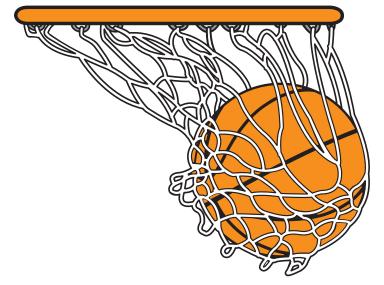


The official publication of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America







FOCA Hoopsters Return to Rutgers

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VOLUME 81 NUMBER 2

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Back Cover: Ohio District at St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center

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to showcase the talents of its membership
and, in so doing, to propagate the
Holy Orthodox Christian Faith.

Mission Statement of the **Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America**

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America is a national organization of Orthodox Christians. Our mission is to proclaim, share and reveal our Orthodox Christian Faith through service, fellowship and example. We accomplish this by:

- studying the tenets of our Faith
- supporting, encouraging and promoting Orthodox Youth ministries
- supporting, encouraging and promoting the missionary growth of our church
- encouraging and promoting unity among all Orthodox jurisdictions
- establishing practical means for Orthodox Christians to form enduring friendships on local and national levels through networking
- providing educational, cultural, social and athletic activities for the people of our Orthodox Faith.

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Chapter news

ATLANTIC DISTRICT CELEBRATES ITS 75th ANNIVERSARY























Chapter News Continues on page 17

EDITOR'S NOTES

Nicholas D. Ressetar

Editor, Orthodox Christian JOURNAL

As the summer winds down and our Disney World national convention approaches, we're putting the finishing touches on the summer issue of the *Journal*.

Our cover story is the Fellowship's largest youth event of the year: the national basketball tournament, sponsored by the South River "R" Club, with nearly 400 total participants. "FOCA Hoopsters Return to Rutgers" is the headline and our sports editor, Ken Baron, brings the comprehensive coverage with game- by-game commentary, notes & quotes, and lots of photos. Check out the pics of the championship teams, the all-stars and the awards dinner/dance. Congrats to all and to South River – and the FOCA's No. 1 couple, Allison & Michael Steffaro, cochairs – for a job well done!

Sports also covers the national summer sports tourney held in July, sponsored by the Frackville "R" Club with John Malinchok as chair. We have the scores and the photo gallery. Although it was plenty hot, a good time was had even by the duffers like yours truly. How 'bout those steaks on the grill!

This issue features the variety of American Orthodoxy. Orthodox Christian Fellowship, the campus ministry of SCOBA, updates us on its activities and reminds all that September 21st is college student Sunday. The Orthodox School Association held its 2nd annual conference in Boston in early August – thanks to Father Dan Ressetar, an attendee, for the story. And Patricia Schultz of the Weirton "O Club reports on her IOCC project with Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans.

In Fellowship news, the Atlantic District celebrates its 75th anniversary and we carry a photo gallery of the festivities; the Ohio District spent the summer camping at its own St. Vladimir's camp and the back cover depicts many pics of the fellowship in action. Thanks Leon! The Richard Miskiv memorial scholarship dinner was held once more in Passaic and donations are still being taken. We continue to promote the St. Tikhon's married seminarian housing project with more info and a pledge form. And the Upper New York State Sr. & Jr. Districts check in with their news.

The life of the greatest literary figure of the 20th century – Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn – is celebrated with select quotes from his works and Metropolitan Herman's letter of condolence to his wife. Special thanks to Serge Schmemann, editorial page editor of the *International Herald Tribune* in Paris, for his photo of Father Schmemann and Solzhenitsyn in Quebec. Memory eternal!

We round out this issue with "M Names from the Bible" in Kidz Corner – thanks to Father Stephen and Matushka Theodora again, Transitions and the Calendar. We'll return in the fall with our special Orlando convention edition. Till then . . . enjoy the Fellowship you find on these pages!

F.O.C.A. HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS-IN-BRIEF

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Summer 2008 Transitions - Continues on page 22

DEPARTED: John Haverlack, age 77, died on June 20, 2008 in Great Falls, VA at the home of his daughter, Diana, a member of the St. Mark "O" Club. He was a member of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Canonsburg, PA. His wife Esther died in 2005. In addition to Diana, he is survived by another daughter, Kathleen Haverlack, Bronxville, NY. Memory eternal!

Marriage Announcement:

Sarah Vansuch, daughter of Nicholas, Past National President, and Monica Vansuch, all of Chapter 27 (Campbell), married Joshua Wilson on May 25, 2008 at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Campbell, Ohio. Matthew Wilson, brother of the groom, served as the best man, and Jennifer Lazor, Chapter 27, was the maid of honor.



FEATURE^{stories}



His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios talks about OCF in **Keynote Address to Clergy Laity Congress**





In a recent survey released by the Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute, 78% of the clergy and 84% of the Laity say that youth and young adults leaving the Orthodox Church is the number one issue facing us today.

The importance of ministering to our Orthodox youth was underscored at the The 39th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, which took place from July 13 - 18, 2008, in Washington, D.C. In his

keynote address, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America spoke glowingly about the ministry of OCF. "In recent years we have seen the beginning of a successful reaching out 'to gather to God's home' our university students by means of OCF, the Orthodox Christian Fellowship. Today, by the grace of God, we have 270 OCF groups in an equal number of Colleges and Universities, a number steadily increasing. This is a work worth intensifying," he said.

"That's huge!" commented Chip Southworth, Director of Development and Communications for OCF, "The Archbishop talks about your ministry in his keynote address and says that it's work worth intensifying." Southworth continues, the recent study findings and obvious trends within the Church show... "This isn't just an issue, it's a mandate."

OCF Executive Director Fr. Kevin Scherer spoke about creating a safe context for our youth as they transition into college to a "standing room only" crowd at a workshop on youth ministries. Many of the Congress attendees showed their support for our young people by prominently wearing "save the youth! -ocf.net" buttons throughout the week.

Apparent everywhere was the obvious partnership and cooperation between OCF and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Fr. Mark Leonidis, OCF Board Chairman, presented a slide show of OCF's Real Break Constantinople trip to the entire congress at the Plenary Session on Thursday. He also announced a joint effort to produce a 24 hour online radio network with programming specifically aimed youth and young adults.

The National Philoptochos excitedly took up this important issue and made OCF a recipient of discretionary support. The success of OCF and its efforts to keep our youth connected to Christ and His Church depends on the support of donations from individuals and blessed organizations like Philoptochos.

Additionally, Fr. Chris Metropoulos of OCN interviewed Fr. Kevin Scherer and Chip Southworth for an upcoming program of Come Receive the Light. They discussed the incredible need and resulting success of OCF, and gave some insight into the future hopes and challenges of college ministry.

"The Clergy Laity Congress and events were a success for OCF" said Fr. Mark Leondis. "The faithful Orthodox Christians throughout the country are mature and ready to embrace and support our work. Now is the time for us to work together to reach every Orthodox college student in America for Christ and His Church."

OCF Office Moves to Indianapolis Orthodox Christian Fellowship has moved its North American Office from Boston, MA to Indianapolis, IN! The new headquarters are more centrally located and provide more space and facilities for organizing future events.

OCF will have a formal Grand Opening on October 17th together with OCF Board members and staff as well as students, clergy and parishioners from the surrounding regions. His Eminence, Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver will honor us with his presence at this special event. Our new mailing address is PO Box 6268, Fishers, IN 46038. For more information, visit our website www.ocf.net or e-mail us at info@ocf.net.



COLLEGE STUDENT SUNDAY - September 21, 2008

SCOBA has designated that the Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross, will officially be recognized as College Student Sunday each year. We are happy to announce that in 2008 College Student Sunday is September 21st! On this day, our hierarchs are asking for the support of all clergy and parishes.

OCF Student Advisory Board (SAB) and Orthodox students across America will be making presentation in their parishes. For more information on where you can catch an OCF student presentation check our website www.ocf.net as College Student Sunday nears.

The important ministry of OCF reaches thousands of Orthodox Christian students located on campuses throughout North America. Many of these students are not attached to a local worshipping community for the first time in their lives. OCF works to provide pastoral care to these young adults at this most critical juncture in their young lives.

If you are a student interested in giving a College Student Sunday presentation at your parish, please contact our office or your SAB Regional Representative.

St. Tikhon's Married Seminarian Housing Project



Sponsored by the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America



Today, perhaps more than ever, there is a crucial need for dedicated priests to serve Our Lord and His people.

"If you will be a servant to this people" (1 Kings 12:7), enter St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary in order to prepare to be that good pastor, that good shepherd who will "lay down his life for his sheep."

Why this Project?

- Assist the future spiritual leaders of our Church.
- The majority of new seminarians are married and have families.
- Ease the financial burden on married students.
- The project is significant and will make an enormous impact for all Orthodoxy in America.

Why St. Tikhon's?

We have learned through our outreach projects—St. Nicholas Christmas Project and the Adopt a Seminarian Project that housing is needed for the students.

- No on campus married student housing
- Inadequate local housing
- Limited opportunity for work

What type of housing will be built?

The housing units to be constructed on St. Tikhon's Seminary property would consist of three buildings, each containing 4 condos. Two units will have two bedrooms and two units with three bedrooms. Additionally, the units will include open space basements intended to provide common use space.

Total Expected Cost

- Each unit will cost approximately \$480,000.
- Site work is approximately \$460,000.
- Professional fees will be applicable to the total cost of the project.
- Estimated grand total is \$1,900,000, plus professional fees and permits.

How will this be paid for?

Through generous donations by Orthodox Christians like yourselves, we will be able to reach our goal.

The F.O.C.A. will be the voice and facilitator for the project, monies will be kept in a separate building account and be audited by an independent firm. **Levels of Giving**

Benefactor- \$5,000 a year for three years (\$500/month for 10 months a year)

Founder- \$2,500 a year for three years (\$250/month for 10 months a year)

Supporter- \$1,000 a year for three years (\$100/month for 10 months a year)

Donor - \$500 a year for three years (\$50/month for 10 months a year)

* Gifts of any amount would be gracioulsy accepted.

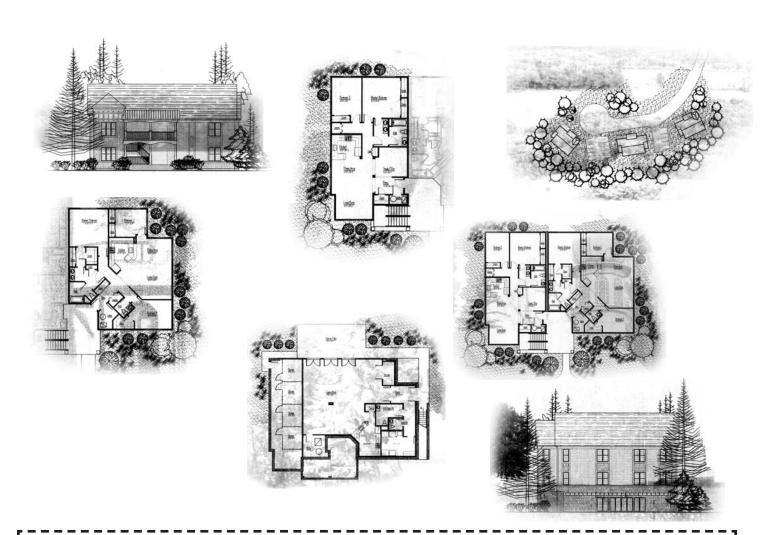
Larger gifts that are received would enable naming rights to rooms within the buildings or individual units, depending on amount given.

Students' reactions to this project

"Your efforts are an extraordinary blessing to the seminary community. Having married student housing will do more than allow St. Tikhon's Seminary to grow. It maximizes its educational impact. By bringing families into the community and providing housing, seminarians have the freedom to focus on spiritual and academic growth and an assurance that comes from having families nearby in a community of safe housing." Joel and Maria Weir, 2nd year students

"Thank you for creating a community for us. The daily interactions and neighborly friendships we will be able to develop will bless us all the days of our ministries. Thank you for your generosity that will make this possible." Mark and Suzanne Lichtenstein, 1st year students

"It is no stretch to state how this will benefit family life here for the married students. Improved living conditions, close proximity to the seminary and a closer student community are only some of the many advantages this project will create. May our merciful Lord richly bless you for your generosity." Ted and Elizabeth Brinegar, 3rd year students



St. Tikhon's Seminarian Housing Project I/We Pledge to give to the St. Tikhon's Seminarian Housing Project. (Please circle one) Benefactor-\$5,000 a year for three years (\$500/month for 10 months a year) Founder-\$2,500 a year for three years (\$250/month for 10 months a year) Supporter-\$1,000 a year for three years (\$100/month for 10 months a year) \$500 a year for three years Donor -(\$50/month for 10 months a year) Signature of Donor Date _____ Please bill me yearly for three years Please bill me monthly for three years Please bill me for the full amount pledged My employer will match my gift, enclosed is my company's matching gift form Name: Please send pledge form to: Michael Steffaro 38 Beryl Street Address: ____ South River, NJ 08882 732-698-1952 • michaelsteffaro@comcast.net Phone: Checks made payable to the F.O.C.A. or St. Tikhon's Theological Seminary Email:



ORTHODOX SCHOOL ASSOCIATION HOLDS ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN BOSTON

The second annual Conference on Orthodox Schools was held at the Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology in Boston, MA on August 1 and 2, 2008. Funded by the Virginia H. Farah Foundation, over 50 teachers, educators and interested participants attended the conference from some 15 different states, including Texas, California, Michigan, North Carolina and Georgia. It was a very enthusiastic group.

The conference was organized and run by the Orthodox School Association, based in Fort Worth, TX, which "promotes Orthodox schools in America by providing information, curricular resources, institutional supports and conferences that are specific to the needs and interests of Orthodox schools." Its founding board includes a representative of the Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops of America (SCOBA), Bishop Basil Essey.

Among the presenters at the conference was Dr. Vigen Guroian, professor of theology at Loyola College in Baltimore, MD, an author of nine books. He spoke about the importance of morality taught through fairy tales, employing Grimm's "Cinderella" as an example. Dr. Ann Bezzerides of Hellenic College discussed St. John Chrysostom's "Philosophy of Education," noting that the attributes of the "Divine Teacher" are "omnis-

cient, persuasive, humble enough to descend to the level of human limitations, and ineffably loving."

Other speakers were Rev. Simeon, abbot at St. Isaac the Syrian Skete near Bescobel, WI, who developed an Orthodox school curriculum for a school the community opened in 1993; Bryan Smith, the headmaster of St. Peter's Classical School in Fort Worth and director of the association; Kathryn Smith, his wife, who is the literature department head at Cambridge School in Dallas; V. Rev. Anthony Scott of New York, a consultant to many non-profit organizations within the Orthodox Church; and Andrew Kern, president and founder of the CIRCE Institute and co-author of the best-selling Classical Education, The Movement Sweeping America, now in its 2nd printing.

All of the speakers were Orthodox Christians and most of them are recent converts. Meals were served in the seminary cafeteria and vespers services were held each day in the seminary chapel. Representing the Center for Orthodox Christian Education of Greater Harrisburg, PA, a non-profit in the planning stage of establishing an Orthodox Christian private school, was V. Rev. Daniel Ressetar, its executive director and president. His expenses were mainly funded by Elizabeth Middlesworth, a benefactor and avid supporter. In addition to

Father Dan, other members of the executive board are active members of the Harrisburg "O" Club, #199: Elizabeth Howe, secretary, Joanne Wevodau, treasurer, Rev. Timothy Hojnicki, member, and Very Rev. Dr. Michael Kovach, consultant.

There are now 82 private Orthodox Christian schools in America, up from 42, and the movement to establish more is evident. If parents, especially those of lower incomes, were able to use the voucher system to have "school choice" to send their children to private schools, the momentum to establish Orthodox schools would The idea of having such increase. schools in our local communities will not disappear. If there was one message of this exciting conference, it was: be persistent and don't quit, no matter what

For further information on the Orthodox School Association, visit its website: www.orthodoxschools.org.



COVER^{stories}



FOCA Hoopsters Return to Rutgers

by Ken Baron



The weekend of May 9-11 saw close to 400 people gather in New Jersey for the National FOCA Basketball Tournament, hosted by the South River Junior R Club. Chairpersons Allison and Michael Steffaro did an outstanding job of overseeing the activities throughout the weekend. A number of juniors were housed by families from the host chapter with the majority of juniors and seniors staying at the Brunswick Hilton. Friday evening had over 200 juniors socializing at an event at the hotel chaired by Karen Berezniak.

Saturday morning saw the players and fans descend upon the Sonny Werblin Center on the Campus of Rutgers University. Father David Garretson led the group with an opening prayer and kind words of fellowship and sportsmanship. Details of the tournament games are listed below by category. Following the completion of play on Saturday (including some indoor afternoon swimming in the complex), vespers were held at the Hotel. The evening had over 350 people attend the beach-theme banquet, awards, and dance.

Sunday morning liturgy saw SS Peter and Paul's Church in South River packed with juniors and seniors which was followed by a brunch at the church hall co-coordinated by Pat Chydillo. Then it was back to the Werblin Center for the championship games.

Saturday 9 AM games included a bantam girls match up between defending champions Pittsburgh and the host New Jersey squad. Megan Huth scored 10 points in leading a balanced scoring attack for the Steel Town team as they coasted to a 36-9 win. Pittsburgh next defeated Minneapolis 45-18 to gain a berth in Sunday's finals as Huth scored 13 in pacing the winners while Danielle Jurichko led the St. Mary's squad. New Jersey and Minneapolis then squared off and the host squad took a narrow 12-10 halftime lead. Stephanie Johnson showed some deft ballhanding skills and pinpoint passing as NJ went on to win by a 26-15 margin. That resulted in New Jersey facing off again against Pittsburgh in the championship game on Sunday. NJ Coach Jerry Kovach changed tactics for the rematch and employed a swarming inside defensive strategy in the first half as the game was knotted 12-12 at the break Eventually the taller and more experienced Pittsburgh team prevailed with Megan Huth (MVP) pacing her team to a 27-18 win.

In the bantam boys division Pittsburgh, paced by Alex Glisan (15 points) and Luke Esswein (10), got past New Jersey A 33-16. At the same time New Jersey B faced off against a taller

Minneapolis team led by Ethan Wagner's 18 points in their win. In the next round, Cleveland's overall team speed and size, led by Jake Maholik (22) and Sam Lapso (16), was too much for New Jersey B. Minneapolis's Voytovich twins, Peter and Alex, then scored a combined 22 points against New Jersey A as they advanced to Sunday's finals. Their opponent would be Pittsburgh but Alex Glisan scored 20 of his team's 36 points as they defeated the Minneapolis boys by a narrow six point margin. In the championship game, which was one of the most exciting of the entire weekend, Minneapolis battled back from a seven point deficit in the second half with the fourth quarter being a see-saw tilt as the score changed hands six times down the stretch, with Pittsburgh eventually holding on to a one point, 33-32 victory. Alex Glisan paced the winners with 16 points while Alex Votovich had 16 markers for the runners up.

The junior girls' bracket started off with a great game as Cleveland managed a narrow 42-39 win over Minneapolis. Nadine Ellis was virtually unstoppable as she scored 27 points, overshadowing the fine 18 point effort of St. Mary's Stephanie Tomczyk. Cleveland continued their momentum in the next game as they defeated New Jersey 56-32 to gain the finals. Erica Norris and Sophia Memorich each had 14 points for the victors. Minneapolis next faced off against New Jersey and the Mid-westerners prevailed with a balanced scoring attack in their 38-24 win. The championship



match her 27 point outburst the day Cleveland defeated before as Minneapolis 52-40.

The junior boys' bracket began with a nail biter as New Jersey, led by AJ Shadrach's 16 points staved off the Wheaton boys 41-40, who was paced by Jon Voytilla who scored 34 points. In the other early round game, Pittsburgh had three players in double figures (Steve Markoff, Matt Miller, and Tom Berexa) as they posted an easy win over Minneapolis. The next round saw Pittsburgh advance to the finals with a 37-29 win over New Jersey as Miller led his team with 12 points. Wheaton outlasted Minneapolis 49-44, setting up a tie-breaker one quarter playoff against New Jersey to see who would be Pittsburgh's foe in the championship game. Gary Gaydos of NJ scored 7 of his team 9 points in the one quarter as the host squad advanced to the finals with a 9-5 win. The championship game saw eventual MVP selectee Matt Miller score 28 points as his team held off the New Jersey scoring duo of Nick Memorich and Gaydos in their 57-53 win and defense of last year's title.

The senior mens' group saw the return of previous seven time champions from Passaic who defeated Minneapolis in their first game 76-40. Passaic was led by Joe and John Junda (17 and 14 points) and Sam Poulis (12 Points) while John Bitsko led Minneapolis with 18 points. The other first round game had New Brunswick, paced by Chris Ploumitsakos (26 points) defeat New Jersey 57-37. John Fedoronko led New Jersey with 16 points. Defending champions Cleveland got into action against New Brunswick. Cleveland came back from a six point deficit late in the fourth quarter to knot the score and missed a shot at the buzzer to force overtime. New Brunswick outscored Cleveland 12-6 in the overtime stanza to advance to Sunday's finals. Minneapolis then outscored New Jersey 57-38 in the next round. The last senior men's game of the day had Passaic square off with Cleveland. Pete Dorizas scored 22 points for the New Jersev team in their 51-37 win and advancement to the finals. John Memorich had 15 points for the Cleveland team. The championship game was a fast paced, intense game with the balanced inside and outside game of Passaic led by Pete Dorizas (19), Joe Junda (17) and Glenn Gulbin (12) managing a hard-fought 51-37

In the super senior game on Saturday, Pittsburgh defeated New Jersey 46-25, led by Ed Markoff's 12 points.

Notes and Ouotes from South River

... Bob Steffaro and Ken Baron looking to pass the baton of sports committee members to some younger folks with the addition to the committee of Zach Walker and Kelly Baron, who handled the awards ceremony at Saturday's banquet... Both are sports qualified as Zach works for pro soccer team DC United and Kelly works for the NJ Devils hockey team.. Bob Steffaro also not a sharp as needed with the "zeros" when he said, regarding the FOCA interest in having a National Soccer Tournament, that there were 14,000 kids across America playing soccer nowadays... Banquet had the New Jersey "down the shore" - that meansthe beach theme... Fifth year in row that the tiebreaker method had to be used to qualify a second team for the championship round... The bantam boys finals was one of the most exciting games one could ever witness on any level – the composure of both teams playing each possession down the stretch was outstand-

ing... Excellent facilities again at

Rutgers' Sonny Werblin Center,

complete with pool availabili-

ty in the afternoon for the

kids.. Sportsmanship play

of the weekend - bantam

girls finals with eight

seconds left in the

half - whistle

diretor?...

blows on another court and New Jersey guard stops play in backcourt and Pittsburgh defender steals ball and goes in for layup with score tied - Coach from Pittsburgh calls over referee and asks that his own points be taken off the board and replayed from point of steal -Pittsburgh gets ball back and fails to score and game is knotted at the half classy sportsmanship move...Good to see the return of the Junda boys haven't lost much in the way of step or intensity.. Cleveland senior men played real well despite depleted roster... Missed having Bernie Gulachek from Minn. there – first time missing tournament in a long time due to family commitment.. Hope to see everyone next year in Minn. where we have had great tournaments in recent years... New Jersey bantam girls Coach K did a great again... Thanks again to Minneapolis and Wheaton for making the longest treks to the tournament.. Referees commented a number of times to sports committee of the fine play and sportsmanship throughout the weekend - great job getting the refs by John Witkowski and daily coordination by AJ Sivess.. Bob Steffaro seen doing his best impression of ET - "home" -"home"- home".. Maria Baron really focused during social get together on Friday at hotel... Were those chants of

"one more year,

one more year"

for the sports

2008 CHAMPIONS



Pittsburgh Bantam Boys



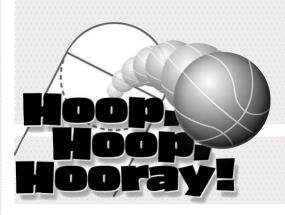
Pittsburgh Junior Boys



Passaic Senior Men



Cleveland Junior Girls





Pittsburgh Bantam Girls





Frackville "R" Club Hosts National Summer Sports Tourney



This year's national summer sports tournament was sponsored by the Frackville "R" Club, which 4 years ago hosted its first ever national event by the small chapter. It was held on Friday and Saturday,

July 18th and 19th at the scenic (and somewhat steamy) Mountain Valley Golf Course in Barnsville, PA, just off I-81, which has 3 "separate" 9 hole courses; the 4th 9 hole course is still under construction. After Saturday's round, a steak dinner was held outside on the deck overlooking the finishing hole.

The tourney was run under the aegis of National Sports Director Bob Steffaro and his protégé, Anthony Schultz. John Malinchok served as general chair. And members of the Frackville "R" Club attended the dinner, including its president, David Keysock, Nancy Malinchok and Mary Diffenderfer as did Central PA Gov Gary Lelo. National President Michael Steffaro teed off the traditional first hole on Friday. Golf results and photos are featured in this issue. Thanks to all who participated! Next year's tournament will also be held in Pennsylvania, north of Allentown, and hosted by the New Jersey District.



2008 National Summer Sports Tourney Results:



2-Day Scratch

		•	
1st Place:	Bob Steffaro		156
2nd:	Rich Grunwald		169
3rd:	Anthony Schultz		178
4th:	Joe Lear		185
5th:	John Rosella		187
6th:	John Ihnat		193
Handicap			
1st Place:	Bill Nelko		150
2nd:	John Schultz		150
3rd:	Leon Sheean		151
4th:	John Malinchok		152
5th:	John Lord		153
6th:	Steve Semachick		154
7th:	John Nelko		155
1-Day Scratch: Handicap:		Scott Cahayla	80
		Michael Steffaro	72

Scramble 2-Day: Mike Dorosh, Bill Soltis, Paul Gaynor & Nick Ressetar (Sat.)

Scramble 1-Day: Winner – Bill Dupkanick & Tony Fiuacco





Chapter news

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) Partnering with Habitat for Humanity

by Patricia Schultz St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Weirton, WV Weirton "O" Club



I had the opportunity from June 22nd-29th 2008 to go on a mission trip to New Orleans with the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). The IOCC is partnering with Habitat for Humanity for this project so upon our arrival on Sunday, we were immediately briefed by a Habitat member as to what work we would be doing for the week. We were being entrusted with the job of working on a home that would be owned by a Habitat for Humanity employee who decided to join the Habitat team permanently when she began the process of applying for a home. They explained that all Habitat homes are special to them but this one was even more important as it was going to go to one of their own. We were told that they purposely assigned this particular home to IOCC teams because they consis-

tently do good work. This was an immediate testimony to the work being completed by the Orthodox community.

Our work for the week consisted mostly of roofing as the team before us had completed the majority of the frame. Since Habitat has a limited amount of heavy machinery, this meant we would be doing a lot of heavy lifting. Using ladders, fully built roof trusses had to be lifted onto the roof with others below the ladders pushing them up. One by one, plywood pieces also had to be lifted up onto the roof. We also put in all of the windows and doors, completed the porch framing, hung most of the soffit, and put on the roofing paper. Actual temperatures were in the 90's all week and it was estimated to be over 110 degrees in the sun. It was also estimated that each person drank 10 bottles of water and 5 bottles of Gatorade each day. A highlight of the trip was getting to meet the Habitat employee who would be living in the home. Her name is Joy and she will be living there with her daughter and her elderly parents. Her parents were moved to New York after Hurricane Katrina to live with relatives but will be moving back when the home is completed.

There is still much work to be done in that area and the people there are grateful for the volunteers who continue to help 3 years later. This was evident by the free meals we would receive and by the countless numbers of people stopping us in the airport to thank us, many with tears in their eyes. It was quite an experience that made me appreciate what I have and also made me proud of the work being done by the Orthodox community. We were permitted to write messages to the family on the frame and insulation of the home and I was proud to write my name and the name of my home parish which is St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Weirton, WV. To participate, visit iocc.org.















Richard J. Miskiv Memorial Scholarship **Fundraising Beefsteak Dinner**

Saturday, May 31 saw the Sixth Annual Richard J. Miskiv Memorial Scholarship Fundraising Beefsteak Dinner held at SS. Peter and Paul's Church Hall in Passaic, NJ. Over 235 people attended the dinner, whose proceeds are used to award annual scholarships within the New Jersey District and at Garfield High School, where Richard attended, graduated, and is a member of its Athletic Hall of Fame. The committee has been very fortunate to have the continued support of the New York Mets, New Jersey Devils, Red Bulls Soccer, the PGA, Taylor Made Golf, Nike, and the New Jersey Nets and individuals including personalities at WFAN Sports Radio in New York, Hank Gola of the Daily News, and famed college basketball TV commentating great Dick Vitale (Dick was raised in Garfield also).

Richard was a member of the FROC/FOCA for close to 40 years before his untimely passing at the age of 50. He was a member of the Garfield Junior R Club and then with the Garden State R Club as a senior member. He was a constant over the years at National Conventions and participated in numerous National Bowling and Basketball Tournaments (and tried to play golf once or twice), and he had a great love for his friends throughout the organization.

The continued support of his friends within and outside of the FOCA has enabled his memory to be perpetuated. May his Memory be Eternal!

If you would like to contribute to the fund, kindly send your donation to: Richard Miskiv Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Kenneth Baron, Chairman, 338 Landi Court, Wyckoff, NJ 07481



Some of the committee members and friends at the dinner L to R - John Lord, Marie Baron, Marianne LeJava, Ken Baron, Greg Cimbolic, Donna Davis and Wally Bascik...



Nancy Gulbin and others checking out some of the close to 100 raffle prizes at the annual scholarship dinner...

FOCA CALENDAR 2008-2009



Aug 28-82nd National FOCA Convention, Disney World,

Sept 1: Orlando, FL

May 8-10: National Basketball Tournament, Minneapolis, MN

May 15-17: National Bowling Tournament, Phillipsburg/Alpha, NJ

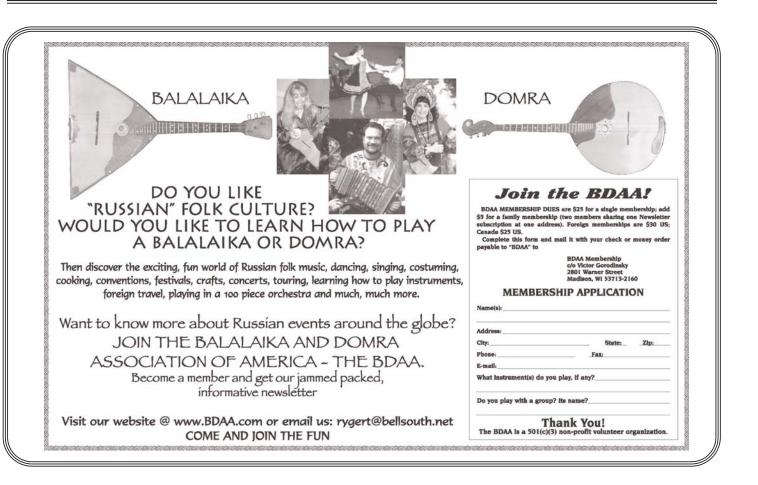
July TBA: National Summer Sports Tournament in PA

For updates and detailed info, visit www.orthodoxfellowship.org

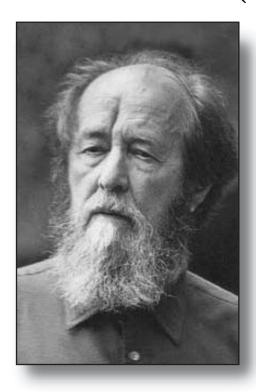
UPPER NEW YORK STATE SENIOR & JUNIOR DISTRICT NEWS

Auburn "R" Club – Noah Donch & Alexandra Monson graduated from high school and many members attended their graduation party. Endicott "R" Club — high school and college graduates, many of whom were Juniors, were recognized on Sunday, June 22nd . . . a breakfast realized \$500 toward the parish's elevator and Sunday school room project – congratulations to Marie & David Williams on the birth of their first grandchild, Geoffrey David, to daughter Kathryn and husband Kevin Grose. Herkimer – Father and Matushka James Jadick's daughter, Christina, was married to John Barnes on May 11th . . . high school grads are Natalie Chlus, daughter of David and Debie Chlus, who was salutatorian and plans to attend Bucknell, and William Richards, son of Dale and Nancy Richards, who plans to attend SUNY Cobleskill . . . John & Becky Hawranick are proud parents of a new baby daughter, Anastasia . . . Syracuse – the SS. Peter & Paul Russian Festival is set for September 27 & 28 – congrats to high school grads Alexandra Grigg, Julianna Johnson, Lexi Kondakoff, Owen McGuiness and Natasha Supensky and to college grads Mary Conroy (Buffalo), Garrett McMahon (RIT) and Kim McMahon Powers (SUNY Albany – master's in psych); and Julie Duffney would enjoy hearing from "R" Club friends – her new address is Gerald Levine Center, 298 Albany-Shaker Rd., #10, Latham, NY 12211.

Cohoes Jr. "R" Club – three members graduated from high school: Kristin Guba, Gregory Papapetros and Gregory Izzo, and will attend college in the fall – the chapter is sponsoring the Junior District Convention/Bowling Tournament on Nov. 8 & 9 . . . Endicott Jr. "R" Club – three seniors graduated from high school: Kaity Watson, a past district secretary, Andrew Bohush and Paul Binkewicz, all of whom will go on to college; and Syracuse – on June 29th they took a trip to Green Lakes State Park to celebrate the end of church school. Thanks to Father John for cooking!



ALEKSANDR I. SOLZHENITSYN (1918-2008)



"We have placed too much hope in political and social reforms, only to find out that we were being deprived of our most precious possession: our spiritual life." - A World Split Apart, Harvard, 1978

"Our envy of others devours us most of all."

"Own only what you can carry with you; know language, know countries, know people. Let your memory be your travel bag."

"Can a man who's warm understand one who's freezing?" - One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich

"For a country to have a great writer is like having a second government. That is why no regime has ever loved great writers, only minor ones." - The First Circle

"The simple step of a courageous individual is not to take part in the lie - One word of truth outweighs the world." - Nobel Prize Lecture, 1970

"Of course, God is endlessly multi-dimensional so every religion that exists on earth represents some face, some side of God."

"If humanism were right in declaring that man is born to be happy, he would not be born to die. Since his body is doomed to die, his task on earth evidently must be of a more spiritual nature. It cannot be the unrestrained enjoyment of everyday life. It cannot be the search for the best ways to obtain material goods and then cheerfully get the most out of them. It has to be the fulfillment of a permanent, earnest duty so that one's life journey may become an experience of moral growth, so that one may leave life a better human being than one started it." -AWorld Split Apart, Harvard Address, 1978

"If only it were so simple! If only there were evil people somewhere committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?" - The Gulag Archipelago

"One should never direct people towards happiness because happiness too is an idol of the marketplace. One should direct them towards mutual affection. A beast gnawing at its prey can be happy, too, but only human beings can feel affection for each other, and this is the highest achievement to which they can aspire." - Cancer Ward

"Do not pursue what is illusory – property and position: all that is gained at the expense of your nerves decade after decade can be confiscated in one fell night. Live with a steady superiority over life - don't be afraid of misfortunes and do not yearn after happiness. It is, after all, the same: the bitter doesn't last forever, and the sweet never fills the cup to overflowing."

"I myself see Christianity today as the only living spiritual force capable of undertaking the spiritual healing of Russia." - Letter to the Soviet Leaders

"It is not because the truth is too difficult to see that we make mistakes. It may even lie on the surface; but we make mistakes because the easiest and most comfortable course for us is to seek insights where it accords with our emotions - especially selfish ones." - Peace and Violence

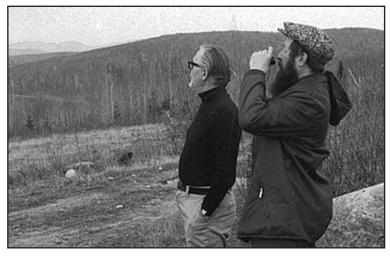
"The press can both stimulate public opinion and miseducate it. Thus we may see terrorists heroized, or secret matters pertaining to one's nation's defense

publicly revealed, or we may witness shameless intrusion on the privacy of well-known people under the slogan - 'everyone is entitled to know everything.' But this is a false slogan, characteristic of a false era: people also have the right not to know, and it is a much more valuable one. The right not to have their divine souls stuffed with gossip, nonsense, vain talk. A person who works and leads a meaningful life does not need this excessive burdening of information." - A World Split Apart, Harvard Address, 1978

Metropolitan Herman's letter to Mrs. Solzhenitsyn

On August 5, 2008, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman sent the following letter of condolence to Natalia Dmitrievna Solzhenitsyn, the wife of Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn: "We were saddened to receive the news of the passing away of your husband, Aleksandr Isaievich. We have offered prayers for his repose at the chapel of St. Sergius at the chancery of the Orthodox Church in America. We are also praying that Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ grant you and your family consolation at this sorrowful time.

"Aleksandr Isaievich was one of the great men of our times. Like the prophets of old, his writings and voice shook the world into recognition of the horrors inherent in a political system that was devoid of Christian morality and spirituality. A giant on the landscape of Russian history, he also played an important role on the world stage. During his twenty year exile from his beloved homeland, he found refuge in the United States where he could continue his research and writing. As a deeply religious man, Aleksandr Isaievich also sought spiritual sustenance while living here. We recall that your husband was a close friend with the late Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemann. Another priest of the Orthodox Church in America, Archpriest Andrew Tregubov, frequently provided Aleksandr Isaievich and your family with sacramental life and spiritual direction during your years in Vermont.



Father Alexander Schmemann and Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn (with beard) in Quebec, Canada in 1974. Photo by Serge Schmemann

"On behalf of the Holy Synod of Bishops, the clergy and laity of the Orthodox Church in America, we want to express our heartfelt condolences to you, your children, grandchildren and all of your family. Please be assured of our continued prayers for the repose of Aleksandr Isaievich. May Our Lord grant him rest with the saints and make his memory to be eternal!"

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was buried at the Donskoi Monastery (where St. Patriarch Tikhon of Moscow, Apostle to America, was kept under house arrest) on August 6th.

Memory eternal!

Summer 2008 Transitions

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: V. Rev. George and Matushka Natalie Breyan recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their home in Spring Hill, FL. A party was hosted by Matushka's nephew, Mark Kiryluk, a professional photographer and his wife, Barbara, from Denver, CO. Friends and parishioners attended the function. Father George is an alumnus of St. Vladimir's Seminary and, together with his wife, Matushka Natalie, served parishes in Manville, NJ, Hollywood, FL, Detroit, MI and a mission parish in Inverness, FL for eight years. Father George is now attached to St. Andrew's Orthodox Church in New Port Richey, FL. Both Father and Matushka were active FROC members. Father served in New Jersey on several committees and was national chaplain's aide and mission's chairman. Matushka served in several local and district offices, and was associate editor and on the Journal staff for 27 years. She was also responsible for the publication of the Journal cookbook. Many years to Father and Matushka Breyan, and a special thanks to Matushka for her many years of service to the Journal!



BIRTH: Katharyn Valerie James was born on May 24, 2008 at 7 lbs. 3.5 oz. and 20 inches to Mary Margaret (Boldish past Ohio Jr. District secretary) and Andrew James. Katharyn is the first grandchild of Nancy (Boldish - past Ohio District governor & secretary and past national recording secretary) and Ron Tusinac of Campbell, OH. Mary and Nancy are both members of the Campbell "O" Club, Chapter No. 27. Congratulations and many years!

BIRTHDAY: Mrs. Mary Vansuch celebrated her 91st birthday on July 20th. She is the mother of Past National President Nicholas Vansuch and the late Past National Spiritual Advisor V. Rev. Eugene Vansuch. She is doing fine and living in Campbell, OH. Many years!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: V. Rev. Daniel and Matushka Theodora Ressetar, Harrisburg, PA, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Palm Sunday, April 20th, the exact date of their marriage at. St. Michael's Church in Cleveland, OH. They were married by Father Jason Kappanadze and their respective fathers, Father Dimitri Ressetar and Father Vladimir Prislopsky, 1st FROC president. On their anniversary, Father Dan concelebrated the Divine Liturgy with Father Stephen Vernak, pastor of Christ the Saviour Church, and Father Michael Kovach, and Matushka directed the choir. Afterwards a fish dinner was served at the parish hall and a commemorative video, produced by their son Gregory, was shown. (To view, go to youtube.com and search for "Ressetar 50th"). Many years!



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: George and Dolores (Dolly) Manzuk of Lakewood, Ohio Chapter 13/84 recently commemorated 50 years of marriage. George's brother Father Myron (Summit, IL) co-celebrated the liturgy with Father Yves Babich (Lakewood) and many members of the parish community. A large reception followed which recognized the Manzuk's many years of dedicated service to the Lakewood parish, the Cleveland deanery, and Ohio District of the F.O.C.A.





names from the Bible



- Who led his people out of Egypt? 1.
- Who was the sister of Moses and Aaron? 2.
- Who was the Apostle called by Jesus beginning with M? (Luke 6:15) 3.
- Who were the wise men who came to see Jesus when He was born? 4. (Matthew 2:7)
- **5**. Who were the sisters of Lazarus? (John 11:18)
- Who was the father of Samson? (Judges 13:2) 6.
- What is another word for Christ? **7**. Clue: An oratorio by Handel uses this name.
- 8. What was the name of Joseph's first son? (Genesis 41:51-52)
- 9. What was one of the gifts brought to the baby Jesus by the wise men?
- 10. What was the name of David's wife? (I Samuel 19:11)



6. Manoah 7. Messiah 8. Manasseh 9. Myrrh 10. Michal Answers: 1. Moses 2. Miriam 3. Matthew 4. Magi 5. Mary & Martha



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Ohio District at St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center

