

Russian students learn about work life in the Midwest

Nine university students from Dubna, Russia learned more about American culture and work life in the Midwest as they traveled to sister city La Crosse, WI this summer. Their visit also brought an international flavor to La Crosse and helped promote cultural understanding.

This marks the second year, World Services has hosted the very successful WISE (Wisconsin International Student Experience) program. As the young adults, ages 18-24, brushed up on their English-speaking skills and experienced the culture with host families, they also learned about the American workplace through local businesses.

Businesses providing employment opportunities for the Russian youth included: Buzz's Bicycle Shop, Culvers, Festival Foods, People's Food Coop, Hale Skemp, Hanson, Skemp, and Sleik Law Firm, Kwik Trip, Logistics Health, and the Waterfront Restaurant.

The students learned a lot about themselves, the United States and international relations. Special thanks to Pete Keffe who again served as local La Crosse Coordinator, to Don and Roxanne Weber who hosted a dinner honoring the students at the Waterfront and to the local businesses who provided job opportunities for the visiting youth.



ABOVE:
La Crosse Dubna Friendship Association Board Member Joyce White demonstrates bow hunting at a picnic for the WISE students.

Welcome to this first issue of World Services **NEWS** which will be published five times a year to bring you updates on the global and local work of World Services. Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to a friend or colleague. To be added to our mailing list, contact World Services at: info-worldserviceslax.org or contact the office at 608-781-4194.

World Services to host 12 more Open World Delegations in 2009

Since April 18, World Services has hosted 13 Open World delegations with 12 more delegations scheduled in October and November.

The primary focus of the delegations has been accountable governance and education. In October and November the delegations will focus on the environ-

ment, accountable governance, Civic Rule of Law and health care.

While many delegations are hosted in the Midwest, there are several in other states including

New York, North Carolina, Georgia, Missouri, Colorado, Montana, Utah and California.

Delegates come from a variety of Eurasian countries including Tajikistan, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Krygyzstan, Moldova and Russia. Each visit lasts for about 10 days.

For a complete listing of delegations see page 2.





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Meet the staff at World Services of La Crosse

Bringing their diverse backgrounds and talents together, four women, pictured above, lead and coordinate the global work of World Services. Since its founding in 2002, World Services has worked with hundreds of consultants and volunteers hosting over 1,000 delegates in the United States and abroad.

Visit our New Website

Our website has a brand new look with a wealth of new information about the global work of World Services. Visit us at www.wslax.us



**Connecting Communities.
Building Peace.**

NEWS is published five times a year for friends, volunteers and supporters of World Services of La Crosse.

For more information, contact World Services at 608-781-4194 or visit us on the web at www.wslax.us

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Open World Delegations 2009

US Host City	Theme	City/ Region	Program Dates
Des Moines, IA	Social Issues: Maternal and Child Health	Tajikistan	April 18-25
Buffalo, NY	Social Issues: Education	Ukraine	April 23-May 3
Irondequoit, NY	Librarians	Ukraine	April 23-May 3
Great Falls, MT	Accountable Gov: Transparency and Civic Participation	Russia Center	May 6-16
Syracuse, NY	Social Issues: Higher Education in America	Kazakhstan	May 7-17
Atlanta, GA	Education-Legal Education	Georgia Sister Cities	May 13-23
Grant Pass, OR	Social Issues: Elementary & Secondary Ed.	Russia - Rubtsovsk Altai Krai	May 14-24
Kalamazoo, MI	Accountable Gov: Transparency and Civic Participation	Russia - Pushkin	June 3-13
Osage, IA	Accountable Gov: Transparency and Civic Participation	Russia - Lermontov Stravropol Krai	June 3-13
Colorado Springs, CO	Accountable Gov: Eco tourism	Kyrgyzstan	June 10-20
Colorado Springs, CO	Education-School Administrators: Secondary Ed	Kyrgyzstan	Sept. 9-19
Sparta, WI	Acct Gov: Strengthening local government	Kazakhstan	Sept. 10-20
Colfax, NC	Acct. Gov: Media's role in informing the public	Moldova	Sept. 24-Oct. 4
Sacramento, CA	Acct. Gov: Regional Media	Moldova	Sept. 24-Oct. 4
Boulder, CO	Acct. Gov: Potable Water Mgmt	Tajikistan	Oct. 1-10
Santa Clara, CA	Child Protection – Foster Care & International Adoptions: Media and Social Marketing	Russia - Moscow Sister City	Oct. 1-10
Tooele, UT	Acct. Gov: Transparency & Civic Participation	Russia – Kambarka Udmurtia	Oct. 8-18
Des Moines, IA	AG: Environment Water Mgmt. & Public Health	Russia - Stavropol Region	Oct. 8-18
Ashland, WI	Acct. Gov: Environment	Russia – Lake Baikal	Oct. 8-18
Santa Cruz, CA	Civic Rule of Law	Ukraine	Oct. 21-31
Bemidji, MN	Social Issues: Health Care	Russia – Balakavo, Samara, Tomsk	Oct. 28-Nov. 7
Columbia, MO	Accountable Governance- Decentralization Options	Georgia	Nov. 5-15
Columbus, GA	Civic ROL Police Testifying in Criminal Procedures	Georgia	Nov. 5-15
Duluth, MN	Social Issues: Health Care	Petro-zavodsk	Nov. 12-22
Tulsa, OK	Accountable Governance: Transparency and Civic Participation	Russia	Nov. 12-22
Appleton, WI	Accountable Governance: Economic Development	Russia	Nov. 12-22