



Друзья русских сирот  
**Friends of Russian Orphans**  
 7557 Wind River Drive  
 Sylvania, Ohio 43560

### Hockey Fans Have Heart Fundraiser Returns

Due to the NHL strike last year, the FORO "Hockey Fans Have Heart" fundraiser was postponed. But, thanks to the efforts of the HFHH coordinator, Joe LaPlante, the raffle of hockey memorabilia and related items is now back with the best prizes ever, including items donated by former NHL great Gordie Howe and professional teams. Raffle tickets are on sale now! For more information, contact Joe at JOSEPH.LAPLANTE@fmcti.com.



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Fall 2005/Winter 2006  
 VOLUME: III  
 ISSUE: II

# Between friends

News & Information from Friends of Russian Orphans

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Never in recent memory has there been a year filled with so many highly visible, natural disasters than 2005. News of the tsunamis, hurricanes, and earthquakes were



Boy at Orphanage #1 in Arkhangelsk.

on the front page of our newspapers and computer screens for weeks. The images of devastation and human suffering were heartbreaking to witness. Thus, it is only appropriate to ask why one should support FORO when there are so many important needs throughout the world. I think there are several important reasons why FORO is worthy of your support.

First, it is clear in Old and New Testament scripture that God has a special place in his heart for orphans. Exodus 22: 22-23 says: "Do not take advantage of a widow or an orphan. If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their

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## Meet Andrei

Andrei is five years old and lives at the orphanage in Sol Vichegodsk. During a visit of FORO representatives this summer, Andrei shyly presented a gift of

radishes that he, along with the other orphans, had helped grow in the garden. In turn, FORO presented Andrei with a gift from friends far away in America. FORO has purchased many garden tools for Sol Vichegodsk. The extensive work in the garden not only teaches the children a useful life skill, but it also enables the orphanage to grow a large portion of the food consumed by the children. In addition, extra vegetables are sold and the proceeds used to meet other needs of the children. It is a dream of the orphanage to someday have a special storehouse with refrigerators and freezers to better store the vegetables and other produce that is grown at the orphanage.



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The official publication of  
**Friends of Russian Orphans**



Between Friends Newsletter is printed through the generosity of Dana Corporation.

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Why Foro continued

cry. "In James 1: 27 we are told: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress." FORO's mission is directly related to God's call for us to care for the most helpless and defenseless in His world.

Second, during the three years of our existence, FORO has expanded its work from one to twelve orphanages, and gained the respect of Russian authorities and ordinary people with whom we have interacted. In addition, over 95% of FORO's undesignated contributions go directly to help the orphans and their caregivers. FORO has proven to be a good steward of the funds that have been entrusted to its care.

Finally, FORO is worthy of your help because it is making a difference in the lives of orphans and those people who care for them. During a recent meeting between FORO representatives and one of the orphanage directors with whom we work, the director said, "Without FORO, we do not know what we would do". We cannot know all of the ways in which FORO has impacted the lives of children and others in Russia and in America. But, we can rest assured that when we are faithful to the call that God has placed before us, He will use our efforts for purposes that someday we will more fully understand.

God bless you all and thank you for your prayers and financial support of FORO's work.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Wurster



Children at Orphanage in Sol Vichegodsk

### Good Times in Mayberry!

Who doesn't have warm thoughts of Mayberry, the wonderful town where Andy, Barney, Aunt Bea, Gomer and Opie live? Now, FORO friends have another reason to be glad about Mayberry, only this Mayberry is the quaint shopping and residential community in Sylvania, Ohio. During the summer months, the Mayberry community was home to four classic car shows. Show organizers graciously awarded a portion of the show proceeds to FORO. Many thanks to Doug and Susan Wamsher and Centennial Crossings for their support of FORO.



Brother Nikolai and children at the Orphanage in Velsk

### Roman Project Update.

The Roman Project is FORO's program of providing Bibles and other spiritual assistance to the orphans and their caregivers. This summer, FORO sponsored the visit of Brother Nikolai Devyatkin of the Arkhangelsk Baptist church to the orphanage Rakula-Kokshenga (Velsk) where FORO has been working. Brother Nikolai showed a video entitled "There is Hope" which explains how Christ's love offers the children hope for the future. Following a Q&A session, he also shared small gifts and watermelon with the children. Brother Nikolai will be visiting other FORO sponsored orphanages in the coming months to present similar programs. We pray that his efforts will make an impression on children who have little exposure to God and His love for them.

### FORO Begins Work in Nizhny Novgorod Region.



Dima in Dzherinzsk Orphanage Number 2 for Special Needs Children.

In August, FORO officers Lisa and Phillip Wurster established a relationship with Orphanage #2 for Special Needs Children in the city of Dzherinzsk in the Nizhny Novgorod region. This relationship began when Lisa and Phill adopted their new son, Dima (Andrew), from this orphanage. While visiting the orphanage for this purpose, Lisa and Phill quickly observed that the orphanage has tremendous needs. Threadbare sheets were hanging from a make-shift clothesline in the yard, the car needed to transport children for medical and other appointments was broken, the orphanage walls were filled with holes, and the toilets, bathtub and sink in the children's rooms were rusty and crumbling with age. FORO has now begun its work with the delivery of a large quantity clothes, quilts, and shoes, as well as a significant monetary donation used to purchase a new van for the orphanage. So much remains to be done. Developing the relationship with this orphanage and region is a priority for FORO in 2006.



Dzherinzsk Orphanage Number 2 for Special Needs Children.

### Friendship Trip #7 Solidifies FORO Relationships.

During the summer, FORO representatives visited four orphanages in the southern part of the Arkhangelsk region where FORO has been working for more than two years. At each orphanage, FORO was able to provide funding for appliances, furniture, tools, toys, vocational training tools and equipment and more. Even more important, Russian people who interacted with the FORO team saw a vivid example of love in action. As one Russian said after meeting the FORO team, "it is wonderful to learn that the people I was taught to hate are just like us."



FORO representative Lisa Wurster and little girl at Kotlas Baby Home

### "Evening for the Angels 2006".

FORO's most significant fundraising program, "An Evening for the Angels" is scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, 2006 at the Franciscan Life Center at Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio. The event will feature an elegant dinner, entertainment, and audio-visual highlights of FORO's work. Mr. Valery Pavlovich Nuromsky, deputy minister for education for the Arkhangelsk region in Russia, will come to America for the event, along with FORO's indispensable facilitator, translator and guide, Irina Sergeevna Simonova. Tickets are \$50 and may be purchased or reserved at any time. FORO is also actively soliciting corporate or business sponsors to underwrite this event so that all proceeds from the program can go directly to help FORO's work at the orphanages. If you or your company are willing to help sponsor the event, please contact FORO at 419-841-6971. Please plan to attend this special and inspirational night when we will focus on God's special children who are the reason FORO exists.