



District 2223 – Russia
Anna Tumanova - DG 2019-2020



13^o Multi-Club Workshop
Moscow, 3-8 September 2019



Rotary Club Moscow International
Hosting Club

A 13TH MULTI-CLUB WORKSHOP WITH THE COSSACKS



Another Multi-Club Workshop has just ended! The 13th MCW took place in Russia, in Moscow, "together with the Cossacks" who cheered the gala dinner with their songs and their dances creating a family atmosphere and full of joy. But it was this climate of friendship that marked the 13th MCW. The Moscow place was thought out in order to encourage Russian clubs to make Global Grants with international partners. The Governor of District 2223 (Russia), Anna Tumanova, shared this concept and then agreed to consider the 13th MCW as a district event. For the perfect organization of the entire stay a heartfelt thank goes to Rotary Club Moscow International (RCMI), in particular to Philippe Cohen and his wife Karina, Denis Borisov and Alina Lavrenteyeva, President of the Club. The group of foreigners, very close-knit, was composed of twenty people: 17 Italians including 9 Rotarians of the Districts 2050 (Lombardia), 2060 (Tri-Veneto), 2072

(Emilia Romagna & San Marino), 2090 (Abruzzo, Marche, Molise, Umbria), 2120 (Puglia & Basilicata); 2 Serbian Rotarians of D 2483 (Serbia & Montenegro) and Lauren Sterenberg-Ribant from Evanston as Regional Grants Officer of the Rotary Foundation. The five days pitted each other admirably between sightseeing in Moscow, a tour to Serghei Posad and the actual seminar. For visits to Moscow downtown, the Metro, the Kremlin, the City, the Tetrayakov Modern Museum and the Clock Museum, it is important to emphasize the excellent quality of the guide, who followed the group step by step.

The visit to Serghei Posad, 71 km north-east of Moscow allowed us to visit the Home for Deaf and Blind Children "Detski Dom". There, 200 children (orphans and not) from 3 to 18 years old are excellently cared for. Erik Stenfeldt, RCMI' member presented a humanitarian service that the Club has been carrying out for seven years with the collaboration of RC Bari, RC Ravenna and RC Moscow Humboldt. Through this initiative, the RCMI has raised 200,000 dollars to buy 135 special hearing aids and other materials. At the end of the very touching and engaging visit, where an experienced "teacher" takes care of 4 children, some pupils offered a small concert singing and playing special musical instruments. The whole group had a moment of great emotion and understood how well Rotarians can do thanks to their commitment to humanitarian projects.

On Saturday 7 September, the seminar was attended by the representatives of **8 foreign clubs** (Ancona Conero, Brescia Veronica Gambaro, Beograd Skadarlija, Cesena, Lecce, Ravenna, Salò & Desenzano del Garda and Venice) and **11 Russian clubs** (E-club Aurora Global, E-club Russia, Kazan Volga, Moscow Humboldt, Moscow International, Novorossiysk, St. Petersburg White Nights, Sneginsk, Cita, Volgograd and Ulyanovsk). After honouring the Rotary flag, Denis Borisov of the RCMI greeted all the participants and explained that the MCW was born in 2006 thanks to the great experience of the RCMI to carry out projects since its founding in 2001. In the absence of Alina Lavrenteyeva, President of the Club, Philippe Cohen pointed out that the RCMI has carried

out many projects thanks to the MCW. Then Governor Anna Tumanova encouraged Russian clubs to hold many fundraising events to participate in Global Grants, especially for orphaned children, as regional and local governments fail to resolve all problems. In addition, the Global Grants allow Rotarians to create bonds of friendship by communicating and working with foreign clubs in the spirit of the Rotarian ideal.

Later Andrea Rossi of RC Cesena highlighted with the precise example of the Taccia Foundation the possibility for clubs to collaborate with private associations to carry out important projects. Lauren Sterenberg-Ribant of the Rotary Foundation described in detail how to build a Global Grant, drew attention to the new names of the six "focus areas." Finally, Lauren pointed out the different sites to help draw up the applications.

After the Coffee Break, two clubs presented their own out-of-competition projects: the E-Club Aurora Global proposed to buy backpacks created by the poor inhabitants of a village in Latin America; RC Moscow Humboldt presented the "Sunshine Summer and Sea" project for homeless children in the Donbass region, East-Ukraine.



Then we moved on to the presentation of the following 7 registered projects (see details on the www.rotary-mcw.com page): the construction of a modern toilet in Volgograd; the refurbishment of the water system of the hospital in Chiulo, Cuene Province, Angola; a project to care the infertility of young people in the Lombardy Region, Italy; some medical equipment and support for young para-athletes in Moscow; a new palliative care system in the Rasina District, Serbia; to improve the care of young diabetics in Sudan; to point out a methodology for the development of the creativity and psychological skills of young people in Kazan, Russia.

In the afternoon, Leonardo de Angelis, RC Ravenna and Coordinator of the MCW illustrated several Global Grants implemented thanks to the various MCWs of the past years. Lauren Sterenberg-Ribant, who had already done a preliminary review of the 7 projects in the past weeks, suggested recommendations to improve the application presentations according to The Rotary Foundation's conditions.

The total amount of the 7 projects submitted amounts to approximately US 694,000 USD.

Then we moved on to the Project Exchange, where club representatives gave more details about their projects, followed by the vote. Denis and Leonardo announced the results, declaring that there is a very little difference between the first three: First is the project in the Rasina District proposed by RC Beograd Skadarlija, Serbia, the 2nd one is which presented by RC Fabriano and to be implemented in Angola, the 3rd one for the para-athletes of Moscow presented by RC Moscow International.

Finally, Olga Kholmogorova, President of the Inter-Country Committees of Russia, explained that the Governor-Elect of D 2060 (Tri-Veneto) has expressed the desire to host as a district event the next **14th MCW in Venice and Padua** which will be the 2020 European Volunteering Capital. Therefore Olga invited Tonino Beccegato, President-Elect of RC Venice, to present a movie about Venice and Padua. Everyone applauded the choice of this place!

The seminar concluded with Governor Anna's words of thanks for Leonardo and the RCMI, as well as the hope that the projects presented will be implemented. Then the "Paul Harris Fellow" honours were handed out to Anna Tumanova, Denis Borisov and Philippe Cohen.

After the traditional photos and exchanges of banners, at 17.30 the 13th MCW ended.

In the evening we attended the **Gala Dinner with the Cossacks**.

Goodbye to Venice and Padua from 22 to 27 September 2020!

Leonardo de Angelis

Coordinator of the MCW

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