

*Theodore Roosevelt*  
MEDORA FOUNDATION



## ROUGH RIDERS REVIEW

WINTER 2020

**Thank You  
& Merry  
Christmas**



MEDORA.COM + 1-800-MEDORA-1

## Vision

We connect people to Medora for positive, life-changing experiences.

### Board of Directors

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Harold Schafer (1912-2001)

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Ed Schafer, Chairman  
Greg Tschetter, Vice Chairman  
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Randy Hatzenbuhler, President and Development Director

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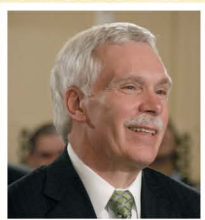
Mikaela Schindler



## Your New Medora Newsletter

Like many things this year, we're trying a few new things with the newsletter. For the next three issues or so, we're going with a shortened print version, and many more great stories and detail on [blog.medora.com](http://blog.medora.com). And, we'll send you those great stories via email and social media much more often, too. Using our Blog and email will conserve ink and paper resources, and allow us to send more good stories to you, more often, like we're getting a lot of our other news these days. We'll see how this goes – after a few months, we'll be asking for your feedback on the new direction, too, so you can help us chart the path forward.

# Schafer, Hatzenbuhler: A Holiday Season Like None Other



**Ed Schafer**  
TRMF Board Chair



**Randy Hatzenbuhler**  
TRMF President

**E**very organization and community faced the pandemic challenges of 2020; few can feel as fortunate as the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF). The holidays for Medora and TRMF have a historic dimension this year.

Not being able to open for the season in 2020 was a very real possibility. It would have been understandable. We are thankful for a board that had the confidence and courage to operate. In spite of challenges, 2020 was incredibly rewarding.

We are thankful for our customers. They came to Medora and they raised our spirits with comments, cards, letters, emails, texts and phone calls telling us how important it was for

them *to be in the Badlands* – and that Medora and the Musical made them feel positive about their state, their country, and life.

We are fortunate that the *Medora Musical*, the Pitchfork Fondue, horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking and the Bully Pulpit Golf Course are in peaceful and spacious outdoor settings. Guests felt safe.

We changed the way we operated to go beyond state

and CDC recommendations. Guidelines would have allowed for 75% capacity; we limited our *Medora Musical* capacity to 45%. Our cast and crew put on two shows for most Saturdays and Sundays so that we kept capacity low and met demand.

We are thankful for the results and the people who made them possible. We achieved about 80% of a “normal” year’s visitation.

We are thankful for our volunteers – there is no way we would have made it without them – and thankful for our many partners who all pitched in to do things differently in this very unusual year.

Medora provided a needed place for recreation and entertainment. It is a privilege to be part of an organization that believed in its vision, “*to connect people to Historic Medora for positive, life-changing experiences*”. We are deeply thankful for our generous donors and members who encouraged and supported us as we strove to live up to that vision.

One of the most rewarding comments of the year was also one of the shortest: a simple, hand-written message on a sticky note that read, “Thanks for being tough when it’s tough.” We’re thankful we had the chance to work hard, to be tough, to find new ways to do something good for North Dakota this summer. We’ll keep working to be ready for 2021, too. For that we’re thankful.

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## A Creative Way to Spread Holiday Cheer:

**STREAM THE MAGICAL BADLANDS CHRISTMAS SHOW RIGHT IN YOUR HOME!**

**W**e Need Christmas. That’s the theme of this year’s *Magical Badlands Christmas Show*. And it couldn’t be more true right now – we learned all year long that folks needed the Badlands to rejuvenate the mind, body and soul just like Theodore Roosevelt did. And even though reduced capacities meant we sold out our in-Medora Christmas Show packages quickly this year (That’s wonderful! Thank you!), we’ve worked out a creative way to bring what we think is our best Christmas Show yet, to thousands of folks around the country.

RIGHT NOW through the end of January, you can stream a full-length, professionally-produced and live-recorded version of the 2020 Magical Badlands Christmas show in the comfort of your own home. Just gather your special group together, purchase the livestream access with a streaming-capable device like your phone or laptop, connect it to your TV, and enjoy the show.

Streaming is just \$25 for 5 days of access to watch the show – so you and your family can watch and listen as many times as you’d like. **Purchasing links AND some helpful FAQs are both located at [Medora.com/BadlandsChristmas](http://Medora.com/BadlandsChristmas)**

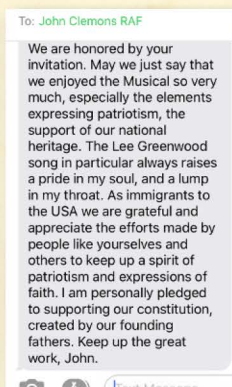
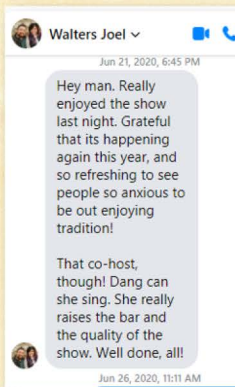
*A Magical*  
**BADLANDS**  
**CHRISTMAS**



# Rough Rider Members:

**MAKING POSITIVE, LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES HAPPEN IN THE BADLANDS**

**T**hank you to Rough Riders, Junior Rough Riders and major supporters of TRMF. We can't say thank you enough for what you do for Medora and helped us accomplish this summer. So, we're going to let the people whose lives you've positively impacted with your membership or larger gift say it!



These experiences do not happen without members and supporters. Your dollars fund the creation of shows, improvements to buildings and purchasing of equipment required to take care of hundreds of thousands of visitors every summer.

Rough Rider members get great perks like season passes to the *Medora Musical* or rounds of golf at Bully Pulpit. Junior Rough Riders get sweet swag bags, birthday greetings from President Roosevelt, and educational pieces on our 26th President, Medora and more!

**We invite you to become a Rough Rider and enlist some Junior Rough Riders. Learn more at [Medora.com/Members](https://Medora.com/Members)**

## TO OUR CURRENT ROUGH RIDERS & SUPPORTERS

If you are already a Rough Rider and got a few Junior Rough Riders in your family, consider following the "Pay-It-Forward" lead of Van and Dee Larson of Fargo, ND.

Van and Dee are great friends to Medora and have created an initiative to gift Rough Rider or Junior Rough Rider memberships to friends -- with the hope that these friends come to find the love and see the importance of Medora like they have.

**It's an inspirational idea that has done just that --- INSPIRE!**



**TRMF Summer Employee Jack Moi Moi of the Fijian Islands was told about the idea to gift membership and sponsored two Junior Rough Riders, Jasper the dog of Bismarck and Calvin Nelson from Fargo.**

## Amazing Amazon Adventure with TR! NEW DATES SELECTED

Medora's own Theodore Roosevelt, Joe Wiegand, invites you to travel with him in TR's footsteps on an Amazon Adventure April 30 - May 13, 2022.

Explore Rio de Janeiro, Iguazu Falls, and more on a trip that recounts our 26th President's River of Doubt exploration. Join the 25 TRMF friends already signed up for this exciting journey!

Go to [Medora.com/amazon](https://Medora.com/amazon) for more info.

OR Brochures are available by contacting Katherine Satrom at (701) 471-9972 or [katherine@satrom.com](mailto:katherine@satrom.com)



## Work Began this Fall as Part of Bully Pulpit's New Project, "Legacy BP"

Legacy BP will Innovate, Repair, Replace, and Preserve the world-class golfing experience offered at Bully Pulpit. The course has served golfers well over the past 17 seasons but it is time to get Bully Pulpit back into the Top 100 golf course list. To learn more about this project and get in the arena visit [Medora.com/LegacyBP](https://Medora.com/LegacyBP)



# "When you play, play hard."

- THEODORE ROOSEVELT

**T**hat's certainly been *part* of the theme of our downtown family attraction plan at **Point to Point Park** – and the use of phase 1 of during the summer of 2020 certainly shows that people "played hard!"

Thanks to the Matt and JoAnn Butler Foundation's lead, \$2 Million match challenge and those who joined in, we got phase 1 opened for thousands of folks to enjoy outside this year.



- 11,836 guests took a high-flying ride on Manitou the Zipline.
- Guests played 27,144 rounds of golf at Little Bully Pulpit – almost 10,000 more than last year.

Next summer we will open Phase 1 of Pancratz Trails at Point to Point Park, and our goal is to complete the \$8.8 million campaign this winter and construct the aquatics and other attractions of the Point to Point Park next summer, and be open fully in 2022!

## WE ARE NOT DONE YET!

Two sponsorship areas remain at Point to Point Park:

- The pool building for \$1,000,000
- PLUS, Point to Point Park Pavers to support "The Next 100 Years Endowment" to fund the improvements of attractions your family knows and loves. Gift opportunities of \$5,000, \$10,000, \$25,000, and \$50,000 available.

## Medora WISH Kids Free Week Results

2020 was a wonderful year for the Medora Wish Endowment! We had the opportunity to host two kids free weeks full of free shows and activities. During these two weeks we welcomed a total of **1,338** students to enjoy the *Medora Musical* and other family favorites! The endowment added two new Wish Wranglers to the ranks, Margo Helgersen (dec) of Westhope, ND and Sandy Tjaden and Roger Meyers of Bismarck, ND. TRMF is energized by the potential of this endowment and look forward to growing it in the future. See all the Wranglers at [Medora.com/Wish](https://www.Medora.com/Wish)

Giving Hearts Day is February 11, 2021 and the Medora Wish Endowment will be the featured project again for TRMF. If you want to learn more about giving on Giving Hearts Day go to [Medora.com/GHD](https://www.Medora.com/GHD)



**3,266 kids 17 and under have attended the *Medora Musical* for free during Medora Wish free weeks over the past three years!**



## Thank You GRE!



A big thank you Great River Energy for helping where the rubber meets the road! This 15 passenger van will be used to shuttle team members, cast and crew, and guests around Medora. Look for a newly-wrapped version in Medora this summer. In the photo, left to right: Randy Hatzenbuehler, TRMF; Joslyn Tooz, TRMF; Sam Fischer; GRE

**SEE SO MUCH MORE AT [BLOG.MEDORA.COM](https://www.BLOG.MEDORA.COM)**