# TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### January 2012

## **ELK REDUCTION CONCLUDES**

The second year of an elk reduction effort in Theodore Roosevelt National Park has concluded. A total of 462 elk were removed from the park during the management action this fall.

The park is reducing elk numbers in accordance with an Elk Management Plan that was finalized in 2010. This was the second year of the elk reduction, which is managed and led by park staff but involves members of the public working as volunteers.

Teams of up to four volunteers, led by park staff, shot elk in the park three days per week during a 10-week reduction period between October 18 and December 22, 2011.

The backcountry in the South Unit, which is closed three days per week during the elk reduction effort, is now open to visitors all of the time.

"The elk reduction effort exceeded all of our expectations again this year," said Superintendent Valerie Naylor. "The National Park Service team leaders are commended for doing an exceptional job of providing for the safety of the volunteers in the field and surpassing fairly aggressive elk reduction goals."

Two hundred volunteers were selected to assist with the program this fall, although only 138

completed their arduous five day assignment. Twenty-seven volunteers decided not to participate, 20 failed the required shooting proficiency test, and 15 left early due to the difficulty of the work. Most of the volunteers were from North Dakota and Minnesota, but others came from as far away as Idaho and California.

"We are grateful to the volunteers who donated their time and successfully completed this extremely difficult assignment," said Naylor. "It is hard work that not everyone is able to do."

Last fall and winter, park staff and volunteers removed 406 elk from the park during a 12-week reduction effort. This year, the reduction started two weeks earlier and terminated 4 weeks earlier.

"Starting earlier, along with unusually good weather and a year of previous program experience made for an even more efficient elk reduction," said Naylor. "Although this is a very difficult and time consuming project, we are very pleased that we had another safe, efficient, and effective year."

Working through North Dakota Community Action, the park donated nearly 20,000 pounds of meat to Sportsmen Against Hunger. The elk meat is used to stock food pantries throughout the state.

North Dakota American Indian Tribes also received over 25,000 pounds of meat to be used for food pantries, diabetes programs, elderly programs, homeless shelters, and other



needs. The remaining elk meat was made available, through a donation agreement with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, to volunteers who participated in the reduction effort and completed their assignments.

Every elk removed from the park was tested for chronic wasting disease. In the past two years, over 800 tests have come back from the lab and all have been negative to date.

This winter, the park will assess the elk population and determine plans for the 2012 reduction. It is likely that 2012 will be the final year for a large scale elk reduction. A news release will be sent out early next summer to notify the public when volunteer applications will be accepted. Those interested in volunteering should check the park's website at www.nps.gov/thro for further information.

#### Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit 8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT North Unit 9:00 am -5:30 pm CT Open Fri, Sat & Sun. only Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

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

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **January 1, 2012** Park Visitor Centers will be closed for New Year's Day.

**February 11, 2012** Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure at Knife River Indian Villages.



### CAUSE & EFFECT A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### Elkhorn Ranch Gravel Mining

Many of you have heard about the proposal for gravel mining on the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Elkhorn Ranchlands, directly across from Theodore Roosevelt National Park's historically significant Elkhorn Ranch Unit. The Elkhorn Ranchlands were purchased by the USFS in 2007 to preserve the greater Elkhorn Ranch area. This came after nearly 7 years of attempts by the National Park Service to purchase these important lands from willing sellers. The USFS purchase was a great victory, as it helped to protect the scenic views from TR's home. A partial owner of the surface minerals on this property wants the USFS (or someone) to pay \$2 million for the gravel rights. If they do not pay, she is going to mine this gravel and crush it on a private ranch, also near the Elkhorn. The gravel operation would

cause both noise and dust, and would compromise the serenity and scenic views from the Elkhorn Ranch Unit.

#### How is the Park Responding?

The U.S. Forest Service is working through the permitting process, and is completing the required planning documents under the National Environmental Policy Act. The park is a cooperating agency in working with the USFS on this issue.

#### **Other Information**

In addition, the Elkhorn Ranchlands and the park's Elkhorn Ranch Unit have been nominated to the National Register as a National Historic District. The nomination was supported by the state's historic preservation review board in November. The National Park Service supports the National Historic District nomination and we hope it is approved.



A copy of a photograph taken by Theodore Roosevelt of the Elkhorn Ranch in 1886. (Hagedorn, op, cit., 252) This photo was taken from the east side of the Little Missouri River.



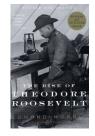
January's featured ranger is Andrea Markel, a seasonal interpretive ranger at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Andrea grew up in Minot, ND and is happy to be

## **RANGER RECOMMENDS**

back in her home state after spending several seasons working in Alaska at Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park and Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Her knowledge of the state and her experience working in National Parks make Andrea a valuable resource for park visitors as they explore TRNP.

Andrea says, "As a seasonal ranger, I get to move around to different parks, but there's always a lot to learn at each new job. I started my research on Theodore Roosevelt with *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* by Edmund Morris. It covers Roosevelt's life from childhood up until the moment President McKinley is shot. Morris's writing is rich in information and also very readable. Each page is filled with adventures, which span from New York City to the Dakota Badlands, as this Pulitzer Prize-winning author cleverly brings his subject to life."

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

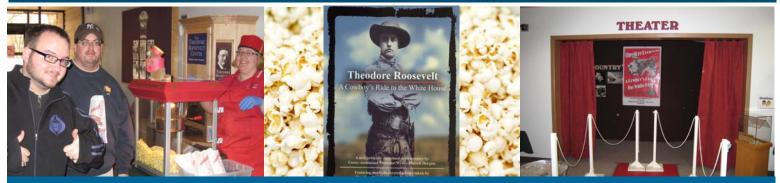


**Rise of Theodore Roosevelt** 

Regular Price: \$17.95 Members Price: \$15.26

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## TRNHA — A YEAR IN PICTURES



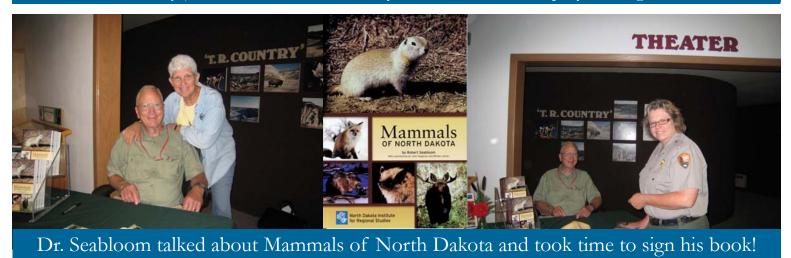
President's Day was celebrated with Popcorn and a Movie!



Breakfast & Birds in June at TRNHA's Annual Birdwalk



Smoky joined us for some Teddy Bear Picnic fun in July & August



TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### SLOTS AVAILABLE IN THE FIFTH ANNUAL HERITAGE OUTBOUND WINTER ADVENTURE

The fifth annual Outbound Winter Adventure is scheduled for Saturday, February 11, 2012, at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

Registration for the event is \$60.00 per person which includes two meals, use of snowshoes, all activities and presentations. The registration deadline is Monday, February 6, 2012, and is limited to 25 people.

Activities include lunch, snowshoeing through the Hidatsa villages, throwing atlatls, using ice gliders, and making a traditional craft. Adventurers will gather around a roaring fire in the earthlodge where a traditional buffalo feast is served. The evening will conclude with presentations by Marilyn Hudson and Matt Schanandore. An optional snowshoeing experience at Ft. Clark Historic Site is included this year.

The Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure program is sponsored by the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, the State Historical Society of North Dakota, the North Dakota Geological Survey, and the Knife River Indian Heritage Foundation

For more information and to register, contact Erik Holland at the State Historical Society of North Dakota at (701) 328-2792 or email <u>eholland@nd.gov</u>

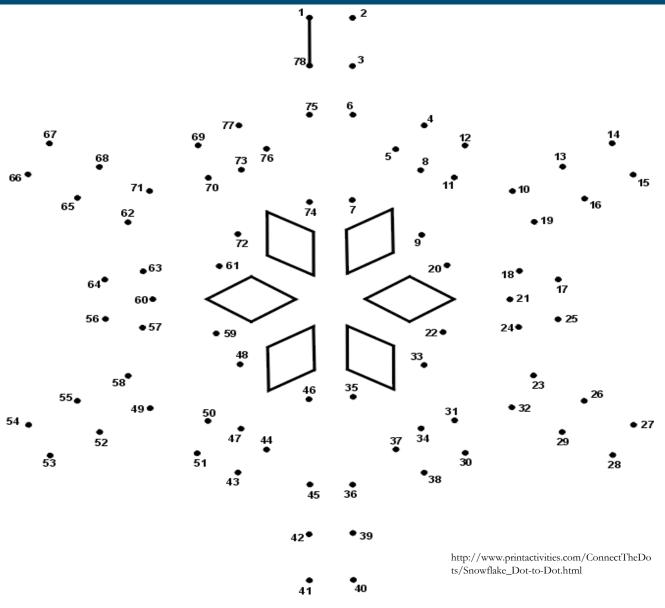
### Come and experience the Adventure!



## **10 REASONS WINTER IN NORTH DAKOTA IS GREAT!**

- 1. Snow is beautiful!
- 2. Everything around us and life seems to slow down.
- 3. The smell of wood stoves burning fills the air.
- 4. It's too cold to be outside so everyone gathers indoors.
- 5. Ice Fishing, Ice Skating, Ice Hockey
- 6. You are more informed You end up hearing the news, gossip, and all sorts things while listening to the radio for traffic reports and praying school is cancelled.
- 7. Less Traffic
- 8. Extra Freezer space who needs a freezer when you can just sit it on the back porch.
- 9. Nights are longer with it getting dark so early you have an excuse to wear your pajamas and curl up under a blanket.
- 10. More Family Time Let's face it there is no better family time then when a blizzard snows you in preventing your love ones from leaving.

## WINTER DOT TO DOT



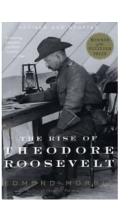
## MEMBER ONLY SPECIAL

## JANUARY'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR....

### The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt by Edmund Morris

Sale Price \$16.50 (Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$14.03) Regular Price \$17.95

Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail. EXPIRES: January 31, 2012



## SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

#### 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. TRN-HA 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

- 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.

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

🗖 Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address	
City	
State	_ Zip
Email	

### New & Renewing Member Offer

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!



### February 2012

## THEODORE ROOSEVELT THE RANCHER

#### The Investment

Theodore Roosevelt originally came to Dakota Territory to hunt a buffalo. To do so, he solicited the help of Joe Ferris, a 25-year-old Canadian, to serve as a hunting guide. Ferris showed little interest in helping the bespectacled dude

at first, but Roosevelt and his cash incentives proved persuasive. Once Roosevelt found someone willing to loan him a horse, Ferris found he hardly had the energy to keep up with the dynamo



from New York that had hired him. Undeterred by nasty weather or bad luck, Roosevelt pressed on, much to the exasperation of his hunting guide. Finding a buffalo to shoot proved difficult; most of the bison in the area had been killed mercilessly in recent years by commercial hunters. Unknown to Roosevelt, a herd of 10,000 had been killed nearby just a week before his arrival. Each evening at Gregor Lang's ranch, an exhausted Ferris often left Roosevelt squeezing Lang for every drop of conversation he could provide. During their conversations, and maybe as a result of them, Roosevelt expressed interest in cattle ranching in the badlands.

A cattle ranching investment in Dakota seemed reasonably sound. Cattle raised in the Dakota Territory reaped the nutritional benefits of a variety of grasses Texas cattle did not enjoy, plus they could be shipped directly to market without enduring long drives that reduced the quality of the meat. That meant higher profits for Dakota ranchers. The Marquis de Morès sought to connect the markets of the East with the grazing lands of Dakota by building a slaughterhouse and shipping the dressed beef in refrigerated rail cars from Medora, the burgeoning town he founded in 1883.

Roosevelt quickly arranged to purchase a herd of cattle tended by Sylvane Ferris and Bill Merrifield for \$14,000 – significantly more than Roosevelt's annual salary. The two surprised cowboys agreed to tend the cattle for Roosevelt when they were released from their existing contract. That winter, following Roosevelt's request, Ferris and Merrifield constructed the Maltese Cross Cabin. Roosevelt probably did not see his investment in strictly monetary terms, but as a binding connection to the wide open spaces for which he had quickly become quite enamored. As biographer Edmund Morris noted, "Fourteen thousand dollars was a small price to pay for so much freedom."

#### **Return to New York**

After finally bagging a bull bison in Dakota, which he mounted on the wall of his home at Sagamore Hill, Roosevelt returned to New York. He showed characteristic vigor and force as he resumed his legislative duties in Albany, attacking corruption in city government and making newspaper headlines in the process. He was earning greater approval and backing than ever before, and his political career was gaining traction. On February 12, 1884, his wife Alice gave birth to a baby girl in New York City. Just at this moment of joy, tragedy fell upon Theodore Roosevelt.

A telegram arrived in Albany beseching Roosevelt to quickly return to New York; his wife

Alice and mother Mittie were both dying in the Roosevelt home. On Valentine's Day 1884, Theodore Roosevelt watched in horror as his mother died, then his wife, only hours apart. Devastated, Roosevelt recorded in his diary a large "X" and wrote only a single sentence: "The light has gone out of my life." Roosevelt dealt with his immense grief by immersing himself in work, laboring with almost superhuman fervor. He began to erase the memory of his beloved wife, destroying any correspondence that made reference to her, and never spoke of her again, even to their daughter. Roosevelt never looked back.

Continued on Page 3

Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit 8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT 7 days a week North Unit 9:00 am -5:30 pm CT Fri, Sat & Sun. only

Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **February 11, 2012** Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure at Knife River Indian Villages.

## CAUSE & EFFECT

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF KNIFE RIVER INDIAN VILLAGES NHS

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### Storing Fracking Sand and Pipeline Material

One of the issues facing the town of Stanton (the park's gateway community) is a storage facility at the southwest end of town for fracking sand and pipeline material. Boyco Incorporated bought the 15 acres for the storage facility. Plans call for the sand and pipe to arrive on-site via rail and the sand will be delivered by truck to oil rigs in the Killdeer and Hebron area. The pipe will also be delivered by truck throughout northwestern North Dakota. One-fourth to one-third of the operation will involve ceramic frac sand shipped to the site from China. Natural sand will be delivered by rail from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Minnesota. Grain bin-type structures will be built to store the frac sand and they estimate approximately 15 trucks will enter and leave the site per day during a 10 hour work shift. These trucks will use State Highway 31, which runs through Stanton, for entering and exiting the facility. Two new rail spurs will be constructed to supply the facility with approximately 40-60 rail cars per week. The construction is expected to be completed by mid-June or July.

#### How is the Park Responding?

Staff is keeping informed by reading local news media and attending public meetings. The storage facility is located approximately one mile south of the park on private lands. Much of the infrastructure has not been planned at this time. Local residents have voiced concerns about noise, dust, road maintenance, and hazardous materials. Stanton city officials have stated that noise, smell and dust issues are already restricted by a nuisance ordinance. The city of Stanton is in the process of amending the industrial zoning ordinance to prevent the storage of hazardous and toxic materials.

#### **Current Status**

Documents are being drafted to rezone the newly acquired property from agricultural to industrial. Sand is currently being transported by truck which is increasing the amount of traffic on Highway 200A and Highway 31 through Stanton. Large white storage bags filled with sand can be seen stacked in the storage area. The area has been cleared of vegetation. The facility will employ up to 30 individuals by the end of 2012.



February's featured ranger is Dorothy Cook, an interpretive ranger at Knife River Indian Villages NHS. Dorothy is a North Dakota native but her accent has Oklahoma, North Carolina, and Arkansas in it. She is starting her 13th year at Knife River

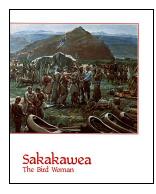
## RANGER RECOMMENDS

Indian Villages. Dorothy has worked at the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Arkansas Post National Memorial, Kingsley Plantation, and the Blue Ridge Parkway. She likes to spend time reading and with her cat, Toto.

Dorothy says, "I recommend *Sakakawea The Bird Woman* by Russell Reid. It is a very quick and easy read. Reid gives an overview of the life of Sakakawea and her time with the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He goes into the various spellings of her name. In addition, he gives the theories of how long she lived and where she is buried. The book is great for travelers because it easily fits into a suitcase. "

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore

Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at www.trnha.org



Sakakawea: The Bird Woman

Regular Price: \$2.50 Members Price: \$2.13

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## THEODORE ROOSEVELT THE RANCHER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

#### Renewal

In June 1884, Roosevelt put his thoughts and energy to ranching at the Maltese Cross Ranch. He sunk another \$26,000 into new cattle. Later that summer, Roosevelt brought two trusted friends and woodsmen from Maine, Bill Sewall

and Wilmot Dow, to help start a new, larger ranch down river, the Elkhorn Ranch. While Sewall and Dow constructed the ranch house (Roosevelt, for his energy, did not prove a useful assistant),

Roosevelt went on numerous hunting expeditions, including a 6-week excursion to the Bighorn Mountains. Distracted by his other activities, Roosevelt slipped behind on his planned writing project for the summer, Hunting Trips of a Ranchman, which he finished upon his return to New York in December. In the book,

#### **Disaster Strikes**

The late spring thaw of 1886 gave way to a disastrous season for the Badlands cattle industry. Scorching summer conditions with temperatures reaching 125° F prohibited plant growth. Few crops were harvested, and little useful grazing land was left by the time winter set in. Worse, ranchers had packed the badlands with unsustainable numbers of cattle. Overgrazing and an extremely poor growing season took their toll as ranchers were unable to store any hay for the winter. An ominous haze, probably caused by dust in the air and distant wildfires, loomed over the area throughout the autumn, which some took to be a bad omen.

The winter of 1886-87 proved to be extraordinarily harsh, compounding the already difficult circumstances created by the vicious summer. Unable to feed their cattle, ranchers were forced



Roosevelt wrote about his hunting exploits and shared a prophetic view that overgrazing in the badlands could spell trouble in the future.

The next summer, Roosevelt found himself further entwined in Medora. Despite his forebod-

ings about overgrazing in the Badlands, he spent another \$39,000 adding cattle to his already sizable herd, and spent significant time in local politics as chairman of the Stockmen's Association. In September 1885, Roosevelt received a somewhat threatening letter from the

Marquis de Morès, who was in jail on charges of murder. The Marquis claimed that Joe Ferris, Roosevelt's employee, had been rounding up witnesses against him, which he saw as an attack. This situation made Roosevelt nervous, for the Marquis was well known for his quick temper and itchy trigger finger. Roosevelt shot a

to let them fend for themselves. One blizzard after another quickly buried what was left of the grazing land, and cattle were found "frozen to death where they stood" in temperatures as low as -41° F. Hardier cattle survived long enough to eat the tar-paper off the houses in Medora before succumbing to the elements. Others were found dead in trees after the snow melted, having climbed massive snowdrifts to reach the edible twigs before expiring amid the branches. Tens of thousands of cattle died in the Badlands in the winter of 1886-1887, around 80% of the total population. Gregor Lang, who in 1884 had convinced Roosevelt that cattle ranching in the Badlands was a safe investment, lost 85% of his herd of 3,000. In the spring, the Little Missouri swelled onto its floodplain, surging with melt water and ice. The carcasses of innumerable cattle bobbed down the icy river.

Legacy

Although the ranching venture had spelled financial disaster for Roosevelt, the physically and psychologically transformative experience proved priceless. Roosevelt had sought to test his mettle and his manhood in an exceptionally rough part of the West, and had excelled in every degree possible. He had transformed from a scrawny asthmatic to a burly, barrel-chested, bull-necked man with a dark suntan and tireless riding ability. Not only was he physically more mature and larger in stature, he had grown immensely in the minds of the local Medora people and, later, in the eyes of the nation.

A man who was largely sneered at upon his arrival in 1883, Roosevelt had grown to prominence, respect, and even admiration in the

hearts and minds of local people for his manner and conduct. Roosevelt carried with him an enthusiasm and genuineness that common people connected with, and this rapport was the foundation of Roosevelt's later political success. His enthusiasm for cowboy life spurred him to form the Rough Riders, the notable cavalry unit that brought Roosevelt national recognition during the Spanish-American War. Importantly, the cattle ranching collapse and his experiences in the wilderness began to solidify in his mind the need for conservation, which he pursued notably in his Presidential years. The experience in Dakota had left an indelible mark on Roosevelt's heart, though he would not return often or for long periods after 1887. To Roosevelt, the place where "the romance of my life began" became as much a beloved part of his

letter back, "Most emphatically I am not your enemy; if I were you would know it ... " Roosevelt's openness satisfied the Marquis and tensions cooled between Medora's two titanic personalities.

In the spring of 1886, thieves cut Roosevelt's boat from its mooring at the Elkhorn Ranch. Roosevelt, Sewall, and Dow quickly assembled a makeshift boat to chase after them down the ice-clogged Little Missouri. Several days downriver, Roosevelt and his men caught up to the thieves and captured them. After a rough multi -day hike, Roosevelt singlehandedly delivered his prisoners to Dickinson and collected a \$50 reward. Two of the thieves were sentenced to jail time; the third Roosevelt deemed too unintelligent to have had a hand in the crime. Locals wondered why Roosevelt had not killed the thieves on sight.

Roosevelt had been abroad during the devastating winter with his new wife, Edith, and was unaware of the horrors until he returned to the U.S. in late March of 1887. Upon his return to Medora, Roosevelt found he had lost over half his herd. The blow proved disastrous for Roosevelt, who lost over half of his \$80,000 investment, the equivalent of approximately \$1.7 million today. As for the future of the Elkhorn and Maltese Cross Ranches, Roosevelt wrote his sister Bamie, "I am planning to get out of it." The tragedy proved fatal for Medora. The Marquis de Morès, was unable to pump life back into Medora, although he pumped a fortune into it. In 1887, the Pyramid Park Hotel where Roosevelt spent his first night in the Badlands was loaded onto a flatbed car and shipped to Dickinson. Medora was a ghost town within two years.

past as it was a stepping stone for his future.

Visitors to the park today can experience the badlands in many of the same ways Roosevelt did in his time here, for the landscape is preserved as Roosevelt would have seen it. Whether one rides vigorously on horseback through the Badlands or relaxes in the shade of a cottonwood tree, he or she enjoys pastimes that registered deep in Roosevelt's heart. The same sights, sounds, and smells are all to be experienced just as Roosevelt wrote about them. Most of the animals that Roosevelt saw and hunted still inhabit this unique landscape. It was here that the need for conservation was born in Theodore Roosevelt's heart and mind, and the land here is preserved in his honor.

## President's Day Word Find

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Abraham Lincoln Andrew Jackson Andrew Johnson Barack Obama Benjamin Harrison Calvin Coolidge Chester A. Arthur Dwight D. Eisenhower Franklin D. Roosevelt Franklin Pierce George H. W. Bush George W. Bush George Washington Gerald R. Ford Grover Cleveland Harry S. Truman Herbert Hoover James Buchanan

James Carter James Garfield James K. Polk James Madison James Monroe John Adams John F. Kennedy John Quincy Adams John Tyler Lyndon B. Johnson Martin Van Buren Millard Fillmore Richard M. Nixon Ronald Reagan Rutherford B. Hayes Theodore Roosevelt Thomas Jefferson Ulysses S. Grant Warren G. Harding William Henry Harrison William Howard Taft William J. Clinton William McKinley Woodrow Wilson Zachary Taylor

## MEMBER ONLY SPECIAL

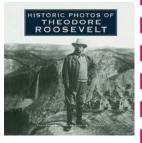
### FEBRUARY'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR.... Historic Photos of Theodore Roosevelt

### **SALE PRICE \$35.95**

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From his earliest days as a youth in New York City to his declining years during World War I, Historic Photos of Theodore Roosevelt captures the greatest exploits of one of the nation s greatest Americans. As soldier and explorer, as conservationist and big game hunter, as governor, vice-president, and president, as scientist and writer, and as family man, TR s life in pictures blazes a path sure to enthrall every reader, from the student of history to the history buff.

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#### 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. TRN-HA 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

- 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.

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

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□ New

🗆 Renewal

### What type of membership?

Individual	\$20.00
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Supporting	\$250.00

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Email		

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With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

# TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### March 2012

## CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

#### Introduction

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), established by Congress on March 31, 1933, provided jobs for young, unemployed men during the Great Depression. Over its 9-year lifespan, the CCC employed about 3 million men nationwide. The CCC made valuable contributions to forest management, flood control, conservation projects, and the development of state and national parks, forests, and historic sites. In return, the men received the benefits of education and training, a small paycheck, and the dignity of honest work. Three CCC companies operated in the North Dakota badlands between 1934 and 1941, contributing to projects that today's visitors can still appreciate.



NPS Photo : The Old East Entrance Station, a CCC-built structure. The station fell into disuse when I-94 was built and the South Unit's park entrance road was relocated. It is a short walk through a prairie dog town to the historic structure.

#### **Companies and Camps**

The North Dakota State Historical Society sponsored the three CCC companies that worked in the badlands from 1934 to 1941. All three CCC companies in the badlands arrived in 1934. About 200 men were assigned to each company.

When CCC Companies 2767, 2771, and 2772 arrived, the men lived in tents until buildings could be erected at their camps. When completed, each camp included a full complement of buildings: barracks, mess hall, recreational hall, bath house, latrine, supply, garage, and headquarters. The camp complex also included its own classrooms, hospital, barber shop, post office, canteen, and sometimes a theater. The buildings were frame structures heated by

wood and coal burning pot-belly stoves.

Company 2767's camp was located on the west bank of the Little Missouri River in what is now the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park from July, 1934 to 1937. Companies 2771 and 2772 established camps adjacent to one another in 1934 on the north bank of the Little Missouri River near what is now the entrance to the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Company 2771 moved out in 1935, but Company 2772 remained until the



NPS Photo: CCC workers building the River Bend Overlook shelter, circa 1937.

fall of 1939. In 1939, Company 2771 moved to a site on the east bank of the Little Missouri River just south of Jones Creek, which they occupied until November, 1941.

#### The Work

The CCC sought to provide the maximum opportunity for labor at a minimum cost for materials and equipment. With little more than strong backs, shovels, and picks, the CCC built roads, trails, culverts, and structures. When building structures, the CCC utilized native materials, such as the local sandstone, which they quarried themselves with star drills, sledge hammers, muscle, and sweat.

In the badlands, the CCC, along with the Emergency Relief Administration (ERA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA),

#### **Continued on page 4**

Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit 8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT 7 days a week North Unit 9:00 am -5:30 pm CT Open Fri, Sat & Sun. only Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

> Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site 8:00 am -4:30 pm CT

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

MARCH 17, 2012 Happy St. Pat's Day

June 3, 2012 TRNHA's Annual Birdwalk & Chuckwagon Breakfast

**July 10, 2012** Teddy Bear Picnic at Theodore Roosevelt National Park



### **CAUSE & EFFECT** A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### **Gas Flares**

Everyone knows that pristine vistas are important in Theodore Roosevelt National Park visitors during the day, but how about during the night? TRNP has always been a dark park, where the planets, the moon, and the milky way dominate the night sky. Visitors from cities see stars they have never seen before, and experience a darkness that is often new to them. Northern lights can delight people on a sporadic basis at any time of the year. But some of that is changing. With the current energy boom, numerous gas flares can be seen in the night sky surrounding the park, as natural gas is burned off of the oil wells. Oil companies are supposed to capture the gas within a year, but that does not always happen. Oil

wells are being drilled so fast that mechanisms are not in place to capture and transport the gas. North Dakota currently flares and wastes 34% of its natural gas. The flares contribute to greenhouse gases and air pollution as well as light pollution. The many pipelines under construction will capture some of the gas and a new gas plant near Belfield recently came online, which may help to reduce some of the flaring.

#### How is the Park Responding?

The park tries to educate the public about the value of dark night skies and clean air and supports minimal flaring to prevent waste as well as pollution of many kinds. Seize the night!

#### **Other Information**

http://www.nature.nps.gov/air/lightscapes/

www.darkskiesawareness.org



## NEW CHIEF OF INTERPRETATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES At Knife River Indian Villages

Craig Hansen has been selected as the new Chief of Interpretation and Cultural Resources at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. He is no stranger to the park as he spent the past eight years establishing a nationally recognized education and distance learning program as the park's first Education Specialist. Craig is a North Dakota native, growing up on a farm near Wildrose in the northwest part of the state where his family still farms. His educational background includes degrees in Parks and Recreation Management from Minot State University at Bottineau and in Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Services with a double emphasis in Resource Management and Leisure Planning from Minnesota State University at Mankato. Craig worked as a Park Ranger for the US Army Corps of Engineers in Minnesota and California prior to returning to North Dakota as the Outdoor Learning Center Coordinator at Lake Metigoshe State Park in Bottineau. Craig, his wife

Kasha, and children Kyler (7) and Sylvie (4) moved to central North Dakota in 2003 when he became the park's Education Specialist. Kasha works with the Mercer County Soil Conservation District out of Beulah. He and his family spend their free time fishing, hunting, and recreating on state lands. They are making the leap of adding a puppy to their household this coming spring!

Craig's ability to develop largescale programs and build innovative partnerships will allow the park to carry out future planning efforts in interpretation and cultural resource preservation. He is a very successful grant writer, garnering funds for creative programs such as a Parks as Classrooms distance education through videoconferencing and a National Park Foundation grant to teach native prairie restoration through the Bismarck Career Academy. Craig looks forward to building on his knowledge of the history and life ways of the Northern Plains Indians by managing a complex cultural resource program and museum facility. Join us in congratulating Craig on his new job and in wishing him well in his new endeavor!



## **RANGER RECOMMENDS**



March's featured ranger is Emily Nelson, a member of the resource management team at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Emily grew up in Illinois and moved to North Dakota from Minnesota in July 2010 with her husband, Nathan Clements. She joined the park's Division of Resource Management in April 2011 as Museum Technician, and have also operated the Air Quality Monitoring Station since September 2011. This is her first job with the National Park Service, and she said she is excited to continue to learn about the park's cultural and natural resources. Emily also worked the past summer for TRNHA at the Painted Canyon Visitor Center and where she says she enjoyed talking with the variety of people who visit the park, from those who are in North Dakota for the first time to the people who have been coming to the park for years

Emily says, "I recommend the book Mammals of North Dakota by Robert Seabloom. Since my first visit to North Dakota in 2006, I have been fascinated by the variety of wildlife you can discover here. The badlands are unlike anything I have seen before, and it's still a thrill to spot a herd of pronghorn grazing in an open area, or to see a bighorn sheep high up on a rocky ledge. I have a definite appreciation for how Theodore Roosevelt must have felt upon his first visit to North Dakota in 1883, and can understand why he grew to love this place so much. Seabloom's book, Mammals of North Dakota, has been a big help in learning about the animals, common and not, that inhabit the badlands and the ways that they have adapted to this unique and often challenging climate and terrain. I have used this book numerous times in conversations with visitors who want to know more about an animal they have seen, or who would like to discover the best places and times of day for seeing different species of wildlife.

A few of my favorite things about the book include Seabloom's use of each creature's common name, scientific name, and the names used by

Native American tribes of this region. Seabloom gives a description of each species' preferred habitats, behavior, and distribution in the state, and also includes a section on their status—whether or not they are considered rare or even endangered, and reasons why they might not be as common as they once were in the state. Seabloom points out that many mammals "are secretive, nocturnal, cryptically colored, and not easily seen by the casual observer." Because of this, clues like tracks or scat, feeding sites, and antler rubs are good ways to discover the presence of a particular species. This book has helped me to be more aware of such clues and has encouraged me to learn how best to observe wildlife in their natural habitats. For anyone who wants to learn more about North Dakota's wildlife, from bison, elk, and prairie dogs to bats, bobcats, foxes, and mice, this is a great book!

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

#### Mammals of North Dakota By Robert Seabloom

Regular Price: \$36.00 Members Price: \$30.60

ww.trnha.org

## MEMBER ONLY SPECIAL

MARCH'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON	IS FOR
Mammals of North Dakota by Robert Seabloom	2000
Sale Price \$34.00	
(Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$28.90) Regular Price \$36.00	Mammals or NORTH DAKOTA
Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail. EXPIRES: March 31, 2012	The page and fuller

## CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

continued from page 1

worked on numerous projects. Even as the men were working on these construction projects, it was unclear who would ultimately be responsible for managing these recreation areas; Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park was not established until 1947.

In the North Unit of the park, the CCC built the two picnic shelters in the Squaw Creek picnic area and the River Bend Overlook shelter. In the South Unit, the CCC built the nowabandoned East Entrance Station, the entrance



NPS Photo: A CCC veteran who worked in the badlands reflected on the 50th anniversary of the CCC, "You learned how to live with other men, you learned self esteem ... you learned about yourself."

pylons, and portions of the park's roads and trails. The CCC also built structures at the nearby Chateau de Mores State Historic Site.

#### The People

The CCC was open to unemployed men ages 17 to 23.5 who were U.S. citizens. Enrollees served 6-month terms, and were allowed to re -enroll at the end of each term up to a maximum of two years. A CCC worker's salary was \$30 a month, most of which the men sent home to their families. Meals, lodging, clothing, medical, and dental care were all free for enrollees. The men generally spent \$5 to \$8 of their monthly salary on toiletries, postage, haircuts, and occasional entertainment. The few enrollees promoted to Assistant Leader and Leader positions earned a bit more, \$36 and \$45 per month, respectively.

While the CCC men lived and worked on a regimented schedule, there was time for continuing their education through evening classes and for leisure activities on Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Living and working together, the men learned to get along. Some formed life-long



NPS Photo: CCC Company 2771 made its camp on Jones Creek from late 1939 to 1941.

#### friendships.

As the generation who participated in the CCC passes, the legacy of their work lives on. When you visit Theodore Roosevelt National Park and drive the roads, stop at the River Bend Overlook, or hike out to the old East Entrance Station. Take a few moments to reflect on the CCC, the men who labored on these projects, and the investment America made during its most desperate economic period. The Civilian Conservation Corps' hard work all those years ago still continues to pay off today.

### HERITAGE OUTBOUND WINTER ADVENTURE A SUCCESS!

Even though the ground was snow free, the fifth annual Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure was a great success. Eleven participants made the trek to Knife River from Hebron, Bismarck, and the local area.

Participants started the adventure off with a hike at the Fort Clark Historic Site. While at the site, they learned about the Fort (built by James Kipp, an employee of the American Fur Company), the Mandans, Mih-tutta-hangkusch (a village built in 1822), geology, and



Participants on the Village Trail.

the ever changing Missouri River.

A lunch of sandwiches and knoephle soup was served at Seven Trails Trading Post. To celebrate the 207th birthday of Pomp a birthday cake was served and readings from Lewis and Clarks journals were shared recalling Pomp's birthdays during the corps of discovery.

To work off the hearty lunch, everyone set off on a two-hour hike on the Village Trail at Knife River Indian Villages NHS lead by John Hoganson, Time Reed, and Craig Hansen. On the trail, participants learned about the geology, archeology, and history of the area. Upon returning to the visitor center leather pouches were crafted, the park orientation film was shared, and participants tried their hand at tossing the atlatl.

The evening wrapped up with an event tradition of gathering around the earthlodge fire for a dinner of bison, squash, beans, fry bread, and berry pudding. A traditional story was shared by Marilyn Hudson, who also shared with participants the importance of storytelling in the Hidatsa and Mandan culture. Matt Schanandore led the event to a close with storytelling and playing flute music.

The annual event is sponsored by the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, the State Historical Society of North Dakota, the North Dakota Geological Survey, and the Knife River Indian Heritage Foundation.



Erik explains a mortar and pestle

## **KNIFE RIVER WORD FIND**

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ARCHEOLOGICAL ARIKARA CLARK EARTHLODGE FORT CLARK GEOLOGICAL GRASSLANDS HIDATSA HISTORICAL INDIAN KNIFE RIVER LEWIS MANDAN MISSOURI RIVER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE NORTH DAKOTA POMP SAKAKAWEA STANTON VILLAGES

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

🗆 Ne	w
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🗖 Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address _	
City	
State	Zip
Email	

### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping)

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

# TRNHA Newsletter

## April 2012

### Park Elk Reduction Finished Ahead of Schedule

The National Park Service is moving into the maintenance phase of the Elk Management Plan in Theodore Roosevelt National Park this fall, after two highly successful elk reduction efforts during 2010-2011.

"Outstanding efforts by park staff and nearly 400 volunteers resulted in the removal of 868 elk from the park over the past two years," said Superintendent Valerie J. Naylor. "We have met our goal of reducing the population of elk in the South Unit."

When elk reduction efforts began in 2010, the elk population in the park was over



1,200 animals. However, after two effective reduction efforts in the park and two successful hunting seasons outside park boundaries, the population is now at the lower end of the park's population objective of 100-400 elk. The park conducted an aerial elk survey in January 2012 and counted 138 elk within the boundaries of the South Unit. This reduction of the population allows the park to move into the maintenance phase of the management plan. No volunteers will be needed to assist with elk management this fall.

"We are pleased that the management effort has been so successful, and we thank the many volunteers who took time away from their families and jobs to assist us with the reduction these past two years," said Naylor. "We had originally anticipated that it may take up to five years to get to this phase of our management plan, but we got there much more quickly."

Because there is always uncertainty associated with counting wildlife, especially



when the population is at a low number, the park must proceed cautiously with the next phase of management. Park biologists will use GPS collars and intensive monitoring this fall to refine the population estimate and determine if any removals are warranted. If monitoring indicates that the population is still at the lower end of the preferred range, then no removals will occur this year. If, however, a few animals must be removed beyond those expected to be taken outside the park during the elk hunting season, National Park Service biologists will conduct the limited removals starting in November.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit 8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT North Unit 9:00 am -5:30 pm CT Painted Canyon 8:30 am -5:430 pm MT Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

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

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

## **Upcoming Events**

April 12-22, 2012 National Park Week—Check with a park near you for special events!

**April 21, 2012** Theodore Roosevelt National Park will premier its new orientation film, "Refuge of the American Spirit" on Saturday, April 21 in the South Unit Visitor Center. The afternoon matinee will begin at 3:00 p.m. MDT; the evening showing will be presented at 7:00 p.m. MDT.

May 19, 2012 Spring Photography-in-the-Field workshop and Annual Bird watching event at Knife River Indian Villages NHS. Call 701-745-3300 for info.

June 3, 2012 TRNHA's 58th Annual Birdwalk & 51st Annual Chuckwagon Breakfast. See our May newsletter for more information or visit <u>www.trnha.org/birdwalk.html</u>

## **Cause & Effect**

A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### The Housing Crunch and the Effect on Theodore Roosevelt National Park

With the current energy boom in North Dakota, apartments and small houses in the area around Theodore Roosevelt National Park are now renting for \$1100 -\$3500 per month. Travel trailers in Watford City (gateway community to the North Unit) are renting for \$1600 per month. There are still houses for sale in the town of Beach (25 miles west of the South Unit) for less than \$100,000 and there are a few houses in the \$200,000+ range in Dickinson (35 miles east of the South Unit), but options are very limited for park employees in either the North Unit or South Unit. There are some employees in Dickinson who have seen their rents double in the last year and the park expects that recruiting new employees will be more difficult in the future if the trend continues.

The park has already lost one employee who could not afford her rising rent and had to move California where life was more affordable! Fortunately, most park employees live in park housing or own their own homes. The situation is even worse at Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, as there are no affordable rentals or houses in the Williston area and the park does not have much housing to provide for staff.

#### How is the Park Responding?

For years, the park has had only 4 apartments in Medora available for year-round use. The park recently weatherized two more apartment buildings in the South Unit, increasing the number of year-round seasonal apartments from 4 to 12. This way, seasonal employees will be assured a place to live if they are working in the off -season. Park management is also being as flexible as possible in allowing permanent employees to stay temporarily in government quarters while looking for affordable permanent housing. This winter, the park has assisted sister agencies such as the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management with temporary housing needs, as those employees are

also having a very difficult time finding places to live. A Housing Needs Assessment, a process by which a contractor for the National Park Service determines whether ad-



ditional housing needs to be built, is currently in progress at Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

## **Ranger Recommends**

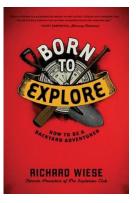
April's featured Ranger is the North District Interpreter Eric Haugland. Originally from northern Minnesota, Eric transferred here from Scotts Bluff National Monument in western Nebraska. The unexpected ruggedness and beauty of the badlands is what attracted him to the park as well as the endless hiking opportunities. Eric's friendly personality and vast knowledge of the outdoors make him a wonderful ranger.

Eric recommends the book, *Born to Explore–How to be a Backyard Adventurer* by Richard Wiese. He says, "If you were a fan of the Macgyver television show, this is the book. *Born to Explore–How to be a Backyard Adventurer* begins small by explaining how to build your own survival kit out of a Altoids tin. It then advances to building a canoe in six hours. In between you can learn to build an igloo and the

history of cooking in a paper bag. The important thing to remember is to start with the bag wet.

Author Richard Wiese is an extreme adventurer, his goal is to inspire young people and spark their interest for discovery and the love of outdoors. The book would be great for adventurous kids and adults. A scout leader looking for projects would be thrilled with this book. There are over 100 projects described, it makes you think as you are making and discovering something, not simply buying it.

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at www.trnha.org Born to Explore by Richard Wiese



Regular Price: \$18.99 Members Price: \$16.14

ww.trnha.org

#### 2012 Park Pass Photo Contest

## PICTURE YOURSELF IN THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK

America's National Parks are world renown for possessing some of the most compelling historical and natural environments ever captured on film. With an incredible combination of wildlife and scenic landscapes Theodore Roosevelt National Park is one of America's best.



*"Life is a great adventure...accept it in such a spirit"* 

-Theodore Roosevelt



#### How To Enter

- Submit up to 2 photos (taken anytime from May 2011 to September 2012) of any natural, historical, or cultural subject found anywhere within the three units of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.
- Submissions are due by September 7, 2012.
- Read the complete rules before entering.
- Download the contest application from our website: www.nps.gov/thro
- For more information visit Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association at www.trnha.org or www.nps.gov/thro

Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association

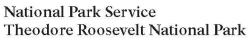


#### Prizes

- One Grand Prize winner
- 1<sup>st,</sup> 2<sup>nd,</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.
- Finalist photographs will be featured in the park visitor centers, on the park website, and in park publications.
- The Grand Prize winners photograph will be the featured photograph on the 2013 park annual pass. Additionally, the winner will

receive a copy of the book "America's Best Idea", and a \$50 gift certificate to the park bookstore.

Share your experience at Theodore Roosevelt National Park with photographs of your adventures.





### Theodore Roosevelt National Park Announces Spring Visitor Center Hours

Beginning April 1, spring visitor center hours will be in effect at Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

The South Unit Visitor Center is open 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MDT. Barring unforeseen inclement weather, the Painted Canyon Visitor Center, located on I-94 east of Medora, will open for the season; hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MDT. The North Unit Visitor Center will be open 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CDT. All will be open daily, with expanded hours Memorial Day through Labor Day.

"Spring is a wonderful time to visit the park," said Superintendent Valerie Naylor. "We've had a very mild and dry winter, making



the coming spring an excellent time to visit the park. Visitors can get out into the park to hike and to see migratory birds returning to the area, and newborn animals such as bison, elk, and feral horses."

All three park visitor centers offer information, maps of the park, audio-visual programs, and exhibits. For further information and current road conditions, call 701-623-4466, the North Unit Visitor Center at 701-842-2333, or visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/thro.

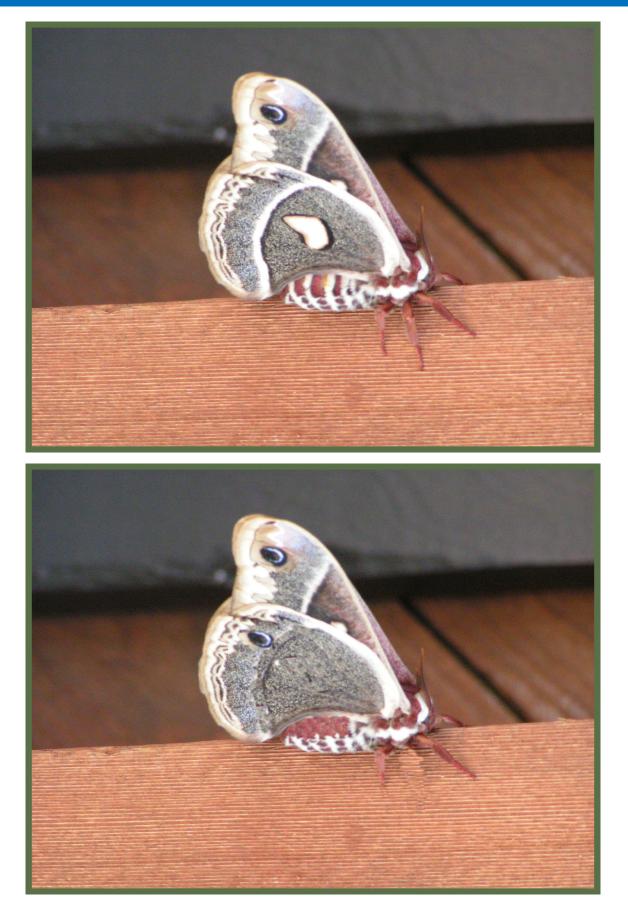


This Bison Bull waited patiently to greet Painted Canyon Visitors on April 1st.

## **Member Only Special**



## Find the 5 Differences



Black spot on wing, no white stripe on wing, white spot missing, body stripes, missing leg.

## SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

#### 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. TRN-HA 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.



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- 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.
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- 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.

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

#### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address	
City	
State	_ Zip
Email	

### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

# TRNHA NEWSLETTER

May 2012

## 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Birdwalk - Sunday June 3, 2012

The Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association welcomes your participation at the 58th Annual Birdwalk on June 3, 2012. Come rain or shine we will gather in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park and add to our life lists. TRNHA archives show not one bird walk over the past 58 years has been cancelled. From humble beginnings to a fervent tradition, it has been proven we are not fair-



weather adventurers. Join the celebration and bring a friend – the more the merrier. We will introduce new titles for the 2012 season and give away numerous prizes.

We gather at 6:30 a.m. (Mountain Time) in the Cottonwood Campground in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Immediately following the Birdwalk, approximately 8:00 a.m. (Mountain Time), TRNHA will host *the* **51**<sup>st</sup> **Annual Chuckwagon Breakfast** at the Cottonwood Campground picnic area. For the past 18 years Genie's Kitchen Crew from Wibaux, Montana has served up heaping helpings of butter milk pancakes, country sausage, cowboy coffee, juice and their ever popular rhubarb honey syrup. We ask for a free-will donation to help defray cost of the event.



Reservations are preferred to accurately plan for the breakfast. Please call (701) 623-4884 or email us at <u>info@trnha.org</u> by June 1, 2012.

**Theodore Roosevelt** National Park South Unit 8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT

**North Unit** 9:00 am –5:30 pm CT

**Painted Canyon** 8:30 am -4:30 pm MT

Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

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

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

### **Upcoming Events**

**May 19, 2012** Spring Photography-in-the-Field workshop and Annual Bird watching event at Knife River Indian Villages NHS. Call 701-745-3300 for info.

**May 26, 2012** Theodore Roosevelt National Park will be switching to summer hours South Unit Visitor Center 8:00 am—6:00 pm MDT Painted Canyon Visitor Center 8:00—6:00 pm MDT North Unit Visitor Center 8:00—6:00 pm CDT

**June 2, 2012** "Walk on the Wild Side" with Bob and Jan Sisk at Ridgeline Trail in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. 2:00 p.m. MDT. For more information: 701-623-4884

**June 3, 2012** TRNHA's 58th Annual Birdwalk at 6:30 am MDT in the Cottonwood Campground in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Visit our website for more information <u>www.trnha.org/birdwalk.html</u>

**June 3, 2012** TRNHA's 51st Annual Chuckwagon Breakfast will begin at the completion of the birdwalk (approximately 8:00 a.m. MDT). Come and join us for a cowboy style breakfast cooked over the open fire. The breakfast is free will donation and reservations are requested to accurately plan for breakfast. RSVP to info@trnha.org before June 1, 2012

**June 3, 2012** It's Alive! By Jon Sticka of the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Immediately following the Chuckwagon Breakfast (*approx.: 10:00 am MDT*) Come and learn how healthy soil is a living system that is teeming with life.

## Painted Canyon Visitor Service Clerk 2012

We would like you to join us in welcoming Levi Miller as this season's Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Associations Painted Canyon employee. Levi comes to us with great enthusiasm to share his passion for the Little Missouri Badlands. An avid mountain biker and all around outdoor enthusiast, Levi has lived in the Medora area off and on for the past ten years. Levi has extensive experience working in the tourism industry. From ski resorts to two local business' (Bully Pulpit Golf Course and Dakota Cyclery Mountain Bike Adventures), his variety of work experience has allowed him to explore many different job duties in tourism. Levi also spent four years as a wild land fire fighter with various fire agencies throughout the country.

Levi is eager to get started and he will officially be on board May 1, 2012. We are thrilled to have his knowledge of the back roads, trails and other hidden treasures of the area National Grasslands and Maah Daah Hey Trail.



## **Don't Forget!** Theodore Roosevelt National Park visitor centers will switch to Summer hours on May 26th, 2012.

South Unit 8:00 am - 6:00 pm MDT Painted Canyon 8:00 am - 6:00 pm MDT North Unit 8:00 am - 6:00 CDT



May's featured Ranger is the South Unit Interpretative Ranger, Jesse Sexton. Jesse, a Tennessee native, has recently returned to North Dakota for a second summer season as an interpretive ranger. His degree in geology and love for the great outdoors make him a wonderful source for visitors

### **Ranger Recommends**

who want to learn more about what the park has to offer. His southern charm and welcoming smile are sure to help make anyone's visit to Theodore Roosevelt National Park memorable.

Jesse recommends the book, Dirty Rotten Bugs by Gilles Bonotaux. He says, "Dirty Rotten Bugs brings to light the misunderstood life of the insect. Covering creatures such as mosquitoes, roaches, and even stinkbugs, it delves into the habits of these creatures and goes beyond their frightful and annoying ways to reveal exactly how they are useful within an ecosystem. This is definitely a book for the young and the young at heart, blending the often difficult scientific literature of the arthropod world with fun and imaginative artwork and captions that appeal to any age. Give Dirty Rotten Bugs a read and you will be surprised at what you

find; these creatures aren't always as creepy or crawly as they might appear!

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

#### Dirty Rotten Bugs by Gilles Bonotaux



Regular Price: \$14.95 Members Price: \$12.71

<u>www.trnha.org</u>

### Walk on the Wild Side

Saturday June 2, 2012

2:00 p.m.



Ridgeline Nature Trail Theodore Roosevelt National Park



Join Jan and Bob Sisk, author and photographer of TRNHA publication *Common Plants of Theodore Roosevelt National Park*, for a discovery walk at Ridgeline Nature Trail in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Be ready to explore and identify many flowering plants and other surprises along the way. Difficulty rating for this trek is moderate.

### It's Alive!



Sunday, June 3, 2012

10:00 a.m.

Cottonwood Campground Theodore Roosevelt National Park



Healthy soil is a living system that is teeming with life. There are millions of micro-organisms in the soil providing a range of important services to our ecosystem. Join Jon Stika to find out more about this mysterious underground world. Jon will show us how to identify healthy soil vs. degraded soil and give us some pointers about creating healthy soils in our lives, for us and the creatures we live with.

Jon Sticka is a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He has been employed with the Natural Resources Conservation Service since 1984 and currently serves as the Area Resource Soil Scientist in western North Dakota. Jon was on the team that developed the "Soil Quality: Assessment and Applications for Field Staff" course in 1998 and is an instructor for the course. Jon is the current advisor and webmaster to the Southwest North Dakota Soil Health Demonstration Project. In his spare time Jon enjoys fishing, gardening and brewing and writing about beer.

Please join us for this special demonstration and presentation by Jon at the Cottonwood Picnic area shelter at 10:00 a.m. (MDT) following TRNHA's chuckwagon breakfast June 3, 2012.

### Spring Photography Workshop at Knife River Indian Villages



Pull your camera out of winter storage! Knife River Indian Villages hosts their spring photography workshop Saturday, May 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. CDT. Participants should meet at the park visitor center. Leading the workshop is local photographer Michael Kopp of Wilton.

By talent, training and trade, Mike Kopp is a communicator. After spending nearly two decades in television, Mike developed an eye for telling stories visually. As the managing editor of the New Town News he incorporated an extensive use of photographs to tell the weekly stories and for that won six awards for his photography from the North Dakota Newspaper Association.

"With the latest moisture and warm temperatures in the forecast, vegetation will be greening up in the park, making it a perfect setting for photography," says Superintendent Wendy Ross. Participants do not need to pre-register for the workshop and there is no admission fee. All camera formats are welcome. Photographers are encouraged to wear appropriate shoes & outer clothing suitable for spring weather and hiking in the park. Participants may bring a sack lunch or purchase lunch locally in Stanton. For more information, please contact the park.



### Cause & Effect

A Message from The Superintendent of Knife River Indian Villages NHS

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### Stanton, gateway to Knife River Indian Villages NHS, exploring opportunities in petroleum development

Like the Indian villages that once were numerous along the Knife River, Stanton was established as a trading post and became the seat of Mercer County in 1884. Perched on the edge of the Missouri River transportation artery, the town drew traders, merchants, and trade goods into the center of sparsely populated North Dakota. Stanton has been associated with energy development since the population swelled with construction workers building the Garrison Dam hydropower project in the 1940's and 1950's. Leland Olds generating plant, the first lignite coal fired power facility in the state, was completed in 1963 just east of Stanton. United Power Cooperative, a second coal fired generating plant, was completed at the same location in 1967. Railroad tracks run through Stanton to supply the power plants with coal. Along the southeastern horizon, large wind turbines turn by day and blink red by night. High voltage, electric transmission line towers line the horizon carrying electricity from power plants, wind generators, and the hydropower project to out of state consumers. The Falkirk Mine,

across the Missouri River from the park, began producing lignite coal in 1978 and is the state's second largest surface coal mine.

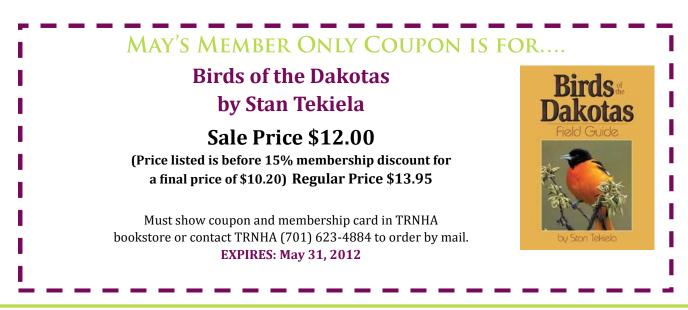
It is no surprise that enterprising Stanton residents have begun looking to the west where the Bakken oil boom has exploded in the face of rising development pressure. Decrepit main street Stanton businesses, closed since 2008 when the school and the grocery store both closed, are being renovated and turned into rental businesses or living quarters. Rumor has it that an oil company has purchased the apartment complex in Stanton for oil field workers. A mobile home park is advertising oil field housing. City lots are being sold to developers, including the local ball fields and track. The ball fields and track are being developed into frac sand and pipe storage facilities. Frac sand will be hauled into the site and distributed to the west by truck and rail. Twenty employees will work at the new facility. A rail spur that will serve the facility is being installed. City council members are discussing the widening and extension of a one-lane dirt road that leads to a farmhouse on the outskirts of Stanton for truck transportation between the storage facility and Highway 200.

Some residents are excited by the oil boom and some are concerned about how this small town will be impacted. Growth and development seem to be the topics of discussion wherever one turns. Dust and noise are the first noticeable impacts of the new activity. Long-lasting anticipated impacts include a rise in crime and strain on town utilities. Southwest water is scheduled to replace the town's well water system and the town council is reserving the opportunity to sell well water for hydraulic fracking to oil companies in the future.

#### How is the Park Responding?

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site staff keeps abreast of proposals as they rise in the media and in city meetings. We concentrate our energy on opportunities to mitigate impacts to the park in the proposal stage. A new cell phone tower promises a connection to the outside world with minimized height and no blinking light. New businesses offer prospects of new partnerships. New residents bring fresh perspective and interest. While Knife River Indian Villages NHS is not in the middle of the oil frenzy, there is more than enough development activity on the fringes to keep our attention.

### **Member Only Special**



## Birdwalks Sudoku Puzzle

	S		D	R				L
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							R	
					W			A
Α			L	K				
	K		Α	D		W		R
	L	W	K				Α	D

### How to Solve a Sudoku Puzzle

A sudoku puzzle consists of a  $9 \times 9$ -square grid subdivided into nine  $3 \times 3$  boxes. Some of the squares contain letters. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every  $3 \times 3$  box contains each of the letters in the word **Birdwalks** exactly once.

Solving a Sudoku puzzle involves pure logic. No guesswork is needed—or even desirable. Getting started involves mastering just a few simple techniques.

	Sur

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D	V	Ι	В	В	К	Μ	Г	S
Я	Г	Μ	S	D	V	В	К	Ι
$\Lambda$	Ι	S	В	К	Г	Я	D	V
V	К	D	Μ	Ι	В	S	В	Г
В	Я	Г	D	¥	S	К	Ι	$\Lambda$
Ι	S	V	К	Г	В	D	Μ	Я
К	D	В	Ι	S	Μ	Γ	V	В
Г	Μ	В	V	Я	D	Ι	S	К

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

🗖 Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address	
City	
State	_ Zip
Email	

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Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

# TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### **June 2012**

### Thanking the Armed Forces of America Active Duty US Military Offered Free Entrance to National Parks

To show appreciation for those who serve in the U.S. Military, on May 19 - Armed Forces Day - the National Park Service began issuing an annual pass offering free entrance to Theodore Roosevelt and all 397 national parks for active duty military members and their dependents.

Active duty members of the U.S. Military and their dependents can pick up their pass at any park entrance station. They must show a current, valid military identification card to obtain their pass. More information is available at www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm.

This version of the "America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass" also permits free entrance for military personnel and their families to sites managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Forest Service. The pass is also available at these locations.

"Through the years, military members, especially those far from home in times of conflict, have found inspiration in America's patriotic icons and majestic landscapes, places like the Statue of Liberty and the Grand Canyon that are cared for by the National Park Service and symbolize the nation that their sacrifices protect," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. "This new pass is a way to thank military members and their families for their service and their sacrifices."

The military and the National Park Service have ties that date back to the establishment of the world's first National Park established in 1872: Yellowstone. For the first 44 years the U.S. Cavalry watched over America's national parks and did double duty, serving as soldiers and the first park rangers until the National Park Service was created in 1916.During World War II, many parks were set aside for the training and care of military personnel. Today, dozens of national parks commemorate military battles and achievements.



Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit 8:00 am—6:00 pm MT North Unit 8:00 am—6:00 pm CT Painted Canyon 8:00 am—6:00 pm MT

Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

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#### Transit of Venus; Sun-Earth Day Event to be held at Knife River Indian Villages NHS

Stanton, North Dakota: See the last Transit of Venus in your lifetime! Visit Knife River Indian Villages NHS and safely witness this event. The best and safest way to view this rare event is through a solar-filtered telescope. Amateur astronomers will have several telescopes set up for public viewing beginning at 5:00 p.m. CDT until sunset on June 5, 2012. Remember; NEVER look directly at the sun.

What is a Transit of Venus? The Transit of Venus takes place when the planet Venus passes directly between the Sun and <u>Earth</u>, becoming visible against the solar disk. Venus transits were historically important as they were used to gain the first real size estimates of the <u>solar system</u>. After the June 5, 2012 transit, there won't be another such alignment until 2117.

North Dakota weather can be unpredictable. In case of bad weather or heavy clouds, this event may be cancelled. If in doubt, contact the park on the day of the event 701-745-3300. Knife River Indian Villages is located 1/2 mile north of Stanton at 564 County Road 37.

For more information on the Transit of Venus: NASA websites: http://venustransit.nasa.gov/transitofvenus/ http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/OH/transit12.html other: http://www.transitofvenus.org/

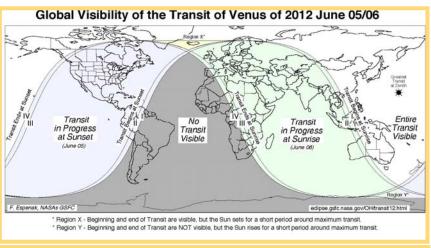


Image taken from: http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/OH/tran/TOV2012-Fig01.pdf



June's featured ranger is Marlo Mallery. When Marlo returned to the South Unit Visitors' Center to begin her second season in interpretation, she was excited to find the TRNHA shelves full of new books. Starting off a list of new reads is the book *Becoming Teddy Roosevelt: How a Maine Guide Inspired America's 26th President* by Andrew Vietze.

Marlo says, " In *Becoming Teddy Roosevelt*, Vietze has neatly interpreted the life of William Wingate Sewall and his rela-

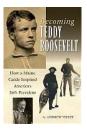
## **Ranger Recommends**

tionship with Theodore Roosevelt. The story begins with Sewall's life as a logger and wilderness guide who toughens up voung TR on a series of hunting trips in Maine. From there both men influenced each other's lives, together at the Elkhorn Ranch and throughout the years as they took on new adventures and continued to write letters. Letters and visits provided moral support that was mutual as Roosevelt and Sewall experienced personal losses and political wins. This book is an excellent source for the history of TR's Elkhorn years, the development of Island Falls, Maine, and the lives of two dynamic characters. It's a fast enjoyable read and reveals that Bill Sewall was much more than a mentor for Theodore Roosevelt, he was, like Roosevelt, an active and proud citizen."

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore

Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at www.trnha.org

Becoming Teddy Roosevelt: How a Maine Guide Inspired America's 26th President by Andrew Vietze



Regular Price: \$14.95 Members Price: \$12.71

www.trnha.org

### **Cause & Effect**

A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### Traffic is a Cause for Vigilance

Complacency is often the cause of accidents and injuries. In the recent past, it was easy to get complacent when driving in the North Dakota badlands. Traffic was light. The wide open spaces allowed for excellent visibility. If you drifted into another lane, the chances are it would not be a problem.

Things are different now. With the energy boom in western North Dakota, we need to be vigilant at all times on our roads and highways. "Defensive driving" has taken on new meaning. Most of us who work at the park know someone who has been in an accident or had a "near miss" on local



highways or back roads. Many of us know people who have been seriously injured and killed on western North Dakota roads. Truck traffic is heavy, and there are some crazy drivers on the roads. As one staff member recently put it, "there is no room for error."

Hazards include heavy truck traffic, drivers who are turning or passing in dangerous locations, rutted roads, heavy dust from passing trucks, debris on roads, and large objects falling off of trucks.

Highway 85, which connects the North and South Units of the park, requires special vigilance, as do all of the gravel roads and back roads around the park, such as the route to the Elkhorn Ranch Unit. The two-lane roads between Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site and Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site have heavy truck traffic. When there is no room for error, a driver cannot eat, talk on a cell phone, text (against ND law), fiddle with the radio, or get otherwise distracted while operating a vehicle.

#### How is the Park Responding?

Park staff members remind visitors to be careful when driving in the area. But park staff also need to be mindful when driving. National Park policy forbids texting or talking on a cell phone while oper-



ating a government vehicle. Theodore Roosevelt National Park recently hosted a Defensive Driving class for staff from TRNP and Fort Union Trading Post. More defensive driving short-courses are planned. Staff from all three North Dakota parks have reduced driving on heavily trafficked roads as much as possible, and allow more time to get from one park unit to the other.

### Lynch Knife River Flint Quarry National Historic Landmark to be Dedicated

Stanton, ND: The public is invited to the dedication of the Lynch Knife River Flint Quarry National Historic Landmark on Saturday, June 9, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time.

The ceremony will include speakers, entertainment, and the formal presentation of the National Historic Landmark plaque. Speakers include Gerard Baker, former National Park Superintendent at Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Valerie Naylor, Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Keith Bear, renowned flute player, will be performing. ly significant historic places designated by the Secretary of Interior. They are exceptional places forming a common bond between all Americans. North Dakota has six National Historic Landmarks that include Big Hidatsa Village Site, Fort Union Trading Post,

Frederick A. and Sophia Bagg Bonanza Farm, Huff Archeological Site, and Menoken Indian Village Site. The quarry became the sixth site on July 13, 2011.

Superintendent Wendy Ross says, "Please join us for the dedication of the Lynch Knife River Flint Quarries which celebrates the culmination of many people's efforts to protect this important site. The flint quarries were one of the most important resources used by Native peoples and they allowed the associated Knife River Villages to become an important hub of trade and crossroads of culture."

The quarry site is located just east of Dunn Center off Highway 200. There will be signs directing you to the dedication site. Bring your lawn chairs and come and enjoy the dedication ceremony! For more information, please call the park at 701-745-3300.

National Historic Landmarks are national-

### Avoid the Pitfalls of Family Car Camping this Spring



Hello explorers. Whether you are experienced or new to car camping with the family, having an enjoyable time, saving money and reducing potential headaches is always of interest. Below are some time-tested suggestions, thoughtful recommendations, and useful hands-on practices that can help. May you have a great time in the outdoors this spring. - GlyphGuy.



Car camping is a fun way to introduce young children to new experiences, but for parents balancing safety with peace-of-mind can be challenging. Most parents reach for a book or surf the internet for information, but many of these resources only focus only on fun activities and omit the basic point: before a family can have a meaningful camping trip, the parents must feel secure. Here are six suggestions to help everyone in the family feel safer during their next car camping trip:

#### 1. Get-to-Know the Campground

Campgrounds can be fascinating places for young children, help them explore it with an orientation walk. Help the child locate the closest bathroom, the trash/recycling cans, and where to find the ranger's office or campground host. If you have a campground map take it with you, identify some prominent landmarks as you help the child explore. Going on an orientation walk helps every-one create his or her own understanding of the campground and feel more comfortable.

#### 2. Know Your Campsite Number

What is your campsite number? If there is one thing a young child (and parent) should remember, it is the family's campsite number. To a young child this is not just a number; it is the place where they can find comfort and safety. It will be one of the first questions a park ranger will ask a child who is lost.

#### 3. Identify an Emergency Location

Identify the location where your family should gather if there is an emergency (like a forest fire, earthquake etc.). Everyone should know where this gathering spot is located. Depending on where you are camping the emergency location could be your campsite, the car, the visitor center or another agreed to spot.

#### 4. Where is the Important Stuff?

Sometimes problems are exacerbated by not knowing where important items are located in the camp. Where is the First-aid kit stored? Where are the flashlights? Each member of the family should have a flashlight. If a child needs access to regular medication, do both parents know where it is kept? If a family member needs access to the car, where are the keys stored? Additional important items can include: a campground/park map, sunglasses, pocket knife, matches, insect repellents, hats and sunscreen.

#### 5. Boundaries

A campground, park or natural location is a playground for children. It can be easy to get caught up in the play, wander too far and have the parents worry. Parents should set boundaries so kids know how far is too far.

#### 6. Calling for Help

All parents are concerned about their children becoming lost or being in dangerous situations. As a precaution, many parents give their child a cell phone. Cell phones are good ideas; however, too often the campground is located in an area that does not receive cell service. As a reliable backup, all kids (and parents) should have a safety whistle on their daypack. This said, there is a great responsibility for both children and parents about when the whistle is used. The circumstances for when a whistle is used should be discussed thoroughly and understood by the family.

TRNHA would like to thank Mark Hougardy for allowing us to share is camping articles with our Newsletter readers. His articles are full of valuable information and we will share them throughout the next few months. However if you don't want to wait and are interested in reading them all visit his site at

http://www.letsgoexploring.com

Start your camping adventure by purchasing your Junior Ranger Backpack today. If you are interested in purchasing a backpack contact TRNHA at 701-623-4884. All proceeds from the sale of the backpack go to support Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Knife River Indian Villages NHS.



Choose from Chipmunk (12x9.5x6) or Coyote (14x11.5x7) \$19.99



## Spring Photography Workshop A Success

Ten people joined photographer Mike Kopp at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site on Saturday, May 19, to sharpen their photography skills. In spite of the dreary weather, everyone had a good time.

During the workshop, Mike shared 30



years of photography experience. He encouraged the participants to look at their subjects from different angles. Mike emphasized, "You need to move your body and your camera to shoot what your mind has already pictured. Maybe your mind has seen it from the bottom up. Maybe your mind has seen it from the top down. Tell your camera to do that."

After time in the field, photos were downloaded and critiqued. Mike had each photographer choose their two favorite photos and say why they were a favorite image. Images included long-horn steers, flowers, beads, a classic pick-up and others. Everyone had fun and commented on how much they learned.

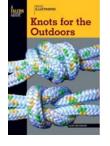


A Fall in-the Field Photography Workshop will be offered on September 29, 2012, at the park. Keep an eye on the TRNHA newsletter for the details.

## Member Only Special & New Items for 2012

JUNE'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR....

Basic Illustrated Knots for the Outdoors by Cliff Jacobson & Lon Levin



Sale Price \$8.50 (Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$7.23) Regular Price \$9.95

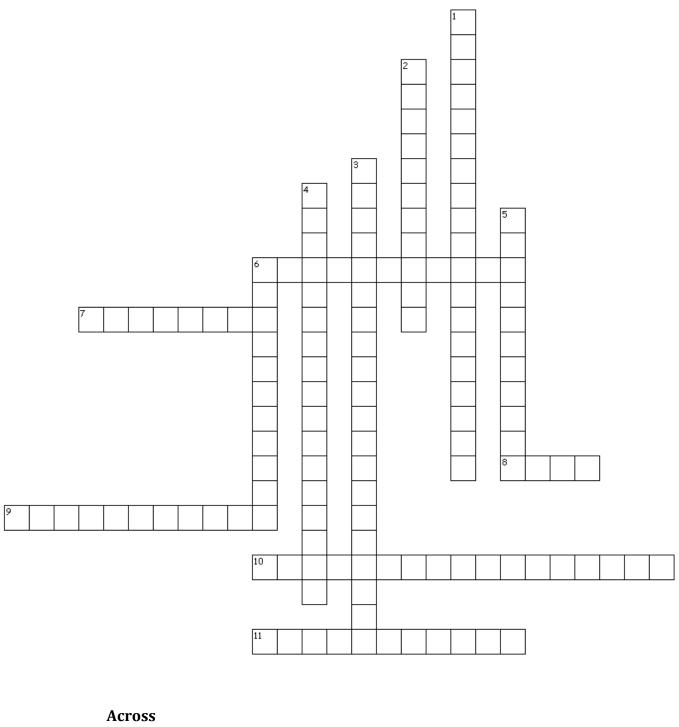
Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail. EXPIRES: June 30, 2012

### **New Outdoor Guides**

If you are interested in purchasing any of these great new books visit one of our bookstores or contact us at 701-623-4884.



## Do You North Dakota's State Symbols?



- 6. Fish
- 7. Capital
- 8. Beverage
- 9. Flower
- 10. Bird
- 11. Fruit

#### Down

- 1. Fossil
- 2. Dance
- 3. Insect
- 4. Grass
- 5. Tree
- 6. Honorary State Equine

Across 6. Northern Pike, 7. Bismarck, 8. Milk, 9. Prairie Rose, 10. Western Meadowlark, 11. Chokecherry Down 1. Teredo Petrified Wood, 2, Square Dance, 3. Convergent Lady Beetle, 4. Western Wheatgrass, 5. American Elm, 6. Nokota Horse

## SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

#### 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. TRN-HA 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**

- 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.

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

**Renewal** 

### What type of membership?

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

### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address	
City	
State	Zip
Email	

### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

## TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### July 2012

### The 58th Annual Birdwalk Participants Count 56 Species!

With perfect weather, 98 birders and fearless leaders the participants of the 58th Annual birdwalk counted 56 species. That is the most documented since we started keeping consistent records in 1988. Records from previous years have been misplaced and we have only the last 24 years statistics for reference.

The birders worked up an appetite and were treated to feast of buttermilk pancakes, sausage, cowboy coffee and Genie's famous honey rhubarb syrup. We gave



Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit 8:00 am—6:00 pm MT North Unit 8:00 am—6:00 pm CT Painted Canyon 8:00 am—6:00 pm MT

Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site 8:00 am – 6:00 pm CT

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

away many new items that adorn our bookstore shelves and Genie, our long time caterer and owner of the Wibaux Tastee Hut, donated 6 jars of her tasty syrup. The most wished for prize were those 6 jars of perfect sweetness. Many suggest she bottle and sell it so all can enjoy.

Many thanks to Genie, Ruby, Toby, Jim and Laurie for their tasty feed and managing to make sure none of the 105 breakfast attendees went home hungry. For nineteen years you have fed the TRNHA birders and we send special thanks your way for making each year a memorable one. Hope to see you stoking up the fires, whipping up the batter, flipping flapjacks and sharing smiles with us all next year.



### **Upcoming Events**

**July 10, 2012** Teddy Bear Picnic in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. For more information: <u>www.trnha.org/tbpicinc.html</u> or 701-623-4884

**July 14, 2012** The Elkhorn Ranch: Discover the Third Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Meet at the South Unit Visitor Center at 9:00 MDT Return to the Visitor Center at 1:00. Featured speakers: Scholar Clay Jenkinson and Park Superintendent Valerie Naylor. The event is Sponsored by the Friends of Theodore Roosevelt National Park and is free and open to the public. Reserve your FREE seat on the bus: RSVP to <u>lilliancrook@gmail.com</u> by July 10

**July 28-29, 2012** Northern Great PlainsCulture Fest: Stop by Knife River and enjoy free cultural demonstrations, participate in games, and learn about the lives of people that lived on the Plains. More info contact 701-745-3300



### **Cause & Effect**

#### A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.



#### **Elkhorn Ranch**

A Message From...

Theodore Roosevelt National Park's Elkhorn Ranch Unit has been in the news a lot lately. Articles about this important site have been published in the New York Times, Washington Post, and many other papers around the country and abroad. Why does this place elicit so much attention?

**Park Superintendent Valerie Naylor** 

The Elkhorn Ranch is the most historically significant part of TR National Park. It was part of the original legislation establishing the park in April 1947 and was a main part of the reason the bill made it through Congress. Along with surrounding US Forest Service and private lands. the area has been deemed eligible as a National Historic District. The National Park Service tries to keep this small unit of the park (218 acres) as unspoiled as possible, and it is much like it was when Theodore Roosevelt first found it in 1884. The Elkhorn is tranquil, serene, and peaceful. It's a place where you can feel Roosevelt's presence, and the place where he developed many of his ideas on conservation.

Yet today, there are many threats to the tranquility of the Elkhorn Ranch: a proposal for a bridge across the Little Mis-

souri River in the Elkhorn Ranch vicinity, a proposed gravel pit across the river in the park's viewshed, and oil wells moving ever closer.

#### What Can You Do?

Get to know the Elkhorn Ranch. When public comment periods are open on various projects that could affect the Elkhorn, make comments or attend the public meetings. The park needs your help.

The National Park Service is working to preserve this peacefulness of the Elkhorn Ranch for present and future generations. As a park partner, TRNHA and its members can also support the Elkhorn Ranch. If you are not personally familiar with the Elkhorn Ranch Unit of the park, I encourage you to make the trip. And we will make it easy for you. Another park partner, Friends of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, is hosting an Elkhorn Ranch Day on July 14 and you are invited. A bus will leave Medora at 9 am that day and return around 1 pm. Theodore Roosevelt Scholar Clay Jenkinson and I will be along to interpret the site. We hope you can join us on the trip to this very special place. To reserve a spot or get more information, contact lilliancrook@gmail.com.

### TRNHA Transitions by Jane Muggli, Executive Director of TRNHA

At the June 2, 2012 Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association board meeting I announced my plans to retire at the end of December 2012. I have been with TRNHA since 1985 and have been the executive director for the past twenty years. It has been a magnificent ride and my passion for this amazing national park cooperating association runs deep. This decision was not made in haste, but has been contemplated over a number of years. The timing is right and now I must go on to the next adventure. Not quite sure what that will entail, but I am eager to explore all sorts of interests.

I am most pleased to announce the TRNHA Board has voted to have Tracy Larsen, TRNHA Operations Manager, to succeed me as the new Executive Director. I am confident the future of this organization is in very capable hands. Tracy, along with the Board of Directors, will take this organization to new heights and many creative directions. Join me in congratulating Tracy on her new position.

It has been an honor to be a part of TRNHA and the most pleasure has been meeting, tending and enjoying the members. Our membership is very important to us and thank you for your amazing support throughout my tenure.

### **Breathing Life into Flint**

By: Stephen Bridenstine – Ranger, Knife River Indian Villages NHS

The tools are many: blunt copper billets, delicate antler pressure flakers, thick piec-

es of rawhide. The craftsmen are varied: grizzled North Dakota artisans, local town residents out for a stroll, visitors from the other side of America. But the goal is always the same, to breathe life into a cobble of flint and reveal the arrowhead lying within.



at the first ever Flint Knap-In at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

The unique Knife River Flint has always been a part of the history and culture at the Knife River Indian Villages. As traders

Knife River Indian Villages. As traders brought increasing amounts of metal items to the villages, the knowledge of flint knapping slowly disappeared. Modern flint knappers literally had to resurrect an ancient art form lost to the ages.

discarded chip, lessons were learned and new friends were made.

On June 23, the sound of rock hitting flint once again rang out at the Knife River Indian Villages. Cobbles that sat in the ground for millions of years had their chance to wow a gathered crowd. With a little skill and a lot of luck, modern craftsmen were once again breathing life into flint.

On a beautiful but stormy Saturday afternoon, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site hosted its first ever Flint Knap-In. Three North Dakota craftsmen who practice this ancient art form traveled to the park to share their knowledge with each other and park visitors. Huddled under the park picnic shelter, professional and amateur flint knappers alike chipped away at large cobbles. They worked material as diverse as Knife River Flint, obsidian, and modern glass composites. With each passing stroke, more and more material fell to the ground. With each



July's featured Ranger is South Unit Interpretative Ranger, Amanda Allen. Amanda, a New York native, is a recent graduate of the State University of New York Geneseo where she studied English Literature and Anthropology. This is her first year as a national park ranger and she says she feels extraordinarily lucky to be working in North Dakota. Amanda's positive attitude, hunger for knowledge, and happy personality make her a great resource for visitors of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

### **Ranger Recommends**

Amanda recommends the book Grassland Plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains by James R. Johnson and Gary E Larson. She says, "Before I came out to Theodore Roosevelt National Park, I wouldn't have known the difference between a forb and a phlox if my life depended on it. Once I went on my first hike, however. I realized that this area is teeming with an amazing assortment of vegetation. I wanted to know about it all-from aster to yucca and everything in between. Grassland Plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains has proved to be an invaluable resource in my newest quest. I've used this book almost every day since I've been out here!

Not only does this guide provide first-rate taxonomic information about the various species of flora found in and around Theodore Roosevelt National Park, but it also touches upon some of the more interesting uses of the plants. Ranging from the medicinal to the culinary, the various ways these plants have shaped the lives of the people & animals that live here is truly astounding. I would recommend this book to anyone who has an interest which stems beyond basic identification of the plant species in this area.

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

Grassland Plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains by James R. Johnson & Gary E Larson

> Regular Price: \$19.95 Members Price: \$16.95

> > www.trnha.org

### Let's Go Exploring!



Hello explorers. Whether you are experienced or new to car camping with the family, having an enjoyable time, saving money and reducing potential headaches is always of interest. Below are some time-tested suggestions, thoughtful recommendations, and useful hands-on practices that can help. May you have a great time in the outdoors this spring. - GlyphGuy.

People often think that being a parent, having a home, and working a fulltime job prevents them from traveling, exploring or spending more quality time with family. As a full-time worker, and a Dad who has to pay bills I understand these are responsibilities that often require Herculean efforts to manage. So, with such little time remaining in a personal schedule what can a person do?

One of the most important time savers is to turn off the TV. According to a Nielson report the average American spends "159 hours watching television in the home" each month plus additional time online and via mobile devices."



That is over 5 hours a day of TV! Now, consider the average TV show has 8 minutes of commercials for every 22 minutes of programming – when the TV is on for five hours a day the viewer is exposed to 80 minutes of just advertisements a day! Yuk.

For years I blamed multiple factors because my weekends had disappeared with housework, my vacation time-off was non-existent and that I could no longer travel, explore and do what I really wanted to do. As I looked at how I used my time I realized the TV consumed several hours a day. When I added it up I was surprised; by turning off the TV I reclaimed 20 hours a week. Time I use on things that are fulfilling like thinking about the weekend, researching a local place to hike or even planning about how I can budget an overseas trip.

Do I watch some TV shows? Yes, a select few, because sometimes you have to relax after a long day. But I watch the TV on my schedule, by watching either delayed shows via a recording device or by purchasing a select few episodes online. By controlling what I watch the TV is not controlling me, or my time.

Folks who write in asking how they can travel, explore and see new places are given the same suggestion – a good start is to turn off the TV.

#### Reference:

http://news.cnet.com/8301-13506 3-20071236-17/americans-watching-more-tv-in-more-places/ Image:

View from the Rubicon Trail, D.L. Bliss State Park, Lake Tahoe, California

TRNHA would like to thank Mark Hougardy for allowing us to share is camping articles with our Newsletter readers. His articles are full of valuable information and we will share them throughout the next few months. However if you don't want to wait and are interested in reading them all visit his site at

#### http://www.letsgoexploring.com



**Olympia Granola Bars** \$2.99

Available flavors include: Chocolate Almond, Chocolate Peanut, Honey Almond, and Happy Trail Smore



**Chuck & James Granola** 8 oz—\$5.25 1lb-\$8.99 Please contact us for available flavors.



GK Jerky is an original Montana Made product. Cattle are born and raised on the rich grasses at the Grant Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site located in the Deer Lodge valley. Packaging is done locally in Montana without any added hormones, antibiotics, steroids or MSG. This combined with authentic seasonings provide a distinctive, high quality beef jerky.

**GK Jerky** \$7.99 Available in Peppered or Original

### A Sense of Place

### Dedication of the Lynch Knife River Flint Quarry National Historic Landmark

It was a beautiful wind-swept, cloudscudding day the wild flowers and grasses nodding approval. The Mandan words wafted softly over the site. The drum and song filled the air---the sense of place came alive.

How long since the Mandan language had gently lingered over the flint quarry? How long since the resonant song and drum had embraced the quarry site?

Thus was the aura and sense of place felt by all who attended the official dedication of the Lynch Knife River Flint Quarry National Historic Landmark on June 9, 2012, at Dunn Center, North Dakota.

Those in attendance were members of the Three Affiliated Tribes, landowners, National Park System officials, state officials, and family and friends.

The ceremonies began with a traditional Mandan blessing by Edwin Benson and traditional singing and drumming by Cory Spotted Bear. The program was further highlighted with a special talk by Gerard by Ella Mathisen

Baker, retired former Assistant Director for American Indians Relations for the National Park Service.

An intriguing story and haunting flute music were offered by Keith Bear.

Other brief presentations were offered by Patty Trap, Deputy Director, Midwest Region, National Park Service and Valerie Naylor, Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. A special bronze plaque was presented to the landowners by Vergil Noble and Damita Engel representing the Midwest Archeological Center and the Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, respectively.

Concluding presentations were offered by Gail Lynch, landowner, and Fern Swenson, North Dakota State Historical Society.

Wendy Ross, Superintendent of Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site acted as master of ceremonies.

With the formalities completed, the crowd was free to walk among the flowers, grasses, rocks, and depressions and enjoy and understand the important aura of this intriguing site. What a fulfilling day for all!



Gerard Baker, retired former Assistant Director of American Indian Relations for the National Park Service does a special presentation for dedication attendees.

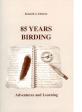
### **Member Only Special**

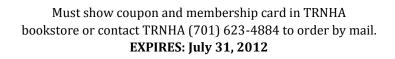
### JULY'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR ...

85 Years of Birding & More Amazing, Incredible Birds by Kenneth J. Johnson

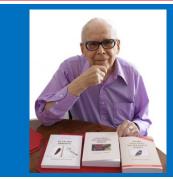


Sale Price \$27.00 (Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$22.95) Regular Price \$32.90





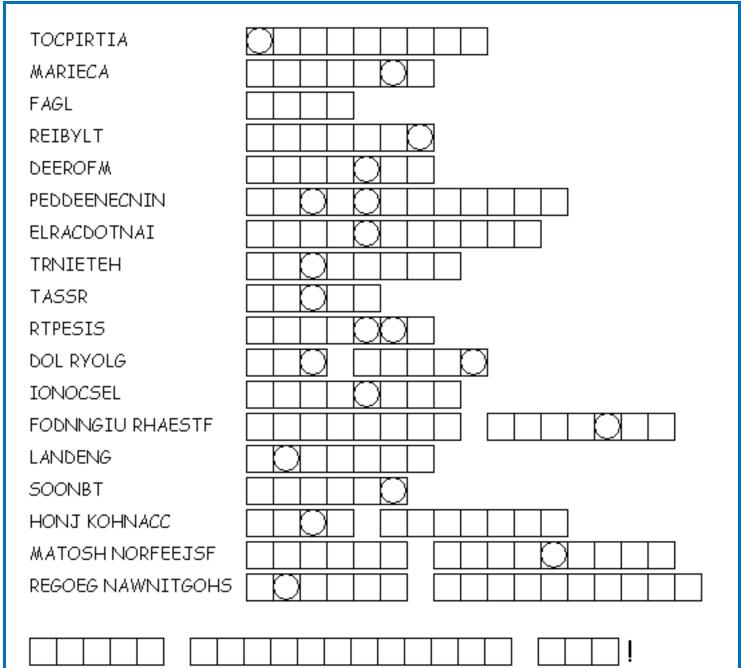
In memory of long time friend, TRNHA member, and park supporter Kenneth Johnson, we are offering his publications at a discounted price to our members.



TRNHA bids a fond farewell to Dr. Kenneth Johnson. Ken passed away May 30, 2012 at the age of 95. He was a longtime supporter of the Association and Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Ken was an avid birdwatcher before it was in vogue and, along with his lovely wife of over 67 years Adele, was present at all the Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Associations Annual Birdwalk for the first 50 years. Farewell dear friend...

### Happy 4th of July!

Unscramble each of the clue words relate to July 4, 1776. Take the letters that appear in boxes and unscramble them for the final message.





#### Junior Ranger/Explorer Day at Knife River Indian Villages NHS

Twenty children participated in the special day at the park. The newly revised Jr. Ranger and Jr. Explorer booklets were unveiled. Each child completed the age appropriate booklet. Upon completion of the booklet, they received a certificate, badge or button, and a patch. The children had the opportunity to draw something they learned from their experience. The new program is available year around.

### SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

#### 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.
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Yes! I would like to become a member of Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association!

#### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

🗆 Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

#### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address	
City	
State	_ Zip
Email	

#### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping)

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

> Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

> > \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_



## TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### August 2012

### Join a Ranger and Explore Theodore Roosevelt National Park

#### Weekend Programs to Introduce Families to TRNP

Birds, geology, mammals, and more! Theodore Roosevelt National Park invites kids and their families for fun activities on Saturdays and Sundays. Play games, take a hike, and discover the many facets of the North Dakota badlands in these activity filled programs for the whole family. Programs will be offered in the North and South Units of the park.

"Many people are moving into the area with their families," said Superintendent Valerie Naylor. "The park is the perfect place for everyone to enjoy time together while having fun outdoors. We welcome the opportunity to introduce them to the park through these family programs. This is a great way to learn about the park that is right in their backyard."

Family programs will be offered in the South Unit on Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. MDT through August 18. Activities will begin at the Picnic Area near the Cottonwood Campground.

North Unit programs will be offered on Sundays through August 19 at 2:00 p.m. CDT. They will be held in the Juniper Campground amphitheater.

#### Wilderness Hikes Planned

A trip into the geologic past will be the focus of the fourth Wilderness Hike of the summer season on Sunday, August 5 in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The hike will venture into the petrified forest area of the park's North Unit, traveling to a remote and seldom visited area of the park.

"Theodore Roosevelt National Park contains the third largest concentration of petrified wood in the U.S.," said Superintendent Valerie J. Naylor. "Exploring the area with a ranger is an excellent way to visit this special place and gain insight into the park's geologic past."

In addition to seeing geologic features, visitors will also experience the quiet and solitude of the wilderness. Depending on group size and weather, the outing will last from 3 to 6 hours, and will cover 2 to 6 miles. Hiking may be strenuous at times; participants should wear attire appropriate for wilderness travel, especially sturdy boots and durable clothes.

Hikers should meet at the picnic area in the Juniper Campground at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Participants should bring plenty of drinking water, food, sunscreen, and insect repellent and be prepared for hot, dry weather. Binoculars, cameras and a favorite poem or quote are also encouraged. In the case of extreme weather, the hike may be cancelled; please call the North Unit Visitor Center at 701-842-2333 for the latest information.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit 8:00 am—6:00 pm MT North Unit 8:00 am—6:00 pm CT Painted Canyon 8:00 am—6:00 pm MT

Loop drive closures are subject to change based on weather conditions.

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site 8:00 am – 6:00 pm CT

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

### **Upcoming Events**

**August 25, 2012** National Park Founders Day. Contact your local park to learn about events planned.

For a schedule of Interpretive programs offered visit:

Theodore Roosevelt National Park <u>http://www.nps.gov/thro/planyourvisit/index.htm</u> Knife River Indian Villages NHS <u>http://www.nps.gov/knri/parknews/index.htm</u>

### **Cause & Effect**

A Message from The Superintendent of Knife River Indian Villages NHS

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### Real Estate Boom in Central North Dakota

Most people have heard stories about housing shortages and crowded living conditions in western North Dakota's oil patch. The housing boom occurring further from the petroleum epicenter is not as frenzied, but demand for single-family homes, multi-family homes, and apartments is steadily growing. Towns in central North Dakota are becoming a hub for people who have opted for a long commute ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 ½ hours one way) over living in high priced, crowded conditions. This option allows oil field workers to obtain reasonably priced housing and bring their families to North Dakota. The area is also seeing population growth from families that have moved away from western North Dakota and settled in the central part of the state.

Every county or city meeting that I have attended this year has involved the topic of expanding real estate and rental opportunities in local communities. City governments are increasing resident and tax bases by approving new housing developments, annexing county property into city limits, and selling city owned lots for immediate home construction. The city of Hazen has community support to move the existing Hazen RV Park to allow Annabelle Homes enough lot space for a large housing development including retail opportunities and a conference hotel. Houses in Beulah, Hazen, and Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site's gateway town of Stanton are snapped up a few days after being placed on the market. At the July city council meeting, Stanton officials discussed options for the development of private land options outside the city limits to allow construction of 20 to 30 homes.

Speculation over development opportunities and skyrocketing property values are prompting landowners to put land on the market to see if developers will pay top dollar for raw



land, houses, or multifamily dwellings. Housing for seasonal employees is difficult to find. Rental apartments difficult to lease for short durations. The 57 acre parcel of private land adjacent to the south or Indian Villagos Nation

boundary of Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site has "for sale by owner" signs posted on the fence posts. The land has remained undeveloped for decades. Currently longhorn cattle and horses graze this land along the entrance road to the park. If real estate continues to rise in value and demand, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site visitors may have a very different view from the visitor center.

#### How the park is responding?

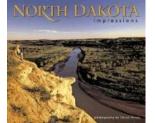
Park officials regularly attend City of Stanton and Mercer County meetings. Building partnerships with city and county officials is an important component of ensuring that park concerns and expectations are known well in advance of development planning. I had the opportunity to attend a two day Mercer County strategic planning effort funded by a grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the North Dakota Energy **Development Infrastructure and Impact Grant** Fund program. The planning effort brought together a steering committee of local leaders who identified infrastructure needs, business development, growth potential, community support needs, economic diversification opportunities, planning and zoning issues. Attendance at these functions has allowed the park to become part of the proactive planning process, familiarize the community with park staff, and most importantly build trust through relationships. Developing strong community ties can be time consuming, but the rewards of proactive steps toward meeting development needs while protecting park resources are worth every minute!

### Member Only Special

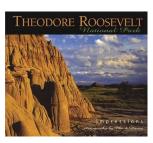
## AUGUST'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR...

North Dakota Impressions or Theodore Roosevelt National Park Impressions

by Chuck Haney



Sale Price \$7.95 (Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$6.95) Regular Price \$9.95

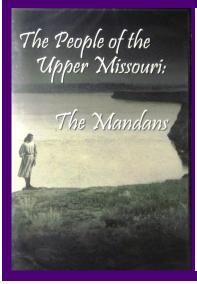


Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail. **EXPIRES: August 31, 2012** 

### Film Screening to be Held at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site

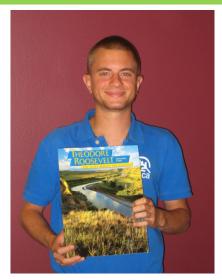
Stanton, ND: Two film screenings of the recently released documentary *The People of the Upper Missouri: The Mandans* will be held at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. The 77-minute film will be shown at 2 pm Central Time on Saturday and Sunday, August 4 and 5 in the visitor center theater.

The State Historical Society of North Dakota produced the documentary which premiered on July 12, 2012 at Bismarck State College. The film weaves together historical imagery, archeological data, and interviews in an exploration of Mandan history, traditions, and culture. It paints a vivid picture of Mandan resilience, adaptability, and continuity in the Upper Missouri River Valley. The narrative begins with the tribe's origin on the Heart River and continues through the development of contemporary society on the Fort Berthold Reservation. There is no charge for this event. All events are held on Central Time. Knife River Indian Villages NHS is located 1/2 mile north of Stanton. For more information, please call the park at 701-745-3300.



A production of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, the documentary *The People of the Upper Missouri: The Mandans* weaves together historical imagery, archeological data, and contemporary interviews to explore the history, traditions, and material culture of the Mandan people. The film paints a vivid picture of Mandan resilience, adaptability, and continuity in the Upper Missouri River Valley, from the earliest origins on the Heart River through today's modern Three Affiliated Tribes.

\$24.95



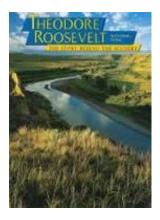
August's featured Ranger is South Unit SCA Ranger, Thomas Athens. Tom grew up in Chicago, Illinois and is a recent graduate of Illinois State University where he majored in biology. Theodore Roosevelt National Park is his first adventure as a college graduate and a park ranger. His can do attitude and cheery personality make him a great asset to the park and it's visitors. Park visitors can look to Tom for

### **Ranger Recommends**

the answer to all their questions and if he doesn't know the answer he is sure to find it.

Tom recommends the book, *Theodore Roosevelt National Park, The Story Behind the Scenery* by B. Kaye, H. Schoch, M. Van-Camp, K.C. DenDooven. He says, "This book has beautiful pictures which really capture how amazing this park truly is. If I had to choose a book to explain how great the Badlands are to someone that has not seen or visited the park I would choose this book. It explains it all, from the history to the geology no information is left out. The only way to better understand Theodore Roosevelt National Park is to visit the badlands of North Dakota."

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at: www.trnha.org Theodore Roosevelt National Park Story Behind the Scenery by B. Kaye, H. Schoch, M. VanCamp, K.C. DenDooven



Regular Price: \$10.95 Members Price: \$9.31

www.trnha.org

### Six Actions to Help Your Next Day Trip Be Successful!



Hello explorers. Whether you are experienced or new to car camping with the family, having an enjoyable time, saving money and reducing potential headaches is always of interest. Below are some time-tested suggestions, thoughtful recommendations, and useful hands-on practices that can help. May you have a great time in the outdoors this spring. - GlyphGuy.

Day trips are great ways to get away from the busy rat-race. But, with busy schedules and family life a quick day trip is not always easy. Frequently the littlest of things can get in the way and become chores, hurtles even headaches. Plan for these little things so they don't become problems.

Here are six actions you can do to help your next day trip be successful:



#### 1. Gas Up the Car the Day Before

Starting the day with an empty gas tank can set the tone for the rest of the trip. Avoid this headache and gas up the car the day before.

#### 2. Outfit Your Daypack the Day Before

Preparing a daypack the morning you leave can be a chore – especially when young kids are involved. Something small will always be left behind and become a big headache. For example, do you want your three year old realize her Teddy Bear was not packed when you are half-way up the trail? Avoid this situation and outfit your daypack as much as you can the day before. If you need a starting point check out GlyphGuy's Grab-N-Go Day Trip Checklist.

#### 3. Plan Your Food/Munchies Earlier in the Week

"What are we going to eat today?" Asking this question the day of your trip might lead to a headache – or even an empty tummy. Plan what you want to eat earlier that week. Use the evening before to set out any (non-refrigerated) munchies on the table where you can see everything. If cold items will be used on your day trip place it one location in the refrigerator. The next morning it is easy to grab all of your food and go.

#### 4. Water + Hydration = No Headaches

A lack of water on your day trip isn't just a figurative headache; not being well hydrated can lead to be a severe literal headache. Reduce the chances for dehydration, or a forgotten water container, by filling up water bottles the evening before your leave. Place them on the table with your other staged items so you can see everything.

#### 5. Lighten Your Load with Ice

Carrying too much stuff in a backpack can be both a headache and a back pain. Lighten the amount of stuff your carry by seeing what can be used for multiple purposes. A favorite of my family is to freeze small bottles of water a day before the trip. The next day it is packed into the backpack with the food. The food stays cool while the ice slowly turns back to liquid. Later in the day the cool water is good to drink.

#### 6. Involve the Kids with Planning the Day Trip

Even parents who communicate at a stellar level with their children can still hear their kids say the morning of a trip, "We are going where? Today!" Avoid these gnarly headaches by involving the kids as much as possible before you leave. Get the 'buy in' from all family members and have everyone help plan and prepare what is needed for the day trip.

TRNHA would like to thank Mark Hougardy for allowing us to share is camping articles with our Newsletter readers. His articles are full of valuable information and we will share them throughout the next few months. However if you don't want to wait and are interested in reading them all visit his site at

#### http://www.letsgoexploring.com

### Find the 6 Differences





J. Girls hat a different color, Z. Flower is missing from her shirt, 3. Smokey is missing from his hat, 4. Smokey's hat band is a different color, 5. Smokey's rongue is purple, 6. The dots are missing on wall above girls head.

## Teddy Bear Picnic Fun 2012



### SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

#### 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. TRN-HA 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.

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

### Tell Us About Yourself

Name	
Address	
City	
State	_ Zip
Email	

#### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!



## TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### September 2012

### Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park: will come to an end on September 7, 2012

America's National Parks are world renown for possessing some of the most compelling historical and natural environments ever captured on fi lm. With an incredible combination of wildlife and scenic landscapes Theodore Roosevelt National Park is one of America's best.

#### How To Enter:

• Submit up to 2 photos (taken anytime from May 2011 to September 2012) of any natural, historical, or cultural subject found anywhere within the three units of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

- Submissions are due by September 7, 2012.
- Read the complete rules before entering.
- Download the contest application from our website: www.nps.gov/thro

#### Sponsor:

The sponsor is the Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association. Phone number 701-623-4884, www.trnha.org

#### Prizes:

- One Grand Prize winner
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.
- Finalist photographs will be featured in the park visitor
- centers, on the park website, and in park publications.
- The Grand Prize winner's photograph will be the

featured photograph on the 2013 park annual pass.

Additionally, the winner will receive a copy of the book "America's Best Idea", and a \$50 gift certifi cate to the park bookstore.

Share your experience at Theodore Roosevelt National Park with photographs of your adventures.

	Upcoming Events					
Visitor Center Hours are will be Changing throughout September. Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit Sept 1st-3rd - 8:00 am to 6:00 pm MT Sept 4th-30th - 8:00 am to 5:00 pm MT Oct 1st - 8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT		September 20-22, 2012 - Theodore Roosevelt Symposium at Dickinson State University. For more information visit: www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org September 29, 2012 - Fall photography workshop at Knife River				
Painted Canyon	Sept 1st-3rd - 8:00 am to 6:00 pm MT Sept 4th-9th - 8:00 am to 5:00 pm MT Sept 9th-Nov 11th - 8:30 am to 4:30 pm MT	Indian Villages NHS from 10:00-2:00 pm. Contact the park for more information at : 701-745-3300.				
North Unit	Sept 1st-3rd - 8:00 am to 6:00 pm CT Sept 4th– winter - 9:00 am to 5:30 pm CT	October 27, 2012 - Theodore Roosevelt's 154th Birthday.				
Knife River Ind	lian Villages NHS Sept 1st - 3rd - 8:00 am to 6:00 pm CT Sept 4th - winter - 8:00 am to 4:30 pm CT	RESERVER REPORT				
Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge 8:00 am - 4:30 pm CT Monday-Friday For a schedule of Interpretive programs offered visit: Theodore Roosevelt National Park http://www.nps.gov/thro/planyourvisit/index.htm						
Knife River Indian Villages NHS <u>http://www.nps.gov/knri/parknews/index.htm</u>						

### **Cause & Effect**

A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

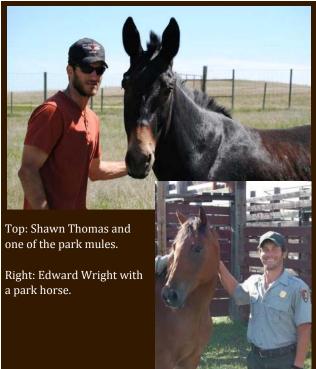
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If you are a regular reader of the TRNHA e-newsletter, you know that many of the serious issues that face Theodore Roosevelt National Park are external issues related to development and pollution that can impact TRNP from beyond its boundary. The internal issues within the boundaries of TRNP are usually smaller and more manageable.

The park's boundary itself is also an issue, or at least the boundary fence can be. All of the South Unit and most of the North Unit is surrounded by a 7-foot woven wire fence. The purpose of the fence is to keep bison and feral horses inside the park while keeping cattle out of the park. The fence is not intended to restrict the movements of other wildlife and is certainly not intended to keep visitors out!

But maintenance of over 78 miles of fence is a lot of work, and the park does not have regular funding to keep the fence in top condition. Seasonal Backcountry Ranger John Heiser has been working to keep the North Unit fence in good condition the past 38 summers. along with his many other wilderness duties. South Unit maintenance has been less reliable over the years due to other funding priorities. This year, however, Backcountry Rangers Shawn Thomas and Ed Wright did an outstanding job of securing the South Unit fence by replacing over 100 fence posts. It may be that the South Unit boundary is in the best shape it has been in decades. This makes us better neighbors and reduces the need for park staff to search down bison that have strayed outside the park.

We appreciate the work that John, Shawn, and Ed have done to keep the park's boundary intact. With bison in the park, the boundary fence will always require repair, but we have made some good progress this year toward making the park's boundary the best that it can be so that we can concentrate on both our external and internal issues.



### **Member Only Special**

## SEPTEMBER'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR...

### Our Mark on This Land by: Ren & Helen Davis

Sale Price \$26.95 (Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$7.04) Regular Price \$29.95



Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail. **EXPIRES: September 30, 2012**  Our Mark on This Land: A Guide to the Legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps in America's Parks, provides an historical understanding of the era in which the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) worked, the hardships and deprivations of the Great Depression, and of the remarkable vision of the Roosevelt administration to see an unparalleled opportunity to put unemployed men to work on projects that restored and enhanced our nation's natural resources. The CCC also restored the men themselves - their bodies, minds, and spirits. From 1933 to 1942, more than three million men served in the Corps.

Over 700 local, state, and national parks were enhanced by the CCC workers, and no other book serves as a guide to the work of the Corps in parks nationwide as does this book. It also serves as a guidebook to to a selection of those parks that best represent the breadth of work by the Corps in all parks, such as structures, campgrounds, trails, lakes, dams, landscape features, etc. These parks are subdivided into two categories: destination state and national parks and other CCC parks which number about 260 more.

## **Theodore Roosevelt:**

The Progressive in the Arena

September 20-22, 2012

Join us for the seventh annual Theodore Roosevelt symposium at Dickinson State University. On this, the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Bull Moose party, we will explore Roosevelt's place in the Progressive Movement as well as his perspectives on the Midwestern populist movement, including the rise of the Nonpartisan League.

> "Every man is to that extent a Progressive if he stands for any form of social justice." - Theodore Roosevelt



A voice crying out in the wilderness: the Bull Moose returns to the arena.

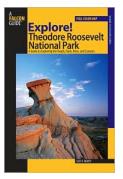


September's featured Ranger is South Unit SCA Ranger, Casey McGuffy. Casey grew up in Byram, New Jersey and is currently a student at Rutgers-Newark where she is a Geology major. She choose Theodore Roosevelt National Park as her first park ranger job. Casey has spent the summer welcoming park visitors with her warm smile, can do attitude, and passion for the great outdoors.

### **Ranger Recommends**

Casey recommends the book, Explore! Theodore Roosevelt National Park by Levi T. Novey. She says, "This book is a wonderful guide for visitors of all backgrounds and interests. Not only does it include detailed information regarding the different hikes and sites to see in Theodore Roosevelt National Park, but it also discusses the history behind Roosevelt's time in the Badlands and the establishment of Medora. The author, Levi T. Novey, is a frequent visitor to the park and he is very knowledgeable about its characteristics. No matter what your interests are, Explore! Theodore Roosevelt National Park will help you enjoy this park even more.

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at: <u>www.trnha.org</u> Explore! Theodore Roosevelt National Park by Levi T. Novey



Regular Price: \$15.95 Members Price: \$13.56

www.trnha.org

### National Park to Offer People's Choice Wilderness Hike

Visitors will choose the destination for a wilderness hike on Sunday, September 2 in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The hike in the park's North Unit will be the last one of the 2012 summer season.

There will be several hiking options for visitors to consider, including searching for bighorn sheep, hiking to a backcountry spring, or venturing to the park's most scenic bentonite ridge. The decision will be made the morning of the hike. Other considerations determining the hike's destination will be the number of participants and weather conditions. The hike could last from 4 to 6 hours and cover 2 to 6 miles.

Hikers should meet at the picnic area in the Juniper Campground at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Participants should be prepared for a moderately strenuous hike and wear sturdy boots and clothes appropriate for the weather. Everyone should bring plenty of drinking water, food, sunscreen, and insect repellent.

"Late summer is a beautiful time to hike in the park," said Superintendent Valerie Naylor. "This will be a great opportunity for visitors to experience the Theodore Roosevelt Wilderness Area and see some spectacular scenery and wildlife."

Visitors are encouraged to bring binoculars, cameras, and a favorite poem or quote. In the case of extreme weather, the hike may be cancelled; please call the North Unit Visitor Center at 701-842-2333 for current information.



### Summer at Knife River Indian Villages NHS



Pottery Workshop Instructor Linda Olson works on a pot.

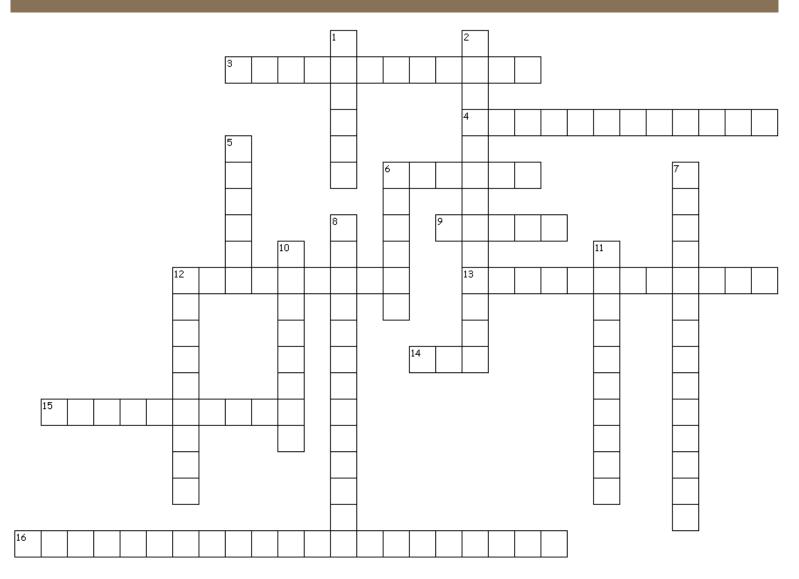


Members of the Eagle Feather Indian Club lead Culturefest participants in a round dance. Culturefest is a TRNHA sponsored event.

Authors Ray Wood and Randy Williams visited Knife River to sign their book Fort Clark and Its Indian Neighbors, a Trading Post on the Upper Missouri.



### Animals of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Who am I?



#### Across

- 3. Ovis canadensis
- 4. Mephitis mephitis
- 6. Lynx rufus
- 9. Bison bison
- 12. Erethizon dorsatum
- 13. Puma concolor
- 14. Cervus elaphus
- 15. Equus caballus
- 16. Cynomy ludovicianus

#### Down

- 1. Canis latrans
- 2. Tamias minimus
- 5. Castor canadensis
- 6. Taxidea taxus
- 7. Myotis lucifugus
- 8. Odocoileus virginianus
- 10. Odocoileus hemoinus
- 11. Lepus townsendii
- 12. Antilocapra americana

Down: J. Coyote, Z. Least Chipmunk, S. Beaver, 6. Badger, 7. Little Brown Bat, 8. Whitetail Deer, 10. Mule Deer, 11. Jackrabbit, 12. Pronghorn

Across: 3. Bighorn Sheep, 4. Striped Skunk, 6. Bobcat, 9. Bison, 12. Porcupine, 13. Mountain Lion, 14. Elk, 15. Feral Horse, 16. Blacktailed Prairie Dog

### SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

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- 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.

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

#### Are you a new or renewing member?

New

🗖 Renewal

#### What type of membership?

🔲 Individual	\$20.00
🗖 Family	\$30.00
Contributing	\$75.00
Supporting	\$250.00

#### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address	
City	
State	_ Zip
Email	

#### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

\_ \_ \_ \_



## TRNHA NEWSLETTER

### October 2012

### Great Plains Center announces top 10 ecotourism sites in region

Released on 09/13/2012, at 2:00 AM

Office of University Communications University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Lincoln, Neb., September 13th, 2012 — Fort Robinson State Park (photo by Richard Edwards) Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (photo by Robert F. Diffendal Jr.)

The Center for Great Plains Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has announced the results of its survey to determine the top 10 eco tourist sites in the Great Plains.

Early this spring the center conducted a two-phase survey of 51 naturalists in nine states with knowledge of Great Plains ecotourism.

Richard Edwards, director of the center, said, "We surveyed field personnel from nonprofit organizations, managers of private ecotourism companies, state agency officials and others. In the first round, these individuals were asked to identify 20 Great Plains sites which they considered to offer the best, most powerful environmental experience and/or the ones that are ecologically the most important." In the second phase of the survey, the center shared with respondents the first-round results and then asked them to nominate their top sites from this list. The most frequently identified sites were then named as the region's top 10 sites. They are:

**Badlands National Park (S.D.)** -- The park has 244,000 acres of mixed-grass prairie. It is home to bison, bighorn sheep, prairie dogs, black-footed ferrets and other wildlife. The South Unit of the park is in the process of becoming the first tribal national park, with its world-class natural and cultural resources to be managed by the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

**Rowe Bird Sanctuary/Crane Trust/Central Platte River (Neb.)** --This group of sites offers multiple wildlife-viewing and hiking opportunities. Most dramatically, some 500,000 to 600,000 migrating sandhill cranes stop along this short stretch of the river from early March to early April to refuel. Both Rowe Sanctuary and the Crane Trust maintain riverine habitat for cranes and other birds. *Continued on page 4* 

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Ecotourism is a form of tourism involving visiting fragile, pristine, and relatively undisturbed natural areas, intended as a low-impact and often small scale alternative to standard commercial (mass) tourism. Its purpose may be to educate the traveler, to provide funds for ecological conservation, to directly benefit the economic development and political empowerment of local communities, or to foster respect for different cultures and for human rights.

	Upcoming Events				
Visitor Center Hours are will be Changing throughout September. Theodore Roosevelt National Park		October 20, 2012 - National Archeology Day			
South Unit	8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT	October 27, 2012 - Theodore Roosevelt's 154th Birthday.			
Painted Canyon	8:30 am to 4:30 pm MT November 12, 2012 closed for Winter	November 9, 2012 - Medora Wildlife Feed			
North Unit	9:00 am to 5:30 pm CT 7 days a week Nov 12th will go to 3 days a week (Fri, Sat, Sun)	December 7-9, 2012 - Medora's Old Fashion Cowboy Christmas			
Knife River Inc	lian Villages NHS 8:00 am to 4:30 pm CT	February 9, 2012 - Winter Outbound at Knife River Indian			
<b>Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge</b> 8:00 am - 4:30 pm CT Monday-Friday		Villages NHS			
For a schedule of Interpretive programs offered visit: Theodore Roosevelt National Park <u>http://www.nps.gov/thro/planvourvisit/index.htm</u> Knife River Indian Villages NHS <u>http://www.nps.gov/knri/parknews/index.htm</u>					

### **Cause & Effect**

A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

If you have driven Highway 85 between the North and South Units of Theodore Roosevelt National Park in the last few weeks, you may have seen small signs every few miles pointing east or west to the "BakkenLink Pipeline." The BakkenLink is proposed to carry Bakken crude oil from near Tioga in northern North Dakota to the Fryburg Rail Facility near the South Unit. The 132-mile long, 12-inch diameter welded steel crude oil pipeline is designed to carry up to 65,000 barrels of oil per day, with expansion capabilities of up to 100,000 barrels per day. The pipeline would be buried underground and would follow existing pipeline and utility easements and corridors where feasible. As originally proposed, the pipeline would cross Lake Sakakawea. However, an environmental assessment (EA) recently released by the Bureau of Land Management notes that the "agency preferred alternative" is to start the pipeline south of the lake to avoid the many potential negative consequences of the lake crossing. The pipeline would be built within 350 feet of the northeast

corner of the North Unit, and would pass about a mile from the South Unit en route to Fryburg. The public comment period has just ended, and no decision has yet been issued on the EA. However, it appears the pipeline construction on private land is already beginning.



The National Park Service has been involved in the planning process for two years. We attended the BLM agency scoping meeting and public meeting on the project, and have made comments whenever possible. At one point, maps showed the pipeline passing through the eastern part of the North Unit (an error, but a serious one!) but we got that resolved. Although the pipeline will likely be built, and it will be outside park boundaries, it could still have indirect effects on the park.

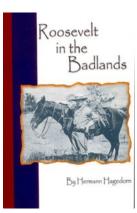
Some people believe the pipeline will cut down on the number of trucks along Highway 85. Others think the trucks (or truck drivers) will just be diverted to other projects, potentially increasing development. The area's energy boom affects the park in many ways, and the BakkenLink is a relatively small element in the big picture. But the park tries to keep up on all of the many facets of development that could affect any of the park's three units, directly or indirectly. These days, that's a big task!

### Member Only Special



### Roosevelt in the Badlands by: Hermann Hagadorn

Sale Price \$13.95 (Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$11.86) Regular Price \$14.95



Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail. EXPIRES: October 31, 2012

### Wireless System Expands Distance Education at Knife River Indian Villages NHS

Knife River Indian Villages has gone wireless! For the last three years, a 300 foot ethernet cable was the limiting factor for distance education in this park of over 1700 acres. Now with a special grant from the CONNECT TRAILS TO PARKS program, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site can broadcast from almost any location in the park.

With the park's premier cultural resource, the remains of three Hidatsa Indian villages, spread throughout the park, distance learning has always remained a challenge. The addition of a point to point wireless system on the distance learning cart allows park rangers to broadcast directly from the village sites to a receiver on the visitor center roof.

This effort will bring the history and culture of the Knife River Indian Villages into classrooms around the country. Students can enter into an earthlodge or see the layout of a village at this featured site along the Lewis and Clark Trail, just like the original explorers did over two hundred years ago. In addition, the wireless system allows rangers to broadcast from prescribed fires, archeological work, and other special events in the park.

This project was financed in part by the National Park Service's CONNECT TRAILS TO PARKS program, commemorating both the National Park Service Centennial 1916-2016, and the 50th anniversary of the National Trails Sys-

tem in 2018. Special thanks go out to regional computer specialist John Reynolds and Theodore Roosevelt National Park IT Specialist Dave McCowan for their technical assistance and the Knife River maintenance department for building the distance learning cart and installing the rooftop receiver.



Chief of Interpretation and Cultural Resources Craig Hansen (left) and education technician Faye Roth (right) use the new wireless system on the distance learning cart at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.



October's featured ranger is Emily Nelson, a seasonal interpreter and a member of the resource management team at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. She joined the park's Division of Resource Management in April 2011 as Museum Technician, and have also operated the Air Quality Monitoring Station since September 2011. Emily's passion for history and her love of the area make her a great resource for anyone who would like to learn more about the park.

Emily recommends the book, *Our Mark on This Land: A Guide to the Legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps in America's Parks* by: Ren and Helen Davis. She says, The Civilian Conservation Corps, created by President Franklin Roo-

### **Ranger Recommends**

sevelt to provide employment for young men during the Great Depression of the 1930s, is a subject with which many people are at least somewhat familiar. During the 9 years the program existed, the CCC worked in 71 units of the National Park system, developed 406 state parks, and created 46 Recreational Demonstration Areas. One of these Recreational Demonstration Areas became Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park in 1947 and later, in 1978, Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

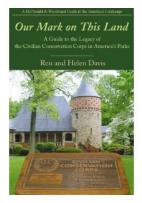
Ren and Helen Davis take readers on a tour of more than 300 parks, national and state, across the country where some of the most enduring and best examples of the work that the CCC did can be found. They give a brief history of the CCC camps in each park and some information about the construction of structures, roads, and trails. Also included are photographs, color and black and white. The book is great for people interested in learning more about the legacy of the CCC in parks across the country, whether they know a lot or a just a little about the CCC. Hopefully, by exploring the work done by the CCC in parks across the country, people will want to learn more about the stories of these young men who worked so hard during such a difficult time to preserve and

protect some of the nation's most beautiful places."

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at:

www.trnha.org

#### Our Mark on This Land by Ren & Helen Davis



Regular Price: \$29.95 Members Price: \$25.46

www.trnha.org

#### Great Plains Center announces top 10 ecotourism sites in region (continued from page1)

**Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge (Mont.)** -- This immense wildlife refuge, some 1.1 million acres, stretches 125 miles along the Missouri River, and includes native shortgrass prairies, forested coulees, river bottoms and badlands populated with wildly profuse animal life such as Rocky Mountain elk, pronghorn, white-tail and mule deer, sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, prairie dogs, eagles and hawks.

American Prairie Reserve (Mont.) -- This relatively new World Wildlife Fund-initiated, now-independent private nonprofit, is constructing a 500,000-acre private reserve. Along with the abutting Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge and other public lands, it will constitute a 3-million acre wildlife reserve. This private nonprofit initiative is one of the most ambitious and important conservation efforts in North America.

The Switzer Ranch and Nature Reserve (Neb.) -- The ranch and its affiliate Calamus Outfitters operate a cattle ranch promoting their "ranching to conserve, conserving to ranch" philosophy. It is set on the stunning virgin mixed-grass prairie of Nebraska's Sandhills, a semi-arid region with abundant grass and aquifers that create many small ponds and lakes. The ranch spearheads an ambitious conservation project for the beautiful Gracie Creek watershed.

**Theodore Roosevelt National Park (N.D.)** -- The park includes 70,000 acres of dry shortgrass prairie and rugged badlands terrain, the latter carved by rain, wind and ice from the soft clay hills. This scenic park supports a broad array of wildlife, including bison, wild horses, elk, white-tail and mule deer, pronghorn, prairie dogs, and nearly 200 species of birds. Extensive trails for hiking create excellent photographic opportunities and exciting spots for camping.

**Devils Tower National Monument (Wyo.)** -- Protruding out of the rolling prairie and ponderosa pines of the surrounding Black Hills, the land around the tower is composed of sedimentary rocks, the oldest of which were laid down during the Triassic period, 225 to 195 million years ago. The tower itself was formed by an intrusion of igneous material (magma). The site is considered sacred to the Lakota and other tribes that have a connection to the area.

**Conata Basin (S.D.)** -- The basin refers both to a larger ecoregion consisting of some 142,000 acres just south of Badlands National Park and to a smaller tract of 6,188 acres (plus 25,188 acres of federal grazing allotments) owned by the Nature Conservancy. This largely intact prairie, which provides a home to the full array of prairie wildlife, is the site of a critical and contro-



versial effort to reintroduce nearly extinct black-footed ferrets, which require prairie dogs as food source.

Fort Robinson State Park/Soldier Creek Wilderness/Petersen Wildlife Management Area (Neb.) -- Located in the Pine Ridge region, this site consists of habitats alternating between mature ponderosa pine forests and grasslands in typical ridge-and-canyon topography. An excellent area for hiking, climbing, or exploring by horseback, visitors can see prairie dogs, wild turkeys, golden eagles, prairie falcons, barn owls and western songbirds such as mountain bluebirds, western tanagers, common poorwills and white-throated swifts.

**Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (Mont.)** -- This riparian habitat, a complex and fragile ecology, is critical for the varied wildlife that depends on it, including some 60 species of mammals, 233 species of birds and 20 species of amphibians and reptiles. It stretches along nearly 150 miles of the upper Missouri River where 49 species of fish are found, including goldeye, drum, sauger, walleye, northern pike, channel cat, carp, smallmouth buffalo, and the endangered pallid sturgeon and shovelnose sturgeon.



The Center for Great Plains Studies defines an ecotourism site as any place or site that is primarily devoted to environmental or biodiversity conservation, provides an opportunity to experience nature and is open to the public, either free or for a fee. Ecotourism generates revenues critical for funding conservation initiatives, increases public awareness of and support for conservation and helps nearby human communities to thrive economically. All three are crucial to sustained and healthy conservation in the Great Plains.

Later this fall, the center will publish a map displaying the region's top 50 ecotourism sites.

The Center for Great Plains Studies is a multi-campus, interdisciplinary, regional research and teaching program chartered in 1976 by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. For more information, contact the center by email (include "eco-sites" in the subject line), call 402-472-3082 or visit www.unl.edu/plains.

Writer: Linda Ratcliffe, Center for Great Plains Studies, 402-472-3965

### Fall is the perfect time for EXPLORING Theodore Roosevelt National Park

	N	G	Х				Е	
Р	E			Ν		G	Х	
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### How to Solve a Sudoku Puzzle

A sudoku puzzle consists of a  $9 \times 9$ -square grid subdivided into nine  $3 \times 3$  boxes. Some of the squares contain letters. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every  $3 \times 3$  box contains each of the letters in the word **Exploring** exactly once.

Solving a Sudoku puzzle involves pure logic. No guesswork is needed—or even desirable. Getting started involves mastering just a few simple techniques.



Answer Key								
Х	Ν	d	٦	9	Ι	Е	Я	0
Ð	0	Э	Ν	d	Я	Х	Ι	٦
Я	٦	Ι	0	Х	Ξ	d	Ð	Ν
0	Ι	Я	Х	٦	Ð	Ν	d	Э
Ш	Ð	Ν	d	Я	0	٦	Х	Ι
٦	d	Х	Э	-	Ν	В	0	9
Ν	В	0	פ	Π	d	-	٦	Х
Ι	Х	פ	В	Ν	٦	0	Ξ	d
d	Э	٦	I	0	Х	פ	Ν	Я

### SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

#### 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. TRN-HA 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**

- 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.

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

#### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address _	
City	
State	Zip
Email	

#### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

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# TRNHA Newsletter

November 2012

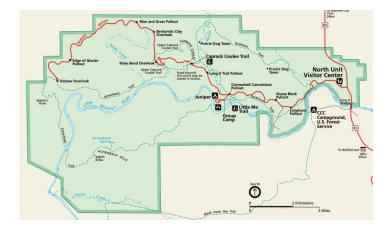
### North Unit Scenic Drive to Open in Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Repair and reconstruction of the Scenic Drive in Theodore Roosevelt National Park's North Unit has been completed and the road will reopened on Friday, October 26 at 9:00 a.m. CDT. The repair and construction of the scenic drive in the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park has been completed.

a did the the at

"We are so pleased that we are able to reopen the North Unit Scenic Drive to the public this year," said Superintendent Valerie Naylor. "The repairs have been a huge project. We encourage people to make a special trip to the North Unit this fall to enjoy the River Bend Overlook, Oxbow Overlook and wildlife before the snow flies."

Last year's wet weather caused major damage to the North Unit's Scenic Drive. The road from Caprock Coulee to Oxbow Overlook had been closed because a large section in the Cedar Canyon area had been slumping and sliding, causing considerable damage and making the road impassable. Road repairs began on August 11; the project was overseen by the Federal Highways Administration.



### Upcoming Events

	ours are will be Changing throughout September.	November 9, 2012 - Medora Wildlife Feed						
Theodore Roos South Unit	sevelt National Park 8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT	November 12, 2012 - Painted Canyon closes for the winter						
Painted Canyon	8:30 am to 4:30 pm MT November 12, 2012 closed for Winter	<b>December 7-9, 2012</b> - Medora's Old Fashion Cowboy Christmas <b>December 8, 2012 - 11:00 am -</b> TRNP & TRNHA will be hosting a						
North Unit	9:00 am to 5:30 pm CT 7 days a week Nov 12th will go to 3 days a week (Fri, Sat, Sun)	special event to announce the winner of the 2012 Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park photo contest. The ten final- ist will be on display in the South Unit visitor center.						
Knife River Ind	lian Villages NHS 8:00 am to 4:30 pm CT							
<b>Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge</b> 8:00 am - 4:30 pm CT Monday-Friday		<b>February 9, 2012</b> - Winter Outbound at Knife River Indian Villages NHS						
Theodore Roosevel <u>http://www.nps.go</u> Knife River Indian	v/thro/planyourvisit/index.htm							

### Cause & Effect

A Message from The Superintendent of Knife River Indian Villages NHS

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#### New Life for an old Building- Stanton Community Vets New Housing Option

While Knife River Indian Villages NHS and the town of Stanton are not in the middle of the Bakken development zone, the area is impacted by the housing shortage associated with the oil boom. Lack of available accommodations and high rental rates have forced temporary power plant workers to live in RVs or a great distance from their work location. It is becoming increasingly difficult for workers to find housing in central North Dakota.

Industrial Contractors, Inc. (ICI) from Bismarck is in the process of purchasing the former Stanton school to house an annual influx of trade workers. These workers arrive from across the country to work the fall and spring outages at central North Dakota power plants. ICI has been a recognized



name in the Stanton area since the 1960's. The company contracts with local power plants to provide skilled workers for the outages. Annual maintenance projects include boiler maintenance, air quality control installation, and electrical contracting.

An informational meeting was held in Stanton on October 17, with approximately 90 residents in attendance. ICI furnished detailed blueprints showing remodel alternatives. The community raised many concerns in the meeting including privacy, building security, character of the workers, parking, and longevity of the hotel. A majority of community members indicated that they support the endeavor when asked in a show of hands. Many people stated that a major business would bring in other businesses, stimulate the local economy, and rehabilitate an existing structure that has become an eyesore since the school closed in 2008.

President Lloyd Bushong assured residents that the company has a zero tolerance policy for troublemakers and most of the workers have been with the company for a long time. Mayor Ron Boyko said the town council has already discussed funding additional Mercer County Sheriff Department patrols.

The hotel would be available for Stanton area visitors when it is not needed for plant workers. The stage and kitchen areas would be available to lease as a restaurant business which may attract other new businesses. A parking lot that can accommodate 120 to 150 vehicles would surround the rear of the building where the playground is located currently. The area around the hotel would be landscaped and maintained. In addition, a privacy fence would be put to prevent nighttime light disturbance to nearby houses.

The former school housed the public library, which will be temporarily moving to the Knife River Indian Villages Heritage Foundation Seven Trails building at the north edge of town. The library will continue to offer the same services and the rental arrangement allows the friends group to maintain their building through the winter months.

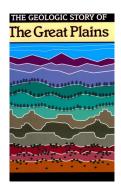
ICI is on a fast track to build for the spring outages in March. The Stanton school is an empty, available building that could be remodeled quickly and ready to house people in the spring. Construction of this hotel has the potential to be a win-win opportunity for those involved including ICI, trade workers, visitors, and future local employment. The hotel may be a solution to temporary seasonal housing for park staff during the summer months. The project will most assuredly bring unforeseen changes to Stanton that will keep residents talking. The school closing was seen as a harbinger of the decline of Stanton and many are viewing the rehabilitation of the same building as the impetus for community improvement.

### Member Only Special

### NOVEMBER'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR...

# The Geologic Story of the Great Plains

Sale Price \$5.95 (Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$5.05) Regular Price \$6.95



Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail. EXPIRES: November 30 2012

### Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site Celebrates National Archeology Day

On Saturday October 20, 2012 over forty people gathered at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site for an afternoon of special events in observation of National Archeology Day. Participants were given the rare opportunity to tour the park's extensive museum collection of natural and cultural specimens. Cultural items of interest included pieces from tools, pottery, and arrowheads collected from the site. People passed around magnifying glasses to look closely at the exquisite beadwork and leatherwork on moccasins, gloves, and clothing. Plastic bags holding various shapes, sizes, and

colors of sharpened stone tools allowed a closer look at the implements of ordinary village life. A bone fish hook, one of the more delicate and unusual



finds at the park, generated a discussion about modern methods of fishing on the local rivers. Mounted plants from the herbarium and boxes of pinned insect varieties represented the area's natural world.

A packed theater offered presentations on the results of two archeological research projects at Knife River and nearby Fort Clark conducted during the summer of 2012. These projects employed cutting edge geophysical research methods including ground penetrating radar, magnetometers, and high resolution laser guided imaging (LiDAR) that enable contemporary archeologists an opportunity to gather information without ground disturbance. Jay Sturdevant, an archeologist with the Midwest Archeological Center in Lincoln Nebraska, presented a program via interactive videoconferencing technology from Homestead National Monument. Geophysical work conducted at the three major Knife River village sites of Big Hidatsa, Sakakawea, and Lower Hidatsa displayed features that have not been seen before including fortification ditches, elevated roads, and clear earthlodge shapes outside the defined village boundaries.

Tim Reed from the State Historical Society of North Dakota shared the results from state archeologists who searched Fort Clark State Historic Site for the site of the original structure among the remnant earthlodge village and later fort features. The archeologists found a rectangular structure that appeared to be the lost first fort. Further excavation of the site included the discovery of a mid-eighteenth century butter knife and a plow head that told researchers they had the wrong location for the original fort structure. They will continue to look for the original fort in future excavations.

The archeologists shared fascinating presentations of their work with the interested crowd. This was the second annual National Archeology Day in the country and the first time that Knife River participated with an event. Stay tuned for more information on activities for National Archeology Day 2013.

### Ranger Recommends

November's featured Ranger is Joshua Bernick, supervisory visitor use assistant at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Josh came to the park in 2010 from Yosemite National Park. Josh has worked for the park service since 2005 and has worked in 6 National Parks. Josh's vast knowledge of National Parks and history make him a wonderful asset for visitors who are interested in learning more!

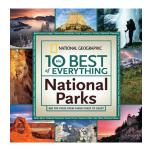
Josh recommends the book *The 10 Best of Everything National Parks: 800 Top Picks From Parks Coast to Coast* by National Geographic.

He says, "Ten Best is a book you can pick up and thumb through the pages and always find something interesting. I love the national parks and found many unusual and useful topics that I have explored and want to explore again, thanks to this book. It may be considered a coffee table book but it's more than that. It is entertaining and educational with lovely photos to boot! A National Park enthusiast must have! "

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at:

www.trnha.org

The 10 Best of Everything National Parks: 800 Top Picks From Parks Coast to Coast by National Geographic



Regular Price: \$21.95 Members Price: \$18.66

www.trnha.org

### Park's Elk Population Maintenance Program Requires Mid-Week Backcountry Closures

The National Park Service has begun the transition from elk reduction to the maintenance phase of the Elk Management Plan in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. A limited number of elk will be removed by park staff from October 30 through December 6. Volunteers will not be necessary during this phase.



The South Unit's backcountry trails will be closed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during the time elk are being removed. Roads and overlooks, as well as Cottonwood Campground, will be open daily. The four front-country trails in the South Unit - Buck Hill, Wind Canyon, Ridgeline Nature Trail, and Coal Vein Trail - will also remain open. The park's North and Elkhorn Ranch Units will not be affected. "We don't anticipate any conflicts between the elk management team and the public, " said Superintendent Valerie Naylor. "However, safety is always our top concern, so we are closing the backcountry for three days per week when elk removals are taking place."

The park completed an elk collaring operation in September and a recent population count by staff biologists indicated that between 215 and 300 elk reside in the park's South Unit. The park is proceeding cautiously with the maintenance phase, as elk populations are more difficult to estimate at lower levels. Based on repeated survey results, it was determined that a limited reduction would be necessary this year to ensure that future population growth remains within the target range of 100-400 animals, as specified in the Elk Management Plan.

Meat from the animals taken during the maintenance phase will be packed out of the park and donated to local American Indian tribes and Sportsman Against Hunger through the North Dakota Community Action Partnership, in much the same way it has been done in the last two years, though the quantity will be substantially less.

More information about the Elk Management Plan is available on the park's website at www.nps.gov/thro.



### Fall-in-the Field Photography Workshop

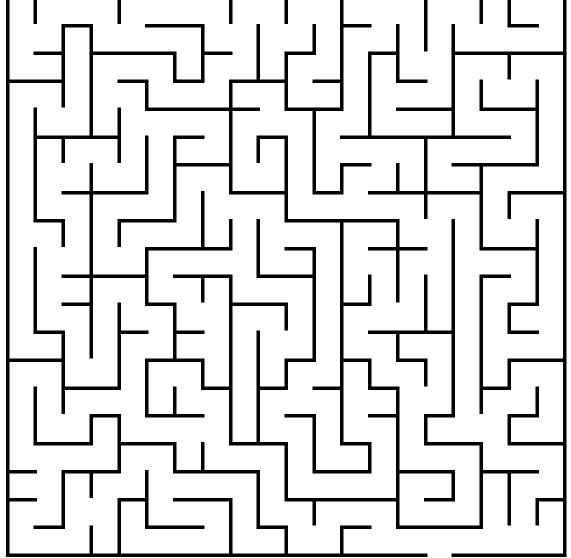
On a sunny, fall day in late September, 22 participants attended the ninth annual photography workshop at Knife River Indian Villages NHS.. The workshop was lead by Fawn Fettig of New Town. She is a member of the Three Affiliate Tribes and recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Graphic Design Technology from UND and works as the Website Designer for the Three Affiliated Tribes. Her passion for photography is evident as she takes her camera everywhere she goes.

Fawn shared some of her images with the participants, and then encouraged them to head out into the field to take photos. Participants shared their images with the audience. Fawn gave tips and suggestions on how to improve the artistic value of their images. The dates for the 2013 workshops are Saturday, May 11 and Saturday, September 28. Mark your calendars and join us for one or both of the workshops.



Help the Turkeys survive Thanksgiving by getting in the Park!







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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

🗆 Renewal

### What type of membership?

🗖 Ir	ndividual	\$20.00
🗖 Fa	amily	\$30.00
	ontributing	\$75.00
Π Sι	upporting	\$250.00

#### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name	
Address	
City	
State	Zip
Email	

#### **New & Renewing Member Offer**

With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



I want to take advantage of the tote bag offer. I have enclosed a payment of \$11.95. (\$9.95 + \$2.00 Shipping )

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

Print and mail in this form to become a member today!

## TRNHA Newsletter

### December 2012

### Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park

America's National Parks are world renown for possessing some of the most compelling historical and natural environments ever captured on film. With an incredible combination of wildlife and scenic landscapes Theodore Roosevelt National Park is one of America's best. The park has teamed up with Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association to bring you a beautiful glimpse into what the park has to offer. Visitors were asked to submit their best photos of the park to the Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park photo contest. Over 50 photos were submitted and the winning photo will be featured on the 2013 annual park pass.

The National Park Service and Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association are pleased to announce that we have narrowed it down to 10 finalists. The winner will be announced during Medora's 17th Annual Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas festivities.

We invite you to join us as we recognize the finalists and announce the winner at 11:00 am on December 8th in the Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit Visitor Center in Medora. The top ten photos will be on display in the South Unit visitor center throughout the weekend. All finalists receive a signed certificate of appreciation from the park superintendent. Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association will award the top 4 finalists with prizes they have donated. Hope to see you there!



### Upcoming Events

Theodore	Roosevelt National Park
South Unit	8:00 am - 4:30 pm MT

- Painted Canyon Closed for Winter
- North Unit 9:00 am to 5:30 pm CT Fri, Sat, Sun

Knife River Indian Villages NHS 8:00 am to 4:30 pm CT

Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge 8:00 am - 4:30 pm CT Monday-Friday

For a schedule of Interpretive programs offered visit: Theodore Roosevelt National Park <u>http://www.nps.gov/thro/planyourvisit/index.htm</u>

Knife River Indian Villages NHS <u>http://www.nps.gov/knri/parknews/index.htm</u>

#### December 7-9, 2012 - Medora's Old Fashion Cowboy Christmas

**December 8, 2012 - 11:00 am -**TRNP & TRNHA will be hosting a special event to announce the winner of the 2012 Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park photo contest. The ten finalist will be on display in the South Unit visitor center.

**December 16, 2012 - 8:00 am MST –**Audubon Christmas Bird Count TRNP South Unit . Volunteers needed call 701-623-4466

**December 22, 2012 –8:30 am CST–** Audubon Christmas Bird Count TRNP North Unit. Volunteers needed call 701-623-4466

**February 9, 2012** - Winter Outbound at Knife River Indian Villages NHS

### Cause & Effect

A Message from The Superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Everyday North Dakota's National Parks face challenges or changes that directly effect the parks and their visitors. However those who support, visit, and work in or near the parks might not realize the effects, both positive and negative, these events have on the park. We have decided to dedicate this section of our newsletter to focus on these "Causes and Effects". Please feel free to share your comments or concerns with North Dakota's parks and the TRNHA staff by sending an e-mail to: info@trnha.org.

#### The Lone Prairie - With a Cell Tower?

For years, I avoided much cell phone use because I detest cell phones. I do not dislike them for the usual reasons - ringing in the middle of the symphony, people talking loudly in restaurants, constant interruptions. I dislike cell phones because I love wide, unencumbered Great Plains views. It's hard to feel alone on the lone prairie with a blinking light or 200 foot tower in view. Today I usually carry two cell phones, and like most of you, I depend on them. But I have not given up on my prairie views. We are doing our best to minimize and mitigate impacts of cell towers on the North Dakota National Parks.

When the large cell tower (now ATT) was built above Medora, there was much controversy and a lawsuit by the Federal Communications Commission which eventually ended in a settlement. As a result of the settlement, the tower was painted greenish instead of silver and the antennas were mounted flush with the

tower, instead of on a triangular platform at the top. In 2004, Verizon worked with the park and TR Medora Foundation to minimize the number of towers on the landscape by co-locating their equipment on the park's South Unit radio tower and also on the Pitchfork Fondue shelter near the Medora Musical. Now Verizon is looking at options for removing a small tower above Medora while upgrading antennas to 4G. The antennas on the park tower will also be upgraded to 4G.

There is also a proposal for a new cell tower near the North Unit. Originally, it was slated to be on private land within the North Unit, but we encouraged Verizon to move it just outside the boundary. GIS An-

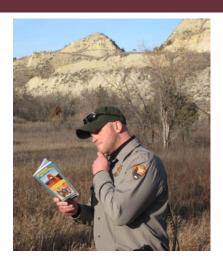


alyst Chad Sexton ran viewshed analysis of the tower at different heights, so I can determine what height the park can accept. Fortunately, the company is working with us on this tower.

At KNRI, we recently mitigated one proposed tower that would have been visible from the park. The company agreed to move it farther to the east where it blends nicely with a tall coal plant smokestack. Another proposal for a tower near Stanton is now sitting on Superintendent Ross's desk.

We all value our cell phone service, but increased activity around the parks is creating a need for more and more infrastructure, including cell towers, on the landscape. There is encouraging technology being developed that may reduce the need for towers. Many of us will look forward to new technology so that we can have our cell phones and wide open spaces as well.

~Valerie Naylor



December's featured Ranger is Stewart Preston, District Law Enforcement Ranger in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Stewart has worked for the

### Ranger Recommends

National Park Service since 2004, starting out his career as a Visitor Use Assistant. In addition to TRNP Stewart has worked at Yosemite National Park. Grand Teton National Park, and Bryce Canyon National Park. His love for exploration has made him a great steward for the National Park Service.

Stewart recommends the book *Outdoor Navigation with a GPS* by Stephen W. Hinch. He says, "Outdoor enthusiasts have long used maps and a compass to navigate their way through the backcountry and wilderness settings. But as technologies have changed, the way we interact with our world has changed. The Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver has changed the way many outdoor adventurers reach their destination and return safely. This guide will teach you how to use and get the most out of your GPS receiver. With years of experience using and teaching others how to use GPS receivers, I would recommend this book for teaching the basics of navigation and the use of outdoor GPS receivers.

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at:

#### www.trnha.org

Outdoor Navigation with a GPS by Stephen W. Hinch Regular Price: \$16.95 Member Price: \$14.41

### Christmas Bird Counts Scheduled

The 2012 Christmas Bird Counts have been scheduled for Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The Medora/South Unit Count will be on Sunday, December 16, starting at 8 am MST. The North Unit Count will be on Saturday, December 22, starting at 8:30 am CST.

The counts are part of events all over the continent, sponsored by the National Audubon Society.

This will be the 36th year for the South Unit count, and the 31st year for the North Unit count. As in past years, the park will coordinate the counts and hopes to get numerous volunteers to assist in counting birds on those days. All interested persons are encouraged to assist regardless of bird identification skills. It is helpful to have drivers, bird spotters, bird counters, and data recorders along with those actually identifying the birds.

The TRNHA has always been a sponsor of the park's Christmas Bird Counts. In the past, the National Audubon Society levied a fee of \$5 per participant for Christmas Bird Counts, and those fees have come from TRNHA funds. This has prevented the volunteers for having to pay for their time volunteering for the counts, and has spread much goodwill among the participants. In addition, TRNHA has often supported the counts with hot chocolate and snacks for when the counters come into the park visitor centers to regroup or warm up.

This year, the National Audubon Society has changed its policy and has suspended fees for the Christmas Bird Counts, so the funds that would have been paid by TRNHA can be directed to other high priority needs. However, there will still be hot chocolate and snacks available for those who participate in the bird counts.

If you have questions about the counts, or want to participate, contact Superintendent Valerie Naylor, the count compiler, at 701-623-4466. We hope for a good turnout this year!

#### Rare Sightings in Theodore Roosevelt National Park



#### **Red-bellied Woodpecker**

Spotted: 7/3/2011 When: TRNHA's Annual Birdwalk Where: Cottonwood Campground

#### Description

**Size & Shape:** A sleek, round-headed woodpecker, about the same size as a Hairy Woodpecker but without the blocky outlines.

**Color Pattern:** Often appears pale overall, even the boldly black-and-white striped back, with flashing red cap and nape. Look for white patches near the wingtips as this bird flies.

**Behavior:** Look for Red-bellied Woodpeckers hitching along branches and trunks of medium to large trees, picking at the bark surface more often than drilling into it. Like most woodpeckers, these birds have a characteristic undulating flight pattern.

**Habitat:** Red-bellied Woodpeckers are common in many Eastern woodlands and forests, from old stands of oak and hickory to young hardwoods and pines. They will also often venture from forests to appear at backyard feeders.

#### **Long-eared Owl**

Spotted: 1/2/2010 When: Christmas Bird Count Where: South Unit

#### Description

Long-eared Owls are brownish-gray, medium-sized owls with long ear-tufts, hence the name. They have distinctive rufous-orange facial disks. They are mostly gray above, with dark and russet patches at each wrist, conspicuous in flight. Below, wings are mostly buff, and the patches at the wrists are dark. Long-eared owls are barred and streaked with dark brown and rufous on their breasts and bellies. In flight they can be hard to tell from the closely related Short-eared owls, except by behavior and habitat.



### Share Your Love for National Parks this Year!

#### Give the Gift of Membership!

Show your support for Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Knife River Indian Villages NHS, and Upper Souris NWR by giving the gift that keeps on giving!

#### □ Yes I would like to give the gift of membership

#### **Type of Membership**

Individual - \$20.00
Family - \$30.00
Contributing - \$75.00

□ Supporting - \$250.00

#### **Recipient Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address —

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address

#### **Purchaser Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRHNA) PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645 www.trnha.org - 701-623-4884

### Member Only Special

DECEMBER'S MEMBER ONLY COUPON IS FOR....

#### An Additional 5% OFF all purchases

(For a total of 20% off your entire purchase)

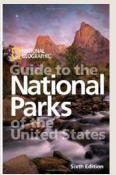
Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail.

EXPIRES: December 31, 2012

#### Theodore Roosevelt National Park Holiday Ornament \$7.99



#### National Geographic Guide to National Parks of the United States \$26.00

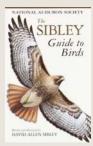


The guide opens with an essay by Yellowstone authority Paul Schullery, a section on how to use the guide, and a national locator map. The parks are presented alphabetically region by region, with individual maps and geographical profiles. Colorfully illustrated descriptions offer tours tailored to the time available, whether it's an hour or a week, and tell visitors the best spots to enjoy hikes, spectacular vistas, wildlife, and more.

### Sibley Guide to Birds by: David Allen Sibley

\$39.95

David Allen Sibley, America's most gifted contemporary painter of birds, is the author and illustrator of this comprehensive guide. His beautifully detailed illustrations—more than 6,600 in all—and descriptions of 810 species and 350 regional populations will enrich every birder's experience.



#### First Snow in the Woods by: Carl R Sams II & Jean Stoick \$19.95



Readers are taken on a beautiful photographic journey deep into the autumn woods as the animals of the forest get ready for the year's first winter storm. They hear the cries from the great gray owl who came down from the far north carrying the warning, "Winter is coming early this year! Prepare."

### TRNHA Board of Directors



**Fiscal Year 2013 Board of Directors** Left to Right: Jan Dodge, Pat Cochran, Ann Fischer, Douglas Walker, Jil Baird, Debbie Rodne, Barbara Handy-Marchello Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association is pleased to announce the results of its 2012 Board of Directors election. The newly elected board members took their seat on the board at the annual board meeting on November 17th. A big thank you to all the members of TRNHA who helped make this decision by returning their ballots.

President Pat Cochran, New England, ND Vice President Ann Fischer, Rhame, ND Secretary/Treasurer Barbara Handy-Marchello, Bismarck, ND Member Jil Baird, Dickinson, ND Member Jan Dodge, Keene, ND Member Debbie Rodne, Medora, ND Member Douglas Walker, Dickinson, ND

### Farwell Jane!

As a chapter closes in your life, and a new one starts for you, may your years be filled with all the things you're looking forward to!



### Event at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site



The 2013 calendar for Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site will have be different from previous years. Last year the park held the final Northern Plains Indian Culture Fest. We are going to keep the spirit of the fest weekend alive through a series of events throughout the year.

The annual Winter Outbound Adventure is scheduled for Saturday, February 9, 2013. This activity is presented in partnership with the State Historical Society of North Dakota. There will be a flint knapping event on June 22 and a music event on July 27. *Hands on History,* a new series of programs, will be held on August 17. The public will learn about early traditional weapons and have an opportunity to try their hand at atlatls, bows & arrows, and other early weapons. Also included in the *Hands on History* series will be programs on beading, quillwork and pottery.

The popular Spring Photography-in-the-Field workshop will be on Saturday, May 11, while the fall workshop has been scheduled for Saturday, September 28.

Annual Kid's Camp events are scheduled for July 9, 16, 23, and 30. Children ages 6 to 12 can participate in activities surrounding a different theme each week. Preregistration is required to ensure a spot in Kid's Camp.

Additional events and activities will be shared in this newsletter as dates and details are finalized. For more information, please call the park at 701-745-3300.

### Winter Word Find

S	I	Η	Т	R	L	Ζ	Ρ	I	Х	Ρ	D	С	W	G	D	0	S	М	W	D	S	Ι	D	В	D	М	Ζ	S	Η	S	Е	Ρ	S	L	R	Η	F	K	L
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R	v	G	W	D	Н	R	S	A	Х	K	J	Ζ	V	Ρ	A	R	Z	R	М	W	М	В	S	U	F	F	С	G	L	W	Н	R	G	Т	W	F	В	Ν	E
N	С	С	W	В	I	Х	В	С	Ρ	R	K	D	S	J	Y	Н	М	Ζ	v	Х	Ρ	I	V	F	Н	D	Е	L	S	В	0	0	0	D	S	Е	0	G	D
R	М	I	S	W	0	Т	М	S	М	Ζ	0	Ν	I	Ρ	Ε	М	С	Q	D	S	Y	L	L	L	U	Ι	A	Ν	Z	0	W	R	Ρ	В	Т	L	Ζ	В	В
Q	v	D	L	С	U	A	М	Y	Ζ	В	0	S	Ν	0	W	F	A	L	L	В	R	Е	0	G	K	В	S	Е	Х	U	S	I	Е	A	J	W	0	I	Т
J	М	Y	W	F	J	F	R	S	D	W	R	D	0	В	Ν	С	L	F	Е	Ζ	Е	Η	G	W	W	Х	Ν	W	Z	Ν	Н	М	K	V	S	I	G	S	С
S	L	Ε	Е	Т	S	W	A	D	F	Т	D	Т	Е	В	С	K	В	J	Z	S	Ρ	D	S	0	D	М	0	W	0	D	0	S	I	Ζ	I	A	Z	М	Ν
N	D	Х	K	K	С	М	Т	L	Q	Ζ	Ν	A	М	W	0	Ν	S	М	Е	С	Ρ	Х	Ν	L	R	В	W	Ν	0	D	Е	Q	S	I	Х	Η	Z	Х	М
Ρ	Т	G	R	J	0	Т	A	Ρ	0	K	S	Ν	0	W	S	Н	0	V	Е	L	I	S	G	Η	U	J	Y	S	F	Ν	V	Т	Т	Т	K	Ν	S	С	Y
K	v	М	Н	Z	Ρ	K	A	М	Ρ	R	Η	J	С	V	С	J	Х	С	Ν	Η	L	W	L	Ρ	S	S	V	F	S	S	S	Х	Х	0	Y	G	Y	I	F
Х	S	A	K	W	Е	М	V	R	D	Q	U	W	W	Ζ	М	W	W	K	S	н	S	М	G	v	N	K	Н	L	G	G	0	L	G	U	Ν	A	Ν	D	G
T	V	В	G	S	D	Т	Т	W	Y	Q	F	J	В	Ν	В	K	J	V	W	A	Х	Н	J	J	0	0	Е	F	I	0	Ν	0	М	Ρ	С	S	0	D	Ρ
I	U	K	Y	Y	W	Q	J	т	0	н	С	L	Е	V	W	L	Q	G	Η	J	L	J	S	U	F	D	G	В	Ε	D	W	Q	I	L	D	М	В	S	W

SHIVER	SNEEZE	SNOWMAN
SHOWSHOE	SNIFFLE	SNOWPLOW
SKATE	SNOW	SNOWSHOVEL
SKI	SNOWBALL	SNOWSTORM
SLED	SNOWBOARD	SNOWY
SLEET	SNOWBOUND	SOLSTICE
SLIPPERY	SNOWFALL	STORM
SLUSH	SNOWFLAKE	



### SUPPORT YOUR PARKS BY BECOMING A MEMBER

#### 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. TRN-HA 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

- 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.

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

### Are you a new or renewing member?

□ New

🗆 Renewal

### What type of membership?

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

### **Tell Us About Yourself**

Name		
Address		
City		
State	Zip	
Email		

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With your purchase of a new or renewing membership you can buy our Theodore Roosevelt National Park tote bag for just: \$9.95 (reg. \$19.95)



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