



Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends and Family:

This is a very trying time for our nation and it's proud history. I hope that each of you have the opportunity to celebrate the 4th of July with family and friends. Now, perhaps more than any time in our history, it is important that we honor the great ideals which were and are the bedrock upon which our nation stands, a nation led through the years by truly inspirational leaders like our 26th President, Theodore Roosevelt. Happy Birthday America.

We continue planning the *2020 Annual Meeting, Theodore Roosevelt's Statecraft: The Cornerstone of American National Security* with the National War College, and we have so many exciting adventures to unveil for you soon! We are continuing to make plans that will show off the stunning location and treasures of the Roosevelt Room at the National War College in a way that will keep attendees safe. Hotel reservations are open; please note that we expect the hotel to fill up quickly if things "reopen", so we recommend playing it safe and making a no-risk reservation below now. Keep an eye out for Annual Meeting registration information in July!

Congress has passed much legislation over the last three months. One item that may have gone unnoticed is for 2020: even if you take a standard deduction for your income taxes (which most of us do these days), the CARES Act entitles you to a deduction from your taxable income of up to \$300 for cash gifts to non-profit organizations such as the Theodore Roosevelt Association. So why not contribute today to our annual campaign? Please click the adjacent link to make a donation now: [2020 Fundraising Appeal](#).



If you have not had the chance to attend one of the Theodore Roosevelt Association's Annual Meetings, this is a great year to do so! We are co-hosting with the National War College (NWC) at Ft. McNair in Washington, DC, on October 24-25, 2020, bringing our partnership to a new and exciting level. The theme is ***Theodore Roosevelt's Statecraft - The Cornerstone of American National Security***.

The TRA and NWC recognize there has been uncertainty surrounding scheduled events due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and its aftermath. Rest assured, we are planning the Annual Meeting with due care and have contingency plans to tailor the meeting as required. We can assure you that while we are confidently working toward a full in-person meeting in October (observing social distancing guidelines, there will in any circumstance be an event, be it fully in-person or fully digital – or any combination in between – that will include the TRA's Annual Meeting, Theodore Roosevelt's Statecraft: The Cornerstone of American National Security. Registration should go live any moment now, so look out for our communications!



The great news is that our keynote speaker at our Saturday Gala Event will be General James N. Mattis, USMC (Ret.) who will speak and will also be presented the ***"Medal of Honor for Public Service"***. But in abundance of riches, we are also bringing you a timely panel, very relevant to the election, on post-career senior military officers and the making of national security policy, featuring Washington Post Associate Editor and Columnist David Ignatius, 17th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff ADM Michael Mullen, USN (ret.), former Director of National Intelligence ADM Dennis Blair, USN (Ret.), former Undersecretary of Defense Policy Michèle Flournoy, and Professor Peter Feaver.

Rooms can be booked NOW at the Marriott Residence Inn, 1233 1st Street, Washington, DC, SE near the Navy Yard, by calling (202) 770-2800 for reservations and ask for the special Theodore Roosevelt Association block rate. We have a limited block of rooms available for October 23 thru 25 at a rate of King Rooms, \$169 and Double Queen Rooms, \$189 (plus city/state/hotel taxes). These rates are available up to August 15th. The hotel offer includes a full American breakfast, free wireless internet and local phone calls. Discounted valet parking is available (current rate for discounted parking is \$35/day plus tax). Note that hotel reservations can be canceled without penalty 72 hours prior to check-in. This special rate is not available by booking via hotel website; by phone only.

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) to Transfer from Coronado to Bremerton in 2021

The Navy announced Wednesday that the USS Theodore Roosevelt will be transferred to a new



The USS Theodore Roosevelt passes North Island as it leaves on deployment in January. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kyle Carlstrom

home port in Bremerton, WA, in the summer of 2021. The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, which deployed from San Diego in January, is back on patrol in the Pacific Ocean following an outbreak of coronavirus. When it transfers to Bremerton, it will enter the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for what the Navy terms “docking planned incremental availability,” which is an extended period in dry dock for maintenance and upgrades.

Navy spokesman Lt. Travis Callaghan wouldn’t say when or whether another carrier would take the Roosevelt’s place in Coronado: “U.S. Navy long-range planners constantly evaluate whether ships, aircraft and equipment are being used effectively and efficiently. Further decisions involving changing carrier homeport assignments will be announced when appropriate.” The USS Abraham Lincoln is based here, and the USS Carl Vinson is scheduled to arrive in the summer following its own overhaul in Bremerton.

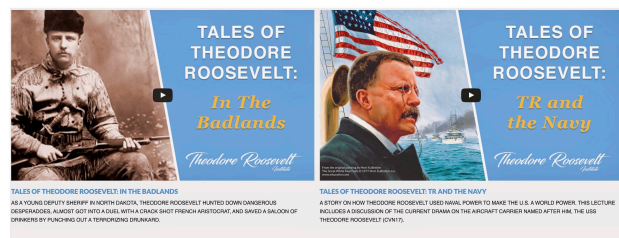
TRA Arena

In addition to the *Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal*, communications with our membership has primarily been through our annual meeting, travel, regional police awards, speaking contests, our website and The Arena Newsletter which has been dormant until this year. Re-establishing "The Arena" to our membership has been a priority. With help from Alice George and Co-Editor Greg Wynn, *The Arena Newsletter* was reestablished and is distributed to our membership. There are now 29 past issues of the TRA journal on the site as a benefit to TRA members, to be reviewed/read under the "What We Do" tab, under Publications/Theodore Roosevelt Journal.

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

Theodore Roosevelt Institute at Long Island University

Tweed Roosevelt, President & CEO of Long Island University's TR Institute gave a webinar on "*TR in the Badlands*" in May and June on "*TR and the Navy*". Tweed is the great grandson of Theodore Roosevelt and past Executive Director and President of the Theodore Roosevelt Association. These lectures can be viewed on the following link. [TRI lectures](#).



Outdoors Act passes in the Senate to Support National Park Maintenance

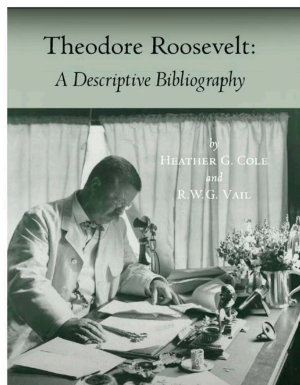
By Morgan Benth

The U.S. Senate passed the Great American Outdoors Act. The bill would allocate nearly \$2 billion a year for the next five years to the National Park Service. That \$2 billion every year will address national park and public land maintenance backlogs across the nation. North Dakota alone has about \$50 million in maintenance that has been on hold. National Parks across the U.S. are facing nearly \$12 billion in maintenance backlogs. "Our



park infrastructure is at risk of being loved to death, leading to dilapidated infrastructure that can compromise the visitor experience and safety," said Sen. Steve Daines, R-Mont. North Dakota lawmakers said the bill will help the state in more ways than one. "The Great American Outdoors Act really brings us one step closer to making significant and really necessary improvements, not only at Theodore Roosevelt National Park, but also on our public lands and Native American schools," said Sen. Kevin Cramer, R-N.D. The Restore Our Parks Act included in the overall bill will help with road repairs, which make up the bulk of the state's maintenance needs.

Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., added, "The bill will bolster investment in our national parks' facilities and infrastructure, like the repairs that are underway on the Scenic Loop Drive in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park." A permanent fund for land and water conservation will be created as well. The state received nearly \$2 million from that program in the 2020 fiscal year. The bill is anticipated to pass through the House of Representatives. President Donald Trump has also indicated his support and is expected to sign it.



Theodore Roosevelt... A Descriptive Biography

By Cole, Heather and R.W.G. Vail.

"It is not hyperbole to state that this is one of the most valuable and important works of TR scholarship to be published in many years."

- Gregory A. Wynn, Vice President, Theodore Roosevelt Association

Heather Cole's long awaited and important bibliography of Theodore Roosevelt is now available from Oak Knoll Press. This is an important contribution to Roosevelt scholarship. Heather is the former curator of Harvard's Theodore Roosevelt Collection and a TRA member. She recently did an interview with the publisher and Tweed Roosevelt which can be seen by [clicking here](#)

To order Heather's bibliography: [Click here](#)



Ceremony transferring Sagamore Hill from Theodore Roosevelt Association to National Park Service

Once again, for this issue, we have partnered with the Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University and benefit from their financial support in digitizing material. This month we reveal an audio recording of TRA giving Sagamore Hill to NPS which occurred on July 8, 1963. Oscar S. Straus, president of the Theodore Roosevelt Association, presides over the ceremony transferring ownership of Sagamore Hill from the Theodore Roosevelt Association to the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service. Speakers include the Chair of the Sagamore Hill Committee Bertha Bartlett Benkard Rose, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall, and Director Emeritus of the Theodore Roosevelt Association Hermann Hagedorn. Straus and Rose speak on the work the Theodore Roosevelt Association has done since its establishment, particularly the effort to restore Sagamore Hill to its condition during the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt.



Udall praises the contributions Roosevelt made in urging the nation to conserve its natural resources, looking to the good of future generations. Hagedorn reminisces about Roosevelt's character and hopes that visitors to this historic home will understand what made Roosevelt great and take that lesson to heart. Udall concludes the ceremony by assuring attendees that the National Park Service will care well for the site, and by signing the order officially establishing the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace and Sagamore Hill National Historic Sites. [Click button to listen](#)

Edith and Theodore Roosevelt Pine Knot Foundation

Pine Knot, the rustic retreat of Edith and President Theodore Roosevelt and their family during his presidency is nestled deep in the quiet woods of southern Albemarle County, 15 miles south of Charlottesville, VA. Edith purchased Pine Knot in 1905 as a place for "rest and repairs"; a small cottage being built for a farm worker with no electricity, plumbing, heat or interior finish, which she left unchanged, as it is still. Described as "quite the most unpretentious habitation ever owned by a president of the United States," Pine Knot uniquely exhibits the character and principles of the Roosevelts.



The property is stewarded by the Edith and Theodore Roosevelt Pine Knot Foundation, a small locally based Virginia non-profit whose Board of Directors, Docent work and most maintenance are carried out by volunteers. As the state enters Phase 2 of reopening during the COVID-19 virus, they are being permitted to open our historic site. Pine Knot was reopened June 14, 2020, but will be observing federal, state and local protocols for the COVID-19 virus and will require our visitors to do

so as well. As a wilderness site, Pine Knot is most suited to accommodate visitations that remain distanced, while offering the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and physically and mentally replenish its visitors, just as did President Theodore Roosevelt and his family. Visitors can email for appointments. For those who have not been to Pine Knot, it is a precious gem in southern Albemarle County, just 15 miles southeast of Charlottesville. To reach the cottage, there is a wonderful tree-lined 1/4 mile walk.

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

*P.O. Box 719
Oyster Bay, New York 11771-1719
Phone: (516) 921-6319
www.theodoreroosevelt.org*

Contact

*The Arena Editors
Gary Kearney & Greg Wynn
Editors@theodoreroosevelt.org*

Follow us

