



## “Gateway To Greatness”

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Introducing...

Volunteers  
Remembered

Thanks



*These renderings show the Site as it appears today and a concept of how it will look when the bank building is demolished and the historic landscape is restored.*

The TR Site has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to complete its master plan by restoring the historic property to its original boundaries and landscape at the time of Roosevelt’s 1901 inauguration...thanks to the generosity of Bank of America!

The Bank is donating the neighboring 6,500 sq. ft. parcel that includes a closed branch bank and drive-through from Delaware Avenue into the rear parking lot. The TR Site Foundation has recently launched an \$800,000 capital campaign to underwrite demolition of the bank building and restoration of the historic landscape.

The extensive benefits to the community and TR Site include: enhancing the TR Site’s visibility and access; creating a Delaware Avenue entrance for cars to an expanded parking lot; redesigning the parking lot to accommodate school and tour busses for safe drop off of children and seniors at the universally accessible Carriage House entrance. Additionally, it will improve the streetscape for all who walk or drive on Delaware Avenue in the Allentown Preservation District by bringing back green lawn and trees and return the property to the stately setting befitting WNY’s only National Park Service location while protecting it from the possibility of any future encroachment. It is estimated that the project will contribute to a 5% annual increase in the TR Site’s visitation and earned income through 2016.

Further updates on the project schedule, as well as opportunities to support the “Gateway To Greatness” capital campaign are forthcoming. Please join in the excitement as the TR Site takes another giant step in preserving and protecting this important local and national landmark, and strengthening its role as one of WNY’s premier heritage tourism attractions.

Published by the  
Theodore Roosevelt  
Inaugural  
Site Foundation

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[www.trsite.org](http://www.trsite.org)

# Message from the Foundation President

## “GATEWAY TO GREATNESS” CAMPAIGN WILL ENSURE ATTAINMENT OF GROWTH AND PROGRAMMING GOALS

This year is shaping up to be pivotal in terms of the future of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site. It is an extremely busy time for staff and volunteers alike as we position the Site for future sustainability and growth. I thought it might be of interest to our *Bullytin* readers to update you briefly on the single most important initiative currently underway, that has the potential to catapult our institution into the ranks of the **premier** heritage tourism destinations in Western New York.

By now, most of you are probably aware of our once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to complete the Site’s Master Plan and restore our property to its original 1901 configuration. Thanks to the generosity of Bank of America, the tireless work of our Executive Director, Molly Quackenbush, and the leadership and talent of our board (especially Trustees Larry Seymour, Jake Schneider, Karen Gaughan Scott, Maureen Saab, and George Bellows), our “Gateway to Greatness” Campaign has made significant progress.

Our early fundraising efforts, begun in November of last year, have resulted already in several gifts from area foundations. To date, Trustees have made commitments of more than \$100,000 toward our \$1 million goal. And, on April 24, representatives of the Site will make a presentation to members of the 21st Century Fund, a group of individual area philanthropists established some years ago through the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. We will be competing for \$100,000 with three other very worthy local non-profits. If we are successful, the funds will be used for the remediation and demolition of the mid-century bank building that now stands on a 6500-square foot parcel of land on the southwest corner of the historic Wilcox property.

The capital campaign includes an \$800,000 allocation to demolish the building, cover carrying costs, and restore the

landscape to its original appearance. The project will provide improved access through a Delaware Avenue entryway to greatly expanded parking, markedly enhance our visibility from Delaware Avenue, and return valuable green space to the community. The impact of this investment will enrich the Delaware Avenue experience for all, heighten awareness and visitor appreciation of Roosevelt’s inaugural setting, and contribute to continued attendance and revenue growth.

Our fundraising goal also includes a \$200,000 allotment to launch and help sustain a contemporary citizenship initiative. This endeavor will enlighten and engage our Western New York community in learning and conversation about the major challenges which faced Roosevelt as president and with which we continue to grapple today: environmental conservation, immigration and urban poverty, race and social inequities, big business and labor, and the U.S. role in global affairs.

Growth and relevance have been institutional objectives since 2006, when we initiated a \$3.7 million campaign to construct a universally accessible visitor center and event gallery and create a groundbreaking 21st century visitor experience utilizing interactive technology. Our success in that effort has led to impressive increases in critical benchmarks such as admissions and group tour income, rentals, memberships, and special events profits since the Site’s re-opening in 2009. With the continued support of individual and institutional funders throughout Western New York and beyond, we anticipate that the next chapter of our campaigning for capital and the demolition of the Bank of America building will guarantee continued revenue growth and enhanced programming for years to come.

**STANTON H. HUDSON, JR.**

PRESIDENT

THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL SITE FOUNDATION



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## TR Site in the Finals for \$100,000!

The TR Site's *Gateway To Greatness* project (see article on front cover) has made it to the final round of a biennial competition of the **21st Century Fund**, a fund of the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. As one of four finalists, Site representatives will present our exciting project to restore the property's historic 1901 footprint and landscape at a meeting of 21st Century Fund members on April 24. Winner takes all, with one organization awarded a \$100,000 grant that evening. **If you are a member of the 21st Century Fund, please consider supporting the Site by attending the meeting or voting by absentee ballot.** ([www.cfgb.org](http://www.cfgb.org)) Thank You!

## Dressing for Tea

Enjoy a spring fling at the TR Site on Wednesday, May 16th! The Costume Resource Center will present a special program, Dressing for Tea. This fascinating glimpse at the elegant fashions of the first four decades of the 20th century features all the luxurious underpinnings, dresses, hats and accessories that went into the perfect, in-style ensemble for afternoon tea. A Victorian-inspired Champagne Tea will complete the memorable experience. The event will begin at 12 noon in the TR Site's Carriage House gallery. The cost is \$25 per person. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Please call 884-0095 to reserve.

## 2012 Behind-the-Scenes Tour Schedule Announced

*"Excellent – informative, interesting & entertaining"*

*"[The curator's] enthusiasm . . . is so apparent and contagious!"*

*"Wonderful opportunity – thank you!"*

Building upon last year's success, the TR Site's nationally recognized Behind-the-Scenes tour series is back! Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to get "up close" and enjoy some of the TR Site's rarely seen artifacts. Curator Lenora Henson leads each theme-based tour and shares lots of interesting stories and anecdotes.

**Wednesday, April 18th - 10:00AM & 1:30PM**

The 5 W's: Who, What, When, Where & WILCOX

**Wednesday, June 20th - 1:30PM & 5:30PM**

Souvenirs & Stories from Buffalo's Pan-Am Expo

**Monday, August 20th - 1:30PM**

The 5 W's: Who, What, When, Where & WILCOX

**Tuesday, November 6th - 10:00AM & 1:30PM**

Theodore Roosevelt: Tales & Treasures

All tours last approximately 1½ hours and are limited to 10 people. Participants will receive a coupon good for a "standard" guided tour of the TR Site (\$10 value).

\$15 TR Site Members/\$25 Non-Members

Pre-paid reservations required. Sorry, no refunds.

Reservations can be made anytime by calling (716) 884-0095.



Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation Board President Stanton H. Hudson, Jr. (at left) is greeted warmly by President Theodore Roosevelt (as portrayed by Joe Wiegand) at the 2011 Anniversary and Awards Dinner.

# Generous Donors Enable the TR Site to Expand Pan-Am Collection

Last summer, the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site learned that an outstanding collection of memorabilia from Buffalo's 1901 Pan-American Exposition – painstakingly acquired and preserved over a lifetime by a private collector – was going up for sale. Further, the TR Site was granted a limited window in which to purchase items from this remarkable collection at fair market value, without the risk of being outbid at auction.

Hoping to take advantage of this unique opportunity, the Site's Curator identified approximately (30) items that would meaningfully enhance the TR Site's existing Pan-American Exposition collection and provide exciting opportunities for future programming and exhibitions. Soon thereafter, a month-long campaign was launched to raise the \$1,000 that would allow the TR Site to buy those thirty items. The response was overwhelming! Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of TR Site friends and donors, the initiative actually raised **more than two thousand dollars!!**

Fortunately, the original collection of Pan-Am memorabilia was extensive and the TR Site easily expanded its Wish List to accommodate the incredible kindness of its benefactors. Among the nearly 75 exciting objects that were recently added to the TR Site's collection are:

- a formal invitation to Dedication Day ceremonies, which included remarks by then-Vice President Theodore Roosevelt
- various examples of "ruby flash" glassware
- a bell made out of "brass...recovered from the wreck of the Maine"



The engraving on the handle of this bell marks it as having been made of brass salvaged from the wreck of the U.S.S. Maine, the destruction of which triggered the Spanish-American War.

- several stereograph and lantern slide images
- pins, programs and other items commemorating events such as "Buffalo Day," "Lumberman Week" and "YMCA Day"
- a catalogue of material sold by the company responsible for dismantling the exposition

These new acquisitions – as well as other donations made to the historic collection during 2011 – were highlighted in a recent exhibit at the TR Site called *It May Be Old . . . But, It's NEW To Us!*



A magic lantern slide of the Ethnology Building at the Pan-American Exposition.



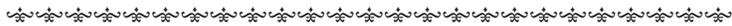
A pair of painted souvenir Pan-American Exposition spoons.

## TR Site Celebrates Women's History Month with the YWCA

March is Women's History Month and the TR Site is pleased to be hosting an exhibit by the YWCA of Western New York to mark the occasion. Called "The House that YWCA Built," the exhibit tells the regional history of the local YWCA through its architecture. Of interest will be just how many locations the YWCA has called home over the past 120+ years, not to mention the different activities and types of work the YWCA has sponsored in the Buffalo area. The YWCA is also opening up its archives for the exhibit and will be displaying a number of fascinating never-before-seen objects that help to tell its story.

And, for those of you who were wondering...there is, of course, a Theodore Roosevelt connection! Did you know that TR was so impressed with the work that the YWCA did during World War I that he designated \$4,000 of his Nobel Peace Prize winnings to be disbursed according to the wishes of one of the organization's leaders?

"The House that YWCA Built" will be open throughout the months of March and April; it closes on Sunday, April 29th. You will also want to check out the accompanying article that will appear in the April/May issue of Western New York Heritage magazine.



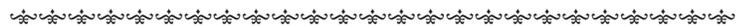
Several representatives of the TR Site attended the Theodore Roosevelt Association annual meeting in Dickinson and Medora, North Dakota in October, 2011. Attending the unveiling of a statue of TR are: (l.-r., Ed Kuzan, Asst. Dir. Janice Kuzan, Exec. Dir. Molly Quackenbush, Curator Lenora Henson, Trustee Shirley Hudders, Volunteer Tom Loncto).

## Aid Brings Boys and Girls Club of Buffalo to Site



Boys and Girls Club members explore the globe in the President's office.

During 2011, a generous donation by a member of the TR Site Board of Trustees allowed more than 100 children from the **Boys and Girls Clubs of Buffalo** to visit the Site. The Club has been serving the youth of Buffalo since 1926 by providing a safe environment and programming to build self-confidence, character, and effective life skills. Created to focus particularly upon disadvantaged children, the Club seeks to provide children with the skills and opportunities needed for future success in adult life. We believe TR would applaud the Boys and Girls Club's efforts to build character among the community's youth, as well as the generous donor who funded their visit!



## NPS Grant Brings Buffalo Children to Site

In 2011, the TR Inaugural Site was pleased to be awarded a **National Park Service** transportation grant provided by its Northeast Region Interpretation and Education Office. This funding was specifically to be used to provide transportation that would allow youth from underserved audiences the chance to experience place-based learning in a national park site. Through the resulting \$2,600 grant, 300 area youth from the **Buffalo Public School District** and the **Child and Adolescent Treatment Center** who otherwise would not have been able to visit were able to attend and experience the TR Inaugural Site. Thanks for the opportunity, NPS!

# National Trust Conference – A Huge Success

For both Western New York and the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site, October's National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference was a resounding success. The conference set a record for attendance, attracting more than 2500 registrants who took part in tours and programs throughout the region.



More than 700 people visited the TR Site through bus tours, walking tours, meetings and receptions. Site staff, trustees and volunteers stepped up in force to greet visitors and share the Site's history and new tour experience. A TR Site team also presented a very well-received education program for more than 100 conference attendees at the Convention Center on the topic, "The Historic House Museum for the 21st Century – Introducing New Approaches for Engagement & Relevancy." In addition, TR representatives helped man the National Park Service's information booth in the Exhibition Hall, served as airport greeters, as well as docents for the Conference's Candlelight House Tour.

It was an amazing week that will long be remembered. Thanks to all who helped make it happen!



*During the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2011 annual conference held in Buffalo, Buffalo Seminary students were costumed in period fashions provided by the TR Site's Costume Resource Center for the candlelight tour of homes.*

# Naturalizations at the TR Site

It seems only fitting that new citizens of the United States should take their oath of citizenship at the TR Inaugural Site, which is inherently associated with the taking of an oath. It is further appropriate that they should begin their citizenship in a branch of the National Park Service, which exists to serve and educate the citizenry, and that they should do so in a location which played a pivotal role in the history of the nation to which they now pledge their loyalty.

The TR Site has long served as a host location for naturalization ceremonies. For the past ten years, the ceremony has been combined with a reenactment of Roosevelt's 1901 Buffalo inauguration and has taken place in September to commemorate the anniversary of TR's inauguration, as well as during Presidents' Week in February.

We are proud to say that 25 new citizens from 19 different nations became citizens at the Site in September, 2011, and another 26 from 19 nations took their oaths of citizenship here in February, 2012. The Site is appreciative of its ongoing collaboration with U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services and for the assistance of the League of Women Voters, the International Institute, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Erie County American Legion Auxiliary, the Friends of Harmony, the U.S. Passport Agency, and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York in helping to make this semi-annual event possible. Additional thanks to the Hon. Leslie G. Foschio and the Hon. William M. Skretny, who presided, and to the many Site volunteers who assisted.

Our congratulations to our nation's new citizens as they embark upon their lives as Americans!



*Gathering following the February 2012 naturalization and reenactment ceremony are: (l. -r., Edward Newman and M. Frances Holmes of U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, TR Site Exec. Director Molly Quackenbush and the Honorable William M. Skretny).*

# TR Goes Online!

The Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University (North Dakota) has been undertaking a massive project for several years now to digitize as many Theodore Roosevelt-related artifacts and documents as possible and collect them in a single on-line source. At last, the results are taking shape as a huge trove of TR-related material. The TR Center's website explains:

"Unlike modern presidents, Theodore Roosevelt does not have a presidential library. Instead, his personal and presidential papers are scattered in libraries and other sites across the United States. The mission of the Theodore Roosevelt Center is to gather together and digitize copies of all Roosevelt-related items, to make his legacy more readily accessible to scholars and schoolchildren, enthusiasts and interested citizens. Items in the digital library include

correspondence to and from Roosevelt, diary entries, notes, political cartoons, scrapbooks, newspaper columns and magazine articles by and about Roosevelt, speeches, and photographs. Users can also view film clips and listen to audio recordings."

This will prove an enormous resource for researchers by providing access for untold numbers of artifacts and documents normally not on public display. It will also eventually serve as a sort of central clearinghouse, gathering TR-related information from dozens of widely scattered sites. The TR Inaugural Site has been participating in the process by digitizing items in the Site's collection for on-line availability. Check out the TR Center's great, and growing, new website at <http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/>



## 2011 Anniversary and Awards Dinner

*At the Site's Anniversary and Awards Dinner on Sept. 14, 2011, Lt. Cheryl Rucinski of the Cheektowaga P.D. was awarded the Theodore Roosevelt Association (TRA) Police Award for WNY. (l. -r., TRA Executive Director Terry Brown, TRA President Tweed Roosevelt, Lt. Rucinski, and TR Site Foundation Trustee Lawrence D. Seymour representing Roosevelt & Cross, Inc., the award sponsor.)*



*M&T Bank representatives, joined by "TR," enjoyed the Anniversary & Awards Dinner at which M&T was honored with the Theodore Roosevelt Award for Exemplary Citizenship and Service. M&T Bank President Mark Czarnecki (not pictured) accepted the award.*



*The Buffalo Public School District's East High Panthers Vocal Ensemble provided a stirring rendition of the National Anthem for the Site's September Anniversary & Awards Dinner.*

# Victorian Christmas

Once again, heartiest congratulations are in order! Victorian Christmas 2011 was a fantastic event – the second most successful in our history. Every inch of the Site was filled with the sights, sounds and feelings of our favorite Victorian Christmas traditions and our newest additions – the Holiday Mix and Mingle and Girls Night Out – provided the perfect new twist we try to include each year. Bravo to the Victorian Christmas committee and all our volunteers for the countless hours of careful planning and special teamwork that made this such a stellar event. As always, we send a very special thanks to the Eighth District Federated Garden Clubs of New York State for their generous and enthusiastic support of Victorian Christmas. All in all, another banner year and high expectations for 2012!



*The efforts of Victorian Christmas co-chairs Jerry Sullivan and Donna and Dick Hughes helped ensure another successful event.*

Many thanks to the culinary experts who made Victorian Christmas a gourmet delight this year –

James Carlo  
Trocaire College – Russell J. Salvatore School of  
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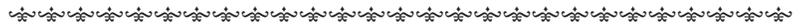
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# Volunteers Fondly Remembered

The Site will truly miss several dedicated volunteers who passed away in 2011, **Frank Rizzo**, **Dorothy Schaertel**, **Emily Carestio**, and **Margaret Paul**. Frank signed on to be a docent in 1994 and devoted himself to sharing the TR story with children and adults. He chaired the Docent Committee for many years but perhaps is better known for his portrayal of Judge John Hazel in the Site's annual reenactment of TR's inauguration. Dorothy joined our volunteer family in 1995 and devoted her time and talent to the Craft Committee. As committee chair, she enthusiastically led the group with creative projects that always proved to be best sellers in the Victorian Christmas boutique. Emily joined the Site's volunteer corps in 1982 and served for more than 30 years. In addition to serving as a long-time member and chair of the Garden Committee (often with husband Michael at her side), she also regularly modeled fashions for the Costume Resource Center. Marg was a very early volunteer, beginning in 1980 and serving well into the 21st century, when she left her post as co-chair of the Research Committee. Even after moving out of the area, Marg could still be relied on to notify us of new information related to TR. The incredible spirit and caring ways of these special volunteers will always be remembered.



*Eileen Hanavan was one of several models displaying historic fashions during Victorian Christmas.*



*The Racing Presidents, mascots of the Washington Nationals baseball team, visited Buffalo and appeared at an August Buffalo Bisons game. "TR" insisted they stop by the TR Inaugural Site while they were in town.*



*David and Susan English assisting at volunteer appreciation night.*



*Jim and Marlene Maloney (at left) of Tuscany on Main hosted a gourmet oil tasting as one of the special events at Victorian Christmas 2011. Here Mary Ellen Glynn (at right) and other guests sample the delicacies.*

## Delaware North's Kevin Kelly Joins Foundation Board

For Kevin Kelly, a new trustee of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation, it was an easy decision to become involved in the stewardship of this historic destination.

Kelly is president of Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts – the division of the Buffalo-headquartered global hospitality company that operates at plenty of such places, including the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, Yosemite and other national parks, and its own portfolio of resort hotels in the United States, Canada and Australia.

Kelly also built his impressive hospitality management career with positions for Delaware North at the space center and Yosemite, where he once served as chief operating officer, as well as at several other parks and historic sites prior to joining the company in 1996.

"I have such a strong appreciation and passion for these special places that it's in my blood to become involved with them and the people who share my interest in their stewardship," Kelly said. "That's why I'm so excited to be named a trustee for the TR Inaugural Site, an important part of our nation's history and Buffalo's rich history and architectural legacy."

A graduate of the University of Southern California, Kelly began his career at Muir Woods National Monument in the San Francisco Bay Area and later relocated to Colorado to also oversee Pikes Peak National Forest and Hearst Castle State Park in California.

Kelly serves as vice-chairman of the National Parks Hospitality Association and is on the board of the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy. He resides in Amherst with his wife, Ginna, and their children, Jackson, Camille and Caitlin.

We welcome Kevin Kelly to the Board of Trustees!



*TR Site Foundation Trustee Kevin Kelly*

## Board Re-Elects Trustees and Officers, Establishes Ad Hoc Committee to Review By-Laws and Codify Policies

### **COMMITTEE STRUCTURE STREAMLINED, REFLECTING CHANGING PRIORITIES**

At the February meeting of the Board, Trustees approved the establishment of an ad hoc committee to review the TR Inaugural Site Foundation's by-laws and to create a written policies manual. Serving on the Trustee committee are: board secretary George F. Bellows, Esq., who will also chair the group, the Honorable Leslie G. Foschio, Sujata Yalamanchili, Esq., Kevin B. Klotzbach, and Barbara H. O'Neill, Esq.

Although the by-laws have been changed periodically, most recently as they relate to the growing role technology plays in board governance, the by-laws review will be the first comprehensive analysis of the framework governing the TR Site's internal affairs since 1997.

The committee also is charged with developing a written policies manual. During the course of the Site's more than 40-year history, the Board has established a number of policies through resolutions that are contained in board minutes. Members will review and codify current policies as well as develop a set of recommendations for Board consideration for any policy changes and/or new policies deemed necessary and appropriate.

Board president Stanton H. Hudson, Jr. moved to streamline the current system of Board committees to better reflect the TR Site's changing priorities and emerging trends in committee structure. As part of the reduction in the number of committees from 13 to nine, Mr. Hudson combined the Marketing and the Development committees into a single Marketing/Resources Development Committee. Additionally, the Building and Grounds Committee has been renamed the Facilities Committee and will be responsible for both the physical plant and technology, reflecting the growing role the latter plays in the effective operations of the Site. The Nominating Committee now will become the Governance Committee to reflect better the year-round role it will play in board recruitment, education, and retention.

Board officers were elected to a one-year term: Stanton H. Hudson, Jr., president; Karen Gaughan Scott, Esq., vice-president; George F. Bellows, Esq., Secretary; and Michael J. McDermid, Treasurer. Trustees re-elected to a two-year term include: Cindy Abbott-Letro, George F. Bellows, Esq., Willow R. Brost, Mark J. Crawford, Ed.D., Donald I. Dussing, Jr., Hon. Leslie G. Foschio, Stanton H. Hudson, Jr., Hugh C. McLean, Jean Sheila M. Sanders, Karen Gaughan Scott, Esq., Jake Schneider, AIA, and Lawrence D. Seymour.

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