

OCCJ

Orthodox Christian JOURNAL[®]

WINTER 2007 volume 79 number 4

"Gifts of Love"

**AND THE HISTORY OF THE FOCA/FROC
AND THE MILITARY CHAPLAINS**

The official publication of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America

**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR AND SUPPORT ALL OUR MILITARY CHAPLAINS,
AND THE SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN WHOM THEY SERVE.**

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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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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTARY

Michael Steffaro

39th National FOCA President

The Spring Board meeting just finished in Nashville and the Board of trustees and I am looking forward to an extraordinary convention this upcoming year. The facilities are superb and the convention sponsors are planning a fun-filled weekend! The Board of Trustees finished their business session in one day enabling the group to hold a discussion on Saturday about our conventions and the structure of our organization. I hope this discussion will encourage expanded local dialog and we will see some inspiring recommendations at this year's convention.

I would like to update everyone on our projects to this point. The Gifts of Love letter has gone out to all chapters and we are looking forward to a successful worthwhile project. Please encourage your parish to participate and forward your donations to Mickey Bowan our Treasurer quickly in order to begin the work on distributing the religious kits for our servicemen and servicewomen.

The young adults have sent out the requests for information in reference to any college students in your parishes; please forward those lists to Mary Woog ASAP so they can work on distributing their kits too. The icon prayer cards have been ordered and the welcome letters are done they only need to know who to send them to. In order to make this project a success we are relying on you to forward names and addresses for distribution of their kits

The married seminarian housing project is moving forward. The meeting I was to attend before the Spring Board was cancelled due to weather, but I have been in contact with the seminary since then and we have rescheduled that meeting. The seminarians have completed a very thorough survey which will provide detailed information about their needs and expectations. This survey will help guide the Board of Trustees of the seminary and our committee from the FOCA. We are still on course to provide a very detailed presentation at our next national convention.

Information on our scholarships in online and we encourage our youth to participate. The Celebrations of Faith information is also available on our website. This contest is a great way for our youth to find a way of expressing themselves on many different levels. An opportunity for our youth to communicate is very important. We might suggest to our Sunday school teachers to have all their students participate.

The Summer Sports Tournament Camp information has been mailed out. Please organize your youth in your churches to participate in this week of camp. This is a great way to meet other Orthodox Christians and the memories that are forged at our camps will last a lifetime. We are also in need of counselors, so please if you can spare a week of your time volunteer. The national sports tournaments are in their final planning stages and the respective committees have promised a fantastic time for all who participate.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a peaceful Lenten season and best wishes for a Blessed Pascha. Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

EDITOR'S NOTES

Nicholas Ressetar

Editor, *Orthodox Christian JOURNAL*

As we in the East chip our way out of ice & snow, the winter 2007 issue of the *Journal* is ready for your reading. Greetings in the New Year, and thanks to our patrons who support our publication by extending their own greetings to you!

We feature our Orthodox Christian military chaplains, and the servicemen and women whom they serve as we promote this year's "Gifts of Love" project: religious kits for our fellow Orthodox Christians in the armed forces, especially those in Iraq and Afghanistan. Taking a look back in FROC and *Journal* history, we tell the story of how our members outfitted the very 1st chaplain, Fr. Vladimir Borichevsky, in 1944. It's a remarkable story as is the account of that Easter told by Staff Sgt. Joseph Krusko. Fr. Michael Kovach, our 2nd chaplain, gives us his exclusive account of what it was like during WWII with 3 vignettes of his service. We salute them all – please support "Gifts of Love!"

Cheryl Morse announces this year's "Celebrations of Faith" creative arts contest with the theme – "Through Christ's Eyes." Check out the entry form & rules – encourage your Juniors to create an artwork and submit it. We also encourage our students to apply for national scholarships – deadline is March 31st. And for our Kidz, we republish the "Children's Page" from the 1st *Journal* of May 1927 for Pascha.

Our sports department highlights two upcoming tourneys: North Suburban Pittsburgh plugs the national basketball tournament April 20-22, and the Akron "O" Club does the same with the national bowling tournament May 18-20 (Mike Snyder as the original "M"?!). Forms are included. And let's get the National Sports Tournament (formerly Junior Olympics) going this year – "Become What You Are" July 8-14 at St. Vladimir's Camp in Ohio!

Last but not least, the Cleveland "R" Club, #4/6, promotes the 81st National FOCA Convention in Nashville this Labor Day weekend – the Grand Ole Opry will never be the same. Yes, we have the usual features, too – our Prez's message, transitions, the calendar, the Richie Miskiv dinner and more. Blessed Great Lent, we'll see you after Pascha and . . . remember to enjoy the Fellowship you find on these pages!

P.S. - Be sure to check out my cousin Victoria (Boyko) Fulwood's new chocolate shoppe for your Easter candy– www.vrchocolates.com. The matryoshka dolls are very cool! She's a member of the Olyphant "R" Club.... in Florida.

TRANSITIONS:

As this issue goes to press, we have sadly learned of two recent deaths. George Malinich, a past national officer, fell asleep in the Lord on February 14, 2007 in Binghamton, NY. He was the husband of UNYS Governor Faith Malinich and the father of Southern District Governor Neena Malinich. A full obituary will run in the next issue. Condolences may be sent to the family at 8 Johnson Road, Binghamton, NY 13905. Memory eternal!

Catherine Papaharalambos, the mother of Matushka Fran Vansuch, wife of Past National Spiritual Advisor and OCA FOS Director Father Eugene Vansuch, passed away in Warren, OH on February 8, 2007. Condolences may be sent to the family at 3110 Allen Street, Easton, PA 18045. Memory eternal!

Continued on page 12

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

Richard J. Miskiv Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dear Friends,

Last year over 250 people again turned out for the 4th Annual Richard J. Miskiv Memorial Scholarship Beefsteak Dinner Fundraiser. The overwhelming success of the past events, coupled with generous donations from those people who could not attend the dinners has permitted us to award annual scholarships. They continue to be awarded through the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA), a church-related organization in which Richard was a very involved member for nearly 40 years, as well as through Garfield High School, where Richard was a 1970 graduate and an inductee into its Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000.

This year's dinner is being held on Saturday, April 28th, again at SS. Peter and Paul's Cultural Center, located next to the Church at the corner of 3rd and Monroe Streets in Passaic. We hope to have another large turnout and provide an enjoyable evening for a worthy cause.

The ticket prices will be \$40.00 for adults and \$20.00 for children under the age of 16. The dinner will begin at 6 PM and include fruit and salad platters, ziti, filet mignon on French bread, dessert and coffee, along with beer, wine and soda. Raffle prizes, a 50-50, and silent auction items will be available for your participation. We also continue to have the support of the Nets, Devils, Mets, Rangers, Knicks, WFAN, and the PGA.

The deadline for ticket purchase is April 1st. If you have any questions, please call Ken Baron (201-848-1505) or Susan Kupec Burek (201-797-4854). If you are unable to attend the dinner, but would like to make a donation, kindly use the bottom portion of this letter.

We look forward to seeing you at the dinner in April as we gather again in memory of Richard.

With thanks for your support,

Kenneth Baron,
For the trustees

Please make checks payable to:

Richard J. Miskiv Memorial Scholarship Fund
Mail to: Kenneth Baron
338 Landi Court
Wyckoff, NJ 07481



Father Vladimir Borichevsky

This year's "Gifts of Love" project, as decided by the Myrtle Beach national convention, is kits for our fellow Orthodox Christians serving in the U.S. armed forces, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan. These kits, depending on the amount of funds raised by Fellowship members and friends, may include an icon card, prayer book, bookmark, cross, etc. We plan to have them distributed by our Orthodox Christian military chaplains.

FOCA/FROC & the Orthodox Chaplaincy

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America has a long history of supporting the military chaplaincy, extending back to the very first American Orthodox Christian chaplain, Father Vladimir Borichevsky in 1944, who was completely outfitted with all necessary supplies by the FROC (as it was then known). In his January 1944 article in the *Russian Orthodox Journal* entitled "Orthodox Chaplains Called to Service," Father Joseph Dzvovichik recalled – in rather dramatic fashion – how it came about.

"This year, 1944, we are to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Russian Orthodoxy in America. The chroniclers of this great event will not fail to include a new page in the Jubilee Book as it occurred at the eleventh hour, just as the year 1943 was coming to its end. After the Second World War broke out our Church set out to work on getting recognition as a religious organization, members of which could not be ministered by

chaplains of the three recognized religious bodies – the Roman Catholic, the Protestant and the Jewish. The number of our boys in the Armed Forces of the U.S. grew by the thousands each month. The more men mustered into the Services, the greater became the responsibility of our church to see that our boys were not denied their constitutional rights of being ministered by clergy of their own faith.

"His Eminence Metropolitan Theophilus fully understood the needs of our boys and the church's duty towards them. The boys and girls cannot be forsaken by the church in their hour of need. Our church must have chaplains who will go to these boys and girls and serve them. But first of all we must get permission from the War Department. We must prove that we are not Roman Catholics, not Protestants, and not Jews. We must show that the traditionally recognized three religious bodies could minister to their members but a large number of boys and girls were left to make their choice of one of these three bodies since there did not exist any other group. Therefore the work before our church was clear cut. It had to do something to get recognition as the fourth religious body which for over 150 years had no status in the eyes of our War Department. To facilitate matters, His Eminence appointed V. Rev. John Telep, of Garfield, N.J., to represent our church on the question of Russian Orthodox chaplains.

"For almost two years Fr. John worked, traveled and kept in close touch with the War Department. His untiring efforts finally bore results, after many, many obstacles were overcome; the 150 year old traditional recognition of three religious bodies was changed and a fourth body, the Russian Orthodox was recognized. Some of our priests volunteered to apply for War Service as Russian Orthodox chaplains. This is the beginning of the last chapter in the 150 year development of the Russian

Orthodox Church in America.

Fr. Borichevsky & Fr. Kovach: First Two Military Chaplains

"Among those that applied for chaplaincy were: V. Rev. Vladimir Lilikovich, Rev. John Kivko, Rev. Vladimir Borichevsky, Rev. Michael Kovach and Rev. Alexander Seniavsky. Fr. Borichevsky [an FROC member] was the first to receive his commission and training at Harvard University Chaplain's School. Fr. Kovach [also an FROC member] entered the Harvard Training School, but will complete his training by the end of January, 1944. . . . While Fr. Borichevsky was at the Training School I began a correspondence with him. In this manner I thought I would get an inkling as to what Fr. Vladimir had on hand in the line of equipment for his duties as the first Russian Orthodox chaplain, and when he would graduate and be ready for duty.

"In the meantime Fr. Telep informed me what he was doing in gathering the articles of equipment. He could furnish the eucharistic set, Pix and censer. So I hunted around to see what I could get. Money was immediately needed to pay for any article which could be found. I wrote and phoned to FROC National treasurer, Nicholas Coba in Bridgeport, informing him that we couldn't do a thing without money and asked for at least \$300 to pay for the articles I had lined up.

"As from a clear sky on Wednesday, December 15, I received a telegram in the early morning as follows:

'Cambridge, Mass.
December 14, 1943, 10 p.m.

Am ordered to San Francisco. Must leave Dec. 15th. Request have eucharistic equipment necessary ready. Will be in Cathedral Wednesday afternoon.

Chaplain V. Borichevsky'.

"Gifts of Love"

and the history of the FOCA/FROC and the military chaplains

Just the day before I had written Fr. Vladimir of the arrangements I was making . . . Sunday, Dec. 19th, on St. Nicholas Day, I was to have Fr. Vladimir serve Divine Liturgy in my Whitestone Church. At the end of the service we would together bless the eucharistic set, the Pix, the censer, one set of vestments, and other necessary articles. Upon receipt of a satisfactory answer from Fr. Vladimir to my request I would have gotten in touch with National FROC Board members, nearby governors and chapters, and informed them of this service, inviting them to be present, thus honoring our first chaplain and showing that the FROC is interested in bidding him Godspeed on his mission of mercy and service to our boys and girls serving our government. Instead of a response to my letter, I received the above telegram. All my plans were shattered. But Government Orders are Government Orders.

“Early Wednesday morning I assembled all the articles prepared for the chaplain, filled up my hand bag and left for the Metropolitan Council office where I was to meet Fr. Vladimir. Every minute of the day was used to find and buy other articles to completely equip our first chaplain. At the office I waited until 7 p.m. but heard nothing from Fr. Vladimir or his whereabouts. When I came home Matushka informed me that Fr. Vladimir’s train was late and said that he would call at the office early the next morning. Later on he phoned again and we arranged the time of our meeting the next morning and decided that we had to do some more shopping together.

“In the meantime I phoned treasurer Nicholas Coba asking him for more money as there was no time to waste because the chaplain was ordered to report for duty to California and would leave the following day. The next morning Fr. Vladimir came to the office where I was arranging the equipment. I showed him what I had and he seemed highly pleased with every article and the interest shown by the FROC, for he was told by me that every cent that went in the purchase of the equipment came from the big hearts of members of the FROC. He knew all about the convention resolution and fund raising for chaplain’s equipment.

“Since Fr. Vladimir had no suitcase to place the equipment in it was decided right there that the chaplain must also have a suitcase of the proper size and quality. We went out shopping. Wanamakers we found closed with signs all over the building reading ‘open at noon.’ We went up town by subway where we found some of the well-known luggage shops closed. Other well-known department stores handled luggage which was made out of composition – no leather goods. Finally we found one store where Fr. Vladimir selected his suitcase. He had his name and number embossed in gold lettering on the bag and after lunch we continued on our shopping trip. This we completed at about 4 p.m., came back to the office where we placed every article in the chaplain’s new suitcase, and all in the office bid Fr. Vladimir success in his duties as chaplain.

“Thus was Fr. Vladimir Borichevsky, our first Russian Orthodox chaplain, sent off fully equipped thru the foresight and generosity of our FROC. Fr. Vladimir looked well in his officer’s uniform and I really felt proud of him . . . a worthy representative of the Russian Orthodox Church of America . . . well equipped and trained, on duty to attend to the spiritual needs of our beloved boys and girls in the Armed Forces of our country. God speed you on your wonderful mission.”

What a remarkable, inspiring story – the Fellowship fulfilling an immediate, practical and material need in order to provide for the spiritual concerns of our Orthodox servicemen and women. The early FROC efforts to equip an FROC member as the first U.S. Orthodox military chaplain would soon bear fruit, for in the May 1944 *Journal*, editor Ivan Czap carried a story on the Paschal services celebrated by Fr. Vladimir, who had been assigned to Camp Stoneman, Calif. Staff Sgt. Joseph Krusko, an “R” Club member, filed this report:

Easter 1944

“The servicemen and women who thronged to the Easter services at Holy Trinity Cathedral in San Francisco came from all parts of the United States. From midnight until 3:30 the following morn-

ing we took part in the celebration of the Resurrection. His Eminence, Metropolitan Theophilus; he was assisted by V. Rev. Gregory Shutak, dean of Holy Trinity, the protodiakon, and Chaplain Vladimir S. Borichevsky. After services, all the servicemen and women were guests of honor at the annual Easter dinner given by the church. We had a real reunion, and the church committee made the occasion an enjoyable one.

“Despite transportation problems, several of us finally caught a bus which was to take us to Chaplain Borichevsky’s home 40 miles away. Most of us were pretty tired and the girls slept on the bus. When we arrived at our destination, Chaplain Borichevsky went on duty at his Post and the rest of us freshened up at his house. The Post Chapel is used by members of many religious faiths, and has no ikonostasis. But when we arrived for the Divine Liturgy at eleven o’clock on Easter morning, our Chaplain had placed the three-barred cross on the altar, with our familiar ikons and lighted candles and we felt as though we were in a church of our own. There were many servicemen present, a WAC, an ensign and several Greek and Russian soldiers.

“Chaplain Borichevsky gave a spiritual sermon in English on the background of Orthodoxy and the value of church to soldiers. The service was very impressive, and just being able to be there, singing the responses with a Chaplain of our own faith, gave gratifying spiritual satisfaction. It expressed somehow not only the one freedom for which we’re fighting, but something bigger which can’t be separated from our lives and singled into ‘Freedom of Religion.’ It was wonderful too to know that we Russian Orthodox had our own Chaplain ministering to those of our faith and that some of us could attend Orthodox services even though we were far from our parishes.

“After the Chapel service, the Chaplain took the names and addresses of all who were present and distributed prayer books and crosses. Copies of the *Journal* were also given out. Some of the men who are stationed at that camp told the Chaplain that they were agreeably surprised when they saw notices on the bulletin boards in the barracks, mess

halls and chapels announcing Russian Orthodox services. The men from the camp who had passes joined us, and we accompanied the Chaplain to his home where Matushka Mary Borichevsky, his wife, took over. She had prepared an excellent dinner to which all of us did justice. We started as good Russians with the blessing of the Paschal foods by the Chaplain. Our spirits were high and the gathering and dinner among these friends were good substitutes for the traditional dinner with our families. A feeling of kinship pervaded the festivities; it solidified the group into a family and made the occasion a real 'Prazdnik.'

"After the dinner we had a good time taking pictures of one another, then we went inside again and listened to a concert of Don Cossack religious recordings. We also sang Easter hymns and popular songs, and wound up with a general 'bull session.' Our group was a very happy one. Chaplain Borichevsky, before being assigned to his present post, served almost every Sunday at Holy Trinity Cathedral. There he became acquainted with many servicemen, and after talking to hundreds and hundreds of Russian Orthodox men in the armed forces, he says the church services are the thing they miss most. Deprived of contact with their own church, servicemen had no personal touch with the factors which contributed so much to their peace of mind and well being at home.

"Father Borichevsky was the first Russian Orthodox priest to receive his commission as a Chaplain. So far we have only three Chaplains in the Army and there are probably a hundred thousand young men and women of the Russian Orthodox faith, most of whom, because they are in part of the world where there are no Orthodox churches or because they cannot leave their stations, have a choice of attending the services of some other denomination or not attending at all. The proportion of chaplains to servicemen is as yet inadequate – an inadequacy comprehended most clearly by such men as Chaplain Borichevsky who has learned through his ever-widening acquaintance with men in the various branches of the armed forces how great are the spiritual needs of our men and women in service. The FROC deserves a lot of praise for the support they gave and are giving to the work of our

Chaplains, and in the publication of the prayer books, and the very fine *Journal*."

Current Active Duty Military Chaplains

These words expressed by a young soldier are just as timely and relevant for today's young and not-so-young servicemen and women. For over 60 years now, the Church's chaplains have been serving our sons and daughters in the nation's military. Many issues of the *Journal* have documented their service in Seattle, Honolulu, San Diego, Norfolk and places overseas. Help us continue bringing the Church to them by supporting this year's "Gift of Love" project and sending them kits of religious supplies. These gifts will be distributed through the network of Orthodox Christian chaplains serving in the U.S. armed forces.

Metropolitan Herman, as OCA primate, is the official endorser of chaplains as designated by the U.S. Department of Defense. This means that irrespective of jurisdiction, a priest desiring to become a chaplain must be certified and endorsed by him. Father Theodore Boback, a retired Army Lt. Col., is the dean and executive director of the Orthodox Military and Veterans Administration Chaplains; he is also spiritual advisor of the FOCA's Colonial District and its St. Andrew's "Vladicon" "O" Club in Baltimore. Father Joseph Gallick, an Army Reserve Lt. Col., is deputy director and assistant dean.

According to the OCA 2007 Sourcebook & Church Directory, there are 21 Orthodox Christian chaplains in the active duty military and another 9 in the active reserve component. 26 chaplains are retired. The active duty chaplains and their current locations are listed on the front cover.

Remember to pray for and support all our military chaplains, and the servicemen and women whom they serve. May God bless you for generously supporting this year's "Gifts of Love" project and May God continue to bless America! Contributions should be made payable to "FOCA" and sent directly to the National FOCA Treasurer Michael Bowan, 2100 Lincoln Park West, #9ES, Chicago, IL 60614-4713. Thank you!

Chaplain Michael Kovach: Our Second Military Chaplain



In the June 1944 issue of the *Journal*, the second American Orthodox military chaplain, Father Michael Kovach, was profiled. After receiving his commission in the U.S. Army, he "is now stationed at the New York Port of Embarkation. Born and raised in St. Clair, Penna., Chaplain Kovach is a graduate of the St. Clair High School, class of '37. He received his Bachelor's Degree at Columbia University, class of '42, and was graduated from St. Vladimir's Russian Orthodox Theological Seminary with the first class of 1943. He served as 'psalomschchik' at the churches in Syracuse, N.Y., Maynard, Mass., and Lakewood, Ohio. Ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Macarius on September 21, 1943 at the Pro-Cathedral in New York City. He was the pastor of the Holy Trinity Church in Springfield, Vermont until commissioned chaplain in the U.S. Army on January 2, 1944. He is a member of the Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs."

Father Michael, now living in retirement in Millersville, PA with his wife, Matushka Olga (Hubiak), recently dis-

cussed his military memories with the *Journal*. “Among the cherished items in our household’s memorabilia are the following: 1) two identical G.I. metal ‘dog tags’ with my full name, serial number and my RO (Russian Orthodox) religious designation embossed on them; and 2) a plastic photo ID card under date of 5 July 44 and signed by my Army unit’s commanding officer furnishing my full name, my military rank (1st Lt.) and my military unit (Chaplain’s Corps) on one side of the card and on the reverse side, my height, weight, color of hair & eyes, date, month & year of birth and two fingerprints. These two items attest to my service in the U.S. Army as a chaplain during World War II.

“I was commissioned as an Army Chaplain on 1 Jan. 1944 and was honorably discharged in the middle of May in 1946, having served my God, my country and my Church in this capacity for roughly thirty months. Although my military duty occurred over 60 years ago, I still vividly recall three war-time experiences which I would like to share with you.

“The first event happened at the time of the Battle of the Bulge in WWII. Our American troops who fought this battle suffered great losses in the number of soldiers killed in the fight against the Nazis. Consequently, a call went out to provide troop replacements in this struggle and our outfit was amongst those who were designated for immediate deployment overseas. In preparation for combat duty, the soldiers in our outfit traveled by military convoy from the Staten Island Terminal in New York City (where we were stationed) to Camp Drum in upper New York state. As part of our training, every member of our outfit dressed in full combat gear and was required to take part in what was referred to as the infiltration course drill. In this exercise, live ammunition was fired over us as we crawled on our bellies for a distance of fifty yards under a hedge of barbed wire which was strung all the way and which hung slightly above our crawling bodies. As we lined up to begin the drill, the sergeant in charge bellowed: “Chaplain, you take

the lead and show your men how to get the job done!” Yours truly, of course, obliged and the drill was successfully completed.

“A day or two later, we were taken to the camp’s firing range where we practiced shooting at targets with the Springfield rifle which our troops used in combat. I recall when I took aim and pulled the trigger of the rifle that the repercussion was so strong that it set me back on my backside. Surprisingly, our outfit was not sent overseas as plans had called for.

“The second episode occurred when I was serving as the Chaplain aboard the troop transport ship, the *Boringuen*. It happened in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean and in the middle of the night when one of our ship’s coal-fired boilers exploded down in the hull. At that very scary moment, everyone aboard thought that we had struck a mine and that our ship was sinking — everyone aboard except the Chaplain — yours truly — who slept through it all and was totally unaware of what had happened. I heard all about it from our ship’s recreational officer who came knocking on my cabin door early that Sunday morning — he helped me set up for all the religious services aboard the ship for which was I responsible. Had we struck a mine, in all likelihood it would have meant the end of all aboard. The good Lord, undoubtedly, was looking out after us as our lives were spared.

“Now to my third and final episode. After the explosion, our ship limped back on its own power to our home port in the States for repairs. It took quite a while to replace the ruined boiler after which we went to sea again. On this voyage the waters of the Atlantic were unbelievably as smooth as a lake. Yet, believe it or not, I became seasick for the first time. It was quite an ordeal but I recovered before long. Our destination was the French port of Le Havre in the English Channel. When we entered these waters, we ran into a ferocious storm. The waves were 65’ to 75’ high and the wind gusts in the 50 to 60 mile an hour range. I remember that the bow of the American cruiser, the *Augusta*,

was seriously damaged in this storm. Our small ship bobbed up and down like a cork amongst huge and powerful waves and managed to ride out the storm unscathed. Most interesting, the members of our ship’s crew, veteran seamen who sailed the ocean waters for a long, long time and who were never seasick, all became seasick during this storm. But there was one crew member who escaped this agony: you guessed it, the Chaplain! This led them to believe, as they reverently reminded me, that I must have had some influence with the Man Above.

“In this article I have provided you with a birds-eye view of my tour of duty as a U.S. Army Chaplain during WWII. I was privileged and honored to have had the opportunity to minister to the religious needs of the men and women who proudly wore the uniform of the U.S. Army during the Second World War among whom were those of our Orthodox Faith.”

After leaving the military, Father Michael and Matushka Olga served several parishes and he later earned his doctorate in Russian studies at the University of Pittsburgh. He became professor of Russian and special assistant to the president at Millersville University while serving many parishes as a supply priest. Now attached to Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church in Harrisburg and a member of its “O” Club, Father Michael — the last surviving member of the original military chaplains and of St. Vladimir Seminary’s first graduating class — is celebrating his 88th birthday and looks forward to attending his 70th high school reunion this spring. He remains active: serving, lecturing, preaching and writing. We thank him and all our military chaplains for their service to our country, to our servicemen and women, and to our Orthodox Church.



F.O.C.A. Creative Arts Contest Open to all Orthodox Youth

Syosset, NY January 16, 2007 - The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (F.O.C.A.) in conjunction with the Orthodox Church in America's Church-wide youth movement, announces the 5th annual National Creative Arts Contest entitled "Celebrations of Faith". The contest is open to all Church youth who are communicants in a parish or mission of a canonical Orthodox Church in North America. The program will be administered by the Junior F.O.C.A. with Mrs. Cheryl Morse of St. Mary's Cathedral, Minneapolis, Minnesota serving as national chairperson. The theme of this year's Celebration will be "Through Christ's Eyes."

There will be four age divisions for entries: Under age 10 (3rd grade and under), 4th - 6th grade, 7th - 9th grade, 10th - 12th grade. Students may submit works in any of the four arts areas: literature, music composition, photography, and visual arts. The deadline for submissions of all material accompanied by an official entry form is **March 23, 2007**. You can obtain further information including instructions and entry form on-line through the youth page of the Orthodox Church

in America's website at <http://yya.oca.org/index.asp> or through the F.O.C.A. official website at www.orthodoxfellowship.org. Questions or additional information can be obtained from Mrs. Cheryl Morse through email at camorse916@aol.com.

There is no limit to the number of entries a student may submit. A student may develop an entry in or outside church school class at the discretion of the parish priest and church school teacher. Each entry must be the original work of one student only and an adult may not alter, change, or enhance the creative integrity of a student's work. All entries will be judged on artistic merit, creativity and interpretation of the theme. All youth who submit an entry will receive recognition and chosen entries in each category will receive a savings bond.

This year winners will be announced and all entries will be displayed at the National FOCA Basketball Tournament in Pittsburgh, Pa and posted on the websites.

Celebrations of Faith Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America

This form must be filled out in its entirety for all entrants and entries and mail with submission to:

**FOCA Junior Dept: Celebrations of Faith
Cheryl Morse 4746 137th St. W. Apple Valley, MN. 55124**

Grade: _____ Age: _____

Division: _____ Under 10 (3rd grade & under) _____ 4th – 6th grade _____ 7th – 9th grade _____ 10th – 12th grade

Arts Area: _____ Literature _____ Photography _____ Musical Composition _____ Visual Arts

Title of Work: _____

Media: (example – crayons, oil, 35mm film) _____

Optional Artist Statement _____

What inspired you to do this work and how was it done? _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Parish: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail address: _____

I grant the FOCA permission to use my works for display, publications and on-line. The FOCA is not responsible for lost or damaged works. Entries may not be returned. I understand that I must be a communicant in a parish or mission of a canonical Orthodox Church in North America. I affirm that this is my own original work. **I understand that the submission of my entry into the Celebrations of Faith Creative Arts contest constitutes the above conditions.**

Signature of Student

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian (necessary if child is under 18 years of age)

**PLACE THIS FORM ON THE BACK SIDE OF ARTWORK, IN THE UPPER LEFT-HAND CORNER.
Include a postage paid/self addressed envelope if you would like your entry returned to you.**

Jr FOCA "Celebrations of Faith" National Creative Arts Contest

GENERAL PARTICIPATION RULES

Theme

The theme for the contest will be the same as the theme chosen by the Holy Synod of Bishops for the OCA's Church-wide youth movement (i.e. Champions of Faith, 2004/05) Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme are acceptable.

Eligibility

All entrants in Celebrations of Faith must be communicant in a parish or mission of a canonical Orthodox Church in North America. It is the responsibility of the local priest, Sunday school teacher or Youth worker to determine each student's eligibility in this Celebration.

Grade Divisions

Under age 10(3rd grade), 4th-6th gr, 7th-9th gr, 10th-12th gr.

Arts Areas

Students may submit works in any of the four arts areas:

- Literature
- Musical Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

Number of Entries Submitted

There is no limit to the number of entries a student may submit.

Where Students May Create the Works

A student may develop an entry in or outside the Sunday School Class at the discretion of the parish priest and church school teacher.

Originality

Each entry must be the original work of one student only. An adult may not alter, change, or enhance the creative integrity of a student's work. Because the program is designed to encourage and recognize each student's individual creativity, help from an adult or collaboration with other students is not allowed.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out and sign the OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM in its entirety.

Deadlines

Each student must submit his/her work to the National Celebrations coordinator by **March 23rd**. If a parish or region/deanery/district/diocese would like to organize a regional Celebration in coordination with the National program the regional coordinator would determine any deadline. These entries will be judged and displayed at district/diocese/national events including the National FOCA Convention.

Judging Criteria

All entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Return of Artwork

Following the district/diocese event the artwork may be displayed at a National Event such as the National Basketball Tournament or an All American Council. If your artwork is displayed as part of a National event the Youth Department will return photography and visual arts entries to the student if a self addressed/stamped envelope is included. Music and literature entries will not be returned.

Include a self addressed/stamped envelope if you wish your entry returned to you.

Awards

All youth who submit an entry to the celebrations will receive small recognition gifts.

The winning entries in each category will receive a savings bond.



81st Nashville F.O.C.A. Convention



Enjoying sweet, sorrowful songs played on melodious guitars, reliving the genteel life at southern plantations, sipping savory Tennessee whiskey, and shopping at the latest malls that Nashville has to offer await you at the 81st National FOCA Convention where **Anyone can BE A STAR** in Nashville, Tennessee from August 30 thru September 3, 2007 sponsored by the Cleveland "R" Club.

HOTEL

The Sheraton Music City Hotel, located just two miles from Nashville International Airport (BNA), will be convention headquarters. Just seven miles from downtown Nashville, the Sheraton features the largest guest rooms in the city on a sprawling, southern plantation property. Each room offers its own balcony or patio and sleigh beds with pillowtop mattresses.



Indoor and outdoor pools, lighted tennis courts, a jogging course, a relaxing Jacuzzi and an Adagio Spa are also available for your pleasure. The committee has secured a room rate of \$95 (plus tax) and parking is free. Our \$95 room rate is good from August 25—September 5, 2007. Call the Sheraton Worldwide Reservation line at 800-325-3535, our special rate is listed as FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA.

ACTIVITIES

Enjoy the best that Nashville has to offer with our off-site activities. Join us at the Grand Ole Opry for their Friday night performance. The Opry Entertainment Complex consists of four unique entertainment venues: the Grand Ole Opry House, the Acuff Theatre, the Opry Museum, and the Opry Plaza. During our visit to the Opry Entertainment Complex, you'll be treated to a grand time where star treatment and southern hospitality are the norm.

Unwind after a day of sessions with a Saturday evening dinner cruise on the Cumberland River. We will board the General Jackson Showboat for a luxurious 4-hour dinner cruise that will take us through downtown Nashville and back to the loading zone at the Opry Entertainment Complex.

The General Jackson Showboat is a 300-foot-long vessel styled in the grand tradition of the paddlewheel riverboats that cruised the great Southern waterways in the 1800s. This beautiful showboat has four massive decks which offer a variety of dining and entertainment options. Our group will be treated to a good old fashioned southern barbecue buffet dinner and live music on deck.



So pack up your cowboy hats, shine up those boots and get ready to BE A STAR IN NASHVILLE!

ADDITIONAL TRANSITIONS

DEPARTED: Past National FROC/FOCA President, Protodeacon Peter Homik, 78, fell asleep in the Lord on December 15, 2006 in Cleveland, OH. He served as national president from 1963 to 1965 and was a member of the OCA Midwest diocesan council, past council president and treasurer of St. Theodosius Cathedral, and a member of its choir. Ordained to the diaconate in June 1997, Protodeacon Peter was then assigned to the cathedral where he was much loved for his many ministries, including visitations to home-bound parishioners and teaching adult education. The Holy Synod of Bishops elevated him to the rank of protodeacon in 2006. Funeral services were led by Archbishop Job at the cathedral followed by interment in the parish cemetery. Protodeacon Peter is survived by his wife, Matushka Eugenia (Jeanne), 11720 West Valley View, Sagamore Hills, OH 44067, three children and two grandchildren. May his memory be eternal!



DEPARTED: Joseph Snyder, a past governor of the Midwest District and life-long member of St. Mary's Cathedral in Minneapolis, MN and its "O" Club, died on January 3, 2007. He was an active member of the FOCA/FROC, both locally and nationally, and also sang in the cathedral choir and served on the parish council. May his memory be eternal!

DEPARTED: Rose Junda, an active, long-time member of the New Jersey District, fell asleep in the Lord on January 15, 2007. She and her husband, Ed, were always present at national conventions and participated in many chapter and district activities. In addition to her husband, Rose is survived by sons John and Joseph and their families. Funeral services were held at St. John's Church in Passaic, NJ. Condolences may be sent to the Junda family at 135 Atkins Terrace, East Rutherford, NJ 07073. May her memory be eternal!

DEPARTED: Helen P. Russinik, 93, the mother of National Vice President Polly Walker, died on December 2, 2006. A long-time member of St. Mary's Cathedral in Minneapolis, MN, she is also survived by son Michael, brother Paul, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the cathedral followed by interment in the parish cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at 8926 Pine Bluff Court, Eden Prairie, MN 55347. May her memory be eternal!

DEPARTED: Lawrence Garman of Galesburg, IL died on December 31, 2006. He was the brother of Past National President Maurice "Pete" Garman and the uncle of National Recording Secretary Kathy Lazor. Condolences may be sent to the Garman family at 528 Sycamore Drive, Campbell, OH 44405. May his memory be eternal!

CONGRATULATIONS to Shirley Farm and Avon O'Daynik, members of New Haven chapter #92, who were both honored on January 12, 2007 by the State of Connecticut with the "Secretary of State 2006 Public Service Award" for Connecticut's 3rd District. Many years!

DEPARTED: The parish family of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church and the Madison "O" Club recently lost a dear friend. Michael (Mike) Fryntzko passed away suddenly on November 1, 2006 of natural causes. Everyone knew Michael and Michael knew everyone. Michael was a sports addict – he loved his bowling, golf and the St. Louis Cardinals. He could quote any sports statistic and knew all the latest sports gossip, but Michael – alias "Big Mike," alias "Fritz" – was much more than that. He served as an altar server, reader, choir member, "O" Club sports director and member of the church council. Michael was always there to help in every aspect of church life. Because of his schedule as night manager of the Marriott Hotel, he made himself available at times others were not able to be there. He assisted our parish priest on feast days, funerals, weddings and baptisms. He delivered Christmas baskets, picked up flowers to decorate the church, and helped at any fundraising activity held for the parish. If you needed help, Mike was there – sleep or no sleep. He loved to laugh and his laugh was contagious. After listening to one of Michael's funny stories, you always walked away with a smile on your face. He will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew him.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Mary Fryntzko. He is survived by his sister, Magdalene (Maggie) Fryntzko, aunts, uncles, cousins, godchildren and many friends. Memory eternal! – submitted by the Madison "O" Club.

DEPARTED: Earl Duffney, a dedicated, long-time member of the Watervliet "R" Club of the Upper New York State District, fell asleep in the Lord. He is survived by his wife, Julie, who served for many years as district treasurer. May his memory be eternal!

DEPARTED: Katherine Sokol departed this life on April 22, 2006 and her husband, Paul, passed away on September 2, 2006. Both were members of the Herkimer "R" Club of the Upper New York State District. May their memory be eternal!

BIRTHDAY: His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman, the spiritual leader of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, celebrated his 75th birthday on February 1, 2007. Many years, Vladyko!

BIRTHDAY: Mrs. Olga (Ressetar) Warhol will celebrate her 100th birthday on March 20, 2007. She is the mother of Eugenia Skuby, wife of Colonial District Treasurer Mark Skuby. Congratulatory cards may be sent to Olga at 234 Bellaire Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. Many years!

Chapter News

Alpha NJ

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church celebrated their 90th anniversary on October 29, 2006.

A Hierarchical Liturgy was celebrated by His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman. Also in attendance were the Very Rev. Joseph T. Chupeck, our pastor, and Dr. Very Rev. Joseph Woodill, a former pastor.

Following the Liturgy, Metropolitan Herman presented the Gramota Award to Central PA Governor Gary Lelo, Jesse Kiefer, and Margaret Kiefer (all members of St. John's Senior O Club).

To commemorate this milestone in our parish, all received a brass bookmark inscribed with a passage from Cor I-12:4-6

Pat Lelo



Back row: Reader Alexander Woodill, Altar Boy Justin Kiefer, Subdeacon Peter Ilchuk.

2nd row: Jesse Kiefer, Margaret Kiefer, V. Rev. Joseph T. Chupeck, Metropolitan Herman, Dr. Very Rev. Joseph Woodill, Archdeacon Alexei Klimitchev, Gary Lelo

Front row: Altar boys Jarret Kiefer and Nicholas Longway

FOCA CALENDAR 2007



- March 23: "Celebrations of Faith" deadline
- March 31: Deadline for Scholarship applications
- April 8: PASCHA
- April 20-22: National Basketball Tournament, Pittsburgh, PA sponsored by North Suburban #1
- May 18-20: National Bowling Tournament, Akron, OH sponsored by the Akron "O" Club
- May 27: Holy Pentecost
- May 28: Memorial Day Pilgrimage, St. Tikhon's Monastery
- July 8-14: National Sports Tournament, St. Vladimir's Camp, Ohio
- July 27-28: National Summer Sports Tournament, Weirton, WV sponsored by the Weirton OCF
- Aug 29-Sept 3: 81st National FOCA Convention, Nashville, TN sponsored by the Cleveland "R" Club, #4/6

2007 NATIONAL FOCA SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention students! The Fellowship is now accepting applications for the 2007 national scholarships: the Fred Lewis, William Fekula, John Klimkosky, Nicholas Torsky Engineering and Misha Michaelson Seminary awards. Last year \$12,000 in scholarships were distributed by the National Executive Board. Graduate students are now also eligible for scholarship awards (provided the course load requirements are met) as are military academy students. (An applicant can win up to (2) national awards only.) Applying for a national award also renders an applicant eligible for various district scholarships.

To be eligible, one must be a member from July of the previous year (i.e., July 2006) and the year of application (2007). Sandra Kapelan, FOCA national administrative secretary, serves as scholarship program administrator. Full details and the application form are available on the FOCA website: orthodoxfellowship.org. An application may also be obtained from the National FOCA Office by calling (570) 825-3158 or via email request to orthodoxfellowship@yahoo.com. **Deadline is March 31st. Apply now!**

National FOCA Sports Tournament

(The Former Junior Olympics)

St. Vladimir's Camp in Farmdale, OH
Mark your Calendars! July 8-14 2007



Become What You Are

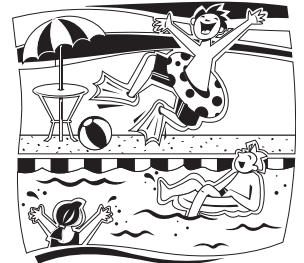
Mental, Spiritual and Physical Challenges

**\$200 for a week of Orthodox Fellowship and Fun
For Ages 10-17**

Contact either Ron Tucci at (612) 599-1125 or Neena Malinich at (321) 363-6171
Or email us at focacamp@yahoo.com



Please send all applications by June 10, 2007 to:
Neena Malinich
4023 Gallagher Loop
Casselberry, FL 32707



**TEAM CHALLENGES, POOL PARTIES, DANCES, TALENT SHOWS,
OLYMPIC AWARDS, HAY RIDES, CAMP FIRES AND MORE!!**

WANTED



CAMP COUNSELORS

National FOCA Sports Tournament

(Formerly Junior Olympics)

St. Vladimir's Camp in Farmdale, Ohio

July 8-14, 2007

Age 24 and older will receive a \$125 stipend
Age 18-23 for counselor-in-training \$75 stipend

Please contact:

Neena Malinich at (321) 363-6171
or via email focacamp@yahoo.com

For more information please visit www.orthodoxfellowship.org



“B-Ball in the Burgh II” National FOCA Basketball Tournament April 20-22, 2007



Dear Friends:

We invite you to attend the 2007 National FOCA Basketball Tournament in Pittsburgh, April 20-22, 2007. “Revisit” Pittsburgh and experience the legendary hospitality of the Pittsburgh District’s Chapter #1, North Suburban O Club.

The Basketball Committee promises this: if you join us in April, we will surprise you; we will delight you; and we will make the 2007 tournament one you will never forget! If you thought the 2004 tournament was special, wait till you experience the sequel!



Your Hotel

Located in Cranberry Township, 30 minutes north of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Marriott North is a beautiful facility at the intersection of Interstate 79 and Route 228. It’s smack in the middle of shopping centers and eateries galore, and is only 20 minutes from the gymnasiums, and 25 minutes from St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral.

Our Marriott room rate is \$99 per night, plus taxes. The cut-off date for reservations is March 21, 2007, but the hotel will likely sell out before then. So don’t delay! Call the Marriott at (724) 772-3700, and tell them you’re with the FOCA Basketball Tournament to qualify for the special rate.

Events

Plan to attend Friday’s “Burgh Blast II”, the Saturday games at the gyms at North Allegheny’s Intermediate High, McKnight Elementary, and Carson Middle Schools, Vespers at the Marriott, “Banquet in the Burgh/Ball in the Burgh II”, and Sunday Divine Liturgy at St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and the “Burgh Bread & Breakfast II” which follows in the church hall. The championship games will tip off at noon and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Check this packet for a detailed schedule, descriptions of events, and ticket order form.



Now, About Those Souvenirs

In this mailing, you will find forms for listings in the program book, great shooter shirts and tank tops, and a unique souvenir banquet centerpiece. Though we all may feel overwhelmed by solicitations, everyone knows that part of the financial success of any FOCA event depends on a well-supported souvenir campaign. Whether you plan to attend this tournament or not, won’t you please take a moment now, and order a beautiful Pittsburgh souvenir centerpiece, or place a listing in the program book, or sign up for a custom-designed shirt? We hope every team will sponsor a \$25 ad and send us a digital team photo, which we’ll run in the program book. Or root your favorite player on to victory with a “good luck” listing in the book. And our cool “B-Ball in the Burgh II” shooter shirts and tank tops are sure to please!

Yadda, Yadda, Yadda . . . Even More Information

The accompanying pages in this mailing include forms for event tickets, souvenirs, program book listings and team photo ads, and souvenir shirts, as well as lodging and housing information.

All chaperones for Juniors need to bring to the tournament and have on hand a completed parental consent form for each participant in case of an emergency. Consent forms will be available with the team registration forms and on the FOCA website.

Team registration forms will be printed in the upcoming issue of the *OCJ*, or can be downloaded from the FOCA website: www.orthodoxfellowship.org. If a chapter does not have enough bodies to field a team, they may pre-register each person as an individual player, and that person will compete on a pick-up team, or join an existing team.

So, What Are You Waiting For?

If you can't tell by now, we are REALLY excited here in Pittsburgh; not only because we're hosting the 2007 National FOCA Basketball Tournament; not only because we're anxious to show off our beautiful city and parish; not only because we have a TREMENDOUS tournament planned. We are happiest because you are coming home, to the FOCA's birthplace. It will be our privilege to welcome you, to embrace you, and to make sure you depart with magical memories of "B-Ball in the Burgh II!" The sequel will be better than the original. That's our promise!

We'll see you real soon!

IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

Chairman: Matushka Mary Wusylko
(724) 935-5423 • mwusylko@zoominternet.net

Tournament Registration: Ed Markoff
(412) 464-1139 • ed.markoff@alcoa.com

Treasurer: Janet Casciato
(724) 443-1124 • jcasciato@zoominternet.net

Local Housing: Fr. Paul Suda
(412) 366-4647 • Frpaul63@verizon.net

Registration: Chris Hamay and Laura Stephany
(724) 452-7994 • chrish@zoominternet.net
(724) 776-5728 • lauraste@nauticom.net

Tickets: Roy Glisan
(724) 935-0799 • rglisan@aircontrolscience.com

Program Book: Anne Ribar
(412) 369-0286 • aribar@comcast.net

Team digital photos should be sent to:
aribar@comcast.net

Pittsburgh Marriott North
General: (724) 772-3700
Reservations: (724) 779-4207
**(Remember to mention you're with
the FOCA Basketball Tournament)**

For more information on "**B-BALL IN THE BURGH**",
visit the FOCA website www.orthodoxfellowship.org,
and click on "National Basketball homepage".

"B-Ball in the Burgh II"
National FOCA Basketball Tournament
April 20-22, 2007



SEND ALL ENTRIES TO
National Sports Committee
Ed Markoff
3646 Venango Ave.
Munhal, Pa 15120
412-464-1139
ed.markoff@alcoa.com

FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA
2007 NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
Open to FOCA Members and all Orthodox Christians
APRIL 20-22, 2007
Sponsored by: North Suburban O Club Chapter #1
For Information Contact:
Matushka Mary Wusylo, mwusylo@zoominternet.net 724-935-5423
All entrants must pay Registration Fee and buy Banquet Ticket
(Juniors banquet ticket covered by the John Sutyak Fund)

HOUSING
Marriot North at Cranberry
100 Cranberry Woods Drive
Cranberry Twp, Pa 16006
724-772-3700
For Reservation Ask for The
FOCA National Basketball Tournament
Deadline is March 21, 2007

Bantam Boys Junior Boys Seniors Super Seniors(40+) Women Junior Girls Bantam Girls

Team Name _____ District/Orthodox Parish _____ Chapter No. _____ Coach/Mgr. _____

E-Mail _____ Phone (____) _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The FOCA sponsoring chapter cannot take responsibility for any accident to, from and during the Tournament.

We have read the Tournament Guidelines below as described on this form.

| Players' Name | Birth Date Mo/Day/Yr | Grade |
|---------------|----------------------|-------|
| 1. _____ | | |
| 2. _____ | | |
| 3. _____ | | |
| 4. _____ | | |
| 5. _____ | | |
| 6. _____ | | |
| 7. _____ | | |
| 8. _____ | | |
| 9. _____ | | |
| 10. _____ | | |

TOURNAMENT RULES

- 1) Juniors aged 14 and under are required to be housed unless staying with a parent in the hotel. No Juniors 14 and under may stay in a room without a parent.
- 2) **ALL** Juniors have a 12:30 a.m. curfew.
- 3) Alcoholic beverages, drugs, or cigarettes found on or consumed by Juniors will **DISQUALIFY** them from further participation in the Tournament for a one year period, and their parents will be notified.
- 4) Any Senior member providing a Junior with alcoholic beverages, drug, or cigarettes will be **DISQUALIFIED** from further participation in the Tournament for a one year period.
- 5) Attendance at Church on Sunday is expected.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| New Grade Cutoffs 8 th and under -Bantam 9 th to 12 th - Junior Post 12 th -Senior/Women | DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS APRIL 1, 2007 | BANQUET/MEAL TICKET RESERVATIONS Sr. \$33 / Jr. - covered by Sutyak Fund Send in with meal ticket order form. Contact: Claudia Steeb claudia9@connecttime.net 724-934-0527 | Entry Fee: \$ 100.00 per Team \$ _____ Make-Up Team Fee: \$ 15.00 per Person \$ _____ Late Fee: \$ 15.00 after April 1, 2007 \$ _____ Registration: Jr. \$.50 / Sr. \$ 1.00 \$ _____ |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Age 40 & up – Super Srs.

Make checks payable to: **FOCA – N.B.T.**

Include FOCA Registration Fees for Each Name Listed On This Form.

Akron 007... Live & Let Bowl

Come Bond With Us In Akron!

“Shaken, not stirred” – James Bond in *Dr. No*

Akron Senior ‘O’ Club Chapter 20/32 membership (aka Akron 007 Agents) invite you to **Bowl Another Day** at the 2007 National FOCA Bowling Tournament May 18 – 20, revisit 007 James Bond film parody and enjoy Akron 007 hospitality.



Arrangements are being made to provide spyne tingling adventures for the weekend. Akron 007 agents are preparing **For Your Bowling Only** at Sto-Kent Bowling Lanes, 3870 Fishcreek Rd., in Stow, Ohio. Stow is a suburb of Akron and centrally located between the hotel, banquet hall, and St. Nicholas Church. Sto-Kent Lanes are family-owned and have all the necessary accoutrements. There are also sit-down restaurants and drives-through close by. Malls and stores are within a pocketbook reach too.

Singles and Doubles bowling will be in two shifts on Friday: one at 2:00 p.m. and the other starting at 6:00 p.m. You must check the preferred shift time on each entry form. On Saturday, events start at 10:00 a.m. and continue until completed. Total fee is \$13.00 per person per event. Deadline for entry forms is May 5, 2007. Junior bowling will start Saturday at 10:00 a.m. if lanes are available. Checks should be made payable to: 2007 FOCA Bowling Tournament. Entry forms are available on-line at www.orthodoxfellowship.org -click 2007 National Bowling tab and on the next page.

The **GoldenBowl** Awards Banquet will be held Saturday after the day’s events. First however, will be Vesper services held at 6:00 p.m. in a gazebo on the banquet hall grounds (weather permitting, of course) located at Silver Springs Lodge, Stow, OH. The lodge’s windows overlook the park grounds for a beautiful view. Activities during and after the GoldenBowl banquet are still under construction; but we promise **Bowling is Forever**.

Sunday Divine Liturgy is held at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Mogadore starting at 10:00 a.m. with Fr. Nicholas Wyslutsky officiating. No activities are planned after Divine Liturgy; but we wish everyone save journey home; after all we must **Live & Let Bowl**.

Hampton Inn will serve as hotel for the tournament. It is located off Rte #8 on 4331Lakepointe Corporate Dr., Stow, just ten miles from the bowling lanes. Room rates are \$99 per night (plus taxes) and include breakfast. Each guest room is furnished with either a king bed or two queen beds. Rooms are complete with coffee maker, ironing board, and hair dryer. The hotel has an indoor heated pool and whirlpool spa to sooth tired **Bowlfinger**. Call Rebecca Simms at 1-330-945-4160 or <http://hamptoninn.hilton.com> for reservations. Reservations are due April 16.



Tournament chairperson is: Michael Snyder posing as the original “M”. Contact “M” at 330-864-3421 or Big Snyder@aol.com. Kathryn Zahirsky is president of the Akron chapter and may be reached at 800-447-1667 ext 357 (work phone) or 330-699-5505 (home phone-leave message) or KamiahKath@aol.com.

FOCA membership will soon be receiving mailings and booster-patron and advertising listings in the mail to support the program book. Boosters are \$5.00 and Patrons are \$10.00. We appreciate your patronage! Advertising and listings are due April 1st. Remember, you don’t need a **License to Bowl** just bring your partner, spouse, team members, your **Thunderball**, and enjoy your weekend in **Akron 007**.



Moral Support Sanction
High score extended to Members OF USBC

SEND ALL ENTRIES TO:
National Sports Director
ROBERT STEFFARO
 2212 Creekside Circle S
 Irving, Texas 75063
 (972) 869.0149
 pacergolf@sbcglobal.net

FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA
68th ANNUAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
 NET and HANDICAPPED — Open to FOCA Members and all Orthodox Christians
May 18-20, 2007 Awards Banquet Sat. May 19th 6:30 pm at
Silver Springs Lodge 5027 Stow Rd, Stow, Ohio following Vespers at 6:00 pm
 Reservation: Hampton Inn Stow
Reservation Deadline: April 16, 2007 Contact Rebecca Sims Phone: 330-945-4160
 Sponsored by: **Akron O Club Chapter 20/32**
 Chairman: **Mike Snyder 330-864-3421 Bigsnyder1969@aol.com**
 All entrants must pay Registration Fee and buy Banquet Ticket

Bowling: Stow Kent Lanes 3870 Fish Creek Rd Stow, OH 44224
Banquet: Sr. \$28 / Jr. \$18
PRIZE. FFF. RETURNED 100%

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

ENTRY NO _____ Four-Man _____
 _____ Singles _____
 _____ Doubles _____
 _____ All Events _____
 DATE RC'D _____ Reg. Fee _____
 _____ Make-up team _____
 _____ Banquet Ticket _____

AMOUNT REQUIRED _____
 AMOUNT DUE _____

FEES Per Person per Event

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----------------|
| Bowling Cost | \$8.25 | TOTAL |
| Prize Fee | \$4.75 | \$13.00 |

CAPT _____ E-Mail _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 TEAM NAME _____ Chapter No. _____ City _____ District/Orthodox Parish _____ Phone (____) _____

| AVG | \$13 PER | 4 PERSON TEAM - \$52.00 (MEN/WOMEN MIXED TEAM) | DOUBLES SINGLES \$13.00 PER PERSON PER EVENT | ALL EVENTS FEE | REG FEE | BANQUET | USBC NUMBER IF MEMBER |
|-----|----------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | \$5.00 | \$1.00 | Sr \$28 Jr \$18 | |
| 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. | Optional | | | |
| 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. | Makeup Team \$13.00 | | | |
| 4. | 4. | 4. | 4. | | | | |

BOWLERS MAY ONLY BOWL IN ONE TEAM EVENT

Amount Sent \$ _____

Time Preferred — Doubles and Singles: Friday: 2:00P 6:00P

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: May 5, 2007

MEN / WOMEN TEAM EVENTS - Saturday 10:00 AM
 (If two shifts are used women @ 9:00 am men @ 12:00 pm)

JUNIORS - Saturday 10:00 AM (if lanes available)
 2.75 per game paid at bowling alley

USBC members and nonmembers may participate in a USBC Moral Support certified tournament with award recognition automatically extended to USBC members. Eligible non-USBC members can qualify for USBC award by purchasing an associate membership card and paying National Dues (\$8) plus the actual dues charged by the local and state association the bowler is joining. When local and state dues are not known, adult associate dues will be \$19.

TOURNAMENT RULES – PLEASE READ

- USBC rules will prevail throughout the operation of this tournament as will the FOCA sports rules.
- No person may bowl more than once. All bowlers must be from the same chapter, unless set up by the National Sports Director.
- The winners of each event will be proclaimed National FOCA Champions and shall receive trophies and cash in net and handicap divisions.
- Failure to report for bowling at a designated time will be cause to forfeit all entry fees and be eliminated from tournament.
- Use current USBC average as of March 15, 2007. A bowler bowling in more than one league must use his or her highest league average regardless of the fact that he may participate in this tournament with the team from the league in which his or her average is lowest. (Minimum of 18 games). If a bowler has no average for this season, he is permitted to use average and further, if he has no average for either, then he is permitted to use the previous year's concluded average '05-'06. Those bowlers not having an established average are permitted to enter at an average of 160 for Men, 125 for Women. Male bowlers to be familiar with average adjustment requirements of USBC Rule 319e.
- Handicap will be 70% between average and 200 for men and 190 for women.
- Failure to use proper average or make a correction prior to completion of first game of a series shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than actual average or base winnings on submitted average if it is higher.
- All bowlers must report to alleys at least 1 1/2 hour before scheduled bowling time.
- Substitutes may be used if their name appears on entry blank.
- Bowlers who have qualified for a prize of \$300 or more in any tournament event in the past 12 months must report score, position and amount at time of entry as per 319d.
- Violation of above rules by team or bowler will subject the same to a one year suspension from FOCA tournaments. Prize Ratio will be at least one prize for each five entries in each event, except All Events which may be 1-10. (USBC Rule 308 requires at least one of each ten for each event and 1-20 for All Events.)

Applicant Signature _____
ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BEFORE MIDNIGHT May 5, 2007
 Make all checks payable to: FOCA Bowling Tournament
LATE ENTRIES WILL BE RETURNED

I CERTIFY that the people listed on this entry form are FOCA members or Orthodox Christians. I CERTIFY that the averages indicated are accurate and that any discrepancies in the averages will result in DISQUALIFICATION.



PETER'S HAPPY EASTER.

LITTLE Peter had been lying still for a long time, waiting to get well. He had been run over by an automobile and his leg was broken. He did not live in a very pleasant place, so the days crawled by slowly. He lay on the couch near a window which opened toward a dirty alley. One would never know that Spring had come, for not a bird was to be heard. No frogs piped him to sleep at night, and there was no blade of green grass in the whole alley brave enough to push its little green head above the ground.

Peter did not grieve about not being able to see the pussy willows, or any other of Spring's children. But today his large brown eyes looked very wistful. He was missing all the stories and pictures at the kindergarten. Miss Paige, the teacher, had told him what the children were going to do. Today the little brown seeds were to be planted in the window boxes, and this was the day when each child was to have a pussy willow from Miss Paige's home in the country.

In two days Easter would be here, and Peter would have to lie on his couch all day, while Miss Paige's other boys and girls were at church school, singing Easter songs and listening to the Easter story. He knew that they all had been saving pennies to buy an Easter lily for some one who was sick, but now he could not even take part in that. Little wonder that Peter was sad two days before Easter!

Easter Day finally came and Peter watched the children going to church school. It was hard for Peter to be confined in his home. He had not had a caller for the last two days. His mother would sit by his side and read to him and many pleasant hours were spent in that way. In the afternoon there was a knock at the door and Peter's mother announced six visitors to see Peter. A more surprised boy than he was when Miss Paige and five of his little friends entered the room was never seen. Two of them carried a beautiful white Easter lily and set it on the table

where it seemed to lighten the room and fill it with a delicate perfume. Three of the buds had opened up in all their beauty and seemed to nod to the patient.

Miss Paige sat down on the couch beside the boy and told him the story, which the others had heard at church school, of the first Easter—how Jesus had died on the cross to save little boys and girls, and how He rose again on Easter morning, and later ascended to His Father in Heaven. She told him that the Easter lily stood for purity and was a symbol of the life which Jesus led while on earth. No other flower could have been chosen to represent that great day which is commemorated each spring.

The children had brought their flower to him that he might have something to look at and think of until he could be up again. It was many weeks after before the last bud had blossomed and then died.

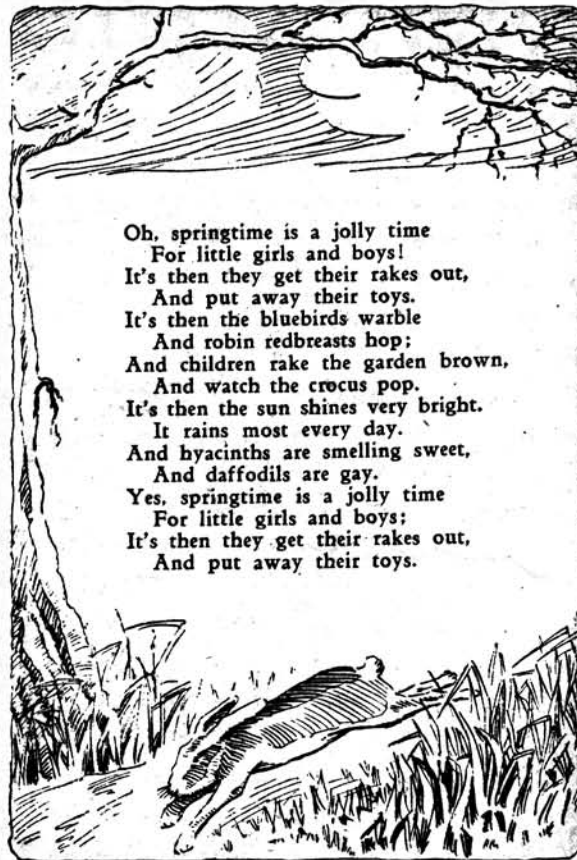
Peter's eyes shone with tears of happiness. To think that although he lived in a humble home which lacked the carpet on the floor and the usual amount of furniture that he had not missed everything after all!

Miss Paige had tried to tell him of the eagerness of Jesus to go where He is asked to come. The Lord is no respecter of person. He loves the poor as well as the rich, the dirty as well as the clean, the haughty as well as the humble, the sinner as well as the saint.

The beautiful lily was his, and the Easter story was something that could never fade from his memory. It had made an indelible impression. He tried to thank Miss Paige, but somehow the words stuck in his throat. Miss Paige saw the smile on his face and understood.

Fearing that he might get too tired with so much company, his guests said "Good-bye."

That night, as Peter lay on his pillow, he thanked the Heavenly Father who had given him kind friends, and fell asleep thinking of Him who said: "Consider the lilies of the field; they toil not, neither do they spin, but Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."



OCJ Staff Thanks You...

For Supporting The *Orthodox Christian Journal* Publication, Happy New Year!

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of
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Happy New Year!

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Chapter No. 4/6 - 4/6J
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Chapter No. 8
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Chapter No. 11
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"R" CLUB**
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Chapter No. 13/84
**LAKEWOOD
"R" CLUB**
Lakewood, Ohio

Chapter No. 18 - 18J
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"R" CLUB**
Auburn, New York

Chapter No. 20/32 - 20/32J
**AKRON
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Akron, Ohio
Chapter No. 21J
**COALDALE
JR. "O" CLUB**
Coaldale, PA

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MEMORIAL
"R" CLUB**
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Chapter No. 26 - 26J
**ANSONIA "R"
CLUB**
Ansonia, Connecticut

Chapter No. 27 - 27J
**CAMPBELL
"O" CLUB**
Campbell, Ohio

Chapter No. 30 - 30J
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"R" CLUB**
Passaic, New Jersey

Chapter No. 34 - 34J
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"R" CLUB**
Minersville, Pennsylvania

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CLUB**
Binghamton, New York

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CLUB**
St. Clair, Pennsylvania

Chapter No. 43 - 43J
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CLUB**
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- Chapter No. 44 - 44J
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- Chapter No. 47-135J
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- Chapter No. 58 - 58J
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Weirton, West Virginia
- Chapter No. 63 - 63J
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- Chapter No. 79
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- Chapter No. 80
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Hartford, Connecticut
- Chapter No. 82
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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Chapter No. 92
- NEW HAVEN "R" CLUB**
New Haven, Connecticut
- Chapter No. 94-94JJ
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- Chapter No. 96
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- Chapter No. 97
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"R" CLUB**
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- Chapter No. 105 - 105J
ALL SAINTS "R" CLUB
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- Chapter No. 107
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CLUB**
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- Chapter No. 121
**ST. TIKHON'S "R"
CLUB**
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- Chapter No. 129
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- Chapter No. 132
ELIZABETH "R" CLUB
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- Chapter No. 146
TRINITY "O" CLUB
Chicago, Illinois
- Chapter No. 150
**FRACKVILLE "R"
CLUB**
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- Chapter No. 152
**TERRYVILLE "R"
CLUB**
Terryville, Connecticut
- Chapter No. 166 - 166J
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Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
- Chapter No. 167 - 167J
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Madison, Illinois
- Chapter No. 175
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VALLEY "O" CLUB**
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- Chapter No. 180 - 180J
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Bridgeport, Connecticut
- Chapter No. 189
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CLUB**
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CLUB**
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- Chapter No. 222 - 222J
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- Chapter No. 223 - 223J
**HOLY CROSS "O"
CLUB**
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- Chapter - 228J
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JR. "R" CLUB**
Gradyville, Pennsylvania
- Chapter No. 229
**ST. MARK FOCA
CLUB**
Bethesda, Maryland
Chapter No. 246-246J
- ST. GREGORY of
PALAMAS "O" CLUB**
Glen Gardner, NJ
- Chapter No. 247
**FELLOWSHIP of
ORTHODOX
CHRISTIANS
in MISSISSIPPI**
Clinton, MS
- Chapter No. 14
**MARBLEHEAD "R"
CLUB**
Marblehead, Ohio
- Chapter No. 35 - 35J
DONORA "R" CLUB
Donora, Pennsylvania



RECYCLE!

**Use This Issue To
Encourage New
Membership**

POSTMASTER - If Undeliverable

Please Send Form 3579 To: *Orthodox Christian* JOURNAL • 10 Downs Drive, Plains Twp. • Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705-3899

2007 Theme: “Through Christ’s Eyes”

CALLING ALL ORTHODOX YOUTH TO CELEBRATE YOUR FAITH
AND PARTICIPATE IN THE F.O.C.A.’S CREATIVE ARTS CONTEST

Create and submit art projects in the following areas:

– Literature – Musical Composition – Photography – Visual Arts

Celebrations of Faith is part of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America’s participation and support of the Holy Synod of Bishops’ Orthodox Church in America Youth movement <http://yya.oca.org/index.asp>.

A detailed list of rules for each category and entry forms may be found on the FOCA website or through your Jr. Advisor or your Youth Coordinator.

Mail to: FOCA Celebration of Faith c/o Cheryl Morse
4746 137th St. W., Apple Valley, MN. 55124

Entries will be displayed and awards presented at the National F.O.C.A. Basketball Tournament in Pittsburgh, PA and posted on the OCA and F.O.C.A. websites.

Celebrations program is sponsored by:
Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (F.O.C.A.)
<http://www.orthodoxfellowship.org>