

**Open World Russian Leadership Program
Sister Cities International Conference
July 23, 2003 – St. Louis Missouri**

In April, 2002, Sister Cities International issued a news release that anyone with a Sister City in Russian could nominate candidates for the Open World Program. Serpukhov, Russia, has been our Sister City since April of 1988. Our relationship has not been very active, so I asked our board about applying for this program. They were very enthusiastic about this program so we started the process. These are the procedures that we followed for our first time hosting.

I. First Time Hosting

a. Nominating process

We thought we might be able to have two different programs, one in health care and the other in youth initiative. Because, of not enough manpower to run both programs, we chose Health Care for our program. We could nominate five persons from our sister city for each program under the age of 45. I am not very good at judging someone's age, so I asked for help from our friends in Serpukhov. We nominated five persons in each category. The completed part of our Nomination process was sent to Sister Cities' headquarters in Washington, DC, and a copy was faxed to our candidates in Serpukhov.

The forms were E-mailed to Serpukhov for our candidates to prepare and send to Moscow. During the selection process we had a slight mix up. We had nominated five candidates in each category, and then chose to only have the health care program in 2002, the selection committee chose three for the health care and two for the youth initiative. When we questioned why they had mixed the candidates for the program, we found that it is not the normal thing to do. The persons chosen to come to Richmond were three physicians from our Sister City in Serpukhov and a physician from Moscow.

b. Preparing the Community Profile

Preparation for this takes some thought and research about where you are located in the state, who your senators and congressmen are, what kind of city government you have, and what is special in the community where you live. There is a sample of the Richmond, Indiana, Community Profile (see page 5 & 6).

c. History of our Sister City Program

Our Sister City program began in April 1988 and I have only been on the board of directors since 1997. I went back into the records to look at the history. There is a sample of the History of Sister Cities of Richmond, IN (see page 7).

d. Preparing the Budget

The airline tickets were not a part of our concern. What we needed to prepare for:

- a. Cost transportation during the visit.
- b. Cost of working meals
- c. Admittance fees for special tours/theater, etc.
- d. Special event including the host families
- e. The translator's fee and transportation
- f. Miscellaneous expenses

e. Preparing the Proposed Program

Since this was a Health Care Program we contacted the president of the Hospital. He referred this request to the Director of the Medical Education Program and the Public Relations Vice President. We met with them and started the planning. We contacted the Mayor of Richmond, the Richmond City Council, Wayne County Health Department, the Richmond State Hospital, the Richmond Day Care Center, Indiana University East and Earlham College. All were glad to help with this program. All of the above information was submitted to the Academy for Educational Development in Washington, D.C.

II. Preparation of the Final Program

a. Selecting Host Families:

When we received notification that Richmond had been elected to receive our candidates for the Open World Program we began the process of looking for homes to host our guests. I first asked the physicians at Reid Hospital, and then let the community know that we were to have guests from Russia. One physician said that they would host three persons, we had two other hosts who could house one person each. We hosted the translator.

b. Preparing the final program and budget

We reconfirmed all of the tentative dates and times for our proposed program. This final program was then sent to the Academy for Educational Development in Washington, D.C. Copies are available of the program.

We reviewed the budget and made any adjustments, and sent it to the Education Department. Copies are available of the proposed budget.

c. I delivered the information about our guests, and the program schedule to each host family and explained the schedule for pick up and return to their home and special events in which we wanted them to participate.

III. The Joy of Hosting our Guests – from airport pick up and return to the airport

We did not have photographs of the guests we were meeting, and they did not have photographs of who would be meeting them. Our translator arrived first. We discussed what we would be wearing, so that was no problem. We had an antique school slate with Welcome to Richmond on it. Our guests were the last ones to come through the gate of passengers arriving and when they saw the Welcome to Richmond, we smiled at them, we knew immediately they were our guests. We delivered them to their host families, and later we all attended a reception at the home of the director of the Richmond Art Museum. This was a good way to introduce them to some community persons and relax and get acquainted with their host families. Besides the professional program, we went shopping, attended the theater at Earlham College, we visited our Richmond Civic Theater, where the ladies tried on vintage hats. We had fun having dinner together, and we enjoyed the international language of music. It is a delight to be able to introduce a person from another country and culture to our city and the way we do things in the Midwest. Language was a slight barrier, but with a pad of paper and a pencil, drawings go a long way to communicate.

IV. What a great experience! What we learned!

Each time we look at photographs taken during the time our guests were in Richmond, we have very fond memories of each one of them. With a sense of humor from us and that of our guests, it was fun to laugh and exchange ideas. We continue to learn that each country and each culture has their own unique ways, but we are alike of wanting a peaceful world, enough food for our families, a place to live and to keep our families warm in the winter. We are more alike than we are different. We shall never forget this experience.

V. Final reports

- a. Expense Report: Be sure to keep all of your receipts. These will be needed to send with your Expense Report. You will receive an electronic Expense Report Form, to be filled out and returned with all of your receipts.
- b.
- c. Post Program Summary: You will be asked to write a Post-Program Summary. This should include comments from the host families, Lessons Learned, Follow On (future programs as a result of this program); Introduction; Professional Program; Cultural Programs; Home Stay Experiences.
- d.
- e. My Personal Comments: I believe this Open World Program is a very valuable program for building Sister Cities Relationships and making our world a better place in which to live.

Erma W. Rich, President
Sister Cities of Richmond, IN



Community Profile - July 23, 2003

HOST COMMUNITY: Richmond, Indiana & Sister Cities of Richmond, Indiana, Inc.

- ❖ Congressional District #2: Congressman, Mike Pence,
Senator Richard Lugar and Senator Evan Bayh
- ❖ Population: The City of Richmond is a community of 40,000 persons and Wayne County's population is 72,000.
- ❖ Description of Community: The City of Richmond is located in Wayne County, Indiana, in the heartland of America's Midwest. We are an urban community surrounded by rich farmland.
- ❖ Geographical Location/Climate: Richmond is located on Interstate 70 at the Indiana and Ohio line. We are 70 miles east of Indianapolis, Indiana and Cincinnati, Ohio, 250 miles from Chicago, Illinois and just 35 miles west of Dayton, Ohio.
- ❖ Our climate has four distinct seasons. The average annual rainfall is 40". The average summer temperature is 70 to 85-degrees Fahrenheit and the average winter temperature is 25 – 30 degrees Fahrenheit.
- ❖ Closest Major City: Dayton, Ohio
- ❖ Political Structure: The City of Richmond has a Mayor elected every four years and a City Council of nine persons. Wayne County has three County Commissioners and a City Council of seven persons. The State of Indiana's form of government is closely modeled on the federal government with three branches: executive, legislative and judicial.
- ❖ History: In 1806, Quakers from North Carolina and the southeastern state were the first to settle near the Whitewater River Gorge. Richmond and the greater Wayne County Region share the core community value of personal liberty. America's first highway, the historic "Old National Road" can be found traveling through Richmond and all of Wayne County.

In 1832, early Quaker settlers to the area purchased 320 acres on the west side of Richmond for the Friends Boarding School. This school was to become what in 1859 became known as Earlham College. This leading national liberal arts college is a recognized leader as an outspoken advocate for peace and justice throughout the world arena espousing traditional Quaker principles.

The Gennett Record Company, founded in Richmond in 1915 was one of the first record labels to release early Jazz and Folk music. Gennett was one of the first studios to record African-American Jazz legends such as Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong and King Oliver. Hoggy Carmichael recorded his famous song "Stardust" there. The label was eventually sold to Decca Records in 1935, but not before it earned Richmond the title "Cradle of Recorded Jazz."

- ❖ Education: There are five school districts throughout Wayne County. The Richmond Community School District is the largest district with a total of 7,000 students. The four other school districts are located in Fountain City, Centerville, Cambridge City, and Hagerstown. There are seven Parochial Schools.
 - Higher Education: Earlham College, Earlham School of Religion, Bethany Seminary, Indiana University East/Purdue University Programs and Indiana Vocational Technical
 - College.

- ❖ Health Care: Reid Hospital & Health Care Services is a progressive, 238-bed not-for-profit hospital that operates under the directive that health care is a mission that ministers to the entire person, body, mind and spirit. More than 100 physicians are on staff – family practice and specializing physicians and a collection of facilities and professionals that offer comprehensive health care to all ages. Our community is also served by: Richmond State Hospital, Dunn Center, Med-Surg Plus; Richmond Walk-in Medical Center; Wayne County Health Department; Wayne County Nursing Division; West Side Medical Clinic; Richmond Eye Center/Surgery Center; and Richmond Cataract & Laser Center.

- ❖ Cultural Institutions/Events: (A partial list for Richmond and Wayne County)
 - Richmond Art Museum is housed in the Richmond High School Campus.
 - Richmond Symphony Orchestra is an 80-piece symphony orchestra.
 - Civic Hall Performing Art Center is the scene of a host of amateur and professional events. It is the home of the Richmond Symphony Orchestra as well as dramatic and musical productions of groups and the county's public schools, Earlham College, Indiana University East, and Richmond Civic Theatre.
 - The Wayne County Historical Museum
 - Huddleston House Museum was a welcoming stopping place for the westward bound travelers on the National Road.
 - Overbeck Art Pottery Museum
 - Levi Coffin House – This National Historic Landmark is an 1839 style brick home. African-Americans fleeing slavery stopped here along the legendary Underground Railroad.
 - Hagerstown Museum
 - Joseph Moore Museum of Natural History
 - Glen Miller Park
 - Cardinal Greenway/Whitewater Gorge Trail
 - Middlefork Reservoir
 - E.G. Hill Memorial Rose Gardens and German Friendship Garden
 - Hayes Arboretum
 - The Cope Environmental Center
 - Antiques and Collectibles
 - Historic McBride Stadium is the home of the 2001 and 2002 Frontier League Champion Richmond Roosters Professional Baseball Team.

POST-PROGRAM SUMMARY

OPEN WORLD RUSSIAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

HEALTH

November 2 – November 10, 2002

Participant Names

Yekaterina Vladimirovna Motorina
Arkadiy Yuryevich Myngalov
Yuri Vladimirovich Nyukhtillin
Olga Anatolyevna Orlova
Kseniya Alekseyevna Rummyantseva, Facilitator
Elena V. Siyanko, Translator

HOSTED BY: SISTER CITIES OF RICHMOND, INDIANA

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THE INTRODUCTION

The health initiative program was planned for the visitors coming from our Sister City. and also, their profession was in health care. We did not know exactly what their goals would be, so we planned a very flexible program.

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

The day at the City Building, the county offices and the county health care center went very well. They were especially interested in the City Police Department and the Drug Task Force. They were very interested in the County Health Care Center. Since this clinic serves the low-income families, they were interested in the procedures and equipment that is supplied for the clinic.

At Reid Hospital and Health Care, we had a detailed program planned. Our guests were so interested in touring the various departments of the hospital and viewing the equipment in each area, we scrapped the detailed program and only Barry MacDowell, President, gave an overview of Health Care at Reid Hospital.

Dr. Olga Orlova wanted to be in surgery with physicians so we arranged that for her. They wanted to see the ambulances and how they were equipped. We accomplished that request. I believe we met the goals of the program and that it was very successful.

The program highlights for each physician were different. For Olga it was surgery. For Yuri it was the psychiatric unit at Reid Hospital. For Arkadiy and Yekaterina it was the equipment that would help with their health care.

A list of persons our guests met is attached.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS

We enjoyed the Welcome Dinner, the theater "How I Learned to Drive," and the Farewell Dinner at Welliver's. We were sorry that we did not have a concert at the performing arts center, a production at Civic Theater, or that Indiana University East or Earlham College did not have any large concerts scheduled. The drama students presented the theater at Earlham.

HOME STAY EXPERIENCES

We housed Arkadiy and Yuriy and Ksenia in the same home because we did not know if either of the physicians spoke English. This worked very well. Gail and Bill Toedebusch said "they enjoyed all of the guests very much and would be glad to do this again."

Olga and Keaterina said they spoke average English. We thought there would be no problem in housing them separately.

At first, we found that Olga was rather difficult and did not want to be along without some of her Russian colleagues. However, it all resolved itself: Her host family, Lois and Earl Daggy wrote: "Olga was a delight! She was interested in our life-style and family, as we were in hers. We wish we had been able to communicate easier, but with lots of hand-motions and my "drawings," by the end of the week we understood each other much better. She had a good sense of humor. It was a wonderful experience for us. Thank you.

Yekaterina's host family wrote: " We had a very enjoyable time with Kate. Glad we were included in housing them. Thanks. Hosting our Russian physician proved to be challenging and reveling. Challenging because we struggled with words to communicate the medical and cultural realities of both our cultures. And revealing because we broke the barriers and protocol and were very able to honestly discuss and confront the problems and issues that are present in each of our nations. Our friendship was open and honest providing rich fruit in understanding and support of one another." Erma and John Rich were the host family for the translator, Elena Siyanco. It was our pleasure to have Elena as part of our family for eight days. We felt that because she was working very hard in translating for the group, she should have some down time when she did not have to translate. She was delightful. Barry MacDowell said that he had presented

programs before where a translator was used, but it had never gone as smoothly as it did with Elena translating. Her work was superb.

The following is a comment from Barry MacDowell, President of Reid Hospital. "Erma, our thanks go to YOU for including us. We all had a great time with them. This visit (thanks to your efforts) has done a lot for Richmond."

LESSONS LEARNED

The program needs to be in the hands of the participants before they leave Russia. If there are specific things they want or need, we should plan for them ahead of time. One of the things they wanted to do at the last minute was to go to Indianapolis. This had not been planned and there was not enough time. Perhaps next time we should allow time to take our guests to the State Capitol.

Our guests kept repeating how great the trip was. Even Olga, difficult as she was, finally expressed her gratitude and said that she managed to see and get out of the program everything that she wanted.

FOLLOW ON

Dr. Toedebusch will be sending some materials to Olga that she requested. I have put the idea in the mind of the Administration at Reid Hospital, that since Reid is planning to build a new hospital in the next three years, which will have all new equipment in it, what will they do with the equipment that is now being used at Reid. Would it be possible to make a gift to our Sister City's hospital? Also, Reid plans in their budget for replacing equipment frequently, and would this equipment be available as a gift? I know that we would have lots of research, planning and to make sure that Serpukhov hospital would want the equipment that would be available. This is only a starting point.

The library at Indiana University East updates their textbooks every one to two years, and they are considering sending books that Serpukhov might want.