

70
years
1952 2022
Anniversary of the Founding of our
All Russian Saints Parish, Burlingame, CA



VOLUME 10 NUMBER 4 September/October 2022

CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS NEWSLETTER

Церковь Всѣхъ Святыхъ въ Землѣ Россійской Просіавшихъ

MESSAGE FROM ARCHPRIEST STEFAN, RECTOR

After not serving in the Holy Altar for the longest stretch of time since ordination, I thank God for His mercy in allowing me to once again attend church in person and possibly celebrate the Holy Divine Liturgy and the Sacred Eucharist Mystery. Being confined in a hospital, then a skilled nursing facility for over seven weeks, rekindled in me the original reason why I wanted to become a priest.

As a teenager and then a young man, I knew I wanted to attend all the services of our Holy Orthodox Church – the Fasts, the Feasts and everything in-between. I knew that becoming a priest would ensure the possibility of attending many more services than I would have been able to with almost all secular jobs.

With deepest gratitude for your prayers, I thank our Parish Council, our Church Sisterhood, our Church Choir, teachers and students of our Parish School, plus our parish membership and attendees. I also wish to thank our Ruling Archbishop, His Eminence Vladyka Kyrill, and my fellow clergy for their support and prayers. I appreciate deeply the kind words and loving support that came from fellow Orthodox Christians who live in all corners

of the world. Your caring brought me through the most difficult days of my life and encouraged me through pain and anxiety not to lose hope. For this, I will be forever grateful to my spiritual family and all my dear friends.

I must also thank with all my heart, dear Matushka Tatiana and all my children, grandchildren, sisters, cousins and relatives whose continual prayers helped with my healing. Since coming to church was not an option, I “attended” church by LIVESTREAM. I prayed alongside all of you not only in Burlingame, but also at parish services at the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco, Santa Rosa, Seattle, and Washington, DC. While it was wonderful to have that

opportunity electronically, actual church attendance cannot be duplicated by anything else.

The Church New Year begins September 1/14. It would be an excellent time to redouble our efforts to attend church regularly so that skipping services would make us feel we were missing out in growing our faith for the salvation of our souls. May Our Lord Jesus Christ give us the resolve to step onto this new path. ■



The staff of St. John Kronstadt Health Care Center in Castro Valley celebrated Father Stefan's birthday during his rehabilitation from heart surgery. As soon as he is healthy, Father Stefan hopes to continue his twice-a-month Divine Liturgy services at the Care Center for both Orthodox and non-Orthodox patients and guests.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS

Ludmilla Bobroff

Our parish in Burlingame was originally established in 1952 as an Auxiliary of the Synod Headquarters in New York City. Its purpose was to serve as a summer residence for Metropolitan Anastassy (Gribanovsky) during his annual visits to the West Coast. A small group of parishioners, organized as a Brotherhood under the leadership of Vadim Krassovsky, purchased a house on the northwest corner of Carmelita and Balboa Streets in Burlingame. This small house became a house church for His Beatitude Ever Memorable Metropolitan Anastassy as he visited many churches in the Western Diocese. To the right of the Royal Doors of our Iconostasis is a priceless historic relic. The wooden staff is his Bishop's crosier, always displayed in memory of Metropolitan Anastassy's presence in our parish.

The first official Rector of our Church was Archimandrite Vasilli (Kondratovich), followed by Protopriest Nikolai Masich. During Father Nikolai's time (1958-1974), major changes occurred. Members of the still-existing Brotherhood bought and renovated a house at 744 El Camino Real, Burlingame.

Major reconstruction and remodeling started in the early 1960s and continued until 1962. Vova Krassovsky, now choir director at the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco, remembers how dedicated members of the Burlingame parish came every Saturday morning for two years to do construction work. The building was expanded in all directions with the front and back raised, as well as the roof. Vova and his younger brother, Evgeny, worked with other altar servers underneath the structure, digging holes for the pillars. The boys were the only ones small enough to fit under the foundation.

All workers, young and old, were rewarded weekly with a delicious lunch prepared by the Sisterhood. The lunches were served in the downstairs Church Hall which was in its reconstruction phase. Once the new building was completed, Vadim Krassovsky, still president of the Brotherhood, convinced Father Pavel (Gribanovsky), our parish priest but no relation to the Metropolitan, it was time for the ROCOR Synod in New York City to accept

the Church of All Russian Saints as a regular parish belonging to the Western American Diocese. Father Pavel started the process and the request was granted.

Our beloved Father Stefan Pavlenko became rector of our Church in 1981 after serving first as the rector of the Holy Trinity Church in his hometown of Vineland, New Jersey and then, at the Holy Resurrection Church in San Francisco on Sixth Avenue. By then, his new position in Burlingame included occupancy of a two-story house several blocks from the Church where he and Matushka Tatiana could raise their three children.

Father Stefan's 40 years as a parish priest in Burlingame have been filled with both joy and heartache. The Pandemic Years, 2019-2022, were the most stressful with many restrictions placed on the church by the San Mateo Health Department. With God's help, formal protocols prepared specifically for county health officials, and the full cooperation of parishioners obeying strict rules, not once did the police shut down the parish during the Covid Pandemic.

For complete historical information, including the names of clergy who served over the decades, see <https://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/parishhistory> The Church will celebrate its 70th anniversary on October 30. See Upcoming Events for more information. ■



Russian Orthodox Church of All Saints
in 1965 —

In the Anastasia Sky family album is this 1965 photograph of the newly reconstructed Church.

Memories...

VLADIKA IOANN'S BLESSING OF NEWLY INSTALLED CHURCH CROSSES ANASTASIA AND MARIA SKY

This wonderful event was filmed by my beloved husband, Miron, who reposed in 2004. I am writing this story of the Crosses in his memory, with help from our daughter, Maria.

When we moved to Burlingame in September 1961, Father Nikolai Masich, with whom I had been corresponding, welcomed us warmly into his tiny home on Balboa Street. The living room had been converted into a Church. Within two days, I joined the Sisterhood. Our sons volunteered to be altar servers. And my husband, a former lieutenant in the United States Air Force, became a very active member of the Brotherhood.

At a meeting that we attended, it was discussed that a new Church should be built to accommodate the growing congregation. Miron and I supported the project fully. Nina Bulatoff, who worked as a real estate agent, found the beautiful property where our Church is now located. To the best of my knowledge, all Brotherhood members contributed funds for the down-payment. I remember Miron making \$50 monthly payments towards the mortgage so that the debt could be paid off as soon as possible. At that time, our income was \$500 per month.

The property that was purchased was a private home and needed to be reconfigured, remodeled, and reconstructed into a church. Mr. Lodwik, a professional architect, volunteered to draw up the plans for the building and Father Nikolai offered to help paint the interior of the Church, as well as the beautiful icon in the center of the ceiling.



The construction crew carefully fitted the Cupola into its base on the roof.



Vladyka Ioann (in the center of the crowd) blesses the first Cross to be installed.

It took several years to reconfigure the building so that it could become our new Church. Then, in November 1963, it was time to place the Cupolas and the Crosses on top of the Church. Even though neither the inside or the outside of the Church was finished, Vladyka Ioann, Bishop of the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco and the future Saint John of Shanghai and San Francisco, was asked to officiate the Blessing. He agreed and the parishioners were very excited. Vladyka Ioann's reputation as a holy person and a miracle worker preceded his visit.

continued...

Memories...

When the day of the Blessing arrived, so many people attended the outdoor service that the crowd filled up the sidewalk from the front doors to the curb of El Camino Real. As the Crosses were brought out, everyone lit their candles and stood quietly watching Vladyka Ioann as he blessed each Cross. Our two sons, Nick and Misha, assisted as altar servers. After the blessing was completed, workers carefully raised each Cupola and attached them to the roof. With scaffolding still in place, the first Cross that was lifted up was the one placed on the central golden Cupola. Following it were the remaining four Crosses. Meanwhile, cars were zooming by on the busy street in front of the Church.



Although the new church building was not finished, parishioners gathered for the blessing of the Cupolas and Crosses.

My husband filmed this momentous event, but, sadly, in those days a roll of movie film was only three minutes in length. The short film does not do justice to the spiritual significance of the momentous occasion. Because the Church Hall was still not usable, no trapeza was held in celebration. But vivid memories of that day still remain.

OUR CHURCH UNDER FATHER NIKOLAI MASICH MARINA PLISSAK

My recollection is of the early 60s and 70s when a large population of Russian families moved to the Peninsula. The Burlingame Church became the center of our lives thanks to our priest, Father Nikolai (Masich), whom we all loved.

Father Nikolai was a very caring person, “a people’s priest.” He was a widower who survived the Tragedy of Lienz, and served at the Church of St. John the Forerunner in Buenos Aires before becoming rector of the Church of All Russian Saints.

Father Nikolai always found time to make house visits to the sick, the elderly, and to shut-ins. Every time he visited my mother, she always had tea brewing. Father Nikolai loved her tea with hvorost - deep-fried dough strips sprinkled with powdered sugar. He officiated at the wedding of my sister, Nina Oshurkoff-Baratoff, and baptized my niece, who was also named Nina. (I call her “Ninok”).

To our deep sorrow, our much-loved pastor departed to the Lord in 1974.

During those years, the Russian School Director was Vadim Krassovsky. The Choir Master was Alexander Butkov, and the Sisterhood was headed by Mrs. Nina Elsner. Members of the Sisterhood were mostly mothers of children who attended our Parish Russian School. We were all friends and most of us knew each other socially. The dedicated teachers and Father Nikolai provided the students with a good religious

Memories...

foundation, teaching them about Orthodoxy and the Church.

Every year, after celebrating the Feast of the Nativity, our Russian School would organize Yolkas (Christmas parties) programmed by Ludmilla Nicholaevna Krassovskaya, the mother of Vadim Krassovsky. Since she was getting on in age, Ludmilla Nicholaevna asked my sister Nina to help her out. Nina agreed. Then after the repose of Mrs. Krassovsky in 1963, Nina took over. She wrote, directed, and staged her own original plays every year until 1982 when the Baratoff family moved to Sacramento.

The Yolka plays were first held at the Burlingame Women's Club, then at the Russian Club in San Mateo, and lastly, at McKinley School across the street from the Church. The children looked forward to seeing what roles they would get so they could start memorizing the script in time for rehearsals. The three people who always helped backstage were Alyosha Parshootto, Vasia Burigin, and Oleg Baratoff.

A number of parishioners, including Igor Kozlov, Oleg Baratoff, and Alyosha Parshootto, organized a group of people to purchase and remodel a building on California Street in San Mateo in order to hold Russian community events. With a large hall, a stage, a bar, a kitchen, a library, a card room, a multi-purpose room, and a huge backyard, many events were held there, including dances, White Balls, parties, hall rentals, Yolkas, and Scouts meetings. My sister, Nina, was the leader of the girls' Scouts troop. The Russian Club was active for approximately ten years before it was liquidated.

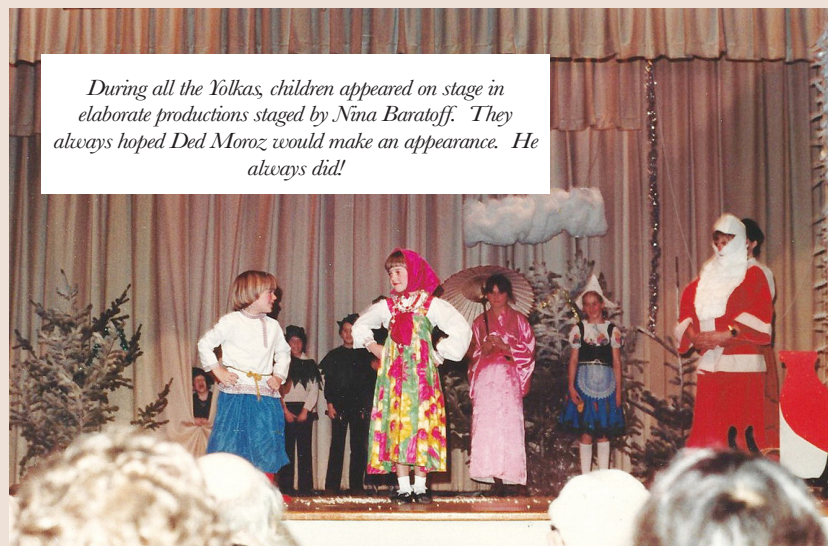


Local clergy and Burlingame Church parishioners gather around Vladyka Ioann for a festive meal. Seated left to right are Father Peter (Triodin), Protropriest Nikolai (Masich), Protropriest Nikolai (Panamoreff), boys Alexander, Misha and Evgeny Krassovsky, Vladyka Ioann, boy Victor Kurganoff, profile of Matushka Ariadna, and Father Nikolai (Dombrovsky). Standing left to right in the back row are Kolya Kuznetsov, Nina Kurganoff, Lyalya Bogoslovsky, boy Vova Krassovsky, Vadim Vladimirovich Krassovsky, Eugenia Deotroptova, Irina Bogoslovsky, and Larissa Krassovsky.



Olga and younger sister Tanya Tchepetov get ready to go onstage.

To sum up, life was wonderful in those years. Our Church was always full of God's loving people and we should always remember the love and dedication of Father Nikolai (Masich). Memory Eternal to him. ■



During all the Yolkas, children appeared on stage in elaborate productions staged by Nina Baratoff. They always hoped Ded Moroz would make an appearance. He always did!

RUSSIAN SCHOOL AKT AND WHITE BALL

Margarita Herzen

Not all end-of-school-year ceremonies and graduations are the same. Surely, the first, all-school in-person gathering after two years of very controlled distance learning and socializing, deserves special acknowledgement in the history of our Russian Orthodox School at the Church of All Russian Saints in Burlingame.

Under the energetic and creative direction of Mrs. Alexandra Vitalievna Sabelnik-Whooley, two days before our celebratory AKT was scheduled, a certain renewed camaraderie, excitement and mutual cooperation was palpable at the re-

hearsals in the Church Hall. The students practiced their songs, poems and skits enthusiastically. Engaged parents deftly set up tables, chairs and the pedagogical table full of books, awards, and certificates. All were anticipating graduation day, known as AKT, set for Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. With Father Stefan's blessing, the return to our customary celebration was being launched!

The familiar Russian proverb "malen'kaya, no udalen'kaya" with all its levity comes to mind, for that is the current demographic of our student body: twenty boys and girls, ages 9 through 16, who with the support of their parents and teachers, have persevered and, indeed, earned all the accolades of this year's AKT. It began with Father Stefan, Church Rector and Director of the School, serving a prayerful Moleben, heartwarmingly enhanced by the children's voices singing Christos Voskrese. The awards ceremony followed downstairs in the Hall, with the school choir singing Kalinka, Katiusha and Vo pole beryoza stoyala, with families in the audience joining in.

This year we honored five young men: Alexander Shkumatov, graduating from the Russian program under

the tutelage and guidance of Mrs. Svetlana O. Avdeeva; plus Alexander Buick, Brendan Ching, Lucas Klestoff, and Nikolai Motoviloff who completed the seven-year Russian-English gymnasia program under the instruction and guidance of Mrs. Alexandra V. Sabelnik-Whooley. The highest honors were earned by Alexander Buick and Alexander Shkumatov, which were Certificates of Merit of the First Degree and a Gold Medal. Lucas Klestoff and Nikolai Motoviloff earned Certificates of Merit of the 2nd Degree and Brendan Ching received a Certificate of Participation.



Father Stefan introduces the 2022 graduates. Standing left to right are Lucas Klestoff, Nikolai Motoviloff, Alexander Buick, and Alexander Shkumatov. Earning Certificates of Merit of the First Degree and a Gold Medal are Alexander Buick and Alexander Shkumatov.

The student program was a lively presentation, class by class, commencing via a recording from New Jersey, with Elena Shafranek from the Advanced Preparatory Class, sweetly reciting A. S. Pushkin's "Little Bird". She was followed by first grade students, Zoya Andruha, Nikolai Buick, Ioann Whooley, Makari Zarechnak and Alexander Friesen performing charming songs and dances to the skit "Dance of

the Mice". Ilya Shkumatov, partnered by his brother, Alexander Shkumatov, spoke rhetorically I. A. Krylov's fable "The Bear at the Ball".

A puppet show was presented by Nikita and Nikolai Nazarov titled "Steps and The Living Hat". Fourth grade students, Victoria Buick and Anya Klestoff, recited the poems "May" and "The Violet" by contemporary poets V. Berestov and E. Serova, paying homage to the lovely month of May, which was this year's graduation date. Sixth grade students Elizaveta Osipova and Maksim Ovsyannikov were confident and animated as they delivered the first five stanzas from M. Lermontov's "Borodino."

The graduates also performed brilliantly. First, Alexander Shkumatov poignantly recited an excerpt from F. I. Tyutchev's poem "To the Slavs - Greetings, Our

continued...



Father Stefan congratulates all the students for successfully completing the school year.

Dear Brothers”. Then, secondly, Alexander Buick, Lucas Klestoff and Nikolai Motoviloff performed with perfect comedic timing and aplomb the satirical and hilarious skit “Surgery” based upon a short story by Anton Chekhov. The closing Tributary Word was spoken by Alexander Shkumatov in which he related deep appreciation to Father Stefan and their teacher, Mrs. Svetlana O. Avdeeva, and over the years, Mrs. Irina A. Irklienko, Mrs. Maria S. Klestoff, and the late Mrs. Iya D. Schmidt for equipping them with knowledge and love of Orthodoxy, the Russian language, literature and culture.

The following evening a celebratory “White Ball” was held by invitation on the “San Francisco Belle” Hornblower Cruise Yacht, sailing San Francisco Bay. Each table in the beautiful hall on the top floor of the vessel was decorated with floral centerpieces artistically arranged by the mothers of the graduates. The dining room tables were identified by a Russian cultural symbol: St. Basil’s Cathedral, Hermitage Museum, Bolshoi Theater, to name a few. The delicious three-course menu was printed on cards depicting a scene from a ball such as Natasha Rostova of “War and Peace” might have attended.

The handsome and formally attired graduates in white tuxedos had invited young ladies to be their guests. As each couple entered the Dining Room, Master of Ceremonies, Misha Danich, introduced each one in his charismatic

voice. When the familiar notes of Katiusha signaled the first dance, the graduates selected their own mothers as partners.

The evening was magical. Cruising and enjoying the gentle rocking of the boat on a warm night, admiring the beautiful sights of the City and San Francisco Bay as seen through floor to ceiling windows, enjoying the conversation with convivial tablemates (especially if one was your very own priest), and watching joyful group dancing by students were memories that would never be forgotten. Thanks to the generosity of the hosting parents, the 33rd Graduating Class of the Burlingame Parish Russian School experienced a spectacular White Ball. ■



Seated at the VIP Table with their invited guests are, left to right, Lucas Klestoff, Alexander Buick, Nikolai Motoviloff, and Brendan Ching. More photos will be posted on the Church Website under the Russian School tab.

RUSSIAN SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 20

Margarita Herzen

Our “malen’kaya, no udalen’kaya” Russian School is emerging from two years of isolation and distance learning. There is no doubt the wind has been taken out of our sails somewhat. But with the collective efforts of parents and parishioners, together with Father Stefan, we are ready to announce the start of the new academic year 2022-23.

In-person Russian School will begin on Tuesday, September 20 in our Church classrooms at 744 El Camino Real, Burlingame from 4:30 until 7:20 p.m. Please attend Church Service with your children on Sunday, September 18. A moleben will be served at approximately 11:30 a.m. after Divine Liturgy.

Currently, we’re preparing the classrooms and engaging several new teachers. Information will be posted on our Church Website as soon as it is available under the “Russian School” tab. (See <http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>) We hope to have applications for registration and information about our classes posted after the Labor Day weekend.

Letters of registration will be sent out to existing families. Applications for new students will be available on the Church website and at the Candle kiosk in Church. For questions and more information, please call or write to Margarita Herzen at 650-722-1445 or margaret@4herzen.net

We are very pleased that the majority of our students will be returning to the classroom for in-person studies. Some families with conflicting schedules or transportation issues may still need to continue with distance learning. Teachers remain flexible in order to accommodate these special needs.

Our plan is to unite the entire school every six weeks, or so, at a mutually agreed date for prayer time in Church, choir lessons, a special activity and some socialization. We cherish our relationship between families and our church school, as it is vital for the success of our students.

Thank you, all, for your interest, participation and support. *The Russian School Staff.* ■

NIKOLAI KORETSKY 1939-2022

On July 15, 2022, Father Stefan announced the repose of Nikolai Koretsky, stating “Memory Eternal to Nikolai Koretsky – a great member of Our Church and Parish Council.”

Shortly afterward, Head Archivist of the Museum of Russian Culture in San Francisco, Margarita Menialenko, prepared poster boards for the funeral which showed Nikolai as president of the Museum, working with many local and international historians. Here is what Margarita wrote:

“A descendant of famous tea merchants from Kiakhhta, Nikolai Alexandrovich always preserved in his soul a love of Russian history and culture which he generously shared with his co-workers. Following in his father’s footsteps, who was a long-time head of the archival library of the Museum of Russian Culture in San Francisco, Nikolai became the president of our Museum for over 10 years (2007-2018).

“As a former designer of medium PRF airborne radars at Hughes Aircraft, Nikolai was able to create a database of cemetery records of Russians buried at the Serbian Cemetery in Colma. It is the most visited part of our Museum’s database.”

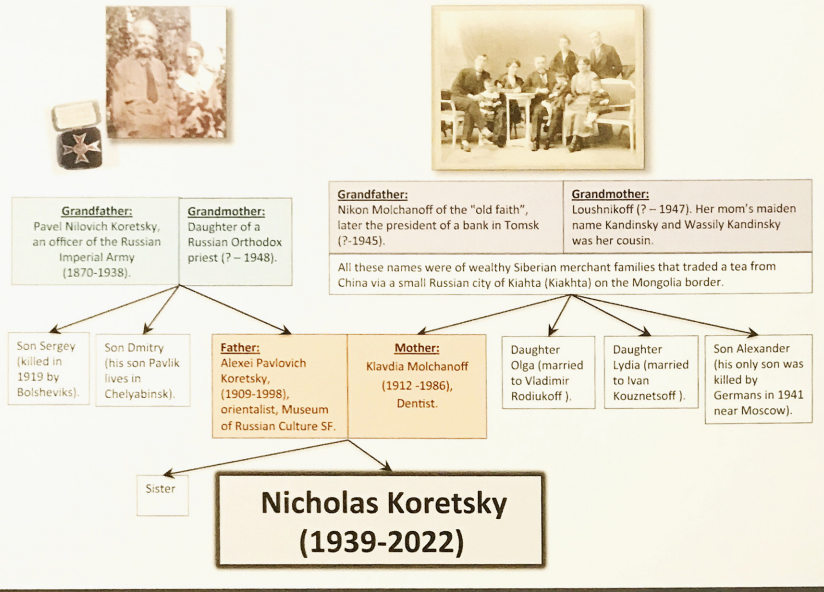
Nikolai Alexandrovich lost his beloved wife, Natasha, to pancreatic cancer in 2009. He leaves behind three sons, Alexander, Vladimir, and Andrei; two daughters-in-laws, Lisa and Ira; and four grandchildren.

For a complete history of Nikolai Koretsky’s life, go to the Church website and click on Newsletters. <http://www.allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/> Nikolai’s biography is in the January/February 2016 issue. ■

Published with the blessing of His Eminence Kyrill, Archbishop of San Francisco and Western America, Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia.

In memory of former president of The Museum of Russian Culture in San Francisco NICHOLAS KORETSKY

“KORETSKY LIFE STORY” written by Nicholas Koretsky in the year 2013



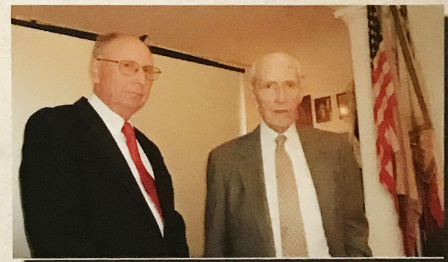
A descendant of famous tea merchants from Kiakhta, Nicholas Alexeevich always preserved in his soul a love of Russian history and culture, which he generously shared with us, his museum co-workers.

Following in his father's footsteps, who was for a long time the head of the archival library of the Museum of Russian Culture in San Francisco, Nicholas became the president of our Museum for over 10 years (from 2007 to 2018).

As a former designer of medium PRF airborne radars at Hughes Aircraft, Nicholas was able to create a database of cemetery records of Russians buried at the Russian Orthodox cemetery in Colma. It is the most visited part of our Museum's website.



Museum President N.A. Koretsky informed those who were present of the start of scanning archival materials at the Museum (3rd Meeting of the Friends of the Museum of Russian Culture, December 12, 2009).



Museum President N.A. Koretsky and son of White Army General P. Petrov - S. Petrov (7th Meeting of the Friends of the Museum of Russian Culture, January 29, 2011).



Museum President N.A. Koretsky showed a rare edition from the archive's library – the English translation of E.E. Ukhomtsov's “Journey to the East of His Imperial Highness the Heir Tsesarevich, 1890-1891”, with illustrations by artist and ethnographer N. N. Karazin and photographs by V. D. Mendelev (9th Meeting of the Friends of the Museum of Russian Culture, June 11, 2011).



Our Museum received as a gift from A.A. Kondrashov a unique photograph of the family of General N. P. Zloban (8th Meeting of the Friends of the Museum of Russian Culture, March 29, 2014).

CROSS-COUNTRY JOURNEY TO JORDANVILLE MONASTERY

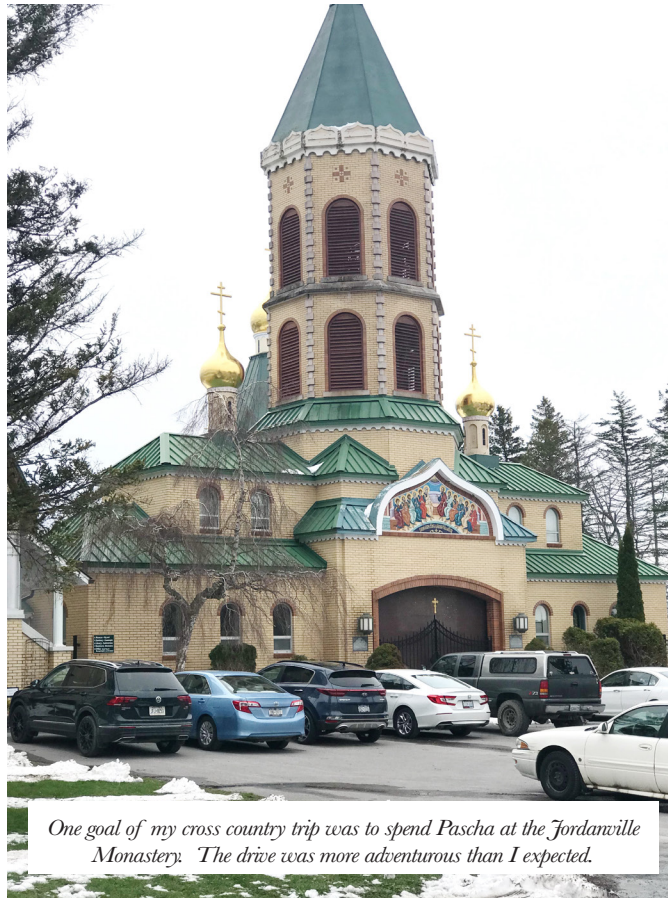
Bill Gilchrist

Pascha is a wonderful time to visit the Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville, New York. The weather is warming up, the snow is mostly melted, and the green grass is sprouting. Paschal services during Passion Week, Pascha Night, and Bright Week are deeply reflective and spiritual.

Getting to the East Coast by driving, however, is the hard part! There were several reasons why I decided to buy 275 gallons of diesel fuel and spend long hours behind the wheel. First of all, I wanted to attend a retiree reunion in Arkansas for a large number of recent retirees, like myself, who had spent decades working for Emerson/Rosemount Division. Also, seeing friends and family scattered around the country firmed up my decision to drive. And finally, I needed to pick up a German Shepherd puppy from my daughter in Indiana on the return trip.

My first destination was Bentonville, Arkansas, the reunion site. Like rats jumping off a sinking ship, almost all of my California co-workers sold their houses and built beautiful new homes in states where housing costs were much lower than here. However, I did not expect the drive to be so scary. No sooner did I reach Wells, Nevada than the weatherman on television started reporting winds of over 110 miles per hour on Highway I-80 in Wyoming and Nebraska. Newscasters warned that drivers of 18-wheelers, box trucks, and camper trailers were being caught off-guard

by the strong winds and were being blown off the road. Their rigs could be seen lying on their side with mangled frames, hitches and other parts.



Driving on that highway the next day with winds now down to 60 mph, I saw about 50 trailers flopped over on their sides of the embankments and medians, like hapless fish washed ashore. My pickup truck wasn't towing a trailer, nor did it have a camper shell. Its bed was filled with heavy home furnishings belonging to Alex and Svetlana (Avdeeva) Vasilyev who recently moved from Foster City to Calabasas, North Carolina. This extra ballast kept me from experiencing white-knuckled terror driving down the highway.

Apart from the high winds, I had forgotten how dramatic is the scenery in Wyoming. In my opinion, it is the most beautiful state in the lower 48. Not so appealing were the many Motel 6's we stayed in. I say "we" because I had a travel companion, Ollie, a blind (cataracts) and shaggy mini-poodle, who was my late wife, Lesley's, devoted companion. (I sometimes thought she loved that dog more than me!!) Motel 6's are located in almost every town we passed. They are reasonably priced and most importantly, all have dog-friendly policies with ground-floor outside access.

Once the three-day retiree reunion was over, Ollie and I headed off to North Carolina with stops to visit other friends along the way. Driving through South Carolina was very interesting. The people there were

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An early stop was at the beautiful new home of Alex and Svetlana (Avdeeva) Vasilyev, delivering home furnishings which I brought in my pick-up truck.

Orthodox Church while living in Foster City), I headed northward to visit Father Dimitri Jakimowicz, Matushka Larissa, and son Vasily in Stratford, Connecticut. I stayed at their home and attended some Passion Week services at the St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Stratford. Founded in 1929, it is a beautiful, stately church with brick construction. It has a holiness inside which can be felt in many older Orthodox churches. We spent time together at a great little restaurant on the harbor and followed all Lenten food restrictions.

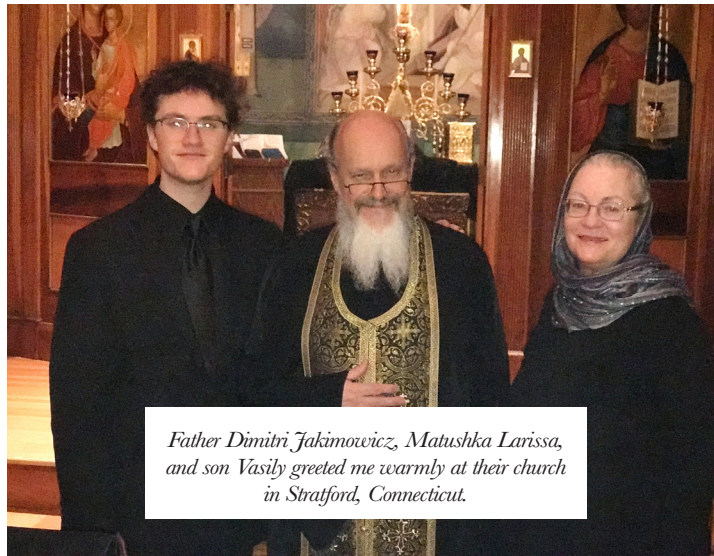
My next stop was Jordanville and the Holy Trinity Monastery. The day before I arrived, a snowstorm wrapped the countryside with a blanket of snow.

Although it melted away in a couple of days, it was fun for me, a Bay Area person, to see it. While at the Monastery, I ran into quite a few Burlingame and San Francisco people such as Leo Grabowski and Yevgraf Jakimowicz (both seminarians), and Father Ephraim Willmarth (now Assistant Dean of the Seminary, previously with St. John Academy). Meeting his Matushka Joanna and their six wonderful children was pure joy.

exceedingly polite and friendly. Life slows down there way more than the Bay Area, and maybe anyplace else I've ever visited.

Meeting up with Alex and Svetlana Vasilyev was very enjoyable and we stayed for 4 days. The Vasilyevs have a large new home in a planned community with lakes, golf, tennis, indoor and outdoor pools, and a dreaded pickleball court. The town of Calabasas is very close to the ocean, located just a handful of miles north of the North Carolina/South Carolina border. Svetlana, Alex and I dined at many seafood restaurants, walked on the beaches, and I even went fishboat shopping with Alex which was great fun for me. One late afternoon, Svetlana led us and Ollie on a hike deep into the adjoining woods with dense underbrush. Although it was getting dark, she kept forging ahead while Ollie, Alex and I trailed behind. I wondered if we would be eaten by a gator, a python or some other Swamp Thing if we got lost. But we survived and I was happy to see our familiar road home before it became dark.

After saying good-bye to Alex and Svetlana (who, by the way, introduced our family to the Burlingame



Father Dimitri Jakimowicz, Matushka Larissa, and son Vasily greeted me warmly at their church in Stratford, Connecticut.

Burlingame's own David Wood is a postulant/novice at the Monastery. He is adjusting very well. His beard is growing ever longer, and he is very happy with his chosen path. Father Peter Markevich was also present, both serving and attending services. Father Serge Kotar, Matushka Masya, son Father Deacon Nicholas and his family were all at Father Serge's residence, where they

hosted a large Paschal open house. It was a joy to be present and speak with so many interesting people.

All the services at the Monastery Cathedral were full of people, including many monks and nuns. For me, a convert to Orthodoxy, the services were easier to understand as they were said, in large part, in English. Before departing the Monastery, I spent time at

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Lesley's (Pelagia's) gravesite, cleaning up, repainting the cross, and planting a few flowers. After saying a number of prayers, I packed up the pooch and headed towards Indianapolis to visit my daughter, Inna, and her son, Lucien, age 5.

Before our reunion, however, I stopped at Lucien's father's family farm and sadly loaded up our missing son Daniel's belongings from his semester at Purdue. In Indianapolis, Ollie and I were introduced to the newest family member, Zoey, a 9-month-old, 80 pound German Shepherd, who was too rambunctious for my daughter to handle. Not being fully housebroken, Zoey chewed on everything including Lucien. As a result, Inna decided to gift Zoey to me.

With two dogs in the car, I decided to drive straight home on I-80 instead of the Southern route through Phoenix to see my sister and other friends. The only noteworthy



Prayed at the gravesite of my reposed wife, Lesley (Pelagia).



My five-year-old grandson, Lucien, gave me quite a welcome as did his mother Inna.

event was waking up one morning in the motel and hearing the sound of chewing. I looked down on the floor and there was Zoey, happily chewing a Gideon's Bible! Once we arrived home, she tore my mail stack to pieces, looking very guilty in the process.

For those of you who haven't visited Jordanville, I recommend that you go. Get a blessing first from Father Stefan, then contact the Abbot of the Monastery – Bishop Luke – and ask for his blessing to visit. For complete information, see <https://jordanville.org/visitorinfo>

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V. Rev. Mitred Archpriest
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(650) 430-9805

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(916) 799-0898

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(650) 589-7617

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(650) 579-2667

Matushka Tatiana
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Head Sister
(650) 430-9806

Andrei Roudenko
Choir Director
(650) 922-0250

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(650) 787-2145

Dimitry Bobroff
(408) 257-6918

Tanya Bolshakoff
(650) 291-7289

Bill Gilchrist
(415) 518-5028

Alexander Loboda
(650) 654-5447

Marina Roudenko
(650) 483-3412

CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS FEAST DAY



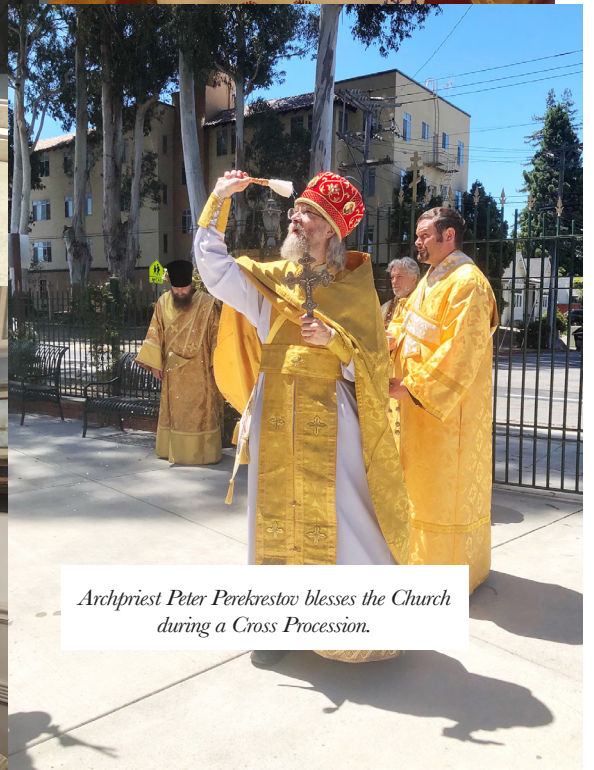
His Eminence Kyrill, Archbishop of San Francisco and Western America, served Divine Liturgy with clergy from the Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco.



An icon of All Russian Saints was venerated.



Parishioners listened to prayers in front of the Church.



Archpriest Peter Perekrestov blesses the Church during a Cross Procession.



Matushka Tatiana greets Archpriest Peter and Archbishop Kyrill at the trapeza. Via Facetime, Father Stefan also greeted and thanked the clergy for serving

CHOIR NEWS

Andrei Roudenko

The booklet that was distributed to those who attended our parish choir concert in 2004 contained a section that provided the choir director's biography. It said that I was the twelfth Conductor in the history of the Church of All Russian Saints, and that my appointment to this post was "a lifelong dream come true."

Indeed, serving as conductor of our parish choir since July of 2001, and having the opportunity to help lead our congregation in prayer throughout the past 21 years, has been both a privilege and a source of spiritual fulfillment and joy. In the tradition that preceded my appointment, our choir continued to be a special family that yearned to contribute prayerfulness and solemnity to each of our services. Our choir toiled in rehearsals, gladly sacrificing personal time for our parish.

Most recently, we navigated the challenges of COVID regulations in an effort to maintain our parish's tradition of choral excellence. Now the time has come for me to pass the baton to a new choir director so that Marina and I can relocate to the East Coast to take a more active part in the lives of our children and grandchildren. At the time of this writing, God willing, we are planning to depart after Liturgy on Sunday, September 11.

Marina and I express our deepest gratitude for the love, support and prayers that have been bestowed on us by Father Stefan and members of our clergy, members of our Parish Council, our magnificent Sisterhood, choir members, and all of our wonderful parishioners. We will always have a warm, loving place in our hearts and souls for everyone in the Church of All Russian Saints community. You will continue to be in our prayers.

In parting, we ask all those whom we may have offended in any way to please forgive us, and ask for your prayers. God bless the Church of All Russian Saints parish на многая лета (for many years). ■

UPCOMING EVENTS SEPTEMBER + OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER 11

Tentative Farewell Reception for Andrei and Marina Roudenko
Check the Church Website.

SEPTEMBER 20

Parish Russian School starts in-person learning.

SEPTEMBER 25

Brunch prepared by the Sisterhood

OCTOBER 23

Pirogi Lunch prepared by the Sisterhood

OCTOBER 30

Blessing of our new Stained Glass Windows and Celebration of the Church's 70th Anniversary of its founding.

PELMENI-MAKING SESSIONS

SEPTEMBER 15 AND OCTOBER 20

**IF YOU CAN HELP, COME TO THE
CHURCH HALL
ANYTIME BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M.
CALL LUBA GAUSCHIEDT FOR MORE**

INFORMATION

659-591-1605

BAPTIZED

APRIL 2022
David Uondell Gaston
MAY 2022
Nika Staravoitova
JUNE 2022
None
JULY 2022
None

MARRIED

APRIL 2022
None
MAY 2022
None
JUNE 2022
None
JULY 2022
None

REPOSED IN THE LORD

APRIL 2022
Oleg Michael Dubney, Evghenii Formanciuk
MAY 2022
Galina T. Sinkevitch
JUNE 2022
Galina Tuchkova
JULY 2022
Nicholas Koretsky

LIVESTREAM SERVICES

For those who are homebound, hospitalized or unable to attend Church Services at the Church of All Russian Saints in Burlingame, we have enabled live video streaming via the Internet. Live, as well as previously recorded Church Services are available at

YouTube channel:
http://bit.ly/burlingamechannel

Alternatively, the link to the Church Services is also available on the church website at:

http://www.allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/

Thank you to

Ludmila and Boris Doktorov for graciously sponsoring the printing cost of this issue in memory of their son, *Alexander*, and Ludmila's mother, *Valentina*.

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Please support our advertisers. All proceeds from ad sales go to the Stewardship Fund. If you would like your business card to appear in the next issue of the Newsletter, please contact Dimitry Bobroff at jbobroff@aol.com Cost is \$25.

Deadline for submitting cards and sending checks (made out to Church of All Russian Saints) is October 1st.

CHURCH OF ALL RUSSIAN SAINTS

A Parish of the Western American Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia
744 El Camino Real, Burlingame, CA 94010

<http://www.allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

Rector: Mitred Archbishop Stefan Pavlenko
Cell: (650) 430-9805

See the schedule of services on the Church website:

<http://allrussiansaintsburlingame.org/>

PARISH NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor - Ludmilla Bobroff

Art Designer - Xenia Maximow

Production Manager - Dimitry Bobroff

Photographers - Dimitry Bobroff, Lena and Luba Gauschieldt, Lisa Sinkevich-Mistuloff

We welcome your suggestions on the type of articles you would like to see in the Parish Newsletter. Send your ideas to Ludmilla Bobroff at Ludmillaa@aol.com or telephone (408) 257-6918. Please write Parish Newsletter in the Subject Line. Deadline is one month prior to publication.

Next Newsletter - November 2022

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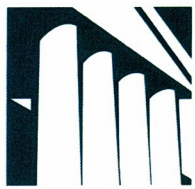
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DENTIST



Andrei Roschkowsky, D.D.S.
351 N. San Mateo Drive
San Mateo, CA 94401
(650) 344-7635

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REALTOR®
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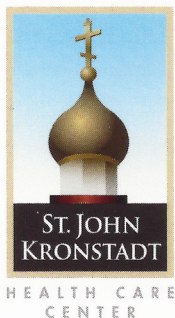
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BROOKSIDE

SKILLED NURSING
 2620 FLORES STREET
 SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA 94403

650-349-2161 x2816 OFFICE
 510-508-2121 CELL

ELSA@BROOKSIDENURSING.COM