



Russian Heritage

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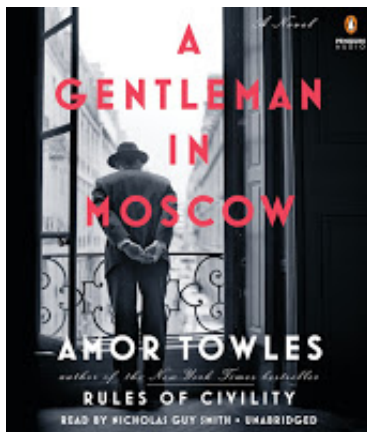
RUSSIAN WINTER BALL 2018!

The Winter Ball brought together people from a variety of backgrounds, but it appeared that people enjoyed the dinner and dancing and the gala atmosphere of this special event for Russian Heritage. The entertainment provided by Vladimir Khokhlov during the reception, and the dancers of the St. Petersburg Folk Ensemble and the special dance performance by Ekaterina Kolmogorova and Sergey Goranskii were well received, and the appearance of Grandfather Frost and his *khorovod* created an interesting highlight of the evening. See page 3 for scenes from the Winter Ball, and also visit our website (russianheritage.org) and our facebook page for more photographs.

Russian Heritage wants to give a special thanks to our hosts and sponsors, John and Margo Catsimatidis, who did so much to make this Winter Ball a success, and to all who volunteered to make this event possible, and to all who came to enjoy this dynamic beginning of 2018!

This is a fundraising event for our organization, and we did raise over \$2,000 for our Scholarship Fund; and many people came away with valuable gifts from our silent auction.

Upcoming Events. More February events on page 2.



The film/discussion on the spy thriller “Farewell” originally scheduled for February has been postponed. The next Russian Heritage event will be on March 10, a discussion of the best seller “A Gentleman in Moscow” by Amor Towles.

“A Gentleman in Moscow” has been on the Best Seller List for 47 weeks, and is being widely discussed by people interested in Russia. Set during the Soviet Union's turbulent early 1920s, **A GENTLEMAN IN MOSCOW** tells the story of Count Alexander Rostov. When he is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, the count is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel located between the Kremlin and the Bolshoi Theater.

You may have a chance to read this novel before March 10, but even if you don't read it you can enjoy hearing a discussion led by people who have been at the Metropol Hotel, eaten at Count Rostov's restaurant, or enjoyed the atmosphere of the Kremlin and the Bolshoi Theater. You can also find much interesting information on line about this novel.

The discussion will be on Saturday, March 10 at 3:00 pm at the Russian American Club in Gulport (2920 Beach Blvd. S). If you have not visited the Club this is a great opportunity. This program is free and open to the public.

Upcoming Events.

2/17. **SPIFFS Luau.** \$75 per couple. It's not too late to sign up for this event. See page 4 for details. Call Lotta Boumann (727-552-1896) or Mary Stenov (727-867-6013) if interested.

2/18. **Blini at RAC.** 4 – 6 pm. \$30 per person, for non-members, which includes a full meal and musical program.

2/20 – 23. **Conference on World Affairs at USFSP**

Thursday morning (February 22) panel at 9:00AM, “**Are China and Russia today's expansionist powers?**” Golfo Alexopoulos of USF “Institute on Russia” on the panel. The link to the entire program:

<https://stpetersburgconferenceonworldaffairs.com/conference/2018-program-schedule/>

2/21 “**Reporting Russian Truths in the Era of Fake News**” with **David Filipov**, Moscow Bureau Chief of *The Washington Post*. Tuesday at 5:30 pm at USF Gibbons Alumni Center in Tampa. Free and open to the public. (page 5)

3/10 Discussion of Amor Towles book "**A Gentleman in Moscow**" (page 1).

3/20 **Marvin Kalb**, legendary journalist and author, speaking on his recent book “The Year I was Peter the Great: 1956”. 7:00 pm. Dinner and book signing at USF Alumni Center in Tampa. \$35 per person. (page 6)

4/14 **SPIFFS International Ball.** Russian Heritage Person of the Year. \$40 per person.

4/29 **Russian Heritage Annual Meeting and Picnic.**

Where: War Veterans Memorial Park. 9600 Bay Pines Boulevard, St. Petersburg, FL 33708.

When: Noon to 6:00 pm.

Food: Shashlik +. Entrance fee: Adults \$10; Children and Students \$5.

Activities for adults and children.

Musical program.

Short business meeting with election of new members of the Board of Directors.

Membership Dues for 2018

*It is time to pay your dues for 2018. You can send in the form on the following page with your check by regular mail, or pay at our website, www.russianheritage.org by Paypal or credit card. Those who attended the Winter Ball are entitled to free membership for 2018 by contacting us with your contact information. We look forward to seeing you at our events in 2018, beginning with the discussion of **A GENTLEMAN IN MOSCOW** on March 10.*



Russian Winter Ball - 2018. More photos at website and facebook page.

Membership Dues 2018

All who are interested in Russian culture are welcome to join Russian Heritage by simply paying the yearly dues. Members receive the Russian Heritage Newsletter and discounts on certain events.

Please fill in the following form and send it with your check payable to Russian Heritage, or pay via PayPal at www.russianheritage.org:



Russian Heritage
PO Box 14552
St. Petersburg, FL 33733



Please check one:

☐ Student \$0 ☐ Individual \$15 ☐ Family \$25 ☐ Sponsor \$100 or more.

Fill out information if different from other side:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (best to reach) _____

E-mail _____

A vibrant tropical-themed poster for a luau event. The background is a bright yellow woven mat. At the top center is a large, carved wooden tiki mask with a smiling face, wearing a red flower lei. To the left of the mask is a coconut drink with a pink umbrella. To the right is a brown ukulele. The bottom of the poster features a green grass skirt, blue flip-flops, and various tropical flowers like hibiscus and plumeria. The sky in the background is blue with palm trees and a few birds.

ISLAND NIGHT & LUAU

*A benefit party for
St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society (SPIFFS)*

ECHO OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

**POLYNESIAN SHOW WITH FIRE DANCERS
LUAU BUFFET
DANCING**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2018
6:00 PM**

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY
Waterfront across from school - Park St. & Country Club Rd. N.
St. Petersburg, Florida

Tickets available through SPIFFS
\$50 or \$75 for two
727-552-1896
www.spiffs.org

***Wear a bright shirt, a grass skirt or lei,
we're going to celebrate the tropical way!***

ALOHA!

Reporting Russian Truths in the Era of Fake News

David Filipov, Moscow Bureau Chief, *The Washington Post*



Wednesday,
February 21, 2018

5:30 P.M.

USF Gibbons
Alumni Center,
Traditions Hall

*A light reception will be held before the talk.
Free and open to the public.*

For accommodations, email cvgoldstein@usf.edu
USF: 4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33620

David Filipov has just returned from Russia, where he covered the aftermath of the election of Donald Trump and the slow descent of U.S.-Russian relations into something resembling a new Cold War. At the same time, he sought to bring to life the personal and human side of Russia and the former Soviet Union.

Filipov will discuss the challenges of getting Russia right at a time when the cacophony of propaganda and fake news and the return of Cold War-style suspicions on both sides has clouded the conversation.



2014 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking
News on Boston Marathon,
Boston Globe

1999 Overseas Press Club Award





The USF Institute on Russia invites you to a
lecture and dinner with legendary journalist and author

MARVIN KALB



Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 7 p.m.

USF Alumni Center, Traditions Hall
4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33620

RSVP: www.usf.edu/ua/rsvp
\$35 Individual / \$65 Couple

Includes dinner and book signing.
For reasonable accommodations, email cvgoldstein@usf.edu.

We invite you to meet Marvin Kalb, renowned journalist and author of "The Year I Was Peter the Great: 1956 - Khrushchev, Stalin's Ghost, and a Young American in Russia." In 1956, Kalb was a young diplomatic attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, where he observed this tumultuous year that foretold the end of Soviet communism three decades later. Fluent in Russian, a doctoral candidate at Harvard, he went where few other foreigners would dare go, listening to Russian students secretly attack communism and threaten rebellion against the Soviet system, traveling from one end of a changing country to the other and, thanks to his diplomatic position, meeting and talking with Khrushchev, who playfully nicknamed him Peter the Great.



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