

NEWS FROM YOUR COLORADO BYWAYS TEAM

Join us for the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Colorado's 25 Scenic & Historic Byways!



MARCH 2014

EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION IS EXTENDED TO APRIL 1st!

A Message from Lenore Bates . . .



GREETINGS, BYWAY PARTNERS!

As you know, we are celebrating 25 years of Colorado's Scenic & Historic Byways. And, with the auto-travel season beginning, we encourage you to use the tools we have at the state Byways site to easily promote your local events and attract partners:

<http://www.coloradodot.info/travel/scenic-byways/25thanniversary.html>

We hope you've been to our Facebook site which has returned many comments from Byways all over Colorado. As well, our Byway Photo Contest has attracted almost 500 submissions, and the prizes offered are good.

Nationwide, Byways have struggled without solid support and funding.

This is why we hope you can represent your Byway at the June 19 & 20, 2014 Byway Conference in Black Hawk. We have workshops lined up that will definitely assist you in both marketing and funding your Byway endeavors.

Registration is easy on-line, but you can also send payments directly to:

Charlotte Bumgarner
Gold Belt Tour
6778 County Road 102
Guffey, CO 80820



SEE YOU THERE!

Colorado Scenic and
Historic Byways
CDOT
4201 E Arkansas Ave
Shumate Bldg,
Denver CO 80222
(303) 757-9786
www.coloradobyways.org

COMMISSION Members
Shannon Gifford
Robert John Mutaw
Kelly Barbello
Leah Anne Quesenberry
Margaret Hunt
Hon. Sharol L. "Lyn" Deal,
Georgianna J. Contiguglia
Christopher F. Spori
Sen. Jeanne Nicholson
Gregory E. Yankee
Roger Wilson

EX-OFFICIO Members
Don Hunt
Edward C. Nichols
Mike King
Reeves Brown

STAFF
Lenore Bates
303-757-9786, ext. 284
Lenore.bates@state.co.us

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DECEMBER 2013

HERE ARE SOME PREMIERE EVENTS FROM THE COLORADO TOURISM OFFICE AND WATCHABLE WILDLIFE EVENTS THIS YEAR!

Monte Vista Crane Festival (Monte Vista, Colo.) March 7-9, 2014. In late February, sandhill cranes begin their annual journey from south to north. Before they get to their northern destination, the cranes stop near the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge for a little break. Come see the cranes while speaking with a wildlife expert or take a bus tour to see the 20,000 cranes, eagles and elk that come back every year.

Karval Mountain Plover Festival (Karval, Colo.) April 25-26, 2014. Come see the RARE Mountain Plover—birds as they arrive on Colorado's Eastern Plains. Along with bird watching, enjoy learning the community's history, mingle with local farmers and ranchers and eat a lot of delicious food in an authentic western environment.

Ute Mountain-Mesa Verde Birding Festival (Mesa Verde, Colo.) May 7-11, 2014. Writer of several guidebooks on Arizona birding, Rick Taylor will be speaking at the Archeological Center of America, while spring migrants settle on Ute-Mountain and in Mesa Verde. Bird watchers from all over the nation will be here for birding field trips to Mesa Verde National Park and Ute Tribal Park. – a spectacular setting.

Hummingbird Festival (Colorado Springs, Colo.) May 10, 2014. In mid-April, hummingbirds will be returning from Mexico to Colorado Springs for the summer/fall. In celebration of their return, this event will be held to learn more about hummingbirds. The festival will include hummingbird expert speakers, artisan vendors and live hummingbirds up-close.

Bent on Birding (Las Animas, Colo.) May 16, 17 and 18. One of the best places for bird watching is in Bent County in Southeast Colorado. Birds such as pelicans, Piping Plover, Least Terns, Black Rails and more can all be found here after migrating back when the winter season is ending. History re-enactments can be seen during the event and birding experts will offer guided tours.

Front Range Birding Festival (Littleton, Colo.) June 7, 2014. The Front Range Birding Company presents an opportunity to get up close and personal with a live Bald Eagle, Great Horned Owl, Peregrine Falcon and Harris Hawk. The event will also honor first responders, as Denver fireman, helicopter pilots and flight nurses will be in attendance.

Grand Mesa Moose Day (Grand Junction, Colo.) July 26, 2014. Hosted by Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the US Forest Service at the USFS Visitor Center on the top of Grand Mesa (10,200 FT.), see one of Colorado's most fascinating wildlife species. Learn how to spot a moose and how to view them safely at this annual event. Bring the family, a picnic and spend the day outside in the Colorado sun.



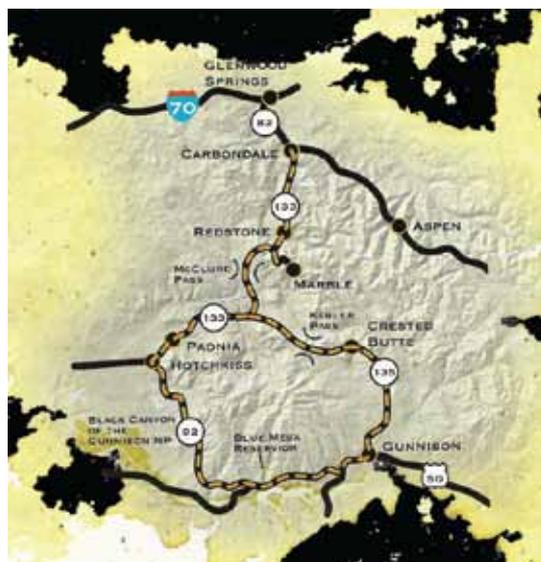
Featured Byways!

West Elk Loop

Length: 205 miles. Driving time: 6-8 hours.



Black Canyon of the Gunnison
Blue Mesa Reservoir
Curecanti National Recreation Area
Crawford State Park



The twin summits of Mount Sopris and the incomparable Black Canyon of the Gunnison anchor the ends of the West Elk Loop. Carbondale, Hotchkiss, Crawford, Gunnison, Crested Butte, and other towns offer a slice of Colorado's rich history, varied lifestyles, and natural beauty.

Los Caminos Antiguos

Length: 129 miles. Driving time: 3 hours.



Great Sand Dunes National Park
Cumbres/Toltec Scenic Railroad
Fort Garland Museum
San Luis Lakes State Park
Stations of the Cross Shrine in San Luis
Sangre De Cristo National Heritage Area



The Great Sand Dunes are one of nature's most painstaking creations. Hundreds of feet high and more than a thousand miles from the nearest ocean beach. Los Caminos Antiguos take you to Colorado's oldest surviving community (San Luis, 1851), its oldest church (Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Conejos).

