Our 92nd National Convention:
“Meet Me in St. Louis”
Union Station Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri
July 20-23, 2018
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Visit Our Website: www.orthodoxfellowship.org
In mid-February, the Executive Board and Board of Trustees met halfway between Ohio and New Jersey at a Hampton Inn just off Interstate 80 in Lamar, Pennsylvania. Thankfully, the winter weather cooperated long enough for us to carry out the business of the Fellowship by means of very productive Spring Board meetings. 2018 Gifts of Love donations, designated for IOCC’s hurricane relief efforts, have surpassed $11,000 and that amount continues to grow. Future plans extend well into 2020 with several new and renewed events in the development stages, such as a Leadership Conference, Choir Conference, and Pan Orthodox Youth Rally. Plans for 2018 national events are being finalized and members of the Ohio District are busy preparing to host all three of our National Sports Tournaments as well as Junior Olympics. Whether you prefer to bounce, putt, or roll, sign up for a weekend of friendly competition and share in fun, fellowship, and worship.

Most importantly, I hope you will meet me in St. Louis! Okay, not very original but a genuine invitation nonetheless. Register now to be part of the 92nd National FOCA convention at the historic St. Louis Union Station Hotel. Once again, the FOCA Convention will be held in conjunction with the 19th All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America. In addition to a traditional convention schedule consisting of Business Sessions, Great Vespers, and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, the convention committee has organized several evening events. Fellowship opportunities start with a good old fashion St. Louis welcome on Friday, followed by an opportunity to “Dine under the Stars” on Saturday, and leading up to the grand finale banquet and dance on Sunday. Whether you come to this great city as a delegate, alternate, member, or guest, you are sure to enjoy the weekend festivities.

A lot of positive things are happening around the Fellowship. Don’t simply reminisce about wonderful experiences you had at an FOCA tournament, camp, or convention -- create some new memories by participating in upcoming events.

May you have a meaningful Lenten Journey and a joyous Pascha!
As we are in the midst of Great Lent and looking forward to the Lord’s Resurrection, the latest issue of your Journal has just been completed for perusal. Our cover (produced by the exceptional new digital color printer from Michael Schultz & company!) features our upcoming national convention in St. Louis this July in conjunction with the OCA’s 19th All-American Council replete with the Union Station Hotel and council logo. “Meet Me in St. Louis” is the theme and John Kruchok pens the preview. Also inside are the ticket order & ad forms as well as a Juniors invite. Plan to attend now!

Speaking of the national convention, we have methodically compiled a list of all 92 (including this year’s) in celebration of our Fellowship’s rich history: the number, venue, dates, sponsors are all included with a selection of hotel photos. It’s literally a walk down memory lane for many of us and there are a few surprises, too. A special “shout out” to Mom for poring over old Journals and coming up with the info. Our Campbell & Mogadore/Akron parishes with FOCA chapters recently celebrated their respective centennials, and we have a brief report on each – congrats! And the South River parish (with its “R” Club) was host of the recent Orthodoxy Sunday celebration led by two metropolitans, an archbishop and clergy – included are excerpts of Antiochian Metropolitan Joseph’s enlightening homily.

Regular contributor Larry Skvir reports on this year’s Novogodny Ball in Philly (home of the Super Bowl-winning Eagles!), and a photo gallery documents the annual gala. In sports are the promo pieces and entry forms for the annual spring tournaments, both in Ohio – basketball in Cleveland and “bo-ling” in Campbell. For children there is a sample page from the new Kursk Root Icon coloring book, courtesy of Holy Trinity Publications in Jordanville, and a summary of the miraculous icon’s amazing history. Be sure to enter the “Celebration of Faith” creative arts contest and students are urged to apply for Fellowship scholarships – details inside.

Filling out this edition are paschal greetings from our patrons (thanks for your support!), an updated calendar of events, President Marge’s commentary, a reminder on the current “Gifts of Love” project for IOCC hurricane relief, Harrisburg’s bowling outing, and a few more odds-n-ends. We greet you in anticipation of the Feast of Feasts – Christ is Risen! And our next issue will highlight both spring sports tourneys . . . until then, enjoy the Fellowship you find on these pages!

F.O.C.A. HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS-IN-BRIEF

**Harrisburg “O” Club Bowling Outing**

Senior and Junior members of the Harrisburg “O” Club, #199 and 199-J, Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church, Harrisburg, PA, enjoyed a February Sunday afternoon of bowling at the ABC North Lanes near the church.

**Please Save the Date!**

The Ohio District FOCA is sponsoring a benefit golf outing for the St. Vladimir Campground and Retreat Center in Farmdale, OH. When? Friday, September 21, 2018. Where? Sugar Bush Golf Club in Garrettsville, OH. The outing will be coordinated by Leon (MacDivot) Sheean. Details will follow: www.sugarbushgolfcourse.com.
81st Novogodny Ball

by Larry Skvir

Last January 2017 after St. Stephen’s OCF, Chapter 82, was wrapping up the 80th Novogodny Ball, our long time Ball Chairman, Paul Fedoronko, announced that 80, being a nice round number, would be his final Ball as Chairman. Unless someone was willing to step up to assume the chairmanship, it was likely that this would be the final Ball, ending a wonderful event that was attended by thousands of people over its eight-decade lifespan.

At our subsequent chapter meeting, with the hotel deadline quickly approaching and the fate of the Ball up in the air, Andre and Alex Cox, the two youngest members of Chapter 82, volunteered to step up to assume responsibility for the 81st Ball. As anyone who attended this year will attest, with the usual help of all the chapter members, Andre and Alex did a great job and the Ball went off without a hitch. Thank you, Andre and Alex!

A cold but precipitation-free weekend of January 13 and 14 greeted our guests from five states. Some of the members of the Colonial District Board of Trustees who attended the District Board meeting on Saturday, January 13, also attended divine liturgy at St. Stephen’s Cathedral on the morning of the Ball.

The venue for the Ball was the Radisson Hotel Philadelphia Northeast in Trevose, PA. Following a delicious sit-down dinner (a GREAT value if you’ve never participated in it) which was enjoyed by some of our guests, the talented Kauriga Orchestra opened the evening with the first of many lively dance tunes. More than 200 guests, including a large number of teens and young adults, filled the spacious dance floor for the entire evening.

During the first intermission, Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk, Dean of St. Stephen’s Cathedral, thanked everyone for attending the Ball, which has always supported Orthodox and other deserving charities. Paul Fedoronko introduced Andre and Alex Cox to recognize and thank them for keeping the Ball alive in 2018 and, we hope, future years. During subsequent intermissions, there were line dance and contemporary music for the younger crowd, door prize giveaways, and a 50-50 raffle.

At 11:00 PM (not everyone has a Martin Luther King Day off) we rang in the New Year with the balloon drop and kids scrambling to find the balloon prizes. The assembled crowd then gathered around to cheer the traditional HOPAK circle. A great time was had by all.

St. Stephen’s has always appreciated the support of the Ball by F.O.C.A members and we were pleased to have Marge Kovach, National F.O.C.A. President, Nick Ressetar, OC Journal Editor, and Walter Alesevich, Colonial District Governor, with us again this year. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, January 20, 2019 and make plans to bring your friends and join us for the 82nd Novogodny Ball!
### 92nd FOCA CONVENTION TICKET ORDER FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT:</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>TOTAL COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>President’s Golf Open</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<tr>
<td>(includes greens fees, cart, range balls)</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Meet Me at The Fair” Welcome</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>“Dining Under the Stars”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children (10 and under)</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation to Planetarium</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<td>(If driving, parking is free)</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gateway Banquet/Dance</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<td>Entrée Choice:</td>
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<td>Chicken</td>
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<td>Pork Chop</td>
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<td>Vegetarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children (10 and under)</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>x _______</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Chicken fingers, mac &amp; cheese, veggies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gateway Ball (Dance only)</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>x _______</td>
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<td><strong>TOURS:</strong></td>
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<td>Friday: 2:00 p.m. Trolley Tour*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$24</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children (10 and under)</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday: Gateway Arch 2:00 p.m.*</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children (10 and under)</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>x _______</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday: 2:00 p.m. Trolley Tour*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$24</td>
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<td>Children (10 and under)</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JUNIOR ACTIVITIES:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday: City Museum</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<td>(includes box lunch)</td>
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<td>Choice of:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandwich/drink/cookie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unlimited Pizza/drink/cookie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday: Gateway Arch</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (10 and under)</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>x _______</td>
<td>= ________</td>
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</tbody>
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**DEADLINE:** JUNE 17, 2018. Make checks payable to “National FOCA Convention” and mail to: Sandra Saurman, 214 Central Avenue, Edison, NJ 08817.

Name: ___________________________________ Phone: _________________ Chapter #______

Address: ______________________________________________________________________
FOCA/FROC National Conventions Through the Years: 1927-2018 - 92 and Counting

For the historical record as well as our own edification (and, yes, certain entertainment value), we've decided to compile a listing of all 92 national conventions of the Fellowship/Federation since the very first in November 1927 at St. Alexander Nevsky Russian Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, including the number, the venue, location and, if known, the sponsoring group. It's interesting to see where the conventions have been held, especially in the early years, and the hotels - some quite famous - which are long gone. Did you know, for example, that officially no national convention was held in 1945 because of post-war restrictions? A national board of trustees meeting took place instead over the Labor Day weekend in Pittsburgh and, as ROI Editor Ross Chepeleff would write some years later (rather mischievously), several hundred “guests” showed up even though there was no convention! This listing is taken almost entirely from old copies of the Journal, though some program and ad books were also used. In some cases, despite concerted efforts, we were unable to determine the convention sponsor – the story would mention a convention chairman and committee members but no specific sponsoring group. Dates of individual conventions varied depending on whether the pre-convention meetings were included; for example, an ad might mention a 4-day convention but subsequent reporting would include 6 days. A few fun facts (some of these are approximations because of incomplete information):

* the convention has been held in 18 states and Washington, D.C. (twice). Pennsylvania, naturally, holds the record with 25 followed by New York State with 13 and Ohio with 10. Michigan has 7, Florida 5, Massachusetts and Illinois (4 each), and these states with 3 apiece: Virginia, New Jersey, Missouri, Connecticut and Minnesota. Other states hosting a convention are Arizona, California, Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina and Tennessee.

* Pittsburgh (our founding city) has hosted the most conventions with 12 followed closely by New York City (mostly Manhattan but also Brooklyn) with 10 and Cleveland (including suburbs) with 9. Detroit has 6; Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago with 4 each; and Minneapolis and St. Louis with 3 (including this year’s). Some other cities include Garfield & Parsippany, NJ; Binghamton & Grand Island, NY; Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Harrisburg & Gettysburg, PA; Pasadena, CA; Las Vegas; Orlando & Miami Beach; Boyne Mountain, MI; Scottsdale/Phoenix; Alexandria, VA; Myrtle Beach, SC; and Bridgeport & Hartford, CT. For the most part, the states and cities correspond to the Fellowship’s membership base with the exception of the resort-style destinations. And while “big” cities are the norm, several small cities or towns acted as hosts.

* Venues. Apart from the 1st, (and sort of the 3rd) all other conventions have been held in hotels. The list indicates the name of the hotel as of that convention but the hotels would change names, at times more than once; we've tried our best to research these name changes in determining the host hotel over the years. The venerable Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh (now an Omni property) has been the most popular national convention site with 8 hostings. The Carter Hotel (originally the Winton) in Cleveland hosted 6 followed by the Commodore (NYC) and Cadillac Hotels (Detroit) with 4 each. The Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia hosted 3, and those with 2 apiece include the Statler (Boston), Waldorf-Astoria (NYC), Parsippany Hilton (NJ), Kingston Plantation (SC), Seven Springs Resort (PA) and Sherman House (Chicago). Without a doubt the most famous hotel is the Waldorf-Astoria (hosting the 41st & 50th) but now closed for “renovations.” Other well-known properties are the Contemporary Resort at Disney World, the former Biltmore Hotel (part of the Grand Central Station complex), the Deauville in Miami Beach, the former Nicollet in Minneapolis, and the Washington Hilton (site of the President Reagan assassination attempt in 1981).

* Labor Day weekend is the traditional time for the annual convention. Other than the 1st (November), convention numbers 2 through 69 were all held then. The first to break this mold was the 70th in Orlando (1996) followed by Las Vegas (1998), the 75th in Pittsburgh (2001) and Grand Island, NY (2004), all July dates. Four in a row were held on non-Labor Day dates from 2013 to 2016: Cleveland/Independence (June 28-July 1), Gettysburg (July), Atlanta (July) and the 90th in Chicago/Rosemont (July). And this year’s in St. Louis will be in July. The first convention was just 2 days (Saturday & Sunday) and many of the early ones were 3 days (Labor Day weekend). Eventually this extended to 4, 5 and even 6 days! Do you know that for some time the national executive board would come to town the Monday before the convention started on Thursday, with their final meeting the evening of Labor Day Monday?

* Sponsorship is somewhat problematic. For whatever reason, particularly in the earlier years, the Journal did not always identify a precise sponsoring group (e.g., district, chapter, other). Sometimes it would just mention the names of the committee chair and members. For example, the 47th in DC was a “Troika” chairmanship but no group was named as sponsor. Remember the Encino “O” Club? It hosted the 40th in Pasadena, CA. The FROC/FOCA board
of executives/trustees has occasionally been the sponsor (1936, 1983, 2015 and this year). In addition to the first, three other times a parish has been named as co-sponsor with its chapter (Harrisburg in 1994, Campbell in 2004 and Hartford in 2009). Once a junior district was listed as co-sponsor with the senior district (Midwest in Chicago, 1981). Here are the top sponsors (keeping in mind we don't know them all): Pittsburgh District with 11, Cleveland "R" Club (8), Metropolitan & New Jersey Districts (7 each), Michigan District (5), Campbell "O" Club (4), and St. Mary's "R"/"O" Club (3).

We hope you find this national convention listing both educational and entertaining, and certainly it brings back many memories. How many have you attended? "Uncle" Bill Bowan of Ambridge, PA was reputed to have attended each and every one from the 1st until his death. What were your favorites? Best hotel? Best city or area? Special thanks to Matushka Theodora Ressetar for going through many, many old Journals to get the list into the 1970s and to both Nancy Kohudic and Maryann Bascik for their recent contributions of back Journals which aided this effort. This is a work in progress so if anyone out there can help us fill in the missing blanks or has any corrections or additions, please let us know. In the meantime, see you at the "Meet Me in St. Louis" national convention this July!

**FOCA/FROC National Conventions Thru the Years**

1st: St. Alexander Nevsky Russian Orthodox Church, North Side Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – November 26 & 27, 1927 – co-sponsored by the Pittsburgh "R" Club and the parish

2nd: Hotel Winton, Cleveland, Ohio – September 1-3, 1928

3rd: Alexander Hamilton Hotel, Paterson, New Jersey (with sessions held at the Garfield Auditorium in Garfield, New Jersey) – August 31 - Sept 2, 1929 – sponsored by the Garfield R.O. Ass'n., #16

4th: Sterling Hotel, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania – August 30–Sept 1, 1930

5th: Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – September 5-7, 1931

6th: Hotel St. George, Brooklyn, New York – September 2-4, 1932

7th: Hotel Statler, Detroit, Michigan – September 2-4, 1933 – sponsored by the Detroit "R" Club

8th: Arlington Hotel, Binghamton, New York – September 2-4, 1934 – sponsored by the Binghamton "R" Club

9th: Carter Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio – August 31–September 2, 1935

10th: Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – September 5-7, 1936 – sponsored by the National FROC Executive Board

11th: Parker House Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts – September 4-6, 1937

12th: Hotel Casey, Scranton, Pennsylvania – September 2-5, 1938 – sponsored by the Anthracite District

13th: Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan – September 1-4, 1939 – sponsored by the Detroit "R" Club

14th: Stratfield Hotel, Bridgeport, Connecticut – August 30–Sept 2, 1940

15th: Sterling Hotel, Wilkes-Barre, PA – August 29–September 1, 1941

16th: Hotel Carter, Cleveland, Ohio – September 4-7, 1942 – sponsored by the Cleveland "R" Club, #4/6

17th: Commodore Hotel, New York City, New York – September 3-5, 1943 – sponsored by the Metropolitan District

18th: Commodore Hotel, New York City, New York – September 2-4, 1944 – sponsored by the Metropolitan District

19th: (according to the Russian Orthodox Journal, officially no national convention was held in 1945 because of conservation efforts following the end of the Second World War; however, a national board of trustees meeting was held instead at the Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – September 1-3, 1945)

20th: Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – August 31–September 2, 1946 – sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

21st: Hotel New Yorker, New York City, New York – August 28–September 1, 1947 – sponsored by the Metropolitan District

22nd: Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota – September 3-6, 1948 – sponsored by the St. Mary’s “R” Club, #94

23rd: Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – September 2-5, 1949 – sponsored by the Alpha “R” Club, #53


25th Silver Anniversary: Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan – August 31 - September 3, 1951 – sponsored by the Michigan District

26th: Hotel Commodore, New York City, New York – August 29 – September 1, 1952 – sponsored by the Metropolitan District

27th: Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – September 4-7, 1953 – sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

28th: Hotel Statler, Boston, Massachusetts – September 3-6, 1954

29th: Hotel Carter, Cleveland, Ohio – September 2-5, 1955 – sponsored by the Cleveland “R” Club, #4/6

30th: Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – August 31-September 3, 1956

31st: Lexington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota – August 30 – September 2, 1957 – sponsored by the St. Mary’s “R” Club, #94

32nd: Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – August 28 – September 1, 1958 – sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

33rd: Statler-Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – August 28 – September 1, 1958 – sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

34th: Pick-Carter Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio – September 2-5, 1960 – sponsored by the Cleveland “R” Club, #4/6

35th: Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan – September 1-4, 1961 – sponsored by the Michigan District


*Orthodox Christian Journal • Winter 2018*
37th: Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – August 29-Sept 2, 1963 — sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

38th: Commodore Hotel, New York City, New York – September 3-7, 1964 — sponsored by the Metropolitan District

39th: Statler Hilton Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts – September 2-6, 1965

40th: Huntington-Sheraton Hotel, Pasadena, California – September 1-5, 1966 — sponsored by the Encino “O” Club


42nd: Pick-Carter Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio – August 30 – September 2, 1968 — sponsored by the Ohio District

43rd: Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan – August 28 – September 1, 1969 — sponsored by the Michigan District

44th: Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – September 3-7, 1970 — sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

45th: Chase Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri – September 2-6, 1971 — sponsored by the St. Michael’s “R” Club, #189

46th: Deauville Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida – September 1-5, 1972 — sponsored by the Florida District


48th: Biltmore Hotel, New York City, New York – August 28 – September 2, 1974 — sponsored by the Metro District

49th: Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan – August 27 – September 1, 1975 — sponsored by the Michigan District

50th Golden Anniversary: Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City, New York – September 1-6, 1976 — sponsored by the New Jersey District

51st: William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – September 1-5, 1977 — sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

52nd: Cleveland Plaza Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio – August 30-September 4, 1978 — sponsored by the Cleveland “R” Club, #4/6

53rd: Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls, Michigan – August 29 - Sept 3, 1979 — sponsored by the Michigan District

54th: Diplomat Hotel, Hollywood, Florida – August 28-September 1, 1980 — sponsored by the Florida District

55th: Chicago Marriott Hotel, Chicago, Illinois – September 2-7, 1981 — co-sponsored by the Midwest District & Midwest Junior District

56th: Philadelphia Marriott Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – Sept 1-6, 1982 — co-sponsored by the Alpha “R” Club, #53 and St. Stephen’s “R” Club, #82

57th: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Washington, D.C. – August 31 – September 5, 1983 — sponsored by the National FROC Executive Board

58th: Parsippany Hilton Hotel, Parsippany, New Jersey – August 30 – September 2, 1984 — sponsored by the New Jersey District

59th: Seven Springs Resort, Champion, Pennsylvania – August 28 – Sept 2, 1985 — sponsored by the Campbell, Ohio “O” Club, #27

60th: Marriott Pavilion Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri – August 28 – September 1, 1986 — sponsored by the St. Michael’s “O” Club, #189

61st: Parkview Hilton Hotel, Hartford, Connecticut – September 4-7, 1987 — sponsored by the Atlantic District


63rd: Westin William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – August 31 – September 4, 1989 — sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

64th: Sheraton City Centre, Cleveland, Ohio – August 31-September 3, 1990 — sponsored by the Cleveland “R” Club, #4/6

65th: Registry Hotel, Scottsdale/Phoenix, Arizona – August 27 - Sept 2, 1991 — sponsored by the Phoenix “R” Club, #219

66th: Seven Springs Resort, Champion, Pennsylvania – September 3-7, 1992 — sponsored by the Campbell, Ohio “O” Club, #27

67th: Boston Burlington Marriott Hotel, Burlington, Massachusetts – September 2-6, 1993 — sponsored by the Atlantic District

68th: Harrisburg Hilton & Towers, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania – September 1-5, 1994 — co-sponsored by the Harrisburg “O” Club, #199 and Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church

69th: Parsippany Hilton Hotel, Parsippany, New Jersey – August 31 – Sept 4, 1995 — sponsored by the New Jersey District

70th: Holiday Inn International Resort, Orlando, Florida – July 19-24, 1996 — sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

71st: Minneapolis Marriott City Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota – August 28 – September 1, 1997 — sponsored by the St. Mary’s “O” Club, #94

72nd: Alexis Park Resort & Spa, Las Vegas, Nevada – July 9-13, 1998 — sponsored by the Campbell “O” Club, #27, Campbell, Ohio

73rd: Albany Marriott Hotel, Albany/Colonie, New York – September 2-6, 1999 — sponsored by the Upper New York State District

74th: The Lodge at Sawmill Creek Resort, Huron, Ohio – August 31 – September 4, 2000 — sponsored by the Cleveland “R” Club, #4/6

75th Diamond Anniversary: Pittsburgh Marriott City Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – July 10-15, 2001 — sponsored by the Pittsburgh District

76th: Radisson Penn Harris Hotel & Convention Center, Camp Hill/Harrisburg, Pennsylvania – August 29 – September 2, 2002 — sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania District

77th: Woodlands Conference Center, Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia – August 28 – Sept 1, 2003 — sponsored by the South River, New Jersey “R” Club, #167

78th: Holiday Inn Resort & Conference Center, Grand Island, New York – July 14-19, 2004 — co-sponsored by the Campbell “O” Club, #27 and St. John Orthodox Church, Campbell, Ohio
Support This Year’s “Gifts of Love” Project

HURRICANE SURVIVORS NEED YOUR HELP

In the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) has been offering assistance on the ground in Houston, Texas and in the Naples, Jacksonville, Miami and Keys areas of Florida. At last year’s national convention, the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America decided to support IOCC’s hurricane relief efforts as the 2018 “Gifts of Love” project. Please give generously using the FOCA’s secure website at www.orthodoxfellowship.org – go to the “OUT-REACH” box at the top of the home page, click on the “Gifts of Love” button, scroll to the bottom at “Donate Today,” drop down to “Gifts of Love” and make your credit card or PayPal donation. Or send a check made payable to “FOCA” to National FOCA Treasurer Michael Bowan, 2100 Lincoln Park West, #9ES, Chicago, IL 60614-4713; designate it for “Gifts of Love.” Thank you for your support of this worthy cause!
MEET ME IN

The Fellowship’s 92nd National Convention
JULY 20-23, 2018

by John Kruchok

It’s time to make your plans to attend the 92nd National Convention of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, to be held this summer, July 20-23, 2018 at the Union Station Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. This year’s event will again be held in conjunction with the All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America.

Since it’s been 32 years since the last national convention was held in St. Louis, there are many reasons to return. MetroLink Red Line service (light rail) provides regular service directly from Lambert International Airport to downtown St. Louis, ending in southern Illinois. A “Union Station” stop a few blocks from the hotel is an option for those who can walk and travel lightly! The same MetroLink, one stop later, will bring you across the street from the new Busch Stadium and spectacular “Ballpark Village” entertainment and dining complex which also includes the multi-floor St. Louis Cardinals Baseball Hall of Fame. A few short stops later will get you closer to the Gateway Arch (must see) and Laclede’s Landing. Of course, there are “classic” St. Louis tourist attractions which have been upgraded over the years and these include the Budweiser Brewery experience (several tours, 1 complimentary) and biergarten, the St. Louis Art Museum and the St. Louis Zoo, which is free and considered to be one of the top Zoo’s in America with over 18,000 animals from 700 species on 90 acres in Forest Park, once home to the 1904 World’s Fair. Other nearby attractions include Six Flags St. Louis and the Missouri Botanical Garden, on 79 acres, oldest in America and the City Museum, which is an outstanding family experience.

St. Louis loves its sports teams as evidenced by the sell-out crowds for hockey at the nearby Scottrade Center and Cardinals baseball at Busch Stadium. While the Cardinals will not be home during the FOCA/AAC period, you can get a ballpark tour (which includes the press box, luxury clubs, field and dugout) at 9:30a, 11a, 12:30p and 2p.

Tickets can be bought in advance on the Cardinals official website or from the tour ticket window at Gate 3. Stop by the stadium to see the many beautiful statues including Stan Musial which surround the ballpark.

Travel to St. Louis can be achieved via air, Amtrak train or by auto (parking is $10
American, Southwest, Delta, United and Frontier Airlines provide frequent and in many cases, direct service from major metropolitan areas. You can rent a car from the airport, take a taxi or shuttle, or try out the Metrolink. Amtrak no longer serves historic Union Station (site of the hotel) but from new platforms at Gateway Station, a quarter mile away. Service from Chicago can be reasonable with fares as low as $27 each way (advance purchase) for the five hour plus trip.

The Union Station Hotel, part of the Curio Collection by Hilton, includes an outdoor pool and a fitness center. St. Louis Union Station, a national historic landmark built in the late 1890’s was once the world’s largest and busiest train station. The special convention/AAC room rate is $134 (plus tax). Please make sure to mention/reference “Orthodox Church in America” when making reservations online or by calling (314) 231-1234. The deadline is Friday, June 29, 2018. The convention will follow the Friday-Monday pattern as far as events, plenary sessions, liturgical services and activities. Friday morning will feature a golf tournament with FOCA and AAC council attendees and guests able to participate, Friday evening will feature a St. Louis-themed open house. Saturday will feature plenary sessions, Vespers, and a Saturday evening dinner event held “under the stars” at the James S. McDonnell Planetarium. Sunday is highlighted by the hierarchical Divine Liturgy and the grand banquet and dance. Monday concludes with the final plenary session. On Saturday a trolley tour of St. Louis including the Gateway Arch is planned and other tours are presently being considered. Once again, a great opportunity exists for youth to participate in a fun-filled program, coordinated this year with the OCA’s Department of Youth, Young Adult and Campus ministry in partnership with the FOCA.

Please consider supporting the commemorative book, being prepared by the FOCA, co-sponsored with the Orthodox Church in America. Several options ranging in price from $150 for a full page to $20.00 for a one-line patron listing. Ads should be submitted to PDF or word files to focabook@gmail.com. Checks payable to the OCA should be mailed to Donna Tesar, 5068 West 6th Street, Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131. The deadline is June 1, 2018.

It’s time for all Orthodox Christian faithful to say “Meet me in St. Louis” as the FOCA convention and the 19th All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America come together in faith and fellowship this July.
19th All-American Council
Orthodox Church in America
and
92nd FOCA National Convention
July 20-27, 2018
Saint Louis Union Station Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri

COMMEMORATIVE BOOK ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

EMAILED DIGITAL FILES IS THE BEST WAY TO SUBMIT ADS. PDF and Word files accepted. Please keep in mind when designing your ads to fit the area you are buying. Example, a full page word file will not look good when sized down to a quarter page ad. Mailed in ads: Please PRINT or TYPE copy; only sharp black and white business cards, letterhead or line drawings are best suitable for reproduction; black and white photos and color photos are acceptable. Verbal agreements will not be recognized. Final approval of all text and accompanying artwork rests with the Program Book Committee, the FOCA Executive Board, and the 19th All-American Council. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

Name of organization/Business/Parish/or Individual: ____________________________________________________________
Phone __________________________________________ Email __________________________________________
Address __________________________________________ City ____________________ State _____ Zip_________
Authorized Signature __________________________________________ Date ______________

Deadline for all advertising and listings is June 1, 2018

PAGE LISTING RATES CHECK/CIRCLE ONE OR MORE

FULL PAGE (Approx. 8” x 10”) $150.00
HALF PAGE (Approx. 5” x 8”) $100.00
QUARTER PAGE (Approx. 4” x 5”) $75.00
MEMORIAL (Approx. 2” x 5”) $60.00
1/8 page space. In Memorial of an individual or family-photo allowed (black & white)

BENEFACTO (LISTING) Name & 1 line of text, two lines total $40.00
PATRON (Listing) Name only on one line of text $20.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Circle one: Check Money Order Charge Card (see below)

CHARGE ORDER: Please circle one: American Express MasterCard VISA

Card Number __________________________________________ Expiration Date __________

Signature __________________________________________________________________________

Name as it shows on card __________________________________________ Daytime Phone _______________

Your information will remain confidential.

Total Remittance enclosed: __________________________

Make checks payable to: OCA
Mail to: Donna Tesar 5068 West 6th St., Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131
E-mail to: focabook2018@gmail.com
Questions: Call or Text John Schultz 304-479-5071

Electronic copy highly preferred (PDF or Word documents)
Juniors are you interested in Serving, Learning and having some Fun? Well then, Meet us in St. Louis during the 92nd Annual F.O.C.A. Convention at The Union Station Hilton Hotel St. Louis, MO July 20th – 23rd

Weekend activities include:
Group Service Project
Sessions/Discussions with OCA Clergy and Hierarchs - Topic: Gateway to Salvation
Group trips to The Gateway Arch, City Museum and St. Louis Planetarium
Additional events at the Union Station Hilton Hotel throughout the weekend.

ATTENTION STUDENTS!!!
FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA
2018 EDUCATIONAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America is now accepting applications for the following 2018 national scholarships:

Fred Lewis • William Fekula • John Klimkosky
Nicholas Torsky (engineering students) • Mischa Michaelson (seminarians)

Last year $4,000 in national scholarships were distributed by the National Executive Board at the 91st National FOCA Convention in Hershey/Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Eligible to apply are those entering freshmen or enrolled undergraduate students in a 2-year, 4-year or certificate-granting institution or a seminary. Graduate students are also eligible for scholarship awards as are military academy students. In addition, applying for a national scholarship may make an applicant eligible for various district scholarships (Central PA, Colonial, New Jersey, Ohio or Pittsburgh).

To be eligible to apply, one must have been a member from July of the previous year (i.e., July 2017) and the year of application (2018). Full details and the application form are available on the FOCA website: www.orthodoxfellowship.org: look for the “OUTREACH” link at the top of the home page, scroll down to “SCHOLARSHIPS” and click to open that page. An application may also be obtained from the National FOCA Office by calling Sandy Kapelan, national administrative secretary, at (570) 824-0562 or by emailing her at orthodoxfellowship@yahoo.com. Questions may be addressed to Danielle Ilchuk, national recording secretary, at (412) 855-3748 or dilchuk@pitt.edu.

This year’s deadline is May 25th.
Applications must be post-marked on or before that date. Apply now!
Two Ohio Parishes with FOCA Chapters Celebrate Centennials

This past fall, two Orthodox parishes in Ohio with active Fellowship chapters celebrated their respective centennials. On the weekend of October 14-15, 2017, St. John the Baptist Church of Campbell, Ohio observed its festive 100th anniversary with liturgies served on both Saturday and Sunday led by Metropolitan Tikhon and Bishop Paul of Chicago and the Midwest and concelebrated by Father Andrew Nelko, rector, and many priests from the Ohio Deanery. Sunday afternoon a panikhida was celebrated at the parish cemetery for all departed faithful and a grand banquet was held in the evening. “In many ways, St. John the Baptist Church is a quintessential parish of the Orthodox Church in America,” His Beatitude said in his banquet remarks. “Not only are we celebrating 100 years of service and witness to Campbell and the greater Youngstown area, but also we are celebrating 100 years of service to the Orthodox Church in America. When I think about Saint John’s, the names Garman, Vansuch, Tucci, Nicoloff, Livosky, Kolosar and many others are familiar because I know you from your support and service to Saint Tikhon’s Monastery and Seminary, from your work for the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, and from those young men who have been sent by this parish to seminary. This familiarity reflects our common history, an intertwining of our lives in ways that are sometimes unbeknown to us.” The parish has the Campbell “O” Club, #27, better known as the “Campbell Kids.”

St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore/Akron, Ohio celebrated its centennial over the weekend of November 10-12, 2017. Vespers was served Friday evening and Bishop Paul presided at the divine liturgy on Saturday morning which was concelebrated by Father Nicholas Wyslutsky, rector, and clergy from the Cleveland Deanery and area. A luncheon followed. Upon the arrival of Metropolitan Tikhon, great vespers was served Saturday evening. The hierarchal liturgy was served by both bishops and clergy on Sunday morning during which Father Nicholas was awarded the jeweled cross. After liturgy, His Beatitude presented a synodal gramota to Father Nicholas and the parish. A highlight of the weekend was the presence and participation of former pastors and “sons” of the parish including former pastors Fathers John Mason and Stephen Kopostonsky; sons of the parish Fathers Daniel Hubiak (whose own father, the late Father Afanasy, was a past rector) and Michael Zahirsky and Deacon Luke Laboda; and Father Michael Hatrak, Father Nicholas’ childhood pastor in Minersville, PA. Following liturgy, a festive anniversary banquet was served at St. Nicholas Banquet Center. The parish has the Akron “O” Club, #20/32. Congratulations and many years to both communities on their centennials!

— adapted from oca.org with photos
2018 FOCA National Basketball Tournament
Sponsored by the Cleveland ‘R’ Club
Archangel Michael Orthodox Church
Broadview Heights, Ohio
April 20 – 22, 2018

FRIDAY!
Our tournament weekend starts with The Warm-Up! Held in a private conference room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, we’ll be serving pizza, snacks, and refreshments. As the warm-up music plays, practice your skills by playing some basketball themed games! (7pm-10pm)

SATURDAY!
Our Crowne Plaza Hotel guests may start their day with a hot, continental breakfast included in their stay. Our tournament will begin on Saturday morning as we head to the Independence Field House located just minutes from the hotel.

As we wrap up the Saturday games, our weekend of Orthodox fellowship will continue on as we gather together for Vespers at Archangel Michael Orthodox Church. Following Vespers we’ll head across the parking lot to Woodside Party Center for our banquet and dance.

SUNDAY!
Join us back at Archangel Michael Church for Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning. Brunch will be served immediately following the liturgy. We’ll then return to Independence Field House for our championship games.

Our Locations:
The Church:
Archangel Michael Orthodox Church
Woodside Party Center
5025 Mill Road (East)
Broadview Heights, OH 44141

The Hotel:
Crowne Plaza-Cleveland South
5300 Rockside Road
Independence, OH 44131
216-524-0700

The Games:
Independence Field House
6354 Selig Drive
Independence, OH 44131

Hotel Booking Information:
Group code for $89/night rate: FOC
(FOCAHOOPS must be in ALL CAPS)

QUESTIONS?
Call or E-mail
Melissa Tesar 216-509-2573
mjtesar@gmail.com
Becky Tesar 216-403-4070
bjtesar@gmail.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player's Name (player may be on only one roster)</th>
<th>Birth Date (Mo/Day/Yr)</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>FOCA Member Y/N</th>
<th>Parish Name</th>
<th>Parish Priest</th>
<th>Priest Phone #</th>
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COACH'S SIGNATURE & CONTACT #

Grade Division

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<th>Grade Division</th>
<th>ENTRY FORM DEADLINE</th>
<th>MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO</th>
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<tr>
<td>8th and Under - Bantam</td>
<td>** Games will be played at Independence Fieldhouse</td>
<td>Entry Fee - $100 per team</td>
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<td>9th to 12th - Juniors</td>
<td>** The FOCA sponsoring chapter cannot take responsibility for any accident to, from and during the tournament</td>
<td>Make-Up Team Fee - $15/player</td>
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<td>Post 12th - Senior/Women</td>
<td>** The National Sports Committee will confirm player eligibility through player’s Parish Priest</td>
<td>Late Fee: $15 after 4/1/18</td>
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<td>Age 35 and up - Super Senior</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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Submit Separate Form for Each Division. Form may be used for individuals to enter make up teams. Only rostered players can participate. List backup players also.
FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA
79th ANNUAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

NET & HANDICAPPED - Open to FOCA Members and all Orthodox Christians
May 18-19, 2018; Banquet Sat., May 19 at 5pm at St. John The Forerunner Greek Orthodox Church Hall 4955 Glenwood Ave., Boardman, OH 44512

Reservations: Holiday Inn Youngstown South, 7410 South Ave., Boardman, OH 44512
RATE: $99 per night – Reference St. John’s Orthodox Church for rate – Firm Deadline of April 30, 2018

Sponsored by: CAMPBELL “O” Club, Chapter 27
For Information Contact: Linda Livosky (Chair); (330) 755-0818; wilvo@sbcglobal.net

Boardman Lanes – 7524 Market St., Boardman, OH 44512
Banquet: Sr. $40 / Jr. $20 (Jr. participants covered by the John Sutsky Fund)

PRIZE FEE RETURNED – 100%; All entrants must buy Banquet Ticket

Bowler 1: ________________
AVG: _______ Is this a league AVG? Y N
☐ SINGLES $15 ☐
☐ DOUBLES $15 ☐
☐ TEAM $15 ☐
☐ ALL EVENTS $5 ☐
☐ BANQUET (required) $40 ☐ $40.00
TOTAL PAID $ 

Bowler 2: ________________
AVG: _______ Is this a league AVG? Y N
☐ SINGLES $15 ☐
☐ DOUBLES $15 ☐
☐ TEAM $15 ☐
☐ ALL EVENTS $5 ☐
☐ BANQUET (required) $40 ☐ $40.00
TOTAL PAID $ 

Bowler 3: ________________
AVG: _______ Is this a league AVG? Y N
☐ SINGLES $15 ☐
☐ DOUBLES $15 ☐
☐ TEAM $15 ☐
☐ ALL EVENTS $5 ☐
☐ BANQUET (required) $40 ☐ $40.00
TOTAL PAID $ 

Bowler 4: ________________
AVG: _______ Is this a league AVG? Y N
☐ SINGLES $15 ☐
☐ DOUBLES $15 ☐
☐ TEAM $15 ☐
☐ ALL EVENTS $5 ☐
☐ BANQUET (required) $40 ☐ $40.00
TOTAL PAID $ 

TOURNAMENT RULES – PLEASE READ
1. USBC rules will prevail throughout the operation of this tournament as will the FOCA sports rules.
2. No person may bowl more than once.
3. The winners of each event will be proclaimed National FOCA Champions and shall receive trophies and cash in net and handicap divisions.
4. Failure to report for bowling at a designated time will be cause to forfeit all entry fees and be eliminated from tournament.
5. Use current USBC average as of April 1, 2018. A bowler bowling in more than one league must use his or her highest league average regardless of the fact that her may participate in this tournament with the team from the league in which his or her average is lowest. (Minimum of 18 games). If a bowler has no average for this season, he is permitted to use average and further, if he has no average for either, then he is permitted to use the previous year’s concluded average 16-17. Those bowlers not having an established average are permitted to enter at an average of 160 for Men, 125 for Women. Bowlers need to be familiar with average adjustment requirements of USBC Rule 319a.
6. Handicap will be 70% between average and 200 for men and 190 for women.
7. Failure to use proper average or make a correction prior to completion of first game of a series shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than actual average or base winnings on submitted average if it is higher.
8. All bowlers must report to alleys at least 1/2 hour before schedules bowling time.
9. Substitutes may be used if their name appears on entry blank.
10. Violation of above rules by team or bowler will subject the same to a one year suspension from FOCA tournaments.

I CERTIFY that the people listed on this entry form are FOCA members or Orthodox Christians. I CERTIFY that the averages indicated are accurate and that any discrepancies in the averages will result in DISQUALIFICATION.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
ENTRY NO. __________
DATE REC’VD __________
AMT PD __________
AMT DUE __________
FEES per Person per Event
Bowling Cost: $10.00
Prize Fee: $5.00
TOTAL: $15.00

TEAM – Friday, 6:00 PM
DOUBLES – Saturday, 11:00 AM
SINGLES – Saturday, 1:00 PM

TEAM BOWLING ORDER

1) __________
2) __________
3) __________
4) __________

MEN WOMEN MEN WOMEN

MEN WOMEN

DOUBLES PARTNERS

TM NAME: __________

1) __________
2) __________
3) __________
4) __________

Applicant Signature

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON APRIL 30, 2018
Make all checks payable to: CAMPBELL “O” Club
LATE ENTRIES WILL BE RETURNED

District/Parish: __________
2018 Celebration of Faith

The theme:
“For The Life of The World”

The Task: Create and submit a project in any of the following areas:

- Literature
- Musical Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

A detailed list of rules for each category and the entry form may be found on the FOCA website in the Juniors Section under Celebration of Faith:

www.orthodoxfellowship.org

Deadline for entries is June 4, 2018

Mail entries to:
F.O.C.A. Celebration of Faith
c/o Danielle Kovach
8 Ginesi Drive • Clark, NJ 07066
dkovach517@aol.com

All entries will be displayed and awards will be presented at the F.O.C.A. National Convention and 19th All American Council in St. Louis, Missouri from July 20-July 27.

This contest is sponsored by the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (F.O.C.A.) and is open to all youth who are communicants in a parish or mission of a canonical Orthodox Church in North America.
Orthodoxy Sunday Celebrated in South River

On the first Sunday of Great Lent, February 25th, Metropolitan Tikhon, Metropolitan Joseph of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America and Archbishop Michael (OCA New York & New Jersey) concelebrated the Orthodoxy Sunday Divine Liturgy at Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in South River, NJ and later that evening participated in the Triumph of Orthodoxy Vespers at the same church. Father David Garretson was the host pastor. Clergy and faithful from across the region filled the church for the service which was hosted by the OCA’s New Jersey Deanery. Metropolitan Joseph gave an inspiring homily on the celebration of holy icons and their meaning for us in the contemporary world: “These holy icons are in our churches today because of this unshakeable belief in the actual incarnation in the flesh of the Son and Word of God. The iconoclasts attributed the prohibition of images in the Old Testament to the icons because they forgot to realize that the prohibition was against portraying God Whom none at that time had seen. When Christ became man, man was able to see God. This celebration today is a very powerful affirmation that God truly became a human being. He truly ennobled our human nature. He truly united Himself to us. And what do we see around us on this Sunday? Not mere artwork that portrays the physical reality of some people we admire. No, we honor holy icons of saints who became truly human. These icons are not a rejection of human nature — as lovers of Renaissance art may claim — but a proclamation of what human nature is meant to be because of the incarnation of the Son and Word of God.”

“We live in a world that is actually full of images,” he continued. “We have our television sets, our smart phones, our tablets, bulletin boards along the highways, posters on buildings — we are inundated with images. These images are often glamorous and pleasing to the eye. Many times they are highly sexualized with persons of great earthly beauty. The images often come with passionate music, witty banter, rousing speeches. In a world like this, our holy icons may seem boring at best, or as we said earlier, a rejection of human ‘nature’. But what kind of nature is this? A human nature that is full of itself. Full of its fleeting outward beauty at the expense of eternal inner beauty. Full of its outward show at the expense of inner depth. Full of its self-promotion at the expense of self-sacrificial love. And the world we see around us? Full of madness. We see violence throughout the world. Persecution of Christians in the Middle East. Destructive civil wars. Threats of nuclear annihilation. Racial enmity. And unimaginable shootings of the most innocent, most precious, most God-like of our humanity — our children — as we have tragically witnessed most recently in Parkland, Florida. Without honoring the holy images of true humanity within the Grace-filled life of the Church, we see how the world descends into demonic insanity. We see how we become unable to recognize the image and likeness of God in the other — not even in pure and innocent children. When we lose sight of the image of God in one another, we witness the way in which we destroy one another. Beloved in Christ, let us not process today with the icons and reverence them merely out of habit. Let us not mindlessly take part in the Great Fast as though we are merely on a diet to lose weight. This Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy, let us embrace a triumph of our true human nature. Therefore, if we honor the icons, we must honor the Savior who took on our flesh to sanctify us. Let us embrace that sanctification through our fasting, prayer and good deeds. If we reverence the icons of the Savior and His Mother and the saints today, let us reverence the living icons of the people we see in our everyday lives. If we claim to honor God in the images we have on the icons, it is a great blasphemy to refuse to honor the image of God in our neighbor! We proclaim today that the Orthodox Faith established the universe. Let us as those who have inherited that Faith strive during this time of Great Lent to live that Faith. When we live that Faith — as taught Saint Seraphim of Sarov — a thousand souls around us will be saved.” The parish has the Fellowship’s South River “R” Club, #167.

— adapted from oca.org
Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God

This icon is one of Russian Orthodoxy’s most famous and beloved. In the 1200’s, Mongolian tribes had devastated Russia. The city of Kursk (280 miles south of Moscow) had turned into a wooded wilderness. On September 8, 1259 — the feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God — a hunter noticed an icon lying face down next to a tree root in the Kursk region. He lifted it up and saw that it was the icon of the Mother of God of the Sign. Water started gushing forth from the place he found the icon, which became a source of healing. The hunter and friends built a small chapel over this place and put the icon in it.

The fame of this icon spread throughout Russia and believers came to venerate it and to seek healing from it and the spring. In 1597 Tsar Theodore had the icon brought to Moscow for veneration. He and his wife then built a monastery near the spring called the Kursk Root Hermitage. The icon was used against invasions by foreigners, including the Poles in the early 1600’s and Napoleon in 1812. Ten-year old Prochor Moshnin (who became St. Seraphim of Sarov) received healing of a serious illness from the icon. After the Russian Revolution, the Kursk icon was taken by the White Russian Army to Belgrade, Yugoslavia until the Second World War when it was removed to Germany. The icon ultimately came to the United States where it is enshrined in the Cathedral of the Sign in New York City, the main church of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (ROCOR). St. John (Maximovitch) died before the icon in Seattle, Washington in 1966. Since 2009, the icon has been taken on summer pilgrimages to Russia and the Ukraine.

“How we must venerate this great and remarkable holy icon! This is not only a relic of the former Orthodox Russia, it is a well-spring of miraculous grace which is offered to us through God’s mercy by the Mother of our Lord, the common Mother of all the Orthodox. For over seven centuries, our ancestors prayed before the miraculous Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God and received help according to their faith. Let us also cry out from the depths of our hearts: O Most Holy Mother of God, save us!” — from The Wonderworking Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God Coloring Book, Maria Naumenko (Jordanville, New York: Holy Trinity Monastery, 2017) ISBN 9780884654506.

This wonderful coloring book, suitable for children and adults alike, may be ordered at www.holytrinitypublications.com or (315) 858-3817; it’s only $7.95! The page included in this issue is by kind permission of Holy Trinity Publications.

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FOCA CALENDAR 2018

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. April 8</td>
<td>HOLY PASCHA</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 20-22</td>
<td>National Basketball Tournament, Cleveland “R” Club, Independence/Cleveland, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18-20</td>
<td>88th National Bowling Tournament, Campbell “O” Club, Boardman/Campbell, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25-28</td>
<td>Annual Pilgrimage, St. Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Pentecost</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 8-14</td>
<td>National Junior Summer Sports Tournament, St. Vladimir Camp, Farmdale, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 20-23</td>
<td>92nd National FOCA Convention, Union Station Hotel, St. Louis, MO (with the OCA All-American Council)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 5-6</td>
<td>Annual Pilgrimage, Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration, Ellwood City, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 17-18</td>
<td>National Summer Sports Tournament, Cleveland “R” Club, Ironwood Golf Course, Hinckley, OH</td>
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For updates and detailed info, visit www.orthodoxfellowship.org
Prochor Moshnin (St. Seraphim of Sarov) receives healing from the Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God.
Confucius say:
ONE WHO SPARES THE TIME … STRIKES MANY REWARDS.

The Campbell “O” Club invites you to the “HOUSE OF BO-LING”
Deadline for hotel reservations and bowling sign ups is Monday, April 30th.

Set your “Rickshaw” to travel to the:
Holiday Inn Youngstown-South ($99 per night)
7410 South Ave, Boardman, OH 44512
(330) 726-1611 (Codeword: Campbell O Club)
The bowling tournament will be held at the following venue
(keep in mind this is a BYOB venue)
Boardman Lanes
7524 Market St, Youngstown, OH 44512
(330) 758-5781

**FRIDAY, MAY 18**
Registration: 5:00pm
Team Events: 6:00pm
The Campbell “Kids” Welcome you to the “WOK-N-BOWL OPEN HOUSE”
following the team events. This is a BYOB event.

**SATURDAY, MAY 19**
Registration: 10:00am
Single/Double Events: 11:00am
YEN for a good meal? The CHOW MAIN AWARDS BANQUET will be held at:
St. John the Forerunner Church
4955 Glenwood Ave.
Boardman, OH 44512

Before your “Rickshaw” heads home, please join us at 10:00am for Divine Liturgy at:
St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church
301 Struthers-Liberty Rd, Campbell, OH 44405
(just 15 minutes from Boardman)