

The CIVIC Citizen

The Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

International Picnic

August is a time for traveling and picnics, but "travel and picnic" are difficult to do at the same time. CIVIC members, however, accomplished just that, sort of. That is to say, we threw a picnic for travelers (international visitors) at city park. It was attended by fourteen journalists from across the African continent (francophones) and seven Russian speakers from four countries (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan) of the former Soviet Union plus Serbia. The seven are here for the Junior Faculty Development Program. Also attending, of course, were friends and members of CIVIC. It was truly a multi-national event: African cuisine, Russian cuisine, an African-American chef, African music in the background, and a little American stuff thrown-in for good measure. Good food, good conversation - a very festive affair.

A letter from Montenegro

"Dear Friends,

I greatly enjoyed my trip to the U.S. as an unforgettable and unique personal experience. The program really provided a wonderful blend of diversity of life and work that only America can offer. From both a professional and personal viewpoint, the trip provided me with contacts (and visits) that only such an experience could provide. I also really enjoyed my evening of home hospitality (provided by Diana Davies and Matthew Steele) in Iowa City, especially when a book about the history of Montenegro was brought out. I sincerely hope for the opportunity to welcome you in Montenegro in the near future".

Written by Jadranka Vojvodic, edited by Dave Ayres. Jadranka is program manager for USAID/ORT Montenegro Advocacy Program, e-mail: jadranka@ortmap.org

Who writes the newsletter?

Nobody has asked, but we'll provide the information anyway. The answer is: lots of people. The editorial board: Kenneth Hubel (editor-in-chief), Marianne Weiss, Jeanne Cadoret, and Thomas Baldrige. Contributing writers: potentially any member of CIVIC, our international visitors, Victoria Korovkina (reporter and proof-reader), Dave Ayres (reporter), and Matthew Steele (reporter). Matt is now engaged in a massive project, trying to link NGO's worldwide, and help individuals link to the NGO's. We wish him the best. His website is ngox.org - a work in progress

CIVIC Loses Friend

CIVIC lost a good friend when Marion Neely died on May 29, 2003. Marion strongly supported CIVIC's work with the Junior Faculty Development Program (JFDP) which provides a year of graduate education for young faculty from the republics of the former USSR.

We are grateful for the generous donation in his memory given by his wife, Marilyn, whose efforts and support have contributed consistently to the success of JFDP and other CIVIC programs."