



Theodore Roosevelt
MEDORA FOUNDATION

FALL-WINTER
2017

ROUGH RIDERS REVIEW

Sponsor A Seat at the

Medora Musical™

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**SEE PAGES 8-9 FOR DETAILS ON OUR NEW
SEAT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**

They Kept Coming



Randy Hatzenbuehler
TRMF President

Medora is a continuing story. The 2017 summer chapter is a good read. Intense early season heat during June and most of July had us concerned that visitation would be significantly down. Instead, visitors kept coming during the heat. Then, remarkably, during late July, August and September the weather was nearly perfect and they kept coming in even

greater numbers!

We are so grateful for your visits. We ended up surpassing all of our goals for the year. Over 118,000 enjoyed another inspiring season of the *Medora Musical*! We were proud to have six North Dakotans in the show.

Advice for next summer – order your **Gospel Brunch** tickets early—that show was regularly selling out this summer! They kept coming for dinner too. In 1996 we served about 4,200 people dinner at the Pitchfork Steak Fondue; this summer we had over 48,000, a record year! Joe Wiegand's TR show had over 50% growth. Bully Pulpit also surpassed last year's rounds played.

August 27th was a special day. More than two million people read the *New York Times* on a daily basis. In that Sunday's Variety Section, the center two pages with ten color photos were all about the *Medora Musical*! People across the country learned a little bit about our "little show in the Badlands." They now know what you have appreciated for over 50 years – that is, you can have a fantastic show that instills pride for our state and country and insists on the highest quality entertainment that all ages of the family can enjoy together. I can almost hear Harold saying, "Wonderful..."

Thank you for making it a terrific season. Thanks too if you have been a volunteer or contributor. Medora's story continues to get better because of you. I hope you will consider a gift in support of one or more of three exciting things happening right now for Medora.

First, the lower level seats in the Burning Hills Amphitheatre are being replaced. We've got a brand new "Sponsor-a-Seat" campaign to tell you about on pages 8-9 of

this newsletter.

Second, I am pleased to let you know that the Bunkhouse is gone! The "Elkhorn Quarters" is a \$6 million project that replaces the Bunkhouse and will provide 220 rooms for employees and 180 for guests. More about that on page 12.

The third opportunity is special. A couple of years ago, John Andrist set up the John and Elaine Andrist Endowment Fund for the Performing Arts. It is part of the reason there has been more free music entertainment, artists in residence programming, and living history on display in downtown Medora. John recently announced that he would like to see more of these activities around Medora. Today that Fund has about \$273,000; we would like to grow the Fund to \$1 million to fulfill John's vision for more downtown entertainment.

John will match the first \$250,000 that is gifted to the Fund and once the Fund reaches \$950,000 he will make a "bonus" gift of \$50,000 to bring it to the \$1 million! This is the largest match gift challenge we have ever been presented with. The 40% ND Tax Credit for gifts of up to \$25,000 to qualified endowments, along with John's amazing challenge give us hope that the matching gifts will happen this year as people do their year-end planning. Please call if you would like more information.

It is quieter in Medora this time of year, but there are several special events planned for the off-season. There's a schedule of fall and winter events in this newsletter, and you can check out medora.com for information.

For all of the TRMF family of employees, board members and volunteers, I thank you for caring deeply about Medora. We look forward to your next Medora visit!

Randy

Check Out Our 2017 Annual Report



If you'd like to take a look at our 2017 TRMF annual report, just go to our website, medora.com, go to the bottom of the page and click on "About" the Medora Foundation. You'll find it under "Newsletters and Annual Reports." Our annual reports list the highlights of our year, news about what's new in Medora, our financial reports, and all our supporters. Annual reports go through our fiscal year end, January 31 of each year. Thank you for being a part of the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation.

MEDORA'S WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 8 -10** Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas
- Dec. 16** Bold St. Nick's Fat Tire Bike Race
- Feb. 9-10** Romance in Medora – A Valentine's Getaway
- Feb. 12-15** Spur Your Inner Artist Workshops

For more information on these and other Medora Events, Go Online To **Medora.com/events**



Under Harold's Hat

TRMF's Founder and First Board Chairman Harold Schafer was well-known for a faded old felt hat covered with pins and buttons from people he had met and places he had been. A lot of wisdom emanated from under that hat, and each issue we bring you some of that, from Harold's extensive files and those of his Gold Seal Company.

Thanks, Harold, For The Turkeys

Are you roasting a wild turkey this Thanksgiving or Christmas? If so, thank Harold Schafer.

From time to time, Harold would mention in casual conversation that he had been involved in helping establish wild turkeys in North Dakota. It was long ago, in the 1950s, he was a relatively young man, and everyone seemed to have forgotten his role.

But this fall we came across the proof in an old file: a 1956 certificate from the Izaak Walton League of America,

with a resolution thanking Harold for his sponsorship of the program to establish wild turkeys in North Dakota. His gift to the Izaak Walton League paid for the introduction program.

Wild turkeys are not native to North Dakota. But today, 61 years later, wild turkeys are abundant here, and many North Dakota hunters enjoy putting a wild turkey on the table at Thanksgiving or Christmas.

Thank you, Harold for your "untiring effort in the cause of conservation, rehabilitation and public service!"



Izaak Walton League of America

MISSOURI SLOPE CHAPTER

BISMARCK - MANDAN

WHEREAS, during the year 1951, the Missouri Slope Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America initiated a study and launched a campaign to establish wild turkeys in the State of North Dakota, and

WHEREAS, during the year 1951, the Chapter commenced its operations which was aggressively followed with a planned and coordinated program for pen raising, breeding and the introduction of wild trapped birds which were released within the State of North Dakota, and

WHEREAS, it now conclusively appears that wild turkey hunting will become a reality within this state as a result of the interest, leadership and club devotion displayed by certain members of the Chapter,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Missouri Slope Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America that the Chapter go on record as expressing its deepest sense of appreciation to

HAROLD SCHAFER

for his sponsorship of the program undertaken as well as for his untiring effort in the cause of conservation, rehabilitation and public service and that the Chapter place this resolution in its records as further evidence of its heartfelt thanks.

Dated this 5 day of April, 1956.

MISSOURI SLOPE CHAPTER

Izaak Walton League of America

Harold Schafer
Russell Reid, Sec.

Ask President Roosevelt



Joe Wiegand as
President Theodore
Roosevelt

"Ask President Roosevelt" is a feature of the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation Member Newsletter, the Rough Riders Review. For five summers, veteran TR reprisor, historian, and actor Joe Wiegand has brought Theodore Roosevelt to life on the matinee stage at Medora's Old Town Hall Theater. During the off-season, Joe travels the country as TR, representing the Medora Foundation. As part of every performance, in character as TR, Wiegand takes questions from the audience.

Q: "During your ranching years in the Badlands, most of your winter months were spent in the relatively warmer climate and more comfortable surroundings of New York City. Where will your travels take you this winter?"

A: This winter, Medora friends can join me in Arizona (February 5 at Apache Junction High School for the Arizona

Humanities Lecture Series and February 27 at the TRMF Member Event) and Florida (February 14 & 16 at Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge in Sanibel and March 3 at the Pelican Island Wildlife Festival in Sebastian). Information about these and additional appearances throughout the country, including a January 18-20 return to Ellendale, Killdeer, and Golva, North Dakota, can be found at www.teddyrooseveltsow.com.

During my Presidency, the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays were most joyfully spent with my family at the White House, at Sagamore Hill in Oyster Bay, or at Pine Knot, Mrs. Roosevelt's rustic retreat in the hills of southern Albermarle County, Virginia.

This year, the holidays will find me with family in our Manitou Springs, Colorado winter camp, giving thanks for our many blessings. Wherever you are this winter, I hope the joy of the season is with you and yours and that the Bully Spirit of the Badlands will carry you back to Medora in the New Year.



Cruise To Cuba With TRMF

The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation is hosting an 8-day cruise to Cuba January 31-February 8, 2019, hosted by TRMF President Randy Hatzenbuehler and his wife Laurie, and TRMF's own Theodore Roosevelt, Joe Wiegand.

The trip features a cruise around the island nation of Cuba, stopping at key ports to sample Cuban culture, cuisine, and have people-to-people experiences unavailable

anywhere else.

Included in the itinerary is a visit to San Juan Hill, where Col. Teddy Roosevelt defeated the Spanish in the Spanish-American war, and presentations by Joe Wiegand on Roosevelt's experiences in Cuba.

The cruise departs from Montego Bay, Jamaica, on January 31, 2019. You can save \$200 per couple by purchasing your tickets early. For a free color brochure and more information, you can call our office at 701-223-4800, or contact our travel partner, Satrom Travel & Tour, at 800-833-8787. You can also e-mail Info_dakotas@dt.com, or go to the website, www.satromtravel.com.

Scholarships Given To O

We're pleased to announce that we're presenting 39 employees, from 12 states and 4 countries, 2017 scholarships and ambassador awards.

The scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500, are awarded annually through the Tjaden Education Assistance Program, named after the late TRMF President, Rod Tjaden. Scholarships go to employees currently pursuing undergraduate degrees.

Ten TRMF ambassador awards, \$500 each, are given to graduate students or non-college student TRMF employees.

We're also awarding eight Larson Ambassador Awards, which are \$500 awards established in 2016 by creators of the Sunshine Memorial Foundation, Van and Dee Larson.

The young folks who've earned these awards through hard work and leadership are not only the future leaders in Medora, but also in their communities around the state, region and country.

Larson Ambassador Awards honor eight outstanding TRMF employees who have left an indelible impression on Medora.

Individuals or organizations who have interest in helping expand the scholarship program can contact Randy Hatzenbuehler at 701-223-4800.

2017 Scholarship Winners

Tjaden Scholarships – \$1,000 award

Janlavtsogzol Batmandakh — Mongolia

Kayla Bingham — Cadiz, KY

Michelle Francher — Anoka, MN

Caitlyn Hinkle — Joliet, IL

Greta Klennert — Kindred, ND

Majalisa Nelson — Solen, ND

Conner Raymond — Adrian, MI

Nicole Wallerick — Red Wing, MN

Nicholas Wax — Bismarck, ND

Emily Wolter — Holdingford, MN

^Emma Kamanski — Hartford, WI

^Tanda Kordonowy — Belfield, ND

*Yordanka Tumbakova — Bulgaria

~Grace Schuler — Wishek, ND

~Kaitlyn Stickel — Glendive, MT

^ Denotes Tim Johnson Award – \$500 additional award

* Denotes Winston Satran Award – \$500 additional award

~ Denotes Wade Westin Award – \$500 additional award

Levi Andrist and Mike Zaun Join TRMF Board

We're pleased to announce we welcomed two new members to the TRMF board of directors this summer. Levi Andrist of Bismarck and Mike Zaun of Gold Canyon, Arizona, replace outgoing board members David Kack and John Andrist.

Mike Zaun grew up on a farm near Valley City, ND, one of 9 children, and he returns there frequently to visit his mother, who still lives there. He has degrees from Valley City State, the University of North Dakota and the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School.

He began a career with the financial investment firm Edward Jones as an intern while still in college, and moved to Minot to work for Edward Jones when he graduated from UND. From there he rose swiftly through the ranks of Edward Jones corporate leadership, retiring in 2011 after 27 years with the company. He and his wife Vicki now make their home in the Phoenix area, but they're regular summer visitors to Medora, and Mike hunts pheasants in North Dakota each fall.

"I'm excited to join the TRMF board," Mike says. "I've served on numerous boards in Minot and in St. Louis, where I lived



Levi Andrist



Mike Zaun

when I worked for Edward Jones, but Medora is a special place, and I hope I some of the things I've learned in my financial career can help the foundation."

Levi Andrist is really familiar with Medora. As a four-year member of the cast of the *Medora Musical*, who proposed to, and married, his wife Bethany in Medora, he looks forward to bringing a performing arts perspective to the TRMF board.

Levi grew up in Crosby, ND, and graduated from Concordia College with a music degree, and then received his law degree from UND. He's a partner in the GA Group, a Bismarck law firm specializing in legislative affairs, with Joel Gilbertson, also a former TRMF board member.

Levi and Bethany have two sons, Theodore (guess who he's named for) and Arthur, and a daughter, Gwendolyn, and spend many weekends in Medora.

"It's really an honor for me to serve on the Medora Foundation board, for a lot of reasons," Levi says. "Medora and the Badlands is such a special place for our family, after performing four years in the *Medora Musical*, and falling deeply in love with Bethany there."

His grandfather, John Andrist, served on the board of the Medora Foundation, and is a major Medora benefactor, and Elaine's Garden behind the DeMores house is named for his grandmother, Elaine Andrist.

Mike and Levi took their seats on the board in June of this year, and we hope they'll be with us for many years.



Each summer in Medora, our own Theodore Roosevelt, Joe Wiegand, plays hosts to other TR and Roosevelt family re-enactors from around the country. This year, Joe was joined by, from left, Martin Jonason, Larry Marple, Lucy Seeve, Julia Marple, Arch Ellwein, Joe Wiegand, Adam Lindquist, Delores Moon, Don Moon, and Austin Artz. Next year's event will be bigger and better, with more living history than ever, and will be billed as "The Badlands Chautauqua: A Gathering of TRs."

Outstanding Employees

Don Hubbard Scholarship – \$1,500 award
– awarded to a ND University student

Paige Amann — Dickinson, ND
Rachael Solberg — Belfield, ND

Sheila Schafer Sunshine Award – \$1,500 award
Halley Bartlett — Kenmare, ND

Shannon "Sunshine" Larson Scholarship
– \$1,500 award

Katerina Black — Trenton, MO
Ally Carson — West Fargo, ND

Dean Hildebrand Conservation Scholarship
– \$1,500 award

Timothy Michael — Lexington, KY

TRMF Ambassador Award – \$500 awards

Ellen Balk — Holland, MI
Natalia Borusiak — Poland
Chuck Bokinskie — Medora, ND
Stefan Damayanov — Bulgaria
Deb Gray — Dallas, TX
Keara Hannan — Roseville, MN
Stuart Moyer — Spokane Valley, WA
Donna Muckle — Beach, ND
Jakub Radka — Poland
Vicente Valenzuela — Mexico

Larson Ambassador Award – \$500 awards

Ours was the Glory of work and the Joy of Living Award
– Given in honor of Joe Wiegand
Austin Geltel — Mandan, ND

Kindness and Goodness Award
– Given in honor of Bill Sorensen
Grace Harrington — Hammond, MT

Get 'er Done Award – Given in honor of John Hild
Nedyalka Stoeva — Bulgaria

Mistified Award – Given in honor of Misti Koop
Paul Gray — Dallas, TX

The Medora Award

– Given in honor of Emily Walter
Marsha Sauer — Merced, CA

The "It" Award – Given in honor of Jared Mason
Mandy Marboe — Dickinson, ND

Free Spirit Award – Given in honor of Madi Smith
Ethan Pierson — Wayne, PA

The Gatekeeper Award
– Given in honor of B.J. Ridl
Peggy Gunther — Hettinger, ND

North Dakotans Come Home To

*Come home to North Dakota
Come hear the prairie song
You've been away too long
So come home to North Dakota
North Dakota is the place where you belong*

You know those lyrics from the *Medora Musical*. This last summer, they really rang true for two of our Burning Hills Singers, Taylor Leet and Alyssa Scott. Because they really did “come home to North Dakota” to be a part of the 2017 *Medora Musical*. We're glad they did, and so are more than a hundred thousand guests who saw them sing and dance this summer on stage in the Burning Hills Amphitheatre.



Alyssa Scott

West Fargo native Alyssa Scott, the daughter of Sheila Emerson and Gregory Scott, left North Dakota after studying music therapy at the University of North Dakota to get a degree in music performance from McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul. That launched a career fronting and forming bands throughout the Midwest.

Greta Grosch, who lives in the Twin Cities and is the head writer for the *Medora Musical* at Troupe America, Curt Wollan's production company, which produces the *Musical*, gets credit for “discovering” Alyssa for us.

“We are in the same worship group at our church, and one day our group was visiting and I asked Alyssa where she was from,” Greta says. “She said North Dakota, and one of the other people said ‘Oh, did you know Greta is the writer for the *Medora Musical*?’ Right away, Alyssa said ‘Oh, I’ve wanted to be in the *Musical* since I was a little girl!’”

“I knew that Alyssa had a voice for the *Medora Musical*, so I asked her if she could dance, and she said yes. I said ‘You’re in!’ And we arranged an audition for her, and she jumped through the hoops, and Curt asked her to join the cast.”

Alyssa says “I thought, ‘Wow, I remember going up on that stage when I went to Medora with my confirmation group, when they called the kids up, and I thought about that all the time as a little girl,’ and I just couldn’t say no to Curt.”

But Alyssa had just committed to moving to Nashville to pursue a music career, and had to make a hard choice. She chose Medora for the summer, and

brought along Adam Vogel, her boyfriend, to be the lead guitar player in the Coal Diggers, the *Medora Musical* band.

The two of them brought a whole new energy to the show, and while Curt hopes they will be back next summer, they headed off to Nashville the day after the show closed this summer and are busy pursuing music careers there. While we hope that works out for them, we’re also hoping they’ll take a break and come back to Medora next summer.



Taylor Leet

For Taylor Leet, whose parents John and Jennifer Leet live in Bismarck, Chicago was the destination for her to pursue a music career. After graduating from Bismarck High School, where she was a member of the New Generation Jazz Singers and the Demonettes dance team, and attending Bismarck State College, she headed off to Columbia College in

Chicago, one of Illinois’ top music schools.

There she performed with bands until auditioning for the *Musical* in 2016, and Curt wanted her in the cast that year, but an unfortunate accident left her unable to dance. But she recovered, and Curt called her back for the 2017 season.

“I was just shocked when Curt called me and asked me to be in this year’s show, and I am so honored to be a part of the *Musical* cast,” Taylor says. “The time was right for me—I was between jobs in Chicago and I jumped at the chance to come back home.”

Does she want to come back next year? “I’m going to tell Curt that I want to be in the *Musical* until I don’t enjoy it anymore, and that will likely be a long time from now,” she says.



Curt Wollan

For Curt Wollan and TRMF President Randy Hatzenbuehler, the 2017 cast was a dream come true, because it included five North Dakotans, the most ever. Taylor and Alyssa joined Misti Koop from Grand Forks and Damon Fichter and Klayton Hinshaw from Dickinson, and the five of them did a special number, “Come Home to North Dakota” in

this year’s show. The audience loved the number, every night. Another North Dakotan, Zach Schmidt from Bismarck, served as drummer for the Coal Diggers this

To Star In The Medora Musical

summer, making it an even half dozen North Dakotans on stage this year, the most ever! And of course Bismarck's own Bill Sorensen continues to serve as the show's host.

"There's a lot of state pride in North Dakota, and that's good," Curt says. "I've never seen a state support something like North Dakota does. I just love the way they support Medora, and the *Musical*. They deserve to have their own kids up there."

Randy agrees. "Sixty five per cent of our audience is from North Dakota. Typically, North Dakotans don't boast about themselves, but we love cheering for other North Dakotans," he says. "It is one of the reasons we encourage talented North Dakotans to audition for the *Medora Musical*. The roar from the crowd when we introduce those North Dakota performers at the beginning of the show is great fun."

Curt says his casting notices this winter, in trade papers and at online theater casting sites, encourage North Dakotans to audition. "We tell them to bring a reel and show up at auditions, and I'm hoping we get more North Dakotans that way."

He also says that the show's longtime practice of bringing kids on stage every night also plays a role. "Almost every North Dakotan we've signed up has been on that stage as a kid," he says. "They remember that, and that helps bring them into auditions."

Taylor and Alyssa say they'll join the recruiting team this year too.

"I would love to recruit people," Taylor says. "Medora is so special—it's just so hard to explain. But now that I have the experience, it will be easier."

"I'll keep an eye open in Nashville for North



These five North Dakota stars of the *Medora Musical*—Misti Koop, Alyssa Scot, Taylor Leet, Damon Fichter, and Klayton Hinshaw, joined by Bismarck's Bill Sorensen, host of the *Musical*—brought down the house this summer with "Come home to North Dakota." We hope they'll all come home again next summer.

Dakotans who should audition for the show," Alyssa says. And she's trying to recruit two of her friends from college to try out as well.

She's not sure if she'll be here in 2018. She and Adam have started a new band, *Alyssa Scott and the Hometown Heroes*. Alyssa says "My main goal is to be a singer and songwriter in Nashville. That's been my dream. We'll just have to see how things line up. You're supposed to be where you're supposed to be."

Audition For The Medora Musical

If you know some former or current North Dakotans with talent, encourage them to audition for the *Medora Musical*. Here's the audition schedule.

January 20 - Bismarck-Mandan, 2 pm at the Lynne Center at Good Shepherd Church in Bismarck
 Fargo-Moorhead - 1 pm at the Howard Rehearsal Hall in the Hvidsten Hall of Music at Concordia College

January 22 - Minneapolis, at a place to be determined. Check Curt's website, troupeamerica.com/auditions.

February 2-6 - Memphis, at the Playhouse on the Square. Auditionees must be registered with United Professional Theater Auditions (UPTA)

Notes to auditionees:

- No appointments necessary in Bismarck, Fargo, or Minneapolis. Just show up.
- Bring two songs—an up-tempo and a ballad. Bring sheet music in the correct key, a resume and an 8x10 photo.
- Dress to move for the dance portion of the audition.
- An accompanist and a CD player will be available.
- If you're chosen, rehearsals begin in early May.

Joslyn Reichert Will Head U



Joslyn Reichert

If you're reading this newsletter, you can expect to get a call or a letter, or an e-mail this winter from Joslyn Reichert.

Joslyn is our new Development Officer, and she'll be working with Medora supporters on our individual and business memberships, and our new "Seat Campaign." You're familiar with annual memberships. But you might not have known about the Seat Campaign. Well, now you do.

The current seats in the Burning Hills Amphitheatre were bolted into place in 1992. Twenty five years ago. They've served their purpose. And now all the seats in the lower level of the amphitheatre are gone. They're being replaced by new seats, which will be in place when the *Medora Musical* opens in June.

Many of you readers have your names on one of those seats, and your names are also inscribed in bronze on our large recognition wall at the top of the Amphitheatre. That wall will remain there as a permanent reminder of who really built this magnificent showplace, because that first "Seat Campaign" raised



More than 2,000 names of original seat sponsors in the Burning Hills Amphitheatre are inscribed on this permanent marker at the top of the Amphitheatre.

more than two and a half million dollars, which paid for the construction of our new theatre.

It paid for that theatre \$1,000 at a time, the cost of a seat sponsorship. That was a lot of money in 1992, but generous donors lined up to participate because they knew what they were going to get: a new Burning Hills Amphitheatre with an outdoor escalator replacing a winding dirt path down a steep hill, and real seats replacing wooden benches carved into a hillside, from which to watch "The Greatest Show In The West."

We're pleased to announce that when Joslyn calls you this winter to introduce you to our 2017 Seat Campaign, she'll tell you the price has not gone up—seat sponsorship is still just \$1,000.

And in honor of our friend and former TRMF board member Tom Gunderson, founder of Investment Centers of America, who made a gift of \$25,000 and sponsored an entire row of seats in 1992, we're making this special offer: a gift to the Seat Campaign this year of just \$15,000 will sponsor

Help Grow Our Endowment And Double Your Gift!



John Andrist

Last year we celebrated the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation's 30th anniversary. We're going to be around for a long, long time. And to help make sure of that, we're building our endowments to support TRMF long into the future. To help with that, former TRMF board member John Andrist has created an endowment to support the *Medora Musical*:

The Andrist Family Endowment For The Performing Arts.
If you'd like to take advantage of North Dakota's 40

per cent income tax credit for gifts to endowments, John has offered to match contributions to the performing arts endowment, dollar for dollar, up to \$250,000.

John's goal is to see the endowment grow to a million dollars. He says if the fund gets to \$950,000, he'll put in the last \$50,000 to make it an even million.

Please consider helping John grow this important endowment, take advantage of his matching funds, and get a generous North Dakota tax credit. Call Randy Hatzenbuehler or Joslyn Reichert today at 223-4800 and put them to work on it.

Endowments, Tax Credits and Seat Sponsorships

As you may know, in North Dakota an individual is allowed an income tax credit for making a charitable contribution to a qualified endowment fund. The credit is equal to 40 percent of the contribution, up to a maximum credit of \$10,000 (or \$20,000, if married filing a joint return). To qualify, the contribution(s) to a particular endowment fund must total at least \$5,000 for the tax year.

So, we're making this special offer to TRMF supporters. If you make a new gift of \$5,000 or more to one of our endowment funds we'll include you as a seat sponsor in our Seat Campaign, and put your name on a seat in the Burning Hills Amphitheatre. Call Joslyn today at 223-4800. She'll help you with the paperwork and doing the math.

Our New 'Seat Campaign'

an entire row of seats. Shhhh. Don't tell Tom.

The funds raised in this campaign will pay for the seats themselves and other Amphitheatre improvements, but more importantly, for a longtime goal of ours: we'll be installing an incline elevator to help those who we are underserving right now—people with mobility impairment. When it's installed, there will no longer be long waits to ride a golf cart up and down the hill.

Joslyn Reichert's new role with the Foundation will make that happen. We're excited about that. For the past five years, she's been our Group Sales Manager, working with family reunions and corporate gatherings to make sure they have a good experience in Medora. During that time she's met a lot of you, and people around the state and region, and will put those acquaintances to good use.

What you might not know about her is that she grew up in Dickinson, daughter of longtime Medora supporters Tom and Pam Reichert, and is a trained chef, graduating from the Cordon Bleu School in California, and that she spent time as a chef in Sonoma, CA, Jackson, WY, and Missoula, MT, before hearing about an opening back home at our foundation. The story she tells is that her parents bumped into our COO, Mike Beaudoin, at a grocery store in Dickinson and found out about an opening for a Group Sales Manager at TRMF, and told her about it. The rest is history, followed by a love story. Upon returning home, Joslyn met and fell in love with



All new seats are in the process of being installed in the lower level of the Burning Hills Amphitheatre.

TJ Tooz from Dickinson, and they will be married next August.

TRMF President Randy Hatzenbuehler is pleased Joslyn is joining the Foundation's development staff. "She's genuine, and she loves Medora," Randy said. "Our donors will love working with her."

Please help us welcome Joslyn on board as our new Development Officer, and help make her job easy! You can do that by using the membership form and the seat sponsorship form in this newsletter, by calling her at 701-223-4800, or by e-mailing her at joslynr@medora.com.

Time To Renew Your Membership



As the end of the calendar year approaches, don't forget to renew your Annual Membership in the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation. Memberships remain the same as last year, \$250, and include two season passes to the

Medora Musical, or two rounds of golf at Bully Pulpit, or a \$150 Shopping Spree at Medora Gift Shops. It's easy to join—just call us at 701-223-4800, use the membership form in this newsletter, or go online to Medora.com and click on the Annual Membership link at the bottom of the home page.

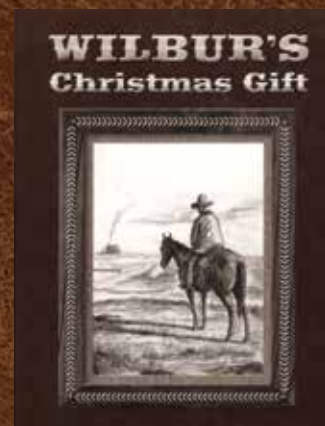
And don't forget, TRMF Annual Memberships make great Christmas gifts! Send the grandkids to Medora next summer!

BOOKS WE RECOMMEND

Wilbur's Christmas Gift

BY RODNEY NELSON

Rodney Nelson is a rancher and cowboy poet from Almont, ND, who has appeared on stage in the Burning Hills Amphitheatre, is a regular at the annual Medora Cowboy Poetry Gathering, and even made a guest appearance on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson. Some years ago, Rodney penned a series of small books featuring some of his favorite poems. One that's lasted many years is his Christmas book, *Wilbur's Christmas Gift*, the story of an old cowboy and his gift to the children of a country school. Wonderfully illustrated by another rancher from down the road in Solen, ND, Scott Nelson (same last name, no relation), it's a book every child should have, and it's available online at amazon.com and other used book sites. It would make a nice Christmas present for your grandchildren.



Summer Fun In Medora!

It was a big, busy summer in Medora. Near-record crowds at the Medora Musical, a REAL record crowd at the Pitchfork Steak Fondue, sold out shows at the Medora Gospel Brunch, the best summer ever for Joe Wiegand's portrayal of Theodore Roosevelt, and rockin' the house with Jared Mason in the "new" Old Town Hall Theater. And races of all kinds on the Maah Daah Hey Trail. We can't wait for next summer!





Elkhorn Quarters: Medora's Newest Guest & Employee Lodging!

Harold Schafer's major goal for Medora was to make it a place that families could enjoy, at an affordable price. And that meant a good show families could afford, with kids getting in free, homemade ice cream cones, a reasonably priced buffet supper, and most importantly, affordable lodging.

In 1983, when the Gold Seal Company was still operating Medora, a few years before the creation of the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, Harold learned of a 228 unit modular housing park in Watford City that was sitting vacant as a result of a slowdown in the oil business. Harold and Rod Tjaden, manager of Gold Seal's Medora operation, and Denis Joyce, longtime maintenance director in Medora, went and took a look at it, and Harold said "This will work in Medora." They made a deal to buy the entire development and began the process of hauling the modular units down Highway 85 to Medora.

"They were a little too tall for the Long-X Bridge," Denis Joyce, now retired but still living in Medora, remembers, "so we had to dolly them down to get them under the top of the bridge. We blocked a lot of traffic while we were doing that."

The result, after a long winter of work to get ready, was a new motel for Medora: The Medora Motel, more than doubling the number of motel rooms in town. A few years ago we changed the name to the Bunkhouse. For 35 years it served guests to Medora with an affordable option. Under the guidance of Elliot Lindbo, our maintenance staff

kept the units in good repair.

This fall, it disappeared.

Next spring, if you're heading out to Bully Pulpit, you'll see a new, modern replacement beside the road: The Elkhorn Quarters.

Like history repeating itself, once again, this fall we found a pretty-much-like-new 400-unit modular housing park in Williston, and we've moved it to Medora, and it's being set on permanent foundations and will be ready for guests next spring.

The new facility will serve two functions. There will be 180 new, modern, affordable guest rooms. We'll be taking reservations this spring. And the price will be the same as guests paid for at the old Bunkhouse-\$89.

And 220 rooms will be used to house summer seasonal staff. All our staff will now be located in one place, instead of scattered in dormitories around town. It's the completion of our "campus." It's right across the street from the Marcil Life Skills Center, where all our staff take their meals, and our foundation offices are located.

As you're reading this newsletter, the buildings are being set on foundations and work has begun to prepare for guests and staff when spring arrives. It's a big investment, especially in our staff housing. Like our other projects, we're always looking for philanthropic help, and naming opportunities exist. Please give Randy a call if you'd like to help. And we hope you'll stop by and visit when you come to town.



Construction crews are moving the new Elkhorn Quarters into place, replacing the old Bunkhouse. Medora's newest, affordable guest lodging facility will be open in the spring.

GET YOUR SEAT!

What a project it was! In 1992, we were tightening bolts on the new seats as guests were riding down the escalator. It was incredibly exciting. Harold Schafer was beaming. We knew this day would come eventually, but who knew it would come so quickly? After 25 years, it is time to replace the seats in the Burning Hills Amphitheatre.

Now is the time to put your name on a new seat! We are proud that the original seat sponsors are permanently recognized on the Burning Hills Amphitheatre Wall of Honor. Our goal is to have new seats installed in the lower level in time for the 2018 season.



Put your name on a seat(s) with a tax deductible contribution of \$1,000 per seat.

_____ # of seats you would like x \$1,000 = \$ _____ total contribution

Name(s) as you would like them to appear on each seat (limit to two names per tag):

Payment Options:

Checks should be made payable to the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundations.

Mail forms & checks to: P.O. Box 1696 Bismarck, ND 58502

Credit Card: Name on Card: First _____ Last _____

Billing Address: _____ Apt/Suite: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: _____

Card Used: _____ MASTERCARD _____ VISA _____ DISCOVER _____ AMERICAN EXPRESS

Card Number: _____ 3 Digit Security Code _____

Exp Date: (MM/YY): _____ Signature _____

*Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation is a 501 c 3 public non-profit foundation.
Your contributions are deductible to extent allowable by Internal Revenue Service.*

Apply Now For Our 20th Season Of Medora Volunteering!

BY DENIS MONTPLAISIR • VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

TRMF Volunteers are having an anniversary in 2018 and we want you to join us. But first, allow me to regress! This past year was amazing. We had the most volunteers; over the longest period of time; working at the most locations; providing untold value to TRMF, Medora, the visitors and guests, all while having the time of their life.

As the program continues to grow, our ranks are filling with folks from all over the country. We don't do any advertising, simply word of mouth. Couples, individuals, siblings, long-time friends, strangers to Medora and each other, all coming together to bring our vision statement to life, "We connect people to Historic Medora for positive life-changing experiences."

Do you want to sign up right now to volunteer for 2018? It's really easy. The online process makes the entire process go really smoothly. Going online saves the Foundation thousands of dollars in postage, printing and man-hours.

For those of you who are uncomfortable with completing online forms, we would still encourage you to try it (you know the "you're never too old to learn" lecture)! You can always simply print the form, fill it out and mail it. We also have paper application packets available in our

office. You may call after Dec. 1st to (701) 223-4800 for a printed application packet.

Applications open on November 15th. It's quick and easy. Here we go:

1. Enter medora.com/volunteer into your web browser address bar.

2. Welcome to the Volunteer homepage, scroll around and learn about the program.

3. At any time, you may either click within the text where you see something in parentheses and/or in brown font, or on the sidebar to the left.

4. When you are ready, you may click on any notices about applications/applying.

5. Fill out the application completely. Note: You must fill in every box marked with an * or you will not be able to submit your form.

6. When complete, simply hit SUBMIT. You should receive an e-mail reply within minutes that we have received it. Congratulations, you did it!

Do you know a great potential volunteer? Encourage them to apply! All applications must be submitted by January 5th, 2018.

We'll see you in Medora!

New Roosevelt Statue Will Welcome Visitors To Medora

Visitors to Medora can now have their picture taken with a life-sized bronze sculpture of Theodore Roosevelt. The new statue, by South Dakota artist and sculptor John Lopez, will stand permanently in front of the Old Town Hall Theater, a place Roosevelt himself visited. Thanks to donors Dr. Dennis Wolf and family, Rich & Joanne Becker, Jim & Twylah Blotsky, Tom & Maria Overson Schock, Ardis Afseth, Dean Schlosser and Bill Sorensen for their generosity in bringing this important statue to Medora.



Don't Miss The 2018 Valentines Getaway

Our 2017 "Valentine's Getaway," the most romantic night of the year in Medora, was such a big hit we're doing it again. And this year, we're doing it two nights to accommodate more of you who wanted to attend but signed up too late last year. The 2018 version of "Romance in Medora – A Valentines Getaway," will be held on February 9 and February 10 this year. Get all the details in the events section of Medora.com.



'A Magical Medora Christmas' Is Back

Now in its third year, Medora's hit Christmas show is coming to a community near you! *A Magical Medora Christmas*, featuring former stars of the *Medora Musical*, will perform for audiences in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana.

During 27 shows in 22 communities, *A Magical Medora Christmas* features vocal performances by the amazing Emily Walter, the multi-talented former Broadway star Jared Mason, and the wonderful Broadway soloist Job Christenson.

Throughout the show, Wild West Prestidigitator Bill Sorensen will wow you with magic true-to-the-season, and light-hearted humor the whole family will love.

A Magical Medora Christmas opens November 25 in Billings, MT, and closes on December 21 in Bismarck. The show often sells out, so don't wait to order tickets. You can buy tickets online at medora.com, by clicking on the Magical Christmas link, or you can get them at one of the places listed in the schedule.



Emily Walter, Job Christenson and Jared Mason perform during the 2016 Medora Christmas show. Don't miss them when they come to your town this year!

DATE	TIMR	CITY	VENUE	TICKETS ALSO AT
Nov. 25	7:30	Billings	Babcock Theater	Rock Creek Coffee Shop
Nov. 26	7:30	Miles City	High School	Chamber of Commerce
Nov. 27	7:30	Williston	High School	Williston CVB
Nov. 28-29	7:30	Minot	Nelson Hall, MSU	Minot CVB
Dec. 1	7:30	Mandan	High School	Dan's Super Market
Dec. 2	7:30	Mobridge	Scherr Howe Cntr.	Scherr Howe Center
Dec. 3	4:00	Ellendale	Trinity College	Ellendale Banks
Dec. 4-5	7:30	Fargo	South High School	1st International Banks
Dec. 6	7:30	Wahpeton	Stern Center	Econofoods
Dec. 7	7:30	Jamestown	Reiland Theater	Hugo's
Dec. 8	8:00	Medora	Town Hall	Rough Riders Hotel
Dec. 9	3:00	Medora	Town Hall	Rough Riders Hotel
Dec. 9	6:45	Medora	Town Hall	Rough Riders Hotel
Dec. 10	4:00	Carrington	High School	CMC Auxiliary
Dec. 11	3:00	Grand Forks	Empire Arts Center	Empire Arts Center
Dec. 11	7:30	Grand Forks	Empire Arts Center	Empire Arts Center
Dec. 12	7:30	Park Rapids	High School	Park Rapids Chamber
Dec. 13	7:30	Grafton	High School	Grafton Chamber
Dec. 15	7:30	Detroit Lakes	Middle School	Holmes Theater
Dec. 16	7:30	Alexandria	Lake Geneva Cntr.	Elden's Food Fair
Dec. 17	4:00	Henning, MN	School Gym	Landmark Center
Dec. 18	7:30	Valley City	Vangstad Aud.	Eagles Nest Store
Dec. 19	7:30	Dickinson	Trinity High	Family Fare
Dec. 20	7:30	Watford City	High School	Watford City Banks
Dec. 21	7:30	Bismarck	Belle Mehus	Dan's Super Market



THE IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER IS PERMANENT!

IRA Rollover

Here's a way to help the causes you care about the most

With the IRA Charitable Rollover permanent, you can make a gift from your IRA account to support the work of TRMF (see below for how you benefit).

Theodore Roosevelt
MEDORA FOUNDATION

HOW CAN WE HELP?

- ☐ Please contact me with more information about the IRA Charitable Rollover.
- ☐ I have already included your organization in my will or trust.
- ☐ Please send me your FREE estate planning guide.

The best way to contact me is by: ☐ Email ☐ Mail ☐ Telephone

HOW YOU CAN BENEFIT

Gifts made from your IRA (up to \$100,000 per year) are not reportable as taxable income. They also qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD) which can lower your income and taxes.



Vision

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

Mission Statement

Preserve the experience of the badlands, the historic character of Medora and the heritage of Theodore Roosevelt and Harold Schafer.

Present opportunities for our guests to be educated and inspired through interpretive programs, museums and attractions that focus on the Old West, our patriotic heritage, and the life of Theodore Roosevelt in the badlands.

Serve the traveling public, providing for their comfort while visiting historic Medora, the badlands and Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Values

We show **respect** for people and place.
We deliver **excellence in hospitality**.
We **work** with creativity and integrity.
We are a family who values **family**.



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Harold Schafer (1912-2001)

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