

TRNHA Newsletter

December 2010

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 3 & 4, 2010 - Medora's Old Fashion Cowboy Christmas. Contact the Medora Chamber of Commerce for more information.

December 19 & 20, 2010 - Christmas Bird Counts will be held at Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

December 25, 2010 - All Visitor Centers will be closed for Christmas. Weather permitting the loop drives will remain open.

January 1, 2011 - All Visitor Centers will be closed on New Years Day. Weather permitting the loop drives will remain open.

February 13, 2011 - The 4th annual Winter Adventure

Registration is \$60 person and the fee includes two hearty meals, use of snowshoes, all activity supplies, and presentations. Registration is limited to twenty one participants. You can register by calling the State Historical Society at (701) 328-2724. More details on the Adventure will be in the January newsletter.

VISITOR CENTER HOURS

Theodore Roosevelt National Park

South Unit

Visitor Center Hours
8:00-4:30 MST

North Unit

Visitor Center Hours
9:00 am -5:30pm CST
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday

Painted Canyon

Closed November 11th
will reopen April 1st

The drives in both units of the park will be open as long as the weather permits.

**Knife River Indian Villages
National Historic Site**
8:00 am -4:30 pm CST

Upper Souris NWR
8:00 am - 4:30 pm CST
Monday-Friday

Volunteers Needed For Christmas Bird Count

On December 19 and 20, 2010, Theodore Roosevelt National Park will host the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Counts in Medora and the North Unit. The event is free and open to the public thanks to sponsorship from the Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association.

The Medora bird count will take place on Sunday, December 19, 2010 beginning at 8:00 AM MST in the South Unit Visitor Center. The North Unit bird count will begin on Monday, December 20 at 9:00 AM CST in the North Unit Visitor Center. Participants can drive, walk, ski, or snowshoe to best cover their assigned areas as desired.

You don't have to be a bird expert

to make a difference in the CBC. All you need are warm clothes, a pair of binoculars, and a sense of adventure! People of all abilities and knowledge



Long-eared Owl spotted by 2009 bird count participants Deb & Mariah Landcaster from Halliday, North Dakota.

are welcome to join in this event to learn about birds and practice bird identification skills.

Each event has the potential to turn up something surprising. Last year, volunteers spotted a long-eared owl in the South Unit, the first time the species had ever been recorded during the winter bird count.

This is the 111th year of the CBC, the world's largest and longest-running citizen science project. Data collected by the participants help inform scientists and conservationists about changes in bird populations and ranges over time, and have helped direct conservation efforts for many species.

Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas

The Medora Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and volunteers have been working hard preparing for Medora's 15th Annual Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas. It's a Cowboy weekend filled with cowboy music, poetry, food, fireworks, shopping, and more!

Please join us in celebrating the Christmas season in Medora!

Stranger in the Woods: The Movie

Join us at Theodore Roosevelt National Park visitor center for a showing of Carl Sams' award winning movie.



**Saturday,
December 4,
2010
12:30 pm**

Schedule of Events

Medora merchants open daily
Quilt Show/Silent Auction @ AmericInn
Food Drive for the Belfield Food Pantry @ MCC
8am until 4:30pm @Theodore Roosevelt National Park Visitor Center
9am until 5pm @ Chateau Interpretive Center

Friday

3pm @ Chateau Interpretive Center -Bob Peterman; Cowboy Music
3pm until 8pm @ Rough Riders Hotel— Pictures with Santa
4:30pm @ Cowboy Café - til the food runs out – OYSTER STEW
6:30pm Wreath Ceremony – starts at NDCHF ends at MCC
7pm -12:30am Cowboy Idol Jamboree, Military Veterans Award & Dance @ MCC

Saturday

10am @ Chateau Interpretive Center – Bob Peterman; Cowboy Music
10am until 3pm @ MCC -Hay Wagon Rides
10am until 4pm @ ND Cowboy Hall of Fame – Christmas Movies for Children
10am until 8pm @ Rough Riders Hotel—Pictures with Santa
11am until 1pm @ Billings County Museum—Annual Open House
11am until 2pm – EATS ON THE STREETS - around19 locations throughout Medora
1pm @ MCC – ND Cattlewomen's FOWL FLING
1pm @ Badlands Ministries—Choir Spectacular
2pm @ MCC—Fireside Cowboy Poetry
3pm @ Chateau Interpretive Center – Bob Peterman; Cowboy Music
4pm @ St. Mary's Catholic Church – Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church
5pm until 7pm @ MCC – Christmas Dinner (Roast Beef, Potato., Veg., Dessert & Bev.)
6pm until 7pm @ MCC—Open Mic. Hour (featuring Greg Hager and other performers)
7:30pm – FIRE & ICE Fireworks Display- Bluffs East of MCC
8:00pm @ MCC – Christmas Dance- Music by Thunder Road

Ranger Recommends

December's featured Ranger is Theodore Roosevelt National Park Superintendent, Valerie Naylor. Valerie has been park superintendent since 2003. She started her career at TRNP in 1979 as a Student Conservation Association volunteer and later worked as a park ranger in interpretation. Her master's degree focused on the utilization of hardwood draws by small mammals so she has a close relationship with the park's green ash trees. Valerie is fortunate to have had the opportunity to work in several national parks (*Colorado National Monument, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Badlands National Park, Petrified Forest National Park, Big Bend National Park, and Scotts Bluff National Monument.*) before returning to TRNP. She loves the Great Plains and has spent most of her career just west of the hundredth meridian.

Park Superintendent Valerie Naylor recommends firewood. Yes, firewood is a TRNHA sales item! But it is not just provided as a visitor service during these cold weeks; it is an important resource protection item because it may help us to keep emerald ash borers out of the park.

The emerald ash borer is an alien beetle that was discovered in southeastern Michigan in 2002. The adult beetles nibble on ash foliage but cause little damage. The larvae feed

on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the trees' ability to transport water and nutrients. The emerald ash borer is established in many midwestern states and is moving west. Since 2002, the beetles have killed tens of millions of ash trees in Michigan alone, with tens of millions more lost throughout the eastern and midwestern United States and Canada. This has serious implications for Theodore Roosevelt National Park, where our hardwood draws are comprised primarily of green ash trees. What would the park look like without the common green ash? How would loss of ash trees affect our critical wildlife habitat? Loss of ash trees could drastically affect the park.

And so, we get back to firewood. Using local firewood is preferred and the park is discouraging visitors from bringing firewood from other states into North Dakota and into the park as it may contain emerald ash borers. Sale of firewood by TRNHA gives visitors an alternative to bringing potentially beetle-contaminated wood into the park. The park is looking at other options for providing firewood as well.

While you are warming by the fire this winter, take a look at the book *Historic Photographs of Theodore Roosevelt* by Stacy A. Cordery. Not only are the historic photos, some rare, of great interest, but the book is

expertly written and provides excellent information on TR's life.

If you are interested in purchasing this book or other items in this newsletter, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at: www.trnha.org

Historic Photographs of Theodore Roosevelt
by: Stacy A. Cordery



Regular Price: \$39.95
Members Price: \$33.95

Firewood
Regular Price: \$7.50
Members Price: \$6.38
(Firewood is not a mail order item and cannot be shipped)



Knife River Indian Villages NHS Visitor Center is getting a New Look!



December's Member Only Coupon

**Stranger in the Woods
(10th Anniversary Edition)**
by: Carl R Sams II & Jean Stoick

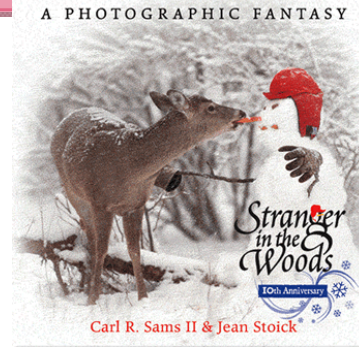
SALE PRICE \$20.00
(Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$17.00)
Regular Price: \$21.95

Expires December 31, 2010

Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail.

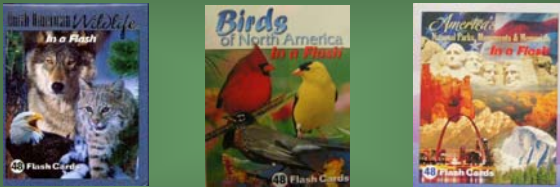
Kids (and grown ups) will love watching the deer get his favorite treat on the cover of this collector's edition of Stranger in the Woods. Watch the deer pull the carrot nose right off the snowman. With this 3D lenticular design it's like looking into a snow globe and the image actually moves!

Kids will love this Holiday Gift!



Fill your Stockings with TRNHA

Flashcards



Regular Price - \$5.99
Member Price- \$5.10

Playing Cards



Regular Price - \$4.99
Member Price- \$4.25

TRNP Clip Magnet #14759



Regular Price - \$2.99
Member Price- \$2.55

Travel Memory



Regular Price - \$5.99
Member Price- \$5.10

Wildlife Crossing Magnets



Available Magnets:
Bison
Prairie Dog
Elk
Mule Deer
Bighorn
Whitetail Deer

Regular Price - \$5.99
Member Price- \$5.10

TRNP Pin



Regular Price - \$3.95
Member Price- \$3.36

It's SNOW-ing!

This puzzle contains 22 words that begin with "snow-."

C	S	S	S	N	O	W	M	O	B	I	L	E	E	M	S
Y	I	N	N	L	P	L	N	L	X	E	S	S	N	S	N
S	M	S	O	O	Y	Y	L	M	U	E	N	W	S	N	O
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O	X	S	O	O	B	S	E	A	J	G	W	N	O	W	M
W	V	N	N	W	W	R	L	G	X	E	B	O	W	D	A
S	S	H	O	O	I	F	E	I	P	Y	L	W	P	R	K
U	J	N	G	T	W	N	A	A	D	K	O	I	L	I	E
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R	N	S	W	Y	W	Q	L	O	E	H	R	N	K	G	U
S	P	O	S	O	Y	O	W	Y	R	E	W	K	K	L	L
Q	N	S	N	O	W	L	E	S	S	M	T	Z	S	U	B
S	P	S	K	S	N	O	W	S	H	O	E	S	Z	N	C
S	N	O	W	E	D	S	N	O	W	B	O	A	R	D	Z
L	W	D	O	S	N	O	W	A	N	G	E	L	W	N	X

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By: Julie Vickery-Smith <http://www.theholidayzone.com/>



Become a Member of the Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association and help us support North Dakota's National Parks, Historic Sites, and Wildlife Refuges!



Membership Donations are used to help fund:

- The publishing of free trail guides, informational brochures, plant and animal checklist, junior ranger activity books, and the park newspaper.
- Support Volunteers and Student Conservation Resource Assistants.
- Acquiring publications for reference libraries at three park sites.
- Money for scientific research and oral history projects. TRNHA had recently helped fund an ongoing Mountain Lion study in Theodore Roosevelt National Park.
- Funding for interpretive training, materials, and supplies.
- Sponsoring special interpretive programs and events such as the Northern Plains Culture Fest and birding festivals.
- Provide Support Staff in the Visitor Centers.

Reasons to become a member of TRNHA

1. 15% Discount on sales items at our five bookstore locations: Painted Canyon, South Unit, & North Unit (All in Theodore Roosevelt National Park); Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, and Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge.
2. TRNHA membership is honored by most National Park Cooperating Associations with a reciprocal discount.
3. Monthly e-newsletters and association updates.
4. Receive newsletters and program announcements on the activities of the Association and the areas it serves.
5. Special member only offers. *(Please check our website for monthly specials www.trnha.org)*
6. All members are entitled to vote for TRNHA Board of Directors.
7. The pleasures of knowing that your membership contributes to the support of National park and refuge sites in North Dakota.

Print and mail in the form below to become a member today!

**Yes! I would like to become a member of
Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association!**

New **Renewal**

Individual **\$20.00**
 Family **\$30.00**
 Contributing **\$75.00**
 Supporting **\$250.00**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to:
Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRNHA)
PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645

www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884