



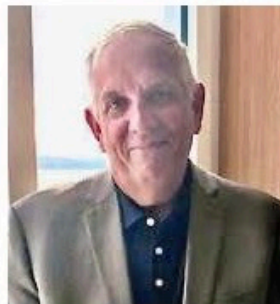
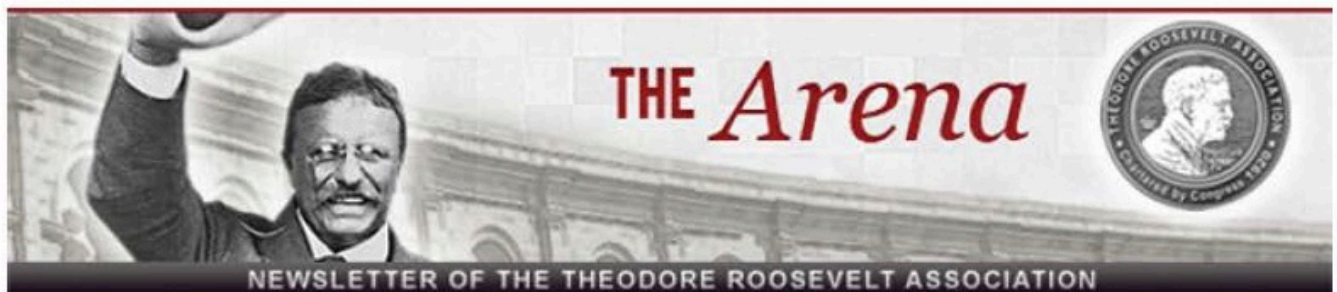
Theodore Roosevelt Association

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Date: 8/1/2020
Subject: The Arena Newsletter August 2020
From: Theodore Roosevelt Association



Stay cool and be safe out there!
Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends and Family:

As we battle through a blistering heat wave this summer let us keep a positive outlook towards cooler weather this fall coincident with our Annual Meeting ! Your TRA is continuing to make progress along many fronts as showcased each month in

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. Optional Friday morning tours include: U.S. Botanic Gardens, State Department Museum of Diplomacy, Library of Congress TR Collection & The Capital Building.

The Annual Meeting Registration is now live...please click the following highlighted [link](#) to complete your sponsorship and registration.

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 for 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)

Tom Cruise's 'Top Gun' sequel gets benched by COVID-19 for a full year. Everyone remembers our favorite part from the original Top Gun film -- the volleyball scene, of course. Unfortunately, eager fans will have to wait a bit longer before they will be able to view the hotly anticipated sequel.

The film was set to debut on June 24 as a summer blockbuster, but due to movie theaters shutting down and social

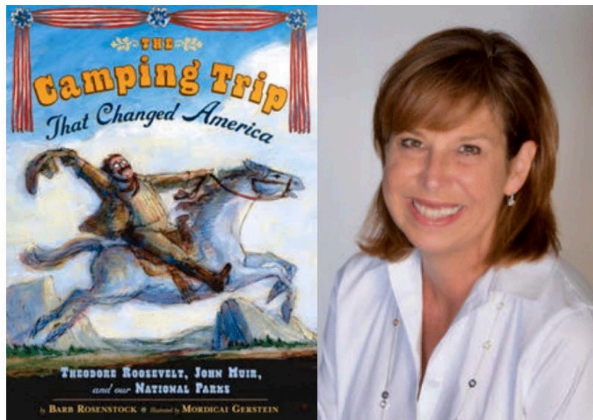
distancing requirements the release date was pushed to December. Now it appears that "Top Gun: Maverick" is getting pushed nearly an entire year with a release date of July 3, 2021. The movie has generated a buzz not just because of the nostalgia of the franchise but because of the incredible flight scenes and aerial dogfights that were filmed in real F-18 fighters, with Tom Cruise at a stick in some shots. Cruise and other actors were not flying though -- they were sitting up front in a special two-seater version of the F-18 that is used for instructors to accompany students in the air. **The filmmakers were also allowed to film on two aircraft carriers, the USS Theodore Roosevelt and USS Abraham Lincoln.** Whether it is July 2020 or July 2021, it seems clear that fans will be lining up with popcorn in hand when the new Top Gun is finally cleared for take-off.

Jack Murphy: jack@connectingvets.com

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](#)



TRA's First Children's Book Prize awarded to Barbara Rosenstock

As chair of the Theodore Roosevelt Association's Children's Book Prize, I am most pleased to inform Barbara that her book, ***"The Camping Trip that Changed America"*** was the recipient of the TRA's first Children's Book Award ! As you likely saw in the official notice last December, this prize is retrospective, and all the book finalists were books about TR published over roughly the past decade. We hope that this wonderful prize now stirs other writers and illustrators of children's books to begin to create new books on TR.

Gene Kopelson, MD

A short nine-minute video of her accepting the award follows. [Click here to view video](#)



Bulloch Hall, Georgia

When the children of a local Roswell, Georgia, historian gave sixteen boxes of her research to Bulloch Hall's Education Coordinator Gwendolyn Koehler, she enlisted the help of consultant Connie Huddleston. To their delight, they discovered copies of many family letters held in the Theodore Roosevelt Collection at Harvard University. These



Welcome to Bulloch Hall

Published in 2015, *Mittie & Thee: An 1853 Roosevelt Romance* revealed previously unpublished details about the Bulloch family. In 2016, Koehler and Huddleston published *Between the Wedding and the War: The Bulloch/Roosevelt Letters 1854-1860*, presenting letters from a turbulent period in our nation's history and details immense changes in the Bulloch/Roosevelt families. In 2017, the release of *Divided Only By Distance*

letters revealed much new information about Bulloch Hall, leading Koehler and Huddleston to decide to transcribe the letters for the betterment of Bulloch Hall's interpretive history.

Koehler and assistants at Bulloch Hall transcribed the letters, beginning with the 1853 courtship letters between Mittie Bulloch and Thee Roosevelt. Meanwhile, Huddleston worked on the text to illuminate details and items mentioned in the letters. They had agreed from the beginning to publish the letters as written. No corrections, no editing, and no excerpts.

and Allegiance: The Bulloch Roosevelt Letters 1861-1865 completed the series. This last book, designed to stand alone, presents an intimate family story during the Civil War.

Together, this three-volume series has redefined much that was believed and previously written about the Bulloch family and their life at Bulloch Hall. In 2020, Huddleston published her biography of James Stephens Bulloch which adds even more to the story of the Bullochs and the family that shaped Theodore Roosevelt.

For a video of Bulloch Hall click the following [Link](#)

Gwen Koehler, Bulloch Hall

Theodore Roosevelt Papers at the Library of Congress

I am delighted (or should I say "DEE-lighted"?) to inform you that the *By the People Program* at the **Library of Congress** launched a public crowdsourcing campaign to transcribe the correspondence contained in the Theodore Roosevelt Papers at the Library of Congress. See [Link](#)

The first public campaign, titled "Rough Rider to Bull Moose: Letters to Theodore Roosevelt," will focus on Series 1 (Letters and Related Material, 1759-1919) of the Theodore Roosevelt Papers, which is composed primarily of correspondence sent to T.R. The initial release offers five projects that include material dating from 1759 to September 1905. Twenty additional projects for Series 1 will be rolled out in subsequent phases.

By the People enlists the public to transcribe and review materials in



selected ***Library of Congress*** collections. These transcriptions ultimately are integrated into the collection's online presentation, which offers greater keyword search-ability of collections. The typed transcriptions enable people who use screen readers to access the collections, and also facilitate ease of reading for users at all levels, but particularly for those less comfortable with reading cursive handwriting.

The ***Library of Congress*** anticipates that the public will respond with equal enthusiasm to the "Rough Rider to Bull Moose" campaign, thereby learning more about Theodore Roosevelt and the varied subjects contained in his correspondence while also performing a valuable service in making what T.R. termed his "great mass of papers" at the Library of Congress more accessible.

To learn more about how to transcribe, review and tag documents in *By the People* campaigns, please visit the Help Center, which also addresses frequently asked questions.

Please feel free to spread the word about the "Rough Rider to Bull Moose" transcription campaign. By the People staff (crowd@loc.gov) also will be happy to provide more information if your organization would be interested in hosting a virtual or in-person transcribe-a-thon.

Michelle A. Krowl
Curator, Theodore Roosevelt Papers

MEMBERS CORNER

*From time to time we will feature TRA
members and their activities not*

*necessarily associated with Theodore
Roosevelt.
Please send us candidates for future
Arenas*



Author DeeGee Lester, retired director of education for the Parthenon in Nashville, visited the Lewis County Public Library on July 10, 2020 as part of the library's "Imagine Your Story: Happily Ever Hohenwald" summer reading program. Lester shared excerpts from her recent book "Quentin Roosevelt's White House Gang" and delighted children with exciting tales of Quentin Roosevelt's games, antics, and childhood fun growing up in the White House. Her passion and enthusiasm for Theodore Roosevelt and this part of American history was contagious, and parents and children felt that history came alive for them. Everyone left wishing they could have grown up with an energetic friend like Quentin Roosevelt and DeeGee Lester. At the end of the program, Lester showed attendees an assortment of Theodore Roosevelt toys and memorabilia. Children were especially fond of a marionette dressed as the "Hero of San Juan Hill" in a replica of the Army uniform worn by Roosevelt during the Spanish-American War. As a personal friend to the Roosevelt family, Lester told attendees that she plans to give her toys to young descendants of Theodore. Special care was taken to ensure the safety of families attending this program. In keeping with Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order limiting the number of people in social gatherings to 50 or less, this program was presented multiple times to small groups on Friday. Attendees were spaced out six feet, and hand sanitizer was made available to anyone wanting to hold and look at the memorabilia. DeeGee as Director of

Education for the Parthenon in Nashville focused on academic journals, encyclopedias, arts publications, and magazines for children and teens. She first became a member of the TRA in January of 1984.

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*

Follow us



Contact

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

[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