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RUSSIAN HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

August, 2000

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We've received notice that the **Peter Demens** exhibit will be going to the History Museum at the Peter and Paul Fortress in St. Petersburg, Russia in September or October, 2000. The exhibit is called "**From Vesegonsk to Florida**" (In Russian, of course). Vesegonsk, the birthplace of Peter Demens, is southeast of St. Petersburg and northeast of the city of Tver. The exhibit is a phenomenal success to date. *Russian Heritage* is proud to have participated in sponsoring this fine exhibit that pays tribute to one of the founders of our city of St. Petersburg, Florida and we thank our past president, **Bill Parsons**, for involving us in it.

Russian Heritage Events:

1. Our first general meeting is the **Inauguration Meeting on Tuesday, September 12th at Buddy Freddy's Restaurant on 58th St. & 9th Ave. N. (Tyrone Gardens) at 6 p.m.** Food is presented buffet style with all-you-can-eat for about \$7.00. **Dr. Carl Kuttler**, our new president (and president of **St. Petersburg Junior College**), will be inaugurated at this meeting. At that time we'll "meet and greet" one another and catch up with our members' past and future events. **By Laws for *Russian Heritage*** were recently written with help from SPJC's attorney, **David Henniger**. **Dr. Kuttler** will distribute them for discussion and approval at the **September 12th general meeting**. Any suggestions for programs for February and April will be welcomed. A picnic at **Fort DeSoto Park** has been suggested for April. Please call **Olga Fincher at 786-1574** or **Vera Espinola-Beery at 502-0010** if you plan to attend the September meeting. No reservation or prepayment is required...we'd just like to have an approximate head-count.
2. We'll have a **Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 9th (at 6 p.m.)** with a light supper at the new home of **Vera and Bruce Beery**, (the *Florencia*): 100 Beach Dr. N.E. #1402, St. Petersburg. Board members, please mark your calendars, and **RSVP** to the new phone #: **(727) 502-0010**. At that time we'll discuss programs for the remaining months of February and April, 2001. Russian Easter next year is April 15th.
3. *Russian Heritage*, (through the courtesy and co-sponsorship of SPJC), has arranged for three concerts by the *Russian Heritage Ensemble* at the new **Music Center of St. Petersburg Junior College** at the Gibbs Campus on 66th St. and 5th Avenue North. **Eugene Bazhanov**, a violinist with the **Florida Orchestra**, is musical director. The concerts will involve from **four to six performers** including pianist **Vladimir Khokhlov** and vocal soloists. The concerts, partial fund-raisers for *Russian Heritage*, will present Russian-American selections for the first program. **Eugene Bazhanov** will narrate all the selections, telling us interesting stories about the musical presentations. The new **SPJC Music Center** is in the final stages of completion with the finest of acoustical design, two new Steinway concert grand pianos and an organ that is still under construction in Germany. The Center is facing the lake and has parking and easy access from 66th St. N. The three concerts are scheduled for **Sunday, November 5th at 3 p.m.; Saturday, January 20th at 3 p.m. and Sunday, March 11th at 3 p.m.** Please mark your calendars and plan to attend these exciting events. **Individual concerts are \$12, or the series of three concerts for \$33.** Tickets can be purchased at the door, or call **Eugene Bazhanov at (727)**

Anver and Cindy Suleiman visited his cousin, **Liailia** (a member of R.H.), in Moscow in June. This was their first trip to Russia and they're ready to go back! They're hoping **Liailia** can come here again soon to visit them (and we do, too).

Bill and Vivian Parsons (he's our immediate past-president) have postponed their trip to Massachusetts while **Vivian** is receiving some medical treatments. We wish her a speedy recovery, good health and completion of their exciting plans (and come back soon).

Elena Kazakova-Novikov is planning to write a children's book about **Peter Demens**.

Dr. Carl Kuttler will host the Russian Ambassador's daughter, **Tatiana Ushakova**, in early August during her birthday week.

Please call in news of members or events to **Vera Espinola-Beery 502-0010**.

See you at the September Meeting!

Dues:

Our *Russian Heritage* year begins in September and ends in May. Membership dues for 2000-2001 can be paid from May through the first meeting in September. You'll receive the newsletter with notice of our special events, as well as Russian events in the Tampa Bay area (and elsewhere), and play a special role in promoting Russian culture in the American cities of St. Petersburg / Tampa.

You can mail the form below with your dues to *Russian Heritage*, P.O. Box 66123, St. Pete Beach, FL, 33736. *Russian Heritage* is a non-profit, tax exempt corporation.

Categories of yearly membership are:

- _____ \$ 5.00 Student
- _____ \$10.00 Individual **Make checks payable to Russian Heritage**
- _____ \$15.00 Family
- _____ \$50.00 Sponsor

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Code _____

Telephone _____

e-mail _____

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