Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends and Family:

Hello to all of our members and supporters of the TRA, In these difficult times, I trust that all of you well and following the CDC guidelines that will enable us to conduct the safe reopening of America. This has been a particularly hard time for families and individuals but also stressful to organizations such as the TRA that depend heavily on interaction with people to sustain themselves and grow. As many of you already know, we have reinvigorated many of our current programs and are working to create new ones as well. To be able to do that we have embarked on an appeal campaign and I would ask that you consider contributing to it in any amount you can.

In addition to our work on programs such as the Annual Public Speaking Contest, the TRA Journal, Teddy Bear Program, Partnership expansion with other supporters of promoting the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt, The Arena and many others. We are also continuing to hone our planning for this year’s Annual meeting and Symposium which will be Co-Hosted with the National War College. Finally, we are always looking for ways to enhance and grow our membership through development of our social media and improvements to our communication with all of you. Any ideas you might have would be greatly appreciated! Stay safe and see you next month in the “Arena”.

Please click the adjacent link to make a donation now: 2020 Fundraising Appeal

VADM David Architzel, USN (Ret.)
Chairman TRA
Board of Trustees
We are delighted! to announce that the Honorable James N. Mattis will be the keynote speaker at the 2020 TRA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. Our event this year will be held in conjunction with the National War College October 22 thru October 25. Our symposium’s theme will be: Theodore Roosevelt’s Statecraft: The Cornerstone of American National Security.

Rooms can be booked NOW by calling (202) 770-2800 for reservations and ask for special Theodore Roosevelt Association block rate. We have a limited block of rooms available for October 23 thru 25 at a special 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 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. Special rate not available booking reservation via hotel website; by phone only.

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71)

The Barrigada Mayor’s Office made a donation of snacks and candy to the USS Theodore Roosevelt Quality of Life Task Force May 6.

Mayor June Blas and Vice Mayor Jessie Bautista made the donation on behalf of the residents of Barrigada, along with community partners.

“This really came from the Barrigada Guam residents who reached out to me and I received so many messages through our community chat, and one of the messages said, ‘These sailors of the USSTR are not from here, I know they get meals every day but what can we do to give a little bit of extra comfort?’” Blas explained. “We worked with our community partners and they helped us achieve our goal to donate some snacks and candies.” U.S. Naval Base Guam commanding officer CAPT Jeffrey Grimes said the support is overwhelming.

“It has been tough for all of us, but to see our community come together, the way that they have is truly remarkable,” Grimes said. “Acts of kindness like these is inspiration that no matter
what, we can count on each other to get through these challenging times.” NavyTimes

TR A 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 recently. Re-establishing "The Arena" to our membership has been a priority. With help from Marie Kutch and Co-Editor Greg Wynn, The Arena Newsletter was reestablished in January 2020 and is distributed to over 900 emails.

To enter the TRA website, Click here

Tired of hearing nothing but Coronavirus and raring to get out of your home again? Join Tweed Roosevelt on a journey to a different time and place. Attend the first of four free lectures, the first on Theodore Roosevelt in the Badlands. See flyer above to the right and sign up by tapping the “Click here to register” link.

Tweed Roosevelt is the great grandson of Theodore Roosevelt and past Executive Director and President of the Theodore Roosevelt Association. Click here to register

“An Important but Obscure TR Biography”

Has anyone ever heard of Edmund Pearson's obscure 1920 biography of Theodore Roosevelt? It was one of Edith Roosevelt's favorite biographies of her husband. It was published by The MacMillan Company and republished through the 1920s as part of a series “True Stories of Great Americans” and aimed at readers 12-15 years old. In my Theodore Roosevelt collection, I have two pieces of correspondence from Edith Roosevelt in which she praises this book. First, on a small calling card from Sagamore Hill in
September 1920 she writes: “Many thanks for Mr. Pearson’s book. We are so glad that he wrote it, - especially the 13th chapter.” Interestingly, Chapter XIII in Pearson’s book is titled “The Bull Moose” and discusses the 1912 campaign.

In a rather odd bibliographic quirk, my 1923 edition of this biography, while listing it in the table of contents, Chapter XIII is missing completely from the book! The pages have been bound incorrectly but that chapter is missing in its entirety.

In another letter from 1929 Edith Roosevelt writes about Pearson but also more broadly about TR’s reading interests as a young man (in part): “…I can tell you that apart from his books on Natural History my husband in common with many boys of his generation loved the works of Mayne Reid + Captain Marryat + the magazine Our Young Folks….P.S. I think Edmund Pearson’s Life of Theodore Roosevelt is particularly well written. His grandchildren like Hero Tales from American History”. (TR co-authored Hero Tales from American History with Henry Cabot Lodge).

*If you are interested in finding a copy of the Pearson biography, while a reprint is available on amazon, support the antiquarian book trade and seek one out from abe.com or the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers listings site. A first edition or later reprint is neither rare nor expensive and can easily be found.

Greg Wynn, Vice President, TRA

In this letter from Senator Henry Cabot Lodge to his friend (and former President of the United States) Theodore Roosevelt, Lodge relates his version of an altercation that took place in the halls of the Senate between the 66-year-old Lodge and a 36-year-old peace activist named Alexander Bannwart. To read this most interesting type-written letter from Senator Lodge to TR, Click here to read letter

Medora, North Dakota – Following guidance from the White House, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Public Health Service, and the North Dakota Department of Health, Theodore Roosevelt National Park is resuming visitor access for recreational day use of trails, picnic areas, roads and backcountry camping beginning on May 9th. The National Park Service (NPS) is working service-wide with federal, state, and local public health authorities
to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and is using a phased approach to increase access on a park-by-park basis. Amy McCann, Interpretive Ranger

Members Corner

We congratulate Dr. William N. Tilchin, past President of the Theodore Roosevelt Association (2016 to 2020) upon his retirement after 26 years of distinguished service as a Professor of Social Science at Boston University. He has served on the executive committee of the TRA since 2003. His teaching interests are American foreign relations, modern world history, great leaders and their impact on history. His research interests are Theodore Roosevelt and American foreign-policy. He received a BA degree in social science, French, and secondary education, and MA in history from Michigan State University and a PhD from Brown University. He has published dozens of scholarly writings and journals, book chapters, published speeches and essays which have focused primarily on the presidency and foreign policy of TR. Notably, he is the author of *Theodore Roosevelt and the British Empire: A Study in Presidential Statecraft*, (St. Martin’s Press, 1997), and he is the editor of *Spotlighting TR: Selections from the Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal, 2007-2014* (TRA, 2017). Professor Tilchin continues to serve the TRA as Editor-in-Chief of the Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal and Life Trustee.

*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”.*

TR 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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