



The Archangel Committee

The Russian Sister City Committee of Greater Portland

P.O. Box 105, Portland, Maine 04112

2018 - Year in Review

- January - Yarmouth author Rob Kelley works with our Committee to gather information about Samantha Smith and her visit to the Soviet Union in 1983.
- February - Archangel City Councilor Dimitri Akishev, his wife Svetlana and daughter Vera visit Greater Portland and are interviewed by Rob Kelley.
- March - Archangel Schools 3, 6, 21 and 28 send a teacher and 3 students each to Freeport/NYA, South Portland, Westbrook and Erskine Academy respectively.
- April - Committee members visit Archangel and help celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the founding of our official sister city relationship.
- May - In partnership with PH International in Vermont, we help host 14 Archangel high school boy and girl basketball players and 7 Archangel coaches and officials in Greater Portland. They train with USM coaches at the Campus Gym in Gorham.
- June - Open World Facilitator Victoria Podolskaya recruits and collects applications from young leaders for the Open World Delegation coming in the Fall.
- July - We begin recruiting Greater Portland high school basketball players for an outbound basketball delegation in August that is funded by the U.S. State Department.
- August - We send 16 Greater Portland high school boy and girl basketball players plus 6 adult coaches and staff to Archangel where they play and are mixed with Archangel teams. In addition, our delegation performs community service and also participate in Ceremonies marking the 75th Anniversary of the first convoy.
- September - Dmitri Akishev and son-in-law Alexander run the Maine Half-Marathon.
- October - The Greater Portland Rock Band "OGRE" visits Archangel on a U.S. State Department grant and performs at the Belomor Boggie International Rock Festival.
- November - After months of hard work, Committee members Dennis Marrotte and Dan Glover open the beautiful 60 photograph exhibition "Bridges of Friendship" at the Yarmouth History Center. This Exhibition opens simultaneously at the Archangel Regional Museum of Local Lore, and features 30 photographs each from the Portland Camera Club and from the SPOLOKHI Camera Club in Archangel. In addition an OW Delegation, a City Hall delegation and a private delegation visit us to help celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Sister City Link.
- December - The "Bridges of Friendship" Exhibition continues in Yarmouth and is featured on the WCSH-TV television program "207". This Exhibition is made possible by the dedicated work of Dennis Marrotte and Dan Glover who successfully raised funds from our municipalities, area businesses, and private individuals from Maine and Archangel. This Exhibition will be placed in various area libraries in 2019, including Curtis Library in Brunswick, Walker Library in Westbrook and in the Windham Public Library.