

## ROUGH RIDER REVIEW

1-800-MEDORA-1

NOVEMBER 2007

www.medora.com

## **Ninety-Three**

By Randy Hatzenbuhler President

It is always fun to write the fall newsletter that recaps the summer season in Medora. This year, it would be too easy and tempting to have the shortest recap to-date. One might simply report, "93." More precisely, we rained out on opening night and then d 93 straight performances without another rainout. believable! That string of shows was a big part of 2007. But it was only part of a great year.

Thank you to Curt Wollan, producer of the show, and all of the cast and crew of the *Medora Musical* for giving our audience a first class show night

after night. At the risk of not mentioning your personal favorite moment of the show, I share with you just a couple highlights that people talked about all summer: Jared Mason's yodeling and the gospel set that featured his "I've Got Joy" number; and Janette Bruce as "Buffalo Alice" – I think she has more rhythm in her eyebrows that most people have in their whole being!

Kathy Beaudoin led a stellar od service team that served nearly 46,000 people at the Pitchfork Steak Fondue and



Janette Bruce as Buffalo Alice

established the Rough Riders Hotel Dining Room as one of the finest around. The Bully Pulpit Golf Course, led by Dave and Kathy Solga, continued to impress guests from all around the country (and world). So many people stepped up to new responsibilities at TRMF in 2007. They all did a terrific job because they love taking care of guests in Medora. We have a good mix of seasoned leaders like John Hild in our maintenance department and new leaders like Bryce Haugen who took over as the overall operations manager this year. Together they share a common vision of helping people fall in love with Medora, North Dakota – or simply continuing what Harold Schafer enjoyed so much.

Our crew is not idle. The fall has been the busiest ever; during September, we averaged over 100 motel rooms rented per night. People love being in the badlands during that time of year. Construction on the new Medora Musical Welcome Center and the "Spirit of Work" Quarters volunteer housing project has begun. And we are working diligently on the fundraising campaign so that the Rough Riders Hotel Town Square project can begin next spring.

Thanks to all of you who visited us this season. We look forward to your return for the season long celebration in 2008 when Medora basks in its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a city and the year that Theodore Roosevelt first stepped off the train in the badlands! Who knows? Maybe we can go for 94 straight performances next year.

## UNDER HAROLD'S HAT

Sharing information about Harold Schafer and his vision and ideas for Medora

The following is an excerpt from a Christmas letter from Harold to all of the Gold Seal Employees in 1983.

In Gold Seal Company during the balance of my life time, I hope we never forget the total values, the historic values, the true values. All of us are here first, and only, by the Grace of God. We are here in this business and successful because of the freedom America allows. Good is still good - Kindness is still kind - A smile is still a smile - Quality is still quality - Bravery is still bravery - Decency is still decent - A prayer is still a prayer, and all of these things will be true after you and I are gone. These kinds of things somehow or another don't get put into boxes of organizational structures, they don't necessarily find their way onto the front pages of the papers, not many magazines have articles about all of this and there does not seem to be much publicity about them on radio or T.V. - yet, when all is said and done these things are the link between humanity and life on this earth. These things really encompass all family life, all co-workers, all management, all employees and all "WORK".

My prayer this Christmas of 1983 is that with these few

words I can identify for you and yours, something which nobody can see, nobody can draw a picture of, nobody can find with X-ray, and nobody can point to with radar - - all of which makes it terribly hard for me to express in words the things I clearly see today and for which I



am grateful. These words are "you", and nobody nor anything human, or mechanical, can ever take these things away from "you".

### ROUGH RIDER REVIEW

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### CONGRATULATIONS!



President Bush has announced that Ed Schafer, former North Dakota Governor, former president of the Gold Seal Company, and a current TRMF Board of Directors member, will become the next U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. North Dakota has had only three cabinet members in its 118-year history. Interestingly, two of them - Ed and Tom Kleppe, Secretary of the Interior in the Ford Administration - served as president of the Gold Seal Company. Congratulations and best wishes to Ed from all of us at the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation! We are very proud.

# Medora VACATIONS

- \* 2 Medora Musical tickets
- ★ 2 Pitchfork Steak Fondue tickets
- ★ 1 night lodging for 2 at The Bunkhouse

STARTING AT:

149

Subject to availability.

Based on double occupancy.
June rates starting at \$149.
July and August rates starting at \$159.

Gustomize your vacation by adding golf at the Bully Pulpit.

or other lodging options.

Take advantage of this great savings offer!
Call today for more information.

1-800-MEDORA-1

(1-800-633-6721)

## VOLUNTEERS: A DEFINITE PRESENCE IN MEDORA

Annika Nelson

Walk down any street in Medora, and you are likely to find a volunteer greeting and dispensing information to tourists. It's hard to miss them! Levi Andrist, a 2007 Burning Hills Singer in the *Medora Musical*, perhaps summed it up best. He spent a month as my assistant, and commented after about day two, "I feel like I know everyone in Medora!" Volunteers add a personal element to any guest's experience. Their smiles and genuine love for Medora are apparent. Volunteers add to the overall ambiance in Medora.

The volunteer program has experienced a great deal of growth since its inception in 1998, and this year was no exception. A total of 423 people volunteered for the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation.

The majority volunteer in the town of Medora. We call them our in-season volunteers. You can find them at the TRMF Information Center, Mini Golf, Medora



Doll House, Medora Campground, Chuckwagon Buffet, Harold Schafer Heritage Center, Bully Pulpit Golf Course Snack Bar, *Bully*, End of the Trail, Pitchfork Steak Fondue, and *Medora Musical*.

Pre-season workers pitch in with the "dirty" work: cleaning, raking, painting, and generally preparing Medora for the tourist season. End-of-season work-rs step into positions vacated by summer employees no return to school, so volunteers can be found in the Bake Shop, Badlands Pizza Parlor, Ice Cream Parlors,

Laundry, Maintenance, Retail, and Receptionist positions.

In addition, volunteers were utilized during the Rod Tjaden Memorial Golf Tournament, doing grounds work in Medora, and hopping on motorcoaches to give a personal tour of Medora. One volunteer, Harry Vadnie of Bismarck, ND, spent all summer at the Bully Pulpit Golf Course as player assistant.

Volunteers are utilized outside of Medora as well. Many times volunteers are called to the Bis-

marck Office to help with mailings and are instrumental in the distribution of Medora Visitors Guides.

ebrated his birthday by

olunteering at Bully Pulpit

Close your eyes and pick a spot at random on the map of the United States and you are likely to hit a state represented by a TRMF volunteer. This year, volunteers came to Medora from 21 different states and one Canadian province - from 120 cities in all! You can find people that love Medora nearly anywhere you go.

Please see the small table below to get a quick glimpse at the 2007 volunteer program. It's amazing what they do for us! We depend on our volunteers. These generous people kindly donate their time, talents, and enthusiasm for Medora to us - and we thank them for being Ambassadors for Medora.

### **2007 VOLUNTEER FACTS**

Number of Volunteers:	423
Average hours worked/day:	6.7
Average hours worked/8-day week:	54
Total hours worked by all:	

"Sow good services; sweet remembrances will grow from them." S Madame de Stael, French writer



## FOCUS ON A VALUE - EDUCATION

By Steph Tinjum Personnel Director

The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation holds "Education" as one of its stated values, and each year we try to live out our dedication to this value. We work to sponsor educational events and programs to increase the public's knowledge of Theodore Roosevelt, Harold Schafer, Medora, and the North Dakota Badlands. The annual fossil dig, fourth graders' "Bully Expedition" in Medora, Harold Schafer Heritage Center Museum, and the co-sponsorship of TR enthusiast Clay Jenkinson's Scholar-in-Residence status at Dickinson State University are all examples of TRMF's presence as an educational leader in the region and the state.

Along with promoting education within the community, TRMF has a strong interest in increasing educational opportunities for its employees, especially young employees who are just entering into the world of work. For them, working in Medora turns out to be an education in itself. Young employees are mentored by full-time employees and seasonal managers who have years of experience to share. They are challenged to work with employees of different ages, nationalities, and English skills in a very diverse workforce. After just a few weeks on the job, employees have already started to develop their decision-making abilities, personal initiative, and leadership skills.

We are eager to see employees learn and grow in Medora. We also recognize the importance of academics to our employees' futures. The Tjaden



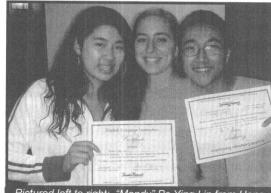
Marcusen and Minot State University
Board of Regents Award winner
Jeremiah Swenson enjoy greeting
guests at the Medora Musical.

Educational
Assistance Program
was established
a decade ago
to recognize
outstanding
summer employees
as they pursued
post-secondary
education. The
program has
grown and more
scholarships have
been added over
the years thanks

to funding by generous individuals. Most recently, the Sheila Schafer Sunshine Award was established by Madge Rieke and is awarded to a summer employee who is a true "day-maker" to co-workers and guests.

It is a privilege to serve on the scholarship selection committee and to see what an impact those outstanding employees have on guests and coworkers, and in turn the impact a summer in Medora has on each of their lives. We are proud to announce a total of \$24,500 in scholarships was awarded to thirty-three summer employees in 2007. (See page 5 for a list of winners.)

TRMF's focus on education benefits more than just our American employees. For the first time this summer, TRMF established an English as a Second



Pictured left to right: "Mandy" Po Ying Lin from Hong Kong, ESL Instructor Grete Norquist, and "Leo" LingXiao from Hong Kong - holding up certicates of completion for TRMF's ESL Program.

Language (ESL) Program to offer free supplementary English instruction to interested employees. The program's purpose was to better prepare employees become a part of the American workforce by increasing skills in conversational and work-specific English. We also hoped to improve our own operations by bridging language gaps between employees, managers, and guests.

We worked with Concordia College of Moorhead, Minnesota, and found an exceptional candidate in Concordia graduate Grete Norquist. Grete was eager to take our vision for an ESL program and bring it to life by creating a curriculum and serving as instructor. Though the bi-weekly courses were not mandatory, an average of twenty employees attended each session. Through a combination of conversation groups, grammar instruction, games, movies, music, and the assistance of American volunteers, Grete helped Medora set the standard for education to international employees.

We look forward to expanding both the Tjaden Educational Assistance Program and the ESL Program in Medora, and we will continue to explore ways in which to offer more educational opportunities to our employees.

### 2007 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation is proud to announce the 2007 Scholarship Recipients. This year, thirty-three scholarships for a total of \$24,500 were awarded to deserving student employees. Thank you to all of the people that make this possible! Please log on to our website to learn the story behind the scholarship, meet the donor that made it possible, at: <a href="https://www.medora.com/employment/scholarships.html">www.medora.com/employment/scholarships.html</a>.

#### **TJADEN EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FUND**

Each year, TRMF awards twenty-six \$500 Tjaden scholarships to seasonal student employees. Students must demonstrate leadership skills, outstanding job performance, and the ability to positively affect co-workers and visitors to Medora. The fund was established in honor of Rod and Sandy Tjaden.

Aaron Axvig - Bismarck, ND
Kristi Boen - Frazee, MN
Marcus Boykin - Williston, ND
Erica Browne - Fairview, MT
Helen Escalada - Nogales, AZ
Carmen Fiesel - Martin, ND
Daneen Fiesel - Martin, ND
Shauna Franchuk - Fargo, ND
Lisa Green - Glendive, MT
BreeAnn Gronowski - Bismarck, ND
Paul Gysberg - Great Falls, MT
Stacy Jaeger - Bismarck, ND
Raissa Johnson - Gwinner, ND

^ Justin Keller - Wahpeton, ND
Rachel Killen - Greybull, WY
Alissa Klose - Fairview, MT
Jenny Marboe - Dickinson, ND
^ Leanna Marcusen - Taylor, ND
Cody Meduna - Plaza, ND
Filip Peno - Belgrade, Serbia
\* Lance Rambousek - South Heart, ND
Julie Stoen - Valley City, ND
Lonella Streitz - Eagan, MN
Darrick Thorson - Fargo, ND
Amanda Weston - Bismarck, ND
Jettie Wold - Arnegard, ND

^Denotes Tim Johnson Award - an award given in honor of Tim Johnson to student workers who positively influence guests and co-workers through courage and humor and exhibit leadership. \*Denotes Winston Satran Award - an award given in honor of Winston Satran to a student worker who demonstrates leadership through compassion, patience, and, most of all, hard work.

### DON HUBBARD UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AWARDS

This scholarship is provided through the Tjaden Educational Assistance Fund and is financed by Joanne Hubbard. The scholarship is in the amount of \$1,500 each and is given to two students attending the University of North Dakota each year.

Caitlin Draper - Fargo, ND

Kari Nelson - Grand Forks, ND

### MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS AWARDS

A joint scholarship program established by the Minot State University Board of Regents, the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, and Minot State University. This scholarship funds up to four \$1,500 scholarships to Minot State University students employed in Medora.

Jacob Braaten - Thermopolis, WY Lindsey Brew - Manning, ND

Sarah Meduna - Plaza, ND Jeremiah Swenson - Stanley, ND

#### SHEILA SCHAFER "SUNSHINE AWARD"



New in 2007, this \$1,000 scholarship is given in honor of Sheila Schafer and funded by Madge Rieke. The winner of this scholarship is a student worker who is a true "day-maker" - someone who enriches the lives of co-workers and guests through a positive attitude, energy in their work, and genuine kindness.

Megan Dorval - Belfield, ND

## ON-THE-JOB TRAINING IN MEDORA

By Annika Nelson Administrative Assistant

The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation has long



4th of July Parade. Kristi received

internship credits for the Equine Studies Department.

prided itself on the ability to provide valuable work experience for seasonal summer employees. These individuals have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in their field of study and, perhaps most skills. Thousands of people pick Medora as their vacation spot, and all employees are subject to working with the public.

Internships are the best way for a student

to get the "real world experience" in their field. Leave your notebooks and textbooks at home. The only requirements: a ready smile, an open mind, and the willingness to work hard. Medora is the ideal place for internships of many kinds.

TRMF has several established internship programs that students take advantage of each year. These include: a communication intern, accounting interns,

information technology intern, and riding stables intern. These programs allow the student to get practical experience in their chosen field.

The communications intern works with Wade Westin, TRMF's Marketing/PR Director, and learns about the intricacies of the media and signage in Medora. The accounting interns take on a great deal of responsibility. They are depended on to handle the dayto-day accounting



Aaron Axvig (right) joins his

supervisor, Nick Teske, in the

th of July Parade. Aaron is an

Information Technology intern.

Their theme: "Keeping IT real.

Rachel Richgels earned Human Performance Credits from Minnesota State University - Mankato for working on the stables crew. And Kristi Boen received credits for the Equine Studies Department at NDSU for being the manager at the Stables.

What better place than Medora to meet new people, learn the value of hard work, and still get credit for school? We often say that "Work is Play" in Medora, but "play" is very worthwhile!



duties that stem from the many TRMF businesses all around Medora. The IT intern is busy all summer long following IT Director Nick Teske, problem solv-



ing and fixing break-downs in information systems scattered throughout Medora. Lastly, the riding stables intern works out in the sun, rain, and wind on the trail - making decisions as to which horses would work best

with each rider, and also ensures that the trails are safe and the horses healthy to provide a memorable trail ride.

Students may also take the initiative to obtain internship credits from their college or university on their own. TRMF is very flexible and willing to work with the different higher-education establishments to provide internship experiences for their students. One student, Shauna Franchuk, earned internship credits for the Hospitality and Tourism Management program at NDSU as the Concessions Manager. Chace Fraser earned an internship credit as the Bully Pulpit Golf Course Golf Professional for the Professional Golf Management Program at the University of Idaho.

ride. She received internship credits for Human Performance

## MEET OUR EMPLOYEES...

### LISA AND RUMEN

Annika Nelson Administrative Assistant

Supervisor Rumen Vraykov

Lullabies softly play as customers browse through Teddy's Bears, a makeyour-own original teddy bear store. The manager, Lisa Green, who calls her hometown Glendive, MT, will greet you with a wide smile and make you feel welcome immediately. "My dad said [Medora] would be the job for me, so I tried it. Now I keep coming back because I like it!"

Lisa is studying for a business administration degree through MSU-Billings via online classes, so the retail manager position at Teddy's Bears was a perfect fit for her to gain valuable job experience for her degree. "I've learned that I can be working hard but still be able to have fun at it," Lisa remarks.

Employees learn a great deal from working in Medora. Lisa shares, "I feel more outgoing, have more self confidence, and have more ambitions to try new things." She says some of the best things about Medora is working in a fun environment, gaining work experience, and meeting a lot of cool people in all age ranges!



Workers also have the good fortune to meet people from other countries. Meet Rumen Vraykov. In his line of work, you're not likely to hear lullabies, but the hum and whir of vacuum cleaners. Rumen is the Bunkhouse Housekeeping Supervisor in Medora.

Rumen travels a long way to work in Medora, as his hometown is Belene, Bulgaria. He discovered Medora after he applied for a work and travel program. The placement company found Medora and offered him a job, and he said yes. Four years later, Rumen remarks, "I feel like I'm at home here. I have a lot of friends, everyone is very nice, and that's why I like it."

As for the work? "The work changed me. It made me more responsible. People expect everything to be done well, you know? I don't like letting people down in my work." Cultural differences are evident, of course, as they are with any country. "When I first came here it [the adjustment] was mostly the language. Also, it was very weird seeing people I don't know and they would say hi. That was kind of surprising, in a good way, though!" He also mentioned that the people in the US are more patient and nice, especially when dealing with customers.

Rumen is currently studying Informational Technologies at the Tsenov Academy of Economics. Graduation isn't far away, as he is done with his classes and has only a few exams left. He has big plans - after finishing his degree, he will apply for his masters in International Business. "After that, I want to do something where I can travel and use English - I realized this after coming to the US."

Lullabies and vacuum cleaners may represent vastly different duties in Medora, but both jobs lead to the realization that hard work can be fun. The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation is fortunate to have these dedicated, talented employees as returning workers!



## ENERGETIC EXERCISE IN MEDORA

By Wade Westin Marketing/PR Director

Medora is the ideal place for people who enjoy exercising in a beautiful setting. Two separate events have been established for people to experience this wonderful landscape first-hand: the Bully Run (a 5K/10K road race) and the Badlands Trail Run (a 5K/10K race on portions of the Maah Daah Hey Trail). Each event this year saw around 50 participants.

This year's events – the  $1^{\rm st}$  Annual Bully Run and  $2^{\rm nd}$  Annual Badlands Trail Run – were not for the faint of heart. Both running/

walking events were

challenged by weather. Bully Run participants had their sweat glands working overtime in the over ninety degree temperatures. Heat, however, was not the factor in the Badlands Trail Run. Rains the night before made the Maah Daah Hey Trail too slippery and dangerous. The race route was changed to the route used for the Bully Run. Thanks to the help of Medora's Chief of Police, John Bey, and wonderful volunteers, this was a smooth transition.

Paul Gysberg and his dad vying for the finish line at the Bully Run. Paul was a 2007 Medora Employee.

Both events have been scheduled for next year. To avoid hot temperatures, the Bully Run will take place on May 31, 2008. The Badlands Trail Run is scheduled for September 6, 2008. Whether you are a runner or you enjoy walking (this especially goes

The Andrist clan made the Bully Run a family event.

Pictured in the front row (third and fourth from left) are Levi and Bethany Andrist Levi and Bethany were Burning Hills Singers in the 2007 Medora Musical.

for all of you "Mall Walkers"), you will enjoy exercise in the fresh air of the North Dakota Badlands.

## 3RD ANNUAL ROD TJADEN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

By Annika Nelson Administrative Assistant

The 3rd Annual Rod Tjaden Memorial Golf Tournament dawned clear and bright - a *bully* day for golf and for raising money for the Tjaden Scholarship Fund, which provides twenty-six \$500 scholarships to deserving student employees (see page 5 for a list of 2007 recipients). This year, 37 four-person teams participated in the tournament, making the fairways and greens out at the Bully Pulpit Golf Course very busy with 148 golfers! Congratulations to the Darvin Engel team for taking top honors!

The tournament raised \$30,185 for the Tjaden Scholarship Fund.



The winning team (sponsored by John and Hannelor Davis of McClusky, ND): Darvin Engel, John Engel, Jim Kuch, and Lloyd "Fuzzy" Lauer.

Bully Pulpit, GOLF COURSE

Dave Solga
Golf Operations Manager

If you're like me, you've probably played your fair share of golf and are looking forward to moving on to other off-season interests. Or you may be heading south for the winter and will not be giving your clubs a chance to cool off. Whichever is the case, know that

we have enjoyed having you here at Bully Pulpit this year.

This was Bully
Pulpit's best
year yet. We
experienced
more golf holes
played per player
than any other.
Our tournament
and group outing
rounds were up
bstantially. The
golf shop sold
more merchandise
than ever before. I
guess the word is

getting out: there is something special about this place.

We continued to attract players from all over the country. More and more of our friends from Canada have found their way south. But, at no surprise, North Dakotans continue to dominate our tee sheet with 70% of the players. The golfers really do appreciate this diamond located in the rugged badlands near Medora.

The course conditions and the putting greens continue to develop into some of the best in the region as they mature. We received several comments from players throughout the season touting these greens as the best they have ever played. And they are only getting better.

If you have never been to Bully Pulpit, this is a mustsee experience; the rugged beauty of the badlands and the scenic views golfers have while playing are very unique. It's definitely not something you get at the typical venue. Also, the design of each golf hole uses

## THE BEST YEAR YET

the natural lay of the land incorporating features and sometimes hazards into each hole. There are optical illusions with the placements of various features to distort distances, which in turn challenge players with strategies and club selection. The smooth, true-rolling putting surfaces with their challenging undulations will have you wanting to retry for the birdie that eluded you.

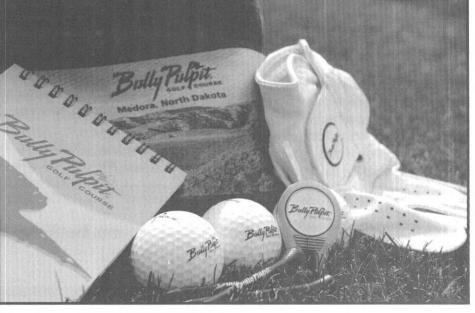
I've always said that Bully Pulpit is one of those courses that the more you play it – the more you want

to play it again.

Be sure to check out our website at www.medora. com for great offerings, some of which are only available online. and to make your tee times. If you are interested in making tee time reservations, receiving a tournament packet, purchasing a player's card or triple challenge

card, or have questions please call 1-800-633-6721 or go to our website.

We look forward to providing you with an unforgettable golfing adventure!



#### GOLFER'S GIFT CERTIFICATES

Give the gift the golfer in your family will love - a gift certificate to the Bully Pulpit Golf Course!

Just think: green grass, majestic Badlands, clean fresh air - what more could they ask for?

Call 1-800-MEDORA-1 (1-800-633-6721)

Just specify the gift amount and we'll send the gift card to you in the mail.

## 2007 MEDORA MUSICAL: A GREAT END TO A SPECTACULAR SEASON!

Jocelyn Klingbeil, Minot, ND 2007 Burning Hills Singer

By Kinley R. Slauter Amphitheatre Manager

The 2007 Medora Musical will likely be remembered as one of the best. Starlit summer nights and incredible talent came together to make for a memorable season.

Once again, Director Curt Wollan did a great job of finding talented performers to wow audiences. This year we were fortunate to have a number of returning Burning Hills Singers, several new faces to the stage, and the exceptional talent of Janette Bruce, who played Buffalo Alice. Crowd favorite Jared Mason, a Burning Hills Singer from the mid-90s who returned this year as the piano player and yodeler, stunned audiences nightly with his unforgettable style of performing.

Highlights of the year include:

- · Jon Erickson, new Set Designer, brought fresh ideas to the props and scenery such as Buffalo Alice's Big Rig and the rolling roadside attractions.
- This season, Travelocity, an online travel agency, named the Medora Musical an "Editor's Pick - Local Secret, Great Find."
- First year Costume Designer Lynn Farrington, who has substantial theatrical design experience, did an excellent job of creating unique costumes to outfit the performance.
- This season brought the return of Kids Day, admitting all students free of charge on Wednesday. Approximately 6,000 kids took us up on our offer throughout the season.

For the first time in our 43 season history, opening night, June 1, was cancelled due to rain. When all was said and done, weather did not take much of a toll on attendance as opening night ended up being the only rainout-93 out of 94 nights in a row!

> Closing night was capped off by a professional fireworks display. Not only was the final performance the largest show of the season, but the largest in a number of years. All of the seats were filled either by patrons, staff and family, seasonal employees, or our wonderful volunteers. Many people were seated in chairs or on benches behind the theater seating - a true "standing-room-only" crowd!

In August, the Medora Musical was named one of the "Top 100 Events in North America" by the American Bus Association. This award

designates the "Greatest Show in the West" as one of the top events for motorcoach groups to visit in the entire continent!





GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT

Do you love the Musical? There's no better way to enjoy the "Greatest Show in the West" than to see it more than once!

Adults: \$50 + tax Students: \$30 + tax

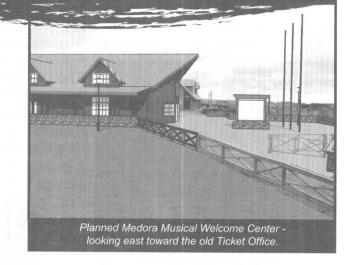
Call 1-800-MEDORA-1 (1-800-633-6721) to order your SEASON PASS!

## MEDORA MUSICAL WELCOME CENTER BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE!

Kinley R. Slauter Amphitheatre Manager

Over the winter of 1957-58 several residents of Medora assembled to form the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park and Badlands Association. Their purpose: plan events to encourage visitation to the National Park and commemorate Theodore Roosevelt's 100th Birthday. It was decided the signature event would be an outdoor drama, created to tell the story of TR's time in Medora.

Years later, after many changes to the show and scores of improvements to the original Burning Hills Amphitheatre, the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation is constructing a facility that will tell the fascinating story of how the amphitheatre and the Medora Musical came to be. The Medora Musical Welcome Center will be located adjacent to the upper level plaza near the restrooms and escalator. The



new structure will be home to colorful photo displays. including some interactive touch screen photo displays, information describing the production of the one-of-a-kind show, samples of Burning Hills Singers Costumes, and video projection of archival footage. The facility will be more than a museum, though. It will

also act as the new box office for the Medora Musical and Pitchfork Steak Fondue and more than quadruple the amount of current retail space, giving our shopping audience some much needed elbow room.

The Medora Musical Welcome Center is a fitting tribute to tell the fascinating 50-year story of the Burning Hills Amphitheatre. Join us in 2008 to enjoy the "Greatest Show in the West" and take in the amphitheatre's newest addition.



Medora Mayor Doug Walker receiving a "Preserve America" Designation from North Dakota Governor John Hoeven and Deputy Secretary of Interior P. Lynn Scarlett. The presentation took place during the Elkhorn Ranchlands Dedication held at the Burning Hills Amphitheatre in Medora on Saturday, September 15. To learn more, log on to: http://www. preserveamerica.gov/communities.html.





## MEDORA IN SEPTEMBER

By Annika Nelson Administrative Assistant

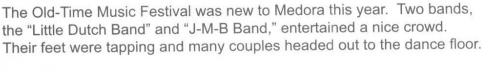
Medora isn't just a summer vacation destination. The spring and fall seasons are beautiful in the badlands, and the streets were busy this September. Medora played host to 25 groups, four motorcoaches, and five weddings.



Nine hot air balloons lifted off at the Badlands Motel the morning of Sunday, September 9. It's a spectacular sight to see all nine flying magestically over the badlands!

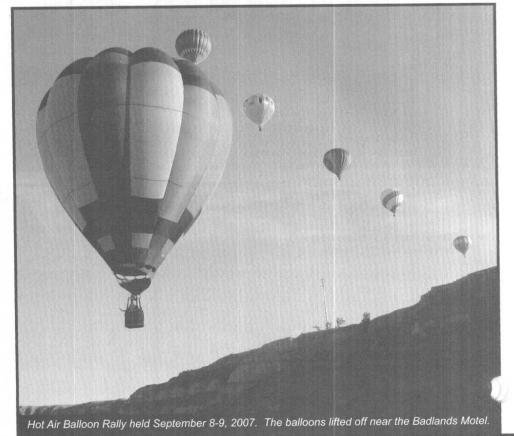
Congratulations to the Medora Magazine drawing prize winners! Kelli Bowen from Fargo, ND, won the hot air balloon ride package and Trent Stein from Wing, ND, won the 2008 Ultimate Medora Vacation. These winners were drawn at the last show of the Medora Musical on September 2.

Of course, fall colors and crisp, cool weather make hiking, biking, and touring the Theodore Roosevelt National Park a treat. *Medora is a great place to visit any time!* 



The BBQ-N-Blues event met with some cool weather, but despite holding it indoors, there was a nice turnout. The Joe Moss Band from Chicago, IL, was the featured band of the evening.





## A THANK YOU TO OUR DONOR... ALICE STRANIK

By Annika Nelson Iministrative Assistant

No one would ever guess this lovely lady is over ninety. Alice Stranik of Dickinson, ND, still has a sparkle in her eye and loves to stay involved. It keeps her young!

Alice and her late husband, Bob, have always considered Medora a place that really makes North Dakota look good. "We've been involved with Medora since it started. Our daughter worked at a fast food restaurant in Dickinson, and the owner took the girls to Medora to work the food counter there. She loved it, and that gave us our first interest in Medora," Alice remarked.

Medora has long been recognized as a welcoming community. "The people that are in charge of the activities in Medora are great. That's why the business is so popular there; the people inspire others," Alice

commented. The Rough Rider Roundup event in June was always a favorite for her and her husband, as the organizers of the event always took extra time to make sure they were comfortable.

Look anywhere in Dickinson, and you'll find the influence and wisdom of the Straniks. Alice and Bob raised five kids, in addition to being actively involved with the church, hospital, and schools in Dickinson. An astute woman, Alice remarked, "As



we begin a new task or assignment, it is attitude more than anything else that will determine success."

Alice has been a generous supporter of the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation. We are honored that she thinks so highly of Medora.

## "SPIRIT OF WORK" QUARTERS IS A REALITY

By Jim Fuglie velopment Director

As you read this, another new building is going up in Medora. When the first of our more than 400 summer



volunteers arrive in Medora next summer, they will be spending their evenings in their brand new home, the "Spirit of Work" Quarters.

In 1998, 44 volunteers came to Medora to work at the Information Center and serve as hosts for the Pitchfork Steak Fondue and the *Medora Musical*. Our Volunteer Program was born, and this year, our tenth year, we had nearly 800 applicants for 400 volunteer positions. For most of those ten years, our most critical need has been housing for those volunteers. And that's where the volunteers have stepped forward. The "Spirit of Work" Quarters is a 16-unit housing complex, conceived by our volunteers, as "a place of their own," not just to sleep at night, but to gather socially, relax, and share their individual life stories and dreams: a lace to make new friends and enjoy a quiet evening in the beautiful North Dakota Badlands.

The "Spirit of Work" Quarters is unique in that the generosity of our volunteers themselves, through their philanthropic gifts, is providing much of the funding for this \$1.4 million project. Through October of 2007, we have \$800,000 pledged to the project by our volunteers and supporters. Gifts have ranged in size up to \$150,000. Every gift makes a difference. Please contact us if you can contribute to the project.

P.S. What's Up With That Name: "Spirit of Work"?

One of the themes of Harold Schafer's life was "WORK." It was his dedication to the town of Medora that rebuilt the ghost town and helped make it what it is today. It was his vision, energy, and enthusiasm that brought people to Medora each year. His spirit of work lives on in Medora – within the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation employees, his wife Sheila, and the hundreds of volunteers who come to Medora each year. Their spirit of work exceeds the expectations of everyone in Medora. Whether they are asked to stain picnic tables, clean, cut steaks, or just greet and visit with the tourists, they do it with a smile and a giving heart. Harold would be proud of our volunteers. He would smile, knowing that his spirit of work continues to this day.

## LEAVE YOUR OWN LEGACY

By Jim Fuglie **Development Director** 

As we approach the end of the year, all of us are getting lots of requests in the mail for charitable gifts. A few years ago, at the end of the year, I called the executive director of my favorite charity and said, "I'm going to send you a little money each year, because I only have a little to send, but I am going to put you in my will, so you'll get a chunk of whatever is left."

In my job I talk to people every day about gifts to our Foundation. And I talk about including our Foundation in their wills. There are a lot of people who want to help the Medora Foundation because we do so much more than just offer a vacation destination. Befitting the wishes of our founder, Harold Schafer, we reach out to many people, like bringing more than 400 volunteers. mostly retired, mostly North Dakotans, to Medora for a "working vacation" each summer. They go home refreshed after a week in the Badlands and return year after year.

But it is our work with young people that really stands out. This year, for example, nearly 70 International employees, from Indonesia, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Namibia, South Africa, Ukraine, Taiwan, and Bulgaria are getting what is likely the most significant opportunity of their lives, and we work hard to make it a rewarding experience, providing instruction in English, assisting with visas and immigration problems, finding winter employment and developing job skills. For many of our young domestic employees, this is their first job away from home and their first experience with cultural diversity, and it is a tremendous growing opportunity. Through our theatrical productions, we provide talented young people from around the U.S. (many from the upper Midwest) an opportunity to become artists and hone their entertainment skills. and a number of our Medora Musical cast members and technicians over the years have gone on to professional music and theater careers. We give more than 30 college scholarships each year to the best of our summer employees. We make our Medora Musical free to children one night each week during the summer to expose them to the history and culture of the Badlands and Medora.

> You can help us keep fulfilling our charitable missions, and help guarantee the long term success of Medora, by remembering the Medora Foundation in your will. When you've

done that, please call me, or drop me a note and let me know. We'd like to thank you now. Too often, we get a formal letter from a lawyer in the mail saying we've been named in someone's will, and it is too late for us to thank them personally. We get gifts ranging from \$5,000 to more than \$100,000 in people's wills. and we want to be able to say thanks...in person. The end of the year is approaching, and that is tax and estate planning time. Please think of TRMF as you go through that process this year.

### IRA Deadline Approaching

And while we are talking about planning, let me remind you of another deadline coming up. If you are age 70 ½ or older, the special legislation that allows you to make charitable gifts directly from an IRA account without incurring federal income taxes is about to expire. The provision, which allows you to directly transfer up to \$100,000 to charitable organizations, like the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, expires December 31, 2007.

If you are taking the required minimum IRA distribution but do not need the extra income, or if your charitable gifts already total 50 percent of your adjusted gross income and you do not benefit from a charitable gift deduction from additional

gifts, simply contact your IRA administrator to take advantage of this generous provision in the tax codes. Charitable contributions from your IRA must be made

directly from your IRA to your charity. The simplest method is to have your IRA draw up a check made payable to TRMF, send it to you for delivery to us, or send it directly to us.

This provision is good news for people who want to make a charitable gift during their lifetime from their retirement assets but have been discouraged from doing so because of the income tax penalty. A husband and wife can transfer \$200,000 from IRAs this year with no tax penalty. If you intend to leave your IRA to charity anyway, you can now make this gift in your lifetime. Thanks for considering TRMF in your charitable giving plans this year!

### MANY YEARS IN MEDORA

By Annika Nelson Administrative Assistant

Sedora has seen many changes over the years. More people streamed to the tiny tourist town after the Burning fills Amphitheatre produced a nightly show. Cars replaced horses. Dirt roads turned into paved streets. People have come and gone. However, one lady has remained a constant face in Medora for over fifty years. Her name is Betty Cornell.

Betty grew up in Dickinson, North Dakota. Her mother was a good cook and ran a small cafe in Dickinson. Betty learned quickly from her mother, and became a wonderful cook in her own right. She married Ted Cornell in 1953. "Ted ate at mom's cafe, and she introduced us," she relates. Ted aspired to be the Billings County Sheriff, and after a couple years living in Belfield, they moved to Medora when he ousted the incumbent in the race for Sheriff. He stayed in the position for thirty consecutive years.

A wife and mother, Betty also lent her cooking skills to the community. Her skills were in demand at several different places. She cooked on a coal range at the Rough Riders Hotel before it was rebuilt by Harold Schafer and the Gold Seal Company. Later, after the Rough Riders Hotel was rebuilt, she went back to the kitchen to cook again. "I cooked for the Old Four Eyes crew and later for Tom Netherton. He always liked my oatmeal," she said. She also cooked at Roy Noyes' Lunch Counter at Painted Canyon. "At that time, the most expensive meals were a barbeque beef sandwich and a hot dog, and they were thirty cents each!" Later, her friend Bud Anderson created what is now the Cowboy Cafe. They started small, with a simple menu of caramel rolls and soups, and soon they had a full menu! "Everyone enjoyed my caramel rolls. They were even featured in a Minneapolis paper." Soup is perhaps one of her favorite things to concoct. Her tomato macaroni soup is still a favorite at the Cafe.

Betty had eight kids to tend, so she divided her time between home and the range - the stove, that is - at the different establishments mentioned above. "I gave them my own hours and worked when it was convenient for me to work and balanced everything," she explains. Her employers were willing to comply, because Betty's cooking was worth it.

Betty and Ted made their home in one of the oldest buildings in Medora, one originally built by the Marquis de Mores. At one time, the house was part of a series of three buildings. The house has been moved and updated. Although no one really knows what the Marquis used the buildings for, it is speculated that they may have been offices. The high ceilings add a unique charm to the house.

Medora has long been a part of Betty's life, and at something over 80 years old (though you'd never know it), she has a connection to the town that is special and long-lasting. She has passed on an appreciation for Medora to her kids. One daughter lives in Medora with her husband, and her oldest son, Gary Leppart, recently published a tome of images about Medora. Images of America: Medora and Theodore Roosevelt National Park provides an interesting picture history of Medora. It's a worthwhile addition to any bookshelf, and you can tell she thinks so, too; a well-thumbed copy is close at hand.

Betty is content to watch the changing seasons in Medora from bustling and busy in the summer to quiet and peaceful in the winter. She is a mainstay in Medora.



Betty and her husband Ted, the Billings County Sheriff for thirty years, at the time of his retirement.

## TRMF CONTINUES TO GROW



Kristen Davis is thrilled to join the TRMF team as Lodging and Sales Director. She graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2007 with a degree in business management. A native of Dickinson and a summer employee since 2003, Kristen has a passion for Medora and southwestern North Dakota. When asked her thoughts on working in Medora full-time, she replied, "There is nowhere else I would rather be!" Along with world travel, Kristen enjoys camping and rock-climbing with her parents and three younger brothers, two of whom were also summer employees in Medora.

After his first summer in Medora in 2007, Dan Dawson was hired as a full-time member of the TRMF Maintenance Department. He is a 2003 graduate of Fergus Falls High School and considers his hometown Dalton, Minnesota. Before coming to Medora this May, Dan had been working as a welder. He loves hunting and being outdoors, so Dan and his dog Abby thoroughly enjoy the surroundings of the North Dakota Badlands.



A fresh face in Medora's main office, Memory Ann Fortwalt started out as receptionist and is a new staff member in the accounting department. Memory spent most of her life in Indiana, where she attended the University of Indianapolis. She is pleased to be a part of TRMF and considers Medora a "magical place." When Memory is not working, she enjoys all kinds of art and spends time oil painting and drawing. Memory also gives a lot of love and attention to her two "kids," cat Fiki and dog Stonewall, who are adjusting well to the move to North Dakota.

Derek Ondracek is one of the newest additions to the TRMF Maintenance Department. He is a native of Brandon, Minnesota, where he graduated from high school in 2003. Derek has been a summer employee for TRMF since 2005, working at the riding stables and the maintenance department. Before coming on as a full-time employee, Derek attended NDSU in Fargo and later worked at Sylvandale Ranch in Loveland, Colorado. He spends his spare time riding horse and hunting, and he enjoys the Badlands and the people who live here. On September 29, 2007, Derek was married to Jennifer Wiebe - congratulations!





Ann Riippa of Bloomington, Minnesota, has stepped into a new role as the Assistant Marketing and Public Relations Director. This summer, Ann worked with Wade Westin as TRMF's Communication Intern. A recent graduate of Southwest Minnesota State University, she holds a degree in studio arts and graphic design. Ann enjoys her co-workers and the work environment in Medora, and she is excited for the opportunity to use her design skills with TRMF. In her free time, Ann likes to run, swim, bike, hike, and play Ultimate Frisbee. She also enjoys photography, painting, and pottery.



## TRMF SPOTLIGHT JODI JOHNSON

Annika Nelson

The accounting department at the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation is always busy, whether it is in the chaos of the summer season or the relative calmness of the off-season. At the heart of it is Jodi Johnson. Jodi started her tenure at TRMF as a summer intern in 2003 and returned in 2004 to become a full-time employee that November. "What I like best about my job is dealing with people. That is what interests me the most," she remarks, "and you deal with everyone in Medora. As an intern, the president [Randy Hatzenbuhler] came and talked to the 'lowly' interns. There is no segregation in Medora."

Jodi grew up in Donnybrook, North Dakota, with her two sisters, one of whom is her twin! She graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2004 with a Bachelor of Accountancy. "I've always liked doing taxes, that's what got me started in accounting."



The next, natural step after receiving her degree was working on obtaining her CPA (Certified Public Accountant) certification. She has only one test left to pass before she becomes an official CPA! Jodi is a motivated

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individual, and some day she would like to attend law school. "It's something I've always wanted to do, even as a kid."

Her talents do not end at the door of the accounting office. Jodi enjoys cooking, trying new recipies and knitag as a hobby. She is currently looking to purchase a buse in the Dickinson area.

## MAILBAG



"THANK YOU for another GREAT week of volunteering for the TRMF. The weather wasn't always cooperative, but that didn't "dampen" the experience.

Again the people (foundation, volunteers, and tourists) made it a positive week. Promoting Medora is an easy task. Wish I lived closer!" *Phyllis Ide, Volunteer* 

"We are both veterans, my wife and I. We took in the show on July 9, which was free for both of us. We want to thank you very much for this, but most of all, we are both World War II Veterans, so that tells you how old we are; we were treated like royalty... The show was great. Thanks again. Catherine and John Kuhn, Guests

"Thank you for such a wonderful experience. I am writing to thank you for giving us the opportunity to see the Medora Musical. On June 23, we only got to see half a show. With the guest passes that you gave us, we were able to see the whole show on July 21. My friend had never seen the Medora Musical before and she was truly impressed. She was really impressed by the gospel music. She couldn't believe that a show such as this would include God. The grand finale really knocked her socks off - the ghost rider, the tribute to North Dakotans, especially the girl who has been deployed, the fireworks, and the stars and stripes on the hillside at the end. Now she knows why I go every year. I am so glad that between you and me she was able to have experienced it. She is talking about coming and seeing the show again next year. I myself will be coming again for sure. Again, thank you for allowing us to come and experience such a wonderful show." Jaci Schutt, Guest

## MEDORA'S 12TH ANNUAL OLD-FASHIONED COWBOY CHRISTMAS

Celebrate Christmas Cowboy-Style in Medora
November 30 - December 2, 2007

For more information, contact the Medora Chamber of Commerce at 701-623-4829

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#### NICE TO MEET YOU

Minutes before the start of the show late in the season, a lady sitting in the fourth row from the front at the Medora Musical motioned to me as I was walking up the stairs. Joanne (Hoheim) Briggs from Onalaska, WI, was attending the show for the first time. She was a lovely lady whose twin granddaughters spent the summer working in Medora as wranglers at the Medora riding stables. As I walked by she asked me if I happened to know the "S. Urberg" who was listed as a patron in our Medora Musical program. As we visited, she explained that she'd grown up with a boy with that same last name. She said that the boy's father was a minister and that her parents were the first couple that minister had married in 1928. The minister had also married Joanne and her husband over 50 years ago.

While the name S. Urberg was familiar, I honestly could not tell her anymore, except that I knew he was a contributor, but I would try to find out more for her. After a call to the box office, I learned that S. Urberg was not from Wisconsin, but rather from Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Now, while selling popcorn, I placed a second call to my wife, Laurie, who was working in concessions just to see if she knew S. Urberg. Laurie is better with names and memory. She immediately said excitedly, "You mean Søren Urberg. Of course I know him. He is a volunteer and today I had him in volunteer orientation training!"

I returned to Joanne's seat and told her S. Urberg was from Indiana, not Wisconsin. Because it was so long ago, she was not certain, but vaguely thought that she had heard S. Urberg had also become a minister and may have moved to Indiana. What fun it was to invite her to look back twenty rows to see the same Søren Urberg she knew from sixty years ago standing and waving to her. They enjoyed a reintroduction during intermission that was a joy to witness.

It really is a small world. You meet the nicest people in Medora.

Submitted by Randy Hatzenbuhler President

#### GREAT HOSPITALITY

This fall I witnessed one of the many reasons why Medora is considered North Dakota's #1 Vacation Destination! And, why out-of-state visitors consider North Dakota to be such a friendly state. It is because of exceedingly wonderful hospitality.

Clyde and Lois Wetzel volunteered at Medora's 1st Annual Old-Time Music Festival & Dance on September 22 by taking admission tickets. As they were visiting with the people in attendance, they met a couple from the state of Georgia. The couple was pleased with their visit, but very disappointed that horseback riding was no longer available. Without hesitation, Clyde and Lois invited the out-of-state visitors to their place in New Salem for a meal and horseback riding the next day. The result - Clyde and Lois now have new friends from Georgia, and two out-of-state strangers have become enthusiastic ambassadors for Medora and North Dakota. Thank you, Clyde and Lois!

Submitted by Wade Westin Marketing/PR Director

### MISSION STATEMENT

## PRESERVE PRESENT SERVI

**PRESERVE** the values and traditions of the Old West embodied in the pioneer cattle town of Historic Medora and the "Bully Spirit" of Theodore Roosevelt.

**PRESENT** opportunities for visitors to relive their patriotic heritage and be educated and inspired through interpretive programs, museums, and attractions that focus on the Old West and the life of Theodore Roosevelt in the badlands.

**SERVE** the traveling public, providing for their comfort while visiting Historic Medora and Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

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- · Integrity in all we do
- The importance of family
- · Excellence in products and services
- "The Medora Experience" enhances the character of our employees and customers
- Inspiring American patriotism
- Stewardship of all resources
- · Respect for all people
- · Education, especially to youth
- · Innovation in thought and action
- · The value of work

"A good philosophy is to be kind to all."

Harold Schafer

### BECOME AN ANNUAL MEMBER

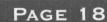
**Become a TRMF Annual Member!** Your annual membership gift supports general operations and is used to make smaller, but very important and needed, improvements. Updates to the sound and light systems and enhanced fireworks displays at the Musical are examples of how annual membership support is used.

#### Membership benefits include:

- · Listed as a patron in printed materials for the 2008 Medora Musical
- · An invitation to the annual Rough Rider Roundup on June 14 & 15 in Medora
- Receive publications of TRMF Rough Rider Review newsletter, Generations newsletter, and Annual Development Report
- · Charitable tax deduction to the extent allowed by the IRS
- Up to two season passes to the 2008 Medora Musical (your charitable deduction will be reduced by \$53.75 for each pass).

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