Come join us for Russia Days 2001, September 22-29!

This year’s celebration is set to be the most successful and exciting yet! We have activities for the whole family, focusing on various aspects of Russian life. To start off this week of cultural experiences, come join us for “Folk Dance Fun” performed by local dance group “Narodna”. The performance will be followed by a multimedia presentation on the “History of the Russian Orthodox Church” delivered by BYU professor Victoria Michailova. Monday will bring the excitement of our annual puppet show, performed by students from the UVSC and BYU Russian Clubs. This year’s performance will be “The Frog Princess”. On Wednesday, you won’t want to miss our annual pysanka or Ukrainian egg decorating class. This class will be taught by Ingrid Hersman. You will create your own beautiful egg under her careful tutelage.

To top off the week, come to Thanksgiving Point for “The Festival”. Booths will be set up along the promenade 9-2 and entertainment will begin at 11 am. Entertainment will include the BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble, the Utah Regional Ballet, Narodna, as well as various local musical talent.

Please note: All activities are subject to change.

In addition to the scheduled events, we will have several cultural displays in the Orem City Public Library and American Fork Public Library throughout the month of September.

The Russia Days program was begun in 1998 by order of the Utah State Legislature and Governor Michael O. Leavitt who issued a concurrent resolution establishing the celebration. Governor Leavitt at that time urged the “citizens of Utah to celebrate the exchange of culture, the arts, commerce, and politics between the Russian Federation and the State of Utah.” Come join us and experience the beauty and grace of Russian culture and art.

Local Humanitarian Work 2
Russian Trivia 2
Culture Corner 3
Trivia Answers 3
Upcoming Events 3
Russian Recipe 4
### RASG/FRUA Picnic

Thanks to all who participated in our annual picnic. The weather was beautiful and we had a great time talking, laughing, playing games and eating. It was great to keep a collective eye on the children.

A special thanks to the BYU and UVSC students and the parents who helped with the games and discussing the rewards and challenges of raising children. Several of the RASG/FRUA families had adopted children within the previous month and it was wonderful to see the rapid progress each child is making.

### Local Humanitarian Work

I found a little piece of Russia here the other day. Right here in Utah. I was a little surprised to be met by vibrant pictures of very Russian scenes as I entered the Courtyard Marriott for Focus on Children’s Adoption Seminar.

The artwork was beautiful and reminded me of much that is Russian. As I talked with the organization’s staff, I heard the story of how the art projects came about.

When Focus on Children staff first visited the orphanage, they found the children drawing on crumpled scraps of dirty paper. They were told that the art program was going to be abandoned due to lack of funding and supplies. But as they looked through the work the children had done, they realized that if the program was abandoned, significant talent would go to waste.

They offered to buy the artwork, but the orphanage staff would not hear of it, fearing allegations of exploitation. Instead, they offered to give the artwork to Focus on Children. Focus on Children has agreed to display and sell this artwork at our Festival at Thanksgiving Point on September 29, so be sure to come and check it out!

### Russian Trivia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. How many time zones are there in Russia?</td>
<td>separating European and Asian Russia?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. What is the name of the famous art gallery in Moscow?</td>
<td>symbolicize?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. What is the current name of Leningrad?</td>
<td>10. What is the predominant religion in Russia today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. How many republics make up Russia?</td>
<td>In what year did Moscow become the capital of Russia?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. What mountain range constitutes a natural boundary</td>
<td>In what year did the current state symbol become the state symbol?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. In what year did Moscow become the capital of Russia?</td>
<td>What is the state symbol of Russia?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. What is the state symbol of Russia?</td>
<td>9. What does the state symbol symbolize?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. In what year did the current state symbol become the state symbol?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The school system in Russia, although somewhat different from the American educational system, has proven to be highly effective as the country boasts a literacy rate of nearly 100%.

Russian children begin school at the age of 6 and attend for 10 years. Classes typically begin in the beginning of September and end in May. Students attend classes at least five days a week, but in some instances, they even attend school on Saturdays.

Schools in Russia are generally smaller than here in America, often with only 30 to 50 students per grade. Children of all grades typically meet in the same building.

Just as the American system divides classes into Elementary, Junior High and High School, the Russian system is separated into three levels as well: Primary (4 years), Secondary (5 years) and High School (2 years).

The grading system is based on numbers rather than letters. The highest grade is a five and the lowest, although rarely given, is a one.

At the end of 11th grade, students must pass the examinations in Russian, Math and three other areas of their choice. If they succeed, they receive diplomas which allow them to apply to a university for further education.

All subjects are mandatory and include Russian literature and grammar, Algebra, Geometry, Physics, Chemistry, History, Geography, Biology, Foreign Language, Politics, Psychology, Art, Music and Ecology.

In high school, students can choose a field of interest: humanities, math or science, but they are still required to study all subjects.

---

**Culture Corner: Back to School in Russia**

---

**August’s Trivia Answers**

1. 1613-1917 are for funerals. 1.25-1.34/woman.
2. Kak dila
3. When giving flowers in Russia, always give an odd number—not a dozen.
4. March 8
5. Independence Day
6. January 7
7. Statistics vary on this but the general consensus is 1.5-2.5/woman.
8. A little home outside the city where a Russian family can maintain a garden.
9. September!!! Don’t miss out on our great activities this month!

---

**Upcoming Events**

Don’t miss out on our Russia Days celebration:

**Saturday, September 22, 7:00** Folk Dance Fun and “The History of the Russian Orthodox Church” (location to be announced)

**Sunday, September 23, 7:30** Fireside by Elder Dennis Neuenschwander on “The Growth of the LDS Church in Russia”

**Monday, September 24, 6:30** “The Frog Princess” (American Fork Library)

**Wednesday, September 26, 7:00** Pysanka (Aspen Village Apt Club House, 3043 West 3500 South, West Valley City) Please call 801-222-8897 for reservations

**Saturday, September 29, 9-2** The Festival including booths and entertainment by the Utah Regional Ballet, the BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble, Narodna, and others.
Use it every time for greasing...