

RUSSIAN HERITAGE

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RUSSIAN HERITAGE

Volume VI, Issue 1.

SEPTEMBER 2001



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Fall Season to Open at Garden Restaurant on Sunday, September 16

The September meeting of *Russian Heritage* will take place at 5:30 on Sunday, September 16, at the Garden Restaurant in downtown St. Petersburg (217 Central Avenue). This "inaugural meeting" will introduce the new officers and present an overview of the activities for the upcoming year. Brief sharing from members about their summer experience is "Russian Culture" will also be featured.

The menu is being specially prepared for *Russian Heritage*. Featured on the menu will be Chicken Kiev (for those who have access to the magazine *Russian Life*, there is an interesting feature on Chicken Kiev in the latest issue) or a grilled "fresh catch of the day." Also served will be a choice of shchi or salad, a vegetable, dessert, and ice tea. The price of the meal, which includes tax and gratuity, is \$15.00, when reserved in advance (see form on page 6).

This is an appropriate location for our first meeting of the year. The Garden Restaurant is located in the building of the former Detroit Hotel, a structure that was built by Peter Demens in 1888. The menu for this event will feature the contributions of Demens, the Russian aristocrat who was co-founder of our city in 1888.

In fact, if you want to learn a little bit more about the founding of St. Petersburg, come at 5:00 p.m. to the historical marker at the entrance to Demens Landing, and you can learn more on the guided leisurely walk to the Garden Restaurant.

Those who wish may stay following the meeting for "Live Improvization," a special feature of the restaurant beginning at 7:30.

Russian Heritage To Explore Contacts With St. Petersburg, Russia

At the June 23 Board Meeting it was decided to explore ways that the two St. Petersburgs could work together to celebrate the centennial of St. Petersburg, Florida becoming incorporated as a city, and the 300th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg, Russia. These two celebrations are scheduled for 2003.

Russian Cultural Events For the Fall of 2001.

Concert of Classical Music by the Russian Heritage Ensemble.

Sunday, September 30

2:00 p.m.

St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts

255 Beach Drive NE

On the program will be works by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Liszt, Chausson, Saint-Saens and Sarasate. The ticket price is \$15.00. For tickets call the Museum (727) 896-2667.

Classical Ballet Performance

By

Andrei Ustinov and Elena Martinson

Saturday, October 20

Palladium Theatre

253- 5th Avenue North, St. Petersburg

Watch for more information of this performance in the October Newsletter.

Are You Interested in Studying Russian?

There are several programs for studying Russian in the Tampa Bay area beginning in September. Those interested in college credit may contact Eckerd College in St. Petersburg or University of South Florida in Tampa for the times courses will be offered.

We know of at least three non-credit programs where you can begin Russian. One such course is at Mirror Lake Public Library in St. Petersburg, now scheduled to meet on Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. For further information, call 727-343-8910.

A second course will be offered at the Open Campus of Manatee Junior College on Wednesday evenings beginning September 26. For further information, call 941-752-5203 or 941-408-1412.

A third opportunity will be offered in Clearwater at the Golda Meir/Kent Jewish Center. For more information call 727-736-1494.

The People of *Russian Heritage*

Tania Vondersaar, president of *Russian Heritage*, is recovering after heart surgery. She is doing well, and hopes to see you at the September meeting.

Olga Venedictovna (Fincher) presented an Exhibition of Watercolors and Photographs "A Symphony in COLORS" with her daughter this summer in Eureka, California.

Vera Espinola Beery worked as conservator in July for the exhibit "Science Under Sail: Russian's Great Voyages to America, 1727-1867," for the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.

**BY-LAWS
OF
RUSSIAN HERITAGE, INC**
A Florida Not-For-Profit Corporation

1. MEMBERSHIP.

- A. Full membership in Russian Heritage will be granted to those persons who agree to the functions and purpose of the Corporation as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, and who pay the annual dues as stipulated by the Board of Directors.
- B. Privileges of Membership include 1) voting at meetings of the full membership; 2) standing for election to the Board of Directors; 3) receiving information distributed by the Board of Directors; and 4) participating in all activities planned by the Board of Directors.

2. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

- A. General Powers. The business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by the Board.
- B. Number, Election, and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall be made up of the officers of the Corporation, including Chair of the Board, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and from 4 to 8 Directors. Members of the Board shall be elected at the spring meeting of the members of Russian Heritage, and shall serve a term of one year.
- C. The Board may create as many committees as is necessary to carry out the functions and purpose of the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation and these By-Laws.

3. MEETINGS OF RUSSIAN HERITAGE.

- A. An annual meeting of the entire membership of Russian Heritage shall be held in the spring of each year to elect a new Board of Directors. A nominating committee appointed by the Board will make recommendations of persons to serve on the Board. Other persons may be nominated from the floor.
- B. Regular and special meetings of the entire membership, or of the Board of Directors shall be held as needed at such time and place as the Board may fix. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair, the President, or a majority of the Directors.
- C. Quorums. A majority of the entire Board shall be present at any meeting of the Board in order to transact business. A quorum for the annual meeting or other meetings of the entire membership shall be a majority of the Board and 15% of the membership.

4. OFFICERS.

- A. The Chair of the Board shall have the general and active management of the daily operations of the Corporation. The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall be ex-officio member of all committees.

- B. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and shall have duties as shall be specified by the Board. The President shall preside at meetings of the membership as a whole, and shall preside at meetings of the Board in the absence of the Chair.
- C. The Vice-President shall perform duties assigned by the Board, the Chair, or the President, and shall perform the duties of the President in the President's absence or inability to act.
- D. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping minutes of all meetings of the Board and of the general membership. The Secretary shall also see that reports, statement, certificates, and other documents and records required by law to be kept and filed are properly kept and filed.
- E. The Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds of the Corporation, and keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Corporation. The Treasurer shall be responsible for depositing all monies in the Bank accounts designated by the Board, to receive monies due and payable to the Corporation, and disburse the funds of the Corporation as authorized by the Board.

5. AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors, provided that notice of the changes is given two weeks in advance of the meeting. A majority vote of the members of the Board is required for passage.

Adopted:
June 23, 2001

From the Articles of Incorporation of *Russian Heritage, Inc.*

NAME. The name of this corporation shall be RUSSIAN HERITAGE, INC.

EXCLUSIVE CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

- 1. The purpose of this corporation shall be to operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of the 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the USA.
- 2. The purposes shall be to preserve, promote and educate the general public regarding Russian heritage, history and culture, through activities such as, but not limited to, social events, film festivals, artistic venues and educational programs.

From this description it is clear that all persons interested in promoting Russian culture and heritage, regardless of ethnic background, religious convictions, or language ability, is welcome to be a part of this organization. Those who are native-Russian speakers are welcome to share their heritage; those who are learning Russian, and those who have an interest in Russia and Russian culture will also find a home in our organization.

Russian Heritage Survey

In the last Newsletter we included a survey of our readers, asking a number of questions about *Russian Heritage*. We received some very interesting answers, but not as many as we had hoped for. In this newsletter we are including a shortened version of this survey. Take a few minutes to record your thoughts if you didn't do so during the summer. It would be especially good if you can return it with your annual dues, and with your reservations for the September meeting at the Garden Restaurant. (On the reverse side of this page.)

Which activities interest you most?

- 1. The showing of Russian films. Suggestions of films. _____
- 2. Concerts of Russian music.
- 3. Lectures/discussions on classical Russian culture.
Specific topics? _____
- 4. Lectures/discussions on contemporary Russia.
Specific topics? _____
- 5. Lectures/discussions by our members on their Russian-related experiences.
- 6. Other.

Russian Language. (See information on page)

- I would be interested in a series of regular lessons.
 Beginning; Intermediate

What Russian language skills are you most interested in?

Newsletter. What suggestions do you have for the newsletter?

Optional Information. **Несколько слов о себе.**

In either Russian or English, please write a paragraph or two about yourself, where you have lived, your work, your family, and your interests in Russia. (We had some really interesting information from this section last time.)

Reservations for September 16 Meeting.

For our September meeting at the Garden Restaurant we have negotiated a special price for the Russian Heritage meal. But we need to make reservations in advance and let the restaurant know the count by Friday, September 14. Please plan now to come, choose your menu selection, and return this reservation form with your \$15.00 payment ASAP, so that we can plan appropriately. The same menu (if available) will be \$19.50 at the door. Price includes soup or salad, entree and vegetable, dessert and ice tea, and it also includes the tax and tip. Reservations can also be made by calling 727-867-9148. This would be a good time to invite friends you think might be interested in *Russian Heritage*.

___ Chicken Kiev Dinners @ \$15.00 _____

___ Grilled Catch of the Day Dinners @ \$15.00 _____

total _____

Please mail this form with your check, payable to Russian Heritage.



Membership Dues

The *Russian Heritage* year begins in September and ends in June. Dues for 2001-2002 should now be paid. It will work best if you mail your dues in now, along your reservations for the September meeting. Members will receive a monthly newsletter containing information about activities and programs in the Tampa Bay area.

Please mail this form with your dues to:

Russian Heritage
PO Box 14552
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Categories of yearly membership are:

- \$5 Student
- \$10 Individual
- \$15 Family
- \$50 Sponsor

Please make checks payable to: *Russian Heritage*

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

RUSSIAN HERITAGE: FALL SCHEDULE 2001

Sunday, September 16. "Inaugural Meeting." We will meet at 5:30pm at the Garden Restaurant (217 Central Avenue in downtown St. Petersburg). For more details on this first meeting, see story on page one, and the reservation form on page 6.

Tuesday, October 16 & Thursday, October 18. Russian Films at Eckerd College. Save these dates, and look for the actual films to be shown in the October newsletter. Films will be shown at 7:00 p.m. in Dendy Auditorium at Eckerd College. Films are free and open to the public.

Sunday, November 25. Vladimir Khokhlov Piano Recital. We are proud to present this concert of selections performed by Vladimir Khokhlov, some of which are a part of his doctoral program recital in Tallahassee. The program will include music by Glinka, Musorgsky, Tchaikovsky, Liszt, Schubert and others. You will have a chance to experience "Pictures at an Exhibition" in two forms. Khokhlov will play several of Musorgsky's "Pictures" during his concert, and the Photographic Exhibition "Leningrad to St. Petersburg: Historic Photographs from Russia," (sponsored by Russian Heritage) will be on display in the Exhibit Gallery of the Music Center. Concert begins at 3:00 p.m. at the Music Center in St. Petersburg College (6605 Fifth Avenue North) St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$10.00 and available at the door.

Friday, December 14. Holiday Party at the Grants. This will be a repeat of last year's very successful Pot-luck Dinner Party at the home of Bill and Pat Grant. Details on the program and directions for finding the location will come later, but mark you calendars now.

RUSSIAN HERITAGE: COMING IN 2002

Sunday, January 13. Old Russian New Year Celebration. We will again plan a special celebration of the Old Russian New Year at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. This has traditionally been one of the highlights of our year, and we are looking forward to special guests and activities to mark this event. The musical group "Dazzler" featured at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club will provide the music for your dancing pleasure.

Sunday, February 10. Russian Ensemble Concert. This concert of classical music will be performed by Violinists Eugene and Natasha Bazhanov, Pianists Vladimir Khokhlov and Olga Glick, and special guest soloists. This concert will be held at the Music Center of St. Petersburg College. The details of the program will be announced later. A second concert is scheduled for **Sunday, April 14.**

We are still planning our programs for the spring. If you have suggestions, please contact one of our board members, or send ideas to our mailing address listed on this newsletter.