

# THE TATTLE-TAEL

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

-MAY, 2007 TAEI SUPPORTS CAL. STATE UNIVERSITY- LONG BEACH RUSSIAN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE IN KURSK

-MAY, 2007 TAEI PRESENTS ANNUAL KUHMERKER AWARD IN KURSK

-APRIL, 2008 THE AMERUS EXCHANGE, LTD SEMINARS TAKE PLACE AT THE REGIONAL OPEN SOCIAL INSTITUTE IN KURSK, RUSSIA

Special points of interest: \*THE AMERUS EXCHANGE, LTD(TAEI) IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION (NPO) INCORPORATED IN NYS

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## TAEL AWARDS TATYANA V. TSYRLINA KUHMERKER "BUILDER OF DEMOCRACY" PRIZE

During the Kursk seminars of April, 2006, Jack McGurgan, representative of THE AMERUS EXCHANGE, LTD (TAEI) presented the organization's first "Professor Lisa Kuhmerker Memorial Award" to Professor Tatyana V. Tsyrlina, vice rector of the Regional Open Social Institute (ROSI) of Kursk. She was given the "Builder of Democracy" engraved, crystal plaque and a cash award of \$500 for her exemplary efforts in the field of education.



Jack McGurgan presents Professor T.V. Tsyrlina with THE AMERUS EXCHANGE, LTD Kuhmerker Memorial Award.

Following the seminar presentation, Professor Tsyrlina was feted by TAEI and its 2006 exchange group members at a champagne and caviar reception held in the unique Kursk restaurant/museum "Garnitsa" where she was toasted by her colleagues.

educators, psychologists, computer engineers, as well as social/cultural tourism and service industry personnel.

Less known but as highly regarded is Professor Tsyrlina's devotion to the Kursk Children's Cancer Hospital and the annual teams of student volunteers she gathers to spend time with the young patients.

California Emeriti Faculty members Drs. Rita Jones, Al Baca and Art Sutton provided in-depth theoretical and practical information.

## KURSK SEMINARS TOP LIST OF TAEI 2006 ACTIVITIES

Filling ROSI'S classroom, high school and university teachers of English from the cities of Kursk, Belgorod and Stary Oskol keenly participated in presentations on American teaching methods and techniques provided by this years TAEI exchange group.

New York State educators Paula Ptaszek, Elaine Thorne, Eileen Riley and Jack McGurgan described activities they have used in teaching English. Darlene Cardillo

provided computer resource information while Jim O' Rourke described special ed efforts in NYS. Fred Garavelli and Mike Thorpe, Albany, NY Fire-rescue experts prepared material for their Kursk counterparts.

Professor Tsyrlina is well known world wide for her efforts in developing moral education standards and high quality teachers for the schools of Kursk. She is also highly regarded for her work at ROSI, a private university devoted to the development of interpreters, translators, lawyers,

## AMERUS EXCHANGE AND EMERITI FACULTY COMBINE FORCES IN RUSSIA

Meeting for the first time at the California State University at Long Beach (CSULB) Russian-American Roundtable in October, 2005, Dr. Rita Jones and Jack McGurgan laid plans for future



**Jack McGurgan  
and Dr. Al Baca**

cooperation. As an Emeriti Faculty member from CSULB, Dr. Jones how had previously visited Russia to work with the State University in Perm, proposed that she and fellow Emeriti members, Dr. Al Baca of CSU-Northridge and Dr. Art Sutton, CSU-Pomona join up with the AMERUS EXCHANGE group heading for Kursk in April

of 2006.

This was a fortunate decision for both organizations. Tael has had a long relationship with ROSI in Kursk and has used "host family accommodations" as part of its unique exchange program. Now Emeriti Faculty could live with Russian Families while also participating in mutual academic activities with Tael and ROSI.

For THE AMERUS EXCHANGE, LTD, joining forces with the Emeriti Faculty meant an increase in the value of seminar presentations but on a practical level, it permitted the extension of the trip to include time in St. Petersburg where the Emeriti served as guides to that city's wonders.

### Tael BEGINS EXEMPTION PROCESS

Incorporated in New York Stat on January 24, 2006, THE AMERUS EXCHANGE, LTD ha begun the arduous process of gaining tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service of the United States Federal Government.

With IRS approval for tax exemption, Tael will be excused from paying taxes on most revenues related to its charitable functions. Donations made to the organization will then be tax deductible for Tael donors.

### BOARD BIOGRAPHIES:

**Tael President,** Jack McGurgan is a retired educator who began the Russian American exchanges in 1993.

**Secretary** Thomas Daley is a retired phone company executive and national communications consultant

**Treasurer** James T. Hanley is a retired educator, lay deacon and fire department chaplain.

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## JOE RUSTICK, RUSSIA VETERAN SINCE '94, TO SPEND SEMESTER TEACHING AND LEARNING IN KURSK

Flying over the State of Maine on a night flight to Moscow in 1994, Joe Rustick and his sister, Nellie, thought that they were going shopping. Little did they realize that their purchases would be made in Russia and that it would be the first of many such trips.

Joe Rustick has accumulated an enormous number of young friends in the New Russia since '94 and his unique understanding of these young Russians is an enormous asset to THE AMERUS



**Joseph Rustick,  
Tael  
Representative**

EXCHANGE, LTD.

In June of 2006, Joe graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and was invited by THE AMERUS EXCHANGE board to become a representative of the organization. He will spend the early part of 2007 teaching and learning among his many friends in Kursk, Russia.