



**The Archangel Committee**  
The Greater Portland – Russian Sister City Project  
P.O. Box 105, Portland, Maine 04112 USA

**SUMMER 2018**

## **2018 AT A GLANCE**

### **January**

Committee member and Maine author Robert Kelley began working closely with us and with our friends in Archangel to gather information about the **1983** visit of Mainer Samantha Smith to the Soviet Union. Rob intends to write a book about Samantha's impact on American and Russian relations.

### **February**

Archangel City Councilor Dimitri Akishev visited Maine with his wife Svetlana and daughter Vera. They did some sightseeing and had a delightful lobster dinner with many committee members at DiMillo's Floating Restaurant on **February 1**.

### **March**

Between **March 21 and 27**, four Archangel High Schools sent student and teacher delegations to several Maine high schools. School 6 was hosted by South Portland High, School 21 was hosted by Westbrook High, and School 28 was hosted by Erskine Academy. Committee member Doug Reighley took extraordinary care of the delegation from School Number 3; their schedule included visits to Yarmouth High, Freeport High, Brunswick High, North Yarmouth Academy and the Mid Coast Waldorf School – they even had enough time for delicious tours at Wilbur's Chocolate in Freeport and Black Dinah Chocolate in Westbrook! We thank all the host schools for their flexibility in planning as U.S. visas were delayed until early March. In addition, committee member Rob Kelley took the School 6 delegation to the annual "Russian Sampler" at Colby College sponsored by the Waterville-Kotlas Committee on **March 26**.

### **April**

Committee members Christopher Copp, Marian Dalton, Carol Lord and Neale Duffett visited Archangel and participated in "America Week" activities, including numerous visits to local schools and to the Northern Arctic Federal University. In addition, the group toured the new Rescue Service Dispatch Center and participated in festivities commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Archangel Regional Rescue Service named after Igor Polivany. Committee member and Maine professional photographer Donald Verger graciously donated a large quantity of his beautiful works that were given as gifts to the City of Archangel and other institutions there as part of that City's Official Commemoration of 30 years as Sister Cities on **April 5**.

### **May**

PH International, a non-profit in Vermont, reached out and partnered with our Committee to bring to Maine a large delegation from Archangel of 14 high school basketball players and 7 basketball coaches and sports officials. After a couple of days in Boston, this group came to Maine for several days of sports activities based at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham. USM coaches Karl Henrikson, Peter Rodway and Rachele Burns graciously hosted



the delegation for numerous basketball training sessions and competitive scrimmages. While the coaches stayed in a local hotel, the students stayed in the homes of Committee members and in the homes of their counterpart Maine student athletes. Interestingly, one of the leaders of PH International who accompanied the group was Ivan Tabanin; he is a graduate of Archangel School Number 6 and he has visited Maine a number of times in the past.

### June

Committee members helped support a concert entitled *Music of the Spheres* on **June 10** at the USM Southworth Planetarium by Leela Koilpillai's Northern Lights Chorale of Maine. In addition, the City of Archangel celebrated the 434<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its founding on City Day **June 24**.

### July

Committee member and Maine rock music aficionado Jill Kaufman traveled to Archangel where she worked with Alexander Mezentsev and his rock band "Blind Vandal" and helped celebrate the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wheel Music Club on **July 15**.

### August

PH International has selected a large group of Maine high school basketball players, parents and coaches to travel to Moscow and Archangel on a grant during the period of **August 24 to September 2**. Detailed planning for this trip is underway.

### September

Archangel City Councilor Donitri Akishev hopes to bring a delegation of runners and family members to Maine for the annual Maine Marathon on **September 30**. This group is awaiting U.S. visas and the race would be Dima's ninth Maine Marathon !

### October

We are hopeful that the U.S. Embassy in Moscow will provide a small grant to send the Maine Rock Band "Ogre" to Archangel to play in the huge "Belomor Boogie 2018" rock band festival on **October 6 and 7**. In addition, our Committee is awaiting notification that we will be hosting another Open World Delegation from Archangel starting **October 26**. The theme of the delegation would be "*Strengthening Existing Sister City Partnerships*" and we hope for delegates who are involved in education, fire/rescue, photography and culture.

### November

The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the establishment of our Official Sister City Relationship will be held in the Portland City Council Chamber on **Thursday, November 1 at 5:00 p.m.** (with a reception thereafter in the City Manager's Conference Room). Archangel City Hall hopes to send an Official Delegation to this event, including Mayor Igor Godzish, Deputy Mayor Nikolay Evmenov, and International Relations Specialist Zhenya Tanaseychuk. This official mayoral delegation is also currently awaiting U.S. visas. In addition, the Opening Reception of the large *Bridges of Friendship Photography Exhibition* will be on **Friday, November 9 at 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** at the Stonewall Gallery at the Yarmouth History Center. The Exhibition will feature 60 beautiful photographs submitted by members of the Portland Camera Club and the Archangel Spolokhi Camera Club and will commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Sister City Relationship. This Exhibition will run until **January 7, 2019**. FMI: Dennis Marrotte 232-4855 or Dan Glover 854-1466.

### December

There is a possibility of a People to People/Photography delegation of Mainers to Archangel.