Although a fairly new club, UVSC’s Russian club has already made a difference both at UVSC and in the community at large. The impact of its members has never been more strongly demonstrated as during the days and weeks following the tragedy of September 11.

As news of the tragedy filled Americans with sadness, horror, fear and worry, members of the Russian Club presidency felt compelled to do something to help. Although there seemed to be little they could do to lessen the pain of those directly affected by these events, they showed their support by making and distributing thousands of ribbons to UVSC students.

Members of the Russian club purchased rolls of red, white and blue ribbon and boxes of pins and spent hours cutting the ribbon and putting the pins together. For nearly two weeks, boxes of these ribbons could be found at various locations throughout campus.

At a Memorial Service held in the quad on UVSC campus, a table was set up where Russian Club members worked tirelessly in the hot sun for hours to provide for the hundreds of students who wished to wear a ribbon. Students and other on-campus organizations joined in and began to make the ribbons and collect donations, which were later sent to the American Red Cross.

The table, which was also set up for several days in various other locations around campus, served as a focal point for such patriotic activities. The solidarity, sparked by the tragedy and by the patriotism of members of the Russian Club and other students, was tangible and contagious.

As a result of their efforts, club members have been nominated for the Enduring Freedom Award, one of the Wolverine Achievement Awards to be presented on Tuesday, April 9, in the Ragan Theater at UVSC at 7:30 pm.

The Utah-Russia Institute Welcomes a New Consul General

Over the years, the Utah-Russia Institute has established a strong friendship with Consul General Yuriy Popov in San Francisco.

Thus, it is with sadness that we bid him a fond farewell and wish him the best of luck and success in his new assignment.

However, each ending brings a new beginning and the Utah-Russia Institute is pleased to welcome a new Consul General: Viktor Luzin.

Dr. Rusty Butler, Honorary Consul General for the state of Utah, has already traveled to San Francisco to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Luzin.
New Support for the Russian Adoption Support Group

The Utah-Russia Institute’s (URI) Russian Adoption Support Group recently received a new level of support from the Russian government.

As Dr. Rusty Butler, Executive Director of the Utah-Russia Institute, met with new Consul General Viktor Luzin in San Francisco last week and explained the projects URI sponsors, the Consul General was particularly impressed by mention of the Russian Adoption Support Group.

He was pleased to hear of the efforts of parents to help the adopted children maintain a level of cultural awareness and expressed gratitude to URI for providing some opportunities, such as Russia Days, for these children to be exposed to the beauty of their “birth-culture.”

He further requested that URI expand the program to include all adoptive families in the western United States.

URI is excited, albeit a little overwhelmed, at the prospect of this expansion and thrilled at the trust placed in us by the Consul General.

Stanislavsky Ballet Comes to Utah

The Moscow Stanislavsky Ballet, performing full-evening productions of “A Romantic Evening of Ballet” and “Don Quixote,” with a company of 145 including 90 dancers and a full symphony orchestra, will make its Salt Lake debut June 19 through 23 with six performances at the Capitol Theatre in Salt Lake City. To purchase tickets, please call (801) 355-ARTS or visit www.arttix.org. For groups of 15 or more, discount tickets are available by calling (801) 355-2200.

The company, led by artistic director Dmitry Bryantsev, is one of Moscow’s two leading ballet companies — the other is the Bolshoi.

In the world’s dance capitals, most notably, having had its London debut just last holiday season, and its United States debut at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC in December 1998.

From the Kennedy Center, Clive Barnes of the New York Post reported, “This Moscow company is in thrilling shape.”

During 2002, the company will perform in Denver as well as in Salt Lake City.

Utah-Russia Institute Activity

Come join us for our final activity of the 2001-2002 academic year.

We are so excited at the prospect of meeting together to learn the basics of the fine art of Russian cooking!

The class will be held Saturday, April 20 at 10:30 am.

Due to the nature of this class, places are limited, so please call (801) 863-8897 to RSVP by April 10. Address and directions will be provided you at that time.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Culture Corner: Ancient Russia

This article will be the first in a series discussing some of Russia’s History, taken from the Internet at http://www.interknowledge.com/russia/rushis02.htm.

The early history of Russia, like those of many countries, is one of migrating peoples and ancient kingdoms. In fact, early Russia was not exactly "Russia," but a collection of cities that gradually coalesced into an empire.

In the early part of the 9th century, as part of the same great movement that brought the Danes to England and the Norsemen to Western Europe, a Scandinavian people known as the Varangians crossed the Baltic Sea and landed in Eastern Europe. The leader of the Varangians was the semi-legendary warrior Rurik, who led his people in 862 to the city of Novgorod on the Volkov River. Whether Rurik took the city by force or was invited to rule there, he certainly invented the city.

From Novgorod, Rurik’s successor Oleg extended the power of the city southward. In 882, he gained control of Kiev, a Slavic city that had arisen along the Dnepr River around the 5th century.

Oleg’s attainment of rule over Kiev marked the first establishment of a unified, dynastic state in the region. Kiev became the center of a trade route between Scandinavia and Constantinople, and Kievan Rus’, as the empire came to be known, flourished for the next three hundred years.

By 989, Oleg’s great-grandson Vladimir I was the ruler of a kingdom that extended as far south as the Black Sea, the Caucasus Mountains, and the lower reaches of the Volga River.

Having decided to establish a state religion, Vladimir carefully considered a number of available faiths and decided upon Greek Orthodoxy, thus allying himself with Constantinople and the West. It is said that Vladimir decided against Islam partly because of his belief that his people could not live under a religion that prohibits hard liquor.

Vladimir was succeeded by Yaroslav the Wise, whose reign marked the apogee of Kievan Rus’. Yaroslav codified laws, made shrewd alliances with other states, encouraged the arts, and all the other sorts of things that wise kings do. Unfortunately, he decided in the end to act like Lear, dividing his kingdom among his children and bidding them to cooperate and flourish. Of course, they did nothing of the sort.

Within a few decades of Yaroslav’s death (in 1054), Kievan Rus’ was rife with internecine strife and had broken up into regional power centers. Internal divisions were made worse by the depredations of the invading Cumans (better known as the Kipchaks). It was during this time (in 1147 to be exact) that Yuri Dolgorukiy, one of the regional princes, held a feast at his hunting lodge atop a hill overlooking the confluence of the Moskva and Neglinna Rivers. A chronicler recorded the party, thus providing us with the earliest mention of Moscow, the small settlement that would soon become the pre-eminent city in Russia.

Next Issue: The Mongols and the Emergence of Moscow

Upcoming Events

April
9    Wolverine Achievement Awards (7:30 pm, UVSC)
12   Russian Club Closing Social (11:00, UVSC)
13   Multicultural Barbeque (11:00, “Pockets”)
20   Russian Cooking Class
     (11:00 am, RSVP (801) 863-8897)

May
1-2  Spring and Labor Holiday (Russia)
9    Victory Day (Russia)
13   Veronica Dolina—Russian Bard
     (7:00 pm, Europa Café)

June
12   Independence Day
15-27 Russian Business Leaders Program (BYU)
19-23 Moscow Stanislavsky Ballet (Capitol Theatre)

August
10   Annual Utah-Russia Institute Picnic (11:00am)
22   Day of the Russian Federation State Flag

September
21-28 Russia Days

For more information on any of these activities or to RSVP, please call (801) 863-8897.
The Utah-Russia Institute (URI) was created in 1993 by Utah Governor Michael O. Leavitt and former Russian Prime Minister Yegor T. Gaidar. UVSC President Kerry D. Romesburg is the Chief Executive Officer. The purpose of URI is to promote mutually beneficial humanitarian, educational, cultural, commercial, and technological projects in order to foster greater understanding, friendship, free enterprise, civil society, and a strong democracy among and between the citizens of the Russian Federation and the state of Utah in particular, and the United States in general.

Recipe of the Month:
Cheese Balls

**Ingredients**
- 90 g sifted flour
- 180 g water
- 120 g hard cheese
- 45 g butter
- 2 eggs
- 1 tb milk
- Salt

**Directions:**
Separate yolks from egg whites. Grate cheese finely and season to taste. Pour water in a pan and add chopped butter. Heat the pan until butter is melted. Quickly stir in flour. Heat the pan, stirring constantly, for 4-5 minutes. Take the pan off the heat. Pour in yolks and whites, one at a time and add grated cheese, stir thoroughly. Grease a baking sheet with butter and sprinkle with flour. Divide the cheese dough into 12 parts and shape small balls. Brush the balls with an egg yolk beaten with 1 tb milk. Bake in a preheated oven at 210C (about 400F) for 25 minutes. Then turn off the heat and let the balls cool down in the oven.

Be Sure to Check Out Our
Special Olympic Edition of URI News

at

http://www.uvsc.edu/commorgs/russia/newsletters/

We’re on the web!
www.uvsc.edu/russia