



Russian Heritage

NEWSLETTER

Volume XXI, Issue 8

May 2017

Parsons Elected President of RH

Nadia Yevstigneyeva presided over the annual meeting for Russian Heritage on April 29, 2017. She thanked the officers and members of the Board whose terms have been completed. The major item of business was the election of officers and board members for the coming year.

Bill Parsons was elected president. He has served as president before, and most recently held the post of secretary. After the business meeting Bill, a retired professor of History and Russian Studies at Eckerd College, made a short presentation of the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolutions of 1917,

Mary Stenov was elected as the new RH Vice President. Mary is a retired art teacher, and has served several terms on the RH Board of Directors. Mary was the RH "Person of the Year" this year. Evguenia Davenport is the new secretary. Evgenia teaches Russian and Spanish at USF and has served on the RH Board. Anastasia Dycus was elected Treasurer. Anastasia is a recent member of RH. She has a background in accounting. In the summer issue of the Newsletter we will introduce the new members of the board that are listed in the box on the right.



Parsons and Yevstigneyeva

RUSSIAN HERITAGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Bill Parsons

V. P.: Mary Stenov

Secretary: Evguenia Davenport

Treasurer: Anastasia Dycus

Board Members:

Vera Cimino

Zina Downen

Kato Hetschinof

Marina Mendez

Victoria Peppard

Elly Roche

Natalia Scarberry

Zhanna Thomas

Past President:

Nadia Yevstigneyeva

Russian Heritage

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 2017

There are many special activities and programs in May that will be of interest to members and friends of Russian Heritage. **Our first event is a book discussion led by our new secretary Evguenia Davenport on "The Shot" and "The Queen of Spades" by Pushkin and "The Demon" by Lermontov.** This event will take place at Envoy Point Condominium Clubhouse (7150 Sunset Way, St. Pete Beach, FL) at 4:30 pm. on May 6. See page 2 for details about this event.

On the morning of May 6 there will be a celebration of the victory in WWII over Nazism with a parade and memorial program in downtown St. Petersburg beginning at 11:00 am in South Straub Park (198 Bayshore Dr. NE). The event is called WWII Immortal Regiment (Бессмертный полк). More details can be found at <http://www.moypolk.ru>.

See page 3 for additional May activities and plans for the coming year.



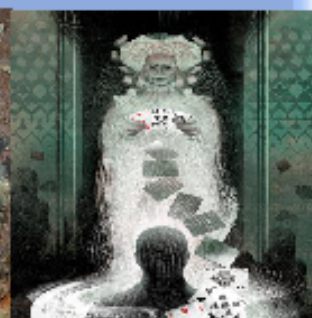
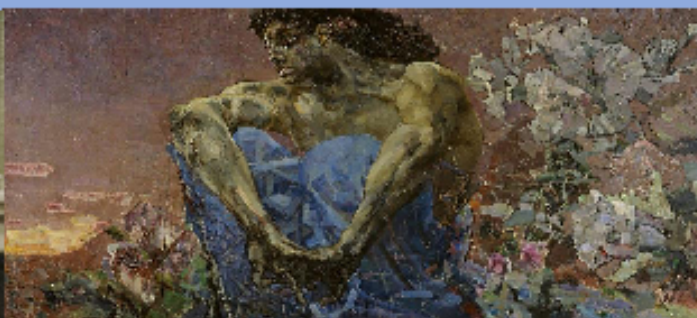
This Saturday, May 6, 4:30pm

RUSSIAN HERITAGE PRESENTS! BOOK DISCUSSION

Pushkin and Lermontov



Interested in Russian Literature and Culture? Like to participate in stimulating intellectual discussions? Then Russian Heritage invites you to join our upcoming Book Discussion group this Saturday, May 6! Two short stories by Pushkin (*The Shot* and *Queen of Spades*, if time permits) and a narrative poem by Lermontov *Demon* will be the subjects for this Russian Heritage Book discussion. Evguenia Davenport, an instructor from USF in Tampa, will facilitate the discussion of these masterworks of Russian romantic literature. The discussion will begin at 4:30 pm on Saturday, May 6 at the clubhouse of the Envoy Point Condominium (7150 Sunset Way, St. Pete Beach, FL). Entrance is free of charge but please call 813-300-4785 to let us know that you are coming and to alert the Security Gate attendant. The texts for these works are available on line. We will discuss the works in English, but it would be interesting to compare the translations with the original Russian texts. The English translations of *Demon* by Lermontov are especially difficult.



ANNOUNCEMENT FOR MAY, 2017 AND SUGGESTIONS FOR UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Mary Stenov announced two events. The first is an event for Mothers' Day at the Russian American Club on Saturday, May 13 at 2:00 pm. Mothers will be honored and celebrated with a program that will include producing special silky scarves for special mothers. More information available from the Russian American Club Newsletter or by calling 867-6013.

The second event is **a joint effort by the Russian Heritage and the Russian American Club** to sponsor together the Russian table for the **World Day Festival of Cultural Diversity** on Sunday, May 21 from 1:00—6:00 pm at the St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club (559 Mirror Lake Drive North). There will be Russian food, sales items, and entertainment. **If you can volunteer, please call 727-867-6013.**

On Thursday, May 18 a literary-musical production based on the Lermontov poem "The Demon" will be presented featuring Rustem Galitch from New York City. Rustem founded the Theater of Poetry and Music and has staged several plays which had great success in Europe and America. He will be joined by Elona Krasavsteva in Demon. Suggested donation: \$20.

On Friday, May 19 a presentation of two of Pushkin's fairy tales will be presented at the Russian American Club. "The Tale of the Golden Fish" and "The Tale of the Golden Cockeral" will be featured, loved by children of all ages. Both performances are in Russian. For more details, visit the Facebook page for the Music and Poetry Club of Florida.

The CD "Russian Souvenir" by Elona Krasavsteva was presented at the annual meeting. As indicated on the insert: "The CD is sponsored in part by Russian Heritage. The mission of Russian Heritage, Inc. of St. Petersburg, Florida is to preserve and promote Russian culture and to educate the general public regarding Russian heritage, history, and culture." It will be available soon on line. For pre-orders from Russian Heritage, contact us at the contact section of the RH website.



In thinking about future programs for RH, the following topics are suggested:

OUR TWO MAJOR EVENTS ARE THE SPIFFS FOLK FAIR (OCTOBER 26—29, 2017),
AND THE WINTER BALL ON JANUARY 27, 2018. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

1. "Remembering Yevgeny Yevtushenko". Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko died on April 1, 2017 at the age of 84. (See tribute on page 4).
2. "The 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolutions of 1917." A continuation in various ways of this topic presented by Bill Parsons at the annual meeting: panels, films, etc.
3. A book presentation and signing by local author Kelli Stuart based on her recent novel "Like a River from Its Course" about families in Ukraine caught up in WWII.
4. Presentations or panels introducing some of our newest board members and their special interests.

If you have other ideas for Russian Heritage activities, visit our website and make your suggestions on the contact link.

Membership Dues 2017

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 _____

In Memorium

Celebrated Russian poet **Yevgeny Yevtushenko** died on April 1, 2017 in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 84. He was one of the best known poets in Russia and around the world, having read his poetry in 94 countries and all 50 states in the US. He appeared in the Tampa Bay area at least 9 times in the last 30 years and several times was sponsored at least in part by Russian Heritage. He participated in the Old Russian New Year Gala in 2000. Yevtushenko will be buried in the writer's settlement of Peredelkino near Moscow.

Dr. Constanin Artzibushev died on March 26, 2017 at the age of 96. Dr. Artzibushev was born into a prominent Russian family in Lithuania and came to Tampa after WWII. He was a distinguished OB-GYN physician and delivered more than 12,000 babies. He was a leader of the Russian-American community and hosted RH events at his Odessa home on more than one occasion.

Faina Boldireff died on April 28, 2017 at the age of 86. Faina was a survivor of the 900 day siege of Leningrad in WWII and wrote a moving memoir about her experiences during the war. She was one of the five survivors who participated in the RH seminars on the Leningrad siege in 2005.

Вечная Память!