pearl, President

Rocky Mountain Guides Association represents professional tour guides in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region to tourism-related organizations. As president, I meet with other leaders of US tour guide associations and guilds through monthly Zoom meetings.

Tom Jensen and the Public Relations Committee lead in keeping RMGA and us professional tour guides in the forefront of the minds of local tourism industry leaders. He is our liaison to VISIT Denver, the Colorado Tourism Organization, VISIT Colorado Springs, and Tour Colorado, among other such organizations. Do you know of a tourism organization with which RMGA should be affiliated? Contact Tom with information.

At the request of members, the Board of Directors will conduct a survey of the professional members regarding their tour activities for the 2022 season. The brief survey will seek information about the types and frequency of tours that members give and ranges of pay members receive for their services. The purpose of the survey is to describe the status of the profession in the Rocky Mountain region by statistical means. Respondents will remain anonymous, responses will be aggregated, and results will be published in the *Guide Line*. Send your ideas about topics and questions to RMGA President [Mike Pearl](#).

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

Contact any Board member with your interest.

Are You Colo-Ready?

RMGA has become a Stewardship Partner with the Care for Colorado Coalition. Check out the RMGA logo alongside other Stewardship Partners at <https://www.colorado.com/care-colorado-coalition>. Watch for this logo on the RMGA website and the *Guide Line*:



As we prepare for the summer tourist season, it's good to get a refresher on the concepts that make up Care for Colorado. Check out this video describing "The Etiquette of Poop" produced by The Care for Colorado Coalition [Video](#)

The ideas expressed in the video can't be an exhaustive list. What ideas is the video missing? Send your thoughts to the *Guide Line* [Editor](#).

What Are Our Guests Learning about Colorado?

Have you ever wondered about the advertising messages about Colorado that tourism offices are sending to other areas? It's prudent to be aware of those messages, because they set guest expectations. Here's one about "Explore Alamosa." Watch the [Video](#) produced by the Colorado Tourism Office.

Here's a video about Denver, "Fall Foliage and Autumn Colors in Denver" [Video](#), produced by VISIT Denver.

Tour Colorado, Colorado's link to the group tour industry, offers [Itineraries & Maps](#) on their website.

The ideas expressed in these videos can't be exhaustive lists. What ideas are missing in the videos? Send your thoughts to the *Guide Line* [Editor](#).

Colorado Concierge Training and Certification

[Colorado Concierge Training](#) is a free certification for frontline workers to become Colorado experts and grow their Colorado-style hospitality. The training is online at [BeAColoradoConcierge.com](#). You can also download the app from [Google Play](#) or the [Apple App Store](#).

The training includes seven modules:

- Colorado Essentials
- The Care for Colorado Principles
- Colorado's Eight Travel Regions
- Colorado-Style Customer Service
- Colorado Traveler Safety
- Hunting & Fishing
- Inclusive Colorado Culture

Certified businesses, organizations, and individuals also receive the benefits outlined at <https://oedit.colorado.gov/colorado-concierge-training-and-certification>

Which RMGA members have attained Colorado Concierge Certification? What are your impressions of the program? Send your thoughts to the *Guide Line* [Editor](#).

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 from NFTGA via our email Blast system.

The August meeting featured a report from NFTGA vice president Janie Cardena of the Professional Tour Guide Association of San Antonio regarding NFTGA's biennial national conference. It will be held January 25-28, 2023, in San Antonio, Texas, at the Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio Riverwalk.

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

Find your next tour job at www.TourGuidingJobs.com!

Simply sign up for a free account and start looking through the job listings. We will be adding more jobs weekly as tour operators, destinations, attractions, and travel companies who send us their job opportunities looking for talented professionals like you!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Tuesday, September 6, 2022 (6:00 pm)

Monday, October 3, 2022 (6:00 pm)

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

All Members are welcome and invited to attend.

MEMBERS MEETINGS

The second Monday of January, February, March, April, May, October, November, December

Monday, September 12, 2022 (6:00 pm) (In-person meeting with ZOOM availability; an invitation to attend via ZOOM is emailed to Members, who are encouraged to forward the invitation to prospective members.)

Monday, October 10, 2022 (6:00 pm) (Meeting via ZOOM or in person: watch for details; an invitation to attend is emailed to Members, who are encouraged to forward the invitation to prospective members.)

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	Dawn Nelsen	303-898-6853
Treasurer	Wendy Pickering	217-621-1960
Director-at-Large	David White	720-217-8643

Committee Chairpersons		
Certification		
Communications	Tom Jensen	303-968-0515
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
Nominations	Mike Pearl	303-868-0023