



Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends and Family: This year the Theodore Roosevelt Association celebrates its centennial. As we shape our next 100 years, the TRA leadership has recently emerged from several months of strategic planning. Despite the global tragedy of COVID-19, we will remain laser-focused on our mission to perpetuate the memory and legacy of TR. The global pandemic reinforced the value of leadership. Theodore Roosevelt's example remains a guidepost and amplifies the importance of your Association's mission.

The TRA will enhance our efforts to sustain and expand partnerships with peer TR-related organizations. We will focus on nurturing and supporting Roosevelt scholarship. We are dedicated to driving momentum into the next century. We do this through our programs. These programs need funding.

The TRA is at a financial crossroads. This is a difficult time for nonprofits. Therefore, a core element of our strategic planning has focused on fiscal resources, maximizing efficiencies, and establishing procedures that produce enduring cost savings. It is the TRA's intent to generate funding for our programs while maintaining a general fund that supports daily operations.

In addition to our flagship publication, the Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal, we are maintaining existing programs and developing new programs that enhance our contributions to the mission, sustain partnerships, and foster scholarship.

This appeal's intent is twofold: to demonstrate renewed efforts and value and to remind our membership that your contributions and membership dues support tremendous programs.

We hope that you will contribute generously to this appeal. Without your donations, many of these efforts will not be sustainable. If you feel strongly about a specific program, please let us know. We would love the opportunity to discuss endowments. A letter accompanied by descriptions of some of our priority programs and initiatives will be mailed later this month. But, don't wait!

Please click the adjacent link to make a donation now: [2020 Fundraising Appeal](#)

VADM David Architzel, USN (Ret.)
Chairman TRA
Board of Trustees



TRA Annual Meeting 2020

The Honorable James Mattis could boast of a long list of venerable accomplishments: 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, and as Commander of U.S. Central Command comprised of 250,000 U.S. and allied troops in combat across the Middle East and South Asia. Retiring in 2013, he was a Davies Family Scholar at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, until his confirmation as the 26th Secretary of Defense of the United States from January 2017 through December 2018. Now he can add Theodore Roosevelt Association keynote speaker to the list.



Former Secretary James N. Mattis has graciously agreed to keynote the 2020 Theodore Roosevelt Association Annual Meeting, to be held in conjunction with the National War College on October 23-25 in Washington, D.C. Registration hopefully will be opened later this month, and hotel reservations are open now! An email has been sent out with all details. The meeting is being planned with COVID-19 in mind, and it is possible that registration may be cancelled .

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71)

NAVAL BASE GUAM (April 29, 2020) Statement from U.S. 7th Fleet – Hundreds of Sailors began the transition from quarantine and isolation to the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) April 29, as the ship prepares to return to sea after a bow-to-stern deep cleaning process. More than 4,000 Sailors who tested negative for COVID-19 have been in quarantine in hotels off base. It will take several days to move all of these

Sailors back onboard.

After the ship's arrival to Guam on March 27, approximately 700 Sailors remained on board to maintain critical ongoing operations and begin the cleaning. Since then, the ship underwent an aggressive, multi-pronged cleaning regimen, which balanced effective decontamination with protecting the ship's critical systems. Spaces were vacated for seven days – four days longer than the minimum recommended by the Centers for Disease Control – before being thoroughly disinfected. For spaces that were continuously operational, Sailors cleaned the area before leaving it, while the incoming Sailors cleaned it immediately upon arrival. The transition of crews involved significant coordination, to ensure social distancing and maintain the cleanliness of the ship. Portions of the crew were carefully selected to return to the ship to establish a healthy foundation. "The bubble-to-bubble transfer and boundary is extremely important, due to our unique living and working environments on the ship," said Senior Chief Intelligence Specialist Chanda Clifton. "We have a good chance of success in protecting the crew with continued vigilance." With the crew swap, the clean crew can now refocus on their primary jobs and work to get the ship back to sea. "Without a clean ship and healthy Sailors, we cannot execute the mission," said Harry. "Our Sailors take pride in what they do and it shows with the effort and long hours spent cleaning our ship for our clean crew. The crew did an extraordinary job."

A Re-Imagined 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 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. We have focused on introducing the new TRA leadership team, our Chairman David Architzel and Executive Director Howard Ehrlich, and the 2020 Annual Meeting and keynote speaker the Honorable James N. Mattis. TR partnerships have been highlighted including TRA Teddy Bear for Kids under the leader ship of Jim Pehta, Sagamore Hill NHS in Oyster Bay and the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace NHS in New York City. In the February issue the fourth annual TR Book Award was announced along with a feature article about the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural NHS in Buffalo. The March issue of The Arena Newsletter

featured the new partnership with the New England Historic Genealogical Society, as well as, the establishment of a new “Members Corner” featuring TRA Trustee Gene Kopelson. The primary purpose of The Arena Newsletter is to communicate with our membership but also to encourage partners to contribute updates thereby broadening our reach as an umbrella organization for all things TR.

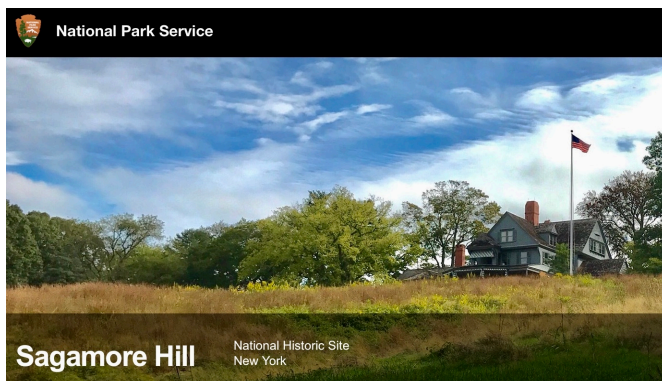
To enter the TRA website, [Click here](#)



Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University

The Arena going forward will from time to time, offer a film or audio footage from the TRA archives. Some of this material has not been seen in decades. We have partnered with the Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University in digitizing many canisters of film and audio. The TRC was gracious in funding this effort in its entirety, and Sharon Kilzer and her team continue to do invaluable scholarly work in digitizing TR’s written work.

This edition of the Arena features a link to a film (no audio) of President Dwight Eisenhower's trip June 1953 visit to Sagamore Hill. It's a great period piece in vivid color. You will see in this footage Herbert Hoover, Thomas Dewey, Alice Longworth, Archibald Roosevelt, and Ethel Roosevelt. We would love to know if anyone can identify any of the others in the crowd. Enjoy! Here is the link to the [Film](#).



Sagamore Hill NHS

Since people are unable to travel and Sagamore Hill is closed, we thought it would be informative and enjoyable to include a link to their [Virtual Tour](#)

American Museum of Natural History

New York

The Theodore Roosevelt Association is proud of its continuing partnership with the American Museum of Natural History. Theodore Roosevelt Senior was a founder of this grand New York City institution. Today, the TRA contributes \$1,000.00 per year to the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Fund which supports young scholars in their research of North American animals. While we are researching the genesis of the TRA's decades long support of this program, we believe the endowment for this fund was established in the early 1960s by royalties from items produced and published for the centennial of TR's birth in 1958. The TRA's own Elizabeth Roosevelt served on the fund's committee for many years and Simon Roosevelt currently serves as the chairman of the committee.



Dr. John J. Flynn serves as the Dean of the Richard Gilder Graduate School and Frick Curator and Professor in the Paleontology Division of the AMNH. He oversees the administration of the TR Memorial Fund. He recently told us that: "Last year we were able to provide Theodore Roosevelt Research Grants (averaging more than \$2,000 each) to more than 30 young scientists to undertake research on aspects of the living or extinct North American fauna relating to research done at the American Museum of Natural History. Since the inception of this program, over 2200 of these research grants have been awarded (I myself was the recipient of one many years ago), totaling more than \$2 million, to doctoral students, postdoctoral researchers and other early career scientists from around the world. In addition, over the past 30 years this fund has enabled us to support or co-fund 18 outstanding young scholars to undertake advanced scientific research and training on various facets of North American faunas at the Richard Gilder Graduate School/American Museum of Natural History. These include 17 postdoctoral fellows and one graduate fellow from our partnership PhD programs with area universities. I want to reiterate how grateful we are to the TRA's longstanding interest in and commitment to our Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Fund and the programs and young scholars it supports at the American Museum of Natural History, across the nation, and internationally in the study of North American animals—a theme so

dear to President Roosevelt throughout his lifetime.”



Timothy G. X. Salls is Manager
of Manuscript Collections.

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New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)

We spoke with Tim Salls, Manager of Manuscript Collections, recently regarding their progress in organizing the Roosevelt family genealogical materials the TRA gifted to them. He reports:

“I borrowed *The Roosevelt family in America* (Theodore Roosevelt Association, 1990) from the Research Library and I re-processed the entire collection. I have completed up through folder 144 for Elliot⁹ Roosevelt (1910-1990) #122. There are 46 folders for family members that still need to be re-numbered. These are followed by folders for "TRA accessions." Accession #080001 to #080032 have been placed in folders so far but need to be re-numbered. The Association sent some additional material in an express box that still needs to be put into folders. There is an Excel Spreadsheet that Special Collections uses to import the finding aid data into ArchivesSpace. The file includes box and folder number, folder title, folder contents, dates, and page count. I had been editing this file to reflect the changes to the physical collection. I also wrote a column on this collection for *American Ancestors* magazine for the upcoming spring 2020 issue”.

Please click link to see: [NEHGS article](#).

USS Theodore Roosevelt
February 22, 1984 · 0 · 0




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".



P. W. Parcels, Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.)

"Wick" Parcels remains a distinguished member of the TRA. He currently serves on the Executive Committee and has served as Vice President. In 1992 he received the Rose Award, the highest honor a TRA member can receive for outstanding service to the organization. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy he rose to flag rank and was the first Commanding Officer of the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT CVN-71. In retirement he initiated the TRA Junior Officer of the Year Award, chosen by the ship's leadership. The Navy League awarded him the John Paul Jones Award in 1987 for "inspirational leadership" as commanding officer of the USS TR. He has been married to his beloved "Prissy" for sixty years. His military biography can be read by clicking the adjacent link on [Parcels Military History](#)



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!

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