

February 2011

Features						
Baltic Independence Celebrations at IU	1					
Slavenka Drakulic in Bloomington	2					
Roy J. Gardner	3					
Public Health Intiatives at REEI	4					
Prof McCormick Discusse New Joint Degree Program						
Faculty Profile: Ben Eklof	6					
Reports from the Field: Environmental Field Experiencein Siberia	n- 8					
IU SWSEEL - Sixty Years and Thriving	9					
Outreach Notes: Training Opportunities for US Military at REEI and SWSEEL	10					
News						
Student News	13					

Faculty/Staff News

14

Alumni News

REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Maria Bucur, Director Vol. 35, No. 1

Brooke Swafford, Editor February 2011

Baltic Independence Celebrations at IU by Zachary Kelly



Andrejs Pildegovics, Latvia's Ambassador to the United States, participated in a BaFSA Latvian Independence Day celebration via Skype on November 17.

For BaFSA, the Baltic and Finnish Student Association, the fall semester was a busy time as its members brainstormed about future events and prepared for the annual Latvian Independence Day celebration. Latvia declared independence from the Russian Empire on November 18, 1918. Despite the fifty years of Soviet rule commencing in 1940, Latvians still recognize this date as the beginning of their official independence. BaFSA hosted the Latvian Independence Day celebration on November 17, 2010, with generous support from the Russian and East European Institute and the Department of Central Eurasian Studies

The early celebration date was chosen intentionally to accommodate a special "virtual" guest and speaker, Andrejs Pildegovics, the Latvian Ambassador to the United States. He

joined the festivities via Skype and spoke to those in attendance about Latvia's progress during the two decades after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Another special guest was Indiana University student and IU Women's Basketball player, Kristiana Stauere. In the final stage of the celebration, the Latvian Choir serenaded attendants with three Latvian classics and the Latvian National Anthem. Finally, as tradition would have it, a wonderful feast of savory dishes and desserts, prepared for the most part by Bloomington's own Euro Deli, concluded the event.

A prominent Latvian presence enhanced the festivities. Pildegovics was touched that such an event occurred in the "heartland of America." He elaborated on his travels to several universities around the US and expressed his hope of visiting IU in person very soon. BaFSA is hopeful, too, that Mr. Pildegovics will join us next year for Latvian Independence Day!

The last BaFSA event of the semester was the Finnish Independence Day celebration. Perhaps somewhat forgotten in the tomes of Russian history is Finland and its independence from the Russian Empire on December 6, 1917. The Finnish Independence Day celebration took place on this very date here at Indiana University as the fall semester drew to a close. Finnish language instructor Tapio Hokkanen presided over the ceremonies, and visiting scholar Elina Pallasvirta gave an interesting talk about her research regarding Bloomington's role in the early stages of Finnish-American relations in Uralic

The Finnish Choir performed upbeat versions of two Finnish standards, and special guest Garry Harrison presented his homemade instruments, the Finnish and Estonian versions of the kantele, which were designed in a similar fashion to the fiddle. The final musical performance came from IU Jacobs School of Music student Tuomas Kivistö, who performed Claude Debussy's "L'Isle joyeuse" and

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IU Awards for REEI Alumni

1994 Irene Meister
 College Distinguished Alumni
 1998 Stephen Cohen
 College Distinguished Alumni
 1999 James F. Collins
 Honorary Doctorate
 2004 Richard Miles
 Distinguished Alumni Service

REEI Awards

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

1988 Alexander Rabinowitch

1988 Charles Gati

1995 Gale Stokes

2000 Helena Goscilo

2002 Howard I. Aronson

2002 William Hopkins

2009 Donald Raleigh

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

1988 Theofanis Stavrou

1988 Robert F. Byrnes

1989 Karen Niggle

1996 Robert W. Campbell

1997 Charles Jelavich

1997 Janet Rabinowitch

2000 William B. Edgerton

2007 Denise Gardiner

2009 David L. Ransel

2010 Jerzy Kolodziej

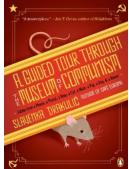
Slavenka Drakulic in Bloomington



The internationally prominent journalist, essayist, and novelist from Croatia, Slavenka Drakulic, will be on the IU Bloomington campus on March 23-24 as part of a book-launching tour through North America. Her most recent work, *A Guided Tour Through the Museum of Communism* (Penguin) became available this month. Born in 1949 in Croatia, Drakulic spent the emerging years of her

career in Yugoslavia, writing for several journals and participating in the feminist movement and literary debates in Zagreb. During the Yugoslav Wars (1991-1995) she made her mark on the international scene with two volumes of essays entitled *How We Survived Communism and Even Laughed* (1991) and *Balkan Express: Fragments from the Other Side of the War* (1992). These publications were soon followed by an international best seller, *Café Europa: Life After Communism* (1996). Her crisp observations on the politics of everyday existence under communism and in wartime have made these books favorite selections for anyone teaching a course on life under authoritarian regimes.

Having spent the war in her native Croatia and reporting extensively on the civilian aspects of the Yugoslav Wars, Drakulic went on to do research on gendered aspects of the conflict, focusing in particular on 'ethnic cleansing'. The result was to be a scholarly book about the rape camps and their survivors, but after a great deal of consideration, the author chose to write a novel that presents a composite of many case studies she researched. The book *As If I Am Not There* was released in the United States under the title *S.* (2001). It is a gripping, harrowing profile of women subjected to



unspeakable acts of sexual and psychological violence, taking the reader through the war and beyond, forcing us to reflect on the long-term impact of the actions that unfolded in Yugoslavia two decades ago. The novel was the basis for an eponymous film, an Irish-Macedonian-Swedish co-production that premiered abroad in 2010 and will soon be released in the United States. *As if I Am Not There* has already garnered attention internationally in Europe and at the Toronto Film Festival. The film will have a special pre-release showing in Bloomington on March 23 at 7:30 pm, as part of the East Central European Films Series (http://iub.edu/~reeiweb/events/index.shtml#eefilm). The event is open to IU students and faculty.

After the war Drakulic left Croatia for political reasons, as her life was threatened repeatedly both personally and in the press. She now lives in Sweden and writes for globally prominent publications, from *The Nation* and *The Guardian* to *La Stampa* and *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. Her writing has focused on the workings of the International War Tribunal at the Hague and the trial of several prominent Yugoslav politicians and military leaders, as well as the question of rape as war crime. Most recently, she has returned to the question of the legacies of the communist regime, the subject of her just released book, *A Guided Tour Through the*

Drakulic continued from page 2

Museum of Communism: Fables from a Mouse, a Parrot, a Bear, a Cat, a Mole, a Pig, a Dog, and a Raven. Drakulic will present the book at the First Annual McCloskey Lecture on March 24, at 4:30 pm, in the Conference Room of the Center for the Study of Global Change (201 N Indiana Ave). The lecture will be followed by a book signing at Boxcar Books (408 E 6th St). Both events are free and open to the public.

Slavenka Drakulic's visit is co-sponsored by the Russian and East European Institute, the Institute for Advanced Study, the Office of Women's Affairs, the Center for the Study of Global Change, and the Departments of History, Comparative Literature, and Communication and Culture. For more information about these events, please contact REEI at (812)-855-7309.





Professor Roy J. Gardner passed away unexpectedly on Monday, January 10, 2011 at his residence in Bloomington. He was 63 years old. He leaves his wife of 42 years, Carla Gardner (Reardon), son James C. Gardner and his partner Alice Moffatt of Seattle, daughter Sara A. Gardner and her partner Betsy Williamson of Bloomington, and numerous friends, colleagues, and students.

Roy Gardner was born on May 21, 1947 in Peoria, Illinois to Harold and Ann Gardner (Firtik), both deceased. He was valedictorian of his high school class of 1965 at Limestone High, Peoria as well as the state Latin champion. He graduated summa cum laude from Bradley University in 1968. He served as an artillery officer in the US Army-Vietnam and won the Bronze Star for his service to his country. Roy earned his PhD in economics from Cornell University in 1975. He recently retired from Indiana University where he had taught and conducted research since 1983. He held the titles of Chancellor's Professor of Economics (since 1996) and Henry H. H. Remak Professor of West European Studies (since 2004).

Roy specialized in the theory of games and economic behavior. He was a member of a large multidisciplinary NSF grant, "Mathematics across the Curriculum," (Indiana University), as well as a large German Science Foundation grant (University of Mannheim), and two large TransAtlantic Cooperation grants from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (University of Bonn and Humboldt University Berlin). He also served as the Academic Director of the MA program in Economics at the Ukranian National University "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" from 2002. He applied game theory to such topics as class struggle, spoils systems, draft resistance, alliance formation, monetary union, and corruption.

Professor Garner was an active member of the REEI community as well, having served on many committees, most recently for the Armstrong essay prize. He was Acting Director of REEI in 1998-99, and he advised many REEI MA students in writing their Master's theses. He was active in research and expert advising in the Ukraine, Russia, and in the EU. Most recently, he received a glowing letter of commendation from the Russian Ministry of Education for his services in evaluating academic projects. "His energies, dry sense of humor, and expertise in our area will be greatly missed," wrote Maria Bucur in an email notice to REEI staff, faculty and students.

Roy was dynamic and full of life and will be deeply missed by each person who knew him. A celebration of Roy's life was held in the Frangipani Room, at the Indiana Memorial Union on January 29, 2010 at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers an award has been created to honor Roy, the Roy J. Gardner "Best Thesis" Award, through the Department of West European Studies. Please make your check to the Dept. of West European Studies in honor of Roy J. Gardner and submit to the IU Foundation PO Box 500, Bloomington, IN 47402.

Notice

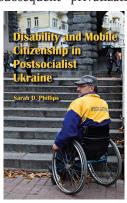
Denis Sinor, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Central Eurasian Studies at Indiana University, died on January 12 at the age of 95. The April issue of *REEIfication* will feature a full-length tribute to Professor Sinor.

Would you prefer to receive REEIfication electronically? Please email us at reei@indiana.edu to receive the newsletter by email instead of in paper form.

Public Health Initiatives at REEI by Heidi Bludau

When I enrolled in the Anthropology Department at IU in the fall of 2004, I knew that it would be a great fit for my interests in post-socialism and globalization. At the time I had no idea that my interests would turn to the field of medical anthropology and be strongly supported by the combined resources of REEI and the Anthropology Department. Recent academic listserv activity illustrates that medical and public health specialists are increasingly in demand in the job market. Even more so, health-related studies are on the rise in Eastern Europe. For example, this summer, Charles University of Prague will host a conference entitled "Health in Transition: (Bio)Medicine as Culture in Post-Socialist Europe," focusing on the changes in post-socialist medical care and the challenges that the region has faced during the last 20 years of market transformation.

According to Dr. Sarah Phillips (Anthropology), researching medical anthropology and public health is very relevant to Russia and Eastern Europe because the former Soviet systems are still being restructured, or need overhaul, in response to the political collapse and subsequent privatization and globalization of medical



systems. Her recent publication, *Disability and Mobile Citizenship in Postsocialist Ukraine* (Indiana University Press, 2011), examines another facet of this transition – that of disability. A taboo subject under communism, disability is now open to research. Phillips' work contributes to the dialogue of an active group of scholars who examine both the historical and contemporary aspects of groups that have been, and still are,

marginalized and stigmatized due to their health status.

Phillips is on the editorial board for the *Anthropology of East Europe Review* (AEER), which will publish a special issue on "Health and Care Work in Postsocialist Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union" this spring. Interest in Europe and the US has been growing rapidly, and AEER, an open source journal, can facilitate a dialogue between these scholars and give their research needed exposure: The journal aims to showcase the work of junior scholars, as well as scholars from the region. For next year, Phillips is planning a workshop to continue this conversation by bringing junior scholars together in order to identify trends and coordinate medical-related research on the region.

Anthropology is not the only REEI-affiliated unit where important work on regional health issues is taking place. For the last three summers, the Department of Slavic



Russian and IU students and faculty at at the Rostov Regional AIDS Center.

Languages and Literatures has conducted the US-Russia Global-Health Care Course Study Program. A partnership between IU and the Southern Federal University (SFedU) in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, with funding from the US Department of Education and the Russian Ministry of Education, the program has connected IU and SFedU students, culminating in a 2-week study abroad experience in Rostov-on-Don. Program director Olena Chernishenko (Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures) describes it as a multi-faceted and international collaboration between students and faculty. IU student participants come from a variety of majors, including nursing, business, political science and Slavic languages. On a typical day in Rostov-on-Don, students would visit various types of medical facilities, including AIDS and rehabilitation centers, insurance companies and health care facilities. Their evenings were given over to cultural activities like attending the theater or circus, and they spent a weekend in a family home. As a final project, students wrote a research paper with their Russian student partners and presented it at the SFedU student research conference. Another component of the program was the visit of Russian students and faculty to Indiana where they studied English and explored the area, visiting IU Bloomington and medical facilities at IUPUI. Chernishenko says that this program was a unique opportunity for the students as it "broadens their field and employment opportunities."

In another landmark development to support medical-related studies in the region, REEI has recently partnered with the IU School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER) to create a dual REEI MA/Master's of Public Health. Students will take the Proseminar and Interdisciplinary Colloquium in Russian and Eastern Europe, as well as area studies courses. Their area of concentration will focus on public health research in the region, culminating in a master's essay and oral examination.

Health and East Europe continued from page 4



US-Russia Global-Health Care Course Study Program participants with the Starocherkask Cossack Choir.

Students will also be required to demonstrate proficiency in a regional language.

The thriving and innovative intellectual environment that REEI creates has been a major part of my academic and professional growth as a student and emerging scholar. The programs and activities described above only serve to illustrate that REEI continues to be at the forefront of evolving trends in the scholarship of the region.

Heidi Bludau is a PhD Candidate in Anthropology.

Professor McCormick Discusses the New Joint Degree Program

Heidi Bludau recently talked to Bryan P. McCormick, Associate Professor of Reacreation, Park and Tourism Studies at the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER), about the new Master of Arts in Russian and East European Studies and Master of Public Health joint degree program.

Why this joint program, and why now?

Public health really represents a global issue. Public health in its broadest sense is made up of activities that ensure the health of the public. This seems particularly true in the Russian and Eastern European context as countries in this region continue to transition from command economies to those of free markets. It considers the contributions of such things as social factors, environmental factors, and health services in affecting the health of the public.

What is the context of public health in the region that creates a need for specific focus?

Currently, the context of the region is one in which there appear to be a number of significant public health challenges. Having just returned from a semester in Serbia, I can tell you first hand that smoking remains a significant health threat. In addition, the use of low quality combustable materials for heating has a significant affect on air quality, and subsequent pulmonary functioning. The relative rate of pay for health care workers and their levels of training also have implications for public health. These represent just some of the challenges.



Professor McCormick also serves as the Associate Chair of Research and Graduate Education within the Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies Department.

What benefits do students get from specializing in the region?

I believe that public health initiatives will have to be addressed in this region. With an ever increasing cost of social services such as health care, policy makers in this region will have to begin to consider public health initiatives. By specializing in the region the dual degree students will be able to use the tools of public health practices to identify and address some significant challenges facing this region.

More information on the joint degree program can be accessed at: http://www.iub.edu/~reeiweb/academic
programs/IU REEL MA MPH.shtml. The program will commence in Fall 2011.

Russian and East European Institute

Faculty Profile: Ben Eklof

Interview by Alex Kirven

Professor Ben Eklof is an historian whose research interests include modern Russian history, education and educational policy making in Russia, Russian daily life, and the Russian peasantry. He received his BA from Middlebury College in 1968. In 1977 he earned his PhD from Princeton University and began teaching at Indiana University. His first book was a well-received monograph on Russian peasant education entitled Russian Peasant Schools, published in 1986. In 1989 Eklof organized a conference on Russia's Great Reforms of the 19th century, along with John Bushnell of Northwestern University and Larissa Zakharova of Moscow State University. It was the first international historical conference involving American and Soviet scholars in which the participants were freely chosen on both sides. Eklof spent the next decade working largely on contemporary education in Russia and was a consultant for the Russian Ministry of Education. During this time he also founded and directed the Institute for Study of Russian Education at IU and served as editor of its journal, The ISRE Newsletter, published between 1990 and 2002. Eklof also served as editor for the translation of Boris Mironov's landmark two-volume A Social History of Russia, which was published in 2000. From 2005 to the present Eklof has immersed himself in the provincial archives, notably in Kirov and Kazan. He is finishing another book on the daily life of the Russian school and is beginning a biography of the revolutionary figure Nikolai Charushin. In total, he has spent nearly six years living in both the Soviet Union and Russia, including 2009-2010, when a Fulbright Grant enabled him to teach and research in Kazan. Primarily, however, his archival work has been conducted in provincial Kirov (formerly Viatka).

It's a question every Russian historian gets at some point, but it seems like an appropriate place to begin: Why did you ultimately decide to study Russian history?

When I was in high school I began reading Dostoyevsky and developed a love of Russian literature, which then turned into a love for the Russian language. Also, to me Russia seemed so far away and hadgone through a revolution, which made it seem like such a fascinating place. At Princeton I minored in anthropology, with a focus on the Russian peasantry. As a way of understanding peasant behavior I turned to the school system because it seemed to contain the most documentary evidence. My resulting book, *Russian Peasant Schools*, became one of the first books to portray the Russian peasantry as rational actors, just pursuing strategies distinct from those of their "betters."

You spent some time in the Soviet Union during your graduate school career. Can you describe what that was like?



Standing first on the right, Ben Eklof with members of department of historical studies at Kazan State University, during his stay as a Fulbright Scholar (2009-2010). Seated, left, is Alla Salnikova, Chair of the department; in the center, seated, is distinguished historian Alter Litvin, founder of the department. An interview with Dr. Litvin on growing up in the Soviet era and his life as an historian of Stalin's purges, is forthcoming in the journal Kritika. Salnikova will be visiting IU as a guest of the Institute for Advanced Studies, the IAUNRC, and REEI in April, 2011.

I first arrived in Moscow in 1972 on an IREX grant. I remember the peat bogs were burning just like last summer (2010), filling the city with smoke—hardly the first impression that one wants! Following my year on IREX I stayed in Moscow and worked for Progress Publishing House. I also spent a great deal of time traveling around the country and observing things as an exotic foreigner. Often times I was the first American that people had ever met. In public they exhibited a suspicion of Americans that often masked a semi-hidden admiration for all things American. Despite their public apprehension, I found that when you went to visit people in the countryside or at their dacha they were much more open and generally had a positive outlook of Americans—it was a completely different world from the cities. I came away from my time in the Soviet Union with a great love for the country and its people, but also frustration with its well-known difficulties and absurdities.

What was it like conducting research in the Soviet Union?

Research was difficult to undertake and could often drive you to despair. If you finally got into an archive, you were not able to look at the archival guides. Your ability to determine what was available was at the mercy of the archivists, who in many cases had been instructed to inhibit your access to primary sources. One remarkable aspect of research in the

Eklof continued from page 6

Soviet Union was the Lenin Library in Moscow. The assignments for reading rooms were highly stratified and foreigners were allowed to use Hall 1, which was normally reserved for distinguished Soviet scholars. So even though we were given very limited materials, it was quite the experience for young graduate students to sit with these prominent senior figures, although I'm sure our inexperience and inadequacies with the Russian language must have seemed pathetic to them.

Your research interests led to you working for the Russian government as a consultant. Can you describe your experience?

I had long worked with Russian Minister of Education Eduard Dneprov (himself a historian), from 2000-2002. Even after he no longer held the post, many of his top aides stayed, and I continue to collaborate with them to this day. My job was essentially to attend meetings between the Minister of Education and foreign NGOs that wanted to create collaborative programs. I would sit quietly and listen to the conversations and then tell Minister Dneprov what I thought the NGOs' real agenda was, since he and his staff had little experience dealing with foreigners. Then Dean Howard Mehliinger of the School of Education also won several teacher training grants bringing Russian educators to the United States, and participated in the effort to upgrade provincial pedagogical institutes in Russia to the full status of universities. Finally, the late Scott Seregny (IUPUI) and I organized a conference in 2000 on the reform of the Russian education system, which led to a 2005 volume Educational Reform in Post-Soviet Russia.

You've been working at IU for several decades now. Do you have a favorite course that you teach?

Previously my favorite was called "The Soviet Union Today," which later evolved into "The Gorbachev Revolution." The course was very enjoyable but I had to rewrite it almost every year. A very condensed version of this course became the entry for the "Gorbachev Revolution" in the Oxford Modern History of the World, which came out in 2007. Currently I would say that I have two courses that are my favorites. The first is "Heroes and Villains in Russian History," which examines changing perceptions in both Russia and the West of seminal historical figures in Russia's history and links these perceptions to the search for a "usable past". The second is my course "War and Peace: Russia during Napoleonic Era." As students read the huge novel, they examine aspects of Russian society and war but also investigate the interplay of Tolstoy's own family history with the novel and how both the war and the novel have been treated by different generations of Russians.

In what ways has the study of Russia/the Soviet Union changed since you were in graduate school?

Obviously, during the Cold War the study of the Soviet Union had a privileged place in the academy and with government funding. Since the USSR's collapse, interest has dwindled and funding has become much harder to obtain. On the other hand, opportunities to travel and reside in Russia have proliferated. As a result, scholars can now travel to regions of Russian and the former USSR that were previously inaccessible. New students in the history department and REEI arrive with previous travel and study experience in the former Soviet Union previously unimaginable. Almost invariably during the Cold War one's first such opportunity came only after completing qualifying exams and developing a dissertation project. Cultural immersion often came simultaneously with immersion in archives, making it doubly challenging.

Why is it still important to study Russia and the former USSR today?

Well, to begin with, the areas of the former Soviet Union continue to play a dominant role in global affairs. The fate of Ukraine has enormous importance for the stability of Europe and oil rich, politically unstable Central Asia has been described as the future site of the "great game" of the 21st century—a nexus of rivalry between Russia, China and the United States. As for Russia itself, the country remains an important geopolitical, nuclear, and military power. On a cultural level, I've always been frustrated with notions of Russia similar to Winston Churchill's 1939 statement that Russia is a "riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma," because they are wrong and make dangerous assumptions about the Russian polity, culture, and society. In fact, Churchill continued that "perhaps the answer is in national interest." I subscribe to the "normalizing" rather than "exceptionalist" view of Russian politics and society. And Russians are eminently knowable if one makes the effort to learn the language, live in their midst and observe, as much as possible, without preconceptions.

Reports from the Field: Environmental Field Experience...in Siberia by Elizabeth Trammell

This past August, a group of seven students and two faculty members from IU traveled to Western Siberia for the first summer exchange of the new US-Russia Global Environmental Issues/Language Learning Course Study Program. The program is a partnership between two IU Bloomington programs (Slavic Languages and Literatures and SPEA) and two universities in Tyumen (Tyumen State Agricultural Academy and Tyumen State University). As part of the program, IU students participated in both summer classes in Bloomington and a 2-week field experience in and around Tyumen, located in southwestern Siberia.



Thea Roy (front), Danielle Henckel(left), Polina Kostylev, Olena Chernishenko and Elizabeth Trammell (far right) gain field experience in a local bog. Later they studied agricultural fields, floodplains, and forest.

On August 3, we arrived in a smoke-filled Moscow, a fitting backdrop to the beginning of our environmental journey. The thick cloud of smoke in Domodedovo demonstrated the urgency of environmental threats. From the catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico to Russia's forest fires, this summer has demonstrated the necessity of US-Russian collaboration in finding solutions for our shared environmental problems. The goals and mission of our new partnership could not have been timelier.

We left the Moscow smoke for Tyumen, the home base for our program of study over the next two weeks. Our hosts welcomed us and generously shared their research on diverse environmental issues, from monitoring oil spills with remote sensing (using satellite imagery) to conducting large-scale experiments on the growth of various food crops. With Tyumen as our anchor, we traveled near and far, from a limnological biostation on Lake Kuchak to an oil and gas extraction site near Khanty-Mansiysk, an oil boom town over 400 miles north of Tyumen.

Donning hunter green rubber boots and encephalitis suits, we hiked through forests, floodplains, and bogs. Our

guides, Russian professors in Tyumen, tamed the Siberian wild by sharing their knowledge of the ecosystem, biodiversity, and local environmental challenges. We learned that Americans are not the only ones with up-to-date technological equipment – the laboratories and biostations in Tyumen Oblast were state-of-the-art, generously funded by the region's oil and gas wealth. We also discovered that, despite technological advances, environmental problems, such as unreported oil spills, persist.

In addition to learning about environmental diversity, we also gained exposure to the Russian and indigenous cultures of southwestern Siberia. Our first day included a city tour, providing us with a history of Tyumen Oblast's largest city and administrative center. Our visit to an ethnographic museum supplemented this history with background on the Khanty and Mansi, the two main indigenous groups in Tyumen Oblast. Along our northern route to Khanty-Mansiysk (a river named for the two indigenous groups), we stopped in Tobolsk, where we feasted on traditional Tatar cuisine. Tatars are another ethnic minority in Russia that number over five million, and the owners of the restaurant, a Tatar family, shared their history and culture with us through a cooking class after our meal. Of course, in between our excursions we spent time with Russian students and professors, learning as much about local perspectives as the ambitious twoweek program would allow.

Back in Moscow, we were greeted again by smoky skies, which now reminded us to sustain our collaboration in meeting the challenges of environmental preservation. This program will continue to attract attention to this crucial area of study, bringing together Russian and American students, professors, and researchers to better understand pressing environmental issues both at home and abroad.

For more information on the program and its participants visit: http://www.iub.edu/~iuslavic/USRussiaEIProgram.shtml.

Elizabeth Trammell is an MA student at REEI.

IU SWSEEL - Sixty Years and Thriving by Elizabeth Kleinert and REEI Staff

Although much of the United States lies beneath a thick covering of snow and ice as this issue of REEIfication goes to press, many students at Indiana University and throughout the country are already finalizing their plans to attend IU's celebrated Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL). Now entering its seventh decade of existence, the intensive eight-week language program continues to feature top-flight instruction and a broad array of stimulating cultural activities for more than twenty languages. In 2011 SWSEEL will offer classes in Modern Greek, Tatar, and Turkish for the first time. In addition, the program will once again include classes in such Eastern and Central European languages as

Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Hungarian, Macedonian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Ukrainian, and Yiddish as well as Central Asian, Caucasian, and Middle Eastern languages like Arabic, Azerbaijani, Georgian, Dari, Kazakh, Mongolian, Pashto, Tajik, Uyghur, and Uzbek. First-year instruction will be available in all of these languages, with higher level instruction also offered in Dari, Mongolian, Pashto, and Uzbek (all second-year), Arabic (second- and third-year), and Russian (secondthrough sixth-year).

The success of SWSEEL is due in large part to the extraordinarily fruitful collaboration of the major IU units involved in its operation over the years: the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, the Department of Central Eurasian Studies, the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, and REEI. In 2010, the sixtieth summer in the program's history and the first for new director Dr. Ariann Stern-Gottschalk, SWSEEL enrolled a near-record 210 students, three-quarters of whom received financial support in the form of full or partial fellowships. In fact, all students who met eligibility criteria with respect to citizenship and level of study were awarded a full fellowship that covered all tuition charges and mandatory fees while providing a living stipend of at least \$2500. Even those students who did not qualify for fellowship funding were able to pay for their studies at Indiana in-state rates, regardless of their permanent place of residence, an advantage that remains unique to SWSEEL. In the summer of 2011, applicants can look once more to numerous funding possibilities, which include Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships (for graduate

and undergraduate students), Title VIII fellowships (for graduate students and professionals), GO scholarships (for students enrolled in ROTC, see related article on p. 10), and American Council of Learned Societies fellowships (for graduate students).

All SWSEEL languages are taught by professors and lecturers with native or near-native proficiency and extensive experience in teaching American students. Many travel to SWSEEL from abroad, where they teach during the academic year at such institutions as Saint Petersburg State University, the University of Zagreb, Azerbaijani University of Languages, and the Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations in Paris. Others are based at Indiana

University or come to SWSEEL from other American universities. among them Harvard University, the University of Chicago, and Ohio State University. Apart from their instructional contributions, SWSEEL teachers enhance the program by lecturing on aspects of their research or leading student interest groups in folk dance, poetry, or linguistics. One such group, under the direction of Russian conversation instructor University, launched a weekly Russian-language newspaper,

Ilya Kun, of Moscow

Блумингтонская правда, that ran SWSEEL news as well as humorous commentary on cultural and political events unfolding in the world at large. Teachers also provide their students with additional practice in the conversational use of their chosen languages by interacting with them outside of class in more informal contexts, like lunches and friendly encounters in the SWSEEL dormitory, where many students and teachers reside.

A broad range of academic-year home institutions characterizes the SWSEEL student body as well. In 2011, students at SWSEEL represented over 50 different US colleges and universities, while the program also welcomed students from foreign institutions like Xinjiang University, Central European University, and the Catholic University of Leuven. SWSEEL also provides language instruction to significant numbers of non-students, who include military personnel, businesspeople, missionaries, government officials, medical workers, and pre-college teachers of Russian.

Weston Nunn, a graduate student in history at Florida State University who studied Russian at SWSEEL for the



The SWSEEL Talent Show is an event in which participants utilize their newly acquired language skills in poetry readings, skits and musical performances at the conclusion of their summer study.

Outreach Notes Training Opportunities for US Military at REEI and SWSEEL

by Olia Bueva and Mark Trotter

IU looks back on a venerable history of service to the US military as a provider of training in the languages, cultures, and politics of Russia and Eastern Europe. In 1942, President Herman B. Wells launched the teaching of Russian, Polish, Czech, Hungarian, Serbo-Croatian, and Finnish at IU under the auspices of the Army Special Training Program, which involved approximately 1000 students and 100 teachers over the course of its three year existence and served as the forerunner of the IU Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL). Since then, hundreds of servicepeople and others responsible for upholding the military security of

the US have benefited from shortterm and long-term programs in Russian and East European studies at IU. Their ranks include US Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, who attended IU in the 1960s and took courses at REEI while pursuing a master's degree in American history. While on campus in December 2009 to address graduates at IU's 180th commencement ceremony and receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Gates cited classes he attended in Balkan history and literature as some of the most memorable intellectually rewarding experiences of his graduate career.

Current REEI MA student and US Army Foreign Area Officer (FAO) MAJ Robert A. McVey, Jr. is pictured here working as an instructor at the National Defense University of Ukraine, a position he held this past year.

At present, REEI and SWSEEL provide current and aspiring officers with exceptional opportunities to advance their careers and enhance their service to the United States. For those who enter the MA program in Russian and East European Area Studies, REEI offers a wide range of courses that uniquely facilitate the development of analytic skills, linguistic proficiency, and competence in area studies and foreign relations. In the REEI-affiliated Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian MA students and non-degree students from the military develop proficiency in area languages of strategic importance.

REEI figures prominently in the US Army's Foreign Area Officer (FAO) Program, whose principal functions include the establishment of long-term links with foreign and US political-military institutions. Commissioned officers in all four branches of the United States armed forces, FAOs

serve as regionally focused experts in political-military operations. They must possess a unique combination of skills that include strategic focus; regional expertise with political, cultural, sociological, economic, and geographic awareness; and foreign language proficiency in at least one of the dominant languages in their geographic area of concentration. Thanks to its top-flight foreign language and area studies instruction, REEI has served as an academic home to many generations of military service personnel and currently offers a flexible 18-month graduate program for FAOs with extensive advisory and logistical assistance from the REEI staff. The breadth of geographic

and thematic avenues for academic investigation in the REEI program is uniquely suited to the development and enrichment of FAO military skills and adds a transnational dimension to their current knowledge base. Army Major Joel Kleehammer, a former US arms control inspector who currently serves as liaison with the OSCE Mission in Moldova, feels that his studies at REEI proven invaluable for the development of his military career as a Foreign Area Officer. "General area studies knowledge, specific country knowledge,

increased language ability all assisted me in improving my worth to my mission, and ultimately to the government" observes Kleehammer. "The ability to truly communicate in both Russian and Ukrainian, not just translate a written document in 15 minutes with a dictionary, significantly increased my usefulness to my team and to my agency. Having an excellent understanding of culture and history of not only the Former Soviet Union, but also of the greater Eastern European community, I was able to interact with local nationals freely."

REEI's relationship with FAOs has been one of mutual benefit and academic enrichment. The diverse student body in REEI programs and courses features a broad variety of academic and professional backgrounds, including public administration, anthropology, history, law, volunteer foreign service and many others. The presence in this mix of career military personnel with extensive overseas experience provides non-military students and their

Outreach Notes continued from page 10

instructors with an additional unique perspective and valuable insight into foreign relations. The heterogeneity of REEI students' backgrounds and professional experiences contributes to rich and vibrant conversations inside classrooms and a dynamic environment of constructive debate, which are instrumental for enhancing the analytical skills of future military experts and introducing them to a variety of theoretical approaches and perspectives on foreign relations, culture and policy.

REEI also offers FAOs access to a rich and diverse community of alumni committed to the advancement of Russian and East European area studies and the support of professionals and academics who have entered the field more recently. Reflecting upon the benefits of study at REEI, Army Major Robert McVey, a former instructor at the National Defense University of Ukraine's Multinational Staff Officer Center and member of the US Office of Defense Cooperation who is currently enrolled as an FAO REEI graduate student, cites REEI's "uniquely flexible education program that without question provides optimal opportunity to gain a broad, inter-disciplinary regional expertise. As a foreign area officer, I will have the opportunity to enhance the Army's effectiveness while interacting with foreign militaries, as well as other US and foreign government and civilian agencies and groups. In this respect, REEI provides an important advantage. The large and very active REEI alumni group allows for professionals and academics alike to build important professional and social networks." For more information on opportunities for FAOs at REEI, please contact Emily Liverman, Academic Advisor and Assistant Director for Student Services, at eliverma@indiana.edu.

At IU, current and future officers make rapid progress towards foreign language proficiency by means of the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL), which offers students the opportunity to complete a full year of college language instruction over the course of an intensive eight-week program. Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) has a long history of cooperation with Indiana University's SWSEEL, most recently through the Strategic Languages and Cultures Program (SLCP), in operation since the summer of 2007 through substantial grants from the Institute of International Education that Professors Henry Cooper and Ari Stern-Gottschalk of the Slavic Department, Professor David Fidler of the School of Law, and IU President Michael McRobbie have collaborated to secure. Cadet participants in SLCP, who hail from campuses throughout the country, study Russian, Arabic, and various Central Asian Languages at SWSEEL while also attending a weekly Seminar on Security, Languages, and Cultures in Eastern Europe and Eurasia. Seminar meetings are led by area studies experts from a broad array of backgrounds, providing insight into various spheres of professional activity, unique opportunities for networking, and valuable contacts for career development. In recent summers, the seminar has featured the participation of representatives from the CIA, the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy, NASA, the National Cryptologic School, and the Joint Military College. ROTC students in the SLCP are eligible for generous GO scholarships that provide a substantial training stipend in addition to covering the costs of tuition, room and board at SWSEEL. Since its inception, approximately 20 ROTC students per summer have studied at SWSEEL through the SLCP. More information on SLCP can be found at: http:// www.indiana.edu/~swseel/program/rotc.shtml.

The importance of close cooperation between institutions of higher education and the military in promoting effective and honorable service and advancing diversity, education and continued professional development was reaffirmed by President Obama in his recent State of the Union address. The staff and affiliated faculty of REEI look forward to continuing in the pursuit of these goals through vigorous academic outreach to current and future. Olio Prove is an MA. Month Treatten is Assistant Director.

Baltic Independence

continued from page 1

Olia Bueva is an MA **Mark Trotter** is Assistant Director student at REEI. and Outreach Coordinator for REEI.

Jean Sibelius' "Finlandia." After his performance the entire audience joined together to sing the Finnish National Anthem before enjoying a wonderful spread of Finnish cuisine, including the infamous *karjalan piirakat* ('Karelian pies'). These little crescent shaped delights consist of a potato puree wrapped in rye dough. They originate from Joensuu region (on the border of Russia), and when eaten properly, one must not forget the butter with boiled egg mixed in!

The spring semester commenced for the BaFSA with its Estonian Independence Day celebration on Monday, February 21. This year's event was especially noteworthy, as the Estonian Ambassador to the United States, Väino Reinart, was in attendance. BaFSA always looks forward to hosting such respected individuals at its events, as their presence helps to bring awareness of Baltic and Finnish culture to the community at large. The countries may be small and sparsely populated, but their ability to persevere throughout the twentieth century gives more reason to celebrate their existence – even here at IU!

years.

IU SWSEEL continued from page 9

second time last summer, reflects the views of many who have developed their linguistic and cultural prowess in the program. "The high quality of instruction enables students to learn and retain the material presented to them in class," he observes. "Together with formal instruction, the exposure to foreign culture and opportunities for language immersion outside class make SWSEEL an excellent way to improve language skills in a short time. It's also ideal for graduate students, enabling us to acquire the skills we need in the summer without interfering with our coursework during the regular school year. I plan on returning this coming summer." Translator Galina Wood expressed similar enthusiasm for SWSEEL when she studied intermediate Azerbaijani in 2009. "Being able to focus on one subject in a concentrated summer course has the advantage of undistracted singlemindedness" she remarked. "Our classes are small and the atmosphere is great, we laugh as we learn. Not only the language but also a folk wisdom is being passed onto us, together with the richness of Azeri music and culture. The language table adds another near-immersion opportunity which is the next best thing to actually living and learning in the country."

SWSEEL also features professional development opportunities for teachers of East European and Central Asian languages in pre-college settings as well as colleges and universities. For many years, the program has offered an REEI-funded two-day methodology workshop, conducted by prominent specialists in foreign language education. In 2010, Professor Thomas Garza of the University of Texas in Austin, led over 35 participants, including six K-12 teachers of Russian, in a workshop that addressed the use of authentic materials in foreign language classes. In 2011, the SWSEEL methodology workshop will draw upon the expertise of Professor Laurie Iudin-Nelson, who heads up the Russian program at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Professor Iudin-Nelson will explore with teachers the use of music in the language classroom, an area that she has pioneered over many years both at Luther and the Concordia Language Villages (Minnesota), where she directed the Russian program for many years. REEI provides travel fellowships that enable pre-college teachers of Russian to attend these workshops. Although preference is given to teachers at schools located in Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, teachers from all parts of the country are encouraged to apply. In 2010, travel fellowships were awarded to teachers from Indiana, Illinois, Connecticut, and Texas. More information on these awards can be obtained by contacting Mark Trotter at martrott@indiana.edu. In addition, pre-college teachers of Russian as well as professionals in other fields are eligible to apply for Title VIII fellowships to fund their studies at SWSEEL. These awards cover the cost of tuition and mandatory fees and provide stipend for food and housing expenses.

For more information on SWSEEL and an application to the program and funding sources, vist the program website at packages http://www.indiana.edu/~swseel/index.shtml.

Elizabeth Kleinert is an MA student at REEL.

2011 Central and East European Film Series

The Polish Studies Center and Russian and East European Institute announce the Spring Semester East-Central European Film Series. Films will be preceded by brief presentations and followed by discussions with area studies experts from Indiana University. Unless otherwise noted, films will be shown in Student Building 150 at 7:30 PM.

Thur Mar 3: The Dark House (Dom zły) (dir. Wojciech Smarzowski, Poland 2009, 105 mins.)

A brilliant interweaving of two storylines, one involving a night of revelry in a Polish village in 1978, the other an unsolved murder under martial law. Best Director Award at the 2009 Polish Film Festival.

Wed Mar 23, 7 pm, CHEMISTRY Building 001: As If I am not there (dir. Juanita Wilson, Macedonia and Sweden, 2010, 109 mins.)

The devastating story of atrocities committed against women in the 1990's Bosnian War. Author Slavenka Drakulić, on whose book the film is based, will join us for the screening.

Thur Apr 7: California Dreamin' (dir. Cristian Nemescu, Romania 2007, 155 mins.)

Overzealous railway official Doiaru stops an American military transport on its way to Kosovo to support the NATO intervention in 1999; Captain Jones and his marines end up having to stay in a tiny Romanian village. . .

Thur Apr 21: 33 Scenes from Life (33 sceny z życia) (dir. Małgosia Szumowska, Poland 2008, 100 mins.)
A brilliant, hilarious, moving slice of Bohemian life, based on the director's own family. One of the most talked-about Polish films in



Student News

Dani M. Marinova (Political Science) recently published "When Government Fails Us: Trust in Post-socialist Civil Organizations" in *Democratization* (18: 1).

Joanna M. Matuszak (Art History) recently arrived in Moscow, Russia, where she will be investigating Russian performance art in the 1990s. She will be there until December 2011, as a recipient of a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship.

Chris Molnar (History) gave a paper titled "Communist Agents and Economic Refugees in the Era of the Wirtschaftswunder: Yugoslavian Migration to West Germany, 1954-1968," on November 19th, at the annual ASEES conference in Los Angeles. It was part of the panel "Between a Rock and a Hard Place? Yugoslavia's Labor Migrants, 1960-1990." He was also an invited participant at a workshop in Regensburg, Germany, on "Labor Migration and Transnationalism in Europe: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives." The workshop was organized by the Institute for Southeast European Studies at the University of Regensburg and held December 10-11th. Chris' contribution was his paper "Building Bridges to the Homeland: The Transnational Experiences of Yugoslav Guest-Workers in Germany."

Erika Steiger (REEI) is returning to Macedonia for a year to work with the Ministry of Education on developing their English language curriculum and training teachers.

M. Benjamin Thorne (History) made two contributions at this year's Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies conference in Los Angeles. He served as a member of the roundtable "New Perspectives on the Holocaust in Eastern Europe: A Roundtable Occasioned by the Publication of 'Purifying the Nation: Population Exchange and Ethnic Cleansing in Nazi-Allied Romania' by Vladimir Solonari." He also presented the paper "În loc de un monument: Memory, Commemoration, and Conflict in Recognizing the Persecution of Romanian Roma during World War II, 1946-2006." More recently, Ben won the Young Scholars Prize in Romani Studies for his manuscript "Invisibility, Assimilation, and the Eugenic Turn in the 'Gypsy Question' in Romania, 1938-1942." The prize comes with \$500 and the manuscript will be published in an upcoming issue of Romani Studies.

IU Represented in IREX's US Scholar Photo Contest Results



On January 10, IREX announced the results of its US Scholar Photo Contest. The runners-ups were REEI Director Maria Bucur (Pictured left, in her winning photograph) and Bucur's former student and Kansas University professor Nathaniel Wood (Pictured below right, in his winning photograph), both recent Short-Term Travel Grant (STG) fellows. Eligible contest participants were alumni of the IARO, STG and US Embassy Policy Specialist Program (EPS) fellows.

Professor Bucur's photo was taken in May 2010 at a protest in Bucharagainst the cuts in government sponsored family benefits for new parents. She attended this event as part of her project on gender and citizenship

in Romania. The sign reads, roughly, "With new side-

walks and sports arenas, we'll end up raising our children in tents." Bucur is holding up the left side of the sign.

In Professor Wood's picture, he compares a person in an unidentified photograph from his book to a later, identified photograph of the same person at a Szczepanski Square exhibit commemorating the 100th anniversary of the creation of Greater Cracow – the major subject of his just-published book. Wood says several of the photographs and sources on display at the exhibit last June had factored into his publication.



Faculty/Staff News

Maria Bucur's (History, REEI) "Remapping the Historiography of Modernization and State-Building in Southeastern Europe through Hygiene, Health and Eugenics" was published as part of the *Health, Hygiene and Eugenics in Southeastern Europe until 1945* (CEU Press, 2011), eds. Christian Promitzer, Sevasti Trubeta and Marius Turda.

Ben Eklof (History) presented a paper based upon his recent research in Kazan, Tatarstan archives, at the October 8-9 Conference of the Mid Western Russian Historians at the University of Illinois. More recently he travelled to Kazan to give a paper "Schooling and Childhood in Imperial Russia: Neglected Texts" at a Conference on "The Culture of Childhood: Norms, Values, Practices" sponsored by Kazan (Volga Region) Federal University, The Russian Humanities University and the Academy of Education. In addition, he was authorized by the Vice-President of International Programs at IU to participate in meetings working towards a formal agreement on scholarly collaboration between IU, Kazan Federal University, the Islamic University of Tatarstan and the Tatarstan Academy of Sciences. Eklof spent much of last year in Kazan on a Fulbright grant.

Brigitte Le Normand (History, Southeast) and Ted Sandstra announce the birth of their son, Marco Ulbe Sandstra, on January 27.

Alex Rabinowitch's (History, Emeritus) *The Bolsheviks Come to Power* was published in Turkish by Yordam Kitap, Istanbul, on November 16.

Mark Roseman (Jewish Studies) recently gave two seminars under the collective title "Resistence, Rescue and Rememberance: The 'League for Socialist Life' in the Third Reich" at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum - "The Seeds of Solidarity," and "The Challenges of Commemoration." He also gave a seminar at the German Historical Institute, Washington, with the title "The Realization of the Utopian'? The 'Bund: League of Socialist Life': Resistance, Rescue and Silence" and a talk at the Holocaust Studies Forum at American University on the topic "Blindness or Complacency? Why Did So Many German Jews Wait So Long to Leave Nazi Germany?" Additionally, Roseman was an international advisor, panel discussant, and commentator at the 3rd International Conference on Holocaust Research, with the title "Helfer, Retter und Netzwerker des Widerstands," organized by the Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung and the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut, Essen, which took place in Berlin January 27-28.

Martin Spechler (Economics, IUPUI and IUB) has published "Russia and the Central Asian Economies" in *Russian Analytical Digest* (Zurich, Switzerland), January, 2010.

Alumni News

Annette B. Fromm, (Folklore PhD/REEI, Certificate 92) is the coordinator and professor of the Graduate Certificate of Museum Studies at Florida International University in Miami. At the 22nd General Conference of the International Council of Museums in Shanghai she was elected to a second term as President of the International Committee of Museums of Ethnography (http://icme.icom.museum/). Fromm also serves as chair of the Florida Folklife Council. The Folklife council advises and assists the Division of Historical Resources and the Florida Folklife Program. Fromm lives in Miami Beach, Fl.

Eric C. Lewis (Journalism and Political Science, BAJ 2004, JD 2008) recently established the law firm Lewis Legal Services, PC in Indianapolis. The firm focuses its law practice on consumer bankruptcy, estate planning, and probate. Eric is licensed to practice law in Indiana and Illinois.

Are you on Facebook? The Russian and East European Institute is! "Like" us and receive REEI updates on your newsfeed.

Giving Opportunities

General Fund

The REEI general fund supports a broad range of educational and outreach activities on campus and in the wider community.

Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship

This fellowship honors the memory of REEI's first director by supporting an outstanding incoming MA student. The current award consists of a stipend and fee remission for the first year of study and is renewable for an additional year.

McCloskey Fund

This fund commemorates the life and work of former Congressman and REEI alumnus Frank McCloskey, who dedicated himself to the advancement of peace and democracy in the Balkans, by supporting a biennial exchange program that sends an IU student to study in the Balkans and a student or scholar from the Balkans to study in Bloomington and Washington, DC.

Daniel Armstrong Memorial Research Paper Awards

This competition is dedicated to the memory of IU Slavics alumnus, teacher, scholar, and administrator, Professor Daniel Armstrong (1942-1979). Awards are presented to students for papers written in a class devoted to some aspect of Russian, East European, or Central Eurasian studies.

Gifts from thoughtful friends like you supplement the modest support that the Russian and East European Institute receives from state and federal sources. Your generosity enables REEI to maintain a high standard of education for its students, encourage innovative research on the region, and engage with the broader community through a variety of outreach activities.

To learn more about opportunities for giving to REEI and the activities that your gift will support, please visit our website at www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/ or contact Mark Trotter, Assistant Director of the Russian and East European Institute, at martrott@indiana.edu or (812) 855-7309.

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