



Theodore Roosevelt Association

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[Home](#) [Emailing](#)

Date: 3/28/2020
Subject: The Arena Newsletter March 2020
From: Gary P Kearney, MD



Dear family and friends of the TRA,

I want to begin with a message to all concerning the current COVID-19 pandemic. I urge all of you to follow the CDC guidelines and stay vigilant to the real threat this disease represents. That said, we will come through this together as an organization and great nation. Recently I read a passage from TR and I would like to quote a portion of it here: "I ask, that all of us approach our duties of today in the spirit that our fathers have shown in the different crises of the past, realizing that nothing can take the place of the ordinary, every-day performance of duty, that we need the virtues which do not wait for heroic

times, but which are exercised day in and day out in the ordinary work, the ordinary duty of life..... My faith is firm that when the need for the heroic efforts arises, our people will, in the future, as they have always done in the past, show that they have the capacity for heroic work”.

This is such a time and I believe we are seeing that capacity for heroic work across this great nation.

David Architzel - Chair of TRA

The TR quote citation is from: Address at the Hall of the Native Sons of the American West, San Francisco – May 13, 1903



2020 Annual Meeting: October 23-25, 2020

The TRA, in partnership with the National War College, is pleased to announce that the guest of honor for our 2020 annual meeting has been confirmed as The Honorable James Mattis, U.S. Secretary of State. This will be a TRA event not to miss! Details forthcoming this summer. The theme is Theodore Roosevelt and Statecraft.



TRA Honored Speaker 2020

General James Mattis USMC (Ret) & 26th US Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis was raised in Southeastern Washington and graduated from Central Washington State College. He served over 40 years in the Marine Corps as an infantry officer, plus duty in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, as NATO Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT), and as Commander of U.S. Central Command comprised of 250,000 U.S. and allied

The 101st Annual Meeting of the Theodore Roosevelt Association is scheduled for Friday-Sunday, October 23-25, 2020. In celebration of the centennial of the congressional charter issued in 1920 to the TRA (then the RMA), the host city will be Washington, D.C. The National War College will be a primary venue. Updates will be provided to TRA members as the planning proceeds. Please consider joining us for a grand event!



troops in combat across the Middle East and South Asia. Retiring in 2013. Subsequently he served as the 26th Secretary of Defense from January 2017 through December 2018.

USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT

By Michael Conte, Ryan Browne and Barbara Starr, CNN

Updated 7:41 PM ET, Thu March 26, 2020

Washington (CNN) There are now 25 sailors who have tested positive for the coronavirus aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt, just two days after the Pentagon announced that three sailors aboard the ship had tested positive for the virus, a Navy official has confirmed to CNN.

The Navy says they expect there to be additional positive tests among the crew, with one official telling CNN there could possibly be "dozens" of new cases that emerge. A second official said that were there to be a large number of additional cases, the Defense Department would be unlikely to publicly specify how many of the Navy's overall cases are amongst members of the crew of the Roosevelt, due to concerns that adversaries such as China or North Korea could see the ship as vulnerable. Despite the outbreak, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday said in a statement,

"we are confident that our aggressive response will keep USS Theodore Roosevelt able to respond to any crisis in the region."

In future Arena publications we plan to feature Theodore Roosevelt organizations that relate to our mission to promote the legacy of TR as you will see in features below. This newsletter will also be a forum for our partners in the TR arena to provide updates, event information, and other relevant information. This edition features Harvard's Houghton Library, hosting the TR collection and our new partner the New England Historic and Genealogical Society in Boston.

To enter the TRA website, [Click here](#)



From Christine Jacobson, Assistant Curator of Modern Books & Manuscripts - Houghton Library, Harvard University:

The Theodore Roosevelt Collection at Houghton Library at Harvard University recently received a small trove of letters and poems by Nicholas Roosevelt (1798-1828), brother of C.V.S Roosevelt, and great uncle to Theodore Roosevelt. The six letters and three poems came to us from the Theodore Roosevelt Association in January and we are happy to report they are now available for research in our reading room. Previously, the collection contained very little by Nicholas. The letters, which discuss family illness and every day goings on, and the poems, each addressed to a different woman, provide a glimpse into the life of this Roosevelt who died young and about whom very little has been written. Please contact Assistant Curator of Modern Books and Manuscripts at Christine_jacobson@harvard.edu for more information.

--Despite having written and published more than any other President, there has yet to be a definitive (or as definitive as there can be) bibliography of TR. Wait no more! This spring, Oak Knoll press will be publishing Heather Cole's long anticipated bibliography on Theodore Roosevelt: *Theodore Roosevelt: A Descriptive Bibliography*. This will be an invaluable resource for all TR enthusiasts and scholars. Heather Cole is currently the Head of Special Collections Instruction and the Curator of Literary and Popular Culture Collections at the John Hay Library at Brown University. Previously, she was a curator at Harvard's Houghton Library and oversaw the TR collection. Pre-order now at this link:

[Theodore Roosevelt Bibliography](#)

The TRA is in the early stages of partnering with Harvard's Houghton Library for an exhibition (planned for Spring 2021) at Harvard on TR as a Literary Lion, focused on TR as a reader, writer, and advocate of the literary arts. More to come!



Theodore Roosevelt Association Donation

February 10, 2020—Boston, Massachusetts—Deeper glimpses into the fascinating lives of the extended family of Theodore Roosevelt (1858–1919), the 26th president of the United States, have been added to the collection of American Ancestors | NEHGS through a generous donation of Roosevelt family papers from the Theodore Roosevelt Association (TRA). The TRA, chartered by Congress in 1920, is a historical and public service organization dedicated to perpetuating the memory and ideals of Theodore Roosevelt.

Letters, previously unpublished family

Lieutenant Colonel Gregory A. Wynn, USMC (Ret.), a trustee and a vice president of the TRA, facilitated the gift to American Ancestors | NEHGS. Wynn stated, “The TRA is thrilled to be able to partner and share this material with researchers and scholars through American Ancestors | NEHGS. The capacity and enthusiasm they can bring to this archive, much of which has been unknown previously, will ensure it is accessible and preserved for generations to come.”

Among the many items within the collection given to American Ancestors are:

the Last Will and Testament of Robert Barnwell Roosevelt (1829–1906), an

photographs, a handwritten multi-page genealogy, period family ephemera, and scrapbooks of hundreds of items are included in papers documenting the lives of members of the eclectic Dutch New York family whose members have included merchants, bankers, politicians, soldiers, explorers, and socialites. Many in the family became prominent in New York City business and political circles where “to be a Roosevelt was to be something distinctive.” The world followed the family’s exploits closely for decades as two Roosevelts, Theodore, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), rose to national prominence with their election to the presidency, and another, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962), became the nation’s longest-serving first lady, and a prominent diplomat.

Ryan Woods, EVP and COO of American Ancestors, announced the donation of the collection from the Theodore Roosevelt Association of Oyster Bay, New York. “We are delighted to be the recipient of these materials collected by the TRA since the 1920s ” said Woods. “We will make them readily accessible to the members of American Ancestors and other family historians, recognizing the immense value this collection will have to scholars around the globe.”

uncle of President Theodore Roosevelt, and a member of the United States Congress; a handwritten genealogy on 11 sheets of large-format paper—its author unknown—with the last entry in 1866 recording the birth of Robert Barnwell Roosevelt’s son, Robert; several previously unpublished portraits of William Emlen Roosevelt (1857– 1930), banker and telegraph executive and first cousin of Teddy, dating to 1896; several portraits of the Kean family, into which William Emlen Roosevelt married; and a portrait of James Alfred Roosevelt (1825–1898), uncle of President Theodore Roosevelt and father of William Emlen Roosevelt.

The papers donated by the TRA join the collection of Roosevelt memorabilia located at American Ancestors, which includes a letter written in 1916 at Sagamore Hill in President Theodore Roosevelt’s own hand. In it he proudly explains to a friend, “I am a good example of the melting pot—and I am straight United States.”

The new Roosevelt family materials will comprise part of the R. Stanton Avery Special Collections at American Ancestors | NEHGS. The entirety of the collection is available for research through the American Ancestors Research Center located in Boston’s Back Bay.



Members Corner

From time to time we will feature TRA members and their activities not necessarily associated with Theodore Roosevelt. Please send suggestions to the Editors of "The Arena".

TRA Trustee Gene Kopelson will appear on C-SPAN, Sunday, March 29th at 8:00 PM EDT. Gene is a historian, author, and physician. His most recent book is ***Reagan's 1968 Dress Rehearsal: Ike, RFK, and Reagan's Emergence as a World Statesman***. His recent book-talk at Pepperdine University's School of Public Policy is featured as part of the network's *American Presidency* series.



Highlights of the episode are audio-clips which reveal presidential candidate, and later President Ronald Reagan discussing the critical importance of Eisenhower's mentorship of Reagan in world affairs. Kopelson has spoken at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene, Stanford University's Hoover Institution, the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library, The Citadel, The Heritage Foundation, The Ronald W. Reagan Society at Eureka College, the U.S. Army War College, and The Naval War College. Further details are at [Gene's website](#) and at amazon.com.



Made in the USA Teddy Bears Special Offer

The TRA is offering Made in the USA 12" Teddy Bears to our members who would like to make their own donations to sick children via their local hospital and/or charity. They will be sold in quantities of 30 bears per box only for \$210.00 plus UPS Ground Shipping.*

Orders can be taken by phone or email and payment by credit card or check. Contact Marie Kutch at the TRA National office to place your order, (516) 921-6319, x10 or mkutch@theodoreroosevelt.org. Payment must be made prior to

shipping. Place your order now as quantities are limited!

*UPS Ground shipping fees will be determined based on shipping location in US only. Note that teddy bears are brand new, each enclosed in unsealed, zip-lock plastic bag.

TRA Social Media

Don't forget, the TRA is on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)! Social media is a great way to stay involved with conversations about TR and keep up to date on the latest TR- and TRA-related happenings. We are regularly talking about interesting topics, both current and historical. So FOLLOW us on Twitter and LIKE us on Facebook!

Theodore Roosevelt Association

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[Return to Previous Page](#)

About Us

History of the TRA

Leadership

Awards



What we Do

Teddy Bears for Kids

Annual Meeting

Police Awards
Public Speaking Competitions
Partnership with the USS TR
Partnership with Historic Sites
Strenous Life Adventures
Chapters
Publications

Membership

Membership Application
Gift of Membership

Giving

Donate Now
Donate a Classic Teddy Bear
Annual Appeal

News & Events

Press Releases
Events
The Arena Newsletter
In The News
Media Contact
Tweed's Pods
Blog

Resources

Lesson Plans
Brief Biography
Real Teddy Bear Story
Quotations
Speeches
Bibliography
Theodore Roosevelt: A Life of Public Service
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