

TF



TOLSTOY FOUNDATION REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

~2000~

MISSION STATEMENT



MISSION STATEMENT

For more than half a century, the Tolstoy Foundation has been committed to the vision of its principal founder Alexandra Tolstoy, whose empathy for the plight of the peoples of her homeland and her abhorrence of all forms of oppression and human suffering remains at the heart of the Foundation's charitable activities today.

Committed to the respect of human dignity, freedom of choice and building self-reliance through education and practical training, the Tolstoy Foundation continues to give assistance and relief to the distressed, to the aged, to the sick and to the forgotten at home and abroad. The Tolstoy Foundation Center in Valley Cottage, New York, is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of its elderly population, providing a home and congenial surroundings to its residents and caring for their physical, spiritual and intellectual needs. Unique in its programs of combined humanitarian and cultural concerns, the Foundation also preserves the cultural traditions, the heritage and the resources of the Russian diaspora.

As the Foundation enters the 21st century, it comes full circle from its history of assisting new immigrants in their assimilation process to helping the peoples of Russia and the former Soviet Union acquire the knowledge and the skills necessary to achieve self-reliance in their own homeland.

ORIGINS AND HISTORY

FOUNDERS

Alexandra Tolstoy

Born at Yasnaya Polyana in 1884, Alexandra Tolstoy, the youngest daughter of Leo Tolstoy, was permitted to leave Soviet Russia in 1929 after five arrests and a prison sentence for supporting the right of free speech and assembly. Settling in the United States in 1931, she continued to speak out against all forms of human rights abuses in Russia and across the world.

A pioneer of international refugee efforts, Miss Tolstoy founded the Tolstoy Foundation at Valley Cottage in 1939 with such notable exiles as Sergei Rachmaninoff, Igor Siko-



rsky and her long-time friend, Tatiana Schaufuss.

As President of the Tolstoy Foundation for 40 years, Miss Tolstoy worked to build public support for international refugee relief efforts and to effect changes in U.S. immigration laws. In 1948, she testified before the House Judiciary Committee on behalf of the Displaced Persons Act and was instrumental in its passage. Energetic all her life, with a remarkable calmness of spirit, she was active as a fundraiser, a lecturer and a writer for the Foundation until 1976. Alexandra Tolstoy died in 1979 at age 96.

Tatiana Schaufuss

Born in Russia in 1891, Tatiana Schaufuss came to the United States in 1938 and helped to establish the Tolstoy Foundation in 1939. Astute, professional and pragmatic, she was the driving force behind the Foundation's programs and activities worldwide.

During the more than 40 years that Mrs. Schaufuss served the Tolstoy Foundation as Executive Director, Executive Vice-President and as President, she expanded the Foundation's work in the United States and opened offices in Europe, the Middle East, Canada and throughout South America. She interceded on behalf of tens of thousands



of Russian refugees living under Communist domination after World War II and arranged for their resettlement in the United States.

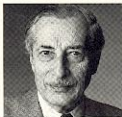
Under the auspices of the former UN High Commissioner for Refugees Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, Mrs. Schaufuss established homes for the aged in France, West Berlin and South America. In 1970, she founded the Tolstoy Foundation Nursing Home in Valley Cottage, New York.

Living and working at the Tolstoy Center until 1984, Mrs. Schaufuss died in 1986 at age 95 in the Tolstoy Foundation Nursing Home which she had helped establish.

Teymuraz K. Bagration

Born in Russia in 1912, Teymuraz Bagration descended from the royal dynasty of the Kingdom of Georgia and was a great-great grandson of Czar Nicholas I of Russia. He served in the Royal Yugoslav Army during World War II.

Mr. Bagration joined the Tolstoy Foundation in 1949, served as Executive Director and later as President from 1979 to 1992. During his tenure, the Foundation's refugee program expanded to include non-Russians. Instrumental in major refugee resettlement programs in the United States, as well as helping the Tibetan monks who were



escaping the Communist take-over of Tibet. Mr. Bagration also directed a massive resettlement of Vietnamese and Cambodians as part of the State Department's refugee program. During this time, the Foundation's offices expanded to 18 other locations across the United States, Europe, the Middle East and South America.

A long-term board member of CARE and of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, Mr. Bagration died in 1992 at age 80 while serving the Foundation as its President.

ORIGINS AND HISTORY

HOW WE BEGAN

From Tolstoy Farm to the Tolstoy Foundation Center

In 1939, Alexandra Tolstoy and Tatiana Schaufuss formed an organization devoted to the relief of Russian refugees from World War I and, at the same time, created a center of Russian culture in America. Former president Herbert Hoover, Igor Sikorsky, Serge Rachmaninoff, and WWI flying ace Captain Boris Sergievsky were among the original founders and supporters, which also included artists, intellectuals and professionals. This organization became the Tolstoy Foundation. In 1941, a generous private donation made it possible to acquire Reed Farm, a 70-acre parcel of land about 36 miles north of New York City.

During the course of World War II, the Tolstoy Foundation's mission and activities broadened and expanded to include urgent relief and assistance to all victims of persecution and oppression—refugees, displaced persons and prisoners of war.

As Alexandra Tolstoy had envisioned, the farm became a haven and a resettlement center for over 14,000 refugees, of all ages and backgrounds, arriving in the United States under the sponsorship of the Tolstoy Foundation. In this safe environment, the new



Alexandra Tolstoy with refugee children

arrivals were able to develop some psychological equilibrium, to learn English and the skills necessary to start their new life in America. Alexandra Tolstoy's mission had begun—a mission of respect for human dignity, while building self-reliance through education and practical training.

Cultural activities were organized and a summer camp, active until 1968, was established for needy children. The farm that became the Tolstoy Foundation Center remains the very heart of the Foundation to this day.

Following the 1956 revolution in Hungary, and when the Dalai Lama requested the TF to help Tibetans who had escaped after the 1959 Communist takeover, the Foundation responded immediately and offered relief and

resettlement to those Hungarian and Tibetan refugees. The Foundation also assisted in the resettlement of refugees fleeing the Soviet Union—Circassians, Kalmyks and other Northern Caucasians.

In 1972, the Tolstoy Foundation joined the U.S. Department of State Refugee Resettlement Program and assisted in the resettlement of refugees from all over the world to the U.S., including Russian Jews, primarily

those in mixed marriages, as well as Ugandan Asians who were fleeing the regime of General Idi Amin. By the end of 1975, the Foundation had resettled over 3,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees throughout the continental United States and Hawaii and had assisted a further 10,000 Indochinese refugees, mostly Cambodians, after the fall of Laos.

In 1994, the Tolstoy Foundation left the State Department Refugee Resettlement Program. However, our activities abroad still continue in Western Europe, South America, and increasingly in Russia, where humanitarian and educational programs for disadvantaged youth are being developed in Tula, Voronezh, Rossosh and St. Petersburg, among others.

DIRECTORS REPORT

THE WORK CONTINUES



TF Chairman and Executive Director at the Alexandra Tolstoy Institute Commencement Ceremony for Voronezh orphans

Dear Friends,

In recent years, the Tolstoy Foundation has undergone major changes to adjust to the realities and the challenges of today's world. Yet it is the success of our past commitments which honors our founder Alexandra Tolstoy, and which has shaped the course of our present and future activities. As the TF enters the 21st century, we are encouraged and hopeful that the "beacon of light", which symbolized the Foundation and 60 years of its efforts on behalf of 1,000,000 people in 40 countries, will not be diminished.

Our unique history and accomplishments have helped us pave the way to making a positive impact in improving the general well-being of the most vulnerable segments of Russian society today—the children and the elderly.

Our primary objective is the successful empowerment of orphaned and

disadvantaged children through education and practical training. In our pilot programs in Voronezh and Tula, our cost-effective grass-roots initiatives encourage local community involvement, foster self-reliance and strive to improve the overall health and well-being of local orphaned and needy children. As we enter into new alliances with like-minded organizations, we have the potential to expand further the scope and the effectiveness of our programs at home and throughout the other newly independent States.

We are especially grateful to all our generous donors and friends who have supported us through the past 60 years. Without your help, the Tolstoy Foundation could not have survived. But we need your continued support, now more than ever, to ensure the Foundation's future! We are also reaching out to new friends and supporters, individuals, corporations and foundations, to

urge them to join us in our efforts.

Alexandra Tolstoy devoted her life to the cause of human rights and dignity. Today, as we put into practice the programs that provide the tools and the skills to build self-reliance and to encourage opportunities, we not only come full circle in the renewal of these ideals, but we also begin to invest positively and constructively in a more peaceful and stable world for ourselves and for the next generation.

Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff
Chairman

Xenia Woyevodsky
Executive Director

COMING FULL CIRCLE

MOSCOW EXHIBIT

*"I have the honor of
the humanitarian*



*bringing home to Russia
legacy of Alexandra*

*Lvovna—a legacy that is not ours alone, but belongs also to the Russian
people, whom she loved and defended throughout her life...."*

In mid-April 1999, Xenia Woyevodsky, TF's Executive Director, and Aleksandra Janke, Vice-President of the Friends of Tolstoy, went to Russia for the opening in Moscow of an exhibit at the Russia Abroad Library-Foundation on Alexandra Tolstoy and Tolstoy Foundation's 60 Years of Service to Humanity.

By honoring Alexandra Tolstoy, whose work on behalf of all victims of communism was villanized and repressed for over half a century by the Soviet authorities, the event in Moscow was one of historical proportions for the Tolstoy Foundation. The entire

presentation and the warm and lively reception that followed received a great deal of television and media coverage throughout Russia. Although most people in Russia are not fully aware of the Tolstoy Foundation's activities, there exists today tremendous goodwill towards the Foundation because of Alexandra Tolstoy and her unique brand of humanitarianism. The reception we received traveling around Russia was overwhelming, with many people expressing their hope to us that Alexandra Tolstoy's principles will inspire their future generations.

YASNAYA POLYANA

At the same time, the TF delegation visited Yasnaya Polyana (the Tolstoy Estate in Tula), where Alexandra Tolstoy first began her life's work by founding a hospital and a school, serving as its director for one year prior to her exile. The school currently has 250 students from local villages and orphanages and receives very little regional funding. This visit represented the final reversal of 60 years of separation and severed communications under the Soviet regime. It was the so-called "rehabilitation" of Leo Tolstoy's youngest daughter by the Russian Federation in



1994 that paved the way toward making this a momentous return for the Tolstoy Foundation to the very origins of its founder and restored the link in the chain that had been broken for over half a century. This is the ultimate testimony that Alexandra Tolstoy's legacy

has been preserved not only abroad, but also on the soil of her native land. Her spirit lives on and continues to permeate all that she created and established throughout the world.



Top: Yasnaya Polyana Estate Museum of L.N. Tolstoy. Bottom: V. Kisvin, Director of Yasnaya Polyana School

COMING FULL CIRCLE

VALLEY COTTAGE

60th Anniversary Jubilee

In celebrating 60 years of helping people build new lives in the U.S., the two-day Gala brought together alumni and descendants of alumni with many varied ethnic backgrounds, who came to reminisce and to show their gratitude, sharing colorful national dances and music. Over 400 celebrants turned up for the two-day Jubilee held at the TF Center on Labor Day Weekend. In the words of the Foundation's Executive Director, they came "to honor those who came before us and who are a part of the rich tapestry that makes up the legacy of the Tolstoy Foundation."

The celebration brought back many people and warm memories. The guests stressed the international flavor of the celebrations with representatives from



Russian, Serbian, Tibetan, Kalmyk, Mongol, Circassian, Northern Caucasian and American peoples. The enthusiasm and the overwhelming outpouring of gratitude to TF were most heart-warming. Yahiya Kazan, representative of the Circassian community, praised the diversity of TF's anniversary celebration as exemplifying all that is best in the cooperation between nationalities and that is characteristic of TF's broad, non-prejudiced approach to humanitarian assistance.

The Jubilee not only celebrated TF's rich history of service, but also generated a dynamic spirit of goodwill and enthusiasm towards doing good, which will certainly act as a springboard for future life-enhancing programs in the 21st Century.



Clockwise from top: Circassian dancer; TF alumni at reunion; Tibetan dancers; and TF staff and volunteers greeting guests.

INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

FORGING NEW ALLIANCES



Meeting with V. Tolstoy, Director, Yasnaya Polyana Estate Museum



Puppet show at Yasnaya Polyana School

Committed to its dual historic mission of humanitarian and cultural concerns, the Tolstoy Foundation is continually expanding the scope and the breadth of its activities at home and abroad through new alliances and programs.

One of the most exciting of these proposed new alliances is the one currently being forged between the Tolstoy Foundation and the Yasnaya Polyana Estate Museum of L. N. Tolstoy. Today, this former estate of Leo Tolstoy and the birthplace of Alexandra Tolstoy is a prominent cultural and educational center in Russia. After almost 60 years of separation, the missing link has been restored and we are moving closer toward solidifying this newly found relationship into

*“Establish a ‘cultural bridge’
between the Tolstoy Foundation
and Yasnaya Polyana to
support joint programs...”*

a viable working partnership based on mutual interests and concerns. As we enter the 21st century, this alliance can provide many of the key ingredients necessary for the successful realization of the various humanitarian and cultural/educational endeavors that are at the core of TF activities. Our agenda includes the following:

■ **FOSTER** initiatives that directly complement TF's objectives to create a vibrant cultural and educational

center and a forum for international activities at the TF Center;

■ **ESTABLISH** a “cultural bridge” between the Tolstoy Foundation and Yasnaya Polyana to support joint programs and initiatives that raise cultural awareness, protect cultural resources and promote international cultural and educational events, seminars and conferences;

■ **PROMOTE** the flow of international exchange programs for youth to and from the TF Center and Yasnaya Polyana;

■ **EXPAND** TF programs to the Tula Region and support worthy local grass-roots initiatives that foster self-reliance and help improve the general health and well-being of disadvantaged children and the elderly.



“Let us think of all those precious young lives that are thrown out and scattered like useless rubble, and let us strive to help them become valuable stones in the building of this great country.”

—A. TOLSTOY, 1949

On the plight of refugee children from war torn Europe.

IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN FROM THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

The future of any civilization, country and community lies with its children; and all children in the world are alike. Their joys and sorrows are also one and the same. If they are denied love and proper guidance, what path will they choose as they grow up?

Today in Russia and the former Soviet Union, a generation of children is growing up without sufficient love and proper care. These neglected children are the real victims of the rapidly changing socio-economic conditions in Russia today.

Many of the estimated 600,000 children in Russia who live under State care have indeed been thrown out and scattered like useless rubble. By helping these children to become “valuable stones” in the rebuilding of their own country, the legacy of TF’s founder, who loved the Russian people, comes full circle. TF’s new programs are designed to provide these children with the proper medical care, education and skills necessary to achieve healthy self-reliance.

INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

THREE PILLARS OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Tolstoy Foundation strongly believes in the development and the cultivation of what it refers to as the three pillars in a child's development: health, mind and leadership. Without a healthy child, there can be no development of a healthy mind; and without the development of a healthy mind through education, there is no basis for sound leadership that fosters a great desire for others to follow.

HEALTH

The Problem

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, overall pediatric health has declined. This critical situation affects the children of poor Russians and institutionalized children, who are known as the new "social orphans". It is estimated that 95% of all the institutionalized children have at least one living parent whose family cannot afford to care for them, or they are forced out of their homes by abusive or alcoholic parents. The number of these children has risen dramatically since 1992.

In Voronezh, two thirds of the children in baby homes, including those suffering from malnutrition, are well below the Russian standards of development.

The problem is due partly to the precarious health of poor pregnant women and is exacerbated by freezing weather conditions, without heat or hot water during the harsh Russian winters. Most State orphanages and baby homes cannot afford the rising prices of oil and electricity.

TF's Response

The Tolstoy Foundation has been

assisting the Foundation for the Health Enhancement of Russian Orphans (HERO) in a pilot program that supplies vitamins/minerals and prenatal supplements to baby homes and orphanages in the Voronezh region in Russia. This program is run on a tightly controlled basis to help treat orphan children and pregnant women. Constant communication is strictly maintained with the pilot region, incorporating various controls to avoid diversion of supplies and to assure proper administration of the vitamins.

MIND

The Problem

Standards of education are also low for children who grow up in institutions. Though they receive nine years of education, the content is equivalent to only five years of schooling at State school levels. However, it is when the children are released from the institutions that an even harsher fate awaits them. Orphanage directors say that 10% of the children who graduate from orphanages disappear within the first year of graduation, and only one or two out of 20-25 find jobs. According to the Russian Prosecutor-General,



From top to bottom: Orphan children in Krasnoyarsk; Krasnoyarsk boys at the TF Center; Toddlers in Voronezh Baby Home

INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

20% of these children will develop criminal records, 30% will become drug addicts and alcoholics, and 10% will commit suicide within a year from being released from State-run orphanages. These children are becoming known as Russia's "lost generation".

TF's Response

Lack of funds and proper care is often more acute in the overcrowded orphanages located in rural regions far from the major cities of St. Petersburg and Moscow. The Tolstoy Foundation was introduced to several children's institutions in the city of Voronezh, 500 km south of Moscow. With its own active social programs, concerned institutional staff and an involved Deputy Minister of Health, Voronezh exemplifies the highest level of organized social programs. This region is best suited to receive and to benefit from the support necessary to revitalize their institutions for children.

THE ALEXANDRA TOLSTOY INSTITUTE: PROMOTING EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

On the home front, TF has embarked on a new educational/training program for orphaned and needy children from Russia. The curriculum at the Alexandra Tolstoy Institute is designed to:

- **INCREASE** skill-base through English as a Second Language and exposure to computers, which can enhance a child's marketability in the work place;
- **BROADEN** horizons by exposure to another culture;
- **RAISE** cultural and spiritual

awareness;

■ **LEARN** responsibility while building self-sufficiency and leadership skills;

■ **ENCOURAGE** others at home to excel in order to earn the unique chance of studying in America at the Tolstoy Foundation.

In 1999, the Alexandra Tolstoy Institute hosted two such educational exchange programs. For two months in the Summer 1999, a group of 18 boys (ages 11-14) from Krasnoyarsk, Siberia participated in the first demonstration program at the TF Center. A cross-section of needy or orphaned children was selected, who either possessed special talents or exhibited a keen interest in learning. Additionally, a minimum of English was necessary to qualify.

Some concern was expressed in Krasnoyarsk that such an experience might traumatize the children. To minimize that possibility, it was agreed that the first demonstration group would be drawn primarily from a local, progressive military academy (not affiliated with any branch of the military), whose curriculum is more compatible with the one offered by the Alexandra Tolstoy Institute. The academy also teaches English, which is not commonly taught in public schools in Russia today. In addition, three boys were selected from a local orphanage to join the children in this program.

At the TF Center, the children participated in a daily curriculum of English as a Second Language, and in other classes and seminars in history, literature and religion. Excursions



From top to bottom: Voronezh children visit American elementary school; Krasnoyarsk boys at WNYC studio for "New York Kids"; Georgian and Abkhazian youth with instructors; Conflict Resolution Program at TF Center (Summer 1998)

INTO THE 21ST CENTURY



Top photo: TF Center Administrator with children at New Year's celebration.

Bottom photo: TF Center residents meet Voronezh children

included visits to New York City, Washington, D.C. and St. Petersburg, Florida, as guests of both the Russian-American and the American communities. A deep bond formed between the children and their hosts, and the children were delighted to discover so many generous people in America who share a common religion, language and culture with them. The experience in the U.S. did not traumatize these children at all. Rather, it stimulated their minds and helped them begin to realize their full potential.

In the Fall of 1999, the Alexandra Tolstoy Institute embarked on its second Educational Exchange Program. It provided a daily enrichment program to children ages 10-16, from orphanages in Voronezh and Rossosh (Voronezh Region). This two-and-a-half month semester proved to be even more challenging than the Krasnoyarsk program because of the nature of the children involved. All the selected children came from severely dysfunctional families considered unfit to care for them. Institutionalized for most of their lives, these children had no real knowledge of life beyond the orphanage. They were selected for the program because they had shown genuine promise even under the existing conditions of life in Russian orphanages.

The Alexandra Tolstoy Institute provided the children with a daily curriculum geared toward improving their English language skills and rekindling cultural, spiritual awareness and historical pride. They took a basic course in hands-on computer training, made possible through a generous donation of computer equipment, and enjoyed

choir singing, physical education and arts & crafts. Their excursions to major points of interest in the greater New York area, field trips to visit Washington, D.C. and upstate New York, included opportunities to mingle with American children. Deep bonds formed between the Voronezh orphans and the many generous and caring people who met them. They are committed to remain actively involved in the children's lives through TF's "God-parent" program, which offers these disadvantaged children a life-line to a brighter future. They will not be forgotten after their return to Russia.

As TF awaits the arrival of the next group of children, we are invigorated and strengthened by the visible benefits that our program is bestowing upon the next generation in Russia.

CREATING SUPPORT CENTERS

In Voronezh, the Tolstoy Foundation is participating in the creation of a support center for recent graduates of local orphanages. The first of its kind in Russia, such a center can be replicated in other regions as well. It will include a 24-hour hotline, practical assistance in locating apartments and jobs, as well as counseling and job training. This program will:

- **PROVIDE** job training with job placement services;
- **ESTABLISH** much needed, cost-effective counseling, and positive support for orphanage graduates who have no other source of help and encouragement in forging a new life for themselves.

LEADERSHIP

The Problem

The institutionalized children of Russia are denied equal standards of education, equal opportunities in life, and equal social standing with those children who live with parents. Under current conditions in Russian orphanages, children with special talents or who demonstrate ability and eagerness to learn do not have the support and the guidance necessary to succeed after leaving institutions at age 17 or 18. They have to succeed with little hope on their own. In general, children under State care are given poorer treat-

ment in society, as they are unwanted reminders of an inadequate system.

The most striking feature of their environment is the lack of exposure to certain positive realities in life; such deprivation affects children negatively and often engenders feelings of bitterness, depression and even suicidal inclinations. Children leaving the orphanage have no viable safety nets to help them survive in the real world.

TF's Response

At the core of TF's philosophy for humanitarian assistance is the commitment to instill among the institutionalized children of Russia a sense of respect

for themselves and for their community. TF programs offer the support, the recognition and the guidance needed to encourage the children to grow in self-esteem and self-reliance. By supporting leadership abilities that foster responsibility to self and to the community, we are engendering elements integral to a successful life. Furthermore, these programs instill in those children who have benefited from them a responsibility to reach back into their community to help other orphaned and institutionalized children emulate their success. This "ripple effect" can ensure that others will benefit from the positive effects of TF's efforts.

FRIENDS OF TOLSTOY

The Friends of Tolstoy, established as an affiliate of the Tolstoy Foundation in June 1998, is a dynamic and growing organization of over 75 talented and committed individuals who are devoted to perpetuating the cause begun over 60 years ago by Alexandra Lvovna Tolstoy. The Friends of Tolstoy endeavors to complement the noble work and the substantial success of the Tolstoy Foundation by enlisting the support of motivated young professionals to further the Foundation's humanitarian pursuits. In doing so, the



From left to right: D. Janke, President; Russian film director Nikita Mikhailov with daughter Nadia; X. Woyevodsky; X. Cheremeff, and A. Janke, Vice-President.

Friends of Tolstoy believes it can enhance the depth and the breadth of the Foundation's reach. It is this unique union and blending of genera-

tions that will ensure a successful organization for many years to come. The Friends of Tolstoy's specific goal is the mobilization of both human and financial resources to assist not only the continuing international programs of the Tolstoy Foundation, but also other worldly concerns which merit attention. Entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the success of the Tolstoy Foundation for succeeding generations, the Friends of Tolstoy continues to build awareness of their efforts and of those of the Tolstoy Foundation.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Library and Archives Preservation

One of the most distinctive features of the TF Center is its unique library and archival collection, created by founder Alexandra Tolstoy, Leo Tolstoy's youngest daughter. She wanted to provide TF's Russian cultural center with a church and a library facility that would fully attend to both the spiritual and the cultural needs of the Russian-American community. This center is also closely linked to the many other TF cultural centers and libraries in Western Europe, the Middle East and South America.

The Library and the Archives are the Foundation's memory and Russia's national heritage. These records contain the vital data of generations in exile, displaced by war and political repression. They tell of ordinary lives and of extraordinary achievements in their memoirs, letters, and photographs.

Today, the Library totals about 50,000 volumes, which include a first edition 92-volume collection of the complete works and correspondence of Leo Tolstoy; a first edition collection of *War and Peace* and *Anna Karenina* published in Japanese in the late 20's; as well as other rare books and bibles dating back to the 16th and the 17th centuries. In the remarkable collection of rare books donated by the Russian emi-



gration to Alexandra Tolstoy are the valuable archival holdings are Alexandra Tolstoy's personal papers and articles.

The Library's collection is increasing, most recently with a collection of 10,000 volumes from a private collector. A great challenge for the Tolstoy Foundation in the 21st century is to ensure the preservation and the proper utilization of these resources. The Board of Directors has initiated a program of cultural preservation, primarily to share the riches of its

own collections. It is a massive project that requires substantial funding.

In 1999, TF received its first grant from the City University of New York to begin assessing and cataloguing the collection. We have made tremendous headway in culling duplicate books, many of which were sent last year to the Russia Abroad Library-Foundation in Moscow for distribution to rural libraries throughout Russia.

It is especially gratifying to us that in recent years, such prestigious institutions as the New York Public Library and the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., the Tolstoy State Museum in Moscow, and the Yasnaya Polyana Estate Museum of L.N. Tolstoy in Tula have recognized the extraordinary value of the TF library and archival collection and have offered their assistance to preserve and to protect the collection.

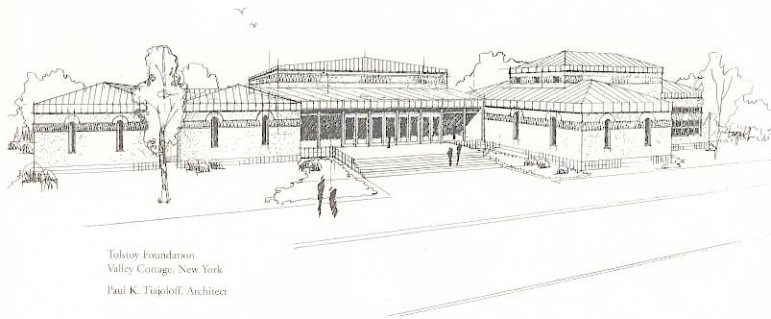


From top to bottom: Cyril Galitzine, TF Archivist (ret.) in TF Library; Manuscript Memoirs of Prima Ballerina Olga Spetsiusseva

gration to Alexandra Tolstoy is the *Zarya Library* from Shanghai and Harbin, presented by Olga Lembich, widow of a prominent Russian newspaper publisher in China. Dominating

INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

PROPOSED CULTURAL CENTER



Tolstoy Foundation
Valley Cottage, New York
Paul K. Tsiapoloff, Architect

*“....The creation of a vibrant
cultural/educational center and
a forum for international activities
at the Tolstoy Foundation Center.”*

EXISTING PROGRAMS

TF CENTER

Providing Home and Community to the Elderly



In addition to the on-going children's program, the TF Center also continues to be a refuge and a home for many old and young people, seeking care, shelter or a sense of belonging within an extended family unit. For others, the TF Center offers opportunities for independent living in the years after retirement, in a comfortable and secure Russian-speaking environment dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of its elderly residents.

With the approval and under the regulations of the New York State and the County Departments of Social Services, two adult homes (a total of 42 beds) were established in 1952.



These homes provide room, board, housekeeping, personal care and supervision.

Recognizing the need for a professionally staffed geriatric facility at the TF Center, the Tolstoy Foundation

Nursing Home was established in 1970, with Alexandra Tolstoy and Tariana Schaufuss laying the cornerstone. It is adjacent to the TF Center and is funded and operated by the State of New York.

The Foundation's social welfare activities are fundamental to its 60-year tradition of selfless philanthropy. The TF Center's social welfare program for elderly residents in the adult homes constitutes the largest portion of all TF funds expended for social welfare today. Only one of five current residents is capable of paying for care. Others receive welfare assistance, but this is rarely enough to cover all costs.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

PARIS In Paris, our affiliate the Comité de Soutien de la Tolstoy Foundation continues to provide assistance to recent refugees pouring in from all the new republics of the former Soviet Union. In the past year, there has been a major influx of married couples from Russia, the Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan, where they are persecuted for their mixed ethnic marriages. French authorities are not equipped to provide welfare and resettlement assistance to these refugees, and there are no local organizations offering such aid. The Tolstoy Foundation office in Paris is the single organization to which such refugees can turn for help

in their own native language. Here they receive help in obtaining the most basic social services, such as, housing and medical assistance, and legal processing of their resettlement status. In addition to struggling with this overwhelming load of cases, the Tolstoy Foundation Paris office also responds to numerous requests for assistance from various French authorities in connection with the refugee situation.

The Tolstoy Foundation continues to oversee and to protect the interests of Russian-speaking elderly residents in four retirement homes throughout France, which still bear the name of the Tolstoy Foundation.

MUNICH In Munich, our affiliate Tolstoi Hills-und Kulturwerk continues to provide immigration counseling, social welfare and practical assistance to refugees from the former Soviet Union, as well as offering Russian language programs to the local community. The Tolstoi Library boasts an extensive and valuable 40,000-volume collection of classical and contemporary Russian books and a unique archives that represents one of the major private Russian cultural resources outside of Russia today. In April 1999, the Tolstoi Library celebrated its 50th anniversary at a gala

event held in the beautiful palace of Ludwig of Bavaria in Munich, which was attended by representatives of various Munich authorities, along with the US Consul General, prominent members of the clergy and other distinguished member of the local Russian-speaking community. Many of the distinguished speakers praised the Tolstoi Library's contribution to the cultural and the intellectual life of this Bavarian capital and the splendid work that the Tolstoy Foundation began in Munich during the post-war period and which continues to this day.



From left to right: Maria Ivanov, Director, and Elizabeth Obolewsky, Assistant Director



From left to right: Gertrude Ritz, Vice-Chairman; Tatjana Erschow, Director, with members of library staff

EXISTING PROGRAMS

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

SOUTH AMERICA

Of all the people currently receiving assistance from the Tolstoy Foundation in South America, 85% are elderly Russians, who are helpless, alone and often disabled. The TF provides them with in-home assistance, medical help and nursing home care. The TF also operates a small nursing home in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and provides care and support to other residents of Slavic background in a retirement home in Itaquerra, Brazil. Struggling in its efforts to provide medical or financial assistance or, sometimes, just an offer of a helping hand, the TF is attempting to help these elderly live out the remainder of their lives with some measure of comfort and dignity.

In addition, the TF in South America has taken on a new task—aid



to the recent endless stream of refugees from republics of the former Soviet Union. Most arrive with only \$5-10 in their pockets, acquired from

selling their possessions or apartments before fleeing. Yet large numbers also arrive with nothing and often end up living six to a single room, while they struggle to do whatever they can to survive, to feed themselves and their children. These children are the light in the darkness in which the refugees struggle to forge a new life for themselves in a foreign country. In line with the Tolstoy Foundation's US-based educational and training programs, the TF in Argentina is now helping to make it possible for these refugee children to attend schools and summer camps, where they can acquire an education and skills that will help them build a better and brighter future for themselves in their new home land and to pass it on to the next generation.

ST. PETERSBURG

In 1998, the Tolstoy Foundation established the St.Petersburg/Gagarin Fund and began approving grant applications received through the St. Petersburg office for small, local "grass-roots" charitable activities. Our commitment to assist these local activities continues, as seen in the approval of nine grants for St. Petersburg activities in 1999.

Some of the grants awarded in 1999 included: "The Center of Women's Initiatives", which supports training and workshops for young people, female prisoners and people in

distant regions, in national Russian handicrafts and develops income-producing individuals. (This also allows the work of the handicraft masters from disappearing.) "Hope", a teenage halfway-house for eight homeless socially disadvantaged children, received funds to assist with physical care, psychological support, rehabilitation, training and schooling for these children. "Sunny Wind", a learning education center for 4-10 year olds and their parents, is a program that reaches a minimum of 240 families a year. "Colon", which supports the rehabilitation of individuals with

ulcerative colitis and promotes publication of educational brochures to increase local public awareness of the condition and to reduce the stigma attached to it.

By assisting these smaller grass-roots efforts and others like them, the Tolstoy Foundation not only preserves its humanitarian and cultural vision, but also supports the ideas, the initiatives and the motivation of the individuals who are actively trying to bring about improvement in their local areas. Through such assistance, we hope to better the lives not only of this generation, but also of future generations.

FINANCIAL REPORT

TF has overcome the tests of time. Yet looking to the future, we must continue to battle many challenges. As our programs grow, so do our financial needs.

Thanks to the donations of many individuals and foundations, such as, Boris and Gertrude Sergievsky, Serge Tulinoff, Thomas Milbank, the Crosswicks Foundation, the Plato Malozemoff Foundation, the Gagarin Trust, The Howard Phipps Foundation, and the CIBC World Markets Corporation, we have been able to sustain our programs and activities. Our continually broadening donor base encourages us and demonstrates support both for our expanding programs and the sharing of our interests.

The Finance Committee of the Board of Directors actively oversees

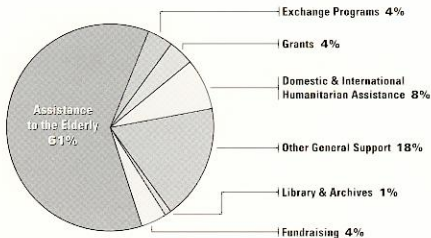
financial operations. Investment strategies are constantly monitored, and management reviews operating results monthly. With a very dedicated staff, we strive to be as efficient and cost-effective as possible. Expenditures are evaluated not only for their necessity, but also for their effectiveness. This is especially important with programs that involve operations in foreign countries, and as criteria for approving grants.

While not mandated, TF engages a Certified Public Accounting firm annually to perform an independent audit of its financial statements.

We are proud of the fact that we well exceed the American Institute of Philanthropy's guideline that programs constitute at least 60% of total expenses. In 1998 and 1999, our programs

and services expenses, including assistance to the elderly, exchange programs, grants, and domestic and international humanitarian relief, exceeded 75% of total expenses, and our fund-raising costs were kept well below 5% of expenditures. The chart below shows the major expense classifications as a percentage of total expenditures for 1999.

Thanks to the commitment of CIBC World Markets Corporation, TF was accepted as a participating charity in their 1999 USA "Miracle Day", receiving \$115,000 from the corporation in 2000 for our exchange programs. We would like to thank all our donors for their continued support; our staff for their dedication; and our affiliates for sharing our vision of the future.



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XENIA WOYEVODSKY
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Chief Executive Officer



TF Board members at Commencement Ceremony.

From left to right: S. Lopoukhine, C. Yaxley-Schmidt, E. Janke, V. Grigoriev, T. Rodzianko, Director, Alexandra Tolstoy Institute, and C. Sidamon-Eristoff



From left to right: S. Lopoukhine, X. Woyevodsky and N. Milin



C. Sidamon-Eristoff, Chairman



TF Board members with V. Tolstoy (center)



Krasnoyarsk boy with I. Bagration and N. Cheremeteff



Board member John T. Gribb (center) with TF alumni

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEKSANDRA JANKE

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